

Forest Trends' Communities and Markets Program is committed to reducing poverty, improving livelihoods and conserving natural resources by engaging forest and rural communities' participation in environmental markets and payment and compensation schemes for ecosystem services. With a focus on information sharing, capacity building and technical assistance for forest and rural communities, the Communities and Markets Program includes:

- ▶ The Community Portal website on the Ecosystem Marketplace seeks to generate awareness and increase the knowledge base and accessibility of information on environmental markets and transactions for communities in developing countries. The Portal highlights information to help communities in the process of development and implementation of PES projects in a variety of media formats.
- ▶ The Community Forum Newsletter, published every six weeks, shares recent publications and information on PES, highlights new tools and resources for those interested in environmental markets and transactions and encourages readers to submit their content contributions.
- ▶ Regional PES capacity building workshops
- ▶ Community radio programming about PES
- ▶ Development and dissemination of informational materials
- ▶ Integration of community's perspectives into other Forest Trends programs, such as the Business Development Facility and Business and Biodiversity Offset programs

The Communities and Markets Program relies on the guidance and collaboration of the Community Advisory Group, a network of community experts and leaders from around the globe.



The Ecosystem Marketplace is a leading source of information on markets and payment schemes for ecosystem services; services such as water quality, carbon sequestration and biodiversity. We believe that by providing solid and trust-worthy information on prices, regulation, science, and other market-relevant issues, we can help markets for ecosystem services become a fundamental part of our economic and environmental system, helping give value to environmental services that have, for too long, been taken for granted.

In providing useful market information, we hope not only to facilitate transactions (thereby lowering transaction costs), but also to catalyze new thinking, spur the development of new markets, and achieve effective and equitable nature conservation.

Interested in receiving newsletters related to ecosystem services and markets? Our newsletters include:

- V-Carbon –Voluntary Carbon Markets
- Mitigation Mail – Conservation and Wetland Banking
- Community Forum – PES for Communities
- W.E.T – Water/Environment/Trading

Sign-up at the Ecosystem Marketplace: <http://ecosystemmarketplace.com/pages/static/signup.php>

To learn more or join us, visit the websites:

The Katoomba Group
www.katoombagroup.org

Forest Trends
www.forest-trends.org

Communities and Markets
www.forest-trends.org

The Ecosystem Marketplace
www.ecosystemmarketplace.com

Mercados Ambientales
www.mercadosambientales.com

Mercados Ambientais
www.mercadosambientais.com

or contact us by email:

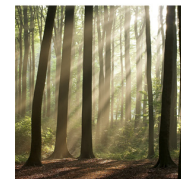
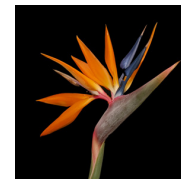
For questions and more information, please email Rachel Miller at rmiller@forest-trends.org

Payments for Ecosystem Services:

What are they?

What resources and information are currently available?

Where can you find people and organizations working with ecosystem services?



the
katoomba
group

The Katoomba Group is an international working group focused on markets and payments for ecosystem services – including watershed protection, biodiversity habitat, and carbon sequestration. The Group is comprised of leading experts from forest and energy industries, research institutions, the financial sector, NGOs and communities. It serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and strategic information about ecosystem service markets and transactions. Our work is regionally oriented as described below.

Tropical America Katoomba Group (TAKG)

- ▶ Promoting and facilitating payments for ecosystem (PES) services in the Tropical American region
- ▶ Building regional know-how and capacity related to PES through training sessions, facilitating creation of tools and methodologies, and communicating cutting edge developments
- ▶ Sharing knowledge regionally and internationally and promoting collaboration between network partners

East and Southern Africa Katoomba Group (E&SAKG)

- ▶ Establishing a vibrant network of PES innovators across East & Southern Africa, through country-level and regional meetings
- ▶ Building platforms for PES-related problem-solving, tool documentation, and information dissemination
- ▶ Identifying sites with rich learning opportunities; enabling and advising on the design and implementation of PES projects in those sites
- ▶ Catalyzing national government action on supportive policies and procedures

China Network

- ▶ Assessing status of ecosystem services activities and major players
- ▶ Identifying critical opportunities

North America

- ▶ Multiple stakeholder strategic convenings around key opportunities

What are Payments for Ecosystem Services?

Ecosystems provide a wide range of services from clean water to carbon sequestration and maintenance of biological diversity. People and companies rely on these services—for raw material inputs, production processes, and climate stability. At present, however, many of these ecosystem services are either undervalued or have no financial value at all.

Markets are emerging for ecosystem services in countries around the world. For example, multi-million dollar markets now exist in carbon, wetlands, water pollution, and even in endangered species.

Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) are formal and informal contracts that place financial value on stewardship services - from one on one informal agreements to large scale public systems that shift economic investments towards desirable land stewardship. Transactions fall into broad categories: self-organized private deals, public payments to farmers and communities, open trading/compliance markets, and eco-certification.

PES is a tool that is increasingly being used by conservation practitioners, financiers, community groups, governments and others to recognize the value of services provided by nature and the role of those who steward these services.

While PES can have many benefits, it is important to recognize that PES is not always the most appropriate conservation measure and should not be undertaken without careful analysis and understanding of the particular situation.

What resources are currently available?

In addition to our websites, we suggest:

Getting Started: An Introductory Primer to Assessing and Developing Payments for Ecosystem Service Deals

- ▶ Step-by-step guide for developing and implementing PES agreements, specifically for NGOs and communities/‘sellers’
- ▶ Extensive resource lists and materials throughout the guide

Available online at: www.katoombagroup.org

Negotiating for Nature’s Services: A Primer for Seller’s of Ecosystem Services on Identifying & Approaching Private Sector Prospective Buyers

- ▶ Reference guide for identifying, negotiating, and closing ecosystem service deals with private sector buyers

Available online at: www.katoombagroup.org

The Conservation Economy Backgrounder

- ▶ Introductory guide to environmental markets, answering many frequently asked questions

Available online at: www.ecosystemmarketplace.com

State and Trends of the Voluntary Carbon Markets: 2007

- ▶ Overview of key players voluntary carbon market
- ▶ Quantitative analysis of the voluntary carbon markets that includes estimated size, ratio of project types, use of standards and predictions for growth of the voluntary carbon markets

Available online at: www.ecosystemmarketplace.com

