

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Biodiversity and Forest' from the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN).

Regards,
APMN team

News

[1] Climate pact must include forest scheme: WWF

September 30, 2009

A leading environmental group on Tuesday urged delegates at UN climate talks in Bangkok to include plans to reward nations for saving their forests in any deal on global warming.

WWF International released a survey saying that investors showed "significant support" for a carbon market mechanism, which would address the estimated 20 percent of global carbon emissions due to deforestation.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jgsRf7ccxBu-VsRLReKf1xj3JSMQ>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yatdpqo>

[2] 10 percent of world's major species at threat: Australian report

September 29, 2009

Almost 10 percent of the world's mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish are in danger of extinction due to climate change and other factors, according to a recently released Australian report.

Source:

http://www.terraily.com/reports/10_percent_of_worlds_major_species_at_threat_Australian_report_999.html

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ybz2lbw>

[3] Bearded vultures 'seen in India'

September 29, 2009

About 200 Bearded Vultures have been spotted in a remote part of India's Himachal Pradesh state, reports say.

State chief conservator of forests Vinay Tandon said the reported sighting was being checked by wildlife officials and would be "hugely significant". Lammergeiers have been seen on India's border with China, but not in such a large group or at so high an altitude.

Source:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/8280607.stm

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yc6rr5z>

[4] Bird-eating frog among 163 new species found in Mekong region

September 26, 2009

A frog that eats birds and a gecko with leopard stripes are among the 163 new species discovered last year in the Greater Mekong region of southeast Asia, according to a report by the World Wildlife Fund.

The discovery of 100 new plants, 28 fish, 18 reptiles, 14 amphibians, two mammals and one bird species highlights the extent of the biodiversity in the region, said Barney Long, head of the WWF's Asian Species Conservation program.

Source:

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/science/09/26/mekong.species/>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/y965fo4>

[5] India's tiger protection plan 'failing': experts

September 22, 2009

India's efforts to stop poaching of its endangered tigers are failing despite millions of dollars of funding, a new protection force and experiments with animal transfers, experts say.

The federal government swung into action in 2007 after India's tiger population plunged to just 1,350 -- just over a third of the 3,700 estimated to be alive in 2002.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jM5buuf9y-zxZiI9amFFSLtqUOIw>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ydec7yw>

[6] China panda population stable despite Sichuan quake

September 19, 2009

China's wild panda population has remained stable despite last year's Sichuan earthquake that damaged key areas of the endangered species' habitat, state press said Saturday.

A recent survey in Sichuan province concluded that the deadly May 12 tremor did not lead to significant fatalities in the panda population, the Chengdu Evening News said.

Source:

<http://www.asiaone.com/News/Latest%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20090919-168833.html>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/y8j3m3o>

[7] Fifty per cent rare butterflies not found anymore

September 18, 2009

The disappearance of rare butterflies found in the cold deserts of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh due to tourism and developmental activity is becoming an issue of concern for zoologists.

According to Officer in charge High Altitude Regional Centre of the Zoological Survey of India in Solan, H S Mehta " Nearly 50 per cent of the recorded 288 species found in these areas are not to be seen today."

Source:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News/lifeanduniverse/Rare-butterflies-closer-to-extinction/Article1-455503.aspx>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/y9kuzgz>

[8] Community forest to offset landslides

September 17, 2009

Records with the gup of Lumang gewog in Trashigang show that 128 households from four of its villages have abandoned their homes for resettlement elsewhere in the country.

"They had to move as the landslides threatened their livestock, farms, and their own lives," said the gup, Jangchup Wangdi.

Source:

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=13457>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/y8jltu4>

[9] 40% of Indonesian forests damaged on deforestation

September 8, 2009

As many as 40 percent of Indonesia's forests are ruined due to deforestation, triggering threat to environment preservation. "The enactment of the bill for protection and environmental management today is very important to prevent forest resource businessmen and local people from damaging forests," said Minister for Environment Rachmat Witoelar.

Source:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-09/08/content_12015528.htm

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ybbo8h8>

[10] Last chance to save Saola from extinction – IUCN

September 3, 2009

One of the world's most enigmatic mammals, the Saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*), could be on the brink of extinction, according to a group of experts who held an emergency meeting in Lao PDR to try to save the animal.

The Saola, which was only discovered to world science in 1992, resembles the desert antelopes of Arabia. It lives in the remote valleys of the Annamite Mountains, along the border of Lao PDR and Vietnam.

Source:

http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/species/news_events/?3851/Last-chance-to-save-Saola-from-extinction--IUCN

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yc9yop8>

Events

[1] ASEAN Conference on Biodiversity 2009: 21-23 October Singapore

More information:

http://www.aseanbiodiversity.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=355:acb2009&catid=131:acb-2009&Itemid=177

[2] The XIIIth World Forestry Congress (WFC): 19-25 October 2009 Buenos Aires, Argentina

More information: http://www.wfc2009.org/index_1024.html

Announcement

[1] Vacancy: Environment and Natural Resource Management Specialist at LRP/UNDP Nepal

Application deadline: 07-10-2009

More information: <http://www.undp.org.np/vacancy/index.php>

Resource

[1] Charting adaptation to climate change using agrobiodiversity

The Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research project on climate change is collecting information about initiatives on adaptation to climate change that are based on the use of agrobiodiversity.

This tool intends to facilitate a learning dialogue between rural communities all over the world and build a knowledge base that can be used to increase the recognition for the multitude of adaptation practices communities engage in.

More information: http://www.agrobiodiversityplatform.org/blog/?page_id=1016