




Transactional Environmental Support System

**International research project
supported by the 7th FP of the EC.**



**Project period:
October 2008 - March 2011**



Background

- Governments now require SEA for land-use plans and programmes and EIA for specific projects,
- SEA and EIA depend on experts to collect data and make predictions, and are therefore used for only a minority of the myriad decisions that affect our environment.
- Ability to predict change and present options has now increased through the use of computer modelling.
- Thanks to (i) making computer models working for anyone, and (ii) environmental information gathered by local people, the principles of EIA can assist decisions affecting development and management of land at all relevant levels right across the countryside.

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Objectives

- to assist the integration of information about biodiversity and related environmental matters from the local level into planning and land-use decisions
- to encourage local stakeholders and individuals to collect environmental information in order to maintain and restore biodiversity, ecosystem services and to improve livelihoods


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Activities (1)

- to list and analyse government information requirements at national and intermediate levels and to identify the local information needs.
- to create a data-base of models suitable for bio-socio-economic predictions and see where there are gaps in the supply of models and data, compared with the demand for information.
- to run case studies of local communities will test how best to meet local decision support needs in exchange for local monitoring that meets central policy requirements.
- to examine whether local monitoring (based on schools, NGOs, local community groups or individuals) can supply the extra environmental data that are needed.

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Activities (2)

- to survey government and local practices in all 27 EU member states to identify current best practice for incorporating biodiversity and wider environmental information into decision-making on land-use across EU
- to assess how the use of biodiversity and environmental information in EIA, SEA and sustainability assessment has affected ecosystem services and biodiversity in both protected and cultivated areas.
- to identify priority areas for internet-based decision support and local monitoring of environment to benefit livelihoods and biodiversity.


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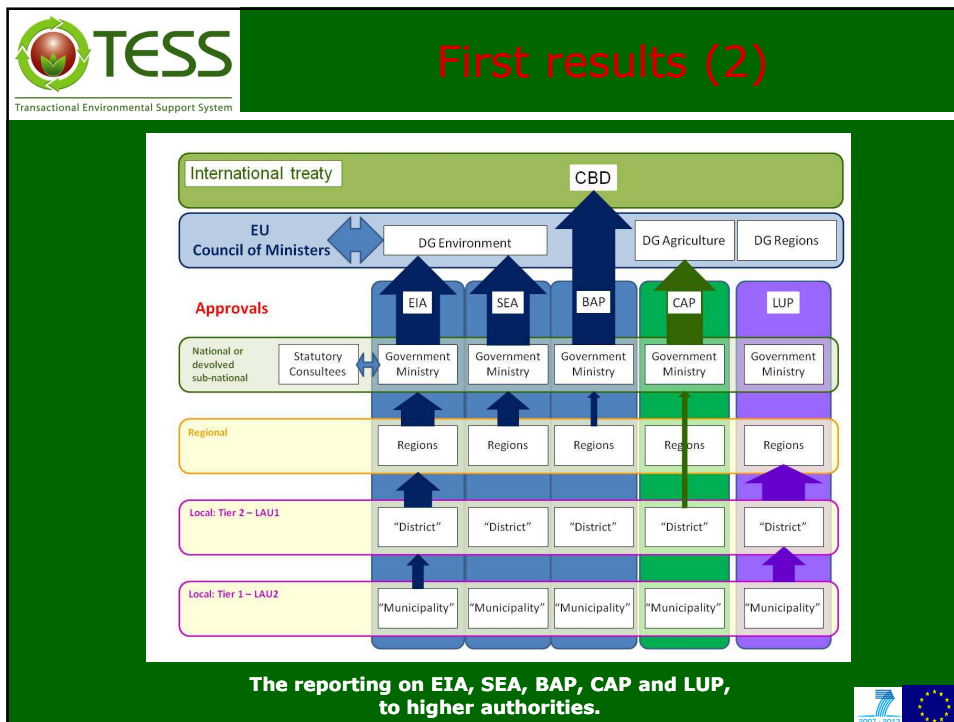
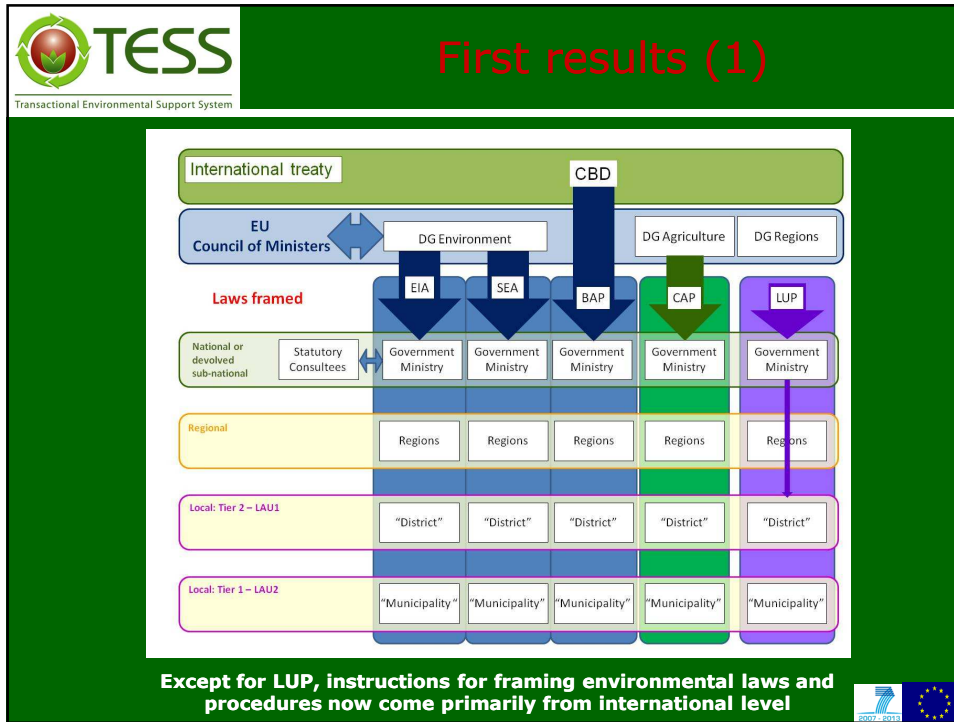


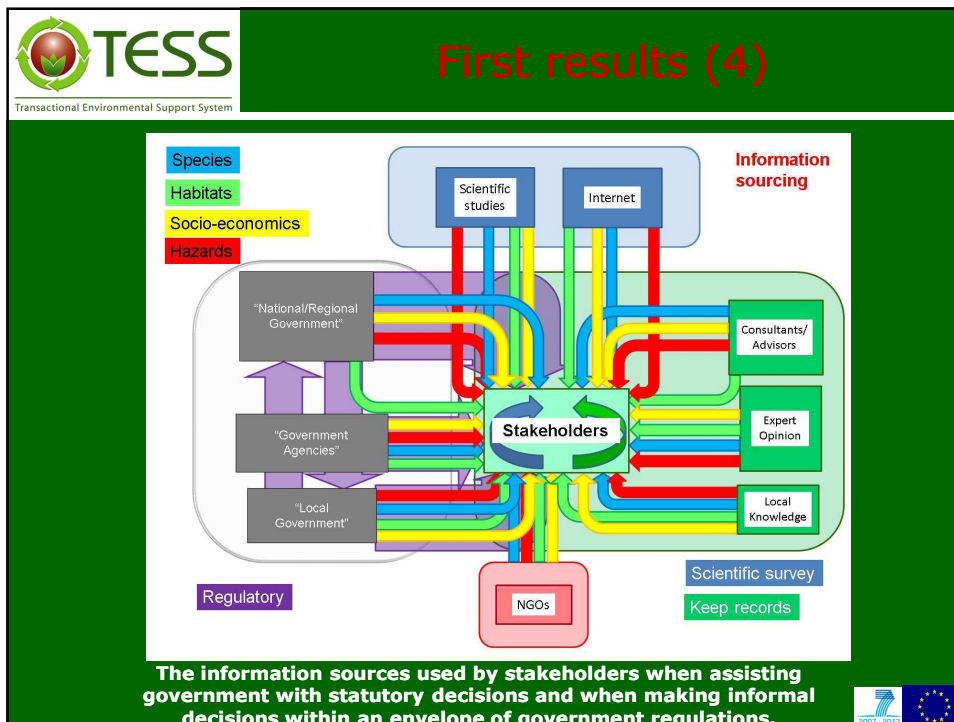
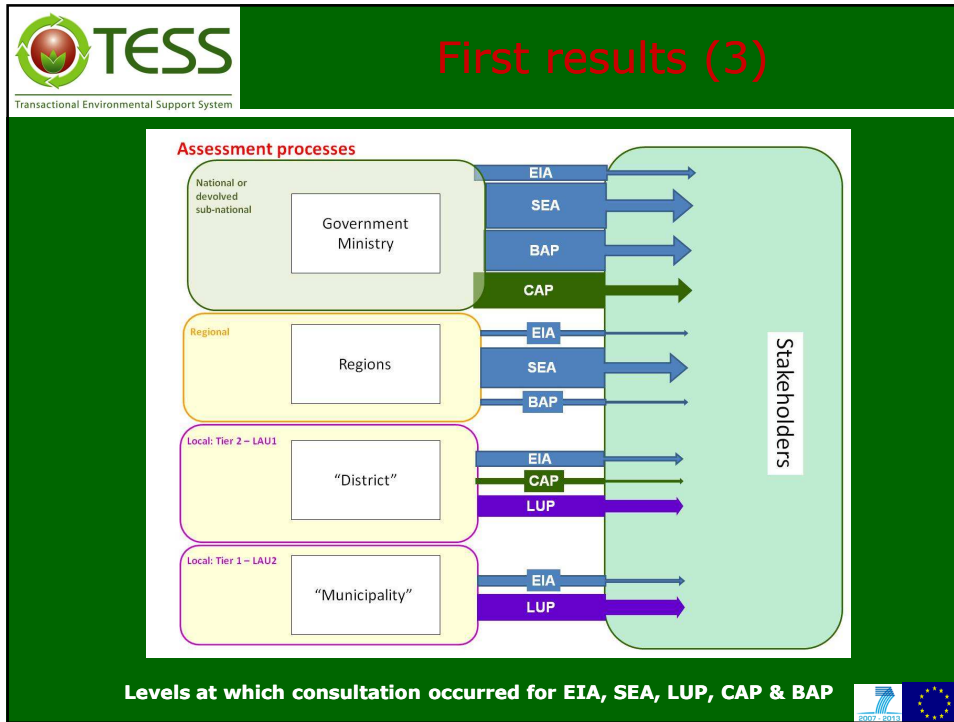
Expected results

- a decision support system will be designed to exchange information required in environmental assessments at all levels for information that benefits local livelihoods and recreation
- a computer aided predictive modelling will be developed to support environmental decisions

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