



**Convention on Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and
International Lakes**

**SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND
FINANCING FOR THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF ECOSYSTEMS**
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CONTRIBUTION FROM GREECE

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I. VALUING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

A. Determining factors for using payment for ecosystems services (PES)

PES was not introduced till now in Greece

B. Characteristics of river basins or ecosystems favorable to establishing PES

C. Measuring ecosystem services

D. Social and economic aspects

E. Cost-benefit analysis of land use alternative and their impact on ecosystem

II. LEGAL AND CONTRACTUAL ASPECTS

A. Legal and regulatory framework that can help establish payments for ecosystem services

National legislation (L. 1650/86 on the protection of the environment) provides for some incentive measures that concern mainly the exchange with public areas the private areas of owners that are touched from limitations and prohibitions in protected areas, the granting for use of public neighbouring areas to the touched owners, or the payment of compensations. For damages in agricultural areas from rare or threatened species of wild fauna there can be compensations or other grantings. Article 23 of the same law foresees that in Zones of Special Environmental Reinforcement there can be financial incentives or repayment fees for legal or natural entities that are subject to specific restrictions.

Incentives and payments are defined either by the existing legislation (L. 880/79) or by Presidential Decrees in combination with the relevant Service of the Ministry for Agricultural Development and Food if it concerns damages by wild fauna, or by the Presidential Decree designating the zone of special environmental reinforcement.

B. Contractual arrangements

C. Socio-economic and environmental impacts on PES

III. CHALLENGES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

A. Challenges for the establishment of PES

B. Challenges for the dissemination of best practice

C. Challenges for the private sector

D. Challenges for research and capacity building initiatives