THE RIO DOCE PANEL

The Rio Doce Panel (RDP) is an Independent Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (ISTAP) that provides recommendations for the restoration of the Rio Doce Basin, being led by the Renova Foundation. Convened and managed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the RDP is focused on measures to ensure the long-term environmental and socioeconomic health and resilience of the Rio Doce watershed and adjoining coastal area. The RDP believes that effective mitigation efforts will lead to a positive and long-term legacy for current and future generations.

CONTEXT

Considered one of Brazil’s worst environmental disasters, the 2015 Fundão tailings dam failure at Samarco’s iron ore mining site in Minas Gerais, Brazil, caused severe ecological, economic, and social damage. Sludge from the dam destroyed villages, farms, water supplies, and riparian vegetation and changed livelihoods and communities. The tailings mud advanced through upper tributaries of the Rio Doce until it reached the Atlantic Ocean, affecting terrestrial, coastal and marine biodiversity, directly impacting municipalities in Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo.

In 2016, an extra-judicial settlement agreement, the Transaction Term of Conduct Adjustment (TTAC), designed 42 programmes to mitigate the impacts of the disaster and restore the environmental and socioeconomic conditions in this complex social and natural system.
Another agreement - TAC-GOV - was signed in 2018 to assure representativeness and participation of the affected population. The system established the Interfederative Committee (CIF), which is responsible for overseeing the restoration, and the Renova Foundation, a private non-profit organization, responsible for rebuilding, restoring, and repairing the disaster’s impacts by implementing the determined programmes.
HOW THE PANEL WORKS
INDEPENDENCE, TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENGAGEMENT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF EVERY IUCN-LED ISTAP

Working independently but in close cooperation with key stakeholders, the Panel is engaged in discussions with national and international experts and promotes a multi-stakeholder dialogue. Knowledge products present recommendations on specific topics based on research to address critical questions for restoring the Rio Doce watershed on a landscape scale.

THE PANEL DOES NOT CONDUCT PRIMARY RESEARCH AND PREPARES THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS USING SCIENCE-BASED EVIDENCE AND PUBLICLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION.

A Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) strategy seeks to learn from the RDP work and understand the influence and impact of the RDP recommendations on target processes and audiences and any unexpected outcomes. Through meetings and interactions with Renova and tools to track progress, IUCN and the RDP review evidence of progress with adaptive management and learning objectives.

UNDERSTAND THE PANEL’S DYNAMIC

- Internal/external meetings
- Field visits
- Analysis of documents and scientific literature
- Monitoring the uptake of recommendations
- Advice on how to implement the recommendations
- Presentation of knowledge products and recommendations
- Knowledge products

COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

PRODUCTION STEP

PEER REVIEW OF TECHNICAL REPORTS
RIO DOCE PANEL MEMBERS

The RDP comprises international and national experts with diverse technical skills, academic qualifications and local knowledge, selected through a public and competitive application process.

To check the complete list, including former members, please, access: https://www.iucn.org/rio-doce-panel/panel

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RIO DOCE PANEL MEMBERS

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