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## The AguAAndes/WaterWorld Policy Support System as a Tool for Rapid Prototyping of Interventions with Impact

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**Session: Basin (Andes) and Spatial Analysis Modeling**

### Key Message

Water resource agreements require baseline hydrological information and capacity as well as an understanding of the likely trajectories for change. These are not usually available for most of the poorer basins and sub-basins. AguAAndes/Waterworld provides that baseline around the world and can be used to bring stakeholders together around a common platform for discussion and negotiation to adopt the most suitable interventions.

### Summary

In AN3, we are supporting the negotiation and implementation of benefit sharing mechanisms for water in the Andes. This involves working to understand the needs and perspectives of multiple stakeholders in basins with a variety of water conflicts. We have brought together academics (KCL, UNAL) and NGOs (SEI, WWF) with the CGIAR (CIAT) in order to deliver a common platform for the understanding of water and mechanisms with which to better share it in basins throughout the Andes. One of the mechanisms for achieving this is the AguAAndes Policy Support System. AguAAndes was developed from an existing database (Simterra) and modelling framework (Ecoengine) during the Basin Focal Project for the Andes (2009-2010). It is a web-based support system that allows stakeholders with

very little capacity to easily run hydrological baselines and scenarios for climate and land use change within the basin of their choice. AguAAndes consists of a simple web based interface with no local software needs, a sophisticated hydrological model that runs through this interface on servers at King's College London and which requires a massive database of 140+ input maps (all of which we supply globally). The system provides maps, statistics and a narrative for the hydrological baseline and allows users to apply scenarios for land use and climate change and policy options for understanding the impact of particular interventions. Stakeholders can be trained within an hour and either locally or online through videoconference sessions and are, afterwards, supported in the application of the system. Current activity is adapting this system through changes to interface, interventions and linkage with the WEAP (Water Evaluation and Planning) system to better focus it as a negotiation support system for negotiations around benefit sharing.

We will share some details on the key innovations of the tool over other such systems and our experiences in sharing, training and working with users to apply the system around benefit sharing mechanisms in the Andes.

