

Section B: Definitions

- **Environment:** means the surroundings within which humans exist and that are made up of (i) the land, water and atmosphere of the earth, (ii) micro-organisms, plant and animal life, (iii) any part or combination of (i) and (ii) and the interrelationships among and between them, and (iv) the physical, chemical, aesthetic and cultural properties and conditions of the foregoing that influence human health and well-being.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment:** means a systematic process of identifying, assessing and reporting environmental impacts associated with a proposed activity.
- **Environmental Management Framework:** means a study of the biophysical and socio-cultural systems of a geographically defined area to reveal where specific land uses may best be practiced and to offer performance standards for maintaining appropriate use of such land.
- **Environmental management programme:** means a programme required in terms of section 24N of NEMA, including information on any proposed management and mitigation measures that will be undertaken to address the environmental impacts that have been identified, a detailed description of the aspects of the activity that are covered by the environmental management programme and information in respect of the mechanisms proposed for monitoring compliance with the environmental management programme and for reporting on the compliance, amongst others.
- **Integrated Management Plan (IMP):** means a document which contains a high level assessment of the different level of environmental sensitivities on the proposed site as well as opportunities and constraints that the environment places on development. The IMP provides recommendations on procedures for mitigating and monitoring environmental impacts associated with the proposed activity. The IMP also contains environmental principles which the project proponent needs to achieve in order to reduce or eliminate negative impacts on the environment. The IMP will include relevant programmes and permitting requirements associated with the proposed activity such as alien invasive management programme, a protected areas management programme and a long term research programme amongst others. The IMP document should be used throughout the project life cycle, and therefore it should be regularly updated to remain aligned with the project as it progresses from construction to operation and, finally to decommissioning.
- **Interested and affected party:** means any person, group of persons or organisation interested in or affected by such operation or activity; and any organ of state that may have jurisdiction over any aspect of the operation or activity as contemplated in section 24(4)(a)(v) of South Africa's National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) [Act No. 107 of 1998].
- **MeerKAT:** means the precursor to the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) telescope, and is composed of an array of 64 interlinked receptors (a receptor is the complete antenna structure, with the main reflector, sub-reflector and all receivers, digitisers and other electronics installed). MeerKAT will be integrated into the mid-frequency component of SKA Phase 1.
- **National Development Plan:** means the national plan that aims to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality by 2030 drawing on the energies of its people, growing an inclusive economy, building capabilities, enhancing the capacity of the state, and promoting leadership and partnerships throughout society.
- **Organ of state:** means organ of state as defined in the Constitution.
- **Public Participation Process:** means a process by which potential interested and affected parties are given opportunity to comment on, or raise issues relevant to, the application in relation to the assessment of the environmental impact of any application for an environmental authorisation.
- **Radio telescope:** means an instrument used to detect radio emissions from the sky, whether from natural celestial objects or from artificial satellites.
- **Registered interested and affected party:** means an interested and affected party whose name is recorded in the register opened for that application in terms of regulation 42, in relation to an application.
- **Special Advisory Committee (SAC):** Special Advisory Committee is an expert group, composed of various government and association representatives, which provides inputs into the SEA process in order to assist the project team. The concept of having an expert group as part of the SEA process was developed for the SIPs SEAs. The group will provide inputs on technical aspects of the SEA and assist in the streamlining of the environmental authorisation process. The role of the SAC members is to (i) oversee and guide the development of the SEA for the SKA phase 1, (ii) provide DEA with the necessary spatial data and information to support the SEA process, (iii) ensure that the mandates of all the identified Departments and institutions are considered through the development of the SKA phase 1 South Africa SEA; and (iv) provide

DEA with inputs into the streamlining of the requirements in terms of permits and/or licenses for further phases of the SKA project. The following institutions are represented on the SAC:

- Agri Northern Cape
- Astronomical Society of Southern Africa
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Chamber of mines
- Council for Geoscience
- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Independent Communications Authority of South Africa
- National Department of Defence
- National Department of Energy
- National Department of Environmental Affairs
- National Department of Rural Development & Land Reform
- National Department of Science and Technology
- National Department of Trade and Industry
- National Department of Water & Sanitation
- National Department of Telecommunication & Postal Services
- National Heritage Council of South Africa
- Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
- South African Astronomical Observatory
- South African Environmental Observation Network
- South African Heritage Resources Agency
- South African National Parks
- South African National Road Agency Limited

- **Square Kilometre Array (SKA):** means the radio telescope project that will be built in Australia and South Africa. It will have a total collecting area of approximately one square kilometre. The SKA will be the world's largest and most sensitive radio telescope, about 50 times more sensitive, and up to 10 000 faster (in terms of its survey speed) than the best radio telescopes of today. It will be powerful enough to sense radio waves from objects millions or even billions of light years away from Earth. The SKA will be made up of three different kinds of antennas (receivers) - designed to work at different frequencies (i) Dishes - looking more or less like a DSTV antenna, but much bigger - about 13 m in diameter, (ii) Huge, flat disk-shaped antennas - about 60 m wide, (iii) Small, upright radio antennas - about 1,5 m high. Once complete, the thousands of SKA dishes and other types of radio receivers will work together as one gigantic, virtual instrument.
- **Stakeholders:** means all interested and affected parties including government authorities, proponent, environmental practitioners, academics, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations and business.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** means a process during which the interested and affected stakeholders are given opportunity to comment on, or raise issues relevant to the proposed development and the environmental assessment conducted to evaluate the opportunities and constraints of the proposed development.
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA):** means a systematic decision support process, aiming to ensure that environmental and possibly other sustainability aspects are considered effectively in policy, plan and programme making. By focusing on higher-level processes, SEA compliments and provides a framework for project-level EIA. Another distinction that has been identified between EIA and SEA is that EIA is used to evaluate the impacts of development on the environment, whereas SEA aims to evaluate the opportunities and constraints that the environment places on development.
- **Strategic Integrated Projects:** means catalytic projects that can fast-track development and growth, aligned with key cross-cutting areas, namely human settlement planning and skills development, including social and economic infrastructure across all nine provinces.
- **Sustainable development:** means the integration of social, economic and environmental factors into planning, implementation and decision-making so as to ensure that development serves present and future generations.
- **Visual absorption capacity:** means the ability of the landscape to accept new or additional human intervention without serious alterations to the character and visual quality.
- **Visual quality:** means the qualitative evaluation of the composition of landscape components and their influence on scenic attractiveness.