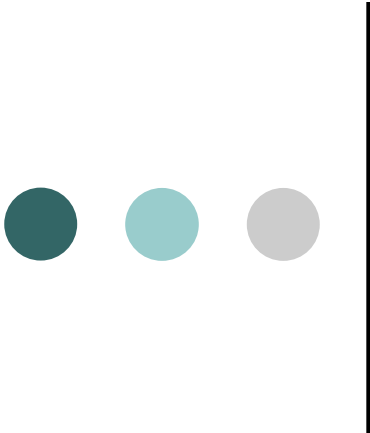




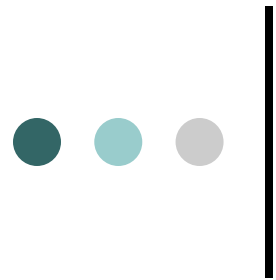
Federal Ministry for the  
Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety



# Technical workshop on joint management of transboundary emergencies involving international waterways

## German-Polish Exercise

**Sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
to the Convention on the  
Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents**  
The Hague, 8–10 November 2010



# General information

- Venue: Urad and Slubice (lubuskie voivodship – western part of Poland),
- Date: 8-10 September 2009
- Organizers:

PL: Ministry of Environment and Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Interior and State Fire Service

DE: Federal Ministry of Environment Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Also local authorities:

- from Lubuskie region (PL) and Ministry of Internal Affairs and for Development of Rural Areas, Environment and Consumer Protection of Brandenburg (DE)

Participants: Armenia, Belarus, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Portugal, Moldova, FR of Macedonia, Ukraine and UNEP, UN OCHA, UNECE secretariat.



# General objectives

- To discuss and exchange experience and good practice on joint management of emergencies,
- To discuss the basis for effective emergencies management in a transboundary context,
- To consider possible future developments that could strengthen the cooperation between UNECE countries, before, during and after crisis on waterways resulting from industrial accidents.



# ODRA 2009

**German - Polish rescue operation  
following a spill of oil derivative  
substance into the watercourses  
of the border zone**

**Urad, Slubice County, 8 September 2009**



## **OBJECTIVES – GOALS TO ASSESS:**

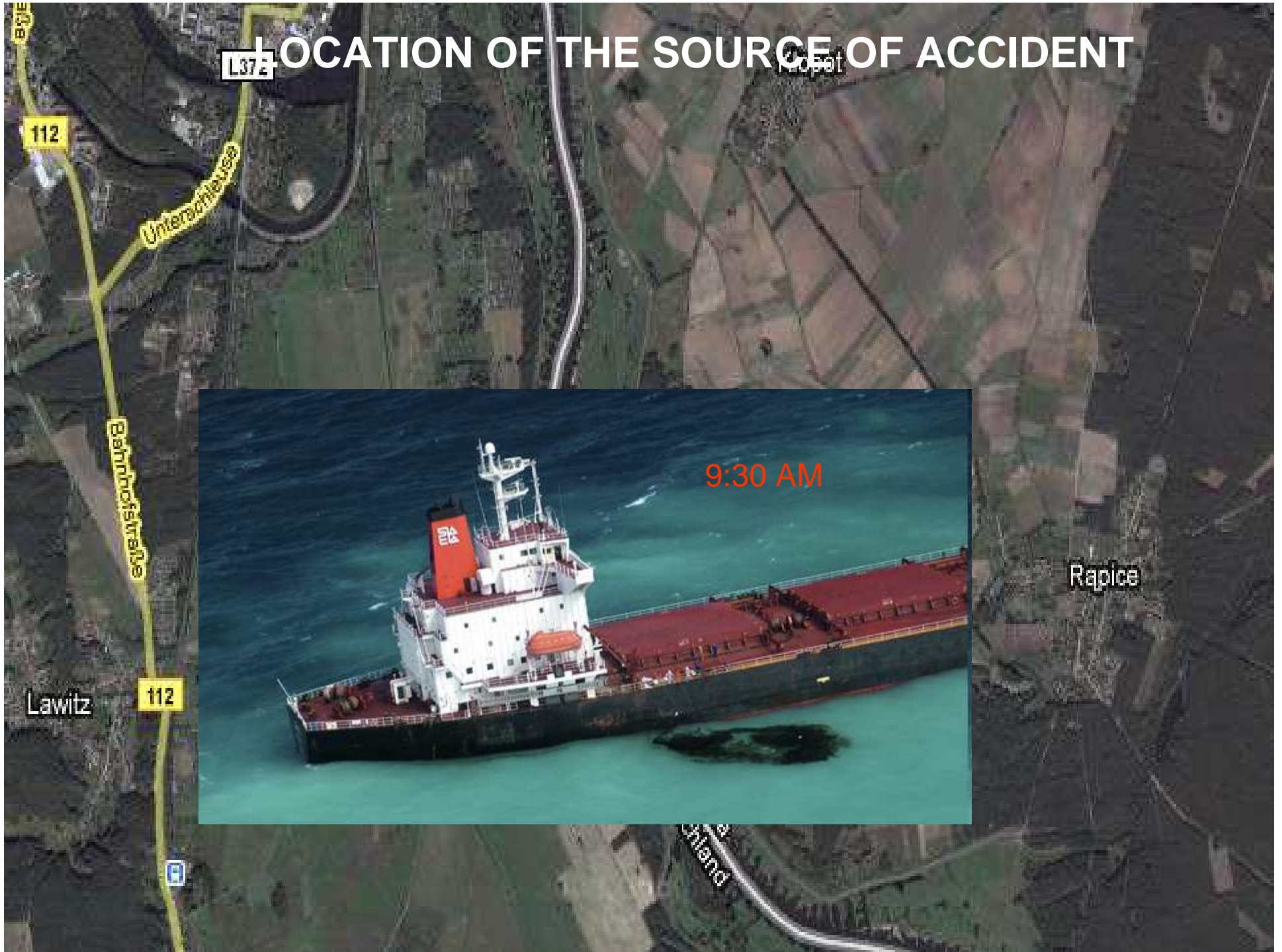
1. The functioning of warning, alert and notification systems, both national and international
2. The effectiveness of the work of joint (German nad Polish) staff for managing the emergency
3. The degree of preparedness of response equipment for oil spills (floating barriers, separators, skimmers, ect.) and its effective application by response personnel

A failure of a vessel transporting oil in the middle reach of the River Odra (Oder), near Rapice, Słubice County

Consequently, 50 tons of oil leaked from the vessel



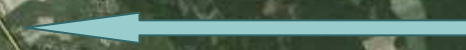
# LOCATION OF THE SOURCE OF ACCIDENT



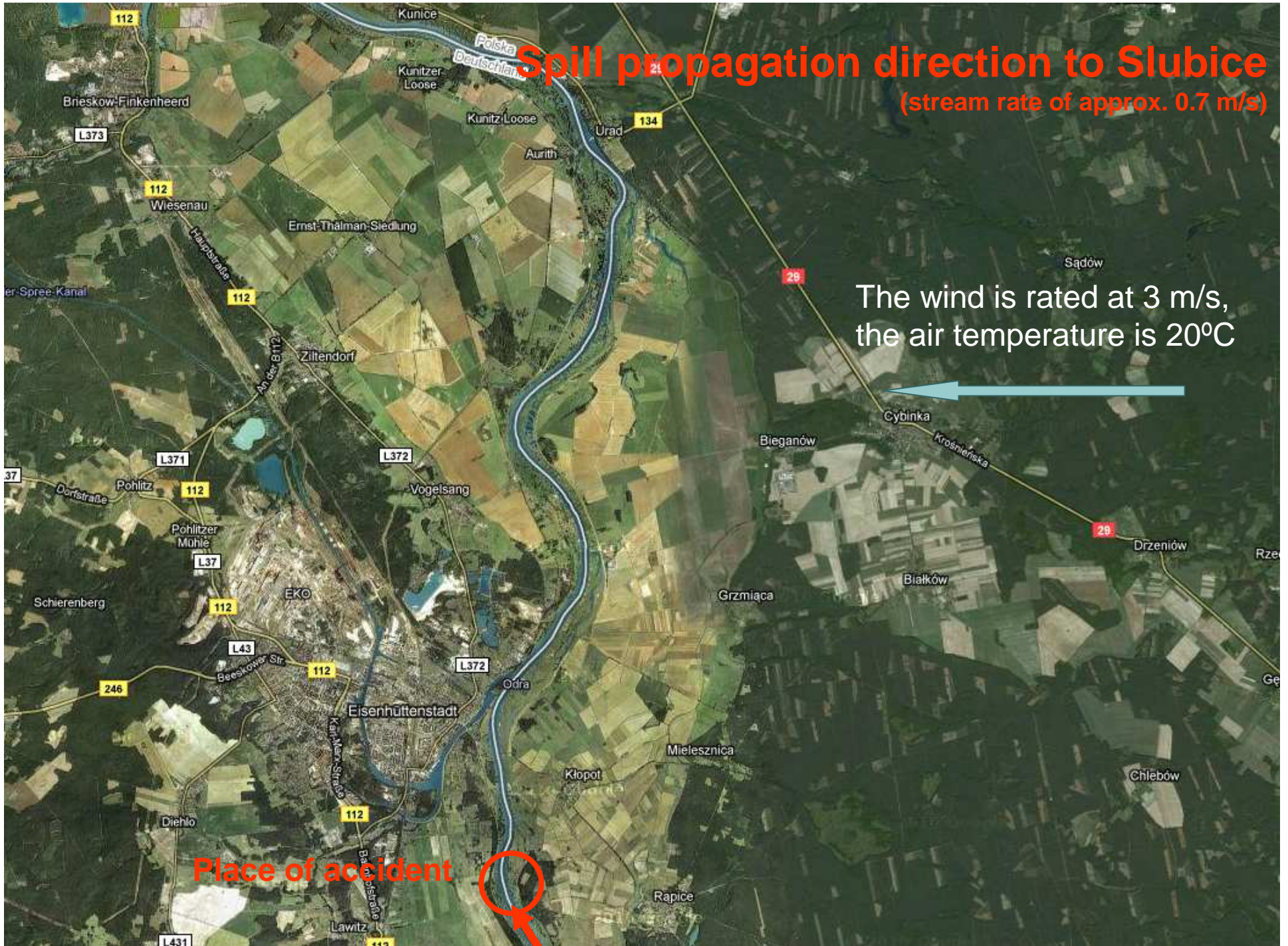


**Spill propagation direction to Slubice**  
(stream rate of approx. 0.7 m/s)

The wind is rated at 3 m/s,  
the air temperature is 20°C



**Place of accident**





4/2009

Międzynarodowy plan ostrzegawczo - alarmowy dla Odry  
**INFORMATIONEN UBUNG**

Załącznik nr 1

-SCHEMAT PRZEBIEGU INFORMACJI-  
 -Meldeformular-außergewöhnliche Verunreinigungen-

Telefax

<input type="checkbox"/> Ostrzeżenie / Warnung	Punkty właściwe proszę x zaznaczyć wzg. wypełnić
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informacja / Information	Zutreffendes bitte x ankreuzen o ausfüllen

Dotyczy! / Betreff	1.1	Informacja (krótka charakterystyka zagrożenia) / Information über den Störfall - Kurzbezeichnung-			
1	Kto?! / Wer?	2.1	nadawca! / Absender <b>KW PSP GORZÓW</b>		
2		2.2.	odbiorca! / Empfänger <b>Regionale Leitstelle „Oderland“</b>		
Co?! / Was?	3.1.	zdarzenie! / Ereignis			
	3.2.	sprawca! / Verursacher			
	3.3.	A. olej mineralny A. Mineralöl	B. subst. chemiczna B. Chem. Stoff	C. inne C. Sonstiges	
	A. substancja: A. Stoff	<b>OL</b>	B. ilość: B. Menge	<b>50 T</b>	
3	Kiedy?! / Wann?	4.1.	data! / Datum <b>08.09.2009</b>		
4	Gdzie?! / Wo?	4.2.	czas! / Uhrzeit <b>9:32</b>		
		5.0.	Nazwa ciekłu	km rzeki Fluß-km	stopień piętrzący/ miejsce Staustufe/Ort
		5.1.	Nysa Lużycka/Neiße		
		5.2.	Odra/Oder	<b>572</b>	
		5.3.	Odra Zachodnia/Westoder		
		5.4	Zalew Szczeciński/Oderhaff		
5	oddziaływanie na wody graniczne Auswirkungen auf d.Grenzgewässer	5.5.	dopływy rzeki/Zuflüsse		
		5.6.	gmina: Gemeinde <b>Cybinka</b>	województwo: Landkreis <b>Lubuskie</b>	
6	6.1.	Bez oddziaływań/kleine		data! / Datum	
		spodziewa się do dnia/werden erwartet bis		godzina! / Uhrzeit	
		nastąpiły dnia/sind eingetreten am			
7	7.1.	Wymagana pomoc/Anforderung von Hilfeleistung?		ja/nein tak/nie	
		7.1.1. Jaka drużyna?/Mannschaft			
		7.1.2. Oprzyrządowana w: /Gerät			
		7.1.3. Miejsce zbiórki, godz. odjazdu/Abfahrt, Sammelpunkt		<b>URAD</b>	
7	7.2.	Czy wymagana jest współpraca przy zwalczaniu zagrożenia? Gemeinsame Bekämpfungsmassnahmen notwendig?		tak/nie ja/nein	
		7.2.1. Uzasadnienie, wskazówki Begründung, Hinweise <b>LAUT BESTIMMUNGEN</b>			
8	8.1.	Nadawca osiagalny: Erreichbarkeit		miejsce! / Ort	
		Sztab akcji Einsatzleitung		telefon: fax:	
8	8.2.	miejsce udziału w akcji Einsatzort			
		Miejsce, data, godzina Ort, Datum und Uhrzeit			
9	10	nazwisko, stanowisko/ Name, Amtsbezeichnung <b>DYŻURNY OPERACYJNY</b> <b>st. asp. Sławomir Walobaw</b>			

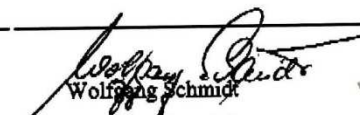
# Notification

The Report Form sent by the Provincial Rescue Coordination Post (PRCP) at the Provincial Headquarters of the State Fire Service (PHQ SFS) in Gorzów Wlkp. to the Oderland Regional Control Centre in Frankfurt on the Oder (Regionalleitstelle „Oderland“) and to the Brandenburg Situation Centre in Potsdam (Lagezentrum Brand-und Katastrophenschutz Brandenburg).

- Bestätigung der Meldung -  
 - POTWIERDZENIE MELDUNKU -  
 CWICZENIA LACZNOSI - INFORMATIONSÜBUNG

**Telefax**

Nr. 0048-95 73 38 360

Betreff/dotyczy  1	1.1. Kurzbezeichnung/krótkie nazwa sprawy  <p align="center"><b>CWICZENIA LACZNOSI - INFORMATIONSÜBUNG</b></p>
Wer?/kto?-komu?  2	2.1. Absender/nadawca Ministerium des Innern Land Brandenburg Lagezentrum Brand- und Katastrophenschutz Brandenburg (LZBK BB) Telefon: (0331) 866 2475 / Fax: (0331) 866 2478 Email: lzbkmi01@mi.brandenburg.de  2.2. Empfänger/odbiorca KW PSP Gorzów Wlkp.
Sachverhalt: Stan rzeczy  3	3.1. Ihre Meldung vom:                      08.09.2009                      08:00 <i>Informacja z dnia</i> <hr/> Datum/dziena                      Uhrzeit/godzina  3.2. Eingegangen am:                      08.09.2009                      08:24 <i>Wplynela w dniu</i> <hr/> Datum/data                      Uhrzeit/godzina  3.3. über Ereignis: <i>w sprawie/dot. wydarzenia:</i>
Ort/miejscowosc Datum/podac date Uhrzeit/podac godzine  4	Potsdam 08.09.2009 09:08   Wolfgang Schmidt Name / Amtsbezeichnung nazwisko/instancja, stanowisko

The reply – acknowledgment received from the Brandenburg Situation Centre in Potsdam

(Lagezentrum Brand-und Katastrophenschutz Brandenburg).



Exercise area

Width 180 m



134



Operation Area No. 15

URAD



# Setting up a floating barrier









# Preparation of the site for a skimmer





## Setting up a flexible barrier



07.09.2007















# Cleaning of the bankline



07.09.2007



## Setting up a flexible barrier

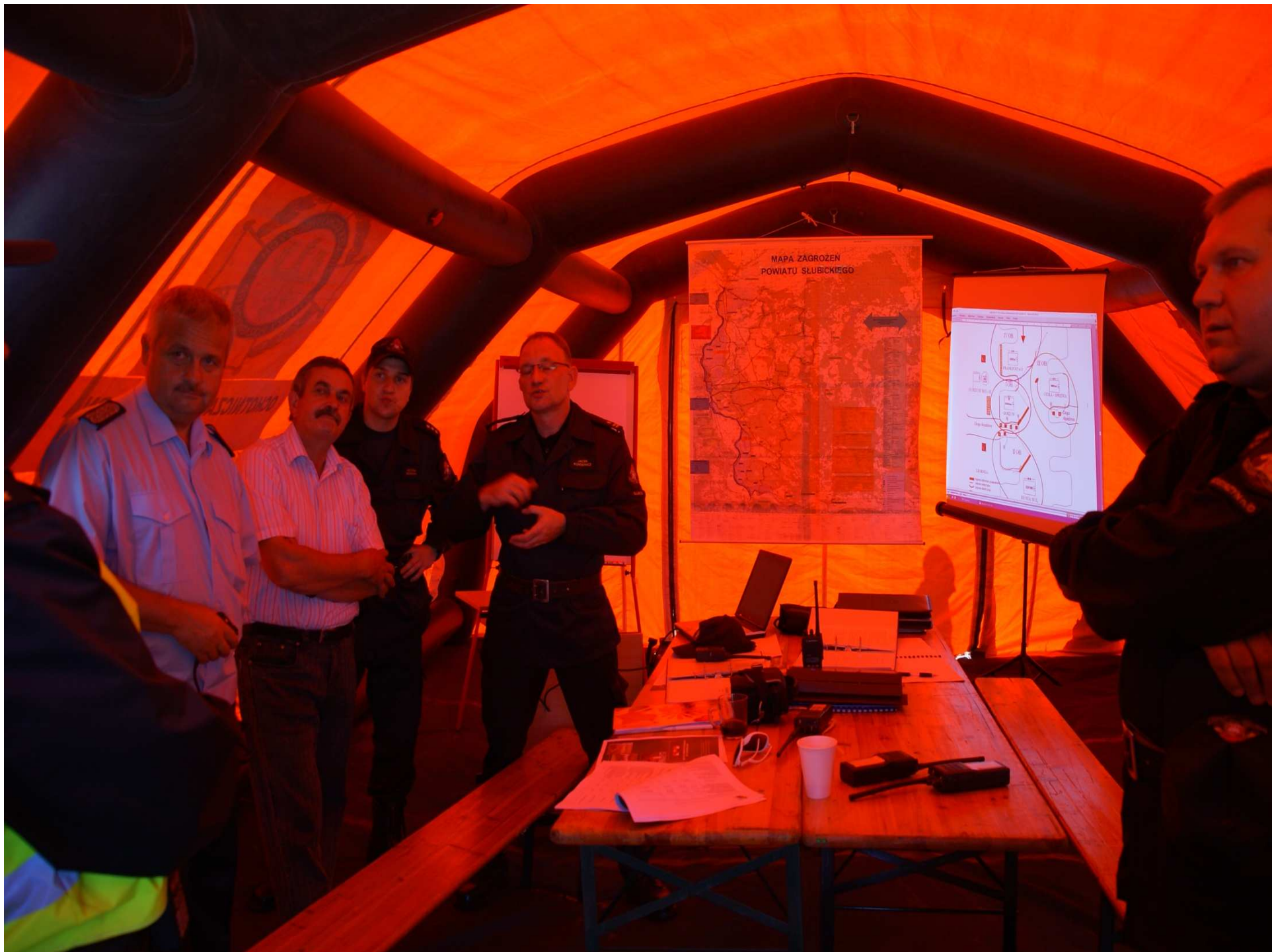






07.09.2007







## Operational Headquarters (HQ)

1. Chief of Staff – Słubice County SFS Commander
2. Polish Members of Staff:
  - A representative of the County Emergency Management Centre
  - A representative of the district authorities of Cybinka
  - A representative of the Water Authority from Słubice
  - A representative Provincial Inspectorate for Environmental Protection
  - A representative of the Department of Environmental Protection and Forestry at the County Administration Office in Słubice
3. German Members of Staff:
  - 4 persons representing the Oder-Spree District.

### **HQ tasks**

1. Achievement of the tactical objectives of the Rescue Operations Manager.
2. Logistical support of the rescue operations.
3. Determination of the methods and procedures to handle the recovered oil-derivative substance according to the remit and objectives implemented by individual institutions and services on the Polish and German side.
4. Provision of an adequate amount of neutralising and sorbing agents to the operational areas.



## Provincial Inspectorate for Environmental Protection (PIEP)

During the exercise, PIEP inspectors performed the following tasks:

- Continuous monitoring of the accident site, sampling water from the River Odra downstream of the barriers, in order to determine the quality of the river water and the degree of risk for the environment;
- Monitoring of the River Odra from the recovery site in the direction of Słubice;
- Teaming up with the Headquarters staff and advising the Head of Rescue Operation as regards the methods used to mitigate the consequences of the spillage and the handling procedures of the hazardous substance.





# The Police and the Border Guard

## Tasks:

- Securing of the area of operation
- Securing of the access roads
- Carrying out an investigation to determine the causes of the accident

## Polish resources used in the exercise

In total: 16 vehicles, 4 watercraft, 56 firefighters,  
100 m of floating barriers and 2 skimmers

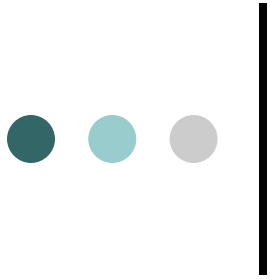




## German resources used in the exercise

In total: 14 vehicles, 3 watercraft, 67 firefighters  
1 flexible barrier and a skimmer





## Conclusions:

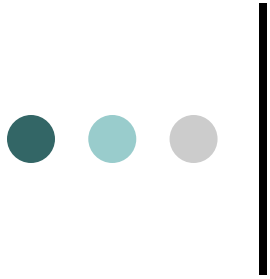
1. The exercise was a good opportunity to test the alerting procedures used to notify the personnel and employ the equipment, which arise from mutual (Polish-German) agreements on the provision of assistance in the mitigation of the consequences of transboundary accidents.

The execution of the alerting phase was correct and the operational control centres on both sides of the border notified relevant resources.

2. The exercise allowed verification of the preparedness, the condition of equipment and the ability to set it up in the conditions of actual threat to the aquatic environment, both as regards the StateFire Service units of the Lubuskie Province and of the neighbouring districts on the German side, and also the other cooperating parties.

All the notified resources were available at the assembly position and ready to carry out their tasks.





## Conclusions:

3. The establishment of international operational command posts (HQ) in the event of transboundary accidents enables close cooperation of personnel and equipment of the participating countries.

The staff should also involve representatives of various services, authorities and institutions that are essential to operate properly, according to their scope of objectives and remits;

4. The work of Polish-German HQ could still be improved.

It is justified to organise tabletop and field exercises, during which staff members will learn about their respective work principles, differences and similarities in their organisations, responsibilities of the services and authorities participating in the work of staff;



## Conclusions:

5. The equipment used to mitigate the consequences of pollution of inland waters with oil-derivative substances, being at the disposal of Polish and German fire service units, allows mutual exchange, cooperation and compatibility in this kind of rescue and recovery operations;

6. The joint Polish-German exercise in the mitigation of the consequences of various threats occurring in our borderlands has one superior and undoubtedly positive effect, which is the fact that – in the last 15 years – we have had the opportunity to get to know each other and bring our respective authorities and services responsible for civil protection in the area closer.

This results in learning about the possibilities of working together, establishing partner relations between the services, carrying out joint activities and building mutual trust.





# Workshop sessions

- I – Polish-German cooperation on emergencies in border areas
- II – Identification of point and linear hazards in border areas
- III – Techniques and technology in mitigating effects of accidents polluting transboundary waters
- IV – Notification procedures in the event of an accident in border areas
- V – Linkages between elements of planning on mitigation and rescue and the EU Water Framework directive
- VI – Experience from UNECE-wide activities on enhancing the joint management of emergency situations in border areas



# Conclusions of the workshop

- Cooperation between countries is essential for an effective response;
- Cooperation on every stage of safety chain's management areas:
  - prevention,
  - preparedness,
  - response phases;





# Cooperation includes:

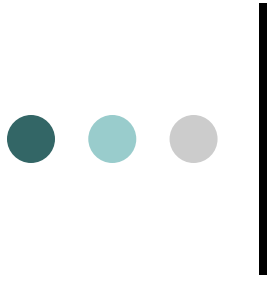
- Establishing a solid basis (legislation and bilateral agreements),
- Continuous work through regular meetings of joint working group;
- Sharing of practices and technology;
- Implementation of joint projects aimed at improving safety standards;
- Harmonizing off-site contingency planning (alert and warning systems; sectors for response actions, procedures for mutual assistance);
- Joint trainings of the response forces;
- Sharing lessons learned;
- Organization of exercises.



Establishment of an effective crisis management system, including for transboundary emergencies on waterways, involves:

- 1) A legal, institutional and policy basis:
  - legislation in place and in force;
  - dedicated institutional structures;
  - emergency plans;
  - operational alert and warning systems.
  
- 2) An educational/cooperation basis:
  - training sessions and exercises;
  - education exchange of technology and know how;
  - trust building;
  - public awareness building.





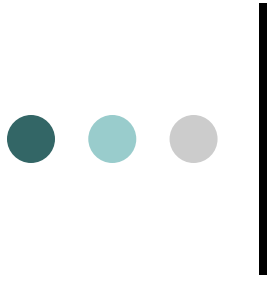
- The Western and Central European countries should continue to cooperate to maintain and improve the high effectiveness of joint crisis management;
- The countries with economies in transition should work on both bases, learn from good practices and improve their crisis management skills;



## Finally...

- A sound methodology for building an effective crisis management system, focusing on transboundary emergencies involving for transboundary emergencies on waterways, would be very helpful and should be elaborated.
- The Convention's secretariat was requested to explore the possibilities leading to the elaboration of such a methodology.





Thank You  
for Your attention!



Thank You  
for Your attention!

