

Keywords

Germany, UFZ, WP4, Impact evaluation, Ecosystem service values, policy instruments, implementation process, Agri-environmental measure

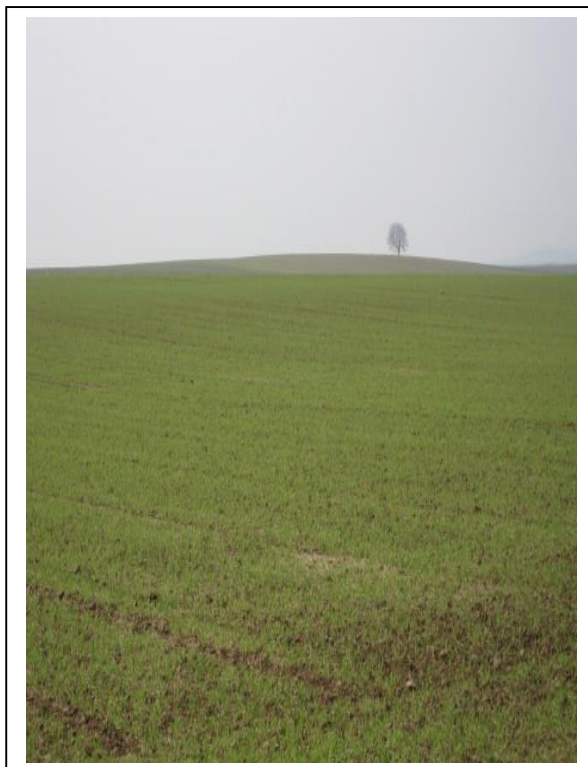
Main research question

Explore the conditions under which German landowners in regions with limited forest cover would be willing to afforest.

Assess the demand for different contract alternatives and thereby identify the institutional-economic aspects that hamper and/or motivate landowners' to enrol in afforestation schemes.

Research finding in brief

- While there is no interest in the existing agri-environmental measure (AEM) for afforestation, a choice experiment reveals considerable interest in afforestation among farmers.
- According to the CE and qualitative interviews, a number of contract design features other than money are important.
- Most of these features could be introduced at relatively low cost, thus increasing the efficiency of the scheme.



Polycymix approach

Agri-environmental measures are the only incentive-based policy instrument for afforestation in Saxony, but do not receive attention by landowners. Various other regulatory instruments are in place, but do not lead to afforestation either. AEM are not in conflict with other environmental schemes available to farmers, but the sheer amount of funding opportunities make the AEM less predominant and attractive. We also look at how a new design of the AEM would conform with other policy instruments, such as forest law.

Reference:

Lienhoop, N., Brouwer, R., 2013: Agri-environmental policy valuation: Farmers' design preferences for afforestation schemes. Submitted to Land Use Planning

Website:

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

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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

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