The OAS celebrated the Fourth Edition of the Course on Design and Implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services Schemes

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) in conjunction with the National Executive Trifinio Plan, Honduras held between July 22 to 26, 2013 in Copan Ruinas, Honduras, the Fourth Edition of the course “Design and Implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services Schemes (PES).” The purpose of the course was to provide theoretical and practical knowledge on Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) associated with natural ecosystems to serve as a tool for policy decision making in natural resource conservation, and economic and social development in rural areas.

The course focused on introducing theoretical and practical aspects of PES as a tool for conservation and sustainable development; identifying critical issues, best practices and legal and institutional conditions necessary to develop and implement PES schemes; analyzing cases of PES in the country to determine its effectiveness and potential for replication; and learning the details of PES schemes in practice through a field visit to the watershed of Marroquin.

The course was attended by 40 participants from 7 countries in the region. Among them were government representatives, public officials, technical environmental management units of the municipalities that make up the Trifinio Plan, and private sector or academia linked to the area of the course.