

HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT AT THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



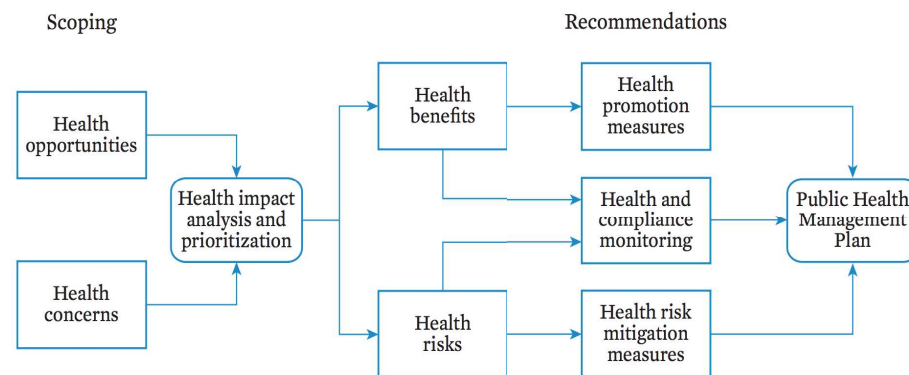
What is Health Impact Assessment?

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a structured process that combines scientific evidence and community engagement to inform decision-makers about how they can increase the positive health benefits and reduce the negative health impacts of new infrastructure development. It also looks at how the benefits of development can be shared equitably and fairly across all affected communities.

Source: ADB. 2016. *Greater Mekong Subregion Health Impact Assessment Project: Project Brief*.



From Scoping and Analysis to a Public Health Management Plan



Source: ADB. 2018. *Health Impact Assessment: A Good Practice Sourcebook*.

What has the Asian Development Bank done?

In November 2014, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a regional technical assistance project on Results for Malaria Elimination and Communicable Diseases Control in Asia and the Pacific. This provided ADB with an opportunity to initiate and further mainstream HIA in the region, starting with Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS),^a through **capacity development, improving regulatory and policy frameworks, undertaking demonstration projects, and developing HIA tools and resources**. It focused on improving HIA practice at three levels; regional, in countries of the GMS, and within ADB.

^a Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



- Development of HIA capacity at the country level involved close collaboration between ministries of health and ministries for the environment. This facilitated integration of health more broadly into existing impact assessment processes and increased momentum for stronger HIA.
- Collaboration with academic institutions has been initiated to help sustain HIA capacity development including expanding HIA teaching and research in Asia and the Pacific region.



HIA Curriculum

developed with the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Environmental HIA at Curtin University was integrated in

public health, environment and planning graduate programs of selected universities

6 universities in the GMS offered a HIA certificate course, targeting 240 future HIA practitioners



600 government and non-government participants trained to meet the needs for effective HIAs



- HIA training has been conducted for ADB staff in collaboration with existing training programs. Capacity development of ADB staff is crucial to mainstreaming HIA in the region and ADB investment projects.



**HIA
TRAINING
IN ADB**

Integrated into:

- regular poverty and social analysis training
- regular social and environmental safeguards training
- technical training on labor, health and safety in ADB projects
- technical training on air quality management

REGULATION AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS



- Sound policy and regulatory frameworks were developed. Myanmar and Viet Nam government counterparts have completed their respective draft HIA guidelines. Integration of health into the environmental impact assessment process has also been initiated in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Viet Nam. Lao PDR held national consultations on updating their existing national HIA guidelines, taking into consideration 10 years of HIA experience.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS



Demonstration projects in various sectors that show good practice in the conduct of HIA were undertaken:



ENERGY

Hongsa Power Plant
(Lao PDR)



WATER SUPPLY
&
SANITATION

Second Rural Water Supply
and Sanitation Sector Project
(Cambodia)
Ho Chi Minh City Wastewater
and Drainage System
(Viet Nam)



SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

Second Human Resource
Development Project
(Viet Nam)



SPECIAL ECONOMIC
ZONES (SEZ)

Savannakhet SEZ (Lao PDR)
Mukdahan SEZ (Thailand)
Thilawa SEZ (Myanmar)



URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

Mandalay Urban Services
Improvement (Myanmar)
Yunnan Lincang Border
Economic Cooperation Zone
Development Project
(People's Republic of China)
Jilin Yanji Low-Carbon Climate
Resilient Healthy City Project
(People's Republic of China)



TRANSPORT

GMS East-West Economic Corridor
Eindu to Kawkareik Road Development
(Myanmar)

HIA TOOLS AND RESOURCES



HIA: A Good Practice Sourcebook was developed to provide practical tools and guidance for ADB investment projects.
(<https://www.adb.org/documents/health-impact-assessment-sourcebook>)



A HIA framework for SEZs in the GMS was developed to help manage their health risks and impacts.
(<https://www.adb.org/publications/health-impact-assessment-framework-economic-zones-gms>)



**HIA Network
ASIA PACIFIC**

The HIA Network Asia Pacific has been established in collaboration with the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Environmental HIA at Curtin University. Its aim is to provide knowledge and build capacity to assess and manage the health and well-being impacts on communities associated with the establishment of new development proposals.
(<http://www.hianetworkasiapac.com/>)