Demonstration of South Africa's National Environmental Screening Tool

> Webinar 21 August 2018

Presenters from DEA: Dee Fischer, Marlanie Moodley, Zakariyyaa Oumar, Deon Marais

Moderator from IAIA: Bridget John (bridget@iaia.org)



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Environmental Advisory Services

The National Web-based Environmental Screening Tool

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<u>What</u> is the Screening Tool?

 The National Web based Environmental Screening Tool is a geospatial web-enabled application providing for screening of sites for environmental sensitivity and the placement of proposed developments in relation to the impact avoidance hierarchy.

- It produces the report required in terms of regulation 16(1)(v) of the EIA regulations
- Any person can use the screening tool at any time and use it as an anonymous user

Objectives of the screening tool

- The <u>National Development Plan</u> calls for an efficient and effective <u>environmental</u> legislative process including the Environmental Impact Assessment process
- The development of the <u>National Web based Environmental Screening Tool</u> forms part of <u>ensuring</u> ongoing improvement of the EIA process to ensure efficiency and effectiveness
- The Screening Tool aims to <u>flag areas of potential environmental sensitivity</u> in relation to a proposed <u>site</u> and development <u>footprint</u>
- The tool enables the applicant to manipulate the development footprint on a site to <u>avoid</u> <u>environmental sensitivities</u>
- The report generates a <u>list of specialist assessments</u> that should form part of the assessment reports to be submitted with the EIA application based on the national sector classification and the sensitivity of the site
- Supports the implementation of the **Assessment Protocols**
- Assessment Protocols provide <u>minimum information</u> to be included in a <u>specialist report</u> to facilitate the decision making process
- The tool identifies any specific <u>exclusions, restriction, prohibitions or any exceptions to the EIA</u>
 <u>process</u> that apply to a particular site as well as any specific information that must be consulted in
 relation to that site
- In time to provide a mechanism to collect <u>new environmental information</u> surveyed or compiled by the specialists through the preparation of assessment reports for verification by data custodians for <u>incorporation</u> into relevant national data sets.



https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool

https://screening.environment.gov.za/screeningtool/index.html#/pages/welcome

Screening Tool assistance:

screening@environment.gov.za

EIA Process Queries:

EIAadmin@environment.gov.za

Questions?



- Mr. Deon Marais, GIS Practitioner
- Ms. Dee Fischer, Chief Director for Integrated Environmental Management Support
- Mrs. Marlanie Moodley, Director for GIS
- Mr. Zakariyyaa Oumar, Chief GIS Professional, Enterprise Geospatial Section

Thank you!

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