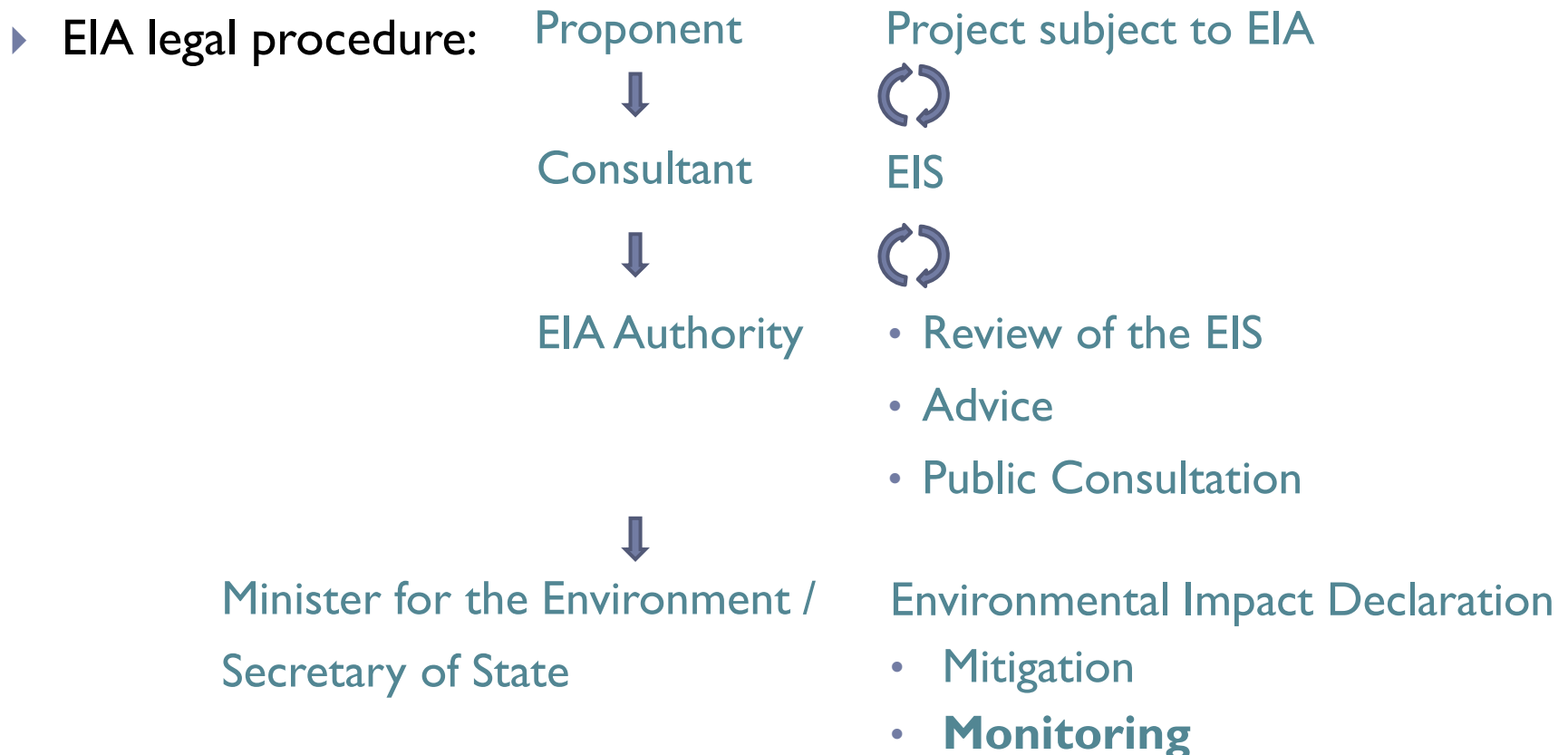




Monitoring of energy facilities in Portugal 2009-2011

Júlio de Jesus, Carlos Nuno, João Rodrigues, Inês Lourenço, Francisco Pereira,
Catarina Henriques, Cristina Sequeira, Sérgio Brites and Susana Machado

- ▶ 1990: Portugal introduces the EIA legislation
- ▶ 2000: new EIA regime → monitoring as a mandatory activity, under the responsibility of the proponent



- ▶ Analysis of the **monitoring requirements** of all energy facilities projects subject to EIA with a favourable EID issued from 2009 to 2011 → 36 projects from the total of 41
- ▶ Survey of the websites of the EIA Authorities to assess the **advertising of the monitoring reports** → April 6, 2012
- ▶ Survey on the **perceptions** of monitoring by developers and EIA consultants of those projects → 10 developers + 11 consultants
(5 responses) (8 responses)

► Monitoring requirements

Environmental factor	Wind farm		Hydropower		Power line		Substation		Gas pipeline		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Noise	14	100	6	100	7	70	4	80	1	100	32	89
Biodiversity	14	100	5	83	8	80	2	40	1	100	30	83
Surface water	0	0	6	100	0	0	0	0	1	100	7	19
Groundwater	0	0	5	83	0	0	1	20	0	0	6	17
Socioeconomic issues	0	0	4	67	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	11
Geology	0	0	3	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8
Land use	0	0	2	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6
Air	0	0	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Climate	0	0	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Cultural heritage	0	0	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
None	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	1	3
TOTAL	14	100	6	100	10	100	5	100	1	100	36	100

► Monitoring requirements

Environmental factor	Wind farm		Hydropower		Power line		Substation		Gas pipeline		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Birds	14	100	3	60	8	100	2	100	0	0	27	90
Bats	14	100	4	80	2	25	0	0	0	0	20	67
Flora & Vegetation	8	57	4	80	0	0	0	0	1	100	13	43
Iberian wolf	5	36	1	20	0	0	1	50	0	0	7	23
Riverine ecosystems	0	0	5	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	17
Other mammals	0	0	3	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	10
Amphibians & Reptiles	0	0	2	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7
Nr. of projects with biodiversity monitoring	14	100	5	100	8	100	2	100	1	100	30	100

► Advertising of the availability of monitoring reports at the websites of EIA Authorities

None of the six EIA Authorities websites has information about the monitoring reports of projects subject to EIA or its availability

► Survey of developers and EIA consultants

- Developers take **initiatives** of public diffusion of the results of monitoring or even its disclosure to selected stakeholders, but most consultants are not aware
- Unanimity on the **importance** and on the recognition of the **added value** of monitoring
- Monitoring programmes proposed in the EIS are, generally, **not changed** by the IA decision and, when they are, changes are **not always justified**, in the opinion of developers and consultants

► Survey of developers and EIA consultants

- **Costs** of monitoring
 - **exceed** environmental **benefits**
 - **proportionate** to the **expected benefits** in the approval or management of future projects
- **Lack of feedback** from the environmental authorities on the monitoring reports received
- Answers regarding the **availability of the results** of the monitoring programmes are unequal, revealing a lack of information on where the data is available (if available)

- ▶ Monitoring is an **important activity**
- ▶ Strong bias towards the monitoring of **biological** factors and a weakness of the **social** factors
- ▶ **EIA consultants** play an important role in defining the monitoring requirements in the EIS
- ▶ Other components of EIA follow-up (**evaluation, communication and management**) are absent or weak
- ▶ Monitoring requirements perceived as an “**environmental tax**”
- ▶ Huge amount of **data** with difficult **access**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- ▶ Developers and consultants that answered the survey



VENTINVEST



ATKINS



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Inês Lourenço: ines.lourenco@ecossistema-lda.pt