



Management and coordination of SEA procedure – main actors in SEA

Martin Smutny
Consultant to UNECE
Minsk, 19 December 2017

Main actors in SEA

- Planning agencies (sectoral ministries, municipalities etc.)
- Environmental and health authorities
- Other governmental institutions
- Public (civil society, non-governmental organizations etc.)
- Consultants and experts
- Other – likely affected – countries
- Decision-makers (governmental bodies adopting the plans or programmes)

Tasks of planning agencies

- Ensure SEA application
- Conduct consultations with environmental and health authorities
- *Ensure timely and effective opportunities for public participation within SEA*
- Take into account the SEA report and the results of public consultations in the plan or programme
- Carry out monitoring of environmental and health effects during plan or programme implementation
- Take measures to eliminate adverse effects on the environment, including human health, caused by the plan or programme

Tasks for environmental and health authorities

- *Coordinate SEA procedure including public participation and transboundary consultations*
- *Issue decisions in certain steps of SEA procedures*
- Provide expert inputs
- Carry out quality control of SEA

Other governmental agencies

- Can be involved in SEA process to provide specific inputs

Public

- Public has to be provided with an early, timely and effective opportunities to participate in SEA **when all options are open**
- Following need to be ensured:
 - Timely public availability of the draft plan or programme and the environmental report
 - Opportunity for public to express its opinion on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report within a reasonable time frame
 - Detailed arrangements for informing the public and consulting the public concerned are determined and made publicly available.

Consultants and experts

- Prepare scoping and environmental report (including all relevant analyses)
- Should communicate SEA results to the planners/planning agency
- May facilitate consultations and public participation
- Consider outcomes of consultations in relevant reports

Other – likely affected – countries

- Should there be likely significant transboundary effects, the likely affected country should be – as early as possible before the adoption of the plan or programme – notified with following:
 - The draft plan or programme and the environmental report including information on its possible transboundary environmental and health, effects;
 - Information regarding the decision-making procedure, including an indication of a reasonable time schedule for the transmission of comments.
- Based on notification, the likely affected country may enter into consultations concerning the likely transboundary effects and the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce or mitigate adverse effects.

Decision-makers i.

- When adopting the plan or programme, following have to be taken into account:
 - The measures to prevent, reduce or mitigate the adverse effects identified in the environmental report;
 - Comments received through consultations (including transboundary) and public participations

Decision-makers ii.

- After adoption, the public, environmental and health countries and likely affected countries, should have available:
 - Document as adopted
 - Statement summarizing how the environmental and health considerations and comments received through consultations have been integrated into it, and reasons for adopting it in the light of the reasonable alternatives considered.

Thank you for your attention!