

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in Nepal

Presented by
Government of Nepal
Environmental Impact Assessment Section
Ministry of Population and Environment



History

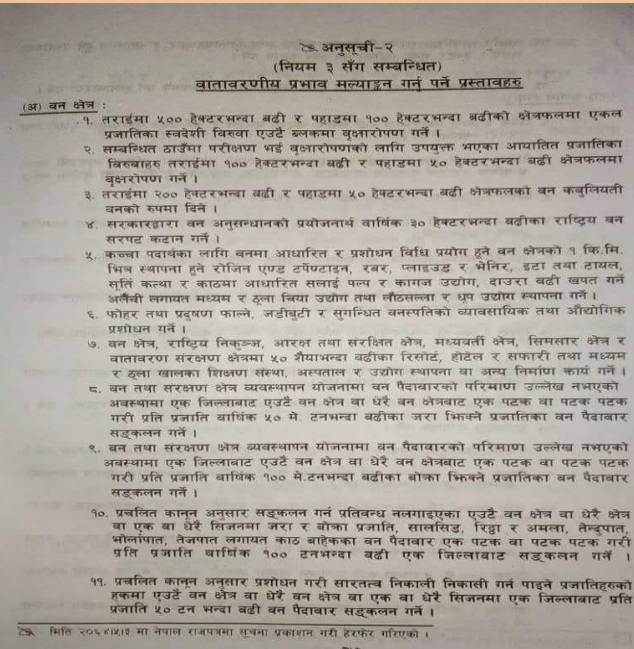
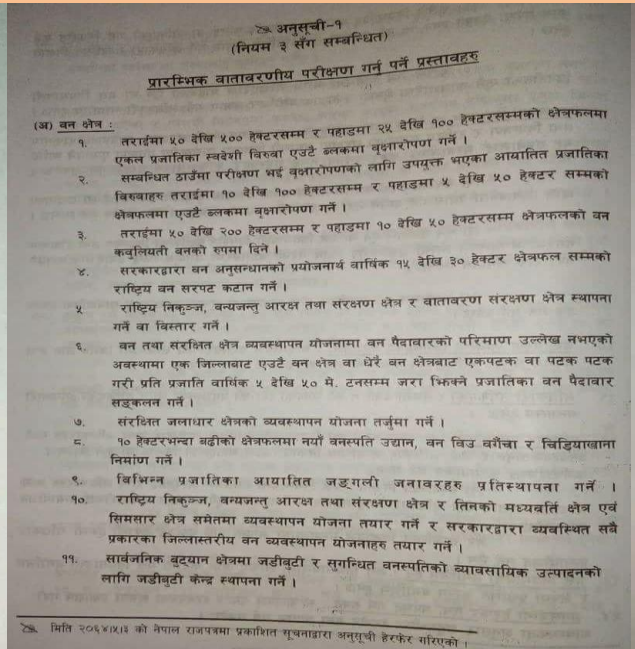
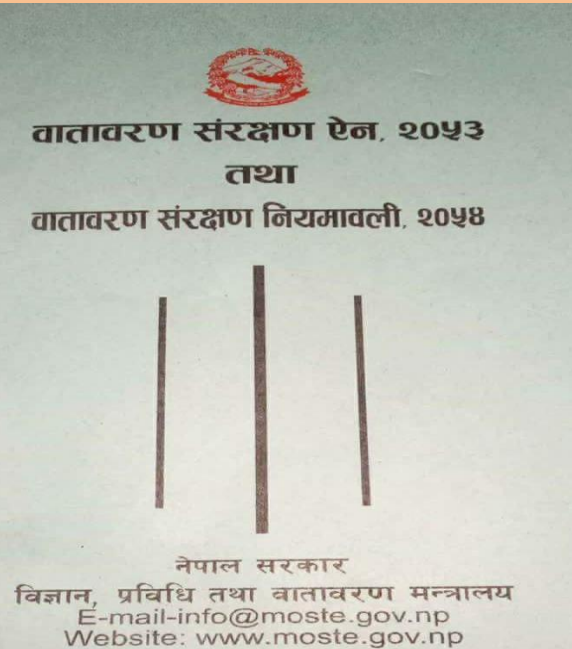
- Started in 1960's with the formulation of National Environment Protection Act, 1969 in USA

In context of Nepal

- Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-1985) had first mentioned the need for EIA for major infrastructure projects
- Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990), first time a national level policy on environment management was incorporated
- Eighth Five Year Plan (1991-1995) anticipated the establishment of a national system for EIA and stipulated that EIA be conducted at the stage of feasibility study.
- National EIA Guideline, endorsed in September 1992 and gazette in July 1993
- Enforcement of Environment Protection Act and Environment Protection Regulation in 1997
- Constitution of Nepal

Legal Provision for EIA

- Environment Protection Act, 1997
- Environment Protection Regulation, 1997
- Schedule-1 for IEE
- Schedule-2 for EIA



Provisions in Environment Protection Act and Regulation

- **Section 3:** obliges the proponent to prepare IEE/EIA report
- **Section 4:** prohibition on implementation of proposal without approval of the IEE/EIA reports
- **Section 18 (1) and (2):** provision of punishment
 - In case of **IEE**, **concerned ministry** is the authority for report approval
 - In case of **EIA**, **Ministry of Population and Environment** is the authority for report approval
 - In both case of **IEE and EIA**, **concerned ministry is responsible for monitoring**
 - **MoPE** is the authority for **Environmental Auditing**

EIA study and report approval process

- Proponent
- National Environmental Impact Assessment Guideline, 1993
- Physical, Biological and Socio-economic cultural environment
- Desk study (Literature review)
- Field study

Scoping Phase:

- Delineation of the project area
- Collection of baseline data
- Interaction with the stakeholders
- Identification and prioritization of the issues

ToR phase:

- Methodology
- Prioritized issues
- EIA format

EIA phase:

- Detail study of baseline environment
- Identification, Prediction and evaluation of the impacts
- Proposing enhancement and mitigation measures along with environmental management cost
- Public hearing

Scoping Document (SD) and Terms of Reference (ToR) Review & Approval Process

Preparation of Scoping Document (SD) and Terms of Reference (ToR) by the Proponent

- Publication of a 15 days notice in a national daily by the proponent, informing the concerned local organizations and individuals about the proposal in brief and defining the VDC's/municipalities (new local bodies) to be affected by the proposal implementation and soliciting their concerns and suggestions on the proposal
- Preparation of SD after field study and consultations/interactions with stakeholders and ToR based on the SD by the proponent/consultants

Submission of the SD/ToR by the proponent to the concerned Ministry

SD/ToR forwarded to MoPE by the concerned Ministry along with its comments/ suggestions or recommendations for approval

Formation of the EIA Report Suggestion Committee (RSC), chaired by Joint Secretary of MoPE

Review SD/ToR by the committee members, send a letter to the proponent for revision of SD/ToR as per suggestions of RSC and EIA section of Ministry, submission of revised SD/ToR to MoPE by proponent

Internal decision process in MoPE regarding conditional/unconditional approval/disapproval or requirement for resubmission with modifications

Notification to the concerned Ministry about the conditional/unconditional approval/disapproval

EIA Report Review & Approval Process

Preparation of EIA report by the proponent

- Desk Study/Field study, preparation of draft EIA report based on the approved ToR
- Conduction of a public hearing by the proponent in the area of VDC/municipality (new local bodies), where the project has been proposed to be implemented, to collect public opinion /comments/suggestions on the proposal
- Collection of recommendation letters from all concerned VDC's/municipalities (new local bodies)



Submission of EIA report by the proponent to the concerned Ministry



EIA report forwarded to MoPE by the concerned Ministry along with comments/suggestions or recommendations for approval



Publicizing the EIA report for review/comments by publishing 30 days notice in a national daily newspaper by MoPE



Review EIA report by committee members of RSC, send a letter to the proponent for revision of EIA as per suggestions of RSC and EIA section of Ministry, submission of revised EIA to MoPE by proponent



Internal decision process in MoPE regarding conditional/unconditional approval /disapproval or requirement for resubmission with modifications



Notification to the concerned Ministry about the conditional/unconditional approval/disapproval

Approved number of EIA reports till now

S.N.	Project sector	Approved no. of reports
1	Hydropower	104
2	Transmission Line	24
3	Road	31
4	Industry	25
5	Hospital	23
6	Apartment	17
7	Drinking Water Supply, Irrigation	16
8	Community Forest	13
9	Airport	3
10	Sanitary Landfill Site	6
11	Hotel	13
12	Others	29
	Total	307

Initiatives taken by Ministry to facilitate EIA process

- Fourth amendment of EPR-**shorten the duration of approval**
- Fifth amendment of EPR-**provision of SEIA and revised EMP**
- General EIA guideline
- Hydro specific EIA guideline

Point for discussion

- How do we use to facilitate EIA in Federalism ????





Thankyou