Key achievements and results of the Danube Delta Project

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The general objective of the project was to improve cooperation between the three Danube area countries (Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Romania) on hazard and crisis management.

The project was focused on:

- Improving the cooperation between authorities and private sector
- Enhancing industrial safety
- Enhancing the hazard and crisis management
- Reducing the risks of spills (oil and chemicals)
- Reducing the threat of a negative impact on the quality of the (aquatic) environment
Project aims

• To establish an effective cooperation on industrial safety between the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Romania.
• To further improve hazard management (prevention) and crisis management (preparedness and response).
• The development of a hazard spots map in the region of the Danube Delta with the hazards identified in a harmonized way.
• To encourage trilateral cooperation through workshops, trainings, table top and field exercises.
Results hazard management

- An analysis of existing legal framework for hazard identification, prevention and public participation was carried out.
- Areas for improvement have been identified and will be transformed into revisions of legislations.
- Through workshops and trainings, inspectors were trained how to use checklists and methodologies, as well are trained how industrial operators need to comply with the safety rules.
- Within the countries hazard (inter organizational) management groups are established during the project. The need for continuity of the work of these groups is recognized as important.
- An inventory of hazardous activities (hazard mapping) in the DD region was completed, mapped and will be continuous maintained.
- Safety guidelines for oil terminals have been developed and the use of it has been trained.
Results crisis management

- Through the project, its workshops and trainings, and the international exchange of good practices, the expertise of the crisis management organisation has been improved.
- Within the countries an (inter organizational) crisis management group was established. The need for continuity of the work of these groups is recognized as important.
- Information on national procedures for contingency planning and response to industrial accidents has been exchanged and included in a Joint Contingency Plan.
- Trilateral cooperation on crisis management has been established and included in a draft trilateral agreement.
- A field and table top exercise were carried out. A thorough evaluation identified several gaps and opportunities for improvement. These will be included in an action plan.
Overall results

• A successful project that strengthened the (cross-border) cooperation between the 3 countries.
• A developed Joint Contingency Plan contributes to an harmonized approach within and between the 3 countries.
• Many opportunities for improvement of the collaboration between the 3 countries have been identified.
• The Trilateral Agreement is as a draft document available, but needs to be finalised and formalised.
• A ‘declaration of intention’ was signed at the ministerial level by the 2 countries which expresses the ambition and willingness to continue and further enhance the cross-border cooperation on hazard and crisis management.
Challenges and way forward

- A project management group (PMG) with participation of experts of the 3 countries should be established to safeguard continuation of the work.
- This PMG should be tasked with the development of an action plan that is based on the results of the project and in particular on the evaluation that was carried out.
- The action plan needs to be realistic and practical, including a calculation of the needed (human and financial) resources to carry out the plan.
- Top management and political commitment for the execution of the plan is essential and needs to be established and ensured.
- The current draft Joint Contingency Plan and Trilateral Agreement need to be finalised and formalised.
- There is a need to carry out a Danube Delta Project II. A project plan should be developed, based on the outcome and results of the DD I project.

The real work starts now!
Thank you for your attention

It always seems impossible until it's done.
Nelson Mandela

Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team of people.
Steve Jobs