

## IAIA10 Training Course #5

### Potentials of Strategic Environmental Assessment regarding Climate Change Challenges in Developing and Transition Countries

A practice-orientated training based on the OECD DAC Guidance on SEA and its  
connected Advisory Note on Climate Change

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**Course title**

Potentials of Strategic Environmental Assessment regarding Climate Change Challenges in Developing and Transition Countries

**Level**

Advanced.

**Prerequisites for participants**

Basic knowledge of SEA concepts and practices; preferably participants, who were challenged with the task to adequately reflect climate change in SEAs during their practical work.

**Language of delivery**

English.

**Duration**

Two days.

**Name and contact details of the trainers**

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## Summary of purpose, content, and anticipated learning outcomes

Climate and air feature in the standard list of environmental criteria for all SEAs. Due to the tremendous importance of climate change, its cross-cutting nature, and the complexity of specific risks and solutions, the adequate reflection of climate change within SEA is considered as a great challenge. On the other hand, SEA is one of the tools which is best placed to explore different policy options, to model scenarios for climate change and to test mitigation measures and adaptation solutions in an interactive way with stakeholders and decision-makers. The course will help assessment practitioners as well as stakeholders and decision-makers involved in SEAs to fully exploit these potentials. It is mainly addressing participants from developing countries and will be conducted at advanced level.



The course is based on the assumption, that climate change can be reflected within the structures of an 'ordinary' SEA and does not need a specific assessment tool. The SEA approach of the training is oriented on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Guidance on SEA. The specific challenges of climate change within SEA are specified within a separate Advisory Note by the OECD DAC, which will provide the conceptual framework to the course.

The GTZ training course was adopted by OECD DAC as the official training for implementing the SEA Guidance and was conducted already several times during IAIA Annual Conferences. The version of the course as offered here is further developed to explore through interactive casework simulations how the challenges, potentials and adequate tools can be applied during each step of SEA to adequately reflect mitigation as well as adaptation challenges of climate change.

The course will address an SEA for a land use planning case. Specific questions in respect to climate change include, e.g.:

- How to identify key vulnerabilities from climate changes in respect to land use patterns in a concrete plan? How to make a plan 'climate proven'?
- How to incorporate structural changes in the plan, which reduce the GHG emissions?
- How to calculate GHG emissions during an SEA – including cumulative impacts – and compare different options?

## Detailed description of the course structure and content

### Structure and content

While there is a clear recognition of the need for mitigation and adaptation measures in respect to climate change, many countries, especially from the developing world, lack the know-how and

resources for identifying specific risks and solutions and the institutional capacity to put effective measures in place. SEA is one of the tools which is best placed to explore different policy options, to model scenarios for climate change and to test mitigation measures and adaptation solutions in an interactive way with stakeholders and decision-makers. However, the specific challenges of climate change such as uncertainties of future climate developments, complexity of assessment of risks and design of solutions, as well as the cross-cutting nature of climate change, pose great conceptual and methodical challenges on the adequate reflection of climate change within SEA.

The course will lead with practical, interactive exercises through a whole process of SEA for a concrete planning case of high relevance to adaptation as well as mitigation. The case selected is the SEA for a National land-use plan. Land-use planning has the potential to minimise risks through climate change, e.g. by avoiding settlement of areas endangered by floods or by conserving riverine natural regimes able to protect against floods. In respect to mitigation, land-use structures can be designed in a way which, e.g., minimises traffic needs and, thereby, traffic related GHG emissions.

Specific challenges to be addressed through practical exercises during the particular SEA steps include:

- **Screening:** How far will climate change be relevant for the envisaged land-uses and, therefore, to be included into the SEA for the National land-use plan?
- **Scoping:** Which are the greatest vulnerabilities of land-uses to be addressed by the SEA? Which land-use patterns impact significantly on the GHG balance of the country?
- **Baseline Analysis:** What are the main climate trends, where to get data from, how to interpret existing projections? How will climate change influence expected future developments of key parameters? How to cope with uncertainties of climate predictions?
- **Assessment:** How to compare different planning options in respect to their GHG emissions and their vulnerabilities to climate change? How to adapt proposed options to reduce risks? Is climate change adequately reflected in the planning goals? Does climate change provide opportunities? Are they adequately reflected in the land-use plan? How to put climate change in relation to other assessment parameters? How to handle offsets? How to calculate (cumulative) GHG emissions? Is it possible to compile a comprehensive GHG balance?
- **Stakeholder involvement:** Which stakeholders are most affected by climate change? Who has which stakes in the climate issue? Which development sectors influenced by the land-use plan are most relevant to climate changes?

### Methodology:

The training will apply the same methodology, which was used already with great success during several IAIA Annual Meeting trainings. It employs innovative methods by intensively exploiting opportunities for action learning and group work. Being based on the case work methodology of the Harvard Business School the training focuses on practical approaches to SEA. This methodology allows discussions on locally appropriate SEA approaches (based on insights brought forward by the participants). Furthermore, conclusions will be formulated through joint debate rather than providing 'ready-made' teaching messages.

The sessions are based on

- Short introductory lectures on key aspects of climate change in the particular SEA step (sheets, short texts)
- Individual reading and preparation for the case work.
- Interactive case work in groups of 10-12 people.
- Wrap-up sessions to elaborate the main teaching messages and formulate conclusions.
- Facilitated debate on “how does this relate to your working context?”
- Presentation of real examples on how the subject under discussion in the session worked in practice.
- Action learning elements/exercises.

The case used for the case works will be a SEA on a National land-use plan in a developing country. The case will be fictitious but oriented on real situations. The case will be designed in a way that the main teaching messages are being conveyed in an optimised way.

### **Description of the materials**

The background and working materials will be provided in a folder (costs covered by GTZ). In particular, the training participants will receive the following materials:

- Advisory Note: “Strategic Environmental Assessment and Adaptation to Climate Change” by OECD DAC as general guiding concept.
- “Good Practice Guidance on Applying SEA in Development Co-operation”, the official guidance of the OECD Development Assistance Committee
- Case study: the overall context of the fictitious case.
- Fact / working sheets according to the learning objectives which guides the participants through the case works/sessions. They include concrete working materials such as matrices, check lists etc. These working materials will cover:
  - Scoping
  - Baseline Analysis
  - Assessment of plan objectives
  - Assessment of plan activities
  - Choosing and designing adequate analytical approaches for reflecting climate change during SEA
  - Facilitation and Management of stakeholder participation.
  - Linking SEA and decision-making for improved outcomes
  - Efficient Management of SEA within budgetary and time constraints
- List of references and internet resources on SEA
- Printout of the Power Point Presentation by the trainers

## Provisions for post-conference follow-up

First of all, GTZ offers to discuss with participants the design of SEA approaches in which they are involved prior and during a period of 6 months after the training (via Email). Secondly, participants will be part of the GTZ SEA community which means that they have access to all relevant training materials which will be available on the OECD SEA task team website ([www.seataskteam.net](http://www.seataskteam.net)). This website includes other case works such as transport and land-use planning. The platform is open for discussion on further adaptation of training materials which allows permanent improvement of our concept.

## History of the course

A previous version of the course was developed by the German Technical Cooperation for SEA capacity development in developing and transition countries. It was adopted by the OECD DAC as the official training for implementing its “Good Practice Guidance on Applying SEA in Development Co-operation”. In developing the course, GTZ applied its experiences from the cooperation in the SEA Task Team of OECD DAC as well as its broad experiences with impact assessment tools in bilateral development co-operation in various countries.

This previous version was conducted in the context of planning processes in

- Germany,
- Benin,
- Tunisia,
- Honduras,
- Mauritania,
- Namibia,
- Algeria,
- Indonesia and
- Viet Nam.

The previous training was also delivered

- during the IAIA Annual Conferences 2007 and 2008.
- during the Commission for Sustainable Development CSD-15 (2007) and CSD-16 (2008) in New York,
- during the international McGill-UNEP Master Program in Environmental Assessment at the McGill University (Canada), and

- for the African Development Bank in Tunisia.

The course for IAIA'10 consists of a further development of the previous course with a specific focus on the challenges of climate change within SEA. The case designs, explained methodologies and provided working materials are newly developed to cope with this new approach. The adaptation of the course makes use of experiences by GTZ in several climate change related assessment activities and connected capacities building activities. GTZ is involved in the development of a course implementing the OECD DAC 'Guidance on Adaptation to Climate Change' and a separate course on 'Cities and Climate Change'.

## CV of the trainers

### Curriculum Vitae

Name:	Dipl.-Ing. Alfred Eberhardt
Date of birth:	18 May 1955
Address:	Rammseer Weg 5 b D-24113 Molfsee +49 431 6580666 Rublack.Eberhardt@t-online.de
Education	Dipl.-Ing. (diploma in engineering) in chemical/environmental engineering, University of Dortmund
Present position:	Head of section "Climate Change – Mitigation and Adaptation", Ministry for Agriculture, Environment, and Rural Areas of the German Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein  Consultant to GTZ in the fields of impact assessment, SEA, climate change
Key working areas:	Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) Climate protection policy Sustainable development/Agenda 21 Eco-efficiency/industrial environmental policy
Previous training experiences	Co-author of OECD / DAC adopted SEA course SEA Trainings in Germany, Indonesia, Namibia, Australia, U.S.A., France
SEA experiences	SEA advisory support in Indonesia, Namibia, Tunisia, Thailand, Belarus

## Curriculum Vitae

Name: Bernhard Frey

Date of birth: 3 January 1980

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Education: Master of Arts in Political Science and Sociology, University of  
Trier  
Postgraduate Studies in Project Management in International  
Development Cooperation, Open University of Catalonia

Present position: SEA Project Officer at Project Rioplus / GTZ – Environmental  
Policy and Promotion of Strategies for Sustainable  
Development

Key working areas: Strategic environmental assessment (SEA),  
International environmental policy,  
Sustainable development/Agenda 21

Previous training experiences: SEA trainings in Germany

SEA experiences: SEA advisory support since January 2009