

# Health in Environmental Impact Assessment: Using an old horse to pull a new cart?



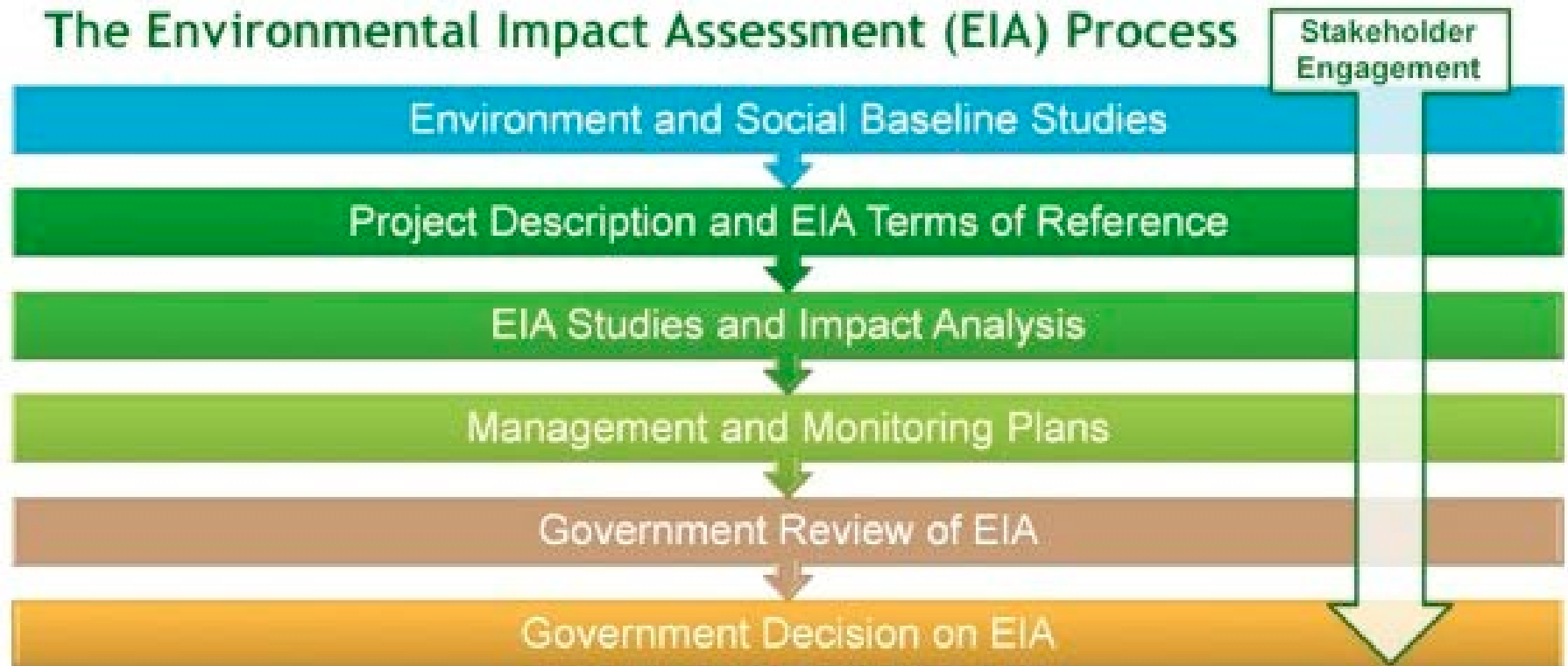
Dr. Colleen Davison  
Department of Public Health Sciences, Queen's University  
Sparking Solutions – April 25-28, 2016

Environmental impact assessment (EIA)  
is a planning process used by over 100  
countries to predict, assess and mitigate  
any significant adverse effects  
associated with a proposed project,  
programme or policy.



# Environmental Impact Assessment

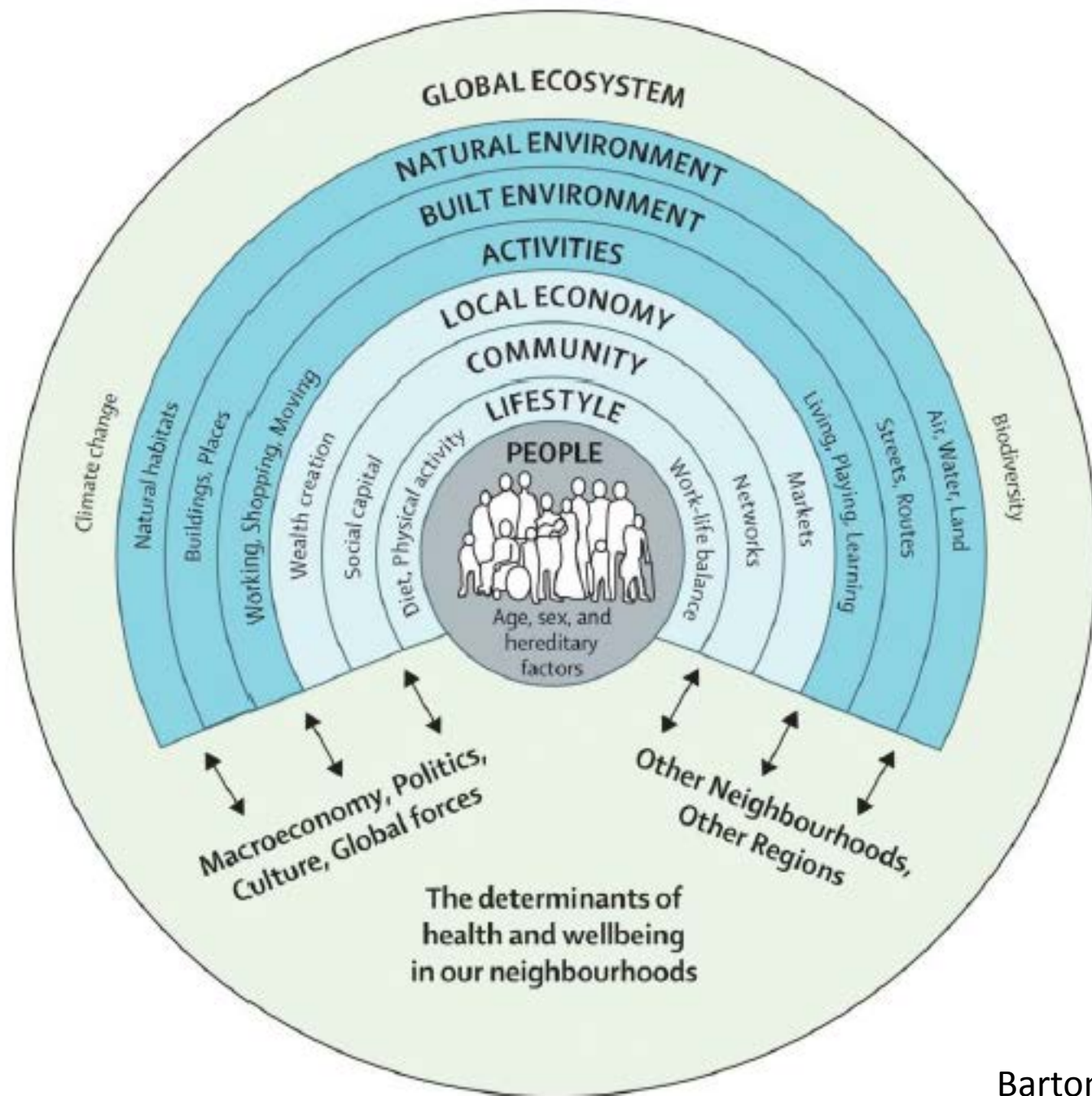
## The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process



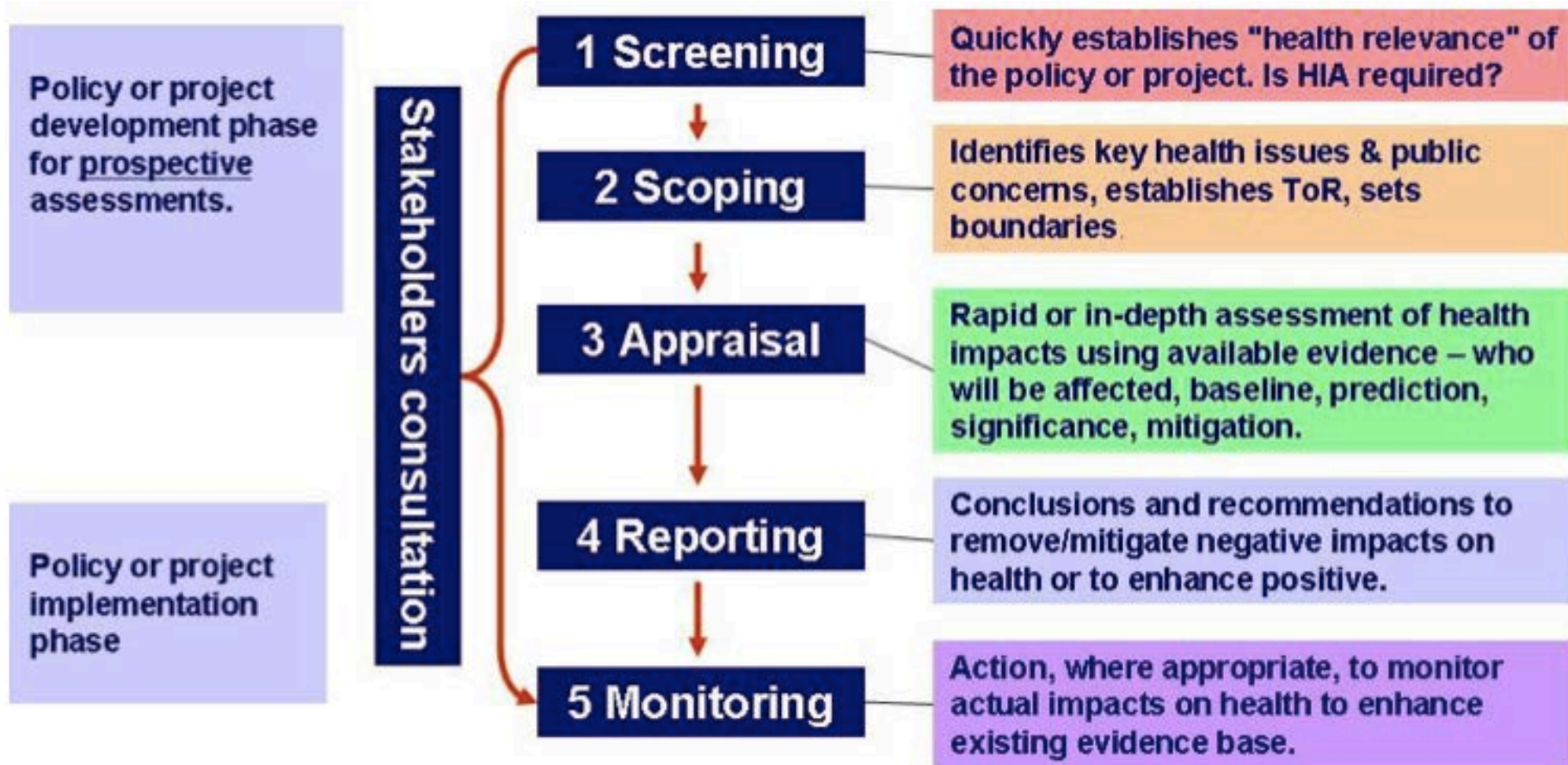
# HIA Guiding Principles

- Democracy
- Equity
- Sustainable Development
- Ethical Use of Evidence
- Comprehensive Approach to Health





# Basic steps in HIA







Contents lists available at [SciVerse ScienceDirect](#)

## Environmental Impact Assessment Review

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/eiar](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/eiar)



### An equity tool for health impact assessments: Reflections from Mongolia

Jeremy Snyder <sup>a,\*</sup>, Meghan Wagler <sup>b</sup>, Oyun Lkhagvasuren <sup>b</sup>, Lory Laing <sup>c</sup>, Colleen Davison <sup>d</sup>, Craig Janes <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC, Canada V5A 1S6

<sup>b</sup> Department of Health, Enkhtaivan Street, Building 13b, Suukhbaatar District, First Khoroo, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

<sup>c</sup> School of Public Health, University of Alberta, 3-50E University Terrace, Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2T4

<sup>d</sup> Department of Community Health & Epidemiology, 2nd and 3rd Floors, Carruthers Hall, Queen's University Kingston, ON, Canada K7L 3N6

# **A Guide for the Evaluation of Health Impact Assessments carried out within the EIA process**

Jeff Spickett and Dianne Katscherian

WHO Collaborating Centre for Environmental  
Health Impact Assessment



**Curtin University**



WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

School of Public Health  
Faculty of Health Sciences





REGIONAL OFFICE FOR

**Europe**

**World Health  
Organization**

## **Capacity Building in Environment and Health (CBEH) project**

Using impact  
assessment in  
environment and  
health: a framework

# The situation on inclusion of health in general EIAs for mining projects in Mongolia (2014)

| General EIA                   | Number of Conclusions (screening) | Total percentage, % |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Health is not included at all | 23                                | 19.1                |
| Included minimally            | 81                                | 67.5                |
| Health is included            | 16                                | 13.3                |
| Total                         | 120                               |                     |

# **Report of the Detailed EIA in coal mining project**

One page on health, including:

- Dust (respiratory diseases, decrease in rural herders health)
- Noise pollution
- Water source (water hole) pollution
- Population migration, decrease in the quality of health service delivery

## **Report of the detailed EIA in a copper molibdenium project**

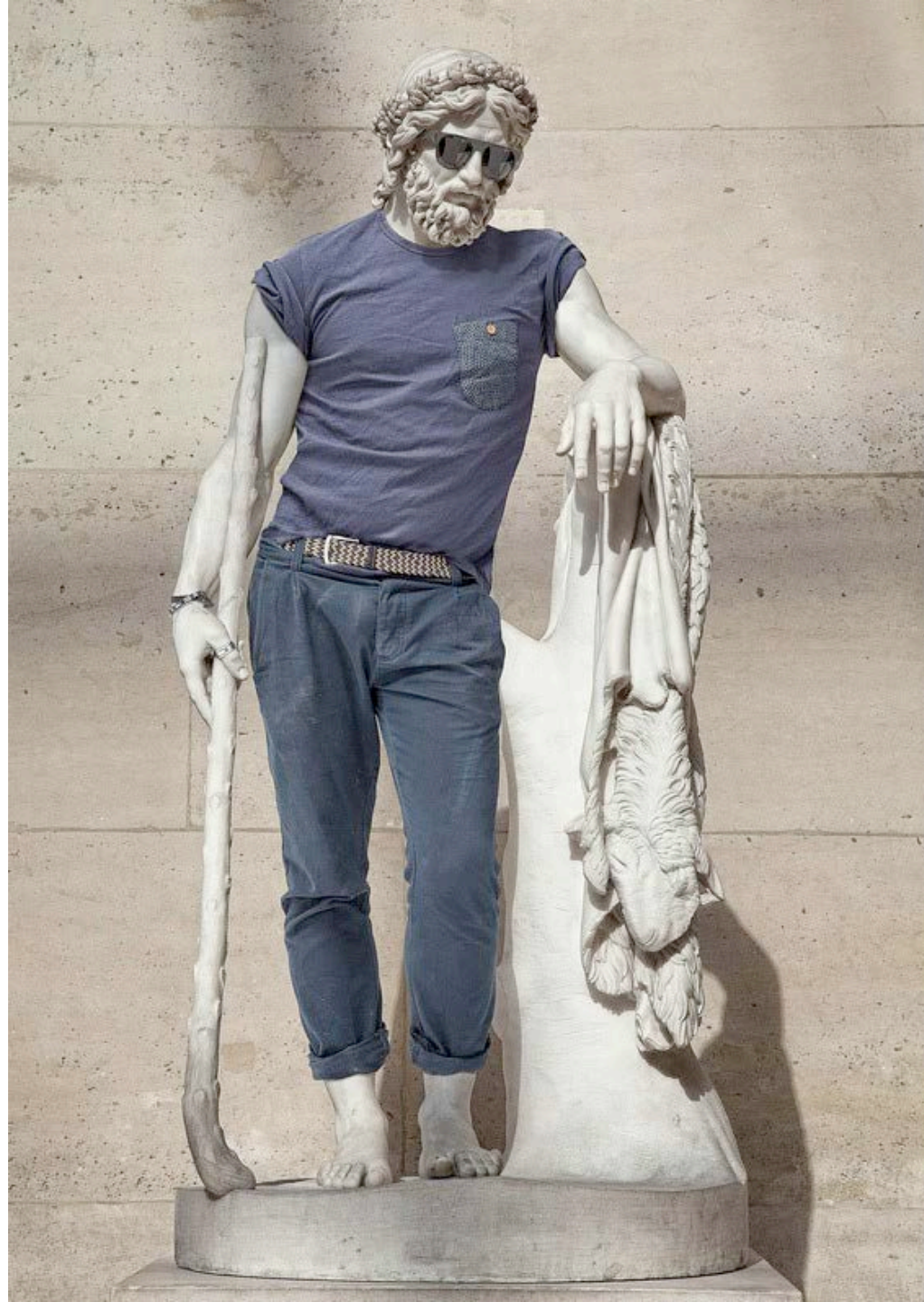
- Water scarcity
- Population migration
- Dispute related to herders water and pasture
- Noise, vibration, dust (decrease of herders income)
- Increase in transport vehicles

# Main challenges

- Air, water, soil and occupational health still taking prominence (proximal).
- Data on health indicators of all kinds is limited or unavailable.
- No separate chapter on HIA in the EIA manual.













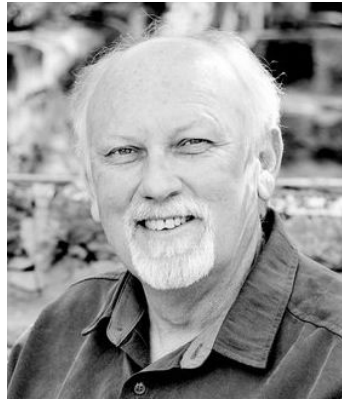




## Why use the old cart?



- A starting point that has imbedded structures already.
- Doing your job differently, instead of doing a different job.
- Clear mandate to engage communities.
- Opportunities for many people to get involved.







*Thank you!*

[davisonc@queensu.ca](mailto:davisonc@queensu.ca)