



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Environmental Protection
Launch of the National Policy Dialogues (NPD) on Industrial Safety in Serbia
Belgrade, 26 October 2021

**Existing institutional and legislative
frameworks for industrial accidents
prevention, preparedness and response in
Serbia**

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INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

- ▶ Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
- ▶ Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
- ▶ Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context / Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment
- ▶ Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and the Right to Legal Protection in Environmental Matters

INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

- ▶ Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
- ▶ The Republic of Serbia is a member of the International Commission for the Danube River – ICPDR
- ▶ The Republic of Serbia has ratified the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin and is a member of the International Sava River Basin Commission (Sava Commission).

EUROPEAN UNION REGULATIONS

- ▶ Seveso II Directive - Council Directive 96/82 /EC on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances
- ▶ Seveso III Directive - Directive 2012/18 / EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012

LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

- ▶ Law on Environmental Protection
- ▶ Law on Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management and
- ▶ Law on Ratification of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

- ▶ Law on Environmental Impact Assessment
- ▶ Law on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment
- ▶ Law on Waters
- ▶ Law on Fire Protection
- ▶ Law on Planning and Construction
- ▶ Law on Mining and Geological Research
- ▶ Law on Free Access to Information of Public Importance

LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

- Law on Critical Infrastructure
- Law on Reconstruction after Natural and Other Disasters
- Law on National Infrastructure of Geospatial Data

STRATEGIES, PROGRAMS, PLANS

- ▶ National Strategy for Sustainable Development
- ▶ Water management strategy until 2034
- ▶ Water Management Plan on the territory of RS from 2021-2027 (Proposal)
- ▶ Spatial Plan of the republic of Serbia 2021-2035 (Draft)
- ▶ Strategy of sustainable urban development of RS until 2030

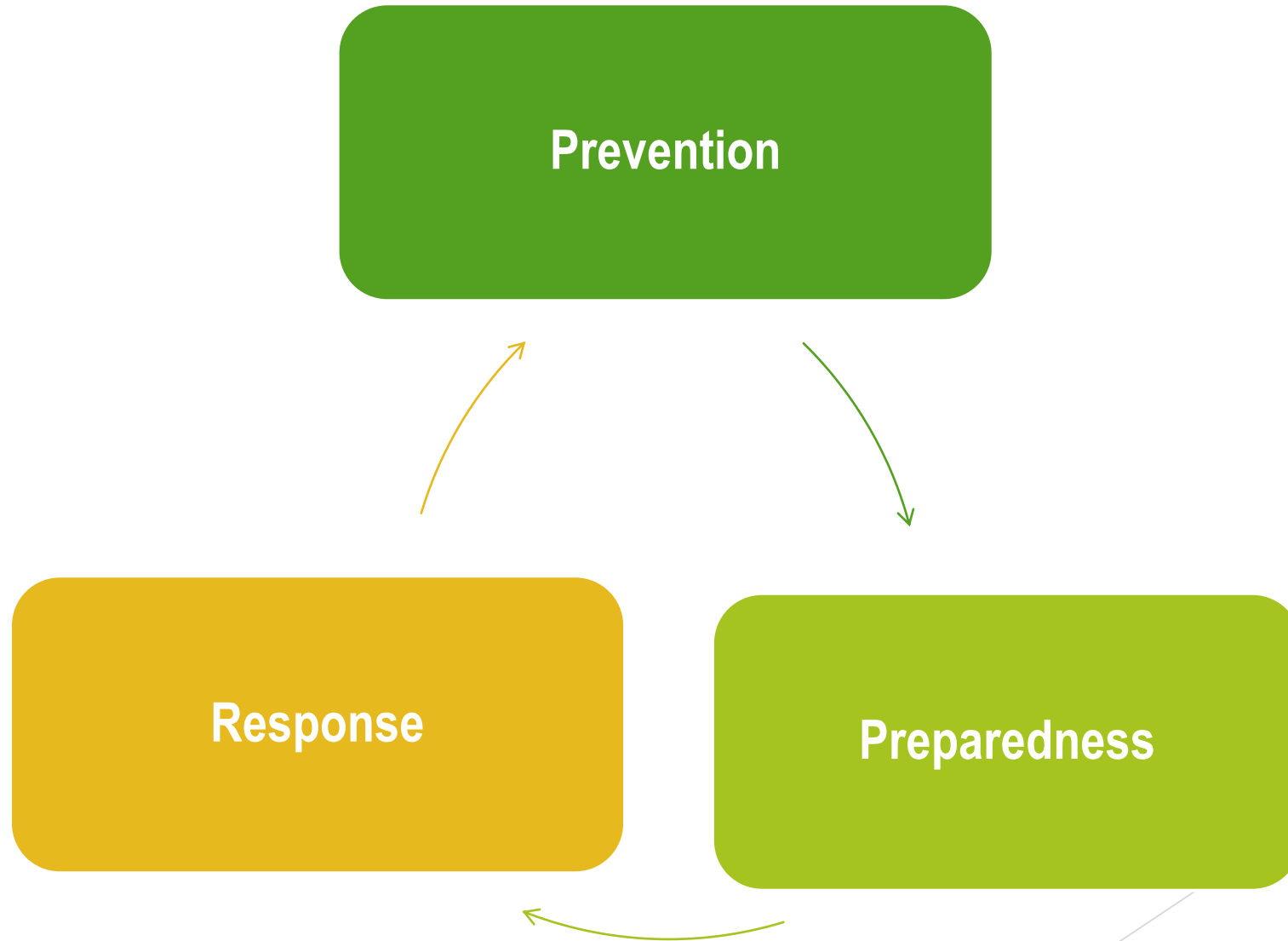
STRATEGIES, PROGRAMS, PLANS

- ▶ The Republic Emergency Situations Headquarters has adopted a Conclusion on activities related to the implementation of the Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction Framework
- ▶ Strategy for Disaster risk reduction and emergency management
- ▶ Disaster risk reduction plan
- ▶ Disaster risk assessment in the Republic of Serbia

CONVENTION ON TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS - MAIN OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Protection of human health and the environment from industrial / chemical accidents
- ▶ Prevention of industrial / chemical accidents, as far as possible, including accidents with possible transboundary effects
- ▶ Reducing the frequency and severity of such accidents and mitigating the effects of industrial / chemical accidents
- ▶ Encouraging active international cooperation between countries before, during and after an industrial accident

Priority areas in implementation



- ▶ The Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents addresses the improvement of industrial safety throughout the UNECE region, in particular through the prevention of industrial accidents with transboundary consequences.
- ▶ The Convention enhances multilateral cooperation between the Parties in the prevention of industrial accidents and expresses its preparedness for and respond to industrial accidents when they occur.

- ▶ The Convention has a global character, and given its complexity, its implementation requires the coordinated participation of a large number of competent authorities at the national level, their vertical coordination with regional and local authorities, industry and the public, as well as bilateral cross-border cooperation with neighboring countries.

Competences for the implementation of the Convention in the Republic of Serbia are divided between:

- Ministry of Environmental Protection (focal Ministry for the implementation of the Convention)
- Ministry of Interior - Sector for Emergency Situations and
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management - Republic Water Directorate.

These ministries perform activities related to the implementation and enforcement of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, in cooperation with:

- ▶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
- ▶ Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure
- ▶ Ministry of Mining and Energy and
- ▶ Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs

- ▶ In the Republic of Serbia, the Republic Notification Center (112) has been appointed as a contact point for the use of the IAN system (Industrial Accident Notification System) and as a competent body that will act as a contact point for mutual assistance in case of an industrial accident with cross-border effects.

- **In 2011, the Agreement on the Establishment of a Joint Body for the Implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents in the Republic of Serbia was concluded and renewed in 2018**
- **Task: to monitor, consider and coordinate activities related to the exercise and enforcement of the rights and obligations of the Republic of Serbia under the Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.**
- **The joint body consists of representatives of the ministries responsible for environmental protection, interior affairs, foreign affairs, water management, spatial planning, mining and occupational safety and health.**

DISADVANTAGES AND CHALLENGES

- The Republic of Serbia is committed to improving industrial safety and working to implement the Convention
- Insufficient coordination and cooperation between the competent authorities at the national and local level, which are responsible for environmental protection, emergency management and emergency response, spatial planning and construction, chemicals and water management, mining and energy, as well as between these authorities and the industry and the public.

- ▶ The Ministry of Environmental Protection, in cooperation with UNECE, has prepared a project concept proposing the establishment of a **National Policy Dialogue (NPD)** for industrial safety
- ▶ NPD will enable the Republic of Serbia to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of cooperation, as well as to establish sustainable coordination mechanisms between national authorities, as well as between authorities and industry/ operators and the public.
- ▶ Synergy with other multilateral international agreements in the field of environment, as well as with EU regulations, especially the Seveso III Directive
- ▶ The NPD will also contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Challenge!

- ▶ There is always a need to improve the legal framework and build a system to prevent, prepare for and respond to industrial/chemical accidents!
- ▶ Do we always need accidents to learn?
- ▶ How to make this topic a top priority, but without accidents?

<http://ecentre.org/Online-Training.aspx/id/3/lan/en-US>





**Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Environmental Protection**

Thank you for your attention!