HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA): SELECTED RESOURCES

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La version française est également disponible au www.ccnpps.ca.

Information contained in the document may be cited provided that the source is mentioned.
ABOUT THE NATIONAL COLLABORATING CENTRE FOR HEALTHY PUBLIC POLICY

The National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP) seeks to increase the expertise of public health actors across Canada in healthy public policy through the development, sharing and use of knowledge. The NCCHPP is one of six Centres financed by the Public Health Agency of Canada. The six Centres form a network across Canada, each hosted by a different institution and each focusing on a specific topic linked to public health. In addition to the Centres’ individual contributions, the network of Collaborating Centres provides focal points for the exchange and common production of knowledge relating to these topics.
ABOUT THIS INVENTORY

Health impact assessment (HIA) is a process that makes it possible to shed light on decision-making related to proposed policies, programs or projects, and on their potential effects on the health of a population. There are many approaches to the practice of HIA, the oldest having been developed within the field of environmental health in relation to the environmental impact assessment of development projects. The main focus of this inventory is the practice of HIA as related to the development of healthy public policy. This is an evolving field of practice in which more and more public health actors are becoming interested and with which they wish to become familiar.

This inventory is intended as an introduction to the field of HIA practice as applied to policy development. It is based on a review of the literature on this subject carried out by the National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy (NCCHPP) between March and July of 2008. An update of this document was conducted in November 2011. It does not claim to be completely exhaustive, but it reflects the information available at the time the review was carried out.

Those interested in HIA will find in this inventory a body of information aimed at:

- Facilitating access to existing resources;
- Providing information about the most effective techniques for researching HIA;
- Sharing knowledge about the main ideas that characterize this field.
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1 OVERVIEW OF THE FIELD OF HIA

Health impact assessment (HIA) was first developed along the fringes of environmental impact assessments (EIA) as a way to integrate human health concerns into the environmental impact assessments of major development projects.

Over the past dozen years, the context in which HIA is practiced has broadened. It now extends beyond development projects and the environmental sector. This movement is based on a broad, social definition of health. It is concerned, notably, with the socioeconomic determinants of health and with the participation of the population affected by the proposal being examined. It is, thus, within this movement that the application of HIA to public policy can be situated. Although its use so far has been modest, this practice is usually linked to the field of healthy public policy and, consequently, represents a means of making health a concern for all policy sectors, as proposed in the WHO’s Adelaide Declaration.

1.1 SOME REFERENCES

1.1.1 Brief overview of HIA


1.1.2 Glossary


1.1.3 Methodological foundations (procedure)


For the French version of the Gothenburg consensus, see:


1.1.4 Guides and tools

The NCCHPP identified more than 50 HIA guides and tools through the main websites on this subject: the summary document is available on the Centre’s website (http://www.ncchpp.ca). The following selection is intended as a sample of the variety of guides available.


1.2 BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESEARCH ON THE TOPIC OF HIA

1.2.1 Keywords

Database and search engine searches are most often carried out in English. The expression “Health impact assessment” is the main keyword used to locate texts on this subject. A few additional results may sometimes be attached to the expression “health impact assessments” (typing the plural of assessment); whereas using the plural form of impact does not generally turn up any new results.

1.2.2 Databases and search engines

The research tools covering documentation on health and environmental sciences appear to be the richest reference sources for texts on HIA.

Current Content: Covers documentation from the last 52 weeks in all major areas of knowledge.

MEDLINE (by NCBI [PubMed]): Covers, essentially, biomedical documentation.

Academic Search Premier: Covers all major areas of knowledge.

EMBASE.com: Covers biomedical documentation.

BIOSIS Previews: Covers the biological sciences.

PsycINFO: Covers all branches of psychology.

CINAHL: Covers, essentially, the fields of nursing and paramedical professions.

CAB Abstracts: Covers the biological sciences.

Google Scholar: Covers various subject areas.

Note: Some are critical of Google Scholar, particularly because of the non-transparency of its research and the classification of its results. Google Scholar thus seems more useful for following developments in the HIA field than for carrying out a systematic and exhaustive review of the literature.

Coverage of scientific journals varies according to database or search engine. Coverage is also subject to change. Consequently, depending on the goal of the documentation review, using some combination of databases and search engines may be advisable.

Note that some databases and search engines offer the possibility of registering to receive updates.

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1.2.3 Scientific periodicals

Articles on HIA were located in over 30 different periodicals essentially covering health (public health, health promotion, community health, preventive medicine), environmental sciences and, to a lesser degree, political science.

1.2.3.1 Main scientific periodicals

- Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health
- Public Health
- Environmental Impact Assessment Review
- Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Currently, among the databases and search engines mentioned above, only Current Content and Google Scholar cover these four main periodicals.

1.2.3.2 Special issues on HIA


1.2.4 Books/Monographs

This list of books and monographs covers the period between 1995 and the present (last updated in October 2011) and is presented in inverse chronological order.


### 1.3 ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN HIA

The NCCHPP has identified many organizations interested in HIA throughout the world. These have been classified by type and location or by the region they cover. Only the main organizations, with a website in French (FR) or in English (EN), are listed below.

#### 1.3.1 International associations and organizations

International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA): http://www.iaia.org/ (EN)

World Health Organization: http://www.who.int/hia/en/ (EN)


#### 1.3.2 Research centres or groups

1.3.2.1 International

International Health Impact Assessment Consortium (IMPACT), University of Liverpool, Division of Public Health: http://www.liv.ac.uk/IHIA/ (EN)
1.3.2.2 North America

a) Canada (Québec)
Groupe d’étude sur les politiques publiques et la santé (GÉPPS): http://www.gepps.enap.ca/ (FR)

b) United States

UC Berkeley Health Impact Group, UC Berkeley’s School of Public Health, and Department of Environmental Health Sciences: http://sites.google.com/site/ucbhia/ (EN)

Design for Health (Collaboration between the University of Minnesota, Cornell University and the University of Colorado): http://www.designforhealth.net/resources/healthimpact.html (EN)

San Francisco Bay Area HIA Collaborative: http://www.hiacollaborative.org/

1.3.2.3 Europe

a) Finland
National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (STAKES), (Human Impact Assessment [HuIA]): http://info.stakes.fi/iva/EN/index.htm (EN)

b) Wales
Welsh Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU), Cardiff University’s School of Social Sciences, Cardiff Institute of Society, Health and Ethics: http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/home.cfm?OrgID=522 (EN)

1.3.2.4 Oceania

a) Australia
Centre for Health Equity Training, Research and Evaluation (CHETRE) – HIA Connect, University of New South Wales (UNSW), School of Public Health & Community Medicine: http://www.hiaconnect.edu.au/ (EN)

Deakin University HIA Research Unit, Deakin University, Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing and Behavioural Sciences: http://www.deakin.edu.au/hmnbs/hia/index.php (EN)

SHIA@Monash, Monash University, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences: http://www.med.monash.edu.au/healthsci/shia-monash/index.html (EN)

WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health Impact Assessment, Curtin University of Technology, Division of Health Sciences: http://www.ehia.curtin.edu.au/ (EN)
b) New Zealand
Health, Wellbeing & Equity Impact Assessment Unit, University of Otago, Department of Public Health: http://www.otago.ac.nz/wellington/research/hia/ (EN)

1.3.3 Public organizations

1.3.3.1 North America

a) Canada


b) United States
Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/hia.htm (EN)

National Association County & City Health Officials (NACCHO): http://www.naccho.org/topics/hpdp/land_use_planning/LUP_Toolbox.cfm (EN)

San Francisco Department of Public Health, (Eastern Neighborhoods Community Health Impact Assessment [ENCHIA]): http://www.sfphes.org/ENCHIA.htm (EN) Europe

1.3.3.2 Europe

a) England
Department of Health: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Legislation/Healthassessment/index.htm (EN)


b) Scotland
c) Ireland
Institute of Public Health (IPH): [http://www.publichealth.ie/hia](http://www.publichealth.ie/hia) (EN)

d) Switzerland

### 1.3.3.3 Oceania

a) Australia


b) New Zealand
Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC), National Health Committee: [http://www.nhc.healt h.govt.nz/](http://www.nhc.health.govt.nz/) (EN)


### 1.3.4 Observatories

#### 1.3.4.1 Europe

a) United Kingdom and Ireland

b) England
London Health Observatory: [http://www.lho.org.uk/HIA/AboutHIA.aspx](http://www.lho.org.uk/HIA/AboutHIA.aspx) (EN)

### 1.3.5 Consultants

#### 1.3.5.1 North America

a) Canada*
Habitat Health Impact Consulting Corp.: [http://habitatcorp.com/](http://habitatcorp.com/) (EN)


b) United States

*This list is not exhaustive and will be updated regularly.
1.3.5.2 Europe

a) England
Ben Cave Associates: http://www.bcahealth.co.uk/ (EN)
Birley HIA – Health Impact Associates: http://www.birleyhia.co.uk/ (EN)
Inukshuk Consultancy: http://inukshukconsultancy.com/ (EN)

1.4 EXAMPLES OF COMPLETED HIAs

Completed health impact assessments are usually the subject of a report that may (or may not) be available on the internet. Scientific articles also report on cases of HIA.

1.4.1 Inventory of completed HIAs

Several organizations report cases of completed HIAs on their websites. The following selection presents the sites referencing the most cases first, and these are organized according to the origin of the majority of the studies referenced. The links provided are for either (FR) or English (EN) sources.

1.4.1.1 HIA throughout the world
World Health Organization (WHO): http://www.who.int/hia/examples/en/ (EN)

1.4.1.2 HIA in North America (United States)
Health Impact Project: http://www.healthimpactproject.org/resources#reports (EN)
UCLA Health Impact Assessment Clearinghouse: http://www.hiaguide.org/hias (EN)

1.4.1.3 HIA in Europe
European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies: Results of a research project aimed at mapping the use of HIA in Europe, at evaluating its effectiveness and at establishing the determining factors for successful implementation: http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/98283/E90794.pdf (EN)
Association of Public Health Observatories (APHO) - HIA Gateway: http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx (EN)
International Health Impact Assessment Consortium (IMPACT): http://www.liv.ac.uk/ihia/IMPACT_HIA_Reports.htm (EN)
List of HIAs completed in Wales since 1997: http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=522&pid=10105 (EN)

National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health (STAKES): Human Impact Assessment (HuIA; Finland): http://info.stakes.fi/iva/EN/examples/index.htm

Plateforme sur l'évaluation d’Impact sur la Santé (Switzerland): http://www.impactsante.ch/spip/article.php3?id_article=37 (FR)


Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH): http://www.publichealth.ie/ireland/completedhiias (EN)

Design for Health: http://www.designforhealth.net/resources/healthimpact.html (EN)

1.4.1.4 HIA in Oceania (Australia/New Zealand)

Research Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity (CPHCE) - HIA Connect: http://www.hiaconnect.edu.au/completed_hia.htm (EN)

Deakin University HIA Research Unit: List of research projects: http://www.deakin.edu.au/hmnbs/hia/research.php (EN)

New Zealand Health Impact Assessment Support Unit: http://www.moh.govt.nz/hiasupportunit (EN)

1.5 TRAINING IN HIA

1.5.1 Training programs, workshops and university courses

Only those organizations that regularly offer training in HIA (or those that have announced 2011 training dates on their websites) are mentioned. The links provided are for either (FR) or English (EN) sources.

1.5.1.1 North America

a) United States

UC Berkeley Health Impact Group, UC Berkeley’s School of Public Health, and Department of Environmental Health Sciences: http://ehs.sph.berkeley.edu/hia/education/education.htm (EN) (University courses only)

Human Impact Partners: http://www.humanimpact.org/capacity-building (EN) (Consultants)
1.5.1.2 Europe

a) England

International Health Impact Assessment Consortium (IMPACT), University of Liverpool, Division of Public Health: http://www.liv.ac.uk/ihia/training.htm (EN)

b) Ireland

Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH): http://www.publichealth.ie/ireland/hiatraining (EN)

c) Wales


1.5.1.3 Oceania

a) Australia

Research Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity (CPHCE), University of New South Wales (UNSW), Faculty of Medicine: http://www.hiaconnect.edu.au/ (EN)

b) New Zealand


1.5.2 Manuals or training modules (available on line)


Health opportunities in development (two volumes and a CD-ROM; 2003), Bos, R., Birley, M., Furu, P. & Engel, C.: http://apps.who.int/bookorders/WHP/detart1.jsp?sesslan=1&codlan=1&codcol=99&codcch=17# (EN)


1.5.3 Évaluation des impacts de santé (ÉIS) de projets miniers

1.6 INTERNET RESOURCES

The website addresses of the main organizations interested in HIA have already been listed above. Other internet resources are suggested below, including, in particular, electronic newsletters, distribution lists (listservs) and a blog. The links provided are for either (FR) or English (EN) sources.

1.6.1 Electronic newsletters


HIA-USA Newsletter: [http://www.healthimpactproject.org/](http://www.healthimpactproject.org/)

1.6.2 Distribution lists (listservs)


Health Impact Assessment for the United Kingdom and Ireland – Listserv: [http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/archives/hianet.html](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/archives/hianet.html) (EN)

International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA): [http://www.iaia.org/resources-networking/listserv-discussion-groups.aspx](http://www.iaia.org/resources-networking/listserv-discussion-groups.aspx) (EN); Choose the group ‘Health’, Reserved for IAIA members

1.6.3 Blog


1.6.4 Miscellaneous

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Community Wiki: [http://healthimpactassessment.pbworks.com/](http://healthimpactassessment.pbworks.com/) (EN; see, in particular, the “Archives” section)


SOPHIA – The Society of Practitioners of HIA: [http://hiasociety.org/Welcome.html](http://hiasociety.org/Welcome.html) (EN)
2 TOPICS DEVELOPED IN THE LITERATURE ON HIA

The literature review carried out between March and July of 2008 revealed the major areas of concern related to the practice of HIA. This section presents these major areas of concern, along with some relevant publications illustrating the type of discussions or debates that are currently underway or have taken place in the past. It should be noted that the theme of Health in all Policies (HiAP) was added during the update of November 2011. This is not an exhaustive list of articles or other works dealing with these topics. Readers who are more specifically interested in one of these topics would therefore find it useful to apply the research strategies outlined in this inventory to gain access to a broader range of resources.

2.1 OVERALL FIELD


2.2 EQUALITY


2.3 EVALUATION OF HIA


2.4 INSTITUTIONALIZATION

2.5 INTEGRATION OF HEALTH INTO OTHER IMPACT ASSESSMENTS


2.6 METHODOLOGY (IMPACT ANALYSIS)


2.7 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION


### 2.8 RELATIONSHIP TO THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS


### 2.9 CAPACITY BUILDING


### 2.10 HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES (HIAP)

