



KEY ACTIVITIES AND PROVISIONS OF THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS CONVENTION

Ms. Franziska Hirsch, Secretary to the Industrial
Accidents Convention, UNECE

First meeting of the Steering Committee to the National Policy Dialogues (NPD) for Industrial Safety in Serbia, Belgrade
16 March 2022



I. LINKAGES WITH AGENDA 2030, IN PARTICULAR SENDAI FRAMEWORK



Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction Priorities for Action

1. Understanding disaster risk

Encouraging Parties to identify potentially hazardous activities to be able to target preventive measures, preparedness and response.

2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Providing a governance mechanism for regional cooperation to address transboundary disaster risk reduction.

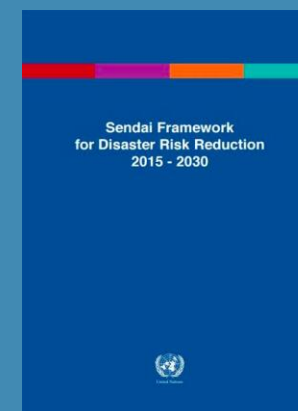
3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

Promoting investments in preventive measures, which cost less than remedying the consequences of disasters.

4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

Ensuring preparation, review and periodical update of disaster preparedness and contingency policies, plans and programmes.

SENDAI FRAMEWORK



“Initially developed for the European region . . . , the approaches and experience [under the Industrial Accidents Convention] offer insights to countries pursuing Sendai Framework commitments in technological disaster risk management” - GAR 2019



European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction

ROADMAP 2021-2030

For a disaster-resilient European and Central Asian region by 2030

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 provides an opportunity for countries to adopt a concise, focused, forward-looking, inclusive and action-oriented national framework for disaster risk reduction implementation at country level, including modalities of cooperation based on commitments. The Sendai Framework recognizes the role of regional platforms for disaster risk reduction in guiding and supporting national and local actions, including through regional DRR frameworks and strategies. The European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR) is a regional platform for Europe and Central Asia comprising 55 countries. These countries have different risk profiles and vary in their approaches to disaster and climate-driven risk reduction implementation, be it policies, strategies, laws, investments, levels of preparedness, collaborative arrangements or partnership modalities.

The EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030 identifies four shared priority areas for achieving the priorities of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The four shared priorities include 16 common action areas for development and investment, along with five enabling approaches. The Roadmap builds on consultation with European and Central Asian countries, the review of progress in implementing the Roadmap 2015-2020, and lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic response and recovery. The Roadmap is also informed by the Global Platform 2019 and the guiding principles for the Global Platform 2022. The EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030 supports the implementation of the Sendai Framework by:

- Supporting regional, national and local disaster risk reduction strategies and actions by identifying shared gaps and challenges to and opportunities for enhancing disaster resilience in the region.
- Highlighting effective arrangements for national and local sharing of good practices, pathways and opportunities for more risk-informed, gender-responsive, age-sensitive and inclusive policies, strategies, programmes and approaches.
- Promoting and supporting systems for regional collaboration and shared learning.

The EFDRR Roadmap 2021-2030 will be endorsed during the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction hosted by the Government of Portugal on 25th and 26th November 2021.

The Secretariat of the EFDRR is composed by the European Commission, the Council of Europe and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

For any question or clarification, please contact the UNDRR Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia: undrr-ecaa@un.org



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www.preventorweb.net

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EFDRR ROADMAP 2021-30

EFDRR Roadmap 2021-30:

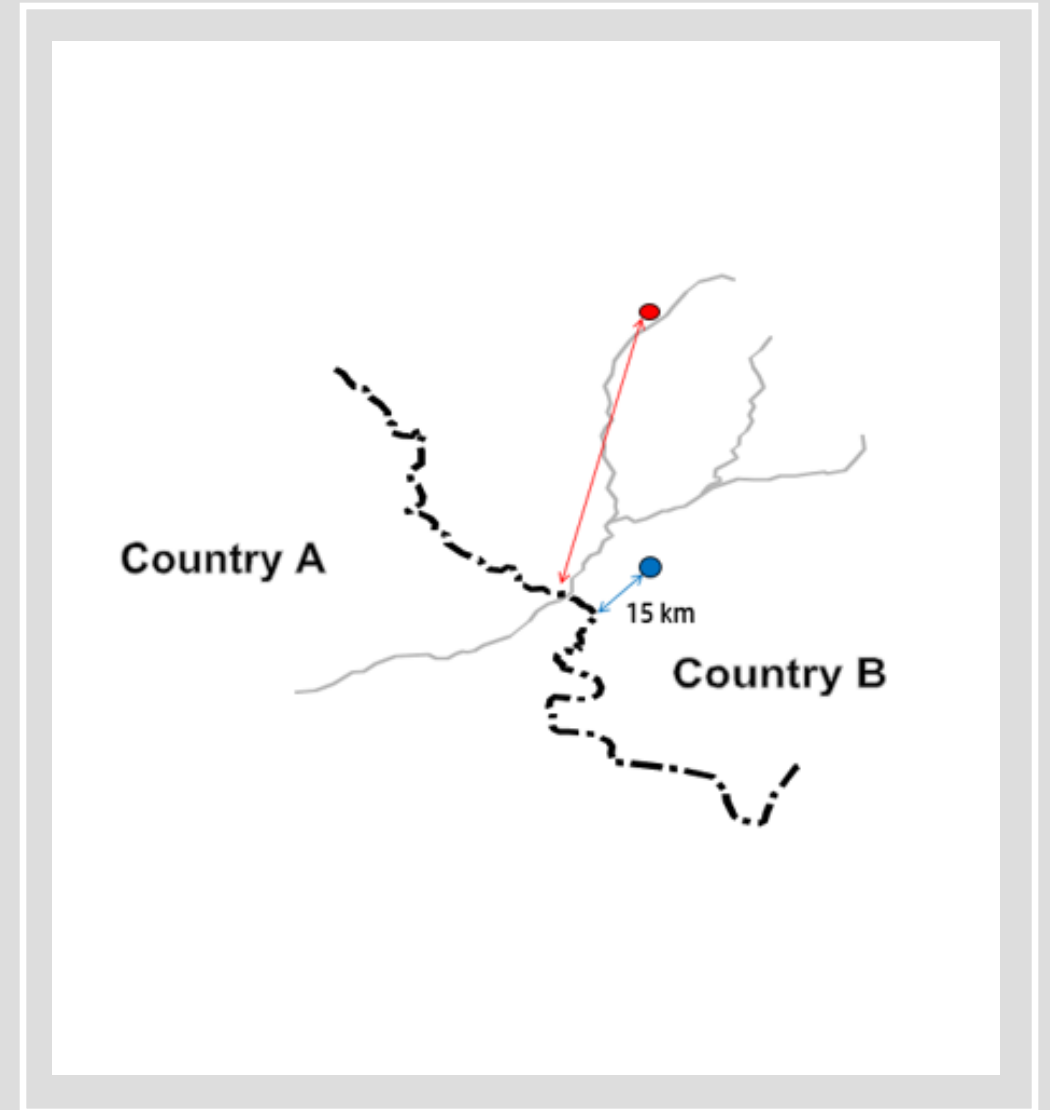
- Adopted in November 2021 by EFDRR
- Highlights Industrial Accidents Convention as an instrument providing guidance for all-of-society', regional, transboundary and collaborative systems of governance and decision-making
- Stresses importance of multi-hazard approach, governance, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder engagement

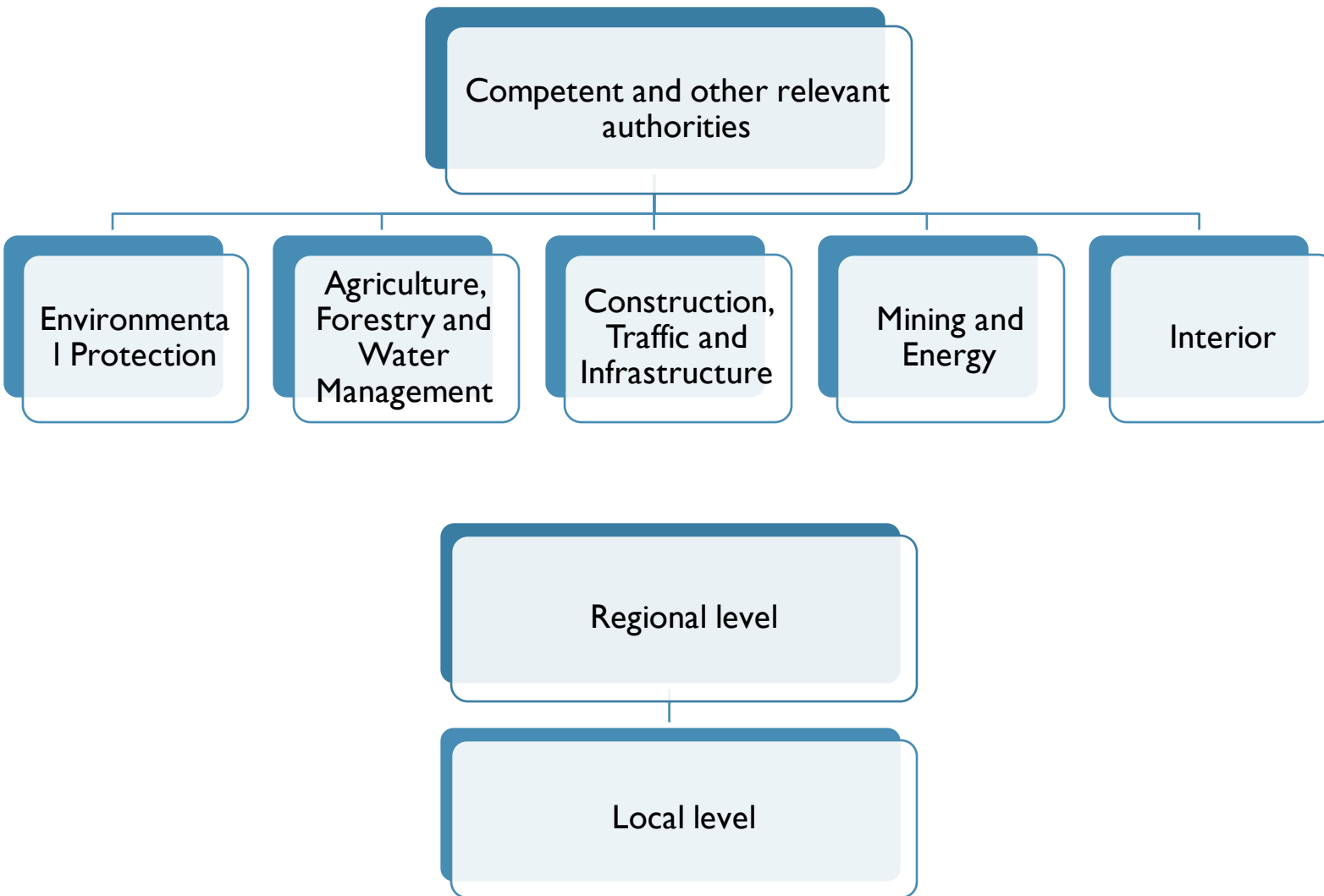
A photograph of an industrial facility, likely a power plant, situated on a coastal area. Two tall, cylindrical smokestacks are prominent in the background. The facility includes several large, rectangular buildings and a network of pipes. In the foreground, there is a body of water with gentle waves. To the left, a green hillside is visible, topped with several high-voltage power line towers. A construction crane is also visible on the left side of the image. The sky is clear and blue.

II. APPLICATION AND KEY OBLIGATIONS

SCOPE

- What kind of **accidents** are dealt with by the Convention?
 - a) Hazardous activities (manufacture, use, storage, handling, or disposal of hazardous substances)
 - b) Capable of causing transboundary effects (serious effects within the jurisdiction of a Party as a result of an industrial accident occurring within the jurisdiction of another Party)
- List of **substances** is included in Annex I to the Convention





FOCUS

- Focus on **governance and institutional structures:** cooperation and coordination between authorities, industry and the public
- Horizontal and vertical cooperation between authorities

KEY OBLIGATIONS: PREVENTION/MITIGATION

Identification of hazardous activities capable of causing transboundary effects, including consultations with Parties concerned

Notification of existing or proposed hazardous activities capable of causing transboundary effects

Establishment of **policies on the siting** of new hazardous activities and significant modifications to such existing activities

Establishment of **land-use plans**, considering land-use effects

KEY OBLIGATIONS: PREPAREDNESS

- On-site and off-site **emergency planning**
- **Harmonized or**, where feasible, **joint** emergency plans
- **National emergency plans** compatible with those of neighbouring countries to be able to respond to **transboundary impacts**
- **Public** should have an opportunity to **participate** in the preparation of prevention and preparedness measures

KEY OBLIGATIONS:
RESPONSE AND
MUTUAL ASSISTANCE

Coordination of response within a country
and between countries

Industrial Accident **Notification (IAN) System**

Prompt accident notification and **mutual
assistance**

KEY OBLIGATIONS:
PUBLIC INFORMATION
AND PARTICIPATION

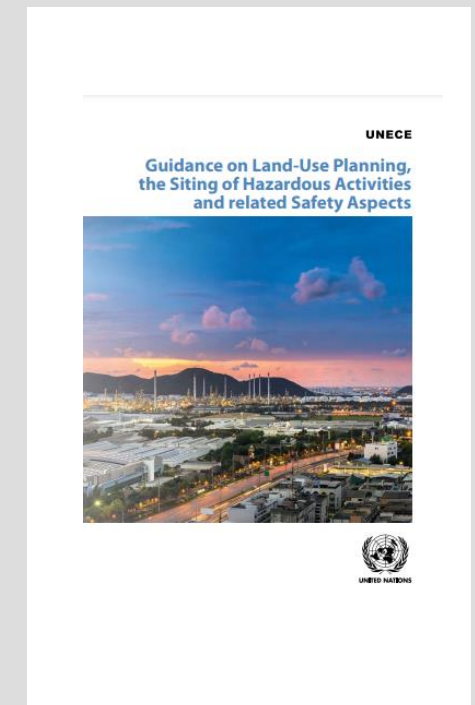
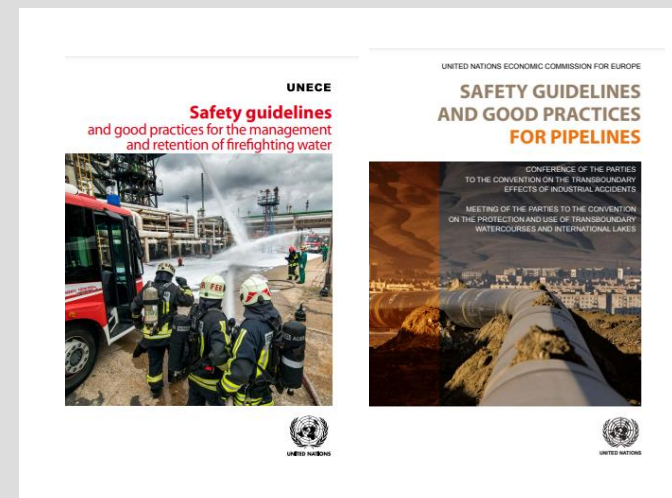
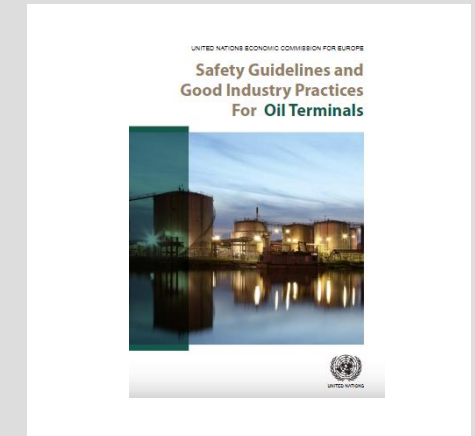
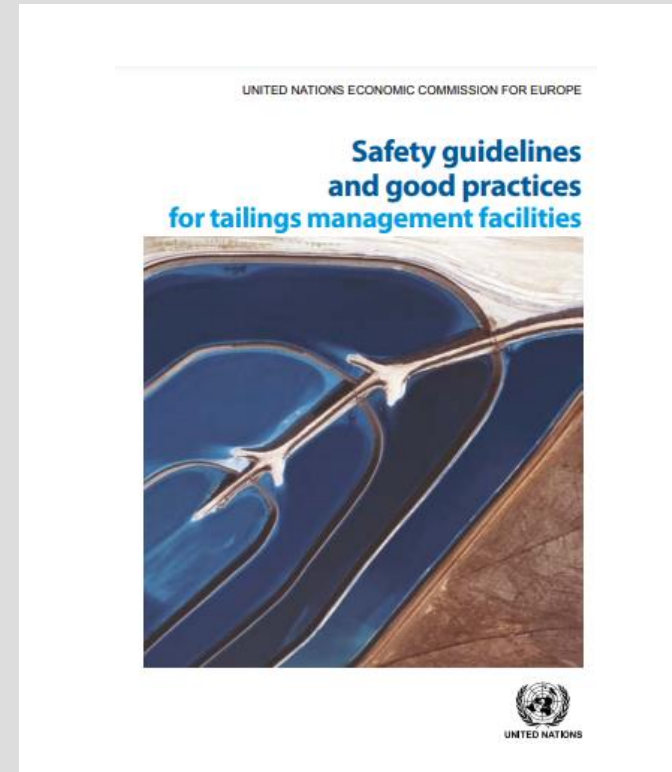
- **Adequate information** to be given to the public in areas capable of being affected by an industrial accident arising out of a hazardous activity
- Public to be provided with opportunity to **participate** in relevant procedures on prevention and preparedness
- Opportunity to be given to the **public of affected Party to be equivalent** to the public of the Party of origin
- **Access to justice**



III. AREAS OF ACTIVITIES

GUIDELINES AND GOOD PRACTICES

- **Centre of Excellence for Guidance Development:**
 - Development of guidance documents to support implementation of the Convention, pursued by policymakers and national experts in close cooperation with industry representatives and academia
 - **Safety Guidelines** developed by the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEP)
 - **Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and related Safety Aspects:** developed in cooperation with Espoo Convention/Protocol on SEA, Aarhus Convention, Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management
- **Overview of good practices:**
 - **Information Repository on land-use planning and safety:** including good practices and lessons learned, addressing EIA/SEA, DRR (including Natech) and public information/participation
 - **Online Toolkit and Training for Strengthening Mine Tailings Safety**



POLICY FORUM TO FACILITATE INFORMATION-EXCHANGE

Recent policy
events

UN/OECD Seminar
in follow-up the
Beirut Port
Explosion

EFDRR Thematic
Session on
Industrial Accidents
Risk

Special Session on
the Implementation
of the Industrial
Accidents
Convention

**UN/OECD SEMINAR IN FOLLOW-UP TO BEIRUT
PORT EXPLOSION,
ONLINE, 14 DECEMBER 2021:
KEY CONCLUSIONS**

- **Strengthening implementation and compliance of legal and policy instruments** addressing hazardous substances, and related accident prevention, preparedness and response is essential
- **Ensuring a multi-hazard approach to DRR and mainstream technological disaster risk management into national, local and sectoral strategies and plans** in an institutionalized manner, backed by legislations and strong governance with the involvement of all stakeholders
- **All possible measures to ensure safety** need to be taken by national and local authorities, industry, and stakeholders
- National and local authorities need **to take the results of risk assessments into account to make informed decisions about siting of industrial installations and land-use plans**, incl. in a transboundary context
- Countries should ensure **high levels of inspections are developed** and maintained for the safe and secure management of hazardous substances
- **Further experience exchange and knowledge sharing** is important

**EFD RR THEMATIC SESSION ON INDUSTRIAL
ACCIDENTS RISK,
MATOSINHOS AND ONLINE, 24 NOVEMBER 2021:
KEY CONCLUSIONS**

- **Prevention is essential** in working towards safety and resilience of chemical and industrial installations
- **Existing legal and policy instruments** have the ability to integrate and contribute to industrial/chemical accident risk management and **multi-hazard risk management**
- Need for **increased coordination, cooperation and collaboration across different disciplines and institutions** at the national, regional and local levels
- **Natech risks are multi-hazard risks**, calling for a coordinated response
- **Transboundary cooperation** is crucial to address key challenges of managing chemical and industrial risks, and considering the impacts on neighboring counties, riparian states or regions

SPECIAL SESSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS CONVENTION, GENEVA AND ONLINE, 3 AND 4 FEBRUARY 2022: KEY CONCLUSIONS

- **Prevention is strongly linked with the identification and notification of hazardous activities**
- **Importance of notifying all potentially affected countries** about all types of hazardous activities (incl. TMFs) recognized - use of notification template under the Convention recommended
- Countries are encouraged to **review existing guidelines on land-use planning and industrial accident prevention** and develop new and update existing ones
- Countries are encouraged to **developed joint or harmonized contingency plans** with neighbouring and riparian countries
- **Bi- and multilateral working groups and exercises** provide a means to exchange information, cooperate, enhance the knowledge base and build a common safety culture
- Parties should consider whether they need to take additional steps to **guarantee the same level of access to information to the public at the other side of the border** that may be affected by a hazardous activity within its jurisdiction
- Establishment of an **interactive network and development of a UNECE Guide on Good Practices in Implementing the Industrial Accidents Convention** recommended



UNECE

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**