A TOOL FOR MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION.

CASE OF A GOU/UNEP/ PROJECT

Developing an Experimental Methodology for Testing the Effectiveness of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) to Enhance Conservation in Productive Landscapes in Uganda

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## Project Institutional Structure

### Main Donors & Co-Financing Donors

- gef
- UNEP
- Darwin Initiative
- 3le
- Blank Park Zoo
- Iowa’s Wildest Adventure

### Project Executing & Implementing Partners

- NEMA
- UNEP
- World Wildlife Fund
- Chimpanzee Sanctuary & Wildlife Conservation Trust
- International Institute for Environment and Development
- Katoomba Group

### Impact Evaluation Partners

- IPA
- NAHI
- Nature Harness Initiatives
Background

- Deforestation is responsible for approximately 20% of carbon emissions (FAO, 2006)
- Uganda’s deforestation rate is currently 92,000ha (approx. 2.6%). FAO, 2010.
- There is 122,876 ha of forest outside protected areas in Albertine Rift. (WCS, 2011)
- There is about 500 chimpanzees outside protected forests in western Uganda (UWA, 2002)
- Deforestation rate outside protected areas in western Uganda (North Albertine Rift) is 5.1% annually or 8,367 ha, **THUS no more forest left in next 15 years**
The PES Project

**Project Objective**
Enhance *Biodiversity Conservation* in productive landscapes in Uganda and globally through **better understanding** of PES.

- PES programs pay forest owners for their conservation efforts.
- Where policy regulation is weak, market-based solutions like PES offer an opportunity for rural poor to capitalize on their assets (forests) while increasing the provision of public goods (environmental benefits).

**BUT; Does PES really work?**
Project Components

**Component 1:** Pilot PES Scheme based on experimental methodology

**Component 2:** Updating local institutions’ scientific and monitoring programs and strengthening capacity for PES

**Component 3:** Generating disseminating and replicating good practices

**Component 4:** Project management
Project Approach

Identified areas at risk of deforestation in 10 sub-counties in Hoima & Kibaale Districts

Identified private forest owners in 276 villages in Hoima & Kibaale

Randomly divided the PFOs in treatment and comparison groups (70 villages each) see map

Designed and offered a pilot PES scheme to PFOs in treatment villages

The pilot PES project is being evaluated by IPA & International Scientists to establish whether PES works or not
**Incentive Package**

- **Incentive cash payment** $28 (Approx-70,000)/ha/year
- Sensitize, create awareness, train
- Monitor and advise PFOs
- Seedlings for reforestation/enrichment planting

- Conservation based on agreed forest management interventions e.g.,
  - Regulated harvesting
  - Enrichment planting
  - Re-forestation
  - No opening new land for agriculture
Participation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Villages offered program</th>
<th>70</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest owners signing contracts</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Forest ares under contract</td>
<td>1590ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Hoima)</td>
<td>1093ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Kibaale)</td>
<td>497ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compliance level in year 1

- 39% of PFOs fully complied to contracts
- 45% partly complied to contracts
- 16% didn’t comply
Reasons for non-compliance

1. No interest to continue with the PES scheme and opting to continue agriculture

2. Household disagreements on the adopted land-use

3. Unclear Land Tenure /Community land conflicts/disagreements (Rwobunyonyi village)
Challenges

- Commitment for payments not yet realised
- Drought leading to drying of planted trees
- Human Wildlife Conflict
- No vehicle provided to the project
- Co-financing from Government not yet realized

Addressing challenges

- Beating up to replace dead seedlings
- Partnership with other projects under Northern Albertine Rift Conservation Group
- Involvement of District Lands Office
- Sustainability Committee of the Project