

USAID'S OPTIONAL SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK



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WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT SIA?

This presentation is focused on ESIA best practice in project implementation for US foreign assistance Activities

Analyzes challenges

Proposes a way forward

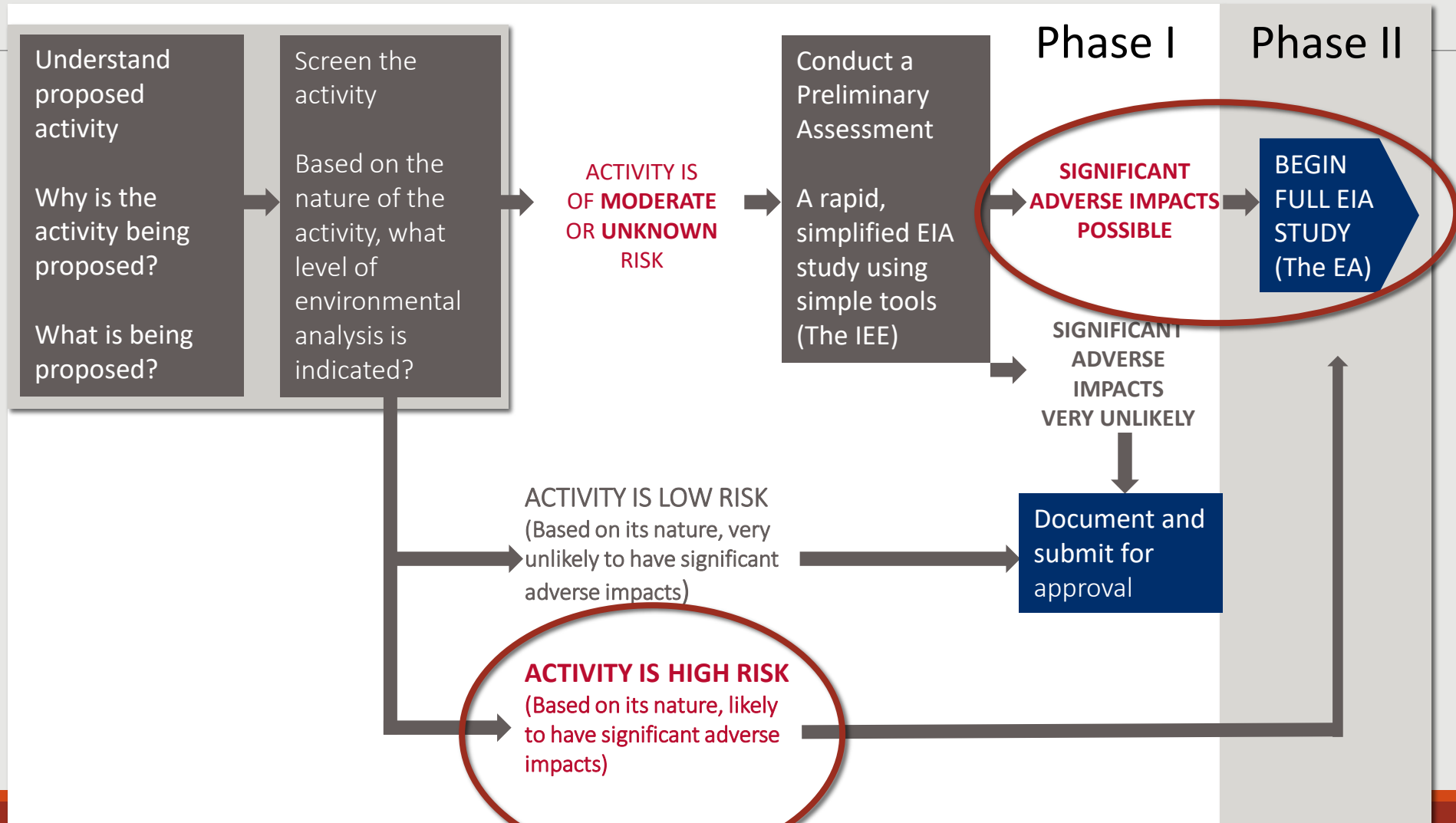
USAID does not require SIA per se, but some social impacts must be addressed under 22 CFR 216



Objective and presentation focus

- Objective
 - To explore what USAID considers as inclusive Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and challenges therein
 - To look at specific components of social impact assessment included in USAID'S OPTIONAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT
- Presentation focus:
 - How USAID tries to integrate social issues into an ESIA
 - Challenges
 - Way forward and requests feedback

USAID'S IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL EIA PROCESS



Special Acknowledgement **Bryony
Walmsely** for her special
contribution to the following slides

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WHAT DOES 'SOCIAL' MEAN?

- Not often defined, even if required/specified in ESIA law
- Vanclay (2003) states that *“SIA is analysing, monitoring and managing the social consequences of development including the intended and unintended consequences, both positive and negative of planned interventions (policies, programmes, plans and projects).”*
- SIA is best understood as an umbrella that embodies the evaluation of all impacts on humans and on all the ways in which people and communities interact with their socio-cultural, economic and biophysical surroundings (IAIA)

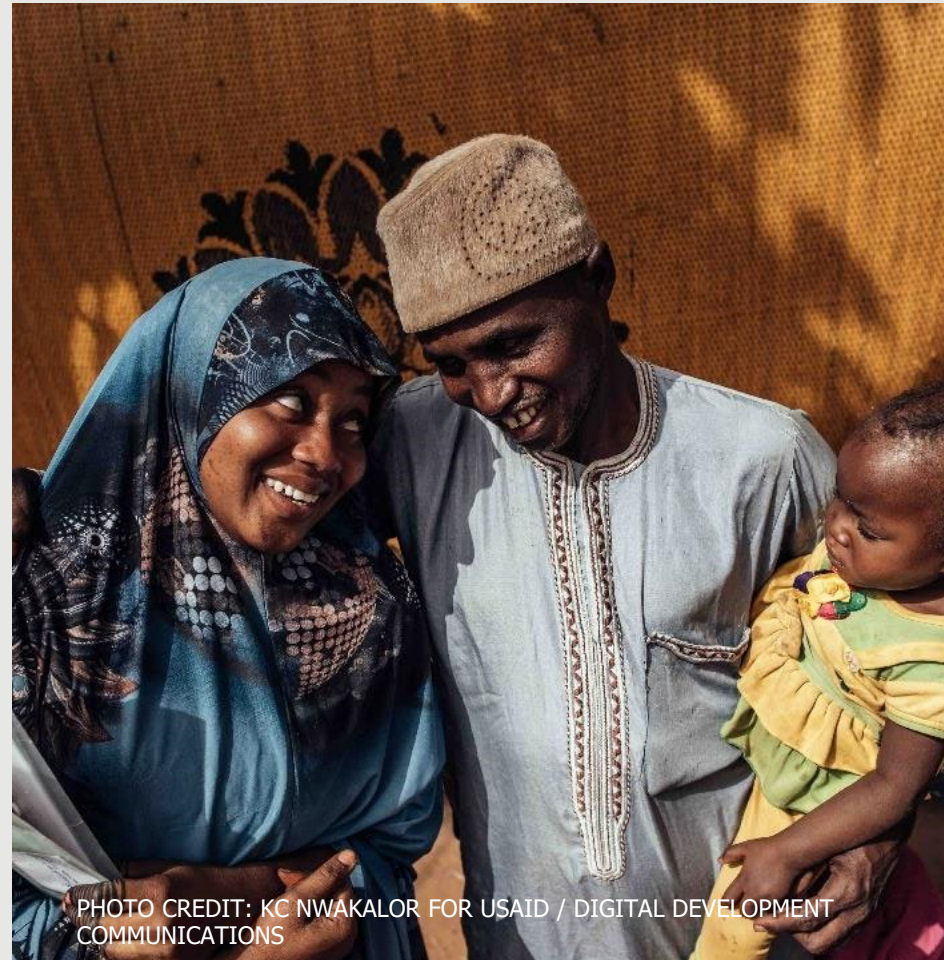


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WHAT DOES 'SOCIAL' INCLUDE?

ECONOMIC ASPECTS

- Local economy
- Employment
- Livelihoods
- Income

VULNERABLE GROUPS

(women, youth, elderly, disabilities, LGBTQI, IDP, minorities, etc.)

- Role in society
- Equity
- Decision-making
- Safety
- Discrimination

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Age
- Sex
- Population
- Settlement
- Education & skills
- Migration patterns
- Ethnicity

RESOURCES & USE

- Ecosystem services
- Resource values
- Land use
- Land tenure

WHAT DOES SOCIAL INCLUDE (*contd.*)?

HEALTH

- Occupational health and safety
- Community health
- Wellbeing
- Quality of life
- Mental health
- Major diseases
- Clinics and health services

CULTURE

- Beliefs
- Customs
- Language
- Religion
- Cultural heritage
- Archaeology
- History
- Traditional governance
- Indigenous knowledge
- Aesthetics

SERVICES

- Schools and tertiary institutions
- Water
- Sanitation
- Electricity
- Telecommunications
- Waste services
- Amenities
- Markets



CLIMATE CHANGE

WHAT ARE SOCIAL IMPACTS?

- A social impact is a change affecting one or more of:
 - People's way of life
 - Their culture
 - Their community
 - Their political systems
 - Their environment
 - Their health and well being
 - Their personal and property rights
 - Their fears and aspirations
 - Their means of earning a living or surviving

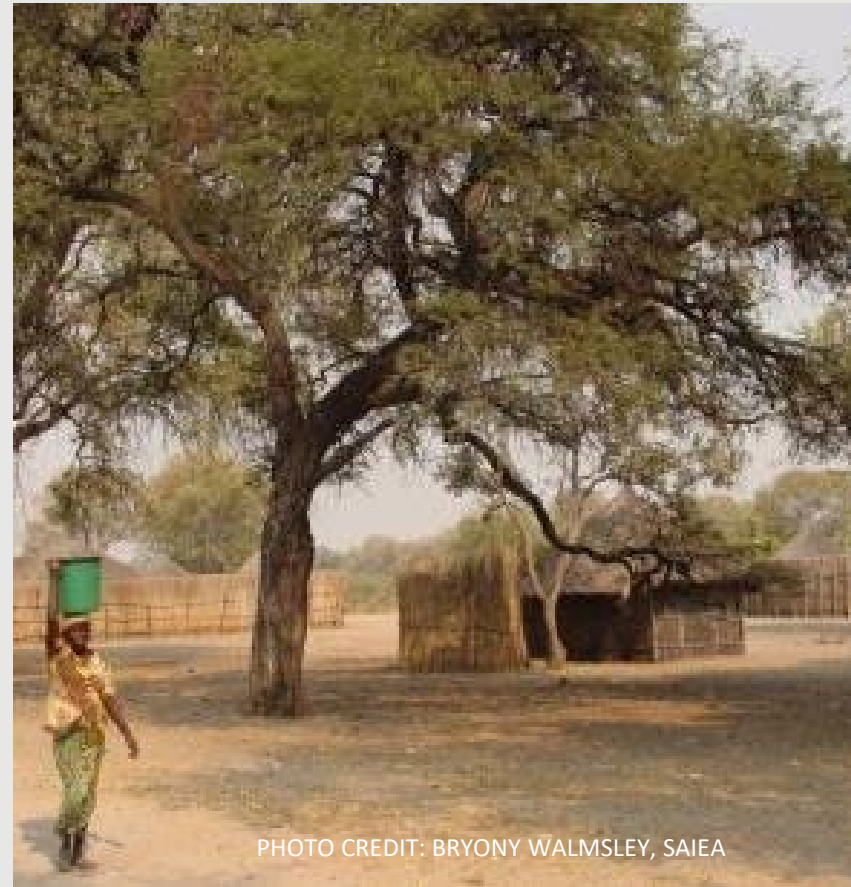


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EXAMPLES OF ADVERSE SOCIAL IMPACTS

Resettlement

Increased inequality in
community

Increased migration

Disturbance of cultural
or historic sites

Restricted access to
community resources

Increased noise or light
pollution

Human trafficking,
increase in STDs, other
social impacts from
worker camps

Loss of land use for
customary practices

Increased risk of
death/injury due to
construction, traffic
patterns

Exacerbate land tenure
conflicts or violence

Occupational hazards

Other?

CORE VALUES OF SIA (from IAIA*)

- Fundamental Human Rights
- Protected by law
- Good health and quality of life
- Self-determination/ decision-making
- Focus on better development outcomes

By doing a comprehensive SIA, you address most of the relevant human rights (in the project context), but a Human Rights Impact Assessment may be indicated in certain circumstances

*International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA):

<https://www.iaia.org/pdf/Sections/SIA/IAIA%20SIA%20International%20Principles.pdf>

SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES of SIA (Adapted from IAIA)

Considers:

- Equity
- Predictability

Aims to:

- Benefit
- Avoid or reduce adverse impacts



SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES of SIA (*contd.*)

Also considers:

- Different groups experience impacts differently
- Diverse cultural values
- Human rights
- Social sustainability
- Establishing baseline conditions
- Scope:
 - type of project
 - location
 - social context
- Approach

SIA SHOULD INCLUDE (Vanclay, 2003):

Topic	Specialist study (if required)
Aesthetics	Visual impact assessment
Archaeology and historical heritage (past) and present (culture)	Heritage impact assessment
Community structure and societal functioning	Basic SIA
Demography (incl. education, skills, age, sex)	Basic SIA
Economic and fiscal impacts	Economic impact assessment/CBA
Gender	Gender impact assessment
Health and wellbeing	Health impact assessment
Indigenous rights	Indigenous peoples assessment

SIA SHOULD INCLUDE *contd*:

Topic	Specialist study (if required)
Infrastructure and services	Basic SIA and project feasibility study
Institutional analysis	Part of overall EIA legal and institutional assessment
Land use, rights and tenure	Basic SIA (RAP, LRP)
Livelihoods and income	Basic SIA (LRP)
Leisure and tourism	Economic Impact Assessment or specialist study
Political system (governance, power, democratisation)	Basic SIA
Poverty	Basic SIA
Resource issues (access, ecosystem services)	Basic SIA & biodiversity study



Splitting

Integrated
approach

THE CHALLENGE FOR USAID

Separate Gender studies

Separate Sustainability studies

Are not necessarily integrated into ESIA

Reg 216 is almost 50years old

ADS 210 and 204 needs to be reviewed

SOME PROGRESS SO FAR



INTERNAL POLICIES (ADS 204) under review

INTERNAL POLICIES (ADS 201) is soon going to be reviewed

Various Capacity building efforts incorporate SIA principles

Environmental officers (MEOs) more conscious of social impacts (even in subproject review)

GOING FORWARD

Leadership needs to push for REVIEW OF the USAID
Environmental Assessment Regulation 22 CFR 216

Your ideas are also Welcome!!

Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA23 app.



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