

28th Annual Meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment
THE ART AND SCIENCE OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT
IAIA08 Session Chair's Report

Session number and name: CS 5.9 Early Market Involvement and EIA: Experiences and Practice

Day: Thursday **Date:** 08.05.2008 **Time:** 11:00-12:30 **Persons attending session:** 6

Name(s) of Session Chair(s)

Jos Arts
Charlotta Faith-Ell

Contributors

Jos Arts
Charlotta Faith-Ell
Workshop participants

(a) Three current issues in application of assessment processes discussed in this session

- The application of EIA in relation to early market involvement and partnering contracts
- Do's
- Don'ts

(b) One or more emerging trends

- Market parties are involved more and earlier in planning and EIA processes. This influences future the EIA-practice.

(c) Issues relating to impact assessment effectiveness:

(i) dimensions of IA effectiveness (i.e. what are the characteristics of effective IA?)

- Roles, responsibilities and relationships of different parties.
- Transparent process

(ii) challenges/barriers to IA effectiveness

- Public consultation and transparency of the process
- Transfer of environmental information between different stages of the processes
- Available level of project design detail
- Integration of environmental issues in infrastructure design

(iii) how these barriers might be overcome

- Need to know the added value. Without clear added value, use traditional contracts.
- Timing and flexibility
- Changes to contractual requirements, contract monitoring and environmental management

(d) Comments on the Art and Science of Impact Assessment (i.e. the relative importance and interplay between science and values/politics/subjectivity in impact assessment)

Early market involvement in planning/EIA processes, as infrastructure procurement moves towards integration of project-design, construction, operation, maintenance.