

Conference of the Parties

to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

8th meeting, Geneva, November 2014

**Assistance Programme – support in
implementation of the Convention on the
Transboundary Effects of Industrial
Accidents in the Republic of Serbia**

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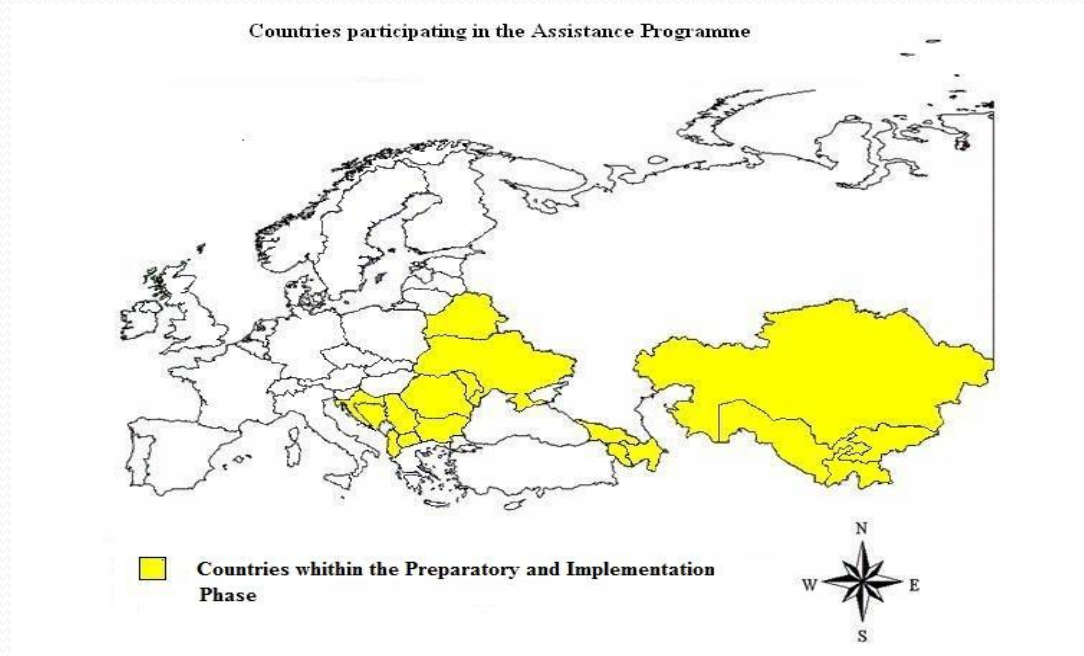
Section for Major Chemical Accident Protection

Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental

Protection, Republic of Serbia



- **2004 CoP adopts Assistance Programme**



- Serbia participates actively from 2007.

Assistance Programme Activities

Workshop on capacity-building with the aim to initiate a process to further strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks under the Convention in the EECCA and SEE countries (Kyiv, Ukraine 2007)

- Workshop was the first activity of the Assistance Programme's implementation phase
- Important starting point to identify responsible authorities and to improve cooperation
- Analysis of the legal framework
- Identifying gaps or shortcomings and ways forward –

PLAN OF ACTION DEVELOPED

Assistance Programme Activities

Hands - on training session on identification of hazardous activities (Minsk, Belarus, 2008)

- Improved process of identification of hazardous activities
- Improved understanding of how to apply the Convention's annex I and the guidelines on location criteria in identifying hazardous activities
- National training session on identification of hazardous activities was held

LIST OF HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES REVIEWED

Assistance Programme Activities

Training session on integrated approaches to major hazard prevention (Prague, Czech Republic, 2009)

- Effective cooperation and coordination between relevant authorities in major hazard prevention and crisis management
- Strengthening safety culture
- Cooperation with neighbouring countries with a view to improving the joint management of transboundary emergencies.

WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED

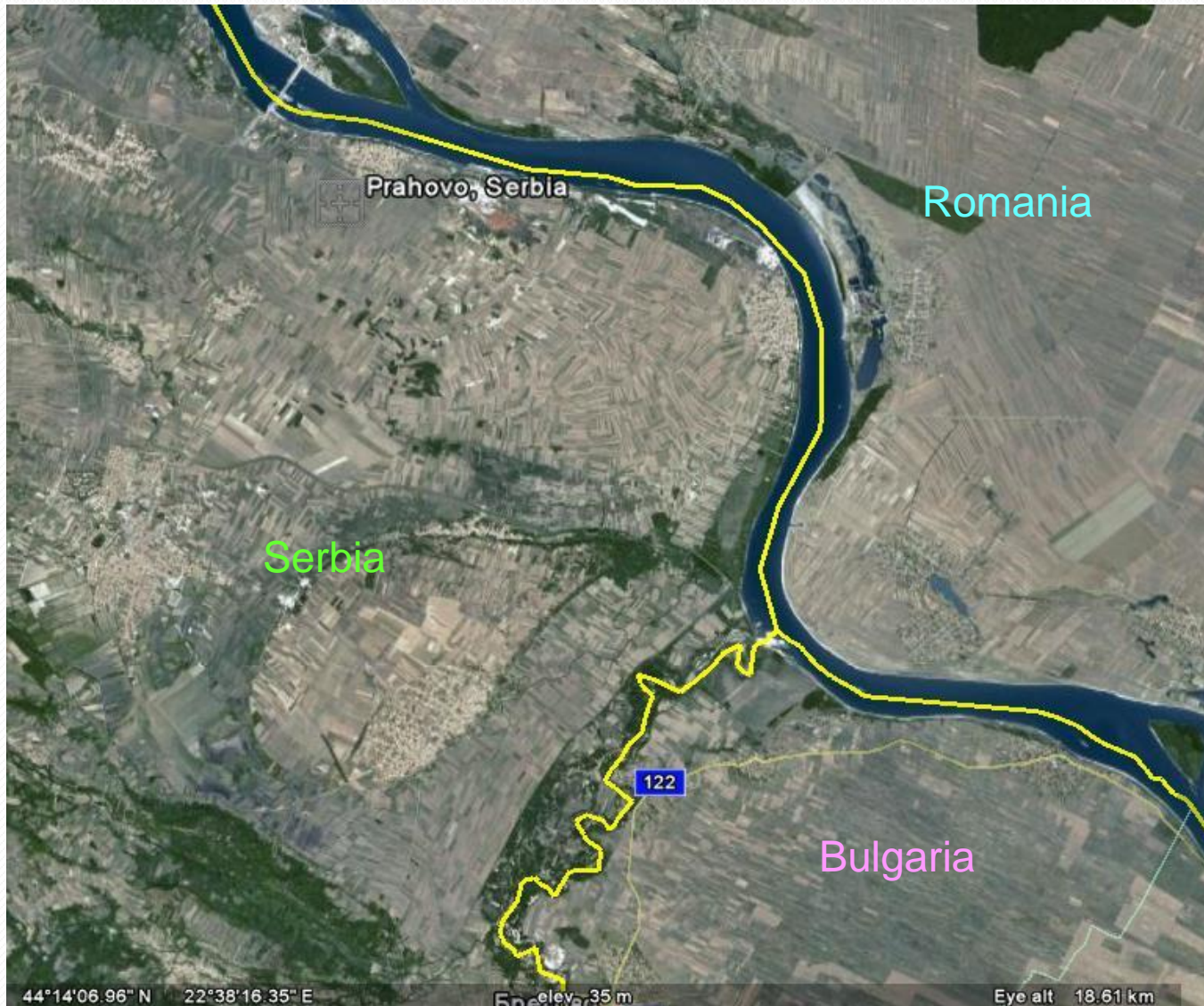
composed of the different authorities involved in implementing the Convention

Assistance Programme Activities

Project for Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia on joint management of transboundary emergencies from spills of hazardous substance into the Danube River (Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, 2009)

- The field exercise had been initiated at Prahovo, Serbia and performed along the Danube River until Vidin, Bulgaria
- Emergency procedures were tested for notification, emergency response and modelling, also in respect to cross-border cooperation

Border between three countries



Assistance Programme Activities

Training session on evaluation of safety reports (Belgrade, Serbia, 2010)

- Approaches (including the roles of authorities) for the evaluation of safety reports
- Content and methodologies used in safety reports
- Develop a checklist on safety reports - basis for providing guidance on preparation of safety reports
- Follow-up to the project focused on using a checklist methodology during the on-site inspection
- The next steps - providing training for operators on the development of safety reports and of internal emergency plans

Assistance Programme Activities

Follow-up to the training session on evaluation of safety reports and joint inspection (Zagreb, Croatia, 2011)



- Strengthen the knowledge of the authorities in conducting inspections at hazardous activities based on the conclusions of the safety report evaluation
- Benefits of an integrated approach for inspections
- Serbia concluded that it would work to further align the checklist system with the requirements set by its national legislation
- Repeat the experience

Assistance Programme Activities

Training session on the evaluation of safety reports – on-site inspection, third phase (Split, Croatia, 2012)

- Improvement the knowledge of the inspectors about inspections of hazardous industrial sites, in cooperation with other authorities
- Learning good practices on the organization of integrated inspections used for industrial sites falling under the Convention and under the Seveso II Directive
- **Conclusions:**
 - The use of the checklist could be a useful tool to design inspections, especially thematic inspections
 - It is important to cooperate with other authorities before inspections, but also afterwards (preparing a joint report)
 - Unstructured cooperation between competent authorities led to difficulties in scheduling integrated inspections

Sectoral checklist and Guidelines



<http://www.unece.org/env/teia.html>

Assistance Programme Activities 1/2

National training session on safety management system as a part of safety report (Belgrade, Serbia, 2013)

- Assistance in the process of implementation of the environmental legislation on Seveso II Directive and further development a national system for the prevention of major industrial accidents, through improving the quality of safety reports, respectively its part on safety management system.
- Defining and implementing of Safety Management System was the biggest gap in general obligations of operators, which led to poor quality of Safety Reports, without a base set for implementing obligations from TEIA Convection.

Assistance Programme Activities 2/2

National training session on safety management system as a part of safety report (Belgrade, Serbia, 2013)

- Operators awareness about the importance of adequate Safety Management System improved
- Improved knowledge of the operators on the issues that shall be adressed by the SMS
- Operators informed on the possibility on integration of SMS with the existing management systems
- Knowledge gained on this training was helpful to CA and inspection, indicating the most important issues in Safety Management System that must be covered during evaluation of Safety Reports and regular on-site inspections

Assistance Programme Activities

Workshop on the use of indicators and criteria for the implementation of the Strategic Approach (Bratislava, Slovakia, 2011) 1/2

- The indicators and criteria were elaborated together with a Form for monitoring, analysing, planning and evaluating the participation of countries in the Assistance Programme.
- Countries participating in the Assistance Programme were requested to self-evaluate the progress achieved in the implementation of the Convention and draft a Plan of action

Workshop on the use of indicators and criteria for the implementation of the Strategic Approach 2/2

• Recommendations

Preconditions for the use of the indicators and criteria are:

- a good knowledge of the Convention;
- a good knowledge of the situation in the country; and
- involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the country.

• In the Republic of Serbia

- Indicators and criteria facilitate the process of identifying gaps in the implementation of the Convention and to plan concrete actions to overcome them
- Used as an instrument for filling in the report on implementation of the Convention



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!