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*Project was implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Protection of Land and the Sea (IMELS), Republic of Italy (lead MS partner) and the Environment Agency Austria (Umweltbundesamt GmbH), Republic of Austria (junior MS partner) as well as the Ministry of Environment and Energy, Republic of Croatia (BC partner).*

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## This project is funded by the EUROPEAN UNION

One of the greatest challenges for new EU member states, accession countries, candidate countries or potential candidates for the EU membership is implementation of reforms, as well as adjustment and strengthening of public institutions for adoption of the Acquis of the European Union.

In order to face this challenge, the EU has devised Twinning as an instrument of administrative cooperation between public administrations of beneficiary countries and institutions of the EU member states with the aim of assisting and transferring knowledge related to application and implementation of the Acquis of the European Union.

The Republic of Croatia also uses the Transition Facility as a temporary instrument foreseen for new member states in their first years of membership – assistance in financing of development measures and strengthening of national administrative and judicial capacities for implementation and enforcement of EU legislation.



Find more on project on [www.haop.hr](http://www.haop.hr)

The European Union's Programme for Croatia

## Transition Facility

### Twinning Project

**“Chemicals and hazardous substances monitoring improvement and integration of Seveso database into Croatian Environmental Information System (CEIS) as the unique Central Seveso Information System”  
(CRO SEVESO)**

HR 14 IB EN 02

A project implemented by



Croatia



Italy

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AUSTRIA **umweltbundesamt** Austria

## Chemicals and hazardous substances monitoring improvement and integration of Seveso database into Croatian Environmental Information System (CEIS) as the unique Central Seveso Information System

This project used the expertise of two Member States – Italy and Austria, working with the beneficiary organisation, to ensure the continued development of important public services in line with EU standards. Project was implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Protection of Land and the Sea (IMELS), Republic of Italy (lead MS partner) and the Environment Agency Austria (Umweltbundesamt GmbH), Republic of Austria (junior MS partner) as well as the Ministry of Environment and Energy, Republic of Croatia (BC partner). The project, worth in total € 900,000 and deploying around 460 man/days of MS experts, commenced in August 2017 and lasted for 19 months.

### The Seveso Directive - Prevention, Preparedness and Response

Major industrial accidents involving dangerous chemicals pose a significant threat to humans and the environment. Furthermore, such accidents cause huge economic losses and disrupt sustainable growth. However, the use of large amounts of dangerous chemicals is unavoidable in some industry sectors which are vital for a modern industrialised society. To minimise the associated risks, measures are necessary to prevent major accidents and to ensure appropriate preparedness and response should such accidents nevertheless happen.

### CRO SEVESO

The overall objective of better monitoring of chemicals and reporting on chemicals and dangerous substances together with their quantities in the Republic of Croatia were achieved with improvement and upgrading of the current Seveso databases in the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE) (Register of Establishments in which Dangerous Substances are Present and the Register of Reported Major Accidents - databases REDS/RRMA) and integrating REDS/RRMA databases into CEIS. At the same time, capacities of all involved competent authorities and other stakeholders were improved through workshops and seminars implemented by this project. Stronger capacities led to better knowledge in collecting, maintaining and validating of data which results in better quality of data, more precise monitoring and a general higher awareness and preparedness of the operators and of the concerned population.

By the new Environmental Protection Act (OG 80/13, 153/13, 78/15, 12/18, 118/18), the Regulation on the Prevention of Major Accidents Involving Dangerous Substances (OG 44/14, 31/17, 45/17) and the Ordinance on the Registry of Installations in which Dangerous Substances are Present, and the Register of Reported Major Accidents (OG 139/14) were adopted. The Regulation transposed all annexes from Seveso III Directive and operators got grace period to adapt their documentation.

The competent authorities (CA) for Seveso directives implementation in Croatia are the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE) and the Ministry of the Interior, while the co-operating institutions are institutions of the local and regional government and Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning (MCPPE), Ministry of Health and the Croatian Institute of Public Health.

All the achieved results in this project provide the general public with information on the state of the environment in their neighbourhood in the part of dangerous substances, major accidents, accidents, domino-effects, etc.

### Beneficiary organisation(s) in Croatia

The main beneficiary was the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE).

Close cooperation, communication and coordination was required with the following project stakeholders:

- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Construction and Physical Planning (MCPPE)
- Ministry of Health
- Croatian Institute of Public Health
- Croatian Chamber of Economy (CCE)
- Ministry of Economy, Entrepreneurship and Crafts
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Finance - Customs Administration
- Hrvatske vode (legal entity for water management)
- Local governments and regional government
- All relevant inspections

### Achieved results of the Twinning Project

This Twinning project assisted in upgrading of the current database and building one unique database with all necessary information and data adequate for quick responding and prevention of major accidents, which is the national target and the main task prescribed by the new Croatian Regulation on the Prevention of Major Accidents involving Dangerous Substances (OG 44/14, 31/17, 45/17)

### Achieved results:

- Reporting towards the Republic of Croatia and European Union improved;
- Software for validation tools for SMS and MAPP integrated; GIS integrated;
- The CSIS integrated into the CEIS, combined with implementation of SMS and MAPP procedures and GIS;
- Institutional capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE), competent authorities (CA) and other stakeholders strengthened.

The overall objective was to strengthen the capabilities and efficiency of the Republic of Croatia in the field of environmental protection and mitigation of climate changes by improving management, monitoring and more precise reporting on chemicals, emissions, hazardous substances and accidents as well as to upgrade and integrate the current Seveso databases with Geographic Information System (GIS) within Croatian Environmental Information System (CEIS).

The purpose of the project was to improve and harmonize climate change mitigation capabilities and chemical pollution and hazardous substances monitoring of the Croatian Ministry of Environment and Energy.

The **Ministry of Environment and Protection of Land and the Sea** (IMELS) was the Lead Member State institution responsible for general coordination and the management of the project and it was assisted by Fondazione Minoprio responsible for the organisational and financial management of the project. IMELS is the public body responsible for all relations with the European Union on the prevention and intervention regarding major industrial accidents (Seveso Directive) and it is also responsible for developing and maintaining the National Inventory of establishments with the technical support of its scientific arm ISPRA. Both IMELS as well as Fondazione Minoprio have participated in several twinning projects in most of new member states and candidate countries, including Croatia. For the specific needs of the project, short term experts from central and regional institutions were involved in relation to their specific responsibilities. This combination of central and regional authorities has formed a successful team that has supported the institutions of beneficiary countries in various EU funded projects.