Colombian Environmental Seal for Sustainable Building and Construction Materials

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Colombian Environmental Mark

- Environmental labelling scheme developed by the Ministry of Environment
- Based on guidelines established in ISO 14024
- Voluntary
- It applies to goods and services (non alimentary products)
- Life cycle approach
- Criteria established in a Colombian Technical Standard
Criteria establishment

- National Standardization Process
- Transparency, Impartiality, Openness, Consensus, Consistency, Effectiveness and Relevance
- Participation of interested parties:
  - National Government (Ministries of Environment, Mining and Energy; Housing and Trade)
  - Regional Government (Regional Environmental Protection Agencies, Mayoralties)
  - Academia
  - Builders (Large and small)
  - Manufacturers and traders of building products
  - Industry associations
  - Technical experts on sustainable building
Evolution of study in Committee

- Sustainable Building
  - Buildings
  - Infraestructure
    - Housing
    - No Housing
      - Design and Construction
      - Operation and maintenance
STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

• Environmental Requirements
  – Location
  – Green roofs
  – Energy efficiency
  – Water savings and efficient use
  – Rainwater and runoff control
  – Emission reduction and interior environment quality
  – Waste management and reduction
  – Building products selection based on environmental criteria

• Social Requirements
  – Stakeholders Identification and consideration
  – Social impacts and aspects identification and control

• Other requirements
  – Cost comparative analysis
  – Delivery requirements (Handbooks, procedures)
Colombian Environmental Mark Standard
A National Initiative

- Focusses on national environmental priorities.
- Has participation of all interested parties.
- Does not have categories or ratings.
- Takes into account national economic, social and market conditions.
- Is supported on the National Quality Sub-system
- Has less implementation costs
- Supports the government for incentive creation.
- Strenghens the product supply with a better environmental performance
Product Selected Categories

- Drywall boards
- Thin sheet steel items
- Ceramic tiles
- Precast concrete
- Paints and coatings
- Clay bricks and blocks
- Cement
- Concrete
- Guadua culms
- Ceramic plumbing fixtures
- Supply fittings
- Electric boards
Product Selected Categories

Examples of inputs:
- Material
- Energy
- Land

Examples of outputs:
- Emissions to air
- Waste generation
- Discharges to water and soil
- Noise

Key
1. raw material
2. disposal of final residue
3. reuse or recovery
Next Steps

• Approval of standard on sustainable buildings other than housing, design and construction (2nd semester, 2013)

• Dissemination and positioning of the scheme in Colombia

• Starting preparation of sustainable construction standard for housing

• Selection of new product categories

• Development of minimum criteria for products that do not have a selected category
Thank you!