



WEST COAST
Environmental Law

Gender-Based Analysis-Plus

Respectful Engagement for Equitable Outcomes

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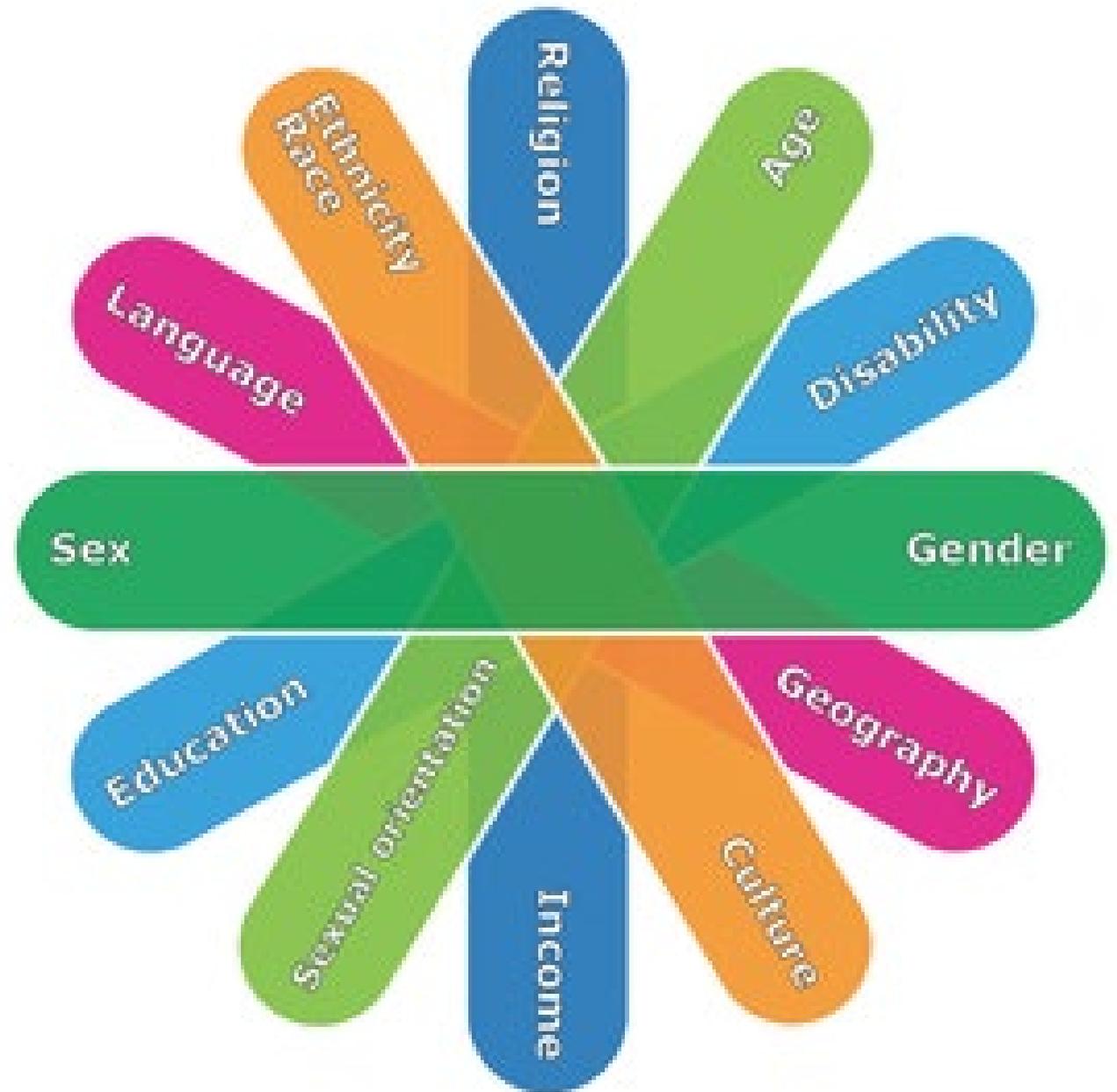


In this presentation

- What is GBA+?
- Why do GBA+?
- How projects affect people differently
- Making GBA+ count

What is GBA+?

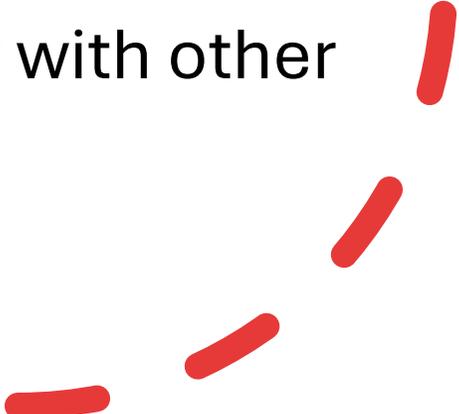
A lens for assessing how intersecting identity factors, including gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, age, and mental or physical disability impact how policies, plans, programs and decisions are experienced



Source: Government of Canada, [Policy on Gender-Based Analysis Plus: Applying an Intersectional Approach to Foster Inclusion and Address Inequities](#)



Why do GBA+ in EIA?

- Limitations of project-specific assessment
 - That said, EIA can be useful tool for addressing inequities
 - Planning focus
 - Alternatives assessment
 - Public engagement
 - Indigenous consultation
 - *Impact Assessment Act*: consider “intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors”
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Example: Open-pit gold mine

- Mine and mill, roads, transmission lines
- Lake → tailings pond
- 50 km from an Indigenous community
- 70 km from a non-Indigenous town
- 2,500 direct and indirect jobs





Distribution of the mine's effects

- GBA+ analysis shows likely:
 - Greater food insecurity
 - Loss of Indigenous hunting, fishing, gathering
 - Loss of opportunities for cultural practices
 - Housing price increases
 - Decreased availability of health care services
 - Intimate-partner violence
 - Increased teen pregnancy
 - Increases in STI rates
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Making GBA+ count



- Early & inclusive engagement
- Co-designed engagement
- Include Indigenous and community knowledges
- Respectful & culturally-safe engagement
- Accessible and appropriate information
- Appropriate timing & location of engagement
- Weave GBA+ throughout

Community- led assessment





Reviewing and analysing information

- Clearly set out assumptions, data and methods
- Abide by codes of conduct and respect protocols
- Identify community goals and objectives
- Explain how feedback has been incorporated
- Identify risks, gaps and uncertainties
- Respect data security and privacy issues
- Identify trade-offs



Conclusions

- GBA+ is an important and under-utilized EIA tool
- Must be done with sensitivity and care
- Start at regional and strategic assessment tiers



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Thank you!

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