



IAIA 26
QUÉBEC CITY, CANADA

Misinformation, Disinformation, Communication, & Impact Assessment

**45th Annual Conference of the
International Association for Impact Assessment
19-22 May 2026
Québec City Convention Centre
Québec City, Canada**

FINAL PROGRAM

Current as of 24 April 2026. Check the mobile app for changes.

IAIA
International Association
for Impact Assessment

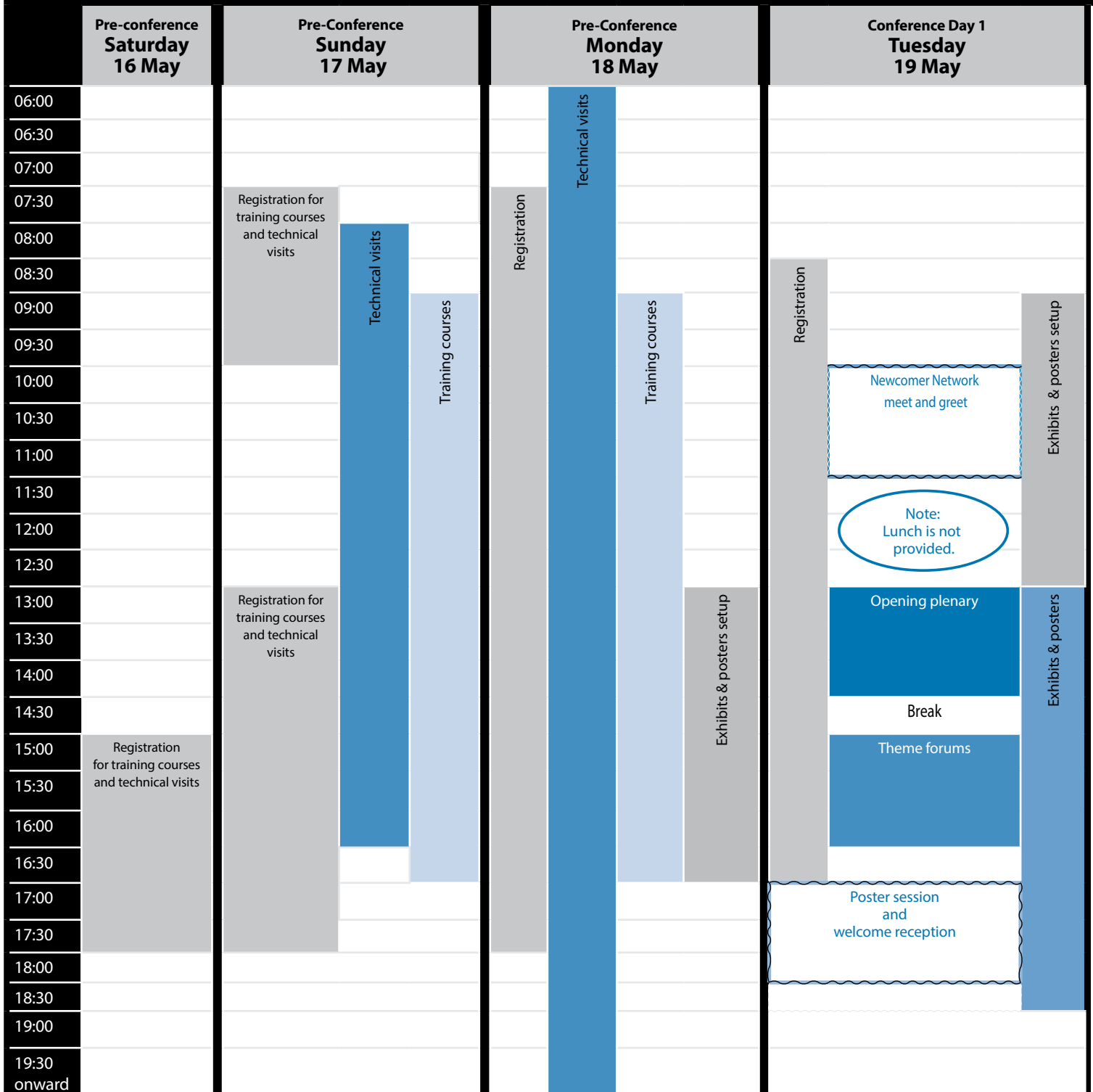
Hosted by
AQEI
ASSOCIATION
QUÉBÉCOISE
POUR L'ÉVALUATION
D'IMPACTS

Conference overview

REGISTRATION DESK HOURS

Saturday 16 May	15:00-18:00
Sunday 17 May	07:30-10:00, 13:00-18:00
Monday 18 May	07:30-18:00
Tuesday 19 May	08:30-17:00
Wednesday 20 May	08:30-16:30
Thursday 21 May	08:30-16:30
Friday 22 May	08:30-14:00

Program Overview



Conference overview

	Conference Day 2 Wednesday 20 May	Conference Day 3 Thursday 21 May	Conference Day 4 Friday 22 May	Post-Conference Saturday 23 May	
					06:00
					06:30
					07:00
					07:30
					08:00
	MELCCFP special session Québec's New EIA Process				08:30
Registration	Concurrent sessions	Registration	Concurrent sessions	Technical visits	09:00
	Exhibits & posters	Concurrent sessions	Exhibits & posters		09:30
	Break	Break	Break		10:00
	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions		10:30
	Lunch and Committee meetings	Lunch and Committee meetings	Lunch and Committee meetings		11:00
	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions		11:30
	Break	Break	Break		12:00
	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions		12:30
	Break	Break	Concurrent sessions		13:00
	Concurrent sessions	Concurrent sessions	Exhibits & posters dismantle		13:30
	Section meetings and Affiliates Forum	Section meetings	Closing plenary		14:00
			Exhibits & posters dismantle		14:30
					15:00
					15:30
				16:00	
				16:30	
				17:00	
				17:30	
				18:00	
			Banquet	18:30	
				19:00	
				19:30 onward	

Daily schedule

SATURDAY 16 MAY

15:00-18:00 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

SUNDAY 17 MAY

07:30-10:00 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

09:00-17:00 **Training courses (Day 1)**

1. Labor Rights & Influx in IA (309A)
2. Disinformation Response & Social Risk Management (202)
3. Fundamentals of SEA (206A)
4. Resettlement & Livelihood Restoration (309B)
6. Cumulative Effects Assessment (206B)
7. Leadership in ESIA (308B)
8. Human Rights in IA (203)
9. More Effective EIA Follow-up (204A)
10. Fit for Purpose ESIA for IFIs (204B)
11. Biodiversity-Friendly Infrastructure (308A)
12. Trust in Public Participation & IA (205A)
13. Strategic & Systems Thinking for Sustainability (205C)

08:00-12:00 **Technical visit A*: Université Laval: Roger Van Den Hende Botanical Garden and Greenhouse Complex**

09:30-16:30 **Technical visit B*: Archeology and Heritage Site in Old Québec**

13:00-18:00 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

MONDAY 18 MAY

06:00-19:30 **Technical visit C*: Romaine Powerhouse: A Concrete Experience to Counter Disinformation**

07:30-18:00 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

08:00-16:00 **Technical visit E*: Cap Tourmente National Wildlife Area**

08:30-12:30 **Technical visit F*: Île d'Orléans Bridge and Montmorency Falls**

08:45-16:00 **Cultural visit G*: Cultural visit to Wendake**

09:00-17:00 **Training courses (Day 2)**

2. Disinformation Response & Social Risk Management (202)
3. Fundamentals of SEA (206A)
4. Resettlement & Livelihood Restoration (309B)
6. Cumulative Effects Assessment (206B)
7. Leadership in ESIA (308B)
8. Human Rights in IA (203)
9. More Effective EIA Follow-up (204A)
10. Fit for Purpose ESIA for IFIs (204B)
11. Biodiversity-Friendly Infrastructure (308A)
12. Trust in Public Participation & IA (205A)
13. Strategic & Systems Thinking for Sustainability (205C)
14. A Systems Tool for IA & Communication (205B)
15. Creating Your Indigenous-Led IA Process (309A)

13:00-17:00 **Exhibit setup** (400BC)

18:00-21:00 **Cultural visit D1*: Sugar Shack Dinner**

TUESDAY 19 MAY

08:30-17:00 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

09:00-13:00 **Exhibit and poster setup** (400BC)

10:00-11:30 **Newcomer Network** (400A)

13:00-14:30 **Opening plenary** (400A)

- Wendat water drum performance: **Samuel Shukapesh Savard** and dancers from Wendake
- Welcome from Wendat: Grand Chief **Pierre Picard**
- Opening address: **Jean Hébert** and **Annie Prince**, Conference Co-Chairs
- Welcome: **Lone Kørnøv**, IAIA President
- Welcome: **Gary Baker**, IAIA CEO
- Introductory remarks: "**BAPE: 50 Years of Participatory Democracy.**" **Alain R. Roy**, President BAPE (Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement)
- Keynote address: "**Science, Trust, and Turbulence: Confronting Misinformation in Impact Assessment.**" **Rémi Quirion**, Scientifique en chef du Québec; and **Tim Caulfield**, Professor Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health, University of Alberta
- Closing remarks: **Jean Hébert** and **Annie Prince**, Conference Co-Chairs

14:30-15:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

15:00-16:30 **Theme forums**

17:00-18:30 **Poster session and welcome reception** (400BC)

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY

08:00-08:45 **Special session:** Québec's New EIA Process: Clearer, Predictable, Efficient, and Rigorous (302AB)

08:30-16:30 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

09:00-10:30 **Concurrent sessions**

10:30-11:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

11:00-12:30 **Concurrent sessions**

12:30-13:50 **Lunch** (400BC)

12:30-13:30 **Committee meetings**
Awards (205A)
Sections Coordinating (205A)

14:00-15:30 **Concurrent sessions**

15:30-16:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

16:00-17:30 **Concurrent sessions**

16:00-17:30 **Plug in to IAIA** (207) Join us to learn more about IAIA and different ways you can get involved.

17:45-18:45 **Affiliates Forum:** Representatives of current IAIA Affiliates are invited to gather together to share their association's best practices and to collaborate on ideas for the future. (203)

17:45-18:45 **Section meetings**
Academia (206A)
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (207)
Climate Change (308A)
Cultural Heritage (309A)
Disasters and Conflicts (205BC)
Public Participation (308B)
Strategic Environmental Assessment (304AB)

THURSDAY 21 MAY

08:30-16:30 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

09:00-10:30 **Concurrent sessions**

10:30-11:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

11:00-12:30 **Concurrent sessions**

12:30-13:50 **Lunch** (400BC)

12:30-13:30 **Committee meetings**
Training & Professional Development (205A)
Board Nominations (205A)

14:00-15:30 **Concurrent sessions**

15:30-16:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

16:00-17:30 **Concurrent sessions**

17:45-18:45 **Section meetings**
AI and Emerging Technology (308B)
Biodiversity & Ecology (309B)
Cumulative Effects (304AB)
Governance and Implementation Systems (207)
Health (308A)
Indigenous Peoples (205BC)
Social Impact Assessment (309A)
Students and Young Professionals (206A)

FRIDAY 22 MAY

08:30-14:00 **Registration** (Conference center entrance)

09:00-10:30 **Concurrent sessions**

10:30-11:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

11:00-12:30 **Concurrent sessions**

12:30-13:50 **Lunch** (400BC)

12:30-13:30 **Committee meeting**
Technical Program Committee (205A)

14:00-15:30 **Concurrent sessions**

15:30-16:00 **Coffee break** (400BC)

16:00-17:30 **Closing plenary** (400A)

- Welcome: **Jean Hébert** and **Annie Prince**, Conference Co-Chairs
- Keynote address: **"We Are Not Naive. We Are Human. Neuroscience and Cyberpsychology of Misinformation."** **Mélissa Canseliet**, founder of Humanet, expert on outsmarting cognitive biases online
- Presentation of Awards: **Francesca Villani**, Awards Committee Chair; **Gary Baker**, CEO; **Lone Kørnøv**, President
- Presidential address: **Alberto Fonseca**, IAIA President-Elect
- Invitation to IAIA27: **Terry Calmeyer**, NZAIA, and **Lachlan Wilkinson**, EIANZ, Conference Co-chairs
- Thank you: **Jean Hébert** and **Annie Prince**

14:00-17:30 **Exhibit and poster dismantle**

19:00-00:00 **Banquet** (Voltigeurs de Québec Armoury, 805 Wilfrid-Laurier Avenue)
Ticket required.

SATURDAY 23 MAY

08:30-16:30 **Technical visit H*: Massif-du-Sud Windfarm**

09:00-16:00 **Technical visit I*: Jacques-Cartier National Park**

09:30-16:00 **Technical visit J*: Riverbank Protection and Ecological Enhancement Projects in Québec City**

*TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL VISITS

Please meet at the conference center entrance a minimum of 15 minutes prior to departure.

COFFEE BREAKS AND LUNCHESES

Based on the data collected via registration forms, IAIA arranged for a percentage of vegetarian meals. This does not guarantee accommodation of individual preference.

NEED TO CATCH UP ON EMAIL OR MEET WITH COLLEAGUES?

19-22 May from 09:00-17:30

Work space is available in the Solarium and 204B.

A **meeting room** is available on a first-come, first-served signup basis in 204A.

TRANSLATION

Wordly is an AI-powered, real-time translation platform that provides live speech-to-text captions and audio translation in multiple languages, helping participants follow presentations and discussions in their preferred language using their own device.

To support greater accessibility and inclusivity, IAIA will be offering Wordly on a limited trial basis at IAIA26, allowing attendees to experience real-time translation during the plenaries and the Francophone Day sessions.

Participants can access Wordly by scanning a QR code posted on the screen in the session room or available at the room's tech table.

Technical program overview

■ Plenary
■ Theme forum
■ Concurrent session

	400A	301AB	302AB	303AB	206B
Tuesday 19 May					
13:00-14:30	Opening Plenary				
15:00-16:30		The Truth Tangle: Untying Misinformation in Impact Assessment (p10)	Ending the Expert Battle: Tools for Addressing Complex Technical Issues (p9)	Climate Risks Assessment in the Age of Climate Misinformation (p9)	Professional Capacity Building and Certification As Tools for Building Stakeholder Confidence (p10)
Wednesday 20 May					
09:00-10:30		Are We Living in the Post-Consultation Era? I (p12)	FRANCOPHONE DAY Information at the Heart of Public Participation: How to Avoid Misinformation and Build Trust? (p11)	Power and Perception: Misinformation, Disinformation, and the Environmental & Social Narrative in Hydropower Development (p13)	Culture's Role in Impact Assessment I (p12)
11:00-12:30		Are We Living in the Post-Consultation Era? II (p14)	Innovating to Restore Public Trust; Transforming Practices and Tools to Inform Audiences (p11)	(Re)building Trust and Transparency to Navigate Complex Energy Transitions I (p14)	Culture's Role in Impact Assessment II (p15)
14:00-15:30		Accelerating with Integrity: Strengthening Social Impact Assessment in the face of urgency and misinformation I (p16)	The Issue-Based Approach: Toward a More Readable, Credible, and Useful Environmental Assessment (p11)	(Re)building Trust and Transparency to Navigate Complex Energy Transitions II (p16)	Culture's Role in Impact Assessment III (p17)
16:00-17:30		Accelerating with Integrity: Strengthening Social Impact Assessment in the face of urgency and misinformation II (p18)	Impact Studies in an Era of Change: Innovation and Opportunities Under the New Québec and Canadian Frameworks (p11)	(Re)building Trust and Transparency to Navigate Complex Energy Transitions III (p18)	Simple, Evidence Based Communication Approaches for Successful Biodiversity Conservation and Management (p20)
Thursday 21 May					
09:00-10:30		Public Participation in IA Follow-up for Ongoing Communication and Providing Sound Information (p22)	Renewing Renewables' Impact Assessments: Tackling Misinformation (p22)	Engaging Communities: Digital Storytelling for Trustworthy IA (p21)	Implementing Indigenous Free, Prior, Informed Consent in Impact Assessments I (p21)
11:00-12:30		Cumulative Effects: Whose Responsibility is it Anyway? (p23)	Shovel Ready vs Participation Ready: IA in the Age of Streamlining (p24)	Strategic, Not Generic: The Next Generation of Regional Assessments (p24)	Implementing Indigenous Free, Prior, Informed Consent in Impact Assessments II (p23)
14:00-15:30		Operationalizing Free, Prior, and Informed Consent and Indigenous-Led Decision-Making in Impact Assessment (p26)	Fair Resettlement: Managing Stakeholder Expectations and Misinformation (p26)	FPIC: How Prior is Prior? (p26)	Indigenous Involvement in Oversight of Federally Regulated Energy Infrastructure (p26)
16:00-17:30		Post-Resettlement Realities: Trust, Housing, and Livelihoods Reconsidered (p28)	Effective Access to Information and Redress in Development Financing (p28)	An Exploration of the Use of Film for EIA: World Premier of a Short EIA Non-Technical Summary Film (p27)	Indigenous-Led and Jointly-Led Regional Assessments in Canada (p28)
Friday 22 May					
09:00-10:30		Enhancing the Credibility and Impact of Climate Change and Health Impact Assessments (p30)	Psycho-Social Impact Assessment: Gauging Effects of Marginalization (p31)	Toward Clarity and Coordination: Streamlining Mining Environmental Assessments in Canada (p31)	Everything Everywhere All at Once: Harnessing Holistic Impact Assessment (p30)
11:00-12:30		Communicating Truths: EA Practitioner Professional Ethics and Roles (p32)	Principles to Practice: Information and Communication in Indigenous HIA I (p33)	Connecting Infrastructure and IA: Assessing Impacts in Contested Planning (p32)	From Field to Boardroom: Digital IA Beyond Initial Permitting (p33)
14:00-15:30		Climate Change Impact Assessments for Cultural Heritage: Bridging Informational Gaps (p33)	Principles to Practice: Information and Communication in Indigenous HIA II (p35)	Technical Outreach and Storytelling: Key to Investing in Biodiversity (p35)	From Theory to Practice: Nature Positive Landscapes in the Mining Sector (p34)
16:00-17:30	Closing plenary				

Technical program overview

202	309B	309A	203	308A	
Tuesday 19 May					
					13:00-14:30
Health Impact Assessment to Tackle Misinformation and Foster Participation (p10)	Contested Narratives: Misinformation, Trust, and Impact Assessment (p9)				15:00-16:30
Wednesday 20 May					
EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development I (p12)	Streamlining IA in an Era of Global Uncertainty I (p14)	Navigating Uncertainty in Impact Assessment to Support Expedited Decision-Making (p13)	Rethinking Stakeholder Engagement from the Accountability Lens (p14)	Reframing Impact Assessment Narratives in Africa: Combating Misinformation, Power Asymmetries, and Distrust in Development I (p13)	09:00-10:30
EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development II (p15)	Streamlining IA in an Era of Global Uncertainty II (p16)	Reclaiming the Narrative: Storytelling, Emotion, and Trust in Impact Assessment (p15)	Updating Best Practice Principles on Engaging with Indigenous Communities (p16)	Reframing Impact Assessment Narratives in Africa: Combating Misinformation, Power Asymmetries, and Distrust in Development II (p15)	11:00-12:30
EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development III (p17)	EIA Litigation Around the World (p17)	Indigenous Rights in Impact Assessments: Reconcili(action), UNDRIP and GBA+ I (p17)	Justice in the Chain: Human Rights and Engagement in Energy Transition (p18)	Let's Talk About Risk: Engaging on Low Likelihood, High Consequence Events (p18)	14:00-15:30
EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development IV (p19)	The Next 30 Years of Health Impact Assessment: Introducing the Handbook on HIA (p20)	Indigenous Rights in Impact Assessments: Reconcili(action), UNDRIP and GBA+ II (p19)	Tackling Nuclear Misinformation Through Creative and Scientific Dialogue (p20)	Public Trust and Social Impact Assessment: Lessons Learned from Major Projects (p19)	16:00-17:30
Thursday 21 May					
After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? I (p20)	Managing Sensitive Data and Right to Privacy in Impact Assessment (p22)	Using Digital Tools to Enhance Transparency and Collaboration during Impact Assessments I (p22)	Fit For Future and Act at Present: Impact Assessment for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation I (p21)	Synergies Between Impact Assessment and the Circular Economy (p22)	09:00-10:30
After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? II (p22)	The Importance of Effective Communication for Impact Assessments (p24)	Using Digital Tools to Enhance Transparency and Collaboration during Impact Assessments II (p25)	Fit For Future and Act at Present: Impact Assessment for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation II (p23)	Territorial Security in Communities Impacted by Industrial Activities (p24)	11:00-12:30
After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? III (p25)	Using Global Biodiversity Data to Make Past Assessments and Future Projections (p27)	Transformative Impact Assessment: System Changing Leadership and Communication (p26)	How Can SEA and IA Practitioners Support Global Commons Alliance Partner Initiatives? I (p26)	What in the World is Going on with NEPA? (p27)	14:00-15:30
After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? IV (p27)	The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Local Opposition to Projects (p28)	When Myth Builds Reality: Strategic Lessons for Impact Assessment in the Latin American Context (p29)	Is the Sky Falling? Addressing the Impacts of Earth and Human Systems (p28)	Watershed Intelligence: Integrating Science and Engagement in Impact Assessments (p29)	16:00-17:30
Friday 22 May					
Experiences in Enhancing Communication through the Application of AI in IA (p30)	Transforming Together: Dialogue, Transparency, and Action in Energy Transitions (p31)	World Café: How Far Back? How Far Forward? Rethinking Temporal Boundaries in Impact Assessment (p31)	Social Practitioners' Load: Bias, Hidden Skills, Ethics, and Emotional Burden (p31)	Biodiversity Impact Assessment: Transparency and Improved Communication for Decision-Making I (p29)	09:00-10:30
Five Years of the Escazú Agreement: Delivering on its Promise? (p32)	Policy and Regulation Changes: Building Public Trust in EIA Systems (p33)	Disasters, Conflict, and Impact Assessment: What Is Up, What Is Down, What Is Coming Around? I (p32)	"War on Projects": The Diffusion of Misinformation, Conflict, and Trauma (p31)	Biodiversity Impact Assessment: Transparency and Improved Communication for Decision-Making II (p32)	11:00-12:30
	Mining Across Land and Sea: Assessing and Communicating Social Impacts (p35)	Disasters, Conflict, and Impact Assessment: What Is Up, What Is Down, What Is Coming Around? II (p34)	How can SEA and IA Practitioners Support Global Commons Alliance Partner Initiatives? II (p34)	SEA for Industrial Zones: Technological Exploration and Practical Innovation (p35)	14:00-15:30
					16:00-17:30

Technical program overview



	308B	205BC	206A	207	304AB
Tuesday 19 May					
13:00-14:30					
15:00-16:30					
Wednesday 20 May					
09:00-10:30	Asian S3EA: Strategic, Spatial and Sustainable EA with Effective Information I (p12)	LIAR, LIAR: A Game of Perception, Skill, and IA Smarts (p13)	Overlooked Impacts of MDB-Financed Road Projects and Accountability (p13)	Public Trust in Regulatory Systems and Environmental Assessment (p13)	USAID's ESIA Legacy and Looking Forward (p14)
11:00-12:30	Asian S3EA: Strategic, Spatial and Sustainable EA with Effective Information II (p14)	Engaging Indigenous Nations for Inclusive Impact Assessments and Misinformation Response I (p15)	Spreading the Deliberative Approach to Impact Assessment and Decision-Making (p16)	IAIA Academia Section: IA Teaching and Research in the Age of Misinformation and Disinformation (p15)	USAID's ESIA Legacy and Looking Forward: Workshop (p16)
14:00-15:30	Railroading the Assessment of Health and Social Valued Components in Impact Assessment (p18)	Engaging Indigenous Nations for Inclusive Impact Assessments and Misinformation Response II (p17)	Evolving Stakeholder-Inclusive Impact Assessment in Complex Settings I (p17)	Building Trust: Strengthening Accountability and Communication in Development Finance (p16)	From Gridlock to Greenlights: Integrating Legitimacy, Engineering and Regulation in Impact Assessment I (p17)
16:00-17:30	Reaching the Unheard: Inclusive Public Engagement in Practice (p19)	Engaging Indigenous Nations for Inclusive Impact Assessments and Misinformation Response III (p19)	Evolving Stakeholder-Inclusive Impact Assessment in Complex Settings II (p19)	Plug in to IAIA! (p19)	From Gridlock to Greenlights: Integrating Legitimacy, Engineering and Regulation in Impact Assessment II (p19)
Thursday 21 May					
09:00-10:30	Good Morning, Impact Assessment! Data, Decisions, and Digital Wilds (p21)	EsiA and Permitting Improvements for Efficiency and Effectiveness: Lessons Learned (p21)	Cultural Heritage: Current Trends and Best Practice I (p20)	Disinformation Narratives and Communication Strategies in Latin American Projects (p21)	Development Accountability: Fear of Retaliation, and How It May Affect the Integrity of Impact Assessments (p20)
11:00-12:30	Perspectives on Assessing Cumulative Impacts in the Global South (p23)	Shaping the Future of Environmental Governance Through Advances in IT, GIS, and AI (p24)	Cultural Heritage: Current Trends and Best Practice II (p23)	Planning Support Systems for Environmental Assessment and Urban Decision Making (p23)	SEAs and Sustainable Development Plans for 2050 (p24)
14:00-15:30	"Science isn't just for scientists": IA and advancing technical literacy (p25)	Ethical Choices: Critical Minerals, National Interest and Indigenous Rights (p25)	Effective Mis/Disinformation Response: Rapid Capacity Building (p25)	Assessing Integrity: The Role of Impact Assessment in High-Quality Nature-Based Carbon Projects (p25)	Fair and Equitable Outcomes Through Deliberation and Wellbeing? Focused Approaches (p25)
16:00-17:30	Transparency to Trust: Communicating Complex Science and Data Effectively (p28)	Assessing Information: Conflicting Data, Indigenous-Led Thresholds, and Rebuilding Public Trust (p27)		Best Practices in Land Use Surveys and Better Information Sharing (p27)	Cumulative Effects Assessment: Does It Make a Difference? (p28)
Friday 22 May					
09:00-10:30	Breaking the Academic Silence in LATAM: Communicating Environmental Assessment (p29)	Meet the Editor (p30)	Advancing Government Approaches to Effective Science Communication in Impact Assessment I (p29)	Gender and Intersectional Analysis in IA: Showcasing Theory and Practice I (p30)	Climate Change Impact Assessment: Countering Misinformation with Science (p29)
11:00-12:30	Methods and Approaches to Impact Assessment I (p33)	Basic Tools for Stronger Argument and Clearer Writing (p32)	Advancing Government Approaches to Effective Science Communication in Impact Assessment II (p31)	Gender and Intersectional Analysis in IA: Showcasing Theory and Practice II (p33)	Building a Causal Loop Diagram for Impacts of Fast-Track Project Approvals (p32)
14:00-15:30	Methods and Approaches to Impact Assessment II (p34)	The Stance Dance, Social Performance Edition: Exploring Success Stories (p35)	Collaborative Development of Impact Assessments: Exploring Pathways to Project Success with Stakeholders and Communities (p34)	Gender and Intersectional Analysis in IA: Showcasing Theory and Practice III (p34)	Beyond Compliance: Rebuilding Social Trust in Times of Misinformation and Distrust (p33)
16:00-17:30					

TUESDAY 19 MAY | 15:00-16:30

Smaller than plenaries and larger than concurrent sessions, theme forums include “cut-above” presentations and discussions which address the conference theme, bring together the various aspects of impact assessment on a particular topic, and examine how those aspects apply to different sectors and issues.

Climate Risks Assessment in the Age of Climate Misinformation

Room 303AB | Tuesday, 19 May | 15:00 - 16:30

*G5. Climate change
Paper session
Chair(s): Roberto Mezzalama, Sean Capstick*

Assessing climate risks is increasingly complex amid climate misinformation and polarized debates. Practitioners must balance scientific rigour with sensitive communication when integrating climate risk into impact assessment. This session discusses misinformation from climate negotiations to individual projects and presents a range of approaches from indigenous people to international financial institutions.

Climate Misinformation at the UNFCCC COP Conferences: A Case Study of COP30

Sabūnas, Audrius

Facts, Fears, and Resilience: Climate Misinformation in Koh Kret, Thailand

Assavarak, Passanan

Embedding Climate Risk in Road Infrastructure Planning and Project ESMS

Salas, Paloma; Mendoza, Itsi Teri; Valencia, Alejandra

Gitanyow Climate Test for Major Projects

Joseph, Chris; Marsden/Naxginkw, Tara

Integrating Climate Change into E&S Risk Management: IFC Insights

Gomez Paradela, Sandra

Contested Narratives: Misinformation, Trust, and Impact Assessment

Room 309B | Tuesday, 19 May | 15:00 - 16:30

*G14. Social impact assessment
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Jane Seaborn*

How is the rise of misinformation affecting public trust and community engagement in SIA? Through case studies from around the globe, we will explore emerging communication techniques, research methods, and strategies for confronting misinformation, building trust, and legitimizing new forms of data collection in a changing impact assessment landscape.

Managing (Mis) Information and Trust in Workforce and Asset Transitions

Gregory, Gillian; Mullard, Zoe

Navigating Misinformation and Trust in Renewable Energy Transitions

Hooper, Tracey

Beyond the Scroll: Geospatial Dialogue in the Age of Digital Distraction

Bungartz, Lindsey; Mullard, Zoe

Ending the Expert Battle: Tools for Addressing Complex Technical Issues

Room 302AB | Tuesday, 19 May | 15:00 - 16:30

*T2. Inclusive public engagement
Workshop
Chair(s): Philipp Koenig, Scott Adams*

An open, creative workshop co-chaired by the Complaints Mechanism of the European Investment Bank Group and the Dispute Resolution Service of the World Bank's Accountability Mechanism, exploring tools to build legitimacy of fact-finding processes. Participants will reflect on experiences and discuss how different approaches can foster trust in expert findings.

World Bank Accountability Mechanism Dispute Resolution Service

Adams, Scott

Inclusive Development International

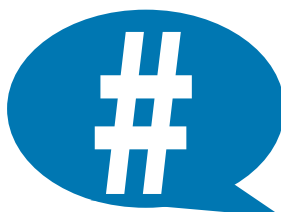
Bugalski, Natalie

State of Alaska

Buckley, Steve

EIB Complaints Mechanism

Olivera, Anne-Claire



Share your thoughts on a session or the day's events by tagging #iaia26 on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram!

Health Impact Assessment to Tackle Misinformation and Foster Participation

Room 202 | Tuesday, 19 May | 15:00 - 16:30

G11. Health
Section(s): Health
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Valentina Cavanna, Ryngan Pyper

This session explores how HIA supports participation and risk communication, and so counters misinformation and disinformation. Through case studies and comparative insights, we examine HIA's role in building trust, equity, and shared understanding. This includes how AI is used and its outputs verified to enhance inclusive decision-making.

Health Impact Assessment in Context: Learning from Comparative Perspectives

Cavanna, Valentina

Ethics and Practice to Being a "Trusted Expert" in Health Impact Assessment

Pyper, Ryngan

Truth, Transparency, and Trust: HIA Strategies to Address Misinformation

McCallum, Lindsay; Roselli, Tessa; Jayasinghe, Ruwan; Ferras, Amica; O'Keeffe, Camryn; ,

WSR HIA: An Indigenous-Led Assessment to Tackle Mis/disinformation

Larocque, Elaine; Waheed, Faiza

Professional Capacity Building and Certification as Tools for Building Stakeholder Confidence

Room 206B | Tuesday, 19 May | 15:00 - 16:30

T5. Professional recognition and certification systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Michael Ilesanmi, Ruxandra Maria Floroiu

As public and private sector institutions are developing academic training and professional certification programs for Environmental and Social Risk Management practice, this session aims to highlight best practices in the training of students and professionals in stakeholder engagement and communication processes associated with Impact Assessment. We also host some novel practices and emerging tools from practitioners in the field.

AQÉI Project: From Training to Global Professional Recognition System

Prince, Annie; Valiquette, Luc; Waaub, Jean-Philippe; Cadieux, Jean; Lagarde, Benoit

Strengthening Environmental and Social Management Capacity in Bangladesh

Rahman, Sheikh Mokhlesur; Ara, Sharmin Rowshan

Strengthening ES Risk Certification: Insights from SPESSE in Nigeria

Naswem, Adolphus; Sha'Ato, Rufus

Information Disclosure Retreats and SPESSE FUAM Project Success

Nnamonu, Lami; Eche, Christopher; Kpelai, Simon; Sha'Ato, Rufus; Naswem, Adolphus; Ona, John

WebNAT: Standardising and Accelerating Road Traffic Noise Impact Assessment

Lui, Crystal Mei Yan; Li, Ken

The Truth Tangle: Untying Misinformation in Impact Assessment

Room 301AB | Tuesday, 19 May | 15:00 - 16:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information
Paper session
Chair(s): Sue Kaner, Zoe Whitlock

This session challenges the view of misinformation as an external threat to impact assessment. It explores how inaccessible assessments, poor listening, weak science communication, and oversimplified uncertainty undermine trust and distort decisions. Through case studies and practitioner insights, it shows how clear, credible, and accessible communication—grounded in sound science and meaningful engagement—is essential to restoring confidence in impact assessment.

You Are Not Listening

Lawrence, Paul

From Extinction to Negligible

Green, Steve; Wilkinson, Lachlan

What Do We Trust When It Comes to Plastics?

Baquiran, Juliane; Krause, Paul

Notes

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TOPIC LIST

What topics are you interested in? Sessions are identified in the following categories:

Sessions related to the theme of the conference

- T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
- T2. Inclusive public engagement
- T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy
- T4. Digital and interactive impact studies
- T5. Professional recognition and certification systems
- T6. Stopping the spread of false information

General impact assessment topics/topics related to IAIA's special-interest Sections

- G1. Academia
- G2. Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries
- G3. AI and emerging technology
- G4. Biodiversity and ecology
- G5. Climate change
- G6. Corporate stewardship and risk management
- G7. Cultural heritage
- G8. Cumulative effects
- G9. Disasters and conflict
- G10. Governance and implementation systems
- G11. Health
- G12. Indigenous Peoples
- G13. Public participation
- G14. Social impact assessment
- G15. Strategic environmental assessment

Topics of special interest to IAIA and its members

- S1. Special to IAIA

Looking for presentation summaries and presenter bios? Find them in the [mobile app](#) (see page 43).

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY | 09:00 - 10:30

Are We Living in the Post-Consultation Era? I

Room 301AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Paper session
Chair(s): Aaron Goldschmidt

This session addresses growing public disengagement in consultation processes, critically evaluating if we are in a "post-consultation era." Experts present case studies of how meaningful consultation may be waning and where interventions have arisen to counter such conditions, including successful project refinements driven by genuine stakeholder engagement, and alternative strategies for impactful and legitimate public participation.

Community Advisory Committees: Practical Tools for Meaningful Engagement?

Plank, Sarah; Castleden, Heather

Finding the Right Balance: The Risk of "Overconsultation"

Rustamova, Vusala

From Consultation to Co-Design: Practical Strategies for Social License

Arellano, Javiera; Oyanader, Karol

From Procedural Compliance to Trusted Dialogue: Re-imagining Consultation

Oyanader, Karol; Arellano, Javiera

Asian S3EA: Strategic, Spatial, and Sustainable EA with Effective Information I

Room 308B | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

S1. Special to IAIA
Paper session
Chair(s): Myungjin Kim, Takehiko Murayama

The advancement of remote sensing technology and information technology, spatial analysis with a variety of environmental, social, and economic items has received big attention in the AI era. This session will focus on IA examples which support the strategic decision including SEA and utilize the well-organized spatial scale analysis.

Consideration of Cumulative Impacts Induced by Multiple Wind Farms

Murayama, Takehiko; Tsuruyama, Go; Nishikizawa, Shigeo

Beyond the EIA Mindset: SEA Perspectives Across GCC Countries

Loza, Ana; Bento, Simão; Melo, Ana Catarina; Al Jabi, Farah; Mansour, Reem; Pearce, Shaun

Ordinance on Renewable Energy Tax for Regional Coexistence

Nagasawa, Yasuhiro; Nishikizawa, Shigeo; Hayashi, Kiichiro

Mis and Disinformation and KSEIA

Kim, Myungjin

Culture's Role in Impact Assessment I

Room 206B | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information
Paper session
Chair(s): Nyoka Morris

This session explores the influence of culture and social inclusion communication in impact assessment, emphasizing the importance of understanding cultural differences and utilizing culturally appropriate tools to effectively communicate environmental effects thereby reducing the spread of misinformation and disinformation.

Countering Gender-Based Misinformation to Strengthen Impact Assessment

Hanko, Johanne

Cultural and Religious Factors: Undervalued Aspects of Climate Communication

Wood, Tara

Cultural and Spiritual Indicators for Water Protection in ACFN Territory

Bebetidoh, Timothy; Longley, Hereward

Implementing the World Bank's ESS8: From Standard to Practice

Odiaua, Ishanlosen

EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development I

Room 202 | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Section(s): Public Participation & Governance and Implementation Systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Mireya Archila Serrano, Jessica Motok

This session examines how effective participatory environmental assessments can enhance infrastructure planning and development by integrating technical and community knowledge in Latin America. EIA can foster dialogue between developers and communities, identifying shared interests and improving project outcomes and inclusive decision-making.

Beyond Participation: Linking EIA and Indigenous Consultation in Guatemala

Archila, Mireya; Motok, Jessica

Social Mapping in ESIA: Community Participation in Road Infrastructure

Laporte, Victoria

Sound Planning of Community Outreach: A Must for Infrastructure Projects

Paez Zamora, Juan Carlos

Disclosure to Dialogue: Strengthening Information Flow for E&S Outcomes

Mathur, Aradhna; Khvostova, Svetlana

LIAR, LIAR: A Game of Perception, Skill, and IA Smarts

Room 205BC | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information
Game - Gaming
Chair(s): Jack Krohn, Tanya Burdett

This game session will test your ability to detect truth and fact from the subjective views of partisan stakeholders. Who is bIAsed? Who is rellAble? Who do you trust, and how far? Can you pinpoint the LIAR, LIAR?

STRIX

Repas-Goncalves, Miguel

Fothergill Training & Consulting Ltd

Fothergill, Josh

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure NSW Australia

Gainsford, David

Freelance Consultant

Raissyian, Behzad

Katalys

Nuesink, Jan

Essential Planning

Burdett, Tanya

Navigating Uncertainty in Impact Assessment to Support Expedited Decision-Making

Room 309A | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Paper session
Chair(s): Chris Powell, Jon Pounder

Navigating uncertainty is a critical challenge for impact assessment practitioners and those involved in the impact assessment process, especially with growing pressures to expedite approvals. This session will foster dialogue across perspectives on how to identify and manage uncertainty to support informed and expedited decision-making.

From Process to Outcomes: A Two-Year Approach

Cianci, Candida

Understanding What Works and What Doesn't to Improve Decision Making

Paredes, Alvaro; Bedford, Janine

Novel Applications of IA for Emerging/ New Technologies and Activities

Balcom, Brian; Tiggelaar, John

Balancing Speed and Stewardship:

Red Sea Global's Journey

Raja, Yusuf; Radi, Aceel; Radi, Aceel Naseem; Faria, Maria A.

Managing Uncertainties in IA for a Progressive Design Build Project

Barnes, Megan; Mengote, Pauline Gielle

Overlooked Impacts of MDB-Financed Road Projects and Accountability

Room 206A | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Workshop
Chair(s): Ibrahim Pam, Vaideesh Sankaran

Based on complaints received, World Bank Inspection Panel and ADB Accountability Mechanism will lead a workshop on four overlooked areas of negative impacts related to road projects. Participants will focus on the role of inclusive public engagement in addressing negative impacts upfront and responding to unintended consequences during implementation.

Asian Development Bank

Kubodera, Ayako

ADB Compliance Review Panel

Sankaran, Vaideeswaran

World Bank Inspection Panel

Jorge do Amaral, Camila

The World Bank Inspection Panel

Pam, Ibrahim

Power and Perception: Misinformation, Disinformation, and the Environmental and Social Narrative in Hydropower Development

Room 303AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Paper session
Chair(s): Miles Scott-Brown, Juan Quintero

This session explores how false, misleading, or strategically distorted information influences public understanding, policy discourse, stakeholder engagement and ultimately project acceptance in the hydropower sector.

Exploring Innovative Solutions to Bridge the Knowledge Gap on Hydropower

Dimier, Armeline

Scientific Data: A Tool to Counter Misinformation in the Ituango HP

Cubides Cruz, Adriana; Giraldo Jiménez, William

Only Hydro Can Save the World: Misinformation in Analysis of Alternatives

Smith, Doug

Power and Perception: Hydropower Narratives and Misinformation in Romania

Doba, Alexandra; Nistorescu, Marius; Grigorescu, Florentina; Dumitru, Razvan

Public Trust in Regulatory Systems and Environmental Assessment

Room 207 | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy
Paper session
Chair(s): Matt Hammond

This session considers how public trust is maintained in regulatory systems and environmental assessment. We explore the relationships between governance, public trust, and environmental assessment outcomes.

From Paper to Progress: Rebuilding Trust in Africa's Impact Assessments

Omeire, Edward Uche; Anah, Cletus Ikechukwu

Rebuilding Confidence and Openness in Environmental Assessment

Nulog, Yirabari; Nulog, Yirabari

Pathways for EIA to Facilitate Climate Mitigation Based on China's Action

Hou, Guanyu; Duan, Maosheng

Too Complicated to Trust and Too Complex to Manage Cumulative Effects

Hammond, Matt

Reframing Impact Assessment Narratives in Africa: Combating Misinformation, Power Asymmetries, and Distrust in Development I

Room 308A | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Kojo Amoyaw-Osei

This session explores how misinformation, institutional distrust, and poor communication undermine IA in Africa. It offers tools, case studies, and strategies for restoring trust, addressing disinformation, and strengthening inclusive engagement in IA processes through digital innovation, local storytelling, and participatory dialogue.

Improving Communication and Stakeholder Engagement in EIA Across Africa

Lawal, Adegboyega; Fischer, Thomas

A Comparative Analysis of Challenges Facing Impact Assessment in E. Africa

Kibbassa, Jane; Sanchez-Triana, Ernesto

Drivers of Permitting Delays: Costs and Mining Landscape Change in Ghana

Kumi, Samuel; Adiyiah, Jackson

Navigating Misinformation and Distrust in a Long-Standing Mining Project

Akeseh, Nana

Sessions

Rethinking Stakeholder Engagement from the Accountability Lens

Room 203 | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Solution room
Chair(s): Irum Ahsan

This session explores strategies to rethink stakeholder engagement through an accountability lens to ensure reliable and transparent information sharing. Through real cases data and practical tools, participants will co-create actionable strategies in a Solution Room to address challenges like mistrust and misinformation.

Navigating Stakeholder Engagement: Compliance Challenges

Bena Dias, Cristiane

Accountability Advisory Insights: Establishing Constructive Engagement

Ahsan, Irum

Accountability, Dispute Resolution and Dynamics of Stakeholder Engagement

Montana, Katalina

Streamlining IA in an Era of Global Uncertainty I

Room 309B | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Bram Noble, Jill Blakley

This session explores the opportunities and implications of streamlining impact assessment in the pursuit of major "nation building" projects.

Federal Approach to "One Project, One Review" and Co-Operation Agreements

Frezza, Tara

Challenges of IA Process Multiplication in Nunavik

Dea, Nancy; Lambert, Christine

Rethinking Regulatory Assessment for Resource Development in Canada

Hanna, Kevin

Open Science, Databases, and CEA Visualizations Can Support IA Streamlining

Blakley, Jill

A Consulting Practitioner's Perspective on Streamlining

Horvath, Celesa

USAID's ESIA Legacy and Looking Forward

Room 304AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G9. Disasters and conflict
Section(s): Disasters and Conflict
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Erika J. Clesceri

With the dramatic changes in the U.S. Federal Government's Foreign Assistance in 2025, notably the dismantling of the United States International Agency for International Development (USAID), ESIA professionals representing over 100 years of collective USAID experience will share perspectives on this critical ESIA legacy and lessons for the future.

USAID ESIA Lessons Available, Application Needed!

Stoughton, Mark

Plastic Waste and Disaster: US Embassy Engages with USAID in Thailand

Jablonski, Marissa

Scaling Up Lessons from USAID in Community-Led Waste Management in Haiti

Abellard, Abdel; Revolus, Georges Jasme

USAID's ESIA 2024 Audit: Lessons for an Uncertain Future

Perry, Elisa

Reimagining ESIA from Two Decades of USAID Humanitarian Assistance

Clesceri, Erika

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY | 11:00 - 12:30

(Re)building Trust and Transparency to Navigate Complex Energy Transitions I

Room 303AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Paper session
Chair(s): Vigya Sharma, Rauno Sairinen

This session creates space for practitioners and researchers to draw on real-world cases and share lessons on (re)building trust with communities within/beyond the impact assessment and permitting processes. It highlights the role of trust and transparency in navigating complex energy transitions across various technology types and world regions.

Building Trust by Sharing Control? Two Community-Led Nuclear Facility Alternatives

Page, Justin; MacDonald, Alistair

Community Responses to Project Initiation and Engagement in a Hydro Project

Ash, Jillian

Beyond EIA in Japan's Wind Energy

Takeuchi, Ayano; Tanaka, Mitsuru

Turning Impact into Dialogue: ESIA for Transboundary Trust

Paholski, Libby; Orozakunov, Aibek

Lost in the Supply Chain: Bridging Human Rights in the Energy Transition

Rowan, Marielle; Mills, Hannah; Streater, Tom

Are We Living in the Post-Consultation Era? II

Room 301AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Paper session
Chair(s): Aaron Goldschmidt

This session addresses growing public disengagement in consultation processes, critically evaluating if we are in a "post-consultation era." Experts present cases studies of how meaningful consultation may be waning and where interventions have arisen to counter such conditions, including successful project refinements driven by genuine stakeholder engagement, and alternative strategies for impactful and legitimate public participation.

Going Under the Surface: Effective Communication in UK Subsea Development

Walker, Ed

Hong Kong's Two-Stage Consultation: Combating Public Disengagement

Ho, Tsz Yan; Ng, Mong Ling

Land Use Impacts in Power Line Permitting: Insights from Brazil's Hearings

Scarpelin, Juliano; Magno Moreira, Beatriz

Setting the Table: Pre-Engagement as the Cornerstone of Trust

Singh, Nidhi; O'Brien, Jesse; Toomasie, Lootie

Asian S3EA: Strategic, Spatial, and Sustainable EA with Effective Information II

Room 308B | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

S1. Special to IAIA
Paper session
Chair(s): Myungjin Kim, Takehiko Murayama

The advancement of remote sensing technology and information technology, spatial analysis with a variety of environmental, social, and economic items has received big attention in the AI era. This session will focus on IA examples which support the strategic decision including SEA and utilize the well-organized spatial scale analysis.

Framework to Maximize Biodiversity and Carbon-Neutrality Co-Benefits

Shin, Man-Seok; Seo, Chang Wan

Inferring River Condition from eDNA Using Supervised Machine Learning

Steel Pascual, Laura; Fehling, Mara; Annandale, Darko; Annandale, David

Beyond Policy Drift: Hydrodynamic Benchmarks for Saemangeum's Trust Deficit

Jeon, Seohyun

Culture's Role in Impact Assessment II

Room 206B | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information
Paper session
Chair(s): Nyoka Morris

This session explores the influence of culture and social inclusion communication in impact assessment, emphasizing the importance of understanding cultural differences and utilizing culturally appropriate tools to effectively communicate environmental effects thereby reducing the spread of misinformation and disinformation.

Cultural Adaptation in IA: Lessons from Two Inuit-Led Projects in Québec

Féret, Matthieu; Tagoona, Carson

First Nations Health in HIA: A Government Service for Indigenous Inputs

Campeau, Roxane; Laurin, Jessyca; Frenette, Étienne

From Significance to Abundance: Cultural Shifts in Impact Assessment

Halvorson, Courtney; Amyot, Jacinthe

Returning Knowledge: Creation of a Participative Mobile Exhibition

Tremblay, Audrey-Ann; Lavoie, Roxane

EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development II

Room 202 | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Section(s): Public Participation & Governance and Implementation Systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Mireya Archila Serrano, Jessica Motok

This session examines how effective participatory environmental assessments can enhance infrastructure planning and development by integrating technical and community knowledge in Latin America. EIA can foster dialogue between developers and communities, identifying shared interests and improving project outcomes and inclusive decision-making.

Disinformation About a Train Megaproject in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico

Montañez-Cartaxo, Luis E.

PV Plants Water Use: Strategies for Environmental and Social Risk Management

Olive, Marisol; Castillo, Ann Antonella

Inclusive Engagement for Offshore Wind in Latin America

Villas, Mariana; Oliveira, Alessandro

Engaging Indigenous Nations for Inclusive Impact Assessments and Misinformation Response I

Room 205BC | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Effah Antwi, Akua Darko

This session focuses on three interconnected themes: strengthening Indigenous leadership in impact assessment, addressing the challenges posed by misinformation and disinformation, and braiding Indigenous knowledge and cross-cultural approaches to build a more resilient impact assessment. Participants will learn best practices for engaging Indigenous Nations in co-designing, implementing, and reporting on impact assessment.

Disinformation from Within: Lessons from an Indigenous Consultation Case

Lord, Fabienne

Red River Métis Identity Fraud in Impact Assessment

Riel, Marci; Goulet, Christian

Mitigating Risk Through Inclusion: The Case for Assessor-Led Engagement

Patel, Mina; Sehgal, Shaina

IAIA Academia Section: IA Teaching and Research in the Age of Misinformation and Disinformation

Room 207 | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G1. Academia
Section(s): Academia
Paper session
Chair(s): Emilia Ravn Boess

In this session, IA researchers and academics share their wisdom with regard to IA teaching and research in the age of misinformation and disinformation.

Determinants and Opportunity for Digitalized Learning SPESSE Enrollees Nigeria

Shuaibu, Hajara; Suleiman, Hashim Muhammad

IA Education and Associated Research Linkages at Canadian Universities

Samad, Ataus

Synergies and Tradeoffs Within the SDGs Interactions

El Fadel, Mutasem; Issa, Lea

Expanding Dimensions of Tiering: Toward Coherent and Holistic IA

Ravn Boess, Emilia; Kørnø, Lone

Reclaiming the Narrative: Storytelling, Emotion, and Trust in Impact Assessment

Room 309A | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information
World Café
Chair(s): Meaghan Morrish, Madeline Mitchell

In an era of rampant misinformation, public trust in environmental assessments is undermined by fear and ideological divides. This session explores how emotional responses affect engagement with science and offers culturally grounded strategies to recognize, interrupt, and repair the harms caused by disinformation in environmental decision making.

Reframing Impact Assessment Narratives in Africa: Combating Misinformation, Power Asymmetries, and Distrust in Development II

Room 308A | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Kojo Amoyaw-Osei

This session explores how misinformation, institutional distrust, and poor communication undermine IA in Africa. It offers tools, case studies, and strategies for restoring trust, addressing disinformation, and strengthening inclusive engagement in IA processes through digital innovation, local storytelling, and participatory dialogue.

From "Not in My Backyard" to Shared Ownership: Restoring Public Confidence

Mamphay, Kwabena Kwakye

Communicating Environment Governance Through Storytelling

Amoyaw-Osei, Yaw

Disinformation Resilience Model for Evidence-Based Communication in ESIA

Nwafor, Godwin; Chukwudebe, Gloria; Nmecha Igara, Micheal

Using AI to Combat Climate Disinformation in Nigeria's Impact Assessment

Adenuga, Oluyemi

Sessions

Spreading the Deliberative Approach to Impact Assessment and Decision-Making

Room 206A | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

*T2. Inclusive public engagement
Workshop*

Chair(s): Francesca Fazio, Marina Costa

Adopting a deliberative approach in impact assessment and decision-making is often desirable, but rarely easy. Through global case studies and hands-on discussion, this workshop offers a chance to delve into common challenges and focus on strategies to overcome them, with the aim of spreading deliberative approaches across sectors and organizations.

Deliberating For Agreements: Negotiating Reforms with Paratransit Operators

Oso, Tosin; Olukoya, Taiwo

Including Local Communities in Biodiversity Offset Planning in Türkiye

Kozak, Meliha Beyza; Lise, Yildiray

Experience vs Science: Engaging Fishermen with a Deliberative Approach

Turco, Aldo

Learning from the Forest: How Indigenous Dialogue Can Heal Negotiation

Costa, Marina

Streamlining IA in an Era of Global Uncertainty II

Room 309B | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

*G10. Governance and implementation systems
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Bram Noble, Jill Blakley*

This session explores the opportunities and implications of streamlining impact assessment in the pursuit of major "nation building" projects.

(Un)reliability of Self-Declarations of Impacts in Simplified Assessments

Fonseca, Alberto; Nascimento, Thiago R.S.

Comparing Global Impact Assessment Approaches for New Nuclear Projects

Barndon, Jake

Streamlining IA of Offshore Wind Projects: Considerations for Canada

Northrup, Kostantina

What Nation are We Building? Streamlining and FPIC in Western Canada

Herbert, James

Repositioning IA in Challenging Times. Experiences from the Netherlands

van Peppen, Dennis

Sustainability, Complexity, and Expedited National Interest Projects

Gibson, Robert

Updating Best Practice Principles on Engaging with Indigenous Communities

Room 203 | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

*G12. Indigenous Peoples
Section(s): Indigenous Peoples
Workshop
Chair(s): Dyanna Jolly*

The Indigenous Peoples' section is updating the IAIA Best Practice Principles on Indigenous Peoples and Impact Assessment (SP9, 2012). In this session, we will report on progress since IAIA25 and lead a participatory workshop to review and refine a draft document. Everyone welcome!

USAID's ESIA Legacy and Looking Forward: Workshop

Room 304AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 11:00 - 12:30

*G9. Disasters and conflict
Section(s):
Workshop
Chair(s): Elisa Perry*

This ESIA Legacy and Looking Forward workshop will discuss a) lessons learned from USAID's application of ESIA principles and practices and their applications; b) ways to move forward with ESIA in development projects given USAID lessons learned; and c) small group presentations on lessons learned and applications.

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY | 14:00 - 15:30

(Re)building Trust and Transparency to Navigate Complex Energy Transitions II

Room 303AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

*T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Paper session
Chair(s): Vigya Sharma, Rauno Sairinen*

This session creates space for practitioners and researchers to draw on real-world cases and share lessons on (re)building trust with communities within/ beyond the impact assessment and permitting processes. It highlights the role of trust and transparency in navigating complex energy transitions across various technology types and world regions.

Defining a Minimum Transparency Threshold for Public Trust in Renewables

Nistorescu, Marius Costin; Doba, Alexandra; Matei, Octavian

Trust Through Transparency: Strengthening Renewable Energy EA in NS and NB

MacDonald, Nicole; Hardwick, Loretta; MacDougall, Kelly

Building Trust Through Community Engagement: A Case from Nepal's Hydropower

Gyawali, Raju

CNSC-Uranium Mines and Mills: A Case Study on Building Relationships/Trust

Froess, Ryan; Levine, Adam

Renewables in Australia: How Social Factors Shape Community Engagement

Cotton, Rebecca; Witt, Bradd; Colvin, Rebecca; Loginova, Julia

Accelerating with Integrity: Strengthening Social Impact Assessment in the Face of Urgency and Misinformation I

Room 301AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

*G14. Social impact assessment
Section(s): Social Impact Assessment
Paper session
Chair(s): Naomi Devetak*

This interactive session explores how social impact assessment (SIA) practitioners, government agencies, developers, and community leaders can uphold good practice while navigating an increasing urgency for projects amid opposition and misinformation.

Boundary Spanners: Working at the Interstices of Knowledge and Culture

Munday, Jane

Equipping Mining Communities to Participate in Social Impact Assessment

Egunyu, Felicitas; Boakye-Danquah, John; Abernethy, Paivi; Awuah, Kobby

Catch 22: How Impact Assessment Informs Benefit Agreements

Davies-Flett, Callie; Williams, Charlene

How FGDs Are Shaping Saudi's Giga Projects Community Development Plans

Shaabain, Majed; Alyousef, Faisal

Project Delays and Temporal Management in Japan's Dam Development

Hamamoto, Atsushi

Building Trust: Strengthening Accountability and Communication in Development Finance

Room 207 | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

*T2. Inclusive public engagement
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Victoria Marquez Mees*

Development finance institutions face grievances due to poor transparency and disinformation. This session explores real-life case studies highlighting the harm of misinformation. Stakeholders—including banks, communities, and civil society—share challenges and tools to improve engagement and achieve positive project outcomes.

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Cousins, Debbie

CEE Bankwatch Network

McGrath, Fidanka

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Troina, Giulia

Culture's Role in Impact Assessment III

Room 206B | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information

Paper session

Chair(s): Nyoka Morris

This session explores the influence of culture and social inclusion communication in impact assessment, emphasizing the importance of understanding cultural differences and utilizing culturally appropriate tools to effectively communicate environmental effects thereby reducing the spread of misinformation and disinformation.

China's Policy Environmental Impact Assessment Practice

Geng, Haiqing; Li, Nankun; Wu, Yanan; Guo, Qianqian

Building Trust through Presence in a Papua New Guinean LNG Project

Arifin, Ichwan; Miro, Zillar

Culture and Information Dissemination in Impact Assessments in Nigeria

Adieze, Ifechukwu; Uwakwe, Uchenna; Nzeadibe, Lewechi

When Heritage Becomes Economy: Impact Assessment Challenges in Mexico

Zarazua, A. David; Paterson, Robert

EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development III

Room 202 | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Section(s): Public Participation & Governance and Implementation Systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Mireya Archila Serrano, Jessica Motok

This session examines how effective participatory environmental assessments can enhance infrastructure planning and development by integrating technical and community knowledge in Latin America. EIA can foster dialogue between developers and communities, identifying shared interests and improving project outcomes and inclusive decision-making.

Planning Sustainable Infrastructure with a Territorial Approach in Peru

Conteras, Christian

Is Inclusive Engagement Achievable Within a Multisectoral Tourism Program?

Durand, Giovanna

Insurgent Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment in Brazil

Ciminelli Ramalho, Paula

Participation as Prevention: Strengthening E&S in Transport in Ecuador

Paredes, Adriana; Reinoso, Daniel

EIA Litigation Around the World

Room 309B | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Section(s):

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Dean Wallraff

EIA litigation in the US, the EU, and the Global South: What types of litigation are available in countries that have EIA laws to enforce or challenge EIAs, what types of organizations have the legal standing to file such cases, and what remedies can they obtain?

Access to Justice and Environmental Assessment Litigation in Germany

Schmutz, Lea; Geißler, Gesa

An Analysis of Renewable Energy Project Appeals in South Africa

Adams, Abulele; Davies, Megan; Rudolph, David; Mqokeli, Babalwa

Using California's EIA Law to Compel Mitigation of GHG Emissions

Wallraff, Dean

Engaging Indigenous Nations for Inclusive Impact Assessments and Misinformation Response II

Room 205BC | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Effah Antwi, Akua Darko

This session focuses on three interconnected themes: strengthening Indigenous leadership in impact assessment, addressing the challenges posed by misinformation and disinformation, and braiding Indigenous knowledge and cross-cultural approaches to build a more resilient impact assessment. Participants will learn best practices for engaging Indigenous Nations in co-designing, implementing, and reporting on impact assessment.

Countering Misinformation Through Indigenous-Led Impact Assessment

O'Faircheallaigh, Ciaran

What's Next and Beyond: Convening Toward Indigenous Decision-Making (IAMC)

Ursell, Charlie; Cardinal, Raymond

Assessing Likely Impacts of Mining in the Ring of Fire, Treaty No. 9, Ontario

Dabros, Anna; Antwi, Effah Kwabena; Waldron, Celina; Darko, Akua Nyamekye; Higgins, Kellina L.

Evolving Stakeholder-Inclusive Impact Assessment in Complex Settings I

Room 206A | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Paper session

Chair(s): Pete Gabriel

This session highlights innovative, context-responsive approaches to impact assessment across complex environments. Papers demonstrate how inclusive engagement, strengthened governance, and adapted methodologies improve environmental and social outcomes for large-scale infrastructure. Together, they show how integrating technical rigour with local realities enhances impact management, accountability, and decision-making in challenging development settings.

FPIC-Like Consent for Indigenous Peoples: Lessons from a Tanzanian Railway

Gilbert, Daniel; Kitila, Magdalena; Guldin, Gregory; Mirambo, Veronica

Managing Severance Impacts in Linear Infrastructure: Lessons from the 1915

Mumcu, Huseyin Melih

From Gridlock to Greenlights: Integrating Legitimacy, Engineering, and Regulation in Impact Assessment I

Room 304AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Section(s): Cumulative Effects

Solution room

Chair(s): Katherine Teh, Anna Quillinan

Projects needed for the energy transition increasingly stall due to unresolved legitimacy conflicts. This interactive session explores how impact assessment can move upstream in project design by diagnosing legitimacy conditions earlier, integrating community perspectives into engineering decisions, and aligning consent with regulatory pathways. Participants will test Development by Consent tools through participatory workshops.

Indigenous Rights in Impact Assessments: Reconcil(action), UNDRIP and GBA+ I

Room 309A | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples

Paper session

Chair(s): Alexandra Bridges

This session explores instruments and practices that can add credibility to an Impact Assessment process that is Indigenous-led and centered, responding to real community needs while advancing reconciliation in tangible, lasting ways.

Deconstructing LANDBACK Narrative and Navigating Implementation Strategies

Flett, Janelle

The National Healing Forests Initiative: Reconciliation in Action

Croal, Peter

Sessions

Nation-Directed Policy for the Meaningful Management of CEAM

Keefe, Justine; Banjoko, Keji; Davies-Flett, Callie; Flett, Janelle; Curran, Deborah

Justice in the Chain: Human Rights and Engagement in Energy Transition

Room 203 | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Caravan

Chair(s): Viviana Arango, Natalia Cuartas

How can human rights reshape renewable energy? This caravan session explores how HR enhance inclusive and meaningful communication, access to information, and participation in IA. We'll discuss emerging practices and dilemmas of human rights-based engagement on the value chain of renewable energy, addressing inequality, discrimination and exclusion.

Human Rights and Environmental License: An Inclusive Renewable Energy Roadmap

Villela Capanema Garcia, Pedro

Financing a Just Transition in the LAC Region

Pedro, Joana

Tension or Trust? Designing Benefit Sharing for Transition Mineral Mining

Ogorodnikova, Vera

Lithium for E-Mobility: Human Rights and Justice in Upstream Value Chains

Arbelaz Ruiz, Diana Carolina

Beyond Turbines: Human Rights Dimensions of Wind Energy in La Guajira

Cuartas, Natalia; Arango, Viviana

Let's Talk About Risk: Engaging on Low Likelihood, High Consequence Events

Room 308A | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Anna Sundby

Project engagement can get hung up on high consequence, low likelihood incidents that grab headlines (e.g., oil spills, tailings dam failures). How can we support meaningful conversations about these events, without derailing the conversation? This panel will explore good practice and the art and science of engaging on unplanned events.

Credibility of Risk Information: A Case Study of a Mining Tailings Dam

Massignan, Rafaela

Openly Discussing High Consequence Events with Context and Bounds

Horn, Matt

Early Warning Alert for Impact Mitigation Downstream of Hydropower Dams

Ziduche, Phillip; Munodawafa, Munyaradzi; Kabwe, Edward; Chisense, Christopher; Mhlanga, Sithembinkosi; Sata, Mwelwa Nsaka

Emergency Preparedness and Response and Communication Protocols for Tailing

Elkins, Bernie

Railroading the Assessment of Health and Social Valued Components in Impact Assessment

Room 308B | Wednesday, 20 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G11. Health

Section(s): Health

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Faiza Waheed

Mis/disinformation negatively affects engagement with communities, a vital component in the assessment of health and social impacts of major projects. In this session, we identify the impacts of mis/disinformation in the assessment of health/social VCs, and identify solutions, with emphasis on upholding rigorous engagement with Indigenous peoples.

Combating Misinformation in Indigenous Engagement for Impact Assessments

Pritchard, Gary

Engagement: A Panacea for Tackling Mis/disinformation in HIA and SIA?

Waheed, Faiza

Addressing Misinformation Challenges in Human Health Risk Assessments

Ferguson, Glenn

Feminist Cumulative Impacts and the Green Transition in Newfoundland

Dallaire, Camille; Pendakist, Katherine

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY | 16:00 - 17:30

(Re)building trust and Transparency to Navigate Complex Energy Transitions III

Room 303AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Paper session

Chair(s): Vigya Sharma, Rauno Sairinen

This session creates space for practitioners and researchers to draw on real-world cases and share lessons on (re)building trust with communities within/ beyond the impact assessment and permitting processes. It highlights the role of trust and transparency in navigating complex energy transitions across various technology types and world regions.

Strategic Cumulative Impact Governance: Trust and Transparency in Finland

Puustinen, Tuulia; Sairinen, Rauno

The Current Practice of Sustainability Assessment in Canadian New Nuclear Projects

Atlin, Cole; Shasko, Larissa; Ho, Jenny

Weaving a Truth-Resilient Social Fabric: The Gacaca, Umuganda, and ITORERO

Niyonkuru, Elie Cedrick

Weaving a Truth-Resilient Social Fabric: The Gacaca, Umuganda, and ITORERO

Dong, Wenwan; Gao, Qichen; Wu, Shuncheng; Huang, Tiejun

Accelerating with Integrity: Strengthening Social Impact Assessment in the Face of Urgency and Misinformation II

Room 301AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G14. Social impact assessment

Section(s): Social Impact Assessment

Paper session

Chair(s): Naomi Devetak

This interactive session explores how social impact assessment (SIA) practitioners, government agencies, developers, and community leaders can uphold good practice while navigating an increasing urgency for projects amid opposition and misinformation.

From Disinformation to Integrity: Ethical Paths for Social Impact

Reynolds, David

Evaluating the Impact of Disinformation on Intervention Projects in Nigeria

Chukwu, Kenneth; Ogbulie, JudeAnthony; Nwakwasi, Rachel

Action in the Backlash Era: The Accountability Challenges of Greenhushing

Cooper, Kelly; Hawkins, Neil

Economic Impact Assessment: Predictions vs Reality

Turner, Ashley; Gayoso-Haro, Vilma

Ecosystem Services and Project's Impacts: Social Inputs and New Methods

Ruiz, Cesar; Villamizar, Jose de Jesus; Alarcon, Jaime Eduardo

EA in Latin America: Bridging Infrastructure and Communities for Sustainable Development IV

Room 202 | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Section(s): Public Participation & Governance and Implementation Systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Mireya Archila Serrano, Jessica Motok

This session examines how effective participatory environmental assessments can enhance infrastructure planning and development by integrating technical and community knowledge in Latin America. EIA can foster dialogue between developers and communities, identifying shared interests and improving project outcomes and inclusive decision-making.

Lessons on Stakeholder Engagement from the IDB Grievance Protocol

Munoz, Cristina; Diaz Cabrera, Patricia Eliana

Engagement in Infrastructure: Lessons from Brazil's Legal Framework

Macedo, Sara

EIA, Stakeholders, and Environmental Flows: Finding Common Ground

Catacolí Jimenez, Ruth Alejandra

Planeja+: Participatory Methodologies for Socio-Environmental Governance

Miscalí, Sandra; Araujo, Isroberta; Aguilar Pontes Reis Silveira, Alejandra; Pontes, Dagma; Arruda, Fabiana; Silveira, Natália

Engaging Indigenous Nations for Inclusive Impact Assessments and Misinformation Response III

Room 205BC | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Effah Antwi, Akua Darko

This session focuses on three interconnected themes: strengthening Indigenous leadership in impact assessment, addressing the challenges posed by misinformation and disinformation, and braiding Indigenous knowledge and cross-cultural approaches to build a more resilient impact assessment. Participants will learn best practices for engaging Indigenous Nations in co-designing, implementing, and reporting on impact assessment.

Bridging Science and Indigenous Knowledge: A Community-Owned Platform

Lemzouji, Khalid; Golden, Denise

Indigenous Science in Indigenous Community Assessment in Canada and Ecuador

Ballard, Myrle

Evolving Stakeholder-inclusive Impact Assessment in Complex Settings II

Room 206A | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Paper session
Chair(s): Pete Gabriel

This session highlights innovative, context-responsive approaches to impact assessment across complex environments. Papers demonstrate how inclusive engagement, strengthened governance, and adapted methodologies improve environmental and social outcomes for large-scale infrastructure. Together, they show how integrating technical rigour with local realities enhances impact management, accountability, and decision-making in challenging development settings.

Integrating Indigenous Knowledge in EIA of Niger Delta Oil Exploration

Opara, Alexander; Adieze, Ifechukwu

EIA for KyaukPhyu Deep Sea Port: Empowering Local Action in Myanmar

Khin, Thuta; Hlaing, Kyaw; Tun, Than

Building Capacity for Sustainable Investment: Lessons from WBG in Peru

Pino Luna, Fiorella

From Gridlock to Greenlights: Integrating Legitimacy, Engineering, and Regulation in Impact Assessment II

Room 304AB | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Section(s): Cumulative Effects
Solution room
Chair(s): Katherine Teh, Anna Quillinan

Projects needed for the energy transition increasingly stall due to unresolved legitimacy conflicts. This interactive session explores how impact assessment can move upstream in project design by diagnosing legitimacy conditions earlier, integrating community perspectives into engineering decisions, and aligning consent with regulatory pathways. Participants will test Development by Consent tools through participatory workshops.

Indigenous Rights in Impact Assessments: Reconcili(action), UNDRIP and GBA+ II

Room 309A | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples
Section(s):
Paper session
Chair(s): Alexandra Bridges,

This session explores instruments and practices that can add credibility to Impact Assessment process that is Indigenous-led and centered, responding to real community needs while advancing reconciliation in tangible, lasting ways.

Trust in Practice: From Gender-Based Analysis to Actionable Tools

Prescott, Jessica; Bergeron, Kristina Maud

Auditing EIA Follow-Up in the Oil Sands: An Indigenous Rights Lens

Joly, Tara

Rights Impact Assessment Methodology

Jane, Nikki; Quilty, Braya

Plug in to IAIA!

Room 207 | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

S1. Special to IAIA
Workshop
Chair(s): Bridget John

Join us to learn more about IAIA and different ways you can get involved (Sections, Committees, Board, etc.).

Public Trust and Social Impact Assessment: Lessons Learned from Major Projects

Room 308A | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G14. Social impact assessment
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Michael Benson, Tracy L. Friedel

Social impact assessment (SIA) is the process of analyzing, monitoring, and managing the impacts of a project on people and communities. A transparent and robust SIA that explicitly incorporates monitoring and adaptive management can go a long way in building public trust. This session identifies lessons learned from SIAs on major projects.

Communicating Information to Build Trust in Giga Projects

Almansour, Maram; Alqarni, Daren

Trust as the Foundation: How Stakeholder Roles Shape SIA Outcomes

Howse, Tara

Reaching the Unheard: Inclusive Public Engagement in Practice

Room 308B | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Paper session
Chair(s): Kristina Maud Bergeron

This session explores inclusive engagement strategies in impact assessment to bring out the voices of marginalized or less vocal stakeholders and rightsholders. It highlights practical tools, participatory methods, and intersectional approaches that reduce barriers to participation, ensuring diverse perspectives meaningfully influence project outcomes.

The Symbiosis of Equality Impact Assessment and Stakeholder Engagement

Beard, James

Extending the Table: Space for Community Groups with the GBA Plus Approach

Bergeron, Kristina Maud; Prescott, Jessica

Sessions

Simple, Evidence Based Communication Approaches for Successful Biodiversity Conservation and Management

Room 206B | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G4. Biodiversity and ecology
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Peter Moore

Using case studies, this session will present best practices for communicating and agreeing on biodiversity management approaches that are consistent with the World Bank's ESS6 with project-affected communities, vulnerable groups, civil society, government agencies and clients.

Community-Led Biodiversity Management for Climate Resilience and Adaptation

Nwoko, Chris Obioma; Iwujii, Martin C.

Development of the ZTIP Biodiversity Compensation Strategy

Brennan Jacot, Maya; Chouinard, Helene

Scaling Additional Conservation Actions for Nature Positive Outcomes

Edwards, Stephen; Howard, Pippa; Estrada, Gustavo; Leitch, Larissa; Baggaley, Stacey; Bennun, Leon

From Compliance to Net Positive: Stakeholder Engagement for a Mine BAP

Raithel, Sophia; Bargoena, Larissa

Communicating Biodiversity Offsets with Local Communities

Lise, Yildiray; Kozak, Meliha Beyza

Tackling Nuclear Misinformation Through Creative and Scientific Dialogue

Room 203 | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Workshop
Chair(s): Larkin Mosscrop, Margot Hurlbert

This interactive session explores how STEAM-based engagement can build public trust in nuclear energy. Participants will examine strategies to address misinformation, foster understanding, and support inclusive dialogue around nuclear technologies—highlighting how education, creativity, and collaboration can empower meaningful participation.

The Next 30 Years of Health Impact Assessment: Introducing the Handbook on HIA

Room 309B | Wednesday, 20 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G11. Health
Section(s): Health
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Ben Cave, Francesca Viliiani

What role for Health Impact Assessment over the next 30 years? Panelists, drawn from the 90 authors who contributed to the "Handbook on HIA," will present and discuss the roles HIA, public health, and impact

assessment must play in addressing the challenges we face globally.

Competence and the Development of Competency Frameworks in the Field of HIA

Green, Liz

Quantitative, Research-Driven HIA of Urban Planning and Transport Policies

Mueller, Natalie

Health Promotion and Sustainable Development: The Role of HIA in Québec City

Lebel, Alexandre; Pigeon, Louis-Étienne; Tremblay, Émile; Diallo, Thierno

Health Impact Assessment in Energy Companies

Sommerville, Delya; Xiao, Yina

Psycho-Social Impacts and Health Impact Assessment

Edelstein, Michael

Health Impact Assessment: 30 Years Gone. 30 Years to Come

Viliani, Francesca; Cave, Ben

THURSDAY, 21 MAY | 09:00 - 10:30

After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? I

Room 202 | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G8. Cumulative effects
Section(s): Governance and Implementation Systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Carla Conkin

Looking squarely at the end-game, how exactly does CIA/SEIA/IA find its way into actual decision making, permitting/oversight, leading to successful projects/land use outcomes? Let's see the successes/failures/exposure and what this means for value and system change, as time stretches farther and farther away from the impact assessment itself.

Closing the Gap: Bringing Indigenous-Led CE Assessment into Decisions

Wilson, Barry

Post-ESIA Monitoring in an Irrigation Project: Lessons and Gaps

Kristensen, Christel Buch

Bridging the Gap Between HRIA Findings and Real Impact

Christopher, Mercy Tochukwu

Cultural Heritage: Current Trends and Best Practice I

Room 206A | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G7. Cultural heritage
Section(s): Cultural Heritage
Workshop
Chair(s): Arlene Fleming, Christopher Polglase

This workshop, organized by the IAIA Cultural Heritage Section, convenes invited practitioners to identify and discuss the optimal scope, content, dissemination, and use of a forthcoming document: Best Practice Principles for Cultural Heritage in Impact Assessment, and two supporting documents.

Gray & Pape, Inc.

Evans, Amanda

WSP Canada Inc.

Mason, Andrew

Independent Consultant

Campbell, Ian

B&K Consulting Group, LLC

Bedard, Justin

Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment

Patiwael, Patrick

Development Accountability: Fear of Retaliation, and How It May Affect the Integrity of Impact Assessments

Room 304AB | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
World Café
Chair(s): Imrana Jalal, Olivia Llanillo

Exploring how retaliation against stakeholders undermines information integrity in impact assessments, this session discusses protective mechanisms, shares case studies, and emphasizes collaborative approaches to ensure credible and effective assessments.

Asian Development Bank

Jalal, Imrana Jalal

Asian Development Bank

Llanillo, Olivia Rosita

Inter-American Development Bank

Troch, Serge-Henri

EBRD

Tahon, Renaud

World Bank Inspection Panel

Selwan, Serge

Disinformation Narratives and Communication Strategies in Latin American Projects

Room 207 | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information

Paper session

Chair(s): Renato Urresta Salgado, Sebastián Urresta Salgado

Misinformation in projects cannot be explained solely by the speed at which rumors circulate. Even when data and technical evidence exist, public perceptions are often shaped by narratives, emotions, and identities. This session explores how these dynamics affect projects and what communication strategies can address them.

Transparency and Timing: Addressing the Root Causes of Distrust

Urresta, Renato

Bridging Facts and Feelings in High-Profile Latin American Projects

Rojas, Julio; Senosier, Soraya

Building Trust with Kolla and Atacama Communities in La Puna, Argentina

Balcazar, Sonia

Beyond Rumor Control: Designing Communication that Builds Trust and Legitimacy

Urresta, Sebastián

Engaging Communities: Digital Storytelling for Trustworthy IA

Room 303AB | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies

Paper session

Chair(s): Clara U, Raymond Wong

Traditional impact assessment communication struggles to engage communities, allowing misinformation to spread. This session covers digital storytelling, visualization, and AI tools that transform complex data into accessible narratives, helping practitioners build community trust while maintaining scientific accuracy.

A Visual Map with Open "Instructions": China's Macro Management System

Zhan, Liwen

Digital Innovation in Stakeholder Engagement for Major Urban Infrastructure

Gontijo, Manuel; Marques, Raquel

Transforming IA with AI and Innovations: A Case Sharing from Hong Kong

Wong, Hang Wui, William; Mak, Sze Wah, Celine; U, Clara

AI-Driven Assessment and Refinement of Environmental Permit Lists

Cun, Siyan; Su, Mai

Enhancing Public Engagement and NEPA Reviews Through Engage AI

Pearce, Andrea; Murphy, Kevin

ESIA and Permitting Improvements for Efficiency and Effectiveness: Lessons Learned

Room 205BC | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Section(s): Governance and Implementation Systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Cheryl Wasserman

Participants explore reforms and streamlining of ESIA and permitting to achieve efficiency and effectiveness and address known challenges. Concerns over cost and time required for ESIA have created urgency for reforms and streamlining as officials strive to address climate change and critical infrastructure as well as needed economic investment.

Enhancing IA/Permitting Linkages: Opportunities and Digital Approaches

Tucker, Corey; Bonnell, Steve

Cutting Red Tape: Actionable Strategies for Efficient ESIA and Permitting

Stockman, Fern; Nguyen, Thanh; Horvath, Celesa

Beyond Compliance: Driving Better Outcomes Through Early Engagement

Bujlea, Masah; Almutairi, Yasser; Makhdom, Bandar;

Alzaharani, Ibrahim; Radi, Aceel

Evaluating Effectiveness of EIA Systems to Improve Environmental Governance

Garcia Zavala, Consuelo; Worden, Sandy; Cote, Claire;

Rochford, Louisa

Fit For Future and Act at Present: Impact Assessment for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation I

Room 203 | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G5. Climate change

Section(s): Climate Change

Paper session

Chair(s): Yuan Xu, He Xu

This session explores how impact assessment informs climate mitigation and adaptation. Emphasis is on robust methods, comparable metrics, and equity-aware evidence to guide decisions under uncertainty. Speakers demonstrate pathways to quantify benefits, trade-offs, and co-benefits, translating technical analyses into actionable insights that support timely, just, and effective climate strategies.

Nested Global, Regional, and Project System for Assessing Greenhouse Gases

Jenkins, Bryan

Grid Connectivity and Operational Flexibility for Green Ammonia

Lu, Zhongming; Mingolla, Stefano

Assessing the Availability and Affordability of Urban Solar Electricity

Xu, Yuan; Zhang, Kai

Good Morning, Impact Assessment! Data, Decisions, and Digital Wilds

Room 308B | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G15. Strategic environmental assessment

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Emily Charry Tissier, Ashley Noseworthy

Wake up to "Good Morning, Impact Assessment!" a high-energy, talk-show-style panel where AI meets permitting, storytelling, and ethics. Co-hosted by Emily and Ashley, this session serves up bold ideas, smart tech, and real talk with expert guests. It's sharp, surprising, and anything but business as usual.

Whale Seeker

Charry Tissier, Emily; Noseworthy, Ashley

Pisces Ocean Project Consultants

Gilson, Natalie

Caron Hawco Group Inc.

Hawco, Caron

Edgewise Environmental

Noseworthy, Ashley

Implementing Indigenous Free, Prior, Informed Consent in Impact Assessments I

Room 206B | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Rosanne Van Schie, Sheryl Lightfoot

Indigenous nations in Canada assert FPIC Protocols for Impact Assessments on resource projects. This session, co-chaired by Dr. Sheryl Lightfoot of the UN expert mechanism, explores Canadian and international case studies, emphasizing Canada's adoption of the United Nations Declaration Act (UNDA 2021) to integrate Indigenous law into environmental legislation.

Implementing FPIC: The Kebaowek vs. Chalk River Nuclear Case

Van Schie, Rosanne; Lightfoot, Sheryl; McLaren, Kacie

All Tahltan Trails Lead to Indigenous Consent: Sharing Our Journey

Pritty, Connor; Osborne, Anna

Reimagining IA as a Boundary Object: Implications for Resource Governance

Worden, Sandy

Sessions

Managing Sensitive Data and Right to Privacy in Impact Assessment

Room 309B | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Paper session
Chair(s): Zoe Mullard

This session examines impact assessment and data privacy considering the responsible management of sensitive, cultural, and Indigenous knowledge. Speakers will explore data sovereignty, risks of traditional knowledge sharing, ethical integration of AI, and emerging approaches from global jurisdictions that allow assessments to respect rights, diversity, and community-controlled information.

Navigating Imperfect Information on Indigenous Interests

Botel, Tamlyn; Tam, Jordan

Navigating Imperfect Data on Indigenous Interests

Tam, Jordan; Botel, Tamlyn

Data Protection for Sharing TK and TLUS That Strive for Sovereignty

Williams, Charlene

AI and Privacy: Risks and Opportunities in IA

Mullard, Zoe

Public Participation in IA Follow-Up for Ongoing Communication and Providing Sound Information

Room 301AB | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Jos Arts

What are the best strategies to engage communities, communicate and share information on monitoring, evaluation and management matters during IA follow-up? Papers addressing evolving practices are discussed with participants.

Experiences with Public Participation in IA Follow-Up

Arts, Jos; Morrison-Saunders, Angus

From Assessment to Action: Creating Lasting Social Impact in a Leading Tour

Alyousef, Faisal

DiscloseAI: A Case Study in Auditable Disclosure and Grievance Tracking

Almasi Simsic, Ildiko

Tools for Building and Demonstrating Project Consensus in Impact Assessment

Groves, Lucy; Flaherty, Allison

Renewing Renewables' Impact Assessments: Tackling Misinformation

Room 302AB | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Adele Tharani

Misinformation, social license to operate, and economic issues are plaguing renewables. How might impact accounting, AI, GIS, and cross-actor coalition help us reimagine how we assess and manage the natural and social impacts of renewable energy projects towards most net-value creation for people and nature?

GIST Impact

Sukhdev, Mahima

Ocean Energy Pathway

Oglivie, Charles

Global Wind Energy Council

Clarke, Emerson

World Economic Forum

Nguyen, Hanh

Orsted

Tharani, Adele

Synergies between Impact Assessment and the Circular Economy

Room 308A | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Tomas Ramos

Synergies between impact assessment (IA) and circular economy (CE) are explored. IA tools (e.g., EIA, SEA) can assess CE initiatives, while CE strategies can help reduce the environmental effects of policies/plans/projects. Integrating both supports cross-sectoral decision-making and overcomes silo thinking in sustainability planning and assessment.

How Guided Communication Can Create Synergies Between CE and EA

Zimmerman, Jenny K.M.; Faith-Ell, Charlotta; Norström, Sara H.

Linking DNSH Impact Evaluation and Circular Economy in Public Programs

Ramos, Tomás B.; Sousa, Diogo; da Silva, Alexandre Rodrigues

Using Digital Tools to Enhance Transparency and Collaboration During Impact Assessments

Room 309A | Thursday, 21 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies
Paper session
Chair(s): David Robbins

Digital systems within impact assessment can be a way to improve aspects of the process, including increased transparency, increased stakeholder participation and trust, and overall IA efficiency. This session discusses how digital platforms can influence impact assessments, and potential barriers to adoption and how to overcome them.

Interactive Map to Support Transparent Planning and Community Engagement

Cosmopoulos, Patricia

Collaborative Approaches to Indigenous Engagement on Infrastructure Project

Donnelly, Victoria; Croll, Elise

Enhancing Stakeholder Engagement Through Improved Access to Information

Janes, Jeffrey; Tucker, Corey

Enhancing Trust and Engagement in Urban Development Projects

Bin Abdullah, Khairul Hisyam; bin Amra Ramly, Saiful Bahari; bin Abang Madehi, Abang Nazrul Afizi

THURSDAY, 21 MAY | 11:00 - 12:30

After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? II

Room 202 | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G8. Cumulative effects
Section(s): Governance and Implementation Systems
Paper session
Chair(s): Carla Conkin

Looking squarely at the end-game, how exactly does CIA/SEIA/IA find its way into actual decision making, permitting/oversight, leading to successful projects/land use outcomes? Let's see the successes/failures/exposure and what this means for value and system change, as time stretches farther and farther away from the impact assessment itself.

From IA to Reality: Bridging Planning and Operations Across Sectors

Oak, Tara

From Strategy to Action: Managing Cumulative Effects in National Parks

Hiraga, Eri; Cherry, Heather; de Montreuil, Leah

From Assessment to Action: The Value of E&S Safeguards at the KDRP

Sata-Haruperi, Mwelwa Nsaka; Munodawafa, Munyaradzi; Mhlanga, Sithembinkosi; Ziduche, Phillip

Fort McKay's Odor Issues: Challenges, Successes, Lessons, and the Future

Su, Danlin; Golden, Denise; Aina, Foluke; Paquette, Brandon; Faichney, Bridget; Spink, David

Cultural Heritage: Current Trends and Best Practice II

Room 206A | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G7. Cultural heritage
Section(s): Cultural Heritage
Workshop
Chair(s): Arlene Fleming, Christopher Polglase

This workshop, organized by the IAIA Cultural Heritage Section, convenes invited practitioners to identify and discuss the optimal scope, content, dissemination, and use of a forthcoming document: Best Practice Principles for Cultural Heritage in Impact Assessment, and two supporting documents.

Cumulative Effects: Whose Responsibility Is It Anyway?

Room 301AB | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G8. Cumulative effects
Section(s): Cumulative Effects
Panel discussion
Chair(s): David Brescia

Should cumulative effects be the responsibility of project proponents who want projects approved, of governments who manage natural resources, or of Indigenous communities who have deep connections to the land? This panel will discuss the merits of different approaches and how parties can work together to effectively manage cumulative effects.

Cumulative Effects Management in BC: Shared Mandates and Emerging Pressures

Grant, Jennifer

The Cumulative Crunch: Sharing Responsibility in Northern Canadian CEA

Setterington, Mike

Who Does What in CEA? Reflections from Australia

Pope, Jenny

An Indigenous Approach to Transforming CEAM: KFN Knowledge Map and Typology

Ignace, Lawrence; Johnson, Mary-Jane (Gudia)

Indigenous-Led Impact Assessment: Lessons for Assessing Cumulative Effects

Williams, Sheila; Arnold, Lauren

Fit For Future and Act at Present: Impact Assessment for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation II

Room 203 | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G5. Climate change
Section(s): Climate Change
Paper session
Chair(s): Yuan Xu, He Xu

This session explores how impact assessment informs climate mitigation and adaptation. Emphasis is on robust methods, comparable metrics, and equity-aware evidence to guide decisions under uncertainty. Speakers demonstrate pathways to quantify benefits, trade-offs, and co-benefits, translating technical analyses into actionable insights that support timely, just, and effective climate strategies.

Climate Adaptation in Nepal: A Society-Centred Approach to Water Extremes

Poudel, Arati; Xu, Yuan

Future Global O₃ Pollution Projections, and Health Impact Estimations

Lu, Xingcheng; Jiang, Yuxiao

Using HIA to Evaluate the Health Co-Benefits of Climate Change Policies

Diallo, Thierno

Implementing Indigenous Free, Prior, Informed Consent in Impact Assessments II

Room 206B | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Rosanne Van Schie, Sheryl Lightfoot

Indigenous nations in Canada assert FPIC Protocols for Impact Assessments on resource projects. This session, co-chaired by Dr. Sheryl Lightfoot of the UN expert mechanism, explores Canadian and international case studies, emphasizing Canada's adoption of the United Nations Declaration Act (UNDA 2021) to integrate Indigenous law into environmental legislation.

Certainty vs. Speed: Balancing Timing and Community Power in FPIC

Vicuña, Santiago; Arellano, Javiera; Oyanader, Karol

Countering Mis/Disinformation in Indigenous Knowledge Studies in Canada

Milley, Chris; Gillis, Angeline; Stewart, Ian

Bridging IAs and Impact-Benefit Agreements for Better Community Outcomes

Lepine, Melody; Lamothe, Tara

Perspectives on Assessing Cumulative Impacts in the Global South

Room 308B | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G8. Cumulative effects
Paper session
Chair(s): Juliana Siqueira-Gay, Luis Sánchez

Papers presented are from both professional practice and research backgrounds on the application of cumulative impact assessment in jurisdictions where practice is emerging. The session seeks to contribute to building and sharing knowledge adapted to the Global South context on CIA at the project and regional levels, or associated with SEA.

Cumulative Impacts in Indigenous People by Infrastructure in the Amazon

Utsunomiya, Renata

PMAs: Critical Assessment of Synergistic Impacts in the O&G Industry

Victória Carvalho Guido, Rodolfo; Rangel, Kamila; Dias, Julio; Teixeira, Bruno; Oliveira, Graziela; Candido, Lucas

Macro Plan: Innovation in Impact Management for the Oil and Gas Supply Chain

Rangel, Kamila; Candido, Lucas; Dias, Júlio; Teixeira, Bruno; Oliveira, Graziela; Teixeira, Hélio

Advancing Cumulative Impact Assessment in the Global South

Sánchez, Luis; Siqueira-Gay, Juliana

Planning Support Systems for Environmental Assessment and Urban Decision-Making

Room 207 | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies
Section(s): Climate Change
Paper session
Chair(s): Seunghyun Jung

This session highlights innovative planning support systems that enhance environmental assessment and urban planning. It features case studies and tools—such as GIS-based platforms, digital twins, and AI systems—that support spatial analysis, scenario modeling, and climate-responsive decision-making.

Urban Form, Carbon Footprints, and Planning Support Systems

Kim, Taehyun

Integrated Decision Support Platform for Climate Change Impact Assessment

Park, Jinhan; Shim, Chang Seop; Song, Young-il; Kim, A.; Lee, E.B.

Sessions

Integrating 3D Spatial Data Cubes and AI-Based Machine Learning

Chang, Yohan; Son, Jae Soen

Development of an Urban Planning Support Platform for Carbon-Neutral Urban

Kim, Dusik; Jung, Seunghyun

Simulating Landscapes Across Canada to Support Environmental Assessment

Bindle, Liam; Carlson, Matt; Bonnyman, Matt; Belisle, Chad

SEAs and Sustainable Development Plans for 2050

Room 304AB | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G15. Strategic environmental assessment

Solution room

Chair(s): Peter Nelson

The global SEAs for 2050 initiative will be presented, highlighting case studies in Sierra Leone and Kenya, which are using SEA to create national sustainable development plans for 2050. Discussion will focus on the application of AI for scenario building and social media for engaging citizens (especially the youth) as stakeholders.

Reflections on the Progress of Pilot SEAs for 2050

Nelson, Peter; Simsic, Ildiko

Work in Progress on the SEA for Sweet Salone 2050

Koroma, Ranita; Koroma, Mohamed

Work in Progress on the SEA for Kenya 2050

Nyarangi, Joakim; Nyangena, John

Shaping the Future of Environmental Governance Through Advances in IT, GIS, and AI

Room 205BC | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

Section(s): Governance and Implementation Systems

Workshop

Chair(s): Giuseppe Magro

This workshop introduces the cloud-based IAIA Environmental Governance Platform project to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of IA, permitting, compliance monitoring, and enforcement through advances in IT, GIS and AI, adaptable for all countries, preserving the sovereignty and integrity of each country's data and policies with opportunities to contribute.

Shovel Ready vs Participation Ready: IA in the Age of Streamlining

Room 302AB | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Section(s): Public Participation

Workshop

Chair(s): John Sinclair, Anna Johnston

As governments prioritize "build, baby, build" agendas, how can we preserve the public's ability to participate meaningfully in decisions that affect them? In this session, participants will brainstorm options for improving IA

efficiency without sacrificing meaningful engagement. What options exist within IA, and what options might lie outside it?

More Efficient Public Participation Through Pre-Assessment Training

Hazell, Stephen

Participation Ready Through Off-Ramps for Sticky Issues

Sinclair, John

Building Guardrails for Effective Early Planning

Johnston, Anna

Digital Participation: Lessons From Practical Experiences

Eijssen, Paul

Canadian Regional Assessments in the Age of "Efficiency and Effectiveness"

Kofahl, Mike

Strategic, Not Generic: The Next Generation of Regional Assessments

Room 303AB | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Catherine Claveau-Fortin, Julia Cyr-Gagnon

Amid growing environmental pressures, targeted sectoral or regional assessments are essential. This session presents five papers combining academic insights and government practice, mainly from Canada, with one European case offering relevant parallels. Through concrete examples, it highlights approaches that avoid vague or overloaded analyses while integrating climate uncertainty and cumulative effects to support more strategic and actionable assessments.

Making the Case for Territorial Impact Assessment

Marot, Naja

Review of Regional Assessment Case Studies and Synthesis of Best Practices

Lerner, Jackie; James, Dana; Tighsazzadeh, Mohammad

Nasir, Tam, Jordan

Collaborative Approaches to Assess Regional Cumulative Effects of Shipping

Mansfield, Samuel

Regional Assessment Goals, Outcomes, Uses: IA Practitioner Perspectives

Bonnell, Steve

Quebec's New Regional Framework for Stronger Environmental Governance

Claveau-Fortin, Catherine; Cyr Gagnon, Julia

Territorial Security in Communities Impacted by Industrial Activities

Room 308A | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Paper session

Chair(s): Juliana Melo

This session explores how industrial activities affect territorial security and community resilience. It highlights inclusive assessment practices—such as participatory monitoring; Rights of Nature; multispecies justice; and free, prior, and informed consent—that address power asymmetries, counter misinformation, and re-center community voices in socio-environmental impact assessments.

Resettlement and Consent: Safeguards and Social Rebuttals in Development

Kang, Seonghee

Where River Meets Sea, Justice Flows: Watu's Wave with Rights

Ferri Luciano, Camila; Leão, Marina

Improving FPIC Practices Through Indigenous-Led Protocols

Hanna, Philippe; Diantini, Alberto

Blue Justice and Territorial Security in Artisanal Fishing Communities

Melo, Juliana; Tometich, Patricia; Walter, Tatiana; Mello,

Matthews; Dias, Tanize,;

The Importance of Effective Communication for Impact Assessments

Room 309B | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve

transparency

Paper session

Chair(s): José Zegarra

Understanding impact assessments is essential for stakeholders to provide informed input. Effective communication ensures project information is culturally contextualized, promoting meaningful participation. This session explores adaptive strategies to improve understanding and support socially legitimate environmental decision-making processes.

Improving Communication & Transparency in Parks Canada Assessments

Rodrigues, Vanessa

Streamlining Community Consent for Mining: Experience from Mongolia

Nyamsuren, Narantsetseg

Managing Corporate Communication Amid the Rise of the Disinformation Industry

Rodriguez Fernández, Leticia

Traditional Owner Relationship Focus for Better Assessment Outcomes

Graham, Andrew

Using Digital Tools to Enhance Transparency and Collaboration During Impact Assessments II

Room 309A | Thursday, 21 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies

Paper session

Chair(s): David Robbins

Digital systems within impact assessment can be a way to improve aspects of the process, including increased transparency, increased stakeholder participation and trust, and overall IA efficiency. This session discusses how digital platforms can influence impact assessments, and potential barriers to adoption and how to overcome them.

Rebuilding Trust in the EA Process Through Advanced Linear Routing

Fox, Brandon

A Case Study in Tree, Mangrove, and Coral Restoration

Zaeter, Sawсан; Dominick, Micah

AI-Enhanced Modeling of Turbidity Impacts on Downstream Ecosystems of Dam

Chung, Sewoong; Kim, Sungjin; Kim, Dongmin

THURSDAY, 21 MAY | 14:00 - 15:30

"Science Isn't Just for Scientists": IA and Advancing Technical Literacy

Room 308B | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy

Paper session

Chair(s): Sean Maher

From data visualization to co-developed information products, this session showcases how recent IA practice leans into questions of public trust and technical literacy through adaptive communication, including examples of co-developed approaches and analysis of scientific literacy-public acceptability interfaces.

Communicating Ecological Modelling in Impact Assessment

Quinby, Francis

Public-Friendly vs Technical Presentation of EIA Results: Dutch Practices

Muspitasari, Yulita; Huijting, Heather; van Ravesteijn, Maartje

Ac-cent-tchu-ating the Negative? Reviewer Fatigue and Missing the Message

Shalagan, Jennifer

UNFCCC CPIA Interface for Policy Literacy: Making Complex Models Accessible

Lata, Kusum; Agyemang Bonsu, William; Adhiasto, Agung; Shutes, Lindsay; Flaig, Dorothee

Credibility Through Co-Development in Marine Cumulative Effects Assessment

Tamburello, Natascia; Planes, Gordon

After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? III

Room 202 | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G8. Cumulative effects

Section(s): Governance and Implementation Systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Carla Conkin

Looking squarely at the end-game, how exactly does CIA/SEIA/IA find its way into actual decision making, permitting/oversight, leading to successful projects/land use outcomes? Let's see the successes/failures/exposure and what this means for value and system change, as time stretches farther and farther away from the impact assessment itself.

Comparing Indigenous Values and Economic Measures in Impact Assessment

Durksen, Lara; Lewis, Diana

Bridging Design and Delivery: Lessons from Romanian Transport

Borlea, Silvia; Nistorescu, Marius; Doba, Alexandra

Beyond Compliance: How CIA/IA Shape Decisions and Outcomes in Bonny Island

Suleiman, Abbas

Innovative Dialogue to Counter Misinformation: The BAPE and Asbestos Issues

Perreault, Jonathan; Zayed, Joseph

Assessing Integrity: The Role of Impact Assessment in High-Quality Nature-Based Carbon Projects

Room 207 | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G2. Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries

Paper session

Chair(s): Ross Mitchell

This session examines how impact assessment strengthens the integrity of nature-based carbon projects. Papers address human rights risk, community engagement, IFC-aligned governance systems, adaptive impact management, and alignment with emerging integrity frameworks. The focus is on practical IA tools that improve credibility, reduce governance risk, and support defensible climate outcomes.

Assessing Integrity: Social and Human Rights Assessment in Carbon Projects

Gotto Walton, Katharine; Sully, Rita

Enhancing Integrity in Nature-Based Carbon Project Assessments

Chalikonda, Tejasvini; Evans, Rob

Brújula Verde: IFC-Aligned Impact Assessment Driving Carbon Integrity

Giraldo Tirado, Victor David; Silva-Sierra, Daniel; Trujillo, Alvaro; Jimenez, Ana M.; Florez, Laura

Malaysia: Assessing Net Positive Impact of a Nature-Based Solutions Project

Koh, Jane

Enhancing Nature-Based Climate Solutions through Impact Assessment

Mitchell, Ross

Effective Mis/disinformation Response: Rapid Capacity Building

Room 206A | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information

Game - Gaming

Chair(s): Sara Bice, Ika Trijsburg, Irem Kizilca

At IAIA26, we're all learning about the prevalence and pitfalls of mis- and disinformation for our work. But what can we do about it?! Join this highly interactive session on mis/disinformation response to build your capacity to identify, respond to, and prevent dis/misinformation.

Ethical Choices: Critical Minerals, National Interest, and Indigenous Rights

Room 205BC | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T5. Professional recognition and certification systems

World Café

Chair(s): Alan Chenoweth

A hypothetical scenario and World Cafe session exploring potential ethical dilemmas in Impact Assessment, through hypothetical scenarios and role-playing, to suggest tools, training, accreditation, and support for IA professionals; focusing on issues likely to arise where critical mineral extraction (for renewable energy) is proposed in areas important to Indigenous communities and culture.

Fair and Equitable Outcomes Through Deliberation and Wellbeing? Focused Approaches

Room 304AB | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Solution room

Chair(s): Julie Reid Forget, Eddie Smyth

This session will explore evidence from Canada and globally showing that combining deliberation throughout the project lifecycle with wellbeing-focused approaches can build trust between communities, developers, and governments. These practices improve project design, reduce conflict, support fair and equitable outcomes, and help ensure that beneficial projects proceed while harmful ones are avoided.

Sessions

Land Use Competition: Preventing Conflicts with Deliberative Land Planning

Reid Forget, Julie

Safeguarding People in Projects: The Need to Embrace Zero Harm Commitments

Shandro, Janis

Deliberative Wellbeing and the Fair and Equitable Project Approach

Smyth, Eddie

Fair Resettlement: Managing Stakeholder Expectations and Misinformation

Room 302AB | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G13. Public participation

Paper session

Chair(s): Hayato Kobayashi

This session examines managing stakeholder expectations during land acquisition and resettlement. Addressing challenges from speculation, political interference, and misinformation, speakers will share practical communication strategies, stakeholder engagement frameworks, and grievance mechanisms.

Overcoming the Trust Gap: Turning Negativity Bias into an Opportunity

Rustamov, Elshan

Addressing Communication Challenges on Government Resettlement Projects

Draper, Tracey; Rigby, Grace

Restoring Trust in Redevelopment: Lessons from Darul Hana Project

Bin Amra Ramly, Saiful Bahari; Bin Abdullah, Khairul Hisyam; Binti Hassan, Khadijah

FPIC: How Prior is Prior?

Room 303AB | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples

Paper session

Chair(s): Andrea Hafner

This session will address consultation and engagement with Indigenous peoples through the experiences of speakers working in 16 different countries around the world, and with different perspectives (Indigenous peoples, development banks, and industry). The audience will be invited to interact and share their practices and questions on this challenging and complex topic.

Early FPIC in Brazil Through Autonomous Consultation Protocols and PGTAs

Medeiros Paiva, Juliana; Rodrigues Velloso Cordeiro, Ana Carolina

Early Engagement Including Indigenous CE as an Approach to Reconciliation

Daniels, Melanie; Wilson, Danielle

Timing, Trust, and FPIC: Lessons from ADB's Indigenous Engagement

Cleto, Maria

FPIC: A Perspective on Meaningful Engagement in Brazil

Hafner, Andrea

How Can SEA and IA Practitioners Support Global Commons Alliance Partner Initiatives?

Room 203 | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

S1. Special to IAIA

Workshop

Chair(s): Weston Fisher, Abulele Adams

Join us to explore IAIA and Global Commons Alliance collaborative actions to address Planetary Boundary impacts and support science-based mitigation/regeneration planning at global, regional, and local scales. How can we overcome disinformation in addressing Planetary Boundary issues with systems-based methodologies? Day 1 attendance is strongly recommended in order to attend Day 2. Day 2 takes place Friday, 22 May, 14:00-15:30, in room 203.

Capacity Development for Understanding Earth and Human Systems in IA

Adams, Abulele

Indigenous Involvement in Oversight of Federally Regulated Energy Infrastructure

Room 206B | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Richard Aisaican, Geneviève Carr

Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees were established for two major pipeline projects. A decade later, these committees lead in oversight, shaping policy under the UN Declaration. Their work fosters trust, reconciliation, and aims to establish Indigenous-led regulatory institutions through collaborative governance and communication.

Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee: Line 3

Northwest, Kyra

Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee: Trans Mountain Expansion and Existing Pipeline

Thomas, Judi

Canada Energy Regulator (CER)

Sletto, Tracy

Natural Resources Canada

Lavoie, Kimberly

Operationalizing Free, Prior, and Informed Consent and Indigenous-Led Decision-Making in Impact Assessment

Room 301AB | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Margo Burgess-Pollet, Sylviane René

As UNDRIP sets a new global standard, the question is no longer whether to respect FPIC, but how to implement it. Drawing on experiences from the Wendat and Tahltan Nations in Canada and communities in Brazil, this panel shares practical tools and governance innovations to advance Indigenous-led, consent-based decision-making in impact assessment.

Holistic IA Methods Guiding Tahltan Nation Consent at the Red Chris Mine

Usborne, Anna; Pritty, Connor

Legitimacy Through Consent: The Wendat Nation's Voice on FPIC

Bolduc, Lori-Jeanne

Indigenous Peoples' FPIC Protocols in Brazil: A Methodological Analysis

Paz, Luciana

Transformative Impact Assessment: System Changing Leadership and Communication

Room 309A | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies

Workshop

Chair(s): Kimberley Swords

Help colleagues and clients achieve transformative impact from impact assessment practice. Based on global examples, we will unpack leadership and communication impact tools, and inspire you to aim higher in how you can transform systems. This practical workshop session will share examples and draw out the wisdom of the room, allowing you to meet and be inspired by new colleagues.

The Role of Leadership in EIA: Reflections from 40 Years of Experience

Jesus, Júlio

More than FPIC: Moving Beyond the Minimum of Consent in IA

Woodward, Emma; Castleden, Heather

Raising the Bar with the UNESCO World Heritage Committee: 10 Years on

Swords, Kimberley

Using Global Biodiversity Data to Make Past Assessments and Future Projections

Room 309B | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G4. Biodiversity and ecology

Paper session

Chair(s): Chloe Dawson, Benjamin Stimpson

Reliable and accurate global data is essential for policy-makers, companies, and financial institutions to address the biodiversity crisis. This session highlights the potential benefits and pitfalls of this data, from the perspective of researchers and practitioners, exploring how it can be used responsibly and effectively for impact assessment.

Strategic Spatial Sourcing Can Reduce Biodiversity Impacts of Nickel Mining

Dawson, Chloe

Input Datasets Lead to Disagreement on Dynamics of Ecosystem Structure

Stimpson, Benjamin

Publishing BIA Data: Challenges and Opportunities

Elleboode, Cédric

From Scoping to Accounting: The Advantages and Perils of Global Data

Raithel, Sophia; Sellers, Amy

Integrating Earth Observation Data into Impact Assessment Frameworks

Leblanc, Sylvain; Janzen, Darren; Thomas, Sylvia

From Site to Global: A Hybrid Approach to Improve Impact Management

O'Hickey, Ben; Pizzutto, Julie

What in the World is Going on with NEPA?

Room 308A | Thursday, 21 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Michael Smith

The past five years have seen dramatic changes in the administration and practice of impact assessment under the U.S. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This session will explore the implications of these changes for EIA practice both in the U.S. and globally.

The NEPA Impact Assessment Process: A Brief History of Reform Efforts

Smith, Michael D.

Changing Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act

Boling, Ted

Trump Policies Affecting Environmental Reviews for Infrastructure

Beightel, Eric

Recent U.S. Case Law in a Year of Change for U.S. EIA

Danko, P.E. "Pam"

THURSDAY, 21 MAY | 16:00 - 17:30

After the Assessment: Where's the Value and What Happened in the End? IV

Room 202 | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G8. Cumulative effects

Section(s): Governance and Implementation Systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Carla Conkin

Looking squarely at the end-game, how exactly does CIA/SEIA/IA find its way into actual decision making, permitting/oversight, leading to successful projects/land use outcomes? Let's see the successes/failures/exposure and what this means for value and system change, as time stretches farther and farther away from the impact assessment itself.

NEA-BC: Environmental Education and Participatory Governance in Oil-Producing Territories

Rosa Araujo, Isroberta; Rangel de Souza Miscali, Sandra

Environmental Impact Assessment: So What?

Davidson, Carla; Stuckless, Dan

Regulatory System Indicators that Inform CIA Value: Designed for Failure?

Conkin, Carla

What Happened in the End vs What Was Predicted? Predictive Audit Method

Collard, Rosemary; Dempsey, Jessica

An Exploration of the Use of Film for EIA: World Premier of a Short EIA Non-Technical Summary Film

Room 303AB | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Workshop

Chair(s): Rufus Howard

A creative workshop exploring how documentary film can transform IA reporting and NTS. Featuring a commissioned short film blending interviews, GIS and visuals, participants will learn how it was made, discuss lessons and costs, and reflect on broader applications. Outcomes include a practical filmmaking tip sheet for IA professionals.

Assessing Information: Conflicting Data, Indigenous-Led Thresholds, and Rebuilding Public Trust

Room 205BC | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples

Section(s): Indigenous Peoples

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Jacinthe Amyot

Conflicting data interpretation, selective bias, and shifting thresholds are eroding public trust in impact assessment. This panel examines cumulative effects failures, structural barriers to Indigenous data access, rights-based and

abundance thresholds, and open science approaches. Together, speakers explore how transparent, Indigenous-led methodologies can rebuild credibility and strengthen decision making.

Failing to Assess Cumulative Effects in BC's Northwest

Behr, Towagh

Barriers of Indigenous Environmental Health Cancer Research in Canada

Wetzel, Maja; Lewis, Diana

Rights-Based Thresholds and Communication in the Age of Disinformation

Banjoko, Moronkeji (Keji); Fung, Brian

Changing Thresholds and Narratives: Indigenous-Led Risk and Impact Assessment

Amyot, Jacinthe; Halvorson, Courtney

Open Science as a Form of Deliberative Data Generation to Support IA

Buse, Chris; Abad, Raine

Best Practices in Land Use Surveys and Better Information Sharing

Room 207 | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G14. Social impact assessment

Section(s): Social Impact Assessment

Paper session

Chair(s): Carine Durocher, Marie-Hélène Lacroix

This session will present best practices for conducting surveys with land users—Indigenous or non-Indigenous—to obtain reliable data on current land use and improve information sharing. By gaining a better understanding of socio-environmental interactions, project planning can avoid or minimize potential impacts on land-based activities.

Improved Impact Assessment Through the Red River Métis Land Use Database

Goulet, Christian; Staub, Connor

Follow-Up of Land Use: An Impact Management Tool for the Romaine Complex

Hébert, Patrick

Early geographic data for a better RAP in Hydro: A Case Study in Cameroon

Tomasino, Michel

Twanatahle:nas as Method: Building Trust in Indigenous Health Surveys

Thom, Olivia; Lewis, Diana; Yukwanulha Yukwanikuhliyo

Co-Designing Arctic Land Use Assessments with Inuit Communities

Lépine, Laurence

Sessions

Cumulative Effects Assessment: Does It Make a Difference?

Room 304AB | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G8. Cumulative effects
Section(s): Cumulative Effects
Workshop
Chair(s): Johanna Gordon

The aim of this workshop is to discuss a) if cumulative effects assessment, used as a stand-alone tool, or as part of EIA or SEA, is making a difference on the IA process and/or the decisions made, and b) what factors determine its effectiveness.

Introduction to the Workshop

Gordon, Johanna

An Evolving Practice That Calls for Shared Responsibility

Masella, Brigitte

Cumulative Impact Assessment: Two Visions, Two Outputs

Paez Zamora, Juan Carlos

Cumulative Community Health and Safety Risks in Unprecedented Industrial Development

MacLean, Rory; Picard, Chris

Making a Difference from the Start: Rethinking CEA through the Shipeku-Uini

Desroches-Maheux, Eve; Lafontaine, Bernard

Effective Access to Information and Redress in Development Financing

Room 302AB | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement
Solution room
Chair(s): Andrea Repetto Vargas, Gabriela Factor

This session spotlights the critical role of transparency and accountability in international development financing, especially in the face of misinformation and disinformation that can distort public understanding of infrastructure projects. Discussion includes 1) early inclusion of citizen voices and 2) grievance architecture and access to IAMs.

Indigenous-Led and Jointly-Led Regional Assessments in Canada

Room 206B | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples
Paper session
Chair(s): Patrick Ragaz, Mark Cliffe-Phillips

This session will present updates from three Indigenous-led/co-led RAs across Canada. Speakers will discuss early groundwork alongside governance issues, knowledge integration approaches, and roadblocks. The session will explore how Indigenous leadership is reshaping assessment practice, while highlighting challenges to address to succeed.

Regional Impact Assessment: St Lawrence River: Mohawk Council of Kahnawake

Law, Timothy; Ragaz, Patrick

Building Capacity for Mushkegowuk Participation in the Ring of Fire

Graham, Alana; Woodhouse, Troy

Building the Foundation for Indigenous-Led Studies in Northern Canada

Cliffe-Phillips, Mark; Wheler, Brett; Camsell-Blondin, Violet

Is the Sky Falling? Addressing the Impacts of Earth and Human Systems

Room 203 | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Workshop
Chair(s): Charlotte Bingham, Katie Fineran, Defne Arisoy

In this workshop, participants will experience how looking at a project as part of a larger, interconnected system can change how impacts are understood and communicated, in situations involving growth, electrification, and environmental concerns, using the Black Sea coast of Turkey as a case study.

Post-Resettlement Realities: Trust, Housing, and Livelihoods Reconsidered

Room 301AB | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G9. Disasters and conflict
Paper session
Chair(s): Gwendolyn Wellmann, Aysima Calisan

The session examines the complexities of post-resettlement life across project-induced, disaster-related, and climate-driven contexts, focusing on housing, livelihoods, and public trust. It explores how emotions, perceptions, and power dynamics shape recovery and how practitioners can engage more effectively with communities' lived experiences.

Displaced Rohingyas and Post-Resettlement Realities in Bangladesh

Haque, Emdad; Mahjabin, Rehnuma

When Trust Fails: Rethinking Resettlement Communication Through SIA

Calisan, Aysima; Wellmann, Gwendolyn

Evaluating Livelihood Restoration in Resettlement Planning in Nigeria

Olasehinde, Olatayo; Lawal, Adegboyega

Resettlement and Place Attachment: Orogun RAP Lessons, Ibadan, Nigeria (Case)

Salau, Ibrahim

Integrating Adaptation into Mining-Induced Displacement in South Africa

Wellmann, Gwendolyn; Gaffane, Thato

The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Local Opposition to Projects

Room 309B | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G14. Social impact assessment
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Pascal Rey, Peter Hochet

Project developers fear local opportunism, withholding information. This paradoxically creates the opposition they dread, a self-fulfilling prophecy (Merton), common in Global South projects. Discussions will cover reasons for this fear, disinformation, tech impact, and innovations like observatories, fostering trust-based engagement frameworks.

The Opacity Paradox: Secrecy, Compliance Failure, and Project Opposition

Petitpierre, Margot

How Transparency is a Key to Successful Infrastructure Projects

Borduas, Ginette

Innovating with Data: Territorial Observatories to Build Trust in Projects

Calvo, Guillen

Transparency to Trust: Communicating Complex Science and Data Effectively

Room 308B | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Paper session
Chair(s): Sonja Kosuta

This session brings together five perspectives on a shared challenge in impact and cumulative effects assessment: how we communicate science, earn trust, and make information meaningful for the people who rely on it. Across regions as different as Northern Canada, the Solomon Islands, and our marine waterways, we see the same pattern emerging. The volume of information is growing, expectations for openness are rising, and evidence-based decision-making is paramount.

Re-Theorizing Transparency: Integrating AI into the Transparency Framework

Batdorj, Bulgan; Kunz, Nadja

Innovating Trust: Strengthening Public Participation in Northern EAs

Lindsay, Nicole

Flowing Futures: A Story Map of Guadalcanal's Rivers and Development Impact

Fehling, Mara; Steel Pascual, Laura; Annandale, Darko; Annandale, David; Boseto, David;

Bridging Knowledge Systems: Insights from CEMS on Science Communication

Serra-Sogas, Norma

Transparency in IA: Open Science and Data Platform in Action

Kelly, Colter; Coulson, Jessica; Deblois, Kelsea

Watershed Intelligence: Integrating Science and Engagement in Impact Assessments

Room 308A | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

G4. Biodiversity and ecology

Paper session

Chair(s): Namrata Shrestha, Beth Williston

This session explores the importance of watershed intelligence that integrates scientific, local, and traditional knowledge with policies, plans, programs, and partners to build trust, promote collaborative decision-making, and ultimately strengthening impact assessments. Improved understanding of current and future impacts combined with inclusive engagement lead to better planning and environmental outcomes.

Watershed Intelligence: (Re)Connecting Policy, Perspectives, and Practice

Shrestha, Namrata

Assessing Connectivity and Planning Impacts: Graph Theory for Urban Wildlife

Ruppert, Jonathan

Applying Climate Impact Assessment for Municipal Asset Management

Dokoska, Kristina

Private-Public Partnerships for Flood Mitigation and Ecological Restoration

Samuels, Brendon

When Myth Builds Reality: Strategic Lessons for Impact Assessment in the Latin American Context

Room 309A | Thursday, 21 May | 16:00 - 17:30

T6. Stopping the spread of false information

Solution room

Chair(s): Andres Amaya, Yaddy Ruiz

We explore how myths shape reality in Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) in Latin America. The session proposes a dual approach: applying maximum technical rigor in the environmental assessment, combined with educational and empathetic communication strategies that validate legitimate community concerns and counter disinformation.

FRIDAY, 22 MAY | 09:00 - 10:30

Advancing Government Approaches to Effective Science Communication in Impact Assessment I

Room 206A | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Sonja Kosuta

This panel session explores strategies to improve the communication and dissemination of scientific information in impact assessments. Emphasis is placed on enhancing transparency and accessibility while ensuring that, despite growing pressure to streamline project approvals, decisions remain grounded in rigorous science.

From Data to Understanding: Building Trust in Regulation

Noakes, Rain Forest; Froess, Ryan; Robichaud, Courtney; Peters, Pete

Insights from IA Technical Reviews on Science Communication in Canada

Fiset, Clarisse; Cole, Jennifer; Lenganh, Marie-Eve

Communicating Groundwater Science in Canadian Impact Assessment

Bunn, Melissa

Lessons Learned from Seismic Reviews of Impact Assessments in Canada

Cassidy, John

Biodiversity Impact Assessment: Transparency and Improved Communication for Decision-Making I

Room 308A | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Section(s):

Paper session

Chair(s): Zishu Wang

This session will explore how to empower BIA to formulate the tool level and shape the decision-making framework for information disclosure, communication, public participation, and implementations, thereby transforming BIA into an ecologically protective measure with a solid scientific basis and legal foundation.

From Participation to Practice: A Model to Engage Biodiversity in EIA

Guedes Pereira, Luciana; Sousa, Paulo; Melo, Ana Catarina; Gonçalves, Bruna; Ribeiro, Francisco; Pearce, Shaun

Capitalizing on Expert Knowledge to Improve Mitigation

Campbell, Genevieve; Humle, Tatyana

Strengthening Biodiversity Information and Decision Quality in Ugandan EIAs

Agaba, Mulumba; Fischer, Thomas

Binding Biodiversity: Estonia's Green Network in Strategic Planning

Kurisman, Anni

Breaking the Academic Silence in LATAM : Communicating Environmental Assessment

Room 308B | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G1. Academia

Paper session

Chair(s): Veronica Evelina Giberti, Kay Bergamini

This session invites a critical discussion on how to educate professionals who can communicate environmental assessments with clarity and strategic intent in Latin America. It brings together innovative pedagogical approaches and practice-oriented perspectives on transparency, access to environmental information, data-driven insights and positioning communication as a cross-cutting competency for better decisions.

Environmental Literacy: Clearer Cross-Professional Dialogue, Stronger EIAs

Giberti, Verónica

University Students' Insights About Communication and Practices in EIA

Poggi, Johanna

Teaching EIA in Chile: Curricular Mapping, Perceptions, and Communication

Bergamini, Kay; Pérez, Cristian; Araya, Gino; Narvaez, Fernando

SEIA, Escazú, and AI: Public Access to Environmental Information in Mining

Araya, Gino; Bergamini, Kay

The Use of Data Correlations from Communities Vulnerable to the SDGs

Braga Castro, Fernando Augusto; Torres Netto, Alena; de Sá Salomão, André Luís

Climate Change Impact Assessment: Countering Misinformation with Science

Room 304AB | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G5. Climate change

Section(s): Climate Change

Paper session

Chair(s): Ahmed Sanda

This session seeks to spark interdisciplinary dialogue among practitioners, regulators, and researchers developing new strategies for climate-inclusive IAs. It explores advances in applying climate science in IA mitigation, addressing climate risk in ways that counter misinformation and contribute to overall sound decision-making.

Sessions

Coastal Vulnerability Modeling: Balancing Land Use in a Changing Climate

Luo, Haina

Exploratory Research on Coal Mine Methane Emission Reduction

An, Guangnan; Li, Jia

Ocean-Climate Impact Assessment in Canada after the ICJ Advisory Opinion

Seck, Sara

The Importance of Communicating Climate Change Costs

Davidson, Christopher

Enhancing the Credibility and Impact of Climate Change and Health Impact Assessments

Room 301AB | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G11. Health

Paper session

Chair(s): Chris Buse

Climate change is already impacting human health around the world. This session explores novel approaches to health impact assessment that attend to the health risks posed by climate change and acute climate-related emergencies, with a focus on enhancing the credibility and impact of these novel assessment methods.

Iterating on Climate and Health IAs: Lessons from the Canadian Experience

Buse, Chris

Integrating Machine Learning and Health Impact Assessment: Novel Approaches

Jiang, Yuxiao; Lu, Xingcheng; Sukitpaneenit, Manlika

Assessing Heat-Health Risks and Green Infrastructure Indicators

Kim, Ejin; Song, Insung; Kim, Ho

Food Security: Links to Climate Change and Health Impact Assessment

Wirz-Endryas, Fiona; Georgekish, Bradley

Everything Everywhere All at Once: Harnessing Holistic Impact Assessment

Room 206B | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Paper session

Chair(s): Heather Giddens

Holistic impact assessment encourages a multi-dimensional perspective of direct, indirect, and cumulative effects. However, guidance on this approach is limited. Potential frameworks and holistic assessment examples will be shared to understand if/how holistic impact assessment can enhance understanding of effects, build trust, and support sustainable decision making.

People of the Saltwater: Indigenous Cumulative Effects Assessment

Masters, Lore; Tamburello, Natascia

The CNA nê?kêpmx Impact Assessment Strategy

Ross, Natalie; Kabotoff, Erica

Assessing Indirect and Cumulative Impacts to Indigenous Hunting

Carlson, Matthew; Rempel, Rob; Goulet, Wendy; Bindle, Liam

Adversely Positive: Balancing the Narrative in Health Impact Assessments

Stahl, Lauren; Gayoso-Haro, Vilma

HIA and One Health: Valuable Tools for Holistic Impact Assessment

Knopper, Loren; Husband, Brian; Noble, Tania

A New Framework for Holistic Impact Assessment for Offshore Wind

Stewart, Ian; Covey, Brad

Experiences in Enhancing Communication Through the Application of AI in IA

Room 202 | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G3. AI and emerging technology

Section(s): Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology

Paper session

Chair(s): Lone Kørnøv

Building on IAIA25, there is a need to understand how the applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI), in all its forms, is contributing (or otherwise) to the improvement of communication in Impact Assessment and, specifically, managing and avoiding misinformation and/or disinformation.

AI as Boundary Infrastructure in Environmental Assessment

Kørnøv, Lone; Lyhne, Ivar

Digital and Interactive EA: Ensuring Data Quality and Integrity

Forghaniallahabadi, Maryam

Copiloting Socio-Economic Baselines: Enhancing IAs with AI

Sehgal, Shaina; Patel, Mina

Leveraging AI for Real-Time Environmental Intelligence and Risk Management

Leclerc, Vincent

Artificial Intelligence for Environmental Sustainability in Nigeria

Eche, Christopher; Nnamonu, Lami

Hallucination as a New Form of Truth in the AI Times

Pérez, Cristian; Araya, Gino

Gender and Intersectional Analysis in IA: Showcasing Theory and Practice I

Room 207 | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Paper session

Chair(s): Patricia Fitzpatrick, Dawn Hoogeveen

This session provides insight into improving practices on intersectional analysis in impact assessment. Presentations focus on regional, national, and international expertise relating to meaningful engagement with members of rights-deserving communities. The end of the final session will provide an opportunity for dialogue and a discussion of current draft summary resources to help improve intersectional IA practice.

Gender and Impact Assessments in the Canadian Context

Clare, Vanita

Health Canada's SGBA Plus: Advancing Equity and Health in Impact Assessment

Dolan, Steve; De Montigny, Joanne; Asfaw, Tihut

Social "OPEX": Learning from Engagement to Strengthen GBA+ Practice

Brissette, Susan; Atlin, Cole

Developing Gender/Intersectional Pathways of Effects Models for Assessments

Singh, Gerald; Lerner, Jackie; Gupta, Ridhee; Loch-Labelle, Connor

Meet the Editor

Room 205BC | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

S1. Special to IAIA

Workshop

Chair(s): Angus Morrison-Saunders,

Are you considering writing an article or professional practice paper (PPP) on impact assessment but aren't sure where to start? The editorial group of IAIA's journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*, will present ways to write a good article and get it published. Bring your questions and ideas for articles or issues.

Psycho-Social Impact Assessment: Gauging Effects of Marginalization

Room 302AB | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G14. Social impact assessment
Workshop
Chair(s): Will Rifkin, Catherine Fairbairn

Psycho-social impact assessment documents effects on community mental well-being from chemical spills, natural disasters, and other significant environmental changes or threats. This session begins with a refresher on PSIA basics. Small groups then address case examples, with expert feedback from members of IAIA's ad hoc working group on PSIA.

Psycho-Social Impacts and Sense of Place

Jacquet, Jeffrey

Case Material and Expert Insights on How to Conduct PSIA

Rifkin, Will; Edelstein, Michael; Moreira, Sergio; Carthew, Ruari; Klein, Eden; McGrath, Harry

Social Practitioners' Load: Bias, Hidden Skills, Ethics, and Emotional Burden

Room 203 | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T5. Professional recognition and certification systems
Solution room
Chair(s): Stephanie Brisson

This solution room examines the "other side" of misinformation: how practitioners can inadvertently create bias when collecting stakeholder information. Through peer dialogue, participants will unpack the hidden skills, emotional burden, and ethical pressures practitioners navigate — and identify the competencies and support structures needed for effective stakeholder engagement and data collection.

Indigenous Engagement and Trauma-Informed Fieldwork

Therault, Desiree

Carrying the Weight: Ethical Burden and Professional Legitimacy of Social Practitioners

Kelly, Mary; Masella, Brigitte

Social Specialist Expert on Stakeholder Engagement, FPIC, and Human Rights

Garcia, Laura

Strengthening Fieldwork Skills and Quality with a Rights-Based Approach

Mitsidou, Alexandra

Between Explicit Multidisciplinarity and Implicit Epistemic Hierarchies

Moreira Fontoura, Renata

Ethical Considerations and Qualitative Approaches in HIA

Jokinen, Laura

Toward Clarity and Coordination: Streamlining Mining Environmental Assessments in Canada

Room 303AB | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Colleen Prather, Jennifer Range

This panel discussion brings together views from a diverse group of mining professionals to explore practical reforms that can streamline the EA process while upholding transparency, scientific integrity, and meaningful engagement.

NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines

Costello, Karen

Currie & Co Consulting Inc.

Currie, Anne

Lorax Environmental Services Ltd.

Jackson, Scott

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Filiatrault, Dionne

Transforming Together: Dialogue, Transparency, and Action in Energy Transitions

Room 309B | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency
Paper session
Chair(s): Kathia Lavoie, Catherine Savoie

This panel explores how inclusive dialogue, media strategies, and early-stage public participation—combined with ongoing communication—can counter misinformation and strengthen the social acceptability of energy projects. It offers practical insights for professionals in impact assessment, communication, and policy in a rapidly-evolving energy landscape.

Public Participation: A Human-Centered Approach to Credibility Challenges

Crawford, Janis

Adapting Hydro-Québec's Messaging to a Diverse Windpower Media Ecosystem

Côté, Jonathan

Energy Efficiency in Québec: From Nice to a Must Have

Cliche, Yvan

Trust Across Québec's Strategic Ecosysteme

Lavoie, Kathia

World Café: How Far Back? How Far Forward? Rethinking Temporal Boundaries in Impact Assessment

Room 309A | Friday, 22 May | 09:00 - 10:30

G8. Cumulative effects
World Café
Chair(s): Jonathan Ward

Impact assessments typically define temporal boundaries around project lifecycles, but are these sufficient to capture generational, cumulative, and legacy effects? This interactive World Café explores how far back and forward assessments should extend to build Indigenous and public trust, and to strengthen the technical defensibility of impact assessment practice.

FRIDAY, 22 MAY | 11:00 - 12:30

"War on Projects": The Diffusion of Misinformation, Conflict, and Trauma

Room 203 | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G14. Social impact assessment
Solution room
Chair(s): Sérgio Moreira, Claudia Maffettone, Ana Maria Esteves, Somia Sadiq

Impact assessment professionals often engage with communities "at war" with projects. In this carousel session, four experienced professionals in misinformation, conflict resolution, and trauma-informed approaches will explore practitioners' beliefs about community-project relations.

Community Insights Group & CICPSI FPUL

Moreira, Sergio

Community Insights Group

Esteves, Ana Maria

Narratives Inc.

Sadiq, Somia

World Bank Group

Maffettone, Claudia

Advancing Government Approaches to Effective Science Communication in Impact Assessment II

Room 206A | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy
Panel discussion
Chair(s): Sonja Kosuta

This panel session explores strategies to improve the communication and dissemination of scientific information in impact assessments. Emphasis is placed on enhancing transparency and accessibility while ensuring that, despite growing pressure to streamline project approvals, decisions remain grounded in rigorous science.

Sessions

Harmonizing EIA through Cause-Effect

Linkage: The Brazilian Experience

Lemos, Carolina; Fraga, Giselle; do Amaral, Frederico

Countering Misinformation in UK Environmental Assessments

Kaner, Sue; Whitlock, Zoe

Countering Data Gaps and Misinformation in ESIA: TANAP's Ecology and Heritage

Arik, Tugba

Communication to Build a Social Licence for Water Infrastructure

O'Connor, Ruth

Enhancing Environmental Communication to Promote Environmental Justice

Gambu, Thabani; Ndzumo-Myeza, Onwabile

Basic Tools for Stronger Argument and Clearer Writing

Room 205BC | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Workshop

Chair(s): Glenn Brown

This workshop provides an introduction to the role of clear argument in IA. It identifies the three different kinds of argument that IAs include, three guiding principles to create strong and succinct arguments, and two of the strategies for implementation.

Biodiversity Impact Assessment: Transparency and Improved Communication for Decision-Making II

Room 308A | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Zishu Wang

This session will explore how to empower BIA to formulate the tool level and shape the decision-making framework for information disclosure, communication, public participation, and implementations, thereby transforming BIA into an ecologically protective measure with a solid scientific basis and legal foundation.

EIA and Biodiversity in Brazil: The Strategic Role of ICMBio

Pimentel, Liliana

Productive Initiatives in Bolivia's Protected Areas for Their Strengthening

Vidaurre de la Riva, Prem Jai; Vega, Griselle

Modeling Carbonate Dynamics to Define Biodiversity Thresholds in Mining BIA

Gonzalez, Ulises Pablo Daniel

Building a Causal Loop Diagram for Impacts of Fast-Track Project Approvals

Room 304AB | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies

World Café

Chair(s): Ken Froese

Canadian legislation to fast-tracking major project approvals has come as a response to Donald Trump's upheaval of trade and relations between our countries. In this world café setting, participants will construct causal loop diagram-based models to look at the impacts of fast-tracking approvals – e.g. Indigenous consultation, FPIC, public trust.

Communicating Truths: EA Practitioner Professional Ethics and Roles

Room 301AB | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Panel discussion

Chair(s): George Hegmann

Consulting practitioners drive preparation of environmental assessments but are often misleadingly viewed with enmity. Practitioners however reflect high professional standards in preparing and communicating independent, objective, and meaningful outcomes. This panel explores practitioner's opportunities to speak truths in a contested and complex world.

Communicating Truths: EA Practitioner Professional Ethics and Roles

Hegmann, George

Exploring "Truths" and Time Constraints: Impact Assessment for Major Projects

Rempel, Jeff

EA Practice and the Collision of Science, Perspective, and Politics

Holschuh, Carmen

Transparency, Uncertainty, and the Role of Humility in Practice

Kent Drewes, Kristin

WSP Canada

Daniel, Sheila

Connecting infrastructure and IA: Assessing Impacts in Contested Planning

Room 303AB | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Paper session

Chair(s): Charlotta Faith-Ell

This session aims at taking stock of the state-of-the-art of IA and transport infrastructure development that is heavily contested. Presenters and participants are invited to discuss these practices. This session is part of developing an international handbook on IA and transport infrastructure.

Assessment Years - Approach to Large Scale Infrastructure Development

Osmond, Lauren

Assess Airport and Energy Infrastructure Projects with Strategic Thinking

Partidario, Maria

Bridging Scales: The Role of EIA and SEA in Transport Corridor Planning

Kalle, Heikki; Faith-Ell, Charlotta; Arts, Jos

Conceptualizing Informal Participation in Environmental Assessments

Kerschbaum, Philipp

IA and Transport Infrastructure: Examples from France

Defromont, Virginie

Upcoming Handbook on Connecting Infrastructure and IA

Faith-Ell, Charlotta; Arts, Jos

Disasters, Conflict, and Impact Assessment: What Is Up, What Is Down, What Is Coming Around? I

Room 309A | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G9. Disasters and conflict

Section(s): Disasters and Conflicts

Paper session

Chair(s): Charles Kelly

Disasters and conflicts are major disruptors of development and lives. This session provides a venue to present on assessing impacts during conflicts and crises and lessons which have, or need to be, learned.

Rail Safety: Assessing Emergency Response Capacity and Community Impacts

Apps, Chris; Lee, Danielle

After the Tragedy: The Lac Mégantic Rail Bypass Project

Bouchard-Bastien, Emmanuelle; Canuel, Magalie; Doyon, Sabrina

Managing Job and Wealth Creation Expectations as Part of the ESIA Process

Hart, Tracy

The Dynamics of Disasters and Conflicts in North Central, Nigeria

Teran, Aondonenge Dickson; Tsue, Peter Terfa; Naswem, Angol Adolphus; Teghtegh, Helen

Five Years of the Escazú Agreement: Delivering on Its Promise?

Room 202 | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T1. Communication and reporting to improve transparency

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Andy Symington, Nataly Sarmiento Eljadue

Five years since its entry into force, the Escazú Agreement stands as a landmark regional treaty advancing environmental democracy and human rights. This robust dialogue will explore whether the Agreement is fulfilling

its promise as a transformative tool and what steps remain to overcome barriers and secure meaningful change.

Putting the Escazú Agreement into Action: Progress, Challenges, and Outlooks

Barrio Lamarche, David; de Miguel, Carlos

Escazú at a Crossroads: Corporate Duty, Conflict, and Civic Space

Sarmiento, Nataly

From Field to Boardroom: Digital IA Beyond Initial Permitting

Room 206B | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T4. Digital and interactive impact studies

Paper session

Chair(s): Janet Blackadar

This session explores how to turn EIA data into a valuable asset for financiers, lenders, and decision-makers by connecting it to nature-related reporting and sustainable investment. Participants will explore and share ways to bridge the gap between permitting data and strategy using real-world examples, tools, and integrated platforms.

Valuing the Truth from Field to Finance: Data Resolution Matters

Howard, Pippa; Sellers, Amy

How GBIF Infrastructure Can Drive Digital Environmental Impact Assessment

Rodrigues, Andrew

Using Project Development Cost to Inform

Gainsford, Fiona

Gender and Intersectional Analysis in IA: Showcasing Theory and Practice II

Room 207 | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Paper session

Chair(s): Patricia Fitzpatrick, Dawn Hoogeveen

This session provides insight into improving practices on intersectional analysis in impact assessment. Presentations focus on regional, national, and international expertise relating to meaningful engagement with members of rights-deserving communities. The end of the final session will provide an opportunity for dialogue and a discussion of current draft summary resources to help improve intersectional IA practice.

Establishing an Onyotá:ka Cultural Framework for Water Health

Struminski-Bodden, Antonina; Lewis, Diana

Gender Based Analysis Plus in Impact Assessments at an Intersection

Kessler, Anna

Indigenous-Led Rights Impact Assessment Related to Water by Fort McKay Métis

Bockstael, Erika; McDonald, Shannon; Dyck, Thomas

Breaking Down Silos: IGBA+, Cumulative Effects, and Reconciliation

Hoogeveen, Dawn; Landaverde, Elena; Fitzpatrick, Patricia

Methods and Approaches to Impact Assessment I

Room 308B | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G15. Strategic environmental assessment

Paper session

Chair(s): Alicia Newbury, Heather Murphy

This session highlights practical ways to improve environmental assessments worldwide. Presenters share human-centered sustainability ideas, smarter approaches to building in sensitive habitats, methods to protect wildlife, and ways to strengthen regulations and reporting. Together, these talks show how better planning and decision-making can support healthier ecosystems and communities.

Humanovability®: A Human-Centered Model for Impact Assessment

Di Montigny, Oscar; Maestri, Davide

Incorporating Environmental Safeguards in Mangrove Habitats

Alahmadi, Hesham; Akl, Samer; Minnaar, Ian

Trenching to Micro-Tunnelling: Adaptive Engineering to Achieve Compliance

Ndarake, Etia; Andope, Artul

The OESMP: Integrating Assessment Commitments into Operations

Alkhowildi, Fatimah; Aljasir, Yaqoob; Zeidan, Christiane; Albassam, Hassah; Baeuerle, Martin; AlSultan, Rand

Policy and Regulation Changes: Building Public Trust in EIA Systems

Room 309B | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G6. Corporate stewardship and risk management

Paper session

Chair(s): Juliana da Costa Lenz Cesar

EIA and sustainability reporting are affected by changes in policies and regulations that require re-routing and adaptation, whether they mean increasing or decreasing requirements or oversight. What are good strategies to deal with the challenges that this situation poses? How can we contribute to increasing public trust in EIA systems in such complex and dynamic context?

ESIA and SEA Alignment within the SADC Region: Africa

Malaza, Sabelo; Sithole, Patrick; Musetsho, Khangwelo; Mavimbela, Sibongile

EA in Alberta (Canada) in the Context of Changes in Policy and Regulations

Barboza Vinha, Juliana

EU Omnibus 2025: Policy Simplification and Trust in Sustainability Reporting

Damboeck, Johanna

NatureVista and AI-Driven EIA Under Canada's New Legislative Landscape

Taylor, Michael

Public Trust Amid Policy Changes: Diverse Reactions from Different Groups

da Costa Lenz Cesar, Juliana

Principles to Practice: Information and Communication in Indigenous HIA I

Room 302AB | Friday, 22 May | 11:00 - 12:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples

Section(s): Indigenous Peoples

Workshop

Chair(s): Diana Lewis, Diana Nightingale

This interactive workshop welcomes diverse IA practitioners and knowledge users for an honest and constructive dialogue on how to advance best practices for Indigenous Health Impact Assessment. We will explore what information resources are needed by who, and how to enhance communication and collaboration to support Indigenous leadership in HIA.

FRIDAY, 22 MAY | 14:00 - 15:30

Beyond Compliance: Rebuilding Social Trust in Times of Misinformation and Distrust

Room 304AB | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

World Café

Chair(s): Tania Alexis Cuéllar Gutiérrez

This workshop offers a critical analysis of public participation and communication in social impact assessment. Through open dialogue, we'll explore how to rebuild trust, reduce asymmetries, and address misinformation by fostering ethical, legitimate, and sustainable relationships among communities, companies, and authorities.

Climate Change Impact Assessments for Cultural Heritage: Bridging Informational Gaps

Room 301AB | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G7. Cultural heritage

Paper session

Chair(s): Scott Allan Orr

This session focuses on how climate change necessitates improvements in impact assessment for cultural heritage. It invites interdisciplinary perspectives to consider how communication strategies can be improved, how issues of scalability can be addressed, and how informational deficits can be overcome.

Sessions

Deep Water: Heritage Integrity and Groundwater Extraction in the Pilbara

Harris, Amanda; Nalder, Sanna; Hamilton, Rachel; Alec, Josie

A Scalable Climate Change Risk Assessment for England's Heritage Places

Thomas, Helen; Marincioni, Valentina; Guest, Kate; Guiden, Neil; Orr, Scott Allan

Applying Attribution Science to Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

Zhao, Shixin; Liu, An; Orr, Scott; Brierley, Chris

Developing Climate Change "Profiles" for Complex Heritage Places

Orr, Scott Allan; Thomas, Helen

Collaborative Development of Impact Assessments: Exploring Pathways to Project Success with Stakeholders and Communities

Room 206A | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Game - Gaming

Chair(s): Marie-Ève Martin, Marie-Hélène Gauthier

Experience the realities of developing projects in Québec through a hands-on, multifaceted role playing session. Collaborate with global experts to identify barriers and enablers in an impact assessment, and pinpoint actionable pathways for successful, collaborative project design.

Disasters, Conflict, and Impact Assessment: What Is Up, What Is Down, What Is Coming Around? II

Room 309A | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G9. Disasters and conflict

Section(s): Disasters and Conflicts

Paper session

Chair(s): Charles Kelly

Disasters and conflicts are major disruptors of development and lives. This session provides a venue to present on assessing impacts during conflicts and crises and lessons which have, or need to be, learned.

Inle Lake Post-Disaster Environmental Assessment and Rehabilitation Plan

Min, Soe; Myat, Aung Myint; Khin, Thein Mwe; Tan, Yu Wai Yan Thein; Htun, U Thaw Tar; Han, Bo Bo

Health-Related Disinformation in Russia's War Against Ukraine

Waleij, Annica

HIA Scoping Study of the Integrated Essential Services in Kharkivska Oblast

Winkler, Mirko

The Humanitarian Reset: A Disaster or Opportunity?

Kelly, Charles

From Theory to Practice: Nature Positive Landscapes in the Mining Sector

Room 206B | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G10. Governance and implementation systems

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Hugo Costa, Justina Ray

The session explores how mining can align with Nature Positive goals to protect biodiversity while meeting mineral demands. It brings together NAGs, academics and consultants to share practical strategies, identify key gaps, and discuss collaborative actions needed to ensure mining contributes to biodiversity recovery by 2030 and beyond.

The Mitigation Hierarchy: Its Status in Canada's Federal IA Regime

Poulton, Dave; Ray, Justina

Aligning Canada's Critical Minerals Push with Nature Positive Goals

Ray, Justina; Goodday, Victoria

From No Net Loss to Nature Positive: Insights from COMBO+

Costa, Hugo; von Hase, Amrei

Negotiating Conservation Agreements for Nature Positive Mining

Cotillon, Suzanne

Gender and Intersectional Analysis in IA: Showcasing Theory and Practice III

Room 207 | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T2. Inclusive public engagement

Paper session

Chair(s): Patricia Fitzpatrick, Dawn Hoogeveen

This session provides insight into improving practices on intersectional analysis in impact assessment. Presentations focus on regional, national, and international expertise relating to meaningful engagement with members of rights-deserving communities. The end of the final session will provide an opportunity for dialogue and a discussion of current draft summary resources to help improve intersectional IA practice.

GBA Plus in Planning Assessments to Facilitate Just Energy Transitions

Fusco, Leah; Levac, Leah; Steinstra, Deborah; Stinson, Jane

Infusing Charter Values into Gender-Based Analysis+ in Impact Assessment

Pastora Sala, Joëlle; Dilay, Katrine; Fitzpatrick, Patricia

The Impact of Mining on Women's Agency in Ghana and Sierra Leone

Ba, Djeynaba

Efficiency for Whom? GBA+ and IA

Fitzpatrick, Patricia; Hoogeveen, Dawn; Zacharias, Mackenzie; Johnson, Kira

How can SEA and IA Practitioners Support Global Commons Alliance Partner Initiatives? II

Room 203 | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

S1. Special to IAIA

Workshop

Chair(s): Weston Fisher, Abulele Adams

Join us to explore IAIA and Global Commons Alliance collaborative actions to address Planetary Boundary impacts and support science-based mitigation/regeneration planning at global, regional, and local scales. How can we overcome disinformation in addressing Planetary Boundary issues with systems-based methodologies? Day 1 attendance is strongly recommended in order to attend Day 2.

Tiering Planetary Boundary Impacts in SEA Preparation Guidance

Fisher, Weston

Methods and Approaches to Impact Assessment II

Room 308B | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G15. Strategic environmental assessment

Paper session

Chair(s): Alicia Newbury, Heather Murphy

This session highlights practical ways to improve environmental assessments worldwide. Presenters share human-centered sustainability ideas, smarter approaches to building in sensitive habitats, methods to protect wildlife, and ways to strengthen regulations and reporting. Together, these talks show how better planning and decision-making can support healthier ecosystems and communities.

Endangered Species Hotspots for Biodiversity Conservation in EIA

Seo, Changwan; Shin, Man-Seok

Integrating ESIA into Coastal Highway Infrastructure in AFF Sectors

Vincent-Akpu, Ijeoma; Chinweze, Chizoba; Onyagbodor, Peter

Assessment of Heavy Metal Pollution and Information Accuracy in Karu

Aguoru, Celestine U.; Olalekan, Olasan; T, Chile

Governance Failures in Solid Waste Management in Makurdi, Nigeria

Sha'Ato, Rufus; Naswem, Adolphus Angol; Irtwange, Simon Verlumun

Mining Across Land and Sea: Assessing and Communicating Social Impacts

Room 309B | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G14. Social impact assessment

Paper session

Chair(s): Izhar Mithal Jiskani

This session examines the social impacts of mining as it expands across terrestrial and deep-sea frontiers. It advances interdisciplinary dialogue on evolving impact assessment practices, stakeholder engagement processes, and communication challenges across the project lifecycle, from exploration through mine closure obligations.

Reflections on social impacts in the extractives sector/ASGM in Africa

Kahangirwe, Pius; Vanclay, Frank

Peru: Challenges for Effective Citizen Participation in Environmental IA

Benites Bonifacio, Oscar Hierson

Social Impacts of Deep Sea Mining in the Eastern Pacific: A Case Study

Proebstel, Don

Provisional EIA for Test Mining in DORD's Western Contract Area, CCZ

Murakami, Chisato; Nishi, Keisuke

The Time Is Right... To Talk About Mine Closure

Wall, Liz

Principles to Practice: Information and communication in Indigenous HIA II

Room 302AB | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G12. Indigenous Peoples

Section(s): Indigenous Peoples

Workshop

Chair(s): Diana Lewis, Diana Nightingale

This interactive workshop welcomes diverse IA practitioners and knowledge users for an honest and constructive dialogue on how to advance best practices for Indigenous Health Impact Assessment. We will explore what information resources are needed by who, and how to enhance communication and collaboration to support Indigenous leadership in HIA.

SEA for Industrial Zones: Technological Exploration and Practical Innovation

Room 308A | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G15. Strategic environmental assessment

Paper session

Chair(s): Yuting Zhao, Xiaomin Li

This session will address how to enhance the scientific rigor and fairness of SEA for industrial zones. It will explore the latest technologies and methods for adaptive assessments and share the latest industrial zone planning EIA practices.

How to Rapidly and Efficiently Conduct SEA for Large-Scale Spatial Plans

Qiu, Xinxin

Network-Based Industrial Parks Pollutant Management and Impact Assessment

Su, Mai; Wang, Zishu; Liu, Yi; Mo, Binwei; Cun, Siyan;

Paving the Way for Green Energy-Chemical Bases with SEA

Liu, Haidong; Li, Fangqi; Zhao, Fang; Zhang, Yifei; Duan,

Ran

Technical Outreach and Storytelling: Key to Investing in Biodiversity

Room 303AB | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

T3. Enhancing environmental science and regulatory literacy

Panel discussion

Chair(s): Tokunbo Olorundami

Combining technical outreach with effective storytelling is key to attracting biodiversity investment. Translating scientific knowledge into clear, relevant messages helps influence policy, mobilize resources, and connect with diverse audiences, making conservation a strategic and accessible action.

Moving Beyond Utilitarian Framings of Biodiversity in Impact Assessment

Hugé, Jean

Reviving the Blue: Oyster Reef Restoration and Investments in Hong Kong

Mok, Yoyo

RETEX Project: Turning Offshore Wind Monitoring into Actionable Knowledge

De Rock, Pauline; Sabino, Magali; Lecorps, Florian

Geospatial Storytelling: Risk Mapping to Mobilize Nature Finance

Burnet, Fiona

The Stance Dance, Social Performance Edition: Exploring Success Stories

Room 205BC | Friday, 22 May | 14:00 - 15:30

G14. Social impact assessment

Section(s): Social Impact Assessment (most applicable, we will be addressing aspects of RAP as well)

Game - Gaming

Chair(s): Allison Fedorkiw, Sara Sultan

Fence sitters and hardliners alike are welcome, and audience participation is a must in this interactive session! First, diverse opinions on key social performance issues will be explored in a low pressure, reflective way. Then, real world case studies from the global south will be presented, describing critical success factors that led to positive outcomes.

MEET THE AUTHORS AT THE WELCOME/POSTER RECEPTION!

TUESDAY 19 MAY | 17:00-18:30 | 400BC

Evidence-Based Communication of Neen ZnO Nanotech for Food Preservation

Abah, Scholastica Ene; Onah, Daniel Oche

Land Use Index: A Tool to Support Sustainable Planning of New Power Lines

Alvsvåg, John; Frilund Bjerkan, Gunn Elin

Assessing Marine Litter Impacts on Mesophotic Biogenic Reefs: LIFE DREAM

Anastasopoulou, Aikaterini; Sini, Maria; Vassilopoulou, Vassiliki

Indigenous-Led Assessment of Cumulative Effects in Southwestern Ontario

Berg, Kevan; Mills, Jennifer

Untying Misinformation in Solar PV Assessment: Taiwan's Experience

Chen, Maochuan; Chen, WanChing; Lee, YuLing

Investigation of EIA Application Strategies for Water Electrolysis Hydrogen Facilities

Choi, Hyun-Jin; Kim, Taeyun

COMEX: Protecting the Environment and Communities of Eeyou Istchee James Bay

Cooper, Sophie

A Metrics Toolbox for Measuring Losses and Gains of Biodiversity

Dória, Thais; Resende, Fernando; Manes, Stella; Fernandes, Renato; Martins, Luiz Fernando; Pavani, Bruna

Beyond Earth: Applying Best Practice in Extraterrestrial Impact Assessment

Fineran, Stacey; Mustow, Steve; Bond, Alan; Spittle, Steve; Race, Margaret; Ladikas, Miltos

Bridging Voices: Crees of Eeyou/Eenou Istchee and Approaches to Impact Assessment

Franks, Kristy; Wiinibekuu Eeyou; Nouchimii Eenou; Cree Nation Government's Department of Environment and Wildlife

Mapping Ecosystem Services for Proposing NbS in Urban Planning

Gallardo, Amarilis; Succi, Mariella; Mülfarth, Roberta; Bucalem, Miguel

Using LLMs to Map Bias and Representation in Public Engagement during IA

Gupta, Ridhee; Singh, Gerald; Haworth, Brandon; Hirsch, Shana Lee; Gregory, Gillian; Moser, Ross

Development of a Multidimensional Framework for Global Pest Invasion Risk

Hong, Jinsol; Cho, Kijong

AI-Powered Carbon Hotspot Detection for Prioritized Impact Assessment

Hwang, Hee-soo; Jung, Seunghyun

Comparative Analysis of Public Comments on Japan's Energy Policy

Ishii, Kohei; Kameda, Akihiro; Kurasaka, Hidefumi

The Role of EIA in the Development of Renewable Energy Projects

Issa, Lookman

An Appraisal of the Nigerian Environmental Impact Assessment Act

Japhet, Wisdom; Adamu, Haiza

Development of GIS and Machine Learning-Based Carbon Emission Prediction Models by Urban Typology

Je, Minhee; Jung, Seunghyun

Improvement Measures for Korea's Policy Plan SEA

Joo, Yong-Joon; Sagong, Hee

Environmental Assessment under the Special Act on Offshore Wind Power

Kim, Taeyun

From Hazard to Policy: Quantifying Wildfire Adaptation Effectiveness

Kim, Ara; Song, Y.I.; Park, Jin Han; Shim, Chang Sub; Lee, Eun.B.

GHG Mitigation and Follow-Up in Climate Change IA for Urban Development

Kim, Yumi; Cho, Young-il; Cho, Hanna

Predicting Forest Management Effects on Carbon Uptake from Stand Attributes

Ku, Minju; Son, Yowhan

Mental Health Effects of Major Projects on Indigenous Peoples in Canada

Kwan, Albert; Khatibsemnani, Nasim; Ragetlie, Rosalind; Asirvatham, Roshaany; Lucyk, Kelsey

Challenges of the Multiplication of Impact Assessment Processes in Nunavik

Lambert, Christine; Dea, Nancy

Harnessing Citizen Science for Smarter Impact Assessments

Lapins, David

Satellite and Drone Assessment of Carbon and Restoration on Rapa Nui

Leal Rosillo, Roberto; Laporte, Victoria

Cree Participation in the JBNQA Impact Assessment Procedure

Leduc-Lapierre, Michele

Stakeholder Communication Guidelines for Offshore Wind Development Projects

Lee, Sangyun

Assessing Climate Impacts and Responsiveness in the Waste Management Sector

Lee, Dongkun; Hwang, Hyeme

Developing a Carbon Spatial Map-Based Framework for Local Carbon Neutrality Policies: A Case Study of Jeju Island

Lee, Dongwoo; Jung, Seunghyun; Kim, Dusik; Park, Jinsu

Digital Innovation in Environmental Impact Assessment and Licensing

Lira Barros, Luciana; Leite Gomes Camargo, Isabela Fernanda; de Sousa Silva, Alex

From Climate Uncertainty to Opportunity: SEA for Climate-Resilient Rivers

Maronier, Véronique

EIA Screening in Brazil: Transparent Criteria for Legitimate Decisions

Martins, Lilian; Bianca Silva Fraga, Giselle

Biodiversity Survey for Critical Habitats in Espírito Santo and Bahia Roads

Miranda Ramos, Maria Ines; Shayer, Eric; Lima de Paula, Gabriela; Maria Noura Paes, Marcia; Mendonça D'Horta, Fernando

Reconstructing Nature: Power, Tourism, and Communication in the Political Ecology of Aconcagua Provincial Park

Mooney, Henry

Only official exhibitor posters and/or technical posters approved by the Program Committee during the review process may be displayed.

Efficiency, Trust, and Constitutional Limits in Canada's IA Policy

Mugo, Robert

Digital Age: WorldTours Mitigation of Misinformation in Impact Assessment

Muhumuza, Moses Mugimba

Building Trust Through Transparency: Strengthening Compliance Measures

Munshi, Rayan; Patel, Rajay

The Necessity of Institutionalizing Ex-Post Environmental Impact Assessment

Namgung, Hyung; Oh, Seok-jae

Moderating the Influence of Vested Interest on Community-Based Projects

Nwani, Lincoln

Power and Place: Rethinking Communication in Impact Assessment

Olorundami, Tokunbo

The Visual Clash: Mapping Contradictory Environmental Data and the Erosion of Public Trust in Romanian EIA

Perju, Mirabela; Lazăr, Anamaria

Transforming EIA: How Québec Balances Rigor, Efficiency, and Inclusion

Rail, Marie-Emmanuelle

Scientific Cooperation in Environmental Impact Assessment Litigation: Insights from South Korea

Rhee, YoungJoon

Functional Integrity as a Baseline for Multi-Scale Impact Assessment

Rodrigues dos Santos Junior, Edimilson; Luís Fernando Pereira Brito, Luís; de Mello, Kaline; Randhir, Timothy; Montaña, Marcelo

Advancing Colombia's Environmental and Social Systems: Overview Assessment of World Bank

Rojas Orjuela, Carolina; Cambreleng, Juan

Behind the Blade: A Literature Review on Wind Turbines and Public Health

Roy-Malo, Olivia; Bouchard-Bastien, Emmanuelle; Gauthier, Mathieu; Girard, Katerine; Patey, Géraldine; Potvin, Stéphanie

Alternative Assessment of Landscape Impacts of Offshore Wind Development

Sagong, Hee; Joo, Yong Joon

Gas to Energy Stakeholder Engagement

Sahai Alli, Amanda

Resilient River Infrastructure: Integrating Climate Risk Assessment in the Construction of Amazon Docks

Scodelaro, Federico; Perez, Jimena; Zambrano, Adriana; Catacolí, Alejandra; Rojas Lara, Julio

Enhancing Cumulative Impact Assessment Via Coproduction of Knowledge

Siqueira-Gay, Juliana

Institutionalizing Carbon Spatial Mapping for Urban Carbon Neutrality: Legal and Policy Integration Strategies in Korea

Son, Jae Soen; Chang, Yohan

Developing an Effectiveness Evaluation Framework of Water Quality Management Measures

Song, Youngil; Lee, Eunbi; Park, Jinhan; Shim, Changsub; Kim, Ara

Tackling Uncertainty: A Novel Tool for Cumulative Effects Assessment

Tekatch, Alexandra

Implementation of HIA in Québec: A History of Collaboration Between Levels

Tremblay, Emile; Lemire, Marc

Coupling Impact Assessment and Ocean Circulation Modelling for Reef Litter Mitigation

Vassilopoulos, Vassiliki; Katikas, Loukas; Broderzen, Maren Myrto; Anastasopoulou, Aikaterini

Comparing CDP Biodiversity Disclosure in Brazilian and EU Mining Companies

Vieira, David; Sánchez, Luis Enrique; Zomer, Thayla

Indigenous-Led Cumulative Impact Assessment: Online Training and Skills Building

Wanchulak, Sydney; Keefer, Justine; Murphy, Matt

The RIMNet Initiative: Centralizing Regional-Scale Environmental Data

Williamson, Elizabeth; Robichaud, Courtney

Is Digital Visualization an Effective Tool for Understanding Biodiversity?

Yau, Bertha Yui Man

Practices and Innovations in SEAs for Industrial Zones and River Basins in China

Zhao, Yuting; Li, Xiaomin

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF QUÉBEC

**GOUVERNEMENT DU QUÉBEC,
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Québec

Exhibitors/Venue Map

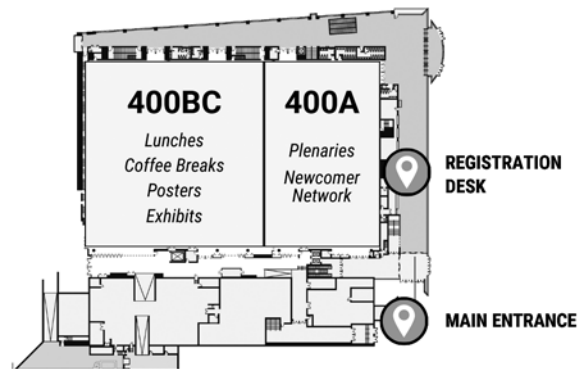
EXHIBITORS

Alto
 Biotope - Alliance for Nature
 Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
 ExxonMobil
 Firelight
 Hatch
 IAIA27 New Zealand
 ICI Innovations
 Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects
 Integral Ecology Group
 Livesnap
 ODEN Systems Limited
 West Coast Environmental Law

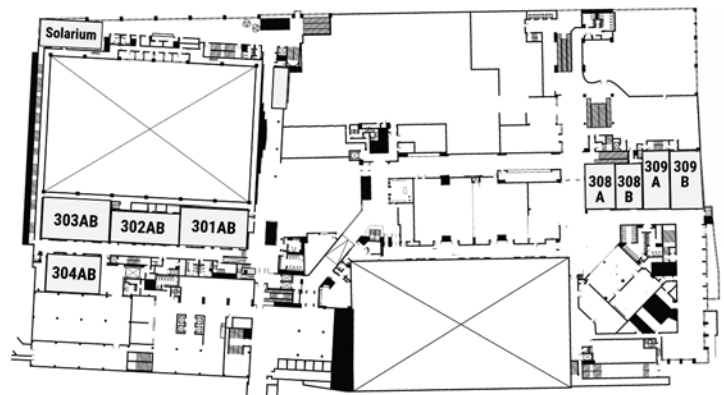
AFFILIATE POSTERS

Academia Mexicana de Impacto Ambiental, A.C. (AMIA)
 Asociación Española de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (AEEIA)
 Associação Brasileira de Avaliação de Impacto (ABAI)
 Associação Portuguesa da Avaliação de Impactos (APAI)
 Association for Environmental Impact Assessment for Nigeria (AEIAN)
 Association québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQÉI)
 Atlantic Canada Association for Impact Assessment (ACAIA)
 IAIAAsa (South Africa)
 IAIA-WNC (Western & Northern Canada)
 Korean Society of Environmental Impact Assessment (KSEIA)
 Nepal Association for Impact Assessment (NAIA)
 New Zealand Association of Impact Assessment (NZAIA)
 Ontario Association for Impact Assessment (OAIA)
 Secrétariat international francophone pour
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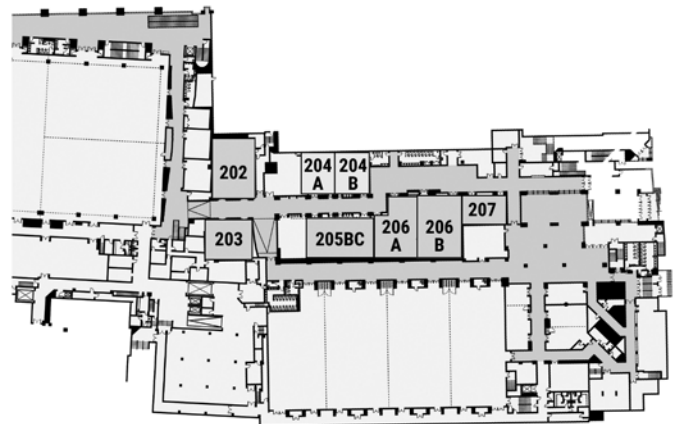
VENUE MAP



LEVEL 4 (Ground Floor)



LEVEL 3



LEVEL 2



Lifetime Achievement Award

The Lifetime Achievement Award honors **Weston Fisher** for more than 30 years of advancing impact assessment practice and capacity development worldwide, and for mentoring professionals within IAIA.

The IAIA Lifetime Achievement Award, previously known as the Rose Hulman Award, is awarded to long-term supporters and members of IAIA for major contributions to the field of impact assessment.



Outstanding Service to IAIA

The Outstanding Service to IAIA Award is presented to **Bryony Walmsley** for outstanding commitment to training and mentoring impact assessment professionals, and for her long-standing generosity to IAIA.

The Board of Directors is responsible for selecting the Outstanding Service to IAIA Award, which recognizes an individual or individuals within IAIA who have provided exceptional service to IAIA over a number of years.



Institutional Award

The Institutional Award is awarded to the **Centre for Environment & Health Research & Training (CEHRT)** for over two decades of ESIA consulting, training, and capacity-building in Ghana and across West Africa.

The IAIA Institutional Award is presented to a national or international government or nongovernmental organization for outstanding contribution to impact assessment practice or other environment-related activity deserving of recognition.



Global Award

The Global Award is presented to **Frank Vanclay** for tirelessly promoting social impact assessment theory and practice, including authoring key global guidance documents, serving as editor of various SIA books, and leading the *Research Handbooks on Impact Assessment* series.

The IAIA Global Award is presented annually to a leading individual or institution that has made a substantial contribution to impact assessment practice, management, or policy at a global scale.



Individual Award

The Individual Award is presented to **Dr. Richard Parsons** for multi-faceted, pioneering contributions to advancing social impact assessment policy and practice in Australia.

The IAIA Individual Award acknowledges personal contribution to the discipline of impact assessment. It recognizes major achievement and advancement in theory and/or practice over a period of time at an international level.



Regional Award

The **Association Québécoise pour l'évaluation d'impacts (AQEI)** receives the Corporate Initiative Award for decades of leadership in promoting and strengthening impact assessment practice in Québec and the Francophone community.

The Corporate Initiative Award is presented annually to a leading individual or institution that has made a substantial contribution to the practice of impact assessment, management, or policy at a corporate initiative scale.



Young Professional Award

Oscar Obonyo is recognized with the Young Professional Award for advancing zero waste, zero harm, and net-zero emissions through innovative and practical sustainability initiatives.

The Young Professional Award acknowledges a distinguished IAIA member under the age of 35 with outstanding achievements in the impact assessment field.



IAPA Best Paper of 2025

The 2025 IAPA Best Paper Award is presented to **Juliana Siqueira-Gay, Ana Paula Alves Dibo, Anne Caroline Malvestio, Carla Grigoletto Duarte, Alexander Turra, and Luis E. Sánchez** for their paper "Developing strategic environmental assessment in contexts of non-systematic practice: contributions for offshore energy transition." IAPA 43(3), 213-228.

Do you know someone worthy of recognition?

Nominations are invited for IAIA's 2027 annual awards. Visit www.iaia.org/annual-awards for details, or scan here.



Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship

Vanita Clare is a PhD Candidate at the University of Toronto in the Department of Political Science. Her dissertation unpacks the variation of gender analysis in EA processes across Canada.

The Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship, in honor of the legacy that IAIA's former CEO left on the organization and the field of impact assessment, is offered in conjunction with each annual IAIA conference, allowing a young practitioner in the region of the host country to attend.

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The Wendat Nation is pleased to welcome IAIA26 participants on the Onyionhwentsiio'. The Onyionhwentsiio', meaning "our beautiful territory" in the Wendat language, has been at the heart of Wendat identity, rights, and culture for millennia. As guardian of this land, the Nation invites everyone to express gratitude and respect toward this territory that sustains us.

Impact assessment plays a crucial role in ensuring that projects shaping our living environments take environmental, cultural, and social dimensions into account. The Wendat Nation actively contributes to the development of approaches that honor both the integrity of the land and traditional knowledge.

We hope that this conference will foster enriching exchanges, meaningful collaborations, and assessment practices that allow present and future generations to appreciate and protect the beauty of the territory, just as the Wendat ancestors have done since time immemorial.

Grand Chief Pierre Picard

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