

IA Follow Up and Bioregional Impact Assessment



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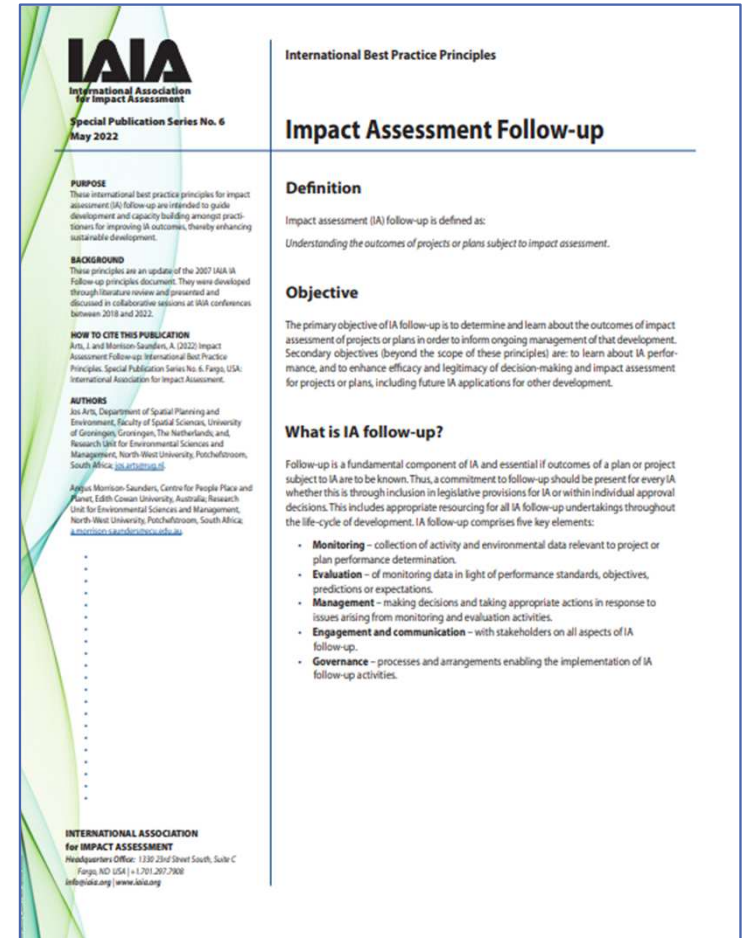


AIMS

1. Back to basics – what is IA follow-up?
2. The importance of monitoring, evaluation, management, communication and governance in IA follow-up.
3. Applying the elements of IA follow-up to Bioregional Impact Assessment.

1. Back to basics – what is IA follow-up?

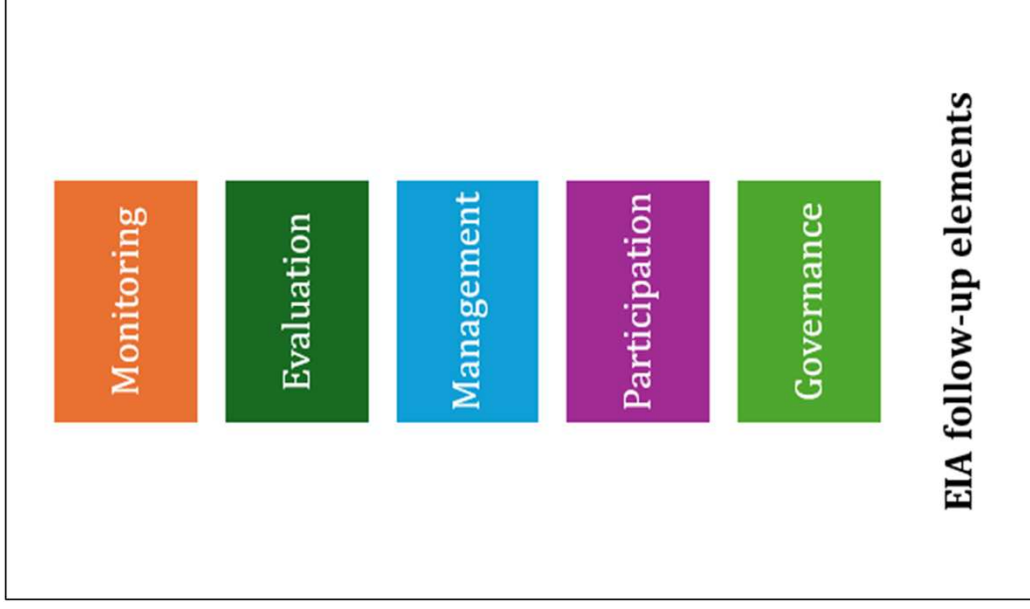
“Impact assessment (IA) follow-up is defined as:
Understanding the outcomes of projects or plans subject to impact assessment.”
(Arts & Morrison-Saunders, 2022)



1. Back to basics – what is IA follow-up?

- IA follow-up is a critical component of best practice in EIA.
(Arts & Morrison-Saunders, 2022a, 2022b; IAIA & IEA, 1999; Morrison-Saunders & Arts, 2021)
- Refers to any activity that seeks to understand the outcomes of project or plans, subject to impact assessment.
(Arts & Morrison-Saunders, 2022a, 2022b)
- Aids in further understanding of IA performance, enhance efficacy and legitimacy of decision-making and impact assessment for projects or plans, including future IA applications for other developments.
(Arts & Morrison-Saunders, 2022a, 2022b; Morrison-Saunders & Arts, 2024)





2. Monitoring, evaluation, management, communication and governance

- **Monitoring:** The collection of activity and environmental data relevant to project or plan performance determination. This may include baseline monitoring, compliance monitoring and performance monitoring.
- **Evaluation:** Of monitoring data in light of performance standards, objectives, predictions or expectations. Includes appraisal of the extent of conformance with these standards, predictions or expectations, as well as the environmental performance of the activity.

(Arts & Morrison-Saunders, 2022a, 2022b; Morrison-Saunders, 2023; Morrison-Saunders & Arts, 2024; Pinto et al., 2019; Smith, 2023)

2. Monitoring, evaluation, management, communication and governance

- **Management:** Includes making decisions and taking appropriate actions in response to issues arising from monitoring and evaluation activities.
- **Participation:** with stakeholders on all aspects of IA follow-up. Includes communication of results of follow-up to uphold principles of transparency, accessibility, accountability and legitimacy, as well as to share learning outcomes.

(Arts & Morrison-Saunders, 2022a, 2022b; Morrison-Saunders, 2023; Morrison-Saunders & Arts, 2024; Pinto et al., 2019; Smith, 2023)



2. Monitoring, evaluation, management, communication and governance

- **Governance:**

Through processes, structures and arrangements enabling the commitment towards the implementation of EIA follow-up activities.

Best practice principles for EIA follow-up governance

1. Have *legislative provisions* which specify EIA follow-up requirements.
2. Establish clear identification of *responsibilities* in follow-up in EIA procedures/regulations.
3. Specify *compliance and enforcement* provisions related to EIA follow-up.
4. Ensure *reporting* of EIA follow-up outcomes, to facilitate *adaptive management* and promote *continuous learning from experience* to improve future practice.
5. Establish clear, pre-defined and well-justified *performance criteria* for EIA follow-up.
6. Have a clear *understanding* of the purpose and importance of EIA follow-up.
7. Allocate adequate *resources* to ensure EIA follow-up.
8. Ensure that *governance arrangements* are appropriately efficient and effective.
9. Ensure *transparency* and *accessibility* of EIA follow-up to all stakeholders/parties involved.
10. Ensure *legitimacy* of EIA follow-up governance arrangements.

(Smith, 2023)

3. Applying the elements of IA follow-up to Bioregional Impact Assessment – Guiding questions for discussion

- How can follow-up assist in making bioregional impact assessment an effective decision-making tool?
- How can monitoring, evaluation, management, participation and governance aid the implementation of bioregional impact assessment?
- How can the benefits and opportunities from IA follow-up be applied to bioregional impact assessment? What could be the barriers faced?



Let's continue the conversation!

Message me your questions or comments in the IAIA25 app.

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