



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTORY ONLINE WORKSHOP

MORE EFFECTIVE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

MORE TOOLS FOR STRONGER ARGUMENT AND CLEARER WRITING

ONLINE WORKSHOPS

There is often much useful data in the large documents involved in Impact Assessment (IA) (or Assessment of Environmental Effects in New Zealand) and the final conclusions are often sensible. However, it can be difficult for readers to see how the data actually leads to the conclusions or supports the recommendations offered.

This workshop shares two sets of tools collectively called 'Organised Reasoning'. The first provide a structured sequence of steps to help organise your thinking and your argument. ('Argument' in this context means 'a series of reasons leading to a conclusion, targeted for a specific audience'). The second show how to better present arguments in the written text of your documents. Assessments are complex documents. Using the tools of argument can make them easier for audiences to understand—and easier for authors to write!

Organised reasoning provides a way to make assessments faster, cheaper, more transparent and more effective while reducing risk. These are particularly important benefits as governments look for ways to 'fast-track' development approvals as part of COVID-19 recovery.

The workshop will be held as four 3-hour online sessions over two weeks. The sessions are not webinars, but include a variety of presentations, interactive discussions, small group break out activities and breaks to ensure you remain fresh and attentive! Participation is limited to 15 participants per workshop to enhance interaction.

The workshop shows how IA documents contain common errors in their arguments and weaknesses in their writing. Participants will assemble evidence and reasoning for several different kinds of argument found in IAs. We practice steps, and introduce computer-based tools, that show how to bring improved arguments into technical report writing. We discuss how different organisations have already implemented these steps in their IA practice. Participants learn a revised approach to planning, preparing and writing that they can use immediately to write stronger cases in their IAs. You'll receive a handout documenting the main ideas, and access to an online refresher three months after the workshop.

WORKSHOP LEADER

Dr Glenn Brown has over 25 years of experience as an ecologist and educator specializing in environmental management. He has worked on environmental projects for industry, government and non-governmental organisations in Canada and other countries. He teaches courses on Ecosystem Science and Management and on Analytical Thinking and Communications in the Master's program in Environment and Management at Royal Roads University in British Columbia and works as an independent consultant. He has delivered courses on 'Organised Reasoning' at International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) conferences in Florence, Durban and Brisbane. He also provided the course through the IAIA affiliate in Western Canada, EIANZ in Australia and New Zealand, and in Iceland and China.

More information about Glenn is at www.glennbrown.ca

WORKSHOP DATES AND REGISTRATION

To register, go to <https://www.eianz.org/events>
NZAIA and IAIA members (who are not EIANZ members) should contact the EIANZ office (office@eianz.org) to register at member prices.

WORKSHOP 6

Session Dates	Tuesday 22 September Thursday 24 September Tuesday 29 September Thursday 1st October
Times	10.00 am – 1.00 pm Australian Eastern Standard Time

WORKSHOP 7

Session Dates	Tuesday 10 November Thursday 12 November Tuesday 17 November Thursday 19 November
Times	10.00 am - 1.00 pm Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time

COST

\$295 (AUD)	EIANZ, IAIA and NZAIA members
\$395 (AUD)	Non-members