



Environmental Peacebuilding Update

Issue 5: 18 March 2014

Announcements

Social Media

17 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](#).

Events

Expert Seminar: Land Degradation as a Global Challenge

27 March 2014 | Clingendael Institute, Netherlands

On 27 March 2014, the Clingendael Institute organises an expert seminar discussing some diverse but interlinked aspects of land degradation, exploring possibilities for fostering policy debate on the issue. [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](#)

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

21 March 2014 | Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington, DC

In *Oil Sparks in the Amazon: Local Conflicts, Indigenous Populations, and Natural Resources* (University of Georgia Press, 2014), Patricia Vásquez explores the potent mix of grievances, identities, and structural constraints that have given rise to conflicts between investors in the hydrocarbons sector and local communities in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. ... [Read More](#)

World Bank Event: Trafficking and Fragility in West Africa

19 March 2014 | The World Bank, Washington DC

In its 2013 threat assessment on organized crime in West Africa, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) noted that "In the interest of promoting stability, development, and peace, West Africa needs to be insulated from contraband flows entering the region". Since the early 2000s, new forms of trafficking... [Read More](#)

iPCMP Webinar: Conflict Minerals Platform

19 March 2014 | iPoint Conflict Minerals Platform (Web-based)

Get to know the iPoint Conflict Minerals Platform by joining our free webinar on March 19th at 11 a.m. EST. Learn how you can streamline your conflict minerals reporting processes and gain quick visibility to and validation of your supplier's mineral sources through iPoint's intuitive and web-based software solution iPCMP. [Read More](#)

The Long Shadows: Examples of the Environmental Impacts of World War II

18 March 2014 | International Environment House, Geneva

"The Long Shadows: examples of the environmental impacts of World War II" is a presentation by Simo Laakkonen, a senior researcher in environmental history at the Department of Environmental Science, University of Helsinki. This event, hosted by the Geneva Environment Network Secretariat, will be held at the International Environment I,... [Read More](#)

Library Resources

Critical Reflection on 'Land Grabbing' in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Contexts

A. Graf, C. Kruckow and S. Gemperle (KOFF, FriEnt), 2013

This roundtable on conflict sensitive water and land management assembled representatives of Swiss civil society and state agencies. They debated the implications of land acquisition on their work as well as their responses. The event featured the two country cases of Ethiopia and Cambodia, where negative consequences of land acquisitions... [Read More](#)

Conflict Minerals – An Evaluation of the Dodd–Frank Act and other Resource-related Measures

Institute for Applied Ecology, 2013

The analysis of the Dodd–Frank Act and further resource-related measures showed that the root causes for conflicts in the eastern parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) are manifold and only secondarily related to resources. [Read More](#)

Water and Conflict

USAID, 2014

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](#)

Contested Claims over Protected Area Resources in Rwanda

Anna Knox (USAID), 2014

LAND Project is pleased to share with you the Policy Research Brief on Contested Claims over Protected Areas in Rwanda. The aim of this policy brief is to describe current and historical conflicts over rights to land and natural resources within and surrounding protected areas in Rwanda. [Read More](#)

The Earth Security Index 2014

Earth Security Initiative, 2013

Our world is in the midst of a major geopolitical shift. New emerging powers are becoming important actors in a multi-polar international system, many of which are facing resource security dilemmas. Their ability to master domestic resource security challenges, within the realm of the global legal framework, will be a defining factor for their recognition as a responsible partner... [Read More](#)

Participatory Impact Assessment: A Design Guide

Andy Catley, John Burns, Dawit Abebe, Omeno Suji, 2014

The Feinstein International Center has been developing and adapting participatory approaches to measure the impact of livelihoods based interventions since the early nineties. Originally released in 2009, this updated version of our PIA guide takes account of the continuing need to include local people in defining and measuring impact, while... [Read More](#)

Conflict Trade: Regulating Illicit Flows to and from War

Mark B. Taylor (NOREF), 2013

This expert analysis note describes an emerging approach to regulating illicit flows of goods to and from conflict zones. The approach, based on norms of national and international law defining business due diligence, is well suited for dilemmas posed by war economies. [Read More](#)

Jobs

Campaign Leader – Conflict Resources (Deadline: 18 March)

17 March 2014 | Global Witness

We are seeking a highly motivated and experienced Campaign Leader to lead our Conflict Resources team, to curb the trade in conflict resources and related illicit flows,

with a focus on case studies like Zimbabwe, Central African Republic and Dubai. [Read More](#)

Gender and Natural Resource Management Research and Policy Expert (Deadline: 27 March)

13 March 2014 | UNDP

The Gender and Natural Resource Management (NRM) Research and Policy Expert will be responsible for working with UN Women, the Ministry of Gender and Development and its implementing partners to generate research and targeted recommendations on women's participation in the management of natural resources in Liberia. The research and recommendations... [Read More](#)

Associate Research Scholar, Earth Institute, Columbia University

5 March 2014 | The Earth Institute, Columbia University

The Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict and Complexity (AC4) seeks an Associate Research Scholar to conduct applied research on social and environmental sustainability and environmental conflict resolution. [Read More](#)

International News

Ukraine: For Crimea, Secession is Only as Good as Recognition

15 March 2014 | Dan Bilefsky, The New York Times

PARIS — When Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008, with the strong support of the United States, Russia, a staunch ally of the Serbs, insisted that the declaration was a reckless breach of international law. [Read More](#)

World: Factoring conflict reduction into WASH programmes

14 March 2014 | Relief Web

Source: IRIN Country: Nepal, World CHESKAM (EASTERN NEPAL), 14 March 2014 (IRIN) – Evidence that sanitation interventions can contribute to local stability and conflict reduction is encouraging and should be considered in programme design, experts say. [Read More](#)

Nigeria: Scores Reported Killed in Village Raids in Nigerian Land Conflict

13 March 2014 | Agence France–Presse, The New York Times

KANO, Nigeria — Gunmen on motorbikes killed at least 69 people and burned down several homes in attacks on four villages related to conflicts over land in northwestern Nigeria, a state lawmaker said Thursday. [Read More](#)

United States: Suit Filed in Haiti Cholera Epidemic

12 March 2014 | Somini Sengupta, The New York Times

A class-action lawsuit claiming to represent cholera victims in Haiti and their relatives

in the United States was filed against the United Nations on Tuesday in Federal District Court in Brooklyn. At issue is the question of accountability for an epidemic that began in 2010 and has since claimed more... [Read More](#)

Libya: Prime Minister Ousted in Chaos over Tanker

11 March 2014 | David D. Kirkpatrick and Clifford Kraussmarch, The New York Times
CAIRO — Libya's transitional Parliament voted on Tuesday to remove its prime minister as his government conceded that despite days of bluster it was powerless to stop a tanker from sailing away with an illicit shipment of Libyan oil. [Read More](#)

South Sudan: Conflict Erases Food Security Gains, UN Agencies Say

10 March 2014 | Charlton Doki, Voice of America
JUBA — The conflict in South Sudan has undone the strides the young country has taken toward food security in recent years, U.N. agencies said Monday. Food insecurity levels had dropped to a record low of 3.4 percent of the population from around 10 percent following two good harvests in... [Read More](#)

Nigeria: Nigerians Ask Why Oil Funds Are Missing

10 March 2014 | Adam Nossiter, The New York Times
LAGOS, Nigeria — Even in a country where untold oil wealth disappears into the pockets of the elite, the oil corruption scheme he was investigating seemed outsize — and he threatened to lay it bare at a meeting with Nigeria's top bankers. [Read More](#)

Ukraine: Sovereignty vs. Self-Rule: Crimea Reignites Battle

8 March 2014 | Peter Baker, The New York Times
WASHINGTON — They wanted to break away from a country they considered hostile. The central government cried foul, calling it a violation of international law. But with the help of a powerful foreign military, they succeeded in severing ties. [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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