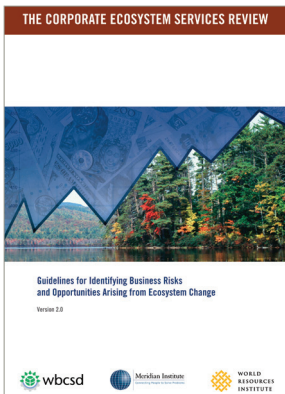




THE CORPORATE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES REVIEW SERVICES REVIEW CASE STUDY: MONDI

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The Corporate Ecosystem Services Review (ESR) is a proven method to help managers identify business risks and opportunities arising from their dependence and impacts on ecosystem services. This case study describes one company's experience and results in applying the ESR.

This case study is an accompaniment to The Corporate Ecosystem Services Review Version 2.0 (2012). Available online at <http://www.wri.org/ecosystems/esr>

Mondi, Europe's largest pulp and paper company, conducted a Corporate Ecosystem Services Review (ESR) on three of their tree plantations in South Africa. The ESR highlighted methods the company could use to increase its supply of freshwater while improving the surrounding environment, strengthening its relationship with local communities, and reducing operational costs. Using the ESR, Mondi developed a 3-year work plan that includes strategies described below.

INTERNAL CHANGES

Mondi combined its interests in securing water supplies and tapping into the growing market for biomass fuel by clearing invasive vegetation with high evapotranspiration rates from its plantations and using the biomass as feedstock for power generation. Clearing invasive vegetation was important for reducing water demand from plantations and improving watershed health, but it was also costly. Mondi found that it could use the feedstock in its own mills or sell it to a biomass pellet manufacturer. By turning a cost into savings, Mondi has been able to expand routine invasive species clearing by 30 percent per year over the past two years.

The company can also reduce risks associated with growing freshwater scarcity by implementing a series of water-use efficiency practices, such as better matching tree species to site conditions, utilizing water-efficient strains as they become available, and more frequently conducting prescribed burns on its grasslands.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Leveraging the company's forestry expertise, Mondi could help nearby private landowners and villages establish woodlots on degraded land for growing biomass fuel feedstock. Mondi could provide native tree seedlings, offer extension services, and purchase the wood to use either in its own mill or sell to a nearby wood pellet manufacturer.

POLICYMAKER ENGAGEMENT

Mondi will be able to leverage its ecosystem services expertise in forestry and water resources management to help policymakers improve water policies. For example, it could express public support for stronger policies that encourage water-use efficiency in South Africa and provide input into the design of such policies.

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