



Security and Climate Change

November 2009 — Issue 31

CEC Chair's Corner



Dear CEC members,

Days away from the start of the climate change talks in Copenhagen, this newsletter brings more news about the actions that CEC members are taking to raise awareness and bring about change. Our first story defines climate change as a 'threat multiplier' for instability in some of the most volatile regions of the world. Impacts on water, food, health and weather could lead to mass immigration, lack of control over borders and potential armed conflict. Several CEC members are engaged in the project Climate Change and the Military. This newsletter also features several videos that are communicating other aspects of climate change, such as the role of oceans or the need for citizen participation. I would also like to point towards our next item on the international agenda, the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity. David Ainsworth of the CBD Secretariat directs CEC members to the IYB Communications Guidelines.

About a week ago, I reported to the IUCN Council on the events of 2009. The activities highlighted in my [presentation](#) will be recounted in greater detail in our December newsletter. I look forward to hearing from CEC members about your experiences surrounding the Copenhagen conference, as well as your plans for 2010. Send your news to cecnews@iucn.org.

With regards,
Keith Wheeler, Chair
IUCN Commission on Education and Communication

Climate Change and the Military










CEC Action on Climate Change and the Military

Climate change is a 'threat multiplier' for instability in some of the most volatile regions of the world. Impacts on water, food, health and weather could lead to mass immigration, lack of control over borders and potential armed conflict. CEC members are involved in raising awareness. [Full story >>](#)



Military Experts from Five Continents warn of Impact of Climate Change on Security

A group of serving and retired military officers from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the US released a statement October 29 calling on all governments to "work for an ambitious and equitable international agreement" at the global climate talks in Copenhagen. The Military Advisory Council is part of the project Climate Change and the Military, of which the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication is a member. [Full story >>](#)

	<p>Gaming Exercise on Climate Change and Humanitarian Disaster Relief</p> <p>CEC members recently participated in a gaming exercise about the challenges nations may face in the future given a scenario of increased climate impacts and scarce resources. Full story >></p>
	<p>Climate Change Seen as Threat to U.S. Security</p> <p>The changing global climate will pose profound strategic challenges to the United States in coming decades, raising the prospect of military intervention to deal with the effects of violent storms, drought, mass migration and pandemics, military and intelligence analysts say. This article from The New York Times is shared with CEC members by Keith Wheeler, CEC Chair. Full story >></p>
<p>CEC Member News — Climate Change</p>	
	<p>Oceans and Climate Change: View this 6-minute video</p> <p>This film explains in 6 minutes how the oceans are affected and play a major role in climate change, with a focus on alien species in the Mediterranean. CEC members went aboard the vessel used by the Changing Oceans Expedition while docked in Barcelona last October. Shared with CEC by the Antinea team. Full story >></p>
	<p>New Video: Climate Change and the Earth Charter</p> <p>CEC member Mirian Vilela, Executive Director of the Earth Charter, invites you to take a look at her organization's new video. It was produced for the You Tube/ CNN competition "Raise your voice: change climate change!" Full story >></p>
	<p>Citizen's Group Uses Video to Inspire Action on Climate Change</p> <p>Watch the video and take the pledge -- this call to action comes from a local citizen's group that used video to raise awareness of climate change. Shared with CEC by John Francis, CEC Regional Vice-Chair for North America and the Caribbean. Full story >></p>
	<p>CEC Members Offer Advice on Communicating PAs and Climate Change</p> <p>CEC members Frits Hesselink and Susanna Calvo attended the WCPA Climate Change Summit in Granada. They offer some strategic approaches to communicating the importance of protected areas to climate change mitigation. Full story >></p>
	<p>Survey Data Supports Rapid Ice Loss</p> <p>New data released by the Catlin Arctic Survey and WWF provides further evidence that the Arctic Ocean sea ice is thinning, supporting the emerging thinking that the Ocean will be largely ice-free during summer within a decade. A press release from CEC member James Forte of the Catlin Arctic Survey. Full story >></p>

Biodiversity



Communication Guidelines for the International Year of Biodiversity

Communication guidelines from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity invite all partners of the CBD to communicate strong messages that inspire action. [Full story >>](#)



New Logo for 2010 International Year of Biodiversity

The logo for the International Year of Biodiversity uses symbolic icons to depict the all-encompassing scope of biodiversity. The intertwining of marine, flora and fauna icons with human figures illustrates how biodiversity is life and how we as humans are forever part of - and not separate from - the biodiversity that surrounds us. [Full story >>](#)



IUCN Launches Channel on Green TV

IUCN is launching its own channel on Green TV, the world's leading online TV channel for environmental films. Activities of IUCN for the International Year of Biodiversity will be featured here. [Full story >>](#)

CEC Member News



CEC Member Begins Media Expedition in Africa

Journalists based in Africa are invited to contact Haroldo Castro - environmental journalist, photographer, blogger and CEC member. Meet Haroldo as he travels across Southern and Eastern Africa producing feature stories for Brazil's Globo Network. He calls his project Lights of Africa. [Full story >>](#)

Training and Education



Training for "Communicating Biodiversity" held in Southeast Asia

A four-day media skills workshop focused on biodiversity issues will cover 10 countries in Southeast Asia. CEC member Ronny Mustamu from Indonesia will attend, along with 60 government information officers and members of the media in the sub-region. [Full story >>](#)



Recommended Reading List from IUCN's Jeff Sayer

Jeff Sayer recently invited all of his IUCN colleagues to nominate those books that they thought should be "must read" for IUCN staff. The list is compiled in order of popularity. He also compiled a list of his own preferred books. [Full story >>](#)

Online Newsletters



Newsletters and Links to other IUCN Commissions

- [Species Survival Commission](#)
- [Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy](#)
- [World Commission on Protected Areas](#)
- [Commission on Ecosystems Management](#)
- [Commission on Environmental Law](#)

Awards



Making it Fun to Change Behaviour

This award recognizes those thoughts, ideas and inventions that help prove the fun theory, which says fun is the easiest way to change people's behaviour for the better. See "Piano Staircase," a short video shared by CEC member Tina Trampu of Slovenia. [Full story >>](#)



19-year-old from Columbia Wins Trip to Copenhagen from www.connect2earth.org

The green online community for young people from IUCN, WWF and Nokia has awarded its Grand Prize to Nicolas Paez, a 19-year-old economics student from Columbia. [Full story >>](#)

Coming Events



Events Agenda: IUCN at Copenhagen Conference

IUCN is organizing a series of events during the Copenhagen conference. [Full story >>](#)



Children and Youth International Conference

CEC members are invited to join an educational campaign that brings a political view on environmental issues into education. An international conference June 2010 in Brazil will produce a youth statement presented to the United Nations. From CEC member Andrea Margit. [Full story >>](#)



Next World Conservation Congress will be in the Republic of Korea

The 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress will be held in Jeju, in the Republic of Korea, the IUCN Council decided in its 73rd regular meeting. [Full story >>](#)



Earth Summit 2012: Sustainable Development – The Peace of the Future

A new website aims to kick-start discussion about an Earth Summit in 2012, twenty years on from the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. [Full story >>](#)

For more information, download the previous issue, [October 2009](#), or visit the CEC website at www.iucn.org/cec/