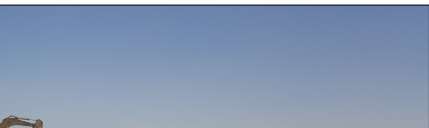




ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - EIA

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**OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF EIA
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS**

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WHAT SHOULD YOU LEARN





- Objectives and Scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment - EIA Report
- Aims of EIA
- The Purpose of EIA
- Detailed structure of Environmental Impact Assessment - EIA

OBJECTIVES OF EIA

The principal objective of EIA is to ensure that the development is sustained with minimal environmental degradation. Adverse effects on environment should be minimized by incorporating suitable measures in the project planning itself on the basis of predictions regarding environmental degradation on account of project operation. Three primary objectives of EIA can be summarized:

- ✓ EIA predicts the likely environmental impacts of projects.
- ✓ It presents these predictions and options to decision-makers.
- ✓ It finds ways to reduce unacceptable impacts to shape the project so that it suits the local environment.

AIMS OF EIA

Despite differences in individual EIA systems throughout the world, the EIA process shares certain aims:

- ✓ To provide decision-makers with analysis of the total environment so that decisions can be made based on as nearly complete and balanced information as possible;
- ✓ To assess and present intangible/unquantifiable effects that are not adequately addressed by cost/benefit analysis and other technical reports;
- ✓ To provide information to the public on a proposal;
- ✓ To formalize the consideration of alternatives to a proposal being considered, in order that the least environmentally harmful means of achieving the given objective can be chosen;
- ✓ To improve the design of new developments and safeguard the environment through the application of mitigation and avoidance measures

THE PURPOSE OF EIA

- ✓ **An aid to decision-making** : The primary purpose of EIA is to ensure that impacts of projects, policy and programs, etc are adequately and appropriately considered and mitigation measures for adverse significant impacts incorporated when decisions are taken.
- ✓ **An aid to the formulation of development actions** : Many developers no doubt see EIA as another set of hurdles to jump before they can proceed with their various activities; the process can be seen as yet another costly and time consuming activity in the permission process. However, EIA can be of great benefit to them, since it can provide a framework for considering location and design issues and environmental issues in parallel.
- ✓ **An instrument for sustainable development** : Underlying such immediate purpose is of course the central and ultimate role of EIA as one of the instruments to achieve sustainable development: Development that does not cost the Earth!

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EIA - GCC



Executive summary : This chapter contains a non-technical summary of the main EIA Report findings in both English and Arabic.

Chapter 1: Introduction : This chapter gives background information on the EIA process for project and describes the objectives and scope of the EIA Report. It also gives a brief description of the EIA Report team.

Chapter 2: Legal Framework and Standards : This chapter establishes the legal framework and the national and international guidelines and standards that will govern the EIA process.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EIA - GCC +



Chapter 3: Project development Master Plan : This part of the report describes the main features of the Project Final Master Plan. This chapter provides information about the location and the phasing of the development and an overview of other projects, plans and programs related to project . The stakeholder engagement process is described in this section.

Chapter 4: Environmental Baseline : Based on desktop data and the results of the several baseline surveys, this chapter describes the existing environmental characteristics in the study area and its surroundings.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EIA - GCC +



Chapter 5: Environmental Impacts and Mitigation
This chapter describes the methodology applied to the assessment of the different environmental impacts & the impact mitigation measures considered. Cumulative & residual impacts are also assessed & evaluated. A risk assessment for non-routine operational impacts is also included in this chapter.

Chapter 6: Environmental Management Plans- EMPs
This chapter outlines the Environmental management Plans for the project development. This EMPs covers all phases of development & sets indicators to monitor environmental performance.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EIA - GCC +



Chapter 7: Statement of Commitments : This chapter summarises the different commitments made by the several stakeholders involved in the project.

Chapter 8: Conclusion and Recommendations : This EIA Report supports the goals of environmental protection and sustainable development; integrates environmental protection and financial decisions at the earliest stages of planning an activity; predicts environmental, social, and economic consequences of the proposed activity; assesses measures to mitigate any adverse impacts resulting from the proposed activity; and provides for the involvement of government and other agencies in the review of the projects's proposed activities.



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