# 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.