

Social Impact Assessment Regulation

Nearly four decades passed the time of the life of Social Impact Assessment which is called (ETA) in Iran. ETA is a novel knowledge and research method, which faces numerous challenges in its development in Iran. One of the challenging development and for its goals to come through, ETA considers the quality of studies that can be achieved under the title of ETA. The social research history witnessed a massive theoretical and methodological standards of social studies which have not been observed yet. ETA is also not an exception to that principle, because basically it is expected to fulfill practical purposes, so that its possible shortcomings will be revealed very soon. If the quality of ETA is applied by all the researches, it will get an opportunity to prove its efficacy. The Social Impact Assessment studies will estimate the social impacts of the policies, programs and projects resulting from their implementation, it will also study the social conditions of successful implementation of developmental measurements and manage the negative and positive effects. Previously the studies of this type have been conducted in the Ministry of Petroleum and Ministry of Energy in Iran. Tehran Municipality also based on following tangible and non tangible social consequences of development projects on Tehran citizens during the past two decades, has sensed the lack of such studies on its policies, programs, projects and development projects. In response to this need, it was in ۲۰۰۸ that the City Council of Tehran by ratification, made it obligatory for Tehran municipality to conduct feasible, technical, economic, environmental and cultural studies for all projects in the city. According to the Notification Agenda No. ۸۷۱۰/۹۸۰۳۰, Date ۴/۳۱/۲۰۰۹, all parts of Tehran municipality are responsible to conduct a Social Impact Assessment studies for all projects and also municipal projects which were carried out before, during and after their implementation. According to the aforementioned notification, it has been defined duties for the scientific approval and observation of social assessment and its process for all parts of municipality including Social and Cultural Studies Office, which must be codified and imparted by an annual social impact assessment program.

The senior management of Tehran municipality, approval and propagation of this view, is the cause to make the social and cultural studies office as a representative of social and cultural deputy municipality of Tehran to be introduced and authorized as a custodian of the social impact assessment urban projects which is meant as Social Assessment by the implementation concept of Tehran Municipality. Given the

novelty of this type of study in Iran, Social and Cultural Studies Office through a number of prominent educators has started the Applied Comparative Studies in the field of Social Impact Assessment and which its achievements are provided in terms of Social Impact Assessment Workshop for researchers, writings and publishing books. Primary purpose of municipal Social Impact Assessment urban projects is to increase the quality level of urban projects and ultimately improve the quality of life of citizens. This Regulation purposefully is to follow the imagery implementation process and acquisition operation of Social Impact Assessment in the structure of municipality of Tehran , and by Specialization during the course of the research process in this area, to facilitate research direction to the researchers interested in the field of Social Impact Assessment .In this Regulation, it has been put into effort that the implementing mechanism of social impact assessment should be clearly provided to the managers, experts, observers, and researchers. The series, entitled Social Impact Assessment Regulations has been written in ٦ separate chapters.

Reminder:

The Social Impact Assessment studies can be separated into two approaches.١ - The World Bank approach ٢ - The international Association's approach to social impact assessment. These two approaches somehow looking differently to the Social Impact Assessment studies. One of these occasions is the procedures for fulfillment of social impact assessment studies, as The World Bank recognizes the study of Social Impact Assessment, merely before the entitled project and again it considers the study during and after completion of the projects in the form of social assessment or social evaluation. The World Bank's approach to the requirements of Social Assessment and social evaluation studies is done differently during the project and after the project completion from the one before the implementation of the project for Social Impact Assessment.

While the international community allow for a little difference between Social Impact Assessment studies before, during and after the completion of projects, it considers the so called studies in all three phases without separate requirements. These regulations are mostly provided and relied on Social Impact Assessment before the implementation. However, by applying some limited changes to other types of social impact assessment, it can also be used (during and after) the implementation. Certainly, this regulation requires measures to be taken to control and review the development processes of Social Impact Assessment in the municipality of Tehran. And in order to perform a more accurate impact

assessment studies during and after the projects are exploited, it is required in future another regulation should be developed separately.

The overall goal of the Regulation

Regulating, targeting, the improvement of administrative procedures and oversight of ETA studies.

The specific objectives:

۱ - Standardization of the activities on Social Impact Assessment studies in Municipality of Tehran.

۲ - Specification of the submission route, implementation and control of Social Impact Assessment studies.

۳ - Determine the rights and duties of the various departments associated with studies.

Definition of the terms:

Social Assessment: It means outputs that are involved in areas in effect of the implementation of developmental measures, including of policies, programs and plans on the natural and social environment. Social impacts are generally involved in areas of works, accommodation, leisure; social, psychological conditions and public quality of life.

Social Impact Assessment

Social Impact Assessment is an Interdisciplinary research which is focused on the social science that endeavors to participate in all phases of planning, implementation and evaluation of developmental results including of policies, programs and plans and provides a reliable recognition towards the changes these processes will bring in the social and natural environment and estimate the social impacts on the projects due to their implementation, before, during the implementation and after the implementation. ETA also endeavors to study the social conditions of the successful developmental processes that are to provide and encourage people to participate, predict the negative effects of such measures and provide solutions for managing the positive and negative impacts. The social Impact Assessment in this regulation briefly called "ETA".

The objectives of Social Impact Studies

to meet a balanced environment and tailored ecologically social, cultural, economic and promotion of authority and social development, Capacity building and the development of social capital, demonstrating the efficiency and effectiveness ,displaying the strengths and weakness issues of the urban projects and its achievements, gathering information to improve the planning process, Determine the spheres under the influence of Plans and projects, Understanding the social and cultural characteristics of the communities in the projects area, i.e before the project implementation, understanding the attitudes of citizens towards programs and projects , achieving the levels and degrees of collaboration and citizen participation with the project and initiative executors in the construction and exploitation process , analyze the possible effects of the project on the social and cultural aspects of the city and citizens , maintaining and increasing citizen compliance with the urban environment in the project area , providing integrity in the level of home , locality , area and region under the scope of the projects and providing practical solutions to reduce disorders in the life of the citizens ,are the main objectives that ETA studies is considered .

Social assessment: A set of recommendations and guidelines for the positive and negative management of social impact of any developmental measurement is called Social Assessment.

Assessment and Evaluation: The observation evaluation to the degree of achievement measurement of a program is the policy or project for the predetermined goals. But observation assessment to the real impacts is a project, policy or program, which is achieved following its implementation.