



## RECENT MEA ACTIVITIES

### ▶ WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS

#### UNDESA, UNDOALOS ORGANIZE EXPERT PANEL ON OCEAN ACIDIFICATION



L-R: Patricio Bernal, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission; Melinda Kimble, Senior Vice President, UN Foundation; Thomas Lovejoy, Biodiversity Chair at the Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment; Dessima Williams, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the UN and current AOSIS chair; and Ken Caldeira, Department of Global Ecology, Carnegie Institute for Science

An Expert Panel on Ocean Acidification convened at UN Headquarters in New York, US, on 3 September 2009. The event was organized by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS), and the UN Foundation. The meeting aimed to increase awareness and highlight options to avoid adverse impacts of ocean acidification on marine life and ecosystems by bringing together key stakeholders. The panel included senior officials and experts, and the panel's presentations were followed by an interactive discussion focused on potential international cooperation, possible policies and actions by the international community, and steps to raise public awareness (<http://www.iisd.ca/yimb/oceans/epoa/>).

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### SPECIAL MEETING REPORT

#### CBD/UNEP-WCMC Post-2010 Indicators Workshop

By *Tristan Tyrrell, UNEP-WCMC, Cambridge, UK*

In 2010, Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will review the extent to which progress has been made in meeting the global biodiversity target, and will develop a new, post-2010 strategic plan and associated target(s). Progress towards the 2010 target is being tracked using a framework of indicators and the extent to ...

*Continued on page 2*

### RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

#### ITTO TROPICAL TIMBER MARKET REPORT: FOCUS ON PLANTATIONS

(ITTO, August 2009) This issue of the International Tropical Timber Organization's (ITTO) bi-monthly Tropical Timber Market Report provides an overview of topical issues on plantations ([http://www.itto.int/en/market\\_information\\_service/](http://www.itto.int/en/market_information_service/)).

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**SPECIAL MEETING REPORT** (*cont.*)

which policy-makers and society will be able to assess their achievements, and identify suitable responses, is largely dependent upon the information provided by such indicators.

In July 2009, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and the UN Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) jointly convened a meeting to review the use and effectiveness of the 2010 biodiversity indicators and to consider the implications for the development of post-2010 targets and indicators. The meeting was hosted by the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), whilst additional financial support was provided by UNEP, the European Commission (EC) and the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). The workshop brought together over 70 participants including government-nominated experts and representatives of biodiversity-related conventions, UN agencies, academic and research institutions and other relevant international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

The meeting crafted a series of recommendations, of which the following were voted the most important:

A. A small set (10-15) of broad headline indicators, clearly linked to

the main target and sub-targets and underscored by more specific sub-indicators/measures, should be maintained/developed, in order to communicate the indicator set through key storylines and clear, policy relevant messages, while maintaining a flexible framework to cater for national/regional needs.

B. The current framework of global indicators should be modified and simplified into four 'focal areas': Threats to Biodiversity; State of Biodiversity; Ecosystem services; and Policy Responses. Existing indicators should be re-aligned with the new framework, as appropriate, in order to maintain continuity and enhance their use. The relationships between the focal areas and between indicators and targets should be clearly explained and documented, including their scientific basis and assumptions.

C. Some additional measures on threats to biodiversity, status of diversity, ecosystem extent and condition, ecosystem services and policy responses should be developed to provide a more complete and flexible set of indicators to monitor progress towards a post-2010 target and to clearly link actions and biodiversity outcomes to benefits for people.

D. National capacity for framework application, indicator development, data collection and information man-

agement should be further developed and properly resourced in order to strengthen countries' ability to develop, monitor and communicate indicators in a participatory, sustained and integrated way; and to link with other processes e.g., MEAs at all levels.

E. Priority must be given to developing a communication strategy for the post-2010 targets and indicators in order to inform policy discussions and ensure effective communication of messages coming from the indicators into all sectors (including delivering stories relevant to human well-being, identifying champions, promoting a regular reporting process, etc).

F. A flexible and inclusive process/partnership for post-2010 indicator development should be maintained and adequately resourced in order to increase collaboration in the development, quality control, implementation and communication of indicators at all levels, including the sharing of experience and the building of capacity.

More information is available on the meeting website: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EMIND-02>

*Editor's note: MEA Bulletin invites articles from practitioners, MEAs and academics on issues that are of interest across the MEA community. Please contact the Editor, [lynn@iisd.org](mailto:lynn@iisd.org), for further information.*

► **WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS**

**ASSESSMENT OF ASSESSMENTS LAUNCHED**

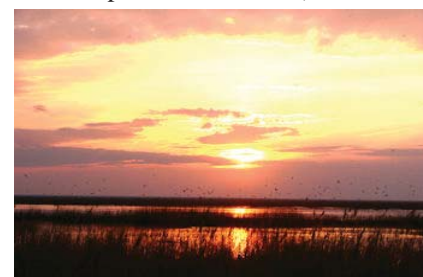
The Expert Group of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO) launched the "Assessment of Assessments" report, a comprehensive overview of the marine assessment landscape that also considers socio-economic factors. The 31 August 2009 launch at UN Headquarters, in New York, US, took place during the meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group of the Whole, a meeting established through UN General Assembly Resolution 63/111, in order to recommend a course of action to the General Assembly at its 64th session. The Group presented a set of options and recommendations for governments to consider on ways to move the envisioned "Regular Process" forward. If established, the Regular Process for the reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment will "serve as the mechanism to keep the world's

oceans and seas under continuing review by providing regular assessments at global and supra-regional levels." The Group also presented the proposed relationship of the "Regular Process" to the UN at the intergovernmental level; and the establishment of a management oversight body; a new expert group; secretariat support mechanisms; and a set of financing options that could average between US\$4 million and US\$5.6 million a year (<http://www.eurocean.org/np4/1200.html>).

**NEW RAMSAR SITES DESIGNATED**

New Ramsar sites have been designated in Chile, Kazakhstan, the UK Overseas Territory of St Helena, Tristan da Cunha and China. In Chile, two high altitude Wetlands of International Importance were designated and are both centered on saline lakes that are important for Western Hemisphere migratory birds and also support populations of mammals. Kazakhstan named two arid

steppe lake systems in the Kostanay Oblast. The United Kingdom has designated two new, large marine areas in its Overseas Territory of St Helena, Tristan da Cunha in the South Atlantic Ocean. The new sites are centered on Gough Island and Inaccessible Island, respectively, with surrounding waters. China designated its 37th Wetland of International Importance, Hangzhou Xixi Wetlands, an important site for nine threatened species of birds ([http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-26\\_4000\\_0\\_\\_](http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-26_4000_0__)).



View of the Zharsor-Urkash Lake System (photo courtesy of the Ramsar Secretariat)

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2009

(UNCTAD, 2009) The Trade and Development Report 2009, by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), addresses how to respond to the global economic crisis and the role of climate change mitigation in development. The report suggests that innovation in support of climate change mitigation is not fundamentally different from other innovation activities, but since climate change mitigation is increasingly recognized as a public good, innovation also calls for direct government intervention (<http://www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?intDocItemID=17957&docid=11867&intItemID=2068&lang=1&mode=press>).

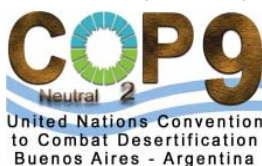
INVESTING IN LAND STEWARDSHIP: GEF'S EFFORTS TO COMBAT LAND DEGRADATION AND DESERTIFICATION GLOBALLY

(GEF, 2009) This booklet describes the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) activities to combat land degradation and desertification. The booklet contains several examples of projects in this thematic area and notes synergies in combating climate change. Land degradation affects more than 33% of the planet's surface area, leading to deterioration of ecosystem services and negative consequences for 2.6 billion people in more than 100 countries. The goal of the focal area strategy is to contribute to arresting and reversing current global trends in land degradation, specifically desertification and deforestation (<http://gefweb.org/uploadedFiles/Publications/Investing-land-degradation-English.pdf>).

FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND

UNCCD PREPARES FOR COP 9

In preparation for the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), which will convene from 21 September-2 October 2009, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the Secretariat has continued to post related documents. Recent additions include: an updated pre-conference draft of the "Synthesis and Recommendations" for the Scientific Conference (<http://www.unccd.int/science/docs/Synthesis%20and%20recommendations%20to%20the%20web.pdf>); a consultancy report on impact indicators (<http://www.unccd.int/regional/rcm/docs/UNCCD%20Min%20Set%20of%20Impact%20Indicators%20Final%20Report%20June%204.pdf>); and the reports from all of the meetings of the regional implementation annexes in preparation for the COP (<http://www.unccd.int/regional/rcm/menu.php?newch=19>). In addition, the Global Mechanism has prepared a management response to the Joint Inspection Unit assessment of the Global Mechanism (<http://www.global-mechanism.org/news--events/default-name>).



Logo courtesy of the UNCCD Secretariat

UNFF CONSULTATIONS ON MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION CONTINUE

Informal consultations on means of implementation for sustainable forest management took place at UN Headquarters in New York, US, on 4 September 2009, and from 15-16 September. A draft negotiating text ([http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/session\\_documents/CoFacilitators\\_negotiating%20text%20on%20MOI-SFM%20informal%20consultations.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/session_documents/CoFacilitators_negotiating%20text%20on%20MOI-SFM%20informal%20consultations.pdf)) was circulated to member States by the co-facilitators of the consultations, the Chairs of the seventh and eighth sessions of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF), Hans Hoogeveen (the Netherlands) and Boen Purnama (Indonesia), respectively. The Chair's draft text that was developed in informal consultations during UNFF8 was also circulated (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/>).



Hans Hoogeveen



Boen Purnama

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

UNEP LAUNCHES SEAL THE DEAL WEBSITE

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has launched a website to support the UN-led Seal the Deal Campaign. Users are encouraged to support the Seal the Deal campaign by signing an online, global petition that will be presented by civil society to governments



Logo courtesy of the UN

[sealthedeal2009.org](http://www.sealthedeal2009.org).

of the world in Copenhagen in December 2009. The website also includes climate news and a forum for public discussion (<http://www.sealthedeal2009.org>).

CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

OZONE DAY CELEBRATED, SUMMARY OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING POSTED

In the lead up to International Ozone Day, celebrated on 16 September, the Ozone Secretariat has produced six posters to raise public awareness about the ozone layer. The posters can be downloaded and adapted for use in Ozone Day national events (<http://ozone.unep.org/Events/public-awareness-posters.shtml>). OzonAction has also released guidelines for National Ozone Units to celebrate International Ozone Day by engaging the private sector (<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/events/ozoneday/2009.htm>). As part of the



Banner courtesy of UNEP

celebration, the UN Environment Programme, together with UN Development Programme, UN Industrial Development Organization and others, have produced a documentary that examines the challenges faced in trying to phase-out HCFCs, a coolant gas used in air conditioners that is the main ozone depleting substance that also contributes to climate change. The

documentary will be aired on BBC World Service ([http://www.uneptie.org/ozonAction/archive\\_features.htm](http://www.uneptie.org/ozonAction/archive_features.htm)).

In other news, a post-meeting summary of the meeting of the 58th Executive Committee to the Montreal Protocol, which convened from 6-10 July 2009, in Montreal, Canada, has been released. The Executive Committee approved 63 investment projects and work programme activities with a value of just over US\$17.94 million, plus US\$1.41 million in support costs for bilateral/implementing agencies, and took a total of 40 decisions (<http://www.uneptie.org/ozonAction/information/mmcfiles/6300-e-58excom09.pdf>).

## ► CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

### KYOTO PROTOCOL COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE TO MEET

The sixth meeting of the plenary of the Compliance Committee of the Kyoto Protocol will convene in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12-15 October 2009. This meeting will be preceded by the seventh meeting of the enforcement branch, which will take place from 11-12 October 2009, and the seventh meeting of the facilitative branch, which will take place on 12 October 2009.

In other UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) news, the Secretariat has released a Scenario Note (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/13) in preparation for the first part of the ninth session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 9). The seventh session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 7) and AWG-KP 9 are scheduled to take place from 28 September-9 October 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awg9/eng/13.pdf>).

The Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) held



View of the UN Conference Centre in Bangkok, venue of the Climate Change Talks

its 49th meeting, from 8-11 September 2009, at the UN Campus in Bonn, Germany. The Board discussed matters relating to the operation of the CDM, including: the CDM programme of activities; registration of CDM projects; issuance of certified emission reductions and the CDM registry; accreditation of designated operational entities; methodologies for baselines and monitoring plans; and the CDM management plan and resources for work on the CDM (<http://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/049/index.html>).

The 17th meeting of the Joint Implementation Supervisory Committee (JISC) convened from 10-11 September 2009, in Kiev, Ukraine. At the meeting, participants considered various issues necessary for the functioning of JI. JISC 17 was preceded by informal consultations on 7 September, and a UNFCCC JI technical workshop on 8-9 September ([http://ji.unfccc.int/Sup\\_Committee/Meetings/017/index.html](http://ji.unfccc.int/Sup_Committee/Meetings/017/index.html)). The Adaptation Fund Board meeting was also held in Bonn, Germany, from 14-16 September 2009 (<http://www.adaptation-fund.org/afbb7documents.html>).

Looking ahead to the 31st meetings of the UNFCCC's subsidiary bodies, the UNFCCC Secretariat has released an advance version of the provisional agenda (FCCC/SBSTA/2009/4) for the 31st session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 31). This meeting is scheduled to coincide with the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UNFCCC and fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto

Protocol (COP/MOP 5) from 7-18 December 2009 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The document is intended to assist delegations in preparing for the session. The exact dates within the session have yet to be confirmed (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sbsta/eng/04.pdf>).

In other news, the UNFCCC Secretariat has published a summary (FCCC/SBSTA/2009/5) of the technical workshop on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes, held under the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The workshop took place in Havana, Cuba, from 10-12 March 2009 (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sbsta/eng/05.pdf>).

The UNFCCC Secretariat has also launched the 2009 Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) International Photo and Video Contests, under the theme "CDM Changing Lives." The purpose of the contests is to raise awareness of the CDM and participants are invited to submit photos and videos that tell an interesting story about the CDM. The International Photo Contest is open to all photographers, and submitted photos should showcase CDM projects or their related benefits and should contribute to knowledge about the value of the CDM. The winning entries will be displayed at UNFCCC COP 15 in Copenhagen in December 2009, and will also feature prominently on the UNFCCC/CDM website (<http://cdm.unfccc.int/contest/index.html>).

## ► SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### UNDESA AND DSD PARTICIPATE IN ENERGY, ELECTRIFICATION AND GREEN ECONOMY MEETINGS

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and its Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) have recently participated in a number of fora and workshops. DSD Director Tariq Banuri discussed the challenge of energy access in his closing remarks to the World Energy Forum, which convened at UN Headquarters in New York, US, from 31 August-1 September 2009 ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_ene\\_ene\\_pdfs/TheChallengeofEnergyAccessWorldEnergyConference09.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_ene_ene_pdfs/TheChallengeofEnergyAccessWorldEnergyConference09.pdf)).

UNDESA, along with the Global Environment Facility, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and the e8, contributed to "Financing Sustainable Electrifi-



Logos courtesy of e8

cation – South and South-East Asia Dialogues," which took place from 8-10 September 2009, in Bangkok, Thailand, and served as the first of a series of region-specific workshops to be convened in the coming four years to share experiences and sector-specific expertise related to financing of sustainable electrification projects and the deployment of low-emitting power technologies in developing and emerging countries (<http://www.e8.org/index.jsp?numPage=222>).

UNDESA co-hosted the Green Korea Conference, which convened on 9 September 2009, Seoul, Republic of Korea, and brought together representatives from government and industry to discuss policy recommendations on is-

suces including energy policy, environmental industry, land-use and transportation policy, legislative issues, R&D strategy, and agricultural and maritime policy ([http://greenkorea2009.org/eng/01\\_overview/02\\_overview.php?PHPSESSID=6eadb5ece373ff939bcd2dd902da46fc](http://greenkorea2009.org/eng/01_overview/02_overview.php?PHPSESSID=6eadb5ece373ff939bcd2dd902da46fc); [http://www.un.org/esa/desa/ousg/statements/2009/20090909\\_green\\_Korea.html](http://www.un.org/esa/desa/ousg/statements/2009/20090909_green_Korea.html)).

In regard to the 18th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 18), for which the DSD serves as Secretariat, the third draft of the 10 year Framework of Programmes for Sustainable Consumption and Production is available for public comment (<http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/draft10YFPInput.shtml>). In addition, national reports have been posted to the DSD website, with 18 having been posted to date ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_ni/ni\\_index.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_ni/ni_index.shtml)).

## ► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

### **CBD SECRETARIAT STRENGTHENS COOPERATION WITH UNEP-WCMC, UNWTO**

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation that sets out a work programme of cooperation between the CBD and UNEP-WCMC. The multi-year programme of work builds on an agreement established in March 2006, on the existing collaboration between UNEP-WCMC and the CBD Secretariat and Parties, in order to bring the technical and capacity-building expertise within UNEP-WCMC to bear on the improved implementation of the Convention and enhance the preparation of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held from 19-29 October 2010, in Nagoya, Japan (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2009/pr-2009-09-03-wcmc-en.pdf>).

On the margins of the third World Climate Conference, the CBD Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), aiming to raise public awareness of the



### **2010 International Year of Biodiversity**

Logo courtesy of the CBD Secretariat

inter-relationship between biodiversity and tourism. Both parties will work towards maximizing tourism's positive contribution to conserving biodiversity and enhancing the quality of life of local people (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2009/pr-2009-09-04-unwto-en.pdf>).

In other CBD news, the Secretariat has finalized the logo for the celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity 2010. The logo was officially unveiled on 8 September 2009 in Strömstad, Sweden, at the occasion of the EU meeting "Visions for biodiversity beyond 2010 - people, ecosystem services, and climate crisis," convened with the participation of the COP 9 Bu-

reau (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2009/ntf-2009-110-iyb-en.pdf>; <http://www.cbd.int/iyb/images/2010-iyb-logos-en.zip>).

### **EUROBATS SECRETARIAT PUBLISHES LEAFLET ON BATS AND FORESTRY**

The Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (EUROBATS), developed under the auspices of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), has recently published a new leaflet on "Bats and Forestry," providing high-level guidelines for bat-friendly forestry ([http://www.eurobats.org/publications/leaflet/BatsForestry\\_Flyer\\_web\\_e.pdf](http://www.eurobats.org/publications/leaflet/BatsForestry_Flyer_web_e.pdf)).

## ► CHEMICALS AND WASTES

### **UNEP MERCURY PROGRAMME RELEASES OEWG DOCUMENTS**

The UNEP Mercury Programme has released documents for the upcoming Open-Ended Working Group on Mercury (OEWG), to prepare for the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC) on mercury scheduled to convene from 19-23 October 2009, in Bangkok, Thailand. Documents posted include: the provisional agenda; a scenario note for the OEWG to prepare for the INC on mercury; and a document on consideration of the rules of procedure for the INC (<http://www.chem.unep.ch/MERCURY/WGprep.1/Documents.htm>).

### **BASEL SECRETARIAT REQUESTS INFORMATION**

The Basel Secretariat has requested parties to provide information on wastes other than those listed in Annex I or Annex II of the Convention, that are defined as, or are considered, hazardous waste by national legislation, in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention. The Secretariat will make this information available on its website (<http://www.basel.int/convention/communications/25-08-2009-Art-3.pdf>).

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION DEPOSITED**

The amendments to the Stockholm Convention, agreed by parties to the Convention at the Fourth Conference of the Parties (COP-4) in May 2009, have been deposited. The adoption of the amendment to Annexes A, B

and C of the Stockholm Convention, was communicated by the Depository on 26 August 2009. Accordingly, the amendments shall enter into force on 26 August 2010 for all parties that have not submitted a notification in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3(b) of Article 22 (<http://chm.pops.int/>).



Donald Cooper, Executive Secretary, Stockholm Convention, delivering his opening address to COP-4, in May 2009.

## ► TRADE, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

### DOCUMENTS POSTED FOR SEVENTH ADAPTATION FUND BOARD MEETING

The Adaptation Fund Secretariat has posted the documents for the Seventh Meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board, to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 14-16 September 2009. The documents include operational policies and guidelines for parties to access resources from the Adaptation Fund, as well as a document presenting offers to confer legal capacity and host the Adaptation Fund, and a report on the status of resources in the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund (<http://www.adaptation-fund.org/afbb7documents.html>).

### WORLD BANK ANNOUNCES DEVELOPMENT MARKETPLACE FINALISTS

The World Bank announced 100 finalists of the Development Marketplace contest on Climate Change Adaptation. Twenty-five projects will receive grants of up to US\$200,000 and were selected based on their innovation, objective and measurable results, project design and organizational

capacity, sustainability of impact, and growth potential. The finalists coming from 47 countries will present their projects at World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC, US, in mid-November (<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVMARKETPLACE/4416738-1196093766795/21583185/DM.htm>).

### GEF FUNDS PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROJECT AND SLM

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is funding a project in Colombia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua that is aimed at improving ecosystem functioning of degraded pasture lands through the silvo-pastoral systems that generate global environmental benefits while providing socio-economic benefits. This project will seek to establish a differentiated payment scheme according to the degree of environmental service



Logo courtesy of the GEF Secretariat



Photo courtesy of the World Bank

being provided, thus providing incentives for higher levels of conservation ([http://gefweb.org/interior\\_right.aspx?id=26516](http://gefweb.org/interior_right.aspx?id=26516)).

In other GEF news, on 27 August 2009, a GEF grant of US\$4.8 million was approved to support Senegal for a sustainable land management (SLM) Project. The GEF grant will promote SLM in priority areas of Senegal's Groundnut Basin with the aim of improving ecosystem functions through sustainable land management practices ([http://go.worldbank.org/I0YTIUZ8K0?cid=ISG\\_E\\_WBWeeklyUpdate\\_NL](http://go.worldbank.org/I0YTIUZ8K0?cid=ISG_E_WBWeeklyUpdate_NL)).



# 2009 GRANT COMPETITION

## CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Banner courtesy of the World Bank

## ► KEY UPCOMING MEA MEETINGS

- **Expert Group Meeting on Institutionalizing Sustainable Development Indicators for Measuring Progress of National Strategies:** 17-19 September 2009. Bridgetown, Barbados. [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_ind/ind\\_egm0909.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_ind/ind_egm0909.shtml)
- **UNCCD COP 9:** 21 September-2 October 2009. Buenos Aires, Argentina. <http://www.iisd.ca/desert/cop9/>
- **High-Level Event on Climate Change:** 22 September 2009. New York, US. <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/climatechange/lang/en/pages/2009summit>
- **High-Level Event on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries:** 23 September 2009. New York, US. <http://un-redd.org/>
- **International Media Consultation on Water and Climate Change:** 24-25 September 2009. Zaragoza, Spain. <http://esango.un.org/event/dsd.html?page=viewEvent&nr=4506>
- **Bangkok Climate Change Talks:** 28 September-9 October 2009. Bangkok, Thailand. <http://www.iisd.ca/climate/ccwg7/>
- **Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Guidance on the Use of Biogeographic Classification Systems and Identification of Marine Areas beyond National Jurisdiction in Need of Protection:** 29 September-2 October 2009. Ottawa, Canada. <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWBCSIMA-01>
- **First Meeting of the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management:** 30 September-1 October 2009. The Hague, the Netherlands. <http://www.gpa.unep.org/>