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დაცული ტერიტორიების სააგენტო
AGENCY OF PROTECTED AREAS



გარემოსდაცვითი
ინფორმაციისა და მანათლავის
ცენტრი



ეროვნული სატყეო
სააგენტო

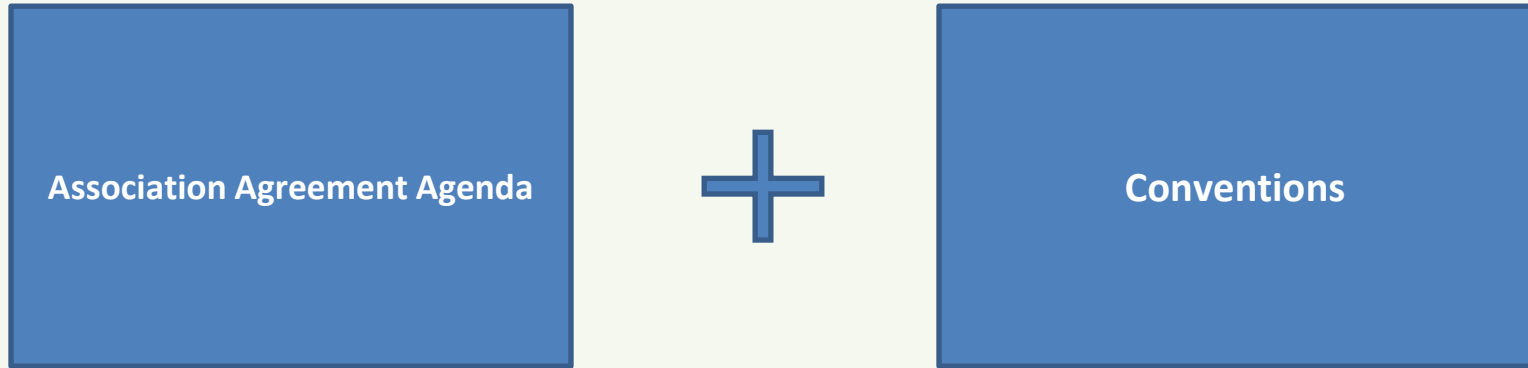


გარემოს
ეროვნული სააგენტო



The Code on Environmental Assessment

International Obligations and Challenges

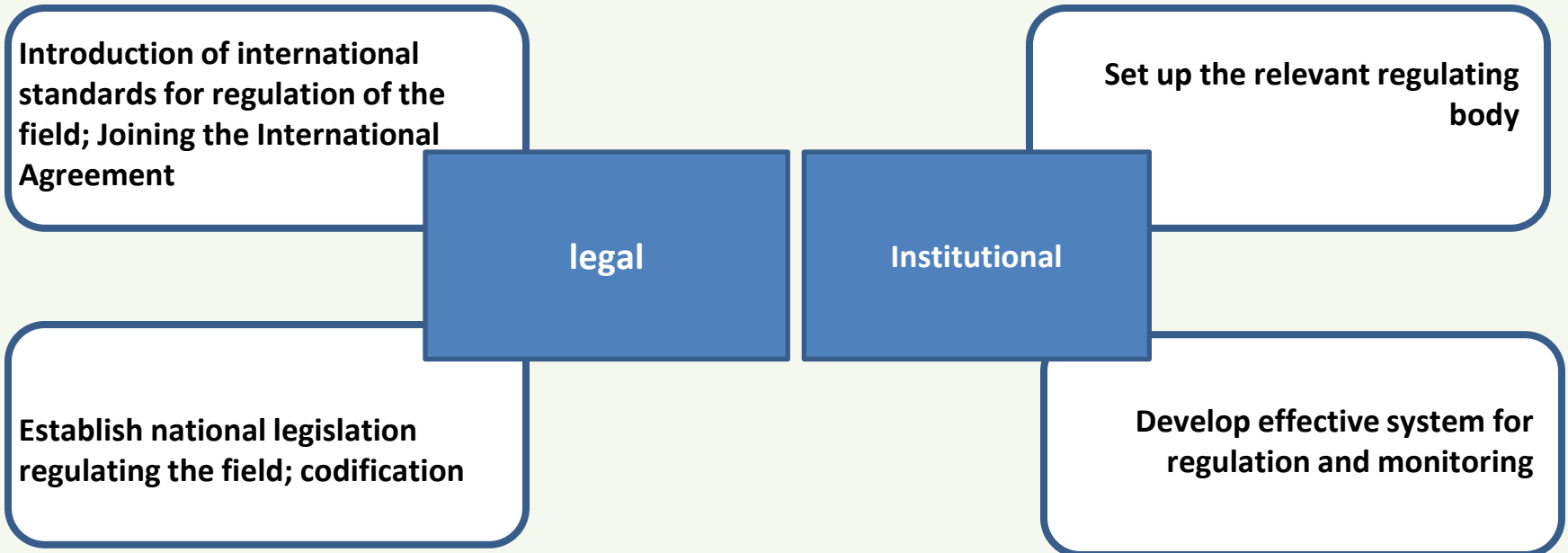


- 1. Comprehensive list of activities subject to the EIA**
- 2. Procedures for screening and scoping**
- 3. Trans-border procedures**
- 4. Strategic Environmental Assessment**
- 5. Access to the environmental information and the high level of public involvement**

Review of existing regulations and practice



Institutional and Legal Reform



Key principles for the Reform

- **Green economy**

Development of economic potential for safe and diverse environment

- **Sustainable development**


Harmonization of social-economic and environmental interests

- **Democratic governance**

Involvement of academic circles and of wider society in decision-making and monitoring *processes*



Role of the state in transparency and public participation processes

- Publishing information on the websites of the Environmental Assessment Agency, the Ministry of Health and the Planning Authority;
 - Providing information in published media;
 - Dissemination of advertisements with informational content at the site of activity and along the nearest settlements;
 - Organizing and holding the public hearings; state as a mediator between the public and scientific views.
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New regulations envisaged in the Code

Procedural novelties

- Introduction of screening procedure;
- Introduction of scoping procedure;
- Introduction of the Strategic Environmental Assessment;
- Introduction of trans-border procedures.

Advantages

- Regulation of activities having considerable impact on the environment;
- Information provision and involvement of public at an early stage/during the entire process;
- Introduction of principles for public administration processing;
- Optimization of terms for public administration processing;
- Involvement of scientific and public opinions in the processes; high reliability of decisions.

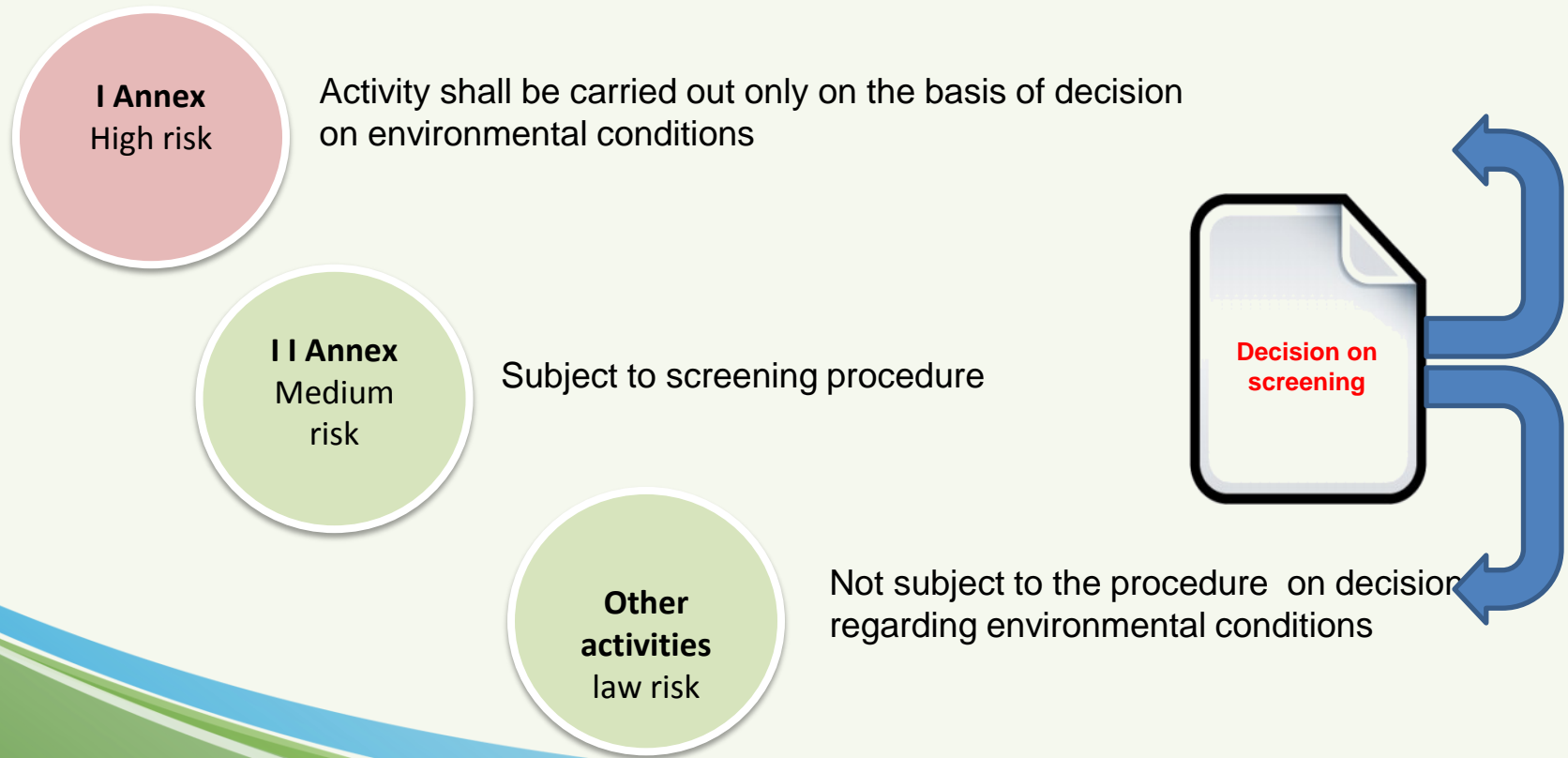
Activities having considerable impact on environment will be subjected to the regulation

Among them:

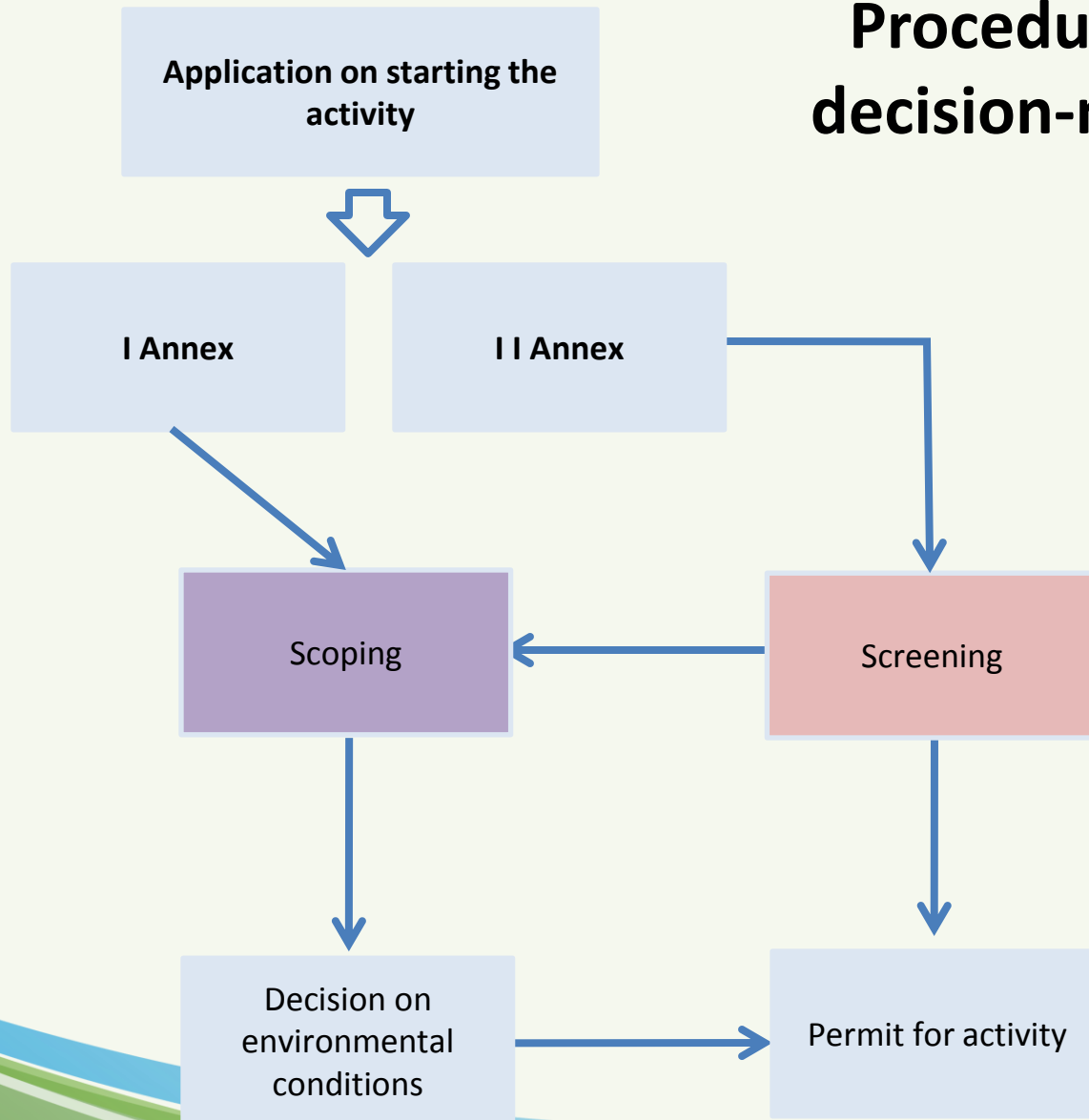
- open-cast mine;
- poultry and/or piggery farms;
- fish-farm; getting resources from the sea or the river;
- beer production;
- organization and exploitation of animal slaughter facilities;
- urban development projects, including the shopping centers and parking places;
- construction of canals against flood-fresh and flooding;
- Anti-erosion costal works.

Activities' Annex 2

Activities have been grouped according to the risks of considerable environment impact



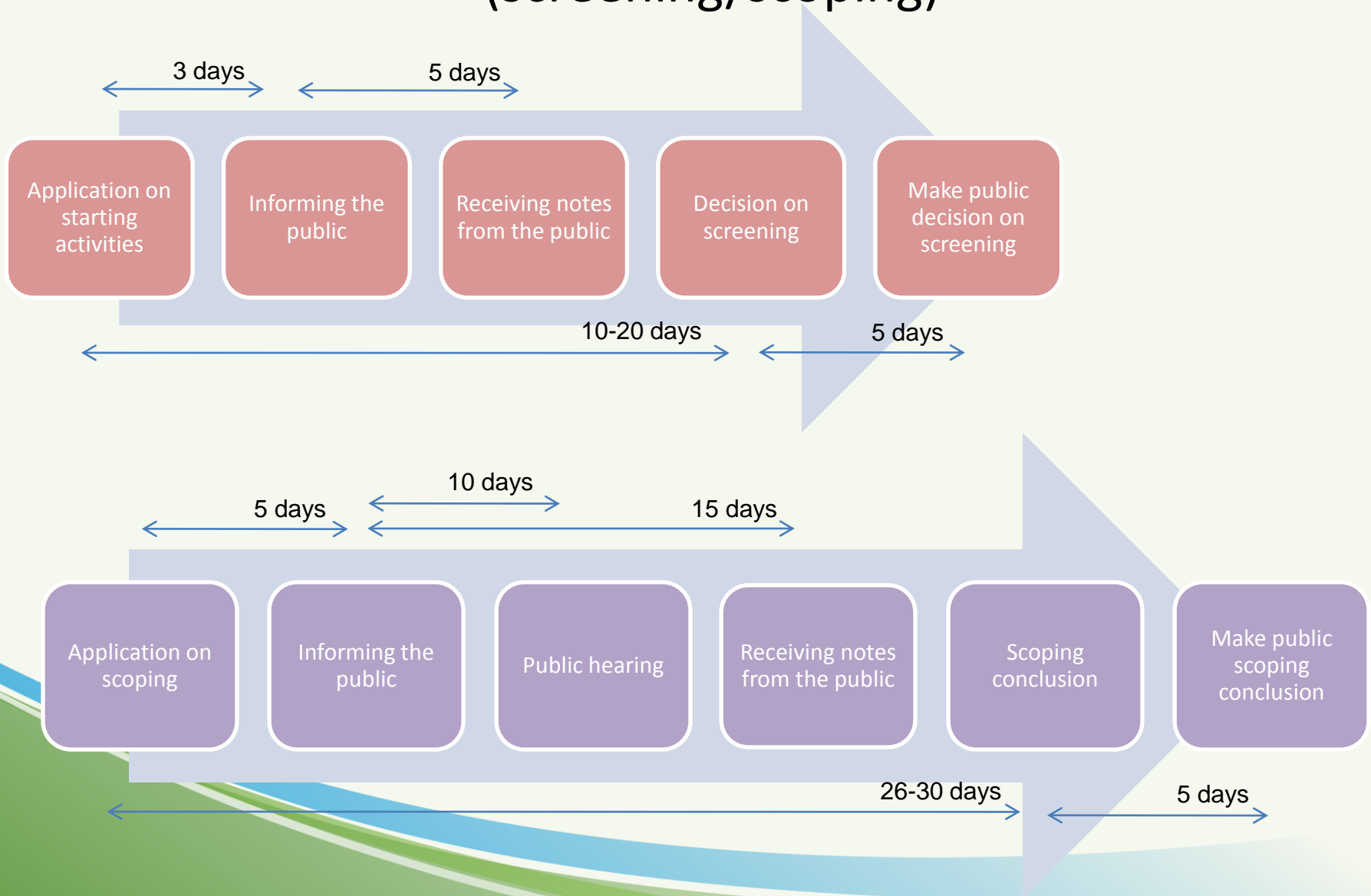
Procedure for decision-making



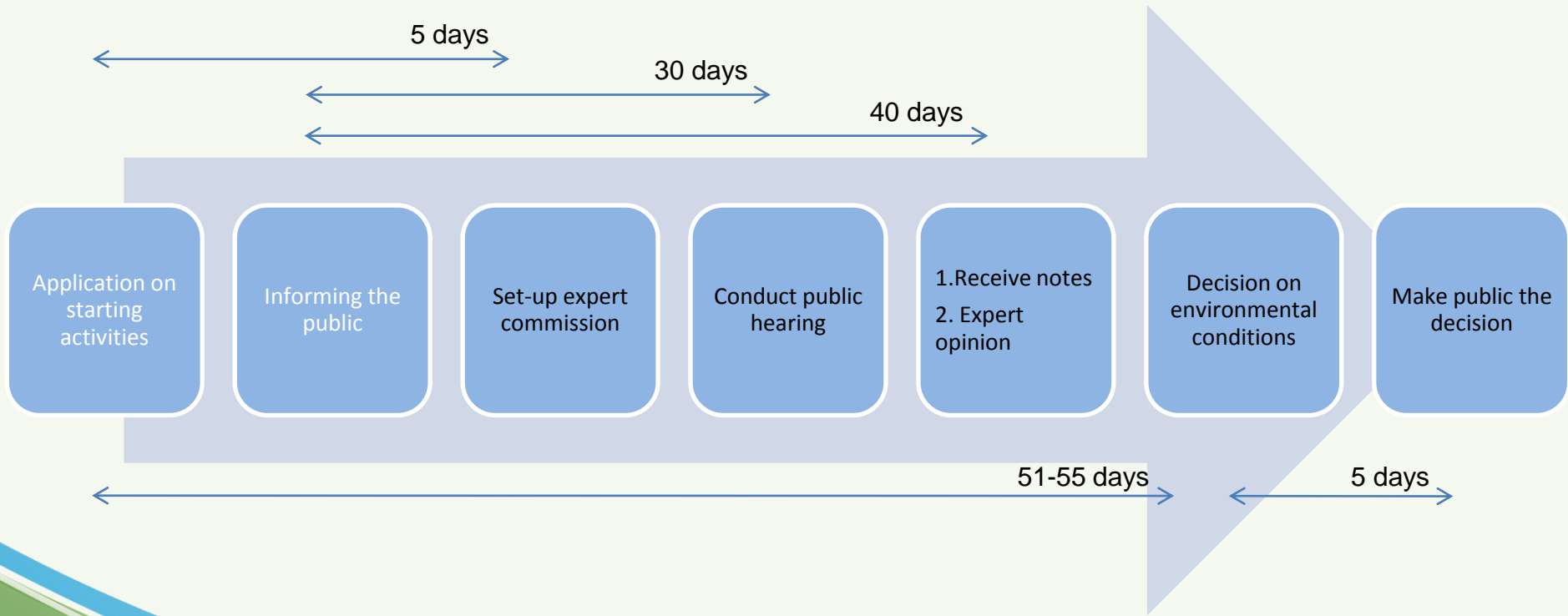
Optimization of terms/deadlines for decision-making procedure

Procedure	Existing terms (calendar days)	Optimized terms (working days)
Preliminary/public hearing	50-60 days	–
Scoping	–	30 days
Permit/Issuing decision on environmental conditions	15-20 days	55 days
Total	80 days	85 days


Terms/deadlines for decision-making (screening/scoping)



Terms/deadlines for decision on “Environmental Conditions”



Decision on Environmental Conditions

- ▶ Decision-making procedure will be separated from the construction permit procedure;
 - ▶ Adopted decision will become the precondition for getting the other licenses and permits, or for activities;
 - ▶ The Ministry will ensure effective information and involvement of public at each stage of the process;
 - ▶ The Ministry will ensure investigation of the territory for activities (field/site observation);
 - ▶ Quality of the monitoring on implementation will be improved.
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Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

SEA – Procedure to study the impact of implementation of the strategic document (plan, program, strategy, etc.) on the environment and human health.

Strategic Documents subject to the SEA

- Documents that shall be endorsed by the state authorities, which determine the strategy of the relevant sector and have a considerable environmental impact.




Sectors subject to SEA

- Agriculture;
- Forestry;
- Fishing;
- Energy;
- Industry;
- Transport;
- Waste management;
- Water management;
- Tele-communications;
- Tourism;
- Urban development and/or land use;
- Planning and spatial arrangement

Transboundary procedures

CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT (ESPOO Convention) and Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Kiev Protocol)

Transboundary impact is exercised if:

-  Activity or strategic document subject to EIA, which is implemented in Georgia and may have a significant adverse transboundary impact on the environment of a foreign country;
-  Activity or strategic document, which is implemented in a foreign country and may have significant adverse impact on Georgia's environment;
-  International Agreement on Transboundary Procedures has been formalized between Georgia and the country likely to have a significant adverse environmental impact

Stages for enactment of the Code

Regulations provided by the Code	Dates of enactment
The Code will come into effect	From 1 January 2017
Rule to adopt decision on prolongation of the current activity	Upon publication
Enactment of procedures related to the environmental impact assessment in transboundary context	From 1 January 2018

Post-reform stages

Development of the e-governance

- Implementation of procedures through the e-programs, e-forum, e-documents

Service delivery to the users

- Receive and issue the documents at the site of activity

Integration with the data base of the Ministry of Justice

- Development of environmental components for multifunctional cadaster; inclusion into the infrastructure for spatial data (NSDI)

Introduction of new services

- Introduction of new services of scientific-methodological and informational character

In Harmony with Nature!



საქართველოს გარემოსა
და ბუნებრივი რესურსების
დაცვის სამინისტრო