

Questionnaire for the report of Entity Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in the period 2019–2021

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Part one

Current legal and administrative framework for the implementation of the Protocol

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

Article 3

General provisions

I.1. Please provide the main legislative, regulatory and other measures you have adopted in your country to implement the Protocol (art. 3, para. 1) (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Law on SEA (please indicate number/year/name):
- (b) SEA provisions are transposed into another law(s) (please specify): Law on environmental protection Off. Gazette of RS, no:71/12,79/15 and 70/20
- (c) Regulation (please indicate number/year/name): Rulebook on the contents of Report on strategic assessment and Rulebook on the criteria for deciding on the need to implement strategic assessment of the the environment ,Off. Gazette of RS no: 28/13
- (d) Administrative rule (please indicate number/year/name):
- (e) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

Article 4

Field of application concerning plans and programmes

I.2. List the types of plans and programmes that require SEA in your legislation: no.

I.3. **Explain how you define whether a plan or programme “set the framework for future development consent” (art. 4, para. 2):** The Law on Environmental protection (OG of Republic of Srpska, 71/12, 79/15 and 70/20), in the Article 48, Para. 1, stipulates: Strategic Environmental Assessment is carried out for the Plans, Programs, and strategic documents that establish the basic framework for approval of future development projects, as defined by legal framework for the Environmental Impact Assessment (the Rulebook on the projects subject to the EIA procedure, and criteria for determining the Necessity and Scope of the EIA - Official Gazette of RS 124/12), in the following sectors: physical and urban planning, land use, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, hunting, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, preservation of natural habitats, flora and fauna.

I.4. **Explain how the terms “plans and programmes ... which determine the use of small areas at local level” (art. 4, para. 4) are interpreted in your legislation:** In the Law on Environmental Protection (OG of Republic of Srpska 71/12, 79/15 and 70/20), it is specified: For the plans and programs by which it is determined the use of smaller areas at local level as well as in the case of minor changes for the plans and programs that do not require the formal adoption procedure and that are not listed in the Para.1. of the Article described in I.3 above (identical to Article 4, Para. 2 of the SEA Protocol), the decision by which the obligation for carrying out SEA is brought by the

Authority competent for preparation of Plan or Program, if this authority identifies possible significant impacts to the environment, in accordance with the criteria stipulated by this specific special legislation.

The Rulebook on criteria for deciding on the need for carrying out SEA is published in the Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska, Issue 28/13 (The criteria referred to in the Rulebook are in accordance with Annex III of the SEA Protocol).

I.5. Explain how you identify in your legislation a “minor modification” to a plan or programme (art. 4, para. 4): art.48, par. 3, Law on environmental protection Off. Gazette of RS, no: 71/12, 79/15 &70/20 The Article 48. Para. 2. of the Law on Environmental Protection (OG of Republic of Srpska 71/12, 79/15 and 70/20), stipulates the following: for plans and programs by which a minor modifications to plan or program are envisaged, the Decision for putting the obligation of carrying out the SEA is brought by the authority competent for preparation of Plan or Program, if this authority identifies possible significant impacts to the environment, in accordance with the criteria stipulated by this specific special legislation.

The Rulebook on criteria for deciding on the need for carrying out SEA is published in the Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska, Issue 28/13, and this is the legislation that identifies the criteria based on which the decision is made whether SEA should be implemented and for the events of minor modification to a plan or programme (The criteria referred to in the Rulebook are in accordance with Annex III of the SEA Protocol).

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)

(d) Other (please specify): Other (please specify): art.48, par. 3, Law on environmental protection Off. Gazette of RS, 71/12, 79/15 &70/20, Rulebook on the criteria for deciding on the need to carry out strategic environmental assessment (Off. Gazette of RS no: 28/13)

Your comments:

According to article 5 (1) The criteria on the basis of which decisions are made on the implementation of strategic environmental assessment for plans and programs referred to in Article 48, Paragraph 2 (the Law on Environmental Protection (OG of Republic of Srpska 71/12, 79/15 and 70/20), were determined by the Minister by the means of a special regulation (The Rulebook on criteria for deciding on the need for carrying out SEA is published in the Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska, Issue 28/13).

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:

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 art.51, Law on environmental protection Off. Gazette of RS, 71/12, 79/15 &70/20 (please specify (more than one option may apply)):

- (a) By sending written comments to the competent authority
- (b) By sending written comments to the local municipality
- (c) By providing answers to a questionnaire
- (d) By taking part in a public hearing
- (e) By sending written comments to the consultants/SEA experts or persons preparing the plans and programmes
- (f) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

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.” The SEA’s are reviewed in accordance with the provisions of Rulebook on the contents of Report on strategic assessment is defined in the Rulebook on the criteria for deciding on the need to implement strategic assessment of the the environment ,Off. Gazette No: 28/13

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:

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:

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): Law on environmental protection (Off. Gazette of RS, 71/12, 79/15 & 70/20), the Rulebook on the contents of the SEA report (Off. Gazette of RS no.28/13), Rulebook on the criteria for deciding on the need to implement strategic assessment of the the environment ,Off. Gazette of RS no: 28/13
- (c) By using a combination of (a) and (b)
- (d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

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 sufficient quality of the reports? Please specify:

- (a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures 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):

Your comments: The Minister issued a regulation that defines the content of the Strategic Assessment Report (Rulebook on the Content of Strategic Assessment Report,

Official Gazette of Republic of Srpska, Issue 28/13, in accordance with Article 7 of the SEA Protocol). Also, the holder of Strategic Assessment Report development may only be an authorized legal entity that meets the conditions for performing the activities in the field of environmental protection governed by the regulation referred to in Article 67, Paragraph 3 of this Law - **Law on environmental protection (Off. Gazette of RS, 71/12, 79/15 & 70/20).**

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
- (b) Through electronic media
- (c) Through other means (please specify): art. 55 para.2 of the Law on environmental protection, Off. Gazette of RS, no: 71/12, 79/15 & 70/20

Your comments:

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 specify):

Your comments:

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 providing answers to a questionnaire
- (c) Orally
- (d) By taking part in a public hearing
- (e) Other (please specify): In compliance with art.54. para 2 Low on environmental protection, art. 55 para.1.,2, Off. Gazette of RS, no: 71/12, 79/15 &70/20

Your comments:

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 case by case

(b) Yes (please provide the definition): In compliance with art.54. para 2 Low on environmental protection Off. Gazette of RS, no. 71/12, 79/15 &70/20, the reasonable time frame is 30 days after receiving the Report and supplement documentation.

(c) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

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)

Your comments:

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)

Your comments: In the Article 51 of the Law on Environmental protection, it is defined how the arrangements on informing and consulting authorities should be carried out.

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)

Explanation: Article 54 (1) The authority in charge of preparation of Plan and Program shall submit the Strategic Assessment Report referred to in Article 53 of this Law to the interested authorities and organizations for their opinion.

(2) Interested authorities and organizations shall be obliged to submit their opinion within 30 days from the receipt of the report and the supporting documents.

(3) If the opinion is not submitted within the period referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article it shall be deemed that there are no objections to the submitted Strategic Assessment Report.

- (b) No

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

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

Your comments:

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):

Your comments:

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, paragraph 2
- (b) The information required by article 10, paragraph 2, plus additional information (please specify): additionally, if the transboundary impact of the plan or program has been identified, the report has to contain information about the transboundary impacts of other entity/ state

Your comments:

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):

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

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

How do the Parties agree on detailed arrangements?

- (a) Following those of the Party of origin

(b) Following those of the affected Party

(c) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

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 to 10

Your comments:

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

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

(a) Pursuant to national legislation (please refer to specific provisions and provide citations in order to clarify the procedure followed): According to article 56: Ministry will (1) In the event that the implementation of Plan and Program may have a significant environmental impact of the other Entity, Brcko District or other country or if the other Entity, Brcko District, or other country whose environment could be significantly threatened files such request, the authority in charge of preparation of Plan and Program shall ensure that in the process of participation of interested authorities and organizations and the public, as soon as possible and at the latest when the information is disclosed to the public in the RS, the other Entity, Brcko District or other country receives the following information for their opinion:

a) description of the Plan and Program together with all available information on their possible impacts,

b) the nature of the decision that might be issued and

c) the period for which and the manner in which other Entity, Brcko District, or another country can provide its opinion or its intention not to participate in the process of consultations.

(2) When giving its opinion on the strategic assessment report, the Ministry shall take into account the results of consultations and obtained opinion from the interested authorities, organizations and the public of the other Entity, Brcko District or other country and it shall prepare a specific part of the rationale of the opinion accordingly.

(b) Other (please specify):

Please explain:

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

(a) Plan or programme:

(b) Statement summarizing how the environmental, including health, considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme, and how the comments received have been taken into account:

(c) The reasons for adopting the plan or programme in the light of the reasonable alternatives considered:

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

(a) By informing the point of contact

(b) By informing the contact person of the ministry responsible for strategic environmental assessment, who then follows the national procedure and informs his/her own authorities and public

(c) By informing all the authorities involved in the assessment and letting them inform their own public

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

**Article 12
Monitoring**

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

...

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

I.12. Describe the legal requirements for monitoring the significant environmental, including health, effects of the implementation of the plans and programmes: this procedure is regulated by the article 59 paragraph 2 of this Law: The authority in charge of preparation of Plan and Program shall ensure accessibility to the data referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, after the adoption of the Plan and Program under conditions specified by the law.

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: Articles 1-14 of the Protocol are applied in the Law of Environmental Protection (articles 48-60)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- (a) Cost effectiveness

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

- (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:

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

- (a) No
- (b) Yes (please indicate which ones): The main problem is coordination between entities and on a government level. Communication takes place with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH through the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, which requires additional time.

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: Request for an opinion on the SEA report are often sent directly to a possible affected party in order to obtain an opinion within a reasonable time.

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 This procedure is defined by The Environmental Protection, Article 54

(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.)

(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

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

(a) No

(b) Yes :

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

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.

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 Lack of resources
- (b) What elements of the environmental report and other documentation does your country usually translate as a Party of origin? Until today, we have not translated any documents. For this reporting period, we had only one SEA report, but it did not need the translation because the Affected Party was an ex Yugoslovian Republic (Republic of Croatia).
- (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): As it is defined in Articles 8, 9 and 10 of the SEA Protocol.
- (d) What has your country's experience been of the effectiveness of public participation? It has been good so far.
- (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): For the Waste Managment Plan for Republic of Srpska

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

Yes

No

No

Please specify reasons for not using the Good Practice Recommendations:

Please specify reasons for not using the Manual:

(i) Lack of awareness about the document

(i) Lack of awareness about the document

(ii) The document is not relevant

(ii) The Manual is not relevant

(iii) The document is outdated and needs revision

(iii) The Manual is outdated and needs revision

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

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:

(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:

No Please explain the reason

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.

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: 1 | | 1 | | 1 month. | |
| Regional development: 4 | | 4 | | 1 month(each) | |
| Waste management: | | | | | |
| Water management: | | | | | |
| Telecommunication: | | | | | |
| Tourism: | | | | | |
| Town and country planning: 1 | | 1 | | 1 month. | |
| Land use: | | | | | |
| Other, including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4): | | | | | |
| 1 Special purpose plan | | 1 | | 1 month. | |

* The information provided constitutes:

Statistical data

Estimates

** Once the need for strategic environmental assessment is determined

Your comments:

Annex II

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

| <i>Sector</i> | <i>Total number or an estimate*</i> | <i>Number of local-level procedures</i> | <i>Number of national-level procedures</i> | <i>Estimated average duration of the procedure,** months, if available</i> | <i>Average costs (also as percentage of the total costs for preparation of a plan/programme), euros and (percentage), if available</i> |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Agriculture: | | | | | |
| Forestry: | | | | | |
| Fisheries: | | | | | |
| Energy: | | | | | |
| Industry including mining: | | | | | |
| Transport: | | | | | |
| Regional development: | | | | | |
| Waste management: | 1 | | | 6 month | |
| Water management: | | | | | |
| Telecommunication: | | | | | |
| Tourism: | | | | | |
| Town and country planning: | | | | | |
| Land use: | | | | | |
| Other, including those falling under article 4 (3)–(4): | | | | | |

Annex III

Template for describing a good practice example of implementing a strategic environmental assessment at the national level or in a transboundary context

I. General information

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

The entire procedure

Screening (art. 5)

Scoping (art. 6)

Environmental report (art. 7)

Public participation (art. 8)

Consultation with environmental and health authorities (art. 9)

Transboundary consultations (art. 10)

Decision (art. 11)

Monitoring (art. 12)

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

Biodiversity

Circular economy

Development cooperation

Energy transition

Smart and sustainable cities

Sustainable infrastructure

II. Background

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

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

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

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

III. 2. Screening (art. 5)

III. 3. Scoping (art. 6)

III.4. Environmental report (art. 7)

III.5. Public participation (art. 8)

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

III.7. Transboundary consultations (art. 10)

III.8. Decision (art. 11)

III.9. Monitoring (art. 12)

IV. Lessons learned and advice to other parties:

IV.1. Please indicate:

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

IV.2. As relevant, please also refer to the contribution of the above application of strategic environmental assessment towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals⁶ or climate objectives.

⁶ 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.

