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Program : **B.Tech**

Subject Name: **Environmental Impact Assessment**

Subject Code: **CE-604**

Semester: **6<sup>th</sup>**



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## UNIT-IV

**Preparation of written documentation: Initial planning phase, detailed planning phase, writing phase, organizing relevant information, co-ordination of team writing effort.**

### **Initial planning phase:-**

The EIA process makes sure that environmental issues are raised when a project or plan is first discussed and that all concerns are addressed as a project gains momentum through to implementation. Recommendations made by the EIA may necessitate the redesign of some project components, require further studies, and suggest changes which alter the economic viability of the project or cause a delay in project implementation.

To be of most benefit it is essential that an environmental assessment is carried out to determine significant impacts early in the project cycle so that recommendations can be built into the design and cost-benefit analysis without causing major delays or increased design costs. To be effective once implementation has commenced, the EIA should lead to a mechanism whereby adequate monitoring is undertaken to realize environmental management. An important output from the EIA process should be the delineation of enabling mechanisms for such effective management.

The way in which an EIA is carried out is not rigid: it is a process comprising a series of steps. These steps are outlined below and the techniques more commonly used in EIA are described in some detail in the section Techniques. The main steps in the EIA process are:

- Screening
- Scoping
- Prediction and mitigation
- Management and monitoring
- Audit

### **Detailed planning phase:-**

The developer is responsible for preparing the EIS and it is up to the developer to decide on the team to prepare the EIS. The EIS should be an independent objective assessment of the project's environmental impacts and not a 'best case statement' for the development. Negative impacts should be given equal prominence to the positive impacts, and they should be discussed in detail. The EIS should specify the effects (positive and/or negative; cumulative; short, medium and/or long term; permanent and/or temporary; direct and/or indirect) which the proposed development and resulting activities may have on the environment, and upon what premises and criteria the assessment of these effects has been based.

The EIS should explain what main alternative options were considered for the proposed development including alternative site locations, alternative types of development and/or alternative designs, and their environmental effects should be explained and compared. This demonstrates that other options have been considered and results in a more robust planning case for the development being proposed. The EIS should be laid out clearly and the information presented so as to be comprehensible to the non-specialist. Matrices

are a good and recommended means of presenting a lot of pertinent information succinctly. The EIS should contain a non-technical summary, and a list of the EIA/EIS personnel and their qualifications as well as previous examples of similar projects undertaken. An indication of any difficulties (technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information during the EIA/EIS process should also be clearly stated.

a description and quantification of the likely significant effects, direct and indirect, on the site and surrounding area, explained by reference to the proposal's possible impact on:-

1. Humans
2. Flora and fauna
3. Soil
4. Water including the ocean, inshore waters and ground water
5. Air
6. Climate
7. Landscape
8. Cultural heritage including historic protection areas, Listed Buildings and areas of historical and archaeological interest

Writing phase:-

There is no prescribed format for an EIS, however the following format can be used as a guide:-

1. Table of contents
2. Non-technical summary
3. Description of the proposed development
4. Description of the alternatives considered
5. Description of the proposal site and surrounding area including the regulatory framework
6. Assessment of effects and identification of potential impacts
7. Identification of mitigation measures including monitoring programs and contingency plans
8. Public consultation and involvement including Government and non-government agencies and the general public
9. List of references

Organizing relevant information:-

A Scoping Document should contain the information listed below. The checklist in Appendix 2 should also be used to help determine the scope of the EIA and EIS:

1. A brief description of the proposed development including timelines for construction
2. A brief description of the alternative options considered and rationale for the chosen option
3. A brief description of the proposal site as well as a site plan showing boundaries of the site, buildings and structures, roads and access points, zoning boundaries etc.
4. A brief description of the baseline conditions and an indication of what baseline studies will be used or undertaken to characterize the existing environment

5. An overview of the area context and applicable land use planning zonings and policies, and other relevant legislation
6. An identification of potential environmental impacts of primary concern
7. A brief description of the specific methodologies anticipated for studying and testing each significant environmental impact and the potential magnitude of each
8. An identification of any known or anticipated information gaps
9. An identification of the sort of mitigation measures, monitoring plans and contingency plans that might be anticipated co-ordination of team writing effort:-

The team leader or team coordinator serves as a primary liaison between team members.

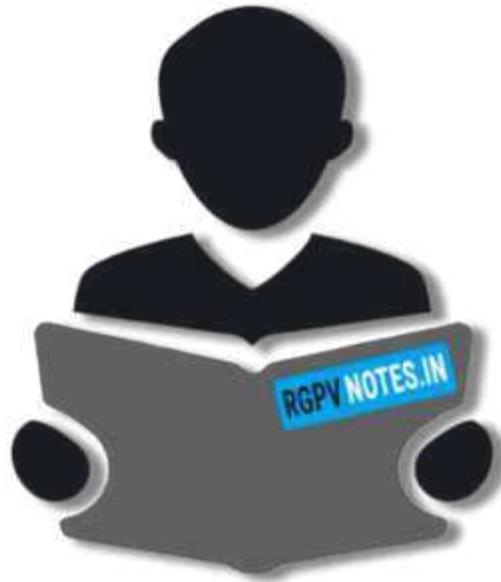
The team coordinator is responsible for making sure team members are keenly aware of their specific roles and function within the group.

Team coordinators are also tasked with the authority to make critical decisions when the team cannot arrive at a consensus.

A team coordinator must have the following qualities:-

1. Have a long term vision of the work to be done
2. Know each team member
3. Define team roles
4. Ensure the team has a common goal
5. Make sure all team members know their assignments
6. Leverage resources and specific skills of the team
7. Create a workable plan
8. Have the correct tools available for the team to complete their tasks
9. Encourage effective communication among the team
10. Conduct periodic checkpoints to determine progress against deliverables.

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