

BENEFITS OF INTRODUCING MODERN STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IN UKRAINE

Round Table for Heads of Departments within Executive Authorities

28 February 2017

Aarhus Centre, Kyiv, Ukraine

The aim of the half-day round table is to promote the benefits of efficient application of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in order to support the establishment of the SEA system in Ukraine in line with the requirements of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on SEA that entered in force in Ukraine in March 2016, as well as with the provisions of the EU Directive on SEA (2001/42/EC) as stipulated by the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, 2014-2017.

Main principles of good SEA practice will be introduced to the participants of the event to highlight the role of the SEA procedure as a tool for improving sectoral planning and promoting sustainable development principles. The examples of successful SEA cases in various economic sectors in different countries will be presented to support theoretical backgrounds. The presentation of SEA benefits should initiate the discussion on the roles of different sectoral ministries and authorities in SEA. The participants will be invited to consider the requirements of the Draft Law of Ukraine “On Strategic Environmental Assessment” and suggest the first priority measures to create a national SEA system in the country. The experts from UNECE and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) will share their experiences in practical application of SEA and in the development of national environmental assessment legislation.

The event will host the representatives of the Parliament of Ukraine, higher level officials from central executive authorities that are responsible for economic and industrial development, energy, transport, agriculture, tourism, mining, forestry, as well as the representatives of environmental and health authorities.

The round-table is organized by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, together with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) within the framework of the European Union (EU) funded Programme “Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood” (EaP GREEN). The logistical support is provided by Law-Making and Information Technologies Institute NGO (Ukraine).

AGENDA

Moderator: Ms. Lesya Karnaukh, Head of Department of Strategic Environmental Policy, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine

09:30-10:00	Welcome and registration of the participants
10:00- 10:20	<p>Welcome addresses</p> <p><i>Mr. Mykola Kuzyo</i>, Deputy Minister on European Integration, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine</p> <p><i>Mr. Martin Smutny</i>, Consultant, Secretariat to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA)</p> <p><i>Mr. Ivan Rybak</i>, Member of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine</p> <p><i>Mr. Ostap Yednak</i>, Member of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine</p> <p><i>Mr. Alexander Klitko</i>, Project Manager for Environmental Sector, Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine</p>
10:20 – 10:30	Introduction of the participants
10:30 – 11:00	<p>Session I: Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) as a systematic and anticipatory tool to assist national governments in safeguarding sustainable socio-economic development of their countries</p> <p>Presentations and video (20 minutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives of SEA and its benefits • Main principles of efficient SEA practice, • International commitments: the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA and EU Directive on SEA • Main actors in SEA and role of sectoral planning authorities <p><i>Mr. Martin Smutny</i>, Consultant, Secretariat to the Espoo Convention, and <i>Dr. Maia Gachechiladze-Bozhesku</i>, International SEA Consultant to UNECE</p> <p>Questions and Answers (10 minutes)</p>
11.00 – 11:40	<p>Session II: Practical application of SEA in various countries: achievements, costs and perceptions</p> <p>Presentation (15 minutes): Application of SEA by EBRD as a tool for facilitating investments into the renewable energy sector</p> <p><i>Ms. Olena Borysova</i>, EBRD</p> <p><i>Questions and Answers (5 minutes)</i></p>

	<p>Presentation (15 minutes): Examples of SEA application</p> <p><i>Mr. Martin Smutny, Consultant, Secretariat to the Espoo Convention, and Dr. Maia Gachechiladze-Bozhesku, International SEA Consultant to UNECE</i></p> <p><i>Questions and Answers (5 minutes)</i></p>
11:40 – 12:00	Coffee Break
12:00 – 12:25	<p>Session III: SEA system in Ukraine: current experience, challenges and a need for legal and institutional reforms</p> <p>Presentation (10 minutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current state of SEA application - Key requirements of the draft Law of Ukraine “On Strategic Environment Assessment” (with a focus on practical aspect) <p><i>Ms. Natalia Trofimenko and Ms. Maryna Shimkus, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Ukraine</i></p> <p>Presentation (10 minutes): Methodological recommendations on SEA for Ukraine</p> <p><i>Vyacheslav Potapenko, lead author of the Methodological recommendations on SEA for Ukraine and the National expert on SEO UNECE</i></p> <p><i>Questions and Answers (5 minutes)</i></p>
12:25 – 13:00	<p>Session IV: Way forward for establishing a national SEA system in Ukraine as per the requirements of the Protocol on SEA and the EU Directives</p> <p>Discussion (35 minutes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What are the benefits and costs of application of SEA in Ukraine?</i> - <i>What are key challenges and ways to overcome them?</i>
13:00 – 13:10	Conclusion and closure of the event