

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on 'Biodiversity and Forest', Issue 20 (3 March 2011), 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.

.....
In this Issue

.....
[News from ICIMOD Regional Member Countries \(RMCs\)](#)

[Global News](#)

[Events](#)

[Opportunities](#)

[Organisations working on Biodiversity and Forest](#)

[Resources](#)

.....
News from ICIMOD Regional Member Countries (RMCs)

.....
1. Bangladesh: Wild elephants kill youth

1 March, 2011

A villager was trampled to death by wild elephants at Rangipara in Gulsakhali union under Longudu upazila yesterday. Victim Monir Hossain, 25, was son of Suruj Ali of the village.

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

2. Nepal: Poacher who killed 15 rhinos arrested

28 February, 2011

KATHMANDU, The Central Investigation Bureau (CIB) on Saturday arrested a notorious rhino poacher who killed more than 15 rhinos in Chitwan for the past few years.

Source: <http://bit.ly/fs2irc>

3. India: Draft State biodiversity rules submitted to govt

26 February, 2011

After a prolonged exercise involving various stakeholders, an expert committee has submitted the draft Nagaland Biodiversity Rules to the State government. The five-member Expert Committee on Biological Diversity was formed under the supervision of Nagaland Empowerment of People through Economic Development (NEPED), an autonomous government body, to prepare the draft rules.

Source: <http://bit.ly/i8CM3J>

4. India: Panel formed to save endangered gharial

23 February, 2011

LUCKNOW, Gharial is a critically endangered animal today. The recent assessments indicate that not more than 200 breeding adults might be present in the country.

Source: <http://bit.ly/gw2EjT>

5. Nepal: Man killed in forest ambush

22 February, 2011

BIRATNAGAR, A man has died in an ambush laid by poachers in a community forest in Indrapur-5, Morang Tuesday. Chet Man Bishwakarma, 50, died when he unknowingly stepped onto an improvised explosive while clearing the bushes in the Janachetana Community Forest, according to Morang Police.

Source: <http://bit.ly/emyJ5O>

6. India: Tiger, elephant carcasses recovered from Corbett

20 February, 2011

DEHRADUN: Panic gripped Corbett Tiger Reserve (CTR) on Saturday as forest guards recovered carcasses of a tusker and a tiger from different locations of the CTR area.

Source: <http://bit.ly/es4isf>

[TOP](#)

.....
Global News

.....
1. Ruddy duck numbers in the UK cut to 120 by cull

1 March, 2011

A cull of ruddy ducks in the UK has cut their numbers to just 120. The government says about 4,400 of the birds were shot dead over the past five years. Supporters of the cull, including the RSPB, say it is needed to protect other species from extinction. Opponents argue it is expensive and unnecessary.

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

2. Invasive Species Widespread, but Not More than at Home Range

1 March, 2011

ScienceDaily — Invasive plant species have long had a reputation as being bad for a new ecosystem when they are introduced.

Source: <http://bit.ly/gbjOi7>

3. Fish discards could end under EU proposals

1 March, 2011

The European Commission is to set out its ideas for ending fish discards. Currently, EU boats in the North Sea have to throw away up to half of what they catch to stay within their quotas. Fisheries Commissioner Maria Damanaki proposes instead to regulate fleets through limits on fishing time and greater use of measures such as CCTV.

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

4. Biodiversity conservation in a changing world

28 February, 2011

Protecting the world's biodiversity will be the subject of a free public talk hosted by the University of Bristol in partnership with Bristol Zoo Gardens next month [Wednesday 9 March].

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

5. Looting in Egypt damages key seed collections

23 February, 2011

[CAIRO] Priceless genetic material from desert environments may have been irretrievably lost during the recent Egyptian protests, as looters targeted the Desert Research Centre (DRC) in Cairo and the Egyptian Deserts Gene Bank (EDGB) in North Sinai, causing major damage.

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

6. Japan cancels whaling season due to group's obstruction, official says

18 February, 2011

(CNN) -- Japan has canceled the rest of its winter whaling season, with a top official reasoning that environmentalists' obstructive efforts made it dangerous for whalers to stay on the high seas.

Source: <http://bit.ly/h7g9L3>

7. Green is a way of life in Europe's eco capital

18 February, 2011

(CNN) -- With its winding canals and large public parks sitting alongside a busy port and bustling business district, Hamburg is a city that contradicts itself.

Source: <http://bit.ly/f7EnVN>

8. Bad to be big: Why top predators struggle for survival

15 December, 2010

London (CNN) -- Researchers have found new evidence on how tough survival can be for big predators such as tigers, lions, polar bears and leopards. They discovered that large predators are much more vulnerable to environmental changes than smaller carnivores.

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

[TOP](#)

.....
Events

.....

1. 25 – 26 March, 2011

National Conference on Natural Product Research: For Health and Bio-Pharma Industry

NCNPR-2011 Conference aims to bring together researchers and students, working in academic institutes, university research laboratories and industries, to a common platform, where they can interact, present their results and exchange information and understanding on recent developments in the field of natural product research.

Deadline: 10 March, 2011

Contact: +91 - (422) - 2669401 to 2669405 Ext. 1341, 1342; ncnpr2011@gmail.com

Event website: <http://bit.ly/fExbXP>

2. 30 - 31 March, 2011

China Bio-Agriculture Industry Summit 2011

China Bio-Agriculture Industry Summit 2011 is committed to providing a comprehensive picture of policy guidance, market outlook, international cooperation and agricultural bio-tech advancements in China's bio-agriculture industry.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Mr. Dean Tian, Tel: +86 21 51809483, dean@igvision.com

Event website: <http://bit.ly/guafHT>

3. 21-22 April, 2011

GCBR-SAB National Symposium: Innovative and Modern Technologies for Agricultural Productivity, Food Security and Environmental Management

The present symposium will have special focus on demonstrating modern technologies and their applications for food, agriculture, and environment.

Deadline: 31 March, 2011

Contact: guglycbr@gmail.com

Event website: <http://bit.ly/i8kpiK>

4. 20 - 22 May, 2011

Climate Change, Agri-Food, Fisheries, and Ecosystems: Reinventing Research, Innovation, and Policy Agendas for an Environmentally and Socially-Balanced Growth

ICCAFFE2011, is an acknowledged and distinguished multinational forum that provided early focus on global warming, agri-food, fisheries, and ecosystems from an interdisciplinary approach as well as from a North-South perspective.

Deadline: 1 April, 2011

Contact: behnassi@gmail.com

Event website: <http://bit.ly/aaU8IO>

5. 16-20 May, 2011

Introduction to GIS & Remote Sensing for Wildlife Managers

This short course will provide wildlife managers with a working knowledge about the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing to the monitoring and management of wildlife and forest vegetation.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Melissa Songer, 540.635.6535 (GIS Lab), 540.635.6506 (fax)

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/fJtTH5>

6. 23-27 May, 2011

Advanced Conservation GIS & Remote Sensing Course: Measuring Landcover Change and Its Impact on Endangered Species

This one-week advanced GIS and remote sensing course provides conservation biologists and wildlife managers with an opportunity to learn how GIS and remote sensing can be used to assess the conservation status of endangered species.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: Melissa Songer, 540.635.6535 (GIS Lab), 540.635.6506 (fax)

Event Website: <http://bit.ly/gloT2U>

[TOP](#)

.....
Opportunities

.....
1. The Ramsar Convention's Small Grants Fund

The Ramsar Small Grants Fund (SGF) was established in 1990 as a mechanism to assist developing countries and those with economies in transition in implementing the Convention and to support the conservation and wise use of wetland resources, with a strong human and social dimension.

Deadline: 30 June, 2011

Contact: Ms Alexia Dufour, dufour@ramsar.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/gMj6Bo>

2. African Union Research Grants: Open Call for Proposal 2011

The African Union Commission is seeking proposals for research focusing on the following thematic priorities articulated in Africa's Science and Technology Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA) and its Lighthouse Projects: (a) Post-harvest and Agriculture, (b) Renewable and Sustainable Energy, and (c) Water and Sanitation in Africa.

Deadline: 30 April, 2011

Contact: Fax +251 115 517 844, research-info@africa-union.org

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

3. Rapid Response Facility: Small Grant Programme

The Rapid Response Facility (RRF) is a small grants programme jointly operated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the United Nations Foundation and Fauna & Flora International. It aims to provide rapid support to areas of high biodiversity value in times of crisis, with a particular focus on natural World Heritage sites.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: RRF Secretariat, rrf@fauna-flora.org

More at: <http://bit.ly/hW5UEV>

4. Vacancies: Bioersity International

Bioversity International is the world's largest organization researching agricultural biodiversity. Bioversity believes that agricultural biodiversity can provide key contributions to solutions for global issues related to food security, poverty, climate change, and environmental degradation.

Deadline: 25 March, 2011

Contact: f.fabi@cgiar.org

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

5. Vacancy: Director, Environmental Sustainability Programme

The International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) is currently seeking outstanding candidates for Director, Environmental Sustainability Programme position in Beijing. INBAR is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to improving the social, economic, and environmental benefits of bamboo and rattan.

Deadline: 31 March, 2011

Contact: Mrs He Lin, HR manager, lhe@inbar.int

More at: <http://bit.ly/hstg8v>

[TOP](#)

Organisations working on Biodiversity and Forest

1. The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study is a major international initiative to draw attention to the global economic benefits of biodiversity, to highlight the growing costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and to draw together expertise from the fields of science, economics and policy to enable practical actions moving forward.

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

2. International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

The International Institute for Environment and Development is a global leader in sustainable development. IIED mission is to build a fairer, more sustainable world, using evidence, action and influence in partnership with others. IIED was launched in 1971 by renowned economist and policy advisor Barbara Ward, making it one of the very first organisations to link environment with development.

URL: <http://bit.ly/i7REFw>

3. ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

The ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) is an intergovernmental regional centre of excellence which facilitates cooperation among the members of ASEAN (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam), and with relevant national governments, regional and international organizations on the conservation and sustainable

use of biological diversity, guided by fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of such biodiversity.

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

4. Biotrade Initiative

UNCTAD's BioTrade Initiative promotes the conservation of biodiversity to further sustainable development through its sustainable commercial use. Since 1996, jointly with regional and national organizations, a variety of sectors are being supported in Africa, Asia and Latin America, including non-timber forest products, wildlife-derived products, sustainable agriculture and tourism.

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

5. International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)

The International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), formed during the third Conference of the Parties (COP 3) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in November 1996, is a collection of representatives from indigenous governments, indigenous non-governmental organizations and indigenous scholars and activists that organize around the CBD and other important international environmental meetings.

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

6. National Biological Information Infrastructure

The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) is a broad, collaborative program to provide increased access to data and information on the nation's biological resources. The NBII links diverse, high-quality biological databases, information products, and analytical tools maintained by NBII partners and other contributors in government agencies, academic institutions, non-government organizations, and private industry.

URL: <http://bit.ly/g3WsVq>

7. Intergovernmental science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

After Consultations towards an international mechanism for scientific expertise on biodiversity and the global strategy, need was further strengthened by decision IX/15 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which welcomed the agreement to convene an ad hoc open-ended intergovernmental multi-stakeholder meeting to consider establishing an efficient science-policy interface on biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being.

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

[TOP](#)

.....
Resources

.....
1. Journal of Biodiversity and Ecological Sciences

URL: <http://bit.ly/h7216B>

2. Convention on Biological Diversity

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

3. Turtles in Trouble

URL: <http://bit.ly/ggBiF1>

4. What Is a Tree Worth?

URL: <http://bit.ly/i0cZ3M>

5. A method for integrating MODIS and Landsat data for systematic monitoring of forest cover and change in the Congo Basin

URL: <http://bit.ly/fg9xpf>

6. Entangled in the web of life: biodiversity and the media

URL: <http://bit.ly/hkO7Ow>

7. Conservation in protected areas: do local people benefit?

URL: <http://bit.ly/fnQ0a8>

8. Biosafety Policy Brief: African Regional Coverage Project

URL: <http://bit.ly/eNuf8L>

9. Putting the right price on nature: environmental economics

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

10. Case Studies Illustrating the Socio-Economic Benefits of Ecological Networks

URL: <http://bit.ly/frFRd4>

11. Forest Resilience, Biodiversity, and Climate Change

URL: <http://bit.ly/g4iTwu>

[TOP](#)