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The aim of this e-Newsletter is to inform CBD National Focal Points and CBD partners about biodiversity aspects in relation to "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation" (REDD). To subscribe, please visit <http://www.cbd.int/forest/redd/newsletters/>. To unsubscribe, please click [here](#).

Is there a business case for high-biodiversity REDD projects and schemes?

A new report for the CBD Secretariat by EcoSecurities explores the potential for market payments for 'high biodiversity' REDD under several scenarios. It suggests that speedy agreement on and implementation of REDD should be a priority, including appropriate safeguards against negative biodiversity impacts, and optional maximization of biodiversity benefits. Reporting on minimum standards or safeguards to prevent negative biodiversity impacts could be coupled with reporting and monitoring of social and biodiversity benefits at host country level. The report also suggests to create demand for 'high biodiversity' credits through preferential purchases, e.g. by governments.

More: <http://www.cbd.int/forest/doc/other/ecosecurities-report-2009-02-en.pdf>



UNEP-WCMC launches new Carbon and Biodiversity Atlas

The demonstration atlas shows that areas high in both carbon and biodiversity do exist and can be identified by relatively simple mapping tools. Prioritising such areas could give the 'double benefit' of reducing emissions from land use change whilst conserving biodiversity. Three regional maps along with six national maps are shown for the tropics.

More: <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/latenews/index.cfm#st172>

CCB Standards Second Edition

The Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance has completed a nine-month participatory process to review and strengthen the leading standards for multiple-benefit, land-based carbon offset projects. Experts and practitioners from environmental, development and Indigenous Peoples' organizations, the private sector, government agencies and research institutes have contributed to the creation of the Second Edition of the CCB Standards, released in December 2008.

The Second Edition can be downloaded at: <http://www.climate-standards.org/>.

Hyundai Climate Grants Program

Hyundai Motor America is sponsoring three \$35,000 grants in conjunction with the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance. The grants will go to the developers of CCB Standards compliant projects.

Details about how to apply for these grants can be found at: <http://hyundai.carbonfund.org/climateGrants.aspx>.

Ecosystems Climate Alliance

An alliance of environment and social NGOs has formed to advocate REDD and LULUCF outcomes that will eliminate perverse incentives and respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. The Ecosystems Climate Alliance (ECA) ¹ is committed to keeping natural terrestrial ecosystems intact and their carbon out of the atmosphere, in an equitable and transparent way. ECA recognises that avoiding emissions of terrestrial carbon stored in the soils and biomass of forests, peatlands and wetlands represents the largest potential single opportunity for cost-effective greenhouse gas mitigation. ECA is campaigning for REDD and LULUCF to give strong, equitable and transparent incentives for avoiding the degradation of terrestrial carbon stores and for rehabilitating degraded land, as well as for more attention to strong forest governance, robust monitoring and demand-side policies to ensure a meaningful result from REDD.

More: <http://www.ecosystemsclimate.org/>. **Submission to UNFCCC:** <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/smsn/ngo/083.pdf>, **Humane Society**

International's Special Bulletin on REDD: http://www.hsi.org.au/editor/assets/admin/Special_Tech_Bulleti_%20Dec0.pdf

Latin American Forum on REDD created in Amazonas

The creation of the Latin American Forum on REDD was one of the main outcomes of the workshop "South-South: Cooperation for REDD Activities", held in Manaus - Brazil, from 10 to 13th of February. Nine different Latin American countries were present, discussing the main challenges for building REDD strategies and presenting different alternatives and solutions.

More: <http://www.idesam.org.br/noticias/ingles/latinamericanforum.htm>

Indonesian language compilation of newsletter articles related to climate change

Down to Earth, the International Campaign for Ecological Justice in Indonesia, has published an Indonesian language compilation of its newsletter articles related to climate change, including several substantial reports on REDD. These articles cover international debates about REDD as well as REDD projects and policy developments in Indonesia, and the implications of these for Indonesia's indigenous communities.

More: <http://dte.gn.apc.org/CCcomp09.pdf>.



Footnote:

1. Comprising Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), FERN, Global Witness, Humane Society International, Rainforest Foundation Norway, The Rainforest Foundation U.K., Wetlands International and The Wilderness Society.

Images courtesy of A. Cung

Your contributions to this Newsletter on issues related to biodiversity aspects of REDD are welcome. Please send your submission to red@cbd.int, Subject "REDD Newsletter". Articles should contain no more than 60 words, and must contain a hyperlink for more information. For authors guidelines please see <http://www.cbd.int/forest/redd/newsletters/>