

Abstract for the International Workshop
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Encouraging collaboration for the provision of ecosystem services

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The spatial pattern and intensity of land use, as well as specific management decisions may have an even stronger impact on some ecosystem services than the type of land use per se. In addition, the relation between ecosystem functions (processes) and ecosystem services (value to society) strongly depends on the perceptions and needs as expressed by stakeholders and societal groups. These perceptions and demands have a spatial and a temporal dimension. Rather than focussing on expert assessment and monitoring approaches or on data needs for modelling ecosystem services, this paper emphasises the need to consider how to implement an ecosystem approach on the ground and with various stakeholders. In particular, there is a need to encourage coordination and collaboration between land managers to provide ecosystem services at a landscape scale. A number of lessons can be learned from experiments in other countries about how incentives (agri-environmental payments) can be used to support collaborative management. Central points are the analysis and inclusion of relevant stakeholders, joint decisions about objectives of ecosystem management and supporting schemes, the active management of communication and feedback processes, the integration of diverse monitoring data (expert and lay sources), and generating commitment.