



# Impact Assessment A process not a product



ENVIRONMENT  
INSTITUTE OF  
AUSTRALIA AND  
NEW ZEALAND

A one day forum by the  
**Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand  
South East Queensland Division (EIANZ-SEQ)**

**Date:** Tuesday 20 March 2007  
**Time:** 8.45am – 5.00pm  
(Registration from 8.00am)  
**Venue:** The Ballroom, Brisbane Novotel, 200 Creek Street, Brisbane.

The EIANZ-SEQ invites you to attend a 1 day forum exploring the practical side of Impact Assessment. Too often Impact Assessment is seen as the production of a document that is driven by the need to have a tick in the relevant authority's box. Once the tick is achieved, the document may never be referred to again.

This unique forum will investigate how planning can make the Impact Assessment process a powerful tool in helping guide all parties (clients, government, the public and contractors) to unite with a goal of achieving sustainable outcomes for future generations. Queensland is facing rapid growth that will require serious decisions about resource use. This topical event will investigate how Impact Assessment can be used to address this issue in a collaborative way.

## Forum Objectives

The objectives of this event are to enhance the capabilities of professionals to achieve more sustainable outcomes through the Impact Assessment process through:

- Exploration of best practice in impact assessment in Queensland and Australia
- Presentations on current tools used for impact assessment
- Presentations on practical applications of impact assessment tools

## Speakers for this event will include:

Dr Hugh Lavery – Australian Environment International, Dr Simon Marsden – Sr Lecturer in Law University of SA, Ms Simona Trimachi – Qld Ports Corporation, Bryce Skarratt – GHD and David James – Resource Economist.

The EP Act states that the objective of environmental impact assessment is:

*To protect Queensland's environment while allowing for development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends".*

## This event is proudly sponsored by:



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Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand - South East Queensland Division  
*The Professional Association for Environmental Practitioners*

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## Draft Program

8:15-8:45  
8:45-9:00  
9:00-10:30

Registration  
Welcome

Plenary sessions:

Setting the context: 'process not product' – Hugh Lavery  
Strategic Impact Assessment – Simon Marsden  
Monitoring and Evaluation – Simona Trimarchi  
Social Impact assessment/consultation OR Economic Impact Assessment – *speaker yet to be determined*

In addressing these topics, Keynote speakers will consider:

- Legislative and policy context and future for EIS in Queensland and Australia,
- Roles of government agencies, environmental professionals (private and public sector), 'experts', and proponents,
- What constitutes best practice in EIA methodology?
- Against what benchmarks and environmental performance standards should EIA practice and outcomes be measured?

10:30-11:00

Morning Tea

11:00-12:30

Concurrent session 1A

Concurrent session 1B

Concurrent session 1C

**Maximising benefits  
Baseline and Existing  
Environment studies:**

- Environmental values
- Scoping – parameters, spatial extent, time frames, seasonal factors
- Models and methods - Quantitative and qualitative
- Risk based approaches

**Community consultation** in the EIA process:

- Current practice
- Statutory requirements
- Difference between consultation and engagement
- Links with social impact assessment
- Best practice??

**SEA**

- Benefits
- Alternatives assessment
- Approaches (route selection methods, single and multiple site projects, multi criteria analysis)

12:30-1:30

Lunch

1:30-3:00

Concurrent session 2A

Concurrent session 2B

Concurrent session 2C

**Monitoring and validation:**

- Follow up monitoring
- Validation of predictions

**Social/Economic Impact Assessment**

- Context of SIA in EIA
- Methodological approaches
- Links with consultation
- Identifying stakeholders
- Managing trade-offs

**Cumulative impacts:**

- What is a "cumulative impact"?
- Measurement of cumulative impacts
- Temporal and spatial scales for cumulative impact prediction
- Approaches for managing cumulative impacts

3:00-3:30

Afternoon Tea

3:30-4:15

Summation

- Emerging issues, gaps and best practices
- Policy and legislative directions, roles of State and Local government agencies
- Role of EIANZ and the Environmental Professional
- Role of the Impact Assessment SIS

4:15-4:45

Impact Assessment performance scorecard:

- Identify key performance indicators for successful impact assessment
- Establish means of measuring performance against these indicators on a regular basis

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