

IRG Project Profiles



PERU STRENGTHENED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY (STEM)

The motivation to adopt a systems approach to environmental management sometimes results from the threat of regulatory action. However, some countries have strongly promoted voluntary environmental management systems (EMS) to complement command-and-control programs. For these, voluntary EMS has rapidly become the mechanism of choice for both regulators and environmental actors. Citizen demand for and proactive leadership commitment to effective environmental management has generated considerable interest in EMS, followed by its application. Active incentive programs backed by the capacity to take swift regulatory action for noncompliance provide additional motivation for growing EMS adoption.

Activities

STEM builds on the Peru's improved environmental policy framework and institutional arrangements. These offer substantial clout for the country to address four priority challenges:

Region: Latin America and the Caribbean
Country: Peru
Sector: Environment and Natural Resources
Duration: September 2003–September 2006
Client: USAID
Partners: The Nature Conservancy
Field Museum of Chicago
World Wildlife Federation
CARE Peru

tropical forest loss, threatened biodiversity, urban pollution, and industrial pollution.

Voluntary approach. STEM uses a demand-driven EMS approach that involves systematic voluntary self-interest undertakings to meet environmental needs and societal interests. These have been largely induced by citizen demand for and proactive commitment by political and opinion leaders to effective environmental management.

Collaborative efforts. Most of the specific solution-oriented EMS activities are either ongoing or will soon commence. IRG is collaborating with other actors to help stem biodiversity loss and to mitigate adverse effects on threatened tropical forests. EMS will be used to help address industrial pollution, and USAID supports a Clean Production Center. In the area of environmental health, an urban program holds great promise. IRG is working to build an information and database for practical EMS applications in Peru. Technical and financial support is being provided to selected EMS “early adopters” in the four priority areas of clean production, forestry, urban environments, and biodiversity conservation who agree to serve as case studies for that purpose.





December 2003

International Resources Group
1211 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036 USA
202-289-0100 Fax 202-289-7601
www.irgltd.com