



REPORT TO: CITY MANAGER

EDE23-06-037

TO BE REFERRED BY THE OFFICIAL TO MAYCO VIA THE RELEVANT ENERGY  
SECTION 79 COMMITTEE [AFTER CONSIDERATION BY CITY MANAGER]

[OFFICIALS TRAVELLING OVERSEAS FOR COUNCIL RELATED ACTIVITIES]

1. ITEM NUMBER
2. SUBJECT

FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL/OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE  
RSA TRIP UNDERTAKEN FROM 8 MAY 2023 TO 11 MAY 2023 TO  
ATTEND THE 42ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IAIA) IN KUCHING,  
MALAYSIA

#### ISIHLOKO

INGXELO ENGOHAMBO OLUYA PHESHEYA/ NGAPHANDLE  
KWEEBHODA ZOMZANTSI AFRIKA OLUTHATYATHWE UKUSUSELA  
NGOWE8 KUCANZIBE 2023 UKUYA KOWE11 KUCANZIBE 2023  
LOKUZIMASA INKOMFA YONYAKA WAMA42 I"INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IAIA" EKUCHING,  
EMALAYSIA

#### ONDERWERP

TERUGVOERVERSLAG OOR DIE INTERNASIONALE REIS ONDERNEEM  
VAN 8 TOT 11 MEI 2023 OM DIE 42STE JAARLIKSE KONFERENSIE VAN  
DIE INTERNASIONALE VERENIGING VIR IMPAKASSESSERING (IAIA) IN  
KUCHING, MALEISIË, BY TE WOON

Translation REF P4016

### 3. EVENT SUMMARY

EVENT DETAILS	
CONFERENCE/SEMINAR	42nd Annual conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA23)
OTHER	The IAIA held its 23rd Annual Conference with the theme <b>Resilience through impact assessment and leadership in Malaysia</b> . The event was hosted by Swinburne University of Technology in Kuching Malaysia. Swinburne is a world-ranked university leading the way in innovation, industry engagement and social inclusion. The focus of the conference was on creating a path to resilience through impact assessment and leadership. There were various presentations relating to conceptual advances and contextual applications of impact assessment that exemplify agility, transformation, innovation, leadership, sustainability, and resilience.
DATE	8 May 2023 until 11 May 2023
VENUE	Boreo International Convention Centre
TOTAL COST TO THE CITY	R 276.50
CITY	Kuching, Sarawak
COUNTRY	Malaysia

  

ATTENDEE DETAILS	
NAME AND SURNAME	DESIGNATION
Marlyn Hendricks	Senior Professional Officer: Municipal Generation Contracts

  

PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION / CITY
The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), a global network on impact assessment, IS AN ORGANIZATION WITH A VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONALS FROM A DIVERSE ARRAY OF INTERESTS AND ORGANIZATIONS, ALL OF WHOM ARE CONCERNED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY. COLLECTIVELY, OUR GOAL IS TO PROTECT, NOT HARM, THE EARTH AND ITS ENVIRONMENTS AND PEOPLES.

### 4. OBJECTIVE

The combined crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, health and humanitarian catastrophes, and conflict have made clear that agility, transformation, innovation, and leadership are key for sustainability and resilience. The world needs immediate, impactful solutions and these must be fair. The global crisis is felt harder by and the path to recovery is more challenging for vulnerable communities and ecosystems. No transition is viable or sustainable without justice. Impact assessments can inform and promote sustainable and fair decisions and processes.

The overarching objective of the IAIA23 conference was to give a platform to the critical mass of motivated professionals to drive innovations and advancements in impact assessments.

## 5. OUTCOMES

The IAIA23 conference included a collection of presentations from academics, consultants, representatives of private companies, governments, non-government organizations, and the financial sector relating to conceptual advances and contextual applications of impact assessments that exemplify agility, transformation, innovation, leadership, sustainability, and resilience.

The keynote speaker addressed the update on the current planetary health, which is defined by a system called the nine planetary boundaries. Six of the nine boundaries have already been breached, which is evident by the increase in natural disasters like floods, Malaria and other infectious diseases and water-borne diarrheal diseases. This calls for an integrated approach to impact assessments to ensure the interconnectedness of the planetary health is considered. This is very relevant when performing impact assessments on projects driving the just transition, thus it must incorporate social, environmental and health impact assessments (SEHIA).

In summary the three key observations from the sessions attended, which are related to SEHIA, are summarised below;

Social impact assessments are far reaching. They include the community that is directly in contact with the new or developing project but also those who are working at factories that manufacture the equipment for the project. This is demonstrated by a case study presented by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Industry of Australia on a 23GW solar PV plant in Palau. The results from a due diligence exercise found that the proposed provider of the solar PV panels were procuring from factories suspected of using forced labour. A study showed that 97% of the global PV panels may include components that may have been manufactured using forced labour (Cockayne, et al.,2022, 6).

Incorporating principals of circular economy when developing renewable energy projects can significantly reduce health and environment impacts. It will provide job opportunities for local communities and in turn grow the local economy. A development in AlUla, Saudi Arabia has committed to the full application of the principals of circular economy by only purchasing local materials that supports the local economy, leading to the reduction in transportation impacts, reliance on virgin materials, the impacts of construction and demolition waste by reducing, reusing and recycling.

The need for impact assessments to consider the interconnectedness of the planetary health will become a key consideration for competent authorities when reviewing environmental authorisations. This means the impacts of new and existing developments/projects within a particular area or radius will be taken into account when reviewing applications. This is also known as cumulative impact assessments.

In conclusion, some of the improvements that could be implemented to ensure the City of Cape Towns renewable energy projects are implemented in a more sustainable manner are;

- Including specific requirements for the appointment of EPC contractors that support SEHIA.
- Project development process should be amended to incorporate circular economy principals.
- A proactive approach is necessary to understand cumulative impact assessments and how it could potentially be implemented.

## 6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

*Review renewable energy project development process to strengthen over time:*

- *Specific requirements for the appointment of EPC contractors that support SEHIA.*
- *Project development process to incorporate circular economy principals.*
- *A proactive approach to understand cumulative impact assessments and how it could potentially be implemented.*

## 7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Constitutional and Policy Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.2 Environmental implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.3 Financial Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.4 Legal Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.5 Staff Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

7.6 Risk Implications No ☒ Yes ☐

### 7.7 POPIA Compliance

- ☒ It is confirmed that this report has been checked and considered for POPIA Compliance.

*NOTE: POPIA Section MUST be completed otherwise the report will be returned to the author for revision.*

*Contact your Directorate POPIA Stewards should you require assistance.*

**The City has a contract in place with XL Embassy Travel for the safe-keeping of Traveller's personal information as required by the POPI Act.**

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the feedback report on the trip to attend the 42nd annual conference of the international association for impact assessment (IAIA23) in Kuching, Malaysia undertaken by Marlyn Hendricks on 8 to 11 May 2023 be considered and noted.

### IZINDULULO

Kundululwe ukuba makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe ingxelo engohambo lokuzimasa inkomfa yonyaka wama42 ye"international association for impact assessment" (IAIA23 eKuching eMalaysia oluthatyathwe nguMarylyn Hendricks ukususela ngowe8 ukuya kowe11 kuCanzibe 2023.

### AANBEVELINGS

Daar word aanbeveel dat die terugvoerverslag oor die reis onderneem deur Marlyn Hendricks van 8 tot 11 Mei 2023 om die 42ste jaarlikse konferensie van die internasionale vereniging vir impakassessering (IAIA23) in Kuching, Maleisië, oorweeg word en daarvan kennis geneem word.

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## 9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

None

## 10. ANNEXURES

None

### FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:

DATE	1 June 2023		
NAME	Marlyn Hendricks	CONTACT NUMBER	021 400 3981
E-MAIL ADDRESS	<a href="mailto:Marlyn.Hendricks@capetown.gov.za">Marlyn.Hendricks@capetown.gov.za</a>		
DIRECTORATE	Energy	FILE REF No	n/a
SIGNATURE :	Marlyn Hendricks	Digitally signed by Marlyn Hendricks Date: 2023.06.27 13:47:44 +02'00'	

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KADRI NASSIEP

The ED's signature represents support for report content and confirms POPIA compliance.

COMMENT:

*TRIP REPORT NOTED*

SIGNATURE:



27 June 2023

NAME

DATE

**MANAGER: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**COMMENT:**

**DR. DENVER VAN SCHALKWYK**

**SIGNATURE:** Dr Denver  
**DATE** van  
Schalkwyk

Digitally signed by  
Dr Denver van  
Schalkwyk  
Date: 2023.06.22  
12:44:41 +02'00'

☐ REPORT COMPLIANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL'S DELEGATIONS, POLICIES, BY-LAWS AND ALL LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

**LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

☐ NON-COMPLIANT

Certified as legally compliant based on the content of the report.

NAME

TEL

DATE

**CITY MANAGER**

☒ NOTED

☒ REFER TO THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE VIA THE RELEVANT SECTION 79 COMMITTEE

DATE

COMMENT: