Incentives for landscape restoration: Lessons from Shinyanga, Tanzania
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Background
• 1930’s to 1980’s- Massive environmental degradation leading to severe aridity in the region.
• 1986-2004- Government of Tanzania, ICRAF and the local communities implements the HASHI project funded by NORAD.
• 2004-to date- Successful landscape restoration. Over the 30+ years, the region transformed from an arid area to productive agroforestry systems.
• 2017/18- Emerging tenure changes in forest management. New government directive to shift communally managed forest areas to be state-managed.

Why the study: To understand the incentives and disincentives that have contributed to the success of FLR in Shinyanga.

Data: Conducted FGDs in 14 communities/villages across 5 districts (Kahama rural and Urban, Shinyanga rural, Kishapu and Meatu) in Shinyanga region.

Map of Tanzania showing Shinyanga region

Lessons learnt
- Intrinsic incentives such as conservation benefits, education and awareness were more preferred, since most of the other incentives were based on external factors especially the cash-based ones.

- For example, REDD+ in the region was a 4-years pilot project which resulted in high hopes at first but resulted in huge disappointment among the community members when it ended.

- Thus, cash-based incentives such as REDD+ and PES need careful deployment otherwise they result in disappointment and ultimately become perverse incentives.

- Incentives and disincentives were complementary in most cases. However, incentives worked better in the management of privately owned restoration areas while disincentives (regulatory) worked better in those communally owned.