

Advancement and Further Development of Sustainability Management in Latin America

Purpose of the project is to advance a systematic sustainability management in Latin American enterprises. Experiences of leading German companies will complement scientific research of more than 20 years on environmental and sustainability management. Furthermore, new sustainability-related guidelines and principles will be considered, especially the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Chile and Mexico are important trading partners of Germany. For good cooperation, it is important to avoid ecological and social risks as well as to identify and make use of the opportunities through sustainability. This is because German companies increasingly consider adherence to environmental and social standards in their supply-chains (sometimes provoked by NGOs and government) as well as better efficiencies and innovation from good sustainability management.

The project is based on the following modules:

- **Scientific study:** To review the current state of systematic sustainability management in guidelines and standards as well as in current practice, a preliminary scientific study will be produced, that is going to be complemented by new insights gained during the project's life span. Here it is essential to illustrate how the new requirements for due diligence and human rights can be considered in an integrated way.
- **Expert workshops:** In April 2018 four workshops will be held in Chile and Mexico. Representatives of leading German companies and further international experts will be joined by their Latin American colleagues to discuss the results from the preliminary study. The aim is to develop recommendations and guidance for practical implementation in Latin American companies. References towards a successful innovation management and integration with the company strategy will also be made clear. Furthermore, the workshops provide a networking opportunity for experts in sustainability management in Chile and Mexico.
- **Brochure:** To distribute the findings from the project a brochure (practical guide) will be produced, that is intended for use by companies and other multiplying organizations. It will take up the needs of Chilean and Mexican companies and will illustrate an approved, easily accessible structure for a systematic sustainability management.

The project is being funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). The World Environment Center Europe e.V and the Institute for Sustainability are in charge of its compilation. Further partners are the World Environment Center (WEC) (here its Latin American office), the Chilean Sustainability Consultancy APLE as well as the Private Sector's Commission for Studies on Sustainable Development (CESPEDES).

About World Environment Center Europe e.V.

WEC Europe e.V. is a non-profit organization that operates out of Munich/Germany under the roof of the global World Environment Center (WEC). It supports its globally operating member companies to develop and implement sustainable business practices. WEC promotes practical knowledge about Corporate Sustainability, builds executive level learning and competency in applying sustainable development across various business sectors, and recognizes performance excellence through an annual awards program. WEC is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with regional offices in China, El Salvador and its German subsidiary WEC Europe e.V. www.wec.org

About Institute for Sustainability

The Institute for Sustainability is a Berlin-based think-tank which provides research and consulting in sustainability management and in sustainability reporting. It's founder Mr. Thomas Loew has worked in more than 30 research projects, many of those during a ten-year term at the Institute for Ecological Research (IÖW) (Berlin), and later on in several projects with the German government as well as some of the leading global companies from Germany. He founded the Institute in 2005. www.4sustainability.de

About APLE

APLE (Sustainability Consulting for the Industry) is a consulting firm located in Santiago de Chile, dedicated to providing specialized advice in sustainability. Its mission is to develop and deliver integral solutions for sustainability for companies and institutions. APLE maintains a large network of Chilean and international companies and representatives of the private and public sectors. www.aple.cl

About CESPEDES

CESPEDES (Private Sector's Commission for Studies on Sustainable Development) is a think-tank of the private sector with the purpose of promoting the principles of sustainable development in the business community and beyond. CESPEDES is within the Mexican Business Coordinating Council (CCE), an organization that brings together and coordinates the interests of the private sector in Mexico. Also, it is part of the Global Network of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). www.cce.org.mx/cespedes

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