

From SEA to SA

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Three premises

- EIA as first generation process – well established, widely adopted
- SEA as second generation process – more diversified, limited take up, new international legal instruments
- SA as emerging third generation process – increasing attention and experimentation

Seven conditions precedent

- Keeping the fundamentals -- maintain robust and systematic approach to environmental assessment
- Complementary approach to economic and social assessment
- Establish triple bottom lines by reference to explicit sustainability criteria

Conditions precedent (cont)

- Clarify the trade-offs at stake (rather than searching for methodological fixes)
- On the environment side, this means – maintaining resource systems rather than just minimizing impacts
- Start and learn by doing
- Be pragmatic – approach should be proportional, reasonable and defensible