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Financing protected areas through payments for environmental services (PES): A possibility?

Panel Discussion

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PES and Financial Sustainability of PAs

The objective of the session is to explore the extent to which payments for environmental services (PES) can help strengthen sustainable management of Protected Areas.

Financial Sustainability is Key

- Growing demand for ecosystem services
- Loss of ES has profound consequences for the poor and marginalized
- Yet, conventional management models fail to capture the values of ES
- Economic viability is threatened
- PES can serve as a level playing field-



Positive Results where Implemented

- PES schemes - growing in numbers and magnitude
- Enhanced income and livelihood opportunities
- Innovation and sophistication-bundling and portfolio approaches
- Several indirect benefits: bridge-financing – enhanced productivity to better tenure

Challenges to Effective PES

- Globally - ES reward mechanisms are small and isolated
- Average revenues from PES are too low as an economic incentive
- Lack of enabling environment- inadequate policy and institutional support
- Low organizational capacities- High initial/transaction costs

Panel Discussion

Md. Wasiul Islam	Conservation of the Sundarbans through ecotourism
Huong Vu	Assessing the impact of PES on livelihoods of local communities around national parks in Vietnam
Antonio Lisboa	Ecotourism as a basis for local development in Virua NP: innovative solutions in the Brazilian Amazon.
Pierluca Gaglioppa	The LIFE+ MGN project (MAKING GOOD NATURA): PES with a participatory approach
Rodrigo Medeiros	Bolsa Verde Program: conserving ecosystem services and reducing poverty in Brazilian protected areas