## **Hungary's toxic sludge plant reopening**

The alumina refinery at the centre of Hungary's worst chemical disaster has been cleared to start production again, as environmentalists warn of other potentially deadly accidents involving poorly maintained industrial facilities spread across Europe's Danube River region

1 Aika alumina plant: Reopening after repairs to reservoir, which spilled toxic red mud on Oct 4. Accident killed nine people, polluted Danube tributary and affected 40 sq km area, including spread of heavy metals to soil that could damage surrounding farmland





- from Serbian refinery in 2006 pollutes Bulgaria's Danube region
- Baia Mare: Massive cyanide spill from gold mine seeps into Danube tributaries in 2000, killing large quantities of fish
- 4 Novi Sad: Oil refinery Source: World Wide Fund for Nature

- fertiliser plant and vinyl chloride plant 6 Almasfuzito: Storage
- reservoirs for alumina plant hold 12 million tonnes of red sludge
- Chiprovtsi: Tailings dam, one of almost 20 in Bulgaria

Red sludge pollution from alumina plant

- 9 Rosia Montana: Proposal to extract gold using cyanide, similar to Baia Mare mine
- 10 Galati: Concerns over waste storage at largest steel plant in Romania Picture: NASA Earth Observatory © GRAPHIC NEWS