

EaPGREEN

Partnership for Environment and Growth



This project is
funded by the EU

Scoping

Matthew Cashmore and Martin Smutny

Consultants to UNECE

Baku, 4 – 5 April 2018

Purpose of scoping

Scoping shall identify development interventions and relevant environmental and health issues, which should be further considered within the SEA

Scoping can also identify, as far as possible:

- territorial scope of the assessment and key areas of concern,
- stakeholders to be involved,
- data and information to be considered

Importance of scoping

- Scoping is important for efficiency of SEA process – it determines priority issues of concern and „scopes-out“ issues that are less important
- Priority issues become the main point of reference for
 - examining if/how environmental concerns are integrated into the planning document;
 - assessing positive or negative impacts of the proposed development (strategy, objectives, measures)

Guiding principles

- **Scoping out** (i.e. excluding certain issues) is as important as scoping in (otherwise SEA is too wide and unfocused)
- **Flexibility:** It is important to keep the scope of SEA flexible to allow its adjustments as the understanding of environmental implications of the proposed plan or programme unfolds.

Legal requirements (SEA Protocol)

- Arrangements for scoping need to be established
- Environmental and health authorities are consulted in scoping
- Opportunities for public concerned have to be provided in scoping

Scoping approaches and tools

- Optimally, scoping should be a combination of analyses and consultations with stakeholders to ensure that the outcomes
 - Are based on valid information and data
 - Consider opinions of relevant stakeholders
- Tools to be used include e.g.
 - Delphi sessions
 - Variations of matrixes (Rapid Impact Assessment etc.)
 - GIS / maps overlays
 - Trend analysis
 - Sectoral long-lists of typical impacts
 - SWOT analysis

Scoping should...

- Allow further assessment focusing only on the key sustainability issues which may be significantly affected by the plan or programme
- Provide input for decisions on the appropriate methods and analytical tools for further analyses of the key sustainability issues of the PPP
- Ensure that further SEA process reflects opinions of relevant stakeholders (i.e. consultations therefore should be a part of the scoping)

Practical approach

- Scoping should be combination of preliminary baseline analyses and consultations
- Preparation of the scoping report should already involved SEA experts
- Scoping consultations should be focused on getting feedback on the key issues to be further addressed
- Proposed scope of SEA should be discussed and agreed with planning team
- It is important to keep the scope of SEA flexible to allow its adjustments as the understanding of environmental implications of the proposed strategic document unfolds

Challenges in scoping

- It is usually based on a limited data and general analysis...
- ...however, it does not need (and it is not intended), to be detailed
- Results should be verified through further analysis, especially where proposed development and formulation of relevant mitigation measures require more detailed input

Scoping report

- Provides preliminary analysis of environmental and health conditions in the concerned area
- Identifies the needs for further analysis
- Documents initial SEA recommendations
- Suggests early inputs into the planning process
- Facilitates consultations with stakeholders (including the public)
- Presents a basis for preparation of SEA Report

Information/sections to be included in the scoping report

1. Non-technical summary
2. Introduction
 - Background information on SEA procedure
 - Purpose of scoping report
 - Scoping approach and methodology
3. Main features of the plan or programme
 - Structure and content
 - Main objectives and priorities
 - Implementation and linkages to other planning and decision-making schemes
 - Steps in planning process and approval/adoption of the plan or programme

Information/sections to be included in the scoping report

4. Characteristics of relevant environmental and health aspects
 - Specific concerns and problems
 - Trends and main drivers
 - Geographic areas of concern
5. Scope of SEA
 - The key issues to be addressed in SEA
 - Risks and opportunities related to the plan or programme
 - Options and measures to be considered in SEA and/or the plan or programme
6. Next steps
 - Analyses to be carried out
 - Relevant stakeholders and further consultations
 - Data and information further needed
7. Annexes
 - Detailed data and information
 - Other

Communication to the planners

- Scoping can already provide initial inputs and suggestions towards the plan or programme
- Therefore it is important to communicate those to the planners and agree on:
 - The key environmental and health issues and their linkages to the plan or programme
 - Initial suggestions towards the plan or programme
 - Data and information needed

Case example: SEA for Büyük Menderes River Basin Management Plan, Turkey



Case example: SEA for Büyük Menderes River Basin Management Plan, Turkey

Steps in scoping

- Step 1: Preparing the **draft Scoping Report** presenting the **initial outline of the situation** in the River Basin and providing a **preliminary indication of the likely key issues** to be addressed in further analyses (December 2014 – January 2015).
- Step 2: Presenting and discussing the draft Scoping Report at the Information Meeting with the key stakeholders (Ankara, January 15th, 2015).
- Step 3: Further elaboration of the Scoping Report integrating additional data and information obtained from the stakeholders (February – March 2015)

Case example: SEA for Büyük Menderes River Basin Management Plan, Turkey

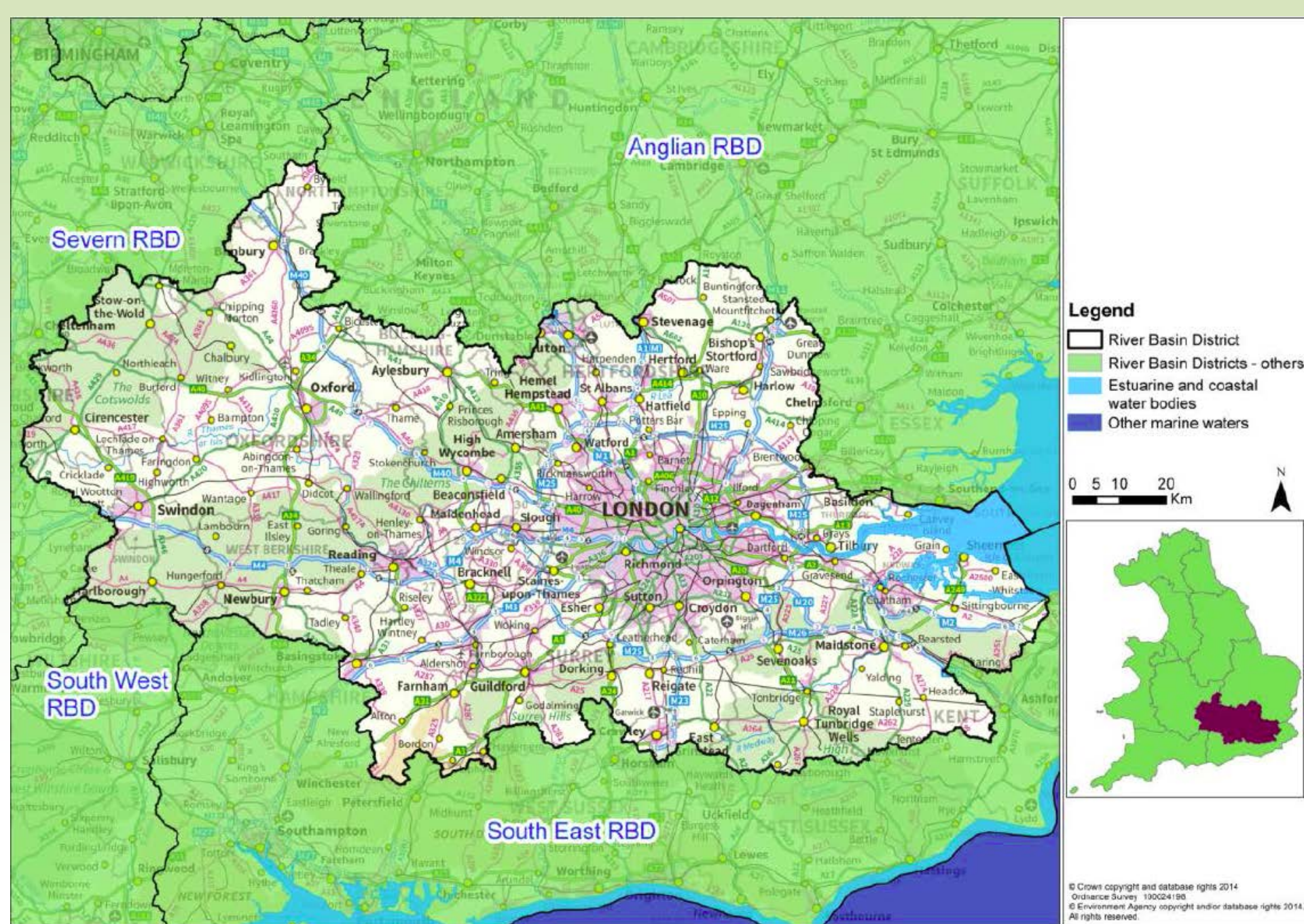
Steps in scoping

- Step 4:
 - Presenting and discussing the advanced draft Scoping Report at the Information Meeting and Scoping Meeting with local stakeholders (organized in Aydın, March 30th and April 2nd 2015);
 - Besides those meetings, targeted informal meetings were organized to discuss specific questions with the relevant local stakeholders (especially with the Provincial Environmental Directorate, WWF etc.).
- Step 5: Finalizing the Scoping Report and disseminating its final version (April – May 2015).

Scope of SEA – see separate handout

Case example: SEA for Thames River Basin Management Plan, England

- Proponent of RBMP: UK Environment Agency
- Its an update of RBMP (from 2009) for period 2015 – 2021
- SEA carried out UK Environment Agency
- SEA took into account ‘pro-environmental’ purpose of the RBMP
- SEA meets requirements given by the EU SEA Directive, however does not ‘blindly’ follow it



2016/17



Case example: SEA for Thames River Basin Management Plan, England

- Scoping results:
 - Air quality scoped out
 - Heritage features – consideration of also unprotected features
 - Biodiversity – local wildlife sites not included in assessment, only effects on sites of international and national importance
 - Light pollution scoped out
 - Hydropower development – not included in the RBMP, therefore not addressed in SEA

Case example: SEA for Thames River Basin Management Plan, England

- Key issues (ecological services)
 - Provision of fresh water
 - Provision of food
 - Water for non-consumptive use
 - Climate regulation and adaptation
 - The natural flow of water
 - Control of erosion
 - Water purification
 - Cultural heritage
 - Recreation and tourism
 - Landscape or townscape character
 - Designated nature conservation sites
 - Provision of habitat

Case example: Scoping consultation in Engl. & Wales

2. Is there any data that could further inform the baseline?		
Gordon Bridger	It also makes it quite clear that the greatest hindrance to further development is traffic congestion and the greatest need is for affordable housing . They quote a survey carried out by GBC in 2008 which asks "Factors making The Borough bad for Business". Overwhelmingly 63% quoted Traffic Congestion and Lack of affordable housing (also 63%).	Updated data under "economy" subsection
Gordon Bridger	One of the most important conclusions of the 2009 Economic report was that traffic congestion was the main problem facing the town centre and that key worker housing Guildford's greatest need. Why has this been ignored ?	This has been covered at the beginning of the 'employment' section and is also covered in sections 9 (Housing) and 7 (Transport).
Gordon Bridger	Population Increase - this has been given as increasing to 162,000 by 2035. I trust the justification and implications of this objective will be established	Bottom of page 8 - footnote 18 - add source of projections (CLG?)
Gordon Bridger	Economy and Employment - this refers briefly to the excellent 2009 Economic Report and mentions the Gross Value Added (GVA) of various sectors but completely fails to draw conclusions from it. The most important economic growth sector at 31% of GVA is that provided by professional technical knowledge based services , followed by the public sector at 30%. Retail and Distributive is a poor third, manufacturing 10%. One would expect this important lead sector, which is vital not only to our economy and also to Britain, to figure as the key to development of the Borough. Nothing doing - it gets no mention anywhere. Why has Technology been ignored ? There is no mention at all of office development (which is necessary for high skilled employment away from the town centre). Why ?	Guildford Economic Strategy (2011) identifies that the borough has a much greater reliance on the public sector and manufacturing than that of its comparator economies, and significantly less reliance on commercial business services and finance. Objective 1 of that document seeks to 'support and expand the diversity in the borough's business base'. In light of the Guildford Economy being reliant upon public and commercial services, the Guildford Economic Development Study underlines the importance of 'protecting the Borough's existing manufacturing base as well as nurturing existing and attracting businesses in new and expanding sectors...' The word "changing" could also usefully be added in before "needs of the economy".
Jim Allen	Apart from the Information on Solar panels, etc, all the data appears to be taken from the 2001 census and is now 10 years old and due to the influx of both Immigrants and increase in traffic 1.5 – 2.5 % increase per year – and loss of retail shops due to the internet – the report does not in any way reflect the real numerical situation – within the Guildford Borough as of 2013	updated census data has been included where it is available. Data is sourced from the most up-to-date Local Plan Evidence Base documents
Natural England, Francesca Barker	To comply with the SEA Directive, we recommend that you include the following in the baseline: Biodiversity - Under Designated Sites: please include "Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham" Special Area of Conservation	
Natural England, Francesca Barker	To comply with the SEA Directive, we recommend that you include the following in the baseline: The network of ancient woodland sites within the borough	There are 493 Ancient Woodland sites that are fully or partly in Guildford borough, covering approx. 1,685 hectares of the borough (data from Surrey Wildlife Trust).
Natural England, Francesca Barker	To comply with the SEA Directive, we recommend that you include the following in the baseline: The condition of Thames Basin Heaths SPA and the corresponding SPA bird data should be referred to here. The bird survey data can be obtained from 2Js Ecology (2Js Ecology: john.eyre@ntiworld.com).	Your reference - JNCC and Defra (2012) UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework [online] available at: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6189 (accessed 14/02/13). I have looked at this report, and cannot find page 6189. Please clarify. This is not the data suggested by NE - Thames Basin Heath SPA's site condition assessments are available on Natural England's website. Please could you include this. The 2JS bird survey data is available from 2JS at the cost of compiling the data (email address provided in NE's letter). We have decided not to use data that will involve a cost to us in collecting.
Natural England, Francesca Barker	To comply with the SEA Directive, we recommend that you include the following in the baseline: A summary of the status and management of protected species, and BAP habitats and species in the borough.	

Thank you for your attention!