

Module 6: Capacity development for SEA

- Key messages
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Key message in capacity development for SEA

- Demystify SEA - SEA is not a „mega-EIA“
- Emphasize that good SEA practice requires:
 - Adequate integration of SEA into specific plan- and programme-making process
 - Right choice of assessment methods (the simplest techniques available to deliver appropriate information)
 - Right choice of consultation techniques (focus on problem solving - different from public hearings at the end of EIA process)

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Capacity development strategy

- Atomised interventions usually do not accomplish much
- SEA capacity building strategy can:
 - build critical mass of promoters of good SEA practice
 - be agreed with key stakeholders (future users of SEA procedures)
 - facilitate in-country policy discussion on SEA
- Focus of SEA capacity building strategy should be designed through needs assessment

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Needs' assessment

- Careful needs' assessment will establish links between stakeholders, motivate partners, provide for transparency and methodological CD process
- Identify gaps and needs in current SEA/EA and planning systems
- Identify key institutions, partners, stakeholders and responsible people
- Plan capacity development for SEA practitioners as well as planners
- Get stakeholder commitment - involve in assessment and strategy preparation.



Main capacity development tools

- **Pilot projects** – to test and develop SEA methods in real-life situations and to establish precedents of good SEA practice
- **Professional training** – to prepare initial experts for pilot activities and train decision makers on benefits of SEA
- **Guidelines** – to guide SEA for specific types of planning/programming processes
- **Promotional materials** - to explain benefits of SEA to planners and policy-makers
- **Professional networking** - to establish professional benchmarks for good SEA practice
- **Periodic evaluations** – to review effectiveness (e.g. annual conferences, etc.)



Tips for capacity development

- Prepare 3 dimensional capacity development strategy targeting system, institutional and human capacities and needs
- Always plan resources: financial and human
- Prepare monitoring plan for the capacity development strategy for SEA and identify responsible/recipient institutions (e.g. SEA focal point or Government level)
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- Capacity development is a long term process which takes time and resources.
- Keep close working links and consult key national institutions responsible for SEA/EA and planning


