



42nd Annual Conference of the  
**International Association for Impact Assessment**

**8-11 May 2023**  
**Borneo Convention Centre Kuching**  
**Kuching, Malaysia**

# Resilience through impact assessment and leadership



**SUPPORTED BY**



Ministry of  
Tourism, Arts and  
Culture

**PRELIMINARY PROGRAM AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE**  
**7 NOVEMBER 2022**

# Why attend IAIA23?

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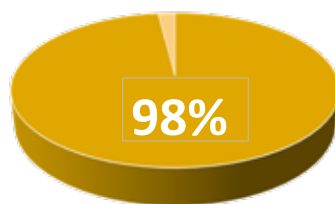
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**REGISTRATION** opens online in mid-October. Watch [conferences.iaia.org/2023/index.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/index.php) for information.

IAIA23 is an in-person conference. Live virtual participation is not available for this event.

## Why should I attend IAIA23 in Kuching?

### What % of IAIA22 delegates would recommend future IAIA conferences to colleagues?



Our delegates tell us it is because they can

- **Learn best practices** from other countries that they can apply in their own situations.
- **Network** with people who work in similar situations around the world.
- **Share experiences** with an international audience.

Where else can you gather to hear perspectives in impact assessment from around the world—all in one place? Be prepared for some out-of-the-box thinking, applying solutions developed across the world to your little corner of it.

## How will I benefit?

### Come to Kuching to:

Connect with people—at the conference AND afterward

Get new information and techniques to use at work

Help your colleagues and stakeholders



### What IAIA22 delegates told us:

**91%** met at least one person they planned to contact after the event for work-related purposes

**88%** acquired significant new information, knowledge, and/or techniques applicable to their work

**84%** shared information obtained at IAIA22 with colleagues and/or stakeholders

## Will it be worth it?

**What sets IAIA conferences apart from other conferences?** Whether you attend in person or virtually, you will find:

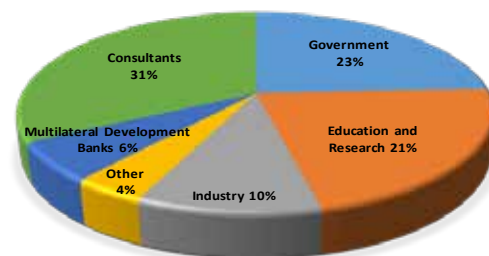
- **International diversity** of participants
- **Mix of sectors** academics, consultants, industry, donors, and government
- **Inter-disciplinary** representation of various fields like health, social, environment, etc.
- **Access to experts** in the field of impact assessment

Be part of the only international interdisciplinary conference dedicated to the art and science of impact assessment...*the only one.*

## Who will be there?

### One of the strengths of IAIA conferences is its diversity of participants.

For more details on who attends IAIA conferences, visit [conferences.iaia.org/2023/who-attends-iaia-conferences.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/who-attends-iaia-conferences.php).



## Justify your attendance

**Seeking approval to attend IAIA23?** Check out the justification toolkit at [conferences.iaia.org/2023/justify-your-attendance.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/justify-your-attendance.php) for help selling your participation to your employer. Resources include a sample attendance justification letter and cost worksheet.

# Invitation to attend



**Gaby Factor**

President, IAIA

The Danish Institute for Human Rights, Denmark

## *Fiarahabana!*

I am delighted to invite you to the 42nd International Association for Impact Assessment Annual Conference. In 2023 the impact assessment community will get together at the most vibrant and unique location: Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Join academics, consultants, representatives of private companies, governments, non-government organizations, and the financial sector that get together to learn, network, create alliances, develop professionally, make business and make friends. In 2023, old and new IAIA members will share experiences and efforts toward developing a path to resilience through impact assessment and leadership.

The combined crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, health and humanitarian catastrophes, and conflict have made clear that agility, transformation, innovation, and leadership are key for sustainability and resilience. The world needs immediate, impactful solutions and these need to be fair. Global crisis is felt harder and the path to recovery is more challenging for vulnerable communities and ecosystems. No transition is viable or sustainable without justice.

Impact assessment can inform and promote sustainable and fair decisions and processes. IAIA conferences are where the critical mass of motivated professionals drives innovation and advancement in impact assessment. Our organization is also developing toward a sounder leadership and resilience and your unique voice and contribution is wanted and needed.

Come to IAIA23 and enjoy a place of formidable cultural diversity and heritage, breathtaking natural wonders in ancient rainforests, and Sarawak's wonderful match of colonial architecture and avant-garde city development.

Looking so much forward to seeing you in Kuching!



**Professor Dr Weng Marc Lim**

IAIA23 Conference Chair

Dean, Sunway University Business School

IAIA23 looks forward to welcoming you to IAIA23 in the beautiful city of Kuching.

The conference theme, "Resilience through impact assessment and leadership," highlights the importance of stakeholders being agile and capable of embracing transformative changes in response to adversities. In recent years, we have witnessed numerous adversities, ranging from climate change to global humanitarian crises. Ensuring the health and resilience of the triple bottom line of prosperity, people, and planet should therefore, become a non-negotiable top priority for all to achieve greater sustainability.

Against this backdrop, IAIA23 calls for empirical and pragmatic contributions that showcase how impact assessment and leadership can accelerate transformation and sustain resilience in a world that requires immediate, impactful solutions. The rationale for this call is twofold: 1) what gets assessed has the possibility to get leadership attention, and 2) what gets leadership attention gets actioned.



**YB Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah**

Minister for Tourism, Creative Industry  
& Performing Arts Sarawak

The Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak takes great delight in welcoming IAIA23 delegates to the city of Kuching. Impact assessments are an integral part of business which the Ministry conducts on a regular basis to ensure that we lead the development of Sarawak's tourism, arts, and culture sectors, among others.

We believe that IAIA23 can provide the knowledge and discussions necessary to ensure that our sectors develop and thrive with the right decisions and processes implemented. In this regard, we look forward to engaging the impact assessment community on pertinent issues that affect sustainability, resilience, and leadership. The ministry shall work closely with IAIA and Swinburne Sarawak in meeting the objectives of IAIA23.

Lastly, we invite you to visit local attractions, taste our traditional cuisine, and experience our hospitality.

*We look forward to seeing you in Kuching!*

# Resilience through impact assessment and leadership



How can impact assessment and leadership accelerate transformation and sustain resilience in a world marred by adversities that require immediate, impactful solutions?

Our 21st century world is volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous. Corporations, governments, and societies have always had to embrace change in order to operate successfully during turbulent times. However, recent events such as the COVID-19 pandemic suggest that change alone is insufficient. Instead, leaders today must ensure that change is both agile and transformative so that adversities can be fought with resilience and effectiveness.

The world is not short of adversities, ranging from climate change to global humanitarian crises. Ensuring the health and resilience of the triple bottom line of prosperity, people, and planet should become a non-negotiable top priority for all to achieve greater sustainability.

Against this backdrop, IAIA23 calls for empirical and pragmatic contributions that showcase how impact assessment and leadership can accelerate transformation and sustain resilience in a world that requires immediate, impactful solutions. The rationale for this call is twofold: 1) what gets assessed has the possibility to get leadership attention, and 2) what gets leadership attention gets actioned.

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

The overarching objective is to create a path to resilience through impact assessment and leadership. To accomplish this objective, IAIA23 endeavors to curate a collection of presentations relating to conceptual advances and contextual applications of impact assessment that exemplify agility, transformation, innovation, leadership, sustainability, and resilience.



## ABOUT THE TECHNICAL PROGRAM

The technical program is structured into two streams: (1) thematic sessions focusing on “Resilience through impact assessment and leadership” and (2) general impact assessment sessions, including topics that address issues of interest to IAIA’s special-interest Sections. Up to 12 theme forums will be offered throughout the conference. Theme forums focus on cross-cutting issues relevant to the many specialties of impact assessment with topics that engage the conference theme.

The sessions listed below are open for abstract submissions through 7 November. See page 7 for instructions.

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| A global assessment for prosperity, people, and the planet (Session 1) (Theme forum-Paper session)     | Health impact assessment for energy transition pathway (Paper session)                                  | Psycho-social resilience (Theme forum-Paper session)  |
| A global assessment for prosperity, people, and the planet (Session 2) (Debate)                        | How is Indigenous leadership improving IA? (Paper session)  | Resilience to drought, desertification, and land degradation (Paper session)                    |
| Advancing understanding of nature-based solutions in impact assessment (Panel discussion)              | How parliaments can leverage on impact assessment to build resilience (Theme forum-Panel discussion)    | Resilient organizations facing environmental and social crises (Paper session)                  |
| Aligning local and international ESIA standards for transformational change (Paper session)            | Impact assessment for resilient carbon neutrality (Theme forum-Paper session)                           | Roundtable on impact assessment and climate change (Workshop)                                   |
| Analysis of cumulative impact and its input for climate change management through ESIA (Paper session) | Indigenous knowledge as the foundation of Indigenous-led impact assessments (Panel discussion)          | SDGs in food production and consumption: Land and sea (Panel discussion)                        |
| ASEAN Day session 1: Rights-based approach to IA in ASEAN (Theme forum-Panel discussion)               | Indigenous women’s participation in impact assessments (Pecha Kucha)                                    | Should ESG and impact assessment be more aligned to meet biodiversity goals? (Panel discussion) |
| ASEAN Day session 2: Resilience, sustainability, and inclusion in IA (Panel discussion)                | Integrating risk and impact assessment in renewable energy supply chains (Paper session)                | Social impact assessment: How to achieve objectivity in measurement? (World Café)               |
| ASEAN Day session 3: Climate change and IA in ASEAN (Panel discussion)                                 | Is IA agile enough to balance urgency of reviews of complex green projects? (Theme forum-Paper session) | Social impact assessment: How universities’ impacts on society are evaluated (Paper session)    |
| Asian S3EA: Strategic, spatial, and sustainable EA (Paper session)                                     | Is IA prepared for the next generation of renewable energy megaprojects? (Paper session)                | Speeddate debate (Debate)   |
| Building resilience through Indigenous participation in EIA (Paper session)                            | Leading the way toward a green economy (Panel discussion)   | Successful IA in fragile and conflict situations (Panel discussion)                             |
| Can an energy transition without FPIC be just(ified)? (Panel discussion)                               | Linkages between technology assessment and impact assessment (Panel discussion)                         | Sustainable finance and ESG: Double materiality assessment (Panel discussion)                   |
| Cultural heritage impact assessment at critical sites (Paper session)                                  | Mapping of mapping: The role of spatial tools for impact assessment (Panel discussion)                  | Synergies of impact assessment and circular economy (Paper session)                             |
| Ecological resilience and impact assessment: Applications and challenges (Paper session)               | Marine ESIA: Challenges and roadmap ahead (Panel discussion)  | The contribution of citizen science to participatory impact assessment (Pecha Kucha)            |
| Ensuring environmental and social performance of infrastructure projects (Paper session)               | Modelling, leading, and measuring the impact of cultural transformation (Paper session)                 | Toward more sustainable oil and gas projects: Strategies for oil and gas (Panel discussion)     |
| Essential guidance for cultural heritage in EIA (Paper session)  | Moving beyond risk: Striving for data to deliver nature positive outcomes (Workshop)                    | Transformative leadership in IA through implementation of UNDRIP (Panel discussion)             |
| Facilitative leadership in participatory impact assessment (Theme forum-Workshop)                      | New developments in human rights impact assessment (Paper session)                                      | Transforming leadership/embracing authenticity (Panel discussion)                               |
| Fueling effective ESIA through leadership and systems transformation (Panel discussion)                | Overhauling impact assessment in response to the sustainability imperatives (Paper session)             | Urban design and green spaces for wellbeing and mental health (Paper session)                   |
|  |   | Workshop on EIA leadership practice (Theme forum-Workshop)                                      |

See [conferences.iaia.org/2023/sessions.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/sessions.php) for session descriptions.

# Sessions

## INVITATION ONLY

*These sessions have speakers pre-identified and specifically invited by the session chairs. They do not accept unsolicited abstract submission.*

**1996 SEA Effectiveness Study: A 25 year benchmark for review of progress (Theme forum-Debate)**

**A green transition: The role of finance and responsible supply chains (Panel discussion)**

**Advancements in environmental and social policies MDB perspectives (Panel discussion)**

**ASEAN Day session 4: Future of IA in ASEAN (Panel discussion)**

**Building IA resilience through advances in qualitative study design (Theme forum-World Café)**

**Capacity building on SIA through certification and accreditation (Panel discussion)**

**Climate change impact assessment and integrated application tools (Workshop)**

**Efforts to “simplify” environmental assessment: Opportunity or threat? (Paper session)**

**Embedding climate change resilience into mainstream IA (Paper session)**

**Failing forward: Top 5 complaints for IFI projects and how to avoid them (Panel discussion)**

**Follow the money: Is there a role for IA in due diligence? (Panel discussion)**

**Impact assessment: Fostering partnerships for green resilient development (Pecha Kucha)**

**Implementation of social impact assessment for physical development of projects (Paper session)**

**Inclusion of Indigenous peoples and remote populations in Cambodia's draft EIA law (Panel discussion)**

**Integrating climate E&S risk assessment into projects and the ESIA process (Theme forum-Debate)**

**Putting the ‘S’ in ESG: Social impact assessment for major projects (Panel discussion)**

**Resilient landscapes and nature positive outcomes: EIA practitioners’ role (Panel discussion)**

**SESA and the energy transition in Indonesia (Panel discussion)**

**Strategic environmental assessments in Mekong country (Panel discussion)**

**The role of EIA in deep-sea mining (Paper session)**

**Universities should lead climate action (Panel discussion)**

**Workshopping new international best practice IA follow-up guidance (Workshop)**

## CLOSED

*These sessions do not accept abstracts.*

**Compliance and enforcement of EsIA requirements and commitments (Caravan)**

**IAIA SEA guidelines for renewable energy (Workshop)**

**Meet the editors (Workshop)**

**Not the same, not so different: Distinctive features in SIA, PSIA and HIA (Workshop)**

**The business of SIA: Do commercial considerations compromise SIA quality? (Workshop)**



## ABOUT CONFERENCE SESSIONS

A session is a 90-minute block of time during which discussion centers on a particular topic. Sessions may utilize a variety of formats, and the length of time available for presentations or speakers depends on the format that has been selected by the session chair. IAIA23 session formats include:

**Caravan:** Each of 6 speakers is assigned a station consisting of a pinboard (for the presenter to post 4 to 8 A3 slides) and chairs arranged around the pinboard in a semicircle. Session participants are organized into six groups and will have the opportunity to visit four out of the six stations in turn. Each presenter repeats his/her presentation four times, to four different groups of attendees, until attendees have visited four stations.

**Debate:** A debate takes place between two or more opponents who are experts in their fields as well as being entertaining presenters. The debate topic is clearly defined in terms of a question, with one side presenting the affirmative case and the other the negative case.

**Panel discussion:** Each speaker gives a brief (5 minutes) prepared presentation, usually presenting a different view or experience on the topic, followed by discussion between the speakers and then questions from the audience facilitated by the chair.

**Paper session:** In a paper session, authors orally present the findings of a prepared paper or project. A paper session typically allows 4-5 presentations of 15-20 minutes each, including time for audience questions. Ideally, the chair allocates time for general questions and open discussion following the presentations.

**Pecha Kucha:** Pecha Kucha is a presentation methodology in which 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each (six minutes and 40 seconds in total). This format allows for concise and fast presentations with more than typical discussion time following the presentation.

**Theme forum:** Smaller than plenaries and larger than concurrent sessions, theme forums include “cut-above” presentations and discussions which are intended to be integrative in nature, i.e., deal with cross-cutting issues relevant to the many specialties of impact assessment; bring together on a particular topic the various aspects of impact assessment and examine how those aspects apply to different sectors and issues; engage with the conference theme; be relevant to our international audience; and be innovative in format. The number of theme forums is limited, and because selection is competitive, additional criteria applies to final selection and identification of theme forums listed in the final program.

**Workshop:** In a workshop, the topic is very specific and usually seeks to resolve a defined problem, often through a combination of 2-3 short paper presentations and active discussion.

**World Café:** The World Café format is a simple, effective, and flexible format for hosting large group dialogue. The process begins with the first of two or more rounds of discussion for groups of 8-10 seated around a table. Each round is prefaced with a question. At the end of each 15-20-minute round, each member of the group moves to a different table. They may or may not choose to leave one person as the “table host” for the next round, who welcomes the next group and briefly fills them in on what happened in the previous round. Once all rounds have been completed, key points from each table are presented to the whole group for a final collective discussion.

## SUBMITTING PAPER AND POSTER ABSTRACTS

### PAPERS

- Read the session descriptions ([conferences.iaia.org/2023/sessions.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/sessions.php)) and decide which session best fits your paper. Note that you may contribute only to sessions identified as "Open" unless you have been invited by a session chair to an "Invitation Only" session. If you have been invited to an "Invitation Only" session, the chair will contact you with instructions.
- Read the submissions guidelines and policies ([conferences.iaia.org/2023/guidelines-policies-paper-poster-presenters.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/guidelines-policies-paper-poster-presenters.php)). Check the box at the bottom of the page and proceed to complete the submission form.

### POSTERS

- Read the submissions guidelines and policies ([conferences.iaia.org/2023/guidelines-policies-paper-poster-presenters.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/guidelines-policies-paper-poster-presenters.php)). Check the box at the bottom of the page and proceed to the submission form. At the top of the submission form, click "I want to submit a poster abstract" and proceed to complete the poster form.

### TIPS FOR CONCURRENT SESSION PAPER PRESENTERS

Many papers will be presented during the concurrent sessions. In order for all presenters to have an opportunity to speak, and to allow quality time for the speakers and audience to discuss the topics, please note the following presentation guidelines:

- Your key messages or discussion points should be clear and well formulated. Limit the number of messages/discussion points (4 points or less).
- Keeping in mind that many of your audience are not native English speakers, time your presentation by speaking slowly and clearly. Avoid acronyms and jargon.
- Your speaking time is limited and agreed upon up front and will depend on the format of your session. The chair is instructed to give you a sign near the end of your time. When your time is up, you will be requested to stop speaking out of respect for your fellow speakers, your audience, the chair and the organizers.
- Remember, you do not have to use a PowerPoint presentation—a well-prepared oral presentation can be just as effective. If you choose PowerPoint, please limit the presentation to six easily readable slides. Each slide should contain no more than six bullets, each preferably not containing more than six words. Remember and please stick to the 6 - 6 - 6 rule.
- Some helpful sites for more tips on how to make a good presentation:
  - [www.to-done.com/2005/07/how-to-give-a-great-presentation/](http://www.to-done.com/2005/07/how-to-give-a-great-presentation/)
  - [www.washington.edu/doit/presentation-tips-0](http://www.washington.edu/doit/presentation-tips-0)
  - [www.skillsyouneed.com/present/presentation-tips.html](http://www.skillsyouneed.com/present/presentation-tips.html)

### ABOUT POSTERS

Posters are a creative and popular alternative to the oral presentation of a paper. In a poster session, there is no formal oral presentation; instead, each author is assigned a display area on which diagrams, graphics, data, pictures/photos, and a small amount of text are presented. The poster should be self-explanatory, but the author should be available at certain times, such as refreshment breaks and during the dedicated poster session, to interact with viewers and answer questions.

#### Guidelines for poster presenters

Each poster presenter is assigned one space on a flat, upright panel. Presenters are required to use the panels provided by IAIA and to provide the materials to put their posters in place and to hold handouts.

Advertising is not permitted.

Posters will be on display from Monday, 8 May, until Thursday, 11 May.

Additional poster preparation information is available on the IAIA23 web site ([conferences.iaia.org/2023/say-it-with-a-poster.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/say-it-with-a-poster.php)).

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

**7 NOVEMBER 2022**

**PRESENTING AUTHOR REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

**8 FEBRUARY 2023**

**LANGUAGE**

**ENGLISH**



# Conference overview

- The conference will formally commence at 13:00 on Monday, 8 May.
- Training courses will be offered 6-7 May.
- Technical visits will be offered 6-7 May and 12 May.

## Tentative Program Overview

Check the final program for confirmed dates, times, and events.

|              | Pre-conference<br>Friday<br>5 May                      | Pre-Conference<br>Saturday<br>6 May                    | Pre-Conference<br>Sunday<br>7 May | Conference Day 1<br>Monday<br>8 May  |
|--------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 07:00        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 07:30        |  | Registration for training courses and technical visits | Registration                      | Registration                         |
| 08:00        |  | Technical visits                                       | Technical visits                  |                                      |
| 08:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 09:00        |  |  |                                   | World Bank meeting                   |
| 09:30        |  |  |                                   | EIB workshop                         |
| 10:00        |  |  |                                   | Conference Buddy meet and greet      |
| 10:30        |  |  |                                   | UNDP workshop                        |
| 11:00        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 11:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 12:00        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 12:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 13:00        |  |  |                                   | Opening plenary                      |
| 13:30        |  | Registration for training courses and technical visits | Technical visits                  | Exhibits & posters                   |
| 14:00        |  | Technical visits                                       |                                   |                                      |
| 14:30        |  |  | Exhibits & posters setup          | Break                                |
| 15:00        | Registration for training courses and technical visits |  |                                   | Concurrent sessions                  |
| 15:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 16:00        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 16:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 17:00        |  |  |                                   | Poster session and welcome reception |
| 17:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 18:00        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 18:30        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 19:00        |  |  |                                   |                                      |
| 19:30 onward |  |  |                                   |                                      |



# Conference overview

- Visit [conferences.iaia.org/2023/sessions.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/sessions.php) for a full list of proposed sessions.
- The welcome reception will take place on Monday, 8 May, and the banquet on Thursday, 11 May.

| Conference Day 2<br>Tuesday<br>9 May |                              |  | Conference Day 3<br>Wednesday<br>10 May |                              |  | Conference Day 4<br>Thursday<br>11 May |                              |  | Post-Conference<br>Friday<br>12 May |                    |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
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| Registration                         | Theme forums                 |  | Exhibits & posters                      | Theme forums                 |  | Exhibits & posters                     | Theme forums                 |  | Exhibits & posters                  | Technical visits   |  |  |  |
|                                      | Break                        |  |   | Break                        |  |  | Break                        |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      | Concurrent sessions          |  |   | Concurrent sessions          |  |  | Concurrent sessions          |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      | Lunch and Committee meetings |  |   | Lunch and Committee meetings |  |  | Lunch and Committee meetings |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      | Concurrent sessions          |  |   | Concurrent sessions          |  |  | Concurrent sessions          |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      | Break                        |  |   | Break                        |  |  | Break                        |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      | Concurrent sessions          |  |   | Concurrent sessions          |  |  | Closing plenary              |  |                                     | Exhibits & posters |  |  |  |
|                                      | Speed networking             |  |   |                              |  |  |                              |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      |                              |  |   |                              |  |  |                              |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
|                                      |                              |  |   |                              |  |  | Banquet                      |  |                                     |                    |  |  |  |
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# Special meetings, networking activities, and social events

## WORLD BANK GROUP DAY

Overview of and discussion on the implementation experience with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and the IFC's Performance Standards. This session will include a focus on specific areas of regional and topical interest, based on experience from the WBG's E&S risk assessment and management practices.

**Monday 8 May | 09:00-12:00**

**Price: \$30**  
**registration is required.**

Pre-

## IMPACT THROUGH ESG: NEW EU DISCLOSURE STANDARDS AND THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK'S APPROACH

Engage with experts representing the impact assessment profession on EIB's proposed response to recent EU calls for intensifying the ESG related reporting and disclosure efforts. The experts will brainstorm on EIB's proposed approach for enhancement of the current framework to measure and account for impact and by doing so, to ensure alignment with the latest developments at EU and global level on standardization of sustainability reporting and disclosure requirements. EIB welcomes feedback and proposals to overcome the most challenging reporting requirements, e.g., pressure and impact biodiversity-related metrics, actions on material impacts on value chain workers, effectiveness of those actions, etc.

**Monday 8 May | 09:00-12:00**

**Price: \$30**  
**Pre-registration is required.**

## UNDP WORKSHOP ON SES

Join us in this workshop to discuss the United Nations Development Programme's updated Social and Environmental Standards (SES) policy and its application. This session will focus on the UNDP SES and related procedures and will be led by experienced UNDP SES Advisors. The aim of the workshop is to disseminate UNDP practices among interested parties, including partners and consultants. We look forward to your engagement and hearing your questions and experiences related to implementing the SES in UNDP programming.

**Monday 8 May | 09:00-12:00**

**Price: \$30**  
**Pre-registration is required.**  
**Maximum 50 participants.**

## AWARDS

IAIA is pleased to recognize its 2023 award winners. Stay tuned for details on awards presentations!

## WELCOME/POSTER RECEPTION

Catch up with old friends and meet new ones at the welcome reception. This relaxed event will provide the perfect opportunity to begin the week's activities.

Posters will be on display at the reception (and throughout the week), so take advantage of this opportunity to meet the authors!

**Monday 8 May | 17:00-19:00**

**Pre-registration is required.**

## BANQUET

After the closing plenary, celebrate a great conference week by joining your colleagues and friends to enjoy the best of food and friendship that IAIA23 and Kuching have to offer. Experience regional food, drink, and entertainment in a relaxed atmosphere that offers another opportunity to network, share ideas on topics of interest, and connect with colleagues who have similar interests but whom you might not have met during formal sessions.

**Thursday 11 May | 19:00 onward**

**Price: \$50**  
**Pre-registration is required.**

## SPEED NETWORKING

Hundreds of people will attend IAIA23. How many will you meet?

If you've ever tried speed dating, then you already know the concept—we've just changed the focus! How it works: You will be seated in rows so that you are facing another person, and every three minutes one row will be asked to move up one seat so they are facing someone different. You will spend the three minutes conversing with your partner about yourself, your work, your interests, why you are attending IAIA23, anything you like. Over a period of an hour, you will meet 15 new people, people that you may not otherwise get to meet in the normal course of a diverse international conference. The aim is to make new professional connections that you can build upon throughout the conference and beyond. So come along and join in the fun.

**Tuesday 9 May | 17:40-18:40**

**Pre-registration is required.**

## TWITTER!

Tweet about IAIA23 before, during, and after the conference using **#IAIA23**.

## CONFERENCE BUDDY PROGRAM

Are you a first-timer or a veteran? Either way, you can benefit from participating in the Conference Buddy Program! The Buddy Program is intended to extend a warm welcome to those attending our conference for the first time by introducing them to experienced attendees (and other first-timers) to help "break the ice" and make the most out of their IAIA conference experience via the program and other attendees. It is also a simple and informal way for veteran attendees to open a door or two for their own social and professional interactions.

Join the meet and greet to connect with a new friend or two. IAIA staff members will also be available to answer your questions about IAIA and the conference.

To participate, tick the veteran or first-timer box on the registration form.

**Conference Buddy meet and greet**

**Monday 8 May | 10:30-12:00**

**Pre-registration is required.**

IAIA training courses will be held 6-7 May 2023 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching. Separate registration fees apply, and pre-registration is required.

Please register early! Courses will be cancelled if they do not reach the minimum number of paid participants by 13 March 2023.

## IMPORTANT DATE: 13 MARCH

In consideration of the trainers and their need to prepare appropriate quantities of course materials, registrants may not change courses after 12 April 2023.

### ABOUT TRAINING COURSES

IAIA pre-conference training courses are presented primarily by IAIA members. The courses are open to all participants but require advance registration and payment. All courses are held at the conference venue.

IAIA's two-day courses cost US\$480. One-day courses are US\$280. This fee includes course materials, light lunches, and coffee breaks. Participants in the training courses who are not registered for the IAIA conference will be charged an additional US\$85 fee. Course fees must be paid in full before you will be enrolled in the training course.

Minimum/maximum class sizes are noted in each course description. If the training course for which you have registered does not meet the minimum number by 13 March, IAIA HQ will notify you and provide refund information or offer to transfer you to another course. Course registration after 13 March is possible but is subject to availability, instructor consent, and receipt of payment.

If you must cancel, your course registration fee will be refunded minus a US\$125 administrative fee and contingent upon a written notice of cancellation received at HQ by 12 April. After 12 April, no refunds will be issued.

Check-in for the training courses will be available at the IAIA registration desk in the conference venue. Name tags will be distributed at check-in and are required for admission to courses. Check-in the day before your course begins is encouraged.

For more detailed descriptions of the courses, including background information on instructors, see the IAIA23 web site ([conferences.iaia.org/2023/training.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/training.php)).

### STUDENT TRAINING COURSE FEE WAIVERS

A **limited number of free training course registrations are available to student participants of IAIA23** when courses reach their minimum paid enrollments. For application instructions, see page 20.

## 1 Leadership in EIA

This established IAIA training course is closely aligned with the conference theme for 2023, and we believe the raising of the topic by the trainer and associates within IAIA conferences over the last few years has been influential in highlighting the necessity for leadership skills within IA practitioners.

The course is based on the belief that enhanced leadership skills are required within the IA community to maximize their influence of IA projects and in delivering sustainability outcomes.

Leading (and managing) an EIA process + team is a complex activity. To maximize sustainability outcomes, team leaders must work productively with technical specialists, but just as importantly must also engage effectively with the broader project team, including project managers, design managers, and many other roles. The increasing risk that environmental, social, and compliance issues present to project costs and delivery schedules provides a particular opportunity for EIA leaders to embed environmental considerations into project planning and design decisions.

To do this effectively, EIA team leads need skills and knowledge beyond those taught in professional and academic institutes. This course fills the gap, examining the leadership roles IA professionals perform, and which leadership tools can assist in communication, negotiation, and influencing. It will provide insights into how project teams work together, and the opportunities to put your learning into practice.

With a strong emphasis on personal reflection and self-development, the intention is to draw out the skills you already possess, and to help you develop the mindset of an IA leader.

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| <b>Level:</b>         | Intermediate to advanced  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | General experience in managing or coordinating IA professional teams through to impact statement submission/review. |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-25   |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructor:</b>    | <b>Ross Marshall</b> , Founder and Director, Leading Green (UK)   |

## 2 Toward more sustainable oil and gas sector projects

This two-day program will provide a master class for intermediate-level environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) practitioners who want to learn more about the oil and gas (O&G) sector, conventional and unconventional (shale), offshore and onshore, carbon capture projects, and carbon neutrality considerations in O&G. The training will build on the participants' knowledge of the ESIA process, provide them with a foundation of environmental and social issues specific to O&G projects, and enhance their ability to leverage ESIA's toward more sustainable O&G developments. Goals and learning outcomes include:

- Review the O&G development cycle and likely impacts and mitigation measures for hydrocarbon development projects.
- Identify linkages between the O&G development cycle and the ESIA core components—and opportunities for decision making.
- Increase participants' level of confidence with ESIA's in the O&G sector through case studies and participant questions.

The training will be a participatory venue with a balanced mix of instructor presentations and discussions to leverage the participants' own broad range of experience, promote dialogue, and share best practices. Group exercises and case studies will be an integral part of the course.

Participants should be prepared to exchange experiences, challenges, and solutions with peers.

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| <b>Level:</b>         | Intermediate  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | Participants are expected to be familiar with environmental and social impact assessment international policy and practice as applied to the oil and gas sector (e.g., World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), IFC Performance Standards (PS), IFC/World Bank General and Oil and Gas Sector Guidelines, IAlA and IDB guidance, etc.) and have at least two years of practical experience with environmental and social impact assessment in any sector. Participants in public, private, and non-government organizations with an interest in learning about environmental and social impact assessment as applied to onshore and offshore, conventional and unconventional (shale) oil and gas, exploration and development projects, and carbon capture projects are welcome. |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 25-50   |
| <b>Preferred:</b>     | Laptop  |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructor:</b>    | <b>Fernando D. Rodriguez</b> , Managing Director, HSE International, LLC (USA)  |

## 3 More effective impact assessment: Tools for stronger argument and clearer writing

This course will help you reason more clearly and write more effective impact assessments. Better arguments make key decisions more transparent and help reduce risks to projects. Environmental impact assessment—like all technical writing—constantly uses reasoning to reach conclusions. That process is called “argument,” which means to assemble a series of reasons, leading to conclusions, for a specific audience.

This course shares two sets of tools collectively called Organized Reasoning. The first provides principles for creating clearer arguments that apply to phases of the IA process. The second shows how to better present arguments in written documents.

The course shows how IA documents contain common errors in their arguments and weaknesses in their writing. Participants will assemble evidence and reasoning for several different kinds of argument found in IAs. We practice steps, and introduce computer-based tools, that show how to bring improved arguments to technical reports. Participants learn a revised approach to planning, preparing, and writing documents that they can use immediately on the job. More details at [www.glennbrown.ca](http://www.glennbrown.ca).

The course takes two days. There will be a half-day online follow-up session three months later.

You will receive handouts documenting the main ideas.

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| <b>Level:</b>         | Intermediate  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | Participation in preparing and writing IA documents.  |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-25   |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructor:</b>    | <b>Glenn Brown</b> , Adjunct Professor, Royal Roads University, School of Environment and Sustainability (Canada) |



## 4 Sustaining resilience through effective monitoring and auditing of project implementation

The theme of the IAIA23 conference is to create a path to resilience through impact assessment and leadership. Post-ESIA monitoring and auditing requires attentive management to ensure project sustainability and resilience.

Handling large volumes of monitoring data, applying appropriate monitoring tools and techniques, analyzing results, and reporting conclusions requires specific skills. Without a scientific and evidence-based understanding of the baseline environment, one cannot identify project impacts, determine ESMP effectiveness, and maintain monitoring programs. Environmental auditors require additional skills to lead an audit and need to be systematic, inquisitive, and assertive.

The aims of this course, therefore, are to improve understanding of the roles and responsibilities of environmental and social monitoring and auditing; explain how to set up systematic, robust systems following the Plan – Do – Check – Act Model; and show how monitoring and auditing data become useful information for managers, companies, governments, and finance institutions. Three facilitators will offer lectures and case studies, stimulate discussions, and activate group work. Participants' outcomes will be to learn how to:

- Establish effective monitoring processes to verify realization of predicted project outcomes and related mitigative measures and adapt performance.
- Ensure effective implementation of ESMPs through robust auditing systems.
- Enhance project monitoring and auditing skills.

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| <b>Level:</b>         | Intermediate to advanced  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | Participants must have knowledge of the ESIA process including the formulation of Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) and some experience with project monitoring or auditing.        |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-35   |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructors:</b>   | <b>Bryony Walmsley</b> , Director, SAIEA (South Africa)<br><b>Defne Arisoy</b> , Consultant, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure (Turkey)<br><b>Charlotte Bingham</b> , EIA practitioner (USA) |

## 5 Theory and practice of biodiversity-friendly infrastructures

Infrastructure development has direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts with impacts extending beyond the immediate surroundings where construction and use occur. Many impacts on biodiversity are long-term, eventually leading to a reduction in available natural habitat, restriction in the movement of fauna, and decline in population sizes of species. The impacts tend to be complex, affecting not only wildlife population dynamics but also ecosystems on which both humans and wildlife depend. With development continuing at a rapid pace throughout the world, a different approach i.e., multilevel approach, is required as traditional mitigation approaches based on environmental impact assessments do not capture the impacts of infrastructure on a landscape level.

The focus of the course is to strengthen the application of the mitigation hierarchy at all levels of the project cycle and strengthen linkages between biodiversity protection and good engineering in design, construction, and operation across different sectors (roads, hydros, wind, and ports). The course will discuss the multilevel approach to infrastructure development, upstream tools, ecological assessment tools, good engineering practices at the project level, construction management in sensitive areas, and good practices in offsets planning.

This 2-day course relying on good practice case studies and exercises will demonstrate practical solutions to protect biodiversity. It will also highlight the opportunities for enhancing biodiversity values in infrastructure projects and the use of Indigenous and local knowledge for the identification of mitigation measures. Participants will also receive a comprehensive set of manuals and guidelines on biodiversity assessment methodologies, habitat assessments, protection of biodiversity in infrastructure projects, and design of offsets.

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| <b>Level:</b>         | Intermediate  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | General knowledge of the EIA process and an interest in protecting biodiversity.  |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-25   |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructors:</b>   | <b>Juan D. Quintero</b> , Director, Environmental Engineering Consultants, LLC. (USA)<br><b>Aradhna Mathur</b> , Environmental Specialist, The World Bank (USA) |



Please register early!

Courses will be cancelled if they do not reach the minimum number of paid participants by 13 March.

## 6 Cumulative effects assessment

This course summarizes the state of professional practice regarding CEA within IA processes, demonstrates fundamental requirements for cumulative effects assessment for a selected project in the British Columbia region, illustrates determination of significance of cumulative effects, discusses adaptive management (and monitoring) as follow-up activities for large-scale proposals (specifically for cumulative effects), and summarizes policy choices and collaboration approaches for the development of cumulative effects mitigation and management initiatives. The basic premise is that CEA should be an integral part of, and not separate from, both in-country and international IA processes. The fundamental requirements are focused on stepwise procedures with international best practice principles.

These procedures and related principles identify key valued components (VCs), focusing on those for which CEA is appropriate; delineating spatial and temporal boundaries for each of the VCs; describing historical baseline and future conditions and trends; establishing cause-effect linkages between past, present, and future actions and VCs; determining the significance of cumulative effects; and development of adaptive management and project mitigation and regional management programs, as appropriate to deal with cumulative effects. Practical processes for both preparing and reviewing CEA-related documents will be emphasized, along with presentations on selected international case studies and workshop sessions involving interactive groups. Practical discussions will be incorporated by the professional participants and presented to the entire class.

**Level:** Intermediate to advanced

**Prerequisites:** Foundation training on IA (impact assessment) or CEA (cumulative effects assessment) (professional-level short course or University-level specific course or program) and/or minimum of 2 years in professional experience in planning and conducting IA or CEA for environmental impact studies. Note: these prerequisites do not apply to student participants.

**Language:** English

**Duration:** 2 days (6-7 May)

**Min/Max:** 10-50

**Price:** \$480

**Instructors:** **Bill Ross**, Emeritus Professor of Environmental Design, University of Calgary (Canada)

**Miles Scott-Brown**, Consultant (Canada)

**Michael D. Smith**, Director, Environmental Process and Policy, WSP USA (USA)

## 7 How to seamlessly connect EIA and EMS through improving communication, interaction, and partnerships

EIA implementation and follow up has been recognized as one of the most critical processes of impact assessment in achieving its outcomes. In general terms, "follow-up" refers to "post-decision processes," a crucial part of which is ensuring that recommendations and commitments made through the EIA process are actually implemented. Many tools can support this implementation process, including environmental management systems (EMS) and many other related sustainability management tools such as HSE-MS, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and sustainability reporting in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), to name just a few. Dozens of national, sectoral, and international standards, guidelines, etc. have been developed to inform such processes and these are widely used. While considerable efforts and investments are made in both EIA and EMS, a lack of integration of these activities contributes to suboptimal environmental outcomes and a failure to realize the potential of these well-established environmental management tools.

This course focuses on strengthening the linkage between EIA and EMS throughout the lifecycle of projects by improving communication, interaction, and partnership between its multiple role players. In the first module, a quick review of the pre-decision tools (conventional EIA) and post-decision tools (such as EMS/HSE-MS, the relevant international standards such as ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018, etc.) will be provided. The second module will focus on how pre-decision EIA should be linked to such post-decision management tools. Improving communication, interaction, and partnership are the focus of the third module, in which the participants will practice identifying the role of other parties and when, how, and on what key issues they should communicate with them. In the fourth and final module, the well-known "HSE cultural maturity theory" and its relationship with the EIA implementation will be discussed. Participants themselves will try to develop ways of making the entire EIA/EMS a seamless, flexible process in a way that challenges the very notions of "pre-decision" and "post-decision."

**Level:** Intermediate

**Prerequisites:** Participants are expected to have an understanding of EIA processes and terminology, and some awareness about environmental management systems (EMS). Hence it would be beneficial if they had previously attended an introductory IAIA training course (e.g., "Understanding Impact Assessment"), or otherwise have had at least a year of work experience as a consultant, proponent, or regulator within an EIA system, or be in the position of implementing an EMS or health, safety and environmental (HSE) management system (e.g., as an HSE officer, auditor, etc.) in an active industry or ongoing project, or be a student with at least 6 months taught or research experience of some aspect of EIA/HSE-MS. A particular interest in EIA implementation and follow up as well as implementing EMS/HSE-MS is obviously desirable.

**Language:** English

**Duration:** 2 days (6-7 May)

**Min/Max:** 10-30

**Price:** \$480

**Instructors:** **Jenny Pope**, Director, Integral Sustainability (Australia)

**Behzad Raissiyan**, Environmental Planning and Governance Advisor (Iran)

## 8 Resettlement planning and impact assessment: Achieving the intended outcomes

Many large-scale projects trigger the requirement to resettle households, and while there is plentiful experience in the planning of resettlement, there is considerably less experience in the successful delivery of a resettlement project which sustainably meets the goals of improved standards of living and restored livelihoods. This training course draws on global experience across a range of industries to identify the primary challenges faced when seeking to meet these objectives, and the commitments established in impact assessments, how to work with affected households to overcome these challenges, and how to assess whether these outcomes have been achieved post resettlement. It draws heavily upon the more than 40 years of combined experience of the two trainers, and provides opportunities for participants to share the challenges they are experiencing in a collaborative environment to draw lessons from the experience held within the room. While the trainers have much to share, they also see their role as facilitators of a conversation and nurturers of a network of resettlement specialists which will endure beyond the course.

This two-day advanced course has been built from the success of previous courses on resettlement and livelihood restoration delivered as an IAIA online training course in 2022, an in-person course at IAIA19, and an IAIA/ADB resettlement symposium in 2017. The purpose of the course is to assist resettlement practitioners to address key challenges experienced when implementing resettlement activities across the globe, with a specific focus on how these activities tie into impact assessment and feasibility study processes.

The course will be presented by Liz Wall (Shared Resources) and Angela Reeman (Reeman Consulting), collectively referred to as the “consultants,” who combined have over 40 years of resettlement experience. The consultants have extensive practical experience of applying the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standard 5 on Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement and can speak to many specific case studies globally. They have provided resettlement and livelihood restoration training to numerous organizations across the world and will utilize this experience to create an effective knowledge-sharing platform.

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Level:</b>         | Advanced   |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | At least 2 years of direct experience designing, implementing, or auditing resettlement and/or livelihood restoration activities, university degree, familiarity with the IFC Performance Standards. |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English  |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)   |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 15-40  |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480  |
| <b>Instructors:</b>   | <b>Liz Wall</b> , Shared Resources Pty Ltd (Australia)<br><b>Angela Reeman</b> , Reeman Consulting Pty Ltd (Australia)   |

## 9 Health in environmental impact assessment

“Human health” is an important aspect to be considered in environmental assessment (EA) in many regions of the world. We take EA to include environmental impact assessment, environmental, and social impact assessment, and strategic environmental assessment. The course will elaborate on what is meant by a comprehensive consideration of “human health” in EA. While bio-physical (including chemical) aspects of relevance for human health are commonly included in EAs, this can lead to other important determinants of health remaining unaddressed, including socio-economic factors, mental health and well-being, and behavioral aspects. The portrayal of current practices and necessary changes to reflect new EA requirements is the main purpose of the course.

We will address the following questions:

- What does the consideration of human health in EIA mean?
- What is current practice?
- How can a robust and proportionate approach be applied to appropriately consider health in EIA?

Participants will critically examine existing EIA practices with regard to the consideration of health. Furthermore, they will consider the skills that are needed for assessment teams to comprehensively assess health within EA, and for regulators who need to review the outputs of the assessment teams.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Level:</b>         | Intermediate to advanced  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | None.   |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-30   |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructors:</b>   | <b>Thomas Fischer</b> , Professor and Director, University of Liverpool, Environmental Assessment and Management Research Centre, WHO Collaborating Centre for Health in Impact Assessments, School of Environmental Sciences (UK)<br><b>Ben Cave</b> , Director, Ben Cave Associates, Ltd., and University of Liverpool (UK)<br><b>Francesca Viliani</b> , Director Public Health, International SOS (Denmark) |

## 10 Strategic Thinking for Sustainability (ST4S) in mastering good resilience through strategic sustainability and environmental assessment

Practice in impact assessment (IA) is largely driven by project development, even in planning and program making. The assessment of impacts generally focuses on the results of development. This limits the capacity of IA to address the purpose and the objectives of development, and to place it within time, space, and governance contextual issues. In addition, long-term impacts and integrated assessments are limited by insufficient information and by smart ways of handling uncertainty. Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) was meant to fill this gap by starting earlier, assessing non-site-specific development intentions, and using broader, long-term approaches. Sustainability assessment (SA) was meant to help ensure the intertwined consideration of social, economic, and environmental issues. Taken together, SEA and SA have a great potential to enable transitional processes towards sustainability.

The main purpose of this course is to lead participants to learn creative ways in impact assessment to enable sustainability using strategic thinking. Learning techniques include dialogues, sharing of experiences, short presentations, and case studies. Expected learning outcomes include 1) what is the added value of using strategic thinking in impact assessment; 2) how to apply strategic thinking in impact assessment; and 3) why a strategic-based approach is different from an effects-based approach.

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Level:</b>         | Advanced   |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | Basic knowledge of policy making, planning, and some level of experience with strategic environmental assessment, sustainability assessment, or environmental impact assessment. |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English  |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)   |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-35  |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480  |
| <b>Instructor:</b>    | <b>Maria R. Partidario</b> , Full Professor, Instituto Superior Tecnico (IST), Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal, and Adjunct Professor University of Aalborg, Denmark (Portugal) |

## 11 Sustainable finance and IA systems: Synergies and Interlinkages

The aim of this course given by ISFC and Integra Consulting is to introduce the participants to fast-evolving sustainable finance frameworks and their environmental and social assessment obligations that are relevant to the impact assessment profession. The course will cover environmental, social, and governance (ESG) concept and its use and the rise of taxonomies of sustainable economic activities, as well as the latest developments in the global development and standardization of sustainability reporting and disclosure standards. The course will also look at how the financial industry is trying to measure and account for impact. Goals and learning outcomes include:

- Analytical approaches used by major ESG rating providers: MSCI ESG Ratings, Sustainalytics' ESG Risk Ratings, S&P Global ESG Scores, Moody's ESG Solutions, and Bloomberg ESG Disclosures Scores.
- Evolving sustainability reporting frameworks developed with the aim to provide input data to ESG ratings: e.g., Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB), the draft EU Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS), proposals generated by the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB), etc.
- Comprehension of the different sustainable finance taxonomies.
- Understanding of the relevance of impact assessment to the developments in ESG data and reporting.
- Full grasp of how ESG is used by companies and financial institutions, and how this practice is evolving—and what demands it might bring.
- Understanding of key challenges and future trends for ESG and impact investing practices for the coming years.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Level:</b>         | Foundation to intermediate  |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b> | None.   |
| <b>Language:</b>      | English   |
| <b>Duration:</b>      | 2 days (6-7 May)  |
| <b>Min/Max:</b>       | 10-40   |
| <b>Preferred:</b>     | Laptop  |
| <b>Price:</b>         | \$480   |
| <b>Instructors:</b>   | <b>Linda Zeilina</b> , CEO, International Sustainable Finance Centre (ISFC), (Czechia)<br><b>Julian Toth</b> , COO, International Sustainable Finance Centre (ISFC), (Czechia)<br><b>Jiri Dusík</b> , Senior Partner, Integra Consulting, Ltd., (Czechia) |



## 12 Designing environmental and social management systems for banks, investment funds, and donor agencies

Environmental and social management systems (ESMSs) are frameworks developed by institutions to identify and manage exposure to the environmental and social risks of investment projects. Increasingly, ESMSs are being required by development agency donors and commercial investors when they contemplate providing finance for either direct investments or financial intermediaries. A well-designed ESMS provides the originating financier with confidence that its investments will be well managed.

An ESMS states an institution's commitment to environmental and social management, explains its procedures for identifying, assessing and managing the environmental and social risk of financial transactions, defines the decision-making process, describes the roles, responsibilities and capacity needs of staff for doing so, and states the documentation and record-keeping requirements.

ESMSs provide guidance on how to screen transactions, categorize transactions based on their environmental and social risks, conduct environmental and social due diligence, and monitor environmental and social performance.

This course is designed for participants who have an interest in how financial intermediaries such as commercial banks, investment funds, cooperatives and community-based organizations should manage the environmental and social risks of funds provided to them by development agencies (such as the global and regional development banks and UN agencies). Participants will develop an understanding of:

- The structure of ESMSs
- How ESMSs have been put into practice
- The resources required to develop an ESMS for a given institution
- Phased approaches to the development of ESMSs
- Guidance on how to design an ESMS for a participant's given institution

**Level:** Intermediate

**Prerequisites:** Participants should have a basic understanding of environmental and social safeguard requirements and procedures for identifying, assessing, and managing environmental and social risks associated with project financing.

**Language:** English

**Duration:** 1 day (7 May)

**Min/Max:** 10-60

**Price:** \$280

**Instructors:** **David Annandale**, Senior Partner, DDA International Consulting Ltd. (UK)

**Darko Annandale**, Junior Partner, DDA International Consulting Ltd. (UK)



## ABOUT TECHNICAL VISITS

Please register early! Technical visits will be cancelled if they do not reach the minimum number of paid participants by 13 March 2023.

### IMPORTANT DATE: 13 MARCH

Minimum and maximum numbers of participants are noted. If the visit for which you have registered does not meet the minimum number by 13 March, IAIA HQ will notify you and provide refund information or offer to transfer you to another visit. After 13 March, registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until 12 April or the visits reach the maximum number. Registrations will be processed in the order that payment is received.

Prices for technical visits are shown in US dollars. **Participants must be pre-registered and pre-paid to participate.** If you must cancel, the fee will be refunded, less an administration fee of 25% of the technical visit cost and contingent upon written notice of cancellation received by 12 April. After that time, no refunds will be issued.

Guests of registered delegates are welcome to register for technical visits at the same rate.

**Tours depart from the conference venue unless otherwise noted. Plan to check in for the visit a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the noted departure time.**

**Liability statement:** IAIA, the organizing committee, and the venue will not be responsible for medical expenses, accidents, losses or other unexpected damage to property belonging to conference participants, either during or as a result of the conference and during all tours and events. Participants are strongly advised to arrange their own insurance for health and accident, lost luggage and trip cancellation.

Participants will be required to sign a liability release waiver upon check-in for the visits.

### A | SEMENGGOH WILDLIFE CENTRE

Wildlife rehabilitation programs are essential for nature conservation. This is particularly important in Borneo where large-scale deforestation has been a longstanding concern. The Semenggoh Wildlife Centre is the largest orangutan rehabilitation sanctuary in Sarawak. It has a thriving population of healthy adolescent and young adult semi-wild orangutans that roam the forest but are trained to return to the centre during feeding times where they are fed by caretakers. Participants will be briefed by officials on the rehabilitation program as well as the Sarawak state's overall wildlife conservation plan.

**Saturday 6 May**

**Depart 08:00 | Return 12:00**

**Level of physical activity** Moderate

**Minimum-Maximum** 10-40

**Price** \$45

Price includes transportation, lunch, admission fee, and gratuity payment for briefing.

**Special notes** Comfortable walking shoes and appropriate clothing for humid climate.

### C | BORNEO CULTURES MUSEUM

In a fast-changing world, cultural heritage conservation is critical for strengthening cultural resilience. By documenting and educating how cultures evolve over time, communities may be empowered to embrace uncertainties and adapt to new developments. Opened in 2022, the Borneo Cultures Museum is the latest addition to the Sarawak Museum Complex. It boasts a gleaming contemporary architecture and houses one of the largest and finest exhibits of cultural and natural heritage in the region. In this visit, participants will attend a briefing on the history of Sarawak Museum since its establishment in 1888 by Rajah Charles Brooke, as well as ongoing research and conservation programs. This will be followed by a tour of the museum's exhibits.

**Sunday 7 May**

**Depart 08:00 | Return 12:00**

**Level of physical activity** Moderate

**Minimum-Maximum** 10-40

**Price** \$65

Price includes transportation, lunch, admission fee, gratuity payment for briefing.

**Special notes** Comfortable walking shoes and appropriate clothing for humid climate.

## Technical visits

### B | SARAWAK BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre is a government-funded agency responsible for research and commercialization of the State's biological resources, particularly those that have been utilized by Indigenous communities and to facilitate the documentation of traditional knowledge of Indigenous communities on the utilization of biological resources. The visit includes an Indigenous interpretive tour of the Laila Taib Ethnobotanical Garden where participants will discover enchanting fragrances from Sarawak's indigenous herbs and plants, as well as their uses in food, medicine, and other applications. Participants will also attend a briefing on the centre's research facilities and programs.

**Saturday 6 May**

**Depart 13:30 | Return 18:30**

**Level of physical activity** Low

**Minimum-Maximum** 10-40

**Price** \$40

Price includes transportation, lunch, and gratuity payment for briefing.

**Special notes** Comfortable walking shoes and appropriate clothing for humid climate.

### D | TANOTI HOUSE & TEXTILE MUSEUM SARAWAK

Tanoti is a congregation of Sarawakian women weavers and artisans dedicated towards the production, promotion, and proliferation of traditional hand-crafted fabrics. In this visit on community empowerment and heritage preservation initiatives, participants will tour the Tanoti House and observe how Songket Sarawak fabrics are weaved using traditional tools. They will also be briefed by the founder of Tanoti on its strategies in preserving the craft through the creation of more contemporary items in modern design using songket. Participants will then proceed to the Textile Museum Sarawak.

**Sunday 7 May**

**Depart 13:30 | Return 18:30**

**Level of physical activity** Moderate

**Minimum-Maximum** 10-40

**Price** \$40

Price includes transportation, lunch, and gratuity payment for briefing.

**Special notes** Comfortable walking shoes and appropriate clothing for humid climate.

## E | DARUL HANA URBAN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Darul Hana Housing Project is a major urban renewal program initiated by the Sarawak state government that involves the resettlement of 12 traditional Malay villages to modern housing at Kuching city centre. The project is notable not only for its high cost but the extent of relocation and its potential social disruption. Participants will tour the villages and attend a briefing by the developer to learn how the project actors manage the socio-cultural impact of the resettlement.

**Friday 12 May**

**Depart** 08:00 | **Return** 12:00

**Level of physical activity** Low

**Minimum-Maximum** 10-40

**Price** \$40

Price includes transportation, lunch, and gratuity payment for briefing.

**Special notes** Comfortable walking shoes and appropriate clothing for humid climate.

## F | REVITALIZING KUCHING'S URBAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

This tour offers insights on the planning and implementation of a sustainable public transportation system to strengthen urban resilience. The Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) is a government-initiated project to minimize and alleviate traffic congestion toward Kuching city centre by improving connectivity via an efficient and integrated public transportation system. The backbone of KUTS is the hydrogen-powered Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) system, which will use articulated hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles that run on rubber tires along two 52.6km lines. The project is scheduled for completion by 2027. Participants will attend a briefing by the project owner, Sarawak Metro, and learn how it manages the environmental impact and generates positive economic and social spillover. This will be followed by a visit to the corporate office of Sarawak Energy Berhad for a presentation on Southeast Asia's first integrated hydrogen production and refueling station, capable of producing 130kgs of hydrogen per day at close to 100 percent purity.

**Friday 12 May**

**Depart** 13:30 | **Return** 18:30

**Level of physical activity** Low

**Minimum-Maximum** 10-40

**Price** \$40

Price includes transportation, lunch, and gratuity payment for briefing.

**Special notes** Comfortable walking shoes and appropriate clothing for humid climate.





# Financial aid opportunities



With over 700 delegates from 80+ nations around the world, IAIA23 is your opportunity to network with professionals and learn about current best practice principles, recent tools, and techniques for impact assessment.

A discounted student registration fee is available, as are several financial aid opportunities for students, young professionals, and other populations. Read more about these opportunities and apply online at:

**[conferences.iaia.org/2023/financial-aid-opportunities.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/financial-aid-opportunities.php)**

## STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BURSARY PROGRAM

A limited number of bursaries will be awarded to students and young professionals in the form of waived registration fees to attend IAIA23. The recipients are expected to cover all other costs associated with attending the conference. Potential candidates are those who have never before attended an IAIA annual conference, are 30 years of age or younger, and are either currently a student enrolled in an impact assessment or related undergraduate or graduate program OR are currently employed in the field of IA and living/working in a country listed under the World Bank's GNI categories of low-income economies, lower-middle-income economies, and upper-middle-income economies.

The application deadline is **6 January 2023**.

## STUDENT TRAINING COURSE FEE WAIVERS

**A limited number of free training course registrations are available to student participants of IAIA23** once courses reach their minimum paid enrollments. If you are interested, please send the following to [loireley@iaia.org](mailto:loireley@iaia.org):

1. Your name
2. A 300-word statement of interest explaining how the chosen training course could contribute to your research or student career
3. Proof of full-time student status (proof can be provided in the following forms: a copy of a recent transcript or a letter from an administrative professional indicating your full-time student status)
4. First and second course choices (see courses listed on pages 11-17).

Applications for free course registrations will be accepted from **15-30 March 2023**. Allocations of the free training course slots will be made in early April based on the order in which the requests were received and subject to instructor approval.

## RITA R. HAMM IA EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

The Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship honors the legacy that IAIA's former CEO has left on the organization and the field of impact assessment. This scholarship allows young practitioners in the region of the host country to attend the IAIA annual conference. Potential candidates are those who have never attended an IAIA annual conference in the past and submit an abstract to present a paper at IAIA23 by the 7 November abstract deadline.

The application deadline is **6 December 2022**.

## ENERGY CAPACITY BUILDING STIPEND (CBS) PROGRAM

IAIA, in partnership with the Norwegian Environmental Agency and Norad's Energy for Development Energy Programme, offers this CBS program to aid individuals in attending IAIA23. The primary objective of this stipend is to help reduce poverty in Norad partner countries by providing training and knowledge to impact assessment professionals who are working to sustainably manage their country's energy resources. A select number of applicants who meet all qualifications will receive a stipend to attend the conference.

The application deadline is **14 November 2022**.

## CONFERENCE INCLUSIVENESS BURSARY (CIB) PROGRAM

IAIA deeply values equitable and sustainable development and the right of citizens to have a voice in the decisions that affect them. A limited number of Conference Inclusiveness Bursaries will therefore be awarded to individuals who identify as Indigenous persons, members of affected communities, and persons from underrepresented populations or least developed countries (LDCs) to attend IAIA23. The intention of a bursary is to fully fund a participant's registration and travel expenses to attend the conference.

The application deadline is **6 January 2023**.



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*Sponsorship demonstrates your commitment to sustainability to delegates from around the world while you contribute to the improvement of impact assessment locally and globally.*

IAIA welcomes conference sponsorship in any amount. Sponsorship can be applied either toward specific components of the conference program (e.g., coffee breaks, plenary sessions) or as a general contribution.

### WHY SPONSOR IAIA23?

IAIA is the only interdisciplinary international association dedicated to impact assessment. Our annual conferences bring together a unique mix of experts and professionals and a unique opportunity for you to promote your organization. Recent conferences have included between 800 and 1,000 delegates from 80+ countries.

- Increase your visibility before an international audience of environmental and social professionals.
- Be recognized as a global thought leader.
- Demonstrate your commitment to sustainability and corporate social responsibility.
- Be associated with other industry leaders.
- Ensure that your company or institution information is forefront during the conference.
- Enhance your presence internationally.
- Give your staff the opportunity to network with leading practitioners and experts.
- Ensure that your company will be remembered by the delegates long after the event is over.

### WHAT BENEFITS DO SPONSORS RECEIVE?

IAIA offers five sponsorship category levels: Reef, Island, Continent, Earth, and Premier. Check out the IAIA23 sponsorship brochure at [conferences.iaia.org/2023/pdf/Sponsorship-brochure\\_23.pdf](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/pdf/Sponsorship-brochure_23.pdf) for a detailed breakdown of benefits by category.

Depending on sponsorship level, benefits include:

- Complimentary and half-price registrations
- Recognition in IAIA e-newsletter (circulation 14,000+)
- Ad space in the final program and IAIA23 webpages
- Online recognition on the IAIA23 sponsors page
- Recognition in final program
- Discount on exhibit booth
- Discount on training courses
- Mention in IAIA23 news releases

### INTERESTED? CONTACT US!

For more details or to become a sponsor, please contact Bridget John at IAIA HQ ([bridget@iaia.org](mailto:bridget@iaia.org) | +1.701.297.7908). If you are in Malaysia, please contact Wallace ShungHui Wong ([wwong@swinburne.edu.my](mailto:wwong@swinburne.edu.my) | +60.128863985).

To ensure that you receive all promised benefits, please confirm your sponsorship by **13 March 2023**. After that date, benefits cannot be guaranteed.

*Check out the benefits available to your company by downloading the full IAIA23 sponsorship opportunities brochure at*  
**[conferences.iaia.org/2023/sponsorship-opportunities.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/sponsorship-opportunities.php)**



## EXHIBITS, BOOTHS, AND DISPLAY MATERIALS

Advertise your company or demonstrate your project: prominent display space is available! Contact IAIA HQ ([kayla@iaia.org](mailto:kayla@iaia.org)) before 13 March 2023 for information and rates on exhibit booths, table space, and poster panels.

A table will be provided for IAIA members to display information, distribute conference papers, or announce/distribute non-commercial items. Delegates must personally be in attendance at the conference to display materials.

## DELEGATE PACK INSERTS

If you would like to distribute materials (brochures, flyers, or other suitable materials) in delegate packets, contact IAIA HQ ([kayla@iaia.org](mailto:kayla@iaia.org)) for rates and shipping information before 13 March 2023.

All materials must be approved by IAIA prior to inclusion in the delegate packets.

# Section activities

## MEET THE IAIA SECTIONS!

IAIA has special-interest Sections that cover different types and aspects of impact assessment.

IAIA Sections provide opportunities for IAIA members with these mutual interests to share experiences and discuss ideas in an informal setting. Sections provide a forum for active topical debate and for development and promotion of good practice. Some Sections have a rolling program of work throughout the year and all have opportunities to meet virtually during the year.

The members of the Sections and their activities are the life-blood of IAIA: through the Sections, IAIA members can feed into the organization of each annual conference, publish different materials, and develop new lines of thought.

### WHY GET INVOLVED IN SECTIONS?

- Sections are a networking forum for IAIA members, where you can meet your colleagues with similar professional interests.
- Sections promote your personal professional development.
- Sections develop interesting activities that you may want to join.
- See [www.iaia.org/section-discussion-forums.php](http://www.iaia.org/section-discussion-forums.php) for more information.

### WHERE CAN I FIND THE SECTIONS AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE?

- All sessions that have been organized by the Sections are clearly identified in the final program.
- Section chairs will be identified by ribbons on their name tags so that you can find them during the conference.

### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please contact **Charles Kelly**, co-chair of the Sections Coordinating Committee ([havedisastercallkelly@gmail.com](mailto:havedisastercallkelly@gmail.com)), or the coordinator of a specific Section as listed here, or visit [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > Membership > Sections for more information.

## Sections

### Academia

Thomas Fischer  
[fischer@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:fischer@liverpool.ac.uk)

### Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

Ijeoma F. Vincent-Akpu  
[ijeoma.vincent-akpu@uniport.edu.ng](mailto:ijeoma.vincent-akpu@uniport.edu.ng)

### Biodiversity & Ecology

Denny Grossman  
[denny.grossman@gmail.com](mailto:denny.grossman@gmail.com)

Jo Treweek  
[jotreweek@gmail.com](mailto:jotreweek@gmail.com)

### Climate Change

Arend Kolhoff  
[akolhoff@eia.nl](mailto:akolhoff@eia.nl)

Wes Fisher  
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Ana Maria Quintero  
[amqiaia@gmail.com](mailto:amqiaia@gmail.com)

### Corporate Stewardship & Risk Management

Catherine Garcia  
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Katie Thompson  
[katie.consulting@gmail.com](mailto:katie.consulting@gmail.com)

### Cultural Heritage

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Chris Polglase  
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### Disasters & Conflicts

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Annica Waleij  
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### Emerging Technologies

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Miltos Ladikas  
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### Governance and Implementation Systems

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### Health

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### Indigenous Peoples

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### Public Participation

John Sinclair  
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# Conference information

## LOCATION AND DATES

IAIA23 will take place from 8-11 May 2023 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching, with adjunct events planned before, during, and after the conference. Activities will take place at the convention centre unless otherwise noted.

The address is Demak-Isthmus Bridge, Jalan, Keruing, Sejingkat, 93050 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia | [www.bccck.com.my/](http://www.bccck.com.my/).

## LANGUAGE USED (CONFERENCE)

English is the primary language used at IAIA conferences. Unless otherwise noted, all sessions will be held in English.

## FINAL PROGRAM

IAIA plans to have a PDF of the final program available on the website approximately one month prior to the conference, and it will be available in hard copy at conference check-in at the convention centre.

The preliminary program contains the tentative schedule and plans; be sure to check the final program to confirm details of activities in which you would like to participate. Please note registration deadlines for special events.

The final program will also be available in the IAIA23 mobile app, which delegates can use to search for sessions and speakers, select favorite sessions to create a personal agenda, take notes, and more. The mobile app will be available approximately two weeks prior to the conference.

## PUBLICATIONS

IAIA plans to publish optional conference papers and PowerPoint slides online following the conference. A Program Committee representative will contact you with details upon acceptance of your paper or poster abstract.

Participants are encouraged to submit their papers for possible publication in IAIA's journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*. See [www.tandfonline.com/r/iapa](http://www.tandfonline.com/r/iapa) for submission information.

## CONFERENCE ATTIRE

IAIA conferences are generally business casual.

## PRESENTATION EQUIPMENT

PowerPoint projectors and laptop computers will be provided in each session room. Presenters are responsible for arranging and paying in advance for any other equipment needed for their presentations. Contact IAIA HQ ([kayla@iaia.org](mailto:kayla@iaia.org)) for price information and to order equipment before 4 April 2023. For on-site inquiries, payment will be required at time of request, and IAIA cannot guarantee that equipment will be available.

## BUSINESS SERVICES

To avoid equipment rental costs which would necessarily be passed on to delegates in the form of higher registration fees, IAIA does not provide copying, printing, computers or other business services or equipment on-site.

Please plan to arrive prepared, or contact your hotel in advance to ensure that it offers any facilities you may need.

## MEALS

IAIA will provide lunches 9-11 May and coffee breaks 8-11 May at the convention centre.

Based on the data collected via registration forms, IAIA will estimate a percentage of vegetarian meals. This does not guarantee accommodation of individual preference.

## ACCESSIBILITY

If you have a disability and/or have special accessibility needs and require assistance, please contact IAIA HQ ([kayla@iaia.org](mailto:kayla@iaia.org) | +1.701.297.7908) by 12 April 2023 to discuss your specific needs.

## VIDEO/AUDIO POLICY

Individuals officially identified by IAIA may photograph, videotape, and/or audiotape conference events. By attending the conference, you agree to allow your image to be used by IAIA. Individuals are not permitted to record with personal audio or video equipment or other recording devices such as cell phones, cameras, or recorders without prior permission from IAIA and the speaker/presenter.

## INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

IAIA, the organizing committee, and the venue will not be responsible for medical expenses, accidents, losses, or other unexpected damage to property belonging

to conference participants, either during or as a result of the conference and during all tours and events. Participants are strongly advised to arrange their own insurance for health and accident, lost luggage, and trip cancellation.

## REGISTRATION AND FEES

All conference participants, including delegates, sessions chairs, invited speakers, organizers, exhibitors, and paper and poster presenters, are required to register for the conference at the in-person or exhibitor rate.

IAIA does not have funds available to pay registration and/or travel expenses for program participants.

In-person delegates will receive a name badge upon check-in. The badge is an official pass and must be worn to obtain entry to conference functions. If tickets are required for any events, they will be distributed by HQ. All delegates will receive access instructions for the mobile app in advance of the conference.

**IAIA members:** If it is more convenient for you to pay your membership dues at the same time as conference registration, please feel free to do so. Your membership will then be extended one year from your anniversary date.

**Non-members:** The non-member rate does not include IAIA membership. Join IAIA or renew your membership at [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) before or during the registration process to enjoy discounted member rates.

**Students:** The student rate includes a one-year membership. If you are a current member, your membership will be extended one year from your anniversary date.

**Affiliate members:** Members of IAIA Affiliates having an active MoU with IAIA may register at the IAIA member rate. This rate does not include IAIA membership. You must provide your Affiliate's number to take advantage of this offer.

## PAYMENT AND REFUND POLICIES

Registration fees should accompany the registration form. To qualify for the Early Bird rate, both the registration form and payment must be received by 8 February 2023.

Fees are accepted by MasterCard, Visa, or American Express and are charged in US Dollars (USD). Checks made payable to IAIA in USD drawn on a US bank are also accepted.

Registration closes 12 April 2023. Pre-registration and pre-payment by 12 April are required. Cash payments on-site will not be accepted.

IAIA will refund registration fees upon written request received before 12 April 2023. A US\$125 processing fee will be retained. After 12 April, no refunds will be issued for cancellations or no-shows. Substitutions for paid registrants may be made in writing without financial penalty. Refunds will be issued after the conference.

# General information

## HOST CITY

Exotic and vibrant Kuching, Sarawak, is poised on the world's third largest island, Borneo. A haven of charming cultural heritage, invigorating adventure, and breathtaking natural wonders in ancient rainforests and towering mountains, natural resources (timber, oil, and gas among them), and quaint colonial architecture, Sarawak has a stunning backdrop of cultural diversity and avant-garde city development to match.

## CONFERENCE HOTELS

IAIA has negotiated room blocks and conference rates at a number of hotels near the convention center. See more information at [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > IAIA23 > More Info > Plan Your Stay.

## CLIMATE

Kuching has an equatorial climate. The temperature is relatively uniform throughout the year – within the range of 23°C/73°F early in the morning to 32°C/90°F during the day. Humidity is consistently high in the lowlands, ranging from 80-90%.

## LANGUAGE USED

Bahasa Malaysia (National Language), English, Mandarin and some Chinese dialects are widely spoken.

## PASSPORTS AND VISAS

All attendees from outside Malaysia are responsible for making sure they have the correct documentation to enter the country. Delegates are strongly advised to explore visa requirements as early as possible, and should a visa be required, to apply as soon as possible as the process can be time consuming.

Visitors to Malaysia must be in possession of a valid passport or travel document with a minimum validity of six months beyond the period of stay.

For those member states which require a visa, applications should be submitted to the nearest Malaysian overseas mission with the following documentation:

1. Visa application form with three (3) passport-sized photographs
  2. National passport with remaining minimum validity period of six (6) months
  3. Letter of introduction or invitation letter
- No visa is required for visit duration of within one month for nationals of all ASEAN countries except Myanmar. For a stay exceeding one month a visa will be required, except for nationals of Brunei and Singapore.
  - No visa is required for citizens of the United States of America visiting Malaysia for social, business, or academic purposes (except for employment).
  - For nationals of Israel, visas are required and permission must be granted from Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysia.
  - Nationals of countries other than those stated above (with the exception of Israel) are allowed to enter Malaysia without a visa for visit duration of within one month.

## TRANSPORTATION TO KUCHING

Regular Malaysia Airlines flights connect Kuching with Johor Bahru, Kota Kinabalu, Kuala Lumpur, Miri, and Sib. Malaysia's budget airline, AirAsia, operates frequent flights to Kuching from Kuala Lumpur, Johor Bahru, Kota Kinabalu, Penang Miri, Bintulu, and Sib. MASWings operates the Rural Air Service, flying Twin Otters & Fokker 50s to 40 destinations across East Malaysia. Connections to other destinations are via Kuala Lumpur, Kota Kinabalu, or Singapore. Check airline websites for ticket prices and the latest deals.

## TRANSPORTATION WITHIN KUCHING

Airport to city hotels by taxi are approximately 9 minutes/9.5 kilometers and cost between RM25-RM35. Grab (e-hailing app similar to Uber) costs between RM8-10.

## BUSINESS HOURS

General business hours are Monday to Friday from 08:00 - 13:00 and 14:00 - 17:00; Saturday from 08:00 - 13:00.

Shopping centers, supermarkets, restaurants, and mini markets are generally open daily from 10:00 - 22:00.

## SMOKING

Smoking is banned in enclosed public spaces, which includes restaurants, bars, shops, and public transport.

## CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS

The currency in Malaysia is the Malaysian Ringgit (MYR). Conversion rate is 4.5MYR to 1USD and rounded to the nearest whole figure. ATMs can be found on nearly every corner or in convenience stores close to your hotel or the venue. Credit cards are widely accepted.

## TIPPING

Tipping is not typical in Kuching. Restaurants usually include a 10% service charge in the price. For other services, you may tip RM5-10; it is appreciated but not required.

## ELECTRICITY

In Malaysia the power sockets are of type G. The standard voltage is 240 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

## TAXES

GST (goods and services tax) is charged on all taxable supplies of goods and services in Malaysia except those specifically exempted. TRS (tourist refund scheme) allows tourists to claim GST paid on eligible goods purchased from an Approved Outlet in Malaysia. The tourist can then claim a GST refund from an Approved Refund Agent when the tourist leaves Malaysia by air mode from one of the Approved Malaysian Airports. See [www.customs.gov.my/en/tp/Pages/tp\\_gtrs.aspx](http://www.customs.gov.my/en/tp/Pages/tp_gtrs.aspx) for more information.

## VISITOR INFORMATION

Visit [sarawaktourism.com](http://sarawaktourism.com) for information on local attractions and guides.

OTHER HELPFUL SITES

[www.sarawak2discover.com](http://www.sarawak2discover.com)

[businesseventssarawak.com](http://businesseventssarawak.com)





## ABOUT THE HOST

Swinburne is a world-ranked university leading the way in innovation, industry engagement, and social inclusion. Our education, high-quality research, and industry partnerships create positive change for students, staff, and the community.



## ABOUT IAIA

The **International Association for Impact Assessment** was organized in 1980 to bring together researchers, practitioners, and users of various types of impact assessment from all over the world. IAIA members number over 5,000 from over 125 countries, including those from its 17 national affiliates. IAIA activities are carried out locally and regionally through its extensive network of affiliates and branches.

**IAIA's Vision:** IAIA is the leading global network on best practice in the use of impact assessment for informed decision making regarding policies, programs, plans and projects.

**IAIA's Mission:** To provide the international forum for advancing innovation and communication of best practice in all forms of impact assessment so as to further the development of local, regional, and global capacity in impact assessment.

**IAIA's Values:** IAIA promotes the application of integrated and participatory approaches to impact assessment, conducted to the highest professional standards. IAIA believes the assessment of the environmental, social, economic, cultural, and health implications for proposals to be a critical contribution to sound decision-making processes, and to equitable and sustainable development. IAIA is committed to the promotion of sustainability, the freedom of access to information, and the right of citizens to have a voice in decisions that affect them. When we assess the impact of policies, plans, programs, or projects, we promote the free flow of complete, unbiased and accurate information to decision makers and affected parties. We believe that impact assessments should be inclusive and comprehensive, addressing the broader social and health impacts as well as any impacts on the biophysical environment. Respect for human rights and human dignity should underpin all assessments. We acknowledge that we have a duty of care to both present and future generations.

## REDUCING THE CARBON FOOTPRINT

IAIA continues to strongly support the need to reduce the carbon footprint of our conferences.

To this end, US\$5 from every conference registration will be donated to a local organization for further environmental causes.

IAIA encourages conference delegates to travel green! See Green Your Travel ([conferences.iaia.org/2023/green-your-travel.php](https://conferences.iaia.org/2023/green-your-travel.php)) for some suggestions to help you get started.

CONFERENCE CHAIR  
Weng Marc Lim

PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
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Adam Long She  
Charles Kelly  
Bridget John  
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# DO NOT MISS THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY, EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO ADVANCING THE ART AND SCIENCE OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT!

## What sets IAIA conferences apart from other conferences? Past IAIA delegates say...

They have great ambiance: people at IAIA tend to be open, willing to help, advise, and support each other

“

IAIA is really important for the development of impact assessment—and what an amazing contact arena it is!

“

They are interdisciplinary—various aspects of impact assessment (health, social, environment, strategic, etc.) are represented

“

I always learn something new at an IAIA conference.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE!

See page 21 for information.

## Important dates and deadlines

*Please note dates are firm.*

### 7 November 2022

- Paper and poster abstract submission deadline

### 14 November 2022

- Energy Capacity Building Stipend application deadline

### 6 December 2022

- Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship application deadline

### 6 January 2023

- Students and Young Professionals Bursary application deadline
- Conference Inclusiveness Bursary application deadline

### 8 February 2023

- Early Bird registration rate ends
- Last date presenters and session chairs may register and pay in full to be included in the final program

### 13 March 2023

- Sponsorship confirmation needed to be recognized in final program
- Deadline for technical visit and training course registration
- Deadline for exhibitors and requests for inserts in delegate bags

### 4 April 2023

- Requests for special audio-visual equipment due

### 12 April 2023

- Registration closes

### 6-7 May 2023

- Pre-conference training courses and technical visits

### 8-11 May 2023

- IAIA23

### 12 May 2023

- Post-conference technical visits



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