

Action-Oriented Dialogue
Reducing Risk Together: Community Engagement in DRR

Interactive Session 4: Addressing Industrial Accident Risks
Friday 15 December at 09:30 – 10:45
Venue: Auditorium

Background:

Addressing industrial accidents is of key importance for resilience building at both local and regional level. Industrial accidents can have far-reaching consequences, not only causing immediate harm to communities, ecosystems, and business but also triggering long-term environmental, social and economic disruptions. Preventing, mitigating, and responding to industrial accidents is thus essential for a resilient society. By adopting risk reduction strategies and fostering collaboration among industries, governments, and local level stakeholders, will save lives and livelihoods and contribute to the overall sustainability. Knowing the potential of transboundary effects of industrial activities, addressing industrial accidents becomes important for building resilience at local and regional level and ensuring the continuity of critical infrastructure.

Guided by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and The Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, the session will provide a platform for discussing and strategizing comprehensive approaches to mitigate the impact of industrial accidents. The Baltic States region face unique challenges and opportunities concerning industrial safety. The session aims to bring together experts, policymakers, and private sector to exchange insights, share best practices, and emphasize collaborative solutions for resilience building.

One key area of emphasis during the session will be the role of complex industries in the process of risk reduction. The session will explore innovative approaches to enhance the safety and resilience of industries, considering their transboundary implications. By delving into case studies and success stories, participants will gain valuable insights into effective risk reduction actions, regulatory frameworks, and international cooperation mechanisms.

Furthermore, this session aims to integrate good practice in managing risks related to industrial and chemical hazard into the implementation of the Sendai Framework. The session will show existing governance frameworks and highlight examples of disasters that could have been prevented, and good practice on prevention of industrial accidents. It will emphasize the role of science and private sector in accident prevention and mitigation. By fostering a dialogue between governments, industries, and civil society, the session aims to identify synergies that contribute to the overall resilience of the Baltic States against industrial accidents.

Target participants:

Policymakers, national governments, local authorities, private sector, international agencies, regional entities.

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Session Title	Session 4: Addressing Industrial Accidents risk
UNDRR Focal Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milos Gubic, UNDRR Milos.gubic@un.org +32 22902587 • David Baker, UNDRR david.baker@un.org +32 456 1552 72
Additional Focal Point	
Speakers & Moderator	<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jari Honkanen, Senior Specialist, EU and International Affairs Unit, Department for Rescue Services, Ministry of the Interior (Finland) <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Georgios Georgiadis, Secretary, Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, Environment Division, DRR Focal Point, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe george.georgiadis@un.org • Mr. Christian Resch, Managing Director Disaster Competence Network Austria christian.resch@dcna.at • Mr Simo Kolehmainen, Head of Operational & Process Safety at Neste simo.kolehmainen@neste.com • Ms. Beata Janowczyk, Deputy Director, Government Centre for Security Beata.Janowczyk@rcb.gov.pl <p>Rapporteurs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milos Gubic, UNDRR, milos.gubic@un.org • David Baker, UNDRR, david.baker@un.org