

Today I will speak about two issues:

- a. What civil society can offer in the SEA process
- b. What civil society may need in SEA process

What civil society can offer:

- a. Experience, including a different perspective on the issues addressed
- b. Expertise (NGOs often have best available experts in the field)
- c. Acceptance, meaning social acceptance: projects subject to PP get stronger acceptance by people (at least no blocking)

What civil society may need:

- a. Experience, to be in position of make offers (above) and be constructive
- b. Expertise, especially local organizations (trainings e.g.)
- c. Acceptance, meaning recognition by the government of their role.

Conclusions

- a. Civil society and government can be real partners in SEA process
- b. As a partner, civil society may offer a lot to the process
- c. As a partner, civil society has expectations as to its needs addressed
- d. Even when running “campaigns against”, civil society should be considered as a partner since the ultimate goal is the same: ensure healthy environment for future generations.

Andriy Andrushevych  
Governing Board Member,  
Resource & Analysis Centre "Society and Environment"

European ECO Forum Legal Focal Point  
for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia