

Session 8.

Scoping, EA & PEA Basics

(:30)

Format

Presentation

Summary

In cases where there is potential for significant adverse impact, the IEE process is not sufficient on its own to present a full and detailed discussion of those impacts to the Agency and to host country decision makers. When activities with significant adverse impact are planned, a more detailed Environmental Assessment (EA) must be conducted per 22 CFR 216.6.

The EA process is identified in 22 CFR 216.6 and includes expectations for the EA. The EA must be conducted in collaboration with the affected nation and will include alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse effects or enhance the quality of the environment. The expected benefits of development objectives are weighed against any adverse impacts upon the human environment or any irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources.

Although most EAs are prepared by 3rd party consultants on the behalf of the IP or the Mission, it is critical for A/CORs to understand the expectations and requirements for conducting an EA as they are likely to draft Terms of References (TOR) and review the EAs. Prior to conducting an EA or Programmatic EA (PEA), a Scoping EA is also recommended which will provide additional context and guidance for the TOR for the full EA study.

In this session, we will discuss the process and expertise needed to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), and meaningful alternatives analysis and consultation as essential to the process.