

Governance settings of PES schemes and new business models for forest ecosystem services

Context

This internship is part of the ForestValue project NOBEL (**Novel business models and mechanisms for the sustainable supply of and payment for forest ecosystem services**) which is coordinated by the Harald Vacik University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Institute of Silviculture, Austria. INRAE (the laboratory BETA) is participating in the project and is, among others, responsible for a French case study. More specifically, this internship is part of a work package analysing the policy framework and governance settings for forest ecosystem services and is led by Gerhard Weiss (European Forest Institute, Forest Policy Research Network).

Objective

The overall objective is to analyse the governance settings of previously implemented PES schemes to identify suitable business models for a given socio-economic, ecological and policy context and to identify potential and feasibility for broader implementation of successful business models for providing Forest Ecosystem Services in France.

The implementation of business models depends on governance settings, which essential components are structural (e.g. rules, norms and values) and agent-based (e.g. interests, power, conflicts and coalitions). The national and local governance setting will be analyzed in selected pilot study areas (including Austria, France, and Spain) to identify hindering and supporting structural and agent-based factors for their implementation of the identified business models. The synthesis will show the needs and framing conditions of an enabling governance setting and identify requirements for policies supporting business models' implementation. This analysis will include a standardized document analysis and stakeholders interviews in the study areas (e.g., political decision makers, forest managers, private actors and NGO representatives). The results will show challenges and opportunities for the implementation of the selected business models in the case areas.

The results of the French study will be compared with the results of corresponding analyses in Austria and potential other European countries. The work will be carried out in close co-operation with Jens Abildtrup (BETA-Nancy) and Anne Stenger (BETA-Strasbourg) while Gerhard Weiss will guide and supervise the analysis. A common interview guide to be used in each case study has been developed. It is expected that the intern will carry out the document analysis and qualitative interviews, and analyse and report the results for the French case.

Requirements and competences

- Educational background: policy science, sociology, forest engineer, economics, environmental management, Environmental Science.
- Knowledge of Ecosystem Service concept
- Basic knowledge of qualitative methods
- Communication in French and English. The interviews will be with French stakeholders.

Additional information and contact

- Work location : BETA-Nancy, Campus AgroParisTech
- Period : March-Juin 2022
- Salary : environ 600 euros /mois
- Deadline : 10/2/2022

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