

Social Assessment Training Workshop

Taylor Baines & Associates

www.tba.co.nz

- **The “social” dimension has never been more important than it is now.**
- **Understand the potential for Social Assessment to support good policy development and resource management practice.**
- **Don’t rely on a compliance-oriented approach to using Social Assessment, help your organisation develop its own culture of good practice.**

Experienced social assessment professionals Nick Taylor and James Baines from Taylor Baines and Associates will lead a two-day training workshop in social assessment in Tauranga on 17-18 May 2010. The venue is The Tauranga on the Waterfront.

Participants will learn about the potential for social assessment to support good policy development and resource management practice. They will understand the basic components of social assessment as well as the principles of good practice; and thereby be able to recognise what to expect of social assessments commissioned in support of policy development, or submitted by project proponents in support of resource consent applications.

Purpose of the Workshop

The training workshop will make participants aware of the range of policy and project applications for social assessment, and how this mode of assessment is particularly relevant in the contexts of the Local Government Amendment Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991. This purpose will be achieved by covering social assessment theory, process and techniques, applying these to relevant case studies, and discussion of the participants' experiences.

Who Should Attend?

The workshop will be useful to those in central, regional and local government, infrastructure agencies, private-sector developers, social service agencies, researchers and consultants, lawyers and academia.

Learning Objectives

By taking part in this opportunity for professional development participants will -

Know when and why social assessment is required:

- know how social assessment helps respond to legislative and policy drivers in New Zealand
- appreciate opportunities to apply social assessment in an organisational culture of good practice
- learn what constitutes “good practice” social assessment.

Learn about the social assessment process:

- understand the basic steps in the social assessment process
- understand the analytical content of social assessment
- obtain skills in social analysis and different approaches to social enquiry/analysis
- learn about different information sources
- understand expectations for ethical practice.

Understand how to apply frameworks for social assessment:

- become familiar with the social well being framework
- understand links to health, evaluation, and other areas of assessment and issues of integration
- recognise how participatory assessment and consultation are best aligned with social assessment

Consider how organisations can make greater use of social assessment:

- identify common misconceptions about social assessment
- network and identify resources of knowledge and support
- answer participants' other questions about social assessment.

The workshop leaders have considerable experience practising social assessment, writing about the field, leading training courses in New Zealand and overseas and supporting capacity building.

This workshop was developed through support from SPEaR
(www.spear.govt.nz).