



Energy and Payments for Ecosystem Services

Maya Bankova-Todorova

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Structure of the presentation

- Ecosystem services – benefits from nature
 - Energy from invasive species
 - Payments for ecosystem services
 - Examples
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Ecosystem services

All benefits, goods and resources people get from nature

4 categories of ecosystem services:

1. Material (provisioning): food, fibers, fuel, herbs
 2. Regulating: regulation of climate, water quality and quantity, soil erosion
 3. Cultural: aesthetic and recreational value
 4. Supporting: photosynthesis, soil formation
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The Tisza Case

ENERGY FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

DEPRESSED ECONOMY

**INVASIVE PLANTS BECAME
DOMINATED
ON FLOODPLAINS**

**HIGH CONSERVATION
VALUE FLOODPLAIN**

Location: active floodplain of the Tisza River, area: ~3,500 ha of a 30

**HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT,
LACK OF LOCAL JOBS**

east economically developed
hazards

**DISAPPEARING
TRADITIONAL
LAND USE**

Environmental assets: high conservation value river floodplain

Problem: Cutting traditional farming practices – grassland

**HAZARDS AND SYMPTOMS:
FREQUENT
FLOODS, DROUGHTS,**

tion of the Tisza wetland - r
of the natural watercourse
levels dropped and saline s

**INCREASING
ENERGY COSTS**

former floodplain grasslands, reducing meadow fertility.

Spreading of the invasive detrimental shrub *amorpha fruticosa* (False Indigo) – '000 of ha

Most disadvantaged subregions in Hungary

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ENERGY FROM INVASIVE SPECIES

Effects on economy and nature

**Spreading of invasive plants
are harmful to nature and economy**

**Lack of traditional and
nature friendly land management**

**large infected croplands
large infected grasslands
large area of „alien” forests**

**Significant financial expenses
(costly land management)**

**Less flood capacity
Costly flood prevention**



SOLUTIONS & RESULTS

ACTIONS

- Introduction of 2 local breeds of cattle to restore traditional grazing practices
- Cutting the invasive shrub transforming the resource into energy
- Ensure the sustainability through plantation of native energy species

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ENERGY FROM INVASIVE SPECIES



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ENERGY FROM INVASIVE SPECIES



RESULTS

NATURE

- **Reduced invasion** of *Amorpha* shrubs in the floodplain
- **More** buffer zone areas in the floodplain around **wetlands**
- **More space** for regenerating, original vegetation in **grasslands**
- Reintroduced domestic **animals**, more diverse wilderness
- More **attractive environment** for waterbirds (black storks, bitterns, egrets...)

LOCAL ECONOMY

- **New income streams** to local land owners from biomass production
- **Less energy expenditures** of local governments
- More attractive environment for **ecotourism**
- **Improved flood capacity** of the floodplain and better flood prevention
- Better **job security** for local unemployed

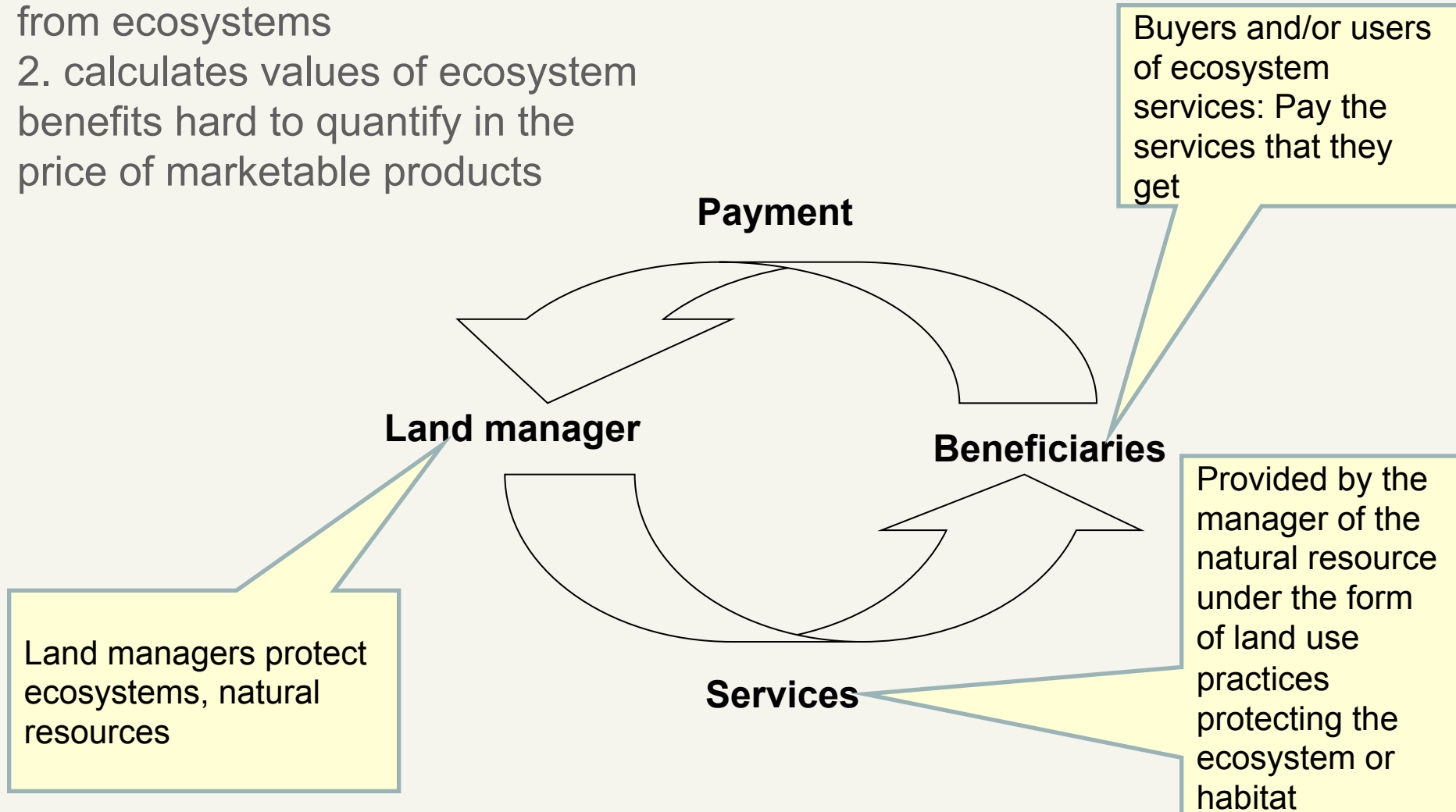


Payments for ecosystem services

ENERGY & PES

Economic instrument, which:

1. aims at conserving benefits from ecosystems
2. calculates values of ecosystem benefits hard to quantify in the price of marketable products



The case of brewery "Notre-Dame of Saint-Rémy"

Location: Rochefort, Belgium

Problem: Intensive animal-breeding contaminating the water (42 dairy farms); increased use of pesticides and fertilizers (almost 50 mg/ l); vulnerability of the karst to pollutions;

Solution: Respect of the good agricultural practices (sustainable nitrogen management plan)

Optimization of the use of manure on grasslands (Composting)

Biomethanization

Cost: 150 euro/ ha to farmers

Benefit: The brewery could continue its work respecting the water standard - 20 mg NO₃ /l

The Ciocanesti fishpond – environmentally friendly aquaculture

Location: Ciocanesti fishpond, Lower Danube, Romania; 255 ha

Problem: Fish-eating birds of high conservation value feed on this private market oriented fishpond. The fishpond owners suffer loss of yield to up to 70%. More than 20,000 bird individuals visiting the place

Solution: Introduce payments awarding the managers of the fishponds for their efforts to protect the birds and maintain water quality

Cost: A package of 5 measures was developed with different value for each measure: 70 - 6,000 Euro/ha/ year

Benefit: Protection of the 31 protected bird species, improved water quality, reduction of GHGs



Environmental services of Ciocanesti fishpond

- Fish production: 3,202 €/ha (592,000 €/ year)
- Biodiversity conservation (birds): 77 €/ ha (19,500 €)
- Carbon sequestration: 5,856 €/ year
- Carbon retention: 3,550 €
- Landscape
- Recreational services
- Educational services



Thank you for your attention

contacts:

Maya Todorova

WWF DCP Bulgaria

mtodorova@wwfdcp.bg

Csaba Vaszkó – Tisza project in Hungary

WWF Hungary

csaba.vaszko@wwf.hu
