



Main principles of SEA in accordance with the UNECE Protocol on SEA

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What is SEA



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- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a tool to ***integrate environmental and health considerations*** into plans, programmes as well as to policies and legislation alongside the economic and social considerations
- According to UNECE Protocol on SEA (art. 2, para. 6), SEA means ‘the ***evaluation of the likely environmental, including health, effects***, which comprises the determination of the ***scope of an environmental report and its preparation***, the ***carrying-out of public participation and consultations***, and the taking into account of the environmental report and the results of the public participation and consultations in a plan or programme’

Benefits of SEA



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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***
- Promotes a wide range of sustainability priorities and issues (climate change, energy transition, etc.) and this contributes to ***achieving SDGs***
- Reduces risks by providing 'early warning' and thus ***increases stability of investments and streamlines economic development*** and green growth (SEA may also be required by the International Financial Institutions)
- ***Saves time and costs***: helps to prevent costly mistakes and reduced the timeframes for project approval
- ***Increases the efficiency of decision-making*** and strengthens governance by making planning and decision-making more participatory and transparent
- Addresses potential conflicts between various economic sectors
- ***Enhances transboundary cooperation***

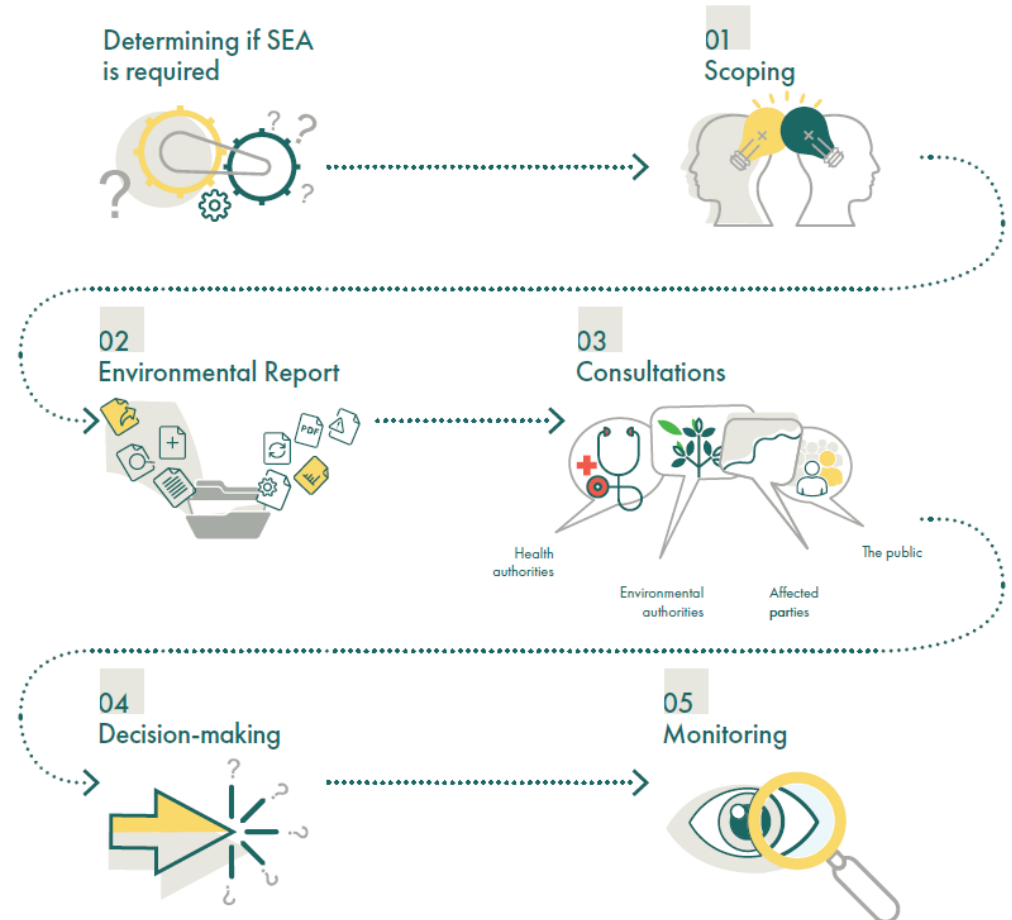
Scope of SEA application and its main steps



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SEA IS OBLIGATORY FOR PLANS AND PROGRAMMES IN:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Fisheries
- Energy
- Industry, including mining
- Transport
- Regional development
- Waste management
- Water management
- Telecommunications
- Tourism
- Town and country planning
- Land use



Main principles of SEA application



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- SEA should be
 - Undertaken by the *authority responsible for planning*
 - *Applied as early as possible* in planning and linked to the planning process
 - Focused on *key issues*
 - Evaluate reasonable range of *alternatives*
 - Provide opportunities for *consultations with environmental and health authorities and public participation*
 - *Adjusted to the strategic document assessed*, considering its focus and structure, key features of the planning process including consultations with governmental agencies and other stakeholders, etc.
 - Carried out with appropriate, cost-effective methods & techniques of analyses

Thank you

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