



ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME 2013

285SEA

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

March 4 – 22, 2013 in Sweden

September 16 – 26, 2013 in one of the participating countries

Invitation

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) offers, as part of its bilateral development cooperation, Advanced International Training Programmes of strategic importance for sustainable development in the participants' countries. This International Training Programme is designed for persons qualified to participate in key reform processes at the strategic level and who hold positions in their home organisation with a mandate to run processes of change. Admission to the Programme assumes that your organisation wishes to carry out changes and is willing to invest own resources to achieve these changes. In the long-term perspective the programmes shall contribute to institutional strengthening and capacity development in the participants' countries.

The training programme focuses on support to developing plans and measures for change. Each participant's Change Project shall be well established in the participant's organisation.

In this brochure you find information on the specific objectives for this particular programme, its content and structure, and how and when to apply. You will also find an application form.

Lena Ingelstam
Director, Sida



ITP on Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) may serve as a tool for analysis of environmental impacts and integration of environmental considerations in strategic planning and decision-making. It builds on Environmental Impact Assessment and other tools to assess environmental issues to enhance development planning.

The international training programme aims at contributing to sustainable development, by supporting capacity building in Strategic Environmental Assessment and integrating environment in strategic planning, decision-making and implementation initiated or promoted by the participants.

The programme strives to achieve an active and strong link to the participant's professional area but also to strengthen the professional exchange between participants, enriching the programme through their different professional and geographical backgrounds.

Stina Mossberg
NIRAS



Programme Objectives

The long term objective of the programme is to *increase the integration of environmental considerations into planning and decision making processes in the participants' countries.*

The programme aims to *strengthen SEA capacity in the participants' organisations.* The participants will become "agents of change" by applying new knowledge and tools in their own work. The programme will support each participant to initiate and develop "Change Projects" that will strengthen the use of SEA in planning and decision making processes that they are involved in. At the end of the programme each participant shall have:

- Increased knowledge of environmental assessments of policies, plans and programmes (SEA)
- Increased knowledge of methods and tools for strengthening strategic planning, decision making and implementation by using SEA
- Increased knowledge of international experiences of development and implementation of laws and regulations for SEA, and the integration thereof into existing planning procedures and processes.
- Increased understanding of the importance of transparency, access to information, due diligence and public participation in planning

- Improved ability to analyze the role of one's own organisation in SEA processes
- Improved skills as a "change agent" in initiating and implementing change
- Strengthened international and national networks in the field of SEA

Change Project

The training programme is built around the participants' Change Projects (CPs). The aim of the "Change Project" is to build on, strengthen, or improve already ongoing SEA work that is within the mandate of the organisation. The focus of the CP depends on the needs of the organization, to be determined by the participant and her/his colleagues and supervisor. The CP will be initiated at the start of the programme and evolve throughout the 18 months of the programme duration. Each participant will be assigned a mentor, whose role is to provide coaching and advise (on-line and in person) in designing and implementing the CP. However, the participant will be the main driver of the CP process and is expected to be motivated for this task. The success of the CP will depend largely on the support and collaboration with the participant's immediate supervisor and colleagues.

Please note that neither Sida nor the organisers will have the means to provide any financial support to project implementation.

Contents

The training programme contents are organized in four integrated thematic modules:

1. *Module 1: Introduction to SEA*; the concept of and rationale for SEA, and methods and tools for conducting SEA.
2. *Module 2: International and Swedish regulatory systems and experiences of implementation*; the role of regulatory frameworks for SEA implementation and effective environmental integration.
3. *Module 3: Good governance and implementation of SEA in practice*; the institutional, political, social and economic aspects for enabling the integration of environmental considerations in strategic decision making.
4. *Module 4: Organisational change*, providing participants with organisational theory and concrete tools and skills for initiating, leading and managing their CP within their organisation.

Programme Structure

The training programme consists of five compulsory phases. Development

of the CPs will take place throughout all phases.

Phase 1 Inception (3 months). Each participant is assigned a mentor. Work on the CP is initiated in collaboration with the home organisation by preparing a national SEA baseline study, an organisational analysis, a CP proposal as well as a start-up workshop with their colleagues and mentor.

Phase 2 Scheduled phase in Sweden (3 weeks). Participants engage in an intensive programme of lectures, study visits, exercises, and skills development, covering all four thematic modules. All participants are expected to share their own expertise and experiences with their peers. The CPs will evolve with the support of mentors' coaching, peer reviews, and individual work.

Phase 3 Change Project development (6 months). The participants further the development, planning and/or implementation of their CPs within their home organisations. Mentors provide on-line coaching, and will visit the participants' organisation.

Phase 4 Scheduled phase in one of the participating countries (location to be decided by December 2012) (2 weeks). Participants will exchange experiences of their CP processes thus far and further elaborate on plans for implementation. Additional theory and exercises will be provided, as well as case studies from the local context and developing countries.

Phase 5 Implementation (6 months) – The participants implement their CPs in collaboration with their colleagues. Further mentor support is provided. Participants organize a workshop at their home organisation, inviting affected stakeholders, to present the CP and discuss future actions. Participants will receive a training certificate upon final reporting and approval.

Date and place

Total Programme (18 months):

November 2012 – April 2014.

In Sweden: **March 4–22, 2013**

In one of the participating countries:

September 16–26, 2013

Methodology

The programme is designed for the participants to actively involve their own work place in the Change Project process and base the learning on their own experiences and work context. A range of tools and methods support this learning approach, including group work, discussions, seminars, study visits and traditional lectures. Participants are expected to actively contribute with their own expertise and experiences. Participants will also drive the Change Project development process throughout the 18 months of the programme duration, with the support and coaching of the programme mentors and peers.

Management and staff

The programme is organized by NIRAS in collaboration with the Centre for Environment and Sustainability (GMV) at the University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology. The team of lecturers and mentors include Swedish and international experts with extensive experience in their respective fields.

Admission Requirements Invited Countries

Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Vietnam, Lao PDR and Zambia.

Target Group

The programme provides advanced training for individuals in organisations that work actively with plans, policies and programmes for which SEA may be used for analyzing and addressing environmental impacts, challenges and opportunities. Organisations should have significant influence on the integration of environmental considerations in national and regional planning and decision making. Priority will be given to organizations responsible for conducting, commissioning and/or reviewing SEA. These may be Ministries, government agencies, non-governmental organizations or private sector organizations. The programme will seek diversity in the sectors represented.

Participants will be selected from organisations with a demonstrated intent and possibilities to support the design and implementation of a

Change Project within the organisation. Applicants to the programme should:

- Be a key individual at middle or high level at an organisation with a clear role in SEA, as described above;
- Be in a decision making or influencing position, or with the potential to become so;
- Have the responsibility, mandate and/or ambition to drive a process of change related to SEA;
- have high proficiency in English;
- hold a relevant academic degree or have appropriate knowledge otherwise acquired;
- be available and motivated for active participation through the whole training programme.

Women, being the underrepresented gender, are encouraged to apply to the programme since we strive to obtain a gender balance.

In support of the programme's focus on organisational change towards improved SEA practice, we will strive to select several participants from the same or closely linked organisations within the same country.

Language

The training programme will be conducted in English and high proficiency in spoken and written English is required. Applicants from countries where English is not an official language should do a language test with an official body in the home country, unless other documentation supports the required proficiency.

Other requirements

Participants accepted to the programme will be obliged to participate in all phases of the programme. Substitutes will not be accepted for any phase.

The applicant's home organisation shall be prepared to pay for the international travel to and from Sweden. If this is not the case the applicant must have other suitable funding for the return ticket.

Since much of the programme communication will be made by e-mail, the applicant must have a well functioning e-mail address, be an active user of the e-mail and have regular, reliable access to Internet.

Application Process

**Closing date for application is
August 31, 2012.**

Applications submitted after closing date will not be considered.

Applications should be written on the special form attached and include a recent photograph and all required information. Please provide a thorough description of your present work position and how it relates to the integration of environmental considerations in strategic planning and decision making. Also emphasize in what way your organisation hopes to benefit from your participation in the programme.

Applications should be submitted to the nearest Swedish Embassy/Consulate. A "soft" copy should also be e-mailed to the Programme Secretariat. If there is no Swedish Embassy/Consulate in the applicant's country, the application may be submitted directly to the Programme Secretariat.

Selection

All qualified applicants will be carefully evaluated and a first selection of candidates will be notified by e-mail no later than end of September 2012. Once notified, the candidate must promptly confirm interest and thereafter the programme management will conduct an admission interview with

all candidates via telephone/Skype. Shortly thereafter a final selection of 25-30 participants will be made based on requirements stated above and the organisation's commitment.

Cost of Participation

Sida will cover all training costs such as lectures, literature, documentation, study tours and certain social activities, as well as board and lodging. Personal expenses are not included.

International travel costs to and from the course in Sweden are not covered by Sida. The participants shall find funding and make their own travel arrangements from their home country to Sweden. Sida pays for international travel costs in connection with phase four in one of the participants' countries. The participant carries costs incurred in travelling to the nearest international airport as well as all costs for obtaining visas and any local airport taxes and departure fees.

Accommodation

Accommodation in single rooms is arranged for the scheduled phases in Sweden and regionally. The accommodation will be moderate and does not necessarily include daily cleaning and 24 hours reception services.

Miscellaneous

The participants are responsible for obtaining all necessary visas for the

Contact information

ITP Programme Secretariat
NIRAS
PO Box 70375
SE-107 24 Stockholm, SWEDEN

Phone +46 (0)8 545 533 00
Fax +46 (0)8 545 533 33
itp@niras.se
www.niras.com

scheduled courses of the programme. More information about the visa application process will be distributed to the participants after acceptance to the programme.

Participants are covered by a group insurance during the scheduled courses. This insurance includes costs for medical care only in the event of acute illness or accident. Medical and dental check-ups are not included. The cost for the insurance is covered by Sida.

Participants who successfully complete all phases of the programme will be awarded a certificate stating the details of the training undertaken and of the implemented Change Project.

Due to the character of the programme family members are not allowed to accompany participants to the scheduled phases.

ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME 2013

NIRAS is an international consulting firm in the field of sustainable development, with focus on environment and natural resources management, including agriculture, forestry, land administration and water. NIRAS is one of the largest Nordic providers of technical assistance and project management services for development programmes all over the world. NIRAS offers many different and customized training programmes - at present also on Education for Sustainable Development and Integrated Sustainable Coastal Development. NIRAS staff has long experience in

SEA implementation in development cooperation projects, as well as in SEA training and institutional capacity development for government agencies.



The Centre for Environment and Sustainability, GMV, in Gothenburg, Sweden is a network organisation at Chalmers University of Technology and University of Gothenburg which promotes research, education and capacity building for sustainable development. GMV staff have extensive experience from integrating environment in policies, plans and

programmes in developing countries, both in strategic planning, decision making and implementation. They are engaged in SEA research, teaching SEA at post-graduate level, advice and implementation.

Resource persons at GMV act as advisers to Sida and other national and international organisations on integration of environmental issues in strategic planning and SEA. Several staff are members of OECD DAC's Working Group on SEA in the development of guidance for use of SEA in development cooperation.

SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

Address: SE-105 25 Stockholm, Sweden.
Visiting address: Valhallavägen 199.
Phone: +46 (0)8-698 50 00. Fax: +46 (0)8-20 88 64.
www.sida.se sida@sida.se

