

# Integrated Environmental Assessment Towards Integrated Sustainability Assessments



## EEAcademy ENI Summer School programme 27–29 August 2019

Copenhagen, Denmark EEAcademy@eea.europa.eu





The European Environment Agency (EEA) is an agency of the European Union. Our aim is to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvements in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policymaking agents and the public. To achieve these goals the EEA undertakes, in close cooperation with the European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet), a comprehensive range of integrated environmental and thematic assessments (IEA) to support environmental policy in Europe. These include five-yearly reports on the state and outlook of the environment, thematic and sectoral assessments, analyses of the effectiveness of policy measures, forward-looking studies, and studies on the impacts of change on Europe's environment and resources.

#### The ENI SEIS II East project

**The EEA is implementing the EU-funded ENI SEIS II East project** to support the environmental reporting process (conventions, treaties, national obligations...) with contribution to the pan-European reporting. The **European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)** came into force in 2014. It is the financial arm of the European Neighbourhood Policy, the EU's foreign policy towards its neighbours to the East and to the South.

The ENI SIES II East project aims to strengthen the regular production of environmental indicators and assessments in line with the principles of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) as a contribution towards knowledge-based policymaking and good environmental governance in the six Eastern Partnership countries. This project contains five areas of actions, of which the third requires to 'develop country-specific training programmes to build national capacities for producing state and outlook on the environment reports (SOER) in line with EEA and Eionet tools and methodologies'. At the 2nd and 3rd Steering Committee meetings of the project, the EEAcademy was recognised as a highly relevant and valuable option to deliver specific training programmes. Following the Regional work plan for 2017 to 2020, the EEAcademy trainings are foreseen as a fundamental platform in co-creating, using and sharing of European knowledge with strong EEA and Eionet involvement.



#### The EEAcademy ENI Summer School

The EEAcademy is a knowledge and learning hub for the EEA and the Eionet, the EEA's Scientific Committee and EU institutional partners interested in developing competences on environmental sustainability issues at European and international levels. Created in 2016, it encompasses capacity-building and educational activities in knowledge areas where policy needs are evolving and where EEA-Eionet experience and competences need further development to meet new challenges. Key features of the EEAcademy include seminars and lecture series, a knowledge innovation lab and summer/winter schools.

The ENI Summer School on Integrated Environmental Assessment towards Integrated Sustainability Assessments is an EEAcademy activity with the objective to strengthen the current knowledgebase on integrated assessments and to improve coherence across assessments through establishing a common foundational understanding of key theories, concepts and approaches.

This **Summer School** builds on the expertise of the EEA and its Eionet partner, the PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, on scientific advances in the field of integrated environmental and sustainability assessments. It is designed to enhance critical reflection and develop key competences within a vibrant and collaborative community of practitioners.





#### Who is the Summer School for?

The EEAcademy ENI Summer School is designed to support experts with direct involvement in integrated environmental assessments in their transition towards a more holistic sustainability assessment, who are seeking to gain a broader understanding of challenges and methodological advances. In 2019, the Summer School will be primarily targeted at the Eastern Partnership country experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, for whom strengthening their competencies in integrated assessment would be beneficial in their current role. This includes especially contributors to the state of environment report and report on sustainable development. The 2019 EEAcademy ENI Summer School is also open for (a limited number) Eionet and EEA staff. Concurrently, this Summer School seeks to achieve a good mix of experience, levels, views and backgrounds as well as different angles of approaching integrated sustainability assessments from within the EEA and the Eionet network and Eastern Partnership countries in order to allow knowledge co-creation and sharing.



#### **Key contents**

**The programme** of the 2019 EEAcademy ENI Summer School on Integrated Environmental Assessment towards Integrated Sustainability Assessments is designed to address the following **key questions:** 

- What are the perspectives on transition to sustainability?
- What are the fundamentals of integrated assessments for sustainability?
- What is changing in integrated sustainability assessments?
- What new challenges in the sustainability arena call for a new type of knowledge?
- How can integrated assessment approaches respond to such knowledge requirements?
- How can we effectively combine and apply different methodologies and tools in specific working contexts?

#### The three-day programme

The overall programme covers the *why, what* and *how* of Integrated Environmental Assessment and will go in depth on how to advance from an Integrated Environmental Assessment to an Integrated Sustainability Assessment. The Summer School presentations and hands-on exercises will draw on experience from the EEA, PBL and beyond. The Summer School team will guide the hands-on training sessions.



### The overall three-day programme covers:

- Perspectives on transitions to sustainability.
- The role of Integrated Environmental Assessments for transition towards sustainability in the science-policy interface, methodological advancements and the challenges ahead.
- Integrated Sustainability Assessments: the principles, conceptual frameworks, assessment approaches and key features.
- Group training on how to carry out an Integrated Sustainability Assessment.
- Hands-on training on tools and methodologies used in assessments.
- Complementing a 'problems' focus with a 'responses' approach in Integrated Environmental Assessments for transition to sustainability transforming the way we produce knowledge.
- Advancing from an Integrated Environmental Assessment to Integrated Sustainability Assessment towards Sustainable Development Goals reporting.
- Participatory stakeholder engagement.
- Assessment reporting and communication.
- Integrated Sustainability Assessments in practice through the EEA and national experiences.



#### Programme and learning approach

The EEAcademy ENI Summer School comprises of a **3-day course in Copenhagen**. Core-content sessions are articulated with networking opportunities to get to know other participants for mutual learning.

Involving a set of reputed European experts, this programme is conceived as an exercise of **mutual learning**, where participants can experience and compare different approaches to integrated environmental assessments. A **combination of learning methods** is used – from lectures to case-studies analysis and practical exercises.

Participants are called upon to make use of their **creative potential**, in a critical and **reflexive attitude** towards their own personal and organisational experience.

A **diverse group** of participants is expected. The learning path approach enables the course to link to participants' specific contexts and background. Particular attention is devoted to **knowledge transferability** into working realities.



#### Venue and practical information

The 2019 EEAcademy ENI Summer School on *Integrated Environmental Assessment towards Integrated Sustainability Assessments* will be held from **27 to 29 August 2019** (3 full days) at the **EEA** premises in **Copenhagen**:

#### **European Environment Agency (EEA)**

Kongens Nytorv 6, 1050 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Attendance at the 2019 Summer School is **free of charge**. Participants from the six Eastern Partnership countries (EaP) will be funded by the ENI SEIS East project and also travel arrangements will be made through the project. Eionet participants will need to cover their own travel and subsistence costs, and need to make their own travel arrangements. If you want to attend the 2019 EEAcademy ENI Summer School on *Integrated Environmental Assessment towards Integrated Sustainability Assessments*, please **register online on the project website** <a href="https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/">https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east/</a> before **Friday 25 June 2019**.

If you have any questions regarding the 2019 ENI Summer School, please feel free to contact the Summer School team at EEAcademy@eea.europa.eu.

#### The EEAcademy ENI Summer School team

Jana Tafi, Kees Schotten and Luis Pinto







