

Nürüm Indigenous Reforestation & Carbon Payment Pilot — Ngäbe-Buglé Comarca (Panama)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Panama

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Since an October 2022 agreement, Smithsonian scientists and Ngäbe-Buglé traditional authorities have paid about 30 Indigenous families \$130/ha/year to reforest 100 ha of the Nürüm district with 19 native species — a small, uncertified pilot within a 45,000 ha target landscape.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute \(STRI\) / CEASPA / Ngäbe-Buglé Comarca traditional authorities](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[EurekAlert / STRI press release — Nürüm reforestation and carbon payments](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Mongabay — In Panama, an Indigenous-led project rewrites the rules of reforestation](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

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