GLOBAL WORKSHOP
ON BUILDING CLIMATE - RESILIENCE THROUGH
IMPROVING WATER MANAGEMENT AND SANITATION
AT NATIONAL AND TRANSBOUNDARY LEVELS

29 - 31 March 2021, hybrid
Palais des Nations, Geneva and online

Perspectives on reducing disaster risk and managing health impacts in a changing climate
Speaker: Max Linsen, consultant

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Industrial safety and Disaster Risk Reduction: the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

Prevention (Article 6 and Annex IV):
- Hazard identification/mapping
- Risk assessment, siting and land-use planning

Siting / Land-use planning (Article 7 and Annex VI):

Emergency preparedness (Article 8 and Annex VII):
- Contingency planning (on- and off-site),
- Harmonized across borders

Response:
- Early warning,
- Accident notification
- Mutual assistance

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030

Health and disaster risk: what are the links?

• Poisonous fish stocks

Photo by Anonymous (Greenpeace)

• Toxic spills

Health and disaster risk: what are the links?

- Example: The COVID-19 pandemic and industrial safety inspections
Accidents triggered by natural disasters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disaster</th>
<th>Number of accidents reported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earthquake</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landslide</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm (wind)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low temperature</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lightning</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


OECD, Germany, the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit, the EU Joint Research Centre, and other member States and partners

Photo by Denys Argyriou on Unsplash
The Industrial Accidents Convention: Dealing with the common challenge of natural and man-made risks

- **Awareness**
  - Integrating the right terminology in the Global Assessment Report (2019)
  - Words into Action guidelines
    https://www.undrr.org/publication/words-action-guideline-man-made/technological-hazards
  - Industrial Accidents Convention web page on Natech

- **Capacity building projects**
  - Implementing the Convention in Central Asia
  - Projects on mine tailings safety all over the region

- **Cross-sectoral coordination**
  - Good practice in River Basin Commissions through warning and alarm systems
  - Portugal integrates natural and industrial risks at its National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
  - Kazakhstan has set up inter-institutional working groups on tailings safety and prevention of accidental water pollution

- **Regulatory framework and policies**
  - The Decision on strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region and beyond adopted in December 2020
  - Links DRR, climate change and extreme weather events to safe management of mine tailings
  - Asks countries to respond adequately to these phenomena
From policy to projects: EIB perspective on DRR, health and climate change

- to meet the long-term temperature and climate-resilience goals of the Paris Agreement.

2020s is the critical decade

- sets out ambition as the EU Climate Bank
- supports climate action and environmental sustainability to exceed 50% of its overall lending activity by 2025 and beyond
- thus helps to leverage €1 trillion of investment by the EIB Group over the critical decade ahead.

The EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025

- In a broader sense:
  - investments in adaptation in support of disaster preparedness, early warning systems
  - post-disaster recovery
  - projects

Contributes to health and disaster risk recovery

- With losses alone from flooding in excess of €1 trillion per year in a high-emission scenario.
- Even in a more moderate scenario, damage to Europe's critical infrastructure could increase tenfold, to €34 billion per year.

By the end of the century, climate-related disasters could affect about two-thirds of the EU population
Thank you

For more information on the Industrial Accidents Convention:
https://unece.org/environment-policy/industrial-accidents

More on Natech risk management in the UNECE region and beyond:

And for more on the EIB Group Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025: