

Expert meeting: The revised IED and the Portal Regulation: shaping the future data reporting 26-27 June 2024, Copenhagen

Summary of breakout sessions

Background

This document summarises the main points discussed in each breakout session during the expert meeting. It aims at giving an overview of the main discussion points of each session and providing information to the colleagues who attended the meeting online.

Reporters can provide comments to the document or add additional information.

Session 2: Reporting challenges, good practice and improvements

Key Points

- **Internal QA:** Countries have different approaches to internal quality assurance (QA) before submitting data to the EEA. Some rely on manual checks, while others use automated systems.
- **EEA QA Feedback:** Opinions are divided on the usefulness of the EEA's post-submission QA checks. Some find it helpful for catching errors, while others consider it overwhelming and containing false positives.
- **IT Systems:** Many countries are looking to update or develop new IT systems for data collection and reporting due to the new legislation. Challenges include keeping systems up-to-date, ensuring consistency across regions, and integrating with existing permitting systems.
- **Data Collection:** A major challenge is collecting data from various sources, including facilities, municipalities, and different government agencies.
- **EEA and Member States cooperation:** All countries agreed that the 1-to-1 sessions were valuable

Future Improvements

- **EEA and Member States cooperation:**
 - Several countries highlighted the need for better communication between the EEA and national IT experts.
 - Some countries suggested the creation of small group discussions on reporting methods.
- **Reporting and IT systems:**

- There was a consensus on the need for a more efficient and user-friendly IT system for data collection and reporting.
- Standardising reporting formats and streamlining data collection processes were seen as improvements by all participants.
- **QA Improvement:** An informal working group to focus on quality assurance and control procedures for the new system was proposed by the EEA and well-received by Member States.

Session 3: Guidance document on how to apply the definitions of industrial sites, facilities and installations under Regulation 2024/1244

Key points

- The new legislation and the changes to facility and installation definitions will require updates to national reporting systems in most countries.
- Potential split of reporting from 1 facility to several installations is a concern for several countries due to time consistency and impact on permit procedures
- Limited time for implementation and potential resource constraints (IT, finances) were raised.

Needs and solutions

- Clear guidance documents with practical examples, especially for complex situations; the guidance document should be “live” to capture example and enrich explanations including an FAQ section to support the handling of critical and particular cases.
- Guidance documents should also cover reporting of new data points (e.g. raw materials and water use).
- Reporting of water releases and waste transfers should be better clarified with the reporting at installation level.
- Establish a collaborative space for information sharing and addressing challenges.
- Support for Member States: The possibility of IT and financial support for countries with limited resources was discussed.

Session 4: reporting under the revised IED: which changes may the new Directive bring to data collection

Key points:

- **Code List for Annex I Proposals:** Majority of countries favour Option 1 (A, B, C, D, E). The full list will be open for written comments, however.

- **New Elements in Reporting:** While some prefer less reporting, others see value in reporting deviations from normal operations and clear reporting on derogations.
- **Digital Permitting:** Several countries are working on or planning digital permitting systems, but some face challenges (limitations of existing systems, operator burden).

Concerns

- **Clarity:** Needed on new data points like raw materials, water use, transformation plans, and IED 2.0 elements.
- **Reporting Levels:** Difficulty integrating facility and installation definitions; concerns about reporting at the installation level (e.g., transformation plans, EMS compliance)
- **Baseline Reports:** Challenges with finalising and reporting baseline reports (Y/N might be too simple for this field). Current reporting might be improved.
- **Date of Permit:** Potential to remove this field due to limited usefulness.
- **URL Links:** Difficulty maintaining links due to website updates (seeking permanent link solutions).