



Understanding Payment for Forest Environmental Services in Vietnam in times of Covid-19

Research methods and guidelines

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1 Introduction

The Government of Vietnam and donors have launched numerous programmes and policies to support vulnerable communities' livelihoods, nutrition and agency and to cope COVID-19. Payment for Forest Environmental Services (PFES) has a potential role in contributing to the government policy mix to address Covid-19 impacts. This research guideline was developed by Center for International Forestry Research to answer three research questions:

1. What impacts has Covid-19 had on forest dependent communities, particularly women and youth, in Vietnam?
2. What have been the impacts of PFES on women's livelihoods, nutrition and agency before and after Covid-19?
3. How can PFES and future forestry policies be implemented to better achieve their social goals, including gender equity, and support local livelihoods?

To answer these research questions, we combined both qualitative and quantitative methods:

1. **Literature review:** We reviewed policies and reports on PFES and policies

supporting local communities, women and youth in coping with Covid-19 in order to identify current problems, narratives, discourses and solutions related to gender that these policies and projects aim to address.

2. **Key informant interviews** were conducted with local people to understand the impacts of Covid-19 and policies such as PFES on local people and forest.
3. **Focus group discussions** were held with local people to discuss the impacts of Covid-19, the effectiveness of PFES and other interventions in supporting local communities in coping with Covid, and possible policy interventions to enhance the adaptive capacity of local communities, particularly women and youth.
4. **Household surveys** explored local people's perceptions on (i) Covid-19 impacts on households, women and youth; (ii) household/women/youth adaptation measures; and (iii) effectiveness of policy interventions, such as PFES in the context of Covid-19.

The design of key informant interview, focus group discussion and household survey are presented in the following sections.

2 Key informant interviews with government officers and heads of villages

1. Interviewer: Time:Date:
2. Name of interviewee:
3. Gender:
4. Position:
5. Name of province/district/commune/village:
6. Ethnic groups and percentages of each ethnic group:
7. Poverty rate of province/district/commune/village:
8. Male to female ratio:
9. When did Payment for Forest Environmental Services (PFES) start in the province/district/commune/village?
10. How many environmental service providers do you have?
11. How many environmental service users do you have?
12. The level of PFES payment over time:
13. Total amount received from payment for forest environmental services by your province/district/commune/village since 2010 (VND x million)

Year	Amount (VND)	Year	Amount (VND)
2010		2015	
2011		2016	
2012		2017	
2013		2018	
2014		2019	
2020		2021	

14. Who are the environmental services providers, and how much are they paid (VND x million)?

No.	Group	Amount (VND)
1	Household	
2	Community	
3	Mass organization (Farmers' Union, Women's Union, Youth Union, Veteran's Union)	
4	Private organization	
5	Government agencies	
6	Army	
7	Commune People's Committee	
8	Other (Please specify)	

15. How has the payment for environmental services been used? (Please list the activities/ expenditure in the province/district/commune/village)

Activities/Expenditures	Amount (VND)

16. How is PFES money spent? (Process to use money from PFES)

17. How are PFES payments managed? (Who manages PFES money?)

18. How is the use and management of funds audited?

☐ Not audited

☐ Once a year

☐ Twice a year

☐ Other, please specify:

19. To whom will the audit results be reported?

20. List the main advantages of implementing PFES

21. List the main disadvantages of implementing PFES

22. How has the province/district/commune/village been affected by Covid-19?

23. How has Covid-19 impacted on people's lives?

24. Can you give your opinion of forest area and forest quality in your province district/ commune/village before and after Covid-19?

25. How has Covid-19 impacted upon women and children? Are there any differences between its impacts on women and indigenous women?

26. Since Covid-19, has your province/district/commune/village received any programmes from state or non-state programmes? If yes, please describe them and how effective these programmes have been? How do they support women and children during Covid-19?

27. What are the strengths of PFES?

28. What are the weaknesses of PFES?

29. Does PFES play any role during Covid-19?

30. Do you have any recommendations on how PFES can be better implemented?

31. Do you have any recommendations on how Covid-19's impacts can be mitigated?

3 Focus group discussion (FGD) guidelines

3.1 Principles of conduct

Group meetings will be held in each village for the following two groups:

- Male group
- Female group

Each group will consist of 9-12 randomly selected people and villagers that agree to take part in the meetings/study.

Meetings should be organized in a comfortable environment without government officers or heads of villages presence.

Researchers should inform villagers that they can stop and leave the meeting at any time.

3.2 Procedures

3.2.1 Introduction

The facilitator starts the FGD and thanks participants.

The facilitator gives a summary of the project, project staff, the objectives and content of the meeting. The facilitator explains that this group meeting is voluntary and based on the consent of all participants.

The facilitator explains in detail the content of the FGD, procedures and time, and encourages participants to ask questions.

3.2.2 Village history

The objectives of this step are to: i) understand comprehensively the history of the village; ii) understand the main events and projects that occurred in the village, including the PFES programme; iii) determine the impacts of PFES and other

projects on socioeconomic life and the environment of the village.

After this step, based on collected information, we will conduct an in-depth investigation to understand changes in the environmental, livelihood and social events of the village.

Note: Participants may not exactly remember the timing of each event (e.g., when PFES first started). In this case, remind them of a big event (a serious drought or forest fire) then ask how long before or after PFES appeared in relation to these events.

Main questions used in this step include:

- When was your village founded?
- Since then, which memorable events/ milestones have heavily impacted people lives? (e.g., policy milestones or natural disasters such as floods or droughts)
- Which support programme has the village received? Are there any support programmes on forest protection and development? (Note: if you ask directly about PFES, people might not understand clearly, so use leading questions to gather information)
- Which period was the most difficult (poorest) period of the village? Why?
- Which period was the wealthiest? Why?
- During which period were the forests most developed in the village? Why?
- During which period were the forests most damaged in the village? Why?

3.2.3 Well-being ranking exercise

Cut out 12 pieces of cardboard and write the names of 12 participants, one on each piece. On the A0 paper, write three columns, titled: Poor household, Medium household, Wealthy household.

Pick each card and discuss with a group how they would like this household to be placed in the Table. Facilitate the discussion amongst villagers and let the villagers themselves put the paper in the column they want. Then ask villagers why and what criteria they used to classify these households in different groups.

They may, for example, consider having a home with a mode of transportation or arable land as a criterion for distinguishing between poor, average, and wealthy households. These criteria may be different from the criteria of the poverty standard being applied; however, it is important to understand these criteria to capture the local situation (see tables below).

3.2.4 Participatory analysis of poverty, livelihoods and environment dynamics (PAPOLD)

Record the criteria for poor household classification at the bottom of the page, then together draw the ladder chart showing the poverty escape strategy of the household (see table below):

Ask if participants had a small amount of money, what would they do to escape poverty? (If the amount is very small – about VND 1 million – ask what they would prioritize first.). Ask, after you have achieved the first level, if you receive another amount of money, what would you continue to prioritize in terms of spending?

Table 1. Household classification

Wealthy households	Average households	Poor households
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nguyễn Văn A Vi Văn B Bùi Văn C Lương Văn D 	Nguyen Thi Lan	Hong Thi My Hanh

Table 2. Criteria used to classify household well-being

Criteria	Poor	Average (enough for living)	Wealthy
Income	Under VND 400,000 a month	More than VND 400,000 a month	More than VND 1 million a month Someone in the household is an official
Access to basic services	No electricity Use water from springs	Use electricity Use well water	Use electricity Use treated water
Property	Cottage No buffalo or cow No paddy fields, fewer than 3 swidden fields	Stilt house 1–2 buffalos/cows 1 paddy field, more than 3 swidden fields	House with tiles More than 5–6 buffalos/cows Have many paddy fields and swidden fields
Education	No one attends / attended an educational institution	Someone in the household has finished middle school	Someone in the household has finished high school
Shall we change ... to “other (if applicable)”

Continue asking until they reach the ‘wealthy’ level, then stop (about 5–6 times = 5–6 steps. On the ladder chart, ask whether they think they have escaped poverty and to what extent they think that the household is actually wealthy.

Step	
10	Expanding business, establishing a brand
9	Applying technology to livestock production
8	Possessing modern communication facilities (telephone, TV)
7	Saving and buying insurance
From average to wealthy	
6	Buy motorcycles
5	Build houses, buy more equipment for kitchens and toilets
Escape poverty level	
4	Buy cattle
3	Buy fertilizer and agricultural machines
2	Buy more land
1	There is little land, many people to feed, small houses, often deal with sickness

Continue asking each household the following questions:

- At different historical milestones (results obtained from the village history), which level on the poverty reduction strategy scale were they at? How can they escape poverty, or become even poorer?
- What scale were they on before PFES, and what scale were they on after PFES?
- What scale were they on before and after Covid-19?
- How did they move up the ladder as a result of PFES?
- How do they plan to move up the ladder before and after Covid-19?

3.2.5 Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) Analysis

The main questions for SWOT analysis are:

- What are the strengths of PFES?
- What are the weaknesses of PFES?
- What are the opportunities for PFES?
- What are the risks of PFES?
- How can people get more involved in PFES?
- Does PFES have any positive or negative effects in the context of Covid-19?

3.2.6 Covid-19 impacts

- How has the village changed since the introduction of PFES?
- How has Covid-19 affected the village?
- Did the village receive any support (e.g. government support, other supports) since COVID-19? How effective are they? What are their strengths and weaknesses?
- How did Covid-19 affect people's lives?
- Is there any change in forest area and forest quality before and after Covid-19? Why?
- How did Covid-19 affect women and children, particularly indigenous women?
- Does PFES help local people and village during COVID-19? if Yes, why? if No, why not?
- Are the village or villagers recipients of any support or conservation programmes? What are they? How do they operate? What are the pros and cons of these programmes? Have they been able to address Covid-19 impacts?
- Does PFES play any role during Covid-19? Please explain.
- Do you have any recommendations on how government programmes and PFES can better address Covid-19 and enhance forest quality?

4 Household Questions

Household code:.....
Date:..... Starting time: Interviewer:
Province:..... District: Commune:
Village/Hamlet: Name of household head: Name of interviewee:
Distance from household to the centre of the village in kilometres:

4.1 Household basic information

- 1.1. Interviewee's relationship with the householder:
- 1.2. Sex:
- 1.3. Age:
- 1.4. Ethnicity:
- 1.5. Was the householder born here or did he/she move from elsewhere?
- ☐ Yes, born here
- ☐ No, moved here from: in
- 1.5.1. How long has the family lived in the village (years)?
- 1.5.2. From what year did the family separate/have a household registration book?
- 1.6. Marital status of household head:
- ☐ Married; ☐ Unmarried; ☐ Widow; ☐ Divorcee; ☐ Other:
- 1.7. Is the household poor according to government standards? (Is it on the list of poor households in the commune?)
- ☐ Poor household ☐ Nearly poor household ☐ Not a poor household
- 1.7.1. Is the household a recipient of any state support programmes?
- ☐ Yes, list programme(s), year(s), and explain how it is/they are operated, how people benefit from it/them, pros and cons of this/these programme(s):
-
-
-
-
-
-

1.8. How many members are there in your family?

No. (1.8)	Name (1.8.1)	Relationship with householder (1.8.2)	Sex (1.8.3)	Year of Birth (1.8.4)	Academic level (1.8.5)	Occupation (1.8.6)
1						
2						
3						

4.2 Household's land area before and after PFES (before and after PFES year, and before and after Covid-19)

Unit: Hectares

No.	Purpose of use (e.g., residential land, arable land, livestock, ...)	Is there clear certification?	Classification of ownership (private ownership, lease, shared ...)	Places (inside or outside village)	Area in 2009 (Before PFES)	Area after PFES but before Covid-19	2021 (area after PFES and after Covid-19)

Note.....

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4.3 Access to services before and after PFES

3.1. Access to basic services

2009		2019		2021		2009		2019		2021	
3.1.1. Water sources: What is the main source of water for household use and production? Fill in the appropriate box. Untreated water includes rivers, ponds, lakes, streams, well water.... Treated water is water from a water plant						3.1.2. Electricity: Does your household use electricity, and if so, from where? Fill in the appropriate box					
Use for living <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated <input type="checkbox"/> Treated		Use for living <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated <input type="checkbox"/> Treated		Use for living <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated <input type="checkbox"/> Treated		<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but free to use it from the grid or through the system in the village (generator, small hydroelectric system) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, electricity is charged <input type="checkbox"/> Separate transmitter <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specific)		<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but free to use it from the grid or through the system in the village (generator, small hydroelectric system) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, electricity is charged <input type="checkbox"/> Separate transmitter <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specific)		<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but free to use it from the grid or through the system in the village (generator, small hydroelectric system) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, electricity is charged <input type="checkbox"/> Separate transmitter <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specific)	
Use for production <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated <input type="checkbox"/> Treated		Use for production <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated <input type="checkbox"/> Treated		Use for production <input type="checkbox"/> Untreated <input type="checkbox"/> Treated		<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but free to use it from the grid or through the system in the village (generator, small hydroelectric system) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, electricity is charged <input type="checkbox"/> Separate transmitter <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specific)		<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but free to use it from the grid or through the system in the village (generator, small hydroelectric system) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, electricity is charged <input type="checkbox"/> Separate transmitter <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specific)		<input type="checkbox"/> Does not use electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but free to use it from the grid or through the system in the village (generator, small hydroelectric system) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, electricity is charged <input type="checkbox"/> Separate transmitter <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specific)	

3.1.3. Cooking materials in your household at different times: Fill in the appropriate box

2009		2019		2021	
<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood; <input type="checkbox"/> Coal <input type="checkbox"/> Plants (shrub, grass, straw, agricultural waste); <input type="checkbox"/> Faeces; <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas; <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel; <input type="checkbox"/> Gas; <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity; <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy; <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood; <input type="checkbox"/> Coal <input type="checkbox"/> Plants (shrub, grass, straw, agricultural waste); <input type="checkbox"/> Faeces; <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas; <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel; <input type="checkbox"/> Gas; <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity; <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy; <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood; <input type="checkbox"/> Coal <input type="checkbox"/> Plants (shrub, grass, straw, agricultural waste); <input type="checkbox"/> Faeces; <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas; <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel; <input type="checkbox"/> Gas; <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity; <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy; <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood; <input type="checkbox"/> Coal <input type="checkbox"/> Plants (shrub, grass, straw, agricultural waste); <input type="checkbox"/> Faeces; <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas; <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel; <input type="checkbox"/> Gas; <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity; <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy; <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood; <input type="checkbox"/> Coal <input type="checkbox"/> Plants (shrub, grass, straw, agricultural waste); <input type="checkbox"/> Faeces; <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas; <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel; <input type="checkbox"/> Gas; <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity; <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy; <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Firewood; <input type="checkbox"/> Coal <input type="checkbox"/> Plants (shrub, grass, straw, agricultural waste); <input type="checkbox"/> Faeces; <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas; <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel; <input type="checkbox"/> Gas; <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity; <input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy; <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)

4.4 Other types of assets

	4.1. How many houses/shacks does the family own IN this village?	4.2. How many houses/shacks does the family own OUTSIDE this village?
2009		
2019		
2021		

Note

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4.3. Please let us know what items your household has in the categories below, including their quantity and market value. (Unit: x thousand dong) (e.g., 3,000,000 dong = 3,000 thousand dong)

Type of item	2009		2019		2021	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
Means of transportation						
1. Car						
2. Truck						
3. Motorbike						
4. Bike						
5. Electric bike						
Household electronics						
6. Generator						
7. Cell phone/desk phone						
8. Television						

Type of item	2009		2019		2021	
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
9. Satellite dish						
10. Radio						
11. Disc reader						
12. Computer						
13. Sewing machine						
14. Sawing machine						
15. Refrigerator						
16. Gas cooker						
17. Electric cooker						
18. Washing machine						
Agricultural production equipment						
19. Tractor						
20. Plough						
21. Spraying machine						
22. Water pump						
23. Milling machine						
24. Dryer						
25. Lawn mower						
Other items						
26. Other (specify)						

4.5 Plant products and income from agriculture products before and after pfes, before and after Covid-19

Agricultural products	Unit	2009			2019			2021		
		Household use	Trading	Income (VND x thousand / year)	Household use	Trading	Income (VND x thousand / year)	Household use	Trading	Income (VND x thousand / year)
Rice field										
Upland rice										
Corn										
Sweet potatoes										
Cassava										
Coffee										
Strawberry										
Other										

5.6. CROPS/AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS THAT HOUSEHOLDS HAVE STOPPED PRODUCING

Are there any crops that you produced before but are no longer producing? Or stopped production since PFES/Covid-19?

☐ Yes; (why?)

☐ No;

☐ Not suitable (for example, the household was not separated at the time);

☐ Unknown

If the answer is 'Yes', continue to questions 5.7 and 5.8. For any other answer, omit 5.7 and 5.8.

No.	5.7. What kind of crops have you stopped producing	5.8. What is the reason your household no longer producing that crop?
1.		
2.		
3.		

4.6 Production costs

What should the family invest in for agricultural production? (Compare before and after PFES, Covid-19)

No.	6.1. Costs	6.2. Total cost per year (VND x thousand / year)		
		2009	2019	2021
1	Seeds			
2	Chemical fertilizers			
3	Insecticide/herbicide/ bactericide			
4	Buy machinery			
5	Hire labour			
6	Rent a machine			
7	Car rental for transportation			
8	Land rent			
9	Fuel			
10	Other (specify)			

4.7 Incomes from livestock

Type of animal	Cost per unit	2009			2019			2021		
		Number of unit	Average annual cost (VND x thousand / year)	Total average income (VND x thousand / year)	Number	Average annual cost (VND x thousand / year)	Total average income (VND x thousand / year)	Number	Average annual cost (VND x thousand / year)	Total average income (VND x thousand / year)
1. Cow										
2. Buffalo										
3. Horse										
4. Goat										
5. Pig										
6. Duck										
7. Chicken										
8. Goose										
9. Rabbit										
10. Fish										
11. Hive										
12. Other (specify)										

Note:

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4.8 Income from forest and out of forest before and after PFES and before and after Covid (in thousands of VND/year)

8.1. Product categories	8.2. Where to get it from: 1 =In the forest; 2 =Outside the forest (in the garden, acquired)	8.3. Unit	2009				2019				2021			
			8.4. Quantity of exploitation	8.5. Quantity of sell	8.6. Total income	8.7. Cost	8.4. Quantity of exploitation	8.5. Quantity of sell	8.6. Total income	8.7. Cost	8.4. Quantity of exploitation	8.5. Quantity of sell	8.6. Total income	8.7. Cost
1. Wood														
2. Bamboo														
3. Rattan														
4. Firewood														
5. Animal feed														
6. Convolv														
7. Medicinal plants														
8. Medicinal animals														
9. Roots														
10. Seedlings														
12. Seeds														
13. Other														

Note:

.....

.....

4.9 Changes in forests and income from forests from pfes and before and after Covid-19

9.1.1. Has your household cleared any forest from 2009 to the present?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If 'Yes', go to 9.1. If 'No', go to 9.2.

9.1.	9.2. How large were the areas cleared in 2009, 2019 and 2020? (ha)	
	9.3. What is the main purpose of this farming?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Planting agricultural crops; <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing land; <input type="checkbox"/> Planting forestry trees; <input type="checkbox"/> Use for other purposes (specify): (for example, building a business)	
	9.4. In which area have you cultivated fields?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural forest; <input type="checkbox"/> Plantation forest; <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown ; <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
	9.5. If it is a natural forest or naturally regenerated forest, how many years old is it?	
	9.6. If plantation forest, how old?	
	9.7. The cultivation area is managed and owned by whom?	
	9.8. How far is the distance from your house to the cultivation area?	

9.2. How much land has been abandoned by the household in recent years? (ha)

9.3. Compared with BEFORE 2009, from the time AFTER 2009 did your household cultivate more, fewer or equal number of fields?

☐ More

☐ Equal

☐ Fewer

☐ Before 2019 there was deforestation, after 2019 no more deforestation

☐ Households do not cultivate fields during this period

☐ Unknown

9.4. Comparing the time BEFORE 2019, from AFTER 2019 does your household cultivate more, fewer or equal number of fields?

- ☐ More
☐ Equal
☐ Fewer
☐ Before 2019 there was deforestation, after 2019 no more deforestation
☐ Households do not cultivate fields during this period
☐ Unknown

If the answer to the question above is 'more' or 'less' then ask: What is the reason?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

9.5. Compared with the time BEFORE 2009, from the time AFTER 2009 did your family use more or fewer forest products? (list more, equal, and fewer forest products)

- ☐ More:
☐ Equal:
☐ Fewer:
☐ Households do not consume forest products during this period

If the answer to the question above is 'more' or 'fewer' then ask: What is the reason?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

9.12b Comparing the time BEFORE 2019, from AFTER 2019 does your family use more or fewer forest products? (list more, equal, fewer forest products)

☐ More:

☐ Equal:

☐ Fewer:

☐ Households do not consume forest products during this period

If the answer to question above is 'more' or 'fewer' then ask: What is the reason?

1.

2.

3.

9.6. Compared with BEFORE 2009, from AFTER 2009, more or less exploitation of forest products for sale (not for domestic consumption)? (list more, equal, and less forest products)

☐ More:

☐ Equal:

☐ Less:

☐ Households do not sell forest products during this period

If the answer to question above is 'more' or 'less' then ask: What is the reason?

1.

2.

3.

9.7. Compared with BEFORE 2019, from AFTER 2019 more or less exploitation of forest products for sale (not for domestic consumption)?
(list more, equal, and less forest products)

- ☐ More:
☐ Equal:
☐ Less:
☐ Households do not sell forest products during

If the answer to the question above is 'more' or 'less' then ask: What is the reason?

1. 2. 3.

4.10 Average income of the household members in the last 12 months

[illegible]

4.11 Other incomes in the last 12 months

No.	11.1. Other revenues	11.2. Total received (VND x thousand / year)		
		2009	2019	2021
1	PFES (if any)			
2	Place for hire			
3	Remittances from family members			
4	Gifts from family or friends			
5	Inheritance			
6	Pension			
7	Other (please specify):			

4.12 Awareness about security

12.1a Is your household's income FROM 2009 TO 2019 enough to meet family needs?

☐ Yes; ☐ Nearly enough; ☐ No; ☐ No answer/no comment

12.1b Is your household's income FROM 2019 TO 2021 enough to meet family needs?

☐ Yes; ☐ Nearly enough; ☐ No; ☐ No answer/no comment

If your household's income does NOT meet family needs, please state the reason? If these reasons are related to PFES or Covid-19, ask further.

4.13 Participation and assessment of forest protection processes

A. Participation in PFES payments (only ask in PFES villages)

Are you involved in forest protection and management? (patrol, meeting, contract signing, firefighting, tree planting, etc.)

☐ Yes; ☐ No

If yes, to what extent?

☐ Household; ☐ Community; ☐ Join the village union; ☐ Other:

Have you heard about PFES before this interview?

☐ Yes; ☐ No.

If this question is No go to part B. If yes, continue asking

13.2. Who did you hear about it from?

- ☐ Hamlet officials
☐ Commune officials
☐ District officials
☐ Media (television, louder speakers, radio, newspapers, etc.)
☐ Other (specify):

13.3. Do you receive money from PFES? (If Yes, ask for the amount received in 2009, 2019 and 2021 and fill in question 12.1 above)

- ☐ Yes; ☐ No

13.4. Has anyone in your family been involved in decision making about whether PFES should be implemented in the village?

- ☐ Yes; ☐ No. If no, please go to 13.6.

13.5. If yes, please let us know how to participate in the decision on how to implement PFES.

Select all suitable options

- ☐ Attend meetings in which the village head/officer informs about the programme
☐ Participate in meetings in which to vote on the implementation of PFES
☐ Other (please specify) _____

13.6. Has anyone in your family been or is involved in PFES implementation in your village?

- ☐ Yes; ☐ No. If no, please go to part B

13.7. If yes, please tell us how to participate in the implementation of PFES.

Select all suitable options

- ☐ Attend meetings organized by the staff to inform about the project implementation
☐ Attend meetings organized by officials to ask people how the project should be done
☐ Participate in trainings and guidance on payment for forest environmental services
☐ Participate in the clarification of forest land boundaries
☐ Participate in tree and biomass measurements
☐ Engage with staff/rangers in protecting forests or detecting forest violations
☐ Not suitable
☐ Other (please specify)

13.8. Are you involved in the decision-making process on how to use and spend money from PFES?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

13.9. Do you know how money from PFES is managed?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

13.10. Have you signed any commitment to forest protection?

☐ Yes (what commitments, signed with whom): ☐ No

13.11. Do you know where this PFES money comes from?

☐ Yes (please specify from where) ☐ No

13.12. Do you know the deadline for PFES payment?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If 'Yes', continue to ask 13.13, if 'No', ask question 13.15

13.13. How many times question a year is the money paid?

13.14. Are PFES payments on time?

☐ Yes

☐ No, how late?:Reason:

☐ Unknown

13.15. Who will you ask when you have questions about the management and spending of money from PFES?

☐ Village/hamlet head ☐ District People's Committee ☐ Protection forest management

☐ Commune People's Committee ☐ National Park ☐ Forest Protection and Development Fund

☐ Other, please specific:

B. Assessment of impacts of PFES payments or other forest protection programmes

Note: in the village with PFES, ask about the impacts of PFES, and in the village without PFES, ask about the impacts of other forest protection and development projects (e.g., 327, 661, forestry, community business)

After receiving other PFES payments, what does the household/village/hamlet do?

	Purpose	Amount of money (VND x thousand)
Household		
Community		

13.17. PFES impacts

13.17a Policy impacts

- ☐ People better understand and better adhere to the policy of forest protection and development
- ☐ People's awareness and understanding of policies have not changed
- ☐ There is no improvement in people's awareness of forest protection policies

13.17b Environmental impact

- ☐ Forest is better
- ☐ Forest is unchanged
- ☐ Forest is worse

13.17c Economic impact

- ☐ Increased income
- ☐ Unchanged income
- ☐ Decreased income

13.17d Social impacts

- ☐ Life is better (more jobs, roads, public works)
- ☐ Life has not changed
- ☐ Life still hasn't improved

13.17e Other impacts (if any)

- ☐ Other:

13.18. Does PFES have any negative impacts ?

13.19. What do you think the PFES programme should do/change to have a better impact on people's lives?

C. Covid-19 Impact Assessment

13.20. How has Covid-19 affected people's lives?

13.21. Since the outbreak of Covid-19, what has been the impact on forests and people's participation in forest protection activities and programmes?

13.22. Since the onset of Covid-19, how has it affected women, children and vulnerable groups?

13.23. What is the role of PFES and revenue from PFES in the Covid-19 period ?

Additional information from the interviewee:



USAID
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CIFOR-ICRAF

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