

Information for decision-makers

Information considered important for decision-makers**Background**

- background to the project and the most important environmental issues involved

Policy context

- the basic development issue or problem being addressed (eg pollution, flooding, drought, erosion, energy shortage, poor health, depressed economy etc)
- the relationship to environmental protection goals, policies and plans

Alternatives

- alternatives to the proposal (including the best practicable environmental option [BPEO] or equivalent designation)

Public involvement

- key public views
- concerns of affected communities
- areas of agreement and disagreement

Impact analysis

- costs and benefits
- distribution of gains and losses

Mitigation and monitoring

- adequacy of proposed measures

Conclusion and recommendations

- key findings, including the main economic benefits, significant environmental effects and proposed mitigation measures (use non-technical terms)
- the extent to which the proposal conforms to the principles of sustainable development
- the design and operational changes that are considered critical in improving the environmental acceptability of the project

Adapted from OECD/DAC (1994)

