

Pimampiro Water Fund — One of the World's First Municipal Watershed PES Schemes (Ecuador)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Ecuador

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Since 2000, Pimampiro's municipal water fund has paid 27 upstream households US\$8–12 per hectare per year to conserve 638 hectares of forest, financed by a 20% surcharge on 1,350 metered households' water bills — an early, widely-cited PES model.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

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

[Municipio de Pimampiro](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Payment for Environmental Services and Unequal Resource Control in Pimampiro, Ecuador \(Society & Natural Resources\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Ecuador: Decentralised environmental payments \(CBD case study\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

[Decentralized payments for environmental services: Pimampiro and PROFAFOR, Ecuador \(Ecological Economics\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-16

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