

Relationship Between the Prevalence of Payments for Activities Enhancing Multifunctionality and the Conservation of Local Resources: Using Community-level Panel Data

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Summary

This study summarizes the changes in the status of efforts for *payments for activities to enhance multi-functionality (PAEMF)* from 2014 to 2019 at the community level. Further, we analyze the relationships between changes in the conservation of local resources and in the status of efforts for PAEMF. Results demonstrate that communities that newly implemented the payment scheme tended to have more active community functions and better farmland and social conditions. Moreover, they had a higher proportion of farmers than those that did not implement the scheme. Similarly, communities that had discontinued their efforts toward PAEMF also tended to have relatively weaker community functions, lower proportions of farmland and social conditions, and fewer farmers than communities that continued. The results also indicate that the communities in good conditions further increased efforts to manage local resources by continuing or initiating their efforts to implement PAEMF. In contrast, communities in geographical or social constraint remained relatively low efforts to manage local resources by discontinuing or no implementation of PAEMF. This finding indicates that the gaps between communities that engage and those that do not engage in PAEMF are widening, worsening in less-favored areas in terms of geographical or agricultural conditions.

Key words: payments for activities to enhance multi-functionality, management of local resources, community-level panel data, database