

Questionnaire for the report of LITHUANIA on the implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context in the period 2019–2021

Information on the focal point for the Convention

1. Name and contact information:

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Head of the Pollution Prevention Policy Group
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Jaksto 4, LT-01105 Vilnius, Lithuania
Telephone: +370 686 46087
E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt

Ms. Beata Vilimaite Silobritiene
Senior Advisor of the Pollution Prevention Policy Group
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Jaksto 4, LT-01105 Vilnius, Lithuania
Telephone: +370 645 89487
E-mail: beata.silobritiene@am.lt

Information on the point of contact for the Convention

2. Name and contact information (if different from above):

Information on the person responsible for preparing the report

3. Country: Lithuania
4. Surname: Raulinaitis
5. Forename: Mindaugas
6. Institution: Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
7. Postal address: Jaksto 4, LT-01105 Vilnius, Lithuania
8. Email address: mindaugas.raulinaitis@am.lt
9. Telephone number: +370 695 41925
10. Date on which report was completed: 2022-04-28

Part one

Current legal and administrative framework for the implementation of the Convention

In this part, please provide the information requested, or revise any information relative to the previous report. Describe the legal, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Convention. This part should describe the framework for your country's implementation, and not its experience in the application of the Convention.

Please do not reproduce the text of the legislation itself but summarize and explicitly refer to the relevant provisions transposing the text of the Convention (for example, Environmental Impact Assessment Law of the Republic of ..., article 5 (3) of Government Resolution No. ..., para. ... item...)

Article 1

Definitions

I.1.1. Is the definition of the term “impact” for the purpose of the Convention the same in your legislation as that contained in article 1 (vii)?

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes, with some minor differences (please explain the differences): ‘Environmental impact’ means a change envisaged to occur in the environment as a result of the proposed economic activity.
- (c) No, there are major differences (please explain the differences):
- (d) The term “impact” is not defined in the legislation

Your comments:

I.1.2. Is the definition of the term “transboundary impact” for the purpose of the Convention the same in your legislation as that contained in article 1 (viii)?

- (a) Yes, the same
- (b) Yes, with some minor differences (please explain the differences):
- (c) No, there are major differences (please explain the differences):
- (d) The term “transboundary impact” is not defined in the legislation

Your comments:

I.1.3. Please specify how the term “major change” is defined in your national legislation:

- (a) It is not defined
- (b) By using thresholds (Please explain:)
- (c) By using criteria (Please explain:)
- (d) On a case-by-case basis (Please explain: Major change is not defined explicitly, but is included in the definition of proposed activity and decided on a case-by-case basis by the competent authority: “Proposed economic activity means an envisaged economic activity covering the execution of construction works, reconstruction of structures, manufacturing, the introduction, **upgrading or changing** of technological equipment and the production process, **changes** in production technique, quantity or type of products, extraction of subsurface resources and exploitation of earth cavities, utilisation of other natural resources,

the activity provided for in land management, forest management and water management projects and other economic activity **likely to affect the environment**".)

Your comments:

I.1.4. How do you identify the public “of the affected Party in the areas likely to be affected”? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Based on the geographical location of the proposed project
- (b) By making the information available to all members of the public and letting them identify themselves as the public concerned
- (c) By other means (please specify):

Your comments: Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity defines “Public concerned” as the public affected or likely to be affected by the taking of decisions, acts or omissions in the area of environmental impact assessment or having an interest in the process of screening for environmental impact assessment and/or environmental impact assessment. For the purposes of this definition, the public legal persons (with the exception of the legal persons established by the State or a municipality or institutions thereof) promoting environmental protection shall in any case be deemed the public concerned.

I.1.5. How do you determine the “significance” of the environmental impact of the activities falling within the scope of the Convention?¹ Please specify (more than one option may apply), providing relevant explanations:

- (a) By establishing threshold levels (please explain)
- (b) By applying criteria related to the location of proposed activities (please explain)
- (c) By applying criteria related to the nature of proposed activities (please explain)
- (d) By applying criteria related to the size of proposed activities (please explain)
- (e) By applying criteria related to the effects of proposed activities (please explain)
- (f) Other (please explain):
- (g) It is not determined (please explain:)

Your comments: Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity contains two lists of activities. The first list contains activities which shall be subject to EIA, the second list – activities which are subject to the screening procedures. Both lists include criteria related to the nature of the activity and thresholds mostly related to the size of the activity. In some cases a combination of criteria also related to the location is employed. The screening decision is performed on a case-by-case basis and taking into account also the potential effects of the activities, together with other criteria listed in special pieces of legislation.

I.1.6. Please clarify whether “cumulative impacts” are taken into account in transboundary procedures under the Convention in your national legislation and, if so, how:

- (a) Yes, the legislation provides for taking into account cumulative impacts:

¹ Although the term “significance” is not explicitly defined in the Convention, appendix III thereto provides general criteria to assist in determining the environmental significance of activities not listed in appendix I.

Please explain: Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania No. D1-885 of October 31, 2017 on the Approval of Regulations on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity requires cumulative impacts to be assessed and described in the EIA Report. Information about these impacts is provided to the affected country during transboundary procedures.

(b) No, the legislation does not provide for taking into account cumulative impacts

Please explain:

Your comments:

Article 2 General provisions

I.2.1. Provide information on legislative, regulatory, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Convention (art. 2 (2)):

(a) Law on environmental impact assessment (please provide exact title/reference number/year/access link, if any): Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity, 15 August 1996 No I-1495, consolidated version in Lithuanian of 2022-01-20: <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.0539E2FEB29E/asr>; consolidated version in English valid as of 2021-01-01 is available: <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/97e1a98200d711ecb4af84e751d2e0c9?jfwid=11z9pyzh>).

(b) Environmental impact assessment provisions are transposed into another law/other laws (please specify and provide title(s) of the related legislation):

(c) Regulation (please indicate number/year/title/related articles/access links):

Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania No. D1-885 of October 31, 2017 on the Approval of Regulations on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity, consolidated version of 2022-03-11: <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/81ad5250be4511e79122ea2db7aeb5f0/asr>;

Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania No. D1-845 of October 16, 2017 on the Approval of Regulations on Screening for Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity, consolidated version of 2020-05-01: <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/f26fcf10b30d11e7be72a4385c9bc055/asr>.

(d) Administrative (please indicate number/year/title/related articles/access links):

(e) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

I.2.2. Is the list of activities referred to in appendix I to the Convention fully transposed into your country's national legislation?

(a) Yes. There is no difference, all activities referred to in appendix I are covered by national legislation

Please elaborate, as needed:

(b) No. Activities covered by national legislation differ slightly from the activities referred to in appendix I Please explain: the lists of activities in Lithuanian legislation (specifically Law on EIA) are transposed from the annexes of the EU EIA Directive (codified Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU). Therefore, there are minor differences between the appendix I to the Convention and the lists of activities in national legislation. However, all activities listed in appendix I to the Convention are subject to EIA or screening for EIA.

(c) No, there are gaps remaining in the list of activities in the national legislation

Please explain:

I.2.3. Indicate the competent authority/authorities responsible for carrying out the environmental impact assessment procedure in your country. Please specify:

- (a) There are different authorities at the national, regional and local levels
- (b) Authorities are different for domestic and transboundary procedures
- (c) Authorities are the same for domestic and transboundary procedures

Please name the authority/authorities and its/their responsibilities: the competent EIA authority at all levels is Environmental Protection Agency, however Ministry of Environment is the coordinating institution during the transboundary EIA cases.

I.2.4. Is there an authority in your country that collects information on all the transboundary environmental impact assessment cases? If so, please name it:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes

If “Yes”, please clarify the type of information collected and provide access link, if available: Ministry of Environment is the coordinating authority and collects information on the transboundary EIA cases.

Information about transboundary EIAs when Lithuania is the affected Party: <https://am.lrv.lt/lt/veiklos-sritys-1/planuojamos-ukines-veiklos-poveikio-aplinkai-vertinimas/tarpvalstybinio-poveikio-aplinkai-vertinimas>.

Information about transboundary EIAs when Lithuania is the Party of origin: <https://am.lrv.lt/en/activities/environmental-impact-assessment-of-the-proposed-economic-activity/environmental-impact-assessment-in-a-transboundary-context>

Your comments:

Article 3 Notification

I.3.1. Article 3 (1) states that: “The Party of origin shall notify any Party which it considers may be an affected Party as early as possible and no later than when informing its own public about that proposed activity.” As a Party of origin, when do you notify the affected Parties?

- (a) During scoping
- (b) When the environmental impact assessment report has been prepared and the domestic procedure has started
- (c) After finishing the domestic procedure
- (d) At other times (please specify):

Your comments:

I.3.2. Please define the format of notification used in your country:

- (a) Notification is carried out using the tabular form in table 1 of decision I/4 on the format for notification adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its first session (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix, para. 32 and table 1)
- (b) Notification is carried out in the form of a letter containing all information detailed in decision I/4 of the Meeting of the Parties (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix, para. 34)
- (c) A combination of (a) and (b) above (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix, para. 35)

- (d) The country has its own format (please attach a copy)
- (e) No official format used

Your comments: Official format template is used only when notifying Poland, as required by the bilateral agreement between Poland and Lithuania.

I.3.3. As a Party of origin, what information do you include in the notification (art. 3 (2))? Please specify (more than one options may apply):

- (a) Information on the proposed activity, including any available information on its possible transboundary impact (art. 3 (2) (a))
- (b) The nature of the possible decision (art. 3 (2) (b))
- (c) An indication of a reasonable time within which a response is required, taking into account the nature of the proposed activity (art. 3 (2) (c))
- (d) Relevant information regarding the environmental impact assessment procedure, including an indication of the time schedule for transmittal of comments (art. 3 (5) (a))
- (e) Relevant information on the proposed activity and its possible significant adverse transboundary impact (art. 3 (5) (b))
- (f) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.3.4. Article 3 (3) requires that “The affected Party shall respond to the Party of origin within the time specified in the notification”. As a Party of origin, please indicate whether your country’s legislative or regulatory framework defines a time frame for response to the notification by the affected Party/ies and, if so, how:

- (a) No, the time frame is not specified in the national legislation
- (b) Yes, the time frame is specified in the national legislation

Please indicate the time frame or its range as per your national legislation, in weeks/days: at least 25 working days

- (c) The time frame is determined and agreed with each affected Party on a case-by-case basis

Please indicate the average time frame set on a case-by-case basis, in weeks/days:

Your comments: Timeframe is defined in the Law on EIA

I.3.5. Please specify the consequences should a notified affected Party not comply with the time frame for responding to the notification, as required by article 3 (3), and elaborate on the possibilities of extending the deadline: It is considered that the affected party is not willing to participate in the transboundary EIA. Possibilities to extend the deadline are decided on a case-by-case basis.

Your comments:

I.3.6. Article 3 (8) states that: “The concerned Parties shall ensure that the public of the affected Party in the areas likely to be affected be informed of ... the proposed activity”. Which of the following approaches do you use to achieve this goal? Please specify:

- (a) Informing the point of contact for the Convention listed on the Convention website²
- (b) Other (please specify):

² List available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/environmental-assessment/points-contact-regarding-notification>.

Your comments:

I.3.7. On what basis does your country, as an affected Party, make the decision to participate (or not) in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure? Please specify:

- (a) Notified ministry/authority of the affected Party responsible for environmental impact assessment decides on its own based on the documentation provided by the Party of origin
- (b) Based on the opinion of the competent authorities of the affected Party
- (c) Based on the opinion of the competent authorities and of the public of the affected Party
- (d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.3.8. Article 3 (5) (a) states that the Party of origin must provide affected Parties with “relevant information regarding the environmental impact assessment procedure, including an indication of the time schedule for transmittal of comments”.

How does your country, as a Party of origin, determine the time schedule referred to in article 3 (5) (a)? Please specify:

- (a) Following the rules and procedures of the Party of origin
- (b) Following the rules and procedures of the affected Party/ies
- (c) A combination of (a) and (b) above. Please specify the rules and procedures of the Party of origin and the affected Party/ies that are applied in the combination:
- (d) Other (please specify): Timeframe is defined in the Law on EIA. A timeframe of at least 30 working days shall be provided for the affected Party to provide its comments.

Your comments:

Articles 2 (6), 3 (8) and 4 (2) Public participation

I.3.9. Article 2 (6) of the Convention states that: “The Party of origin shall provide an opportunity to the public in the areas likely to be affected to participate in relevant environmental impact assessment procedures and shall ensure that the opportunity provided to the public of the affected Party is equivalent to that provided to the public of the Party of origin.”

How does your country’s environmental impact assessment legislation ensure that equivalent opportunities and rights to participate in the procedure are provided for the public of the affected Party?

- (a) As an affected Party:
 - (i) Not specified in the national legislation, but it is determined and agreed with the Party of origin on a case-by-case basis at the beginning of the transboundary procedure
 - (ii) Specified in the national legislation as follows:

Your comments:

- (b) As a Party of origin:
 - (i) Not specified in the national legislation; such equivalent opportunities and rights cannot be ensured in the procedure

Please explain:

(ii) Not specified in the national legislation, but it is determined and agreed with the affected Party on a case-by-case basis at the beginning of the transboundary procedure

(iii) Specified in the national legislation as follows: Law on EIA, Art. 9: an institution authorised by the Government shall, upon receiving from the drafter of documents of environmental impact assessment the information referred to in paragraph 5 of this Article, provide it to an affected state together with information on the procedures of environmental impact assessment, the proposed transboundary consultations, the duration thereof and *request to provide information to the public and the competent authorities of this state* indicating a period of not less than 30 working days from the date of dispatch within which the affected state may submit its proposals to the institution authorised by the Government.

Your comments:

I.3.10. How can the public of your country, as an affected Party, express its opinion on the environmental impact assessment documentation of the proposed project further to articles 2 (6), 3 (8) and 4 (2)? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

(a) By sending comments in writing directly to the competent authority of the Party of origin, or to the ministry responsible for environmental affairs/focal point in the affected Party

(b) In a territory of the affected Party: by taking part in consultations [on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation] or a special event, where the opinions of the public are officially registered

(c) In a territory of the Party of origin: by taking part in consultations or a special event, where the opinions of the public are officially registered

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments: According to the Law on EIA, Ministry of Environment shall organise the provision of information to the public and the state and/or municipal institutions concerned and obtaining of conclusions from them. The public can provide their comments and proposals to the Ministry of Environment or during public hearings if such are organized.

Article 4

Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation

I.4.1. How do you determine the relevant information to be included in the environmental impact assessment documentation in accordance with article 4 (1)? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

(a) By using appendix II

(b) By using the comments received from the authorities concerned during the scoping phase, if applicable

(c) By using the comments received from members of the public during the scoping phase, if applicable

(d) As determined by the proponent based on its own expertise

(e) By using other means (please specify): Information is prepared by the proponent, but extensive requirements for this information are provided in Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania No. D1-885 of October 31, 2017 on the Approval of Regulations on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity. These requirements are based on the requirements of the EIA Directive and include all information required by Appendix II to the Convention. Comments and proposals of the authorities and the public are also taken into account.

Your comments:

I.4.2. Article 4 states that: “The environmental impact assessment documentation... shall contain, as a minimum, the information described in appendix II.” What quality control measures are provided for in the legislative or administrative framework of your country, as a Party of origin, to ensure sufficient quality of the documentation? Please specify:

- (a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures that it includes all information required under appendix II as a minimum before making it available for comments
- (b) By using quality checklists based on the requirements listed in appendix II
- (c) There are no specific procedures or mechanisms
- (d) Other (please specify): Authorities, responsible for health protection, heritage protection and responsible for the fire/accident protection additionally check the information provided. There are requirements for qualification of the EIA document developer defined in the Law on EIA.

Your comments:

I.4.3. How do you determine “reasonable alternatives” in accordance with appendix II (b)?

- (a) On a case-by-case basis
- (b) As defined in the national legislation (please specify):
- (c) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

Article 5

Consultations on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation

I.5. Does your national environmental impact assessment legislation provide for organizing transboundary consultations between the authorities of the Parties concerned?

- (a) Yes, it is obligatory
- (b) Yes, it is optional (please specify): According to the Law on EIA, Art. 9: upon receiving a reply of an affected state concerning the information indicated in paragraph 6 of this Article and/or additional information on the potential significant transboundary environmental impact of the proposed economic activity, an institution authorised by the Government shall forward it to the drafter of documents of environmental impact assessment and, *if necessary, agree with the affected state on transboundary consultations regarding the potential transboundary impact of the proposed economic activity, the measures provided for to reduce or eliminate such environmental impact through a bilateral or multilateral meeting.*
- (c) No, it does not have any provision on that

Your comments:

Article 6

Final decision

I.6.1. Please select from the list below the information that your country, as a Party of origin, in accordance with its legislative and administrative framework, should take due account of in the final decision on the proposed activity (art. 6 (1)):

- (a) Conclusions of the environmental impact assessment documentation
- (b) Comments received in accordance with articles 3 (8) and 4 (2)
- (c) Outcome of the consultations as referred to in article 5
- (d) Outcomes of the transboundary consultations
- (e) Comments received from the affected Party/ies
- (f) Mitigation measures
- (g) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.6.2. Are the comments of the authorities and the public of the affected Party and the outcome of the consultations taken into consideration in the same way as the comments from the authorities and the public in your country (art. 6 (1))?:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No Please explain the differences

Public and authorities of the affected Party submit their comments to the competent authority of this Party. Authority of our country (as a Party of origin) receives a consolidated version of all comments and proposals. The outcome of the consultations itself is taken into consideration in the same way.

Your comments:

I.6.3. According to article 6 (3): If additional information on the significant transboundary impact of a proposed activity, which was not available at the time a decision was made with respect to that activity and which could have materially affected the decision, becomes available to a concerned Party before work on that activity commences, that Party shall immediately inform the other concerned Party or Parties. If one of the concerned Parties so requests, consultations shall be held as to whether the decision needs to be revised.

Is there any regulation in your country that ensures the implementation of the provisions of article 6 (3)?

- (a) No
- (b) Yes, by legislation (please specify):
- (c) Yes, by other means (please specify):

Your comments:

I.6.4. Do all activities listed in appendix I (items 1–22) and major changes thereto require a final decision to authorize or undertake such an activity in your legislative framework?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

If “No”, please list those activities listed in appendix I or major changes thereto for which there is no requirement for a final decision. Please explain why those activities/major changes do not require a final decision in your national legislation.

Article 7

Post-project analysis

I.7. Is there any provision regarding implementation of post-project analysis in your national environmental impact assessment legislation (art. 7 (1))?

- (a) No
- (b) Yes Please specify: Post-project analysis is carried out via the monitoring system and related legislation. Monitoring programme shall be provided in the EIA Report.

Your comments:

Article 8

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation

I.8.1. According to article 8: “The Parties may continue existing or enter into new bilateral or multilateral agreements or other arrangements in order to implement their obligations under this Convention and under any of its protocols to which they are a Party. Such agreements or other arrangements may be based on the elements listed in appendix VI.”

Has your country established any bilateral or multilateral agreements to implement the Convention?

- (a) No
- (b) Yes Please specify with which countries: Poland

If publicly available, please also attach the texts of any such bilateral and multilateral agreements, preferably in English, French or Russian.

Your comments: Text is available only in Lithuanian and Polish and is published on the UNECE website.

I.8.2. What issues do these bilateral agreements cover (appendix VI)? (More than one option may apply):

- (a) Specific conditions of the subregion concerned
- (b) Institutional, administrative and other arrangements
- (c) Harmonization of the Parties’ policies and measures
- (d) Developing, improving and/or harmonizing methods for the identification, measurement, prediction and assessment of impacts, and for post-project analysis
- (e) Developing and/or improving methods and programmes for the collection, analysis, storage and timely dissemination of comparable data regarding environmental quality in order to provide input into the environmental impact assessment
- (f) Establishment of threshold levels and more specified criteria for defining the significance of transboundary impacts related to the location, nature or size of proposed activities
- (g) Undertaking joint environmental impact assessment, development of joint monitoring programmes, intercalibration of monitoring devices and harmonization of methodologies
- (h) Other, please specify:

Your comments:

Complimentary information related to legal implementation of the Convention

I.9.1. Please describe how the steps required under your national legislation for carrying out a transboundary procedure are interlinked with a domestic environmental impact assessment procedure in the lead-up to the final decision.

In doing so, please also describe differences between the steps (i.e. screening/scoping, preparation of the environmental impact assessment, consultation, public participation, making a final decision) of a domestic procedure and a transboundary procedure, if any:

According to Lithuanian EIA legislation, transboundary EIA procedure firstly correlates to the domestic screening procedure (or scoping if domestic EIA is started without the screening). If during this domestic EIA starting stage the proposed economic activity is identified as likely to cause significant impact on the environment of another Party, the procedure of notification is initiated. Also, transboundary EIA procedures are initiated if Lithuanian authorities receive a request from a foreign state which, in their opinion, may become a significantly affected state to perform transboundary environmental impact assessment. In order to start the notification procedures, the coordinating authority informs the competent EIA authority and the EIA consultant by requesting to prepare and submit a summary of the screening information or an EIA program, which shall include information on the proposed economic activity and its potential significant transboundary impact. Upon receiving the summary, the coordinating authority submits a notice to the affected Party, which includes a description of the proposed economic activity, the available information on the potential significant transboundary impact of the proposed economic activity on the environment, the information on the nature of possible solutions, the time period (at least 25 working days) and requests to provide a notice of the willingness to participate in the process of transboundary environmental impact assessment and to inform the competent authorities and the public of the affected Party. If the affected Party confirms its willingness to participate in the process of transboundary EIA, Lithuanian coordinating authority informs national competent EIA authority, organizer (developer) of the proposed economic activity and the EIA consultant by requesting to prepare and submit the EIA report and a summary of the relevant information about the proposed economic activity and its potential significant transboundary environmental impact. The coordinating authority submits these documents to the affected Party together with information on the procedures of environmental impact assessment, the proposed transboundary consultations, the duration thereof and request to provide information to the public and the competent authorities of the affected Party indicating a period of at least 30 working days within which the affected Party may submit its proposals to Lithuanian coordinating authority.

The reply of the affected Party (or additional information about the potential significant transboundary environmental impact of the proposed economic activity provided by the affected Party) is then forwarded by Lithuanian coordinating authority to the EIA consultant and, if necessary, it is agreed with the affected Party on transboundary consultations regarding potential transboundary impact and the measures to reduce or eliminate such environmental impact during a bilateral or multilateral meeting. The EIA consultant is obliged to analyse the comments and proposals provided by the affected Party, amend the EIA report (if necessary), prepare an evaluation of these proposals and submit it to the competent EIA authority. Accordingly, the competent EIA authority shall take into account the results of transboundary consultations when making decision regarding the environmental impact of the proposed economic activity, which is the final decision to authorize or undertake such an activity. This decision together with a description of the reasoning behind the decision and an explanation of how the results of transboundary consultations were taken into account are submitted to the affected Party therewith informing about the end of the transboundary EIA process and requesting the affected Party to inform its public.

Alternatively, this question can be answered or supported by a schematic flow chart showing these steps.

Your comments:

I.9.2. Does your country have special provisions or informal arrangements concerning transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures for joint cross-border projects, the construction of nuclear power plants and/or their lifetime extension?

<i>Joint cross-border projects</i>	<i>Construction of nuclear power plants</i>	<i>Lifetime extension of nuclear power plants</i>
(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
(i) Special provisions:	(i) Special provisions:	(i) Special provisions:
(ii) Informal arrangements:	(ii) Informal arrangements:	(ii) Informal arrangements:
Please explain:	Please explain:	Please explain:

Your comments:

Part two

Practical application during the period 2019–2021³

Please report on your country's practical experiences in applying the Convention (not your country's procedures, as described in part one), whether as a Party of origin or as an affected Party. The focus here is on identifying good practices as well as difficulties Parties have encountered in applying the Convention in practice. The goal is to enable Parties to share solutions. Please therefore provide appropriate examples highlighting application of the Convention and innovative approaches to improving its application.

Part two also focuses on general issues arising from the sixth review of implementation of the Convention (2016–2018)^a and issues that have been identified as priorities by Parties in the 2021–2023 workplan.^b It also addresses the goals of the Long-term strategy and the action plan for the Convention and the Protocol that requires that the reviews of implementation be adapted, in particular, “to maximize their usefulness as a source of information, highlight progress achieved, draw attention to areas that need improvement, disseminate best practice ...”.^c

^a United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/32.

^b ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1, decision VIII/2–IV/2.

^c ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1, decision VIII/3–IV/3, annex, item II.A.9.

A. List of transboundary procedures initiated during the period 2019–2021

II.1. Please indicate, in the table provided in annex I to the present questionnaire, the total number of transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures initiated in the reporting period in relation to activities listed in appendix I to the Convention and in which your country was a Party of origin or affected Party. Please also indicate the number and types of transboundary procedures related to activities not listed in appendix I that your country implemented in the reporting period as a Party of origin or as an affected Party, if any.

Your comments:

II.2. Please list transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures referred to in question II.1. above using table 1 of annex II to the present questionnaire for procedures in which your country was a Party of origin and table (2) for procedures in which your country was an affected Party.

Your comments:

II.3. According to paragraph 10 of decision VIII/5 of the Meeting of the Parties the project lists referred to in question II.2 above and annex II to the present questionnaire are to be posted on the ECE website. Should your country object to this, however, please indicate “Yes” and explain, as relevant:

- (a) Yes (my country has an objection the compilation and posting of this information)

Please explain:

- (b) No (no objection)

³ Part II of this questionnaire is not considered to be a reporting obligation according to the Convention. Parties are encouraged to share examples of good practice, subject to their capabilities and the availability of relevant data.

Your comments:

B. Experience in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure during the period 2019–2021

Please share with other Parties your country's experience of using the Convention in practice. When responding to each of the questions below, please provide one or two practical examples and/or describe your country's general experience. You might also include examples of lessons learned in order to help others.

II.4. Please provide at least one example of the implementation of the Convention for an activity listed in appendix I to the Convention based on the template contained in annex III to the present questionnaire.

Your comments:

II.5. The Convention does not refer to the translation of environmental impact assessment documentation and to other language-related issues as important prerequisites for providing effective public participation of potentially affected Parties in a transboundary procedure. As an affected Party, please specify in which language(s) the environmental impact assessment documentation is made available for your own public to ensure effective public participation in transboundary procedures. (You may select several options, as needed):

- (a) In the official language(s) of the country Please specify: At least a non technical summary should be provided in Lithuanian
- (b) Information in English is acceptable
- (c) Please list other languages that fulfil the requirements of effective public participation in your country, if applicable:

Your comments

II.6. What difficulties has your country experienced with regard to translation of environmental impact assessment documentation and interpretation during consultation meetings with authorities, or during events organized within the public participation procedure, if applicable, and what solutions has it found?

- (a) Experience with regard to translation of the environmental impact assessment documentation
 - (i) As a Party of origin: Bad quality of translation. We have no means to review/check the quality of translation to uncommon languages.
 - (ii) As an affected Party:
- (b) Experience with regard to interpretation during consultation meetings with authorities
 - (i) As a Party of origin:
 - (ii) As an affected Party:
- (c) Experience with regard to interpretation during public participation-related events
 - (i) As a Party of origin:
 - (ii) As an affected Party:

Your comments:

II.7. Which Party covers the cost of translation of environmental impact assessment documentation?

- (a) As a Party of origin: X
- (b) As an affected Party:

(c) Other, please specify:

Your comments:

II.8. What parts of the environmental impact assessment documentation does your country usually translate/require to be translated?

(a) As a Party of origin: Summary of the EIA Report, full EIA Report

(b) As an affected Party: Summary (extended summary) of the EIA Report, full EIA Report

Your comments: Summaries if requested or agreed are translated into national the language of the affected Party, full reports – into English.

II.9. Has the issue of translation been addressed in bilateral agreements between your country and other Parties?

(a) Yes Please explain how it has been addressed: full documentation is provided into the national language of the affected Party.

(b) No

Your comments:

II.10. As a Party of origin, how and in which language do you usually provide environmental impact assessment documentation to the affected Party?

(a) A full set of environmental impact assessment documentation is translated into English

(b) Selected parts of the documentation are translated in English
Please specify which parts are translated and how they are selected

(c) A full set of environmental impact assessment documentation is translated into the affected Party's language

(d) Selected parts of environmental impact assessment documentation are translated into the language of the affected Party
Please specify which parts are translated and how they are selected

(e) Other (please specify)

Your comments: Extended summary can be translated into the affected Party's language upon request, usually is translated into English; full set is translated into English.

II. 11. Please indicate how the costs of interpretation during the events organized within the public participation procedure are covered:

(a) By the developer: Please explain:

(b) By the Party of origin alone: Please explain

(c) By the affected Party alone: Please explain

(d) Shared by both Parties concerned upon an agreement:

(e) Please provide details of related agreements and considerations based on which the Parties concerned agreed to share the translation costs:

(f) Other (please specify)

Your comments:

II.12. Please describe any difficulties that your country has encountered during public participation procedures and consultations referred to in articles 2 (5), 3 (8), 4 (2) and 5 with regard to issues not covered above; for example, with regard to time frames for the duration of public participation and the consultation period and the need for additional information:

- (a) As a Party of origin:
 - (i) Experience with public participation
 - (ii) Experience with consultations under article 5
- (b) As an affected Party:
 - (i) Experience with public participation
 - (ii) Experience with consultations under article 5

Your comments: none

II.13. Has your country carried out post-project analyses in the period 2019–2021:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes

Please list the projects for which post-project analysis was carried out, describing challenges and lessons learned, if any: Post-Project Analysis Programme for the New Ignalina NPP Nuclear Installations (related to spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste treatment facilities).

Your comments:

II.14. Does your country have successful examples of organizing transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures in any of the categories of projects indicated below?

<i>Joint cross-border projects</i>	<i>Construction of nuclear power plants</i>	<i>Lifetime extension of nuclear power plants</i>
(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

If “Yes”, please describe what, in your opinion, made it successful, for example, means of cooperation (for example, contact points, joint bodies, bilateral agreements, special and common provisions, etc.), institutional arrangements, and how practical matters are dealt with (for example, translation, interpretation, transmission of documents, etc.):

- (a) For joint cross-border projects:
- (b) For construction of nuclear power plants:
- (c) For lifetime extension of nuclear power plants:

You may also wish to describe the example using annex III to the present questionnaire.

Your comments:

II.15. Please provide examples from your experience during the reporting period (either complete cases or elements such as notification, consultation and public participation) for the information of Parties that, in your view, constitute good practice or lessons learned on various topics:

Your comments: Successful online consultations with Latvia regarding dismantling / decommissioning of Ignalina nuclear power plant can be considered a case of good practice.

II.16. The Long-term strategy and the action plan for the Convention and the Protocol⁴ recommends enhancing the use of the networks of national focal points for administrative matters⁵ and points of contact for notification⁶ published on the website of the Convention. Does your country use the networks for contacting the affected Parties' authorities?

- (a) Yes, my country makes use of the networks
- (b) My country is aware of the networks but is not using them

Please explain why, and describe the alternative ways used by your country to identify which competent authority of the affected Party to contact:

Your comments: List of contacts is used for contacting affected Parties.

II.17. Please specify what quality control measures your country, as a Party of origin, applies to ensure sufficient quality of environmental impact assessment documentation and, in particular, that said documentation contains, as a minimum, information described in appendix II to the Convention.

Your comments: Competent authority / authorities, responsible for health protection, heritage protection and responsible for the fire/accident protection check the information provided. EIA documentation can be prepared only by a natural person who holds an appropriate higher education degree or qualification in the field corresponding to the specific character of the drafted documents of a screening for environmental impact assessment or an environmental impact assessment or parts thereof or a legal person or a division thereof (including a foreign legal person or another organisation, also a division thereof) whose professionals hold an appropriate higher education degree or qualification in the field conforming to the specific character of the drafted documents of the screening for environmental impact assessment or the environmental impact assessment or parts thereof.

II.18. Please specify whether alternatives are assessed in the environmental impact assessment documentation and, if so, how. If possible, provide at least one example of such assessment, either as a Party of origin or as an affected Party, or both

Your comments: Assessment of viable alternatives is required by the EIA legislation.

II.19. Please specify whether the following issues are considered in the environmental impact assessment documentation:

- (a) Biodiversity: yes
- (b) Climate change: yes
- (c) Circular economy: no requirement
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal implementation: no requirement
- (e) Smart and sustainable cities: no requirement
- (f) Sustainable infrastructure : no requirement
- (g) Renewables : no requirement
- (h) Other issues not listed above (please specify):

According to the Law on EIA, environmental impact assessment shall determine, describe and assess the potential direct and indirect effects of the proposed economic activity on the following elements of the environment: soil, land surface and subsurface, air, water, climate, landscape and biodiversity, focusing in particular on species and natural habitats of Community interest, also on other species protected by the Law of the Republic of Lithuania

⁴ ECE/MP.EIA/2020/3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/3, item II.A.7.

⁵ List of Focal Points for Administrative Matters, available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/environmental-assessment/focal-points-administrative-matters>.

⁶ List of Points of Contact regarding Notification, available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/environmental-assessment/points-contact-regarding-notification>.

on the Protected Species of Fauna, Flora and Fungi, material assets, immovable cultural properties and the interrelationship between these elements; identify, describe and assess the potential direct and indirect effects of biological, chemical and physical factors caused by the proposed economic activity on public health, also on the interrelationship between elements of the environment and public health; determine the potential impact of the proposed economic activity on the elements of the environment referred to in point 1 of this Article and on public health by virtue of the risk of vulnerability of the proposed economic activity due to emergency events and/or potential emergencies; determine the measures to be taken in order to prevent envisaged significant adverse impact on the environment and public health, to reduce it or, if possible, to offset it.

Please provide at least one example of how one of the above-mentioned issues is addressed in the environmental impact assessment documentation:

You may wish to use the template in annex III to the questionnaire.

Your comments:

II.20. Please indicate whether, in your country's practice, cumulative impacts are taken into account during the assessment under the Convention and, if so, how:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes

If "Yes", please provide at least one example of how cumulative impacts are considered.

Your comments: Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania No. D1-885 of October 31, 2017 on the Approval of Regulations on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity requires cumulative impacts to be assessed and described in the EIA Report. Information about these impacts is provided to the affected country during transboundary procedures.

Combined impacts of activities to be performed during the planned project implementation period with potential cumulative effects were assessed during the EIA for dismantling / decommissioning of Ignalina nuclear power plant considering the impact of certain activities planned to implement in the overlapping time periods.

II.21. Please indicate whether health issues are taken into account in your country during the assessment under the Convention in practice and, if so, how:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes

If "Yes", please provide at least one example of how health issues are taken into account

Effects on health are assessed and quality control of this assessment is assured by health protection authorities.

Your comments:

II.22. Please indicate whether environmental impact assessments implemented in your country can be considered to have contributed to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and their specific targets:

- (a) No, there is no evidence that environmental impact assessments contribute to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals
- (b) Yes, (certain) environmental impact assessments significantly contributed to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals
- (c) Yes, (certain) environmental impact assessments contributed somewhat to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

If “Yes”, please list the most relevant Sustainable Development Goals⁷ (and their targets) and provide [at least one] example[s] of how environmental impact assessment has contributed to their attainment.

Your comments:

⁷ In 2017, the Meetings of the Parties acknowledged that the Convention and, in particular the Protocol, contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1, decision VII/7–III/6, Minsk Declaration, para. 7). Selected examples of Sustainable Development Goal targets that strategic environmental assessment could help to implement include the following (see informal document to the fifth meeting of the Working Group (Geneva, 11–15 April 2016):

- (a) Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.9 and 3.d);
- (b) Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (targets 6.3, 6.5–6.6 and 6.a–6.b);
- (c) Sustainable Development Goal 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (targets 7.2 and 7.a);
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.4);
- (e) Sustainable Development Goal 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (targets 9.1 and 9.4);
- (f) Sustainable Development Goal 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.3–11.4, 11.6 and 11.a–11.b);
- (g) Sustainable Development Goal 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (targets 12.2 and 12.4–12.5);
- (h) Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (targets 13.1–13.3);
- (i) Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (target 14.1);
- (j) Sustainable Development Goal 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (targets 15.1 and 15.4);
- (k) Sustainable Development Goal 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.6–16.7 and 16.10);
- (l) Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (targets 17.13 and 17.16–17.17).

For more details, see ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/5/INF.16, available at http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/WG2.5_April2016/Informal_document_16_ece.mp.eia.wg.2.2016.INF.16__Sustainable_Development_Goal_Mapping.pdf.

C. Experience in using the available guidance documents in 2019–2021

II.23. Have you used in practice the following guidance, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties and available online?

<i>Title of guidance document</i>	<i>Use of guidance</i>	<i>Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance</i>
Guidance on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (ECE/MP.EIA/7)	I use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on subregional cooperation (ECE/MP.EIA/6, annex V, appendix)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on the Practical Application of the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/8)	I use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (ECE/MP.EIA/2020/9)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	

<i>Title of guidance document</i>	<i>Use of guidance</i>	<i>Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance</i>
Good Practice	I use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Recommendations on the Application of the Convention to Nuclear Energy-related Activities (ECE/MP.EIA/24)	I do not use it <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the document <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The document is not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) The document is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Revised Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries (ECE/MP.EIA/28)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the document <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The document is not relevant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (iii) The document is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	
Guidance on Notification according to the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/12)	I use it <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I do not use it <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: (i) I am not aware of the guidance <input type="checkbox"/> (ii) The guidance is not relevant <input type="checkbox"/> (iii) The guidance is outdated and needs revision <input type="checkbox"/>	

Your comments:

D. Clarity of the Convention

II.24. Has your country had difficulties implementing the procedures defined in the Convention, either as a Party of origin or as an affected Party, because of a lack of clarity of the provisions?

No

Yes Please indicate which provisions and how they are unclear:

Your comments:

E. Contributions to the funding of the workplans

II.25. Please indicate whether the information regarding contributions to the trust fund was already provided by your country in the responses to the questionnaire concerning the Protocol and covered both the Convention and the Protocol:

(i) Yes

(ii) No

If “No”, please provide the information regarding the contributions to the trust fund below.

Your comments:

II.26. Through paragraph 4 of decision VII/4–III/4, applicable for the period 2017–2020, the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol jointly “urge[d] all Parties to contribute to ensuring sustainable funding of activities and an equitable and proportionate sharing of the financial burden among the Parties”.⁸ For the period 2021–2023, by paragraph 1 of decision VIII/1–IV/1, regarding funding of the adopted workplans, the Meeting of the Parties decided that “all the Parties have a duty to contribute to the sharing of the costs that are not covered by the United Nations regular budget”.⁹

(a) Please indicate whether your Government contributed to the funding of the workplans during the reporting period, indicating also the currency and the amount of the contribution:

(i) My Government made a multi-year contribution for the period 2017–2020

Please indicate when the contribution was provided (year), amount and currency: US\$ 6,000 for the intersessional period 2017–2020, paid by the end of 2017

(ii) Individual contribution in 2019

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(iii) Individual contribution in 2020:

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(iv) Individual contribution in 2021:

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

(v) Please indicate any plans of your country to contribute for the period 2021–2023

\$10,000 for the intersessional period 2021–2023, paid by the end of 2020

(b) Did your country make in-kind contributions in the reporting period?

Yes Please describe how:

No Please explain the reason

F. Suggested improvements to the report

II.27. Please provide further suggestions (preferably specific drafting proposals including wording suggestions) for how this report could be improved.

⁸ ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1.

⁹ ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1.

Annex I

Number of transboundary procedures initiated by your country, as a Party of origin, and participated in, as an affected Party, in the reporting period

<i>Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention</i>		<i>No. of procedures as a PoO^a</i>	<i>No. of procedures as an AP^b</i>
1.	Crude oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 metric tons or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.		
2. (a)	Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more;		
2. (b)	Nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors, including the dismantling or decommissioning of such power stations or reactors 1/ (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load).	2	2
3. (a)	Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel;		
3. (b)	Installations designed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel; - For the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste; - For the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel; - Solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste; or - Solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or radioactive waste in a different site than the production site. 		
4.	Major installations for the initial smelting of cast iron and steel and for the production of non-ferrous metals.		
5.	Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20,000 metric tons finished product; for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 metric tons finished product; and for other asbestos utilization of more than 200 metric tons per year.		
6.	Integrated chemical installations.		

<i>Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention</i>	<i>No. of procedures as a PoO^a</i>	<i>No. of procedures as an AP^b</i>
7. (a) Construction of motorways, express roads 2/ and lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports 3/ with a basic runway length of 2,100 metres or more;		1
7. (b) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road, or realigned and/or widened section of road, would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.		
8. Large-diameter pipelines for the transport of oil, gas or chemicals.		
9. Trading ports and also inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1,350 metric tons.		
10.(a) Waste-disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment or landfill of toxic and dangerous wastes;		
10.(b) Waste-disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 metric tons per day.		
11. Large dams and reservoirs.		
12. Groundwater abstraction activities or artificial groundwater recharge schemes where the annual volume of water to be abstracted or recharged amounts to 10 million cubic metres or more.		
13. Pulp, paper and board manufacturing of 200 air-dried metric tons or more per day.		
14. Major quarries, mining, on-site extraction and processing of metal ores or coal.		
15. Offshore hydrocarbon production. Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted exceeds 500 metric tons/day in the case of petroleum and 500 000 cubic metres/day in the case of gas.		
16. Major storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products.		
17. Deforestation of large areas.		
18.(a) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where this transfer aims at preventing possible shortages of water and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 100 million cubic metres/year (transfers of piped drinking water are excluded);		
18.(b) In all other cases, works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where the multi-annual average flow of the basin of abstraction exceeds 2 000 million cubic metres/year and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 5 per cent of this flow (transfers of piped drinking water are excluded).		
19. Wastewater treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150 000 population equivalent.		

<i>Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention</i>		<i>No. of procedures as a PoO^a</i>	<i>No. of procedures as an AP^b</i>
20.	Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs with more than: - 85 000 places for broilers; - 60 000 places for hens; - 3 000 places for production pigs (over 30 kg); - 900 places for sows.		
21.	Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kV or more and a length of more than 15 km.		
22.	Major installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms).	8	6

Activities not listed in appendix I for which your country implemented a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure in the reporting period

^a Party of origin.

^b Affected Party.

Annex II

A detailed list of the transboundary procedures in which your party participated as a Party of origin (table 1) and as an affected Party (table 2) in the reporting period

Table 1

Transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures as a Party of origin

Please find below an example of expected types of answers in each column and feel free to add additional rows as needed

				<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date, if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (date of the notification sent)</i>	<i>Affected Party/ Parties</i>	<i>Timing of the notification</i>	<i>Submission of the environmental report</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any</i>	<i>Public participation, (please also indicate the means, for example, written comments, events organized, etc.) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date of issue, if information is available)</i>
1. Extension of an existing wind farm of 7 turbines with additional 2 turbines (Bataičiai and Palūšė villages in Mažeikiai district municipality)	2019-01-29	Latvia	Screening	– Screening information submitted	–	–	EIA not required, decision by the competent authority 2019-05-16 Nr. (30.2)-A4E-1382
2. Construction of a wind farm (up to 5 turbines) in Šapnagiai village, Akmenė district municipality	2019-03-08	Latvia	Screening	– Screening information submitted	–	–	EIA not required, decision by the competent

<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date, if available</i>							
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (date of the notification sent)</i>	<i>Affected Party/ Parties</i>	<i>Timing of the notification</i>	<i>Submission of the environmental report</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any</i>	<i>Public participation, (please also indicate the means, for example, written comments, events organized, etc.) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date of issue, if information is available) authority</i>
3. Extension of an existing wind farm of 19 turbines with additional 4 turbines (Kabaldikai, Tulnikiai villages in Mažeikiai district municipality)	2019-02-27	Latvia	Screening	– Screening information submitted	–	–	2019-08-01 Nr. (30.2)-A4E-3322 EIA required, decision by the competent authority 2019-05-23 Nr. (30.2)-A4E-1553. Decision submitted to the AP, 2019-07-16
4. Wind farm in Juodeikėliai, Griežė, Dautarai, Ritinė and Palūšė in Mažeikiai district municipality (changing the placement and types of wind turbines in an already approved wind farm)	2019-07-31	Latvia	Screening	– Screening information submitted	–	–	EIA required, decision by the competent authority 2019-10-16 Nr. (30.2)-A4E-5029.

Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date, if available

<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (date of the notification sent)</i>	<i>Affected Party/ Parties</i>	<i>Timing of the notification</i>	<i>Submission of the environmental report</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any</i>	<i>Public participation, (please also indicate the means, for example, written comments, events organized, etc.) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date of issue, if information is available)</i>
							Decision submitted to the AP, 2019-10-22
5. Construction of a wind farm (up to 18 turbines) in Šapnagai, Bambalai, Pleikiai and Kviečlaukio villages, Akmenė district municipality	2019-10-25	Latvia	Screening	– Screening information submitted	–	–	Project cancelled. AP informed about the cancellation, 2019-12-17 Nr. (10)-D8-3798
6. Dismantling and decontamination of Units A-2 and V-2 of Ignalina nuclear power plant	2020-02-06	Latvia, Poland, Belarus	EIA Report preparation	Summary of the EIA Report submitted with notification. Extended summary submitted to Latvia upon request, 2020-07-09	2020-02-05 online consultations (meeting) with relevant authorities and the public of the AP (Latvia)	2020-02-05 online consultations (meeting) with relevant authorities and the public of the AP (Latvia)	Decision of the comp. authority to proceed with the project, 2021-04-27 Nr. (10)-D8(E)-2844
7. Construction of a wind farm in Suginė, Vegerių and	2020-08-07	Latvia	Screening	–	–	–	EIA required, decision by

					<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date, if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (date of the notification sent)</i>	<i>Affected Party/ Parties</i>	<i>Timing of the notification</i>	<i>Submission of the environmental report</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any</i>	<i>Public participation, (please also indicate the means, for example, written comments, events organized, etc.) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date of issue, if information is available)</i>	
Vēlaičių villages, Akmenė district municipality				Screening information submitted			the competent authority 2020-10-02 Nr. (30.2)-A4E-8673. Project cancelled due to the opposition of the municipal administration.	
8. Construction of a wind farm (up to 6 turbines) in Akmenė district municipality (Kruopiai C1 zone)	2020-09-11	Latvia	Scoping	– Scoping information submitted	–	–	Ongoing project, no EIA report has been yet submitted to local authorities	
9. Dismantling and decontamination of equipment from the working areas R1	2021-05-26 No official notification. Ad hoc consulting	Latvia, Poland, Belarus	EIA Report preparation	Summary of the EIA Report submitted with notification.	Additional information provided to Latvia	–	Ongoing project, final decision due in 2022	

Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date, if available

<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (date of the notification sent)</i>	<i>Affected Party/ Parties</i>	<i>Timing of the notification</i>	<i>Submission of the environmental report</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any</i>	<i>Public participation, (please also indicate the means, for example, written comments, events organized, etc.) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date of issue, if information is available)</i>
and R2 of INPP Unit 2 reactor (Project 2102)	information was sent instead					and Belarus upon request.	
10. Installation and operation of the offshore wind turbine farm of up to 700 MW installed capacity in the Lithuanian marine territory of the Baltic Sea	2021-12-09	Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Poland	Scoping	– Scoping information submitted	Proposals for the upcoming EIA Report received		Ongoing project

Table 2

Transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures as an affected Party

Please find below an example of expected types of answers in each column, and feel free to add additional rows as needed

					<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>	
1. Aflandshage offshore windfarm in Oresund	Notification received: 2019-10-18 Response sent: 2019-12-13 Stage of the procedure - scoping	Denmark	2019-10-18: scoping information received 2021-11-23: EIA Report received	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–	
2. Eesti Energia AS offshore windfarms in the Gulf of Riga	Notification received: 2020-02-17 Response sent: 2020-04-03 Stage of the procedure - Application for Development Consent	Estonia	No screening or scoping document was provided	–	–	Public informed by publishing notification on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–	

				<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>
3. 'The Sizewell C Project', a new nuclear power station in Suffolk	Notification received: 2020-07-09 Response sent: 2020-08-18 Stage of the procedure - Application for Development Consent	United Kingdom	Links to the draft Development Consent Order (DCO); the Environmental Statement (and a non-technical summary); and the Habitats Regulations Assessment Report were provided in the notification	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–
4. Saare Wind Energy OU offshore windfarm in the west coast of Saare county	Notification received: 2020-07-09 Response sent: 2020-08-31 Stage of the procedure - Application for Development Consent	Estonia	Scoping document in English and its summary in Lithuanian was provided with notification.	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–
5. Offshore windfarm Södra Midsjöbanken	Notification received:	Sweden	Consultation document in English	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on	–

				<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>
	2020-09-07 Response sent: 2020-11-04 Stage of the procedure - Prior to the application for a permit / scoping		was provided with notification.			the website of the Ministry of Environment	
6. Offshore windfarm Galatea-Galene	Notification received: 2020-09-23 Response sent: 2020-10-28 Stage of the procedure - Prior to the application for a permit / scoping	Sweden	Consultation document in English was provided with notification.	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–
7. Fortum Power and Heat Oy extension of Loviisa nuclear power plant's lifetime	Notification received: 2020-08-26 Response sent:	Finland	Scoping document provided with notification, draft EIA report 2021-09-20	2021-12-21 comments were provided to the PO	Answers were received 2022-01-17, consultations concluded	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–

					<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>			
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>	
	2020-11-04							
	Stage of the procedure - scoping							
8. Offshore wind farm Kattégatt Syd.	Notification received: 2021-02-24 Response sent: 2021-03-29 Stage of the procedure - Prior to the application for a permit / scoping	Sweden	Consultation document in English was provided with notification.	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–	
9. Railway Section E75 Balstogė–Suvalkai–Trakiškiai (State Border) Stage II, Segment Lukas–Trakiškiai (State Border)	Notification received: 2021-02-25 Response sent: 2021-04-06 Stage of the procedure - scoping	Poland	Information document in Lithuanian was provided with notification.	–	–	Public informed by publishing information on the website of the Ministry of Environment	–	

<i>Please use as checkbox for referring to the progress and indicate the date if available</i>							
<i>Project name</i>	<i>Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification</i>	<i>Party of origin</i>	<i>When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?</i>	<i>Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)</i>	<i>Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any</i>	<i>Final decision (date when final decision was received)</i>

Annex III

Template to describe an example of application of a transboundary procedure in accordance with the Convention in the reporting period

Please provide at least one example of application of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure in accordance with the Convention in the reporting period using the template and reflecting on the priorities of the 2021–2023 workplan and the long-term strategy. Should you wish to share more examples, please copy the template, as needed.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Please provide the following general information about the selected example:

1. Title of the transboundary procedure: DISMANTLING AND DECONTAMINATION OF EQUIPMENT OF UNITS A-2 AND V-2 OF IGNALINA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

2. Party's role in the procedure and a list and roles of other Parties involved

Party of origin: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Affected Party: <input type="checkbox"/>
Affected Party/ies: Belarus, Latvia, Poland	Party/ies of origin: Lithuania

3. Duration and period of implementation: 2020-02-06 - 2021-04-27

4. Stage(s)/step(s) of the procedure presented in this example:

The entire procedure

Notification (art. 3):

Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation (art. 4):

Consultations of the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation (art. 5 (a)–(c))

Final decision (art. 6):

Post-project analysis (art. 7, if applicable)

Other , please specify:

II. BACKGROUND

Please provide a short description of the activity, the context of its development and general information about the environmental impact assessment procedure

Starting from 31 December 2009, Lithuanian State Enterprise “Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant” (hereinafter also referred to as INPP) completely ceased the production of electricity due to obligations, provided for in the Treaty of Accession to the European Union. The INPP decommissioning is performed as a large project, regulated by the Law on the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning of the Republic of Lithuania, No. XII-914. The whole project is being implemented via a number of smaller subprojects, in accordance with the continuous step by step approach chosen during the scoping phase of the EIA for the overall project. This approach was selected because of the long-term nature of the project and with an intention of applying state of the art methods for every step and to ensure that environmental effects of the previous steps can be taken into account during further planning and assessment.

Dismantling and decontamination of Units A-2 and V-2 is one of the activities within the large INPP decommissioning project. The activity includes the following major technological operations: preparatory works; dismantling of the equipment; transportation of waste from

the dismantled equipment to the areas of fragmentation, decontamination and packaging; initial treatment of the dismantling waste; radiation measurements of waste and waste packages; transfer of waste and/or waste packages to the interim storage, disposal or release it from the further radiation control depending on the waste acceptance criteria; completion and finishing works.

In February 2020 Lithuania sent a notification to the points of contact for Espoo Convention in Belarus, Latvia, Poland, considering them potentially affected Parties. A non technical EIA summary was provided in English and Russian. Poland replied that it does not intend to participate in the environmental impact assessment procedure. Belarus did not reply. Latvia informed about its intent to participate in transboundary EIA. In July 2020 an extended summary of the EIA report was provided to Latvia in Latvian and their competent authority has organized consultations with internal (national) stakeholders - national authorities and the public. A list of issues requiring additional information and / or discussions was presented by the Latvian competent authority to the Lithuanian coordinating authority. Unfortunately, due to the global COVID 19 pandemic and related restrictions on travelling and organizing live meetings, the consultations were postponed a few times. A solution was found by organizing a remote online meeting via Microsoft Teams, which was acceptable for all stakeholders and can be considered a good practice example. Interpretation to Latvian was ensured during the meeting. Final decision was made by Lithuanian competent authority in April 2021 concluding the EIA process. The final decision translated to English was sent to Latvia.

III. PROCEDURE UNDER THE CONVENTION AND ELEMENTS OF GOOD PRACTICE

Please describe, in more detail, using the subsections below, the procedural step(s) considered to represent good practice and then explain why that is.

1. **Notification** (art. 3):
2. **Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation** (art. 4):

In addition to the description above regarding the preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation, please indicate the following:

- (a) What alternatives were assessed and presented in the environmental impact assessment documentation?
 - (i) At what level of detail were the alternatives described?
 - (ii) What methods and/or assessment grids were used for the selection of the most reasonable alternative?
- (b) Whether the following issues were covered in the environmental impact assessment documentation and, if so, how:
 - (i) Biodiversity
 - (ii) Climate change
 - (iii) Circular economy
 - (iv) Sustainable Development Goal implementation
 - (v) Smart and sustainable cities
 - (vi) Sustainable infrastructure
 - (vii) Renewables
 - (viii) Other issues not listed above:

3. **Consultations on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation** (art. 5 (a)–(c)):

As noted in the background description of the project above, there was a need for live discussions on the basis of the environmental impact assessment documentation. Unfortunately, it was not possible to organize a live meeting due to the global COVID 19 pandemic and related restrictions.

A solution was found by organizing a remote online meeting via Microsoft Teams, which was acceptable for all stakeholders. Official languages of the meeting were Latvian and Lithuanian, by Lithuania (Party of origin) providing consecutive interpretation from/into Latvian.

The following stakeholders of the EIA process were participating in the online meeting: from the Lithuanian side - representatives of the developer – Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant; coordinating authority – Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania; competent EIA authority – Environmental Protection Agency of the Republic of Lithuania; other relevant institutions of the Republic of Lithuania: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Energy, State Nuclear Power Safety Inspectorate, Radiation Protection Centre; from the Latvian side - representatives of Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, State Environmental Bureau, Radiation Safety Centre of the State Environmental Service (Latvian RPC), Daugavpils County Council, representatives of general public.

The meeting was very constructive and successful; official minutes were prepared afterwards and approved by both Parties.

We think that this example illustrates that online meetings (bilateral and maybe multilateral) can be a very useful tool in transboundary EIA also during times when we are not threatened by global pandemics.

4. **Final decision** (art. 6):
5. **Post-project analysis** (art. 7, if applicable):

IV. LESSONS LEARNED AND ADVICE TO OTHER PARTIES:

1. Please indicate:

Challenges in carrying out the procedure, if any, and how they were tackled

Lessons learned and advice to other Parties:

2. As relevant, please also refer to the contribution of the above application of environmental impact assessment procedure towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals¹ or climate objectives:

¹ In 2017, the Meetings of the Parties acknowledged that the Convention and in particular the Protocol contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1, decision VII/7–III/6, Minsk Declaration, para. 7). Selected examples of Sustainable Development Goal targets that strategic environmental assessment could help to implement include the following (see informal document to the fifth meeting of the Working Group (Geneva, 11–15 April 2016):

- (a) Sustainable Development Goal 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (targets 3.9 and 3.d);
- (b) Sustainable Development Goal 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (targets 6.3, 6.5–6.6 and 6.a–6.b);
- (c) Sustainable Development Goal 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (targets 7.2 and 7.a);
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.4);
- (e) Sustainable Development Goal 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (targets 9.1 and 9.4);

V. ANY OTHER INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED ABOVE THAT YOU MAY WISH TO SHARE:

-
- (f) Sustainable Development Goal 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.3–11.4, 11.6 and 11.a–11.b);
 - (g) Sustainable Development Goal 12 – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (targets 12.2 and 12.4–12.5);
 - (h) Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (targets 13.1–13.3);
 - (i) Sustainable Development Goal 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (target 14.1);
 - (j) Sustainable Development Goal 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (targets 15.1 and 15.4);
 - (k) Sustainable Development Goal 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.6–16.7 and 16.10);
 - (l) Sustainable Development Goal 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (targets 17.13 and 17.16–17.17).
- For more details, see ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2016/5/INF.16, available at http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/WG2.5_April2016/Informal_document_16_ecc.mp.eia.wg.2.2016.INF.16__Sustainable_Development_Goal_Mapping.pdf.