



# Seveso-III Directive and TEIA Convention

Technical mission to support Montenegro in the implementation of the  
UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

*30 November 2021*

# Overview

- **Origin of the Seveso legislation**
- EU action to prevent industrial accident
- Linkages with the TEIA Convention
- Contribution to other legal areas

# Where does it come from?



Seveso

1982 –  
Seveso I



Bhopal  
Mexico City

1996 – Seveso II

2003 – Seveso  
II amendment

2012 –  
Seveso III



Toulouse  
Enschede  
Baia Mare



GHS

1 June 2015 – transposition period for  
Seveso III ended

# Impacts of major accidents

- **Human health and environment**
- **Economic damages**
- **Response and follow-up costs**
- **Socio economic impact**
- **Political impact**



→ Average cost of an industrial accident: € 150 million

# Overview

- Origin of the Seveso legislation
- **EU action to prevent industrial accident**
  - **Seveso-III Directive: objectives, main provisions**
  - **The JRC - MAHB**
  - **Results**
- Linkages with the TEIA Convention
- Contribution to other legal areas

# Seveso-III Directive Fundamentals

- **Objective:** Prevention of major accidents and limitation of their consequences for human health and environment
- **Scope:** industrial plants where dangerous substances are present in certain quantities (cf. list in Annex 1)
- **2 tiers approach:** Proportionnelle to the risk (tonnage threshold)



# Seveso-III - Key pillars

## Lessons learnt

Review legislation,  
Share experiences,  
Adjust provisions, permit...

## Response

Inform and act  
Cooperation  
Remediation



## Prevention - Limit risk

Identification,  
Safety management,  
Land-use planning  
Inspection

## Preparation - Limit impact

Emergency plans,  
public participation

# The JRC - MAHB

- Provides scientific and technical support for policy associated with **chemical safety**
  - **Seveso Inspections Series**
  - **Accident analysis**
  - **Consequence analysis and assessment (ADAM)**
  - Released publications: <https://minerva.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/shorturl/minerva/publications>



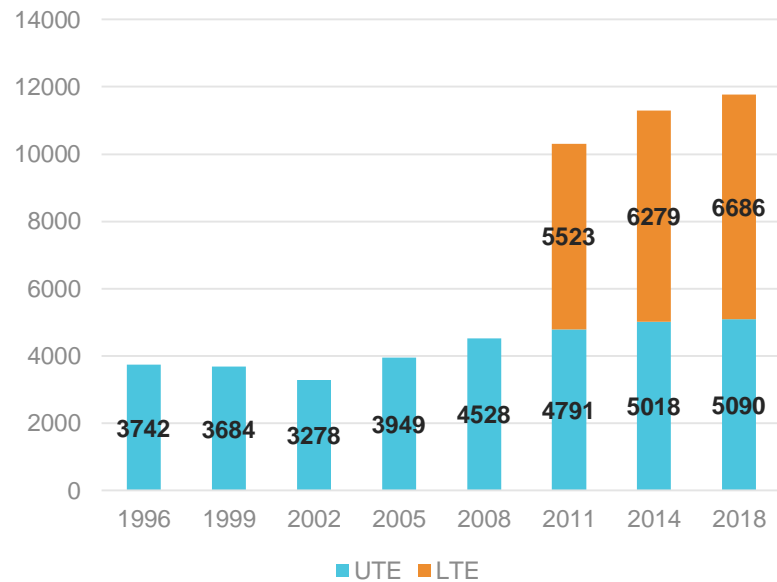
# The JRC - MAHB

- Collects and makes available to EU Member State **data on chemical accidents to support lessons learning** and also on **EU hazardous (Seveso) sites** ([eMARS](#) and [eSPIRS](#) databases)

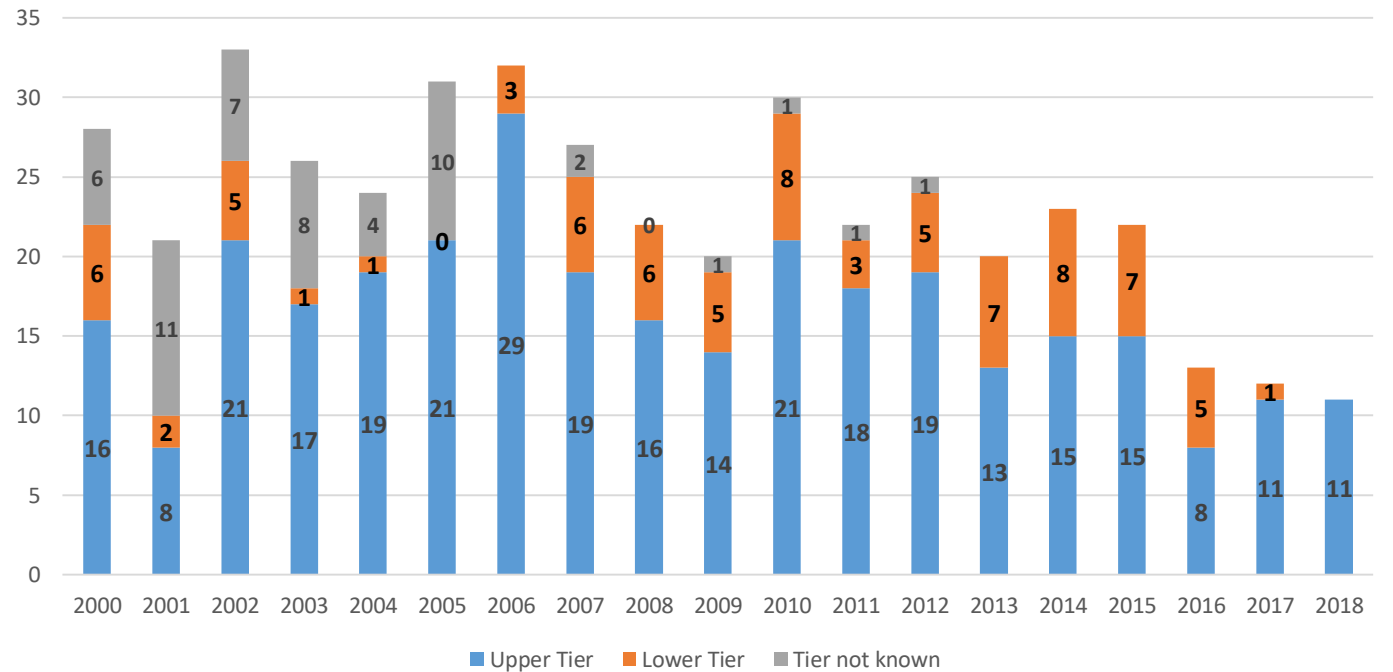


# Results

- 11 776 establishments reported in 2018

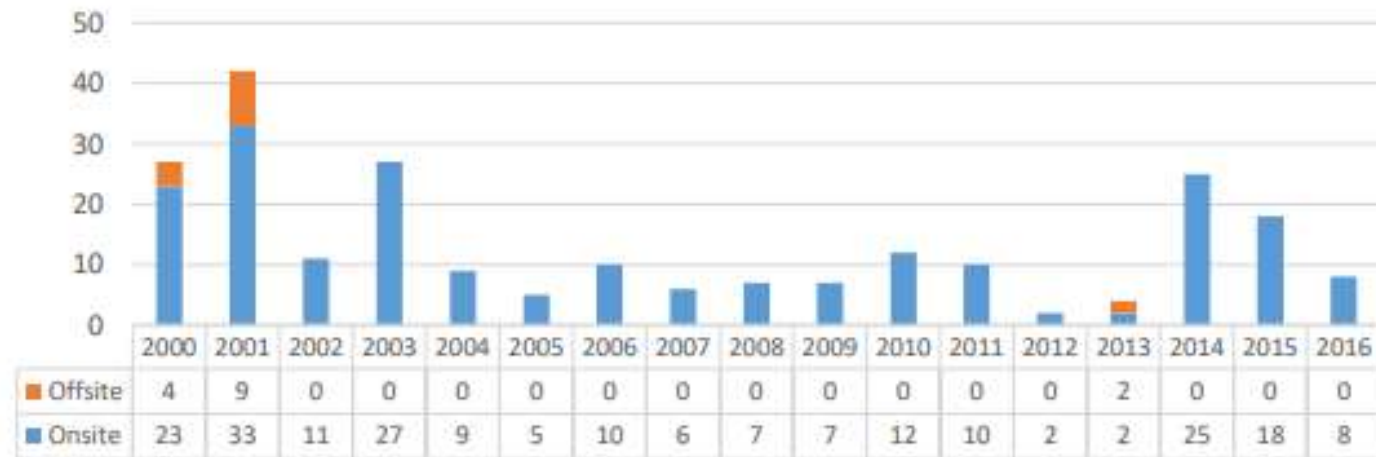


- Major accident over time



# Results

- Fatalities



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# TEIA as stepping stone towards Seveso-III



- **Focus on high and transboundary risk**
- **Less sophisticated requirements**
- **Fewer resources needed**

→ *Insufficient for EU but easier to achieve*

# Seveso-III to implement TEIA



- **More holistic risk management**
- **More requirements**
- **Some TEIA aspects not covered**

→ *Two steps in one go, but more demanding*

# Seveso-III complementing TEIA

Seveso-III-Directive is stricter and more specific compared to the Industrial Accidents Convention:

- Not only transboundary effects
- Applies as of lower thresholds
- Mandatory inspections
- More descriptive on all requirements

→ When deciding on how to implement TEIA: consider requirements of Seveso-III

# TEIA complementing Seveso-III

Seveso-III does not cover all aspects:

- Accident notification
- Mutual assistance
- Research and development
- Technology exchange
- Mining, landfills, pipelines



→ Aspects covered by other legislation or not under EU competence



# Considerations for non-EU countries

## The Seveso-III Directive:

- was developed to work in the EU context
  - it presumes some aspects which are granted in the EU but not necessarily given outside the EU, e.g. the Aarhus principles
  - self-evident cross border cooperation between EU Member States
  - burden sharing & subsidiarity (EU vs. Member State competence)

# Considerations for non-EU countries

## The Seveso-III Directive:

- does not cover all risks to be addressed
  - facilities under the lower threshold
  - industry sectors/activities covered by other legislation
  - some kind of chemical hazards
- does not apply beyond EU borders

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- **Contribution to other legal areas**

# Integrated policy making

*Implementation of TEIA & Seveso-III contributes to other policy areas (examples):*

- [Union's Civil Protection Mechanism](#) → Sendai Disaster Risk Management
- [Protection and resilience of critical entities](#)
- [CBRN risk mitigation](#)
- [Chemicals legislation](#) → [Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals](#)

# Summary

- Major accidents pose a threat to environment, human health and economic growth
- TEIA and Seveso are complementary
- Contribution to other legislation

# Thank you for your attention

Mr Camille SIEFRIDT  
European Commission  
DG Environment Unit C.4

[camille.siefridt@ec.europa.eu](mailto:camille.siefridt@ec.europa.eu)

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/seveso>

## Major accident hazards



### The Seveso Directive - Technological Disaster Risk Reduction

#### Protecting the environment, health and our economy

Major accidents involving dangerous chemicals pose a significant threat to humans and the environment. Furthermore such accidents cause huge economic losses and disrupt sustainable growth. However, the use of large amounts of dangerous chemicals is unavoidable in some industry sectors which are vital for a modern industrialised society. To minimise the associated risks, measures are necessary to prevent major accidents and to ensure appropriate preparedness and response should such accidents nevertheless happen.



#### From disasters to success

In Europe, the catastrophic accident in the Italian town of Seveso in 1976 prompted the adoption of legislation on the prevention and control of such accidents. The so-called Seveso-Directive ([Directive 82/501/EEC](#)) was later amended in view of the lessons learned from later accidents such as Bhopal, Toulouse or Enschede resulting into Seveso-II ([Directive 96/82/EC](#)). In 2012 Seveso-III ([Directive 2012/18/EU](#)) was adopted taking into account, amongst others, the changes in the Union legislation on the classification of chemicals and increased rights for citizens to access information and justice.

The Directive applies to more than 12 000 industrial establishments in the European Union where dangerous substances are used or stored in large quantities, mainly in the chemical and petrochemical industry, as well as in fuel wholesale and storage (incl. LPG and LNG) sectors.