



## EU Liaison Office

### Introduction

Welcome to our June e-update. Last week we were busy with Green Week which took place in Brussels from 30<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June with the theme of 'biodiversity', organised under the framework of the Countdown 2010 Initiative, 'to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010'. Many presentations were given with lots of information for those who are interested in biodiversity issues.

Click for more information on: [Green Week](#).

### European Development Conference

#### Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation

The preparation for the Conference on Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation, which will take place on 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> September 2006 in Paris, is gaining momentum. It will bring together officials from partner countries, EU Member States, and European institutions, ministers and commissioners, experts, representatives of the civil society and private sector, and observers from Multilateral Environmental Agreements to discuss the integration of biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources through European development cooperation policies and programs.

In June 2006, IUCN will take part in the Tropical Biodiversity Advisory Group (TBAG) meeting in Sweden. The draft recommendations for the conference will be discussed among NGOs, Member States and the European Commission to be presented during the conference and then forwarded by the Finnish Presidency to the Development Council in December 2006.



*(IFAD: Photo by Gerard Planchenault)*

For more information, please contact [conf2006@iucn.org](mailto:conf2006@iucn.org) or visit the website [www.iucneurope.org](http://www.iucneurope.org)

### EU Policy

#### Overseas Regions and Territories

The EU has 21 overseas countries and territories (OCTs) and 7 Outermost Regions (ORs)

that are linked to 6 different Member States. They are home to biodiversity of worldwide importance, vastly superior to that of the entire continental Europe. Many of these OCTs and ORs are located in major biodiversity Hotspots, like the Caribbean, the Pacific or the Indian Ocean. IUCN has built a partnership of twelve European NGOs, aiming at a better recognition of the importance of these issues at EU level. We are also building relations with the Overseas Territories Association (OCTA) and preparing a programme of work with both the NGO community and the local authorities. Building an ambitious European initiative for biodiversity in ORs and OCTs would be a major step in European efforts towards halting the loss of biodiversity before 2010.



For more information please contact [Jean-Philippe Palasi](#)

## DG Environment

### Biodiversity Communication

The European Commission adopted its Biodiversity Communication on the 22nd May, which sets out a list of more than 150 actions to be implemented by the Commission and Member States, to meet the EU's 2010 biodiversity target. As well as underlining the importance of protecting the EU's most important priority species and habitats through successful implementation of the Birds and Habitats Directives and the Natura 2000 network, the Communication emphasises the need to integrate biodiversity into other policy sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, regional development and research. It also proposes new areas for EU action such as combating invasive alien species and supporting biodiversity adaptation to climate change. To download a copy click [here](#)



For more information contact [Janice Weatherley](#).

## EU Environment Council

### LIFE+ Regulation



The EU Environment Council is expected to adopt the LIFE + Regulation in its meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> June. From 2007 onwards, all funding from DG Environment for implementing EU environmental policy will be organised through this budget line. A summary of what this funding is expected to cover will soon be on our [webpage](#).

For more information contact [Anouska Plasmeijer](#).

## European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument

Starting from 2007, the ENPI shall provide grants for local development projects that target sustainable development and approximation to EU policies and standards in countries that are direct neighbours of the enlarged EU, involving both EU member states and partner countries. Additionally, the Economic Co-operation and Development instrument will address both regional and cross-border co-operation among partner countries.

Until 2007, the Tacis, MEDA and Interreg programmes will stay the main financial assistance instruments for EU neighbouring countries.

For more information see the [ENPI website](#) or contact [Anouska Plasmeijer](#)

For a list of your national contacts click [here](#)



For more information please contact [eu.liaison@iucn.org](mailto:eu.liaison@iucn.org)