



# Tallinn Forum

## 2020

### Advances in European SEA & Strategic Planning

### Three days virtual conference program

(Time is in CET)

**9.09.2020**

9:30	<b>Opening address</b>	
9:45	<b>Keynote: SEAs untapped potential, Johann Köppel</b>	
10:30	<b>Virtual coffee break</b>	
11:00	<b>A. SEA's role in restructuring energy systems for tomorrow's energy landscape</b>	<b>B. Health is disruptive – Will it be better integrated with SEA in a (post) COVID-19 world?</b>
	The energy sector has been dominated by discussions on climate change and transitioning to carbon-neutral energy generation (Paris Agreement, EU Green Deal). Energy security has priority with increasing demand and geopolitical issues being highly relevant. Implementing the energy transition is faced with criticism and resistance from the public while technological innovations and new energy sources (PtX, hydrogen etc.) are introduced. Which role does SEA has and in the future can and should play in energy transitioning and what is the added value? How must SEA be understood and implemented to support sustainable energy transitions? What works well? What needs to change?	The European SEA Directive explicitly requires human health to be considered in SEA. Has Europe's experience with coronavirus over the last six months been a wake-up call for us all to consider health issues in greater dept? Now is a huge opportunity to examine the ways in which strategic decision affect health, transboundary impacts and the technical challenges of health should be integrated into SEA related plans, policies, and programmes. What determinants of health should now be considered in SEA, how, where, when and why?
	Chairs: Holmfridur Bjarnadottir & Gesa Geißler	Chairs: Ben Cave & Thomas Fischer
12:30	<b>Break</b>	
13:00	<b>TF1. Tallin Forum Open discussion: Ecosystem Services + SEA – a strong enough partnership to protect European biodiversity?</b>	
	Is ecosystem services concept another neoliberal plot to commodify nature or is it valuable tool to be used within EA to safeguard biodiversity. That is the debate ongoing for some time among nature conservation circles. The benefits of ES in EA has been frequently discussed also among planners and EA professionals and there have been both supporters and sceptics. Tallinnforum Open Discussion session rbings forth fresh standpoints and welcomes also you to express your opinion in this topic.	
	Chair: Heikki Kalle	
14:00	<b>Break</b>	
14:15	<b>C. Strategic planning &amp; climate change (the promotion of low carbon economies)</b>	<b>D. Caught in the crossfire - when government confuse plans for policies</b>
	Meeting the Paris agreement and shifting towards a low carbon or climate-neutral economy is a long-term goal. Viewing consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic and the response to it, fostering a sustainable recovery while contributing to climate change mitigation is important. How can the SEA contribute to reduction of energy and resource consumption through a cross-sectoral perspective? How can maladaptation be avoided and co-benefits for adaptation maximized? At which level can the SEA engage to encourage development and consideration of appropriate alternatives and identify insecurities and possible interrelationships with other environmental issues?	Throughout Europe, huge investments in transport infrastructure are made, both by national and European authorities. However, in practice this large-scale project planning proves to be cumbersome and results in cost overruns, time delays and limited public support. Often local (land-use) planning issues become the focus instead of the overall transport system connecting individual places and services. Questions raised in the session are: Is there a need for a programmatic approach that connects the individual dots of infrastructure and land-use project planning? Which is/could be the role of SEA in corridor planning for large infrastructure development that connects with land-use development and (cross)national transport?
	Chairs: Lone Kjørnø & Alexandra Jiricka-Pürrer	Chairs: Charlotta Faith-Ell & Jos Arts
16:00	<b>Virtual drinks</b>	

**10.09.2020**

10:00	<b>Keynote: SEA as a change agent, Lone Kørnøv</b>	
10:30	<b>Virtual coffee break</b>	
11:00	<b>E. SEA as an arena for conflict resolution in land use planning</b>	<b>F. Bridging the parallel worlds of public and private sustainability strategies</b>
	<p>This is a participatory workshop in a campfire-style format, meaning that we build the session on the knowledge and ideas of each participant. Due to increasing demands on land, such as renewable energy developments and issues relating to climate change, conflicts regarding land use will likely increase. Questions will be posed for discussion in smaller groups and presented and documented throughout the session. Topics will include: Is SEA in its current format a suitable arena for conflict resolution? What does conflict look like in the context of SEA? What potential does SEA serve as an enabler for conflict resolution?</p>	<p>Strategic environmental assessment is considered to be one of the most important tools in public sector policy for ensuring &amp; integrating sustainable development. Extensive public SEA procedures are established to consult with, plan and monitor the Sustainable Development outcomes. In comparison, corporations are also making considerable efforts to transition to greater sustainability at both strategic and operational management level, seeking to involve a wide range of stakeholders and supply chains. The question we are seeking to ask is whether SEA, with its extensive focus on social &amp; environmental issues, help in situ businesses reach their own sustainability goals and vice versa.</p>
	Chairs: Anna Longueville & Åsa Lind Chong	Chairs: Christian Plas & Heikki Kalle
12:30	<b>Break</b>	
13:00	<b>TF2. Tallinn Forum Open Discussion: Putting strategic back into SEA</b>	
	<p>Are current SEA's conducted in a manner that focus too much on technical process and regulatory compliance. Important, yes but are they in danger of lacking a 'strategic' role. If we continue to break SEA reports down into subsections that focus on plans and tactics, can we continue to define:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• what the value of SEA is.</li> <li>• what strategic value it brings to plan or policy makers.</li> <li>• how strategic insights are captured into SEA; and</li> <li>• how to solve the problem in tandem with sustainable values.</li> </ul> <p>Are we happy for SEA to become a tick box exercise?</p>	
	Chairs: Ross Marshall, Maria Rosario Partidario	
14:00	<b>Break</b>	
14:15	<b>G. Digital SEA, technical and social trends</b>	<b>H. Marine Spatial planning - a new domain for Strategic Planning &amp; SEA</b>
	<p>There is no doubt that advancements of information and communication technologies (ICT), geospatial tools and of smart and digital technologies in general, are transforming the science and policy practice interface. But can digital approaches to SEA help make SEA smart(er) and more effective in supporting more informed and robust decision-making for sustainable development?</p> <p>In this interactive session we ask the audience to take part in an exploration of the art of the possible by combining digital techniques with best practice in SEA to ask, "is the future of SEA digital?"</p>	<p>Marine Spatial Planning/Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) is defined in the EU Directive on MSP as 'a process by which the relevant Member State's authorities analyse and organise human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives', according to the EC Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning. By this MSP is entailed as spatial planning of the use of the sea with a great potential contribute to a sustainable development. SEA is also stressed as a means to implement an ecosystem-based approach in MSP, and has been carried out in most European MSP-cases. During this session we explore current experiences of SEA in MSP.</p>
	Chairs: Rufus Howard & Paola Gazzola	Chairs: Jan Schmitbauer-Crona & Pille Metspalu
16:00	<b>Virtual drinks</b>	

11.09.2020

9:30	<b>Opening address</b>	
9:45	<b>Keynote: Current gaps in SEA knowledge, Thomas Fischer.</b>	
10:30	<b>Virtual coffee break</b>	
11:00	<b>I. Beyond Smart Cities X.0 – new roles for strategic planning</b>	<b>J. Rural Development Programs- a future challenge</b>
	There is a need to understand the smart city concept's contribution to strategic urban planning & SEA context in terms of economic development, environmental protection, equity, and social justice - and vice versa. This session seeks to examine what strategic urban planning & SEA can offer to the smart city agenda. Can techno-centric approach focussed on energy, transport and ICT primarily be aligned with human-centric urban planning Approaches that shift the focus from the hardware to the needs of citizens. What is central to the concept of the Smart City and what makes it differ from 'sustainable cities.	Agricultural policy and management has deep implications on key environmental and social challenges including climate change, biodiversity conservation and territorial cohesion. In the European Union, the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), is the single largest EU funding line. For the period 2021-2027, all CAP funding will be channeled by Member States through CAP Strategic Plans, and these will be subjected to SEA. In this session we discuss the role that SEA can play in this process in steering EU agriculture towards sustainability, drawing from past experience and highlighting key strategic challenges. We aim at engaging discussion in this topic by including the perspective of different stakeholders: practitioners, policy-makers, researchers, farmers and environmental advocates.
	Chairs: Ross Marshall & Robert Rogerson	Chairs: Maria Partidario, Giorgio Baldiszone & Carlo Rega
12:30	<b>Break</b>	
13:00	<b>TF3. Tallinn Forum Open Discussion: SEA and Sustainable Development Goals</b>	
	Over the years, an objectives-led approach to SEA has been advocated as a useful approach to SEA of plans and programmes. However, in many cases there has been challenges with regards to the identification and operationalisation of the SEA objectives since many countries does not have a comprehensive scheme of environmental goals and objectives. Looking into the future, the introduction of the 2030 Agenda and the associated sustainable development goals (SDGs) provide a suitable framework for the generation of SEA objectives. This session aims at discussing how the SDG's can be applied as a basis for objectives-led SEA in the future.	
	Chairs: Charlotta Faith-Ell & Johann Köppel	
14:00	<b>Break</b>	
14:15	<b>Wrap-up of the conference</b>	
16:00	<b>Virtual drinks</b>	

Find out more about the conference

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