



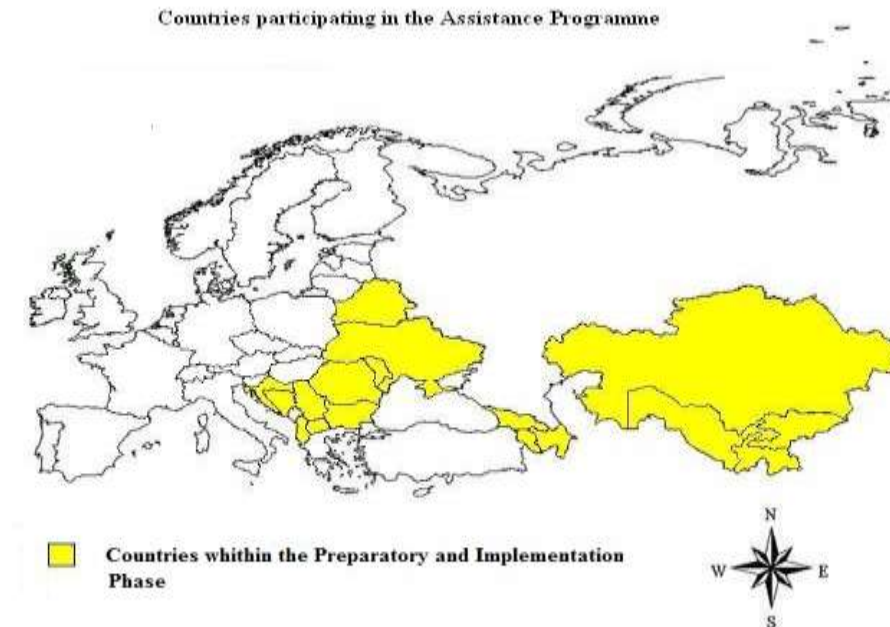
**Republic of Serbia**  
**Ministry of Environmental Protection**

**Launch of the National Policy Dialogues (NPD) on Industrial Safety in Serbia**  
**Belgrade, 26 October 2021**

**Serbia as a Party to the Industrial  
Accidents Convention and beneficiary of its  
Assistance and Cooperation Programme:  
previous activities and progress towards  
the implementation of the Convention**

**Sanja Stamenkovic**  
**Section for Major Chemical Accident Protection**

## ► 2004 CoP adopts Assistance Programme



## ► Serbia participates actively from 2007.

**Workshop on capacity-building with the aim to initiate a process to further strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks under the Convention in the EECCA and SEE countries (Kyiv, Ukraine 2007)**

- ▶ Workshop was the first activity of the Assistance Programme's implementation phase.
- ▶ Important starting point to identify responsible authorities and to improve cooperation.
- ▶ Analysis of the legal framework.
- ▶ Identifying gaps or shortcomings and ways forward.

**PLAN OF ACTION DEVELOPED**

# **Hands - on training session on identification of hazardous activities (Minsk, Belarus, 2008)**

- ✓ Improved process of identification of hazardous activities.
- ✓ Improved understanding of how to apply the Convention's Annex I and the guidelines on location criteria in identifying hazardous activities.
- ✓ National training session on identification of hazardous activities was held.

**LIST OF HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES REVISED**

## **Training session on integrated approaches to major hazard prevention (Prague, Czech Republic, 2009)**

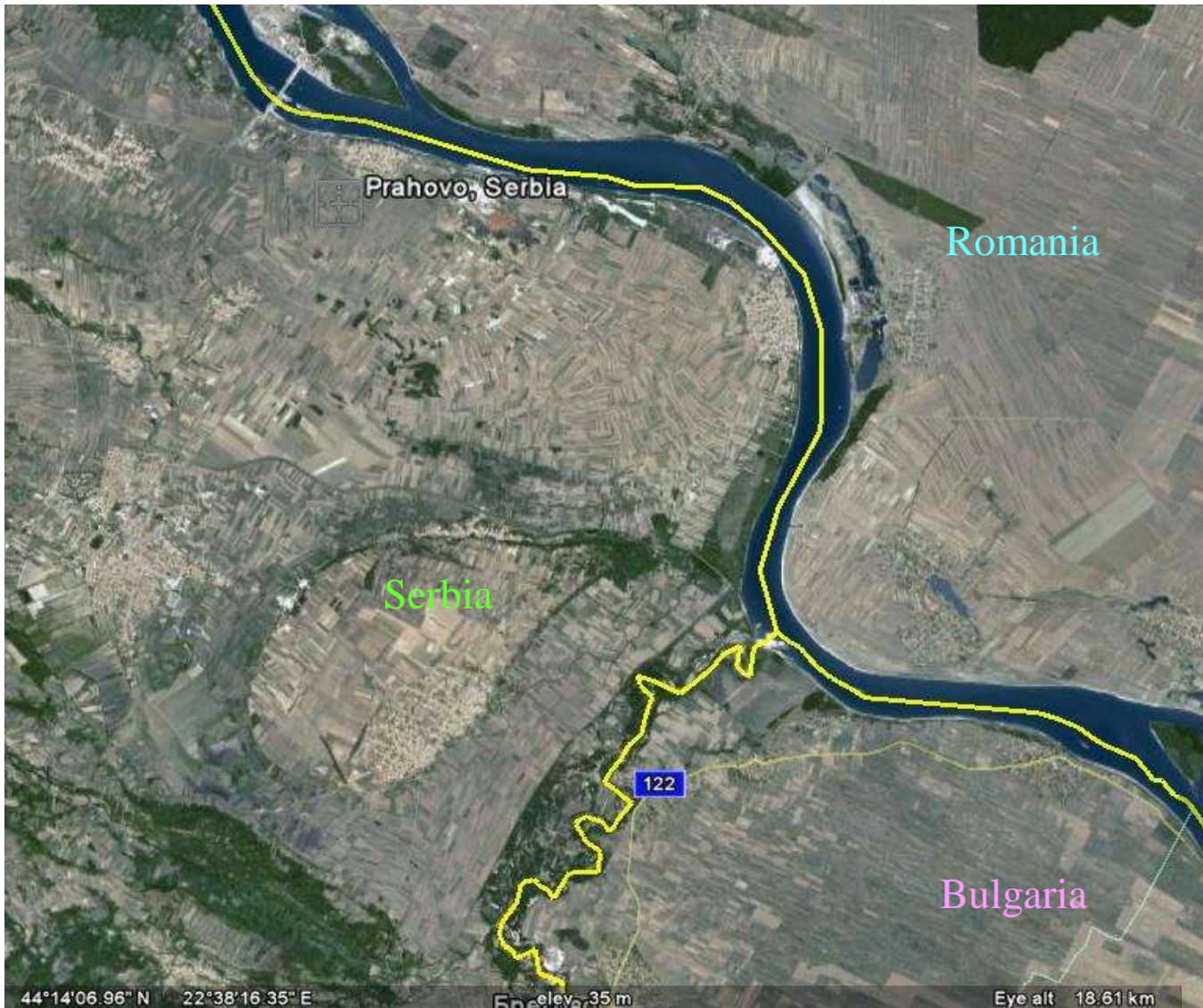
- ▶ Effective cooperation and coordination between relevant authorities in major hazard prevention and crisis management;
- ▶ Strengthening safety culture;
- ▶ Cooperation with neighbouring countries with a view to improving the joint management of transboundary emergencies.

**WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED**  
**composed of the different authorities involved in**  
**implementing the Convention**

**Project for Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia on joint management of transboundary emergencies from spills of hazardous substance into the Danube River (Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria, 2009)**

- ▶ The field exercise had been initiated at Prahovo, Serbia and performed along the Danube River until Vidin, Bulgaria.
- ▶ Emergency procedures were tested for notification, emergency response and modelling, also in respect to cross-border cooperation.

# Border between three countries



# **Training session on evaluation of safety reports (Belgrade, Serbia, 2010)**

- ▶ Approaches (including the roles of authorities) for the evaluation of safety reports.
- ▶ Content and methodologies used in safety reports.
- ▶ Develop a checklist on safety reports - basis for providing guidance on preparation of safety reports.
- ▶ Follow-up to the project focused on using a checklist methodology during the on-site inspection.
- ▶ The next steps - providing training for operators on the development of safety reports and of internal emergency plans.



## Follow-up to the training session on evaluation of safety reports and joint inspection (Zagreb, Croatia, 2011)

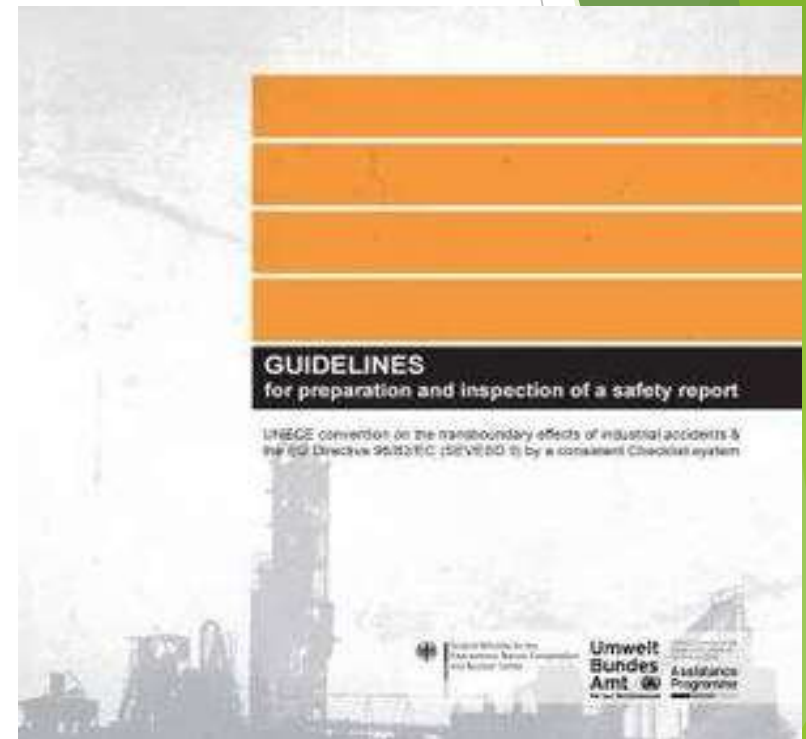
- Strengthen the knowledge of the authorities in conducting inspections at hazardous activities based on the conclusions of the safety report evaluation.
- Benefits of an integrated approach for inspections.
- Serbia concluded that it would work to further align the checklist system with the requirements set by its national legislation.



# Training session on the evaluation of safety reports – on-site inspection, third phase (Split, Croatia, 2012)

- ▶ Improvement the knowledge of the inspectors about inspections of hazardous industrial sites, in cooperation with other authorities.
- ▶ Learning good practices on the organization of integrated inspections used for industrial sites falling under the Convention and under the Seveso Directive.
- ▶ **Conclusions:**
  - ✓ The use of the checklist could be a useful tool to design inspections, especially thematic inspections;
  - ✓ It is important to cooperate with other authorities before inspections, but also afterwards (preparing a joint report);
  - ✓ Unstructured cooperation between competent authorities led to difficulties in scheduling integrated inspections.

# Sectoral checklist and Guidelines



<http://www.unece.org/env/teia.html>

# **National training session on safety management system as a part of safety report (Belgrade, Serbia, 2013)**

- ▶ Assistance in the process of implementation of the environmental legislation on Seveso II Directive and further development a national system for the prevention of major industrial accidents, through improving the quality of safety reports, respectively its part on safety management system.
- ▶ Defining and implementing of Safety Management System was the biggest gap in general obligations of operators, which led to poor quality of Safety Reports.

# **National training session on safety management system as a part of safety report (Belgrade, Serbia, 2013)**

- ▶ Operators awareness about the importance of adequate Safety Management System improved;
- ▶ Improved knowledge of the operators on the issues that shall be addressed by the SMS;
- ▶ Operators informed on the possibility on integration of SMS with the existing management systems;
- ▶ Knowledge gained on this training was helpful to CA and inspection, indicating the most important issues in Safety Management System that must be covered during evaluation of Safety Reports and regular on-site inspections.

## **Workshop on the use of indicators and criteria for the implementation of the Strategic Approach (Bratislava, Slovakia, 2011) 1/2**

- ▶ The indicators and criteria were elaborated together with a Form for monitoring, analyzing, planning and evaluating the participation of countries in the Assistance Programme.
- ▶ Countries participating in the Assistance Programme were requested to self-evaluate the progress achieved in the implementation of the Convention and draft a Plan of action.

## ➤ **Recommendations**

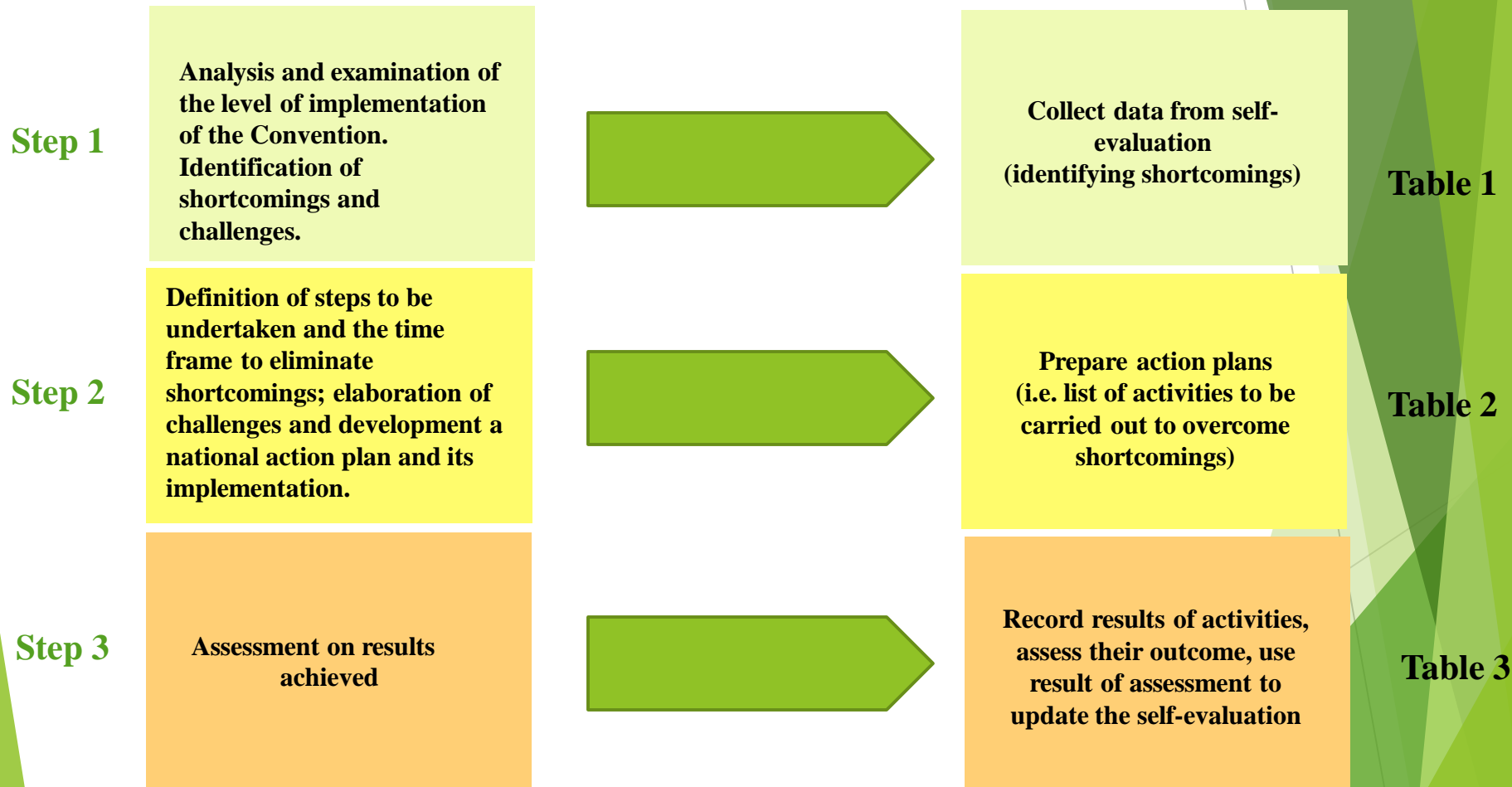
Preconditions for the use of the indicators and criteria are:

- ✓ a good knowledge of the Convention;
- ✓ a good knowledge of the situation in the country; and
- ✓ involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the country.

## ➤ **In the Republic of Serbia**

- ✓ Indicators and criteria facilitate the process of identifying gaps in the implementation of the Convention and to plan concrete actions to overcome them.
- ✓ Used as an instrument for filling in the Report on implementation of the Convention.

# The implementation of the Strategic Approach using the indicators and criteria





## Strategic Approach six working priority areas:

- (a) Identification of hazardous activities;
- (b) Notification of hazardous activities;
- (c) Prevention;
- (d) Preparedness;
- (e) Response and mutual assistance;
- (f) Information to and public participation.

## **Indicators for working area 1: identification of hazardous activities**

- a) Mechanism for the collection of data
- b) Mechanism for the analysis and validation of data
- c) Mechanism for the review/revision of data

## **Indicators for working area 2: notification of hazardous activities**

- a) Mechanism for the transboundary consultation on hazardous activities
- b) Mechanism for the notification of hazardous activities

## **Indicators for working area 3: prevention**

- a) Mechanism giving the responsibility for industrial safety to hazardous activity operators
- b) Mechanism introducing the control regime of the Competent Authorities

#### Indicators for working area 4: preparedness

- a) Mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to hazardous activity operators
- b) Mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to the CA
- c) Mechanism ensuring transboundary compatible emergency plans

#### Indicators for working area 5: response and mutual assistance

- a) Mechanism giving the responsibility to competent authority to promptly recognise industrial accidents or an immediate threat thereof
- b) Mechanism to ensure the use of IAN system
- c) Mechanism to ensure the use of notification mechanisms at the national level
- d) Mechanism giving responsibility to competent authority to request and to provide assistance

#### Indicators for working area 6: information to the public and public participation

- a) Mechanism to inform the public
- b) Mechanism to ensure opportunities for public participation in relevant procedures whenever possible and appropriate

# Study of indicators and criteria

Relevant working area



Indicators/mechanisms to be used



Definitions for Indicators/ Criteria



An optimal level of implementation/Objectives



Identification of the most important national legislation that pertains directly to the implementation of the Convention and how this legislation is administered and enforced.

## How to apply Indicators and Criteria and the Form in practice?

- ▶ Analyse each/relevant working area separately
- ▶ Discuss the situation in the country
- ▶ Identify the progress stage
- ▶ Document the results of the self-evaluation – Table 1

## Indicators for working area 1: identification of hazardous activities

- a) Mechanism for the collection of data/progress stage 5
- b) Mechanism for the analysis and validation of data/progress stage 4
- c) Mechanism for the review/revision of data/preprogress stage 4

## Indicators for working area 2: notification of hazardous activities

- a) Mechanism for the transboundary consultation on hazardous activities/progress stage 4
- b) Mechanism for the notification of hazardous activities/progress stage 5

## Indicators for working area 3: prevention

- a) Mechanism giving the responsibility for industrial safety to hazardous activity operators /progress stage 5
- b) Mechanism introducing the control regime of the Competent Authorities/ progress stage 5

## Indicators for working area 4: preparedness

- a) Mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to hazardous activity operators/progress stage 5
- b) Mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to the CA/progress stage 4
- c) Mechanism ensuring transboundary compatible emergency plans/ progress stage 2

## Indicators for working area 5: response and mutual assistance

- a) Mechanism giving the responsibility to competent authority to promptly recognise industrial accidents or an immediate threat thereof/progress stage 4
- b) Mechanism to ensure the use of IAN system /progress stage 4
- c) Mechanism to ensure the use of notification mechanisms at the national level/ progress stage 4
- d) Mechanism giving responsibility to competent authority to request and to provide assistance/progress stage 4

## Indicators for working area 6: information to the public and public participation

- a) Mechanism to inform the public /progress stage 4
- b) Mechanism to ensure opportunities for public participation in relevant procedures whenever possible and appropriate/progress stage 4

# Results of self-evaluation - Identifying stage of progress

## **Progress stage 4:**

When intensive and detailed discussions take place among stakeholders identified in progress stage 3 on the content of the relevant legislation and procedures specifying the functioning of the mechanism.

## **Progress stage 5:**

- (a) When the mechanism in question has been adopted through a governmental act or other form of national practice, but it is not yet operational in practice (for instance, due to lack of human and/or financial resources); and
- (b) A governmental act or other form of national practice defines the minimum components of the mechanisms of each working area; and
- (c) A need for a training to implement the mechanism has been discussed; and
- (d) The training has been designed, if the need for such a training has been confirmed.



- Applying the indicators and criteria allowed us to identify challenges and shortcomings we face in the implementation of the Convention.
- Insufficient coordination among and between national and local authorities.
- Insufficient cooperation and exchange of information between these authorities, the industry and the public.
- Further support to fully comply with the requirements of the Convention and thus improve industrial safety is needed.



**Republic of Serbia**  
**Ministry of environmental protection**

**Thank you for your attention!**