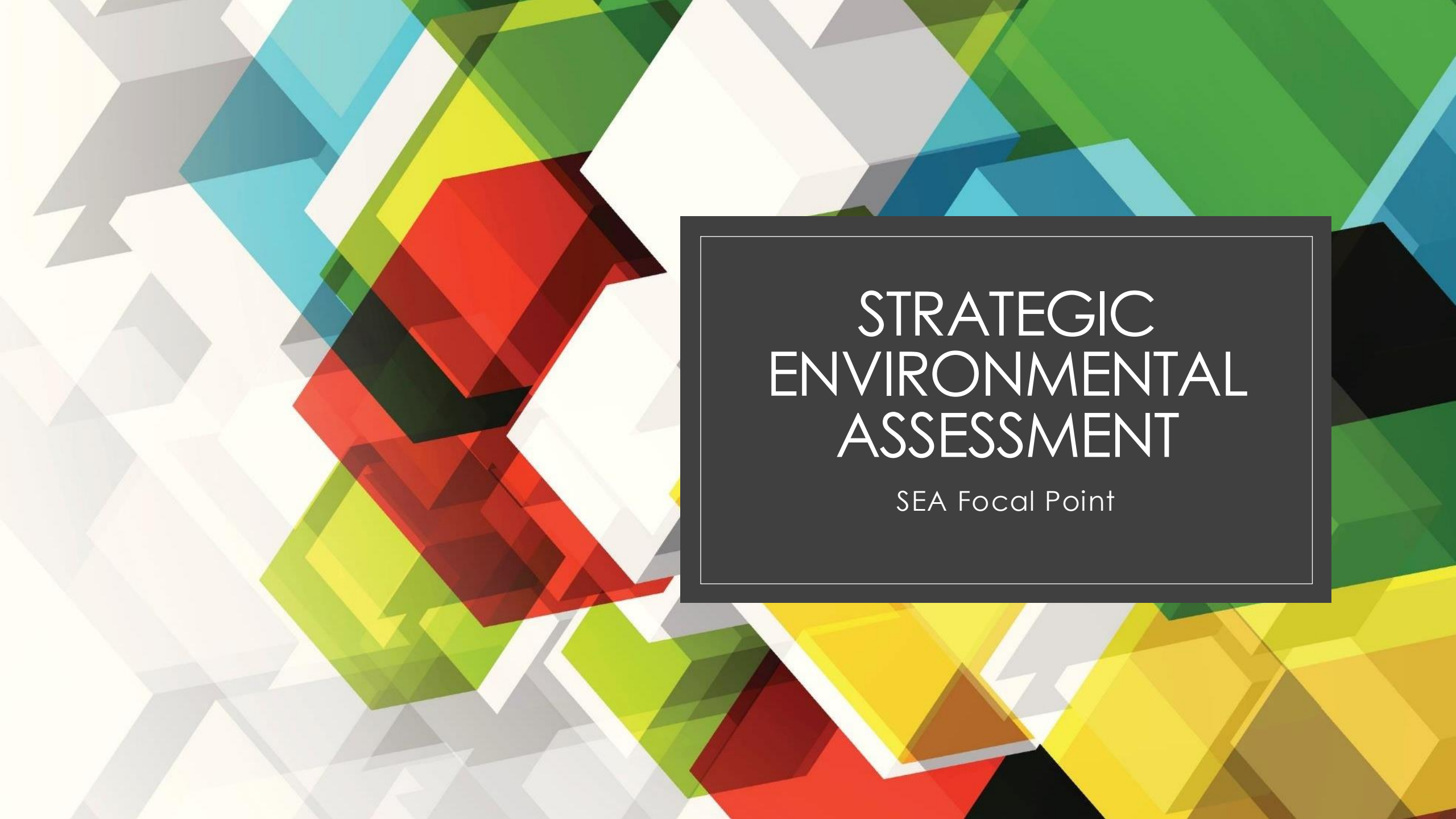




STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

SEA Focal Point

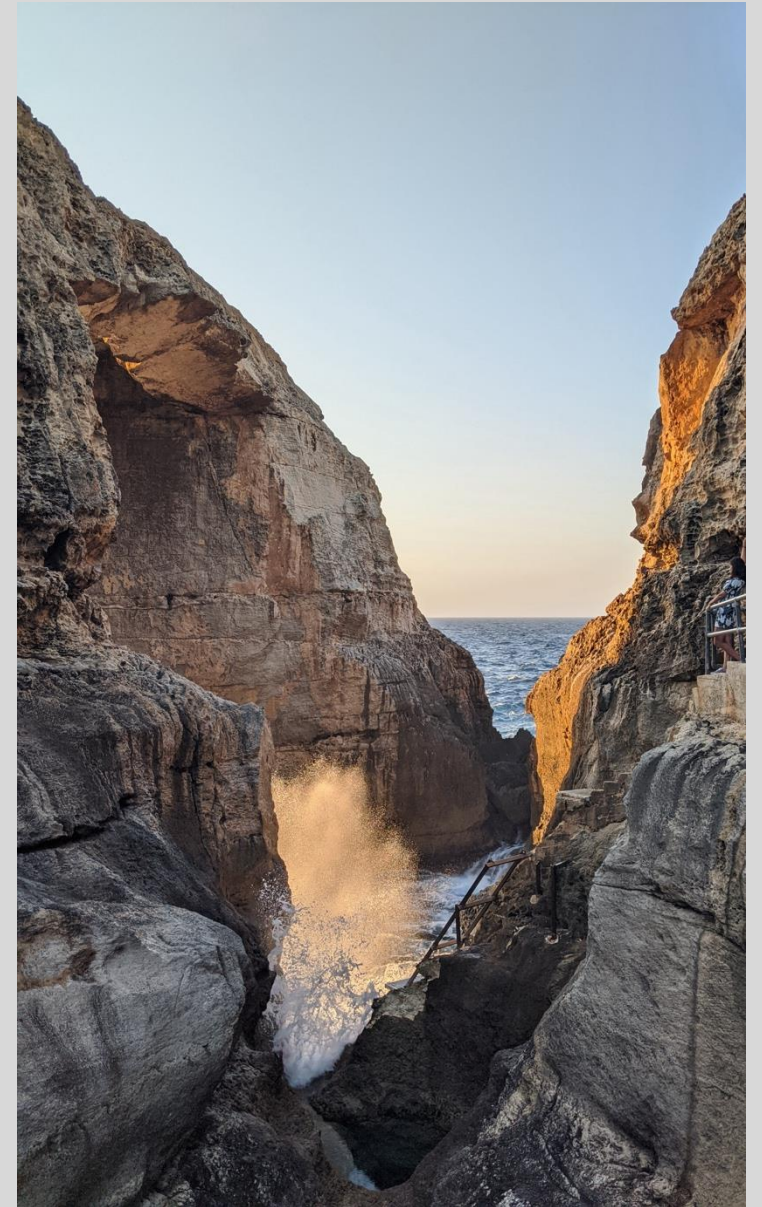
What is SEA?

- Systematic process analysing the environmental impact of strategic initiatives (Plans & Programmes), intended to ensure a high level of environmental protection by placing environmental considerations at the forefront of decision-making.
- Designed to take place during the development stages of a Plan and Programme, shaping the PP such that to ensure the most sustainable outcomes.



The SEA Legal Framework

- SEA Directive - 2001/42/EC
- UNECE Kiev Protocol - UNECE Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact
- Assessment in a Transboundary Context
National legislation transposing Directive – S.L.549.61 (SEA Regulations)



Field of Application

Strategic Plan

Programme

Programme

Project

Project

Project

SEA

EIA

SEA

Start of decision-making cycle

Broad analysis

Cumulative impact warning

Proactive

EIA

End of decision-making cycle

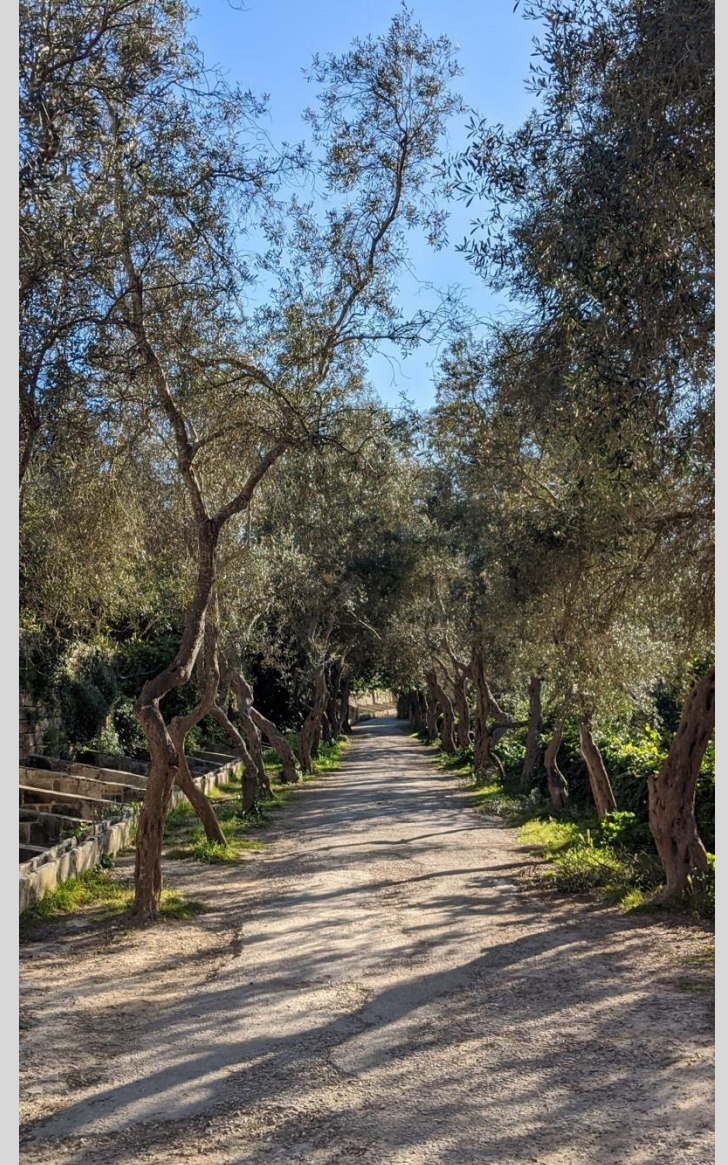
Detailed analysis

Limited consideration of cumulative impacts

Reactive

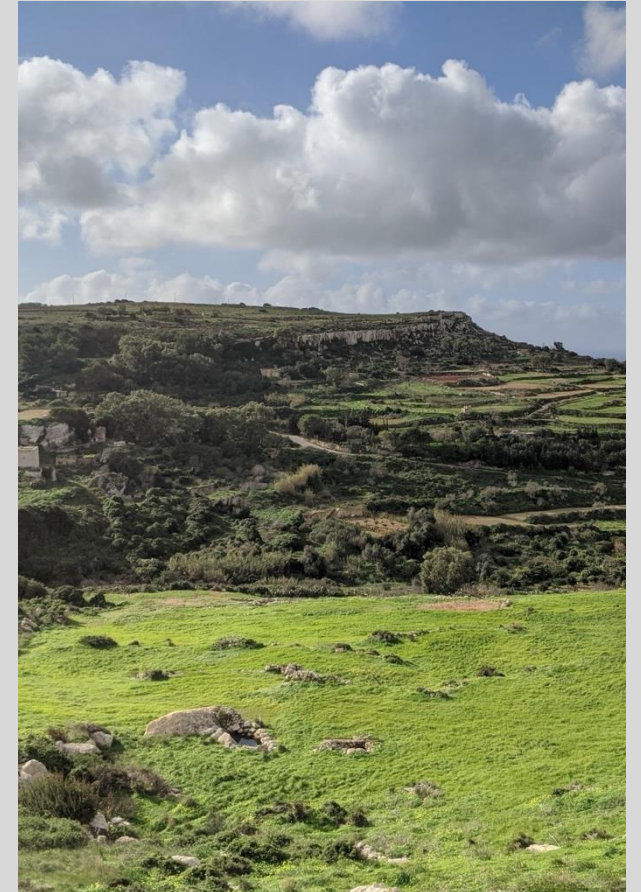
How does SEA add value?

- Evidence-based integrated approach, improving quality of comprehensive policy-making
- Provides basis for sustainable development by addressing source of environmental impacts
- Accounts for long-term effects
- Evaluates alternative options and cumulative impacts
- Eliminates environmentally damaging options
- Provides basis for comprehensive assessments
- Saves time and money by avoiding costly mistakes
- Builds public trust, improving credibility and good governance

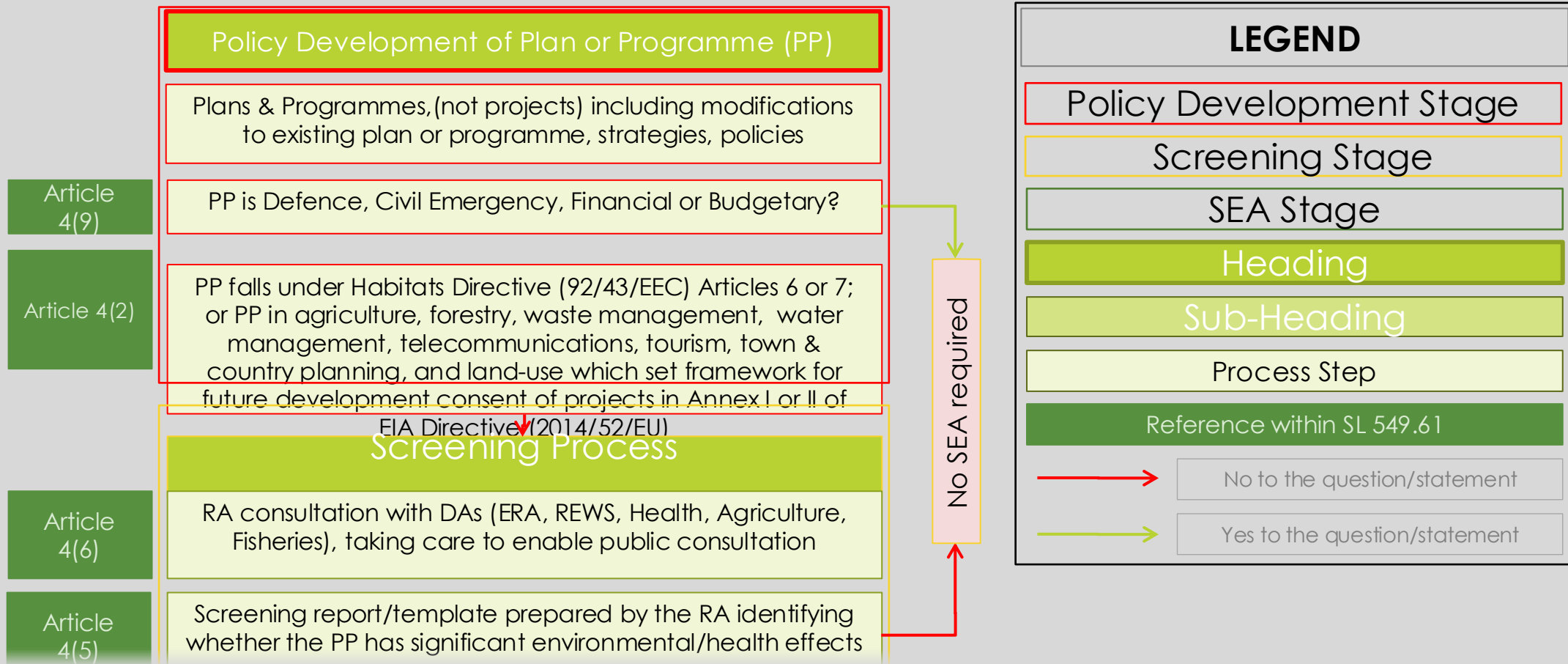


Major Players - Implementation of SEA in Malta

- Responsible Authority (RA) – Authority developing the Plan or Programme and responsible for conducting SEA process
- Designated Authorities (DAs)– ERA, REWS, Agriculture, Fisheries and Health Authorities to be consulted by the RA during Screening and Scoping process, and on the Draft Plan and Environmental Report (ER)
- Competent Authority (CA) - SEA Focal Point to be informed by RA that SEA is being conducted and oversees implementation of the SEA process. CA's decision on need for SEA is final decision



Process Flow



Conclusions

- Central role of RA in identifying need for SEA and its obligations in conducting SEA process
- Role of DAs to support RA during process
- Overseeing role of CA
- Need for consultation and effective two-way communication between RA and DAs
- Collaboration and cooperation among all major stakeholders
- SEA as a win-win process for all stakeholders

