

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT TABLE
(For the experts only)

Activity	Wetland/ Natural environment & Community		Comments
	Positive	Negative	
Creation of new residences	Job creation	Building disturbs the ecosystem (removes vegetation, destabilizes water course etc)	Ecological and low impact buildings can reduce the disturbance to the ecosystem but can increase the price of construction and materials.
	Economic development	Increased demand for freshwater.	Cistern for collecting rainwater and reuse of grey water can be out in place but must be included from the construction phase.
	Attraction of visitors	Production of domestic waste and waste water, if untreated lead to eutrophication ¹ .	Can be avoided by collecting and treating the waste and waste water which will increase costs.
			Increased noise from the residents.
		Potential of flooding, as building in wetlands can be dangerous.	

¹ Eutrophication: Scientific term describing the filling of water bodies with artificial or natural substances such as nitrates and phosphates through fertilisers and sewage which lead to depletion of the oxygen in the water which reduces fish and animal populations, water quality and negatively affects the ecosystem.

Activity	Wetland/ Natural environment & Community		Reducing the negative
	Positive	Negative	Possible actions
Creation of a luxury resort.	Job creation	Building disturbs the ecosystem (removes vegetation, destabilizes water course, cause soil erosion etc).	Ecological and low impact buildings can reduce the disturbance to the ecosystem.
	Economic development	Increased demand for freshwater water (a tourist usually consumes three times as much water when he is on vacation than under usual domestic consumption).	Cistern for collecting rainwater and reuse of grey water can be out in place but must be included from the construction phase.
	Attraction of visitors	Increased noise from the visitors.	The number of residences will determine the level of noise.
		Production of domestic waste and waste water, if untreated lead to eutrophication.	Can be avoided by collecting and treating the waste and waste water which will increase costs.
		Potential of flooding, as building in wetlands can be dangerous.	
		If roads are also built, disturbance to the ecosystem, water flows and wildlife is even bigger.	
Golf, jet ski and quad driving	Job creation	Over extraction of water to maintain the necessary grass cover for golf.	These activities are very intrusive to the ecosystem. Alternative leisure activities with less impact are creating walks and trails for hikers, bird watching, boating/canoeing/pedalo, fishing trips etc. These activities also give a reason to protect and maintain the wetland in a good state.
	Attraction of visitors	Removal of vegetation which may increase incidence of flooding, soil erosion, loss of wildlife etc, for golf and quad.	
		Disturbs the ecosystem with noise. Pollutes the lake with oil residue.	

Activity	Wetland/ Natural environment & Community		Reducing the negatives!
	Positive	Negative	Possible actions
Factory unit	Job creation.	Discharge of industrial waste (industrial runoff) leads to eutrophication.	Industrial waste can be treated and can cause little damage. This requires investment and increases the cost.
	Promotion of local products.	Emissions of Green House Gases to the air which lead to climate change.	Up to date filters can be used that reduce emissions.
	Economic development.	Degradation of the landscape.	- - -
Agriculture	Production of food.	Use of pesticides which runoff into the lake and cause eutrophication.	Limiting the use of pesticides and replacing them with organic and ecologically friendly fertilizers can control damage. These materials are more expensive.
	Job creation.	Over extraction of freshwater, this lowers the water table and can eventually dry out the wetland.	Using local crops that demand limited water to grow can help.
	Promotion of local products.	Removal of natural vegetation and draining of wetland soil which is damaging for biodiversity and healthy wetland functions.	- - -
Fishing	Provides food.	Overfishing can cause irreversible damage to fish stocks.	Overfishing can be controlled through training of the fishermen, setting fishing quotas, controlling fishing (types of species, seasons etc)
	Provides jobs.	Targeting specific, in demand species or fishing young fish disrupts the food web and hence fish stocks.	Can be controlled through training of the fishermen.
	Has traditional value. Has recreational value- can be a hobby.	Dynamite and cyanide fishing disrupts habitat.	These types of fishing should be banned.

Stockbreeding	Provides food.	Uncontrolled grazing and overgrazing harms wetland through removal of vegetation and destabilization of the stream bank.	Animals should graze rotationally, in a controlled space.
	Provides jobs.	Animal waste increase organic pollutants in the lake that leads to eutrophication.	If the number of animals exceeds the capacity of the ecosystem it is vital to manage their waste. One possible method is using it as manure after it has been treated.
	Has traditional value.	May cause bad odors.	If treated the animal waste will not cause odours.