

**Health Impact Assessment Practitioners Summer Training Course**  
*San Francisco Department of Public Health*  
*The California Endowment, 1111 Broadway, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA*  
*June 23 – 26, 2009*

---

**Health Impact Assessment (HIA):** HIA is an emerging policy evaluation practice used to inform public policy decisions in various sectors and promote the conditions required for optimal health. HIA includes diverse methods, tools, and processes by which policies, plans, programs, and projects are evaluated as to their potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population. HIA may also be integrated within other regulatory processes for environmental or social impact assessment.

**Course Goals and Overview:** The overall goal of this course is to provide current and future practitioners of HIA experience using available procedures, regulations, and tools to implement an HIA. Over four days, the course will provide an overview of the HIA process and essential steps; explore case studies that reflect a range of practices and policy contexts; facilitate group exercises in screening and scoping; provide experience with HIA assessment tools and methodologies; consider obstacles and opportunities for the growth of the field; and strategize needs for field development and practice in participant jurisdictions.

**Intended Audiences:** Active and prospective practitioners of HIA are the intended audience of the training course. The course may also be appropriate for interested public health officials, planning and regulatory agency officials, members of non-profit groups, and public health and environmental health consultants.

**Preparation:** The course expects participants to arrive with some understanding of the purpose and value of HIA, the typical steps in an HIA process, and familiarity with HIA practice examples. Participants do not need to have practical, hands-on HIA experience. SFDPH will provide participants with a course outline and a list of required readings in advance of the course.

**Cost:** The cost of this four-day training is \$960, which includes the cost of course materials, as well as breakfast and lunch on each day. Participants are expected to arrange their own accommodations and travel. If you are in need of financial assistance, please let us know. While we cannot commit to providing scholarships yet, we are working on raising funds to support the attendance of organizations facing financial hardship.

**Course Objectives:**

**Day 1:**

- Review and discuss the value and purpose of HIA as a healthy public policy tool
- Learn the steps and tasks of a typical HIA
- Discuss successes and lessons learned from HIA case studies
- Gain experience in the screening and scoping stages of HIA

**Day 2:**

- Understand the tasks and goals of the assessment stage in HIA, and about the range of methods that have been used in various HIAs
- Learn about existing conditions tools that can be used in the assessment stage
- Learn about the Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT) and gain experience exploring and accessing HDMT community health indicators
- Learn about and apply spatial tools to assess community conditions that promote health, and understand the importance of GIS in applying these tools
- Discuss principles for ethical use of evidence in decision-making and implications for HIA practice

**Day 3:**

- Continue to learn about approaches that can be used in the assessment stage of HIA, including forecasting tools and health risk assessment and modeling
- Understand a general approach to evaluating and utilizing epidemiologic evidence and health risk assessment to predict and quantify health impacts of public policies
- Develop skills for utilizing epidemiologic evidence for health impacts assessment through problem solving exercises
- Through problem solving, understand sources of uncertainty and limitations of evidence
- Understand a general approach for identifying recommendations and analyzing alternatives and mitigations

**Day 4:**

- Learn about the communication and monitoring stages of HIA
- Understand roles for community members, public agencies, decision-makers and other stakeholders
- Discuss the opportunities provided by environmental impact assessment for integrated health/social/environmental analysis
- Collectively explore opportunities to advance HIA in practitioners' jurisdictions
- Consider lessons for successful HIA applications including stakeholder and decision-maker buy-in and inter-agency communication

Please contact [hiacourse.dph@sfdph.org](mailto:hiacourse.dph@sfdph.org) or call 415-252-3988 with any questions.

**HIA Practitioners Summer Training Course**  
**Day 1 – June 23, 2009, Oakland, CA**  
**Agenda**

**Objectives:**

- Review and discuss the value and purpose of HIA as a healthy public policy tool
- Learn the steps and tasks of a typical HIA
- Discuss successes and lessons learned from HIA case studies
- Gain experience in the screening and scoping stages of HIA

Time	Topic	Instructors
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Breakfast (provided)</b>	
9:00 – 9:10	<b>Welcome from SFDPH and TCE</b>	<b>RB, DA</b>
9:10 – 9:30	<b>Introductions and course overview</b>	<b>RB, LF</b>
9:30 – 11:00	<b>Health Impact Assessment: An Overview of the Purpose, Rationale, and Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Purpose of HIA</i></li> <li>• <i>Integrating health into a policy context</i></li> <li>• <i>Stages and tasks in the HIA process</i></li> <li>• <i>Relationship to Environmental Impact Assessment</i></li> <li>• <i>Lessons learned</i></li> <li>• <i>HIA practice standards</i></li> <li>• <i>HIA examples</i></li> </ul>	<b>RB</b>
11:00 – 12:15	<b>Regional HIA Case Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Eastern Neighborhoods Community Health Impact Assessment</i></li> <li>• <i>Port of Oakland Health Impact Assessment</i></li> <li>• <i>Health Impact Assessment of the Humboldt County General Plan Update</i></li> <li>• <i>A Health Impact Assessment of the California Healthy Families, Healthy Workplaces Act of 2008</i></li> </ul>	<b>LF, ES, KG, RB</b>
12:15 – 1:15	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>	
1:15 – 2:30	<b>HIA Screening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Presentation and small group facilitated exercise of screening using hypothetical scenarios</i></li> </ul>	<b>JM, MW and Team</b>
2:30 – 3:00	<b>Discussion and break</b>	<b>JM, MW</b>
3:00 – 4:30	<b>HIA Scoping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Presentation and small group facilitated exercise of scoping using hypothetical scenarios</i></li> </ul>	<b>JM, MW and Team</b>
4:30 – 5:00	<b>Discussion and Q &amp; A</b>	<b>JM, MW</b>

**HIA Practitioners Summer Training Course**  
**Day 2 – June 24, 2009, Oakland, CA**  
**Agenda**

**Objectives:**

- Understand the tasks and goals of the assessment stage in HIA, and about the range of methods that have been used in various HIAs
- Learn about existing conditions tools that can be used in the assessment stage
- Learn about the Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT) and gain experience exploring and accessing HDMT community health indicators
- Learn about and apply spatial tools to assess community conditions that promote health, and understand the importance of GIS in applying these tools
- Discuss principles for ethical use of evidence in decision-making and implications for HIA practice

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Instructors</b>
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Breakfast (provided)</b>	
9:00 – 9:15	<b>Reflections on day 1</b> <i>What did we learn yesterday? Remaining questions? What will we learn today?</i>	<b>LF</b>
9:15 – 9:45	<b>Data and Methods in HIA Analysis: An Overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Review assessment tasks</i></li> <li>• <i>Identify range of data and methods can be used to support assessment:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Empirical literature</i></li> <li>○ <i>Community expertise</i></li> <li>○ <i>Available collected social, economic, environmental and health measures</i></li> <li>○ <i>Regulatory standards and benchmarks</i></li> <li>○ <i>Environmental measures</i></li> <li>○ <i>Modeling</i></li> <li>○ <i>Surveys</i></li> <li>○ <i>Forecasting Tools</i></li> <li>○ <i>Epidemiological studies</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>RB</b>
9:45 – 10:15	<b>Discussion and Q &amp; A</b>	<b>RB</b>
10:15 – 11:45	<b>Using Community Health Indicators in Health Impact Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introduction to the Healthy Development Measurement Tool and small group exercise to access HDMT community health indicator data</i></li> </ul>	<b>LF</b>
11:45 – 12:30	<b>Designing Healthy Communities: Spatial Assessment Tools (part 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introduction to the Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index and small group exercise</i></li> </ul>	<b>CS</b>
12:30 – 1:00	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>	
1:00 – 1:45	<b>PEQI exercise</b> ( <i>meet group facilitator at designated spot</i> )	<b>Team</b>
1:45 – 2:15	<b>Designing Healthy Communities: Spatial Assessment Tools (part 2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Interpretation of PEQI data and discussion</i></li> </ul>	<b>CS</b>
2:15 – 3:00	<b>Using Checklists in Health Impact Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Review existing checklists and case studies</i></li> </ul>	<b>LF</b>
3:00 – 3:15	<b>Break</b>	
3:15 – 4:30	<b>Using Forecasting/Judgment-Making Tools (part 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introduction to air quality modeling, quantitative impacts forecasting and small group exercise</i></li> </ul>	<b>RB</b>
4:30 – 5:00	<b>Discussion and Q &amp; A</b>	<b>RB</b>

**HIA Practitioners Summer Training Course**  
**Day 3 – June 25, 2009, Oakland, CA**  
**Agenda**

**Objectives:**

- Continue to learn about approaches that can be used in the assessment stage of HIA, including forecasting tools and health risk assessment and modeling
- Understand a general approach to evaluating and utilizing epidemiologic evidence and health risk assessment to predict and quantify health impacts of public policies
- Develop skills for utilizing epidemiologic evidence for health impacts assessment through problem solving exercises
- Through problem solving, understand sources of uncertainty and limitations of evidence
- Understand a general approach for identifying recommendations and analyzing alternatives and mitigations

Time	Topic	Instructors
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Breakfast (provided)</b>	
9:00 – 9:30	<b>Reflections on day 2 and continuation of assessment phase</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What did we learn yesterday?</i></li> <li>• <i>Remaining questions?</i></li> <li>• <i>What will we learn today?</i></li> </ul>	MW
9:30 – 11:00	<b>Using Forecasting/Judgment-Making Tools (part 2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introduction to vehicle-pedestrian injury collision forecasting: A modeling approach with implications for transportation and land use planning</i></li> <li>• <i>Small group exercise and discussion</i></li> </ul>	MW
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Using Epidemiological Findings in Health Impact Assessment (part 1)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Using epidemiological findings to forecast health impacts</i></li> <li>• <i>Menu labeling case study</i></li> <li>• <i>Noise impacts from freight trains small group exercise and discussion</i></li> </ul>	RB, JM
12:30 – 1:30	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>	
1:30 – 2:15	<b>Using Epidemiological Findings in Health Impact Assessment (part 2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Small group exercise on the impact of a soda tax on weight gain and discussion</i></li> </ul>	MG
2:15 – 3:15	<b>Issues in Making Judgments in Health Impact Assessment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Challenges to validity</i></li> <li>• <i>Impact significance</i></li> <li>• <i>Ethical challenges</i></li> </ul>	RB
3:15 – 3:30	<b>Break</b>	
3:30 – 4:30	<b>Developing Health-Responsive Recommendations for Policy Design and Implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>General approach and discussion based on examples (ventilation, pedestrian safety countermeasures)</i></li> </ul>	RB
4:30 – 5:00	<b>Discussion and Q &amp;A</b>	LF

**HIA Practitioners Summer Training Course**  
**Day 4 – June 26, 2009, Oakland, CA**  
**Agenda**

**Objectives:**

- Learn about the communication and monitoring stages of HIA
- Understand roles for community members, public agencies, decision-makers and other stakeholders
- Discuss the opportunities provided by environmental impact assessment for integrated health/social/environmental analysis
- Collectively explore opportunities to advance HIA in practitioners' jurisdictions
- Consider lessons for successful HIA applications including stakeholder and decision-maker buy-in and inter-agency communication

Time	Topic	Instructors
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Breakfast (provided)</b>	
9:00 – 9:30	<b>Reflections on day 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>What did we learn yesterday?</i></li> <li>• <i>Remaining questions?</i></li> <li>• <i>What will we learn today?</i></li> </ul>	<b>MG</b>
9:30 – 11:15	<b>Communicating HIA Findings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Presentation on communication stage tasks and strategies, practice standards and small group exercise</i></li> </ul>	<b>MG</b>
11:15 – 12:30	<b>Monitoring in HIA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Presentation and discussion on tasks, practice standards, approaches and challenges to monitoring decision accountability and watchdog roles</i></li> </ul>	<b>RB</b>
12:30 – 1:30	<b>Lunch (on your own)</b>	
1:30 – 2:15	<b>HIA as a Collaborative Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Identify the range of potential HIA participants and their roles in the process</i></li> </ul>	<b>JL</b>
2:15 – 3:00	<b>Integrating Health And Impact Assessment: Using Environmental Laws to Achieve Institutional Accountability to the Public's Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Briefly review health requirements within EIA statutes and regulations, review selected case studies of integrated HIA/EIA, and describe available intervention points to integrate HIA within EIA</i></li> </ul>	<b>RB</b>
3:00 – 3:15	<b>Break</b>	
3:15 – 4:15	<b>Exploring HIA opportunities in participant jurisdictions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Consider needs for HIA in the settings where participants work and brainstorm opportunity plans for HIA in selected participants settings</i></li> </ul>	<b>CS</b>
4:15 – 5:00	<b>Discussion and Q &amp;A</b>	<b>Team</b>
5:00	<b>Course ends</b>	