

Payments for Agrobiodiversity Conservation Services (PACS)

Project Dissemination Overview

- * FAO notes an unprecedented loss of agrobiodiversity occurring across the globe.
- * Nations have a commitment under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to conserve and sustainably use agrobiodiversity (ABD).
- * Given the existence of public good values (such as future option values, contributions to wider agroecosystem resilience, and the maintenance of evolutionary processes and traditional knowledge) positive incentives are required to ensure socially desirable levels of ABD conservation and use.
- * Agrobiodiversity-related Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) can provide such incentives and permit cost-efficiency and pro-poor concerns to be accounted for.
- * Prioritisation protocols, competitive tender and least-cost approaches can be used to minimise overall conservation costs, thereby allowing more to be conserved *in situ* and impact to be maximised.
- * Development of baseline status measures, monitoring systems and conservation goal definition is required for key plant and animal genetic resources (PAGR).
- * Under agrobiodiversity-related PES, poor farmers can benefit from their new ability to provide agrobiodiversity conservation and monitoring services for the public good. Payments/rewards may be made not only in cash at an individual level, but may also be made in-kind and at a community level.
- * A range of private and public financing options for such agrobiodiversity-related PES interventions can be explored.
- * Application of existing economic methods, decision-support tools and policy intervention strategies is needed to support ABD conservation policy design and implementation that is cost-efficient and pro-poor. This includes Payment for Agrobiodiversity Conservation Services (PACS).
- * Use of such economic methods, tools and strategies requires an accompanying programme of awareness-raising and national capacity building.

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