

## **ISAGEN / Colombia**

### **Participation in the Draft Protocol Trialling Program**

The trial assessment of the Sogamoso Hydroelectric Project (820 MW, Departamento Santander) was conducted during the week of November 9, 2009. An ISAGEN team was accompanied by two HSAF members during discussions with stakeholders and a project visit, and initial discussions were held about a number of aspects of the draft Protocol. Subsequently, the ISAGEN team conducted their own in-depth review of the Protocol and scored the sustainability performance of their project. They also submitted the following general observations on the Draft Protocol, Section III:<sup>1</sup>

- Auditing Guidance Notes in Introduction: are useful, could be more detailed and precise
- General observation on attributes Conformance and Compliance: major problems in application, rigid, confusing, not self-explanatory.
- Construction Management: attributes “consultation” and “stakeholder support” do not apply in the implementation stage, but previously in the preparation stage
- Same comment on Social Impact Assessment & Management, attributes “assessment”, “management” and “consultation”
- Same comment on Project Affected Communities, attributes “assessment”, “management” and “consultation”
- Same comment on Resettlement & Land Acquisition, attribute “consultation”
- Aspects III-10 and III-11 can be merged
- Labour and Working Conditions: staff / workforce satisfaction levels - how to establish objectively without surveys; conformance with plans – which plans?; employee and workforce occupational health and safety performance – company performance or staff performance?
- Cultural heritage: who to consult with and whose support to seek? Which plans to conform with?
- Public Health: not clear which consultation process is meant. Information surveys about existing conditions?
- Asset and Community Safety: which plans to conform with, which rules to comply with? Context missing
- Environmental Management Plan: content covered in other aspects
- Reservoir Management: general observation on Consultation attribute – consultations are integral, not separate for each aspect; stakeholder support – whose support to seek; conformance – suggestion to merge with compliance
- Biodiversity and Invasive Species: who to consult with and whose support to seek? Performance attributes don't apply in the implementation phase, only later in the operation phase

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpted and translated by Joerg Hartmann (WWF).