

## SAICM/UCT Chemicals and Sustainable Development Goals Community of Practice Discussion 1 2022 Guide

<b>Title</b>	<b>The Link between Climate Change and Chemical Accidents</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> April 2022</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>14:00 pm – 15:30 pm (GMT+2)</b>
<b>Presenters</b>	<b>Marie-Ange Baucher, OECD; Halshka Graczyk, ILO and Semia Gharbi, AEEFG</b>
<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Prof Hanna-Andrea Rother, Univ. of Cape Town</b>
<b>WebEx registration link</b>	<a href="https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php?RGID=rb22bb60a222659626873e4d0fdf81ab9">https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php?RGID=rb22bb60a222659626873e4d0fdf81ab9</a>
<b>SAICM/UCT CSDG CoP Sign-up link</b>	Make sure you have signed up for the CSDG CoP: <a href="https://saicmknowledge.org/community">https://saicmknowledge.org/community</a>
<b>What's App Group</b>	Join the CSDG CoP What's App Group to receive information: <a href="https://chat.whatsapp.com/BKTKGwt5cnNCgG9BOzYK1i">https://chat.whatsapp.com/BKTKGwt5cnNCgG9BOzYK1i</a>

### Discussion Format:

- This is not a Webinar, but rather a discussion among different stakeholder groups.
- The discussion presenter/s will briefly present a verbal introduction and introduce the questions listed in this discussion guide.
- Three questions will be posted during the 1 ½ hour discussion. The presenter/s will address questions and comments posted by members in the chat room and participants are encouraged to respond to each other as well.
- All are encouraged to join the discussion which will be held in English. Feel free to write in another language and members will assist where possible with translation.

### **Two steps are required to join this discussion:**

1. Sign up to the CoP, if you have not done so previously, at: <https://saicmknowledge.org/community>
2. Should you require assistance or have questions, contact: [uctcops@outlook.com](mailto:uctcops@outlook.com)
3. Register for the 20<sup>th</sup> of April WebEx discussion at:  
<https://unep.webex.com/unep/j.php?RGID=rb22bb60a222659626873e4d0fdf81ab9>
4. We encourage you also to join the CSDG CoP WhatsApp group by clicking on this link:  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BKTKGwt5cnNCgG9BOzYK1i>
5. Should you **NOT be able to join the discussion** but still wish to contribute please **click the link below** and fill out the form with your **contributions**:

### PRESENTERS BIOSKETCH



**Marie-Ange Baucher** has been working at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for 14 years. She is working in the Environment, Health, and Safety division of the Environment Directorate, covering topics on the risk management of chemicals (such as the substitution of chemicals of concern and sustainable chemistry) and the prevention, preparedness, and response to chemical accidents.



**Dr. Halshka Graczyk** is a Technical Specialist on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) at the International Labour Organization (ILO). In this role, Halshka manages the ILO hazardous substances portfolio - which spans across all work sectors and occupations worldwide and assesses toxics, chemicals, and waste along the life cycle of global supply chains. In addition, she supports several technical areas including OSH risk assessment and prevention strategies, major industrial accidents and the development of evidence based public international and national policies, programmes, and strategies.



**Semia Gharbi** is a teacher and has specialized in environmental sciences for more than two decades. She is engaged in civil society work as she has founded a national NGO addressing environmental awareness for future generations working on education platform as a driver for sustainable development and on chemicals hazards and their impacts on health and environment. At international level she is:

- The hub regional of IPEN for MENA-North Africa
- A member of PAN Africa
- Mentioned as UNEP expert's profiles on the website of UNEP
- A member of WECF and WMG

### QUESTION 1 (14h00 – 14h30 GMT+2)

#### Marie-Ange Baucher, OECD

**Background:** The impact of natural hazards on hazardous installations has been an increasing cause of concern. Natural hazards (such as earthquakes, floods, or storms) can initiate events, which may challenge the safety and operation of hazardous installations and trigger a chemical accident. These accidents are referred to as Natural hazard triggered Technological accidents (Natech).

Natech risk management needs to consider the possible impact of climate change on the occurrence and severity of Natech events. Data and projections show that the frequency and intensity of natural hazards may increase in the decades to come; and some of them may occur at locations where they have never been observed before. Coupled with a growing human expansion, integration of climate change risks and uncertainties into Natech risk management is essential.

**Question 1:** Do you think there is sufficient awareness of Natech risks in your country in relation to climate change? What are the main challenges you can see for establishing prevention measures for Natech?

### Polls

**We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so that you can contribute with your responses:**

1. Are you aware of Natech accidents that happened in your country? (Yes/no/not sure and list country in response)
2. Is Natech included in your country's measures on the prevention, preparedness, and response to chemical accidents? (Yes/no/not sure and list country in response)

### Resources/Information for the Discussion:

1. OECD webpage on Natech: <https://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/chemical-accidents/risks-from-natural-hazards-at-hazardous-installations.htm>
2. OECD Brochure for Natech Risk Awareness (2022) <https://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/chemical-accidents/impact-of-natural-hazards-on-hazardous-installations.pdf>
3. Natech Common Inspections Criteria (EC Joint Research Center, 2021): [https://minerva.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/shorturl/minerva/jrc121493cic\\_natechnewpdf](https://minerva.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/shorturl/minerva/jrc121493cic_natechnewpdf)
4. AIChE (2019), CCPS Monograph: Assessment of and planning for natural hazards, <https://www.aiche.org/sites/default/files/html/536181/NaturalDisaster-CCPSmonograph.html>
5. eNATECH accident database: <https://enatech.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>
6. RAPID-N Natech risk assessment system: <https://rapidn.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>
7. UNECE webpage on Natech: <https://unece.org/industrial-accidents-convention-and-natural-disasters-natech>
8. Environmental Emergency Center : <https://www.eecentre.org/>
9. UNDRR work on disaster risk reduction: <https://www.undrr.org/>

### QUESTION 2 (14h30 – 15h00 GMT+2)

Halshka Graczyk, ILO

**Background:** Even as technology evolves and the structure of work continues to shift dramatically, major industrial accidents continue to pose a major threat to the safety and health of workers around the world. Potentially hazardous substances are ubiquitous in many industries and are of strategic importance to many national economies. However, in the absence of sound workplace chemicals management, appropriate risk assessment and other preventative actions and policies, they may pose a serious and imminent risk for the occurrence of major industrial accidents (MIAs).

The world of work and the natural environment are intrinsically linked, and climate change and associated environmental degradation pose increasing risks to workers' health and safety, particularly when it comes to MIAs. Expanded workplace risk assessments, those that take into consideration the risk of climate change and its associated impacts are increasingly needed for MIA prevention. The role of tripartism and social dialogue in the face of a rapidly changing planet and world of work are also essential for coordinated preventative action.

**Question 2:** What do you see as the role of the world of work in MIA prevention when it comes to increasing occupational safety and risks posed by climate change?

**Polls:**

**We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so that you can contribute with your responses:**

1. Are you familiar with OSH legal frameworks in your country that help protect workers from OSH risks due to MIAs or other hazardous exposures? (Yes/no/not sure and list country in response)
2. Is climate change seen as a workplace related threat in your country / working experience? (Yes/no/not sure and list country in response)

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

1. ILO Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention No. 174:  
[https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:55:0::NO::P55\\_TYPE,P55\\_LANG,P55\\_DOCUMENT,P55\\_NODE:CON,en,C174,/Document](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:55:0::NO::P55_TYPE,P55_LANG,P55_DOCUMENT,P55_NODE:CON,en,C174,/Document)
2. ILO Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Recommendation No. 181:  
[https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:55:0::55:P55\\_TYPE,P55\\_LANG,P55\\_DOCUMENT,P55\\_NODE:REC,en,R181,/Document](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:55:0::55:P55_TYPE,P55_LANG,P55_DOCUMENT,P55_NODE:REC,en,R181,/Document)
3. ILO Code of Practice on Major Industrial Accidents:  
[https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/safety-and-health-at-work/normative-instruments/code-of-practice/WCMS\\_107829/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/safety-and-health-at-work/normative-instruments/code-of-practice/WCMS_107829/lang--en/index.htm)
4. ILO issue paper - Climate Change and Labour: Impacts of Heat in the Workplace:  
[https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/green-jobs/publications/WCMS\\_476194/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/green-jobs/publications/WCMS_476194/lang--en/index.htm)
5. ILO research report - Working on a warmer planet: The effect of heat stress on productivity and decent work:  
[https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS\\_711919/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_711919/lang--en/index.htm)
6. ILO video, OSH and climate change: [Vision Zero Fund - OSH & Climate Change \(DRAFT 2\).mp4 on Vimeo](#)

**QUESTION 3 (15h00 - 15h30 GMT+2)**

**Sermia Gharbi, AEEFG**

**Background:** The Basel Convention regulates the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes and obliges its Parties to ensure that such wastes are managed and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. The Convention covers toxic, poisonous, explosive, corrosive, flammable, ecotoxic and infectious wastes. However, for many years number of illegal traffic of waste and hazards wastes have been impacting the environment and the health.

**Question 3:** How can climate changes increase the problem of hazardous wastes movement and its impact on environment and health?

**Polls:**

**We encourage you to think about the poll questions before the discussion so that you can contribute with your responses:**

1. Why is illegal traffic of wastes still happening even if there is a Convention treating the movement of wastes and hazardous wastes?
2. How can climate changes increase the impacts of hazardous waste and other wastes?

**Resources/Information for the Discussion:**

1. Basel convention: <http://www.basel.int/>
2. Illegal waste trade: what's driving this multi-billion dollar transnational crime and what could stop it?: <https://baselgovernance.org/news/illegal-waste-trade-whats-driving-multi-billion-dollar-transnational-crime-and-what-could-stop>
3. Waste crime –waste risks gaps in meeting the global waste challenge: [WASTE CRIME – WASTE RISKS GAPS IN MEETING THE GLOBAL WASTE CHALLENGE](#)
4. Environmental crimes are on the rise, so are efforts to prevent them: <https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/environmental-crimes-are-rise-so-are-efforts-prevent-them>
5. Plastic waste and climate change - what's the connection?: <https://www.wwf.org.au/news/blogs/plastic-waste-and-climate-change-whats-the-connection>
6. CHEMICALS, WASTES AND CLIMATE CHANGE: <https://www.mercuryconvention.org/climatechange-report/>

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