



Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and Other Collaborative Measures for Forests: What Kind of Innovations Are Possible?

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Message from the Guest Editors

Forest payment for ecosystem services (forest PES) is a clear and straightforward answer to the question of the externality of forest ecosystem services. Water storage, purifying services, carbon sequestration and storage services, as well as recreational opportunities are often provided for free by forest managers or owners to general citizens or certain groups of individuals, resulting in the insufficient supply of these services. If these unpaid services are provided based on the exchange principle, that is, ecosystem services for monetary or other rewards, the services would be delivered at optimal levels. However, past experiences have taught us that it is not that simple. PES is difficult to implement because of several obstacles such as high transaction costs and unclear owner rights. Furthermore, critics claim that forest PES is ethically as well as politically questionable. In this Special Issue, we welcome contributions to innovations for overcoming these and other obstacles and criticisms.





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