



PES entre APFCertifica-Coca Cola (Portugal)

Partner providing the service	APFCertifica Group Scheme - Forests owners formed an association and adopted sustainable forest management practices in order to receive Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification
Location	Portugal, Alentejo and Ribatejo regions
Bénéficiaries	Coca cola consumers Coca-Cola Portugal – Refrige, beverage factory, located over the Tagus Aquifer (T3), consuming 500.000m3/year of groundwater.
Services	Land owners committed to maintain good forest management practices within the 16.000 ha FSC certified areas. FSC certification places a strong focus in criteria related to biodiversity conservation and watershed protection. Approximately 600 hectares were considered to be of critical importance for biodiversity and water recharge of the aquifer T3 and therefore were considered High Conservation Value (HCV). About 25 ha have been considered as High Conservation Value Areas (HCVA) and identified by APFC (ha) because of Seasonal Concentrations of Species.
Financing and payment mechanism	Coca-Cola paid 10.000€ to the APFC landowners, at 16,80€ per hectare identified and classified as HCV, located in sensitive areas for water recharge of aquifer T3 and certified by FSC.
Services guarantee	Sustainable forest management practices
The project	The service was established under the initiative “Green Heart of Cork”, that was developed by WWF Mediterranean in Portugal. It aims to promote and develop the PES voluntary market for the world’s largest area of cork oak woodland which is located over the largest Iberian aquifer (T3*). This project used HABEaS WebGIS (www.habeas-med.org), a webGIS tool developed under the EU funded project Qualigouv, to gather information on HCVAs in the target area. This tool makes publicly available information on biodiversity (e.g. protected areas, threatened species, endemic species, etc) and ecosystem services (e.g. carbon storage, location of main aquifers and recharge rates). The Forest Producer Association APFCertifica is FSC certified and a member of the WWF Iberian Forest and Trade Network. WWF annually monitor APFCertifica HCVAs and helps the association to improve their management plans. WWF mediated the partnership between Coca-Cola and the Forest Producer Association APFCertifica.
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