



The Environmental and Social policy has become since long an integral part of the projects carried out by ELC in its various fields of activity: hydroelectric plants, thermal and geothermal power plants, transport and agricultural development.

ELC activity in the environmental realm started in the 80's, when the need for specific studies connected with the design and construction of works and plants of different kinds became universally recognized. With the adoption of the ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) and ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan) guidelines by clients and international financing institutions, environmental and social studies have assumed for ELC an ever-increasing importance.

Experience in this field has been acquired during the design stage of various projects and has been verified throughout the entire life of works, following the dynamic evolution of the environment, and after the implementation of the project itself.

The methodological criteria adopted to carry out the ESIA and ESMP activities include:

- analysis of present situation;
- assessment of induced impacts, both adverse and beneficial, associated with the project;

- study of alternatives;
- definition of design criteria to avoid, or where avoidance is not possible, minimize, mitigate, or offset/compensate for adverse impacts on workers, affected communities, and the negative environmental effects;
- identify and, where feasible, adopt opportunities to improve environmental and social performance;
- promotion of improved environmental and social performance through a dynamic process of performance monitoring and evaluation.

ELC experience, acquired in project design and supervision of project implementation, represents the cultural and technical foundation for the methodology applied by the Company in the execution of environmental and social studies. This approach ensures that the entire project is designed as an integral part of the surrounding environment.

Today ELC is able to offer multidisciplinary services to solve environmental and social problems both during the design and the construction phase, while making available to clients several years of experience in the different fields of consulting engineering.

ELC provides efficient environmental and social management system involving meaningful communication between the client and the local communities affected by the project. Following the main IFI standards ELC set a strategy of Information Disclosure and Stakeholder

Engagement based on the three principles:

- to identify people or communities that are or could be affected by the project,
- to guarantee a process of information disclosure and meaningful consultation,

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- to maintain a constructive relationship with stakeholders through meaningful engagement during the project implementation so as to include communities' visions in the decision making process.