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Environmental Impact Analysis

The environmental impact analysis services of Applus+ include the monitoring and supervision of prevention and protection measures for natural heritage associated with projects and actions in various phases of construction, operation, and/or dismantling or demolition of infrastructure, as well as compliance with legal requirements.

In this field, we provide environmental management, supervision, and technical assistance services for linear infrastructures, electrical and railway transportation, roads, port facilities, mining projects, hydraulic works, and renewable energy projects.

The scope of our environmental impact analysis services includes the assessment of ecological values present in the project implementation area, the analysis of permits, compliance with applicable legal requirements, or any other environmental conditions associated with the planned activities.

THE Applus+ SOLUTION

The preliminary studies on the natural environment and the analysis of environmental impact aim to define preventive and corrective measures ensuring the reduction of environmental impacts generated in all phases. Additionally, it evaluates the appropriateness of planned actions at the end of their useful life to restore the environment to pre-operational conditions. This assessment also includes evaluating the effectiveness of restoration efforts, positively impacting biodiversity.

Moreover, specialized technical advice is provided regarding environmental implications associated with business initiatives from the decision-making stage on their feasibility to the implementation, operation of the facility, or dismantling of the infrastructure.

Our environmental impact analysis services target both public administrations and private promoters of facilities or infrastructures requiring support in the following areas:

- **Environmental planning of activities:** studies on environmental effects or impact, environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessments, site selection, etc.
- **Technical assistance** in dealing with the administration in drafting and submitting relevant documentation.
- **Environmental direction** and monitoring during construction to ensure the tracking and control of generated impacts. This also allows evaluation of the effectiveness of corrective and protective measures established in the reference documentation and applicable environmental regulations, as well as detecting unforeseen issues and proposing preventive or corrective measures to address these deficiencies.
- **Support in meeting environmental requirements** arising from environmental impact statements (EIS) and other administrative environmental authorizations.
- **Client representation in dealings with the administration,** always in coordination with the client.
- **Environmental monitoring** of infrastructures and facilities **in the operational phase.**
- **Environmental monitoring** of infrastructures and facilities **in the dismantling phase.**
- **Studies and technical advice** in the preparation of supplementary documentation (reports on fauna and flora, initial soil status reports, specific studies on environmental vectors modeling, faunal studies, landscape studies, vegetation studies, annual hazardous waste reports, compliance certificates for environmental conditions, and plans for environmental restoration, reforestation, or landscape integration.

For conducting various environmental impact analyses, we utilize technological tools serving multiple purposes, including mobility solutions, fieldwork digitalization, trial and visit management, client web portals, data management, and regulatory compliance management. Among these tools are:

GeoAPP: Used for field data collection and processing in environmental monitoring activities during construction. It allows location on georeferenced maps, taking photos, and collecting data related to environmental aspects, such as noise emission. It integrates noise maps, acoustic modeling, current planning, designed corrective measures, on-site monitoring measurements, and records of exceedances.

GIS (Geographic Information System)**:** Mapping of data collected during site visits for assessment and verification with project cartography and official information to check compliance with regulations and the adequacy of corrective measures on-site. GIS enables the multi-layer analysis of environmental information for integration into the environmental aspects monitoring and inspection tool (CIMSA MOBILE).

CIMSA MOBILE**:** An application developed by Applus+ for project monitoring and inspection, including equipment traceability, customized form and checklist generation, authentication systems, and report generation.

VISION PROFILE: Involves a combined team of camera traps to assess fauna permeability of works and impact control. It establishes usage periods based on the criticality of works and the need for these tools. Additionally, it allows the assessment of environmental damage for report generation and monitoring of environmental impacts due to occupation or material spills.

Target customers

The initial project design often involves conducting pre-operational studies of the natural environment, considering that the local flora and fauna influence the placement and subsequent operation of facilities.

Throughout the construction and operational phases, it's crucial to ensure that the work aligns with the conditions specified in permits and authorizations, taking into account the requirements set by various stakeholders.

Lastly, overseeing the conclusion of a facility's useful life and its dismantling process is essential to prevent the creation of environmental liabilities or uncompensated damage to the ecosystem.

Key customer benefits

Applus+ environmental impact analysis services during the pre-operational phase involve gathering enough info about the surroundings to prevent any changes in project designs and identify the best locations for development. Once given the green light by authorities, these studies provide a major advantage by reducing conflicts with stakeholder groups, especially the local community and environmental organizations.

Throughout the approval process, studies on the natural environment help obtain the necessary info to secure the environmental authorization required for project execution.

When it comes to construction and operation, activities need to align with the environmental conditions specified in permits and authorizations. Not sticking to these conditions can result in penalties, potential activity shutdowns, and harm to the promoter's public image. So, ongoing monitoring by specialized technicians makes it easier to keep activities in line with established requirements and flag any potential deviations.

At Applus+, we've got a diverse team of natural environment experts with loads of experience and a strong local presence. They're great at assessing potential project impacts on ecosystems and understanding the technical criteria demanded by various administrations.

We've built up a solid network of expert collaborators in the scientific and technical fields, allowing us to carry out highly specific studies on flora, fauna, habitats, ecosystems, and even marine environments.

Our environmental department technicians work seamlessly with Applus+ engineering teams, providing a well-rounded perspective on project development.

On top of all that, we've got our own labs to evaluate water body conditions and accredited environmental inspectors for noise and air quality controls.

To sum it up, we bring to the table a wealth of multidisciplinary expertise, local know-how, seamless integration, and top-notch technical competence tailored to your needs.