

2012



Netherlands Commission for
Environmental Assessment

SIOS

Mission statement

The Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) is an independent advisory body of experts which advises government at home and abroad on the quality of environmental assessment and makes its extensive knowledge of environmental assessment available to all.

Terminology

At present, two types of environmental assessment exist in the Netherlands:

- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) provides the information needed to allow full consideration of environmental interests in decisions and projects, likely to have significant environmental impact. The EIA report shows how proposals will affect the environment and whether other alternatives would achieve the goals in a more sustainable way;
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) focuses on consideration of environmental consequence for plans and programmes in the strategic phase.



Netherlands Commission for
Environmental Assessment

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Foreword

2012 was the year of environmental assessment of land-use plans for rural areas, partly because of the large number of advisory reports in this field, but – even more so – because of the intractable issues related to nitrogen deposition. Time and time again, court rulings pointed out the impossibility of adding extra nitrogen to already overburdened nature reserves. This was bad news for local authorities wanting to maintain or create space for the development of agrarian or other enterprises.

Discontent was directed at environmental assessment and the bearer of the bad news: the NCEA. This is unjust, as local authorities, provinces and central government also share the responsibility of harmonising plans with nature conservation targets. But when it comes to taking responsibility, the stakeholders mostly seem to want others to shoulder the burden. My wish for 2013? That we unite in a search for solutions that not only improve the quality of the environment but also make it possible for there to be economic activity in the rural area. The NCEA would be happy to think along.

Thinking along is also the central theme in the “process-oriented advice” piloted in 2012. By making the NCEA’s efforts more dynamic, we aim to link up better with the characteristic features of the planning process and the needs of the competent authorities and project initiators. An interim evaluation involving all the stakeholders revealed that there is widespread support for this brainstorming early in the process and also at certain points of time thereafter. Together with transparency, expectation management appears to be essential if we are to properly combine our role in the joint brainstorming with the role of impartial reviewer at the end. In 2013 we will apply this insight to our work.

The method applied when piloting process-oriented advice links up with the positive underlying principle of the new *Environment and Planning Act*: the integration of environmental assessment in the planning process. But against this, the Act contains a number of negative points for environmental assessment. In the case of Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) and complex Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), there is now no longer an obligation to allow everyone an opportunity to discuss the desired content of the environmental assessment



report. In EIA there is no longer an obligation to research alternatives. This is extremely unwise in the case of complex projects, because choices that have important environmental implications may have to be made at project level too. So, for the time being, on balance the new legislation is unfavourable for environmental assessment.

In 2012 our programme relating to development cooperation was once again extended by five years. We can be justifiably proud that the contribution of environmental assessment to the new Dutch foreign policy is justly valued. In line with this policy, the NCEA is increasingly directing its support to Africa, with programmes in countries such as Burundi, Mozambique, Uganda and Kenya.

Within the multi-year contract with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the NCEA will do more than environmental assessment. One of its new tasks is to implement the Dutch Sustainability Unit (DSU). The DSU supplies environmental and climate expertise at the request of Dutch embassies and departments at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to assist them to develop strategies and implement programmes. Here, too, the NCEA will primarily enlist external experts. The DSU has already given support to embassies in Mozambique, South Sudan, the Palestinian Territories, Kenya and Bangladesh.

The assistance is not restricted to development cooperation. For example, advice has also been given on the quality of a British study on the environmental and climate implications of new economic activities in the North Pole area. Add to this our international cooperation with China and Tunisia, and it is clear that 2012 was a very successful year for the NCEA internationally.

Niek Ketting,
Chairman, Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment

According to the voluntarily requested NCEA advice, when siting wind turbines along the new waterway near Hook of Holland, attention must be paid to landscape harmonisation and the impacts on the living environment, birds and bats.



ADVISORY REPORTS IN 2012

In 2012 the NCEA issued 224 advisory reports in the Netherlands:

- 37 advisory reports on the Terms of Reference (ToR) for EIA or combined SEA/EIA;
- 57 advisory reports on the ToR for SEA;
- 54 advisory reviews for EIA or combined SEA/EIA;
- 67 SEA advisory reviews;
- 9 other advisory reports.

The 8 percent increase in advisory reports compared with 2011 suggests that the decline that began in 2010 has halted. Nonetheless, in the second half of 2012 there was a sharp fall in the number of voluntary requests for advice, particularly in the number of advisory reports on ToR.

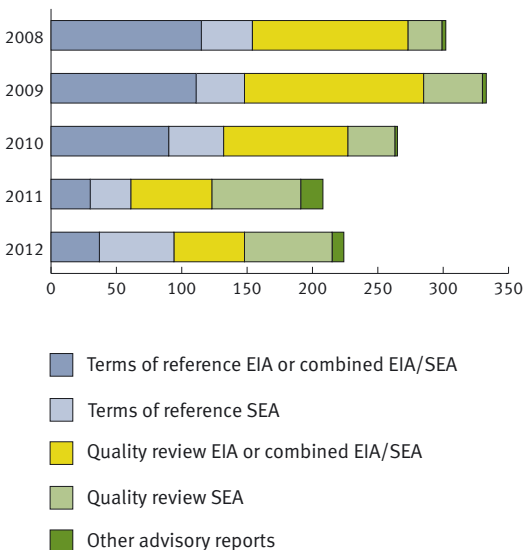
The reason must be the rise in the fee for non-mandatory advice. In 2012 94 advisory reports on ToR were issued, two-thirds in the first six months.

Compared with 2011, in 2012 there was a slight decrease in the number of advisory reviews, especially for EIA. This trend was already discernible in 2011 and is a consequence of the Act to Modernise Environmental Assessment. Since the Act came into force on 1 July 2010 it is no longer mandatory in all cases to request the NCEA to review EIA.

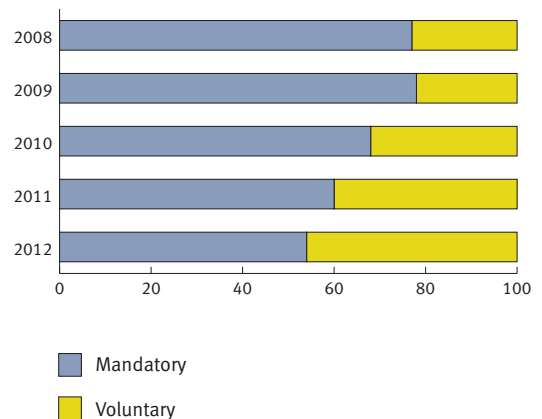
New in 2012 were 6 advisory reports in the context of the piloting of giving “process-oriented advice” (see page 11).



NUMBER AND TYPE OF ADVISORY REPORTS ISSUED 2008-2012



MANDATORY VERSUS VOLUNTARY REQUESTS FOR ADVICE 2008-2012



VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED ADVICE

In 2012 103 advisory reports were prepared in response to voluntary requests: 20 percent more than in 2011. In the first six months of 2012, before the fee rise on 1 July, the number of these reports peaked sharply.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions by the public create support for a decision. This specific information enables the NCEA to improve the quality of its advice.

In 2012 the NCEA took account of submissions and recommendations in 62 percent of its advisory procedures.



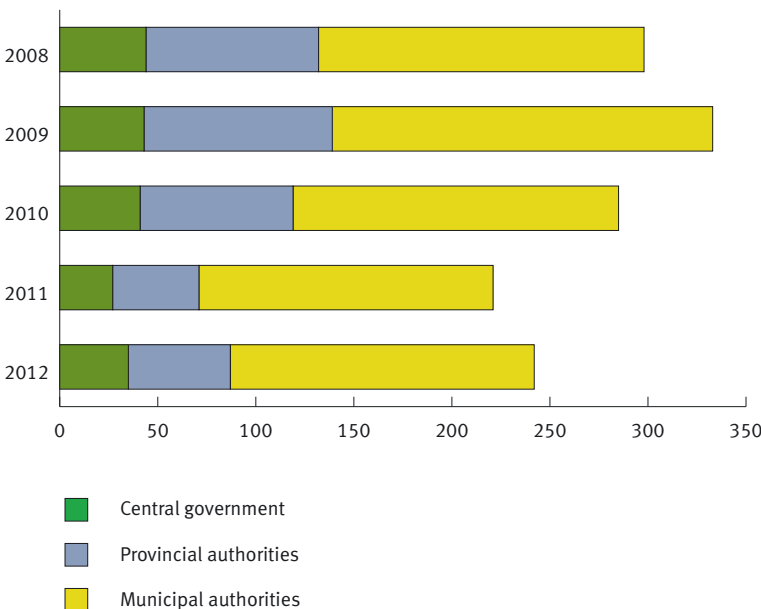
This is a continuation of the downward trend since 1 July 2010, the date on which it ceased to be mandatory for the NCEA to take account of submissions.

ADVISING GOVERNMENT, PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

In recent years the distribution of advisory reports among local, provincial and central governments has remained fairly constant. Of the advisory reports issued in 2012:

- 64 percent were for municipalities (versus 68 percent in 2011);
- 21 percent were for provinces (versus 20 percent in 2011);
- 14 percent were for central government (versus 12 percent in 2011).

ADVISORY REPORTS FOR CENTRAL, PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2008-2012



A tripling of wind turbines in the Netherlands by 2020

Project

Under an European Union (EU) agreement, the Netherlands is committed to generating 14 percent of its energy sustainably by 2020. Central government, together with the provinces, therefore wishes to make it possible to generate 6000 megawatts of wind energy on land in 2020. The current operational capacity in the Netherlands exceeds 2000 megawatts. In the *Wind on Land* Structure Vision, a long term spatial planning strategy, the central government has indicated areas for large-scale wind energy: wind turbine parks that each generate over 100 megawatts.

Advice

The NCEA has recommended that research be done to find good combinations of wind energy areas within provinces and across provincial boundaries. This would yield a clear picture of the environmental benefits and environmental differences between alternatives. Even within an area, sensitive areas can be spared by variation in installed capacity. The NCEA recommended that these possibilities for optimisation be described. It also requested that when describing the impacts, more attention be paid to differences in energy yield, and to the impacts on landscape, living environment, protected nature reserves and animal species. Finally, it noted that if the choices made by central government and provinces are to actually result in the agreed capacity being achieved in 2020, they must be credibly substantiated in the SEA report and Structure Vision.

Result

Central government is being guided by the ToR recommendations when drawing up the SEA report and Structure Vision that must be completed in 2013.





“ As a province we’re known for our open planning processes. We’re happy to go along with new developments like the piloting of process-oriented advice, as our own process can only benefit from this. ”

Jos van der Wijst, environmental assessment coordinator for North Brabant province and independent environmental assessment advisor/trainer

Environmental assessment

and process-oriented advice

In 2011 the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment gave the go-ahead for piloting process-oriented advice. The aim is to make the NCEA's approach more flexible in order to link up better with the planning process and the needs of the competent authorities and project initiators. This means not merely reviewing, but at more points in time discussing the environmental information required for a subsequent step in the procedure. The approach is being piloted on six projects:

- Structure Vision (a long term spatial planning strategy) for the Amsterdam-Almere-Markermeer regional government programme;
- Rotterdam port zoning;
- Province of Gelderland environmental vision;
- North-Brabant north-east corridor;
- nature development in the Boere district in Ooststellingwerf local authority;
- Structure Vision Wind on Land.

In 2012, during a workshop attended by representatives of the involved parties (central, provincial or local governments, project initiators and advisors) the preliminary findings were discussed. They concluded that a flexible approach accelerates the process because:

- it prevents the unwanted situation that financial limitations and other obstacles to further progress are only dealt with at a late stage, i.e. when deciding about the project design;
- identified opportunities can be incorporated into the process at an early stage;
- better use is made of the NCEA's expertise in environmental assessment and environmental matters.

Points for attention

- It is advisable to jointly decide beforehand, at which points in time NCEA intervention is desirable and to specify the type of intervention.
- Both the NCEA's role as independent reviewer and transparency must be safeguarded.
- To enable flexible NCEA advice, design of the planning process must be realistic.

Some of the pilot projects are continuing in 2013. The definitive evaluation will follow at the end of that year.

SEA co-operation between China and the Netherlands

Project

China is developing at a staggering pace. The current speed of urban and industrial growth threatens long term availability of natural resources and quality of the living environment. In this setting, strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is recognized as an instrument for managing the impacts of development. The Chinese government is investing in its SEA legislation and practice. The Netherlands has a long track record in SEA, and under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Environmental Ministries of both countries, SEA was selected as a topic for co-operation. Thus since 2011, the NCEA has been implementing a government-to-government program that brings together Dutch and Chinese experts to exchange experiences on SEA.

Points of interest

The Chinese Ministry for Environmental Protection initiated a large scale pilot in which SEA was applied to the economic and spatial planning of 5 so-called mega regions. Within these regions, rapid economic development is taking place. The SEAs helped to identify more sustainable locations and layout for major industries, and to develop an environmental management framework for regional and local government. The approach was considered a success, and is now applied to other mega regions.

Result

Dutch and Chinese counterparts are currently working on a joint publication in which recent lessons learned from practice and research in both countries, such as the SEA approach for mega regions, are documented. It will be published in 2013.



The storm surge barrier has disturbed the balance between the accumulation and erosion of sandbanks and mudflats in the Oosterschelde, and so these are disappearing. In a new Structure Vision for the area, these effects need to be counteracted. The NCEA advised on the ToR of the associated SEA report.



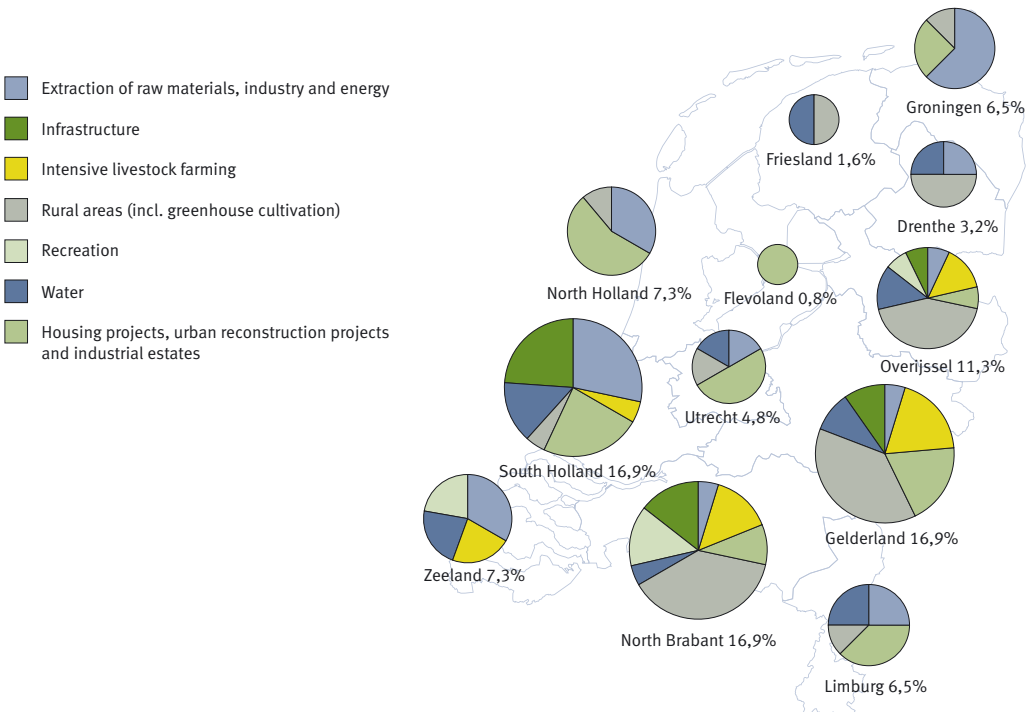
ADVISORY REVIEWS

In 2012, most environmental assessment reports reviewed were for projects in Gelderland, South Holland and North Brabant. These three provinces together accounted for half of all the reports reviewed. The distribution across sectors was similar to that in 2011, but there was a striking drop – over 50% - in the numbers of reviewed EIA reports for recreational projects.

On the Dutch pages of the website there is a digital map of environmental assessments in the Netherlands, showing all the ongoing projects and projects completed in the last five years. Searching by location, theme or date will reveal the areas and activities for which environmental information is available. www.commissiener.nl



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS REVIEWED IN 2012, PER PROVINCE



Zeeland opts for sustainability

Project

In its *Provincial Environmental Plan 2012-2018*, Zeeland province indicates that it believes that sustainable economic growth is important. In the SEA report it therefore investigated the “environmental space” for economic development. That report clearly describes the potential bottlenecks that might hinder future economic initiatives.

Advice

The NCEA is of the opinion that the SEA report contains usable information. It makes plain the environmental bottlenecks in Zeeland province for which solutions must be found.

- In 12 of the 16 Natura 2000 protected areas in Zeeland the “state of conservation” is inadequate. In these areas the province should improve the quality of nature sufficiently to create the desired environmental space for new plans.
- In the Kanaal zone and Sloe area, the environmental space is too constrained – especially in terms of noise – for further growth in industry and there is a risk of habitat deterioration.
- Environmental space does not allow accommodation of all the claims of shipping, fishery, recreation and nature. Choices will have to be made. It would be helpful to have a plan for ranking and zoning the claims.

Result

The SEA report makes it clear that this policy is needed if Zeeland is to have a sustainable future. The plan has been decided on and now the recommended measures must be given shape. The NCEA is enthusiastic about the method used in the SEA report and has recorded it as a case study and reported it in an article in the Dutch environmental assessment journal *Toets*. These Dutch texts have also been posted on the website: www.commissiener.nl.



“ In my first year as acting chair I’ve been struck by the vast reserves of knowledge and experience the NCEA can draw on. There’s great potential here for the sustainable development of the Netherlands! ”

Jan Bout, acting chair of the NCEA and partner in the consultancy Bout & Co

Environmental assessment

strengthened by Europe

In 2012, just as in 2011, there were many verdicts on EIA screening. Location in or near Natura-2000 protected areas was a particular reason for requiring an environmental assessment, even for projects not exceeding the indicative threshold values. In addition, the court ruled that information gathered in the context of an EIA screening can never be sufficient to satisfy the requirement to do an SEA for the plan that enables the project, as an SEA has wider content and other requirements. The European Court of Justice has even ruled that a plan for which, wrongly, no SEA has been made must be declared null and void. The Court also ruled that in the case of voluntary plans, there may still be an SEA obligation on two conditions: a so-called *Appropriate Assessment* (decision to evaluate possible negative impacts on Natura 2000 protected areas) is required for the plan, and the *procedure* for the plan is legally required. In other words, a plan does not necessarily have to be mandatory to trigger an SEA requirement.

The legislative projects in the Netherlands were delayed by the fall of the Dutch government, which may have had repercussions for environmental assessment. The previous government had outlined the new *Environment and Planning Act*. The NCEA reacted to this in a position paper, in which it endorsed the aims, but questioned the need for a new Act. It is expected that draft legislation will be submitted to the House of Representatives before the summer of 2013.

In autumn 2012 the European Commission submitted a proposal to modify the EIA Directive by giving more attention to the EIA screening procedure and a mandatory ToR phase. In addition, the proposal reinforces requirements for quality assurance, monitoring and research on alternatives. The NCEA supports this proposal. In 2013 it will become clear whether the Member States and European Parliament will approve them.

QUALITY OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INTENT

The NCEA's point of departure for advisory reports on ToR is the notification of intent. In 95 percent of its advisory reports the NCEA introduced new elements to the notification of intent. The most common were new alternatives or variants (55%), supplementary information to substantiate the proposal (35%), information requested on nature values (25%) and dealing with 'health' (15%).

In only 5 percent of cases did the competent authorities not fully implement the ToR recommendations. Mostly these concerned alternatives and variants that were recommended to further investigate.

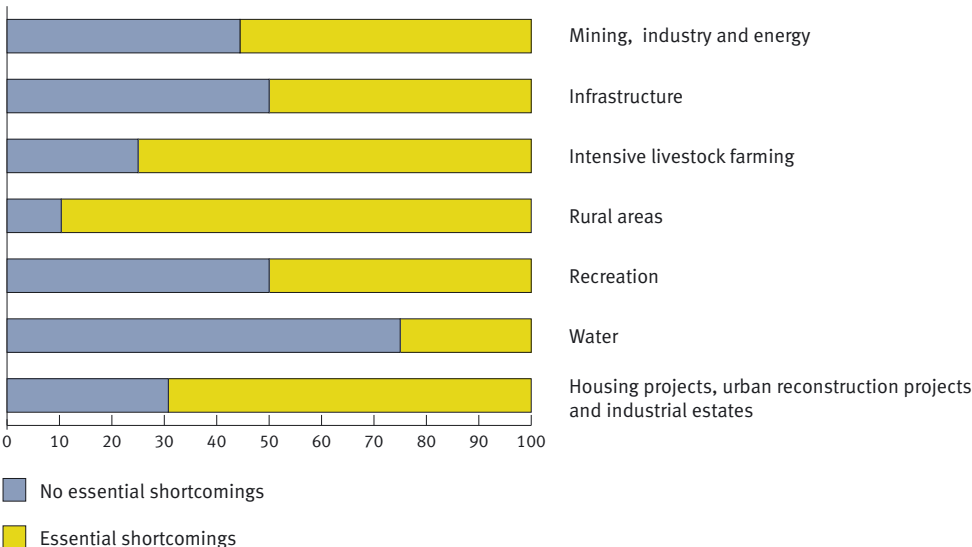
QUALITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In 2012 the NCEA reviewed 121 environmental assessment reports. In 2012 the environmental assessment reports for initiatives relating to water were of good quality. In 66 percent of the reports, however, important shortcomings were identified – a higher percentage than in previous years: between 2008 and 2012 the figure fluctuated between 50 and 57 percent. The shortcomings in 2012 mostly concerned missing information on:

- nature (70%);
- alternatives and variants (51%);
- substantiation of the intended activity (30%).



QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS IN 2012



At six sites near Eindhoven, De Dommel Water Board is implementing flood control measures. In order for the interests at stake to be properly assessed, the environmental assessment reports must transparently describe the process of making choices.



SHORTCOMINGS

In relation nature protection, the consequences of activities for Natura 2000 protected areas are still being underestimated. The proper evaluation of these implications remains a difficult task.

Most of the shortcomings occur in land-use plans for rural areas. These often lack information on the environmental impacts of acidifying and eutrophying compounds.

In 2012, in 55 percent of the cases, the competent authorities requested the NCEA to evaluate supplementing information when shortcomings had occurred. This is considerably less than in previous years: 72 % in 2011 and 94% in 2010. Possibly because such evaluations must now be paid for.

In most instances in which the NCEA was requested to evaluate the supplementary information, the environmental assessment report in combination with the supplementary information contained the required environmental information. In about one-third of the reports, however, the information remained insufficient or incomplete.

THE NCEA'S FOOTPRINT

In 2012 the NCEA again strove to operate sustainably by:

- further improving ICT, thus making it easier for staff to work from home. The NCEA also made a start with the preparations for working without paper. In 2012, 6 members of staff had one regular work-at-home day per week;
- encouraging experts and administrative staff to walk or cycle to work, or to use public transport. Almost all the journeys staff made were by public transport;
- using GreenSeats to offset NCEA air travel. In 2012 the offset amounted to 154.8 tons of carbon dioxide.



Integral vision is required

Projects

A land-use plan for rural areas often covers a large area in which there are various enterprises (agricultural and other). The reason for drawing up a new land-use plan is generally a legal obligation. Often, however, an integral vision of the rural area is lacking. New land-use plans mostly focus on facilitating the expansion plans of entrepreneurs.

Existing land-use plans also often include unused land that people assume can be transferred to the new plans. But because circumstances and legislation have changed, there is now an obligation to research the environmental impacts of using this space for expansion.

Advice

In 2012 the land-use plans were found to have major impacts on Natura 2000 protected areas, particularly because of extra nitrogen deposition. In addition, the noise nuisance for nearby residents would have increased appreciably. In 90 percent of the SEA reports the information on this was inadequate or incomplete and the NCEA advised that this be rectified.

Result

To assist people to understand this complex matter, the NCEA organised a theme day and compiled two factsheets and a dossier. On its Dutch-language website, under the rural area theme, it also posted FAQs relating to land-use plans for rural areas.





“ By piloting process-oriented advice, the NCEA wants to make EA a more attractive instrument. We want environmental impacts to be taken into account as best as possible under the new Environment and Planning Act. These two interests are very much compatible. ”

Marjan van Giezen (departmental head and deputy director for Water and Soil at the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment) who was involved in the piloting of process-oriented advice.

Environmental assessment

its effect

In 2012 the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment commissioned a study to collect facts on the effects of environmental assessment and the NCEA's advisory reports. A representative sample of all the environmental assessments from the previous two years was used for this study. Conclusion of the study was that across the board both the environmental assessment reports and NCEA advice have had a considerable effect on decisions.

To sum up:

- in 88 percent of the projects the effect of environmental assessment on the decision is clear (63 percent) or noticeable (25 percent);
- in 85 percent the effect of the NCEA advisory report on the decision is clear (63 percent) or noticeable (22 percent).

This conclusion links up with conclusions drawn earlier in 1996 and 2011 on the effect of environmental assessment. In the study the stakeholders involved reported that the legal obligation to carry out environmental assessment was “the big stick” and was an important reason for the great effectiveness of the instrument of environmental assessment.

The study concluded furthermore that this effectiveness was even more remarkable in light of the fact that decisions are not only made on the basis of environmental motives, but also of economic, social and political motives.

KNOWLEDGE BROKER FUNCTION IN 2012

The drive that began in 2010 to give greater emphasis to the NCEA's knowledge broker function was continued in 2012. The objectives are to enhance self-reliance of competent authorities in carrying out their tasks in environmental assessment, and to improve the application of environmental assessment and the quality of environmental assessment reports. Notable improvements in 2012 were: an improved search functionality on the website, the organisation of more theme workshops and a makeover of the e-newsletter. In addition, much work was done on the "map of the Netherlands" that is on the website. This map shows all the ongoing and completed projects from the last five years. Searching by location, theme or date gives an instant overview of the areas and activities on which environmental information is available.

FACTS ON INFORMATION 2012

- Ten issues of the e-newsletter *OpMERkelijk* were sent out to 2,946 subscribers.
- The website had over 81,900 visits, compared with 65,800 in 2011.

- Theme meetings were organised on: environmental assessment and health; land-use plans for rural areas; landscape and environmental assessment; and SWUNG (the Dutch acronym stands for "working together to implement new policy on noise").
- New factsheets were issued in Dutch. The topics included the relationship between societal cost-benefits analysis and environmental assessment; SWUNG; and environmental assessment of water plans.
- Two dossiers were compiled for the theme days on health and environmental assessment and on land-use plans for rural areas.
- The help desk handled approximately 18 questions per month, most relating to the environmental assessment process set-up and NCEA's role in this.
- The NCEA had a stand at the 'Schakeldag' (an annual event organised by the Directorate-General for Public Works and Water Management).
- Over 75 court rulings were added to the website, augmented by implications for environmental assessment practice.

Annex 4 lists all presentations, publications and workshops.



Supported by the NCEA's advisory report it voluntarily requested, Voorst municipality investigated various options for curbing regular and heavy goods traffic from Twello. These included modifying existing roads, creating new road edges and transforming industrial areas.



Environmental assessment

Dutch Sustainability Unit

We are proud to announce the newest addition to our family: the Dutch Sustainability Unit (DSU). This unit was launched in mid-2012, at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. An independent component of the NCEA, the DSU contributes to properly integrating environment, climate and sustainable development in Dutch development cooperation. The Dutch government has taken on this responsibility, but the required knowledge and information is not always at hand. Now, however, Dutch embassies or departments at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs can call on the DSU, which supplies the necessary expertise quickly and effectively. It does so by using external experts from within or outside the Netherlands, as the NCEA does for its environmental assessment activities.

The DSU can be deployed in many ways. In Mozambique, for example, an expert on environment and climate was added to a group of Dutch experts who were formulating a support programme for the Zambezi Valley Agency. In South Sudan, provincial water plans were subjected to an analysis for their contribution to sustainable development. In Kenya the DSU gave advice on the question of how nature conservation organisations could be supported so that they become sustainable. And in Bangladesh advice was given on the environmental and climate dimensions of integrated water management.

The DSU can also operate outside of development cooperation: an example is the advice given on environmental and climate aspects of plans for economic development round the North Pole.

The NCEA is very enthusiastic about its newest task. In 2013 the DSU's activities will be evaluated, so that the unit can better serve embassies and directorates in the coming years.



“ In my days as environmental science student I learned how to use environmental assessment optimally. With that mindset I decided to start the environmental assessment of the Provincial Environmental Plan as soon as possible, to deliver better outlooks. ”

Patrick van der Broeck, member of the Provincial Executive of Limburg province, involved in the Limburg 2014 Provincial Environment Plan



“ The Central African capacity development programme which is facilitated by the NCEA, has been very valuable. It convinced me for example of the importance of EA principles such as transparency and participation. ”

Mr. Paul Doko, deputy minister of the Environment in the Central African Republic, former vice president of the national EIA association

THE ORGANISATION IN 2012

Financial accountability

In 2012 the NCEA received a total of € 8,502,043 in subsidies, of which € 6,026,200 was granted by the ministries of Infrastructure and the Environment, Economic Affairs, and Education, Culture and Science, to support its legal duties and knowledge broker function. The remaining € 2,475,843 was awarded by the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs, for activities outside the Netherlands.

After the financial report for 2012 has been completed and audited by the accountant, an abridged version will be posted on the website (www.commissiemer.nl) in May 2013.



STAFF DETAILS AS PER 31 DECEMBER 2012

	NL	International	Total
Number of staff	46	12	58
Fte	31	9,6	40,6
Men	19	4	23
Women	27	8	35
New employees in 2012	1	2	3
Employees who have left in 2012	8		8
Interns		3	3

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AS A SYSTEM

One essential difference between the NCEA’s international and domestic programmes is the wider scope of its activities abroad. Whereas in the Netherlands the NCEA primarily contributes to assuring the completeness and accuracy of the information in environmental assessment reports, outside the Netherlands the issue is the quality of the entire environmental assessment system. This may entail, for example, the quality of legislation and regulations, the integration of environmental assessment in political decision-making, and the capacity of organisations that are associated with environmental assessment. In the latter case, we focus not only on ministries (of the environment, for example) or environmental inspectorates, but also on other stakeholders. In Central Africa, for example, we support environmental assessment NGO’s in five countries.

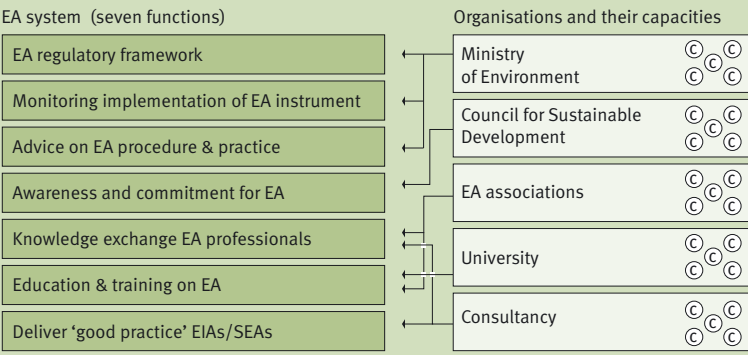
Environmental assessment systems are complex and large. Thus the question is also how to describe them effectively so that subsequently it can be determined where improvements will bring the greatest gains.

To answer this question, we have bundled the expertise we have accumulated in the last twenty years into a “system thinking approach” in which we distinguish seven important functions (see the left-hand column in the figure). For each *function* that is to be strengthened, we record which *organisations* are important for this (see the right-hand column in the figure). For the most important organisations we analyse which *capacities* have priority for strengthening, in which we distinguish five capacities:

- 1. to act and commit (including legal mandate, leadership);
- 2. to deliver on development objectives (including skills, access to knowledge and information);
- 3. to relate to external stakeholders (including networking, customer relations);
- 4. to adapt and self-renew (including capacity to learn, flexibility);
- 5. to achieve coherence (including vision, procedures).

On the basis of these analyses we can draw up a working plan together with national and local partners.

The environmental assessment system and associated organisations*



*The presence of organisations and their relationship with the environmental assessment system vary among countries.



2013

Many local authorities are still working to update their land-use plans before 1 July 2013, in order to be able to levy taxes. The associated SEA reports will require much attention in 2013, especially in relation to extra nitrogen deposition in Natura 2000 protected areas.

As PAS (the Dutch programme to tackle nitrogen deposition) was not yet in place in 2012, creative solutions had to be found. Examples are mineral bookkeeping within the agricultural sector, and between agriculture and industry, and management measures for restoration strategies. In 2013 we will develop our lines of advice further, focusing on substantively good and legally sound solutions.

Although environmental assessment is very suitable for making climate impacts visible, climate change is not yet an established environmental assessment theme. Together with CROW, the Dutch national knowledge platform for infrastructure, traffic, transport and public space, we are therefore preparing an overview of good practices.

The national and regional water plans must be up to date in 2015, but in 2013 we are already showing how SEA can contribute to qualitatively high-grade water plans.

In 2013 we will complete the pilot phase of “process-oriented review”. The first interim evaluation has shown that this approach has added value. The final evaluation will reveal whether environmental assessment parties are willing to pay for it.

The NCEA’s funding will change after 2014: a larger proportion of the costs will be covered by fees for both facultative and mandatory advisory reports, and for our knowledge broker activities. In 2013 we are preparing for this.

The Bolivian land reform institute INRA is implementing an SEA for its three-year strategy. It is important to find alternatives to the current practice of land division, which is causing major environmental problems.





INTERNATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

In 2012 the international demand for environmental assessment expertise was undiminished. Ways in which the NCEA assists in introducing environmental assessment and anchoring it in legislation include offering training and coaching, preferably in

multi-year programmes, whether at national or regional level, such as the Central Africa region. In this way, an exchange of information about legislation and practice can take place between neighbouring countries on cross-border issues.

ADVICE

The NCEA advises on ToR for EIA or SEA reports or reviews their quality, with or without calling in experts. If experts are called in, the first step is for a working group of experts to visit the country in question and establish contact with representatives of ministries and stakeholders. In 2012 three NCEA working groups issued advisory reports:

- ToR for the second phase of an SEA for the spatial planning of the Tana delta, Kenya.
- review of an SEA on oil and gas in Aguarague National Park, Bolivia;
- ToR for an SEA for a land reform plan, Bolivia.

In the case of secretariat advice, with no working group, the NCEA advises on (draft)

environmental assessment reports, manuals and the application of mandatory environmental assessment for investment projects. In 2012 13 secretariat advisory reports were issued, for Burundi, Mozambique, Ghana, Uganda, Bolivia, St. Eustatius, Aruba and AgentschapNL.

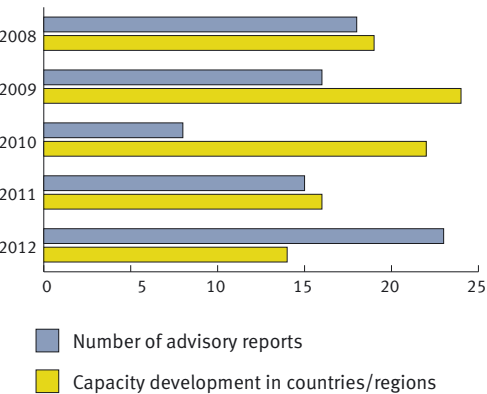
DUTCH SUSTAINABILITY UNIT

The DSU issued 7 advisory reports in 2012: for embassies in Mozambique, South Sudan, Bangladesh, Kenya, Palestinian territories and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

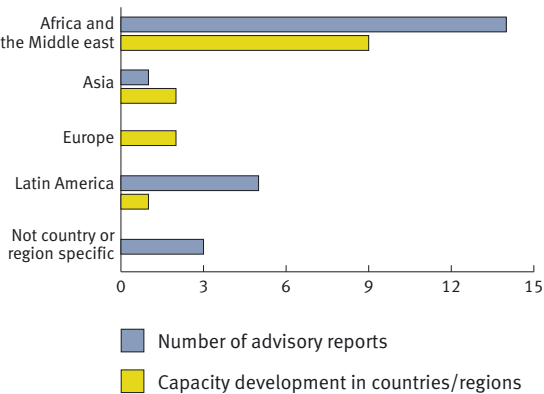
For more information, see our international websites: www.eia.nl; www.eia.nl/dsu

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY REPORTS AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

2008-2012



PER CONTINENT 2012



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Cooperation and combining forces are important for the NCEA in order to harmonise topics, renew approaches and exchange knowledge and information at home and abroad. In 2012 the NCEA collaborated with, among others:

- the East African Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (EANECE), in a workshop in Tanzania on compliance and enforcement in EIA, and with the International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE), on a study on the funding mechanisms and preparations for a theme forum at IAIA 2013;
- NORAD’s Oil for Development programme, on applying environmental assessment in the oil and gas sector in Africa;
- AgentschapNL, for the ORIO programme and the Fund Sustainable Water, on applying environmental assessment for public or private investment;
- IUCN, on the NIAP programme in Pakistan;
- the World Bank, on a joint workshop in South Africa;
- WWF, on joint seminars and workshops in, among others, Mozambique and South Africa;

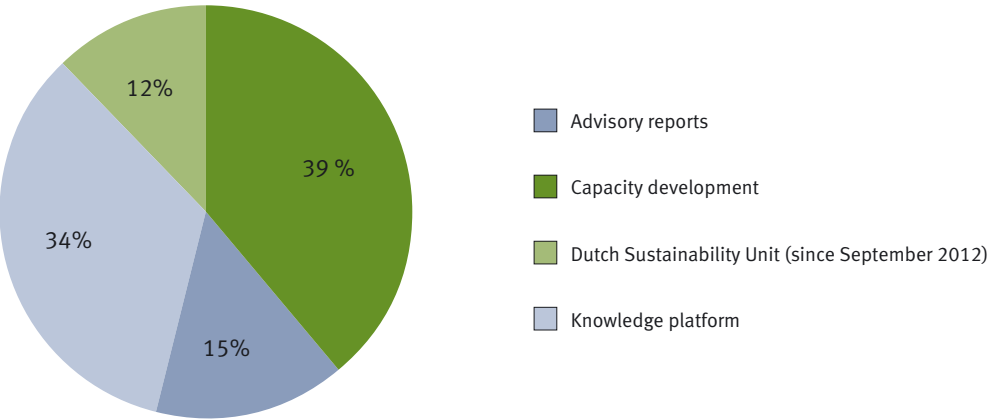
- ITC, Unesco-IHE, IVM and Utrecht University, on environmental assessment teaching and research.

In addition, the NCEA participates in the Partnership on Environmental Assessment in Africa and is active in the International Association for Impact Assessment. The NCEA represents DGIS in the OECD-DAC SEA Task Force.

EMBASSIES

In partner countries, the NCEA works closely with Dutch embassies. It advises on national and regional environmental assessment practice and legislation. On request, it evaluates plans and reports in terms of their compliance with environmental assessment obligations and approach. In addition, since mid 2012, via the DSU the NCEA advises on integrating environment, climate and sustainable development in embassy programmes. And, vice versa: the embassies inform the NCEA on environment and environmental policy and on the political and economic context of partner countries.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES – TIME-BUDGET 2012



The Netherlands embassy in Rwanda is implementing an SEA for its Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) support programme. It is essential that this programme is consistent with various IWRM initiatives of the Rwandan government.





“ Having had links with Mozambique for years, the NCEA is familiar with the environment and society there. So in the current stormy times it can give flexible and expert advice. ”

Jan Huesken, head of development cooperation at the Netherlands embassy in Maputo, Mozambique

SEA Kenyan delta

Project

The Kenyan government is developing a land-use plan for the Tana delta and has requested the NCEA to advise on the associated SEA. The land and water in the delta serve agriculture, nomadic herders and fishery, and because of their rich biodiversity are partially protected. Pressure on this area is increasing as a result of population growth, large-scale economic activity (plantations) and the increased use of water upstream. In addition, rights to land and water are regulated poorly or not at all. In past years this has led to conflict and scores of casualties.

Advice

In light of the developments upstream, the NCEA advised working out several scenarios for water availability. It also advised that nomadic herders be better involved in the process. They use the delta only in dry periods and rely on it for the survival of their livestock. The NCEA also established that in terms of land rights, the local inhabitants had few realistic expectations from the land-use plan. The NCEA therefore emphasised the need for clear communication about intentions.

Result

The Kenyan Ministry of the Environment has adopted most of the NCEA's recommendations. It is expected that the final SEA report and land-use plan will follow in April 2014.

INTERNATIONAL KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

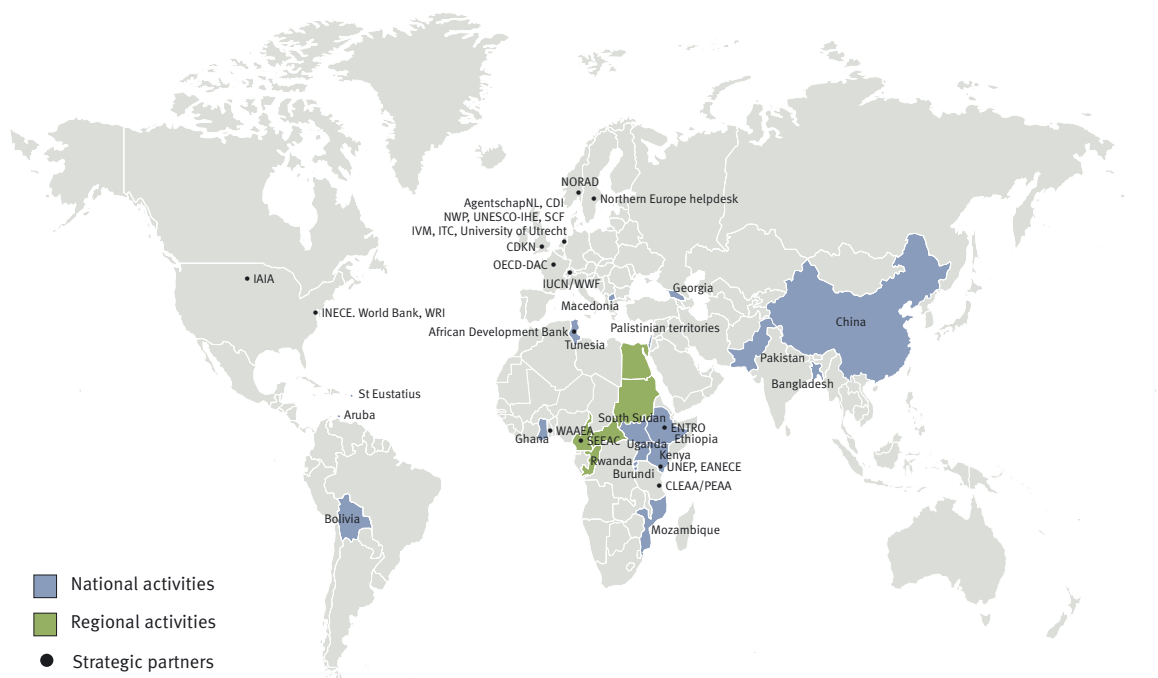
An important part of the NCEA's work is making information accessible on environmental assessment in developing countries. It does so via a website on which news, publications, country profiles and advisory reports are published. To assure continuing improvement, the NCEA develops new methods to record environmental assessment systems and publishes on its work; it also contributes to the publications of third parties.

In 2012 a new *Views and Experiences of the NCEA* was issued, containing eight articles on lessons learned in NCEA's work at home and abroad. In addition, staff gave training sessions and participated in relevant networks and panels. The NCEA is convinced that sharing expertise and exchanging knowledge with international colleagues are crucial for the further development of successful environmental assessment practice world wide.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

- country profiles in English and Spanish on EA legislation, regulations and practice;
 - over 12.000 website visits
 - 2,400 entries on international environmental assessment in the online catalogue;
 - key sheets and articles on environmental assessment and relevant themes/sectors, compiled in *Views and Experiences*;
 - joint publications in international journals;
 - EIA Mapping Tool: a SWOT analysis of environmental assessment systems;
 - e-Newsletter (750 subscriptions);
 - Q&A service;
- Annex 4 contains all presentations, publications and workshops at home and abroad.

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES 2012





2013

Dutch development cooperation is becoming increasingly concentrated on Africa. In 2013 the same applies to the NCEA. We are assisting Burundi by strengthening its EIA capacity, we are advising Kenya on SEA for spatial planning in the Tana delta and we are coaching the Ministry of Environment in Mozambique on SEA for the economic development of the Zambezi valley. Unlike in the Netherlands, we are focusing on the quality of the total system: legislation and regulations, procedures and processes, capacity of organisations both within and outside the government (see p. 30).

In 2013 we are also working with the governments of Tunisia, Georgia and China, to learn from each other's practice. China, for example, has gained much experience in SEA for the sustainable development of five "mega regions". We are comparing the Chinese and Dutch experiences and publishing the results.

Finally, in 2013 the Dutch Sustainability Unit (DSU) will have been in existence for one year. This new department within the NCEA is primarily intended to support Dutch embassies and directorates in the integration of environment and climate questions in programmes and strategies. Since mid-2012 this has been done in, for example, Mozambique, Bangladesh, the Palestinian territories, South Sudan and Kenya (and see p. 24). In 2013 the results achieved will be evaluated and from this we will draw lessons for the future.

Appendix 1

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND EMPLOYEES PER 31 DECEMBER 2012



Appendix 2

MEMBERS AND ADVISORS WHO PARTICIPATED IN NCEA'S WORKING GROUPS IN 2012

Members

- Mr H.G. van der Aa
- Mr R. Aagten
- Mr F.G. van den Aarsen
- Mr H.F.M. Aarts
- Mr W. Altenburg
- Ms C.J.M. Anzion
- Mr E.J.M.M. Arts
- Mr J.J. Bakker
- Mr A. van Beek
- Mr D.J.F. Bel
- Mr J.H. van den Berg
- Mr L. Bijlmakers
- Mr A.J. Blik
- Mr G.J. van Blokland
- Mr P.L. de Boer
- Mr S. Bokma
- Mr D.A. Boogert
- Mr P. van der Boom
- Mr P.J.M. van den Bosch
- Mr H. Boukes
- Mr P.F.J. Brandsen
- Ms T.B.J. Bremer
- Ms M.E.A. Broekmeyer
- Mr M.J. Brolsma
- Mr B.A.H.V. Brorens
- Mr H.S. Buijtenhek
- Mr J.J. Buitenhuis
- Mr N.M.J.A. Dankers
- Mr J.A.M. van Dijk
- Mr J.H.A. Driessen
- Mr C.L. Eenkema
- Mr H.H. Ellen
- Mr F.H. Everts
- Ms Y.C. Feddes
- Ms A. Freriks
- Mr C. van der Giessen
- Mr J.M. van der Grift
- Mr J. Groen
- Mr J.H.J. van der Gun
- Mr D. Hamhuis
- Mr R.M. van Heeringen
- Mr R.E.C.M. van der Heijden
- Mr D.L.J. Heikens
- Mr C.J. Hemker
- Mr H.J.M. Hendriks
- Mr W.A.M. Hessing
- Mr P. Hoekstra
- Mr J.A. Huizer
- Mr S. Jak
- Mr S.R.J. Jansen
- Mr R.P.M. Jansen
- Mr H.H. Janssen
- Mr L.M. de Jong
- Mr W.H.A.M. Keijzers
- Mr R.J. van Kerkhoff
- Mr H.J. Kingma
- Mr R.J.M. Kleijberg
- Mr T.R. Knottnerus
- Mr M.A. Kooiman
- Mr J.A.M.M. Kops
- Mr B. Korf
- Mr P.A. Kroeze
- Mr P.H.R. Langeweg
- Mr J.E.M. Lax
- Mr A. van Leerdam
- Mr J.J.A. van Leeuwen
- Mr R.S.E.W. Leuven
- Mr M.J.P. van Lieshout
- Mr E.A.J. Luiten
- Ms Y.J. van Manen
- Mr H.J. Meurs
- Mr G.W.N.M. van Moorsel
- Mr J. Mulder
- Mr L. van Nieuwenhuijze
- Mr L. Oprel
- Mr H. Otte
- Mr M.J.F. van Pelt
- Mr B. Peters
- Mr M.M.J. Pijnenburg
- Ms A.J. Pikaar
- Mr C.C.D.F. van Ree
- Mr J. Renes
- Ms M.B. Schöne
- Mr K.A.A. van der Spek
- Mr H.E.M. Stassen
- Mr J. Termorshuizen
- Mr F. ten Thij
- Mr C.T.M. Vertegaal
- Mr R.L. Vogel
- Mr H.J. de Vriend
- Mr N.P.J. de Vries
- Mr R.F. de Vries
- Mr P. Vrijlandt
- Mr P.P.A. van Vugt
- Mr J.J. van der Vuurst de Vries
- Mr K. Wardenaar
- Mr R.B. van der Werff
- Mr H.A.T.M. van Wezel
- Mr F. Wijnants
- Mr J. van der Winden
- Mr Th. G.J. Witjes
- Mr R.A.M. van Woerden
- Mr F. Woudenberg
- Mr E. Wymenga
- Mr J.H. de Zeeuw
- Mr H.A.P. Zinger
- Mr G. de Zoeten

Advisors

- Mr R. Agtersloot
- Mr C. van den Akker
- Mr J.A. Annema
- Mr F. Arents
- Mr J.G. Arkes
- Mr R. van der Auweraert
- Mr W. Beekman
- Mr E.H.A. de Beer
- Mr M.A. Beke
- Ms L. Besselink
- Mr J. den Boeft
- Mr R.J.J.M. van Bommel
- Mr L.D. Boom

- Mr P.A. Boot
- Mr E. de Bree
- Mr W.B.M. ten Brinke
- Mr A. J. F. Brinkmann
- Mr R.B. Buiting
- Mr F.A.M. Claessen
- Ms E.E.M. Coopmann-van Overbeek
- Mr J.J. Cuijpers
- Mr J.L.F.M.M. Dagevos
- Mr A.G.M. Dassen
- Mr R.J. van Dijk
- Mr S. Dirksen
- Mr F.D. Dotinga
- Ms J.M. Drees
- Mr R. During
- Mr K. Essink
- Mr N. Faber
- Mr M.J. Fabery de Jonge
- Ms M.H. Fast
- Ms E.M.A. Fischer-de Bruijn
- Mr W. Foppen
- Mr G. Gabry
- Mr C.P.J.M. Geelen
- Mr R. Geerts
- Mr H.R.G.K. Hack
- Mr W. Hoeve
- Mr W.C.M. van Hooff
- Ms E. van Horssen-Maas
- Ms Z. Jager
- Mr J.A. Janse
- Mr C.A.F. de Jong
- Mr R.B. Jongejan
- Mr E.S. Kooi
- Mr W. Korver
- Mr H.C. Kromhout
- Mr B. Lowijs
- Mr M.P.W. Meffert
- Mr H.R.M. Mentink
- Mr K.V. van der Nat
- Mr J. Nipius
- Mr J.A. Nuesink
- Mr H. Olff

- Mr B.W.G. van Pagée
- Mr M. van der Perk
- Mr J.L.P.M. van der Pluijm
- Mr T. Prins
- Mr P. Renooy
- Mr L.T. Runia
- Mr R.H. Schokker
- Mr F. Schokking
- Mr J.G.M. Schouffoer
- Mr H. Slaper
- Mr C.P. Slijpen
- Mr H.T. Sman
- Mr E.R. Snijders
- Mr J.H.K.C. Soer
- Mr M.A.A. Soppe
- Ms I. Spapé
- Ms I. Spapens-Reijnders
- Ms M. B. Spoelstra
- Mr T.F.A.M. Teunissen
- Mr L.F.A. Theuws
- Mr D. van der Velden
- Ms M.L. Verspui
- Mr J.A.H.H. Voet
- Mr P. de Vos
- Ms N.F.H.H. Vossen
- Mr R. Vrolijk
- Mr R.N. Walter
- Mr D.H.J. van de Weerdt

- Mr A. Loonstra
- Mr M. Rutten
- Mr R. Slootweg
- Mr J. van der Winden
- Mr F. Woudenberg
- Ms J. de Kwaadsteniet
- Mr A. J. van Bodegom
- Mr H.R.J. van Maanen

International

- Mr B. Ale
- Mr N. Bech
- Mr van der Boom
- Mr M.J. Brolsma
- Mr R. Brouwer
- Mr H. Buijtenhek
- Mr F. Deodatus
- Ms P. Dobbelaar
- Mr P. Droogers
- Mr T.E. Hoenkamp
- Mr T.F. Huber
- Mr J. Kool
- Mr J.F.A. Krijnen

ADVISORY REPORTS ISSUED IN 2012

The Netherlands

Advisory reports on Terms of Reference

2313	Dijkversterking Waddenzeedijk Texel	2617	Uitbreiding opslagvoorzieningen radioactief afval COVRA industrieterrein Vlissingen-Oost
2485	Zomerbedverlaging Beneden-IJssel	2618	Shtandart-Tank Terminal Europoort-West
2556	Aanpassing N207 Alphen aan de Rijn - Leimuiderbrug	2620	Programma Hoogfrequent Spoorvervoer: Goederenrouting Oost-Nederland
2576	Integrale milieueffectenstudie kabels en leidingen Waddengebied	2621	Programma Hoogfrequent Spoorvervoer: 4-sporigheid Rijswijk - Delft-Zuid
2577	Kabeltracé(s) Gemini (Eemshaven tot aan de 3-mijlszone)	2622	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Overberg, Maarn, Maarsbergen en Amerongen (OMMA)
2585	Verwerking looghoudend afvalwater Lyondell, locatie Maasvlakte Rotterdam	2623	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied gemeente Castricum
2587	Natuurontwikkeling Moerputten - Vlijmens Ven	2624	Structuurvisie bestemmingsplan buitengebied Coevorden
2592	Maasvlakte 1	2625	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Lingewaal
2594	Structuurvisie Friesland Windstreek 2012	2626	DOW/Mosselbanken en Maintenance Value Park, Terneuzen
2595	Zandhonger Oosterschelde	2628	Verplaatsing pluimveebedrijf Het Kippenhok VOF naar Alkmaarseweg, Middenmeer
2596	Dijkversterking Hellevoetsluis	2629	Energiepark Leeuwarden
2598	Slogebied	2631	Pluimveehouderij Roffert 21, Castenray
2600	Waterberging rondom Eindhoven	2634	Landbouwontwikkelingsgebied (LOG) Egchelse Heide
2601	Inpassingsplan tweede kerncentrale Borssele	2638	Buitengebied Lith 2013
2602	Bestemmingsplan Boerestreek/Bosberg gemeente Ooststellingwerf	2639	ADT-Middengebied gebiedsontwikkeling luchthaven Twente
2603	Buitengebied Kollumerland	2641	Herinrichting van het gebied Groeve Boudewijn, Woensdrecht
2604	A4 Zone West, Haarlemmermeer	2643	Structuurvisie Wijk aan Zee
2606	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Duiven	2644	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Oost-Venray
2607	Bestemmingsplan westelijk buitengebied Putten	2645	Bestemmingsplannen buitengebied Waterland en Marken 2013
2609	Bestemmingsplan bedrijventerrein Arnstein, Middelburg	2646	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Drechterland-Zuid
2610	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Smallerland		
2611	Dijkversterking Hoeksche Waard-Noord		
2612	Windpark Oostermoer		
2613	Bestemmingsplan Waal-Eemhaven		
2614	Bestemmingsplan Merwe-Vierhavens		
2615	Jachthaven Cadzand-Bad		
2616	Zuidelijke randweg Borne		

- 2647 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Tubbergen
- 2649 Windpark aan de Nieuwe Waterweg (noord), Hoek van Holland
- 2650 Verdieping Langwarder Wielen
- 2651 Aardgaswinning Roswinkel
- 2652 Structuurvisie Teylingen
- 2653 Structuurvisie Noordoostpolder
- 2655 Pilot Stabilisatie Cavernes, Twente
- 2657 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Tynaarlo
- 2658 Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied Noordenveld
- 2659 Realisatie insteekhaven en afmeergelegenheden Tank Terminal Europoort-West
- 2660 Directe wegverbinding Westerbaan met Meeuwenlaan, Katwijk
- 2661 Dijkversterking Hoeksche Waard-Zuid
- 2663 Luchthavenbesluit militaire luchthaven Eindhoven
- 2665 Uitbreiding pluimveehouderij T. Engelen, Someren
- 2667 Windpark Delfzijl-Zuid
- 2669 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied West, Maas en Waal
- 2670 Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied Noord, Breda
- 2671 Realisatie regionaal bedrijventerrein Werkendam
- 2672 Windpark Heineken, Zoeterwoude
- 2673 Windpark Fryslân
- 2674 Oprichting biomassa-energiecentrale NUON, Utrecht
- 2675 Rotterdamsebaan
- 2676 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Uden
- 2678 Bestemmingsplan haven Wageningen
- 2679 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Steenwijkerland
- 2681 Dijkversterking Capelle aan den IJssel
- 2684 Bestemmingsplan Zeehaven- en industrieterrein Moerdijk
- 2685 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Zijpe
- 2687 Optimalisatie hoogwatergeul Lomm
- 2689 Gebiedsontwikkeling Havikerwaard-Zuid, Rheden
- 2691 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Lingewaard
- 2692 Bestemmingsplan landelijk gebied Schagen
- 2693 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Loppersum en Winsum
- 2697 Oprichting van een Lube Oil Hydrocracker door Kuwait Petroleum Europoort
- 2698 Ontmanteling van de lage-flux-reactor in Petten
- 2699 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Texel
- 2700 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Veere
- 2701 Structuurvisie windenergie Emmen
- 2702 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Achtkarspelen
- 2703 Buitengebied Ronde Hoep
- 2706 Provinciaal Omgevingsplan Limburg 2014
- 2711 Programma Hoogfrequent Spoorvervoer Meteren-Boxtel
- 2713 Varkenshouderij Larestraat 2A in Esbeek, Hilvarenbeek
- 2714 Structuurvisie Maasplassen
- 2715 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Weststellingwerf

Advisory reviews

- 1552 Uitbreiding en herstructurering recreatiepark Beekse Bergen, Hilvarenbeek
- 1685 Bedrijventerrein Oosterhorn, Delfzijl
- 1739 Ontwikkeling Ede-Oost en Spoorzone
- 1812 Varkenshouderij Welvaarts, Hengstdijk
- 1813 Varkenshouderij Lavi, Vogelwaarde
- 1829 Circuit De Peel, Venray
- 1905 Capaciteitsvergroting N279 's-Hertogenbosch-Veghel
- 1945 Uitbreiding varkenshouderij Lokaalweg 10, Klarenbeek

1997	Randstad 380 kV hoogspannings-verbinding Beverwijk-Zoetermeer	2408	Uitbreiding varkenshouderij Jannink te Ambt Delden, Hof van Twente
2026	Pluimveebedrijf Van Beek te Homoet, Overbetuwe	2415	Aanleg aardgastransportleiding Norg - Groningen (NorgroN) capaciteits-handhaving aardgasproductie Groningen
2055	Koude-/warmeopslag stationsgebied Utrecht	2421	Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied Overbetuwe
2082	Oprichting varkenshouderij Hoevarko BV, gemeente Oirschot	2422	Waterkeringen Perkpolder
2155	Dijkversterking Eiland van Dordrecht-West (perceel 1)	2426	A4 Passage en Poorten & Inprikkers, MIRT-verkenning Haaglanden
2166	Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied, Haaksbergen	2427	Uitbreiding veehouderij Houtbroekstraat 9, Someren
2190	Hoogwatergeul Veessen-Wapenveld	2433	Drempelverwijdering vaargeul Boontjes, Kornwerderzand - Harlingen
2198	RijnlandRoute	2438	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Boxtel
2213	Stationsgebied Eindhoven	2443	Energieopslag TU Delft
2217	Dijkversterking Eiland van Dordrecht-Oost	2445	Traverse Dieren
2222	Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied Peel en Maas	2447	Buizenzone Eemsdelta
2233	Natuurontwikkelingsproject Tusschenwater, Tynaarlo	2452	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied, Elburg
2266	Bedrijventerrein TradePort Noord, Venlo	2453	Dijkversterking Steurgat/Bergsche Maas Dijkkring 24, Werkendam-Hank
2269	Kustwerk Katwijk	2456	Herontwikkeling Kazernekwartier Venlo
2275	Ondergrondse energieopslag PrimAviera, Rijsenhout	2460	Stadion Heracles Almelo
2284	Uitbreiding smeltinstallatie Farmsum (Ensartech)	2461	Olde Maten en Veerslootlanden
2287	Planstudie N282 traject Rijen-Hulten-Reeshof	2464	Ombouw N34 Witte Paal - J.C. Kellerlaan naar regionale stroomweg
2305	Randweg Twello, Voorst	2466	Vergistingsinstallatie Dijkstra&Witteveen, Warffum
2306	Verplaatsing agrarische bedrijven Nieuw-Buinen	2470	Structuurvisie Den Helder
2307	Structuurvisie Haarlemmermeer 2030	2471	Structuurvisie Zandwinning Lingemeren
2374	Landbouwonwikkelingsgebied (LOG) Witveldweg, Horst aan de Maas	2478	Vitens veiligstellen drinkwaterwinning Epe
2386	Structuurvisie Gebiedsopgave Grenscorridor N69	2479	CCS Maasvlakte (ROAD-project)
2391	Realisatie waterproductiebedrijf, Heel	2481	Windpark Dintel, provincie Noord-Brabant
2399	Vakantiepark en Recreatieve poort Herperduin, Oss	2483	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Zuidoost-Enschede
2400	Pluimveehouderij Kruisstraat te Herveld, Overbetuwe	2484	Dijkversterking Krimpen aan den IJssel
2402	Vakantiepark De Pluimpot, Tholen	2487	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied, Emmen
		2489	Aardgastransportleiding Beverwijk-Wijngaarden
		2490	Structuurvisie buitengebied Dalfsen
		2492	Zuidas-Dok Amsterdam

2493	Inrichtingsplan Scheerwolde	2597	Uitbreiding en herstructurering Industriehaven Genemuiden
2501	Structuurvisie Bleizo, Lansingerland en Zoetermeer	2605	Structuurvisie Arnhem
2503	Kustversterking Noorderstrand Renesse	2606	Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied Duiven
2504	Structuurvisie en Bestemmingsplannen buitengebied, Heerde	2619	Bestemmingsplan Sluiskil-Oost, Terneuzen
2512	Klavertje 4-gebied Venlo	2625	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Lingewaal
2514	Bestemmingsplan Buitengebied Zundert	2627	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Veenendaal
2515	Industrieterrein Tata Steel, Beverwijk, Heemskerk en Velsen	2630	Buitengebied Rijssen - Holten
2519	Bestemmingsplannen buitengebied Apeldoorn	2632	Uitbreiding melkvee- en akkerbouwbedrijf Quacksedijk 6 te Rockanje, Westvoorne
2526	Ontwikkeling bedrijventerrein Vossenbergh West II, Tilburg	2635	Varkenshouderij J.F.M. van Gisbergen, De Gagel 16, Hooge Mierde
2529	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Etten- Leur	2640	Uitbreiding De Zuivelhoeve, Hengelo
2531	IJssel-uiteerwaarden Olst	2642	Bestemmingsplan Noorderhaven, Zutphen
2533	Structuurvisie Vianen	2648	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Noord en Kloosterstraat
2537	Omlegging N215 bij Melissant, Dirksland	2654	Provinciale Ruimtelijke Structuurvisie Utrecht 2013-2028
2541	Uitbreiding zandwinning Calduran Kalkzandsteenfabriek Roelfsema, Hoogersmilde	2656	Structuurvisie Veere
2552	Windturbines Lanakerveld Maastricht	2662	Bestemmingsplan Landelijk gebied Harenkarspel
2554	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Tytsjerksteradiel	2666	Structuurvisie Harderwijk 2031
2557	Maximabrug Alphen aan den Rijn - Rijnwoude	2680	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Voorst
2560	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Mill en Sint Hubert	2682	Agrarisch bedrijf Optiveco Ambt Delden
2561	Structuurvisie Leidschendam-Voorburg	2686	Mijnbouwlocatie Blaaksedijk, Heinenoord
2563	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Maasdonk	2688	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Losser
2568	Aanpassen Centrale E.on, Galileïstraat Rotterdam	2690	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied & MER gemeente Heusden
2580	Biomassa-energiecentrale Maastricht	2694	Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Oost- Gelre
2582	Windvisie Amsterdam	2705	Ruimte voor de Rivier/ Obstakelverwijdering Nederrijn Elst - Rhenen
2586	Productie synthesesgas uit RDF Heveskes Energy, Delfzijl	2707	Bestemmingsplan Hoefweg-Zuid (Bleizo), Lansingerland
2588	Structuurvisie Brouwersdam-Zuid, Schouwen-Duiveland	2708	Bestemmingsplan Hoefweg-Noord (Prisma), Lansingerland
2590	Omgevingsplan Zeeland 2012-2018		

- 2709 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Landerd
- 2710 Pluimveehouderij Tieltjes in Halle
- 2717 Bestemmingsplan Duinen, Katwijk
- 2720 Bestemmingsplan buitengebied Oldambt

Other advisory reports

- 2543 Monitoring aardgaswinning onder de Waddenzee vanaf locaties Moddergat, Lauwersoog en Vierhuizen
- 2540 Programmatische Aanpak Stikstof (PAS)
- 2525 Zeetoegang IJmond
- 2637 Milieueffectenanalyse aardgas- en aardolieboringen NOGEPA
- 2633 Windpark Q10
- 2704 Milieutoets Windturbines Kloosterlanden

Pilot projects

- 2356/2528/2592 Havenbestemmingsplannen Botlek-Vondelingenplaat Rotterdam
- 2518 Toetsing MER Rijk-regioprogramma Almere, Amsterdam Markermeer (RRAAM)
- 2602 Boerestreek/Bosberg
- 2636 R&D-Structuurvisie Windenergie op land
- 2668 Noordoostcorridor (N279 Zuid)
- 2696 R&D-Omgevingsvisie Provincie Gelderland

For project information and advisory reports, please go to www.commissierner.nl

International

Advisory reports on complex project and plans

- O78 Advisory review SEA oil and gas, Aguarague National Park, Bolivia
- O93 Advice on scoping second phase, SEA Tana Delta Land Use Plan, Kenia
- Bo13 Advice on Terms of Reference SEA landreform policy by National Landreform Institute, Bolivia

Advisory reports Dutch Sustainability Unit

- SU01 Evaluation of the report: *Protecting the Arctic*
- SU04 Support to inclusive and sustainable development in the Zambezi Valley. Formulation of a project to be funded by the Dutch Government to the Zambezi Valley Development Agency and strategic partners, Mozambique
- SU07 Appraisal of three programme formulation documents on cooperation between South Sudan and the Netherlands for the Sudanese Water Sector, Zuid-Soedan
- SU08 Assessment of the Report: *Palestinian Land Development Needs Assessment. A sustainability assessment*, Palestijnse gebieden
- SU09 Assessment of the Report: *Building Community Resilience Through Integrated Water Management*, Bangladesh
- SU10 Review of the Terms of Reference *Evaluation of EKN supported interventions in ASAL*, Kenia
- SU11 Peer review *Quality @ Entry TradeMark East Africa* (TMEA)

Advisory reports by the secretariat

- Advice on Terms of Reference for engaging a project manager for the planning processes/ SEA's for setting the Multisector Agenda for the Zambezi Catchment and the Physical Plan for the Tete Province, EKN Maputo, Mozambique
- Comments on SEA inception report and SEA interim report – oil and gas developments in the Albertine Graben, Oeganda
- Advice on review of the SEA for the Coastal Zone, Mozambique
- Comments on SEA draft (oil and gas) reports, Ghana
- Observations on the draft proposal for a legal text/regulation for Strategic Environmental Assessment for Mozambique
- Comentarios al Informe borrador *Experiencias de las EAE's en Bolivia*
- Appraisal of EIA requirements for projects submitted for financing under the Fund Sustainable Water
- Appraisal of EIA requirements for ORIO projects
- Advice on review of health impacts in the EIA for the Uirama Windpark, Aruba
- Mémorandum sur des Normes et Standards Environnementaux, Burundi
- Mémorandum sur Exemples des Guides Généraux d'EIE au Burundi
- Memorandum on key concepts, approaches and process of EIA review for the Burundi Ministry of Water, Environment, Urbanism and Spatial Planning (MEEATU)
- Generic review framework for oil terminals, St. Eustatius

Capacity development countries/regions

Africa

- Burundi
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Mozambique
- Uganda
- Tunisia
- CLEAA (Africa)
- SEEAC (Central-Africa)
- ENTRO (Horn of Africa)

Asia

- China
- Pakistan

Europe

- Georgia
- Macedonia

South-Amerca

- Bolivia

For project information and advisory reports, please go to www.eia.nl

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS 2012

The Netherlands

Presentations (in Dutch)

- *Advisering over waterprojecten*, voor medewerkers van de Waterdienst van Rijkswaterstaat (cluster TM), Lelystad
- Basiscursus *m.e.r.*, Geoplan, Amsterdam
- Basiscursus *Milieurecht*, Geoplan, Amsterdam
- Basistrainingen voor deskundigen, Driebergen en Utrecht
- Cursus *M.e.r.-beoordeling*, Berghauser Pont, Utrecht
- Cursus *M.e.r.-beoordeling* voor Milieudienst West-Friesland, Hoorn
- Cursus *Milieueffectrapportage* voor AKD Advocaten, Breda
- Cursus *Milieueffectrapportage*, Afdeling bestuursrechtspraak van de Raad van State
- Cursus *Milieurecht, onderdeel milieueffectrapportage*, Studiecentrum voor Bedrijf en Beroep, Rotterdam
- Gastcollege *Omgevingsrecht*, onderdeel milieueffectrapportage, Universiteit van Amsterdam
- Kennisuitwisseling *Landschap en MER* in samenwerking met het RCE, Amersfoort
- *Milieueffectrapportage en de Commissie m.e.r.*, bewonersavond Ridderkerk
- *Opstellen van structuurvisies*, Geoplan, Utrecht
- Presentatie *Luchtkwaliteit in m.e.r.*, voor een Chinese delegatie, Utrecht
- Presentatie *M.e.r. en bestemmingsplannen buitengebied*, gemeenteraad Lingewaal
- *Rondetafelconferentie* Tweede Kamer in het kader van verlenging Crisis- en herstelwet (en ‘quick wins’)
- Themabijeenkomst *Swung en m.e.r.* in samenwerking met InfoMil, Utrecht
- Themadag *Bestemmingsplan buitengebied*, Utrecht

- Themamiddag *Landschap en m.e.r.*, Utrecht
- Themamiddag *MER en gezondheid*, Utrecht
- Verdiepingstrainingen voor deskundigen, Driebergen en Utrecht
- Zomercursus *Omgevingsrecht voor niet-juristen, onderdeel milieueffectrapportage*, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Publications (in Dutch)

- ‘De Europese m.e.r.-verplichtingen en de Omgevingswet’. *Milieu & Recht*, juni 2012, afl. 6, nr. 79, p. 402-404
- Periodieke annotaties m.e.r.-jurisprudentie voor *Jurisprudentie Milieurecht*, SDU, Den Haag
- Periodieke annotatie m.e.r.-jurisprudentie voor *Toets*. Aeneas, Boxtel
- ‘Werken aan doorwerking; nieuwe aanpak voor evalueren effectiviteit m.e.r.’ *Toets*, jaargang 19, nr. 4, p. 10-14

International

Presentations

- Various presentations on (Dutch) experiences with SEA during workshops with Chinese delegations, part of cooperation programme with the Chinese Ministry of Environment; Utrecht, the Netherlands
- Various presentations on SEA project planning and development of EA associations as part of the National Impact Assessment Programme (NIAP); Pakistan
- Various presentations on SEA and the preparation of an operational plan for a Mozambican delegation; Utrecht, the Netherlands

- Various presentations on EIA and waste disposal during visit of the Burundese Environment Minister to the Netherlands, within the framework of the development of a waste disposal site in Bujumbura; Utrecht, the Netherlands
- Various workshops on EIA for project advisors (Agentschap NL) and other interested parties in Public Private Partnership (PPP); The Hague, the Netherlands
- Guest lectures on SEA at UNESCO-IHE / Delft, Leiden University and Utrecht University
- Presentation *The role of SEA in the Green Economy* during conference *Towards a Green Economy in Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya and the Role of Strategic Environmental Assessment*; Maputo, Mozambique
- Presentation *SEA for Pakistan's New Growth Strategy*, during the seminar "*Taking the bull by the horns*" - *Strategic Environmental Assessment in the context of the Framework for Economic Growth*; Islamabad, Pakistan
- Presentation *Linking Environmental Compliance & Enforcement and EIA; the power of a joint systems approach*, during the East African Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (EANECE) 2012; Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania
- Presentation *SEA for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)* during a multi-stakeholder workshop on IWRM; Kigali, Rwanda
- Presentation of research results: *experiences with SEA for oil and gas in Ghana, Mauritania, Uganda and Bolivia* at the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) 2012 conference; Porto, Portugal
- Presentation *Integrating social and environmental sustainability into economies: How can SEA make a difference?* at the IAIA South Africa 17th annual conference; Cape Town, South Africa
- Training in collaboration with WWF and World Bank *Use of SEA In Urban and Regional Development in Africa* at the IAIA South Africa 17th Annual Conference; Cape Town, South Africa
- Two-day seminars *Inspection and enforcement in EIA*; Burundi, Rwanda, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Congo Brazzaville
- Four-day training session *Ecosystem Services Approach* for the Ministry of Environment; Maputo, Mozambique
- Four-day training session *Review in EIA* for Ministry of Environment; Bujumbura, Burundi
- Five-day training session *Scoping in EIA* for Ministry of Environment; Bujumbura, Burundi
- Workshop *EIA/SEA quality review in the Netherlands - How does it work?* for (provincial) authorities; Naples, Italy
- Workshops *SEA for watershed management*; Khartoum, Sudan and Bahar Dar, Ethiopia

Publications

- *An analysis framework for characterizing and explaining development of EIA legislation in developing countries – Illustrated for Georgia, Ghana and Yemen.* Kolhoff, A.J., P.P.J. Driessen and H.A.C. Runhaar in Environmental Impact Assessment Review, Volume 38, p. 1-15 (2013)
- *Evaluating the substantive effectiveness of SEA: Towards a better understanding.* D. Van Doren, P.P.J. Driessen, B. Schijf and H.A.C. Runhaar in Environmental Impact Assessment Review, Volume 38, p. 120-130 (2013)
- *Promoting system-level learning from project-level lessons. An analysis of donor driven "indirect" learning about EIA systems in Ghana and the Maldives.* De Jong, A., H.A.C. Runhaar,

P.R. Runhaar, A.J. Kolhoff and P.P.J. Driessen
in Environmental Impact Assessment Review,
volume 33, p. 23-31, 2012

- *Views and Experiences from the Netherlands
Commission for Environmental Assessment.*
NCEA-serie nr. 11, 45 p. 2012; ISBN 978-90-421-
3537-6

Abbreviations International

CDI	Centre for Development Innovation
CDKN	Climate & Development Knowledge Network
CLEAA	Capacity Development and Linkages for Environmental Assessment in Africa
DGIS	Directorate General International Cooperation
DSU	Dutch Sustainability Unit
EANECE	East African Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ENTRO	Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office
FDW	Sustainable Water Fund (of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
IAIA	International Association for Impact Assessment
INECE	International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
INRA	Instituto Nacional de Reforma Agraria (Bolivia)
ITC	International Institute for GEO Information, Science and Earth Observation
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IVM	Institute for Environmental Studies
NIAP	National Impact Assessment Programme (Pakistan)
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NWP	Netherlands Water Partnership
OECD-DAC	Organisation for Economic Collaboration and Development/ Development Assistance Committee
ORIO	Development-related Infrastructure Facility (of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
PAANEEAC	Programme d'Appui aux Associations Nationales Pour l'Évaluation Environnementale d'Afrique Centrale
PEAA	Partnership for Environmental Assessment in Africa
SCF	Sustainability Challenge Foundation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment (plan-m.e.r.)
SEEAC	Secrétariat pour l'Évaluation Environnementale en Afrique Centrale
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO-IHE	Institute for Water Education
WAAEA	West African Association of Environmental Assessment
WRI	World Resources Institute
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment

The Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) was established as an independent advisory body of experts by decree in 1987. The NCEA advises governments on the quality of environmental information in environmental assessment reports (EIA or SEA reports). These reports are not written by the NCEA: they are usually written by consultancy bureaus, for private initiators, local or provincial authorities and central government. The NCEA does not get involved in decision-making or political considerations. The NCEA's activities abroad, are usually commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In line with their programme, attention is paid not only to environmental impacts but also to social and economic impacts, for example the living standards of local residents.

The three most important qualities of the NCEA are:

- independence
- expertise
- transparency

The NCEA's status as an autonomous foundation, ensures that its assessments are achieved independently from government accountability and political considerations. As well as issuing advisory reviews, the NCEA focuses on sharing and disseminating knowledge on environmental assessment.

www.commissiemer.nl (Dutch)

www.eia.nl (international)

