



RECARE MSc / PhD Research Information

Research Title

ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF LAND MANAGEMENT ON THE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES FOR SOILS

Abstract

Ecosystems are a key part of the whole of human life and the activities associated with it. The goods and services they provide are vital to sustaining development as well as future economic and social growth. Ecosystem services (ESS) are the benefits that people obtain from ecosystems. These are important services through which we understand the relationship between the environment and the creation of environmental policy. In the last 35 years many measures have been adopted to respond to the pressure from non-governmental stakeholders to participate in the management of public environmental resources in the policies of the European Union. It is essential that makers of policies and interested parties are more aware of the value of ecosystem services.

Ecosystem protection in the Slovak Republic is based on the concept of the protection of ecosystems based on REPGES. REPGES are complex landscape-ecological units, which are characterized by a set of abiotic and biotic components. The Slovak Republic has been allocated 120 potential REPGES. This research will contribute an assessment of the ecosystem services for soils on the Myjava catchment. Like other ecosystem services, soil services are undervalued in the marketplace. This creates unintentional subsidies for the degradation or destruction of soil.

Objectives of the research

(i) analysis of the current state of the implementation of ESS in Slovakia (legislation, competence and role of authorities), (ii) examination of the motivations (including beliefs, attitudes and cultural aspects) that underlie the decisions stakeholders make concerning different options and the likelihood of motivations being translated into practice, (iii) implementation of the approach to the catchment area of Myjava with attention to its scale, timing and application.

RECARE study site

Myjava catchment, Slovakia

Partners in this research

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