



# THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN AFRICA

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**MAIN EXAMINATION**

**SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2019 TRIMESTER**

**FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**SPECIAL EXAMINATION**

**REGULAR PROGRAMME**

**MPM 509: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND AUDIT**

**Date: DECEMBER 2019**

**Duration: 3 Hours**

**INSTRUCTIONS: Answer ANY FOUR Questions**

- Q1. The government of Kenya has identified an investor in the Rice production industry who intends to establish a rice processing mill in the Ahero Irrigation Scheme, Kisumu County of Kenya. Apart from the rice mill, the investor will also provide infrastructure and social amenities in the Nyando River Delta region. In view of the socio-economic and environmental implications that may result due to the proposal, there has been public debate particularly on biodiversity loss and the livelihoods of the community in the region. Assuming that you are part of the EIA team of experts appointed to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment for this proposed project:
- a) Who would you consider to be the key stakeholder to participate in the EIA process? Give reasons for your answer **(5marks)**
  - b) Discuss the logical steps in the EIA process that your study team is likely to follow in order to achieve the task assigned to you. Justify the formation of the Interdisciplinary Team for this study. **(10marks)**
- Q2. a) Explain the following concepts;
- i) Biodiversity **(2marks)**
  - ii) Environmental conservation

- iii) **(2marks)**  
Sustainable development

- (2marks)**  
b) Adequately justify **three** core values on which the EIA processes are based

**(9marks)**

- Q3. a) Discuss the need for stakeholder involvement in the EIA process

**(9marks)**

- b) State six benefits of Strategic Environmental Assessment

**(6marks)**

- Q4. A few years ago, a foreign based company proposed a Petroleum mining site after years of exploration trials for the rural area in Turkana, Kenya. Because of the environmental implications that may result from the project, there was a serious public debate among the people of Kenya. Many residents from the project area favoured it because of the jobs and income it would bring to an area with over 90% unemployment while some residents especially the political class opposed this plan. Assuming that there are certain impacts not previously identified in the Environmental Impact Assessment that was carried out, a review is now preferred. As a project management expert, you have been enlisted on the EIA team of experts to conduct a review of the EIA for this project.

- a) What concerns would your EIA team envisage relating to the residents acceptance of or objection to the project? **(7marks)**  
b) What factors would you consider in justifying the significance of the Environmental Impact Assessment of the project? **(4marks)**  
c) Differentiate between screening and scoping in the EIA process **(4marks)**

- Q5. a) Explain the role of an environmental audit within an Environmental Management System

**(10marks)**

- b) Identify some the advantages and disadvantages associated with environmental audits? **(5 marks)**

Q6. a) What is an Environmental Impact Statement? Discuss briefly the contents of this document

**(7marks)**

b) Identify and explain critical variables that are considered during the Social Impact Assessment of projects before implementation **(8marks)**

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