

INTRODUCTION TO SEA OF GHANA POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

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Capacity Building in SEA in Sub-Saharan Africa
– case studies from South Africa and Ghana.

Three Themes

- Poverty Reduction
- Capacity Building
- SEA

Strategic Environmental Assessment

of

Ghana's Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy

EPA / NDPC

Achieving Poverty Reduction through Sustainable Growth

Our View of SEA

- ‘SEA is a process directed at providing a holistic understanding of the environmental and social implications of the proposed policy, plan or programme.’

(Brown and Therivel 2000)

Why SEA?

- To evaluate policies, plans and programmes, (adopting an integrated view of the environment, covering biophysical, social and economic issues),
- To challenge preconceived ideas and conventional wisdom,
- To offer a pro-active management instrument,
- To guide development within sustainable limits.

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How Does SEA Relate to Other Processes?

Cumulative Impact Assessment

Integrated Impact Assessment

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Social Impact Assessment

Adaptive Impact Assessment

Sustainability Appraisal

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What are the Goals of this SEA?

- 1) To mainstream environment in the GPRS.
- 2) To refine policies, plans and programmes to make their consequences more sustainable.
- 3) To improve links between policies and programmes and actions designed specifically to help the poor.
- 4) To build understanding and capacity in SEA techniques,
- 5) To establish the appropriate institutional and organisational framework for implementing SEA in Ghana.

How are the SEA Goals being Achieved?

- By reviewing the GPRS and related programmes activities and budgets and making recommendations for improvement,
- By encouraging MDAs to review the way in which they develop their policies and Medium Term Economic Frameworks,
- By encouraging District Assemblies to carry out sustainability appraisals of their Medium Term Development Plans,
- By developing training programmes,
- By producing a report of findings and recommendations

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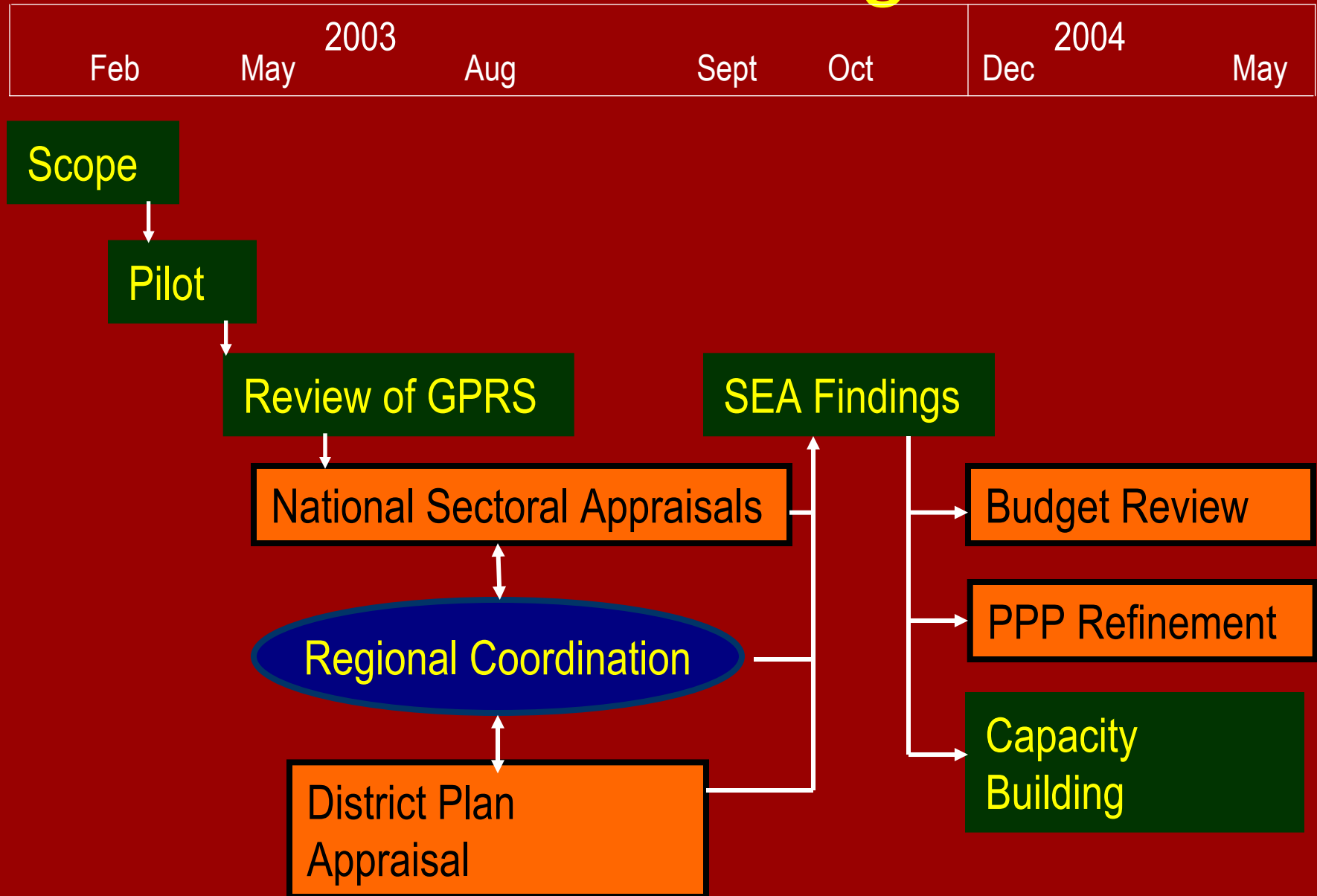
What Does SEA do for the Poor?

SEA guides decision-makers on ways of refining their policies, plans programmes and budgets, to ensure that they:

- Stimulate environmentally benign patterns of growth,
- Protect and enhance the natural resources on which people depend for their livelihoods,
- Improve health and well being by eliminating pollution and disease,
- Reduce the risks to the vulnerable and excluded.

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What is the SEA Programme?



What are the SEA Outputs?

Reports:

- Scoping Report
- Review of the GPRS
- Handbook on Sustainable Appraisal for DA's
- Guidelines for MDAs on Incorporating SEA in MTEF
- SEA Report of Findings

Guidance & Capacity Building

- for MDA and District Assembly officers

Advice on Governance and Institutional Reform

Planning Phase 3

- Establish SEA Unit
- Introduce Planning / SEA Guidelines
- Update GPRS
- Introduce a number of Sectoral SEAs
- Adopt Sustainability Appraisal of District Plans
- Further Capacity Building

Important Questions

- The role of MDAs
- Engagement of District Assemblies
- Quality of Sustainability Appraisals
- Use of Guidelines
- Engagement of wider stakeholders
- Value of the SEA

Key Features of the SEA

- **Designed for the Case in hand** (borrowing from international experience but specific to Ghana)
- **Broadly based** (biophysical, social, economic and institutional)
- **Inclusive** (dealing with all PPPs)
- **Integrated** (Top down – Bottom Up)
- **Strongly focused on Capacity Building**
- **Engaging Stakeholders**
- **Formally documented**