

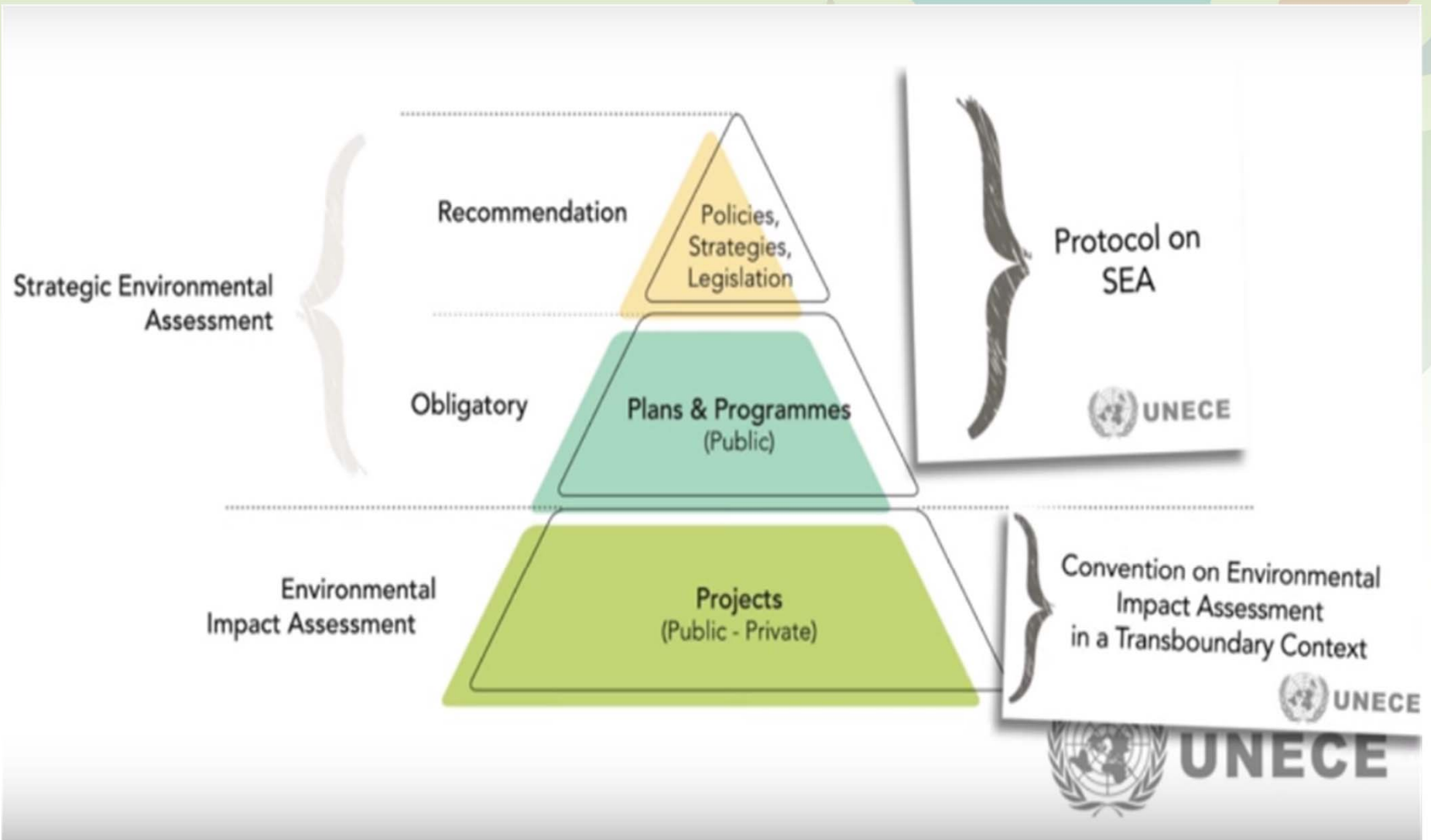


# Introduction to the UNECE Protocol on SEA and UNECE technical assistance within EaP GREEN in Georgia

Martin Smutny  
Consultant to UNECE  
Tbilisi, 27 April 2017

# PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention)



## Slide 2

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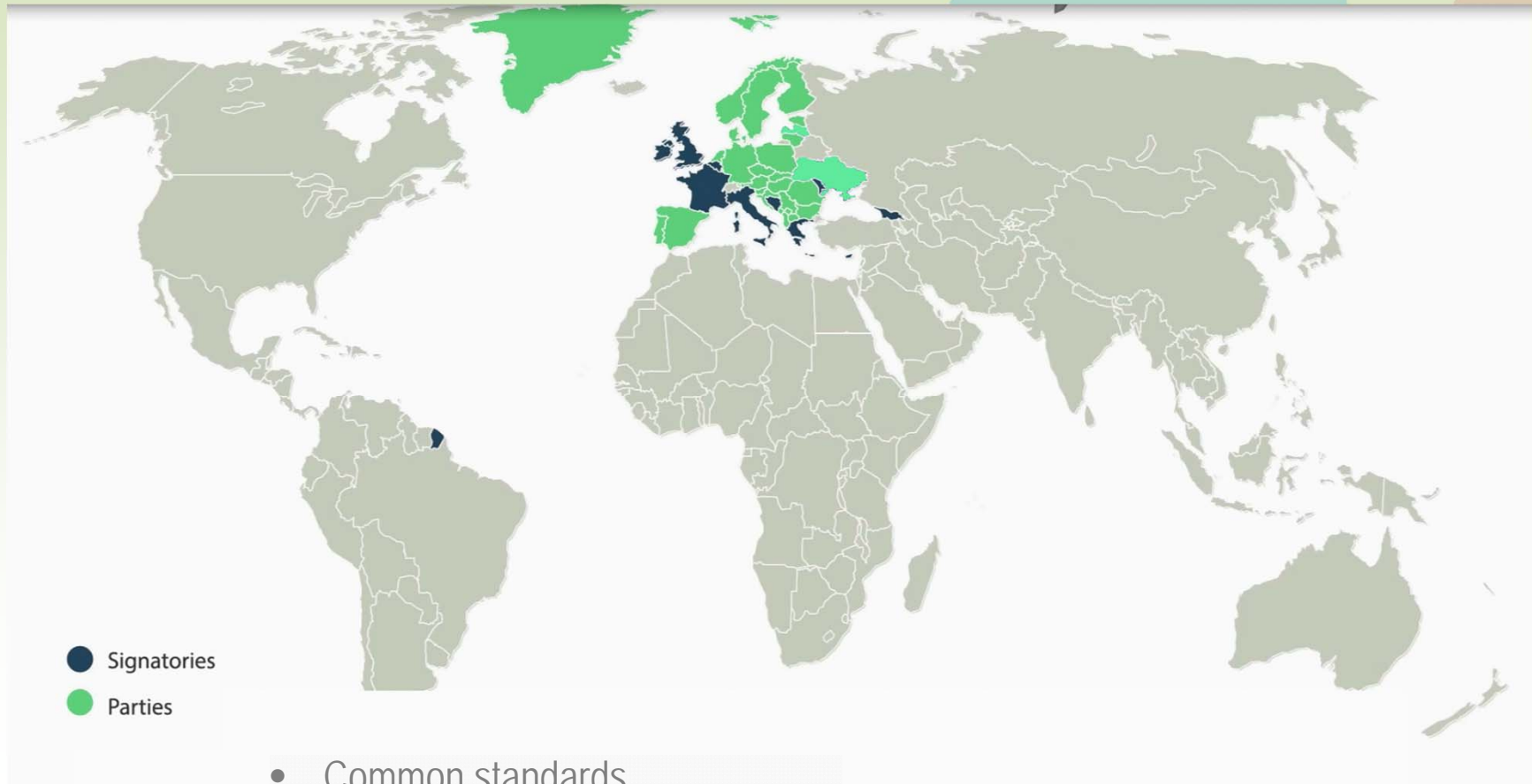
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martin smutny, 20/02/2017

# PROTOCOL ON SEA

Global instrument

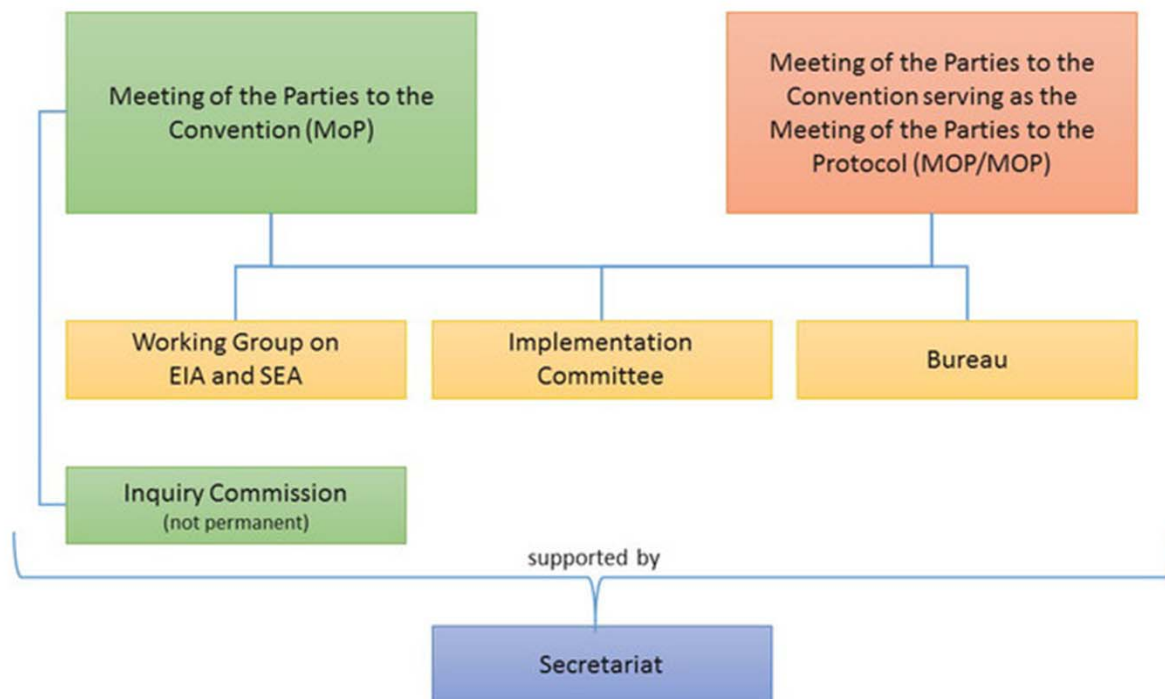


- Common standards
- Network of the Parties
- Experience exchange
- Technical assistance
- Implementation Committee

28 February 2017

# UNECE SECRETARIAT

to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Contexts (Espoo Convention) & its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA)



- Promotes exchange of good practices
- Supports sub-regional cooperation & capacity-building
- Promotes ratification & application of SEA Protocol

# EaP GREEN

**Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood** (EaP GREEN) programme is a large regional programme implemented in 2013-2017 by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), OECD, UNEP, and UNIDO to assist the six European Union's Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, in their transition to green economy.

The programme is financed by the European Commission, the four implementing organisations and other donors.



# EaP GREEN

The programme's overall objective is to assist the EaP countries ***to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and resource depletion.***

The programme component that ECE is in charge of implementing, aims to ***promote the use of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) as essential planning tools for an environmentally sustainable economic development.***

# SEA/EIA work-streams in EaP GREEN

- Revision of the existing national regulatory and legislative framework
  - Legal reviews and legal drafting
- Capacity building on SEA/EIA procedures
  - Trainings and workshops (national and sub-regional)
  - SEA/EIA pilots
- Strengthening of administrative capacities
  - Facilitating policy dialogue
  - Recommendations on institutional framework for SEA/EIA



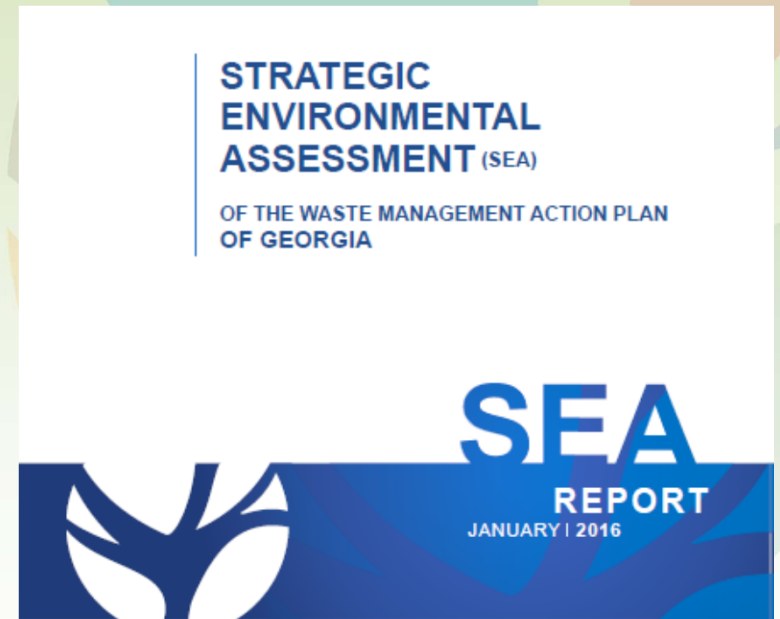
# Activities in Georgia: legal development

- Initial review of the legislative and institutional framework on EIA (2013) and SEA (2014)
- Assistance in preparation of the new Environmental Assessment Code and awareness raising activities to support its adoption
  - High-level roundtable organized in cooperation with the Netherlands Commission on Environmental Assessment (December 2015)
  - SEA awareness raising workshop for planning authorities and consultants (November 2016)

# Activities in Georgia: SEA pilot

SEA on the National Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan of Georgia was conducted (2015 – 2016)

- SEA pilot included
  - Analytical work of the SEA team
  - Training workshops
  - Consultation events
- It resulted in
  - Inputs to the Strategy and Action Plan and recommendations for its implementation
  - Increased understanding of SEA steps and analytical stages



# Activities in Georgia: Capacity building and awareness raising

- Preparation of 'Guidelines on Practical Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in Georgia'
- Support to preparation of 'Guidelines on Practical Application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in Georgia'

The drafting processes were used as another mean of capacity building – i.e. the **working group** consisting of the representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resource Protection, and the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs, as well as the national and international experts, **played a key role in preparing the guidelines.**

# Activities in Georgia: Capacity building and awareness raising

Two focused workshops for the experts from Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection and the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs organized:

- Scoping (April 2016)
- Quality control in SEA (November 2016)



# Activities in Georgia: Capacity building and awareness raising

Video on the Protocol on SEA prepared in Georgian language



Brochure on development of SEA and EIA systems in Georgia prepared both in Georgian and English languages





# Sub-regional activities

Study Tour on Sharing Best Practices of the Czech Republic in the field of applying SEA (December 2014, five participants from Georgia)



EaP GREEN sub-  
regional conference  
and SEA train-the-  
trainers workshop  
regional experience  
sharing events  
(Kakheti, Georgia,  
November 2015)



# Further activities in 2017

- National level
  - Final dissemination event and the training on SEA (April 2017)
  - Preparing SEA/EIA capacity building strategy (April – June 2017)
- Sub-regional level
  - Final EaP GREEN SEA/EIA event including the 2<sup>nd</sup> ToT session (Ukraine, November 2017)

Thank you for your attention!

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<http://www.green-economies-eap.org/>

[https://www.unece.org/es/env/eia/about/eap\\_green.html](https://www.unece.org/es/env/eia/about/eap_green.html)