

**The first technical workshop on crisis management  
under the Danube Delta project**

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# **Planning for emergency response in Poland**

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# Polish competent authorities

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- ❑ The competent authorities for the realization of requirements of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents in Poland are:
  - **Chief Inspector for Environmental Protection**
  - **Chief Commandant of the State Fire Service**
- ❑ The Inspection for Environmental Protection and the State Fire Service are charged with the responsibility of inspections, and reviewing documentation, investigating major accidents and identifying establishments capable of causing major accidents. The inspections rules, involving various aspects of health, environment and safety, are established by the Inspectorate for Environmental Protection, State Fire Services and Labour Inspection.



# The emergency plans include organizational, technical information on:

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- ☐ Procedures concerning the alerting and notification of major accidents to the on-site and off-site emergency services and to the people in the area affected by the accident's consequences
- ☐ Ensuring the quick and reliable information for the rescue services and authorities responsible for the safety in a given area
- ☐ Determination of the proper rescue procedures for all predicted accident scenarios in a given establishment



# Data used for the preparation of OnEPs and OfEPs (1)

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- ☐ Description of the establishment, taking into account its geographical location and characteristics of weather conditions
- ☐ Characteristic of the plant's activity and determination of the organizational structure of the plant
- ☐ Description of the technological systems including their surroundings
- ☐ Description of technological processes
- ☐ List of dangerous substances that may be in the facility, specifying the maximum number and an indication of the numbers assigned to data sheets

This data is the base for the risk assessment.



## Data used for the preparation of OnEPs and OfEPs (2)

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Emergency procedures and scenarios are prepared on the basis of the results of the hazard/risk assessment.

- ❑ The list of forces and measures of rescue services and supporting services responsible for rescue actions and liquidation of accident's effects
- ❑ Description of the system of providing the public with the information on hazards connected with the establishment's operation, preventive measures and activities which will be taken in case an accident occurs
- ❑ Procedures for providing the information to the public and competent authorities about accident's hazard or its occurrence
- ❑ Procedures for people's evacuation
- ❑ Procedures concerning the possibility of transboundary effects of accidents



# Sharing of capacities – on site emergency plans

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- ❑ Indication of the persons authorized to direct the rescue operations on the site and interact with the provincial commander of the SFS
- ❑ Procedures for plant employees how to act during failures of installation and equipment
- ❑ Procedures for the plant's emergency service or the plant's firefighting and rescue service in case of failures of installation and equipment
- ❑ Cooperation procedures for experts and management supervising installation, equipment etc. with officer in charge of rescue operation
- ❑ Cooperation procedures in case of rescue operation including large number of victims and the participation of other entities outside the plant
- ❑ Procedure of exchanging of information between services, which are located in close proximity of the plant that may increase the likelihood of an accident or increase its effects



# Sharing of capacities – off site emergency plans

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## List of forces and means of rescue services

- ☐ Forces and means of on-site and off-site services in relation to the probable accident's development including the area outside the plant
- ☐ Alarming and disposal procedures for emergency and supporting services
- ☐ Organization of communications
- ☐ Division of tasks and principles of cooperation during the rescue operations
- ☐ Procedures for dismissal of the alarm
- ☐ Procedures for providing assistance in disaster recovery within the plant



# Consultation and coordination of OnEPs and OfEPs

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Emergency plans are elaborated in cooperation with off-site rescue services:

- ☐ Units within the National Firefighting and Rescue System (state and volunteer fire services)
- ☐ Ambulance service
- ☐ Gas service
- ☐ Energy service

Moreover Provincial Commandant of the State Fire Service enable participation of the public in the development of external emergency plans.





# Procedures for coordination of OnEPs with authorities, responsible for the preparation of OfEPs

Operator of the upper tier establishment is obliged to:

- ☐ draw up an OnEP and send it to the proper provincial commandant of the State Fire Service,
- ☐ supply to the proper provincial commandant of the State Fire Service the necessary information to enable to draw up OfEP.

Environmental Inspection:

- ☐ issues opinions for upper tier establishments, which are necessary for the provincial chief of the State Fire Service to approve safety reports or their amendments.

State Fire Service:

- ☐ approves OnEP of upper tier establishments, upon receiving the opinion of the voivodship inspector for environmental protection, as well as approving the amended versions of these documents,
- ☐ draws up OfEP for upper tier establishments where the effects of industrial accidents pose a threat to the territories and people located outside the establishment's premises



# Review and revision of OnEPs and OfEPs

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- ❑ The operator is obliged to carry out the analysis and exercise the execution of the OnEP **at least once every 3 years** to update it and make reasonable changes in it, in particular, it should take into account changes in the plant, changes in the functioning of fire protection units, the state of knowledge regarding the prevention, control and disaster recovery, as well as scientific and technical progress.
- ❑ Provincial Commandant of SFS is obliged to carry out the analysis and exercise the execution of the OfEP **at least once every 3 years**.



# Tests and inspections of OnEPs and OfEPs

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The inspection regime/mechanism assumes that:

- ☐ the Inspection for Environmental Protection and the State Fire Service perform annual inspections in the upper and lower tier establishments,

Criteria for carrying out tests of emergency plans:

- ☐ Necessity to carry out an analysis and exercise the execution of an internal and external emergency plan at least once in 3 years and in case introducing changes,
- ☐ Testing the systems and methods for alarming and notifying to the public,
- ☐ Testing cooperation with other institutions in the course of liquidation of effects,
- ☐ Testing alarm connectivity and availability of forces and means contained in the plan.



# Transboundary cooperation in preventing major accidents

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- ❑ Poland has signed intergovernmental agreements with the neighbouring countries (Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine) on cooperation and mutual assistance in case of catastrophes, natural disasters and other major accidents.
- ❑ Chief Commandant of the State Fire Service carries out tasks on behalf of Minister of Interior and Administration.
- ❑ Moreover, with some neighbouring countries (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania), there have been elaborated technical instructions for the Fire Services taking part in mutual assistance.



# Compatibility of emergency plans in the transboundary context

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- Provincial Commander of the SFS, who states, according to the information received from the operator, that a potential consequences of an industrial accident may have cross-border range, immediately gives relevant information to the minister responsible for environmental issues relevant to the case, in particular the safety report and an internal and external emergency plan.
- The Minister responsible for the environment after obtaining the above mentioned information, immediately notifies the State whose territory could be affected by the accident, about the location of the plant. The notification shall be accompanied by information concerning the safety report and an external emergency plan in the section on cross-border threats.



# **Bilateral agreements with neighboring countries on cooperation in the area of prevention/preparedness of major accidents, natural disasters and liquidation of its effects:**

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- ☐ Information on the competent authorities on national and regional levels
- ☐ Requirements for exchanging information on technological and natural hazards
- ☐ Description of modalities for notification and information on accidents and for applying for assistance
- ☐ Description of conditions for crossing borders by rescue team members, and their equipment
- ☐ Information on sharing costs of assistance actions and on regulations on liabilities



# Reviewing, revising and testing of emergency plans

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- Within the bilateral transboundary cooperation there are joint exercises of the possible emergency scenarios performed which include joint rescue actions carried out by rescue services from neighbouring countries.



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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION





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