

Questionnaire for the report of GEORGIA 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:

Ms. Venera Metreveli - Deputy Head of Environmental Assessment Department;
venera.metreveli@mepa.gov.ge; (+995) 599511514

Information on the point of contact for the Convention

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

Information on the person responsible for preparing the report

3. Country: Georgia

4. Surname: Metreveli

5. Forename: Venera

6. Institution: Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture

7. Postal address: 6. Marshal Gelovani ave. 0159 Tbilisi, Georgia

8. Email address: venera.metreveli@mepa.gov.ge

9. Telephone number: (+995) 599511514

10. Date on which report was completed: 17.03.2022

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):
- (c) No, there are major differences (please explain the differences):
- (d) The term “impact” is not defined in the legislation

Your comments:

There is no definition of the term „impact“. According to the Environmental Assessment Code of Georgia. The term “environmental impact” is defined as follows: Any impact on the environment resulting from the implementation of strategic documents or activities, which may include effects on the following: human health and safety, biodiversity and its components, water, air, soil, climate, landscape and protected areas. An environmental impact also includes the impact on cultural heritage or socio-economic factors resulting from changes to them.

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): The term “transboundary impact” is defined as follows: any impact on the environment of Georgia and any other state arising from the full or partial implementation of a strategic document or planned activities in Georgia or in any other state.
- (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: _____)

Your comments:

The term “major change” is not defined in our national legislation.

In case of EIA we define “change” as follows: Replacing the production technology provided by environmental decision with a different technology, and/or modifying the operational conditions, including the increase in production capacity, shall be considered as an activity subject to a screening procedure as provided for by this Code. (Environmental Assessment Code, Article 5, paragraph 12)

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: Georgian legislation uses the word “public” without the qualifier for “concerned”. In practice, the place for holding the public hearings is determined by the geographic location of the project. As such, anyone can participate, even if the person does not live in the affected territory. Documents are published on the official website of the Ministry and are widely accessible.

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:

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:

Please explain: During Screening and EIA procedures cumulative effects of the carrying out of the planned activity are requested by the legislation and therefore should be provided in the documentation by the developer.

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.

(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 of Georgia on Environmental Assessment Code (<https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/download/3691981/1/en/pdf>)

(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):

1) Order of the Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia N2-94 on the Approval of the Rules on Public Hearing (<https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/4054941?publication=0#DOCUMENT:1>);

2) Order of the Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia N2-256 on the Approval of the Procedure for the Remuneration of Public Experts (<https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/4147095?publication=0#DOCUMENT:1>);

(d) Administrative (please indicate number/year/title/related articles/access links): There is a specific competent authority for carrying out Environmental Assessment (Screening, Scoping, EIA, SEA) procedures at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia - Environmental Assessment Department. The capacity building training and seminars were held on the implementation of the EIA/SEA in Georgia.

(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 main difference between the list of activities in our national legislation and appendix I of the Convention are quantitative characteristics of the activities that should be assessed.

Projects listed in Annex I are those that have significant effects on the environment and which, as a rule, are subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment. Projects listed in Annex II do not necessarily have significant effects on the environment in every case and these activities are subject to a screening procedure, which determines the need to perform an EIA according to the Screening criteria, which are defined in the law. In addition, replacing the production technology provided for by an Environmental Decision with a different technology, and/or modifying the operational conditions, including the increase in production capacity, is considered an activity subject to a screening procedure as stipulated by the EA Code (article 5, Paragraph 12).

(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:

1. The following fall within the competence of **the Government of Georgia** in the area of environmental assessment: a) making decisions on the initiation of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure; b) making decisions, based on a motion of the Ministry, on the forms of information exchange and subsequent consultations with a state subject to a transboundary impact, and on the time frames for the implementation of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure; c) making decisions on exemptions from EIA, based on the motions of the Ministry; d) making decisions on issues provided for by Article 5(8) of this Code.

2. The following fall within the competence of **the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia**, in the area of environmental assessment: a) the implementation of national policy in the area of environmental assessment; b) the identification of the need to perform an EIA, based on a screening procedure, and, within its competence, an SEA; c) the issuance of scoping opinions in the EIA process and, within its competence, in the SEA process; d) the establishment of an expert commission to review EIA reports, SEA reports and draft strategic documents; e) the review of EIA reports and, within its competence, of SEA reports, the issuance of environmental decisions, and the issuance of recommendations with respect to SEA reports and strategic documents, as well as making decisions which deny the right to carry out activities; f) the preparation of proposals on exemptions from EIA and their submission to the Government of Georgia; g) the submission to the Government of Georgia of proposals on the initiation of transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures, the forms of exchanging information with states subject to a transboundary impact, and the time frames for carrying out further consultations and implementing a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure, as well as the arrangement of respective procedures; h) making decisions to continue a current activity in accordance with Article 47 of the Code (EA Code); i) ensuring the participation of the public/the public concerned in the making of decisions provided for by the Code (EA) and, to this end, ensuring access to relevant information and the holding of public reviews; j) establishing a unified database related to issues falling within its competence and ensuring the security, publicity of, and access to the information, in order to ensure access to information, the efficiency of public governance, and public involvement.

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:

According to the “Environmental Assessment Code” (article 37, paragraph 3): The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture is responsible for the performance of transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (article 4, paragraph 2, items g and i) is also competent to: submit the proposals on the initiation of transboundary environmental impact assessment procedures, the forms of exchanging information with states subject to a transboundary impact, and the time frames for carrying out further consultations and implementing a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure, as well as the arrangement of respective procedures to the Government of Georgia; ensure the participation of the public/the public concerned in the making of decisions provided for by this Code and, to this end, ensure access to relevant information and the holding of public reviews.

Government of Georgia is competent to (article 4, paragraph 1, items a and b): make decisions on the initiation of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure; Make decisions, based on a motion of the Ministry, on the forms of information exchange and subsequent consultations with a state subject to a transboundary impact, and on the time frames for the implementation of a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure.

Your comments: Transboundary Impact Assessment will enter into force once the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment is ratified and entered into force for Georgia. Therefore, Georgia does not have any practical experience.

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): During screening

Your comments: Transboundary Impact Assessment will enter into force once the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment is ratified and entered into force for Georgia. Therefore, Georgia does not have any practical experience.

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: Transboundary Impact Assessment will enter into force once the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment is ratified and entered into force for Georgia. Therefore, Georgia does not have any practical experience.

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: No practical experience

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:

(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: Upon the submission of the translated documents by the person carrying out activities or the planning authority, the Ministry shall, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, forward these documents **within seven days** to the state subject to a transboundary impact and communicate to it the **reasonable time frame** established on the basis of the respective decision of the Government of Georgia, within which the state subject to a transboundary impact shall notify the Ministry of its participation in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure.

Your comments: No practical experience

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:

Your comments: No practical experience

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):

According to the “Environmental Assessment Code” paragraph 39, article 1(d), the planning authority should ensure appropriate translation services during public reviews if foreign citizens are attending the public reviews. Furthermore, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the same article, the costs associated with informing the public shall be borne by the Ministry, unless otherwise established as a result of the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure.

Your comments: No practical experience

²

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

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):

The Ministry may become involved in a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure if it is notified by another state of the potential impact on the environment in Georgia resulting from the implementation of an activity in that state.

The Government of Georgia shall, based on a motion of the Ministry, initiate a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure if there are appropriate grounds for believing that the implementation of an activity in another state will have an impact on the environment in Georgia, and the other state has not notified the Government of Georgia thereof.

Your comments: No practical experience

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):

According to the “Environmental Assessment Code” article 38, paragraph 4: If any of the states subject to a transboundary impact expresses an interest in participating in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure, the Government of Georgia shall, within one month after the expression of such interest and based on a motion of the Ministry, make a decision initiating a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure with that state. The decision shall include information on the forms of exchange of documents and data and the time frames for holding further consultations and performing a transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure.

Your comments: No practical Experience

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: [Public can submit their opinion: 1\) in a written form via e-mail; 2\) participate in the public hearing and share their comments](#)

Your comments: [No Practical Experience](#)

(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: [Public can submit their opinion: 1\) in a written form 2\) via e-mail; 3\) participate in the public hearing and share their comments](#)

Your comments: [No Practical Experience](#)

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): [Public can submit their opinion: 1\) in a written form 2\) via e-mail; 3\) participate in the public hearing and share their comments](#)

Your comments: [No Practical Experience](#)

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):

Your comments In case of

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):

Your comments:

In case of insufficient quality of the documentation, the administrative procedure is halted until proper information is provided.

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: According to the article 10, paragraph 3 (b) of the Code, EIA report shall include information on all the reasonable alternatives to the planned activity proposed for environmental protection, and of the place of its implementation, with respective grounds, including on the inaction (zero) alternative that considers a description of the natural development of the existing environmental condition in the case of the non-performance of the activity, and that can be assessed by applying available information and scientific knowledge.

Also, in accordance with article 8, paragraph 3 (a.c) the Scoping report shall include any alternatives to the planned activity, and the place of its implementation.

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):
- (c) No, it does not have any provision on that

Your comments: Transboundary Impact Assessment will enter into force once the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment is ratified and entered into force for Georgia. Therefore, Georgia does not have any practical experience.

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

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.

The quantitative characteristics of the activities that should be assessed is slightly different from the activities listed in appendix I

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: A person carrying out the activity is responsible for the further analysis of the activity, which should cover:
- The monitoring of the conditions and mitigating measures provided for by the environmental decision;
 - The analysis of the environmental impact resulting from the carrying out of the activity;
 - The assessment, provided for by the EIA report, of changes in environmental characteristics.

A person carrying out activities shall submit to the Ministry the results of further analysis of the activity within the time frames determined by the environmental decision. (Environmental Assessment Code, Article 17).

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:

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

Your comments:

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: [Country does not have any agreements based on the Convention](#)

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:

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

Your comments: [It should be noted that precise procedure for the transboundary EIA is not described in national legislation. The same procedure applies to the cases of activities that might have a transboundary impact.](#)

Screening Procedure:

- 1) Registration of the application by developer/person carrying out activity;
- 2) Within 3 working days Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture shall publish the screening application on: a) the website of the Ministry; b) the notice board of the relevant executive authority of the municipality or/and representative authority;
- 3) Ministry receives opinions/remarks from all public concerned throughout 7 working days;
- 4) No earlier than 10 working days and no later than 15 working days Decision on requirement of EIA should be made; After the completion of the screening procedure, if there exist grounds provided for by Article 14 of the Code, the Minister shall make a decision refusing the carrying out of the activity.

Ministry publishes the Screening Decision on the website of the Ministry and on the notice board of the relevant executive authority of the municipality or/and representative authority;

- 5) If the Ministry decides, after the completion of the screening procedure, that the planned activity shall not be subject to an EIA, the applicant shall comply with the requirements established by the environmental technical regulations and environmental standards applicable in Georgia.

EIA Procedure:

An EIA includes scoping, preparing an EIA report, public participation, carrying out consultations with competent administrative bodies, conducting site visits and preparing an expert opinion on the basis of the evaluation of the results obtained, taking account of the expert opinion during the issuance of an Environmental Decision under the EA Code and/or a respective enabling administrative act as provided by the legislation of Georgia. These stages are in line with the relevant EU Directive.

The main stages of EIA include:

- **A Scoping procedure-** EA Code stipulates that the activities given in Annex I of the Code and the planned activities subject to the EIA procedure on the basis of the Screening Decision, should prepare a scoping application to obtain the Scoping Opinion. According to the EA Code, not earlier than the 26th day and not later than the 30th day after the registration of an Scoping application, the Competent authority issues an individual administrative act on the issuance of an Scoping opinion or, on the refusal of the carrying out of the activity. Scoping procedure defines the list of information that should be studied, as well as the means of incorporating this information in the Environmental Impact Assessment report, in order to have relevant information provided in the EIA report. EA Code determines the list of information to be provided by the developer for issuing Scoping Opinions. Moreover, public participation is ensured during the Scoping procedure.
- **Preparing an EIA report** - After issuance of the scoping opinion, the developer and/or a consulting company ensures the preparation of an EIA report. EA Code determines the list of information to be provided in the EIA report. In addition, the methods applied in the preparation of EIA report and the information included therein shall comply with respective Scoping Opinion. The information required to be reflected in the EIA report is in line with the Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment.
- **Public participation-** As the detailed description has indicated in the answer to the 16th question, the public has the right to, envisaged by Article 30, EA Code participate in decision-making procedure and public participation shall be ensured in decision-making related to activities subject to an EIA. The Code sets out the means by which information

should be disseminated on ongoing EIA procedures. The use of these mechanisms ensures the effective public information at an early stage and throughout the decision-making process, as required by the relevant Directives.

- **Carrying out consultations with competent administrative bodies and establishing Expert Commission** - According to the EA Code sufficient expertise is required to ensure that the information provided by the developer is complete and of a high level of quality. Within three days after an application for obtaining an Environmental Decision has been registered, the Competent authority establishes an expert commission to review the EIA report. A member of the expert commission can be an expert of the Ministry or an institution within the Ministry's system and/or a public/independent expert provided by the legislation of Georgia. The involvement of the public experts in the decision-making process ensures issuance of trustworthy and independent decisions. The expert commission shall prepare and submit to the Ministry an expert opinion on the EIA report within 40 days after the establishment of the commission. In issuing legal acts adopting environmental decisions, the competent authority reviews and if there are appropriate grounds, takes into account opinions and comments submitted by the public and any other administrative bodies in accordance with the Code. Furthermore, the Ministry ensures the involvement of the respective institutions in the administrative procedure if relevant.
- **Issuing an Environmental Decision** - According to the EA Code, not earlier than the 51st day and not later than the 55th day after the registration of an application for obtaining an environmental decision, the Competent authority issues an individual administrative act on the issuance of an environmental decision or, on the refusal of the carrying out of the activity. Within five days after an environmental decision or a legal act refusing the carrying out of an activity has been issued, the competent authority ensures that information on the EIA report, the expert opinion, the issuance of the environmental decision or the legal act refusing the carrying out of the activity, and on the results of public participation, are published on its official website and on the notice board of the executive body and/or representative body of a respective municipality, and upon request, makes printed copies available under a procedure established by the legislation of Georgia. Unless the developer commences the activity provided for by such a decision within five years, the competent authority shall declare the environmental decision invalid.

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"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
(i)	Special provisions:	Special provisions:	Special provisions:
(ii)	Informal arrangements:	Informal arrangements:	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:
- (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:
 - (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:
- (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:
- (b) As an affected Party:

Your comments:

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:
- (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:

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:

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:

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 type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input type="checkbox"/>	(a) No <input 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:

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:

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>.

Your comments:

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:

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:

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

- (a) Biodiversity
- (b) Climate change
- (c) Circular economy
- (d) Sustainable Development Goal implementation
- (e) Smart and sustainable cities
- (f) Sustainable infrastructure
- (g) Renewables
- (h) Other issues not listed above (please specify):

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:

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

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 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 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 Practical Application of the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/8)	I use it <input 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"/>	

Title of guidance document	Use of guidance	Your comments and/or suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance
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 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"/>	
Good Practice Recommendations on the Application of the Convention to Nuclear Energy-related Activities (ECE/MP.EIA/24)	I use it <input type="checkbox"/> 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 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"/>	
Guidance on Notification according to the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/12)	I use it <input 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:

(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

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

Yes Please describe how:

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.

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.

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>
<ol style="list-style-type: none">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).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.		

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;
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.

Activities listed in appendix I to the Convention

*No. of
procedures
as a PoO^a*

*No. of
procedures
as an AP^b*

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).

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

1. [add the activity]
 2. ...
-

^a Party of origin.

^b Affected Party.

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>
---------------------	--	--------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---	--	---	--

...

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

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

<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. For example, Project A	Notification received: date Response sent: date	Party A	Date	Date	Time from: to:	Yes/No Written comments: time interval	Date

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

Project name	Starting date (When was the notification received and at which stage of the procedure?) – Date of the response to the notification	Party of origin	When were the documents on screening and scoping received, if available?	Comments to the environmental report (date when comments were provided)	Transboundary consultations between authorities concerned, if any (time frame)	Public participation, indicating the means: for example, written comments, events organized,) if any	Final decision (date when final decision was received)
	Stage of the procedure (select as appropriate) -screening -scoping -reviewing the environmental impact assessment documentation					Event(s) organized: date(s)	
2. Project B					
3.							
4.							
...							

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

Party of origin: <input type="checkbox"/>	Affected Party: <input type="checkbox"/>
Affected Party/ies: (please list)	Party/ies of origin: (please list)

3. Duration and period of implementation:
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

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)):

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 Goals¹⁰ or climate objectives:

¹⁰

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);

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

-
- (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.