

SUBREGIONAL ACTIVITIES: ACHIEVEMENTS NEEDS AND CHALLENGES

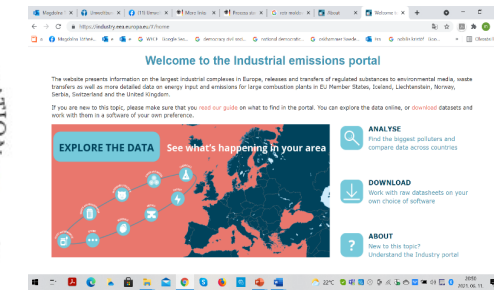
November 27-28, 2023

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BACKGROUND

- Project “Enhancement of Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) in the Western Balkan countries and the Republic of Moldova”
 - Funded by the Federal German Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Security and Consumer Protection, within the Assistance Programme for Environmental Protection in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries bordering the European Union, and is supervised by the Federal Environment Agency
 - Project period: May 20, 2021 - November 30, 2023, requested extension until February 29, 2024
 - Three Parties to UNECE PRTR Protocol: Albania, Montenegro and Republic of Moldova;
 - A signatory country, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo*
- Partners:
 - Participatio Ltd., REC Albania, REC Bosnia and Herzegovina, REC Montenegro and EcoContact, Republic of Moldova;
 - Cooperation with PRTR Protocol Secretariat, in line with Protocol’s Work Programme and Strategic Plan

* Reference to Kosovo understood in the context of UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)



PROJECT GOALS

- To support Western Balkan countries and Republic of Moldova in developing or upgrading their PRTRs;
- To enable relevant authorities, operators and CSOs for the implementation of the UNECE PRTR Protocol and the E-PRTR&LCP integrated reporting, reporting to the EU Registry of Industrial Sites and the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED);
- To achieve more informed decision-making for sustainability;

ACHIEVEMENTS

➤ Development of PRTRs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo* and Montenegro

- Assessment of the current legal, institutional, technical and capacity building framework - proposals for necessary changes, conditions to meet the needs of a PRTR (PRTR Protocol and E-PRTR&LCP integrated reporting)
- Stakeholder dialogue on assessments and proposal for PRTR with authorities, operators and CSOs;
- Legislative developments: Rulebooks developed on PRTR in Bosnia and Herzegovina on entity and Brcko District levels, legislative changes and amendments in Montenegro and Kosovo*;
- Capacity building for authorities, operators and CSOs, workshops on E-PRTR &LCP integrated reporting and IED and trainings in process – after installation and testing of PRTR software;
- Proposal: Common technical solution for PRTR software to be installed in 3 project countries (4 levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in Montenegro, Kosovo*)

* Reference to Kosovo understood in the context of UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)



ACHIEVEMENTS: TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT OF PRTR SOFTWARE

- **Company GIS SOLUTIONS (Serbia)** contracted to carry out the development
 - General software according to the requirements of UNECE PRTR Protocol, EU regulation 166/2006 and EEA E-PRTR & LCP integrated reporting requirements
- **Components**
 - PRTR database/register
 - PRTR GIS portal
 - PRTR web portal
- **Software platform** Open-source software
- **Web GIS**
 - Visualisation and querying of data collected
 - Founded on open-source software
 - Does not require commercial license
 - GIS database could be connected with commercial GIS software



ACHIEVEMENTS: TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT OF PRTR SOFTWARE

➤ Open-source component:

- Postgres + PostGIS database
- Geoserver
- QGIS

- WEB GIS will be part of web portal, but it could work as stand alone

➤ PRTR portal

- PRTR portal should provide information about PRTR to general public
- Presenting relevant information about releases and transfers
- Presentation of data delivery through time
- Portal will be based on WORDPRES platform
- WEB GIS application will be integrated in the portal
- Portal will contain reports from PRTR

ACHIEVEMENTS: Technical development of PRTR software

➤ Two versions of software

✓ Basic version:

- Functions for data collection
- Reporting to EEA

✓ Premium version:

- Module for company, facility and user registration
- Module for administration of registration data
- Module for collecting data for annual reporting
- Module for generation report for EEA
- Module for analytic reporting
- Module for logging and monitoring data changes
- Module for initialization of reporting year, locking and unlocking collected data.

➤ Package for project participants contains

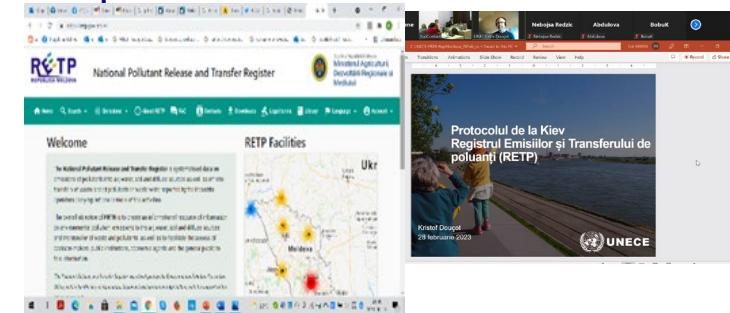
- PRTR Register premium version
- WEB GIS application

- PRTR software can be used by other countries

ACHIEVEMENTS: Assistance in upgrading and operating more efficiently PRTRs

➤ Republic of Moldova:

- Appraisal of the current Pollutant Release and Transfer Register;
- Stakeholder dialogue on proposal for improvements with PRTR authorities, operators and CSOs;
- Capacity building: trainings for Agency, operators and CSOs; workshop on E-PRTR and IED;
- Improvements in PRTR software: short term interventions;
- Funding needed for further more extensive improvements



➤ Albania:

- E-PRTR operational but security problems - paper reporting - only few operators report;
- Upgrading E-PRTR with LCP module planned – change: new initiative of integrated information system development by Agency;
- Capacity building: trainings for operators and CSOs, workshop on E-PRTR and IED



CHALLENGES

- Lack of capacities in some countries in PRTR authorities (lack of technical staff, IT staff)
- Financing difficulties - no regular budget for PRTR management and operation, for human and technical resources – relying on projects for PRTR development;
- Ownership of PRTR software and maintenance;
- Lack of integration with other databases and of using PRTR data for decision-making;
- Political changes influencing the pace of implementation (e.g. elections, complex political structure and situation, etc.);
- Difficulty of coping with EU requirements: moving target (Proposal for IED amendment and Industrial Emissions Portal Regulation)



LESSONS LEARNT – *Planned future activities, possible solutions/good practices*

- Building PRTRs gradually – Strategy and workplan agreed for longer term - implement step by step and use former project results and resources;
- Sharing of experiences and learning from other countries' practices;
- Transparency of PRTR development- access and use of PRTR data;
- Motivating operators to report- incentives, shared responsibility, - stick and carrot;
- Maintenance: stable and clear agreement with providers;
- Good practice examples:
 - Using common software – option for making progress together towards the Protocol and EU requirements - share costs of further software solutions;
 - Combination of trainings and study trip to companies with good practices.



Thank you for the attention!

More information:

<https://industry.eea.europa.eu/>
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