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SCREENING

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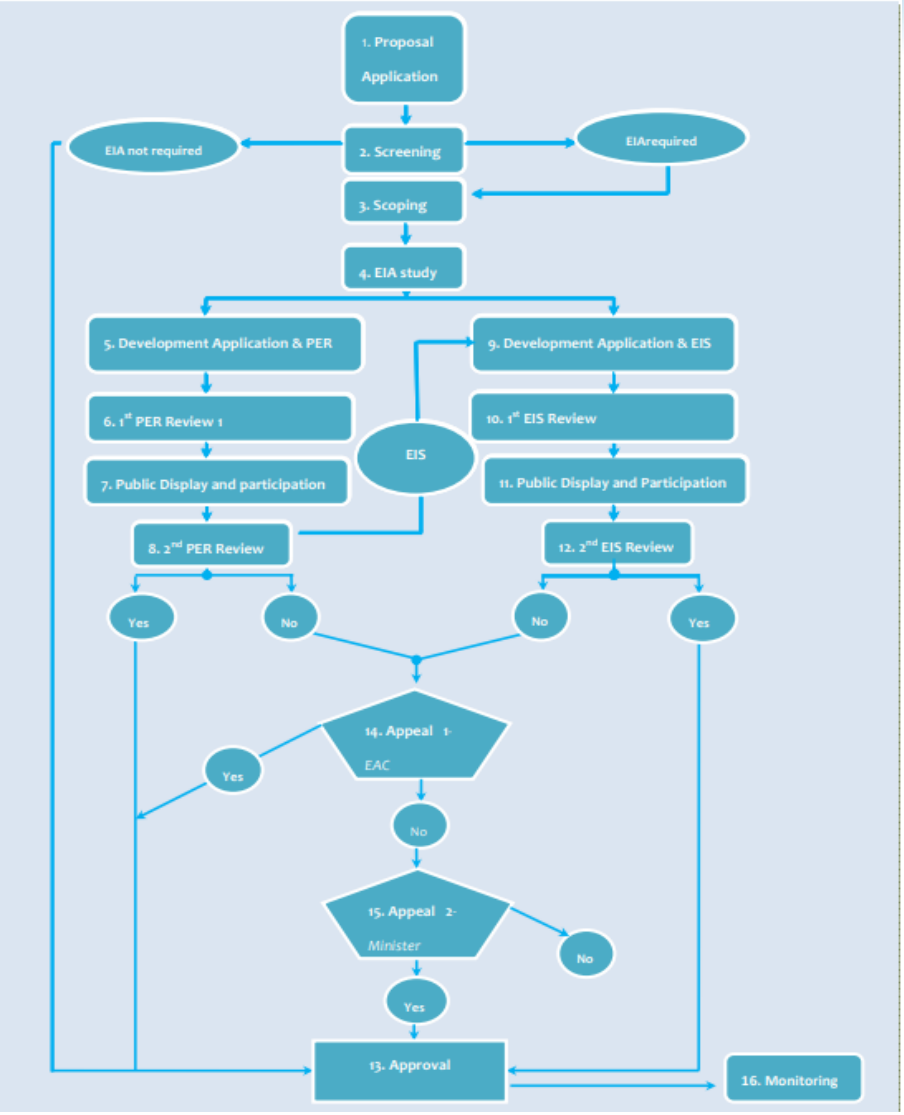
- Is the initial step in the EIA process
- The process in which a development proposal is decided on whether: (i) Exempted from the EIA requirements (ii) Require an environmental permit/development consent (iii) Require an Initial Environment Examination (IEE) or PER (iv) Require a full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) or EIS
- In most Donor's Safeguards requirements (WB, ADB etc), it is a process to determine the appropriate safeguards instrument for the proposal according to their impact categorization. (ESMF, ESMP, ESIA ETC.)



Linking Screening to the Solomon Islands Environment Act 1998

Applications for approval

17. (1) Any developer who proposes to carry out any Applications for prescribed development in Solomon Islands shall make application to the Director in such form as may be approved by the Minister.

(2) On receipt of the application referred to in subsection (1), the Director shall within fifteen working days of such receipt advise the developer to submit -

(a) a development application accompanied by a public environmental report, together with any additional requirements as notified by the Director; or

(b) a development application accompanied by an environmental impact statement, together with any additional requirements as notified by the Director.

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Screening can be undertaken through:

- Using the information provided in the proposal application
- Site visit to the proposal site
- Consultation
- Using screening tool kits (checklist, tools)

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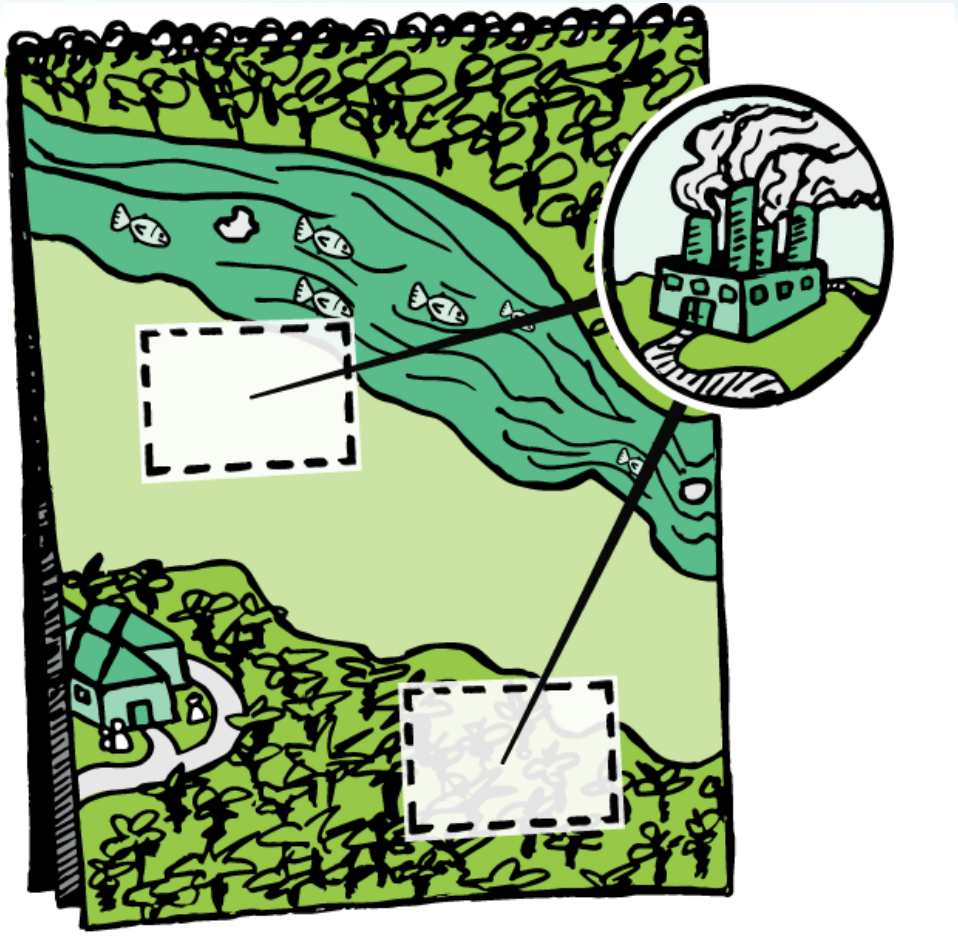
What does screening involve

- Evaluating a development size, features, physical location, land status, social and cultural setting, relevant legal policy matters.
- Considering potential impacts (detrimental, beneficial), significance, do they need further investigation? Will they require management?

Primarily, it is a desk-based exercise but it is important to be familiar with location, surrounding and local issues.



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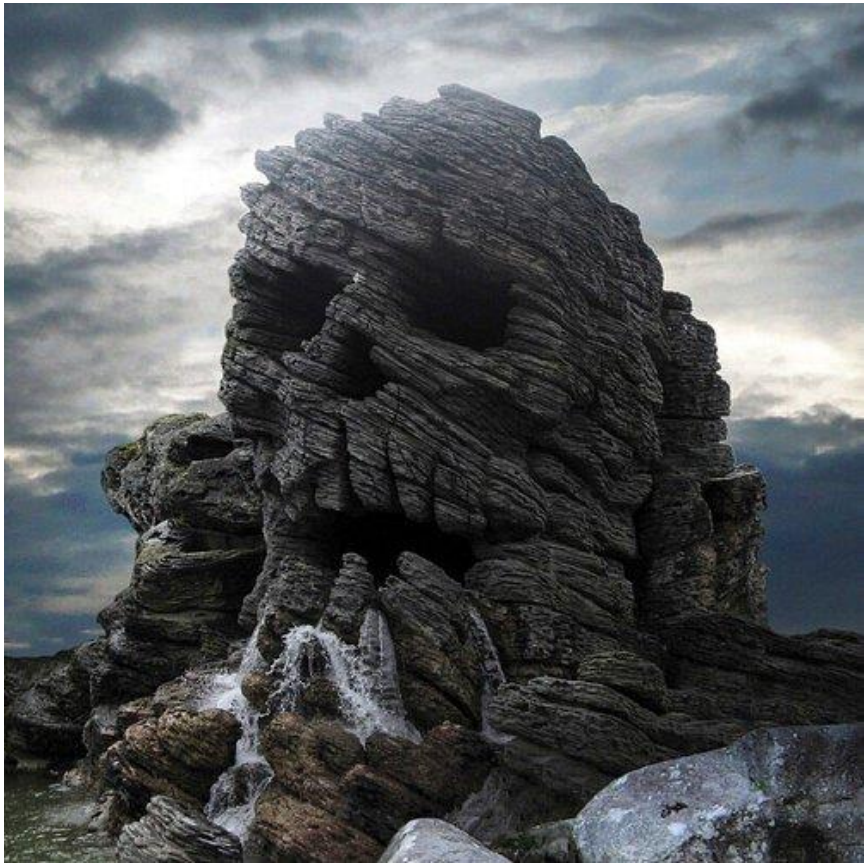
Environmental impact matters to consider

- Serious or irreversible
- Public health and safety
- Traditional lifestyles, cultural practices, livelihoods
- Cultural, natural and historic resources
- Natural function of ecosystem
- Protected species and habitat
- Affect of climate change, variability and extreme weather
- Precautionary principles (when there are uncertainties)

Screening report with recommendation(s) for informed decision on the proposal is often the output.



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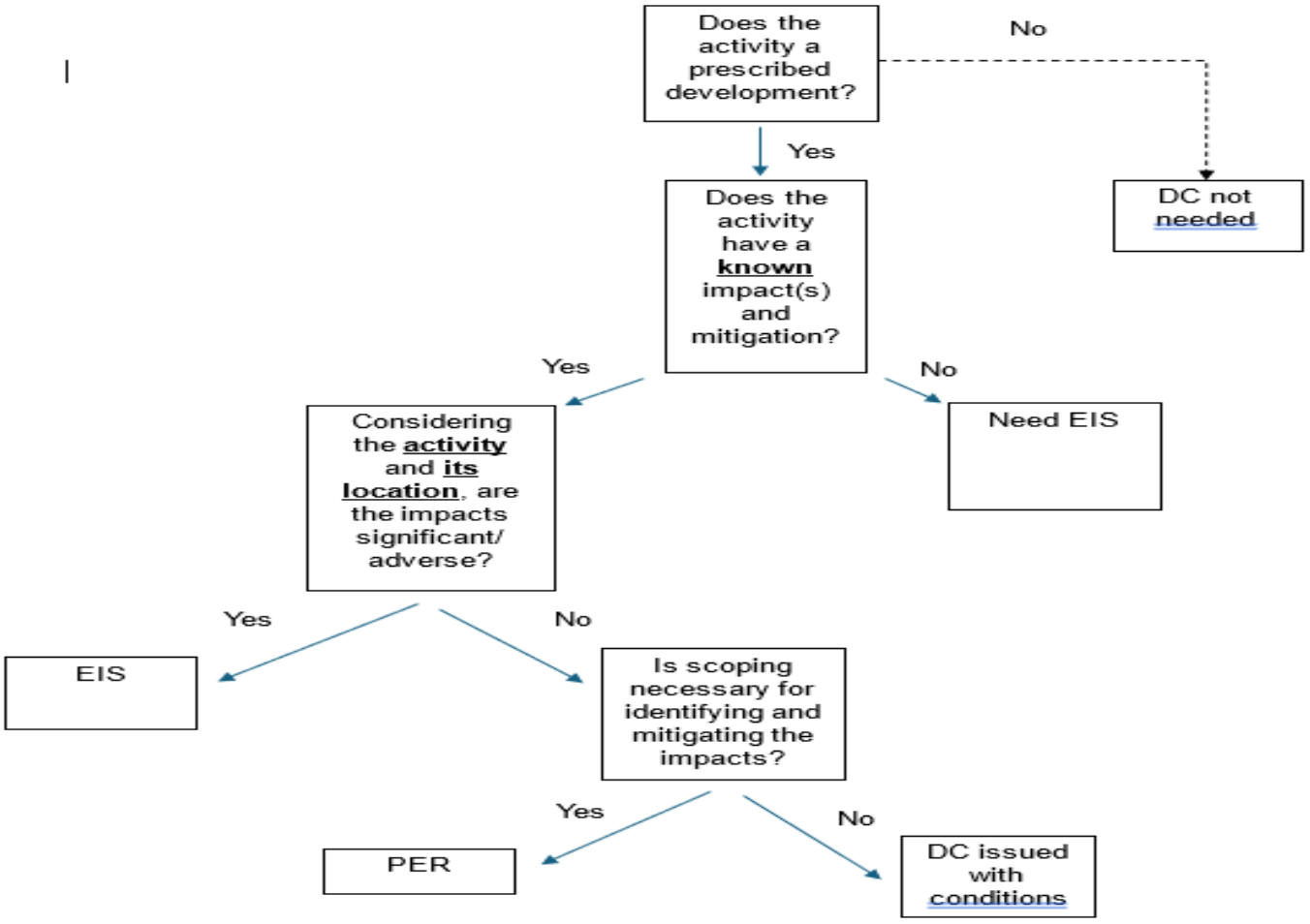
Generic Decision tree



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THANK YOU