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2nd Training workshop on SEA application for the municipal spatial plans: SEA process after scoping

19 – 20 September 2019, Tbilisi

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What is SEA

A procedural tool to

- Analyze likely environmental and health effects related to strategic document
- Integrate environmental and health issues into strategic planning for better decision-making

SEA should inform the decision-making through

- a robust assessment of the likely environmental and health consequences, and of their relationship with the objectives and development proposals of the plan/programme;
- identification of development alternatives; and
- outcomes of the consultations;

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Efficient SEA application

- SEA has proven to be an useful tool with tangible results and ‘added value’
- However, it needs to be applied efficiently, otherwise it cannot deliver expected benefits
- Efficient application of SEA requires ‘thinking out of the box’
- Legislative SEA procedure is ONLY form, it is not a purpose of SEA

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SEA benefits

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- Provides for a high level of environmental and health protection – ensures that environmental and health implications of strategic decisions are considered and addressed before decisions are taken
- Reduces risks (provides early warning) and thus streamlines economic development
- Improves planning
- Saves time and costs – helps to prevent costly mistakes
- Increases the efficiency of decision-making and strengthens governance (transparency, participation, ownership)
- Enhances cross-sectoral and transboundary cooperation

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Scope of SEA application

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SEA is to be applied for “strategic documents” which set framework for future development projects listed in Annex 1 and Annex 2 of the EAC and are prepared in following sectors:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Fishery
- Energy
- Industry
- Transport
- Waste management
- Water management
- Electronic communication
- Tourism
- Planning and Spatial arrangement

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Main actors in SEA process

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Planning authority

Competent authority

- Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA)
- Ministry of IDPs from Occupied Territories, Health, Labour and Social Affairs (MoH)

Public and other stakeholders

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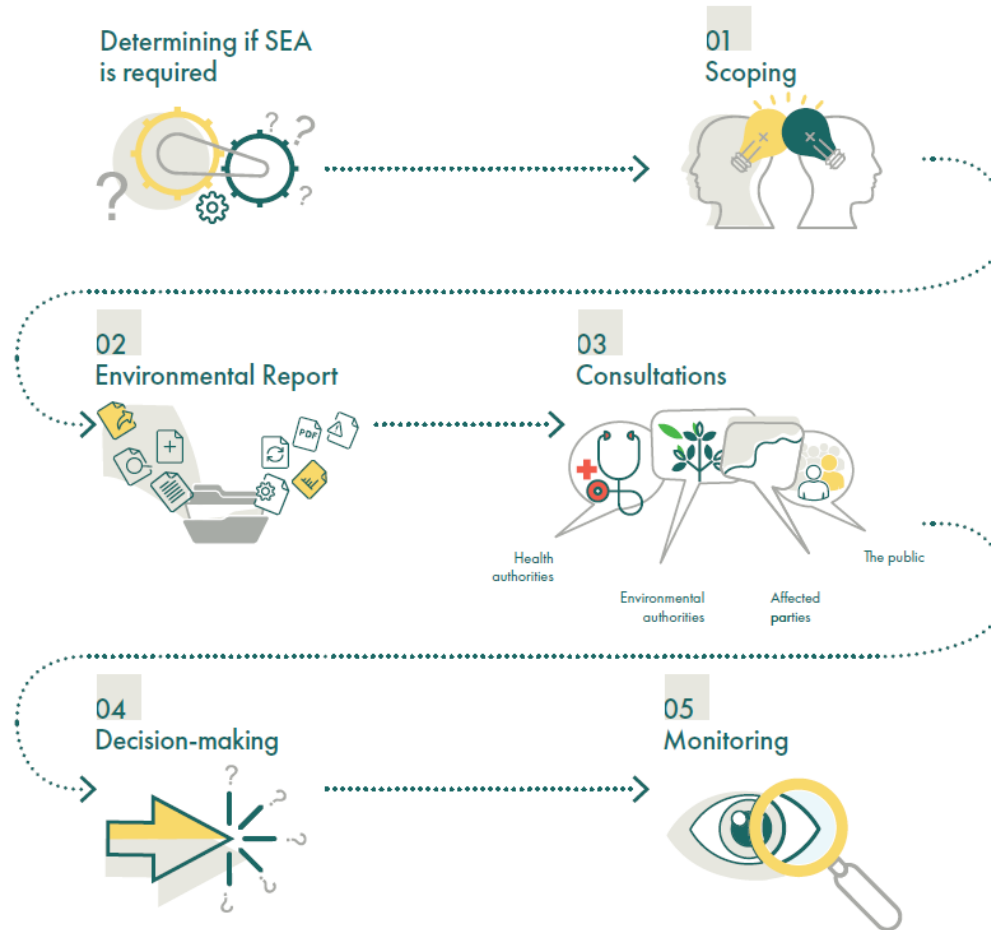


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SEA process in accordance with the SEA Protocol (and SEA Directive)

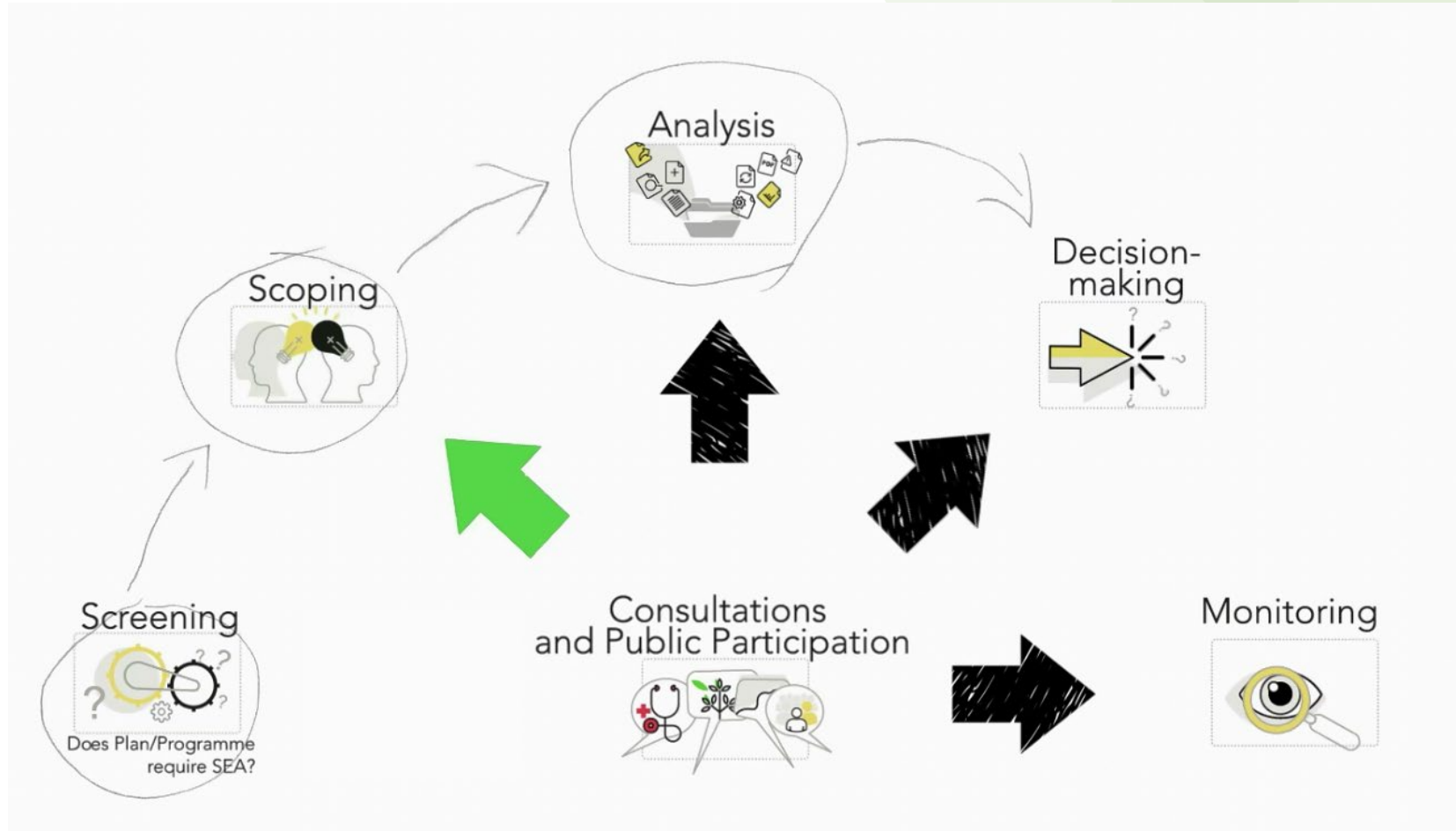




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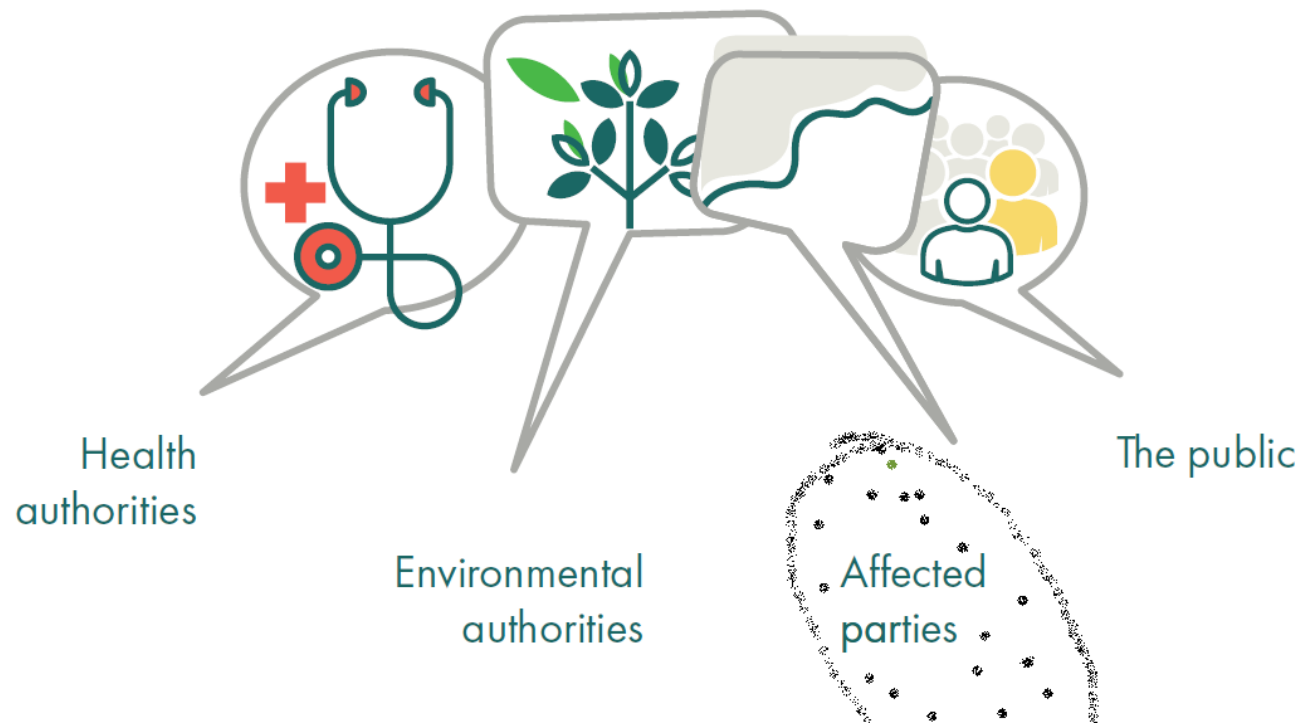


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Consultations

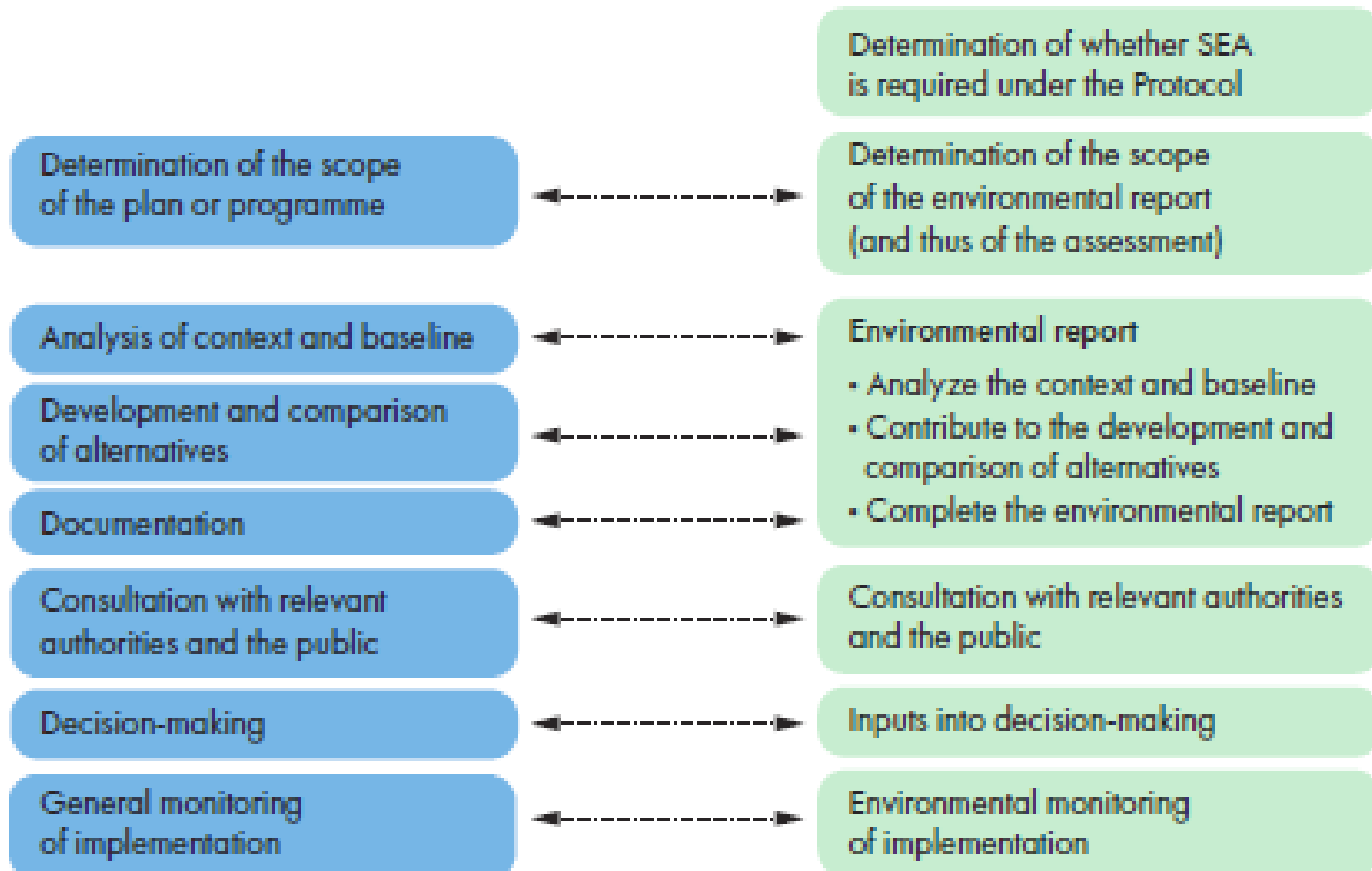


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Plan or programme making

SEA





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SEA process in Georgia

0. Screening
1. Scoping and preparation of scoping opinion
2. PREPARING SEA REPORT
 - Preparing the draft SEA report by planning agency
 - **Baseline analysis**
 - **Impact assessment**
 - **Mitigation measures**
 - Submitting the draft SEA Report to Ministry and Ministry of Health

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SEA process in Georgia

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Publishing the draft SEA Report and informing public about it
- Organizing public hearing (by planning agency) on the draft strategic document and SEA Report

4. ASSESSMENT OF SEA REPORT

- Establishing the expert commission by Ministry
- Review and assessment of SEA report
- Preparing opinion of the expert commission

5. ISSUING SEA RECOMMENDATIONS

6. MONITORING

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Adoption of strategic document

1. MEPA and MoH issue recommendations on the draft strategic document and the SEA report
2. Adoption/approval of strategic document is possible only after issuance of the recommendations on the draft strategic document and the SEA report
3. The decision on adoption/approval of strategic document should be accompanied:
 - the results of public hearing and the opinions and comments submitted by the public;
 - the recommendation of the MEPA and MoH;
 - the results of transboundary procedure, if applicable.

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Adoption of strategic document

4. The planning authority sends the decision on adoption/approval of the strategic document to the Ministry and the Ministry of Health, which publish the decision on their websites

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Monitoring

- The Ministry is responsible to monitor the significant environmental impact caused by implementation of strategic document based on the data available. Besides, with the purpose to inform the public the Ministry publishes the results of monitoring on its official website
- The internal procedure for further analysis of the results of the implementation of Strategic Document is defined by the order of the Minister on “Further analysis of the results of the implementation of Strategic Document”.

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Thank you for your attention!

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