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CBRN
Centres of Excellence
An initiative of the European Union

Regional Secretariat

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Central Asia Regional Secretariat

Profile

FRAMEWORK: European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative.

ESTABLISHED: 17 July 2015.

LOCATION: Inspectorate on Control of Mining, Geological and Industrial Safety under the Ministry of Mining Industry and Geology of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

OVERALL GOAL: Strengthen capabilities of partner countries in mitigating CBRN risks.

Food contamination
Nuclear
Radiological
Terrorism
Biological
CRIME
Organized crime
Critical infrastructure

Chemical
CERN
Radioactive waste
Risk Mitigation
Safety and Security
Border Control
Accident

Mass gatherings
Food contamination



Partner Countries



Afghanistan



Kazakhstan



Kyrgyzstan



Mongolia



Pakistan



Tajikistan



Uzbekistan

Potential Partner Countries:



Turkmenistan

Regional Priorities

- ➔ Implementation of UNSCR 1540
- ➔ Legislation for CBRN Risk Mitigation
- ➔ Border control for CBRN safety and security
- ➔ Dual use goods trade control
- ➔ Zoonotic diseases risk mitigation
- ➔ Protection of Critical Infrastructure
- ➔ Strengthening forensics capabilities in CBRN
- ➔ CBRN safety and security during mass gatherings
- ➔ Public Awareness raising concerning CBRN hazards and threats
- ➔ Collaboration in training



Objectives

- 1 ▶ Support the establishment and the institutionalisation of CBRN National Teams
- 2 ▶ Support Partner Countries in the development of CBRN National Action Plans
- 3 ▶ Support Partner Countries in the development of regional and sub-regional project proposals
- 4 ▶ Collect information and support monitoring of ongoing CBRN CoE projects
- 5 ▶ Organise regional Round-Table Meetings
- 6 ▶ Enhance ownership by Partner Countries in the region
- 7 ▶ Reach out and coordinate with other international organisations and donors

Recent Achievements

Throughout 2022, a series of field training exercises on deployment of mobile laboratory equipment (handed over in July 2021), was delivered by Bundeswehr Institute of Microbiology (IMB) of Germany to the experts of the Republican Specialized Scientific and Practical Medical Center for Epidemiology, Microbiology, Infectious and Parasitic Diseases under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Research Institute of Virology under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan within the frame of CBRN CoE Project 53 "Strengthening the National Legal Framework and Provision of Specialized Training on Bio-Safety and Bio-Security in Central Asian and South-East and Eastern European Countries" (implemented by the International Science and Technology Center).



In 2022, over 200 experts from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan were trained on preparedness and response to mass gatherings during a number of regional capacity-building interventions including trainings-of-trainers (ToT) on water safety, food safety, chemical poisoning, CCC conducted within the framework of EU CBRN CoE Project 87 "Preparedness and Response for Mass Gatherings and Other Health Threats in Central Asia (PRECA)".



The conference "COVID-19 Lessons Learnt", organized jointly by Biosafety Association for Central Asia and the Caucasus, EU CBRN CoE Initiative and EU CBRN CoE Project 53 "Strengthening the National Legal Framework and Provision of Specialized Training on Bio-Safety and Bio-Security in Central Asian and South-East and Eastern European Countries" in Tbilisi, Georgia on 3-7 October 2022 discussed a wide range of issues encountered during COVID-19 pandemic, including legislative aspects of biosafety, challenges of diagnosis and surveillance, biological waste management, effective communication in public health, sanitary control and risk management, biosafety and biosecurity education and training.



Projects

Since 2013, the region participated in **13 projects**, of which **2 are on-going in 2023**:

Project: P87 PRECA

Preparedness and Response for Mass Gatherings and other Health Threats in Central Asia.

Project: P53

Strengthening the National Legal Framework and Provision of Specialized Training on Biosafety and Biosecurity in Central Asian Countries.

Methodology



6 partner countries of the region appointed their CBRN National Focal Points



6 National Teams established to ensure inter-ministerial and inter-agency collaboration at the country level



5 partner countries are currently engaged in the preparation of their **National CBRN Action Plans**

1 National Action Plan developed

Background

The European Union (EU) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative is funded and implemented by the European Union (EU) through the neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), the EU's main international cooperation instrument supporting security initiatives and peace-building activities in Partner Countries. The Initiative is led by the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instrument (FPI), in close coordination with the European External Action Service (EEAS).

The European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) provides technical support to Partner Countries, while the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) ensures a coherent and effective national, regional and international cooperation. Other relevant International and/or Regional Organisations and experts also contribute to the Initiative. The Initiative comprises sixty-four Partner Countries in eight regions of the world and it is the EU's largest civilian external security programme.