



INSTITUTE FOR ECOLOGICAL POLICY
Santiago de Chile

cordially invites to a

**Panel Discussion to Launch the
Local Sustainability Certification Initiative**

Location: Boell Forum, Bateleur Centre,
Global People's Forum, NASREC, Johannesburg, South Africa
Date: August 29, 2002, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The event will have simultaneous translation Spanish - English

The *Local Sustainability Certification* (LSC) is a voluntary process which guarantees that a community has reached a state of sustainability by balancing social equity, ecological integrity and participatory democracy. A community's progress towards creating a more sustainable society is assessed against a set of predetermined standards. These standards are based on the principles of sustainability as express in the Earth Charter and a set of core LSC criteria - which will be defined through international dialogue and consensus. Communities that demonstrate a commitment to sustainability by developing a strategy to improve local social, economic and environmental conditions, receive a *Local Sustainability in Construction* seal. Once a community meets the LSC standards and criteria, they receive the *Local Sustainability Certification*.

The purpose of the event is to make a case for the Local Sustainability Certification as a new strategy to promote the construction of a sustainable societies at the local level, and to discuss the opportunities and challenges that the initiative creates. The opinions and recommendations generated during this panel discussion will help to deepen and strengthen the initiative.

Manuel Baquedano
President



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