

Indigenous News Flash ARCHIVE: NOVEMBER 2009



News:

1. 'Japan's native Ainu fights for cultural survival' For more information:

http://www.etaiwannews.com/etn/news_content.php?id=1109037&lang=eng_news&cate_img=44.jpg&cate_rss=news_Perspective

2. 'Indigenous tradition used to fight climate change' in Australia and beyond...For more information: <http://www.sciencealert.com.au/features/20093011-20318.html>

3. 'More than 200 Paraguay villagers thought sprayed with pesticide' when being removed from their ancestral lands...For more information:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/americas/11/10/paraguay.pesticide.attack/>

New Recommended References:

1. Johnston, F.H. (2009) Bushfires and human health in a changing environment. Australian Family Physician, Vol. 38, No. 9, pp. 720-724.

2. Altman, J. & Arthur, B. (2009) Commercial Water and Indigenous Australians: A Scoping Study of Licence Allocations- Working Paper 57. Australian National University, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research.

3. Edwards G.P. & Allan G.E., eds. (2009) Desert fire: fire and regional land management in the arid landscapes of Australia. Alice Springs, Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre.

Education Centre: November 2009

Indigenous People and Biodiversity By Coll Hutchison

85% of the estimated 370 million Indigenous people worldwide, are said to live in areas designated for biodiversity conservation (1, 2). Their direct reliance on natural resources for food, shelter, medicinal plants, spiritual and other cultural practices, means that they are especially vulnerable to biodiversity loss (3). Changes in access to biodiversity may threaten the sustainability of their low consumption of biomass and energy, their right to self-determination and consequently, to the realisation of their well-being (1, 2, 4)

With the UN's International Year of Biodiversity and Biodiversity Targets set for 2010, it is of the utmost importance that Indigenous people are included in decision making processes that concern:

- the role that biodiversity plays in the preservation of their right to self-determination and well-being
- the part that Indigenous peoples play in biodiversity conservation (5)

Featured references:

1. Schmidt PM, Peterson MJ. Biodiversity Conservation and Indigenous Land Management in the Era of Self-Determination. *Conservation Biology*. 2009; 23(6): 1458-66
2. Toledo V. Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity. In: Levin, S. et al., (eds.) *Encyclopedia of Biodiversity*. Academic Press (in press)
3. Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Biodiversity Synthesis*. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute. 2005
4. Saenmi S, Tillman T. *ACBC: affirmation of cultures and biodiversity conservation*. Oxford: UNESCO. 2006
5. Convention of Biodiversity (CBD), <http://www.cbd.int>. Accessed: 8th December, 2009

Additional references of interest:

1. Arambiza E, Painter M. Biodiversity Conservation and the Quality of Life of indigenous People in the Bolivian Chaco. *Human Organization* 2006;65(1):20-34
2. Gram S. Indian Forestry in Latin American Rain Forests. *Sustainable Development*. 1997;5:21-9
3. Orlove B, Brush S. Anthropology and the Conservation of Biodiversity. *Annu Rev Anthropology*. 1996;25:329-52