

Cultural Heritage Management

European Institute of Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Technology
Lessingstraße 79, 13158 Berlin, Germany

Mahmoud Abdou| Berlin

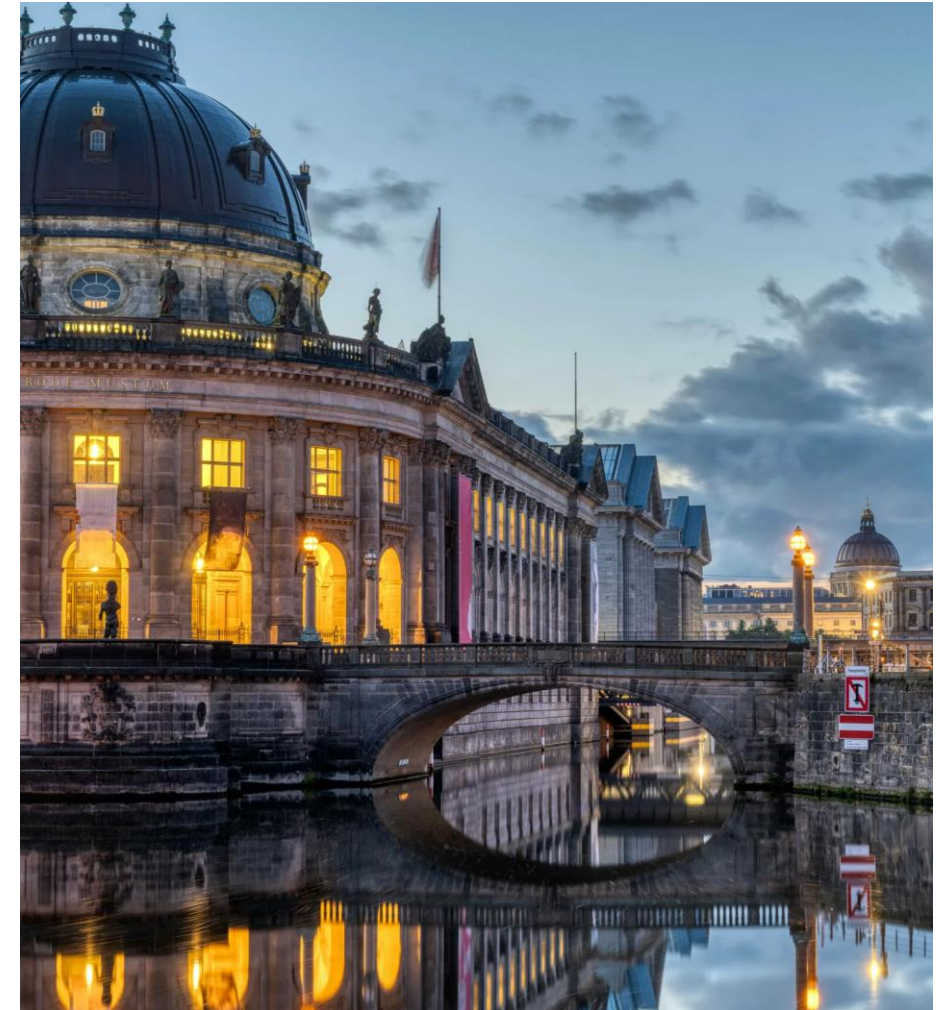


**Lessingstraße 79,
13158 Berlin, Germany**
Phone: +49 30 233618555
Fax: +49 30 233618556
Email: info@eiiet.com

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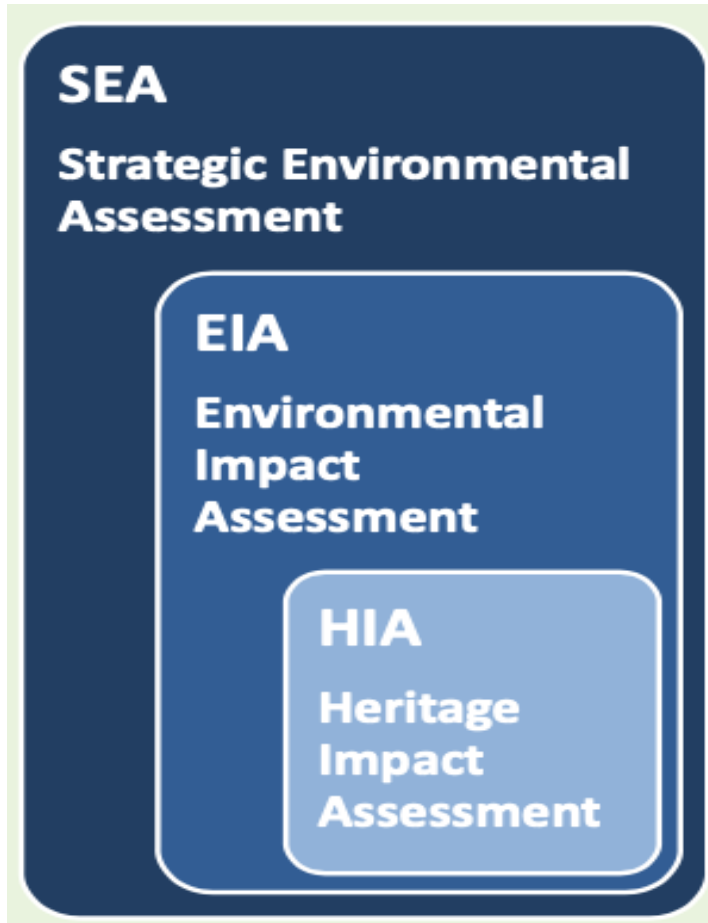
Outline

1. Types of Impact Assessment
2. Heritage Impact Assessment Process
3. Participation in HIA Process
4. Proactive Problem Solving in HIA process



1- Types of Impact Assessment

Types of Impact Assessment

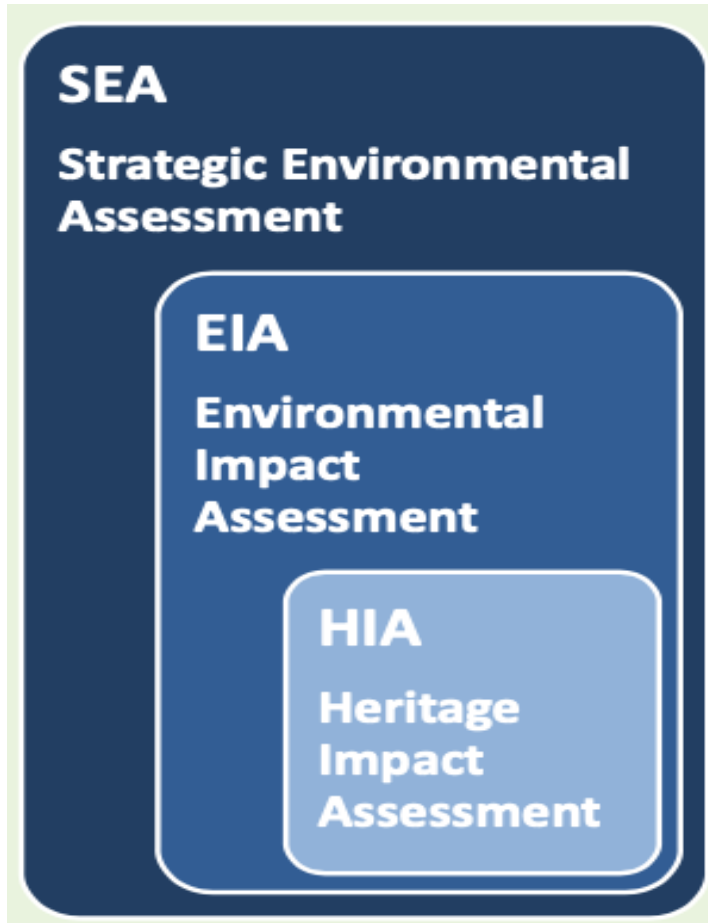


- Two main types of impact assessment:

- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

1- Types of Impact Assessment

Types of Impact Assessment

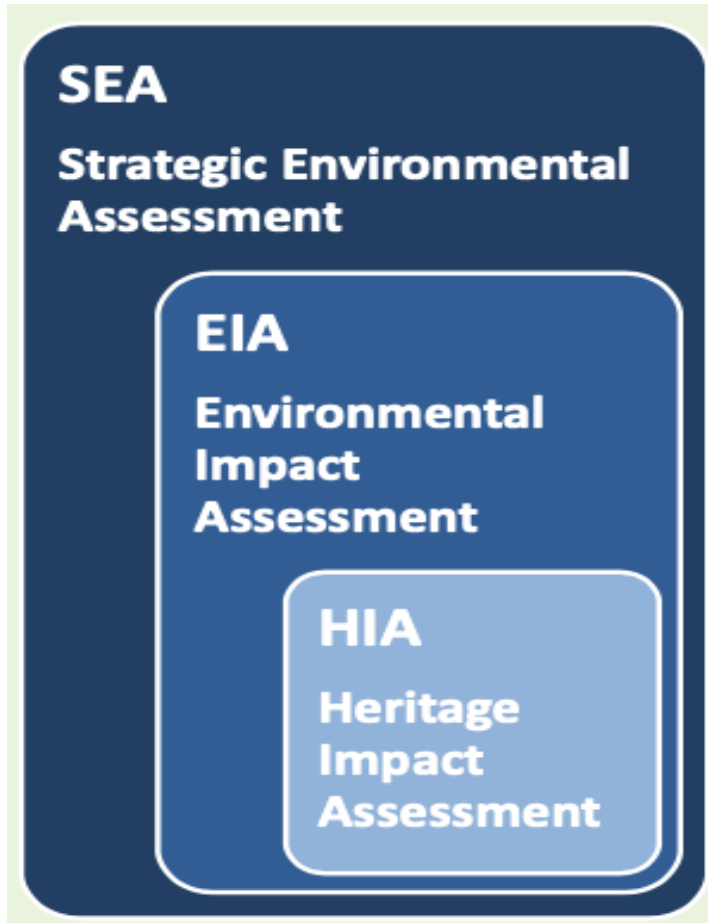


A- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

- Project-level assessment
- Used for specific proposed actions
- Often required for large projects or sensitive sites
- Includes environmental, social, and cultural impacts
- May include Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)
- HIA focuses on impacts on OUV and heritage attributes
- Commonly required by national systems and international banks

1- Types of Impact Assessment

Types of Impact Assessment



B- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- Applied to policies, plans, and programmes
- Conducted at a strategic level (before projects)
- Helps guide early decision-making
- Better for assessing cumulative and regional impacts
- Supports consistent, broad mitigation strategies

2- Participation HIA Process

Impact Assessments in World Heritage

Process of assessing the potential impacts of a proposed action



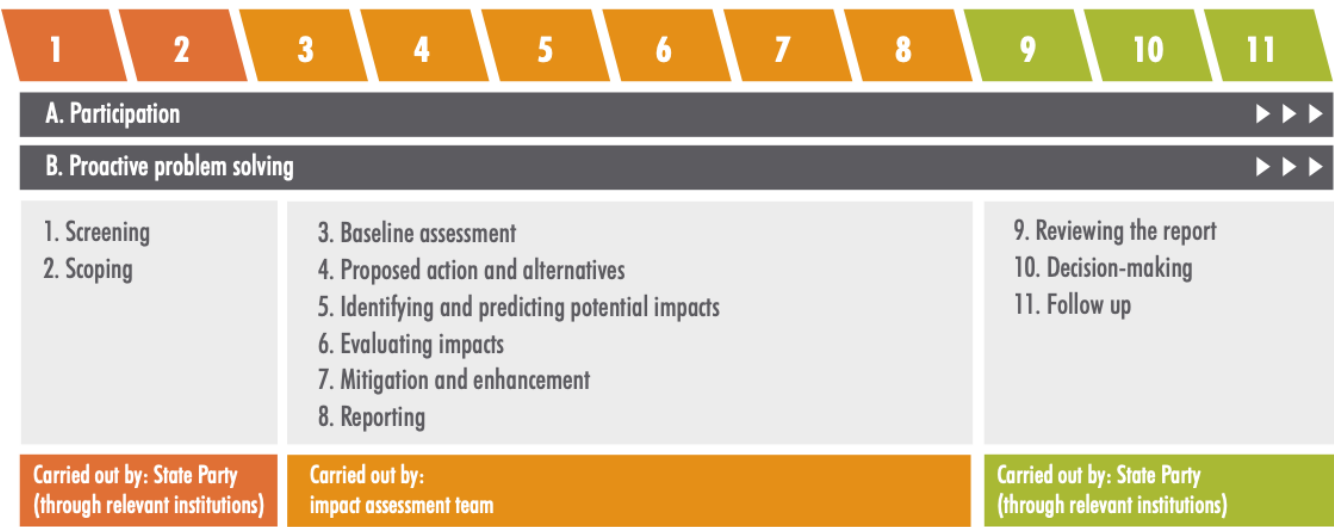
- The World Heritage Committee requires impact assessments for actions near or within World Heritage properties
- These assessments are supported by professional guidance and expertise
- Concerns exist about the rigor of assessments, especially regarding OUV
- Effective assessment requires understanding of:
 - Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)
 - Related heritage and conservation values
 - Attributes that convey OUV

2- Participation HIA Process

A- Participation in World Heritage Decision-Making

- Local communities should be involved early
- Authorities should also participate in assessments
- Views must influence decisions
- Human rights-based approach is required
- Participation should be included in all cases

Process of assessing the potential impacts of a proposed action



3- Proactive Problem Solving in HIA Process

B- Proactive Problem Solving

- Considers the proposed action throughout its development
- Checks whether the action is necessary
- Explores more sustainable alternatives
- Identifies ways to avoid or reduce negative impacts
- Looks for opportunities to enhance positive impacts



4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

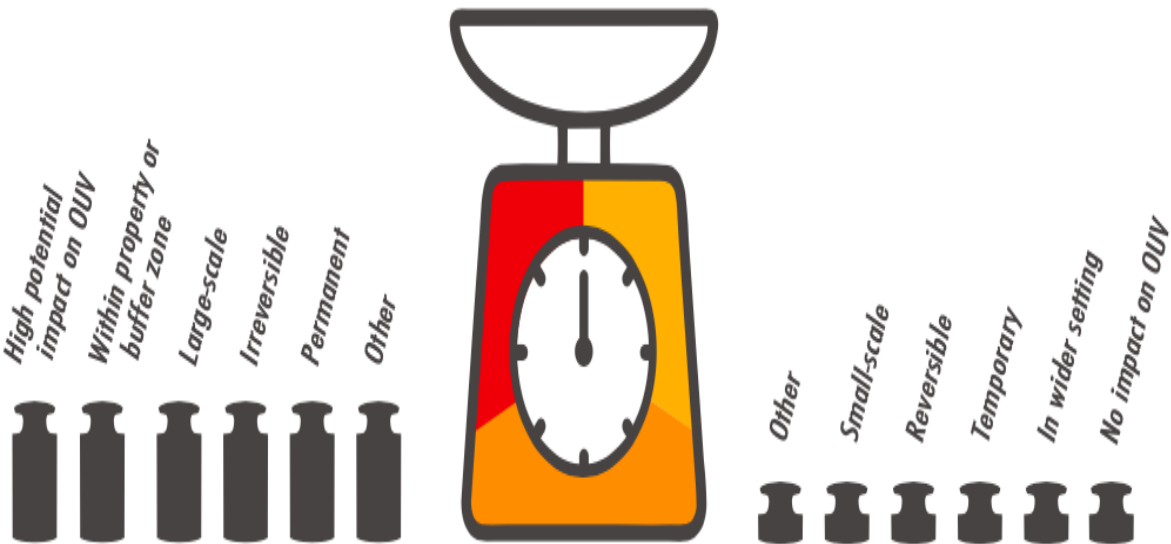
1- Screening: Is an Impact Assessment Needed?



- Screening decides whether an impact assessment is required
- It is the first step in the process
- Proposed actions are reviewed early in planning
- Focus is on possible effects on OUV and other values
- If negative impacts are likely, an assessment is required
- Proponents may need to revise the proposal

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

1- Screening: Is an Impact Assessment Needed?



- Screening considers:

- Type, size, and nature of the action
 - Sensitivity of the receiving environment
 - Likely types of impacts
- Any action affecting OUV may require assessment
 - This applies regardless of size or location
 - Includes property, buffer zone, and wider setting
 - Small actions may also have cumulative or indirect impacts

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

2- Scoping: What Should Be Assessed?



- Defines the scope after screening confirms an assessment is needed
- Specifies what the assessment will cover
- Describes expected outputs of the assessment
- Helps focus on key issues early in the process
- Saves time and resources in later stages
- Can be used to check the final report quality later

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

3- Baseline Assessment



- Describes the current state of the World Heritage property
- Includes Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and its attributes
- Serves as a reference point for impact assessment
- Used to compare “with” and “without” the proposed action
- Helps evaluate future changes and impacts
- Supports monitoring during and after project implementation
- Ensures protection of heritage values over time

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

3- Baseline Assessment



- Baseline Assessment shall also consider:
 - Describing the past, present, and likely future baseline
- Carrying out additional studies
- Understanding the legal and management system

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

4- The Proposed Action And Alternatives



A- Understanding the Proposed Action

- Requires detailed information for the impact assessment report
- Level of detail should match the scale of the action
- Considers all stages of the project life cycle
- Examines what will happen, how, and when
- Includes direct and indirect activities
- Identifies required supporting infrastructure or facilities
- All associated elements must also be assessed

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

4- The Proposed Action And Alternatives

1

Is it necessary?

Need or demand: can the need or demand be met without the proposed action?

Can the proposed satellite dish be installed on an existing building rather than requiring a new tower in a significant historic area?
Does the road through the property need upgrading or does the road use need to be revised?

2

How should it be done?

Mode or process: are there other technologies or methods that meet the need with no or less environmental damage?

Could the new electricity wires be routed underground or bundled and attached to buildings rather than requiring new poles and infrastructure? Can the height of new electricity poles be modified?

3

Where should it go?

Location: is there a more appropriate place for the proposed action?

Can the new tourist reception area be located outside the visual catchment of the monument? Can the transmission line be erected along the existing road?

4

When and in what form should it take place?

Implementation: when, in what form and what sequence should the proposed action take place? What details might need considering?

Can the construction phase be scheduled to avoid disrupting the annual water festival or species migration?

B- Alternatives should be identified early in the process

- Early review allows influence on planning decisions
- May help avoid impacts by not proceeding
- Can lead to revision or cancellation of the proposal
- Alternatives are considered in three steps:
 - Identify reasonable options
 - Assess and compare options
 - Justify the preferred choice

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

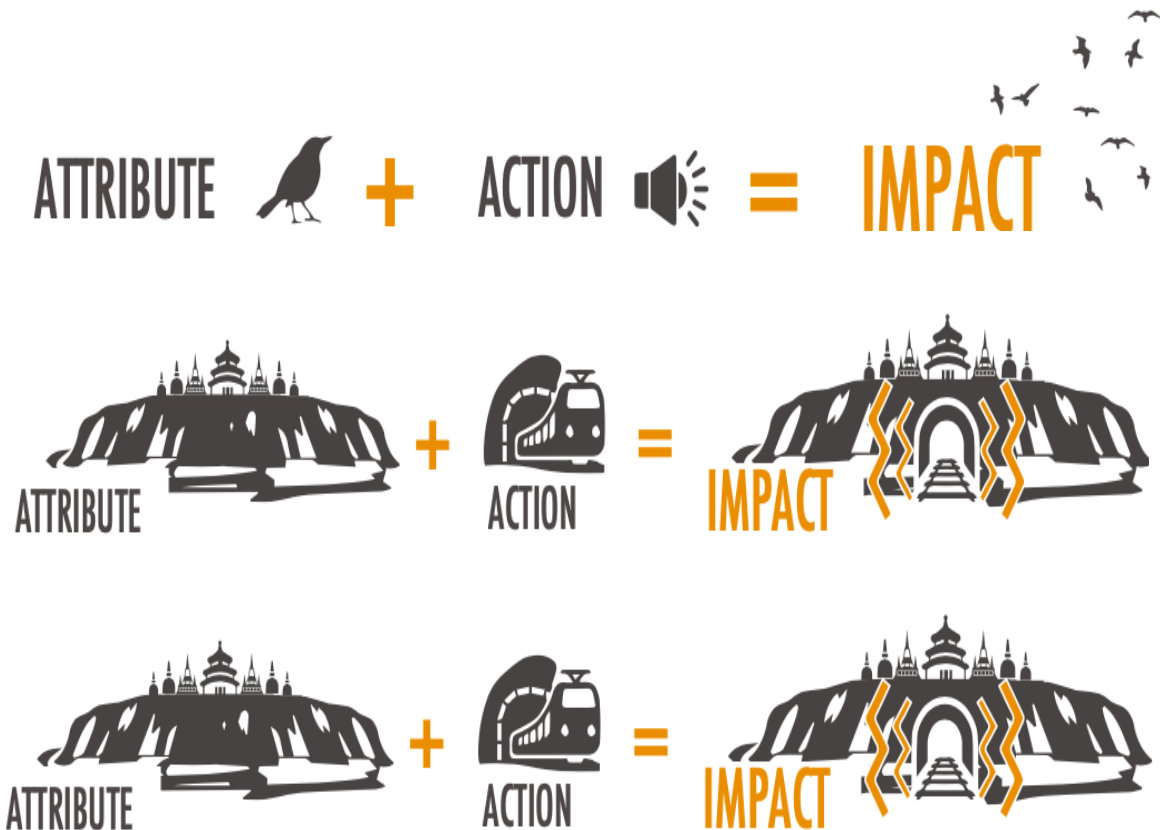
6- Identifying and Predicting Impacts



- Core technical step in impact assessment
- Requires input from multiple specialist disciplines
- Involves predicting potential impacts of the proposed action
- Impact results should be verified with relevant authorities
- Includes evaluation of significant negative impacts
- Mitigation measures must be identified and reviewed

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

6- Identifying and Predicting Impacts

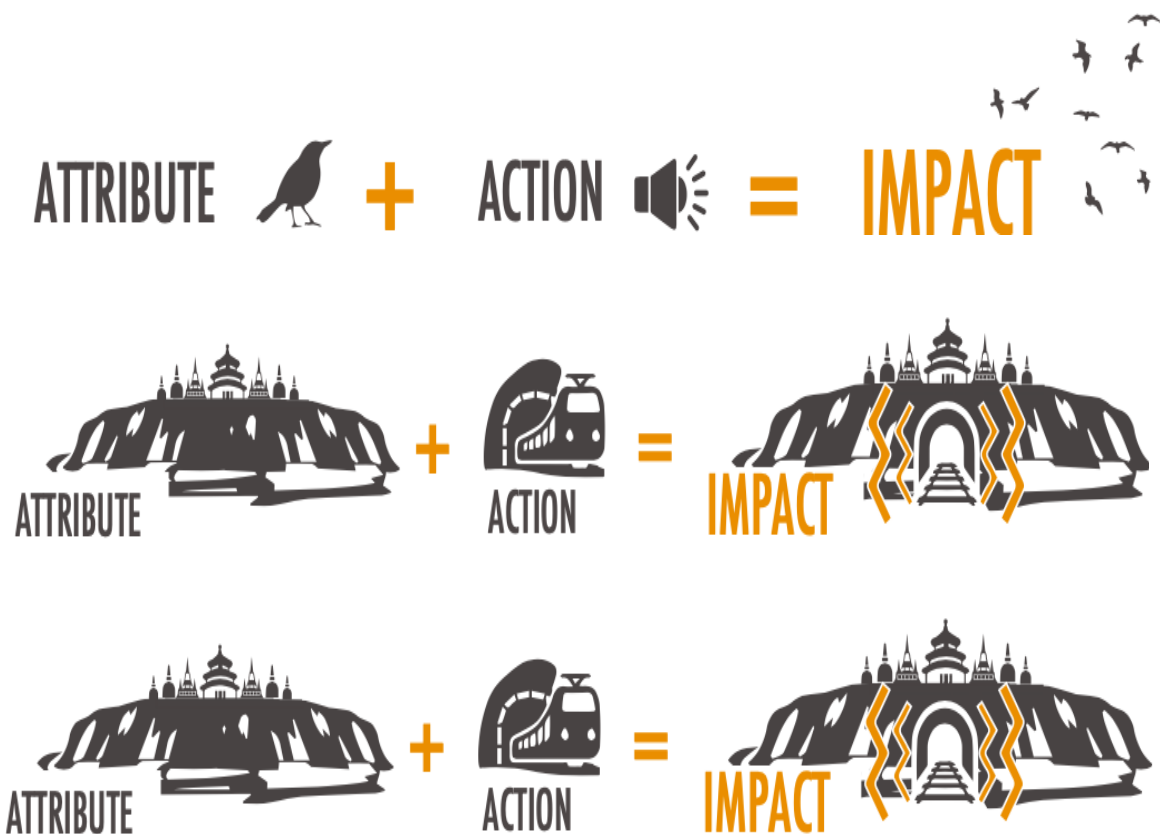


A- Identifying Impacts

- Examines effects on attributes of the World Heritage property
- An impact is the interaction between action and attribute
- Impacts can be positive or negative
- Includes biophysical, cultural, social, economic, health, and visual impacts
- Covers both tangible and intangible attributes
- Considers all relevant effects on the property's values

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

6- Identifying and Predicting Impacts



B- Predicting Impacts

- Estimates the likely scale and nature of identified impacts
- Compares baseline conditions with the proposed action scenario
- Uses the baseline of the World Heritage property as reference
- Assesses each reasonable alternative separately
- Includes comparison of all options and the proposed action
- Conclusions must be clear and defensible

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

6- Identifying and Predicting Impacts

B- Predicting Impacts

Impact characteristic	Prompt question	Examples
Magnitude	What change will occur?	A measurable estimate, e.g. number of buildings demolished, concentration of a pollutant
Type	Is the impact positive or negative?	Positive, negative, neutral
Extent	Over what area will the impact take place?	A measurable estimate, e.g. hectares of habitat cleared
Duration	How long will the impact last?	Short-term (days/weeks), long-term (years/ decades), permanent
Frequency	How often will this impact occur?	Once, intermittent infrequent, intermittent frequent, continuous
Reversibility	Can this impact be reversed? Is it easy to reverse?	Naturally reversible, reversible through human intervention, easy or difficult to reverse, irreversible
Likelihood	How likely is it that this impact will occur?	Categories can be defined, such as 'possible', 'probable', 'definite'

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

7- Evaluating Impacts



- Determines whether predicted impacts are significant
- Based on characteristics of the predicted impacts
- Significant impacts on heritage are generally unacceptable
- Any impact on OUV is always unacceptable
- Requires transparent and rigorous evaluation
- Leads to final assessment recommendations
- Focuses on the acceptability of impacts on OUV

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

7- Evaluating Impacts



- Negative impacts on OUV:

- Negligible impact → no concern
- Significant but mitigable → acceptable with measures
- Significant and unavoidable → project should not proceed

-Positive impacts on OUV:

- Beneficial impact → no concern
- Better outcomes possible → adjust or choose alternative
- Does not meet objectives → project should not proceed

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

8- Mitigation and Enhancement

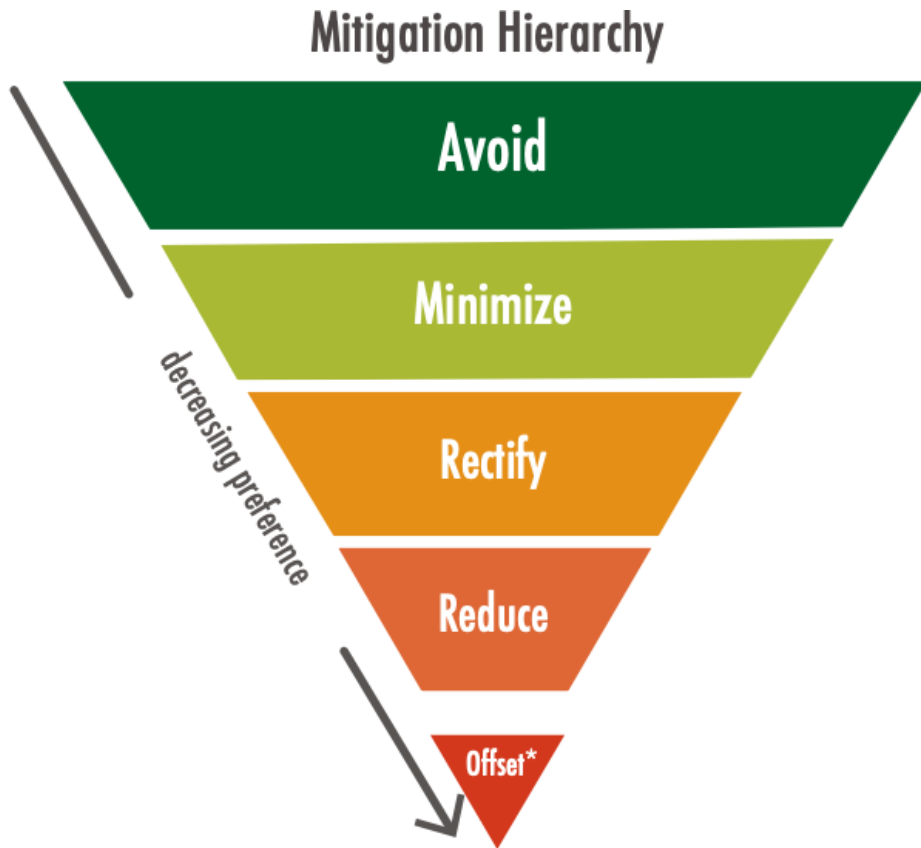


A- Mitigating negative impacts:

- Negligible impacts may not require mitigation
- Other impacts should be avoided or reduced where possible
- Mitigation measures should be included in the proposal
- Revised proposals must be re-assessed
- Impact assessment is an iterative process
- Final predictions include mitigation measures

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

8- Mitigation and Enhancement



- Mitigation Hierarchy

- Common hierarchy: **avoid** → **minimize** → **rectify** → **reduce** → **offset**
- For World Heritage, OUV cannot be offset
- The best option is full avoidance of negative impacts
- Avoidance may include rejecting or relocating the proposal
- If avoidance is not possible, impacts should be minimized

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

8- Mitigation and Enhancement



B- Providing / Enhancing Positive Impacts

- Focus is not only on avoiding harm
- Aim to “do good” without affecting OUV
- No compromise to Outstanding Universal Value
- Promote a proactive approach in impact assessment
- Identify opportunities to enhance positive effects
- Create new benefits for heritage and society
- Supports sustainable development in World Heritage processes

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

9- Reporting



- Methodology and findings must be documented in a report
- The report should be shared for public and expert comment
- Clearly explains analysis and recommendations
- Focuses on the protection of OUV and heritage values
- Encourages reflection during the assessment process
- Supports better-informed decision-making

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

10- Reviewing the Report



- Report is shared with rights-holders and local communities
- Comments may lead to a report revision
- Review checks adequacy of methods and findings
- Focus is on impacts on OUV
- Builds confidence in final conclusions

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

11- Decision-Making Outcomes



- Final decision is made by national authorities

- Three possible outcomes:

A- Approval with conditions

- Includes mitigation measures or requirements
- Only if no negative impact on OUV, or impacts are negligible

B- Deferred approval

- More information is required
- May require redesign of the proposal

C- Approval denied

- The proposal is not accepted

4- Heritage Impact Assessment Process

12- Follow-up



- Required after approval of a proposed action
- Includes long-term monitoring mechanisms
- Ensures implementation of mitigation measures
- Aims to protect OUV over time
- Supports sustainable development objectives
- Ensures long-term obligations are fulfilled

Thank you



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Lessingstraße 79,

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Phone: +49 176 55524449

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