Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment

Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment

Fourth meeting

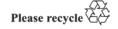
Geneva, 26–28 May 2015
Items 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the provisional agenda
Compliance and Implementation
Subregional cooperation and capacity-building
Exchange of good practices
Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol
Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance

Workplan implementation status

Note by the secretariat

This note summarises the status of the implementation of activities in the workplan (Decision VI/3–II/3 on adoption of the workplan) as of May 2015. In addition, it presents related activities not included in the workplan but which are being proposed in co-operation with other partners. To facilitate the review of the workplan, the following colours are used to indicate the degree of implementation.

Degree of implementation	Workplan activities		Othe	er activities
No arrangements made, or no funding.	3	(6%)	-	
To be done, and normally not requiring funding	6	(12%)	-	
Outline arrangements, including funding	5	(10%)	2	(67%)
Firm arrangements with funding for 2015 or ongoing	28	(57%)	1	(33%)
Completed	7	(15%)	-	
Total	49		3	



Annex I
Workplan for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocol for the period up to the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
Compliance with and implementation of the Convention and the Protocol			Most items included in Implementation Committee and secretariat costs. Exceptions are identified below.	
1. Consideration by the Implementation Committee of compliance submissions.	Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	2014–2017, presented to MOP7 and MOP/MOP3	May require funding for translation of submissions (\$10,000 is budgeted). ^a	Ongoing and will be completed by MOP and MOP/MOP (if submissions are put forward).
2. Report on the Committee's activities to MOP7 and MOP/MOP3.	Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	2014–2017, presented to MOP7 and MOP/MOP3		Ongoing and will be completed by MOP and MOP/MOP.
3. If necessary, review of the Committee's structure and functions and operating rules.	Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	2014–2017, presented to MOP7 and MOP/MOP3		Ongoing and will be completed, if necessary, by MOP and MOP/MOP
4. Examination of the outcome of the fourth review of implementation of the Convention and the first review of implementation of the Protocol.	Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	By the end of 2014		Completed.
5. Modification of the questionnaires for the report on implementation of the Convention and, as appropriate, the Protocol, in 2013–2015.	Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat and, where appropriate, of WHO	Presentation of draft modified questionnaires to the Working Group in 2015	_	Ongoing and will be completed in at the WG 2015.
6. Distribution of the questionnaire to the Parties to the Convention	Secretariat.	Issue of questionnaires, one by end of October 2015 and	_	To be done by end of October and end of

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
and to the Protocol for them to complete and return.		the other by end of December 2015		December 2015.
		Return of questionnaires, one by end of February 2016 and the other by end of April 2016		
7. Preparation of draft reviews of implementation of the Convention and the Protocol.	Secretariat.	Presentation of the draft reviews to the Committee and the Working Group in autumn 2016 and to MOP7 and MOP/MOP3	Requires external consultants an translation of national reports (\$25,000 is budgeted). ^a	dTo be done by MOP and MOP/MOP.
8. Reviews of legislation, procedures and practice, and technical assistance in drafting legislation, to strengthen Parties' implementation of and compliance with the Convention and the Protocol. Prompted by the Implementation Committee or requested by Parties themselves, as follows:	External consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat and, where appropriate, WHO. Supervised by members of the Committee (if further to a Committee initiative).	As decided by the Implementation Committee and the Party concerned	Costs: approximately \$25,000 per review, plus in-kind contributions from Parties providing experts and from targe country for interpretation.	et
(a) Country-specific reviews, including a period in-country examining national legislation and based on earlier reviews further to decision IV/2. Parties experiencing similar problems might be assisted jointly:				

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
(i) Technical advice to Armenia on improving legislation to implement the Protocol and advice in drafting necessary amendments and legislation;		2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing and expected to be completed in 2015 (but may be continued in 2016). Timeline for completion depends on Government arrangements.
(ii) Technical advice and support to Kyrgyzstan on improving legislation as well as the institutional framework to implement the Convention;	External consultant and the national expert group on EIA.	2014	Funding (approximately \$25,000) from Switzerland.	Ongoing and will be completed in 2015.
(iii) Technical advice to Azerbaijan on improving legislation to implement the Convention;	External consultant.	2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). b	Ongoing and expected to be completed in 2015.
(b) Subregional overview based on legislative reviews on EIA and SEA combined with information gathered when developing general guidance on enhancing consistency between the Convention and environmental assessment within the framework of State ecological expertise.	Lead countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Undertaken by external consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat.	2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing – to be completed by the end of 2015.
9. Pre-accession legislative assistance:	External consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat.			
(a) Technical advice to Azerbaijan on improving legislation to implement the Protocol and advice		2014	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing and expected to be completed in 2015.

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
in drafting necessary amendments;				
(b) Technical assistance to Belarus in drafting legislation to implement the Protocol (building on the existing legislative review);		2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing and will be completed in 2015.
(c) Technical assistance to Georgia in drafting legislation to implement the Convention and the Protocol (building on the existing legislative review);		2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing and will be completed in 2015.
(d) Technical advice to Kazakhstan on improving legislation to implement the Protocol and advice in drafting necessary amendments;		2015–2017	EU funding for Kazakhstan. ^c	The financing agreement has been signed end December 2014 (for the period 2015-2018). The project will focus on SEA in the water management sector (UNDP lead), financing and initiation of activities in the course of 2015.
(e) Technical advice to the Russian Federation.	To be specified by the Russian Federation.	2015	Funding (approximately \$28,000) from Sweden (carried forward).	**Funds have been requested from the RF for the implementation of the pilot application of SEA in the Zabaikalye region (see further down)
10. Collection of findings and opinions from the Committee regarding the Convention and the Protocol, posted on website.	Secretariat.	Annual updates	_	Ongoing.
11. Alignment of the authentic	Secretariat (with UN	2015	_	Ongoing: the secretariat

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Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
language versions of the Protocol and the two amendments to the Convention:	editors); <i>ad hoc</i> task force and the Working Group to review			has received the review by the UN editors of the Protocol text; the WG to consider in 2015 and
(a) Identification and review of inconsistencies;				members of the <i>ad hoc</i> task force should be
(b) Preparation of proposals for addressing the inconsistencies (through correction or amendment procedures).				identified. Will be completed by MOP and MOP/MOP. The report on the WG to include a specific mandate on the amendments.
12. Preparation of guidance on the implementation of the Convention (drawing on opinions of the Implementation Committee).	External consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat and, as needed, the Implementation Committee and the Working Group on EIA and SEA.	2015–2016	Funding for a consultant (\$10,000) from EIB	Ongoing and will be completed by MOP and MOP/MOP: TORs have been finalized with the EIB and consultant has been identified.
13. Further development and update of the Guidelines on	Lead country: Kyrgyzstan	2015–2016	Funding from Switzerland in 2015 (\$25,000) and 2016	Details on the activity to be refined in the second
Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries.	Regional workshops to discuss and update the Guidelines.		(\$10,000) for external and national consultants and organization of up to two workshops.	half of 2015 and the activity should start in 2016.
14. Preparation of a video to promote the benefits of the Convention and the Protocol in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus	Secretariat to prepare a draft script, Bureau/the Working Group to review it and external contractor to produce the video clip.	2015–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing and will be completed by 2016.
Subregional cooperation and capacity-building to strengthen			Participants cover their own travel and accommodation costs	

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
contacts between the Parties and others, including States outside the ECE region			to the extent possible, while host countries cover organizational and venue costs in kind (approximately \$5,000–\$20,000 per workshop).	ı
South-Eastern Europe subregion	Lead country: Romania.	2015	Donor/in-kind	To be done in 2015.
1. Workshop(s) on implementation of the Convention, Protocol and Bucharest Agreement in the subregion: workshop to prepare for the first Meeting of the Parties to the Bucharest Agreement.				
Mediterranean subregion, including Adriatic Sea	Lead country: Morocco, with support from other	2015	Funding largely available (\$20,000).	Completed.
2. Carried forward workshop for the Mediterranean.	interested countries.		(420,000).	
Baltic Sea subregion	Lead countries:		In kind.	
3. Holding of three meetings on:				
(a) SEA for programmes of measures under the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (art. 13) and the experience of large-scale transboundary projects;	Germany.	2014		Completed
(b) (i) Assessment and reduction of transboundary impacts on transboundary watercourses and international lakes in the context of the Espoo Convention, the Protocol on SEA and the Helsinki	Lithuania.	2015		To be done in 2015.

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
Convention;				
(ii) Effective public participation in SEA/EIA in the context of the Espoo Convention, the Protocol on SEA and the Aarhus Convention;				
(c) <u>Long – distance projects</u> (<u>railways</u>) and maritime spatial <u>plan and strategic environmental</u> impact assessment.	Latvia.	2016		To be done in 2016.
Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia			Require donor and/or in-kind contributions by beneficiary countries.	
4. Subregional coordination and experience-sharing events to share successes, challenges, solutions and experiences as well as the results of capacity-building activities on SEA and EIA, followed by the dissemination of seminar results in all countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, including to the public and NGOs. The events can focus one or several challenges in SEA or EIA implementation (e.g., public participation; monitoring; interministerial cooperation/consultations) or on a sector (energy, mining, etc.) Countries to propose themes/ topics for the events:	Lead countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine			
(a) Practical experience in application of SEA to various plans and programmes in the EU	Czech Republic	Autumn 2014	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Completed

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
countries, comparison of legal, institutional and procedural frameworks;				
(b) Lessons learned from national and subregional reviews of legal and institutional frameworks for application of EIA and SEA; (including a training for trainers workshop on the practical application of SEA)	Georgia	2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Ongoing / preparations have been initiated
(c) Lessons learned from the SEA pilot projects in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.	Ukraine.	2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	Details on the activity to be further refined end 2015.
5. Joint capacity-building activities with the Aarhus Convention for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia on public participation in decision-making, including to strengthen the capacities of national Aarhus Centres and the regional Aarhus Centres Network in the EIA and SEA processes. Use the Good Practice Recommendations on Public Participation on SEA and the general guidance on enhancing systemic consistency.	Lead countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, involving Aarhus Centres in these countries, with support from OSCE and inputs from Aarhus and Espoo secretariats.	2015–2016 (tbc)	Funding from the Environment and Security Initiative.	Funding request submitted to EnvSec and response expected. The activity will be delayed.
(a) Development and compilation of capacity-building materials;				
(b) Regional and national training workshops.				
Exchange of good practices 1. Workshops or half-day seminars			Costs (e.g., costs for speakers, provision and translation of	

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
within meetings of the Working Group on:			materials) to be covered in kind by lead countries, to the extent possible (approximately \$10,000 per seminar).	
(a) Post-project analysis;	Lead countries: Belarus, in cooperation with Ukraine.	2015	In kind and some funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN) to cover costs for speakers.	Completed at the WG meeting (May 2015).
(b) Global application of the Convention and the Protocol: focus on non-ECE countries and IFIs.	Lead organization EIB	2016	In kind. (Travel costs for non-ECE countries should be covered from the budget.)	To be done in 2016
2. Development of good practice	By external consultant(s),	2015–2016	In kind.	The terms of reference
recommendations on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities.	in line with agreed terms of reference, under the supervision of an editorial		Requires consultant(s) for drafting (\$10,000–20,000)	have been prepared for consideration by the WG (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/201
	group including Austria, Belarus, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, the European Commission and European ECO Forum, and with support from the secretariat.		Co-funding from Austria (\$5,000) and the EU (EaP-GREEN). ^b	5/3). EaP Green funding: \$5,000 (to be submitted for approval by the EaP Green Steering Committee (Chisinau, 18 June 2015).
3. Development of joint good practice guidance including recommendations on land use planning, with the Industrial Accidents Convention and the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management	EIB	2015–2016.	EIB Requires funding of consultant for drafting (\$10,000)	Firm arrangements including funding
4. Organization of a workshop to exchange experiences on	EIB, Espoo secretariat, Industrial Accidents	2015–2016	EIB	Outline arrangements including funding

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
approaches to land use planning with due account to the SEA Protocol's and the TEIA Convention's provisions and agreed approaches to land use planning in the framework of the work of the ECE housing and land management programme	secretariat, and secretariat to the ECE housing and land management programme			
Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA	Lead: secretariat in cooperation with the concerned countries.	2014–2017		
1. Preparation of fact-sheets on application of SEA, e.g., on industrial reconversion and investment plans or sustainable agricultural practices.	Lead: All Parties, including Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, as well as the secretariat in cooperation with UNEP.	2014–2016	Funding from the the EU (EaP-GREEN) for translation and publication.	No arrangements made for this activity yet – to be initiated after the completion of the pilots
	(The Party preparing the fact-sheet will be responsible for its layout.)			
2. Preparation of two-page informal pamphlets on key issues in SEA practice (e.g., on <u>Health Impact Assessment, Non-technical Summary</u>).	Lead organization: IAIA, with the support of WHO, SEA and health experts and the secretariat.	Ongoing.	In kind.	Ongoing.
3. Workshops, including training, on the application of the Protocol for countries in the ECE region and other Parties to the Protocol, in particular countries of South-	Lead countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.	Countries to specify the timing.		Changes on the basis of national needs and demand.

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia:				
(a) One national training event, one local training events;	Armenia.	2015–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Ongoing. One national awareness raising event completed, one local planned for end 2016
(b) Two national training events, two local training events;	Azerbaijan.	2014–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Ongoing. One national awareness raising event on the legislation and one national training event on SEA completed. One local training cancelled (to financially support the drafting of the legislation). The need for the second local training to be discussed with the Government.
(c) One national training event;	Belarus.	2015–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Ongoing, arrangements are in place, to be completed in 2016.
(d) One national training event;	Georgia.	2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Cancelled – to be carried out by Netherlands Commission on Environmental Assessment
(e) Two national training events, two local training events;	Republic of Moldova.	2014–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	One national event completed (Part I and Part II). The second national event planned for June 2015. The two local training events cancelled replaced by a second

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
				pilot.
(f) One national training event, one local training event;	Kazakhstan.	2015–2017	EU funding for Kazakhstan. ^c	The financing agreement has been signed end December 2014 (for the period 2015-2018). The project will focus on SEA in the water management sector (UNDP lead), financing and initiation of activities in the course of 2015.
(g) One national training event, two local training events.	Ukraine	2015–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Negotiations with the government are ongoing. A national event is scheduled for June 2015 (one training for the Ministry of Environment and two awareness raising events for high-level officials and sectoral ministries.
4. National guidance documents on SEA.	Lead countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.	2015–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN); and from the EU for Kazakhstan.	Outline arrangements, to be detailed in the beginning of 2016.
5. Pilot SEAs in selected countries, in selected sectors.	Lead countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan and Ukraine, in collaboration with UNEP and WHO, where relevant.			
	(a) Armenia;	2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-	Ongoing arrangements in

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
			GREEN).	the sector of waste management.
	(b) Azerbaijan;	2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Ongoing in the sector of renewables
	(c) Georgia;	2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Cancelled at the country's request.
	(d) Republic of Moldova;	2014–2015	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Completed – a second one will be implemented (initiated in 2015)
	(e) Ukraine;	2015–2016	Funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN).	Ongoing, preparations.
	(f) Kazakhstan.	2016–2017	EU funding for Kazakhstan.	Firm arrangements, to be detailed in the course of 2015 – water management plan
	(g) Russian Federation	2015–2016	Funding from the Russian Federation (expected)	SEA in the Zabaikalye region

Abbreviations: ECE = United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; EIA = environmental impact assessment; EIB = European Investment Bank; EU = European Union; IAIA = International Association for Impact Assessment; MOP7 = the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its seventh session; MOP/MOP3 = the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its third session; NGOs = non-governmental organizations; OSCE = Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; SEA = strategic environmental assessment; UNEP = United Nations Environment Programme; WHO = World Health Organization.

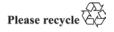
^a The financing of the activities foreseen in the budget of the Convention and its Protocol for the period up to the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, as set out in annex I to decision VI/4–II/4, will be contingent on sufficient funds being made available by Parties through their voluntary contributions to the Convention trust fund.

^b "Greening Economies in the European Union's Eastern Partnership" (EaP-GREEN), a European Union-funded regional multi-stakeholder project. Funding subject to applicable procedures under the project.

^c "Supporting Kazakhstan's transition to a Green Economy Model" a European Union-funded multi-stakeholder project foreseen for 2015–2018 (tbc).

Annex II
List of activities awaiting funding for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocol for the period up to the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
Compliance with and implementation of the Convention and the Protocol	By external consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat.			
1. Reviews of legislation, procedures and practice and technical assistance in drafting legislation to strengthen Parties' implementation of and compliance with the Convention and the Protocol. Prompted by the Implementation Committee or requested by Parties themselves, as follows:				
(a) Country-specific reviews, including a period in-country examining national legislation and based on earlier reviews further to decision IV/2. Parties experiencing similar problems might be assisted jointly;				
(b) Technical advice further to possible Committee initiatives (as decided by the Implementation			Funding for up to two budgeted. ^a	o reviews is



Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
Committee).				
2. Pre-accession legislative assistance: technical advice to Uzbekistan to review its national legislation for implementation of the Protocol and to propose amendments.		2016–2017		

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
Subregional cooperation and capacity-building to strengthen contacts between the Parties and others, including States outside the ECE region			Participants cover their own travel and accommodation costs to the extent possible, while host countries cover organizational and venue costs in kind (approximately \$5,000–\$20 000 per workshop).	
South-Eastern Europe subregion	Lead countries: Croatia, and Slovenia.		Donor/in-kind (e.g., j funding required.	project)
1. Workshop(s) on implementation of the Convention, the Protocol and the Bucharest Agreement in the subregion.				
(a) Workshop;	(a) Croatia with Slovenia	(a) 2015	(a) No funding confin	rmed yet.
(b) First Meeting of the Parties to the Bucharest Agreement.	(b) Romania.	(b) Late 2015	(b) No funding confi	rmed yet.
Mediterranean subregion, including Adriatic Sea	Lead country: Italy, to be confirmed.	2014–2015	In kind.	
2. Carried forward workshop on practical application of the Convention on the basis of the results in the previous workshops.				
Exchange of good practices			Costs (e.g., costs for	
Workshops or half-day seminars within meetings of the Working Group on:			provision and transla materials) to be cove by lead countries, to possible (approximat	ered in kind the extent

Activity / sub-activities	Organizational arrangements/lead countries	Time schedule	Budget	Status
			per seminar).	
			(Participation of countries in transition, NGOs, Non-ECE countries.)	
A topic related to SEA (e.g., based on IAIA "FasTips").	Lead organization: IAIA.	2016	In kind and some funding from the EU (EaP-GREEN) to cover costs for speakers. ^b	
Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA	Requested by Tajikistan.	2015–2016	Requires funding (\$80,000–\$100,000).	
Pilot SEAs in selected countries, in selected sectors.				

Abbreviations: ECE = United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; EIA = environmental impact assessment; EU = European Union; NGOs = non-governmental organizations; ; IAIA = International Association for Impact Assessment; SEA = strategic environmental assessment.

^a The financing of the activities foreseen in the budget of the Convention and its Protocol for the period up to the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, as set out in annex I to decision VI/4–II/4, will be contingent on sufficient funds being made available by Parties through their voluntary contributions to the Convention trust fund.

^b "Greening Economies in the European Union's Eastern Partnership" (EaP-GREEN), a European Union-funded regional multi-stakeholder project. Funding subject to applicable procedures under the project.