



Building national SEA systems

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Assessment**

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SEA systems approach

In its international work, the NCEA strives to contribute to:

- 1.better SEA systems,
- 2.more SEA capacity and
- 3.better SEA processes

Why the whole SEA system?

To understand SEA effectiveness, we need to take into view:

- **System level:** we look at key functions that should be fulfilled within a system to enable good practice SEA.
- **Organisational level:** is about the capacities of actors that have a role in the SEA system.
- **Process level:** we look at how individual SEA processes are undertaken.

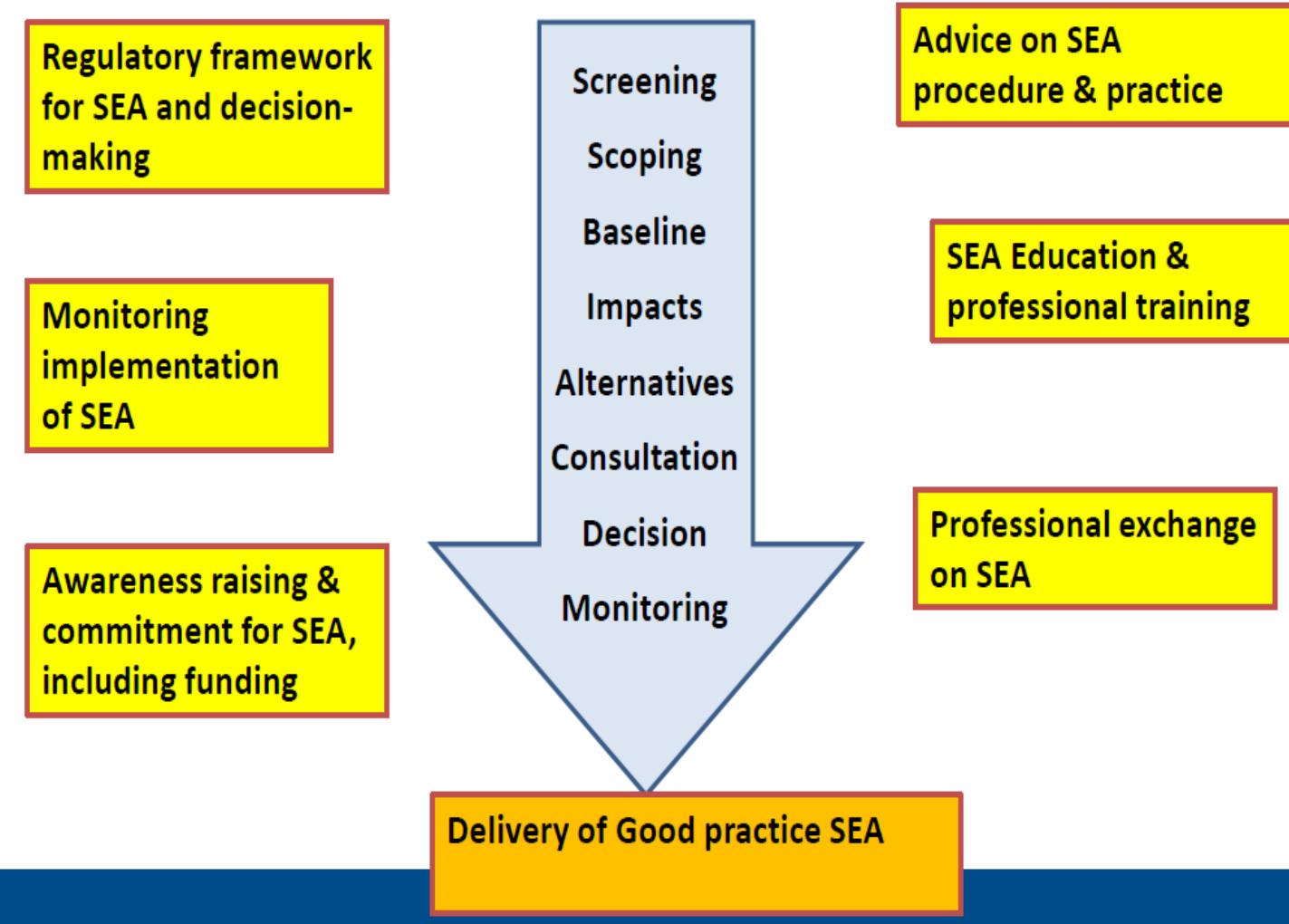
But how to measure effectiveness?

- Better SEA systems: How to measure improvement?
- More SEA capacity: How to determine when it is sufficient?
- Better SEA processes: When has an SEA improved?

Better SEA systems

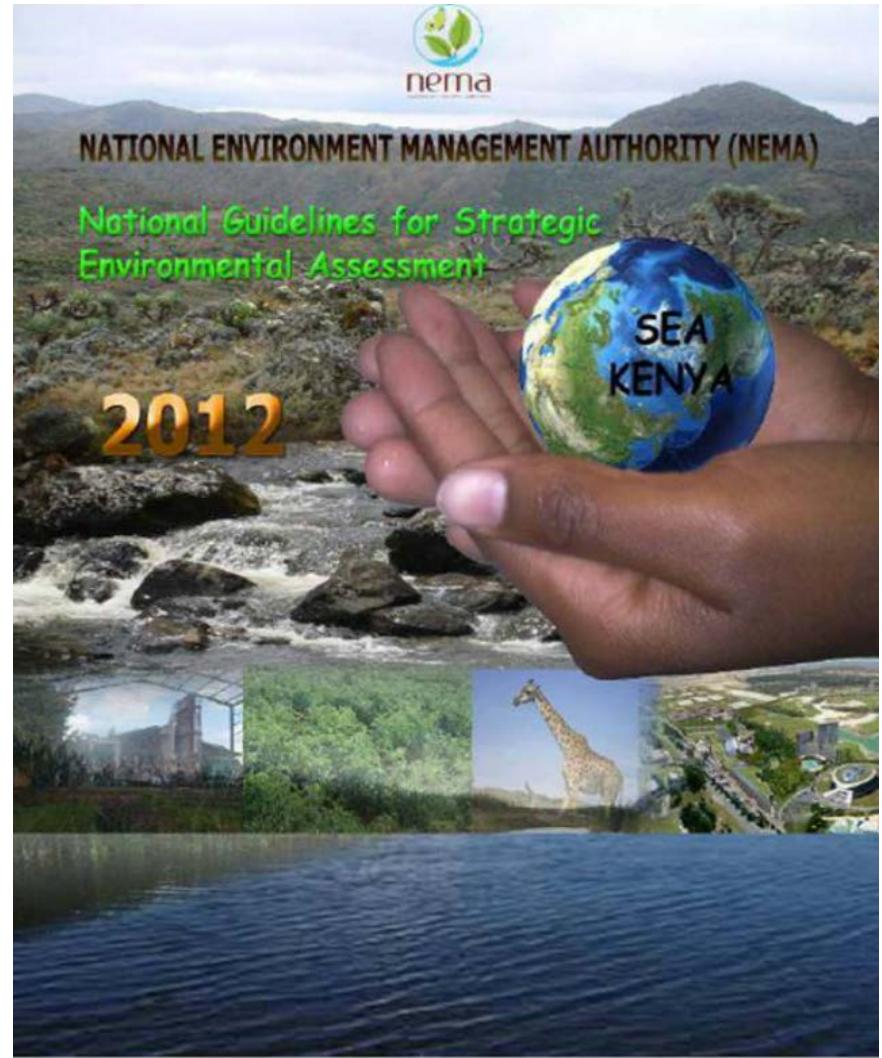
- An SEA system as a coherent set of ‘functions’ that are necessary for effective SEA practice.
- The system can be considered to be improved, when one or more of these functions have been strengthened.

SEA SYSTEM FUNCTIONS



1: Regulatory framework

- SEA regulation is in place?
- SEA regulation is of sufficient quality?
- SEA guidance exists, is widely accessible, and of sufficient quality?



2: Awareness & commitment

- Sufficient budget allocated for SEA?
- SEA given attention in the public domain?
- SEA is on the political agenda?
- Sufficient level of interest and participation in SEA related events (seminars)
- Recognizable, accepted, and effective leadership on SEA



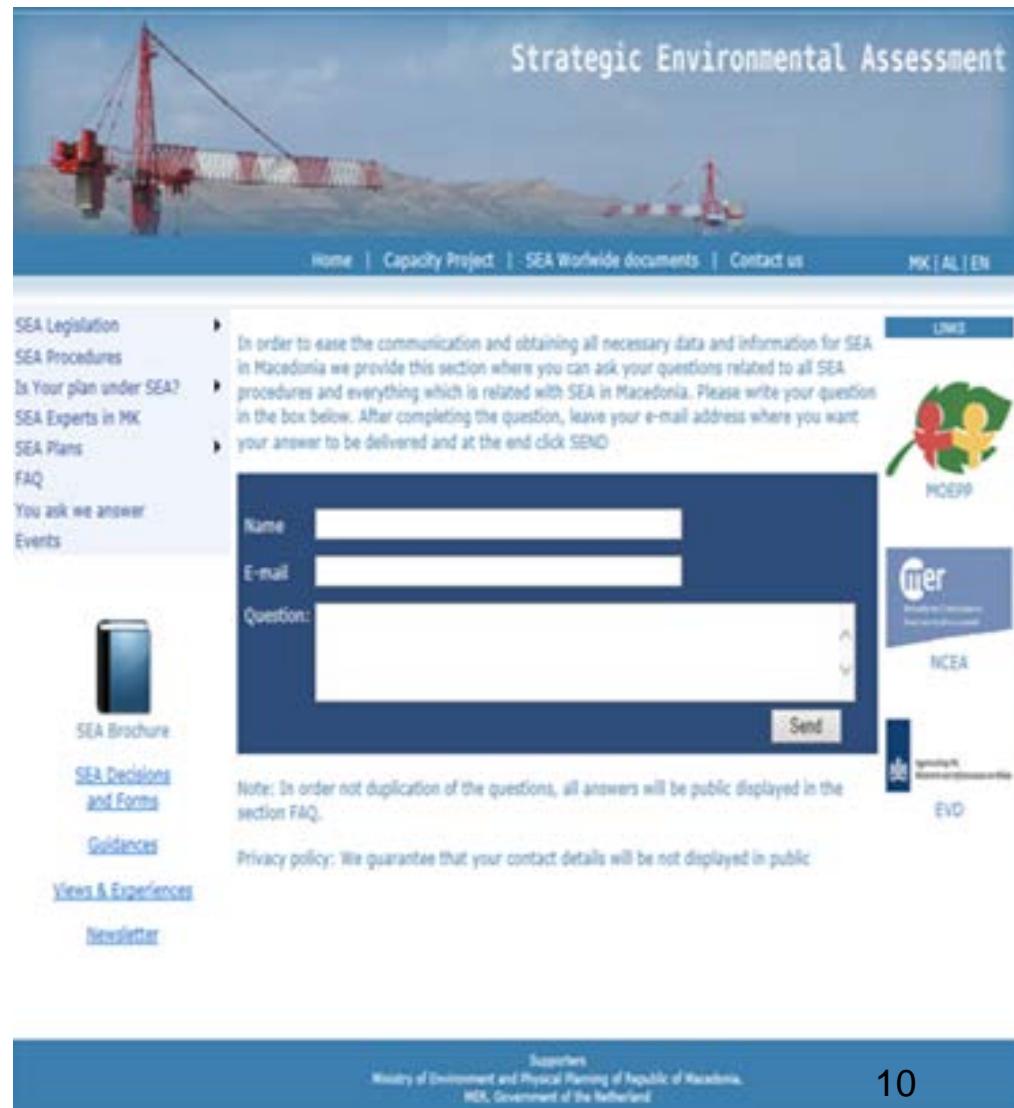
3: Education & professional training

- SEA education available?
- SEA education of good quality?
- Professional training available?



4: Advice on SEA

- Helpdesk for SEA established, accessible and used?
- Helpdesk effective in influencing practice?



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In order to ease the communication and obtaining all necessary data and information for SEA in Macedonia we provide this section where you can ask your questions related to all SEA procedures and everything which is related with SEA in Macedonia. Please write your question in the box below. After completing the question, leave your e-mail address where you want your answer to be delivered and at the end click SEND.

Note: In order not duplication of the questions, all answers will be public displayed in the section FAQ.

Privacy policy: We guarantee that your contact details will be not displayed in public.

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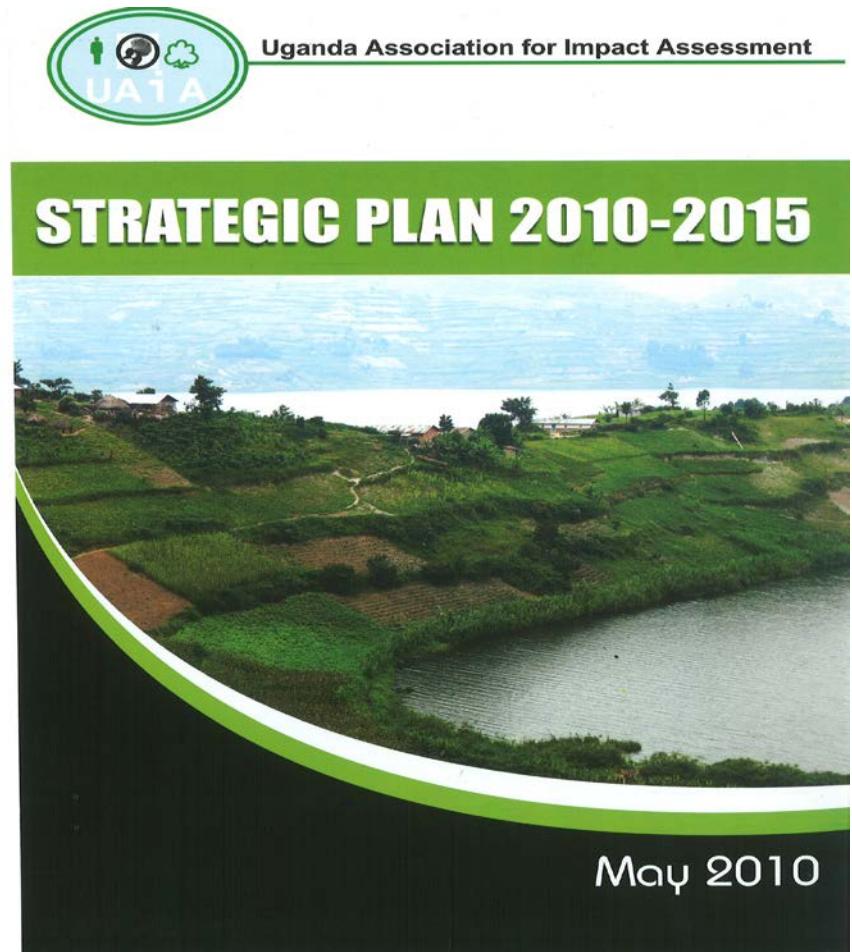
5: Monitoring implementation

- Adequate monitoring of SEA implementation takes place
- Monitoring leads to SEA improvement



6: Professional exchange

- Professional exchange platform is established and operational
- Platform promotes good practice?



How to measure results?

- For each of the six functions we have formulated the **results** that we would hope to see as we work with partners
- For each result we have defined a set of **indicators** to measure progress on these results

E.g. Function: Raise awareness, commitment & funding for SEA.

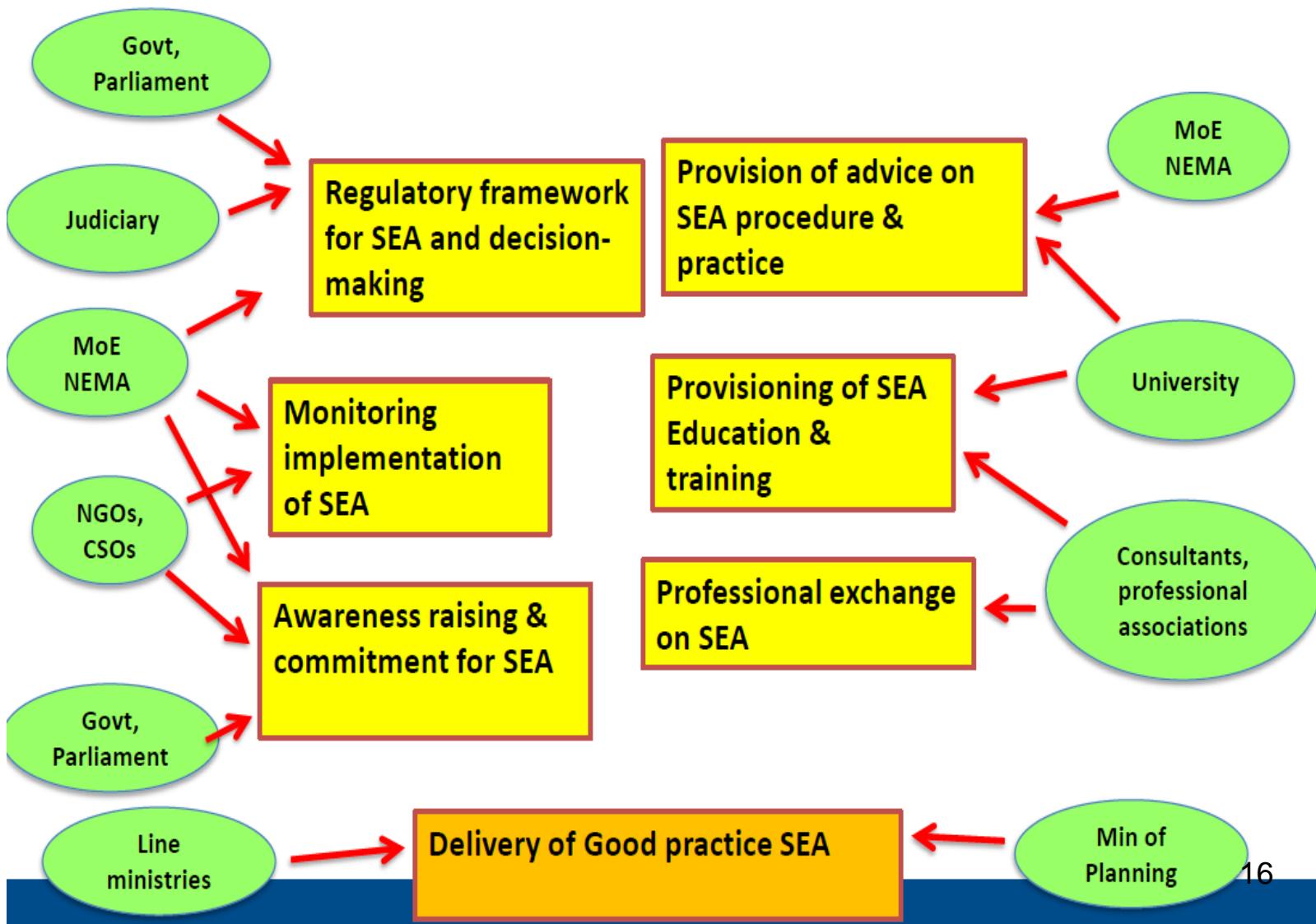
Result: SEA on political agenda & high level decision-makers involved in SEA practice

- **Indicator:** Government has explicit policy on development of SEA instrument (yes/no)
- **Indicator:** Nr. of times SEA appears on relevant agenda for Cabinet meetings, or other relevant agendas
- **Indicator:** Nr. of intervention moments by decision-makers in individual SEA processes

More SEA capacity

- It is essential for the effectiveness of an SEA system that the organizations that have a responsibility in this system have the capacity to perform the role they have.

SEA system – functions and actors



Links between SEA system functions and capacities

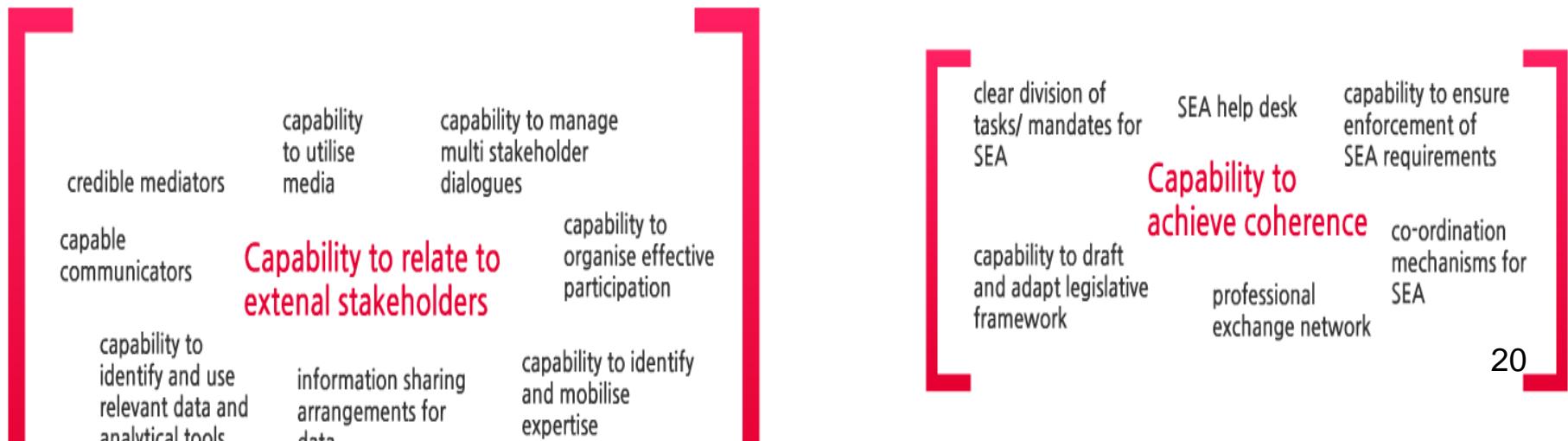
- Different organisations contribute to different functions within the SEA system.
- Sometimes, one specific organisation has a dominant role in one function, in other cases, more organisations contribute to a function.
- The capacity of an organisation or actor determines how well the actor is able to contribute to a system function.

But what does ‘capacity’ mean in this context?

- When can it be concluded that an organisation has sufficient capacity?
- Any effective organisation needs to have five ‘capabilities’, together making up the ‘capacity’ of an organization (5 C’s)
 - to act,
 - to achieve results,
 - to relate,
 - to be consistent & coherent and
 - to adapt and renew

Do actors in the SEA system have the right capacity?

- **The capability to act:** Does the organisation have a clear mandate for what it tries to do? Is there strong and effective leadership in the organisation? Etc.
- **The capability to achieve results:** Does staff have sufficient skills? Does the organisation have sufficient budget? Etc.
- **The capability to relate:** Does the organisation have access to an effective network? Does it effectively manage its relations? Etc.
- **The capability to be consistent & coherent:** Does the organisation have a clear vision of where to go to? Does it have effective procedures instructing staff what should be done under which circumstances? Etc.
- **The capability to adapt & renew:** Is the organisation capable of learning? Is it flexible enough to adapt to changing circumstances?

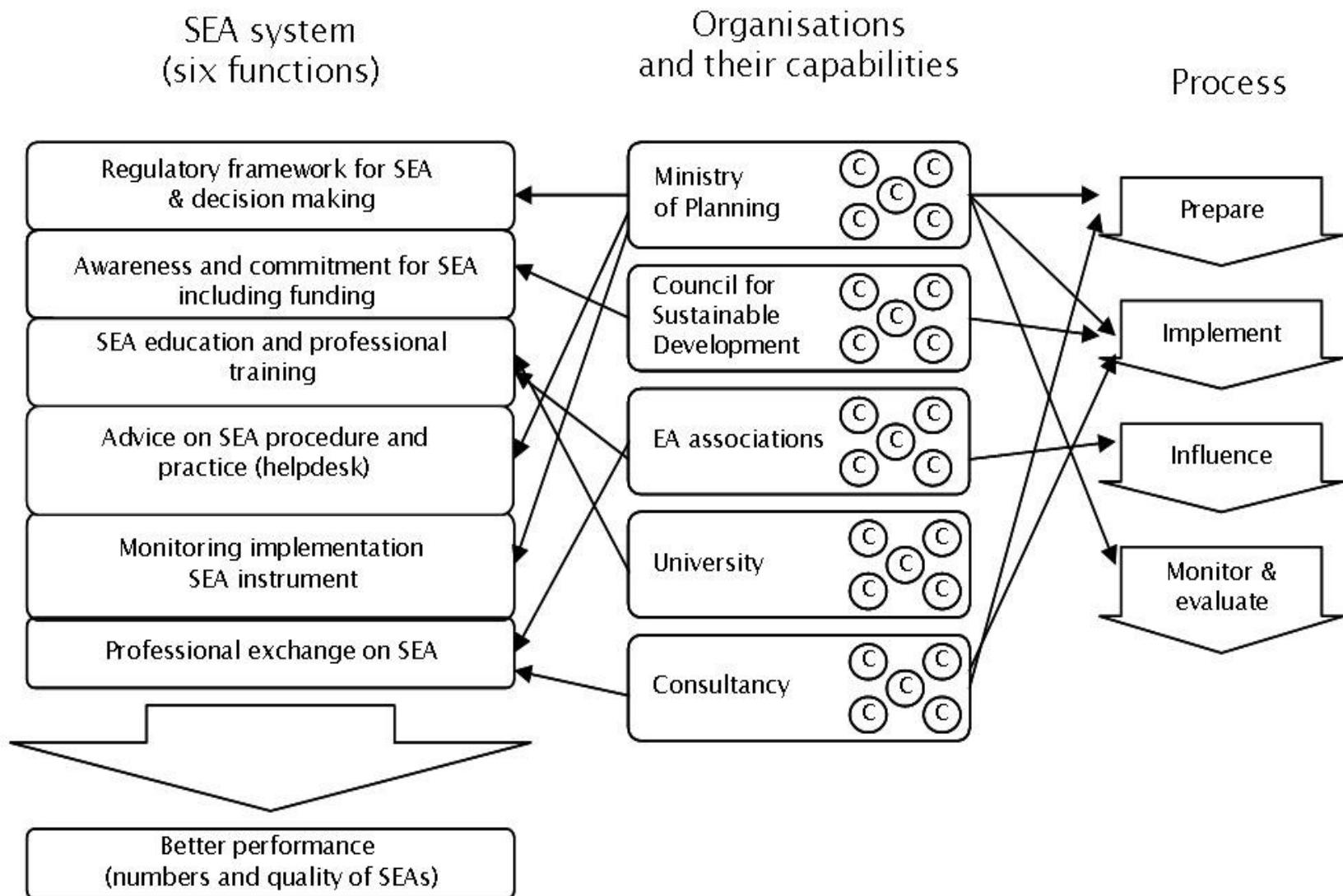


How to measure results?

- The capacity of an organization (or individuals within organizations) is considered to have improved, if:
 - an organisation within the SEA system scores better on the indicators for one or more of the five capabilities and/or
 - the indicators for individual capacity.

Better SEA processes

- Together the SEA organisations identified have the capacity both to run an effective SEA system, and to deliver effective SEA processes.
- With similar set of results, indicators

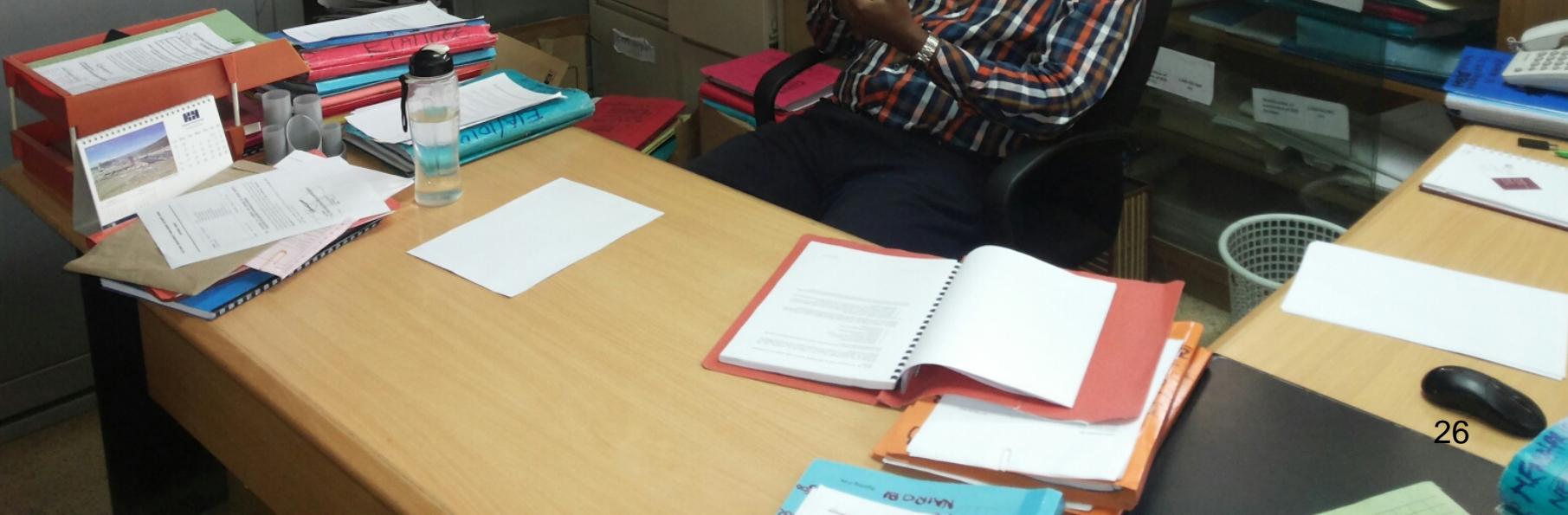


Example from Macedonia

- SEA system requires steady influx of young SEA professionals
- Thus: there must be more training opportunities for people interested in SEA
- Who should offer such training and ensure that it is structurally available?
- Outcome: University and training institute for government staff

Example from Kenya

- Funds available at NEMA for activities and staff time to undertake specific tasks in SEA, and support SEA practice more generally, are not sufficient.
- Similarly, planning agencies do not budget for SEA as part of their planning budget.
- Outcome: action is required to raise awareness and commitment. The launch of the SEA guidelines presented an opportunity to raise the profile of SEA.



Approach in practice

- Step 1: use framework to analyse a countries' SEA system and identify those elements that need strengthening.
- Step 2: discuss the functions that should be contained within a country SEA system
- Step 3: jointly decide which functions need to be established or improved

Approach in practice

- Step 4: identify organisations or actors that play a role in these functions
- Step 5: analyse organization according to the 5 C's.
- Step 6: jointly develop an action plan or programme to strengthen that particular organization, addressing one or more of the organisations' capabilities

Thank you

- Questions?
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