



GOVERNANCE OF NATECH RISKS: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INSTRUMENTS

*UNECE/OECD Seminar on effective management of Natech accident risks,
Geneva, 29 November 2022*



- Transboundary Natech risks are covered by the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention, that applies to *“the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects, including the effects of such accidents caused by natural disasters...”*
- **Guidance, tools and capacity building** projects relevant to Natech are developed
- **Draft Decision on strengthening Natech risk management** in the UNECE region and beyond

<https://unece.org/industrial-accidents-convention-and-natural-disasters-natech>



***Aim:** Share experience and recommend appropriate policy options for enhancing the prevention of, preparedness for, and response to chemical accidents*

- **Guiding Principles on Chemical Accidents Prevention, Preparedness and Response (PPR) & Specific Addendum on Natech Risk Management**
- **OECD Legal Instruments relating to Chemical Accidents** (incl. Natech accidents)
- **Investigates the Natech specificities** for chemical accidents PPR, & Supports the exchange of experience across countries
- **Managing Natech Accident Risk : A joint OECD/UN/EC JRC Guide** for Senior Leaders In Industry And Public Authorities – *under development, publication expected 2024*





More partner organisations *(non-exhaustive list)*

- **UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit** - tools and guidance relevant to Natech, e.g. the Environmental Emergencies Centre (EEC), the Environment and Humanitarian Action (EHA) Connect, the Flash Environmental Assessment Tool (FEAT), etc.
- **EC-JRC** - strong expertise in Natech risks and their management. The JRC developed numerous related publications, lessons-learned studies, risk assessment tools and guidance
- **ILO** - Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents (MIA) Convention No. 174; Prevention of MIA Recommendation No. 181; Code of Practice on MIA; Issue paper - Climate Change and Labour: Impacts of Heat in the Workplace
- **WHO** published information on the role of the health sector in Natech accident risk management, Natech PPR and recovery, and three annexes on Natechs triggered by earthquakes, floods, and cyclones
- **UNDRR** international instruments on disaster risk management - Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Words into Action guideline: on Man-made/technological hazards



Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Industrial and Chemical Accidents



- informal forum that brings together international organisations and institutions working on prevention, preparedness & response to industrial and chemical accidents.
- EC, Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit, ILO, OECD, OPCW, UNECE, UNDRR, UNEP, UNIDO, WHO
- <https://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/chemical-accidents/Brochure-International-efforts-for-industrial-and-chemical-accidents.pdf>