

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below a third issue of special digest on sustainable mountain development, prepared in the context of e-discussion on Rio+20 meeting next year. This digest includes list of media clips, key organisations, events planned (or held) and other relevant resources. Please note this is the last week of the event.

Thanks you for your support and motivation for those who have been actively participating in the e-discussion and for the new ones who wish to join are most welcome. This e-discussion is open to anyone who has understanding of the issues, challenges, opportunities and interest to contribute in sustainable mountain development agenda in the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region. Your contribution will be read, reviewed, responded and utilized to prepare a Regional Assessment of the SMD in the HKH. This e-discussion, as is the practice, is strictly a professional forum and we encourage a very live and useful professional discourse. In order to achieve this we will not accept any politically motivated and personal type of comments and feedback as per practice.

A further detail is available on the web at <http://www.icimod.org/?q=3193>.

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Media Clips

1. Roads leading to city to get facelift: Hubli, India

20 April 2011

Some of the roads leading to the city from the surrounding rural areas are all set to get a facelift. District minister Jagadish Shettar on Wednesday laid the foundation stone for the development of Unkal-Maradagi, Sulla-Bengeri, Gopanakoppa-Shivalli roads besides other developmental works like gutters, bridges and housing facilities to all worth Rs 3.47 crores. Public Works Department will initiate the works.

Source: <http://bit.ly/esdYlb>

2. CEB Takes Action on Biodiversity, Climate, Sustainable Development, DDR

19 April 2011

In a briefing to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 19 April 2011 in New York, US, the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) discussed the highlights and outcomes of its spring meeting, which took place from 1-2 April 2011, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Source: <http://bit.ly/giJoJs>

3. Sustainable Consumption on the Fringe in China: Study

18 April 2011

Chinese consumers are willing to pay a small premium for environmentally friendly products, but they place responsibility to fix China's environmental woes on the government, a study released on Monday said.

Source: <http://reut.rs/fWvBBI>

4. UNECE Convenes Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

18 April 2011

The sixth meeting of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 7-8 April 2011, setting the groundwork for the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD for 2005–2015. The meeting was featured in the 18-22 April 2011 issue of the newsletter, "UNECE Weekly."

Source: <http://bit.ly/ghdFBF>

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Events

1. 04 May 2011

Event: Live Webinar, London

The International Institute for Environment and Development invite you to view this exciting new series of films and participate in a webinar to discuss your views of the films and the learning from the Forest Governance Learning Group, in more detail.

Contact: info@iied.org, Vanessa Mcleod-Kourie

Event website: <http://bit.ly/eEACyp>

2. 10-11, May 2011

Stakeholders meeting to develop an Action Plan on Forests and the Green Economy, Geneva

Stakeholders across the UNECE region are invited to participate in a discussion on developing an Action Plan on Forests and the Green Economy. A brainstorming and structured discussion in working groups will be organized by the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, in cooperation with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), on 10-11 May 2011 in Geneva.

Event website: <http://bit.ly/gCXFzC>

3. 04-06, July 2011

UNECE/FAO Workshop: Payments for Ecosystems Services: What Role for a Green Economy? Geneva

The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in cooperation with the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment and the Finnish Environment Institute, are organizing a workshop to discuss the role of payment for ecosystem services for the green economy

Contact: franziska.hirsch@unece.org, Franziska Hirsch

Event website: <http://bit.ly/hTVL63>

4. 21-23, November 2011

International Conference on East African Mountains, Mbale Resort Hotel, Uganda

Mountains of East Africa including highlands of Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda suffer from increasing land pressure coupled with climate change which threatens sustainable use of these mountain ecosystems. This first conference on East African Mountains, is being organized to bring together scientists, practitioners, policy makers, and social workers to deliberate on the biophysical and socio-economic aspects that are crucial in influencing policy/management of these ecosystems in East Africa.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: info@iceam2011.org, conference secretariat

Event website: <http://bit.ly/hEEv04>

5. 21-23, November 2011

Conference: Managing Alpine Future - Inspire and Drive Sustainable Adaptation , Innsbruck

The complex interactions of human-environment mountain systems will increasingly be affected by the dynamics of global climate change. Successful adaptation to the expected challenges in mountain societies and environments necessitates strong inter- and transdisciplinary cooperation in and amongst science, business and public administration.

Deadline: 15 June 2011

Contact: umeda@swiss.tojikiston.com, Mrs. Umeda Nurmatova

Event website: <http://bit.ly/ehRneM>

6. 29 November - 1 December 2011

Fourth High Level Forum: The Path to Effective Development, Busan

Ministers and specialists will evaluate progress made since the third High Level Forum in 2008 and set out a new framework for increasing the quality of aid in order to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Priority areas for the forum will be: predictable aid; use of country systems; an end to policy conditionality; country-driven capacity development; mutual accountability; and reduced transaction costs.

Contact: webmaster@oecd.org

Event website: <http://bit.ly/dPPSw0>

7. 26-29, March 2012

Conference: Planet under Pressure - New Knowledge towards Solutions, London

The 2012 international Planet under Pressure conference will provide a comprehensive update of the pressure planet Earth is now under. The conference will discuss solutions at all scales to move societies on to a sustainable pathway. It will provide scientific leadership towards the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development - Rio+20.

Deadline: 19 August 2011

Contact: customerservice-planetupressure12@elsevier.com, Owen Gaffney

Event website: <http://bit.ly/dVRy5k>

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Opportunities

1. Forest Products Marketing MS or PhD Graduate Scholarship

For Fall 2011, The Louisiana Forest Products Development Center at Louisiana State University is soliciting applications for the prestigious Gilbert Foundation Scholarship. Both M.S.

(\$20,000/year for 2 years) and Ph.D. (\$25,000/year for 4 years) degree candidates are encouraged to apply.

Deadline: Rolling

Contact: rvlosky@agcenter.lsu.edu, Dr. Richard Vlosky

More at: <http://bit.ly/i1iZmx>

2. CGIAR Grants: Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security (CCAFS)

CGIAR has launched a new program on Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security (CCAFS). CCAFS' overall goal is to overcome the additional threats posed by a changing climate to achieving food security, enhancing livelihoods and improving environmental management. CCAFS is searching for women scientists who are interested in conducting research on gender issues related to the climate change, agriculture, and food security nexus.

Deadline: 01 May 2011

Contact: ccaafs@life.ku.dk, Department of Agriculture and Ecology

More at: <http://bit.ly/f31jji>

3. International Master Programme in Environmental Management and Sustainable Development

IESD seeks to integrate the multidisciplinary methodologies of natural and social sciences, viewing the environment, economy and society in a holistic fashion. IESD's aim is to become an important base of research, education, and information exchange for sustainable development.

Deadline: 01 May 2011

Contact: cpan@ntu.edu.sg, Professor Pan Tso-Chien

More at: <http://bit.ly/dPXCgl>

4. MSc Managing Sustainable Mountain Development (incorporating Pg Cert and Pg Dip)

This online course is an inter-disciplinary taught master's programme with exit awards at postgraduate certificate, postgraduate diploma, and MSc levels. The programme offers you advanced theory and practice should you wish to understand the complex issues of mountain areas. Contact: Moray College UHI, Moray Street, Elgin, Moray, Scotland. IV30 1JJ

More at: <http://bit.ly/fnKPpJ>

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Organisations

1. Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB), Kathmandu

Established in 1992, ANSAB is a civil society organization working in South Asia and headquartered in Kathmandu, Nepal. It is committed to biodiversity conservation and economic development through community-based, enterprise-oriented solutions.

URL: <http://bit.ly/g1f6Ap>

2. Biodiversity Action, Thailand

Founded in 1995, BIOTHA1 raises awareness of the links between biodiversity and local livelihoods among policymakers and the general public. BIOTHA1 is now a member of the Thai National Biosafety Committee and Plant Varieties Protection Board and advises the government on national biodiversity policy. The organisation campaigns on issues surrounding biotechnology and genetically modified organisms in South-East Asia.

URL: <http://bit.ly/gTRFXp>

3. Development Alternatives Group, New Delhi

It is a non-profit organisation which aims to create sustainable livelihoods, sustainable technologies and sustainable social environments on a large scale in India. It does this through its three branches (environmental systems, technological systems and institutional systems) working on a local, national regional and global level.

URL: <http://bit.ly/euxVpC>

4. Grameen Shakti, Dhaka

It is a renewable energy company in Bangladesh focused on distributing solar home systems in rural areas. It installs, maintains and provides microfinance for solar home systems and trains solar engineers. Its website includes information about individual programmes, links to its research and publications, and photographs and videos of its activities.

URL: <http://bit.ly/fluDay>

5. Practical Action South Asia, Colombo

Practical Action is a non-governmental organisation that specialises in promoting the development and use of technologies which address the needs of poor communities in developing countries. Practical Action works directly in four regions of the developing world – Latin America, East Africa, Southern Africa and South Asia and focuses on the development of appropriate technologies in food production, agro-processing, energy, transport, small enterprise development, shelter, and small-scale mining and disaster mitigation.

URL: <http://bit.ly/e7Tcew>

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Resources

1. Kailash Sacred Landscape Conservation Initiative: Developing a transboundary cooperation framework for conservation and sustainable development in the greater Mt Kailash region of China, India, and Nepal : Second Regional Workshop (2010)

URL: <http://bit.ly/iei9L0>

2. Eco-Tourism for Sustainable Development in the Kailash Sacred Landscape (2010)

URL: <http://bit.ly/dLMIR1>

3. Great Himalayan Trail Preparatory Study: Tsum Valley, Gorkha District (2008)

URL: <http://bit.ly/eiPzqQ>

4. The Mountain Forum in Latin America E-Letter. No 2, April 2011

URL: <http://bit.ly/g4Q4ce>

5. Estimating the Opportunity Costs of REDD+. A training manual

URL: <http://bit.ly/fDOrWH>

6. Will Rio+20 squander green legacy of the original Earth summit?, An article by Jim Thomas for Grist

URL: <http://bit.ly/ehVHhK>

7. Sustainable Development Policy and Practice; A Knowledgebase of International Activities Preparing for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

URL: <http://bit.ly/gz2T6t>

8. UNECE Weekly

URL: <http://bit.ly/hr50RW>

9. Mountain Tourism for Local Community Development in Nepal: A Case Study of Upper Mustang (1998)

URL: <http://bit.ly/eDrGlp>

10. The Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment (GMBA), is a cross-cutting network of DIVERSITAS with the task to explore and explain the great biological richness of the mountains of the world.

URL: <http://bit.ly/fDm1Cb>

11. Synthesis report on best practices and lessons learned on the objective and themes of the UNCSD, Report for the 2nd Preparatory Committee for the UNCSD, Rio+20 Secretariat, New York, (2011)

URL: <http://bit.ly/fuHzPb>

12. A Global Green New Deal for Sustainable Development, Policy Brief No.12, UNDESA, New York, (2009)

<http://bit.ly/hhHipi>

13. Green Economy Report: towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication, UN Environment Programme, Nairobi (2011)

<http://bit.ly/fmwDg0>

14. Beyond Rio + 20: Governance for a Green Economy, The Pardee Center Task Force Report, Boston, Massachusetts, (2011)

<http://bit.ly/eEDyPI>

15. Greening Household Behaviour: the Role of Public Policy, OECD Publishing, Paris, (2011)

<http://bit.ly/gsBI3f>

16. Green Economy: Developing Countries Success Stories, UN Environment Programme, Nairobi, (2010)

<http://bit.ly/hWfjXe>

17. RIO 2012: Making it Happen Newsletters of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

URL: <http://bit.ly/gVWQdd>

18. New report SSI2010: The latest update Sustainable Society Index, SSI 2010

URL: <http://bit.ly/hMEjE4>

19. Green Jobs: towards Decent Work in a Sustainable, Low-carbon World, International Labour Organization, Geneva, (2008)

URL: <http://bit.ly/eDyPev>

20. The Transition to a Green Economy: Benefit, Challenges and Risks from a Sustainable Development Perspective, Jose Antonio Ocampo, Aaron Cosbey, and Martin Khor, (2011)

URL: <http://bit.ly/eq6qdk>

21. Objective and themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Report of the Secretary-General for the 2nd Preparatory Committee for Rio+20, Rio+20 Secretariat New York, (2011)

URL: <http://bit.ly/fZa180>

22. The Road to Rio+20: for a Development-led Green Economy. UN Conference on Trade and Development, Geneva, (2011)

URL: <http://bit.ly/gHzcdQ>

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