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## CEM and Member Activities



### Joost Brouwer at Commission on Sustainable Development - 16 for CEM, New York

During the first week of May I attended CSD-16 in New York on behalf of the CEM. CSD is the Commission on Sustainable Development of the UN. Through the efforts of Head Office and of Narinder Kakar, IUCN's permanent observer at the UN, I was invited to be on one of the expert panels and make a brief presentation on 'Links between climate change, drought, desertification and biodiversity'. I focussed on the importance of isolated wetlands in the Sahel, links between wetlands and drylands, and how better production in the drylands can help reduce pressure on the wetlands. Examples were taken from Niger, where I worked as an agro-ecologist for ICRISAT for five years. A brochure produced especially for the meeting, on the importance of within field soil and crop growth variability to improving food production on a changing Sahel can be downloaded [here](#). Information on the meeting can be found at <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/review.htm>.

My overall impressions: - a lot of people and a lot of talking; - contacts in the corridors were more interesting than many of the declarations made in the large conference rooms, with some notable exceptions. Communicating and sharing, for a sustainable world, is what life should be about. CEM tries to be part of that.

Joost Brouwer, Brouwer Envir. & Agric. Consultancy, [BrouwerEAC@wanadoo.nl](mailto:BrouwerEAC@wanadoo.nl)

### CEM side event on Ecosystem Approach (EsA) at COP9

A side event on the application of EsA and its integration into policy was organised by CEM at the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Bonn, Germany on 21 May. The regional vice chair South America, [Angela Andrade](#),

presented lessons learnt from applying the EsA in Latin America. [Click here](#) to view the publication on EsA approach in Latin America. The English version will be available in August 2008.

CEM Ecosystem Approach theme lead, [Dr. Gill Shepherd](#), presented a synopsis of CEM's forthcoming publication *The Ecosystem Approach: Learning from Experience* (available from the CEM website in August 2008) and the EsA policy development process in Vietnam. The event also launched a Policy Brief that will guide wetlands and protected area policy priorities in Vietnam in the future. The Policy Brief can be viewed on the [CEM website](#).

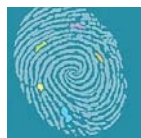
#### **An Interview of Dr Ritesh Arya, Guinness World Record Holder for drilling the highest bore well in the world!**

If you lived at high altitude in the Himalayas, especially the cold mountain deserts of Ladakh, where would you obtain your water? You would not be able to rely upon streams. They are frozen most of the year and filled with sediment-laden glacial meltwater when they are flowing. An [interview](#) of Dr Ritesh Arya, CEM member, on this issue.

### **What's Happening @ IUCN?**

#### **Climate Change Officer for IUCN Ecosystems Management Programme**

In addition to the recent arrival of IUCN's Ecosystems Management Programme Manager, Mr. Neville Ash and Projects Officer, Ms. Radhika Murti, Ms. Ninni Ikkala has joined the EMP team as IUCN's Climate Change Officer. Ninni, of Finnish nationality, grew up and studied in Great Britain. She holds an MA in Geography and Sociology from the University of Edinburgh and an MSc in Environment and Development from the London School of Economics. She previously worked for the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland both in Helsinki and Nicaragua, focussing on civil society participation, policy analysis and harmonization processes. She joins IUCN from working with UNDP Guatemala on climate change and energy issues. Welcome [Ninni!](#)



#### **The European Union and its Overseas Entities – Strategies to counter Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss**

IUCN, together with the Regional Council of Reunion Island, the French Observatory for the Impacts of Global Warming (ONERC) and the French Ministry of Internal Affairs, Overseas and Territorial Collectivities organized the first ever 'get together' of the EU's overseas entities, ranging from islands in the tropics to the polar regions, to share lessons and collaborate on climate change adaptation and biodiversity loss reduction. The conference was held from 7 to 11 July on Reunion Island. [Full story](#)

#### **IUCN hosts Global Island Partnership (GLISPA)**

From 2008 IUCN will be hosting the GLISPA coordination team in Gland. GLISPA assists islands in addressing one of the world's greatest challenges – to conserve and sustainably utilize the invaluable island natural resources that support people, cultures, and livelihoods in their island homes around the world. GLISPA is recognised by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as a partnership to advance the implementation of the CBD 2010 target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss, and the Programmes of Work on Island Biodiversity and Protected Areas. GLISPA was created to help bridge local and global initiatives, build upon existing networks and programmes, and share knowledge among all of islands. [More info on GLISPA.](#)

#### **IUCN's Islands Initiative**

In support of GLISPA and its wider membership, IUCN is further developing its Islands Initiative, which focuses on addressing integrated management challenges for marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, for the conservation of island biodiversity, and the sustainable development of island communities. In partnership with the Italian Government. Opening of the Oceania office in Fiji in 2006, building on IUCN's ongoing work in the Mediterranean, launching the Caribbean Initiative at the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona this year and a scoping mission in the Western Indian Ocean to establish how IUCN can contribute towards addressing conservation and climate change challenges on islands in the region have been activities carried out in support of the Island Initiative. [More](#)

#### **The IUCN World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, 5-14 October 2008**



More than 8,000 of the world's leading decision makers in sustainable development: from governments, NGOs, business, the UN and academia. Together in one place for 10 days: to debate, share, network, learn, commit, vote and decide. The objective: ideas, action and solutions for a diverse and sustainable world.

**Registration for the World Conservation Congress is now [online](#)** - Participation in the IUCN World Conservation Congress is open to anybody who has completed the Congress registration form and paid the respective registration fee. You can also book accommodation and excursion trips online.

**Learning Opportunities at WCC** - IUCN is offering fifty learning opportunities to you as a fully registered delegate at the World Conservation Congress. Interactive, skills-building workshops on topics such as ecosystem data collection, and multilateral negotiation skills will be held from 5 to 9 October at no additional cost. Apply to participate before 10 August. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Sailing to Barcelona - Come onboard!** As part of IUCN's World Conservation Congress, Sailing to Barcelona will give a voice to creative marine conservation efforts from various corners of the world. Sailing boats, research vessels and environmentally-friendly ships will be the powerful tools used to visually communicate this action. [More info](#)

**Journeying through WCC** - IUCN will organise a series of "journeys" - roadmaps of sessions of interest to specialists and stakeholders - for rights and livelihoods, islands, markets and business, energy, biocultural diversity, species, law and governance, forest, protected areas, Mediterranean, water and marine thematic issues. Thirteen journeys will be organised and will include "rest stops" and social gatherings. Further information on journeys will be available on the [WCC](#) site from August 2008.

#### The Commission on Ecosystem Management sessions at WCC

CEM is organising the following sessions at WCC that members and interested participants can attend. CEM will also be organising a members' meeting (date, time and venue to be confirmed) at WCC and we hope to see you there! [More Info](#)

CEM Sessions	Date, time and room	Session Title	Conveners	Format
SESSION 1 Plenary Session (1251)	6 <sup>th</sup> October 18.30-20.00 (116)	Introductory session: The Ecosystem Approach: Road to Sustainability	Hein-Rune Skjoldal, Gill Shepherd	Aliances Workshop
SESSION 2 Parallel session (1247)	7 <sup>th</sup> October 9.30-11.00 (119)	Are ecosystem indicators meeting users' needs and guiding conservation in the appropriate direction?	Craig Groves, Rudo Sanyanga	Aliances Workshop
SESSION 2 Parallel session (1248)	7 <sup>th</sup> October 18.30-20.00 (119)	Restoring Ecosystem services and their values: investing in ecosystem restoration pays	Dolf de Groot, David Lamb	Aliances Workshop
SESSION 3 Parallel session (1249)	8 <sup>th</sup> October 16.30-18.00 (TBA)	Indicators for Protecting Ecosystem Life Support Services: Satellite Remote Sensing for Mangrove Monitoring	Karen Seto, Annadel Cabanban	Learning opportunities <b>(see above for applying before 10 Aug)</b>
SESSION 3 Parallel session (1250)	8 <sup>th</sup> October 18.30-20.00 (116)	Beyond Protected areas, beyond conservation: the value of the ecosystem approach to broader debates	Angela Andrade, Gill Shepherd	Aliances workshop
SESSION 4 Plenary Session (1258)	9 <sup>th</sup> October 14.30-16.00 (116)	Concluding session-The lowest appropriate level: Globalisation and ecosystem management	Piet Wit/Kalev Sepp	Aliances workshop

#### Announcements & Events



#### Ramsar COP 10

The 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) will take place in Changwon, Republic of Korea, from 28 October to 4 November 2008. The theme for the meeting is "**Healthy Wetlands, Healthy People**". Pre-registration is open. [More](#)

#### Rio Tinto Alcan Prize for Sustainability now open for entries

Rio Tinto Alcan and the International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF) have announced that the US\$1million Rio Tinto Alcan Prize for Sustainability 2008 is now open for entries. Click [here](#) for information on eligibility criteria and how to enter. *The closing date for receipt of entries is midnight, 12 September 2008 (GMT).*

#### TerraLook image processing and GIS package

Version 1.1 of the TerraLook desktop software has just been released and is available at <http://terralook.sourceforge.net>. This free desktop software is a simple and intuitive image processing and GIS package. TerraLook provides free, recent and historical satellite images in a simple jpeg format. [More info](#)

### Give the world a wake up call - Connect2earth today!

By taking part in **connect2earth** you're becoming part of the solution that we are so badly missing. You'll be helping move hearts, minds and thoughts towards and beyond mere recognition of "sure, we know something's not quite right with the planet these days" to one of actions and commitments from people who can do more than just change their light bulbs. AND you may just win a mobile phone or find yourself at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2008. [More](#)



### New worksite on biodiversity business

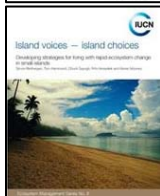
CEM member, Dr Francis Vorhies, has set up a new worksite in support of the recent IUCN/Shell report on Building Biodiversity Business. The worksite contains relevant documents and links, especially regarding technical guidance for developing and investing in biodiversity business. Suggestions are most welcome. Please visit <http://earthmind.net/bbb> or email [fvorhies@earthmind.net](mailto:fvorhies@earthmind.net).

## Publications



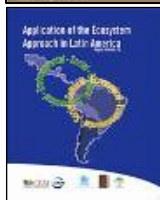
### Ecosystem Management Series no. 5 – The Ecosystem Approach – Learning from Experience

In recent years CEM has conducted a series of case studies which have followed the application of the Ecosystem Approach in the context of projects or other land management initiatives. The publication presents 5 such case studies and the authors assess the extent to which the Ecosystem Approach principles endorsed by the Convention on Biological Diversity had been useful and robust. Available from September 2008 from [CEM](#) website.



### Ecosystem Management Series no. 6 – Island voices – island choices

The publication presents a survey analysis of 300 island respondents on the socio-economic and environmental challenges facing islands today and establishes their needs/gaps in being able to address these challenges effectively. The publication is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).



### Ecosystem Management Series no. 7 – Application of the Ecosystem Approach in Latin America (Spanish and English)

The publication is a collation of selected case studies which are representative of the application of the Ecosystem Approach under different ecological, social, economic and cultural contexts in Latin-America. The Spanish version is available from the [CEM](#) website and the English version will be available from August 2008.

### First edition of the Dictionary of Biodiversity (Spanish)

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Costa Rica's National Biodiversity Institute (INBio) and the country's Ministry of Environment and Energy announce the launching of the first edition of the Dictionary of Biodiversity (written in Spanish), an illustrated encyclopaedia covering almost 6,000 terms related to biodiversity (original title: *Diccionario de la Biodiversidad*). [More](#).

### The publication *Water Voices from Around The World* receives first place Gold Award at world's largest international book awards competition.

This award is in the 'Outstanding Book of the Year' category for the book "Most Likely to Save the Planet." *Water Voices from Around The World* is published in consideration and support of the UN's decade of water, and features 400 colour photographs and over 100 letters and articles from 77 authors. [More](#).

### OPPTS Tribal News

The US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics would like to announce the impending release of the "OPPTS Tribal News," - Spring 2008 edition. The special edition covers human health and ecosystem protection, including a short article about international issues prepared by Pete Christich (CEM member) with the assistance of Rashida (Shivers) Bowlin of US EPA. [More](#).

## EcoTip from MyGreen IUCN!



### Think before you print...

Do you print e-mails and end up with pages that have only several lines of text...or just a couple of words? Do you send documents to print and forget to pick it up? Simple and effective tools already exist to help you save paper and space (without stealing valuable time!): print preview, double-sided printing, printing several pages per sheet, electronic filing, and document sharing. Although some documents need to be printed and stored but...t's quite simple: **Think before you print!**

