INTEGRATING HEALTH IN EIA: A PRACTITIONER'S EXPERIENCE

Senuri Mahamithawa HIA Consultant, RPS Group 20 November 2019



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Directive 2014/52/EU

Article 3:

1. The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case, the direct and indirect significant effects of a project on the following factors:

(a) population and human health;

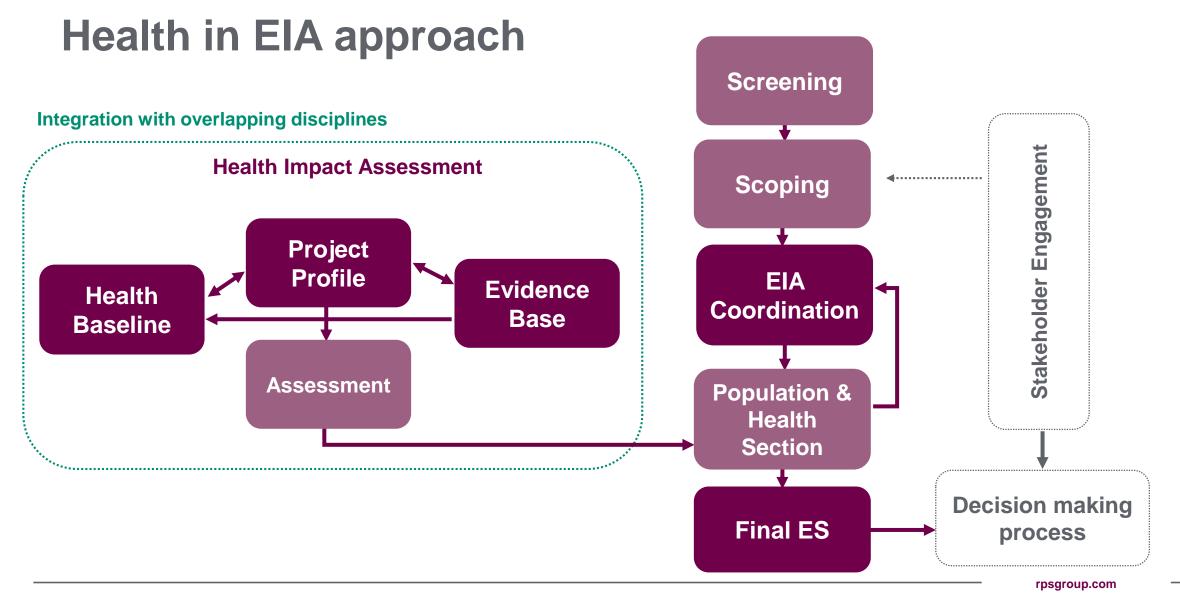
Directive 2014/52/EU

Transposition into UK EIA Regulations in 2017:

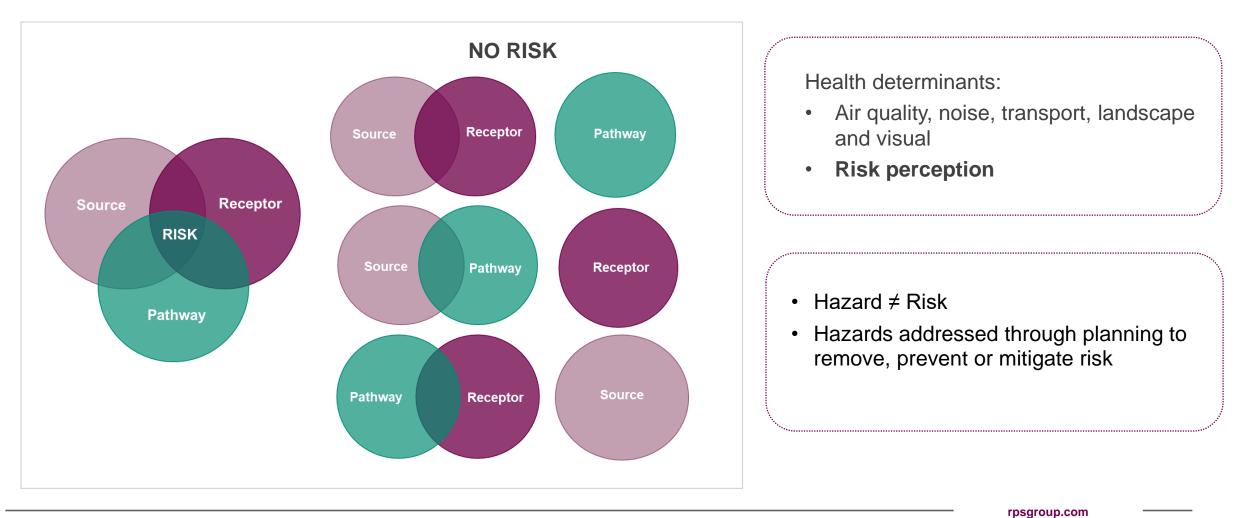
EIA Regulation 4(2):

(2) The EIA must identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in light of each individual case, the direct and indirect **significant** effects of the proposed development on the following factors—

(a) population and human health;



Source – Pathway – Receptor model for risk



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Energy from Waste

Example waste recovery facilities:

- PHE Science Hub, Norfolk, Suffolk, Runcorn, Exeter, Lostock (England)
- Arc21 (Northern Ireland)
- Brig y Cwm (Wales)

Health determinants:

- Dust, odour, emissions, noise, transport, visual impact
- EMF, workforce
- Risk perception



Energy from Waste

Challenges:

- Many health concerns on energy and waste projects
- Misinformation
- Risk perception

Proactive approach:

- Stakeholder engagement/ consultation
- Communicating actual risk
- Risk ≠ likely significant effects



Transport

Aviation

- UK: Manston Airport redevelopment, Gatwick and Stansted runway expansions
- International: Dublin, Melbourne expansions

Air quality:

- COMEAP (UK)

Noise:

- WHO noise guidelines



Transport

Health determinants

- Community severance
- Risk of accident and injury
- Delay time
- Pedestrian fear and intimidation

Approach:

- Health stakeholder engagement
- Healthy urban design
- Quantifying exposure risk components



Concluding message

What does an effective HIA look like?

- Not supposed to be an academic tome
- Effective scoping and transparency
- Slim
- Building health into the planning process (identifying health issues/outcomes early so that we can enhance opportunities)

THANK YOU

Senuri Mahamithawa HIA Consultant, RPS Group Senuri.Mahamithawa@rpsgroup.com Tel: +44 1273 546 800



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