



## Activity brief (December 2013)

### International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Capacity Building Stipends 2013

11 – 16 May 2013



**Background:** The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) brings together researchers, practitioners and users of impact assessment from all parts of the world and from many disciplines and professions. Through donor funding, IAIA's Capacity Building Stipend Program enables impact assessment professionals from developing countries to attend international IAIA conferences.

**Objective:** The main goal of the activity was to support a vibrant cadre of impact assessment professionals working in the mining sector across Africa. Specifically, the activity aimed to improve the capacity of the recipients to more effectively promote, commission, perform and review impact assessments.

**Activity description:** For the second year, the Australian Government provided Capacity Building Stipends to Africans to attend the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Annual Conference. The 2013 conference was held in Calgary, Canada, from 11 to 16 May.

Thirty-nine participants from 14 countries received the stipends, and women made up one third of the total participants. Twenty-six of the participants attended the 2012 IAIA conference in Porto, Portugal. This 'next generation' of impact assessment professionals has maintained contact and communication since last year's IAIA conference, particularly through the Australia-Africa Mining for Development website and the online IAIA Connect global network.

In addition to attending the conference, recipients also participated in a training course of their choice, a technical site visit (where applicable), welcome dinner and conference banquet. Conference participation and continued opportunities for networking and involvement in IAIA will provide long-term benefits to stipend recipients. Delegates had exposure to leading professionals in the impact assessment field, and international best-practice case studies, providing invaluable knowledge and networking opportunities. Specifically, the stipend benefits included: the conference registration fee; the pre-conference training course fee; the post-conference technical site visit fee; an economy class fare; accommodation

for the duration of the conference events; a modest per diem to cover meals, local transportation and miscellaneous expenses; a three-year IAIA membership; reimbursement for travel insurance; and a meet-and-greet for stipend recipients and donor representatives.

#### Participants:

Country	M	F	Total
Burkina Faso	1	0	1
Cameroon	0	1	1
Cote d'Ivoire	1	0	1
Ghana	3	3	6
Kenya	0	1	1
Madagascar	0	2	2
Mozambique	1	1	2
Nigeria	1	4	5
Senegal	0	2	2
South Africa	0	1	1
Tanzania	4	2	6
Uganda	0	2	2
Zambia	2	5	7
Zimbabwe	0	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>39</b>

**Participant feedback:** Kenneth Nyundu, Principal Officer in the Zambian Ministry of Mines and Energy said: "One of the very important aspects of this conference is the networks that we have created. Since the IAIA conference in 2012, some of the contacts and networking has been very helpful in terms of resource materials and keeping ourselves updated in the field of impact assessment."

Another participant, Colleta Kyaitela, an environmental specialist in Tanzania, valued the networks fostered at the conference, particularly with government officials in Tanzania: "I have created networks and met with government officials... I am a consultant, but we always go there to consult them on our impact assessment reports". She also noted that the conference has equipped her with new tools "that can be used in making sure that the [Environmental Impact Assessment] report captures everything that is needed".

<b>Activity number:</b>	259 (Activity database number)
<b>Date approved:</b>	31/01/2013
<b>Date commenced:</b>	11/05/2013
<b>Date completed:</b>	16/05/2013
<b>Implementation partner:</b>	IAIA
<b>Total cost:</b>	AUD 330 000