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SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BY-LAW ON
STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Contract N° TR2018 ESOP MI A3 12/CNP/03

FINAL REPORT
-FINAL-

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TABLE OF ABBREVIATIONS

CA	Contracting Authority
Contractor	Consortium of EPTISA Mühendislik – EPTISA Servicios and Integra Consulting
DG	Directorate General
EC	European Commission
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
MoAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MoEU	Ministry of Environment and Urbanization
MoM	Minutes of Meeting
NAP	Nitrate Action Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
OCU	Operation Coordination Unit
OIS	Operation Identification Sheet
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SCM	Steering Committee Meeting
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
TNA	Training Need Analysis
ToR	Terms of Reference

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is internationally recognized as the key instrument for integrating environmental and health concerns into strategic planning and decision-making to prevent and mitigate possible adverse effects of the economic and regional development. Turkey introduced SEA in its national legal framework by adopting the By-law on SEA, which entered into force on 8 April 2017, and which almost fully transposes requirements of the European Union's SEA Directive. In accordance with the By-law on SEA, the SEA should be applied for the plans and programmes with regard to agriculture, coastal management, forestry, fishery, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism and land use planning.

However, the SEA practice in Turkey during the first years after adoption of the By-law on SEA was rather limited – one SEA report was prepared for Gediz River Basin Management (however without conducting a proper SEA procedure as required by the SEA Bylaw), and two screening applications were submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation (MoEU) in 2019, followed by two screening decisions issued by the MoEU. Therefore, it was essential to trigger the first implementation of the national SEA legislation and to build capacities to carry out SEA in an efficient way.

In response to this need, the project 'Supporting the Implementation of By-law on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)' (hereinafter also 'SEA Project'), financially supported by the European Union (EU) and Republic of Turkey, was launched on 18 April 2019 (by Administrative Order No. 1, see Annex 3.1). The objective of the SEA Project was to contribute to the high level of environmental protection through integration of environmental considerations in the preparation and adoption of plans and programs which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. It was supposed to result in enhanced institutional capacity for SEA and to support efficient implementation of the By-law on SEA.

The MoEU, as the main governmental authority in Turkey responsible for the environmental issues, was the key counterpart for the project (End Recipient). However, all other relevant stakeholders and partners were be involved in the project implementation – in particular governmental authorities responsible for preparation of the plans and programmes at the national, regional and municipal level, academia, non-governmental sector and the public.

The SEA project represents a follow-up activity to the previous project 'Technical Assistance for Implementation of the By-Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment', which was conducted from 2014 till 2016.

1.2 DURATION AND EXTENSION OF THE PROJECT

The implementation of the SEA project had been originally planned for 18 months i.e. from mid-April 2019 till mid-October 2020. However, an unprecedented global outbreak of Coronavirus, which started in early 2020, resulted in strict limitations regarding office work, working and public meetings, and travel – both national as well as international. Therefore, since February – March 2020 it has been affecting a way of implementation of the project activities – in particular those, which require international travel and public meetings.

Therefore, in a view of above described situation, the 4th Steering Committee Meeting (organized on 21 May 2020 as online meeting, see Annex 4.13) concluded that the Contractor will prepare possible schedule of activities to be implemented by the end of the project together with proposals on modification of the approach where needed (e.g. online trainings). The revised work plan was discussed at the Operation Coordination Unit Meeting (organized online on 15 June 2020, see Annex 4.14). Subsequently, the 5th Steering Committee Meeting (organized on 8 September 2020 as online meeting, see Annex 4.18) resulted in an agreement that the project needs to be extended, and thus the Contractor shall further update the work plan to serve as a basis for the Project Addendum.

As a result of above discussions, the Project Addendum (see Annex 3.6) was signed on 22 October 2020. Besides extension of the project by 4 months i.e. until 18 February 2021, it also – reflecting the needs of the End Recipient and the impacts of the Coronavirus-related restriction – introduced in the Terms of Reference following main adjustments of the project activities:

- Activity 2.5 Performing study visit to the EU countries was cancelled due to impossibility to arrange safe international travel for the study tour participants and the experts;
- Following additional activities were included:
 - Activity 3.1 Online Workshop on SEA Practice
 - Activity 3.2 Webinar on Quality Control
 - Activity 3.3 Webinar on Monitoring
 - Activity 3.4 Quality Control Check List
 - Activity 3.5 Template ToR for Strategic Environmental Assessment

The above described changes were reflected in the revised budget of the project. The costs originally allocated to the Activity 2.5 and the costs related to the organisation of the meetings and events (i.e. in particular the meetings within the SEA pilots, training modules and awareness raising workshops) were reallocated to implementation of additional activities and to necessary modifications of the training materials for the training modules and awareness raising workshops needed to adapt those to online form of the events.

1.3 PROJECT TEAM

The SEA Project was implemented by the consortium Eptisa Mühendislik Ltd. and Integra Consulting Ltd. (hereinafter the 'Contractor') and its Project Team consisting of:

Mr. Martin Smutny, Team Leader

Mr. Michal Musil, Senior International SEA Expert

Ms. Mojca Hrabar, Senior International Training Specialist

Ms. Gonca Kaynak, Senior Local SEA Expert

Ms. Pınar Süren Yılmaz, Senior Local SEA Expert

Mr. Fatih Kaya, Junior Environmental Engineer,

Ms. Burcu Aras, Junior Event Organization Expert

Mr. İlknur Terzi, Senior Graphic Designer

The Project Team was supported by the Backstopping Team led by Mr. Serdar Hakkaçırılmaz, Project Director. Ms. Gizem Ceren Kadılar, Office Manager & Logistical Coordinator, was the main contact point.

In addition to the Project Team members, non-key experts were involved in the execution of specific project activities according to the needs. In particular, the non-key experts were involved in the SEA pilots and in the training activities.

1.4 MONITORING AND QUALITY CONTROL

The project was monitored according to standard EU procedures, consisting of two following components for the monitoring and supervision process:

The **external monitoring** was ensured by the Contracting Authority and the MoEU. External monitoring encompassed all project development to identify if all activities laid down in the Inception Report were realised and the expected outputs were achieved.

The **internal monitoring** was undertaken by the Project Team, coordinated by the Team Leader. This monitoring included a continuous and systematic on-site monitoring, an analysis of project progress and effectiveness and regular information exchange. The results were presented in the corresponding Interim Progress Reports and in meetings with the key counterpart officials – in particular the Steering Committee Meetings and the Operation and Coordination Unit Meetings (Minutes of the Meetings – MoMs – of the Steering Committee and the Operation and Coordination Unit, are provided in Annex 4 under relevant sub-annexes).

The list of Interim Progress Reports is provided in the table below (for the reports see Annex 1).

Table 1: List of Interim Progress Reports

REPORT	DATE OF SUBMISSION	DATE OF APPROVAL
Interim Progress Report No. 1	27 August 2019	3 September 2019
Interim Progress Report No. 2	25 November 2019	5 December 2019
Interim Progress Report No. 3	18 February 2020	24 February 2020
Interim Progress Report No. 4	5 May 2020	28 May 2020
Interim Progress Report No. 5	22 October 2020	26 October 2020
Interim Progress Report No. 6	11 January 2021	27 January 2021

1.5 PURPOSE OF THE FINAL REPORT

The purpose of the Final Report is to describe all activities conducted during the implementation of the SEA project and to summarize results and achievements as well as to outline lessons learned and formulate suggestions for further development of SEA practice in Turkey.

2. INCEPTION PHASE

The Inception Phase served the Contractor to carry on initial analysis of the situation, to collect initial data, and to discuss the way of the SEA project implementation and any modification of the work plan with the End Recipient and other relevant project partners. Following activities were conducted during the Inception Phase.

2.1 START-UP AND MOBILISATION OF THE PROJECT TEAM

In order to be operational from the very beginning of the project, the Consortium mobilised the project team members to discuss and finalize the project management procedures and to prepare for the Kick-off Meeting. Initial internal discussions took place in the Project Office in Ankara (EPTISA Ankara Office) combined with the Skype and email communication with international team members.

2.2 ESTABLISHING THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND PROCEDURES, PROJECT OFFICE AND BACKSTOPPING

Eptisa has a permanent office in Ankara since 2007; hence the existing office in Ankara (EPTISA Ankara Office) is effective for the use of the project implementation since the first week of the project.

2.3 INTERNAL TRAINING FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

A 1-day internal training was delivered, focusing on the principles and activities of the project, as well as task allocations to ensure that all the team is equally informed and ready to launch the specific project activities.

2.4 REVIEW OF TOR AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES PRIOR TO KICK-OFF MEETING

The review of the ToR and related procedural issues was carried out by the project team prior the Kick-off Meeting.

2.5 KICK-OFF MEETING

The Kick-off Meeting took place at the premises of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, Directorate General of EIA, Permit and Inspection, on 24 April 2019 in Ankara. Representatives of the MoEU DG EIA P&I and DG EUFR, EUD, MoAF and the Contractor participated at the meeting to discuss the project management related issue and its implementation. The Minutes of the meeting were drafted by the Consortium and distributed to the participants for the comments (see Annex 4.1).

2.6 STAKEHOLDER AND BENEFICIARY CONSULTATIONS

The consultation meeting with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation was held at the premises of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation, Directorate General of EIA, Permit and Inspection, Ankara, on 3 May 2019. The main focus of the meeting was to discuss details regarding the implementation of the project activities. Main conclusions were summarized in the Minutes of the Meeting, prepared by the Contractor and distributed to the participants for comments (see Annex 2.6).

2.7 REVIEW OF THE WORK PROGRAMME

Following the consultations with the MoEU, the work plan was revised and updated including indication of the Project Steering Committee's (PSC) meetings, and SEA monitoring reports for two SEA pilots. It needs to be noted that no major adjustments were made. May and June 2019 were dedicated to the Inception Phase and the Opening Meeting, while the Contractor focused on preparatory works (including the Gap Analysis and the Training Need Analysis) in June – July 2019, with the aim to fully launch implementation of activities in September 2019.

2.8 DRAFTING INCEPTION REPORT AND ITS ANNEXES

The draft Inception Report was prepared by the Contractor. As requested by the formal letter of the Contractor to the MoEU, dated 16 May 2019, the deadline for submitting the Inception Report was postponed to 10 June 2019. After integrating comments of the MoEU and the CA, the draft Inception Report was revised, its final version submitted on 24 July 2019 (see Annex 1.1), and approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 19 July 2019 (see Annex 1.1).

3. OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED WITHIN THE SEA PROJECT

3.1 ACTIVITY 1.1. OPENING MEETING

An opening meeting was organized as 1-day event (Holiday Inn Çukurambar Hotel, Ankara, 18 June 2019). Its purpose was to introduce the SEA Project and its scope to the relevant stakeholders, and to discuss in particular selection of plans and programmes for SEA pilots (i.e. activities 1.3 and 1.4) and the training needs. The meeting combined presentations and plenary discussions (see the final agenda in Annex 2.1).

A questionnaire on the knowledge and awareness on SEA was prepared by the Contractor and used for a survey among the participants at the opening meeting (see Annex 2.1). Information leaflet about the project was prepared by the Contractor (see Annex 2.1) and distributed to the participants at the meeting.

The final number of participants (116 i.e. 96 participants from MoEU and other institutions; 20 participants from the Contractor) exceeded number stipulated by the ToR (the ToR stipulates '*the participation of maximum 70 people*'). The Contractor arranged the meeting venue including the refreshment available during the event and lunch.

The Minutes of the opening meeting are enclosed in Annex 2.1.

3.2 ACTIVITY 1.2. IDENTIFICATION OF CURRENT SITUATION

The activity 1.2 was carried out by the Contractor in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation (MoEU) in July – September 2019. As discussed and agreed on during inception phase, in order to maximise efficiency of the SEA project implementation, the activity 1.2 was conducted jointly with activity 2.1 'Performing Training Needs Analysis' (TNA). The approach combined interviews with selected stakeholders and web-based survey of all the target groups. The interviews were carried between 18 – 26 July 2019, while the survey was implemented between 22 August and 21 September 2019. Initially planned survey period was – in agreement with the MoEU – extended as additional 49 contacts were provided by MoEU on 12 September 2019 and added to the survey participants. Therefore, follow-up analysis of the results could not be finalized until the deadline stipulated by the ToR, and thus the request for extension was submitted (see Annex 3.4I).

The draft report, summarizing all findings and conclusions of the activity, was submitted on 4 October 2019, and revised version was submitted on 24 October 2019. The final report (see Annex 2.2) was approved on 4 November 2019 (see Annex 2.2).

3.3 ACTIVITY 1.3. SELECTION OF 2 SECTORS AMONG PRIORITY SECTORS

The activity 1.3 was carried out in May – July 2019. Although in accordance with the ToR, the activity should have been finalized by the end of month 2 of the project implementation, following the request of the Contractor (dated 28 June 2019, see Annex 5), the deadline was postponed until 24 July 2019.

The selection was primarily focus on the five sectors the Bylaw on SEA already applies to i.e. water management, agriculture, tourism, coastal management and spatial planning, however plans and programmes from the other sectors stipulated by the Bylaw will also be considered if necessary.

At the consultation meeting, the MoEU informed the Contractor about initial communication with sectors providing that there is a high interest in SEA in the water sector, while there has been no reaction from the tourism sector. There was also one possible option in the agriculture sector – a nitrate action plan. The MoEU was also in communication with Bursa Metropolitan Municipality, which launched amendments of the municipal spatial plan in 2018. In addition, Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality recently approached the MoEU informing the MoEU that preparation of the municipal waste management plan for Istanbul was initiated recently. The municipalities involved in the World Bank funded project on sustainable cities (e.g. Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality), which could be considered as potential candidates for SEA pilots, were mentioned as well.

Pros and cons of five sectors regarding application of SEA – considering findings from the inception stage –were

summarized (see Table 1 below) as a basis for further decision:

Table 2: Overview of sectors and their potential for SEA pilot application

Sector	Pros and cons
Water Management	<p>Although SEA pilot was already carried out in the water management sector in the previous SEA project, in accordance with the MoEU, there is a high interest of water authorities to apply SEA for river basin management plans and flood management plans. Taking into account a growing importance of management of water resources, including climate change and its likely effects on water, as well as a progress made in the water management planning, SEA would contribute to proper consideration of relevant environmental and health issues in the water management planning.</p>
Agriculture	<p>Similar to the water management sector, SEA pilot in agriculture sector was conducted in the previous SEA project as well. However, planning in accordance with the EU Nitrates Directive¹, which represents one of the key instruments in the protection of waters against agricultural pressures, is important planning scheme for Turkey.</p> <p>Therefore, SEA pilot in the agriculture sector can be useful.</p>
Tourism	<p>Tourism is one of the strongest pressures on environment in Turkey, particularly in coastal areas and in the areas of cultural and/or natural heritage. SEA application in the tourism sector would help to prevent unsustainable investments, depletion of natural areas and cultural heritage and to optimise tourism development concerning natural resources.</p> <p>However, there has not been any return by the representatives of the tourism sector to the MoEU regarding whether there is ongoing planning activity, which could be considered for SEA application.</p>
Coastal Management	<p>Coastal management is very important due to strong pressures on the coasts (tourism, maritime transport, fisheries etc.). Although there may be certain similarities between Integrated Coastal Zone Management and SEA, pilot SEA application for coastal management plan may assist in revealing existing problems and result in recommendations on how to address those.</p> <p>However, no specific plan or programme in this sector has been identified during inception phase.</p>

¹ Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources.

Sector	Pros and cons
Spatial Planning	<p>Spatial planning represents very important planning scheme in Turkey. Therefore, application of SEA in the spatial planning sector (for newly prepared plans or for amendments of existing one) can be considered as very important to tackle environmental issues related to urbanisation in Turkey. Moreover, SEA at the municipal level would well complement other SEA pilot, which may be applied to a national or provincial level of planning.</p> <p>Obviously, there are ongoing planning processes in Turkey, and therefore application of SEA in the spatial planning sector can be highly recommended.</p>

The Table 3 below – taking into account follow up communication with the MoEU – summarized possible options of specific plans and programmes together with a feedback on its suitability for SEA pilots:

Table 3: Overview of specific plans and programmes as potential candidates for SEA pilots

Name of the plan or programme	Sector / planning authority	Current status	Suitability for SEA pilot
Nitrate Action Plan (NAP)	Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	The preparation of the NAP was initiated by the MoAF, and the screening application was submitted to the MoEU in 2019. The MoEU decided that the NAP should undergo SEA in accordance with the Bylaw on SEA.	There are examples of SEA for NAPs in the EU (e.g. from the Northern Ireland), as well as the planning process can be covered by the SEA project. Therefore, the NAP represents a suitable plan for SEA pilot.
Istanbul Waste Management Plan	Waste Management, İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality	Planning process, which is supported by the Government of the Netherlands, started in 2018 and is going to be completed by 2023.	If preparation of the Waste Management Plan continues until 2023, the SEA Project cannot follow the planning procedure until finalizing the Plan and therefore SEA outputs could not be properly considered. Therefore, the Plan is not a suitable for SEA pilot. However, in the case of absence of other options, the SEA project could provide support in initial stages of SEA (screening, scoping).

Name of the plan or programme	Sector / planning authority	Current status	Suitability for SEA pilot
Amendments of the Territorial Plan of Bursa Municipality	Land-use planning, Bursa Municipality	The final version of the Plan has been already prepared and it should be approved in June 2019.	Although territorial plan would be a very good case for SEA, its current status (i.e. close to the approval) does not allow efficient application of SEA Pilot.
Municipalities involved in the World Bank funded project on sustainable cities (e.g. Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality)	Urban development planning, selected municipalities with the World Bank support		Sustainable city planning is a specific planning scheme, without existing legislative framework in Turkey. Therefore, sustainable city plans are not very suitable for SEA pilots.

Based on the conclusions from meetings and discussions conducted within implementation of Activity 1.3, as well as following official correspondence of the MoEU with the relevant institutions, following plans were finally identified as a subject of pilot SEA application:

- Edirne-Kirklareli-Tekirdağ Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZM), coastal zone management sector; competent planning authority: MoEU – DG Spatial Planning;
- Nitrate Action Plan (NAP, the name of the basin will be determined later), agriculture sector, competent planning authority: MoAF – DG Agricultural Reform.

In order to discuss details on expected planning process and initiation of SEA pilots, the meetings with the relevant competent planning authorities (i.e. MoEU – DG Spatial Planning, and MoAF – DG Agricultural Reform) were organized in cooperation with the MoEU on 17 and 18 July 2019 (the MoMs are included in the report on Activity 1.3, see below).

The report on activity 1.3 was submitted on 26 July 2019 (see Annex 2.3), and approved by the Contracting Authority on 31 July 2019 (see Annex 2.3).

3.4 ACTIVITY 1.4. PREPARATION OF TWO DETERMINED PLANNING PROCESSES

Nitrate Action Plan (NAP) SEA pilot:

An initial sector meeting was held on 18 July 2019 (see MoM in Annex 4.2). Based on the information received, the detailed work plan for SEA process was prepared in August 2019, the core SEA team was established (to be expanded by short-term experts in further stages), and the work on the scoping report was launched (including an initial analysis of linkages between selected plans and environmental issues, and initial baseline analysis). The 2nd sector meeting was organized on 3 September 2019 (see MoM in Annex 4.4), and the draft sections of the scoping report were prepared in September – October 2019.

The work on the scoping report further continued, and the first draft of the scoping report was submitted on 24 December 2019, revised version, which addressed comments provided by the End Recipient, was submitted on 15 January 2019. The 3rd sector meeting was organized on 21 October 2019, and the 4th sector meeting was organized

on 13 December 2019 in order to discuss recent status of the NAP preparation and the scoping report (see MoM in Annex 4.6 and Annex 4.8). The 5th sector meeting on the **Nitrate Action Plan (NAP) SEA pilot** was organized on 5 February 2020 in order to discuss detailed planning for the scoping consultations and site visit (see Annex 4.12). Following the agreement made, the scoping consultation meeting was organized on 25 February 2020 in Izmir (**Activity 1.4.1. Performing Scoping Meetings**), followed by the site visit organized on 26 – 27 February 2020 (**Activity 1.4.3. Performing Site Visits**) in Balıkesir and its districts (see photo documentation in Annex 2.6). The draft mission report was submitted on 4 March 2020, its final version submitted on 17 March 2020 (see Annex 2.6) and approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority dated on 18 March 2020 (see Annex 2.6). Also, the work on finalisation of the scoping report continued and was completed. The 2nd revised version, which addressed comments of the End Recipient provided on 4 February 2020, was submitted on 10 March 2020, and the final version was submitted on 6 April 2020 (see Annex 2.4). The Scoping Report for NAP was approved by the letter of Contracting Authority dated on 15 April 2020 (see Annex 2.4).

The 6th Sector Meeting was organized on 22 June 2020 via Zoom, and the Minutes of the Meeting submitted on 26 June 2020 (see Annex 4.15). The draft SEA report was finalized and its English version was submitted to the End Recipient and the planning agency (i.e. the MoAF) for comments on 8 July 2020. The revised English version together with the Turkish version of the SEA report, taking into account the comments received from the MoEU and the MoAF, was submitted on 24 July 2020. Also, in order to further enhance analysis regarding the Nitrate Vulnerable Zones and the sensitive ecosystem in the final SEA report, a request to receive the relevant GIS data was submitted by the Contractor to the MoEU on 27 July 2020. The draft SEA Report was made available for public consultations on 24 July 2020 (distributed to stakeholders via e-mail), and the public consultation meeting took place (via Zoom) on 27 August 2020 (i.e. **Activity 1.4.2. Performing Consultation Meetings**), see MoM in Annex 2.6, and video recording in Annex 2.6. Altogether 25 participants joined the meeting, including the representatives of the planning institution (MoAF) and its consultant (TUBITAK), MoEU, as well as the stakeholders from the basin.

The final version of the NAP SEA Report was submitted for approval on 21 September 2020 (see Annex 2.4), and the Report was approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority dated on 14 October 2020 (see Annex 2.4). The draft Monitoring Report was submitted for comments on 18 September 2020, and its revised version together with the Turkish translation submitted on 25 September 2020, followed by the final version in Turkish language on 28 September 2020 (see Annex 2.4). The Monitoring Report was approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority dated on 22 October 2020 (see Annex 2.4). The Final Evaluation Meeting on the NAP SEA Pilot was organized on 30 September 2020 via Zoom (i.e. **Activity 1.4.4. Performing an Evaluation Meeting**), and the draft Minutes of the Meeting submitted on 5 October 2020, followed by the final version on 12 October 2020 (see Annex 2.8), video recording is provided in Annex 2.8. By completing these last activities, the NAP SEA Pilot was considered as successfully finalized.

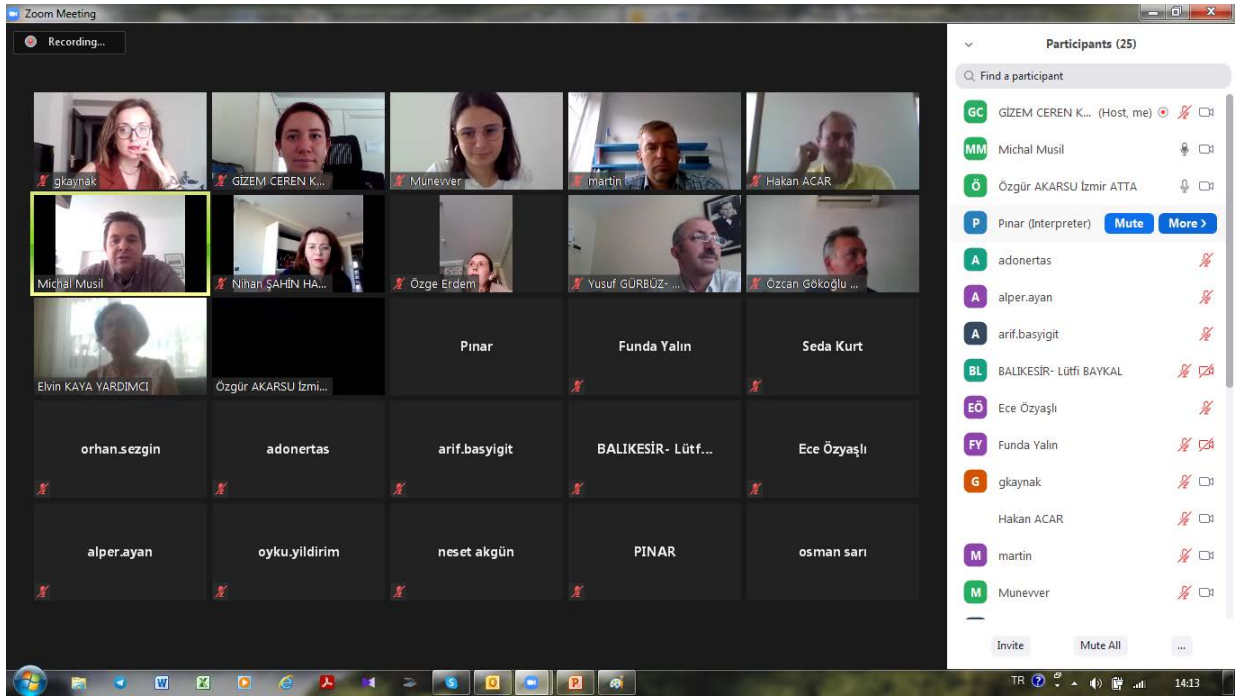


Photo 1 : Final Evaluation Meeting for NAP SEA pilot – 30/09/2020

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) SEA Pilot:

An initial sector meeting was held on 17 July 2019 (see Annex 4.2), followed by the introductory meeting with the planning team on 3 October 2019. The core SEA team was established (to be expanded by short-term experts in further stages), and the work on the scoping report was initiated in early October 2019. In order to discuss progress of the scoping stage, the 2nd sector meeting was held on 23 October 2019, and the 3rd sector meeting was organized on 12 December 2019 (see Annex 4.5 and Annex 4.9).

The first draft scoping report was submitted on 27 December 2019. Revised draft, accommodating the comments received from the End Recipient, was submitted on 14 January 2020, followed by the draft final version was submitted on 10 April 2020. The final version, revised based on the comments received from the End Recipient and Competent Authority on 13 April 2020, was submitted on 22 April 2020 (see Annex 2.4), and approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 28.05.2020 (see Annex 2.4).

In February 2020, the consultation was carried out with the ICZM planning team in order to get comments on the planning of the site visit and the scoping consultation meeting. Accordingly, a detailed agenda was drafted for the site visit and the scoping consultation meeting and submitted to the End Recipient. Following the approval of the proposed drafted agenda, the site visit and the scoping consultation meeting were organized on 11 – 12 March 2020, and 13 March 2020, respectively (i.e. **Activity 1.4.1. Performing Scoping Meetings** and **Activity 1.4.3. Performing Site Visits**), (see photo documentation in Annex 2.7). The mission report was submitted on 27 March 2020 (see Annex 2.7), and it was approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 11 May 2020 (see Annex 2.7).

A letter of the Contractor emphasizing that in order to avoid delays in finalizing the SEA pilot, there is an urgent need to receive the relevant planning documents (i.e. Expert Reports and Research Report), was submitted to the MoEU on 1 June 2020. The draft ICZM including Alternative Plans Description Reports and Research Report were provided to the Contractor at the beginning on 6 August 2020. After an initial review of the provided material, the SEA team submitted a preliminary feedback (by email on 20 August 2020) and proposed to organize an online meeting to discuss the comments. Subsequently, the 4th sector meeting was organised on 03 September 2020 (see Annex 4.16).

The draft SEA Report was submitted for comments on 15 September 2020. The comments provided by the End Recipient were reflected in the final version of the SEA Report, which was submitted in both Turkish and English languages on 6 November 2020. The Consultation Meeting was organized via Zoom on 26 October 2020 (i.e.

Activity 1.4.2. Performing Consultation Meetings – video recording is provided in Annex 2.6, and the draft Minutes of the Meeting submitted on 28 October 2020, followed by the final version on 4 November 2020 (see Annex 2.6). The draft Monitoring Report was submitted for comments on 12.11.2020 and its revised version was submitted on 1 December 2020. Additionally, the revised final version of the SEA Report both in Turkish and English languages (which was updated in line with the provided comments on monitoring report) were submitted on 1 December 2020. The SEA Report and Monitoring Report (see Annex 2.4) were approved by the official letters dated on 9 December 2020, and 28 December 2020, respectively (see Annex 2.4). The final Evaluation Meeting was organized via online platform on 10 December 2020, see MoM and video recording in Annex 2.8.

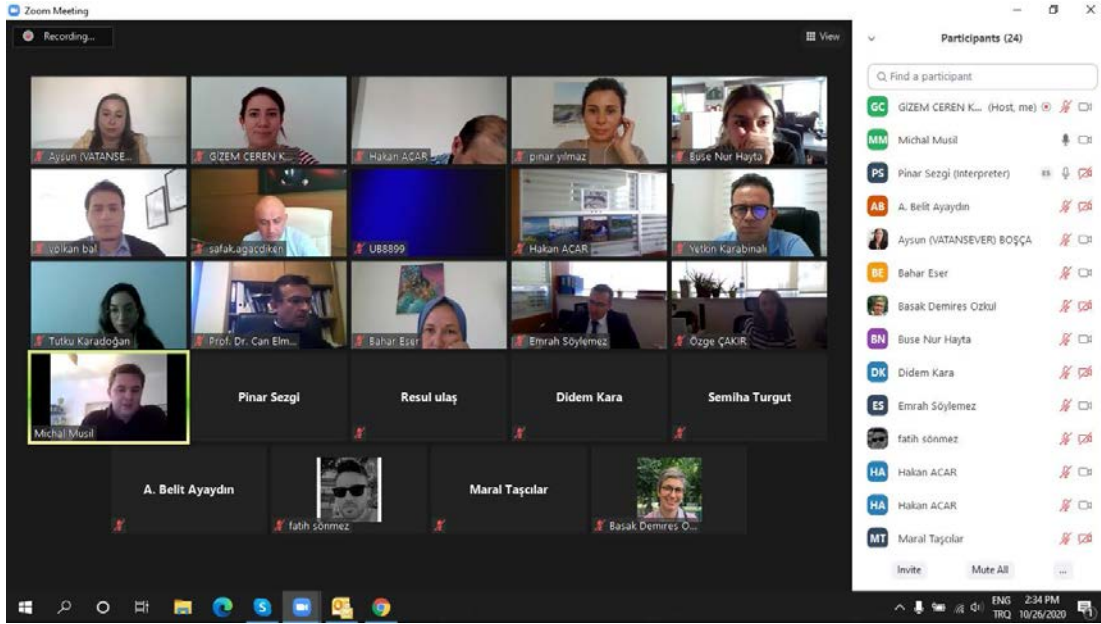


Photo 2: Consultation Meeting for ICZM SEA pilot – 26/10/2020

3.5 ACTIVITY 2.1. PERFORMING TRAINING NEEDS ANALYSIS

The activity 2.1 was carried out by the Contractor in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation (MoEU) in July – September 2019. As mentioned above, the activity 2.1 was conducted jointly with activity 1.2 'Identification of Current Situation'. The approach combined interviews with selected stakeholders and web-based survey of all the target groups. The interviews were carried between 18 – 26 July 2019, while the survey was implemented between 22 August and 21 September 2019. Initially planned survey period was – in agreement with the MoEU – extended as additional 49 contacts were provided by MoEU on 12 September and added to the survey participants. Therefore, a follow-up analysis of the results could not be finalized until the deadline stipulated by the ToR, and thus the request for extension was submitted.

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Apps ★ Bookmarks 📁 RBMP 📁 Kozara_Sutjeska 📁 CC 📁 Vrednotenje 📁 ESS 📁 PCM 📁 BD_ecosystem 📁 Habitat Banking 📁 PRF

LimeSurvey

A KATILIMCILARIN GENEL ARKA PLAN BİLGİSİ

*Kurumunuzun/Kuruluşunuzun Stratejik Çevresel Değerlendirme (SÇD) ile ne tür ilişkisi var?

🟢 Aşağıdaki yanıtlardan birini seçin

Plan ve programların hazırlıklarını koordine ediyor.

Plan ve programları onaylıyor/kabul ediyor.

Diğer:

*İşinizde herhangi bir çeşit çevresel analiz veya değerlendirme ile uğraşıyor musunuz?

✓ Evet ✗ Hayır

Photo 3: Image of the beginning of the online survey

The draft complete report, summarizing all findings and conclusions, was submitted on 7 October 2019, and revised version was submitted on 24 October 2019. The final report (see Annex 2.10) was approved on 5 November 2019 (see Annex 2.10).

3.6 ACTIVITY 2.2. PREPARATION TRAINING PROGRAMS

A number of representatives of institutions and NGOs both from national and regional level, as well as academics were trained in 2014 – 2016 in a series of workshops and trainings implemented during the previous SEA project. Although they have probably maintained the general knowledge and understanding of SEA, more detailed knowledge and skills have probably been lost due to lack of practical experience and needs to be updated. Moreover, it was likely that many of these representatives do not work in the same positions and possibly not in the same field, too, and thus probably do not participate in preparation of plans/programmes or have no power over the planning process. It was thus assumed that many participants of trainings and workshops within the SEA project will be new to the concept of SEA and will thus need considerable introduction in the subject. At the same time, the training modules (and to a lesser extent the awareness raising workshops) needed to provide new content and more practical examples to the participants already familiar with SEA in order to speed up the process of implementation of the SEA by-law.

The design of the training programme took into account findings from the Training Needs Analysis, as well as considered different needs of the main target groups. Four following training modules were developed:

- Module 1: Introduction to by-law on SEA and specific implementation on spatial planning and coastal management sectors
- Module 2: Introduction to by-law on SEA and specific implementation on water management sector including flood and drought management.
- Module 3: Introduction to by-law on SEA and specific implementation on agriculture sector
- Module 4: Introduction to by-law on SEA and specific implementation on tourism sector

Preparation of the training programs was initiated in early October 2019 (after finalizing analyses of the results from the TNA and Gap analysis), the outline of the training materials were submitted to the Beneficiary and presented at the 2nd SCM on 23 October 2019. A full set of the training materials was developed in November 2019 and the report

on activity 2.2 was submitted on 25 November 2019. After receiving comments from the End Recipient, the revised version of the report was submitted on 27 November 2019 (see Annex 2.10). The report was approved on 5 December 2019 (see Annex 2.10). During the preparation of the training programmes it was agreed that the training for the Module 4 is implemented first, followed by Module 2 and later by Module 1, with Module 3 to be implemented last.

It, however, needs to be noted that due to impacts of Coronavirus-related restrictions, Module 1 and Module 3 above had to be organized as online events. Therefore, the training approach and consequently the training materials were extensively modified and adjusted to the use in an online environment.

3.7 ACTIVITY 2.3. DELIVERY OF TRAININGS

Training Module 4

Based on the agreement with the End Recipient, the Training Module 4 was organized on 4 – 5 December 2019, with 35 participants attending it. The agenda of the event was submitted on 29 November 2019 and approved on 29 November 2019. The attendance sheet and handover list of visibility materials were submitted on 9 December 2019, while the draft Training Assessment Report was submitted on 22 January 2020. The final version of the Training Assessment Report was submitted on 30 January 2020 (see Annex 2.11) and approved by the letter of the CA on 7 February 2020 (see Annex 2.11).



Photo 4: Reporting on group work during the training for Module 4

Training Module 2

Based on the agreement with the End Recipient, the Training Module 2 was organized on 12 – 13 February 2020 and 40 participants attended it. The agenda of the event was submitted and approved on 6 February 2020. The detailed information on Training Module 2 was provided in the draft Training Assessment Report, submitted on 21 April 2020 together with the attendance sheet and handover list of visibility materials. The final version of the Training Assessment Report was submitted on 5 May 2020 (see Annex 2.11) and approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 28 May 2020 (see Annex 2.11).

Training Module 1

The experience with the online awareness raising workshops (see Activity 2.4 below) delivered in August 2020 via Zoom online platform was used for the preparation of the two online training modules – Module 1 and Module 3. Thus, the overall design of the Training Modules 1 and 3 and the training materials were thoroughly redesigned. The re-design of the training materials and approach to the training took into account that participation is limited by the technical capabilities of the participants; in particular, participants without a camera and without stable broadband internet connection are limited in their active interaction and involvement in discussions. While there were very interesting discussions and reasonable interaction with the participants of the 3rd Awareness Raising Workshop, both workshops showed that further adaptation of approach was needed to keep the participants attentive and engaged. The workshops also showed that the signed-up participants of online activities have higher rate of no attendance as it is much easier to stay out of the workshop. This was accounted for during the organisation of the training modules so that more effort is put into motivational activities and double-checking the intentions to attend with the participants.

Based on the experience with the online workshops and trainings organized both as part of the project and elsewhere, the approach was tailored for different attention span. As a result, shorter 2 – 2.5-hour long sessions were planned for the morning and afternoon. It was agreed with the MoEU that the online training would last 2 days just like the face-to-face ones, the training consisted of 4 sessions in total (2 each day), including also some short group discussions and a simple short homework between the 1st and the 2nd day. In addition, the presentation of the pilot SEA on ICZM was included in the training.

The draft training agenda for the Training Module 1 on spatial planning and coastal management sectors was submitted on 8 September 2020, and its final version on 18 September 2020. The Training Module 1 was organized on 14 – 15 October 2020 via Zoom, with 48 participants attending it. The draft Training Assessment Report was submitted on 8 December 2020. The final version of the Training Assessment Report was submitted on 21 December 2020 (see Annex 2.11) and approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 14 January 2021 (see Annex 2.11).

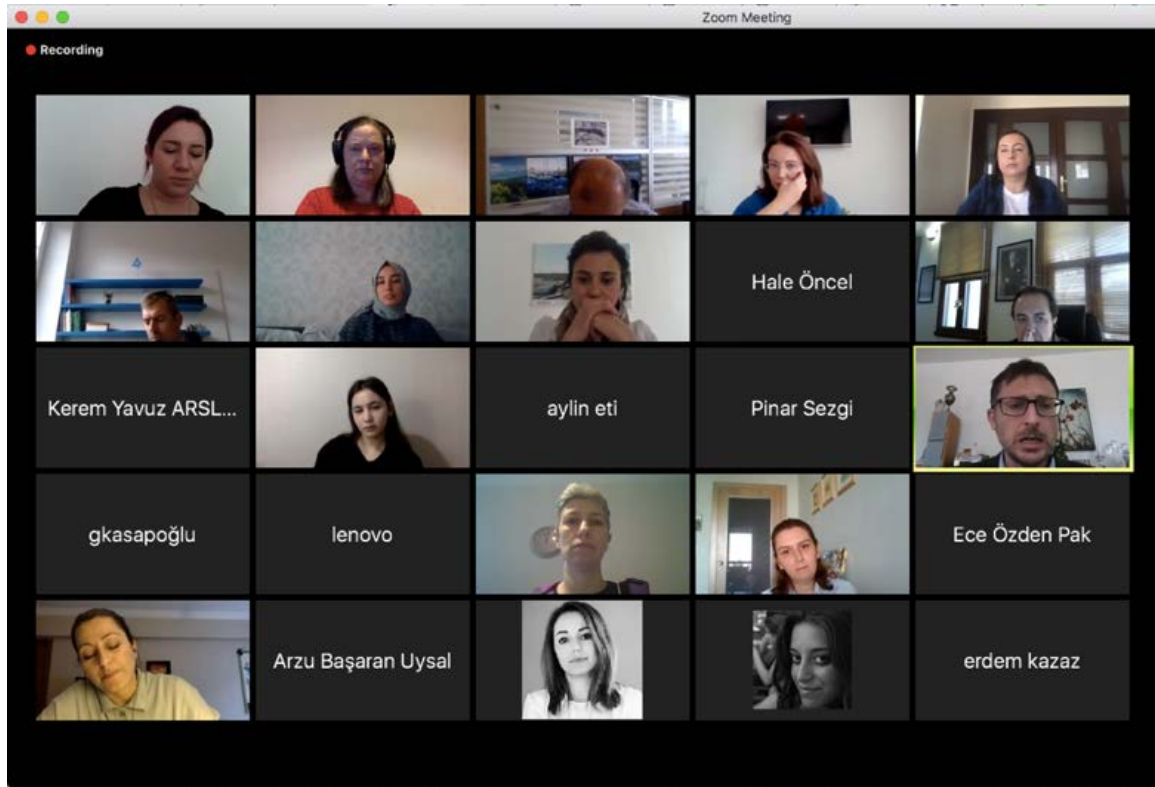


Photo 5: Presentation during the Training Module 1

Training Module 3

The preparatory works on organisation of the Training Module 3 on agriculture sector were performed during the second half of November 2020. The agenda and the training materials were amended on the basis of experience with the implementation of Training Module 1. Thus, group work was reduced as it proved difficult to conduct and moderate online. A presentation of the pilot SEA on Nitrate Action Plan was included in the training. The agenda was prepared and shared with the End Recipient, as well as invitations were distributed. The final version of agenda was confirmed on 27 November 2020. The training was organised on 2 – 3 December 2020 via Zoom. Online implementation allowed for broader participation; thus 64 participants attended the training.

Care was taken that the participants from the relevant sectors were notified and selected well in advance, using also the network of SEA Focal Points. The participants were sent short preparatory information with the agenda and training materials (handouts) in advance of the trainings and the Contractor verified ahead with the participants about their intention to participate in the training. This was intended to motivate the participants and allowed for them to prepare for the training. The draft Training Assessment Report was submitted on 9 February 2021, and the final version on 17 February 2021 (see Annex 2.11). The report was approved by the letter of Contracting Authority on 17 February 2021 (see Annex 2.11).

3.8 ACTIVITY 2.4. AWARENESS RAISING WORKSHOPS FOR UNIVERSITIES, NGOS, CHAMBERS AND PUBLIC

Altogether four 1-day awareness raising workshops for universities, NGOs, chambers and public were organised – first two as a ‘standard’ workshops, while the other two – due to Coronavirus-related restrictions – as online meeting. The workshops were designed for ‘mixed’ target groups.

The 1st awareness raising event – based on the agreement with the End Recipient – was organized back-to-back with the Training Module 4 on 3 December 2019. The agenda of the event was submitted on 29 November 2019 and approved on 29 November 2019. Altogether 49 participants attended the workshop; the attendance sheet and handover list of visibility materials were submitted on 9 December 2019. The detailed information on the 1st workshop was provided in the Training Assessment Report on both the Training Module 4 and 1st Awareness Raising Workshop, of which the final version was submitted on 30 January 2020 (see Annex 2.11) and was approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 7 February 2020 (see Annex 2.11).

The 2nd awareness raising workshop was organized back-to-back the Training Module 2 on 11 February 2020. The agenda of the event was submitted and approved on 6 February 2020. The detailed information on the 2nd workshop is provided in the Training Assessment Report, submitted on 21 April 2020. Altogether 41 participants attended the workshop. The attendance sheet and handover list of visibility materials were submitted on 24 April 2020. The final version of the Training Assessment Report on both the Training Module 2 and 2nd Training Assessment Report was submitted on 5 May 2020 (see Annex 2.11) and approved on 28 May 2020 (see Annex 2.11).

The Covid-19 related restrictions affected the implementation of the planned awareness raising workshops in the same way as the training modules. The remaining two awareness raising workshops thus were implemented on 20 and 21 August 2020 as online meetings using the Zoom platform that was organised by Contractor. The 3rd Awareness Raising Workshop on 20 August was attended by 30 participants mostly from various ministries, but also representatives of the local administrations, universities and NGOs took part. The 4th Awareness Raising Workshop on 21 August was attended by 49 participants, mostly from the universities, but also from the local administrations and development agencies, and NGOs.

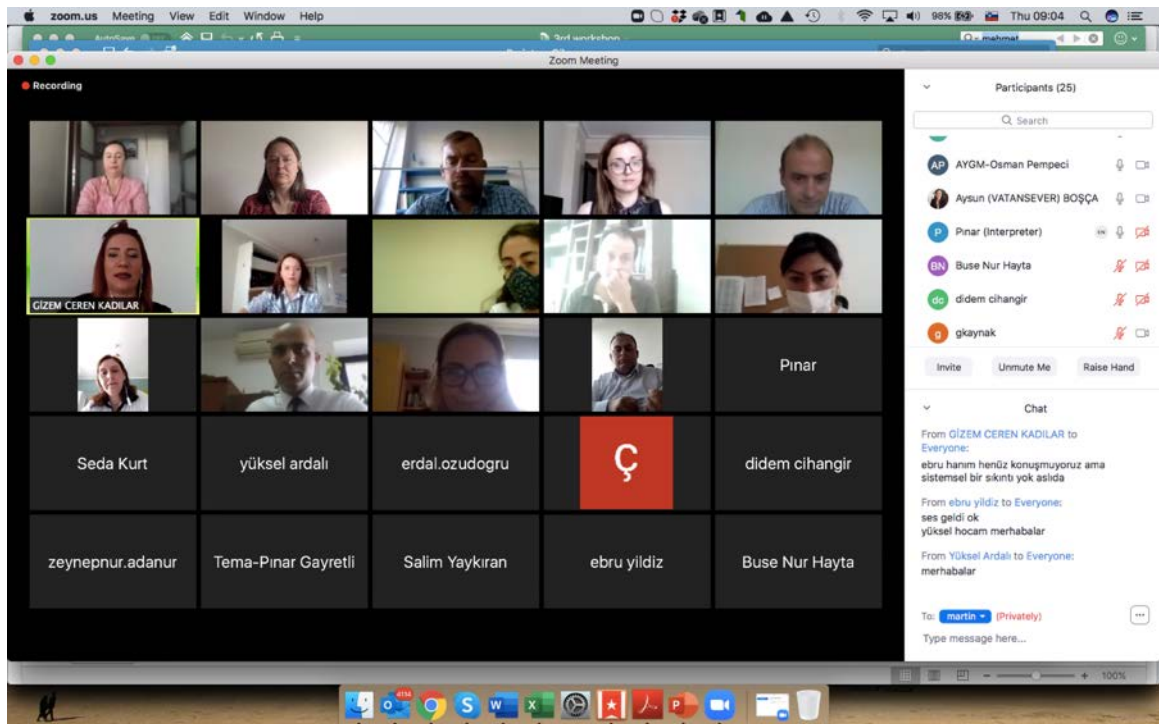


Photo 6: 3rd Awareness Raising Workshop

An activity report was prepared that summarized all observations and recommendations for future awareness raising activities among these target groups and was included in the Training Assessment Report for both Training Module 1 and 3rd and 4th Awareness Raising Workshops which was submitted on 21 December 2020 (see Annex 2.11) and approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 14 January 2021 (see Annex 2.11).

3.9 ACTIVITY 2.5. UPDATING EXISTING WEB-SITE WITH THE PROJECT OUTPUTS

This activity was implemented throughout entire implementation of the project. All outputs of the project such as training materials, brochures, booklets, scoping and SEA reports, monitoring reports, etc., were provided on a timely manner to the MoEU to be uploaded at the Ministry's SEA page (www.scd.csb.gov.tr).

3.10 ACTIVITY 2.6 CLOSURE MEETING

The closure meeting was organized as an online event on 11 February 2021. Its purpose was to present and discuss the main achievements and results of the SEA Project. A concept note providing a short introduction to SEA, and an overview of the activities implemented within the SEA Project was prepared by the Contractor. Altogether 82 participants joined the meeting, the Minutes of the closure meeting and video recording are provided in Annex 2.12.



Photo 7: Participants of the Closure Meeting

3.11 ACTIVITY 3.1. ONLINE WORKSHOP ON SEA PRACTICE

An online workshop was organized on 7 January 2021 to support awareness raising on SEA in the sectors where SEA should be applied since 2022 according to the By-law on SEA. Altogether 82 participants joined the meeting, which consisted of the two sessions – 5 case SEA examples from the EU countries were presented and discussed (see agenda in Annex 2.14). A simultaneous interpreting between English and Turkish was arranged. The workshop report was submitted on 12 February 2021 (see Annex 2.13), and approved by the letter of Contracting Authority on 15 February 2021 (see Annex 2.13). The training materials are provided in Annex 2.13.

3.12 ACTIVITY 3.2. WEBINAR ON QUALITY CONTROL

The webinar on quality control was organized via Zoom on 19 November 2020 (see agenda in Annex 2.14). The event was attended by 5 participants – representatives of the End Recipient. The webinar introduced the approaches to the quality control in SEA applied in the EU countries and its main part was dedicated to the presentation and discussion on the quality criteria outlined in the quality criteria checklist (activity 3.4 – see below). The Minutes of the Meeting were submitted on 28 December 2020 (see Annex 2.14). The webinar report was submitted on 5 February 2021 (see Annex 2.14), and approved by the letter of Contracting Authority on 17 February 2021 (see Annex 2.14). The training materials are provided in Annex 2.14.

3.13 ACTIVITY 3.3 WEBINAR ON MONITORING

The webinar was organized via Zoom on 17 December 2020 (for agenda see Annex 2.15). The event was attended by 5 participants – representatives of the End Recipient. The webinar introduced the approaches to the monitoring in SEA applied in the EU countries – Slovenia, United Kingdom, Czech Republic. The approaches to monitoring in SEA pilots and related challenges were discussed as well together with further steps to establish an effective monitoring at the strategic level in Turkey. The Minutes of the Meeting were submitted on 28 December 2020 (see Annex 2.15). The webinar report was submitted on 4 February 2021 (see Annex 2.15), and approved by the letter of Contracting Authority on 17 February 2021 (see Annex 2.15). The training materials are provided in Annex 2.15.

3.14 ACTIVITY 3.4. QUALITY CONTROL CHECK LIST

The quality control check list is supposed to be used by the End Recipient when conducting the quality review of the SEA according to the Bylaw on SEA. The check list covers both procedural and substance-related aspects of SEA, quality criteria follow requirements of the Bylaw on SEA as well we the principles of a good SEA practice. The checklist was submitted on 2 October 2020 (see Annex 2.16), and approved on 23 December 2020 (see Annex 2.16).

3.15 ACTIVITY 3.5. TEMPLATE TOR FOR STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

A template ToR for SEA should be used by the Competent Authorities when sub-contracting the SEA consultants or companies. It outlines main requirements and tasks to be performed by the SEA consultants or companies in order to carry out SEAs in accordance with the provisions of the by-law on SEA, and it also indicates the time needed for key SEA steps (screening form, scoping report, SEA report, consultations) and qualification of the key experts. The draft Template was submitted on 25 September 2020, and the feedback from the MoEU integrated in the final version, submitted on 2 February 2021 (see Annex 2.17). The Template ToR for SEA was approved by the letter of the Contracting Authority on 15 February 2021 (see Annex 2.17).

3.16 OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED WITHIN THE SEA PROJECT

The table below summarizes all project activities and related outputs.

Table 3: Overview of outputs of activities implemented within the SEA Project

ACTIVITY	OUTPUTS/REPORTS	DATE OF SUBMISSION /ISSUANCE	DATE OF APPROVAL
Activity 1.1. Opening Meeting	Information Brochure on SEA Project Minutes of the Opening Meeting Agenda of the Opening Meeting Questionnaire for the opening meeting	03.07.2019 ²	N/A
Activity 1.2. Identification of current situation	GAP Analysis Report	24.12.2019	04.11.2019
Activity 1.3. Selection of 2 sectors among priority sectors	Selection Report	26.07.2019	31.07.2019
Activity 1.4. Preparation Of Two Determined Planning Processes	Final scoping report for the NAP	06.04.2020	15.04.2020
	Final scoping report for the ICZM	22.04.2020	28.05.2020
	Final SEA Report for the NAP	21.09.2020	14.10.2020
	Final SEA Report for the ICZM	01.12.2020	09.12.2020
	Final Monitoring Report for the NAP	28.09.2020	22.10.2020
	Final Monitoring Report for the ICZM	01.12.2020	28.12.2020
Activity 1.4.1. Performing Scoping Meetings	Minutes of Scoping Meetings and others for NAP SEA Pilot	17.03.2020	N/A
	Minutes of Scoping Meetings and others for ICZM SEA Pilot	27.03.2020	N/A
Activity 1.4.2. Performing consultation meetings	Minutes of NAP Consultation Meeting	09.09.2020	N/A
	Minutes of ICZM Consultation Meeting	04.11.2020	N/A
Activity 1.4.3. Performing site visits	Mission Report for the NAP SEA pilot	17.03.2020	18.03.2020
	Mission Report for the ICZM SEA pilot	27.03.2020	11.05.2020
Activity 1.4.4. Performing an evaluation meeting	Minutes of NAP Evaluation Meeting	12.10.2020	N/A
	Minutes of ICZM evaluation Meeting	28.01.2021	N/A
Activity 2.1. Performing training needs analysis	TNA Report	24.10.2019	05.11.2019

² Submission of the final Minutes of the Opening Meeting

Activity 2.2. Preparation training programme	Report on Training Programme	27.11.2019	5.12.2019
Activity 2.3. Delivery of training Activity 2.4. Awareness raising workshops for universities, NGOs, chambers and public	Training assessment report on module 4 and the 1 st workshop, video recording	30.01.2020	07.02.2021
	Training assessment report on module 2 and the 2 nd workshop	05.05.2020	28.05.2020
	Training assessment report on module 1, and the 3 rd and the 4 th workshops, video recording for module 1, the 3 rd and the 4 th workshops	21.12.2020	14.01.2021
	Training assessment report on module 3, video recording	09.02.2021	17.02.2021
Activity 2.5. Updating Existing Web-Site with Project Outputs	Updated Web-Site	N/A	N/A
Activity 2.6. Closure Meeting	Minutes of the Closure Meeting and video recording	15.02.2021	N/A
Activity 3.1. Online workshop on SEA practice	Workshop Report Training materials	12.02.2021	15.02.2021
Activity 3.2. Webinar on Quality Control	Webinar Report, Training materials Video record of the webinar	12.02.2021	17.02.2021
Activity 3.3. Webinar on monitoring	Webinar report Training materials Video record of the webinar	12.02.2021	17.02.2021
Activity 3.4. Quality control check list	Quality control check list	02.10.2020	23.12.2020
Activity 3.5. Template ToR for strategic environmental assessment	Template ToR for strategic environmental assessment	02.02.2021	15.02.2021

3.17 VISIBILITY MATERIALS

A number of various visibility materials was prepared or purchased within the SEA Project, including following items:

- Dossiers (160/750)³,
- Pencils (300),
- Pens (300),
- Notebooks (210/750),
- USBs (620),
- Keychains (600/850)
- Brochures (500/750),
- Landyards (450/750),
- Tote bags (375/750).

³ The first number in the brackets represents the remaining quantity of a given visibility material, which will be submitted to the MoEU, while the second number represents the total quantity of the visibility materials prepared/purchased by the Contractor.

4. RESULTS AND INDICATORS

Following table lists the indicators from the ToR and the project's Operation Identification Sheet (OIS) and provides information about the level of achievement of a given indicator. As can be seen in the table, all indicators have been achieved.

Table 4: Status of achieving indicators during the implementation period

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
The knowledge of the staff will be increased by %50 on by-law on Strategic Environmental Assessment.	ToR	50%	Yes	Training reports, questionnaires for the evaluation of the trainings, minutes of the trainings, printed materials	61.5%	The training modules were organized in December 2019, February 2020, October 2020 and December 2020. An increase of knowledge was measured through completed questionnaires by the participants before and after the module. The figure (61.5%) reflects the average increase in knowledge of the participants of the four trainings.
Awareness rate will be defined and increased by %50.	ToR	50%	Yes	Workshop reports, questionnaires for the evaluation of the workshops, minutes of the workshops, printed materials	60.6%	The 1 st awareness raising workshop was organized in December 2019 and the 2 nd in February 2020. An increase of awareness rate was measured through completed questionnaires by the participants before and after the workshop. The number reflects the increase in awareness of the participants of the 1 st workshop and

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
						2 nd workshop. The participants of the 3 rd and 4 th workshop organised in August 2020 were not surveyed due to switch to online presentation and the change could not be effectively tested afterwards, however, the rate similar to the first two workshops can be expected.
Number of staff well-trained and experienced on the implementation of by-law on SEA in 5 priority sectors (coastal management, land use planning, water management, agriculture and tourism sectors) will be increased by 50% compared to the current situation.	ToR	50% ⁴	Yes	Training reports, attendance sheets of the trainings, minutes of the trainings	85%	The status was estimated considering the contacts obtained from the relevant institutions and the actual participation at the four training modules implemented in December 2019, February 2020, October 2020 and December 2020 and reflects the number achieved in the participating institutions.
Number of approved/adopted plans in which SEA findings and consultations were integrated through SEA processes.	ToR	- ⁵	Yes	Scoping reports, SEA reports, Monitoring	-	The reports produced within both SEA Pilots (i.e. scoping, SEA, and monitoring reports) are not supposed to be formally approved according to the By-law on SEA.

⁴ Baseline situation (i.e. current number of the staff well-trained and experienced on the implementation of the by-law on SEA) has not been quantified, it can be only estimated based on the findings from the TNA and Gap analysis.

⁵ A quantified target has not been defined for this indicator.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
				Reports, ICZM and NAP, Decisions of relevant planning authorities about adoption/approval		Also, the approval of the strategic documents, which are subject to SEA, is under responsibility of the relevant Competent Authority, When deciding about the adoption of the strategic document, the Competent Authority has to take into account the final SEA Statement (the SEA Statement for ICZM was sent to the Competent Authority in January 2021).. Thus, although neither NAP, nor ICZM were adopted by the end of the SEA Project, certain SEA recommendations were integrated in both draft plans.
Number of staff trained and attended the trainings/workshops will be increased by 30% compared to the current situation.	ToR	30% ⁶	Yes	Training reports, attendance sheets of the trainings, minutes of the trainings	63%	The status was estimated considering the contacts obtained from the relevant institutions and organisations and the actual participation at the four training modules and workshops implemented in December 2019 and February 2020. The number (63%) reflects the number achieved in the participating

⁶ Baseline situation (i.e. number of the staff trained) has not been quantified, it can be only estimated based on the findings from the TNA and Gap analysis.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
						institutions.
Awareness rate of participants from universities, NGOs, chambers and public on SEA will be increased by 30% compared to the current situation.	ToR	30%	Yes	Workshop reports, questionnaires for the evaluation of the workshops, minutes of the workshops, printed materials	64.4%	The 1 st and 2 nd awareness raising workshop were organized in December 2019 and February 2020, and the 3 rd and 4 th awareness raising workshops were organised in August 2020. An increase of awareness rate was measured through completed questionnaires by the participants before and after the workshop. The number reflects the increase in awareness of the participants of the 1 st workshop and 2 nd workshop and participants of the four trainings that are working in academia, research institutions and as practitioners. The participants of the 3 rd and 4 th workshop organised in August 2020 were not surveyed due to switch to online presentation and the change could not be effectively tested afterwards, however it can be assumed that the rate would be similar to the first two events.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
Number of reports developed within the project implementation period regarding environmental assessment, management and specific analyses.	ToR	- ⁷	Cannot be evaluated as a quantified target has not been defined for this indicator by the ToR	Activity reports, progress reports, MoM of the Steering Committee Meetings		The SEA process was completed for two strategic documents, and certain SEA recommendations integrated in the draft NAP and ICZM. Three main reports were produced for each SEA Pilot – Scoping Report, SEA Report, and Monitoring Report.
Environmental friendly plans and programmes are being prepared by the implementation of the by-law on SEA	OIS	No5	-	SEA Reports	Cannot be evaluated as a quantified target has not been defined for this indicator by the ToR	Both SEA pilots contributed to better environmental acceptability of the planning documents i.e. the NAP and the ICMZ – both planning documents considered certain SEA recommendations.
Recognition by EC that considerable progress is being made regarding SEA Directive by 2020.	OIS	No5	Yes	European Commission's Regular Reports from 2017 to 2020	Although the indicator's target cannot be fully evaluated,	In Turkey 2020 Report prepared by EC; it is stated that "Turkey aligned with the SEA Directive in some sectors".

⁷ A quantified target has not been defined for this indicator.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
					because as a quantified target has not been defined for this indicator by the ToR, considering the status of achievement of other indicators, it can be considered as achieved.	
Enhanced institutional capacity necessary to implement by-law on SEA.	OIS	No	Yes	Training certificates issued	165 training certificates ⁸	Institutional capacity of the two pilot institutions, MoEU Spatial Planning DG and MoAF Agriculture Reform DG have started to be enhanced through organizing sectoral meetings and Pilot action Plans and representatives of these institutions also attended all 4 training modules. Representatives

⁸ Altogether 75 certificates were issued for the participants of the training modules 4 and 2, and 90 certificates for the participants of the 1st and 2nd awareness raising workshops, which were organized as standard events with physical presence of the participants. Another 112 certificates were issued for the participants of the training modules 1 and 3, and 79 certificates for the participants of the 3rd and 4th awareness raising workshops, which were carried out as online events.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
						<p>of other sectoral institutions that are relevant for SEA, i.e. competent authorities of plans and programmes that will likely need SEA, participated in the trainings, in particular from energy sector. In addition, four awareness raising workshops on SEA were organized, providing another opportunity to disseminate information on SEA to governmental institutions as well as other relevant stakeholders (universities, NGOs, experts). However, changes in institutional capacity cannot be quantified – it is partially reflected in the figure provided for the 1st indicator from the ToR above.</p>
<p>Two approved/adopted plans (selected as pilot) in which SEA findings and consultations were integrated through SEA processes.</p>	<p>OIS</p>	<p>2 plans</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>Progress Reports and final report of the project Reporting of the MoEU on the application of competent authorities</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>The reports produced within both SEA Pilots (i.e. scoping, SEA, and monitoring reports) are not supposed to be formally approved according to the By-law on SEA. Also, the approval of the strategic documents, which are subject to SEA, is under responsibility of the relevant Competent Authority,</p>

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
				SEA Reports		When deciding about the adoption of the strategic document, the Competent Authority has to take into account the final SEA Statement (the SEA Statement for ICZM was sent to the Competent Authority in January 2021). Thus, although neither NAP, nor ICZM were adopted by the end of the SEA Project, certain SEA recommendations were integrated in both draft plans.
At least 5 relevant staff from each competent authority in 5 priority sectors (coastal management, land use planning, water management, agriculture and tourism sectors) well-trained and experienced on the implementation of the by-law on SEA.	OIS	25 persons	Yes	Reports on the gaps of institutional capacity and needs for trainings Declarations of the related ministries and project reports Training materials, evaluation report and participants list Training evaluation forms Number of	120%	The number reflects the increase in trained staff in institutions that participated in the four Training Modules in December 2019, February 2020, October 2020, and December 2020.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
				certificates Project Inception Report Project Progress Reports FSC Meeting Minutes Project Final Report		
At least 70 SEA Focal Points determined from the competent authorities and the MoEU.	OIS	70 Focal Points	Yes	Reports on the gaps of institutional capacity and needs for trainings Declarations of the related ministries and project reports Training materials, evaluation report and participants list Training evaluation forms Number of	100%	MoEU has determined focal points. The list was attached to TNA and Gap Reports.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
				certificates Project Inception Report Project Progress Reports PSC Meeting Minutes Project Final Report		
At least 120 staff working in competent authorities trained on the implementation of the by-law on SEA.	OIS	120 persons	Yes	Reports on the gaps of institutional capacity and needs for trainings Declarations of the related ministries and project reports Training materials, evaluation report and participants list Training evaluation forms Number of	157 persons	The figure reflects the number of the participants of the four Training Modules in December 2019, February 2020, October 2020, and December 2020, and the four awareness raising workshops organised in December 2019, February 2020, and August 2020.

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
				certificates Project Inception Report Project Progress Reports PSC Meeting Minutes Project Final Report		
At least 160 participants from universities, NGOs and chambers participated to the SEA awareness raising workshops, seminars and other activities.	OIS	160 participants	Yes	Reports on the gaps of institutional capacity and needs for trainings Declarations of the related ministries and project reports Training materials, evaluation report and participants list Training evaluation forms Number of	182 participants	Altogether 11 participants from universities, NGOs and chambers took part at the Opening Meeting, another 26 attended the 1 st awareness raising workshop, another 23 attended the 2 nd awareness raising workshop, 3 participated in the 3 rd awareness raising workshop and 4 participated in the 4 th awareness raising workshop. Other workshop participants were from other target groups, such as municipalities, Development Agencies and Illerbank. In addition, 74 representatives from universities, NGOs and chambers participated

Indicator	Source	Target	Achieved	Source of Verifications	Status (%)	Comments and notes
				certificates Project Inception Report Project Progress Reports PSC Meeting Minutes Project Final Report		in the four Training Module, most of them (35) in the Module 4. Additional 41 participants from universities, NGOs and chambers participated at the additional online workshop on SEA practice in different sectors conducted in January 2021.

5. RESULTS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

The GAP analysis, conducted in early stages of the SEA Project implementation, concluded that although many respondents approached were aware of 'existence' of SEA and the SEA Bylaw, the actual capacity to perform SEA-related task is low. The findings of the GAP analysis also indicated uncertainty about 'what SEA process is' and 'what it includes', which can lead to the conclusion that capacity to effectively coordinate SEA process in the side of a planning agency was relatively low. This conclusion was supported by the fact that only approx. 15% of institutions involved in survey already assigned relevant staff with SEA-related tasks (and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry seems to be the only governmental agency, which already established SEA division). Similarly, from interviews with Ilbank, Chamber of Engineers, and NGO, it could be concluded that although they are in general aware of SEA, there is a lack of detailed understanding of how SEA should be conducted and what the specific SEA-related tasks are.

Considering the status of indicators as provided in the section above, the SEA Project contributed to higher readiness to coordinate SEA among the Competent Authorities as well as to a better awareness on the role and benefits of SEA. The same can be concluded regarding the other target group involved in the project.

5.1 SEA PILOTS

It can be concluded that both pilots undertook the whole SEA process in accordance with the SEA by-law, including Scoping, SEA Report, and Monitoring report. Also, in both cases there was a good cooperation with the respective Competent Authorities, which were readily sharing planning drafts, data and information about the planning process. SEA recommendations and environmental monitoring proposal were thoroughly discussed with the Competent Authorities before the SEA finalization, which is important for Competent Authorities to be able to effectively take into account SEA process in the finalization of the plan. The preparation of a self-standing Monitoring report has proven to be a very useful component of the SEA process, playing a facilitation role in of the concluding dialogue between the SEA and the Competent Authority. It is therefore an important lesson for the future practice that the Monitoring Report should include not only a tentative list of environmental indicators to be monitored during the Plan implementation, but equally importantly to provide the overview of the SEA-recommended mitigation measures and related commitments of the Competent Authority.

It needs to be noted that readiness of the Competent Authority might represent a challenge in future SEAs in other sectors, with less understanding of the environmental issues.

Following challenges can be mentioned:

- Establishing of the spatial scope (likely affected area) for the SEA analysis namely in the case of ICZM, which is concerning only relatively narrow coastal zone, while environmental and social factors that SEA wanted to consider often required broader perspective
- The SEA final consultations had to be conducted without final draft planning documents publicly available, due to the formal limitations of the Competent Authorities (confidentiality of the draft plans)
- Limited capacity of Competent Authorities to carry out environmental monitoring beyond the indicators they already regularly monitor as a part of their standard agenda.
- Absence of procedural framework for SEA-monitoring follow-up reporting (i.e reporting back to the SEA-responsible Authority during the Plan implementation, using the monitoring indicators put forth by the SEA). Even though the obligation of the follow-up reporting is prescribed by the SEA by-law, Competent Authorities so far has not seemed to be fully aware of its practical implications, i.e. that they should follow up on their commitments made during the SEA process even after the formal SEA procedure is concluded, throughout the whole implementation period of the respective Plan.
- Limited expertise available for assessment of impacts on public health within SEA

5.2 TRAINING AND AWARENESS RAISING ACTIVITIES

Both the trainings and awareness raising workshops showed that there is a growing enthusiasm and strong interest in SEA, role of their institutions and next steps they can undertake. Survey of participants' knowledge shows an increase in knowledge and awareness of the role of SEA in the planning context.

The training and awareness raising events were attended by a good mixture of participants (competent authorities, practitioners, academia, municipalities, public utilities) that strongly interacted both during group work and in the spare time. This has further enhanced the learning process and can in the future lead to increased cooperation among the stakeholders in individual SEA processes, as well as development of SEA knowledge sharing network. According to the participants, the group work struck them with a "taste" of SEA in practice and those with more experience were keen to have more focused, more demanding tasks or assignments.

The SEA team of the MoEU SEA played strong, highly visible role in the trainings and awareness raising workshop. The team presented the SEA bylaw and current practice and experience with SEA in Turkey, as well as information resources and openly discussed any issues raised during the Q&A sessions. As a result, the team strengthened its position as the SEA authority and as a helpful and valuable information source.

The academic and research institutions that participated at the workshops and some of the trainings have shown an increasing keen interest in various aspects of SEA – from the process, tools and methodological issues to the issue of public participation, equality and use of finite resources. As a result, it can be expected that some research into SEA application in Turkey will be done soon. It is recommended that MoEU supports such research and uses its findings at future work and planning.

Follow-up activities are needed to support current interest both of competent authorities and of other stakeholders such as academia and NGOs. This can be done through information dissemination and trainings on the basis of new experience, such as pilot SEAs, current practice with screening, scoping, current SEA processes etc. The awareness raising activities on SEA can be shared between the MoEU and/or some of the stakeholders, such as chambers and NGOs. Moreover, the internet provides the opportunity for broader outreach by using of online training/workshop format, as well as online tools (checklists, matrices, links to data sources/databases, case studies etc.) that could be developed to assist SEA implementation in practice and published on the MoEU's SEA website. Care should be taken though as online format can be less efficient as it is not that engaging.

The following challenges can be mentioned:

- Potential practitioners have strong experience either in EIA or planning (particularly urban planning), thus it will take time and considerable effort by all involved to develop extensive SEA methodology and practice suitable for Turkish context and keep SEA on strategic level;
- SEA awareness and skills are now high in competent authorities on national level and metropolitan municipalities, however there is still lack of awareness and skills on regional level and in smaller municipalities across Turkey;
- The competent authorities are experiencing a turnover or change of personnel in charge of SEA, thus the results of the trainings conducted during the project might wane quickly as participants might move to new positions and/or assignments;
- Low awareness of sectoral professional organisations, such as various Chambers of their potential role in SEA;
- Raising the awareness and capacity of smaller, less prominent and possibly regional and local stakeholders (NGOs, sectoral organisations and potential practitioners). They are important stakeholders that were not included in large numbers in the awareness raising activities of the project. They need to improve their knowledge and skills for SEA in order to be able to contribute to SEAs in their area and/or sector, particularly during the public participation process;
- Promotion of SEA through extensive public consultation in current SEA processes, especially in scoping phase. Extensive and transparent public consultation and promotion of SEA can build trust and strong relationships with the stakeholders.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF SEA IN TURKEY

Although Turkey has made a significant progress in introducing and establishing a SEA system in the last several years, it can be expected that further development of effective SEA practice in the country will require support. Following types of actions can be considered as a priority:

- Supporting application of SEA: conducting pilot SEAs has proven to be the most efficient capacity building as it provides 'hands-on' opportunity for the relevant stakeholders to participate in the SEA and can be effectively combined with training and awareness raising activities. Therefore, initial pilot SEAs should be supported in the sectors, where SEA should be applied since 2023 according to the By-law – this is of high importance as these sectors belong to the key economic sectors in the country;
- Increasing capacity to address social and health aspects in SEA: according to a good SEA practice, relevant social and health aspects should be addressed in SEA at the same level of important as the environmental issues. However, a capacity to supervise and coordinate this seems to be low – therefore it is necessary to further increase capacity of health authorities as well as experts and practitioners.
- Facilitating the discussion on the budgetary aspects: SEA application needs to be financed from the national budget. Therefore, it is important to ensure the necessary funds are available when the SEA is required for all sectors covered by the By-law on SEA. As allocation of finances may be relatively long process, it would be important to launch an initial discussion – this can include dedicated high-level events for the high management staff of relevant ministries and other Competent Authorities, establishing an expert group on SEA across governmental institutions, preparation of precise SEA-related cost estimates, presentation of examples from other countries regarding SEA-related costs etc.
- Organising trainings and awareness raising events on SEA for Competent Authorities as well as for environmental experts and practitioners (both individual and from consulting companies);
- Support networking of relevant institutions, organisations and individuals involved in SEA: This may include organizing regular (1-2 per year) coordination meetings with all relevant stakeholders to discuss problems and activities regarding SEA in the country. These meetings can be organized by the MoEU and invite representatives of the Competent Authorities.

6. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: SERVICE CONTRACT REPORTS PRODUCED WITHIN THE PROJECT

NO.	REPORT
1.1	INCEPTION REPORT
1.2	INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT NO.1
1.3	INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT NO.2
1.4	INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT NO.3
1.5	INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT NO.4
1.6	INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT NO.5
1.7	INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT NO.6

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PROJECT OUTPUTS PRODUCED AND DELIVERED

NO.	ACTIVITY
2.1	ACTIVITY 1.1. OPENING MEETING
2.2	ACTIVITY 1.2. IDENTIFICATION OF CURRENT SITUATION
2.3	ACTIVITY 1.3. SELECTION OF 2 SECTORS AMONG PRIORITY SECTORS
2.4	ACTIVITY 1.4. PREPARATION OF TWO DETERMINED PLANNING PROCESSES
2.5	ACTIVITY 1.4.1. PERFORMING SCOPING MEETINGS
2.6	ACTIVITY 1.4.2. PERFORMING CONSULTATION MEETINGS
2.7	ACTIVITY 1.4.3. PERFORMING SITE VISITS
2.8	ACTIVITY 1.4.4. PERFORMAING AN EVALUATION MEETING
2.9	ACTIVITY 2.1. PERFORMING TRAINING NEEDS ANALYSIS
2.10	ACTIVITY 2.2. PREPARATION TRAINING PROGRAMME
2.11	ACTIVITY 2.3. DELIVERY OF TRAINING AND ACTIVITY 2.4. AWARENESS RAISING WORKSHOPS FOR UNIVERSITIES, NGOS, CHAMBERS AND PUBLIC
2.12	ACTIVITY 2.6. CLOSURE MEETING
2.13	ACTIVITY 3.1. ONLINE WORKSHOP ON SEA PRACTICE
2.14	ACTIVITY 3.2. WEBINAR ON QUALITY CONTROL
2.15	ACTIVITY 3.3. WEBINAR ON MONITORING
2.16	ACTIVITY 3.4. QUALITY CONTROL CHECK LIST
2.17	ACTIVITY 3.5. TEMPLATE TOR FOR STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ANNEX 3: LIST OF ALL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND ADDENDUMS

NO.	DOCUMENT	DATE OF SUBMISSION / ISSUANCE
3.1	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.1	10.04.2019
3.2	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.2	29.04.2019
3.3	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.3	23.05.2019
3.4	UPDATED WORKPLAN AND REQUEST ADDENDUM TO CONTRACT (ARTICLE 20.2)	08.07.2020
3.5	UPDATED WORKPLAN AND ADDENDUM REQUEST	14.07.2020
3.6	SIGNATURE OF ADDENDUM NO.1	22.10.2020
3.7	SIGNED ADDENDUM NO.1	23.10.2020

ANNEX 4: LIST OF MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS

NO.	DOCUMENT	DATE OF SUBMISSION / ISSUANCE
4.1	MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO.1 (FINAL)	22.07.2019
4.2	MINUTES OF ICZM SECTOR MEETING NO.1 (FINAL)	31.07.2019
4.3	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.1 (FINAL)	31.07.2019
4.4	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.2 (FINAL)	09.09.2019
4.5	MINUTES OF ICZM SECTOR MEETING NO.2 (FINAL)	25.10.2019
4.6	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.3 (FINAL)	25.10.2019
4.7	MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO.2 (FINAL)	06.11.2019
4.8	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.4 (FINAL)	20.12.2019
4.9	MINUTES OF ICZM SECTOR MEETING NO.3 (FINAL)	20.12.2019
4.10	MINUTES OF OPERATION COORDINATION UNIT MEETING NO.1 (FINAL)	21.01.2020
4.11	MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO.3 (FINAL)	27.01.2020
4.12	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.5 (FINAL)	10.02.2020

4.13	MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO.4 (FINAL)	03.06.2020
4.14	MINUTES OF OPERATION COORDINATION UNIT MEETING NO.2 (FINAL)	26.06.2020
4.15	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.6 (FINAL)	26.06.2020
4.16	MINUTES OF ICZM SECTOR MEETING NO.4 (FINAL)	09.09.2020
4.17	MINUTES OF NAP SECTOR MEETING NO.7 (FINAL)	15.09.2020
4.18	MINUTES OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NO.5 (FINAL)	18.09.2020

ANNEX 5: OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE



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