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ENEA

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES  
(for Cohesion Policy)

Working Group « Cohesion Policy and SEA »

*Index*

**Introduction**

*Methodological note*

**1. SEA transposing documents at national level: requirements beyond the Directive**

**2. Cohesion Policy and SEA**

2.1 Application of SEA directive to 2007/2013 programmes

2.2 Articulation and effectiveness of SEA process - check lists

2.2.1 Process: involved subjects

2.2.2 Process: participation and consultation rates

2.2.3 Process: participation and consultation tools and methods

2.2.4 Process: participation and consultation timeframes

2.2.5 Process: participation and consultation in the implementation phase

2.2.6 Assessment: environmental objectives

2.2.7 Assessment: tools for environmental integration into the implementation phase

2.2.8 Assessment: alternatives and scenario analysis

2.2.9 Assessment: conditions for subsequent environmental assessments

2.2.10 Assessment: monitoring systems

2.3 Environmental stakeholders' opinions - interviews

**3 SEA process: margins for improvement from the application to Cohesion Fund and Structural Funds Programmes**

**Annex 1: documents transposing SEA Directive**

**Annex 2: list of checked Operational Programmes and interviewed environmental authorities**

**Annex 3: national web references for guidance documents on SEA**

**Annex 4: check list and scheme for interviews**

*Bibliography*

**INTRODUCTION**

When Enea decided at its 6th meeting in Roma (Nov. 2006) to set up a Working Group on CP & SEA (Cohesion Policy and Strategic Environmental Assessment), it was considering the **relevance** of the implementation of SEA in the frame of the new cycle of Cohesion Policy 2007-2013: on one hand, all programmes where required to have a SEA for the **first time**; on the other hand, SEAs for Cohesion Policy were likely to represent an important part of SEAs produced in Member Countries not only in the period corresponding to the early part of the new cycle, but also in general since the introduction of the SEA Directive.

The consideration was correct. In fact approximately **400 SEAs** have been produced for the Operational Programmes within Cohesion Policy and sent to the Commission in 2007. Thousands of European experts and managers have been called to deal in one form or another with the issue of SEA for Cohesion Policy.

As with all other **environmental assessment instruments** (IA-RIA-SDIA<sup>1</sup> of laws, regulations and directives; EIA<sup>2</sup> of projects; life cycle assessment and ecolabelling of products; Emas of plants and services) when correctly and effectively used, SEA offers the possibility for an early consideration of environmental impacts, integrating since the beginning into the strategic choices, design and planning of programmes, the needs and opportunities of environmental policies and sustainable development.

Several **concerns** were raised by the ENEA experts:

- the risk to have SEA seen by non-environment experts inside and outside Managing Authorities and Public Administration as an additional useless burdening exercise;
- the participation and effectiveness of participation of the public and other environmental stakeholders in the SEA process;
- the participation and effectiveness of participation of Environmental Authorities themselves in the SEA process;
- the methodological questions arising from the implementation of SEA to Programmes which, by their very nature, are most of the time multi-sectorial and multi-territorial.
- the specific methodological approach to be built for SEAs, different from (and complementary with) EIAs
- the difficulty to consider and analyse several alternatives in the SEA process.

At the same time it is clear that many **opportunities** are offered by the SEA process:

- the possibility to integrate environmental concerns and sustainability issues since the programming phase;
- the contribution to the EU objective of a high level of environmental protection;
- a higher and strengthened cooperation among Programming/Managing Authorities and Environmental Authorities;
- on the capacity building side, the professional growth of development experts and environmental experts on strategic and planning issues, both in old and new MSs.

Due to the fact that the SEA directive has been recently transposed in some Member-States and that SEAs of OPs were carried out in a very specific context, the aim of the study is to share experience between Member-States (the ENEA network), in order to improve practices in a pedagogical way.

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<sup>1</sup> IA: Impact Assessment, RIA: Regulatory Impact Assessment, SDIA: Sustainable Development Impact Assessment

<sup>2</sup> EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment

In particular, this document, by analysing a significant and representative sample of SEAs for CP OPs<sup>3</sup>, tries to answer to some of the concerns and to verify if opportunities have been fully taken. Hopefully it may help for a better implementation of the present cycle of Cohesion Policy, namely with the mid-term review. It may also contribute to the revision of European common legislation for both the SEA Directive and the Cohesion Policy itself.

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<sup>3</sup> See Methodological Note

**Methodological note**

Main objective of this survey was the analysis of procedures, processes and methodologies adopted by EU regions to apply the SEA Directive to the 2007-2013 operational programmes. In particular, it aimed to:

- 0.1 Analyze the different methods and procedures used by regions
- 0.2 Detect strengths and weaknesses generated by the application of the Directive to cohesion policy development programmes
- 0.3 Elaborate methodological and operational indications for future activities on SEA by the ENEA network

The research was led by Member States involved into ENEA Cohesion Policy and Strategic Environmental Assessment Working Group. It was basically restricted to programmes funded by ERDF and by Cohesion Fund; only in one case (Cyprus) it concerned a Rural Development Programme.

National experts, both directly participating to the Working Group and within the ENEA network, provided information about SEA application to single OPs and to Cohesion Policy issues at national level. Peculiar tools were elaborated and shared by the Working Group to collect experts' contributions. Specific information about general national application of the SEA Directive came from Train the Trainers initiative. All the ENEA members were asked to validate such information.

Methodologically, two main paths guided the analysis: the first one regarding the SEA process (eg. consultation, participation, cooperation with programming authorities, both in programming and in implementation phase), the other relating to tools and methods for the environmental assessment (e.g. objectives, alternatives, indicators).

Using this logical scheme, three different tools were elaborated by the Working Group to collect information:

1. *national framework*, defining main characteristics of SEA application at national level. They were built using the Train the Trainers questionnaires, checking and sharing contents with the ENEA members. They were the basis for underlining requirements at national level which go beyond the strict application of the Directive (section 1 of the report)
2. *check list*, gathering information about SEA application to single Operational Programmes, about both process and assessment issues. They were the basis for assessing the articulation and effectiveness of SEA in programmes funded by Cohesion Policy and also provided information for drawing diagrams and figures (section 2.2).

3. *schemes for interview*, aiming to collect opinions by environmental stakeholders involved into SEA processes. Both institutional and NGO's addressees were reached. Specific questions were formulated for managing authorities, but we did not succeed in involving them into the research (section 2.3). A specific focus on the DG Env point of view has been provided, not using the prepared scheme.

Both the check list and the scheme for interview are in annex 4.

Compared to the starting purposes, the research did not manage in taking into proper consideration the interaction between environmental assessment and ex ante evaluation, which induces to strongly link up evaluation processes to national, regional and local policy making. In the future activity of the Working Group this sphere of research, towards an integrated assessment, should be addressed.

**1. SEA transposing documents at national level: requirements beyond the Directive**

Analysing the scope of SEA national transposing documents, it generally seems usually not to be broader than the Directive proposal. Specific purpose of this research was to give a very general overview of any possible further issue that may go beyond the SEA Directive required by national legislation. Where such requirements have been set, they generally concern:

1. additional sectors for plans and programmes that have to carry out a strategic environmental assessment
2. scales of plans and programmes to be assessed
3. environmental effects to be considered
4. public participation and authorities' consultation
5. tiering between environmental assessment procedures (SEA/ EIA/ Natura 2000 Appropriate Assessment)

Additional sectors generally concern specific environmental matters. They relate to environmental protection and nature conservation (**Finland**), aquaculture and marine-coastal public domain use (**Spain**), air quality management plans (**Italy**), mining (**Slovenia**). Scottish legislation foresees additional sectors, but they have not been specified in the questionnaires provided. In some cases (**Spain**) legislation do not intend to add new areas to the Directive but rather to clarify some of them.

In **Scotland**, **Estonia** and **Latvia**, legislation is expanded to cover and apply SEA to "strategies", both at sectorial and local level.

Regarding environmental effects, in **Estonia** assessment has to be performed on a comprehensive scale as national legislation demands the environmental report to cover all the possible aspects of environmental impacts and not only the ones which can be described "likely to have significant effect". In other countries, such as **England** and **Wales**, the requirements of the Directive have been transposed into a wider form of *Sustainability Appraisal*. The appraisal also covers significant social and economic effects and related objectives and indicators of sustainability. In **Italy**, only recently (Feb. 2008), a strong link of environmental assessments to the National Strategy for Sustainable

Development has been established. It represents the basis for analysis and consistency of future SEAs<sup>4</sup>.

In **Poland**, according to Environmental Protection law, environmental effects shall be intended as effects both on environment and on human health. This leads to direct involvement into SEA process of authorities responsible for health matters, which are in charge of approving the scope and level of detail of the information required for the environmental report and of expressing an opinion on the programme and on the environmental report.

In few cases national requirements go beyond the Directive as far as concerns public participation and authorities' consultation. Early consultation of the public, since the scoping phase, is foreseen in **Estonia, Finland** and **UK**. Both in **Germany** and **UK**, additional requirements have been created for peculiar plans and programmes concerning spatial and land use planning. In particular, German legislation specifies that for some kinds of plans and programmes, like land use plans, a public hearing has to take place in the context of the public participation process and in addition to hand in written comments. Moreover, in the **UK**, under spatial planning law, requirements relate to consultation and wider community involvement on spatial plans. Policy guidance for planning authorities includes suggestions on organisations to be consulted throughout the plan-making process.

In **Lithuania**, obligatory participation procedures have been set, fixing the following phases: announcement about the SEA of a plan or program; presentation of the SEA report and draft plan or program to the public; information about decision made concerning approval of plan or program.

In **Italy**, for national plans and programmes, the SEA Environmental Authorities' role is attributed to the Minister for the Environment, Land and Sea Protection, with the support of a scientific-technical Commission. He is the responsible for the screening provision, he is involved in the scoping phase and is also liable for producing a motivated opinion on the plan or programme and on its Environmental Report, in coordination with the Cultural Heritage Minister. It is a special role, broader than the Directive provisions, because he is also in charge of coordinating the process, collecting and analysing the other EAs and public's expressed opinions.

Most of the countries involved in the survey agree with the importance of establishing relations between environmental assessment procedures at national level. Generally, no tiering between Strategic Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment and Natura 2000 Appropriate Assessment (ex

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<sup>4</sup> "Sustainable Development Strategies define the framework for environmental assessments" (SEA and EIA). "Consistently defined at the different territorial levels, through the participation of citizens and stakeholders, they ensure the decoupling between economic growth and its environmental impact, the respect of ecological stability conditions, the safeguard of biodiversity and the satisfaction of social requirements as necessary preconditions for competitiveness and employment growth" (D.Lgs. n.4, 16.01.2008).

Habitat Directive) is defined by law. A common concern seems to be the absence of practical experiences in joint or subsequent application of the assessment procedures.

Anyway, in some countries practical experiences or specific regulations foresee tiering and integration. **Danish** Planning Act makes possible to combine SEA and EIA processes into one single procedure when necessary, although until now a very limited experience has gone through.

**Estonian** legislation stipulates that the initiation of EIA may remain undone in the limits SEA has been commenced. In other words, there is a possibility of constraining the scope of EIA in case SEA has been previously performed.

Slightly differently, in **Slovenia** the two procedures remain separate, in terms of responsible authorities and can not overlap. So far the process of EIA and EIA report are rarely tiered to the SEA process and the Environmental Report (e.g. in terms of monitoring, consideration of SEA mitigation measures on the EIA project level...). In any case, the "EIA authorities" consult the "SEA authorities" and Environmental Report prior to giving consent.

In **Germany**, if plans or programmes are part of a tiered planning and decision-making process, double assessments should be avoided by determining during the scoping phase at which particular tier the focus should be on which specific environmental impacts. At the following tiers, SEA should then be restricted to additional or other environmental impacts, as well as to updating and specifying the information gathered during the previous tier. The same applies to SEA/EIA tiering.

Furthermore, specific regulations on land use planning determines a joint procedure on environmental assessment as fulfilling the substantial rules of Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) as well as those of the EIA Directive and the SEA Directive. The same kind of linkage between the environmental assessment procedures has been established in France.

General tiering provisions are foreseen in **Spanish** legislation and taken into account in some practical experiences, such as in the SEA of the National transport planning.

In the **Estonian** case, integration between assessment processes is provided by the involvement of the same experts, as only EIA experts are supposed to be licensed in order to assure the high quality of the impact assessment. As the number of persons allowed to perform SEA is much broader than in the case of EIA and bearing in mind the conventional scope of SEA, in practice it turns out that if a future EIA can be foreseen, it is advisable to involve licensed EIA experts into the SEA process from the beginning.

In other countries, such as **Latvia**, the integration is guaranteed by authorities' responsibility. In facts, the State Environment Bureau, which is responsible for co-ordinating the EIA procedure, is also responsible for the SEA process, especially for deciding on SEA application through case-by-case examination, for deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information to be included in the environmental report and for evaluating the environmental report. *The approach of introducing one central institution responsible for SEA process and EIA process elements might help in dealing with issues that relates to tiering.* In **Italy** a single Commission assures the technical and scientific support to the Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea Protection for both SEA and EIA with different sections. SEA includes the Assessments under Habitat and Bird Directives, and the same environmental competent authority evaluates the given information. Moreover, the recent "unified corrective code" defines specific integration issues between SEA, EIA and Appropriate Assessment, in particular regarding the use of environmental information and contents by the environmental report in EIA procedure and the possible common articulation of the screening phase between SEA and Appropriate Assessment.

However, due to very limited SEA practice no examples of joint SEA/EIA implementation have still been provided.

Directly referring to SEA implementation on Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund programmes, very few information has been collected about the existence of tools and procedures set in order to coordinate such processes. In some cases, **Italy** and **Latvia** among the others, coordination at national level, as mentioned above and even for SF and CF programmes, is provided by a specific commission or authority. In France, a national model of terms of reference (cahier des charges) has been laid down in administrative provisions (through a "circulaire") in order to precise the criteria of SEA on OPs (checklist). In **Wallonie** (Belgium), a specific working group has been created, involving among the others the Ministry of the Environment, the Directorate General of Natural Resources and Environment (DGRNE), the Directorate of Economic Policy, the Directorate of European Programmes and other relevant authorities.

Finally, in **Portugal** a single SEA process has been established for all Operational Programmes, both at national and regional level. A single environmental report has been produced, except for cooperation programmes.

**2. Cohesion Policy and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

**2.1 Application of SEA directive to 2007/2013 programmes**

*[to be prepared: quantitative aspects, number of SEAs, efforts involved, burden of the Commission, ...]*

## 2.2 Articulation and effectiveness of SEA process in programmes funded by Cohesion Fund and Structural Funds

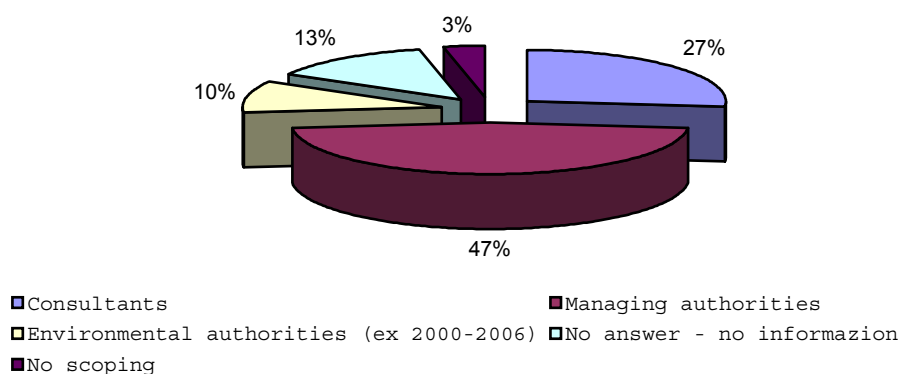
As mentioned in the methodology introduction, the survey was conducted through specific "check lists" and "schemes for interviews" elaborated by the ENEA Working Group. The articulation of this paragraph strictly follows the logical articulation of such documents, mainly divided in two parts, the first one focussing on process, the second one on tools and methods for the assessment.

### 2.2.1 Process: involved subjects

Within this framework, it seems correct to start from analysing subjects who carried out SEA process in three main stages: scoping, environmental report elaboration and monitoring measures definition.

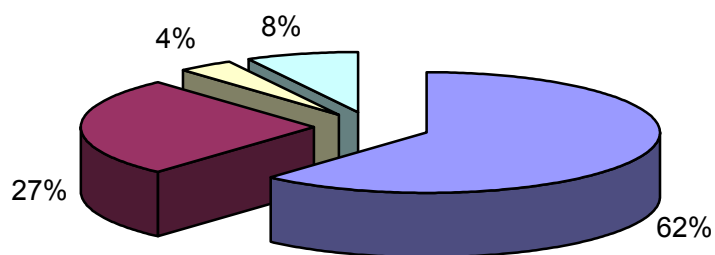
Focussing on the scoping process it is possible to underline a high level of Managing Authorities' participation (46%) carrying out the process alone or in cooperation with Environmental Authorities, or supported by consultants. In many cases all the process was managed by consultants on behalf of Managing Authorities (27%). Only in Italy, Environmental Authorities ex 2000-2006 programming period were responsible of the whole process, with the support of regional agencies for the environment or within inter-institutional working groups.

Diagram 1. Subjects in charge of carrying out the scoping stage.



The analysis of environmental reports allows observing how the percentage of involvement of Managing Authorities goes down to 27%. In this phase, technical support becomes crucial and is provided by two main actors: consultants or Environmental Authorities, or both of them cooperating. A specific analysis on subjects elaborating technical studies and assessment documents for SEA shows how consultants' involvement covered 62% of cases. Direct elaboration of technical documents by Environmental Authorities (ex 2000/2006) covers 11% and is strictly linked to the Italian experience, as mentioned above for the scoping phase.

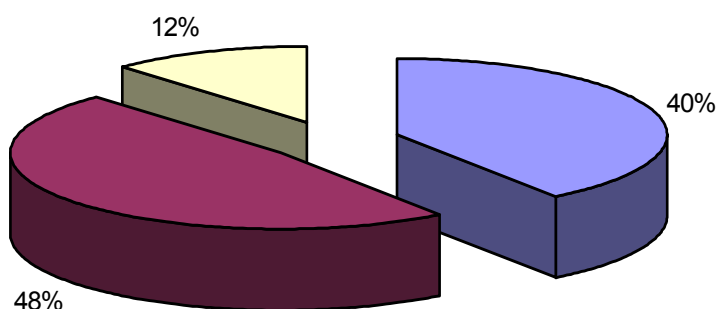
**Diagram 2.** Subjects in charge of carrying out the **environmental report stage**.



- Consultants
- Managing authorities (MA)
- Environmental authorities & environment regional Agencies
- Environmental authorities & inter-institutional working groups

The involvement of technical subjects decreases when drafting monitoring measures. In this phase Managing Authorities come to play an essential role. In 48% of analysed cases, Managing Authorities elaborated measures on their own or with consultants' or Environmental Authorities' technical support. In 40% of cases, monitoring measures have been directly defined by consultants. In Italy, they are generally managed by Environmental Authorities (ex 2000/2006) supported by different actors: regional agencies for the environment and non environmental authorities, sometimes within inter-institutional working groups.

**Diagram 3.** Subjects in charge of carrying out **monitoring measures definition stage**.



- Consultants
- Managing Authorities
- Environmental authorities

Concerning the selection of environmental and non environmental authorities to be involved, in 16% of the cases it strictly follows procedures defined by law. In such cases, no specific information about number and characteristics of selected authorities is available. For instance, Estonian relevant legislation designates the namely list of authorities as well as foresees the obligation to compile SEA programme that has to define the scope of the assessment, including

authorities that are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects. Programme compilation was done by external expert group under the supervision of Managing Authority and SEA supervision authority.

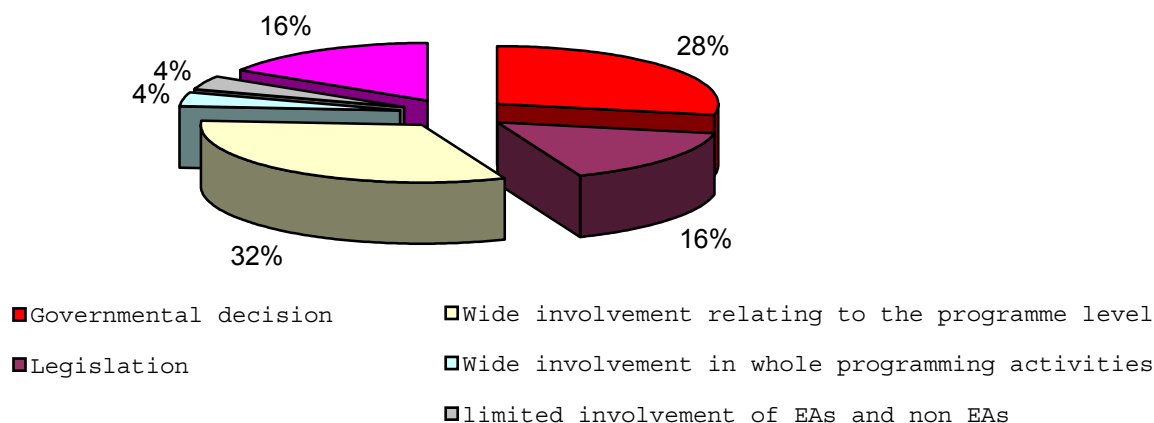
The limited percentage (32%) of programmes where a wide involvement of environmental authorities has been allowed must be stressed. It is important to underline the Austrian case study, where they were involved in programming and assessing activity as a whole, according to national and regional institutional set-up and with the support of SEA external evaluation experts. In this case, SEA became a natural integration of the programming process, producing a non conflictual relationship with managing authorities and a wider and effective integration of environmental issues into the programme. Only in 7% of the programmes, designation widely involves environmental and non environmental authorities. In the Italian Interregional Energy Programme, both have been selected at national, regional and local level, relating to "convergence" regions and to southern regions beneficiaries of national funds co-financing the programme. This selection was very wide and comprehensive. National, regional and local authorities representing economic development have also been involved.

In Cyprus, an effort was made by the Managing Authority to involve in the procedure all the Departments and any other organisation/bodies relevant to the issue. It proceeded with the consultation with all the bodies, NGOs etc, dealing with agriculture, whereas the Environmental Authority (EA) - (Environment Service), invited all the Departments, Environmental NGOs and other bodies to take part in the procedure of the assessment of the SEA report.

In Slovak Transport OP, the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic participated in the process. Opportunity of participation was firstly provided to regional and local government administrations, administrations of the central civil services and to relevant non-governmental organisations.

The incidence of the *no answer/no information* field into these considerations is meaningful. It seems to descend from a difficulty in understanding the question in the check list, meaning that in most cases national legislation framework defines in detail procedures and authorities to be involved. In such cases, the question could represent a non sense. But focussing on Cohesion Fund and Structural Funds programmes, the purpose of the survey was to understand if and where further requirements beyond strict legislation were provided. Additional requirements and information provided by some Countries are precious in order to define lines for improvement of the whole environmental assessment process at European level.

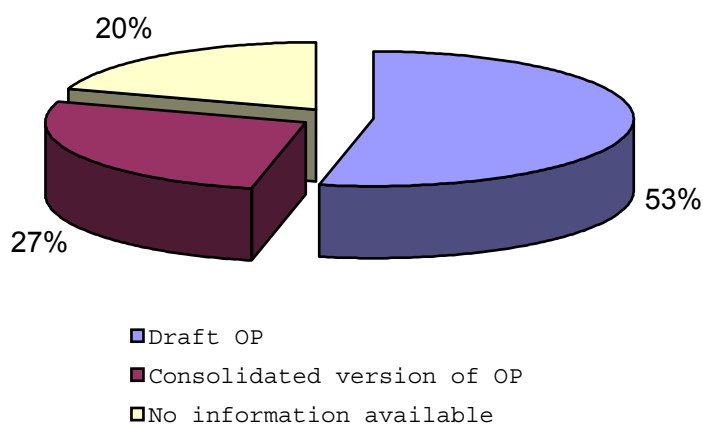
**Diagram 4.** Designation of environmental and non environmental authorities to be involved.



The quality level of SEA process and outputs and its effectiveness is tightly linked to its ability in crossing and interfering with programming activity. To do that, it is essential to verify when SEA process really started. The datum demonstrating that in 27% of analysed SEAs the process started when a consolidated version of the programme was already available, should represent an alert. It is evident that in such cases, the main objectives and programming choices were already defined and environmental integration could probably only include impact analysis and mitigation measures. This assertion is strengthened

■no information on of the low quality level of alternatives and scenario analysis. In 53% of cases, SEA process started within a draft version of the programme. It can not be a certain indicator about high effectiveness of SEA, but it seems to be a preliminary condition for achieving it.

**Diagram 5.** Starting of SEA compared to programming process



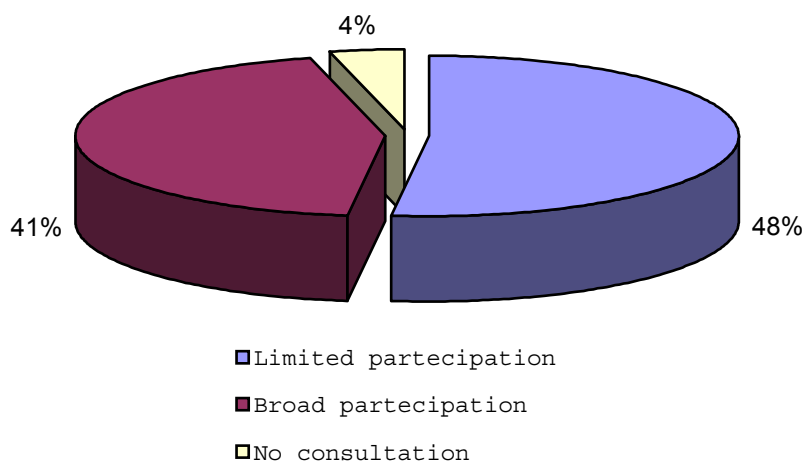
**2.2.2 Process: participation and consultation rates**

To analyse participation and consultation activities the whole process was divided in two main phases, scoping and drafting environmental report and monitoring measures. This articulation comes from observed experiences, more than from methodological choices; also because even if the second phase of consultation in some cases was divided in two or more stages, it basically involved the same actors with the same methods of involvement.

The level of authorities' participation into the scoping phase is to some extent lower than expectations. In fact, in 48% of analysed processes there was a limited level of participation. Otherwise, in 41% of cases a broad participation was provided. In most cases, preliminary conditions and scope of the report were drafted by a restricted group of authorities, often including environmental authorities, such as ministries for environment.

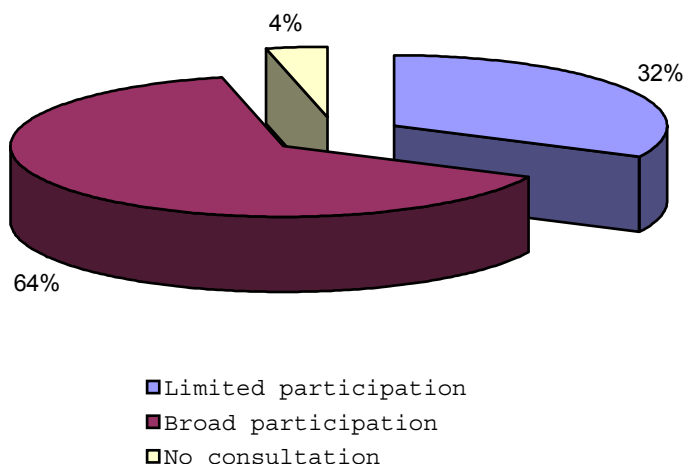
**Diagram 6.** Environmental and non environmental authorities' participation in the scoping stage.

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The consultation on environmental report and monitoring measures guaranteed a broader participation of authorities in 64% of analysed programmes. If a broader participation can be wisely considered as a positive output of SEA process, one of the main problems that it leads to is the need for specific rules and tools for making participation really effective. In some cases, where participation has been limited to few authorities, it was consciously due to the fact that a restricted working group was the only way to allow completing the process on time and effectively. Only in one case, consultation seems not to have gone through, or at least its outputs have not been clearly reported into SEA documents.

**Diagram 7.** Environmental and non environmental authorities' participation in the environmental report elaboration stage

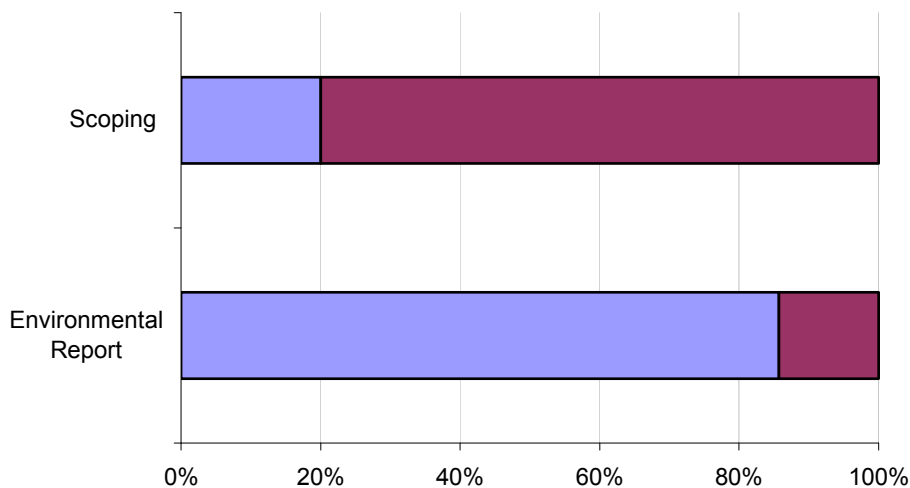


Excluding some exceptions, the level of public participation into the two different phases of SEA process is very different. In consultations on the environmental report, more than 80% of programmes involved the public, for the scoping phase this percentage decreases to 20%. This consideration only concerns the chance for participating given to the public, apart from assessing the activeness and outputs of their involvement that will be analysed ahead.

In Lithuania, Portugal, Spain, Slovakia, scoping consultation was somewhat opened to public, foreseeing no differences between the different stages of consultations in terms of subjects to be involved.

In all other cases, differences were set and scoping consultation was generally more narrow, also as far as concerns involved authorities.

**Diagram 8.** Rate of programmes foreseeing participation of the public in the two stages of consultation.

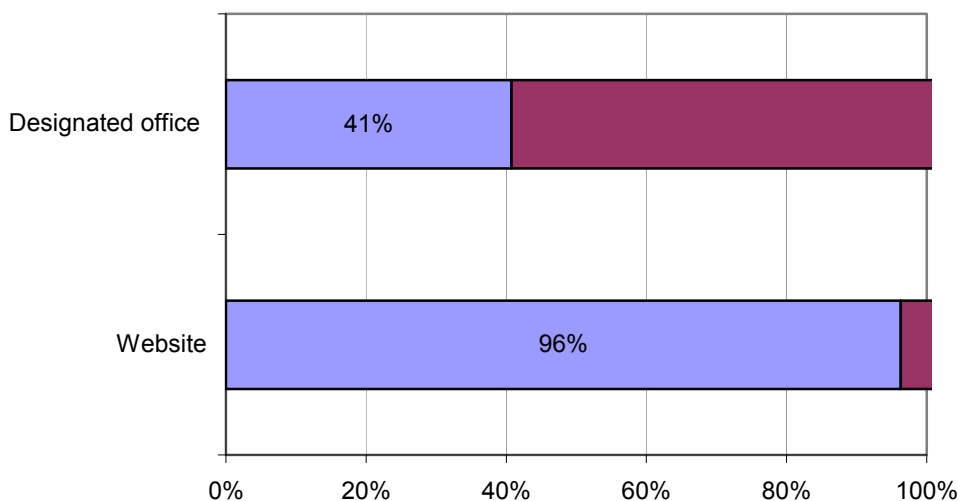


**2.2.3 Process: participation and consultation tools and methods**

Reflecting on communication and participation methods, it seems necessary to distinguish between, on one hand, the basic requirements set by the directive and by national legislation about information to the public and institutional awareness of the process by the environmental authorities, and, on the other hand, the will to build up a proactive institutional activity in programming and environmental assessment processes. This second approach goes towards a desirable effective sharing of data and assessing methods among environmental authorities involved. Also, it seems necessary to build the needed partnership to guarantee environmental integration into the implementation phase of the programmes.

Starting from basic requirements, nearly all the programmes were announced on national or regional newspapers and published on line. The web seems to have been the most used media for encouraging participation of both environmental authorities and the public. While for the public it seems to have been the only complete information tool, except for few programmes that were also physically available in local offices, the participation of environmental authorities was encouraged using mailing lists, and postal communication.

**Diagram 9.** Availability of documents: sites.



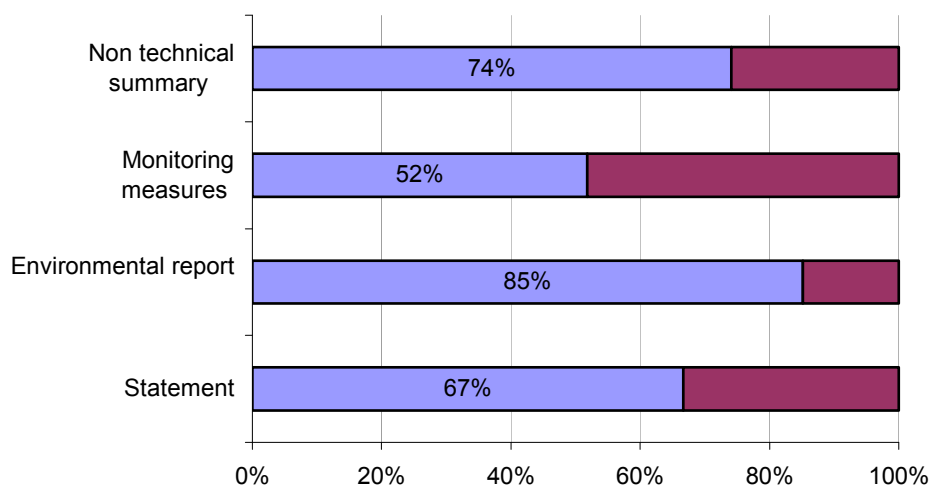
In many cases the draft of the programmes were made available jointly with the assessment documents in managing authorities' websites or in websites created on purpose for a single programme. Not rarely, assessment documents were published on two or more distinct websites, often related also to involved environmental authorities. Environmental authorities which used their websites for publishing SEA documents were mainly ministries of environment or regional competent authorities (Austria, Cyprus, Lithuania, Italy, Slovakia), Environmental Authorities ex 2000-2006 (Italy and Spain, where a strong effort was made by

National Network of Environmental Authorities - *Red de Autoridades Ambientales* - in producing targeted guidelines for structural fund programmes).

For Polish Infrastructure and Environment OP, the draft programme and environmental report was placed in a publicly assessable register and notification of the provision of access for public review was provided. Both documents were also available on the website of the managing authority. Specific sections of the portal were dedicated to the programme issues, to ex-ante evaluation of the draft OP, to social consultations and to the draft environmental report. Moreover, FAQ system was created, an e-mail address was opened and answers to frequently asked questions were published on the website of the Ministry of Regional Development.

Focussing on which assessment documents have been made available, our first interest was to understand if the documents requested by the European Commission for evaluating the programmes were available. Only in a second phase our interest would have focussed on environmental reports. In spite of our will, the environmental report seems to be the most published output of the SEA process, available in 85% of cases, often embodying the Statement and the Non Technical Summary. These documents were available respectively in 67% and 74% of cases. The following diagram also shows how monitoring measures were published only in 52% of analysed programmes. This seems to be a crucial indicator also for activities to be set in the implementation phase.

**Diagram 10.** SEA documents published on websites.



In some cases, a more active involvement of selected subjects in participation and consultation process was gained through the organization of technical meetings or specific working groups.

This approach has been fruitful in the Austrian case study, where consultations regarding the environmental report were organised in different fora. The programming itself was a very broad process, involving among the others

environmental authorities, all funding authorities, economic and social partners. There were several working groups and plenary sessions, where the evaluators for scoping and the environmental report took part as well. Their comments were discussed (e.g. discussion of alternatives) and reported back into the programme drafting process, which took over half a year.

In Poland, social consultations were organized through thematic conferences (10 conferences, 1700 participants). The participants represented social and economic bodies, NGOs, experts and university circles, scientific units, self-governments of voivodships and the other stages of territorial self-government institutions, members of the parliament. Agenda of meetings, presentations given as well as reports from the conferences were placed on the website of the Ministry of Regional Development.

In Lithuania, strictly following the national legislation, a scoping document was firstly published and then submitted to the subjects in charge of evaluation. Upon examination of comments provided by evaluators, SEA experts made corrections to the document establishing the scope of SEA and prepared an evaluation report. After public discussion the draft SEA report was presented to SEA partners for agreement: they examined the report and presented their conclusions within the scope of their competence. Taking into account comments provided, the SEA experts made further improvements and prepared the final Report.

In some cases documents supporting participation were produced. Most of them were questionnaires to be filled up, but in Italian Lombardy region the process was also accompanied by several specific targeted documents. In the scoping phase a brief explanation of the assessment path and a synthesis of the scoping report for the socio-economic stakeholders were elaborated, jointly with a scoping questionnaire for environmental authorities. In the second stage of consultation, an update of the scoping report with the assessment of the environmental effects induced by the axis of the programme was produced for the stakeholders with environmental competences proposing a set of critical questions. All documents and related opinions were collected and made available in a specific website, drawing a sort of journal of the process where all involved subjects could find information. Some of these tools, such as the use of the assessment path into scoping consultations, influenced and were transposed into many SEAs, the one regarding the Italian interregional energy programme<sup>5</sup> among the others.

In Ireland, a matrix based approach was used and shared to ensure that all potential significant environmental topic areas were considered and that all potential significant effects were identified.

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<sup>5</sup> Interregional Operational Programme for Renewable Energies and Energy Saving

Public hearings for improving public participation were organized in several Member States.

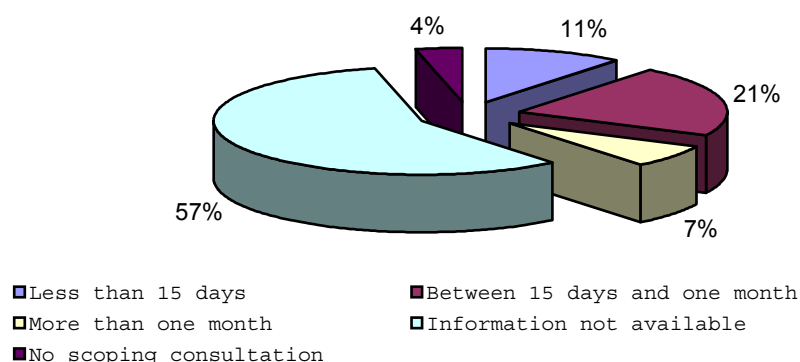
In Estonia, this effort in involving the public allows affirming that *in general, promotional activities and additional information sharing through media were provided. As compared to common practice, public participation was very active and outstanding in the context of state specifics*<sup>6</sup>.

In other cases, spent efforts led to limited success or, despite the sufficient advertising of place and time of public consultation, there was no presence of public and no comment from public were received.

#### **2.2.4 Process: participation and consultation timeframes**

Timeframes analysis is coherent with previous considerations. As scoping stage has proved to be less participated and more strategic, available time for consultations has been shorter than in the second stage. Moreover, it is immediately evident, how in many analysed programmes, no information about scoping consultation was provided (57%). In 21% of programmes timeframes were included between 15 days and one month. Only in two cases (7%) time granted over passed one month, being similar to that provided for the second phase.

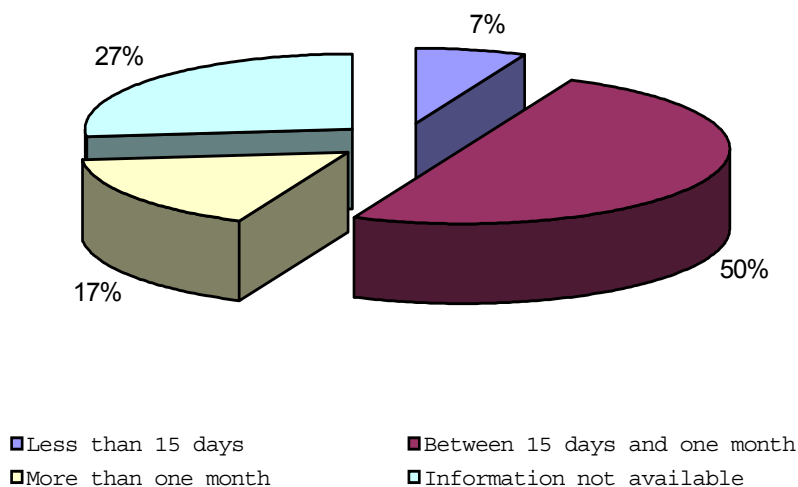
**Diagram 11.** Timeframes provided in the first stage of consultation: scoping.



Analysing timeframes for consultations on environmental reports, despite a high percentage of no-information available, in 50% of cases the period for the consultation was set between 15 days and one month. In 18% of cases the period for the consultation over passed one month. Only in two cases it was less than 15 days. Relevant is the rate of unavailable information, covering 8 programmes, 27% of cases.

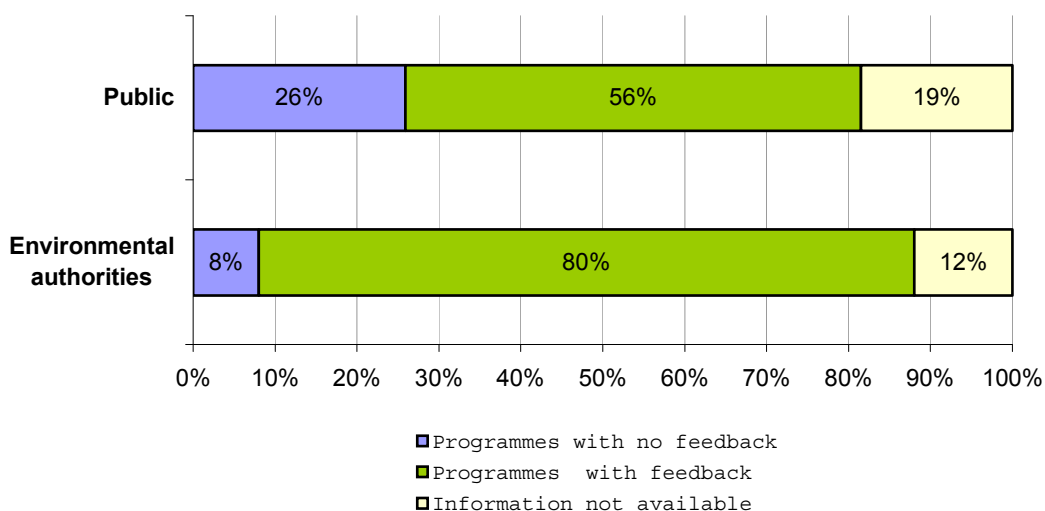
<sup>6</sup> Extracted by Estonian check list.

**Diagram 12.** Timeframes provided in the second stage of consultation: environmental report and monitoring measures.



Distinctiveness in setting timeframes and methods for stimulating participation led to very different rates of expression of opinions by involved environmental authorities and by the public. **In general, only 56% of analysed programmes received a feedback by the public.** Environmental authorities were much more active and gave their feedback to 80% of programmes. Still there are cases environmental authorities did not take the opportunity to try to influence the process.

**Diagram 13.** Programmes that received feedback by environmental authorities and by the public.

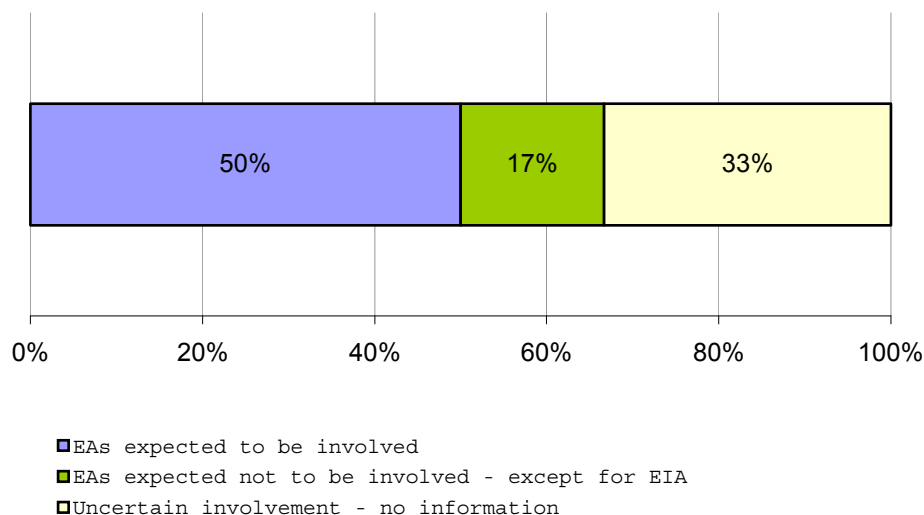


### 2.2.5 Process: participation and consultation in the implementation phase

A specific question of the check list was dedicated to foreseen consultations during the implementation of the programmes. Due to the general strategic level of the programmes and to the impossibility of evaluating specific and territorialized environmental effects, environmental assessment and integration must be guaranteed all along the implementation phase, not only through

monitoring activities. Environmental authorities seem to play a key role in this stage being involved in 50% of analysed cases. In 17% of the programmes it is clear that they will not be involved in nor participate to the integration of environmental issues in the implementation phase, except for projects to undergo EIA.

**Diagram 14.** Programmes with expected consultations of environmental authorities in the implementation phase.



Where consultations with environmental authorities are expected to be carried out all along the programming period, they have been structured in several different ways. In most cases, environmental authorities are members of a monitoring committee which will be in charge of discussing programme implementation issues, including environmental ones.

In the Austrian case study, both environmental authorities and NGOs are members of the monitoring committee and the project selection committee (coordination meeting). The same happens in Slovakia, where the monitoring committee includes the participation of representatives of the Ministry of environment and of the non-governmental sector.

In the West Wales Operational Programme, the active involvement of partners in the implementation phase is considered as a cornerstone of the overall implementation strategy. The Programme Monitoring Committee will be appointed by the Managing Authority and will include representative and expert partners at national, regional and local level in the economic, social, environmental and other spheres.

In Italian Lombardy region, a permanent table of consultation of Public Authorities and stakeholders with environmental competences for the monitoring of the implementation phase is under construction.

In some other cases, environmental authorities are members of monitoring and implementation committees, but no other subjects are expected to be involved.

In Italian interregional energy programme, environmental integration is expected to be guaranteed all along implementation phase through direct cooperation of

the Apulian Environmental Authority ex 2000/2006, which coordinates all the others EAs ex 2000/2006 involved, with the Managing Authority and through their involvement into a *Technical Committee for Coordination and Implementation*. In Cyprus, a monitoring committee has been established with the task to monitor the implementation of the programme and to solve any problem that might arise. The Environment Service, which is the competent authority regarding environmental issues, is member of this committee.

Further on, in Lithuania, an inter-institutional working group for monitoring the sustainable development issue in all the Operational Programmes has been established at national level.

Finally, in Italian Lombardy programme, the Environmental Authority ex 2000/2006 is expected, among other duties, to carry on training activities for local authorities and beneficiaries on environmental integration.

In 29% of cases no information is available or no specific tasks are provided yet. In such cases, general indications about the employment of a sustainability champion to advise on projects and also a monitoring/steering group to oversee the evaluation of projects are given.

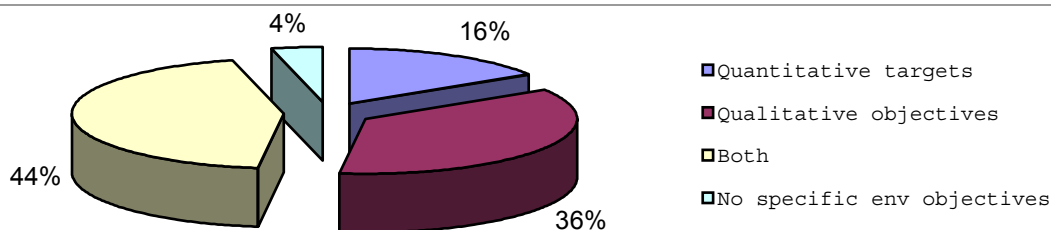
In 18% of cases, strictly following national legislation, no further consultations are foreseen, except for those regarding projects which undergo Environmental Impact Assessment.

#### **2.2.6 Assessment: Environmental objectives**

The will to understand if and how environmental objectives were expressed in the programmes concerns the problem of the definition of sustainable development or environmental strategies at national and regional level and the relation that they engage with planning and programming documents. Also, it widely relates to the definition of an effective monitoring system and concerns the main theme of the territorialization of the objectives. Under this frame, it seems important to understand how environmental objectives have been expressed, in order to put the basis for further reflections and observations when dealing with implementation and monitoring measures.

16% of analysed programmes expressed environmental objectives as targets. Between those, in few cases, where cohesion or structural funds programmes are strictly linked to strategies, a comprehensive monitoring system was set to evaluate the achievement of the overall objectives of the strategy, evaluating the contribution of measures funded by the programmes. In 36% of cases, set environmental objectives did not directly relate to any strategic document, nor put in place a holistic monitoring system, rather they have been expressed both as target and as qualitative objectives. An equal rate is covered by programmes that only defined qualitative environmental objectives. In 16% of cases no information is available or no answer is provided.

Diagram 15. Expression of environmental objectives



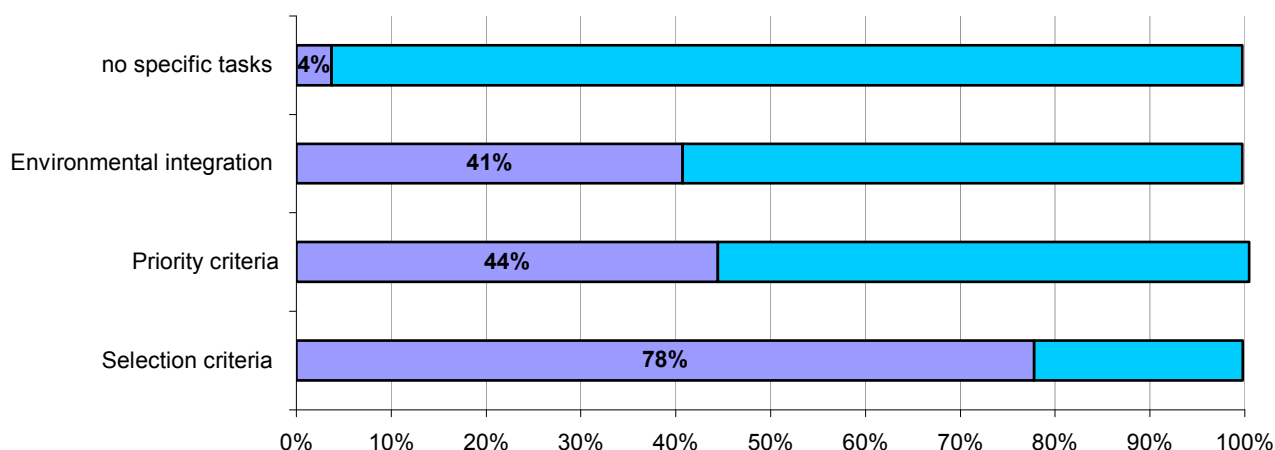
**2.2.7 Assessment: tools for environmental integration into the implementation phase**

Reflecting on expected consultations into the implementation phase of the programmes, the survey aims to understand if specific tools have been identified and inserted into the SEA documents (mainly the Environmental Report, sometimes the Non Technical Summary) for integrating environmental issues in carrying out programmes measures. As mentioned before, the strategic level of most programmes and the relative vagueness of measures to be funded call for a strong monitoring and integrating activity all along the programming period.

In most cases more than one tool is expected to be used. In general integration is to be guaranteed through the elaboration of environmental criteria, both concerning priority and selection (44% and 78% of cases).

In a high percentage of programmes, environmental integration is supposed to be developed jointly with programming activities through direct cooperation between environmental and managing authorities. Only in 4% of cases no specific tasks have been identified.

Diagram 16. Identified tools for the integration of environmental issues all along implementation phase



A second sphere of analysis relates the effectiveness of envisaged measures against adverse environmental effects. In proposed 'check lists' a sort of judgement about the fairness of such measures have been formulated and motivated. The focus was on the relation set between criticalities emerging from the context analysis and the assessment of environmental effects and related prevention measures. In most programmes such measures have been properly

identified, sometimes to prevent negative effects and to strengthen positive ones.

In Estonia, measures have been proposed for the prevention and mitigation of significant environmental impact as well as for increasing and diversifying positive impacts. The legal EIA requirement has to be met and measures aiming at mitigating potential negative impacts need to be included in the EIA reports. General recommendations concerning the environmental soundness of projects are listed in the Guidelines to Applicants and Implementing Bodies on Environmental Impact Assessment on Structural Funds projects, as well as in the Guidelines on Green Public Procurement.

In Italian interregional energy programme, prevention measures derive from the context environmental analysis and from the assessed potential effects. An assessment of potential impacts at territorial level has also been provided, considering areas of high environmental relevance (Natura 2000 sites, desertification areas, etc). Two different categories of mitigation measures have been identified, aiming at:

- ≡ preventing, minimizing or counterbalancing specific negative impacts estimated on a single environmental component, relating both to the significance of the impact/s or to the criticality of the component.
- ≡ defining basis for designing integrated operations in order to achieve selected environmental objectives

Likewise, in Italian Lombardy programme, critical aspects coming from the context analysis have been integrated into the programme in terms of actions to activate or criteria to adopt to prevent unforeseen adverse effects.

In British West Wales programme a number of negative cumulative impacts have been identified that could potentially occur. These included effects on biodiversity, air and water quality, and climate change. However, the SEA also proposed a number of mitigation and avoidance measures recommended for inclusion in activities to be funded by the programme, and also as requirements of relevant activities.

In many other cases, general measures have been identified, but more specific ones have to be selected during the implementation stage. This approach descends from the consideration that *the main difficulty is to have an analysis which integrates the specificity of SEA, which cannot be considered as EIA of projects. The degree of details of the OP's axis was not sufficient to identify precisely all environmental effects of the projects programmed.* In some programmes, SEA leads to distinguish different hypothesis, and to identify some potential impacts according to the nature of the projects that can be financed: *this work is judged very useful for the implementation of the OP.*

Finally, in few cases, only general recommendations have been provided, and no specific tasks for the implementation phase have been hypothesized. Some environmental reports specify that the SEA procedure concludes that it is not

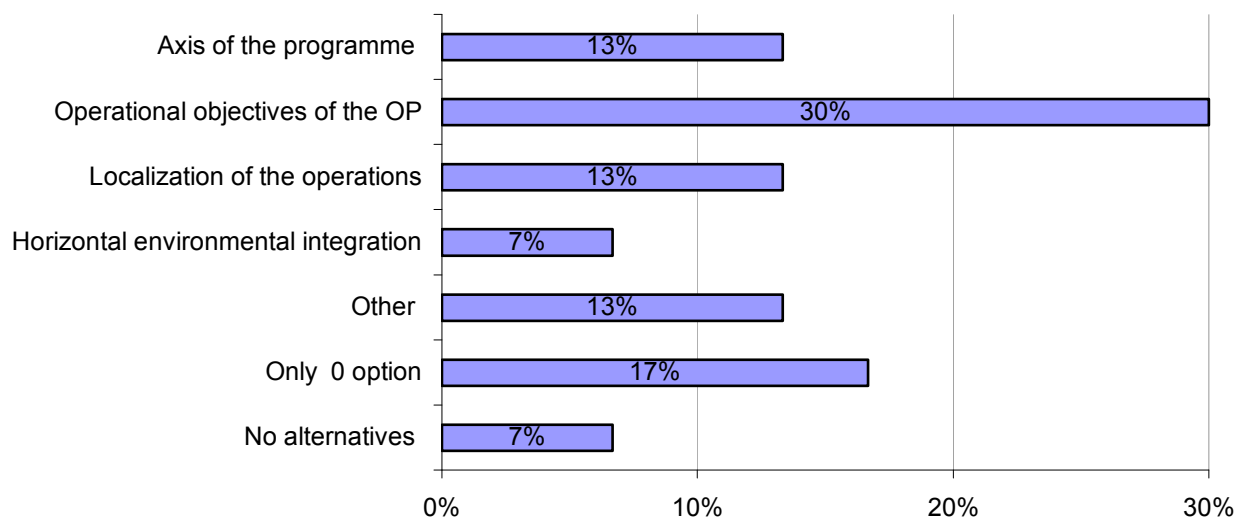
possible for the programmes at SEA stage to foresee potential significant negative environmental effects, since they depend on the implementation of the programmes.

#### **2.2.8 Assessment: alternatives and scenario analysis**

Analysing the selection of the alternatives into the programmes, it is to underline that in two cases, the 7% of selected cases, they were not taken into consideration at all, in one case observing that *it is impossible to define alternatives other than the programme able to achieve similar objectives with reduced impacts on the environment*. Diagram 16 puts in evidence typologies of alternatives identified, implying that every programme took into consideration different number of alternatives.

In most cases alternatives concerned operational objectives of the programmes (30%) and in one case actions to be funded. In 17% of cases no alternatives were identified except for 0 alternative. This choice was motivated in some programmes admitting that *it was not possible to identify realistic strategic alternatives, since the content of the Programme was determined by regulations on how the European funding can be used. Therefore the programme was compared to a "do nothing" option*. In 13% of cases alternatives related the formulation of the axis, suggesting an effective integration of SEA process into programming activities since the beginning, and in 13% they regarded localization of the operations to be funded. Such localizations are not equally defined in all programmes, rather in some of them, like the Irish BMW programme and in French Nord - Pas de Calais, their selection has been postponed and analysed during the implementation of the OP and EIA of projects. In particular, in Irish experience, the location of individual actions early identified by the programme will be decided by local authorities in accordance with Department of the Environment criteria over the lifetime of the OP. in 7% of cases alternatives considered programmes with or without horizontal integration of environmental issues (environmental objectives, selection criteria, mitigation measures and so on).

Diagram 17. options selected by typology



Analysing the 13% of programmes which formulated other typologies of alternatives, in Italian Lombardy region they related general provisions of the programme (following consultation outcomes). Specific alternatives are supposed to be taken into consideration into implementation phase and on the basis of the monitoring activity. Those alternatives could relate to localization, implementation tools and type of activities.

In West Wales programmes, different alternatives were selected in the programming process and in the environmental assessment one. In particular, into the OP three options were considered in the SEA alternative options: the Proposed Programme, Option A, and Option B. Option A and Option B were produced by varying the funding to the part of the Programme particularly relevant to environmental improvement activities.

Into the environmental report, the three main options for which alternative options are considered include: 1. Do nothing; 2. Carry on with previous Programme (2000-2006) – provision of measures specified in this Programme; 3. Implementation of ERDF Convergence Programme (2007 – 2013) – Provision of measures within the ERDF Convergence Programme.

Finally, in Ireland BMW programme, specific thematic alternatives were considered, within the Urban Development and Secondary Transport Networks Priority. The BMW Regional Assembly considered various modal split options, but given the dispersed nature of the Region and the fact that the public transport system is primarily roadbased, it was decided to fund both public transport and road infrastructure linked with the region's growth centres.

No information is available on scenario analysis. In most cases it is not include into environmental reports.

#### **2.2.9 Assessment: conditions for subsequent environmental assessments**

One of the expected outcomes of the survey was to point out relations between environmental assessment procedures (mainly SEA, EIA and appropriate assessment)

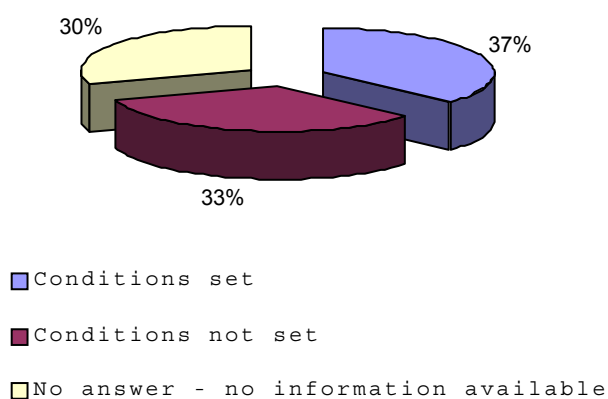
all along programming period. In general, specific requirements between SEA and EIA procedures are set by law, but in some cases SEA provides further requisites to be met.

In most cases, 33%, such conditions are not taken into account in SEA documents and high rate of lack of information is to be registered (30%). In 37% of cases SEA mentions specific requirements for subsequent procedures.

In Estonian Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment the legal EIA requirement has to be met and measures for mitigation of potential negative impacts need to be included in the EIA reports.

**Diagram 18.** programmes setting conditions for further environmental assessment procedures

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In Italian Lombardy region programme, requirements concerned specific mitigation measures on Natura 2000 sites to be considered while elaborating an appropriate assessment.

In French Nord - Pas de Calais programme, relevant issues identified during SEA are a starting point for the analysis of each project. More generally, the EIA of a project will be carried out in the light of the environmental stakes put forward in SEA. Furthermore, a specific mission is set up in order to help the authorities that will be in charge of the implementation of the OP to give information on the means chosen to better integrate environment in the OP, to identify useful environmental studies and to answer questions arising from implementation. This mission is linked to administrative offices in charge of environment.

In Irish Border, Midland and Western Regional Programme, for road schemes which are below the thresholds for EIA, SEA recommends that consultation be undertaken with the National Parks & Wildlife Service to ensure that ecological issues are fully addressed in the design of the scheme.

In Cyprus, as far as concerns the Natura 2000 sites, SEA mentions that the provisions of the Management Plans for the sites must be ensured that will be implemented. It must be mentioned here that the Management Plans for the Natura 2000 sites in the country are still under preparation.

In Slovenian case study, SEA states that during the EIA, “appropriate assessment” for Natura 2000 sites and environmental permitting procedures it should be checked if the mitigation measures of the OP that have been suggested for the project level have been considered.

Finally, in Spanish programmes exclusion is provided for actions not properly taking into account site specific problems in Natura 2000 areas and other environmental assessment procedures, mentioning appropriate assessment and integrated environmental license.

Where no conditions for tiering are provided, it is sometimes due to the fact that no negative environmental effects have been assessed, and no further environmental procedures are expected to be carried out on funded programme activities.

#### **2.2.10 Assessment: monitoring systems**

As far as concerns the definition of monitoring measures with relative set of indicators, the purpose of the survey was firstly to understand if detailed systems had been defined and, in this case, to verify which kind of indicators had been chosen.

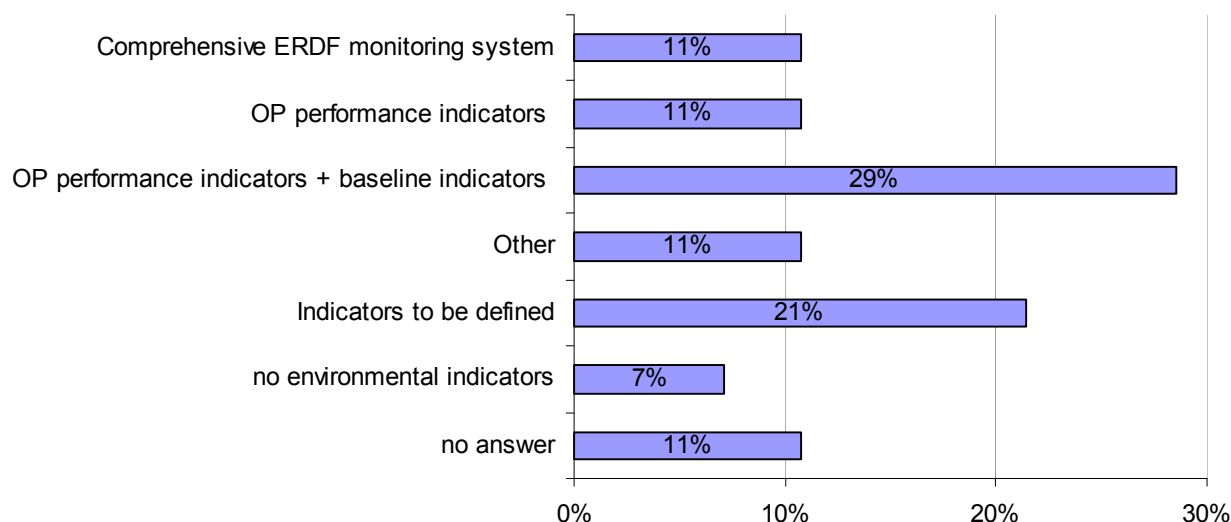
A relevant indication under this framework was provided by Austrian decision to set up a common ERDF monitoring system, including SEA indicators, following last two ERDF programming period experience.

Similarly, in Spain a common basic ERDF monitoring system has been set up, containing few *strategic indicators*, chosen in collaboration with the National Network of Environmental Authorities. Following this general scheme, every programme has to identify *operational indicators*, that have to be coherent with SEA environmental effects assessment.

In 11% of analysed programmes, performance indicators have been selected. Every programme identified a variable number of indicators aimed to verify the achievement of set environmental objectives; in one sectorial programme, a single cross-sectional indicator was considered sufficient to identify unforeseen adverse effects.

**Diagram 19.** system of indicators chosen by programmes

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In most cases, 29%, more complex systems were set, dealing with *performance indicators* measuring the achievement of environmental objectives and *baseline indicators*, generally the same or part of those used in the environmental context analysis, monitoring the evolution of the context.

Generally in this cases, in Cyprus between the others, performance indicators are articulated at programme level in *output indicators* (such as number of beneficiaries, actions taken, supported area under, etc), *result indicators* (area under successful land management contributing to biodiversity, water quality, climate change, soil quality, etc) and *impact indicators* (reversing biodiversity decline, improvement in water quality, contributing to combating climate change etc)

In Slovenian OP on Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development, environmental objectives are mainly expressed as target and strictly linked with monitoring indicators. Most of them are monitored regularly at national level within the national monitoring system of the Environment Agency and Stats Office.

Lithuanian OP on Promotion of Cohesion contains priority "Environment and Sustainable development". For monitoring the implementation of this priority strategic context indicators as well as programme level indicators (output, result) are set.

Irish Southern and Eastern regional programme identifies a list of problems that monitoring system has to face and underlines how possible and necessary is to foresee specific indicators for monitoring positive impacts<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> In particular, in the environmental report is noticed how the selection of monitoring measures raises some practical issues:

- The indicators included in the baseline data are affected by a much wider range of activities than the Operational Programme itself;
- There are significant lead times in establishing trends in these indicators;
- There is in any case a lack of data at a regional level for many of the indicators;

Only in Irish Border, Midland and Western Regional Programme it is expressly recommended that the SEA related monitoring is tied in with the OP monitoring. It is proposed that SEA monitoring results are presented in the Annual Implementation Report.

In three programmes, 11% of cases, different monitoring systems have been selected.

In both Belgian Wallonian programmes, indicators are included into a regional diagnostic environmental document. A restricted set of those indicators has to be selected by the ex ante evaluator, between those matching environmental effects of the programme. They seem not to directly relate to environmental objectives and are not contained into a comprehensive monitoring or assessing plan.

In 21% of cases, indicators have not been defined yet. This range includes very different behaviours, but in general it is possible to affirm that the definition of monitoring measures is postponed to the implementation phase.

In Slovak Transport OP, fixed dates are provided, saying that indicators will be set as a part of the monitoring plan 6 months from the approval of the OP.

In Italian Research and Competitiveness programme the definition is postponed to the implementation phase and will only concern those projects which environmental effects will be supposed to be very negative.

In other cases, a general structure of monitoring measures has been provided, but broadening is expected to be carried out during implementation phase.

In UK, a national suite of indicators for monitoring Operational Programmes is currently under preparation. A suite of indicators is also being identified for monitoring the English North East programme, based on existing monitoring within the region. The use of existing indicators is strongly supported and it is envisaged that this approach will be adopted for the OP.

In France, a set of national indicators has been developed for the implementation of OPs, including a cross-indicator on environmental integration in projects stemming from the program (for instance through the recommendations made in the SEAs), and in certain cases some CO2 indicators.

In two cases, 7%, no environmental indicators were selected. This is due to the fact that no environmental negative effects have been assessed or at SEA stage it seems impossible to prevent negative environmental impacts, since they depend on the implementation of the OP.

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• Because of lack of information on the type of projects which will arise from priority 3 in particular, it will be difficult to define indicators to measure their impacts.

### **2.3 *Environmental stakeholders' opinions - interviews***

Interview schemes focussed on the identification of most critical issues in SEA processes. Opinions expressed were different depending on the countries, but some general common criticalities were identified in the quality of the consultations, both with environmental authorities and with the public, and in the effectiveness of the process itself.

Even with different accents, the opinions collected agreed on partial effectiveness of consultation processes, pointing out the general absence and need of shared methodologies for increasing public participation. This aspect is directly linked to low participation of stakeholders and public, although invited to participate, even if they have sometimes been involved in several programmes and were somehow prepared for participation.

Stakeholders' involvement has to be more pro-active and open. This needs more resources, but it leads to more efficient and improved implementation of the regulations. It is underlined how if participants can see the relevance of the SEA, they will put more effort in.

Different partners, and specifically managing authorities, do not always perceive the sense of the process as a mean to improve the quality of the programme; sometimes, SEA was basically seen as a formal procedure. In some cases managing authorities were not aware on obligatory SEA until late in the process, so the whole SEA process was very rushed and the easiest way to cut down time was on public consultation. In some other cases, problems have been encountered in consultants' capability of perceiving the scope of SEA: sometimes there were language problems, in some others they worked in an EIA point of view, and did not integrate the specificity of a SEA.

Technical difficulties were identified in the lack of a complete set of public environmental data, in the analysis of the alternatives and in the definition of scenarios. In general, too much time seems to have been spent on context analysis rather than following programming process. The environmental report generally seems to refer to the last version of the programme constricting on running after modifications rather than focussing on the whole process and on programming choices.

About consultations, generally more problems were encountered with the public rather than with environmental authorities. Problems concerned both involvement and level of understanding of assessment documents by the public. A general ineffectiveness of methods for stimulating active participation has been recognised. In some cases, like in Italy, these aspects were linked to a lack of national legislation framework, which led to invent a set of rules, strictly following the directive.

Moreover, where not fixed by law, Environmental authorities' selection was often dealt through partial and inevident criteria. Also, in most cases consultations were only brought out through electronic device, submitting questionnaires. It has generally been considered as a weak tool, even if it gave chance to participate, and stronger efforts should have been spent in order to stimulate active participation, due to the fact that a general non attitude to participation characterises both selected authorities and the public.

All collected opinions, coming both from the authorities and the NGOs, which were part of the so-called general public, share the need for methods to encourage participation.

In particular, French interviews emphasize how documents were difficult to understand for the public (persons who are not familiar to this kind of programmes) and once again underline the need of pedagogy in order to give a real interest in public consultation. In French case, the specific hearing with NGOs, wanted by the regional office in charge of environment and organised by the Managing authority, was an interesting idea. Unfortunately, the timetable was too short and NGOs were not always conscious of their role in this kind of consultation: there were few NGOs at the hearing.

One of the Italian addressees specifies how preliminary information has to be given on SEA process and on structural funds (a sort of introduction to the questionnaire).

Anyway, in Cyprus and in one of the French interviews and in Poland consultation process was considered well structured and effective. In the first case positive effects are determined by the sound institutional cooperation between the Competent Authority, the Environmental Authority and other partners. In the second one wide information on the process was provided and documents were available, even if, because of a tight timetable, some useful documents were provided only during the public consultation, in particular the advice of the environmental authority. In Poland, positive comments were provided about the effectiveness of the whole process.

Reflecting on the effectiveness of established interaction with environmental authorities, it is to notice that generally only few of them provided active participation. In few cases, a useful interaction between national and regional authorities was produced through direct cooperation in specific working groups.

In many cases consultation activity has been considered to be rather *formal*. Meetings between environmental authorities, managing authorities and the consultants were basically negotiations on appropriateness of methods of assessment, grading system and structure of the report.

The effect of the generally limited active participation is the low number of comments and suggestions provided in most cases by environmental authorities and public.

Generally it is not easy to detect how opinions were taken into account. Only in some cases, those who produced observations had a direct feedback of their participation. In some cases, statement is not available. In Italy, most of the opinions related to context analysis, to external references and to environmental objectives; low attention has been drawn to impact assessment, monitoring and implementation phase. Many contributions were not directly linked to programme contents, as if they would have been prepared in advance for other purposes. All opinions related to environmental report and not to the programme, although specific questions concerned how to improve its environmental contents. On the other hand, in Cyprus most comments were made during the consultation meetings, where all the bodies involved were present. In all cases the Competent Authority provided the necessary clarifications.

In Poland the managing authority seem to have used proper participation and consultation tools, succeeding in receiving several remarks and comments as a result of the public participation. Responses and information about their inclusion into the programme were made available during organised conferences, directly through the programme, or in some cases by sending official letters (when comments were expressed as statements and came from organisations). Moreover, a detailed description of the consultation process, including submitted remarks and the standpoint of the managing institution have been included in the report from the social consultations for the *OP Infrastructure and Environment 2007-2013* and placed on the website of the Ministry of Regional Development.

Answering to a specific question on the stakeholders which played active role during consultations, all addressees identified environmental NGOs. In some cases, local and national public authorities actively participated.

For what specifically concerns environmental assessment, in most cases the strategic scale of the programmes seems not to have allowed conducting a complete analysis of their environmental effects. It was noticed how they rarely referred to territorialized environmental needs, descending from a too general territorialized context analysis and reflecting on a non territorialized assessment of environmental effects, generally linked to typology of measures or objectives, rather than to their impact on a certain territory. In Poland, SEA experts had to face the problem of raising and collecting data about the state of the environment in areas likely to be affected by a significant impact, in case when location of planned infrastructure projects is not settle or is only outlined. In this experience, dealing with infrastructures, problems of integration and overlapping between SEA and EIA are expressed to be relevant: requirements concerning the environmental report unnecessarily duplicate requirements concerning EIA for projects. The conditions when such analyses are necessary are ought to be determined in very detailed way in the Directive. It

has been underlined how in such cases necessity of identifying negative impacts on environment and on cultural heritage is practically unfeasible. Unfeasible is also the identification of cumulative effects. Moreover at the stage of SEA, in case of lack of data about location, also detail analyses of impacts on Natura 2000 sites (several in Poland) are unfeasible. It should be underlined that such analyses are required also for each single project, which may have likely significant effects on the Natura 2000 sites.

In some cases a global approach to the whole programme was missing: coherence, cumulative effects, relations with other plans or programmes were not really examined. On the other hand, where a *regional environmental profile* was provided, describing the different environmental stakes in the district, the analysis of the environmental effects properly reflected these stakes (France). Consideration of alternatives has generally been considered to be one of the major criticalities of the whole process.

Only in few cases provided monitoring measures were considered effective in foreseeing adverse environmental effects. It generally depends on the general and strategic contents of the programmes, or on the incomplete definition of monitoring systems. Also, it is often underlined how not enough care was taken to gather data on the project level in such a way that they could be combined and computed to see sum effect of the programme in various phases of implementation.

However, it is generally envisaged that they should be better defined during the implementation phase with the support of the environmental authorities interviewed, joined with specific tools for the integration of environmental issues in the projects. One of the problems could be that the implementation of the programmes will be led by offices that have not an environmental culture. In these cases, Environmental Impact Assessment, if properly conducted, is expected to play a fundamental role.

Drawing a general evaluation of the influence that SEA had on final programmes, all interviews underline a positive influence in terms of starting introducing a new approach to programming and assessment logic, despite all the problems above identified. Opinions emphasize how SEA has envisaged actions and roles for environmental authorities in the implementation phases. Another positive contribution was the definition of measures to reduce or offset impacts on the environment. It also allowed identifying environmental cross-priorities in order to strengthen environmental integration during the implementation of the programme and increasing environmental elements in the measures and in the general structure of the programmes. The main open question seems to be the respect of such measures in the different projects and the methods to be used to guarantee environmental quality of every single project: only after having

implemented the programmes, it will be possible to assess the real benefits induced by SEA.

Where a more open process for the preparation of programmes (multiple working groups with stakeholder representatives) was provided, it led to removing most damaging proposals before the Environmental Report went for consultation. This depth understanding of the issues and problems that needed to be solved is the greater benefit of wide and active involvement of environmental authorities and public in small and effective working groups, recognising that SEA should be helping to shape the programme right from the start of discussions. Instead, where groups were too large and diverse, it was hard to communicate views.

In other cases SEA process influenced the final version of the programme especially at the last stages. It reflected the scenario with the most positive environmental results, deriving from the environmental report analysis.

Most important benefits in Sea process are perceived to be linked to environmental training and awareness, in a roundabout way, of the public institutional staff, which normally is not involved in environmental concerns. Also, the initiation of dialogue and relationships among private and public institution staffs, who have never been related before, seem to be crucial.

Slovenian interview emphasizes how, even if a fair influence was provided to the final programme, however, a change in mentality has been achieved. *It is understood now that by considering environmental aspects and issues early on in the process of OP preparation, it would be easier to prepare a more effective OP, especially when it comes to transport infrastructure (support for sustainable mobility vs. money for pure road construction).*

In Polish specific case, main benefits are linked to setting conditions for the implementation phase. It is noticed how SEA enabled assessing the cumulative effect of the programme, by approximation but giving an adequate picture. The process also enabled indicating possible future social conflicts at the EIA level for projects and gave independent views and opinions (delivered by experts) which were taken into account while preparing the final version of the OP. The environmental report included recommendations which should be adapted at the stage of preparation and implementation of the separate projects.

Where coordination between SEA and ex ante evaluation was provided, it was felt as a real positive improvement in programming and assessing activity. In any case, it is noticed how environmental problems were put forward and discussed, even if debates were considered as *political* rather than pragmatic ones, and how the implementation of the principles of the programmes needs a good monitoring process. A network built with the different authorities responsible for the implementation of the programmes is supposed to be the best tool for guaranteeing environmental effectiveness of the implementation.

**Focus: Environmental NGO's opinions**

Specific NGO's activities focussed on the assessment of SEA effectiveness in 2007/2013 OPs definition in almost all Member States. The results for the SEA application are, unfortunately, not very encouraging: this new tool of the SEA directive has not been appropriately applied, and hence has not assured the minimisation of negative impacts expected. The lack or wrongful application of the SEA has the potential to allow negative impacts to proceed without being appropriately scrutinised, which is unacceptable for environmental stakeholders. Most member states have decided against an SEA for the NSRF, but have integrated the SEA into their ex-ante evaluation of key OPs. However, other member states have done an SEA only after the OPs were submitted for approval to national Parliaments. The degree of public consultation during the SEA also varied considerably. This programming process for OPs in Regional Funding is the first real test for the application of the SEA across Europe. The results are mixed, and we caution the Commission and member states that if the application is not monitored closely, a significant opportunity to use a powerful and new tool to minimise environmental damage may be lost.

This analysis led to identify some critical issues to be addressed in the future:

- SEA conducted only for OPs, not for national strategic reference framework documents
- SEA was done after the programming was final or almost final
- SEA was conducted unsystematically for different programming documents and the quality varied from OP to OP
- SEA was conducted with low experience and the consultants could drive the process. Language problems arised in some new Member States, leading to lack of pieces of information into the context analysis.
- SEA was conducted with not enough information and consultation on results. Stakeholders often had no feedback about their contributions.
- SEA was done without a discussions of alternatives or the 0 alternative
- SEA did not manage to integrate results systematically into the Ops
- SEA monitoring measures were not effective. Due to the frequent lack of an operational monitoring system at national level, environmental effects are usually dealt with on a case-by-case basis
- SEA was only produced „for the Commission“, in a bureaucratic spirit

Specific emphasis is asked both on timing and on public consultation requirements, also, on monitoring of the implementation of the Operational Programmes within the context of the SEA recommendations. Extreme environmental scrutiny and the rigid application of the EIA directive are necessary to ensure

that no negative impacts on the environment are accepted. This model should be applied by Member States and responsible Management Authorities at the national and regional levels for larger and smaller projects as well. Strict environmental scrutiny will lead to better projects and avoid the misuse of funds while simultaneously promoting the integration of the projects.

Finally, more horizontal and vertical environmental integration has to be achieved for this funding period. The Mid-Term-Review is asked to translate this integration into criteria and evaluation themes.

3. **SEA process: margins for improvement from the application to Cohesion Fund and Structural Funds Programmes**

The impact of SEA process on the quality of programming appears limited for the time being. Assessment instruments, availability of data, capacity of experts, cooperation of administrations, mechanisms for participation must be strengthened if SEA wants to show tangible results and not be seen as an additional administrative burden.

The following items only define the main issues to continue working on by the CP and SEA Working Group of the European Network of Environmental Authorities.

1. **Environmental context analysis.** A general lack of information for structuring the analysis has been noticed. Also, methods for determining the proper level of details for the analysis are missing. There is a need to develop a database of information sources and contacts (e.g. across Government departments) to be used in the SEA processes. Some of this information (e.g. lists of publications) at national and regional level should be made available on internet .
2. Training and further **methods and tools for participation** of the public and consultation of the environmental authorities.
3. **Integration of environmental issues** all along the implementation phase of the programmes. This calls for setting tools and methods for integration inside SEA documents and rises the question of the relationship between SEAs, EIAs and other environmental assessment procedures.
4. **Concrete examples of effective monitoring measures** are needed, due to their general ineffectiveness. This can descend from the absence of operational monitoring system at a national level, which causes a definition case-by-case of environmental effects analysis and monitoring system definition.
5. Support to **cultural responsibility of public authorities**, setting aside the *compliance logic* that generally characterises SEA and environmental issues in general. Specific activities should be defined to support the raising of consciousness of environmental assessment as a potentiality rather than as a burden in managing and non environmental authorities in general.
6. Move towards an **integrated assessment logic**. Integration between ex ante evaluation and SEA, where provided, allowed bringing SEA outputs into the "programming table" and taking them into consideration. Ex ante evaluation generally still seems to be a weak process not able to influence programming activity. SEA can be considered even weaker, but not so much. The problem becomes how to strengthen the assessment process as a whole, not depending on specific contents but on capability of influencing the

programme. Both processes are requested from EC and too focussed on writing documents rather than on producing information for the participation. This leads ex ante evaluation and SEA to be a “written procedure” much more than a process, limiting their potential influence on Programming Authority. All processes are driven by a compliance logic.

7. Elaboration of CP specific **targeted guidelines on coordination assessment procedures** for SEA, EIA and Natura 2000 Appropriate Assessment. This guidance should include some comments on the alternatives issue, since this proved to be specifically difficult.

*Collected best practices – first indications***Process organization – AUSTRIA**

Put in evidence the integrated structure of the whole programming/assessing process. Stress the key role of EAs. Verify if integration occurred between ex ante evaluation and environmental assessment

**Proactive role of EAs ex 2000/2006 – ITALY and SPAIN**

Guidance of the process at the beginning of the process (Spanish targeted guidelines) and all along the process itself (Italian Interregional Energy Programme). Specific information about provisions for the implementation phase (Italian Lombardy region).

**Assessment of environmental effects – SPAIN (Andalucia)**

This seems to be one of the rare cases in which all typologies of environmental effects described by the Directive are taken into consideration. No further reflections about the effectiveness of such evaluation are provided; mitigation measures should have been defined for each environmental theme coherently with effects assessment, but the link is not clear.

*Eje 3 Código de categoría de gasto 45*

Ámbitos	Efecto N°	+/-	Primario secundario	Plazo	Permanente temporal	Acumulativo	Sinérgico	Comentarios
Biodiversidad fauna y flora	31	+	P	M	P	NO	NO	
Agua	32	-/+	P	C	P	NO	NO	Diversidad de actuaciones
Población salud humana	33	+	P	M	P	NO	NO	
Tierra	34	+	P	C	P	NO	NO	
Aire clima								
Bienes materiales	35	-	P	M	P	NO	NO	
Patrimonio cultural e histórico								
Paisaje	36	-/+	P	M	P	NO	NO	

**Monitoring measures – AUSTRIA, LITHUANIA, ITALY (Lombardy – poin)**

Selected practices have been chosen for different aspects of the same stage:

- Austrian common ERDF monitoring system seems to be relevant for the integration provided between OPs and SEA monitoring measures
- Lithuanian approach directly links SEA objectives and monitoring measures to the National Strategy for Sustainable Development. An integrated approach is provided
- Italian Lombardy region monitoring system identifies baseline and performance indicators linked to environmental objectives and covers all environmental components considered in the assessment of environmental effects.

**AUSTRIAN COMMON ERDF MONITORING SYSTEM**

For all Austrian ERDF-programmes there has been set up a common ERDF monitoring system. This monitoring system has already proved itself in the last two structural funds periods and has been adapted for 2007-2013. It is serviced centrally by a monitoring office which is contracted on behalf of the certifying authority in coordination with the managing authorities. This (i) enables the Austrian authorities to define quality standards for data delivered of ERDF projects by the implementing bodies and (ii) provides the programme partners with a common data base, which allows evaluations across-programmes.

For the SEA-monitoring there has been created a tool for data gathering on project level (bottom up), which is an integrated part of the common ERDF monitoring system (see attached concept).

Beside this general approach, pure environmental projects (as energy efficiency or renewable energy) get a co-funding by the Federal Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management of Austria. This co-funding is administered by the Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC). To get this co-funding additional environmental criteria have to be met and are monitored in the separate monitoring system of the KPC.

Further information: [monitoring note austria](#)

## Annex 1: documents transposing SEA Directive

AUSTRIA	<p>Leitfaden Lower Austria:  <a href="http://www.raumordnung-noe.at/dynamisch/showinfostand.php?id=87">www.raumordnung-noe.at/dynamisch/showinfostand.php?id=87</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leitfaden Styria (2006)</li> <li>- Änderung des Abfallwirtschaftsgesetzes 2002 (AWG-Novelle 2004)</li> <li>- NÖ Raumordnungsgesetz 1976;</li> <li>- Gesetz vom 30. September 2004 über die Umweltprüfung und Öffentlichkeitsbeteiligung bei der Ausarbeitung bestimmter Pläne und Programme im Land Kärnten (Kärntner Umweltplanungsgesetz - K-UPG);</li> <li>- Steiermärkische Raumordnungsgesetznovelle;</li> <li>- Gesetz, mit dem das Salzburger Raumordnungsgesetz 1998 geändert wird LGBL. Nr. 13/2004 (SG(04)A/2910 du 15/03/04);</li> <li>- Gesetz vom 9. März 2005 über die Umweltprüfung und die Öffentlichkeitsbeteiligung beider Ausarbeitung bestimmter Pläne und Programme in Tirol (Tiroler Umweltprüfungsgesetz- TUP);</li> <li>- Gesetz vom 9. März 2005, mit dem das Tiroler Raumordnungsgesetz 2001 und die Tiroler Bauordnung 2001 geändert werden;</li> <li>- Bundesgesetz über die strategische Prüfung im Verkehrsbereich (SP-V-Gesetz);</li> <li>- Bundes-Umgebungslärmschutzgesetz;</li> <li>- Gesetz über eine Änderung des Raumplanungsgesetzes (Vorarlberg);</li> <li>- Bundesgesetz, mit dem das Wasserrechtsgesetz 1959 und das Wasserbautenförderungsgesetz 1985 geändert werden sowie das Hydrografiegesetz aufgehoben wird;</li> <li>- (Vorarlberg) Verordnung über Pläne, die von der Umwelterheblichkeitsprüfung oder der Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung ausgenommen sind</li> </ul>
BELGIUM	Decree of <b>27/05/2004</b> followed by the application act of <b>17/03/2005</b> regarding the "Livre Ier du Code de l'environnement"
BELGIUM - WALLONIE	The Directive 2001/42/CE has been transposed in Wallonian law in the frame of the 1st Book of the Environment Wallonian Code (Livre Ier du Code Wallon de l'Environnement (décret du 27 mai 2004).
CYPRUS	The Directive was fully transposed through the <b>Law (No. 102(I)/2005)</b> , which entered into force on <b>29 July 2005</b> .
DENMARK	<b>Lov (act) nr. 316 af 5. maj 2004</b> om miljøvurdering af planer og programmer (environmental assessment of plans and programmes)
ESTONIA	<b>Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management System Act</b> - Passed 22 February 2005, Entered into force on 3 April 2005. The act is complemented by couple of regulations given by the Government and by the minister of the environment
FINLAND	<b>Act (200/2005) and Decree (347/2005)</b> on the Assessment of the Authorities` Plans, Programmes and Policies on the Environment, entered into force 1.6.2005
FRANCE	<p>Transposition of the SEA Directive at legislative level took place in the "<b>ordonnance</b>" (special kind of law) of <b>3 June 2004</b>. There were two different texts to define the precise rules of assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one relating to spatial planning (Decree of 27 May 2004 which modified the Town and Country Planning Code)</li> <li>• one relating to other plans and programmes (Decree of 27 May 2004 which modified the Environment Code)</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=5737">www.ecologie.gouv.fr/article.php3?id_article=5737</a></p>
GERMANY	<p>Two separate acts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concerning the implementation of the SEA Directive 2001/42 in general by <b>law of the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2005</b>, that inter alia amended the</li> </ul>

	<p>Federal EIA Act and entered into force on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2005.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• concerning specific provisions on urban land use planning, regional and spatial planning by law of the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2004 that inter alia amended the Federal Building Code and entered into force on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2004;</li> </ul> <p>There are additional regulations in the <i>Länder</i> for spatial planning and other plans and programmes which require an SEA.</p> <p>The EIA Act (UVPG) was amended by the German Parliament on May 12, 2005 and by the "Bundesrat" (Chamber of the <i>Länder</i>) on May 27, 2005. Amendments came into force on 25 June 2005 through the Act for introducing SEA (see <a href="http://www.uvp.de">www.uvp.de</a>). The 16 <i>Länder</i> had to implement SEA through their own laws, since the EIA Act and the Federal Spatial Planning Act only constituted a framework. There were bills in most of the <i>Länder</i>.</p>
IRELAND	<p>Statutory Instrument, No 435 of 2004. Environmental Assessment of Certain Plans and Programmes Regulations. Stationery office: Dublin</p> <p>Statutory Instrument, No 436 of 2004. Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations. Stationery office: Dublin</p> <p>Statutory Rule, No 280 of 2004. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations. Stationery office: Dublin</p> <p>Both sets of regulations became operational on 21 July, 2004</p> <p><a href="http://www.environ.ie">www.environ.ie</a></p>
ITALY	<p>Environmental Consolidated Act, <b>Legislative Decree n. 152, 3 April 2006.</b></p> <p>The SEA section has entered into force on 31 July 2007 in its initial version. The actual legislation is given by <b>Legislative Decree n. 4/2008</b>, so called "unified corrective decree" to the Environmental Consolidated Act 2006 ("correttivo unificato" al Testo Unico Ambientale 2006). Issued on 16.01.2008, published on the Official Journal on 29.01.2008, entered into force on 13.02.2008. Available at <a href="http://www.camera.it/parlam/leggi/deleghe/testi/08004dl.htm">http://www.camera.it/parlam/leggi/deleghe/testi/08004dl.htm</a></p>
LATVIA	<p><b>Environmental Impact Assessment Act of 1998</b> (with amendments approved by the Parliament of the Republic of Latvia on 30.05.2001; 19.06.2003; 26.02.2004; 15.09.2005) and <b>Cabinet of Ministers' Regulations</b> on Procedures for Strategic Environmental Assessment (came into force on 1st of May 2004)</p> <p><a href="http://www.vidm.gov.lv/ivnvnv/Esivn.htm">www.vidm.gov.lv/ivnvnv/Esivn.htm</a></p>
LITHUANIA	<p>It has been transposed into the national legislation of the Republic of Lithuania by including general provisions in the umbrella legislation, namely the Law on Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania (<b>Žin., 1992, Nr. 5-75; 2004, Nr. 36-1179</b>) and the Law on Territorial Planning (<b>Žin., 1995, Nr. 107-2391; 2004, Nr. 21-617</b>).</p> <p>Detailed requirements of the Directive have been transposed into:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Order of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 2004 08 18 No. 967 on the Approval of the Order of Strategic Assessment of the Effects of Plans and Programs on the Environment;</li> <li>2. Decision of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania of 2004 08 27 No. D1-456 on the Order of the Screening for the Strategic Assessment of the Effects of Plans and Programs on the Environment;</li> <li>3. Decision of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania of 2004 08 27 No. D1-455 on the Order of Public Participation in the Procedures of the Strategic Assessment of the Effects of Plans and Programs on the Environment and Informing the Assessment Stakeholders and Member States of the European Union.</li> <li>4. Order of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 2004</li> </ol>

	07 16 No. 904 on the Approval of the Regulations of Public Participation in the Territorial Planning Process; 5. Decision of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania of 2006 05 22 No. D1-255 on the Order of Determination of Significant Impact on Established and Potential Natura 2000 Territories of Implementation of Plans or Programs and Proposed Economic Activity.
MALTA	SEA legislation transposing the SEA Directive was put into place at the end of 2005. The <b>Legal Notice</b> transposing the EU Directive into the local legislation is <b>LN 418 of 2005</b> . The Commencement Notice for the above mentioned legislation was published later on and was known as LN 32 of 2006. <a href="http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/legislation/LN_418_2005_E.pdf">www.mepa.org.mt/environment/legislation/LN_418_2005_E.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.mepa.org.mt/environment/legislation/LN_32_2006.pdf">www.mepa.org.mt/environment/legislation/LN_32_2006.pdf</a>
NETHERLANDS	The <b>Environmental Management Act</b> was revised in <b>July 2006</b> <a href="http://www.vrom.nl/get.asp?file=Docs/milieu/MER_Samenvattingwetsvoorstel190304.pdf">www.vrom.nl/get.asp?file=Docs/milieu/MER_Samenvattingwetsvoorstel190304.pdf</a>
POLAND	The provisions of the Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programs on the environment have been transposed into the national legislation by <b>Environmental Protection Law (2008; No 25;150)</b> .
SLOVAKIA	The EIA Act No. 24/2006 Coll., came into force on 1° February. - <a href="http://www.enviro.gov.sk">www.enviro.gov.sk</a>
SLOVENIA	The <b>Environmental protection act 2004</b> (Official journal Of Slovenia; Uradni list RS, št. 39/06-prečiščeno besedilo) <b>Decree on the categories of activities for which an environmental impact assessment is mandatory</b> (Official Gazette RS, No. 78/06, 72/07 (Official journal Of Slovenia; Uradni list RS, št. 78/06, included SEA thresholds) <b>Decree laying down the content of environmental report and on detailed procedure for the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment</b> (Official journal Of Slovenia; Uradni list RS, št. 73/05);
SPAIN	" <b>Ley 9, 28 abril 2006, sobre evaluación de los efectos de determinados planes y programas en el medio ambiente</b> " (BOE 29/04/2006) There is also Regional legislation of implementation with additional rules for each region. Regional laws included: Law n° 2/ 1989 of 3 March, Valencia Law 2/1989 of 20 March, Cantabria Law 11/1990 of 23 July, Canarias Law 7/1994 of 18 May, Andalucía. Law 3/1998 of 27 February, Basque Country. Legal Decree 1/2000 of May 18, Castilla y Leon Law 5/1999 of 8 April, Cataluña
SWEDEN	SEA Directive requirements were incorporated into the <b>Environmental Code in July 2004</b> <a href="http://www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2023/a/22847">www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/2023/a/22847</a>
UK	The Directive was transposed into UK law by the deadline of 21 July 2004 by the following regulations: <i>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</i> <b>Statutory Instrument, No 1633 of 2004.</b> <i>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (England).</i> Stationery office

	<p><b>Statutory Instrument, No 258 of 2004.</b> <i>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Scotland)</i> Stationery office <a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk">www.opsi.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Statutory Instrument, No 1656 (W.170) of 2004.</b> <i>The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales)</i> Stationery office</p>
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## Annex 2: list of checked Operational Programmes and interviewed Environmental Authorities

State	Name of programme	Territorial level	Objective	Websites
Austria	Operationelles Programm Phasing Out Burgenland 2007-2013 - EFRE	Regional	Convergence (Phasing out included)	<a href="http://www.imburgenland.at/euservice/Images/OP-Bgld_Entwurf_EFRE_tc_m13-167407.pdf">http://www.imburgenland.at/euservice/Images/OP-Bgld_Entwurf_EFRE_tc_m13-167407.pdf</a>
Belgium	Programme opérationnel « Compétitivité régionale et emploi » - WALLONIE (Belgium):	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://economie.wallonie.be/02FondStructuels/2007-2013/FondsStructurelsl.htm">http://economie.wallonie.be/02FondStructuels/2007-2013/FondsStructurelsl.htm</a> <a href="http://europe.wallonie.be/apps/spip/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=36">http://europe.wallonie.be/apps/spip/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=36</a> <a href="http://economie.wallonie.be">http://economie.wallonie.be</a> <a href="http://europe.wallonie.be">http://europe.wallonie.be</a>
	Programme opérationnel «CONVERGENCE - HINAUT» - WALLONIE (Belgium)	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://economie.wallonie.be/02FondStructuels/2007-2013/FondsStructurelsl.htm">http://economie.wallonie.be/02FondStructuels/2007-2013/FondsStructurelsl.htm</a> <a href="http://europe.wallonie.be/apps/spip/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=36">http://europe.wallonie.be/apps/spip/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=36</a> <a href="http://economie.wallonie.be">http://economie.wallonie.be</a> <a href="http://europe.wallonie.be">http://europe.wallonie.be</a>
Cyprus	Rural Development Programme 2007- 2013			<a href="http://www.planning.gov.cy/">http://www.planning.gov.cy/</a>
Estonia	Operational Programme for the Development of the Living Environment	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.fin.ee/sf2007">http://www.fin.ee/sf2007</a>
	Operational Programme for Human Resource Development	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.fin.ee/sf2007">http://www.fin.ee/sf2007</a>
	Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.fin.ee/sf2007">http://www.fin.ee/sf2007</a>
France	FEDER (Région Centre)	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://www.centre.pref.gouv.fr/europe/dossier.html?id=42&amp;p=2">http://www.centre.pref.gouv.fr/europe/dossier.html?id=42&amp;p=2</a>
	Programme opérationnel FEDER Nord - Pas de Calais	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://www.pas-de-calais.pref.gouv.fr/upload/POFEDER2007-2013.pdf">http://www.pas-de-calais.pref.gouv.fr/upload/POFEDER2007-2013.pdf</a>
Ireland	Border, Midland and Western Regional Operational Programme;	Regional		<a href="http://www.bmwassembly.ie">www.bmwassembly.ie</a>

	Southern & Eastern Regional Operational Programme 2007-2013	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://www.seregassembly.ie">http://www.seregassembly.ie</a>
Italy	OP Renewable Energies and Energy Saving	Interregional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.europuglia.it/">http://www.europuglia.it/</a> still available <a href="http://www.dsa.minambiente.it">www.dsa.minambiente.it</a> still available
	OP Research and competitiveness	Interregional	Convergence (Phasing out included)	<a href="http://www.ponricerca.miur.it">www.ponricerca.miur.it</a> <a href="http://www.dsa.minambiente.it">www.dsa.minambiente.it</a>
	Lombardia Region ERDF Operational Programme	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://www.regione.lombardia.it/wps/portaleLombardia%2FPLGenDoc%2FPLGenDoclightsvilsost.c=GenDoc,cid=1160979279682#628">http://www.regione.lombardia.it/wps/portaleLombardia%2FPLGenDoc%2FPLGenDoclightsvilsost.c=GenDoc,cid=1160979279682#628</a>
	Sicily ERDF Operational Programme	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.euroinfosicilia.it">www.euroinfosicilia.it</a>
Lithuania	Economic Growth OP	Regional	Convergence	Table of Recommendations of SEA experts
	Cohesion Promotion OP	Regional	Convergence	Table of Recommendations of SEA experts
Luxemburg	Operational Programme	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="#">Temporary availability on MA website (documents no more available)</a>
Portugal	Portugal National Strategic Reference Framework	National	Convergence (phasing in and out included)	<a href="http://www.qren.pt">http://www.qren.pt</a>
Slovakia	Western Slovakia, Central Slovakia and Eastern Slovakia Regional Operational Programme (ROP)	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.enviro.gov.sk">www.enviro.gov.sk</a> <a href="http://www.enviroportal.sk">www.enviroportal.sk</a> <a href="http://www.build.gov.sk">www.build.gov.sk</a>
	Transport Operational Programme	Interregional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.enviroportal.sk">www.enviroportal.sk</a>
Slovenia	Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development Operational Programme (Operativni program razvoja okoljske in prometne infrastrukture - OP ROPI)	National	Convergence	
Spain	Programa Operativo de Investigación, desarrollo e innovación por y para el beneficio de las Empresas FONDO tecnológico 2007-2013	Interregional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.juntadandalucia.es/economia/hacienda/fondos/programacion2007-2013/programacion.htm">http://www.juntadandalucia.es/economia/hacienda/fondos/programacion2007-2013/programacion.htm</a>

	Programa Operativo FEDER de Andalucía 2007-2013	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.dgfc.sggp.meh.es">www.dgfc.sggp.meh.es</a>
Sweden	Regionalt strukturfondsprogram för regional konkurrenskraft och sysselsättning för Övre Norrland 2007-2013	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://www.bd.lst.se/publishedObjects/10007622/Op%20Övrenorrland_070702,%20till%20EU%20Komm%20för%20beslut.pdf">http://www.bd.lst.se/publishedObjects/10007622/Op %20Övrenorrland_070702,%20till %20EU%20Komm%20för%20beslut.pdf</a>
UK	North East England Competitiveness and Employment (ERDF)	Regional	Regional Competitiveness and Employment	<a href="http://www.gos.gov.uk/gone/news/newsarchive/erdf_consultation/">http://www.gos.gov.uk/gone/news/newsarchive/erdf_consultation/</a>
	West Wales and the Valleys Convergence Programme (ERDF)	Regional	Convergence	<a href="http://www.wefo.wales.gov.uk">http://www.wefo.wales.gov.uk</a>
Cooperation	MED Programme 2007-2013	Interregional	European Territorial Cooperation	<a href="http://www.interreg-medocc.info.info">www.interreg-medocc.info.info</a>
	The Interregional Cooperation Programme (INTERREG IVC)	Interregional	European Territorial Cooperation	<a href="http://www.interreg3c.net">http://www.interreg3c.net</a>

<b>State</b>	<b>interviewed Authorities</b>
Cyprus	Department of Agriculture, Louki Akrita, 1412, Nicosia, Cyprus
Italy	Italian Public Investment Evaluation Unit (UVAL) in the Cohesion Policy Department of the Ministry for Economic Development - coordination of the working groups on SEA and ex ante evaluation of the Interregional Operative Programme Energy
Italy	Environmental Certification and Sea Division In the Directorate for Environmental Safeguard of the Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea
Slovenia	Environmental consultant, Oikos d.o.o, supporting Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning
Slovakia	Ministry of Economy - Managing Authority for Competitiveness and Economic Growth Operational Programme Ministry of Construction and regional development (for OP Bratislava Region)
Slovakia	Ministry of Construction and regional development - OP Bratislava Region
<b>State</b>	<b>interviewed NGOs</b>
Northern Ireland	Birdlife
Bulgaria	Birdlife
overview	WWF

**Annex 3: national web references for guidance documents on SEA**

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**United Kingdom**

- SEA guidance on the Environment Agency for England and Wales:  
[www.environmentagency.gov.uk/aboutus/512398/830672/?version=1&lang=e](http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/aboutus/512398/830672/?version=1&lang=e)
- A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive:  
[www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/practicalguidesea](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/practicalguidesea);  
[www.ehsni.gov.uk/bm\\_sea\\_practicalguide.pdf](http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/bm_sea_practicalguide.pdf);;  
[www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/146940](http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/146940)  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/dos and donts r 1085127.pdf?lang=e](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/dos_and_donts_r_1085127.pdf?lang=e)
- A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, September 2005, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, London:  
[www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded\\_object.asp?id=1143292](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded_object.asp?id=1143292);
- Additional guidance has been produced - *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, November 2005:  
[www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1161341](http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1161341));
- guidance for SEA in transport sector:  
[www.webtag.org.uk/webdocuments/2 Project Manager/11 SEA/index.htm](http://www.webtag.org.uk/webdocuments/2_Project_Manager/11_SEA/index.htm);

**England:**

Guidance for Planning Authorities - Practical guidance on applying European Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment' to land use and spatial plans in England  
[www.interreg-enplan.org/doc/2 SEA%20UK%20guidance.pdf](http://www.interreg-enplan.org/doc/2_SEA%20UK%20guidance.pdf)  
[www.unece.org/env/eia/documents/england odpm plan 025198.pdf](http://www.unece.org/env/eia/documents/england_odpm_plan_025198.pdf)

**Scotland:**

"Strategic Environmental Assessment - A consultation on Proposed Legislative Measures to Introduce Strategic Environmental Assessment in Scotland  
[www.interreg-enplan.org/doc/3 Consulta%20Escòcia.pdf](http://www.interreg-enplan.org/doc/3_Consulta%20Escòcia.pdf)

Natural Scotland-Scottish executive, 2006.  
Strategic Environmental Assessment Toolkit  
[www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/148434/0039453.pdf](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/148434/0039453.pdf)

Guidance on the implementation of the EC SEA Directive:  
Environmental Assessment of Development Plans  
[www.unece.org/env/eia/documents/scotland eadp 0803.pdf](http://www.unece.org/env/eia/documents/scotland_eadp_0803.pdf)

**Denmark:**

the Ministry of the Environment have published guidelines.  
Guidance was written in 2005 and published in June 2006, covering all plans and programmes:  
[www.skovognatur.dk/NR/rdonlyres/DD63EB1B-F0E6-4ABB-9744-7336B1C9C98E/22773/Samlet SMV vejledning juni06.pdf](http://www.skovognatur.dk/NR/rdonlyres/DD63EB1B-F0E6-4ABB-9744-7336B1C9C98E/22773/Samlet_SMV_vejledning_juni06.pdf)

**Germany:**

Guidance on how to adapt the Federal Construction Act with new EU Directives:  
[www.uvp.de/welcengl.html](http://www.uvp.de/welcengl.html)

Recommendations of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety of 2 August 2004 for direct implementation of the SEA Directive through the Länder:  
[www.uvp.de/aktuell/empfehlung\\_suprl.pdf](http://www.uvp.de/aktuell/empfehlung_suprl.pdf)

The Environmental Report in Practice (Bavarian Ministry of the Environment, Health and Consumer Protection); covering statutory local land use plans and master plans:  
[www.stmi.bayern.de/bauen/baurecht/staedtebau/15463](http://www.stmi.bayern.de/bauen/baurecht/staedtebau/15463)

**Spain:**

*Strategic Environmental Assessment methodology - in english*

Guidelines elaborated by the National Network of Environmental Authorities - Red de Autoridades Ambientales - for supporting *programming authorities* in 2007/2013 programming period.

[http://www.mma.es/secciones/raa/programacion\\_raa/eval\\_amb\\_raa/pdf/guia\\_eae\\_fe\\_20072013es.pdf](http://www.mma.es/secciones/raa/programacion_raa/eval_amb_raa/pdf/guia_eae_fe_20072013es.pdf)

*Strategic Environmental Assessment methodology*

Guidelines elaborated by the National Network of Environmental Authorities - Red de Autoridades Ambientales - for supporting *programming authorities* and environmental authorities in 2007/2013 programming period (and)

ERDF: [http://www.mma.es/secciones/raa/programacion\\_raa/eval\\_amb\\_raa/pdf/guia\\_eae\\_feder.pdf](http://www.mma.es/secciones/raa/programacion_raa/eval_amb_raa/pdf/guia_eae_feder.pdf)

EAFRD:

[http://www.mma.es/secciones/raa/programacion\\_raa/eval\\_amb\\_raa/pdf/guia\\_eae\\_feader.pdf](http://www.mma.es/secciones/raa/programacion_raa/eval_amb_raa/pdf/guia_eae_feader.pdf)

Interreg ENPLAN Guidelines include case studies from Cataluña, Andalucía, Baleares and Murcia

[www.carm.es/siga/europa/interreg/enplan.htm](http://www.carm.es/siga/europa/interreg/enplan.htm)

**Latvia:**

1) Guidance Manual on SEA, finalized in Feb 2007 (will be available at State Environment Bureau home page in the Internet soon);

2) Guide on the SEA process (2005). Available in Latvian at:

[www.vidm.gov.lv/lat/par\\_ministriju/padotas\\_institucijas/ivnvb/sivn/Linfo.htm](http://www.vidm.gov.lv/lat/par_ministriju/padotas_institucijas/ivnvb/sivn/Linfo.htm)

**Lithuania:**

Manual for Strategic Assessment of the Effects of Plans and Programs on the Environment:

[www.am.lt/VI/index.php#a/6003](http://www.am.lt/VI/index.php#a/6003)

**France**

There were two different general guidelines ("Circulaires"):

- one relating to spatial planning (Circulaire of the Ministry in charge of Town and Country Planning of 6 March 2006);
- one relating to other plans and programmes (Circulaire of the Ministry in charge of Environment of 12 April 2006).

There was also one sectorial guideline for land use plans at an intermediate level (DTA) for waste management.

Concerning national guidance documents on SEA, there is not really a website specific to this question. For land use plans:

[www.environnement-urbanisme.certu.equipement.gouv.fr/](http://www.environnement-urbanisme.certu.equipement.gouv.fr/)

**Cyprus**

*no guidance documents was available.*

There is only a booklet prepared by the *Environment Service* in November 2005, and disseminated to all the Authorities, consultancies and people involved.

[www.moa.gov.cy](http://www.moa.gov.cy) (-go to environment service - environmental impacts - SEA).

**Italy**

Guidance for Sea implementation - ENPLAN

[www.interreg-enplan.org/doc/1\\_030923\\_sea\\_guidance\\_it.pdf](http://www.interreg-enplan.org/doc/1_030923_sea_guidance_it.pdf)

operational handbook - ENPLAN

[www.interreg-enplan.org/linee3.htm](http://www.interreg-enplan.org/linee3.htm)

- Relationship between SEA and ex ante evaluation;

- SEA application to structural funds in Italy - guidelines by the National Network of Environmental Authorities
- Guidance for the integration between SEA and Appropriate Assessment  
[www.dsa.minambiente.it](http://www.dsa.minambiente.it)

#### **Netherlands**

"Points of interest" concerning the application of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) Ministry of Housing, Spatial Management and the Environment (VROM); Guidance for Strategic Environmental Assessment, drafted by Arcadis, The Hague for the Ministry of Transport, Water Management and Public Works (2006, forthcoming); Plan EA within the Ministry of Transport, Water Management & Public Works, EIA/Transportation Centre, Delft (2006, forthcoming)  
[www.infomil.nl/contents/library/64/milieu4184.pdf](http://www.infomil.nl/contents/library/64/milieu4184.pdf)  
[www.vrom.nl](http://www.vrom.nl)

#### **Ireland**

SEA Generic Guidance. Development of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Methodologies for Plans and Programmes in Ireland  
[www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/ea/epa\\_development\\_methodology\\_sea\\_synthesis\\_report.pdf](http://www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/ea/epa_development_methodology_sea_synthesis_report.pdf)

Implementation of SEA Directive (2001/42/EC): Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment - Guidelines for Regional Authorities and Planning Authorities  
[www.environ.ie/en/Publications/DevelopmentandHousing/Planning/FileDownload,1616,en.pdf](http://www.environ.ie/en/Publications/DevelopmentandHousing/Planning/FileDownload,1616,en.pdf)

#### **Portugal**

Termos de Referência e Metodologia para Avaliação Ambiental Estratégica  
[www.qren.pt/store/files/Tdr\\_AAE.pdf](http://www.qren.pt/store/files/Tdr_AAE.pdf)

Guia de boas práticas para Avaliação Ambiental Estratégica  
[www.apai.org.pt/ml/1201095788guiaaae.pdf](http://www.apai.org.pt/ml/1201095788guiaaae.pdf)

#### **Sweden**

General guidance about SEA from Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (soon a Guidance Report and Common Advice on SEA in general will be published):  
<http://www.naturvardsverket.se/sv/Lagar-och-andra-styrmedel/Lag-och-ratt/Miljobalken/Miljobedomningar-av-planer-och-program/>

Guidance on SEA from Boverket (The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning), concentrated on physical plans (Comprehensive Development Plans and Detailed Development Plans):  
<http://www.boverket.se/shopping/ShowItem.aspx?id=2147&epslanguage=SV>

#### **Poland**

Guidelines included:  
Methodological approach for SEA in spatial planning, Institute Rozwoju Miast, Kraków:  
[www.mos.gov.pl/2materialy\\_informacyjne/raporty\\_opracowania/podstawy.pdf](http://www.mos.gov.pl/2materialy_informacyjne/raporty_opracowania/podstawy.pdf)

#### **Belgium**

Guidance on how to do SEA, Flemish Environment Ministry  
[www.mervlaanderen.be](http://www.mervlaanderen.be)

#### **Malta**

SEA guidance due April 2007

**Annex 4: check list and scheme for interviews**

ENEA

European Network of Environmental Authorities for EU cohesion policy

**Working Group 1 - CP and SEA**

**CHECK LIST FOR THE ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTS**

General informations

- *Operational Programme*: name
- *Type of Programme (national, cooperation, etc.)*: type and objective
- Who is carrying out the process on the behalf of the Managing Authority referring to each of the following phases?
  - scoping (art.3)
  - environmental report preparation (art 5)
  - elaboration of monitoring plan (art. 10)
- How did you designate environmental (ex Art. 6.3) and non environmental authorities to involve?
- At which of the following stages of the OP the SEA process really started?
  - Draft
  - Consolidated version
  - Final version

Process

1. Who has been involved and at which stage?
  - scoping (art.3)
  - environmental report (art 5)
  - monitoring plan (art. 10)
2. How have consultations been organized? (both with authorities and with the public)
  - time frame
  - instruments for consultation (forums, public meetings, interviews, etc)
3. How have you stimulated active participation? (online consultation, questionnaires, interviews, additional documents, etc)
4. To what extent and how have the opinions expressed by the **environmental authorities** been incorporated into the environmental report/programming document?
5. To what extent and how have the opinions expressed by the **public** been incorporated into the environmental report/programming document?
6. Which of the final documents of SEA are available for the general public?
  - Statement (art.9.b)
  - Environmental report (art 5)
  - Monitoring measures (art. 10)

- Non technical summary (annex 1)
7. Where are or have been those documents available?
- Website (together with OP)
  - Website (separated from the OP)
  - Office
  - Other (specify)
8. Are environmental consultations expected to be carried out during the implementation and monitoring phases of the programme? How? (i.e. monitoring committee)

**Assessment**

9. The environmental protection objectives have been selected by:
- International documents
  - European documents
  - National strategies
  - Regional plans and programmes in force
  - Other (specify)
10. Are the environmental protection objectives expressed as target or as qualitative objectives?
11. Have the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of the plan or programme (ex annex 1.g of the directive) been set to carefully take into consideration environmental problems pointed out by the context analysis?
12. Which tools are expected to be activated to guarantee environmental integration into implementation and monitoring phases of the programme? Are those additional tools mentioned into the Environmental Report?
- Selection criteria
  - Priority criteria
  - Environmental integration of the implementation documents
  - Environmental performance indicators
  - Other (specify)
13. The alternatives analysed relate to:
- the axis of the programme
  - the operational objectives of the programme
  - the localization of the operations
  - other (specify):
  - no alternatives
14. Does the environmental report set any condition for the subsequent assessment procedures, such as EIA and "appropriate assessment" for Nature 2000 sites?

**Monitoring**

15. What kind of indicators are used to monitor environmental effects of the programmes? (performance - impact)
16. Have those indicators been linked to environmental objectives?

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**Working Group 1 - CP and SEA**

***SCHEME FOR INTERVIEWS***

***Operational Programme: name***

***Type of Programme (national, cooperation, etc.): type and objective***

***Consultation***

- a) Do you think the consultation process has been well structured and effective?
- b) What kind of interaction with environmental authorities (ex Art. 6.3) has been achieved?
- c) *For Managing Authorities*: how many opinions have you received? How did you respond?
- d) *For Environmental Authorities and NGOs*: have you received any feedback to the opinions expressed?
- e) Which kind of stakeholders have played an active role into consultation process?

***Assessment***

- f) Do you think the findings of the environmental effects assessment are reflecting the effective environmental needs and problems?
- g) Do you think the monitoring system will be able to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to undertake appropriate remedial action?
- h) Has the SEA process effectively influenced the final version of the programme? How?
- i) *for Managing Authorities*: Can we estimate what have been the human resources (number of months/persons) and the financial resources (in €) used for the SEA process, both internal and external to the Public Administration?
- j) Please describe synthetically the most important problems of the SEA process in this OP
- k) Please describe synthetically the most important benefits for this OP

References

European Environmental Bureau (2005), *Biodiversity in Strategic Environmental Assessment*, EEB, December 2005, available at:  
[www.eeb.org/activities/biodiversity/Final-SEA-report-271205.pdf](http://www.eeb.org/activities/biodiversity/Final-SEA-report-271205.pdf);

Thomas B. Fischer (2006), *SEA in spatial/land use planning in the 25 EU member states – a July 2006 update*, Report presented within the project "Environmental Policy Advisory Service and Environmental Management", commissioned by the "Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)", available at:  
[www.laum.uni-hannover.de/uvp/aktuell/SEAINMS2006.pdf](http://www.laum.uni-hannover.de/uvp/aktuell/SEAINMS2006.pdf) ;

GRDP (Greening Regional Development Programmes Network) (2006), *Handbook on SEA for Cohesion Policy 2007-2013*, February 2006, available at: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/grdp/>

WWF *How green is the future of EU Cohesion Policy? A wwf scorecard analysis of the Regional Funds programming 2007-2013*, May 2007  
[http://www.wwf.de/fileadmin/fm-wwf/pdf\\_neu/score-cards\\_eu\\_cohesion\\_policy.pdf](http://www.wwf.de/fileadmin/fm-wwf/pdf_neu/score-cards_eu_cohesion_policy.pdf)

[www.interreg-enplan.org/](http://www.interreg-enplan.org/);

[www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/sea-support.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/eia/sea-support.htm);

[www.isis-it.com/download/sea%20manual%20-%2021-10-05.zip](http://www.isis-it.com/download/sea%20manual%20-%2021-10-05.zip);

[www.iaia.org/Non Members/Conference/SEA%20Prague/sea prague main page.htm](http://www.iaia.org/Non%20Members/Conference/SEA%20Prague/sea_prague_main_page.htm);

[www.epa.ie/](http://www.epa.ie/);

[www.rec.org/REC/Programs/EnvironmentalAssessment/SEAActivities.html](http://www.rec.org/REC/Programs/EnvironmentalAssessment/SEAActivities.html);

[www.dsa.minambiente.it](http://www.dsa.minambiente.it);

[www.unece.org/env/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf](http://www.unece.org/env/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf).;

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[www.ec-gis.org/inspire/](http://www.ec-gis.org/inspire/);

[www.eurlex.europa.eu/Notice.do?val=414638:cs&lang=en&list=414638:cs,&pos=1&page=1&nbl=1&pgs=10&hwords=&checktexte=checkbox&visu=#FIELD PT](http://www.eurlex.europa.eu/Notice.do?val=414638:cs&lang=en&list=414638:cs,&pos=1&page=1&nbl=1&pgs=10&hwords=&checktexte=checkbox&visu=#FIELD PT);

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