UNECE Assistance and Cooperation Programme supporting Central Asia, incl. in strengthening the safety of mining operations

Claudia Kamke
Environmental Affairs Officer
UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention
Subregional Workshop on mine tailings safety for Central Asia
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Assistance (and Cooperation) Programme

- Established in 2004 under the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention
- **Aim**: To assist countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and **Central Asia** to improve industrial safety and the implementation of the Convention
Assistance and Cooperation Programme (ACP) – Phases

**Assistance Programme**

- **Preparatory phase**
  - High-level Commitment
  - Fact-finding missions
  - Awareness-raising missions

- **Implementation phase**
  - Capacity-building activities
Cyclic / Strategic Approach of ACP

Step 1 – Self-Assessment of national mechanisms, identification of gaps

Step 2 – Action plan to eliminate gaps and improve mechanisms
  → Project proposals

Step 3 – Evaluation of results achieved through the undertaken actions

Benchmarks on the Implementation of the Convention / Indicators & Criteria
Objectives of the Strategic Approach

Main objective:
To achieve continuous improvement and sustainability in the implementation of the Industrial Accidents Convention by countries participating in the Assistance and Cooperation Programme

Specific targets:
• A robust and "long-term" approach that allows flexible and targeted funding for the implementation of the ACP
• Achieve institutional sustainability and support for countries in Eastern, South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in the implementation of the Convention
Project on strengthening industrial safety in Central Asia through the implementation of and accession to the Convention (2016–2019)

• Aimed to strengthen the implementation of and accession to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention in Central Asia

• Implemented with the financial support of the Russian Federation
Key project achievements

• 1 national self-assessment and 1 national action plan per country (KAZ, KYR, TAJ, TUR, UZB) – TMFs

• Development of guidelines for the implementation of the key requirements of the Convention for Central Asian countries

• Improved understanding of the Convention requirements and strengthened cross-border cooperation

• 5 National Expert Group meetings and 1 subregional workshop
UNECE projects on mine tailings safety in Central Asia

Implemented with the support of the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

Kazakh project (2018-2019)
- Objective: Strengthen the safety of mine tailings in **Kazakhstan**

Tajik project (2019-2020)
- Objective: Strengthen the safety of mine tailings in **Tajikistan**

**Beneficiaries:**
competent authorities and operators from KAZ, TAJ and other Central Asian countries
Specific project objectives

- Improve inter-institutional coordination among national authorities
- Strengthen the implementation of the UNECE Industrial Accidents and Water Conventions
- Support implementation of recommendations from the UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews

**Kazakhstan**

Develop a programme for the management of existing mine tailings (9.4, 1st EPR, 2000, and 2nd EPR, 2008)

**Tajikistan (2017)**

Strengthen its approach to risk management of hazardous/tailings facilities, including through improving national coordinating/ implementing joint national inspections (15.3), and strengthen capacities to accede to the UNECE Industrial Accidents and Water Conventions (6.6 and 15.5)
### Activities under the projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activities in 2018-2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-8 Nov 2018 (Astana)</td>
<td>Inception workshop in Kazakhstan</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Preparation of a hazard list and map in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan, including TMFs with transboundary effects</td>
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<tr>
<td>11-13 June 2019 (Kokshetau)</td>
<td>On-site training at a tailings facility in Kokshetau (Kazakhstan) Inception workshop for Tajikistan</td>
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<td>20-21 Nov 2019 (Almaty)</td>
<td>Subregional workshop to present the project results, lessons learned and share experiences with Central Asian countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer 2020</td>
<td>On-site training at a tailings management facility in Tajikistan</td>
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Key achievements in Kazakhstan

- National inventory with 121 TMFs
- Identification of TMFs with transb. effects
- Hazard map showing the above TMFs
- Interinstitutional working group on tailings safety and water management
- Improved cooperation among competent authorities and with tailings operators
- Enhanced implementation of the Industrial Accidents Convention and its tools
- Improved transboundary cooperation
Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG)

- Established in 1998
- Under the Water and Industrial Accidents Conventions
- To work on issues related to the prevention of accidental water pollution which is of interest to both Conventions

Co-Chairmanship
Water Convention + Industrial Accidents Convention
UNECE / JEG Safety Guidelines and Good Practices

• UNECE Safety Guidelines and Good Practices (for oil terminals, firefighting water management and retention, pipelines, TMFs)

2005-2006

Development of a related TMF methodology in the framework of a project in Ukraine financed by Germany

2013-2015

2017-2018
Other projects on tailings safety implemented under the Convention

• Project on Improving the tailings safety in the Caucasian Region (2017-2019), Danube Region (2018-2019) and Kyrgyzstan by Germany

• Project on Raising Knowledge among Students and Teachers on Tailings Safety and its Legislative Review in Ukraine (2016-2017)

• Project on Improving the Safety of Industrial TMFs, based on the example of Ukrainian Facilities (2013-2015)
Upcoming events and activities

• 11\textsuperscript{th} Conference of the Parties (Bonn, Germany, 1-3 Dec 2020)

  Seminar on industrial safety of tailings management facilities
  (half day currently planned)

• Phase II – UNECE projects on improving tailings safety in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan and beyond (2019-2021)
Thank you for your attention!

For more information please visit:

www.unep.org/env/teia

Or contact:
Ms. Claudia Kamke
Environmental Affairs Officer
UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
claudia.kamke@un.org