

May 2024



### For strategies and projects

Environmental and social assessment is legally adopted by almost all countries around the world. Ideally, it is performed at two levels of decision making: the strategic level and the project level. **Environmental and Social Assessment** a practical approach to facilitate

## **Open Government**

## Putting principles into practice

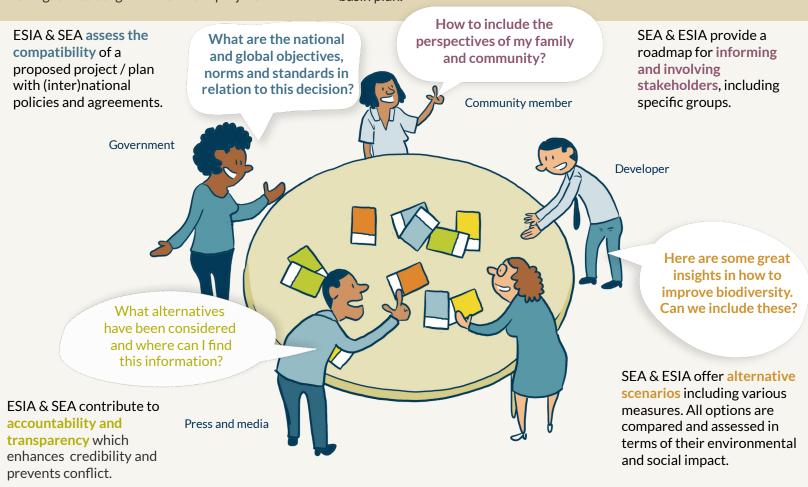


Related to these and other SDGs

Governments and officials who express the brave desire to make their decision-making more open and transparent, will meet all kinds of practical challenges. How can meaningful participation of citizens be arranged? Who needs to be involved and when? What data is relevant and how can people access it?

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment helps governments to apply <u>good governance principles</u> in every phase of project or plan development. It guides well-informed decisions, reflecting the needs and views of all stakeholders. A crucial approach for impactful and complex topics such as mining, river basin planning and energy transition.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): Decision making on plans or policies, such as a coastal development or river basin plan. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA): Decision making on projects, such as a new landfill or a wind park.



Expertise Independency Transparency The Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment has more than 30 years of experience in supporting governmental organisations in the Netherlands and abroad with SEA and ESIA. Our expertise includes: independent advice at the request of governments, coaching, capacity building and knowledge & learning activities. We follow national legislation and apply international good practice.



# Examples of recent activities of the NCEA

June 2023 - Coaching of a SEA process and facilitation of a multi-stakeholder meeting to discuss and adopt a vision for Lac Nokoué >\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Benin

May 2023 - Independent review of spatial plan for port-industrial area 'Merwe-Vierhavens' in Rotterdam > <u>The Netherlands</u>

July 2022- Workshop to address the social impacts of mining in ESIA, organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy, Mines & Quarries. > <u>Burkina Faso</u>

April 2021- Independent advice on the scoping document of an integrated sustainable development plan / SEA for the Sankarini river basin based on inclusive stakeholder involvement. > Mali

All NCEA advisory reports are available at <u>www.eia.nl</u>

What does the NCEA look for in an environmental and social assessment process?

#### **Quality of information**

Does the process deliver all information needed for decision making, such as impacts, alternative options, mitigation measures and impact management measures?

#### Dialogue

Does the process engage affected stakeholders in a timely, transparent and inclusive way?

#### Influence

Does the process address relevant issues and provide usable information for decision makers? Is this done at the right time? Can decision makers be held accountable for their use of the assessment outcomes?

## **Contact us**

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