

Decision VII/3–III/3

Adoption of the workplan

The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol), meeting in joint session,

Recalling article 11, paragraph 2 (f), of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, stipulating that the Meeting of the Parties will consider and undertake any additional action that may be required to achieve the purposes of the Convention,

Recalling also article 14, paragraph 4 (f), of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, stipulating that the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol will consider and undertake any additional action, including action to be carried out jointly under the Protocol and the Convention, that may be required to achieve the purposes of the Protocol,

Recognizing that it is essential for Parties to the Convention and the Protocol to meet fully their legal obligations arising under these treaties,

Recognizing also that Parties to the Convention and the Protocol should take action to maximize the effectiveness of their application of the Convention and the Protocol, respectively, so that the best possible practical results are achieved,

Acknowledging that the Convention and, in particular, its Protocol, provide a framework for the integration of environmental, including health, concerns into development activities and sectoral plans and programmes and, where appropriate, into policies and legislation, and that consequently their effective application contributes to supporting countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing with appreciation the valuable work carried out under the workplan adopted at the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (decision VI/3–II/3), particularly:

(a) The steps taken by Parties and non-Parties to ensure that their environmental impact assessment systems are consistent with the provisions of the Convention and the Protocol, and to report accordingly;

(b) The workshops and pilot projects for subregional cooperation and capacity-building on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment organized by the Governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine;

(c) The seminars for the exchange of good practices organized by the secretariat on behalf of the Governments of Belarus and Ukraine and by the European Investment Bank;

(d) The preparation of guidance material and recommendations for improving the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, notably regarding:

(i) The application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related matters;

(ii) Land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects;

(iii) Reforming legal and institutional structures with regard to the application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment;

(e) The preparation by the secretariat of promotional material, including a video and a brochure on the Protocol and its benefits,

Noting with satisfaction that the activities in the workplan adopted by the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol, at their sixth and second sessions, respectively, excluding those that were cancelled, have been approximately 77 per cent completed, with 100 per cent of priority 1 activities completed, and 100 per cent of priority 2 activities and approximately 75 per cent of priority 3 activities completed,¹

Also noting with satisfaction that the implementation of all of the remaining workplan activities are ongoing or are planned and are expected to be completed in the next intersessional period,

Recognizing with regret that attempts to accelerate the formal opening of the Convention to countries outside the Economic Commission for Europe region (ECE) have been forestalled by legal impediments,

Wishing to establish a realistic intersessional workplan under the Convention and the Protocol by ensuring in advance the funding of the workplan activities,

Noting with concern, however, the limited funding available to support the implementation of the workplan activities,

1. *Decide* that activities for which no funding is identified should remain on a waiting list, as set out in annex II to the present decision, until appropriate funding is made available, and invite Parties to the Convention and the Protocol, and other stakeholders to actively seek opportunities for ensuring their financing and implementation;

2. *Adopt* the workplan and the waiting list of activities for the period 2017–2020, as set out in annexes I and II to the present decision;

3. *Call on* the Parties, and also invite non-Parties, to arrange, host and participate actively in seminars, workshops and meetings to facilitate implementation of and compliance with the Convention and the Protocol;

4. *Invite* Parties to upgrade the sustainable availability of financing for the activities in the workplan, including those on the waiting list, and also invite interested Parties, organizations and other stakeholders to support the mobilization of means and resources for those activities;

5. *Invite* relevant bodies or agencies, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental and, possibly, researchers and consultants for agreed activities to participate actively in the activities included in the workplan, where appropriate;

6. *Invite* the ECE Executive Secretary to continue supporting the work under the Convention and the Protocol by promoting the activities planned in the workplan and providing formal documentation for and ensuring publication of the outcomes of these activities in the three official languages of ECE, as appropriate. Publications subject to

¹ Activities included in the budget adopted by the Convention and the Protocol for the period up to the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol contained in annex I to decision VI/4–II/4 were assigned priorities 1 and 2. Other workplan activities that were financed to the extent possible through earmarked contributions by Parties or through project funding are referred to as priority 3 activities.

global outreach should be processed and translated by the United Nations Conference Services and made available in the six United Nations languages;

7. *Decide* that during the intersessional period that extends until the next ordinary sessions of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol, scheduled for 2020, the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment should meet in spring 2018, spring 2019 and autumn 2019, and that the Implementation Committee should hold in total nine sessions, meeting three times a year — in spring, autumn and winter;

8. *Request* the secretariat to prepare the provisional agendas and other formal documentation for and reports on the meetings mentioned in paragraph 7 above and to issue these documents in the three official languages of ECE.

Annex I

Workplan for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocol for the period 2017–2020

<i>Activity objectives</i>	<i>Method of work (sub-activities)</i>	<i>Organizational arrangements</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>	<i>Time schedule</i>	<i>Budget</i>
<p>I. Compliance with and implementation of the Convention and the Protocol</p> <p>Enhance the implementation of and compliance with the Convention and the Protocol.</p>					Most items included in Implementation Committee and secretariat costs. Exceptions are identified below.
	I.1. Consideration by the Implementation Committee of compliance submissions and Committee initiatives.	Undertaken by the Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	Recommendations on compliance submissions and Committee initiatives.	2017–2020, presented to MOP8 and MOP/MOP4	May require funding for translation of submissions (\$10,000).
	I.2. Report on the Committee's activities to MOP8 and MOP/MOP4.	Undertaken by the Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	Reports of the Committee meetings and a synthesis report to MOP8 and MOP/MOP4.	2017–2020, presented to MOP8 and MOP/MOP4	—
	I.3. If necessary, review of the Committee's structure and functions and operating rules.	Undertaken by the Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	Possible revision of the Committee's structure and functions and operating rules.	2017–2020, presented to MOP8 and MOP/MOP4	—

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	I.4. Examination of the outcome of the fifth review of implementation of the Convention and the second review of implementation of the Protocol.	Undertaken by the Implementation Committee, with the support of the secretariat.	Summary of compliance issues from the fifth review of implementation of the Convention and the second review of implementation of the Protocol.	By the end of 2017	—
	I.5. Distribution to Parties of the questionnaires for reporting on implementation of the Convention and the Protocol in 2016–2018.	Carried out by the secretariat.	Completed questionnaires returned by the deadline.	Questionnaires issued by end of October 2018 Return of questionnaires by end of March 2019	—
	I.6. Preparation of draft reviews of implementation of the Convention and the Protocol.	Carried out by the secretariat.	Draft sixth review of implementation of the Convention and draft third review of implementation of the Protocol for consideration by the Implementation Committee, the Working Group on EIA and SEA, MOP8 and MOP/MOP4.	Presentation of the draft reviews to the Committee and the Working Group in autumn 2019 and to MOP8 and MOP/MOP4	Requires external consultants and translation of national reports (\$25,000 is required from the core budget). ^a

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	I.7. Pre-accession legislative assistance to Kazakhstan, including advice on drafting the necessary legislation and secondary legislation to promote ratification and implementation of the Protocol and implementation of the Convention.	Undertaken by external consultant(s), assisted by a national counterpart, with the support of the secretariat.	Recommendations to the country on strengthening capacity, including new draft legislation and amendments to legislation, procedures and institutional arrangements.	2017–2018	Costs: approximately \$35,000 for legal drafting, plus in-kind contributions from Kazakhstan providing national experts and interpretation. Funding from the European Union, ^b with possible additional funding from Switzerland for a legislative review on EIA.
	I.8. Collection of findings and opinions from the Committee regarding the Convention and the Protocol, posted on the website.	Carried out by the secretariat.	Online collection of the Committee's findings and opinions.	Annual updates	—
	I.9. Draft terms of reference for possible guidance on addressing the applicability of the Convention with regard to decisions on the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants, involving a workshop to discuss and recommend their adoption by the Working Group on EIA and SEA.	Lead countries: Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland The terms of reference are to be developed by an ad hoc working group including, among others, the following States Parties: ^c Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, France, Finland (tbc), Germany, Greece (tbc), Italy (tbc), Luxembourg, Poland (tbc), Portugal (tbc), Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the European	Draft terms of reference for a possible guidance document.	First meeting of the ad hoc group in the fourth quarter of 2017, to be followed by at least one other meeting prior to the seventh meeting of the Working Group on EIA and SEA (date to be specified). Terms of reference and	—

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		<p>Commission, serving as a secretariat to the group. (The ad hoc group might subsequently be extended to include international organizations and NGOs, as decided by the Working Group on EIA and SEA).</p> <p>The workshop will be organized by the ad hoc working group, with the participation, among others, of the Implementation Committee, civil society and, possibly, IAEA and OECD/NEA.</p>		<p>the possible extended scope of the ad hoc working group to be agreed by the Working Group on EIA and SEA in May 2018.</p>	
	I.10 Finalization of the development and update of the Guidelines on EIA in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries:	Undertaken by Central Asian countries with the support of external consultants and the secretariat.	Updated and further developed guidelines.	By 2020	Funding from Switzerland.
	(a) One subregional meeting (to be organized back to back with the subregional conference in Ukraine (see item II.C (b)));			October-November 2017	Travel costs funded through savings from the previous period.
	(b) Reviews of national legislation with regard to compliance with the provisions of the Convention and the development of recommendations (to enhance part III of the draft Guidelines).			By summer 2018	Costs: Approximately \$7,000–\$10,000 per country for consultancy costs.

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<p>II. Subregional cooperation and capacity-building to strengthen contacts between the Parties and others, including States outside the ECE region</p> <p>Improved application of the Convention and its Protocol within the subregions.</p> <p>Promotion of cooperation in all subregions.</p>			<p>Common understanding of the requirements for implementation of the Convention and the Protocol.</p> <p>Possible development of multilateral agreements.</p> <p>Possible guidance on subregional issues, such as public participation and the role of NGOs.</p>		
<p>Increased professional skills of officials and increased awareness of the public, including NGOs, and officials at all relevant administrative levels in relation to SEA and transboundary EIA and to the application of the Convention and its Protocol.</p>	<p>II.A. Baltic Sea subregion</p> <p>Two meetings on topics to be identified by the lead countries.</p>	<p>To be organized by lead countries: Denmark, Finland and Sweden.</p>	<p>Workshop reports.</p>	<p>(a) Autumn 2018 (on a ship between Finland and Sweden);</p> <p>(b) Autumn/ winter 2019 in Denmark.</p>	<p>In kind.</p>
<p>Common understanding of elements of application and possible multilateral agreements.</p>	<p>II.B. South-Eastern Europe subregion</p>		<p>Workshop reports and possible reports on specific issues.</p>		

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Increased coordination between environmental legislation/treaties.	A dedicated session on implementation of the Convention, the Protocol and the Bucharest Agreement in the subregion.	Lead countries/organizations: Croatia, Romania and Slovenia and the secretariat, held under the auspices of a regional conference on EIA hosted by Croatia.		14 September 2017, in Vodice, Croatia	In kind (but funding required for travel of additional experts/participants).
	II.C. Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and beyond Subregional coordination and experience-sharing events to share successes, challenges, solutions and experiences as well as the results of capacity-building activities on SEA and EIA, followed by the dissemination of seminar results in all countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, including to the public and NGOs:	Lead/host countries, with support from the secretariat and from a local counterpart/NGO for logistical arrangements.	Dissemination of seminar results: All countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.		
	(a) Subregional workshop building on the updated Guidelines on EIA in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries;	Lead/host country: Kyrgyzstan. Participation by all countries in Central Asia. Could be extended to countries outside ECE, e.g., in South-East Asia. (Organized back to back to the subregional coordination and experience-sharing event scheduled to take place in Ukraine in late 2017).	Workshop report(s).	Autumn 2017	Partial funding available (reallocation of funds Switzerland provided in 2011 for legislative support to Uzbekistan); if extended beyond ECE, further donor funding required.
	(b) Seminar on lessons learned from capacity-building activities in 2014–2017, including SEA pilot projects in	Lead/host country: Ukraine. Participation by all countries in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus.		October–November 2017 (exact dates tbc)	Funding from the European Union (EaP-GREEN). ^d

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	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine; and a subregional training-of-trainers event on SEA.				
<p>III. Exchange of good practices</p> <p>Shared knowledge and experience in appropriate legislation for implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, leading to better national legislation and application.</p> <p>Improved implementation and application of the Convention and the Protocol by learning from Parties' experiences.</p>	<p>Workshops or half-day seminars within meetings of the Working Group or the Meetings of the Parties:</p>	To be organized by a lead country(ies) with support from the secretariat.	<p>From each workshop or seminar, a brief, clear document presenting advice on the most important problems identified for the theme in question.</p> <p>Contribution to the application of SDGs.</p>	2017–2020	Costs (e.g., for speakers, provision and translation of materials) to be covered in kind by lead countries, to the extent possible (approximately \$10,000 per seminar). (Travel costs for countries eligible for financial support and non-ECE countries should be covered from the budget.)
Awareness-raising on the Convention, its amendments and its ratification.	<p>(a) Seminar on improving intersectoral cooperation and institutional arrangements for the application of the Protocol on SEA and the Convention;</p> <p>(b) Other workshops (tbc)</p>	Secretariat with inputs from volunteering delegates and with the possible participation of WHO. To be held in the framework of a meeting of the Working Group on EIA and SEA.		2019	In kind.

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IV. Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA and/or the Convention			Ratifications and other outcomes specified below.	2017–2020	
Ratification, full legal implementation and practical application of the Protocol and the Convention. Increased professional skills of officials, and increased awareness of the public, including NGOs, and officials at all relevant administrative levels in relation to SEA and to the application of the Protocol and the Convention.	IV.1. Workshops, including training, on the application of the Protocol for countries in the ECE region and other Parties to the Protocol, in particular countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia:	Lead countries with the support of the secretariat and external consultant(s) and national counterparts.	Workshop and training reports.		
Increased exchange of information on and experience in the application of the Protocol and the Convention.	One national training event.	Kazakhstan.		2015–2017	European Union funding for Kazakhstan. ^b
	IV.2. National guidance documents on SEA.	Lead country: Kazakhstan	One published guidance document.	2017–2018	Funding from the European Union for Kazakhstan. ^b

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	IV.3. Preparation of two-page informal pamphlets or “FasTips” on key issues in SEA practice on topics to be suggested (e.g., SEA for water management plans or the waste management sector; analytical methods used in SEA; and monitoring) and on the Convention and the Protocol.	Lead organization: IAIA, with the support of WHO, SEA and health experts, and from the secretariat for the dedicated “FasTips” on the Convention and the Protocol.	Informal pamphlets.	Ongoing	In kind. Translation of (some five) relevant “FasTips” into Russian funded by WWF Russia.
	IV.4. Pilot SEA in Kazakhstan, involving the following activities: (a) Two workshops for scoping and the analysis of the baseline, impact assessment, development of mitigation measures and development of recommendations; (b) Two public consultation events; (c) Preparation of the SEA report.	Lead country: Kazakhstan as the lead/target country, with the support of an external consultant, national experts and the secretariat, and in collaboration with partner organizations, as relevant.			Likely funding from the European Union ^b Costs: for the pilots (\$80,000-\$100,000) and for staff costs of a project manager and support personnel, P-3 (\$15,000 per month) and G-4 (\$8,500 per month).
	IV.5. Preparation of fact sheets on the application of the Protocol.	Lead countries: Germany and other Parties. (All Parties invited to propose fact sheets. The Party preparing the fact sheet will be responsible for its layout.)	Fact sheets to be published on the Convention website by the secretariat.	2017–2020	In kind.

Abbreviations: Bucharest Agreement = Multilateral Agreement among the Countries of South-Eastern Europe for Implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context; EIA = environmental impact assessment; IAEA = International Atomic Energy Agency; IAIA = International Association for Impact Assessment; MOP8 = the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its eighth session; MOP/MOP4 = the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fourth session; NGOs = non-governmental organizations; OECD/NEA = Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Nuclear Energy Agency; SDGs = Sustainable Development Goals; SEA = strategic environmental assessment; tbc = to be confirmed;

WHO = World Health Organization; WWF = World Wide Fund for Nature.

^a The financing of the activities foreseen in the budget of the Convention and its Protocol for 2017–2020, as set out in the annex to decision VII/4/III.4, is contingent on sufficient funds being made available by Parties through their voluntary contributions to the Convention trust fund.

^b Through “Supporting Kazakhstan’s Transition to a Green Economy Model”, a European Union-funded multi-stakeholder project for 2015–2018. Funding subject to applicable procedures under the project.

^c Further Parties were invited to express their interest in participating in the ad hoc group by 30 September 2017.

^d “Greening Economies in the European Union’s Eastern Partnership” (EaP-GREEN), a European Union-funded regional multi-stakeholder project. Funding subject to applicable procedures under the project.

Annex II

List of activities awaiting funding and/or identification of lead countries or organizations for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocol for the period 2017–2020

<i>Activity objectives</i>	<i>Method of work (sub-activities)</i>	<i>Organizational arrangements</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>	<i>Time schedule</i>	<i>Budget</i>
I. Compliance with and implementation of the Convention and the Protocol Enhance the implementation of and compliance with the Convention and the Protocol	I.1. Reviews of legislation, procedures and practice and technical assistance in drafting legislation to strengthen Parties' implementation of and compliance with the Convention and the Protocol. Prompted by the Implementation Committee or requested by Parties themselves, as follows:	Undertaken by external consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat. Including a period in-country examining national legislation and based on earlier reviews, as available.	Recommendations to the country on strengthening capacity, including amendments to legislation, procedures and institutional arrangements.		Costs: approximately \$25,000 per review, plus in-kind contributions from Parties providing experts and from target country for interpretation.
	(a) Technical legislative advice further to possible Committee initiatives (as decided by the Implementation Committee);	Supervised by members of the Committee.			Funding to be identified.
	(b) Technical legislative advice to Parties to the Convention and/or the Protocol requesting assistance (review of primary or secondary legislation; proposals for amendments).	Lead/requesting country: (a) Azerbaijan; drafting of secondary legislation; (b) Kyrgyzstan: drafting of secondary legislation for the application of the Convention and an awareness-raising event to promote the adoption of the amended legal framework.			

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	I.2. Pre-accession technical legislative advice to a country or countries wishing to join the Protocol and/or the Convention to review national legislation for implementation of the Protocol and/or the Convention and to draft primary or secondary legislation or propose amendments.	Lead/requesting country: (a) Tajikistan: review of national EIA legislation; support in legal drafting; awareness-raising event to promote adoption of the amended law; (b) Uzbekistan: two to three national seminars on application of the Convention.		To be defined by the requesting countries.	Funding to be identified.
	I.3. After the adoption of national law by Georgia, pilot on the application of transboundary EIA between Armenia and Georgia to test their respective laws and improve transboundary procedures.	Lead/requesting country: Armenia, in cooperation with Georgia. Undertaken by external consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat.			Requires funding (around \$100,000).
	I.4. Elaborate a long-term strategy and action plan for the future of the Convention and the Protocol (see draft decision VII/7–III/6).	To be carried out by lead countries and organizations, with support from a consultant and the secretariat. To be adopted by the Meetings of the Parties.	A long-term strategy and action plan for the future of the Convention and the Protocol, including to: (a) Set a vision for the next years; (b) Set priorities to ensure the best use of resources; (c) Identify future activities, partnerships, and funding mechanisms for:	2017–2020	Requires in-kind contributions or a consultant for drafting (approximately \$15,000).

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<p>II. Subregional cooperation and capacity-building to strengthen contacts between the Parties and others, including States outside the ECE region</p> <p>Improved application of the Convention and its Protocol within the subregions.</p> <p>Promotion of cooperation in all subregions.</p>	<p>II.A. South-Eastern Europe subregion</p>	<p>To be carried out by lead countries, with support from the secretariat, as needed.</p>	<p>(i) Promoting global implementation of the treaties;</p> <p>(ii) Contributing to the achievement of relevant SDGs and targets;</p> <p>(iii) Enhancing cooperation with other international Conventions and processes within and beyond ECE.</p> <p>For all subregions:</p> <p>(a) Possible guidance on subregional issues;</p> <p>(b) Common understanding of elements of application and possible multilateral agreements.</p> <p>Workshop reports and possible reports on specific issues.</p>		<p>Participants cover their own travel and accommodation costs to the extent possible, while host countries cover organizational and venue costs in kind (approximately \$5,000–\$20 000 per workshop).</p> <p>In kind contributions/donor funding required.</p>

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Increased professional skills of officials and increased awareness of the public, including NGOs, and officials at all relevant administrative levels in relation to SEA and transboundary EIA and to the application of the Convention and its Protocol.	II.A.1. Workshop(s) on implementation of the Convention, the Protocol and the Bucharest Agreement in the subregion: workshop to prepare for the first Meeting of the Parties to the Bucharest Agreement.	Lead country: Romania.		tbc	In kind (tbc).
Common understanding of elements of application and possible multilateral agreements.	II.A.2. First Meeting of the Parties to the Bucharest Agreement.	Lead country: Romania.		tbc	No funding confirmed yet.
Increased coordination between environmental legislation/treaties.	II.B. Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (and beyond)				
	II.B.1. Subregional conference with training of trainers on the application of SEA to climate change mitigation, to be followed by national training sessions and supplemented by the preparation of guidance.	To be hosted by a lead country and contributed to by all participants. Could be extended to all Central Asian countries (and beyond). To be carried out by external consultants, with support from a local counterpart and the secretariat.	Workshop and training reports.		Costs: Subregional conference for up to 50 participants: \$40,000–\$80,000 (depending on the duration). Staff costs for project management: P-3, \$15,000 per month and G-4, \$8,500 per month. Requires donor funding.

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	II.B.2. Subregional training workshop on the practical application of SEA and quality control of SEA documentation for SEA practitioners and sectoral authorities.	To be hosted by a lead country and contributed to by all participants. Could be extended to all Central Asian countries (and beyond).	Workshop and training reports.		Costs: Subregional conference for up to 50 participants: \$40,000–\$80,000 (depending on the duration). Staff costs for project management: P-3, \$15,000 per month and G-4, \$8,500 per month. Requires donor funding.
	II.B.3. National awareness-raising events to support the updating of the Guidelines on EIA in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries and to promote its application.	Lead/target countries: Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Undertaken by external consultant(s), with the support of a national coordinator and the secretariat	Comprehensive comments to the Guidelines and raised awareness on the benefits of its use.	2017–2020	Requires donor funding (\$7,000 per event).
	II.B.4. Promotion of principles of the Convention and the Protocol in Central Asia and beyond in the context of the recent economic developments in Asia:	Lead/target countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and other countries.			
	(a) Subregional seminar to promote the application of the Guidelines on transboundary EIA for Central Asian countries (among high-level officials) at the Central Asian International Environmental Forum in Uzbekistan,	To organized by CAREC and Uzbekistan.		Tentatively in summer 2018.	Requires funding: (\$7,000-10,000)

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	possibly in the context of the “one belt one road initiative”;				
	(b) Pilot application of the Guidelines on transboundary EIA for Central Asian countries	Lead organization: CAREC (tbc)		tbc	Requires funding: (\$100,000-\$150,000).
III. Exchange of good practices	Workshops or half-day seminars within meetings of the Working Group or the Meetings of the Parties on:	To be organized by a lead country(ies) with support from the secretariat.	From each workshop or seminar, a brief, clear document presenting advice on the most important problems identified for the theme in question. Contribution to the application of SDGs.	2017–2020	Costs (e.g., for speakers, provision and translation of materials) to be covered in kind by lead countries, to the extent possible (approximately \$10,000 per seminar). (Travel costs for countries eligible for financial support and non-ECE countries should be covered from the budget.)
Shared knowledge and experience in appropriate legislation for implementation of the Convention and the Protocol, leading to better national legislation and application.					
Improved implementation and application of the Convention and the Protocol by learning from Parties’ experiences.					
Awareness-raising on the Convention, its amendments and its ratification.	(a) Application of the Protocol on SEA to climate change adaptation and mitigation;	Lead country(ies) or organization(s) to be identified. With possible participation of the UNFCCC secretariat;	Contributes to implementation of SDG target 13.2 “Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning”.	(a) Application of the Protocol on SEA to climate change adaptation and mitigation;	Lead country(ies) or organization(s) to be identified. With possible participation of the UNFCCC secretariat;

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	(b) Synergies between transboundary EIA and SEA and UNCLOS, arts. 204-206	Lead organization: European Commission.	Contributes to implementation of SDG 14: “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.” Possible link with SDG 1 with regard in the context of the ongoing global process for strengthening of international ocean governance and development of a legally binding instrument on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.	2019	In kind.
IV. Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA and/or the Convention		Lead: secretariat in cooperation with the concerned countries and as specified below.	Ratifications and other outcomes specified below.	2017–2020	
Ratification, full legal implementation and practical application of the Protocol and the Convention. Increased professional skills of officials, and increased awareness of the public, including	IV.1. Development of country- and sector-specific guidance for the assessment of potential health impacts of plans and programmes and for the involvement of health authorities, building on the chapter on health in the SEA Resource Manual. (Could be linked with a possible subregional workshop.)	Undertaken by external consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat and WHO.	Guidance document(s). Contributes to implementation of SDG target 3.9: “By 2030 substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air,		Possible European Union funding. (Beneficiary countries to reconfirm their needs.)

<i>Activity objectives</i>	<i>Method of work (sub-activities)</i>	<i>Organizational arrangements</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>	<i>Time schedule</i>	<i>Budget</i>
NGOs, and officials at all relevant administrative levels in relation to SEA and to the application of the Protocol and the Convention.			water and soil pollution and contamination”.		
Increased exchange of information on and experience in the application of the Protocol and the Convention.	IV.2. Development of good practice recommendations for the integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into plans and programmes through SEA (supported by good practice examples).	Undertaken by external consultant(s), with the support of the secretariat, involving a survey to gather good practice.	Guidance document. Contributes to implementation of SDG target 13.2: “Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning”.		Requires consultant(s) for drafting and funding for translation of the survey and responses to it (approximately \$25,000).
	IV.3. Development of guidance on the application of the Protocol on SEA to urban planning.	Undertaken by external consultants, with support from the secretariat, possibly in cooperation with THE PEP, the ECE Housing and Land Management Unit, WHO and the ICLEI network.	Guidance document. Contributes to the implementation of SDG target 11.3: “By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries”.		Requires consultant(s) for drafting and funding for translation (approximately \$25,000).

<i>Activity objectives</i>	<i>Method of work (sub-activities)</i>	<i>Organizational arrangements</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>	<i>Time schedule</i>	<i>Budget</i>
	IV.4. Workshops for national and local sectoral authorities, as well as environmental and health authorities, including training, on the application of the Protocol for countries in the ECE region and beyond and the application of SEA for integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into plans or programmes.	To be carried out in cooperation with the lead/target countries, e.g., Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, with support from an external consultant and the secretariat.	Increased awareness about SEA among key stakeholders with a view to promoting the adoption of the legislation (where relevant) and improving its application.	2017–2020	Requires donor funding (\$10,000 for two-day workshop) and in-kind contributions.
	IV.5. Pilot SEAs in selected countries, in selected sectors, involving the following activities: (a) Two to three workshops for scoping and the analysis of the baseline impact assessment and the development of mitigation measures and recommendations; (b) Two to three public consultation events; (c) Preparation of the SEA report and training on its quality control.	Lead/target countries and selected sectors (based on requests by the countries): (a) Armenia; (b) Georgia (urban development, agriculture); (c) Republic of Moldova; (d) Russian Federation; (e) Kazakhstan; (f) Ukraine (waste management and energy sectors); (g) Tajikistan. In collaboration with the support of an external consultant, national experts and the secretariat, and partner organizations, as relevant.			Requires funding for pilot (\$80,000-\$100,000) and for staff costs of a project manager and support personnel, P-3 (\$15,000 per month) and G-4 (\$8,500 per month).

<i>Activity objectives</i>	<i>Method of work (sub-activities)</i>	<i>Organizational arrangements</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>	<i>Time schedule</i>	<i>Budget</i>
	IV.6. National guidance documents on the implementation of SEA.	Lead/target country to be identified.	A guidance document.	2017–2018	Requires funding (\$20,000–\$40,000).
	IV.7. Preparation of a video to raise awareness about and promote application of the Convention.	Secretariat, consultants	A promotional video in English and Russian.	2017–2020	Requires funding: (\$35,000–\$40,000).

Abbreviations: Bucharest Agreement = Multilateral Agreement among the Countries of South-Eastern Europe for Implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context; CAREC = Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia; EIA = environmental impact assessment; ICLEI = Local Governments for Sustainability; NGOs = non-governmental organizations; SDGs = Sustainable Development Goals; SEA = strategic environmental assessment; SEA Resource Manual = Resource Manual to Support Application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (ECE/MP.EIA/17); THE PEP = Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme; tbc = to be confirmed; UNCLOS = United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; and WHO = World Health Organization.