



Announcements

Seeking Input on the Definition of "Environmental Peacebuilding"

31 March 2015 | Environmental Peacebuilding

For many years, we have brought together a wide range of researchers, practitioners, and decisionmakers working at the intersection of peacebuilding and natural resources and the environment. Over this time, our understanding of “environmental peacebuilding” has evolved. We are in the process of seeking to refine the term to take... [Read More](#)

Livelihoods, Natural Resources, and Post-Conflict Peacebuilding Book to Be Published on April 3

30 March 2015 | Helen Young and Lisa Goldman

In developing countries around the world, local natural resources – such as charcoal, wildlife, and fisheries – have strong microeconomic and cultural importance. So vital to traditional livelihoods, these resources are unfortunately not exempt from the brutal effects of conflict. [Read More](#)

Events

In the last two weeks, 10 events were added to our [online calendar of events](#) on environmental peacebuilding. Following are new additions:

Environmental Peacebuilding Working Group Meeting

7 April 2015 | EPWG, Washington, DC

The next periodic meeting of the Environmental Peacebuilding Working Group (for researchers and practitioners in the Washington, DC area) will be held on Tuesday, April 7th from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. For more information, contact bruch@eli.org. [Read More](#)

Water after Borders: Global Stakes, Local Politics

23 April 2015 – 24 April 2015 | Humanities Without Walls, the UIC Institute for the Humanities, and the UIC Institute for Environmental Science and Policy, Chicago, IL
The Great Lakes contain one of the world’s most significant shares of fresh water, a resource necessary to almost every human endeavor and one that is fast disappearing. Is the water in the Great Lakes a global resource? Should its use be restricted to the populations on its shores and... [Read More](#)

Responsible Extractives Summit – North America 2015

30 April 2015 – 1 May 2015 | Ethical Corporation, Houston, TX

The Responsible Extractives Summit 2015 is a two day event for sustainability professionals in Mining, Oil and Gas. The senior-level speakers and delegates offer unrivaled insight on how to use social performance to prevent non-technical risk and access resources. [Read More](#)

Land, Property, and Conflict

18 May 2015 – 21 May 2015 | USIP, the International Organization for Migration, The World Bank, and USAID, Washington, DC

Disputes and grievances over land and property are implicated in practically all conflicts. This course provides policymakers and practitioners with analytical tools for assessing and addressing an array of complex land and property disputes, from competing ownership claims and restitution to customary land rights and illegal urban settlements. [Read More](#)

Conflict Transformation across Borders

10 June 2015 – 30 June 2015 | University of Massachusetts, Boston, Ecuador

The Conflict Transformation Across Borders (CTAB) summer institute in Ecuador will facilitate discussion on sites of conflict among states and transnational actors over currency and trade, migration and refugees, environmental threats, and contested sovereignty to build institutional and social bases for coexistence and lasting peace. [Read More](#)

Workshop: Water Conflict Management and Transformation

14 June 2015 – 19 June 2015 | Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

How can we move debates about water resource issues beyond entrenched positions? What are some less confrontational approaches that bring conflicting interests and institutions together to craft workable solutions that build community rather than disrupt it? [Read More](#)

Workshop: Wicked Problems in Natural Resources: Negotiations, Decision Making and the Public

14 June 2015 – 19 June 2015 | Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Offering an advanced course in negotiations for the first time, instructors Gregg Walker will focus primarily on conflict assessment, negotiation, decision-making and public participation in environmental, natural resource and water conflict situations. Class topics include conflict and negotiation theory, assessment and design, environmental policy, collaboration and systems thinking. [Read More](#)

Conflict Minerals Reporting and Supply Chain Transparency Conference

23 June 2015 – 25 June 2015 | Marcus Evans, Chicago, IL

The 3rd Conflict Minerals Reporting and Supply Chain Transparency Conference will examine the SEC regulations that require all the U.S. public companies to disclose the specific minerals contained in their products, which makes supply chain due diligence a must. Discussions will tackle key issues including enhancing smelter data and verification... [Read More](#)

Second Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference

27 June 2015 | Kisii University, Kisii, Kenya

Particular topics of interest include: East and West in Energy, Water, Agriculture and Development, East and West, Urbanization and Rural Development, East and West, Peace, Conflict and Security issues, East and West and Exploitation of Resources in Africa, Environment, Climate Change and E-waste, Planning and management of natural resources, Corporate... [Read More](#)

Toxic Legacies – Agent Orange as a Challenge

28 June 2015 | Rachel Carson Center, Munich

Agent Orange, the most infamous of the defoliating herbicides used by the US military during the Vietnam War, offers a historical lesson and legacy. Various groups have struggled with the human and environmental damages caused by chemical exposure. [Read More](#)

Library

In the last two weeks, 23 new publications were added to our [online library](#) of materials on environmental peacebuilding. Here is a sampling of the new additions:

Afghanistan: Extreme Weather Regional Overview

OCHA (OCHA, 2015)

An estimated 5,464 families have been affected by floods, rain, heavy snow and avalanches in 104 districts in 21 provinces. A total of 212 people were killed and 69 people were injured. 999 houses were completely destroyed and 4,116 houses were damaged. [Read More](#)

Afghanistan: Current and Projected Acute Food Insecurity Situation

IPC (IPC, 2014)

The IPC Acute Food Insecurity Analysis Workshop (15–22 September) covered all 34 provinces of Afghanistan. Badakhshan is the only province classified in phase 4 (emergency) which is worst affected by acute food insecurity. 15 provinces are in Phase 3 (crisis), 17 in Phase 2 (stressed) and 1 in Phase 1 (minimal). [Read More](#)

How Conflict Minerals Funded a War That Killed Millions, and Why Tech Giants are Finally Cleaning Up Their Act

Nick Heath (TechRepublic UK, 2014)

The minerals from the DRC's mines have changed hands innumerable times on their journey to our PCs and phones. After being dug up in central Africa the minerals travel through a long and snaking chain of suppliers, travelling to Asia and elsewhere to be smelted into metals and then onto... [Read More](#)

Conflict Minerals Due Diligence Examined: Considerations for Compliance

Source Intelligence (3BL Media, 2015)

Based on SEC guidance, Source Intelligence has developed a five step process to help companies and their stakeholders comply with Dodd–Frank 1502–Conflict Minerals Rule. Each step of the process is summarized to help guide compliance on conflict minerals (3TG). [Read More](#)

Jobs

In the last two weeks, 7 new jobs were added to our online listing of job postings. Please visit our [jobs page](#) to view these positions and other job opportunities.

Washington, DC: Director of Policy

31 March 2015 | Enough Project and The Sentinel

The Director of Policy will work closely with the Enough Project's Founding Director to shape Enough's policy and research agenda, as well as Enough's strategies to effect change. This position will also work closely with the Founding Director and key staff to oversee and manage the policy and forensic investigative... [Read More](#)

Washington, DC: Associate Director, Sudans and Horn of Africa

31 March 2015 | Enough Project and The Sentinel

The Associate Director position requires deep policy knowledge of the region as well as experience in team leadership. The Associate Director will carry out and lead research and impact strategy on the conflict dynamics in the region and related U.S. [Read More](#)

Cambodia: WWF Conservation Programme Manager (Deadline: 2015-04-01)

29 March 2015 | World Wildlife Fund

WWF-Cambodia is looking for a qualified and energetic Conservation Programme Manager who is responsible for the implementation of the Country Conservation Programme and contributing to the Greater Mekong Programme Strategic Plan. He/she will have the chance to lead and provides measurable inputs to ensure the delivery of an challenging and interesting conservation strategy and... [Read More](#)

Lebanon: Technical Consultant for the Technical Study and Development of a Renewable Energy Grid Interconnection Code for Lebanon (Deadline: 2015-04-02)

31 March 2015 | UNDP

The interconnection of renewable energy power generation plants with the grid, especially those of large capacity, is not regulated in Lebanon, neither technically nor legally. The objective of the required work is to elaborate binding guidelines and requirements, i.e. [Read More](#)

Sierra Leone: SGP Programme Assistant (Deadline: 2015-04-08)

31 March 2015 | Global Environment Facility - Small Grants Programme

Effective day-to-day substantive, administrative and financial support to the national SGP team and the National Steering Committee to ensure the smooth operation and management of the GEF-SGP (Global Environment Facility - Small Grants Programme) programme portfolio, timely and efficient response to queries from different grantees and stakeholders, closely monitoring the... [Read More](#)

Myanmar: National Program Manager (Deadline: 2015-04-09)

31 March 2015 | UNDP

This UNDP project aims to address climate change risks on water resources and food security in the dry zone of Myanmar. It intends to reduce the risks and effects from the increasingly recurring incidents of drought through improved water management, as well as a crop and livestock adaptation programme in... [Read More](#)

United Kingdom: Executive Director (Deadline: 2015-04-16)

31 March 2015 | Global Witness

Global Witness is seeking a new Executive Director. The Executive Director has overall responsibility for the day-to-day management of Global Witness and is responsible for ensuring that the organisation achieves the objectives set out in its strategic plans and in line with its overall vision. [Read More](#)

International News

South Sudan/Sudan: Sudan and South Sudan to Exchange Electricity for Oil

29 March 2015 | Radio Tamazuj

South Sudan may supply Sudan with crude oil in exchange for imports of electricity, according to a tentative agreement signed Wednesday. [Read More](#)

Turkey: Reconciliation Process Helps Oil Operations in Northern Iraq

27 March 2015 | Daily Sabah

The reconciliation process is permitting Turkey to explore for oil in northern Iraq, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Taner Yıldız said yesterday. Turkey's reconciliation process is a government effort launched two years ago to bring an end to the decades-long conflict with the PKK. [Read More](#)

Middle East: War in the Middle East is Pushing Vital Water Plants 'Close to the Breaking Point'

25 March 2015 | Stephanie Nebehay, Reuters

Fighters are increasingly targeting water and sanitation facilities across the Middle East, exacerbating severe shortages for agriculture and households, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said on Wednesday. [Read More](#)

Iraq: Iraq's Oil Exports in February Below Planned, Depriving Nation of Funds to Fight Islamic State

25 March 2015 | Sinan Salaheddin, Associated Press

Iraq's oil exports for last month were below planned levels, the country's Oil Ministry said Wednesday, depriving the nation of badly needed funds for its battle against the Islamic state group. [Read More](#)

Conflict Minerals: U.S. SEC Spent \$2.75 Mln on Conflict Mineral Rules, White Says

24 March 2015 | Sarah N. Lynch, Reuters

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has spent about \$2.75 million to write, implement and defend itself against legal challenges to its "conflict mineral rules," SEC Chair Mary Jo White revealed this month. [Read More](#)

Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan: Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan Sign Agreement on Nile Dam

23 March 2015 | Khalid Abdelaziz, Reuters

Leaders from Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan signed a cooperation deal on Monday over a giant Ethiopian hydroelectric dam on a tributary of the river Nile, in a bid to ease tensions over regional water supplies. [Read More](#)

Libya: 'New Level of Complexity': Oil Wealth and Libya's Power Struggle

23 March 2015 | Al Bawaba

The battle for Libya's oil wealth has taken on new dimensions as rival governments lay claim to the National Oil Company (NOC), further deepening divisions in the volatile North African nation. [Read More](#)

China/South China Sea: China State Media Tells US to Stop 'Kibitzing' over South China Sea Dispute

21 March 2015 | Malay Mail Online

Chinese state media turned to Yiddish today in the war of words over territorial disputes, criticising the United States as a "kibitzer" for what it called meddling in the South China Sea issue. A commentary published in English by the official Xinhua news agency was headlined "America the Kibitzer" — which... [Read More](#)

Food Security: Report: Conflict, Climate Affect Food Security

19 March 2015 | Joe DeCapua, Voice of America

The International Food Policy Research Institute has released its Global Food Policy Report. IFPRI Director-General Shenggen Fan listed some of the accomplishments of last year. [Read More](#)

Blogs

The Civilian Health Risks from TNT in Syria's Barrel Bombs

27 March 2015 | Doug Weir

The TRWP was recently asked to help identify a substance associated with partially detonated barrel bombs in Syria. Syria's White Helmets, the volunteers who daily risk their lives in the aftermath of attacks, were understandably worried about the potential use of chemical agents by the Assad regime. [Read More](#)

Don't Torpedo The Dam, Full Speed Ahead For Ethiopia's Nile Project

26 March 2015 | Gregory Warner

The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam is under construction near Assosa, Ethiopia. When it's completed, the dam will be able to produce 6,000 megawatts of electricity, making it the biggest hydroelectric power station in Africa. [Read More](#)

From Food Security to Regional Security: How Community Resilience Can Prevent Conflict in Africa

26 March 2015 | Darius Mans

If we're going to prevent people from being susceptible to the false promises of extremism, then the international community has to offer something better... We will keep promoting development and growth that is broadly shared, so more people can provide for their families. [Read More](#)

WHO Finds That Glyphosate is Probably Carcinogenic – Implications for Plan Colombia

23 March 2015 | Doug Weir

On the 20th March 2015, the World Health Organisation's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified the world's most widely used herbicide Roundup as probably carcinogenic in humans. Roundup is widely used in US supported efforts to destroy poppy and coca fields in Colombia's long running internal conflict and the... [Read More](#)

Commentary: Oil's Perfect Storm

23 March 2015 | Jim Brooks

No commodity affects global economic landscape like oil, but there are some very important non-economic implications to the oil price swoon. With global oil prices down nearly 50 percent from the average that predominated for the first half of this decade, the macroeconomic implications have been on display – pain for... [Read More](#)

Environmental Peacebuilding: Conservation Agreements Reduce People-Park Conflict in Liberia

20 March 2015 | Eduard Niesten

This is the first blog in Human Nature's "Environmental Peacebuilding" series, which will chronicle CI's growing role in this emerging field of research. This post focuses on our case study in Liberia. [Read More](#)

Putin's Pipeline Predicament

20 March 2015 | Michael Haltzel, Antto Vihma, and Michael Mehling

As Russia and Ukraine approach yet another confrontation over natural gas, the recent demise of Putin's flagship South Stream pipeline casts doubt on his strategic acumen. In December 2014, Russian President Vladimir Putin surprised even Gazprom's close business partners by announcing that Russia would abandon the South Stream pipeline project. [Read More](#)

Remote Data Team Helped Put Haiti back on the Map

18 March 2015 | Alex Fischer

A piece from the Earth Institute Haiti Dialogue Series: Now in its third year, having hosted more than 20 sessions, the Haiti Dialogue Series hosts forums that bring together Earth Institute researchers and students and key figures of the Haitian diaspora including philanthropic foundations and Haitian policy experts, scholars and government officials... [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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