



**Supporting Inclusive Resource Development (SIRD)
East Africa
TRAINING PROGRAM
2019**



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Environmental Impact Assessment

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Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Overview of legal and institutional frameworks
- Requirements for the conduct of Environmental Impact Assessments
- Stages in the environmental assessment process
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- Practical Experiences and Lesions in Conducting and Monitoring EIAs
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Introduction

- ❑ **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)** is a systematic examination conducted to determine whether or not the proposed project will have adverse impact on the environment.
- ❑ It is a process for **examining, analyzing** and **assessing** proposed activities in order to **maximize the potential** for environmentally sound and sustainable development.
- ❑ The EIA process is designed to ensure that:
 1. The appropriate government authorities have fully identified and considered the environmental effects of proposed activities, as well as alternatives that avoid or mitigate the environmental effects,
 2. Affected citizens have an opportunity to understand the proposed project or policy and to express their views to decision-makers in advance.



Overview of legal and institutional frameworks

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The National Environment Act, 2019

- NEA requires a developer of a project described in the Forth Schedule to the Act to submit a project brief (Scoping Studies) to the lead agency
- EIA is required to be undertaken by the developer where NEMA, is of the view that the project may have an impact on the environment
- Projects for Which Project Briefs and EIAs are Required is provided in Schedules 4 & 5

The National Environment (Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1998

- Provide for Technical Committee on EIAs
- Step by step Procedure for conducting Project Briefs and EIAs

The National Environment (Audit) Regulations, 2006



Overview Continued...

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

General Institutions

- Ministry of water and Environment
- National Environment Management Authority
- Technical Committee on Environmental Impact Assessment

Industry Specific Institutions

- Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
 - ❖ Directorate of Geological Survey and Mines (Minerals)
 - ❖ Directorate of Petroleum and the Petroleum Authority of Uganda (Petroleum)



Stages in the environmental assessment process

PROJECT BRIEFS

1. Preparation of project brief
2. Submission of project brief
3. Comments of the lead agency
4. Consideration of the project brief
5. Approval of the project brief



Stages Continued...

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDIES

1. Terms of reference for environmental impact study
2. Approval of persons to conduct assessment
3. Public participation in making the study
4. The Environmental Impact Statement
 - Protect activities
 - Potential Impacts
 - Mitigation Plans
5. Executive summary of statement
6. Signature of statement



Environmental compliance requirements for decommissioning or closure of mines

1. EIAs are Mandatory
2. The Petroleum (Exploration, Development and Production) Act 2013 provides for decommission
3. The Mining Act is silent on Decommission
4. Compliancy levels in the extractives industry are low (CSCO Report, 2015)



Practical Experiences and Lesions in Conducting and Monitoring EIAs

1. The Documents are Bulky and highly technical
2. Aggregation of projects into one EIA
3. Limited time for Review and submission of comments
4. Limited resources for community engagement
5. Actors are learning as we go along
6. NEMA acknowledges limitations and getting assistance from Norway





Thank you!

