

“CHALLENGES OF APPLYING EIA TO AGRICULTURE++”

++ AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES, LAND USE, LIVESTOCK, WATER.

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OUTLINE

- THE SITUATION
- HOW DID WE GET HERE ?
- WHY DID THIS HAPPEN ?
- WHAT ARE SOME CURRENT APPLICATIONS ?
- HOW ABOUT AGRICULTURE PRACTISES ?

We can learn from the FAO work in Kenya and Cambodia.

There is room for immediate application here.

IS IT TIME TO BE “CONSTRUCTIVELY DISRUPTIVE ?

THE SITUATION

- AGRICULTURE+ IS NOT BENEFITTING ENOUGH FROM SYSTEMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT
- SOIL, LAND AND WATER ARE BEING DEGRADED; POVERTY AND INCOME DISPARITIES ARE GROWING
- THE SECTOR IS VERY LARGE WITH THOUSANDS OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SIZED HOLDERS; THEY ARE DIFFICULT TO REACH, SOMETIMES IN SURVIVAL MODE; DISCONNECTED FROM GOVERNMENT SERVICES
- THE ASSET (RESOURCES) IS BEING CONSUMED TO DELIVER REVENUE.

HOW DID WE GET HERE ?

- EIA ARRIVED IN 1970-1971 (NEPA; USA) AND WAS ADOPTED BY 80 COUNTRIES FOR PROJECTS OF ALL KINDS.
- SOME AGRICULTURE PROJECTS WERE COVERED IN LEGISLATION, POLICIES, PROCEDURES ETC., AND MOST WERE EXCLUDED. WHY ??
- SURROGATES WERE IN PLACE SUCH AS SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS BY FORESTRY COMMISSIONS, FISH HABITAT PROTECTION; ALMOST ALL LACKED A PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION MECHANISM/PRACTICE.
- CHALLENGED BY POPULATIONS IN “SURVIVAL MODE”, GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES NOT EMBRACING EIA IN SOME SOCIETIES WHERE OPEN CONSULTATION IS NOT POPULAR OR PERMITTED; YET THERE ARE SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT (IFAD, FAO, SOME GOVERNMENTS) .

WHERE IS EIA APPLIED TO PROJECTS AT PRESENT ?

- SOME COUNTRIES, AID AGENCIES, BILATERALS, MULTILATERALS, REGIONAL BANKS.
- MANY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES ARE NOT TOUCHED; DEGRADATION CONTINUES.

HOW ABOUT PRACTICES IN AGRICULTURE + ?

- THE STORY OF EA TRAINING IN KENYA AND CAMBODIA – “Chronic environmentally damaging agricultural+ practices”.
- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT OUTLINE AND ROLE-PLAYED PUBLIC TECHNICAL MEETINGS.
 - 1./ THE PRACTICE (“WHAT`S GOING ON ?”)
 - 2./ THE ENVIRONMENT
 - 3./ THE IMPACTS
 - 4./ MITIGATION MEASURES (PRESENT AND POTENTIAL)
 - 5./ RESIDUAL IMPACTS AND PLANS FOR THEIR MITIGATION/REMOVAL
 - 6./ CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.
- 55 CASES SUCCESSFULLY SOLVED

TIME TO BE CONSTRUCTIVELY DISRUPTIVE ??

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