



## **CEU Summer University**

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### ***Environment and Regional Transport Planning***

*(organised in co-operation with the Regional Environmental Centre's (REC) Secretariat to the Sofia Initiative on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA))*

**8-19 July, 2002**

**Course directors:** **Aleg Cherp** (Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy, CEU)  
**Jiri Dusik** (REC Secretariat to the Sofia Initiative on EIA)

**Resource persons:** **Edward Bellinger** (CEU, University of Manchester, UK)  
**Norman Lee** (University of Manchester, UK)  
**Paul Tomlison** (Transport Research Laboratory, UK)  
**Andreas Kaefner** (TRAFICO, Austria)  
**Urszula Rzeszot** (Polish Environmental Institute, Poland)

**Dr. Aleg Cherp**, an assistant professor at CEU, is an internationally recognised expert and author of numerous publications on EIA systems in transitional countries including a book *Environmental Assessment and Environmental Review*. Dr. Cherp also maintains the Internet site supporting the Network for Environmental Assessment in Countries in Transition (<http://www.personal.ceu.hu/departs/envsci/eianetwork/>). Dr. Cherp's additional research interests include sustainability, health impact assessment and corporate environmental management. He served as a consultant to major UN and national agencies on environmental and urban sustainability issues.

**Mr. Jiri Dusik** of the Regional Environmental Center (REC) for Central and Eastern Europe is the manager of the Sofia Initiative for EIA, one of the largest international programmes on strengthening EIA capacity of Central and Eastern European countries. Mr. Dusik has significant practical experience in conducting Strategic Environmental Assessment of structural funds and other major activities. He represents the Czech Republic at the negotiations of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Protocol to the Espoo Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context.

**Dr. Edward Bellinger** is a professor of CEU and the University of Manchester, UK. For a number of years he directed the M.Sc. course in Environmental and Pollution Control in Manchester and was the Head of the Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy at CEU. Dr. Bellinger is a member of the Department of the Environment Standing Committee of Analysts (UK Government Committee); Editorial Panel for the Journal *Institution of Water and Environment Management*. He is author of numerous courses, including distance learning courses delivered in Kazakhstan, Siberia, Mongolia and elsewhere on ecology, water pollution, waste water treatment and environmental standards.

**Dr. Norman Lee** is a Senior Research Fellow of the EIA Centre, School of Planning, University of Manchester and Senior Research Fellow of the Institute for Development Policy and Management, University of Manchester. He formerly worked as a Co-Director of the EIA Centre, Senior Lecturer in Economics and Director of the Pollution Research Unit of the University of Manchester. Dr Lee has been engaged in the evaluation of environmental policies and management practices as well as in EIA practice, training and research since the early 1970s both at a national and international level, particularly within Europe but also, more recently in relation to developing countries. He has been involved as project-director, manager or adviser on individual EIA studies for a wide range of different projects. He has also been involved in reviewing the quality of EISs produced by, and the overall effectiveness of EIA practices of, a number of organisations including National Power, London Transport and a major, international environmental consultancy. Additionally, Dr Lee has acted as an adviser on EIA on the Commission of the European Communities for many years, providing technical advice on a wide range of EIA

policy and other initiatives. He has also advised a number of other international organisations on environmental policy and EIA matters including OECD and ECE/UNEP. He has also advised different national and regional administrations on the implementation of their EIA regulations, including the Norwegian Ministry of Environment and the Brussels Region Environmental Administration. In June 2000 Dr Lee was the recipient of the Rose Hulman Award of the International Association of Impact Assessment for his international contribution to impact assessment over the previous three decades.

**Mr. Paul Tomlison** is the Head of the Environmental Assessment & Policy Division of the Transport Research Laboratory (TRL Ltd.), UK, one of the major research groups on transportation issues. Mr. Tomlison has a background in public, private and academic sectors and 20 years experience in environmental assessment, town and country planning, environmental policy and management. He is currently advising the UK Department of Environment, Transport and Regions and the Highway Agency on the preparation of a Guidance Manual on SEA for Multi-Modal Studies in order to prepare for the recently adopted EU SEA Directive. He is also advising the UK Environment Agency on Integrated Assessment and English Nature on transportation issues. In the past, Mr. Tomlison provided expert assistance to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development for EIAs of transportation projects in the CIS and worked for PHARE investigating environmental and institutional constraints for TEN in Lithuania as well as providing training in Slovenia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, India and China.

**Mr. Andreas Kaefer** is a managing director of TRAFICO Verkehrsplanung which is a professional private company dealing with practical issues of transport planning and EIA of transport projects. Mr. Kaefer was involved in some of the first EIAs of transport projects in Austria. He has participated in implementing TACIS and PHARE transport, EIA and SEA projects in Albania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. Additionally he worked on various assignments in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and FYROM. Mr. Kaefer also works for the secretariat of the Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment (TINA) in Central and Eastern Europe.

**Dr. Urszula Rzeszot** is a senior environmental consultant for WS Atkins Polska and a researcher with the Polish Environmental Institute. She has a Ph.D. in environmental engineering and has been involved in a number of EIA studies in Poland including an EIA of A-2 motorway in Konin and Warsaw provinces. Dr. Rzeszot co-authored the draft version of the list of developments to be submitted to EIA procedure in Poland and also represented Poland in the work of the UN ECE Task Force on Legal and Administrative Aspects of the Practical Application of Relevant Provisions of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. In addition, she teaches environmental engineering in Warsaw Technical University.

### **Course objectives**

The course covers environmental aspects of regional transport planning, primarily focusing on recent developments in a dynamic new field of *Strategic Environmental Assessment* (SEA). SEA is an interactive process to incorporate environmental consideration into preparation and implementation of policies and other strategic activities. The recently adopted SEA Directive of the European Union and the International SEA Protocol to the Espoo Convention, likely to be signed in 2003, highlight the relevance of SEA to transitional countries.

The course aims to strengthen the knowledge of and practical skills in SEA, especially in relation to transportation activities, through

- ✓ disseminating the state-of-the-art knowledge in this area and
- ✓ generating new practical and regionally-relevant approaches to SEA of strategic transport decisions as presented in Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment for CEE (TINA).

The course has the following specific objectives and expected outcomes:

1. Providing continuing education to researchers, lecturers and professionals who deal with environmental assessment of transport plans in their everyday practice, teaching and studies, current SEA methodologies and state-of-the-art SA techniques and procedures will be presented; different approaches to SA and their relevance to the Eastern European context, especially in relation to upgrading the transport infrastructure will be discussed;
2. Facilitating dissemination of new curricula in the field of SEA, for which a high demand is emerging in the region due to the introduction of several international binding SEA instruments (EU Directive, the forthcoming UNECE SEA Protocol, etc.) and the advance of national legislation and practice; new teaching methodologies based on analysis of real case-studies will be presented and tested;
3. Further strengthening interactive networks of SEA professionals in CEE and the NIS; these networks are already functioning due to continuous efforts of the Sofia Initiative and the Network for Environmental

Assessment in Countries in Transition whose Internet site is hosted by CEU since Summer Universities on EIA in 1996-1998 (<http://www.personal.ceu.hu/departs/envsci/eianetwork>).

The course will be organised jointly with the REC (Regional Environmental Centre) secretariat of the Sofia Initiative, a major inter-governmental effort on strengthening capacity for Environmental Assessment in Eastern Europe.

### Course level and target audience

The course is designed primarily for those already familiar through their academic or professional career with Environmental Impact Assessment of strategic or project-level activities. Participants with background in environmental studies interested in environmental implications of transportation and transport planning are also welcome. The course will seek to offer an advanced, in-depth analysis of using SEA as a planning and policy-making tool for transport activities. The course will equally benefit SEA and EIA officials and professionals, university teachers and researchers in the related fields.

### Course structure and content

The course will be a combination of distance learning (DL) and face-to-face activities.

The pre-course **DL phase** will run from May until July 2002. During this phase the participants will study the essentials of SEA, especially in relation to regional transport planning. They will receive a special introductory reader on SEA and background information on regional transport planning including a case study. They will be asked to complete one assignment on identification of environmentally significant activities and key impacts of the case-study. They will also be presented with a possibility to access additional materials on the Internet and to participate in an on-line forum.

The summer course itself will take place in Budapest in July 2002. This will include an intensive teaching component covering on different SEA elements (legal requirements, procedural arrangements, etc.) and techniques (scenario analysis, GIS, ecological impact assessment, etc.) The participants will also be familiarised with environmental impacts of transportation activities and the ways to mitigate these. A field trip to observe social, environmental and other impacts of different elements of transport infrastructure (motorways, railroads) and the effectiveness of mitigation measures will also be included in this phase. The lectures will be supplemented by group discussions focused on real-life cases of regional transport planning such as TINA (Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment) for CEE. The preliminary outline of topics covered in the course is given below.

TOPICS	RESOURCE PERSON	NO. OF HOURS	TEACHING MODE	DISCUSSION ISSUES
SEA in the international context	N. Lee	4	Lecture followed by a small group exercise	Major SEA provisions at the international level and in Western countries
Lessons of SEA in CEE and the NIS	J. Dusik and A.Cherp	3	Presentation followed by discussion and country presentations	How is SEA used in planning and policy-making in SEA. What are strengths, weaknesses of SEA in CITs and constraints and opportunities for its future development
Basics of transportation planning	P. Tomlinson	4	Presentation followed by discussion	Essential levels and elements of transportation planning
Background for TINA	A. Kaefer	2	Presentation	What is TINA and at which stage of the process the accession countries are at the moment
Key issues in planning SEAs for transport and infrastructure plans	U. Rzeszot	2	Presentation followed by exercise	Experience and good practice of screening and scoping in SEA
Screening exercise for TINA activities (reporting from pre-course activities)	P.Tomlinson, A.Kaefer, N. Lee	6	Discussion in small groups and reporting back	Identifying those activities recommended by TINA which have most significant environmental impacts

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Environmental impacts of transport activities and mitigation measures	E. Bellinger	8	Presentation followed by group exercise	Environmental impacts of transportation at local, regional and global levels and possible mitigation measures
Field trip to observe the actual impacts of and mitigation measures for transport activities	E.Bellinger, P.Tomlinson, U.Rzeszot	8	Field trip and discussions	What works and what does not when it comes to predicting and mitigating transport impacts
Scoping exercise for TINA activities (reporting from pre-course activities)	J. Dusik, A.Cherp, N.Lee	8	Group exercise	Identifying the types of potential environmental impacts likely to be associated with TINA activities
Using GIS as a tool for planning and impact prediction	A. Cherp/ CEU Env. lab.	6	Presentation and individual exercise in computer lab	Can GIS be used as an SEA tool and if so how? How can GIS be used to analyse impacts identified during the scoping (planning) stage
Other methods used in SEA impact prediction	N.Lee, J.Dusik U.Rzeszot	4	Presentation	Methods for evaluating significance of impacts, report writing, consultation and public participation
Consideration of alternatives and decision-making on transport plans	N.Lee A.Kaefer A.Cherp	2	Lecture followed by discussion	How can SEA and sustainability appraisal be integrated with selecting alternatives and other decision-making processes
Consideration of alternatives in TINA	A. Kaefer	2	Presentation followed by group discussion	
Method identification for examination of TINA activities impacts	All resource people	8	Group exercise	To identify methods to be used in the post-course exercise
Planning post-course activities	All resource people	6	Discussion in plenary and in groups	

The updated course description, syllabus, reading list, CVs, and other information will be available from the Summer University Web-site at <http://www.ceu.hu/sun/sunindx.html>.

The organisers plan that after the course its participants will become involved in the existing networks of SEA and EIA professionals, researchers and educators, in particular in the Sofia Initiative for EIA and in the Network for Environmental Assessment in Countries in Transition.

*Non-discrimination policy statement*

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