



Sustainable Financing & Payments for Environmental Services

InfoExchange

Welcome to July's WWF **PES InfoExchange** (Year 2 No. 12).

This listserv is a resource provided and managed by WWF-MPO, as a platform to exchange ideas and notify experts and practitioners of developments and events in the emerging field of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES). PES is a growing field that develops and assesses the mechanisms by which beneficiaries of ecosystem services, such as clean water or carbon sequestration, compensate the providers for maintaining those critical services. Defining and understanding the services that ecosystems can provide is a first and fundamental step to this process.

You may also download InfoExchange at: <http://assets.panda.org/downloads/pesnewsletter12.pdf>



WWF News

WWF-MPO and Forest Trends/Katoomba Group signed a Memorandum of Understanding in June 2006. The two organizations will focus on strengthening ecosystem services and promoting payments for ecosystem services arrangements. This collaboration will build on activities that both organizations are already carrying out, and it also will lead to exploration of new opportunities to promote, develop and implement sustainable financing for ecosystem services.

WWF-Vietnam has developed a portfolio of PES projects that include payments for watershed protection, biodiversity services, and landscape beauty. Several project summaries follow, and for more information on these and other projects, please contact nga.dangthuy@wwfgreatermekong.org.

- **Paying for Protection of Upland Forest Areas in Thu Bon River Basin, Quang Nam Province** (nga.dangthuy@wwfgreatermekong.org). *Payments for watershed services.* Goal: To establish an effective payment mechanism to be paid by dam companies to upland communities and forest areas and to protected areas management boards.
- **Promoting Shade Grown Cocoa in Lam Dong Province** (thao.phamminh@wwfgreatermekong.org). *Payment for biodiversity services.* Goal: To protect forest areas and improve communities' livelihoods through the establishment of shade grown cocoa in Lam Dong and purchasing relationships with related companies.

- **Paying for Water: Payment Schemes along the Dong Nai** (Richard.mcnally@wwfgreatermekong.org). *Payment for watershed services*. Goal: To establish an effective payment mechanism to be paid by downstream beneficiaries to upland communities and forest management units for forest protection.
- **Marine Protection on Phu Quoc Island** (keith.symington@wwfgreatermekong.org). *Payment for landscape beauty*. Goal: To establish a conservation fund derived from users and beneficiaries of the Phu Quoc Marine Protected Area.
- **Promoting Sustainable Timber: The Vietnam Forest and Trade Network** (vftn@wwfgreatermekong.org or sander.vandenende@wwfgreatermekong.org). *Payment for biodiversity services*. Goal: To contribute to eliminating illegal logging and improve the management of valuable and threatened forests in Vietnam, and in countries supplying wood and fiber to Vietnam.



Websites and Publications

PES in a conservation and poverty-reduction context

Poats S. (Corporacion Randi Randi). April 26-28, 2006. *Report on the Latin American Regional Workshop on “Compensation for environmental services and poverty alleviation in Latin America,”* Quito, Ecuador. This report summarizes each regional presentation from the workshop, several presentations on Ecuador, provides a brief synthesis of the current situation and trends in Latin America surrounding PES and poverty, and follows the case studies, with conclusions and recommendations, from the workshop.

New York Times. May 17, 2006. *The Business of Green*. The NYT published a series of articles on the “business of being green” – including articles on green design, green investments, green marketing and sustainable agriculture.

Cochrane P. May 2006. *Exploring cultural capital and its importance in sustainable development*. *Ecological Economics* 57(2): 318-330. Exploring the concept of cultural capital, the name Cochrane gives to the underlying factors that provide societies with the means and adaptations to exist in their environments, this paper suggests a framework for assessing its influence in managing and utilizing natural capital.