



Weekly Headlines in World of Biodiversity (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)) (18-24-Nov 2015)

Theme	Title	Details	Press Media	Further Details
AGRICULTURE AND BIODIVERSITY	<i>Aflatoxins: Poisoning Health and Trade in Sub-Saharan Africa</i>	Aflatoxin contamination is a growing threat to trade, food and health security in sub-Saharan Africa, where smallholder farmers are challenged by food production and now climate change, researchers said.	<i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/11/aflatoxins-poisoning-health-and-trade-in-sub-saharan-africa/
CLIMATE CHANGE	<i>Making genetic diversity part of climate change adaptation</i>	24 November 2015, Rome - In the run-up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, FAO has released new guidelines to assist countries in better conserving and sustainably using genetic resources in times of climate change.	<i>Thomson Reuters Foundation, 24 November 2015</i>	http://www.trust.org/item/20151124090232-2dmr1/

<i>Sinking into Paradise: Climate Change Worsening Coastal Erosion in Trinidad</i>	As unusually heavy rainfall battered Trinidad's east coast a year ago, a lagoon here was overwhelmed, flooding a major access road to the island's southeastern communities. As the flood waters poured over Manzanilla beach, they washed sand away, caved in sections of road and collapsed a seawall at a tourist beach facility.	<i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 24 November 2015</i>	http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/11/sinking-into-paradise-climate-change-worsening-coastal-erosion-in-trinidad/
<i>Children will bear the brunt of climate change –UNICEF report</i>	More than half a billion children live in areas with extremely high flood occurrence and 160 million in high drought severity zones, leaving them highly exposed to the impacts of climate change, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) said in a report released ahead of the 21st United Nations climate change conference, known as COP21.	<i>UN News Centre, 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52637#.VIRvMmeFOUk
<i>Climate change endangers Antarctica's iconic species</i>	Despite its hostile environment, Antarctica is home to extraordinary wildlife. But climate change is changing ecosystems there. Emperor penguins and Weddell seals may see dramatic declines by the end of this century.	<i>Deutsche Welle, 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.dw.com/en/climate-change-endangers-antarcticas-iconic-species/a-18863746
<i>More than 2,000 academics call on world heads to do more to limit global warming</i>	Linguist Noam Chomsky and historian Naomi Oreskes among signatories of open letter urging leaders to limit warming to 1.5C, rather than current 2C target, at Paris climate talks.	<i>Guardian (UK), 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/nov/23/over-2000-academics-world-heads-do-more-limit-global-warming-noam-chomsky
<i>California's vanishing lakes are a climate change cautionary tale</i>	State's response through regulation and innovation considered a model.	<i>CBC (Canada), 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/lake-levels-california-climate-change-drought-1.3329218

<p><i>Against the Odds, Caribbean Doubles Down for 1.5 Degree Deal in Paris</i></p>	<p>Negotiators from the 15-member Caribbean Community (CARICOM) are intent on striking a deal to keep the global temperature rise at 1.5 degrees of pre-industrial levels, but many fear that a 10-year-old agreement to buy cheap petroleum from Venezuela puts their discussions in jeopardy.</p>	<p><i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 23 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/11/against-the-odds-caribbean-doubles-down-for-1-5-degree-deal-in-paris/</p>
<p><i>Big firms are still not acting on their deforestation promises</i></p>	<p>Corporate inaction on deforestation could scupper hopes of keeping global warming at 2 °C, according to experts behind two major deforestation progress reports.</p>	<p><i>New Orleans City Business, 23 November 2015</i></p>	<p>https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn28529-big-firms-are-still-not-acting-on-their-deforestation-promises/</p>
<p><i>COP21 must be 'turning point to a low-emission, climate-resilient future' – UN official</i></p>	<p>The United Nations climate change conference, widely known as COP21 must be the turning point towards a low-emission, climate-resilient future, the top UN official dealing with climate issues said today just days before the start of the international gathering in Paris, France.</p>	<p><i>UN News Centre, 23 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52621#.VIMqi2eFOUk</p>
<p><i>Using nature to help nature adapt to climate change</i></p>	<p>Climate change and the alarming rate of biodiversity decline caused by rising temperatures worldwide are perhaps the most serious environmental challenges that society faces today. And it's not just plants, birds and animals – humans are also already being affected, and the impact is only set to get worse.</p>	<p><i>Bird-life International, 19 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.birdlife.org/europe-and-central-asia/news/using-nature-help-nature-adapt-climate-change</p>
<p><i>On Thin Ice: Big Northern Lakes Are Being Rapidly Transformed</i></p>	<p>As temperatures rise, the world's iconic northern lakes are undergoing major changes that include swiftly warming waters, diminished ice cover, and outbreaks of harmful algae. Now, a global consortium of scientists is trying to assess the toll.</p>	<p><i>Yale News, 19 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://e360.yale.edu/feature/on_thin_ice_big_northern_lakes_are_being_rapidly_transformed/2933/</p>

<i>Climate change is 'single biggest threat' to polar bear survival</i>	'High probability' of a 30% decline in polar bear numbers by 2050 due to retreating sea ice, IUCN study finds.	<i>Guardian (UK), 19 November 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/nov/19/climate-change-is-single-biggest-threat-to-polar-bear-survival
<i>Protect the environment: Eat these animals!</i>	(CNN)—When the marine invasion started, the U.S. was taken by surprise -- and overrun.	<i>CNN, 19 November 2015</i>	http://www.cnn.com/2015/11/18/world/conservation-hunters/index.html
<i>Huge Positive Policy Potential to Increase Greenhouse Gas Emission Cuts</i>	(Bonn, 18 November 2015) – A new report packed with best practice climate policies from across the world reveals a wealth of existing opportunities to immediately scale up reductions in greenhouse gas emissions while powering up ambition to keep the global average temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius.	<i>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), 17 November 2015</i>	http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/summary-for-policy-makers/
<i>Barack Obama optimistic of reaching climate change deal at Paris summit</i>	But US president warns there is still 'a lot of work to do' at UN climate summit which he said will send signal to businesses to go 'all-in on renewable power	<i>Guardian (UK), 18 November 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/nov/18/barack-obama-optimistic-of-reaching-climate-change-deal-at-paris-summit
<i>Civil Society May be Snagged at Paris Climate Talks</i>	UNITED NATIONS, Nov 17 2015 (IPS) - The rising security concerns, following the terrorist attacks in Paris last week, are threatening to unsettle civil society participation in the upcoming landmark international conference on climate change in the French capital.	<i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 18 November 2015</i>	http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/11/civil-society-may-be-snagged-at-paris-climate-talks/

	<i>Snowfall shift threatens water supply for billions</i>	Climate change-induced changes in snowfall patterns could imperil two billion people who rely on melting snow for their water supply — and developing countries must work to protect citizens from these variations, researchers say.	<i>SciDev.net, 18 November 2015</i>	http://www.scidev.net/global/climate-change/news/snowfall-shift-threatens-water-supply-billions.html
	<i>To tackle climate change cheaply, first secure indigenous forest rights</i>	Handing forests over to the people who live in them will help keep sea levels from continuing to rise, and it's a course of action that more than pays for itself, new research shows.	<i>Mongabay.com (Madagascar), 18 November 2015</i>	http://news.mongabay.com/2015/11/to-tackle-climate-change-cheaply-first-secure-indigenous-forest-rights/
BIOSAFETY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY	<i>Salmon approval heralds rethink of transgenic animals</i>	Long-awaited decision by US government authorizes the first genetically engineered animal to be sold as food.	<i>Nature, 24 November 2015</i>	A breed of fast-growing Atlantic salmon http://www.nature.com/news/salmon-approval-heralds-rethink-of-transgenic-animals-1.18867
	<i>GMO food animals should be judged by product, not process, scientists say</i>	In a world with a burgeoning demand for meat, milk and eggs, regulatory policies around the use of biotechnologies in agriculture need to be based on the safety and attributes of those foods rather than on the methods used to produce them, says a UC Davis animal scientist.	<i>Phys.org, 24 November 2015</i>	http://phys.org/news/2015-11-gmo-food-animals-product-scientists.html
	<i>FDA Approves Genetically Modified Salmon</i>	Federal regulators approved the production and commercial sale of a strain of salmon whose DNA has been changed to make it grow faster, marking the first U.S. approval for a genetically modified farm animal.	<i>Wall Street Journal (USA), 19 November 2015</i>	http://www.wsj.com/articles/fda-approves-genetically-modified-salmon-1447946835

	<i>Uganda: Acceptance of GM Crops Spreads As Agricultural Challenges Increase</i>	The Kenyan government is considering lifting the ban on genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which will probably be this month.	<i>allAfrica.com, 18 November 2015</i>	http://allafrica.com/stories/201511180890.html
GENDER AND BIODIVERSITY	<i>World's vast boreal forests could 'hit a tipping point' this century, scientists say</i>	The climate zones boreal forests evolved in are moving north, and trees can't keep up.	<i>Mongabay.com, 24 November 2015</i>	http://news.mongabay.com/2015/11/worlds-vast-boreal-forests-could-hit-a-tipping-point-this-century-scientists-say/
	<i>Migration: What happens to the people (and forests) left behind?</i>	New patterns in migration are changing what it means to be 'rural' or 'urban'—and reshaping the future of forests and farms.	<i>CIFOR, 23 November 2015</i>	http://blog.cifor.org/37880/migration-what-happens-to-the-people-and-forests-left-behind?fnl=en
	<i>Study: Half of all Amazonian tree species threatened by deforestation</i>	BELEM, Brazil, Nov. 20 (UPI) -- According to research newly published in the journal Science Advances, half of all tree species in the rain forests of the Amazon are on the decline, threatened by deforestation.	<i>United Press International (UPI), 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2015/11/20/Study-Half-of-all-Amazonian-tree-species-threatened-by-deforestation/4271448054744/?spt=sec&or=sn
	<i>Call for UN science body for water</i>	The UN should set up a high-level expert body akin to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to help modernise its response to water and sanitation issues, an expert panel says.	<i>SciDev.net, 19 November 2015</i>	http://www.scidev.net/global/water/news/un-science-body-for-water-sanitation.html

	<i>Neglected forests threat to biodiversity in Nigeria</i>	Nigerian government established several forest reserves for conservation of forest resources, but the reserves have been seriously neglected and received little or no improvement in terms of investment and management, says an analysis of the nation's biodiversity.	<i>Daily Trust (Nigeria), 18 November 2015</i>	http://www.dailytrust.com.ng/news/environment/neglected-forests-threat-to-biodiversity-in-nigeria/119866.html
	<i>Global amphibian killer eliminated in wild for the first time</i>	Help is at hand for toads and their kin. For the first time, the amphibian-killing chytrid fungus has been purged from sites in the wild.	<i>New Scientist, 18 November 2015</i>	https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn28501-global-amphibian-killer-eliminated-in-wild-for-the-first-time/
	<i>Every species counts: Value of biodiversity is particularly high in poor environmental conditions</i>	The relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning greatly depends on the prevalent environmental conditions.	<i>Science Daily, 18 November 2015</i>	http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/11/151117112056.htm
PROTECTED AREAS/ IN- SITU CONSERVATION	<i>Wild things return to Angkor Wat</i>	Decades poachers stripped the forests surrounding Angkor Wat of large mammals, an innovative conservation group is bringing them back.	<i>Guardian (UK), 24 November 2015</i>	http://www.theguardian.com/environment/radical-conservation/2015/nov/24/angkor-wat-wildlife-gibbons-rewilding
	<i>Natural systems vs ad hoc interventions in conservation</i>	A comprehensive study at the initiative of the Wildlife Society of India (WSC) finds that large herbivores like elephants living in the wild have an instinctive preference to natural waterbodies than artificially created waterholes.	<i>The Hindu, 23 November 2015</i>	http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/keerala/natural-systems-vs-ad-hoc-interventions-in-conservation/article7907523.ece

<p style="text-align: center;">ENDANGERED SPECIES</p>	<p><i>Northern white rhino dies at San Diego Safari Park; only three others remain</i></p>	<p>ESCONDIDO, Calif., Nov. 22 (UPI) -- One of the world's last remaining northern white rhinos died Sunday in Southern California, officials said.</p>	<p><i>United Press International (UPI), 23 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2015/11/23/Northern-white-rhino-dies-at-San-Diego-Safari-Park-only-three-others-remain/8891448240875/?spt=sec&or=sn</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT / MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS</p>	<p><i>Six steps to realising the sustainable development goals</i></p>	<p>After the launch of the SDGs to set the development agenda until 2030, our expert panel discuss how the goals can be achieved.</p>	<p><i>Guardian (UK), 24 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2015/nov/23/six-steps-to-realising-the-sustainable-development-goals</p>
	<p><i>Aprovechamiento sustentable, herramienta para revertir pobreza</i></p>	<p>México, 17 Nov (Notimex).- México está convencido de que el aprovechamiento sustentable es una herramienta que puede convivir con el cuidado de la biodiversidad, además de ser ideal para ayudar a revertir el problema de la pobreza, afirmó el titular de la Semarnat, Rafael Pacchiano Alamán.</p>	<p><i>Terra (Mexico), 19 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://noticias.terra.com/mundo/latinoamerica/aprovechamiento-sustentable-herramienta-para-revertir-pobreza,a1946718e50567afdf50ae68dc4d9ecfdqczspte.html</p>
	<p><i>Indigenous People take steps to have a voice in COP21</i></p>	<p>NEW YORK — Aspirations for a new global climate agreement in Paris next month hinge on commitments made by national governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, Indigenous Peoples—who own, occupy or manage up to 65 percent of the Earth’s land surface—have been largely excluded</p>	<p><i>UNDP, 19 November 2015</i></p>	<p>http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2015/11/11/indigenous-people-take-steps-to-have-a</p>

		from these national plans, according to new research.		voice-in-cop21.html
	<i>Indigenous people ignored in climate plans, seek voice at UN talks</i>	BANGKOK, Nov 18 (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - The role of the world's more than 370 million indigenous peoples in fighting climate change has been largely ignored in national plans to curb planet-warming emissions issued ahead of upcoming U.N. climate talks, researchers and activists said on Wednesday.	<i>Thomson Reuters Foundation, 18 November 2015</i>	http://www.trust.org/item/20151118124019-7qf9h

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