

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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## EIA

Environmental impact assessment (EIA) –

Procedure for comprehensive evaluating of the likely impact of a proposed activity on the environment

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## EIA

- Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo 1991)
- Protocol 2003 on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment - SEA (Kiev)
- 1998 Aarhus Convention

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## EIA

Aim - to apply this procedure to projects and plans that could have a significant transboundary impact on the environment and to bring the parties concerned to cooperation in this field.

Prevention principle

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## EIA

- obligation of each party to ensure that the EIA is undertaken prior to a decision to authorize or undertake a proposed activity listed in Appendix I that is likely to cause a significant transboundary impact.

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## EIA

The EIA procedure applies to:

- certain projects (buildings, constructions, technologies and other activities),
- plans, programmes and policies (SEA) and
- their changes.

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## EIA

EIA documentation should contain:

- description of the proposed activity (project),
- description of reasonable alternatives including the no-action alternative,
- description of the environment likely to be significantly affected (including, in particular, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, including the architectural and archeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between the above factors),
- description of a potential environmental impact of the proposed activity and estimation of its significance (an estimate, by type and quantity, of expected residues and emissions (water, air and soil pollution, noise, vibration, light, heat, radiation, etc.) resulting from the operation of the proposed project,
- description of mitigating measures to keep adverse environmental impact to a minimum,
- identification of gaps in knowledge and uncertainties encountered in compiling the required information,

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## EIA

Public participation:

the requirement to give the opportunity to the public in areas likely to be affected to participate in the relevant EIA procedures and the same opportunity for the public of the Party concerned.

Public - one or more natural or legal persons

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## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

"public," - natural or legal persons as well as organizations

"the public concerned" - those who are affected or likely to be affected by or having an interest in the environmental decision-making. Non-governmental organizations need only to promote environmental protection and meet requirements under national law to be the part of the "public concerned".

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## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus 1998)

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