

# What is scoping and why do we do it?

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# Typical / Generic SEA Steps

0. Screening

**1. Scoping / Baseline Analysis**

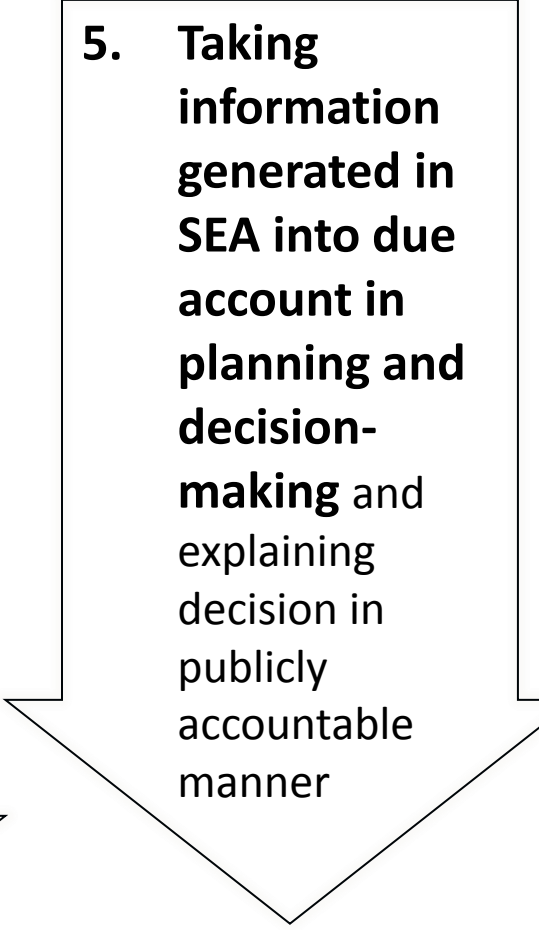
- Determination of key issues that should be considered within the SEA process
- Analysis of key issues i.e. past evolution, current situation and likely future evolution if the plan or programme is not implemented

**2. Assessment of effects** of the plan or programme on the key issues and development of mitigation measures (including monitoring scheme)

**3. Compilation of the SEA Report** and its submission for consultations with environmental and health authorities and the public



**4. Consultations**



**5. Taking information generated in SEA into due account in planning and decision-making** and explaining decision in publicly accountable manner

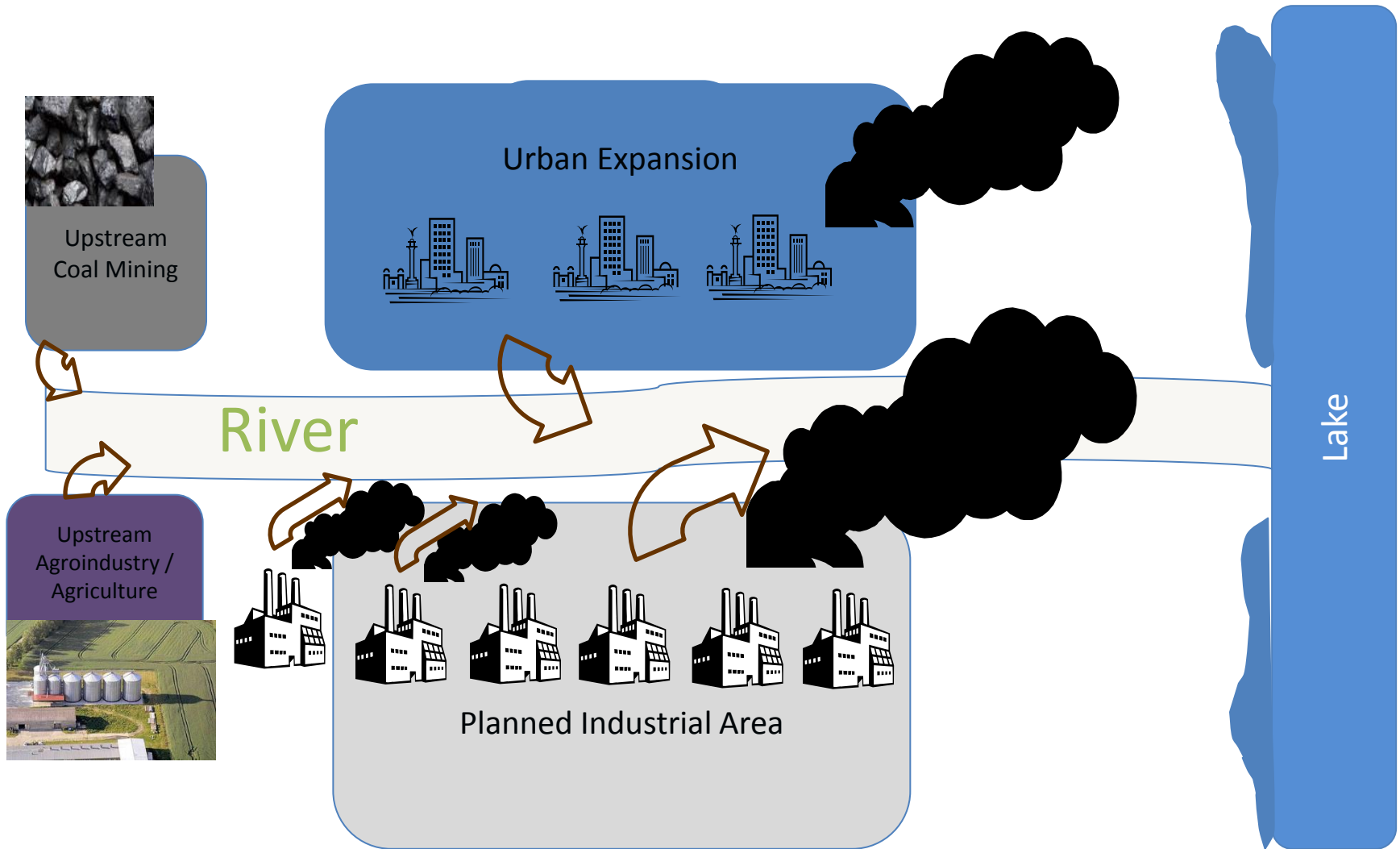
# Scoping

- SEA Scoping is:
  - simply a structured method for identifying key sustainability risks or issues related to the Plan or Program (PPP) under preparation
- Scoping shall identify relevant environmental and health issues, which should be further considered within the SEA and (as far as possible) also:
  - To define territorial dimension of the assessment
  - To identify stakeholders to be involved involvement
  - To suggest suitable environmental proposals (or specific questions) that will guide analyses within the SEA process.
- It is important for efficiency of SEA process, since it should ensure the SEA focuses only on the likely significant effects which are relevant for the proposed plan or programme

# Key Scoping principles

- Use important baseline data from the PPP (area); and the combination of preliminary analysis and consultation to consider the main priorities elaborated by a PPP
- Identify key issues through appropriate levels of preliminary analyses, case examples, literature review etc.
- Keep the scope of SEA flexible – in order to allow additional or new information that could lead to:
  - the discovery of new issues or risks
  - further define the importance or insignificance of an identified issue

# Illustration: Cumulative Air and Water Quality Strategic risks



# Scoping approach

- SEA experts should, **in consultations with relevant environmental authorities**, identify key environmental and health issues that are relevant to the planning document and for each issue to define:
  - Geographical areas of concern
  - Stakeholders to be consulted
  - Sources of data and information
- In addition
  - Relevant environmental protection objectives should be identified and described
  - Guiding questions for further analyses shall be formulated

# Scoping tools and methods

- Many variations of analysis or ranking matrices e.g. Rapid Impact Assessment Matrix
  - Used typically for expert and Delphi approaches to scoping and affective for
    - organizing scoping analyses, and
    - prioritizing issues
- Maps and GIS mapping overlay
  - Used typically for expert and Delphi approaches to scoping and affective for
    - quickly reviewing large amounts of spatial information
    - Quickly identifying possible areas of concern
- SWOT
  - Most often applied for policy scoping
- Others:
  - Decision Trees / Networks
  - Decision Support System

# What is Good SEA Scoping?

- Allowing further assessment to focus only on the **key sustainability issues which may be significantly affected** by the plan or programme
  - Providing the input for decisions on the appropriate methods and analytical tools for further analyses of the key sustainability issues of the PPP
  - Ensuring that further SEA process reflects opinions of relevant stakeholders (i.e. consultations therefore should be a part of the scoping)
- Limitations of scoping:
    - It is usually based on a limited data / general analysis
    - It does not need (and it is not intended), to be detailed
    - results should be verified through further analysis, especially where PPP mitigation development requires more detailed input



# SEA scope example: SEA for national Transport Infrastructure Development Strategy CZ

Evaluation scale was applied with sub-criteria for selected **key environmental topics** :

## **Air, Nature and Landscape, Public Health**

### **Air**

- Potential effects on areas that are sensitive in terms of human health
  - Residential zones
- Potential effects on areas that are sensitive in terms of ecosystems
  - Large-scale protected areas
  - Forests
  - Areas above 800 m.a.s.l.
- The effectiveness of diverting traffic from existing roads in residential areas
  - A traffic volume reduction in a residential area on a road >15 000 vehicles/day
- The potential cumulative effect of the proposed clusters

# SEA scope example: SEA for national Transport Infrastructure Development Strategy CZ (II.)

## **Nature and the landscape**

- Natura 2000
- Specially protected areas, sites populated by specially protected species of national importance, areas with an abundance of specially protected species
- Loss of natural habitats, biodiversity
- Territorial System of Ecological Stability (especially supra-regional and regional), significant landscape features
- Natural parks, the landscape character, the aesthetic value of the landscape
- Landscape fragmentation, landscape permeability to migration
- Water regime in the landscape, large forest complexes

## **Public health**

- Air
- Noise
- Socio-economic impact

# SEA Scope example: SEA for Spatial Plan of Osječko-baranjska County (HR)

- See Appendix – SEA Spatial plan (HR) Scoping Table (.doc)

Thank you!

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