PES for forest rehabilitation in Tajikistan

by Bunafsha Mislmshoeva, Global Change Ecology Master Program, University of Bayreuth
Supervisors: Prof. Thomas Koellner, University of Bayreuth and Prof. Cyrus Samimi, University of Vienna

Background

Tajikistan:
- is a landlocked country, located in Central Asia
- in 1991 it became an independent country after being one of the Socialist republics of the Soviet Union for almost 70 years
- it experienced a brutal civil war causing tremendous human losses and crisis in all sectors
- today’s energy crisis is characterized by a huge gap between supply and demand of energy
- local people and state institutions have to use fuelwood wood for heating and cooking
- a lack of fodder forces local people to use forests as pasture

Saving Book Approach: a PES-like scheme

Saving Book Approach (SBA):
- is a PES-like initiative by State Forest Agency supported by Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH to enhance ES in Gorno Badakhshan
- SFA, the owner of forests lease severely degraded plots to local people under SBA
- local people can decide whether they enroll or not in SBA
- tenants who lease a deserted plot get a deposit account of certain amount of money per ha
- each year, reforestation activities are planned, which are the precondition for the withdrawal of the annual share and interest
- once the forest plot delivers its services after six years, PES will stop, since the marketing of forest products will even exceed the payment

In 3 villages/plots in Gorno Badakhshan, the potential for the implementation of SBA was analyzed.

Results

The results show:
- “ability” (includes labor force and time as well as physical ability of the available labor force) of the household was the main predictor for WTE in SBA in all villages
- financial costs for the reforestation of the plots vary, depending on the plot size, distance to fencing and planting material
- out of the three plots and villages only one seems to be suitable for SBA implementation when looking at the number of willing to enroll household and the size of the plot

Contact:
Bunafsha Mislmshoeva
mislimshoeva.bunafsha@elitenetzwerk.de
http://www.global-change-ecology.de/