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Integrate Strategic Environmental Assessment In Local Land Use Plans: Thinking Globally, Acting Locally:

The lack of early integration with the planning and decision-making process has been a major problem in environmental assessment. Traditional project-based environmental impact assessment has inadequate incentives and capacities to incorporate critical environmental impacts at a broader temporal or spatial scale. The objective of this study is to examine the ability of local land use plans to integrate and implement the key Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) principles. This book focuses on increasing the understanding of how and where to integrate the SEA into the local land use planning. This study develops a protocol with measurable indicators to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of integrating strategic environmental assessment into local comprehensive land use plans. The findings of this book extend established planning theories and SEA practice by incorporating strategic environmental considerations into the existing framework of what constitutes a high quality local land use plan and suggest ways to improve local environmental plan quality.

About the Author Zhenhong Tang is an assistant professor in the Community and Regional Planning Program at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His research interests focus on environmental planning, land use planning, environmental impact assessment, environmental hazards, climate change, GIS analysis and research methods.