



news

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Forests and climate change: Tough but fair decisions needed

Reducing deforestation to tackle climate change is achievable, but it will require governments to make tough yet fair decisions. That was the message CIFOR Director General, Frances Seymour, delivered to international delegates at the Australian Government's High-Level Meeting on Forests and Climate in Sydney last July.

The High-Level Meeting followed Australia's launch earlier this year of a \$200 million initiative to reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by forest loss, especially in developing countries. Land use change, particularly deforestation in developing countries, contributes about 20 percent of annual global carbon dioxide emissions.

Other speakers at the event included Alexander Downer, Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Malcolm Turnbull, Australia's Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Seymour says Australia's \$200 million initiative, along with the country's expertise in forestry, clearly positions Australia to play an important role in helping developing countries reduce forest loss.

But she also says actions by Australia and others to assist developing countries will require time, money and a willingness to make often politically difficult decisions.

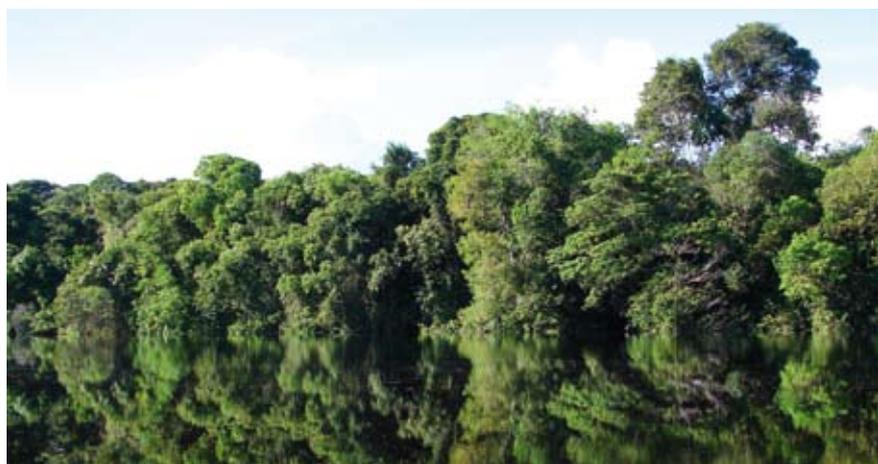
"To achieve any meaningful reduction in the rate of deforestation in developing countries will require governments in the north and south to be willing to make some unpopular, but far-sighted decisions that have political, economic, and budgetary implications," Seymour says.

"The fact is, deforestation is driven by fundamental market failures and governance failures. We know these problems cannot be solved overnight, but we do know that steps can be taken today that would make a big difference. But those measures will be resisted by people whose interests are served by the status quo."

One major difficulty in implementing measures for reducing deforestation is the failure of markets to place a value on the less tangible goods and services forests provide, such as habitat for endangered species or sequestration of carbon.

Says Seymour, "because markets find it difficult to place a value on these kinds of services, the forest is undervalued compared to the cash that can be generated by converting forests to agriculture, and that causes deforestation."

There are also many governance issues that impede appropriate forest policies and actions. One example,



Prestine forest in Brazil.
Photo: Douglas Sheil

according to Seymour, is the uncertainty surrounding community land tenure and property rights in rural and forest areas. Another example is the limited involvement marginalized forest communities have in decision making processes that affect forests.

On the other hand, says Seymour, governments also face many challenges.

"Government ministries and local governments alike often lack the necessary authority, capacity, and accountability to fulfill their obligations to protect forests."

According to Seymour, research shows that deforestation is often due to an intricate set of social, economic and political factors happening in non-forest sectors. For example, agricultural expansion, infrastructure development, and overcapacity in wood processing industries.

Policies exist for dealing with deforestation's multi-sectoral causes. But few are implemented, says Seymour, because their beneficiaries tend to be "society at large and politically weak forest communities, while the losers (are usually) well-connected elites."

By contrast, life is often made harder for the rural poor when policies emphasize forest sector interventions ahead of multi-sectoral approaches. The often tough

(Continued on page 3)

Balancing conservation and development

Can a balance be found between conservation and development? Or are solutions doomed to an endless see-saw ride, tilting in favour of plants and animals one day? And people and communities the next?

Central Africa: Reliance on wild animals for protein illustrates the development-conservation dilemma. If over-hunting continues, animal protein supplies will decline as animals disappear. If hunting levels fall, animal populations will benefit but people's protein supply may be threatened. Photo: Edmond Dounias



Imagine living in one of the poorest countries in the world. Imagine it is blessed with virgin rainforests, lowland gorillas and elephants. You live in the forest with your family. They and you are hungry.

Your wife and children know as well as you that the local gorillas make good food. And excellent money if sold. But conservationists working in the region warn you not to kill the animals because they are on the verge of extinction. Guards make sure you don't enter the areas of the forest set aside for the endangered species.

So what do you do? Ignore the warnings, risk imprisonment so you can hunt down the gorilla to feed your family? Or do you spare its life, and let your family go hungry?

This scenario is not unknown in the Central African Republic. Admittedly, the example overlooks many complex issues. But as a snapshot, it captures the dilemma of balancing human needs with environmental needs.

Twenty years ago, attempts to resolve this dilemma were carried out under the banner of Integrated Conservation and Development (ICDP). At the time, considerable faith was placed in ICD and its potential to enhance both the riches of the forest and the wealth of the people.

Today, ICD approaches have lost much of their status as a panacea.

So, is environmentally sustainable economic development an oxymoron? Are conservation and development mutually exclusive?

Nowhere are these questions more vexing than in landscapes where an excess of human poverty and a wealth of biodiversity exist side-by-side.

It is in this context where complex and challenging trade-offs occur between the environmental well-being and human well-being.

According to CIFOR's Cameroon-based researcher, Marieke Sandker, to ensure ICD projects reach their dual objectives, these trade-offs must be well known and quantified.

Says Sandker, "I think we've all seen how economic development can trample over the environment. But there are also many examples of conservation efforts ignoring people's food security." Sandker says conservation and development are not always mutually exclusive, as seen in environmental service payments and ecotourism.

Creating a strategy that benefits both forests and people requires a good understanding of how the many aspects of conservation and development interact with each other.

An eye for the options

Finding the right balance requires a clear picture of the conservation and development options available. To assist with this CIFOR has developed a visioning tool (see box below).

By using CIFOR's visioning tool, people can share their view of the landscape's future. They can test different land-use strategies and find possible options for balancing conservation and development, Sandker says.

CIFOR has made good use of its visioning tool in Tri National de la Sangha, on the borders of Cameroon, the Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic. The border zone's rich biodiversity is home to some of the world's most exotic animals, including elephants, gorillas and chimpanzee. At the same time, 80% of households in the region earn less than \$1 a day. Significantly, 20% of this comes from hunting.

Using CIFOR's visioning tool, local forestry representatives worked with CIFOR to build a model that explored how various natural resource management strategies affected the local elephant population and average household income in Tri National de la Sangha. The visioning exercise indicated that elephants and households would most benefit from improved governance than from focusing on anti-poaching measures.

For example, local communities are meant to receive 50% of the taxes paid by logging and safari companies to extract forest resources and hunt animals. But this money gets smaller and smaller as it moves down the bureaucratic chain towards the communities, where whatever remains is invested in development projects.

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A balanced view

CIFOR's visioning tool simulates the relationships between various elements within a landscape, such as the statistical relationship between changes in household income and changes in the number of animals hunted. The model can then be used to predict future scenarios by adjusting the data to reflect different development or conservation interventions, such as how a hunting ban might affect household income. Selecting and simulating certain interventions by plotting them on a graph helps stakeholders see the conservation-development trade-off. This kind of information is very useful in planning future land. CIFOR's visioning tool is now being tested in Vietnam, Indonesia, Ghana, Ethiopia and South Africa.

Landscape Mosaics project launched

Eighteen months after ICRAF and CIFOR agreed at a workshop in Bogor in March 2006 to establish a 'biodiversity platform', the initiative is now beginning to make true its promise of building research partnerships around the world.

A major step forward in the platform's work arrived with the news in May 2007 of almost \$800,000 support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. SDC has engaged the two centers to undertake a three year livelihood and biodiversity project covering five countries.

Known as "Integrating Livelihoods and Multiple Biodiversity Values in Landscape Mosaics", the project's first activity was a workshop in Nairobi last June. The event attracted a number of leading scientists and was a positive omen for the project's future success.

A major output from Nairobi was the outline of a work approach capable of reflecting local conditions while also allowing for comparisons between different research sites. At each of these sites, CIFOR and ICRAF will partner other institutions already working in the region. The project will use its findings to advise and assist land use planning so that it benefits local communities and leads to improved biodiversity conservation.

An important feature of the project's research is its collection and analysis of data from Asia and Africa. In Madagascar, where CIFOR will take the lead, the project will work with the new Koloala Manompana project, an initiative coordinated by the Association for Intercooperation in Madagascar (AIM) with assistance from InterCooperation in Switzerland. In Koloala Manompana, AIM will use CIFOR's highly regarded adaptive collaborative management approach to help ensure a smooth transfer of forest management responsibilities to communities.

Complementing this focus on community forest

"Integrating Livelihoods and Multiple Biodiversity Values in Landscape Mosaics" is coordinated by CIFOR's Jean-Laurent Pfund and ICRAF's Jean-Marc Boffa. Its four themes include:

- Landscape patterns and processes - Meine van Noordwijk, ICRAF
- Livelihoods - Patricia Shanley, CIFOR
- Incentives - Brent Swallow, ICRAF
- Governance - Carol J. Pierce Colfer, CIFOR

The project's five research sites are in Cameroon, Indonesia, Laos, Madagascar and Tanzania.

management is the CIFOR-ICRAF Landscape Mosaics project itself. The aim of this particular partnership is to examine local livelihood and governance issues from a landscape-level perspective. This will help in identifying effective and coherent incentives for sustainable forest management in the forest corridor between the two protected areas.

In Jambi, Indonesia, Landscape Mosaics will be under the direction of ICRAF. Here the project will consider potential biodiversity issues related to a government plan to convert one million hectares of forest land into oil palm plantation. Both CIFOR and ICRAF have extensive experience working in this area of Jambi. CIFOR has researched decentralization issues with community and district government partners. ICRAF has worked closely with local stakeholders in the region through its work on 'jungle rubber'. JLP, CC

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By using the visioning tool, officials can identify the kinds of support strategies each planning option may require. In the above example, these may include training people in more effective accountability and transparent management practices. Or they might include campaigns to increase people's understanding of how caring for local resources can lead to increased tax-generated income.

Neither Sandker nor CIFOR suggest visioning produces flawless predictions. All the precise science in the world can never predict with absolute certainty the future of a forest or rural landscape. Some variables defy prediction – an act of God, a global economic downturn, or a sudden change in the surrounding political environment. But CIFOR's visioning tool can work with many of the known variables and help land planners make decisions more likely to benefit both forests and people. JR, MS

Continued from front page

measures employed against illegal logging are a case in point. According to Seymour, "Crackdowns on illegal logging tend to focus on the little guy with the chain-saw, not the big guy with the swollen bank account."

It is therefore imperative that the tough decisions required to reduce deforestation and tackle climate change reflect the consensus view of all relevant stakeholders. But as Seymour acknowledges, achieving consensus and implementing far-reaching policies are not easy.

"We have the tools and knowledge to put the brakes on forest loss, while still allowing people to enjoy the economic, social, and cultural benefits that forests provide," Seymour says, "But until there is the political will to address the difficult market and governance failures that drive forest loss, deforestation will continue."

Forests: The complete picture

Sustainable forest management is an ongoing cyclical process of planning, action, and monitoring. If we study that description word-for-word, it clearly suggests that monitoring comes last in the cycle. But according to CIFOR's Gen Takao, monitoring should come first.



Sustainable forest management (SFM) is almost always the product of good planning. And good planning is almost always the product of reliable data, intelligence, and sufficient detail about the current situation.

Remote sensing technology, with its use of satellite imagery and aerial photos to cover wide areas of landscape, is an extremely valuable tool in monitoring forest cover and providing external data.

But remote sensing has its limits, according to Takao, and cannot satisfy all SFM monitoring needs. As the Japanese scientist says, there is more to SFM than meets the eye. Or the camera.

"SFM is not only about trees. Nor is it only about

plants and animals, as important as they are. SFM is also about people and livelihoods, people and their community and their culture, and so much more," Takao says.

According to Takao, SFM also includes a range of issues that can never be 'caught on film'.

"Plants and animals and soil, and people and their activities, all need to be addressed by SFM. But such issues can't be very well monitored by remote sensing alone," Takao says, "Especially at the grass roots level or, to use SFM jargon, at the FMU level. That is, at the scale of the individual forest management unit."

It is this problem that Takao and his Japanese Government funded project are dealing with. Known as "Sustainable Utilization of Diverse Forest Environmental Benefits", the project is working towards providing maps relevant for SFM at the FMU level for researchers and foresters before they actually go into the forest.

An Indonesian colleague on the project, CIFOR's Hari Priyadi, says providing maps with FMU level detail will be achieved "by distilling the relevant information on forested landscapes from satellite images and other geographic data and combining it with the forest knowledge held by local people and by foresters."

Ultimately the project hopes to better understand how local and often traditional knowledge, and modern technologies such as remote sensing, can work together to enhance SFM. The project's aim is to determine whether:

- Satellite imagery interpreted by people familiar with the terrain can enhance our understanding of the forest landscape.
- Local knowledge combined with satellite images can help estimate certain values used in assessing SFM.
- Deforestation and degradation can be better quantified using local knowledge with satellite images.

The project is carried out at multiple sites representing different stages of forest exploitation, with the results synthesized to derive common conclusions. These sites include Gunung Halimun and Salak National Park in West Java, Malinau in East Kalimantan, and Muara Bungo in Sumatra. Each of these forests in Indonesia represents one of the following landscape descriptions:

- High population/low forest cover
- Low population/high forest cover
- Medium-population/quickly developed landscape.

Capacity building

The project also has a significant capacity building component. This includes producing a set of guidelines that will assist in satellite imagery becoming a standard tool in SFM, as well as activities that enhance the skills of foresters, district officials and local people in making optimal use of geographical information.

Project details:

Project name: Sustainable Utilization of Diverse Forest Environmental Benefits.

Timing: July 2006 – June 2009

Donor: Government of Japan

Partners: Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (FFPRI, Japan), Gunung Halimun Salak National Park, ICRAF, JICA National Park Management Project, PT Inhutani II, IPB, district governments and NGO's.

GT, HP, TT

Project assists Asia Forest Partnership

The Japanese project is already proving valuable forest stakeholders in the region, including the Asia Forest Partnership.

According to Dr. Takeshi Toma, Head of Partnership Promotion Office of FFPRI, Japan. "Gen and Hari's work at CIFOR helps provide AFP with a convincing way of recognizing local landscapes. Understandably, when people begin talking about issues like illegal logging, forest fires or land rehabilitation, their tendency is to rely on their own subjective perceptions or maps parachuted in from the remote sensing professionals. This undermines the value of the information in the eyes of the many and varied stakeholders who might be contributing to and assisting the same SFM project. Using maps from the same independent source is an important way of ensuring different stakeholders are undertaking activities from a common reference point and are aiming at the same quantifiable target."

While aerial views of forests can help monitor physical changes, they are less useful for understanding how important cultural and human values affect the landscape. Photo: Gen Takao

Best Brazil nut practice in Bolivia

Policy makers in Bolivia are becoming increasingly interested in supporting the livelihoods of the hundreds of local communities that effectively control two million hectares of the country's northern Amazon forests. For thousands of the families spread among these communities, the main source of livelihood income is the forest's rich source of Brazil nuts (*Bertholletia excelsa*). Across Bolivia, Brazil nuts comprise 45 percent of the country's forest-related exports and contribute more than \$70 million dollars to the national economy.

Planning the future of the Brazil nut industry in Bolivia requires policy makers to assess the sector's current management practices. CIFOR was able to assist with this assessment by helping to organize an experts' workshop in the northern town of Cobija. CIFOR organized the workshop in cooperation with Bolivia's Forestry Directorate and the Environment and Forest Management Program for the Bolivian Amazon (PROMAB). Together they developed a workshop that would help policy makers to evaluate best practices for Brazil nut management on community controlled lands.

Entitled "Exchanging Experience with Brazil Nut Management: Defining Strategies to Strengthen Extractivist Communities" the workshop brought together leading experts from a range of institutions. CIFOR was represented by Peter Cronkleton, Manuel Guariguata and Marco Antonio Albornoz.

The meeting's general objective was to strengthen extractivist communities in Bolivia by improving the management of Brazil nuts. It also allowed participants to exchange experiences and visions related to Brazil nut management and best management practices.

A feature of the workshop was the level of dialogue between communities, state institutions and NGOs, with representatives from community producer groups also presenting their perspective on Brazil nut management. Casildo Quispe of COINACAPA, a producer organization, said his community's management practices are more influenced by the market than policy. This is due mainly to COINACAPA's success in entering the Fair Trade and Organic markets, which place strict requirements on product quality and origin.

Manuel Lima of FSUTCP, the principal organization representing community producers, stressed the importance of Brazil nuts to member families. He expressed strong views about the government's new technical norms for Brazil nut management, suggesting they do not respond to the needs of the community based producer and place unfair demands on communities.

Also at the workshop was Jaime Villanueva, the Ministry's Director for Forestry Development. The Director updated participants on current processes that need reviewing to help improve Brazil nut and, more generally, NTFP management. These include disseminating information and getting feedback on new practices.

During the workshop participants discussed and identified relevant management strategies. An animated session involving more than 50 people produced a range of recommendations (see Policy recommendations).

A summary paper of the workshop is being sent to stakeholders to both generate feedback and foster further



Turi Rio Harvesting Brazil nuts. Photo: Jenifer Kleeb

discussion of the major issue. The government is showing its support by organizing meetings among producer groups and other private and public sector stakeholders. The government is sending a very strong signal that it is right behind the Brazil nut industry and its role as an important national resource. PC, MG

Bolivia's forest-related exports

Brazil nuts	45%
Wood products - manufactured	31%
Wood products - semi/unprocessed	19%

Policy recommendations

Issue: Property rights: titling on community lands has improved but conflicts over forests resources still undermine security.

Recommendation: Participatory mapping and a census of Brazil nut stock will give communities information for both better planning and conflict mediation.

Issue: Regeneration: Natural regeneration may eventually cause problems for the Brazil nut, but too little is known to suggest silvicultural actions.

Recommendation: Monitor the nut's natural regeneration in community forests and document customary practices that promote regeneration.

Issue: Timber and agriculture integration: Communities make mixed uses of their forests and this requires special planning considerations.

Recommendation: Include mixed-use extraction in community management plans and address the related problems and local norms for regulating them.

Issue: Conversion of nut rich forests: foreseeable threats to Brazil nut stands will remain fire and deforestation from landclearing for agricultural purposes.

Recommendation: Use stricter regulations to control conversion and fire.

CIFOR launches CFM database



CIFOR recently launched an electronic database that gathers bibliographic information about community forest management (CFM) in tropical Latin America.

Available in Spanish, the database provides 428 records of books, articles, laws and other documents that address a range of CFM experiences, concepts and outcomes. CIFOR

believes the tool will help foresters conduct or support CFM as well as provide very useful information for people dealing with forestry issues.

The database is a major component in a book to be published later this year that brings together a large volume of current CFM knowledge. Author of the book Cesar Sabogal, has pursued the project with passion, ever since he became aware of the lack of available CFM source material.

Some CFM experiences in Latin America are decades old and have generated many lessons. However, little effort has been made to gather and categorize these experiences in a way that allows critical reflection about

CFM's positive and negative aspects. The book will fill an important gap in forestry knowledge that has hindered CFM's development in neighboring countries.

Most of the information available in the database refers to countries of the low tropics, such as Bolivia, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Guatemala and Costa Rica.

The database was developed in Microsoft Access and Visual Basic, offering users the possibility of updating, adding or removing new records. Each database entry includes the publication or document's bibliographic details, abstract, conclusions, lessons learned and the publisher's contact details. The database can be searched using key words or according to sub-regions, tools, concepts, capacity building, species, products and land use.

To produce the database, CIFOR collaborated with and received support from the Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) and the Amazon Institute of People and the Environment (Imazon).

Both institutions helped CIFOR to identify and gather publications and documents regarding the Brazilian Amazon and countries of the Andes-Amazônia sub-region. CS, RS

The CFM database can be downloaded at www.cifor.cgiar.org/Publications

FOREST DAY at UNFCCC COP 13 Shaping the global agenda for forests and climate change

Ayodya Nusa Dua, Bali, 8 December 2007

Forests are now at the very center of the climate change debate and are set to feature highly at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP 13.

CIFOR and fellow members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) present Forest Day.

An entire day has been dedicated to forests for the first time ever in parallel with the COP. Bringing together the world's pre-eminent forest organizations, Forest Day will address the key forest and climate issues of our time:

- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in Developing Countries (REDD) and mitigation in developing countries
- Equity, livelihoods, biodiversity
- Pilot projects, base-line data, methodologies, monitoring
- Rights, compliance, laws, enforcement
- Equity in forest investment and financing
- Links with other environmental service payments
- Forests, mitigation, adaptation

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www.cifor.cgiar.org/Events/COP-ForestDay/Introduction.htm



Human health and forests



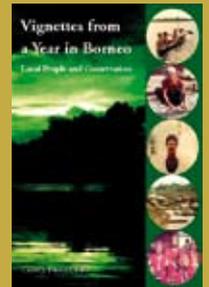
Dental problems are common in forested areas – a man from Bengkulu, Sumatra, Indonesia. Photo: Carol J.P. Colfer

Vignettes from a year in Borneo: Local people and conservation

Carol J. Pierce Colfer

ISBN: 978-1-4116-7759-3 Publisher: Lulu.com

Vignettes comes from CIFOR Senior Scientist, Carol J. Pierce Colfer, who has published numerous books on social, health, and governance issues related to forests. On this occasion, Colfer writes about forests and people from a personal rather than scientific perspective. The book recounts the author's experience with her family in Indonesia's Danau Sentarum National Park. Colfer and her husband joined local communities in their efforts to manage an area of flooded forests



close by Lake Sentarum in central Borneo. The book introduces the unique environment and people living near the lake, as well as recounts the joys and frustrations the author felt when working with NGOs, consulting firms, government and local communities. All proceeds from the sale of the book go to Riak Bumi, an NGO in West Kalimantan whom Colfer and family have worked with for many years. The book can be downloaded or ordered in hard copy from www.lulu.com/content/226742

CIFOR researchers have for a long time suspected that strong links exist between human health and forests. Only in the past few years have we been able to address the issue directly.

CIFOR scientist, Carol Colfer

CIFOR's interest in forests and health dates back to the 1990s when 10 interdisciplinary teams began working on the criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management. Part of this work included looking at human well being. According to CIFOR scientist, Carol Colfer, "All the teams noted that the health conditions of local populations were rated as important in their criteria and indicators."

Wind the clock forward to late 2006 and Colfer and two CIFOR colleagues, Doug Sheil and Misa Kishi, publish *Forests and human health: Assessing the evidence*, a review of the literature related to human health and forests.*

In the less than 12 months since, the paper has generated extensive interest. According to Colfer, the interest "was particularly in response to its explicit linking of health issues to forests and suggesting that together they form a discreet, unique and important area of research."

Built on a survey of around 650 documents, the study addresses four key elements in the forest and health relationship: forests as sources of food, health problems in forests, forest medicines and medical systems, and the role of culture in linking health and forests.

The authors brought different areas of expertise to the research project. Colfer was the anthropologist, Sheil the ecologist, and Kishi the public health specialist and physician. Together they examined both the health of people in and around forests and the causal links between the two.

One significant conclusion from their joint research was the realization that information dealing with human health and forest can be found in a surprisingly large and richly diverse range of fields. Another was the variety of relationships, both positive and negative, between people and forests.

Forests are critical sources of food and medicines in many areas, and they provide environmental services that contribute to good health. But they also harbour viruses, microbes, vectors, and hosts that can be dangerous to people; and the wealth forests represent can create other hazards to human health. Violent conflicts are common in rich forests, while interactions with powerful outsiders can spell disaster for local cultural systems.

In response to another finding - the lack of interaction among the diverse range of scientists and practitioners,

(Continued on page 8)

Forest, climate change and health

Climate change will affect some people more than others. The following predicted scenarios may be especially relevant to people living in and around forests.

- Higher temperatures may make some forest areas more hospitable to tropical vectors such as dengue and malaria carrying mosquitoes.
- Climate change may see an increase in the transmission of disease from animals to humans by reducing the mediating role biodiversity plays.
- Extreme weather patterns and related events such as landslides and forest fires may increase in intensity and frequency.

Regent's vision in Malinau rewarded with major environmental prize

The regent for Malinau in East Kalimantan, Dr. Marthin Billa, has been awarded Indonesia's highest environmental prize in recognition of his efforts to establish Malinau as a conservation district.



Malinau Regent, Dr. Marthin Billa (2nd left), was awarded the Kalpataru prize for his efforts to make Malinau a conservation district. Accompanying Dr. Billa at the Presidential awards ceremony were CIFOR's Kresno Dwi Santosa (left), Mrs. Yuari Itun Billa, and Ir. Junus Poddala from Indonesia's Environmental Impact Agency (BAPEDALDA)

The Kalpataru environmental prize was presented by the President of Indonesia President, Soesilo Bambang Yudhoyono, in conjunction with World Environment Day, June 6. Each year the Government of Indonesia awards the Kalpataru to communities and individuals who show leadership in protecting and preserving the environment.

Malinau holds the largest area of Borneo's remaining prime forests and is home to the 302,000 hectare forest in north-east Kalimantan where CIFOR has pioneered a range of multidisciplinary research activities since 1996.

Dr. Billa said the award would be of little use if the environmental damage seen in other parts of the archipelago started happening in Malinau. He also acknowledged that his vision of Malinau remaining a conservation district would ultimately fail if people are unconvinced of its value.

"We have to be sure that as a conservation district, Malinau will benefit the community," Dr. Billa said, "Even if we do not experience the benefits ourselves, we must be sure future generations do."

Dr. Billa said receiving the award would not lead to complacency, as the honor of the conservation award put an onus on the Malinau Government to improve people's welfare and develop the community.

Conservation principles will be fundamental to Malinau's future. For example, now Malinau has firmly established its conservation credentials, it is hoped community welfare will eventually benefit from environmental service payment and carbon trading schemes.

Partnership with CIFOR

Ever since the district government declared Malinau a conservation regency in 2005, it has emphasized the role of partnerships and stakeholder participation in achieving its goals. Accordingly Dr. Billa and his government colleagues have worked with organizations such as WWF and Tropenbos. They have also supported CIFOR's efforts to train villagers in how to engage in multistakeholder land use and spatial planning processes.

It is possible that partnerships and cooperation will also play a crucial role in future Indonesian conservation efforts. Malinau district's ability to reduce deforestation demonstrates Indonesia is capable of making a significant contribution to international efforts to tackle climate change. With forests to be one of the key agenda items at the COP13 climate change discussions later this year in Bali, national governments and international agencies may well be looking to assist projects that can emulate Malinau's success. *YS, GC*

Further information: www.cifor.cgiar.org/Research/Livelihoods/MainActivities/mrf.htm or use CIFOR's publications' search engine: www.cifor.cgiar.org/publications

Continued from page 7

- CIFOR obtained funds from SwedBio to hold a series of workshops in Brazil, Cameroon, Ethiopia and Indonesia in 2007. The workshops allow people working in health and environmental issues to exchange ideas. A series of international seminars for policy makers is scheduled for 2008.

The book includes a series of synthetic analyses that address the role of medicinal plants, the nutritional role of forest foods, the dangers of wood smoke, population, gender and disease, the role of bats as hosts for several diseases, and deforestation and malaria.

It also covers regional themes such as HIV/AIDS in

southern Africa and the health impacts of land use change in Amazonia. The book closes by examining forests and health care delivery issues, such as integrating traditional medicine into public health systems.

Says Colfer, "CIFOR's foray into human health and forests has whet our appetites. It is not just the important forest-related health problems that interest us, as important as they are. We're also keen to encourage more research into the health benefits and potential cures forests hold. This really is a rich field of inquiry and one that in time may have a major impact on human welfare around the globe." *CJPC, GC*

Forests and climate workshop for media

A training workshop in Indonesia has helped journalists identify some of the key issues they face when reporting on climate change and forests. The CIFOR-WWF workshop was held in early May in Jakarta with the aim of enhancing the media's knowledge and reporting of the often complex issues surrounding climate change. It also presented scientists and communication specialists working on climate change issues with an opportunity to better understand the needs of journalists when producing stories about this often confusing topic.

The workshop attracted the interest of 30 Indonesian journalists from national and international media outlets. Its use of interactive training methods encouraged journalists to identify and discuss climate change issues they felt unsure about.

The workshop's participatory nature also ensured the issues discussed were both relevant and beneficial.

Workshop aims included:

- Increasing media awareness of key climate change issues ahead of December's UNFCCC COP 13.
- Enhancing media awareness of the inconsistencies between policies and efforts to combat climate change.
- Helping journalists to report clearly and accurately about forests and climate
- Drawing attention to climate change concepts such as adaptation, mitigation and deforestation

A highlight of the workshop was the number of issues journalists identified as central to their reporting. These included:

- Difficulties in getting up-to-date and accurate information
- Difficulties in finding suitable experts to comment on climate issues
- Different perceptions between editors and reporters regarding what is newsworthy
- Limited awareness that climate change is also a social and economic issue.

Participants at the event included representatives from CIFOR, IPB, WWF, Kompas and the Society of Indonesian Environmental Journalists. Dr. Dino Patti Djatal, spokesperson for President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, presented the closing address. GC



Journalists increased their understanding of global warming at a training workshop presented by CIFOR and WWF. Indonesia will be the focus of international media when it hosts the COP 13-UNFCCC meeting in December. Photo: Widya Prajanthi

2011 Year of Forests: proud achievement

The United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) officially launched the 2011 International Year of Forests at its Seventh Session in April. The launch followed a resolution initiated by Croatia and passed by UN General Assembly in December 2006.

In adopting the Croatian resolution the UN said dedicating 2011 to be the UN international Year of Forests would be a celebration of the importance forests play in everyday life.

Speaking at the UNFF7's April launch in New York, the Director of the UNFF Secretariat, Pekka Patosaari, said he hoped the occasion would serve as a platform for significant pledges in support of the year.

The international year is also likely to increase public awareness of forests' important ecological, economic and social functions.

CIFOR is proud the International Year of Forests is now fixed on the global agenda. Particularly pleased is Ms.

Angela Cropper, who was CIFOR's Chair of the Board of Trustees between 2003 and 2007.

Ms. Cropper first raised the possibility of CIFOR seeking UN support for an international forest year in discussions with CIFOR staff at the 2004 CGIAR Annual Meeting in Mexico.

Later, in 2005, Ms. Cropper officially proposed the idea to CIFOR's Management Group. CIFOR Director General at the time, David Kaimowitz, presented the proposal to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests at the UNFF meeting in the same year.

As Ms. Cropper has made very clear herself, CIFOR played a minor role in the overall process compared to the ensuing efforts by governments, organizations and individuals.

Collectively they took Ms. Cropper's idea and David Kaimowitz's modest suggestion to a fully-fledged initiative. And for that CIFOR is very grateful. GC

Does resettlement help or hinder conservation?

Do villages in forests threaten biodiversity? Can species survive only where there's a fence keeping them in and people out? CIFOR's Anne Marie Tiani and Chimere Diaw tackle these perennially debated issues in a study of Korup National Park in Cameroon.

National parks in Africa were not invented by local people. European colonizers created the myth of an African wilderness, inhabited only by animals, not by people. From this myth was born the notion of creating vast stretches of protected areas where man, child or woman were forbidden to settle.

Korup National Park in southwest Cameroon is a modern but classic example. The lands covered by the Park contain some of Africa's oldest rainforests. For the past five hundred years they have been the ancestral homelands for the thousand people still there today.

When the national park was set up in 1986 (with the assistance of western environmental groups) the park managers assumed the people living in Korup were hunters and gatherers.

They further assumed that hunting and gathering negatively impacted on the local biodiversity.

Using these assumptions to guide them, the park managers decided it would be in the best interests of local livelihoods and the surrounding flora and fauna to resettle the communities living in the park.

"The managers felt that to reduce pressure on the park's wildlife and to save the pristine wilderness the people would have to be re-located outside the park," explains CIFOR researcher, Anne Marie Tiani.

"Local people were told to give up their traditional lands and make way for a people-free park. In return, they were offered development support, such as housing and infrastructure."

Following protracted negotiations, one village, Ikundu-Kundu, was resettled outside the park in 1999.

Several years after the resettlement, CIFOR worked with the resettled village, as well as villages that remained in Korup. The aim was to determine how relocation impacts on both livelihoods and biodiversity.

According to CIFOR researcher, Chimere Diaw, there is no question certain aspects of life improved.

"The roads were better. People had better access to the urban market and their incomes increased. On the other hand, certain cultural values got lost. Many women complained of less access to fish, drinking water and non-timber forest products such as palm nuts," Diaw says.

"And the young people complained about the wildlife at the new site, saying they sometimes return to their old 'forest turf' in the national park to hunt and collect food."

The impact of resettlement on biodiversity conservation is similarly ambiguous.

"In the short run, some positive outcomes emerge," says Tiani. "Animals that like secondary forests can find a rich habitat in the abandoned area and poaching decreases. But in the long run, poaching may well increase

because the establishment of the national park and the resettlement weaken traditional control systems without putting in alternative measures, such as efficient, well-trained park officers."

According to Diaw, before resettlement, outsiders were required to seek permission from the local elders before entering the forest areas to carry out any hunting, fishing, gathering or farming activities. These elders also set a quota for how much bushmeat could be killed and carried away.

"But today," says Diaw, "Outsiders challenge the elders' authority. Areas that used to be managed through customary rules can become open to anyone with a gun or axe."

As intended by the architects of the relocation scheme, the displaced population of Ikundu-Kundu did do more agriculture and less hunting and gathering at their new site.

Diaw argues the money spent on resettling the village could have been wisely invested in supporting the village to develop sustainable farming on its former site.

"This would have improved livelihoods as equally as resettlement did and also have reduced the pressure on wildlife," Diaw says.

"There would have been a risk of forest degradation. But this was also a risk at the new site. In fact, in the new village, the resettled families and hired workers have transformed the primary forest into plantations and food crops. But if still at their original site, they'd have transformed fallows and secondary forests."

Tiani says dubious assumptions underpinned the relocation decision. "Managers at the time regarded human settlements in Korup as a threat to biodiversity because the people would be mainly hunters and gatherers. But scientific research tells us the majority of these people were and are farmers. Fish, not meat, is their primary source of animal protein. Game consumption is moderate."

Despite CIFOR's thorough research, this is a vast area of inquiry in need of much more data. Without this data it is impossible to clearly prove local communities constitute a threat to wildlife in Korup National Park, let alone assume this is true of all communities in all national parks. In fact, as Diaw and Tiani's research shows, biodiversity may be at a greater risk if resettlement weakens a forest area's traditional system of management and authority. CD, AMT, JR

CIFOR Staff News

Welcome:

Anna Christina Sinaga joins CIFOR HQ as a Research Officer for the Integrated Law Enforcement Approach Project within the Governance Programme. She has a Masters degree in Law from Utrecht University, the Netherlands.



Dr. Jean Christophe-Castella is based in Laos with the Forests & Livelihoods programme under secondment from the French Institute for Research & Development.

Dr. Kim Jong-Ho joins Environmental Services where he will focus on climate change. He holds a PhD from Michigan State University and is seconded to CIFOR from South Korea's Forest Research Institute.



Dr. Yves Laumonier arrives at CIFOR on secondment from CIFRAD (France). No newcomer to CIFOR, Yves will join Environmental Services' Biodiversity Platform at Bogor, HQ.

Fiona Paumgarten, an Associate Expert sponsored by the Netherlands Government is with the Livelihoods Programme in Zambia. She holds a Masters degree in Environmental Science from South Africa's Rhodes University.



Fitriani Mulyana moves from being an HR consultant to being Bogor's HR Assistant. She will continue her previous duties and also assist with the newly implemented HR4U.

Hiasinta V. Lestari joins CIFOR HQ as an Accountant with Finance Services, having previously worked with ICRAF. "Sinta" has an Economics degree from Yogyakarta's Atma Jaya University, Indonesia.



Josseline Zan is CIFOR's new secretary for the West Africa Regional Office in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. She has done temporary work before at CIFOR.

Lígia Sauaya Pereira joins CIFOR's Latin America Regional Office as a Research Assistant. Lígia holds a MSc. in Forestry and Environmental Science from Freiburg University, Germany.



Menell Sarre Colince is CIFOR's Information Technology Administrator in Yaoundé. He brings with him considerable IT experience and holds a degree in Electrical & Industrial Computing Engineering.

Nathalie van Vliet joins CIFOR as a Netherlands supported Associate Expert and works with Environmental Services in Cameroon. She is doing a PhD in Geography with Université de Toulouse le Mirail, France.



Pamela Enoh is the new Finance Assistant in Cameroon. Pamela has helped CIFOR in the past and holds a Management degree from Cameroon's University of Buea.

Suci Eka Ningsih is the recently appointed accountant for HQ's Finance Services Unit. "Uci", a former CIFOR intern, has an Accounting degree from YAI Persada Indonesia University.



Sylvia Kartika, long time staff member, is now CIFOR's Financial Accountant. Sylvia underwent the same recruitment process as external candidates. Sylvia has an Accounting degree, Trisakti University, Indonesia.

Dr. Teguh Rahardja joins CIFOR from Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry. Teguh will play a key role in the CIFOR-Hosted Secretariat for the Asia Forest Partnership. He holds a Ph.D. in Forestry from New Zealand's University of Canterbury and a Masters degree in Resource Management from the University of Edinburgh, U.K.



Moving on:

Dr. Yoo Byoung III has completed his 3-year secondment with the Forests and Governance Programme in Bogor and is now back with South Korea's Forest Research Institute.

Iwan Kurniawan has finished his engagement as a GIS Analyst/Research Assistant with the Forests and Livelihoods Programme, following 5 years of service.

Carlos Cunha has resigned from CIFOR after more seven years as an Office Assistant with the Latin America Regional Office, Belem, Brazil.

Yuni Soeripto retired from CIFOR HQ after more than 13 years as the center's Information Officer and Librarian within Information Services.

Yunety Tarigan completed her assignment with CIFOR after 2 years of service as a secretary. She is now with the UN office in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Dr. Enrique Ibarra has completed his four year assignment as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow with Environmental Services.



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n.sabarniati@cgiar.org**Dr. Ousseynou Ndoye** has farewelled CIFOR after more than 11 years service as a senior scientist in Central Africa. He is now FAO's Regional Coordinator, Cameroon.**Norman Macdonald** has resigned after 13 years as Deputy Director General. Norm is now Management Services Director with the International Rice Research Institute, Philippines.**Dr. Crispen Marunda** farewells CIFOR following four years service as a Regional Scientist and Acting Coordinator with CIFOR's Regional Office in Zimbabwe.**Dr. Brian Belcher** is now the Director for the Centre for Non-Timber Resources at Royal Roads University, in British Columbia, Canada. Brian worked with CIFOR's Livelihoods programme for 10 years.**Meling Situmorang** resigned from CIFOR HQ after three years working in Computer Systems Support. He is now at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta.**Jennifer Crocker** farewells CIFOR after nine years as HR manager. Jennifer is now the Human Resources Director with TeckCominco in Vancouver, Canada.

CIFOR wishes all of them every success.

CIFOR expresses its deep sorrow at the passing in March this year of **Augustine Ouedraogo**, a secretary at CIFOR's office in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. May her soul rest in peace.**Contributors:**

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