

# Developing legislative framework for the environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment in line with the UNECE Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA in Belarus

Training workshops and drafting sessions

Address: 19 - 22 September, Renaissance Minsk Hotel,  
Dzerzhinsky Avenue 1 E, Minsk, the Republic of Belarus, 2016

## Programme

### Day 1: 19 September

#### **Training workshop on Environmental Impact Assessment according to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention)**

*Target group: environmental authorities, research institutes and project developers*

*Facilitated by Mr. Andriy Shakhemirov, Head of the Department of the State Ecological, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus*

- 9:30 - 10:00**            **Registration of Participants**
- 10:00 - 10:15**            **Opening of the Meeting and aims of the seminar**
- 10:15 – 10:30**            **Presentation of Participants**  
*Facilitated by Mr. Andriy Shakhemirov*
- 10.30 – 10:45**            **Presentation:** Technical advice and capacity-building activities to support the implementation of the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA carried out in the framework of the EU Programme ‘Greening Economies in the European Neighbourhood’ (EaP GREEN)  
*Nadezhda Zdanevich, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus*
- 10:45 – 11:15**            **Presentation:** Introduction to the international legal framework of environmental assessment, role of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and experiences regarding current legislative reform of environmental impact assessment systems in the countries of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus  
*Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*
- 11:15 – 11:30**            **Presentation:** Existing environmental assessment framework in the Republic of Belarus

*Andrei Shakhemirov, Head of the Department of the state Ecological, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus*

- 11:30 – 12:00** Coffee break
- 12:00 – 12:30** **Presentation and practical exercise:** Conceptual differences between international legal standards for EIA and OVOS/environmental expertise system  
*Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*
- 12:30 – 13:00** **Presentation:** Place of EIA in development control and the role of authorities and other actors according to the acknowledged international practice  
*Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*  
**Exercise**
- 13:00 – 14:00** Lunch
- 14:00 – 15:15** **Presentation and practical exercise:** : EIA elements of an environmental assessment framework in light of the requirements of the Espoo Convention and other international standards
- List of activities subject to EIA procedure
  - Approaches to screening and the role of the authorities
  - Scoping methods and the role of the authorities
  - EIA Report
- Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*
- 15:15 – 16:00** **Presentation and practical exercise:** EIA elements of an environmental assessment framework in light of the requirements of the Espoo Convention and other international standards
- Consultation with the authorities
  - Public participation
- Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*
- 16:00 – 16:45** **Presentation and practical exercise:** Transboundary consultations – in light of the requirements of the Espoo Convention and experience of its Implementation Committee  
*Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*  
**Coffee break will be served during the practical exercise**



- 16:45 – 17:00**      **Presentation** Incorporation of the results of EIA into the final decision  
*Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention*
- 17:00-17:45**      **Discussion** (coffee will be served during the discussion)  
How to ensure compliance with international obligations within EIA framework in Belarus? What should be the role of EIA report? How to incorporate the results of the consultations with the national authorities and results of the public participation into the final decision?  
*Nadezhda Zdanevich, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus*
- 17.45 - 18.00**      The way forward to align the existing legal framework of Belarus with the Espoo Convention  
Conclusions and closure of the day  
*Mr. Andriy Shakhemirov, Head of the Department of the State Ecological, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus*

**Day 2: 20 September**

## **Training workshop: Transposition of the provisions of the UNECE Protocol on SEA into the national legislation**

*For the representatives of the authorities responsible for economic development, urban planning, agriculture, forestry, transport, energy and environmental authorities  
Facilitated by Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, Legal consultants to UNECE*

<b>9:30 - 10:00</b>	<b>Registration of Participants</b>
<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<b>Opening of the Meeting, aims of the seminar and introduction of participants</b> Speakers: <i>Mr. Andriy Shakhemirov, Head of the Department of the State Ecological, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus</i>
<b>10:15 – 10:45</b>	Introduction to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and its benefits <i>Nadezhda Zdanevich, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus</i> Introduction to the international legal framework of environmental assessments and conceptual differences between SEA and OVOS/environmental expertise system <i>Jerzy Jendroska, consultant to the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention</i> Discussion
<b>10:45 – 11:40</b>	<b>Working session I:</b> General provisions and definitions
<b>11:40 – 12:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>12:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>Working session II:</b> Field of application of SEA (screening) Group work
<b>12:30 – 13:00</b>	<b>Working session III:</b> Scoping and the role of the environmental and health authorities Group work
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>



- 14:00 – 15:00**      **Working session IV:** Environmental report, its quality control, and the role of the environmental and health authorities
- 15:00 – 16:00**      **Working session V:** Consultations with the relevant environment and health authorities
- 16:00 – 16:20**      **Coffee break**
- 16:20 – 16:50**      **Working session VI:** Public participation
- 16:50 – 17:20**      **Working session VI:** Transboundary consultations with affected Parties
- 17:20 – 17:40**      **Presentation:** Incorporating the results of SEA procedures into final project and strategic documents and final development decisions  
*Jerzy Jendroska, UNECE Consultant*  
**Discussion**
- 17:40 – 18:00**      Final discussion and reflections on environmental assessment system in the Republic of Belarus in light of international obligations  
*Moderated by Nadezhda Zdanevich*
- 18:00**              **Closure of the meeting**



**Day 3:** 21 Working session of the drafting group to amend the EIA regulation in line with the Espoo Convention  
**September**  
**09:30 – 17:30**

Target group: representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection responsible for amending the regulation on OVOS.

**Day 4:** 22 Working session of the drafting group to develop a regulation on SEA in line with the provisions of the Protocol on SEA  
**September**  
**09:30 – 17:30**

Target group: representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection responsible for development of the regulation on SEA.