



PAYMENTS FOR FOREST ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES IN SUB SAHARAN AFRICA

Challenges and Opportunities



PES Initiatives in Sub Saharan Africa

- Stewardship Programmes
- Trust Funds
- Power Transfer
- Creation of Conservancies
- Supply Chain related Programmes
- Cooperative Carbon Offsetting schemes
- Led by governments, NGOs & Private sector
- Involve smallholders and private forest owners
- Payments in form of cash and non cash benefits
- From a few individuals to thousands of households



PES Objective in Sub Saharan Africa

Reducing poverty and protecting ecosystems that provide essential services for a growing population, whose survival depends on the forest for subsistence agriculture, safe drinking water and forest products harvesting

Challenges

Very Complex Methodologies

- Sometimes out of touch with realities on the ground

Land Tenure & Socio cultural dynamics

- Potential participants lack documentation to prove ownership
- Documented owners may not be the land managers
- Gender imbalances

Complexities of drivers of deforestation within and beyond the landscapes





Challenges

Transaction costs

- Considerably high initial investment costs especially in the regulated markets

Institutional capacity

Very limited local markets

- Policies that can create markets exist but there is limited efforts to compel potential buyers to pay
- Buyers are geographically detached from the landscapes most projects rely on strategic partnerships to access markets



Opportunities

Emerging markets based on the products and services provided by forests

- REDD++
- Biodiversity offsets,
- watershed functions,
- Agriculture, socio-benefits etc.

Significant Benefits for all stakeholders involved

- Governments
- Communities
- Private Sector
- NGOs



Opportunities

- Improving standards to be a more responsive especially to smallholder needs
- Supporting the creation of in-country markets
- Supporting existing initiatives to achieve scale and replicate
- Capacity building for project developers / facilitators

Thank you

