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978-0-521-42967-2 - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA): Cutting Edge for the Twenty-First Century

Alan Gilpin

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To  
Alexandria, Jenny, Jordan,  
Ruth, Ryan, and Stephanie

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ADB</b>	Asian Development Bank	<b>ER</b>	environmental report
<b>Brundtland Commission</b>	World Commission on Environment and Development	<b>ESCAP</b>	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN)
<b>CBA</b>	cost-benefit analysis	<b>FEARO</b>	Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office (Canada)
<b>CEQ</b>	Council on Environmental Quality (US)	<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Policy Act (US)
<b>DA</b>	development application	<b>NSW</b>	New South Wales (Australia)
<b>EA</b>	environmental assessment	<b>PPA</b>	Post-project analysis
<b>EARP</b>	environmental assessment and review process (Canada)	<b>RAC</b>	Resource Assessment Commission (Australia)
<b>EC</b>	European Community	<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>ECE</b>	Economic Commission for Europe (UN)	<b>UNECE</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
<b>EHIA</b>	environmental health impact assessment	<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Program
<b>EIA</b>	environmental impact assessment	<b>USA</b>	United States of America
<b>EIS</b>	environmental impact statement	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organisation
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency (US)		

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## PREFACE

Material in this book has been used in undergraduate and postgraduate courses at several Australian universities, and now in the degrees of Master of Business and Technology and Master of Environmental Engineering Science in the School of Civil Engineering, University of New South Wales; and the degree of Master of Natural Resources Law, Faculty of Law, University of Wollongong.

The work reflects my experience of conducting over 50 public inquiries in New South Wales and Victoria into controversial planning, environmental, and heritage policies, plans, programs, and projects. It captures experience before 1980 in the assessment of environmental impact statements (EISs); the development of environmental planning instruments; the identification of regional administrative centres; the evolution of natural resource accounting; and the management of major pollution control programs, both in Australia and Britain.

The text has been reinforced by consultations overseas into environmental policy procedures in Asia and the Pacific, North America, and Europe. Of particular note are meetings: in Taiwan at the National Cheng-Kung University and the Environmental Protection Administration; in Seoul and Daejeon organised by the Korean Office of the Environment and the Korean Institute of Energy and Resources; in Tokyo and Tsubuka with the Environment Agency and the National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan; Environment

Canada, Ottawa; the US Environmental Protection Agency, Washington; and the US East-West Center in Hawaii; the World Resources Institute, Washington; in Britain with the Department of the Environment and the universities of Oxford, Manchester, and Aberdeen, and several environmental agencies in mainland Europe and the Nordic countries.

Assistance from many countries has been much appreciated; however, the focus of the book is by-and-large on countries which have been at the cutting edge of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process, although some promising developments elsewhere have been noted.

In this work, much reliance has been placed on the world data provided by various *Britannica* Books of the Year; and on the reports of individual countries to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. I have supplied as much information as is available to date. Every effort has been made to be up-to-date, taking account of events in 1993, but it has been difficult to gain information after 1992 for several countries.

Late in 1993 the European Community became the European Union which is to be enlarged from 12 members.

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Alan Gilpin