

Benefits of implemented PRTR

Nebojsa Redzic
Environmental Protection Agency
Republic of Serbia

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS TO THE GOVERNMENT – STATE

- Transparency of information will improve public **trust** in the government.
- Promotes **investment**, because investors prefer areas where there's less pollution, leading to a reduction in pollution.
- Aligned legislation facilitates the **EU accession** process. Promotes negotiations on the environment.
- Transparent environment management, accessible information facilitates **dialogue** between various stakeholders.
- E-PRTR data can be used in future **development** projects.
- Increase in **prestige** in the international arena.
- An indicator of a **transparent** administration.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS TO THE INDUSTRY

- Improves the **knowledge** of industry on environment.
- Access to data on the level of emissions of a **rival** company.
- Industrial facilities can learn about their pollutants and obtain information on processes of which they may not be aware, and can utilize this **knowledge** for improving their image and obtain financial gain.
- Data provided by the industry gains **official support** through validation and dissemination.
- The **concept of environment** starts to become a priority as a result of competition among facilities; and pollution may be reduced.
- Information on air and water pollution can be extrapolated to new projects thereby costly environmental problems can be **prevented**.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS TO THE INDUSTRY

- The fact that the **public can access** information on facilities may industry to be more sensitive towards the environment, leading them to take measures to prevent pollution.
- For industrialists, their **commitments** to the environment can be monitored concretely, and are **verifiable**.
- E-PRTR data will help operators to find out whether there is a need for implementing **best available technologies** and practices.
- Reliable E-PRTR data enhances the opportunity for **fair competition** in international markets.
- E-PRTR may improve the acceptance of facilities by **residents in the nearby area**.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES

- Holistic, **integrated** collection of pollution data. One system – wide range of integrated information.
- Opportunity to **compare** data with other states when determining environmental policies.
- Gaining **information** on whether emissions are at a level that threatens the country.
- Opportunity to **monitor** improvements or declines in performance of industry.
- Better information on pollution helps to **prevent** pollution.
- Generation of empirical data for the development of **environment management strategies**, and coastal and environment plans.
- Enables to do inter-sectoral and inter-facility **comparisons**.
- Uncommon pollutants, in addition to common ones, will be **visible**.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITIES

- Facilitates, streamlines environmental inspections and audits, saving time for officials.
- It will be easier to handle environmental problems with tangible and pollutant-specific and facility-specific data.
- Comparison of baseline pollution data with yearly follow-up observations reveals hidden trends and serves as an early warning system.
- Collecting and using E-PRTR data facilitates technical self-improvement of environmental authorities.
- Environmental pollution maps can be created.
- PRTR may help to legislate necessary changes in the regulations, but also may prevent unnecessary legal challenges.
- Environmental pollution should be prevented at its **point of origin**. The identification of pollutants at their points of origin enables Government and industry to intervene efficiently.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN VARIOUS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BODIES

- Helps to harmonize industrial and environmental policies on the regional and interregional level.
- Facilitates co-operation between facilities, local authorities and non-governmental organizations, in order to reduce the harms caused by industrial facilities.
- Helps in developing environmental awareness of facilities, NGOs and the population.
- Helps to co-ordinate the work of various ministries, e.g. between the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization and the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs.
- E-PRTR helps to make projections in studies about infrastructure and urbanization.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS FOR SOCIETY

- E-PRTR regulation implements the **right** of the public to access environmental information.
- They can request information on excessive emissions in the environment in which they live, and can put pressure on companies or policymakers in such cases.
- Potential health-related problems can be prevented.
- E-PRTR may help to implement environmental rights of the public, such as filing complaints, **taking legal action**, etc.
- Being able to access environmental information will establish, create and improve the **trust** of the public in local and central Government authorities and in facilities.
- High visibility of the E-PRTR database will raise the environmental awareness of the public.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, LABORATORIES AND OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

- As the quality of measurements/analyses of laboratories will be checked by a separate system, laboratories may improve the quality of their measurements in an effort to reach more precise information.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS TO NGO

- Good pollution database will put lobbying into a **rational** and empirically based (fact based) framework, will improve the quality of discussions, the niveau of interest representation and interest reconciliation.
- NGOs gain the ability to produce higher quality reports.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS FOR SCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Enables **crosschecks** with other measurements and databases.
- Detailed information on facilities, coherent information on their emissions will help in future development projects and scientific studies.
- Environmental researchers can access relevant data collectively.
- Universities and institutes can look at this data without incurring additional cost in such areas as measurement modelling, etc.

Benefits of PRTR register

BENEFITS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Helps to achieve global sustainability
- A reliable and easily accessible E-PRTR database will motivate firms to invest into clean technologies and will indirectly **improve air, water and soil quality.**