



Training workshop on SEA scoping in Georgia for the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs

April 19, 2016

Venue: Hotel Betsy's, 32/34 Kote Makashvili St, Tbilisi, Georgia

Background

The training workshop on SEA scoping is organized by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and 'Georgia's Environmental Outlook' (GEO) in the framework of the EU funded Programme 'Greening the Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood' (EaP GREEN).

The aim of the training workshop is to revisit practical aspects of conducting SEA scoping with special emphasis on the role of environmental and health authorities in scoping, as well as on the formulation of a scoping opinion, as stipulated by the draft Environmental Assessment Code of Georgia.

After the training workshop the participants should be able to assess the relevance of information that is provided in the SEA scoping report, as well as to develop a scoping opinion. The conclusions from the workshop should also support both ministries in developing a detailed procedure for cooperation between the environmental and health authorities during the SEA process.

The outcomes of the training workshop will be incorporated into the practical recommendations on the application of SEA in Georgia according to the draft Environmental Assessment Code.

Participants

The training workshop is designed for officials from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia and the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, who are the authorities to play a major role in the SEA system after the adoption of the Environmental Assessment Code¹.

Approach and design

The training will be delivered by a national SEA expert supported by an international UNECE consultant(s). The experience gained during the pilot SEA application to the National Waste Management Action Plan (and Strategy) in Georgia will be utilized to a large extent as a basis for exercises and discussions. In addition, other SEA scoping reports (prepared within the SEA pilots in other EaP GREEN countries as well as from the EU countries) will also be provided to present a broader perspective on the possible SEA approaches to drafting the scoping reports that may be received by the environmental and health authorities when a full-fledge SEA scheme is established in the country.

¹ The draft EAC requires cooperation of environmental and health authorities within the SEA process (e.g. Art. 23.6 or Art. 25.6).



Home assignment

In order to enhance the efficiency of the training, the participants are kindly asked to prepare the following home assignment **prior to the workshop**:

- Read the SEA pilot scoping report provided by the training experts;
- Read the relevant sections of the EAC (i.e. Art. 22 – 26) ;
- Formulate 2 – 4 specific questions related to scoping which should be addressed at the workshop and send proposals to the organizers

After the training, the participants will be asked to finalize scoping opinion for the SEA pilot scoping report (to be elaborated during the workshop), and send it to the national coordinator for providing feedback by the trainers. The feedback to the home assignment will be provided by the trainers in written form. In addition, a short follow-up session will be organized to discuss the results of the workshop (via Skype or within subsequent SEA/EIA-related activities in Georgia within the framework of the EaP GREEN project).

Tentative agenda

10.00 – 10.30	Registration of participants, and welcome coffee
10.30 – 10.45	Opening of the workshop and welcome of the participants <i>Ms. Maia Bitadze, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection</i> <i>Mr. Alvaro Ortega, Program Manager, Delegation of the EU to Georgia</i> <i>Mr. Martin Smutny, EaP GREEN Project Coordinator, UNECE Secretariat</i>
10.45 – 11.15	Introduction to the workshop objectives and agenda Introduction of the participants and their expectations from the workshop <i>Facilitated by Ms. Tamar Gugushvili, National Project Coordinator, GEO</i>
11.15 – 12.00	Introduction to scoping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose and expected outcomes, general role of environmental and health authorities in scoping, examples of scoping procedure from the selected EU countries (15 min) <i>International UNECE consultants</i> • Legal requirements regarding scoping (15 min) <i>Presentation by Ms. Tamar Sharashidze, Head of Environmental Impacts Permits Department, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection</i> • Introduction to the scoping stage of the SEA pilot on the Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan: presentation and Q/A session <i>Ms. Irma Melikishvili, Pilot SEA Team Leader</i>
12.00 – 12.15	Coffee break
12.15 – 13.15	Scoping procedure



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of possible scoping procedure (15 min) <i>Presentation by national and international UNECE consultants</i> • Facilitated discussion to develop details on the scoping procedure in Georgia (45 min) <i>Facilitated by Ms. Tamar Gugushvili, Project National Coordinator, GEO</i>
13.15 – 14.00	<p>Information needed to determine the scope of SEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction (15 min) <i>Presentation by the national and international UNECE consultants</i> • Discussion (30 min) <i>Facilitated by Ms. Tamar Gugushvili, Project National Coordinator, GEO</i>
14.00 – 15.00	Lunch break
15.00 – 17.00	<p>Scoping opinion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible structure and content, examples from the selected EU countries, Q/A session (30 min) <i>Introductory presentation by national and international UNECE consultants</i> • Group work: developing scoping opinion on the pilot SEA scoping report (60 min) <i>Facilitated by the national and international UNECE consultants</i> • Presentation by working groups and discussion (30 min) <i>Facilitated by Ms. Tamar Gugushvili, Project National Coordinator, GEO</i>
17.00 – 17.45	<p>Concluding session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of main conclusions • Introduction of home assignment <p><i>Ms. Tamar Gugushvili, Project National Coordinator, GEO, and Mr. Martin Smutny, UNECE Secretariat</i></p>
17.45	End of workshop