

**Module 3: International Experiences
and Case Studies**

**Case Studies of SEA for Plans and
Programs in Central and
Eastern Europe**

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Presentation Outline

- **Status of SEA in Central and Eastern Europe**
- **Key lessons learned with integration of SEA into development planning**
- **Case example: SEA for Czech Sectoral Operational Programme for Tourism**

Central and Eastern Europe



- Transition to free-market economies
- Strong planning traditions
- Implementation of EU Directive on SEA

Origins of SEA in CEE

SEA	Legal Frameworks	Practical application
Plans and programs within spatial planning	All countries require partial environmental evaluations since 1980ies Additional EIA requirements for spatial plans since early 1990ies in Poland, Czech Rep., Bulgaria, Slovakia, Lithuania	Extensive practice in Poland. Czech Rep., Bulgaria, Slovakia
Sectoral plans and programs outside spatial planning	Czech Rep. (1992), Slovakia (1994), Poland (2000), Estonia (2000), Bulgaria (2001)	Practiced in Czech Rep. and Slovakia

Legislative Framework for SEA in CEE

National Dev. Plans	EC requires comprehensive evaluations of economic, social and environmental impacts	Systematically applied in Czech Rep. Large pilot projects in Poland, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia. Preliminary SEAs in Slovenia and Bulgaria.
Policies	Czech Rep. (1992), Slovakia (1994), Poland (2000) Estonia (2000)	Some practice in Czech Rep. and Slovakia, pilot projects in Estonia and Poland
Legisl. Proposals	Slovakia (1994)	Pilot SEA for Waste Management Act, 2000

Key Lessons With SEA in CEE

SEA should:

- **Run in parallel to the planning process**
- **Be integrated into key stages of plan or program-making**
- **Analyze environmental effects of strategic decisions as well as**
- **Analyze consistency of proposed strategic decisions with relevant environmental objectives and targets**

Integration of SEA Into Development Planning

Key Elements of SEA Directive

Screening

Scoping

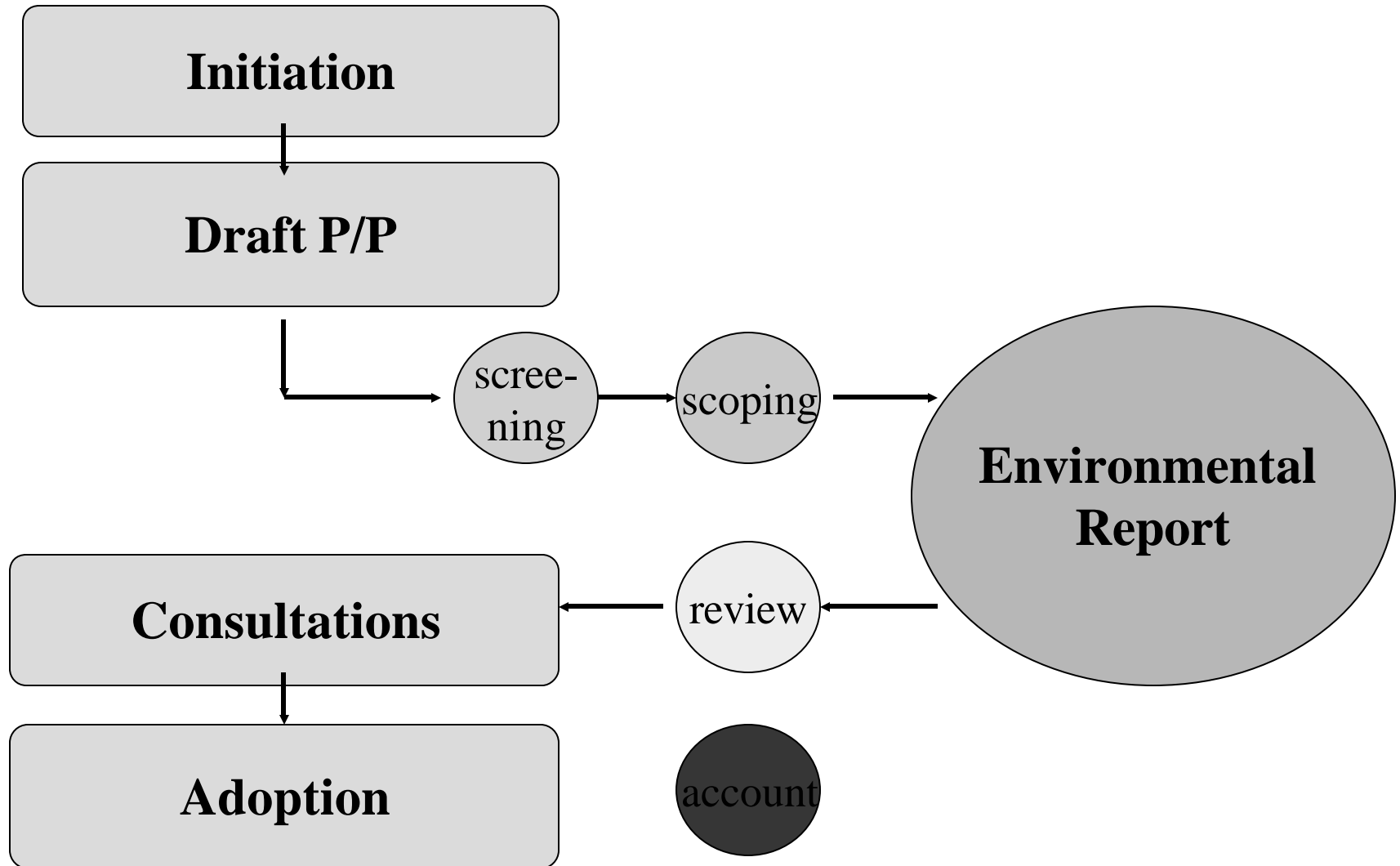
SEA Report

- evolution of state of environment
- relationship to relevant env. objectives
- assessment of significant env. effects
 - mitigation measures
 - monitoring

Review

**Due
account**

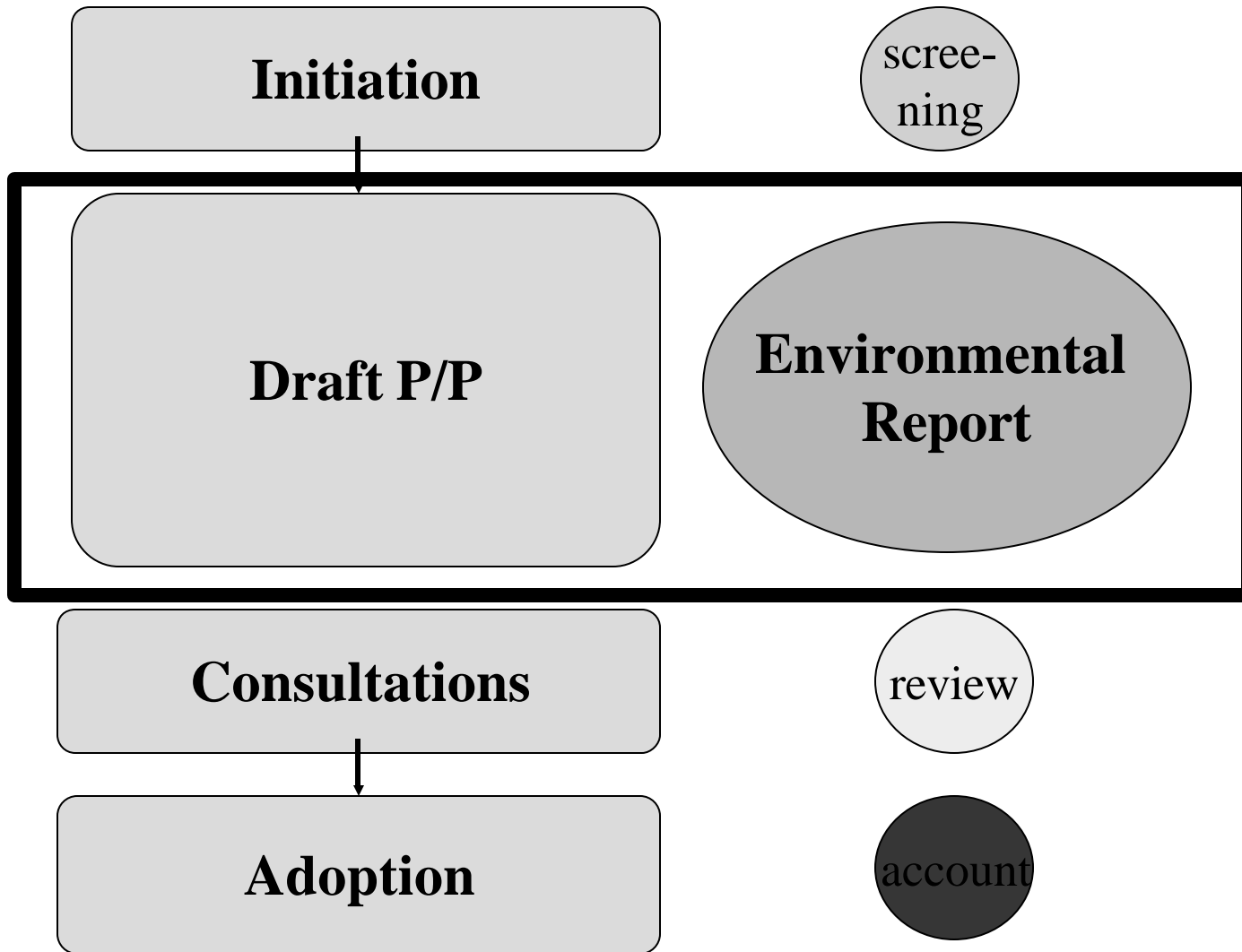
SEA Separated from Planning



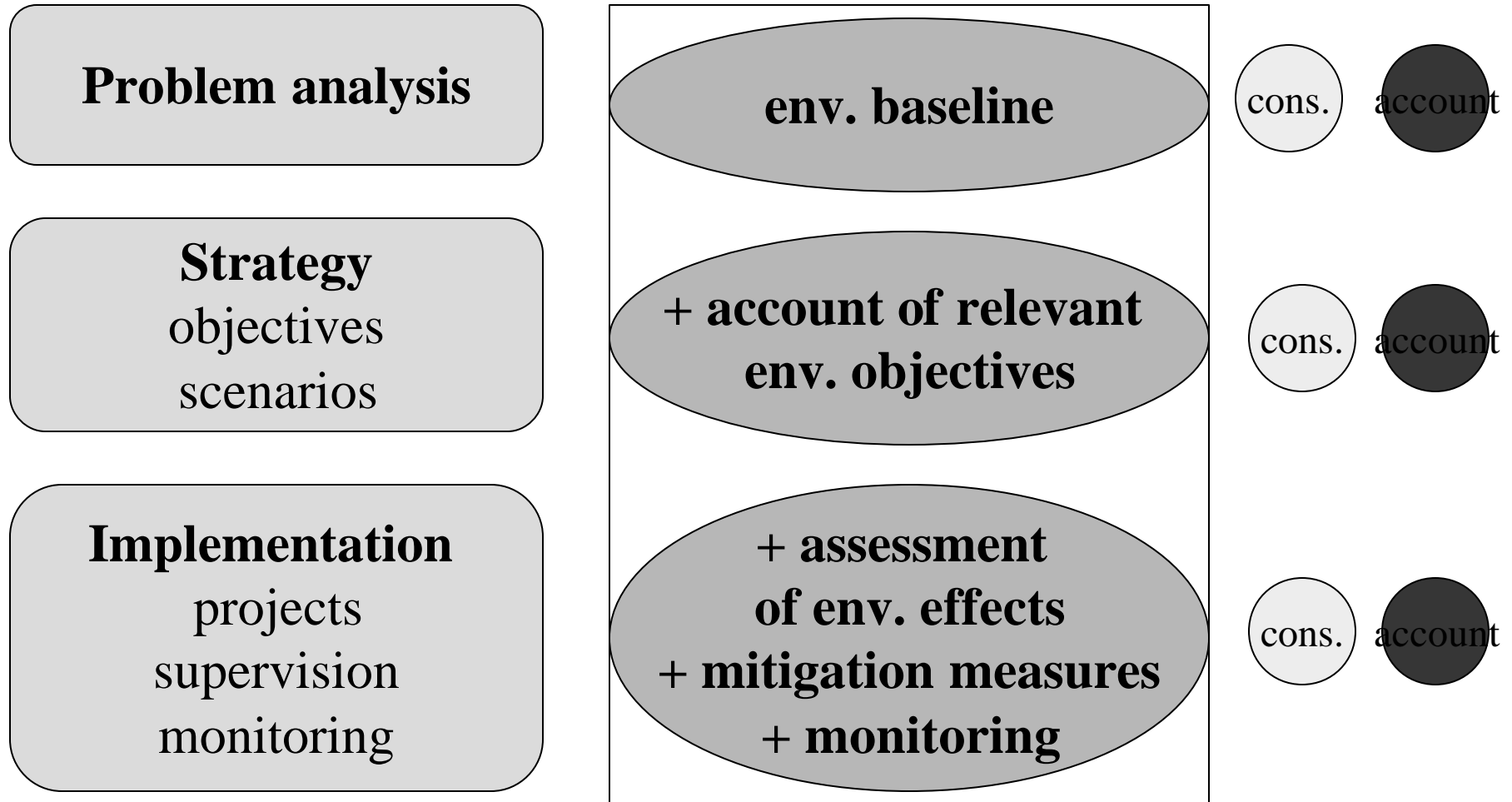
Separation of SEA from Planning

- 😊 **Simple and straightforward procedure**
- 😊 **Enables detailed assessment of likely environmental effects**
- 😊 **Focus on elaboration of environmental report**
- 😞 **May come too late - new alternatives and proposals may be boycotted by planners**
- 😞 **Prolongs the entire planning process**
- 😞 **Late assessment tends to be more costly**

SEA Integrated Into Planning



SEA Integrated into Planning - Detail



Full Integration of SEA into Planning

- 😊 **Puts SEA into heart of planning**
- 😊 **Saves time (parallel to planning)**
- 😊 **Saves money (joint use of data by the planning and assessment teams)**
- 😊 **Facilitates early consultations and prevents late surprises**
- 😞 **More demanding and difficult to manage**
- 😞 **Need for thorough quality reviews**

Example of the Integration of SEA into Economic Development Planning:

Sectoral Operational Program Tourism in Czech Republic

Objective

- Program aims to support development of tourism industry in Czech Republic
- USD 100 million allocated for implementation in 2004-2006
- 4 months, 3 experts, total 70 person days
- SEA carried out as ex-post exercises
- SEA involved intensive consultations with the planning team, Ministry of Regional Development and Ministry of Environment

Planning process	Steps of SEA	Author.	Public
Analysis of problems	- Relevant environmental problems and trends	X	
Objectives of proposed plan	- Relevant environmental objectives	X	
Proposed activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consistency with relevant environmental objectives - Assessment of likely significant environmental effects - Mitigations measures 	X	
Implementation arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Env. evaluations of projects - Env. monitoring 	X	X

Env. Assessment of the Current State of the Sector

- **Key environmental problems arising from intensive tourism (individual car transport, impacts in protected areas, etc.)**
- **Key environmental issues affecting attractiveness of destinations (air, noise and water pollution, loss of biodiversity and attractiveness of countryside, etc.)**

Env. Assessment of Development Objectives (Cont'd)

- **set of 10 relevant environmental objectives for tourism (based on National Environmental Policy, documents of the World Tourism Organisation and the 7th Session of CSD)**
- **agreement on these objectives with Ministry of Regional Development and Ministry of Environment**

Environmental Objectives for Tourism - I

- **Support adoption of environmental management systems (ISO 14000, EMAS) in tourism industry**
- **Regulate number of tourists in areas heavily affected by tourism**
- **Decentralize tourism activities in time and territory**
- **Support environmentally friendly means of transport in areas attractive for tourisms, including city centers**

Environmental Objectives for Tourism - II

- **Improve local env. quality (e.g. local air quality, water quality, noise levels and attractiveness of urban areas)**
- **Maintain biodiversity and attractiveness of landscape**
- **Protect local cultural heritage**
- **Inform visitors about key features of local environment and rule for its protection**
- **Enhance community participation in management of tourist sites.**

Categories of Environmental Impacts

- **Impacts on inhabitants**
- **Impacts on ecosystems, their components and functions**
- **Impacts on man-made systems and on the use of the territory**
- **Large-size impacts on the landscape**
- **Other impacts**

Evaluation of Proposed Activities

Proposed activities	Environmental objectives for tourism					Categories of environ. impacts				Reformulations and conditions

Env. Assessment of Proposed Implementation System

- **EIA Terms of Reference recommended for major proposed projects**
- **Environmental scoring sheets for all projects that will be supported by the program:**
 - **preliminary scoring (to guide design of projects)**
 - **formal scoring (to guide selection of projects),**
- **responsibilities of environmental authorities in review of environmental scoring and selection of projects**

Env. Assessment of Proposed Monitoring Plan

- **Aim: to measure whether the program meets its specific environmental objectives**
- **Indicators: 10 specific indicators proposed (one indicator per each environmental objective)**
- **Gathering of data: monitoring data obtained through environmental evaluation of each implementation project**

Key Outcomes

- **SEA influenced the entire programming process – from problem analysis to design of monitoring system**
- **Majority of suggestions from SEA fully incorporated into the text of program**
- **SEA improved previously very tense relations between governmental departments**
- **SEA changed attitude of Tourism Department to treatment of environmental issues**

Difficulties

- ☹️ **Frequent input of SEA team into programming process very demanding for SEA team**
- ☹️ **Environmental goals and targets for tourism poorly formulated – need to define them within SEA process**
- ☹️ **Public participation was organised only in the last stage of the SEA process**

Further Information

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www.rec.org/EnvironmentalAssessment