Welcome to the first issue of the Forest Landscape Restoration Newsletter with updates from around the FLR Network!

You are invited to contribute to the newsletter by sending comments and articles to the editor.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with a brief overview of recent information on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) and related topics. It will also provide you with a summary of recent updates on the FLR document center. This way you can identify the stories you are interested in and read more about them directly on the document center via the links provided.

This newsletter is designed to be an interactive information exchange platform for the Forest Landscape Restoration network. You are encouraged to contribute information to the document center and to this newsletter! Remember these tools go beyond WWF and are accessed by over 100 practitioners and policy-makers throughout the world. Please send any FLR related issues that you wish to share with the network, to the editor. Short snappy information can be put in the newsletter, while more comprehensive data can be added to the document center and will be summarised for the newsletter.

We appreciate your active involvement as a member of the FLR network!

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1. MEETINGS & EVENTS

The International Expert Meeting on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) took place from 27-28 February 2002 in Heredia, Costa Rica. The meeting was hosted by the Governments of Costa Rica and the United Kingdom (UK), in collaboration with IUCN-The World Conservation Union, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), and the Northeast Asian Forest Forum (NEAFF). The meeting was attended by approximately 60 participants, representing governments, universities and research institutions, and international and non-governmental organizations.
Find more information like the agenda, the summary report and some presentations under:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/restore_events.cfm

Bringing Back the Forests - Conference announcement, 7 - 10 Oct 2002, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Policies and Practices for Degraded Lands and Forests
A four-day international conference on solutions to rehabilitation challenges in the forests and grasslands of Asia and the Pacific organised by the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI), together with FAO, FRIM and IUFRO
The conference will bring together forest managers, planners and policy makers from across the region to assess the current state of knowledge, highlight and promote successful approaches to rehabilitation, and identify key policy and management needs for effective forest rehabilitation.
Find a conference brochure under:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/restore_events.cfm
and more details at the APAFRI website:
Supporting Implementation of International Agreements - The Role of Forest Landscape Restoration

Carole Saint-Laurent, Senior Forest Policy Adviser at IUCN/WWF presented this analysis at the International Expert Meeting on Forest Landscape Restoration, 27 - 28 Feb 2002, in Costa Rica. The paper reviews the implementation of forest landscape restoration issues in the international policy arena and sets recommendations for future action. "...it can be concluded that relevant aspects of the restoration issue have featured in international decision-making since at least 1992. It is also clear that this issue is firmly on the international agenda for 2002 and further opportunities exist to move this forward in 2003. The foundation for further action exists in a broad set of relevant commitments and proposals for action." You can read the review under:
http://iucn.org/themes/fcp/activities/flr2.html

2. RESEARCH & ANALYSIS:

Monitoring framework "Indicators for Measuring Progress Towards Forest Landscape Restoration" by WWF's Forests for Life Programme

A draft outline of principles, criteria and indicators for FLR which should serve as a guideline to identify the key issues that need to be considered for FLR. The draft monitoring framework can be downloaded from:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/restore_information.cfm

3. FLR PROJECT NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Europe - Danube-Carpathians
Strategy for the Conservation and Restoration of Floodplain Forests on the Lower Bulgarian Danube Islands

The new government in Bulgaria has committed to the Bulgarian Danube island restoration strategy. This signifies that the implementation of the strategy can now go ahead. A draft Action Plan for the implementation of the Strategy, as well as a Cost-benefit Analysis of alternative land use options for the Danube islands are currently finalized. Immediate floodplain forest restoration activities along some of the islands will also start.

Find more details about the strategy launch, as well as strategy and project presentations under:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/projects/danube.cfm

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Asia - Pacific - Malaysia
Kinabatangan, A Corridor of Life: A Vision for the Kinabatangan 2020

was officially launched on January 15, 2002. All stakeholders were asked to take action to implement the vision for Kinabatangan and contribute protecting this highly threatened watershed. Dr Geoffrey Davison, WWF Director of Borneo Programme, summarizes four core elements of the Kinabatangan Vision: Forest Corridor, Clean Water, Good Environmental Management and Diverse Economy. The full vision report by Partners for wetlands and WWF-Malaysia can be found at:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/projects/malaysia.cfm

Rehabilitation and restoration of habitat near the Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary

Dr Geoffrey Davison, WWF Director of the Borneo Programme, presented this case study at the International Expert Meeting on Forest Landscape Restoration, 27 - 28 Feb 2002, in Costa Rica. The case study can be read under:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/projects/malaysia.cfm

4. PUBLICATIONS

ITTO Press Release: ITTO pursues Forest Restoration

The International Tropical Timber Council supports restoration by adopting a set of guidelines, 18 May 2002

The International Tropical Timber Council has adopted a set of guidelines to promote the restoration of degraded tropical forests, the management of secondary tropical forests and the rehabilitation of degraded tropical forest lands. The guidelines were developed in cooperation with IUCN, the World Wide
The report describes and assesses forest fragmentation of UK woodlands and makes suggestions on how this fragmentation might be reversed. "This report is about habitat fragmentation, the damaging effects it has had on wildlife, and the measures that can mitigate its effects. ... The new concept in conservation is the habitat network, which provides a comprehensive basis for the restoration of forest habitats."

Find the full report under:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_we_do/restoration/projects/uk.cfm

To comment on this edition or contribute to the next, please contact the editor Katrin Schikorr:
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schikorr@wanadoo.fr

If any of the links provided don't work - copy and paste them into your browser window.

Lafarge is committed to continuous improvement in its environmental performance. Accordingly, Lafarge and WWF have become worldwide partners in an effort to preserve biodiversity and restore forest landscapes. Through the partnership, Lafarge is supporting WWF's Forest Landscape Restoration project, which is part of the WWF's Forests for Life programme.