

Social participation of vulnerable groups during the oil environmental licensing process: the case of artisanal fishermen in the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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Background

Artisanal fishermen are defined as a group vulnerable to the impacts of oil production activities (WALTER; ANELLO, 2012). Thus oil Environmental Licensing (EL) process in Brazil uses Environmental Educational Programs (EEP). This includes teaching-learning tools to improve the understanding of social groups that are impacted by the licensed activity, and to strengthen the group's intervention ability during the environmental management activities, including the EL itself (WALTER; ANELLO, 2012).

Research questions

- Do artisanal fishermen have differentiated social participation conditions during the EL process given the fact that they are defined as vulnerable by the EL organism itself?
- Do EEPs qualify the social participation of fishermen in the EL process as aimed?

Objectives

First, to analyze the conditions of social participation of the artisanal fishermen in the EL of oil enterprises in the State of Rio de Janeiro. Second, to record the practical results of the EEPs which target their educational actions to the artisanal fishermen, and assess whether the educational process promotes social control over decisions that affect the fate of the fishing community, as intended.

Methodology

The research techniques that will be used are literature review, semi-structured interviews, and participant observation and camp diary according to Minayo et al., 2002.

Expected contributions

- To assess whether labeling a social group as vulnerable before oil and gas enterprises in Brazil provides this group with an improved scenario to participate during the EL process.
- To determine if the EEPs enhance the artisanal fishermen's level of social participation participate during the EL process.

References

- MINAYO, M. C. S. (Org.). et al. Pesquisa social: teoria, método e criatividade. 21ª edição. Petrópolis: Vozes, 2002, 80 p.
- WALTER, T.; ANELLO, L. F. S. A educação ambiental enquanto medida mitigadora e compensatória: uma reflexão sobre os conceitos intrínsecos na relação com o Licenciamento Ambiental de Petróleo e Gás tendo a pesca artesanal como contexto. Rio Grande: AMBIENTE & EDUCAÇÃO, v. 17, n. 1, 2012, p. 73-98.

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