



**Research Paper on Strategic Engagement with Guatemala
to Promote Energy Security
Information Paper**

03 February 2016



Purpose: To provide an overview of a research project that will (1) provide USSOUTHCOM with insight into the security dimensions of relevant environmental and energy issues, and (2) identify suitable avenues for strategic engagement with Guatemalan military and civilian organizations to promote energy-related and environmental security in Guatemala.

Background:

- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was commissioned to provide an academic research paper on the country of Guatemala.
- This paper will provide the United States Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) with a multidisciplinary approach to answer Environmental and Energy Security requirements. This paper is part of the Environment & Energy Security Working Group (EESWG) effort to bring greater cultural awareness of the USSOUTHCOM Area of Responsibility (AOR).
- This research effort is funded through the Defense Environmental International Cooperation (DEIC) Program (O&M).

Discussion:

- Mission
 - The EESWG seeks to leverage expertise from the different HQ USSOUTHCOM Directorates, Components, US Military Organizations in the AOR (e.g. ONR, USACE, and RDECOM) and Interagency to synchronize security cooperation efforts in the areas of environmental and energy security to advance the intended effects of the Theater Campaign Plan.
 - Environmental and energy security engagements support Intermediate Military Objectives related to Foreign Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response (FHA/DR), Critical Access (CA) and Defense Institution Building (DIB).
 - Understanding of the security dimensions of relevant environmental and energy issues in the region advances understanding of Latin America and Caribbean societies.
- Deliverable - Academic Research Paper - *Expected* Complete 06 MAY 2016
 - Describes the “national will” of the Guatemalan Government, and specifically the will and capacity of the military, to understand and address environmental and energy challenges relevant to military installations, operations, training, and the subsequent impact on populations in Guatemala.
 - Describes, from publicly available information, how much money is/was expended from the government’s (military) own internal resources on environmental and energy programs.

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- Describes the role that the national government has assigned to the military to support civilian authorities in addressing environmental and energy challenges for the country.
- Describes other similar energy security or environmental projects being conducted in Guatemala by other organizations, NGOs or foreign governments.
- Describes relevant historical aspects and legal implications that relate to U.S. military engagement with Guatemalan military actors.
- Describes the capability of the Guatemalan military to use/absorb what U.S. and USSOUTHCOM may offer through the DEIC engagement program and provide recommendations on where to focus U.S. efforts.

Recommendation: None – for information only

Noted_____ See Me_____

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