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**Environmental  
Impact  
Assessment  
Checklist**



**AGS**

## **Environmental Impact Assessment Checklist**



## **Checklist for Gathering Baseline Data**

Environmental impact assessments require baseline data on multiple ecological variables so the level of impact can be measured.

This checklist will help you identify the types of information needed for your EIA.

# EIA Checklist Overview

The scoping in environmental impact assessment includes all impacts that a project, program, or policy change will have on the environment of a specific region or area.

To offer a reasonable estimate of the level of impact (the change from “status quo”), the baseline conditions need to be assessed and documented.

This checklist will follow the 5 key categories used for EIA reporting:

Air & Climate  
Land  
Water

Ecology & Biodiversity  
Human Environment





Air & climate includes things like air quality, health implications, ecosystem impacts, contributions to climate change, etc.

## Air & Climate

- Describe Air & Climate:
  - Quantitative air quality data
  - Emission sources
  - Emission rates
  - Average temperatures
  - Average rainfall
  - Past natural disaster impacts
  - Data from climate change studies
  - Existing pollution vs. legal environmental standards
  - Susceptibility to earthquakes, landslides, erosion, wildfires or other extreme/adverse climatic conditions

# Ecology & Biodiversity



Ecology & biodiversity includes importance of biodiversity value, both terrestrial and marine, economic use to community, ecosystem well-being, etc.

- Describe Vegetation:
  - Woodlands
  - Open fields
  - Wetlands
  - Genus and species of dominant vegetation
  
- Describe Wildlife:
  - Terrestrial species
  - Aquatic vertebrates
  - Avian species
  
- Describe Endangered or Threatened Species:
  - Endangered plants
  - Endangered animals
  - Habitat boundaries

# Human Environment

## Describe Human Environment:

- Noise conditions
- Noise sources
- Light conditions
- Light sources
- Employment statistics
- Safety/crime statistics
- Population statistics
- Seasonal/tourist population statistics
- Scenic areas
- Recreational use areas
- Main transport routes



Human environment includes things like light and noise pollution, community safety, employment opportunities, community value creation, etc.



Land includes use of non-renewable resources, changes to land morphology, impacts to historic or cultural sites, etc.

## Land

- Describe Geology:
  - Geological formations
  - Surficial deposits
  - Confining layers
  
- Describe Soils:
  - Soil survey information
  - Soil profile characteristics
  - Erosion details from past events
  
- Describe Land Use:
  - How land is currently used
  - Existing manmade structures
  - Cultural, historical, or archaeological sites



Water includes impacts on local drinking water, sustainability, effect of local use for irrigation and other activities, health implications, etc.

# Water

- Describe Surface Water:
  - Downstream receiving bodies
  - Water use
  - Stormwater runoff
  
- Describe Subsurface Water:
  - Aquifers present
  - Depth to ground water
  - Water supply capabilities
  - Water quality
  
- Other Water Attributes:
  - Identify wetlands
  - Identify floodplains



## Conclusion

This environmental impact assessment checklist is designed to help you consider the scope of the baseline data you'll need for an EIA.

You can find further help with environmental impact assessments, as well as many other types of impact assessments at [Airiodion.com](https://www.airiodion.com).

Check out our [Impact Assessment Toolkit](#) for an impact assessment template with built-in analytics that gives you a place for planning and managing your environmental impact assessment.



Need Help with  
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Assessments?

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