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Practical Experience and Lessons Learned on Equitable Payments for Watershed Services (EPWS) Scheme in Ulugurus, Tanzania

A Joint CARE&WWF Programme in Tanzania.

Presented

on 13th November 2012 During 2nd TARGETED REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR GEF IW PROJECTS IN AFRICA AT UN CONVENTION CENTRE IN ADDIS ABABA, The ETHIOPIA

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- Background and objectives
- Implementations: Phases (I&II) with highlights of Phase III
- Achievements
- Sustainability arrangements
- Limitations
- Lessons learned

Introduction.

- Sharing CARE-WWF practical experience and lessons learned of EPWS pilot programme in natural resources management as well as alleviating poverty in Tanzania
- EPWS originates from the broader concept-<u>PES</u>
 - encourage and finance conservation efforts as well as
 - crucially improve the livelihoods of the rural poor community

Some key questions/assumptions tested

- How can EPWS be implemented equitably? (fair participation and benefiting)
- Can EPWS work for poor or can EPWS be pro-poor?
- What kind of conservation practices to be implemented that will be adopted by local people and yield results?

Others scholars look at the same questions





INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL

FAIRLY EFFICIENT OR EFFICIENTLY FAIR: SUCCESS FACTORS AND CONSTRAINTS OF

PAYMENT AND REWARD SCHEMES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN ASIA

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- 2010: case studies showing the application of strict conditionality of PES and monetization of ES not working
- Lack of money available for conservation fund
- Paying local communities
 undermining social norms
- Social jealousy of nonparticipants – no multiplier effects of the payment
- Lack of scientific skills, institutional capacities, data for ES monitoring

Balancing act is needed



Adapted from van Noordwijk et al (2011)

EPWS Objectives

 To modify unsustainable land use and improve "watersheds" for reliable supply/flow and quality of water



To improve social and economic status of community members through substantial benefits accrued from both improved agronomic practices and high value crop production thus reducing poverty and malnutrition.

Background .. Location in Tanzania



Ulugurus the EPWS site in Tanzania

Generally, there is high rainfall (>2000mm/yr) to ensure enough water supply

Over 151,000 people reside in the Uplands of Ulugurus

Crucial for delivery range of ecosystem services: Water, Forests, Fresh air, landscape beauty

Global priority for biodiversity conservation







Background of EPWS progr.

- The program implemented in phases for learning lessons for next step/s.
- Phase 1: Feasibility assessment (2006 2007)
 - Gathering knowledge to structure the new market for WS
 - Building a business case for investment through justifiable "business criteria"

• Phase 2: LUC and payments (2008 – 2012)

- To establish markets for WS in trial subcatchments as an effective natural resource management tool
- Phase 3 for scaling up and replications

Phased approached in graphic as designed by Julio Tressiera



Feasibility assessment for EPWS implementation



Findings: Uluguru Watershed problems

• About 31% of Ulugurus pop'n live below poverty line, depend on subsistence agriculture



Unsustainable land use practices ('slash and burn', shifting cultivation)

- > accelerate to soil erosions which cause sediment load,
- hence increased turbidity in river
- > high treatment costs (\$300,000
 per month)

Decreased water flows in Ruvu river





Identification and roles of sellers and Buyers

- Mfizigo catchment a hotspot in Kibungo Juu, thus
- Sellers: Kibungo Juu communities
 - Recognized the existence of water problems
 - Recognized the contribution of their activities to the problem
 - Shown willingness to change their land use practices
 - Legal entities which can:
 - Sign contracts with buyers
 - Receive payments (under local government)
- Buyers: DAWASCO and Coca Cola KLtd as
 - Water is critical/core for their business & reliant on river water
 - Recognized high treatment costs and lack of alternative water supply for their business
 - Show willingness, capacity and accept to pay
- **AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN SELLERS AND BUYERS**

CBA: done for deciding what to implement

- Indicative minimum costs per hectare of Programme implementation.
- Whether WS sellers are likely to experience positive net benefits associated with Programme implementation. Where net benefits are positive, the scheme is likely to satisfy the "equitability criterion" necessary for Phase II roll-out.
- An indication as to the scale of net benefits to WS sellers associated with the Programme.

Costs Considered

- Costs considered within the CBA are the likely total costs of land-use change incurred by watershed service (WS) providers different scenarios.
- Such costs consisted of the costs of
 - 1 implementation (one-off costs incurred in the first year) and
 - 2 opportunity costs for land taken out of productive use

Benefit Considered

- Payments / compensation made under the PWS Programme equivalent to the compensation variation (or costs to WS providers) for implementing on-farm conservation measures as required under the PWS Programme.
- Improved on-farm productivity.
- [Reduced soil erosion.]

Benefit Cost Ratios and Equitability Ranking

	Intervention	Present Benefit s (USD)	Present Costs (USD)	Benefit Cost Ratio	Equitabilit y Ranking
Scenario 1	Excavated terraces farmlandbench on	3,105	3,105	1	=3
Scenario 2	Fanya juu / fanya Chini on farmland	887	622	1.4	1
Scenario 3	Agroforestry	2586	4,246	0.6	4
Scenario 4	Grass / vegetative strips / strip farming	467	435	1.07	2
Scenario 5	Contour ploughing / planting	0	0	0	=3
Scenario 6	Riparian restoration /km	435	435	1	=3

Interpretation and Conclusion

- Based on the results of Benefit Cost Ratio:
 - All scenarios offer net benefits as compensation or payments under the PWS scheme are set at the compensation variation – or the total costs of land use change
 - Higher ratios offer greater benefits relative to costs for upstream sellers, and from the sellers' perspective would be the more equitable solution
 - The most cost-effective solution is grass / vegetative strips.
 - The most equitable solution for Phase II is Fanya Juu / Fanya Chini which is more likely to bring about improved on-farm productivity for PWS Programme Participants.

MoU btn sellers and buyers

Phase II: EPWS programme implementation (adopted from Julio again)

Implementing improved Land Use Changes and pilot payment mechanism AT HOT-SPOTS •HYDROLOGY CHANGES •LIVELYHOOD CHANGES

Agreeme nt to scale up

SCALE UP.LARGER INTERVENTION REPLICATIONS TO OTHER W/S: PHASE III

Land use change intervention

- Various soil conservation measures proposed by feasibility studies:
 - >Bench terraces,
 - Fanya Juu terraces
 - > grass stripping,
 - > agroforestry/reforestation,
 - Contour planting
 - > Riparian restoration



To be fair the program
 extension services to farmers:
 > Group formation
 > Trainings
 > Inputs

Fanya Juu and Bench terraces



Number of farmers excavating terraces has been increasing yearly from 54 in 2009 to 400 in 2012



Agroforestry and reforestation in Kibungo Juu

Tree planting: over 300,000 have been planted between 2009 and June 2012

SWC beyond terraces and trees

• Contour farming with mixed cropping maize and cover crops: Beans and groundnuts

Monitoring of interventions' impacts (HYDROLOGY)

Weather monitoring

Monitoring of interventions' impacts (LIVELIHOODS)

Participatory monitoring on crop production

Well Being Analysis for Kibungo Juu people

Piloting Payment mechanism: (Phase II) cont....

- Facilitate compensation or payments under the PWS scheme which are set at the compensation variation of land use change practice in terms of
 - Labour costs
 - Opportunity costs
- DAWASCO has started paying sellers in Ulugurus

Piloting Payment mechanism: Arrangements

- EPWS is a performance based initiative
 - Payments are made to the participating farmers as rewards for undertaking conservation activities
 - The calculations are made based on:
 - the opportunity cost of amount of land that one intervenes: consideration was to crops,
 - the labour costs: determined thru local market price for agric activities
 - make prices differences between one technology to the other

How were the payments determined?

Labour and opportunity cost used to determine payments amount

Method	Land removed from production (use in first vear)	First year opportuni ty cost USD	Labor in USD.	Labor days/ha	First year labor cost (USD/ha)	Total cost (USD/ha)	Total cost (USD/ acre
Bench terrace	100%	128	1.2	140.0	168	296	119.838 4
Fanya juu	20%	25.6	1.2	103.7	124.488	150.088	60.764
Reforestation	100%	128	1.2	50.0	60	188	76.1136
Agroforestry	17%	21.76	1.2	9.0	10.8	32.56	13.1824
Grass strip	17%	21.76	1.2	9.0	10.8	32.56	13.1824
Riparian restoration	100%	128	1.2	8.0	9.6	137.6	55.7088
Contour	14%	17.92	1.2	12.0	14.4	32	13.0848

Payments arrangements cont...

- Village council(s) with support of CARE/WWF:
 - Surveyed the individual farms and map the area to confirm land size and technology applied by respective farmers
 - Collects funds from buyers (currently DAWASCO), then
 - Distributes the funds to respective participating farmers

Last payments were effected in May 2010:

 a total of 134 farmers and 3 institutions have been paid about tshs 2.17m for converting their farms with improved land use practices

Local ownership strategies

- Put in place functional Intermediary Group (IG) which is composed of members from local communities (sellers), downstream water users (ES buyers), government agencies (including water, forest, environment and Agriculture authorities) as well as CSOs
- Formed farmer groups and association
- Facilitated extension services
 - Conducted various trainings
 - Paraprofessionals
 - Exchange visits
 - Distribution of equipment's and farming inputs
- Collaboration with other stakeholders

Sustainability

- Farmers are aware and highly motivated to apply LUC techniques after realising positive results in the field
- Revisiting the initial agreements and sign a new one between buyers and sellers: Bringing more buyers and sellers on board
- Continuous advocacy and lobbying for proper inclusion of PES
 in the National institutional frameworks
- Engaging government especially local government authority to support the programme ownership at local level
- Other institutions have been scaling up and replicating the PES Schemes
 - The Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) in Mindu dam catchment
 - WWF Tanzania Country Office in the Sigi River catchment in the East Usambara Mountains.
 - ICRAF has implemented PES scheme in one part of Ulugurus. They actually focused on carbon financing by involving local communities to plant and manage trees.
 - The Ministry of water has enacted water act in 2009 which include PES as a conservation instrument and she is in the process of formulating regulation to enforce this PES law.
 - Similarly PES issues are included in the recently revised National Forestry Policy.
 - The UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) has been assessing the potential for PES scheme in Kagera River basin in Bukoba.

What are we achieving from **EPWS implementation**

1st achievement is extension services and adoption of LUC

About 1200 farmers participate and benefit from the programme of which 42% are women

Hydrological achievement: decreased sediment load

<u>Key:</u>

Red one is Suspended Sediment concentration in (g/l) Blue line is Discharge (m3/s)

Increased crop yield as result of improved SWC measure

 Improved production yields of various crops

Crop	Baseline (2008)	Current change (May 2012)		
Maize	< 400kg/acre	>1600kg /acre		
Beans	<120kg/acre	≥950kg/acre		
Cabbage	Nil	≥9600 pcs/acre		
Tomato	Nil	≥9000kg/acre		
Union	Nil	≥4000kg/acre		

Increased incomes as Benefits from the programme implementation

- Linking farmers with markets
- Generating high incomes (US\$13,000) through selling crops: Cabbage, tomato, Unions

Farmers came to sell their cabbage to town market

Limitations on EPWS implementation

- Initial costs are high and thus needs external support
- PES is a new concept, the Experts on PES and/or PWS processes are limited in the country
- Getting sellers is simple while engaging buyers is challenging
- Landless people are eliminated unintentionally: an issue for PRO-POOR PES
- Tangible impacts of the EPWS solution cannot be realized in short term
- Inadequate institutional framework for implementing PES successfully

Lessons learned from EPWS program implementation

Lessons learned about project approach and initial assumptions

- Upfront funding from donors may be needed to demonstrate viability to buyers and sellers (as with carbon payments / REDD+)
- Buyers likely to cover farmlevel costs only – but not wider costs of monitoring, project delivery etc
- PWS needs effective law enforcement and governance (eg illegal mining, pollution) to function: Government involvement

What <u>hinders</u> adoption of SWC measures?

- Assumption behind PES is that payments can reduce barriers to adoption for farmers
- However: Other factors:
 - Fears over tenure / eviction
 - Historical associations with terraces
 - Land ownership/tenure
 - Additional investments needed: water, manure (livestock)
- Lesson: Non-financial incentives may be more important than financial ones
- Lesson: "Do no harm" principle

What <u>enables</u> adoption of SWC measures?

- When combined with highvalue crops – land use interventions are highly profitable
- Increased production, increased and diversified incomes (short and longer term)
- Value of payment very small
- Increased social capital (groups)
- Farmer-to-farmer learning and exchange
- <u>Lesson</u>: Opportunity cost

 negative. Payment is
 not about compensation,
 but investment

What has been learned about pro-poor approaches?

- Challenges associated with increasing participation of the poor:
- Poorer farmers have little or no land
- Poorer farmers very riskaverse
- Labour and time
- •Living from "hand to mouth" – long term investments impossible

•May be unable to carry out physical work (elderly, disabled)

What has been learned about pro-poor approaches?

- Without specific measures from outset, participation by the poor will be limited
 - Broad consultation early on, identify vulnerable groups
 - Ongoing discussions with vulnerable groups
 - Monitoring participation
 - Group formation, labour pooling
 - Reducing scale of implementation
 - Identifying / negotiating for un-used areas of land
 - Targeting less labour intensive activities to poor

What has been learned about institutional structures?

- Farmer Groups important social benefits (pooling labour etc)
- Useful communication channel for project
- Umbrella organisation formed to "give greater voice" – WAKUAKUVYAMA Many potential benefits:
 - Representing sellers interests eg aggregation
 - Linking to other organisations / support
 - Marketing of farm produce
- Lesson Learned: Building organisations from the grassroots up takes time and resources if potential benefits are to be realised

END Thank you

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