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INFOSYLVA es el servicio de información de recortes de prensa suministrado por el Centro de Información Forestal de la FAO con noticias sobre las actividades forestales, en inglés, francés y español.

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Forthcoming Events

[Conférence Annuelle de la Fondation pour La Coopération et Du Développement \(FCD\)](#)

23 -27 Novembre 2009 - Le West Hotel Centre de Congrès - Londres, Royaumes Unies

New Publication

[Unasylva 233: Green jobs](#)

What does financial and economic crisis mean for the forest sector, and what can the sector do to respond? [C.T.S. Nair and R. Rutt](#) overview opportunities for creating forestry jobs. [T. Presas](#) gives an industry perspective. [R. Taylor](#) illustrates impacts of the crisis for wood industry in North America. Subsequent articles examine measures to support forestry's role in economic renewal in the United States ([A.R. Kimbell and H. Brown](#)), South America ([I. Tomaselli](#)), India ([J.R. Matta](#)), the Philippines ([J.L. Atienza, Jr](#)), China ([Q. Ma, J. Liu and W. Du](#)), Central Africa ([J.C. Tieguhong et al.](#)) and South Africa ([R.N. Heath and S. Chipeta](#)).

FAO

[13e Congrès forestier mondial : travaux en plénière](#)

Les travaux du 13e Congrès forestier mondial se poursuivent à Buenos Aires. Lors de la plénière d'ouverture, le Directeur général de la FAO, M. Jacques Diouf, a mis en exergue le rôle des forêts dans l'alimentation et l'habitat. Il a souligné que la foresterie constitue une thématique transversale, qui a un lien avec les questions d'eau, d'énergie, d'agriculture et de désertification.

[3 S.American nations promise to halt deforestation](#)

Three South American nations announced a joint plan Tuesday to establish protected zones in the vast Atlantic Forest as part of an effort to halt deforestation by 2020.

[36 football fields deforested each minute: WWF](#)

The equivalent of 36 football fields are being stripped from the world's forests each minute, the environmental group World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) said in a statement. The group, presenting its figures during a UN-organized World Forestry Congress held in the Argentine capital, called for "net deforestation of zero" by 2020.

[36 football fields deforested each minute: WWF](#)

The equivalent of 36 football fields are being stripped from the world's forests each minute, the environmental group World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) stated and called for "net deforestation of zero" by 2020.

[Alain Billand: "L'aménagement forestier intègre les enjeux sociaux et économiques"](#)

Dans le cadre du Congrès forestier mondial 2009, organisé à Buenos Aires par la FAO et la République d'Argentine, du 18 au 25 octobre, le Cirad, précurseur dans le domaine de l'aménagement forestier, fait le bilan de son expérience. Alain Billand, spécialiste de la gestion forestière revient sur les dernières évolutions des plans d'aménagement et les questions encore en débat.

[Argentina, Paraguay make historic forest pledge](#)

Argentina and Paraguay have made a historic pledge to save one of the world's most threatened forests. During a special ceremony at the XIIIth World Forestry Congress, the two governments agreed to work towards zero net deforestation in the Atlantic Forest, and to implement a package of measures that include national legislation to enforce those commitments.

[ATP case study part of World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires](#)

The ATP Backyard Nursery Micro-Enterprise Program employs rural families to grow seedlings that are purchased and planted in forests around their villages.

[Bosques implantados: una buena oportunidad para el Nea](#)

El ingeniero Jorge Fahler identificó tendencias mundiales que abrirían una oportunidad para el sector forestal de la región. Advirtió que para aprovechar la situación habrá que dar continuidad a políticas públicas y mejorar la infraestructura.

[Brasil es ejemplo en protección de indígenas que viven en los bosques](#)

Brasil es un ejemplo en materia de protección de las comunidades indígenas que habitan en sus bosques, dijo un experto en desarrollo forestal en un Congreso mundial que se celebra en Buenos Aires.

[Cada minuto se destruyen en el mundo 36 campos de fútbol de bosques](#)

Unos 13 millones de hectáreas de bosques son destruidas en el mundo por año, lo que equivale a 36 campos de fútbol por minuto, advirtió el Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza (WWF), en un comunicado difundido este jueves en Buenos Aires, en el marco del Congreso Forestal Mundial.

[Canadian forestry leader urges ambitious global action to end deforestation](#)

Avrim Lazar, President and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada (FPAC) and Chair of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products (ACPWP), came out in strong support of the WWF's call-to-action to stop global deforestation saying the challenge could go even further by including a call to end illegal logging - one of the key contributors to global deforestation.

[Climate crisis thrusts forest conservation into world spotlight](#)

"Climate change has catapulted forests onto the international agenda after years of languishing in the dusty corridors of UN meetings," Dr. William Jackson, Deputy Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IUCN, told the World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires.

[Comienza el Congreso Forestal Mundial en Buenos Aires](#)

Los organizadores manifestaron que ya están viendo una amplia superación de las expectativas en todo sentidos, tanto por parte de FAO (Organización Mundial para la Agricultura y la Alimentación) como por el comité organizador, ya que se alcanzó un total de 4.000 inscriptos en tiempo récord.

[Conclusions of the 2009 World Forestry Congress](#)

With less than two months to Copenhagen, climate change in the center of political discussions, and forests being a critical tool to fight global warming, the discussions inside the panels were of special interest this year.

[Congrès mondial de Buenos Aires : Les experts au chevet de la forêt](#)

Malgré leur aide dans la régulation climatique et l'équilibre écologique, les bois et forêts sont en danger. Quelque 4 500 participants, représentant les secteurs privé et public et les organisations

ambientales de más de 120 países, se debatieron del 18 al 23 de octubre en Buenos Aires sobre su rol vital « para combatir el cambio climático y mejorar los medios de vida ».

[Congreso forestal alza su voz por bosques](#)

El tono de la voz en favor de los bosques se elevó ayer en Buenos Aires. "Basta de diálogos interminables y aburridos", dijo José Carlos Carvalho, secretario de Medio Ambiente de Minas Gerais, Brasil, durante la sesión plenaria de ayer en el tercer día de discusiones del XIII Congreso Forestal Mundial.

[Copenhague : la deforestación debe ser un desafío clave](#)

Del 18 al 23 de octubre, Buenos Aires recibe el 13º Congreso forestal mundial. Este año, la manifestación se centra en un tema clave, Desarrollo forestal : equilibrio vital. Los responsables presentes en Argentina pidieron que la lucha contra la deforestación sea uno de los desafíos clave del próximo cumbre de Copenhague.

[Cristina defendió el valor de los bosques y la forestación sostenible](#)

La presidenta Cristina Fernández puso en valor a los bosques por su aporte a la preservación del ambiente, y enfatizó que la deforestación genera mayor impacto en el cambio climático y también más pobreza y hambre.

[Deforestación y cambio climático, eje de las sesiones del CFM2009](#)

Con la presencia de disertantes nacionales e internacionales de primer nivel, iniciaron ayer las actividades del XIII Congreso Forestal Mundial "Desarrollo Forestal, equilibrio vital" en el predio ferial de La Rural de Buenos Aires.

[Deforestación : WWF lanza un desafío a los líderes del mundo](#)

En el marco del Congreso forestal mundial de Buenos Aires, la asociación WWF recordó que cada año, unos 13 millones de hectáreas de bosque son destruidas, lo que equivale a 36 campos de fútbol por minuto.

[Destacan el valor de los bosques](#)

Con el lema "Desarrollo forestal, equilibrio vital" fue inaugurado, en Buenos Aires, el XIII Congreso Forestal Mundial que busca, entre otras cosas, dialogar sobre las mejores maneras de establecer políticas forestales compatibles con el ambiente.

[Esfuerzos de la industria forestal de Nueva Zelanda para hacer sus prácticas más sostenibles están ganando reconocimiento internacional](#)

El ministro de Silvicultura David Carter, quien ha estado asistiendo a un Congreso Mundial de Silvicultura en Argentina, dijo que Nueva Zelanda ha estado haciendo progreso constante en la conservación y el manejo sostenible de los bosques.

[El bosque, al rescate del planeta](#)

Según los expertos, la forestación se convirtió en una fuente interesante de energía y un arma insustituible en la lucha contra el cambio climático.

[El Congreso Forestal Mundial insta a cuidar los bosques para reducir la pobreza](#)

Autoridades y representantes de más de 160 países participantes en el XIII Congreso Forestal Mundial en Buenos Aires pidieron preservar los bosques para contribuir a "reducir la pobreza y mantener la biodiversidad" global frente a "un clima variable" que avanza rápidamente.

[El impacto sobre los bosques y la comunidad del cambio climático](#)

Andrea Tuttle, directora del Fondo Forestal del Pacífico, abordó los efectos del cambio climático en California y dijo que "en la actualidad se erosionan las costas, la infraestructura está amenazada y que muchos humedales tienen problemas.

[El líder forestal canadiense urge a una acción global ambiciosa para acabar con la deforestación](#)

Avrim Lazar, director general y consejero delegado de Forest Products Association of Canada (Asociación de Productos Forestales de Canadá, FPAC por sus siglas en inglés) y presidente del United Nations Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products (Comité Asesor de las Naciones Unidas sobre Papel y Productos Derivados de la Madera, ACPWP por sus siglas en inglés), salieron en una fuerte defensa de la llamada para la acción realizada por la WWF para detener la

deforestación mundial diciendo que el reto podría ir más allá incluyendo una llamada para finalizar la tala ilegal - uno de los contribuyentes clave de la deforestación mundial.

[Environ 13 millions d'hectares de forêts détruites chaque année](#)

Environ 13 millions d'hectares de forêts sont détruites dans le monde chaque année, l'équivalent de 36 terrains de football par minute, selon un communiqué du WWF (Fonds mondial pour la nature) publié jeudi à Buenos Aires, en marge d'un Congrès forestier mondial.

[Esperan que Argentina, Brasil y Paraguay reduzcan deforestación](#)

Se espera que Argentina, Brasil y Paraguay se comprometen a alcanzar para 2020 la meta de "deforestación cero" en el Bosque Atlántico, en respuesta a una propuesta del Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza presentada el lunes en esta capital en el Congreso Forestal Mundial.

[Forecast Tables with data for 2009-2010 for over 30 products](#)

Following the annual Timber Committee Market Discussions about the current and next year's forest products markets, the Committee issues a statement which includes overview of the forest products sector, developments in specific forest products markets sectors and tables summarizing forecasts in Europe, North America and Russia.

[Forests key pillars of the architecture of sustainable development](#)

The Opening Ceremony of the XIII World Forestry Congress (WFC) was kicked off by a record amount of 5,200 participants in Buenos Aires. Julián Domínguez, the newly appointed Argentine Minister of Agriculture, declared the XIII WFC officially open reinforcing FAO's role as technical advisor to governments.

[Forests disappearing at rate of 36 football fields per minute](#)

The world's forests are disappearing at a rate of 36 football fields per minute, according to a report from the WWF.

[Forests fundamental to effective climate deal](#)

The world's ability to control climate change could be crippled if global leaders do not support clear and effective targets to arrest deforestation at climate talks in Copenhagen in December, WWF said at the conclusion of a key global forestry summit.

[Forests much more than carbon storage](#)

The world's forests and jungles are much more than carbon storage sites and compensation for greenhouse emissions, experts and activists point out to governments that are negotiating a new global climate change treaty.

[Foro de inversiones en Congreso Forestal Mundial en Argentina](#)

"Los bosques al servicio de la gente" será el tema central que debatirán en la sesión plenaria representantes de más de 160 países, quienes toman parte en el XIII Congreso Forestal Mundial.

[Global forest monitoring to help mitigate climate change](#)

For the first time worldwide, free and ready-to-use high-resolution satellite data is now available to monitor forests and help reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The monitoring system has been launched by FAO and other partners as part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment.

[Global forest monitoring to help mitigate climate change / Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation must be reduced](#)

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[Importance des forêts pour atténuer les effets du changement climatique et améliorer les moyens d'existence](#)

A l'heure où les négociations sur le climat entrent dans leur phase décisive à l'approche de la Conférence de Copenhague en décembre prochain, le Congrès forestier mondial, qui se tient à Buenos Aires du 18 au 23 octobre 2009, retient l'attention des experts.

[Inquieto, el mundo forestal debate en Buenos Aires](#)

Los silvicultores del planeta realizan en Argentina su congreso sexenal, en medio de un clima de "tensión".

[La FAO au chevet de la forêt mondiale](#)

Organisé pour la première fois en 1926, le 13e Congrès forestier mondial s'est ouvert hier à Buenos Aires (Argentine), sous l'égide de la FAO (Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture).

[La FAO inicia una consulta internacional para regular la tenencia de la tierra](#)

En la iniciativa se incluirá a gobiernos, sector privado, campesinos pobres, grupos indígenas, autoridades locales, el sector académico y expertos independientes.

[La FAO insta a aprovechar potencialidades del sector forestal](#)

La Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO) aseguró hoy en Buenos Aires que la crisis global impactó fuertemente en el sector forestal, pero reconoció que el nuevo escenario supone una gran oportunidad para generar nuevas políticas y atraer inversiones.

[La FAO lanza un sistema mundial de vigilancia de bosques gratuito vía satélite](#)

La Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO) ha puesto a disposición de todos los gobiernos un sistema de seguimiento de los bosques a través de imágenes vía satélite de alta resolución, gratuitas y con cobertura mundial.

[La lucha contra la deforestación, desafío clave en la cumbre de Copenhague](#)

La lucha contra la destrucción de bosques - responsable del 25% de las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero - deberá ser un desafío clave de la próxima Cumbre en Copenhague sobre el calentamiento global, coincidieron expertos del Congreso Forestal Mundial que se reúne en Buenos Aires.

[La lutte contre la déforestation, défi clé au sommet de Copenhague](#)

La lutte contre la déforestation, responsable du quart du réchauffement climatique, doit être le défi clé du prochain sommet de Copenhague, ont plaidé des responsables mardi à Buenos Aires dans le cadre du Congrès forestier mondial.

[La lutte contre la déforestation: défi majeur du sommet de Copenhague](#)

C'est le message du XIIIème Congrès forestier mondial qui s'est tenu du 18 au 23 octobre 2009 à Buenos Aires avec la participation de quelque 4 500 personnes, représentant les secteurs privé et public et les organisations environnementales de plus de 120 pays.

[La región defiende el papel de los bosques modelo contra el cambio climático](#)

La Junta es miembro de esta red desde 2006 y desde 2007 el Bosque Modelo Urbión es el primer espacio que cuenta con este reconocimiento en España y el segundo en Europa.

[Le secteur forestier canadien préconise des mesures ambitieuses à l'échelle mondiale pour faire cesser la déforestation](#)

Avrim Lazar, président et chef de la direction de l'Association des produits forestiers du Canada (APFC) et président du Comité consultatif du papier et des produits dérivés du bois de l'Organisation des Nations Unies, a aujourd'hui appuyé fermement l'appel à l'action du Fonds mondial pour la nature (WWF) pour mettre un terme à la déforestation dans le monde, ajoutant que ce défi pourrait aller encore plus loin et inclure l'exploitation forestière illégale, l'un des principaux facteurs qui contribuent à la déforestation à l'échelle mondiale.

[Local residents critical to global deal on forests](#)

Critical to the success of any global deal on forests and climate change is the participation of local people and a recognition of their right to the commercial use of forest lands.

[Los bosques vuelven a encabezar la agenda... ¿bosques de verdad?](#)

Como resultado de la creciente preocupación que suscita el cambio climático, los bosques figuran nuevamente entre los primeros puntos de la agenda internacional, principalmente en lo referente a su función como reservorios de carbono. Está ampliamente reconocido que los bosques pueden contribuir a mitigar (si se los conserva) o a empeorar (si se los destruye) el peligro inminente del cambio climático. Sin embargo, ¿se está hablando realmente de bosques?

[Misiones expuso al mundo su compromiso con la conservación y la producción sustentable](#)

El gobernador de Misiones, Maurice Closs, se sumó al compromiso de la organización ambiental internacional WWF para avanzar en medidas que permitan una deforestación neta cero al 2020 del Bosque Atlántico. También anunció que en marzo de 2010 ingresará a la legislatura el proyecto de Ordenamiento Territorial de los Bosques Nativos.

[ONU buscará nuevas formas de financiamiento para los bosques](#)

La representante de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas en el Congreso Forestal Mundial (directora de UNFF), Jan McAlpine, dijo que van a buscar nuevas formas de financiamiento e instrumentos financieros para impulsar una nueva agenda.

[President de Kirchner plants tree at the Casa Rosada to open World Forestry Congress](#)

"In my life, I have planted some 3,000 plants, trees and roses" said President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner while planting a tree in front of the Casa Rosada, seat of the executive branch of the government of Argentina.

[Proponen deforestación cero para 2020](#)

Rodney Taylor, experto del Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza, sostiene que así se puede frenar el calentamiento global.

[Responding to climate change: Wood's place in a global approach to green building](#)

UNECE/FAO Workshop, 12 October 2009, Geneva - Conclusions and recommendations.

['The forest sector in the Green Economy'](#)

Findings and conclusions of the UNECE/FAO Policy Forum.

["The planet never needed more than now world forestry management"](#)

"We should not exclude any potential means of mitigating climate change" said Jan Heino, Assistant Director General of the Forestry Department at FAO, just as the World Forestry Congress drew to a close. In as little as five days, a major exercise of discussion, partnership and knowledge sharing occurred, seeing the involvement of the private sector as well as of civil society, the academia, NGOs and international organizations. With an initial expected number of 4000 participants rising up to over 7000, the meeting in Buenos Aires was evidence of the momentum generated by this crucial juncture.

[UNECE Region Forest Products Markets Forecast to turn up in 2010 – Is this the start of a recovery?](#)

At its annual market discussions conducted in Geneva, the UNECE Timber Committee forecast an upturn in most wood products market sectors in 2010. However, experts concluded that it is far too early to speak about a recovery. The Committee adopted an official market statement with forecasts for each market sector.

[Vigilancia de bosques para mitigar el cambio climático](#)

Un sistema de seguimiento de los bosques a través de imágenes satelitales de alta resolución y gratuito está disponible para ser utilizado por los países en desarrollo. Se trata de una iniciativa de la Organización de la ONU para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO) que permitirá un seguimiento más barato, preciso y transparente para los países que quieran reducir sus emisiones contaminantes debido a la deforestación y la degradación de los bosques.

["We are at the dawn of a new era for forestry"](#)

"Work is under way to prepare for a new future as we are at the dawn of a new era for forestry", the XIII World Forestry Congress was told on Wednesday by Tim Rollinson, Director General of the UK Forestry Commission, who chaired the Special Forum on Forests and Climate Change.

[WFC 2009: zero deforestation by 2020 a utopia; net deforestation reduction, not that much](#)

With forests being a key element in the fight against climate change, deforestation taking 13 million hectares of native woods every year, and REDD being proposed as an important alternative for controlling carbon emissions, the presentations taking place at the event are of particular importance this year.

[WFC - strong message to the UN Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen](#)

The Congress sent a strong message on climate change and forests to the upcoming UN Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen in December. The message stated above all: "Maintaining high carbon stocks by reducing deforestation and forest degradation and promoting the sustainable management of all types of forests, including the conservation of biodiversity, forest protection and restoration, should be amongst the world's highest priorities for the forestry sector.

[World Forestry Congress - declaration approved](#)

More than 7 000 participants from 160 countries attending the XIII World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires (18-23 October 2009) have called for the broadest possible coalition to address the many challenges the forestry sector is facing. A final declaration, adopted by the Congress, called for immediate "multi-sector responses" to rapid global changes.

[World Forestry Congress demands protection from Copenhagen](#)

The 13th World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires ended with a call for 'urgent action' to protect forests, ahead of the UN climate change conference in Copenhagen in December.

[World forestry Congress opens in Buenos Aires](#)

About 5,000 delegates from around the world have gathered in Argentina to discuss sustainable forestry. They want to find ways to save the world's forests from fires, over-logging and the effects of population growth.

[WWF desafía a los líderes del mundo a frenar la deforestación para evitar una catástrofe](#)

El Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza (WWF, por su sigla en inglés) retó a los líderes del mundo a apoyar un "objetivo ambicioso" para frenar la deforestación como uno de los elementos clave para evitar una "inminente catástrofe climática".

[WWF: Halt to forest loss a key to stabilising climate.](#)

WWF is challenging global leaders to back an ambitious target on stopping forest loss as a major element of efforts to avert the looming climate catastrophe.

[WWF to Screen Forest Carbon Investments](#)

WWF's Global Forest & Trade Network (GFTN) plans to launch investment screening guidelines for financial investors in the upcoming months to encourage support for responsible forest finance. WWF believes failure by the world's financial leaders to support responsible forest finance will allow deforestation to continue. WWF is also calling for zero net deforestation by 2020.

[Zero-deforestation goal sought in World Forestry Congress talks in Buenos Aires](#)

Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay are working toward a proposal that, by 2020, would completely eliminate deforestation of the Atlantic forest basin. After centuries of agricultural development 93 percent of the forest, which originally covered over 193,000 square miles, has been destroyed. The negotiations follow comments earlier this month from Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado, Brazil's lead climate negotiator, that his country intends to dramatically reduce deforestation in the Amazon rain forest within the same timeframe.

Africa

[Bushmeat consumption soars as forest cover declines](#)

New analytical techniques have revealed that the scale of bushmeat trade in Central Africa may be much larger than originally thought. The current situation surrounding bushmeat hunting in Central African rainforests is precarious. According to the analysis, bushmeat extraction rose considerably in the Congo Basin between 1990 and 2005, despite the overall decrease in forest cover in Central Africa.

[Climate change will devastate Africa, top UK scientist warns](#)

Hunger on the continent could increase dramatically in the short term as droughts and desertification increase, and climate change affects water supplies. "Projected reductions in crop yields could be as much as 50% by 2020 and 90% by 2100," Professor Sir Gordon Conway says.

[Illegal ivory demand could wipe out Africa's elephants by 2025](#)

Nearly twenty years ago the ivory trade was banned by Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Many saw this as the most important step in preventing the continued loss of elephants at the hands of poachers, and for awhile poaching slowed down. But now elephants are in danger again: a report by the International Fund for Wildlife Welfare (IFWW) states that an astounding 38,000 elephants are killed for their tusks annually—over a hundred every day.

[Why the UN must form global organ to manage world habitat](#)

Global environmental crises, from vanishing biodiversity and degrading forests to collapsing fish stocks and climate change, will not be solved without some tough thinking about international governance. The way the world has evolved its response to the unfolding challenges has become a bewildering and confusing array of institutions, agreements and treaties that is in urgent need of reform.

Argentina

[Argentina reduce ritmo deforestación, pero duplica tasa global](#)

Tras un acelerado proceso de deforestación a tasas que llegaron a quintuplicar el promedio mundial en los últimos años, Argentina está logrando frenar el avance de la soja sobre los bosques nativos, aunque aún debe adoptar más medidas de conservación, según expertos.

[Confirman proyecto de ley para manejo sustentable de los bosques](#)

El ministro de Ecología, Horacio Blodek, confirmó que el Gobierno enviará a la Cámara de Diputados un proyecto de ley de Ordenamiento Territorial que permitirá a Misiones acceder a los fondos de compensación de Protección Ambiental.

["El fuego en los montes comienza intencional e irresponsablemente"](#)

El director local de Bosques y Fauna atribuye el siniestro a las actitudes desaprensivas. El fuego se torna incontrolable en algunas zonas.

["La deforestación exagera la sequía y genera desertificación"](#)

La sequía comenzó a preocupar en toda la región y empieza a tener efectos negativos en las actividades productivas. Profesionales de la Facultad de Ciencias Forestales están realizando monitoreos del comportamiento de la vegetación, ya que es sensible a las variaciones climáticas.

[Solar power gives Andean villages new lease on life](#)

A pioneering solar energy project is using green technology to improve the lives of isolated villagers living beyond the reach of power lines on Argentina's windswept Andean plains. Llama-herding communities have relied on firewood to cook and to heat their mud-brick homes for centuries in this remote corner of the vast South American country, causing deforestation and soil erosion.

Australia

[Australia braces for severe bushfire season](#)

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd warned the nation to brace for a severe bushfire season as fire crews battled intense blazes stoking memories of infernos earlier this year which killed 173 people.

[Standard Bank poised to launch \\$230 million forest fund](#)

South Africa's Standard Bank is close to launching a A\$250 million (\$230 million) forestry fund in Australia, aimed at selling carbon offsets to companies, in what is believed to be the largest fund of its kind so far.

Brazil

[Brasil busca reducir deforestación amazónica](#)

La nación sudamericana registra altos niveles de emisiones de CO2 debido a la deforestación, las "queimadas" y la actividad agrícola y ganadera le han ido ganando espacio a la floresta tropical nativa.

[Brazil eyes deeper CO2 cuts, backs U.N. forest plan](#)

Brazil's Environment Minister Carlos Minc said that the government is studying deeper emissions cuts than previously announced and that it favors a U.N.-backed forest preservation scheme.

[Brazil seeks climate target for all Amazon nations](#)

Brazil wants to forge a common position among all Amazon basin countries for a global climate summit later this year.

[Brazil's Lula vows to slow rate of Amazon deforestation](#)

President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said he will offer to reduce the pace of deforestation in Brazil's Amazon rain forest by 80 percent by 2020 when he attends December's global climate talks in Copenhagen.

[Brazil to support REDD in Copenhagen](#)

Brazil will conditionally support a proposed climate change mitigation scheme that would compensate tropical countries for preserving their forests.

[Cane ethanol helps cut greenhouse emissions: study](#)

Use of sugar cane-based ethanol as a substitute for gasoline is among the cheapest and easiest ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, according to a Brazilian study. Cane ethanol provides about eight times the energy used to produce it and adoption of new cane plant varieties and processes could increase its efficiency further. The study looked only at the future production of cane over pastures or as a replacement for other crops -- not over native forests.

[Google partners with Amazon tribe](#)

The story of an indigenous Amazon tribe that has embraced technology in its fight to protect its homeland and culture is now highlighted as a layer in Google Earth.

[Supermodel Lily Cole launches rainforest rescue](#)

Model Lily Cole launched a campaign yesterday to save one billion trees in the Amazon rainforest.

Cambodia

[New reserve created in Cambodia with REDD in mind](#)

Cambodia's Royal Government's Council of Ministers has declared the creation of the Seima Protection Forest, a 1,100 square miles (2,849 square kilometers) park home to tigers, elephants, and endangered primates. The park's creation was developed in part by the Wildlife Conservation Society's (WCS) "Carbon for Conservation" program, which intends to protect high-biodiversity ecosystems while raising funds through carbon sequestration schemes such as Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD).

Cameroon

[Ngo plants trees to beautify Yaounde](#)

A group of young Cameroonians keen on promoting environmental protection have embarked on the planting of trees as a means to foster their activities.

Canada

[Canada sets aside its boreal forest as giant carbon vault](#)

By banning logging, mining and oil drilling in an area twice the size of California, Canada is ensuring its boreal forests continue to soak up carbon.

China

[China's Pearl River suffers from "almost impossible to remove" pollution](#)

A new study by Greenpeace has found high volumes of heavy metals and organic chemicals in China's Pearl River, which provides drinking water for 47 million people.

Colombia

[Colombia denuncia la contribución de la droga a la destrucción del bosque](#)

El ministro de Ambiente de Colombia, Carlos Costa, denunció en Londres el "efecto destructor" de la producción de droga sobre la selva amazónica ya que tiene lugar en sitios cada vez más remotos y alejados de todo control. Un estudio indica que por cada gramo de cocaína se destruyen cuatro metros cuadrados de bosque.

[Colombia's endangered species at the mercy of jungle drug cartels](#)

A global campaign will make young people aware of the danger the illicit drug trade represents to hundreds of species in Colombia's rainforests.

[Colombia's robber barons ruling jungles with guns and whisky](#)

Farmers in Chocó province say mining and logging firms are pushing them off the land by force or trickery.

Côte d'Ivoire

[Quand manger du chocolat devient un geste pour la sauvegarde de la biodiversité](#)

Sous pression du marché mondial du cacao, les petits producteurs sont souvent conduits à recourir à la déforestation, source de perte de biodiversité. La certification peut constituer une alternative, qui répond aussi aux attentes des consommateurs.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

[Large parts of North Korea hit by forest fires: NASA](#)

Vast forest fires have hit a large part of central North Korea, sending plumes of smoke over most of the country's central and eastern regions, images provided by NASA show.

Ecuador

[A forest of issues](#)

An innovative proposal recently emerged from the foliage that aims to keep fossil fuels in the ground while preserving some of South America's most startling biodiversity and securing the traditional territories of indigenous peoples.

[Ecuador wants funds to stop rainforest oil output](#)

Germany, Spain and France have expressed interest in a pioneering Ecuadorean plan not to pump oil from under a tropical forest in return for international compensation.

[Pay us oil money, or the rainforest gets it](#)

Ecuador's unprecedented offer to accept payment for not extracting oil from beneath the Amazon rainforest is beginning to draw interest. The move could usher in a new way to both combat climate change and prevent damage to ecologically diverse and sensitive regions.

[Placing a price on drinking water](#)

At a hydroelectric plant in Ecuador, flowing water is used not just to generate electricity, but to fill bottles for sale. The commercialization of water has triggered a debate in the country over whether safe, clean water is a human right or a product to sell.

[Will Ecuador's plan to raise money for not drilling oil in the Amazon succeed?](#)

Ecuador's Yasuni National Park is full of wealth: it is one of the richest places on earth in terms of biodiversity; it is home to the indigenous Waorani people, as well as several uncontacted tribes; and the park's forest and soil provides a massive carbon sink. However, Yasuni National Park also sits on wealth of a different kind: one billion barrels of oil remain locked under the pristine rainforest.

Ethiopia

[Ethiopia's water traps](#)

Pastoralists in Ethiopia's drought-affected eastern desert region are turning towards traditional water harvesting techniques in an attempt to deal with the increasingly erratic weather patterns.

Finland

[Finnish forests may be calculated as sources for carbon after Copenhagen](#)

One model for calculations in climate change negotiations would cause one thousand million euros' loss for Finnish forestry sector - over half of annual logging revenues.

[Greenpeace is withdrawing from Finnish Lapland](#)

An agreement on Forest Lapland makes it possible for Greenpeace Nordic to realise its wish to withdraw from Finnish Lapland and move its target area to Indonesia.

[PEFC is a prevalent success story in the UK](#)

According to the latest statistics of the branch a half of the timber on the British market is PEFC-certified. A fifth is without any certification.

[Selling timber is well regulated in Finland](#)

Many Finnish forest owners consider that selling timber is a complex business. Not so, says a woman who has sealed thousands of deals.

[Un acuerdo protege 35.000 hectáreas de bosque primario en Laponia](#)

Greenpeace ha llegado a un acuerdo para la conservación de áreas de bosque primario con la empresa pública finlandesa Metsähallitus y con otros agentes implicados en Laponia (Finlandia). El acuerdo se ha conseguido después de dos meses de negociaciones, y se centra en la protección de 35.000 hectáreas de bosque fuera de la gestión forestal de los municipios de Kittilä, Sodankylä, Savukoski y Salla. Estas ocho áreas, no podrán ser objeto de tala. Este acuerdo supone un gran éxito para la biodiversidad y para los últimos bosques primarios en Laponia.

France

[Les travaux ont cessé au Bois St-François](#)

Le ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs soutient que le déboisement illégal a bel et bien cessé dans le Bois St-François Est, à Laval.

Gambia

[Sanchaba LBS respond to president Jammeh's tree planting initiative](#)

The call by the Gambia leader, His Excellency Sheikh Professor Alhaji Dr Yahya Jammeh for schools to plant trees, has indeed gained momentum, as a number of schools continue to respond positively to the call.

Indonesia

[A Sumatra, une forêt tropicale sur "la ligne de front" du climat](#)

A l'approche du sommet de Copenhague, des ONG se mobilisent pour sauver l'une des dernières forêts tropicales de l'île indonésienne de Sumatra qui, si elle était déboisée, contribuerait à aggraver le réchauffement climatique.

[El aceite de palma, de cultivo "milagro" a primera causa de deforestación en Indonesia](#)

La fiebre del aceite de palma, el cultivo "milagro" que prometía combustibles ecológicos y desarrollo económico en los países emergentes, va camino de convertirse en la principal causa de la salvaje deforestación que padece Indonesia.

[Forests versus oil palm plantations in Sumatra](#)

The sight and sound of tree felling is common in Indonesia, the country with the highest rate of deforestation in the world. The destruction of forests in this archipelago, draped like an emerald necklace across the equator, can be measured in hectares per minute.

[Illegal logging responsible for loss of 10 million hectares in Indonesia](#)

Lush tropical rainforest once covered almost all of Indonesia's 17,000 islands between the Indian and Pacific oceans. And just half a century ago, 80 per cent remained. But since then, rampant logging and burning has destroyed nearly half that cover, and made the country the world's third largest emitter of greenhouse gases after the US and China.

[Indonesia wants funds for environment enforcement](#)

Indonesia's new environment minister said he needs more funds for law enforcement to stop illegal logging and pollution, in a bid to curb emissions by one of the world's biggest emitters of greenhouse gases.

[Sumatra : Greenpeace tente de préserver sa dernière forêt tropicale](#)

Des ONG se mobilisent pour tenter de sauver l'une des dernières forêts tropicales de l'île indonésienne de Sumatra. « C'est une forêt sur tourbières, un écosystème très particulier », explique Bustar Maitar, un responsable de Greenpeace Indonésie.

Kazakhstan

[Kazakhstan's wild apples](#)

The last surviving wild apple forests in the world are found in the Tien Shan mountain range of southern Kazakhstan. A wide genetic diversity among plant species has developed in the mountains.

Kenya

[Can the media save the Mau Forest?](#)

As a director of many years at a media company, a question I have been asking myself is: Can the media help achieve sustainable development? More immediately, can it help for example to save the Mau by making the practical actions needed into a source of daily news, packaged in a manner that sustains reader and viewer attention and interest?

[Kenya's pain, part two: decades of wildlife decline exacerbated by drought](#)

The drought striking East Africa has left millions hungry, littered landscape with dead and dying livestock, evaporated lakes and streams, and pressed farmers from fields into slums. However, the disaster has also blasted the usually drought-prone wildlife of East Africa. Elephants, hippos, antelopes, buffalo, rhinos, even flamingoes have all been impacted. But while devastating, it turns out the drought is only the latest in a long list of troubles for Kenya's wildlife.

[Mau settlers refuse to surrender title deeds](#)

Mau settlers snubbed government calls to surrender their title deeds. The settlers said they were unhappy with the two-week deadline set by the recovery team before they were assured of government's sincerity.

[Now timetable set for reclaiming Mau land](#)

Uninhabited land which was illegally excised in Likia and Mariashoni areas of Mau Forest will be the first to be reclaimed by the government in the next one month. Attention will then shift to south-western Mau, where 19,000 hectares being occupied by squatters will be taken back in the second of a five-phase recovery programme, according to the team overseeing reclamation of the crucial water tower.

[Reforms on the way to save forests](#)

The Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife is introducing reforms to ensure effective protection of forests. The government has empowered Kenya Forest Service (KFS), which was recently turned into a state corporation with an expanded mandate as the country's forest regulator.

[Satellites to help Kenyans insure against drought](#)

Satellites measuring the greenness of Kenya from space are set to help insure livestock herders against droughts and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Madagascar

[Madagascar biodiversity threatened as gangs run wild](#)

Roasted lemurs and criminal gangs exporting precious hardwood: this is the sad state of affairs for Madagascar's legendary biodiversity. Since a military coup ousted the president in March, loggers have been stripping the country's forests and killing its animals for bushmeat.

[Ravaged by drought, Madagascar feels the full effect of climate change](#)

A 10% increase in temperature and a 10% decrease in rainfall sees Indian Ocean island struggle to feed its children. Climate change is widely blamed for playing havoc with the seasons and destroying agricultural harvests. This is exacerbated by local deforestation, which has altered the microclimate and reduced rainfall.

[Rosewood traffickers busted in Madagascar](#)

Authorities in Madagascar have sacked a local official, arrested several businessmen, and issued fines following the discovery of illegally harvested rosewood logs aboard a ship.

Malaysia

[Emotional call for palm oil industry to address environmental problems](#)

During what was at times an emotional speech, Sabah's Minister of Tourism, Culture, and Environment, Datuk Masidi Manjun, called on the palm oil industry to stop polluting rivers and work with NGOs to save orangutans and other wildlife. He delivered the speech on the first day of an Orangutan Conservation Colloquium held in early October in the Malaysian state of Sabah on the island of Borneo.

["Money is not a problem" palm oil CEO tells conservationists during speech defending the industry](#)

Earlier this month at a colloquium to implement wildlife corridors for orangutans in the Malaysian state of Sabah, Dr. Yusof Basiron, the CEO of Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC), told conservationists and primate experts that the palm oil industry was ready to fund reforestation efforts in the corridors.

[Tiger rescued from poachers in Malaysia perishes from injuries](#)

Rescued in early October from a poacher's snare, a Malayan tiger has died from stress and infection due to its injuries. The 120 kilogram (264 pound) male tiger died on October 19th in the Malacca Zoo after undergoing surgery to amputate its right foreleg, which two weeks before had been caught in a poacher's snare and severely injured.

Myanmar

[Decline in Burmese timber smuggling across Chinese border, figures show](#)

Imports into China have dropped by 70% but continue to pose a threat to one of the world's last virgin forests, according to Global Witness.

[Illegal logging trade from Myanmar to China slows, but doesn't stop](#)

The illegal wood trade from Myanmar (also known as Burma) to China has slowed, but it still threatens Myanmar's tropical forests and species, according to a new report by Global Witness.

[Myanmar timber still smuggled to China](#)

There has been a sharp decline in timber illegally imported into China from Myanmar, but smugglers are still supplying Chinese companies that export the wood to Europe, America and throughout the world.

Namibia

[Botanical society Tree Hero Awards announced](#)

Environmentally conscious Namibians who have made great efforts to preserve trees and helped prevent the cutting down of old and stately trees were awarded by the Botanical Society of Namibia last week at its annual awards event. The top Tree Award went to Gypsy Grewar of the Klein Windhoek Service Station for taking care of a camelthorn tree in the forecourt of the service station. This tree is over 200 years old. Camelthorn trees are a protected species and may not be chopped down.

Nigeria

[Desert encroachment - Borno to plant six million seedlings](#)

As a result of fast desert encroachment, in Borno State and other parts of North, the Borno State government is set to plant over six million tree seedlings before the end of this year, so as to control deforestation which has contributed to environmental degradation in the state.

[Desertification: Kano plants 2.6m trees](#)

Kano state government said desertification and deforestation are the major challenges facing the state and vowed to continue planting trees with a view to stop the desertification problems which is threatening the state.

[Jigawa plants 8 million seedlings to tackle desertification](#)

Jigawa government has planted over 8 million seedlings of different trees in all nooks and corners of the state, aimed at fighting the menace of desert encroachment.

Norway

[Norwegian wood for the ages: 'mummified' pine trees found](#)

Norwegian scientists have found "mummified" pine trees, dead for nearly 500 years yet without decomposition.

[Tree "mummies" found, traced back to Viking era](#)

"Mummified" trees that lived around Viking times have been discovered near a fjord in southwestern Norway, scientists say.

Peru

[Amazonian natives say they will defend tribal lands from Hunt Oil with "their lives"](#)

Indigenous natives in the Amazon are headed to the town of Salvacion in Peru with a plan to forcibly remove the Texas-based Hunt Oil company from their land as early as today. Peruvian police forces, numbering in the hundreds, are said to be waiting in the town.

[Comunidades nativas del VRAE y Urubamba, piden preservar bosques alrededor de carretera Kimbiri – Kepashiato](#)

Los representantes de las milenarias comunidades nativas del valle de los ríos Apurímac y Ene, VRAE y del valle del Urubamba, así como diversos promotores ambientalistas exhortaron a las autoridades locales y regionales a elaborar políticas de conservación y preservación de los bosques y biodiversidad que se encuentran ubicados en la carretera Kimbiri – Kepashiato.

[Crisis averted for now, Peruvian natives will meet with Hunt Oil](#)

Indigenous groups in a dispute with Hunt Oil, over the company performing seismic tests their land, have scheduled a meeting with the Texas based oil corporation.

[How Peru is netting water supplies](#)

They look like huge abandoned volleyball nets facing west towards the Pacific Ocean on one of the many hillsides in the Peruvian capital, Lima.

[Peru tribes pressure Hunt Oil to leave Amazon](#)

Tribes in Peru say they want U.S. energy company Hunt Oil to abandon an exploration project in a virgin corner of the Amazon rainforest, and they have filed legal challenges against the government and the company to force it out.

Plurinational State of Bolivia

[Use of forests as carbon offsets fails to impress in first big trial](#)

Project in Bolivia keeps trees standing but has little clear effect on emissions.

Poland

[Conservationists laud Poland's move to re-route controversial motorway](#)

Original Via Baltica route would have heavily impacted on important sites for biodiversity including the Biebrza marshes, and the Knyszyn and Augustow forests.

Russian Federation

[A hypnotizing hunt leaves Russians bewildered](#)

It happens every mushroom season. Russians are passionate about gathering mushrooms, an ancient pastime they call the "quiet hunt," and routinely become so hypnotized that they get hopelessly lost. Regional search-and-rescue teams fan out on foot or in helicopters, occasionally enlisting tracking dogs or parachute jumpers, and newspapers retell their stories with gusto.

[Tiger success story turns bleak: poachers decimating great cats in Siberia](#)

There were two bright spots in tiger conservation, India and Russia, but both have dimmed recently. Last year India announced that a new survey found only 1,411 tigers, instead of the previous estimation of 3,508, and now Russian tigers may be suffering a similar decline.

Rwanda

[Rema finalising law on wetlands](#)

Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) is currently finalising a law governing the exploitation of wetlands in the country. The formulation of the law follows a previous exercise by REMA that demarcated wetlands and classified the endangered ones from those that were not.

Spain

[Aeefor ultima un proyecto integral de aprovechamiento de biomasa forestal](#)

La Asociación Extremeña de Empresas Forestales y del Medio Ambiente (Aeefor) anunció hoy que está ultimando un proyecto integral sobre biomasa forestal, pionero en Extremadura, para su aprovechamiento como fuente de energía renovable, que tiene una inversión que ronda los 40 millones de euros y supondrá una importante oportunidad de desarrollo para el medio rural extremeño.

[Aprobadas ayudas de 2,4 millones para desarrollo y aprovechamiento de bosques](#)

El Gobierno de Cantabria ha aprobado una partida de 2,4 millones de euros que se destinarán a subvenciones públicas para fomentar entre ayuntamientos, juntas vecinales, empresas y particulares acciones de desarrollo y aprovechamiento de los bosques en las zonas rurales.

[¿Despensa natural o expolio?](#)

La fiebre por los bolets o la proliferación de buscadores de piñas llevan cada año a miles de personas a los bosques leridanos. Esta afluencia masiva ha abierto el debate sobre los bosques y ha encendido las alarmas de sus dueños, que ven como se explotan los recursos de su propiedad sin obtener ningún beneficio.

[El 54,57% de los incendios forestales de los nueve primeros meses del año se registraron en la región noroeste](#)

El 54,57 por ciento de los incendios forestales registrados en los nueve primeros meses del año en España se registraron en la región noroeste, que incluye a las comunidades autónomas de Galicia, Asturias, Cantabria, País Vasco y las provincias de León y Zamora. En total, los incendios han arrasado 107.481 hectáreas en lo que va de año, casi 60.000 hectáreas más que la superficie quemada en los primeros nueve meses de 2008.

[Ganado autóctono para prevenir incendios forestales](#)

Cantabria participa en el proyecto Urabin, con el que se pretende fomentar el uso del ganado autóctono para la prevención de incendios forestales. El proyecto Urabin, enmarcado en el Interreg IV Sudoe, consiste en la utilización de razas de ganado autóctono en tareas de prevención de incendios forestales, un hecho pionero en España. Así, gracias a estas tareas de silvicultura se podrán evitar posibles incendios y dar un nuevo uso a razas vacunas en peligro de extinción.

[La AFG pide ayudas para las plagas y los daños del «Klaus» en los bosques](#)

Propone que se incentive a los propietarios para que puedan tramitar la certificación forestal de sus montes.

[La industria forestal gallega pide ayudas directas para contener su crisis](#)

La industria de la madera en Galicia vive "la peor crisis de su historia". Los problemas para este sector estratégico para la economía gallega no son una novedad, pero ante el agravamiento de su situación los representantes del sector están estudiando solicitar al Gobierno central ayudas directas para incentivar el consumo de los productos que dependen directamente de la producción maderera.

[La invasión del matorral mejora los ecosistemas semiáridos en España](#)

La desertificación asociada al fenómeno de la matorralización en zonas semiáridas no es un fenómeno universal. Esta es la conclusión a la que ha conducido un estudio exhaustivo realizando en espartales españoles publicado recientemente por la prestigiosa revista Ecology Letters.

[Madrid - La región cuenta con 48.000 hectáreas más de superficie de bosques y montes que hace una década](#)

En la actualidad, más de 433.000 hectáreas son de masa verde, el 54% del territorio regional, según datos de la Comunidad.

[Medio Ambiente de CyL destinará 129 millones a la gestión forestal](#)

La Consejería de Medio Ambiente destinará el próximo ejercicio 129 millones de euros a la gestión forestal, con el objetivo, entre otros, de ejecutar tratamientos silvícolas preventivos y de mejora en más de 25.000 hectáreas y garantizar con ello el funcionamiento de 129 cuadrillas de trabajadores forestales que suponen cerca de un millar de empleos en las zonas rurales de la Comunidad y que tiene como fin prevenir ante la lacra de los incendios.

[Presentados dos manuales prácticos sobre aprovechamiento integral de biomasa forestal](#)

La 4ª edición de la feria internacional especializada en bioenergía, Expobioenergía'09, ha acogido la presentación de dos nuevos manuales prácticos dirigidos a difundir las posibilidades del aprovechamiento de la biomasa forestal primaria en los pinares de repoblación de Castilla y León.

[Spanish wetland facing destruction as farming starves it of water](#)

Less than 1% of Tablas de Daimiel remains as lagoons. Fires burning underground as illegal wells dry out peat.

[Spanish wetlands shrouded in smoke as overfarming dries out peat](#)

National park which was once a 'paradise' now on fire and churning out tonnes of CO2.

[Un satélite detecta una especie arbórea con características propias en El Bierzo](#)

Cuando fue lanzado hace dos años, el satélite CBERS-2 incorporó cámaras fotográficas con diferentes capacidades para observar la planificación urbanística en China; gran capacidad de almacenaje de datos frecuentes y no tan detallados, para monitorizar la deforestación y la expansión agropecuaria en Brasil. Esos objetivos han apuntado por primera vez a Castilla y León para un trabajo de investigación de la Universidad de León.

TimorLeste

[Endemic birds thrive on Timor-Leste's 'lost world' mountain](#)

Surveys have confirmed that the finest montane forests in Timor-Leste, and possibly the whole island of Timor, are to be found on the inaccessible Mount Mundo Perdido -- literally, "Lost World." With 22 of the restricted-range species of the Timor and Wetar Endemic Bird Area found so far, Mount Mundo Perdido has been recognised as Timor-Leste's seventeenth Important Bird Area (IBA).

Uganda

[Bush fires - an environment threat to Moyo](#)

The devastation caused by bush fires in Northern Uganda sometimes deliberately has led to pollution and disruption of the ecosystem affecting the farmers' crop and leading to food insecurity and poverty.

[MPs want guards for forest reserves](#)

The National Forest Authority (NFA) should be given guards to stop the destruction of forests by encroachers. The move would prevent illegal tree loggers.

[Stop cutting trees, Kjong told](#)

The Nakapiripirit district boss, Simon Nangiro, has advised Karimojong to stop cutting down trees to save their region from further environmental degradation. He said the Karimojong have continued to cut down trees to fortify their homesteads and produce charcoal leading to degradation of the environment.

[Uganda to open its doors to big game hunters](#)

Uganda, which suffered a 90 percent decline in large mammals during the 70s and 80s, has now lifted a decades-long ban on big game hunting.

United Kingdom

[Black sky at night, stargazers' delight](#)

Boasting hundreds of square miles of deserted woodland, lonely lochs and boggy moor, the hills of the Galloway Forest Park have long provided a refuge for lovers of the rugged outdoors. Soon, many of those making their way to this corner of south-west Scotland will be seeking a glimpse of somewhere even more distant from the clamour of human activity.

[Cosmic pattern to UK tree growth](#)

The growth of British trees appears to follow a cosmic pattern, with trees growing faster when high levels of cosmic radiation arrive from space.

[Forest pursues 'dark sky' status](#)

A bid has been submitted to see a south of Scotland forest recognised as the first "dark sky park" outside the US.

[M&S makes palm oil pledge to save forests](#)

Marks & Spencer will commit to paying more for sustainable palm oil across its entire range of products today in an attempt to limit environmental damage in south-east Asia.

[The palm oil scandal: Boots and Waitrose named and shamed](#)

Most British manufacturers and retailers including Boots, Morrisons and Waitrose have done little to limit the environmental damage done by the production of the world's cheapest vegetable oil. In a survey of leading European food and household firms, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) said that only Sainsbury's, Marks and Spencer and a handful of other companies had made substantial progress towards sourcing sustainable palm oil.

[Wetland restored to help wildlife](#)

Conservationists working on restoring wetlands in the New Forest have installed a light railway to carry materials to the site.

United Republic of Tanzania

[Teams douse Mount Meru fire](#)

The raging bush fire on the slopes of Mount Meru has been put out by the Arusha National Park fire team in collaboration with the neighbouring residents and institutions.

United States of America

[Beetle-killed trees being removed](#)

A massive tree removal project is being expanded in Colorado to prevent pines killed by beetles from falling on hikers and motorists. Pine beetles have devastated an estimated 2.5 million acres in Colorado and more trees are falling in the wind as rotting root systems weaken.

[Business and conservation groups team up to conserve and better manage US's southern forests](#)

A new project entitled Carbon Canopy brings together multiple stakeholders—from big business to conservation organizations to private landowners—in order to protect and better manage the United State's southern forests.

[Feud continues between wood certifiers](#)

Another shot had been fired in the battle between rival certifiers of environmentally friendly wood products. The Coalition for Fair Forest Certification filed a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission last week charging that the Forest Stewardship Council – the premier certifier of green forestry products in the United States – engages in unfair and deceptive trade practices.

[Gas company won't drill in New York watershed](#)

Bowing to intense public pressure, the Chesapeake Energy Corporation says it will not drill for natural gas within the upstate New York watershed, an environmentally sensitive region that supplies unfiltered water to nine million people.

[Global warming may spur increased growth in Pacific Northwest forests](#)

Global warming in the next century could cause a significant increase in the productivity of high-elevation forests of the Pacific Northwest, a new study suggests. However, forests at lower elevations – which in recent years have accounted for more than 80 percent of the region's timber harvest – could face a decline in growth.

[Green groups clash over reliability of forest-based carbon offsets](#)

The environmental group Greenpeace is attacking the legitimacy of a 13-year effort to produce carbon credits by saving Bolivia's rainforests -- an effort that other advocates defend as a pioneering and vitally necessary model for fighting global warming.

[Hybrids of invasive Australian plant species Casuarina found growing widely in Florida](#)

Hybrids of the invasive Australian plant species Casuarina exist in Florida. These fast-growing, pine-like trees were historically planted widely as ornamentals and along boulevards in south Florida, and are currently being proposed as a windbreak in citrus groves. However, the trees are frequently the tallest in the canopy and can be very damaging during storms and hurricanes.

[NYC officials urge gas drilling ban in watersheds](#)

New York City officials and environmental groups urged a ban on natural gas drilling in the city's watersheds, fearing it could contaminate the city's water supply.

[NYC sees "alarming" risks in natgas drilling](#)

New York City's top environmental official called the risk that drilling for natural gas in the upstate region that supplies most of the city's drinking water "especially alarming." Extracting the gas is expected to require splitting the shale by pumping in water, chemicals and other materials, such as sand. Some of the chemicals, though they may be only a small part of the overall mixture, are considered toxic or carcinogenic, and might contaminate the ground water. This method also requires clear-cutting the forest, building new roads and storing the chemicals, said Lawitts.

[Potential grows for biomass energy](#)

Woody biomass provides just 0.94 percent of all U.S. energy now, supplying the equivalent of 3.5 million American homes. Available raw material would allow the industry to double its output. New incinerators are already being planned in many states.

[Senate should consider deforestation as part of climate bill](#)

To date, the climate debate has focused on reducing fossil fuel emissions and ramping up crucial clean energy alternatives. Far too little attention has been paid to the role tropical deforestation has in warming the planet. It accounts for 17 percent of global emissions—more than all the world's cars, trucks, planes, trains, and ships combined. This is a serious oversight; if left unaddressed, deforestation will undermine all our efforts to solve the climate crisis.

[United States under pressure to protect tropical forests](#)

Governors of three U.S. states have signed cooperation agreements with eight regional leaders in Brazil and Indonesia to protect forests as part of their climate mitigation efforts. A cap-and-trade bill passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in May relied heavily on forestry offsets to reduce emissions 17 percent by 2020 from 2005 levels.

Zambia

[Baobab land not used for its purpose, says Mabenga](#)

Lands Deputy Minister Michael Mabenga yesterday told Parliament that Legacy Holdings has allegedly not used the Baobab land on Kafue Road for the intended purposes.

Zimbabwe

[Deforestation looms in Marondera](#)

An ecological disaster is looming in Masomera communal land in Marondera District as villagers contracted to grow tobacco are indiscriminately cutting down trees. Some of the villagers have signed contracts of more than five hectares before the rainy season, yet they were not given coal to cure the crop.

[Replace Harare's ageing trees](#)

Harare's street trees are one of the glories of the city, and for many years the "Sunshine City" was known as the "City of Flowering Trees" until most of those in the central business district were chopped down to widen roads and increase the parking area. But trees do not live forever, especially the ubiquitous jacarandas that seem to comprise a higher proportion of the street-side trees than the actual shade they offer in the hottest months would suggest they deserve.

World

[Agencias espaciales junto con Google controlarán la deforestación de los bosques desde el espacio](#)

Diversos organismos espaciales nacionales e internacionales junto con el mastodonte Google, capitaneados por El Grupo de Observación de la Tierra (GEO), trabajan conjuntamente en el desarrollo de un nuevo sistema de vigilancia mundial con el que controlarán anualmente las tasas de

deforestación de nuestros bosques y las reservas forestales de carbono utilizando imágenes satelitales.

[Carbon accounting must not neglect emissions from bioenergy production and use](#)

Carbon accounting used in the Kyoto Protocol and other climate legislation currently neglects CO₂ emissions from the production of biofuels, a loophole that could drive large-scale destruction of tropical forests and exacerbate global warming.

[Carbon-offsetting and conservation can both be winners in rainforest](#)

Logged rainforests can support as much plant, animal and insect life as virgin forest within 15 years if properly managed.

[Carbon offsets, wood chips fuel forests interest](#)

Forests are a growing investment prospect as climate incentives place new value on wood chips and standing trees, say fund managers. An economic recovery will also drive demand for more traditional products such as pulp and lumber, investors say.

[Carbon values drive forest investment](#)

New rewards to store carbon in trees are driving forestry investments, but green groups fear they pose a threat to ancient woodlands and rainforests.

[Cell phones become handheld tools for global development](#)

Computer scientists at the University of Washington have used Android, the open-source mobile operating system championed by Google, to turn a cell phone into a versatile data-collection device. Organizations that want a fully customizable way to, say, snap pictures of a deforested area, add the location coordinates and instantly submit that information to a global environmental database now have a flexible and free way to do it.

[Composted dairy manure in foliage plant production](#)

Peat has been a major component of substrates used in container plant production since the 1960s. Highly porous with the capacity to hold water, peat makes an ideal rooting and growing medium for potted plants. But harvesting peat (and draining valuable peatlands in the process) releases the carbon stored in peat into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. And because peat plays an important role in wetland ecosystems - peat bogs improve groundwater quality and are unique habitats for wild plants and animals - the use of peat has been challenged and peat mining is increasingly regulated.

[Cualquier plan de biocarburantes agravará las emisiones de carbono](#)

El actual mercado del CO₂ alienta la deforestación - Los científicos recomiendan proteger los bosques y racionalizar el uso de fertilizantes.

[Deforestation and the true cost of Europe's cheap meat](#)

Cheap meat has become a way of life in much of Europe, but the full price is being paid across Latin America as vast soya plantations and their attendant chemicals lead to poisonings and violence.

[Deforestation: The hidden cause of global warming](#)

In the next 24 hours, deforestation will release as much CO₂ into the atmosphere as 8 million people flying from London to New York. Stopping the loggers is the fastest and cheapest solution to climate change. So why are global leaders turning a blind eye to this crisis?

[Developing nations join West in deforestation fight](#)

Six developing countries will join five western nations, including the United States and Britain, to combat climate change by better managing forestry resources. Brazil, the Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Morocco, Nepal, and Romania will join donor nations Australia, Denmark, Norway, Britain and the United States, who have jointly pledged some 350 million dollars to fund the project.

[Earliest evidence of humans thriving on the savannah](#)

Humans were living and thriving on open grassland in Africa as early as 2 million years ago, making stone tools and using them to butcher zebra and other animals. That's according to powerful evidence from artefacts found at Kanjera South, an archaeological site in south-west Kenya. All of the other earlier hominins that have been found in the geological record – such as *Ardipithecus ramidus* and

Australopithecus afarensis – known as Ardi and Lucy, respectively - lived either in dense forest or in a mosaic of woodland, shrub and grasses.

[EU grapples with deforestation ahead of Copenhagen](#)

European countries are still undecided on how to handle the thorny issue of deforestation under a new international climate change agreement, with national interests coming into play as EU ministers gear up for a series of meetings next week.

[European companies not supporting 'greener' palm oil](#)

Most European consumers of palm oil are failing to buy eco-certified palm oil, undermining efforts to encourage producers to reduce their impact on the environment.

[Forests, farms key in 2050 emissions goal](#)

Forestry and agriculture are two sectors that must help lead an economic transformation toward climate sustainability beginning over the next five years. Renewable energy, carbon capture and storage and energy efficiency are the other key areas in which rapid expansion is necessary to avoid the serious risk of runaway climate change.

[Global water issues - a cause is born](#)

By the looks of it, a new cause has been born: bringing access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene to those on the planet who still lack it.

[Greenpeace questions rain forest project](#)

For more than a decade, a landmark project in Bolivia has allowed three major polluters — American Electric Power, BP and PacifiCorp — to finance conservation efforts in a Bolivian rain forest to offset their emissions elsewhere around the world. The program had been viewed as a test case of the ability of major polluters to find economical ways to cut global emissions.

[Historic chance to halt the scourge of deforestation](#)

At last, the wreck of the rainforests is being tackled. One of the key parts of the Copenhagen climate agreement which the international community will try to construct in December is a comprehensive treaty aiming to reduce deforestation rates in the developing countries by at least 50 per cent by 2020.

[International palm oil strategy falters as producers question emission cuts](#)

Insiders say international initiative to set environmental standards for palm oil production is 'on brink of collapse'.

[La caída de los mayas: "Ellos mismos la ocasionaron con la deforestación"](#)

Una gran sequía tuvo lugar cerca del momento histórico durante el cual los mayas comenzaron a desaparecer. Y, al momento de su caída, ya los mayas habían cortado la mayor parte de los árboles ubicados a lo largo de grandes franjas de tierra con el fin de despejar terreno para cultivar el maíz que alimentaría a su creciente población. Ellos también cortaron árboles para usarlos como leña y para hacer materiales de construcción.

[La Unión Europea tendrá en cuenta los incendios en el cómputo de emisiones contaminantes](#)

Los ministros de Medio Ambiente de la UE acordaron hoy tener en cuenta el impacto de los incendios y otros desastres naturales al calcular las emisiones nacionales de dióxido de carbono (CO₂), ya que, cuando se producen estas catástrofes, resulta difícil cumplir con los objetivos de reducción.

[Leaves "magnetized" by air pollution, study finds](#)

Tree leaves are "magnetized" by air pollution, and the phenomenon may offer a new and inexpensive technique for quickly identifying air-pollution hot spots, scientists say.

[Logged forests support biodiversity after 15 years of rehabilitation, but not if turned into plantations](#)

With the world facing global warming and a biodiversity crisis, a new study shows that within 15 years logged forests—considered by many to be 'degraded'—can be managed in order to successfully fight both climate change and extinction.

[Lutte contre la déforestation: attention aux mirages](#)

La protection des forêts tropicales est un enjeu majeur des négociations sur le climat. Pour lutter contre la déforestation, qui est à l'origine de 20 % des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, la communauté internationale discute depuis plusieurs années d'un mécanisme financier baptisé REDD, pour Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation. En français : mécanisme de déforestation évitée. Sur le papier, l'idée paraît simple : les pays qui parviendront à freiner le recul de leurs forêts par rapport à une tendance historique recevront de l'argent sous forme d'aide publique ou bien de crédits carbone qu'ils pourront ensuite monnayer. Dans la pratique, le projet se révèle d'une redoutable complexité et pourrait, faute de garde-fous suffisants, alimenter la corruption et se révéler inefficace face au réchauffement.

[Mayoría de empresas europeas compran aceite de palma de origen no sostenible](#)

La mayoría de empresas de Europa que compran aceite de palma en el Sudeste Asiático lo obtienen de proveedores que ignoran el desarrollo sostenible y siguen arrasando los bosques de la región, advirtió hoy el Fondo Mundial para la Naturaleza (WWF).

[Nations promise to fight deforestation](#)

Two new international initiatives have been taken to reduce deforestation that is responsible for almost 20 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

[Nature Conservancy CEO out to 'save the world'](#)

The biggest conservation organization in the world says it needs help saving the world's diminishing storehouse of unspoiled nature. The president and chief executive of the Washington-based Nature Conservancy wants to enlist countries and corporations to preserve rain forests and other ecosystems by unleashing market forces and by opening eyes.

[Nitrogen mysteries in urban grasslands](#)

Areas of turf-forming species created and maintained by humans for aesthetic and recreational (not grazing) purposes, i.e. "urban grasslands" are an extremely common, but poorly studied ecosystem type.

[Not ready for REDD?](#)

Practicalities of trading carbon and protecting forests make meeting high expectations for REDD hard.

[Orangutans struggle to survive as palm oil booms](#)

Cinta, a baby orangutan found lost and alone in a vast Borneo palm oil plantation, now clings to a tree at a sanctuary for the great apes, staring intently at dozens of tourists. She is one of the casualties of the boom in palm oil -- used extensively for biofuel and processed food like margarine -- which has seen swathes of jungle felled in Borneo, an island split between Malaysia and Indonesia.

[Payer pour préserver des forêts: une fausse bonne idée?](#)

L'organisation écologique Greenpeace dénonce le marché conclu il y a une dizaine d'années entre le gouvernement bolivien et trois grandes entreprises de l'énergie. Polémique.

[Planting the seeds of environmental disaster](#)

The typical image used to represent the process of global warming is a power station, belching out black smoke. But an equally valid image would be an oil palm sitting serenely under a tropical sky. Rainforests are being cleared across south-east Asia, West Africa and South America to make way for palm oil plantations, which produce the world's cheapest vegetable oil. Yet deforestation is one of the greatest drivers of climate change. The destruction of the planet's rainforests is responsible for 20 per cent of global carbon dioxide emissions, as hardwood trees that have locked up carbon for decades are felled and burned.

[Plants recognize that family comes first](#)

People like to say 'blood is thicker than water'. But plants may actually treat their siblings better than many of us: although lacking in blood, scientists have found that plants not only recognize family, but respect their space.

[Present day tropical plant families survived in warmer, wetter tropics 58 million years ago](#)

Fifty eight million years ago the tropical rainforests of South America shared many similarities with today's Neotropical forests.

[Rainforest treaty 'fatally flawed'](#)

A vital safeguard to protect the world's rainforests from being cut down has been dropped from a global deforestation treaty due to be signed at the climate summit in Copenhagen in December.

[Scientists reveals secrets of drought resistance](#)

A team of biologists has solved the structure of a critical molecule that helps plants survive during droughts. Understanding the inner workings of this molecule may help scientists design new ways to protect crops against prolonged dry periods, potentially improving crop yields worldwide, aiding biofuels production on marginal lands and mitigating drought's human and economic costs.

[Space agencies and Google join forces to track deforestation via satellites](#)

Space agencies around the world are teaming up with Google Inc. and the conservation organization Group on Earth Observations (GEO) to annually monitor deforestation rates using satellite imagery. This data can be used to evaluate forest carbon stocks across the globe.

[Space agencies, Google seek ways to save forests](#)

Space agencies and Google Inc are helping an international project to monitor forests by satellite to fight global warming.

[Sustainable palm oil is expensive – but worth it](#)

The connection between tropical rainforests and digestive biscuits may not be obvious. That's because most people are unaware that when they sit down for a cup of tea and a biscuit, they are probably consuming palm oil.

[Tool-making human ancestors inhabited grassland environments two million years ago](#)

Scientists as far back as Charles Darwin have thought that adaptation to grassland environments profoundly influenced the course of human evolution. This idea has remained well-entrenched, even with recent recognition that hominin origins took place in a woodland environment and that the adaptive landscape in Africa fluctuated dramatically in response to short-term climatic shifts.

[Trees can benefit from wildfires](#)

Biologists say they found some savanna trees may contribute to the likelihood of wildfires to promote their own abundance at the expense of competitors.

[Trees facilitate wildfires as a way to protect their habitat](#)

Fire is often thought of something that trees should be protected from, but a new study suggests that some trees may themselves contribute to the likelihood of wildfires in order to promote their own abundance at the expense of their competitors.

[Un circuito eléctrico funciona con electricidad producida por árboles](#)

Los árboles generan electricidad, en cantidades pequeñas pero medibles. Tal como han demostrado unos investigadores de la Universidad de Washington, existe electricidad suficiente en los árboles para hacer funcionar un circuito eléctrico.

[U.N. needs more muscle in environment fight: study](#)

The United Nations needs to beef up and better coordinate efforts to help fight threats such as climate change, deforestation or over-fishing.

[What are coral reef services worth? \\$130,000 to \\$1.2 million per hectare, per year](#)

Experts concluding the global DIVERSITAS biodiversity conference in Cape Town described preliminary research revealing jaw-dropping dollar values of the "ecosystem services" of biomes like forests and coral reefs -- including food, pollution treatment and climate regulation.

[Who says it's green to burn woodchips?](#)

Woodchip power stations are set for a boom. But conservationists are increasingly challenging their green credentials.

[World's biggest snake lived in 1st "modern" rain forest](#)

If it were still alive today, the largest snake ever known to have lived would feel right at home in South America's tropical rain forests.

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