# Effective tools and methods for integrating environment and development

# FOCUS ON CHILE (and Latin America)

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# 1. The initiative in Chile and the region

## What – How

- Chile:
  - Meetings and interviews to 36 people
    - 14 public sector: incl director nat env agency, sectors (agric, transp, infrast, foreign affairs, mining, clean prod, planning)
    - 8 NGOs
    - 3 academia
    - 11 private sector: incl consultants and sectors such as energy, water, agric
  - Workshop (11/01/2008) with subset (8): results, relevance of and conditions for a UG
- Latin America
  - Survey sent to IAIA LAC members and key contacts
  - 9 responses so far

## Where are we

- Preliminary analysis of results
- After panel meeting:
  - Refine analysis
  - Complement with further literature review
  - Look for more responses at the regional level
  - Prepare and submit report

A glimpse to the situation

# 2. LATIN AMERICA

*"There is no need for more tools and methods; what we need is culture [for sustainable development]." Nicolas Lucas, Sustainable Development Secretary for Tierra del Fuego Province, Argentina*

# Responses so far

- Argentina (3), Ecuador (3), Peru, Guatemala and Brazil
- Private, NGO (2), consultant (3), academia

# 2.1 Drivers

- Most mentioned
  - Legislation, regulations and requirements (national/local)
  - Organisation's own values
  - Company/business plans/objectives
- In general – comments
  - Global risks

# 2.2 Constraints

- Most mentioned
  - Lack of political will
  - Lack of understanding and awareness
  - Corruption
  - Lack of data/information

- In general – comments
  - Env as a cost, instead of investment
  - Vested interests
  - Conflicting visions
  - Env as delinked to other issues (health, food, security, etc.)

# 2.3 Tasks and tools

| TASK | TOOLS |
|---|---|
| Information and assessment | International conventions; social and environmental impact assessment (6); interviews; environmental risk analysis; cost benefit analysis (2); environmental diagnoses; carrying capacity assessment; strategic environmental assessment; geographical analyses |
| Deliberation and engagement | International conventions and organizations; multistakeholder dialogues; conflict prevention and management (3); participation and consultation processes (5); periodic meetings with community (3); political action; opinion surveys (3); legal analyses; training |
| Planning and organising | Definition of strategic objectives and plans (2); quality management systems; permanent review of organization and structure; land-use planning; SWOT analysis and scenarios; participatory planning; projects evaluation; |
| Management & monitoring | Regular inspections; auditing (3); task force; environmental management systems; indicators; environmental monitoring; risk management (2); Corporate social responsibility; surveys |
| Other | Cumulative effects assessment; environmental diagnoses |

# 2.4 Informal/indigenous

| TASK | TOOLS |
|---|---|
| Information & assessment | Multisector board; opinion surveys; periodic newsletter/bulletins; risk assessment and management; sustainable livelihood approach; sustainability impact assessment (of trade) |
| Deliberation & engagement | Cooperation agreements; suggestions mailboxes (internet); |
| Others | Public policy development: social pressure through the media; take advantage of organizations' and leaders' concern for public image |
| Others | Environmental awareness campaigns with schools |

# 2.5 Useful criteria

- Most mentioned
  - Demand for particular skills, training, qualifications
  - Costs
  - Ease of use / complexity of process

# 2.6 Top five

| TOOL |
| --- |
| Social and environmental impact assessment (4) |
| Multistakeholder dialogue and public participation (3) |
| Cost benefit analysis - economic evaluation of environmental impacts (2) |
| Multisector boards/councils |
| International conventions |
| International declarations |
| Cooperation agreements |
| Training on conflict prevention and management |
| Conflict management (eg mediation) |
| Environmental management systems |
| Environmental and social auditing |
| Periodic inspections |
| Task force |
| Political analysis and action – eg parlament activity |
| Strategic environmental assessment |
| Risk analysis and management |
| Legal analysis |

# 2.7 Possible cases

- Millennium ecosystem assessment (international and Chile)

- Public forums on national strategy for climate change in Peru

- Sustainability impact assessment of trade agreements (diverse countries in the region)

# 2.8 Least useful

- Legal system for conflict management
- EIA (not completely implemented)
- CBA (biodiversity and ecosystem services not included)
- Surveys (fear, vested interests against revealing true preferences)
- Doubts about usefulness of certification (ISO or similar): more costs; managerial concern only when certification approaches; no significant environmental awareness…

Focus on

# 3. CHILE

*"One of the main constraints in Chile [for integrating the environment in development] is the lack of political will… how would the Guide counteract this situation?" André Laroze, Agricultural Ministry, Chile*

# 3.1 Drivers

- Most mentioned (interviewee situation/organization)
  - Company/business plans/objectives
  - Legislation, regulations and requirements (national, local)
  - Stakeholders/public demands
- Least mentioned:
  - Donor conditions
  - Traditional/cultural reasons
- Most mentioned at national level (general situation)
  - Globalization (international markets, TNC's standards, env cond in FTAs)
  - Env demands by the public
  - Env in the political agenda

# 3.2 Constraints

- Most mentioned (interviewee situation/organization)
  - Lack of political will
  - Lack of skills and human resources
- Least mentioned
  - Dissatisfaction with particular tools
  - Corruption
- Most mentioned at national level (general situation)
  - Lack of good quality and comparable data/information
  - Lack of political will
  - High costs of protecting the env in a country such as Chile

# 3.3 Tasks and tools

- Information and assessment (37%)
  - EIA and SIA
- Deliberation and engagement (24%)
  - Diverse kinds of pub part activities
- Planning and organising (4%)
- Management and monitoring (21%)
  - Monitoring, audits, certification (ISO or similar)

# 3.3 cont.

| Tool | Frequency | % |
|---|---|---|
| Information management | 10 | 17.2 |
| Meetings with stakeholders | 8 | 13.8 |
| Economic analysis | 7 | 12.1 |
| Env imp assessment | 7 | 12.1 |
| Seminars and workshops | 3 | 5.2 |
| ISO or similar | 3 | 5.2 |
| Internal meetings | 3 | 5.2 |
| Analysis of foreign experiences | 2 | 3.4 |
| Other | 15 | 25.9 |
| Total | **58** | **100.0** |

# 3.4 Informal / indigenous

- Most used:
  - Communication and participation processes (informal meetings, partnerships, dialogues)

- Almost no examples of indigenous approaches, save for
  - Meetings with indigenous communities
  - Importance of considering indigenous values/traditions

# 3.5 Useful criteria

| CRITERIA | PUBLIC SECTOR | NGOS | UNIVERSITY | PRIVATE SECTOR | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ease of use | 24.4% | 28.0% | 20.0% | 24.1% | **25.0%** |
| Robustness of results | 19.5% | 12.0% | 20.0% | 13.8% | **16.0%** |
| Cost | 9.8% | 20.0% | 40.0% | 10.3% | **14.0%** |
| Understandable outputs | 14.6% | 4.0% | 20.0% | 13.8% | **12.0%** |
| Time | 17.1% | 8.0% | 0.0% | 10.3% | **12.0%** |
| Demand for particular skills | 4.9% | 16.0% | 0.0% | 6.9% | **8.0%** |
| Need for data / fieldwork | 7.3% | 4.0% | 0.0% | 13.8% | **8.0%** |
| Impact on SD | 2.4% | 8.0% | 0.0% | 6.9% | **5.0%** |

Other criteria:
•Credibility and "persuasion capacity" of results; compatibility with legislation; quantitative and comparable results.

# 3.6 Lack of tools

| TASK | PUBLIC SECTOR | NGOs | UNIVERSITY | PRIVATE SECTOR | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Others | 10.0% | 57.1% | 25.0% | 30.0% | **24.4%** |
| Deliberation and engagement | 25.0% | 14.3% | 0.0% | 30.0% | **22.0%** |
| Information and assessment | 20.0% | 14.3% | 0.0% | 30.0% | **19.5%** |
| Planning and organising | 20.0% | 0.0% | 50.0% | 10.0% | **17.1%** |
| Management and monitoring | 25.0% | 14.3% | 25.0% | 0.0% | **17.1%** |

But most interviewees agreed that the lack of tools is not the problem, but the application of them, or the fact they are not applied (see 2.2 Constraints)

And recommendations with focus on Chile

# FINAL REMARKS

# On the results

- Importance of tools for "deliberation & engagement": a result of the importance of EIA?

- Surprise that "enforcement" did not come up: due to weak practice/experience? Or not clear whether it is a "tool/method"?

- Limited tools for "planning": poor experience and practice in the country and the region

- Little experience with traditional and/or indigenous tools

- "Least useful tools" results don't seem relevant (instead reflect improper implementation); more interesting might be "least used tools and why"

# On the Guide

- It may be useful, but under a number of conditions…
- "we may have a guide, but perhaps we don't know how to read"; capacities are more important
  - Training might be more important (might the initiative include a training module?)
- Internet has most of the tools already; the guide as a "google plus"?
  - The guide must include relevant analyses (SWOT, etc.)
- Good practices are most powerful ways for making the case of specific tools – need for boxes in the Guide

# Guide – cont.

- Difficult and risky to put all development countries in the same sack (Guide might be too vague and end up in a shelf):
  - For instance: countries may differ greatly in terms of their env policy and its implementation; should the Guide consider this? If so, how?
- Most important in developing countries
  - Lack of information and/or access to it
  - We are based on "perceptions"
  - Should the Guide have a focus on information gathering, compilation, analyses, etc.?

# Guide – cont.

- What's the target public for the Guide?
  - It would be important to have targeted messages and recommendations (public, private, civil society, etc.)
- Need for monitoring the use of the Guide
  - Process of implementation and monitoring as part of the UG initiative? Indicators for measuring its application?
- What's the limit for the issues covered by the Guide?
  - Eg: organizational development for mainstreaming; institutional arrangements for mainstreaming… included in the Guide?

# On the process

- Interviews followed by an open meeting have proved very useful

- Much easier for people to react to something already elaborated

- Crucial to have key actors (they contribute significantly with thoughtful insights)

- Much easier to discuss these issues with public sector representatives than private/industry

- Still quite some confusion regarding what a tool is and how to clasify them

# Thanks very much

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