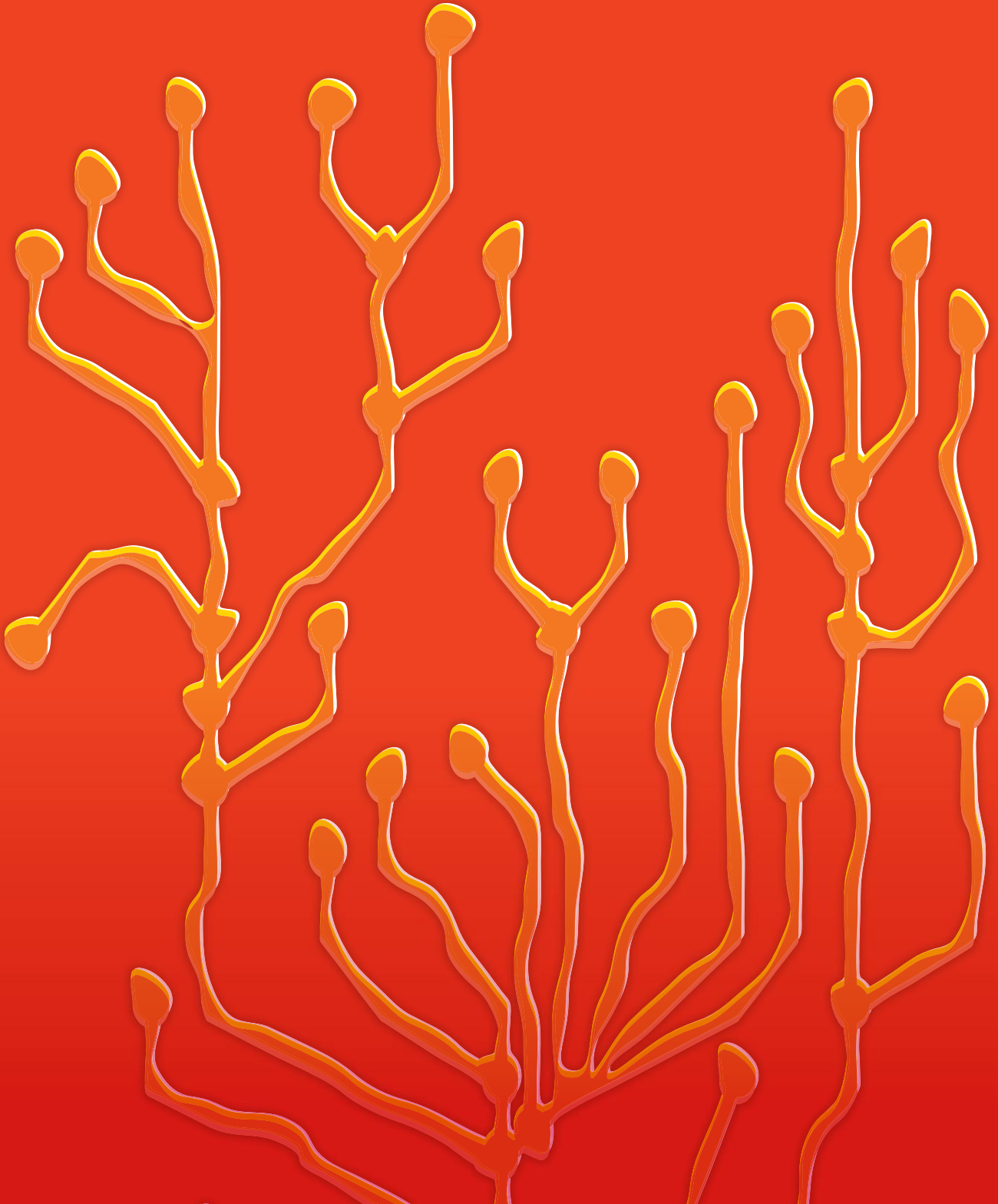


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BIODIVERSITY



A BRIEF HISTORY OF BIODIVERSITY AT IIED



IIED's work on biodiversity dates back over 20 years – although it has not always been labelled as such. In the late 1980s and early 1990s the main focus came from IIED's ground-breaking programme on environmental economics – a new discipline at the time.

The well-known *Elephants, Economics and Ivory* written by Ed Barbier and colleagues was published by Earthscan in 1990. Shortly after, IIED's sustainable agriculture programme published *The Hidden Harvest* – a review of the role of wild foods in supporting local livelihoods. In 1994 the UK Overseas Development Administration (now Department for International Development) was reviewing its African wildlife policy and commissioned IIED to undertake a review of community-based approaches to wildlife management – published as *Whose Eden*.

Building on this earlier work, biodiversity was formally

established as a new thematic area of work for IIED in 1998 – with funding support from the MacArthur Foundation

– focusing on bioprospecting, wildlife tourism, community-based wildlife management, and ‘policy that works’ for biodiversity and livelihoods.

Today IIED’s biodiversity work ranges from agrobiodiversity to apes, from climate change to conservation, and from market mechanisms to mainstreaming. It includes issues critical to the Convention on Biological Diversity such as access and benefit sharing, social assessment of protected areas and ecosystem-based adaptation.

This booklet provides a snapshot of our active projects as well as indicating the major themes where we are developing new areas of work. We look forward to collaborating with a wide range of organisations in our new and existing work and welcome your ideas and interest.

Our biodiversity work is divided into six key themes, although there is considerable overlap:

**4-5
CONSERVATION AND
POOR PEOPLE**

(especially wildlife and protected areas)

**6-7
VALUING BIODIVERSITY
AND FINANCING
CONSERVATION**

**8-9
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
AND INSTITUTIONS**


**10-11
BIODIVERSITY AND
CLIMATE CHANGE**

**12-13
AGRICULTURAL
BIODIVERSITY**

**14
GETTING THE MESSAGE
OUT – ADVOCACY,
ACADEMIA AND THE
MEDIA**

**15
PROJECTS IN THE
PIPELINE**

CONSERVATION AND POOR PEOPLE



Biodiversity loss is occurring at an unprecedented rate. This has immediate implications for poor people who depend on biodiversity for their day to day livelihoods, and longer-term implications for the health of ecosystems – with the impacts of this also hitting the poor the hardest. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment identified a number of promising approaches for tackling biodiversity loss but, in some cases, these can have negative impacts on poor people. Furthermore, wild resources that are important to poor people as sources of food, medicines and fibre generally receive little attention. IIED's work focuses on ensuring that measures taken to address biodiversity loss pay specific attention to the priorities of the poor.

POVERTY AND CONSERVATION LEARNING GROUP

The Poverty and Conservation Learning Group is a network of conservation, development, indigenous and local community rights organisations sharing their experiences of linking conservation and poverty reduction through a website housing databases of organisations; initiatives, publications, case studies and information on relevant meetings and events; a monthly newsletter; periodic meetings, side events, key international events and publications; and small grants to support members participation in key events.

Funded by	Arcus Foundation, IIED Framework Funds ¹
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#poverty
Main contact	Dilys.Roe@iied.org

EXPLORING THE LINKS BETWEEN APE CONSERVATION AND POVERTY REDUCTION

This project focuses on linking ape conservation with improved local livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa. It has two key objectives: enhancing learning between conservation organisations to improve their effectiveness in addressing poverty reduction; and exploring how attention to biodiversity can be strengthened in current efforts to integrate environment and development at the national level. In particular we are looking at how synergies between forest governance, ape conservation and local livelihoods can be improved.

Funded by	Arcus Foundation, IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#exploring
Main contact	Dilys.Roe@iied.org

¹ IIED currently has multi-year agreements with six European bilateral agencies (UK, Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Ireland).

SOCIAL ASSESSMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS

This project is a joint initiative of IIED, Care International, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and the CEESP/WCPA Taskforce for Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods. The Convention on Biological Diversity Programme of Work on Protected Areas calls for an assessment of the social impacts of protected areas but there is currently no standardised approach to qualify and quantify their impacts. This project is intended to develop such an approach and to test and implement it in field sites around the world. A review of existing social assessment methodologies has been undertaken as the first step in designing this standard methodology.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#social
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CONSERVATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE

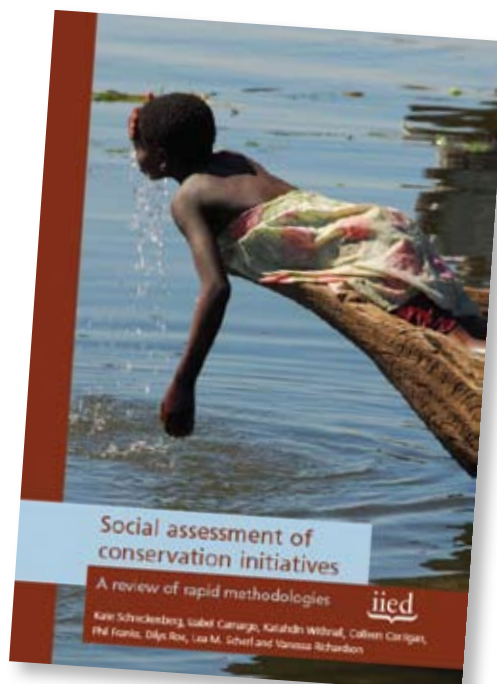
IIED, with consultant Nick Winer, has been working with the major international conservation organisations to develop a set of common human rights principles and an accountability mechanism to demonstrate adherence to these. A ten-point Conservation and Human Rights Framework has been developed, which includes four statements of intent: respect human rights; promote human rights within conservation programmes; protect the vulnerable; encourage good governance; as well as six management principles. Organisations involved in this initiative include Birdlife International, Conservation International, Fauna and Flora International, IUCN, the Nature Conservancy, Wetlands International, WWF and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#conservation
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ENHANCING THE EVIDENCE BASE

The links between conservation and poverty are widely debated and contested. Claims and counterclaims are often based on limited evidence relying on context-specific case studies, metrics and indicators. IIED is working to clarify and strengthen the evidence base through a number of activities: a reader in biodiversity conservation and poverty has recently been published by Earthscan; and an international symposium organised with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and the African Wildlife Foundation, held at the Zoological Society of London, explored the current state of knowledge on biodiversity-poverty links. We are currently developing recommendations for future research needs as well as policy and practice priorities.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#enhancing
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VALUING BIODIVERSITY AND FINANCING CONSERVATION

As with other environmental assets, biodiversity is unpriced and its benefits (as well as the costs of its loss) often unrecognised. Incentive mechanisms, including payments for environmental services or ecotourism, are increasingly being used in developing countries, giving communities a stake in conserving critical habitats and species. Current methods have mostly concentrated on reducing impacts, but interest is also growing in biodiversity offsets, which compensate for unavoidable impacts on biodiversity at one site through conservation actions at another site. As well as being valued by businesses and local communities, biodiversity also needs to be better reflected in public planning processes. IIED is working to promote better attention to biodiversity within existing environmental mainstreaming efforts.



HARNESSING CARBON FINANCE TO ARREST DEFORESTATION: SAVING THE JAVAN RHINOCEROS

IIED works with local institutions to establish functioning and equitable forest carbon facilities that encourage the conservation of large mammals, particularly the critically endangered Javan rhinoceros. The scheme will look to compensate local villagers for preventing degradation and deforestation in and around Cat Tien National Park, Vietnam. By examining a range of incentive mechanisms and by ensuring empowerment of local communities, it is anticipated that encroachment of agriculture will be reduced and the rhinoceroses' habitat protected.

Funded by	The Darwin Initiative
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#harnessing
Main contact	Maryanne.Grieg-Gran@iied.org

PAYING LOCAL COMMUNITIES FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES: THE CHIMPANZEE CONSERVATION CORRIDOR

Chimpanzees in Uganda are under threat as their habitat is lost to agriculture and human settlements. At the heart of this problem is the attitude of most farmers that chimpanzees and the conservation of forest habitats are a threat to their own livelihoods. IIED aims to demonstrate how an effective, equitable and financially sustainable payment scheme to compensate local landholders for conserving and restoring forest habitats in Hoima District can protect chimpanzee populations and other components of biodiversity.

Funded by	The Darwin Initiative
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#paying
Main contact	Maryanne.Grieg-Gran@iied.org

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN THE SREPOK WILDERNESS, CAMBODIA

A serious decline in species populations over the last few decades in the Srepok Wilderness, Cambodia, has prompted urgent action from the Government, WWF and other local partners. In conjunction with IIED, these groups have identified high-value low-impact wildlife ecotourism as a means of securing the future of these species and their ecosystem. Such activities can generate money for conservation programmes and support local livelihoods. Early successes of the 3,500km² Mondulkiri Protected Forest pilot have led to calls from the Cambodian government and NGOs for replication in other protected areas, which is likely to cover 15,000km² of globally important tropical dry forest habitat.

Funded by	The Darwin Initiative
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#sustainable
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BIODIVERSITY OFFSETS

Finding new sources of finance for biodiversity conservation, and developing strategies that conserve endangered species and habitats while enhancing livelihoods for those people living closest to biodiversity, is a major challenge. Voluntary biodiversity offsets is one approach with potential that is being explored by the Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme, a partnership of companies, governments, financial institutions and NGOs. As part of this partnership, IIED has provided guidance for offset designers on how to manage the socioeconomic challenges underlying biodiversity offsets.

Funded by	Forest Trends, IUCN, DFID
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#offsets
Main contact	Maryanne.Grieg-Gran@iied.org

MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY

IIED has been working in close collaboration with the UNEP-UNDP Poverty-Environment Initiative to promote the mainstreaming of environmental issues into development policy and planning. Activities include the development of a 'Sourcebook on Environmental Mainstreaming' and facilitating multi-stakeholder 'learning and leadership groups' to encourage greater recognition of all environmental aspects in national development policy and budgets. This work is being expanded to include a specific focus on biodiversity.

Funded by	UNDP, IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#mainstreaming
Main contact	Steve.Bass@iied.org



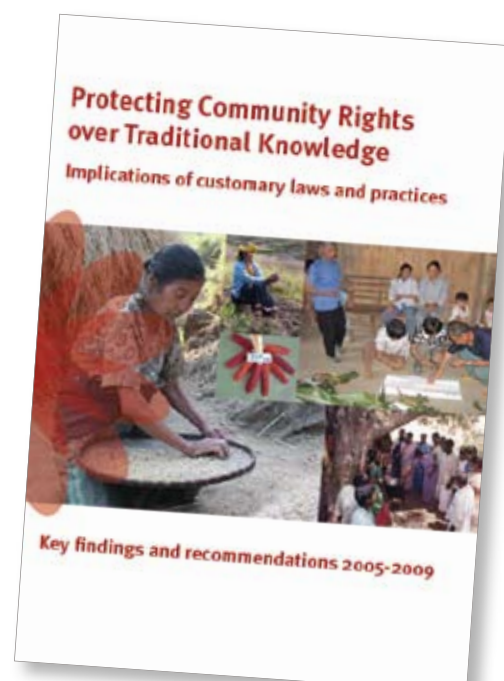
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Local organisations have a critical role to play in delivering on poverty reduction and environmental management at the local level. IIED's work is intended to ensure that the role of local organisations in generating positive outcomes for biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation is recognised, protected and incorporated into national and international policy.

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND BIOCULTURAL HERITAGE

Since 2004, IIED has worked with Asociacion ANDES (Peru), Ecoserve and Herbal Folklore Research Centre (India), Kenya Forestry Research Institute and ICIPE (Kenya) and Fundacion Dobbo Yala (Panama) to protect community rights over traditional knowledge in accordance with customary laws and practices. The project involves participatory action research with indigenous and local communities to protect and strengthen biocultural heritage and inform policies on traditional knowledge, genetic resources and access and benefit-sharing. It aims to reverse loss of traditional knowledge and agrobiodiversity in order to enhance food and health security and resilience to climate change.

Funded by	The Christensen Fund, IDRC, IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#traditional
Main contact	Krystyna.Swidarska@iied.org



COMMUNITY-BASED NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

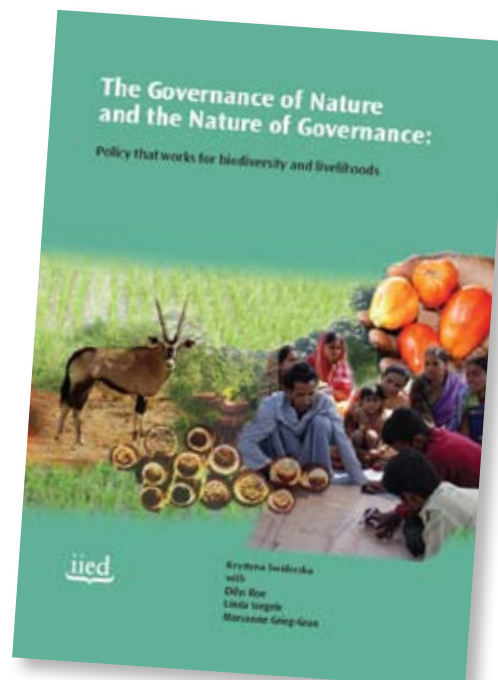
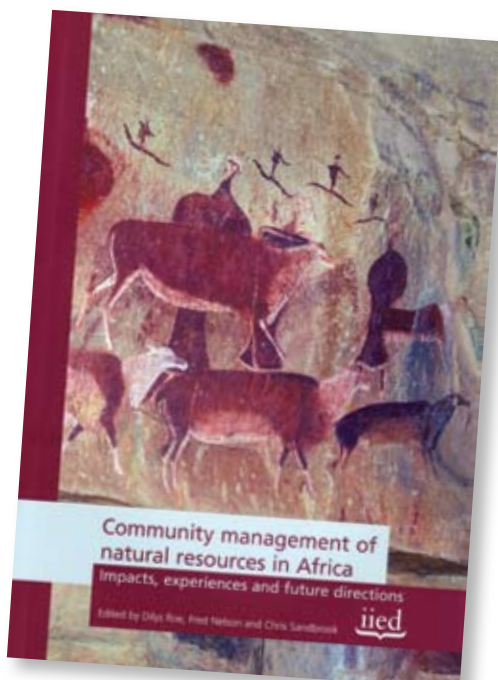
IIED recently conducted a pan-African review of experience in community-based natural resource management). The outcome was an account drawing on multiple authors and a wide range of documented experiences from Southern, Eastern, Western and Central Africa. The review discusses the degree to which this approach has met objectives in poverty alleviation, economic development and nature conservation. Its conclusions include suggestions for strengthening methods and addressing key challenges in the years ahead.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bio-Hub, Agence Française de Développement
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#community
Main contact	Dilys.Roe@iied.org

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS AND WILDLIFE IN VIETNAM

Biodiversity in and around the Bi Doup-Nui Ba National Park area, Vietnam, is threatened by local communities encroaching on the land as well as infrastructure and potentially uncontrolled tourism development. Through IIED, the project is taking steps to develop and implement co-management approaches to working with communities that provide incentives for sustainable land use, including examining the potential for tourism to generate benefits for communities. The tourism activity also directly addresses the problem of inappropriate tourism development, which is a major new threat to biodiversity in the park.

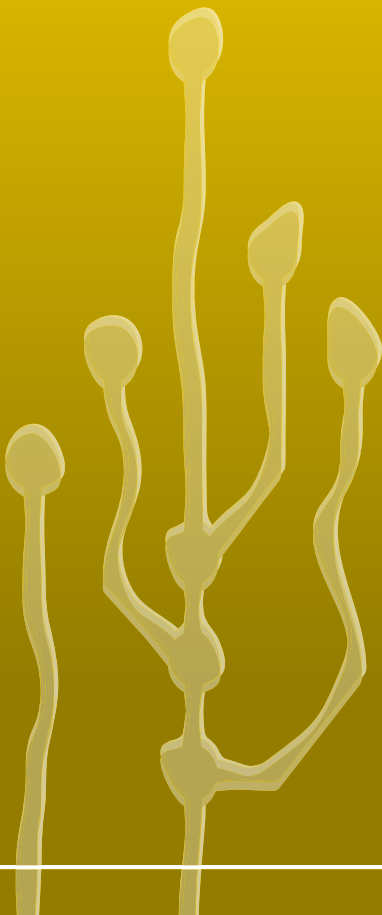
Funded by	The Darwin Initiative
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#collaborative
Main contact	Maryanne.Grieg-Gran@iied.org



BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Biodiversity both affects and is affected by climate change. In particular biodiversity can help increase both ecological and social resilience to climate change and can have a critical role to play in adaptation measures.

IIED's work under this theme explores this role and helps ensure it is adequately reflected in responses to climate change at international and national levels.



BIODIVERSITY IN NATIONAL ADAPTATION PROGRAMMES OF ACTION

In collaboration with RSPB and Birdlife International, IIED conducted an assessment in 2009 of the National Adaptation Programmes of Action developed by the world's poorest countries to identify their urgent climate change adaptation needs under the UNFCCC process. Presented at COP 15, this review provided an indication of how much these countries recognise and prioritise the role that biodiversity, ecosystems and natural habitats play in helping people adapt to climate change.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#adaption
Main contact	Hannah.Reid@iied.org



COUNTING THE COST OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN NAMIBIA

Namibia's natural legacy underpins much of the national bank balance – and also leaves it highly vulnerable to shifts in natural systems. IIED conducted research in 2007 on the economic value of natural resources in Namibia and on the impacts of climate change on this economic value and the country's poorest people. The report found that climate change must be built into national policies and planning and that an additional strategy for dealing with displaced farmers and farm workers was needed.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#counting
Main contact	Hannah.Reid@iied.org

BIODIVERSITY, LIVELIHOODS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: MAKING THE LINKS

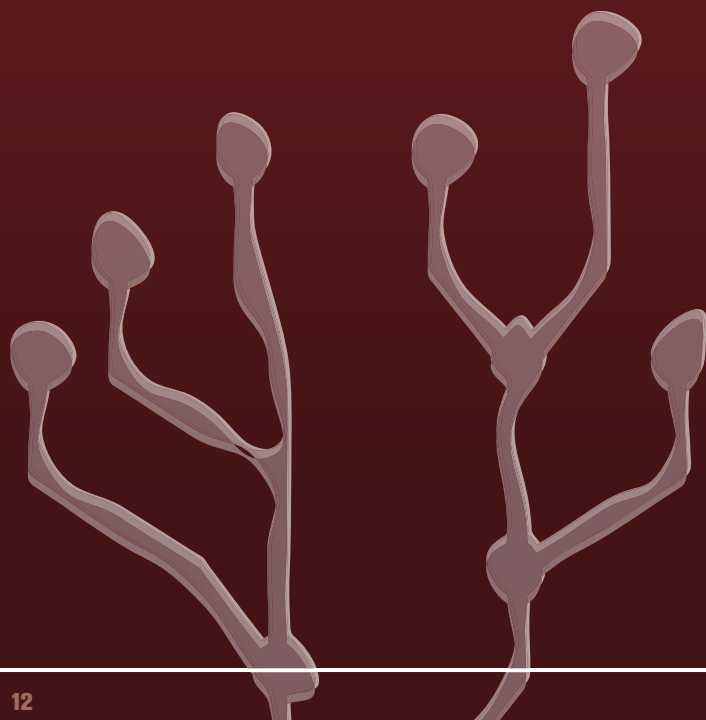
In a world where climate change is high on the political agenda other environmental problems run the risk of being overlooked. IIED has been at the forefront of discussion emphasising the links between climate change and biodiversity conservation, and the impacts of both on the livelihoods of the world's poorest people.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#livelihoods
Main contact	Hannah.Reid@iied.org



AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY

Human communities worldwide have played a central role in shaping nature's diversity. Both natural processes and human management have generated and sustained a vast array of genetic species and ecological diversity. Within agricultural systems and humanised landscapes, this biodiversity fulfils a number of important roles, such as providing food and livelihood security, ensuring productive and environmental sustainability and supporting rural development. However, the diversity of agroecosystems is being rapidly eroded. IIED's work focuses on understanding how – and under what conditions – agricultural biodiversity and its multiple functions can be sustained to enhance ecological resilience and social equity.



SUSTAINING LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS, AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Working with partners in India, Indonesia, Iran and Peru, IIED aims to analyse how and under what conditions decentralised governance, capacity building and participation by farmers can promote the adaptive management of agricultural biodiversity in the context of local food systems and livelihoods. This initiative directly involves farming and indigenous communities in regenerating biodiversity-rich farming and locally controlled food systems – strategies at the heart of local responses to climate change. These decentralised and farmer-led approaches are working to strengthen local organisations and the federations they form.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#sustaining
Main contact	Michel.Pimbert@iied.org

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM SEED CONSERVATION, BREEDING AND PRODUCTION

The overall objective of this project is to contribute to the enlargement of the market for local crop varieties – thus enhancing the possibilities for on-farm conservation of agricultural biodiversity – by setting up a framework involving all relevant actors. It focuses on the development of methodologies for breeding strategies, facilitating the marketing – that is, the production, use, exchange and selling – of seeds of landraces, conservation varieties and special 'amateur' varieties.

Funded by	European Union
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#opportunities
Main contact	Michel.Pimbert@iied.org

DEVELOPING METHODS FOR ASSESSING THE CONTRIBUTION OF POLLINATION TO SUSTAINABLE HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Pollination services are a key example of ecosystem services that sustain agriculture and livelihoods. Pollinators are essential for orchard, horticultural and forage production, as well as the production of seeds for many crops. Standard techniques for estimating the costs and benefits to farmers of pollinator-friendly practices require the establishment of a baseline, against which the effects of changing practices can be assessed. IIED is examining participatory approaches to generating such comparison information, with the aim of enabling smallholder farmers in Ghana and Nepal to evaluate the costs and benefits of introducing pro-pollinator practices.

Funded by	Food and Agriculture Organization
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#developing
Main contact	Maryanne.Grieg-Gran@iied.org

FARMER AND CITIZENS ASSESSMENTS OF TRANSGENIC CROPS AND BIOSAFETY REGULATIONS

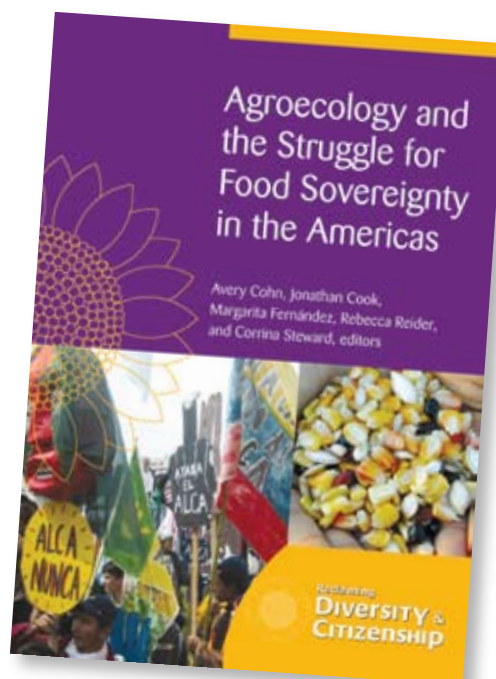
The food sovereignty paradigm affirms the fundamental right of people to define their food and agricultural policies. This implies that food providers and consumers are directly involved in policymaking and institutional choices. New forms of citizenship need to be explored along with methodological innovations in deliberative and inclusive processes to enhance citizen voice and action in decision making today.

Funded by	DGIS, SDC and The Christensen Fund
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#farmer
Main contact	Michel.Pimbert@iied.org

CITIZENS REFRAMING CONSERVATION POLICIES FOR FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD SECURITY

This action research allows citizens to assess, re-imagine and influence conservation policies and practice for humanised ecosystems and landscapes that are rich in 'wild' and domesticated agricultural biodiversity. New insights and policy recommendations emerge by creating safe spaces for citizens who have experienced censorship and marginalisation by mainstream conservation practice.

Funded by	The Christensen Fund and Novib-Oxfam
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#citizens
Main contact	Michel.Pimbert@iied.org



GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT – ADVOCACY, ACADEMIA AND THE MEDIA

IIED lobbies for policy and practice change in biodiversity and conservation through participation in key meetings, events and policy fora. Increasingly IIED is working with the media to bring issues of concern to wider public attention.

BIODIVERSITY MEDIA ALLIANCE

Journalists worldwide now have a vital new resource to help them report on the world's biodiversity, what its decline means for humanity, and how it can be tackled. The Biodiversity Media Alliance's online network builds bridges between journalists and the information they need to tell this story. More than 700 biodiversity experts have already joined the network, including scientists, policymakers, NGO staff and indigenous people from some of the most biodiverse parts of our planet. This new partnership between the IIED, Internews and the International Union for Conservation of Nature aims to boost the quantity and quality of media coverage on biodiversity around the world.

Funded by	IIED Framework Funds
Read more	www.iied.org/2010iyb#media
Main contact	Mike.Shanahan@iied.org



THE ROLE OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND BIOCULTURAL SYSTEMS IN ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

We are currently conducting research and preparing a briefing paper drawing on case study material from Kenya, China and Bolivia.

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IMPROVING THE EVIDENCE BASE FOR THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION

The benefits of natural resources and ecosystem protection in the context of adaptation is not well documented or quantified. We are currently developing a collaborative proposal for a long-term research project looking at a range of ecosystems and ecosystem services to assess what pro-poor adaptation benefits they can offer.

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CONSVALMAP

This is a joint initiative with UNEP-WCMC, Wageningen University and Conservation International to develop a spatial database documenting the case study evidence for the value of ecosystem services for use as a research and decision-making tool.

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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS LINKING CONSERVATION AND POVERTY

This is a planned project (2010-2012) with the Equator Initiative to evaluate experience of Equator Award winners to identify potential for replication and scale up.

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PROTECTING TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, AGROBIODIVERSITY AND BIOCULTURAL HERITAGE

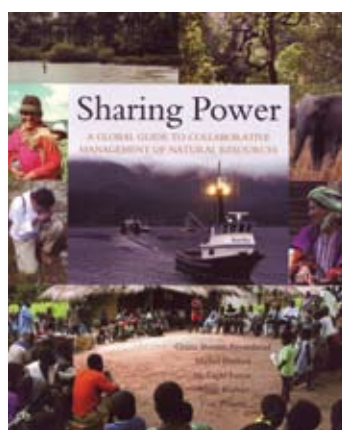
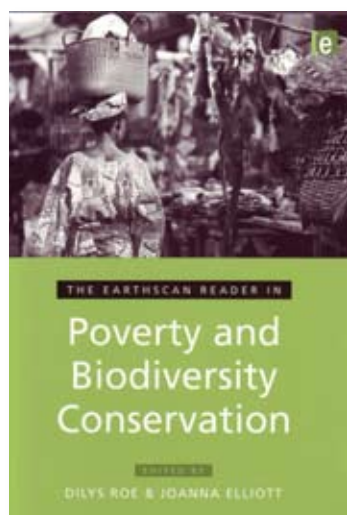
We are developing a new phase of this participatory action-research project, with partners in Peru, Panama, Kenya, India and China. The aim is to develop tools to protect and strengthen the biocultural heritage of indigenous and local communities in areas of important but threatened agrobiodiversity, and to inform policies on genetic resources and traditional knowledge.

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LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION AS A TOOL TO PROMOTE CULTURAL AND BIODIVERSITY

Using biosphere reserves and World Heritage cultural landscapes as case studies this planned activity aims to contribute to identifying good practices in jointly managing cultural and biodiversity in evolving landscapes.

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