Exploring socioeconomic impacts and governance of Payments for Environmental Services. Lessons From The Democratic Republic of Congo

Introduction and Problematic:

REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) is becoming the main tool to fight against climate change. The implementation of this one is usually the result of a payment for environmental services. If REDD has been designed to integrate the poor, the PES are in the process of fully integrating the secondary objective.

In the case of fragile states, such as the DRC, the implementation of a REDD strategy may be possible through private companies (Karsenty 2011). It is then necessary to know the extent to which private enterprise is able to offer a sustainable poverty reduction.

Methodology:

- Semi-structured interviews:
  - People of Administrative services (department of environment, of poverty reduction)
  - Technical staff and management team
  - Families participating or not
  - Questionnaires with contacts in the major international institutions
  - Review of the literature

Hypothesis:

- Regarding the socio-economic context that only a private company is able to carry out a mechanism PES / REDD
- The vulnerability of local populations is not internal but external to the program
- The development of activities such as agriculture and coal to fund the program make vulnerable people non-participating.

Ibi Village

DRC with 145 million hectares of forest, home to 10% of the world's tropical forests and captures 140Gt CO2. Local people are largely dependent on forest resources (energy, food, medicine, etc.). And despite the extreme poverty rate of deforestation is still relatively low 0.3% year (half the world average). Natural resources are the cause and consequence of the many political and economic issues in the country. In 2002, at the end of the 2nd Civil War, the new government decided to reform the forestry code to integrate local communities in decisions and also introduce the possibility of international funding via REDD (Art. 77 to 80).

The Family Mushiete since 1969 through their company Novacel agroforestry ©, manage the Ibi Village project. Located at 135km east of Kinshasa, the project (Ibi village has several field) is tree planting certified REDD, as part of a CDM, it planting 1 tree planting 1 million Tons of CO2 to the World Bank (via BioCarbon Fund) and private companies (Danone). The financial support of the Belgian development cooperation as well as credits © Suea, Ibi Village allows the project to be considered as an exemplary project in Africa.

The socio-economic data by the project proponents:

- 200 seasonal jobs and 40 full-time permanent.
- 3rd rural investment (e.g 2009-2017: $0 000 000) (drinking water, electrification, housing, teachers, technicians, nurses, applied research, etc.) correspond to 12% of the sale of carbon credits.
- Coal production and cassava has no impact on the not participating population, as demand for both product is constantly increasing.
- The success of the program is transferable to other parts of the country.

Results to verify with the study field

Theoretical framework:

- The theory of transaction costs
- Agency theory
- Theory of economic incentive
- Theory of economic vulnerability and development

To deepen:


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