

## ECOSYSTEM INSIDER

The Ecosystem Insider brings you news from  
the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management

December 2021, Edition 4

Dear IUCN CEM members,

We are pleased to bring you the 4th Issue of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) Newsletter for 2021

### **CEM HIGHLIGHT**

#### **CEM at COP 26**

This year's COP, taken place in November in Glasgow, UK, was no longer about hypothetical models and projections on future scenarios, but on practical and urgent actions which need to be applied and enforced now in order to keep the 1.5°C limit and a call for innovative governance mechanisms as well as the involvement of local and indigenous communities in the process and decision making of their territories.

During the Conference, where several SC members such as Jonny Hughes and Madhav Karki were present, as well as other members, CEM co-hosted 2 events with FEBA and the IUCN secretariat:

The event, in collaboration with WWF reflected on the institutions and legal frameworks needed for



[Restoration to Guide the United Nations Decade 2021-2030](#), was released in September, after a global consultation through the UN Decade website.

The ERTG is now working with these partners to develop Standards of Practice (SoPs) to

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, members from the Disaster Risk Reduction Thematic group from TH Köln – University of Applied Sciences and UNU-EHS jointly hosted the “Disaster risk communication related to the 2021 floods in Germany” session during the [European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction](#). The event discussed whether intensive land use and climate change were among the triggering factors, what conclusions can be drawn for future flood events, outlined approaches for better risk communication through participatory mechanisms, and questioned what role risk communication can play.

## FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

As is known by most of you, every month CEM leads a webinar on different subjects and recent publications hosted by members. During October, the space was led by the IUCN South Asia region who hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> CEM Dialogue on \_\_\_\_\_, a multi-author blog aimed for sharing the e05 Tw 0 Td()Tjnw 0 Td()Tjnwcb22 0 Tt 0 Td20 Td()Tj89onw 7st)-6 (e)-4 (lo)-r0





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Scientists took place, a space that allowed to discuss the barriers and perspectives of youth for a more active integration in global biodiversity research.

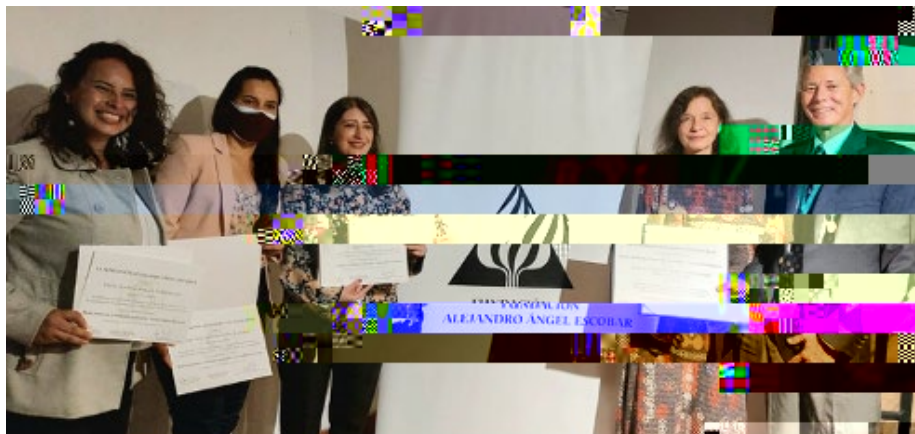
The event was attended by many acd11 0 bm()Tp ( m)4 (a14p ( m)4(a)4 b( m)4rs)6.1 1f

influenced many of the inquiry's recommendations that set the direction for future fire management in NSW. Congratulations David and team!

### **Alejandro Angel Escobar Award for Environment and Sustainable Development - RLE** Likewise, the

considered the most prestigious scientific award in Colombia was granted to a team of Colombian researchers, led by Professor Andres Etter from the Javeriana University and supported by organizations such as Conservation International Colombia and IUCN CEM Chair, Angela Andrade. The team was recognized for their work on the project “

”, which assessed the status of 13 ecosystems throughout the country. As a result, out of the 81 areas assessed, 20 showed critical levels of risk, 16 at risk, 14 vulnerable and only 31 were established as “low risk” ecosystems, highlighting priority areas for conservation and restoration as well as regulating ecosystem-degrading practices and taking action towards more sustainable practices.



This publication is the culmination of a process of over 25 years of ecosystem mapping and evaluating the transformation processes of Colombian ecosystems, where the work of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems has played a crucial role.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Critical Approaches to Gender in Mountain Ecosystems**

We are happy to share two of our latest publications which were developed by our members. Firstly, the Mountain Ecosystem Specialist Group released its latest publication titled “Critical Approaches to Gender in Mountain Ecosystems”. Edited by Omer Aijazi and Sejuti Basu, lead and co-lead of the group, the publication draws from the group’s diverse

global membership ranging from academic researchers to government officials and civil society members. It is a good reminder that there is much more to be learnt and achieved when it comes to gender and pushes for even greater integration of critical feminist approaches with mountain ecosystem management, presented from successful interventions in South Asia, Europe, North America, and West Africa. The full publication can be downloaded [here](#).

**Using ecosystem risk assessment science in ecosystem restoration: a guide to applying the Red List of Ecosystems to ecosystem restoration**

Also, a new publication on

was  
launched on December 9<sup>th</sup> and led by Marcos Valderrabano and in collaboration with Cara Nelson and Emily Nicholson among other members, explores how the Red List of Ecosystems and ecosystem restoration can be jointly deployed to reduce risk of ecosystem



### Social-Ecological Systems and Panarchy

SERT member Dr. Ahjond Garmestani, along with colleagues, have recently published two papers on social-ecological systems and panarchy. Panarchy is a key concept in resilience that examines, among other things, how system transformation requires working within and across smaller and larger system scales. Along with Dr. Craig Allen and Dr. Lance Gunderson, Dr. Garmestani has a new book in press, *Panarchy: The Making of a Resilient World*, and scheduled for release in April 2022. The book explores how practitioners have used panarchy in environmental stewardship and integrates law, economics, and urban planning, among other things. You can find the publications in the following links:

[Iterative scenarios for social-ecological systems](#)

[Panarchy and management of lake ecosystems](#)

[Applied Panarchy: Applications and diffusion across disciplines](#)

### Climate Change Adaptation Checklist for Climate Smart Projects

EcoAdapt, a highly regarded non-profit consultancy in the United States, has just published a [Climate Change Adaptation Checklist for Climate Smart Projects](#). The Checklist guides users through a simple process to determine if given climate change a project will continue to deliver intended benefits. In three steps that are easy to complete with the information available, users identify climate risk factors, explore potential impacts of those risk factors, and develop adaptation options to avoid, minimize or ameliorate negative impacts.



policy (in this context, its function may be different to that of a self-standing resilience assessment).

### **Challenges to Understanding and Managing Cultural Ecosystem Services in the Global South**

Several Cultural Practices and Ecosystem Management Group members are part of a new special issue in press with Ecology and Society on [Challenges to Understanding and Managing Cultural Ecosystem Services in the Global South](#). The paper focuses on several