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### **Forthcoming Events**

["Forests for the Future: Sustaining Society and the Environment" - XXIII 2010 IUFRO World Congress](#)  
International Union of forest Research Organizations IUFRO - Seoul, Korea - 23 - 28 August, 2010

### **FAO**

[Filière bois, le coup de gueule de Christian Pinaudeau](#)

Le 13ème Congrès Forestier Mondial est fini. Des discours et des exposés, principalement présentés par des consultants, des universitaires et/ou scientifiques, autant d'articles utiles à leur carrière et à leur bibliographie, déjà entendus et lus 50, 100 fois.

[Measuring the daily destruction of the world's rainforests](#)

According to the United Nations's Food and Agriculture Organization, overall tropical deforestation rates this decade are 8.5 percent higher than during the 1990s.

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### **Press review/ Revue de presse/ Informe de prensa: 19 November - 02 December 2009**

#### **Africa**

[Changement climatique: des Etats africains s'engagent et agissent](#)

Lors du forum de Deauville qui s'est tenu du 26 au 28 novembre, plusieurs initiatives africaines de développement durable ont été présentées par le Congo, le Niger et le Mali.

[Continent must act to tackle water crisis, says report](#)

Africa's freshwater resources are under serious threat from climate change and urgent adaptation measures are needed, says a study.

### [Fears forest proposals are 'human rights disaster'](#)

The clean, ultra-modern chrome and glass lines of the Bella Centre, in the Danish capital Copenhagen, is a world away from the thronging canopy suspended over the tropical forests of Uganda, or the Democratic Republic of Congo, or Cameroon.

### ['Global surge' in rhino poaching](#)

Rhino poaching around the world is on the rise despite efforts to protect the animals, a report warns.

### [Greening of Sahara desert triggered early human migrations out of Africa](#)

A team of scientists has determined that a major change in the climate of the Sahara and Sahel region of North Africa facilitated early human migrations from the African continent. Among the key findings are that the Sahara desert and the Sahel were considerably wetter around 9,000, 50,000 and 120,000 years ago than at present, allowing for the growth of trees instead of grasses.

### [In midst of poaching crisis, illegal rhino horn tops gold](#)

Rhino poaching has hit a fifteen-year high, and the rising price for black-market rhino horn is likely the reason why. For the first time in a decade rhino horn is worth more than gold: a kilo of rhino horn is worth approximately 60,000 US dollars while a kilo of gold is a little over 40,600 US dollars.

### [New chameleon species discovered in East Africa](#)

Dr Andrew Marshall first spotted the animal while surveying monkeys in the Magombera Forest when he disturbed a twig snake eating one.

### [Reboisement: comment sauver les forêts communautaires](#)

'Reboisement des espaces dégradés et valorisation des produits forestiers non ligneux de la Sanaga Maritime', tel est l'intitulé du projet que Cameroon Ecology, une ONG engagée dans la protection de la nature et coordonnée par madame Cécile Ndjebet, va conduire pendant trois ans. Ce projet fait partie des 8 retenus parmi les 188 dossiers soumis au Fonds forestier du bassin du CONGO (CBFF).

## **Argentina**

### [Desertificación, ¿capricho de la naturaleza o responsabilidad humana?](#)

Todos sabemos, o al menos intuimos, la respuesta a esta pregunta. Sin embargo, aún más importante es cuestionarnos sobre nuestra capacidad de aceptar responsabilidades públicamente y luego actuar en consecuencia.

### [El desierto avanza como una sombra sobre la provincia](#)

El 92 por ciento del territorio neuquino está desertificado. Aguada San Roque, que atraviesa ese proceso, es el ejemplo más extremo.

### ["El mayor problema de la Argentina es la desertificación"](#)

"Los procesos de desertificación y las pérdidas de las fronteras agrícola versus los bosques nativos son los problemas más importantes que debe resolver el país", sostuvo el ingeniero Sergio La Rocca, titular de la subsecretaría de Planificación y Política Ambiental, durante su visita a Tucumán para participar del encuentro internacional sobre políticas ambientales.

### ["La desertificación es la Cenicienta de los problemas ambientales"](#)

Así se refirió el Lic. Marcelo Banciella Dickie en el inicio de la actividad desarrollada durante la jornada de hoy en la Legislatura neuquina. "Los medios no lo tienen instalado en su agenda", argumentó.

### ["No hay una política firme para proteger a los bosques"](#)

El coordinador de la campaña Bosques de Greenpeace, Hernán Giardini, cuestionó la partida prevista en la Ley de Presupuesto 2010 para la conformación de los Fondos para el Enriquecimiento y la Conservación de los Bosques Nativos establecidos por la Ley de Bosques. "Es una mala señal del Poder Ejecutivo tanto como del Congreso Nacional", opinó el ambientalista.

## **Australia**

### [Australia's Copenhagen climate strategy is smoke and mirrors](#)

Australia offset rising emissions from cars and power stations by reducing their deforestation, in Queensland and New South Wales in particular. In fact, even before signing in Kyoto, Australia had cut back deforestation emissions from 131m tonnes in 1990 to 75m tonnes. It was, according to an analysis carried out by the Sustainability Council of New Zealand, "the equivalent of Australia starting with an 11% discount on its Kyoto target."

#### [Australian camel cull plan angers animal welfare groups](#)

Campaigners urge 'trigger-happy' Australian government not to shoot 6,000 camels causing chaos in Docker River.

#### [Australian wildfire scheme said model to cut CO2](#)

An Australian project tapping Aborigines' knowledge to avert devastating wildfires that stoke climate change is the world's best example of linking indigenous peoples to carbon markets, the U.N. University said.

#### [Thirsty camels face bullet after terrorising Australian town](#)

Australian authorities plan to round up about 6,000 wild camels with helicopters and shoot them after they overran an outback town in search of water, trampling fences, smashing tanks and contaminating supplies. The Northern Territory government announced its plan for Docker River, a town of 350 residents where thirsty camels have been arriving every day for weeks because of drought conditions.

#### [Traditional indigenous fire management techniques deployed against climate change](#)

A landmark Australian project that mitigates the extent and severity of natural savannah blazes by deploying traditional Indigenous fire management techniques is being hailed as a model with vast global potential in the fights against climate change and biodiversity loss, and for protecting Indigenous lands and culture.

### **Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

#### [Clinging to the forest despite the chaos](#)

Tribes in remote Venezuela face the challenges of a thriving bush-meat trade, incursions by gold miners and government control over their land.

### **Botswana**

#### [Govt to pay volunteer veldt fire fighters](#)

After condemning the citizens for abandoning the spirit of botho during the veldt fires that ravaged the country last year, government now intends to pay volunteers who help in fighting veldt fires. This is contained in a new bill that will culminate in the Forest and Range Resources Act, 2009. As unprecedented fires swept across the Botswana last year, many volunteers reportedly refused to go and fight the fires, demanding to be paid.

### **Brazil**

#### [Amazon forest schemes await strong climate pact](#)

Working schemes for REDD, which stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation and allows the sale of credits to offset carbon pollution elsewhere, are few and far between now. But a climate deal including REDD could be a potent tool to cut deforestation, which globally accounts for up to 20 percent of carbon emissions -- more than all the world's cars, ships and planes combined.

#### [Avanza la tala ilegal del Amazonas](#)

Una ONG realiza el primer informe que estudia de forma directa la selva amazónica talada irregularmente. El 89% de la madera que se extrae en Pará carece de autorización legal.

#### [Brasil comprometida para reducir sus emisiones para el 2020](#)

Brasil, uno de los mayores emisores del mundo de gases de efecto invernadero a causa de la deforestación, acaba de anunciar que va a adoptar nuevos objetivos de reducción de emisiones que podrían ayudar a avanzar a los negociadores en Copenhague hacia un acuerdo sobre cambio climático más sólido. Los ministros de medio ambiente de Brasil aseguraron la semana pasada que el país se compromete a reducir sus emisiones entre un 36.1 y un 38.9 por ciento para 2020.

### [Brasil se compromete a reducir deforestación en 70% hasta 2018](#)

El gobierno brasileño lanzó este lunes un Plan Nacional sobre el Cambio Climático con el que por primera vez se compromete con una meta de reducción de la deforestación del Amazonas, de 70% hasta 2018.

### [Brazil: 'gringos' must pay to stop Amazon razing](#)

Brazil's president said that 'gringos' should pay Amazon nations to prevent deforestation, insisting rich Western nations have caused much more past environmental destruction than the loggers and farmers who cut and burn trees in the world's largest tropical rain forest.

### [Brazil's powerhouse bank](#)

Environmental activists say Brazil's most powerful bank has financed development and construction projects which threaten indigenous populations in the Amazon.

### [Brazil seeks West's aid on Amazon](#)

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva of Brazil said that rich Western nations should pay to prevent deforestation in the Amazon rain forest because those countries have caused much more past environmental destruction than the local loggers and farmers.

### [Brazil should hear Amazon Indians on dam: Sting](#)

Brazil's government should hear native Indians before deciding on the construction of a controversial \$17.3 billion hydroelectric dam in the heart of the Amazon rainforest, rock star and environmental activist Sting said.

### [Brazilian president says 'gringos' must pay to protect Amazon](#)

Speaking before Amazon summit, Lula calls on industrialised countries to provide financial help to halt deforestation.

### [Brésil: la lagune d'Abaeté s'assèche](#)

La lagune d'Abaeté, située à Itapua (nord-est du Brésil), s'assèche actuellement en raison des déboisements et de la croissance des zones d'habitations non planifiées depuis 1987.

### [Clima: Brasil se propone recortes pero pide fondos](#)

Dueño del 60% de la selva amazónica y dispuesto a reducir hasta 38,9% de la emisión de gases que causan el calentamiento global, Brasil se propone recortar en un 80% la deforestación del bosque tropical, pero a cambio reclama que los países ricos paguen por ese esfuerzo.

### [Des bûcherons montrent que l'on peut exploiter l'Amazonie de façon durable](#)

Dans la jungle de Tapajos, au coeur de l'Amazonie brésilienne, une coopérative de bûcherons sert d'exemple à l'exploitation durable de la plus grande forêt tropicale de la planète et lutte ainsi contre le réchauffement climatique.

### [Jobs, economics complicate Brazil's Amazon fight](#)

Environmental agents patrol the Amazon to prevent illegal clearing, part of Brazil's new, aggressive effort to preserve a jungle the size of the U.S. west of the Mississippi River. The government says such teams are the main reason that deforestation has slowed this year to its lowest level in two decades. But more often agents arrive too late.

### [Le Brésil affiche une politique volontariste sur le climat](#)

Le Brésil se place résolument en pointe dans la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique. Assumant désormais avec fierté un rôle de leader parmi les pays du Sud, le président Lula veut arriver à Copenhague avec en poche un texte ayant force de loi, gage de sa volonté politique. Le gros de l'effort brésilien portera sur la forêt, avec une réduction du déboisement de l'Amazonie de 80 % d'ici à 2020.

### [Looking ahead, Brazil's farmers take up reforestation](#)

Hundreds of successful farmers are replanting trees as part of an ambitious initiative to reduce deforestation. Their goal - to set aside one-third of their farms for native vegetation - is revolutionary in a region long resistant to environmental controls.

### [Lula: les pays riches doivent financer la préservation des forêts](#)

Le président brésilien Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva a affirmé qu'aucun étranger ne pouvait demander aux habitants de l'Amazonie de mourir de faim pour sauver la forêt et qu'il revenait aux pays riches de payer pour préserver la région.

### [Plan de selva amazónica aguarda por acuerdo cambio climático](#)

Un bote se abre camino por un río verde, llevando a Jose de Olivera Quadro a lo largo de un viaje que podría haber sido inútil hace unos años. Unos extraños estuvieron pescando en el lago de su aldea y Quadro hace un trayecto de dos horas en busca de ayuda del puesto policial cercano en la vasta selva amazónica de Brasil.

### [Sting urges Brazil to listen to tribal dam fears](#)

Rock star Sting has used his latest visit to Brazil to urge the government there to listen to the concerns of indigenous peoples over a proposed new hydro-electric dam in the Amazon.

## **Canada**

### [Une réforme du régime forestier qui promet](#)

Le Réseau québécois des groupes écologistes (RQGE) voit d'un bon œil l'adoption de principe de la Loi 57 sur l'aménagement durable du territoire forestier, mais demeure à l'affût quant à la mise en œuvre des engagements qu'elle contient.

## **Chile**

### [Chile avanza en lucha contra la desertificación](#)

Como una materia de Estado calificó la ministra de Agricultura, Marigen Hornkohl, la lucha contra la desertificación, la degradación de la tierra y la mitigación de los efectos de la sequía, en el marco de la constitución de la Mesa Público-Privada que asumirá la tarea de coordinar las acciones para combatir estos flagelos en el país.

### [Chile Indian land spat clouds investment, election](#)

An ancestral lands dispute in Chile pitting Mapuche Indian farmers against the forestry industry and landowners is choking investment and will be a headache for the country's next president.

## **China**

### [Fall in rice strains highlights China's biodiversity gap](#)

The number of China's rice varieties has dramatically decreased, raising fears about the country's food security and biodiversity. Research found that despite making progress with its forest resources, China needs a more integrated biodiversity strategy.

## **Costa Rica**

### [Costa Rica irá a cumbre de Copenhague a dar su ejemplo](#)

Grupo tico hablará de éxitos en turismo, reforestación y pago de servicio ambiental. País usará su 'buena reputación' para inspirar acciones voluntarias en otros.

## **Côte d'Ivoire**

### [UN peacekeepers plant trees to fight climate change](#)

United Nations peacekeepers planted nearly 600 trees in a botanical garden in Côte d'Ivoire over the weekend, a small but symbolic step in a project to combat climate change that has already surpassed its target of 7 billion trees - one for every person in the world.

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

### [Congo's 'mother lode' of gorillas remains vulnerable](#)

A new study by the Wildlife Conservation Society says that western lowland gorillas living in a large swamp in the Republic of Congo - part of the "mother lode" of more than 125,000 gorillas discovered last year - are becoming increasingly threatened by growing humans activity in the region.

### [Gestion des forêts en RDC: DGPA lance le document 'Analyse de l'Etude de Woods Hole Research Center'](#)

La Dynamique des groupes des Peuples Autochtones (DGPA) révèle quelques problèmes dans le rapport de Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC) élaboré en 2007 sur les forêts de la Rdc que le gouvernement a utilisé à la conférence de Bali en Indonésie, en décembre 2007.

## **Ecuador**

### [Ecuador impulsará mecanismos de compensación](#)

El gobierno ecuatoriano impulsará con fuerza nuevos mecanismos de compensación para evitar las emisiones producto de la deforestación de bosques en la conferencia de cambio climático de Copenhague.

## **Finland**

### [Openness is the key in planning the use of city forests](#)

The forests of the City of Hämeenlinna are situated in a densely populated, scenic area. Their use combines recreation, protection and economics.

### [Wood plastic composite reached respectable status as building material](#)

The Finnish pavilion in the Expo 2010 Shanghai World Fair will be overlaid by shingles made of wood plastic composite produced by UPM.

## **France**

### [Pour sortir du bois](#)

Dans les Landes, il y a deux types de forêt. Celle du nord, plantée de résineux, et celle du sud-Adour, essentiellement peuplée de feuillus, notamment de chênes. Une forêt dont on parle beaucoup moins souvent que de sa grande soeur, notamment parce que c'est moins une forêt de production. Ses propriétaires ne sont pas autant sylviculteurs spécialisés - comme leurs collègues du massif de pin maritime -ne l'entretiennent pas autant.

### [Sarkozy chez Lula avant le sommet de Copenhague](#)

Le président français, Nicolas Sarkozy, entame une tournée éclair en Amérique Latine pour parler du réchauffement climatique. A 10 jours du sommet de Copenhague, le chef de l'Etat français ne ménage pas ses efforts. Il participera, à Manaus au Brésil, au sommet des Etats de l'Amazonie.

## **Gambia**

### [Casamance foresters commend Govt](#)

Forestry officials from the Senegalese region of Casamance have commended the Gambia for being one of the countries in the sub-region to be admired for its successes and giant strides in community forest management.

## **Guatemala**

### [Jóvenes de Guatemala se proponen sembrar cinco millones de árboles en un día](#)

El movimiento de Jóvenes Indígenas "Aj Tzuk" se propone sembrar en un solo día, el 26 de junio de 2010, cinco millones de árboles en Guatemala, que cada año pierde 73.000 hectáreas de bosque por la deforestación.

## **Guyana**

### [Guyana expedition finds biodiversity trove in area slated for oil and gas development](#)

An expedition deep into Guyana's rainforest interior to find the endangered giant river otter—and collect their scat for genetic analysis—uncovered much more than even this endangered charismatic species.

## **Haiti**

### [Haiti-Foire technologique: Dix ans pour renverser le processus de déboisement en Haïti](#)

La réduction de la demande en charbon de bois réduira la production de ce combustible arboricide selon les prescriptions de la Fédération des Amis de la Nature au 1e salon de la technologie, de l'énergie et de l'environnement, E2TECH de l'Ahtic.

## **India**

### [579 proposals for forest development: Jairam](#)

The Union Government said it has received 579 proposals for the development of forests in the country. The National Afforestation and Eco-development Board is implementing the National Afforestation Programme.

### [A fourth of India turning into desert: ISRO study](#)

No less than a fourth of India's geographical area, or 81 million hectares, is undergoing a process of desertification, reveals a first-of-its-kind 'desertification status map' of the country created by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in collaboration with several scientific institutions across the country.

### [Dredging of Padma must to avert desertification](#)

The capital dredging of the Padma River has become indispensable to ensure surface water resources for protecting the northern region of the country from environmental degradation. "We have no alternative to save the mighty Padma River from the continuous silt to conserve the vast tract of the Barind area from desertification," Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) AHM Khairuzzaman Liton said.

### [Forest cover has increased since 1997, says report](#)

Days ahead of the climate change summit in Copenhagen, where India will demand incentives for increasing forest cover, New Delhi came up with a comprehensive report that showed that its forest cover continued to grow and that it had the potential to become the largest carbon sink in the world.

### [Greener stoves cook up health benefits, study shows](#)

Using improved cookstoves in India can save millions of lives as well as benefiting the environment, a study has shown.

### [India scraps plan to build physics lab in tiger reserve](#)

Indian officials have decided against a plan to build a Neutrino Observatory, an underground experimental physics laboratory, in Mudumulai Tiger Reserve, an area conservationists say serves as an important corridor for elephants and other wildlife.

### [India's forest cover rises to over 21%](#)

Continuing the commendable trend of the past decade, India's forest cover increased by 728 sq km during 2005-07 — a marginal rise of 0.03%. Overall, 21.02% of the country's geographical area is now under green cover. In the 10 years, forest cover in the country has increased by 3.31 million hectares, showing an average 0.46% increase every year.

### [Land pressures 'turning a quarter of India to desert'](#)

Nearly a quarter of India's land mass is desert or is turning into desert, with deforestation and overgrazing among the main factors spurring the process.

### [Parts of India experiencing desertification](#)

Deforestation and overgrazing are among the factors being blamed for turning almost a quarter of India into desert, according to a study. The study's authors report that northern and western India are the hardest hit, as shown by satellite mapping.

### [Supervolcano eruption in Sumatra deforested India 73,000 years ago](#)

A new study provides "incontrovertible evidence" that the volcanic super-eruption of Toba on the island of Sumatra about 73,000 years ago deforested much of central India, some 3,000 miles from the epicenter.

### [Una erupción volcánica en Indonesia acabó con los bosques de la India central](#)

Un nuevo estudio proporciona "evidencias irrefutables" de que la supererupción volcánica de Toba, ocurrida en la isla de Sumatra (Indonesia) hace unos 73.000 años, deforestó gran parte de la India central, que se encuentra a más de 4.000 kilómetros del epicentro.

## **Indonesia**

### [A plan to save a forest from an unlikely source](#)

From the air, the Kampar Peninsula in Indonesia stretches for mile after mile in dense scrub and trees. One of the world's largest peat swamp forests, it is also one of its biggest vaults of carbon dioxide, a source of potentially lucrative currency as world governments struggle to hammer out a global climate treaty. The vault, though, is leaking.

### [Greenpeace: Indonesia's forest fires threaten world](#)

Environmental activists, climate experts say burning of fossil fuels may account for 20 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

### [Greenpeace vuelve a señalar a la industria papelera en Indonesia como responsable del cambio climático](#)

Los activistas han desplegado una pancarta gigante en la que se puede leer Destrucción de los bosques: tú puedes para esto, para pedir a los líderes mundiales como Zapatero que asuman su papel de liderazgo, trabajen para prevenir el agravamiento del cambio climático y creen un fondo internacional (1) para terminar con la deforestación. Son pasos obligados para conseguir un acuerdo ambicioso, justo y legalmente vinculante en Copenhague. En estos momentos algunos de los activistas están siendo arrestados y trasladados a dependencias.

### [Indonesia forestry graft threatens carbon trade-report](#)

Indonesian plans to set up a carbon trading market potentially worth billions of dollars to protect rain forests may fail because of widespread corruption in its forestry sector, Human Rights Watch said.

### [Indonesia rejects "world's third-largest emitter" tag](#)

A World Bank study that cited Indonesia as the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases was wrong, an Indonesian report said, although it did not provide its own ranking. Indonesia is seen as a key player in forthcoming international climate talks in Copenhagen because its greenhouse gas emissions from peat bogs and deforestation are a major contributor to global warming.

### [Indonesia to deport Greenpeace demonstrators](#)

Indonesia plans to deport seven foreign Greenpeace activists involved in a protest against deforestation, seen as a contributor to global warming. The seven were among a group of 14 activists detained on Wednesday after some of them chained themselves to a crane at port facilities used by Asia Pulp and Paper (APP), in Riau province on Sumatra island.

### [Indonesian government suspends license of logging company in controversial forest area](#)

The Indonesian government today temporarily suspended the license of Asia Pacific Resources International Holding Limited (APRIL) for developing an area of forest and peatland in Sumatra pending a review of the company's permits.

### [Indonesian graft harms case for forest carbon offsets](#)

Rampant corruption in Indonesia's forestry sector costs the government two billion dollars a year and undermines plans to use forest conservation to offset carbon emissions.

### [Indonesian police stop Greenpeace forest protest](#)

Police broke up a protest by the environmental group Greenpeace against deforestation on the Indonesian island of Sumatra, arresting 12 foreign and six Indonesian demonstrators, an official and an activist said.

### [Indonesia's loggers scrutinized ahead of climate summit](#)

Logging in Indonesia can be a murky business involving navigating government bureaucracy to get permits and land concessions in one of the world's most corrupt countries, to winning the hearts and minds of villagers living near the rainforests.

### [Jakarta halts deforestation in Sumatra's Kampar Peninsula](#)

Environmentalists claimed a small victory after Indonesia ordered one of the country's biggest pulp and paper companies to halt forest clearing in the Kampar Peninsula.

### [L'Indonésie prend peu à peu conscience des enjeux de la reforestation](#)

Au fin fond de l'île de Sumatra, en Indonésie, la péninsule de Kampar est en train de devenir le symbole de la lutte contre la déforestation. Dans ce sanctuaire de 400 000 hectares, terre de jungles, de forêts vierges et de tribus indigènes, Greenpeace a installé son camp de "défenseurs du climat". Hostile à un projet industriel de plantations d'acacias, l'organisation mène la résistance face à un géant de la pâte à papier.

### [Protest stops cranes at Indonesia's APP paper port](#)

Environmental activists shut down four cranes at port run by one of Asia's biggest pulp and paper groups on Indonesia's Sumatra island, but overall operations were not hit. Greenpeace activists have targeted logging and paper firms in Indonesia in recent months to draw attention to the role that deforestation plays in global warming.

### [REDD may not be enough to save Sumatra's endangered lowland rainforests](#)

A prominent REDD project in Aceh, Indonesia probably won't be enough to save Northern Sumatra's endangered lowland rainforests from logging and conversion to oil plantations and agriculture.

### [Tree harvester offers to save Indonesian forest](#)

A paper company proposes to use a ring of tree plantations to help stop leaks of greenhouse gases from a peat bog.

## **Kenya**

### [Council wins award for planting trees](#)

The Mombasa Municipal Council has scooped an environment award for its exemplary tree planting campaigns.

### [Evicted forest settlers yet to find a home, six months on](#)

As the Mau controversy rages, the fate of 15,000 squatters recently evicted from Embobut Forest in the Cherangany water catchment remains uncertain. There has been a delay to gazette a taskforce to explore their plight. The squatters were evicted in May this year after they declined to move out of the extensively damaged forest in Marakwet East district.

### [It's time to do away with the old and welcome the new](#)

Someone is being economical with the truth on the Mau Forest saga - and just about everything that ails Kenya. That is sad. We have to make do with a cabal of manipulative politicians who continue to assault our ears with demands for compensation for ill-gotten gains, extra seats in Parliament and even a permanent seat on the gravy train.

### [Kenya evicts Mau forest residents](#)

Southwestern Kenya provides water for some 10 million Kenyans, but illegal settlement and deforestation have destroyed at least 25 per cent of the region's vegetation over the last 20 years. Security officers have been combing through Kenya's most important forest to make sure thousands of people have obeyed an order to gather their belongings and vacate the area.

### [Kenya evicts squatters from vital Mau Forest](#)

Hundreds of families now camped at Kapkembu on the edge of Kenya's most important forest are at the center of a political and environmental battle that could define the fate of east Africa's biggest economy.

### [Kenya seizes tonne of ivory, arrests 65 in major operation](#)

Kenya has seized 1,100 kg of ivory and arrested 65 people in the past three months in a major international operation stretching across six African nations.

### [Kenya's forest dwellers evicted](#)

Residents of Mau forest in Kenya are being evicted over government claims that illegal settlement and deforestation have already destroyed a quarter of the forest.

### [Kibaki and Raila hold talks on Mau eviction](#)

The eviction of squatters from the Mau Forest was top on the agenda of the weekly meeting between President Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga. The two met for an hour and a half amid rising opposition to the eviction of settlers in Kenya's most important water source.

### [Mau - Govt seeks donor help](#)

The government is seeking donor assistance for the implementation of Phase two evictions of the Mau Forest. While declaring success of the first phase involving those without title deeds, the government said everything was being done to move to the next stage of evictions involving those having legal documents.

### [Mau - Govt to deploy more officers](#)

The government plans to deploy more security officers in the Mau forest amid threats by local politicians to lead evicted settlers back into the forest.

### [Mau - Rift Valley MPs plot vote against Raila](#)

It's going to be a Christmas of political intrigue, as MPs stepped up the war of words over the conservation of Mau forest and deal-making ahead of an election which is still three years away.

### [Mau row likely to dominate ODM talks](#)

ODM leaders meet on Thursday for talks expected to bring together the feuding camps in the party. The party's National Executive Council is expected to discuss the party's position on the proposed constitution. But the differences between Prime Minister Raila Odinga and Agriculture minister William Ruto could cast a dark shadow on the talks.

### [Mau victims' relief food to be sent to Kuresoi](#)

Relief food sent to Bomet and Bureti districts for Mau Forest evictees has been re-directed to Kuresoi. Special programmes permanent secretary Ali Mohammed said he had told the National Cereals and Produce Board to cancel the orders placed by the two districts and instead send the food to the Kuresoi district commissioner to be distributed to the evictees camping at transit camps in the constituency.

### [Minister dares colleagues to quit over Mau row](#)

Planning Minister Wycliffe Oparanya dared his disgruntled cabinet colleagues to quit government if they disagreed with its position on ongoing evictions in the Mau Complex.

### [Pay me for Mau land, says Kiplagat](#)

A prominent beneficiary of allocations in the Mau Forest is vowing to only give it up if the government is ready to pay him. One-time Kanu official Hosea Kiplagat said he owns 500 acres near Kiptagich Tea Factory, 200 acres under tea, and would give it up if government is ready to buy it back.

### [PM says Mau settlers to get support](#)

Kenyans leaving the Mau Forest will begin receiving humanitarian assistance from the government. Prime Minister Raila Odinga said the government had started profiling the people leaving the water tower with the aim of helping them.

### [Raila and Ruto row over Mau deepens](#)

Agriculture minister William Ruto signalled his determination to defend Mau settlers, describing the leaders behind the evictions as "heartless".

### [Raila under siege over evictions](#)

Fundraising in aid of those evicted from the Mau Forest was a major political statement, interpreted as an alliance against Prime Minister Raila Odinga. The so-called 3-K grouping of Vice-President Kalonzo Musyoka, Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta and Agriculture minister William Ruto has hitherto been the stuff of speculation or passing comments at public rallies. The 'K' refers not to the names of the promoters, but to the ethnic groups, the Kamba, Kikuyu and Kalenjin, they claim leadership of.

### [Rangers demolish houses in Mau forest](#)

Houses left behind by Mau settlers were demolished in a clear indication that the government would not allow the evicted squatters to return to the forest. The Kenya Forest Service has also sent more rangers to the South Western Mau to ensure that the families that leave the country's largest source of water do not return.

### [Rift MPs snub Raila over Mau](#)

South Rift MPs snubbed a function in Chepalungu by Prime Minister Raila Odinga in protest over the Mau evictions. The leaders including area MP Isaac Ruto did not attend the funds drive in aid of the Holy Family Siongiroi Catholic Church held at Siongiroi Stadium though they had been invited by the Prime Minister's office.

### [Saviour tree turns scourge in Kenya](#)

A tree introduced to Kenya to combat desertification has itself become a problem, invading farmland and damaging farmers' livelihoods. *Prosopis juliflora*, known as the 'devil tree' in some areas, was introduced from Latin America to semi-arid districts of Kenya by nongovernmental organisations in the 1980s.

### [State gives food for Mau squatters](#)

The government has released relief food to be distributed to squatters being evicted from the Mau forest reserve. Bomet district commissioner Kimani Waweru said the government had given 300 bags of maize, 150 bags of beans, and 150 cartons of cooking fat for squatters from the south western part of the forest.

### [Uhuru to join Ruto, VP over Mau](#)

Cabinet Minister William Ruto has invited Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka and Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta to be the guests of honour at a fundraising in aid of the Mau forest evictees.

### [With land evictions, Kenya aims to reduce impacts on important ecosystem](#)

The Kenyan government has begun forcibly evicting thousands of people in an attempt to halt environmental degradation in the Mau Forest, one of the nation's most critical ecosystems.

## **Madagascar**

### [Authorities in Madagascar conduct raids to uncover illegal rosewood](#)

Authorities in Madagascar over the weekend launched a series of raids to uncover rosewood and other precious hardwoods illegally logged from the country's national parks in the aftermath of a March military coup.

### [Bandas delictivas saquean bosques de Madagascar](#)

Bandas de delincuentes saquean todos los días la preciada madera de los desprotegidos parques nacionales de Madagascar, por valor de cientos de miles de dólares, de acuerdo con dos grupos ambientalistas.

### [Criminal gangs plunder Madagascar forests](#)

Criminal gangs are stripping Madagascar's poorly-protected national parks every day of precious hardwood worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, two environmental campaign groups have said.

### [Madagascar: madera talada ilegalmente recibe permisos de exportación](#)

En Madagascar, los grupos organizados lo han tenido relativamente fácil para talar árboles ilegalmente y luego exportar su madera. De acuerdo con un informe publicado esta semana por los grupos medioambientales Global Witness y Environmental Investigation Agency, estos grupos talaban a diario entre 100 y 200 árboles de una especie muy rara de dalbergia, género muy amplio del que son particularmente populares el palisandro, palo de rosa o la madera rosa.

## **Malaysia**

### [Oil palm workers still below poverty line, despite Minister's statements](#)

On October 19th, Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok told parliament that oil palm harvesters and rubber tappers are living above Malaysia's national poverty line, according to a story in the Malaysian Insider. But now representatives of the workers are saying Dompok lied.

### [Rainforest tribe declares 'peace park' to defend lands from logging in Sarawak](#)

In an attempt to block destructive logging of their traditional land, a group of indigenous Penan has declared a "peace park" in the Upper Baram region of Sarawak in Malaysian Borneo.

## **Mexico**

### [Urge Greenpeace frenar deforestación en Tabasco](#)

La organización ambientalista internacional Greenpeace, así como organismos no gubernamentales de Tabasco, demandaron a los tabasqueños sumarse al movimiento "Píntale la raya al cambio climático", que tiene como objetivo promover la acción social para frenar este fenómeno mediante un nuevo acuerdo global justo, equitativo, sustentable y que promueva compromisos de reducción de emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero.

## **New Zealand**

### [New Zealand's 'Kyoto forests' sow the seeds for a massive emissions surge](#)

When New Zealand's sink forests are harvested in the 2020s, as is likely, all that carbon will return to the atmosphere.

## **Nicaragua**

### [Con árbol de ojoche Nicaragua gana premio internacional](#)

Impactó que con semillas que contienen alto potencial nutritivo se promueva seguridad alimentaria. Mediante la conservación y aprovechamiento del árbol de ojoche (*Brosimum allicastrum*), se obtiene una semilla que sirve para garantizar alimentos.

## **Nigeria**

### [Day senators wept over erosion in South East](#)

Large chunk of farm land in some of the affected areas had also disappeared, courtesy of the fast spreading menace in the south east. Schools and churches are not also spared by erosion. A number of federal roads have been cut off , while some towns have been severed from the other by erosion.

### [Nigeria set for 'Green Big Brother' show](#)

After more than 40 years spent travelling the world explaining the dangers posed by global warming, and in particular the worsening problem of desertification in the Sahara region, Nigeria's most celebrated environmental campaigner is about to launch a reality TV show to highlight the dangers of global warming for Africans.

### [Senate and the South-East erosion](#)

One of the major fall-outs of the recent annual retreat of the Senate staged in the serene and beautiful coal city of Enugu was the resolve of the upper legislative chamber to intervene in the horrendous environmental problems posed by erosion menace in the South East of Nigeria.

### [Tackling the menace of soil erosion in the South East](#)

People in the South East region of Nigeria have been battling with gully erosion with loss of lives and properties worth millions of naira lost. The Senate held a retreat in the region and the lawmakers took time out to visit some of the affected areas in the region. However, the solution to the problems does not only seems to be beyond the red chambers of the Senat,e but also far from being near.

## **Norway**

### [Descubren árboles momificados de hace 800 años en Noruega](#)

Son pinos momificados descubiertos en Noruega que tendrían entre 500 y 800 años de edad. Pero lo extraño es que en Noruega el clima suele ser muy húmedo, lo que hace que la materia orgánica, luego de morir, se descomponga rápidamente.

## **Paraguay**

### [Deforestación es por falta de más control](#)

El presidente Fernando Lugo llegó a Filadelfia, Chaco, para escuchar los resultados de un seminario sobre el futuro del Chaco y debatir los temas enfocados. Admitió que uno de los factores principales de la deforestación es la falta de control.

### [Denuncian deforestación de territorio de silvícolas](#)

La ONG Survival, con sede en Londres, denunció que la reserva de la biosfera de la Unesco, habitada por indígenas ayoreos, "está siendo arrasada por topadoras de ganaderos brasileños". Pide la intervención del organismo internacional para frenar la depredación. La agroganadera Yaguareté Porã en varias ocasiones aclaró que su trabajo en la zona se enmarca dentro la ley.

### [Fepama pide una verdadera política de incentivo para la reforestación](#)

Es hora de gritar que los bosques se están acabando, que hace falta una verdadera política de incentivo a la reforestación, y que la mayor parte del consumo de energía en industrias y hogares paraguayos corresponden todavía a la biomasa, dijo el titular de la Fepama, Juan Carlos Altieri, en su mensaje de fin de año.

### [Lugo aboga por conservación medioambiental en el Chaco](#)

Durante la jornada de trabajo en Boquerón, Chaco, el presidente de la República, Fernando Lugo, abogó por la conservación del sistema medioambiental de la región chaqueña.

## **Peru**

### [Atribuyen desastres como el reciente deslizamiento en Sivia a deforestación de bosques](#)

El sub gerente de recursos naturales y medio ambiente del gobierno regional de Ayacucho, Becker Barrientos, sostuvo que los desastres naturales, como el registrado recientemente en la comunidad de Rosario Acón, en el distrito de Sivia, VRAE, se deben a la depredación de los bosques que se ha venido presentando en los últimos años.

### [El Perú presentará propuesta de control de deforestación en XV Cumbre Mundial de Cambio Climático](#)

Reducir en 47 por ciento sus emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero (GEI), causante del calentamiento global, en un plazo de diez años a través del control de la deforestación, es la principal propuesta que el Perú presentará en la XV Cumbre Mundial de Cambio Climático – COP 15.

### [Grupo Romero arrasa comunidades](#)

Especialistas y analistas de la realidad amazónica lo habían advertido. Y, aunque aún no se aprueba la Ley de la Selva, ya empezó la erradicación de posesionarios y colonos sin títulos. La Ley de la Selva, se extendería exponencialmente por toda la región amazónica hasta trastocar la estructura social de pequeños y medianos agricultores, como sostiene Constante Díaz, asesor legal de Comisión Episcopal de Acción Social, (CEAS) de la Iglesia Católica.

### [Una campaña británica trata de combatir la deforestación en el Amazonas peruano](#)

La organización ecologista Cool Earth ha puesto en marcha una campaña para que 100.000 británicos adopten un árbol de los bosques tropicales en la zona del valle del río Ene (Amazonas peruano), amenazados por la tala ilegal de madera.

## **Russian Federation**

### [Battling Siberia's devastating illegal logging trade](#)

Wagons brimming with logs accumulate in the Siberian railway station of Dalnerechensk, more than 8,000km (4,971 miles) east of Moscow. They are waiting to cross the nearby Chinese border.

### [Data show a decline for tigers in Russia](#)

Amid the torrent of bad environmental news in recent years, the story of Amur tigers in Russia offered a flicker of optimism. Nearly extinct half a century ago, the tigers rebounded when the government imposed protections, and their numbers remained more or less stable for much of the last decade. But new data suggest that Russia's tiger population is once again declining.

### [Dramatic Siberian tiger decline reported](#)

The Wildlife Conservation Society says the last population of Siberian tigers has likely declined significantly due to increased poaching and habitat loss.

### [Siberian tiger in severe decline](#)

The last remaining population of Siberian tigers has declined significantly, according to research. Scientists attribute the decline to poaching and habitat loss.

## **Rwanda**

### [Contingency plan on desertification underway](#)

The government is working on a national strategic plan to combat desertification and land degradation, a plan that officials say is in its final stages.

## **Spain**

### [Arquitectos y empresarios gallegos reivindican los usos de la madera](#)

Galicia es una potencia en el ámbito de la madera. Más de 3.000 empresas desarrollan alguna actividad relacionada con este material y en algunos subsectores las firmas gallegas son una referencia a nivel nacional e internacional. Este bagaje, sin embargo, no ha servido para popularizar su uso en la construcción, frente a otros materiales más duros -ladrillo, granito, hormigón- y, por tanto, de mayor impacto en la naturaleza.

### [Denuncian que el puerto recibe productos de la deforestación en Indonesia](#)

La organización ecologista Greenpeace ha denunciado hoy que el puerto de Barcelona se está convirtiendo en una de las puertas de entrada de aceite de palma y papel procedentes de las selvas de Indonesia, que es el país que posee la mayor tasa de deforestación del mundo.

### [El 96% de las ayudas solicitadas por propietarios forestales afectados por el Klaus están ya tramitadas](#)

El 96 por ciento de las solicitudes remitidas a la Consellería de Medio Rural por unos mil propietarios forestales afectados por la madera derribada a consecuencia del ciclón 'Klaus' están ya "procesadas". El departamento de Samuel Juárez tramitó 576 expedientes, que abarcan 200.334 metros cúbicos de madera y están distribuidos entre unas 3.000 parcelas forestales.

### [El Clúster del Papel del País Vasco se propone desterrar los mitos que perjudican al sector](#)

El Clúster del Papel del País Vasco ha puesto en marcha una campaña de imagen denominada "El papel te da la vida", cuyo objetivo es "desterrar de una vez por todas" los mitos que desprestigian el sector y poner en valor su producto como un bien medioambientalmente sostenible, necesario y práctico.

### [El papel tiene quien le defienda](#)

El Cluster del Papel pone en marcha una campaña para proyectar que dicho producto es medioambientalmente sostenible.

### [El sector del papel defiende su valor medioambiental frente a "falsos mitos"](#)

La Asociación Cluster del Papel de Euskadi, que agrupa a 20 empresas del sector, ha puesto en marcha una campaña para resaltar el valor del papel como un bien "medioambientalmente sostenible" y hacer frente a "falsos mitos" como que es el causante de la deforestación.

### ["El sector forestal tiene que bajar del monte para venderse mejor"](#)

A punto de cumplir su décimo aniversario en España, la labor de PEFC no ha hecho sino comenzar, con un único objetivo: garantizar la gestión sostenible de los recursos naturales que proporciona el monte. Una asociación que se encarga de conceder y controlar las licencias y la gestión de las masas forestales, y que enfoca su trabajo hacia los propietarios de montes, pero también hacia los clientes intermedios.

### [La castaña tiene un 'plan'](#)

La castaña calmó el hambre de hombres y ganado y ha formado, desde tiempos inmemoriales parte del paisaje de El Bierzo. Actualmente, la despoblación de la comarca leonesa, los malos cuidados y los bajos rendimientos económicos que produce, ha provocado que la castañicultura no se contemple como una forma de vida. Sin embargo, está comprobado que la especie puede generar rendimientos económicos importantes si la estructura productiva es la adecuada y si se consigue recuperar el estado buen estado fitosanitario de los grandes sotos bercianos.

### [Los españoles somos los europeos que más amenazados nos sentimos por los incendios forestales](#)

Los españoles son los ciudadanos de la Unión Europea que más amenazados se sienten por los incendios forestales, ya que el 77% lo señala como el mayor desastre natural a la que se enfrenta el país, por encima de la media comunitaria (27%).

### [Los incendios forestales bajan un 41% este año en Extremadura](#)

El consejero de Industria, Energía y Medio Ambiente, José Luis Navarro, califica los resultados de la campaña de lucha contra incendios de 2009 como "estadísticamente buenos", ya que han registrado un descenso del 41 por ciento respecto a la media de otros años.

### [Navarra explota sólo una quinta parte de la biomasa forestal de la que dispone](#)

Navarra tiene mucho potencial por explotar en sus bosques. O al menos esto se desprende de los datos de los que dispone el departamento de Medio Ambiente. Actualmente, las cortas de madera y leña, incluyendo los aprovechamientos forestales, tratamientos silvícolas de mejora y los aprovechamientos tradicionales de leña de hogar, ascienden a 300.000 m<sup>3</sup> al año, si bien la cantidad de biomasa forestal potencial en Navarra (madera y materia orgánica del monte) es de 1.605.

## **Syrian Arab Republic**

### [Syria's villagers hit by drought](#)

According to the United Nations, at least 60 per cent of Syria's land mass and 1.3 million people have been affected in some way by the lack of rain. At least 800,000 people have lost their livelihoods by drought. The droughts have also helped infectious diseases to spread freely as people turn to unsafe sources of water.

## **Tunisia**

### [Head of state presides over celebration of national tree day](#)

Kicking off the national afforestation campaign at this time of year, the President planted, in a party atmosphere with the participation of groups of children and young people an olive tree in the park of Ain Zaghuan.

## **United Kingdom**

### [BBC 'wastes' £150,000 giving away trees and vegetable seeds](#)

The BBC has been accused of wasting £150,000 of licence-payers' money on giving away trees and vegetable seeds.

### [Charles, Prince of the rainforests and scourge of climate change](#)

Deforestation worldwide could be cut by a quarter within five years at the cost of what Goldman Sachs is expected to pay in bonuses this year.

### [Golden eagles in Scotland could get better protection](#)

Protection for the golden eagle in Scotland could be increased under proposals announced by ministers.

### [Gordon Brown proposes £10 billion fund to fight climate change](#)

Just days ahead of the vital UN-sponsored climate change conference in the Danish capital, Mr Brown proposed a £10 billion rich-world fund - to which Britain would contribute £800 million - to give incentives to developing countries to halt deforestation, develop low-carbon energy sources and prepare for the effects of a warmer climate.

### [In praise of... planting trees](#)

There is hope that next month's Copenhagen climate conference will reach agreement on deforestation, slowing the chainsaw massacre of the rainforests. But the issue is not just one for the developing world. The fact that Britain cut down most of its woodland centuries ago is a reason for more action here, not less.

### [Leeds scientist calls for world forest observatory](#)

A new scientific organisation is needed to monitor the commitments that will be made by developing countries at Copenhagen to cut their deforestation rates, according new research at Leeds. Existing government agencies and research groups have failed to make full use of the thousands of satellite images of the Earth's surface collected each week to monitor tropical forests.

### [More forests planned to tackle climate change](#)

The most ambitious tree planting programme since the Second World War is being "enthusiastically welcomed" by ministers. The government is set to agree that another 4% of land in the UK should be turned into forest.

### [Nadine Coyle in tree world record](#)

Girls Aloud star Nadine Coyle is swapping her high heels for wellies as she attempts to break a tree planting world record in Londonderry.

### [Plan to boost UK woodland to tackle climate change](#)

Millions of trees should be planted to cover an extra 4% of the UK in woodland in order to tackle climate change, the Forestry Commission has recommended.

### [Prince Charles announces funding scheme to protect rainforests](#)

A global emergency funding scheme to drastically reduce the destruction of tropical rainforests over the next five years was announced by the Prince of Wales, with the US pledging \$275m (£165m)

towards rainforest protection. The plan relies on developed countries paying rainforest nations such as Brazil and Indonesia to reduce rates of deforestation and thereby cut carbon emissions.

#### [Prince Charles to attend Copenhagen climate change summit](#)

Prince of Wales invited to address UN summit and expected to lobby for measures to reduce deforestation.

#### [Protesters block wood chip plant](#)

A group of protesters opposed to plans for two large wood burning power stations in north and south Wales have targeted a smaller existing plant.

#### [Reforestation effort would lower Britain's greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent](#)

A study by Britain's Forestry Commission found that planting 23,000 hectares of forest every year for the next 40 years would lower the island nation's greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent.

#### [Satellites to monitor countries for climate change under Gordon Brown plan](#)

An international satellite monitoring system to check countries comply with new climate change targets was proposed by Gordon Brown as a way of binding developing nations into a new deal on the environment. To police the new deal satellites would monitor countries, like Papua New Guinea, Guyana and Indonesia, responsible for deforestation.

#### [Terence Blacker: planting trees is a facile option](#)

It has taken some time but at last Britain has come up with a symbol to represent our commitment to the environment and concern for the planet. Our version of the polar bear on a melting ice cap is to be... the tree.

#### [UK's Brown backs \\$10 billion climate change fund](#)

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown called for the creation of a \$10 billion a year fund to help developing countries battle climate change. He said half of the money in his proposed launch fund should go toward helping the poorest countries adapt to climate change, by for example financing stronger sea and flood defenses. The other half would help countries deal with deforestation and building new, cleaner energy sources.

#### [Woodland used to prevent flooding](#)

A £25,000 project has started to explore more eco-friendly ways of preventing severe river flooding in North Yorkshire.

### **United Republic of Tanzania**

#### [How to axe a destructive practice](#)

Even to an untrained eye, the rolling hills of Mbulu district in northern Tanzania are alarmingly bare. Thatched mud and timber houses stand out in a countryside just peppered with trees. Land is scarce here, with farmers, pastoralists (livestock herders) and hunters all vying to survive. The result is pillage. A recent government report documents five types of degradation: soil; trees; shrubs; grasslands and water sources.

#### [Mass evictions as region acts on forest reserve encroachers](#)

More than 3,000 people have been evicted from three tabora forest reserves in the past two months. The evictions were effected following a special campaign to kick out invaders from the forest reserves.

### **United States of America**

#### [California faces up to year-round forest fires](#)

The past year has seen some of the most devastating wildfires in California since records began. Lives have been lost, great swathes of land have been blackened and hundreds of homes have been destroyed. In August, a blaze which became known as the Station Fire burned more than 650 sq km (250 square miles) of the Angeles National Forest.

#### [For forest kindergartners, class is back to nature, rain or shine](#)

Pupils at the Waldorf School of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., spend three hours each day outdoors, regardless of the weather.

### [Forest Service eyes night flying against fires](#)

The U.S. Forest Service is considering allowing its helicopters to attack wildfires at night, a practice the agency has long discouraged because of risks to pilots.

### [Gas pipeline cuts across wildlife refuge](#)

Tree clearance began for a natural gas pipeline cutting across a Minnesota park and wildlife preserve, officials said.

### [Gibson Guitar under federal investigation for alleged use of illegal rainforest timber from Madagascar](#)

Federal agents from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service raided Gibson Guitar's factory due to concerns that the company had been using illegally harvested wood from Madagascar.

### [Greenpeace acusa a Obama de querer 'sabotear' la cumbre de Copenhague](#)

El colectivo ecologista Greenpeace acusó al presidente de Estados Unidos, Barack Obama, de querer "sabotear" la Cumbre Mundial sobre el Cambio Climático de Copenhague por "falta de voluntad política". La denuncia la realizó en Indonesia el director de campañas de Greenpeace en el sudeste de Asia, Shailandra Yashwant, durante el anuncio del bloqueo del puerto de una empresa papelera en la isla de Sumatra para llamar la atención sobre la contribución de la deforestación en el cambio climático.

### [Protecting the forests, and hoping for payback](#)

A patch of ponderosa pines here in the Deschutes National Forest has been carefully pruned over the last few years to demonstrate the United States Forest Service's priorities in the changing West: improving forest health and protecting against devastating wildfire while still supporting the timber economy.

### [U.S. Forest Service to adapt woodland management to climate change](#)

Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell has directed the agency's regions and research stations to jointly produce draft "landscape conservation action plans" by March 1.

### [U.S. pledges \\$275 mln for tropical forests in 2010](#)

The United States pledged \$275 million to rainforest protection, at an event hosted by Britain's heir to the throne, Prince Charles, in London. The money would come from \$1.2 billion assistance for international programmes, part of a 2010 budget currently pending U.S. Congress approval.

### [Wyo enviros oppose drilling in 1st National Forest](#)

Environmentalists are questioning the legal justification offered for what would be the only active oil well inside the nation's first national forest. Shoshone National Forest hugs the eastern edge of Yellowstone National Park. More than half of the 2.5 million acre forest is designated wilderness where motorized travel is prohibited.

## **Viet Nam**

### [En Vietnam quedan sólo 80 elefantes](#)

Expertos en conservación advierten que sólo quedan ochenta elefantes salvajes en Vietnam. Estos animales se encuentran en peligro de desaparecer a causa de la deforestación y la caza furtiva.

### [Sólo quedan 80 elefantes salvajes en Vietnam](#)

Un grupo de científicos vietnamitas alertó de que el número de elefantes salvajes en Vietnam se ha reducido a la mitad en los últimos cinco años y sólo sobreviven 80 ejemplares en el país debido a la caza furtiva y a la deforestación, informó la prensa local.

## **World**

### [A fair deal for forest people: working to ensure that REDD forests bear fruit for local communities](#)

As world leaders meet to thrash out the next incarnation of the Kyoto climate agreement, the world waits with baited breath to see how greenhouse gas emissions from forests might be included. Despite the high powered nature of these important global decisions, the success of REDD will ultimately be decided by humble forest dependent communities, living in developing countries and perhaps currently oblivious to the negotiations taking place.

### [Accord pour la protection de la forêt entre le Guyana et la Norvège](#)

La Norvège a signé un accord avec le Guyana pour que ce dernier ne coupe pas ses forêts en échange de 250 millions de dollars d'ici à 2015. Le Guyana va d'abord recevoir 30 millions de dollars et le reste viendra si le projet parvient à éviter la déforestation.

### [All fired up](#)

They keep our homes warm in style, and are a renewable energy source to boot. What's not to like about wood-burning stoves?

### [Amazon countries call for aid for forests](#)

Nine South American countries that share the Amazon basin said rich nations must provide aid to help poorer ones preserve the rain forest.

### [Amazon rainforest summit fizzles](#)

A summit intended to help save the Amazon rainforest has ended in Brazil without forging a common agenda on deforestation. The talks in the Brazilian city of Manaus were undermined by the absence of several regional leaders who pulled out of the meeting at the last minute.

### [Brasil, Portugal y Mozambique vigilarán desertificación con satélite](#)

Los gobiernos de Brasil, Portugal y Mozambique pretenden desarrollar un sistema conjunto de medición del avance de la desertificación en sus respectivos países con el uso de imágenes de satélite, informaron fuentes oficiales.

### [Brazil holds Amazon summit](#)

A summit called to tackle deforestation in the Amazon seems unlikely to achieve any tangible results after Hugo Chavez, the Venezuelan president, Alvaro Uribe, his Colombian counterpart, and Rafael Correa of Ecuador pulled out.

### [Cita de líderes amazónicos debilitada por ausencias](#)

Con la ausencia de la mayoría de sus principales líderes, los gobernantes de los países de la cuenca amazónica buscarán forjar una postura común para exigir ayuda al mundo industrializado para preservar el bosque húmedo, principal reserva de biodiversidad del planeta.

### [Climate change to hit water-scarce Arab world hard](#)

Climate change is likely to hit the water-starved Arab world harder than many other parts of the globe and threatens to slash agricultural output in the area, U.N. and Arab League officials said.

### [Combat climate change – by planting a tree in your own backyard](#)

There is an ancient proverb – some claim it hails from China, others Africa – that says, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago – the next best time is now." Whatever the proverb's origins, it's a universal truth that planting a tree, on so many levels, is a beneficial thing to do. Trees are good, full stop.

### [Deforestation emissions should be shared between producer and consumer, argues study](#)

Under the Kyoto Protocol the nation that produces carbon emission takes responsibility for them, but what about when the country is producing carbon-intensive goods for consumer demand beyond its borders? A new study presents a possible model for making certain that both producer and consumer share responsibility for emissions in an area so far neglected by studies of this kind: deforestation and land-use change.

### [DNA 'barcode' for tropical trees](#)

In foods, soil samples or customs checks, plant fragments sometimes need to be quickly identified. The use of DNA "barcodes" to itemize plant biodiversity was proposed during the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Summit.

### [Efforts to slow climate change may put indigenous people at risk](#)

Efforts to slow climate change are putting indigenous people at risk, warns a new report published by Survival International. The report argues that lack of recognition of indigenous land use leaves them vulnerable to displacement and environmental harm by projects done in the name of climate change

mitigation, including dams, agricultural expansion for biofuels production, and carbon conservation schemes.

#### [El cambio climático está fuertemente vinculado a la desertificación](#)

El entendimiento del vínculo entre el papel del suelo y el cambio climático es "crucial" para enfrentar tanto la desertificación como el calentamiento global. Al dejar de lado la lucha contra la desertificación, la comunidad internacional se priva de un arma importante contra el cambio climático.

#### [Ethnographic maps built using cutting-edge technology may help Amazon tribes win forest carbon](#)

A new handbook lays out the methodology for cultural mapping, providing indigenous groups with a powerful tool for defending their land and culture, while enabling them to benefit from some 21st century advancements. Cultural mapping may also facilitate indigenous efforts to win recognition and compensation under a proposed scheme to mitigate climate change through forest conservation.

#### [Forest area bigger than Canada can be restored](#)

Only one fifth of the world's forests remain but an area bigger than Canada could be restored without harming food production, a global alliance dedicated to restoring forests said.

#### [Forest carbon scheme hopes for green light in Copenhagen](#)

While nations bicker over the size of emissions cuts and climate funds, saving forests has turned out to be among the least contentious issues in U.N. climate talks and has achieved the most progress.

#### [Google – the new eye in the sky for protecting forests?](#)

Google looks set to play a part in a called-for "new environmental world order" by satellite-monitoring the rates of deforestation of tropical rainforests and pinpointing illegal logging and land misuse.

#### [Google to aid tropical rainforests](#)

A proposed Google program would allow anyone with Internet access to spot illegal logging in tropical rainforests and report it.

#### [Green business and indigenous rights](#)

Study by Survival International, a organization promoting the interests of tribal peoples, documents the impact of the biofuels industry, hydro-electric power, carbon-offsetting and forest conservation schemes on indigenous communities worldwide.

#### [La lutte contre la déforestation, un défi de taille](#)

La lutte contre la déforestation, qui est tenue pour responsable d'un quart du réchauffement climatique, est un enjeu majeur du sommet de Copenhague.

#### [Latinoamérica: la rápida expansión de la desertificación](#)

Desertificación puede sonar parecido a desierto, pero existe una diferencia fundamental entre los dos: mientras que los desiertos son unas de las maravillosas formaciones de la naturaleza, la desertificación es un proceso de degradación que sufren los terrenos luego que son afectados por el cambio climático, las actividades humanas, y las fuerzas naturales hasta que eventualmente se convierten en desiertos.

#### [Maquillando el desierto verde en Copenhague](#)

Parece cada vez más probable que ningún acuerdo vinculante surgirá de Copenhague y que el Norte intentará abandonar el Protocolo de Kyoto. También parece probable que se apruebe alguna clase de acuerdo sobre reducción de emisiones por deforestación y degradación de bosques (REDD). Existe el grave peligro de que REDD funcione como forma de disimular el fracaso del Norte en reducir drásticamente sus emisiones.

#### [New fossil plant discovery links Patagonia to New Guinea in a warmer past](#)

Fossil plants are windows to the past, providing us with clues as to what our planet looked like millions of years ago. Not only do fossils tell us which species were present before human-recorded history, but they can provide information about the climate and how and when lineages may have dispersed around the world. Identifying fossil plants can be tricky, however, when plant organs fail to be preserved or when only a few sparse parts can be found.

### [No-shows among South American leaders at Amazon summit](#)

A summit between South American leaders to devise a plan to save the Amazon, failed to come up with a "common stance" on deforestation, as five of the eight invited leaders failed to show up to the meeting.

### [Norway and Guyana sign rainforest deal](#)

Guyana and Norway yesterday hailed a historic agreement that will see the Scandinavian country invest \$250m (£150m) to preserve the rainforests of the Latin America nation. With world leaders warning that no legally binding agreement will be possible at the climate summit in Copenhagen next month, the two comparative minnows completed one of the biggest forest conservation deals ever signed.

### [Peat fires drive temperatures up: burning rainforests release huge amounts of greenhouse gases](#)

Peatlands, especially those in tropical regions, sequester gigantic amounts of organic carbon. Human activities are now having a considerable impact on these wetlands. For example, drainage projects, in combination with the effects of periodic droughts, can lead to large-scale fires, which release enormous amounts of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) into the atmosphere, and thus contribute to global warming.

### [Presidentes amazónicos y Sarkozy preparan su propuesta para salvar el clima](#)

Presidentes y representantes de países amazónicos y el presidente francés, Nicolás Sarkozy, se dan cita en la Amazonía de Brasil para llevar una propuesta conjunta a la cumbre del clima de Copenhagen, con la mira puesta en salvar la mayor selva tropical del planeta.

### [Recuperar los bosques azules compensaría 50% de las emisiones del transporte](#)

La recuperación de los "bosques azules" -manglares, marismas y praderas submarinas- podría compensar la mitad de las emisiones de CO<sub>2</sub> del sector del transporte y supondría el 10 por ciento del esfuerzo de mitigación necesario para detener el cambio climático en un punto en el que no fuera peligroso.

### [REDD may increase the cost of conservation of non-forest ecosystems](#)

Policy-makers designing a climate change mitigation mechanism that will reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD) aren't doing enough to ensure that the scheme protects biodiversity outside carbon-dense ecosystems.

### [Reforestation: challenges and opportunities](#)

Reforestation is expensive, difficult to plan, and even harder to execute. Success is subject to weather, pests, weeds, and continued maintenance. It is time consuming and more often than not the opportunity cost to reforest is much higher than the current land use. More fundamental than the actual act of reforestation is defining how to characterize reforestation.

### [Rethinking deforestation – a Copenhagen challenge](#)

A major issue facing the leaders participating in the Copenhagen Climate Conference is stopping deforestation. There is a misnomer that the main driver of deforestation is the increased production of biofuels. While there is a correlation between biofuels and deforestation, it is minor compared to the real driver – the trees are worth more cut down than they are standing.

### [Rich must aid poor more on climate: Brazil, France](#)

The presidents of France and Brazil said that rich countries must immediately boost aid for developing nations to fight global warming if they want to reach a climate accord in Copenhagen next month.

### [Rich should help Amazon forests, summit says](#)

Nine nations in the Amazon region have called on rich countries to provide poorer nations with the funds to preserve forests.

### [Sticking points for forest CO2 scheme at Copenhagen](#)

A U.N.-backed scheme that aims to reward developing nations for saving or rehabilitating their forests has made major progress during climate negotiations over the past two years and is likely to advance further at talks in Copenhagen.

### [Stopping deforestation with a Tobin tax](#)

Money is needed to preserve a vital part of the carbon cycle. It's there even in a recession, if only we sort out our priorities.

### [The world's looming 'water gap'](#)

There's good and bad news from a sweeping new report on the world's water scarcity. The bad: Global demand for water already exceeds supply - about 1.1 billion people don't have access to clean water - and the so-called water gap is increasing at an accelerating rate. The good: Cost-effective, sustainable solutions are available to close the gap, particularly if governments and business focus on reducing demand rather than trying to generate additional supply.

### [Time of day matters to thirsty trees](#)

Scientists say they've found the manner in which a forest's trees genetically cope with drought differs according to the time of day.

### [Turning sand dunes to architecture](#)

Desertification is slowly creeping into the lands of 134 countries around the world. Everyday, 1 meter of desert is added to the Arab world map alone. Using bacteria, Magnus Larsson, the sand architect, has a plan to solidify loose sand into buildings.

### [World forest observatory needed to monitor vital role of forests in climate deal](#)

A new scientific organisation is needed to monitor the commitments that will be made by developing countries at Copenhagen to cut their deforestation rates.

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