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Recommendations for the Integration of SEA in the Procedure of the German Federal Transport Infrastructure Plan (FTIP)

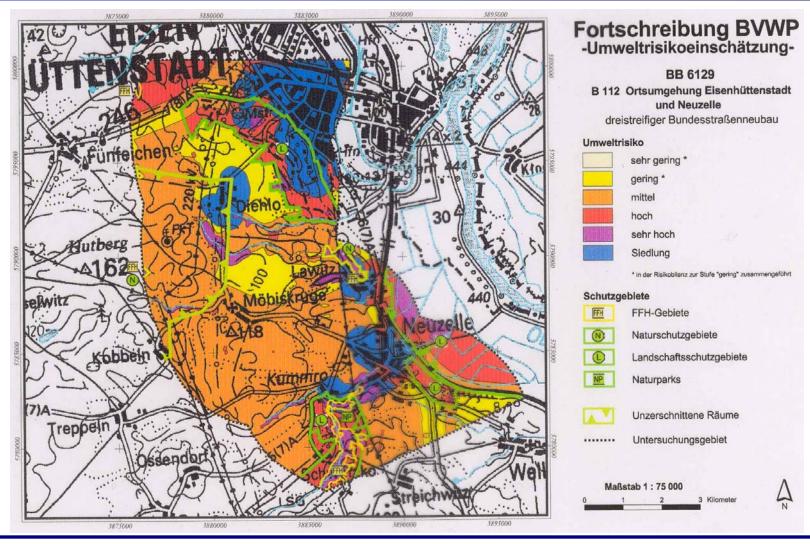
Structure:

- 1. Introduction to the current FTIP process
- 2. Project evaluation without SEA
- 3. Strengths and weaknesses
- 4. Suggestions for the future SEA integration
- 5. Example for the examination of traffic network impacts
- 6. Conclusions

- 1. <u>Introduction to the current FTIP process:</u>
- FTIP regulates the governmental investments for infrastructure projects for a period of about 10 years

1	Scenarios / traffic trend forecasts in Germany	
2	Review of transport networks, project definitions and project nominations	
3	Evaluation of projects, proof of necessity	FTIP process
4	Determination of degree of priority	
5	Informal consultations of single governmental departments, federal states and NGO	
6	Federal Government and Cabinet decision on the FTIP	
7	Legislative procedures on the upgrading acts and on investment plans	Investment plans

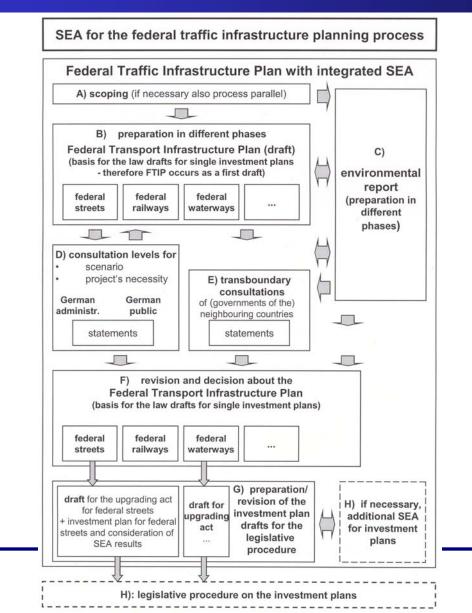
- 2. Current project evaluation without SEA:
- Quantitative benefit-cost analysis/basis for urgency priority ranking of projects
 - Complemented by environmental risk assessment (ERA, since 1985)
- ERA carried out for infrastructure *projects* and planning 'corridors'
- ERA for 700 of nearly 2000 nominated road projects, for all major railway and waterway projects



3. Strengths and weaknesses:

SEA Aspect	FTIP
Scoping	No scoping (but informal hearings)
Environmental report	No comprehensive report about all the impacts of the <i>plan</i> (but project ERA information)
	No information on environmental impacts of scenarios and the traffic network / no comprehensive alternative assessment
Consultations	No formal regulations for consultations (but informal participation) / no transboundary consultations
Monitoring	No regulations for monitoring / measurable objectives are missing

4. Suggestions for the SEA integration:



Scoping:

- Early scoping phase
 - Process oriented scoping
- Defining ways for the avoidance of duplicated environmental assessment
- Defining the frame of information for the env. report

Environmental report:

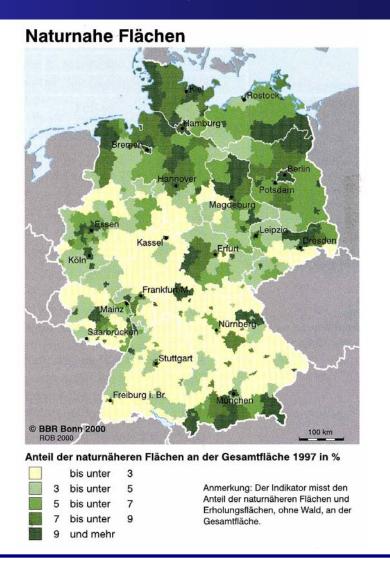
- At the same time as the drawing up of the technical draft plan
 - Two decision stages two separate parts of an environmental report (scenario/traffic network and projects)

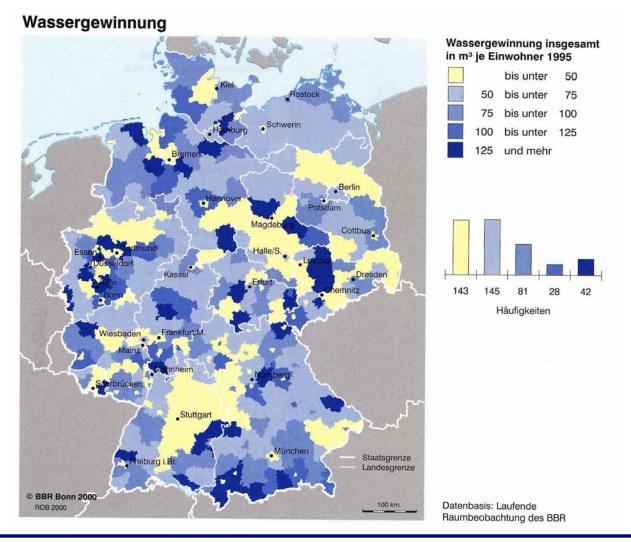
Consultations (step by step):

- Consultation for the scoping
- Consultation before a decision is made about scenarios and traffic concepts including traffic infrastructure network
- Consultation before a decision is made on single infrastructure projects

5. Example for the examination of traffic network impacts

Planning Group Ecology + Environment, Hanover / TU Berlin Figure 4: Examination of the 'spatial resistance' to environmental impacts of a traffic network Environmental values, importance, sensibility, and achieving of environmental objectives in relevant regions: (and/or indicators for the natural functions, achievements or objectives) (and/or indicators for the spatial funktions or objectives) 3. ... Result: Aggregation of the environmental aspects with reference to 'spatial resistance' and load-bearing capacity





6. Conclusions:

- Environmental aspects are already taken into account to a reasonable extent
 - However, current practice will need to be extended in order to fully meet the requirements of the SEA Directive of the European Union
 - Directive requirements can be met by amending the current FTIP process (scoping, env. report, formalized consultations, monitoring, transparent decision)
 - Examination methods must include the assessment of traffic scenario and network impacts in addition to project impacts

Discussion / Questions

Wende et al.: Requirements of the SEA Directive and the German Federal Transport Infrastructure Plan. European Environment 14 (2004) 2, pages 105-122.

http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/eet