Topic 5

Scoping

Scoping in the EIA process


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                    │    Proposal     │
                    │ Identification  │
                    └─────────────────┘
                             │
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                      ┌─────────────┐
                      │  Screening  │
                      └─────────────┘
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Proposal Identification

Screening

EIA Required ◄─── Initial environmental examination ───► No EIA

Scoping ◄─── *Public involvement

Impact analysis

Mitigation and impact management

EIA Report

Review ◄─── *Public involvement

Resubmit

Redesign   Decision-making

Not approved   Approved

Implementation and follow up

*Public involvement typically occurs at these points. It may also occur at any other stage of the EIA Process.

Information from this process contributes to effective future EIA

Scoping

- early step – begins once screening completed

- open, interactive process – involves the public

- lays the foundation of an EIA – by identifying

  - boundaries of the EIA study

  - the information necessary for decision-making

  - key issues and significant impacts to be considered

Key objectives of scoping

- inform and identify stakeholders

- find out their concerns

- consider feasible and practical alternatives

- identify the main issues and impacts to be studied

- define the boundaries of the EIA study

- agree on means of public involvement and methods of analysis

♦ establish the Terms of Reference

Guiding principles for the conduct of scoping

- ♦ scoping is a process not an activity or event

- ♦ design the scoping process for each proposal

- ♦ start early, as soon as information permits

- ♦ prepare information package on what is expected

- ♦ specify the role of the public in decision-making

- ♦ approach should be systematic; implementation should be flexible.

- ♦ document the results to guide preparation of EIA

- respond to new information and issues as necessary

The conduct of screening

- identify range of concerns

- evaluate them to determine key issues

- categorise the impacts that require study

- establish a strategy for addressing them

Steps in the scoping process

- prepare an outline scope

- develop the outline through informal consultation

- **make the outline available**

- compile the range of concerns (long list)

- evaluate these to establish key issues (short list)

- organise these into impact categories (study list)

- amend the outline to incorporate the above information

- develop Terms of Reference

- monitor progress against them, revising as necessary

Who should be involved in scoping?

- the proponent

- the competent authority

- the EIA administering body

- other responsible agencies

- EIA practitioners and experts

- key stakeholders (e.g. those affected by the proposal)

- the wider community

Consideration of alternatives

- demand alternatives

- supply or input alternatives

- activity alternatives

- location alternatives

- process alternatives

- scheduling alternatives

Outline Terms of Reference

- objectives and background to the proposal

- study area and boundaries

- alternatives to be examined

- opportunities for public involvement

- impacts and issues to be studied

- the approach to be taken

- requirements for mitigation and monitoring

- information and data to be included in the EIA report

♦ timetable and requirements
for completion of the EIA
process