

## Saudi Arabia

**Country:** [Saudi Arabia](#) [1]

**EIA Law:** General Environmental Law, 2001

**EIA Regulations:** General Environmental Rules for Implementation

**Regulations Link:** [Link](#) [2]

**EIA Guidelines or Other Guidance:** Environmental Protection Standards - Appendix 1 to General Environmental Rules

**Guidance Link:** [Link](#) [2]

**Projects Requiring EIA:** Government projects

Private Projects

**Abridged Assessments:** Yes

**Assessment Detail:** First and second category projects do not require preparation of a full EIA. This entails submission of an initial environmental assessment form, at a minimum, and possible preparation of simple environmental reports. Appendix No. 1.3

**Best Practices in Lieu of EIA:** No

**Who Conducts Screening:** Government

**Who Conducts Screening Detail:** The licensing agency shall classify the project for which a license is being sought in accordance with the industrial and development project classification guide (Appendix No. 2.1) issued by the Competent Agency. Appendix No. 1.1

**Criteria for Screening:** List or appendix of project or activity types

Proposed project or activity may cause significant environmental impact

**Criteria for Screening Detail:** There are guidelines for classifying proposed projects into one of three categories. The guidelines include lists of projects that are anticipated to have "limited" (Category 1), "significant" (Category 2), or "serious" (Category 3) impacts. See Appendix 2 "Guidelines For Classification of Industrial And Development Projects"

**Who Prepares EIA:** Government (with or without contractor)

**Who Prepares EIA Detail:** "The agency in charge of implementation of the project shall be responsible for conducting the EIA studies in accordance with the environmental fundamentals and standards specified by the Competent Agency in the Rules for Implementation. General Env'tl Law, Art. 5

**EIA Contractor Qualifications:** Yes

**EIA Contractor Qualification Detail:** EIAs must be prepared by a qualified consulting office or research center. Appendix 1.3. There appears to be a general accreditation process for professionals providing environmental services, including preparation of EIA documents. See Appendix 3

**Conflict of Interest:** No

**Terms of Reference:** No

**Days for Decision Maker Review:** Not specified

**Written Decision:** Yes

**Written Decision Detail:** "The agency in-charge of implementing the project shall issue necessary notification which shall include the Competent Agency approval statement on the EIA of the project." Appendix 1.5

**Authority to Impose Conditions:** Yes

**Authority to Impose Conditions Details:** "The owner of the project shall give consent that he will implement all the required conditions attached, and be obliged when implementing the project with all environmental standards, criteria, and procedures issued by the Competent Agency." Appendix 1.5

**Expiry of Decision:** Indefinite

**Financial Assurances or Bond:** No

**Interdisciplinary Team:** No

**Range of Alternatives:** Yes

**Range of Alternatives Detail:** See Appendix 2, No. 2.4 (describing content of EIA)

**No Action Alternative:** No

**No Action Alternative Detail:** See Appendix 2, No. 2.4 (describing content of EIA)

**Type(s) of Impact Analysis:** Direct environmental impacts

Other

**Mitigation:** Yes

**Mitigation Detail:** "Summary of The Significant Impacts After Mitigation Processes" is required as part of the EIA. Appendix 2.4, No. 6

**Monitoring Plans:** No  
**Draft EIA Available:** No  
**Public Notice of Final EIA:** No  
**Final EIA Available:** No  
**Final EIA Locations:** Not Available  
**Availability of Reference Studies:** No  
**Public Notice of Final Decision:** No  
**Public Scoping:** No  
**Public Review of TOR:** No  
**Public Meetings:** No  
**Public Comments on Final EIA:** No  
**Response to Public Comments:** No  
**Facilitation of Public Participation:** No  
**Project Monitoring:** No  
**Enforceability of EIA:** No  
**Enforceability of Permit:** No

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**Source URL:** <https://elaw.org/eialaw/saudi-arabia>

### **Links**

[1] <https://elaw.org/countries-and-regions/saudi-arabia>

[2] <https://www.elaw.org/saudi-arabia-environmental-impact-assessment-laws-and-regulations>