

# SEA Guidance for Renewable Energy:

Progress and prospects



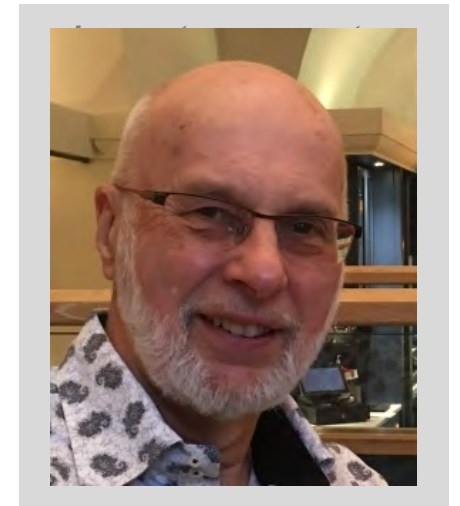
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**Barry Dalal-Clayton**

**Miles Scott-Brown**

**IAIA'23 Kuching: 8-11 May 2023**

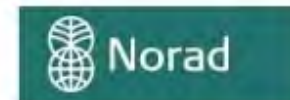
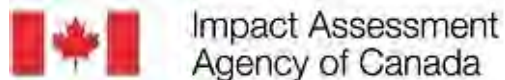


# **SEA Guidance for Renewable Energy**

## **Progress and prospects**

# Financial support: Thankyou to:

- ♣ **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**
- ♣ **Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)**
- ♣ **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**
- ♣ **Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)**
- ♣ **Netherlands Commission for Environment Assessment (in kind)**



# Handout - background



## IAIA Initiative STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) GUIDANCE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

### Seeking reviewers for SEA Guidance for Renewable Energy

Reviews due 15 June 2023



IAIA is pleased to announce that the **preliminary draft of a guidance document on the use of SEA for renewable energy** is now available for review and comment. The chapters can be accessed as PDF files from the IAIA website ([www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org)) under Resources > Hot Topics.

The guidance covers the basics of SEA (origins, theory, key steps, methods, and tools, etc.) and includes chapters on key issues for hydropower, solar, wind, geothermal, tidal and bioenergy as well as the retirement of coal-fired power plants and closure of associated coal mines.

IAIA welcomes your comments and suggestions. General feedback on each chapter can be given on the website. In order to provide more specific feedback and to suggest edits/additions, please request the Word files for the chapters you are interested in by emailing [SEA4renewables@gmail.com](mailto:SEA4renewables@gmail.com).

Reviews are due by **15 June 2023**.

[www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > Resources > Hot Topics

### About the initiative

Climate change is a major driver of the need for an energy transition away from fossil fuels to renewable sources. Recognizing that the use of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) can greatly assist in the necessary shift towards renewable energy, IAIA launched a multi-phase initiative in 2022 as a key element in its wider Climate Change Action Plan. It aims to:

- Develop guidance for SEA for renewable energy
- Promote use of the guidance for SEAs undertaken for policies, plans and programs that support the transition towards for renewable energy with low carbon future.

This Guidance plugs a major gap in how we deal with the climate change challenge. It seeks to promote the early application of strategic environmental (and social) assessment of policies, plans, and programs concerned with the energy mix and particularly renewable energy. It provides direction for identifying the environmental and social risks associated with retiring coal-fired power plants and associated coal mines, as well as with developing the full range of renewable energy opportunities that lie at the heart of the global energy transition.

### How can you help?

- Register to join the Reference Group ([email SEA4renewables@gmail.com](mailto:SEA4renewables@gmail.com)).
- Let IAIA know if your organization is able to provide funding support.
- Suggest contacts/introductions for organisations/individuals who might be able to undertake technical reviews and/or contribute to particular chapters.
- Review chapters and provide feedback at [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > Resources > Hot Topics.
- Provide suggestions for implementation and promotion of the guidance (Phase C).

### About the initiative *continued*

Miles Scott-Brown and Professor Barry Dalal-Clayton have been engaged by IAIA to lead this important three-phase initiative. We are now progressing through Phase B and are pleased to share the preliminary draft guidance.

A: LAUNCH PHASE <i>January-June 2022</i>	B: DEVELOPMENT PHASE <i>January-December 2023</i>	C: IMPLEMENTATION/ROLL-OUT <i>2024-2027 onwards</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Develop the scope/contents of guidance, prepare inventory of existing SEA guidelines</li><li>Establish oversight through a 'Partners Council' and 'Technical Advisory Committee'</li><li>Establish a Reference Group of interested organizations and individuals</li><li>Prepare an Inception Report on how to proceed in Phase B and C</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prepare draft guidance (preliminary, full and working drafts)</li><li>Receive inputs from technical experts</li><li>Open reviews and present progress at IAIA'23 in Kuching</li><li>Engage with partners for moving to implementation in Phase C</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Disseminate the guidance</li><li>Convert guidance to an online, searchable resource</li><li>Hold regional and other workshops for training and capacity building</li><li>Voluntary application of the guidance in various countries and developing case studies</li></ul>

A **Partners Council** has been established to steer the initiative. Current members include Asian Development Bank, International Finance Corporation, UNEP, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, Norwegian Environment Agency, IUCN, Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment, and African Development Bank.

A **Technical Advisory Committee** has been established to provide technical support and guidance, review draft materials, and help shape steps and activities for preparing guidance.

A larger **Reference Group** of individuals and organizations interested in the project has been established to engage in broader debate and information/experience gathering and to build support for the initiative and its outputs, and for its subsequent uptake.

### Immediate next steps

15 June 2023	..... First consultation window on the preliminary draft ends
31 July 2023	..... Full draft produced based on responses received and available for second review
30 September 2023	..... Second consultation window on the full draft ends
October 2023	..... Working draft available and submitted to IAIA for approval

### Support for the initiative

Currently IAIA has raised 50% of the US\$300,000 budget for this initiative. We are grateful to the following organizations for their generous financial and in-kind support for this initiative:

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)
- International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (*in kind*)

For more information or to join the Reference Group, contact:  
[SEA4renewables@gmail.com](mailto:SEA4renewables@gmail.com)

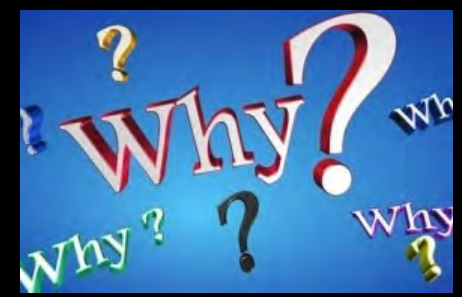


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[info@iaia.org](mailto:info@iaia.org) | [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org)

## More information & download guidance:

\*\*\* [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > Resources > Hot Topics

# Rationale



- ♣ **International/national commitments** to address climate change and support for the **Energy Transition (ET)**
  - ♣ requires the retirement of coal and other fossil fuel power facilities and movement towards renewable energy (RE) supplies (wind, hydropower, solar, tidal, bioenergy & geothermal)
- ♣ IAEA recognizes need to foster the application of **SEA to support planning for ET** and development of RE
- ♣ Initial focus is on the use of **SEA for RE by national governments** (applied to energy sector PPPs)
- ♣ Requires a strong focus on **capacity strengthening and outreach** beyond guidance development

# A Multi Phase Initiative

- ♣ **A: Launch Phase** (January - June 2022):
  - ♣ Outline of the scope/contents of guidance, inventory of existing SEA guidelines
  - ♣ Establish oversight through a 'Partners Council' and 'Technical Advisory Committee'
  - ♣ Established Reference Group
  - ♣ Inception report on how to proceed in Phase B and C



# A Multi Phase Initiative

## ♣ **B: Development Phase** (January – December 2023)

- ♣ Preparing preliminary, draft & working draft guidance
- ♣ Inputs by RE experts, TAC, RG and IAIA members
- ♣ Engaging with partners for moving to Phase C (implementation of guidance, lessons learning, training, etc.)
- ♣ Open review and progress presentation at IAIA'23 in Kuching



# A Multi Phase Initiative

- ♣ **C: Implementation/roll-out** (2024 – 2027 onwards)
  - ♣ Dissemination of guidance
  - ♣ Converting guidance to an online, searchable resource (rolling)
  - ♣ Regional and other workshops (piggy-backing) (awareness-raising, training, etc)
  - ♣ Testing guidance in various countries – voluntary application to renewable energy PPPs by governments/MDBs, etc.
  - ♣ Lessons learning
  - ♣ Developing case studies of SEAs for RE





# Support bodies

♣ Partners Council

♣ Technical Advisory Committee

♣ Reference Group

# Partners Council



## Role

- ♣ Monitor progress in the initiative
- ♣ Advise and assist on securing sources of funding and support
- ♣ Advise on opportunities to pilot/apply the guidelines
- ♣ Advocate for uptake and application of the SEA guidelines for renewable energy.
- ♣ Planning for implementation of Phase C.

## Members

- ♣ African Development Bank (AfDB)
- ♣ Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- ♣ Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)
- ♣ International Finance Corporation
- ♣ Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (NCEA)
- ♣ Norwegian Environment Agency (NEA)
- ♣ UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- ♣ UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- ♣ World Conservation Union (IUCN)



Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

# Technical Advisory Committee

## Role

- ♣ Provide technical support and guidance for Phases A & B
- ♣ Help shape steps and activities for preparing guidance
- ♣ Review drafts

## Current Members

- ♣ Kate Lazarus (IFC)
- ♣ Emma Marsden (ADB)
- ♣ Bryony Walmsley (IAIA Board and SAIEA South Africa)
- ♣ David Annandale (Consultant, UK)
- ♣ Arend Kolhoff (NCEA, Netherlands)
- ♣ Gaby Factor (IAIA)



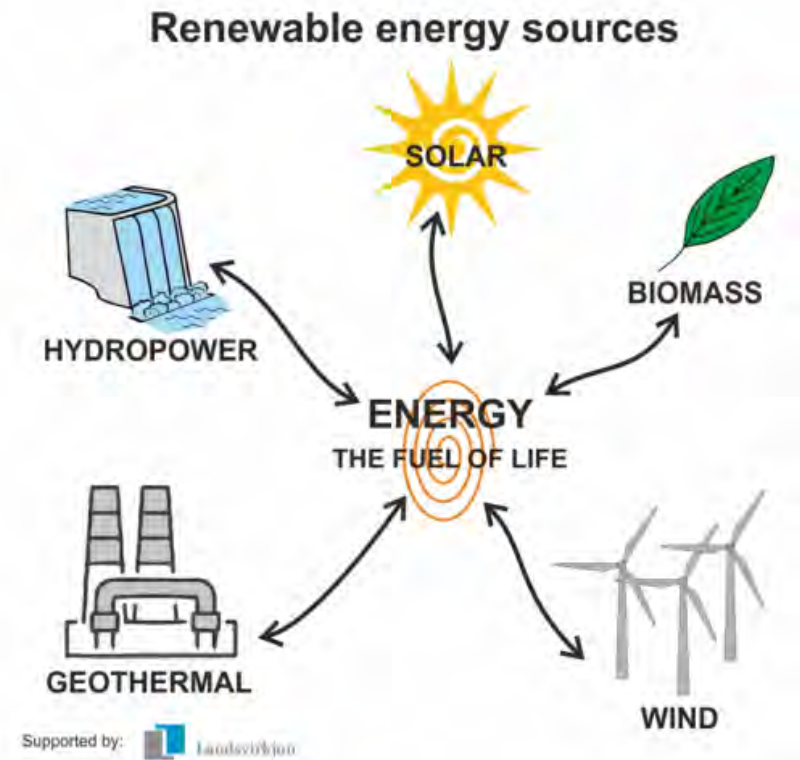
# Reference Group

- ♣ A **larger group** of individuals and organizations that are interested in the project
- ♣ Engage in **broadened debate and information/experience gathering** and build support for the project and its outputs, and subsequent uptake
- ♣ **Sharing experiences** & dialogue
- ♣ **Open** to all interested individuals and organizations



# Engaging With The Private Sector

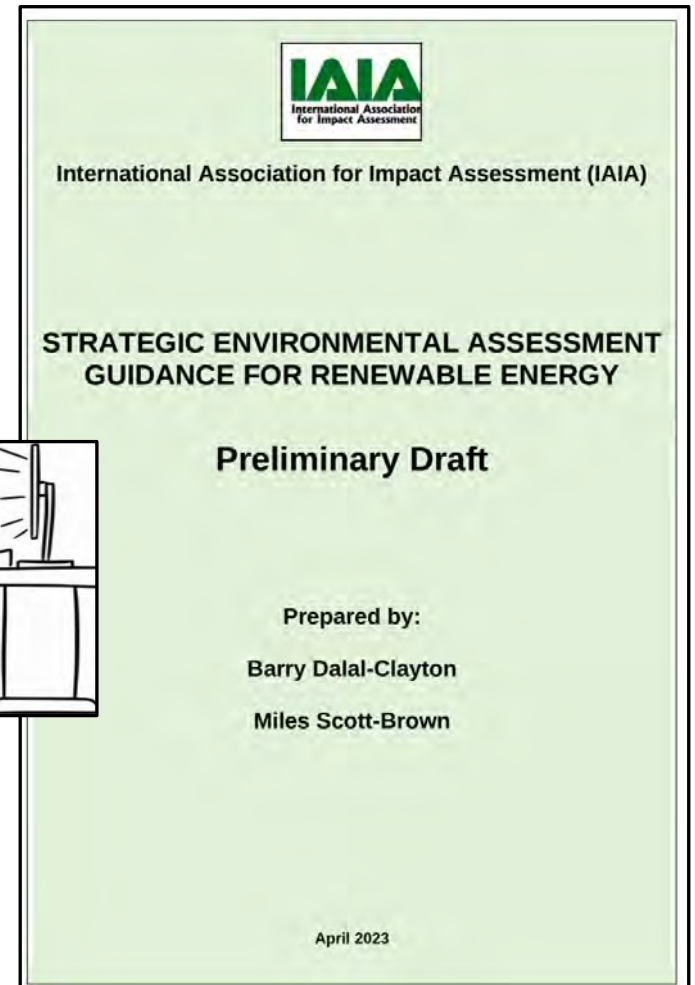
- ♣ **Reaching out** to private sector actors and organizations engaged in investing in/delivering renewable energy (e.g. IRENA, IHA)
- ♣ **Seeking input** (particularly review)
- ♣ **Explaining benefits** of SEA to downstream project level energy planning and development
- ♣ **Securing engagement** in the initiative and developing **case study applications**, and participation in **training**.



# Phase B: Preparing the Guidance

(January – December 2023)

- ♣ **Core drafting team** (BD-C & MS-B)
- ♣ **Preliminary draft** (by mid April 2023)
- ♣ **Full draft** (end July 2023)
- ♣ **Working draft** (October 2023)
- ♣ **Approved by IAIA Board** (December 2023)



Open  
reviews

Download at: [\\*\\*\\*.iaia.org](http://***.iaia.org) > resources > hot-topics

# Contents (may change as guidance developed, or following reviews)

## PRELIMINARIES

Preface

About IAIA

Acknowledgements

Abbreviations and acronyms

Definitions of terms

Aim of the guidance

Structure of the guidance

The IAIA SEA guidance for renewable energy initiative

## PART A: GENERIC GUIDANCE

Chapter 1 **Background** to SEA

Chapter 2 **Legal** requirements and commitments to applying SEA

Chapter 3 **Stages and steps** for undertaking SEA



# Contents

## PART B: GUIDANCE FOR ENERGY PLANS SPECIFIC SECTORS

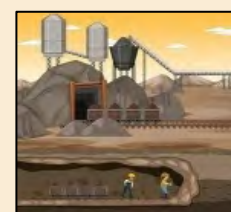
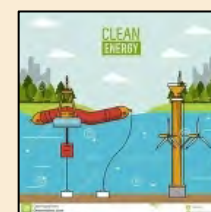
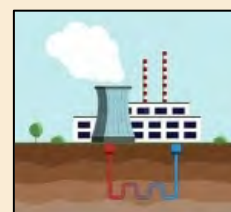
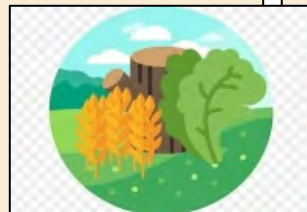
Ch 4 **National/sub-national energy PPPs**

Ch 5 **Hydropower** sub-sector

Ch 6 **Wind** power sub-sector

Ch 7 **Solar** power sub-sector

Ch 8 **Bioenergy** sub-sector



Ch 9 **Geothermal** energy sub-sector

Ch 10 **Tidal** energy sub-sector

Ch 11 Retirement of **coal**-fired power stations And associated mine closures



# Contents

## PART C: OTHER GUIDANCE

### Ch 12 Guidance for **institutions** involved in the energy transition:

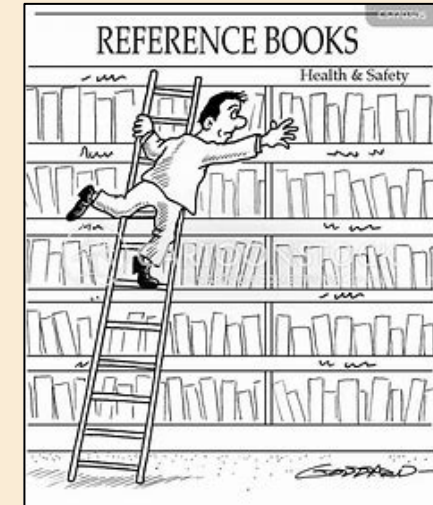
*For all institutions*

*For governments*

*For funding agencies*



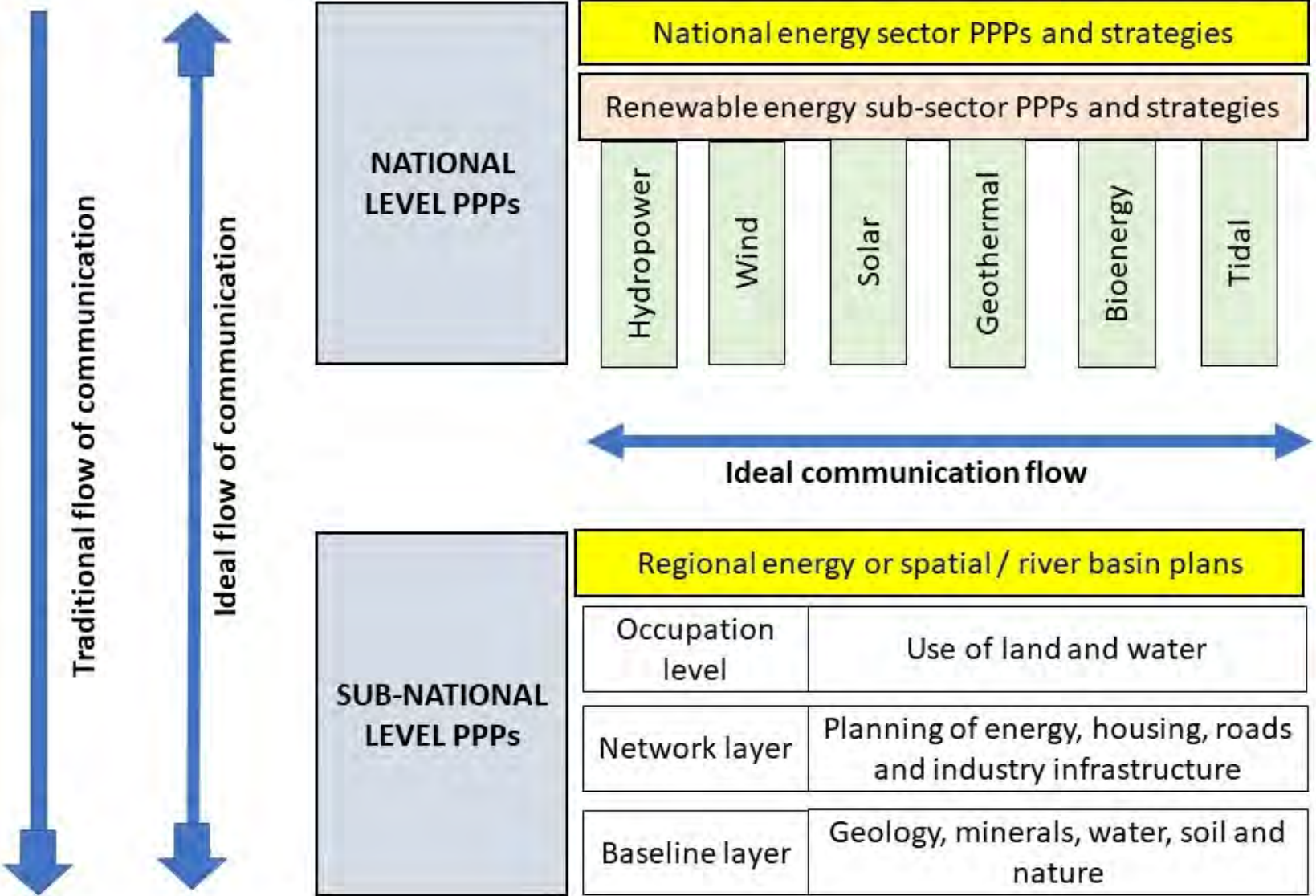
### References



### Annexes



# Energy PPPs



- **More countries are now take decisions (develop PPPs) on new energy infrastructure at both national and sub-national levels.**  
[e.g. Regional Energy Strategies in Netherlands]
- **Vertical v horizontal communication and dialogue**  
[SEA = participatory. Can foster improved communication and dialogue]

# Standard content for RE & coal chapters (Chapters 5 - 11)

- ♣ **Existing SEA guidance** for the sector
- ♣ **Installed capacity** for the sector (global, top countries)
- ♣ **Application (to date) of SEA** in the sector
- ♣ **Background** to the sector (**technologies used**)
- ♣ **Key environmental and socio-economic issues** associated with the sector

*(Note: many are common across sectors)*

I just need  
the main ideas



# Key Environmental Issues for Energy Transition

Theme	CFPP	Coal Mines	Geotherm	Hydro	Solar	Tidal	Wind	Bioenergy
	Early Retirement	Closure	Development					
Integrity of habitats and preservation of biodiversity								
Integrity of protected & sensitive areas								
Delivery of ecosystem services								
Maintenance of air quality								
Fresh water use/demand								
Maintenance of water quality								
Waste (solid, gas, liquid, toxic, hazardous, spoil) & pollution								
Land/water contamination								
Noise and vibration								
Greenhouse gas emissions								
Land degradation (erosion/sedimentation/deforestation)								
Land/marine use change								
Flooding								
Hydrological change (rivers, estuaries)								
Demand for mineral extraction								
Risk of earthquake damage								
Land drainage								
Visual impacts								

**Note:** Issues may be directly related to the retirement/closure of CFPPs/mines or development of RE facilities; or indirectly to the need for associated infrastructure (e.g. access roads, transmission lines) and material sourcing (e.g. minerals).

# Key Socio-economic for Energy Transition

Theme	CFPP	Coal Mines	Geotherm	Hydro	Solar	Tidal	Wind	Bioenergy
	Early Retirement	Closure	Development					
Economic growth								
Legacy socioeconomic issues								
Employment and labour conditions								
Local economy and livelihoods								
Gender and vulnerabilty								
Indigenous communities								
Food security and price								
Skilled workers								
Health and safety								
Physical and economic displacement								
Conflicts								
Migration								
Community engagement and cohesion								
Public services and infrastructure								
Cultural heritage								
Human rights								

**Note:** Issues may be directly related to the retirement/closure of CFPPs/mines or development of RE facilities; or indirectly to the need for associated infrastructure (e.g. access roads, transmission lines) and material sourcing (e.g. minerals).

# How can you help ?

- ♣ **Consider if your organization is interested to join the Partners Council**  
(provide funding or other support (eg for implementation in Phase C))
- ♣ **Review chapters** (available on [\\*\\*\\*.iaia.org](http://***.iaia.org) > resources > hot-topics; or can be emailed to you)
- ♣ **Provide information, boxes for text** (on particular issues)
- ♣ **Develop case studies** (of SEA applications to RE)
- ♣ **Join Reference Group** (to be kept updated)



Thank you!

**Any questions?**

Access guidance at: [\\*\\*\\*.iaia.org](http://***.iaia.org) >resources > hot-  
topics

Send review comments to:  
[SEA4renewables@gmail.com](mailto:SEA4renewables@gmail.com)



## **Contact us**

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Miles Scott-Brown: [miles@cieragroup.com](mailto:miles@cieragroup.com)



# Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA23 app.



**Barry Dalal-Clayton**

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