



Rewarding Upland Poor for Environmental Services(RUPES)

THE CONTEXT

Across South East Asia biodiversity conservation and local development efforts have been segregated. In general, poor people living in the upland areas are perceived to threaten the natural environment.

The Rewarding Upland Poor for Environmental Services (Rupes) project suggests a shift. It aims to integrate nature conservation and development by rewarding the upland poor for environmental services they provide.

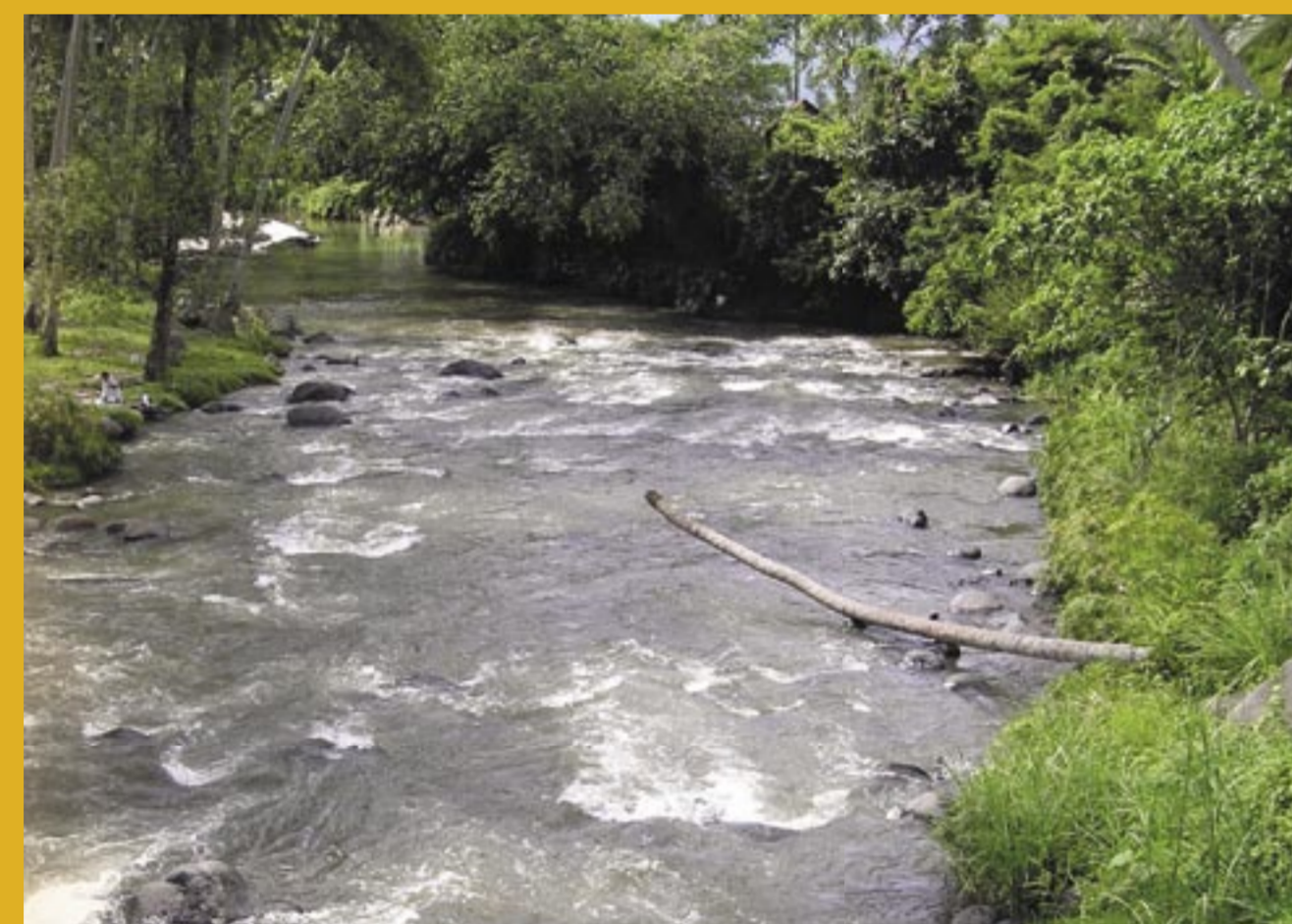
OUR GOAL

Test whether environmental service rewards can reduce poverty of the upland poor, while supporting environmental conservation at local and global levels.

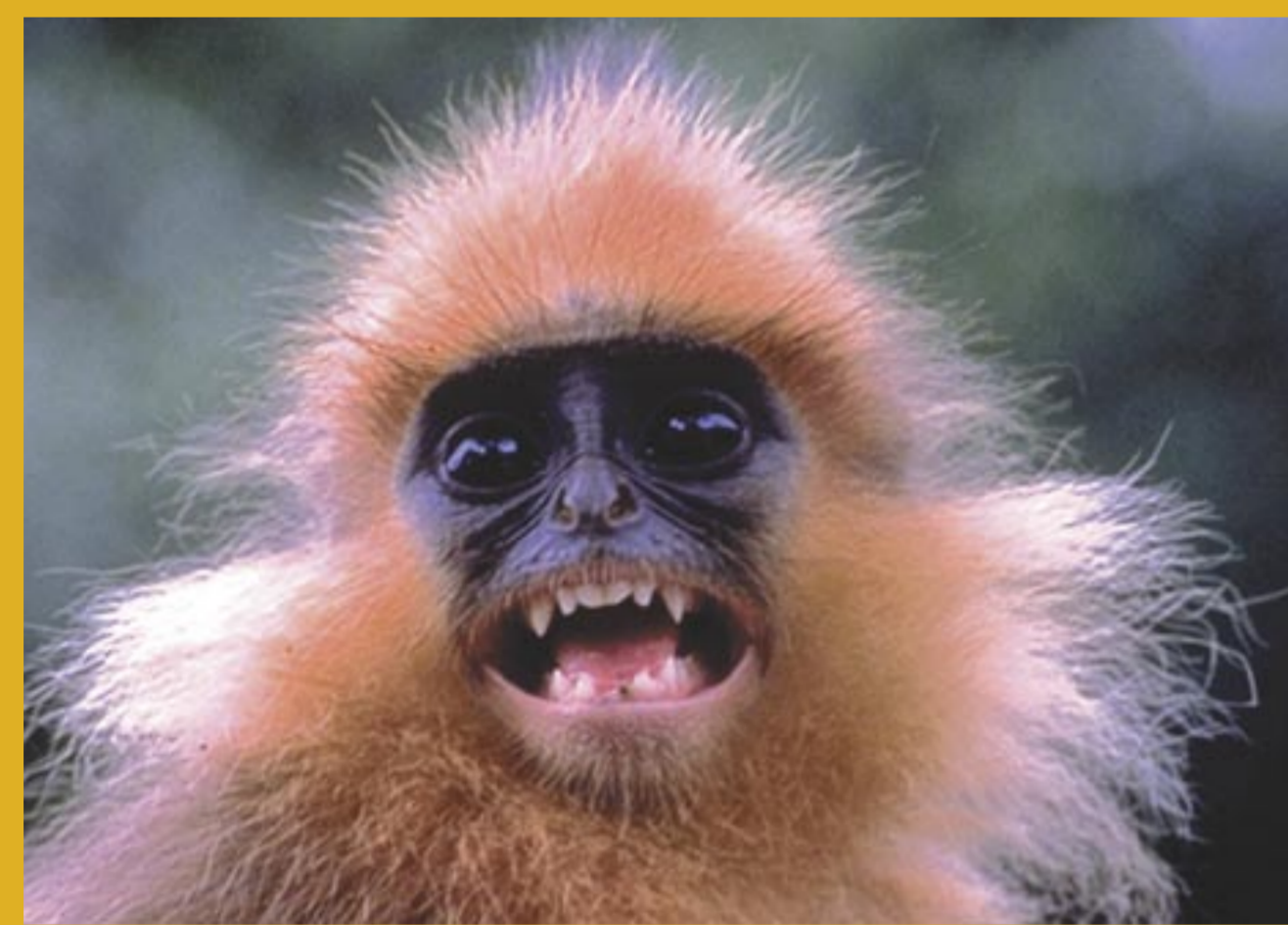
HOW WE WORK

- National inventories of RUPES mechanisms
- Development of new tools and approaches
- A network of pilot sites
- Training of national and local teams
- Synthesizing lessons for policy and program
- An international steering group reviews

KEY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Clean and abundant water



Biodiversity protection



Storing carbon through biodiversity

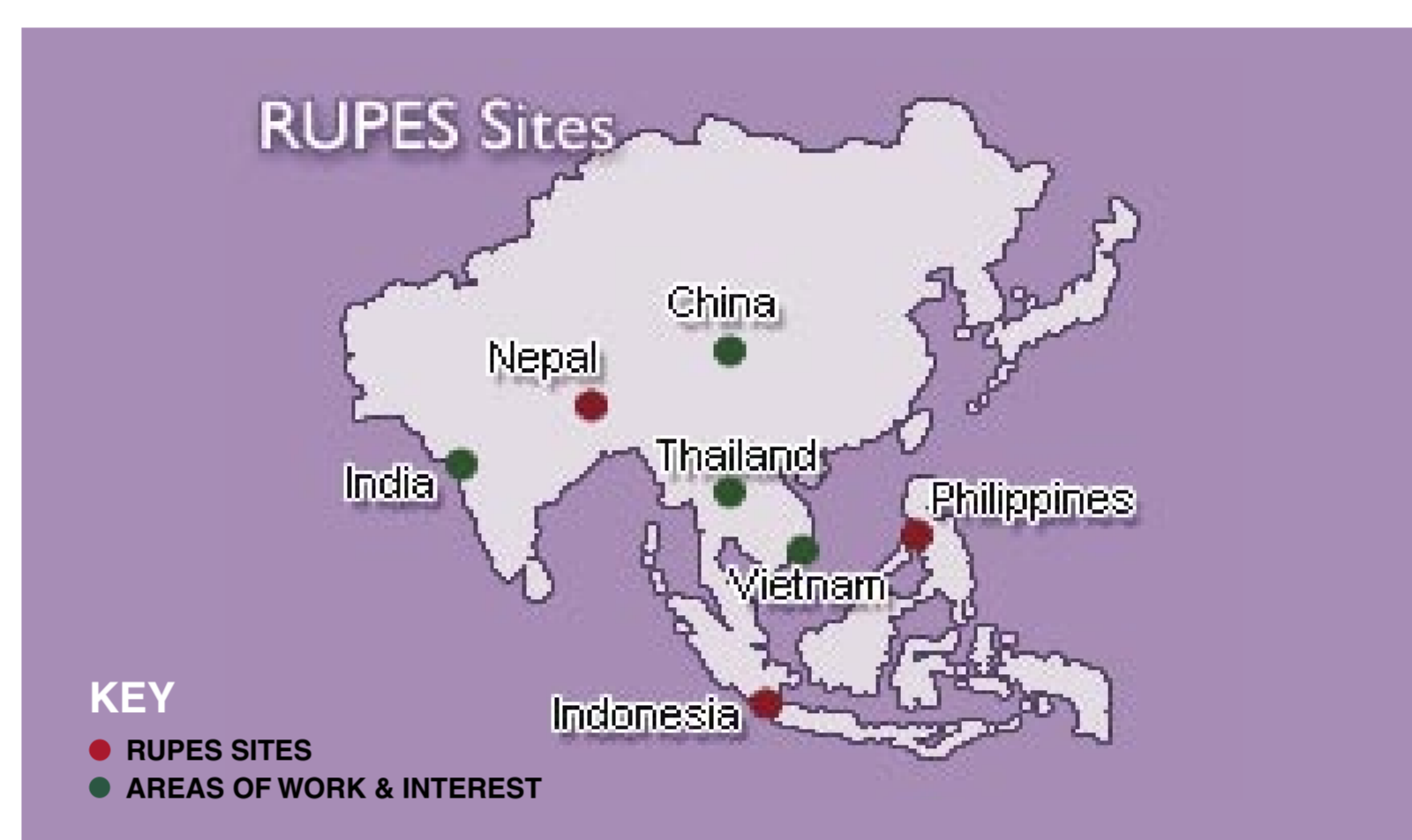
PAYMENT MECHANISMS FOR BENEFICIARIES

- Budget allocation from governments
- User fees for water, irrigation and hydropower
- Payments to trust funds
- Payments for carbon credits

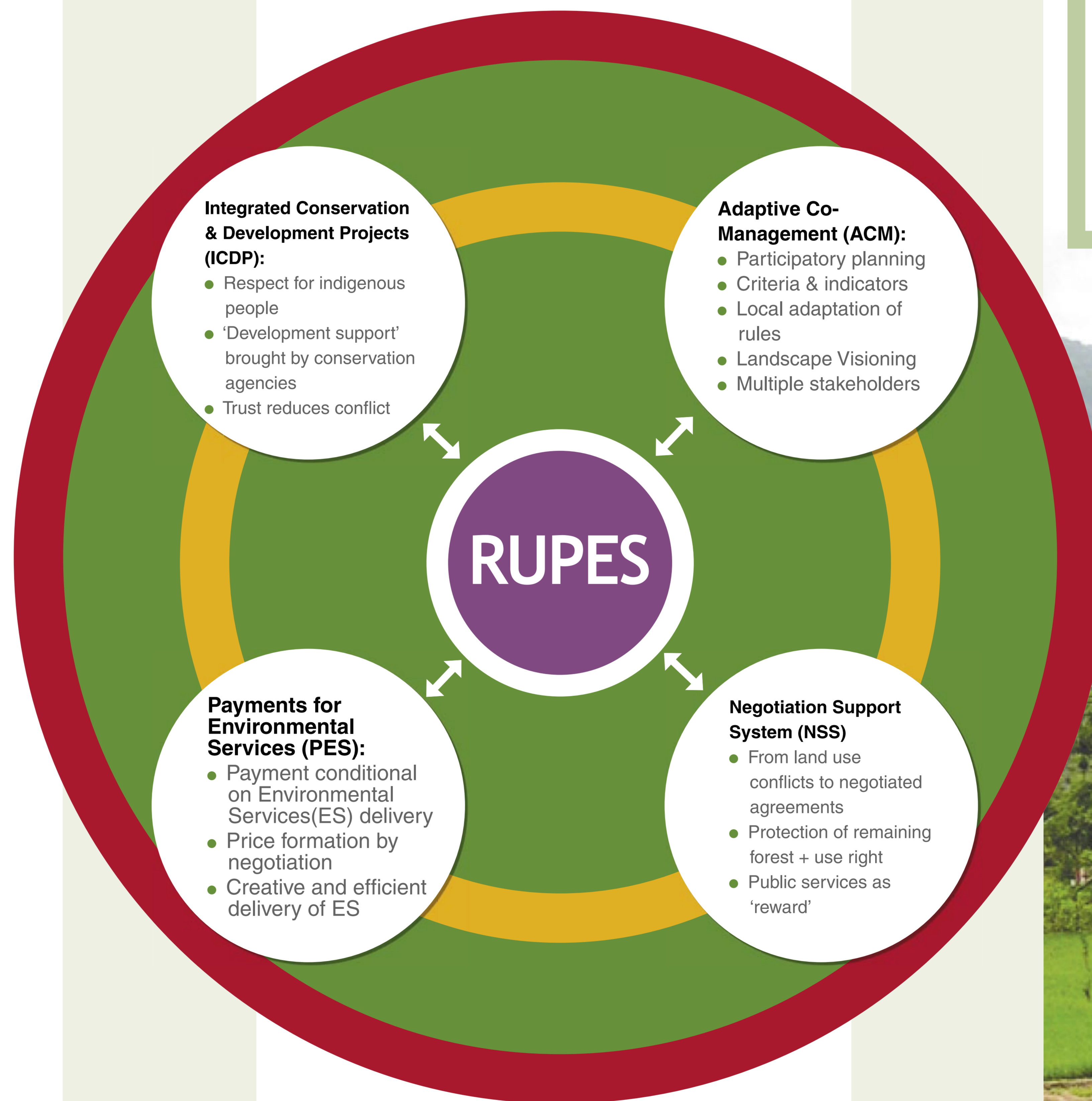
REWARDS TO FARMERS

- Greater security of tenure
- Development rights
- Revenues from carbon credits
- Public services / infrastructure
- Payments from trust funds

RUPES PROJECT SITES



RUPES: SEEKING TO COMBINE THE BEST OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT



SOME RESULTS

- Methods for rapid assessment of marketable carbon, watershed and biodiversity services
- Importance of collective action, property rights and regulatory institutions
- Importance of understanding ecological processes of degradation and restoration
- Importance of intermediaries
- Importance of sequencing, scoping and negotiation processes

Rewards most likely to be pro-poor if:

- They redress ingrained inequities in recognition (tenure, access to public services, access to extension)
- Secure land tenure for land uses that maintain or generate environmental services
- Blend people-based and land-based payments

PROCESS AND ROLE OF INTERMEDIARIES

Four stages in developing ES reward mechanisms

Stage	Providers, sellers of ES	Intermediaries	Beneficiaries, buyers of ES
I Scoping		↔ Rapid Assessment of Marketable ES ↔	
II Identifying partners			
III Negotiations		←-----→	
IV Monitoring agreement			

PARTNERS

DONORS

- International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD) - funds startup & networking
- European Union

COORDINATING AGENCY

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) - leads the RUPES consortium & contributes expertise to address major questions

CONSORTIUM MEMBERS

- Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
- World Resources Institute (WRI)
- World Conservation Union (IUCN)
- Winrock International
- Conservation International (CI)
- Economy and Environment
- Program for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC)
- Ford Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- International Institute for Environment and development (IIED)
- Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)

OTHERS

- National partners in Asian countries where RUPES is conducting action research
- International and national investors in poverty alleviation and natural resource management