



Environmental Peacebuilding Update

Issue 29: 17 Feb 2015

Announcements

Call for Papers: Humanitarian Evidence Programme (Deadline: 2015-3-4)

13 February 2015 | Oxfam GB and the Feinstein International Center at Tufts University

The Humanitarian Evidence Program has launched a Call for Proposals to synthesize evidence on the topics of (1) acute malnutrition, (2) market support interventions, and (3) shelter and settlement strategies in humanitarian emergencies. The program is a partnership between Oxfam GB and the Feinstein International Center at Tufts University, funded by... [Read More](#)

Call for Papers: Human Migration and the Environment: Futures, Policies, Invention (Deadline: 2015-3-27)

4 January 2015 | Durham University, UK

Human migration and the environment are two of the most pressing issues of our times. But what is stake when these two phenomena are articulated as a singular relation? By asking this and many other questions, this conference provides a multidisciplinary forum for scholars, policymakers, practitioners and artists to chart... [Read More](#)

Events

Natural Resources and Conflict: A Guide for Mediation Practitioners

19 February 2015 | DPA and UNEP, New York, New York

Launch of the Department of of Political Affairs (DPA) and the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) joint guide on Natural Resources Conflict: A Guide to Practitioners offers practical advice, drawing from decades of experience, on the mediation of natural resource conflicts. [Read More](#)

Environmental Peacebuilding – Approaching the Nexus: Climate Change, Adaptation/Mitigation and Peacebuilding

19 February 2015 | The International Studies Association, New Orleans, LA

Environmental issues in post-conflict societies have received greater attention recently, as development and climate researchers increasingly focus not only on addressing the underlying causes of conflict, but also on laying the foundation for a sustainable peace. [Read More](#)

GATHER+962

26 February 2015 – 1 March 2015 | Seeds of Peace, Dead Sea, Jordan

The GATHER+962 meeting in Jordan will cover environmental peacebuilding, resource management, conflict and cooperation, among other themes. The event brings together emerging leaders in the fields of women's empowerment, media & technology, and social & business entrepreneurship who want to bring about progress in the Middle East, South Asia, and... [Read More](#)

Course: Competing Claims on Natural Resources

2 March 2015 – 13 March 2015 | Wageningen UR Centre for Development, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Competition over land and natural resources is increasingly overstressing the multi-functionality of landscapes, whether it is at local or at global level. With the ambition as enshrined in numerous international conventions and national policies alike to reconcile agricultural development and the wise use of our natural resources, this places enormous... [Read More](#)

Course: Conflict, Collaboration and Consensus in Natural Resources (CCNR)

2 March 2015 – 3 March 2015 | Michigan State University Extension, Tustin, MI

Do you work with natural resource-based groups or individuals who often find themselves in conflict situations? Michigan State University Extension offers an intensive program designed to help you gain confidence and competence in helping groups and communities productively address contentious natural resource issues. [Read More](#)

EICC Outreach Meeting and CFSI Meeting on EU Conflict Minerals Legislation

16 March 2015 – 17 March 2015 | Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition, Brussels, Belgium

This year EICC passed a new Code of Conduct, our first code edits since 2011. The new EICC code has over 40 changes – expanding worker protections and outlining new facility responsibilities for health and safety and environmental sustainability. [Read More](#)

Library

In the last two weeks, 62 new publications were added to our [online library](#) of materials on environmental peacebuilding. Here is a sampling of the new additions:

Political Memories of Conflict, Economic Land Concessions, and Political Landscapes in the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Ian G. Baird (Geoforum, 2014)

Political memories—which are crucial for establishing and maintaining ‘political capital’, based on individual and group positioning during past conflict and wars, but also in relation to presentday politics—are important when considering varied outcomes from negotiations and other interactions that occur in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic in relation to large-scale... [Read More](#)

Natural Resources and Conflict: A Guide for Mediation Practitioners

Policy and Mediation division of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs and the Environmental Cooperation for Peacebuilding Initiative of the United Nations Environmental Program (United Nations Department of Political Affairs, 2015)

This report bridges the gap between the technical and political aspects by providing a much needed conflict resolution framework for disputes that center on natural resources. [Read More](#)

Disaster Risk Management Overview–Afghanistan

Asian Development Bank (Asian Development Bank, 2014)

This document provides an overview of the (i) disaster risk situation in Afghanistan, including the recent experience in dealing with the 2014 floods; (ii) the legal and institutional framework for disaster risk management (DRM), including a proactive approach to reduce potential adverse impact of all natural hazards; and (iii) the... [Read More](#)

Championing Integrity in the Democratic Republic of Congo's Extractive Industries: An Experience from Katanga Province

Integrity Action (Integrity Action and the World Bank Group, 2014)

This case study profiles the work of Integrity Action partner organisation Commission Diocésaine de Justice et Paix (CDJP) and the quest of Father David Lukaha, CDJP's Coordinator, to promote integrity in the extractives sector in eastern DRC – and ultimately to realise better outcomes for his community. [Read More](#)

Industrial Oil Palm Development: Liberia's Path to Sustained Economic Development and Shared Prosperity? Lessons from the East

Matthias Rhein (The Rights and Resources Initiative, 2015)

The purpose of this paper is to contribute to Liberia's debate on economic policy, specifically, recent efforts around industrial-scale palm oil development against the context of the wider role of the rural sector in economic development. [Read More](#)

A Critical Analysis of Human Rights Due Diligence Processes in Mineral Supply Chains: Conflict Minerals in the DRC

Miho Taka (South African Institute of International Affairs, 2014)

This paper reviews recent developments in the human rights due diligence concept. In doing so, it highlights the challenges of developing and applying human rights due diligence processes in mineral supply chains in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the broader Great Lakes region. [Read More](#)

Afghanistan's Emerging Mining Oligarchy

Javed Noorani (US Institute of Peace, 2015)

Afghanistan has an abundance and wide range of natural resources. In the north and south, for example, are several potential hydrocarbon sites. Ferrous and nonferrous metals and strategic minerals may give Afghanistan a particular advantage in attracting international investment. [Read More](#)

Against the Grain: The Cereal Trade in Darfur

Margie Buchanan-Smith, Abdul Jabar Abdulla Fadul, Abdul Rahman Tahir, Musa Adam Ismail, Nadia Ibrahim Ahmed, Zakaria Yagoub Kaja, and Susanne Jaspars (Feinstein International Center, 2014)

This report is the third in a series of in-depth studies researching and analyzing the impact of conflict and associated factors on trade in Darfur's main agricultural and livestock commodities. This third study explores both the impact of a decade of conflict and the impact of a decade of food... [Read More](#)

Mindanao Natural Resources, Protectors under Siege

Marya Salamat (Bulatlat.com, 2014)

Kalikasan People's Network for the Environment (Kalikasan PNE) warned that the largely undocumented biodiversity in Pantaron Range might disappear, along with the indigenous knowledge of the Talaingod Manobos who have protected the forests of the mountain range over the past decades, if they continue to be driven out of their... [Read More](#)

Jobs

In the last two weeks, 10 new jobs were added to our online listing of job postings. Please visit our [jobs page](#) to view these positions and other job opportunities.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Country Director (Deadline: 2015-02-18)
12 February 2015 | World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

The WWF Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) programme has a large portfolio of field programmes in different landscapes, including Salonga, Lac Tumba, Virunga, Itombwe and Bas Congo, as well as different thematic programmes on sustainable forest management, climate, Protected Areas network assessment, and extractive industries. [Read More](#)

Sudan (Darfur) : Monitoring and Evaluation Analyst (Deadline: 2015-02-22)

13 February 2015 | UNEP

UNEP's projects in Darfur aim to show how improving effective and inclusive natural resource management can support sustainable recovery from natural and man-made disasters, strengthen livelihoods, and contribute to peaceful relationships over natural resources. [Read More](#)

Central African Republic: Food Security Project Manager (Deadline: 2015-02-23)

17 February 2015 | Tearfund

Tearfund is looking for an experienced Project Manager to manage the Food Security sector of our post conflict rehabilitation projects in the Central African Republic. Tearfund is implementing a number of donor funded projects in the WASH and Food Security sectors. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Field Officer for Improvement of Hygienic Environment (Deadline: 2015-02-23)

17 February 2015 | Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development
NICCO is currently implementing a project for the improvement of hygienic environment and the provision of primary healthcare in the border areas in the Kayin State through the capacity building of local persons and communities. In addition to the ongoing project components such as training of health volunteers and construction... [Read More](#)

Cambodia: Project Coordinator (Deadline: 2015-02-27)

17 February 2015 | WWF - Cambodia

WWF-Cambodia is looking for a qualified Project Coordinator, Supporting Forests and Biodiversity Project (SFB), who will oversee the management and coordination of all SFB related project activities and expenditures to ensure successful delivery on WWF's commitments as reflected in the project agreement, operational plan, and budget. [Read More](#)

Yemen: International Consultant – Integrated Water Resources Management Specialist (Deadline: 2015-02-28)

17 February 2015 | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Under the general supervision of the FAO Representative in Yemen and the direct supervision of the Chief Technical Advisor of the project, and in close consultation with Technical Officers from the Land and Water Division (NRL) and the Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa (RNE), the incumbent... [Read More](#)

Yemen: Irrigation Specialist (Deadline: 2015-02-28)

17 February 2015 | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Under the general supervision of the FAO Representative in Yemen and the direct supervision of the Chief Technical Adviser of the project, and in close consultation with Technical Officers from the Land and Water Division (NRL) and the Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa (RNE), the incumbent... [Read More](#)

Nepal: Gender and Natural Resource Management Specialist (Deadline: 2015-03-02)

17 February 2015 | International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

ICIMOD is looking for a gender expert with substantive conceptual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of gender issues in natural resource management, climate change, and social systems; who is capable of providing technical expertise integrating social and gender dimensions, perspectives and approaches into ICIMOD's regional programmes, initiatives and thematic areas;... [Read More](#)

South Sudan: Country Director (Deadline: 2015-03-05)

17 February 2015 | Plan Limited

Plan South Sudan has been responding to the current humanitarian crisis since December 2013, supporting IDPs and vulnerable host communities through its integrated interventions in the areas of Food Assistance, Nutrition, Water, sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE), Education in Emergencies (EiE) and non-food items (NFIs). [Read More](#)

International News

South Sudan: S. Sudan Halts Parliamentary Activities over Lack of Funds

17 February 2015 | Sudan Vision

JUBA – South Sudan's parliamentary speaker has admitted that almost all parliamentary activities have been halted due to a lack of funds. In an exclusive interview with Sudan Tribune on Sunday Magok Rundial said the current crisis in the country had caused a major deficit in the national budget, with parliament... [Read More](#)

Bangladesh: Iftekharuzzaman: State Patronising Festival of Land Grabbing in CHT

17 February 2015 | Abid Azad, Dhaka Tribune

The state has been patronising a grand festival of land grabbing in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, said International Chittagong Hill Tracts Commission (CHTC) member Dr Iftekharuzzaman yesterday. [Read More](#)

Timor-Leste: As Xanana Gusmao Departs, Timor Must Prepare for When the Oil Runs Dry

13 February 2015 | Tom Allard, Sydney Morning Herald

In the annals of East Timor's extraordinary emergence as a nation state after 500 years of foreign domination, no figure has loomed as large as Xanana Gusmao. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: EITI Board Members Rap Govt over Mine Death

13 February 2015 | Thomas Kean, Myanmar Times

Civil society members of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative's International Board have slammed the government over the death of a protester at the Letpadaung copper mine in December, as well as subsequent charges filed against civil society leaders. [Read More](#)

Liberia: Danish Timber Giant Kicked Out of Forest Stewardship Council Certification Scheme for Trading Illegal Timber

12 February 2015 | Global Witness

Danish timber giant Dalhoff Larsen and Horneman (DLH) has been expelled from the world's leading timber certifier, the Forest Stewardship Council, following evidence presented by Global Witness that the company traded illegal timber linked to land grabbing in Liberia. [Read More](#)

Conflict Minerals: Apple Takes Initiative in Verifying Smelters for Approaching Conflict Minerals Reporting Deadline

11 February 2015 | 3BL Media

The world's second largest technology company, Apple, has acknowledged that the best way to ensure a conflict free supply chain is by having a process to verify the smelters in their supply chain as conflict-free. Last June, Apple, in a statement to Time Magazine, stated "Rather than simply funneling its... [Read More](#)

DRC: DRC Mining Industry Worried by Country's Stop to Mining Code Talks

10 February 2015 | Henry Lazenby, Mining Weekly

The mining industry operating within the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is concerned about last week's decision taken by the Mines Ministry to shun further talks regarding the country's proposed new mining code and to refer it instead to Parliament in its draft form. [Read More](#)

China/South China Sea: China Finds Sizable Natural Gas Field in South China Sea

10 February 2015 | Associated Press

China said its recent gas discovery in the politically volatile South China Sea could yield 100 billion cubic meters of natural gas, underlining Beijing's determination to extract resources from waters claimed by several nations. [Read More](#)

Sierra Leone: Blood Diamonds Prominent as Multi-Billion-Dollar Swiss Leaks Scandal Hits HSBC

9 February 2015 | Greg Klein, Resource Clips

HSBC's secret Swiss bank accounts facilitated billions of dollars in money laundering, tax evasion, fraud, arms trafficking and possibly terrorism, a team of investigative journalists reported February 8. Almost 2,000 of the account-holders are associated with the diamond industry. [Read More](#)

Blogs & Opinion

Iraq Has Lost Billions from Gas Flaring

15 February 2015 | Saadallah Al Fathi

Last week I discussed the announcement of the Iraq-Shell petrochemical project in Basra and estimated to cost \$11 billion (Dh40.3 billion). I surmised that the feed for the project would be ethane, methane, LPG and natural gasoline, all products of gas processing and for which Iraq needs to increase capacity sharply. [Read More](#)

Towards an Integrated Approach to the Material Legacies of War: Landmines, Explosive Remnants of War and Environmental Contamination

12 February 2015 | Toxic Remnants of War

The world is infused with all kinds of risks - to our security, to our livelihoods, to our environment - that are interwoven in complex ways. But how does one know which specific problems to solve first? Or which risks deserve more attention or money? There is a common sense... [Read More](#)

Larry Koehrsen: Climate Security

9 February 2015 | Larry Koehrsen

Guns or solar panels. Tanks or wind turbines. Homeland security exploded into our consciousness on 9/11 and has defined much of who we are ever since. However, the world continues to change and the image of security could be dramatically different as we proceed deeper into the 21st century. [Read More](#)

Sustainable Hydropower Pitch for Burma Difficult to Swallow

8 February 2015 | International Rivers

Burma, or Myanmar, has recently become a lucrative destination for foreign investors,

ever since the election a couple of years ago. For the hydropower industry, the natural resource-rich country of Burma is among the last targets with high potential. [Read More](#)

How Resource Wealth Fuels War

6 February 2015 | Daniel Curwin

Natural resources can serve as an impetus for conflict or cooperation, prolong a bloody conflict and play an essential role in the postconflict process. The emergent field of environmental peacebuilding—which integrates natural-resource management in conflict prevention, mitigation, resolution and recovery to build resilience in communities affected by conflict—offers contemporary... [Read More](#)

Khartoum and Juba Oil Dance

4 February 2015 | Alsir Sidahmed

It is official. Juba wants to renegotiate oil-related agreements. Following the dramatic drop in world oil prices to its lowest level in more than five years, South Sudan Dar crude becomes the cheapest on earth. Two issues of the September 2012 agreements are affected by the current situation of the... [Read More](#)

About Our Community of Practice

[Environmental Peacebuilding](#) is a knowledge platform and global community of practice on natural resources, conflict, and peace, hosted by the Environmental Law Institute (ELI), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), McGill University, and the University of Tokyo. The platform unites a global network of researchers, practitioners, and decision makers in sharing experiences and lessons from managing natural resources in fragile states and conflict-affected settings. The platform also helps people to access new publications on the topic, conduct new research, and participate in events to support the growth of the field. As part of our Community of Practice, we bring you biweekly updates on recent developments, including news about our program as well as links to new publications, upcoming conferences and events, and job openings.

Please visit us at www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org for more information. Financial support for the platform has been provided by the Government of Finland, USAID, and the European Commission.

Sharing and Posting Materials

The strength of the knowledge platform depends on submissions and suggestions on contents from users. To share publications and information on events, job opportunities, and other announcements, please contact share@environmentalpeacebuilding.org. Please also feel free to share ideas on how the platform can be further improved to meet your needs.

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