

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Biodiversity and Forest', Issue 11 (19 July 2010), prepared for members of Mountain Forum and Mountain Partnership network.

Regards,  
Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) team

P.S: Compiled links to news, events, opportunities, and resources are regularly updated on our del.icio.us page. Please add [apmn.media](http://apmn.media) to your network. More on del.icio.us [here](#)

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**Quick links**

-----  
[News](#)  
[Events](#)  
[Opportunities](#)  
[Organisations working on biodiversity and forest](#)  
[Resources](#)

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**News**

[Top](#)

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1. Illegal logging declining worldwide, but still 'major problem'  
15 July 2010

A new report by the Chatham House finds that illegal logging in tropical forest nation is primarily on the decline, providing evidence that new laws and international efforts on the issue are having a positive impact. The total global production of illegal timber has fallen by 22 percent since 2002.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9cYDb7>

2. China seizes over 2,000 illegally trafficked pangolins  
14 July 2010

Chinese customs officials discovered 2,090 frozen pangolins and 92 cases of pangolin scales, weighing an astounding 3,960 pounds in a boat manned by one Malaysian and five Chinese.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bhYbec>

3. Seeing Red: Biodiversity at Risk  
14 July 2010

The primary purpose of The San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research is to generate, share, and apply scientific knowledge vital to the conservation of animals and plants.

Unfortunately, there are many species in need of this kind of attention, as the loss of biodiversity worldwide has reached crisis proportion. We may all be aware of this from media

reports, but how do we actually know what the state of global biodiversity is? Who organizes and synthesizes this information on the world's many species?

Source: <http://bit.ly/bJ2yIb>

4. ERA Carbon Offsets Ltd.: Community Ecosystem Restoration Program First in Canada to Receive Gold Level-Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard's  
14 July 2010

ERA Carbon Offsets Ltd. (TSX VENTURE:ESR), through its 100% owned subsidiary ERA Ecosystem Restoration Associates Inc. (ERA), is pleased to announce that their Community Ecosystem Restoration Program (CERP) has received final validation to the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance's (CCBA) Gold Level Project Design Standard as of June 24th, 2010.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cXYQ5B>

5. Large-scale forest destruction in Sumatra undermines Indonesia's deal with Norway  
13 July 2010

While the Indonesian government basks in a recent agreement with Norway to slow deforestation to the tune of a billion US dollars, a new report by Eyes on the Forest shows photographic evidence of largely government sanctioned deforestation that flouts several Indonesia laws.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cfP8As>

6. Controversial changes to Brazilian forest law passes first barrier  
08 July 2010

An amendment to undermine protections in Brazil's 1965 forestry code has passed its first legislative barrier, reports the World Wide Fund for Nature-Brazil (WWF). The amendment would change the forestry code's requirement that Amazonian landowners must retain 80 percent of their land as legal forest reserves.

Source: <http://bit.ly/dABbQQ>

7. Biodiversity climbs the corporate agenda  
13 July 2010

Business leaders in biodiversity-rich developing economies are concerned about losses of 'natural capital', a new report highlights.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cJOMDC>

8. Newly discovered hepatitis c-related virus found in bats Wildlife Trust Scientist Employs Advanced Genetic Sequencing to Uncover New Pathogen  
12 July 2010

Wildlife Trust, the global conservation health organization, announced the discovery of a previously unknown pathogen that may offer insight into the origins of the Hepatitis C virus. It is estimated that infectious diseases lead to 13 million human fatalities per year. Additionally, over three-quarters of emerging infectious diseases are a result of zoonotic pathogens.

Source: <http://bit.ly/bH2KM8>

## 9. Conservationists set to crush banana project

11 July 2010

The Forest Department has strongly protested against a Cabinet-approved proposal to allow an agricultural firm to convert 15,000 acres of forest land in the Trincomalee district into a banana plantation. The department has said in no uncertain terms that the project would mean the destruction of a forest reserve and a proposed forest reserve.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cvtzOG>

## 10. Glowing crops could minimize pesticide use

08 July 2010

Farmers may one day be able to target pesticides to only those parts of their fields that are at risk of disease simply by noting which ones are glowing, according to researchers.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aZ8R22>

## 11. It makes sense to use bamboo!

07 July 2010

Architects and builders argue that bamboo cultivation and construction can protect people in disaster-prone areas, yet not many third world countries use them in forestry and construction. Strong and flexible, the green plant has breached many disasters and can capture more carbon than similar stands of trees.

Source: <http://bit.ly/98oYtb>

## ----- **Events** -----

[Top](#)

### 1. 21-22, October 2010

BIOME 2010 Biodiversity Meeting in Catanduanes, PHILIPPINES; Call for proposal

Deadline: 30 August 2010

Climate Change, Sustainable Agriculture, Political Ecology and Social Representations of the Public on Biodiversity Science Leading researchers, teachers and practitioners deliver a diverse scientific programme.

More at: <http://bit.ly/bEOcjz>

### 2. 01-03, December 2010

International Conference on Biodiversity: Biodiversity and the UN Millennium development Goals: Challenges for Research and Action; Frankfurt/Main, GERMANY

Deadline: Not available

The 2-day conference will involve plenary sessions, workshops and poster sessions. No conference fee will be charged. Due to the space limitation the number of participants is restricted to 200. The conference will be held in English.

More at: <http://bit.ly/c8wexU>

### 3. 01-04, August 2010

II Conference on Biodiversity of the Guiana Shield; Macapa State, BRAZIL

Deadline: 30 October 2010

The objective of the conference is to discuss advances made on biodiversity research in the Guiana Shield and, to share experiences in the use and management of biodiversity. The options regarding oral presentations or poster displays will be evaluated and accepted based on availability of physical space and time available for such presentations and/or displays

More at: <http://bit.ly/bWB8i1>

4. 13-14 November 2010

2nd Annual Biotechnology Conference for Students (ABCS-2010); Call for Paper; Pune, INDIA

Deadline: 15 October 2010

2-day high quality Conference is for students pursuing BSc, BE, BTech, MSc, ME, MTech in BioSciences, Health Sciences, Agriculture and Technology areas and other students who wants to pursue a career in Biotechnology and Stem Cells.

More at: <http://bit.ly/bKpztu>

5. 22-24 March 2011

3rd Nordic Wood Bio-refinery Conference (NWBC); Hotel Clarion Sign, Stockholm, SWEDEN

Deadline: 01 September 2010 (for Presentation); 01 November 2010 (for posters)

The leading event where research and industry meet to discuss the latest wood-based bio-refinery developments: Bio-refinery separation and conversion processes as well as new bio-based products.

More at: <http://bit.ly/aHaNGe>

6. 06 August 2010

Forestry finance, REDD and the carbon market; Call for participation online.

Deadline: Rolling

Attend this 90-minute webinar to find out if forestry projects can transform the carbon markets, online delivered through your browser.

More at: <http://bit.ly/aB5pAx>

7. 05-07, August 2010

The Planned World: Urban, Rural, Wild; Call for paper; Simon Fraser University, CANADA

Deadline: 04 August 2010

This is an interdisciplinary international conference dealing with all things relating to the planned world. Conference presentation includes publication in online journal, Interdisciplinary Themes Journal.

More at: <http://bit.ly/bKicNX>

8. 12-14, December 2010

International Conference on Biodiversity, Livelihood and Climate Change in the Himalayas; Call for abstract, NEPAL

Deadline: 30 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/d4dDfz>

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**Opportunities**  
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[Top](#)

1. East West Center Graduate Degree Fellowship 2011

Deadline: 01 December 2011

IWCGD Fellowship provides Master's and Doctoral funding for graduate students from Asia. Individuals who are citizens of a countries - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka may apply for the East-West Center Graduate Degree Fellowships.

More at: <http://bit.ly/9jpoi6>

2. European Masters Fellowship 2011

Deadline: 01 April 2011

The European Masters Fellowship is made available by the industry participants in the programme European Masters Degree in Food Studies. Students from all over the world are eligible for this programme.

More at: <http://bit.ly/bfONCO>

3. WWF Nepal – Conservation Awards 2010

Deadline: 23 July 2010

Organizations and individuals working in the field of conservation, natural resource management, climate change, freshwater, tourism, sustainable livelihoods, journalism, and other related fields can nominate an individual and/or an organization.

More at: <http://bit.ly/axuZSF>

4. Programme Associate (Nepalese Nationals only) – UNDP Jul2010

Deadline: 22 July 2010

This project proposes a UNCT approach to the provision of rehabilitation support involving UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and ILO.

More at: <http://bit.ly/cWICPJ>

5. WWF Prince Bernhard Scholarships for Nature Conservation 2011

Deadline: Mid January every year

The WWF Prince Bernhard Scholarships (PBS) are awarded to individuals from the developing world who wish to pursue formal studies or professional training in the field of conservation.

More at: <http://bit.ly/daFVb0>

6. EURIAS Fellowship 2011-2012

Deadline: 10 September 2010

The European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS) Fellowship Programme is an international researcher mobility programme offering 33 fellowships for the 2011/2012 academic year.

More at: <http://bit.ly/cQmB2r>

## 7. Water Forum Fund 2010

Deadline: 31 July 2010

The Japan Water Forum (JWF) invites grass-roots organizations in developing countries to apply for the Japan Water Forum Fund 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/asOZz7>

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## Organisations working on biodiversity and forest

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[Top](#)

### 1. The Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA)

It is a partnership of international NGOs and research institutes seeking to promote integrated solutions to land management around the world.

More at: <http://bit.ly/aMdbXL>

### 2. Inter- American Biodiversity Network

IABIN is a forum to foster technical collaboration and coordination among countries of the Americas in collection, sharing, and use of biodiversity information relevant to decision-making on natural resources management and conservation, and education to promote sustainable development in the region.

More at: <http://bit.ly/9XoYFx>

### 3. ECNC, Europe

ECNC assists governments in implementing their strategies and delivers expertise and experiences in the field of biodiversity and sustainable development. ECNC also promotes the involvement of relevant non-conservation stakeholders in national biodiversity-policy development and implementation, and assists in reviewing the implementation of policies.

More at: <http://bit.ly/aT7YZo>

### 4. MacArthur Foundation

Based in Chicago, the MacArthur Foundation is an independent and privately-owned organization. The foundation provides grants for projects that examine the threats of climate change towards biodiversity.

More at: <http://bit.ly/9aThcq>

### 5. Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)

LI-BIRD is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) established in 1995 in Nepal. It is committed to capitalize on local initiatives for sustainable management of renewable natural resources and to improve the livelihoods of resource poor and marginalized people.

More at: <http://bit.ly/bzpbcn>

### 6. Small Grants Programme--SGP

The Global Environment Facility's Small Grants Programme aims to deliver global environmental benefits in the GEF Focal Areas of biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, protection of international waters, prevention of land degradation (primarily desertification and deforestation), and elimination of persistent organic pollutants through community-based approaches

More at: <http://bit.ly/b0mpNp>

-----  
**Resources**  
-----

[Top](#)

1. Effectiveness of Biodiversity Surrogates for Conservation Planning: Different Measures of Effectiveness Generate a Kaleidoscope of Variation

More at: <http://bit.ly/dibvu8>

2. How the Philippine Forests are Shrinking Every Day

More at: <http://bit.ly/cDvJd1>

3. Ecosystems Make Dollars and Sense for Business

More at: <http://bit.ly/auQo4Q>

4. Agro-biodiversity in Nepal: Wise Insurance

Source: <http://bit.ly/bazSOH>

5. 2177 - Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management in the Northern Plains of Cambodia

More at: <http://bit.ly/dkGAet>

6. 972 Egypt - Conservation & Sustainable Use of Native Biodiversity Resources used for Herbal, Medicinal, Pharmaceutical & Cosmetic Purposes (MPCP)

More at: <http://bit.ly/9JNAne>

7. 877 Philippines - Samar Island Biodiversity Project

More at: <http://bit.ly/9IRleH>

8. Olaf R.P. Bininda-Emonds (2009); *Organisms Diversity & Evolution*; Gesellschaft fuer Biologische Systematik

9. Askins, RA; Dreyer, GD; Visgilio, GR; Whitelaw, DM (2008); *Saving Biological Diversity- Balancing Protection of Endangered Species and Ecosystems Eds.*

10. Ale, SB; Howe, HF (2010); *What Do Ecological Paradigms Offer to Conservation?* International Journal of Ecology

More at: <http://bit.ly/bZ2rB0>

11. *Global Biodiversity: Indicators of Recent Declines* (2010), Science Express DOI: 10.1126/science.1187512

More at: <http://bit.ly/dgyQPu>