

Background

Still 10-15 years ago the problems of providing safe industrial processes were pushed to the background, because after the economic crisis the attention was focused on rehabilitation of various industrial branches. At present various industrial branches are gradually recovered in Armenia and projects are implemented towards reduction of adverse environmental impact. During recent years Armenia has adopted many laws and legal documents, which aimed at development of the educational and environmental sectors policy.

Joining the Bologna process, Armenia, jointly with other participating countries has committed itself to harmonizing its higher educational system with the required “general criteria”, forming a part of the European higher educational region that is impossible without implementation of reforms. One of the preconditions for these reforms is the new knowledge and experience gained in any professional field.

Still in 1996 Armenia ratified the UNECE “Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents” (Helsinki, 1992) and confirmed its policy in this field. However, many of the Convention provisions have not been properly applied yet in the country.

This project was funded by Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany. ***The project goal is to support increasing the level of industrial safety in Armenia and raising the level of public awareness in the sector with involvement of students of technical higher educational institutions, at the same time promoting improvement of the knowledge of the specialists (lecturers), students and industrial enterprises’ staff and providing localization of the European experience in the sector and its application in the country.***

For the implementation of the project the corresponding specialized departments of State Engineering University of Armenia (www.seua.am), Yerevan State University of Architecture and Construction (www.ysuac.am) and the Crisis management state Academy of MES RA have been selected as model institutions of the project.

The selection of the universities was done also taking into account the circumstance that for provision of smooth transition from educational to the industrial process, the Chairs have planned practical training courses for students at different industrial organizations and enterprises.

The general actions of the project

1. Kick off meeting



NGOs, enterprises, as well as Federal Environmental agency of Germany (UBA) took part in the meeting. The meeting passed in warm and constructive atmosphere making strong preconditions for successful implementation of the project in Armenia.

Representatives of RA Ministries of Nature Protection, Emergency Situations, Health, universities, international organizations, industrial



2. Training of trainers

During the trainings 4 lecturers from the selected universities that read lectures on the above mentioned disciplines took part. Besides, also specialists from the Ministries of Nature Protection, Emergency Situations RA and Yerevan Aarhus Centre took part in the training. The courses consisted of the theoretical and practical parts. Training



courses for trainers were conducted by international experts from Germany, who presented the check-list methodology and trained the participants to apply the check-lists. The checklists are Instrument for standardization of approaches during assessment of possible emergency situations and assessment of possible impact. The checklists include technical and organizational measures related to industrial safety and have found their application in a number of European countries.

3. Training for students

3.1. Theoretical part

The goal of the training course for students was introducing the students the production processes, their possible ecological risks,



production safety issues and national and European experience in this sector.



With this purpose, along with the trained lecturers also local invited experts (emergency, environmental, health and PR specialists) were involved in the courses.

3.2. Practical part

The practical courses for the students were organized in 5 industrial enterprises. During the visit to the enterprises, they got acquainted with the details of the processes implemented at these enterprises, made a tour inside the enterprises accompanied by appropriate specialists to see the technological processes, equipment, safety and



automation systems and the necessary documentation on site.

The practical courses allowed the students to better understand the check-list methodology and apply them during their practice. The students represented the details of the carried out works and their general impressions on the entire activity during the meeting organized at the Yerevan Aarhus Center.



4. Translation of checklist methodology into national language

The checklist methodology (18 packages of the checklists in the form of an activity book, actions guideline and instructions of their implementation) was published after correction and addition by corresponding specialists for their harmonization with the conditions in Armenia. It will be disseminated among the stakeholders.



5. Presentation of project results on UNECE Meeting



The project results were presented during the Conference of parties to Industrial Accidents Convention in Stockholm (Sweden) in November, 2012.

6. Organization of international workshop

The final workshop will be held where the results will be discussed with representatives from other UNECE countries to serve as a pilot project within the UNECE Technical Assistance Program.

In this context the project outcomes will be discussed with the representatives of UNECE aimed at exchange of experience out of Armenia.

The final workshop of the project is a good opportunity to take stock of the project's achievements.

The workshop is addressed to all those who are supported or involved in the process of implementing the project or – in the case of countries outside Armenia - are interested in benefiting from the lessons learned during the implementation of the project, as well as governmental representatives, local authorities and representatives of academia, research institutes, industrial enterprises, international and non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

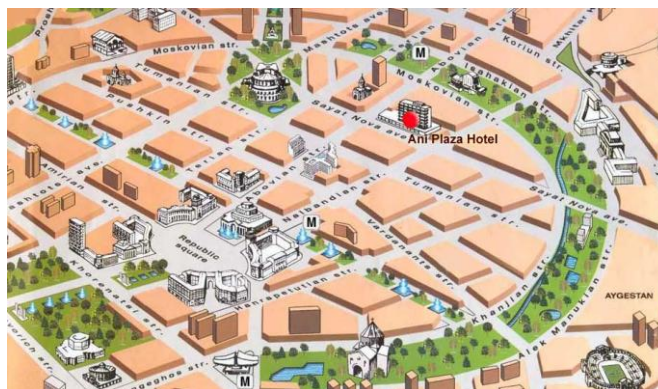
The Information on the workshop is available at the UNECE website:

www.unece.org/env/teia/mtgs/Yerevan2013

On 26 March the final workshop will be held at “Ani Plaza” Hotel’s “Ani” hall at 10:30

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ASSISTANCE TO RAISING KNOWLEDGE ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AT UNIVERSITIES

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

**26 March, 2013
 Yerevan, Armenia**



Financing organization

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany

Implementing organization

“Eco Peace” scientific, ecological NGO

Project supporters

*RA Ministry of Nature Protection
 RA Ministry of Emergency Situations
 Universities - YSUAC, SEUA*

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