In pursuit of the environment impact assessment a challenge in open data access and sharing

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Background

Aims

To infer to biodiversity data FAIR-ification in planning, assessment & monitoring to respond to ecosystem challenges in proposed development areas and mitigate increasing threats.

To highlight possible recommendations that shape interoperability in safeguarding species during project phases.
Methods & approaches

A simple review was undertaken on accessed National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Uganda approved Statements with awarded certificates 2019 – 2022. 100 reports were reviewed which include multinational financed, Private Sector, Oil & Gas and Extractives. During the review the following were taken in the considerations:

1. Methods used during the baseline data collection on biodiversity e.g. design of the study
2. Analysis
3. Synthesized results
4. Presence of annexes on each report e.g. checklists

Where all 4 criteria was achieved were ranked 100%, partially with 3 above 60% with 2 were 30% & with 1 were rated 10%
Summary of findings

Fairing of Categorical Ranking

- **Multinational financed**: 7 No. of ESIS reviewed
- **Oil & Gas**: 0 0 0
- **Private Sector**: 20 3 13
- **Extractives**: 4 19 8

Sectors subjected to the review

- 100%
- 60%
- 30%
- 10%
Most impacts on biodiversity happen

Newly completed road

R. Nile crossing bridge in MFNP, Uganda
Next on Data collection, curation, management

Dickcissel Nest Card

Date found: __________

Location: _______________  GPS: __________

Nest #: _______________

Nest marker Location: _______________

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Next on Biodiversity EIA Data

- Biodiversity EIA Data & information should freely be available to everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents or other mechanisms of control.

- EIA & information is broadly understood as including activities that:
  - facilitate integrate & model baseline process
  - Improve on involvement, awareness of gathering process
  - create synergies between components in the process
  - advocate & strengthen or removal of financial barriers in the process to include sharing data, re-using data and building/curating databases
Let’s continue the conversation!
Post questions and comments in the IAIA23 app.

Which institutions are key partners without whom this will not succeed?

What are the needed strategic biodiversity EIA data priorities?

What are the key biodiversity EIA data assets (low hanging fruit) to prioritize?

What are the three most important next steps to advance an biodiversity EIA data Strategy to safeguard species?

The most significant barriers preventing biodiversity EIA data FAIR practices