

(7) Good practices

<The Philippines>

Good practice 1: PEISS online

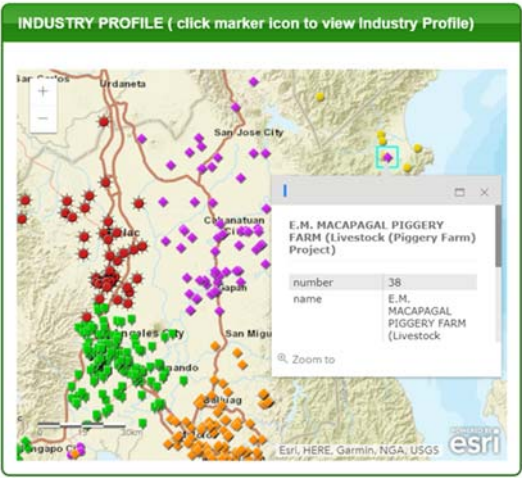
1. Stage of EIA	From screening to monitoring
2. System/ Implementation	Implementation – Utilize IT to provide information and enhance procedural efficiency
3. Country	Philippines
4. Outline of good practice	<p>Maximizing the use of IT, the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) and Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Division (EIAMD) provide an online service to simplify procedures and facilitate access to information.</p> <p>Online service provided by EMB (http://emb.gov.ph/)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EMB-related information: Lists mission, objectives, roles, and organizational structure. Provides links to EMB regional office (RO) websites. 2. List of Environmental-Critical Projects (ECPs) with Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECCs). 3. Links to various EMB programs. 4. Online applications. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Certificate of Non-Coverage (CNC) Online – CNC Online enables (1) submission of a CNC application form, (2) renewal payment, (3) tracking the state of CNC checks, and (4) downloading approved CNC. b. ECC Online – ECC Online enables (1) online ECC applications¹, (2) confirmation of ECC application, (3) confirmation of whether further action by the project proponent is required, including the submission of additional information, and (4) downloading the decision document. c. Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR) Online – CMR Online enables the online submission of CMR. This system currently is only applicable for ECPs. For non-ECPs, the CMR must be submitted directly to the EMB RO where the project is located. However, reports may be submitted online in EMB RO6 only. 5. Completed ECC applications and CNC tracking service <p>Lists of proposals for which online ECC applications have been completed, proposals for which ECCs have been issued, proposals for which online CNC applications have been completed, and proposals for which CNCs have been issued can be viewed from the Services menu. Information available for viewing consists of project name, location, project proponent, and application result (approved/denied). Copies of ECCs for approved proposals can be obtained by entering the required items in the ECC copy application form.</p> <p>EIA reports and monitoring reports submitted by project proponents are not subject to freedom of information access, and are not available for viewing on the website or at Offices.</p> 6. E-Library <p>The following information can be viewed through the E-Library: EMB annual reports, EMB publications, laws and policies, other EMB programs, national air quality status reports, national water quality status reports, national solid waste management status reports, inventory and classification of water bodies, and videos produced by EMB.</p>

¹ ECC Online is not for ECPs; rather, applications can only be submitted for projects in Environmental Critical Areas (ECAs) that require an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) Checklist.

	<p>Online services provided by the Environmental Impact Assessment and Management Division (EIAMD) (http://eia.emb.gov.ph/)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Online ECC, CNC and CMR procedures 2. Notices of public hearings and consultations² <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project name, project proponent name, and project location; b. Date and venue of the public hearing or consultation; and c. Notice of Public Hearing, EIS Report, and EIS Summary for residents (English and Philippine versions). 3. Notice of Public Scoping³ <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project name, project proponent name, and project location; b. Date and venue of the public hearing or consultation; and c. Notice of Public Scoping, and Project Description 4. Revised EIA Report for Public Comments <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project name, project proponent name, and project location; and b. EIA Report, and Public Hearing Report 5. EIA-related laws and regulations 6. ECC-related guidelines (category classifications, documents required for ECC applications, summary of ECC application procedures, etc.) 7. List of EIA practitioners <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Registration procedure for EIA Practitioners; b. List of registered internal and external review committee members; c. List of registered individual EIA preparers in EMB CO; d. List of Registered consulting firms for EIA report preparation; and e. Regional EIA practitioners. 8. E-Library (PEISS-related laws, regulations and guidelines) 9. ECC and CNC status tracking service <p>The status of completed ECC/CNC applications can be tracked.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project name, project proponent name, and project location; b. ECC/CNC reference number, and date received; and c. Approved/denied, undergoing scoping, undergoing screening, revised, returned, approved ECC/CNC renewal application, new application, check completed, etc.
5. Background and issues identified (why and how does this good practice was started and evolved?)	There is a large volume of EIA-related documents, and it is difficult to verify whether documents have been submitted, so there have been many cases of confirmation failure.
6. Key features of good practice and its consequences/ outcomes	Online processing has facilitated the management of applications.
7. Lessons learned/ way forward	<p>While online processing and online release of information has made management easier, there is a possibility that the full range of information may not reach people in areas with limited or no access to the internet. There is a need to provide information in a more accessible form.</p> <p>EIA reports, which are temporarily available to the public, cannot be accessed after the end of the period for public comment. This should be changed so that</p>


² http://eia.emb.gov.ph/notice-of-public-hearingconsultation_link/notice-of-public-hearingconsultation/

³ <http://eia.emb.gov.ph/announcements/notice-of-public-scoping/>

	information on a single project can be accessed throughout the life-cycle of the project.
8. Photos	<div><div>Transparency SealCitizens CharterOnline ServicesEnvironmental LawsDownloads</div><div><div>INDUSTRY PROFILE (click marker icon to view Industry Profile)</div><p>ECC project information site for EMB Region 3</p><p>Link: http://r3.emb.gov.ph/industry-profile/</p></div></div>

Good Practice 2: Public Scoping

1. Stage of EIA Process	Public Scoping
2. System/ Implementation	<p>System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procedures called "Public Scoping" was introduced before conducting technical scoping by experts in order to grasp the public opinion and request in the earlier stage. The system is based on the guidelines stated at Section 7. Requirement Prior to the Public Scoping under Article II of DAO No. 2017-15. - The implementation of the Public Scoping determined the coverage, focus, depth and extent of the environmental assessment to be undertaken and the basis of review.
3. Country	Philippines
4. Outline of good practice	<p>Before a public scoping to be conducted, a request will be submitted to the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) Office with jurisdiction over the processing of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) with the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proof of conduct of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) which includes documentation of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) conducted represented by stakeholder groups identified; and documentation of IEC including a proof of receipt of IEC materials by Local Government Unit (LGU) and other stakeholders. - Initial perception survey results at the minimum indicating the baseline knowledge about the project, concerns/questions about the description of the project alternatives and concerns about the environmental impacts of the project. - Project description for scoping (PDS) containing: a) need for the project, its goals and objectives; b) alternatives being considered by the project proponent; c) proposed location of project facilities/components and alternatives considered in the decision; d) a map showing the project site/s and the proposed EIA study area; e) aerial photos of the project site taken not more than 90 days from submission showing households, business activities and industries that will be displaced as well as local institutions; f) project proponent; g) projected timeframe of the project phases; and preliminary identified environmental aspects for each alternative. - Proposed list of invitees for the public scoping representing the different groups present in the area. - Draft invitation letter to be signed by EMB and IEC materials in preparation for the public scoping. - Draft presentation of the project during public scoping. <p>The EMB Office will evaluate and decide within 5 working days and will post the announcement of the Public Scoping at EMB Website for at least 10 days before the Public Scoping.</p> <p>The project proponent will simultaneously disseminate information in the project area. The PDS will remain in the Website until the submission of the ECC application.</p> <p>After the Public Scoping, a Report will be submitted to EMB Office for their review and once accepted, they will proceed in the next procedure, technical scoping.</p>
5. Background and issues identified (why and how does this good practice was started and evolved?)	<p>Until year 2015, the practice for requesting Public Scoping is also to submit a Letter of Request with the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accomplished EIA Coverage & Requirements Screening Checklist (ECRSC) - Description and Central Mapping Agency (NAMRIA) Map of Project's Tentatively Identified Impact Areas - Preliminary List of Stakeholders and Partial List of Invitees to the Public Scoping

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary Matrix Accomplished IEC/Social Preparation Activities with List of Issues & Proponent's Response - Accomplished Scoping Checklist for the Project <p>However, these documents did not include the public opinion and request.</p> <p>The perception survey was being conducted during the baseline study. This was after the technical scoping. It meant public opinion was heard after the scope of EIA was determined and it was impossible to reflect the public opinion to scoping.</p>
6. Key features of good practice and its consequences /outcomes	As the new system was established based on the idea that public participation should be initiated at the early stage, public participation became more empowered and meaningful.
7. Lessons learnt /way forward	<p>The conduct of perception survey and attaching the results in the letter of request for public scoping help the EIA Review Committee to have initial information regarding the perception and acceptance of the project to the stakeholders. If the result is positive, it will not be hard for them to face the stakeholders during the public scoping and they will be ready on the answers to the questions that may be asked to them.</p> <p>On the other hand, as pointed out in "4.3.6 Challenges of Multi-party Monitoring Team (MMT)" in the EIA guide book of the Philippines, there are some issues related to MMT. In the future, streamlining and increasing of flexibility of procedures are required.</p>
8. Photos	 <p>Public Scoping for Addalam Hydropower Project (Source: TCI Public Scoping for Addalam Hydropower Project, August 2016)</p>



Public Scoping for Coal-Fired Power Plant
(Source: EIS Report for Coal-Fired Power Plant in Cadiz City, 2014)

Good practice 3: Reform of Monitoring System

1. Stage of EIA Process	Monitoring
2. System/ implementation	<p>System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The monitoring system is stipulated in Section 15 under Article IV of DAO No. 2017-15. - For Environmental-Critical Projects (ECPs), the implementation is through the establishment of Multi-Partite Monitoring Team (MMT) and submissions of Self-Monitoring Report (SMR), Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR) and Compliance Monitoring and Validation Report (CMVR). While for Non-ECPs, MMT is not required but submission of SMR and CMR by the project proponent is mandatory. Failure of not submission is subject for violation about Php 50,000 per offense.
3. Country	Philippines
4. Outline of good practice	<p>Detailed Monitoring by MMT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For ECPs, the MMT should be established after the issuance of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) including the Local Government Unit (LGU) representative (one from Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO), Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO), Municipal Planning and Development Officer (MPDO) or Provincial Planning and Development Officer (PPDO)); 1 representative from Local Government Unit (LGU)-accredited local NGOs; maximum of 2 representatives from locally recognized community leaders; and maximum of 3 representatives from government agencies with related to the environmental impact caused by project. The MMT should not exceed 10 members except for projects covering more than 1 barangay. - After the MMT was established, a Manual of Operations (MOO) should be created wherein the functions or roles of each member are specified. - The functions of the MMT are the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conduct quarterly ocular site visit to validate the project proponent's compliance with the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) conditions and the Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan including the requirement to conduct self-monitoring and submit corresponding reports regularly; b. Prepare and submit CMVR to Environmental Management Bureau Central Office (EMB-CO) and Environmental Management Bureau Regional Office (EMB-RO) concerned using EMB-prescribed format at least semi-annually; and c. Institute an environmental emergency and complaints receiving and management mechanism which shall include systems for transmitting recommendations for necessary regulatory action to EMB in a timely manner to prevent adverse environmental impacts. <p>Reduce the burden of small scale companies by online submission</p> <p>Before, all projects with issued ECC are required to establish MMT. But due to the implementation of DAO 2017-15 on May 2017, MMT was abolished for non-ECPs and retained only for Category A projects or ECPs. This is because the project proponent itself can comply the submission of the Monitoring Reports for non-ECPs. Since the outline of the report is in pro-forma, no need to hire consultants to prepare on their behalf.</p>
5. Background and issues identified (why and how does	Environmental monitoring during construction and operation phase was included in the conditions of ECC, however project proponents sometimes did not

<p>this good practice was started and evolved?)</p>	<p>implement it and monitoring system did not function properly. It was required to change the monitoring report and validation method with big project and small project, and to manage environmental monitoring based on the scale of environmental impact.</p>
<p>6. Key features of good practice and its consequences /outcomes</p>	<p>The keys to success are to limit the monitoring by MMT to only large scale project and reduce the burden of administration officials, and to manage small scale project easily by using online system. With this system, EMB can grasp the results of monitoring of projects properly and can detect violators easily.</p>
<p>7. Lessons learnt /way forward</p>	<p>To realize sustainable development, it is required for project proponents to understand that acquisition of ECC is not the ultimate goal, and monitoring after acquisition of ECC and flexible response are important. In the future, it is critical to disclose monitoring results together with the results of the current situation survey, and to make them available for cumulative impact assessment, wide area development plan, water resources plan, etc.</p>
<p>8. Photos</p>	<div data-bbox="502 698 1324 1339" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="518 1346 1230 1377">Site Inspection by MMT for New Bohol Airport Project (2015)</p> <div data-bbox="497 1397 1324 1861" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="502 1868 1214 1899">MMT Meeting of MMT for New Bohol Airport Project (2015)</p>