

## **Environmental Impact Assessment**

EIA reflects a preventative approach to environmental management. Rather than responding to environmental problems after the fact, EIA enables decision makers to avoid problems before they occur. Environmental Impact Assessment is thus a procedure used to examine the environmental consequences, both beneficial and adverse, of a proposed development project and to ensure that these consequences are taken into account in project design. The EIA evaluates the expected effects on human health, on the natural and cultural environment and on property, as well as on local communities. The developer would be required to be familiar with the Environmental Protection Act (and any relevant regulations) as well as the EIA Procedures. The developer would also be expected to contact the permitting agency to obtain an initial determination as to whether the project falls within a category requiring an EIA.

### **Procedures to Prepare an EIA**

At the screening stage it may be determined that the project does not require an EIA. In such cases the process normally terminates with the granting of an approval, unless there are other permits to be granted by other agencies or if the approval is subject to certain conditions. Where an EIA is required, however, it is necessary to develop the Scope and Terms of Reference (TORS) for the project. The EIA report contains an assessment of the impacts of the proposed development on the human and physical environment and includes proposals to avoid or lessen adverse impacts. A decision on an EIA shall be made within 60 days after the receipt of the EIA by DOE. The developer would be required to prepare the EIA and to submit 12 copies of the EIA to DOE.

The decision on the EIA will be made by DOE on the advice of the Review Committee. The Review Committee will base its decision on the applicable EIA legislation, the EIA Procedures, the environmental issues involved, the EIA and any comments thereon from the public, NGOs or government agencies.

### **Guidelines for the Technical Process:**

1. Policy, Legal and Administrative Framework
2. Description of the Proposed Project
3. Description of the Environment
4. Significant Environmental Impacts
5. Analysis of Alternatives
6. Mitigation Plan
7. Monitoring Plan
8. The Project Team

## CATEGORIES OF PROJECTS

**Schedule I:** Full EIA required. (see appendix)

**Schedule II:** A full EIA or some environmental analysis may be required depending on the location and size of the project and other consideration. (see appendix)

**Schedule III:** No EIA required.

### Activities under Schedule 1:

- A trading port
- A waste-disposal installation
- Airport
- Lease of more than five hundred (500) acres of National Lands
- Power generation plant
- Major waterworks
- Hospitals
- Industrial developments
- Near beachfronts and rivers
- National highways
- New townships
- Chemical Industry
- Petroleum Industry
- Cement Industry
- Manufacturing Pharmaceuticals
- Energy Projects
- Processing of Metals
- Mines and quarries

### Activities under Schedule II:

- Land Reclamation
- Fisheries
- Forestry
- Housing
- Resort and Recreational Development
- Agriculture
- Extractive Industry (deep drilling)
- Energy Industry-storage of natural and combustible gases and coal
- Coating of metals
- Manufacture of glass
- Storage of petroleum and petrochemicals
- Fertilizers
- Manufacture of vegetable or animal oils
- Textile, leather, and wood industries
- Paper and Pulp
- Rubber Industry

### Activities under Schedule III:

- Educational projects
- Computer processing
- Projects within a Commercial Free Zone or Export Processing Zone
- Environmental clean up and rehabilitation projects