

Questionnaire for the report of LITHUANIA on the implementation of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in the period 2019–2021

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Part one

Current legal and administrative framework for the implementation of the Protocol

In this part, please describe the legal, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Protocol. This part should describe the framework for your country's implementation, and not its experience in the application of, the Protocol.

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

Article 3

General provisions

I.3. According to article 3 (1) of the Protocol: “Each Party shall take the necessary legislative, regulatory and other appropriate measures to implement the provisions of this Protocol within a clear, transparent framework.” Please provide the main legislative, regulatory and other measures your country has adopted to implement the Protocol (art. 3, (1)) (more than one option may apply):

(a) Law on strategic environmental assessment (please provide exact title/reference number/year/access link, if any): -

(b) Strategic environmental assessment provisions are transposed into another law/other laws (please specify, providing title/reference number/year/access link, if any): the Law on Environmental Protection states that Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is carried out in accordance with the procedure established by the Government.

(c) Regulation (please indicate title/reference number/year/access link, if any): Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the approval of the Order of Strategic Assessment of the Effects of Plans and Programs on the Environment, August 18, 2004, No. 967 (hereinafter – SEA Order, last amended in 2014)

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.239479/asr>

(d) Administrative rule (please indicate title/reference number/year/access link, if any): Order of the Minister of the Environment on Approval of description of the procedure of public participation in the process of strategic environmental assessment and informing the subjects, Member States of the European Union and other foreign countries about the procedures for the strategic environmental assessment of plans and programmes.

<https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.240949/asr>

(e) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

Article 4

Field of application concerning plans and programmes

I.4.1 Which plans and programmes referred to in article 4 (2)–(4) of the Protocol are set out in your country's legislation?

List the types of plans and programmes that require strategic environmental assessment in your country's legislation and provide references to the relevant legislation:

SEA Order's para 6 sets the list of plans and programmes, which are subject to SEA:

“The assessment shall be carried out for:

6.1. Plans and programs which are prepared for industry, energy, transport, telecommunications, tourism, agriculture, forestry, fishery, water management, waste management, territorial planning or land use and which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity of the Republic of Lithuania and are bigger than 10 sq. km. plot

6.2. substantial, major changes of the plan or program, described in para 6.1.

6.3. Comprehensive territorial planning documents and major changes of these documents.

6.4. Plans and programs, implementation of which is related to established or potential „Natura 2000“ territories or to the environment within a vicinity of such territories, and institution responsible for organization of protection and management of such territories determines that pursuant to the provisions of Directive 92/43/EEC, implementation of such plan or programme (separately or in combination with other plans and programs) might have significant effects on established or potential „Natura 2000“ territories.

6.5. Plans and programs for which a decision regarding obligatory assessment is made during the screening procedure.”

Plans and programmes prepared for:

Agriculture

Forestry

Fisheries

Energy

Industry including mining

Transport

Regional development (territorial planning)

Waste management

Water management

Telecommunications

Tourism

Town and country planning

Land use

Other (including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4)), please list

Please explain:

I.4.2. Explain how you define whether a plan or programme “set the framework for future development consent” (art. 4 (2)): Case by case planning organizer investigates the nature of the plan or programme, specifics and legal binding nature of its possible solutions and decides where the plans or programmes solutions will set the framework for future development consent, f. e. envisage whether the future development projects will refer exactly to this plan or programme.

I.4.3. Explain how the term “plans and programmes ... which determine the use of small areas at local level” (art. 4 (4)) is interpreted in your country’s legislation: SEA Order provisions set the criteria 10 sq. km. plot as a small areas at local level.

I.4.4. Explain how you identify in your legislation a “minor modification” to a plan or programme (art. 4 (4)): Territorial planning Law describes that minor modifications of the plan are: technical mistakes corrections in the maps or textual parts, addition of solutions, without contradiction with the concept of the plan.

Article 5

Screening

I.5.1 According to article 5 (1): “Each Party shall determine whether plans and programmes referred to in article 4, paragraphs 3 and 4, are likely to have significant environmental, including health, effects either through a case-by-case examination or by specifying types of plans and programmes or by combining both approaches.”

How do you determine which plans and programmes referred to in article 4 (3)–(4) should be subject to a strategic environmental assessment? Please specify:

- (a) On a case-by-case basis
- (b) By specifying types of plans and programmes
- (c) By using a combination of (a) and (b) above
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

According to the legal requirements of the Governmental Decision on SEA Order, SEA must be carried out for: 1) plans and programs which are prepared for industry, energy, transport, telecommunications, tourism, agriculture, forestry, fishery, water management, waste management, special and detailed territorial planning documents, land use documents which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity of the Republic of Lithuania and are prepared for the territories with an area of more than 10 square kilometres; 2) major changes of plans and programs referred to in part 1; preparation or amendments of comprehensive territorial planning documents; 4) Plans and programs, implementation of which is related to established or potential „Natura 2000“ territories or to the environment within a vicinity of such territories, and institution responsible for organization of protection and management of such territories determines that pursuant to the provisions of Directive 92/43/EEC, implementation of such plan or programme (separately or in combination with other plans and programs) might have significant effects on established or potential „Natura 2000“ territories; 4) plans and programs for which a decision regarding obligatory assessment is made during the screening procedure.

Case-by-case examination (screening) is performed for 1) plans and programmes which are prepared for industry, energy, transport, telecommunications, tourism, agriculture, forestry, fishery, water management, waste management, special and detailed territorial planning documents, land use documents which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity of the Republic of Lithuania and are prepared for the territories with an area of 10 or less square kilometres; 2) minor changes of plans and programs referred to in parts 1 of both above paragraphs; 3) modifications of the comprehensive plans, if they set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity of the Republic of Lithuania; 4) other plans and programs which set the framework for future development consent of economic activities projects to be approved by environmental authorities.

I.5.2. According to article 5 (2), each Party shall ensure that the environmental and health authorities are consulted during screening.

Please explain whether your legislation provides for consultation with environmental and health authorities at the screening stage and, if so, how.

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

Please explain:

According to the Governmental Decision on SEA Order, environmental institutions: Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania, Environmental Protection Agency under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania and the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania are assigned SEA mandatory stakeholders, responsible to express their opinions, during the consultation process at the screening stage.

According to SEA Order during the state level plans or programmes screening procedure, the organizer of preparation of a plan or program or its consultant prepares the Screening document and submits it to the environmental and health stakeholders: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health and State Service for Protected Areas. Environmental and health stakeholders of the Assessment examine the Screening document and within 10 working days in written form provide their conclusions to the organizer of preparation of a plan or program.

During the municipality and local level plans or programmes screening procedure Environmental Protection Agency under the Ministry of Environment, an institution authorized by the Ministry of Health and the State Service for Protected Areas act as environmental and health stakeholders.

I.5.3. According to article 5 (3): “To the extent appropriate, each Party shall endeavour to provide opportunities for the participation of the public concerned in the screening of plans and programmes under this article.”

Please indicate whether you provide opportunities for the public concerned to participate in screening of plans and programmes in your legislation and, if so, how.

No

Yes

Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By sending written comments to the relevant authority
- (b) By completing a questionnaire
- (c) By taking part in a public hearing
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

Whilst performing the screening, the organizer of preparation of a plan or program or its consultant prepares the Screening document and submits it to the stakeholders according to their competence. Stakeholders examine the Screening document and provide their conclusions to the organizer of preparation of a plan or program. The organizer of preparation of a plan or program informs in writing the stakeholders, and the public about the decision to perform or not to perform the Assessment. If a decision is made not to perform the Assessment, the organizer of preparation of a plan or program shall inform stakeholders and the public, where they can access motivation for such decision. Public has the right to object the decision taken.

Article 6

Scoping

I.6.1 According to article 6 (1): “Each Party shall establish arrangements for the determination of the relevant information to be included in the environmental report in accordance with article 7, paragraph 2.”

Please explain how you determine the relevant information to be included in the environmental report.

SEA Order’s para 20 sets all the requirements for structure and content of the information to be provided in the Scoping document.

I.6.2. According to article 6 (2), each Party shall ensure that the environmental and health authorities are consulted during scoping.

Please explain whether your country’s legislation provides for consultation with environmental and health authorities at the scoping stage and, if so, how.

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

Please explain:

According to the legal requirements of the Governmental Decision on SEA Order, Scoping document is prepared whenever the Assessment of a certain plan or program is required.

The scoping document is prepared by the organizer of preparation of a plan or program or his consultant and submitted to the stakeholders of the Assessment according to their competence.

Environmental institutions: Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania, Environmental Protection Agency under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania and the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania are SEA mandatory stakeholders of the Assessment, responsible to express their opinions, during the consultation process of scoping document.

I.6.3 According to article 6 (3): “To the extent appropriate, each Party shall endeavour to provide opportunities for the participation of the public concerned when determining the relevant information to be included in the environmental report.”

Please indicate whether your country’s legislation provides opportunities for the public concerned to participate in scoping of plans and programmes and, if so, how.

No

Yes

Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By sending written comments to the relevant authority
- (b) By completing a questionnaire
- (c) By taking part in a public hearing
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

SEA Order does not set special procedure for the participation of the public concerned when determining the relevant information to be included in the environmental report. Nevertheless public has the right to submit their proposals to planning organizer throughout the all territorial planning process.

Article 7

Environmental report

I.7.1. According to article 7 (2): “The environmental report shall, in accordance with the determination under article 6, identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant environmental, including health, effects of implementing the plan or programme and its reasonable alternatives.”

How do you determine “reasonable alternatives”? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) On a case-by-case basis
- (b) As defined in the national legislation (please specify):
- (c) By using a combination of (a) and (b) above
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

According to the legal requirements of the Governmental Decision on SEA Order during the preparation of the SEA report several alternative of the planning solutions should be assessed.

SEA Order does not set more specified requirements for the alternatives should be assessed. Alternatives, the amount of alternatives are developed differently on case by case basis. The planning organized has to motivate the alternatives developed.

This requirement broadens the planning process and ensures that all the possible options of the solutions are taken in mind and assessed. Having the assessment results of alternatives, during the consultation phase public and responsible institution express their opinions, which are taken into account by the planning organizers. During consultation process planning organizer usually refines, amends most positive and most appropriate alternative or develop a new alternative by joining few alternatives assessed before. In order to fulfil all the needs of public, investors and state institutions that the most appropriate alternative of the solutions should be chosen and adopted, taking into account the consideration of environmental impacts in SEA report consensus on the planning solutions is needed and some compensatory measures should be envisaged and implemented. Due to these actions, procedures of SEA planning process becomes more transparent, choices and decisions are more motivated and justified.

I.7.2. According to article 7 (3): “Each Party shall ensure that environmental reports are of sufficient quality to meet the requirements of this Protocol.”

How do you ensure that quality of the reports is sufficient? Please specify:

- (a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures that it includes all information required under annex IV as a minimum before making it available for comments
- (b) By using quality checklists
- (c) There are no specific procedures or mechanisms (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

There are no specific procedures or mechanisms to ensure that environmental reports are of sufficient quality to meet the requirements of this Protocol. The quality of environmental reports is ensured by the stakeholders of the Assessment, which analyse the strategic environmental documents and express their opinions about the quality of the documents.

Article 8

Public participation

I.8.1. According to article 8 (2): “Each Party, using electronic media or other appropriate means, shall ensure the timely public availability of the draft plan or programme and the environmental report.”

How do you notify the public and make the draft plans and programmes and the environmental report available? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Through public notices in printed media
- (b) Through electronic media
- (c) Placing copies in public offices for the public
- (d) Through other means:

Please explain:

According national legislation requirements the organizer, having prepared the Assessment report and the draft plan or program, publish the following information in the:

- in the organizer's website and in the national newspaper - when preparing a plan or program at the state level (the entire territory of the state is planned);

- on the website of the organizer, on the websites of the municipalities whose territories are covered by the plan or program being prepared and in the national newspaper - when preparing the plan or program at the state level (planned parts of the territory of the state - regions, counties);

- on the website of the organizer, on the website of the municipality and on the notice boards of the elderships whose territories are covered by the plan or program being prepared - when preparing the plan or program at the municipal or local level.

no later than 20 working days before the public meeting (deadline starting the day after the last announcement).

I.8.2. According to article 8 (3): “Each Party shall ensure that the public concerned, including relevant non-governmental organizations, is identified for the purposes of paragraphs 1 and 4.”

How do you identify the public concerned? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Based on the geographical location of the plans and programmes
- (b) Based on the environmental effects (significance, extent, accumulation, etc.) of the plans and programmes
- (c) By making the information available to all members of the public and letting them identify themselves as the public concerned
- (d) By other means:

Please explain:

Definition of public concerned is provided in the Law on Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania: “the public concerned” means one or more natural or legal persons affected or likely to be affected by the decisions, actions or missions of the environment and its environment protection and use of natural resources or who have an interest in these solutions process. Under this definition, associations and other public legal entities (other than the State or municipalities, legal entities established by their institutions) established by legal acts promote the protection of the environment shall in all cases be regarded as stakeholders”.

I.8.3. According to article 8 (4): “Each Party shall ensure that the public referred to in paragraph 3 has the opportunity to express its opinion on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report within a reasonable time frame.”

How can the public concerned express its opinion on the draft plan and programme and the environmental report? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By sending comments to the relevant authority/focal point
- (b) By completing a questionnaire
- (c) By taking part in a public hearing
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

According to national legislation requirements the organizer, publishing the information about the Assessment report prepared, have to specify:

- where, when and by when the draft plan or program and the evaluation report are available (indicate the address and time, at least 20 working days must be allowed for access).
- where the draft plan or program and the evaluation report are published on the organizer's website (reference to publication or heading);
- to whom, by when, at what address and in what way (eg. in writing, by e-mail) proposals for the draft plan or program and the evaluation report may be submitted;
- when a public meeting will be held at the institution that organized the preparation of the plan or program (or at another place specified in the announcement) during which the evaluation report and the draft plan or program will be presented to the public.

I.8.4. According to article 8 (4): “The public [concerned, including relevant non-governmental organizations] has the opportunity to express its opinion ... within a reasonable time frame.”

Do you have a definition (for example, a number of days) in your legislation of the term “within a reasonable time frame”? Please specify:

- (a) No, it is defined on a case-by-case basis
- (b) Yes (please provide the definition):
- (c) Other (please specify):

Please explain your selection:

According to the national legislation at least 20 working days must be allowed access to the assessment report published.

In general, public has the right to submit their proposals to planning organizer throughout all territorial planning process.

Article 9

Consultation with environmental and health authorities

I.9.1. According to article 9 (1): “Each Party shall designate the authorities to be consulted which, by reason of their specific environmental or health responsibilities, are likely to be concerned by the environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plan or programme.”

How are the environmental and health authorities identified? Please specify:

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

(c) Other (please specify)

Please explain:

Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania,

Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania,

Environmental Protection Agency under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania

and the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania are identified in the SEA Order as responsible environmental and health institutions, participating in the process of SEA.

I.9.2. According to article 9 (4): “Each Party shall determine the detailed arrangements for informing and consulting the environmental and health authorities referred to in paragraph 1.”

How are the arrangements for informing and consulting the environmental and health authorities determined? Please specify:

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

Please explain:

In the national legislation – SEA Order is defined mandatory procedures for informing and consulting the environmental and health authorities.

The organizer of preparation of a plan or program is obliged to submit screening documents, scoping documents and assessment reports to the stakeholders of the Assessment - environmental and health authorities according to their competence.

I.9.3. According to article 9 (3): “Each Party shall ensure that the authorities referred to in paragraph 1 are given, in an early, timely and effective manner, the opportunity to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report.”

Does your national legislation call for consultations with environmental and health authorities?

- (a) Yes (please refer to specific provisions and provide citations in order to clarify the issue)

According to SEA Order para 27, the organizer of preparation of a plan or program or his consultant submits the Assessment Report and the draft of a plan or program (in case of territorial planning – the Assessment Report and the planning concept directions) to the stakeholders of the Assessment.

We must note, that the concept directions of the territorial planning documents are the earliest stage of the planning process when the SEA is carried out.

- (b) No

Please explain:

I.9.4. How can the environmental and health authorities express their opinion?

- (a) By sending comments
- (b) By completing a questionnaire
- (c) In a meeting
- (d) By other means (please specify)

Please explain:

Screening stage:

Stakeholders of the Assessment - the environmental and health authorities examine the Screening document and within 10 working days in written form provide their conclusions to the organizer of preparation of a plan or program.

Scoping stage:

The stakeholders of the Assessment - the environmental and health authorities examine the scoping document and within 10 working days in written form provide their conclusions regarding the quality of the Scoping document to the organizer of a plan or program or to his consultant.

Assessment report preparation stage:

The stakeholders of the Assessment - the environmental and health authorities according to their competence examine the Assessment Report and draft plan or program (in case of territorial planning – Report and planning concept directions) and:

- within 20 working days in written form provide their conclusions regarding **national level** draft plan or program or concept directions, the quality of the assessment and Report to the organizer of a plan or program or to his consultant. Stakeholders of the assessment, after assessing complexity of the plan or program, have a right to extend provision of conclusions up to 30 working days, prior to that informing the organiser or his consultant;
- within 15 working days in written form provide their conclusions regarding **municipal and local level** draft plan or program or concept directions.

When a plan or program may have significant effects on established or potential „Natura 2000“ territories, (alone or in combination with other plans and programs), institution, responsible for organization of protection and management of protected territories, provides conclusions concerning the quality of assessment and the Report, as well as conclusions concerning adoption or approval of the plan or program related to established or potential “Natura 2000” territories. These conclusions are binding for organisers of preparation of plans and programs.

Article 10**Transboundary consultations**

I.10.1. According to article 10 (1): “Where a Party of origin considers that the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have significant transboundary environmental, including health, effects or where a Party likely to be significantly affected so requests, the Party of origin shall as early as possible before the adoption of the plan or programme notify the affected Party.”

As a Party of origin, when do you notify the affected Party?

- (a) During scoping
- (b) When the draft plan or programme and the environmental report have been prepared
- (c) At other times (please specify):

Please explain:

In the cases when implementation of a plan or program which is being prepared for the territory of the Republic of Lithuania may have significant negative effects on the environment of another Member State or upon request of such Member State, draft plan and Assessment report are submitted with official notification to such State.

In practise, at the in early planning stage, before Assessment report preparation parties consult and inform (without official notification) neighbouring countries about the preparation of certain plan or programme and its SEA procedures.

I.10.2. According to article 10 (2): “[The] notification shall contain, inter alia:

- (a) The draft plan or programme and the environmental report including information on its possible transboundary environmental, including health, effects; and**
(b) Information regarding the decision-making procedure, including an indication of a reasonable time schedule for the transmission of comments.”

As a Party of origin, what information do you include in the notification? Please specify:

- (a) The information required by article 10 (2)
(b) The information required by article 10 (2), plus additional information (please specify):

Please explain:

I.10.3. According to article 10 (2): “The notification shall contain, inter alia: ... an indication of a reasonable time schedule for the transmission of comments.”

As a Party of origin, does your legislation indicate a reasonable time schedule (in days, weeks, months) for the affected Party? Please specify:

- (a) No

Lithuania, as a Party of origin, indicates in the notification the period within which a Member State must express the opinion whether Member State wishes to participate in the assessment process.

If the affected Member State informs about the intention to start consultations, a bilateral agreement shall be made on a reasonable time frame and consultations concerning transboundary environmental effects of implementation of plan or program and mitigation measures.

- (b) Yes (please indicate how long):

If “Yes”, please explain whether that schedule contains individual time frames for a response to the notification and for provision of comments and specify those in days, weeks, months, as relevant:

I.10.4. According to article 10 (3)–(4), when the affected Party expresses its wish to enter into consultations before the adoption of the plan or programme, the Parties concerned shall enter into consultations further to detailed arrangements agreed by them with a view to ensuring that the public concerned and the authorities in the affected Party are informed and given an opportunity to forward their opinion within a reasonable time frame.

How do the Parties agree on detailed arrangements?

- (a) Following those of the Party of origin
(b) Following those of the affected Party
(c) On a case-by-case basis
(d) In accordance with existing arrangements (for example, bilateral agreement)
(e) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

On a case-by-case basis during the consultation process of Party of origin and affected Party a reasonable time frame and the details of consultation are agreed.

Article 11

Decision

I.11.1. According to article 11 (1): “Each Party shall ensure that when a plan or programme is adopted due account is taken of: (a) [t]he conclusions of the environmental report; (b) [t]he measures to prevent, reduce or mitigate the adverse effects identified in the environmental report; and (c) [t]he comments received in accordance with articles 8 to 10.”

Please specify how your country ensures that due account is taken of:

- (a) The conclusions of the environmental report
- (b) Mitigation measures
- (c) Comments received in accordance with articles 8–10

Please explain:

The organizer of preparation of a plan or program, whilst preparing the final draft of a plan or program and before making a decision to approve and (or) ratify the plan or program or whilst presenting plan or program for ratification according to Lithuanian legislation, (in territorial planning – during selection of a preferred alternative in the concept phase) takes into account information, provided in the Report, the conclusions of the stakeholders of the Assessment and the proposals of the public, as well as the results of transboundary consultations (if such take place). In cases when implementation of a plan or program may have negative significant effects on the already established or potential “Natura 2000” territories, the organizer of preparation of a plan or program shall follow the conclusion of the institution responsible for protection and management of protected territories concerning possibility to adopt or approve this plan or program.

I.11.2. According to article 11 (2): “Each Party shall ensure that, when a plan or programme is adopted, the public, the authorities ... and the Parties consulted ... are informed, and that the plan or programme is made available to them together with a statement summarizing how the environmental, including health, considerations have been integrated into it, how the comments received ... have been taken into account and the reasons for adopting it in the light of the reasonable alternatives considered.”

How and when do you inform your own public and authorities?

- (a) Pursuant to national legislation (please refer to specific provisions and provide citations in order to clarify the procedure followed):
- (b) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

SEA Order sets the requirements for the organizer of preparation of a plan or program to inform the public about the decision taken, inform the stakeholders of the Assessment and the Member States which have participated in the transboundary consultations (if such took place) about where the information referred to in paragraph I.11.2. of this questionnaire can be accessed.

The organizer of preparation of a plan or program ensures that in accordance with the procedure established by the SEA Order, the following information is made available to the stakeholders of the Assessment, the public, and the EU States which have participated in the transboundary consultations:

1. Approved and (or) ratified plan or program.
2. Envisaged measures for monitoring the implementation of a plan or program.
3. A document where the following information is summarized:
 - 3.1. How environmental considerations have been integrated into a plan or program.

3.2. How information, provided in the Assessment Report, the conclusions of the stakeholders of the Assessment and the proposals of the public have been taken into account during the decision making.

3.3. How the results of transboundary consultations (if such took place) have been taken into account during the decision making.

3.4. The reasons for choosing the approved and (or) ratified alternative of a plan or program (in case of territorial planning - the concept of a territorial planning document), in the light of other alternatives examined.

I.11.3. Does the information provided to the public and authorities include?

- (a) Plan or programme:
- (b) Statement summarizing how the environmental, including health, considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme, and how the comments received have been taken into account:
- (c) The reasons for adopting the plan or programme in the light of the reasonable alternatives considered:

I.11.4. How do you inform the Parties consulted (art. 11 (2))?

- (a) By informing the point of contact
- (b) By informing the contact person of the ministry responsible for strategic environmental assessment, who then follows the national procedure and informs his/her own authorities and public
- (c) By informing all the authorities involved in the assessment and letting them inform their own public
- (d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

Article 12

Monitoring

According to article 12 (1)–(2): “1. Each Party shall monitor the significant environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes.

...

2. The results of the monitoring ... shall be made available ... to the authorities ... and to the public.”

I.12. Describe the legal requirements for monitoring the significant environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes:

Monitoring of the effects of implementation of plans and programs is performed at national, municipal and company levels according to order defined by the Law on Environmental Monitoring in order, inter alia, to identify at an early-stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action.

The monitoring aspects are not directly depending on certain plan or programme, because usually a lot of plans, programmes, projects and activities are taking place in the same territory. Therefore, unforeseen environmental effects of the implementation of plans or programmes cannot be directly related to certain plan or programme. Monitoring environmental effects of the implementation of plans or programmes is combined with environmental monitoring of the territory.

Article 13

Policies and legislation

According to article 13 (1): “Each Party shall endeavour to ensure that environmental, including health, concerns are considered and integrated to the extent appropriate in the preparation of its proposals for policies and legislation that are likely to have significant effects on the environment, including health.”

I.13. Does your country have national legislation on the application of principles and elements of the Protocol as regards policies and legislation? Please specify.

(a) Yes (please specify which articles of the Protocol apply):

Law on Environmental Protection defines the concept of plans and programs: “plans and programs - planning documents defined in the Law on Strategic Management of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on Territorial Planning of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on Regional Development of the Republic of Lithuania, the Law on Local Self-Government of the Republic of Lithuania and other legal acts defining economic activities, nature management and other environmental planning documents; are approved and / or adopted in accordance with applicable legislation or in the exercise of public administration competence and the implementation of which may have significant effects on the environment, including amendments to such plans and programs, in whole or in part”.

According to this definition national policies and legislation acts might be subject to SEA.

(b) No

Please explain:

Part two

Practical application during the period 2019–2021¹

Please report on your country's practical experiences in applying the Protocol (not your country's procedures, as described in part one). The focus here is on identifying good practices as well as difficulties Parties have encountered in applying the Protocol in practice. The goal is to enable Parties to share solutions. Please therefore provide appropriate examples highlighting application of the Protocol and innovative approaches to improving its application. Parties' reporting also provides useful information to other countries within and beyond the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) region that facilitates their efforts to implement and accede to the Protocol.

Part two also focuses on issues identified in the third review of implementation^a by Parties and those issues that have been identified as priorities by Parties in the 2021–2023 workplan.^b It also addresses the objectives of the Long-term strategy and the action plan for the Convention and the Protocol related to: "Adapting the reviews [of implementation] 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/SEA/14.

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

^c Ibid., decision VIII/3–IV/3, annex, item II.A. 9.

A. Some specific questions related to domestic and transboundary implementation in the period 2019–2021

II.1. Does your country's strategic environmental assessment documentation always include specific information on health effects? Please specify:

- (a) Yes

SEA Order sets the mandatory requirements for an each single SEA including assessment of the impacts on human health.

- (b) No, only when potential health effects are identified

II.2. Does your country's strategic environmental assessment documentation always include specific information on potential transboundary environmental, including health, effects? Please specify:

- (a) Yes

- (b) No, only when potential transboundary effects are identified

B. Example of application of the Protocol in your country during the period 2019–2021

¹ Part II of this questionnaire is not considered to be a reporting obligation according to the Protocol. Parties are encouraged to share examples of good practice, subject to their capabilities and the availability of relevant data.

II.3. Please provide, using the table provided in annex I to this questionnaire, the (approximate) number of domestic strategic environmental assessment procedures initiated during the 2019–2021 period, list them grouped by the sectors listed in article 4 (2), and indicate their average duration and costs.

II.4. Please provide the (approximate) number of transboundary consultations referred to in article 10 of the Protocol that your country, during the reporting period, initiated, as a Party of origin, and participated in, as an affected Party. Please use the table in annex II to this questionnaire listing the transboundary procedures grouped by the sectors listed in article 4 (2), indicating their average duration.

II.5. Do you have a register of the domestic and transboundary strategic environmental assessment procedures (cases) that can be accessible for other Parties to consult, as needed?

<i>Domestic procedures</i>	<i>Transboundary procedures</i>
(a) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	(a) Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
(b) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If so, please provide the access link to the register:	(b) No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If so, please provide the access link to the register:

II.6. According to paragraph 10 of decision IV/5 on reporting and review of implementation of the Protocol,² the lists of domestic and transboundary strategic environmental assessment procedures included in the responses to questions II.3 and II.4 of the questionnaire are to be posted on the ECE website. Should your country object to this, however, please indicate “Yes” in the table below and explain, as relevant:

<i>Domestic procedures (list provided under question II.3 and link to register referred in question II.5, if provided)</i>	<i>Transboundary procedures (list provided under question II.4 and link to register referred in question II.5, if provided)</i>
(a) Yes (my country has an objection to the compilation and posting of this information) <input type="checkbox"/> Please explain:	(a) Yes (my country has an objection to the compilation and posting of this information) <input type="checkbox"/> Please explain:
(b) No (no objection) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(b) No (no objection) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

C. Experience with the strategic impact assessment procedure in 2019–2021

II.7. Please list the benefits of strategic environmental assessment that are identified by your country:

- (a) Cost effectiveness
- (b) More focused and informed planning
- (c) Coordination with other sectors/i.e. avoiding overlaps or discrepancies
- (d) Environmental and health benefits
- (e) Other

² ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.3.

Please provide your comments:

The main benefit of the strategic environmental assessment is improved process of preparing plans or programmes by ensuring the assessment of alternatives and integration of environmental issues in sectoral plans and programmes.

General public actively participate in the processes of territorial planning documents SEA's, After introduction of SEA into planning processes general public have more opportunities to express their opinions not only on the project of the plan but also on assessment documents, where public can see scores of each alternative assessed and opinions of planning organizer on it, also proposed mitigation measures and proposed decisions on planning solutions which are going to be taken.

I.8. Has your country experienced substantial difficulties in interpreting particular terms contained in (or particular articles of) the Protocol?

- (a) No
- (b) Yes (please indicate which ones):

II.9. Please indicate how your country overcomes these difficulties, if any. Please provide examples that may include, among other things, working with other Parties to find solutions or using existing guidelines or fact sheets:

II.10. With regard your country's experience with domestic and/or transboundary procedures:

- (a) Please describe your country's procedures for ensuring that the health aspects are properly incorporated into the environmental report and that the health authorities are consulted as provided for in article 3

SEA Order annex 2 sets the structure and requirements for the SEA report, where is included the health aspect:

*“The likely significant primary, secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects on the environment, including biodiversity, population, **human health**, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.”*

The health authorities are consulted at each stage of SEA process as it is required in the SEA Order:

Screening stage:

Stakeholders of the Assessment - health authorities examine the Screening document and within 10 working days in written form provide their conclusions to the organizer of preparation of a plan or program.

Scoping stage:

The stakeholders of the Assessment - health authorities examine the scoping document and within 10 working days in written form provide their conclusions regarding the quality of the Scoping document to the organizer of a plan or program or to his consultant.

Assessment report preparation stage:

The stakeholders of the Assessment - health authorities according to their competence examine the Assessment Report and draft plan or program (in case of territorial planning – Report and planning concept directions) and:

- within 20 working days in written form provide their conclusions regarding **national level** draft plan or program or concept directions, the quality of the assessment and Report to the organizer of a plan or program or to his consultant. Stakeholders of the assessment, after assessing complexity of the plan or program, have a right to extend provision of conclusions up to 30 working days, prior to that informing the organiser or his consultant;
- within 15 working days in written form provide their conclusions regarding **municipal and local level** draft plan or program or concept directions.

(b) To contribute to the sharing of knowledge and experience on themes outlined in the workplan for 2021–2023, please provide at least one example of your country’s application of strategic environmental assessment in one or several of the following areas:

Biodiversity

Circular economy

Energy transition

Development cooperation

Smart and sustainable cities

Sustainable infrastructure

Maritime spatial planning

The transboundary consultation process for the Lithuanian Republic Comprehensive Plan (LRCP) was launched in the beginning of 2019 April by notifying all the Baltic Sea region member states about the development of the national territorial (including the sea region) planning document. LRCP is a state level comprehensive planning document which is developed every 20 years to direct countries development with a clear strategic vision. The previous plan was developed in early 2000, however, due to various circumstances, including the geopolitical, demographic, and socio-economic changes, the plan was outdated and needed a new strategic direction. The transboundary consultations was initiated primarily because with the LRCP the Baltic Sea territory was also planned. The countries of Sweden, Germany, Finland, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, and Poland were informed about the plan, and they were invited to attend a live event to consult about the LRCP. The invitation to this event was sent in 2019 September. Also, in 2019 September the information about the LRCP concept and the SEA assessment was shared for comments. On the 3rd of October 2019 the live consultation about the LRCP was conducted in Vilnius city. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Environment and the guest from Sweden, Estonia and Latvia attended this live consultation. We found that consultation was effective, and the points were discussed mainly about the Baltic Sea planning.

(When describing your experience, please indicate the name of the plan/programme subject to strategic environmental assessment, provide background information or describe the context in which the document has been developed, describe the stages of the procedure and other issues of interest for other Parties. Please flag good practice, and/or lessons learned, referring, as relevant, to the contribution of the above application of strategic environmental assessment towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals or climate objectives. When providing an example, you may also make use of the template in annex III to the present questionnaire.)

(c) Please indicate whether strategic environmental assessments implemented in your country can be considered to have contributed to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and their specific targets:

Yes, (certain) strategic environmental assessments significantly contributed to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

Yes, (certain) strategic environmental assessments somewhat contributed to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

No, there is no evidence that strategic environmental assessment contributes to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals in practice

If “Yes”, please list the most relevant Sustainable Development Goals³ (and their targets) and provide an example(s) of how strategic environmental assessment has contributed to their achievement

Lithuania singled out four Sustainable Development Goals priority areas of Lithuania: (1) social at reduction of inequality and poverty, (2) healthy lifestyles, (3) energy efficiency and (4) climate change and sustainable consumption and production. The foundation of sustainable development concept is interaction of the three main components: environment, the economy and society.

The SEA procedures incorporated into the planning processes in Lithuania ensure that environmental issues are assessed and discussed, the society is involved and has opportunity to express their opinion during planning process and during selection of the most appropriate planning alternative; in most SEA cases economy aspect also incorporated into SEA that contributes to more effective evaluation.

II.11. Please indicate whether your country has been carrying out monitoring according to article 12.

- (a) No
- (b) Yes :

³ 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 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals 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 informal document 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__SDG_Mapping.pdf.

If so, please specify types of plans or programmes subject to the monitoring according to article 12, citing good practice examples or elements of good practice (for example, consultation or public participation), if available

Monitoring of the effects of implementation of plans and programs is performed at national, municipal and company levels according to order defined by the Law on Environmental Monitoring. Monitoring is mandatory requirement for plans and programmes.

The monitoring aspects is not directly depending on certain plan or programme, because usually a lot of plans, programmes, projects and activities are taking place in the same territory. Therefore, unforeseen environmental effects of the implementation of plans or programmes can not be directly related to certain plan or programme. Monitoring environmental effects of the implementation of plans or programmes is combined with general monitoring of the territory.

II.12. With regards to your country's experience with transboundary procedures, in response to each of the questions below, please either provide one or two practical examples or describe your country's general experience. You might also want to include examples of lessons learned in order to help others. Please detail:

- (a) What difficulties has your country experienced and what solutions has it found?
 - (i) Translation and interpretation
 - (ii) Other issues
- (b) What elements of the environmental report and other documentation does your country usually translate as a Party of origin?

Referring to experience with transboundary procedures, we have to note that usually planning organizer translate summary – short version of the SEA report and the full SEA report part of possible transboundary effects assessment.

(c) As an affected Party, please specify whether and how your country has ensured the participation of the public concerned and the authorities pursuant to article 10 (4):

- (i) No
- (ii) Yes (please indicate how):

The Ministry of the Environment of Lithuania, being responsible SEA institution in Lithuania, send plans and all relevant SEA documentation received from the foreign country to Lithuanian SEA stakeholders (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania the State Service for Protected Areas under the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania) and publish the information on the website of Ministry of the Environment. The publication specifies to whom and by when the opinions on the plans and SEA documentation should be delivered.

(c) What has your country's experience been of the effectiveness of public participation?

Infrastructure plans SEA cases could be mentioned as effective public participation cases, when specialists of a specific field (f. e. geologists) met for information exchange and to resolve specific issues.

(e) Does your country have examples of organizing transboundary strategic environmental assessment procedures for joint cross-border plans and programmes?

- (i) No

Joint cross-border programmes solutions did not have possible negative consequences for the environment of the other country.

- (ii) Yes (please describe):

D. Experience regarding guidance in 2019–2021

II.13. Has your country used in practice the following documents:

Good Practice Recommendations on Public Participation in Strategic Environmental Assessment (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/2)

Resource Manual to Support Application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (ECE/MP.EIA/17)

Yes

No

Please specify reasons for not using the Good Practice Recommendations:

(i) Lack of awareness about the document

(ii) The document is not relevant

(iii) The document is outdated and needs revision

Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the Good Practice Recommendations:

Yes

No

Please specify reasons for not using the Manual:

(i) Lack of awareness about the document

(ii) The Manual is not relevant

(iii) The Manual is outdated and needs revision

Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the Resource Manual:

E. Contributions to the funding of the workplans

II.14. 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 Convention and covered both the Convention and the Protocol:

(i) Yes (ii) No

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

II.15. Through paragraph 4 of decision VII/4–III/4 on budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance,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.” For the period 2021–2023, by paragraph 1 of decision VIII/1–IV/1⁵, 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.”

(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:

⁴ ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1.

⁵ ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1.

(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 , already contributed (information presented in EIA questionnaire)

(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.16. Please provide suggestions for how this report could be improved:

Annex I

List and number of domestic strategic environmental assessment procedures initiated in the reporting period

Sector	Total number or an estimate*			Number of local-level procedures			Number of national-level procedures			Estimated average duration of the procedure,* months, if available	Average costs (also as percentage of the total costs for preparation of a plan/programme), euros and (percentage), if available
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021		
In all sectors	115	73	172	111	70	164	4	3	8		No data
Agriculture:										1	
Forestry:											
Fisheries:										1	
Energy:								2	1		
Industry including mining:											
Transport:								1	1		
Regional development:							1		3		
Waste management:										1	
Water management:											
Telecommunication:											
Tourism:											
Town and country planning:											
Land use:											
Comprehensive planning				28	16	24	2				
Special planning				47	39	78					

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Total number or an estimate*</i>	<i>Number of local-level procedures</i>		<i>Number of national-level procedures</i>	<i>Estimated average duration of the procedure,* months, if available</i>	<i>Average costs (also as percentage of the total costs for preparation of a plan/programme), euros and (percentage), if available</i>
Detailed planning		36	15	22		
Air pollution management				1		

* The information provided constitutes:

Statistical data

Estimates

** Once the need for strategic environmental assessment is determined

Your comments:

Annex II

List and number of transboundary strategic environmental assessments in the reporting period

<i>Sector</i>	<i>Total number or an estimate*</i>	<i>Number of local-level procedures</i>	<i>Number of national-level procedures</i>	<i>Estimated average duration of the procedure,* months, if available</i>	<i>Average costs (also as percentage of the total costs for preparation of a plan/programme), euros and (percentage), if available</i>
Agriculture:					
Forestry:					
Fisheries:					
Energy:					
Industry including mining:					
Transport:					
Regional development:					
Waste management:					
Water management:					
Telecommunication:					
Tourism:	-				
Town and country planning:	Republic of Lithuania Territory Comprehensive Plan		1	6 months	No data available
Land use:					
Other, including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4):					

Annex III**Template for describing a good practice example of implementing a strategic environmental assessment at the national level or in a transboundary context****I. General information**

1. Title of plan/programme
2. Authority responsible for the plan's/programme's development
3. Nature of the related strategic environmental assessment procedure:
 - (a) Domestic
 - (b) Transboundary
4. Please indicate which stage(s)/step(s) of the strategic environmental assessment procedure is/are considered to represent good practice:

The entire procedure

Screening (art. 5)

Scoping (art. 6)

Environmental report (art. 7)

Public participation (art. 8)

Consultation with environmental and health authorities (art. 9)

Transboundary consultations (art. 10)

Decision (art. 11)

Monitoring (art. 12)

5. Please indicate to which topic(s) of the 2021–2023 workplan the example is related:

Biodiversity

Circular economy

Development cooperation

Energy transition

Smart and sustainable cities

Sustainable infrastructure

II. Background

Please provide a short description of the plan/programme, the context of its development and general information about the strategic environmental assessment

III. Procedure under the protocol on strategic environmental assessment and elements of good practice

Please describe, in more detail, the procedural step/steps that is/are considered to represent good practice and then explain why that is:

III.1. Field of application (art. 4)

III. 2. Screening (art. 5)

III. 3. Scoping (art. 6)

III.4. Environmental report (art. 7)

III.5. Public participation (art. 8)

III.6. Consultation with environmental and health authorities (art. 9)

III.7. Transboundary consultations (art. 10)

III.8. Decision (art. 11)

III.9. Monitoring (art. 12)

IV. Lessons learned and advice to other parties:

IV.1. Please indicate:

- (a) Challenges in carrying out the procedure, if any, and how those were tackled
- (b) Lessons learned

IV.2. As relevant, please also refer to the contribution of the above application of strategic environmental assessment 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 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals 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);

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- (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 informal document 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__SDG_Mapping.pdf.