



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TRAINING COURSE OPPORTUNITY

1.1. Introduction

The Malawi Centre for Excellence in Environmental and Social Sustainability (MCEESS), hosted at the Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) and supported by a network of partner universities and the Malawi Environment Protection Authority (MEPA), with funding from the World Bank, has been established to align capacity building and professional accreditation of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Audit in Malawi. Therefore, MCEESS is inviting interested applicants to enroll in the short course training on Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).

1.2. Rationale of the Training

The ESIA training course will equip participants with essential skills,

knowledge, and best practices related to the processes and procedures for conducting Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) in Malawi and beyond. The training will help participants develop a clear understanding of proposed developmental projects that involve interrelated socio-economic, cultural, and human aspects within the relevant project areas. Participants will gain a new perspective on ESIA as a crucial tool for project success, including the process outlined in the Malawi Environmental Management Act (EMA, 2017), as overseen by the Malawi Environment Protection Authority (MEPA). The training will also include an analysis of various case study projects, such as water supply, renewable energy, large scale agriculture,

transportation corridor, infrastructure development and transmission and distribution powerlines.

1.3. Target participants

The training course is open to a wide range of professionals, but will greatly benefit:

i. Project Managers, engineers,

- planners, and project coordinators.
- ii. Business Development Professionals
- iii. Contractors & construction companies.
- iv. Academicians (PhDs and Masters Holders) who are willing to become ESIA experts
- v. All interested participants.

1.4. Indicative content

Introduction to Environmental & Social Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principles and concepts of ESIA ● Historical evolution and global drivers of ESIA ● Key stages and components of ESIA ● ESIA roles and responsibilities of project stakeholders ● Case Study: Review of an ESIA conducted for Shire Valley Transformation Programme (SVTP)
Legal, Policy, and Institutional Framework for ESIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National environmental laws and regulatory requirements ● International conventions and standards (IFC, World Bank, UNEP) ● Sector-specific environmental and social regulations ● ESIA institutional roles and compliance processes ● Case Study: Review of ESIA compliance assessment for a Dyke development project.
Screening, Scoping, and Terms of Reference (ToR) Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project screening methods and criteria ● Determining project significance and categories ● Scoping procedures and stakeholder identification ● Developing a robust ESIA Terms of Reference ● Case Study: Review of Scoping exercise for a water supply project
Environmental Baseline Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Methods for collecting biophysical environmental data ● Socioeconomic baseline study techniques ● Use of GIS and remote sensing in baseline mapping ● Baseline data analysis and documentation ● Case Study: Review of Baseline survey conducted for a Road Infrastructure Project
Impact Identification, Prediction, and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing practical mitigation strategies ● Designing ESMPs and monitoring programs ● Integrating mitigation into project life cycles ● Budgeting and resource allocation for ESMP implementation ● Case Study: Review of ESMP design for a Water Supply Project.

Mitigation Measures and Environmental & Social Management Plans (ESMPs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing practical mitigation strategies ● Designing ESMPs and monitoring programs ● Integrating mitigation into project life cycles ● Budgeting and resource allocation for ESMP implementation ● Case Study: Review of ESMP design for an Irrigation Development Project.
Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder mapping and analysis tools ● Participatory approaches in ESIA processes ● Conflict resolution and grievance mechanisms ● Communication strategies for diverse stakeholder groups ● Case Study: Community engagement for a renewable energy project
ESIA Reporting and Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Structure and content of professional ESIA reports ● Technical writing for environmental and social reporting ● Integrating data, visuals, and GIS outputs ● Review and disclosure processes ● Case Study: Analysis of a published ESIA report for quality and compliance
ESIA Implementation, Monitoring, and Follow-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitoring techniques and performance indicators ● Adaptive management and improvement strategies ● Integrating ESIA into organizational sustainability systems ● Case Study: Review Monitoring and evaluation of an ESIA for an agriculture project
Field Excursion Visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shire Valley Transformation Programme (Irrigation and Water Development Project)

1.5. Date and Duration of the training

The training course is scheduled to occur at MUST City Campus in Blantyre from April 20 to 24 April, 2026.

1.6. Indicative content

- Introduction to Environmental & Social Impact Assessment
- Legal, Policy, and Institutional Framework for ESIA
- Screening, Scoping, and Terms of Reference (ToR) Development
- Environmental Baseline Studies
- Impact Identification, Prediction, and Evaluation

- Mitigation Measures and Environmental & Social Management Plans (ESMPs)
- Stakeholder Engagement and Public Participation
- ESIA Reporting and Documentation
- ESIA Implementation, Monitoring, and Follow-Up

1.7. Logistical Arrangements

Attendees will receive breakfast tea, lunch, and afternoon tea. MSCEES will also arrange transport for the field excursion,

covering travel from the training venue to the site and back. Participants are responsible for their own lodging accommodations and for transportation to and from the training venue, including travel from and back to their respective points of origin

1.8. Training Registration

Interested participants should register via the email mceess@must.ac.mw, with the subject line stating "Expression of Interest (Eoi) to Attend ESIA Training Course." Your expression of interest should be submitted along with proof of a deposit slip for a non-refundable fee of K50,000.

Account details

Bank: **Standard Bank**

Name: **Malawi University of Science and Technology**

Account number: **9100001063429**

Swift: **SBICMWMX**

Branch Code: **101004**

1.9. Certification

All applicants participating in this ESIA course will be officially recognized by MEPA and will receive a Certificate of Course Completion from the Malawi Higher Education Institution Network on Climate Change Learning Consortium Universities.

1.10. Training Course Enquiries

All inquiries regarding the training course can be directed to:

Dr. Isaac Mwalwimba

MHEINCCL Technical Lead Chair &
MCEES Coordinator

Malawi University of Science and
Technology (MUST)

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