



PRESS RELEASE

IUCN-led independent Panel highlights the need for multi-stakeholder governance for restoration of the Rio Doce.

The Rio Doce Panel advocates building a common vision for the long-term governance of the watershed after the Fundão dam failure

Brasília, August 11th, 2021 - A report published by the Rio Doce Panel points out that the restoration process has to consider the long-term governance of the Rio Doce Watershed. The report states that the studies, data, information systems and especially the capacity developed under the restoration programmes are at risk of being lost if they are not integrated into the permanent structures of governance that can guarantee their continuity.

The thematic report, [***From restoration to responsive governance: Rio Doce after the Fundão Dam failure***](#), offers a summary overview of the current system of governance implemented for the restoration efforts and recommends ways to take advantage of the investments in this process to enhance the long-term governance of the region with a source-to-sea perspective.

Since the region was already degraded before the disaster, the restoration of Rio Doce should be grounded on a scientific analysis of the situation and engagement with the affected communities and other key stakeholders to agree on a shared vision and a road map for the future of the watershed, according to the report.

Christianne Maroun, a sustainability expert and lead author of the study, says: *“The investments required for restoration, while temporary, are so voluminous that they provide a window to empower the long-term organization needed for a more effective and responsive governance of the watershed and related coastal and marine areas.”*

The Panel also recommends that communication goes beyond the dissemination of information and should ensure that the affected people and other relevant parties understand the critical issues that



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