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Partnership for Environment and Growth



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# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA in the Republic of Moldova

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# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Objectives of the Roadmap:

- Establish a framework for the promotion and implementation of the EIA/SEA in the Republic of Moldova;
- Briefly evaluate the current state of the implementation of EIA and SEA in Moldova, identify major gaps and challenges;
- Elaborate short term actions and identify key stakeholders and beneficiaries;
- Propose capacity building and institutional arrangements.

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Challenges that need to be addressed after enactment of the EIA and SEA processes:

- Limited institutional capacity in the central governmental authorities and in the MARDE (1 person on EIA, 1 person on SEA) to coordinate and implement EIA/SEA processes. Increased number of SEA and EIA cases present a problem for capacity of the Ministry, decentralisation of SEA/EIA coordination and management might be considered;
- Limited information on EIA and SEA among the authorities/decision makers and project developers;

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Challenges that need to be addressed after enactment of the EIA and SEA processes:

- There is limited capacity of consultancy companies, authorities and practitioners to carry out SEA and EIA (again, increased demand can be expected after Law on SEA enter in force);
- There is a lack of data, in particular spatial/GIS data, of disaggregated data for local level, insufficient data and information on environment and health status of population;
- Capacity/staff required for EIA and SEA background documents and evaluations;

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Challenges that need to be addressed after enactment of the EIA and SEA processes:

- The costs of additional steps in SEA/EIA procedures (screening, scoping, potential transboundary consultations, more extensive public consultations) need to be considered in further governmental/ministerial budgeting process and/or external support;
- Unclear procedural steps as well as roles and responsibilities of main actors involved in SEA and EIA (i.e. who should do what and when);
- Weak monitoring and post-project analysis schemes (i.e. no control process in place on how SEA/EIA conclusions are implemented in practice);

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

**Challenges that need to be addressed after enactment of the EIA and SEA processes:**

- Non-existence of SEA/EIA database, open for the public;
- Non-existence of national environmental assessment network or association and experts authorisation process;
- Limited international/bilateral collaboration in field of EIAA/SEA (Romania, Ukraine, EU/Black Sea region and Moldova).

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Objectives and priorities:

Improve system capacity i.e. “frameworks within which institutions and individuals operate”:

Legal framework

Regulations

Guidelines

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Objectives and priorities:

Strengthen institutional capacity i.e. ability of institution to “operate effectively within the given system”:

- Capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment and of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection
- Capacity of planning agencies and of the EPA
- Capacity of other relevant authorities (e.g. those issues the building permits and should follow an control the conditions given by EIA/ecological expertise and on SEA procedures)
- Management of data and information



# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Objectives and priorities:

Strengthen human capacity i.e. “skills and expertise of individual persons and their motivation”:

- Expertise needed for conducting SEA/EIA
- Training schemes for staff from MARDE, EPA, other governmental authorities, planners.

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Major short term activates:

- Institutional changes for EIA/SEA promotion and implementation (EPA Department on EIA/SEA);
- Developing secondary legislation;
- Promotion of developed draft Law on the ratification of SEA Protocol (to be approved by Government and adopted by Parliament in 2018);

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Major short term activates:

- Preparing Guiding documents on specific topics (e.g. methods and tools for evaluating the impacts, quality control, how to consider climate change, ecosystem services, territorial development/planning in EIA/SEA, etc.) or procedural aspects (e.g. screening, public participation, etc.);
- The database of SEA and EIA cases should be established;

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Major short term activates:

The training scheme for environmental and health authorities and the practitioners should be developed.

Organizing trainings and awareness raising events for:

- Environmental and health authorities
- Key economy sector authorities
- Planning agencies and planners
- Decision-makers
- Environmental experts and practitioners
- NGOs and public.

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Major short term activates:

- Supporting practical application of SEA and EIA (i.e. conducting pilot SEAs and EIAs). Learning by doing process – piloting SEA in economic sectors;
- Preparing the list of sensitive environmental and health issues for national/local levels with regular updated as a basis for SEA and EIA;
- Introducing twinning project(s) i.e. inviting expert to be involved in the operations of the Ministry;

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Major short term activates :

- A scheme of qualification/accreditation for SEA/EIA experts should be considered, optimally linked to the training and capacity development system;
- Planning agencies and local self-government need to be involved in further awareness raising on SEA and EIA;
- Preparing awareness raising materials (e.g. leaflet on efficient public participation in EIA/SEA);
- Organizing exchange of experience with SEA and EIA with other countries (from the region/neighbours (Romania, Ukraine) and/or EU Member States (CZ, Germany));



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# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Major short term activates:

- Support to networking and information sharing system at the national level on EIA and SEA;
- Integration of EIA/SEA provisions in the University curricula for relevant specialities;
- Information and awareness for general public on EIA/SEA;

# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Implementation phase:

- Responsible institutions: MARDE, EPA:
  - Mobilize funds needed and potential sources;
  - Coordinate and monitor implementation of the Roadmap;
  - Evaluate progress indicators;
  - Report to the Government and to the Convention;

***The Action plan*** for the implementation of the Roadmap for 3 years (with more detailed actions for 2018).



# Roadmap on Capacity Building on SEA/EIA

## Next steps in EIA/SEA Roadmap promotion and follow-up:

- Finalization and approval of the Roadmap;
- Promote institutional reforms and capacity building for EIA/SEA implementation;
- Mobilize funds for SEA in the economic sectors;
- Organize trainings on SEA for governmental authorities/new personnel after the governmental and environmental institutions reform;
- Involve NGOs and general public in EIA/SEA process;
- Facilitate regional collaboration and exchange of experience at regional level;
- Attract technical assistance.



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