



Generic Impact Assessment 'Triple Bottom Line'

Environmental Research &
Information Consortium Pty Ltd
(ABN) ACN (81) 055 194 771
Ph 02 4842 8182
Ph 02 6161 3716
Fax 02 4842 8183
info@eric.com.au
www.eric.com.au

An objective risk assessment system giving a numerical assessment of impact for:

- The combined social, economic and environmental impacts of a proposal
- The separate social, economic and environmental impacts for different land use activities.

The system provides:

- An evaluation of the overall and sectoral impacts of a proposal
- Community consultation to identify significant issues
- Prioritisation of effort in detailed impact assessment studies

Basic Design Features

- Comprehensive
- Transparent
- Objective
- Adaptable
- Cost-effective

The system also allows for application by community groups and is structured to prevent inappropriate application of the results

Adaptability

- Can be used by the community for 'self assessment', and hence for consultation
- Can address disparate requirements, such as environmental and financial considerations
- Can address a wide range of topics and detail

Benefits

- Improve consultation through greater transparency and participation
- Ensure comprehensive assessment
- Evaluate alternatives
- Reduce implementation costs

Landscape Element	Landuse Activity	Example Basic Framework		
		Economic	Social	Environment
Urban Land	Agriculture	Production	Employment	Vegetation
Rural Land	Forestry	Supply	Health	Native plants
Industrial Land	Horticulture	Transport	Social Services	Weeds
Waterways	Housing	Demand	Education	Native animals
Littoral	Retail	Personnel	Communications	Vermin
Offshore Marine	Manufacturing	Power	Public Transport	Water yield
	Tourism	Water	Heritage	Water quality
	Recreation	Sewage	Noise	Soil health
	Fishing	Roads	Dust	Soil erosion
	Mining	Communications	Air pollution	Soil salinity

The economic, social and environmental attributes are evaluated for every combination of Land Use Activity and Landscape Element. Each cell is scored with a +1, 0 or -1 (an impact can be positive, neutral, or negative).

The scores can be variously presented as:

- average score for all entries
- average score for combined positive and negative entries
- separate totals for positive and negative scores.

Results are given as a proportion for each category when comparing the social, economic and environmental categories.