

## Keywords

Germany, UFZ, WP5, Impact evaluation, Ecosystem service values, policy instruments, implementation process, Agri-environmental measure

## Main research question

In this study we conduct qualitative interviews to better understand why German landowners are reluctant to participate in afforestation schemes.

## Research finding in brief

Funding for afforestation is regarded unprofitable compared to revenue gained from agricultural production.

Further issues that demotivate participation were very heterogeneous between respondents. These included:

- 1) larger farms can more easily plant forests, because they still have sufficient land left for agricultural land uses.
- 2) Since farms in the region rent a large share of their farmland, they have no right to plant forest on rented land.
- 3) The long-term commitment was regarded as negative, especially since farmers have the costs now while the benefits will accrue to future generations.



## Policymix approach

The main focus was to identify issues causing reluctance to participate in agri-environmental measures. The study looked at farmers' needs and potential conflicts of these needs with forest law. One prominent objection of the AEM was that farmers do not have the opportunity to return to agricultural land-use after the contract ends. If the AEM design were to be adjusted according to this finding, there would be a conflict with forest law prohibiting any forest to be felled.

### Reference:

Bittner, S. and Lienhoop, N., 2013:  
Understanding non-participation of farmers in agri-environmental schemes for afforestation. The case of West Saxony.

### Website:

Forthcoming at <http://policymix.nina.no/>

### Contact:

[nele.lienhoop@ufz.de](mailto:nele.lienhoop@ufz.de)



## ASSESSING THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS IN POLICYMIXES FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVISION



### Project objectives

POLICYMIX has developed an integrated evaluation framework for assessing economic instruments that considers multiple policy assessment criteria – biodiversity and ecosystem service provision indicators; valuation of their economic benefit and policy implementation costs; social and distributional impacts; and legal and institutional constraints – at different levels of government.



### Methodology

POLICYMIX focuses on the role of economic instruments for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services provided by forest ecosystems. The cost-effectiveness and benefits of a range of economic versus regulatory instruments are being evaluated in selected POLICYMIX case studies in Norway, Finland, Germany, Portugal, Brazil and Costa Rica. Comparative analysis evaluates the possibilities for transfer of policy success stories between Europe and Latin America, and promoting learning from policy failures.



### Training and dissemination

POLICYMIX actively used advisory boards including land users, local managers and national policy-makers, who collaborated with our researchers in the feasibility assessments of economic instruments. A web-based [POLICYMIX TOOL](#) encompassing policy impact assessment guidelines, case stories and demonstrations of policy assessment methods is aimed at supporting dissemination and learning.



### Results

POLICYMIX research discusses improvements in the design, targeting and implementation of economic instruments for biodiversity conservation through better understanding of (i) the linkages and complementarities between impact assessment tools, (ii) complementarities between different policy instruments in a policy mix, and (iii) trade-offs in design of a policy mix between economic, environmental and social impact criteria.

### EC Contribution:

3 458 312 €

### Duration:

2010-2014

### Consortium:

9 partners from 8 countries

### Project Coordinator:

Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) (Norway)

### Project Web Site:

<http://policymix.nina.no>

### Key Words:

Biodiversity, ecosystem services, policy mix, social ecological systems, economic instruments, payments for environmental services, ecological fiscal transfers

### Partners:

- Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA), Norway
- Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), Germany
- Foundation of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology, New University of Lisbon (FFCT-UNL CENSE), Portugal
- Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (IVM), Netherlands
- International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK
- Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Finland
- Rede de Desenvolvimento, Ensino e Sociedade (REDES), Brazil
- Fundação de Apoio a Pesquisa Agrícola (FUNDAG), Brazil
- Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), Costa Rica

### Contact:

David N. Barton,  
coordinator

[david.barton@nina.no](mailto:david.barton@nina.no)

