

# Introduction of Procedures and Methods for SEA

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- **Commonly used procedures and methods**
- **Explain under what conditions certain procedures and methods should be applied**
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- **Methodologies for linking SEA to the broader sustainable development agenda – benefits**
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# Why We Need SEA Processes

- **The SEA process helps decision makers:**
  - **To incorporate environmental and other sustainability objectives in the formulation of policies, plans and programmes**
  - **To gather and analyse the information necessary for sound decision-making, including input from relevant stakeholders**
  - **To evaluate likely significant environmental and health effects of strategic options and proposed actions**
  - **To set conditions for environmentally sound implementation of strategic decisions**

# Why We Need SEA Processes (Cont'd)

- **The SEA process:**
  - **Should enhance the systematic approach to policy, plan and programme making, making them more rigorous and transparent**
  - **Should improve good governance, build public trust and confidence in decision-making**
  - **Should help to achieve the procedural component of decision making for environmentally sound and sustainable development**
  - **Should provide an 'audit trail' of the selections made**

# Why We Need SEA Methods

- **SEA methods are needed:**
  - **To add – scientific – rigour to SEA**
  - **To simplify complex issues at strategic decision making levels**
  - **To support evaluation of the environmental effects of a reasonable range of alternatives of the proposed initiative**
  - **To facilitate consultation and participation**
  - **To help making SEA cost effective**

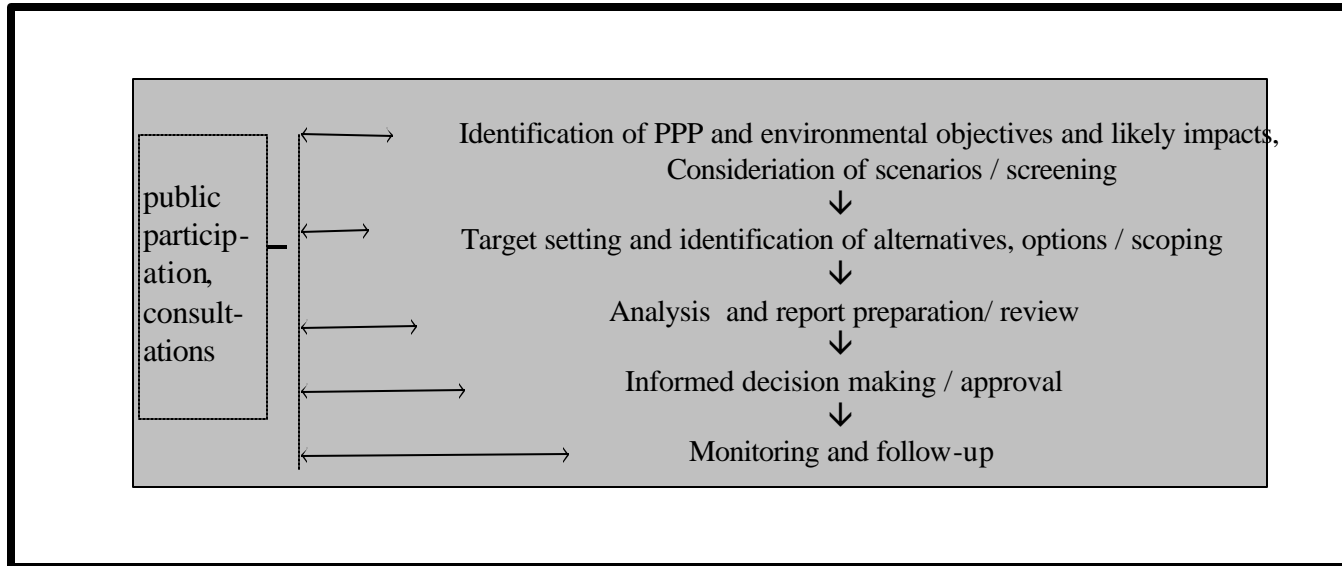
# What have we learned so far?

- **Processes and methods should be:**
  - **Fit for purpose**
  - **Sustainability oriented**
  - **Integrated**
    - **Substantive, administrative, systematic, sectoral, participative, methodological, technical, procedural, decision making**
  - **Transparent**
  - **Cost-effective**
  - **Relevant**
  - **Practical**

# Commonly Used Procedures

- **Two main procedural approaches can be distinguished in current practice:**
  - ***Defined*** – following project EIA, usually in plan and programme situations
  - ***Adaptable, flexible, integrated*** – usually in policy situations -?-

# Commonly Used Procedures



***Defined* – EIA-based – SEA procedures include screening, scoping, report preparation, review, informed decision making and approval, follow-up, consultations and public participation**

# Commonly Used Procedures (Cont'd)

- ***Defined – EIA-based***
  - **EU: SEA Directive**
  - **USA: Programmatic EA**
  - **The Netherlands: Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment**
  - **Germany: Impact Assessment in Landscape Plans**
  - **World Bank: Sectoral Environmental Assessment, Regional Environmental Assessment**

# Commonly Used Procedures (Cont'd)

- ***Adaptable, flexible, integrated***
  - **The Netherlands: E-test**
  - **Denmark: SEA of government bills**
  - **UK: Environmental / Sustainability appraisal**
  - **Canada: Policy Impact Assessment**

# Selecting Appropriate Methods

- Can look rather different from their application in project situations!

- Indicators

- State
- Pressure
- Response

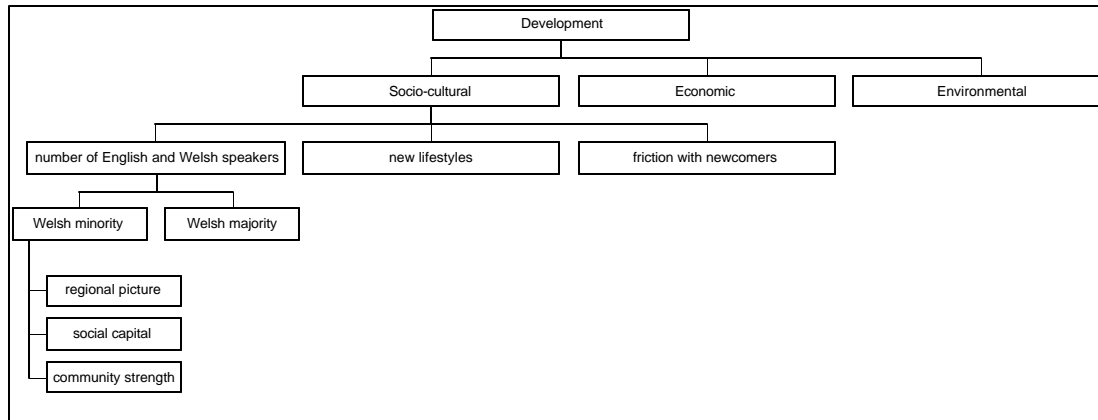
- Checklists

- Matrices

criteria	Global sustainability			Natural resources				Local environmental quality							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Policies</b>															
Transport Energy Efficiency: Trips															
Transport Energy Efficiency: Modal															
Built Environment Energy Potential															
Renewable Energy Potential															
Rate of CO2 Fixing															
Wildlife Habitats															
Air Quality															
Water Conservation and Quality															
Land and Soil Quality															
Minerals Conservation															
Landscape and Open Land															
Urban Rural Environment and															
Cultural Heritage															
Public Access to Open Space															
Building Quality															
Introduction															
Local Plan Strategy 1.18	✓	✓	✓	•	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Objectives															
Urban regeneration	✓	✓	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Environmental Protection & Enhancement	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Improving Town Centres	✓	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Community Benefits	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Co-ordinating and	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Enabling															
Adequate Land Supply	✓	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
A Balanced Transport	✓	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Strategy															
URB. 1. Urban Boundary	✓	✓	•	•	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•	•	•

# Selecting Appropriate Methods (Cont'd)

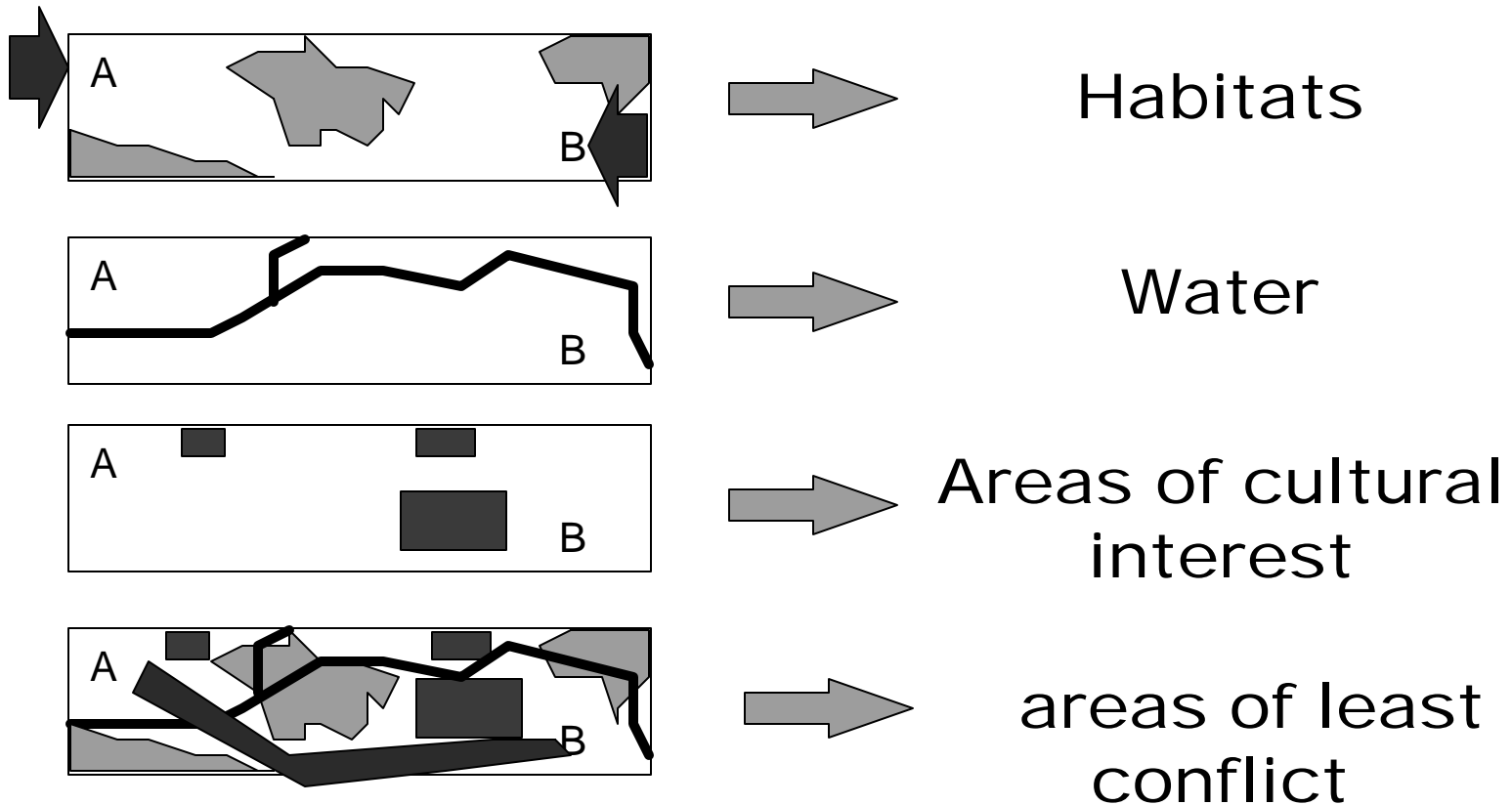
- **Networks**



- **Surveys**
- **Consultation**
- **Public participation**
- **Statistical analysis**

# Selecting Appropriate Methods (Cont'd)

- **Overlay mapping**



# Selecting Appropriate Methods (Cont'd)

- **The use of appropriate methods and techniques in SEA depends on a range of aspects. Most importantly, these include:**
  - **the sector SEA is applied to (see case studies)**
  - **the stage in the assessment process**

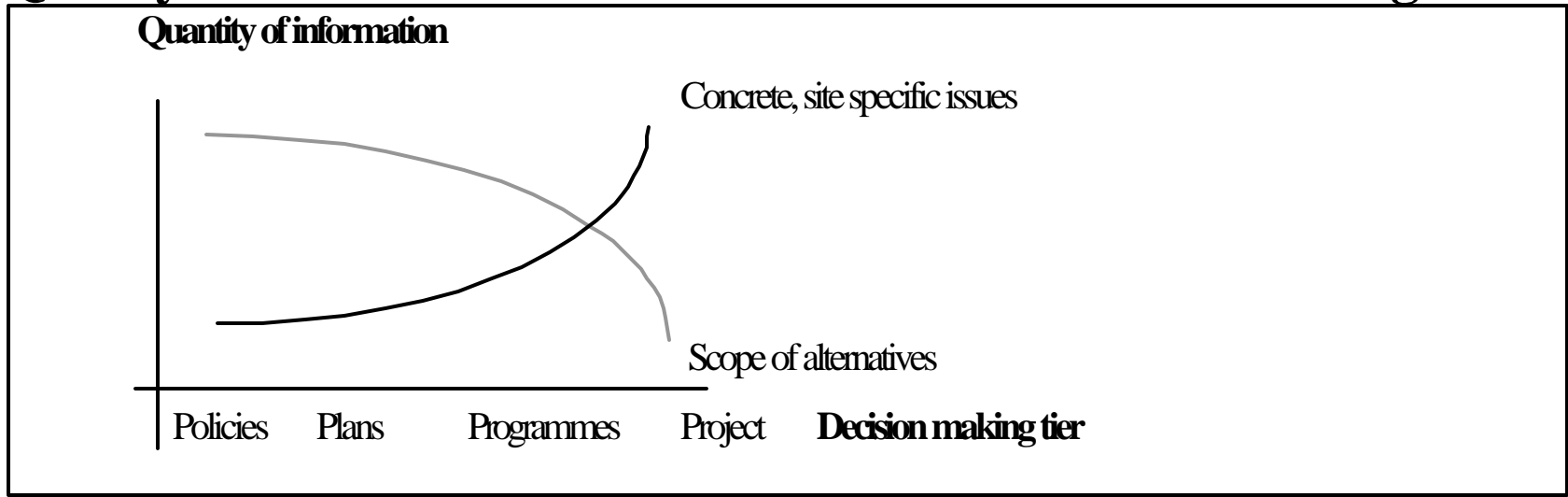
## Currently frequently applied methods

screening	Indicators, checklists, expert consultation
scoping	Indicators, checklists, matrices, surveys, public participation, consultation
impact assessment	Matrices, surveys, public participation, consultation, networks, statistical analyses, overlay maps
review	Consultation, public participation
decision making	Checklists, matrices, overlay maps
Follow-up	Indicators, surveys

# Selecting Appropriate Methods (Cont'd)

- **The specific decision making tier**


## Quantity of substantive information at different tiers of decision making



# Selecting Appropriate Methods (Cont'd)

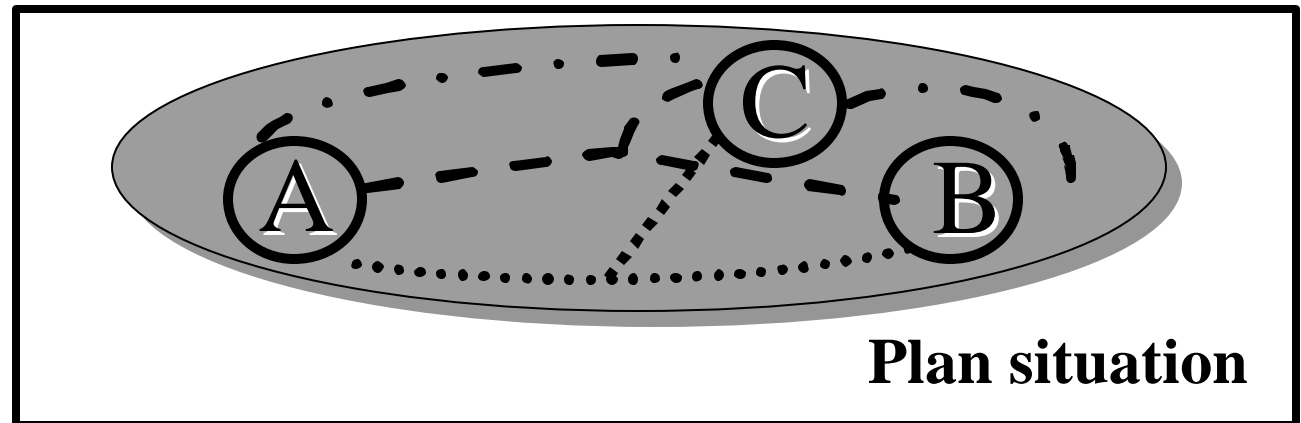
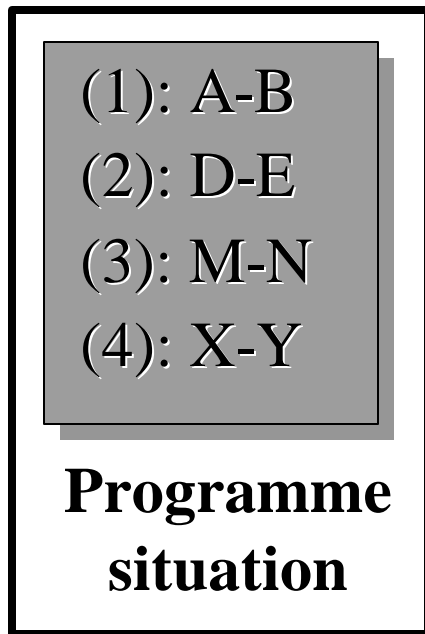
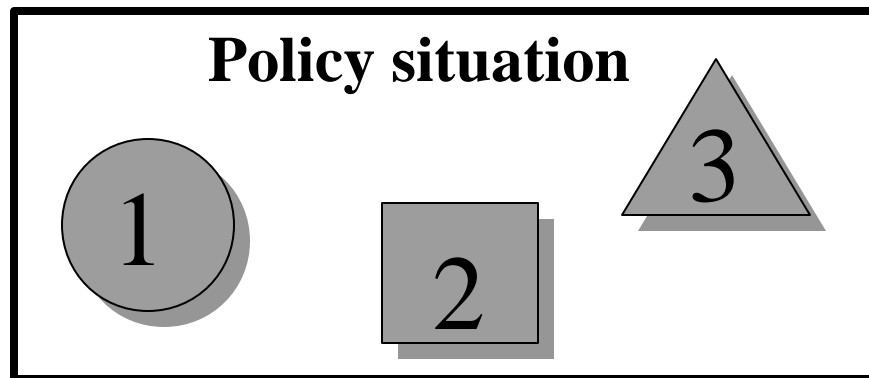
Methods \ SEA type	Policy-SEA	Plan-SEA	Programme-SEA
Scenario modelling	✓	✗	✗
Simulation analysis	✓	✗	✗
Workshops	✓	⇔	⇔
Overlay mapping	✗	✓	✗
Impact matrices	⇔	✓	⇔
MCA	✗	✗	✓
CBA	✗	✗	✓
Checklists	⇔	⇔	✓

✓ = Typical method/ technique  
 ⇔ = possible method/technique  
 ✗ = not likely to be used

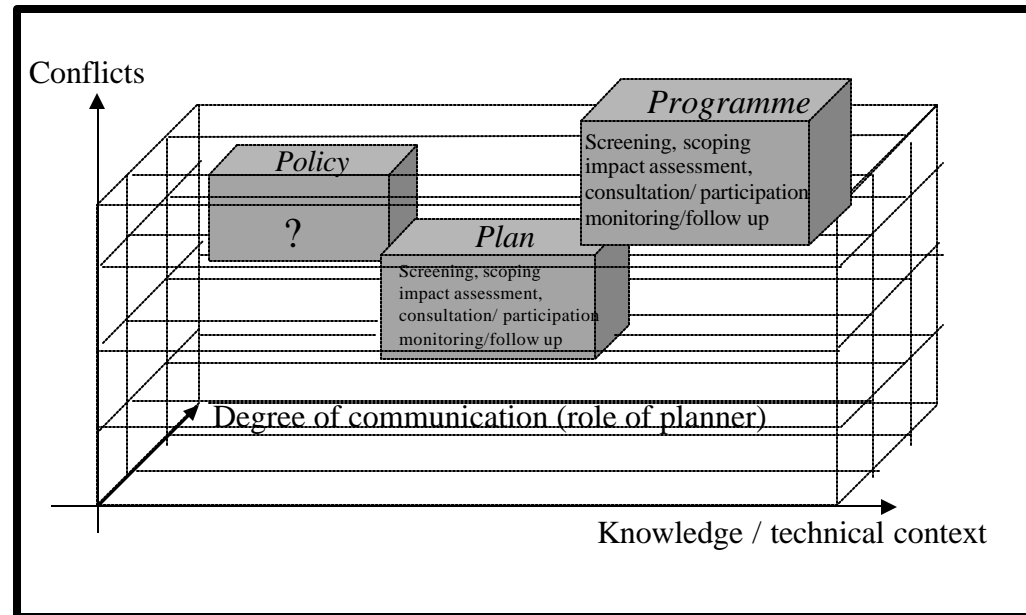
 = primary methods and techniques

**Example: Methodologies/methods in transport planning**

# Selecting Appropriate Procedures and Methods



# Selecting Appropriate Procedures and Methods (Cont'd)



**The planner may need to act as a mediator in policy situations, as an advocate in plan situations and as a technician in programme situations**

# Methodologies for Linking SEA to the Broader Sustainable Development Agenda

- **SEA is an instrument aiming at giving environmental aspects due consideration in decision making for sustainable development**
- **Methodological integration of environmental, social and economic assessment itself is still weak**
  - **Integration of methods difficult, due to different dimensions, scales and values**
  - **Integration of procedures comparatively straightforward**

# Methodologies for Linking SEA to the Broader Sustainable Development Agenda (Cont'd)

- **Enable a more inclusive and informed decision-making**
- **Support effective and efficient governance**
- **Support more optimal project formulation**
- **Simplify project officers' work**
- **Support better implementation of all thematic policies**
- **Reduce duplication of effort**

# Methodologies for Linking SEA to the Broader Sustainable Development Agenda (Cont'd)

- **Quantitative methods/ methodologies (selection)**
  - **Cost-benefit analysis**
  - **Multi-criteria analysis**
  - **Computer modelling**
  - **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

# Methodologies for Linking SEA to the Broader Sustainable Development Agenda (Cont'd)

- **Qualitative methods/ methodologies (selection)**
  - **Checklists**
  - **Matrices**
  - **Workshops**
  - **Delphi surveys**

# Key Learning Points and Messages

- **Procedures and methods are needed to help achieve the main aim of SEA; to support environmentally sound decision making for sustainable development**
- **SEA methods and procedures need to be fit for purpose, sustainability oriented, integrated, transparent, cost-effective, relevant and practical**
- **There are currently two main approaches to SEA; defined, EIA-based SEA processes in plan and programme situations and adaptable and flexible SEA processes in policy situations**

# Key Learning Points and Messages (Cont'd)

- **There is a range of methods available for use in SEA; they should be chosen according to sector, decision making tier and procedural stage**
- **The sustainability and governance agendas ask for SEA to be applied in an integrative manner**