

ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME



ITP: 285A **Strategic Environmental Assessment**

March 20 – April 7, 2017, in Sweden
September 11 – 22, 2017, in one of the participating
countries (to be decided)

Closing date
for applications:
› **September 30,
2016**

Dear reader

This International Training Programme is specially designed for persons qualified to participate in reform processes on different levels and who hold a position in their home organisation with a mandate to run processes of change. It offers support to strengthen, adapt and maintain capacity over time in order for your organisation to define and achieve both short and long term goals. A participant will take part of the latest development in your area of work supported by Swedish colleagues and experts; develop a network of colleagues from other countries; and get enhanced knowledge about new working methods. The training programme methodology is based on the assumption that your organisation wishes to carry out changes and is willing to invest own resources to achieve these changes.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) may serve as a tool for analysis of environmental impacts and the integration of environmental considerations in strategic planning and decision making. 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 participants' professional area but also to strengthen the professional exchange between participants, enriching the programme through their different professional and geographical backgrounds. It has a regional focus, aiming to strengthen professional networks both within and between the represented countries.

Sida, NIRAS and GMV hereby invite you to nominate candidates.



Lena Ingelstam
DIRECTOR
Sida



Catharina Schmitz
DIRECTOR
NIRAS Indevelop

Programme objectives

The objective of the programme is to strengthen SEA capacity in the participants' organisations. The programme will support each participant in initiating and developing an "SEA Project" which will strengthen the use of SEA in planning processes that she/he is involved in.

In the long term, the programme goal is to increase the integration of environmental and sustainability considerations into planning and decision-making processes in the participants' countries. The sustainability perspective on SEA addresses the interlinking of social, ecological and economic aspects, including aspects of poverty alleviation and the rights of the poor.

BENEFITS

- › **Increased knowledge of different approaches to environmental assessments of policies, plans and programmes (SEA)**
- › **Increased knowledge of methods and tools for integrating SEA with strategic planning and decision making**
- › **Increased knowledge of international and regional experiences of developing regulations, guidance and procedures for implementing SEA in practice**
- › **Increased understanding of the importance of transparency, access to information and public participation in planning**
- › **Improved skills as a "change agent" in initiating and implementing organisational change**
- › **Strengthened international, regional and national networks in the field of SEA**

Contents

The training programme is organised in four integrated thematic modules:

Module 1

Introduction to SEA: the concept of and rationale for SEA, and methods and tools for conducting SEA.

Module 2

International and Swedish regulatory systems and experiences of implementation: the role of regulatory frameworks for SEA implementation and effective environmental integration.

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 planning.

Module 4

Organisational change: organisational change theory and tools and skills for initiating, leading and managing an SEA Project within an organisation.

SEA PROJECT

The training programme is built around the participants' SEA Projects (SEAPs). The aim of the SEAP is to build on, strengthen, or improve already ongoing SEA work that is within the mandate of the organisation. The focus of the SEAP depends on the needs of the organisation, to be determined by the participant and her/his colleagues and supervisor.

The SEAP will be initiated at the start of the programme and evolve throughout the 16 months of the programme duration. Each participant will be assigned a mentor, whose role is to provide coaching and advice (on-line and in person) in designing and implementing the SEAP.

The participant will manage the development and implementation of the SEAP and is expected to be motivated for this task. The success of the SEAP will depend largely on the support of and collaboration with the participant's immediate supervisor and colleagues.

Programme structure

The training programme consists of five compulsory phases. Development of the SEAPs will take place throughout all phases.

Phase 1 – Inception (4 months). Each participant is assigned a mentor. Work on the SEAP is initiated in collaboration with the home organisation by preparing a national SEA baseline, an organisational analysis, and an SEA seminar with the participant's colleagues and mentor.

Phase 2 – Scheduled course 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 SEAPs will evolve with the support of mentors' coaching, peer reviews, and individual work.

Phase 3 – Implementation (5 months). The participants initiate the implementation of their SEAPs within their home organisations. Mentors provide on-line coaching and, depending on the participants' progress and needs, may visit the participants' organisations.

Phase 4 – Scheduled course in one of the participating countries (2 weeks). Participants will exchange experiences of implementing their SEAPs thus far. They will further elaborate on their workplans for implementation, with continued support by their mentors. Additional theory and exercises will be provided, as well as case studies from the regional context.

Phase 5 – Implementation (6 months). The participants implement their SEAPs in collaboration with their colleagues. Further mentor support is provided. Participants organise a workshop at their home organisation, to present the SEAP and discuss future actions. Mentors may visit the participants' organisations, if they have not done so during phase 3. Participants will receive a training certificate upon final reporting and approval.

TEACHING

The programme is designed for the participants to actively involve their own workplace in the SEAP 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, case studies, study visits and lectures. Participants are expected to actively contribute with their own expertise and experiences. Participants will also manage the SEAP development and implementation throughout the 16 months of the programme duration, with the support and coaching of the program mentors and peers. The number of participants is limited to 25–30 in order to ensure a close working relationship between participants, lecturers and mentors. The regional focus enables valuable exchange of experiences between participants, as well as networking within and between the countries represented.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

The programme is organised 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.

TIMETABLE

WHERE:

Phase 2 will take place in Sweden and phase 4 in one of the participating countries (to be announced later). The other phases will be conducted from the participants' home countries.

WHEN:

The Programme is about 16 months and runs from December 2016 – March 2018.

Phase 2 in Sweden: March 20 – April 7, 2017

Phase 4 in one of the participating countries:
September 11 – 22, 2017

Admission requirements

INVITED COUNTRIES

This training programme has a regional focus. The following countries are invited to nominate candidates: Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

TARGET GROUP

Participants may be nominated by organisations and agencies that work actively with plans, policies and programmes at national or regional levels and in different sectors for which SEA is required or may be applied. These may be government agencies, ministries, non-governmental organisations or private enterprises involved in fields such as: economic development, water, land use, agriculture, environment, industry, natural resource management, or urban development. The programme will seek diversity in the sectors represented. Priority will be given to organisations responsible for conducting, commissioning and/or reviewing SEA. Participants will be selected from organisations with demonstrated intent and possibilities to support the design and implementation of a SEAP within the organisation.

Applicants to the programme should:

- hold a key position at middle or high level in an organisation with a clear role in implementing or developing SEA, as described above
- have the responsibility, mandate and ambition to manage a project related to strengthening SEA capacity in the organisation
- have 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.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

The training programme will be organised and conducted in English. Candidates 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 to support her/his ability can be provided. Proficiency in English must be certified on the Application form.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Considering the training programme consists of international travels and work away from home in a new environment, good health and full working capacity is required. It is therefore recommended that candidates undergo a medical examination before filling in the Medical Statement in the Application form.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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

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

COSTS

The following costs are covered by Sida: programme fee, international travel to the scheduled courses, meals and accommodation.

Participants are required to find funding for:

- visa fees
- domestic travel
- any local airport taxes and departure fees.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- The application should be written on the attached application form and include a recent photograph.
- When necessary, the application should be approved by the official nominating authority in the applicant's country.
- A soft copy of the application should be submitted by e-mail to NIRAS at itp@niras.se
- A hard copy should be submitted to the nearest Swedish embassy/consulate. If there is no Swedish embassy/consulate in the applicant's country, the hard copy should be submitted directly to NIRAS.
- Both copies must be submitted by the closing date of September 30, 2016.

Closing date for applications:

› **September 30, 2016**

SELECTION PROCESS

All qualified applicants will be evaluated and a first selection of candidates will be made. The candidates will then be notified by e-mail and must promptly confirm their interest. After this the programme management may conduct interviews with candidates via telephone/Skype. A final selection of 25–30 participants will be made based on the requirements stated above and the organisation's commitment.

A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed by the management of the selected candidates' organisations and the training programme management, to confirm the mutual commitment to the participants' fulfilment of all phases of the training programme.

As part of Sida's work with capacity and institutional development, Sida offers international training programmes (ITP) for participants from low- and middle-income countries in priority areas. The programmes cover areas of strategic importance to the social, environmental and economic development of co-operating countries and are based on identified priorities and needs. In the long-term perspective, the programmes shall contribute to institutional strengthening and capacity development in the co-operating countries.

ORGANIZER



ITP Programme Secretariat
NIRAS
P.O. Box 70375
SE-107 24 Stockholm, Sweden
Phone: +46 (0)8 545 533 00
Fax: +46 (0)8 545 533 33
E-mail: itp@niras.se
www.niras.com

NIRAS International Consulting is one of Europe's larger development consulting actors working with donor funded projects on four continents in more than 50 developing and emerging economies. We offer tailor-made solutions and transfer skills that help reduce poverty through e.g. activities facilitating inclusive economic growth, promoting equitable societies and improved health, and mitigating climate change. Our expertise covers the entire development agenda, including key areas such as rural development, water, agriculture, forestry, land administration, skills development and employment, health, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), gender equality and human rights. NIRAS International Consulting also offers many customized training programmes. At present the Swedish part of the company, NIRAS-Indevelop, offers training programmes in Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainable Urban Water and Sanitation, and Women, Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325). NIRAS has long experience in SEA implementation in development cooperation projects as well as institutional capacity development for government agencies.

PARTNER

CHALMERS



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

The Centre for Environment and Sustainability (GMV) in Gothenburg, Sweden is a network organisation maintained by Chalmers University of Technology and the 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

