

EIA – Screening objectives



ECRAN workshop in Kosovo

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Screening objectives

- **Screening** is aimed at **determining if EIA is needed** for a specific project **or not**.
- Screening should be optimally **conducted at the initial stages of the project design process** to allow for recognition of potential problems and EIA implementation in parallel to project design.
- Screening is **highly important for the efficiency of the overall EIA system** in any country – it ensures the effort is focused only on relevant projects.



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EIA Directive 2014/52/EU

Article 4:

- ...*projects listed in **Annex I** shall be made subject to an assessment...*
- ...*for projects listed in **Annex II**, Member States shall determine whether the project shall be made subject to an assessment...*

Member States shall make that determination through:

- (a) a case-by-case examination; or
- (b) thresholds or criteria set by the Member State.

...taking into account selection criteria from **Annex III.**



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Varouos approaches

Screening might be **responsibility** of planning agency, investor or environmental authorities.

To **setting-up thresholds or criteria** to determine when projects:

- need not undergo either the determination proces or EIA.
- shall in any case be made subject to an EIA without undergoing a determination proces.



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What to watch out for?

- **EIA** should **only** be required **for projects likely to have significant effects** on the environment.
- Project **information** which the developer is required to supply **should be specified** - focusing on the **key aspects of the project**.
- **Final decision and its justification** should be **made available to the public**.
- Competent authorities should identify the **most relevant criteria** to be considered **and** take into account **other relevant information** (i.e. other existing assessments...).
- Even though no formal **consultation** is required at the screening stage, **constitutes good administrative practice**.



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EIA "screening" in Slovenia

" Screening,, phase in Slovenia does not exist as a formal step in the EIA procedure!

...in practice, this step is done by investor/developer, through the process of checking whether the project exceeds the prescribed limits/criteria for individual types of projects.

Unofficial inquiry from Investor if EIA is needed for his project is possible.

Such an approach has its + and its – !



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