

PRACTITIONER INPUT FORM

WATER GOVERNANCE AND POVERTY PROJECT

BCID – Bradford University
Richmond Road
BRADFORD BD7 1DP
fax: +44 (0)870 135 2081 • e-mail: waterpoverty@gmail.com

Please complete and return this form by e-mail at your earliest convenience.

PART I – REFLECTIVE CASE STUDIES: **Costs and Benefits to the Poor of Accessing Water**

1. Name Karen Franz
2. E-mail address kjmfranz@yahoo.com
3. Organisation(s) involved Iracambi Research Centre and various universities
4. Geographic area and dates of study / project / experience Paraibo do sul river basin / Mata Atlantica, Minas Gerais, Brazil 2004 – present (and just getting started)
5. Communities involved Various communities living in the headwaters, within which individual farmers to be identified as “Water Producers”
6. Specific duties and responsibilities / purpose of project Independent Researcher, in charge of synthesizing previous work on the project / on the topic of Payment for Environmental Services (PES); developing details for study and engaging partner universities (local and international)
7. Context of the intervention (e.g. rural/urban, irrigation/drinking water, refugee/conflict situation) Payment for Environmental Services (PES) for water producers
8. Please attach reflective case study of your experience as a practitioner, providing an overview of your experience. Please address the following questions in your narrative: 1) What mechanisms were put into place to ensure access of water for the poor and could they be categorized as financial, technological, social or institutional mechanisms? (Examples of ‘mechanisms’ could be: exemptions from payment; quotas for representation; labour saving technology; empowerment training) Please see the attached RCS outlining the project. It’s still in its formative stages, however, this is a financial / institutional arrangement. 2) What were your experiences with implementation and outcomes in regards to these mechanisms? 3) What criteria were used to measure success and failure? 4) What factors do you see as crucial in the implementation of pro-poor water interventions in connection with the specific characteristics of your experience?

(Please attach additional paper as necessary to answer questions)

PART II – RESEARCH

As part of this project, we are interested to know which methods of research work best in investigating poor peoples' access to water, and what still needs to be researched to promote this.

9. Following your experience, what have you or your organisation done to incorporate your experience into future endeavors?

Continuity of projects is a focus of the organization, where sometimes researchers come in, look at an aspect of the rainforest and do not always have additional researchers coming afterwards. The water project has thus far been a dozen studies looking at various aspects of implementing the PES scheme for water producers. However, it has not even been approached in an integrated manner appropriate to the scope of the region / water supply.

10. Do you or your organisation have a system to identify or test mechanisms of access? If so, please describe and provide the system's strengths and weaknesses.

Not particularly. Questions of access come from seasonal weather patterns – when the dry season arrives, often the springs' flows decrease and the simple systems get clogged with sediment. The region is characterized more by challenges to quality than challenges to quantity. Thus far, informal participatory community questioning has been employed in connection with other issues (looking at forests and biodiversity, but addressing the question of water in that context).

11. Which kind of research do you think is most effective in revealing the impact of water mechanisms on the poor?

I think that sharing practitioner experiences are useful. Many of the issues are overlapping, and integrated approaches are essential to achieving goals. As explained in the RCS – biodiversity concerns will likely be the driving factor for the implementation of the PES schemes for priority areas. The issues complement one another, and looking at them separately lessens the impact. Seeing how other practitioners have tackled their challenges is of particular importance, as PES is applicable in many parts of the world.

12. Based on your experience, what research would most benefit practitioners and be most useful in order to secure pro-poor interventions and why?

Methods to improve coordination between similar projects at a regional scale would be useful. When other projects have had certain successes with, for example, certain agencies or members of committees, it would help to be able to make that contact to get initiatives moving along.

13. Can you refer us to any other literature / case study material that is relevant to this research?

Some references are available as footnotes to the RCS. I can be in touch as the project develops with more information, if necessary.

I consent to sharing the information provided in this form as a part of the Water Governance and Poverty Project's database.

KF

Signature

Date

Thank you!