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## Different names for the same document

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- Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA report)
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Environmental Statement (ES)
- Environmental Assessment Report (EA report)
- Environmental Effects Statement (EES)
- Local usage: enter local terminology

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**The EIA report is a statement  
that assists:**

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- **the proponent to plan and design**
- **the responsible authority to  
decide**
- **the public to understand**

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## **A successful EIA report will be:**

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- **actionable – by the proponent**
- **decision-relevant – to the  
responsible authority**
- **user-friendly – for the public**

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## Main elements of an EA report

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- executive summary
- need for and aims of the proposal
- description of proposal and alternatives
- description of affected environment and community
- public consultation and views
- main impacts and their mitigation
- evaluation of significant residual impacts
- environmental management plan

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## Preparing an executive summary

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- target to audience
- keep it short
- make it clear and consistent
- avoid jargon
- summarise key findings

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## **An executive summary should outline:**

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- **the proposal and its setting**
- **terms of reference of the EIA**
- **results of public consultation**
- **alternatives considered**
- **major impacts and their significance**
- **mitigation and management measures**
- **any other critical matters.**

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## **EIA Report — description of the proposal includes:**

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- **main elements, phases and alternatives**
- **requirements for materials, water, energy, equipment**
- **operational processes and products**
- **summary of technical, economic and environmental features**
- **comparison of options (e.g. size, location, etc.)**

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## **EIA Report - description of the affected environment includes:**

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- **spatial and temporal boundaries**
- **baseline conditions – biophysical, land use, socio-economic**
- **key trends and anticipated conditions**
- **relationship to other policies, plans and proposals.**



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## **EIA Report – results of public consultation includes:**

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- **identification of interested and affected stakeholders**
- **method(s) used to inform and involve them**
- **analysis of views and concerns expressed**
- **how these were taken into account**
- **issues remaining to be resolved**

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## **EIA Report - evaluating impacts for each alternative:**

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- **prediction of each major impact**
- **proposed mitigation measures**
- **significance of the residual impact**
- **limitations, uncertainty and gaps in knowledge**

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## **EIA Report - comparative evaluation of alternatives**

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- **adverse and beneficial impacts**
- **effectiveness of mitigation  
measure**
- **distribution of benefits and costs**
- **opportunities for enhancement**
- **reasons for preferred alternative**

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## **An Environmental Management Plan contains:**

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- **proposed mitigation measures**
- **schedule for implementation**
- **surveillance and monitoring programmes**
- **impact management strategy**
- **reporting, audit and review procedure**
- **any institution and capacity building requirements**

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## Some common shortcomings of EIA reports

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- objective of proposal described too narrowly
- description does not cover complete activity
- alternatives do not account for the environment
- key problems not described
- sensitive elements in environment overlooked
- relevant standards and legislation not described

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## **Some common shortcomings of EIA reports (continued):**

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- **best alternative not described (or insufficiently described)**
- **serious impacts not mentioned or not correctly described**
- **outdated or ineffective prediction models used**
- **impacts not compared with standards or targets**
- **appropriate mitigation measures not considered**
- **incorrect conclusions drawn**