

Zambia

General

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Distinguishing features of the EIA/SEA system

EIA has been legally established in Zambia with the Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Act (EPPCA) of 1990. The EIA system is recently under development. The Environmental Management Act of 2011 repeals and replaces the EPPCA. Contrary to the EPPCA, this new Act provides a clear legal basis for SEA. EMA regulations that regulate the administration and enforcement of EIA and SEA are currently under development (in 2013). Until they are published, the EIA regulations of 1997 under the previous Act are still being enforced. These regulations provide for a high level of public involvement during several stages of the EIA process. The Zambian Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) is the central EIA authority in Zambia and also takes consent decisions on the environmental clearance of a project.