
Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN)

Regional Training
Workshop on linkages
between Appropriate
Assessment and
SEA/EIA

30-31 October 2014, Zagreb

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMA REGIONAL NETWORK FOR ACCESSION - ECRAN

TRAINING REPORT

**Activity No. 2.4 Environmental Assessments, Task 2.4.3. Other assessments
Regional Training Workshop on linkages between Appropriate Assessment
and SEA/EIA**

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List of abbreviations

AA	Appropriate Assessment
EA	Environmental Assessments
ECRAN	Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ENIA	Ecological Network Impact Assessment
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
MS	Member State
N2K	Natura 2000
PPP	Plans, programmes and projects
RENA	Regional Environmental Network for Accession
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
ToT	Training of Trainers
WG	Working Group



I. Background/Rationale

General information about the training

The regional training workshop was organized as a joint event of Environmental Assessments and Nature Working Groups in order to discuss the bottlenecks in the implementation of environmental assessments, but also in order to avoid duplication and to promote cooperation between the participants of these two ECRAN Working Groups.

The training workshop was held in Zagreb, Croatia, October 30 – 31, 2014. The training was facilitated by ECRAN experts – Petr Roth (Nature WG) and Martin Smutny (EA WG) with contribution of TAIEX experts.

Croatia as a location of the training had been selected by purpose, since among all ECRAN countries Croatia has the most extensive experience with application of AA (or Ecological Network Impact Assessment), therefore active participation of experts from the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (Mr. Josip Hren, Ms. Ivana Lalić, and Mr. Matej Majdenić) and the State Institute for Nature Protection (Mr. Vladimir Hršak) was much appreciated and highly contributed to the interesting discussions. Also presentation and inputs to the discussions from Ms. Tina Klemenčič (Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, TAIEX expert) was very relevant.

Current state of the affairs in the beneficiary countries in the specific sector

The AA and SEA/EIA training workshops relates to four EU Directives – two stipulating provisions for SEA and EIA i.e. the Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (SEA Directive), the Directive 2014/52/EU, which has recently amended the Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (EIA Directive), and two addressing the issue of AA i.e. the Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive) and the Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive).

Although the process of harmonizing the national legislation with the requirements of the EIA and SEA Directives has been initiated in all ECRAN countries, and some of the countries have already achieved full compliance with both Directives (Croatia, Montenegro, Kosovo*, Serbia, the FYR of Macedonia), the implementation of these two directives is still in many countries in its early stage. Almost all ECRAN countries are facing a lack of capacity for appropriate implementation both at the national and sub-national levels. The situation is more advanced in case of EIA, which has in all ECRAN countries longer history compared to SEA.

As regards AA, the situation is even less favourable: its scope is much narrower as it only refers to sites of Natura 2000 network which do not exist in any ECRAN country but Croatia yet; therefore it is much more difficult for competent authorities to develop right approaches which would comply with the requirements of the Birds and Habitats Directive and 40 CJ EU rulings interpreting their provisions on AA. Additional challenge is represented by the fact that while AA is planned to or already carried out within the EIA/SEA processes, its rules differ in some aspects from those of EIA/SEA and its outcomes



are binding, which should be respected both in the national legislation as well as in the administrative arrangements. However, a very positive fact is that Croatia has chosen its AA/EIA/SEA model in such a way that they could apply and test it far before their accession – a way worth to be followed by any other ECRAN country; spreading awareness about the “Croatian model” is therefore one of ways how ECRAN can substantially help the other countries in their implementation of these EU obligations.

Summary of the main topics covered

As already mentioned above, the main focus of the workshop was to address the linkages between AA and SEA/EIA, to illustrate possible models of linking these tools, and to present experience from EU MSs. Besides, since the most of the participants were from the EA WG, it was first necessary to provide an introduction of Natura 2000 network. The last part of the workshop was dedicated to the discussions on further development of AA in the ECRAN region and practical aspects to be considered.

In order to meet the topics above, following sessions were included in the agenda:

- ***What is Appropriate Assessment***
 - Brief introduction to Natura 2000 network
 - Relevant EU Directives and key requirements for AA
 - Main principles of AA and its linkages to decision-making)
 - Key stages of AA
 - Presentation of selected AA case
- ***Linkages between AA and SEA/EIA***
 - Main similarities and differences
 - Public participation
 - Possible models of interrelationship
 - Good practice example: Czech AA and EIA/SEA system
- ***Challenges in AA application in Croatia and Slovenia***
 - Linkages between AA (ENIA) and SEA/EIA
 - Legal framework
 - Practical application
- ***Roles and responsibilities in AA process***
 - Public administration and EIA/SEA committees
 - Investors
 - AA experts (licensing schemes)
 - Expert institutions
 - Discussion on the key AA actors in the participants’ countries
- ***Merging AA with EIA/SEA: efficiency versus protection of Natura 2000***
- ***Further development of AA in the region***
 - Models of ecological networks
 - Existing and envisaged administrative arrangements
 - Existing guiding documents: pros and cons
 - Useful tools (e.g. forms, matrices) and potential risks of their use
 - Support needed



II. Objectives of the training

General objectives

To present linkages between AA and SEA/EIA and to discuss potential bottlenecks in the implementation of these tools.

Specific objectives

- To introduce similarities and differences between AA and EIA/SEA
- To illustrate the best practice of AA and EIA/SEA application as parallel processes
- To provide recommendations on conducting these processes in the participants' countries

Achieved results/outputs

Considering the objectives outlined above, it can be concluded that these have been met, i.e., presentations and follow-up discussions addressed all topics which had been supposed to be covered by the workshop's objectives.



III. EU policies and legislation covered by the training

Summary of the main provisions for each EU Directive/Regulation covered by the training

The AA and SEA/EIA training workshops relates to four EU Directives – SEA Directive, EIA Directive, Habitats Directive, and Birds Directive.

The SEA Directive is in force since 2001 and should have been transposed by July 2004 by all EU member states. Its requirements have had to be integrated in the national legal frameworks. More information can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/home.htm>

The SEA Directive stipulates the framework for SEA application in EU Member States. It defines main responsibilities of the MSs to be ensured.

The SEA Directive defines a group of plans and programmes, which shall be subject of SEA (or screening). Plans and programmes in the sense of the SEA Directive are those, which are prepared or adopted by an authority (at national, regional or local level) and be required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions. However, the SEA Directive does not include a list of plans and programmes (as the EIA Directive does for types of projects), it rather defines criteria to be considered when deciding if SEA should / should not be applied for a certain planning document.

In principle, SEA shall be applied mandatory for plans/programmes which:

- Are prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste/ water management, telecommunications, tourism, town & country planning or land use, and
- Set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in the EIA Directive, or
- Have been determined to require an assessment under the Habitats Directive.

The SEA procedure as designed by the SEA Directive includes for major steps:

- Preparation of environmental report, in which the likely significant effects on the environment and the reasonable alternatives of the proposed plan or program are identified
- Consultations with public and the environmental authorities on the draft plan or program and the environmental report prepared (including transboundary consultations if relevant)
- Taking into account the environmental report and the results of the consultations when adopting the plan or program
- Providing information to the environmental authorities and the public on how the SEA has been taken into account in the adopted plan or program and/or relevant decision.

The MSs are also obliged to monitor significant environmental effects of the plan or program during its implementation.

The newly amended EIA Directive (2014/52/EU) entered into force on 15 May 2014 to simplify the rules for assessing the potential effects of projects on the environment. The main amendments are as follows:

- Member States now have a mandate to simplify their different environmental assessment procedures.



- Timeframes are introduced for the different stages of environmental assessments: screening decisions should be taken within 90 days (although extensions are possible) and public consultations should last at least 30 days. Member States also need to ensure that final decisions are taken within a "reasonable period of time".
- The screening procedure, determining whether an EIA is required, is simplified. Decisions must be duly motivated in the light of the updated screening criteria.
- EIA reports are to be made more understandable for the public, especially as regards assessments of the current state of the environment and alternatives to the proposal in question.
- The quality and the content of the reports will be improved. Competent authorities will also need to prove their objectivity to avoid conflicts of interest.
- The grounds for development consent decisions must be clear and more transparent for the public. Member States may also set timeframes for the validity of any reasoned conclusions or opinions issued as part of the EIA procedure.
- If projects do entail significant adverse effects on the environment, developers will be obliged to do the necessary to avoid, prevent or reduce such effects. These projects will need to be monitored using procedures determined by the Member States. Existing monitoring arrangements may be used to avoid duplication of monitoring and unnecessary costs.

More information about new EIA Directive can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/review.htm>

The EU Birds Directive originating from 1979 (re-codified in 2009 under the code 147/2009/EU) introduced, in addition to the strict protection of all species of birds naturally occurring within the EZ, an obligation of all EU MS to *'classify in particular the most suitable territories in number and size as special protection areas'* for the conservation of species mentioned in Annex I and for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I. In 1992, these special protection areas (SPAs) were made part of the Natura 2000 network under the Habitats Directive (see further), and since then they have enjoyed protection according to the latter.

The EU Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC, in addition to introducing strict protection of several hundreds of selected plant and animal species, has brought the concept of EU-wide network of special areas of conservation called Natura 2000 which, according to its Article 3, would also *'include the special protection areas classified by the Member States pursuant to Birds Directive'*. Establishing the sites composing the network, however, is just the very first task of the Member States. After meeting this initial obligation, they are demanded, by the virtue of Art. 6 of the Habitats Directive, to propose and apply site conservation measures (Art. 6(1)), to prevent any deterioration of sites (Art. 6(2)), and to ensure that *'any plan or project likely to have an adverse impact in site integrity, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, is subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives'*; competent national authorities *'shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned'* (Art. 6(3)). In case the latter condition has not been met, there is nevertheless a possibility to implement such a plan or project provided certain specific and strict conditions have been met and compensatory measures implemented (Art. 6(4)).



The complex procedures carried out pursuant to Art. 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive (as well as several dozens of rulings of the Court of Justice of the EU), often called ‘*appropriate assessment*’ (AA), are frequently implemented within the procedures of EIA/SEA while being quite distinct from the latter both as regards their scope, binding nature, and the depth of detail required during the proper assessment. On one hand, carrying out AA and EIA/SEA in parallel has many practical advantages; on the other, the distinct character of AA as well as its binding nature have always be taken into account. Therefore, learning about similarities and differences between these two types of procedures especially by the staff routinely dealing with EIA/SEA may substantially make easier correct implementation of AA in the future.

More about the Habitats Directive and specifically about the AA can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm.

Useful references on practical guides or links to various web sites

- SEA and EIA
 - A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive. Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, UK, 2005
 - Handbook on SEA for EU Cohesion Policy 2007-2013. GRDP, 2006
 - Sadler, B., McCabe, M.: Environmental Impact Assessment Training Resource Manual. UNEP, 2002
 - United Nations’ EIA Course Module (eia.unu.edu)
 - Environmental Impact Assessment: A guide to good practice and procedures. Department for Communities and Local Government, 2006
 - Guidance on Integrating Climate Change and Biodiversity into Environmental Impact Assessment. European Union, 2013 (<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA%20Guidance.pdf>)
- Appropriate Assessment
 - Dodd A.M., Cleary B.E., Dawkins J.S., Byron H.J., Palframan L.J. and Williams G.M. The Appropriate Assessment of Spatial Plans in England: a guide to why, when and how to do it. The RSPB, Sandy, 2007
 - Therivel, R. Appropriate assessment of plans in England. Environmental Impact Assessment Review 29(4), pp. 261-272, 2009
 - Riki Therivel’s website on recommended AAs (<http://www.levett-therivel.co.uk/AA.htm>)
 - European Commission: Managing Natura 2000 sites : The provisions of Article 6 of the ‘Habitats’ Directive 92/43/EEC. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities 2000. 69 pp.
 - European Commission: Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities 2002. 76 pp.
 - European Commission: Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC. CLARIFICATION OF THE CONCEPTS OF: *ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS, IMPERATIVE REASONS OF OVERRIDING PUBLIC INTEREST, COMPENSATORY*



MEASURES, OVERALL COHERENCE, OPINION OF THE COMMISSION. Brussels 2007/2012. 30 pp.

- Several other EU guidance documents (including sectoral ones) may be found at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/guidance_en.htm#art6

Case studies/examples from EU Member States to illustrate practical situations or best practices that have been covered during the training

Several case examples were presented in order to illustrate practice in the EU. These include:

- AA for the 2nd Transport Sector Strategy of the Czech Republic for 2014-2050 illustrating an approach to AA for the national-wide strategy, however including also several hundreds of specific transport infrastructure projects
- AA for motorway in the Beskydy Region, Czech Republic, presenting the AA conducted as a part of EIA for the highway crossing borders between the Czech Republic and Slovakia
- AA in Croatia – presentation of the AA legal procedure as partially linked to EIA/SEA process, as well as highlighting practical challenges i.e. insufficient human resources, low quality of AA Studies, incomplete compliance with EU Directives (plans and programs excluded from SEA procedure) and lack of linkages between ENIA (AA) procedure and development of plans and programs
- AA in Slovenia providing an example of AA system linked to EIA/SEA



IV. Highlights from the training

Summary of each training session and description of the training activities (delivered presentations, small group work, plenary discussions, etc.) done during each training session

Following sessions were carried out during the workshop:

- **What is appropriate assessment:** The presentation was delivered by Petr Roth, ECRAN expert. The first part was focused on Natura 2000 network as a subject of AA. The history of Natura 2000 establishment was briefly described mentioning the Birds Directive (1979) as one of the milestones. It was explained that N2K consists of two types of areas - sites pursuant to the Habitats Directive and sites pursuant to the Birds Directive – resulting in a single network, however with two types of sites with different legal requirements. Each N2K site has to always have defined target features i.e. selected bird species, non-bird animal species, plant species, or ‘natural habitat types’. N2K network requires (i) site integrity to be maintained, and (ii) (ecological) coherence of the network to be maintained – it was however mentioned that none of these terms is defined in the relevant Directives. While ‘integrity’ refers to individual sites, ‘coherence’ relates to the whole Natura 2000 network. Member states have to ensure that ‘any plan and project likely to affect N2K sites is subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives’.
The second part of the introductory presentation addressed the theory of AA. It was stressed out that while EIA/SEA assesses impacts of PPP on various environmental aspects and shall result in non-binding conclusions about likely impacts, AA in fact combines biological assessment and decision-making process, since the AA decides about admissibility of PPP. Relevant legislation was explained in detail – both Directives as well as relevant EC/Council decisions and rulings of the EU Court of Justice. Four main AA stages we introduced i.e.
 - Steps in accordance with Art 6(3) of Habitats Directive
 - **Screening:** Is there a likelihood of significant effect on site? If yes, then
 - **Main assessment** (= proper Appropriate Assessment): Is the significant effect on site integrity of particular sites likely? If yes, plan/project must be stopped
 - Steps in accordance with Art. 6(4) of Habitats Directive (applies in case the PPP has to be terminated due to its likely significant impacts)
 - **Assessment of alternative solutions (without significant impact):** If they exist, original plan/project must not be permitted
 - **Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) test and compensatory measures**

- **Linkages between AA and SEA/EIA:** Presentation, which was delivered by Martin Smutny (ECRAN expert) explained main similarities and differences between AA and SEA/EIA, which can be summarized in a following matrix:

SEA/EIA	AA
• Global tools	• EU-wide

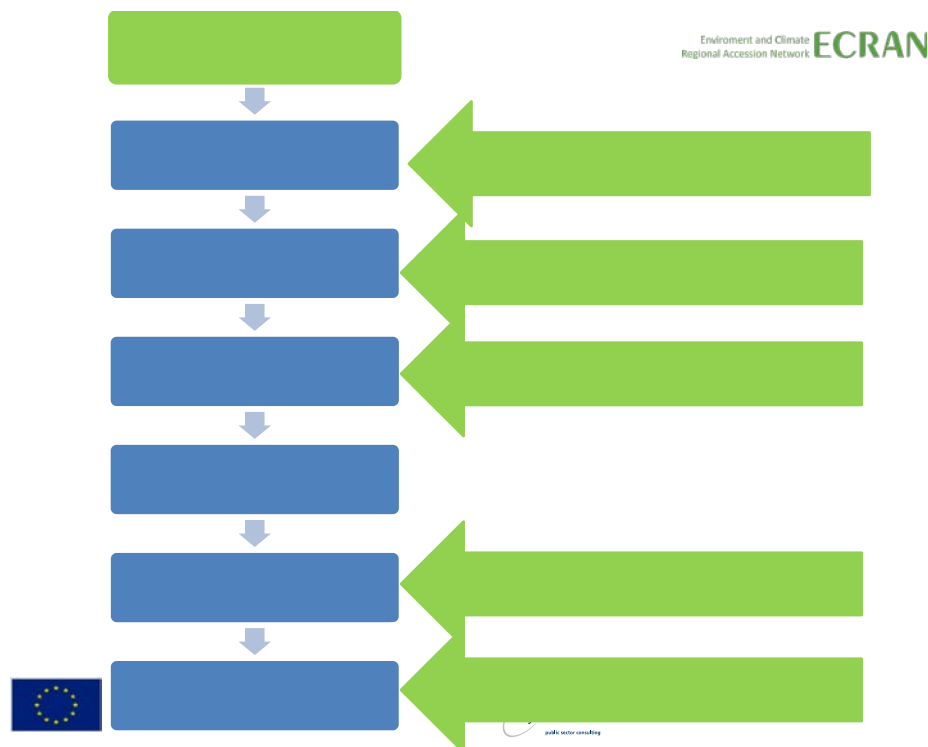


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with limited number of PPP • Address wide range of issues • Deals with significant effects • Process more structured • Public has to be involved • Provide inputs to decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be applied for any PPP • Specific focus on Natura sites • Deals with significant effects • Less stages in procedure • Public involved if appropriate • Presents decision itself
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Two models of AA and SEA/EIA interactions were mentioned i.e. separate processes (e.g. UK) x joint procedure (e.g. CZ) – as well as related *pros* and *cons*

- Joint procedure avoids overlaps in analyses and consultations
- Separate AA may focus only on Natura 2000, however it might lead to certain duplication in analyses (regarding biodiversity and ecosystems)
- Separate AA requires additional formal procedures and thus (together with SEA/EIA) it might take longer time than joint assessment
- Not clear legal power of final statement (if exists) in case of joint procedure

The Czech model we described at the end, representing AA fully integrated in SEA/EIA process as illustrated below:



- **Challenges in AA application in Croatia:** Altogether four speakers shared this part. Mr. Josip Hren from the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection introduced overall ENIA (AA) scheme in Croatia, describing administrative context as well as procedural aspects i.e. preliminary evaluation and main assessment. Afterwards, Ms. Ivana Lalić, and Mr. Matej

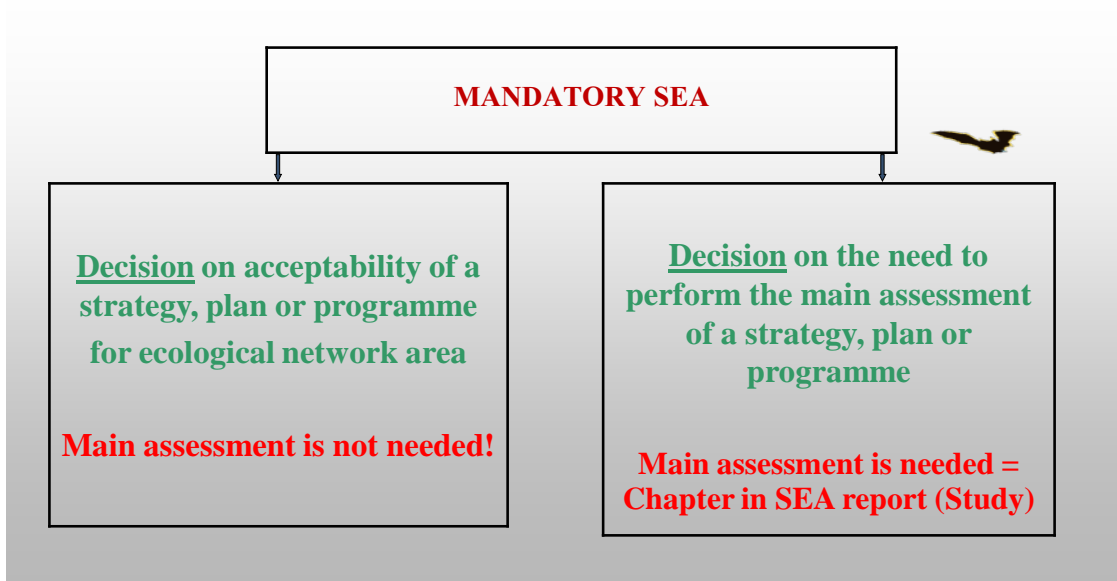
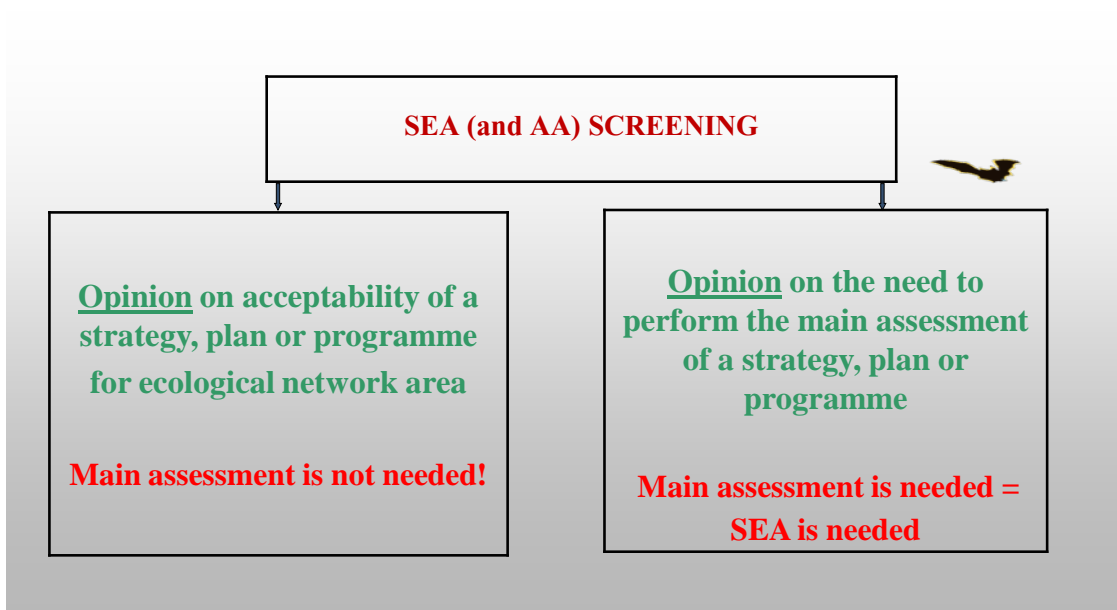


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Majdenić (the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection) presented linkages between AA and SEA/EIA procedures. For SEA it can be illustrated as follows:



In case of EIA, the results of AA screening procedure must be performed before project developer is inquiring EIA procedure for the project that is likely to have a significant impact on environment:

- In case the decision on acceptability of the project from the ecological network area point of view, the main AA is not needed!
- If likely significant impact of the project on ecological network area cannot be excluded, the decision on the need to perform main AA is made (and the main assessment is one of the chapters in EIA report)

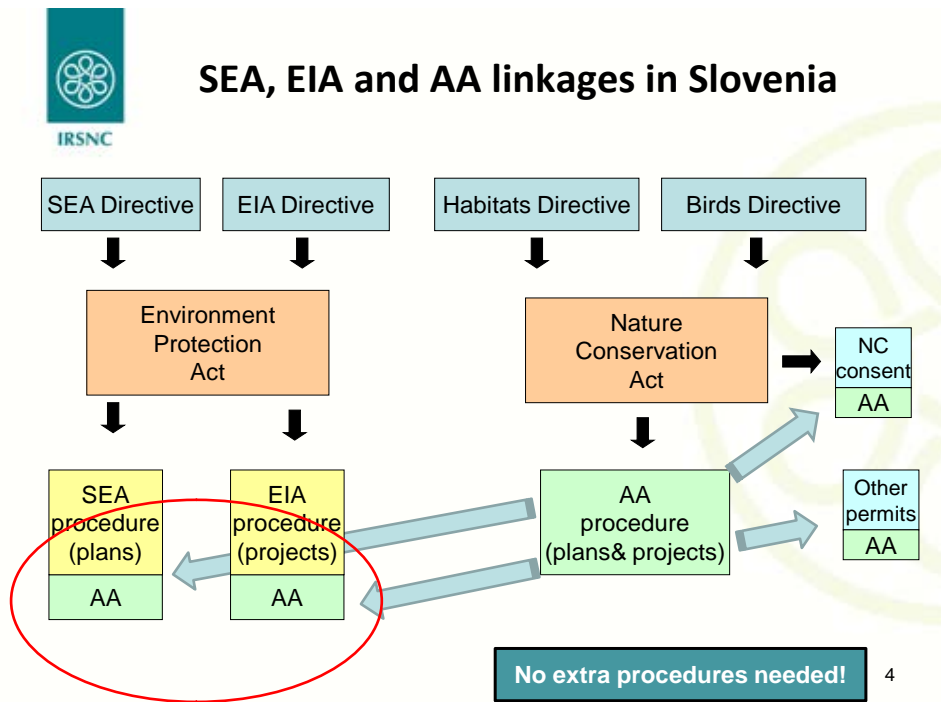
In the last session, Mr. Vladimir Hršak from the State Institute for Nature Protection focused on the practical challenges related to the AA application in Croatia. He explained that there are two levels of AA administration:

- Ministry of Environmental and Nature Protection (MENP) for
 - projects within areas protected in a category of national park, nature park and special nature reserve
 - projects for which the MENP carries out EIA or scoping for EIA
- County Authorities (CA) for
 - project within areas protected in category of nature monument, regional park, important landscape, forest park and park architecture monument
 - projects in an EN area that is not specially protected
 - projects for which the CA carries out EIA or scoping for EIA

Following further steps are needed to enhance the AA system in Croatia:

- Strengthen the capacity of the administration system
- Raise the level of Information (GIS) especially at the county level
- Develop and adopt new ENIA ordinance
- Raise the quality of AA Studies by establishing Appropriate Standards and Control
- Establish mechanism for control and monitoring of Mitigation Measures
- Harmonize procedures of ENIA (AA) with planning processes
- Develop Manuals/Guidelines for AA Studies (for specific types of projects)
- **Experience with AA in Slovenia:** Ms. Tina Klemenčič (Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, TAIEX expert) presented Slovenian experience with AA. Slovenian model of linking AA and SEA/EIA was explained:





The importance of Guidelines specific for each N2K site was stressed out as a tool significantly increasing efficiency of AA. The guidelines are prepared by the Institute based on the good knowledge of the area, information about planned activities and their consequences, data on present species and habitats and their demands. Slovenian lessons learned were presented as follows:

- Natura 2000 does not disable development in such extent as expected.
 - Expert opinions with negative outcome for investors are very few.
 - SEA/EIA/AA system works well: no additional procedures needed because of AA, good overview over assessments, but high number of procedures.
 - Forcing to execute a plan or project on Natura 2000 by all means is not a wise decision. It is much better to follow the procedure according to legislation and leave any political or other interests aside.
 - Arrogance, lack of knowledge and disrespecting of nature conservation leads to blockade of project, which is neither good nor effective from a development point of view.
 - One of the best instruments for achieving this goal is the equal participation of stakeholders in searching for the right solution.
- **Roles and responsibilities in AA process:** This session introduced main actors in AA procedures i.e.
 - Planning agencies (SEA) and project developers (EIA), that:
 - Have to ensure that AA is carried out where needed and in accordance with legal requirements
 - Bear the costs associated with AA application
 - Should provide necessary support to AA experts (formal requests for data, organizing meeting etc.)
 - Should coordinate AA with SEA/EIA (if these run as separate procedures)



- Have to follow AA conclusions
 - Nature protection authorities, which should
 - Provide data and information from public databases
 - Provide 'guidelines' for AA focus (especially in AA screening)
 - Check the quality of AA assessment
 - Be involved in key discussions throughout the AA process
 - SEA/EIA competent authorities, which
 - Administrate entire SEA/EIA procedure
 - Collect opinions from various stakeholders including nature protection authorities
 - Do the quality review (or ensuring its conducted)
 - Prepare and issue the final SEA/EIA statement including section on AA
 - AA experts, who are responsible for overall quality and correctness of AA and its unambiguous conclusions
 - SEA/EIA experts, who (in case of joint AA and SEA/EIA process) should provide overall coordination i.e. link AA inputs with other part of assessment, and coordinate consultations
 - Expert institutions, public and other stakeholders, which can be involved in AA process to
 - Provide data and information
 - Suggest alternatives and mitigation measures
 - Verify results of the assessment (independent check)
- **Czech system of AA licenses:** a unique Czech response to the requirements of highly responsible AA (as the AA assessors decide both about the unique natural values as well as on often large development projects) was presented by Petr Roth. In the Czech Republic, since 2004 there has been in operation a system of licensed physical persons who are only entitled to carry out AA. The prerequisite for obtaining the license is the proven education in biology or ecology as the practice has shown that without such education AA cannot be done responsibly. Applicant who meets this prerequisite must pass a very difficult exam and they are given the license for 5 years only; it can be prolonged but authorities may ask for additional exam as well as justification of outcomes produced during the preceding period, and license need not be prolonged. Also in case of repeated or heavy breaching of the law license may be withdrawn by the authorities any time. Ministry of Environment provides national guidance documents and arranges annual meetings of licensed persons to enable information and experience exchange. Currently there are around 45 licensed persons in the country, a number which is sufficient for the AA demand. Each licensed person is responsible for the assessment on his/her behalf even in case they put together a team of other specialists; thus, their outcome is never anonymous like in some other EU MS where AA is delivered by larger companies without personal responsibility for particular conclusions.
- **Merging AA with EIA/SEA: efficiency versus protection of Natura 2000:** Possible models of interrelationship between AA and EIA/SEA were introduced by Petr Roth, stressing out that



three main aspects have to be ensured i.e. (i) AA outcome is binding, (ii) nature protection authorities are fully involved in the process, and (iii) AA scope is not limited by the scope of EIA/SEA.

The ideal option would be to merge AA and EIA/SEA in all cases where EIA or SEA are binding, while having a separate AA procedure established for plans & projects, which are not subject to EIA/SEA. However, the rules and conditions of AA should be the same for both procedures.

- Specific, separate AA procedure for all PPP requiring AA (e.g. in UK): The advantage is in full control of nature protection authorities, less violation of law, however it is more demanding regarding time, administration and expert capacities, resources demanding – this approach is often attacked by investors
 - AA fully merged with EIA & SEA (e.g. the Czech Republic): This scheme saves capacities and resources of nature protection administration, however may lead to increased costs for investors, since full EIA/SEA has to be conducted even in the case that the only impacts relate to N2K
- **Further development of AA in the region:** The last session was rather discussion about needs regarding AA in ECRAN countries. The initial presentation briefly introduced
 - Models of ecological networks
 - Existing and envisaged administrative arrangements
 - Existing guiding documents: pros and cons
 - Useful tools (e.g. forms, matrices) and potential risks of their use

It was emphasized that establishing the „national ecological network“ far before accession, which follows the same principles as Natura 2000, enables to initiate and ‘test’ AA procedures to ‘debug’ and fin-tune it before the joining the EU as well as to accustom both authorities and planners/investors to deal with AA.

Outputs during group work.

No group work was conducted within the workshop.

Conclusions

Based on the discussions following the presentations it can be concluded that the experience from Croatia, Czech Republic and Slovenia was found relevant to ECRAN countries. Obviously, Montenegro and Serbia has ‘moved’ towards establishing AA scheme, while the other countries are still at the very beginning and the discussions on how to arrange N2K and AA systems need to continue.

It seems that model of AA linked to SEA/EIA processes (partially or fully) will be more efficient in ECRAN countries context rather than separate AA procedure.

As also mentioned, further real cases would be appreciated. Next joint EA and Nature WGs training shall be based on the pilot AA case in Serbia which is being supported by EA WG ECRAN. However, if the location of the pilot site cannot be used, since TAIE is currently not allowing organizing regional trainings in Serbia, the example of the particular pilot could be used on the location of the remaining



assessment mission) on the topic of this workshop?						
9. Were you satisfied with the logistical arrangements, if applicable?	Conference venue	25	23 (92)%	0 (0)%	2 (8)%	0 (0)%
	Interpretation	25	23 (92)%	0 (0)%	2 (8)%	0 (0)%
	Hotel	25	20 (80)%	0 (0)%	5 (20)%	0 (0)%
<p>57819 : Comment : Thank you TAIEX for another excellent workshop. Every time something new and very useful for us. Many thanks to the speakers as well. They were great! See you in Vienna.</p> <p>57819 : Comment : Workshop was held at the level of satisfactory</p> <p>57819 : Comment : The workshop was very useful for me. Thank you very much to who were speakers and responsible for organization.</p> <p>57819 : Comment : The workshop was a good opportunity to have new knowledge about how the process of EIA/SEA and their relation to the procedure for Appropriate Assessment (AA). In this respect, particular importance was to learn more about the similarities and differences between AA and EIA/SEA, to gain new knowledge and experiences on best practices for AA and EIA/EIA procedures as parallel processes in the EU countries (Czech Republic, Croatia and Slovenia). Workshop also provided an opportunity to exchange</p> <p>57819 : Comment : Bearing in the mind, that all countries in the region have more less the same experience regarding the new instrument AA/SEA, EIA, it will be more than welcomed to have follow-up workshop regarding transposition of the AA (and compensatory measures), the design of the "new" legislation and implementations of the mentioned instruments in the area of the environmental protections.</p>						

Workshop - speaker Evaluation

57819 - ECRAN - ECRAN Regional Workshop on linkages between different environment assessments (Zagreb - 30/10/2014 to 31/10/2014)

Question	N°. Responses	Yes	No	Partially	Do not know
1. Did you receive all the information necessary for the preparation of your contribution?	5	5 (100)%	0 (0)%	0 (0)%	N/A
2. Has the overall aim of the workshop been achieved?	5	5 (100)%	0 (0)%	0 (0)%	N/A
3. Was the agenda well structured?	5	5 (100)%	0 (0)%	0 (0)%	N/A
4. Were the participants present throughout the scheduled workshop?	5	4 (80)%	0 (0)%	1 (20)%	N/A
5. Was the beneficiary represented by the appropriate participants?	5	5 (100)%	0 (0)%	0 (0)%	N/A



6. Did the participants actively take part in the discussions?	5	2 (40%)	0 (0%)	3 (60%)	N/A
7. Do you expect that the beneficiary will undertake follow-up based on the results of the workshop (new legislation, new administrative approach etc.)	5	5 (100%)	0 (0%)	N/A	0 (0%)
8. Do you think that the beneficiary needs further TAIEX assistance (workshop, expert mission, study visit, assessment mission) on the topic of this workshop?	5	5 (100%)	0 (0%)	N/A	N/A
9. Would you be ready to participate in future TAIEX workshops?	5	5 (100%)	0 (0%)	N/A	N/A
10. If applicable, were you satisfied with the logistical arrangements?	Conference venue	5	5 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Interpretation	4	4 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	Hotel	4	4 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

