CASH TRANSFERS REDUCE DEFORESTATION

ANTI-POVERTY PAYMENTS

Anti-poverty cash transfer programs are becoming common in many nations with tropical forests.

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Tropical countries have anti-poverty cash payment programs

Payments are usually conditional on health and education actions by the recipients.

TRANSFERS TO EXTREMLY POOR HOUSEHOLDS

Modest, but persistent, transfers of cash to extremely poor households can provide both social and environmental benefits.

TROPICAL DEFORESTATION

This study evaluated the effects of anti-poverty payments on tropical deforestation. These payments are not directly linked to conservation outcomes.

Can poverty alleviation programs with no direct connection to environmental goals produce positive conservation outcomes?

INDONESIA

Program Keluarga Harapan makes payments to poor households

PKH payments account for 15% to 20% of recipients’ household consumption

3rd Largest area of tropical forest

20% Of global tropical forest loss between 2000 and 2012

1st Top emitter greenhouse gases from forest loss

STUDY DESIGN

Rural forested villages with access to PKH

Households receiving PKH payments in those villages

6 Years
Households receive payments for 6 to 9 years

RESULTS

Exposure to PKH reduced forest loss by 30%

Almost half of the impact of PKH payments on forest loss was in biodiverse primary forests

Less forest loss in villages with longest exposure

PKH impact on forest loss

Less forest loss in villages with greater density of participating households

If these findings from Indonesia are generalizable to other biodiverse nations, they offer hope that global efforts to eradicate extreme poverty and reverse the loss of biodiverse ecosystems can be complementary.

Created by Kristin Rowles
Infographic available here

https://sites.google.com/site/britasimorangkir/

3rd 20%
Of global tropical forest loss between 2000 and 2012

Top emitter greenhouse gases from forest loss

6,468
Rural forested villages with access to PKH

266,533
Households receiving PKH payments in those villages

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