



Environmental Peacebuilding Update

Issue 10: 27 May 2014

Announcements

Call for Applications: Online Course on Community Participation and Dispute Resolution

27 May 2014 | Duke University Continuing Studies and Village Earth

The course on Community Participation and Dispute Resolution will take place June 13 to July 18 and will explore the social and cultural significance of a number of processes and practices, including community mediation, facilitation, collaborative problem solving, conflict resolution, conflict transformation and even conflict transcendence.

[Read More](#)

Call for Papers: Revista Descontamina – Biannual Publication on Peacebuilding and Nonviolent Action

24 May 2014 | Descontamina

Descontamina invite you to contribute to the next issue of their new publication, Revista Descontamina. Papers should not be longer than two pages and should follow at least one of their lines of actions: Environment and Peace Economies, Nonviolence, Cultural Diversity and Peace Pedagogy. [Read More](#)

Call for Applications: Master of Sustainable Peacebuilding

24 May 2014 | University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Beginning in Fall 2014, UWM will offer an interdisciplinary professional graduate degree program leading to a Master of Sustainable Peacebuilding (MSP). The program prepares students for careers in peacebuilding – e.g. international development, conflict resolution, and resource stewardship. [Read More](#)

Call for Applications: Summer School in Poverty Eradication: Access to Land, Access to Food

23 May 2014 | Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

The Summer School in Poverty Eradication: Access to Land, Access to Food, taking place 1–4 September, 2014, is organized by the Graduate School of Economics and International Relations – ASERI of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in collaboration with ExpoLAB. The Summer School offers a multidisciplinary perspective, covering: [Read More](#)

Call for Papers: Business, Peace and Sustainable Development Journal

21 May 2014 | Greenleaf Publishing

Business, Peace and Sustainable Development (BPSD) is a peer-reviewed, online journal that explores the role of the business sector in enhancing peace, reducing violence and contributing to sustainable development, the importance of peace to the economy and markets, and the theories and practice of Corporate Peace. [Read More](#)

Events

Natural Resource Management in Post-Conflict Situations: Challenges and Opportunities

2 June 2014 | Belgian Mission, New York

Natural resource exploitation can offer opportunities and present challenges for resource-endowed countries, in particular in post-conflict situations. If effectively managed, natural resource exploitation offers countries opportunities to revitalize their economy and foster resilience by leveraging resource endowments to mobilize revenues, deliver basic services, build infrastructure, create employment and support the... [Read More](#)

3rd Climate Change and Population Conference on Africa (CCPOP)

22 July 2014 | University of Ghana, Legon – Accra, Ghana

This development knowledge conference is intended to break the huge barriers that have existed amongst potential stakeholders over the years. It represents a call for state and non-state actors from industry including manufacturing and ICT, private businesses, and civil society to join researchers to pursue a new partnership agenda on... [Read More](#)

14th Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative Workshop

29 September 2014 | Burlingame, California

Join the leading industry initiative on conflict minerals for our autumn CFSI Workshop September 29–30, 2014 in Burlingame, California. With the leading experts from industry, civil society and government, we'll focus on conflict minerals due diligence best practices, global regulatory frameworks and CFSI tools and resources for companies. [Read More](#)

AIDF Disaster Relief Summit

19 November 2014 | Washington, DC

The Aid & International Development Forum's 6th annual Disaster Relief Summit is the world leading gathering for international humanitarian experts at relief agencies, NGOs and charity associations, UN and government agencies, development banks and donors and innovative technology and service providers. The summit strives to enable quicker

and better response during crisis... [Read More](#)

New Library Resources

In the last two weeks, 25 new publications were added to our [online library](#) of resources on environmental peacebuilding. Here is a sampling of the new additions:

Rural Road (Re)construction: Transport and Rural Livelihoods in the Conflict-Affected and Fragile State Environment of South Kivu

Adriaan Ferf, Dorothea Hilhorst and Murhega Mashanda, 2014

Substantial international investment has gone into the rehabilitation of the road infrastructure in DRC, but little is known about the impact of road rehabilitation on the organisation of urban-rural transport or on rural people's lives. This report is based on a survey among 1250 households in South Kivu, a review... [Read More](#)

Fueling a New Order?: The New Geopolitical and Security Consequences of Energy

Bruce Jones, David Steven, and Emily O'Brien, 2014

Energy issues—their geopolitics, governance and security implications—are pushing their way to the heart of U.S. foreign policy. [Read More](#)

The Military-Environmental Complex

Sarah E. Light, 2014

Two competing theories vie for dominance regarding the relationship between the U.S. military and the natural environment. On the one hand, because legal rules permit the military to disregard environmental laws when they conflict with the military's national security mission, one might be left with the impression that the military... [Read More](#)

Confronting Land and Property Problems for Peace

Shinichi Takeuchi, 2014

This collection clarifies the background of land and property problems in conflict-affected settings, and explores appropriate policy measures for peace-building. While land and property problems exist in any society, they can be particularly exacerbated in conflict-affected settings – characterized by unstable security, weak governance, loss of proper documentation as well... [Read More](#)

Oil and Gas Sector-Wide Impact Assessment (SWIA)

Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business, 2014

The idea behind the Oil & Gas (O&G) SWIA is to provide an overall picture of potential positive and negative impacts of the O&G sector on society in Myanmar for a wide range of audiences: government, parliamentarians, business, civil society, communities, trade unions and media. [Read More](#)

Conflict Analysis of Liberia

Siân Herbert, 2014

It is over ten years since Liberia's final peace agreement was signed in 2003, putting an end to 14 years of violent civil wars. This research finds that current levels of overt conflict in Liberia are relatively low, and there has been no large-scale violence since the end of the... [Read More](#)

When Does Service Delivery Improve the Legitimacy of a Fragile or Conflict-Affected State?

Claire Mcloughlin, 2014

Received wisdom holds that the provision of vital public services necessarily improves the legitimacy of a fragile or conflict-affected state. In practice, however, the relationship between a state's performance in delivering services and its degree of legitimacy is nonlinear. [Read More](#)

National Security and the Accelerating Risks of Climate Change

CNA Military Advisory Board, 2014

This report re-examines the impact of climate change on U.S. national security in the context of a more informed, but more complex and integrated world. In the seven years since the first Military Advisory Board (MAB) report, developments in scientific climate projections, observed climate changes (particularly in the Arctic), the toll of... [Read More](#)

Climate Change, Migration, and Nontraditional Security Threats in China

Michael Werz and Lauren Reed, Center for American Progress, 2014

This new report examines the implications of the climate change, migration, and national security nexus in five Chinese hotspots and discusses their impact on domestic and regional policy. [Read More](#)

Saving South Sudan: How South Sudan Got Lost

Robert Young Pelton, 2014

Sudan was once home to a great civilization that was the most advanced in all of Africa—but centuries of colonialism and conflict, and a post-independence period ravaged by coups, dictatorships, and incompetent rule, mired Sudan in a series of never-ending wars. [Read More](#)

Jobs

Senior Peacebuilding Advisor

24 May 2014 | Mercy Corps

Mercy Corps works in countries in transition, where communities are recovering from

disaster, conflict, or economic collapse. Our experience demonstrates that even during times of turmoil and tragedy, there are many possibilities for positive change. A commitment to peaceful change is at the heart of Mercy Corps' approach to relief...

[Read More](#)

Programme Manager – Conflict Prevention and Risk Analysis (Deadline: 2014-05-31)

23 May 2014 | Institute for Security Studies (ISS) Africa

The Conflict Prevention and Risk Analysis (CPRA) division of the ISS is offering an opportunity for a Programme Manager with experience in African conflict analysis, a sound understanding of African economic, security and governance challenges, including risk analysis experience; an effective network in Africa; and a strong record of publications,... [Read More](#)

Dry Land/Rain Fed Agriculture Consultancy: Rain Water Harvesting (Deadline: 2014-06-15)

21 May 2014 | People in Need (PIN)

People in Need (PIN) Afghanistan is seeking an Evaluation/Research Consultant with expertise in Dry Land/Rain-fed Agriculture, and specifically improved rain-water capture, storage and utilisation interventions utilising a holistic approach encompassing infrastructure and soft components. [Read More](#)

Head of Economy & Peacebuilding – Peacebuilding Issues Programme (Deadline: 2014-06-18)

21 May 2014 | International Alert

International Alert is recruiting a hands-on leader to join their Peacebuilding Issues Programme (PIP), which consists of a team of experts focusing on training, advocacy and research, and on specific issues such as environment and climate change, governance, the economic aspects of peace and gender, providing ideas and practical support... [Read More](#)

Senior Programme Officer – Corporate Engagement (Deadline: 2014-06-19)

23 May 2014 | International Alert

We are looking for an exceptional candidate to join our London-based Economy and Peacebuilding team. You will be responsible for supporting Alert's implementation of Conflict-Sensitive Business Practice with companies. Your role will be to support companies in understanding the challenges associated with operating in high-risk areas and advise them on... [Read More](#)

International News

Sudan/South Sudan: South Sudan Says Khartoum to Help Repair Damaged

Oilfields

24 May 2014 | Reuters

May 24 (Reuters) – Sudan has offered to supply materials, engineers and electricity to South Sudan to speed up the repair of oilfields damaged during a five month rebellion that has cut output by a third, South Sudan's oil minister said on Saturday. [Read More](#)

Conflict Minerals: Intel Files Conflict Minerals Report

22 May 2014 | Steve Quinlivan, Stinson Leonard Street

The holy grail (at least so far) of conflict minerals precedents was filed with the SEC albeit perhaps too late for many issuers to wholesale change course. But still excellent for a final form check. Intel's Form SD can be found here and its conflict minerals report can be found here. [Read More](#)

South Sudan: South Sudan Oil Production down about 50%: US Envoy

22 May 2014 | Agence France Presse

Five months of fighting in South Sudan has cut the country's economically vital oil production by nearly 50 percent, the United States special envoy to the country said Thursday. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: 'Land Grab' Tensions Could Trigger Uprising, Warns Ruling Party MP

22 May 2014 | Min Min, Mizzima

Tensions over unresolved land ownership disputes could spark a nationwide uprising if the issue was not dealt with soon, a senior member of the ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party has warned. [Read More](#)

Sudan/South Sudan: No Success Here: Sudanese Seccession Leaves Behind Shattered Economy

21 May 2014 | Al Bawaba

The civil war raging in South Sudan has cost the lives of thousands and internally displaced close to a million people. The humanitarian costs have been vast and the impact of the war has spread throughout the region, especially to the north in Sudan. [Read More](#)

Libya: Libyan Unrest Will Force Oil Prices Higher

21 May 2014 | Alessandro Bruno, InvestorIntel

Industrialized countries may be faced with the prospect of a shrinking oil supply and higher prices in the second half of the year unless a solution is found to increase production due to higher than expected demand. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Factbox: Myanmar's Oil Sector Attracts Investment

21 May 2014 | Reuters

(Reuters) – The opening up of Myanmar's economy after decades of isolation has led to

a jump in oil demand, attracting local and foreign investors to build oil storage tanks and a terminal to meet rising consumption. [Read More](#)

Sudan: Sudan Welcomes Russian Gas Specialists

20 May 2014 | Vestnik Kavkaza

A week ago, rebels in South Sudan, a republic that had broken away from Sudan, demanded oil extraction to be stopped, threatening to take over fields. The sovereign status of South Sudan was adopted on July 2011 after the signing of a declaration of independence. [Read More](#)

Africa: UN Eyes Africa Oil Levy to Fight Disease

20 May 2014 | Global Post

The United Nations has begun talks with African leaders over a levy on oil that could rake in huge sums to fight disease in developing countries, a top official said Tuesday. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Myanmar's Pending Ceasefire Jeopardized by Skirmishes over Illegal Logging

20 May 2014 | Hereward Holland, National Geographic

Myanmar's forests are the final frontier for the logging of tropical hardwoods in mainland Southeast Asia. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Minister Touts Massive Land Redistribution Program

19 May 2014 | Bill O'Toole and Noe Noe Aung, Myanmar Times

During a visit to Mandalay on May 11, Minister for the President's Office U Soe Thein made an ambitious claim. Speaking at the Youth and Peace Forum, the minister said regional governments would soon roll out a program to provide land to Myanmar's landless farmers. [Read More](#)

South Sudan: Oil Fans Flames of South Sudan War

18 May 2014 | Newvision

Despite heavy international pressure, a second ceasefire this month for the world's youngest nation has crumbled, in a war that has already claimed thousands -- possibly tens of thousands -- of lives. With the war entering its sixth month, oil fields that once generated hundreds of millions of dollars providing... [Read More](#)

Balkans: Catastrophic Floods Hit Balkans, Raising Fears for Land Mines and Power Plants

18 May 2014 | Rick Lyman, The New York Times

WARSAW — At least 33 people have died and tens of thousands have been evacuated in Serbia and Bosnia during three days of torrential rains that fed the most intense flooding the region has seen since records began to be kept more than a century ago. [Read More](#)

Crimea: In Taking Crimea, Putin Gains a Sea of Fuel Reserves

17 May 2014 | William J. Broad, The New York Times

When Russia seized Crimea in March, it acquired not just the Crimean landmass but also a maritime zone more than three times its size with the rights to underwater resources potentially worth trillions of dollars. [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Drugs, Land and Mining Issues Plague Shan State

17 May 2014 | Paing Soe, Democratic Voice of Burma

A four-day regional development workshop responding to the challenges posed by drugs and environmental degradation— identified by contributors as the main issues plaguing the region – has concluded in Tachileik, eastern Shan State. [Read More](#)

China/Vietnam: Unrest Poses a Risky Choice for Vietnam

16 May 2014 | Chris Buckley and Edward Wong, The New York Times

HA TINH PROVINCE, Vietnam — The hundreds of men on motorbikes who roared into Lee Hsueh Ying's factory compound north of Ho Chi Minh City were bent on revenge against China. Some clung to red-and-gold Vietnamese flags while they careened around overwhelmed security guards. [Read More](#)

Liberia: Liberians Successfully Resist UK Company's 'Land Grab'

16 May 2014 | Global Information Network

(GIN)—After years of fruitless court battles by small farmers against major multinational corporations, the Jogbahn Clan across 11 villages in Liberia is celebrating victory over a British company which tried to clear them off their lands. [Read More](#)

South Sudan: East – West Tussle for Oil 'Sparked South Sudan War'

16 May 2014 | Ramadhan Rajab, AllAfrica

STRUGGLE between the Western and Eastern countries over control of oil fields in Southern Sudan is behind the ongoing conflicts in the country, South Sudan's minister for information and broadcasting Michael Makuei has said. [Read More](#)

Meet in the peace park? How to use natural resources for peacebuilding

15 May 2014 | The Guardian

Understanding the role the environment can play in solving conflict should be a priority in all peacebuilding contexts. Environmental degradation increasingly gives rise to conflicts or catalyses existing struggles, as numerous studies show. But in attempting to solve these problems, peacebuilders have begun to appreciate that environmental factors can also form... [Read More](#)

Myanmar: Despite Ceasefire, Army Seizes Land and Tortures Citizens in Southeast Myanmar – Report

14 May 2014 | Thin Lei Win, Thomson Reuters Foundation

BANGKOK (Thomson Reuters Foundation) – The Myanmar army continues to commit rights abuses – seizing land and detaining and torturing citizens – in the country’s southeast, more than two years after the government and the region’s ethnic rebels signed a historic ceasefire agreement that brought an end to the world’s... [Read More](#)

A Tragedy of Silence in Badakhshan

13 May 2014 | NYT Afghanistan

In Badakhshan, the story of the land and the people who had made a home here has been silenced. [Read More](#)

Blogs & Opinion

Timor–Leste: Lessons of a Failing State?

22 May 2014 | Loro Horta

The leader and founding father of Asia’s youngest nation, Xanana Gusmao, announced in November that he was resigning as prime minister and leaving politics. The announcement comes amidst growing state failure and rampant mismanagement. Since Timor–Leste’s independence from Indonesia in 2002, Gusmao has dominated the small nation’s politics. [Read More](#)

Toward a Secure and Sustainable Water Future for Kurdistan and Iraq

18 May 2014 | Tessa Manuello

As tensions between Erbil and Baghdad resumed earlier this year, some voices in the Kurdistan Region called for waging a “water war” against the central government by blocking Kurdish rivers that water Iraqi farms. [Read More](#)

COOL, Conflict Minerals, GMOs & Beyond: Much Hangs in the Balance of DC Circuit En Banc Rehearing in Commercial Speech Case

16 May 2014 | Chip English

Americans are naturally curious and interested about the food we eat and the products we buy—e.g., non-GMO labeling, country of origin labeling (“COOL”) and “conflicts minerals.” The question explored here is whether and how far the government may constitutionally compel commercial interests to disclose information about their products when such... [Read More](#)

Responsible Sourcing of Minerals from Conflict Zones: Is the EU Doing Enough?

15 May 2014 | Anna Bulzomi

On March 5, 2014, the European Commission released its long-awaited responsible trading strategy for minerals from conflict zones. The strategy is composed of a draft Regulation setting up an E.U. system of self-certification for importers of tin,

tantalum, tungsten, and gold (3TG) and a Joint Communication presenting the overall comprehensive foreign policy approach on how to... [Read More](#)

Nepal's Micro-Hydropower Projects Have Surprising Effect on Peace Process

14 May 2014 | Florian Krampe

Development, and human development in particular, is frequently considered a ground condition for peace by the development community. It follows that, because they provide rural communities with clean energy and contribute to human development, micro-hydropower systems should help alleviate tensions in a place like Nepal, where rural poverty is widespread. Surprisingly,... [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.

Compiled by Marielle Velander and Joel Young

Coordinated by Patrick Woolsey

Design by Graham Campbell

Managed and edited by Carl Bruch and David Jensen

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