

Informal workshop organised within the Sofia EIA Initiative

APPROACHES TO STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

**Regional Environmental Center for CEE
April 9-10, 2001, Szentendre**

Main findings:

The Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries are rapidly developing legislation and methodologies for application of strategic environmental assessment (SEA). The workshop participants (see Annex 3) presented SEA case studies that indicate a set of common priorities in the development of the national SEA systems in the CEE region. The priorities are the following:

Flexible approach to SEA

1. National SEA systems in CEE countries should establish flexible framework for integration of SEA elements into development of specific strategic interventions¹. National framework laws having provisions on SEA may need to be complemented by administrative orders/regulations that interpret general SEA requirements for the most important strategic interventions in the country (e.g. land-use/spatial planning, preparation of national policies, etc.).

SEA process

2. SEA process should be initiated at the earliest possible stage of development of strategic intervention that is a subject to SEA. SEA should begin at the same time as preparation of the strategic intervention (Terms of Reference for SEA should preferably be adopted at the same time as the Terms of Reference for the strategic intervention).
3. SEA process should run in parallel to the planning processes and should be fully integrated into different stages of development of strategic intervention. Annex 1 of the workshop report outlines options for incorporation of SEA into development of strategic intervention.
4. The responsibility for carrying out the SEA process should be with authority responsible for development of strategic intervention. CEE countries should establish system that ensures sufficient quality of the SEA process. In cases where there is no institutional capacity for carrying out SEA, formal review of SEA findings may be needed.
5. SEA process should typically review:
 - existing environmental/health problems relevant for the sector or region covered by the strategic intervention;
 - environmental/health (sustainability) goals and targets of the strategic intervention;
 - key conceptual alternatives of the strategic intervention - analysis of attainment of environmental/health goals (sustainability) and targets;
 - specific environmental/health impacts of suggested implementation measures;

¹ NB: The term strategic intervention used in this text covers plans, programs, policies. A modified SEA process should be applied to legislative proposals.

- proposed monitoring system of environmental/health impacts during implementation of the strategic intervention.
6. Consultation with environmental and health authorities and public should be organized throughout the SEA process. At least two stages of such consultations should be carried out: at the stage of review of the environmental goals and targets of the strategy (SEA scoping) and after completion of the SEA findings. Additional stages of consultation may be organized as needed. The SEA process should also enable access to information in accordance with the requirements of the Aarhus Convention.
 7. The findings of the SEA process should be reported for the purpose of their external review (by public, national environmental and health authorities, etc.). SEA findings, draft or final, should be made publicly accessible and should be communicated to concerned public in due time and due form.
 8. Authorities responsible for development and/or approval of strategic intervention should ensure due account of SEA findings and of public comments in the decision-making on the strategic intervention.
 9. Public participation provisions and access to justice are important elements in the design of SEA systems in CEE. Given the importance and difficulty of these subjects, further detailed CEE-regional discussions should be organized on these subjects.
 10. SEA systems should ensure proper monitoring of actual effects of strategy on environment, human health and/or sustainable development. Monitoring reports should be made publicly accessible and should be communicated to the concerned public.

**ANNEX 1:
INCORPORATION OF SEA INTO DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS, PROGRAMS AND POLICIES**

Authority Responsible for Development of Strategic Intervention		SEA Supervising (Environmental and Health) Authorities
<i>Development of Strategic Intervention</i>	<i>Strategic Environmental Assessment</i>	
ToR for the strategic intervention	Approval of ToR for SEA	Comments on ToR for the strategic intervention and joint preparation of ToR for SEA (incl. specification of public participation system).
Analysis of the past development of the regions/sector covered by the strategic intervention (analytical part of strategic intervention).	Review of analytical part of the strategic intervention - whether it properly reflects past and existing environmental/health problems in the sector or region covered by the strategic intervention.	Overall cooperation in development of strategic intervention (incl. provision of relevant information) and supervision of the SEA process.
Determination of strategic goals and targets for the strategic intervention.	Review of goals and targets for the strategic intervention – whether they properly integrate relevant environmental/health (sustainability) goals and targets.	Overall cooperation in development of strategic intervention (incl. provision of relevant information) and supervision of the SEA process.
Design of conceptual alternatives of the strategic intervention.	Objective-led appraisal of key conceptual alternatives of the strategic intervention (how they relate to relevant environmental/health goals and targets).	Overall cooperation in development of strategic intervention (incl. provision of relevant information) and supervision of the SEA process.
Design of implementation measures and management and monitoring.	Assessment of specific environmental/health impacts of implementation measures that implement selected conceptual alternatives. Assessment of proposed environmental monitoring and management system.	Overall cooperation in development of strategic intervention (incl. provision of relevant information) and supervision of the SEA process.
		Optional external review of SEA Report.
Decision on the strategic intervention.		
Monitoring of implementation of strategic intervention.		

ANNEX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

ALBANIA	Ms. Alma Bako Expert on Environmental Planning Nature Protection Directorate National Environmental Agency Bulevardi "Zhan D'ark" Nr.2 Tirana Albania	Tel: +355 43 65 229/64904 Fax: +355 43 65 229 E-mail: cep@cep.tirana.al
BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA	Ms. Andja Hadziabdic Chief of Sector Department of Environmental Protection Federal Ministry of Physical Planning and Environment Titova 9a 71 000 Sarajevo Bosnia & Herzegovina	Tel: +387 (33) 522 677 Fax: +387 (33) 522 677 E-mail: fmokolis@bih.net.ba
BULGARIA	Ms. Jacqueline Metodieva EIA Specialist Ministry of Environment and Water 67 W. Gladstone Str. 1000 Sofia Bulgaria	Tel: +359 2 940 6327 Fax: +359 2 986 4848 E-mail: metodievaj@moew.govrn.bg
CROATIA (Chair Country)	Mr. Nenad Mikulic EIA Head Environmental Protection Department Ministry for Environmental Protection and Physical Planning Ulica Republike Austrije 20, 10 000 Zagreb Croatia	Tel: +385 1 610 6558 Fax: +385 1 611 8388 E-mail: nenad.mikulic@duzo.tel.hr
CZECH REPUBLIC	Ms. Jana Svobodova EIA Department Ministry of the Environment Vrsoviccka 65, Praha 100 10 Czech Republic	Tel: +420 2 6712 2317 Fax: +420 2 6712 6317 E-mail: jana_svobodova@env.cz
ESTONIA	Mr. Rein Raudsep Director General, Environmental Management and Technology Ministry of the Environment 24, Toompuiestee EE-0100 Tallinn Estonia	Tel: 372-660.4559 Fax: 372-660.4522 E-mail: rein.raudsep@ekm.envir.ee

HUNGARY	Ms. Edina Dancsok Fóris Strategy Planning and Cooperation Ministry of Environment Fo u. 44-50, 1011 Budapest Hungary	Tel: +36 1 457 3544 Fax: +36 1 201 2091 E-mail: dancsokne@mail.ktm.hu
LATVIA	Ms. Sandra Ruza Project Manager: Environmental Protection Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development Peldu 25, LV-1494 Riga Latvia	Tel: +371 702 6526 Fax: + 371 7820 442 E-mail: snorka@varam.gov.lv
LITHUANIA	Ms. Irena Buciuonaite Chief Specialist Environmental Impact Assessment Ministry of the Environment A. Jaksto St. 4/9, 2694 Vilnius Lithuania	Tel: +370 2 62 2624 Fax: +370 2 61 5339 E-mail: i.buciuonaite@aplinkuma.lt
FYR MACEDONIA	Ms. Menka Spirovska Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning Drezdenska 52, 1000 Skopje Macedonia	Tel: +389 91 366 930/101 Fax: +389 91 366 931 E-mail: menkas@unet.com.mk
POLAND	Mr. Ryszard Skarbek, Environmental Protection Department, Ministry of Environment Wawelska Str. 52/54 00-922 Warsaw Poland	Tel: +48 22 825 0891 Fax: +48 22 825 0950 E-mail: rskarbek@mos.gov.pl
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Ms. Svetlana Goloubeva Head of State Ecological Review Ministry of Natural Resources 4/6 B. Gruzinskaya st. 123 995 Moscow Russian Federation	Tel: +7 095 230 8782 Fax: +7 095 943 0013 E-mail: vkgs@cityline.ru
FR YUGOSLAVIA	Mr. Jadrenko Simic Senior Adviser Federal Ministry for Health and Social Policy Environmental Department Palata Federacije 11070 Belgrade	Tel: +381 11 311 2282 Fax: +381 11 142 564 E-mail: jadrenko@hera.smmzs.sv.gov.yu

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

MONTENEGRO, FR YUGOSLAVIA	Ms. Aleksandra Ivanovic Environmental Advisor Coastal Engineering, Planning and Environmental Protection Department Coastal Zone Management Agency for Montenegro Mainski Put BB 85310 Budva Montenegro	Tel: +381 86 451 716 Fax: +381 86 452 685 E-mail: jpmdcg@cg.yu
UN/ECE	Mr. Wiek Schrage Secretary to the EIA Convention UN/ECE Office 407, Palais des Nations 1211 Geneva Switzerland	Tel: +41 22 917 2448 Fax: +41 22 917 0613 E-mail: wiecher.schrage@unece.org
UNDP	Mr. Andrej Steiner Regional Environmental Advisor Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS UNDP Grösslingova 35 04001 Bratislava Slovakia	Tel: +421 7 59 337 416 Fax: +421 7 59 337 450 E-mail: andrej.Steiner@undp.org
INVITED EXPERTS	Ms. Maria Kozova Head of the Department Faculty of Natural Sciences Comenius University Mlynska dolina B-2 84215 Bratislava Slovakia	Tel: +42 17 6029 6581 Fax: +42 17 654 28 438 E-mail: kozova@nic.fns.uniba.sk
	Ms. Ingrid Belcakova Director Environmental Impact Assessment Center Faculty of Architecture, Slovak Technical University Namestie Slobody 19. 81245 Bratislava Slovakia	Tel: +42 17 572 762 77 Fax: +42 17 444 589 07 E-mail: belcakova@fastu.fa.stuba.sk , belcakova@hotmail.com
	Mr. Gheorghe Nicula Manager Gleco NGO Turda str. 118 block 37 scara C, 8/113 78202 Bucharest Romania	Tel: (401) 665 2753 (401) 93 298 860 Fax: (401) 665 2753

REC

Mr. Jiri Dusik
Project Manager: Environmental
Assessment
REC
c/o Mezi silnicemi 17
317 01 Plzen
Czech Republic

Tel: +420-603.214.487
Fax: +420-19-743.17.28
E-mail: jiri.dusik@telecom.cz

Mrs. Oreola Ivanova
Head
Environmental Policy Programme
REC Headquarter
Ady E. u. 9-11
2000 Szentendre
Hungary

Tel: +36 26 504 000
Fax: +36 26 311 294
E-mail: oivanova@rec.org

Mr. Stephen Stec
Senior Legal Specialist
REC Headquarter
Ady E. u. 9-11
2000 Szentendre
Hungary

Tel: +36 26 504 000
Fax: +36 26 311 294
E-mail: sstec@rec.org

Ms. Marina Bolshakova
Project Manager
Public Participation Programme
REC Headquarter
Ady E. u. 9-11
2000 Szentendre
Hungary

Tel: +36 26 504 000
Fax: +36 26 311 294
E-mail: mbolshakova@rec.org

Mr. Robert Nemeskeri
Country Office Director
REC Country Office Hungary
Ady E. u. 9-11
2000 Szentendre
Hungary

Tel: +36 26 504 000
Fax: +36 26 311 294
E-mail: robi@rec.org