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the European Union

EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

**Second Subregional Workshop on the Practical Application of Strategic
Environmental Assessment and Transboundary Environmental Impact
Assessment**

Draft Agenda

**29 June 2022
TIME 08.00 – 15.00 CET
Zoom**

The workshop is organized as a virtual event in Zoom. Simultaneous interpretation (English and Russian) will be available, connections details to access Zoom will be sent by UNECE to participants nominated by the Ministries of Environment of their countries prior the workshop.

Action implemented by:



Second Subregional Workshop on the Practical Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

29 June 2022

CET: 08:00 – 15 :00

BAKU, TBILISI, YEREVAN: 10:00 – 17:00

CHISINAU, KYIV: 09:00 – 16:00

Background

Within the framework of the European Union (EU) funded EU4Environment programme, UNECE is assisting the EU's Eastern partner countries in comprehensive capacity- and institution building on SEA and transboundary EIA, along with finalizing legal reforms in this area. The workshop will be organized by UNECE to support further development of the SEA and EIA systems in the beneficiary countries in line with the UNECE Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), the Espoo Convention and the European Union's Directive on SEA and Directive on EIA. It will also contribute towards securing an environmentally respectful "Global Gateway"¹, a new European strategy to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport sectors and to strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.

As the second of the two sub-regional workshops on SEA and EIA planned under the EU4Environment, the event will build on the developments and achievements in terms of the countries' SEA and EIA systems since the first workshop organized in October 2020. The workshop sessions will be facilitated by consultants to UNECE.

Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

The main objectives of the workshop are to:

- facilitate information exchange and experience sharing on SEA and transboundary EIA among the beneficiary countries and with the EU/UNECE countries;
- inform the participants about EU's Global Gateway strategy;
- discuss the topics of interest / issues identified by the beneficiary countries for the workshop and provide examples of international good practices in SEA and transboundary EIA.

The workshop will include the countries' presentations outlining the achievements and challenges faced when implementing EIAs and SEAs, as well as the case examples from the EU countries with a major focus on SEA in spatial planning. A separate session will be devoted to the issues and topics of interest identified by the beneficiary countries, which have been collected by UNECE prior to the event through a survey.

The workshop is expected to result in a better understanding by the participants of the approaches and methods to be used in SEA and transboundary EIA to effectively apply

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/stronger-europe-world/global-gateway_en

environmental assessment to specific types of plans and programmes and to analyse the likely impacts on specific environmental aspects and issues. Additionally, the workshop will contribute to a more effective implementation of pilot SEA projects in the beneficiary countries where such projects have already started or are being launched.

Participants

The workshop will gather representatives of the Ministries of Environment and other relevant stakeholders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Participants are expected to have some background experience in SEA and/or transboundary EIA.

Practical Information

The workshop will be organized as a virtual event in Zoom. Simultaneous interpretation in English and Russian will be provided.

Connection details to access the workshop in Zoom will be provided separately to the participants nominated by the Ministries of Environment of their countries.

About EU4Environment

The “European Union for Environment” (**EU4Environment**) aims to help the six partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus², Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts.

The Action is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organisations: OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank based on a budget of some EUR 20 million. The Action implementation period is 2019-2022.

For further information contact: EU4Environment@oecd.org

For further information specifically on activities on SEA and transboundary EIA implemented by UNECE, please contact: Leonid.Kalashnyk@un.org

² In line with the Council Conclusions of 12 October 2020 and in light of the Council Conclusions of February 2022, the EU has stopped engaging with Belarusian authorities and continues to engage with the Belarusian civil society.

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29 June 2022

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CHISINAU, KYIV : 09 :00 – 16 :00

Time (CET)	Item
07:50 – 08:00	Connection testing (10 min)
08:00 – 08:10	<p>Opening</p> <p><i>Mr. Nicholas Cendrowicz, Deputy Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Tea Aulavuo, Secretary to the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA, UNECE</i></p>
08:10 – 09:45	<p>Session 1: Taking stock of progress and challenges <i>15 min per country (10 min for presentation and 5 min for Q&A) and concluding discussion (15 min)</i></p> <p><i>Facilitated by Ms. Maia Gachechiladze-Bozhesku, Mr. Martin Smutny (consultants to UNECE) and Mr. Leonid Kalashnyk, EU4Environment Project Manager at UNECE</i></p>
09:45 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 10:45	<p>Session 2: Making pilot SEAs more effective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introductory presentation on main pre-conditions for a successful SEA (Ms. Maia Gachechiladze-Bozhesku, 10 min)</i> • <i>Brief interventions by the countries on the status of the pilot SEA and further planning and Q&A (5 – 10 min per country)</i> <p><i>Facilitated by Ms. Maia Gachechiladze-Bozhesku, Mr. Martin Smutny, and Mr. Michal Musil, consultants to UNECE</i></p>
10:45 – 11:15	<p>Session 3: EU experience of SEA in spatial planning and industrial development</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr. Michal Musil, consultant to UNECE, and Q&A</i></p>
11:15 – 12:00	<p>Session 4: Linkages between SEA for spatial plans and subsequent EIA for related investments with a focus on sustainable infrastructure, including in the context of Global Gateway strategy</p> <p><i>Presentation by Mr. Martin Smutny, consultant to UNECE, and Q&A</i></p>
12:00 – 12:30	Break

12:30 – 14:30	Session 5: Topics of special interest in SEA and EIA identified by the countries <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Health in Strategic Environmental Assessment</i> <p><i>Presentation by Dr. Thomas Fischer and Mr. Ben Cave, consultants to UNECE, and Q&A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Financial aspects of SEA and EIA</i>• <i>Activities not included in Appendix I of the Espoo Convention and screening</i>• <i>Effective public participation</i>• <i>Accreditation for EIA and SEA</i>• <i>Monitoring and post-project analysis</i> <p><i>Facilitated by Mr. Martin Smutny, Ms. Maia Gachechiladze-Bozhesku and Mr. Michal Musil, consultants to UNECE</i></p>
14:30 – 15:00	Session 6: Summary of the event, next steps and closing remarks <p><i>Mr. Leonid Kalashnyk, UNECE</i></p>
