

SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP: SOUTH AMERICA REGIONAL NETWORK MEETING

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GOALS

- To analyze a future regional network in South America, its goals, priorities, and actions .
- To identify regional elements for INECE strategic plan.
- To consider the 6th INECE conference statement.
- To identify existing relevant networks to engage.
- To recognize critical environmental challenges.
- To recommend specific project needs.
- To explore enforcement indicators and assessment methodology.
- To communicate ways to benefit from technology on the Web.

1 INTRODUCTION

Questions presented by facilitators:

- What are the critical environmental challenges in South America?
- What are the critical institutional challenges in South America?
- What are the challenges of a Regional Network in South America?
- What is the opinion of the participants about INECE proposal projects?

List of participants:

- Argentina: María Di Paola, Silvia Nonna, Daniel Sabsay
- Bolivia: Patricia García, Hernan Zeballos
- Brazil: Antonio Benjamin
- Colombia: Manuel Rodriguez
- Paraguay: Victor Valdovinos
- Venezuela: Rebeca Erebrie, Santos Carrasco

- WBI: Adriana Bianchi
- Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA): Isabel Martinez

2 DISCUSSION SUMMARY

- We identified critical environmental challenges as:
 - Environmental effects of illegal mining.
 - Inadequate management of hazardous and non hazardous wastes.
 - Poverty.
 - Air pollution in large cities.
 - Desertification.
 - Deforestation.
 - Deterioration of biodiversity.
 - Water pollution (groundwater, freshwater, marine/industrial, urban, etc. Sources).

• Critical Institutional Challenges that exist are:

- Poor access to information.
 - Lack of citizen participation.
 - Low priority of environmental issues in policy and political agenda.
 - Lack of institutional coordination among different state institutions (horizontal and vertical).
 - Weak institutional capacity.
 - Low allocation of public and private financial resources.
 - Weak enforcement and compliance systems and lack of indicators.
- Network challenges
- Partners (non exhaustive list).
 - Immediate viability.
 - Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN).
 - Planeta Verde.
- Viability to be explored
- Secretariat Amazonian Cooperation Treaty.
 - Community of Andean Nations (Environment Committee).
 - Mercosur (Sub Group 6).
 - Forum of Environmental Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - Comision Economica Para America Latina y el Caribe (ECLAC)
 - United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
 - Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)
 - The World Conservation Union (UICN)-Sur
- Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF)
- Information exchange — UN System websites
- www.medioambiente.gov.ar
 - www.farn.org.ar

- www.worldbank.org.ar

- www.cvg.com.ve

- www.minsostenible.gov.bi

Enforcement indicators information — North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)- North American Commission on Environment Cooperation (CEC), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Forest

- INECE website

- More linkages

- Professional discussion space

Examples of some indicators experiences (existing/in process):

- Bolivia: Performance indicators with the support of the WB

- Colombia: Institutional performance (efficacy and effectiveness of public policies is being developed)

- Note 1: The group is not completely sure about the definition or scope of indicators

- Note 2: We need enforcement indicators and they should reflect regional needs and perspectives.

- Note 3: Check indicators in different countries and regions (NAFTA experience)

- Note 4: INECE could add linkages to existing forest indicators and NAFTA-CEC indicators and ECLAC study (see proposal of INECE 3.b.)

3 CONCLUSION

The participants agreed about the following prioritization on INECE Strategic Plan (proposal projects):

- Goal 1: INECE indicators 1.A.1.

- Goal 2: Strategy 2.B. to reach 2.D.

- Goal 3: Strategy 3.A.

- Goal 4: Strategy 4.C.