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**UNU-IAS**

Institute of Advanced Studies

6F International Organizations Center 国際連合大学高等研究所  
Pacifico-Yokohama 〒220-8502  
1-1-1 Minato Mirai 横浜市西区みなとみらい1-1-1  
Nishi-ku, Yokohama 220-8502 Japan パシフィコ横浜  
Tel: +81-45-221-2300 横浜国際協力センター6F  
Fax: +81-45-221-2302 URL:  
<http://www.ias.unu.edu>

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**REF: Notification – Biofuels and Biodiversity**

Dear Sirs,

This letter is a response to the following call from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity: SCBD/STTM/JM/DCO/76500 and in particular the above mentioned invitation.

The United Nations University – Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) has a broad research interest in the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of biofuel production and use, in both developing and industrialized countries (please refer to the bottom of this letter for a full list of current research activities).

Please find below a list of already published work (two are also attached): the first two deal explicitly with the impacts of biofuel production and use on biodiversity, and the third addresses a specific indirect biodiversity impact.

- (1) Journal article explaining the drivers and impacts of biofuel production and use on ecosystem services, biodiversity and human wellbeing using the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment's ecosystem services framework. This paper proposes the ecosystem services approach as the most suitable way of assessing biofuel impacts:

Gasparatos, A., Stromberg, P., Takeuchi, K. (2011) Biofuels, ecosystem services and human wellbeing: putting biofuels in the ecosystem services narrative. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*, Elsevier. In Press doi:10.1016/j.agee.2011.04.020.

- (2) UNU-IAS Policy Report (attachment 1), distributed at the CBD-COP10 in Nagoya. This report dedicates a special section to response measures regarding the biodiversity impacts of biofuels. The report is co-written with researchers from UNU-IAS, ETH Zurich, UNU – Institute of Sustainability and Peace, and Tokyo University.

Stromberg, P., Gasparatos, A., Lee, J.S.H., Garcia-Ulloa, J., Koh, L.P., Takeuchi, K., (2010) Impact of liquid biofuels on ecosystem services and biodiversity. UNU-IAS Policy Report.

United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies, ISBN 978-92-808-4518-1, Yokohama. Available at [www.ias.unu.edu/publications](http://www.ias.unu.edu/publications)

- (3) UNU-IAS Policy Report (attachment 2), distributed at the UNFCCC-COP15 in Copenhagen. This report discusses, among other, the possible indirect biodiversity impacts stemming from climate induced relocation of biofuel feedstock production.

Stromberg, P., Esteban, M., Thompson-Pomeroy, D. (2009) Interlinkages in climate change-vulnerability of a mitigation strategy: Implications of increased typhoon intensity on biofuel production. UNU-IAS Policy Report. United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies, Yokohama. Available at [www.ias.unu.edu/publications](http://www.ias.unu.edu/publications)

Additional research on the ecosystem services impact of biofuels, conducted at UNU-IAS:

- (4) An edited volume on the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of biofuels in developing nations, bringing together 11 leading international research centers with contributions ranging from regional land use change to impacts on biodiversity water consumption and numerous other social impact (to be published in 2011 by Cambridge University Press).
- (5) The link between biofuel feedstock trade and deforestation in Indonesia.
- (6) Global and local perspectives on the success of eco-labeling for oil palm in Indonesia.
- (7) Comparative analysis of the drivers and impacts of the Brazilian ethanol and biodiesel programs.
- (8) Sustainability analysis of biofuels programs conducted in the African continent.

It is our hope that these publications will be of interest for CBD's current stock taking exercise.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Per Stromberg  
Research Fellow

Dr. Alexandros Gasparatos  
JSPS-UNU Postdoctoral Fellow