



SUBREGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MINE TAILINGS SAFETY AND PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTAL WATER POLLUTION IN CENTRAL ASIA

May 25-26, 2023, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Key issues for TMFs safety and prevention of associated accidental pollution in their countries and in transboundary context



Addressing the problems associated with legacy uranium mining and processing sites in Central Asia is an important task, and its urgency is steadily growing.

The history of uranium-related activities in the region dates back to the mid-1940s.

In the 1990s, after countries gained independence, abandoned mining and processing sites, waste rock and poor ore, as well as dumps and tailings ponds began to damage the environment, and over the years the damages have grown into a serious threat.

TMFs IN THE CENTRAL ASIA

There are 121 TMFs in Kazakhstan, 12 of which could potentially have transboundary impacts



Mangyshlak "Koshkar-Ata" TMF



TMF of the Balkhash ore dressing plant

TMFs IN THE CENTRAL ASIA

There are has 33 TMFs and 27 dumps in Kyrgyzstan, 15 of which have potential transboundary impacts



TMFs IN THE CENTRAL ASIA

There are 11 TMFs in Tajikistan -



Degmai TMF



"Taboshar" TMF

TMFs IN THE CENTRAL ASIA

There are 41 TMFs in Uzbekistan, 10 of which have potential transboundary impacts

In addition, Uzbekistan is a downstream country that might be affected by accidental water pollution in upstream countries.



Центр по чрезвычайным ситуациям и снижению риска стихийных бедствий



THE HISTORY OF THE CENTER

2005: at the second World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Kobe (Japan), Kazakhstan for the first time initiated a proposal to establish a Central Asian Emergency Response Center.

May 17, 2013: in the city of Almaty, the chiefs of Ministries of Emergency Responses of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic signed the Agreement between Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic on establishment of the Center for Emergency Response and Disaster Risk Reduction (hereinafter referred to as the Center)



The Center was launched and has been operating since **September 14, 2016**

MISSION OF THE CENTER:

THE CENTER IS INTENDED TO:

- ◆ provide efficient mechanisms for disaster risk reduction;
- ◆ mitigate effects of emergencies;
- ◆ arrange joint response through measures agreed by the parties;
- ◆ promote regional and international cooperation.

STRATEGIC DIMENSIONS OF THE CENTER'S ACTIVITIES

1. Strengthening regional and international cooperation in the sphere of DRR, prevention and mitigation of emergencies.
2. Enhancing the level of safety of the population and territories of the states of the region.
3. Consolidation of efforts of all interested parties and mobilization of investments into the sphere of DRR and emergency prevention.
4. Strengthening preparedness for efficient emergency response, rescue and humanitarian operations, reconstruction and recovery.

The Center is open for accession of other states.

JOINT ACTIONS OF THE CENTER AND UNECE

2018

September 25-26 : jointly with the UNECE, the Center held a sub-regional workshop on strengthening industrial safety in Central Asia through implementation and accession to the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

4-6 December: the delegation of the Center took part in the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of Parties of the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, in Geneva, Switzerland.



JOINT ACTIONS OF THE CENTER AND UNECE

2019

June 11-13: in Kokshetau, the Center took part in an introductory international workshop in the framework of the UNECE project on strengthening safety of mining operations, in particular TMFs, in the Central Asia.



JOINT ACTIONS OF THE CENTER AND UNECE

2019



November 18-19 : jointly with UNEP and UNECE, the Center held Regional consultations on the draft Global Tailings Management Standard.

November 20-21 : jointly with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the Center held a Sub-regional workshop on strengthening TMFs safety in the Central Asia, in the framework of UNECE projects to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular TMFs, in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and beyond in the Central Asia.

JOINT ACTIONS OF THE CENTER AND UNECE

2022



From November 29 to December 1, in Geneva, Switzerland, Director of the Center attended the twelfth meeting of the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

Activities and recommendations to strengthen transboundary cooperation and to implement the UNECE Decision (2020) and the Roadmap (2022) on TMFs safety

The Center developed and the Regional Forum (the Meeting of Chiefs of Emergency Response Authorities of the Central Asian countries) approved:

- The strategy for development of cooperation between the countries of Central Asia in the sphere of disaster risk reduction for 2022-2030;**
- The Action Plan (Roadmap) for implementation of the strategy for development of cooperation between the countries of Central Asia in the sphere of disaster risk reduction for 2023-2024.**

Activities and recommendations to strengthen transboundary cooperation and to implement the UNECE Decision (2020) and the Roadmap (2022) on TMFs safety

In order to take measures to address challenges, strengthen transboundary cooperation and implement the UNECE decision (2020) and the roadmap (2022) on TMFs safety, the Center proposes to consider joint implementation of the following activities:

- creation of a regional early warning system on imminent threats of emergencies based on development of partnerships between authorities, the private sector and other stakeholders;**
- integration of risks of imminent threats of technological and man-made (industrial) accidents into DRR strategies, plans and programs;**
- development of the Regional Digital Directory of Potentially Hazardous Sites of the Central Asian Countries, Posing a Threat of Emergencies of Transboundary Nature.**

Thank you for your attention!
