



Ecosystems

Drylands' Hidden Wealth

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Headline News

Drylands' hidden wealth - why invest in dryland ecosystem management

Drylands account for more than 90% of the land in Jordan, most of Sudan, 80% of Central Asia and 75% of Kenya's land mass. However, investment in sustainable dryland management is low, despite an increasing number of studies that show the hidden wealth of drylands.

The hidden wealth of drylands is becoming increasingly visible. Most of Kenya's livestock lives off drylands, and half of the meat consumed in Nairobi comes from them. In Namibia, around 70% of the population depends directly on drylands for their livelihoods. In Sudan, arid forest cover amounts to 27%, but contributes 70.8% of the national energy balance and 33% of the forage for livestock. In times of drought and loss of crops, the Sudanese dry forests provide emergency food such as the fruits of *Cordia africana* or *Boscia senegalensis*. However, these contributions to national economies are hardly reflected in current statistics or the national GDPs, which do not include small local markets let alone production for subsistence purposes.

Similarly, drylands have often been perceived in highly negative terms by policy makers. Wrongly targeted, inappropriately designed or badly managed interventions have contributed to the view that drylands are a sink for public investments. However, much has been learnt since. Recent studies in India and Niger show that investment in dry areas can have positive rates of return. Micro-investments by local people have been often ignored and underestimated. In the Machakos district in Kenya, an area once famous for its soil erosion, farmers achieved a sevenfold improvement in the value of agricultural output per km² between the 1930s and the 1980s together with a dramatic reversal of erosion. A great part of the investment in the intensification of the production systems has been provided by farming families.

A large fraction of the world's poor people live in drylands. The Millennium Development Goals will not be met unless poverty reduction can be significantly accelerated in drylands. At its 58th session, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2006 as the International Year of Deserts and Desertification to raise the profile of drylands and to celebrate the unique ecosystem and cultural diversity of deserts worldwide. Valuing, maintaining and promoting the ecosystems services drylands provide, such as carbon sequestration, meat production, or the provision of food and fibre to local people and markets will be crucial to tackle some of the challenges drylands population face.

Bringing together over 40 regional and international dryland and ecosystem management experts, a two day conference: "Drylands' Hidden Wealth – Integrating Dryland Ecosystem Services into National Development Planning" in Amman, Jordan, underlined the wealth of drylands in an attempt to challenge the common misconception that drylands are wastelands. The IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) in collaboration with IUCN's Regional Office for West & Central Asia and North Africa (WESCAN) and UNESCO convened the conference.

For more information please see:

- Why invest in drylands? by Prof. Dr. Michael Mortimore
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/drylands/why_invest_drylands_mortimore2006.pdf
- Drylands Forestry – A means of livelihood and poverty reduction for the rural people in the Sudan by Abdel Hameid Adam Hamid
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/drylands/drylands_forestry_sudan_hamid2006.pdf

If you are interested in the workshop proceedings please contact cem@iucn.org.

CEM / EMP News

CEM's way forward

The Steering Committee of the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) met in Amman, Jordan in June 2006 to discuss CEM's priorities for the coming year, while addressing the challenges that Commission members identified during an online survey. The attendance of the meeting was encouraging, most of the Regional Vice Chairs and Theme Leaders were able to attend the meeting.

The Steering Committee reaffirmed the importance of the Ecosystem Approach and highlighted its important role to achieve the 2010 Biodiversity Targets and the Millennium Development Goals by

2015. In consequence, a follow up project proposal on how to carry the Ecosystem Approach further will be developed and funding will be sought in the next 3 months. This will be based on CEM's major project over the last four years "Promoting the application of the Ecosystem Approach", funded by the Government of the Netherlands, that is coming to an end this autumn. The project aimed to test the Ecosystem Approach principles in different biophysical and socioeconomic contexts through in-depth case study analysis, which will be published soon. The follow-up project proposal will include a strategic outreach and engagement section, to ensure strategic Commission members engagement in the project implementation.

In terms of membership engagement, the SC decided that Theme Leaders and Regional Vice Chairs should be more proactive to reach out to the network. An immediate concrete step will be to make CEM's expertise accessible to its members (see the article below). In the short term, we further plan to undertake some collaborative work to prepare for the CBD COP9 in 2008 and IUCN's World Conservation Congress in Barcelona in autumn of the same year to profile the Ecosystem Approach.

A big thank you to the IUCN Regional Office in Jordan for arranging the facilities and for assuring a good working environment.

We are looking forward to your contributions and engagement. Please do not hesitate to contact us at cem@iucn.org.

Do you want to know who else is working on valuing ecosystem services in CEM?

One of the main areas for improvement highlighted by those CEM members that participated in the recent membership survey was the inability to easily connect to other experts working on similar issues and to share experiences and lessons learnt. At the recent Steering Committee Meeting of the Commission it was agreed to make the expertise of CEM and its membership more available and accessible to all of its members. In order to enable us to do this, we will ask members to fill out a short questionnaire survey over the summer, to update us on their expertise and interests. Even though some of the information is already available from the Membership application forms and the CVs you sent us, several gaps were identified which make a short additional survey necessary. The data will be made available exclusively to CEM members through a pass-worded link on the website, most likely in Microsoft Excel. Please feel free to contact us at cem@iucn.org if you have any further questions.

Building capacity for ecosystem management and restoration in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

On 22-23 June, the IUCN Ecosystem Management Programme hosted an inception workshop for the project "Ecosystem management and restoration capacity building in SIDS", funded by the Italian Government. The project aims to generate a menu of priority capacity development interventions as well as a suite of web based tools for assisting in the implementation of these interventions. The workshop was facilitated by Tom Hammond, IUCN Canada, and Frits Hesselink from the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication. CEM was represented by Dr Milika Sobey-Naqasima, Regional Vice Chair for Oceania. The workshop participants reviewed the initial outputs of the project: the report of a demand articulation pilot exercise carried out in Mauritius and a draft global SIDS capacity survey based on a series of telephone interviews. The global survey will be redesigned on the basis of comments received during the workshop and implemented over the summer months. The workshop was also instrumental in getting a better idea of IUCN's specific niche among the many organizations working on island ecosystem management and restoration, and of the potential for partnerships with other actors such as UNESCO. If you have any questions about this initiative, or would like to receive an electronic copy of the inception workshop report or other project outputs, please contact cem@iucn.org.

CEM/EMP visit to Sweden

Hillary Masundire, Chair of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), and Simon Rietbergen, Acting Co-ordinator of the IUCN Ecosystem Management Programme (EMP), visited Sweden from 11 to 16 June 2006. They participated in seminars in Stockholm, Lund and Gothenburg, giving presentations on the work of the IUCN Commissions and the IUCN Global Programme, with a focus on CEM/EMP's work, and listening to presentations of our Swedish hosts. The enthusiasm of the Swedish hosts – The Swedish Water House and the Universities of Lund and Goeteborg – was palpable and the seminars were well attended. The presentations and subsequent discussions were excellent throughout.

From these seminars, it emerged that Sweden has a large number of highly competent experts working on ecosystem management and other IUCN core themes, but that many of these experts are currently poorly connected to relevant IUCN networks. The reason for this is in part due to lack of communication from the IUCN side, and in part due to the highly competitive academic environment in

Sweden, which leaves experts with little opportunity to “volunteer” their time. Despite the latter, structural constraint to increased participation in IUCN Commissions, a number of Swedish experts to are expected to join the Commission on Ecosystem Management, and possibly also the IUCN Species Survival Commission, as a result of the visit.

- The Swedish Water House <http://www.swedishwaterhouse.se/>
- University of Lund <http://www.lu.se/>
- University of Goeteborg <http://www.gu.se/>

Members' Highlights

Who is Dr. Susan Lisa Toch

Dr. Susan Lisa Toch has an inter-disciplinary background with over 25 years experience in land use hydrology, water resources management and community health. Dr. Toch has worked on water resource projects in North, Central and South America, in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, developing and implementing watershed management strategies in both rural and urban areas. She has published numerous works related to watershed management and human welfare, including topics such as disaster prevention, integrating resources and community issues and the role for watershed management in water quality control.

Why do you consider it important to be part of CEM?

CEM has an integral IUCN role in applying an integrated systems approach to applied research, management and policy issues. Through demonstrating our own coordinated effort in working together across disciplines, political and geographic boundaries, we can provide examples for effective strategies in ecological and human well-being. Linking multi-cultural populations with our shared hydrologic ecological systems, the publication “Water to Drink: Sustaining Watersheds and the People Who Need Them” is one example of a community-based, applied approach to ecosystem education and management. It includes case studies from around the world that demonstrate how our influence on our environment ultimately affects its influence on us, placing the preservation and management of our watersheds within the context of our own health and well-being. I would welcome comments and collaboration in applying this work where it can be helpful.

What role does the Ecosystem Approach play in your work?

The Ecosystem Approach to water management and health has provided alternatives towards the prevention of human illness in diverse ecological environments. However, there is a great need for expanded education, technical assistance and outreach in applied assessment and management strategies. We must demonstrate the inter-disciplinary and cross-cultural nature for integrative work at multiple levels in landscape and social systems.

What could CEM do better?

There is a great need for a coordinated, pro-active efforts to facilitate and initiate applied integrated ecosystem work in the field. This should include project development, funding options, and demonstrated actions in ecosystem research, management and outreach. CEM can further initiate, enhance and expand such opportunities in projects and technical assistance with a resource center for activities in our common interests.

For more information please see:

- Full interview with Dr. Susan Lisa Toch
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/interview_dr.toch_july2006.pdf
- Coursework and applied learning initiative for an inter-disciplinary systems approach
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/coursework_toch_july2006.pdf
- Material and related workshop outline and technical assistance on sustainable watershed management
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/workshop_outline_toch_july2006.pdf
- Publication Summaries of Dr Susan Lisa Toch
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/publications_toch_july2006.pdf

For more information please contact Dr. Susan Lisa Toch (anaturalresource@yahoo.com) or visit her website <http://www.anaturalresource.com>.

Cloud forests, hydrology and payment for Ecosystem Services in Costa Rica

The Payments for Environmental Services Programme in Costa Rica recognizes four main environmental services of natural forest: biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration, landscape beauty and watershed protection. The un-tested assumption so far has been that the conversion of cloud forest to pasture might lead to reduced stream flows because of the associated loss of the extra water inputs afforded by cloud water stripped from the atmosphere by tall trees. Funded by FRP-DFID*¹ the Vrije University of Amsterdam and partner institutions from Costa Rica, the UK, Switzerland and Sweden carried out an in-depth study to quantify the impact of cloud forest conversion to pasture on stream flow totals and patterns in northern Costa Rica.

The results show that contrary to expectations cloud forests contribute relatively little in terms of extra amounts of stream flow compared to the situation under pastures. This is because the loss of cloud water inputs upon conversion is more or less compensated by the lower water use of pasture. Therefore, the researchers conclude that Payments for Environmental Services Programmes cannot be based on a generic assumption concerning the water resource value of 'a forest'. These results show that the value of forests must be expressed in terms of their multiple benefits (e.g. also for water quality, (long-term) regulation of flows, suppression of erosion and (shallow) landsliding, conservation of biological and genetic diversity, carbon sequestration potential, and aesthetic and eco-touristic values) rather than on water yields only.

The full report is available on:

- <http://www.geo.vu.nl/~fiesta/>

The information for this article was submitted by Dr. L.A. Sampurno Bruijnzeel (brul@geo.vu.nl), Department of Hydrology and Geo-Environmental Sciences Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences, Vrije University Amsterdam, Netherlands.

How to value Ecosystem Services now? Some food for thought

What can we do now about identifying, measuring, valuing and incorporating ecosystem services in decision making and natural resource management? Ecosystem services as a concept is able to bridge the gaps in understanding and language between scientists and economists and the wider community. It has the potential for creating a new basis for policy formulation and management decisions. However, this requires a coherent and agreed uniform approach to defining and valuing ecosystem services which is likely to increase the credibility of the concept in the eyes of policy makers. A one day workshop in Brisbane, Australia in May 2006 brought together ecosystem services experts from universities and national and regional government institutions to discuss the concept of ecosystem services and to feed the results from this think tank into the frameworks and approaches of the institutions involved. The main objective of the workshop was to start the process to work towards an agreed uniform approach to defining and valuing ecosystem services in the region. As the main outcome of the workshop participants adopted the Ecosystem Services definition and classification system of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) as the basis for a uniform approach in South East Queensland. Future workshops will aim to adapt the MA in a way that retains the international credibility of the MA but ensures its workability at a specific regional level.

In addition, participants raised several questions and issues that need to be addressed to identify, measure, value and incorporate ecosystem services in decision making and natural resource management. These include some of the following:

- What is the relationship between ecosystem services and ecosystems?
- What kinds of ecosystems do we want to preserve/enhance?
- To what extent do we want to enhance these ecosystems?
- Inconsistency in definitions, terminology and valuation methods
- Obtaining economic information
- Measuring production functions for ecosystem services to value the net total, average and marginal values of ecosystem services to production maintenance and assimilation.
- Aggregating ecosystem services for a site
- Dealing with existing vs. future potential ecosystem services
- Incorporating direct / indirect value methods
- Taking into account the resilience, renewability and irreversibility of ecosystem functions and services.
- Assessment of natural versus built and transitional environments

¹ Forestry Research Programme of the United Kingdom Department for International Development

- Focusing on one particular aspect of the landscape vs whole landscape
- The provision of a full inventory of ecosystem types, including the coordination of data and a common data point within the region.

For more information please see:

- SEQ Catchments <http://www.seqcatchments.com.au/index.html>
- Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organization (CSIRO) <http://www.csiro.au/>
- University of the Sunshine Coast <http://www.usc.edu.au/>
- Ecosystem Services Project <http://www.ecosystemsproject.org/>

The information for this article was submitted by Dr. Jeremy Thompson (jeremy.thompson@epa.qld.gov.au), Manager Ecosystem Services, Environmental Protection Agency, Brisbane, Australia.

Wetland ecosystems in Central Asia

“What are the conditions of wetland ecosystems in Central Asia and how to promote integrated water management in the region” were among the questions that 30 representatives of science, water industry, environment and NGOs of Central Asia (CA), discussed at a workshop in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in March 2006. The workshop attendees agreed that fresh water in arid Central Asian countries is a limiting factor for future social-economic development and environmental sustainability and emphasized the need for an extended and long-term scientific-methodological approach to assess the status of the ecosystems and their services in CA. Participants further reiterated the need to establish institutional and sectoral links to support the introduction of the Ecosystem Approach in ecosystem management. One of the outcomes of the workshop is the establishment of an expert task group. The workshop was part of the ‘Capacity development in the management of Water Ecosystems in Central Asia’ a project funded by the IUCN Regional Office in Jordan and implemented by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC).

For more information please see

- Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia <http://www.carec.kz/>
- Workshop Report and Resolutions
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/water_ecosystems_almaty2006.pdf

The information for this article was submitted by Elena Kreuzberg (EKreuzberg@carec.kz), Manager of Ecosystem Management Programme, CAREC and CEM Member.

Project proposal and methodological framework for a Multi-Scale Assessment of Central Asian Mountain Ecosystems

Over 10% of the area in Central Asia are covered by mountains. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are fully located in the mountains. The mountain systems of Pamir-Altai and Tien Shan are the most ancient and highest on the planet. The Central Asia sub-region (CAR) was identified as a Sub-Global Millennium Ecosystem Assessment candidate. The sub-global components are an important part of the Millennium Assessment (MA)'s ‘multi-scale’ approach with integral assessment components being undertaken at local community, watershed, national and regional scales, as well at the global scale. To execute the assessment and to support the sustainable development of the mountain ecosystems a corresponding Programme “Assessment of Central Asia Mountainous Ecosystems” (ACAME) was developed, for which CAREC is currently seeking funding.

For more information please see:

- Methodology for a Multi-Scale Assessment of Central Asian Mountain Ecosystems, V. Bogachev
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/methodology_camountains_bogachev.pdf
- Programme “Assessment of Central Asia Mountainous Ecosystems” (ACAME)
http://www.iucn.org/themes/cem/documents/cem/members_2006/acame_ma_2003.pdf
- Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia <http://www.carec.kz/>

The information for this article was submitted by Vladimir Bogachev (vbogachev@carec.kz), Project Manager, Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) who coordinated the work and was engaged in the methodical development of ACAME. Vladimir Bogachev further participated in the development of Integrated Management of Water Resources (IMWR) and the assessment of Water Ecosystems in both the Kaliningrad area and in Central Asia/Kazakhstan (See the report Conserving Ecosystems of Inland Water Bodies in Central Asia and the South Caucasus (http://www.cawater-info.net/library/eng/gwp/ecosystem_e.pdf?bcsi_scan_EC783A0C3C997A81=0&bcsi_scan_filename=ecosystem_e.pdf) (2006), the IMWR Program of the Republic of Kazakhstan (2006)).

IUCN News in Brief

Training in Forest Landscape Restoration

Forest landscape restoration (FLR) brings people together to identify, negotiate and put in place practices that optimise the environmental, social and economic benefits of forests and trees within a broader pattern of land uses. There are many examples worldwide where degraded forests have been restored, ranging from small sites to large areas. IUCN's Forest Programme together with partners has carried out recently several training workshops to promote and improve national forest restoration efforts. In the Philippines, a national training workshop focused on the landscape approach involving multiple stakeholders to further improve traditional restoration efforts, whereas in Liberia the training focused on how Forest Landscape Restoration can serve as a guiding methodological framework for the rehabilitation of now degraded former refugee camp lands. With its focus on maximizing an optimum suite of goods and services across the landscape, the FLR framework provides local landowners and community stakeholders an opportunity to decide what goods and services they'd like to restore across their lands.

- Full story on training workshop in the Philippines http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2006/05/26_forest.htm
- Full story on training workshop in Liberia http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2006/05/08_forest_liberia.htm

Efforts to strengthen local rights to own and use forests and fight rural poverty

Stating that the ambitious global effort to radically reduce poverty will fail unless it focuses on the 1.6 billion people who rely on forests for their livelihoods, a coalition of organizations has launched an international initiative advocating for stronger community rights to own and use forests and develop sustainable forest-based economies. The group, including IUCN, aims to assist communities and governments to double the global forest area under community ownership and management by 2015.

- Full story <http://www.iucn.org/themes/fcp/publications/files/fleg/rri/rri-pressrelease-may2006.pdf>

Action urged to avoid deep trouble in the deep seas

Well over 60 per cent of the marine world and its rich biodiversity, found beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, is vulnerable and at increasing risk. A new UNEP-IUCN report launched on June 16th charts ways forward at the current UN meeting on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS). With more than 90 per cent of the planet's living biomass found in the oceans, the report underlines the value of the deep seas and open oceans and highlights how science is only now just getting to grips with the wealth of life, natural resources and ecosystems existing in the marine world. The report also highlights the way fisheries, pollution and other stresses such as those arising from global climate change are impacting and affecting the marine world. Commercial activities at sea are expanding rapidly and plunging ever deeper. Deep sea fishing, bioprospecting, energy development and marine scientific research are already taking place at depths of 2,000m or more. In a global first, four major fishing companies announced a voluntary halt to trawling in eleven deep-sea areas of the southern Indian Ocean. This is a first step to protect and conserve the bottom of the sea floor, or benthos, associated fish fauna and related biodiversity in one of the largest marine protected area enclosures ever.

- Full release http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2006/06/16_pr_deep_seas.htm and full story http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2001_2005/ocean_blues_06_2006.pdf
- Full report http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2006/06/16_unep_high_seas_lr.pdf

Learning to build conservation capacities in Southern Africa

A Southern African conservation learning network emerged from an innovative learning event at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa, May 2-4. The network will build capacities and help move learning on the conservation, poverty reduction and sustainable development linkages from discussion to practice in a more systematic way. Participants included experts and practitioners in the inter-related fields of conservation, poverty reduction, sustainable development and "new learning". Participants discussed the links between these areas and answered key questions, such as: What is the region's current capacity for conservation learning? How can it be strengthened? What is the demand for conservation knowledge? Where should work focus in the future?

- Full story <http://wcln.org/index.php?module=pagesetter&func=viewpub&tid=1&pid=115>
- World Conservation Learning Network <http://www.wcln.org/>

The Mountain Areas Conservancy Project (MACP) - Pakistan: A success story

The Karakorum, Western Himalayan and Hindu Kush mountain ranges are globally known for their cultural and biological diversity. In the past, natural resources of the area have been exploited for various reasons, leading to severe degradation of pasture land, depletion of medicinal and aromatic herbs, fragmented habitat, forest loss and unsustainable hunting practices.

In 1999, the Government of Pakistan, with the support of the United Nations Development Programme/Global Environment Facility (UNDP/GEF), and in collaboration with the World Conservation Union (IUCN), launched the Mountain Areas Conservancy Project (MACP). This community-based project, which is now in its sixth and final year of implementation, is focusing on seven geographically distinct conservancy areas in the Karakorum, Western Himalayan and Hindu Kush mountain ranges in northern Pakistan. Its efforts have resulted in significant changes in people's attitudes and practices, from the implementation of grazing management practices, to the conservation of medicinal and aromatic plants through in- and ex-situ conservation practices and the development of joint forest management plans and activities.

Another unique feature of MACP is the involvement of religious leaders in its environmental campaigns, in order to boost the acceptance of the Project, especially in more conservative areas. Religious leaders in Islam are highly respected in communities. They play a key role in explaining the linkages between all aspects of the natural world and gaining their support for project activities has been a major contributory factor to the success of the MACP. This approach was supported by WWF Pakistan and led to the publication of the book, 'Conservation and Islam' (2003) (http://www.iucn.org/en/projects/docs/conservation_islam_wwf.pdf), which helps Islamic scholars brief communities on the importance and necessity of the sensible use of natural resources, as set out by Islamic teachings. In addition to the work being done through MACP, IUCN Pakistan is undertaking similar initiatives with religious leaders in the province of Balochistan.

Work is currently underway to develop a second phase of the MACP in order to build on the success achieved during phase one (1999-2006).

For further information, visit the MACP Web site <http://www.macp-pk.org/>.

Announcements

Online database on Ecosystem Services

A new online database on Ecosystem Services developed by The Nature Valuation & Financing (NV&F) network with support from the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management is now available on the Internet. The database provides a list of ongoing and completed case studies, initiatives and projects from around the world which links the valuation and financing of ecosystem services to sustainable management. It is hoped that the database will become an important tool to assist a range of users: researchers, program funders and/or practitioners who wish to put the "Ecosystem Approach", based on sustainable ecosystem management and financing, into practice. The database is an open platform which is continuously being updated and reviewed; therefore, we welcome and encourage your input:

- identify new case studies (and send us reports, websites, contacts, etc)
- review and update existing case studies in the database
- find information about related databases

Information about the above can be e-mailed to Matt Zylstra (matt.zylstra@fsd.nl).

For more information please see:

- Online database on ecosystem services <http://topshare.wur.nl/naturevaluation/73766>
- The Nature Valuation & Financing (NV&F) www.naturevaluation.org

Events

Fifth Meeting of the Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention, 28-30.09.2006; Girona, Spain

The theme of the Fifth Meeting of the Workshops for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention will be "Landscape Quality Objectives: from Theory to Practice". The Fifth Workshop, in Girona, will focus on various international experiences in identifying and assessing landscapes, with discussions on defining landscape quality objectives and applying landscape policies at local, regional and state levels. This international meeting is organised by the Council of Europe in conjunction with the Landscape Observatory, the Ministry of Town & Country Planning of the Government of Catalonia,

the Ministry of the Environment of the Spanish Government, and Girona City Council.

For more information please see:

- Workshop Programme http://www.coe.int/t/e/cultural_co-operation/environment/landscape/meetings_of_the_workshops/01Workshops5_2006Girona.asp#TopOfPage
- European Landscape Convention <http://www.coe.int/t/e/Cultural%5FCo%2Doperation/Environment/Landscape/>

International Disaster Reduction Conference, 27.08-1.09.2006; Davos, Switzerland

In addition to organizing a workshop session entitled “Managing ecosystems for disaster reduction: examples from around the world”, CEM will also launch its new publication “Ecosystems, livelihoods and disasters: an integrated approach to disaster risk management” on August 28th in Davos. For more information on the publication, please contact cem@iucn.org. For more information on the Conference and the CEM workshop session,

- See <http://www.davos2006.ch/>
- Or contact CEM Member Dr. Luuk Dorren, senior scientists at the CEMAGREF (Luuk.Dorren@cemagref.fr)

Conference on Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation; 19-21.09.2006; Paris, France

CEM Chair Hillary Masundire will give a keynote address to this Conference and EMP has been asked to contribute ideas and resource persons for some of the break-out sessions. Our contributions are likely to focus on practical applications of the Ecosystem Approach. We are also planning to organize a lunchtime side event on Tuesday 19 September to launch the synthesis of the five in-depth Ecosystem Approach case studies we carried out in Congo, Indonesian Papua, Niger-Nigeria, Panama and Viet Nam over the past three years. Please contact cem@iucn.org.

- For more information on the conference please see the [Volume II of Ecosystems](#) or
- About the Conference http://www.iucn.org/en/news/archive/2006/03/27_biodiversity_dev.pdf

Conference on Implementing the Ecosystem Approach in Fisheries; 26-28.09.2006; Bergen, Norway

A conference entitled “Implementing the Ecosystem Approach in Fisheries” will take place from 26-28. September 2006 in Bergen, Norway. The aims of the conference are to review concepts and address implementation issues related to applying the ecosystem approach to fisheries, to exchange experiences made and constraints encountered so far, and to identify strategies and best practices that will facilitate further implementation in practical fisheries management. The Conference will bring together scientists, government administrators responsible for fisheries management and the environment, fishery industry representatives, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties. The expected outcomes of the conference will be targeted primarily to decision- and policy makers in fisheries within national and international institutions as well as to the fishing industry. The Conference is organized by the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries.

For more information please contact Kari Østervold Toft (karit@imr.no), Institute of Marine Research or visit the following website: <http://cieaf.imr.no/>. (Submitted by Hein Rune Skjoldal, Regional Vice Chair for West Europe (hein.rune.skjoldal@imr.no)).

International Conference on the Future of Transhumance Pastoralism in West and Central Africa; 20-24.11.2006; Abuja, Nigeria

This International Conference entitled “The pastoral food and product chain: Strategies, dynamics, conflicts and interventions “ aims primarily to provide a forum for discussing the multi-faceted challenges of transhumance pastoralism and associated issues as these affect the economy and society of pastoral communities in the West Africa sub-region. The conference will provide an opportunity to undertake an in depth assessment of the pastoralist problematic. The outputs emerging from the conference are expected to have considerable impact on redirecting research and development programmes and government policies in the promotion of sustainable pastoral livelihoods. The conference is targeted to policy makers, development agencies, community based organizations and practitioners among others. For more information please visit the following website: <http://www.napri-abu.org/conference.html>.

Publications

Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in water management – a case study analysis from Latin America (Spanish)

La aplicación del enfoque ecosistémico en la gestión de los recursos hídricos : un análisis de estudios de caso en América Latina / Guerrero, Eduardo, ed. ; De Keizer, Otto, ed. ; Córdoba Muñoz, Rocío, ed.. - IUCN, Regional Office for South America ; IUCN, Regional Office for Meso-America ; UNEP ; IUCN, Water and Nature Initiative - 2006.

This case study analysis on the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in water management is available online (pdf): <http://app.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2006-003.pdf>

Designing a communication strategy: the 4-P workshop

Participatory planning can greatly improve the results of conservation awareness programs. This publication, published by Conservation International and IUCN's Commission on Education and Communication, presents a multi-stakeholder campaign planning methodology: the 4-P Workshop. In this creative process, stakeholders come together over a two-day period to analyze local conservation **P**roblems, the potential **P**ublics to target, the most appropriate **P**roducts – or communication tools – to reach each audience, and to develop a **P**lan for a campaign that takes into account the local context and resources. In this publication conservation communicators can follow step-by-step instructions for conducting a 4-P Workshop and learn from on-the-ground case studies of how the methodology was used to build effective campaigns.

Please download the publication as a pdf from <http://app.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2006-020.pdf>.

Focus of the Next Issue

Lessons learned from applying the Ecosystem Approach

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