

September 2003 - Resources for Ecoagriculture

Dear Ecoagriculture Partners,

Partners have drawn our attention to a number of new resources and activities relevant to ecoagriculture (details below):

- 1) Publication: DFID Poverty Surveys and Mapping
- 2) Call for Papers: Special Issue on "Millennium Assessment" of Conservation Ecology (Local Environmental Knowledge)
- 3) New Tool: Toolbox for Decision-Making on Ecosystem Services
- 4) Call for Papers: Sourcebook on Participatory Research & Development
- 5) New Tool: Biodiversity Analysis Package
- 6) New Book: Contested Nature: Promoting International Biodiversity with Social Justice in the Twenty-first Century

Links to these resources will soon be posted on our new website:

[www.ecoagriculturepartners.org](http://www.ecoagriculturepartners.org)

Please send your suggestions about Resources of interest to Ecoagriculture Partners to: Claire Rhodes (e-mail: [crhodes@stakeholderforum.org](mailto:crhodes@stakeholderforum.org)).

### **1) DFID Poverty Surveys and Mapping**

The DFID Forestry Research Programme (FRP) is working with country partners towards the eradication of poverty of forest and tree dependent poor people. In order for FRP to arrive at a manageable number of priority issues to address through research projects, surveys of cause-and-effect-linkages of poverty were initiated in 1999. The latest survey, in Nepal, has just been concluded and a report published. The initial objective of the surveys was to map the causes of poverty, as perceived by the stakeholders, including the poor themselves, researchers, government officials, NGO staff and so on. The results of these poverty maps were clear indications of which factors contributed to poverty, and highlighted areas for possible intervention. FRP could use the maps to identify hotspots for research that would address issues that otherwise would lead to future serious problems. For the first time in Nepal, our surveys allow the poor themselves to voice their views and their suggestions for remedy. Our surveys provide documented evidence for causes of poverty, and they highlight areas where interventions are more likely to be successful, and those where interventions are probably going to be unsuccessful because the issues are so intricately linked with other issues that tackling one alone, by itself, will not help.

Electronic or printed copies of the report can be requested from Krishna Paudel at Forest Action in Nepal ([forestaction@wlink.com.np](mailto:forestaction@wlink.com.np)) or Hannah Jaenicke at DFID's Forestry Research Programme ([h.jaenicke@nrint.co.uk](mailto:h.jaenicke@nrint.co.uk)). For further information about the Forestry Research Programme, please visit our website at [www.frp.uk.com](http://www.frp.uk.com)

### **2) Call for Papers: Special 'Millennium Assessment' Issue of Conservation Ecology (Local Environmental Knowledge)**

At the Stockholm MA meeting in July 2003, the working group for community-level assessments agreed that a special Millennium Assessment issue of Conservation Ecology ([www.consecol.org](http://www.consecol.org)) would make an important contribution to enhancing the contribution of community assessments to the MA. This opportunity exists because most of the MA's outputs would be unrefereed (in the formal sense) and any refereed publications would be well received in the final MA synthesis. Key themes will be:

1. "Passive spectators or adaptive actors? Local people's responses and adaptations to disturbance and change in ecosystem services"

2. "Learning from the locals: the contribution of local knowledge to ecosystem management policies and practices"

Special issue editors: Jane Mogina & Christo Fabricius

Special issue duration: August 2003 February 2004.

Papers on these two themes are hereby invited. Manuscripts should be submitted on-line, following the instructions available on the Conservation Ecology web site. Manuscripts will be posted on the journal web site as they are completed.

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### **3) New Tool: Toolbox for Decision-Making on Ecosystem Services**

LEAD-FAO has developed the Toolbox for environmental services for decision making in research and technical assistance as part of the project "Integrated approaches for ecosystem management" supported by FONAM (National Environment Fund), World Bank; FAO and the Livestock, Environment and Development Initiative (LEAD). Its contents mainly information, diagnosis, base studies, planning, following and evaluation specifically for this project but which are able to be adapted to similar conditions.

<http://lead.virtualcentre.org/silvopastoral/default.htm>

### **4) Call for Papers: Sourcebook on Participatory Research and Development**

Paper contributions are being solicited for a proposed Sourcebook on Participatory Research and Development, featuring field-tested concepts and methods for enhancing local people's participation in research. The focus will be on developing-country experiences associated with managing natural resources to support agriculture and rural livelihoods. Copyright-free and highly illustrated, the sourcebook is primarily intended for fieldworkers seeking to learn and apply participatory approaches in their research activities. Development of the sourcebook is a collaborative effort by the Users' Perspectives With Agricultural Research and Development (UPWARD) Network and partners around the world. UPWARD is an Asia-wide network supporting participatory research and development for sustainable agricultural livelihood (see [www.eseap.cipotato.org/upward](http://www.eseap.cipotato.org/upward)), sponsored by the International Potato Center (CIP).

Contributions are encouraged not only from research and academic institutions but also from NGOs, extension agencies and community-based groups. For more details about the sourcebook and guidelines for contributors, please contact Ms. Hydee de Chavez, CIP-UPWARD, c/o IRRRI DAPO 7777 Metro Manila, Philippines (email [hydee@laguna.net](mailto:hydee@laguna.net)).

### **5) New Tool: Biodiversity Analysis Package**

The purpose of this package is to provide some tools for conducting biodiversity and ecological data analysis. The completely copyright-free CD contains free software, some introductions to the various types of analysis, examples of various types of analysis in the various packages and some manuals for conducting these analyses. In case that you have a study underway with objectives that include gaining an understanding of the distribution of biodiversity in a landscape, then this could be an interesting case-study to add onto the manual and I could provide some assistance with the analysis - just signal me if you would be interested in this.

Freely available at [http://intranet/icraf\\_web/sites/RSU/resources/biodiversity/index.html](http://intranet/icraf_web/sites/RSU/resources/biodiversity/index.html).

For those among you who have no access to the Intranet I could send a CD to your office. The CD is completely copyright-free, so you can produce as many copies as wanted - feel free to distribute the CD to anybody. But it would be nice if you could let me know to whom you are distributing copies.

Roeland Kindt, dr. ir., [R.Kindt@CGIAR.org](mailto:R.Kindt@CGIAR.org)

World Agroforestry Centre

### **6) New Book: Contested Nature: Promoting International Biodiversity with Social Justice in the Twenty-first Century**

<http://www.sunypress.edu/details.asp?id=60782>

How can the international conservation movement protect biological diversity, while at the same time safeguarding the rights and fulfilling the needs of people, particularly the poor? *Contested Nature* argues that to be successful in the long-term, social justice and biological conservation must go hand in hand. The protection of nature is a complex social enterprise, and much more a process of politics, and of human organization, than ecology. Although this political complexity is recognized by practitioners, it rarely enters into the problem analyses that inform conservation policy. Structured around conceptual chapters and supporting case studies that examine the politics of conservation in specific contexts, the book shows that pursuing social justice enhances biodiversity conservation rather than diminishing it, and that the fate of local peoples and that of conservation are completely intertwined.

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