

## **IAD Framework versus Economic Valuation – Substitutes or Complements of the Ecosystem Service Analysis**

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The concept of ecosystem services and payments for these services has become widely promoted in the environmental research. Related challenges are how to conceptualize and evaluate ecosystem services and how to use research results in policy-making. Different evaluation techniques exist and are being deepened to capture service values, but often it is difficult to make such findings operational and to clearly communicate them to decision-makers and the public. The effort to incorporate payments for ecosystem services to management schemes or to communicate ecosystem values to regional planners is undermined with institutional and cultural barriers.

Our research is focused on the locality of Eastern Ore Mountains (Krušné Hory/ Erzgebirge), the Czech-German border region that is characterized with the specific historical evolution, economic and structural problems and valuable ecological features. The overall goal of the research is to capture the value of ecosystem services provided with small-scale habitats (like mountain meadows, renaturalized creeks, peatbogs, clearance cairns) and to present it better to local people, tourists and decision-makers.

More specifically, our paper is dedicated to the combination of research methods used – qualitative IAD Framework and quantitative evaluation via Choice Experiment and Contingent Valuation Method (CVM) – and the justification of their complementarity in gaining of the policy-relevance. Questions we address are as follows: How (if somehow) IAD Framework results within the same territory are able to support monetary evaluation results? How (if somehow) does the combination of methods increase the robustness of conclusions and their acceptance by policy-makers? Answers to these questions are developed with the use of the Czech-German case studies, so the cross-border aspect (that brings similarities but also differences in approaches) is also included.

As mentioned, the method of the investigation includes the combination of qualitative (IAD Framework) and quantitative (Choice Experiment and CVM) features. The strong focus is on the practical use of research results in the regional policy, e.g. by consultations with local and regional policy-makers and other actors on the local level.