

University of Belgrade
Technical Faculty in Bor and
Mining and Metallurgy Institute Bor



Technical Faculty in Bor
University of Belgrade

51st International October Conference on Mining and Metallurgy

PROCEEDINGS

Editors:

Prof. dr Srba Mladenović
Prof. dr Čedomir Maluckov

Bor Lake, Serbia,
October 16-19, 2019



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Technical Editor:

Prof. dr Čedomir Maluckov
University of Belgrade, Technical Faculty in Bor

Publisher: *University of Belgrade, Technical Faculty in Bor*

For the publisher: Dean prof. dr Nada Štrbac

Circulation: 100

Printed by "Tercia", Bor, 2019.

ISBN 978-86-6305-101-0

CIP - Каталогизacija u publikaciji
Народна библиотека Србије, Београд

622(082)(0.034.2)

669(082)(0.034.2)

INTERNATIONAL October Conference on Mining and Metallurgy (51 ; 2019 ; Borsko jezero)

Proceedings [Elektronski izvor] / 51st International October Conference on Mining and Metallurgy - IOC 2019, Bor Lake, Serbia, October 16-19, 2019 ; [organized by] University of Belgrade, Technical Faculty in Bor and Mining and Metallurgy Institute Bor ; editors Srba Mladenović, Čedomir Maluckov. - Bor : University of Belgrade, Technical Faculty, 2019 (Bor : Tercia). - 1 USB fleš memorija ; 1 x 1 x 5 cm

Sistemski zahtevi: Nisu navedeni. - Tiraž 100. - Preface / Srba Mladenović. - Napomene i bibliografske reference uz radove. - Bibliografija uz svaki rad. - Registar.

ISBN 978-86-6305-101-0

a) Рударство -- Зборници б) Металургија – Зборници

COBISS.SR-ID 280007180

Bor Lake, Serbia, October 16-19, 2019



Conference is financially supported by
The Ministry of Education, Science and
Technological Development of the
Republic of Serbia

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PREFACE

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is a great honor and pleasure to wish all the participants a warm welcome to the 51st International October Conference on Mining and Metallurgy (IOC 2019) held at Bor Lake, Serbia, 16 – 19 October 2019.

The IOC 2019 has been organized by the University of Belgrade, Technical Faculty in Bor, in cooperation with Mining and Metallurgy Institute Bor. It is devoted to presenting recent research results and advances in the fields of geology, mining, metallurgy, materials science, technology, environmental protection, and related engineering topics. The primary goal of IOC is to bring together academics, researchers, and industry engineers to exchange their experiences, expertise and ideas, and also to consider possibilities for collaborative research.

These proceedings include 81 papers from authors coming from universities, research institutes and industries in 15 countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Japan, Kazakhstan, México, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine, Switzerland, Brasil and Serbia.

Financial assistance provided by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia is gratefully acknowledged. The support of the sponsors and their willingness and ability to cooperate has been of great importance for the success of IOC 2019. The Organizing Committee would like to extend their appreciation and gratitude to all the donors and friends of the Conference for their donations and support.

We would like to thank all the authors who have contributed to these proceedings, and also to the members of the scientific and organizing committees, reviewers, speakers, chairpersons and all the Conference participants for their support to IOC 2019. Sincere thanks to all the people who have contributed to the successful organization of IOC 2019.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 52nd International October Conference on Mining and Metallurgy (IOC 2020), which will be held in October 2020.

On behalf of the 51st IOC Organizing Committee,
Prof. dr Srba Mladenović



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PROGRESS IN MANAGEMENT OF CONTAMINATED SITES IN SERBIA

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Abstract

This study presents a current situation in management of contaminated sites in Serbia. According to the data from the Cadastre of contaminated sites managed by the Serbian Environmental Protection Agency, 709 potentially contaminated and contaminated sites were identified. Additional and more detailed surveys are needed in order to update the information in the Cadastre, results of which will be used to set up a National priority list for restoration and remediation, ultimately reducing the pressure on natural ecosystems and human health. In the past years, UN Environment and other UN agencies provided project support with a strong capacity-building component for managing contaminated sites. By strengthening of administrative capacities, facilitating exchange of experiences and field investigation, these projects contributed to enhanced cooperation between institutions dealing with land management issues, but also to the increased share of sites where detailed surveys and remediation were carried out in 2017 in comparison to the 2007. Preliminary investigation of Bor contaminated site shows high concentrations of pollutants in environment that could have negative impact on human health and environment.

Keywords: contaminated sites, investigated sites, Bor, human health

1. INTRODUCTION

Sustainability of soil protection is important aspect of natural resource management that has been neglected for too long. Poor environmental management practices have left behind hundreds of thousands of contaminated sites. According to the latest investigation, there are more than 650 000 sites where polluting activities took/are taking place registered in Europe [1]. When we declare a certain area as contaminated, we mainly refer to soil contamination. The first step in the assessment and management of polluted soils is the identification of the problem.

Soil contamination refers to reduced soil quality due to the presence of harmful substances resulting from human activity. This may harm the environment (and ultimately human health), or otherwise violate private or public interests. In the past, criteria for land reclamation were established using standards based on background concentration and safe limits. New approaches try to adopt a more comprehensive assessment of the risk that pollutants pose to the environment, humans and food safety [2]. The characterization of the potential risk to the environment and human health is not an easy task, due to the complexity of the matrix, the lack of knowledge on the fate of contaminants in soil and the scarcely available information of toxicological and integrated studies [3]. Exposure routes for these compartments were modelled taking into consideration certain land-use types (e.g. residential, industrial, and recreational) [4]. The risk assessment of contaminated sites has not yet been widely used since there are still not enough ecotoxicological, hydrogeological and geomorphological studies that are an integral part of the site research, which is also an initial step in risk assessment [5]. The assessment of the possible health impacts of contaminated sites is challenging because each site has its own

characteristics, and it is difficult to describe typical or exemplary cases of exposure scenarios, especially for industrially contaminated sites with ongoing multiple industrial activities [6].

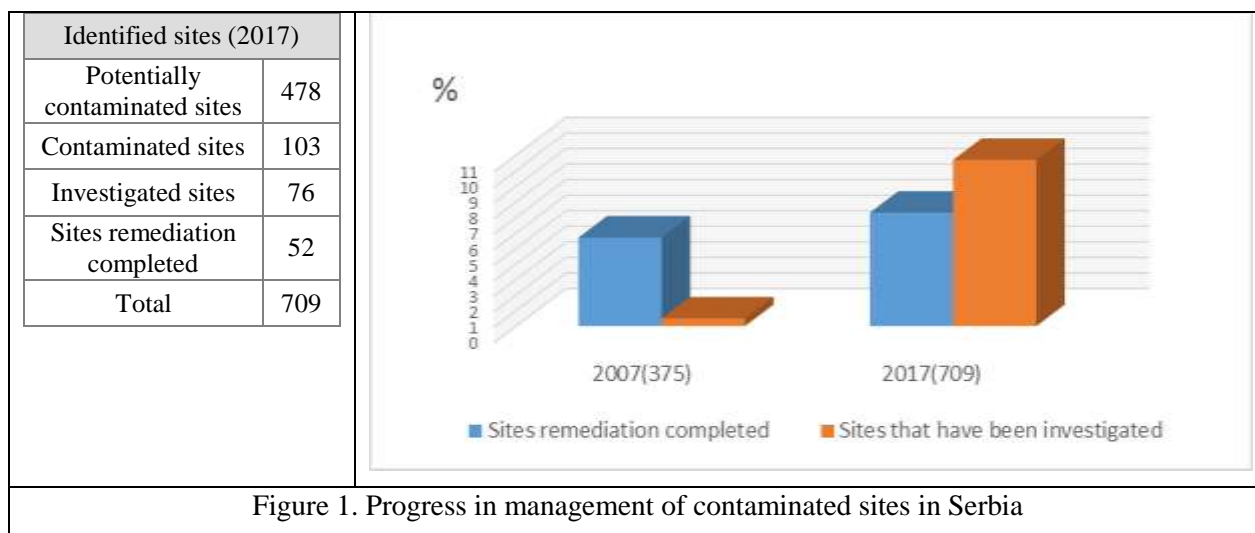
2. EXPERIMENTAL

2.1 Legal framework for contaminated sites management at national level

The soil and land protection in the Republic of Serbia is regulated by the *Law on Environmental Protection* (“Official Gazette of RS” No. 135/2004, 36/2009, 36/2009 -other law, 72/2009 – other law and 43/2011 – Constitutional Court,14/2016, 76/2018, 95/2018-other law), *Law on Land Protection* (“Official Gazette of RS“, No. 112/2015), and *Law on Agricultural Land* (“Official Gazette of RS” No. 62/2006, 65/2008 – other law, 41/2009, 112/2015, 80/2017 and 95/2018- other low). According to the Law on Soil Protection, the Cadaster of contaminated sites represents a set of relevant data on vulnerable, contaminated and degraded soils. Strategic goals for contaminated sites management are set up in the National Program of Environmental Protection (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 12/2010), National Strategy of Sustainable Development of the Republic of Serbia (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 57/2008) and Action Plan for Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy (“Official Gazette of RS”, No. 22/2009).

2.2 Progress in management of contaminated sites at national level

The Serbian Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is responsible for the establishment and management of a national Cadaster of contaminated sites which is an integral part of the information system for environmental protection in the Republic of Serbia. SEPA began with data collection and systematization of information on potentially contaminated and contaminated sites for the Cadaster in 2006. Over the years, SEPA has been continuously working to improve the methodology for data collection, data quality, and systematization. The collected data include sites where processes of degradation and devastation are manifested [7] . The main purpose of the Cadastre is to provide systematic data on the sources of pollution such as type, quantities, and location of discharges of pollutants into the soil, in order to implement remediation and preventive measures. The latest update of the Cadastre database shows that 709 potentially contaminated and contaminated sites were identified and recorded on the territory of the Republic of Serbia [8].



The sites of former military locations, petrol and filling stations, dry cleaning, wastewater treatment installations and pipelines for the transportation of hazardous substances are not considered. In 2019 Ministry of Environmental Protection adopted the *Rulebook on the content and manner of keeping the Cadastre of contaminated sites, the type, content, forms, manner and deadlines for submission of data* ("Official Gazette of RS", No 58/2019). The progress in the period 2007-2017 shows that the share of sites where detailed surveys and remediation were carried out has increased in 2017 (Figure 1).

Several UN supported projects have dealt directly with contaminated sites in Serbia in the previous period [9,10]. The project "Enhanced Cross-sectoral Land Management through Land Use Pressure Reduction and Planning" funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), started in October 2015 and was implemented by the UN Environment in cooperation with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and SEPA. The main objective of this project was to develop instruments and mechanisms for integrated land use management and remediation, as well as capacities to reduce pressures on land as a natural resource from competing land uses in the wider landscape, while supporting reversal of land degradation. The project has supported the development of a legal framework for soil protection, a Contaminated Sites (CS) module and application for data submission for the Cadaster, in addition to preliminary investigation applied at 32 industrial sites across the country, among other. Another Project funded from the UN Environment's SAICM QSP Trust Fund titled "Strengthening Serbian national capacities and inter-sectorial synergies for safe management of contaminated sites and related hazardous substances to prevent negative impact on human health and the environment" has been implemented in 2018. In this case the executing agency was WHO Regional Office for Europe in coordination with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health and with the local expert support of the Institute of Public Health "Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut". This project has resulted in the development of the national framework for sound management of contaminated sites to eliminate/minimize and prevent risk for human health and environment. The project also included a case study in the City of Bor, where an operating mining and smelting complex is located. Another project funded by the GEF which inter alia targets sites contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls is implemented by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The project is co-financed by the state-owned electric utility power company Elektroprivreda Srbije (EPS) and the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia and is implemented by the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy of the University of Belgrade (TMF). The main objective of the project is to protect human health and the environment by reducing and eliminating the releases of and exposure to PCBs. This will be achieved through the establishment of a management system and the final disposal of 200 tons of equipment contaminated with PCBs.

2.3 Preliminary Risk Assessment

The "PRA.MS - Preliminary Risk Assessment Model for the identification, and assessment, of problem areas for Soil contamination in Europe" methodology is a system for risk assessment, for the classification and assessment of individual locations [11]. Considering that one of the goals of the UN Environment/GEF project was the proposal of the list of priority industrial sites for rehabilitation and remediation, and considering that this model allows the input of a large number of locations that need to be compared according to the level of risk to human health and the environment, PRA.MS model has been successfully implemented for this purpose. Based on the risk values obtained for human health, out of a total of 32 locations, six are in the high-risk class, including contaminated site the copper mining mine "Bor".

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Case study - City of Bor - Environmental risk

The copper mining mine “Bor” started with operation in 1904. Increased metal production in time, followed by large quantities of waste products, have caused complex ecological problems. The soil investigation in the City of Bor have been performed within UN Environment/GEF project in 2017. The results of soil analysis show the exceeded remediation values of As and Cu on almost all sampling points (Figure 2,3).

In the national air quality monitoring network managed by Serbian Environmental Protection Agency, there are four operational automatic air quality monitoring stations (AAQMS) in agglomeration Bor. Effect of sulphur dioxide on the state of air quality is typical characteristic of Bor agglomeration, where it causes excessive air pollution, classifying air quality under III category. According to the data from AAQMS in Bor, average daily concentrations in the period 2010-2015 were several times higher than the limit value ($125 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) (Figure 4). The highest concentrations were measured at the Gradski Park station. After new smelter started with operational work, the daily concentrations of SO_2 during 2016 and 2017 were generally below the limit value as well as the mean annual concentrations ($50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), indicating the first category - clean or slightly polluted air. In 2018, SEPA has installed a suspended particulate matter measuring device. The first results of continuous monitoring show concentrations and composition of particulate matter particles with heavy metal (As) in air that could have negative impact on human health and environment.

It can be concluded that contaminated sites in Bor belongs to the High Risk class according to values of preliminary risk assessment on environment within the UN Environment/GEF project and detailed investigation with risk assessment is needed.

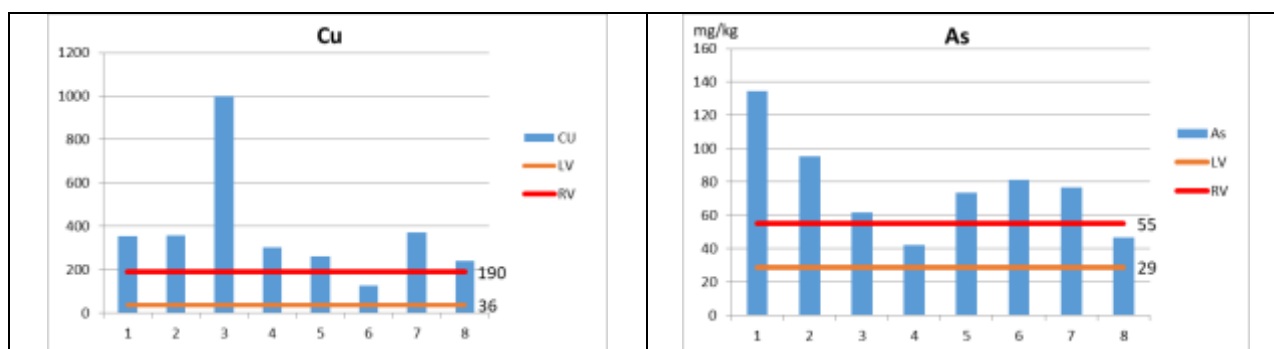


Figure 2. Results of soil investigation in 2017 (LV–limit value, RV–remediation value)

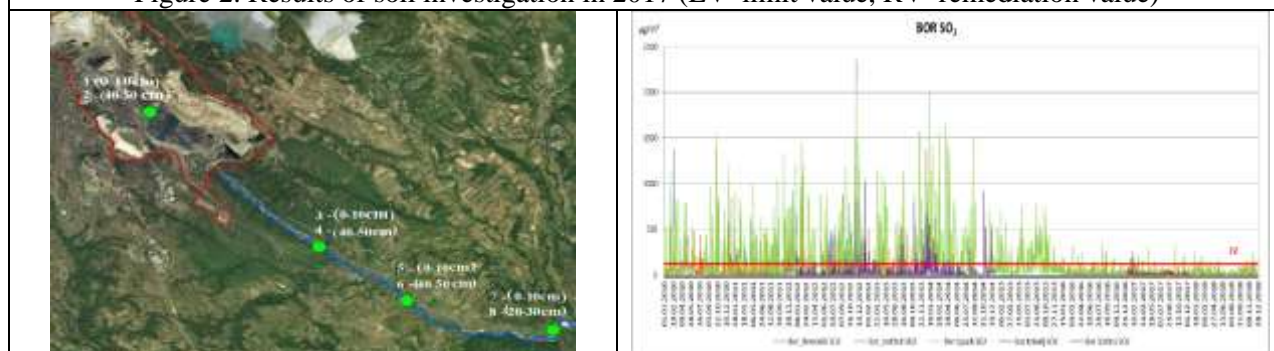


Figure 3. Localities and depth of soil sampling in 2017

Figure 4. 2010-2018. daily concentrations of SO_2 (LV - daily limit value)

4. CONCLUSION

Republic of Serbia is currently lacking the national risk-based programme for investigation and remediation of contaminated sites. The purpose of the programme would be to identify contaminated sites with significant pollution and promote research and implementation of necessary risk management measures at these sites. The prioritization should be focused on protecting human health and environment, especially groundwater and protected areas. Risk management measures and the implementation of sustainable remediation methods for contaminated sites should be promoted through the close exchange of information and cooperation between different authorities and other stakeholders in the early stages of planning. Data on contaminated sites should be used actively by planners and decision-makers. Therefore, the data systems must be easy to use, reliable, and comprehensive, and preferably accessible through one common system - National Environmental Information System managed by the Environmental Protection Agency-SEPA.

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