

# UNECE activities to support environmental policies in Central Asia

The 9th Meeting of the EU-Central Asia Working Group on  
Environment and Climate Change

12-13 February 2020, Brussels

# Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution: Key facts



## ENVIRONMENT

- Signed in 1979, entry into force in 1983
- First international treaty to deal with air pollution on a broad regional basis
- 51 Parties in the UNECE region
- Framework Convention with 8 protocols
- Emission reduction targets for several pollutants
- Results: Emission reductions by 40 to 80 per cent since 1990 in Europe (sulphur: 70%, nitrogen oxides: 40%)



## ENVIRONMENT

- International agreement setting emission reduction targets
- Science-policy interface: monitoring, modeling and effect-oriented programmes
- Monitoring compliance of Parties
- Capacity-building and awareness-raising

## ENVIRONMENT

- Exchange of experiences on strategies, policies and measures
- Emission Limit Values and guidance documents
- Batumi Action for Cleaner Air initiative (BACA)
- Outreach and cooperation across scales: local, national, regional, global
- SDGs:



## ENVIRONMENT



- Encourage ratification of the Convention and its protocols
- Raise the political profile of the Convention
- Increase cooperation and exchange of information
- Support EECCA involvement in the activities of the Convention.

*2014-2019, managed by the secretariat and funded by a number of Parties*

## ENVIRONMENT



<i>Eastern Region</i>	<i>CLRTAP</i>	<i>EMEP</i>	<i>HM</i>	<i>POPs</i>	<i>GP</i>
<b>ARMENIA</b>	1997	2014	<i>Sgn.1998</i>	<i>Sgn.1998</i>	<i>Sgn.1999</i>
<b>AZERBAIJAN</b>	2002				
<b>BELARUS</b>	1980	1985			
<b>GEORGIA</b>	1999	2013			
<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>	2001				
<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>	2000				
<b>REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA</b>	1995	2016	2002	2002	<i>Sgn.2000</i>
<b>RUSSIAN FEDERATION</b>	1980	1985			
<b>TAJIKISTAN</b>					
<b>TURKMENISTAN</b>					
<b>UKRAINE</b>	1980	1985	<i>Sgn.1998</i>	<i>Sgn.1998</i>	
<b>UZBEKISTAN</b>					



## ENVIRONMENT

- Roundtable discussions on national legislation analyses
  - ✓ Amendments in air protection law of Uzbekistan created preconditions for the ratification of the Convention and the EMEP protocol.
  - ✓ Decision of governments of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan to develop national action plans for ratification of the Convention's key protocols
  - ✓ Decision of governments of Tajikistan to initiate the process of accession to the Convention and the EMEP protocol.
- Progress in emissions reporting and improved quality and completeness of reporting



## ENVIRONMENT

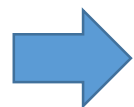
- The recent EU Clean Air legislation is based on the amended Gothenburg Protocol under the Air Convention;
- EU Member States have used reporting guidelines and guidance developed under the Convention for their national emission inventories
- Capacity-building activities under the Convention help countries to approximate their national legislation to EU standards



# Environment, water, climate change and disaster resilience: Mine tailings in Central Asia

## ENVIRONMENT

Ridder accident in Kazakhstan (2016)



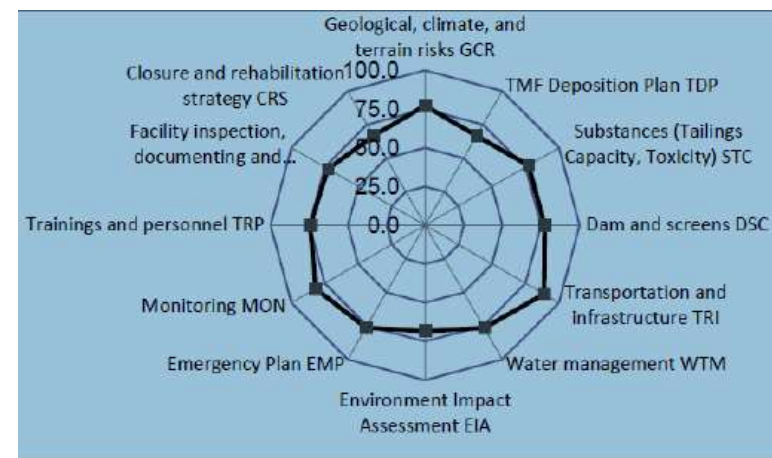
Transboundary water pollution



Central Asian countries are prone to NATECH accidents caused by extreme weather events – an environmental security risk exacerbated by climate change

## ENVIRONMENT

- Safety Guidelines and Good Practices for Tailings Management Facilities
- Methodology incl. Tailings Hazard Index (THI) and measure catalogue
- Checklist on contingency planning for accidents affecting transboundary waters
- Capacity-development to support countries' efforts to strengthen the safety of mine tailings in Central Asia and beyond





## ENVIRONMENT

Map of TMF-inventories in Central Asian countries, total 186 TMFs in the region



TMFs capable of causing transboundary effects in Kazakhstan (7 sites)

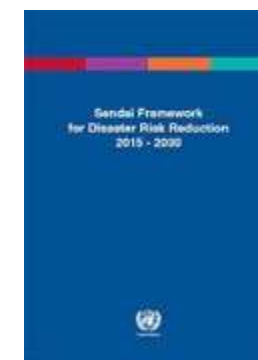
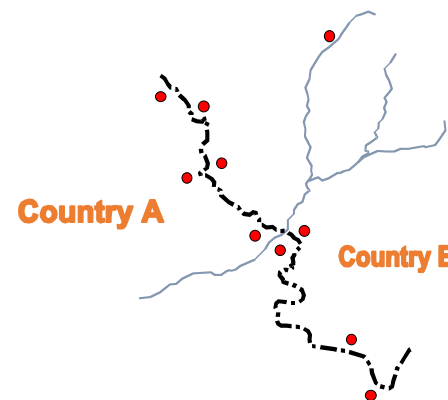
No	Name of TMF	Region, district	THI	transboundary effect
16	TMF nr.1 of LLC "Aktubinsk Copper Company"	Aktobe region, Khromtau district, town settlement Koktau	10.17	
41	TMF of Orlovsky dressing plant of LLC "Vostoksvetmet"	East Kazakhstan region, Borodulikhinsky district, town settlement Zhezkent	12.03	Near to the border with Russia (3 km)
103	Sludge storage nr. 1 of JSC "Aluminium of Kazakhstan"	Pavlodar region, Pavlodar city, industrial zone "Vostochnaya", building 65	11.61	Irtys River
104	Sludge storage nr. 2 of JSC "Aluminium of Kazakhstan"	Pavlodar region, Pavlodar city, industrial zone "Vostochnaya", building 66	11.52	Irtys River
105	Sludge storage nr. 3 of JSC "Aluminium of Kazakhstan"	Pavlodar region, Pavlodar city, industrial zone "Vostochnaya", building 67	11.00	Irtys River
107	Ash sludge storage nr. 1, Aksu Ferroalloy Plant	Pavlodar region, Aksu city	10.60	Irtys River
108	Ash sludge storage nr. 2, Aksu Ferroalloy Plant	Pavlodar region, Aksu city	10.95	Irtys River

# Towards enhanced environment, climate change, water policies and disaster resilience



## ENVIRONMENT

- Tailings safety ↔ disaster resilience, mitigating climate and security risks
- Preventing accidental water pollution ↔ IWRM
- Support implementation of UNECE legal instruments (Industrial Accidents and Water Conventions) and tools
- Improve understanding of transboundary risks and regional cooperation
- Strengthen UNECE-EU partnership in Central and beyond





**Thank you for your attention!**

<https://www.unece.org/env/welcome.html>

