

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Biodiversity and Forests', Issue 14 (01 September 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 to your network. More on del.icio.us [here](#)

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Global News

1. Russia and China vow to protect Siberian tigers

30 August 2010

China and Russia have agreed to set up the first cross-border protection zone for rare Siberian tigers. Only about 500 of the big cats are thought to be left in the wild. The zone will straddle the border along China's Jilin province and Russia's Primorsky Krai area, where both sides will enforce anti-poaching measures.

Source: <http://bbc.in/b5BCeu>

2. Fires cost Russia '300 billion dollars' in deforestation

28 August 2010

Wildfires have cost Russia 300 billion dollars in forest loss, environmentalists said on Thursday, explaining the scale of the disaster by Vladimir Putin's "absurd" changes to forestry law.

Source: <http://bit.ly/b2oAbC>

3. Smallest frog in Asia discovered in Borneo

26 August 2010

The researchers first discovered the diminutive red and orange amphibian on an expedition to Kubah National Park in 2004. They have now described the discovery in the journal *Zootaxa*. The team found the frog when it emerged from a small pitcher plant, *Nepenthes ampullaria*, in which it lives.

Source: <http://bbc.in/aX5zSI>

4. Preparatory Workshop for UN Biodiversity Summit

26 August 2010

A regional preparatory meeting for the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity was organized in Nadi, Fiji from the 16th to 18th of August 2010 by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

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

5. New Academic Role for Tropical Forest Analyst

25 August 2010

A scientist involved in an international research project highlighting the devastating effects of tropical forest degradation, has joined the University of Derby. Dr Mark Bulling, an ecosystem theorist and data analysis expert, has joined Derby as a lecturer in Biological Sciences.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aAhY5O>

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News from Regional Member Countries

1. Timber smugglers denude Srilanka Tapu

31 August 2010

The government ban on tree felling is being brazenly violated at the Sisauli Ghat region of Srilanka Tapu in Sunsari, East Nepal. The freshly-cut timber logs are being sent to India through Koshi waters. Prakashpur, Mahendranagar, Chakraghati, Kusaha and Koshi Barrage areas of Sunsari are said to be the clients' popular pick-up points of the timber logs that the smugglers let adrift from Srilanka Tapu.

Source: <http://bit.ly/biKJO3>

2. Toxic hormones seen in river fish

31 August 2010

Sample tests of Fish in the Yangtze River contains the accumulation of two types of the toxic hormones nonylphenol and octylphenol in the livers of carp and catfish in Chongqing Municipality, Wuhan City, Ma'anshan City and Nanjing City, Xinhua news agency reported. These hormones mimic the female hormone and are responsible for sexual prematurity and breast cancer.

Source: <http://bit.ly/9fk5hl>

3. Ranthambore National Park: Turf war

27 August 2010

Technically, there was always a crowd. But guided by a traditional respect for one another's domain, the occasional overlap of territory at the Ranthambore National Park was a given for the parties concerned - the tiger, the forester, the villager and the conservation brigade.

Source: <http://bit.ly/aSHp4d>

4. Veerappan's lair could soon be new sanctuary for tigers

27 August 2010

The Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuary in western Tamil Nadu may soon be declared a tiger reserve. The move came after Union environment minister Jairam Ramesh wrote to chief minister M Karunanidhi in July suggesting that the area be converted into a tiger reserve since several tiger sightings have been reported from there.

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

5. DNA barcoding of biodiversity: proposal submitted to UGC

26 August 2010

A proposal has been submitted to the University Grants Commission seeking Rs.7 crore to establish a Centre with Potential for Excellence in Biodiversity Inventories/DNA barcoding at Madurai Kamaraj University.

Source: <http://bit.ly/cJyQU3>

6. Indian Minister of Environment and Forests, Jairam Ramesh's courageous decision saves the real Avatar

24 August 2010

Indian Minister of Environment and Forests, Jairam Ramesh announced that he has rejected Vedanta's proposed bauxite mine in the Niyamgiri Mountain, Orissa, India. In addition, the clearance process for the expansion of the Lanjigarh refinery has been suspended. This represents a victory not only for the Dongria Kondh, but for indigenous and tribal people throughout the world.

Source: <http://huff.to/CT3Cm0>

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Events

1. 04-08, October 2010

COFO 2010 - World Forest Week 2; Calls for participation; ITALY

For the second time, COFO will be held in conjunction with World Forest Week - a series of meetings and events sponsored by FAO and its partner organizations and institutions. The events of the Week will be organized around the key topics of COFO and intend to shed more light on key issues and allow for a more detailed discussion.

Deadline: 15 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/a784Ab>

2. 05-07, October 2010

International Conference-Forum: "Emerging Economic Mechanisms: Implications for Forest-Related Policies and Sector Governance", Call for Participation; Rome, ITALY

Some 100 forest management and policy scientists from all over the world will confront their views to forest managers and policy deciders on the recent international development of forestry measures. The registration fee (normal rate 250 €) includes the following: participation in ice breaking reception, participation in an official dinner on day 2 and a personal copy of the pre-conference proceedings.

Deadline: 27 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/ag5fOi>

3. 15 -17, September 2010

Kenya's International Conference on Biodiversity, Landuse and Climate Change; Call for Abstracts; Nairobi, KENYA

The Conference will take stock of Kenya's Biodiversity and the conservation challenges ahead. It will focus on strategies to build a national framework for conserving biodiversity taking into account land use, livelihoods and climate change.

Deadline: 07 September 2010

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

4. 26-27, November 2010

15th International Forestry and Environment Symposium 2010; Colombo, SRI LANKA

A forum for researchers and other stakeholders in Forestry and Environment sector to present their research findings and experience and networking with policy makers and industry.

Deadline: 15 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/caMxO5>

5. 01-03, December 2010

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

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.

Deadline: Not Available

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

6. 07-09, January 2011

2011 International Conference on Life Science and Technology (ICLST 2011); Call for Papers/Participation; Mumbai, INDIA

It is one of the leading international conferences for presenting novel and fundamental advances in the fields of Life Science and Technology. It also serves to foster communication among researchers and practitioners working in a wide variety of scientific areas with a common interest in improving Life Science and Technology related techniques.

Deadline: 05 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/99kyfh>

7. 26-27, November 2010

15th International Forestry and Environment Symposium 2010; Colombo, SRI LANKA

A forum for researchers and other stakeholders in Forestry and Environment sector to present their research findings and experience and networking with policy makers and industry.

Deadline: 15 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/caMxO5>

8. 11-14, October 2010

UNECE Timber Committee Market Discussions and Policy Forum; Call for participation; Geneva, SWITZERLAND

The discussions will build on countries' market statements and forecasts for 2010 and 2011, expert presentations and the UNECE/Food and Agriculture Organization Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2009-2010, which provides the latest data and analyses of international markets and policies. Free admission.

Deadline: Rolling

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

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Opportunities

1. Environmental Pioneer Awards - call for entries for Environmental Organisations

The awards have been launched to identify those organisations that are pioneering new ways to reduce emissions and pollution; those who have introduced sustainable business practices, and those who consistently go further in protecting the environment than they are required to do by the law.

Deadline: 08 October 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/cl8OAO>

2. Global Climate Change Specialist: Sustainable Landscapes and Forests

The individual selected for this position will be administratively assigned to the Rural Development and Natural Resources Branch (RDNR) of the Development Resources and Disaster Assistance Division (DRDA), Office of Capacity Building and Development (OCBD), Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (FAS/OCBD/DRDA/RDNR).

Deadline: 03 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/cNjrv1>

3. The International Tropical Timber Organization Fellowship for 2011

ITTO offers fellowships through the Freezailah Fellowship Fund to promote human resource development and to strengthen professional expertise in member countries in tropical forestry and related disciplines.

Deadline: 03 September 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/94bx0Q>

4. Humboldt Research Award

Award winners are invited to spend a period of up to one year cooperating on a long-term research project with specialist colleagues at a research institution in Germany.

Deadline: Rolling

More at: <http://bit.ly/a5WDCZ>

5. Humboldt- Georg Forster Research Fellowship

The Humboldt Foundation grants up to 60 Georg Forster Research Fellowships for postdoctoral researchers and experienced researchers annually. Short-term study visits, participation in congresses and training courses cannot be financed.

Deadline: Rolling

More at: <http://bit.ly/9fkL09>

6. Vacancy: EDCTP Developing Countries Coordination Committee (DCCC) members

The Developing Countries Coordination Committee (DCCC) of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) is seeking four new members to replace those who have completed their tenure. The position starting date is 1 January 2011. Members shall be appointed for a period of two years.

Deadline: 20 October 2010

More at: <http://bit.ly/aHC87w>

7. IFS Research Grants: Call for applications

Applications for IFS Research Grants are welcome from young scientists in developing countries to do research on the sustainable management, use or conservation of biological or water resources. This broad statement covers natural science and social science research on agriculture, soils, animal

production, food science, forestry, agro-forestry, aquatic resources, natural products, water resources, etc.

Deadline: 30 December 2010

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

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Organisations working in Biodiversity and Forests

1. European Forestry Commission (EFC)

The EFC has a number of associated subsidiary bodies, including an Executive Committee; the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds; the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training; and the FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

URL: <http://bit.ly/ccijaE>

2. The Nature Conservancy

The Nature Conservancy is a leading international conservation Non-Governmental Organisation working to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. It has so far protected more than 117 million acres of land and, 5000 miles of river around the world.

URL: <http://bit.ly/dkWhW1>

3. BirdLife International

BirdLife International is a global Partnership of conservation organisations that strives to conserve birds, their habitats and global biodiversity, working with people towards sustainability in the use of natural resources.

URL: <http://bit.ly/cqtAxQ>

4. Forest Action Nepal

ForestAction Nepal is a learning oriented not-for-profit and politically non-aligned self-governed professional civil society organization working in the field of forestry, environment and livelihoods in Nepal. ForestAction blends professional knowledge with citizen power to build the pressure for change.

URL: <http://bit.ly/c14Gz4>

5. BIOCOS Nepal

Biodiversity Conservation Society Nepal (BIOCOSNEPAL) is a non-governmental, non profit-making, non political and member based organization. It is established with an aim to provide more effort in biological resources conservation.

URL: <http://bit.ly/cwAm7O>

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Resources

1. Integrating climate change issues into national forest programmes; FAO, National Forest Program Workshop reports

URL: <http://bit.ly/cFVo5S>

2. ACT Situation Update: Pakistan Floods

URL: <http://bit.ly/aLUdEK>

3. IUFRO World Congress Bulletin; Volume 178 Number 2 - Wednesday, 25 August 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/9gRwfo>

4. Azerial, ET; Bouchard, M; Pothier, D; Fortin, D; Hebert, C; 17 August 2010; Using biodiversity deconstruction to disentangle assembly and diversity dynamics of understory plants along post-fire succession in boreal forest; Blackwell Publishing Ltd

URL: <http://bit.ly/bCikbW>

5. Pearson, R; (20 August 2010); There's gold in them forests – but not for plantations

URL: <http://bit.ly/asTsbN>

6. Biodiversity Convention Addresses Real Causes of Forest Loss

URL: <http://bit.ly/9sfnEr>

7. Teachers in the Woods: Monitoring Forest Biodiversity

URL: <http://bit.ly/bHpogs>

8. Woody, T; Enlisting Endangered Species As a Tool to Combat Warming; Environment 360; 22 July 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/a6zuir>

9. The Effectiveness of Biodiversity Law- John Copeland Nagle

URL: <http://bit.ly/b5VmUv>

10. Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2009-2010; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

URL: <http://bit.ly/ayqQC5>

11. Tomback, D. F.; Achuff, P.; Blister rust and western forest biodiversity: ecology, values and outlook for white pines; Forest Pathology, Volume 40, Numbers 3-4, August 2010, pp. 186-225(40); Wiley-Blackwell

URL: <http://bit.ly/dr6em4>

12. Fate of weird wader on knife edge

URL: <http://bit.ly/bcvlr2>

13. World first for vultures facing extinction

URL: <http://bit.ly/dfnKP1>

14. Rediscovering Indigenous Peoples" and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs) in Nepal

URL: <http://bit.ly/c5DkAP>

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