



Training Workshop on Quality Control of SEA and EIA Documentation in the Republic of Moldova

Agenda

24 May 2023, 13.00-17.00 (Chisinau EEST)

This workshop will be delivered as a virtual event, using the Zoom platform. All invited participants will receive connection details to access the platform.

Action implemented by:











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Background

Within the framework of the European Union-funded EU4Environment programme (2019-2023), UNECE is assisting the Eastern Partnership countries, including the Republic of Moldova, in comprehensive capacity-building and institutional building on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and in finalizing legal reforms in this area.

The effectiveness and efficiency of the application of SEA and EIA in Moldova needs to be further improved, and the relevant Law amendments that will enter into force in October 2023 for SEA and in November 2023 for EIA are expected to improve conditions for the development of a sound practice and strengthening of the overall institutional capacities for environmental assessment application.

Among the relevant changes applicable as of October-November 2023 is also a component related to the Quality Control of both SEA and EIA (including in a transboundary context). For that purpose, the Ministry of Environment of Republic of Moldova requested support from the UNECE to elaborate two Guidelines. The Guidelines will provide assistance to those performing the control of quality for the EIA documentation and for the SEA documentation respectively, as well as serving as a guiding tool for the initiators and other stakeholders participating in the EIA and SEA processes.

Currently, the draft Guidelines for Quality Control of SEA and EIA are in the process of finalization. The workshop will therefore serve as a platform for the discussion on most significant issues related to the effectiveness of the EIA and SEA processes, as well as for the training for the practical application of the envisaged quality control mechanism including use of the newly developed Guidelines. The workshop will be facilitated by experts/consultants to UNECE.

Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes.

- To promote sound application of the SEA and EIA (including transboundary EIA) in the Republic of Moldova in line with the European Union's Directives on SEA and on EIA, the Espoo Convention and the UNECE Protocol on SEA
- To provide initial training on the envisaged quality control mechanisms for SEA and EIA
- To leverage discussion on the application of the amended Law on EIA and of the amended Law on SEA in relation to the Quality Control
- To introduce the complete draft Guidelines for Quality Control and receive inputs for their finalization

Participants

The meeting will gather around 50 participants from central and subordinated authorities responsible for/involved in SEA and EIA, including different line ministries, Ministry of Environment, Environment Agency and health authorities, as well as NGOs, experts, and academia that mainstream SEA and EIA courses in their program studies.

Practical Information

The event will be organized on 24May 2023, 13.00-17.00 EEST time. It will take place online through the Zoom platform. English and Romanian are the languages of the training. English-Romanian simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

About EU4Environment

The "European Union for Environment" (EU4Environment – Green Economy) Action helps the Eastern Partnership countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts.

It is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organisations - OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO, and the World Bank – over 2019-2024 period, with a budget of EUR 20 million.

For further information contact: <u>EU4Environment@oecd.org</u>.

For more information, please visit our website: www.eu4environment.org.

For further information specifically on activities on SEA and transboundary EIA implemented by UNECE, please contact: <u>Leonid.Kalashnyk@un.org</u>

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AGENDA

Time (Chisinau)	Item
12:50 – 13:00	Connection testing
13:00 – 13:20	 Opening and welcome remarks Ms. Iordanca-Rodica Iordanov, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Moldova Ms. Matilda Halling, Programme Officer Environment, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova Mr. Leonid Kalashnyk, EU4Environment Project Manager, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
13:20 – 13:30	Application of EIA and SEA in Moldova: legal requirements, and existing Guidance – Maria Nagornîi, Head of the Pollution Prevention Policies Department
13:30 – 14:30	Guidelines on Quality Control of EIA Documentation (EIA QC Guidelines) including transboundary procedure – Mr. Michal Musil, International Expert to UNECE • Purpose, content, structure of the Guidelines • Application of the Guidelines in the EIA quality control • Examples, typical issues of concern • Modalities for EIA in transboundary context
14:30-15:00	Q&A to the draft EIA QC Guidelines - Facilitated by Mr. Michal Musil and Ms. Natalia Guranda, consultants to UNECE.
15:00-15:45	 Guidelines on Quality Control of SEA Documentation (SEA QC Guidelines) Mr. Michal Musil, International Expert to UNECE Purpose, content, structure of the Guidelines Application of the Guidelines in the SEA quality control Examples, typical issues of concern
15:45-16:15	Q&A to the draft SEA QC Guidelines - Facilitated by Mr. Michal Musil and Ms. Natalia Guranda, consultants to UNECE.
16.15-16.30	Function and Responsibilities of the new Commissions responsible for EIA and SEA Quality Control mechanism – Ms. Irina PUNGA, Local legal consultant to UNECE
16:30 - 17:00	Concluding discussion – facilitated by Leonid Kalashnyk, UNECE and the consultants to UNECE Closure of the event