



Environmental Peacebuilding Update

Issue 4: 6 March 2014

Announcements

Social Media

5 March 2014 | ELI & UNEP

Environmental Peacebuilding invites you to engage with our growing Community of Practice via social media, including our [LinkedIn page](#), where we hope to foster a vibrant discussion on natural resources, conflict, and peacebuilding. We also invite you to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

Practicum on Experiential Peacebuilding

3 March 2014 | Outward Bound Peacebuilding

The Practicum on Experiential Peacebuilding (PEP) is a program that combines a unique outdoor experience with experiential learning techniques in a multi-cultural environment. During this ten day expedition, participants will spend time backpacking in Cotpaxi National Park with 10–12 strangers from around the world. [Read More](#)

Photo Competition: Transparency that Matters

27 February 2014 | Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

The EITI International Secretariat invites you to the photo competition “Transparency that matters” in March 2014. We want to see your photos showing how EITI and transparent management of natural resources looks like in your country. The competition is open to anyone, including stakeholders in national EITIs. [Read More](#)

Events

International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Special Symposium on Resettlement & Livelihoods

20 October 2014 | Kruger National Park, South Africa

It is our pleasure to share with you this First Announcement of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Special Symposium on Resettlement & Livelihoods, to be held 20–24 October 2014 in the Kruger National Park, South Africa. [Read More](#)

Conservation Conflict Transformation Capacity Building Workshop (Deadline: 5 April)

12 May 2014 | Washington, DC

Transform destructive conflict into a conflict opportunity for change. Make better, more collaborative and creative decisions that truly last. Improve your capacity as a leader and practitioner. Turn those obstacles to conservation into opportunities for success! Register today and don't forget about those scholarships -- but do it soon, as space... [Read More](#)

Geographies of Conflict: Mapping Overlaps Between Extractive Industries and Agricultural Land Uses in Ghana and Peru

27 March 2014 | Washington, DC

Oxfam America and Clark University's Graduate School of Geography invite you to the launch of a new report entitled Geographies of Conflict: Mapping Overlaps Between Extractive Industries and Agricultural Land Uses in Ghana and Peru. The report uses mapping technology to depict areas where land claimed by oil and mining... [Read More](#)

Book Launch: Water & Post-Conflict Peacebuilding

21 March 2014 | Environmental Law Institute, Washington, DC

The Environmental Law Institute, United Nations Environment Programme, University of Tokyo, McGill University, and Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment cordially invite you to the launch of "Water and Post-Conflict Peacebuilding," the fourth book in the series on strengthening post-conflict peacebuilding through natural resource management. The book is scheduled to... [Read More](#)

Bellagio Conference: Designing a Blueprint for Fragile State Spatial Data Needs

17 March 2014 | Bellagio Center, Italy

In March 2014, a group of 7+ country representatives, global thematic experts and spatial data experts will gather at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center with the purpose to advance practical ideas for extending the emerging revolution in data and information technology to countries where problems of low capacity, post-crisis chaos, conflict... [Read More](#)

Library Resources

Illicit Drugs and Peace Negotiations in Colombia: Challenges for the Government and the FARC

Mónica Serrano, Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre, 2014

This expert analysis critically assesses the political implications of the inclusion of the issue of illicit drugs in Colombia's peace negotiations. It considers the ways in which the parties have approached the drug problem and lays out some of the critical questions regarding drug policy options. [Read More](#)

Disclosing Government Payments

Ernst & Young, 2013

It is estimated that more than 3.5 billion people live in countries with extensive oil, natural gas and mineral resources. With good governance that fosters sustainable development free from corruption, these natural resources can add greatly to the quality of life for the people of such countries. [Read More](#)

Climate Change and Conflict in Africa and Latin America: Findings and Preliminary Lessons from Uganda, Ethiopia, and Peru

USAID, African and Latin American Resilience to Climate Change Project, 2013

Three preliminary country case studies were conducted with two main purposes: 1) to help fill the gap in knowledge regarding how climate-related vulnerabilities interact with the dynamics of fragility, instability, and conflict in specific selected locations around the world; and 2) to identify target areas and opportunities for USAID to... [Read More](#)

High-Value Natural Resources: Linking Wildlife Conservation to International Conflict, Insecurity, and Development Concerns

Leo R. Douglas and Kelvin Alie, Biological Conservation, 2014

The relationship between natural resources and conflict is well documented, except for wildlife. We discuss the role that wildlife can play in national and international security interests, including wildlife's role in financing the activities of belligerent groups and catalyzing social conflict. [Read More](#)

UN-HABITAT Syria Regional Crisis Response

UN Habitat, 2014

After more than two years of intense fighting, the conflict in Syria has claimed over 100,000 lives and has injured another 575,000. An estimated 6.5 million people are displaced within Syria, while an additional 2.2 million have fled to neighbouring countries. [Read More](#)

Community Based Problem Solving on Water Issues: Cross-Border "Priority Initiatives" of the Good Water Neighbors Project

EcoPeace and Friends of the Earth Middle East, 2013

This publication describes the 2013 efforts of the Good Water Neighbors project team to identify environmental challenges and provide feasible solutions for "Priority Initiatives" in the participating communities. [Read More](#)

Creating Jobs in Africa's Fragile States

Nora Dudwick and Radhika Srinivasan, with Jose Cuesta and Dorsati Madani, The World Bank, 2013

In no part of the world does the need to generate employment combine more urgently with the need for stability than in Sub-Saharan Africa, home to the world's largest cluster of fragile states. This fragility reflects a history of often brutal colonial rule that imposed foreign institutions on indigenous populations... [Read More](#)

Oil Sparks in the Amazon: Local Conflicts, Indigenous Populations, and Natural

Resources

Patricia I. Vásquez, University of Georgia Press, 2014

For decades, studies of oil-related conflicts have focused on the effects of natural resource mismanagement, resulting in great economic booms and busts or violence as rebels fight ruling governments over their regions' hydrocarbon resources. In *Oil Sparks in the Amazon*, Patricia I.

[Read More](#)

Mitigating Human Rights Impacts

Ethical Corporation, 2014

A briefing outlining principled corporate management and digging deep to rebuild trust as mechanisms for mitigating human rights impacts and provides guidelines for creating human rights policies. [Read More](#)

Pillage: Exploring the Link between Natural Resource Exploitation and Armed Conflict (Video)

American University Washington College of Law, 2014

Does the illegal exploitation of natural resources fuel and perpetuate conflicts? What are the relevant U.S. policies? Can international criminal law and voluntary initiatives prevent and mitigate damages? Join four expert panelists from leading organizations for an exploration of the law of pillage in international humanitarian law as it relates... [Read More](#)

Jobs

Political Affairs Officer – United Nations Mission in Liberia (Deadline: 17 March)

3 March 2014 | United Nations

The UN requires a Political Affairs Officer to assist in the development of strategic partnerships between the Mission and relevant government entities and civil society to enhance the promotion of good governance and transparency measures in natural resources management.

[Read More](#)

Peacebuilders Fellowship (Deadline: 15 March)

26 February 2014 | Center for Conflict Studies

CCS is pleased to announce that applications for the summer 2014 Peacebuilders Fellowship are now open! The Center will be choosing eight fellows to travel to four countries (Burma, Mexico, Ethiopia, and the West Bank) for 8 to 10 weeks over the summer. [Read More](#)

Legislative Secretary for Peacebuilding Policy

25 February 2014 | The Friends Committee on National Legislation

The Legislative Secretary for Peacebuilding takes the lead in developing strategic direction and policy advocacy for FCNL's Peaceful Prevention of Deadly Conflict program. This program began in 2002 in response to U.S. intervention in Iraq when FCNL adopted the "War Is Not the Answer" slogan. [Read More](#)

East & Southern Africa Coordinator (Deadline: 12 March)

24 February 2014 | Publish What You Pay

Publish What You Pay seeks an East & Southern Africa Coordinator to provide dedicated support for coalition-building, advocacy, communications and outreach in the region. [Read More](#)

International News

Central African Republic: An Equal Share of Wealth Equals Lasting Peace in CAR

2 March 2014 | Relief Web

Source: Inter Press Service Country: Central African Republic, Chad By Matthew Newsome ADDIS ABABA, Feb 28 2014 (IPS) – While wrangling over Central African Republic’s (CAR) wealth in natural resources played a role in the country’s crisis, its future peace and stability still partly depends on a solution that factors... [Read More](#)

World: The Economic Cost of Violence Containment

28 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: Institute for Economics and Peace Country: Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, World The Economic Cost of Violence Containment, the latest report from the Institute for Economics and Peace, calculates the cost of violence in over 150 countries around the world. [Read More](#)

Sierra Leone: Mining Boom Brings Rights Abuses

28 February 2014 | Human Rights Watch

The government of Sierra Leone and a mining company that is the country’s largest private employer have undermined villagers’ access to food and prevented workers from challenging abusive practices, Human Rights Watch said in a report released today. [Read More](#)

South Sudan: Economic Reforms Needed for Peace in South Sudan

27 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: Inter Press Service Country: South Sudan JUBA, Feb 27 2014 (IPS) – Gatmai Deng lost three family members in the violence that erupted in South Sudan on Dec. 15 and lasted until the end of January. [Read More](#)

Conflict, Migration Contributing to Food Insecurity in Near East, says UN Official

27 February 2014 | United Nations

Conflict, the flow of refugees and migration are worsening food security in the Near East, along with constraints on food production and a growing dependence on imports, the head of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) told a conference in Rome today. [Read More](#)

Nigeria: PPP Records Another Milestone in Land Dispute in Delta State

26 February 2014 | Alliance for Peacebuilding

The communities are Obi Ogadi in Asaba and Ogboli in Ibusa, both in Delta State, Nigeria. The contention involves the legal ownership of a piece of land called “Ani Udo,” which ironically translates to “land of peace.” The situation has deteriorated since Asaba emerged as the capital of the state,... [Read More](#)

Asia: Why Are China and Japan Inching Toward War Over Five Tiny Islands?

25 February 2014 | Eric Posner, Slate Magazine

Five tiny uninhabited islands slumber in the Pacific Ocean a short distance from Taiwan, China, and Japan. The Japanese call them the Senkaku Islands. The Chinese call them the Diaoyu Islands. Japan controls the islands, but China wants them. [Read More](#)

Africa: Effective Water Management Can Prevent Conflict, USAID Says

25 February 2014 | Kathryn McConnell, AllAfrica

Washington — Countries with unreliable supplies of water are more vulnerable to conflict, according to a new report from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). [Read More](#)

Côte d'Ivoire: Report of the Independent Expert on the Situation of Human Rights in Côte d'Ivoire, Doudou Diène

24 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: UN Human Rights Council Country: Côte d'Ivoire Human Rights Council Twenty-fifth session Agenda item 10 Technical assistance and capacity-building Summary In this document the Independent Expert reports on his fifth visit to Côte d'Ivoire, from 14 to 23 October 2013. [Read More](#)

World: Water & Conflict – A Toolkit for Programming

24 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: US Agency for International Development Country: World Competition over natural resources, including water, is often viewed as a driver of conflict and has emerged as a key component in many current and past conflicts. However, disputes over water, whether scarce or abundant, do not always result in violence. [Read More](#)

Costa Rica: Ongoing Conflict Over Water in Guanacaste Turns Political

23 February 2014 | Costa Rica News

Guanacaste is the province with the most water difficulties in Costa Rica, and the beach community of Playa Potrero is currently one of the most affected. As recently reported by the Costa Rica Star, police officers took the local water utility office in Playa Potrero by force in accordance to... [Read More](#)

South Sudan: South Sudan Crisis Threatens Food Security for Millions

21 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: Catholic Relief Services Country: South Sudan The fighting in South Sudan has displaced 716,100 people – and with a fragile peace agreement in place – there are serious concerns that

people will not be able to return to their home to plant before the rainy season in April. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Salween Dam Projects Could Affect Burma's Peace Process

19 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: Irrawaddy Country: Myanmar By KHIN OO THAR / THE IRRAWADDY Without a political settlement between ethnic armed groups and the government, the continuation of dam projects on eastern Burma's Salween River could impact upon the current peace efforts in the country, a leading Shan human rights group says. [Read More](#)

Nepal: Conference Addresses the Legacy of Land Issues in Post-conflict Nepal

19 February 2014 | Relief Web

Source: UN Country Team in Nepal Country: Nepal Kathmandu – The formulation of a comprehensive land act was the central theme of a conference on land issues held in Kathmandu on Thursday. The conference, 'Post Conflict Land Issues and Land Management in the Emerging Political Context', was jointly organized by... [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.

Platform Statistics

	Members	Visitors	Publications	Library
February, 2014	735	5014	75	164
January, 2014	670	4573	75	141
December, 2013	492	2087	75	119
November, 2013	298	5866	75	108

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