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**Identification of Hazardous Activities
with Potential for Transboundary Effects in
Slovenia**

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Identification of Hazardous Activities with PTE

„For the purpose of undertaking preventive measures ... the Party of origin shall take measures ... **to identify hazardous activities** ...” (TEIA Conv., Art. 4 para. 1).

„**Hazardous activity**” means any activity in which one or more hazardous substances are present or may be present in quantities at or in excess of the threshold quantities listed in Annex I hereto, and which is capable of causing transboundary effects (TEIA Conv., Art. 1 b).

„**Effects**” means any direct or indirect, immediate or delayed adverse consequences caused by an industrial accident on, inter alia:

- (i) Human beings, flora and fauna;
 - (ii) Soil, water, air and landscape;
 - (iii) The interaction between the factors in (i) and (ii);
 - (iv) Material assets and cultural heritage, including historical monuments.
- (TEIA Conv., Art. 1 c).

Identification of Hazardous Activities with PTE

„**Transboundary effects**“ means serious effects within the jurisdiction of a Party as a result of an industrial accident occurring within the jurisdiction of another Party
(TEIA Conv., Art. 1 d).

What does this mean?

„Hazardous activity“ in the context of TEIA Conv. is

- an industrial or scientific or public **establishment** (or installation) where hazardous (dangerous) substances are being handled (e.g. produced, stored, mixed, packaged,)
- regardless the type of possible accident (fire, explosion,) and regardless the type of activity's operation ,
- accident involving hazardous activity could have **transboundary** character / effects.

Identification of Hazardous Activities with PTE

Guidelines to facilitate the identification.....:

„Substance criteria“

„Location criteria“ (air path, water path)

Substance criteria:

„Hazardous activity“ in the context of TEIA Conv. is

– on the site of the activity there is one or more hazardous activities in quantities above threshold levels from Annex I

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Location criteria for hazardous activities:

Air path: Within 15 kilometres from the border (*on each side of the border*), for activities involving substances that may cause a fire or explosion or involving toxic substances that may be released into the air in the event of an accident

(Appendix to Annex IV, para. 5a, Report of the 1st CoP;
Annex II para. 5a, Part II Decisions of the Report of the 3rd CoP).

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Water path: Along or within catchment areas of transboundary and border rivers, transboundary or international lakes, or within the catchment areas of transboundary groundwaters, for activities involving (toxic, dangerous for the environment) substances and that may be released into watercourses in the event of an accident.

Whether or not such an activity is capable of causing a transboundary effect in such an event should be decided by the competent authority of the Party of origin, preferably in consultation with joint bodies . The decision should depend, among other things, on the existence of river warning and alarm systems and the distance between the location of the hazardous activity and the border.

- A catchment area of a transboundary river or lake is defined as the whole drainage area of this river or lake with a common outlet.
- Joint body means any bilateral or multilateral commission or other appropriate institutional arrangements for cooperation between Riparian Parties.
- The joint ad hoc expert group on water and industrial accidents recommended that this distance should correspond to approximately a flowing period of two days of average flow velocity.

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Identification of Hazardous Activities with PTE

So, what do we have to do?

We have to:

- find out the inventory of the hazardous substances in the activities in the country,
- find out the location of these activities,
- decide which of the activities in the case of an accident are capable of causing transboundary effects to your neighbouring countries.

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So, how did we do it?

In three rounds.

First round – based on information from the notifications of operators of HA

Second round – based on information from the available safety reports + common sense

Third round – additional checking the transboundary potential based on methodology developed under the Danube River Protection Convention.
Simple, limited amount of data needed. Cooperation with colleagues from the water management area.

Identification of Hazardous Activities with PTE

Our principles:

- do not question classification data from the industry, unless....
- use official data only,
- no separate lists of hazardous activities for Convention and Directive purposes

Characteristics of the situation in Slovenia:

- 61 SEVESO establishments (28 + 33)
- prevailing activities: storage and distribution of LPG and oil products
- 7th among EU countries based on the criteria: no of est. / no. of population,
- **for 28 upper –tier sites the location criteria was applied,**
- the process started in 2005
- current number: 7.

