

Newsletter

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Rita R. Hamm, Chief Executive Officer

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT

UNEP Integrated Assessment

The UNEP publication *Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment: Towards an Integrated Approach* provides information and guidance on EIA and SEA good practice, with particular application to developing countries and countries in transition. It is intended as a resource for those who are involved in EIA/SEA practice, training and professional development. Since EIA/SEAs increasingly include prediction and evaluation of social, economic, health and environmental impacts particular emphasis is given to concepts, procedures and tools that are used currently or are potentially relevant in implementing an integrated approach to impact assessment of development policies, plans and programmes. As far as possible, it tries to provide comprehensive coverage of generic elements of good practice that appear to be internationally accepted and widely applicable. It also attempts to indicate some of the possible future directions for integrated assessment based on current trends and initiatives. The document is due to be published in January 2004. Visit www.unep.ch/etu/ for details. • Vera Weick • United Nations Environment Programme • vera.weick@unep.ch

Integrated Cost Assessment of Environmental Impact of Traffic and Transport Infrastructure (COST 250)

The main objective of the COST 350 Action is to establish an operational concept, integrating at regional scale, all the environmental aspects of traffic and land-transport infrastructure to assist policy makers in an early stage of their decision making on transport and mobility. The project is being taken forward with the co-operation of 13 countries (so far) through 7 Working Groups:

WG1. Defining the action

WG2. Definition of infrastructure planning situations

WG3. Identification of impacts, indicators and assessment methods

WG4. Specification of transport planning options and assessment methods

WG5. Impact scoring and aggregation

WG6. Synthesis and specification of research needs

WG7.

Tests and illustrations of COST 350 methodology

WG5 is establishing national networks of people interested to explore best practice in impact scoring and aggregation methods for transport planning at a sub-regional scale. For further details, contact Paul Tomlinson, European Co-operation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) at ptomlinson@trl.co.uk. • Paul Tomlinson

EIA/SEA Within UNECE Website

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE; note that the U.S., Canada and Israel are also member states; in all UNECE has 55 members) has produced a valuable website with considerable EIA and SEA content. Relevant information on environmental assessment issues can be obtained at <http://www.unece.org/env/eia>. There you will find the column "What's new on the web site?", containing links and/or documents, for example: the English and Scottish guidance

on applying the EU SEA Directive; the background paper on possible elements for a work plan for the SEA Protocol of the Espoo Convention; the draft version of the document "Status and Potential of SEA" (elaborated by Barry Dalal-Clayton and Barry Sadler); guidance on SEA of development plan concepts in the Czech Republic, and much more. • Ralf Aschemann • Austrian Institute for the Development of Environmental Assessment (An!dea) • office@anidea.at

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• • • *From the President*

Two important components of the Association: Sections and Affiliates.

The real business is carried out through the Sections, and this is likely to be an increasing trend.

Affiliates all provide great potential for extending the reach of IAIA down to the ground, within specific countries and regions.

This year's mid-term Board meeting was held in The Hague in late October, and lasted for three full days. This year we made a special effort to work through the Strategic Action Plan and to identify a realistic, but still challenging, programme for the next six to twelve months. The Board members who attended the meeting deserve a big "pat on the back" for their excellent work. Some of the outcomes of the meeting are described in Board Highlights (page 7). I'd like to focus these comments on two of the important components of the Association: its Sections and its Affiliates.

In my view of IAIA, the real business is carried out through the Sections, and this is likely to be an increasing trend. We are all aware of their involvement in organising thematic paper sessions in the annual meetings, and that is certainly an important aspect of the work each Section undertakes. However, if IAIA is to develop from being largely an organiser of meetings to a proactive organisation, addressing the varied activities implied by its Vision, Values and Mission statement, then the Sections will need to play a central role. We are encouraging Sections to think in terms of annual action plans, to give members an opportunity to suggest useful projects, from the simple to the more ambitious. One specific activity we are looking to move ahead with some energy is the "IAIA Principles

and Practice Series" (see the article on page 5). The SIA Section has shown what can be achieved with their SIA Principles publication earlier this year: now we need other Sections to follow this lead. The Biodiversity and Ecology section has shown what can be done in more substantive ways, by seeking funding for capacity development in relation to the IA requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention. The Dutch government has provided funding to translate their proposal into reality and this work is now underway (see article on page 8).

With a new chair of the Sections Coordinating Committee (Nick Taylor), we stand at the start of what could well be a very productive, and important, period for IAIA Sections.

Affiliates are the other group we need to think more about. They represent a bit of a mixed bag at present: some energetic, some less so; some with strong links to IAIA, others less so. Yet they all provide great potential for extending the reach of IAIA down to the ground, within specific countries and regions. Although IAIA is an international association, that does not mean it is not relevant to national and local scale IA: in reality, much of IAIA's work is about improving the practice of IA at that grass roots level. We use the international context to help transfer experiences and learning more effectively, to provide a sense of a global benchmarking for

IA that gives local practitioners greater confidence in their work, and a place to go for authoritative help and advice, resources, and so forth.

In the past, IAIA has tended to ask how its affiliates could help the main association. Now we are trying to turn that around and ask how IAIA can be of service to the affiliates: what benefits can we extend to affiliate members that will be useful, but also carry the message that IAIA is relevant to practitioners working within a country or region. This has started with changes in the IAIA membership categories, thanks to the good work of our Secretary, William Veerkamp. But it needs to go further, as we look for opportunities to assist the affiliates, especially those newly created in developing countries, as they work to build a community of IA professionals. Networks, mentors, resources, training opportunities, and so forth, should be used to build competencies and drive professional development within a country. IAIA membership will benefit, but the main winners will be the local and national communities that benefit from effective IA.

As the IAIA mindset changes, to one of looking to help and work with its Affiliates, it would be useful to see Affiliates becoming more active in IAIA activities. This may be the next challenge to overcome.

• **Richard Morgan, President**

Annual Conference Planning: Onward and Upward!

IAIA'04 Theme: Impact Assessment and Industrial Development: Whose Business Is It?

As many of you know, the IAIA annual conference is a blockbuster week of activities. IAIA'04 will be no different!

The Conference Program is focused largely on two fundamental questions:

- What are the roles of industry, commerce, finance, government and others in impact assessment?
- How can impact assessment tools be most effectively used to achieve sustainable development?

During the opening plenary, you will hear representatives of government, including indigenous governments, industry, and academia, provide their perspectives on these questions and the related issues.

The Theme Forums will continue the discussions with consideration of various industrial sectors such as oil and gas, electricity, mining, fisheries, agriculture and forestry, and topics such as international trade, international finance, sustainability, biodiversity and voluntary initiatives. Theme Forums will serve as mini-plenaries (smaller than a plenary, bigger than a concurrent session) with only three running at one time. Each Theme Forum will introduce a topic and set the stage for further discussions within its related concurrent sessions.

The concurrent sessions cover over twenty-five different topics. In many cases there will be more than one concurrent session related to a specific topic. There will be concurrent sessions related to each Theme Forum and IAIA Section topic. Other concurrent sessions will address follow-up to the Marrakech Declaration, infrastructure projects, transportation, communications, corporate social responsibility, tourism and recreation, HIA and SEA, and biodiversity and trade.

And if we still haven't addressed the matter of most concern to you, you will have the opportunity to address that matter at daily Practitioners' Forums. These sessions are designed for impromptu discussion of topics of particular interest to the participants. Topics are suggested by participants during the conference week, interested participants sign up, a room is assigned, and you are on your way. This is another great way to get the most from your IAIA'04 experience.

To round out the substantive program, there is an excellent selection of training courses running on Saturday and Sunday before the opening plenary on Monday, 26 April 2004.

The hosts are also particularly proud of the roster of technical visits. The technical visits are spread over three days – both before and after the conference – so you can easily go on more than one. Most of the visits are extensive day trips. They are a great way to learn about specific projects and to see some of the attractions around Vancouver. Please see the IAIA web site and the preliminary program for full details. Remember, registration deadline for technical visits is February 29. Sign up soon to avoid disappointment.



Photo courtesy of Public Works and Government Services Canada



Photo courtesy of Tourism Vancouver

Technical visits such as Esquimalt Graving Dock and the social Fun Run are only two of many activities available at IAIA'04!

By now, you may be wondering: Will there be any fun? Most certainly! The opening reception on Sunday evening will launch the conference and start the social activities. Rather than tell you all that is planned, let us highlight the second annual Impact Run. This is a new tradition for IAIA and a most fitting activity for "outdoorsy" Vancouver. Everyone is welcome to join in this 5 km Fun Run on Tuesday, 27 April, at 6:30 a.m.

See you in Vancouver! Welcome to Canada! Bienvenue au Canada!



The IAIA annual conference is a blockbuster week of activities!

IAIA appreciates contributions from the following sponsors, who are helping to make IAIA'04 Vancouver a success:

Earth Sponsor

- The Government of Canada

Island Sponsors

- The Province of British Columbia, Environmental Assessment Office
- Golder Associates
- Gartner Lee Limited and Rowan Williams Davies & Irwin, Inc.
- The University of Calgary, Faculty of Environmental Design

Reef Sponsor

- The Province of Saskatchewan, Environmental Assessment Branch

Want to demonstrate your support of sustainable development and impact assessment?

Sponsorship opportunities remain. Contact Bridget John (bridget@iaia.org) at IAIA Headquarters for more details.

Are you a student who would love to participate in the training offered at IAIA conferences but just can't work it into the budget?

Free Training Opportunity for Students

Good news! In seven of the eight offered courses, one student per course will be given free registration to the course, in exchange for providing assistance to the instructor on-site.

Participating courses are listed below (note: in two cases a materials fee is required):

1a/b. Strategic Environmental Assessment: Experience and Good Practices in Policy-Making, Planning and Programme Development

2. Designing Effective EIA Training

3. Interest-Based Negotiation in Impact Assessment

4. The Concepts, Process and Methods of Social Impact Assessment: A Basic Course (US\$55.80 materials fee)

5. Integrating Health Impact Assessment into Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

6. Improving the Environmental Assessment Process: Involving Indigenous Communities and Traditional Knowledge (fee for materials)

8. Assessing and Managing Cumulative Effects: New Practices and Ideas for Industry Involvement

To apply for free training to a participating course, send a short resume and a brief letter explaining why you want to attend that particular course to the course instructor(s) by 29 February 2004. You can find instructor contact details in the preliminary program.



Wondering what to do in Vancouver??

Some people come to Vancouver to get away from it all. Some come to enjoy the wide open spaces, the sandy beaches, majestic rainforest and rugged West Coast mountains. Others come to try their hand at skiing, windsurfing, scuba diving or inline skating. Some come with families in tow, excited about visiting the Vancouver Aquarium, Science World, the Museum of Anthropology and the Kids Only market. Still others come to enjoy world-class entertainment, fantastic cuisine and some of the finest and most eclectic shopping around.

Vancouver is a great point starting point for many interesting excursions: to Victoria, capitol city of British Columbia, and to Long Beach, a wild West Coast beach, both on Vancouver Island; to Whistler Village, a mountain resort; to Harrison Hot Springs, with mountain scenery and natural mineral hot springs; to the Sunshine Coast, accessible by ferry; to Alaska by cruise liner.

Please see page 21 of the IAIA'04 preliminary program, or contact **Pacific Spirit Tours** at ops@pacificspirittours.com or see the Pacific Spirit Tours web site at www.pacificspirittours.com for more information. Let them know you are with IAIA! Vancouver and its surroundings have so much to offer. You are invited to visit and have the time of your life.

General News

Citizen Assembly Should Quiet the Politics of Approval in B.C., Canada

When controversial projects require governmental approval, impact assessment studies can be ignored by partisan politicians, especially when the legislature over-represents the winning party and under-represents the losers, e.g., the green parties. In British Columbia, the Liberal government has 77 of 79 provincial seats; it is establishing a Citizens Assembly to assess models of electing members and reach a recommendation before the next election in May 2005. The process:

1. One man and one woman in each of the 79 electoral districts are selected randomly from the voters' list in 2003.
2. During 2004, the 158 members learn about electoral systems, hold public hearings, deliberate and prepare a final report and recommendation.
3. If a change to the traditional system is recommended, a referendum question will be posed to voters in the 2005 election. If 60% of all voters and 60% of the electoral districts approve, the new system will guide the 2009 election.

For more information, visit www.citizensassembly.bc.ca.

• Des Connor • Connor Development Services Ltd. • connor@connor.bc.ca

IAIA Principles and Practices Series to Be Expanded Call to Sections for Participation

A call to all interested Section members in IAIA: now is your chance to make an impact on the international profile of our Association! We are looking to expand the “IAIA Principles and Practices Series” dramatically, by developing guidelines for the following topics:

- Incorporation of Biodiversity Considerations in IA
- Incorporation of Greenhouse Gases Issues in IA
- Enhancement of Public Participation in IA
- SEA
- Incorporation of Health Considerations in IA (in conjunction with WHO)

We have already contacted the coordinators of four of the special interest Sections to start the process of organising, in each case, a Working Group of Professional Best Practices, comprising three to five members. The Working Group will then manage the process of producing guidelines on best practice for their particular topic.

One of the topics is not linked to a specific Section: Greenhouse Gases and IA. In this case we are looking in the first instance for people willing to join a working group which may end up working across the Sections, rather than within any one Section.

If you are interested in being part of a working group for a specific topic, contact the relevant section coordinator before 31 January 2004. If you don't know who that is, contact Rita Hamm (rita@iaia.org) and she'll put you in touch with the right person. Also contact Rita if you are interested in the Greenhouse Gas topic. (You may also want to get in touch if you have other topics that might be considered for this series: we are always interested in hearing from you!)

We do not have a definitive format for this series, so you may want to review the existing guidelines on the IAIA web site. Generally, it is likely the final product will be in the region of two to ten pages, which provides the essential information about what is considered to be good practice in relation to the particular topic. There would also be suggestions for further sources to consult (books, web sites, etc.). However, the key ingredient is the collective wisdom of Section members, who have a chance to distill their ideas into a practical document that will inform the practitioner community around the world, right down to the local level.

This work is one of the principal means by which IAIA can meet its declared aim of improving IA practices internationally, so don't be shy: get involved and make a difference! • Richard Morgan •
University of Otago • rkm@hyperperth.otago.ac.nz

Let's Learn from Each Other: Join the Health Section!

Public authorities, such as the EU and the World Bank, and corporate actors, such as Shell, increasingly assess public initiatives and policies for health, environmental and social impacts, sometimes through integrated assessment, sometimes through separate assessments. Health Impact Assessment, as one of the separate assessments, is a relative newcomer compared to EIA and SIA.

The Health Section would like to exchange experiences in the field of product, process and outcome evaluation of the assessment(s) and the contribution of impact assessment to public or corporate decision-making. We therefore invite all IAIA members to join the Health Section with the aim of closer collaboration and mutual assistance through, for example, sharing new publications, experiences, events and ideas on the health section's listserv.

Furthermore, at the annual IAIA Conference, the Health Section explicitly welcomes IAIA members, including those from other sections, to participate in Health Impact Assessment sessions. For those who wish to improve their work by better inclusion of health in EIA or SEA, there will be a pre-conference course at IAIA'04. • Lea den Broeder • NSPH Netherlands School of Public Health • lea.den.broeder@rivm.nl

Mark Your Calendar

The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) 2004 Conference. 2-5 May 2004.

Madison, Wisconsin, USA. Theme: “The Wisdom of Voices.” For information on registration, accommodation and to join IAP2, go to www.iap2.org or contact the IAP2 office at iap2hq@iap2.org.

EU-US Scientific Seminar on New Technology Foresight, Forecasting & Assessment Methods. 13-14

May 2004. Seville, Spain. This workshop provides an occasion for methodological innovators and practitioners to share ideas in six thematic areas of FTA: methods, process, models, use, innovations and adaptation. Abstract deadline: 27 February 2004; send abstracts to ftaseminar@jrc.es. For more information about the workshop, contact Alan Porter (alan.porter@isye.gatech.edu) or Olivier Da Costa (olivier.da-costa@jrc.es).

International Symposium for Society and Resource Management (ISSRM) 10th Bi-annual Symposium. 2-6 June 2004.

Keystone Lodge, Keystone, Colorado, USA. Theme: “Past and Future of Natural Resource Management.” By 31 January 2004, send abstracts for sessions, posters or papers to symposium organizer Brett L. Bruyere at bruyere@lamar.colostate.edu or fax +1-970-491-2255. To submit online and for details on registration, accommodation and joining the International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR), go to www.cnr.colostate.edu/2004ISSRM.

Rural Sociological Society (RSS) 67th Annual Meeting. 12-15

August 2004. Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento, California, USA. Theme: “Strengthening Partnerships: New Paths to Rural Prosperity.” By 15 February 2004, send abstracts for sessions, posters and papers to Domenico “Mimmo” Parisi, Program Chair, at rss2004@ssrc.msstate.edu or fax at +1-662-325-7966. Go to www.ruralsociology.org for registration, accommodation details and information on joining RSS.

10th Congress on Anaerobic Digestion (AD-2004). 29 August - 2 September 2004. Montreal, Canada. www.ad2004montreal.org

Announcing a Special Issue of IAPA on EIA Follow-up

*Submit a paper
for a special issue of IAPA*

We invite you to submit a paper for The Practice of EIA Follow-up: Learning From Experience, a special issue of *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal* (IAPA), the official journal of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA). Although it has been reported on since the 1980s and earlier, there are still relatively few papers that showcase best practice examples of EIA follow-up, particular in relation to SEA and other newer areas of impact assessment (such as sustainability assessment).

We are seeking examples, in print, of good EIA follow-up case studies demonstrating the importance and rationale for doing follow-up for stand-alone projects and strategic assessments alike. We are interested in best practice examples of both procedures for undertaking follow-up and outcomes. We welcome perspectives from all stakeholders in impact assessment (industry, government, NGOs and public participants).

The goal of the special issue is to give a broad overview of follow-up practice. Examples might include:

- Providing case studies of project situations where EIA follow-up was undertaken (if available, examples of plans, policies and programmes would be great).
- Providing examples where follow-up significantly improved outcomes, including promotion of adaptive environmental management.
- Relating to all aspects of impact assessment (environmental, social, economic impacts, sustainability, health, biodiversity, environmental management aspects, etc.)
- Including cases from both developed and developing

countries.

- Including cases from a range of sectors (e.g., roads, waste management, mining, energy, water, manufacturing, spatial planning, natural area management, etc.)
- Including cases from all stakeholders (proponents and industry, government regulators, NGOs or public participants).

We are seeking seven to eight case study papers of only 1,000 to 2,500 words in length. We particularly encourage government and industry experts to contribute these shorter case study papers that highlight best practice examples from your professional practice. We are also looking for three to four in-depth papers of 6,000 to 7,000 words in length which may have both theoretical and practical elements.

There is no need to define EIA follow-up or cover historical development of the field as this will be covered by the guest editors in the Introduction to the special edition. We would encourage you to address issues such as:

- What follow-up was done?
- How it was done?
- Who was involved and when?
- Results of the follow-up process.
- Lessons learnt for future practice and journal readers.

Please limit your submissions to EIA follow-up case studies that have been completed (or finished and written up) by 1 May 2004. The print date is tentatively scheduled for early 2005.

If English is your second language, please do not let this put you off from sharing your experiences with fellow

practitioners. The guest editors may be able to help you to prepare your manuscript.

We will be co-chairing a follow-up workshop at the IAIA'04 meeting in Vancouver. You may wish to present your case study in that forum prior to submitting for consideration in the special edition.

Guest editors are Jos Arts, Ministry of Transport, Public Works & Water Management, e.j.m.m.arts@dww.rws.minvenw.nl; and Angus Morrison-Saunders, Murdoch University, angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au

The deadline for manuscripts to us in electronic form is 1 May 2004. For style guidelines, go to www.iaia.org or consult a recent copy of IAPA. • Angus Morrison-Saunders

WABNotes

The October meeting of the Washington Area Branch featured a presentation by Norval Collins, President of CEF Consultants; Rob Young, Dillon's Regional Practice Leader, Environmental Science and Planning; and Andrew Murphy, Executive Manager of the Environmental Industries Branch with the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour. ClimAdapt, a network of the private sector, government and NGOs in eastern Canada, has developed a guide to integrate climate change into environmental assessment. The presentation covered the guide, case study application, and how this approach can be applied to the developing world, for specific projects and strategic environmental assessment of sectors or programs. For more information on the guide, contact Norval Collins, CEF Consultants, ncollins@cefconsultants.ns.ca. For a schedule of WAB activities, see the IAIA web site (www.iaia.org > Members > Branches and Affiliates).

IAIA Board of Directors Midterm Meeting Highlights

The IAIA Board of Directors met at the Shell Offices in The Hague from 18-20 October 2003. Directors present were Richard Morgan (President and Chair), Richard Fuggle (President-Elect), Peter Leonard (Past President), Shiranee Yasaratne, Jiri Dusik, Bobbi Schijf, Bill Jones (Treasurer), Raphael Mwalyosi, William Veerkamp (Secretary). Helen Byron and Jo Treweek were invited and present on 18 October to discuss the status of the Capacity Building in Biodiversity and Impact Assessment project.

Over the course of the three-day meeting, the Board revisited the Strategic Action Plan (SAP), clarifying priorities for 2003-2004, assigning responsibilities and reviewing progress. Discussion and action on SAPs #24, #27 and #29 are among the Highlights of the meeting:

#24: Develop membership structure. The Board agreed that it supports in principal the concept of differential fees. Membership will be invited to provide input and suggestions. The Board encourages all current Affiliates to take advantage of the new process of agreement between IAIA and its Affiliates so that Affiliate member benefits will be honored for IAIA'04.

#27: Develop Strategic Revenue Generation Plan. Bill Jones and Bridget John will compile and review the work done on this strategy by 15 March.

#29: IAIA Principles and Practices Series. This Series is announced in the IAIA Newsletter (page 5), with work to begin early in 2004.

Other highlights from the meeting include:

- Public Affairs Committee (PAC). The Board discussed the future role of PAC in light of SAP#21: Fostering Key Contacts Worldwide.
- Listservs. The listservs are an integral part of the members-only section of the IAIA website.
- Francophone Secretariat. The Board discussed the relationship between IAIA and its Francophone Secretariat. It was decided to dissolve the formal relationship between IAIA and its Francophone Secretariat and to service the needs of its French-speaking members in other ways.
- The Board agreed in principle to the concept of holding two meetings in 2005: one would be the regular annual conference event to be held early in the year, and the second would be a specialty conference, held in partnership with another organization later in the year.
- Marrakech Declaration. The Board endorsed the continued work of refining this document, seeing this as a high-profile activity with an important contribution to make towards the future of IAIA.

The IAIA Board extended its appreciation for the work of all committees reporting at midterm and to Helen and Jo for their input in the Capacity Building project. To review the approved minutes of this meeting, visit www.iaia.org > Members > Administration and Member Services > Board of Directors Information and News. • William Veerkamp • Shell Global Solutions International BV • william.veerkamp@shell.com

Listservs: A Member Benefit

The increasing use of electronic communication provides additional opportunities for networking and exchange of information. As a service to members, IAIA provides listserv discussion groups in some of the more popular fields of impact assessment and by request of some Sections within IAIA. Additional listservs may be established upon request and/or demonstrated need by any group within IAIA.

However, because IAIA incurs costs from user fees and administration, usage guidelines apply. Listservs are intended for the use and benefit of IAIA members only. Members should feel free to join any listservs they wish, but IAIA asks that if members are no longer interested in the listservs they have joined, or if their e-mail addresses are changing, to be certain to remove themselves or their old addresses from those listservs. Listservs are also expected to carry a minimum of six messages per quarter. If traffic falls below this minimum, the facilitator and subscribers will receive an advisory notice. If in the next quarter traffic does not meet the minimum, subscribers will receive a notice that the listserv is dormant and is being discontinued, effective immediately.

All IAIA members are encouraged to take advantage of this valuable resource! Information on joining and using the listservs is available on the web site (www.iaia.org > Members > Training and Professional Resources, Networking > Listserv Discussion Groups).

The Board encourages all current Affiliates to take advantage of the new process of agreement between IAIA and its Affiliates so that Affiliate member benefits will be honored for IAIA'04.

Listservs Currently Available:

- News (not a discussion group but a news group to provide rapid transmission of news about all IAIA activities and about impact assessment issues generally. It is recommended that all IAIA members join this list.
 - Biodiversity and Ecology
 - Environmental Law
 - Ethics
 - Health
 - SIA
 - Strategic
 - Students and Early Professionals
- For more information or to join a listserv, see www.iaia.org > Members > Training and Professional Resources, Networking > Listserv Discussion Groups.

Technical Manager for the CBBIA-IAIA Program Appointed



Dr. Joanna Treweek

IAIA is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Jo Treweek as Technical Program Manager (TPM) for its new program on Capacity Building for Biodiversity in Impact Assessment (CBBIA). Jo was appointed at the end of a rigorous selection procedure in October 2003.

Jo is a consultant ecologist resident in the U.K. She has demonstrated knowledge and experience in the ecological and scientific basis for biodiversity assessment, combined with considerable practical experience in the application of impact assessment. Jo brings a lot of experience from working in a diverse range of projects in the U.K. and internationally. She has published several reviews of ecological input to Environmental Impact Statements. She has also been an active member of the Biodiversity and Ecology Section of IAIA, and is the founder of the Section structural component within IAIA.

IAIA is very pleased to have Jo deliver the technical component of the CBBIA-IAIA program. This is a three-year program with partial funding from the Dutch Government. The program will build on the existing work of the IAIA Biodiversity and Ecology Section. Its objective is to provide practical and demand-driven support for the development of capacity for the integration of biodiversity and impact assessment in developing countries. The program will work with practitioners, policy makers and other stakeholders to share information and experiences, build expertise and promote good biodiversity and impact assessment practice.

From 16-19 October 2003, Jo took part in the CBBIA-IAIA Steering Committee (SC) Meeting in The Hague, where she was introduced to the donors and IAIA board members. Jo has been working actively with the SC and Program Administrator, Napoleon Tiapo, to finalize criteria for the selection of suitable participating countries/regions and to build the operational framework of the program. In 2004, Jo, Napoleon and the SC will finalize the work plan and quality assurance framework for the program. • Napoleon Tiapo • CBBIA Program Administrator • project@iaia.org

General News

The SEA of High-Voltage Electricity Networks

In the UK, most SEA-type activity has been carried out by local authorities as part of their preparation of land-use plans. However, the European Union SEA Directive clearly applies to certain plans and programmes prepared for many other activities, including many industrial and service concerns. This poses something of a challenge to these sectors, which operate in a very different context to local authorities; it is unlikely that SEA procedures suitable for assessing local plans can be transferred directly to them.

Current research being conducted by the EIA Centre in Manchester, UK, is exploring how SEA might best be developed within a privatised utility, namely the electricity industry. This is being carried out in collaboration with Scottish Power, one of the companies responsible for high-voltage distribution and transmission in

the UK. This will provide an example of how SEA might be extended to industrial sectors more generally, and particularly newly privatised utilities, both in the UK, and internationally.

Current trends in the energy industry, such as the shift to renewables, with their potentially wide-ranging consequences for electricity grid systems, underlines the need to adopt a strategic approach to environmental protection within the energy sector, and give this area of research added importance.

Any questions related to this area of research should be directed to John Phylip-Jones, EIA Centre, School of Planning and Landscape, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, United Kingdom. john.phylip-jones@man.ac.uk. Telephone: +44 161 275 6873. Fax: +44 161 275 6893. • John Phylip-Jones

Second Joint Canada-Kuwait Conference Convened on EIA/EHIA

As a result of several exchange visits by EIA professionals in Kuwait and Canada during the past several years, it was agreed to initiate efforts for EIA/EHIA capacity-building in Kuwait and the Gulf Region countries. One of the key suggestions was to hold joint Canada-Kuwait EIA/EHIA conferences on annual basis.

Dr. Ahmed K. Al-Shatti of the Kuwait Ministry of Health, agreed to play a leading role in organizing such events. Dr. M. Husain Sadar of McGill University in Montreal offered to coordinate Canadian participation.

The first such conference was held in Kuwait in April 2001. However, due to deteriorating situation in Iraq, the second event originally planned for 2002, was held 12-15 October 2003. (continued on page 9)

"Modernizing NEPA Implementation" Report Released

The report of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Task Force (TF) "Modernizing NEPA Implementation" was released in September 2003. Formed by the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in 2002 and comprising federal agency representatives, the aim of the TF was to modernize and improve the NEPA process. The TF reviewed literature, reports, and case studies, and solicited comment from federal agencies, tribal, state and local governments/agencies, interest groups, and members of the public. Their report provides recommendations for CEQ action in six focus areas:

- Technology and information management and security
- Federal and intergovernmental collaboration
- Programmatic analyses and tiering
- Adaptive management and monitoring
- Categorical exclusions
- Environmental assessments

In addition, the TF provides recommendations on additional areas of consideration raised in the over 700 comments received. CEQ is soliciting feedback on the recommendations and how to implement them. Implementation is projected for early to mid-2004. Full details at <http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/ntf/>. • Horst Greczmiel, Director of the NEPA Taskforce • horst_greczmiel@ceq.eop.gov

Changes to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Take Effect

Amendments to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* took effect on 30 October 2003. In welcoming these changes, Environment Minister David Anderson noted that the renewed Act will "mean higher quality assessments, a process that is more predictable and timely, and more opportunities for meaningful public participation, making it an important step in the evolution of environmental assessment in Canada."

With this changeover, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency has overhauled its web site. The addition of the on-line Canadian Environmental Assessment Registry is a key part of the "new look" Web site. An easy-to-use interactive map of Canada provides an overview of assessments that are underway. Assessments that are out for public comment are featured prominently. With timely and easy access to information, Canadians are now better equipped to participate in the assessment of projects that may affect their livelihoods and communities. More information about the Registry and the renewed Act is available at www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca. • Elaina Little • CEAA • elaina.little@ceaa-acee.gc.ca

SEA and Transport Planning Newsletter

The 5th edition of the newsletter is now available from Transport Research Laboratory (TRL). It provides information on:

- SEA in the Czech Republic, France and Japan
- Cumulative impacts
- UNECE draft protocol on SEA
- English multi-modal studies
- Guidance for local authorities, ports and rail projects
- Transport indicators
- Freight transport
- Noise
- Rural transport
- Habitat fragmentation and mitigation banking
- Streamlining
- Environmental valuation
- Transport and economic development
- Health impact assessment

Available from www.trl.co.uk/1024/mainpage.asp?page=76. • Paul Tomlinson • European Co-operation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) • ptomlinson@trl.co.uk

(continued from page 8)

2003. The Conference was officially opened by His Excellency, Dr. Ali Al-Saif, Assistant Undersecretary, Ministry of Health on behalf of Kuwait's Minister of Health who was out of the country at that time.

Included among the many dignitaries present during the opening ceremonies was Her Royal Highness, Sheikha Amthal A. J. Al-Sabah, sister of the Ruler of Kuwait. Princess Amthal is chairperson of the Kuwait Environment Protection Society and is popularly known as the "Green Princess of Kuwait." In addition, senior officials from the Kuwait Environment Public Authority, Kuwaiti oil and gas sector and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development attended the opening session.

The event attracted more than forty participants from a number of key departments and agencies of the Kuwaiti government as well as from the oil and gas sector. A team of highly experienced EIA professionals from Kuwait and the Gulf Region countries addressed various aspects of EIA/EHIA and presented excellent case studies. Husain Sadar and Roy E. Kwiatkowski of Health Canada, were the invited speakers for presenting the Canadian experience in EIA/EHIA.

During their discussions with conference participants, Roy and Husain described the good work which IAIA is doing to promote the concept and practice of impact assessment around the globe.

IAIA membership forms were distributed among all the conference participants to publicize IAIA and its 2004 annual meeting. Photographs depicting the wondrous natural beauty of Vancouver and the West Coast of North America were exhibited in the conference hall.

Several key members of the Society took part in discussing environmental issues facing Kuwait and the Region.

Hopefully, as a result of these meetings and wide distribution of information, IAIA may increase its membership in that part of the world. • M. Husain Sadar • Ottawa, Canada • husainsadar@rogers.com

• • • Meetings News

Strategy for Environmental Assessment and Management Capacity Building in Africa

A Strategy for Environmental Assessment and Management Capacity Building for Africa was finalised at a workshop in Nairobi, 2-3 December 2003. The strategy is based on more than eight years of input from various stakeholders starting with the high level "Meeting of the African Ministers Conference on the Environment" (AMCEN) in June 1995, where a number of priorities for Environmental Assessment and Management (EA&M) development in the region were identified. Emanating from this AMCEN meeting was the first joint statement by African leaders regarding the use of EA&M tools in the context of promoting sustainable development and meeting African development priorities. Many regard this as the "trigger" for the process of developing a comprehensive strategy for capacity building in EA&M in Africa. At an African Stakeholders Conference for EA&M Capacity Building held in Nairobi in 1998, an "African Stakeholder Action Plan for EA Capacity Building in Africa" was drafted and released in 1999. At a further meeting of African stakeholders in Accra in 2000, CLEIAA (Capacity Development and Linkages for Environmental Impact Assessment in Africa) was established to assist with the development and implementation of EIA in all African countries. Since the establishment of CLEIAA, a number of sub-regional nodes were established through which CLEIAA could operationalise its mandate.

Three of the four sub-regional nodes already established were represented at the meeting in Nairobi on 2-3 December. The three included the West African Association for Environmental Assessment (WAAEA), the Eastern Africa Association for Impact Assessment (EAAIA) and the Southern Africa Institute for Environmental Assessment (SAIEA), with the fourth being the Indian Ocean Association for Environmental Impacts Assessment (IOAEIA). A further milestone achieved at the meeting in Nairobi, was the appointment of Mr Abdulrahman S Issa from the Eastern Africa Association for Impact Assessment (EAAIA) as the interim coordinator for CLEIAA.

For more information on the Strategy for Environmental Assessment and Management Capacity Building in Africa, CLEIAA and the sub-regional nodes please contact Mr Abdulrahman S Issa (CLEIAA and EAAEA): issa@epiq.or.tz, Dr Peter Tarr (SAIEA): saiea@africaonline.com.na, or Dr Peter Acquah (WAAEA): peter.acquah@unep.org. • Stuart Heather-Clark • CSIR-Environmentek • SHClark@csir.co.za

First SEA Workshop held in Thailand

Policy formulation and planning processes in Thailand are mandated mainly by the national government. In many cases, this has resulted in severe conflicts within the Thai society.

The Thai HIA Team, in collaboration with various organizations, organized an International Workshop on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), which took place in November 18-20, 2003. Three IAIA members were invited to participate as resource persons: Maria Partidário, Elvis Au and Jiri Dusik.



In order to facilitate the understanding of SEA in the Thai society, the workshop brought together governmental authorities, academics and NGOs working in the field of policy and planning. The concept of SEA was introduced, as well as its practice, and discussion took place on the future development of SEA in Thailand.

Key outcomes were that SEA should be designed in a way well adapted to the Thai policy and planning context, through practices on pilot cases and international and regional cooperation, and a network should be established in order to facilitate the development of SEA in the Thai society.

For further information, please contact Suphakij Nuntavorakarn, Healthy Public Policy and Health Impact Assessment Program, suphakijn@yahoo.com. • Maria do Rosário Partidário • DCEA/FCT-UNL, New University of Lisbon • mp@fct.unl.pt

IAIA members facilitate SEA workshop.

Middle row, third from left: Maria Partidário, Jiri Dusik, Elvis Au.

Photo courtesy of Navin Sophapoom.

NEW CD-ROM EIA Database Publication Available

Suzan Dagg and William Sheate, Environmental Assessment Resource of Imperial College (ERIC), London, September 2003

ERIC is an extensive environmental assessment law database on CD-ROM produced by the Environmental Policy and Management Group of Imperial College London in association with Imperial College London Distance Learning Programme. It contains summaries and full text materials (in PDF format) of key European Community and UK Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) legislation, regulations, and case law and guidance, as well as additional related links and case study materials. The database provides an essential resource for teaching and research in EIA and SEA. It is intended to be updated every twelve to eighteen months and purchasers of this first version will be able to purchase subsequent updates at a 50% discount. The special introductory price is £45 (pounds sterling) incl. p&p (plus £2.50 if outside Europe). Please use the form available via <http://www.env.ic.ac.uk/research/epmg/NEWCDOrderForm.pdf>, which includes further details. • William Sheate, Department of Environmental Science and Technology, Imperial College London • w.sheate@imperial.ac.uk

Draft Report of IIED Study Released; Input Welcome

The Status and Potential of Strategic Environmental Assessment: An overview of SEA with a special focus on developing countries and countries in transition and its potential role as a key tool for strategies for sustainable development and poverty reduction. By Barry Dalal-Clayton and Barry Sadler.

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), London. Draft for review. September 2003.

This study by IIED, funded by The Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNDP, provides a comprehensive overview of international experience in the use of SEA and SEA-like approaches. Part One comprises introductory chapters on the nature of SEA, its evolution and trends; followed by separate chapters detailing experience and practice in developed countries, development cooperation, countries in transition, and developing countries; and chapters covering SEA and strategies for sustainable development—all supported by numerous case examples. Part Two contains thirty detailed case studies, an extensive reference section and several appendices.

This is still very much work in progress and is being continuously edited, updated, expanded and revised. It is a baseline contribution to the work of the OECD DAC Task Group on SEA. Comments and offers of inputs (information, cases) are welcomed and should be sent to Barry.dalal-clayton@iied.org.

The text of the draft review is available as chapter PDF files on www.iied.org. • Barry Dalal-Clayton • Barry.Dalal-Clayton@iied.org

EA Outlook Volume 3 Available

Environmental Assessment Outlook is the third edition in the series published by the IEMA and EIA Centre at the University of Manchester. The theme of this edition is inspired by the annual conference of the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) in Marrakech in June 2003. *EA Outlook* provides a review of worldwide progress in the EA field, with articles written by

respected EIA practitioners, regulators and academics. The articles detail established areas of environmental assessment practice, highlight new and emerging aspects and point towards options for improvement and innovation.

"The authors are a 'who-is-who' of the EIA world and their articles are concise without being superficial." EIA Review – January 2002 (22).

To purchase *EA Outlook*, contact Dawn Dolby at d.dolby@iema.net with reference code P64 to qualify for a special discounted price for IAIA members (£15).

EIA - Practical Solutions

Environmental Impact Assessment – Practical Solutions to Recurrent Problems by David P. Lawrence is now in print and available at wiley.com from publisher John Wiley and Sons, Inc. It is also available at Amazon (Amazon.com, but not Amazon.ca) and at Chapters.ca. The ISBN number is 0-471-45722-1.

The focus of the book is the EIA process, at both the regulatory and applied levels. It addresses a range of process design and management choices. It also includes separate chapters on how to make EIAs more—rigorous, rational, substantive, practical, democratic, collaborative, ethical and adaptive. In addition, there is a chapter on connecting and combining EIA processes. The book draws heavily on EIA and SIA literature and on such related fields as planning theory, resource and environmental management, risk management, public involvement, evaluation and site and route selection. Practice-based stories are integrated into most chapters. The regulatory part of the analysis involves a comparison of EIA requirements, at the

senior level, in the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. • David P. Lawrence • Lawrence.Environmental@axionet.com

Sherkin Island Ecology

The Ecology of the Rocky Shores of Sherkin Island - A Twenty-Year Perspective gives well-illustrated background information on the common species of the rocky shore together with how the rocky shore food web functions. The main focus of the book though is seven shores on Sherkin Island where sampling has been carried out monthly between April and October. These seven sites are part of an ongoing rocky shore monitoring programme of 152 sites, from Cork Harbour to Bantry Bay, along 700 miles of indented coastline of south-west Ireland. This is believed to be one of the world's longest and most extensive present day survey of the rocky shore. Sherkin Island Marine Station in Co Cork, Ireland, is a totally independent research station founded in 1975 by Matt Murphy and his late wife Eileen. Faced with a huge database of hundreds of species, which are listed in the book, the analysis presented deals only with the few visually dominant animals and plants (up to 20 per shore), e.g., the large brown wracks, some common red and green seaweeds, barnacles, limpets, mussels, winkles and dogwhelks, which will be familiar to anyone with an interest in the seashore. The book was written specifically to include people and to appeal to a wider audience than the academic community.

Price Euro 25.00 (softback).
Price Euro 50.00 (hardback).
ISBN: 1 870492 57 9 (sb) ISBN: 1 870492 37 4 (hb). 305pp 175mm x 246mm. Published by Sherkin Island Marine Station 2003 • Matt Murphy • Sherkin Island Marine Station • sherkinmarine@eircom.net

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Welcome

New IAIA members 16 September - 15 December

Adeyemi Adesina, Nigeria; **John Amis**, South Africa; **Tony Banks**, New Zealand; **Christopher Barnett**, England-UK; **Marilyn Beach**, China; **Richard L. Bersin**, USA; **Gilles G. Berube**, Canada; **Carlos Caldarelli**, Brazil; **Michael Cheung**, Hong Kong; **Kent Clawson**, USA; **Jeremy Colman**, Australia; **Tim Connell**, Zambia; **Carla Cowling**, Canada; **David Craig**, Papua New Guinea; **Alemneh Dejene**, Italy; **Floris Deodatus**, The Netherlands; **Harland Doerksen**, Canada; **Marcel Aston**, England-UK; **Gerard Early**, Australia; **Adeyemi Egbeleke**, England-UK; **Ivar Fett**, Norway; **Lisa Fischer**, Canada; **David Green**, Hong Kong; **Sarah Gurtman**, USA; **Sangay Gyaltzen**, Bhutan; **Glenn Hamilton**, Canada; **Lisa Hewitt**, Canada; **Kathryn Elizabeth Higgins**, USA; **Bonny Hill**, Canada; **Laurence Hogue**, Canada; **Pekka Hokkanen**, Finland; **Elaine Holtzhausen**, South Africa; **Urmila Jha Thakur**, England-UK; **Leslie Johnston**, USA; **Collin Kingman**, Canada; **Johann Koppel**, Germany; **Laurie Lavallee**, Canada; **Constance Lebel**, Canada; **Stefan Lopatka**, Canada; **Sarah Macharia**, Canada; **Mark McCarty**, USA; **Cameron McLean**, Canada; **Angeles Mendoza Duran**, Canada; **Katrina Menzies**, Canada; **Nwokoma Nabiani**, Nigeria; **Humood A.A. Naser**, England-UK; **Måns Nilsson**, Sweden; **Claude Origer**, Luxembourg; **Somtochukwu C. Orizu**, Nigeria; **Nissanka Perrera**, Sri Lanka; **Salvatore Pirrera**, Thailand; **Susan Ross**, Canada; **Luke Sandham**, South Africa; **Rae Ann Shaw**, Canada; **Sherwin Shih**, Canada; **Paul Slinn**, England-UK; **Hussein Sosovele**, Tanzania; **Bryanne Tait**, The Netherlands; **Queen Turner**, Botswana; **John Twigg**, England-UK; **Maria Julia Ubillus**, Peru; **Fons Van Der Lucht**, The Netherlands; **Andries Van Der Walt**, England-UK; **Leong-wan Vun**, Malaysia; **Mark Wittrup**, Canada; **Bruce Wilcoxson**, USA; **Kathy Wilson**, Canada; **Rob Young**, Canada.

IAIA Newsletter

Next issue: April 2004

Submission deadline: 1 March Professional News/15 March General News

Professional practice articles should be a maximum of 150 words. Send submissions or questions by 1 March to professional practice news co-editors Angus Morrison-Saunders (angus@essun1.murdoch.edu.au) and Richard Fristik (richard.fristik@usace.army.mil), or see the online Guidelines for News Network Contributors.

General interest articles should be a maximum of 500 words. Send to editor Jennifer Howell (jen@iaia.org) or mail/fax to IAIA Headquarters. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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IAIA Calendar of Important Dates & Deadlines

Subject to change - watch for updates

January 2004

- 1 Newsletter, 2004 Board of Directors ballots mailed
- 15 Abstract deadline (papers and posters)
- 15 Student conference fee waiver applications due
- 31 Regular registration rate ends
- 31 Indications of interest for participation in Principles & Guidelines series due

February 2004

- 29 Last date authors may register for inclusion of papers/posters on IAIA'04 program
- 29 Last day to qualify for Quickpass
- 29 Technical visit registration deadline
- 29 Social event registration deadline
- 29 Requests for exhibit space due
- 29 SEP/Mentor program participants forms due

mARCH 2004

- 1 '04-'05 committee assignments completed
- 1 Action items for Board, Annual General Meeting due
- 15 Newsletter deadline
- 15 Training course registration deadline
- 15 Annual Affiliate, Branch, Committee, Liaison, Task Force, Section and Project reports due

April 2004

- 1 Newsletter mailed
- 1 Board election ballots tabulated, results announced
- 1 Training course instructors to finalize agreements
- 1 Requests for inserts in delegate packs due
- 1 Requests for special audio-visual equipment due
- 1 Raffle items donation deadline
- 1 Board and AGM agendas set
- 7 Sheraton hotel reservation deadline
- 26-29 ... IAIA'04

New on the 'net

- IAIA Member Sections
- IAIA'04 Conference Updates
- IAIA'03 Awards and keynote addresses (as available)
- Portuguese Affiliate Information
- Job Postings
- October 2003 Board minutes
- SIA Key Citations Update
- And more! Bookmark www.iaia.org today!



Enjoy present pleasures in such a way
as not to injure future ones.

- Seneca -
(5BC - 65AD)