

# **LEARNING CENTRE @ CSD-15**

**Conference Room B**

**Monday, 7 May 2007  
3:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

## **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – a tool for better governance and sustainable decisions**

*Sponsor: UNU*

### **Course Instructor:**

Maria Rosário Partidário, IST (Instituto Superior Técnico), Technical University of Lisbon.

### **Synopsis:**

This course will introduce the multiple concepts of SEA, outlining the role of SEA in different types of economies and decision-making systems, as a cross-cutting tool for governance and technical assessment. It will also explore WHY SEA is important in linking it to poverty reduction strategies, energy for sustainable development climate changes, biodiversity and to sustainable development in general in terms of the integration of environmental, social and cultural issues in sectoral and economic long-term planning. The course will highlight HOW SEA can be used and the relevance of SEA for sustainability processes, in the context of national and sectoral SD strategies, land-use planning, overall national policies and budgets. Real case examples will be used to show the potential use of SEA as well as the challenges associated.

Case summaries of SEAs in various sectors will illustrate different opportunities and benefits related to SEA implementation.