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Conditional Transfers, Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation

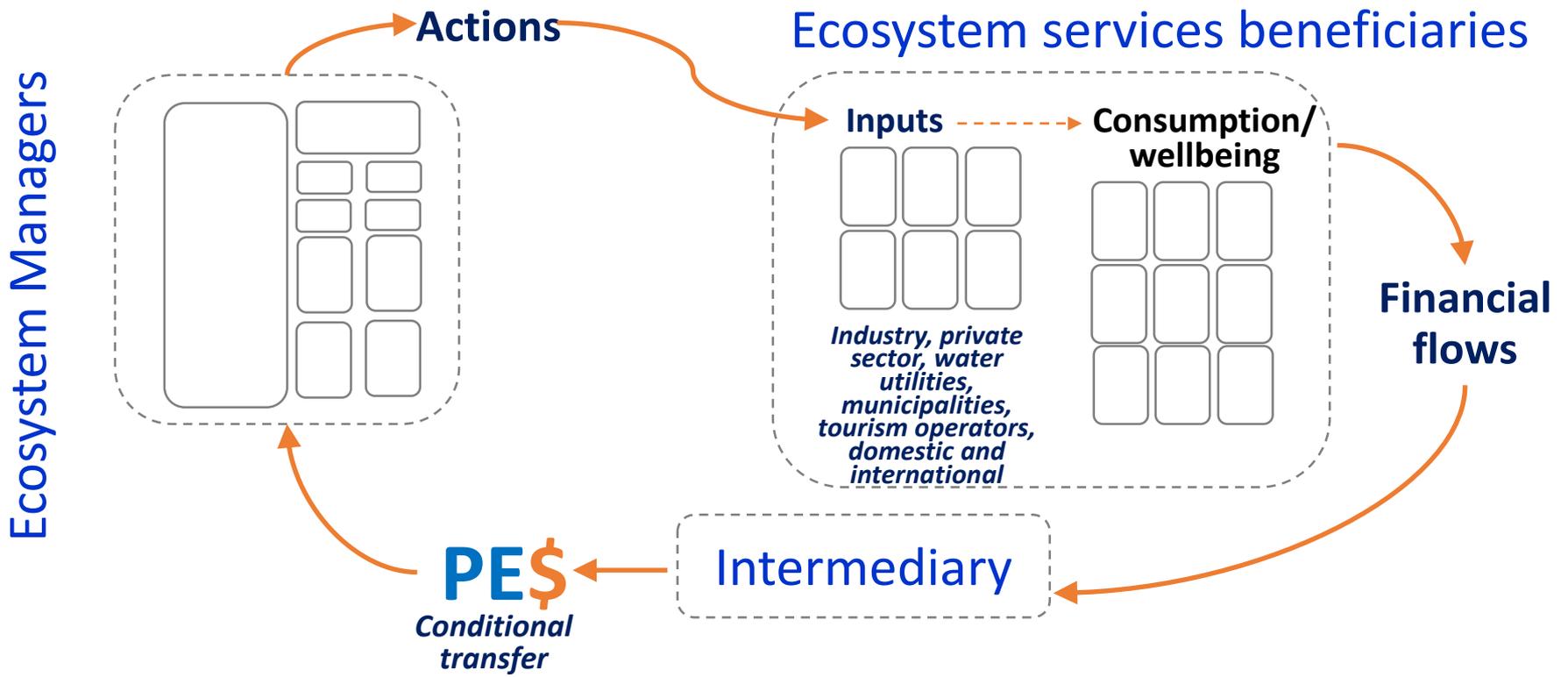
Global Experiences

Presented by
Ina Porras



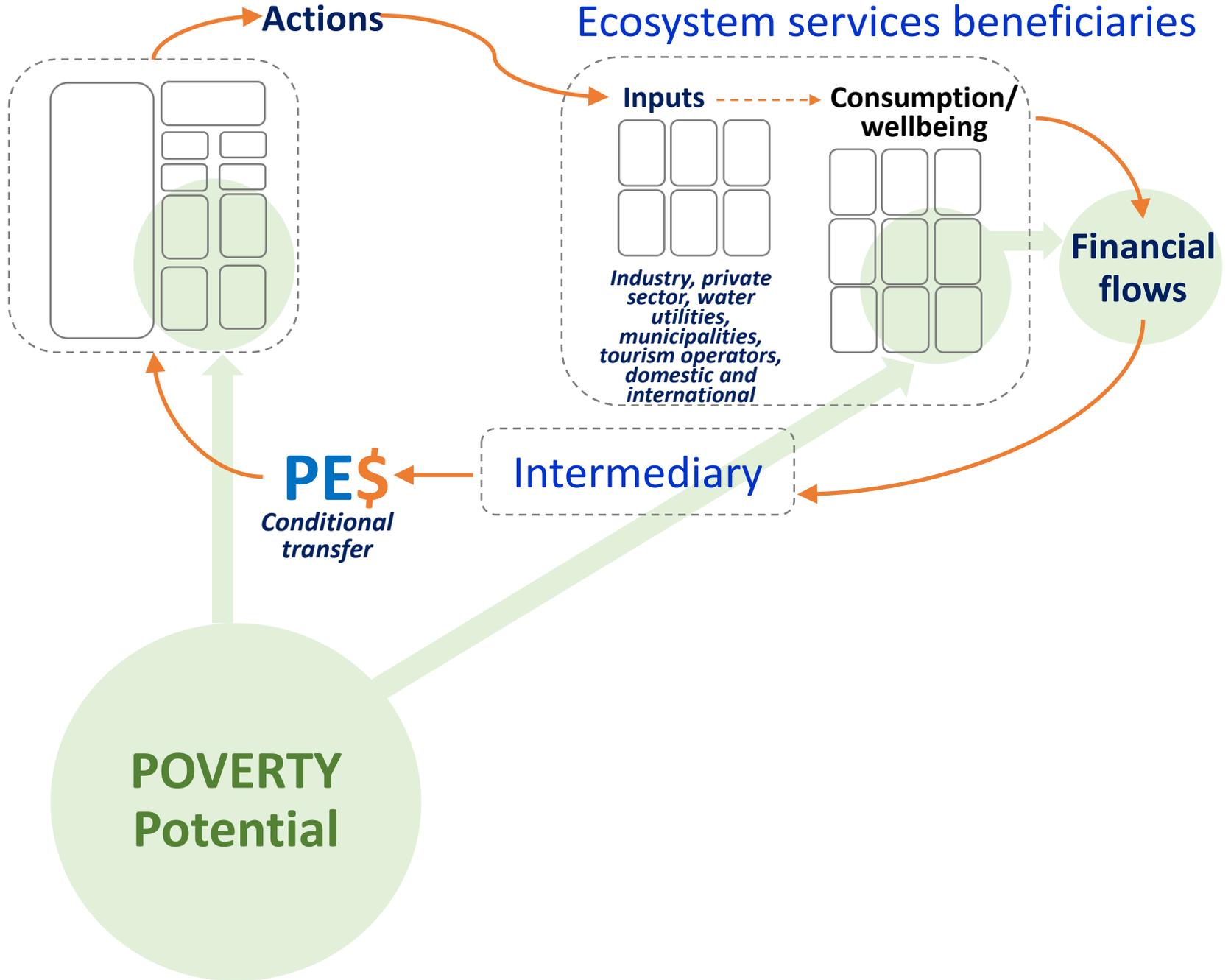
Our Interest

- **PES as a conditional transfer:** opens up field of experiences in poverty
- **PES for poverty:** learning from public work and social transfers
- **PES at large scales:** enablers to move from project to programme and achieve meaningful thresholds



- **Policy mix** (rules, regulations, do nothing)
- **Well-defined ES?:** actions
- **Condition:** job done (short-term, long-term)
- **Revenues:** cashing-in beneficiaries and other sources
- **Voluntary:** often complements regulation
- **Poverty:** At least at 3 levels

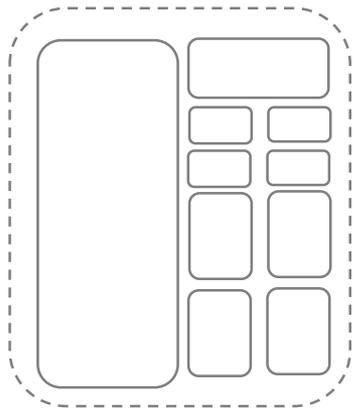
Ecosystem Managers



Different Types of CTs

Heterogeneity
of providers

Wealthier
Poor
Ultra-poor



Conditional
public
works

Hybrids

PES

National,
municipalities,
offsets,
private/NGO...



Social /Development

Environment



Scolel-Te

PSA

WaterShared

Bolsa Floresta

Trees for global benefit

Blue carbon/mangroves

PES

“Working for”

SLPP/ Eco-compensation

Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guaranteed

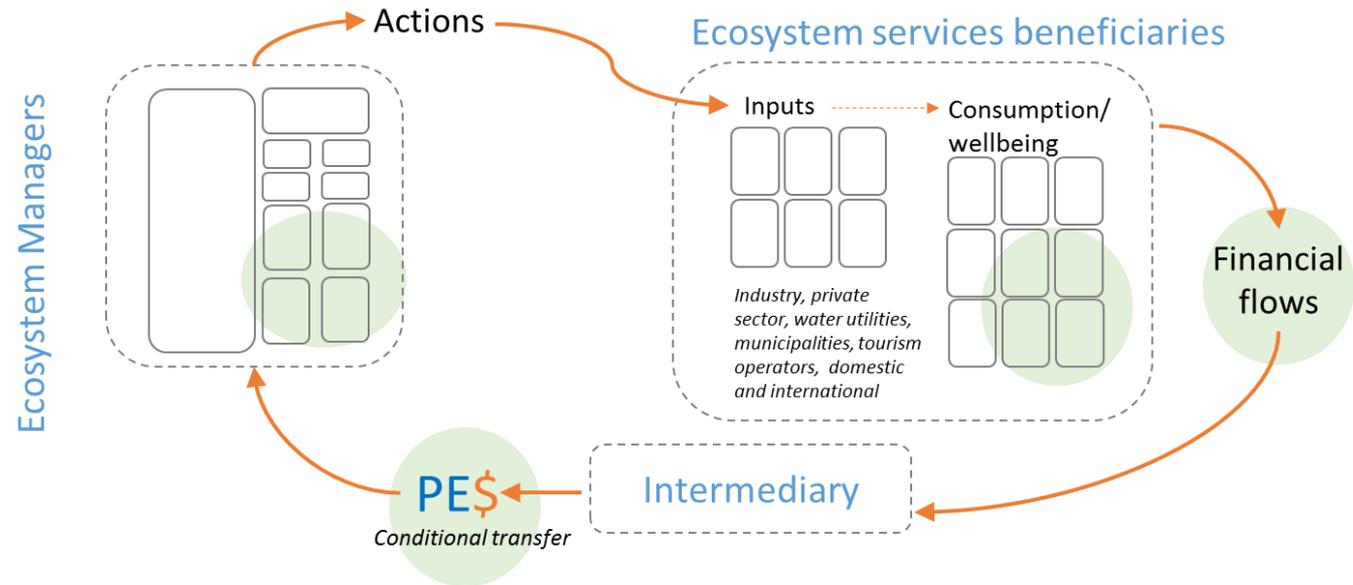
Jatka conservation programme

Greening the Nation

Some Lessons

- Upscaling is vital to have meaningful impact.
- Payments help short-term benefits, and investments support long-term benefits.
- Conditions are good but only work for some—plenty of evidence from CTs.
- Need to work with governments
- Need political pull—social agenda can help
- Find leverages to mainstream: e.g., financial inclusion, gender agenda, SDGs...
- Multiple finance sources, especially domestic
- Good implementation examples but lagging performance evaluation

e.g.,
**Financial
Inclusion**



- Provide a platform for bringing multiple forms of financial inflows (public, private, ODA)
- Opportunity to raise funds on “unpriced” resources
- Provides dependable cash transfer to HH and SMEs
- Gender-based payments empower women
- User groups build up micro-credit; or as collateral for loans, provides stimulus for banking sector to work with “unbankable” groups—e.g., through digital payments.

Where Now?

- Research can help, but needs to reach practitioners
- Many useful tools to:
 - Improve design, targeting, and monitoring;
 - Measure impacts using models and open source data;
 - Help understand behavioural heterogeneity and design evidence-based responses;
 - Help measure the economic impacts of environmental investments (ERR) at scales
- Practitioner-friendly tools
- Capacity building and South-South exchanges
 - Universities but also technical government staff