

Social Impact Assessment and Resettlement Management in Renewable Energy Projects

6th – 10th May 2024 Ghana

Application deadline – 26th February 2024

Course fee; € 1000,- / Members; 10% discount

Fee includes course materials, accommodation, and meals



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SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RESETTLEMENT MANAGEMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS



Renewable energy projects invariably have ecological and social footprints that can be manifold and affect, for example, physical structures, land used for agriculture or grazing, forest lands and water ways for fisheries, vulnerability, natural resource accessibility, and mobility. Project impacts can cause loss or changes in;

- natural resource base (ecosystem services, water, land, biodiversity)
- livelihoods, health and well being
- cultural heritage and access
- land availability and resettlement

Social Impact Assessment (SIA) is an instrument that is part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) process benchmarked in the international standards and good practice requirements for development projects. Local communities living within the project footprint area are usually subject to relocation which requires not only detailed documentation of households but also compensation and livelihood restoration: neither of which can be handled adequately without baseline data.

SIA is used to acquire an acute baseline of data and acknowledge impact that a planned project may have, particularly on issues associated to resettlement and land acquisition, and social-economic changes.

Descriptions and accounting for changes and loss of cultural heritage, access to resource bases, and ecosystem services are key cross-cutting aspects that require well thought out methodologies.

Women are encouraged to apply.



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COURSE OUTLINE

Based on international standards of practice, the course instructs on essential processes, acceptable techniques for baseline data collection and analysis, communication, mitigation, and enhancement measures that are elemental to assuring representativeness, fairness and sustainable well-being of affected communities and other concerned stakeholders. The course draws from both African and international examples.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Participants will be introduced to procedures that should be followed in order to comply with today's requirements for a sound social impact assessment process. This will include strategic priorities and national guidelines, tools for planning hydropower and other renewable energy projects in the best possible way at transboundary, national, regional, and local levels.

The course will expound on state-of-the-art innovative SIA in the context of ESIA. Thematic cross-cutting approaches to hydropower development (as a key case for the course), including, for example, vulnerability and gender, climate adaptation-mitigation, payments for ecosystem services, benefit sharing, and management of stakeholders will be some of the core topics covered.

MAINTOPICS

- International standards, regulations and guidelines and their interpretation
- Background and development of SIA

- Impact assessment methodologies
- Baseline data and mitigation measures
- Stakeholder consultation process & human rights
- Resettlement planning, implementation and management, livelihood restoration, and related social-environmental development. Land acquisition
- Gender, labor and community health issues, services, etc.
- The role of NGO's and monitoring
- Environmental and technical issues related to social aspects of projects. Contractor responsibilities and management. Labor working conditions and relations. Safety and security.
- Indigenous peoples, vulnerability, and culture
- Institutional strengthening and capacity building needs
- Financial and budget related to SIA and governance
- Monitoring, supervision, and governance
- Corporate Social responsibility Vs benefit sharing

TARGET GROUP

The course is aimed at power companies, ministries, authorities, NGOs, relevant private enterprises, and others working with renewable energy development requiring structured knowledge of the SIA process. Executives of power companies, ministries, water resource and energy agencies, and relevant private sector enterprises with management responsibility or influence on project planning will benefit from this course.

The course will also be of value to engineers working in water resources planning and multipurpose projects.



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SPECIFICS FOR THE COURSE

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COURSE DATES

Participants are expected to arrive in Accra, Ghana on Sunday 5th May, the day prior to the course start, and leave no earlier than Saturday 11th May, the day after end of the course.

Information on travel, detailed course programme and other relevant information will be sent to all selected participants in due course.

COURSE FEE

The course fee includes lectures, course materials, accommodation for international and local participants that live far from the course venue, and meals.

Participants' travel expenses are not included. There is a reduced fee for ICH members.

A limited number of sponsored seats are available for participants from countries prioritized by NORAD (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation). Those who would like a guaranteed seat on the course should secure their own funding.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A minimum of about 5 years of working experience is required.
- Applicants should hold an applicable degree or possess relevant background knowledge.
- Proficiency in English is compulsory for the course.

Notice of admission will be given shortly after the application closing date.

GENERAL

All lecturers and resource persons are well-known specialists within their field, and they have extensive international and regional experience.

Attending the courses is an opportunity to discuss and learn about current energy sector issues related to renewables together with professionals from the continent and abroad.

Participants are encouraged to bring along information that can be shared about pending energy and social issues of interest.

CONTACT;

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