



## *The State of Digital IA Practice* Webinar Series

# DIGITAL IA: ENHANCED ENVIRONMENTALLY INTEGRATED DESIGN ENABLED BY DIGITAL ADVANCES

**Webinar:** July 6, 2023

This is the fourth in the *IAIA-Fothergill TC Digital Impact Assessment Webinar Series*. The series delves deeper into specific areas and examples of how digital approaches and technology are being used to advance IA, as discussed in their joint report [The State of Digital IA Practice](#).

This webinar recording deep dives into how the use of data and digital technology is enabling the environment to have earlier engagement and sustained role across the lifecycle of infrastructure projects, allowing schemes to be brought forward to seek finance / consent, reduce risk, and identify opportunities to enhance.

The webinar focuses on work by consultancy **Atkins** (member of the SNC-Lavalin Group) to apply digital data and approaches across the project lifecycle, from early conception and assessment through to construction and operation.

This will build on what can be achieved with different levels of digital data availability, combined with a transition to a digital mindset, culminating in an exploration of their Atkins' Pangea Environmental Assessment Hub, which they use across their UK EIA services and are rolling out in other areas.

**Part 1** introduces the concept of environmental integrated design, a left-shift, outcome-based approach enabled by better use of digital and data, bringing earlier consideration of the environment into the design process to reduce risk and identify opportunities.

**Part 2** reveals how by rethinking the EIA as a conceptual model, it is possible, using widely available tools, to digitize and automate large parts of the assessment process, freeing up the impact assessors'

time to work more closely with multiple stakeholders, from designers, regulators, and the wider community.

**Part 3** explores how digitizing and combining the spatial, temporal, and technological elements of control and mitigation measures can achieve environmental compliance in construction and operation, particularly for complex schemes spanning multiple entities, jurisdictions, large number of mitigations and permit conditions.

The final 20-30 minutes of the webinar are dedicated to a facilitated discussion with the speakers by the Chair, with questions from attendees.

### Presenters



**Chair: Josh Fothergill, Founder & Director – Fothergill Training & Consulting**

Josh is the lead author of [The State of Digital IA Practice](#) launched in late 2021. He has regularly lead in-depth reviews into IA systems, including: the UK's Proportionate EIA Strategy (2017), Global EIA Accreditation Systems (2019), and Linking the Circular Economy & IA (2021). Josh founded Fothergill Training & Consulting to provide independent IA expertise and capacity building services. He previously spent a decade at the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA), co-authoring much of the UK's IA guidance over that period, and creating the award-winning EIA Quality Mark scheme.

### Speakers:



**Paul Morgalla, Associate Director – Atkins (member of the SNC-Lavalin Group)**

Paul is a Chartered Scientist with over 18 years of experience in the water and environmental management industry. He is currently the Atkins Digital Lead for Environment UK, responsible for digital transformation in our Environment Business. He is an expert in Geographical Information Systems, BIM, data / information management, spatial analysis, and modelling.

He specializes in technical delivery of complex technical projects, with a track record in the successful delivery of technical solutions in the water, environment, and energy sector, with experience in UK, Canada, Africa and Asia.



**Dan Parsons, Associate Director – Atkins (member of the SNC-Lavalin Group)**

Dan is an Associate Director in Atkins' Planning and Environmental Consenting practice with over 15 years' experience in coordinating EIA projects.

Daniel has taken lead coordination and project management roles in EIA for large scale international and nationally significant infrastructure projects and has worked in a wide range of sectors including energy, industrial, waste, water highways, rail and commercial development.



**Pietro Rescia, Associate Director – Atkins (member of the SNC-Lavalin Group)**

Pietro is a Chartered Engineer and Environmentalist with 30 years' experience in addressing environmental and social risks and impacts. He is specialised in leading environmental and social management systems, impact assessments, due diligences, Best Available Techniques (BAT) assessments, environmental risk assessments, stakeholder consultation, and alternatives appraisal. He works in multi-disciplinary and multi-national teams, for a broad range of public and private clients in Middle East, Europe, Africa, and Asia.