

## Payments for Ecosystem Services

Questions on the feasibility of payments for ecosystem services (PES) as an instrument within a strategy of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources

### 1. Initial thoughts on the instrument

- Why could a PES mechanism be a potential solution to the region's problems?
- What could be the advantages of a PES mechanism compared to others (such as taxes), and how could it contribute to law enforcement?
- What other economic instruments should be introduced to the region to complement or provide an alternative to a PES mechanism and how can parallel structures be avoided?
- How could a PES mechanism contribute towards financing long term sustainable use and conservation of natural resources (in protected areas, for example)?

### 2. Analysis of the context

- What are main environmental/ ecological problems in the region and what are their underlying causes?, What are the socioeconomic, legal, institutional and cultural framework conditions?
- What are the goals to be attained, and what are the obstacles to attain them?
- What property rights (formal and informal) exist in the intervention areas?

### 3. Identifying ecosystem services

- What are the most recognised ecosystem services?
- What ecosystem services should be maintained in your region?
- What activities are affecting these services?
- What synergies must be taken into account among the different services in order to respond to the problems with an integral approach?





#### 4. Actors and institutions

- Who offers the services and what are those groups' interests and needs?
- Who requires the services and what are those groups' interests and needs?
- To what extent are users of the services willing and / or able to pay for them?
- Who could receive and administer funds and how?
- Who could monitor the commitments, and how?
- What local capacities must be built and / or strengthened for a PES mechanism to work without high transaction costs?
- How could civil society get involved?

#### 5. Role of the State and other institutions

- What governmental institutions will be involved and what role should they play?
- Will there be a role of NGOs and / or international cooperation? What could be the role of NGOs and / or international cooperation and to what extent is their contribution needed?

#### 6. Final considerations

- How could the financial and institutional sustainability of the PES mechanism be secured?
- Which actors could oppose a PES mechanism and what could be their motive?
- What conflicts or negative consequences might arise from the implementation of a PES mechanism?



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