



UZBEKISTAN

ACTION PLAN

**TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL STRATEGIC
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA)
SYSTEM**



The Action Plan developed in the framework of the project “Strengthening national and regional capacities and co-operation on strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in Central Asia, including as a response to climate change” implemented by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment (OVOS)
EU	European Union
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEE	State Ecological Expertise
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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EFFECTIVE SEA SYSTEM AND BENEFITS OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION FOR UZBEKISTAN

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is internationally recognized as the key instrument for integrating environmental and health considerations into strategic planning and decision-making to prevent and mitigate possible damage from economic and regional development. It sets out the obligatory consultation of environmental and health authorities and the public to provide decision-makers early warning of unsustainable options and contributes to the reduction and management of health risks. It promotes sustainable development goals and principles, supports efforts towards the transition to a green economy, and increases the legitimacy of planning and decision-making processes and their outcomes. Moreover, it may allow countries to consider health risks and mitigation measures for pandemics as part of their planning processes, promoting healthy lifestyles, enhancing socioeconomic conditions to enable people to thrive and improving access to good quality health and social care.

The implementation of the effective SEA system in line with the Protocol on SEA will contribute to achieving the goals of strategic documents of the Republic of Uzbekistan and provides the following main benefits:

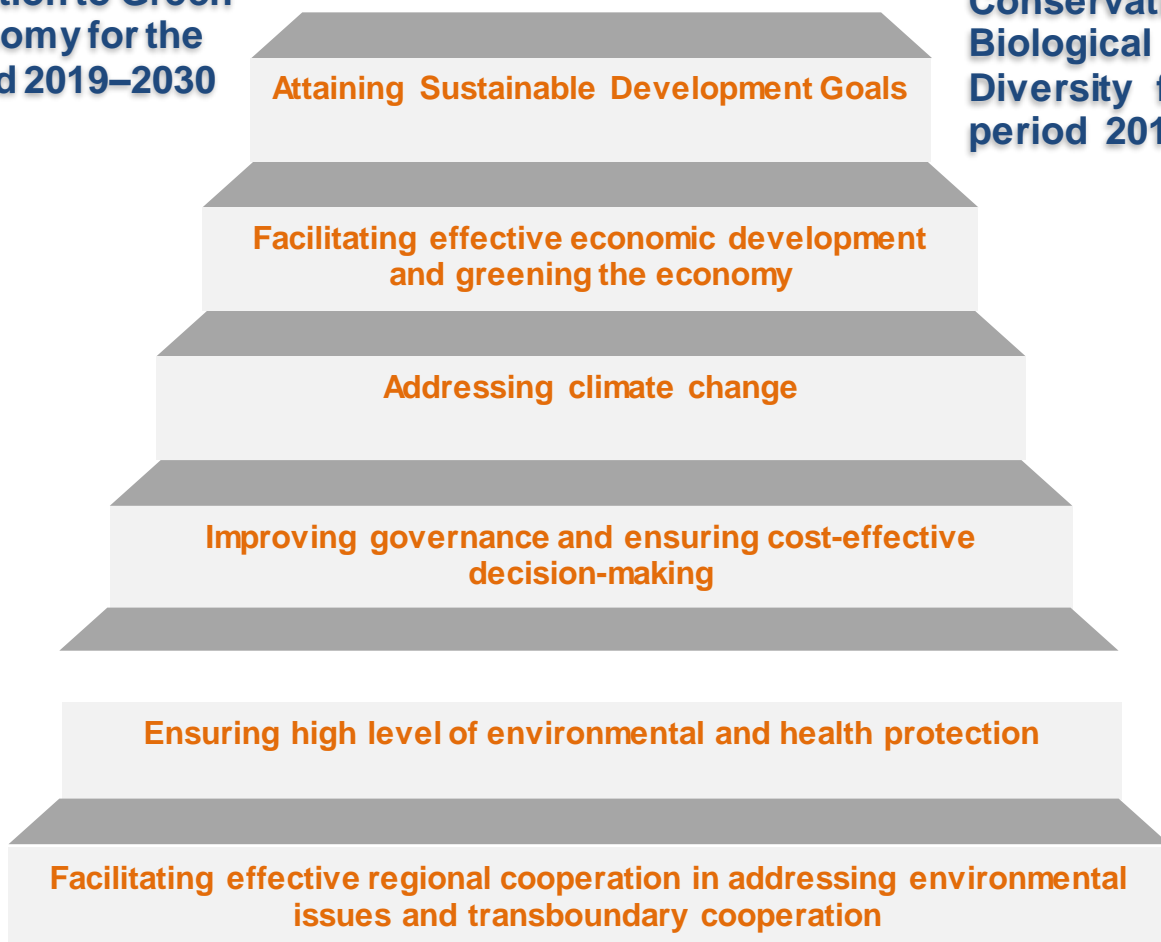
✓ **Concept on Environmental Protection until 2030**



✓ **Strategy of Actions for the Further Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan 2017 – 2021**

✓ **Strategy for Transition to Green Economy for the period 2019–2030**

✓ **Strategy for the Conservation of Biological Diversity for the period 2019–2028**



EXISTING CHALLENGES FOR EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESMENT IN UZBEKISTAN

Based on the Needs Assessment carried out in 2020– 2021 the following challenges for effective application of SEA in Uzbekistan were identified:

- Low awareness of governmental planning authorities on SEA-related responsibilities and capacities to perform these tasks
- Limited capacities of environmental and health authorities to perform SEA-related tasks
- Limited awareness of decision-makers on SEA benefits and unclear understanding of their SEA-related responsibilities and capacities to perform these tasks
- Absence of the national legislative framework for SEA in line with the Protocol on SEA
- Limited knowledge of the public on the opportunities to participate in SEA processes

CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN VIS – A – VIS THE PROTOCOL ON SEA

The aim of this section is to demonstrate the main elements of effectively developed SEA system in line with the Protocol on SEA compared to the current status of environmental assessment in Uzbekistan (based on conclusions from the Needs Assessment Report). The main elements of modern

SEA system developed in line with the Protocol on SEA represent the objectives to be achieved by implementing the Action Plan.

**THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF
MODERN SEA SYSTEM
DEVELOPED IN LINE WITH THE
PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK on SEA is in force and aligned with the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment

PROCEDURAL STEPS of SEA, including consultations with environmental and health authorities, public participation and transboundary consultations, are well established and followed in practice

APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL MEANS for carrying out SEA are allocated by the governmental budget;

CURRENT STATUS OF SEA IN UZBEKISTAN

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK ON SEA

Presently, there is not adopted national legislation for SEA in Uzbekistan. However, the draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions in 2020 outline the national SEA system in accordance with the Protocol on SEA. It is not known when these drafts will be discussed by the Houses of the Parliament and Government and adopted. It needs to be emphasized that in the absence of a functional national legislative framework on SEA, the SEA application will only be possible on a pilot or voluntary basis, with a very limited scope without leveraging on the SEA benefits.

PROCEDURAL STEPS

The draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions stipulate the stages of the SEA procedure, which seem to reflect the main stages of SEA as per the Protocol on SEA and good practice in the countries with the SEE and EIA components – however, an in-depth legal analysis would be needed to be carried out to confirm this conclusion.

ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL MEANS FOR CARRYING OUT SEA

The results of the survey suggest that respondents do not consider budgetary aspects as a significant challenge on the way to introduce SEA. However, further dedicated discussions might be necessary to properly address budget implications for carrying out SEA for governmental strategic documents, including with regard to involving ‘in-house’ expertise (i.e. governmental staff), sub-contracting practitioners and

consulting companies ¹, organizing efficient public participation, collecting environmental and health data, and conducting relevant analyses.

AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION OF THE PLANS AND PROGRAMMES are aware of their SEA-related responsibilities and tasks and have sufficient capacities to perform these tasks

AWARENESS OF AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION OF THE PLANS AND PROGRAMMES ON SEA-RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS AND CAPACITIES TO PERFORM THESE TASKS

Unfortunately, no feedback was obtained from the planning authorities during the needs assessment survey. However, the survey results received from the other respondents indicate that the limited awareness about SEA and its benefits and capacities within governmental authorities to coordinate environmental assessment procedures may be assumed in Uzbekistan. In particular, a high turnover of the governmental staff represents one of the challenges for achieving and sustaining the capacity building results.

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES are aware of their SEA-related responsibilities and tasks and have sufficient capacities to perform these tasks

AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES ON THEIR SEA-RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS AND CAPACITIES TO PERFORM THESE TASKS

The draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions suggest that environmental authorities should – besides issuing a decision on the preliminary assessment for the changes of existing strategic documents – have an advisory role in the SEA process and provide their comments / suggestions at certain stages of the SEA.

The State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection is the lead environmental authority and its representatives were involved in the recent capacity building activities including drafting the Law on SEA. At present, the Committee's State center of ecological expertise carrying out the state ecological expertise,

¹ It was pointed out during interviews that 'outsourcing SEA', i.e. sub-contracting environmental experts and/or consulting companies to carry out SEA, may be the option preferred by the governmental planning agencies.

which is however only rarely applied for strategic documents. As there is no SEA practice yet in the country (including SEA pilots) and considered the results of the survey, it can be concluded that the staff of the center do not have experience with SEA, in particular with providing opinion on the scope of the assessment and the quality of the SEA report. A lack of capacities within governmental authorities to coordinate environmental assessment procedures was mentioned as one of the main challenge for introducing SEA.

The survey also raised the issue of a role of the local authorities – options for their participating in the SEA processes should be examined, in particular focusing on environmental departments that might need to enhance their skill sets when tasked with coordinating local level SEAs.

HEALTH AUTHORITIES are aware of their SEA-related responsibilities and tasks and have sufficient capacities to perform these tasks

AWARENESS OF HEALTH AUTHORITIES ON THEIR SEA-RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS AND CAPACITIES TO PERFORM THESE TASKS

Similar to the environmental authorities, the draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions provide that health authorities should – besides issuing a decision on the preliminary assessment for the changes of existing strategic documents – have an advisory role in the SEA process and provide their comments / suggestions at certain stages of the SEA. The experience from other regions shows that health authorities should receive specific attention and training to perform their functions within the SEA systems. Thus, building on the survey results and taking into account the experience in other counties, the below sections contain information on the capacities needed for SEA and preliminary suggestions on how to reflect survey's findings in the action plan addressing health authorities and a necessity to build their capacities to enable them to be properly involved in the SEA application.

THE PUBLIC IS AWARE of the opportunities to participate in SEA processes

AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN SEA PROCESSES

The draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions envision the opportunities for public discussions and feedback during the SEA steps. However, given the SEA legislation is still the draft version to be discussed and finalized and in the absence of pilot SEA projects, the public awareness regarding public participation opportunities within the SEA procedure is considered to be limited, in particular at the regional and local level. The donor-funded capacity building activities on SEA in Uzbekistan have mainly invited governmental officials from planning agencies and environmental and health authorities, some EIA practitioners and very few representatives of NGOs and educational institutions.

THE DECISION-MAKERS ARE AWARE of their SEA-related responsibilities and tasks and have sufficient capacities to perform these tasks

AWARENESS OF THE DECISION-MAKERS ON THEIR SEA-RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS AND CAPACITIES TO PERFORM THESE TASKS

There have been only limited opportunities for decision-makers so far to get familiar with SEA so far. Therefore, considering also the previously mentioned high turnover of governmental staff, the level of awareness on SEA among the decision-makers and capacities to perform relevant tasks can be seen as limited. This is also supported by the survey's findings, where a low awareness on environmental assessment among project developers or decision-makers ranked high within the existing challenges for carrying out environmental assessment.

THERE ARE PRACTITIONERS/EXPERTS ABLE TO CONDUCT SEA

CAPACITIES AND ABILITIES OF THE PRACTITIONERS/EXPERTS TO CONDUCT SEA

The survey results suggest that Uzbekistan has sufficient expert potential to carry out SEAs on regular basis. These experts can likely be recruited from EIA/OVOS practitioners of companies performing EIAs in the current environmental assessment system. Also, involving experts from NGOs – a suggested during interviews – should enhance the expert capacities.

RELEVANT METHODS AND TECHNIQUES are known and used/can be used in SEA by environmental assessment practitioners

A SEA QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM is established and performed

MECHANISM/PLATFORM enabling information sharing on SEA processes is in place

KNOWLEDGE ON RELEVANT METHODS AND TECHNIQUES TO BE USED IN SEA

The respondents of the survey were unaware of the existing guiding documents on SEA. Capacity building on methods and techniques to be used in SEA thus will be required, potentially as part of the pilot SEA projects.

A QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM IN SEA

The draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions mention that environmental and health authorities are supposed to provide opinion on the SEA report, which can be perceived as an element of quality control system. However, the performance of the quality control outlined in the draft legislation can be evaluated only after the SEA practice starts.

MECHANISM/PLATFORM ENABLING INFORMATION SHARING ON SEA PROCESSES

The draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions propose that the electronic SEA register should be established to publish documents related to SEA processes. As experience from other countries show, developing and launching similar system or register is a challenging process. Therefore, initiation of the debate about the design, functions and technical features of the register in parallel with the finalizing and adopting the legislative framework on SEA is recommended.

PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVE SEA SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN IN LINE WITH THE PROTOCOL ON SEA

PREPARED BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

The aim of this strategy is to establish national SEA system in Uzbekistan enabling application of SEA in line with the Protocol on SEA

P1

Finalization and adoption of the legislative framework for SEA: The draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions have been already prepared, however, it's adoption represents the key step towards establishing the national legislative framework for SEA



P2

Support to practical application of SEA: conducting pilot SEAs has proven to be the most efficient capacity building as it provides 'hands-on' opportunity for the relevant stakeholders to participate in the SEA, and can be effectively combined with training and awareness raising activities



P3

Preparation of guiding documents on SEA to facilitate application of SEA: launching SEA practice (after adopting the SEA legislation) requires detailed guidance on SEA procedure.



P4

Organization of trainings and awareness raising for environmental and health authorities, decision-makers, environmental assessment practitioners, and CSOs.



P5

Supporting networking and information sharing to enable exchange of experience and distribution of information on SEA, which is very important for enhancing the SEA practice as well as for efficient public participation and consultations.



P6

Establishing institutional and financial arrangements for SEA: The application of SEA will represent a significant workload. Therefore, an institutional structure needs to be arranged to manage expected number of SEA procedures should be elaborated – in particular for SEA at the sub-national levels. Also, appropriate financial resources have to be allocated for application of SEA at various levels of program-making.



LIST OF SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES TO INTRODUCE AND DEVELOP THE SEA SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN

The table below lists specific activities to introduce and develop SEA in the country together with their prioritisation, which follows the priorities formulated in section 3.2 above. Implementation of these activities should address existing challenges for application of SEA in Uzbekistan (see p. 5 above) and should result in establishing the national SEA system in line with the Protocol on SEA.

A discussion will be needed when preparing an implementation plan (see next section) regarding the potential sources of financing and partners for implementing selected activities. Each specific activity is tentatively assigned a 'high', 'medium', or 'low' priority, using the following ranking:

- High priority (H): A specific activity should be implemented by the end of 2022;
- Medium priority (M): A specific activity should be implemented in 2023 – 2024;
- Low priority (L): A specific action can be implemented after 1 January 2025.

There are altogether 6 high priority specific activities relating to legislative framework for SEA (Priority 1) and practical application of SEA (Priority 2), altogether 7 medium priority specific activities focusing on guiding documents, training and awareness raising activities, and institutional and financial arrangements for SEA, and 8 low priority specific activities.

Activity	Tentative Priority Ranking	Description	Target group
Priority 1: Finalisation and adoption of legislative framework for SEA			
1.1 Organizing a high-level awareness raising event for the Cabinet of Ministers and the President's Administration	H	A high-level event would promote an importance of adopting the national legislative framework on SEA, including presentation of examples of the good SEA practice illustrating its benefits. The agenda of the events should not exceed 2 hours, participation of representatives of international organisation (including UN agencies), EU member states, and/or international SEA experts is desirable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level decision-makers • Environmental authorities • Health authorities
1.2 Carrying out detailed legal analysis of the draft Law on SEA vis-à-vis the Protocol on SEA	H	The detailed legal analysis of the draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions (to be prepared by international legal experts) may be consider to verify its full compliance with the Protocol on SEA, which may provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level decision-makers • Environmental authorities

1.3 Organizing the study tour on SEA	H	<p>inputs to be considered when finalizing the draft Law on SEA and/or when developing the secondary legislation.</p> <p>The study tour on SEA to the EU country or the country which has recently initiated the SEA practice (e.g. Georgia, Ukraine) would raise awareness on practical aspects of SEA and the added value it bring to the planning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level decision-makers • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Planning authorities
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Priority 2: Support to practical application of SEA

2.1 Identification of sectors / specific plans and programmes to be a subject to pilot SEAs.	H	<p>At the initial stages of introducing SEA system, efforts on application of SEA should be focused on plans and programmes in the sectors of industry, energy, water management, and agriculture (i.e. sectors with high potential to cause significant environmental and health effects as resulted from the survey). Optimally the SEA pilot should be conducted for one of the state programmes in the above sectors to test the SEA procedures before the SEA provisions enter into force. The municipal general development plans may represent another option.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes • Environmental authorities
2.2. Organizing a workshop on SEA for the sectoral ministries in the selected sectors	H	<p>The purpose of the workshop would be to explain the key principles of SEA and to discuss preliminary selection of the plans and programmes to be a subject to the pilot SEA. The two main criteria to be considered when selecting the strategic documents are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timing of the planning process: The SEA pilot – in order to demonstrate benefits of SEA – has to be carried out in parallel to the preparation of a plan and programme. 2. Readiness to consider the SEA inputs: The aim of SEA is to integrate environmental and health considerations in the plan or programme. Therefore, the planning authority and the team should be ready and open for the discussion on recommendations formulated by the pilot SEA and – if agreed – to integrate them in the draft strategic document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes • Environmental authorities • Health authorities

2.3 Conducting pilot SEAs	H/M ²	<p>In order to effectively utilize the learning opportunities provided by the SEA pilot application, it is essential to include capacity-building activities in the SEA pilots (i.e. training and awareness raising events) and open them to a wide range of stakeholders including health authorities, CSOs, and the public.</p> <p>Linking the SEA pilots to the training and awareness raising activities can be recommended.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision-makers • Authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Public • Practitioners/experts
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Priority 3: Preparation of guiding documents on SEA

3.1 Preparing general guidelines on SEA	M	<p>The general guidelines on SEA should provide details on procedural steps outlined in the draft SEA provisions and to explain how to perform relevant tasks and responsibilities assigned to the key actors. It should also outline the opportunities for the public to participate in the SEA and describe how to proceed with transboundary consultations.</p> <p>The guidelines can reflect experience gained through implementation of SEA pilot(s).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Environmental assessment practitioners • NGOs/the public
3.2 Preparing the quality control checklist	L	<p>A quality control checklist should be primarily used by the environmental and health authorities when conducting the quality control of the SEAs. However, it can also help other key actors to get better understating what kind of quality criteria a good SEA should meet.</p> <p>It should cover both procedural and substance-related aspects of an SEA (in particular the content and information to be provided in the SEA report). The criteria should follow requirements of the national legislative framework on SEA (after it is adopted) and the principles of a good SEA practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of plans and programmes • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Environmental assessment practitioners • NGs / the public

Priority 4: Training and awareness raising

² It may be difficult to carry out the entire pilot SEA(s) by the end of 2022, but it could be at least initiated in this period, and finalized in 2023.

4.1	Preparing an information leaflet on the benefits of SEA	H	A leaflet will describe the importance and expected benefits of SEA for Uzbekistan. It can be built on promotional materials produced e.g., by the UNECE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level decision-makers • NGOs • Public
4.2	Organizing awareness raising events on SEA for planning authorities	M	Several awareness raising events should be organized to explain the procedural SEA steps and the task and responsibilities to be performed by the planning authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of plans and programmes (including administrative-territorial units at the regional, district and city levels).
4.3	Organizing awareness raising events on SEA for the public	L	Several awareness raising events should be organized to explain the procedural SEA steps and how to use the opportunities the SEA provides to participate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public
4.4	Organizing training workshops on methods and tools in SEA	M	A series of the workshops should be organized to present and discuss the methods and tools to be used in SEA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Environmental assessment practitioners
4.5	Organizing workshop on quality control in SEA	L	A dedicated workshop for the staff of environmental authorities and health authorities involved in managing the SEA processes should be based on the quality control checklist (activity 3.2) and introduce the quality control criteria and their application.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental authorities • Health authorities
4.6	Developing a comprehensive training course on SEA	L	A training course on SEA can be developed in cooperation with international agencies and academic sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Environmental assessment practitioners
4.7	Organizing workshop on transboundary consultations in SEA	L	A workshop should introduce and explain the tasks related to transboundary consultations in SEA and it should illustrate a good practice in accordance with the Protocol on SEA using practical examples. Such event should ensure that the planning and environmental authorities have sufficient capacities to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of plans and programmes at the national level • State Committee on Ecology and

carry out transboundary consultations and to consider their outcomes in SEAs.

Environmental Protection

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Priority 5: Networking and information sharing

5.1 Developing the technical description of the SEA (and EIA) online information system	M	<p>The Information system on SEA (and EIA) should be established as the centralised register for SEA and EIA documents and other relevant information (e.g., information about the public consultation meetings, etc.), which should be publicly available.</p> <p>It needs to be determined who should be responsible for managing the system – uploading the documents, publishing the information on ongoing SEA processes etc. Options include future SEA competent authority (or authorities) and/or the planning authorities.</p> <p>In principle, the structure of the information/documents to be provided for an individual SEA process should reflect the steps outlined in the SEA provisions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental authorities • Authorities responsible for preparation of plans and programmes
5.2 Establishing the SEA (and EIA) online information system	L	<p>Based on the technical outline (activity 5.1) a full system should be developed and established.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of plans and programmes • Environmental authorities
5.3 Organizing regular annual coordination meetings	L	<p>After establishing the SEA practice, regular meetings, inviting all main actors in SEA, would provide an opportunity to discuss existing challenges of SEA application, and steps and activities to further enhance the SEA system in the country.</p> <p>These meetings should be organized by the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection and should invite the representatives of planning authorities, health authorities, practitioners, as well as NGOs/the public active in the field of SEA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes • Environmental authorities • Health authorities • Environmental assessment practitioners • NGOs/the public
5.4 Organizing the national SEA/EIA conference	L	<p>Several years of SEA application should provide sufficient experience to be discussed at the national level. As there are many common features and linkages between SEA and EIA, organizing the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision-makers • Authorities responsible for preparation of plans and programmes

first national conference jointly for SEA and EIA can be recommended.

- Environmental authorities
- Health authorities
- Environmental assessment practitioners
- NGOs/ the public

Priority 6: Institutional and financial arrangements for SEA

6.1 Organizing workshop on institutional arrangements for SEA

M

As estimated in the needs assessment report, the application of SEA in the scope stipulated by the Protocol on SEA will represent a significant workload, in particular for the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health. Therefore, the event could introduce institutional arrangements for SEA in the selected countries as a basis for further discussion on how to manage the expected number of SEAs in Uzbekistan.

Experience from SEA pilots can also be used (in particular, it should enable to better estimate the workload connected with an individual SEA for the environmental and health authorities).

- Environmental authorities
- Health authorities

6.2 Conducting financial analysis regarding costs of SEA

M

Precise SEA-related cost estimates should be made for the sectors covered by the draft Environmental Code and relevant draft SEA provisions as a basis for allocating appropriate financial means for SEA application in the national budget (and/or in the budgets of respective sectoral ministries).

- Decision-makers
- Authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes
- Environmental authorities
- Health authorities

HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLAN

It can be expected that the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection shall play a major role in coordinating the activities outlined above. However, for effective implementation of the Action Plan it is essential to involve also other key stakeholders, in particular the Ministry of Health and planning authorities. For this purpose, it is recommended to establish an inter-sectoral working group on SEA to be managed by the 'coordinator' representing the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection. Besides governmental agencies the working group on SEA should also invite representatives of academic sector and NGOs.

The initial task of the working group is to prepare an implementation plan with specific steps and time-schedule to implement the activities proposed by the Action Plan (a possible format for the implementation plan is provided in Annex).

The working group shall be responsible for coordinating and supervising the implementation of the Action Plan. Working group meetings should be organized on a regular basis (e.g., every three months). Short annual monitoring reports should be prepared by the working group (see a proposed template in Annex).

ANNEX

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The implementation of the Action Plan should be managed by the inter-sectoral working group on SEA, which shall coordinate the implementation of the activities with the relevant partners. To streamline implementation of the Action Plan, it is recommended to prepare an implementation plan following a format proposed below:

Activity	Implementing period	Main responsibility for implementation	Partners for implementation	Comments
1.1 Organizing several high-level awareness raising events on SEA for the high-management (ministers and deputy-ministers) of sectoral ministries, and relevant parliamentary committees.	April – October 2022	State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection	UNECE, OSCE	
1.2 Preparing an information leaflet on the benefits of SEA	Till March 2022	State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection	UNECE, OSCE	The leaflet should be distributed to the participants of the events to be organized under 1.1
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...				
...				
...				

MONITORING

In order to ensure monitoring of the Action Plan implementation, the inter-sectoral working group on SEA should prepare short annual monitoring reports. The monitoring report can follow the format proposed below and shall serve for the discussions with the relevant partners on necessary adjustments of the Action Plan.

Activity	Status of implementation	Proposed adjustments to the activity	Comments <i>Comments may describe any problems met during implementation of the activity and/or formulate recommendations for more effective implementation</i>
1.1 Organizing several high-level awareness raising events on SEA for the high-management (ministers and deputy-ministers) of sectoral ministries, and relevant parliamentary committees.	Two events were organized in 2022, next two are planned for the second half of 2023.	Extension of implementing period until December 2023.	There were only several representatives from the key sectoral ministries (transport, energy and agriculture). Better promotion will be needed for the second two events.
1.2 Preparing an information leaflet on the benefits of SEA	Leaflet prepared in August 2021		The activity has been fully completed and can be excluded from the Action plan.
...			
...			
...			
...			