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# **SEA effectiveness criteria and principles fully applicable in Italy?**



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# Aim is to ...

- ☐ **Discuss the appropriateness of SEA good practice elements and performance criteria for the Italian planning system**



# **SEA good practice elements and performance criteria**

- ☐ **Firstly introduced around mid 1990s**
- ☐ **Terminology used varies, for example:**
  - **basic elements for effective SEA,**
  - **SEA good practice elements,**
  - **basic principles of SEA,**
  - **conditions of effectiveness for SEA,**
  - **principles for SEA,**
  - **factors for SEA effectiveness,**
  - **SEA performance criteria.**
- ☐ **Elements/criteria have broad scope: assessment process, overall decision-making context, planning system**

# Examples of SEA good practice elements and performance criteria

| Elements   | Author<br>Sadler and Verheem 1996 | Partidario 1997 | UK-DETR 1998 | Nooteboom, 1999 | CSIR, 2000 | Finn. Env Ministry, 2001 | IAIA 2002 | Fischer 2002 |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. Sustainability oriented policy framework            |                                   | X               | X            |                 | X          | X                        | X         | X            |
| 2. Well-established, structured and systematic process | X                                 |                 |              |                 |            |                          |           | X            |
| 3. Public participation                                | X                                 | X               |              | X               | X          |                          | X         | X            |
| 4. SEA that is fit for purpose/scope of application    | X                                 |                 | X            |                 |            | X                        | X         | X            |
| 5. SEA that is integrated/tiered                       |                                   | X               | X            | X               | X          | X                        | X         | X            |
| 6. SEA that is accountable                             | X                                 | X               |              |                 |            |                          | X         | X            |
| 7. SEA that is formally regulated                      | X                                 | X               |              |                 |            | X                        |           | X            |
| 8. SEA that is proactive                               |                                   |                 | X            |                 |            |                          | X         | X            |
| 9. SEA that is flexible/adaptive                       |                                   | X               | X            |                 | X          | X                        |           |              |
| 10. SEA that considers alternatives                    |                                   |                 |              |                 | X          |                          |           | X            |
| 11. SEA that is transparent and simple                 |                                   |                 | X            |                 |            | X                        | X         |              |
| 12. SEA based on quality control and review            | X                                 |                 |              |                 |            |                          |           | X            |
| 13. SEA that uses practical baseline information       | X                                 |                 | X            | X               | X          | X                        |           |              |

# Question ...

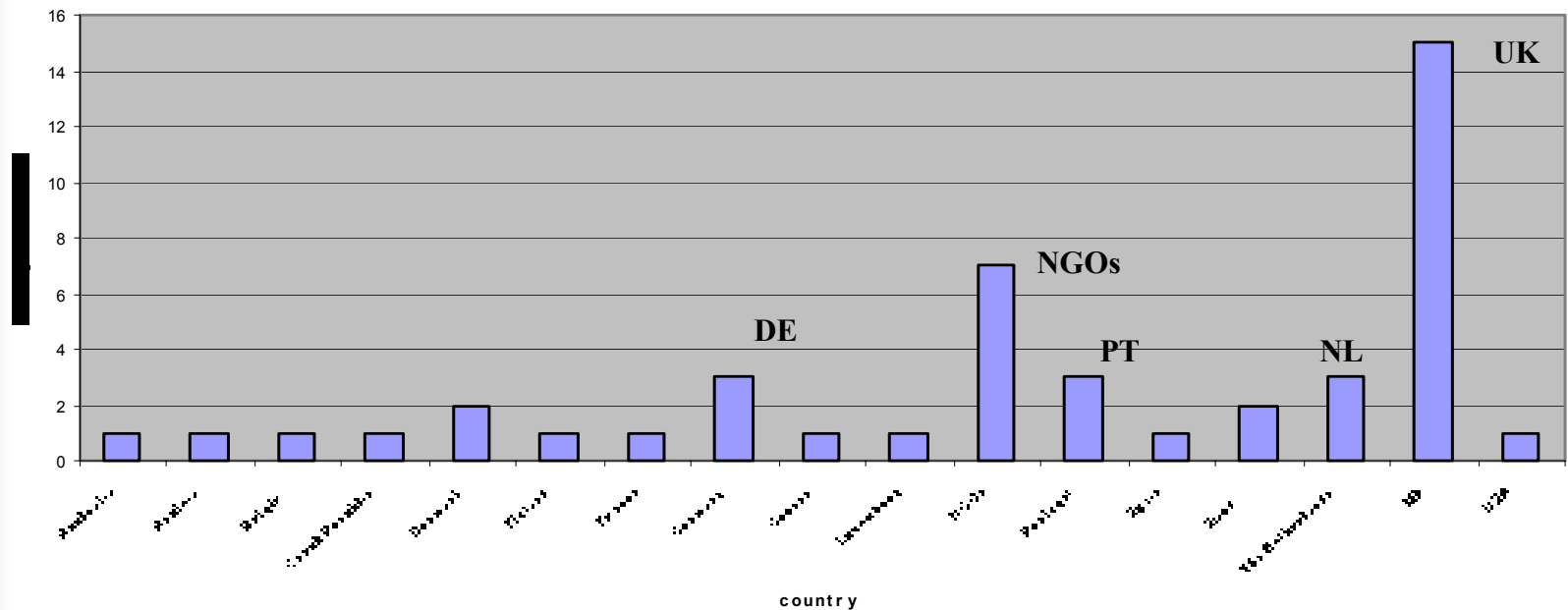
☐ **If a country is lacking important SEA good practice elements and performance criteria, would the suggested country still be able to conduct SEA effectively?**

# Methodology: content analysis ...

- ☐ **Screening of 45 SEA related published documents**
- ☐ **Identification of frequency and nature with which authors representing different countries and systems contributed to international SEA debate (e.g. Identification of SEA elements/criteria)**

# Findings 1...

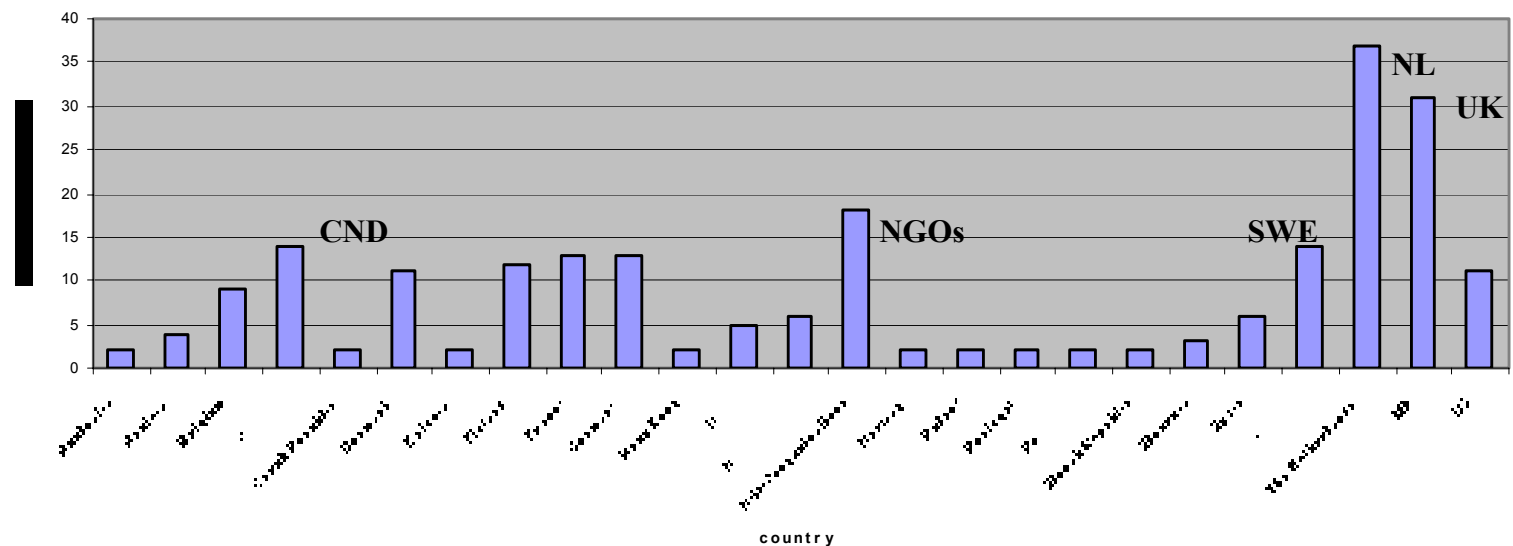
□ Number of books published by the country an author is based in:



- **33% of international SEA literature comes from UK-based authors**
- **No authors from Italy**

# Findings 2 ...

**Number of SEA case studies per country described in the international SEA literature:**

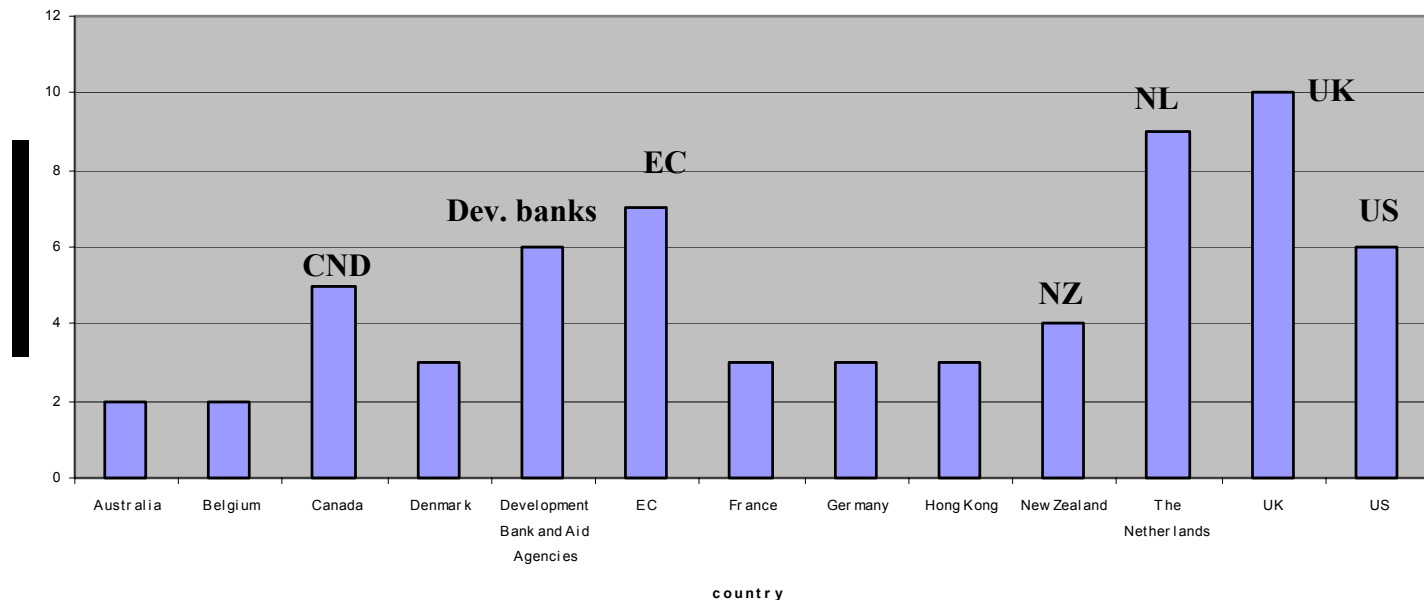


- **Total of 243 case studies were identified.**
- **UK and NL make up 47% of all cases**
- **Italian cases represent 2% of all case-studies (these were part of EU research projects)**



# Findings 3 ...

## □ Number of SEA systems considered in SEA publications



- **UK is country most analysed 14%, followed by NL (13%), EC (10%), US (8%), Dev. Banks (8%), CND (7%) and NZ (6%).**
- **Italy scored zero.**

# Case study: Italy ...

## □ Why Italy:

- **Contribution to international SEA literature**
- **Integration of environmental aspects in planning system and traditions**
- **EA performances**

# Case study: Italy ...

- ❑ **Testing Italy's performances against 4 aspects which resulted to be of key importance from the review of SEA good practice elements/performance criteria:**
  - 1. Existence of sustainability and environmental objectives and their implementation through PPPs**
  - 2. Existence of an established institutional framework (including effective EIA system)**
  - 3. Flexibility and adaptiveness**
  - 4. Public participation.**

# Conclusions ...

- ☐ **SEA good practice elements and performance criteria have been developed based on practices and experiences of a selected number of countries**
- ☐ **SEA good practice elements and performance criteria may not be fully valid in all SEA systems**
  - **Certain elements might act in counter-productive manner (e.g. flexibility and adaptability for Italy)**
- ☐ **System's specific SEA elements need to be identified.**