



PANEL

people affected by the disaster. Indemnity payments to cover loss of income and livelihood are a temporary measure needed to support livelihoods. The ecosystems on which they depend, have been restored or at the very least replaced by viable alternatives

THEMATIC REPORT 1

## IMPACTS OF THE FUNDÃO DAM FAILURE

### A PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT MITIGATION

On 5 November 2015, the Fundão dam containing 52 million m<sup>3</sup> mining tailings collapsed in Mariana, Brazil. The mud wave flowed through a narrow valley and entirely or partially destroyed the localities of Bento Rodrigues, Paracatu de Baixo and Gesteira. 19 people lost their lives, including 14 workers at the dam site and five inhabitants of Bento Rodrigues. After having been partially contained at the Candonga Hydro-power Dam, the mud travelled further downstream for 670 km, affecting wildlife, riparian vegetation and other settlements before reaching the Atlantic Ocean.

In its first report, the independent Rio Doce Panel presents its views and recommendations for moving towards sustainable and resilient mitigation of the impacts of the dam failure. The Panel's key message is that mitigation efforts should lead to a positive and lasting legacy for present and future generations.

The recommendations are based on an ecosystem approach and a source-to-sea and landscape perspective that considers the cumulative effects of past,

The recommendations follow a list of prerequisites needed to construct a road-map for a more sustainable and resilient mitigation. It requires partnership and collaboration with several stakeholders for

5 Proper implementation, sustainability, and comprehensive 26