



THE ART AND SCIENCE OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

28th Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment
4 – 10 May 2008 • Perth Convention Exhibition Centre • www.iaia.org

Come and join us in Perth for IAIA08! This 28th annual conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment will bring together around 800 impact assessment and environmental practitioners from all over the world, representing government, industry, academia and the not for profit sector. IAIA08 represents a unique opportunity to participate in a truly multi-disciplinary, international conference at the cutting edge of contemporary thinking on governance and decision-making towards a more sustainable future.

IAIA08 Conference Theme

The Art and Science of Impact Assessment

Impact assessment has developed over the past 35 years as a tool for incorporating sound scientific knowledge into decision-making. As practice has evolved and new forms such as SEA have emerged, it has become increasingly apparent that expertise in the biophysical sciences must be complemented by an understanding of social and political processes. Impact assessment is therefore best seen as both science and art, and it is only in this way that it can fulfil its potential as a tool for influencing decision-making processes.

The current trajectory of global development highlights the need for fundamental change in the way in which we think, act and make decisions. This conference will explore questions of the role of impact assessment in promoting societal change towards sustainability, and particularly how the biophysical and the social sciences can be meaningfully alloyed with the art of policymaking to contribute to the change process. This is the challenge that impact assessment practitioners are now called upon to meet.

What works? What doesn't work? What challenges lie over the horizon for impact assessment? We hope that you will come and share with other participants your ideas, your experience, your concerns and your hope for the future on these themes and the topics listed.

What do IAIA Conferences Offer?

- Above all, IAIA conferences provide a unique opportunity for delegates to interact and work together to influence how impact assessment is applied in practice
- IAIA is the only international, interdisciplinary conference dedicated to the art and science of impact assessment
- Exclusive mix of high-level speakers covering environmental, social, health and strategic impact assessment
- A very participatory Conference experience, with numerous in-depth workshops, theme forums, Q&A sessions, practitioners' forums and concurrent sessions

Important dates

October 2007:

Preliminary Programme available

Registration opens

Paper and poster abstract submissions open

7 February 2008:

Deadline for paper and poster abstract submissions

10 February 2008:

Early bird registration closes

28 February 2008:

Presenting author registration deadline

4 - 10 May 2008:

IAIA08 in Perth!



International Association for Impact Assessment

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Ways you can participate

- Organise a session
- Present a paper or a poster
- Take a pre-conference training course
- Attend a technical tour

See www.iaia.org for more information!

Conference Topics

IAIA08 participants will be encouraged to highlight how the various instruments of impact assessment can assist developers, industry, decision-makers, development cooperation providers, and the public to integrate environmental, social, and other concerns into decision-making in the fields of:

- Climate change
- Energy issues
- Water
- Resource development
- Tourism
- Land use planning, transportation, landscape and aesthetics
- Coastal zone planning and management
- Development cooperation
- Poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals
- Environmental impact of trade agreements
- Environmental practice in Australia and New Zealand

In considering the art and science of impact assessment, attention will also be given to:

- Governance
- Environmental ethics and law
- Enforcement and compliance
- Effectiveness
- Methods and instruments of impact assessment
- Environmental offsets and compensation
- Capacity building
- Engaging with indigenous people and the role of traditional knowledge in impact assessment and decision-making

In addition to these topics, papers, posters and workshops are welcome on all aspects of impact assessment, governance and decision-making.

Welcome to Perth, Western Australia

Perth is the capital of the State of Western Australia. Our cosmopolitan city is renowned for its relaxed outdoor lifestyle, its pristine white sand beaches, and its friendly people. Nestled in a picturesque natural amphitheatre, bordered by Kings Park botanical gardens and the beautiful Swan River, visitors find the city to be clean, friendly and easy to get around. Add to this a world-class EIA system, and you just have to come and experience Western Australia for yourself!

Conference delegates should not miss the opportunity to explore other parts of Western Australia during their visit, such as Fremantle, the wine-growing regions of the Swan Valley or Margaret River, Rottnest Island, the Pinnacles Desert, the dolphins of Monkey Mia, or the Ningaloo Reef.

For more information on WA see www.westernaustralia.com or contact the Western Australian Visitor Centre on +61 8 9483 1111 or www.wavisorcentre.com.



Minerals, Management and Magic: Special Pilbara Technical Tour

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime experience on a special post-conference technical tour to the extraordinary Pilbara Region of Western Australia. You will spend a week camping in the outback, visit world class mining and gas processing operations, experience eco-tourism at its best in the beautiful Karajini gorges, see ancient aboriginal rock art, and learn about indigenous culture, and snorkel the amazing Ningaloo Reef. See the Preliminary Programme (available at www.iaia.org/conferences/iaia08) for further information and registration. Numbers strictly limited!

About IAIA

The International Association for Impact Assessment is an interdisciplinary society dedicated to developing international capacity to anticipate, plan, and manage the consequences of development. The Association has over 2,500 members in over 100 countries. IAIA seeks to ensure that political, environmental, social and technological dimensions of decisions are understood by those making them.

Host Organisations



Australian Government
Department of the Environment
and Water Resources



Murdoch
UNIVERSITY



ENVIRONMENT
INSTITUTE OF
AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND



Department of
Environment and Conservation
Our environment, our future



Environmental
Consultants
Association