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Commission on Ecosystem Management



The World Conservation Union

Ecosystems Bio-energy

June 2007 | Volume 2

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Headline News

Energy systems both impact and depend on ecosystems

By Nadine McCormick

Ecosystems support energy systems through their services such as water flows and biomass production. Every energy production system, even those that are portrayed as environmentally-friendly, has some effect on ecosystems and thereby affects future energy choices and development. This is compounded by climate change which in itself is caused by current energy choices. Bio-energy¹, and in particular bio-fuel markets, are heating up considerably and are likely to change landscapes worldwide. Though biomass is the oldest form of energy, enthusiasm for bio-fuels has been renewed as a result of concerns over security of oil and gas supplies, desires to promote rural development, and a need for lower-carbon energy to mitigate against climate change. Many governments are adopting targets to increase the use of renewable fuels in their national energy mix, particularly for transport.

A side event convened by IUCN at UN CSD15 entitled “Bio-fuels: a tool for conservation?” concluded that only when well-planned can bio-fuels production contribute to a more sustainable energy future, particularly for developing countries, while providing opportunities for landscape management, conservation farming practices, climate change adaptation, and rural livelihoods development (see <http://www.iucn.org/themes/energy/Production/biofuels.html>).

However, we need to better understand the implications of bio-fuels in the different ecosystems and regions: Will current bio-fuel policies and practices undermine food security or can they contribute to poverty alleviation? Can rural farmers benefit from global bio-fuel markets? To what extent will bio-fuel feedstock production degrade ecosystems through invasive species and deforestation? Can the production of bio-fuels contribute to the restoration of degraded lands and climate change adaptation?

¹ Bio-energy - biomass systems (woody, non-woody or organic waste) that produce heat and/or electricity. Bio-fuels – liquid fuels derived from biomass that can be used for transport or heating purposes:

- bio-ethanol – produced from crops such as sugarcane, beet, corn, wheat and barley;
- bio-diesel – produced from seeds such as palm, jatropha, rapeseed, sunflower and soy.

“First generation” bio-fuels – produced from agricultural products. “Second generation” bio-fuels – produced from agricultural waste, wood and grasses. (Dufey, A. 2007. *An IIED Briefing International trade in bio-fuels: Good for development? And good for the environment?*)

The complex nature of the bio-fuels debate is reflected by the Indian National Railway which planted *Jatropha* (*Jatropha curcas*) along its tracks to repel animals and also provide around 10% of the railway's energy needs. However, *Jatropha* is proving to have invasive tendencies if not managed correctly and should be researched further.

The rapid growth in the global biofuels market is dramatic and means that we must move quickly to better understand the implications for landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity.

The goal of IUCN's Energy, Ecosystems and Livelihoods Initiative is to accelerate the transition to energy systems that are ecologically sustainable, socially equitable, and economically efficient. The Initiative seeks to positively inform and influence key decision-makers in areas where the interface between energy systems and ecosystems is critical. The Energy Initiative is currently developing a work programme to find ways to manage potential risks while increasing the opportunities bioenergy and biofuels can create for ecosystems and livelihoods.

On a regional level, IUCN will develop a range of multi-sector and multi-stakeholder regional dialogues based on scenarios for energy security and infrastructure, food security, environmental security, and water security and importantly how the dynamics of climate change will also interplay with these security issues. On a local level, IUCN will develop case studies with partner organisations to identify and test standards for biofuel feedstock production that promote conservation and sustainable livelihood outcomes. Both elements will feed into global policy dialogues.

For more information

- Please see IUCN's report at UN CSD15 entitled "Biofuels: a tool for conservation?" <http://www.iucn.org/themes/energy/Production/biofuels.html>
- Visit IUCN's Energy Initiative Website www.iucn.org/energy
- Contact Nadine McCormick, IUCN Programme Officer, IUCN Energy, Ecosystems and Livelihoods Initiative: Nadine.McCormick@iucn.org

Highlights from Members of the Commission on Ecosystem Management

International Conference on Forest Landscape Restoration, Seoul, Korea, 14-19 May 2007

By David Lamb, Theme Leader on Restoration of the Commission on Ecosystem Management

The International Conference on Forest Landscape Restoration was held in Seoul mid May. Three main themes emerged from the conference:

1. Restoration was viewed in quite different ways in different parts of the world. In much of Europe and North America, for example, the primary concern of restorationists has been to modify existing forests to achieve increased levels of biodiversity or to generate some functional outcome. In tropical areas restoration is more commonly viewed as a way of reforesting badly degraded land areas that mostly lack tree cover.
2. Most presentations were aware of the need to address the problem of how to scale up from interventions at a site level to achieve outcomes over large areas but few have been able to do this. Perhaps the best example of success was the forest restoration that has occurred across South Korea.
3. Restorationists are increasingly interested in the role that payments for ecological services might have in financing restoration in future.

David Lamb ran a workshop on landscape restoration "tools", which described recent experiences in using a decision support tool to help villagers and National Park managers in northern Thailand plan restoration activities. The conference was organized by IUFRO (International Union of Forest Research Organisations) and co-sponsored by IUCN and CEM. A number of CEM members attended including Billy Hau from Hong Kong, Do-Soon Cho from South Korea and Steve Elliott from Thailand.

For more information please

- Read the full article http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/news/newsletter/2007/docs/flr_conference_korea_d.lamb_may2007.pdf and see <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/korea/>
- Contact David Lamb, CEM Theme Leader on the Ecosystem Approach, d.lamb@uq.edu.au

Mainstreaming the Ecosystem Approach in water management – the Himalayan Water and Nature Initiative

The Himalayan Region Water and Nature Initiative (Himal WaNI) is part of the global Water and Nature Initiative of IUCN. The countries included in this programme are Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and China. The main objectives of the programme are (i) innovative management practices are promoted to support the mainstreaming of an ecosystem approach to water management, and (ii) existing and emerging collaboration and negotiation mechanisms are supported to promote an ecosystem approach to water management. One of the main impacts of Himal WaNI since its inception is the mobilisation of a large network of actors and partners in the Himalayan Region. Besides the IUCN country offices of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and China, other partners such as the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Winrock India are involved in the implementation of the work. As a result a “net” of organisations, and in some cases individuals, committed to introducing e-flows, integrated watershed management and payment for environmental services into the mainstream has been created. Activities are geared towards policy makers, civil society organisations and international fora. Some of the main outputs will be case studies, road maps and syntheses on these topics. Proposals and recommendations to further this work have recently been discussed during a mid-term workshop in New Delhi.

For more information

- Please contact Ele Jan Saaf at ejsaaf@runbox.com

Information was provided by Ele Jan Saaf, Regional Coordinator Himalayan Region Water and Nature Initiative and CEM Member.

Integrated management in drylands for conservation and development

In Egypt, as in many other developing countries integrated ecosystem management for development so far has been a concept with very limited application. Sectoral approaches with little or no effective coordination have been the predominant practice with negative impacts such as the degradation of natural resources. Especially, given the fact that over the next five decades, drylands will face significant challenges from climate change there is a need to adopt integrated ecosystem management. This was the main topic of a conference on “Integrated Management in Drylands for Conservation and Development” that was held earlier this year by the Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO and chaired by Kamal Batanouny, Regional Vice Chair of CEM.

For more information please

- Read the full article http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/news/newsletter/2007/docs/conf_intmanagement_egypt_march_2007.pdf
- Contact Kamal Batanouny kbata@link.net
- Visit the website of the Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO www.egnatcom.org.eg

Case Study database on ecosystem management for sustainable livelihoods

The Case Study Database of the Nature Valuation & Financing Network, covers a wide range of ecosystem research and implementation areas such as: *Ecosystem Services, Ecosystem Valuation, Payments & Rewards for Environmental Services (PES), Ecosystem Approach, Financing Mechanisms for Ecosystem Management, Market-Based Instruments, Restoration of Natural Capital, Business & Biodiversity, Sacred & Natural Sites Management, Protected Areas*. The database offers simple search and case retrieval and gives you the opportunity to easily add and edit details from your own cases. In this sense, it encourages the sharing of results, best practices and lessons learned in order to facilitate better information exchange in ecosystem management.

For more information

- Search and submit case studies at <http://topshare.wur.nl/naturevaluation/73766>
- General questions or feedback are welcome at casebase@fsd.nl. Collaboration interest should be directed to matt.zylstra@fsd.nl
- The Nature Valuation & Financing Network <http://topshare.wur.nl/naturevaluation/71602>

Information was provided by Matt Zylstra, CEM Member.

Websites on the Management of the Great Lakes in the US and Canada:

- www.binational.net on the **US-Canada Great Lake Water Quality Agreement** – This bi-national website includes information about Great Lakes Basin ecosystem issues, approaches, documents, and goals. This US-Canada website is an excellent model of how federal governments and countries can organize together to make information available on a multi-year basis about shared ecosystems which span an international border.
- The website of the **Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC)** <http://www.glrc.us/> provides information on US efforts and goals to better address, protect, and restore the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem.
- Another effort that is smaller in scale but no less difficult is the **US-Canada Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan - based Biodiversity Conservation Strategy**, at <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/lakeontario.conservation>. Through a series of bi-national meetings, Lake Ontario natural resource managers are developing an overall cooperative strategy for the Lake Ontario basin.

Information was provided by Pete Christich, CEM Member and Karen Rodriguez.

TerraLook: Satellite imagery to view a changing world

TerraLook provides easily accessible remotely-sensed data primarily for education and natural resource management purposes. TerraLook images are designed for visual interpretation and display, and are of value to anyone who wants to see the changes to the Earth's surface over the last 30 years. TerraLook builds on the success of the NASA Protected Area Archive project (<http://asterweb.jpl.nasa.gov/TerraLook.asp>) and is a project of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS), in cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

- For more information please visit <http://terralook.cr.usgs.gov/>

Information was provided by Gary Geller, CEM Member.

Vulnerable Ecosystems, Risks and the 2005 record of hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea

This article summarizes the impacts of the 2005 hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea and its implication on the management of coastal ecosystems.

For more information

- Please see the full article (Spanish) <http://www.ine.gob.mx/download/huracanes2005.pdf>
- Please contact Alejandro Yáñez-Arancibia at: aya@ecologia.edu.mx

Information was provided by Alejandro Yáñez-Arancibia, CEM Member.

Atlas forests of Algeria

Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) is a tree species that is expanding its territory in Northern Algeria but losing ground in the South of the country, due to a combination of climatic and anthropic pressures. CEM member Lila Kadik used a combination of autecology and synecology research to characterize the growing conditions of both Aleppo pine and the species it is associated with. This has led to an improved understanding of the floristic diversity of Algeria's forests and will help to identify those pine stands that are growing under adverse ecological conditions and that are therefore in danger of disappearing – essential input for a much-needed restoration policy for the Aleppo pine ecosystem.

For more information

- See the full article: A floristic and ecological study of the threatened semi-arid forests in Algeria, by L.Kadik-Achoubi:
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/news/newsletter/2007/docs/lkadik_aleppopine_algerie_2007.pdf
- Or contact L.Kadik-Achoubi l_kadik@yahoo.fr

Information was provided by Lila Kadik-Achoubi, CEM Member.

UNEP – online directory for organizations

The organizations directory provides the profiles of civil society organizations that are engaged in the work of UNEP. These organizations are either accredited to UNEP Governing Council, participated in previous Global Civil Society Forums (GCSF) or work with one or several UNEP divisions, regional offices or out-posted offices. If this is the case for your organization, please **register** your profile to be included in the directory.

- For more information on the online directory and to register please see http://www.unep.org/civil_society/Registration/index5.asp

Information was provided by CEM Member Salif Diop.

IUCN News in Brief

Roundtable on Sustainable Bio-fuels

At first glance, bio-fuels look like the solution to several problems at once. For the environment, using bio-fuels can result in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions as compared to fossil fuels. For the economy, growing and processing bio-fuels can create jobs in rural areas. But while there is a serious potential for bio-fuels to reduce the impact of energy use on the environment, contribute to rural economy growth, and diversify sources of energy, there are also significant risks to expanding bio-fuels production. Tropical forests are threatened as land is cleared to plant bio-fuels crops or food crops that have been displaced by bio-fuels crops elsewhere. Food prices may go up as food commodities are diverted to the energy market. Intensive agriculture can deplete and contaminate water and soil resources, and bio-fuels processing can result in air pollution. There is a clear need to create minimum standards for bio-fuels growing and processing, to ensure that biofuels deliver on their promise of sustainability. The Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) is housing a new Roundtable on Sustainable Bio-fuels to bring together companies, researchers, civil society groups, and governments to define principles of sustainable bio-fuels production. This global network will draft standards that will address the major social and environmental concerns of bio-fuels production. To represent the IUCN, Jeff McNeely was chosen to bring about his experience as the co-chair of the Working Group specially dedicated to the environmental aspects! We are expecting this collaboration to be very rich and fruitful.

For more information

- Read the full article http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/news/newsletter/2007/docs/epfl_biofuels_rtable_2007.pdf
- please visit: <http://EnergyCenter.epfl.ch/Biofuels>
- Contact Sebastien Haye, Coordinator Working Group on Environment, Ecoles Polytechniques Fédérales de Lausanne, EPFL, Sebastien.Haye@epfl.ch

Effects of climate change felt hard by the local communities in Zambia

“How can we survive when facing floods and droughts? We need to find other means (than agriculture) of survival,” stated local inhabitants of Village #14 in Zambia’s Copperbelt Province during a community-based climate change risk assessment exercise. This exercise was held by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) in collaboration with IISD and CIFOR.

For more information

- Please read the full article http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2007/05/21_climate_change.htm
- Download “Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment in Zambia” http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2007/05/climate_change_vulnerability_assessment_zambia.pdf

Citizen's councils as a means to mitigate environmental disaster and conflict

In conflict zones, natural resources can be a lifeline for communities, be targets of attack and suffer irreversible damage, or even be a source of conflict as disputes over natural resources increasingly create or aggravate tensions. How can natural resource conflicts be avoided? How can ecosystem restoration be incorporated into post-conflict reconstruction? While perspectives varied widely, participants of the Peace and Sustainability Conference at the Peace Palace in The Hague (14-15 March 2007) agreed on one thing: traditional definitions of security need to be broadened, and the still too isolated fields of environment, development, and security need to find a common language to address the interrelated challenges of conflict, human development and natural resources degradation. IUCN’s Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) proposed establishing Citizens Advisory Councils to mitigate conflicts over natural resources. These Councils are formalized mechanisms, funded by Extractive Industries, to substantively engage local communities and citizens in the oversight of those industries. The Regional Citizens Advisory Council established in Alaska after the Exxon Valdez oil spill is one example. The conference, entitled “Forces for Sustainability”, was held at the International Peace Palace in The Hague (The World Court) in conjunction with the Steering Committee of IUCN CEESP. The event was organized by the Institute for Environmental Security, IUCN CEESP and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

For more information please see/ contact:

- Read the full article: http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2007/03/23_ceesp.htm
- The IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy:

<http://www.iucn.org/ceesp>

- The Peace and Sustainability Conference and the Institute for Environment and Security:
<http://www.envirosecurity.org/sustainability>
- Wouter J. Veening, Deputy Chair, CEESP and Director, Institute for Environmental Security,
wveening@envirosecurity.org

Marine Summit calls for dramatic increase in ocean protection

IUCN Marine Protected Area Summit issued a strategy to counter the escalating threats to the world's oceans. The Earth's oceans are being destroyed at a much faster rate than they are being protected, said the world's leading marine experts at the end of the IUCN Marine Protected Area Summit in early April. To save the oceans, participants urged governments, business and civil society to rapidly increase marine protected areas and to step up measures making marine environments more resistant to climate change. The high seas – oceans beyond national jurisdiction – are particularly threatened: "Entire ecosystems in the high seas are being damaged and lost before we have even acted to protect them," says the summit's closing statement.

For more information

- Please see the full article
http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2007/04/13_pr_marine_protected_areas.htm
- Download "Establishing Networks of Marine Protected Areas – Making It Happen" from
<http://www.iucn.org/themes/wcpa/biome/marine/mpanetworks/nsmail.pdf>

CITES trade controls should not increase poverty

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) encourages parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to make international trade controls on endangered species contribute to the development of poor communities. This major conference on the international trade of endangered wildlife is meeting from 3-15 June in The Hague, The Netherlands.

For more information

- Full media advisory
http://www.iucn.org/themes/ssc/our_work/wildlife_trade/citescop14/index_cites_2007.htm
- On CITES please see <http://www.cites.org/eng/news/meetings/cop14.shtml>

Announcements

Call for research concept: Value chains and the rural poor in disadvantaged regions; deadline: 29 June 2007

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) invites to submit applications for research concepts on "Value chains and the rural poor in disadvantaged regions". The research must be located in a disadvantaged region in one of the following four Rural Poor & Environment (RPE) priority regions: the Sahel Belt of West Africa; the Nile Basin; South Asia; the Mekong Delta; or the Philippines.

- For more information please see http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-81757-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Call for information on good biodiversity practices; deadline: 31 July 2007

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity invites companies, business organizations and other interested organizations, to submit information on good biodiversity practice (e.g. benchmarks, certification schemes, etc).

- For more information please see <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/notifications/2007/ntf-2007-038-org-en.pdf>

Call for Contributions to the World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, October 2008

Organize an exciting event at the premier environmental event of 2008, debating pressing issues and solutions for a diverse and sustainable world.

- Visit the Congress Website to find out more <http://www.iucn.org/congress/2008/contributions/>

Global Restoration Network launched

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) International launched the Global Restoration Network (GRN) - a free, online hub for comprehensive information on ecological restoration. A specially designed database now allows users to conduct efficient searches by entering specifications such as the type of biome (wetland, grassland, etc), region of interest, source of

degradation, and more. The GRN also offers endless lists of potential funders, educational and volunteer opportunities, video and audio feeds of Restoration Radio programs/interviews, descriptions of current and past restoration projects, thousands of links to restoration websites and blogs, and a growing directory of industry experts.

- For more information please visit www.GlobalRestorationNetwork.org

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment now available in Chinese

The Chinese version of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), recently published by China Environmental Science Press, are now available. Zhao Shidong, research professor with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Special Advisor on China of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management and a panel member of MA, took the lead in translating these reports into Chinese. "The publications will definitely provide an important impetus to the dissemination of the ideas and approaches of the MA, as well as to the ecosystem management effort in this populous and vast country," said Prof. Zhao.

For more information please

- See the full article
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/news/newsletter/2007/docs/ma_chinese_may2007.pdf
- Directly contact Zhao Shidong at zhaosd@igsnr.ac.cn.
- The Chinese MA reports can be ordered at <http://www.cesp.com.cn/>

This information was contributed by Zhao Shidong and Lai Pengfei, CEM Members.

ConservationMaps.org

The Conservation Geoportal is a collaborative effort by and for the conservation community to facilitate the discovery and publishing of geographic information systems (GIS) data and maps, to support conservation decision-making and education. The Conservation Geoportal does not actually store maps and data, but rather the descriptions and links to those resources. It aims to minimize the proliferation of geospatial data catalogues and to reduce duplication of effort in building and maintaining metadata catalogues and map viewers. This is a free tool for all conservation practitioners and supporters to use and contribute content. To mark the 2007 International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd May, UNEP-WCMC published metadata on many of its key datasets and interactive map services on the Conservation Geoportal.

- For more information search <http://www.conservationmaps.org>

Global Bio-energy Partnership website launched

The website of the Global Bio-energy Partnership (GBEP) provides information on the Partnership, which was created in May 2006 to promote the use of bio-energy and whose secretariat is hosted at FAO. It also offers links to sources of information on bio-energy and features news and a regularly updated list of bio-energy events.

For more information please see <http://www.globalbioenergy.org/>

CBD Bio-fuel Electronic Forum

The Convention on Biological Diversity held a Bio-fuel Electronic Forum from February to March 2007. Contributions can be viewed at <http://www.cbd.int/forums/biofuel/default.shtml>

A Guide to Behaviour Change for Climate Change

Download this guide to communications tactics for climate change, easy to apply to other sustainable development issues. It was developed by Futerra – Sustainability Communications.

- Download the guide from <http://www.futerra.co.uk/downloads/NewRules:NewGame.pdf>

New Wageningen Course Calendar for 2008

The new Wageningen Course Calendar for 2008 is available. Courses include for instance Participatory Management, Wetland Management, Food Security or Sustainable Agriculture.

- Please see for more information <http://www.cdic.wur.nl/UK/Courses/>

Call for Contributions Urban Agriculture Magazine (19); Deadline for Contributions: 1 September 2007

The Urban Agriculture (UA) Magazine is currently asking for your contribution to the following issue: *Supporting Innovativeness in Urban Farming Systems*. The UA-Magazine is produced under the Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture & Food security (RUA) programme Cities Farming for the Future (CFF), funded by DGIS (the Netherlands) and IDRC (Canada). The main aim of the RUA-CFF

programme is to contribute to urban poverty reduction, urban food security, improved urban environmental management, empowerment of urban farmers and participatory city governance.

- For more information on the Urban Agriculture Magazine and the Call for Contributions please visit <http://www.ruaf.org/node/1315>

Bioversity International: How can biodiversity be used to fight hunger and malnutrition?

Bioversity International has launched a new initiative to raising awareness about biodiversity and nutrition and the Convention on Biological Diversity's cross-cutting initiative. An interactive website section called 'Up for Discussion' aims to help raising awareness about the issue of biodiversity and nutrition and to give the many organization working in the area an opportunity to express their views on the subject.

- For more information please see http://www.bioversityinternational.org/Up_for_Discussion/Biodiversity_and_Nutrition/index.asp

Call for Contributions to Good Practice Guide on Pastoral Social Service Delivery

The World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (WISP) is looking for information and contributions on good practices as regards the delivery of social services to pastoralists. Answering the question "what constitutes good practice" will be part of the output of this project, so your contributions will help to develop the answer. WISP hopes to gather a collection of examples that show how a particular service has been adapted to pastoralism in different contexts, and illustrate what are the underlying principles of good practice.

- If you would like to contribute to this project, please send Jonathan Davies (jonathan.davies@iucn.org) a summary of your good practice (1-2 pages) along with supporting documentation that shows an independent analysis or evaluation of the service delivery approach (programme reviews, monitoring reports, published reviews etc.).

New: Social Tools for Conservation Success

This is a searchable database containing practical tools and other useful resources to help researchers and practitioners to better understand and address the social challenges of biodiversity conservation. It was recently launched by The Society for Conservation Biology's Social Science Working Group.

For more information please see <http://www.conbio.org/workinggroups/sswg/catalog/>

Events

The International Conference on Long-Term Ecological Research, Beijing, China, 20-21 August 2007

The major theme of the International Conference on Long-Term Ecological Research is "*Long-Term Ecological Research: Meeting the Challenges of Sustainable Ecosystem Management from Local to Global Scales*". It will bring together the researchers from the member networks of ILTER (International Long-Term Ecological Research) to address such topics as long-term experiments, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation, and socio-economic dimensions of sustainable ecosystem management. Plenary session, science symposia, workshops and poster sessions will be included. The **deadline for abstract submission is 30 June, 2007**. It will be locally organized by the Chinese Ecosystem Research Network under Chinese Academy of Sciences.

For more information,

- Please see <http://www.ilternet.edu/meetings/2007EcologicalResearch/application.pdf>
- Please contact Shidong Zhao, Special Advisor on China of CEM, and professor of the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Tel/fax: + 86 10 64889812, Email: zhaosd@igsrr.ac.cn

IASTED International Conference on Water Resources Management, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, 20 – 22 August 2007

- For more information on the conference please see <http://www.iasted.org/conferences/home-578.html>

Developing the ecosystem approach to the management of human activities for the Baltic Sea, ICES Annual Science Conference, Helsinki, Finland, 17-21 September 2007

The ICES Annual Science Conference in Helsinki will host a Theme Session on: "Developing the ecosystem approach to the management of human activities for the Baltic Sea". The session will review the progress made, challenges met, and lessons learned while developing preconditions for implementing the ecosystem approach to the management in the Baltic.

For more information

- Please see <http://www.ices.dk/iceswork/asc/2007/index.asp> and <http://www.ices.dk/iceswork/asc/2007/ThemeSessions/synopses/SessionC.pdf>
- Please contact A. Andrushaitis (andrish@hydro.edu.lv); E. Aro (eero.aro@rktl.fi) or C. Möllmann, (Christian.moellmann@uni-hamburg.de)

Information was provided by Frank Vorhies, CEM Member.

Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity: Ecosystems and People, Norway, 29 October to 2 November 2007

This year's conference is entitled 'Ecosystems and people - biodiversity for development'. It will focus on the critical role of biodiversity and ecosystems in providing goods and services that are necessary for human well-being and security and for economic development.

Key objectives will be to:

- illustrate and highlight the role of biodiversity in poverty alleviation and in reaching the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDG),
- consider progress on the goal to achieve by 2010 "a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth",
- and provide insights and inspiration for enhanced implementation of CBD's Strategic Plan.

The fifth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity will be hosted by the Norwegian government in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

- For more information see <http://www.trondheimconference.org/>

II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas, Bariloche, Argentina, 30 September – 6 October 2007

The Congress aims to evaluate and plan the contribution the region's protected areas should make to biodiversity conservation, environmental services, the creation of sustainable development, poverty alleviation strategies and regional integration processes among the Latin American countries. CEM Regional Vice Chair for Latin America, Angela Andrade will organize the symposium "Ecosystem Approach and Environmental Services in Protected Areas".

- For more information please see www.congresolatinoparques2007.org

Biodiversity Extinction Crisis Conference - A Pacific Response, Sydney, Australia, 10 – 12 July 2007

This Conference identifies the major problems for biodiversity conservation in the Pacific region, existing and potential solutions and links to the global biodiversity initiatives.

- For more information please see: <http://www.biodiversity2007.com/>

Publications

Pay - Establishing payments for watershed services

Smith, M., de Groot, D., and Bergkamp, G. (2007). IUCN, Gland, Switzerland.

- Download the publication from <http://www.iucn.org/themes/wani/documents/pay.pdf>

Energies traditionnelles au Burkina Faso : études sur le bois-énergie

Ouédraogo, K. and J.Somda, I.Tapsoba [et al] (eds) (2006); IUCN, Regional Office for Western Africa.

- Download the publication from: <http://www.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2006-064.pdf>

Forest Landscape Restoration Handbook

Rietbergen-McCracken, J., S. Maginnis, A. Sarre (eds). 2006. IUCN, International Tropical Timber

Organization. London, GB : Earthscan.

- Available from Earthscan: <http://shop.earthscan.co.uk/ProductDetails/mcs/productID/731>

A new report highlights the biodiversity business case for the financial sector - the next big challenge after climate change?

Mulder, I. (2007)

- Full report: <http://www.iucn.org/themes/economics/Files/Ivo%20bb%20report.pdf>

Focus of the Next Issue

The Ecosystem Approach and Integrated Water Resources Management

If you would like more information on any of the items included in this issue or wish to submit an item to future issues, please contact Caterina Wolfangel (caterina.wolfangel@iucn.org) or cem@iucn.org.

With best wishes from Gland and Gabarone.

For more information please contact cem@iucn.org or visit www.iucn.org/ecosystems