Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Defra's PES Research pilots: a quick overview

Ecosystem Knowledge Network

Practical experiences with Payments for Ecosystem Services, Manchester Town Hall

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Defra's interest in PES

- Natural Environment White Paper 2011
  - New ways to recognize the value of nature
- Exploring the potential of PES
  - Water companies leading the way
  - Can ecosystem services approach identify new funding streams?
  - Action Plan
  - Best Practice Guide
  - Research fund to support PES

What does PES look like?

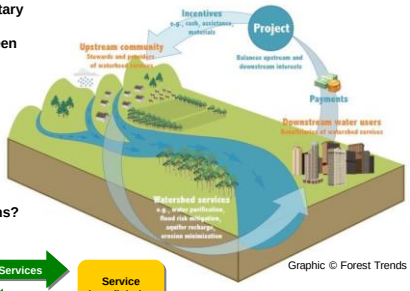
Beneficiary pays principle - voluntary

Direct link between providers and investors

Additional

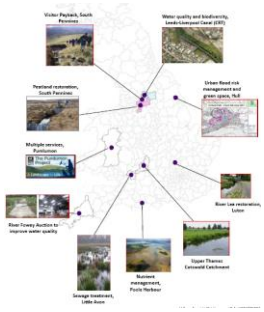
Conditional

Many applications?



Graphic © Forest Trends

Projects funded to date



Some emerging themes and lessons

- A lot has been achieved, a lot of work-in-progress
- PES – as diverse as ecosystems, but need to keep PES criteria in mind
- Trust and institution building as important as technical aspects
- Intermediaries and facilitators are crucial
- Developing PES takes time
- Adapt and be creative