

## Keywords

Norway, Finland, Germany, Portugal, Costa Rica, Brazil - São Paulo, Brazil - Mato Grosso, CENSE-UNL, REDES, NINA, UFZ, SYKE, CATIE, FUNDAG, WP8, Challenges, context and gaps, Impact evaluation, Scenario analysis, Institutional fit, Social impact, Policy instruments, Modelling, Implementation process, Outputs, Final outcomes, Ecological fiscal transfers, PES (public, private), AEM, Explore, Infer, Test

## Main research questions

The perspective of high-level policy organizations on the use of economic instruments for biodiversity conservation holds true in POLICYMIX case studies? Is the proposed POLICYMIX framework useful for the comparative assessment? What are the prospects for transfer of instruments and lessons between the Latin American and European contexts, namely for policy mixes associated with i) Payments for Environmental Services, ii) Agro-Environmental Measures and iii) Ecological Fiscal Transfers?

## Research finding in brief

An appropriate command and control regulatory framework is a crucial factor in the success of PES, AEM and EFT. Several of the formal aspects of PES that are proposed in the literature are not always feasible to implement in practice. AEM appear to represent a policy mix in their own, causing additional complexity in administration.

The introduction of modifications in AEM design (e.g. contract options, spatial targeting) has the potential to make them both more cost effective and more attractive to farmers. EFT can serve as a stimulus to proactive local conservation policies, although a range of factors hinder the designation of new protected areas.

## Policy mix approach

The POLICYMIX framework was applied.



### Reference:

Santos, R., May, P., Barton, D.N., and Ring, I. (eds.) 2014. Comparative assessment of policy mixes across case studies - common design factors and transferability of assessment results. Report 1/2014.

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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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