

## **Sustainability and Promotion of Inland Waterway Transportation Projects in Colombia: Case of the Magdalena River**

**Authors :** David Julian Bernal Melgarejo

**Abstract :** Inland Waterway Transportation (IWT) is playing an important role in national transport systems, water transportation is considered to be safe, energy efficient and environmentally friendly mode of transport, considering all the benefits of IWT the Colombian government is planning to restore the Magdalena's River navigability, embrace waterway transportation in Colombia could strength competitiveness while reduce most of the transport externalities. However, the current situation of the Magdalena deplorable, the most important river of Colombia has been abandoned for decades and the solution is beyond of a single administrative entity. This paper analyzes the outcomes of the Navigation And Inland Waterway Action and Development in Europe (NAIADES) program as a prospective to develop a sustainable program in Colombia. In order to guarantee the long-term future, and the adaptability of the program a research based on individual interviews with stakeholders and policy experts were carried out, findings support the idea of lack of integration within governmental institution, develop marketing strategies and human resources.

**Keywords :** inland waterway transportation, logistics, sustainability, multimodal transport systems, water transportation

**Conference Title :** ICEED 2014 : International Conference on Environmental Engineering and Development

**Conference Location :** Penang, Malaysia

**Conference Dates :** December 04-05, 2014