



Session IV

Public participation, consultations, transboundary procedure and final decision

Developing legislative framework for the strategic
environmental assessment in line with the Protocol on SEA

Sub-regional conference

2 November 2015

Lopota Lake Resort, Kakheti, Georgia

Public participation – art.8

- Mandatory element in SEA
 - At various stages of SEA
 - Relation to Aarhus Convention
 - Public participation and public consultation
 - Public and stakeholders
- Identification of the public
- Procedural elements
 - Notification
 - Access to documentation
 - Possibility to submit comments and public hearing
 - Taking due account of public participation
- Time-frames

Identification of the public

- Public vs public concerned
- NGOS and individual persons
- Public affected
 - By routine activities and accidents
 - Scope of impact – scope of a strategic document
- Public interested

Participants discuss examples from their drafts for:

- *National Renewable Energy Strategy*
- *Local water management plan in a small town serving as health or holiday resort*

Notification of the public

- Actively informing the public about different procedural stages of SEA
- Methods
 - Electronic – only webpage?
 - Traditional –
 - Newspapers
 - Public notices
 - Same methods for all stages
- Manner
 - effectively, accurately and timely
 - Effectively – relation to the public concerned
- Content of information – Annex V

- *Participants discuss examples from their drafts for:*
 - *National Renewable Energy Strategy*
 - *Local water management plan in a small town serving as health or holiday resort*

Access to documentation

- Documentation to be made available
 - Screening documents
 - Scoping documents
 - Draft strategic document
 - SEA Report
 - Final decision with justification (statement of reasons)
- Form and place
 - Electronic access
 - Traditional access
- Acces to documentation during hearing
- *Participants discuss examples from their drafts for:*
 - *National Renewable Energy Strategy*
 - *Local water management plan in a small town serving as health or holiday resort*

Consultation with authorities

- Designation of environmental authorities
- Designation of environmental authorities
- Their role in
 - Screening
 - Scoping
 - Final decision

Participants discuss examples from their drafts for:

- *Small modification of National Renewable Energy Strategy*
- *Local water management plan in a small town serving as health or holiday resort*

Transboundary procedure

- Clear reference in legislation
 - As Party of origin
 - As affected Party
 - Who bears costs?
- Obligation to notify
- Negotiations – who participates?
- Obligation to take due account in final decision

Participants discuss examples from their drafts

Final decision

- Who takes final decision – role of environmental and health authorities vs planning authorities?
- Obligation to take due account of results of SEA
- Obligation to produce justification (statement of reasons)
- Obligation to notify

Participants discuss examples from their drafts