

Course Description for AGEP Network

Name of Module/Course	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): Concepts and Applications			
Short description	<p>This module focuses on the state-of-the-art knowledge and practice of strategic environmental assessment (SEA). SEA is a systematic, decision aiding tool used for evaluating the likely significant environmental effects of a policy, plan, or program (PPP) through their development process and beginning at the earliest opportunity. In other words, it is an environmental assessment done at a <i>high strategic level</i> of decision-making (i.e., at the PPP level). SEA aims mainly at 1) integrating environmental considerations into the PPP and evaluating the inter-linkages with economic and social considerations, and 2) predicting coherences and contradictions with other national and local PPPs. It involves evaluation and analysis processes; reporting and recommendation of sustainable measures to mitigate adverse environmental and socio-economic impacts of the PPP; and consideration of the findings in the decision-making processes (i.e., adjustment). While SEA is considered a crucial assessment tool for decision-making, it cannot be applied without the fundamental involvement of the stakeholders and the public from the very beginning and throughout the whole SEA process to promote their role in decision-making.</p>			
Name of Programme	_____			
Name of University	_____			
Name of Lecturer	Dr.PH Suha Al-Madbouh			
Responsible University lecturer	_____			
Credit Points	SWS	Attendance (h)	Self-study (h)	Total workload (h)
None		38 h=45 min	10	48
Start & end dates, WS 04-11 December 2023 (Except Saturday and Sunday)		timeslot: 15:00-20:00 (GMT+2), including two-15 min breaks		
Registration until		Number of possible AGEP participants:		
24.11.2023		15-20		
Content and goals of qualification	<p>This module consists of five chapters:</p> <p><i>Chapter 1: Introduction and Background on SEA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> introduces different SEA definitions, objectives, performance criteria, and role in the decision-making process; and provides insight on SEA approaches, models, applications, and limitations recognizes SEA international and legal frameworks <p><i>Chapter 2: Applied SEA - Screening & Scoping</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides an overview of applied SEA including SEA main stages and tasks, with focus on the two stages of ‘screening’ and ‘scoping’; explains concepts and tools and performs procedures used in the ‘screening’ stage; and 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> explains how to undertake ‘scoping’, including identification of SEA objectives, alternatives, indicators, and targets. <p><i>Chapter 3: Applied SEA – Assessment (Tools and Methods)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> explains basics, concepts, and procedures related to major activities undertaken in the ‘assessment’ stage of SEA; and highlights most common analytic tools and methods used in SEA to predict and evaluate impacts; and compare and select alternatives. <p><i>Chapter 4: Stakeholders’ Involvement and Public Participation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> outlines purpose, objectives, benefits, principles, and levels of stakeholders’ involvement and public participation in SEA processes; demonstrates knowledge on who of stakeholders to involve in SEA, how to identify them, and when to involve them; and highlights basic tools and methods that can be used for stakeholders’ involvement and public participation in SEA. <p><i>Chapter 5: SEA Report and Quality Assurance & Monitoring</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifies audience and contents of a SEA report; highlights SEA quality assurance and review considerations; and offers guidance on designing SEA monitoring plan. <p>The overall objective of this module is to teach international theories, terminologies, principles, and applications of SEA, with particular focus on methods of performing and producing SEA.</p> <p>After completion of this module, the students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> plan and perform SEA by applying international methodological approaches in order to support the decision-making process for environmental management; and understand and critically review SEA reports submitted to support decision-making processes in developing and evaluating PPPs.
<p>Preconditions for participation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The participants should have good proficiency in English. While no previous knowledge on SEA is assumed, an interest in the topic is important. Participants’ background in one or more of the following fields is preferable for achieving the module learning outcome: Environmental sciences, socio-economic sciences, political sciences, agricultural sciences, ecology, water resources management, and natural resources management, ecology, environmental engineering and/or civil engineering.
<p>Teaching Methods and material</p>	<p>This module consists of theoretical and practical parts. The practical part forms 60% of the module. Teaching methods include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-line lectures Questions and answers (Q&A) Individual exercises Learning-by-Doing group exercises Group discussions Quizzes

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies <p>The students are required to read the selected case studies; actively participate in the lectures; and analyze, present, and discuss their findings in the practical part of the module.</p> <p>The students will be provided with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ handouts of the lectures with updated list of bibliography and website links ✓ Required readings (international case studies and SEA frameworks) ✓ A case study of a policy, plan, or program selected for students' application of SEA methods and approaches ✓ Exercises including individual exercises, Learning-by-Doing group exercises, and attachments to group exercises ✓ Supporting documents for group discussions ✓ Quizzes (to be distributed during the lectures) ✓ Recommended readings for independent self-advancement of knowledge and practice in the field of SEA
lesson format (online/face-to-face)	Online (lectures and working groups)
Assessment method	None
language	English
Inscription external student	www.agep.de