

Why co-drafting guidelines to support HIA implementation in Georgia?



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Contexte & Objectives

Support in implementation of Health Impact Assessment Practice in Georgia
02/2022 – 04/2024

Twinning Results on capacity building on HIA (component 2)



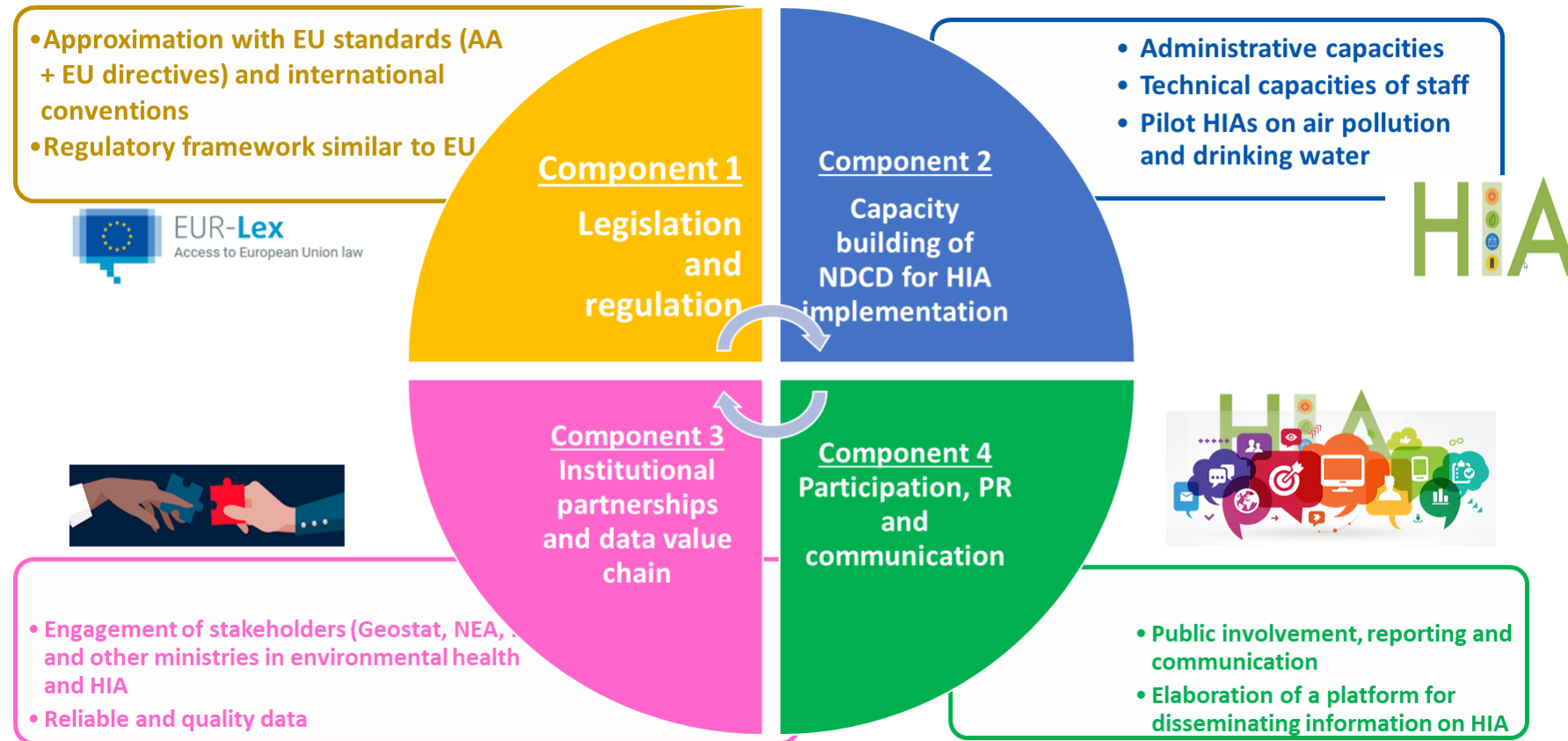
10/04/24 ARLG/EHESP



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Components & expected results



Results on capacity building related to Component 2

HIA Guidelines in Georgia: Practical Application of Health in Environmental Assessment



- Direct answer to the request of practitioners - NCDC, PA & Consultants - on how to integrate health within EA
- It provides tools and methodologies for NCDC, Planning Authorities and consultants.
- Applicable to health in EIA and SEA and stand-alone HIA

How did we co-draft these HIA guidelines?

- ❑ **Iterative process** between NCDC, EHESP, THL and the future users
- ❑ Adaptation of the **Gothenburg HIA** methodology and tools to fit in the EA procedure
- ❑ **3 core principles:**
 - ✓ promoting a **holistic approach to health** (wider health determinants)
 - ✓ adopting a **systems thinking approach** to tackle multiple interactions between health, environmental, and socio-economic issues
 - ✓ strengthening formal **collaboration** between stakeholders.



Holistic approach to health: what does it mean?

Key principle of HIA approach (1) A systemic & positive approach to health

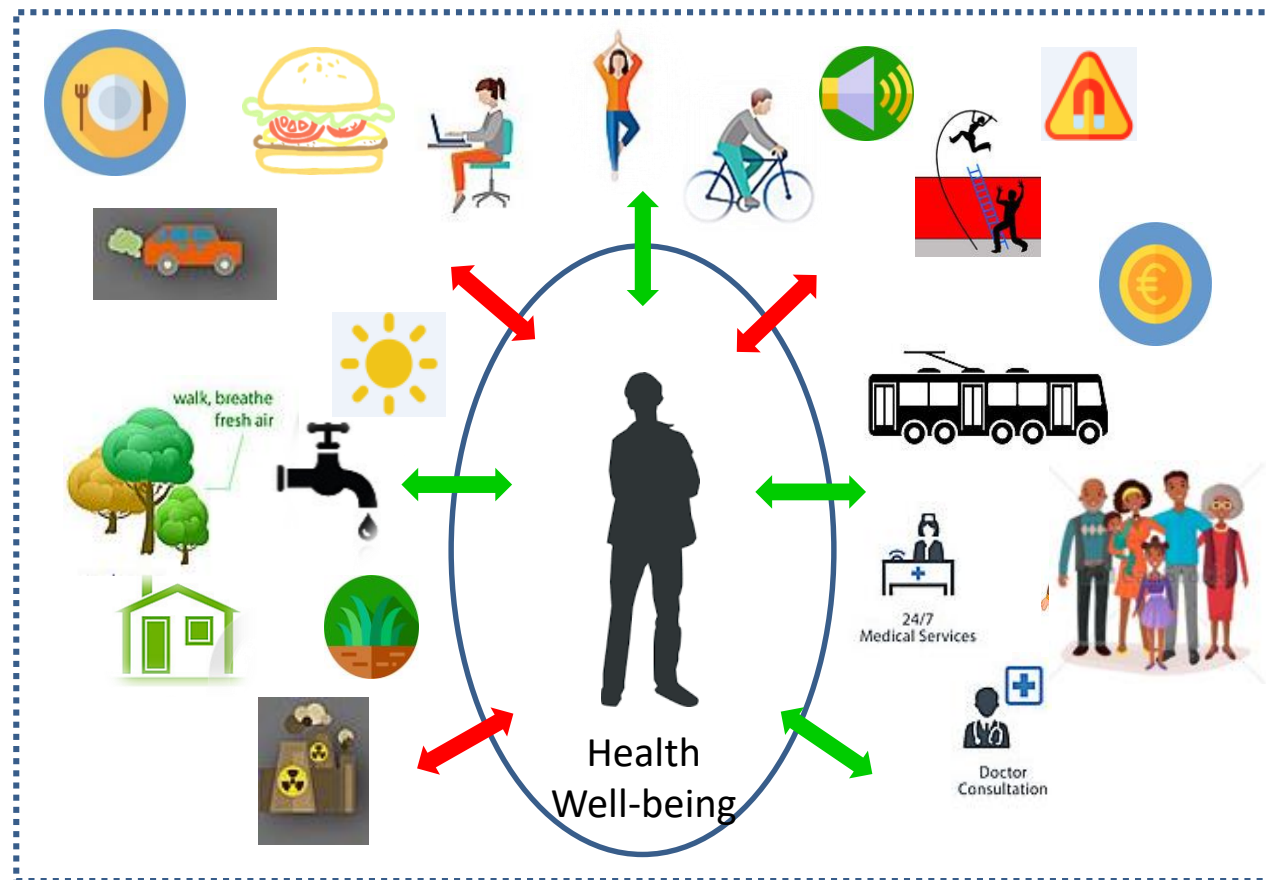
Our state of health is the result of **cumulative exposure to a range of factors over the course of our lives** → **Health determinants**

Health

- Global
- Positive

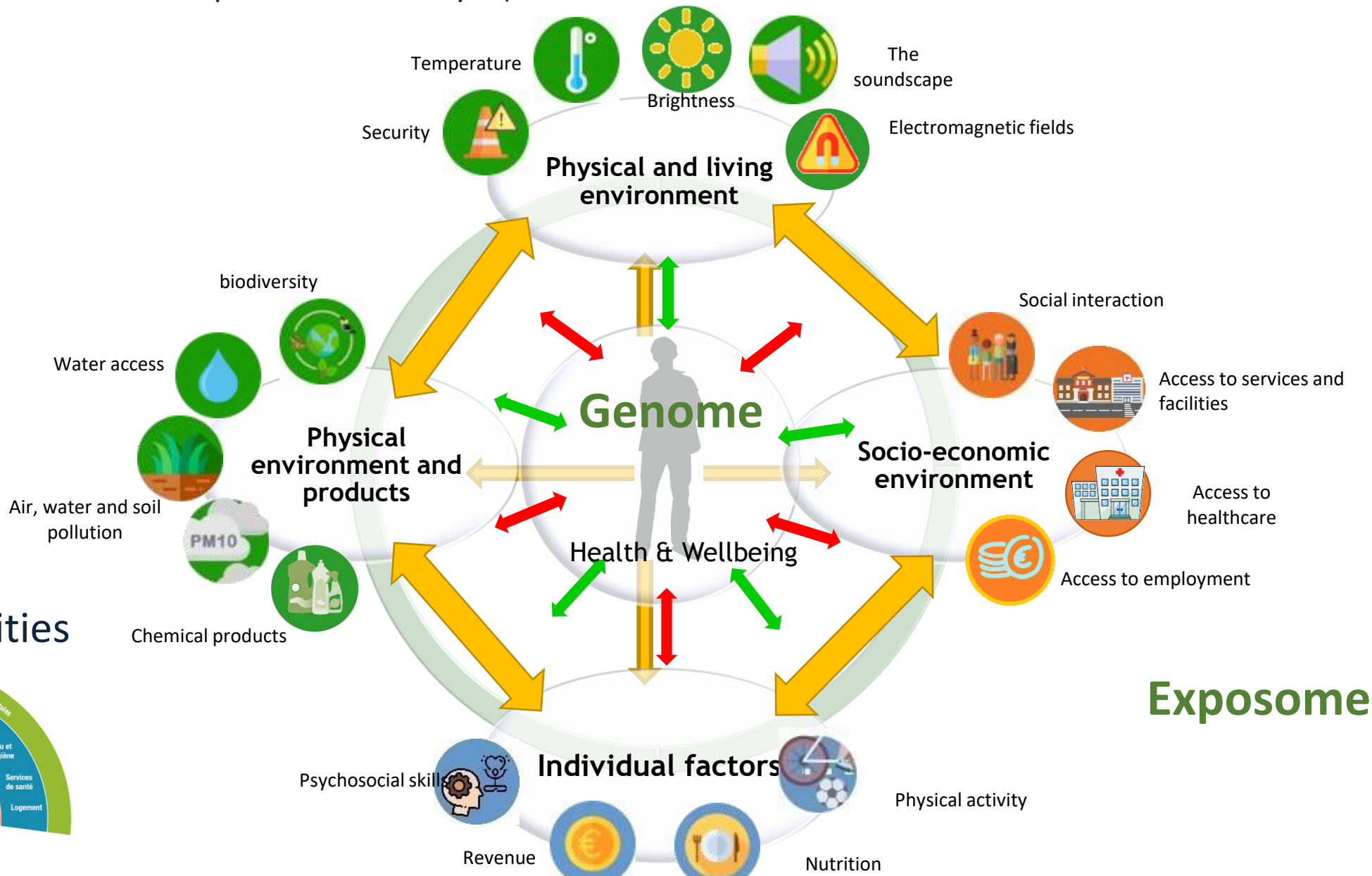
Risk factor ⇔ Negative impact

Factor of protection ⇔ Positive impact



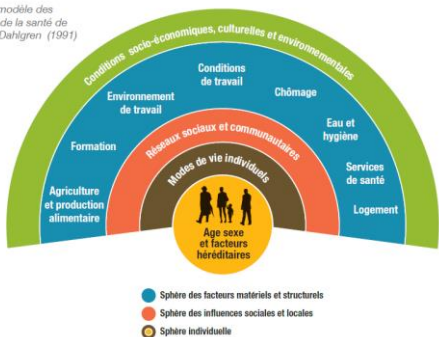
Classification of health determinants into 4 main categories *(according to Lalonde, 1974)*

(to structure the impact and risk analysis)



Health inequalities

Figure 2: Le modèle des déterminants de la santé de Whitehead & Dahlgren (1991)



Systems thinking approach (1)

Tools & methodologies that allow:

To question, at a early steps of HIA (Screening & Scoping), the **impact** of development project or strategic document **on a large panel of determinants of health**

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E2CT4_Health Determinant (HD) Sorting grid Matrix

→ this tool that can be used to question the impact on around 30 HD grouped into 4 categories:

- 1) Individual behaviours and lifestyles
- 2) Physical environment
- 3) Living environment
- 4) Socio-economic environment

Systems thinking approach (1)

Extract

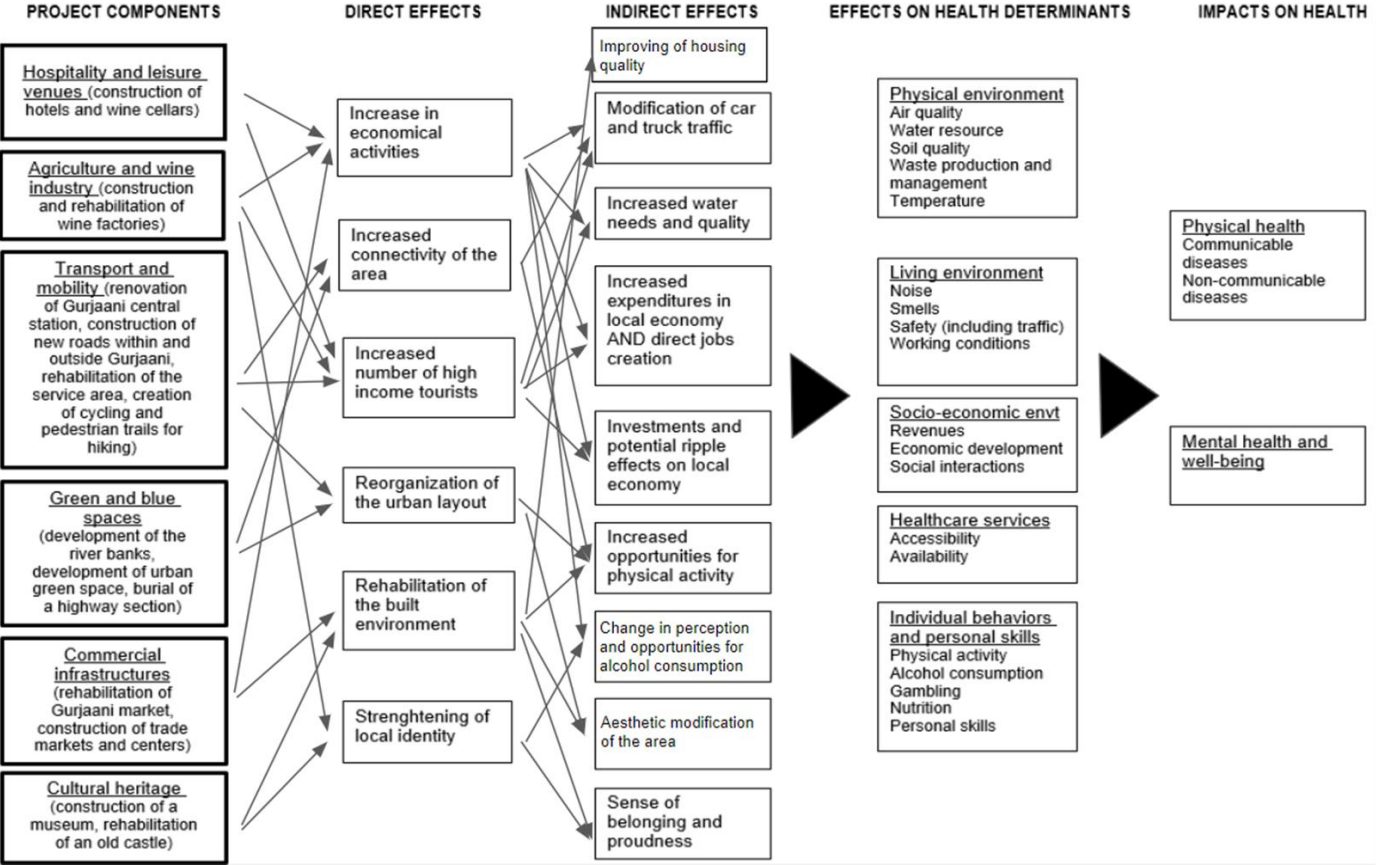
E2CT4_Health Determinant Sorting grid Matrix

E2CT4 - HEALTH DETERMINANT SORTING GRID

Health determinants	Selection criteria			Final decision: is the health determinant scoped in for IA ?	
	Local issues	Potential impacts of the project/plan/programme	HIA added-value	YES / NO	Comments (if yes, on data availability and impact assessment methodology; if no, reason why the health determinant was scoped out)
social and parenting skills, sense of security)					
Physical environment					
Air quality					
Water resources (quality & quantity)					
Soil quality					
Other chemical pollutants					
Waste production and management					
Biodiversity					

Systems thinking approach (2)

Encouraging Planning Authorities & consultants to use the causal model.



Iterative process: numerous exchanges, trainings and case studies



Training in **Georgia**
Public and private partners
42 persons. 5 workshops
5 case studies.

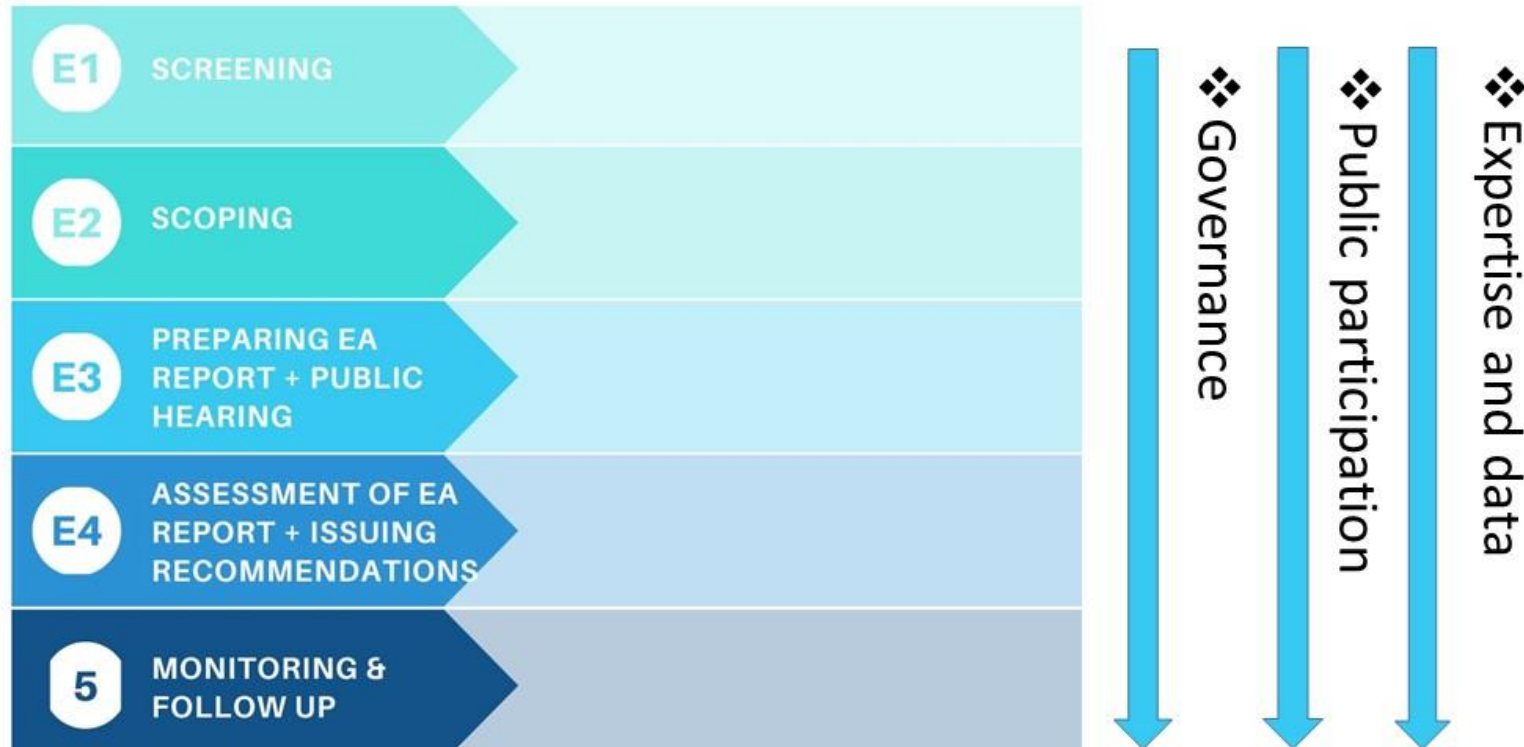
5 training sessions in **France**
Public partners
27 persons.
216 hours of training



Adaptation of the Gothenburg HIA methodology and tools to fit in the EA procedure

5 main steps

+ Horizontal issues



Part I:

Sharing a common language on
HIA and related concepts

Part II:

Practical implementation of
health impact assessment

Part III:

Annexes

the tools and support sheets

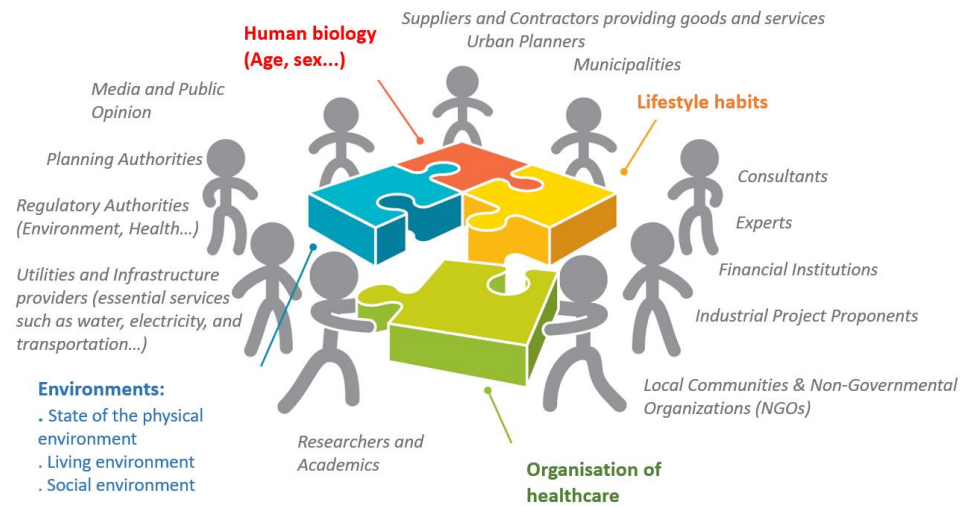
Part I:

Sharing a common language on HIA and related concepts

Part II:

Practical implementation of health impact assessment

Health is everyone's business



Part III:

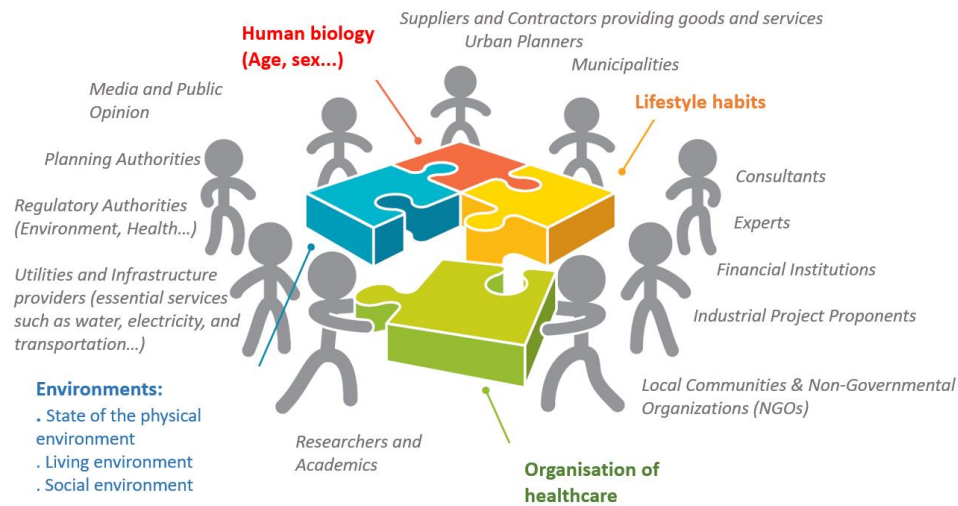
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Part I:

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Part II:

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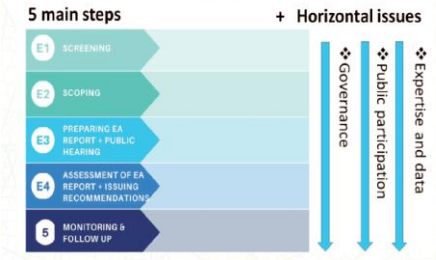


Figure 7: HIA process adapted to fit the five-step Environmental Assessment (EA) procedure proposed by the guidelines.

EA steps	Input (in line with EAC and Resolution 420)	Tools (see below for more details)	Output (in line with EAC and Resolution 420)	Good practices / added value
E1-Screening <i>EA optional (EIA)</i>	Screening application Draft Project/strategic document		Screening opinion on whether or not to proceed, taken by the environmental and Health Authorities	If HIA is engaged: H-Auth informs PA & Cons about the next steps and reminds them of the tools available to integrate the health issues; and (2) Launch of the HIA-Governance body If not: H-Auth reminds PA & Cons the importance to integrate health issues in the project/strategic document
E2-Scoping <i>EA mandatory (SEA)</i>	Request to define the scope of application Working version of the project/strategy document		Scoping opinions from the environmental and Health Authorities Terms of reference for consultants	The creation of the governance body, the development and adoption of the HIA concept based on the determinants of health and social inequalities.
E3-Preparing the report	Framing opinion Terms of reference for the environmental assessment report, including health concerns and expertise required		Draft EA report in compliance with the regulation (EAC)	Discussions between the authorities, consultants and the public to prepare the report, taking into account the regulations, public health issues and questions expressed by the public affected by the project and this area.
E3-Public hearing	Draft strategic document Draft environmental assessment report in compliance with the regulations		Minutes of the public hearing Draft project/strategic document Final environmental assessment report	
E4-Assessment of the report & issuing recommendations	Final Environmental assessment report in compliance with the regulations		Health statement (quality control and recommendations)	H-Auth takes into account the minutes of the public hearing and their experience of the public hearing to produce their health statement.
E5-Monitoring/follow up of the implementation of the project/strategic document	Approved project/strategic document with monitoring plan		Regular meetings of the steering committee to ensure follow-up and monitoring. Note: this is not mandatory as per Resolution 420 but it is considered to be good practice.	Remobilization of the HIA governance body, led by the NCDC, to ensure the effective consideration of HIA results in the implementation of the project.

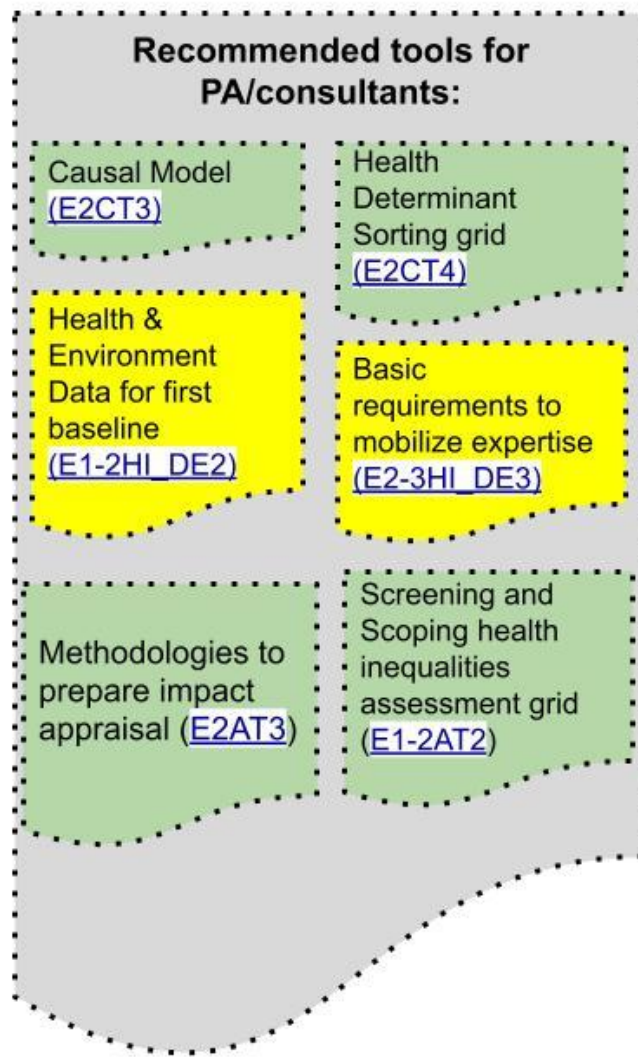
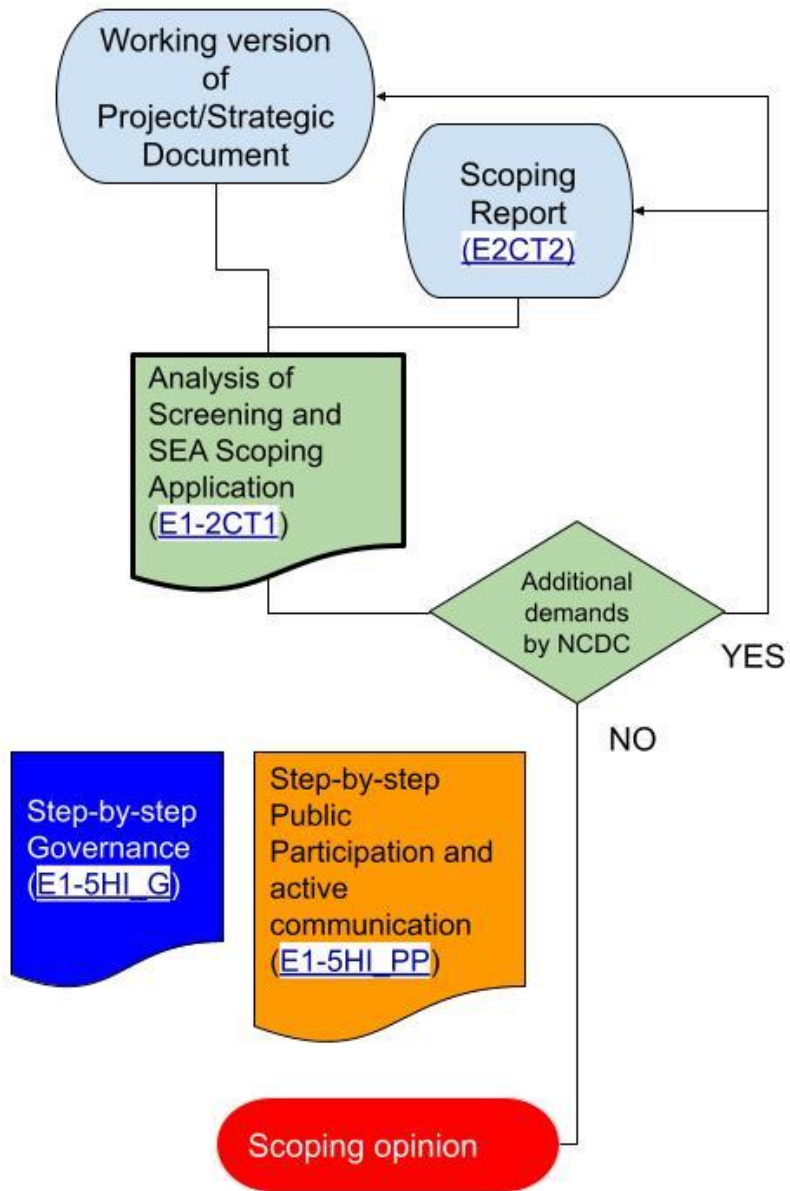
17 tools
(9CT; 3HI & 5 AT)

Part III:

Annexes

the tools and support sheets

E2-Scoping



Date version: 19/02/2024 - EHESP

Part III:

Annexes

the tools and support sheets

9 support sheets on 9 major health

available in the "[Impact assessment matrix \(E3CT5\)](#)" too
(E3- Preparing report and public hearing)

1. "[Outdoor air quality](#)"
2. "[Water management and quality](#)"
3. "[Soil quality and use](#)"
4. "[Quality of the Sound Environment](#)"
5. "[Waste management](#)"
6. "[Non-ionising radiation management](#)"
7. "[Adaptation to climate change and energy management](#)"
8. "[Active lifestyle, transport and access to facilities/services](#)"
9. "[Housing and Living Environment](#)"

- Explain the main issues and links with health, refer to the latest scientific knowledge and legislation in force in Georgia and the EU and provide a set of elements and indicators on which to base the evaluation.
- They can be used in particular to collect data for baseline, temporary and permanent impact assessment.

Challenge & Key messages



- Turn this document into a reference guide that can be used on a daily basis.
- Making the results of this twinning sustainable over time
 - ✓ Disseminate the guidelines.
 - ✓ Continue the support
 - ✓ Develop a strategic plan and budget
- Political support
- Co-drafted guidelines: efficient way to breakdown silos & establish trust relationship



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Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA24 app.



Thanks to all the team and contributors ! with a special mention for our Georgian colleagues, Ben Cave and the support from IAIA



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