



Weekly Headlines in World of Biodiversity (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD))
(07-13-Oct 2015)

Theme	Title	Details	Press Media	Further Details
AGRICULTURE AND BIODIVERSITY	<i>Rice genetics placed in global data pool to help develop sustainable crops – UN agency</i>	The genome sequences of thousands of rice varieties have been placed with a United Nations-backed treaty on plant genetics by the world's leading rice research institute to help boost plans to set up a global data exchange for crop genetic resources, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).	<i>UN News Centre, 08 October 2015</i>	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52193#.VhZ3uWdzOUk
	<i>Canadian cities: Step up and act on climate change</i>	As the largest country in the Western Hemisphere, Canada has a special role to play in tackling the threat of global climate change. Canadian cities, which are on the front lines of this battle, must help	<i>The Globe and Mail (Canada), 07 October 2015</i>	http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-debate/canadian-cities-step-up-and-act-on-climate-change/article26690497/

	<i>New UN Report Details Ecosystem Services of Almost One Billion Dollars Annually in Four Pilot Countries dollars of benefits in four pilot</i>	A project aimed at integrating the economic value of ecosystems into government policies has identified almost one billion dollars of benefits in four pilot countries, the importance of ecosystem conservation to the recently adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	<i>UNEP, 07 October 2015</i>	http://www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=26851&ArticleID=35477&l=en
CLIMATE CHANGE	<i>Will climate change lead to food chain collapse in the ocean?</i>	(UPI) -- A domino effect of collapsing marine food chains could lie ahead for the world's oceans if greenhouse gas emissions continue at the current rate.	<i>United Press International (UPI), 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2015/10/12/Will-climate-change-lead-to-food-chain-collapse-in-the-ocean/5711444677925/?spot=sec&or=sn
	<i>Climate Change Clips Wings of Migratory Birds: Ornithologist</i>	Krynica Morska, Poland: It takes the dexterity of a lacemaker to remove the tiny bird caught in nets strung between pine trees on Poland's Baltic coast, a veritable paradise for dozens of migratory species.	<i>NDTV (India), 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.ndtv.com/world-news/climate-change-clips-wings-of-migratory-birds-ornithologist-1231452
	<i>Climate scientist hits out at IPCC projections</i>	As a new chairman is appointed to the Intergovernmental Panel on climate Change (IPCC) a University of Manchester climate expert has said headline projections from the organisation about future warming are 'wildly over optimistic.	<i>Physorg, 13 October 2015</i>	http://phys.org/news/2015-10-climate-scientist-ipcc.html
	<i>Paris climate talks starting to look like all carrots, no sticks</i>	Few of the 200 countries participating in the global climate talks in Paris this December are talking about penalties for those who fail to meet agreed-upon emissions cuts.	<i>Christian Science Monitor, 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2015/1013/Paris-climate-talks-starting-to-look-like-all-carrots-no-sticks

<i>Horn of Africa faces drier weather</i>	The eastern Horn of Africa may be getting drier — not wetter as current climate change models predict, a study shows.	<i>SciDev.net, 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.scidev.net/global/climate-change/news/horn-of-africa-faces-drier-weather.html
<i>Study: Melting of Antarctica's ice shelves to intensify</i>	In a new study on the future of sea level rise, researchers looked specifically at the mechanisms that control surface melting on Antarctica's ice shelves.	<i>United Press International (UPI), 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2015/10/12/Study-Melting-of-Antarcticas-ice-shelves-to-intensify/1801444662959/?spt=sec&or=sn
<i>EU climate chief hails global progress on emissions</i>	Europe's climate change chief says he is astonished at the positive progress by governments towards a global deal on CO2.	<i>BBC News, 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34510867
<i>In Bolivia, Ban urges action on climate change, says caring for planet is 'moral issue'</i>	United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, speaking in Bolivia at the Peoples World Conference on Climate Change and the Defence of Life, said that the subject of the conference was both “important and timely.”	<i>UN News Centre, 13 October 2015</i>	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52225#.Vh0FRmdzOUk
<i>Climate change is good news, at least for Swedish sand lizards</i>	In a study published Wednesday, researchers suggests that a northern lizard species has greater reproductive success because of climate change.	<i>Christian Science Monitor, 09 October 2015</i>	http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2015/1009/Climate-change-is-good-news-at-least-for-Swedish-sand-lizards
<i>Opinion: Five Key Takeaways from India's New Climate Plan</i>	Last week, India announced its new climate plan, also known as its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution, or INDC.	<i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 09 October 2015</i>	http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/10/opinion-five-key-takeaways-from-indias-new-climate-plan/

<i>Twenty Ministers of Finance agree on financial mechanisms to foster greater investment in climate resiliency</i>	Lima - Finance Ministers of the Vulnerable Twenty (V20), representing close to 700 million people threatened by climate change and spanning world regions, held their inaugural meeting on 8 October 2015 in Lima, Peru.	<i>UNDP, 08 October 2015</i>	http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2015/10/08/twenty-ministers-of-finance-agree-on-financial-mechanisms-to-foster-greater-investment-in-climate-resiliency.html
<i>Distinguishing coincidence from causality: Connections in the climate system</i>	Detecting how changes in one spot on Earth -- in temperature, rain, wind -- are linked to changes in another, far away area is key to assessing climate risks.	<i>Science Daily, 08 October 2015</i>	http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/10/151007110746.htm
<i>Pumpkin pie may be missing by Christmas, thanks to climate change</i>	Crop yields are down by half in the Illinois town that produces 85% of the world's canned pumpkin, threatening to deprive Americans of their beloved pie.	<i>Guardian (UK), 08 October 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/oct/07/pumpkin-pie-climate-change-christmas-crops
<i>Effects of climate change seen across Jamaica</i>	As a child, Joan Buchanan always anticipated the summer holidays, when she would accompany her parents to the farm to reap a range of crops which would be flourishing after the May/June rains.	<i>Jamaica Gleaner, 08 October 2015</i>	http://jamaicagleaner.com/article/news/20151008/effects-climate-change-seen-across-jamaica
<i>Ban welcomes election of chief of UN-backed climate panel ahead of Paris conference</i>	United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has welcomed the election of Lee Hoesung of the Republic of Korea as Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Mr. Hoesung will guide the Panel's work of assessing the science related to climate change.	<i>UN News Centre, 07 October 2015</i>	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52189#.VhZrOGdzOUk

<p><i>Nations Most Threatened By Climate Change Form 'Vulnerable 20' Group</i></p>	<p>Twenty of the countries most vulnerable to climate change, from the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan to the Pacific island nation of Tuvalu, will form a new group on Thursday to press for tougher action to curb warming.</p>	<p><i>Huffington Post, 08 October 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/nations-most-threatened-by-climate-change-form-vulnerable-20-group_5616656be4b0082030a136f8</p>
<p><i>Paris climate talks should not put figure on finance, says World Bank vice-president</i></p>	<p>Rachel Kyte says governments at the 2009 summit agreed funding for developing countries by 'picking a \$100bn figure out of the air'</p>	<p><i>Guardian (UK), 07 October 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/07/paris-talks-un-cop-climate-finance-world-bank-vice-president</p>
<p><i>Korea's Hoesung Lee named head of UN climate panel</i></p>	<p>Hoesung Lee of South Korea has been named the new head of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the UN body tasked with assessing climate science.</p>	<p><i>BBC News, 07 October 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34450051</p>
<p><i>UN drops plan to help move climate-change affected people</i></p>	<p>Australia opposed the plan for a group to assist migration, and it has been left off the draft agreement for UN climate talks in Paris</p>	<p><i>Guardian (UK), 07 October 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/07/un-drops-plan-to-create-group-to-relocate-climate-change-affected-people</p>

FOREST BIODIVERSITY	<i>Study: Vines strangle tropical trees' carbon storage abilities</i>	Next to the oceans, the world's forests are Earth's most effective carbon storage system. And no forest stores more carbon than tropical forests.	<i>United Press International (UPI), 09 October</i>	http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2015/10/12/Study-Vines-strangle-tropical-trees-carbon-storage-abilities/2311444682760/?spt=sec&or=sn
	<i>The Rapid and Startling Decline Of World's Vast Boreal Forests</i>	Scientists are becoming increasingly concerned about the fate of the huge boreal forest that spans from Scandinavia to northern Canada. Unprecedented warming in the region is jeopardizing the future of a critical ecosystem that makes up nearly a third of the earth's forest cover.	<i>13 October 2015</i>	http://e360.yale.edu/feature/the_rapid_and_startling_decline_of_worlds_vast_boreal_forests/2919/
GENDER AND BIODIVERSITY	<i>Hated and misunderstood, the ibis brings an important environmental message</i>	A marvel of evolution, a sad tale of environmental degradation and an urgent will to survive: there's a lot more to the Australian white ibis—or bin chicken—than meets the eye.	<i>13 October 2015</i>	http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/offtrack/behind-the-ibis-invasion/6842242
	<i>Is ecotourism an oxymoron? A new study suggests these 'green' vacations might hurt wildlife.</i>	As the sun set, 25 boats converged on a small patch of reef just a few hundreds yards from the shore of Kona, Hawaii.	<i>13 October 2015</i>	https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2015/10/10/is-ecotourism-an-oxymoron-a-new-study-suggests-these-green-vacations-might-hurt-wildlife/

	<i>Bird lovers fear annual Australian back yard count will detail species' decline</i>	Bird Life Australia's state of Australia's birds report in July found magpie, kookaburra, lorikeet and willie wagtail numbers are declining.	<i>13 October 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/13/bird-lovers-fear-annual-australian-back-yard-count-will-detail-species-decline
	<i>Secret to why elephants rarely get cancer is in their genes</i>	Scientists have unravelled the secret to why elephants rarely get cancer despite their large size.	<i>ABC News (Australia), 09 October 2015</i>	http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-10-09/genes-explain-why-elephants-rarely-get-cancer/6841096
	<i>Why taxonomy is important for biodiversity-based science</i>	Taxonomy usually refers to the theory and practice of describing, naming and classifying living things. Such work is essential for the fundamental understanding of biodiversity and its conservation.	<i>CIFOR, 08 October 2015</i>	http://blog.cifor.org/8746/why-taxonomy-is-important-for-biodiversity-based-science?fnl=en
	<i>Environmental Crimes Change Face of Sub-Saharan Africa</i>	The refugee crisis that has sent hundreds of thousands of people from the Middle East and Africa to Europe this year is overwhelmingly fueled by civil war, threats from terror groups and poverty.	<i>Bloomberg, 08 October 2015</i>	http://www.bna.com/environmental-crimes-change-africa-n57982059202/
PROTECTED AREAS / IN-SITU CONSERVATION	<i>Conservation groups buy land from 109 coffee farmers, create reserve for rare salamanders</i>	It's good news for two of the world's rarest salamanders: Finca Chiblac salamander (<i>Bradytriton silus</i>) and the long-limbed salamander (<i>Nyctanolis pernix</i>).	<i>Mongabay.com, 07 October 2015</i>	http://news.mongabay.com/2015/10/conservation-groups-buy-land-from-109-coffee-farmers-create-reserve-for-rare-salamanders/

	<i>New protected areas announced for seabirds in Portugal</i>	Good news for seabird conservation in Portugal, as the country's government approves the designation of two new Special Protection Areas (SPAs).	<i>Bird-life International, 08 October 2015</i>	http://www.birdlife.org/europe-and-central-asia/news/new-protected-areas-announced-seabirds-portugal
ENDANGERED SPECIES	<i>The Muriqui: Brazil's critically endangered "hippie monkey" hangs tough</i>	Muriquis often start their day by hugging one another. The Brazilian monkeys can become so entwined in lanky arms and prehensile tails, around tree limbs and each other, that it's hard to tell them apart.	<i>Mongabay.com, 13 October 2015</i>	http://news.mongabay.com/2015/10/hippie-monkeys-hang-tough-brazils-critically-endangered-muriquis/
	<i>Encounter With World's Rarest Ocean Mammal Thrills Scientists</i>	Scientists feared they were on a grim mission. Biologists searching Mexico's Sea of Cortez for the world's most endangered marine mammal—a tiny porpoise called the vaquita—worried they might already be too late.	<i>National Geographic, 08 October 2015</i>	http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/10/151007-endangered-porpoise-vaquita-ocean-fishing-marine-mammal-gillnet-Mexico/
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT / MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS	<i>How can science policy help to deliver the global goals?</i>	The scientific community has helped to generate the momentum behind the sustainable development goals. By linking evidence to policy in timely, thoughtful and sensitive ways, scientists can now contribute to the task of implementation.	<i>Guardian (UK), 09 October 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/science/political-science/2015/oct/09/how-can-science-policy-help-to-deliver-the-global-goals
	<i>Indigenous groups want changes to plan for Amazon biodiversity corridor</i>	Tribal leaders welcome Colombia's plan but say it leaves out key part of forest management — the people who live there.	<i>America, 08 October 2015</i>	http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2015/10/7/indigenous-view-on-amazon-biodiversity-corridor.html

Source: Convention on Biological Diversity (<https://www.cbd.int/>)