



JASPERS Networking Platform - Seminar on nature protection

Relationships between EIA, SEA and Appropriate Assessment

**Stephanos Ampatzis, Fotios Papoulias
European Commission, DG Environment**

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Relationship between EIA, SEA and AA

- Many **similarities** but also important **differences** (scope, content, implications - see Table)
- **Streamlining**: Procedures where appropriate can be coordinated and/or jointly run (Art. 2(3), Amended EIA Directive)
- SEA and EIA **cannot substitute** for the AA
- In all cases the AA must be clearly identifiable, either within the EIA/SEA report or in a separate report, so that its conclusions can be distinguished from those of the overall impact assessment
- EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment
SEA: Strategic Environmental Assessment

Comparison of appropriate assessment, EIA and SEA (1)

	AA	EIA	SEA
Which type of development?	Any plan or project likely to have an adverse effect on a Natura 2000 site	Projects listed in Annex I. Annex II projects determined on a case by case	Any Plan or Programme (a) for certain sectors which set the framework for future development consent, or (b) require Art. 6 HD assessment
What impacts need to be assessed relevant to nature?	Assessment in view of the site's conservation objectives (for species/habitats for which site designated)	significant effects on ... biodiversity , with particular attention to species and habitats protected under the Habitats and Birds Directives.	Likely significant effects on the environment , including on issues such as biodiversity, fauna, flora & interrelationship

Comparison of appropriate assessment, EIA and SEA (2)

	Appropriate assessment	EIA	SEA
Who carries out the Assessment?	Responsibility of the competent authority but developer may need to provide necessary studies & information	The developer provides necessary information to be taken into account by the competent authority * Biodiversity should be taken into account in the screening process (Annex II.a, EIA amendment Directive)	Competent authority for planning
How binding are the outcomes?	Binding . Agreement to the plan/project only if it will not affect the integrity of the site	The result of consultations and information must be taken into consideration in the development consent procedure	The environmental report & opinions expressed shall be taken into account during the preparation of the plan/program

Complementarity of SEA and EIA Directives to nature protection

- Broader scope and application than Natura 2000;
- Extended assessment obligations:
 - **Scoping**
 - **Assessment of reasonable alternatives (SEA Directive and EIA amended Directive)**
 - **Participation of the public and the environmental authorities (information and consultation)**
 - **Transboundary impact assessment and consultations.**
 - **Information after the decision**
 - **Monitoring (SEA Directive and EIA amended Directive)**



For info or further questions on this presentation, or on the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform please contact:

Massimo Marra
JASPERS Networking Platform Officer
ph: +352 4379 85007
m.marra@eib.org

www.jaspersnetwork.org

jaspersnetwork@eib.org