

Potential users of the UNECE SEA manual in Moldova

1. Teams of experts (governmental and non governmental, international) involved in designing of national programs and plans
2. Different level of authorities and investors responsible for launching of national and regional programs and plans
3. Programs and plans implementation teams
4. Governmental bodies, public institutions and NGOs
5. Students and professors of the educational Institutions
6. Different target groups of population

Main reasons for the development of the UNECE SEA manual in Moldova

1. Poor environmental assessment practices in development of national programs and plans
2. Implementation of different international programs, including EU Directives provisions, where SEA is required
3. Willingness of different level of authorities to implement SEA provisions in Moldova on regional and national levels
4. Facilitation of development of educational programs on University level on SEA
5. Presenting of clear guidance on SEA for different users

Benefits of SEA application in national plans and programs in Moldova

1. Better planning practices in development and implementation of national, regional plans and programs, policies
2. National programs and plans are more attractive for international and local investors
3. Preventive tool for supporting of environmental component in new national and regional programs, plans, policies, etc
4. Clear vision of environmental perspectives after implementation of new programs and improved environmental planning practices
- 5 SEA planning makes a framework for Environmental assessment of the projects needed for implementation of national plans and programs

Approaches for the development of the SEA manual in Moldova

1. Consultation meetings with local authorities and other potential users
2. Evaluation of outcomes of consultation meetings
3. Identification of needs of potential users in the SEA manual
4. Summarizing of relevant experience in EU and other countries on SEA
5. Development of the ToR for local consultants involved in the SEA manual development

Summary of the consultation meetings with potential users of the SEA manual

1. Strong mixing of the Environmental impact assessment and SEA provisions and practices
2. Poor knowledge about SEA (central and local authorities, env. specialists)
3. Good commitment and willingness to use SEA practices in development of national and regional programs, plans, etc
4. Actual national, regional programs and plans have very poor SEA component
5. Need a strong training activities on UNECE SEA Protocol and EU Directive
6. Actual manual could be used as a basis for development of training programs on SEA

Actual practices for SEA application in Moldova

1. Identification of environmental problems, which could be associated with program or plan development
2. Collection of material on the state of environment, social and economic development relevant to the program objectives
3. Estimation of trends in the state of environment in case of implementation of certain program, plan
4. Evaluation and preparing set of measures and scenarios for pollution reduction and Action Plans for program implementation (with env. component)
5. Organizing of public hearings (presumed in EIA law) for program or plan development
6. Presentation of the program or plan to decision makers

Main activities for initiation of SEA process in Moldova

1. Identification of relevant national/regional authorities responsible for development of national plan or program
2. Modalities for involvement of public Institutions in SEA
3. Preparing of env. report relevant to initiated national plan or program
4. Identification of gaps in data for justified environmental assessment
5. Clarifying activities presumed in the program and environmental assessment
6. Estimation of availability of environmental resources for development of national plan/program and prepare possible alternatives
7. Consultation meetings with different target groups of authorities and NGOs for collection and incorporation of their opinion and judgements in background documentation
8. Summarizing of relevant international and local experience in SEA related activities relevant to the initiated plan/program

