

NEWSLETTER

■ INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

COMING UP ...

IAIA15

20-23 APRIL 2015

FLORENCE, ITALY



IAIA15 ABSTRACTS INVITED

The online submission form for IAIA15 paper/poster abstracts is now available on the conference website under the Submissions menu. The submission deadline is **28 November 2014**. All abstracts must be submitted through the online submission form by the posted deadline. Submissions and presentations (session and/or paper or poster) are limited to two by the same person. Each abstract is reviewed by Program Committee representatives for presentation based on the format of the session to which the abstract was submitted. Authors will receive notification of abstract status via email between 1-12 December 2014. Visit conferences.iaia.org/2015 to submit your abstract today!

REGISTRATION OPEN

Registrations are now being accepted for IAIA15. We expect this to be a popular event and encourage delegates to register as early as possible. **Early bird rates apply until 16 January 2015.**

HOTEL DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE THROUGH 18 JANUARY

Delegates are encouraged to make hotel reservations early. Blocks of rooms with discounted rates have been reserved by the Firenze Convention Bureau; those rates are valid only through **18 January 2015** and must be booked through their official system. Registration for the event is required to get the access code, which will be provided in the registration confirmation email. For more information, visit Plan Your Stay on the conference website.

TECHNICAL VISIT UPDATES

IAIA15 will offer a number of exciting technical visits in and around Florence, but it will also offer a post-conference overnight visit to Venice to explore the city and study the MOSE project, a series of mobile gates that protect Venice and the Venetian Lagoon area from flooding and extreme events. All technical visits are subject to meeting the minimum number of participants, but due to the overnight hotel reservations, this visit in particular must meet a 10 delegate minimum by 20 December in order to proceed. If you are interested in this visit, please consider registering as soon as possible to reserve your space!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

IAIA is currently seeking sponsors for the IAIA15 conference. Download the Sponsorship Opportunities brochure in English or Italian on the IAIA15 sponsorship page at conferences.iaia.org/2015 to find out the various ways your company can reach out to over 800 environmental professionals from 80+ nations. **Book your IAIA15 Sponsorship by 1 December 2014 and receive an extra free IAIA15 registration in your benefits package!**

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RITA R. HAMM IA EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCED



The IAIA Board of Directors is pleased to announce the new **Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship** in honor of the legacy that our former CEO has left on this organization and the field of impact assessment. One scholarship will be offered in conjunction with each annual IAIA conference, allowing a young practitioner, 35 years or younger, in the region of the host country to attend. Potential candidates are those who have never attended an IAIA annual conference and are submitting an abstract to present a paper at IAIA15. Full application instructions are posted at www.iaia.org. Applications are due **15 December**, but abstracts must still be submitted by the 28 November abstract deadline.

NEW PUBLICATION ON HEALTH IN IA

The joint WHO Europe, EUPHA and IAIA publication "Health in Impact Assessments: An opportunity not to be missed" has been posted online at <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/environment-and-health/health-impact-assessment/publications>. Prospective impact assessment is a consolidated approach for pursuing foresight in policy and decision-making, systematically deployed worldwide. There is consensus that, even in well-developed impact assessments, human health is not always covered adequately. Partly as a response, HIA emerged and has been applied in several countries in Europe and beyond. Opinions about the merits of HIA separate from other forms of impact assessment differ. This publication aims to provide a detailed and balanced view on health in impact assessments.

■ **FRANCESCA VILIANI** • FRANESCAV@INTERNATIONALSOS.COM

TECHNICAL APPENDIX OF THE ESR FOR IA AVAILABLE

The *Technical Appendix of the Ecosystem Services Review for Impact Assessment* (ESR for IA) is now available on-line. The ESR for IA, a six step method to address project impacts and dependencies on ecosystem services as part of the environmental and social impact assessment process, was introduced to non-technical readers in Weaving Ecosystem Services Into Impact Assessment (Version 1.0). The *Technical Appendix* is designed for ESIA practitioners who require a detailed understanding of the ESR for IA, walking them through each step and sub-step of the method using an illustrative case study. The technical appendix is available at http://www.wri.org/sites/default/files/weaving_ecosystem_services_into_impact_assessment_technical_appendix.pdf.

■ **FLORENCE LANDSBERG** • FLANDSBERG@WRI.ORG

CHECK OUT IAIA'S NEW VIDEO!

Bill Ross discusses why impact assessments are important and the rationale for doing them.



<http://www.iaia.org/publications-resources/iaia-member-videos.aspx>

At that link, you'll also find a video from Peter Croal of Canada speaking about why corporate profitability depends on Indigenous Peoples' consent. Watch for more videos from IAIA members in the coming months!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS

At its April 2014 meeting in Santiago, Chile, in support of IAIA's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and in general business, the Board of Directors:

- Formally introduced and welcomed the new Executive Director, Jill Baker.
- Finalized the Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship for implementation at IAIA15.
- Approved the modified 2014 operating budget.
- Requested a new Strategic Action Plan be drafted, to be presented to IAIA members at the IAIA15 Annual General Meeting.
- Assigned the Executive Director to take on the role of Sections Coordinating Committee co-chair for the next two years. At midterm, she will suggest a long-term solution for continuity, stability, and communications with Sections.
- Confirmed a mobile app will be implemented at IAIA15, with both paper and paperless program options available to delegates.

Full minutes are available at www.iaia.org (log in) > Admin & Member Services > Board & AGM minutes.

SYMPOSIUM IN KRUGER NATIONAL PARK



Across the world, land access for public and private sector projects often causes significant physical and economic displacement of communities. Resettlement is typically fraught with challenges, risks and controversy. Poorly undertaken resettlement can result in a number of impoverishment risks, like landlessness, marginalization, food insecurity and social disarticulation. The **IAIA Special Symposium on Resettlement and Livelihoods**, held 21-22 October 2014 in Kruger National Park, South Africa, improved understanding of land access and resettlement issues, shared lessons learned, and discussed opportunities to improve performance. Nearly 230 delegates from 38 countries participated in the event, which also included a pre-symposium technical visit around Kruger National Park and a post-symposium training course on Land Access and Resettlement. Watch future newsletters for a full summary.

➤ Symposium presentations are now available for download at www.iaia.org/conferences/iaia_resettlement/proceedings.php.



(L) Symposium delegates in a session. (R) Elephants in Kruger National Park. Photos courtesy of Jill Baker.

IAIA thanks these sponsors, whose generous contributions helped to make the 2014 Resettlement & Livelihoods Symposium a success:

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



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Golder Associates

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RESEARCH CORNER

INPUT INVITED FROM STUDENTS, SCHOLARS

One of IAIA's strategic goals is to identify, disseminate, and promote innovation and emerging practice and issues. Among IAIA's members are several junior and established scholars who are passionate about impact assessment (IA) and bring that enthusiasm into their research. Master's and Ph.D. students in particular are close to the "sharp end" of innovative and original IA research, contributing to the advancement of the theory and practice of IA and providing up-to-date breadth and depth of knowledge on cross-cutting themes and topical issues.

The IA Research Corner is intended to provide students, as well as more senior scholars, an opportunity to inform other IAIA members about their research topics, disseminate knowledge, communicate findings, or seek contributions.

Contributions to this feature are invited. Text should be no longer than 300 words and may be sent to shelli@iaia.org.

IAIA PUBLICATION UPDATES

FasTips No. 8, Health Impact Assessment, is now available! HIA is an established form of impact assessment, in practice around the world for at least 20 years. HIA predicts and anticipates the health implications of proposed projects, programs, plans, or policies. The document can be downloaded at <http://www.iaia.org/publications-resources/fastips.aspx>. There you'll also find other FasTips on alternatives in SEA, mitigation, biodiversity assessment, governance, climate smart decisions, ethics, and IA.

Updates to the **Strategic Environmental Assessment, Technology Assessment, and Sustainability Assessment Key Citations** have been posted online. The updated documents can be downloaded at <http://www.iaia.org/publications-resources/key-citations.aspx>.

EIA AND FOOD SECURITY: COMMENTS FROM AN AFF SECTION MEMBER

Some of us in the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Section find it curious that there appears to be little connection or cross-reference between EIA and food security—neither within the practice nor the legislation. This appears to be the case not only among EIA practitioners, but also among 'food security' specialists. Within this latter group, although management of natural resources is discussed in relation to food security (e.g., in the context of rural-urban corridors, protection of peri-urban fringe from urban sprawl, or preservation of arable lands, etc.), there is no specific mention of EIA.

"Agriculture" is a unique activity because it both: 1) has an impact upon the environment and 2) is impacted upon by the environment. There is already excellent work by Jeff Tschirley and Patrick Duffy, *Environmental impact assessment guidelines for FAO field projects* (2012), which looks at EIA from that first perspective; it is more challenging to find examples of EIA work being undertaken from that second perspective.

"Climate" is similar. Given that environmental impact assessment is about identifying and then responding to issues arising from a project that can have a detrimental effect on the environment, it is not unreasonable to suggest that the "climate" can be both an aspect upon which impact is made but also that it is in itself a potential impact—a project can contribute to climate change as well as respond positively to its mitigation.

An evaluation of the environmental issues of a food security project in Zimbabwe assessed the potential impact to the climate as one of the aspects. Not only was this from the understanding of how the project could be contributing to climate change, for instance through the production of greenhouse gases, but also how the project was exhibiting a strong form of adaptation in order to respond to a changing climate, through, for example, the adoption of water conservation features.

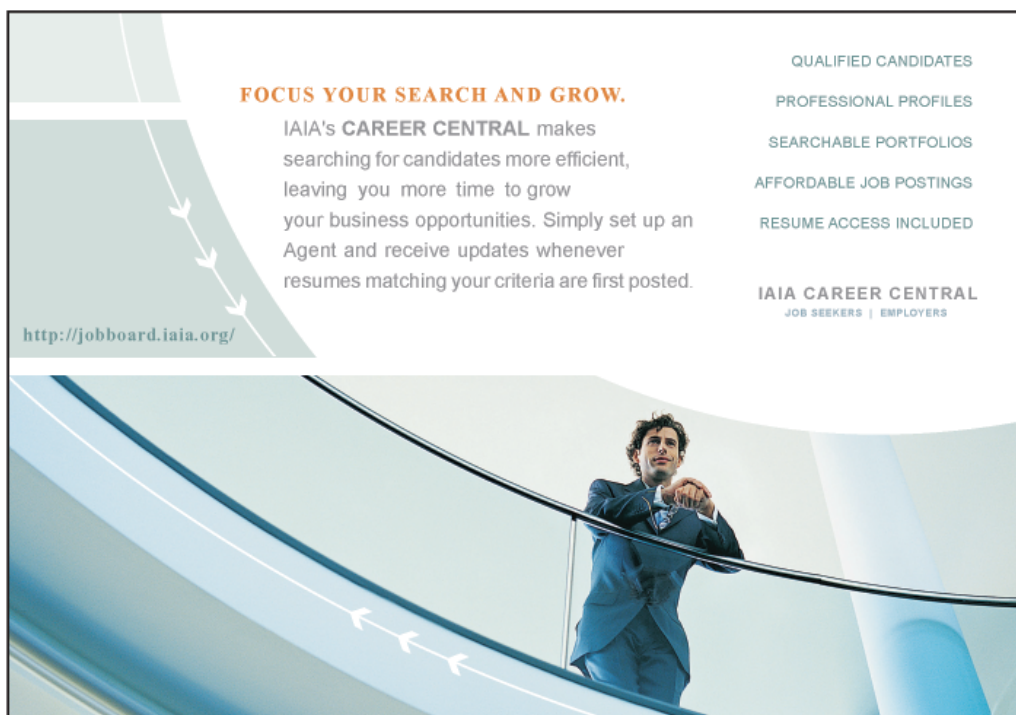
An EIA is a process that when undertaken in its entirety can be a substantial drain on resources. To avoid this and to focus the available resources to points where they are most needed, projects are screened to determine their requirement for an EIA. This is in line with the legislation of most countries. Screening is performed by a qualified person who can determine whether or not a project is likely to have a lasting negative impact on the environment. Generally agricultural projects, especially those in the developing world, are not at a scale that require an EIA to be activated. This may help explain the dearth of examples where EIA is employed in relation to agriculture and food security. We welcome comments from the readership.

■ **JEANETTE TRAMHEL** • AFF SECTION MEMBER • JTRAMHEL@GMAIL.COM
WITH **JOSEPH ATTWOOD** • JOSEPH.ATTWOOD@NRC.NO

CAREER CENTRAL

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FOCUS ON AFFILIATES: **ABAI**

ABAI WELCOMED AS NEWEST IAIA AFFILIATE

IAIA warmly welcomes our newest pilot affiliate, **Associação Brasileira de Avaliação de Impacto (ABAI)**. ABAI was founded in 2011 as a non-profit national organization focused on the promotion of the professional field of impact assessment in Brazil. Members represent individuals and organizations from both public and private sectors that represent the different stakeholders in impact assessment. Its mission is excellence in technical, scientific, educational, political, and institutional activities in order to contribute to developing the impact assessment field in the country. ABAI hosted its second Brazilian congress on IA, "New Directions in Environmental Impact Assessment," in October 2014. IAIA looks forward to collaborating with ABAI in the years ahead!



Follow ABAI:

Website <http://www.avaliacaodeimpacto.org.br/>

Address Rua Tomasina 64, Jardim Jabaquara, 04384-120, São Paulo-SP, Brazil

Phone +55 11 5505-4060

FOCUS ON AFFILIATES: **IAEA**

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION IN IRAN



At a session hosted by the Iranian Association for Environmental Assessment (IAEA), IAIA member Behzad Raissiyani shared his experience of traveling to Chile and attending IAIA14 with a group of Iranian IA practitioners and students. The aims were to share what he learned with the Iranian practitioners and to encourage them to participate in future conferences.

The session continued with an open discussion about IA in Iran and the possible roles that IAEA can play to improve it. IAEA's annual plan was also briefly presented to the participants. The plan has recently developed in line with the IAIA mission and vision in order to promote best IA practice in the country. As a part of the 2014-2015 Action Plan, IAEA decided to support financially one to three of its members to attend IAIA15, depending on availability of financial resources. We hope to see more Iranians attend IAIA15!

Follow IAEA:

Website <http://www.iraneia.ir>

■ **BEHZAD RAISSIYAN • BEHZAD@RAISSIYAN.COM**



IA practitioners in Iran discuss IAIA14 and the role of IAEA at a recent information sharing session. Photo courtesy of Behzad Raissiyani.

WANTED: YOUR FAVORITE PHOTO

Please send your favorite photo of an IA-related project as a high resolution TIFF (minimum 4"x6" 300 dpi), together with a description of the photo, to shelli@iaia.org. Select photos will be featured in upcoming newsletters.

Have you or an IAIA member you know recently made news, celebrated a promotion, retired, published a book, or completed a major project?

Please send the information to the newsletter and share it with the IAIA community!

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP COMPLETE AND UP TO DATE?

IAIA members, is your directory information complete? Have you included your language(s), professional specialties, or areas of expertise? Including these details on your profile increases networking opportunities and helps other members find you in the Member Directory and on IAIAConnect. Update your details online by logging in as a member at www.iaia.org and clicking Manage My Membership > Edit Information.

CALL FOR CONFERENCE HOSTS

Are you interested in hosting a future IAIA annual conference in your country? The Board evaluates many factors, including location; proposed theme in relation to the IAIA mission, vision and values; quality of the proposal; and potential financial outcome. Contact Jill Baker at IAIA HQ (jill@iaia.org) to express your interest and receive information on preparing an effective proposal.

ON THE 'NET ■ WWW.IAIA.ORG

Follow IAIA online! In addition to our own web site, you can find IAIA at

- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- IAIA Channel on YouTube
- IAIAConnect—IAIA's professional networking site
- And more! Visit IAIA's home page (www.iaia.org) to get connected.

NOTE: For best results on IAIA's site and others, the IAIA webmaster recommends using Internet Explorer 9 if possible.



Check us out!
www.youtube.com/iaiachannel



October

- 4 World Animal Day
- 15 World Food Day
- 17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

November

- 8 World Town Planning Day
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

December

- 1 World AIDS Day
- 5 International Volunteers Day
- 10 Human Rights Day

Mark Your Calendar

IAIA & AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES

IAIA Special Symposium on Resettlement & Livelihoods. 21-22 October 2014. Skukuza, Kruger National Park, South Africa. www.iaia.org

OAIA 2014: Collaboration & Innovation in IA. 22-23 October 2014. Ottawa, ON, Canada. www.oaia.on.ca/

6th International Seminar of SEEAC. Co-organized by ACAMEE. 13-14 November 2014. Buea, Cameroon. www.seeaconline.org

NZAIA 2014: Joining the Dots. 26-27 November 2014. Auckland, New Zealand. <http://www.nzaia.org.nz/>

IAIA15 Impact Assessment in the Digital Era. 18-23 April 2015. Florence, Italy. www.iaia.org

OTHER MEETINGS

Climate Change: Raising Ambition, Delivering Results. 3-4 November 2014. London, UK. www.chathamhouse.org/conferences/ClimateChange14

International Conference on Renewable Energy Technologies. 7-9 November 2014. Hong Kong, China. www.icret.org/

IMPACT HIA Course. 10-14 November 2014. University of Liverpool, United Kingdom. Contact impact@liverpool.ac.uk.

IUCN World Parks Congress. 12-19 November 2014. Sydney, Australia. worldparkscongress.org/

International Conference on Ecology, Biodiversity & Environment (CEBE 2014). 15-16 December 2014. Singapore. cebe-conf.org/

» AFFILIATES

Please send notice of your upcoming events and activities to shelli@iaia.org to be included or featured in the newsletter!

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Lots of IAIA conference photos have been posted on our Facebook page -- check us out by searching for "IAIA - International Association for Impact Assessment."

Do you have photos of IAIA events? **Tag IAIA on Facebook** to share them with fellow delegates!

Quotable

We won't have a society if we destroy the environment.

MARGARET MEAD

EIA CASE STUDIES INVITED

IAIA is accepting short case studies to be published in the newsletter. Members will have the opportunity in 500 words or less to describe EIA-related studies that they are currently working on or have recently conducted. The intent is to showcase some new ideas and EIA concepts that may be of value to the broad membership. Each newsletter will focus on a different theme, highlighting up to three case studies. Submissions will be reviewed and evaluated by IAIA for publication in the appropriate newsletter.

Submissions should be sent to shelli@iaia.org and should include the title of the study, applicant name and location, and a 500-word project description. The member's name, title, organization, and email will be included at the end of the case study.

IAIA IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Subject to change; watch for updates!

October 2014

- 1IAIA15 abstract submission process opens
- 20.....Pre-Symposium Technical Visit
- 21-22 ...Resettlement & Livelihoods Special Symposium
- 23-24 ...Post-Symposium Training Course

November 2014

- 17.....IAIA15 registration opens
- 28.....IAIA15 paper/poster abstract submission deadline

December 2014

- 6.....IAIA15 Student Fee Waiver applications due
- 12.....Authors notified of IAIA15 paper/poster abstract acceptance status
- 15.....Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship applications due

January 2015

- 16.....Registration deadline for IAIA15 presenters
- 16.....IAIA15 Early Bird registration deadline
- 18.....Cutoff date for Florence hotel discounts

February 2015

- 14.....Deadline for IAIA15 draft papers

March 2015

- 20.....IAIA15 paper reviews completed
- 30.....Pre-registration for IAIA15 closes

April 2015

- 18-19 ...Pre-conference training courses and technical visits
- 20-23 ...IAIA15 Conference in Florence, Italy
- 24.....Post-conference technical visits

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: January-February-March 2015

Submission deadline: 1 December 2014

Professional practice articles should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions to professional practice news editor **Bram Noble** (b.noble@usask.ca).

General interest articles should be a maximum of 300 words. Send to **Shelli Schneider** (shelli@iaia.org). Suggestions, comments, and story ideas are always welcome.