



# Organization of American States

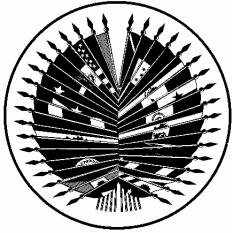
## Environmentally Sustainable Trade

International Association for Impact Assessment

Vancouver, 24-30 April 2004

Thomas Scott Vaughan





# Background

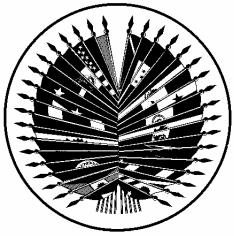
## ➤ Free Trade Area of the Americas

### ➤ Santiago Declaration (1996):

⇒ *“the environment . . . will be taken into account as we proceed with the economic integration process in the Americas.”*

### ➤ Quebec Declaration (2001):

⇒ *“view to ensuring a balance among economic development, social development and the protection of the environment.”*



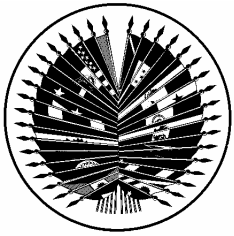
# Project Overview

## ➤ Goal

- Promote Environmentally Sustainable Trade

## ➤ Strategy

- Capacity Building for Member States
  - ⇒ Support for policies that:
    - » minimize environmental impacts
    - » maximize environmental benefits
- Work with state and non-state expert organizations as peers in all steps



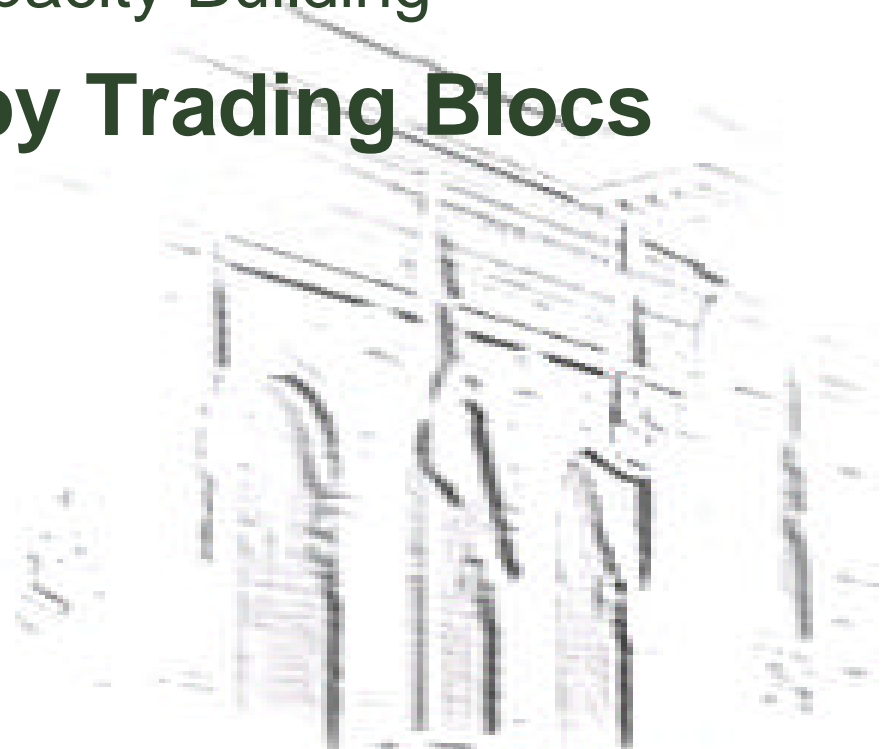
# Project Geography

## ➤ Domestic Emphasis

- Assessment and Capacity Building

## ➤ Country Studies by Trading Blocs

- MERCOSUR
- CACM/CAFTA
- Andean Pact
- CARICOM





# Project Geography

## ➤ 1<sup>st</sup> Year

- Argentina
- Brazil

## ➤ 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

- Paraguay, Uruguay
- Central America (Costa Rica, Guatemala)

## ➤ 3<sup>rd</sup> Year

- Central America (Scoping Exercise)
- Caribbean
- *Andean Countries*





# Methodology

## ➤ **Country Studies** focus on domestic issues and impacts

➤ Studies to assess potential environmental impacts empirically

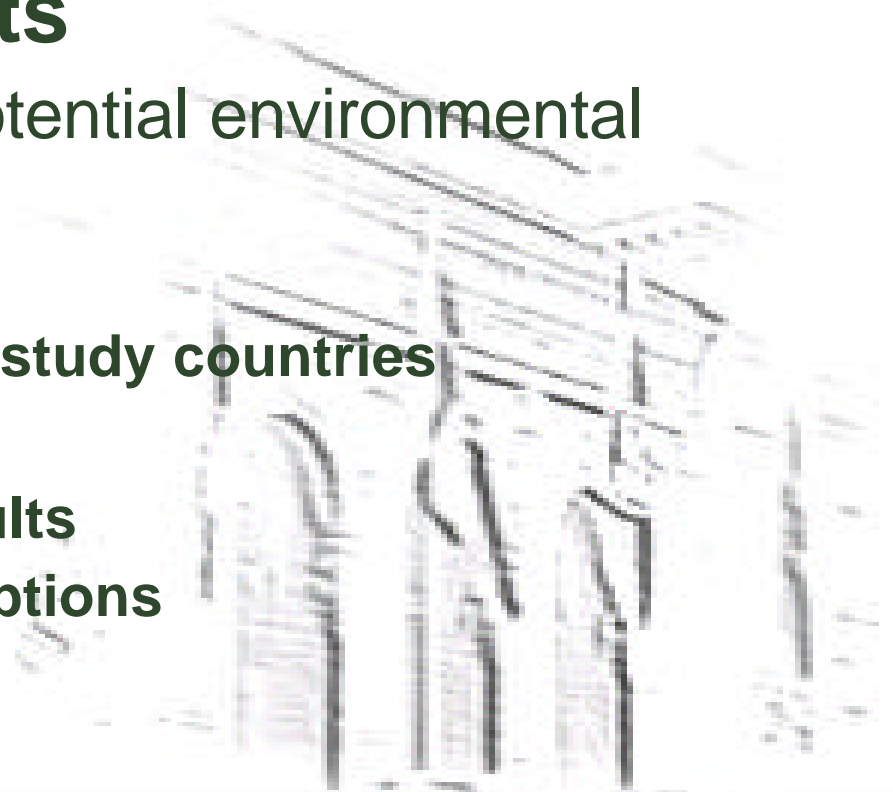
⇒ **Analysis Phase**

» Expert teams in study countries

⇒ **Dialogue Phase**

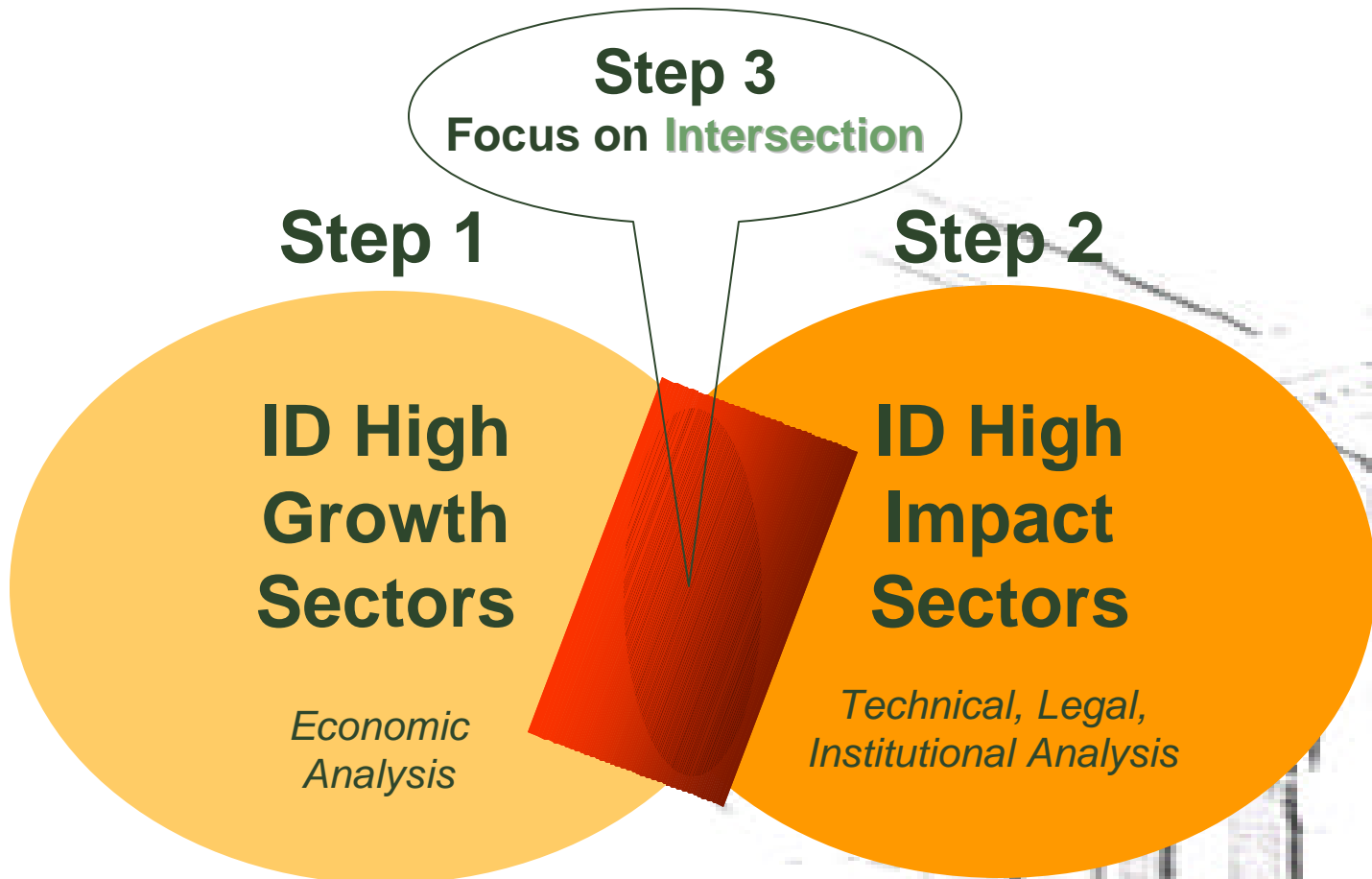
» Peer review results

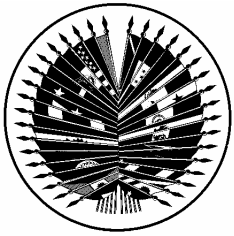
» Assess policy options





# Analysis Phase



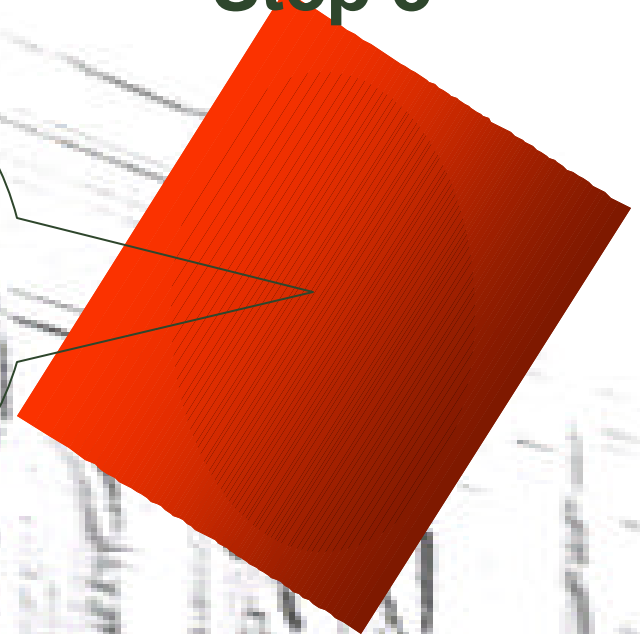


# Step 3 – Analysis Phase

## Step 3

### High Change / High Impact

- **Assess** legal and institutional frameworks to address impact in place
- **Develop** and discuss options for managing impact in future







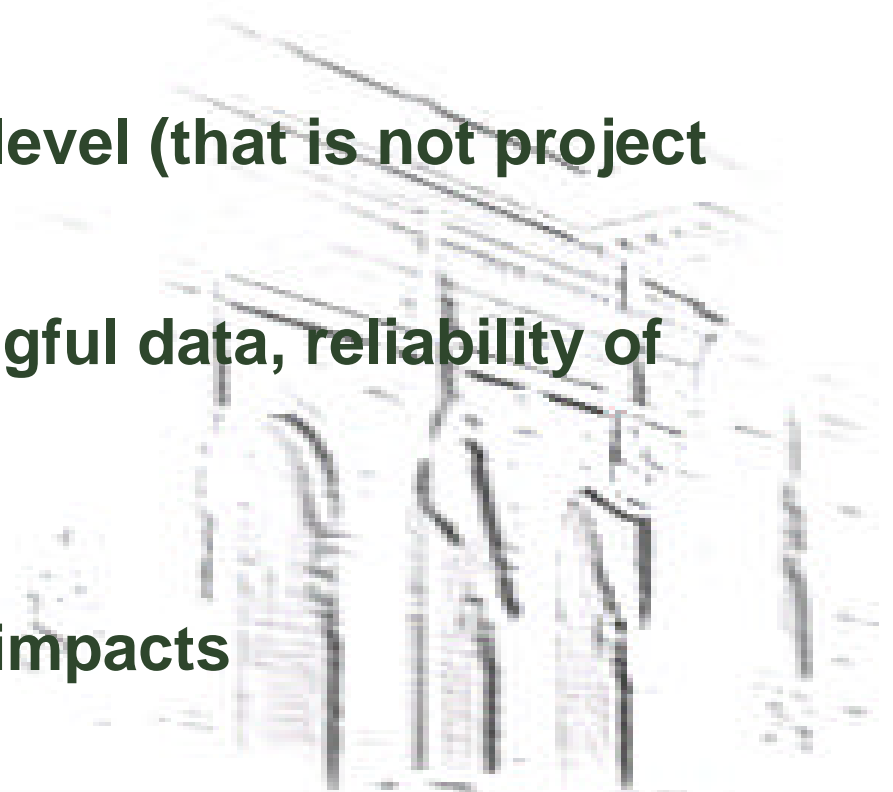
# Dialogue Phase

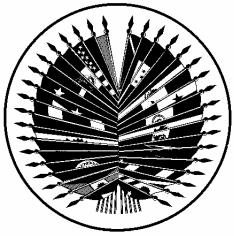
- **Discussion among government and non-governmental experts**
  - Examine country studies
  - Review other relevant work
  - Assess comparative regional approaches
  - Consider domestic alternatives
- **Peer review at every step**



# Methodological Challenges

- **Ex-ante assessment**
- **Economic modeling**
- **EA at the macro policy level (that is not project specific EIA)**
- **Lack of current, meaningful data, reliability of information**
- **Process considerations**
- **Incorporation of social impacts**





# Progress to Date

- **Argentina & Brazil studies published**
- **Paraguay, Uruguay, Guatemala, Costa Rica**
  - In draft, preliminary reviews
- **Remaining CAFTA / Caribbean and Andes about to begin**