

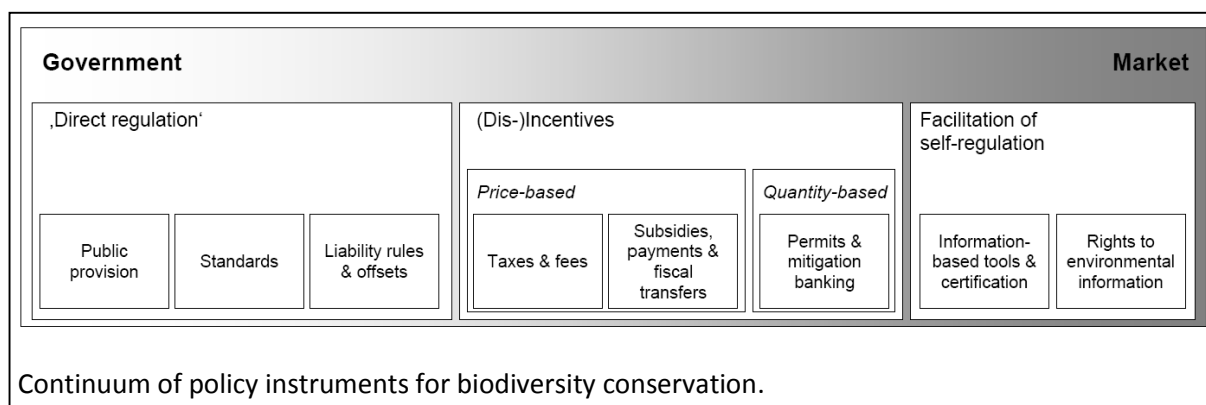
Keywords	UFZ, NINA, SYKE, CENSE-UNFL, IVM-VU, IIED, CATIE, REDES; WP2; Impact evaluation; Policy instruments; Goals, Resources, Institutional Fit, REDD+, Ecological fiscal transfers, Protected area enforcement, PES (public, private), AEM, Tradable rights & offsets
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Main research question

The report aim to identify and describe key regulatory and economic instruments for biodiversity conservation; to review existing experience regarding their effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, social impacts as well as institutional requirements; and to assess the role of the selected instruments in a policy mix.

Research finding in brief

We describe and evaluate key policy instruments for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, with a special focus on those suitable for the conservation of forest ecosystem services and sustainable forestry. Building on international experience and literature, the state-of-the-art and knowledge gaps regarding the effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, social impacts and institutional requirements of the following instruments are identified: regulation and planning instruments, tax reliefs for biodiversity conservation, payments for environmental services (PES), REDD and REDD+, ecological fiscal transfers; trading schemes, habitat banking and offsets; and voluntary mechanisms and forest certification schemes.



In the synthesis chapter of the report, we develop a three step-two pathways policy mix analysis framework that was later applied by the case studies of the POLICYMIX project.

Policymix approach

Some policy instruments complement each other and interact synergistically, whereas others may overlap and reduce effectiveness and/or efficiency of the policy set up. Therefore, the role of each of the instruments needs to be specified as a basis for further instrument design and impact evaluation. We propose a three step-two pathways policy mix analysis framework as guidance.

Reference:

Ring, I., Schröter-Schlaack, C. (Eds.) (2011): Instrument Mixes for Biodiversity Policies. POLICYMIX Report Issue No. 2/2011, <http://policymix.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
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