



# 4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT WORLD CAFÉ: INDIRECT IMPACTS

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Location · Month Year



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

# INDIRECT IMPACTS

- Impacts that result in whole or in part from the chain of causation caused by an activity, but are not the first link in that chain.
- Indirect impacts include impacts “later in time or farther in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable” (40 CFR 1508.8(b))
- May include “growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.” (40 CFR 1508.8)



# EXAMPLES OF INDIRECT IMPACTS

- Improving women's education → indirectly lowers birthrates
- Regulatory and policy changes to facilitate investment in the power sector → indirectly may lead to (1) higher economic growth and (2) contamination in surface waters
- Creation of small reservoirs for hydropower/ irrigation → indirectly may lead higher local rates of malaria or other mosquito-borne disease
- Investment in cold stores/cold chain → may indirectly increase demand and lead to higher rates of illegal fishing
- Market access roads rehabilitation → May lead to increased forest conversion & illegal extraction of timber, charcoal & bush meat via improved access roads



# KEY NOTES ON INDIRECT IMPACTS

- Path of cause and effect (“chain of causation”) may be complex— use available tools, such as conceptual models
- May be “later in time or farther in distance”
- Criteria for including indirect impacts in analysis is that they be reasonably foreseeable given an expert understanding of the affected environmental, social, and economic systems

