

Health Impact Assessment Practitioner Mini-Course
Program on Health, Equity, and Sustainability
San Francisco Department of Public Health
22-25 July, 2008, San Francisco, California

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 with procedures, regulations, and tools available to implement an HIA practice. Over four days, the course will provide an overview of the HIA process and essential steps; explain the regulatory environment for HIA in the United States; explore case studies that reflect a range of practice types and policy contexts; facilitate group exercises in screening and scoping; provide hands-on experience with specific HIA 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: The intended audience for the mini-course are both active and prospective practitioners of HIA. The course may also be appropriate for 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.

Course Outline:

Day 1: Review and discuss the value and purpose of HIA as a healthy public policy tool; steps and tasks of a typical HIA; roles for community members, public agencies, decision-makers and other HIA process stakeholders; successes and lessons from HIA case studies; and opportunities provided by environmental impact assessment for integrated health/social/environmental analysis.

Day 2 and 3: Build experience with HIA analytic tools, including:

- The Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT), a comprehensive evaluation metric to consider health needs in urban development plans and projects – www.TheHDMT.org
- Forecasting tools for assessing the health impacts of traffic on air quality, environmental noise and pedestrian hazards
- Spatial assessment tools to evaluate community health conditions
- Applying Epidemiologic Research to Health Impact Assessment
- Mixed methods to analyze the health impacts of social and environmental policies, including application of effect estimates from epidemiological studies

Day 4: Apply lessons learned to scoping potential HIAs proposed by participants; consider lessons for successful HIA applications including stakeholder and decision-maker buy in and inter-agency communication; discuss politically relevant analysis, linkage with experiential knowledge, and use of existing institutional requirements; and collectively explore opportunities to advance HIA in practitioners' jurisdictions.

Health Impact Assessment Practitioner Mini-Course Course Outline and Agenda

Day 1 – July 22, 2008 The California Endowment - 101 Second St., 24th Floor		
Session objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Review and discuss the value and purpose of HIA as a healthy public policy tool ▪ Learn the steps and tasks of a typical HIA ▪ Understand roles for community members, public agencies, decision-makers and other stakeholders ▪ Discuss successes and lessons from HIA case studies ▪ Discuss the opportunities provided by environmental impact assessment for integrated health/social/environmental analysis 		
Time	Topic	Instructors
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 9:30	Introductions, icebreaker and course overview	<i>LF</i>
9:30 – 10:30	Overview: HIA purpose, stages, tasks and public policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Purpose of HIA</i> ▪ <i>Integrating health into a policy context</i> ▪ <i>Stages and tasks in the HIA process</i> 	<i>RB</i>
10:30 – 10:40	Break	
10:40 – 11:45	Regional HIA Case Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>SF Living Wage</i> ▪ <i>ENCHIA</i> ▪ <i>Humboldt County General Plan</i> ▪ <i>Oak to Ninth</i> 	<i>RB, ES, JH, LF</i>
11:45 – 12:30	HIA as a collaborative process: Stakeholders, partners and roles – <i>Identify the range of potential HIA participants and their roles in HIA</i>	<i>JH</i>
12:30 – 1:00	Lunch	
1:30 – 2:30	Screening – <i>Participate in facilitated exercises of screening using hypothetical scenarios</i>	<i>TEAM</i>
2:30 – 3:30	Scoping – <i>Participate in facilitated exercises of scoping using hypothetical scenarios</i>	<i>TEAM</i>
3:30 – 3:45	Break	
3:45 – 5:00	Integrating HIA within Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) <i>– Review law, regulations, practice of EIA, selected EIA comments requesting HIA, selected case studies of integrated HIA/EIA</i>	<i>JC, RB</i>
5:00pm	Conclude	
5:30pm	Social networking	

Day 2 – July 23, 2008
Option #1 – Healthy Development Measurement Tool
The California Endowment - 101 Second St., 24th Floor

Session objectives:

- Learn about the Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT), a comprehensive evaluation metric to consider health needs in urban development plans and projects – www.TheHDMT.org
- Learn about HDMT history and content, and the types of development plans/projects it is applicable to
- Explore and access HDMT indicators and data
- Apply the HDMT development checklist to a hypothetical land use project
- Consider the ways that the HDMT framework and content is relevant to your locality

Session Instructors: Beth Altshuler, Lili Farhang, Megan Gaydos, Felice Le

8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and reflections on day 1
9:30 – 10:00	Introductions, overview of agenda and ground rules
10:00 – 10:30	Built environment and HDMT review – <i>Overview of built environment research on health/equity and creation of the Healthy Development Measurement Tool</i>
10:30 – 10:50	Introduction to the HDMT website – www.TheHDMT.org – <i>Overview of HDMT framework, indicators, development targets, supporting research, policy and design strategies and case studies</i>
10:50 – 11:40	Small group exercise #1 and report back – <i>Assessing HDMT community health indicator data</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Group discussion – <i>Ways to use community health data in your work</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Review an example of completed HDMT development target checklist application to Mission Area Plan
12:30 – 1:00	Lunch/Networking
1:00 – 1:20	Background and overview of New Mission Theatre development project – <i>Overview of example project in preparation for small group application of HDMT elements</i>
1:20 – 2:40	Small group exercise #2 – <i>Apply one element of HDMT development checklist to project and develop recommendations</i>
2:40 – 2:50	Break
2:50 – 3:45	Small group report backs – <i>How does the development project impact HDMT elements and what are some potential policy recommendations to improve the project?</i>
3:45 – 4:45	Group discussion of how you might use what you've learned at home
4:45 – 5:00	Wrap-up and evaluation

Day 2 – July 23, 2008
Option #2 – Forecasting Tools for Assessing the Health Impacts
of Traffic on Air Quality, Environmental Noise and Pedestrian Hazards
SFDPH – 1390 Market St., 9th Floor

Session objectives:

- Learn about quantitative tools to assess the health impacts of traffic on air quality, noise, and pedestrian hazards
- Gain familiarity with an approach to building a model to predict pedestrian injury collisions based on existing secondary data sources
- Understand where and how to access data and existing quantitative tools to assess the contribution of traffic to noise and air quality, and how to estimate health impacts with those outputs
- Estimate the health impacts of transportation planning decisions using planning examples from San Francisco
- Learn about planning and design mitigations of potential negative impacts of traffic on air quality, noise, and pedestrian safety

Session Instructors: Tom Rivard, Edmund Seto, Megan Wier

8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and reflections on day 1
9:30 – 9:45	Introductions
9:45 – 10:00	Health impacts of traffic – <i>Overview of traffic, transportation and land use planning, and health impacts, including implications for health equity</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Traffic data sources – <i>Overview of how to obtain traffic data</i>
10:15 – 11:15	Pedestrian injury modeling – <i>Overview of approach, methods, health risk analysis, application examples, strengths, limitations, mitigations</i>
11:15 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 12:30	Air quality modeling – <i>Overview of approach, methods, and meteorological data inputs</i>
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch/Networking
1:30 – 3:00	Facilitated computer exercises of air quality modeling – <i>Walk through air quality modeling example step-by-step</i>
3:00 – 3:20	A community-based participatory research approach – <i>Overview of the project, collaboration and findings</i>
3:20 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 4:30	Environmental noise modeling – <i>Overview of approach, methods, health risk analysis, application examples, strengths, limitations, mitigations</i>
4:35 – 5:00	Lessons learned so far – <i>The state of each modeling effort in SF, implications for mitigation, constituencies for these models</i>

Day 3 – July 24, 2008
Option #1 – Spatial Assessment Tools to Evaluate Community Health Conditions
SFDPH – 1390 Market St., 9th Floor

Session objectives:

- Learn about and apply spatial tools to assess community conditions that promote health, and understand the importance of GIS in applying these tools
- Gain familiarity with potential existing sources of spatial data for health impact assessments, and how to manage that data using GIS
- Learn how to supplement existing spatial data by developing and applying field assessment tools
- Understand planning and design implications of the spatial assessment findings

Session Instructors: Cyndy Comerford Scully, Jennifer McLaughlin, Edmund Seto, Megan Wier

8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and reflections on day 2
9:30 – 9:45	Introductions
9:45 – 10:45	GIS data and database management – <i>Importance of creating and maintaining a GIS database for HIA work, resources needs, our approach to spatial assessment and tools</i>
10:45 – 11:15	Neighborhood Completeness Indicator (NCI) – <i>Overview, methods, analyses, applications, implications, next steps</i>
11:15 – 11:25	Break
11:25 – 11:35	Introduction to the South of Market (SoMa) neighborhood using NCI and other data
11:35 – 11:50	Retail Food Availability Survey – <i>Overview, methods, analyses, applications, implications, next steps</i>
11:50 – 12:30	Group exercise – <i>Applying Retail Food and Neighborhood Completeness findings from SoMa; HIA of existing conditions and potential implications for planning</i>
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch/Networking
1:30 – 2:30	Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index (PEQI) – <i>Overview, users manual, survey form methods, MS Access database, analyses, applications, implications</i>
2:30 – 3:45	Break/Group exercise – Street surveying in SoMa – <i>Walking on area streets is a part of this section - comfortable walking shoes recommended</i>
3:45 – 5:00	PEQI results and potential applications – <i>Presentation of data from the area surveyed for the group exercise; review how to create maps in GIS once data is entered and scored; discuss different ways to present and data sources to consider</i>

Day 3 – July 24, 2008
Option #2 – Applying Epidemiologic Research to Health Impact Assessment
The California Endowment - 101 Second St., 24th Floor

Session objectives:

- Understand a general approach to evaluating and utilizing epidemiologic evidence to predict and quantify health impacts of public policies
- Learn how epidemiologic evidence has been applied in the context of completed HIAs in the US
- Develop skills for utilizing epidemiologic evidence for health impacts assessment through a series of critical problem solving exercises

Session Instructors: Rajiv Bhatia, June Weintraub

8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome, introductions and reflections on day 2
9:30 – 10:50	Overview of general approach, limitations, and caveats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study Criteria and Search Strategies for Literature Review ▪ Evaluation of Study Quality, Evidence for Causality ▪ Extrapolation of Effect Measures and Meta-analysis ▪ Quantification of Baseline Conditions and ▪ Qualitative vs. Quantitative Assessments ▪ Limitations of the Risk Assessment Paradigm and Precautionary Policy ▪ Best Available Evidence and the Validity of Predictions
10:50 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 11:40	Case study 1 – <i>California’s regulatory health impact assessment for PM2.5 standards</i>
11:40 – 12:00	Exercise #1 – <i>Road emissions hot spots and health impacts</i>
12:00 – 12:30	Case study 2 – <i>San Francisco’s living wage HIA</i>
12:30 – 1:00	Lunch/Networking
1:00 – 1:30	Exercise #2 – <i>Evaluating and interpreting research findings on parks and health</i>
1:30 – 2:00	Exercise #3 – <i>Estimating the effect of soda consumption on weight gain</i>
2:00 – 2:30	Exercise #4 – <i>Estimating impacts of traffic and traffic calming on pedestrian injuries</i>
2:30 – 3:15	Case study 3 – <i>Los Angeles menu labeling HIA</i>
3:15 – 3:30	Break
3:30 – 4:00	Exercise #5 – <i>Paid sick days and reducing the impact of pandemic influenza</i>
4:00 – 4:45	Group discussion of take home lessons and potential applications
4:45 – 5:00	Wrap-up and evaluation

Day 4 – July 25, 2008
The California Endowment - 101 Second St., 24th Floor

Session objectives:

- Apply lessons learned to scoping potential HIAs proposed by participants
- Consider lessons for successful HIA applications including stakeholder and decision-maker buy-in and inter-agency communication
- Discuss politically relevant analysis, linkage with experiential knowledge, and use of existing institutional requirements
- Collectively explore opportunities to advance HIA in practitioners' jurisdictions

Time	Topic	Instructors
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 9:30	Reflections on course content	<i>LF, RB</i>
9:30 – 10:15	Communicating HIA findings	<i>RB</i>
10:15 – 12:45	Group scoping exercises – <i>Participants will use knowledge gained in Days 2 and 3 to scope potential HIAs of projects in participants' settings</i>	TEAM
12:45 – 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 – 2:30	State of the field in the US: Key needs and opportunities for HIA (panel discussion) – <i>Discussion will focus on stakeholder and decision-maker buy-in; inter-agency communication; resources; predictive validity; timing; integration with EIA; stakeholder conflicts</i>	<i>VR, ES, JC, RB, LF</i>
2:30 – 4:30	Exploring HIA opportunities in participant jurisdictions – <i>Considering needs for HIA in the settings where participants work and brainstorm opportunity plans for HIA in selected participants settings</i>	TEAM
4:30	Wrap-up	
5:00	Course ends	

Health Impact Assessment Practitioner Mini-Course
Instructors and Topics

<u>Instructors</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Rajiv Bhatia SFDPH	Purpose, stages, and tasks of HIA; Integrating HIA /EIA; Applying epidemiologic research to health impact assessment
Tom Rivard SFDPH	Forecasting tools for assessing the health impacts of traffic on air quality, environmental noise and pedestrian hazards
Edmund Seto UC Berkeley	Forecasting tools for assessing the health impacts of traffic on air quality, environmental noise and pedestrian hazards; Spatial assessment tools to evaluate community health conditions
Lili Farhang SFDPH	Healthy Development Measurement Tool
Cyndy Comerford SFDPH	Spatial assessment tools to evaluate community health conditions
Jennifer McLaughlin SFDPH	Spatial assessment tools to evaluate community health conditions
June Weintraub SFDPH	Applying epidemiologic research to health impact assessment
Megan Wier SFDPH	Forecasting tools for assessing the health impacts of traffic on air quality, environmental noise and pedestrian hazards; Spatial assessment tools to evaluate community health conditions
Megan Gaydos SFDPH	Healthy Development Measurement Tool
Valerie Rogers NACCHO	Building a field of HIA in the United States: Successes and challenges for local public health departments
Jonathan Heller Human Impact Partners	Case studies; Stakeholder collaboration
Jason Corburn UC Berkeley	Integrating HIA/EIA; State of the field panel

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Web Resources

- Health Impact Assessment Community Wiki – http://www.seedwiki.com/wiki/health_impact_assessment_hia_community_wiki/
- World Health Organization – HIA website – <http://www.who.int/hia/en/>
- National Association of City and County Health Officials – Community Design/Land Use Planning - <http://www.naccho.org/topics/HPDP/landuseplanning/index.cfm>
- Health Impact Assessment Gateway – http://www.nice.org.uk/aboutnice/howweare/aboutthehda/hiagateway/hia_gateway.jsp
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/hia.htm>
- San Francisco Department of Public Health – www.sfdph.org/phes
- University of New South Wales HIA Connect – <http://www.hiaconnect.edu.au/>
- Netherlands RIVM HIA Database – <https://webcollect.rivm.nl/hiadatabase/>
- University of California, Los Angeles, HIA Project – <http://www.ph.ucla.edu/hs/health-impact/>
- University of Liverpool, IMPACT – International Health Impact Assessment Consortium – <http://www.liv.ac.uk/ihia/>
- University of California, Berkeley, Health Impact Group and Health Impact Assessment Course – <http://ehs.sph.berkeley.edu/hia/>

For more information, please email hiacourse.dph@sfdph.org or call 415-252-3988.