

PEAA Partnership for Environmental Assessment in Africa

The Partnership for Environmental Assessment in Africa (PEAA) is a collaboration between donors, the CLEAA network and other partners.

Objective: The objective of the PEAA is to “harmonize, scale up and raise the visibility of support for EA and environmental management capacity-building in Africa, and in particular of initiatives to strengthen CLEAA and its nodes,” with the goal that “African governments, regional organizations, civil society and the private sector will effectively use EA and other environmental management tools for sustainable development in Africa.”

CLEAA, or Capacity Development and Linkages for Environmental Assessment in Africa, is a Pan-African network of EA institutions and associations facilitating development of capacity for and promoting the use of EA in Africa. CLEAA’s program of work was endorsed by AMCEN 2006, and incorporated in the AMCEN work plan for the 2007–2008 biennium.

Development: Development of the PEAA concept was initiated by the World Bank and carried forward by consultations over late 2006 and early 2007 between the World Bank, CLEAA and other donors and partners.

The PEAA became operational with the first meeting of its Coordinating Committee in Nov. 2007. Convened to deliberate and adopt the PEAA’s 2007–08 workplan, the meeting was held in Cape Town, concurrent with the [First Regional Southern African Impact Assessment conference](#).

The PEAA Work Program &

Funding: The first Coordinating Committee meeting resulted in more than USD 400,000 in new PEAA partner support for original EA and Management capacity-building proposals developed by the CLEAA Nodes.

Together with pre-existing commitments, PEAA’s 2007–08 program amounts to **just over USD 1,000,000 in funded activities**. Highlights of the program are listed on page 2.

Why support Environmental Assessment in Africa?

Environmental Assessment (EA) is an essential policy instrument for achieving sustainability in development. Commitments to the application and institutionalization of EA are enshrined in: the Rio Principles, Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Action, the AMCEN ministerial declarations of 1995 and 2006, the Environment Initiative and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)), and in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

In the past decade, African governments have made significant efforts to implement EA requirements in policy, law and environmental governance structures. These systems are particularly important in Africa, where EA systems often take on many of the roles and responsibilities fulfilled by media-based pollution control systems in wealthier economies.

However, the effectiveness of EA as a planning and regulatory tool requires a combination of expertise, sufficient and sustained financial capacity, and well-performing institutional and regulatory mechanisms. Meeting these needs has been a challenge in the context of many African countries, with significant adverse impacts on the effectiveness of EA systems.

Key recommendations to improve EA effectiveness in Africa were developed by the April 2007 [African Experts’ Workshop on the Effectiveness of Environmental Impact Assessment Systems](#), jointly sponsored by CLEAA, the [UN Economic Commission for Africa](#) and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The CLEAA Network

The CLEAA network is anchored and governed by its regional nodes, each an independently chartered organization with its own program of work. These are:

The Eastern Africa Association for Impact Assessment ([EAAIA](#)) ▪ the West African Association for Environmental Assessment ([WAAEA](#)) ▪ the Indian Ocean Islands Association for Environmental Assessment ([IOAEA](#)) ▪ the Secretariat for Environmental Assessment in Central Africa ([SEACA](#)) ▪ the Southern African Institute for Environmental Assessment ([SAIEA](#)).

The Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technologies ([CITET](#)) currently supports the North Africa sub-region pending formal constitution of a North African node.

Implementation and monitoring:

Implementation of new activities funded in Cape Town is now beginning. CLEAA and the PEAA have established a rigorous quality control and performance monitoring process. Overall effectiveness will be evaluated by the International Association for Impact Assessment. Contact the Secretariat for details.

Governance: The “Partnership Framework Memorandum” is the PEAA’s organizing document; the Partnership is governed by the Coordinating Committee, composed of a representative from each CLEAA Node and participating funders and from the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA). The Committee operates by consensus.

Secretariat: The CLEAA secretariat serves as the PEAA Secretariat. The CLEAA Secretariat is currently hosted by IUCN’s East and Southern Africa Regional Office, in its role as host to CLEAA’s East African Node.

The PEAA is intended to maximize the benefits of coordination, not to restrict the activities of its members. Donor members continue to use the financial fiduciary of their choice and may fund EA-related activities outside the PEAA umbrella.

For more information:



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Points of contact for all PEAA members are available from the Secretariat.

More information about CLEAA is available at:
www.encapafrika.org/cleaa.html



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Interested Parties

Appropriate offices and programs of the following organizations have been significantly involved in PEAA development or have expressed strong support:

All CLEAA Nodes ■ CIDA ■ Netherlands Development Cooperation/NCEA* ■ Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs—NIBR* ■ Swedish EIA Centre (Sida’s Helpdesk for EA)* ■ USAID (Environmental Capacity Program—ENCAP)* ■ World Bank* ■ ECA ■ IAIA ■ IUCN ■ UNEP/AMCEN Secretariat.

**Active PEAA funders*

The PEAA’s Partnership Framework Memorandum is now being opened for signing. This process will formalize the PEAA membership.

PEAA welcomes all interested donors and partners. Please contact the Secretariat.

Highlights of the PEAA work program, 2007–08.

The USD 1mn program was adopted at the first meeting of the Coordinating Committee in Nov. 2007. For full listing and details, contact the Secretariat.

CLEAA Secretariat

Operational support (USAID, World Bank DGF & Swedish EIA Centre: USD 149,000).

Assessment of the quality of EA Education (Swedish EIA Centre & Norwegian MoFA—NIBR: USD 50,000).

Scoping of Regional EA Practitioners’ Database (Norwegian MoFA—NIBR: USD 15,000).

Eastern Africa Node

Professional Development Fellowship Programme for African EA Professionals: (Swedish EIA Centre & USAID/ENCAP: USD 142,000).

Eastern Africa EA Practitioners’ Training (NORAD/NBIR & World Bank/DGF: USD 30,000).

Central Africa Node

Institutional and Activities Support (NCEA: USD 380,000).

Training for EA Consulting Firms. (World Bank/DGF: USD 20,000).

Southern Africa Node

Leadership Program in Sustainable Development Tools for Decision Makers: (Norwegian MoFA—NIBR & World Bank/DGF: USD 28,000).

EA Effectiveness Case Studies. (Norwegian MoFA—NIBR & World Bank/DGF: USD 32,000).

West Africa Node

Practitioner EA Tools Training: Norwegian MoFA—NIBR & Swedish EIA Center: USD 30,000).