

**UNFCCC Climate Change Talks: Bangkok, 28 September – 9 October 2009****Bangkok Must Ensure REDD Plus Moves Ahead**

**LATEST:** As the Bangkok climate change talks near their end, some key elements are yet to be addressed. Progress is being made in the negotiations on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, which also includes conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (**REDD Plus**). But more must be done.

**QUOTE:** “In order to build confidence that REDD Plus is capable of delivering durable emissions reductions, it must be agreed that countries will be rewarded as they move from preparation of REDD Plus actions to verified performance for putting in place safeguards for biodiversity and ecosystem services and good governance arrangements in the forest sector, including the participation of stakeholders,” says **Carole Saint-Laurent, IUCN Senior Forest Policy Advisor**.

**Key issues:**

- Ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change should be included in the post-2012 adaptation framework. *“Managing and conserving nature can increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of people to the impacts of climate change,”* says **IUCN’s Head of Ecosystem Management Programme, Neville Ash**. *“Governments should promote the inclusion of ecosystem-based adaptation in the Copenhagen agreement.”*
- Well-managed nature plays an important role in both climate change adaptation and mitigation. *“Nature can offer solutions that are available to the rural poor in particular, that are cost-effective and sustainable,”* says **IUCN’s Climate Change Coordinator, Ninni Ikkala**. *“The potential of forests in reducing emissions is well-known, whilst for example well-managed mangroves can reduce flood impacts in low-lying coastal areas.”*
- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) can be an immediate solution to reducing harmful emissions, and can also provide benefits to local people and biodiversity. *“We know how to use REDD, we don’t have to wait for the development of low carbon technologies,”* says **IUCN’s Director of Environment and Development, Stewart Maginnis**. *“New science shows it’s more urgent than ever to act now; we can’t wait to start reducing greenhouse gas emissions.”*

**Spokespersons**

- **Ninni Ikkala**, IUCN’s Climate Change Coordinator, [ninni.ikkala@iucn.org](mailto:ninni.ikkala@iucn.org)
- **Carole Saint-Laurent**, IUCN Senior Forest Policy Advisor, [carsaintl@bellnet.ca](mailto:carsaintl@bellnet.ca)

**Media team:**

- **Brian Thomson**, Media Relations Manager, +668 0446 3563 m +41 79 528 3486, e [brian.thomson@iucn.org](mailto:brian.thomson@iucn.org)
- **Minna Epps**, Media Relations Officer, m +668 7082 3331, e [minna@iucn.org](mailto:minna@iucn.org)