

Sub-regional workshop on land-use planning and industrial safety for Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Субрегиональный семинар по
планированию землепользования и
промышленной безопасности для
Восточной Европы и Кавказа

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Key conclusions of the workshop



- *Countries in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus face challenges with respect to the integration of land-use planning and industrial safety, and have recognized a lack of sustainable coordination and cooperation between land-use planning and industrial safety authorities, within and across borders, in relation to decision-making on siting of hazardous activities and land-use.*
- To address these challenges, countries agreed to:
 - **strengthen coordination between LuP and industrial safety** through the **establishment of inter-institutional coordination mechanisms**, such as Working Groups that incorporate both land-use planning and industrial safety representatives
 - continue establishing or revising legislation that integrates land-use planning and industrial safety, in support of the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (Industrial Accidents Convention, Espoo Convention, Protocol on SEA, Aarhus Convention)
 - Make use of available guidelines and policy documents, such as the *UNECE Guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects*, UNHABITAT Territorial Guideline, Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development (2017) and the Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing

Key conclusions of the workshop



- *There is a notable lack of implementation of article 7 of the Industrial Accidents Convention on siting and land-use planning.*
- Countries agreed to proceed with the **implementation of article 7**, and the related annexes V and VI, to establish:
 - Policies on the siting of HA
 - Policies on the significant modifications to HA
 - Policies on significant developments in potentially affected areas (within and across borders)
 - Seeking to reduce any accident impact on their own and neighbouring countries
 - Involving all relevant national, regional and local authorities and affected stakeholders (within and across borders)
- Countries recognized that the implementation of article 7 at the national level can be a natural convener for the establishment of national cooperation platforms on land-use planning and industrial safety.

Key conclusions of the workshop



- *Countries noticed a lack of transboundary cooperation on land-use planning and siting.*
- Countries agreed to **strengthen transboundary cooperation**, through the implementation of article 7 and the notification of existing and proposed hazardous activities to neighbouring or riparian Parties (art. 4).
- They welcomed the Notification Template developed by UNECE, to notify their neighbours about hazardous activities. The Republic of Moldova expressed its readiness to lead the way with such notifications.
- Countries have agreed to exchange further information on land-use planning and industrial safety. They expressed the need of sharing good practices with UNECE countries and international experts on this topic.

Key conclusions of the workshop



- Countries expressed the need for further support to strengthen **coherent policy-making** on the siting of hazardous activities and land-use planning, incl. through:
 - the facilitation of information exchange and the sharing of good practices, incl. through the development of an information repository, possibly featuring an exchange platform;
 - capacity development and the provision of policy advice at the national level; and/or
 - support to the implementation of regional projects, fostering transboundary cooperation in the field of LuP and industrial safety
- Countries agreed to consider developing project proposals across sectors and possibly countries, in particular under the Strategic Approach of the Convention's Assistance and Cooperation Programme.

Key conclusions of the workshop



- Countries took note of the **experiences, good practices and lessons learned** presented by the countries in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, and the additional international good practices by Belgium (Flanders), France, Kyrgyzstan, Norway and Serbia, agreed to further consider their applicability in their home countries.
- The countries expressed interest in the continuation of experience-sharing, in particular on transboundary cooperation.
- The Republic of Moldova and Ukraine expressed the need for the continuation of the Project on Hazard and Crisis Management under the Industrial Accidents Convention's Assistance and Cooperation Programme (dependent on funding), and the strengthening of transboundary cooperation along the Danube.

Key conclusions of the workshop

- *Countries recognize the relevance of land-use planning and industrial safety for the implementation of the SDGs, the Sendai Framework and the New Urban Agenda. They have developed national sustainable development strategies, sometimes National SDG coordination council and taken steps to identify relevant SDG targets in relation to urban development and industrial safety.*
- Countries can give further consideration to “localizing” the SDGs in the context of land-use planning, industrial safety and sustainable urban development, involving all stakeholders (civil society, industry, national, local governments etc.)



Key conclusions of the workshop



- UNECE, in cooperation with partners, could provide further support through the Assistance and Cooperation Programme, for example through:
 - Further capacity development through workshops or project, addressing country needs
 - A sub-regional workshop on LuP and industrial safety for countries of Central Asia, could be hosted by in Kyrgyzstan
 - National policy dialogues on industrial safety
- UNECE Country Profiles on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management
 - Chapter on urban planning
 - Scope for integrating elements on disaster risk reduction and industrial safety
- Countries welcomed the support by donors, in particular France, for this workshop, and agreed to seek further donor support for similar activities on LuP and industrial safety in the future