



Project Title: Shared Project for Environmental Evaluation with DYNAMIC governance

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LEAD PARTNER: *Abruzzo Region (IT)*

PARTNERS: *Fi.R.A. S.p.A. (IT), Marche Region (IT), Molise Region (IT), University G.D'Annunzio Chieti-Pescara (IT), ASC of Dubrovnik Neretva -DUNEA (HR), RAKOVICA Municipality (CS), Centre for Research and Development (AL), Region of the Ionian Islands - Corfu (GR), National Territorial Planning Agency (AL)*

ASSOCIATES: *Ministry of Environment and Protection of Land and Sea (IT), Ministry of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning (Associato) (CS)*

Announcement of new instrument to manage public consultation in SEA process!

Dear Partners and collaborators,

We are happy to inform you of a new instrument that is designed to assist all of us that are engaged in the field of environmental evaluation and assessment. SEA process is new to Albania and has been introduced fully with the legal framework of SEA law numbered 91/2013. However Albania shall not face all the problems of implementation alone but rather learn from the experience of other countries and contribute its own experience

The **SPEEDY** project overall objective is to favour transnational cooperation between Public Administrations aimed to develop and apply an efficient environmental assessment process (SEA) in the Adriatic space.

Across EU and Candidate countries it is a common experience how the Consultation phase, and more general public participation, represent a strategic item that needs to be more investigated to boost the effectiveness of SEA procedures.

SEA directive does not provide specific procedures for informing and consulting stakeholders and general public, but leaves the Member States free to find the appropriate approaches. As emerged by SPEEDY (WP3) activities, a regulation of public participation has been introduced in the legislation of all partner Countries; nevertheless, mechanisms to encourage public participation are still lacking. The governments are still the most influential party in deciding on the plan and program development. The stakeholders, the NGOs, the environmental associations and the general public have not been mentioned as relevant in the process.



SPEEDY developed a new instrument, an **electronic platform** in order to facilitate and to organize this process

A specific objective of SPEEDY project is to provide through the **Shared Knowledge Platform** for SEA an instrument to support in an effective way a SEA consultation phase, especially for a transboundary context. Considering the structure of the Platform, it can be used as a network to manage a consultation activity:

- the **Document Archive** of the section Platform Resource could host all the document requested for the Consultation, as the Draft Plan or Programme and the related Environmental Report.
- The **Forum section** provides a transparent place, dedicated to debate and collection of opinions but also requests for clarifications; it could be also interesting to have the possibility to check ongoing the debate in other countries. There the national and regional coordinators can reply to stakeholder to clarify (in real time) their doubts and requests.
- In addition, the **Videoconference module** could be used to realize online meeting to present the P/Ps and the SEA Environmental Report, both as international stakeholders (e.g. meeting of national SEA coordinators) and regional meeting to present the SEA procedure to local stakeholders.

In addition the Shared Knowledge Platform for SEA offers the possibility to improve the knowledge of SEA Stakeholders about:

- European and National laws, regulations and guidelines through the Platform Resources section
- Theories and practices on SEA through E-learning section

The Shared Knowledge Platform for SEA can manage different type of users (excluding the Site Administrator, that is the Platform's maintainer), and apply to them specific tasks.

The platform is designed in way that can support also the consultation phase of a SEA procedure applied to a transboundary EU programme. SPEEDY project has already tested the methodology in the context of ADRION (Adriatic Ionian Transnational Cooperation Programme 2014-2020); the programme is strictly related to EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR).

We hope that you will find this a useful tool we look forward to your feedback and comments.

On behalf of CRD Team,

Mirlinda Rusi

Project Coordinator