

EIA and SEA practice in Estonia

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Chairman of the board

Estonian Association of Impact Assessment

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About KeMÜ/EAIA

- Established on 2012 by group of EIA/SEA experts
- We have today 40 members
- We are partner for environmental authorities
- We organize internal seminars and discussions
- We make input to related legislation

Legislation

1. Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management System Act

EIA related issues:

- The need for EIA (incl. mandatory, screening)
- Procedures for EIA (incl. initiation, publications, notification etc)
- Requirements for the contents of EIA programme
- Requirements for the contents of EIA report (specified by a separate regulation)
- Requirements of the license of EIA leading expert

SEA related issues:

- The need for SEA
- Requirements for the contents of SEA programme
- Requirements for the contents of SEA report
- Procedures for SEA of a sectoral development plan, strategic programme or strategy
- No license needed for SEA leading expert (exception: for detailed plan SEA, an EIA licence is needed)

2. Planning Act

Sets procedures (incl. initiation, publications, notification etc) for SEA of:

National plan, County plan, Comprehensive plan, Detailed plan, Special plan of the state or local authority

-> „memorandum of intention to conduct a SEA of the plan“ instead of SEA programme

Lead expert qualification

A license for EIA (leading expert)



KESKKONNAMINISTEERIUM

KESKKONNAMÕJU HINDAMISE LITSENTS

Litsentsi nr: KMH0135 30.08. 2019 a.

Litsentsi omaniku andmed:

Ees- ja perekonnanimi: Hendrik Puhkim

Isikukood:

Litsents kehtib kuni: 20.10. 2024 a.

Litsentsi andja: Meelis Münt, kantsler

/Allkirjastatud digitaalselt, litsentsi andja nimi ja ametinimetus/

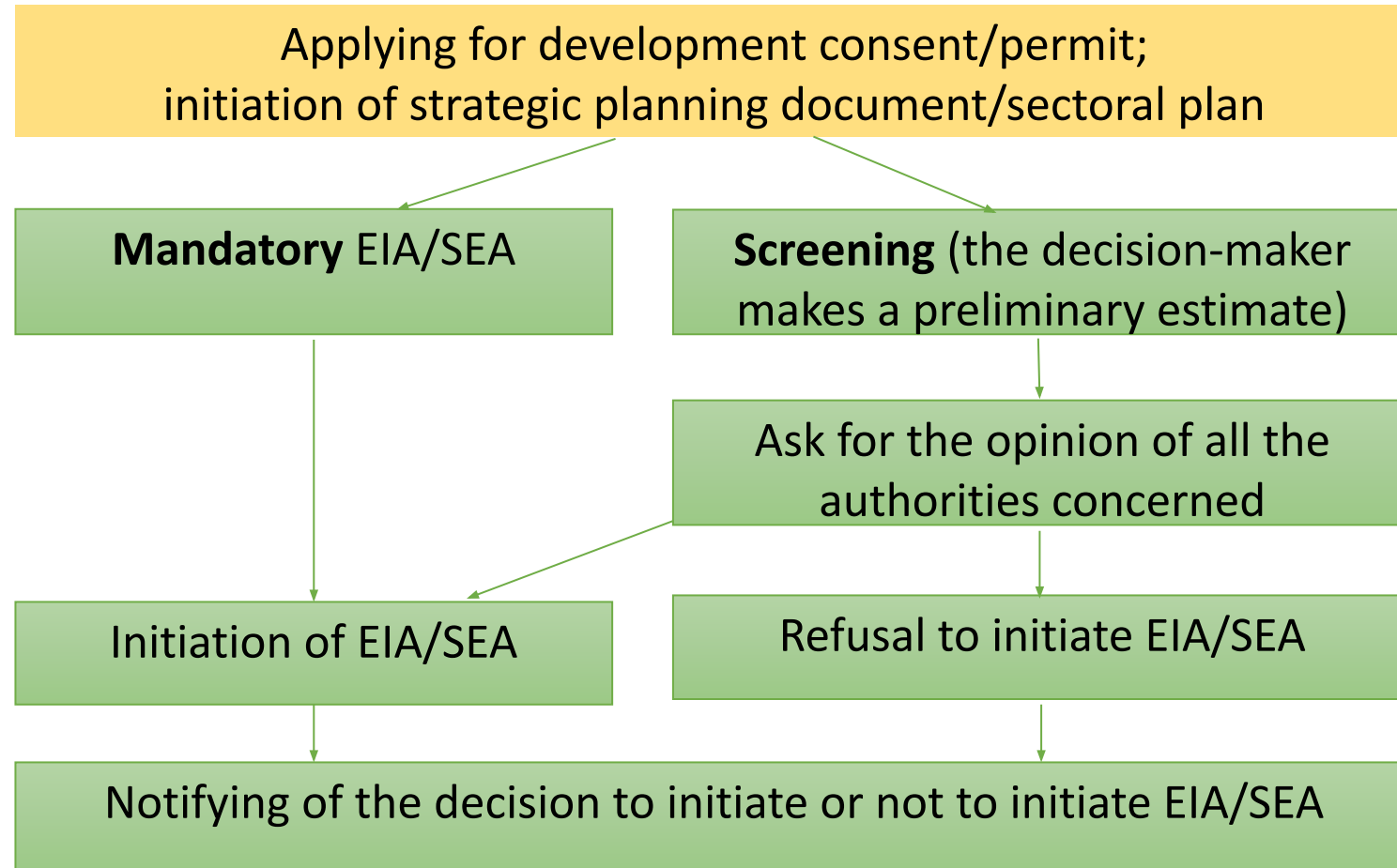
The qualifications of the SEA leading expert

SEA may be led by a leading expert who:

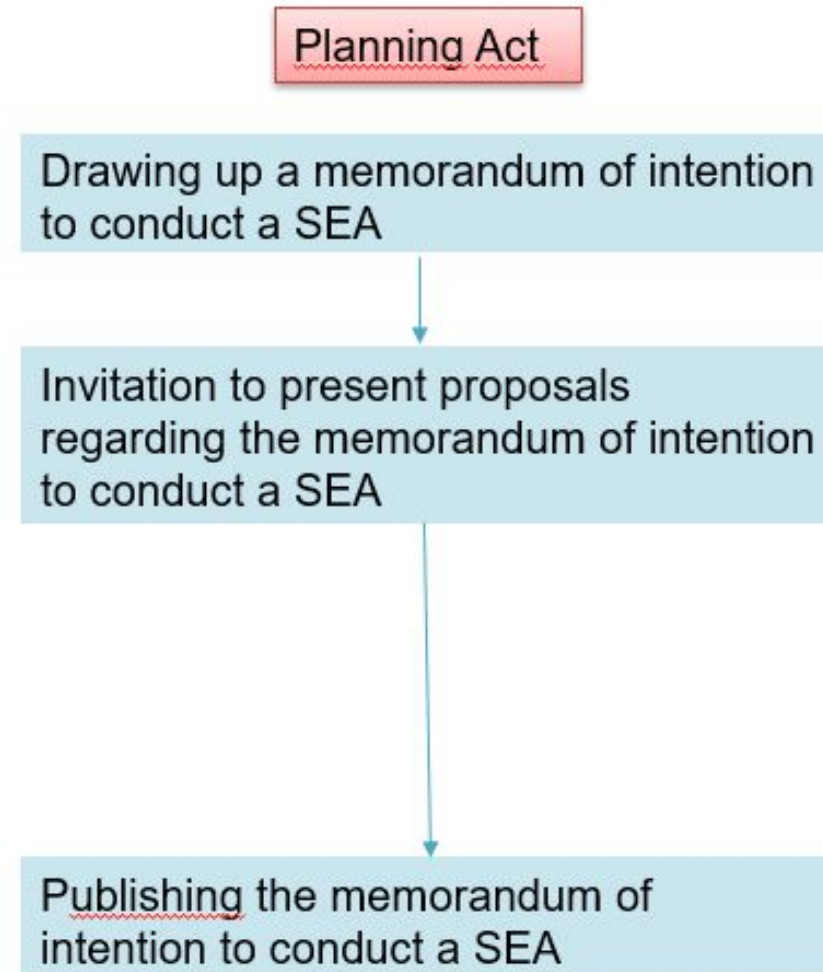
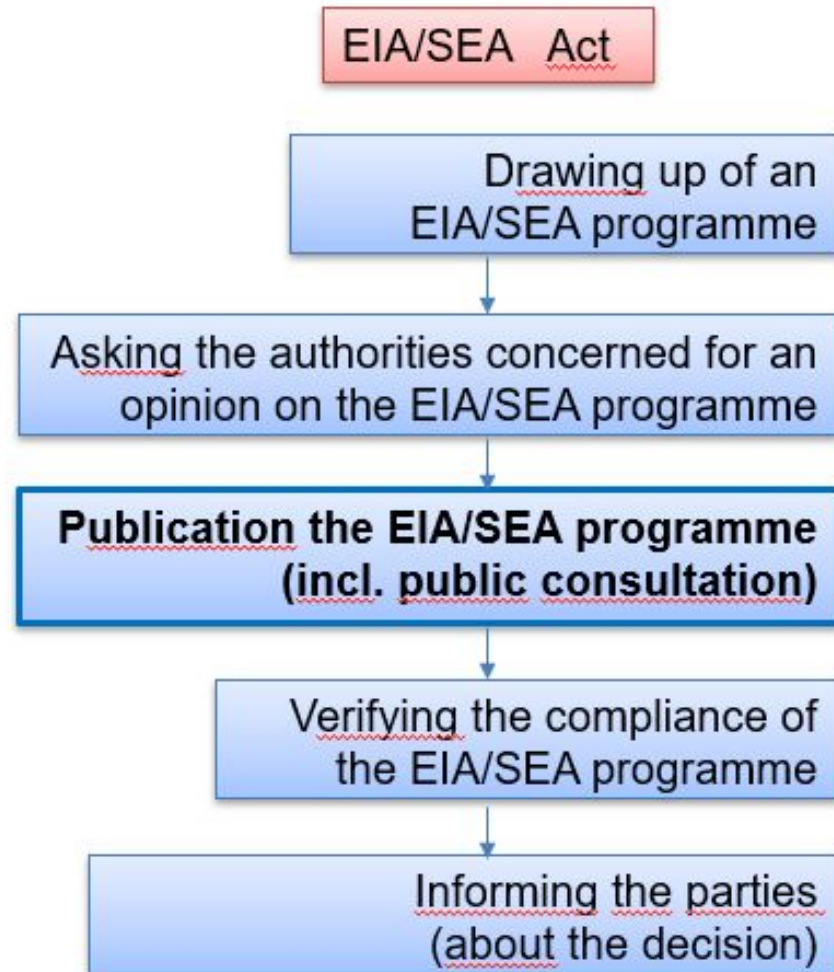
- has obtained a **Master's degree** or equivalent qualifications;
- has **at least five years of work experience** in a field related to environmental protection or in a field specified in clause 40 (4) 6) of this Act;
- to the extent of at least 60 hours, has undergone **training in SEA**, which covers.....;
- to the extent of at least 60 hours, has undergone **management training** and has the **experience of managing** at least two projects;
- has **participated** in the work of an expert group of SEA as a substantive expert **at least four times in the last five years**;
- has submitted to the coordinator of preparation of the strategic planning document a signed confirmation that the leading expert complies with the requirements, knows the principles of SEA, procedure and assessment-related legislation, and is impartial and objective upon SEA.



Initiation of EIA/SEA



EIA/SEA process (1-2)



EIA/SEA process (2-2)



Challenges

- Long duration and bureaucracy
- NIMBY effect
- Extensive studies/surveys
- Decision making is rocky



Positive notes

- Strong democracy tool
- Importance rise in decision making
- Helps to reach environmentally better solutions



Thank you!

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