



LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

Terminology	Environmental Authorities	Legal Character of EIA	Goal	Scoping	Screening	Types of EIA Instruments	Decisionmaking Responsibility	Terms of Reference (TORs)	Requirements	Institutional Coordination	Citizen Participation	Dissemination	Reports	Monitoring	Alternatives	Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
Abbreviations (in national language) used in regulations Common abbreviations: EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment EIS: Environmental Impact Study SEA: Strategic Environmental Assessment	Entities and authorities with responsibility for environmental issues, particularly regarding EIA	Legal character of EIA instruments	Activities subject to EIA; distinguishes between countries in which EIA refers only to projects and works and those that also include policies, plans, and programs (SEA)	Procedure by which scope and focus of EIA is defined (through dissemination of information to stakeholders and consultation on planned activity); if there is no specific procedure, the regulations define the minimum scope	Procedure to determine whether an activity is subject to EIA and the extent of the respective study	Different types of EIA instruments, their level of complexity, and their focus	Authority responsible for final decision in the EIA process	Who defines the content of the TORs and who conducts the corresponding study	Requirements in the TORs related to the impacts that must be taken into account by the EIS	Consultation with public entities and organizations in the EIA process	Provisions for the involvement of the general community or specific parts of the community as well as those directly interested in the EIA process	Public notification and dissemination of information generated in the EIA process	Provisions regarding the information that those undertaking an activity have to submit to the authority or to the public throughout the activity's development	Monitoring and supervision that public authorities conduct regarding fulfillment of the requirements placed on those undertaking an activity subject to EIA	Analysis of various alternatives to the planned activity, including not carrying it out	Planned measures to apply during project implementation to address issues and meet requirements identified in the environmental analysis process
Argentina LGA: General Law on the Environment (Law No. 25,673) Note: There are sectoral and provincial EIA regulations, but no general regulation at the federal level.	Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development	Instrument of environmental policy and management	Only EIA; works and activities are evaluated	No provision; the scope includes analyzing actions that damage the environment or that significantly affect the population's quality of life	The authorities determine if an EIS is necessary, based on sworn statements about whether the work or activity affects the environment	The LGA does not establish specific EIA instruments	Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development	Specific laws determine requirements for EIS; for hydroelectric plants, regulations determine content of the EIS, which is conducted by an interdisciplinary team	LGA indicates that requirements are established by a specific law EIS must at least include identification of the project's environmental impacts	No provisions in LGA	LGA mandates citizen participation in EIA process; procedures for authorizing community and specific parts of the community as well as those directly interested in the EIA process	Authorities must allow public access to any nonclassified environmental information that they manage	LGA requires that all parties submit information on the environmental quality of activities they undertake, with the exception of legally-protected information	No provisions at the federal level	No provisions at the federal level	In accordance with LGA, the EIS must include actions to mitigate negative impacts
Belize DOE: Department of the Environment NEAC: National Environmental Appraisal Committee	Minister of Natural Resources Local governments DOE NEAC	Instrument for analyzing impacts and risks and for recommending mitigation measures	Only EIA; projects, programs, and activities are evaluated	Minister regulates EIA procedures; scope includes identifying and analyzing impacts on people, the environment, natural resources, cultural heritage, landscapes, and ecological balance	Minister issues regulations listing projects that (a) require, (b) do not require, and (c) may require EIA depending on size and location. DOE conducts selection process based on established criteria	Projects that require a full EIA Projects that only require an EIS	DOE	Ministry regulation prescribe content and guidelines; proponent submits draft TORs for DOE approval; DOE can provide TORs in response to a specific request; study must be conducted by qualified individuals	Must include direct, indirect, cumulative, short- and long-term impacts on humans, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climate factors, material goods, cultural heritage, landscape, natural resources, and ecological balance	The NEAC reviews the EIA and submits views to DOE	Public must be consulted during preparation of EIS; DOE sets procedures for public consultation and submission of comments; a public hearing can be held by recommendation of the NEAC	After EIS has been presented it must be announced through the media and made available to the public Proponent must present an EIS summary	No provisions in the law	The DOE has jurisdiction over investigations and inspections to ensure compliance with regulations established by law	EIA must include analysis of reasonable alternative sites (if any) and reasons for rejecting them, including the option forgoing implementation	Implementation and Follow-up Program, Mitigation Plan, and Monitoring Plan must be submitted
Bolivia DIA: Environmental Impact Statement CIC: Certificate of Compliance FA: Environmental File OTB: Registered Local Grassroots Organization PASA: Environmental Implementation and Monitoring Plan	MDS: Ministry of Sustainable Development Vice Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Departmental governments Municipal governments	Instrument for environmental planning; technical procedures, studies, and systems to determine the environmental impact of works, activities, or projects; environmental licensing (DIA)	EIA; works, activities, and projects are evaluated SEA: plans and programs are evaluated	No formal scoping procedure The proponent must consult the community during the project classification stage and before carrying out the EIS	Based on FA, the relevant authority applies criteria set by regulations to determine EIA category; regulations include list of exempted activities, for which a CO (waiver) is issued	Category 1: Integrated analytical EIA Category 2: Specific analytical EIA of one or more factors Category 3: Characteristics already known, only require mitigation and PASA Category 4: Does not require EIA	Vice Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Departmental governments Municipal governments	Regulations establish basic content for Category 2; the responsible authority defines the scope of the EIS An interdisciplinary consulting team must prepare the EIS	Must consider: positive and negative, direct and indirect, temporary and permanent, reversible and irreversible, cumulative, and synergistic impacts on physical, chemical, biological, social, and cultural conditions and environments	Sectoral agencies issue reports on the FA and EIS If there are cross-sectoral repercussions, a cross-sectoral working group is formed to provide reports on classification and EIS	Any individual can present observations, criticisms, and proposals through OTB during the stages of FA review, classification, EIS review, and authorization of the DIA EIA and EIS forms available to public	Summary of EIS required; synthesis of DIA published in MSD Bulletin Public can access information on classification and execution of EIS, except when it is legally protected EIA and EIS forms available to public	PASA must include presentation of annual technical reports	PASA establishes methods and times of inspection and supervision Authorities monitor, supervise, and oversee approved mitigation measures and PASA Environmental audits can be required	The EIS must include analysis of alternatives	Instruments include a Prevention and Mitigation Program, PASA Contingency Plan, and Accident Prevention Program
Brazil IBAMA: Environmental Impact Report CSMA: High Council on the Environment (Conselho Superior do Meio Ambiente)	CSMA CONAMA: National Environmental Council IBAMA: Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources SSNAMA: National Environmental System	Requirement for a permit prior to construction, installation, expansion, or operation of facilities and activities covered by the regulations	Only EIA; facilities and activities are evaluated	The regulations specify the impacts that the EIA must address When requiring an EIS, the relevant authority will specify additional guidelines in accordance with the project's particular features and the area's environmental characteristics	CONAMA's regulations include a list of projects that must have an environmental license; based on the list, the responsible authority determines the criteria used to determine whether an EIA is required	There are three sequential processes: 1. Preliminary license (LP, Licença previa) 2. Construction license (LI, Licença de instalação) 3. Operating license (LO, Licença de operação)	States, municipalities, and in some cases IBAMA	Regulations define general guidelines and technical activities; IBAMA or others can set additional guidelines; the responsible authority determines the necessary studies; the study must be conducted by a qualified multidisciplinary team that is not linked directly or indirectly with the proponent	Analyze positive, negative, direct, indirect, short, medium, long-term, temporary, permanent, cumulative, synergistic and distributive impacts on health, safety, well-being, social and economic activities, biota, the environment, and natural resources	Public agencies that are interested in or directly related to the project receive a copy of the RIMA	Interested parties can present observations on the RIMA within a specified period The responsible authority can hold a public hearing if deemed necessary	The information in the RIMA must be comprehensible The public must have access to the RIMA in locations determined by regulation The license request must be published	No provisions	EIS includes preparation of a Support and Monitoring Program that also defines the parameters that must be considered	CONAMA can require studies to analyze alternatives to public and private projects; EIS must consider and compare alternative technologies and locations for the project, including the option of not carrying out the project	EIS must include mitigation measures and a Support and Monitoring Program
Chile DIA: Environmental Impact Statement (Declaración de Impacto Ambiental) SSEA: Environmental Impact Assessment System	CONAMA: National Environmental Commission COREMA: Regional Environmental Commission Agencies with environmental and sectoral responsibilities	Procedure to determine if the environmental impact of an activity or project complies with prevailing regulations	EIA; activities, projects, and regional urban development plans are evaluated	No formal scoping process Scope includes potential impacts on human health, natural resources, social conditions, protected areas, landscapes, tourism, and cultural, anthropological, archaeological, and historical heritage	Projects or activities specified in law and regulations; EIS is required if project or activity causes any impacts identified in laws or regulations, otherwise only DIA is needed; includes thresholds	DIA: description of impacts and declaration of compliance with environmental legislation EIS	COREMA Executive Director of CONAMA Sectoral permits: responsible ministries or sectoral agencies	Regulations establish minimum content There is no specific provision for who can conduct the study	Evaluation of direct, indirect, cumulative, and synergistic impacts on physical, biotic, human, and man-made environments, including economic activities, land use, natural elements, landscapes, historic and cultural heritage	Input must be accepted from the sectoral agencies that issue environmental permits, as well as any other agencies that have a role or responsibility in the matter	CONAMA and COREMA determine specific participation mechanisms Community organizations and direct commitments on EIS within a specified period	A summary of the EIS must be submitted An abstract must be published The EIS file is open to the public, except for legally protected information	The follow-up plan determines the period and frequency of submission of reports to the responsible authority	Agencies of SEA enforce the rules and conditions that have been established; there is a monitoring plan	Not addressed	There is a Mitigation, Remediation, and Compensation Plan: a Plan to Monitor Environmental Indicators; and an environmental legislation compliance plan
Colombia AAU: Urban Environmental Authority CARs: Regional Autonomous Corporations (includes Sustainable Development Corporations) LA: Environmental License	MAVDT: Ministry of the Environment, Housing, and Territorial Development CARs AAUs (in cities larger than 1 million and in historic and tourist districts)	Authorization to carry out works or activities; subject to meeting conditions for prevention, mitigation, remediation, compensation, and management of environmental impacts	Only EIA; works and activities are evaluated	No formal scoping process Scope includes impact on elements of the biotic, abiotic, and socioeconomic environments that can suffer degradation, including significant changes to landscapes	Law and regulations define projects, works, and activities that require EIA	No categories	MAVDT CARs AAUs	MAVDT issues TORs for each sector Environmental authorities can adapt TORs or create new ones if needed; general methodology for EIS defined by MAVDT No regulation on who carries out study	Identification and valuation of impacts to define which can be prevented, mitigated, corrected, or addressed through compensation	Law establishes period for responsible authority to request technical ideas or reports from other entities and period for reports to be submitted	Any individual may intervene in an administrative procedure for environmental permits and licenses Certain authorities and members of public may request public hearing under certain conditions	Responsible authority must publish act initiating EIA procedure, and its decision, in official Bulletin Anyone can request to be notified of decision; information is public throughout process	Reports can be requested during the oversight and monitoring process	Environmental authorities are responsible for supervision and monitoring at all stages MAVDT establishes relevant criteria in the Supervision Manual	Responsible authority determines if an Environmental Analysis of Alternatives is required, defines TORs, and determines which alternatives must be included in the EIS	EMP includes measures for preventing, mitigating, remediation, and compensating for environmental impacts There is also a Monitoring Program and a Contingency Plan
Costa Rica SETENA: National Environmental Technical Secretariat	SETENA	Required prior to beginning specific activities, works, or projects	Only EIA; activities, works, projects, and regulatory plans are evaluated	No scoping procedure provided in the law	Law and regulations determine which activities, works, and projects do and do not require EIA	Full EIS Statement of Environmental Responsibilities Evaluation of regulatory plans	SETENA	SETENA prepares guidelines (and if necessary, TORs) for activities, works, and projects; EIS conducted by interdisciplinary team of registered consultants	Analysis of significant impacts	Public officials have right to provide inputs or voice opinions to SETENA during EIA process and in operational phase of the works or project	Any individual has the right to be heard by SETENA and to present comments at any stage of EIA process or operational phase of the works or project	EIA file is public and must be made available to any individual or organization SETENA must disseminate list of studies it has received and send EIS abstracts to municipalities	Person responsible for project's environmental aspects must keep written record on implementation of EMP and present periodic progress reports	SETENA established procedures for supervision and oversight, and is responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with EIA requirements	The EIS must include the alternative with the highest environmental benefit	The EIS must include an impact prevention and mitigation program and a monitoring program
Dominican Republic DIA: Environmental Impact Statement LA: Environmental License PMAA: Environmental Management and Adaptation Program (Programa de Manejo y Adecuación Ambiental)	SEMARN: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	Instrument for environmental policy and management	EIA; projects, civil works, industry, and activities evaluated SEA: public administration policies, plans, and programs evaluated	Consultations in project area required during preparation of EIS Scope includes impact on natural resources, environmental quality, health, and psychological and moral welfare	Law defines list of projects that require EIA (list can be expanded) and SEMARN determines type of study required for each project category	Projects requiring environmental permit, after submission of DIA Projects requiring LA, after submission of EIS Exempted projects	SEMARN	SEMARN regulates norms for preparation of EIA and determines TORs for each project or approves specific TORs	Identification and valuation of potential impacts, including direct and indirect, cumulative, and synergistic impacts	The responsible sectoral agencies and local governments must be consulted prior to issuance of environmental permits or licenses	Stakeholders consulted through a hearing during preparation of EIA SEMARN conducts consultations and request comments during EIS review SEMARN holds hearings when required	Proponent must inform public, through media, of intention to carry out project and provide pertinent information on it The EIS must be available to the public once it has been submitted	For permit or license to remain valid, periodic reports are required on self-monitoring compliance, as well as Report on Environmental Monitoring to Obtain a Compliance Certificate	PMAA must include an oversight subprogram and self-monitoring program SEMARN conducts inspections and environmental audits Oversight subprogram and self-monitoring program	Project alternatives and design options must be considered in the EIS	Environmental Management and Adaptation Program covering environmental prevention, mitigation, and compensation measures
Ecuador SUMA: Unified System of Environmental Management LA: Environmental License FA: Environmental File (Ficha Ambiental)	AAN: National Environmental Authority AAA: Environmental Enforcement Authority AAAN: Responsible AAA AAAN: Cooperating AAA	Instrument for applying environmental regulations; guarantees that officials and public have access to environmental information on activity or project prior to implementation decision; sustainable development	Only EIA; activities, works, and projects are evaluated	Proponent must consult community before preparing TORs Scope includes impacts on people, biodiversity, nature, ecosystems, public tranquility, historic, scenic and cultural heritage, physical, biotic, socioeconomic, and public health environments	AAAN determines need for EIS, which can include detailed list, thresholds, criteria, and classification methods Required for all activities in Galapagos or other protected areas	One category FA must be submitted when EIS is not required	AAAR accredited by SUMA	Procedures for defining TORs established by AAAR; proponent presents TORs; authority approves and can modify scope and focus of TORs Study conducted by multidisciplinary team	Identification and evaluation of impacts	AAAR with relevant responsibilities	Public consultation required (meetings, workshops, hearings, information centers, and Internet) for setting priorities for studies, criteria for TORs, and prior to presentation of EIS	Executive summary of the EIS must be presented AAAN maintains a national public registry of environmental laws and licenses	Proponent must send reports to corresponding AAA with results of the EMP and all other commitments, with a frequency and details established in the LA	Internal monitoring by proponent, environmental control by AAA, and environmental auditing and supervision by community; General Accounting Office can audit directly or through contractors	Analysis of alternatives must be included in EIS AAA can request modification of alternatives or inclusion of new ones	EIS includes EMP with measures for mitigation, control, and compensation for impacts, as well as environmental monitoring and audits
El Salvador FA: Environmental Form (Formulario Ambiental) SINAMA: National System of Environmental Management	MARN: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	SEA: Environmental impacts of policies, plans, and programs EIA: Ensures that activities, works, and projects follow procedures to identify and quantify impacts and mitigation measures	EIA; activities, works, and projects evaluated SEA: policies, plans, and public administration programs evaluated	No formal scoping procedure Scope includes potential impacts on the environment and population (physical, biological, socioeconomic, and cultural environment)	Law defines which cases, in principle, EIS has to be conducted by a multidisciplinary technical team	SEA EIA	MARN In SEA, each entity or institution conducts the evaluation based on MARN's guidelines	Ministry establishes guidelines and quantification of impacts; in special cases there must be a public hearing in the municipalities where the activity will take place	Identification, priority setting, prediction and quantification of impacts; interpretation of results, cost-benefit analysis, profitability, and efficiency	If quality of life, human health, and well-being may be affected, a public hearing must be organized in affected municipalities, with participation of municipal governments	Whoever feels affected can express an opinion or submit comments; in special cases there must be a public hearing in the municipalities where the activity will take place	EIS is publicly disclosed through publication in print media with national circulation in a format designated by the Ministry	Monitoring component in the Environmental Management Program must include parameters for verification and reporting	Environmental Management Program includes a monitoring component, which has to be applied during all stages	EIA and SEA must include a description of alternatives to the policy, plan, program, or project	EMP must be incorporated into the construction, operation, and closure of the activity, work, or project; must define, prioritize, and estimate costs of measures to prevent, mitigate, and compensate for environmental impacts
Guatemala EAE: Strategic Environmental Assessment EIA: Initial Environmental Evaluation EIA: Environmental Risk Assessment EIA: Social Impact Assessment EIA: Evaluation of Cumulative Impacts	DGGRAN: General Office of Environmental Management MARN: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and its local offices	Instruments to systemically identify and evaluate the environmental impacts of a project, work, industry, or other activity during its planning, implementation, operation, and closure	EIA; projects, works, industries, and activities evaluated SEA: national and governmental policies and plans, projects of transnational significance evaluated	No formal scope-setting procedure Scope includes identifying and systemically evaluating the environmental impacts of a project, work, industry, or activity	Detailed list of projects, works, industries, and activities requiring EIS is approved by ministerial agreement; Activities classified into three EIA categories to determine which EIA instrument is required	EAE, EAT, EIS, ERA, SIA, EEA	DGGRAN	DGGRAN designs and issues TORs within its area of authority and determines, with ministerial agreement, TORs for each EIA category SIA carried out by registered consultants	Identify and anticipate environmental impacts	Regulations enable DGGRAN and MARN to request opinions of other public entities and sets period during which they must be submitted	Proponent must consult population during preparation of EIA; public can present comments and opinions during evaluation of SIA	DGGRAN orders publication of announcement or decree, with basic information on effective information system for the environmental authority	Complementary instruments (ICOs) guarantee maintenance of an efficient and effective information system for the environmental authority	Monitoring and supervision; information gathered to determine compliance with EIA, and to verify the amounts of pollution; environmental audits, systematic and documented verification	No provisions made	EMPs are created by the environmental assessment instrument and must be adopted by the proponents
Guyana EP: Environmental Permit EIS: Environmental Impact Statement	EPA: Environmental Protection Agency EAB: Environmental Assessment Board Second agencies	Instrument to provide information for identification and planning to help avoid or minimize environmental impacts and strengthen sustainable development	EIA: execution of projects is evaluated SEA: policies, plans, and programs are evaluated if they significantly affect the environment	Process for public consultations led by consultants; identifies potential environmental impacts of project and its alternatives; process facilitated by EAB; scope determined by EPA	List of projects and other activities that can significantly affect the environment; EPA sets criteria and thresholds to determine if project requires EIA	EIA for projects, plans, and programs (SEA)	EPA	EPA defines TORs with help of consultants Study must be conducted by independent, qualified individual approved by EPA	Identification of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on environment, including humans, material goods, cultural heritage, natural resources, and ecosystems	EAB must express its opinion prior to the decision to issue an EP Comments to EPA EAB can determine if public hearing is required before issuing recommendation	Public can participate in scoping process, preparation and evaluation of EIS, and commentary to EPA EAB can determine if public hearing is required before issuing recommendation	Existence of project is announced in a daily newspaper EIS and EIS (summary of EIS) are available to public	No provision for reports	Self-monitoring EPA and regulatory agencies conduct inspections	At least one alternative project location, design, technology, program, and size must be considered; alternatives examined in EIS and final selection made based on proper documentation	EIS must include proposed measures to mitigate adverse impacts
Honduras DECA: Office of Environmental Evaluation and Oversight	DECA	Process aims to identify, predict, and describe possible positive and negative impacts of project and propose measures to mitigate negative impacts and a plan for oversight and monitoring	Only EIA; projects, industrial facilities, and any other public and private activity are evaluated	Once project is registered with DECA, an Ecological and Environmental Impact Analysis is carried out to define EIA scope and allow public participation	List of the projects that require an EIA is set, as well as criteria to determine when it is not necessary	Category I: Requires an Ecological and Environmental Impact Analysis but not an EIA Category II: Requires EIA	DECA	TORs for each project prepared and approved by a DECA team; TORs can be proposed by proponent EIS prepared by qualified individuals	Identification of project's positive and negative impacts	No provisions in the law	EIS is made available to the public so that comments can be submitted	Once project has been registered, the public must be notified; all information from the EIA process is public	No provisions in the law	DECA is in charge of monitoring and oversight	Presentation and analysis of alternatives can be required in the TOR	The EIS must have a Mitigation Plan, Management Plan (if required in the TORs), and an Oversight and Monitoring Plan
Mexico MIA: Environmental Impact Assessment (Manifestación de Impacto Ambiental) IP: Preventive Report (Informe Preventivo)	SEMARNAT: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	Procedures protect environment and avoid or reduce negative impacts by setting conditions for construction or activities that could disrupt ecological balance or violate established limits and conditions	EIA; works and activities are evaluated In SEA, plans and partial programs for urban development and/or ecological planning are evaluated	No formal scoping procedure Scope includes consideration of ecosystems, their preservation and restoration, and protection of the environment	Law and regulations establish works and activities that require EIA SEMARNAT may grant exemption based on criteria set in regulations States and Federal District (DF) can demand EIA for other projects	1. Requires regional MIA 2. Requires specific MIA 3. Only requires IP	SEMARNAT States	SEMARNAT provides guidelines for the presentation of MIA and IP IP and MIA can be prepared by any individual	Environmental forecasts; identification, description and evaluation of the following impacts: environmental, cumulative, synergistic, significant or relevant, and residual	SEMARNAT authorized to request technical opinions from other federal agencies; in some cases, state and municipal governments must be notified and have opportunity to comment	File available to public; SEMARNAT can conduct public consultations if requested by member of affected community; in special cases public meetings held for information and feedback	SEMARNAT files MIA assessments available to public; any citizen can request public hearing	SEMARNAT must inspect and monitor compliance with environmental provisions	Local and regional MIA must include environmental projections and evaluation of alternatives	Specific MIA must include measures to prevent and mitigate impacts Regional MIA must include strategies to prevent and mitigate impacts on regional environment	
Nicaragua FA: Environmental Form DIA: Environmental Impact Statement	MARENA: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	Instrument for environmental policy and management, consisting of procedures, studies, and technical systems for predicting the impacts of a specific work, activity, or project	Only EIA; activities, works, and projects are evaluated	No formal scoping procedure Scope includes activities that can damage the environment and natural resources or have negative socioeconomic, cultural, biotic, abiotic, or aesthetic impacts	Law provides exhaustive list of projects that require EIA; MARENA can request that the President of the Republic expand the list	Single category FA must be submitted when the project, works, industry, or activity is not included in the detailed list	MARENA	MARENA issues technical rules, orders, and guidelines for EIS Specific TORs developed by MARENA and proponent in coordination with sectoral authority Study conducted by interdisciplinary team	Identification, prediction, and oversight of positive and negative impacts of projects and their alternatives	MARENA must consult on the study with sectoral organizations and municipal governments	Any party can present opinions or suggestions on the environmental impact document, through procedures established by MARENA	MARENA publishes notice in national periodical of public availability of DIA, including hours and locations where it may be consulted	No provisions in law or regulations	Environmental license sets monitoring requirements and specifies how monitoring and compliance with its provisions must be carried out	EIS must include alternatives to the project	Resolution issued by environmental authority establishes mitigation measures, monitoring requirements, and environmental management program; proponent must carry out
Panama DIA: Environmental Impact Statement EIA: Preliminary Study RA: Environmental Resolution AC: Responsible Authority AS: Sectoral Authority	ANAM: National Environmental Authority UAS: Regional Environmental Unit UAS: Sectoral Environmental Unit Resources MTINCE: Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Integration, and International Trade Negotiation	Instrument for environmental management; early warning system based on continuous analysis that enables proponent decisionmaking to protect environment	Only EIA; activities, works, and projects are evaluated, as well as some sectoral development plans	No scoping process prior to EIS; consultation occurs after EIS is presented Scope includes impacts on human health, flora, fauna, renewable and nonrenewable natural resources, protected areas, landscapes, society, and anthropological, archaeological, historic, or cultural heritage	There is an exhaustive list of activities, works, and projects that require EIA ANAM can modify the list	EIS—Category I: no significant impacts; sworn statement presented EIS—Category II: significant impacts that can be easily avoided or mitigated EIS—Category III: significant impacts requiring EMP	ANAM UASs and UASs that have been trained and qualified by ANAM	Regulations set minimum contents of EIS; ANAM issues scope, guidelines, and TORs Study prepared by multidisciplinary team registered and certified by ANAM	There are several EIS categories Category III EIA's (greatest impacts) require identification, analysis, valuation, and ranking of all negative and positive impacts and induced risks	Regulators establish obligation to request and provide opinions of public agencies related to the issues, environmental components, or impacts of the project	Proponent must involve public during preparation of EIS; ANAM consults community and gathers comments in preparation of EIS or EIA-sd In some cases, a public hearing is required	ANAM discloses and makes EIS presentation available to public Proponent publishes abstract and stakeholder consensus, and EIS and other documents	Proponent must submit reports to ANAM on results of compliance with EMP and environmental monitoring	Proponent conducts monitoring and submits reports to ANAM according to set schedule ANAM certifies environmental auditors to oversee project monitoring and oversight programs	No provision made in law or regulations	EMP includes monitoring and oversight plan approved by ANAM Measures must help minimize negative impacts, gain stakeholder consensus, and prevent accidents Emergency Plan
Paraguay DIA: Environmental Impact Statement RIMA: Environmental Impact Report	SEAM: Ministry of Environment General Office for Oversight of Environmental Quality and Natural Resources	Environmental policy instrument to ensure systematic examination of environmental impacts of an action and its alternatives	Only EIA; works and activities are evaluated; but in the regulations a proposed action is defined as a project, program, plan, or policy	Interested parties can be consulted about possible impacts Scope includes impacts on life, biodiversity, natural resources, welfare, health, security, habits and customs, cultural heritage, and way of life	Law and regulations determine the works and activities that require EIA; SEAM can require EIA for other activities, based on criteria provided in the regulations.	Single EIA category Some projects require EIS, others do not or can be exempted In some cases, only mitigation, compensatory measures, or EMP required	General Office for Oversight of Environmental Quality and Natural Resources	SEAM sets TORs Study must be conducted by environmental consultants listed in the Technical Registry (Catastro Técnico)	Analysis of potential positive and negative, direct, indirect, permanent, temporary, reversible, irreversible, continuous, discontinuous, regular, irregular, cumulative, and synergistic impacts	SEAM can consult institutions and agencies likely to be affected by projects	SEAM sets rules for community participation and consultation in project areas; can hold hearings to get community feedback	EIA must be available to the public in parts of the country	No provisions	SEAM conducts follow-up and monitors compliance with DIA	EIA must include description of alternative designs and locations and analysis of consequences of not implementing project	EMP includes measures for protection, remediation, and mitigation of impacts; methods and instruments for surveillance, monitoring, and control
Peru AC: Responsible Authority in each sector EIA-4: Full Environmental Impact Assessment EIA-4d: Partial Environmental Impact Assessment	National and sectoral agencies with environmental responsibilities INRENA: National Institute of Natural Resources MTINCE: Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Integration, and International Trade Negotiation	Instrument for environmental management, policy implementation, and enforcement; ensures public right to information and participation Instrument for decisionmaking on environmental viability	EIA; works and activities are evaluated SEA: public policies, plans, and programs are evaluated	No scoping process; community consultation possible during project classification stage Scope includes impacts on physical and social environment	Regulations define list of actions that must be included and projects that require EIA, based on the legal criteria	Category I: Environmental Impact Statement Category II: Partial Environmental Impact Study Category III: Full Environmental Impact Study	Sectoral ministry	Regulations determine content of EIS; interested party presents TORs and authority approves Study prepared by authorized organizations with multidisciplinary team	Possible direct and indirect impacts on physical and social environment in the short and long term; community dynamics and support systems, urban spaces, historic and architectural heritage also included	Responsible authorities can establish review mechanisms with sectoral, regional, or local authorities Participation by interested parties through officials; responsible for relevant fields	Proponent must consult population during preparation of EIS Responsible authority conducts formal consultation for EIA or EIA-sd Public hearings mandatory for EIA-4d, optional for EIA-4d; public can comment	EIS available to public and must include brief summary EIA-4d and EIA-4d available in regional office of the sectoral agency	No provisions for submission of reports	Responsible authority does follow-up, evaluation, and oversight, either directly or through qualified and registered firms and institutions	No provision in the law	Plan for management, emergencies, compensation, and/or site or site closure; plans for monitoring, supervision, and oversight
Uruguay AIP: Prior Environmental Authorization EIA-p: Sectoral or Partial Environmental Impact Study EIA-c: Full Environmental Impact Study	MYOTMA: Ministry of Housing, Regional Planning, and Environment DINAMA: National Environment Office	Instrument for environmental management	Only EIA; activities, construction projects, and works are evaluated	No scoping process Scope includes impacts on public health, security, or quality of life; aesthetic, cultural, or sanitary conditions and composition, quality, and diversity of natural resources	Law defines activities and works that require EIS; executive branch issues rules on minimum criteria; other criteria added by agreement between President and Minister	EIA-p EIA-c	MYOTMA DINAMA carries out the process	Law defines general requirements Suitable professional must be responsible for study	Anticipate, identify, evaluate, and quantify potential negative, positive direct, indirect, individual, and cumulative impacts and risks	MYOTMA requires guidance from national or departmental agencies involved with works projects Regulations set period for submitting opinions	Interested parties can express opinions during evaluation; public hearings held in special cases	Project summary available to public for set period; advance project information published in Diario Oficial and other newspapers	No provisions	Monitoring plan for follow-up, supervision, and auditing of relevant environmental factors must be included in EIS	No provision made	Environmental management, risk mitigation, and accident prevention plans required; EIS includes mitigation, compensation, or restoration measures; site or project closure programs, and monitoring plan
Venezuela MA: Ministry of the People's Power for the Environment (Ministerio del Poder Popular para el Ambiente)	MA	Part of process for incorporating environmental concerns in policies, plans, programs, and projects; predict and assess impacts; verify compliance with decrees	EIA and SEA; policies, plans, programs and projects are evaluated	No scoping process Scope includes impacts on physical, natural, and socioeconomic environments	Regulations define activities requiring EIA; Ministry may require EIA in other cases based on review of documents of intent	EIS Specific Environmental Assessment	MA	Ministry approves project-specific TORs based on the proponent's proposal; study prepared by interdisciplinary team of registered consultants	Identification of potential impacts on various environmental components	No provisions in the regulations	MA can open a review process and public hearing for EIS	Approved EIS will remain available to the public at MA	Responsible parties, or their consultant, must present reports in accordance with Environmental Supervision Plan	Environmental Supervision Plan	EIS must describe alternative designs, locations, and technologies, and justify selected alternatives	Tracking program Environmental Supervision Program

The findings, interpretations, and conclusions in this matrix are those of the authors and should not be attributed to the World Bank, its affiliated organizations, members of its Board of Executive Directors or the countries they represent.
Source: Gomez C.A., E. Sanchez-Triana, and S. Enriquez (2006).