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# Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and regional and spatial planning

Second Training Workshop on the Practical Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)  
in Regional and Spatial Planning

5 October 2021

Baku, Azerbaijan

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# What is SEA?

SEA is a systematic & anticipatory process, undertaken to analyze environmental effects of proposed plans, programmes & other strategic actions and to integrate findings into decision-making

Key principles:

- Undertaken by the authority responsible for the given Plan/Programme (e.g. sectorial, spatial)
- Applied as early as possible in decision-making process
- Focused on key issues
- Evaluates reasonable range of alternatives
- Provides appropriate opportunities for involvement of key stakeholders & the public
- Carried out with appropriate, cost-effective methods & techniques of analysis

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# International Legal Framework: EU SEA Directive

The EU Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment

- Implemented in EU countries
- Transposed in accession countries => different levels of implementation

In force since July 2004 (EU)

- Varying integration of SEA Directive into national and regional legislation
- Varying practice and flexibility

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# International Legal Framework: EU SEA Directive

Defines plans and programmes that need to undergo SEA

- An SEA is mandatory for plans/programmes which are:
  - are prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste/ water management, telecommunications, tourism, town & country planning or land use **and** which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in the EIA Directive.
- Defines topics to be assessed: roughly 4:
- environment,
- nature,
- human health and
- cultural heritage

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# International Legal Framework: SEA Protocol

Protocol to the Espoo Convention (Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context)

Signed in 2003 in Kyiv, entry into force July 2010

- also known as „Kyiv“ Protocol
- Signatories: 38; Parties: 33

Similar to SEA Directive, but additional focus on:

- Impacts on human health
- Public consultation

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# Requirements of the SEA Protocol

## Article 4 – Field of Application concerning Plans and Programmes

“Plans and programmes” means plans and programmes and any modifications to them that are:

1. SEA is carried out for plans and programmes (...), **which are likely to have significant environmental, including health, effects.**
2. SEA shall be carried out for plans and programmes which are prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry including mining, transport, regional development, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, and **which set the framework for future development consent for projects** listed in annex I and any other project listed in annex II **that requires an environmental impact assessment under national legislation.**

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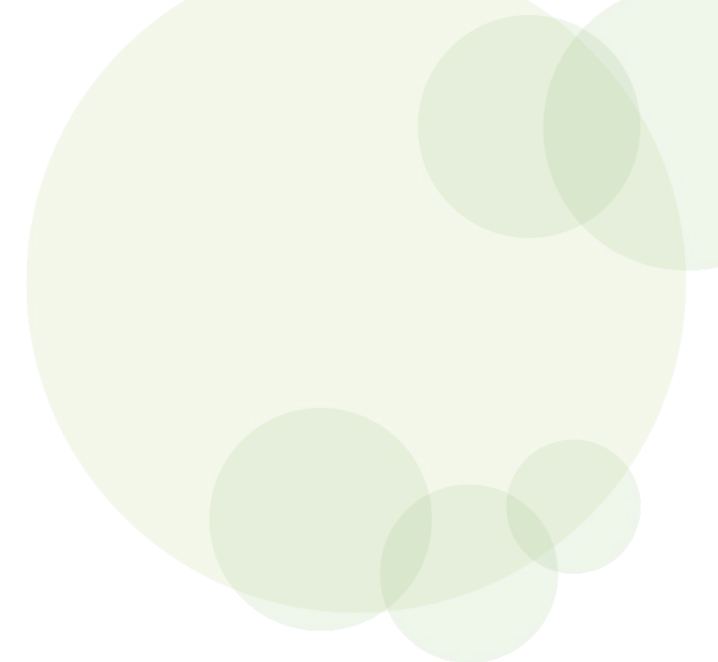
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## Requirements of the SEA Protocol (2)

The following plans and programmes **are not subject** to this Protocol:

- (a) Plans and programmes whose sole purpose is to serve national defence or civil emergencies;
- (b) Financial or budget plans and programmes.

SEA is also not required, if the plan or programme determines the use of a **small area at a local level** or is a **minor modification** to a plan or programme (SEA will be required only if the plan or programme is likely to have significant environmental effects)

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## SEA: What does it take?

- SEA runs in parallel with Planning (drafting of the Plan or Programme)
- SEA team of environmental specialists looks into the draft Plan/Programme and provide comments to planning (drafting) team about:
  - Potential impacts(risks) from the proposed actions to the environment, and
  - Measures to prevent, mitigate, and minimize identified risks
  - Measures to enhance likely positive effects
- SEA team put together Environmental Report summarizing its findings and recommendations
- SEA Environmental Report together with the draft plan are made available for public consultations
- Planning institution takes the SEA findings (Environmental Report) together with feedback from the public consultations into consideration when finalizing and approving the draft Plan or Programme

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## SEA: What does it take? (2)

- SEA initiation – when main thesis, objectives and priorities of the Plan or Programme are available.
- SEA Scoping – identification of what environmental issues are relevant for given Plan or Programme, where the environmental impacts are likely to appear.
- Draft Plan/Programme evaluation by environmental experts
- Environmental Report compilation
- Public consultation of the draft Plan/Programme together with the Environmental Report
- SEA Authority (Ministry of Environment) concludes the SEA process, and the Plan can be subsequently approved while taking into account the results of the SEA process

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## Typical / Generic SEA Steps

**0. Screening:** to determine if SEA is required for the specific plan or programme (P/P)

### 1. Scoping / Baseline Analysis

Determination of key issues that should be considered within the SEA process

Analysis of key issues i.e. past evolution, current situation and likely future evolution if the plan or programme is not implemented

**2. Assessment of effects** of the plan or programme on the key issues and development of mitigation measures (including monitoring scheme)

**3. Compilation of the SEA Report** and its submission for consultations with environmental and health authorities and the public

### 4. Consultations

**5. Taking information generated in SEA into due account in planning and decision-making** and explaining decision in publicly accountable manner

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## SEA: Key tangible deliverables

1. Scoping Report, which outlines the scope of assessment and suggests further analyses – submitted to the governmental authorities and other stakeholders for consultations to determine of the scope and focus of the future SEA Report.
2. SEA Report summarizing all environmental expert analyses, assessment findings and recommendations – subject of stakeholder consultations and basis for SEA conclusion.

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## Spatial Planning: Why SEA?

- Environmental issues without clear spatial dimension tend to get neglected
- Spatial planning tend to take into account only formal spatial limits (regulations)
- Environmental data often outdated/not reflecting reality (i.e. where the biodiversity hot-spots really are)
- Specific expertise often not available (i.e. biodiversity, air quality, hydrology,..)
- Planning process too long and complicated for non-specialist to participate: SEA simplify and singles out the key concerns and communicates them to the relevant stakeholders
- SEA should not duplicate the analyses made during the planning process
- Instead:
  - Verify the baseline conditions description and complement with additional information where necessary
  - Identify key concerns (where the potential for negative impacts lays) and focus on those



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## Spatial Planning: Why SEA? (2)

- SEA should not duplicate the analyses made during the planning process. Instead:
  - Verify the baseline conditions description and complement with additional information where necessary
  - Identify key environmental concerns (already existing problems as well as where the potential for negative impacts lays) and focus on those
  - Offer recommendations and opinion on feasible spatial alternatives, conditions for development, no-go areas for certain activities, etc.
- Nevertheless, for the SEA Report – the environmental baseline information can be (selectively) adopted from the planning analyses as appropriate (i.e. the SEA Report shall make use of already existing material).
- Working cooperation between Planners and SEA team crucial

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## SEA Scoping: Identification of key issues

Based on:

- (preliminary) baseline analyses: Existing environmental problems and key trends in the concerned area
- Relevant environmental policy objectives and goals

Č.	PRIORITA	A. OVZDUŠÍ	B. POVRCH. VODY	B. PODZEM. VODY	C. ZPF	D. PUPFL	E. FLÓRA, FAUNA, EKOSYSTÉMY	F. KRAJINA	G. HORNINOVÉ PROSTŘEDÍ	H. OBYVATELSTVO	I. KULTURNÍ A HISTORICKÉ PAMÁTKY
10.	Vytváření územních podmínek pro rozvoj integrované hromadné dopravy.	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0	X	X
11.	Vytváření územních podmínek pro rozvoj udržitelných druhů dopravy (pěší doprava, cyklo doprava) v návaznosti na: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ostatní dopravní systémy kraje;</li> <li>• systém pěších a cyklistických tras přílehlého území ČR, Slovenska a Polska</li> <li>• včetně preference jejich vymezení formou samostatných stezek s využitím vybraných místních a účelových komunikací s omezeným podílem motorové dopravy.</li> </ul>	0	0	0	X	X	X	0	0	0	0
12.	Polyfunkční využití rekultivovaných a revitalizovaných ploch ve vazbě na vlastnosti a požadavky okolního území.	X	XX	X	0	0	XX	XX	X	X	0
13.	Stabilizace a postupné zlepšování stavu složek životního prostředí především v centrální a východní části kraje. Vytváření podmínek pro postupné snižování zátěže obytného a rekreačního území hlukem a emisemi z dopravy a výrobních provozů.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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## SEA Approach

- Identification of relevant proposals/land-use changes that can bring about significant environmental effects
- Typically:
  - Development areas (housing, production and business, recreational, waste management...)
  - Transport infrastructure corridors and areas
  - Energy infrastructure corridors and areas
  - Water management corridors and areas (water reservoirs, dry polders,...)
  - ...

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# METROPOLITNÍ PLÁN

Návrh k projednání dle § 50 stavebního zákona ⓘ

Zapínání více vrstev

Z 01

Z 02

Z 03

Z 04

**S 01**

S 02

S 03

0 01

0 02

0 03









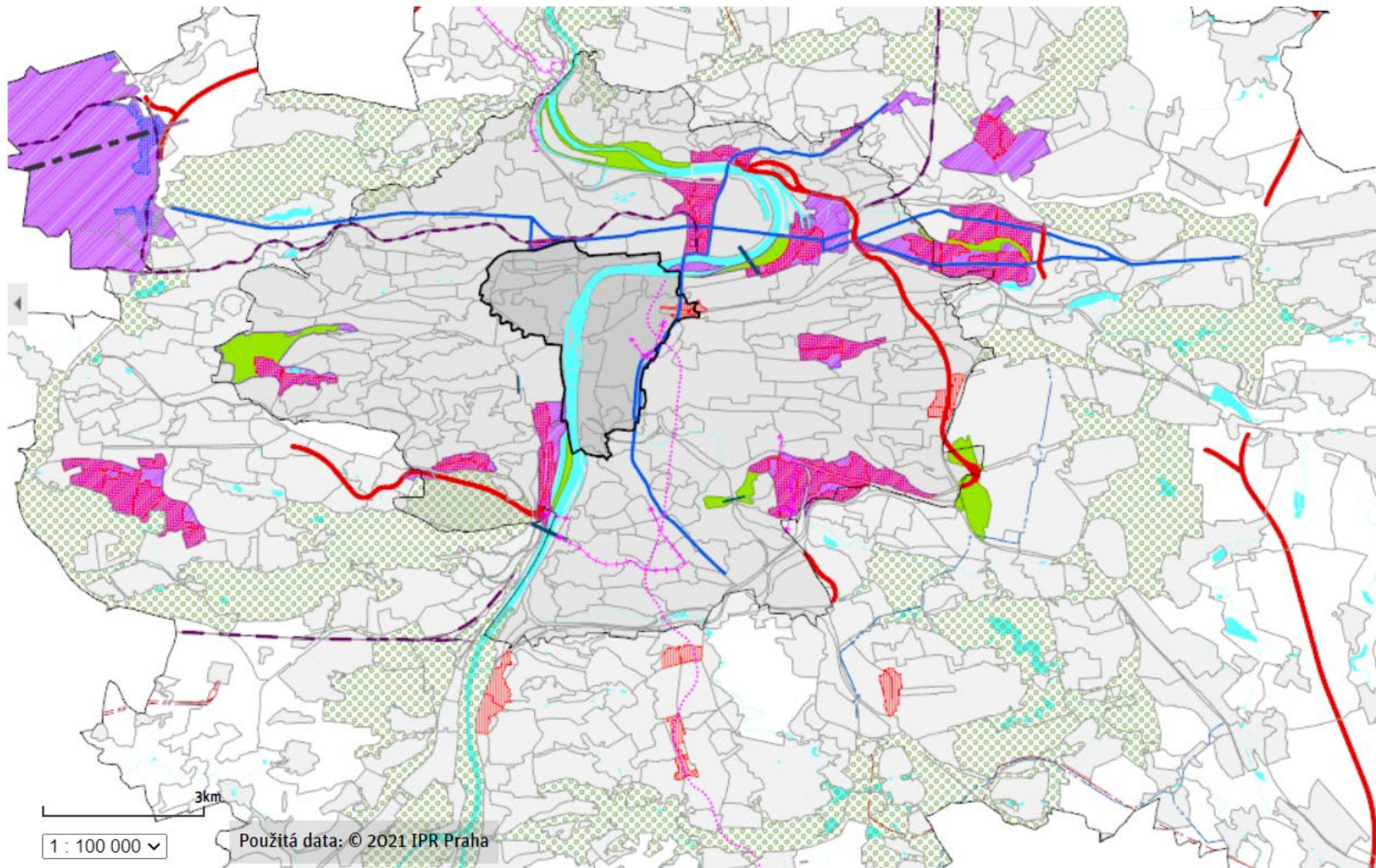
např. Vyšehradská 57

## S01 Schéma metropolitní priority



### METROPOLITNÍ PRIORITY – INVESTICE STÁTU

-  1/ DOSTAVBA PRAŽSKÉHO OKRUHU (SOKP)
  - 610/-/1 stavba č. 511 (Běchovice – Dálnice D1)
  - 610/-/2 stavba č. 518 (Ruzyně – Suchdol)
  - 610/-/3 stavba č. 519 (Suchdol – Břežíněves)
  - 610/-/4 stavba č. 520 (Břežíněves – Satalice)
  
-  2/ KOLEJOVÉ SPOJENÍ MĚSTA A LETIŠTĚ VÁCLAVA HAVLA PRAHA
  - 630/-/8 železniční trať Praha – Letiště – Kladno
  
-  3/ VYSOKORYCHLOSTNÍ TRATEŽ
  - 630/-/102 západní vstup Rychlého spojení
  - 630/-/103 severní vstup Rychlého spojení – západní trasa
  
-  4/ ROZVOJ LETIŠTĚ VÁCLAVA HAVLA PRAHA
  - 660/-/1 Nová paralelní vzletová a přistávací dráha (RWY 06R/24L) na letišti Václava Havla Praha
  
-  Rozvoj Letiště Václava Havla Praha v lokalitě 604 / Letiště Václava Havla – plochy
  - 411/604/2236, 413/604/2283, 413/604/2287
  - 413/604/2309
  
-  5/ ZÁSOBOVÁNÍ ENERGIEMI – ZVÝŠENÍ KAPACITY ELEKTRICKÉ ROZVODNÉ SÍTĚ NA ÚROVNI PŘENOSOVÉ SÍTĚ ZVN 400 KV
  - 760/-/16 nadzemní elektrické vedení 400 kV TS Hradec – TS Řeporyje
  - 760/-/17 nadzemní elektrické vedení 400 kV TS Chodov – TS Čechy Střed
  - 760/-/18 nadzemní elektrické vedení 400 kV TS Brno – TS Řeporyje



1 : 100 000 ▾

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## Evaluation of compliance with Environmental policy objectives

- Based on stated objectives and priorities of the Plan
- Based on interpretation of the proposed changes in the spatial organization and land-use
- Typically, a set of Environmental objectives is compiled from national strategic documents defining objectives for individual environmental issues (i.e. nature protection, Energy strategy, National spatial policy,...)

Environmental objective	Evaluation	Justification for evaluation
Protection of the Category I quality agriculture soils	+1	...
Protection of population from traffic noise	+1/?	Proposed new road is intended to divert transit traffic from the city center, however, there is approximately 1200 inhabitants living in the proposed corridor (risk of exceeding legal limits for their houses)
...		