

Preliminary Program and Registration Materials



The Art and Science of Impact Assessment

28th Annual Conference

International Association for Impact Assessment

4-10 May 2008

**Perth Convention Exhibition Centre
Perth, Western Australia**

Abstract deadline: 7 February 2008

IAIA08
PERTH AUSTRALIA

Ways to Participate

Is this your first, 5th, or 25th IAIA conference?

What an opportunity waits for you! Where else can you gather to hear perspectives in impact assessment from 90+ nations—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. And, because impact assessment is such a dynamic field, you are sure to learn something new every year.

**98% OF
IAIA07 DELEGATES
WOULD RECOMMEND
IAIA CONFERENCES TO A
COLLEAGUE!**

Who will benefit from IAIA08?

- Corporate, industry, and foundation leaders
- Policy makers and decision makers
- Practitioners and users of IA
- Consultants
- Government agency staff
- Legislators
- Educators, trainers, and students
- All others with an interest in impact assessment

Why should you attend IAIA08?

- **Networking:** expand and maintain contacts with your peers, clients, and those who conduct, evaluate and require IAs.
- **Education:** explore current best practice principles, recent tools and techniques.
- **Options:** choose from numerous and diverse training courses, theme forums, technical visits, and over 80 sessions ranging from interdisciplinary approaches to topic-specific workshops.
- **Inspiration:** attend and participate in stimulating and thought-provoking discussions.
- **Innovation:** learn about cutting-edge IA theory and practice from around the world.
- **Dissemination:** present your work and receive international feedback.
- **Enjoyment:** participate in social events and IAIA's annual banquet.

Why are IAIA conferences special?

- IAIA is the only international, interdisciplinary conference dedicated to the art and science of impact assessment ... *the only one*.
- Exclusive mix of high-level speakers representing many areas of expertise and interest.
- A very participatory conference: numerous in-depth workshops, roundtables, Q&A sessions, forums, and concurrent sessions mean you can participate actively and present your work and ideas.
- Access to training, papers, publications, tools, techniques, and case studies.

Membership benefits

If you pay the non-member conference rate, you automatically become an IAIA member and can immediately enjoy membership benefits, including:

- **Subscription** to IAIA's quarterly journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal (IAPA)*, plus IAIA's monthly e-news and quarterly newsletter, packed with the latest IA news.
- **Networking tools**, including a searchable membership directory, access to listserv discussion groups, a learning exchange and more—so international expertise is only a click away.
- **Valuable publications and reference materials**, including past conference proceedings, *IAPA* online, EIA Index of Web sites, and a multilingual glossary of impact assessment.
- **NEW in 2008!** Discounted rates on job postings.
- **And more!**

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 2,500 and reside in over 100 countries. 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: IAIA provides an international forum for advancing innovation and communication of best practice in all forms of impact assessment 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.

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Ways to Participate

- Register for a training course
- Submit an abstract for a paper or poster
 - Be inspired by the keynote speeches
 - Attend the AGM
- Submit a topic on site for the Indaba
 - Be a sponsor or exhibitor
- Visit the posters and exhibits
- Participate in a technical visit
 - Network during breaks
- Simply attend and enjoy the conference!

Training courses

IAIA08 offers a wide range of exceptional pre-meeting training courses, with several one- or two-day options on 4-5 May. See pages 25-29 for course descriptions and registration information.

Special and social events

Social events such as the opening reception, banquet, dine outs, and more provide wonderful networking opportunities, local color, a chance to meet new people and to connect with long-time friends. Plan to participate in as many of these events as you can fit into your week in Perth.

Opening session

The opening session at IAIA08 will be a highlight of this conference. See page 8 for a brief biosketch of the keynote speaker.

Poster session and exhibits

Every conference sees an increasingly sophisticated presentation of posters and professional exhibitions. IAIA08 will not disappoint. Information for poster presenters is on page 9 and for exhibitors on page 35.

Theme forums

Theme forums are “cut-above” presentations and discussions which draw together major threads of the conference theme. Descriptions of the proposed forums begin on page 11.

Concurrent sessions

IAIA's special-interest Sections call for conference theme-related papers and posters; additional paper and poster topics have also been submitted. See pages 16-24, and please note the invitation to contribute to the program.

Indaba

IAIA provides space for impromptu discussions and “pop-up” topics in unanticipated/unscheduled areas of interest. “Indaba” sessions, from a concept first introduced at IAIA95 in South Africa, are held at the end of each day, with the opportunity to “schedule” your topic throughout the day. The informality and spontaneity guarantee a lively end to each day's sessions.

Committees and Sections

Much of the cutting-edge work of IAIA is the direct result of Committee and Section activity, and the only chance for members to meet throughout the year is at the annual conference. See the IAIA Web site for information about

the Committees and topical-interest Sections. Everyone is welcome to attend a Section meeting. Check the final program schedule for meeting times and plan to attend the Section meeting of your choice. If you are interested in serving on an IAIA Committee, please contact info@iaia.org.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This is the annual business meeting of the Association. All meeting participants are encouraged to attend. You will meet the IAIA Board of Directors and hear reports from IAIA Committee chairs and the treasurer. The prestigious IAIA Rose-Hulman Award is presented at the AGM.

Council meeting

The IAIA Council serves as an advisory resource to the IAIA Board of Directors. The Council is composed of the Board, all Committee chairs, representatives of affiliates and branches, the CEO and Headquarters representatives, and the conference program chairs for the current-year conference and any future known conferences. However, Council meetings are open; all IAIA members are encouraged to attend.

Welcome to IAIA

This session is for any member who wants to know more about the organization, its history, and how it works; anyone interested in participating in IAIA as a Committee or Section member, and any new or prospective Board members.

Technical visits

See pages 30-31 for the variety of IAIA08 technical visit options. Technical visits are offered before and after the conference proper, providing multiple opportunities to participate.

Closing plenary

The closing plenary will draw together the discussions and events of the conference in an innovative and fun way, and point the way forward for the art and science of impact assessment. Come along, reflect, be challenged, and maybe even enjoy a laugh or two!

Awards

IAIA's awards are presented throughout the conference. Who will win the coveted Global Environmental Award this year? And all of the other prestigious honors associated with the annual IAIA awards?

Stipends

For participants from developing countries, a limited number of capacity building stipends may be available. See page 37 for more information.

Green your travel

IAIA takes steps to reduce the impact of our conferences, such as limiting printed materials, contracting with venues that provide green programs, using bulk servings, and more. Will you do the same? See page 33 for information about the IAIA08 carbon offset program.

And more...

See the pages which follow for details and check the IAIA Web site for continuing updates (www.iaia.org).

Invitation to Attend

Kaya wonyaan wandjoo ngany yaarkiny nidja boodja, Mooro baalap, Whadjak Boodja baranginy djoorapin

noonook moorditj baalap.

On behalf of the Mooro people of the Whadjuk Nation, **Welcome to our Country.**

Aboriginal people believe that quality Impact Assessment is critical to protecting their Boodja (Mother Earth) and the biodiversity within it.

We welcome scientists and community people from all parts of the world to develop better processes for protection of the biodiversity and the planet.

Karen Jacobs

Whadjuk Blood Line Descendent and Traditional Owner of the Perth Region

IAIA's 28th Annual Conference in Perth, Australia, is the ideal opportunity for you, "live and in person," to contribute to the leading global network of impact assessment professionals. It has been ten years since IAIA has held its annual conference in the Southern Hemisphere. For those of you in the Pacific and Southeast Asia, I especially hope you take advantage of this occasion to participate. For all of us, as if we needed an excuse to visit spectacular Australia, this is the time to mix business with pleasure and make that trip with your family and friends. Register early, submit your abstracts, sign up for a training course and a technical visit, save the dates 4-10 May 2008, and book some time before or after to see the wonders of Australia.

If you are already part of the IAIA community, you will renew your engagement with your colleagues, discover new colleagues, and share your knowledge and experiences. If the Perth conference will be your first contact with IAIA, you will find an active and passionate group of professionals from government, industry, international organizations, and consulting firms and academia with whom you can share your knowledge and experience and from whom you will gain insights and information about the best practices of impact assessment.

The Conference's Steering Committee and International Programme Coordination Committee are working feverishly and enthusiastically with our host organizations to ensure that we have an outstanding professional meeting, enjoyable social events and a great time in the booming and beautiful city of Perth. I extend my thanks to the many dedicated members of the committees and to our hosts—the Western Australian Department of Environment and Conservation, the Federal Department of Environment and Water Resources, Murdoch University, the Environmental Consultants Association (Western Australia) and the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ).

Our conference theme will absorb us in making the links between the "art" and the "science" in our varied areas of practice. Is our science good enough? How much information is enough? Are we paying enough attention to the processes of impact assessment that are more "art" than "science"? Is impact assessment the tool we hoped it would be to influence decisions about policies, plans, programs and projects? If not, is this because our science is not convincing, because the role of impact assessment in decision-making is flawed, or because we need to focus more on the linkages between the two? Are we looking broadly enough at sustainability? Impact assessment does not exist in a vacuum. Good governance and participatory decision-making processes are fundamental to good impact assessment. As impact assessment practitioners, we can contribute to more sustainable policies, plans, programs, and projects in our own small corners of professional practice. But how are we dealing with the global challenges that confront us, such as major land use changes, loss of biodiversity, climate change, conflict and instability, natural and human disasters and ongoing poverty and disease that increasingly do affect us in our respective small corners? Come to Perth so we can continue this dialogue.

Charlotte Bingham

President, International Association for Impact Assessment

Invitation to Attend

CONFERENCE THEME

The Art and Science of Impact Assessment

Impact assessment has developed over the past 35 years as a tool for incorporating sound scientific knowledge into decision-making. As practice has evolved and new forms such as SEA have emerged, it has become increasingly apparent that expertise in the biophysical sciences must be complemented by an understanding of social and political processes. Impact assessment is therefore best seen as both science and art, and it is only in this way that it can fulfill its potential as a tool for influencing decision-making processes.

The current trajectory of global development highlights the need for fundamental change in the way in which we think, act and make decisions. This conference will explore questions of the role of impact assessment in promoting societal change towards sustainability, and particularly how the biophysical and the social sciences can be meaningfully alloyed with the art of policy-making to contribute to the change process. This is the challenge that impact assessment practitioners are now called upon to meet.

What works? What doesn't work? What challenges lie over the horizon for impact assessment? We hope that you will come and share with other participants your ideas, your experience, your concerns and your hope for the future on these themes and the topics listed in the following pages.

Welcome to IAIA08! The IAIA08 Steering Committee is delighted to welcome you to Perth, Western Australia, for the 28th Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA). For IAIA members and regular conference attendees, we promise you all the familiar features of IAIA conferences that make them the highlight of the professional calendar, plus a few innovations and a distinctly Australian flavour that we believe will make IAIA08 truly a conference to remember. We also welcome those of you who are attending an IAIA conference for the first time, and particularly our colleagues from the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) and the Environmental Consultants Association (Western Australia), two of the host organizations for the conference.

Our conference theme is deceptively short and simple: *The Art and Science of Impact Assessment*. However, as impact assessment practitioners around the world know, there is nothing simple about the unique combination of art and science, information and politics that is impact assessment. A quick look through the preliminary program will show that this theme has struck a chord with many of our session organisers, who are inviting you at IAIA08 to grapple with the challenges of decision making and governance in an increasingly complex world.

Underpinning all of our planning efforts has been our vision of making IAIA08 as integrative and inclusive as possible, both professionally and socially. We have sought to compile a technical programme that will bring together people and ideas in new ways that transcend the traditional divides in our profession and provide new opportunities for learning. You will also find information in this preliminary program about some of the social and networking events we have planned to provide more opportunities for us all to meet people from around the world whose paths we might not otherwise cross.

Organising an international conference is no small challenge, and the IAIA08 Steering Committee is grateful to everyone who has supported us and contributed to IAIA08 already. We would particularly like to thank our international colleagues who are working with us through the Programme Coordination Committee to develop the technical programme and the hard-working staff at IAIA Headquarters. We are also extremely grateful to all of the host organizations of IAIA08 for their support and for bringing their different perspectives to our conference planning.

On that note we invite you to read the following pages, find your inspiration, submit your paper and poster abstracts, and register for IAIA08. We look forward to seeing you in Perth!

IAIA08 Steering Committee

Angus Morrison-Saunders (Chair), Murdoch University

Melinda Macleod, DEC

Kerry Laszig, EIANZ

Bill Grace, GHD Pty Ltd

Jenny Pope, Integral Sustainability

Warren Tacey, DEC

Gerard Early, DEW

Bruce Hegge, ECA

John Bailey, Murdoch University

Program Overview

- The conference will formally commence on Tuesday, 6 May 2008.
- Training courses and pre-conference special meetings will be offered 4-5 May.
- Diverse social activities and technical visits will be available throughout the conference.
- The opening reception will take place Monday, 5 May, and the conference banquet will take place Thursday, 8 May.

Tentative Program Overview

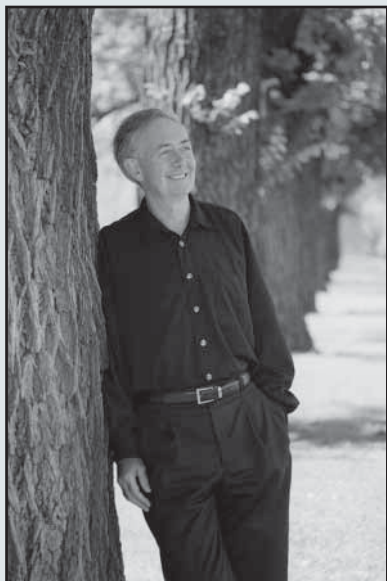
Check the final program for confirmed dates, times, and events.

| | Pre-conference Saturday 3 May | Pre-Conference Sunday 4 May | Pre-Conference Monday 5 May | Conference Day 1 Tuesday 6 May |
|-------|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 07:30 | | Registration for training courses and technical visits | Registration | |
| 08:00 | | | | Committee meetings Registration opens |
| 08:30 | | | | Opening plenary |
| 09:00 | | Training courses | Training courses | |
| 09:30 | | | | |
| 10:00 | | | | Break |
| 10:30 | | | | Theme forums |
| 11:00 | | | | |
| 11:30 | | | | |
| 12:00 | | | | |
| 12:30 | | | | |
| 13:00 | | | | Lunch |
| 13:30 | | | | |
| 14:00 | | | | Theme forums |
| 14:30 | | | | |
| 15:00 | Registration for training courses and technical visits | | | Break |
| 15:30 | | Registration for training courses and technical visits | | Concurrent sessions |
| 16:00 | | | | Special sessions on community engagement |
| 16:30 | | | | |
| 17:00 | | | | |
| 17:30 | | | | Meeting Space (Indabas, Committees, other) |
| 18:00 | | | Opening Reception | Speed networking |
| 18:30 | | | | |
| 19:00 | | | | |
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Program Overview

| | Conference Day 2 Wednesday 7 May | | Conference Day 3 Thursday 8 May | | Conference Day 4 Friday 9 May | | Post-Conference Saturday 10 May | |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------------|-------|
| | Committee meetings Registration opens | | Section meetings Registration opens | | | | | 07:30 |
| Exhibit poster setup | Theme forums | | Theme forums | | Concurrent sessions | | Post-conference tour departs | 08:00 |
| | Exhibits & posters | | Exhibits & posters | | Exhibits & posters | | | 08:30 |
| | Break | | Break | | Break | | | 09:00 |
| | Concurrent sessions | | Concurrent sessions | | Closing plenary | | | 09:30 |
| | AGM and Rose-Hulman Award Presentation | | Council meeting | | Lunch | | | 10:00 |
| | Lunch | | Lunch | | Lunch | | | 10:30 |
| | Concurrent sessions | | Concurrent sessions | | Technical visits | | | 11:00 |
| | Break | | Break | | F Urban Renewal 13:30-18:00 | | | 11:30 |
| | Concurrent sessions | Special sessions on community engagement | Concurrent sessions | Special sessions on community engagement | G Sustainable Fisheries 13:30-18:00 | | | 12:00 |
| | Meeting space (Indabas, Committees, other) | Poster session | Meeting space (Indabas, Sections, other) | | | | | 12:30 |
| Exhibits & posters | Dine Out | | Banquet | | | | | 13:00 |
| | International Raffle and World Cup (Table) Football Final | | | | | | | 13:30 |
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Keynote Speaker



Professor Ian Lowe

Recognized by the Queensland (state) government as a “living legend,” Prof. Ian Lowe is an internationally recognized expert on environmental issues, energy, science, technology and futures. The current President of the Australian Conservation Foundation, he is also emeritus professor of science, technology and society at Griffith University, Brisbane.

Internationally, Prof. Lowe has been a referee for the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, attended the Geneva and Kyoto conferences of the parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change, and was a member of the Australian delegation to the 1999 UNESCO World Conference on Science. He was also on the steering group for the UNEP project Global Environmental Outlook, an invited participant in the 2000 workshop on Sustainability Science, and a referee for both the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program’s 2004 book on planetary science and the Millennium Assessment report.

In 2001 Prof. Lowe was made an Officer of the Order of Australia for services to science and technology, especially in the area of environmental studies. In 2002 he was awarded an Australian Centenary Medal for contributions to environmental science and won the (Australian) Eureka Prize for promotion of science.

Prof. Lowe’s principal research interests are in the broad area of policy decisions influencing use of science and technology, especially in the fields of energy and environment. He is the author or co-author of 10 Open University books, 10 other books, more than 50 book chapters and over 500 other publications or conference papers. His particular interests include sustainability, global futures, state of the environment, global climate change, science and technology for the future and education for a changing world.

Be prepared to be challenged by his opening address as he outlines his vision for how impact assessment practitioners should tackle pressing global sustainability issues.

Abstract Submission Information

Paper and poster submission information

Abstract submission deadline

7 February 2008

Presenting author registration deadline

29 February 2008

Language

English

Send submissions online

Only materials sent online will be reviewed by the program committee.

Follow the abstract submission instructions at www.iaia.org > IAIA08 > Submissions. If online submission is not possible, contact Jennifer Howell at IAIA Headquarters (jen@iaia.org) for assistance.

Acceptance and registration

Presenting authors will be notified on or before 15 February 2008 regarding the status of their submissions.

To guarantee inclusion of the presentation on the final program, the presenting author's registration form and full fees must be received at IAIA Headquarters by 29 February 2008. At that time, accepted submissions will be dropped from the program if the presenting author's registration and fees have not been received.

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.

IAIA recognizes excellence in poster presentations by selecting **Best Poster (Judges' Choice)**, **Best Poster (Peoples' Choice)** and **Best Student Poster** during the conference. Winners are acknowledged throughout the conference with ribbons on the poster designating their "Best" status, and authors are awarded certificates and listed in the newsletter. Authors may also be invited to publish their poster papers in *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*.

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 (e.g., blue gum or removable double-sided tape) and to hold handouts (e.g., a large envelope). If you need more than one poster space, contact IAIA HQ by 29 February for price information. Posters will be on display from Tuesday, 6 May until Friday, 9 May.

Tips for poster preparation

- Plan ahead and know your poster layout (trial your display with colleagues).
- Include a large-print heading with the title of the poster, author's name, and contact details.
- Make all lettering visible from 2.5 meters.
- Be visually clear and inviting. Have illustrations simple and bold.
- Be concise. Use outline form and minimize text (personal discussion will elaborate).
- Be accessible in language—avoid jargon and abbreviations.
- Make viewing sequence reader-friendly (use arrows, numbers, headings).
- Vary spatial use (color, texture, graphics, open space).
- Supplement data with a handout of your abstract or project statement.
- High-tech is not essential, but a very high standard of clarity and visibility is vital to convey your message.

Please do not display typed pages of conference paper (these are not appropriate in poster format), clutter all of the space (not inviting), or leave preparation to the last minute! Posters that do not meet minimum quality guidelines may be eliminated from display by the program committee. Advertising is not permitted. Additional poster preparation information and judging guidelines are available on the IAIA Web site (www.iaia.org > IAIA08).

Guidelines 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 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).
- IAIA recommends that you take with you to your session approximately 30 copies of a one-page bulleted outline of your presentation that also includes your contact information. During your presentation, this handout will facilitate communication with delegates whose native language is not English, and it will allow individuals to contact you following the conference. (Please note that you are responsible for supplying your own materials. Because of high rental costs that would necessarily be passed on to all delegates in the form of higher registration fees, IAIA does not provide copying, printing, computers or other business services on-site. Business services will be available at the venue for a fee.)
- Your speaking time is limited and agreed 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 paper. 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!
- Limit the use of PowerPoint presentation to six easily readable slides at the most. 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!
- Practice your presentation consistent with these guidelines beforehand, and arrive well prepared!

Proceedings

- IAIA tentatively plans to publish full conference proceedings on CD-ROM, Submission of full papers is optional and will be requested by approximately one month following the conference. Your session chair will contact you regarding submission of your full paper or other materials (e.g., poster abstract or PowerPoint presentation) as soon as details are available.

Section Activities

Meet the IAIA Sections!

IAIA is a member-based organization which currently has eleven 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.

IAIA Sections have a chance to meet during each annual conference, and they also have a rolling program of work throughout 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 join an IAIA Section?

- When you pay the non-member conference rate, you automatically become an IAIA member and are eligible to join a Section.
- Sections are a networking forum for IAIA members, where you can meet your colleagues.
- Sections promote your personal professional development.
- Sections develop interesting activities that you may want to join.

Where can I find the Sections at IAIA08 in Perth?

- The Sections will have special tables at the opening reception, where you can informally meet with the Section chairs, find out more about what they do, and join!
- All sessions that have been organized by the Sections will be clearly identified in the preliminary and final programs.
- Each Section will hold a Section meeting during the conference, which everyone is welcome to attend.
- Section chairs will be identified by ribbons on their name tags so that you can find them during the conference.

Any questions?

Please contact Lea den Broeder (lea.den.broeder@rivm.nl), the Sections Coordinating Committee chair, or the coordinator of a specific Section as listed at right.



Current Sections

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Patrick Duffy
pjduffy@cs.com

Biodiversity & Ecology

Asha Rajvanshi
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Verina Ingram
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Environmental Management Systems

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Health Impact Assessment

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Ben Cave
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Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Policies

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Environmental IA Law, Policies & Practice

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Social Impact Assessment

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Technical Program/Theme Forums

Theme Forums

Theme forums bring together special speakers to open IAIA conference discussions.

Theme forums are integrative in nature and deal with cross-cutting issues relevant to the many specialties of impact assessment.

The theme forums listed in the preliminary program are tentative. The final selection of theme forums for IAIA08 will be made following further planning by potential theme forum conveners, and confirmed in the final programme. This process aims to ensure a well-balanced mix of innovative and high quality sessions that engage with the conference theme and are of relevance to our international audience.

Technical Program

The technical program for IAIA08 is structured into topic streams that address broad aspects of impact assessment theory and practice. Each individual theme forum and concurrent session has been allocated to one or more topic streams.

As indicated, some sessions will be chaired by members of the IAIA Sections (see page 10) and form part of the ongoing activities of the Sections. Sessions organized by members of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) and the Environmental Consultants Association (ECA), two of the host organizations for IAIA08, are also identified.

Submitting paper abstracts

1. Carefully read the theme forum and session proposals on the following pages and decide where your abstract fits best.
2. Note your preferred topic stream.
3. Note the specific session under which you would like to contribute.
4. Go to www.iaia.org > IAIA08 > Submissions > Submit Paper or Poster Abstract and complete the online form. Note that selecting "other" for a session topic should be a last resort and increases the chances your abstract will be denied.

Delegates from across the spectrum of impact assessment practice are particularly invited to contribute their ideas to the special series on The State of the Art of Impact Assessment (see page 15 for more information).

1. New Approaches to Social Impact Assessment in the Minerals Sector

Topic Stream: Corporate Perspectives/Social and Health Impacts

Convenor: David Brereton

Traditionally, social impact assessments (SIAs) in the minerals industry have been undertaken mainly to meet regulatory requirements around the approval of new projects. While this remains an important driver, leading companies in the sector are now utilizing SIAs for other purposes: for example, to guide the ongoing monitoring of project impacts and inform decisions about the management of mine closures. This forum will review these trends, using case studies from the Australian and international industry, and explore the potential for changing how the industry understands, monitors and manages social impacts. The forum will also be used to highlight the opportunity—and need—to develop new skill sets, methods and tools to support this shift in focus. The workshop will include an invited presentation from a senior minerals industry representative working in the area, and worked examples of "new style" SIAs.

2. Beyond Impact Assessment: The Integration of Social and Sustainability Concepts in Organizational Decision-Making

Topic Stream: Corporate Perspectives/Social and Health Impacts

Convenor: Sheridan Coakes

For those of us who are seasoned impact assessment practitioners, the institutionalization of social and sustainability practice within both public and private sectors remains an ongoing challenge. For example, within many organizations the narrative of the triple bottom line, corporate social responsibility and community engagement is now firmly entrenched. However, despite the frequent use of these terms, the application, integration and value of social and sustainability processes and programs remains relatively piecemeal and is still far from integral to decision making within many corporate/agency cultures. More often than not, the success of social and sustainability assessment programs depends largely

on the values of the key government/industry players who are responsible for managing or directing a project or change program. Unfortunately, when the guard changes, corporate/agency memory and knowledge is lost, resulting in lack of follow-through and broken commitments. This session explores how social and sustainability practitioners can guide organizations in institutionalizing and embracing these concepts at a strategic level. Representatives from different perspectives will be asked to share their experiences and discuss case studies and strategies that are moving "beyond impact assessment" to a true integration of social and sustainability practice in organizational decision making and culture.

3. Climate Change: Health Impacts and Adaptations

Topic Streams: Climate Change/Social and Health Impacts

Convenors: Dianne Katscherian, Jeffery Spickett

Impact assessment frameworks can be used as effective predictive tools for the consideration of unknown but potentially plausible impacts arising from future events such as climate change. Impacts on the health and well-being of communities from climate change could be significant, and it is therefore important that proactive approaches to community adaptations for climate change are initiated. This forum will explore the application of health impact assessment (HIA) and other assessment modalities to assess the health implications of climate change and the development of appropriate adaptation responses through identification of potential health impacts that could arise; consideration of adaptation responses by Governments, industry and communities; and examination of the potential health implications of adaptation strategies that may be proposed.

Theme Forums

4. Addressing Climate Change in the Impact Assessment of Water Resources Management

Topic Stream: Climate Change

Convenors: *Alessandro Palmieri, Stephen Lintner, John Boyle*

The theme forum will explore practical ways for addressing the challenges of dealing with climate change in water resources management and in impact assessments of water resource developments. Currently, most literature focuses on what should be done rather than on how to do it; available models are not designed for water resources management purposes; and the gap between analysis and decision-making is huge. The forum will focus on the potential for using Adaptive Risk Management (ARM) in all projects with a significant water resources management component, and for developing guidelines and tools for practitioners.

5. Environmental Mainstreaming in National Development Plans

Topic Stream: International Development

Convenor: *David Annandale*

Rapid economic development in many newly industrialized countries is putting substantial pressure on the environment. In some countries, environmental deterioration is beginning to threaten further economic development and poverty alleviation. Countries that have national development plans have an advantage, in that they can formally incorporate environmental issues into the planning process. Where this is possible, environmental issues can be in some way balanced alongside traditional economic and social goals. The challenge to integrate environmental issues into development planning is being met in a number of developing countries. This theme forum will examine examples of where environmental mainstreaming has had a positive impact. What tools are available for undertaking "environmental mainstreaming"? What examples can be pointed to where environmental mainstreaming has had a positive impact on development planning? How do we determine whether environmental mainstreaming initiatives have been successful or not? What role is there for EIA and SEA thinking/techniques in mainstreaming the environment into national development planning? This theme forum panel discussion will consist of 4-5 brief presentations followed by a discussion with members of the audience.

6. Poverty and Impact Assessment: The Art of Managing Social and Political Processes

Topic Stream: International Development

Convenors: *Maria Partidario, Linda Ghanimé, Arne Dalfelt*

In the last two years, discussions conducted at IAIA conferences regarding the power of impact assessment to enhance poverty eradication have suggested the role of impact assessment to be a key function in the chain of development policy making and learning. The IAIA08 conference raises the important challenge of exploring the role of impact assessment in promoting societal change towards sustainability, and particularly how the biophysical and the social sciences can be meaningfully allied to the art of policy-making to contribute to the change process. This provides an excellent opportunity to

address the socio-political changes that are needed for making a difference and actively integrating poverty in the main agenda of impact assessment practice. What works and what doesn't work in the current practice of impact assessment when it comes to poverty eradication? How is poverty actually being dealt with in practice? What progress has been made so far? How are we successfully linking the sustainable management of biophysical resources to the improvements of livelihoods and to the empowerment of poor communities? The theme forum will invite keynote speakers and participatory discussions to address these issues.

7. Use of Country Systems for Environmental and Social Assessment

Topic Stream: International Development

Convenors: *Harvey Himberg, Stephen Lintner, John Boyle*

"Country systems" refers to a borrower country's policies, laws, regulations and implementation practices that are designed to achieve the objectives and operational procedures required by international lenders including environmental and social impact assessment. A two-year pilot program intended to test the feasibility of using country systems for environmental assessment in Bank-financed projects was approved by the World Bank's Board of Directors in March 2005, with broad stakeholder support, including both borrower and donor countries. This session will provide a comprehensive review of the Bank's experience in piloting country systems for environmental and social safeguards. The lead paper will describe the objectives of the pilot program, the Bank's Operational Policy for the preparation and implementation of the pilots, the methodology developed and applied to analyze and assess the "equivalence" and "acceptability" of borrower systems, and the selection of pilot projects. Two subsidiary papers, to be presented by donor practitioners and participants from borrowing countries, will describe case studies from among the pilot projects undertaken in various countries. A final paper will report on the Bank's independent evaluation of the pilot program.

8. Biodiversity Offsets: Savior or Salve?

Topic Stream: Biodiversity

Convenors: *Susie Brownlie, Kerry ten Kate*

Development often exacts a price in terms of residual negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services, with associated impacts on the resilience of socio-ecological systems and human wellbeing. These residual impacts constitute trade-offs that must be taken into account in decision-making. Biodiversity offsets, considered during planning and impact assessment, are a mechanism to compensate for these impacts and enable a positive contribution

to sustainability. This theme forum will be of value to professionals involved in biodiversity conservation, impact assessment, planning, sustainability issues, and business. The theme forum will be divided into two parts. The first part will introduce biodiversity offsets, describe tools being used to determine and measure biodiversity offsets, and different approaches to building biodiversity offsets into policy and practice. The second part will give different perspectives and experiences, and highlight opportunities, constraints and challenges of biodiversity offsets, through a panel discussion involving the audience. The theme forum will conclude by identifying the main priorities for the coming year with regard to the uptake of biodiversity offsets in impact assessment and decision-making for sustainability.

9. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Environmental Assessment: What Have We Learned?

Topic Stream: Biodiversity

Convenors: *Vinod Mathur, Asha Rajvanshi (Biodiversity & Ecology Section)*

Following the Rio Earth Summit of 1992, a large number of countries have taken a series of legal, regulatory and organizational measures to mainstream biodiversity in environmental assessments, with mixed results. In the face of a rapid quest for economic development and the largely ineffective institutional framework, commitments towards environmental and sustainable development vary in most developing countries. To steward the process of mainstreaming biodiversity in environmental decision-making, further promotion of the concept of sustainable development in all economic sectors is needed, along with incorporation of good governance practices. Creating enabling environments and building capacity to conduct biodiversity-inclusive impact assessment are critical ingredients in this endeavor. It is also important to meaningfully engage the political leadership in the mainstreaming process through better and effective communication tools. This session will bring in select practitioners to share their perspectives and experiences with other interested professionals participating in IAIA08.

10. New Opportunities and Challenges in Aboriginal Engagement in Impact Assessment Processes

Topic Stream: Cultural and Indigenous Issues/Community and Stakeholders

Convenors: *Gerald Aubrey, Yves Leboef*

The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency proposes to lead a panel involving perspectives from Canada and with two other countries (still to be finalized), to discuss new challenges and opportunities for effectively integrating Aboriginal engagement activities into environmental assessment processes, which could include strategic environmental assessment. In recent years in Canada, and internationally, there have been a number of legal court challenges on consulting with Aboriginal peoples which have required that governments respond, and as a result this has impacted on how environmental assessments are carried out. Similarly, environmental

assessment, including strategic environmental assessment, can be viewed as an important tool for incorporating Aboriginal engagement in development decision making. In Canada the Supreme Court has established that the Crown—federal and provincial—may owe Aboriginal groups a duty of consultation, and possibly accommodation, in relation to the potential infringement of Aboriginal rights, Aboriginal title, and treaty rights. Typically all projects in Canada that trigger a federal environmental assessment also trigger the legal requirement for Aboriginal Crown consultation. Therefore, Canada is exploring means for integrating the legal duty of Aboriginal Consultation into federal environmental assessment processes.

11. Public Participation and the Practice of EIA in Western Australia

Topic Stream: Community and Stakeholders

Convenor: *John Devlin (Public Participation Section)*

Western Australia hosts a significant range of resource, industrial and infrastructure projects and has thus been a major site for the practice of environmental impact assessment in Australia. IAIA08 in Perth provides an excellent opportunity for a focused assessment of the contribution that public participation makes to environmental assessment in Australia. This theme forum, hosted by the Public Participation Section, will provide an opportunity for IAIA members to hear Western Australian NGOs and community organizations who have been involved in environmental assessment processes to present and discuss their experiences. Invited presenters will describe cases and make suggestions for improvements to the EIA process. The session will provide an opportunity for a range of views on public participation in Western Australia to be represented.

12. How Can Impact Assessment Enhance Benefit Sharing with Local Communities?

Topic Stream: Community and Stakeholders

Convenors: *Peter Leonard, Navin K. Rai, Stephen Lintner, Roy Kwiatkowski*

One of the main criticisms directed towards large projects such as energy, infrastructure or industrial projects—in terms of development—is that in many cases local and regional communities are often the most adversely impacted by developed projects while benefiting the least from the projects. Foreseen macro-benefits are not necessarily trickling down to the local community level, and, in many cases, the populations most affected are poor rural communities or vulnerable groups including indigenous peoples living in remote natural resource rich areas. This has led to the development of a wide array of approaches in the past decade that all have in common the objective of designing and implementing means and mechanisms to entice and/or ensure more equitable share of project benefits at the local and regional community levels by optimizing positive project impacts and opportunities

including improved community health. In practice, the concept of benefit sharing with communities may be described as a vast mosaic of fast evolving approaches and practices adapted to specific project needs, country contexts, legal and regulatory frameworks, and other such considerations.

13. Landscapes, Lifestyles and Livelihoods: Toward an Integrated HIA Approach

Topic Stream: Social and Health Impacts

Convenors: *Robert Bos, Ben Cave, Peter Furu (HIA Section)*

The ultimate expected outcome of this session is a broad agreement on generic protocol(s) for a number of pilot HIAs of proposed development projects, which fully integrate the assessment of changes in the environmental and social determinants of health, leading to an intersectoral public health management plan building on elements in environmental and social management plans. To achieve this outcome, the session has three objectives: (1) a review of the state-of-the-art of environmental, social and health impact assessments linked to the theme of this forum—what are the opportunities and what are the obstacles towards putting “humans at the centre of development in harmony with nature” (Agenda 21); (2) to have a participatory round table session on critical issues in the context of a planned dam project in Ghana, led by a provocative moderator; (3) to discuss, in workshop mode, draft generic protocol(s) for integrated pilot HIAs that can be implemented in the IAIA/WHO collaborative framework. This proposed theme forum builds on sessions on integrating HIA and SIA at IAIA06/07. Its preparations will include a systematic appraisal effort of the position of health in impact assessment published over the past five years.

14. Effective Environmental Assessment Tools: Empirical Basis and Theory

Topic Stream: Effectiveness

Convenors: *Lars Emmelin, Tuija Hilding-Rydevik, Aleh Cherp*

The purpose of this session is to provide an arena for presentation and discussion of what could be considered as the meaning of and constitutive elements of “effectiveness” in relation to implementation of environmental assessment (EA). We encourage contributions that approach this issue from an empirical basis in order to promote constructive critique of normative and empirically poorly-based statements concerning the aims and functioning of EA in EIA, SEA and policy level impact assessments. Also important, however, are contributions aiming at a conceptual and theoretical development and scrutiny of the concept. We thus welcome empirical, conceptual and theoretical contributions on the practical use of EA with implications for how to view effectiveness. Questions of interest include: What are the achievements thus far of implementing EA in different contexts? What types of planning problems are encountered in EA applications? What methods, tools and procedures could potentially provide a solution to, or at least make a contribution to finding a solution to problems of low effectiveness? What are reasonable expectations on the outputs from and functioning of EA, in different contexts and in relation to studies showing low effectiveness? What role does “context” play in relation to EA effectiveness?

15. Does Environmental Impact Assessment Protect the Environment?

Topic Stream: Effectiveness

Convenor: *Bruce Hegge (ECA)*

The Environmental Consultants Association of Western Australia (ECA) will host a theme forum exploring the role of EIA and its effectiveness in protecting the environment. The session will be organized in an interactive panel discussion format, with broad representation of the key players in EIA, including proponents, regulators, consultants, the media, political decision-makers, community groups and industry groups. Discussions will focus on the value and future of the formal EIA process, as well as possible alternatives.

16. Center Stage: SEIA Processes and Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards

Topic Stream: Governance

Convenors: *Sally Pickard, Alexandra Blood, Marshall Lee*

It is now a requirement of many financial institutions signatory to the Equator Principles that lenders comply with Equator Principles and IFC environmental and social sustainability performance standards to obtain project financing. The adoption of these standards by international banks has forced the pace of adoption much quicker than many expected. Additionally, recent changes have lowered the Equator Principles project financing trigger thresholds to \$US10 million and included project expansion and upgrades. Companies are increasingly wanting to align themselves with Equator Principles or IFC Performance Standards, as a risk tool, when recommending or expanding operations, particularly in non-OECD nations. This session will provide an overview of the key requirements that the Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards place on projects and where these can be applied at different stages of project by not only the project developer but the lending financial institution. The session will focus on issues that addressing the guidelines can raise for the SEIAs. The session would be interactive, drawing on practitioners experience of the challenges in working with the requirements of these principles and hopes to provide some practical examples of the process in action for mining social and environmental impact assessment processes.

17. State of the Art of Technology Assessment in the 21st Century

Topic Stream: Governance

Convenor: Frank Vanclay

Technology Assessment (TA) is now widely utilized in Europe, but less so in other parts of the world, with the closure of the U.S. Office of Technology Assessment in 1995. With new technological developments including biotechnology, nanotechnology, functional foods etc., the relevance of TA is perhaps greater than ever. While there has been some criticism of TA in the past, the recent interest in TA has led to many new developments in theory and practice. New participation methodologies such as Consensus Conferences and Citizen Juries have emerged and are being utilized. This theme forum shall feature invited presentations from the leading proponents in the field demonstrating recent advances and the state of the art of technology assessment. Frank Vanclay is convenor of a large research project which is surveying the practice of TA around the world in order to devise a form appropriate for Australian conditions. The project also intends to increase consideration of the social context of technological developments in TA, and is therefore called TASC—technology assessment in social context. The project has assembled a reference group of leaders in the field from around the world who will be called upon for this theme forum.

18. The Influence of Emerging New World Orders in Impact Assessment

Topic Stream: Governance

Convenors: Jim Singleton, Helen Singleton

Impact Assessment faces a challenge: the globalization and infosphere revolution. Impact assessment will not cope unless it responds to this challenge. Science is commonly used within EIA, but in itself EIA is not a science. It is a political process. At best, it is a systematic process for society to mediate acceptable levels of change arising from human action. At worst, it is really a process for negotiating through compliance trade-offs what was intended anyway. The issues facing EIA in a new world order include ethical paradoxes between individuals and organizations, preferred reading of issues by powerful organizations with privileged world purview, un-stated assumptions underlying institutional logic, and the rise of diverse sense-making that challenges orthodoxy. The reasons are many, but include complex global power dynamics, the rise of the open-source infosphere, and the rate of change. The digital communications revolution is unprecedented. It promises to be an immensely powerful influence on all human activities. "Art" and addressing qualitative "human" issues will be critical to future impact assessment. The communications revolution will sweep away the preferred logic of institutions and their spin. Conventional modes of address and the certitudes of science may not prevail.

19. From Strategic Environmental Intelligence to Strategic Environmental Assessment

Topic Stream: Governance

Convenors: Michel A. Bouchard, Annica Walejc, Charles Kelly, Grant Wroe-Street, Birgitta Lilledahl (Disasters & Conflicts Section)

Most of the tools for environmental governance, including environmental assessment, have been developed to perform well in relatively stable and normal contexts. However, disaster and conflicts do create context where the collapse of governance or urgency of the situation and the precedence of humanitarian concerns call for the development of new tools for environmental management, or significant adaptations of the existing one. Environmental issues can be pre-scoped in disaster prone areas through approaches such as risk management and Environmental Risk Identification. These, combined with some strategic elements for eventual humanitarian and environmental interventions, can be considered Strategic Environmental Intelligence. After the event, some form of Rapid Environmental Assessment has to be mainstreamed in the EA community. Adapted SEA can then be used in various planning and transient governance context to rehabilitation and reconstruction in post-disaster/conflict situations. With increasing extreme weather-related events, there is a need for the IAIA community to contribute to the development/adaptation of new or existing tools and for the development of best-practice guidelines. The theme forum invites contribution towards increasing the role of professional EA in dealing with disaster and conflicts and their environmental issues and impacts.

20. Making SEA an Effective Tool for Strategic Decision-Making

Topic Stream: Strategic Environmental Assessment

Convenors: Fernando Loayza, Rob Verheem, Maria Partidario

Because the practice of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is so diverse, this forum will examine specific cases in which SEA was used to inform and support strategic decision-making, and draw on lessons learned to address key questions: What makes SEA a strategic decision-making tool? What are the key factors for SEA success in influencing decision-making? More specifically, what skills and abilities are required of the SEA team, and what institutional and organizational capacities are required of the agency carrying out the SEA? And how can the SEA process influence strategic decision-making over the long term? The workshop will comprise three segments. First, the specific cases will be presented. Then, break-out groups will discuss these cases and other relevant experience to address the four key questions. Finally, the results of the break-out group discussions will be shared and discussed in plenary. The session will draw on experience from multilateral institutions, such as the World Bank, national agencies such as the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment in International Cooperation, and SEAs undertaken in developing countries. It is expected that the forum will generate challenging ideas for discussion among the participants, and practical recommendations useful for policy makers, planners and SEA practitioners.

21. Great Impact Assessment Disasters: A Group Therapy Theme Forum

Topic Stream: Learning and Professional Development

Convenor: Angus Morrison-Saunders

"Hello, my name is 'Alex' and I survived an impact assessment disaster!" In the spirit of Peter Hall's famous book "Great Planning Disasters," this forum enables practitioners to share personal experiences gained from some of those more extraordinary EIAs ... the ones that went wrong. We all know that we learn most from our mistakes but most often only hear about successful case studies. This theme forum is the "group therapy" session you've been waiting for, where you can share the valuable wisdom and insights you have gained from your more memorable impact assessment experiences. Some impact assessment disaster survivors willing to share their stories:

- "Bill" (Ross, University of Calgary, Canada)
- "Ian" (LeProvost, URS, Australia)
- "John" (Fry, University College Dublin, Ireland)
- "Ross" (Marshall, Environment Agency, UK)

Following their disclosures, the microphone will be passed around to any members of the audience who wish to bare all in this safe and supportive environment. What story do you wish you could have heard early in your career? Let your impact assessment disaster benefit less experienced members of the great IA family. (Hugs optional.) To register your interest in presenting at this session, please contact facilitator Angus Morrison-Saunders (a.morrison-saunders@murdoch.edu.au).

22. Excellence in Marine and Coastal Impact Assessment

Topic Stream: Sectoral Perspectives

Convenor: Adam Smith

Monitoring of the predictions of impact assessment and the condition of Australia's marine environment is extremely limited, but despite this Australia is perceived as a world leader in this field. There is continuing pressure on the marine environment from activities including aquaculture, agriculture, fisheries, urbanization, industrial developments, and shipping and tourism, and the scale of individual projects is unprecedented. The impact of global climate change includes fluctuations in sea level and sea surface temperature; this may have an impact worldwide, with severe implications for coastal communities and ecosystems. These cumulative and complex issues require specialist expertise to maintain biodiversity and support the resilience of coastal marine environments. Marine impact assessment generally relates to site specific activities such as ports, marinas, shipping accidents and other marine works. This theme forum will discuss issues including the linkage of EIA to components of baseline/site existing conditions, project understanding, risk assessment, predictive/modelling processes and limitations, confidence and sensitivity, statements of impact, monitoring and auditing and feedback processes, adaptive management, new tools, a precautionary approach, cumulative impact assessment, and planning and development issues.

Special Sessions

Innovations in Community Engagement

Innovations in Community Engagement at IAIA08 will offer participants from all sectors a first-hand experience of three innovative methods of community engagement and public governance that promote deliberation and learning towards better, more sustainable decision-making. *Innovations in Community Engagement* will run as three separate but inter-connected sessions of two hours each, one on each afternoon of the conference, each utilizing a different discussion technique and focusing on real-life issues at the cutting edge of impact assessment practice. The techniques are World Café, Open Space Technology and 21st Century Town Meeting.

World Café involves a series of conversations between 4-5 people seated at small café-style tables. After a period of time, all but one person from each table rotate to share the conversation themes in a new group, while a "host" remains to share the themes developed by the original table members to newcomers. World Café promotes shared understanding and mutual learning about complex issues in a non-confrontational environment.

Open Space Technology provides an opportunity for a large group to self-organize into smaller groups each focusing on a particular aspect of a complex issue. Participants are invited to initiate discussions by nominating topics. Others can then elect to join a discussion that resonates with their own interests and passions, and are free to move between groups as they choose. The larger group, the Open Circle, reconvenes at the conclusion of the session to share experiences.

21st Century Town Meeting, or Dialogue, is a powerful means of involving large numbers of people in a discussion and capturing and prioritizing the issues that emerge. Participants are seated at tables of 10, guided by a table facilitator and connected by a networked computer. Views are input into the computers and analyzed by a Theme Team that identifies emerging themes and priorities which are projected back into the room in real time.

Innovations in Community Engagement will be coordinated and facilitated by Dr. Janette Hartz-Karp, who is currently the inaugural WA Government Associate Professor of Community Planning at the Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy at Murdoch University (www.sustainability.murdoch.edu.au).

Note: The realization of this special session is subject to sponsorship.

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
16:00-18:00**

Special Topic Stream: The State of the Art of Impact Assessment

What is best practice impact assessment and how can we improve what we do? These questions are continually debated by impact assessment practitioners across all sectors and in all fields of practice, at conferences, in the literature and in the course of daily work.

These special sessions on *The State of the Art of Impact Assessment* at IAIA08 provide a unique opportunity to approach the practice of impact assessment in a different way, crossing the traditional divides of EIA, SEA, SIA, HIA or other forms of impact assessment. We encourage delegates from across the spectrum of research and practice to come together to discuss important aspects of the impact assessment process that are common to all, but which are often treated differently within different fields or sectors. By framing the discussion in a slightly different way, we open up to the possibility of learning collaboratively and finding new perspectives and ways forward.

The sessions within *The State of the Art of Impact Assessment* series address fundamental issues of relevance to impact assessment practitioners across the board, including screening, scoping, consideration of alternatives, public participation, determining significance, dealing with uncertainty, cumulative impact assessment, institutional arrangement and follow-up. We encourage you to engage with the outlines of the sessions within this topic stream listed on pages 16-17 and submit your paper abstracts addressing any of the issues covered from any perspective. We look forward to lively and interactive discussion at the cutting edge of impact assessment practice!

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
16:00-18:00**

Indigenous Peoples

In recognition of the indigenous people of the Earth, and in support of the sessions and events organized by indigenous people at IAIA08, a meeting space will be provided throughout the conference in which indigenous people from around the world can come together.

**Tuesday, 6 May - Friday, 9 May
09:00- 17:00**

Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Sessions: Topic Streams

| | | | |
|---|----|--|----|
| The State of the Art of Impact Assessment | 16 | Effectiveness | 21 |
| Corporate Perspectives | 17 | Governance | 22 |
| Climate Change | 17 | Strategic Environmental Assessment | 22 |
| International Development..... | 18 | Tools & Techniques | 22 |
| Biodiversity..... | 18 | Learning & Professional Development..... | 23 |
| Cultural & Indigenous Issues..... | 19 | Sectoral Perspectives | 23 |
| Community & Stakeholders | 18 | Regional Perspectives..... | 24 |
| Social & Health Impacts | 20 | Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Policies .. | 24 |

Concurrent Sessions and Definition of Conference Terms

A **session** is a block of time, typically 1-1/2 to 2 hours in length, during which presentations and discussion take place on a particular topic. Sessions may utilize a variety of formats, and the length of time available for presentations will depend upon the session format that has been nominated by the session chair. Paper sessions may allow 10-15 minutes per presenter, while Practitioner Exchange and Meeting Place sessions will only allow 5 minutes per presenter. Session formats include:

Paper session: A chaired paper session allows up to 4-5 presentations on a related topic. Depending upon the number of presentations, each presenter is typically allocated 15-20 minutes, including time for specific questions. Ideally, time would also be allocated following the presentations for more general questions and open discussion.

Workshop: A workshop is similar to a paper session except that more time is allocated for general discussion following the presentations. This means that there may only be 2-3 presentations and/or presentations may be shorter.

Panel Discussion: similar to a workshop, except that panel members are invited, and ideally represent different viewpoints on the topic at hand. Following brief presentations, panel members debate issues and respond to questions put forward by members of the audience in a chaired discussion.

Roundtable: Involves a group of individuals, some of whom may be invited, holding an informal discussion on a specific topic or problem, with no formal presentations.

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.

World Café: World Café comprises progressive rounds of conversation among groups of 5-6 participants. Each round lasts 15-20 minutes, after which participants are invited to form new groups and continue the conversation drawing in ideas and comments from earlier discussions. The session concludes with a whole-group discussion.

Practitioner Exchanges provide an opportunity for up to 8 conference participants to present a brief overview of their work and network with others in the same field. Time does not permit presentation of full papers during the session, but abstracts will be included in the final program.

Note: Some Practitioner Exchanges are scheduled in the preliminary program in response to submissions received, while others may be added during preparation of the final program to accommodate large numbers of paper submissions on a particular topic.

Meeting Place: Similar to a Practitioner Exchange except that only up to 5 brief presentations are made, with remaining time available for one-on-one or small group discussions between presenters and interested audience members.

SPECIAL TOPIC STREAM

THE STATE OF THE ART OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Contributions to this topic stream are invited from practitioners of all forms of impact assessment, whether it be EIA, SEA, SIA, HIA, technology IA or others. These sessions provide a unique opportunity to learn from each other through the integration of different perspectives on issues of relevance across the whole spectrum of impact assessment practice. See page 15 for more information!

Alternatives and Impact Assessment

Chairs: Eric Markus, Kaarina Stiff

The issue of alternatives is often said to be at the heart of impact assessment, and is often the point where the “art” and “science” dimensions of impact assessment first converge. However, experience shows that alternatives are often underdeveloped in the assessment process. Is the art of policy-making and agenda-setting interfering in the rigorous analysis that science would otherwise apply to the impact assessment process? Or are the surveys and matrices of science missing the bigger picture? How do art and science influence how we analyze alternatives in impact assessment? How can we better integrate the art and science of impact assessment to improve decision-making? In this session, topic organizers will explore the role, handling, development and importance of alternatives in impact assessment, drawing on transportation case studies. This session welcomes additional papers that discuss the handling of alternatives, especially in the form of case studies of projects, policies and plans.

Format: Paper session

Dealing with Uncertainties in Impact Assessment and Policy Design

Chair: Wil Thissen

Uncertainties abound in impact assessment, not just because a lack of (precise) knowledge or theory, but also because impact assessment is about the future. Yet little attention is given to this particular but very important aspect, and this regards both the identification and assessment of uncertainties in a systematic way, and the choice of alternatives or design of adequate policies in light of irreducible uncertainty. This workshop/session will focus on methods and principles to identify, analyze and assess uncertainties, and on strategies policy designers could follow in light of uncertainties.

Format: Workshop

Participation, Contention and the Practice of Impact Assessment

Chair: John Devlin (Public Participation Section)

Participants will explore a variety of questions on what effects public participation in impact assessment actually has. Under what conditions are project designs modified to favor environmental and social outcomes? Under what conditions are mitigation measures and provisions for monitoring and follow-up actually implemented? Under what conditions is the public effectively marginalized from the impact assessment process? How is this marginalization

Concurrent Sessions

achieved? How is it overcome? How is public participation affected by the characteristics of the political regime? What conditions influence the level of public mobilization? What sorts of stakeholder alliances succeed in using EA to improve project outcomes and under what conditions are they successful in these efforts? What is the role of strategic alliances between intellectuals such as impact assessment experts and local communities in generating successful EA processes? Preference will be given to discussion of specific cases of impact assessment processes associated with specific development projects. Case studies from developing countries are particularly encouraged. The practitioner exchange will provide an opportunity for an exchange of information on fruitful directions for practice and continuing research on EA as a contentious political process.

Format: Practitioner Exchange

Impact Assessment Feedback Mechanisms

Chair: Pura Vita Pedrosa

Impact assessment can only be made meaningful through feedback mechanisms on the actual impacts as observed in monitoring and evaluation/audit. Nice management plans may be prepared during the impact prediction stage, but the effectiveness of the measures contained in the management plan in preventing and mitigating actual project impacts may only be assessed at the project monitoring stage where relevant data are collected. This assessment has to be done so that corresponding necessary changes to the management plan can be effected for a sustained responsiveness, since initial management plans are usually designed based on impact predictions that may not necessarily be perfectly accurate when compared with the actual. This session has the following objectives: 1) to provide a venue for sharing of various feedback mechanisms being practiced in participating countries; 2) to provide a venue for sharing of how monitoring and evaluation /audit data are collected and processed as a meaningful feedback mechanism.

Format: Paper session

Overcoming Barriers to Best Practice Impact Assessment

Chair: Bryce Skarratt (EIANZ)

The key principles and methodologies for sound impact assessment (IA) have been around for decades. These principles have been developed by practitioners looking to deliver better outcomes from the impact assessment process. It would therefore be reasonable to expect that they are put into practice on all major impact studies. The reality is that many aspects of Best Practice IA are poorly implemented, if at all. Components of the IA process such as assessing significance, cumulative assessment, social impact assessment, health impact assessment, sustainability assessment and monitoring and follow-up are often overlooked or considered only at a high level. There are many barriers to the implementation of Best Practice, including proponent reluctance, lack of appropriate legislative or policy requirements or simply because the processes are not well understood. This session is intended to demonstrate practical examples of how these barriers have been overcome and the benefits a Best Practice approach can deliver.

Format: Paper session

TOPIC STREAM: CORPORATE PERSPECTIVES

Corporate Stewardship and Risk Management: Impact Assessment Follow-up Using EMS

Chair: Debra Zanewich (Environmental Management Systems Section)

We invite papers and posters related to using environmental management systems or integrated management systems as a tool to follow-up on commitments made in impact assessment reports, permits, and other legal agreements (such as financing agreements). We would also like to explore the outcomes of implementing EMS (e.g., benefits to the bottom line, benefits to the environment, benefits to the community, etc.).

Format: Paper session

Corporate Stewardship and Risk Management: International Best Practice

Chair: Debra Zanewich (Environmental Management Systems Section)

We invite practitioners and project proponents to share their experiences applying and monitoring projects which have been assessed using the IFC's Performance Standards, Equator Principles, and other recognized best practices. This session would also like to explore managing project change and evolution in the context of monitoring against international best practice. The session will include a variety of viewpoints to allow discussion and sharing of experiences.

Format: Paper session

Corporate Stewardship/Risk Management: CSR and the Business Case for Impact Assessment

Chair: Angela Pinilla Urzola (Environmental Management Systems Section)

There is no consensus among academicians or practitioners about a definition of the term Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). However, for the purpose of this session, CSR refers to all of a company's impacts on society and the need to deal responsibly with the impacts on each group of stakeholders: shareholders, customers, suppliers, governments, employees and the local and global community (ACCA, 2005). In order to develop a CSR strategy, the idea is to consider major issues such as impacts on labor conditions, environmental impacts of products or services, social and environmental impacts of operation on local communities, and impacts of product and services on customers. The session will present an outlook of stewardship activities and lessons learned from the private sector to address the CSR agenda.

Format: Paper session

Corporate Stewardship/Risk Management: Sustainability Reporting

Chair: Angela Pinilla Urzola (Environmental Management Systems Section)

Companies need to pay attention not just to economic performance but also to environmental and social impacts and performance. Corporate sustainability reports provide stakeholders with information on the environmental and social aspects of the company such as social and environmental performance, environmental management systems and design for the environment, and the social investment and community partnerships as well. Assurance is an evaluation method that uses a specified set of principles and standards to assess the quality of a reporting organization and the organization's underlying systems, processes and competencies that underpin its performance (AccountAbility 1999, 2003, 2005). Assurance is a necessary component in adding credibility to the reporting process. Do you have ideas related to the corporate reporting process? Are you working on assurance in sustainability reporting and would like to share your experiences? This session welcomes papers related to the above ideas and more.

Format: Paper session

TOPIC STREAM: CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change: Health Impacts and Adaptations

Chairs: Jeff Spickett, Dianne Katscherian

The assessment of the impact of climate change on human health and the development of potential adaptation strategies can be carried out using impact assessment frameworks. This session will focus on the use of these frameworks to evaluate the impacts of climate change on health in terms of the uncertainties, levels of risk and potential adaptation strategies in different countries and regions across the globe. Papers addressing the following topics are invited: health impact of extreme events; health impact of temperature increases and related changes; water-borne diseases and water quality; vector-borne diseases; food-borne diseases; food production; air quality; social impact, community lifestyle, dislocation and mental health; and general principles and adaptation measures. Presenters will be encouraged to discuss the relevance of adaptation strategies for their country or region, the current capacity to cope with potential environmental, social and climatic changes, how adaptation measures could be implemented and the sectors which would be involved.

Format: Paper session

Concurrent Sessions

Climate Change: Biodiversity Impact Assessment

Chairs: Hossein Moradi, Jasmin Moradi

The earth's climate has warmed by approximately 0.74°C over the past 100 years (1906-2005). Evidence is increasing that climatic changes already have affected a broad range of organisms worldwide and as a complex response to several human-induced changes in the environment; global biodiversity today is changing at an unprecedented rate. The magnitude of this change is so large and also linked to ecosystem processes and society's use of natural resources that biodiversity-change is now considered an important global change in its own right. There are three basic ways in which species may respond to climatic change: persistence in the modified climate, migration to a more suitable climate or extinction. Key subjects and impacts of climate change on biodiversity include identifying ecosystems vulnerable to climate change; experimental evidence or evidence from long-term monitoring projects on climate-change induced changes in species or functional-type composition or transitions of ecosystems due to altered climatic conditions (e.g., desertification); identifying characteristics of species that are "vulnerable", i.e., which suffer, and "winner" species, which benefit from climate change. (See also Topic Stream: Biodiversity)

Format: Paper session

Scenarios, Time Horizons and Climate Change in Impact Assessment

Chair: Elizabeth Wilson

Climate change requires us to look to longer time horizons than decision-makers are used to: we need to consider the long-term impacts of our actions, and to act now to avoid or influence future impacts. Scenarios have been developed as "coherent, internally consistent and plausible descriptions of possible future states of the world." They offer scope for exploring the interactions of complex driving forces across a range of time-scales, and it might be expected that they could play an important role in impact assessment. However, environmental impact assessments have not systematically addressed the issue of climate change, nor have they generally made the most of opportunities to extend their time-horizons and to employ scenarios other than business-as-usual models. This session will explore the reasons for this; it will review the experiences of those who have adopted scenario-based analysis, and consider the opportunities for extending its use within environmental impact assessment. It invites both papers reflecting on these issues, on the role of futures thinking in impact assessment, and more broadly on our conceptions of time and the future, and also short presentations which put forward particular scenarios in order to stimulate discussion. (See also Topic Stream: Tools and Techniques)

Format: Paper session

TOPIC STREAM: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Environmental and Social Considerations in International Cooperation: The Japanese Way

Chair: Sachihiko Harashina

International cooperation is a very important area for creating a sustainable world. The Japanese government has been helping developing countries in their economic growth through ODA and trade. The major bodies for these activities in Japan are JICA, JBIC and JETRO. From October 2008, the ODA activities of JICA and JBIC will be merged as the activity of new JICA, which will work in the same way as the World Bank. These organizations are preparing for modifying their guidelines for environmental and social consideration to ensure the ODA activities are sustainable. This movement is observed not only in ODA but also international activities undertaken by the private sector such as international financing and trade. As one of the major bodies in this field, JETRO is now creating a guideline for making the activities sustainable, through not only EIA/SEA but also CSR. We will illustrate those recent trends of various Japanese international cooperation activities and discuss how to make those activities more sustainable.

Format: Paper session

Grievance Mechanisms for Development Projects

Chairs: Susan Wildau, Meg Taylor, David Atkins

IFC's Performance Standard 1—Social and Environmental Assessment and Management Systems—identifies the need for clients to respond to communities' concerns related to project performance, and under certain circumstances it requires the establishment of a grievance mechanism. IFC's Performance Standards and Guidance Notes provide a good first step in outlining some of the broad themes and principles associated with developing a successful grievance mechanism. However, it may be challenging for clients to design and implement an effective procedure that suits the project context, on the basis of IFC policies alone. Similarly, communities may be unclear about what to expect from such a system, how they function, what possible options are, and the skills and capacities they might need to effectively participate. Lending institutions tasked with a supervisory role may also encounter difficulties in assessing whether a client's grievance procedure is adequate as well as how they can best support good practice. This session will clarify, demonstrate, catalyze and strengthen how grievance mechanisms can be developed and implemented to effectively prevent and address community concerns on one hand, and at the same time reduce risk for companies and improve their social and environmental performance.

Format: Panel discussion

Input to the Third High Level Forum on Development Effectiveness

Chairs: Stephen Lintner, John Boyle

A special session providing input to the "Third High Level Forum on Development Effectiveness" (Ghana – September 2008) with a focus on the Use of Country Systems, in cooperation with the Multilateral Financial Institutions – Working Group on Environment and OECD/DAC.

Format: Open discussion

EIA Requirements in Relation to the Development Process

Chair: Pura Vita G. Pedrosa

EIA is ideally a tool to assure an orderly balance between socio-economic growth and environmental protection. However, are the EIA Systems in different countries ideally situated in the development process so that it can truly be such a tool? This session has the following objectives: 1) To provide a venue for sharing of how the EIA is required/conducted in relation to participating countries' development process to include the following: Is EIA always required /conducted for socio-economic growth activities with significant environmental impacts? At what stage of the development process is EIA required/normally conducted? How does EIA relate to other governments permitting requirements? 2) To secure experts' opinions on the following: Whether the participating countries' EIA systems are meaningfully integrated into the country's development process as an effective tool for balancing economic growth and environmental protection; strategies to make EIA a more effective tool for balancing socio-economic growth and environmental protection.

Format: Paper session

TOPIC STREAM: BIODIVERSITY

Retooling EIA for Optimizing Biodiversity Conservation in Development Decisions

Chairs: Asha Rajvanshi, Vinod Mathur (Biodiversity & Ecology Section)

The growing recognition of the vital importance of biodiversity and the role it plays in sustaining lives, livelihoods and economies has already been well captured in global conservation agenda. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) strongly recommends adopting "mainstreaming" concepts for creating compatibility between biodiversity conservation and development. An important question that confronts the EA community is how to improve our contribution to impact assessment for realizing its full potential in mainstreaming biodiversity for guiding sustainable development. One positive approach involves learning from the experience and current practices of retooling EIA tool to assist decision makers in making development choices that have better outcomes for biodiversity conservation. EIA draws extensively from scientific knowledge for improving the precision and comprehensiveness in the evaluation of impacts on biodiversity. At the same time, the art of applying imaginative tools and cutting edge methodologies can also signifi-

Concurrent Sessions

TOPIC STREAM: CULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Maintaining the Identity of Indigenous People and the Area They Represent

Chairs: Bob Tai, Maria Tait, Maurice Gray (Indigenous Peoples Section)

This session will focus on how Aboriginal values can be integrated with modern day legislation, and how indigenous people can work with the Crown and Local Government through joint business ventures after treaty settlements between tribes and Government. The format of the session will be a panel discussion. Presenter One will discuss tribal values relating to environmental issues, including health, housing, education and wealth. Presenter Two will review current legislation, rules and policies and how tribes might set up a framework structure to work through the issues to come to an agreement satisfying all parties. Presenter Three will discuss the outcomes and benefits to all parties from such processes.

Format: Panel discussion

Cultural Heritage and Impact Assessment

Chairs: Arlene Fleming, Julio de Jesus

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) are intended to provide an integrated analysis of the biophysical, social and cultural heritage impacts of development projects or strategies. Methods for identifying and considering biophysical and social conditions and impacts are established; information and experienced professionals are generally available. However, in many parts of the world, the cultural heritage aspect of EIA and SEA is considerably less well developed. The separation of cultural and environmental practitioners in most countries has resulted in a lack of experience and a scarcity of methods and tools for addressing cultural heritage in EIA and SEA. Various types of institutions recognize the need for strengthening the cultural heritage component of impact assessment and have a role: international and regional development agencies, national governments, private corporations, EIA consulting firms, and cultural organizations. Presenters will be invited to share their experience and perspective on improving the cultural heritage component in EIA and SEA. Consultation among session participants prior to IAIA08, and collaboration during the conference, will start the process of preparation of a document on Best Practice Principles of Cultural Heritage for Impact Assessment, to be published and disseminated by IAIA.

Format: Workshop

Cultural Resources Management in Impact Assessment

Chair: Stephen Lintner

Cultural resources may be movable or immovable objects; sites, structures, and groups of structures; or significant natural features and landscapes. They may be located in urban or rural settings, above or below ground. They may be very old or quite new, and relate to a living or past culture. They are often unregistered and may not be obviously valuable, but

can have local, national or international importance. Once lost, they cannot be replaced. The session will draw on regional experience from Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific to highlight lessons learned in dealing with cultural resources in impact assessments. Presenters will take questions from, and engage in discussions with, forum participants and each other.

Format: Paper session

TOPIC STREAM: COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDERS

The Art and Science of Public Participation in Impact Assessment

Chairs: Bert Enserink, John Devlin, Dusica Radojic (Public Participation Section)

The first session of the Public Participation Section will be a workshop/debate on the conference theme: the art and science of impact assessment. In August 2006 we published our international best practices principles for public participation (<http://www.iaia.org/modx/assets/files/SP4%20web.pdf>). In this conference theme session, we want to invite a number of best practice examples showing how the chosen tools and methods—the art and science—contributed to good practice PP. We are especially interested in PP in contested projects and conflict-prone situations. We would like to invite three to four paper presenters to tell briefly about their practice and then would have a forum discussion with some of the main drafters of the PPBPP.

Format: Workshop

Community Participation and Sustainability Assessment

Chair: Caroline Raphael

Community participation is considered a critical element of sustainability assessment, yet detailing and describing how this is done still needs further examination. The focus of the session will be to discuss the current community participation techniques used in sustainability assessments in a range of contexts and to critically review which approaches work best. The intent is then to devise a series of case studies for a range of contexts where community participation has effectively enabled sustainability assessment to achieve its desired goals.

Format: Workshop

Institutional Capacity Building: How to Deal Effectively with Communities

Chairs: Sally Pickard, Paul McLeod

Often, perception of risk by the community and stakeholders bears no resemblance to perception of risk by technical experts. Communities and stakeholders build their perceptions of risk on more than

cantly influence EIA's functional role of informing, influencing, and integrating with decision processes. This session is aimed at providing a platform for biodiversity experts, researchers, academicians and EA practitioners for sharing their experience of conducting EIA of projects in key sectors such as mining, energy, road transportation, and hydropower to demonstrate good practice of mainstreaming biodiversity in EA.

Format: Paper session

Valuation of Ecosystem Services

Chairs: Roel Slootweg, Arend Kolhoff (Biodiversity & Ecology Section)

Signatory countries to the Convention on Biological Diversity must identify activities and processes that have adverse impacts on biological diversity (article 14). So far, in environmental assessment, treatment of biodiversity has been inconsistent and grossly inadequate. However, there is growing agreement that the recognition and quantification of ecosystem services, and involvement of their stakeholders, represents the best opportunity to translate biodiversity in language understood by decision makers. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment has, among others, provided imported scientific methods to improve the art of impact assessment. Ecosystem services such as maintenance of species diversity, provisioning of food or drinking water, or buffering of floods are necessary to keep this world an inhabitable place. This argument has to be made explicit for decision making. The challenge is how to express the value of diverse ecosystem services. This session will present and encourage discussion on the tools we have to express the values of ecosystem services in financial terms. A further question is whether all values of biodiversity can and should be expressed in dollars or whether other valuation techniques are equally valid. In this respect we must think of services related to quality of life, religious values, or future opportunities. (See also Topic Stream: Tools and Techniques)

Format: Paper session

The Significance of Natural Resources Inventories

Chairs: Toshiaki Ohkura, Ryunosuke Hamada

For environmental assessment and project appraisal, are we making full use of the natural resources inventory (NRI)? Too much concern for endangered and/or scarce species may have led us to overlook more common flora, fauna and soils supporting our sustainable life. We want to focus on the meaning of common natural resources to argue the significance of NRI.

Format: Panel discussion

Climate Change: Biodiversity Impact Assessment

Chairs: Hossein Moradi, Jasmin Joshi

See Topic Stream: Climate Change

Concurrent Sessions

hard data. Contentious issues that threaten social, cultural or environmental assets can invoke feelings of dread and injustice in the community. Increasingly, private and public institutions are recognizing the need to shift from old-style public relations towards more risk-oriented, participatory communications techniques. This has led to broad-scale revision of how organizations approach stakeholder relations, and a groundswell in demand for internal social risk management capacity. This session will discuss some of the directions in social risk management that are emerging as normal business practice. It will examine public participation process design, implementation and reporting for contentious and technically complex projects. Case studies will be used to demonstrate practical application of skills in risk assessment, environmental impact assessment and management scenarios.

Format: Paper session

Mobilization of the Public for Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment

Chairs: Dusica Radojic, John Devlin, Bert Enserink (Public Participation Section)

In many transitional/developing countries, public participation in environmental impact assessment procedures is still underdeveloped. Despite the introduction of modern environmental impact assessment legislation and public participation tools, the lack of effective public participation in those procedures is one of the major weaknesses. The causes are many and range from the historical and political context to demotivation caused by the public's past experiences of inadequate treatment of their views and opinions, carrying out the minimum requirements regarding consultation, predominance of impactors over impactees, etc., which generated mistrust or apathy. In this session, hosted by the Public Participation Section, we invite practitioners to present their cases/efforts in creation of trust building mechanisms, capacity for consultation and generally encouragement of public participation in EIA procedures. We are interested in public mobilization examples at national or local level organized by authorities, local communities or NGOs. This session will be run as a workshop and focused on the practical aspect, or "how to do it."

Format: Workshop

Participatory Monitoring as a Means to Resolve Conflict

Chairs: David Atkins, Meg Taylor, Susan Wildau

Many extractive resource projects have a need to involve stakeholders in environmental monitoring, but there is little guidance available for how to create effective participation. This session will explore participatory monitoring as a means to help prevent and resolve conflicts between companies and communities. Conflict happens when expectations are not being met, e.g., when there is a lack of information, non-equitable stakeholder engagement, or an actual impact. This lack of inclusion gives rise to feelings of suspicion and powerlessness. The ultimate objective of participatory monitoring is to prevent or minimize conflicts by creating balance. Participatory monitoring and the inherent collaboration required to design and implement a process leads to the creation of relationships, trust

and understanding which can be viewed as the ultimate way to resolve conflicts and can serve as the accountability mechanism for all parties. The session will discuss projects where external verification and participatory monitoring have been applied to help resolve conflict, and examine the roles and views of companies, government agencies, international financial institutions and non-governmental organizations and communities in resolving disputes that center on environmental impacts.

Format: Panel discussion

EIA Follow-up and Audit of Project Environmental Compliance through Stakeholders

Chairs: Elsie Cezar, Helena Lindemark, Criste Navida

The primary purpose of monitoring, validation and audit is to ensure the judicious implementation of sound environmental management within a company/corporation and its areas of operation. Monitoring also provides the basis for timely decision-making and effective planning and management of environmental measures through the monitoring of actual project impacts vis-à-vis the predicted environmental impacts. This session will present the current practices, different views of stakeholder participation in monitoring, and emphasize the importance of encouraging public participation and involvement to promote greater stakeholder vigilance and to provide appropriate check and balance mechanisms in the monitoring of project implementation. The stakeholders formed as a monitoring team shall also serve as recommendatory to regulatory agencies with the primary responsibility of validation of Proponent's environmental performance. The session is intended also to identify the level of public participation in monitoring of projects and how the responsibility in environmental protection is shared with the regulatory agency, demonstrate the effectiveness of stakeholder participation through monitoring in building public trust and enhancing public disclosure, and demonstrate the paradigm shift to stakeholders participation and fostering partnership and self-regulation.

Format: Paper session

Measuring Social Performance: The Community Yardstick!

Chair: Sheridan Coakes

In recent years, particularly within the mining sector, there has been an increased interest by companies in measuring reputation and social performance. Driven by triple bottom line, sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR) policy, the push to measure social performance and develop useful social indicators appears to have been inconsistent and haphazard, in part due to the often fluid and unpredictable nature of the social concepts under investigation. Through experience working with the mining sector in NSW and more broadly across Australia, Coakes Consulting is working with many mining companies to develop appropriate social indicators at the community level. In this regard, a number of indicators have been developed and applied across a range of indicator categories, including: impact management, engagement, com-

munity contribution, economic contribution and demographic change. Furthermore the subjective and objective indicators that have been selected and developed reflect the objectives and values of both the company and the communities in which they operate; facilitating effective involvement, measurement and monitoring across time. Such indicators are enabling companies to track performance and most importantly use such data to challenge current practice by informing future directions and identifying areas for improvement. This session will explore some of the complexities involved in developing effective indicators of social performance (involvement and investment), while highlighting the need for more rigor and methodologically sound approaches to social performance measurement and management within the minerals sector. Innovative approaches to social monitoring and measurement being developed by companies within the sector will be presented for group discussion and debate.

Format: Paper session

Working with Communities: Finding Common Ground

Chairs: Ilse Aucamp, John Devlin, Bert Enserink, Dusica Radojic (SIA Section)

An open discussion forum inviting PP and SIA practitioners to share and discuss strategies for approaching and working with "the public" and communities. The aim is to share lessons learned, find common ground between SIA and PP and discuss some case studies. The role of different professionals in different stages of the process will be discussed, and how these two processes can support and enhance each other.

Format: Meeting place

TOPIC STREAM: SOCIAL AND HEALTH IMPACTS

SIA: Best Practice and Future Trends

Chair: Ilse Aucamp (SIA Section)

Papers on what is currently seen as best practice in SIA are invited. It is proposed that a few papers are presented, and that enough time is allowed for discussion on how best practice can be implemented across the globe. Trends pertaining to SIA (e.g., the movement towards management systems addressing the social environment) will also be discussed to indicate in which direction the field should evolve.

Format: Meeting place

SIA: So What?

Chair: Ilse Aucamp (SIA Section)

The session will focus on SIA as decision-making tool. Does SIA add value to the decision-making process, or is it just an exercise to pacify authorities and communities? Practitioners are invited to submit papers that indicate where SIA has been used successfully (or unsuccessfully) as a decision-making tool and to share lessons learned and their experiences. The outcome of the session would be to determine if SIA have a role to play in impact assessment and what the true value of SIA is.

Format: Paper session

Concurrent Sessions

SIA on a Strategic Level

Chair: Ilse Aucamp (SIA Section)

The aim of the session is to share experiences of where SIA has been implemented on a strategic level. This can include policies related to SIA or social processes, or purely SIAs conducted as a part of any strategic project. Lessons learned and important issues to be considered should be pointed out.

Format: Paper session

Guidance on Assessing Significance of Social Impacts

Chairs: James Baines, Nick Taylor (SIA Section)

The intention is to open the session with one or two short introductory statements (invited), setting the scene for round table discussion, and resulting in a record of discussion to be posted on IAIA's SIA section Web page following the conference.

Format: Roundtable

Straddling the Divide: Quantitative and Qualitative Methodologies in SIA

Chair: Sheridan Coakes

Making social data count is often a key issue for social practitioners in an applied context. Despite a wealth of both quantitative and qualitative methodologies available within the social sciences, the social assessment component is often referred to as "soft" or "fluffy" and consequently can be devalued in assessment programs. This forum explores methodologies that aim to "straddle the divide" between quantitative and qualitative methodologies to facilitate greater appreciation of the value of social information in organizational decision making. Techniques and/or methodologies, e.g., geo-referencing of social data, township resources cluster analysis, developed and utilized in a range of social assessments to facilitate the interpretation and integration of social information with other inputs, e.g., economic and environmental, will be presented for further discussion.

Format: Paper session

Gender Mainstreaming, Impact Assessment and Sustainable Development

Chairs: Natividad Lacdan, Helena Lindemark

The synchronized integration of environmental quality, social equity, economic viability and responsible governance have been the basic pillars in order that sustainable development can be achieved. Still, the road to sustainable development seemingly remains an elusive dream, both in developed and developing countries. While the World Summit on Sustainable Development has formally recognized the important role of women as among the nine major civil groups for an effective implementation of the sustainable development agenda, there is much to be done in terms of concretely mainstreaming gender in this respect; that is, to ensure that women's empowerment, emancipation and gender equality are integrated in all activities related to Agenda 21 and Millennium Development Goals. One of these perceived gaps is mainstreaming gender in the field of impact assessment. While stakeholder analysis/public consultations and management plans are in place in the conduct of impact assessment, gender based issues are not well emphasized.

Format: Paper session

Health Impact Assessment of Dams: An Update of the Situation

Chair: Robert Bos (HIA Section)

In 2001 the World Commission of Dams produced its report with far-reaching recommendations for improved impact assessment, selection of options, compensation for those exposed to involuntary risks, and performance contracts for environmental and social management plans. More recently the World Bank and regional development banks have stepped up their lending for new dam projects. Some dams with an HIA are under construction (Nam Theun 2 in Lao), for others loans have been approved based on feasibility and EIA studies (Bujungali in Uganda), yet others are in the appraisal phase (Bui Dam in Ghana). Several new dams are now on the drawing board. The WCD report also referred to health impact assessment, and the objective of this session is to review the current status, progress made and obstacles encountered in making HIA a standard practice in the planning of dam projects. The session should yield recommendations for those promoting HIA how to proceed and with which focus.

Format: Paper session

Key Issues Facing HIA Practice

Chair: Ben Harris-Roxas (HIA Section)

This roundtable will build upon a successful session held at IAIA07 in Seoul. The roundtable will draw on practitioners' experiences to discuss key issues facing HIA practice. Scenarios will be presented for discussion, drawn from practitioners' actual experiences in undertaking HIAs. Topics for discussion will include integrating HIA with other forms of IA, ensuring rigor in HIAs, public participation in HIA, prediction and predictive efficacy in HIA, facilitators and barriers to HIA's use, and evaluating HIA. Participants will be invited to share their views and experiences throughout the session.

Format: Roundtable

Climate Change: Health Impacts and Adaptations

Chairs: Jeff Spickett, Dianne Katscherian

See Topic Stream: Climate Change

Working with Communities: Finding Common Ground

Chair: Ilse Aucamp (SIA Section)

See Topic Stream: Community and Stakeholders

TOPIC STREAM: EFFECTIVENESS

The Effectiveness of Impact Assessment in Addressing "Big Picture" Environmental Issues

Chair: David Hogg (EIANZ)

The impact assessment legislation and procedures developed in Australia to date are designed to focus primarily on specific projects on an individual basis. They are not necessarily appropriate for addressing "big picture" environmental issues; for example, stra-

tegic or cumulative impacts. The aim of this session is to review traditional project-based impact assessment approaches, as widely practiced in Australia and many other jurisdictions, in terms of the following questions: Can these approaches be refined to assist in the achievement of better environmental outcomes at a strategic or cumulative level? Are there any case studies where this has been demonstrated successfully? Alternatively, does the traditional project-based impact assessment approach tend to inhibit effective environmental planning at a wider scale? Are there other approaches which should be applied to complement traditional impact assessment or even replace it in some situations with a view to achieving the best overall outcomes?

Format: Paper session

Getting to Yes: Using Art and Science to Get Your Outcome

Chair: Melinda Macleod

Impact assessment around the world requires many different approaches, some dictated by legislation, some led by cultural differences, most in response to the project. But what factor is consistent in all approaches? Probably the balance between objective and subjective information, between scientifically rigorous data and instinct, between science and art. This session will discuss the implementation of impact assessment, investigating what was actually successful in getting to the outcome you were aiming for: was it solid science where the facts were so blatant they couldn't be ignored, or was it much more subjective? Did you really delve into the "art" of impact assessment, using a gut instinct and whatever means necessary to get to "yes"?

Format: Paper session

Environmental Governance and the Politics of Environmental Assessment

Chairs: Tabatha Wallington, Olivia Bina

The role of values and political judgement in environmental assessment (EA) has been recognized, albeit intermittently, since its origins. The original, political intent of EA was summed up by Lynton Caldwell when he said that "environmental impact analysis in its broader context represents a fundamental change in perceptions...regarding how society's environmental future should be evaluated and how political and economic decisions regarding the environment should be made" (Caldwell, 1989: 7). Recent moves in wider environmental policy domains to decentralize decision-making, moves which are often described in terms of a shift from government to governance, bring the political aspects of EA to the fore. Conceiving of EA as more than a technical process opens up a number of important questions about which theories of politics, the policy process and public administration inform models of EA, as well as about how we should understand the conditions and boundaries of scientific knowledge in relation to moral and social knowledge in the EA process.

Format: Panel discussion

Concurrent Sessions

TOPIC STREAM: GOVERNANCE

Tips and Tools: The Management of IA in Conflict Areas

Chair: Ross Marshall

Hydro schemes, road and other transport network projects and energy infrastructure IA Programmes often take place along linear corridors or within regions where local, regional or transboundary conflict between the state and other political or local organizations is ongoing. This session calls for practitioners with experience in working within such areas to present their cases studies on the difficulties faced, how they were overcome and the advice they would pass onto other practitioners faced with such difficulties. The workshop seeks to examine this rarely discussed and on occasion dangerous element of some of our members' work, with the objective of subsequently producing a fact sheet that can be utilized by future members.

Format: Workshop

Complying with IA Legislation: Between Art and Science? Stories from the Courtroom

Chair: Jan de Mulder (Environmental IA Law, Policies and Practice Section)

Impact assessment as one of the tools that are part of decision-making processes is also part of the legal frameworks established to govern these processes. Impact assessment can be found in statutes, regulations and legal textbooks all over the world. The daily practice of decision making in jurisdictions often reveals the limits and tricky aspects of these legal frameworks. Legislators—pressed by societal forces—may apply creative writing. Opportunities may hide loopholes and lawyers are keen on finding these. Court cases show the judges' multiple options in the arena which is occupied by companies, NGOs, governments, counselors, civil servants, etc. Complaints, submissions, and appeals are filled with arguments: evidence or package, sweetheart statements versus bitter reality? If impact assessment balances between science and art without clear outcomes, the legal context offers mostly decisive results. Obviously these results cannot (and do not) make everyone happy. Final verdicts are sometimes heavily disputed, but they always reflect realities and perceptions. These cases may sound like horror stories or fairy tales, but they are surely worth being heard.

Format: Paper session

Early Market Involvement and EIA: Experiences and Practices

Chairs: Jos Arts, Charlotte Faith-Eil, Amanda Chisholm

Market parties are involved more and earlier in planning and impact assessment processes, as infrastructure procurement moves towards integration of project-design, construction, operation and maintenance. New procurement and contracting methods influence EIA-practice and may provide a

source for innovation. This workshop builds on previous IAIA conference workshops. Key issues, based on lessons learned to date, include timing, flexibility and duration of market involvement; parties' roles and responsibilities; public consultation and process transparency; available level of project design detail; identification and implementation of mitigation and management measures; environmental information transfer between different process stages; changes to contractual requirements/contract monitoring; and safeguarding integration of environmental issues in design. The workshop intends to identify experiences with early market involvement that may be pertinent to all stakeholders in impact assessment, building on the key issues already identified. Participants are encouraged to present recent cases addressing: nature and context of project; parties involved and their roles; strengths-weaknesses-opportunities-threats of approach followed; and lessons learned. Papers addressing more general issues will also be accepted. The workshop will provide a forum for discussing recent case studies, theoretical concepts, legal and practical issues, using a format of presentations and participant discussion. The results will be published in an article.

Format: Workshop

Think Globally, Act Locally: Local Implementation of Global Policies

Chairs: Jaime Martinez-Garcia, Viridiane Urbina-Ortiz, Cynthia Luna-Teran

This session will address local experiences in the implementation of Global Environmental Policies, especially those related to global warming/climate change. In particular, discussions will focus on experiences in both developed and developing countries on how international agreements are translated to the domestic (national and local) environmental framework.

Format: Paper session

Participatory Monitoring as a Means to Resolve Conflict

Chairs: David Atkins, Meg Taylor, Susan Wildaur

See Topic Stream: Community and Stakeholders

TOPIC STREAM: STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Application of the EU SEA Directive: A First Inventory

Chair: Ralf Aschemann

In 2001, the European Union published its SEA Directive. Its requirements had to be transposed into the national legislation of all EU Member States before 21 July 2004. Now, nearly four years later, it is time to do a first inventory of the experiences made and the lessons learned when applying that Directive. Thus, this session aims for presenting, comparing and discussing SEA case studies from various EU countries, taking into account the whole range of SEA topics. In particular, the influence of the SEA's outcome and

the quality of the environmental report should be analyzed and evaluated, but any other SEA issues are welcome as well.

Format: Workshop

SEA Practice in Vietnam: Experiences and Lessons

Chairs: Le Hoai Nam, Nguyen Khac Kinh, Jiri Dusik

When the new Law on Environmental Protection went into force 1 July 2006, SEA became a legal requirement for a long range of strategies and plans in Vietnam. Since then the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and other stakeholders have initiated a variety of activities to promote implementation of the new legislation, including issuing secondary legislation on SEA, developing SEA guidelines, implementing SEA pilot projects in key sectors, developing SEA training materials and undertaking training programmes, as well as establishing mechanisms for coordination amongst stakeholders. Thanks to these efforts, Vietnam has witnessed significant successes in SEA development, but also experienced major challenges in this process.

Format: Paper session

Strategic Environmental Assessments in the Greater Mekong Subregion

Chairs: Jorgen Eriksson, Pavit Ramachandran

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) is comprised of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and Yunnan and Guangxi provinces in China. Among these countries, China and Vietnam have implemented SEA legislation and are building significant experience in the use of SEA. Even though the remaining countries do not have any formal SEA requirements, a number of assessments are also being conducted within these countries. Through the GMS Core Environment Program (CEP), a regional technical assistance administered by ADB, Cambodia's first SEA is being implemented. A cross-sectoral transboundary SEA is also being supported through this program, involving China, Lao PDR and Thailand. The aim of the CEP is to promote the use of SEA in the Southeast Asia region, working directly with development planners and particularly emphasizing transboundary aspects of the ongoing development. The purpose of this workshop is twofold. First, to discuss the ongoing SEA development in the GMS countries with the purpose of identifying common approaches to the use of SEA and possibilities of adopting regional best practices/guidelines. Second, to discuss the use of SEA for addressing transboundary impacts of the development in the GMS region.

Format: Workshop

TOPIC STREAM: TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

Life Cycle Assessment: The Impact of Corporate Consumption

Chair: Suzanne Little

The use of Life Cycle Assessment in understanding the impact of corporate consumption was the

Concurrent Sessions

topic of a training course held in six capital cities around Australia from August to November 2007. Good Environmental Choice Australia—the ecolabel standards-setting organization—presented this training to purchasing officers and their advisors, on how to achieve sustainable (green) procurement. The two-day course content was based on a life cycle assessment approach to “buying green” using ecolabels and ISO 14024. The IAIA conference session describes the main message of GECA’s 2007 training course, plus some lessons learned from the diverse range of course attendees after eleven presentations around Australia. The components of the course were 1) Consumers or Customers? 2) Introduction to Green Procurement; 3) Why Green Procurement? 4) Procurement Case Study - remanufactured toner cartridges; 5) How to “Buy Green”; 6) Role of the Procurement Officer; 7) Model Green Specifications for Water, Energy, Recycling & Refrigerants; 8) Ideas Associated with Green Procurement; 9) Monitoring Success and Failure; 10) Writing an Example Specification; 11) Group Discussion on Approaches to procurement; 12) Solutions Available; 13) Review of Training Course Materials.

Format: Paper session

Risk Management and EIA

Chair: Trevor Blake

How can we efficiently focus efforts in environmental impact assessment (EIA) on the issues that are most important, in order to guide effective action? The perspective of risk management has much to offer EIA, since it integrates analysis of the potential magnitude of environmental impacts with their associated likelihood, in the context of available management responses. It also offers potential as a dynamic approach to managing environmental risks, in contrast to the essentially static approach of conventional EIA. This session will discuss practitioner experiences in the application of risk management approaches in EIA, to achieve an effective focusing of both investigation and management effort relative to the potential for significant impacts on environmental assets. Australasian practitioners will discuss their experience of a risk management approach in the context of the Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard ANZ 4630: 2004, which in recent years has been increasingly used in EIA and planning for environmental management. This practitioner exchange will consider the suitability of particular risk analysis techniques for EIA. Issues to be discussed may include the incorporation of systems methodologies, multiple dimensions of uncertainty, stakeholder perspectives and criteria of acceptability, as well as adaptive management.

Format: Practitioner Exchange

Scenarios, Time Horizons and Climate Change in Impact Assessment

Chair: Elizabeth Wilson

See Topic Stream: Climate Change

Valuation of Ecosystem Services

Chair: Roel Sloomweg, Arend Kolhoff

See Topic Stream: Biodiversity

TOPIC STREAM: LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

EIA/SEA Teaching and Education

Chairs: Luis E. Sánchez, Sachihiko Harashina

This session focus on sharing experience on teaching EIA/SEA at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Papers are invited on topics such as course contents and delivery, developing practical pedagogic activities, evaluation approaches, balance between general EIA/SEA process/framework and national/local requirements, treatment of specialized tools such as risk analysis, modeling, geographical information systems and others; treatment of issues such as health and social impacts; technology-based teaching aids, distance learning and Internet-based teaching; and any other subject related to educating future professionals on EIA/SEA objectives, approaches and methods. Papers on knowledge management in both private and public organizations, as well as on teaching EIA/SEA topics to professionals through training programs, are also sought.

Format: Paper session

Improving Professional Practice: The Role of Accreditation/Certification

Chair: Kerry Laszig (EIANZ)

In October 2006, the IAIA Board of Directors adopted guidelines for Lead IA Professionals, aimed at establishing minimum standards which can be adopted by national accreditation/certification bodies. Different jurisdictions have adopted different approaches to accreditation/certification, and progress with implementation of such systems varies. In Australasia, the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand launched the Certified Environmental Practitioner (CEnvP) scheme in 2004, and more than 170 environmental practitioners have been certified to date. This session will provide an opportunity for practitioners from around the world to share their experience of accreditation/certification programs, discuss their effectiveness in improving professional practice, and explore future directions for accreditation/certification.

Format: Workshop

Environmental Careers Seminar and Panel Discussion

Interim Chair: John Esson

The Environmental Career Center (ECC) will coordinate the third annual IAIA Environmental Careers Seminar in 2008. Come to this session ready with your questions on what it takes to prepare for, enter, and advance in a rewarding career of protecting the environment. The panel of experts includes 4 to 5 environmental employers who are currently seeking staff and/or who have the knowledge and passion for helping others gain employment. Previous career seminar speakers have represented the UN Environmental Programme, The Environment Agency (UK);

CH2M Hill, ENSR International, Golder Associates, School for Field Studies, and others.

About the Environmental Career Center: ECC has been helping people work for a better environment since 1980. They operate EnvironmentalCareer.com, publish the Green Careers Journal, and conduct career research and job seminars. If you are interested in being a panelist, contact John Esson, Environmental Career Center (johnesson@environmentalcareer.com).

Format: Panel

Welcome to IAIA!

Chair: Rita Hamm

This session is for any member or prospective member who wants to know more about the IAIA organization, its history, and how it works. Anyone interested in becoming more involved in IAIA leadership or promoting IAIA in their home base should find this session to be especially helpful and interesting.

Format: Presentations followed by Q&A session

Meet the Editors of Key Impact Assessment Journals

Chairs: Bill Page, Eric Johnson

Do you want to know how to get published in an academic journal? Are you unsure which journal is right for you? Would you like to learn about how the process works, from submission to review to publication? If so, then this is the session for you! The panel of the editors and publishers of major impact assessment journals will each give a brief presentation on their respective publications, after which there will be plenty of time for participants to ask questions and quiz the panel. If you want to get your work published, you can't afford to miss this session!

Format: Presentations followed by Q&A session

TOPIC STREAM: SECTORAL PERSPECTIVES

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Chair: Patrick Duffy (Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Section)

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries will focus on successes and challenges with the application of EIA to projects and activities sponsored by Australian and Southeast Asian development agencies. ADB, AusAid, and bilateral projects will furnish valuable lessons which confer benefits on these widespread sector activities. Australian experience with dryland agriculture irrigation, indigenous and plantation forestry, and coastal fisheries will be especially welcome, as well as aquaculture management in the region.

Format: Paper session

Concurrent Sessions

Challenges and Solutions in Linear Project Development

Chair: Pat Fleischauer

Linear projects present a unique set of impact assessment challenges. While the total area of ground disturbance associated with the foundations of transmission towers and wind turbines, for example, can seem relatively small, the actual area of land disturbance due to the project can be much more extensive, often covering very large geographic areas. The need to study these areas to establish existing conditions and protect sensitive land-based resources presents challenges to the environmental scientist, regulatory authority and project lender. This session will explore approaches and techniques that have been used in the development of transmission lines, pipelines and wind farms to highlight how development can proceed in a timely manner and still be protective of wetlands, cultural and historic resources and other terrestrial resources.

Format: Paper session

Impact Assessment in the Mining Sector

Chair: to be determined

Papers are invited on impact assessment in the mining sector.

Format: to be determined

Impact Assessment in the Tourism Sector

Chair: to be determined

Papers are invited on impact assessment in the tourism sector.

Format: to be determined

Impact Assessment in the Energy Sector

Chair: to be determined

Papers are invited on impact assessment in the energy sector.

Format: to be determined

TOPIC STREAM: REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Assimilating Social and Political Processes in Impact Assessment: An African Perspective

Chair: Sarah Macharia

The objective of this session is to assemble researchers and practitioners to discuss the impact assessment world's thoughts on the fact that Africa is lagging behind, and how we at IAIA can contribute to Africa's catching up and improving in EA practice. I would like us to challenge ourselves with the ideal that the developing world can perform at par with the developed world when it comes to impact assessment. My aim is to elicit lively debate and yield adoptable ideals for research and practice in this area.

Format: Paper session

Impact Assessment in Spanish-Speaking Countries: Using IAIA to Improve It

Chair: Iñigo Sobrini

Impact assessment is now a consolidated environmental protection tool in every Spanish-speaking country, including Spain and South and Central America. There is a huge amount of work to do in capacity building in some of these countries, which can be conducted through Spain's IAIA Spanish affiliate. Every two years, we organize a Spanish National Conference, which can be extended to every Spanish-speaking country, in order to discuss what every one is doing, and how we can improve it. The creation of more new IAIA National Affiliates would generate a network of practitioners, which does not currently exist. We offer the help of Spain's IAIA affiliate to give all the Spanish-speaking IAIA members an opportunity to achieve their goals. This session will give all Spanish-speaking members of IAIA a chance to meet each other and start working together.

Format: Workshop

Enhancing Impact Assessment in the South Pacific

Chair: Lachie Wilkinson (EIANZ)

South Pacific countries are facing increasing demands for effective impact assessment in the context of global planning frameworks and global environmental change (climate change, social change, etc). This session will examine the main constraints to best practice impact assessment in the region and explore opportunities for cooperation in building technical capacity.

Format: Workshop

Asian SEA, EIA and Sustainability Assessment

Chair: Kii Hayashi

Asia, the region with the largest share of the world's population, plays a pivotal role in the next phase of application of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and any new innovations in EIA. Only a few countries or places in Asia have applied SEA, and resistance, reservations and obstacles remain in some parts of Asia to the adoption of SEA at the national level. Notwithstanding this, there has been great attention to sustainability decision making. There has also been increasing attention to the linkage between SEA and sustainable development. Building capacity, gaining actual experiences and enforcing the requirements remain major issues. This session invites experiences, good practices, case studies and lessons learned in Asian countries. It will be an opportunity to discuss any practical solutions or strategies to overcome obstacles, promote innovation in practices, and build and sustain better institutions for applying SEA, EIA or Sustainability Assessment. It is a meaningful follow-up of "SEA/EIA development and cases in Asia" held in IAIA06 and the "Asian SEA, EIA and Sustainability Assessment" session at IAIA07.

Format: Paper session

SEA Practice in Vietnam: Experiences and Lessons

Chairs: Le Hoai Nam, Nguyen Khac Kinh, Jiri Dusik

See Topic Stream: Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessments in the Greater Mekong Subregion

Chairs: Jorgen Eriksson, Pavit Ramachandran

See Topic Stream: Strategic Environmental Assessment

Application of the EU SEA Directive: A First Inventory

Chair: Ralf Aschemann

See Topic Stream: Strategic Environmental Assessment

North America

Chair: to be determined

Papers are invited on the topic of impact assessment practice in the USA and Canada.

Format: to be determined

Australia and New Zealand

Chair: to be determined

Papers are invited on the topic of impact assessment practice in Australia and New Zealand.

Format: to be determined

TOPIC STREAM: INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF TRADE-RELATED POLICIES

Chair: Bernice Goldsmith (Integrated Assessment of Trade-Related Policies Section)

For IAIA08 the IATRP Section is encouraging Impact of Trade and Trade Agreements professionals to follow the vision of the conference organizers and participate in the discussions of impact assessment across common issues, keeping in mind the theme of the conference. The Section chairs are encouraging IATRP members to submit their papers to the section or session that is most relevant to their topic. This year we are experimenting with this model which will guide us in the future. We are looking for papers, posters and theme forum participants to contribute to conference deliberations. Issues on impact assessment of trade and trade agreements cross all boundaries of impact assessment stages and practices: community/stakeholder engagement, screening/scoping, specific analytical and valuation methods and issues of significance, innovations in communicating IA results, approaches to integration, approaches to monitoring and mitigation/follow-up. For each process/method focus, presenters would be asked to pay particular attention to pertinent/distinguishing details of method; what features of the context led the practitioner to choose the particular method/details, what worked well and why; what didn't work so well and why; possible improvements.

Training Courses

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.

Dates, times, location

IAIA08 pre-conference training courses will be held from 09:00 - 17:00 on Sunday, 4 May, and Monday, 5 May. The courses will be held at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre.

Registration, deadlines, and fees

IAIA's courses cost US\$435 for the 2-day courses and US\$250 for the 1-day courses, inclusive of Australian GST. 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 assessed an additional US\$66 fee. Course fees must be paid in full before you will be enrolled in the training course.

Minimum/maximum class sizes are noted. If the training course for which you have registered does not meet the minimum number by **29 February**, IAIA HQ will notify you and provide refund information or offer to transfer you to another course. Course registration after 29 February will be subject to availability, instructor consent, and receipt of payment.

Please register early! Courses will be cancelled if they do not reach the minimum number of paid participants by 29 February.

If you must cancel, your course registration fee will be refunded minus a US\$66 administration fee and contingent upon a written notice of cancellation received in HQ by 29 February. After 29 February, no refunds will be issued.

For students

A limited number of free training course registrations are available to student participants of IAIA08 once courses reach their minimum enrollments. If you are interested, please send your name and first and second course choices to Bridget John (bridget@iaia.org). Allocations of the free training course slots will be made in mid-March, based on the order in which the requests were received.

Check-in

Check-in for the training courses will be open in the IAIA registration area at the following times.

- Saturday, 3 May • 15:00-17:00
- Sunday, 4 May • 07:30-13:00 and 16:00-18:00
- Monday, 5 May • 07:30

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 information

For more detailed descriptions of the courses, including outlines of activities, listings of course materials, and background information on instructors, see the IAIA Web site (www.iaia.org > IAIA08).

1 | Integrating Cultural Impact Assessment into Development Planning

This course raises awareness and provides tools to practitioners involved in planning for and/or assessing developments which might have cultural impacts.

Cultural impacts can be felt in many ways: as alterations in the human environment that lead to or contribute to value shifts, pressures on/losses of heritage resources, or effects on/perceived changes to valued cultural landscapes that change their utility to culture holders. Cultural impact assessment is an under-developed and poorly conducted field, a major problem given that the protection of (particularly Aboriginal) cultural groups from adverse changes to the places they value is often at the forefront of impasses around development proposals.

This course covers the many ways that culture can be integrated into impact assessment. Different approaches, such as cultural landscape assessment, traditional knowledge studies, and culture change models will be described.

Techniques for assessing impacts are reviewed, including mapping, place names research, values elicitation, traditional ecological knowledge, surveys, interviews, and focus groups, among others. A traditional six-step phased approach of impact assessment is used. We also discuss participatory and community based methodologies, which are often critically important to the identification of appropriate research questions and methods, the utility and accuracy of findings, and the appropriateness of mitigation strategies.

Particular focus is paid to mitigating cultural impacts and how to design mitigation measures that are enforceable (e.g., building them into Impact and Benefit Agreements).

We use case studies, both real and hypothetical, to highlight some of the key challenges of cultural impact assessment and how to overcome them. A variety of group exercises and plenary brainstorming sessions are used throughout in this highly interactive course.

Level: Foundation

Prerequisites: None. Open to people who have not conducted or critiqued cultural impact assessments.

Language: English

Duration: 1 day (4 May)

Min/Max: 10-30

Instructors: **Ciaran O'Faircheallaigh**, Professor of Politics and Public Policy, Griffith University

Ginger Gibson, PhD Candidate, University of British Columbia

Alistair MacDonald, Environmental Assessment Officer, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

Training Courses

2 | Understanding Impact Assessment: Principles, Methods, and Emerging Trends

This course is aimed at individuals who have started to work with some form of impact assessment, perhaps using impact assessments to help with their decision-making or having to provide information or other forms of input to an impact assessment process. One key purpose of the course is to broaden participants' understanding of the impact assessment process as a whole, and to appreciate the breadth of application, and what constitutes good practice impact assessment. In particular it aims to show that the basic principles of impact assessment are shared across all forms of the approach, and in different decision-making contexts (policies through to projects).

A second important aim is to highlight significant emerging trends in impact assessment, such as the promotion of the Equator Principles among private sector financial institutions, the increasing recognition of post-disaster and post-conflict strategic environmental assessment, and climate change impact assessment.

The first part of the course sets the scene, addressing the purposes and benefits of well grounded impact assessment. A generic model of impact assessment is then employed to explore the broad methods and approaches of IA. That model underpins the consideration, in the second part of the course, of the various forms of impact assessment: from social, cultural, and health to ecological/biophysical; and from strategic assessment of policies to project-level IA. The generic model emphasizes an integrated perspective of impact assessment, and the various forms of IA are seen as being interdependent. This platform is then used to explore some of the more important trends in impact assessment.

Recognizing that the IAIA conference draws a variety of people to its sessions, the course is also designed to provide a brief overview of IAIA as an organization and a guide to the conference. It reviews the key themes addressed in the plenary forums, and in the Section-oriented sessions, linking back to key issues discussed in the earlier parts of the course. This will help participants derive greater benefit from the conference, especially for those relatively new to the field.

Level: Foundation
Prerequisites: None.
Language: English
Duration: 2 days
Min/Max: 5-50
Instructor: **Richard K. Morgan**, Professor, Centre for Impact Assessment Research and Training, University of Otago

3 | The Concepts, Process and Methods of Social Impact Assessment: A Basic Course

This course provides participants with the basic knowledge, understanding and technical skills to do social impact assessment at the community and project level for a variety of development and policy proposals for both developed and developing countries. To achieve this goal, the course covers the steps in the SIA process with special emphasis on 1) "scoping," 2) determining significant social impacts, 3) using SIA variables for developing enhancement and mitigation programs, and 4) the participatory elements of the assessment process.

At the end of the course, participants will:

- Understand the framework for doing a social impact assessment within the context of the planning/decision process for a proposed action.
- Be able to implement "scoping" within the SIA-EIA process as used by government and private sector agencies as well as international aid and donor organizations.
- Understand how to identify and gather data for the description and measurement of key social impact assessment variables at the project and community level.
- Be familiar with the approaches utilized to enhance and mitigate significant social impacts within a variety of assessment processes and settings.
- Understand the participatory elements of the assessment process.

A portion of the class will be devoted to lecturing, how to use the three SIA books and discussion of social impact assessments completed by the instructors. However, much of the time will be devoted to working in groups developing an SIA for the case study—a proposed diamond mine on Aboriginal land.

This introductory SIA course is designed for planners; Department of Environment personnel; development workers for domestic and international aid and donor organizations, extension and community development workers; consultants in the private sector as well as faculty and students in planning, environmental studies, engineering, the social sciences; and any person wanting or required to do social impact assessment.

Level: Foundation. This course is designed for persons who have no prior experience and those with some experience but who wish to update their SIA skills against common international practice.
Prerequisites: None, although a general awareness of the EIA process is helpful.
Language: English
Duration: 2 days
Min/Max: 10-35
Instructors: **Rabel J. Burdge**, Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies, Western Washington University
C. Nicholas Taylor, Principal, Taylor-Baines Associates

4 | Strategic Environmental Assessment in Developing and Transition Countries

A Practice-Oriented Training Focusing on Biofuels-Related Policies

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) offers a promising methodology to promote and improve planning processes and the integration of environmental aspects into policies, plans and programs. SEA has been introduced as an obligatory instrument in many industrialized countries and is meeting with growing interest in developing and transition countries too.

Taking this into account, the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) has developed the Guidance “Applying Strategic Environmental Assessment. Good Practice Guidance for Development Cooperation.” According to the SEA Guidance, capacity development approaches always need to be based on local and intra-institutional efforts. Further, they need to take into account some basic principles such as outcomes and results-orientation, system orientation, learning orientation and trust building.

This training introduces participants to the concept of SEA and trains them in how to apply it in their daily work. The training employs innovative methods by intensively exploiting opportunities for action learning and group work. In line with the casework 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 put forward by the participants).

Furthermore, conclusions will be formulated through joint debate rather than “ready-made” teaching messages. Using different materials, participants will design and apply an SEA to a national biofuels strategy in the fictitious country of “Ganama” while making reference to real biofuel planning processes around the world.

At the conclusion of the course, participants will have learned:

1. How to link SEA and decision-making to improve outcomes of planning processes.
2. How to choose and design the adequate analytical approach to SEA within a specific context.
3. How to facilitate and manage effective stakeholder participation in SEA.
4. How to organize the management and monitoring for the implementation of policies, plans and programs.
5. How to manage SEA efficiently within budgetary and time constraints.

Level: Intermediate

Prerequisites: A low/or moderate level of knowledge of EIA concepts and practices. The target group includes Environmental Impact Assessment experts, administration officials and NGO representatives.

Language: English

Duration: 2 days

Min/Max: 10-26

Instructors: **Harald Lossack**, Project Coordinator and Senior EIA Trainer, GTZ Rioplus; German Technical Cooperation
Axel Olearius, SEA Project Officer, GTZ Rioplus; German Technical Cooperation

5 | Ecological and Economic Evaluation Approaches for Mainstreaming Biodiversity in EIA

The international obligations for biodiversity conservation are not just linked to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), but also to the fact that management and protection of biological diversity is interlinked with the efforts to achieve several of the Millennium Development Goals. For these reasons, and the significant negative trends in global biodiversity resources as observed in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, biodiversity commands importance in impact assessment.

The desired changes in biodiversity conservation based on wider recognition of the ecosystem services concept require major adaptation of EIA frameworks for integrating economic evaluation approaches.

The course is aimed to provide a theoretical rationale for promoting ecosystem approach in assessing the impacts of development proposals on biodiversity and to stimulate the importance of integrating economic valuation principles in EA framework for mainstreaming biodiversity in impact assessment.

The contents of the course are aimed at ensuring the recognition of the importance of ecosystem approach in promoting biodiversity inclusive impact assessment; enhancing the use of economic instruments for the valuation of ecosystem goods and services and to apply the learning from best practice models to promote sustainable development.

The course will cover the following main elements:

1. Relevance of valuing ecosystem goods and services for mainstreaming biodiversity in impact assessment.
2. Importance of integrating economic valuation approach in biodiversity inclusive impact assessment.
3. Retooling the generic EA framework for integrating economic evaluation approaches for assessing impacts of economic development on biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihoods.
4. Introduction to a range of economic tools and techniques for valuing biodiversity.
5. Introduction to regulatory and market-based mechanisms for integrating biodiversity into mitigation approaches.

Level: Intermediate. Designed for early and mid-career professionals who have five or more years of experience in EIA.

Prerequisites: A basic understanding of ecological concepts and principles of environmental economics. Familiarity with generic EIA framework and experience of project evaluation and economic planning will be useful though not a must for taking the course.

Language: English

Duration: 2 days

Min/Max: 10-15

Instructors: **Asha Rajvanshi**, Professor and Head, Environmental Impact Assessment Cell, Wildlife Institute of India
Vinod B. Mathur, Dean, Faculty of Wildlife Science, Wildlife Institute of India
Jo Treweek, IAIA Capacity Building for Biodiversity in Impact Assessment (CBBIA) Program

Training Courses

6 | Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA): From Current Fundamentals to Future Follow-Up

This course has four purposes:

1. To summarize the state of professional practice regarding the conduct of the fundamental requirements of cumulative effects assessment (CEA) within Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) processes.
2. To highlight the use of environmental sustainability considerations in determining the significance of cumulative effects.
3. To discuss adaptive management (and monitoring) as follow-up activities in CEAs for large-scale proposals,
4. To present policy choices and collaboration approaches for the development of regional cumulative effects management initiatives.

The premise of this course is that CEA should be an integral part of, and not separate from, both in-country and international EIA processes. The fundamental requirements, while based on the immediate experience of the instructors in Canada and the United States, are focused on international principles that guide the professional practice of EIA and CEA. The material relies on procedures promulgated by the USA and Canada.

These procedures and other purposes are addressed by

- Identifying key valued environmental components (VECs), focusing on those for which CEA is appropriate.
- Delineating spatial and temporal boundaries.
- Describing historical baseline conditions and trends.
- Establishing cause-effect linkages between past, present, and future actions and VECs.
- Determining the significance of cumulative effects via the use of environmental sustainability principles.
- Development of follow-up adaptive management programs based on six common elements.
- Development of mitigation programs.

Further attention will be directed toward practical approaches for management of cumulative effects, including the use of emissions trading, collaborative planning, and appropriate management entities. Practical processes for both preparing and reviewing CEA-related documents will be emphasized, along with presentations on case studies, and workshop sessions involving interactive groups. Interchange of information and experiences by the participants will be encouraged within all methods of presentation.

The anticipated learning outcomes are related to achieving a better understanding of the principles and practices of CEA and to applying them in study planning and review.

Level: Intermediate/Advanced

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

Language: English

Duration: 2 days

Min/Max: 10-50

Instructors: **Larry Canter**, Professor Emeritus, Trainer and Consultant; Environmental Impact Training

Bill Ross, Professor, Environmental Design, University of Calgary

7 | Practical EIA: Getting Good Work Done!

This two-day course will help participants formulate and deliver sound EIA reports based on strong ethical, pragmatic and scientific foundations. Primarily designed for practitioners, it will also be valuable to administrators charged with defining EIA requirements and reviewing and acting on the results.

The course will address issues which no one ever teaches you about:

- How do you write good terms of reference?
- How do you put together a strong team, work plan and proposal?
- How do you manage a multi-disciplinary team to produce an inter-disciplinary result?
- What is honest, transparent and effective EIA reporting?
- How best to work with clients? With government agencies?
- What is needed to implement EIA results through an EMP?

The objective of the course is to provide participants with the nuts and bolts of contracting for, and carrying out, EIA work so as to avoid common pitfalls, make a profit, and provide clients and governments with useful and scientifically-based environmental advice.

Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Prerequisites: This course is aimed at EIA professionals needing to produce effective EIA results for project planning and decision-making. Participants must have relevant academic training, sound knowledge of the EIA process, and at least two years of experience as an EIA consultant or administrator.

Language: English

Duration: 2 days

Min/Max: 10-25

Instructors: **Bryony Walmsley**, Managing Director, Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment

John Boyle, Senior Environmental Specialist, The World Bank

8 | Involuntary Resettlement: Principles and Practice for Impact Assessors

Large infrastructure projects almost always require land. These projects have not only environmental but also major social impacts. Indeed, the social impacts of land acquisition are so significant that all major donors have adopted a policy on involuntary resettlement. This day-long course introduces participants to the international standards for involuntary resettlement, both in terms of policy expectations and practical considerations.

The first half of the day-long course will deal with Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) design—the principles, their application in different sectors, the presentation of materials, and donor review procedures. The first session will present the evolution of involuntary resettlement policy in the donor community, as well as among client countries, in order to explicate the *raison d'être* of the fundamental principles of the policy and their application in distinct sectors (e.g., areal land acquisition for reservoirs, airports and other land extensive projects, linear acquisition for roads, railroads and pipelines, and urban land acquisition). The course will then take up the organization of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and the presentation of materials, as required by World Bank Operational Policy (OP) 4.12, Annex A. The final morning session will discuss how donors review RAPS—what principles are key, what information is required, and what issues are commonly raised in donor reviews. This session will emphasize procedures for social due diligence of resettlement in Environmental Impact Assessment reports.

The second half of the workshop will deal with RAP supervision. The workshop will first present cases of resettlement monitoring (e.g., BP Tangguh). The concern here will be on documenting compensation and rehabilitation measures for affected people; institutional capacity to implement the program; and monitoring and feed-back systems for effective administrative measures. The field examples will be followed by a working group exercise on assessing resettlement progress and monitoring.

It is expected that the two half-day sessions, RAP design in the morning and RAP supervision in the afternoon, will provide practitioners a detailed overview of what is expected and how to do it.

Level: Foundation

Prerequisites: None.

Language: English

Duration: 1 day (5 May)

Min/Max: 8-20

Instructors: **Gordon Appleby**, Consultant, Millennium Challenge Corporation and World Bank Africa Safeguards Unit
Susanna Price, Visiting Fellow, Australian National University

9 | Principles and Practice of Health Impact Assessment: Appraisal of Project HIA Reports

This intermediary level course is organized in response to the continued demand for adequate health impact assessment and to the need to develop competencies in this area. It aims to contribute to capacity building that will allow for the adequate performance of HIA. It focuses on the independent quality control component and places it in the broader impact assessment framework. The course program assumes a basic level of knowledge and experience about impact assessment tools, methods and procedures.

The course will systematically address the key issues of HIA appraisal. Appraisals consist of two parts:

1. Appraisal of the comprehensiveness, objectivity, reliability and rigor of the HIA methods and procedure applied—and, thus, of the credibility and accuracy of the conclusions.
2. Appraisal of the recommended actions that make up the Public Health Management Plan, for their technical soundness, social acceptability and economic feasibility.

The original Terms of Reference are the starting point for any appraisal, and the first part of the procedure, which considers the methods and procedures used in the HIA, results in an intermediate appraisal report. As part of course group work, findings with respect to the adequacy of case study HIA method, procedures and conclusions will be discussed in plenary.

At the end of the course, participants will have:

- Updated their knowledge of the general principles and practices of HIA.
- Acquired specific knowledge and know-how about the first part of the HIA appraisal phase.
- Gained a good understanding of the criteria applied in the appraisal of the HIA method and procedure.
- Gained a good understanding of the information needed to formulate a Public Health Management Plan.
- Shared experiences from different settings from around the globe.
- Learned how to perform essential HIA appraisal functions in a realistic context.

Level: Intermediate. The course program assumes a basic level of knowledge of and experience with impact assessment tools, methods and procedures. It aims to build on this basic knowledge and experience to strengthen advanced competencies related to the appraisal of reports of project HIAs.

Prerequisites: This course caters primarily to those impact assessment regulators and practitioners who have responsibilities for environmental impact assessment and want to extend their capabilities to HIA and to those already working in health impact assessment who want to learn about the state of the art in HIA appraisal. The course will also be of value to those who want to generally broaden the scope of their knowledge on impact assessment issues. Practical experience in impact assessment is an asset.

Language: English

Duration: 1 day (5 May)

Min/Max: 10-25

Instructors: **Peter Furu**, Senior Advisor, Centre for Health Research and Development, University of Copenhagen
Robert Bos, Scientist, World Health Organization

Technical Visits

A Rottnest Island: Sustainability Initiatives on a Micro-Scale

Located 18 kilometres off the coast of Fremantle. www.rottnestisland.com



Quokka

Join us on a day trip to the island that Western Australians love. There are no tropical palm trees in sight, but its limestone geology and low scrubby bush give “Rotto” a special charm all of its own. Home to the adorable marsupial the quokka (like a tiny kangaroo), Rottnest has a wonderfully laid-back feel, where cars aren’t welcome and people get around by bike or foot, or the occasional bus ride.

The Island is an A-class Reserve and demonstrates sustainability on a micro-scale, e.g., power is generated by a wind turbine, which feeds the desalination plant to produce fresh water.

The technical visit commences with a cruise down the beautiful Swan River to Fremantle, followed by a short 30 minute ocean-crossing to Rottnest. The tour on the island will include a walking tour of the historic Settlement area and a bus tour of the sustainable initiatives in place on the island.

Bring your swimming costume and towel if you would like to swim in the in the pristine waters (although it might be chilly in May!), comfortable walking shoes, a hat and water.

Sunday, 4 May • 08:00-17:30

Min-Max: 5-65 • \$125

Price includes morning and afternoon tea, lunch and boat cruise.

B Biodiversity, Bushwalking and the Urban Fringe

Located 28km east of Perth. www.naturebase.net>park finder, search: John Forrest; www.swanvalley.com.au

Come for an informative bushwalk with David Newsome (passionate naturalist and Senior Lecturer in Environmental Science, Murdoch University) in one of Western Australia’s oldest conservation areas, the John Forrest National Park. Learn about the extraordinary biodiversity and natural history of this area on the fringe of metropolitan Perth from a real expert, and then partake of a delicious lunch (and local wine if desired) at a winery in the picturesque Swan Valley. Bring sturdy walking shoes, water bottle, a sense of adventure and a good appetite!

Organized by Murdoch University.

Sunday 4 May • 09.00-17:00

Min-Max: 30-45 • \$90

Price includes formal winery lunch.

C Alcoa Mine Site and Rehabilitation

Located 86km south of Perth. www.alcoa.com.au

Pinjarra is a small town on the Murray River, a few kilometres from the coastal centers of Mandurah and Rockingham south of Perth. The region was one of the first settled in Western Australia and has some fine examples of colonial architecture in attractive farming country. It is also the location of Alcoa’s Huntley mine, the largest bauxite mine in the world.

Participants will visit the Huntley mine site and learn about all aspects of the bauxite mining process, including the nature of bauxite deposits, government approvals processes, extraction techniques, crushing, stockpiling and transport and large-scale rehabilitation. Alcoa’s award-winning mine rehabilitation and revegetation techniques, which are based upon research carried out at its Marrinup nursery, represent the world benchmark. Twenty-two million tons of bauxite are extracted each year from the Huntley Mine. Millions of jarrah tree seeds fill in the blank spaces.

The visit will also include Alcoa’s Pinjarra alumina refinery where the bauxite is refined through the Bayer process. Participants will be taken through the four main steps of the process and also learn about Alcoa’s licensing procedures, accreditations, energy-efficiency initiatives and community involvement programmes.

Please wear closed-in shoes, long trousers and a long-sleeved shirt.

Organized by Alcoa.

Monday, 5 May • 08:00-16:30

Min-Max: 20-80 • \$40

Price includes lunch.

D Industrial Synergies and Desalination Plant

Located 40km south of Perth. www.kic.org.au; www.watercorporation.com.au>water>existing water sources>desalination plant

The Kwinana Industrial Area is the largest industrial complex in Western Australia and is located on the shores of Cockburn Sound, just south of Perth. Cockburn Sound is a sheltered, ecologically sensitive bay that is also important for marine recreation and aquaculture. For these reasons, considerable efforts have been made over the past 20 years to ensure that the adjacent industries perform to the highest environmental standards, enabling industry and the environment to sustainably coexist.

The co-location of diverse heavy, support and infrastructure industries in the Kwinana Industrial Area provides unique opportunities for industry to work together to find innovative and mutually beneficial ways to reduce waste and emissions. Through continuous reviews of input and output data of materials used and emissions produced by individual industries, synergy opportunities are identified, investigated and implemented, through the coordinating effort of the Kwinana Industries Council. Regional synergies promote a shift from a waste disposal system to a reuse methodology, saving energy and cutting emissions. The physical proximity of Kwinana industries allows trading of by-products for reuse and cooperative energy efficiency and water recycling ventures, which would not be feasible if there were significant distances between facilities.

The Perth Seawater Desalination Plant is also located in Kwinana, and is Perth’s largest single source of water, supplying approximately 17% of the city’s water needs. The largest plant in the Southern and Eastern hemispheres, it produces on average 130 million litres of water a day.

Delegates will be visiting operational industrial areas, and will need to wear closed-in shoes, long trousers and a long-sleeved shirt. Photo ID will also be required, such as a driver’s license or passport.

Organized by the Kwinana Industries Council.

Monday, 5 May • 08.30-16.30

Min-Max: 15-38 • \$40

Price includes lunch.

Technical Visits

E Aboriginal Culture Experience

Located 40km northeast of Perth.
www.naturebase.net >park finder, search:
Walyunga; www.dia.wa.gov.au

This is a unique opportunity to experience Aboriginal heritage, with Aboriginal people, in the natural environment.

This cultural visit will be held at Walyunga National Park, which contains one of the many Aboriginal campsites around the Perth area. Located on the banks of the Upper Swan River, this is where Aboriginal people gathered to make stone tools, share stories and ceremonies and live off the local "bushtucker" (food).

In this tradition, our hosts for the day will demonstrate how stone tools were made, tell the creation story and teach participants about local bushtucker. The visit includes a 45-minute bushwalk via the ancient bush garden to the archaeological tool-making site.

After lunch, experience face-painting with ochre from the area (the oldest example of mining in the world!), listen to the didgeridoo and learn how to dance the "djitti djitti" (a dance inspired by the local "willy wagtail" bird).

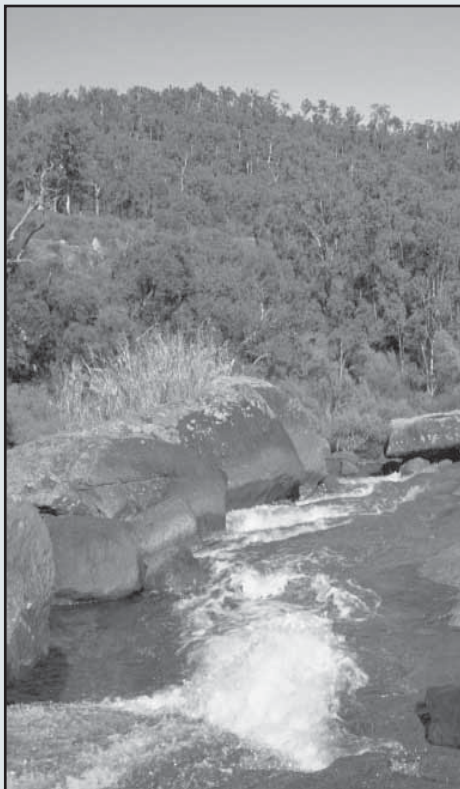
Bring comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen, a hat and water. Our hosts ask you not to bring your mobile phones or even wear a watch!

Organized by Department of Environment and Conservation.

Monday, 5 May • 09:00-16:30

Min-Max: 30-60 • \$90

Price includes morning tea and lunch.



John Forrest National Park

F Urban Renewal

Located in Midland, 17km east of Perth.
www.mra.wa.gov.au

Come and see EIA in action in the historic railway town of Midland, where the Midland Redevelopment Authority is undertaking a major urban renewal of approximately 150 hectares of former railway workshops land. If you like industrial heritage, then this is the tour for you!

Environmental remediation associated with past industrial practices on the site is underway in the Workshops Village Precinct. Contaminants include heavy metals, ash, clinker, hydrocarbons, asbestos, cyanide, volatile organic compounds and general waste fill.

The Midland Redevelopment Authority is also preserving the cultural heritage of the Railway Workshops, through conservation works and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, and creating new development sites to achieve a vibrant mixed-use quarter. The existing heritage buildings have imposed additional constraints—both financial and physical—in the remediation methodology, as has the site's location adjacent to the Helena River. Consultation and communication with the local and indigenous communities has been an important part of the planning and redevelopment process.

Participants will look at the vision for the site, see progress to-date, inspect heritage buildings and hear about the implementation of this exciting urban renewal project.

Organized by the Midland Redevelopment Authority.

Friday, 9 May • 13:30-18:00

Min-Max: 20-80 • \$30

Price includes afternoon tea.

G Sustainable Fisheries

Located at Hillarys Boat Harbour, 20km northwest of Perth. www.nmdc.com.au

Join the Department of Fisheries on a guided tour of the newly-opened Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre. The Discovery Centre is part of the WA Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories, a centre of excellence for world-class research to underpin the ecologically sustainable management of Western Australia's multi-billion dollar fisheries and unique aquatic environment.

The Discovery Centre is an exhibition and learning hub that showcases the variety and wonder of Western Australia's marine and freshwater life, and the issues and science behind the management of the State's aquatic environment and fisheries.

State-of-the-art displays, multi-media and video sequences, interactive exhibits and select aquaria take visitors on a journey down the Leeuwin Current, through the State's marine bioregions, exploring the biodiversity, biology and ecology of WA's aquatic environments and the issues facing their sustainable management.

Organized by Department of Fisheries.

Friday, 9 May • 13:30-18:00

Min-Max: 20-80 • \$30

Price includes afternoon tea.

ABOUT TECHNICAL VISITS

Please register early! Technical visits will be cancelled if they do not reach the minimum number of paid participants by **29 February**.

Minimum and maximum numbers of participants are noted. If the visit for which you have registered does not meet the minimum number by 29 February, IAIA HQ will notify you and provide refund information or offer to transfer you to another visit. After 29 February, registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the visits reach the maximum number. Registrations will be processed in the order that payment is received.

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 in HQ by 29 February. After that time, no refunds will be issued.

Prices for technical visits are shown in US dollars and include Australian GST.

Technical visits will depart from the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre. Check in at the IAIA registration desk a minimum of 20 minutes prior to the start time of the technical visit.

- Family members of registered delegates are welcome to register for technical visits.
- Casual clothing and walking shoes are recommended. Please note special requirements on some of the tours.

Special Post-Conference Technical Tour

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime experience

on a special post-conference technical tour to the extraordinary Pilbara Region of Western Australia. The IAIA08 Steering Committee has engaged professional tour operators Global Gypsies Pty Ltd to host a major post-conference technical tour to experience first hand the mining, environmental management and magic of the Pilbara Region. (Global Gypsies: www.global-gypsies.com.au)



The Pilbara region of Western Australia is a remote and rugged landscape. It contains some of the oldest rocks on the planet (over 3 billion years old) and has some of the world's largest iron ore deposits. Economic growth in China has seen rapid expansion in mining, petroleum and other related industrial projects in the last few years. This has created challenges for the co-existence of development with the unique biodiversity and landscapes of the region and traditional Aboriginal cultural heritage in the area. Information on the Pilbara is available at <http://travelaustralia.ninemsn.com.au/article.aspx?id=282654>.

In Karijini National Park, deep gorges with spectacular rock formations have eroded over millions of years. On the Burrup Peninsula, recently nominated as a World Heritage Site, the world's largest outdoor art gallery comprising thousands of Aboriginal etchings in the natural rock exists alongside industrial projects arising from offshore oil and gas development. Further south, the amazing corals, fish, sharks and pristine waters of Ningaloo Reef can be accessed directly from the beach.

The great distances (both sealed and unsealed roads) will be covered in a coach with a professional tour guide as well as local EIA experts. In-depth information on impact assessment issues including the environmental, social and economic challenges faced in the Pilbara region will be provided throughout the tour including extracts from recent state-of-the-art impact assessments.

Itinerary

Saturday, 10 May. Depart Perth 09:00. Drive across the northern wheat belt of Western Australia. Camp overnight on the 152,000 acre Wogarno sheep station. (Distance traveled: 540 km)

Sunday, 11 May. Drive across the mining and grazing landscape of the Murchison Region. Camp in the caravan park of the mining town of Newman. (Distance traveled: 640 km)

Monday, 12 May. Comprehensive tour of the Mt. Whaleback iron ore mine operation just outside Newman. Camp at the Karijini Eco Retreat in the Karijini National Park. (Distance traveled: 210 km)

Tuesday, 13 May. Guided walking tour of spectacular water-carved gorges in Karijini National Park. Camp and dine at the Karijini Eco Retreat (cost of dinner not included).

Wednesday, 14 May. Drive to the industrial hub of Karratha via a lunch stop at the oasis of the Millstream-Chichester National Park. Bush camp near Karratha. (Distance traveled: 380km)

Thursday, 15 May. See the industrial projects of the Burrup Peninsula, including the recently expanded Woodside Petroleum LNG plant and Dampier solar salt operations, along with some amazing Aboriginal art sites. Bush or station camp near Karratha.

Friday 16 May. Drive south down the coast to Coral Bay for your first glimpse of the magnificent Ningaloo Reef (snorkeling equipment supplied). Camp at the Coral Bay caravan park adjoining the beach and the reef. (Distance traveled: 600km)

Saturday, 17 May. Guided boat cruise to experience Ningaloo Reef from above! Drive along the coast to the seaside town of Kalbarri. Unique outdoor seafood dining experience at Finlays Fish BBQ restaurant (cost not included). (Distance traveled: 660km)

Sunday, 18 May. Return to Perth via a lunch stop at the famous Pinnacles Desert. Arrive back at your hotel in Perth approximately 19:00. (Distance traveled: 570km)

MINERALS, MANAGEMENT AND MAGIC: Pilbara Technical Tour



Photo: Susan Rogan

Important information

Cost: US\$1750 per person, including meals except where indicated.

Due to the logistics involved, numbers will be strictly limited to a maximum of 40 participants. Places will be allocated to the first 40 people who pay in full. Registration and payment should be completed at www.eecwreservations.com. Don't miss out!



Accommodation during the tour will be in two-person tents, sometimes in camping sites and sometimes in the bush where there will be no facilities. Meals will be provided by a professional "camp cook." Tour participants will be expected to participate in setting up and breaking camp as well as meal preparation. Much of the tour will be spent outdoors, and sturdy footwear (boots are best), loose-fitting clothing, and a hat are essential for the rugged environmental conditions. Please note that space in the bus will be limited and unable to accommodate large suitcases. Please only bring a small, soft bag weighing less than 15kg with you.

To participate in this technical tour, a reasonable level of health and fitness is required.

Prior to participating in this technical tour, you will be required to agree to Global Gypsies Terms and Conditions, which will be sent to paid registrants.

Due to the remoteness of the areas we will visit, Global Gypsies strongly recommends that you take out a comprehensive travel insurance policy including medical evacuation coverage, cancellation and theft of personal property in order for you to be indemnified against any losses for which you would otherwise be liable under this agreement.

Any queries, please contact Angus Morrison-Saunders (a.morrison-saunders@murdoch.edu.au).

Special Networking Activities and Events

Opening Reception

The formal part of IAIA08 will kick off with the opening reception on Monday. Regular IAIA conference attendees know that this event is traditionally a highlight of the conference, and the IAIA08 opening reception promises to be something very special! So make sure you register early and come along to meet up with old friends, make some new ones, and get your conference off to a great start!

Monday, 5 May
18:00
Pre-registration is required.

Speed Networking

There will be around 800 people at IAIA08. How many of them 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 IAIA08, or 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 connections, both professional and social, that you can build upon throughout the conference and beyond.

So come along and join in the fun. After the session there will be plenty of time to continue socializing with your new friends!

Tuesday, 6 May
18:00

World Cup (Table) Football is Coming to IAIA08!

Are you up for a bit of a challenge and a whole lot of fun? The IAIA08 Organizing Committee is proud to announce the inaugural World Cup (Table) Soccer championship. Tables will be set up in the foyer of the conference centre so that teams (representing their country) can play at anytime throughout the conference. On the night before the banquet we will hold the Grand Final play-off of the top players. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun, with potentially up to 90 countries represented. This is going to be a truly international event. Feel free to fly your nation's flag, wear appropriate player's colors, or even sing us your national anthem! Who knows: this might become an annual IAIA conference fixture.

Ongoing Tuesday-Wednesday
Finals Wednesday evening

Dine-Outs

The tradition of dine-outs is back for IAIA08! The Environmental Consultants Association (WA), one of the host organizations for the conference, invites you to share an evening out sampling some of the wonderful fresh food for which Perth is renowned at a "pay your own way" dinner. ECA members are a highly sociable bunch, and have that all-important local knowledge about where the best food and the best dining experiences can be found in Perth. They are ready to take you beyond the confines of the conference center and the central city to find it!

To join in, just add your name to the sign-up sheets that will be available in the registration area. You can choose to join us for anything from Modern Australian pub food to the international cuisine for which Perth is well known, anywhere from the city center to the famous Cottesloe Beach to historic and atmospheric Fremantle. Alternatively, you may prefer to experience real Australian hospitality at a traditional "back yard barbecue" hosted at the home of one of ECA members (it will be an unforgettable experience, but you take your chances on the cooking!).

Dine-outs are a great opportunity to meet new people and see some different parts of the beautiful city of Perth. Don't miss out!

Wednesday, 7 May
19:30-onward

Banquet

Australians are well-known for being open and friendly, and loving nothing more than extending warm hospitality to good friends. In this spirit we invite you to the IAIA08 conference banquet at the wonderful Perth Convention Exhibition Centre overlooking the beautiful Swan River and the City of Perth. We promise you a night to remember!

Thursday, 8 May
19:00-onward
Pre-registration is required.

Carbon Offsets Program with a Difference

Worried about the carbon emissions you will be generating by flying to Australia, staying in a hotel and participating in a conference?

IAIA08 offers you the chance not only to help to offset your emissions but also to actively contribute to the rehabilitation of a Western Australian National Park and meet new people from around the world, all at the same time!

A little north of Perth is the Yanchep National Park with its significant natural and cultural values. It contains some plant species at or close to the northern limit of their range, endangered root mat communities in drying subterranean caves, and important Aboriginal sites. The park has recently suffered significant fire damage and is also subject to weed incursions.

The agency responsible for the management of the area, the Department of Environment and Conservation, is also one of the host organizations for IAIA08 and has agreed to provide access to the park for some restoration plantings that will also offset the estimated emissions from IAIA08 over a period of 70 years. To ensure that the plantings are sufficient, we have engaged the local not-for-profit organization Carbon Neutral to guide us in our planning.

To support our carbon offset efforts financially, you will need to tick the relevant box on the registration form and pay an additional \$40, which represents the average cost of offsetting the emissions generated by one conference delegate. Recognizing that many delegates may not be in a position to offset their own emissions, please also consider offsetting a buddy (or even two or three!).

But even more importantly, conference delegates will have the opportunity to personally participate in the planting of native species grown from locally sourced seed in the Yanchep National Park. This is not only a practical and meaningful way to contribute to the carbon offset program for IAIA08, but a wonderful opportunity to experience the Australian bush and learn about our natural and cultural heritage.

The planting day is tentatively planned for Monday, 5 May. However, this is subject to change, so please check the IAIA Web site for updates and further information as it becomes available. Any questions about the program can be directed to John Bailey (j.bailey@murdoch.edu.au).

Monday, 5 May (tentative)

Sponsors and Exhibitors

We welcome your sponsorship of IAIA08

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

Contact Warren Tacey, IAIA08 Steering Committee (warren.tacey@dec.wa.gov.au | phone +61.08.6467.5170) or Bridget John, IAIA HQ (bridget@iaia.org | phone +1.701.297.7908) for a complete sponsorship pack.

Information for sponsors

Maximize your exposure by confirming your sponsorship as early as possible. This year we offer a Premium Partner the unique opportunity to collaborate on the development of a major theme forum, conduct a technical tour to the location of your choice, and participate in all major functions. Maximize your sponsorship with these unique opportunities.

For recognition in the final program, sponsorship must be confirmed by 31 March 2008. Names and logos will be posted on the IAIA08 Web site as they are confirmed.

Sponsorship opportunities include functions, workshops, theme forums, lunches, technical visits, coffee breaks and publications.

Sponsorship benefits

Sponsors may choose to support specific elements of the conference or make a general contribution. All sponsorship attracts benefits, as summarized below. **Amounts are in Australian dollars and include GST.**



| Partial listing of benefits | Reef Sponsor A\$7,700 or less | Island Sponsor A\$7,701-A\$25,000 | Continent Sponsor A\$25,001-A\$50,000 | Earth Sponsor More than A\$50,000 | Premium Partner By negotiation |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Name in programs, newsletter, and Web site | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Satchel insert | One | One | One | One | Two |
| Logo in programs, newsletter and Web site | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Advertisement in final program | | 1/4 page | 1/2 page | Full page | Full page |
| Complimentary conference registration | | One | Two | Three | Five |
| Additional banquet and opening reception invitations | | One | Two | Three | Five |
| Exhibition booth discount | | | 25% | 50% | 100% |
| Theme forum or concurrent session sponsorship | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| Collaboration on theme forum topic | | | | | ✓ |
| Address at conference opening | | | | | ✓ |
| Additional hosting opportunities | | | | | ✓ |

Exhibits, booths and display materials

Prominent display space is available for booths and exhibits! Contact IAIA HQ before **29 February 2008** for rates and information.

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

Delegate packet inserts

If you would like to distribute materials (brochures, flyers, or other suitable materials) in delegate packets, contact IAIA HQ for rates and shipping information before **31 March 2008**.

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

Students and Mentors

Student registration fee waivers

IAIA is pleased to offer a student fee waiver program for IAIA08. This program, initiated at IAIA'04, allows up to ten students a waived conference registration fee in exchange for providing in-kind services on-site in Perth. The 10-12 hours of in-kind services will include an organizational meeting and reporting on at least two sessions, with the balance of activities being organizational or administrative duties.

Eligible students must:

- Be a current student member of IAIA, or apply for student membership.
- Participate in the conference with a paper or poster presentation, having registered and submitted an abstract by **7 February 2008**.
- Submit the student fee waiver application form by **7 February 2008**.
- Subscribe to the SEP (Students and Early Professionals) listserv upon acceptance into the program, to facilitate communication.

Fee waivers are allocated in part based on geographic dispersion and on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you are interested in more information, contact Bridget John at IAIA HQ (bridget@iaia.org) or phone (+1.701.297.7908) for program guidelines and an application form. You will be notified 3-4 weeks after that date whether you have been accepted. Each student selected will be asked to pay a US\$40 processing fee at that time.

Mentors and Buddies wanted

A mentoring program was initiated at IAIA'04 and will be offered again for IAIA08. The intent is to help students and early professionals (SEPs) feel more comfortable and less overwhelmed with their first IAIA conference experience. The program links the SEP to a Mentor *and* a Buddy.

The **Mentor** is an experienced IAIA member with the same interest area as the applicant. The Mentor will act as a discussion partner on common topics of interest for the professional development of the SEP applicant. It is not intended that the SEPs shadow assigned Mentors, but rather that they meet at the conference to begin conversation that extends beyond the conference. It is hoped that the Mentor/SEP will continue communicating on interest areas throughout the year following IAIA08.

The **Buddy** is a current or recent SEP who has attended previous IAIA conferences. The Buddy will help the SEP navigate the conference and presentation format, answer questions, and introduce the SEP to other delegates. Similarly, it is not intended that the SEP shadow the Buddy, but rather that the Buddy act as a springboard into the IAIA conference experience.

- I would like to be a Mentor
- I would like to be a Buddy
- I am an SEP and would like to be assigned to a Mentor and a Buddy

Please indicate your area of impact assessment experience or interest so that we can match Mentor, Buddy, and SEP interests to the extent possible:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SEA | <input type="checkbox"/> SIA | <input type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity & Ecology | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Peoples |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMS | <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Participation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trade | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Governance | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disasters & Conflicts | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | _____ | |

Name: _____

E-mail: _____@_____

Fax this form to +1.701.297.7917 or e-mail Bridget John (bridget@iaia.org) by **31 March 2008**.

Capacity Building Stipend Announcement

Opportunity to Receive Training/Travel Stipend (Financial Support)

Application Deadline: 31 December 2007

The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) is pleased to announce that stipends may be available for a limited number of participants from selected developing countries/countries in transition to attend IAIA08. In recent years, financial support was received from the Swedish International Development Agency, the Norwegian Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Korea Environment Institute/Korean Ministry of Environment.

Who would qualify for the stipends?

Applicants who meet the following criteria will be given the highest consideration:

Experience/background

- [a] Impact assessment professionals with 4-12 years of professional experience in impact assessment.
- [b] Impact assessment professionals working in a leadership position in government, agency, university, or consultancy.
- [c] The sponsorship from the donors may give selection preference to citizens of countries where they have ongoing involvement.

Aptitude for learning and leading

- [d] Applicants who demonstrate their capacity to present a meaningful paper/poster related to the themes of IAIA08, based on their professional experience.
- [e] Applicants who demonstrate their capacity and/or plans to apply ideas and experiences gained at the conference to their ongoing work within their home institutions.
- [f] Applicants who justify their interest in pre-conference training.
- [g] Applicants who are willing to and in a position to train/mentor other in-country impact assessment professionals.

Interest and involvement in impact assessment

- [h] Applicants who have an interest in networking either to encourage establishment of a local network or to support/expand the activities of an established impact assessment network.
- [i] Applicants who are willing to promote impact assessment to in-country decision makers and/or civil society for better understanding and implementation.

How to apply

Complete applications must be received by 31 December 2007. Contact green@iaia.org for an application form. Include your name and C-B-S in the subject line of your message.

Successful applicants may receive all (or part) of the following:

- Payment of IAIA08 conference registration fee.
- Payment of IAIA08 pre-conference training course fee.
- Payment of IAIA08 technical visit.
- Most direct economy airfare.
- Carbon offset for flight.
- Lodging for the duration of the conference.
- A modest daily allowance to cover meals and miscellaneous expenses.
- A three-year membership in IAIA.
- Payment for travel insurance up to US\$50.
- Other opportunities to network with IAIA08 capacity grant recipients and other IAIA members.

Other requirements

- Applicants must fax a copy of their valid passport at the time of application. (Fax +1.701.297.7917)
- Applicants must obtain and pay for all necessary visas in a timely manner.
- Applicants will be expected to remain in Perth from approximately 3-10 May, depending on the applicant's choice of technical visit and any pre- or post-conference briefing sessions scheduled by the donors.
- Applicants will be expected to attend and participate in all scheduled events.
- Applicants must submit a trip report to their immediate supervisor (copied to IAIA HQ). IAIA membership for the second and third year will be withheld until this report is received.
- Applicants shall submit comments and evaluations of the value of their conference participation to IAIA as requested.
- Applicants will be expected to engage in post-conference promotion and mentoring activities to advance understanding of impact assessment among local colleagues, decision-makers and the general public.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANYONE YOU KNOW WHO MAY QUALIFY.

Conference Information

Location and dates

IAIA08 will take place from 6-9 May 2008 at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre (PCEC) in Perth, Western Australia, with adjunct events planned before, during and after the conference. Activities will take place at PCEC unless otherwise noted.

Located approximately 20 minutes from Perth Airport, PCEC is located in the center of the beautiful city of Perth, within easy walking distance of the city's major hotels, business, restaurant and retail districts. The address is 21 Mounts Bay Road, Perth, Western Australia 6000. Phone: +61 8 9338 03005. Fax +61 8 9338 0309. info@pcec.com.au | www.pcec.com.au. If you are sending materials to the venue, please contact IAIA HQ for shipping information.

Language used

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

Final program

IAIA plans to have the final program available on the Web site approximately two weeks prior to the conference, and it will be distributed upon conference check-in or on-site conference registration at PCEC.

The preliminary program contains the **tentative** schedule; be sure to check the final program to confirm details of activities in which you plan to participate. Be sure to note deadlines for registration to special events.

Publications

The IAIA08 Program Committee tentatively plans to publish full conference proceedings on CD-ROM. The Program Committee and/or your session chair will contact you regarding submission of your full paper as soon as details are available. Participants are encouraged to submit their papers for possible publication in IAIA's journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*. See www.scipol.demon.co.uk/iapa.htm for submission information.

Business service and presentation equipment

Please plan to arrive prepared. Presenters are responsible for supplying their own session or poster materials. Because of high rental costs which would necessarily be passed on to all delegates in the form of higher registration fees, IAIA does not provide copying, printing, computers or other business services on-site.

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 for price information and to order equipment before **31 March 2008**.

Business services at PCEC

The PCEC is a Wi-Fi Zone wireless Internet location. For a daily fee of A\$30 and up depending on connection speed, the service provides delegates wireless connection via laptop in the venue and within a 200-meter radius of the PCEC.

The PCEC's business Centre is open Monday through Friday from 07:00-17:00 and Saturday 08:30-17:00. Charges apply on a user pay basis.

The Velluto Cafe, located in the PCEC, has alfresco dining areas and six complimentary Internet stations and may be used as a meeting place for delegates.

Conference attire

To reflect the lifestyle, dress in Western Australia is usually relaxed and casual. Business casual is acceptable for all functions of the IAIA08 conference.

Note: Long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and fully enclosed shoes may be required for some technical visits.

Meals

IAIA tentatively plans to provide lunches, pending confirmation of sponsorship.

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

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 full, student, or exhibitor registration rate. Contact IAIA HQ for information on exhibitor registration.

IAIA does not have funds available to pay registration and/or travel expenses for program participants, with the exception of the funding program noted on page 37. You are invited to review this information to see if you qualify.

Full and student registration fees entitle delegates to attendance at all sessions, coffee breaks, lunches 6-9 May (if provided), participants list, delegate satchel, conference proceedings (as available), and special events, unless an additional fee is noted.

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 at the registration desk.

IAIA members: If it is more convenient for you to pay your annual membership dues at the same time you register for the conference, please contact info@iaia.org for a combined invoice. IAIA will credit your account as having paid an annual 12-month membership fee which will begin on your regular membership

anniversary date. Otherwise, you will receive an invoice for membership dues on your regular membership anniversary date.

Non-members: The non-member rate includes a one-year membership to IAIA, including a subscription to *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*. Your one-year membership begins when IAIA receives your conference payment.

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

Affiliate members: Members of IAIA Affiliates having an active MoU with IAIA will be admitted to the conference at the IAIA member rate. You must provide your Affiliate's number on the registration form to take advantage of this offer.

EIANZ and ECA members are entitled to register for IAIA08 at the IAIA member rate (this does not include a membership to IAIA).

Payment and refund policies

Registration fees should accompany the registration form. Fees are accepted by MasterCard, Visa, or American Express and are charged in US dollars (USD). Checks or money orders made payable to IAIA in USD drawn on a US bank or A\$ drawn on an Australian bank are also accepted.

Registrations will not be processed after 16 April. Any registration after 16 April should be made on-site. Registration receipts are issued by mail only. Official receipts for registrations made after 16 April will be issued by mail after the conference.

IAIA will refund registration fees upon written request received before 29 February. A US\$66 processing fee will be retained. After 29 February, 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.

Quickpass

If your conference registration is paid in full by 29 February, you will be mailed a purple "Quickpass" which entitles you to express check-in service at the conference registration desk in Perth.

Insurance and liability

The organizing committee and IAIA 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.

General Information

Host city

Perth, Western Australia: Where Cultures Meet

As the westernmost entry point to Australia, Perth shares a close affinity with its nearby Asian neighbors, as it is closer to many of them than it is to other Australian state capitals. Perth is also home to a wide variety of European and African cultures who have found the Mediterranean-like climate, active and social lifestyle and warm accommodating locals very conducive to a rich and fulfilling standard of living. It is these factors that have led Perth to be regarded as an outstanding international meeting place and the perfect setting for conventions, events, exhibitions and the ultimate starting point for the holiday of a lifetime.

Conference hotels

Room blocks with special low rates are available at a number of hotels, all situated in the city center or within a reasonable walk, shuttle, or public transport ride from PCEC. See page 40 for details.

Language

English is spoken by all. Multi-lingual interpreters are available at international entry points, major hotels and some department stores.

Climate

Perth enjoys a Mediterranean climate, with warm to hot dry summers and mild winters, with most of the city's rainfall occurring between June and August. Weather in May is somewhat unpredictable as the seasons change, but average temperatures range from 11°-22°C/52°-72°F. Further information is available at www.bom.gov.au.

Passports and visas

A valid passport with a visa is required for all non-citizens of Australia. Delegates should, in most cases, apply for a short-stay business visitor visa. Residents from a number of countries, including most of Europe, Japan and the United States, can obtain an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) through participating airlines and travel agents when booking their airline tickets. Alternatively, they can visit the Australian Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs Web site at www.eta.immi.gov.au to apply for an ETA. Visas can be applied for at any Australian High Commission, Embassy or Consulate.

IAIA advises delegates to plan ahead: prepare and apply for visas early. Application processes may be completed quickly, but additional screening and collecting required documents may take weeks. If a personal invitation letter is needed for your visa application, please contact IAIA Headquarters (info@iaia.org). Requests to IAIA HQ for visa support letters must be received before **31 March** to ensure time for preparation at IAIA HQ.

Access and transportation

Perth Airport is the international and regional gateway to Western Australia. Located 12 km northeast from the heart of Perth, shuttle buses operate

between the airports, Perth city and Fremantle, and hire cars and taxis are easily available. As a general guide, taxi charges (AUD) from the international and domestic airports to Perth City are A\$31.00. A return ticket on the 24-hour Perth Shuttle costs A\$24. Phone: +61 (08) 9277 7958. E-mail: perthshuttle@bigpond.com.au.

In Perth, public transport is cheap and reliable. A modern bus system links all suburbs and surrounding towns to the city, while a free Central Area Transit (CAT) service operates within the main city area (see map on page 41). In addition, travel is free on all Transperth buses within the Perth Free Transit Zone. A charming and efficient ferry service links Perth to South Perth, site of the local zoo. A modern, suburban electric rail service links Perth with Fremantle, Midland, Armadale, Clarkson and the southern coastal resort of Mandurah, and suburbs along the way. Local phone: 136 – 213. Web: www.transperth.wa.gov.au.

Taxis are plentiful throughout the city. The biggest operator is Swan Taxis. Local phone: 13 13 30. Web: www.swantaxis.com.au. Note: plan ahead, as taxis may be difficult to hire in the mornings without prior reservations.

Business hours

Shopping hours vary across the metropolitan region. Perth City and Fremantle have seven-day shopping, and retail shops are generally open between 09:00-17:30 Monday to Thursday, 09:00-21:00 Friday, 09:00-17:00 Saturday, and 12:00-18:00 Sunday.

Banking hours 09:30-16:00 Monday to Thursday and 09:30-17:00 Friday. On Saturday, some banks, credit and building societies, and agencies are open for limited hours.

Currency and credit cards

Australia has a decimal system of dollars and cents. The Australian dollar (AUD) currency is often abbreviated with the dollar sign \$. A\$ or AU\$ is used often used informally to distinguish it from other dollar-denominated currencies.

All major credit cards are accepted throughout Australia. The most frequently accepted credit cards are American Express, Diners Club, Visa, MasterCard, and Australian Bankcard.

Major credit cards are also accepted in ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) for cash withdrawals with the use of your personal identification number.

Most traveler's cheques are accepted in banks, large hotels, and department stores if you present a passport or photo ID. Look for signs that indicate "Traveler's Cheques Welcome." Note that most small stores do not accept traveler's cheques.

Exchange facilities are available at Perth International Airport or city banks. International class hotels will also exchange major currencies for guests.

Tipping

There is no tradition of tipping in Australia. It is therefore not expected and service is given with a smile. However, where the service has been particularly good, a 10-15% tip will be appreciated.

Electricity

The main supply is 240V AC with a 10% tolerance. Frequency is 50Hz. The Australian three-pin power outlet is different from many countries, including Asia, so visitors may need an adaptor socket. Higher standard hotels and motels provide universal 110V outlets for electric shavers.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in all enclosed public spaces, including the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre, restaurants, bars and clubs. Many outdoor events including sporting events and concerts are also smoke-free.

Taxes

A 10% Goods and Service Tax (GST) is included in the price of most goods and services purchased in Australia.

Tourist refund scheme: Australia offers a GST refund to all international visitors for *goods* that are taken as hand luggage as the visitors leave Australia. Refer to www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=4646.

Business GST reclaim: Non-resident entities, including government departments and not-for-profits, are entitled to recover the GST paid on any business expense (service) incurred by employees and delegates in Australia. For IAIA08, this includes registration fees of any type, accommodation, meals, transport, professional fees, etc.

GST on sponsorship and like promotional expenses is also reclaimable. Refer to www.GSTreclaim.com.

Health

The only certificate required is a Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate for visitors who have been in a yellow fever area in the six days prior to entering Australia. Traveller medical insurance is strongly recommended as Australia's Medicare system does not cover visitors, except where reciprocal agreements exist for immediately medically necessary treatment under their public health scheme (New Zealand, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Malta, Italy, Ireland and The Netherlands). Note that the reciprocal arrangements do not apply to visitors entering Australia on student visas. For further information, visit www.medicareaustralia.gov.au.

Customs and Quarantine

Visitors over 18 years may bring in up to 250g of tobacco products and 2.25 liters of alcoholic beverages, and articles to the value of A\$900, duty free. Further information is available at www.customs.gov.au. Australia's quarantine laws are amongst the most stringent in the world, and you must declare all food, plant and animal material upon arrival into the country. Further information about what you can and can't bring into Australia is available at www.aqis.gov.au (Travel information>Entering Australia).

Hotels

Accommodation Bookings

A great range of accommodation has been secured at specially negotiated prices for IAIA08 delegates. The IAIA08 Steering Committee has appointed EECW Pty Ltd (EECW) to manage accommodation bookings; all bookings should be made through EECW to ensure the best rates. To make accommodation bookings, go to www.eecwreservations.com. Further information on the accommodation options is also available through this link.

As the conference falls in a busy time for Perth, we strongly recommend delegates book accommodation early, to avoid disappointment. Reservations must be made no later than **15 March 2008**. Accommodation will be allocated in order of receipt of bookings. Any reservations made after 15 March 2008 will be subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed.

Rates listed are displayed in Australian dollars and include all taxes. Rates are room only (breakfast not included) based on single, twin or double room occupancy.

Amendments to bookings, including check in/out dates and room type will only be accepted in writing by e-mail or fax and should be sent to EECW via registration@eecw.com.au or fax +61 (0)8 9389 1499.

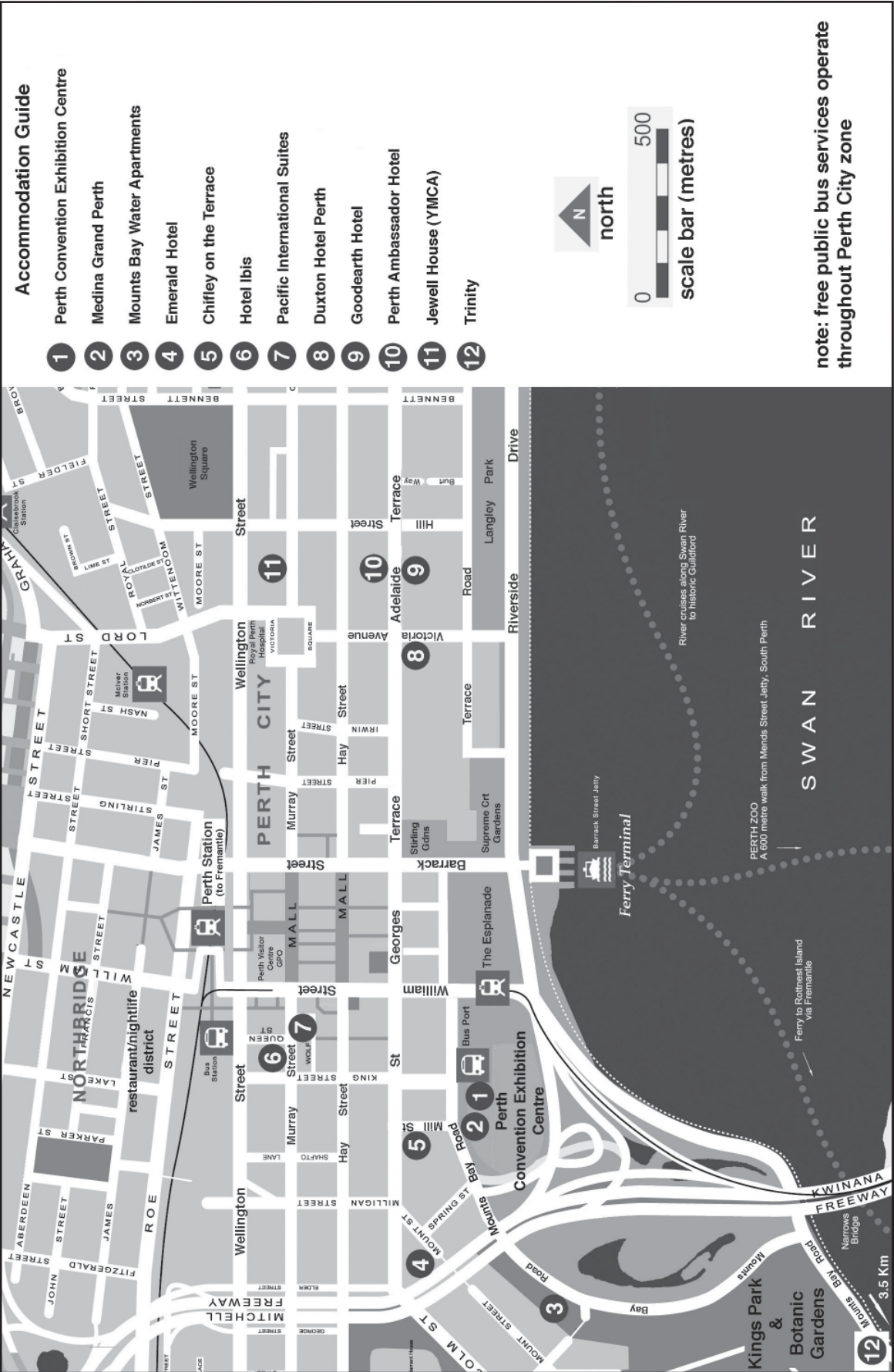
Accommodation cancellations received after 15 March 2008 will be charged a cancellation fee equal to one night's accommodation.



Find a Roommate

For IAIA08 delegates who would like to limit costs by sharing a room with another conference delegate, IAIA provides a "find a roommate" network on the conference Web page. See www.iaia.org > IAIA08 > Hotels.

| Map # | Hotel Name | Walking distance to PCEC | Room Type | Rooms Available | Room Rate |
|-------|--|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 2. | Medina Grand Perth (3 ^{1/2} star) | Adjacent to PCEC | 1 Bedroom Apartment | 30 | A\$245 |
| 3. | Mounts Bay Water Apartments (4 star) | 5 minutes | 1 Bedroom Apartment | 10 | A\$213 |
| | | | 2 Bedroom/1 Bathroom Apartment | 10 | A\$268 |
| | | | 2 Bedroom/2 Bathroom Apartment | 10 | A\$293 |
| 4. | Emerald Hotel (4 star) | 7-8 minutes | Queen Room | 35 | A\$154 |
| 5. | Chifley on the Terrace (4 star) | 5 minutes | Single, Double, Twin | 30 | A\$212 |
| 6. | Hotel Ibis (3 ^{1/2} star) | 10-15 minutes | Single, Double, Twin | 30 | A\$155 |
| 7. | Pacific International Suites (4 star) | 10 minutes | Single, Double, Twin | 70 | A\$185 |
| 8. | Duxton Hotel Perth (5 star) | 20 minutes | Single, Double, Twin | 40 | A\$240 |
| 9. | Goodearth Hotel (3 star) | 20 minutes | Studio - Queen/Twin Apartment | 30 | A\$115 |
| | | | Executive Queen | 10 | A\$135 |
| | | | 1-Bedroom Apartment (1 Queen, 2 Singles) | 5 | A\$155 |
| | | | Open Plan Apartment (4 Singles) | 2 | A\$155 |
| | | | 2-Bedroom Apartment | 3 | A\$170 |
| 10. | Perth Ambassador Hotel (3 star) | 20 minutes | Standard - Queen Twin Room | 30 | A\$130 |
| 11. | Jewell House (YMCA budget hostel) | 25 minutes | Male or Female Basic Single Room | 30 | A\$39 |
| 12. | Trinity Accommodation (budget hostel) | 3.5 km from PCEC. Public bus available (allow 30 minutes). | Single Motel Room | 30 | A\$98 |
| | | | Extra person charge | | A\$15 per night |



Perth Convention Exhibition Centre and Hotel Locations

IAIA08 Registration Form

- Register online today!
- Fast, easy and secure
- www.iaia.org

1 Delegate Information

Please fill out form completely. Type or print neatly in BLOCK letters. Be sure to include your name and organization exactly as you would like that information to appear on your delegate badge. Registrations after 16 April will be accepted on-site only.

Mr Ms Dr Title _____ Today's date _____ (month)/_____(day)/20_____(year)
First name _____ Last (family) name _____
Organization _____
Address _____ City _____
State/Province _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____
Phone + _____ Fax + _____ E-mail _____ @ _____
I plan to stay at _____ Hotel. This information is used to estimate room blocks in future years and will not be released.

2 Registration fees (all fees in US\$)

IAIA Member ID# _____ Affiliate ID# _____
Early Bird (by 10 February) **Regular/On-site**
IAIA member/Affiliate member \$580 \$665
ECA or EIANZ member \$580 \$665
EIANZ members, please include Affiliate ID above.
Non-member \$730 \$830
Student (proof of current enrollment required) \$400

6 Indication of interest/meal preference

Opening reception 5 May # Persons: Delegates _____ Guests _____
Conference banquet 8 May # Persons: Delegates _____ Guests _____
Carbon Offset Program (see page 33) # persons ____ @ \$40 = \$ _____
Vegetarian meal preference

3 Pre-conference training courses

Pre-registration and pre-payment by 29 February is required. After 29 February, registration acceptance is subject to availability, instructor consent, and receipt of payment.

- Integrating Cultural IA into Development 4 May \$250
- Understanding IA: Principles, Methods, Trends 4-5 May \$435
- Concepts, Process and Methods of SIA 4-5 May \$435
- SEA in Developing & Transition Countries 4-5 May \$435
- Ecological & Economic Evaluation Approaches 4-5 May \$435
- Cumulative Effects Assessment 4-5 May \$435
- Practical EIA: Getting Good Work Done 4-5 May \$435
- Involuntary Resettlement: Principles & Practice 5 May \$250
- Principles & Practice of HIA 5 May \$250

Non-IAIA08 delegates add \$66

4 Technical visits

Pre-payment is required for technical visits. After 29 February, registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the maximum number of paid participants is reached.

- Rottneest Island 4 May # persons ____ @ \$125 = \$ _____
- Biodiversity Bushwalking 4 May # persons ____ @ \$90 = \$ _____
- Alcoa Mine 5 May # persons ____ @ \$40 = \$ _____
- Industrial Synergies 5 May # persons ____ @ \$40 = \$ _____
- Aboriginal Culture 5 May # persons ____ @ \$90 = \$ _____
- Urban Renewal 9 May # persons ____ @ \$30 = \$ _____
- Sustainable Fisheries 9 May # persons ____ @ \$30 = \$ _____

5 Post-conference technical tour

To register for the Pilbara tour, see www.eecwreservations.com.

7 Payment information

Registration fee US\$ _____
Total of activities fees US\$ _____
Total amount due US\$ _____
All prices inclusive of Australian GST.

Charge to Visa MasterCard American Express

Expiration date ____ / ____ (month/year)

Print name on card _____

Authorized signature _____

Check or money order in US\$ drawn on a US bank or A\$ drawn on an Australian bank enclosed.

I will pay on-site with cash or traveler's check (US\$ or A\$)
Note: Pre-payment by 29 February for presenters, technical visit, and training course participants is required.

I am being sponsored by someone other than my employer.

Sponsoring organization _____

Contact person _____

Contact person's phone + _____

Contact person's e-mail _____

8 Send registration and payment

BY MAIL
1330 23rd Street South, Suite C
Fargo, ND 58103-3705 USA

REGISTER ONLINE
www.iaia.org > IAIA08

BY FAX
+1.701.297.7917

QUESTIONS?
Phone +1.701.297.7908
info@iaia.org

Committees/About the Hosts

ABOUT THE HOSTS



Department of
Environment and Conservation
Our environment, our future



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Water Resources



ENVIRONMENT
INSTITUTE OF
AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND



Environmental
Consultants
Association



Department of Environment and Conservation is a Western Australian government agency that has responsibility for protecting and conserving the State's environment on behalf of all Western Australians. Its key responsibilities include conserving biodiversity and protecting, managing, regulating and assessing the impacts of the use of the State's natural resources.

Department of the Environment and Water Resources is an Australian federal government agency that focuses on matters of national environmental significance by advising the Australian Government on its policies for protecting the environment and heritage; administering environment and heritage laws, including the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; managing the Australian Government's main environment and heritage programmes; implementing an effective response to climate change; and representing the Australian Government in international environmental agreements related to the environment and Antarctica.

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) is the peak professional body in Australasia for environmental practitioners, promoting independent and interdisciplinary discourse on environmental issues, and excellence in environmental practice. EIANZ launched Australasia's first certification scheme for environmental professionals in 2004, and recently celebrated its 20th anniversary.

Environment Consultants Association (WA) is the peak professional body representing commercial environmental consultants throughout Western Australia. The Association both represents the interests of its members and promotes development of the environmental industry. Membership of the association is restricted to commercial environmental consultants who possess the appropriate qualifications and length of experience and commit to the ECA Code of Conduct.

Murdoch University was established in 1975 on a large bush and farm campus in the southern suburbs of Perth. It has long specialized in IA education. Two of its key academic units, the School of Environmental Science and the Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy, are international leaders in research and teaching across the full spectrum of the arts and sciences of sustainability and environmental management.

COMMITTEES

Steering Committee

Angus Morrison-Saunders (Chair), Murdoch University

Warren Tacey, Department of Environment and Conservation

Melinda Macleod, Department of Environment and Conservation

Gerard Early, Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Kerry Laszig, Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand

Bruce Hegge, Environment Consultants Association

Bill Grace, GHD Pty Ltd

John Bailey, Murdoch University

Jenny Pope, Integral Sustainability

Program Coordination Committee

Angus Morrison-Saunders (Co-chair), Australia

Jenny Pope (Co-chair and program coordinator), Australia

Lea den Broeder, The Netherlands

James Baines, New Zealand

David Annandale, Vietnam

John Boyle, USA

Sheridan Coakes, Australia

Patrick Duffy, Canada

Asha Rajvanshi, India

Debra Zanewich, Canada

Ben Cave, UK

Bernice Goldsmith, Canada

Rachel McCormick, Canada

Bob Tai, New Zealand

Thomas Fischer, UK

Jan de Mulder, Belgium

Bert Enserink, The Netherlands

Dusica Radojcic, Hungary

John Devlin, Canada

Ilse Aucamp, South Africa

Verina Ingram, The Netherlands

Suphakijn Nuntavorakarn, Thailand

Charles Kelly, UK

Michel Bouchard, Tunisia

The organization of IAIA08 is supported by EECW Pty Ltd (www.eecw.com.au).

DON'T MISS THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL, INTERDISCIPLINARY, EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE DEDICATED TO ADVANCING THE ART AND SCIENCE OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT!

IAIA07 participants said...

"It's a great networking opportunity and a way to find out how others around the world are dealing with similar issues."

"An IAIA conference gives us a great time and a worldwide vision on environment and other related fields."

"The best opportunity to meet other people from different countries and with different IA backgrounds; very useful to share experiences and approaches and learn about obstacles in IA work elsewhere."

"The quality of the conference is very good, and IAIA remains the only substantive forum for EA professionals to share experiences!"

"I benefitted from all facets of the conference: meeting new friends, training, technical visits, social events, you name it!"

IAIA08 At-A-Glance

Sunday, 4 May

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Training courses | All Day |
| Technical visits | All Day |

Monday, 5 May

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Training courses | All Day |
| Technical visits | All Day |
| Opening Reception | Evening |

Tuesday, 6 May

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Plenary, forums, sessions | All Day |
| Speed networking | Afternoon |

Wednesday, 7 May

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Forums, sessions, AGM | All Day |
| Poster session | Afternoon |
| Social and Networking Events | Evening |

Thursday, 8 May

| | |
|--|---------|
| Forums, Concurrent Sessions, Council meeting | All Day |
| Banquet | Evening |

Friday, 9 May

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Concurrent sessions, closing plenary | Morning |
| Technical visits | Afternoon |

Saturday, 10 May

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Post-conference tour departs | Morning |
|------------------------------|---------|

Earth Sponsors



Department of
Environment and Conservation
Our environment, our future



Australian Government
Department of the Environment and Water Resources

Sponsorship opportunities are still available!

See page 35 for information.



International Headquarters
1330 23rd Street South, Suite C
Fargo, ND 58103-3705 USA
Phone +1.701.297.7908 • Fax +1.701.297.7917
info@iaia.org • www.iaia.org

Important Dates and Deadlines

31 December

- Capacity building stipend application deadline

7 February

- Abstract submission deadline
- Student fee waiver applications due

10 February

- Early Bird registration ends

29 February

- Presenting authors registration and payment deadline
- Training course registration and payment deadline
- Technical visit registration and payment deadline
- Last day to qualify for Quickpass
- Booth & exhibit reservation deadline
- Raffle donation forms due

15 March

- Hotel reservations

31 March

- SEP/Mentor/Buddy participant forms due
- Requests for special audio-visual equipment due
- Sponsorship confirmation needed to be recognized in final program
- Requests to include material in delegate packs

16 April

- Pre-registration cutoff