



Ecosystem

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CEM Activities

CEM Steering Committee meeting – Bissau, Guinea Bissau

The 30th CEM Steering Committee Meeting will be held from 11-13 March, 2010 in Guinea, Guinea Bissau. The Steering committee and Secretariat will report on progress in CEM's activities and plan for major upcoming events in 2010. The meeting records will be available on www.iucn.org/ceem shortly after.

A workshop on the the development of a mining code for Guinea Bissau will be organised by CEM, from 14-15 April in Buba, Guinea Bissau. Legal and social aspects of mining operations, international mining practices for environmental management, ecosystem management, governance issues and links with terrestrial and marine protected areas will be covered in the workshop. Participants from Governments, the mining sector, IUCN and CEM members from the region, national and international NGOs, donor representatives and the press will attend. [More](#)

CEM Steering Committee Oceania Representation

CEM would like to thank Dr. Eddie Hegerl for his invaluable contributions in the development and implementation of CEM's work for the past year. Unfortunately Dr. Hegerl will no longer be part of the Steering Committee but will continue to support CEM through his membership. CEM wishes Dr. Hegerl all the best in his future endeavors.



Young Professional Co-Thematic Group Lead for Ecosystem Services

Jelena Ilic has recently been appointed as co-lead of CEM's Thematic Group on Ecosystem Services. She will assist in coordination and communication activities. She holds degrees in Ecology and Environmental Sciences. Her professional interests encompass socio-cultural values of ecosystems, traditional environmental knowledge and practices, management of sacred natural sites and economics of biodiversity losses. CEM encourages such appointments as it is committed to capacity building for young professionals in ecosystem management issues. [Contact](#)

CEM at the Commission on Environmental Law Meeting

Dr John Benson represented CEM at meeting organised by IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) in Sydney, Australia. The meeting provided an information sharing opportunity among CEL, CEM, World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and IUCN Oceania's ongoing work, with a focus on environmental law. The meeting called for closer collaborations among IUCN's Commissions through specialist groups, especially in common areas of work. There is also a greater need for lawyers and scientists to communicate and work together. CEM and CEL can contribute significantly to each others' work. [Contact](#)

UN ISDR Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR) at ISDR, Davos

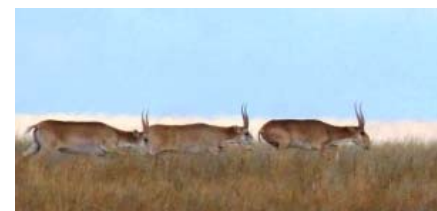
The IUCN Ecosystem Management Programme and CEM's Disaster Risk Reduction thematic group, through its lead Karen Sudmeier, are part of PEDRR, which is a partnership of organisations working in the area of ecosystem management for disaster risk reduction. PEDRR organises regular information sharing and coordination meetings amongst partners to identify synergies to work together and it also pools expertise and resources for advocating the role of environment management in disaster risk reduction. PEDRR is organising a special event at the upcoming International Disaster and Risk Conference in Davos, Switzerland, from May 30th to June 4th. Speakers at the session will present ongoing field work that use environment management tools for disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction tools that contribute to environment management, in the context of water related disasters. Discussions will focus on how best to strengthen the role of environment in risk reduction. [Contact](#)



The TEEB study (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) is an ongoing global assessment which analysis the economic importance of biodiversity and ecosystems and the costs of biodiversity loss. The final report will be launched at the CBD COP 10 in Nagoya (Japan) in October 2010. CEM's Ecosystem Services thematic group leader Dolf de Groot is involved as coordinating lead author of Chapter I (The Framework) as well as Chapter VII (The Evidence). Those CEM members interested in contributing to the Evidence Chapter should contact Dolf de Groot at dolf.degroot@wur.nl. For any additional information regarding the TEEB study please have a look at: www.teebweb.org.

Steppe Ecosystems Conservation and Sustainable Use in Kazakhstan

The CEM Holarctic Steppes thematic group lead, Dr. Tatyana Bragina, participated in a roundtable on 'Steppe Conservation and Management', in Almaty, Kazakhstan in December 2009. Government representatives, UN agencies, scientists, international NGOs and donor agencies discussed the current status of steppe ecosystems and potential activities to enhance the role of Protected Areas in socio-economical development. Steppes ecosystems are the most altered ecosystems in the world. Virgin steppes require urgent conservation and protection, and advocacy of ecologically sustainable land use practices. [Contact](#)



Sustainable Fisheries and Artificial Reefs on the Iskele Coasts Project

Eastern Mediterranean seas are known for low productivity for fisheries, with pressure on sensitive habitats, nursery grounds and non-target species (including those from the IUCN Red List) being some of the main reasons. To address such issues in North Cyprus, Eastern Mediterranean University Underwater Research and Imaging Centre (EMU-URIC), in collaboration with local fishermen associations, and the local municipality have recently initiated a project with the EU which focuses on sustainable fisheries. The project focuses on 3 key outcomes: increase fish productivity by means of artificial reefs deployed at the area; implement proper marketing methods for the catch; and finally a collaborative self-insurance and support system (with increased income) to ensure adequate protection of the marine environment and non-target species like monk seals and sea turtles by the sector. [Contact](#)



The World Pheasant Association - India study on the status, distribution, key threats & related conservation aspects of Red-breasted Hill-Partridge (*Arborophila mandellii* Hume) in Singalila National Park and Buxa Tiger Reserve, West Bengal supported by 'Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)' and 'Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE)' has commenced from October 15th, 2009. During the first reconnaissance-cum-survey trip in Singalila National Park, the team recorded a single instance of sighting of the target species in the wild. Further intensive survey around the selected areas has been planned to be conducted

during the period late March to middle of May, 2010. Red-breasted Hill-Partridge is a globally Vulnerable bird species with distribution confined in and around the Eastern Himalayas and not much is known about its habit and eco-behaviour. [Contact](#)

Many Strong Voices for Tackling Climate Change

As climate change exacts an ever-increasing toll on communities around the world, the Many Strong Voices project <http://www.manystrongvoices.org> assists by linking people from around the Arctic and from the Small Island Developing States (SIDS; <http://www.sidsnet.org>) in order to share and enhance knowledge about and action on climate change. With many of the Arctic and SIDS communities being in the coastal zone and with livelihoods extensively based on natural resources, surprising commonalities emerge between and within the two regions, especially regarding ecosystem management to help deal with climate change. Local action for climate change must include understanding ecosystem impacts and ecosystem services, and their integration with society. The lessons from Many Strong Voices in the Arctic and SIDS can then inform the world, supporting others' endeavours to deal with climate change. [Contact](#)



PRESENCE (Participatory Restoration of Ecosystem Services & Natural Capital in the Eastern Cape) is a collaborative learning network aimed at guiding ecosystem management and restoration of 'living landscapes' in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. The transdisciplinary initiative is being piloted across the Baviaanskloof Mega-Reserve with the support of multiple partners. "PRESENCE in the Baviaanskloof" has been applying and refining an integrated ecosystem (services) approach. The process has involved area identification (e.g. hydro/ecological processes, stakeholder willingness, institutional capacity) and understanding perceptions and values of ecosystem/landscape services. PRESENCE in the Baviaanskloof is now in an early implementation phase which includes analysis of opportunities/constraints and strategy development. Planned restoration activities for 2010 include: reforestation with native vegetation (CO2 capture); recreating wetlands (increase base flow); erosion mitigation; and creating effective communication and education strategies for implementing an incentives scheme (e.g. PES) for ecosystem management. Collectively, such actions should continue to build social-ecological resilience to anticipated climatic changes. [Contact](#)

What's Happening @ IUCN?

2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress

IUCN, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, and the Self-governing Province of Jeju have signed an agreement to jointly organize the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress. The Congress will take place from 6 to 15 September 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea. Held every four years, the IUCN Congress is the world's most important international conservation event. The 2012 Congress aims to put nature and conservation at the top of the global agenda.

Grievance Procedure on Private Sector Engagement

To address concerns raised by some of IUCN's constituency about IUCN's private sector engagements the IUCN Secretariat has established a grievance procedure as a means of receiving, recording and responding to grievances. View the document in [English](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#). In case of any grievances, please contact grievancebiz@iucn.org

IUCN Red List and Criteria version 3.1 now available in Arabic

IUCN-Med is pleased to announce that the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria version 3.1 has now been published in Arabic, with the support of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID), and the objective of promoting red listing in Arabic countries at national and regional levels. The "Guidelines for Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at Regional levels" also in Arabic will be published later during the year. [Full story Français Espagnol Arabic](#)

Biodiversity: My hotel in action - the video

A video designed to make the hotel industry more aware of the importance of biodiversity has been launched by IUCN, in partnership with Accor, the European leader in hotels. From cotton towels and sheets in guest rooms, to food in the restaurant and wood used for furniture and fittings, the products of biodiversity are everywhere inside hotels. Outside, plants and animals make a hotel's public spaces and gardens attractive for guests, while beyond the hotel gates, parks, green spaces, coasts and natural habitats provide guests with opportunities for recreation and enjoyment. Restaurant chefs, spa managers, interior designers and shopkeepers all have a role to play. Their seafood choices in the menus, selection of medicinal and aromatic plants for the spas, use of live animals and plants in hotel grounds, selection of wildlife-based souvenirs, and offers of excursions, all contribute to the overall impact on biodiversity. To address these challenges, IUCN, in partnership with Accor, has developed an introductory video about the relevance of biodiversity to the hotel sector. [Full story and video clip](#)

Announcements & Events

28 May – 4 June International Disaster and Risk Conference, Davos, Switzerland. [More information](#)

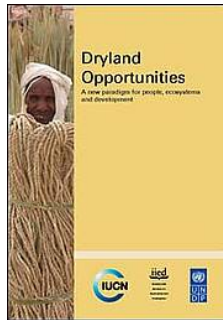
Dr. G Poyya Moli, Associate Professor, Pondicherry University and a member of CEM's thematic group - Ecosystem services, is selected as a member of the volunteers for the National Ecosystem Services Partnership (USA EPA) - working Group 3: Communication. A consortium of government agencies, NGOs, and private sector groups will link ongoing efforts to develop a Community on Ecosystem Services (ACES). [Contact](#)

28-30 May 2010 First World Congress on Cities and Adaptation to Climate Change, Bonn, Germany. [More Information](#)

15-17 October 2010 International Conference on Urbanization and Global Environmental Change, Tempe, Arizona, USA Theme: *Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainability in an Urbanizing World*. Deadline for abstracts of presentations: 15 April. [More Information](#)

11-16 April 2010 International Healthy Parks Healthy People Congress, Melbourne Australia - Registration now open - [More Information](#)

Publications



Dryland opportunities: A new Paradigm for People, Ecosystems and Development

IUCN, IIED and UNDP (2009) Michael Mortimore, with contributions from Simon Anderson, Lorenzo Cotula, Jonathan Davies, Kristy Facer, Ced Hesse, John Morton, Wilfred Nyangema, Jamie Skinner and Caterina Wolfangel

Understanding of dryland ecosystems and the services they provide has long been impeded by a 'desertification paradigm' that focuses on the evidence of land degradation as assessed by outsiders. This has driven external interventions and projects (many of them unsuccessful), donor attitudes and international organizations including the UNCCD. While not denying genuine evidence of degrading ecosystems, a new Challenge Paper on the global drylands takes a fresh look at change and development under variable, semi-arid climatic conditions. Economic growth cannot be based solely on correcting misuse. Instead, an opportunistic paradigm seeks to (1)strengthen local or indigenous knowledge in partnerships with appropriate science and technology, (2) estimate the full value of dryland ecosystem services, (3) understand investment barriers and appropriate enabling incentives, (4) improve access to markets, and (5) form or adapt institutional structures to support decentralised, democratic and responsible governance of natural resources.



A Framework for Social Adaptation to Climate Change – Sustaining Tropical Coastal Communities and Industries

Marshall N.A., Marshall P.A., Tamelander J., Obura D., Malleret-King D. and Cinner J.E.

The publication provides an overview of the factors that confer resilience to communities and individuals, and explores the inter-dependence of social and ecological systems. It constitutes a source of information on how managers, communities and reef-based industries can manage for climate adaptation through maintaining or enhancing properties that confer resilience, and identifies tools to this end. It also provides a foundation for further work, including targeted research, methodological development and field-testing.

EcoTip from MyGreen IUCN!



Making your own garden planters is a great way to recycle empty containers!