

Department of Environmental Science and Policy Seminar Series

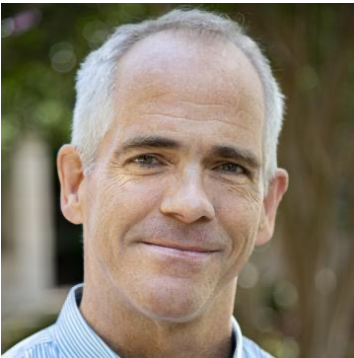
Incentive Compatibility for Inclusive Conservation: impact evaluation lessons, including for debt relief

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DATE: Friday, 1/31/2025 TIME: 10:30 am ROOM: Ungar 230-E

Zoom: <https://miami.zoom.us/j/92964807674>



Abstract: A variety of financial transfers from richer to poorer nations are, at least in principle, conditioned on increased provision of global public goods by the latter. A formerly touted form of transfers, debt-for-nature swaps, has dropped significantly in frequency since the 1980s, when it was developed by NGOs. Yet with debt service again hobbling many poorer nations, and with even greater attention to environment-related global public goods -- including formal if perhaps unattainable commitments by poorer nations -- swaps are again being promoted. I will present a recent proposal to reform swaps to improve outcomes for all involved, then defend its details using results of relevant impact evaluations.

Bio: Alex Pfaff is a Professor of Public Policy, Economics and the Environment at Duke University. He studies how economic development interacts with natural resources and the environment. His focus is designing environment and development policies to support choices by individuals and groups that protect nature, reduce damaging environmental exposures, and improve livelihoods.

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