



Sustainability Assessment – Challenges and Lessons

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Project experience

- WA and Asia Pacific
- Infrastructure, Mining, Oil & Gas
- Organisation investment options
- Site selections
- Alliance projects
- Retail/telecommunications



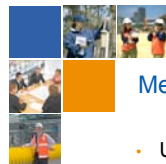
Why Sustainability Assessment

- Positioning
- Community credibility – licence to operate
- Offset risks
- Changing culture – business transformation
- Value creation



What are the implications?

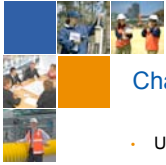
- On the organisation
- Project
- Processes
- Regulators
- Other stakeholders



Methodologies

- Umbrella to EIA/SIA
- Project framing reflecting organisational strategy or government requirement
- Site selection studies
- Sustainability Opportunity Assessment – SUSOP (CSR)

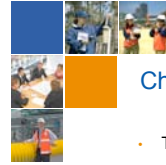




Challenges 1

- Understanding sustainability
 - Organisation, project, regulator
 - Sustainability principles
- Context
- Involvement of appropriate stakeholders
- Poor decision making frameworks
 - Compliance frameworks v opportunity frameworks
- Information and data
- Poor criteria definition lead v lag indicators

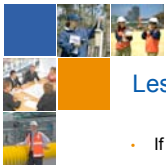
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Challenges 2

- Training in new tools and process
 - Program logic
 - Simple checklist v complex MCA
 - Benefit cost
 - Risk/Opportunity
- Ability to innovate
 - Innovation process
- Stuck in the old paradigm
- Just get me the approval!!

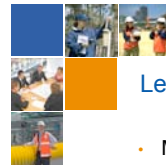
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Lessons 1

- If umbrella to ESIA – Lead times for studies
- Understand regulatory interface
 - Checks and balances
- Get the context right
- Identify stakeholders early
 - Community capacity and capability
- EIS/SIA teams need to think differently - familiarisation
- Benchmarking good practice
- Need for rigour in opportunity assessment

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Lessons 2

- MCA has its place, but so does qualitative assessment based on agreed outcomes
 - Need for training
- Need for checklists
- Ownership by project teams
- Built into decision making in project
- Need planning lead time

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Commentary

- Proponents ahead of government
- Requirements for regional assessments
- Better understanding of interface between ESIA and sustainability assessment
- Service sector education
- Large v small projects

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