DIGITAL IA: WHAT MIGHT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFER IMPACT ASSESSMENT? – THE IFC'S MALENA

3 November 2022

Welcome!

Bridget John
bridget@iaia.org

Loreley Fortuny
loreley@iaia.org

@IAIAnetwork

#iaiawebinar

- ✓ **Webinars on demand, available to all**:
  - **ESG**: What is it, Why is it Important, and How Does it Relate to IA?
  - **New Approaches to Challenges**: Emerging technologies and analyses for biodiversity impact assessment
  - **COVID Impacts** on E&S Field Assessment Work *and many more!*

- ✓ **Upcoming events**, including the IAIA23 annual conference, and online training courses

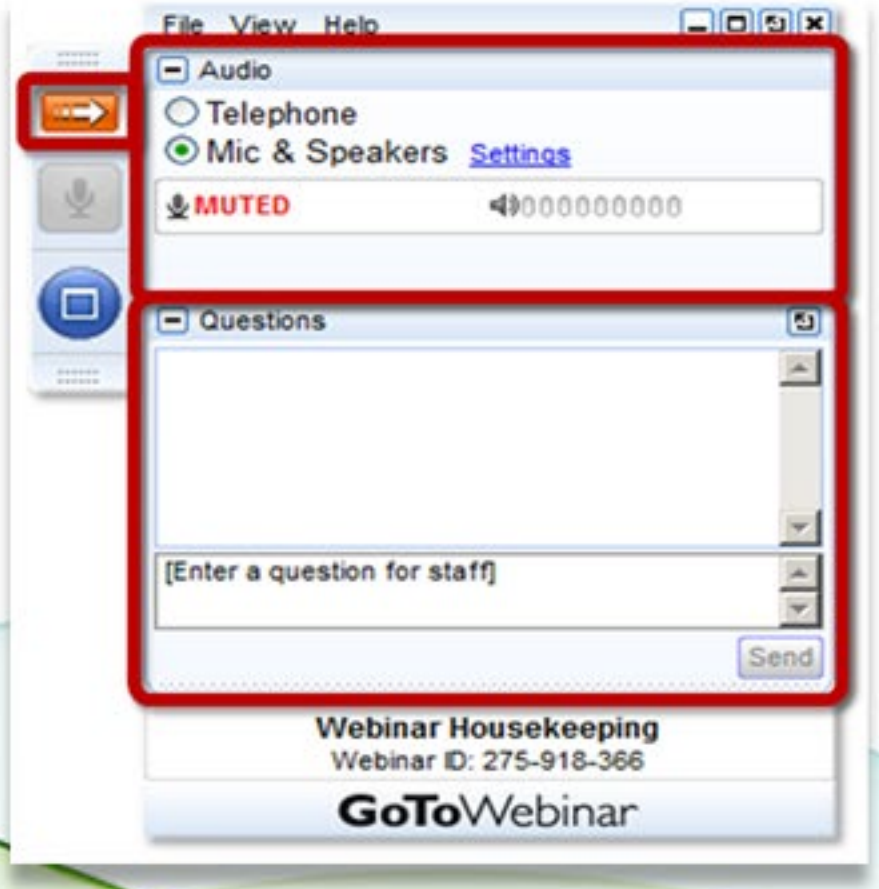
- ✓ **Online training and mentorship** through the Professional Development Program

- ✓ **Free downloadable publications**, like Best Practice Principles, IA FasTips, *and more*

Find these resources and more at

www.iaia.org

Housekeeping



- ✓ Recording?
- ✓ Questions?
- ✓ Slides available?

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Moderator: **Josh Fothergill**
Fothergill Training & Consulting
UK

Panelists:

MALENA
MACHINE LEARNING ESG ANALYST

AN INNOVATION OF IFC International Finance Corporation
WORLD BANK GROUP

International Finance Corporation (IFC)
World Bank Group
USA

- **Atiyah Curmally**
- **Blaise Sandwidi**
- **Florian Skene**

The State of Digital IA Practice
Webinar Series

What might Artificial Intelligence offer IA? The IFC's MALENA

The State of Digital Impact Assessment Practice

International Association for Impact Assessment

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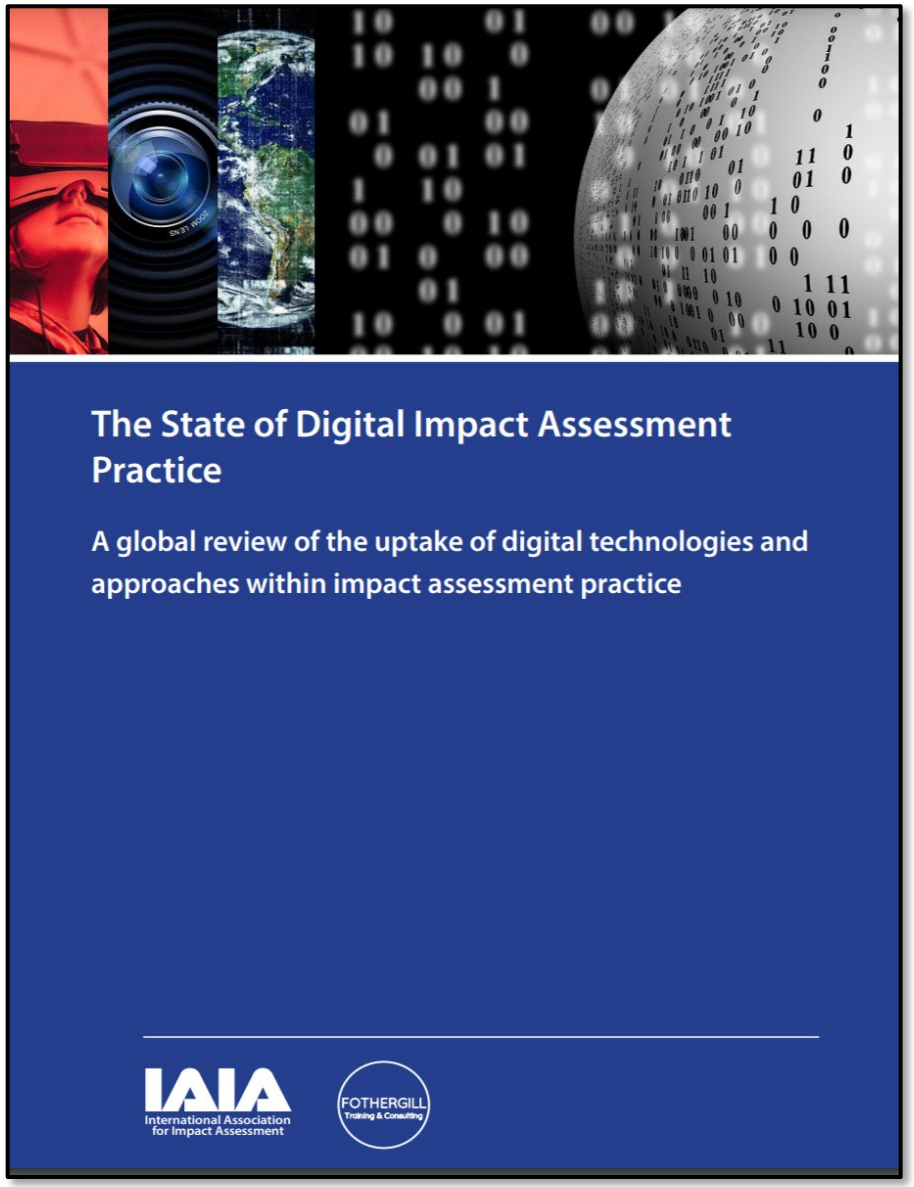
Context



The State of Digital IA Practice Report
launch December 2021:
https://www.fothergilltc.com/digital

Launch Webinar:
https://www.iaia.org/webinar-details.php?ID=38

Digital IA workspace webinar Mar'22:
https://www.iaia.org/webinar-details.php?ID=43

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What is Digital Impact Assessment?

Tobias image, sourced from www.unsplash.com

Defining Digital IA…

- No adopted definition of what digital IA is considered to be.
- Lots of different views based on experience and perspective on IA practice.

"The use of advances in digital technologies and their applications in the pursuit of enabling more effective IA practice."

Fothergill & Murphy , 2021

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Digital Transformation of IA
A Global Phenomenon

North America:
- Canada, Environmental database management system
- IFC, Artificial Intelligence, and data innovation for social license

Europe
- Iceland, Early example of the potential of digital EIS
- Netherlands, Digital EIS, diagnostic tool country ESIA systems
- Serbia, Envigo digital IA platform

Asia
- China (Hong Kong), Virtual and hybrid reality systems
- Singapore, Autonomous vehicles + automated decision support systems
- Nepal, drones + digital air quality devices

South America
- Chile, Remote sensing and live database EIA follow-up
- Guyana, Imagery + GIS to map coastal ecosystem services, with in-field verification.

Africa
- Kenya, Drones surveys
- Nigeria, Developing digital EIA project + drone surveys
- South Africa, digital screening platform

Australasia
- Australia, digital EIA studies, reports and monitoring system.

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The Report Explores 10 Elements of Digital IA Practice

Digital Impact Assessment	
Digital Approaches & Technologies enabling progress in Digital IA	Digital Transformation within Aspects of the IA process
Inter-IA and online environmental and social management systems	Digital screening tools
Digital baseline data capture devices	Digital IA platform / workspace
Artificial intelligence (AI) in IA	Digital stakeholder engagement
IA and virtual, augmented & mixed realities	Digital EIS and web-based reporting
Online learning and capacity building	Digital follow-up: monitoring and auditing

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3. Artificial Intelligence (AI) approaches in IA

Using a program, algorithm to do IA tasks usually undertaken by professionals – risk mapping, scoping, analysis of trends.

Examples:

- **DENMARK:** BUILDING PRACTICAL IA TOOLS USING AI: THE DREAMS PROJECT
- **SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA**: COMBINING DRONES AND DIGITAL SYSTEMS TO AUTOMATE MONITORING OF WATER QUALITY ON INSHORE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
- **INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION**: MACHINE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE ANALYST (MALENA)

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What might Artificial Intelligence offer IA?

The IFC’s MALENA

Q&A - Discussion

What might Artificial Intelligence offer IA?

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Upcoming Webinars

Members only

6 Dec: Professional Success in Latin America (in Spanish). Time and registration link coming soon – stay tuned!

***Members**: watch your email or IAIAConnect for the registration link.*
***Non-members**: join IAIA now at https://iaia.org/membership.php.*

Thank you!

Let's continue the discussion:

@IAIAnetwork #iaiawebinar