



Greening EU Cooperation

Integrating Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk
Reduction in EU External Action

Session 9: Environment & climate risk screening

Environment & climate risk screening

Required under Art. 25.5 of the NDICI-Global Europe regulation

5. Appropriate environmental screening, including for climate change and biodiversity impacts, shall be undertaken at the level of actions, in accordance with the applicable legislative acts of the Union, including Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁴²⁾ and Council Directive 85/337/EEC ⁽⁴³⁾, comprising, where applicable, an environmental impact assessment, including the impact on climate change, ecosystems and biodiversity, for environmentally sensitive actions, in particular for major new infrastructure.

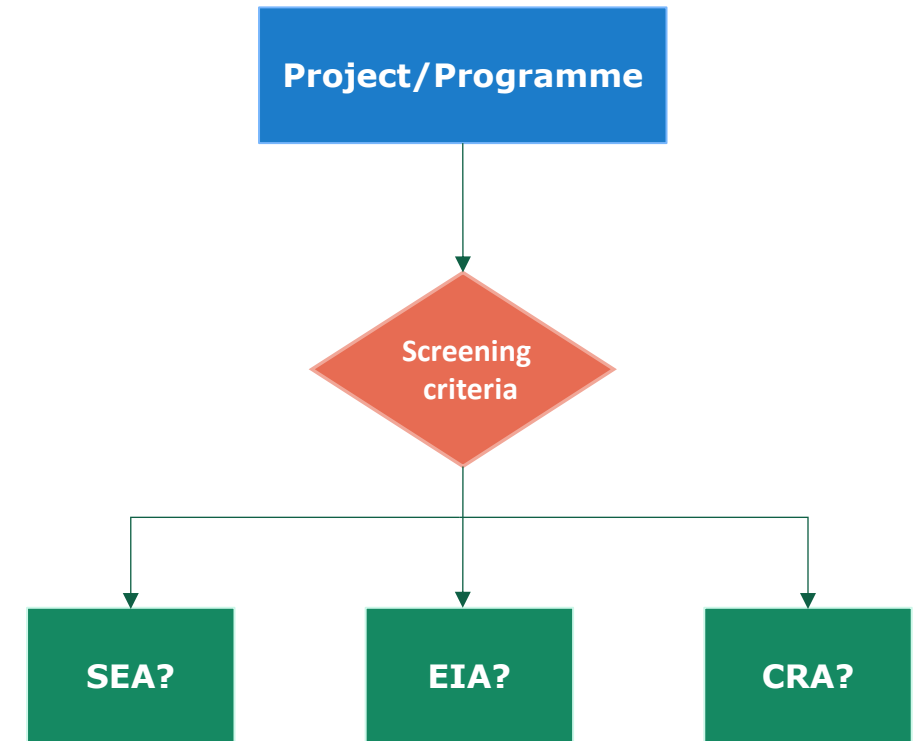
Other appropriate *ex ante* assessments which are proportionate to the objectives and amounts of the envisaged actions and measures shall be carried out, to determine the possible implications and risks of those actions and measures with regard to human rights, access to natural resources such as land, and social standards including in the form of impact assessments for major actions and measures that are expected to have a significant impact on those areas.

Where relevant, strategic environmental assessments, including the impact on climate change, shall be used in the implementation of sectoral programmes. The involvement of interested stakeholders in environmental assessments and public access to the results of such assessments shall be ensured.



Environment & climate risk screening

- [Annex 4 of the Greening Toolbox](#)
- Helps decide on the need for:
 - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
 - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
 - Climate Risk Assessment (CRA)
- The screening process gives us hints for better integration, even if dedicated tools are not necessary



Environment & climate risk screening



Part A: SEA screening

- Sensitive sectors (e.g. agriculture, energy)
- Implementation modality

Part B: EIA screening

- National legislation
- “Positive” list
- Screening questionnaire

Part C: CRA screening

- Screening questionnaire



Part A: SEA Screening

- Plans, programmes and other strategic documents which:
 - Are prepared in 'environmentally-sensitive' sectors
 - Set the framework for development of projects which may require EIA
 - May have significant impacts on sensitive habitats and ecosystems



Part A: SEA Screening

- When supporting an environmentally-sensitive sector:
 - When supporting policy-making or strategic planning
 - When considering budget support
 - When a project provides strategic level support
 - When support includes preparation/revision of a sector-wide strategic or planning document in an 'environmentally-sensitive' sector
- For budget support programmes in other sectors, with potential significant adverse impacts on the environment – based on screening questionnaire












Part B: EIA Screening




- Projects with potential significant adverse impacts on the environment
 - Projects that require an EIA under national legislation
 - Category A projects (as per EIA Directive)
 - Category B projects, based on screening criteria



Part C: CRA Screening

- Projects at significant risk from climate change
- Based on a screening questionnaire that helps determine the level of risk

| | Slightly harmful | Harmful | Extremely harmful |
|-----------------|---|---|---|
| Likely |  |  |  |
| Unlikely |  |  |  |
| Highly unlikely |  |  |  |

 Low risk  Medium risk  High risk



Where to find the screening process?

- [Annex 4 of the Greening Toolbox](#)

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Annex 4. Environment and climate risk screening

Guide

Greening EU Cooperation Toolbox

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 - **Annex 4. Environment and climate risk screening**

Annex 4. Environment and climate risk screening

Introduction

The NDICI-Global Europe Regulation (Article 25.5) establishes that **environmental screening, including for climate change and biodiversity impacts shall be undertaken at the level of actions**, in accordance with applicable legislation, including the EU EIA Directive. It is also stipulated that, where relevant, Strategic Environmental Assessments, including the impact on climate change, shall be used in the implementation of sectoral programmes. The Global Gateway Communication stipulates that 'projects will live up to the European Green Deal oath to do no harm and ensure the use of Environmental Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental Assessments'.

The purpose of the environment & climate risk screening is to determine if a given action is likely to have significant adverse impacts on the environment or is at significant risk from climate change and environmental degradation, and therefore whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and/or a Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) should be prepared. The aim of the screening and assessments is to identify, avoid, minimise and/or avoid negative impacts and to do no harm. In many cases the assessments also cover social risks and impacts (Environment and Social Impact Assessments - ESIA).

Yet, the EIA directive does not specify an impact as being negative or positive. The analysis and reflection triggered from the screening questionnaires not only allows to identify environmental and climate risks but also opportunities that should be addressed in the design of the action, regardless of whether an SEA, an EIA or a CRA are required. The screening process thus can also be used to apply the 'green lens' approach and look at ways to 'do good' to environment or climate. The screening consists of three parts:

- Part A: Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
- Part B: Screening for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Part C: Screening for Climate Risk Assessment (CRA)