

Meeting of the Executive Technical Group on Strategic Environmental and Social Evaluation (EASE)

September 24, 2013
Santiago, Chile

1. BACKGROUND

One of the concrete actions to be taken “to improve, disseminate and implement Territorial Planning methodologies and tools,” a goal defined in the Strategic Action Plan (PAE) 2012-2022, is to apply the EASE Methodology. This methodology was designed to contribute to the sustainable planning of infrastructure by applying a tool that serves the purpose of identifying, with a preventive approach, any complementary action that might enhance —from a social, environmental and cultural point of view— the positive effects of projects and minimize their negative impact. The unit of analysis of this methodology is the area of influence of the API projects and/or the Portfolio Project Groups.

The COSIPLAN-IIRSA Work Plan 2013 provides for the completion of the EASE application to the API project known as “Multimodal Transportation in the Laguna Merín and Lagoa dos Patos System” (Uruguay - Brazil), the start of its application to other API projects, and the organization of a GTE meeting on this matter with the purpose of presenting the results of the applications conducted.

The application of the EASE Methodology to the API project mentioned above was conducted within the framework of an agreement between the Secretariat of Planning and Strategic Investments, under the purview of the Brazilian Ministry of Planning, Budget and Management, and the Ministry of Transportation and Public Works of the Republic of Uruguay, with the technical support of IIRSA Technical Coordination Committee (CCT).

2. OBJECTIVES

- Present the results of the application of the EASE Methodology to the Multimodal Transportation in the Laguna Merín and Lagoa dos Patos System project (Uruguay - Brazil)
- Present the results of the application of the EASE Methodology to the Pehuenche Border Crossing (Argentina)
- Reach consensus on the next EASE-related actions and their potential complementarity with other COSIPLAN-IIRSA territorial evaluation tools.

3. EXPECTED RESULTS

- Dissemination of the results derived from the EASE Methodology applied to an API project and a national project within the COSIPLAN-IIRSA Portfolio.
- Identification of a strategy to use the EASE Methodology within the framework of the COSIPLAN-IIRSA territorial planning work.
- Proposal of activities for the COSIPLAN-IIRSA Work Plan 2014.

4. PARTICIPANTS

The participation of the following stakeholders is expected: National Coordinators; national officials concerned with planning, environmental, social and cultural issues; representatives of IIRSA CCT; experts; and consultants.

Officials who have participated in the applications conducted.

5. PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- 09:30-09:45 **Opening Remarks**
COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore
- 09:45-10:00 **Objectives and Expected Results**
Sebastián Abbatemarco, IIRSA CCT
- 10:00-10:30 **Brief Description of the EASE Methodology**
Lecturer: Yanneth Bagarozza, CAF Consultant
- 10:30-11:30 **Application of EASE to API Project “Multimodal Transportation in Laguna Merín and Lagoa Dos Patos System”:** An Account
Lecturers: Soledad Mantero and Sergio Klein, CAF Consultants
- 11:30-11:45 **Coffee Break**
- 11:45-12:45 **Application of EASE to API Project “Multimodal Transportation in Laguna Merín and Lagoa Dos Patos System”:** Results and Lessons Learned
Lecturers: Luziel Da Souza, Brazil, and Jorge Camaño, Uruguay
Facilitator: Yanneth Bagarozza, CAF Consultant
- 12:45-13:00 **Q&A and Comments**
Moderator: Yanneth Bagarozza, CAF Consultant
- 13:00-14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30-15:15 **Application of EASE to the Pehuenche Border Crossing: Results and Lessons Learned from the Application of the Tool to a National Project**
Lecturer: National Coordination of Argentina
- 15:15-15:30 **Q&A and Comments**
Moderator: Ignacio Estévez, IIRSA CCT
- 15:30-16:00 **Complementarity of the EASE Methodology with other PAE Territorial Planning Actions and Tools**
Lecturer: CCT Consultant

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- 16:00-16:15 **Coffee Break**
- 16:15-17:30 **Discussion of Future EASE-Related Actions**
National Coordinators
Moderator: Sebastián Abbatemarco, IIRSA CCT
- 17:30-18:00 **Consideration of the Notes of the Meeting and Closing Session**
COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore