

Some Issues for Developing Indicators of EIA & SEA

EIAおよびSEAの指標づくりのための
若干の論点

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Introduction

1. Purpose of public participation indicators
2. The Access Initiative(TAI) with the World Resources Institute(WRI) developed the environmental democracy index(EDI) in 2014.
3. The purpose of the EDI reinforces following three rights.
(1)the right to freely access information on environmental quality and problems
(2)the right to participate meaningfully in decision-making,
(3) the right to seek enforcement of environmental laws or compensation for harm.
4. The purpose of this report is an public participation index for EIA and SEA. This report take up (1) and (2) as a subject

core issue of both EIA and SEA is public participatory process. Better environmental report depends on quality of public and stakeholders engagement.

EIA

Takes place at end of decision-making cycle

Identifies specific impacts on the environment

Considers limited number of feasible range of alternatives

Emphasis on mitigating and minimizing environmental impacts

SEA

Takes place at early stages

More cumulative

Considers broad potential alternatives

Emphasis on zero option

2 EIA and public participation

1. EIA is a systematic process to identify, predict and evaluate the environmental effects of proposed actions and projects, which shall be applied prior to major decisions and commitments being made. It is not decision-making.

Developing PP indicators of EIA, PP in decision-making process is necessary, because EIA reports should be considering through the process.

Purposes of PP in EIA

- Collecting information which the public and stakeholders hold.
- Sharing perception on environmental assessment

3-1 Information

1. Purpose of disclosure of information
 - Public participation for the public or stakeholders
 - Accountability, Transparency
 - Sharing information among stakeholders, agencies.
2. What kind of information shall be disclosed?
3. Timing

* Many requests of disclosure are denied to disclose information because of such information that is in the course of internal administrative decision-making, or information concerning safety of the state which is

EIA Process and PP

EIA Process

PP

Screening / Scoping

notice - disclosure of relevant information, meetings/hearings/, relevant stakeholders,

Impact Analysis

Draft report, Report

reasonable alternatives, comment/
meeting/hearing

Decision-making

public participation (important !!)

Monitoring

meeting

Purpose of SEA

To consider environment and health alongside others as social and economic concerns in strategic decisions for a sustainable society.

SEA is effective by applying it in early stages of policies, plans and programs. SEA can make sure that environmental and health factors are taken into account of government planning and policy-making for consensus building with civil society to harmonize with social and environmental factors.

Therefore public participation becomes mostly a required components of the SEA.

Timing of notification

Who should participate? participants may be decided into 5 types.. general public(public concerned), stakeholders and experts, NGOs and overseas people.

Stakeholders, NPOs and experts are much more important in SEA than ones in EIA, because social and economic effects have to be considered.

What types of public participation are needed?

It is difficult for general public to understand environmental effects in early stage, as comparing to EIA stage. Sometimes general public are disinterested toward them.

Should stakeholders give some different opportunities from the general public ?

1. Legal framework or implementation.
Compulsory or discretionary
2. Means of disclosure
3. Public participation in Monitoring
process

Thank you very much
for your attention