

# RAISING THE BAR OF BIODIVERSITY IN IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR PROMOTING INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

## Course Introduction

Complexities of managing multiple forms of development projects and plans, ascending economic trajectory, climate change issues, and impacts of growing demands from nature for resources and ecosystem benefits make the science and practice of impact assessment most challenging. Therefore, evolving more sophisticated impact assessment approaches to promote inclusive developments is genuinely needed in the digital age.

*'The purpose of biodiversity conservation is to provide the greatest good to the greatest number of people for the longest time'* observed Gifford Pinchot, the eminent conservationist. Impact assessment practice should therefore, project and resolve the conservation issues associated with development plans and proposals. Development of enabling tools for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem benefits in impact assessment has accordingly emerged as a priority for a range of beneficiaries.

Trainers need to enrich the knowledge and improve their competence to advance impact assessment practice. Practitioners have to be on the lookout for robust and recent methodologies for raising the profile of biodiversity to aid good assessments and to fast track the process. Decision-makers need to have better negotiating tools for biodiversity gains from development. Policy makers must encourage best options for achieving the win-wins to resolve the dilemmas of conservation and development. Business groups need to understand why they must pay for biodiversity conservation as a debt for destruction from past actions and as dues for drawing from the nature in future. Donors require greater level of insight and trust for investing in sustainable and responsible development.

Novel ideas, new tools, digital data sources, technological choices and innovative thinking can improve EA practice. This course provides an opportunity to a range of target groups-trainers, practitioners, development planners, business groups, conservation community, decision-makers, donor agencies and economists to take home adequate guidance for steering development towards greater convergence of economic well-being and ecological sustainability goals.

## Instructors

**Asha Rajvanshi**, Senior Professor and Head, EIA Cell, Wildlife Institute of India (India)

**Vinod. B. Mathur**, Director, Wildlife Institute of India (India)

## Target group

This two-day course is an intermediate to advanced level course for EA professionals including trainers, practitioners, development planners, business groups, conservation community, decision-makers,



donor agencies and economists. This two-day course aims to improve the scope and practice of impact assessment for raising the profile of biodiversity for ensuring more integrated, impartial and inclusive economic growth.

### **Dates, times, location**

IAIA15 pre-conference training courses will be held from 09:00 - 17:00 on Saturday, 18 April 2015, and Sunday, 19 April 2015. The courses will be held at the **Congress Center**.

Check-in for the training courses will be at the IAIA registration desk in the lobby of the convention center at the following times.

<b>Friday, 17 April</b>	-	<b>15:00 – 17:00</b>
<b>Saturday, 18 April</b>	-	<b>07:30 – 10:00 &amp; 14:00 – 17:00</b>
<b>Sunday, 19 April</b>	-	<b>07:30</b>

### **Registration, deadlines, and fee**

The fee for a two day courses of IAIA is US\$475 for participants who are registered for the IAIA conference. Participants in the training courses who are not registered for the IAIA conference will be assessed an additional US\$75 fee. This fee includes course materials, light lunches, and coffee breaks. The course does not cover cost towards travel, board and lodging.

If you are interested in this course, please register early! The course fee must be paid in full before 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 to ensure your enrolment in the training courses. Course registration after 28 February 2015 is possible but is subject to availability, instructor consent, and receipt of payment.

If the training course for which you have registered does not meet the minimum number by 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2015, IAIA HQ will notify you and provide refund information or offer to transfer you to another course.

If you must cancel, your course, registration fee will be refunded minus a US\$75 administration fee and contingent upon a written notice of cancellation received in HQ by 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2015. After 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 no refunds will be issued.

The registration form for IAIA 2015 and the pre meeting courses can be downloaded from the IAIA website (<http://www.iaia.org>). Interested participants should send their registration form along with payment towards course fee latest by 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 to:-

**IAIA International Headquarters, 1330 23rd Street South,  
Suite C, Fargo, ND 58103-3705 USA.**

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