



**Weekly Headlines in World of Biodiversity (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD))**  
**(30-Sep-6-Oct 2015)**

Theme	Title	Details	Press Media	Further Details
<b>AGRICULTURE AND BIO DIVERSITY</b>	<i>Could 'rewilding' allow crops to fight pests without chemicals?</i>	Wild plants can protect themselves from pests, but scientists think this immune system has been bred out of domesticated crop plants. Now, they're trying to figure out how to bring it back.	<i>Christian Science Monitor, 06 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2015/1006/Could-rewilding-allow-crops-to-fight-pests-without-chemicals">http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2015/1006/Could-rewilding-allow-crops-to-fight-pests-without-chemicals</a>
	<i>More than half of EU officially bans genetically modified crops</i>	It's a landslide. More than half the 28 countries in the European Union, including Germany and France, have decided to ban their farmers from growing genetically modified crops. Several regions, including Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales have also joined the movement.	<i>New Scientist, 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn28283-more-than-half-of-european-union-votes-to-ban-growing-gm-crops/">https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn28283-more-than-half-of-european-union-votes-to-ban-growing-gm-crops/</a>

	<i>Africa's agriculture needs young blood, says report</i>	Modernising Africa's agriculture sector to attract young people will help tackle youth unemployment and food insecurity, a report has suggested.	<i>BBC News, 02 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34411573">http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34411573</a>
	<i>Half of Europe opts out of new GM crop scheme</i>	Bid for exclusion by 14 countries and three regions would make two-thirds of Europe's population and arable land GM-free	<i>Guardian (UK), 02 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/01/half-of-europe-opts-out-of-new-gm-crop-scheme">http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/01/half-of-europe-opts-out-of-new-gm-crop-scheme</a>
	<i>Was the Scottish Government right to ban GM crops?</i>	THEY have not been grown in Scotland since 2001 but remain a divisive political issue.	<i>Scotsman, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.scotsman.com/news/sci-tech/was-the-scottish-government-right-to-ban-gm-crops-1-3902781">http://www.scotsman.com/news/sci-tech/was-the-scottish-government-right-to-ban-gm-crops-1-3902781</a>
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b>	<i>Even Desert Lizards Are Feeling the Heat Due to Climate Change</i>	For many plants and animals, the Sonoran Desert would be an inhospitable place. But for the flat-tail homed lizard, it's home.	<i>Smithsonian, 06 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/even-desert-lizards-feeling-heat-due-climate-change-180956822/">http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/even-desert-lizards-feeling-heat-due-climate-change-180956822/</a>
	<i>Climate change: Inuit culture on thin ice</i>	Residents of the sub-Arctic village of Umiujaq wistfully remember the good old days, when the ice-fishing season was long and the catch bountiful.	<i>Yahoo! News, 06 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://news.yahoo.com/climate-change-inuit-culture-thin-ice-061935256.html">http://news.yahoo.com/climate-change-inuit-culture-thin-ice-061935256.html</a>

<i>The Global South Will Make Its Contribution to Fighting Climate Change</i>	SAN JOSE, Oct 5 2015 (IPS) – Seen for years as passive actors in the fight against global warming, more than 100 countries of the Global South have submitted their national contributions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and decarbonising their economies.	<i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 06 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/10/the-global-south-will-make-its-contribution-to-fighting-climate-change/">http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/10/the-global-south-will-make-its-contribution-to-fighting-climate-change/</a>
<i>In the fight to stop climate change, forests are a vital weapon</i>	Forests are undervalued assets in meeting the twin global challenges of our time: achieving prosperity and safeguarding climate stability. It's time we gave them the attention – and finance – that they deserve.	<i>Guardian (UK), 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/06/fight-climate-change-forests-vital-weapon">http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/06/fight-climate-change-forests-vital-weapon</a>
<i>India unveils climate-change pledge ahead of global talks</i>	India says that it will produce 40% of its energy from sources other than fossil fuels by 2030, and will reduce the intensity of its carbon dioxide emissions by roughly one-third.	<i>Nature, 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.nature.com/news/india-unveils-climate-change-pledge-ahead-of-global-talks-1.18489">http://www.nature.com/news/india-unveils-climate-change-pledge-ahead-of-global-talks-1.18489</a>
<i>UN battle looms over finance as nations submit climate plans</i>	Divisions over money between rich and poor countries re-emerged as nations submitted their plans for tackling climate change to the UN.	<i>BBC News, 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34412647">http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34412647</a>
<i>Climate change is a global problem. Climate action is a local solution</i>	As state and federal governments continue to fail at halting climate change at the global and national levels, smaller communities have a great opportunity to take change-making initiative.	<i>Guardian (UK), 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/05/climate-change-global-problem-climate-action-local-solution">http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/oct/05/climate-change-global-problem-climate-action-local-solution</a>
<i>At UN, Canada urges focus on financing for climate change mitigation, adaptation</i>	3 October 2015 – The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, Daniel Jean, addressed the United Nations General Assembly today, noting the importance of the new sustainable development agenda and of ensuring the proper financing of climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.	<i>UN News Centre, 05 October 2015 3 October 2015 –</i>	<a href="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52157#.VhJ30WdzOUk">http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52157#.VhJ30WdzOUk</a>

	<i>10 Million at Risk of Hunger Due to Climate Change and El Niño, Oxfam Warns</i>	UNITED NATIONS, Oct 2 2015 (IPS) – At least ten million of the poorest people face food insecurity in 2015 and 2016 due to extreme weather conditions and the onset of El Niño, Oxfam has reported.	<i>Inter Press Service News Agency, 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/10/10-million-at-risk-of-hunger-due-to-climate-change-and-el-nino-oxfam-warns/">http://www.ipsnews.net/2015/10/10-million-at-risk-of-hunger-due-to-climate-change-and-el-nino-oxfam-warns/</a>
	<i>UN battle looms over finance as nations submit climate plans</i>	Divisions over money between rich and poor countries re-emerged as nations submitted their plans for tackling climate change to the UN.	<i>BBC News, 02 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34412647">http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34412647</a>
	<i>Pacific islands play vital role in advancing action on climate change, Ban tells leaders</i>	1 October 2015 – Located on the frontlines of climate change, Pacific island nations have a crucial role to play in efforts to advance a sustainable future, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the region’s leaders as they met today at United Nations Headquarters.	<i>UN News Centre, 01 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52089#.Vg6ASGdzOUk">http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52089#.Vg6ASGdzOUk</a>
	<i>‘The time for excuses is over,’ small island leaders tell UN, urging global action on climate change</i>	30 September 2015 – Speaking today at the United Nations General Assembly, the Prime Minister of Fiji, along with the leaders of other small island developing States, warned of the existential threat of climate change and looked forward to the possibility of consensus at an upcoming UN climate conference in Paris.	<i>UN News Centre, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52081#.Vg0vxGdzOUk">http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52081#.Vg0vxGdzOUk</a>
	<i>Carney warns of risks from climate change ‘tragedy of the horizon’</i>	Bank of England governor tells Lloyd’s insurers that ‘challenges currently posed by climate change pale in significance compared with what might come’	<i>Guardian (UK), 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/sep/29/carney-warns-of-risks-from-climate-change-tragedy-of-the-horizon">http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/sep/29/carney-warns-of-risks-from-climate-change-tragedy-of-the-horizon</a>
	<i>Shark culling and overfishing may be contributing to climate change</i>	<i>ABC News (Australia), 30 September 2015</i>	<i>ABC News (Australia), 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-09-29/sharks-and-other-predators-help-prevent-climate-change/6813042">http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-09-29/sharks-and-other-predators-help-prevent-climate-change/6813042</a>

<b>FOREST BIO DIVERSITY</b>	<i>What is a forest? NASA/USGS mission helps answer the question</i>	Examining eight different satellite-derived maps of global forest cover, a team of scientists from NASA and other institutions noticed striking differences.	<i>Phys.org, 06 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://phys.org/news/2015-10-forest-nasausgs-mission.html">http://phys.org/news/2015-10-forest-nasausgs-mission.html</a>
	<i>Protecting Europe's nature: more ambition needed to halt biodiversity loss by 2020</i>	The mid-term review of EU biodiversity strategy shows progress in many areas, but highlights the need for greater effort by Member States on implementation to halt biodiversity loss by 2020.	<i>European Commission (EC), 02 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5746_en.htm">http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5746_en.htm</a>
	<i>A New Global Tinderbox: The World's Northern Forests</i>	Rapidly rising temperatures, changes in precipitation, and increased lightning strikes are leading to ever-larger wildfires in the northern forests of Alaska, Canada, and Siberia, with potentially severe ecological consequences.	<i>Yale Environment 360, 01 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://e360.yale.edu/feature/a_new_global_tinderbox_the_worlds_boreal_forests/2916/">http://e360.yale.edu/feature/a_new_global_tinderbox_the_worlds_boreal_forests/2916/</a>
	<i>Norway pledges \$47M/yr to help Congo countries save forests</i>	Norway and several European Nations, along with the United Nations and the World Bank, today committed to a new initiative that takes aim at the underlying causes of deforestation in Central African rainforest nations, including poverty and poor governance. And in an unprecedented step, Brazil will lend its expertise to effort.	<i>Mongabay.com, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://news.mongabay.com/2015/09/norway-pledges-47myr-to-help-congo-countries-save-forests/">http://news.mongabay.com/2015/09/norway-pledges-47myr-to-help-congo-countries-save-forests/</a>
<b>GENDER AND BIO DIVERSITY</b>	<i>Wild mammals 'have returned' to Chernobyl</i>	Removing humans from what is now the exclusion zone around the damaged Chernobyl nuclear reactor has allowed wildlife to return.	<i>BBC News, 06 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34414914">http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34414914</a>

	<i>Cryptic invasions by ecological engineers conceal profound changes in nature</i>	A new study reveals that the salt marsh plant <i>Spartina alterniflora</i> , which grows on more than 9,000 km of the Atlantic coastline of South America, is not native to the area and was in fact introduced 200 years ago.	<i>Science Daily</i> , 06 October 2015	<a href="http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/10/151005132901.htm">http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/10/151005132901.htm</a>
	<i>Environmentalists Praise Wildlife Measures in Trans-Pacific Trade Pact</i>	WASHINGTON — Environmentalists praised wildlife protections included in the sweeping Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal announced Monday, calling them groundbreaking.	<i>New York Times</i> , 05 October 2015	<a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/06/business/environmentalists-praise-wildlife-measures-in-trans-pacific-trade-pact.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/06/business/environmentalists-praise-wildlife-measures-in-trans-pacific-trade-pact.html</a>
	<i>Land Degradation Neutrality and a new Fund to advance the concept</i>	A new catch phrase, "Land Degradation Neutrality", is being brought into play with increasing prominence, with the intention of using the concept to ensure continued ecosystem functionality, broadly speaking.	<i>The Africa Report</i> , 02 October 2015	<a href="http://www.theafricareport.com/East-Hom-Africa/land-degradation-neutrality-and-a-new-fund-to-advance-the-concept.html">http://www.theafricareport.com/East-Hom-Africa/land-degradation-neutrality-and-a-new-fund-to-advance-the-concept.html</a>
	<i>Brazil Joins the Convention on Migratory Species</i>	Bonn, 1 October 2015 - Brazil today became a Party to the UN-led Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), enabling South America's largest country to work with other nations under the Convention to better support and protect the enormous variety of its fauna.	<i>UNEP</i> , 01 October 2015	<a href="http://www.unep.org/newscentre/default.aspx?DocumentID=26844&amp;ArticleID=35468">http://www.unep.org/newscentre/default.aspx?DocumentID=26844&amp;ArticleID=35468</a>
<b>PROTECTED AREAS / IN-SITU CONSERVATION</b>	<i>Chile to create one of world's largest marine parks around Easter Island</i>	Plans put forward by the local people will ban fishing in over 600,000 sq km of the Pacific ocean	<i>Guardian (UK)</i> , 05 October 2015	<a href="http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/05/chile-creates-one-of-worlds-largest-marine-parks-around-easter-island">http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/oct/05/chile-creates-one-of-worlds-largest-marine-parks-around-easter-island</a>
	<i>New reserves in Colombia protect endangered species in a 'Pleistocene refuge'</i>	Two new cloud forest reserves in the Colombian Andes have been established to protect a number of rare, endangered species, including the Silvery-brown bare-face tamarin ( <i>Saguinus leucopus</i> ), a monkey found nowhere else in the world.	<i>Mongabay.com (Madagascar)</i> , 02 October 2015	<a href="http://news.mongabay.com/2015/10/new-reserves-in-colombia-protect-endangered-species-in-a-pleistocene-refuge/">http://news.mongabay.com/2015/10/new-reserves-in-colombia-protect-endangered-species-in-a-pleistocene-refuge/</a>

	<i>Adorable echidna babies boost hope for critically endangered cousins</i>	There's an echidna baby boom in Australia. In the last five years, an echidna captive breeding partnership between the University of Queensland and Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary in Australia has produced 14 cute short-beaked echidna puggles (or babies).	<i>Mongabay.com, 01 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://news.mongabay.com/2015/10/adorable-echidna-babies-boost-hope-for-critically-endangered-cousins/">http://news.mongabay.com/2015/10/adorable-echidna-babies-boost-hope-for-critically-endangered-cousins/</a>
<b>ENDANGERED SPECIES</b>	<i>Peregrine falcon population sees record growth in Quebec</i>	As the list of endangered animals grows longer each year, at least one species' situation is improving: The peregrine falcon.	<i>CBC (Canada), 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/peregrine-falcon-endangered-species-population-growth-1.3256608">http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/peregrine-falcon-endangered-species-population-growth-1.3256608</a>
	<i>A Shifting Approach to Saving Endangered Species</i>	When the Obama administration announced last month that it would not add the greater sage grouse to the endangered species list, some conservation groups predictably criticized the ruling.	<i>New York Times, 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/06/science/a-shifting-approach-to-saving-endangered-species.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/06/science/a-shifting-approach-to-saving-endangered-species.html</a>
	<i>UK team germinates critically endangered Japanese birch</i>	UK scientists have successfully germinated seeds from the critically endangered Japanese Birch, a species that has just 21 known trees remaining.	<i>BBC News, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34378953">http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34378953</a>
<b>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT / MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS</b>	<i>At UN, Latin American leaders underline 'insufficient' progress, urgent need to address climate change</i>	3 October 2015 – Opening the floor at the United Nations General Assembly today, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador said “we have concluded a stage in the world's history marked by important progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), however, this progress has not been sufficient.”	<i>UN News Centre, 05 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52161#.VhJ3DmdzOUk">http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=52161#.VhJ3DmdzOUk</a>
	<i>Goals galore</i>	The nations of the world approved a new development agenda in New York over the past weekend.	<i>Nature, 02 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.nature.com/news/goals-galore-1.18455">http://www.nature.com/news/goals-galore-1.18455</a>

<i>Environmental protection decisive to sustainable development, PM</i>	<i>VietNamNet Bridge, 01 October 2015</i>	<i>VietNamNet Bridge, 01 October 2015</i>	<a href="http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/environment/142800/environmental-protection-decisive-to-sustainable-development-pm.html">http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/environment/142800/environmental-protection-decisive-to-sustainable-development-pm.html</a>
<i>World won't achieve its development goals without India coming through: Bill Gates</i>	Last week, the United Nations adopted 17 ambitious goals, known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which aim to wipe out poverty, fight inequality and tackle climate change over the next 15 years.	<i>The Economic Times, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/opinion/inter-views/world-wont-achieve-its-development-goals-without-india-coming-through-bill-gates/articleshow/49160201.cms">http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/opinion/inter-views/world-wont-achieve-its-development-goals-without-india-coming-through-bill-gates/articleshow/49160201.cms</a>
<i>Public Health 2.0: Planetary Health</i>	This week, the United Nations unveiled 17 goals-- and 168 targets - that comprise the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).	<i>Huffington Post, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.huffingtonpost.com/judith-rodin/public-health-20-planetary_b_8215926.html">http://www.huffingtonpost.com/judith-rodin/public-health-20-planetary_b_8215926.html</a>
<i>What women can do for sustainability goals</i>	As a woman, I was intrigued to learn that the UN's post-2015 development agenda gives a special role to women. Not only does the list of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include a specific goal to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; the role of women is also considered across all policy areas.	<i>SciDev.net, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.sci-dev.net/global/gender/sci-dev-net-at-large/women-gender-sustainability-goals.html">http://www.sci-dev.net/global/gender/sci-dev-net-at-large/women-gender-sustainability-goals.html</a>
<i>Science underpins new development goals</i>	Negotiators of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted last week in New York, have stressed the role of science in meeting the wide range of concerns that the new goals aim to address by 2030.	<i>SciDev.net, 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://www.sci-dev.net/global/mdgs/news/science-underpins-new-development-goals.html">http://www.sci-dev.net/global/mdgs/news/science-underpins-new-development-goals.html</a>
<i>Tripura's traditional practitioners take steps to conserve herbal biodiversity to revive Ayurveda</i>	Kanchanpur (North Tripura): Ayurveda, which literally means the science of life, is an ancient Indian system of natural and holistic medicine.	<i>Zee News (India), 30 September 2015</i>	<a href="http://zeenews.india.com/node/1804241">http://zeenews.india.com/node/1804241</a>

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