



Commissie voor de  
milieueffectrapportage



# **EIA/SEA quality review in the Netherlands – How does it work?**

**Marc Laeven**

**Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment**

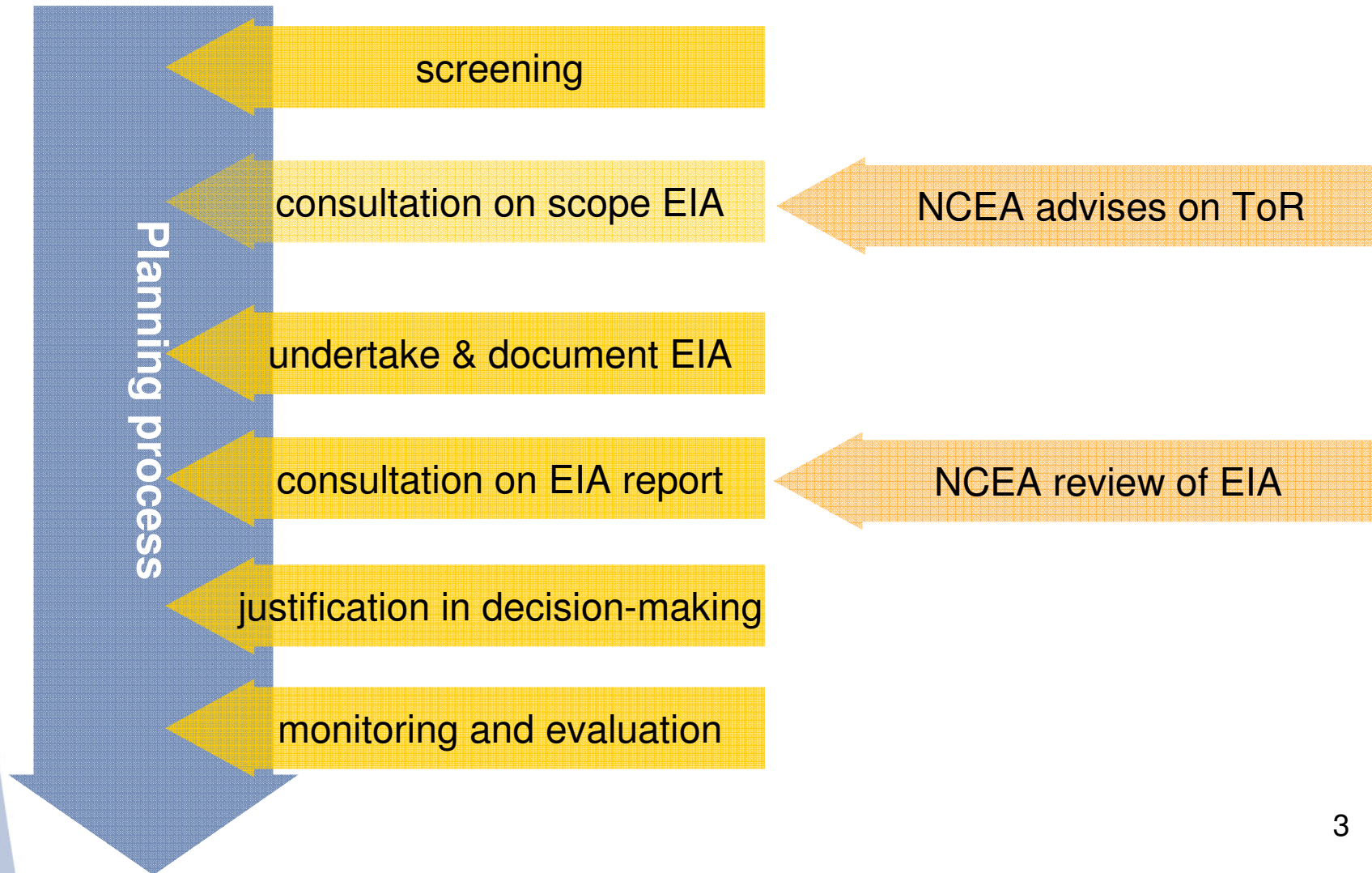
Workshop Napoli, May 2012



## Key features NCEA

- Advisory body with a statutory basis, established in 1987, as integral part of EA regulation
- Independent, expert body
- Advise on both EIA and SEA, scoping and quality review
- Advice is non-binding

## The NCEA in the Dutch EIA/SEA process



# How does NCEA work?

- Secretariat puts together expert group for each advice
- Access to database of experts
- Secretariat adds chair and technical secretary



# Site visit

- Expert group always visits site, together with the competent authority and proponent





# Expert group meetings



## Nature of review

- Technical not administrative review! NCEA does not advise on the decision itself
- NCEA also looks at whether the plan complies with existing plans, policies and standards
- NCEA takes into account stakeholder opinions, when requested

# Advice always published

- Draft advice presented to proponent and competent authority
- Clarification not negotiation!
- Final advice published on website

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the MER website. The page title is "MER - Project detail" and the URL is "http://www.commissiemer.nl/detail.aspx?id=26225". The page features the MER logo and a navigation menu. The main content area is titled "2521: Windpark Kattenberg-Reedijk, gemeente Oirschot" and includes a "terug" link. The page is organized into several sections: "Nieuws", "Adviezen Commissie", "Kennis & Informatie", "Procedure en Adviezen", "Toetsing", "Documentatie in Bibliotheek", and "Opmerkingen bij de advisering".

**Nieuws**  
Commissie m.e.r.  
Wat is m.e.r.

**Adviezen Commissie**  
Lopende adviseringen  
Aferonde adviseringen  
Advisering in 2009

**Kennis & Informatie:**  
Onderwerpen A tot Z  
Publicaties  
Bibliotheek  
Jurisprudentie  
Veelgestelde vragen  
Links

**Procedure en Adviezen**

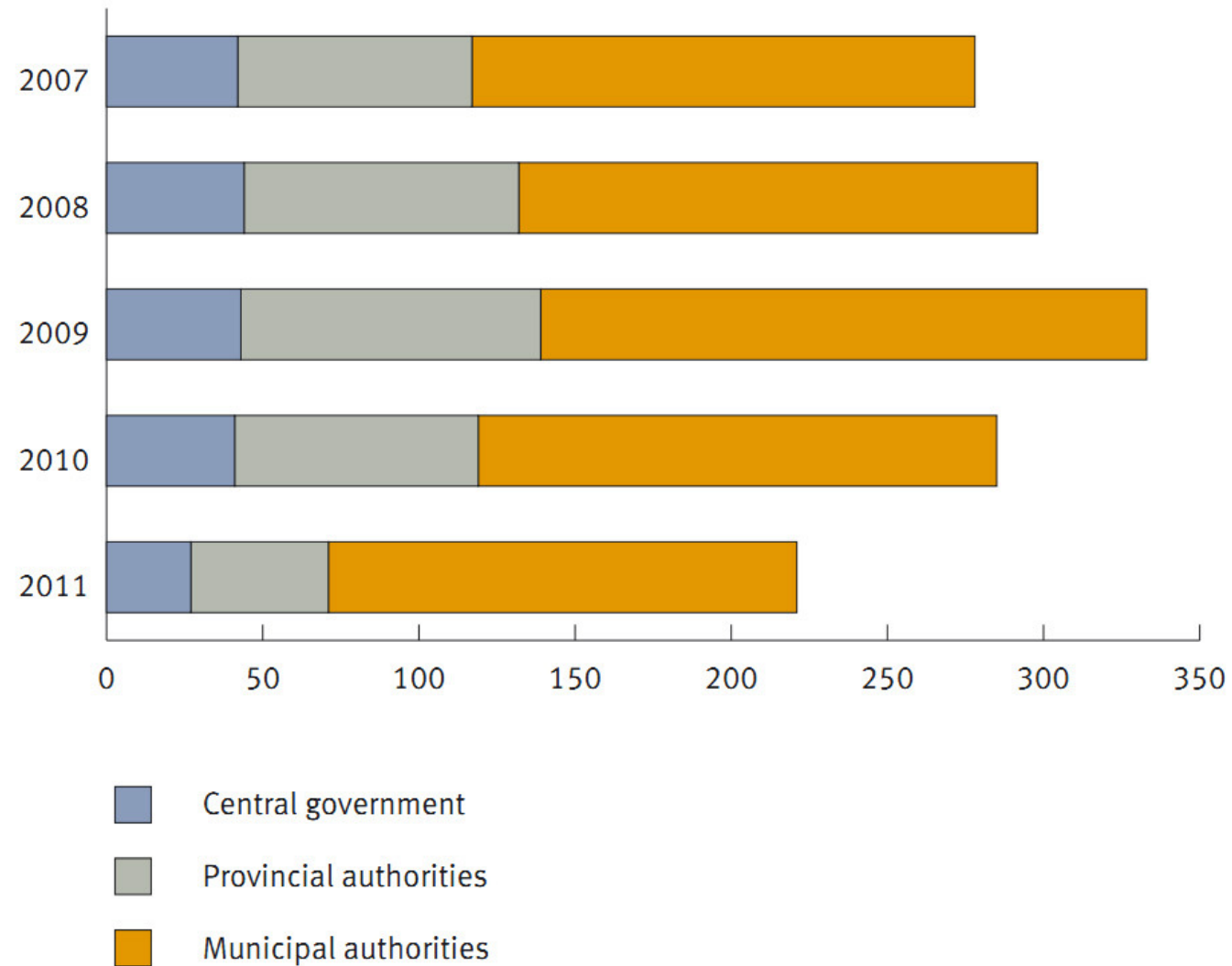
Toetsing	
Datum kennisgeving MER:	15-12-2010
Datum verzoek te adviseren:	28-02-2011
Toetsingadvies uitgebracht:	11-04-2011
Advies van de commissie in deze fase:	<a href="#">Toetsingsadvies</a>

**Documentatie in Bibliotheek**  
[Beschikbare documentatie over dit project](#)  
(zo mogelijk in pdf: notitie reikwijdte en detailniveau, milieueffectrapport, aanvullende rapporten, etc.)

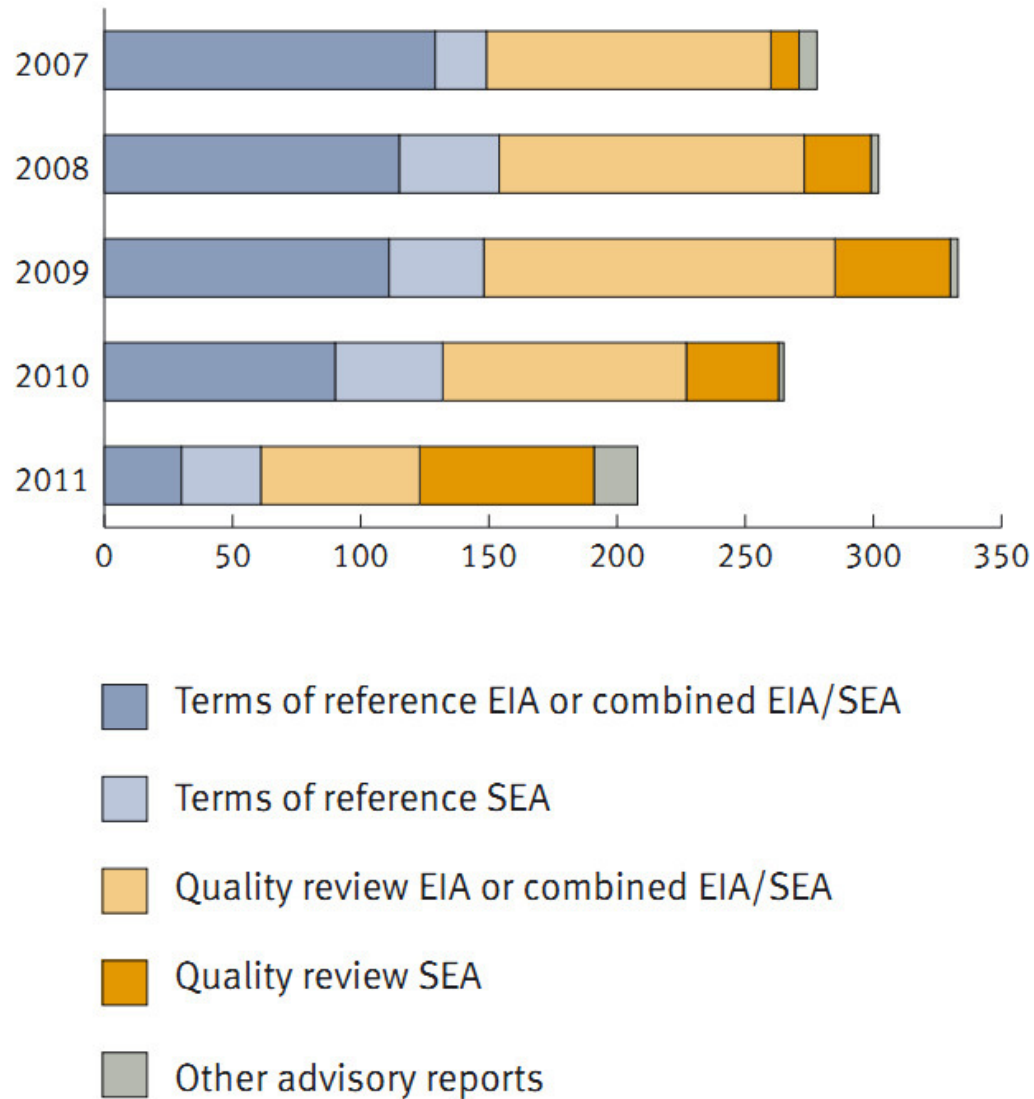
**Opmerkingen bij de advisering**  
Het MER is prettig leesbaar en beschrijft op inzichtelijke wijze de milieueffecten van de verschillende alternatieven.  
Uit het MER blijkt dat een belangrijke afweging 'het landschappelijke effect' is op het nationale landschap 'het Groene woud' en het Natura 2000-gebied 'Kampina & Oisterwijkse Vennen'. Alle alternatieven hebben hier landschappelijke effecten en zijn onderling op dit aspect niet of nauwelijks onderscheidend. De alternatieven zijn wel onderscheidend op het aspect geluidbelasting en emissiebelasting.



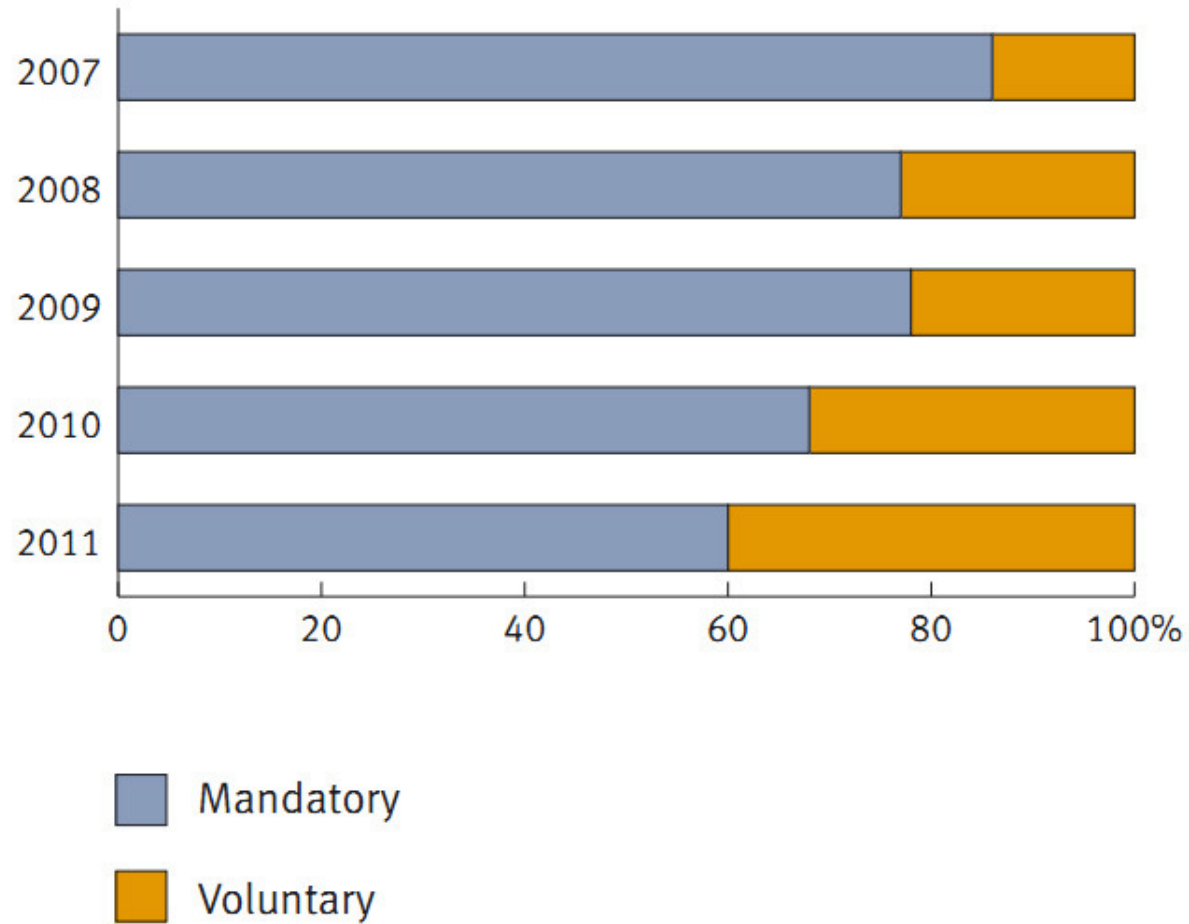
## ADVISORY REPORTS FOR CENTRAL, PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2007-2011



## NUMBER AND TYPE OF ADVISORY REPORTS ISSUED 2007-2011



## MANDATORY VERSUS VOLUNTARY REQUESTS FOR ADVICE 2007-2011



# Time and cost

- 6 – 9 weeks to deliver advice
- NCEA budget about € 6 million in 2011

# Who pays?

- Combination of 3 ministries:
  - Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment,
  - Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation
  - Ministry of Education, Culture and Science



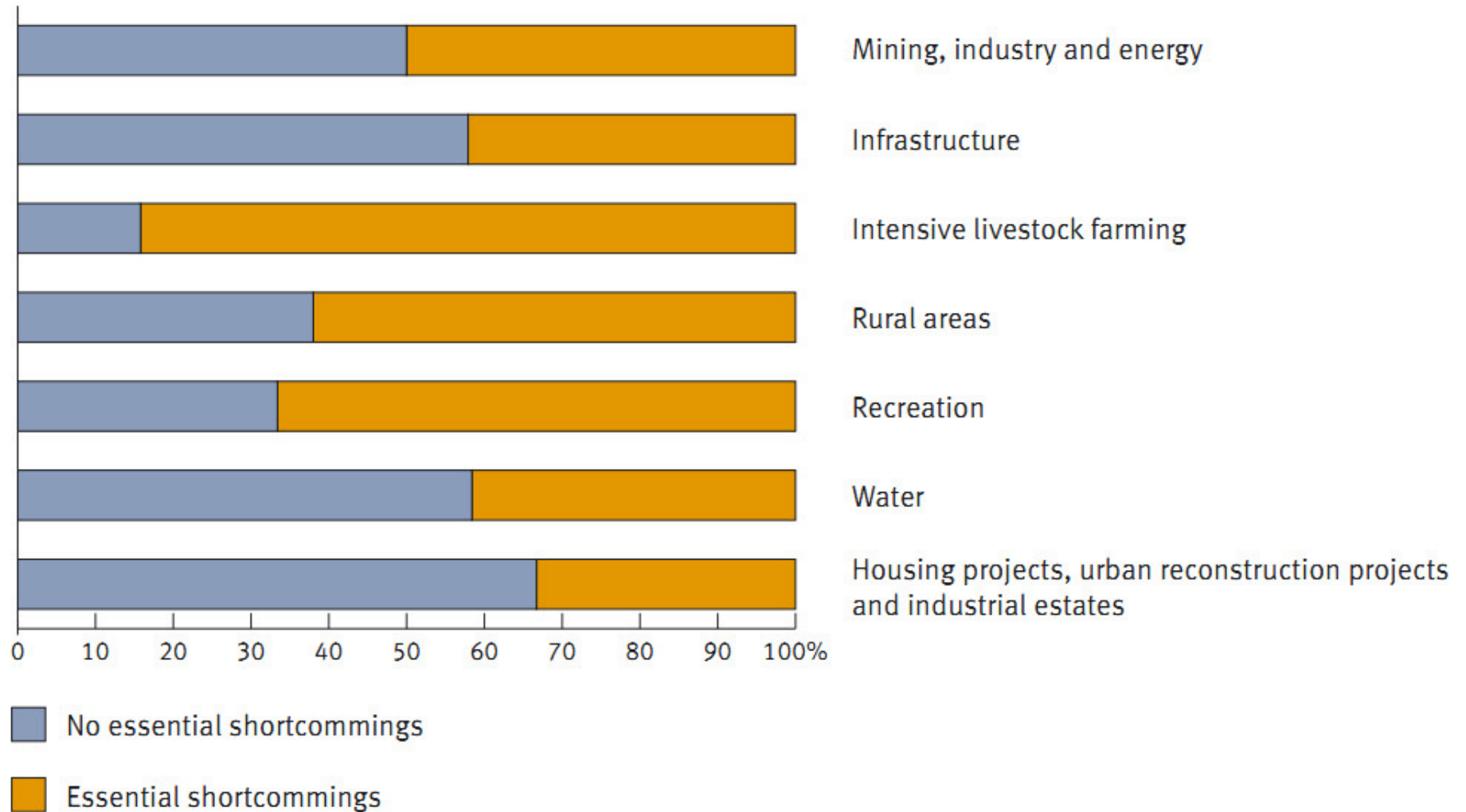
# Pricetag

- For competent authority:
  - Mandatory advice = free
  - Voluntary advice:
    - costs € 5.000 (until 1-7-2012)
    - after 1-7-2012: € 5.000, € 10.000 or € 24.000 (depending on type of activity)

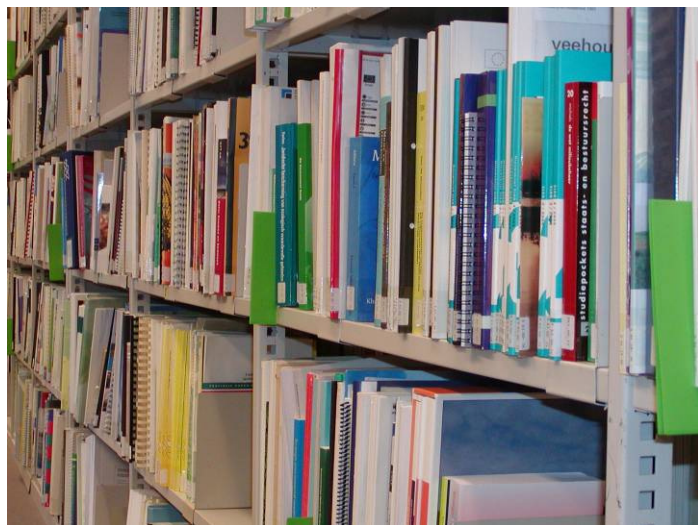
## Is it working?

- 50% cases NCEA concludes essential omissions and advises to collect additional information
- Usually the advise is followed by competent authority (90%)
- Evaluations shows that most stakeholders value role of NCEA in Dutch system

## QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REPORTS IN 2011



# Knowledge centre





www.eia.nl

NCEA - EIA & SEA in the Netherlands - Windows Internet Explorer


http://www.eia.nl/netherlands/default.asp?type=en\_eiaseaneth

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

★ Favorites http--ec.europa.eu-regional... Garmin Connect - Hardlopen... Voetbal.nl amateurvoetbal ...

Pending Invitations | LinkedIn NCEA - EIA & SEA in the ... van naar Schiphol Airport vo...

NCEA - EIA & SEA in the Netherlands  
http://www.eia.nl/netherlands/default.asp?type=en\_eiaseaneth



**mer**  
Netherlands Commission for  
Environmental Assessment


**Home**


**EIA/SEA in the Netherlands**  
The Process of EIA/SEA

**About NCEA**


**Resources**

**Find**

 **NCEA in international cooperation (English)**

 **NCEA in the Netherlands (in Dutch)**


**EIA & SEA in the Netherlands**



**EIA**

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a method to obtain information on the environmental effects, that is required to fully integrate the environmental interest in decision making on projects and plans with substantial impacts on the environment. The central goal of environmental assessment is to ensure that environmental information is incorporated in a sound and transparent decision making process. In order to do so two quality aspects can be distinguished:

- the information itself: the content of the environmental assessment;
- the way this information is being gathered and used in the process.



**SEA**

On 28 September 2006, the Dutch government implemented the EU SEA-directive ([click here](#) for the Dutch implementation of the SEA Directive in the Wet milieubeheer). SEA stands for Strategic Environmental Assessment. As is the case in the EU directive, SEA is obligatory for statutory or compulsory administrative plans:

- that form the framework for future decisions subject to EIA or
- that require an appropriate assessment on the basis of the Dutch Nature Conservation Act.

The purpose of SEA is to obtain environmental information at moments strategic choices/ decisions have to be made. In the Netherlands, SEA is obligated for plans/ projects that create legal conditions for future EIA-projects, and for plans that cause possible negative effects on European protected Nature 2000-area's.

http://www.eia.nl/

Internet 125%

Menu Internet Ager... NCEA ... Work... verko... Ppt00... Work... verko... Docu... RE: T... Marc ... RE: -... Rob V... Van D... Van D... 12.36





## Home/News

### News in English

- News in French
- News in Portuguese
- News in Spanish

### What is Environmental Assessment

### About NCEA

### Advisory Reports

### Capacity Development

### Partnerships

### Resources

Nouvelles  
en français

Noticias  
en español

Notícias  
em português

NCEA in the  
Netherlands

## News

- [EIA mapping workshop Uganda](#)
- [SEA development plan Zambezi Catchment, Mozambique](#)
- [EIA and environmental compliance and enforcement](#)
- [EIA mapping workshop in Georgia](#)
- [Annual report 2010](#)
- [Study tour Ghana SEA team in the Netherlands](#)
- [Technical support, SEA for the Oil and Gas Sector in Ghana.](#)
- [Visit to Pakistan](#)

RSS Feeds

[top](#)

[Sign up for Newsletter](#)

## EIA mapping workshop Uganda



4-7 July 2011 Kampala, Uganda – Upon request of the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) of Uganda, the NCEA conducted an EIA mapping workshop in Kampala this month. The mapping tool helps us understand the details of the EIA system of a country – on paper as well as in practice – and how it may be improved. The NEMA intends to use the results as a basis for an EIA

system strengthening program, in which the NCEA may play a role as technical partner. In addition to this workshop, NCEA was invited to a breakfast meeting organised by the Ugandan Association for Impact Assessment, which wanted to learn



[EIA/SEA Country Profiles](#)



Questions?

# Natura 2000 areas



# Natura 2000 & EIA/SEA

- Does project/plan have significant effects on N2000?
- Yes/maybe: appropriate assessment
- Is mandatory in SEA
- Level of detail AA and project/plan should fit:
  - Power plant (project): need of detailed information
  - Plans: much difference in level of detail