



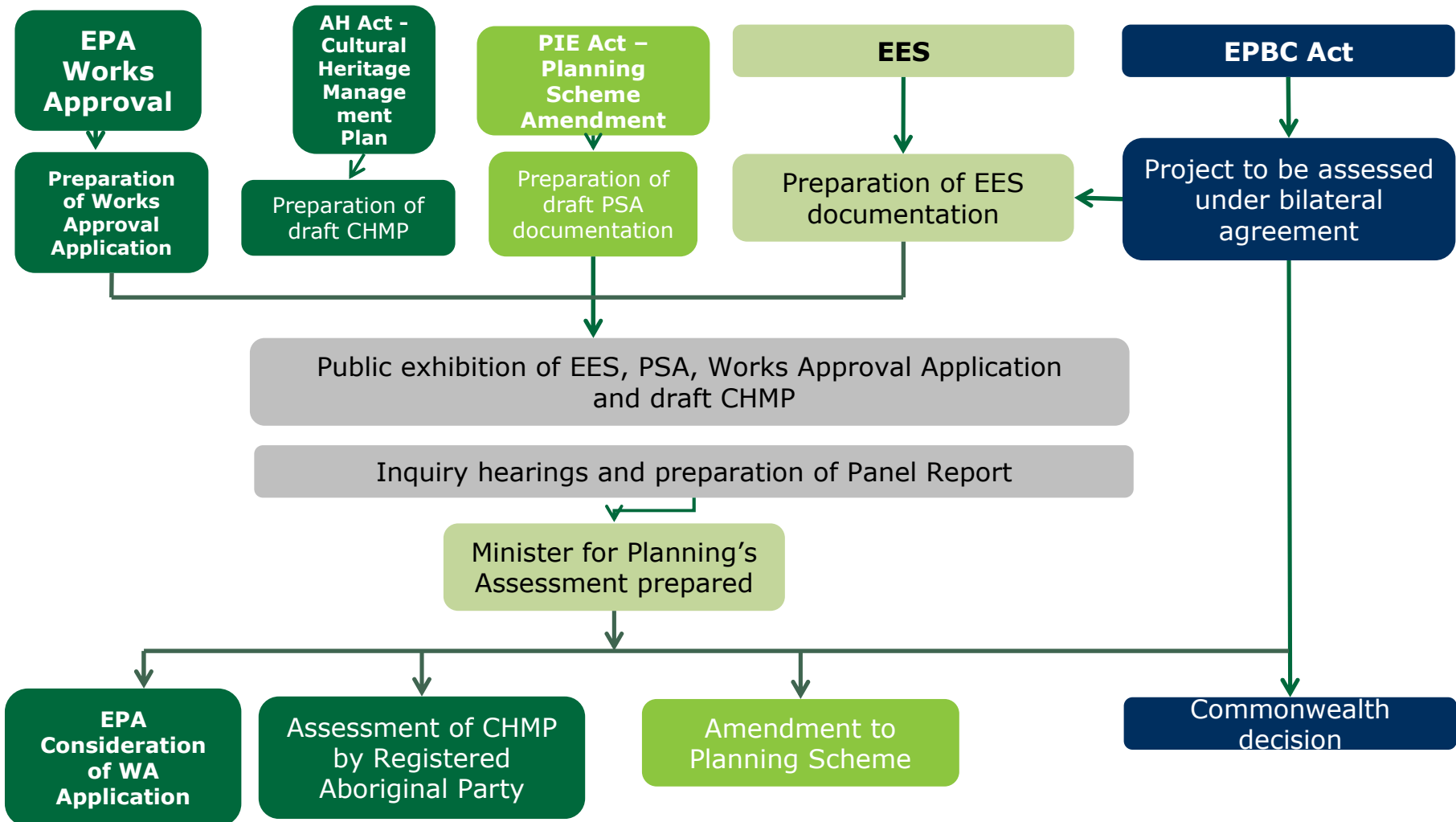
# **Tips and Tricks: Best Practice in Environment Effects Statements EIA Practitioner Perspective**



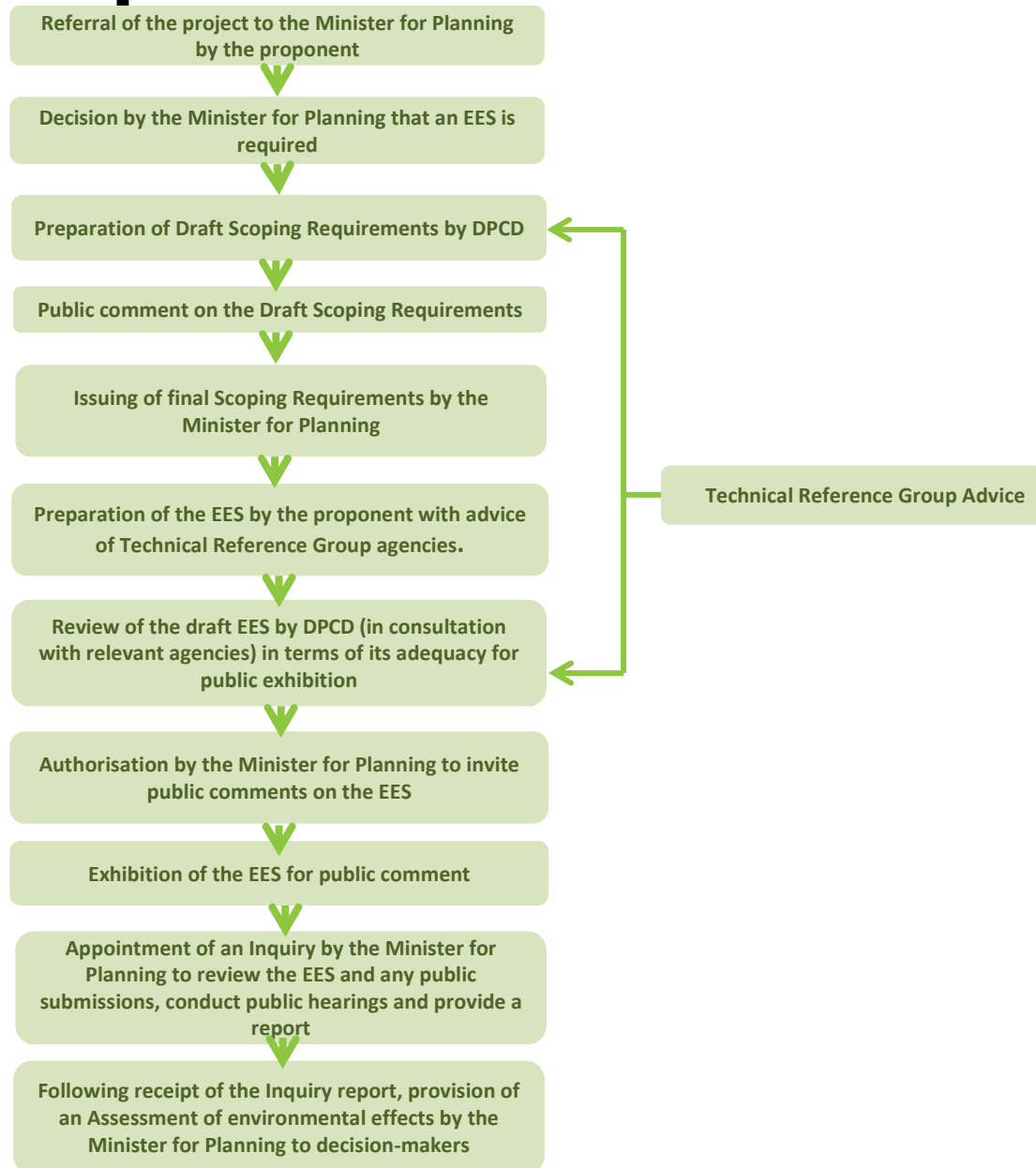
**GHD Environment**

**Mark Tansley**  
Service Line Leader – EIA & Approvals

# Typical approvals process



# Key steps of EES process



# Typical specialist investigations

- Air Quality
- Cultural Heritage
- Economic
- Flora & Fauna
- Geology & Soils
- Groundwater
- Noise
- Planning & Land Use
- Social
- Surface Water
- Transport
- Visual & Landscape



## **Role of EIA practitioners**

- Ensure EES Scoping Requirements addressed
- Coordinate stakeholder and community engagement
- Prepare briefs for specialist studies and coordinate specialist studies
- Draw links between specialist disciplines
- Ensure adequate information is available on project activities to properly predict and assess potential impacts
- Facilitate assessment of alternatives
- Facilitate environmental risk assessment
- Ensure all impacts identified and evaluated, including direct, indirect, consequential, cumulative and hence beyond single discipline
- Identify opportunities to avoid, minimise, mitigate or offset impacts
- Review specialist reports
- Prepare main EES document



# Tips for EES Preparation

## Six Key Tips

- 1 Thoroughly understand both project objectives and components
  - Cannot assess impacts without understanding project
  - Ideally, project development and impact assessment is an iterative process
- 2 EIA practitioners need detailed knowledge of project locality and all interrelated components
  - Use systems-based approach
- 3 Meaningful and honest stakeholder and community engagement throughout the EES process is imperative
  - If you can get this right the process usually runs much more smoothly
  - If it is not carried out correctly it's a recipe for disaster
  - Never too much engagement
  - Keep DPCD and TRG informed and respond to advice.

# Tips for EES Preparation

## Six Key Tips

4. An environmental risk assessment should be used to prioritise impact assessment and assist development of management and mitigation measures
5. Promptly inform client of all issues which arise – avoid surprises
6. Environmental management and mitigation measures should preferably be performance based rather than design specific.
  - This allows for flexibility and innovation in project delivery.

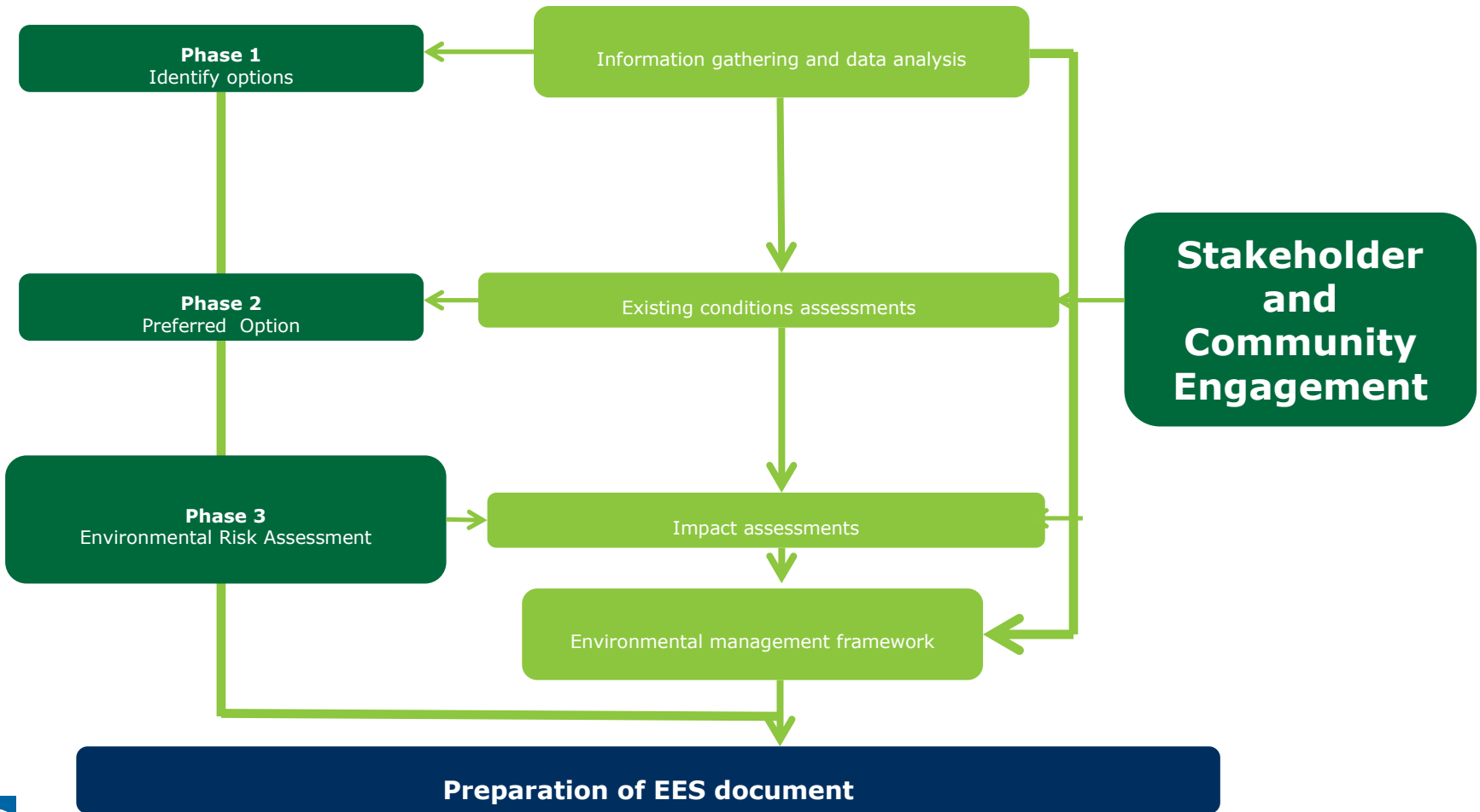


# Approach to EES preparation

**Project Development**

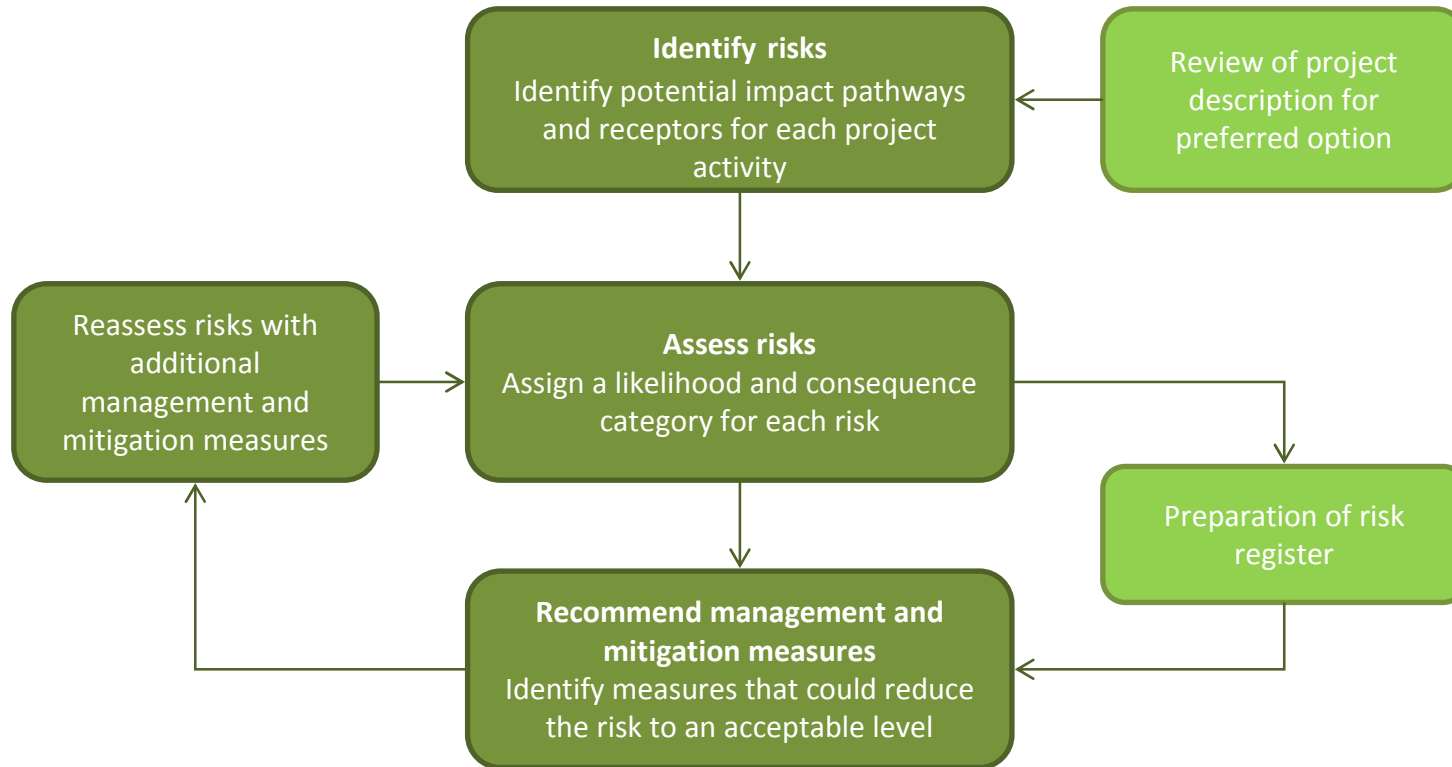
**Specialist Studies**

**Stakeholder Engagement**





# Environmental risk assessment process



# Risk assessment – consequence categories - example

Category	Aspect	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
<b>Biodiversity and Habitat</b>	EPBC - Listed Fauna Species	Population change not detectable for any fauna species listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	Removal of < 1% of the project area population for an EPBC-listed species.	Removal of > 1% of the project area population BUT < 1% of the regional area population for an EPBC-listed species.	Removal of > 1% of the regional population BUT < 1% of the State population for an EPBC-listed species.	Removal of > 1% of the State population for an EPBC-listed species

# Risk rating matrix

Likelihood	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Almost certain	Low	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely	Low	Medium	High	High	Extreme
Possible	Negligible	Low	Medium	High	High
Unlikely	Negligible	Low	Medium	Medium	High
Rare	Negligible	Negligible	Low	Medium	Medium



# Stakeholder and community engagement objectives

## Inform

*To provide balanced and objective information to facilitate understanding of the problems, alternatives, opportunities and solutions*

- Website
- Email updates
- State and local papers
- Information bulletins
- Factsheets
- Consultation summaries

## Consult

*To obtain and respond to feedback on route options and other aspects of the proposal.*

- Public displays
- Exhibition of findings and reports
- Feedback forms
- Submissions

## Involve

*To work together throughout the preparation of the EES to ensure public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.*

- Professional and Local Services Group
- Individual and small group advisory discussions
- Direct responses to queries

## Social research

*To improve social research and consultation outcomes by sharing information*

- Review of demographic data
- Literature and policy review
- Community profiles
- Stakeholder interviews
- Household interviews

# Typical consultation milestones & activities





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