



Programme Evaluation, Economics and the
Environment



RPA
Risk & Policy Analysts

About us

Risk & Policy Analysts Limited (RPA) is an award winning, independent consultancy with an established reputation for proven expertise in the fields of environment, economics, chemicals, EU policy and sustainability.

We provide multi-disciplinary, innovative, expert advice and strategic analysis skills, assisting both public and private sector decision makers in the development and implementation of sustainable policies. We offer a broad range of services and utilise a variety of skills in order to produce high quality, tailor-made outputs.

RPA has a competitive advantage in several fields including: flooding, chemicals, raw materials, forestry, ecosystem services, common market policies, EU Policy and access to the EU market. Having completed almost a thousand projects so far, our experience encompasses a diverse range of sectors for national governments and bilateral/multilateral organisations, industry associations and private companies.

We pride ourselves on our leading reputation, our expert multinational team, our uniquely high standards, and our resolute ethics, all of which have cemented our strong relationships with clients which include the European Commission, UK Government & major international companies.

The RPA team consists of an established, **multi-national group of highly experienced and qualified staff**, able to communicate fluently in several international languages, including French, Spanish, Portuguese and Punjabi. Our team has experience in carrying out projects for various international agencies including UN agencies (UNICEF, UNIDO, UNEP, UNDP, WFP), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the OECD, the EU Commission, the Department for International Development (DFID) and International NGOs.

30+

Members of staff with a broad range of experience and qualifications

11

Languages spoken fluently, including French, Spanish and Portuguese

900+

The number of projects we have completed over the past 20 years

Some of our clients include:



Highly regarded for our superior services by clients,
contemporaries and colleagues alike

Key Strengths

Our key strengths in the context of international development are as follows:

- **Economic analysis:** we are experts in delivering impact assessments, cost-benefit analyses, socio-economic analyses, cost effectiveness analyses and multi-criteria analyses. Our experience covers a diverse range of sectors (including water resources, waste, environment, chemicals, construction, footwear, raw materials and transport, to name but a few) and a range of market and non-market based valuation approaches.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):** our team has experience in establishing monitoring and evaluation systems as well as conducting specific project and programme evaluations and impact assessments. We have knowledge of the UN system and the various evaluation approaches, methodologies and tools that can be applied in different contexts (e.g. Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation, Logical Framework Analysis).
- **Energy and climate change:** our work on energy and climate change is diverse and covers aspects directly related to the climate change issue (e.g. climate change mitigation and adaptation) through to activity that is connected to it by virtue of the continuing need to assess the risks, costs and benefits of projects and programmes to mitigate and/or adapt to climate change.
- **Market access:** RPA has worked with private sector clients in developing countries to assess compliance with regulations and standards in the EU market for new products. We have also worked with governments and institutions to identify and quantify the costs associated with non-tariff barriers (NTBs).
- **Environmental, health and resource economics:** RPA's work very frequently involves the application of environmental economics to inform decision making on policies, regulations, programmes or particular projects. This includes extensive experience in the application of monetary valuation, quantitative techniques (QALYs/DALYs) and other semi-quantitative methods (e.g. multi-criteria analysis). We have also mapped the supply chain and assessed the security of supply for various raw materials and sectors

In addition to these strengths, we have a broad network of contacts within the developing world that we can draw upon to provide additional expertise.



Development of Successor Programme to Both the NAP II and the CPF in Zimbabwe (2015)

The aim of this consulting service was to assist in the review the National Action Plan for OVC II and facilitate the development of a successor Plan, along with a follow-on to the Child Protection Fund, a multi-donor and government supported programme to build capacity within Zimbabwe's child protection services and support families living in poverty through cash transfers.

Under a sub-contract with Impact Research International, RPA reviewed the objectives, priorities, and Log frame for the current CPF in Zimbabwe and assisted in the development of the Log Frame (with appropriate indicators) and cost estimates for the CPF successor programme.



Methodology for integrating environmental considerations into energy development (1991)

As part of work for the ADB, RPA established a methodology for integrating national and transnational energy and environment issues into planning for energy development.

The framework used a total cost approach, which incorporated the relationships between energy activities and changes in environmental quality as well as sociocultural conditions.

The project covered the use of multi-attribute analysis for the assessment of non-monetised environmental and social impacts.

Final output was published as a book chapter.



Assessing the potential cost and resource savings of investments in 4 SME sectors (2015)

The aim of this study was to provide evidence to inform discussions on a potential investment plan for SMEs, within the context of the EU Agenda for Green Growth and Jobs, and the European Semester 2015 exercise.

Using different extrapolation techniques, the team estimated the potential savings that could be realised across the EU if resource efficiency investments were made in four separate sectors: construction; food and beverages; energy, power and utilities; and environmental technologies.



Study in the Field of Non-Energy Raw Materials (2008)

The aims of this study were to provide further information in support of the Commission's work in preparing a Communication on policies that could be implemented at the EU level for addressing potential criticality issues.

The key tasks included: a review of data availability on non-energy raw materials; an analysis of the policies that were implemented in a selection of countries towards materials criticality; a review of the methodologies used in other countries and their applicability to the EU; and criticality assessments for a small set of materials.

Key team members

Meg Postle is a founding Director of RPA, with over 25 years of consultancy experience. With a background in environmental and natural resource economics, she has extensive experience in undertaking economic analyses of projects, programmes and policies, and has worked internationally in Hong Kong, China and Indonesia as well as throughout the EU. Meg has extensive experience in applying economics techniques within the field of chemical risk management and was a major author to the OECD series of peer reviewed publications on *Socio-Economic Analysis in Chemical Risk Management Decision Making*. She has also acted as an expert advisor to UNEP's Chemicals in Action programme, developed a methodology for integrating environmental considerations into energy development for the ADB and peer reviewed reports for the UNEP.

David Fleet is a monitoring and evaluation specialist with extensive experience working on community development programmes in developing countries. For instance, he recently worked with State Ministries of Health in 2 states in northern Nigeria to develop community participation guidelines and supporting institutional frameworks, and also with the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Liberia to develop Community Driven Development approaches across local government authorities. The latter involved working to develop guidelines for the monitoring and evaluation of social development grant funds under MIA responsibility.

Daniel Vencovsky is a Senior Consultant with RPA and has a background in impact assessment, evaluation, and economics. Daniel holds two Masters degrees, MSc Finance (Economic Policy) and MA International Studies. Daniel has been a key contributor to around 25 evaluations and sectoral studies, spanning policy areas as diverse as aerospace, automotive, medical technologies, and IT sectors. He has also worked on several studies for the EU commission that have assessed the value chain and sustainability of different non-energy raw materials.

Dr. Michele Palladino is a Consultant Economist at RPA with a PhD in Production and Development Economics and an MSc in Development Economics. Michele has previous consulting experience in the design, monitoring and evaluation of projects in the manufacturing and agribusiness sectors, mainly funded by international organizations, such as the Inter-American Development Bank and the OECD. He has also worked as an economist in Brazil for SEBRAE (Organisation for Assistance to SMEs) and volunteered in Mozambique for the Italian NGO, SEV OIRONE.

Shaun Da Costa is a Researcher at RPA with degrees in Development Economics and Economics. In a recent project for the Department for International Development (DFID), Shaun prepared of a value for money (VfM) assessment on Zimbabwe's Harmonised Social Cash Transfer (HSCT) scheme. Prior to joining RPA, he worked with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna.

Our approach

RPA is able to draw on a wealth of experience covering a varied spectrum of sectors to deliver high quality services which include:

- Strategic analysis to assist decision makers with the development and implementation of sustainable policies
- Engagement in regulatory compliance, for example, with the REACH (chemicals) Regulation
- Stakeholder engagement, including workshops, drop-in sessions, interviews and questionnaires run by trained facilitators
- Problem-specific methodology development and production of associated guidance
- Qualitative and quantitative impact assessment (with development of scoring methodologies where required)
- Project, programme and policy evaluation including the use of cost/benefit analyses and ecosystem service frameworks, covering economic, social and environmental aspects
- Systematic and comprehensive data collection, literature reviews, information evaluation and summarisation

We can adapt to additional sectors and subject areas easily, and have a wide range of freelance academic and industry experts who regularly support our work.

Featured Project



Zimbabwe Child Protection Fund (CPF) Value for Money Evaluation

Under a sub-contract with Coffey International, RPA elaborated a cost-benefit analysis of the Harmonised Social Cash Transfer component of the Child Protection Fund, a multi-donor financed programme in Zimbabwe which was set up to deliver on Government of Zimbabwe policy and action planning (specifically, the National Plan for Orphans and Vulnerable Children II) on social service provision (particularly child protection) and social transfers to the poorest and most vulnerable.

This work included analysing the economic consumption/ productivity and welfare benefits from the resulting cash transfers, and developing wider economic assessments of the value transfers



themselves and how they have been used by beneficiaries (in terms of consumption vs any productive investments). RPA also assessed current values of improvements in a number of education and welfare indicators identified during a previous impact assessment study. Several economic valuation techniques were applied during assessment including distribution dividends, lifetime expected earnings, asset value and QALYs/DALYs.

Picture: Dylan Thomas (DFID)

Socio-economic assessment in the extractive industries – avoiding the pitfalls (2015)

In 2013/14, Risk & Policy Analysts Ltd undertook the first global study on the socio-economic value for manganese (Mn) for the International Manganese Institute (IMnI).

Following this study, RPA prepared an article for the Extractive Industries and Society journal outlining key obstacles encountered during the research and important lessons that should be taken forward when undertaking future SEAs in the extractive industries.

The article was published on the 4 December 2015 (Volume 2, Issue 4)

Regulatory and Private Standards related to Organic Fertilisers (2015)

This project was carried out for a confidential client based in East Africa, who produces fertilisers derived from human waste.

The objective of the study was to verify whether the use of client's fertilisers and soil amendments on farms that export crops (food, flowers and ornamentals) to the European Union and the United States was acceptable under the laws and regulations of the European Union.

RPA prepared an overarching strategy for the client to navigate regulatory and private standard requirements for fertiliser use on farms that export to the EU and US.



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