

# Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for Master Plan Studies in Developing Countries:

Experience under JICA's Guidelines for  
Environmental and Social Considerations

14<sup>th</sup> May, 2013  
IAIA 13, Calgary, Canada

**Kiyoshi MASUMOTO**

Deputy Director General

Credit Risk Analysis and Environmental Review Dept.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

# 1. Background

## JICA Guidelines (for Environmental and Social Considerations) (2004)

- SEA is an assessment being implemented at the policy, planning and program level rather than a project-level EIA
- Making efforts to incorporate the concept of SEA into Master Plan Studies etc.

## JICA Guidelines(2010)

- JICA applies SEA to Master Plan Studies

## 2. Purpose of this Study

- To discuss achievement, issues and possibility for improvement of JICA's SEA,  
through:
  - Reviewing the status of implementation of SEA for M/P studies
  - Analysing the advices given by the JICA Advisory Committee

# 3. Master Plan Studies for Review

- Master Plan (M/P) Studies, under JICA Guidelines (2004/2010), including environmental and social considerations studies (category A & B)

→ 86 studies

## <Glossary>

- M/P studies: Studies for formulating basic plans for various types of long-term development, i.e. M/Ps, including national, regional, and sectoral as well as sub-sectoral development plans.

# 4. What is SEA ?

- ✓ SEA is an assessment being implemented at the policy, planning and program level rather than a project-level EIA (JICA, 2004; 2010)
- ✓ SEA is a process and a tool for evaluating the effects of proposed policies, plans and programmes on natural resources, social, cultural and economic conditions and the institutional environment in which decisions are made IAIA (2009) .
- ✓ And many more....

## <Glossary>

- SEA for M/P: SEA is usually conducted as a environmental and social consideration studies composing a part of M/P studies.

# 5. Screening for SEA

**Criterion 1:** Implementation at Plan level

**Criterion 2:** Assessment from environmental and socio-economic aspects



All of the 86 studies meet these criteria

**Criterion 3:** Consideration of alternatives and/or zero options



50 among the 86 meet this criteria

**Criterion 4:** Public involvement



33 among the 50 meet this criteria

# 6. M/Ps and SEAs on Sectorial Bases

Sector	Transport	Energy	Environmental Management	Urban/ regional development	Agricultural development	Disaster prevention	Water Resources	Private sector development	Total
Reviewed M/Ps	18	13	4	14	10	7	18	2	86
SEA/ alternatives	12	12	0	8	5	4	8	1	50
SEA/ alternatives +public involvement	9	8	0	5	2	3	5	1	33

# 7. Advices from Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee (Council) for Environmental and Social Considerations:

- Established as a permanent third-party institution under JICA Guidelines
- Providing advices to JICA's studies/project-reviews from environmental and social view points



344 advices for 10 M/P studies were analysed.

# 8. Indications from Advisory Committee

No	Main Issues of Advices	No. of Advices
1	Relations to upstream/downstream plans	28
2	Revision/clarification of the contents of the plan	22
3	Operation/maintenance systems	5
4	Revision of scoping items	13
5	Assessment of environmental and social impacts (direct impacts)	1
6	Cumulative, indirect, future effects	18
7	Consideration of mitigation measures	2
8	Stakeholder meetings	4
9	Selection/comparison of alternatives	3
10	Confirmation/addition of basic data/information	24
11	Confirmation/revision of reporting	12
12	Capacity building of executing agencies	3
13	Formulation/implementation of monitoring plans	5
14	Consistency with JICA guidelines	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>344</b>

## 9. Key Issues Identified from the Advices

- **Selection & Comparisons of Alternatives**  
e.g. process of alternatives selection, and clarification of evaluation methods and comparison techniques, evaluation results of each environmental item, logic of weighting, and reasoning of selection
- **Stakeholder Meetings**  
e.g. selection of stakeholders, appropriate reporting and actual reflection of meeting results, and methods of information provision.

# 10. Overall Findings & Conclusions

- SEA type approach is common but diverse in JICA's M/P studies
- Clear specific framework of SEA is needed at the beginning
- Special consideration need to be given to:
  - ✓ Selection & Comparisons of Alternatives
  - ✓ Public Participation (Stakeholder Meetings)
- C/B for JICA and its counterparts are needed

**END**