

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

Information on the focal point for the Protocol

1. Name and contact information:
Brankica Cmiljanovic

Information on the point of contact for the Protocol

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

Information on the person responsible for preparing the report

3. Country: Montenegro
4. Surname: Cmiljanovic
5. Forename: Brankica
6. Institution: Ministry of Ecology Spatial Planning and Urbanism
7. Postal address: 81000
8. Email address: brankica.cmiljanovic@mepg.gov.me
9. Telephone number: +38220446283
10. Date on which report was completed: 15th of April

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): Law on SEA (please indicate number/year/name):

The Law on Strategic environmental assessment (Official Gazette of Republic of Montenegro 80/05, Official Gazette of Montenegro 73/10, 40/11, 59/11, 52/16).

(b) Strategic environmental assessment provisions are transposed into another law/other laws (please specify, providing title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

(c) Regulation (please indicate title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

(d) Administrative rule (please indicate title/reference number/year/access link, if any):

(e) Other (please specify):

Please explain: Beside the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Law on SEA), there is the Law ratifying the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (“Official Gazette of Montenegro - International Treaties”, No 03/09).

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?

The definition of plans and programs in Montenegrin legislation has a wider scope than defined by Protocol. According to the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Official Journal of Montenegro No 52/16), plans or programs shall mean all development plans and programs and documents, including the plans and programs co-financed by the European Union and amendments thereto, which are prepared and/or adopted by the state administration bodies or local authorities, or which are passed by the Parliament of Montenegro or the Government of Montenegro, i.e. the Municipal Parliament of the local government unit, in addition to the plans or programs enacted pursuant to regulations.

The SEA shall be carried out for plans or programs when their implementation may cause some significant impacts on the environment.

1) Shall be mandatory for all plans and programs in the area of agriculture, forestry, fishery, hunting, energy, industry, including mining, transport, telecommunications, tourism, regional development, town and spatial planning or land use, coastal zone management, water management, and waste management,

- laying down the framework for future development of projects that are subject to environmental impact assessment in accordance with the special act,

- which, considering the area within which they are carried out, may have an impact on the protected areas, natural habitats and conservation of wild flora and fauna.

2) May be required for the plans or programs

- providing for the use of smaller areas at the local level;

- providing for minor amendments to the plans or programs;

- that are not listed above, providing a framework for developing projects that are subject to EIA.

List the types of plans and programmes that require strategic environmental assessment in your country's legislation and provide references to the relevant legislation: *The Law on Strategic environmental assessment (Official Gazette of Republic of Montenegro 80/05, Official Gazette of Montenegro 73/10, 40/11, 59/11, 52/16)*

Plans and programmes prepared for:

Agriculture *yes*

Forestry *yes*

Fisheries *yes*

Energy *yes*

Industry including mining *yes*

Transport *yes*

Regional development *yes*

Waste management *yes*

Water management *yes*

Telecommunications *yes*

Tourism *yes*

Town and country planning *yes*

Land use *yes*

Other (including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4)), please list *Explained above*.

Please explain: *Explained above*.

I.4.2. Explain how you define whether a plan or programme “set the framework for future development consent” (art. 4 (2)): *The Law on SEA defines: SEA may be required for the plans or programs set a framework for developing projects that are subject to EIA. It means that plan or programme set projects or activities that require EIA approval.*

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: *The Law on SEA defines: SEA may be required for the plans or programs providing for the use of smaller areas at the local level. It means that within the scope of plan or program use of all small areas may require the SEA.*

I.4.4. Explain how you identify in your legislation a “minor modification” to a plan or programme (art. 4 (4)): *SEA may be required for the plans or programs providing for minor amendments to the plans or programs. Minor modifications mean any modification that affects or changes the plan or programme.*

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: *It is determined for each case individually through analysis by the authority responsible for preparing the plan or program, on the basis of the criteria for determining significant impacts on the environment. Related to article 4, paragraph 2 of the SEA Protocol, domestic Law on SEA specifies types of plans and programmes (proscribed by the article 5 point 1).*

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: *This is an obligation set by Law. The environmental and health authorities as well as public have to be consulted.*

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: *Within the competences set forth by the SEA Law, the competent authority in charge of preparation of plans or programs shall be responsible for the implementation of the SEA procedure for screening and scoping (the state administration body responsible for preparing the plan or program - for the plans and programs to be adopted by the authorities at the national level and the local administration body responsible for preparing the plan or program - for the plans and programs to be adopted by the authorities at the local level). The interested body public concerned have the opportunity to take part in each phase of SEA procedure as well as a public hearing (granting or rejecting SEA approval). According to the SEA Law, environmental and health bodies and public/public concerned are given opportunity to participate in each phase of SEA procedure, taking part in written, oral or directly in public hearings.*

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. *Scope and content of the SEA Report are defined by the SEA Law (article 15). The SEA Report shall contain data describing and assessing the potential significant impacts on the environment that may result from the implementation of a plan or program, in addition to the alternatives considered, taking into account the objectives and geographical coverage of the plan or program (to the extent specified by the Decision referred to in Article 10 of the SEA Law).*

In addition to data referred above, the SEA Report shall also contain the following data:

- 1) *A brief outline of the content and main objectives of the plan or program and their relation with other plans and programs;*
- 2) *Description of the existing state of the environment and its potential development if the plan or program is not implemented;*
- 3) *Identification of areas likely to be exposed to a significant risk and characteristics of the environment in such areas,*
- 4) *Current issues relating to the environment in connection with the plan or program, including in particular those relating to areas of special significance for the environment, such as wildlife and plant habitats from the aspect of their conservation, in particular protected areas, national parks or the coastal zone;*
- 5) *General and specific objectives of environmental protection set either at the national or at the international level that are of relevance for the plan or program and ways in which these objectives as well as all other aspects of relevance for the environment shall be taken into consideration in the process of preparation;*
- 6) *Potential significant impacts on public health and the environment, including factors such as biological diversity, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors that have an impact on climate change, material resources, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and mutual relations between these factors,*

- 7) *Measures envisaged to prevent, mitigate or eliminate, to the highest extent possible, any significant negative impacts on human health and the environment resulting from the implementation of the plan or program,*
- 8) *Overview of reasons serving as the basis for the selection of a plan or program from the aspect of alternatives considered, in addition to the description of methods of assessment, including potential difficulties that occurred in the process of putting together the required data (such as technical data or absence of know-how),*
- 9) *Overview of potential significant transboundary impacts on the environment;*
- 10) *Description of the environmental status monitoring programs, including human health, both during and after the implementation of the plan or program (monitoring);*
- 11) *Conclusions drawn during the elaboration of the SEA Report presented in a way which is understandable to the public.*
- 12) *Brief summary (Non-technical summary).*

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: It is a legal obligation to consult environmental and health authorities.

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: *According to the SEA Law, environmental and health bodies and public/public concerned are given opportunity to participate in each phase of SEA procedure, taking part in written, submitting its comments in written to the relevant authority.*

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): *It is defined by the SEA Law. The scope and content of SEA Report includes an overview of reasons serving as the basis for the selection of a plan or program from the aspect of alternatives considered, in addition to the description of methods of assessment, including potential difficulties that occurred in the process of putting together the required data (such as technical data or absence of know-how).*
- (c) By using a combination of (a) and (b) above
- (d) Other (please specify):

Please explain: *It means that alternatives are set as an obligation by the Law, and depends from plan or programme which alternative will be chosen as the most appropriate among others. According to the domestic Law on SEA, considered alternatives have to be considered for each plan or programme describing reasons serving as the basis for the selection of the alternative.*

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: *The competent authority is responsible for the preparation and quality of the SEA Report, before submitting to the comments. After public consultation is completed, taking into account comments from public consultation process, the evaluation of the SEA Report shall be carried out based on criteria proscribed by the Law. The authority responsible for environmental protection (granting or rejecting SEA approval) may obtain the opinions of other authorized organizations or experts in particular fields or may establish the Evaluation Committee to evaluate the SEA Report.*

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: *The authority responsible for preparing the plan or program shall notify the public and the public concerned of the procedure and deadlines for public review of the content of the SEA Report and for providing comments, in addition to the time and venue for the public hearing holding. Public hearing shall be carried out by the authority responsible for preparing the plan or program. In transboundary procedure the competent body responsible for transboundary procedure – Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and*

urbanism notifies the relevant body to another country - potentially affected party (contact of point and focal point). The competent body of potentially affected party notifies its own public of received documentation (SEA Report and plan/program). Collected opinions of potentially affected party shall be delivered through a contact of point and taken into account. A Public hearing report contains answers from collected opinions during consultation process.

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: *The public concerned is defined by the Law and to identify concerned public is compulsory by the Law. Public concerned shall mean the public affected or likely to be affected by the plan or program, including non-governmental organizations taking into account transboundary public. Experience says that even concerned public is identified, the plan/programme with SEA Report is given to everyone who wishes to participate in decision making process (academia, individual experts, environmental communities, NGOs, bodies, institutions and private entrepreneurs, etc).*

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 the SEA Law public/concerned public may express its opinion as it is marked above. In transboundary procedure the competent body responsible for transboundary procedure is Ministry that notifies the relevant body to another country - potentially affected Party (contact of point). The competent body of potentially affected party notifies its own public of received documentation (SEA Report and plan/program). Collected opinions of potentially affected Party shall be delivered through a contact of point, also may take part in public hearing or submit comments orally.*

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: *The time frame is defined by the Law on SEA (screening /scoping phase – 15 days, and phase of granting /rejecting approval – 30 days). The competent authority responsible for preparing plan and program specifies a public hearing plan, that may not be shorter than 30 days and usually goes over this deadline and lasts 40 days, plus 30 days for preparing Public hearing Report (with answers for all comments). In a transboundary context, the reasonable time frame is agreed with affected Party.*

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: *The SEA of plans or programs shall mean an assessment of potential impacts on the environment, including human health, that includes the preparation of the SEA Report, conducting the procedure for public participation and consultation and taking into account the SEA Report and results of public participation and consultations in the decision making procedure and procedure of enactment or adoption of certain plans and programs. The draft Decision (screening and scoping phases) shall be submitted for comments to the authority referred to the state administration body responsible for health care, other authorities and organizations concerned and the public concerned by the authority responsible for preparing the plan or program. In a phase of granting/rejecting SEA Report also these, environmental and health authorities are consulted, during public consultation process, draft SEA Report together with draft plan and programme). This means that is compulsory to consult environmental and health authorities.*

Moreover, law stipulates that the authorities and organizations concerned shall mean the state authorities and organizations and local authorities which, in accordance with their responsibilities, have an obligation or interest in making decisions related to the environmental protection.

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: *The SEA of plans or programs shall mean an assessment of potential impacts on the environment, including human health, that includes the preparation of the SEA Report, conducting the procedure for public participation and consultation and taking into account the SEA Report and results of public participation and consultations in the decision making procedure and procedure of enactment or adoption of certain plans and programs. The draft Decision shall be submitted for comments to the authority referred to the state administration body responsible for health care, other authorities and organizations concerned and the public concerned by the authority responsible for preparing the plan or program.*

The arrangements for informing and consulting the environmental and health authorities are determined by the Law. Based on specificity of the plan/programme these authorities are selected (a case-by-case basis). According to the experience the most of the plans/programmes are sent to the all environmental and health authorities in the country.

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)

(b) No

Please explain: The SEA law stipulates Participation of Authorities and Organisations Concerned (Article 12):

The competent authority responsible for preparation of plans or programmes shall submit to the competent environmental protection authority, competent health care authority and other authorities and organisations concerned the Draft Decision referred to in Article 11 of this Law requesting their opinion.

The deadline for submission of opinions referred to in Par. 1 of this Article is 15 days from the date of receipt of the request.

In case that the opinion is not submitted within the period set in Par. 2 of this Article it shall be considered that there are no comments to the Draft Decision, i.e. the Draft Decision not to proceed with the SEA elaboration.

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: *Usually by sending comments and very often meetings are organized to collect guidelines for scoping phase – content of the SEA Report.*

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: *Depends from the stage of SEA. Usually at the earliest stage (scoping if sufficient quality of information exists), at least when informing its own public /public consultation process starts – at the level of a draft plan/program and/together with SEA report, before a public hearing is organized /when consultation process starts).*

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: *The Notification contains information prescribed by article 10 (2) plus all additional documentation if exists, such as technical information that serves for better understanding plan/programme and SEA Report. The Law stipulates when the implementation of a plan or program may have some significant negative impacts on the environment in another state, or when so requested by another state whose environment is likely to be significantly affected, the state administration body responsible for environmental protection shall, in the process of notifying the authorities and organizations and the public concerned, within the shortest time possible and at the latest when notifying own public, submit to another state the following information for comments:*

1) Description of the plan or program, in addition to all available information on their possible impacts;

2) Nature of the decision that may be adopted;

3) Time period within which another State may announce its intention to participate in the decision-making procedure.

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

(b) Yes (please indicate how long): *Yes. Usually it takes 30 days, but there were cases that the time was prolonged on the request of the affected Party.*

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:

The parties shall agree on detailed arrangements following the Notification sent by the Party of origin. After relevant documentation is submitted to the Affected Party, parties shall enter into consultations to precise detail arrangements, time frame and further steps. It means that Party of origin will kindly request the Affected Party to disseminate all received documentation to the public (in wider context), concerned public, NGOs and interested bodies and organisation. After comments are collected by Affected Party, Affected Party submits to the Party of origin. Reasonable time frame is agreed by parties.

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: *It is indicated in Notification and it is matter of consultation/mutual agreement of both parties.*

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: *After SEA approval is granted, competent authority informs the parties consulted in transboundary procedure, sending SEA report together with plan/programme. Potentially Affected party receives a Report from public hearing answered all questions (comments) received during this consultation process. All these requirements are met before a plan or programme is adopted.*

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? *Usually it is published on Website of the Government, or ministries’ website. When it comes to transboundary it is an obligation of the National Focal/contact point to inform consulted Party, immediately after adoption.*

- (a) Pursuant to national legislation (please refer to specific provisions and provide citations in order to clarify the procedure followed):
The Law ratifying the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (“Official Gazette of Montenegro - International Treaties”, No 03/09 is followed.
- (b) Other (please specify):

Please explain: *All these requirements are prior agreed with Affected Party. After adoption the Affected Party receives all relevant documentation together with Governmental Decision on adoption of plan/programme.*

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:

The information is found on official webpage. In case of transboundary consultation information is officially sent to the Contact and focal point, too with all relevant information.

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: Before the plan or program is adopted, the Affected Party is informed of all adopted comments on remarks received during consultation process. The final SEA Report (SEA approval is granted) together with a plan or program are to be sent to the Contact of point of Affected Party, plus Governmental Decision of adoption.

It is sent to the contact point and focal point, too. It is also sent by diplomatic channel.

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.”

According to the Law on strategic environmental assessment monitoring program makes an integral part of the SEA report (environmental report): description of the environmental status monitoring programs, including human health, both during and after the implementation of the plan or program (monitoring) (article 15, point 10).

This is a matter of mutual arrangement in case of monitoring. According out national Law on environment, the monitoring data is public.

So far there was no experience on monitoring effects, mainly that the most transboundary cases have not been realized so far.

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

Explained above.

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):
- (b) No

Please explain: The mostly provisions from Protocol are already in SEA Law, that have to be fully aligned with SEA Directive. The Law ratifying the SEA Protocol is directly applicable.

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

Yes, it is always noted, a specific chapter is dedicated to a health. In a case that there is transboundary impacts, it is elaborated.

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

It is always noted, if there is, or not a potential transboundary impact. The transboundary chapter has to be elaborated in SEA Report, even if there is no transboundary impacts, according to the domestic Law.

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.

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

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(b) No <input type="checkbox"/>	(b) No <input type="checkbox"/>
All SEA domestic procedures can be found on the official website: https://epa.org.me/obavjestenja-sea/	If so, please provide the access link to the register: Related transboundary SEA procedures can be found on the official website: https://www.gov.me/mepg

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: (b) No (no objection) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(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"/>

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

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

Please provide your comments:

II.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

Procedure is prescribed by the Law, which represents an obligation to conduct.

In article 2, Objectives of SEA Elaboration:

The objectives of SEA are as follows:

- 1) ensure that environmental and public health issues are fully taken into consideration in the development of plans or programmes;*
- 2) set clear, transparent and efficient procedures for SEA;*
- 3) provide for public participation;*
- 4) provide for sustainable development;*
- 5) enhance the level of protection of human health and the environment.*

Article 7, point 2: Strategic Impact Assessment of plans or programmes implies the assessment of potential impacts on the environment, including human health, that consists of the preparation of the SEA Report, conducting public participation and consultation procedures and taking into account the SEA Report and results of public participation and consultations in the decision making procedure and procedure of enactment or adoption of certain plans and programmes;

Decision on the SEA Elaboration, Article 10: The competent authority responsible for preparation of plans or programmes shall make the decision on the elaboration of SEA based on the previously obtained opinion of the competent environmental protection authority, competent health care authority and other authorities and organisations concerned.

The competent authority responsible for preparation of plans or programmes shall make the decision on the elaboration of SEA simultaneously with the decision on preparation of plans or programmes.

Participation of Authorities and Organisations Concerned, Article 12: The competent authority responsible for preparation of plans or programmes shall submit to the competent environmental protection authority, competent health care authority and other authorities and organisations concerned the Draft requesting their opinion.

The deadline for submission of opinions is 15 days from the date of receipt of the request.

In case that the opinion is not submitted within the requested period it shall be considered that there are no comments to the Draft Decision, i.e. the Draft Decision not to proceed with the SEA elaboration.

Contents of the SEA Report, Article 15, point 6: Potential significant impacts on public health and the environment, including factors such as biological diversity, population, fauna, flora, land, water, air, climatic aspects, material resources, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and relations between these factors, and point 10: Description of the environmental status monitoring programmes, including human health, during the implementation of the plan or programme (monitoring);

Evaluation of the SEA Report, Article 21, point 4:) Environmental impact assessment

- Method of identification and evaluation of significant impacts of plans and programmes on the environment has been presented;
- The following elements have been included in the environmental impact assessment: air; water; land; climate; flora and fauna; habitats; bio-diversity; landscape (natural beauties); natural assets; population and health; cities and other settlements; cultural-historic heritage; infrastructure, industrial and other structures; other man-made values;

PENALTY PROVISIONS, Pecuniary Fines for Authorities and Responsible Persons, point 4: Make the decision on the need for SEA elaboration without having previously obtained the opinion of the competent environmental protection authority, competent health care authority and other authorities concerned (Art. 10, Par. 1);

(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

(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.)

The Detailed Spatial Plan for the area of the multipurpose reservoir on the river Komarnica (DSP HPP Komarnica). The competent authority was Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and urbanism was responsible for preparation of spatial planning documentation. The SEA Report was prepared for DSP. Exchange of information in the cross-border context for the Proposal of the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Proposal of the Detailed Spatial Plan for the area of the multipurpose reservoir on the river Komarnica was conducted. The neighbouring Bosnia and Herzegovina took part in transboundary procedure. The public consultation process was organized in Bosnia and Herzegovina, received comments are taken into account, answers are given an each question or comments are adopted, and final decision on adoption was passed to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(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

Contribution of the application towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals or climate objectives: SDG 3, SDG 7 (7.2, 7A), SDG 13 (13.1-13.3).

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

There is a legal obligation for monitoring. Those of transboundary projects have not started with its realization.

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

In period 2019-21 there was no need to translate documentation. The documents were prepared in Montenegrin language and were sent to the neighbouring country.

- (b) What elements of the environmental report and other documentation does your country usually translate as a Party of origin?

According to our experience, usually it was "summary".

- (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): *Received documentation is published on website of the Ministry, with public call to take part by giving opinion, suggestions and remarks. To the authorities, the information is sent directly, by email or official letter.*

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

Experience shows that depends from plan/programme. For some plan/programme there is great interest and contrary to this, for others there is no interest at all.

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

- (i) No
- (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

Yes

No

Please specify reasons for not using the Manual:

(i) Lack of awareness about the document

(ii) The Manual is not relevant

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)

(iii) The document is outdated and needs revision

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

(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:

Unpledged contribution to support the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and the implementation of their work plan for 2017-2020, 6000 EUR, November 2018

- (ii) Individual contribution in 2019

Yes Amount and currency:

No Please explain the reason:

- (iii) Individual contribution in 2020:

Yes Amount and currency: 3000 EUR (for SEA and EIA)

No Please explain the reason:

- (iv) Individual contribution in 2021:

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.

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: *Strengthening capacities of Focal points in SEE*

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

<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:	1		1	2 years	
Telecommunication:					
Tourism:					
Town and country planning:	9		9		
Land use:					
Other, including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4):					

* The information provided constitutes:

Statistical data

Estimates

** Once the need for strategic environmental assessment is determined

Your comments: On a state level it is 4-5 SEA procedure, and one or two has a transboundary character. Costs for Sea Report are 5-15 percent from the cost of the plan/programme.

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:	2				
Telecommunication:					
Tourism:					
Town and country planning:	1				
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 *The Detailed Spatial Plan for the area of the multipurpose reservoir on the river Komarnica (DSP HPP Komarnica).*

2. Authority responsible for the plan's/programme's development *Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and urbanism*

3. Nature of the related strategic environmental assessment procedure:

(a) Domestic

(b) Transboundary

Domestic as well as transboundary procedure were conducted. This represents the procedure for the period 2019-2021, as a Party of origin as good practice, bearing in the mind that all domestic and transboundary stakeholders were involved.

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

A domestic, as well as transboundary procedures conducted. The SEA Report was prepared for DSP for HPP Komarnica. The extensive consultations were applied. Exchange of information in a cross-border context for the Proposal of the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Proposal of the Detailed Spatial Plan for the area of the multipurpose reservoir on the river Komarnica was conducted. The neighbouring Bosnia and

Herzegovina took part in transboundary procedure. The public hearing was organized in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where public, NGOs and competent authorities took part. Received comments from neighbouring country were taken into account and a final decision on adoption was passed to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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) *Town and country planning for the energy project (HPP)*

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)

DSP represents spatial planning documentation. Screening and scoping were conducted with all relevant actors and the SEA Report was prepared for DSP for HPP Komarnica. The extensive consultations were implemented. Exchange of information in a cross-border context for the Proposal of the Report on Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Proposal of the Detailed Spatial Plan for the area of the multipurpose reservoir on the river Komarnica was conducted. The neighbouring Bosnia and Herzegovina took part in transboundary procedure. The public hearing was organized in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where public, NGOs and competent authorities took part. Received comments from neighbouring country were taken into account, a public hearing report was prepared and submitted to Affected Party, and a final decision on adoption was passed to Bosnia and Herzegovina, through contact/focal point and diplomatic channel.

IV. Lessons learned and advice to other parties:

Experience showed that is always better to notify another country/ies. It take some time for transboundary procedure, but in the end, time and recourses are saved. Decision making proces is enhanced by this way, and helps to adopt a decision that contributes to attainment sustainable development in a long term.

IV.1. Please indicate:

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

As challenge that may occur in a future is translation and costs of translation.

- (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.

One of the principles of the SEA procedure is Sustainable Development Principle – The consideration and inclusion of significant environmental aspects into the preparation and adoption of certain plans and programmes and setting the conditions for preservation of values of natural resources and assets, landscapes, biological diversity, wildlife and autochthonous eco-systems, that is the rational use of natural resources, contribute to the fulfilment of sustainable development 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);
 - (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.
