



PANEL CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENT

Title: Chair, Rio Doce Panel

Duty Station: Home Country of the Chairperson with travel to or within Brazil as required by the assignment

Type of appointment: Consultant; approximately 70 days of work per year

Reporting to: Director General, IUCN or her designate

Background

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature ([IUCN](#)) has been requested by the [Renova Foundation](#) to establish an Independent Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (ISTAP) that will provide technical and scientific support to the Foundation for the restoration effort of the Rio Doce Basin, Minas Gerais, Brazil, as mandated in the Transaction and Conduct Adjustment Term, and described on the Renova Foundation [website](#).

IUCN seeks to recruit a Panel Chair that will be responsible for guiding a Brazilian and International panel of technical experts. The selection will be subject to a service-level agreement that will follow time-bound contracts with specific activities. The Panel process is further described in [Procedures for establishing and managing IUCN-supported Independent Scientific & Technical Advisory Panels](#). ISTAPs adhere to the principles of independence, transparency, accountability, and engagement.

Goal and Objectives of the Rio Doce Panel

The Rio Doce ISTAP is an independent advisory body of scientists convened and managed by IUCN. The overall goal of the Panel is to provide the Renova Foundation with objective independent advice on the recovery of the Rio Doce Basin following the Fundão Dam failure on 5 November 2015. The ISTAP will be constituted and coordinated by IUCN, an international organisation with extensive experience in managing similar Panels.

The Panel's objectives are to:

- **Provide independent expert scientific advice and guidance to the Renova Foundation**
The ISTAP's deliberations will be independent and free from real or perceived conflicts of interest and the Panel of experts will draw on existing international and national best practice and new knowledge.
- **Provide a landscape-scale perspective**
The ISTAP will challenge the Renova Foundation to develop and implement an integrated, outcomes-based strategy. It will encourage the development and implementation of innovative and long-term solutions to optimise resources and lead to the best possible social and conservation outcomes.
- **Build stakeholder confidence in the Renova Foundation's scientific assessment and management responses**
Transparency and engagement will be central to the operation of the ISTAP. Information will be science-driven and evidence-based and the Panel's reports and recommendations will be publically available. Engagement with interested and affected stakeholders will be integral to the ISTAP process.

Draft Terms of Reference for the Panel can be found at: www.iucn.org/riodocepanel

Specific Tasks of the Chair

- The Chair, assisted by the IUCN Secretariat, is responsible for identifying suitable scientists to be on the Panel, recruiting other Panel members and setting their Terms of Reference (TORs), developing the Panel's work plan in line with its mandate and ensuring that the Panel's deliberations are independent and free from real or perceived conflicts of interest.
- The Chair has single-point accountability for managing the work of the Panel, which will entail, *inter alia*, convening and chairing the Panel meetings, ensuring that the contributions of Panel members are of the highest quality, and appointing and coordinating working groups and task forces as necessary;
- Make scientific and technical contributions to the Panel's work in the respective areas of his or her expertise, as necessary; oversight of other technical areas
- Take full responsibility for the timely and orderly completion of the work of the Panel, and for the delivery of relevant outputs, including, among others, reports of the Panel to the highest standards of quality;
- Ensure the independence and integrity of the Panel's operations and the reports it produces by maintaining objectivity in the Panel's findings, avoiding subjective and prescriptive recommendations, and refraining from endorsing or rejecting any of the initiatives or projects by any of the stakeholders that the Panel may review in the process of its work;
- Undertake any other task that is necessary but not specified in these TOR for the effective completion of the Panel's work as may be agreed with IUCN beforehand.
- The Chair is required to defend and publicly advocate for the findings and conclusions of the Panel. While the Chair will represent the Panel, he/she will not represent or speak for IUCN.

Selection Criteria

- A postgraduate degree, preferably a Ph. D in ecosystem management and restoration, or environmental assessment, or relevant natural and physical sciences, or other related disciplines;
- Extensive experience in one or more areas of relevance, such as development and implementation in ecosystems assessment, watershed restoration, environmental assessment and mitigation; civil and environmental engineering; a minimum of 10 years of experience is required;
- Experience of working as a member or chairperson of multidisciplinary expert panels at international level;
- Relevant knowledge and experience in Brazil and/or other parts of Latin America
- Strong leadership, interpersonal, consultation and team management skills for delivering quality outputs through team work;
- Proven capacity in maintaining team spirit and cooperation, as well as capacity to leverage public support;
- An excellent reputation, recognition and respect among peers, based on past performance and leadership, in similar situations;
- Commitment to protecting the integrity of the team's work;
- Professional proficiency in English and Portuguese, including excellent writing skills;
- Experienced in navigating complex political situations

Expression of Interest

All interested and qualified persons are encouraged to submit their credentials and a supporting letter of motivation in English or Portuguese. The letter should specifically address the selection criteria presented above, and provide the names/contact details of three referees, including one recent employer. All expressions of interest should be submitted by email, before **9 April 2017**, to: BBPpanel@iucn.org.