

UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Stakeholder Consultation to the National Policy Dialogues (NPD) for Industrial Safety in Serbia

(Belgrade, Serbia, 20 September 2023)

Evaluation summary

The Stakeholder Consultation – National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on Industrial Safety in Serbia was led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Serbia (MEP) and organized with support from the secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Programme on Chemical Accidents.

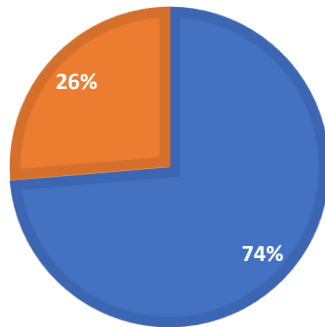
It was attended by the representatives of two competent authorities for the Convention's implementation, namely the MEP and the Ministry of Interior as well as the representatives of other relevant national authorities, such as the Ministry of Construction, Traffic and Infrastructure and Ministry of Mining and Energy. The representatives of local self-governments of Belgrade, Novi Sad and Pancevo, as well as the representatives of industry, academia, Chamber of Commerce of Serbia and international stakeholders such as UNECE, OECD, UNDP, WHO Regional Office, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Embassy of Switzerland to the Republic of Serbia and to Montenegro also participated in the event. Furthermore, the national and international consultants to the Industrial Accident Convention, the Chair of the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents from Norway and the Chair of the Working Party on Chemical Accidents from the United Kingdom contributed to the meeting.

The participants were requested to indicate their opinion of various aspects of the Stakeholder consultation – National policy dialogues on industrial safety in terms of preparations, conduct of the meetings, content, practical and general comments. A total of 19 evaluation forms were submitted. A summary of feedback received is presented below.

1. Please evaluate the organization and practical arrangements for the meeting in view of:

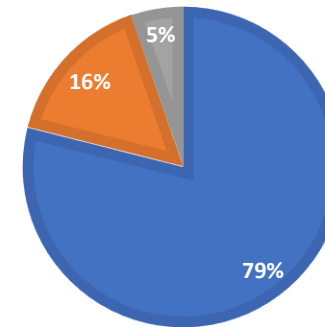
AVAILABILITY OF MEETING DOCUMENTATION IN DUE TIME BEFORE THE MEETING

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



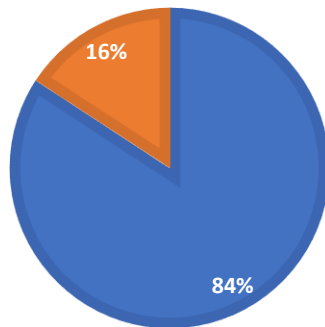
USEFULNESS OF PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



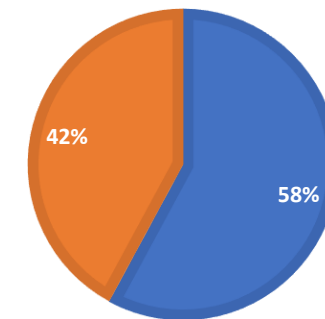
MEETING VENUE, LOCATION AND ARRANGEMENT OF THE MEETING ROOM

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



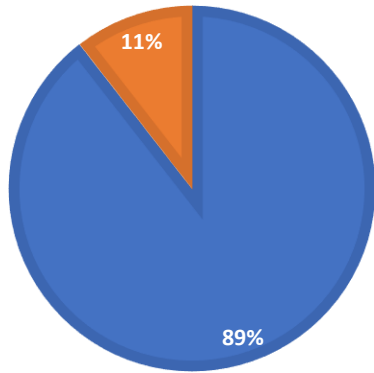
TIME SCHEDULE, DURATION OF THE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



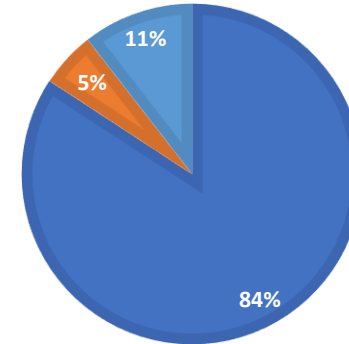
SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE CO-ORGANIZERS BEFORE AND DURING THE MEETING

■ Very satisfactory ■ Satisfactory ■ Unsatisfactory ■ Very unsatisfactory ■ No opinion



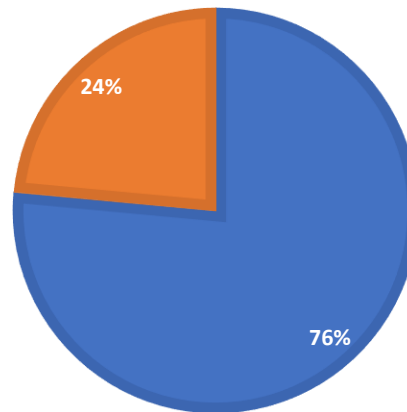
MEALS (COFFEE AND LUNCH)

■ Very satisfactory ■ Satisfactory ■ Unsatisfactory
■ Very unsatisfactory ■ No opinion



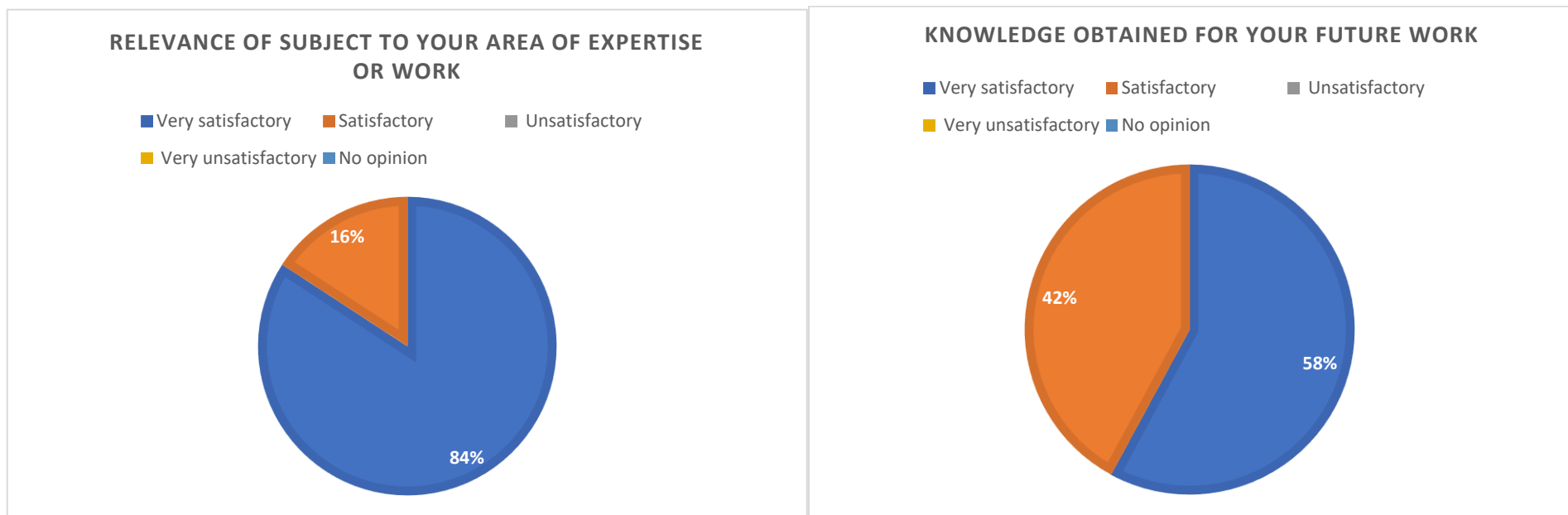
QUALITY OF HEADPHONES, MICROPHONES, INTERPRETATION

■ Very satisfactory ■ Satisfactory ■ Unsatisfactory
■ Very unsatisfactory ■ No opinion



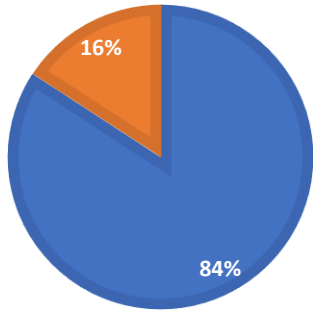
Overall, the participants of the Stakeholder consultation under the National Policy Dialogue on Industrial Safety in Serbia were content with the organization and practical arrangements for the meeting. In particular, they found the practical information provided to the participants very useful, as well as the support provided by the co-organizers before and during the meeting. Overall, the respondents were pleased with a meeting venue, quality of equipment and interpretation, and meals. The participants also evaluated the time schedule of the meeting and agenda items very well, while some saw some room for progress in this regard.

2. The level of satisfaction with the workshop in terms of:



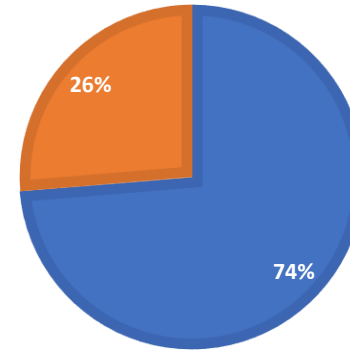
PROVIDING A FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



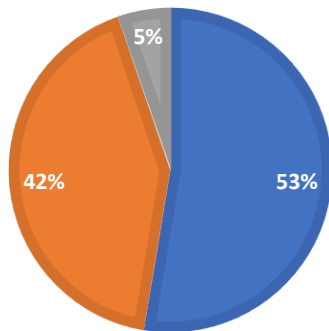
PRESENTATIONS: RELEVANCE, QUALITY, CLARITY, USEFULNESS

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



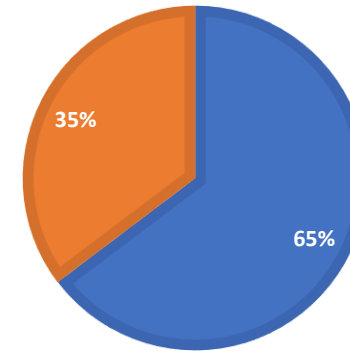
DISCUSSIONS: EFFICIENCY, QUALITY, CLARITY, USEFULNESS

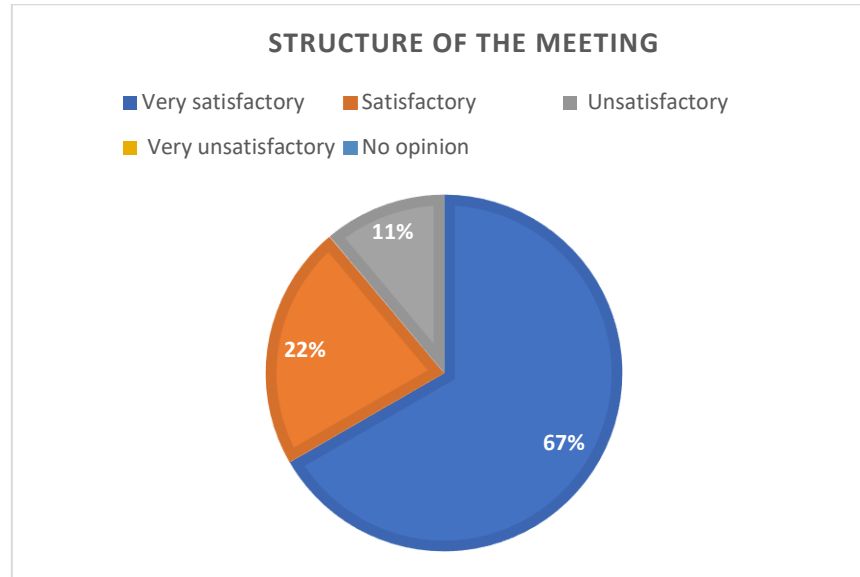
Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



OUTCOME OF THE MEETING

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



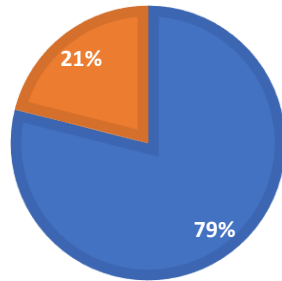


In addition, the participants were asked to evaluate various substantive aspects of the event. In particular, they found the subject highly relevant to their sphere of competence and work. In addition, the event provided opportunities for exchange of information with other participants and to establish contacts. Many respondents found the presentations relevant, clear and useful, they were satisfied with the discussions and outcomes of the event.

3. The extent of achievement of the objectives of the workshop:

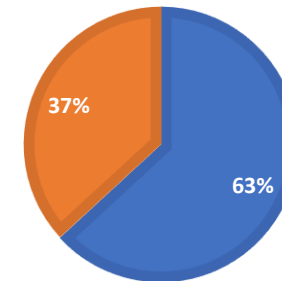
REVIEWING, DISCUSSING AND AGREEING ON THE DRAFT NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY OF SERBIA

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



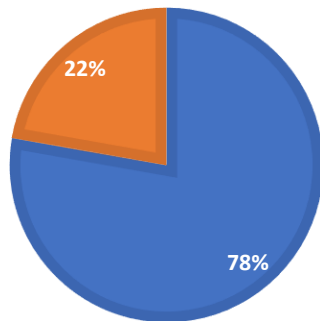
AGREEING ON THE TIMELINE AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN TO FINALIZE THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY OF SERBIA

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



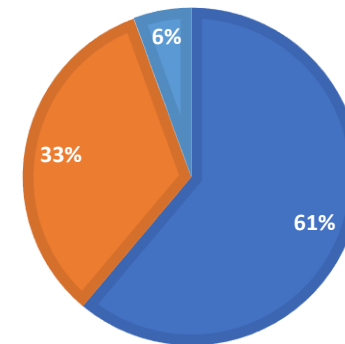
SHARING INFORMATION ON ONGOING WORK, PRIORITIES AND GAPS WITH REGARD TO INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN SERBIA

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



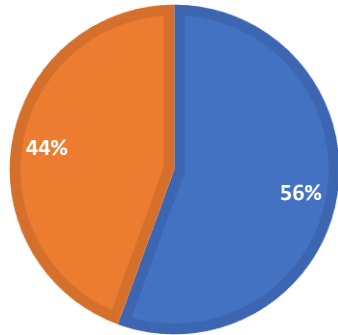
INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF ALL RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS DEALING WITH INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND RELATED POLICY AREAS

Very satisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
Very unsatisfactory No opinion



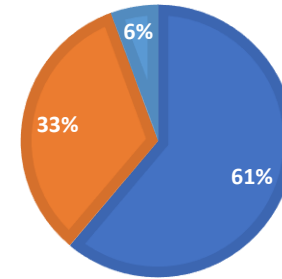
STRENGTHENING CROSS-SECTORAL COOPERATION BETWEEN ALL RELEVANT ACTORS

■ Very satisfactory ■ Satisfactory ■ Unsatisfactory
■ Very unsatisfactory ■ No opinion



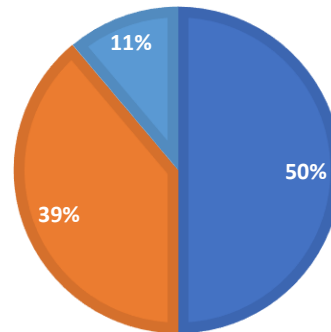
IDENTIFYING FURTHER NEEDS FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING AND NEXT STEPS IN THE NPD FOR INDUSTRIAL SAFETY PROCESS IN SERBIA

■ Very satisfactory ■ Satisfactory ■ Unsatisfactory
■ Very unsatisfactory ■ No opinion



REVIEWING OVERALL PROCESS TOWARDS THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS CONVENTION AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

■ Very satisfactory ■ Satisfactory ■ Unsatisfactory
■ Very unsatisfactory ■ No opinion



Furthermore, the respondents were requested to assess how well the workshop's objectives were achieved. As per the results, the respondents were highly satisfied with discussing the draft National Programme for Industrial Safety of Serbia, its timeline and further actions to finalize it, and learning more about the ongoing work, priorities and gaps with regard to industrial accidents prevention, preparedness and response in Serbia. In addition, they indicated that the meeting helped increase the capacity of relevant stakeholders working in the areas of industrial safety, disaster risk reduction and related policy areas. Moreover, the participants agreed that the event provided a platform for strengthening cross-sectoral cooperation between all relevant actors and identifying further needs for technical cooperation and capacity building in Serbia. Finally, the responders were rather satisfied with the review of the overall process towards the full implementation of the Industrial Accidents Convention and other international frameworks.

4. Comments and ideas

When asked about the **follow-up activities after this meeting in relation to the NPD for Industrial Safety in Serbia**, the responders offered the following suggestions:

- Take action regarding the non-compliance with sanitary protection zones of water supply sources and stations for receiving septic waste, which do not work, causing the tankers to empty the contents of septic tanks into sewer shafts;
- To translate and adapt this Danish manual : <https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/42951468.pdf>, stating that each municipality must make a climate adaptation plans at a local level;
- To strengthen the involvement of the health sector
- To ban the use of propane-butane bottles in residential buildings;
- To build hot water pipes instead of boilers in cities;
- To introduce an obligation in the company/enterprise that the owner of the process (ISO term) must determine the critical points for safety that will have to control regularly;
- To revise the current program based on comments;
- To identify actions to be included in the Action Plan and financial plan;
- To involve the Ministry of Interior;
- To identify quick wins for the implementation;
- Next steps to finalize the National Programme, in the manner defined in the presentation as per the planned timeframe.

All respondents found the Stakeholder Consultation useful; some of them noted the following as **the most useful aspects**:

- presentations and discussions;
- how to deal with difficult risk management;
- new information;
- the support from stakeholders;

- the call for the horizontal approach and coordination;
- redesign of different structures, such as the financial one;
- the explanation of the importance of the implementation and frame of the National Programme.

In addition, **several suggestions for improvements for future meetings** have been received. In particular, participants would like to:

- have more concrete examples from industry and concrete examples, and use more diagrams;
- improve the duration and efficiency of the meeting;
- involve the crucial stakeholders such as the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Mining and Energy, as they have specific roles and responsibilities and their input was missed;
- organize and provide the co-ordination of all (necessary) interested parties to the process. It may not be enough to send them a request for participation with the proposed draft document, but it is possible to prepare them for active participation (in spite of the available capacities enabled).