Round table on HIA Capacity Building

Chair: Rosina M. Olaso, Technical Officer- Spanish Ministry of Health (Madrid, Spain)

Co-Chair: Margaret Douglas, Consultant in Public Health, Public Health Scotland (UK)





Lack of training and capacity building has been identified as a barrier to wider HIA implementation and institutionalisation across Europe and worldwide.

This session aims:

- To share experiences of capacity building for HIA
- To discuss how to increase training and capacity building across Europe and how to define competence for HIA practitioners.

SPEAKERS

- Liz Green, Programme Director for Public Health Wales (UK)
 Capacity building in HIA: competences definition and experience in Wales
- Francesca Viliani, Health section of the International Association for Impact
 Assessment; Director Fraviliconsult
 Perspective and experience on HIA capacity building from the
 International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)
- Piedad Martin-Olmedo, President of EUPHA-HIA section; Professor in Public Health at Escuela Andaluza de Salud Pública (Granada, Spain)
 Capacity building on HIA in Andalusia

SLIDO Questions

- 1. Have you attended any formal training specifically in HIA?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 2. If Yes, where? (multiple answers possible)
 - a. As part of an academic degree
 - b. Training provided by Governmental body or Health Institute
 - c. Training provided by a private consultant agency
 - d. Training at a conference

Microsoft Form Questions

- 3. Which of the following did the training include? (multiple answers possible)
 - a. Health in All Policies framework
 - b. Social Determinants of Health framework
 - c. HIA purpose, principles and procedure
 - d. Participation methods
 - e. Qualitative methodologies
 - f. Quantification of health impacts
- 4. Did the training program have a competency description?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

Microsoft Form Questions

- 5. What kinds of HIA training would you find useful? (multiple answers possible)
 - a. Lectures/ presentations
 - b. Reading
 - c. Workshops
 - d. Practical experience of HIA
 - e. Reflection and review of HIAs
 - f. Other suggestions?

Madrid (Spain)

Training and Capacity Building for HIA Competency: Wales Experience

Liz Green

Programme Director for HIA

Public Health Wales, UK







Capacity building, Training, Competency

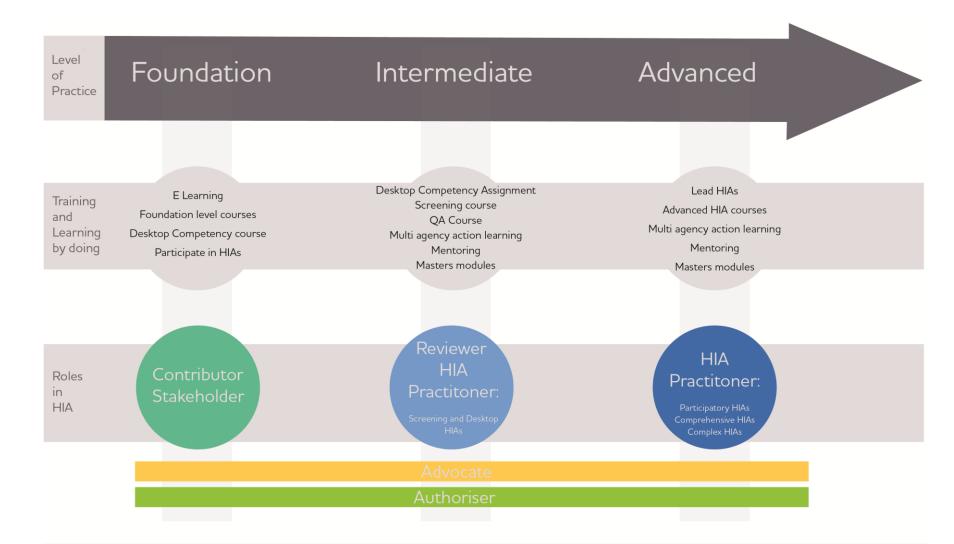
- Need to upskill and develop competent professionals to carry out HIAs
- Competency is defined as 'specific, measurable skill required to do something for a role', whereas competence describes the more general 'ability to do something successfully or efficiently' (Oxford Press, 2025)
- Training and capacity building activities needed for workforce development
- A supportive environment required
- What are you trying to achieve? What are the core skills and knowledge needed for HIA?

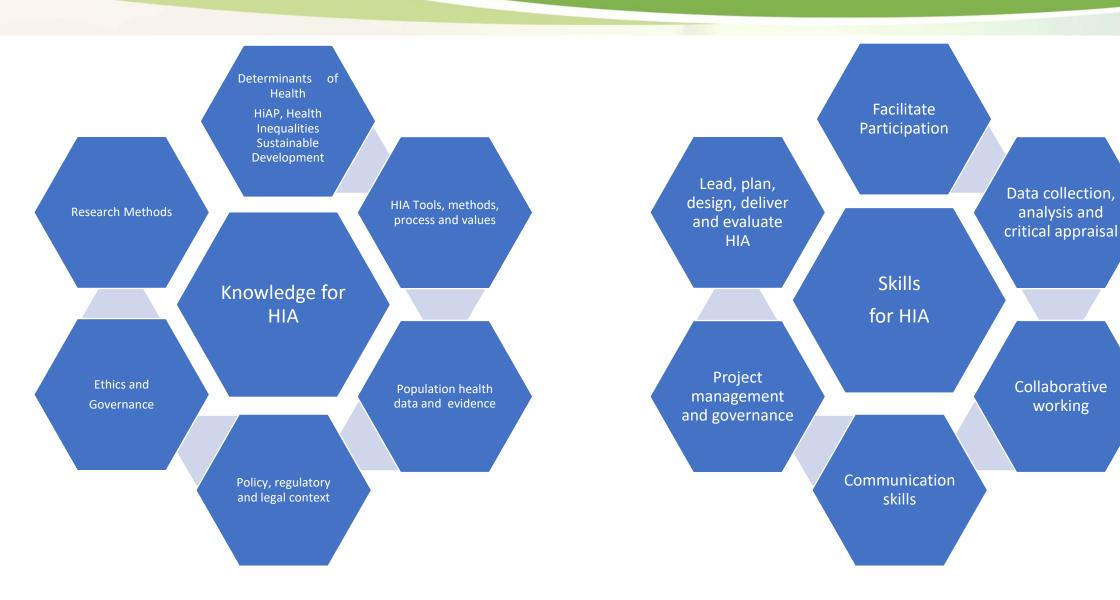
HIA training and capacity building in Wales - WHIASU

- Legislation Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 and EIA 'competent expert' to carry out HIA and 'sufficient expertise' of reviewer
- Existence of Unit
- Training and capacity building one of the foundation stones of Unit's work
- Updated HIA Training Strategy 2024 and Skills and Knowledge Framework 2019
- Set out the evidence, principles and values underpinning WHIASU approach to training and development
- Provides a range of resources and a pathway for practitioners

The Framework includes:

- Knowledge and skills framework for HIA
- Role descriptors in HIA
- HIA development pathway
- Skills audit tool
- Capacity building toolkit
- Supported by eLearning and in person/virtual training
- Based on adult learning theory i.e. Bloom's Taxonomy





Conclusions and future opportunities

- Progress to date and training and awareness raising restarted
- Challenges and opportunities for developing competent HIA professionals
- Welsh Government critical role
- Activity 2025 Stakeholder needs analysis survey; testing new courses online, in person, certification; new HIA guide
- Practice based reflection and evaluation of WHIASU's HIA training and outcomes
- Continued development of supporting tools, resources and courses
- Finally, for us all....Global survey? Work with EUPHA? Working Group on a core competency framework for HIA?



Iechyd Cyhoeddus

Madrid (Spain)

Perspective and experience on HIA capacity building from International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)

Francesca Viliani

Health section of the International Association for Impact Assessment Director Fraviliconsult



IAIA is the International Association for Impact Assessment, the leading global network on best practice in the use of impact assessment for informed decision-making regarding policies, programs, plans and projects.

IAIA was organized in 1980 to bring together researchers, practitioners, and users of various types of impact assessment from all parts of the world. Our **members**, numbering nearly 1100 members from 110 nations, represent many disciplines and professions.

Organising **annual conferences, regional symposia and other events** focus attention on specific topics. Available resources include a quarterly professional journal, downloadable publications, training options, and much more.

IAIA The leading global network on impact assessment

Key actors in HIA (and in need of capacity building):

- HIA practitioners
- Proponents of development initiatives
- Local communities/institutions
- Regulators/competent authorities
- And potentially many others

From "Health Impact Assessment International Best Practice Principles. Special Publication Series No. 5". <u>SP5 HIA 21 5.pdf</u>

Navigating contextual challenges in international HIA training

- In many contexts where HIA is not mandated by legislation, both health knowledge and HIA capabilities tend to be limited across all involved stakeholders.
- Different actors, but also different disciplines, might have conflicting goals...
- Distinguishing between health and health care is the foundational step. From there, it is crucial to explore the broader determinants of health that shape well-being beyond medical interventions.
- Several impacts often have a structural pathway that might be difficult to tackle at project level/HIA and require multisectoral and transdisciplinary engagement.
- Training is only the beginning; ongoing support is essential for achieving true competency.
- Framing Capacity Building as a Systemic Process.

Enhancing impact: practical recommendations for International HIA training

- One single HIA training cannot satisfy the diverse contexts, needs, and stakeholders involved in HIA.
- Capacity building must extend beyond the individual—it's an interconnected process across three levels: individual, organizational, and the broader enabling environment.
- Develop interdisciplinary frameworks that integrate both impact assessment skills and public health competences. And consider targeted capacity building for key stakeholders and bridging disciplinary divides in HIA implementation.
- Translating the determinants of health into practical application.
- Ensuring sustained competency development beyond initial training.

What next?

- Increased HIA international training and enhanced coordination among capacity building efforts are required: Is now the right moment to establish an HIA training hub?
- Certification could be a goal that brings multiple stakeholders together

Madrid (Spain)

Experience of capacity building on HIA in Andalusia

Piedad Martin-Olmedo, PhD, MSc

President of EUPHA-HIA section

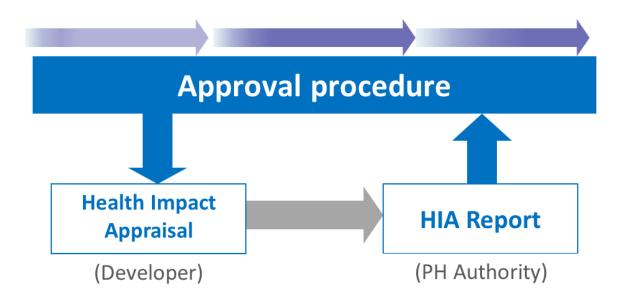
Professor in Public Health at the Andalusian School of Public Health

(Granada, Spain); ibs.GRANADA



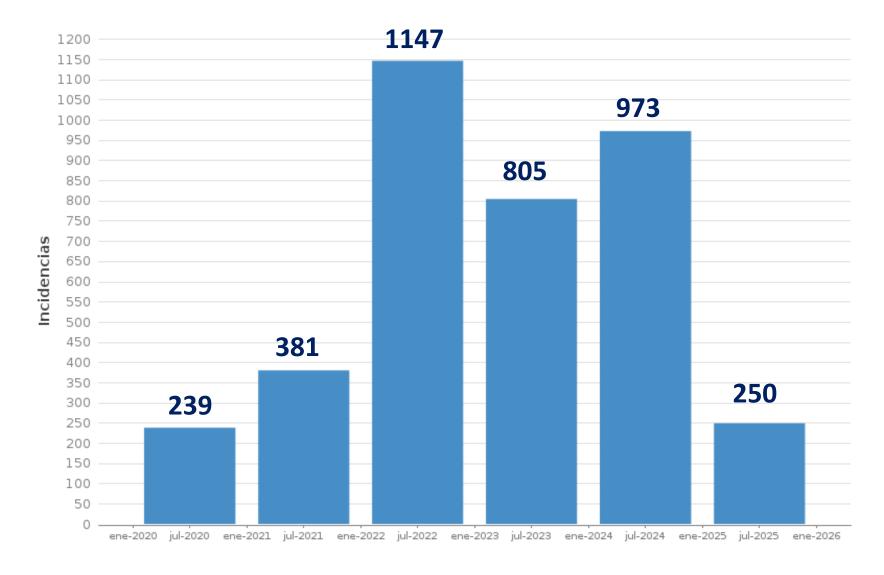


HIA IN ANDALUSIA: COMPETENCES



- ✓ Health Impact Appraisal
 - Carried out by developers
 - Need favourable opinion from public health authorities
- **✓ HIA Report:**
 - Mandatory and binding
 - Conducted by PH officers using a Networking platform

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 5 YEARS



>>>

https://juntadeandalucia.es/organismos/saludyconsumo/areas/evaluacion-impacto.html











Evaluación de impacto en salud

Accede a información de interés

INSTRUCCTIONS FOR HIA IN URBAN PLANNING

Documentos de Apoyo para la EIS de Instrumentos de Planeamiento Urbanístico (DAU)

GUIDELINES

Guías metodológicas para la evaluación de impacto en salud

Documentos disponibles en pdf

Documentos de Apoyo para la EIS de proyectos (DAP)

Accede a los archivos

LEGISLATION

Normativa e instrucciones relacionadas con EIS

Consulta los textos regulatorios

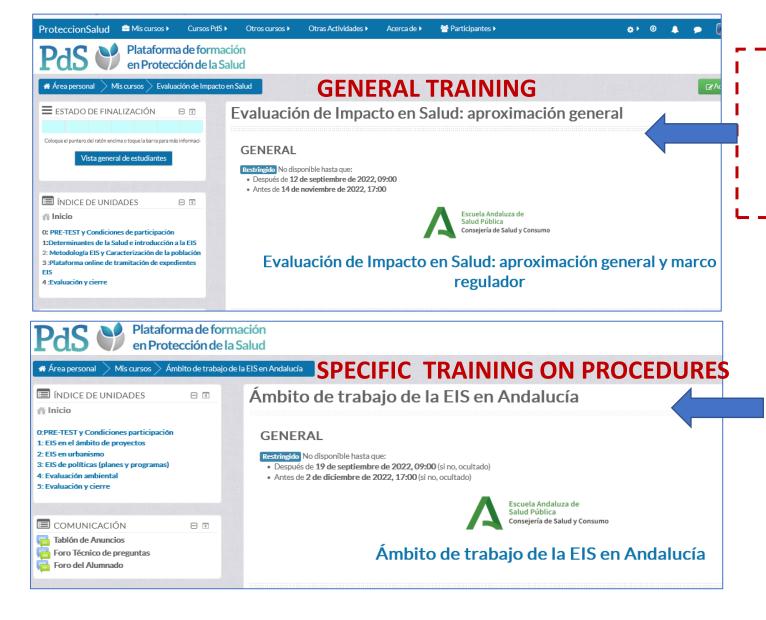
Publicaciones y enlaces de interés

Infórmate

- Design of job profile needs
- Selection of technical staffmultidisciplinary (94 professionals)
- Setting up working groups
- Division of duties
- Common criteria proposals
- **General & Specific Training**
- **HIA Platform: Network** (consultations and sharing experiences / dossier management / information repository)

Professional profiles	Knowledge	Skills	Attitude
Health protection specialist	Knowledge of environmental and social determinants of health; legal requirements and processes; quantitative assessment methods; burden of disease; risk assessment; principles of urban planning; geographical information systems; biostatistics applied to health sciences; data handling and analysis; scientific evidence review	 Evaluate the HIAPR submitted by developers Lead, design and submit the associated HIA report. Mapping health determinants affected by a proposal. Generate population health profile. Data collection, analysis, and critical appraisal of impacts. Collaborative working. 	 Commitment to improving population health through non-health interventions Convinced about the usefulness of HIA. Commitment to self-improvement through experience
Health promotion specialist	Knowledge of the health equity framework; participatory methodology; scientific evidence reviews; qualitative research methods	Data collection, analysis, and critical appraisal of impacts associated with the social determinants of health. Collaborative working. Identification of vulnerable subgroups.	

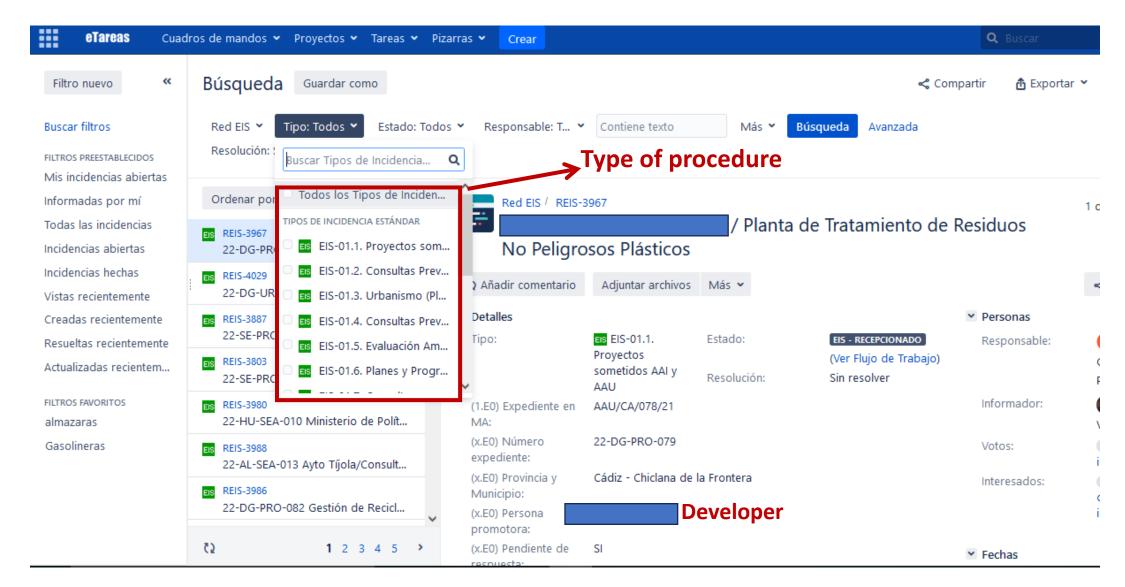


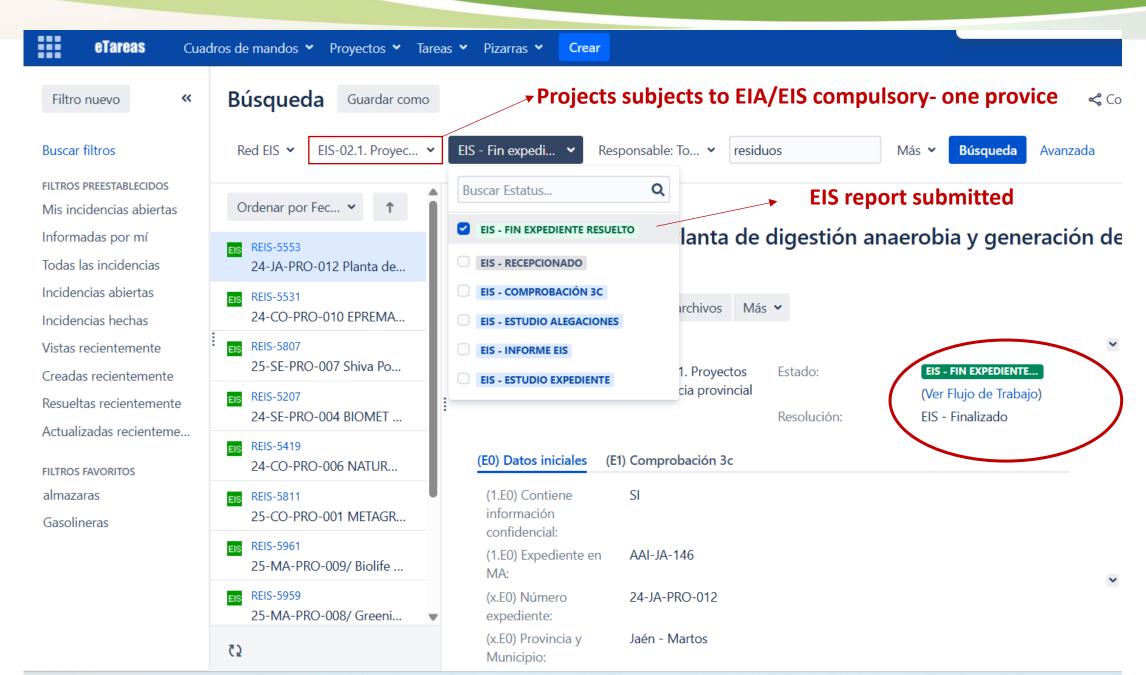


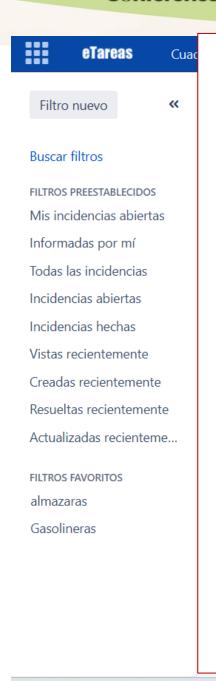
EDH & SDH sound knowledge Legal requirements and processes Methodology of assessment Principles of Urban planning **Geographical Information Systems** Quantitative Risk Assessment (tools) Scientific evidence review Identification of vulnerable population Biostatistics applied to Health Sciences Data handling / data analysis (e.g. R)

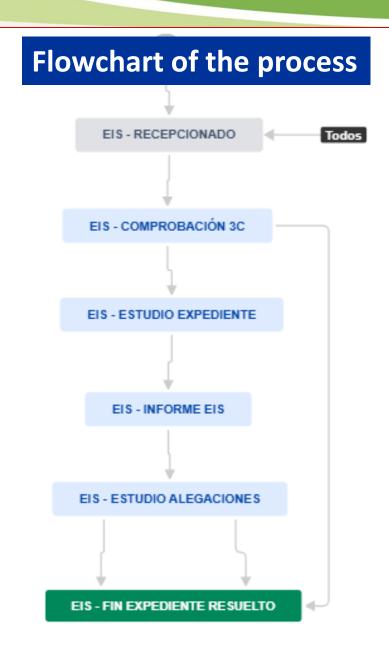
Nº participants: 70-74

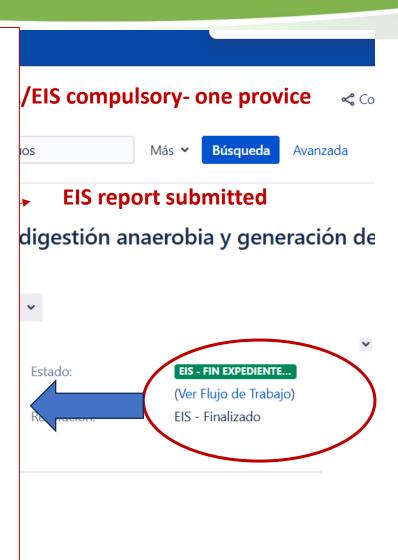
NETWORKING PLATFORM

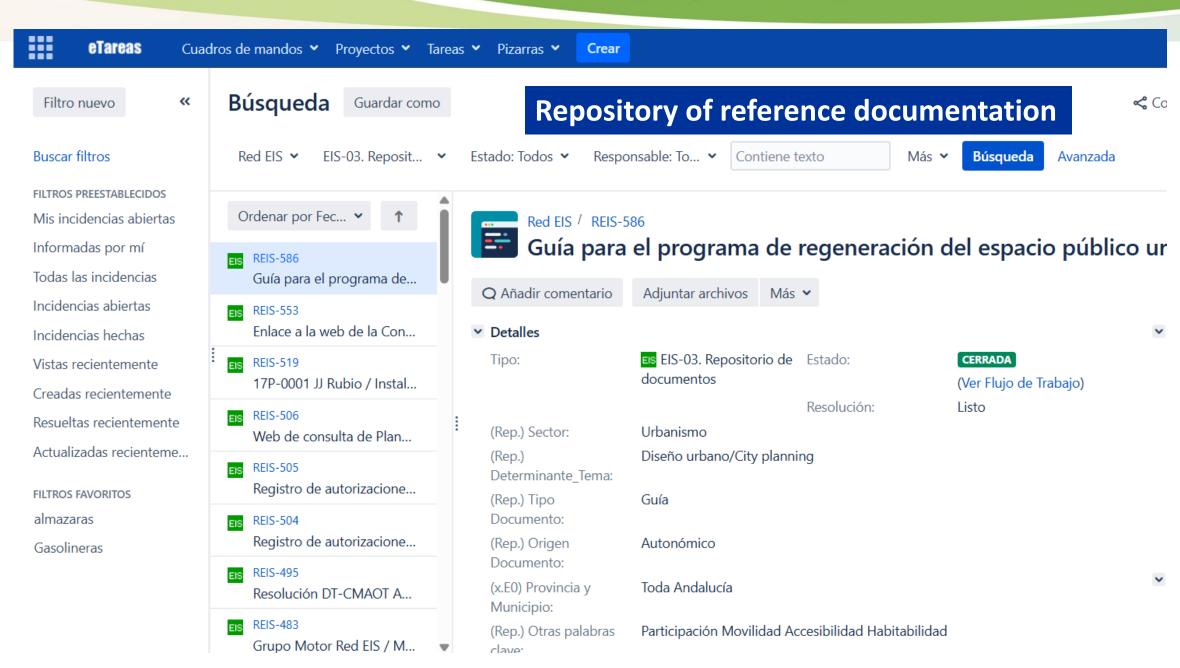


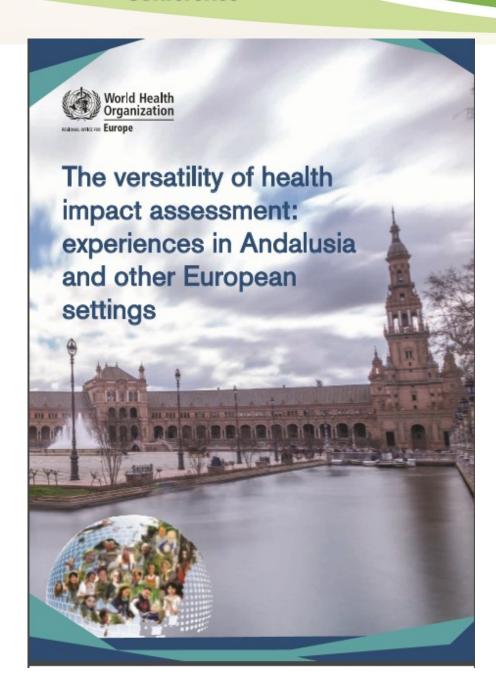












HIA coordination team

Regional Ministry of Health of Andalusia:

- Francisco Marchena (coordinator)
- Luis Moya Ruano
- Francisco J Rodríguez-Rasero (now at ISPRA)
- Cecilia Martín Gandul

Andalusian School of Public Health

- Piedad Martín Olmedo (coordinator)
- Mª del Carmen Junco
- José Luis Martín Jiménez (retired)