

IAIA10 Training Course #6

Strategic Environmental Assessment in Developing Country Context

Level: Intermediate to advanced

Course Prerequisite: General understanding of environmental assessment principles

Language of Delivery: English

Duration: Two Days

Instructors:

Jonathan Allotey, jallotey@epaghana.org Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana in collaboration with Maria Rosario Partidario, mrp@civil.ist.utl.pt, Instituto Superior Tecnico (IST) Portugal and supported by:

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Course Description

Summary of purpose: The course combines SEA experience from the developed and developing country context, but intended to address the realities of less developed context, using real-case examples from this part of the world. It is generally intended to expose participants to experiences and good practices in SEA to assist decision making. The key objectives of the course are to:

- Introduce participants to key SEA concepts and issues towards strategic thinking
- Review current practices and experiences in both developed and developing countries context
- Expose participants to simple practical tools for conducting SEAs throughout a case exercise

The scope of the course would include the following:

- SEA in developing countries context – possible approaches and applications.
- Key SEA concepts and definitions
- SEA role in sustainability
- SEA relationship with sustainability assessment, cumulative effects assessment and EIA
- Elements in the SEA Process – (defining the context and the focus for SEA, evaluation of opportunities and risks, guidelines, monitoring, reporting in SEA)
- Public participation in SEA
- Exposure to practical tools for conducting SEA
- International Perspectives and Experience with SEA
- SEA Case studies from both developing and developed country

The course would involve presentations, group discussions and group exercises and would be in two parts:

Part I (Day 1) – presentations interspaced by group discussions on concepts and methodologies as well as on practical situations that participants themselves are invited to bring to the fora.

Part II (Day 2) – Case application, based on a problem-case to test the application of SEA, using a developing country case exercise.

Learning Outcomes

- Understanding SEA concepts, principles, processes and tools
- Improved ability to carry out SEA using simple tools
- Improved ability to evaluate cumulative effects assessments
- Hands on experience gained through working on a case study

Detailed Course Description

Day 1 – Concepts, background and methodologies for SEA

Morning

Introduction and background to SEA (45 min)

What is and why is SEA important. Sustainability as a key driver of SEA

Background concepts in SEA, key principles in SEA

SEA and sustainability assessment, cumulative effects assessment and EIA

GD1: SEA in developing countries – what are needs and possible applications (45 min)

Models of SEA (45 min)

Overview of international regulations and guidance for conducting SEA

GD2: SEA in developing countries – how to add value to decision-making (45 min)

Afternoon

Methodological approaches to SEA (45 min)

Key linkages between SEA and policy or planning processes

Framework for an approach to SEA

GD3: Different SEA approaches – opportunities and limitations? (45 min)

Case-examples – international approaches in developed and developing countries (1,5hr)

Day 2 – WORKING THROUGH AN SEA CASE STUDY IN THE ENERGY AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Morning

Introduction to SEA Tools (45 min)

Presentation of SEA Tools – Policy formulation matrix, internal consistency and opportunities and risks matrices (45 min)

Using the policy formulation matrix to: (45 min)

GE 1 participants will have an opportunity to work in groups of maximum 4 and minimum 2 to apply the policy formulation matrix to;

- Identify policy focus areas that require policy intervention
- Identify key issues associated with the focus are
- Develop policy objectives to address identified key issues and actions
- Develop actions to achieve the objectives

This will be followed by Group Presentations and Discussions

Using the internal consistency matrix (35 min)

GE 2 Learning by Doing Group Exercise 2 on how to apply the internal consistency matrix to in assessing the consistency of policies set in GE. This will be followed by Group Presentations and Discussions

Afternoon

Application of opportunities and risks matrices to test the policy actions Developed in Exercise 1 (60min)

GE 3 Learning by Doing Group Exercise 3 will apply the opportunities and risks matrices to determine the risk and opportunities associated with the policy actions set in Group exercise 1 This will be followed by Group Presentations and Discussions

Preparation of SEA Report (Advisory Notes) (60min)

Participants will be given a format to present a report on the outcome of the case study. This will introduce participants to steps in SEA reporting. This will be carried out through interactive discussions.

Materials to be Provided

Training Manual on SEA Tools in Developing Countries

SEA Good Practices Guide – Methodological Guidance (by Maria Partidário) and other supporting papers

Folder with slides presented at the course, with up-dated list of bibliography and key website contacts.

Information on Instructors

Jonathan A. Allotey is the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency Ghana with over 26 years experience in dealing with environmental management issues. He is credited with the remarkable progress in the establishment of a credible EIA system in Ghana and instrumental in training the needed core capacity required for the EA system in Ghana and has trained EA administrators, consultants, professionals, local level staff etc in environmental impact assessment. More than 600 national and district level staff have benefited from SEA training courses organized under my supervision. Since 2005 He has led the Ghanaian team to conduct training courses on SEA in Developing countries at IAIA Annual Conferences in Boston, Stavanger and Seoul and for other African Countries such as Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda and Senegal. These courses were based on practical experiences gained from various SEAs undertaken in Ghana on the Poverty Reduction Strategies 1 & 2, Transport, Water and Energy Sector policies. These were landmark studies undertaken under my supervision and guidance. Jonathan has served on a number of local and international bodies and provided consultancy services to various organizations including the Government of Uganda in developing environmental audit guidelines.

Maria R. Partidario, PhD, Associate Professor at IST (Instituto Superior Técnico), Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal, long-standing trainer on SEA, environment, planning and sustainability consultant; has trained more than 800 participants throughout the world in 2 to 5 days training courses on SEA, both in the context of IAIA pre-meeting courses and in national contexts (in Europe, Latin America, South East Asia and Africa). Recent courses were offered in Mauritania, Vietnam, China, Chile, Brazil, Portugal, France

Maria was co-team leader in the SEA Distance Learning Course for China, led by the World Bank in collaboration with SEPA (China) and IAIA. Over the years several training courses have been designed and conducted by Maria under contract with private, public and governmental institutions in different countries and as pre-meeting courses at IAIA annual conferences since 1998. Maria is the author of a training manual on SEA (latest version from 2003, available at the IAIA website), co-editor of two internationally published key books on SEA (one with Riki Therivel, 1996, the other with Ray Clark, 2000), and has authored and co-authored several book chapters and journal articles on SEA. In Portuguese she has prepared two guidance for SEA, the latest in 2007, the SEA Good Practices Guide –

Methodological Guidance, published by the National Environment Agency, which support current SEA practice in Portugal.

Maria has been an advisor to UNEP and UNDP recent SEA and Integrated Assessment initiatives, to ELARD, S.A./ UNDP / the Lebanese Ministry of Environment in developing an SEA model for Lebanon, and provided consultancy to the Inter-American Development Bank in developing SEA guidance for application in Latin America. She was a consultant to UNDP in running two capacity-building programmes on SEA, one for the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ministry of the Environment and the second for the Federal government of Brazil, Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Environment. She has also been appointed to several expert panels within the European Union in matters related to SEA. Maria was President of the International Association for Impact Assessment in 1997-98, and awarded the IAIA Individual Award in 2002 for contributions made to the advancement of SEA internationally.

Background: First graduation on *Environmental Engineering*, MSc on *Regional and Urban Planning* and PhD (Aberdeen University, Scotland, 1992) on *Strategic Environmental Assessment*.

History of the Course

Jonathan Allotey's course has been offered before at IAIA 05, 06 , 07 , and 09 annual conferences (jointly with Maria Partidario on 06 and 07) and for other professional groups in Ghana and other African countries such as Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda and Senegal.

Maria Partidario has been offering a pre-training course on SEA since 1998, every year except in 2008. The course was occasionally offered in collaboration with other experts (in 1998 with Riki Therivel, 2004 with Olivia Bina and 2007 with Lea den Broeder, this time with a special emphasis on health issues). In 2006 and 2007 the course was offered jointly with Jonathan Allotey and his team. Maria has been a trainer on SEA since 1990 and has conducted several training courses in many countries across Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Evaluations of previous courses have always been very positive.