



International Resources Group

Environment



International Resources Group is widely recognized as a world leader in environmental policy, with a focus on guiding in-country capacity for critically analyzing, managing, and mitigating the degradation of the environment. Using combinations of legal, regulatory, economic, and information tools, our experts counsel public and private institutions in addressing environmental quality problems associated with industrial production, household consumption, climate change adaptation, and provision of services. IRG specializes in helping organizations implement performance-focused environmental management systems (EMS) programs within strict budget and time constraints. IRG is ISO 14001 certified.

Representative Projects

Managing Environments and Strengthening Institutions Worldwide

IRG and its partners provide advisory services and technical assistance to USAID's Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT), country missions, and regional bureaus. Through EPIQ, IRG helps decision makers in developing countries analyze, develop, and implement policy options that balance growth with environmental sustainability, thus enhancing economic development while reducing long-term threats to the global environment. IRG was the sole awardee of the EPIQ I IQC (1996-2002), under which the firm implemented \$105 million in contracts in 40 countries. IRG is the prime contractor of the multiple-award EPIQ II IQC (2003-2008) that has a \$250 million ceiling. The contract also helps EGAT's sustainable environmental management program, which includes natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, sustainable urban development, and sustainable energy systems. **Global: Environmental Policy and Institutional Strengthening Indefinite Quantity Contract (EPIQ)**

Protecting Biological Diversity in the Amazon

This IRG project is designed to build capacity and commitment across the Amazon Basin for effective stewardship of the Basin's nationally and globally important biological diversity and environmental services. Activities focus on forging linkages between the four independent consortia by organizing meetings, supporting capacity building, and providing communications and dissemination of lessons learned. Outreach to other regional stakeholders through strengthening public-private partnerships, implementing a small grants program and promoting dialogue around policy and conservation issues are also important components implemented by IRG. **South America Region: Amazon Basin Conservation Initiative**

Capabilities

- ◆ Environmental and Economic Policy Reform
- ◆ Finance Strategies and their Implementation (including capital development user fees, permitting, cost recovery systems)
- ◆ Eco-tourism, Cultural Tourism, and Non-Competitive Uses of the Environment
- ◆ Technical Assistance and Training in Forestry, Water, and Other Resource Management
- ◆ Knowledge Management Systems for Environmental Applications
- ◆ Training in Various Aspects of Environment and NRM

Bridging Ecotourism, Health, and Biodiversity with Conservation

Bringing an integrated approach to conservation of the Nyungwe National Park (NNP), *destination*Nyungwe was designed to promote livelihood changes and economic development in NNP and the surrounding communities through conservation and eco-tourism efforts. The project's goals included promoting tourism products, developing tourism-related enterprise in surrounding rural communities, strengthening NNP staff capacity in biodiversity conservation, improving conservation awareness, integrating conservation concerns into zone planning documents, and increasing health education and awareness in the surrounding communities to NNP. The Small Grants Program was vital to providing financial resources to the people, communities, and local businesses in support of ecotourism development that accounts for conservation in small enterprise development around the park. **Rwanda: Profitable Ecotourism through Improved Biodiversity Conservation**

Conserving Biodiversity in Watersheds

This project strategically focuses resources on mitigating key threats facing the Panama Canal Watershed and improving its ability to maintain the hydrological functioning of the system, protect biodiversity, and enhance rural economic development. IRG and its partner support improved watershed management and biodiversity conservation by: assisting communities and government agencies in developing and implementing action plans for sub-watershed management; providing small grants and technical assistance to small businesses for resource management, biodiversity conservation, and community-based new enterprise development and strengthening; providing training and technical assistance to incorporate good management practices, developing business plans, and linking small businesses to buyers and markets to support the creation of new enterprises; and strengthening the policy and institutional enabling conditions to improve environmental management in the watershed. **Panama: Management of Critical Watersheds**

Designing Climate Change Adaptation Frameworks

IRG developed the methodological framework for the manual *Adapting to Climate Variability and Change: A Guidance Manual for Development Planning*, incorporating data from studies conducted in Latin America, Africa, and

Asia on the impact of climate change on watershed management, water supply, agriculture and irrigation, and rural livelihoods. The manual was designed for use across multiple USAID sectors including urban planning, health, water, hydropower, floodplain and coastal zone development, agricultural production, and forestry. The manual also examined projected impacts on development worldwide. **USAID: Climate Change Adaptation Guidance Manual**

Monitoring Environment Impacts of Combating Malaria

The President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) represents an historic \$1.2 billion, five-year expansion of US government resources to fight malaria in 15 high burden countries in Africa to dramatically scale up effective malaria prevention and treatment preventions. In support of the PMI, IRG is providing technical services in environmental monitoring and mitigation related to prophylactic measures used to combat malaria, like pesticides for indoor residual spraying. IRG is ensuring that environmental compliance throughout the program's policy, procedural, and communication elements.

Sub-Saharan Africa: Environmental Monitoring and Capacity Building in Vector Control Interventions (EMCAB)

Improving Pollution Management

Pollution in the waters of the El Alto - Lake Titicaca axis is destroying biodiversity and lowering the quality of health for the people in the area. Under this project, IRG is working to improve pollution management through the prevention of industrial and urban pollution and better management of the Cohana Bay watershed region. IRG has identified and monitoring key pollutants that harm Lake Titicaca's biodiversity. Additionally, with its national partner, the Center for the Promotion of Sustainable Technology, IRG is helping the tannery, liquor and beverage, textiles, and slaughterhouses implement cleaner production technologies. To improve management of the Cohana Bay, IRG been working closely with indigenous leaders and communities to reduce contamination while developing renewable energy and organic products. **Bolivia: El Alto - Lake Titicaca Pollution Management Activity**