
**Questionnaire for the report of LITHUANIA on the implementation of
the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a
Transboundary Context in the period 2013–2015**

Information on the focal point for the Convention

Name and contact information: Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Director of Pollution Prevention Department
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
A. Jakšto 4/9, LT-01105, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Tel. +370 706 63651
Fax. +370 706 63663
E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt

Ms. Miglė Masaitytė
Head of Environmental Impact Assessment division
Pollution Prevention Department
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
A. Jakšto 4/9, LT-01105, Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Tel. +370 706 63654
Fax. +370 706 63663
E-mail: migle.masaityte@am.lt

1.

Information on the point of contact for the Convention

2. Name and contact information (if different from above):

Information on the person responsible for preparing the report

3. Country: Lithuania
4. Surname: Revoldienė
5. Forename: Rūta
6. Institution: Ministry of Environment
7. Postal address: Jakšto str. 4/9, LT-01105 Vilnius
8. E-mail address: ruta.revoldiene@am.lt
9. Telephone number: +370 706 63653
10. Fax number: +370 706 63663
11. Date on which report was completed:

Part one

Current legal and administrative framework for the implementation of the Convention

In this part, please provide the information requested, or revise any information relative to the previous report. Describe the legal, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Convention. This part should describe the framework for your country's implementation, and not experience in the application of the Convention.

Please do not reproduce the text of the legislation itself but summarize and explicitly refer to the relevant provisions transposing the Convention text (e.g., EIA Law of the Republic of ..., art. 5, para. 3, of Government Resolution No. ..., para. ... item...)

Article 1

Definitions

I.1. Is the definition of impact for the purpose of the Convention the same in your legislation as in article 1?

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes, with some differences (please provide details):
- (c) No (please provide the definition):
- (d) There are no definitions of impact in the legislation

Your comments:

Law on the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity amended in 2011 (Law on EIA)

Article 2.7

“Impact on the environment” shall mean a change envisaged to occur in the environment as a result of the proposed economic activity.

The components of the environment are detailed in Article 4 of the Law on EIA impact on human health, flora, fauna, soil, air water, climate, landscape, cultural heritage or material assets shall be assessed performing EIA of the proposed economic activity at national or transboundary level.

I.2. Is the definition of transboundary impact for the purpose of the Convention the same in your legislation as in article 1? Please specify each below.

- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes, with some differences (please provide details):
- (c) No (please provide the definition):
- (d) There are no definitions of transboundary impact in the legislation

Your comments: *Definition of transboundary impact provided in the Convention is applied in practice while deciding if the project could have transboundary impact on the environment to another country.*

I.3. Please specify how major change is defined in your national legislation:

For the activities of Annex I of the Law on EIA major change is defined as the expansion of the activity which reaches the thresholds stated in Annex I. In other cases screening procedure is applied.

I.4. How do you identify the public concerned? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

(a) Based on the geographical location of the proposed project

(b) By making the information available to all members of the public and letting them identify themselves as the public concerned

(c) By other means (please specify):

Your comments:

Article 2

General provisions

I.5. Provide legislative, regulatory, administrative and other measures taken in your country to implement the provisions of the Convention (art. 2, para. 2):

(a) Law on EIA: *Law on the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity amended in 2011.*

(b) EIA provisions are transposed into another law(s) (please specify):

(c) Regulation (please indicate number/year/name):

Order of the Minister of Environment on Informing the Public and Public participation in the Process of Environmental Impact Assessment (2000, revised in 2005, amended in 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2015)

Order of the Minister of Environment on Investigating the Environmental Impact Assessment Documents at the Ministry of Environment and Subordinate Institutions (2000, revised in 2006, amended in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2015)

Order of the Minister of Environment on Preparation of the Environmental Impact assessment program and report (2000, revised in 2006, amended in 2008 and 2010)

(d) Administrative (please indicate number/year/name): *Governmental Resolution of 2000 07 28, No. 900 on Empowering the Ministry of Environment and Subordinate Institutions amended in 2001, 2003, 2010 and 2014).*

(e) Other (please specify): *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on implementation of the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context*

Your comments:

I.6. Please describe any differences between the list of activities in your national legislation and appendix I to the Convention, if any:

(a) There is no difference, all activities are transposed in the national legislation as is

(b) It differs slightly (please specify):

According to the national legislation all activities listed in the Annex I of the Convention are included in the Annex I (full EIA is always required) or Annex II (screening procedure is applied while determine if full EIA is required) to the Law on EIA. Only two activities such as installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and

transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos (point 5, Annex I of the Convention) and deforestation of large areas (point 17, Annex I of the Convention) fall in to the Annex II of the Law on EIA, that means for those activities screening is carried out and if it is determined that implementation of the activity could cause significant transboundary impact, full EIA together with transboundary EIA is carried out. It should be mentioned that according to the national legislation activity related with the processing and transformation of asbestos and products of asbestos is prohibited in Lithuania.

Your comments:

I.7. Identify the competent authority/authorities responsible for carrying out the EIA procedure in your country (please specify):

(a) There are different authorities at national, regional, local levels

(b) They are different for domestic and transboundary procedures

(c) Please name the responsible authority/authorities: *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for domestic EIA procedure. Ministry of Environment is responsible for the coordination transboundary EIA procedure. In case of transboundary EIA cooperation mechanism between EPA and MoE is used.*

(d) There is no single authority responsible for the entire EIA procedure:

Your comments:

I.8. Is there an authority in your country that collects information on all the transboundary EIA cases? If so, please name it:

(a) No

(b) Yes (please specify): *Ministry of Environment.*

Your comments:

I.9. How does your country, as Party of origin and as affected Party, ensure that the opportunity given to the public of the affected Party is equivalent to the one given to the Party of origin's public, as required in article 2, paragraph 6 (please explain):

As a Party of origin we notify the affected Party through Points of Contact regarding Notification and submit all necessary documents. The authorities of the affected Party shall make submitted documentation available for its public. The affected Party informs us about the forthcoming public hearings in their territory in order to provide the opportunity for project developer or its representatives to attend them. Under the request of the affected Party some parts or even full EIA documentation is translated in to the official language of the affected Party. As Party of origin we have to ensure translation during public hearing meetings. The comments of the public of the affected Parties are evaluated in the same way as the comments of our public. When Lithuania is the affected Party the similar requests are submitted to the Party of origin.

Article 3 Notification

I.10. As Party of origin, when do you notify the affected Party (art. 3, para. 1)? Please specify:

- (a) During scoping
- (b) When the EIA report has been prepared and the domestic procedure started
- (c) After finishing the domestic procedure

(d) At other times (please specify): *According to the Law on EIA if the screening procedure is applied for the proposed economic activity and while performing screening procedure where it transpires in the course of screening that the economic activity intended to be carried out in the territory of Lithuania is likely to have a transboundary impact the Republic of Lithuania notifies the affected Party (Parties) during the screening procedure.*

Your comments:

I.11. Please define the format of notification:

- (a) It is the format as decided by the first meeting of the Parties in its decision I/4 (ECE/MP.EIA/2, annex IV, appendix)
- (b) The country has its own format (please attach a copy)
- (c) No official format used

Your comments: *Law on EIA Article 11 specifies that when notifying Affected Party (as defined in the Convention) information on the proposed economic activity, its likely transboundary effects, information on the nature of a decision to be adopted, a period within which the Affected Party may indicate its intention to participate in the process of transboundary EIA and indication of a preliminary time-frame for the drawing up of a report must be provided to the Affected Party.*

I.12. As a Party of origin, what information do you include in the notification (art. 3, para. 2)? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) The information required by article 3, paragraph 2
- (b) The information required by article 3, paragraph 5
- (c) Additional information (please specify):

Your comments:

I.13. As a Party of origin, does your national legislation contain any provision on receiving a response to the notification from the affected Party in a reasonable time frame (art. 3, para. 3, “within the time specified in the notification”)? Please specify:

- (a) National legislation does not cover the time frame
- (b) Yes, it is indicated in the national legislation (please indicate the time frame):
- (c) It is determined and agreed with each affected Party case by case in the beginning of the transboundary consultations (please indicate the average length in weeks):

Your comments: *The time frame for response to the notification is indicated in notification letter. Time frame is between 1-2 months, it depends on the complexity of the project, season of the year.*

Please specify the consequence if a notified affected Party does not comply with the time frame, and the possibility of extending a deadline:

On the motivated request of the affected Party time period is usually extended because it's very important to have official position of the affected Party regarding proposed economic activity and its intention to participate in the transboundary EIA procedure.

I.14. How do you inform the public and authorities of the affected Party (art. 3, para 8)?
Please specify:

(a) By informing the point of contact to the Convention listed on the Convention website¹

(b) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.15. On what basis is the decision made to participate (or not) in the transboundary EIA procedure as affected Party (art. 3, para. 3)? Please specify:

(a) Notified ministry/authority of the affected Party responsible for EIA decides on its own based on the documentation provided by Party of origin

(b) Based on the opinions of the competent authorities of the affected Party

(c) Based on the opinions of the competent authorities and that of public of the affected Party

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments: *It should be mentioned that decision to participate (or not) in the transboundary EIA procedure as affected Party is based on the opinions of the competent authorities and of the public and on the documentation provided by the Party of origin.*

I.16. If the affected Party has indicated that it intends to participate in the EIA procedure, how are the details for such participation agreed, including the time frame for consultations and the deadline for commenting (art. 5)? Please specify:

(a) Following the rules and procedures of the Party of origin

(b) Following the rules and procedures of the affected Party

(c) Other (please specify):

Your comments: *Combination of rules and procedures of the Party of origin and of the affected Party is used when deciding on the details of the transboundary procedure and consultations.*

Article 4

Preparation of the environmental impact assessment documentation

I.17. How do you ensure sufficient quality of the EIA documentation as Party of origin?
Please specify:

(a) The competent authority checks the information provided and ensures it includes all information required under appendix II as a minimum before making it available for comments

(b) By using quality checklists

(c) There are no specific procedures or mechanisms

(d) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

¹ List available from http://www.unece.org/env/eia/points_of_contact.htm.

I.18. How do you determine the relevant information to be included in the EIA documentation in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

- (a) By using appendix II
- (b) By using the comments received from the authorities concerned during the scoping phase, if applicable
- (c) By using the comments from members of the public during the scoping phase, if applicable
- (d) As determined by the proponent based on its own expertise
- (e) By using other means (please specify):

Programme for environmental impact assessment (scoping document) is developed when the proposed economic activity is subject to mandatory environmental assessment. A programme is developed by the prepare of documents of environmental impact assessment in compliance with the Regulations of Development of a Programme for and Drawing up of a Report on Environmental Impact Assessment approved by the Minister of Environment. A report on environmental impact assessment is drowned up according to a programme approved by the competent authority. This report contains an exhaustive analysis of all the issues provided for in the programme and the following information: description of the pollutants to be emitted; description of production and management of waste; description of the aspects of the environment likely to be affected by the proposed economic activity; definition and evaluation of the likely direct and indirect effect of the proposed economic activity on public health, fauna and flora, soil, land surface and the underground, air, water, climate, landscape, biodiversity, material assets and immovable cultural properties as well as the inter-relationship between the above aspects of the environment; description of the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset adverse effects on the environment or eliminate them; analysis of the alternatives studied by the drafter of documents of environmental impact assessment indicating the reasons for this choice taking into account the best production techniques as well as the likely effect on the environment; information on the technical or practical problems encountered by the drafter of documents of environmental impact assessment in the course of environmental impact assessment; information on probable emergencies, the measures of prevention or mitigation thereof and response thereto; analysis of data of the performed environmental monitoring, guidelines for the environmental monitoring intended to be performed, information on the likely significant adverse effect on the environment of another European Union Member State and/or a foreign state, also a summary of the entire information considered in the report.

Your comments:

I.19. How do you determine “reasonable alternatives” in accordance with appendix II, paragraph (b)?

- (a) On a case-by-case basis
- (b) As defined in the national legislation (please specify):
- (c) Other (please specify): *Alternatives are chosen by the developer of planned activity, taking into account the best available modes and production of potential environmental impact, and at least several alternatives (e. g. location, timing, technical and technological solutions, environmental impact mitigation measures alternatives) as well as no action alternative shall be thoroughly investigated.*

Your comments:

Article 5
Consultations on the basis of the environmental impact
assessment documentation

(a) Public participation

I.20. How can the public concerned express its opinion on the EIA documentation of the proposed project (art. 5)? Please specify (more than one option may apply):

As Party of origin

- (a) By sending comments to the competent authority/focal point
- (b) By taking part in a public hearing
- (c) Other (please specify): *by sending comments to the preparer of the EIA documents of the proposed economic activity.*

As affected Party

- (d) By sending comments to the competent authority/focal point
- (e) By taking part in a public hearing
- (f) Other (please specify):

Your comments:

I.21. Please indicate whether your national EIA legislation requires the organization of a public hearing on the territory of the affected Party in cases where your country is the country of origin:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

Your comments: *National EIA legislation does not require the organization of public hearing, however it is organised under the request of the Affected Party.*

I.22. Please indicate whether your national EIA legislation requires the organization of public hearings in cases where your country is the affected Party:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

Your comments:

National EIA legislation does not require the organization of public hearing in cases where our country is the affected Party but in practice we always ask the Party of origin to organize public hearing in our country.

(b) Consultations

I.23. Does your national EIA legislation have any provision on the organization of transboundary consultations (expert, joint bodies, etc.) between the authorities of the concerned Parties? Please specify:

- (a) Yes, it is obligatory
- (b) No, it does not have any provision on that
- (c) It is optional (please specify):

Your comments: *Such provisions are set in bilateral agreements.*

**Article 6
Final decision**

I.24. Please indicate all points below that are covered in a final decision related to the implementation of the planned activity (art. 6, para. 1):

- (a) Conclusions of the EIA documentation
- (b) Comments received in accordance with article 3, paragraph 8, and article 4, paragraph 2
- (c) Outcome of the consultations as referred to in article 5
- (d) Outcomes of the transboundary consultations
- (e) Comments received from the affected Party
- (f) Mitigation measures
- (g) Other (please specify):

I.25. Are the comments of the authorities and the public of the affected Party and the outcome of the consultations taken into consideration in the same way as the comments from the authorities and the public in your country (art. 6, para. 1):

(a) Yes

(b) No

Your comments:

I.26. Is there any regulation in the national legislation of your country that ensures the implementation of the provisions of article 6, paragraph 3?:

(a) No

(b) Yes (please specify):

Your comments:

I.27. Do all activities listed in appendix I (items 1-22) require a final decision to authorize or undertake such an activity?:

(a) Yes

(b) No (please specify those that do not):

Your comments:

I.28. For each type of activity listed in appendix I that does require a final decision, please indicate the legal requirements in your country that identify what is regarded as the “final decision” to authorize or undertake such an activity (art. 6 in conjunction with art. 2, para. 3), and the term used in the national legislation to indicate the final decision in the original language:

Final decision is a binding justified decision of the specified form made by the competent authority which tells if the proposed economic activity in light of provisions of relevant laws and other legal acts, by virtue of its nature and environmental impacts may be carried out in the chosen site. All projects in Appendix I require such a decision.

Your comments:

Article 7

Post-project analysis

I.29. Is there any provision regarding post-project analysis in your national EIA legislation (art. 7, para. 1)?:

(a) No

(b) Yes (please specify the main steps to be taken and how the results of it are communicated):

Your comments: *The EIA legislation requires the monitoring measures to be included in the EIA documentation take into account the implementation phase of the project (prior-to-construction, construction, operation) and correspond with the objectives listed in Appendix V of the Convention.*

Bilateral agreement with PL include provision on post project analysis.

Article 8

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation

(a) Agreements

I.30. Does your country have any bilateral or multilateral agreements based on the Convention (art. 8, appendix VI)?:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes Please specify with which countries:

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on implementation of the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. The agreement was signed to simplify and speed up the transboundary EIA process.

The text is available only in Lithuanian and Polish languages. It is published on the website of the Espoo Convention.

If publicly available, please also attach the texts of such bilateral and multilateral agreements, preferably in English, French or Russian.

I.31. What issues do these bilateral agreements cover (appendix VI)? (more than one option may apply):

- (a) Specific conditions of the subregion concerned
- (b) Institutional, administrative and other arrangements
- (c) Harmonization of the Parties' policies and measures
- (d) Developing, improving, and/or harmonizing methods for the identification, measurement, prediction and assessment of impacts, and for post-project analysis
- (e) Developing and/or improving methods and programmes for the collection, analysis, storage and timely dissemination of comparable data regarding environmental quality in order to provide input into the EIA
- (f) Establishment of threshold levels and more specified criteria for defining the significance of transboundary impacts related to the location, nature or size of proposed activities
- (g) Undertaking joint EIA, development of joint monitoring programmes, intercalibration of monitoring devices and harmonization of methodologies
- (h) Other, please specify:

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland, and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania covers:

the activities for which the transboundary EIA procedures should be applied (for any activity that may have significant transboundary impact and for which according to national legislations the EIA procedures are applied and EIA documents are prepared except the activities for national defence purposes);

public participation and time schedule. The public of the affected Party has opportunity to provide comments for the time period that is indicated in the legislation of the affected Party;

translation of documents: notification letter, non-technical summary and the part of EIA documents which are necessary for the affected Party to present its position on environmental impacts, final decision and other documents (invitations to consultations, minutes of consultations) must be translated into the official language of the affected Party.

Your comments:

(b) Procedural steps required by the national legislation

I.32. Please describe the steps required in your national legislation for a transboundary EIA procedure:

(a) When EIA in a transboundary context is part of a domestic EIA procedure:

National EIA procedure is applied to any activity which is listed in Annex I of the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Proposed Economic Activity which includes all activities of the Appendix I of the Convention. Competent authority in every case should decide whether to apply transboundary EIA procedure.

For projects listed in the Annex II of the Law on EIA the transboundary impacts are analysed through screening procedure. If competent authority decides that project might have significant transboundary effects EIA is carried out at national and transboundary level.

In general Ministry of Environment before the approval of EIA program (scoping document) sends the notification to the focal point of the affected Party. Draft EIA program or screening information is provided with notification letter to the affected Party. The time frame for response to the notification is indicated in notification letter.

After receiving answer from the affected Party about its desire to participate in performance of transboundary EIA Ministry of Environment informs developer of the activity and preparer of the EIA documents that transboundary EIA procedure is applied for its proposed activity. After the EIA documents are prepared the draft version of them are provided to the Ministry of Environment. The Ministry sends them to the affected Party with the official letter and indicates a time-frame within which the affected Party may submit its proposals and asks to inform its public and institutions concerned according to the legislation of the affected Party. After receiving comments, proposals regarding proposed activity, its transboundary impacts, mitigation measures and comments on the EIA report transboundary consultations between national experts, if necessary, are organized. When competent authority makes a motivated decision whether the planned economic activity is admissible in the selected site with due consideration to its nature and environmental impact competent authority informs focal point in the affected Party about it.

(b) When EIA in a transboundary context is a separate procedure (please provide of how this procedure links to the domestic procedure and whether the steps are different):

Alternatively, this question can be answered or supported by providing a schematic flowchart showing these steps.

Your comments:

I.33. Does your country have special provisions or informal arrangements concerning transboundary EIA procedures for joint cross-border projects (e.g., roads, pipelines)?:

(a) No

(b) Yes (please specify):

(i) Special provisions:

(ii) Informal arrangements:

Your comments:

I.34. Does your country have special provisions or informal arrangements concerning transboundary EIA procedures for nuclear power plants (NPPs)?:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes (please specify):
 - (i) Special provisions:
 - (ii) Informal arrangements:

Your comments:

Part two

Practical application during the period 2013–2015

Please report on your country's practical experiences in applying the Convention (not your country's procedures described in part one), whether as Party of origin or affected Party. The focus here is on identifying good practices as well as difficulties Parties have encountered in applying the Convention in practice. The goal is to enable Parties to share solutions. Parties should therefore provide appropriate examples highlighting application of the Convention and innovative approaches to improve its application.

II.1. Does your country object to the information on transboundary EIA procedures that you provide in this section being compiled and made available on the website of the Convention? Please specify (indicate "yes" if you object):

(a) Yes

(b) No

Your comments:

1. Experience in the transboundary environmental impact assessment procedure during the period 2013–2015

Cases during the period 2013–2015

II.2. If your country's national administration has a record of transboundary EIA procedures that were under way during the reporting period, in which your country was Party of origin or affected Party, please list them in the tables II.2 (a) and II.2 (b) below (adding additional rows as needed).

Table II.2 (a)

Transboundary EIA procedures: As Party of origin

Name of case	Starting date (date notification sent)	Length of the main steps in months		Final decision (date of issuing, if information is available)
		Submission of the environmental report	Transboundary consultations (expert), if any Public participation, including public hearing, if any	
1. <i>Planned European-standard railway line Kaunas – Lithuanian/Latvian state border (Rail Baltica2)</i>	<i>EIA for LT part started in 2015. LV was notified on 25 June 2015.</i>			
2. <i>Planned Juodymas Peat deposit extraction (II project)</i>	<i>EIA started in 2015. LV was notified on 26 November</i>			

Name of case	Starting date (date notification sent)	Length of the main steps in months			Final decision (date of issuing, if information is available)
		Submission of the environmental report	Transboundary consultations (expert), if any	Public participation, including public hearing, if any	
2015.					
3. <i>Planned Juodymas Peat deposit extraction (I project)</i>	<i>EIA started in 2015. LV was notified on 14 April 2015.</i>				
4. <i>Gas Interconnection Poland - Lithuania (GIPL) construction part in the territory the Republic of Lithuania.</i>	<i>EIA started in 2014. PL was notified on 17 October 2014.</i>	<i>only for information purposes on 25 June 2015</i>			<i>21 August 2015</i>
...					

Your comments:

Table II.2 (a)
Transboundary EIA procedures: As affected Party

Name of case	Starting date (date notification sent)	Length of the main steps in months			Final decision (date of issuing, if information is available)
		Submission of the environmental report	Transboundary consultations (expert), if any	Public participation, including public hearing, if any	
1. <i>Construction of European gauge public railway line "Rail Baltica 2"</i> <i>Party of Origin -Latvia</i>	<i>Notification in February 2015</i>	<i>Submission of EIA report on 26 November 2015</i>			
2. <i>Kaliningrad nuclear power plant project</i> <i>Party of Origin – Russian Federation</i>	<i>No notification in accordance with Espoo Convention</i>	<i>No new information since 2013 Latest communication at the beginning of 2015</i>			
3. <i>Low and</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>no new</i>			

Name of case	Starting date (date notification sent)	Length of the main steps in months			Final decision (date of issuing, if information is available)
		Submission of the environmental report	Transboundary consultations (expert), if any	Public participation, including public hearing, if any	
<i>medium-level radioactive waste disposal site in Leningrad region Party of Origin – Russian Federation</i>	<i>notification in accordance with Espoo Convention,</i>	<i>information since 2013 Latest communication at the beginning of 2015</i>			
4. <i>Nord Stream extension project</i>	<i>Notification in May 2013</i>				

Your comments:

Please share with other Parties your country's experience of using the Convention in practice. In response to each of the questions below, either provide one or two practical examples or describe your country's general experience. You might also include examples of lessons learned in order to help others.

II.3. Translation is not addressed in the Convention. How has your country addressed the question of translation? What difficulties has your country as Party of origin and affected Party experienced relating to translation and interpretation, and what solutions has your country applied? (Please specify, among others, the parts and type of the documentation translated, language, costs, etc.):

(a) As Party of origin: *The translation problems can be solved by bilateral agreements.*

When there is no bilateral agreements the language of EIA documentation depends on the project. For example all EIA documents of Visaginas Nuclear Power Plant Construction were translated in English and Russian languages and provided to the affected Parties. The EIA report summary of Visaginas Nuclear Power plant Construction was translated to official language of the affected Party.

(b) As affected Party: *When Lithuania is an affected Party we request to translate the summary and the chapter on possible transboundary impacts into Lithuanian language.*

II.4. Describe any difficulties that your country has encountered during transboundary public participation (expert consultation, public hearing, etc.), including on issues of timing, language and the need for additional information:

The developer of the activity attends the public hearings that are held in the affected Party and ensures interpretation services (when requested by affected Party). The public of the affected Party usually submits comments to their authority and then the government of the affected party sends them to us. We have heard complaints from the public of the affected Party and the authorities of the affected Party regarding poor translation in the public hearing meeting (complaints were received from Latvia as affected Party during the EIA procedure for new nuclear power plant project).

II.5. Does your country have successful examples of organizing transboundary EIA procedures for joint cross-border projects or that of an NPP?:

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

II.6. If you answered yes to question II.5, please provide information on your country's experiences describing, for example, means of cooperation (e.g., contact points, joint bodies, bilateral agreements, special and common provisions, etc.), institutional arrangements, and how practical matters are dealt with (e.g., translation, interpretation, transmission of documents, etc.):

- (a) For joint cross-border projects:
- (b) For NPPs:

II.7. Name examples of good practice cases, whether complete cases or good practice elements (e.g., notification, consultation or public participation) within cases:

II.8. Would your country like to introduce a case in the form of a Convention "case study fact sheet"?:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes (please indicate which cases):

II.9. Has your country carried out post-project analyses in the period 2013–2015:

- (a) No
- (b) Yes (please indicate which projects, along with the challenges in implementation and any lessons learned):

2. Experience in using the guidance in 2013–2015

II.10. Has your country used in practice the following guidance, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties and available online?:

(a) Guidance on Public Participation in Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (ECE/MP.EIA/7):

No

Yes (please provide details):

Your experience with using this guidance: *guidance is most often used regarding financing and translation issues, the recommendations are used in explaining the "polluter pays" principle to developers in relation to bearing the costs related to the application of the Convention.*

Your suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance:

(b) Guidance on subregional cooperation (ECE/MP.EIA/6, annex V, appendix):

No

Yes (please provide details):

Your experience with using this guidance:

Your suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance:

(c) Guidance on the Practical Application of the Espoo Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/8):

No

Yes (please provide details): *guidance is most often used regarding to financing and translation issues, the recommendations are used in explaining the “polluter pays” principle to developers in relation to bearing the costs related to the application of the Convention.*

Your experience with using this guidance:

Your suggestions for improving or supplementing the guidance:

3. Clarity of the Convention

II.11. Has your country had difficulties implementing the procedures defined in the Convention, either as Party of origin or as affected Party, because of a lack of clarity of the provisions?:

No

Yes (please indicate which provisions and how they are unclear): *The time frames, content of EIA documentation and translation are the main issues, but they can be solved by bilateral agreements or by close cooperation among concerned Parties.*

4. Suggested improvements to the report

II.12 Please provide suggestions for how this report may be improved.