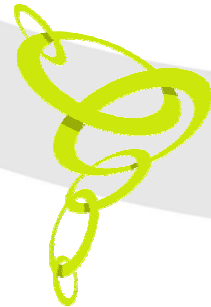


Regional Workshop on VESA

Non-Governmental Organizations' Perception of IIRSA



Asunción, November 30th, 2005





Increasing interest on IIRSA by the Civil Society

- 36 organizations associated in a network have been met at a continental level (Lima – July 2005, Rio de Janeiro - November 2005, Caracas to be continued)
- Lima Declaration: Concerns related to the planning process and the impacts
<http://www.bicusa.org/bicusa/issues/DeclaracionLima>



Non-Governmental Organizations' Perceptions of IIRSA

- It does not exist a transparency policy in the process;
- The communication channels with the civil society are closed and their demands and suggestions are not listened;
- There are infrastructure projects in areas of great biological and cultural importance, and they do not integrate people but affect their survival;
- The projects do not have economic, environmental and social feasibility studies.



What are they looking for?

- The development of infrastructure projects that are thought and designed integrating social and environmental objectives of sustainable development;
- To impulse the participation, the transparency and a constructive dialogue in the IIRSA process;
- The protection of special areas biodiversity terms;
- The consideration of indigenous and non-indigenous people and their cultures;
- To support the development of institutional capacity (local, national and regional) in the management of natural resources;
- Stable financing mechanisms for the sustainable management of natural resources.



Positive Examples

- *Hidroelectric Power Station of Tocoma, Venezuela* (Edelca, with IDB/CAF: participative dialogues with conservative NGOs, and indigenous communities).
- *South Interoceanic, Peru* (Participative Consulting Process CAF)
- *BR-163* (Collaboration Brazilian Government/Local communities/Civil Societies). Indirect impacts, territorial ordering, regularization of property titles, participative planning, new conservation units, institutional strengthening, support to agriculture in a low scale, building of schools, sanitary posts, etc.)



Which are the channels of collaboration between IIRSA AND the Civil Society?

- Information Access?
- Dialogue with interested speakers?
- Participation in some processes?



Referencias

- IIRSA
<http://www.iirsa.org/home.asp?CodIdioma=ESP>
- Declaration of Lima
<http://www.bicusa.org/bicusa/issues/DeclaracionLima.pdf>
- Eco Américas
<http://www.ecoamericas.com/spanish/story.asp?storyid=396>
- Tocoma
<http://www.edelca.com.ve/ambiental/index.html>
- BR163
<http://www.amazonia.org.br/noticias/noticia.cfm?id=172891>
- <http://www.socioambiental.org/nsa/detalhe?id=2060>