



CO-CHER: Cooperation on Chernobyl health research Overview

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... it began as



- support action funded through the EC FP7
- scientific review of current evidence of the health effects of the Chernobyl accident
- 'scoping study' to advise on future needs for research and on potential value of the proposed research for public health decision making
- result of 2 years work by a group of experts and advisors from, Belarus, Russian Federation, Ukraine, EU, US and Japan

ARCH: conclusions

- *The current overall picture is one of a series of uncoordinated studies, valuable in themselves but forming a patchwork rather than a comprehensive, structured attempt to delineate the overall health consequences of the accident*



ARCH: SRA – what was recommended?

- a key to the success of the ARCH recommendations is the creation, maintenance and follow-up of **Life Span cohorts**, including:
 - cohorts of liquidators
 - cohorts exposed children from Belarus and Ukraine with detailed thyroid activity measurements (*BelAm, UkrAm*)
 - *If feasible, cohorts of evacuees and offspring*
- **Chernobyl Health Effects Research Foundation (CHERF)**
 - a mechanism to coordinate and fund studies to enable assessment of the overall long-term health effects of this disaster (a virtual institute)



what is CO-CHER?



- a **coordination action** funded through the EC FP7 Euratom GA 605302 aiming at bringing together both key **scientific players** and **funding bodies** to take the Chernobyl research agenda forward

why do we need CO-CHER?

- Chernobyl has an iconic status in the public eye
- Considerable disagreement exists over its consequences to date
- There is a need for a mechanism to assure high quality sustainable research on Chernobyl to:
 - assess present and future health consequences
 - provide opportunity to answer questions about radiation risk to general population
 - improve our understanding of radiation effects and direct future radiation protection measures
 - aid health planning for those exposed after Chernobyl, Fukushima and other accidents

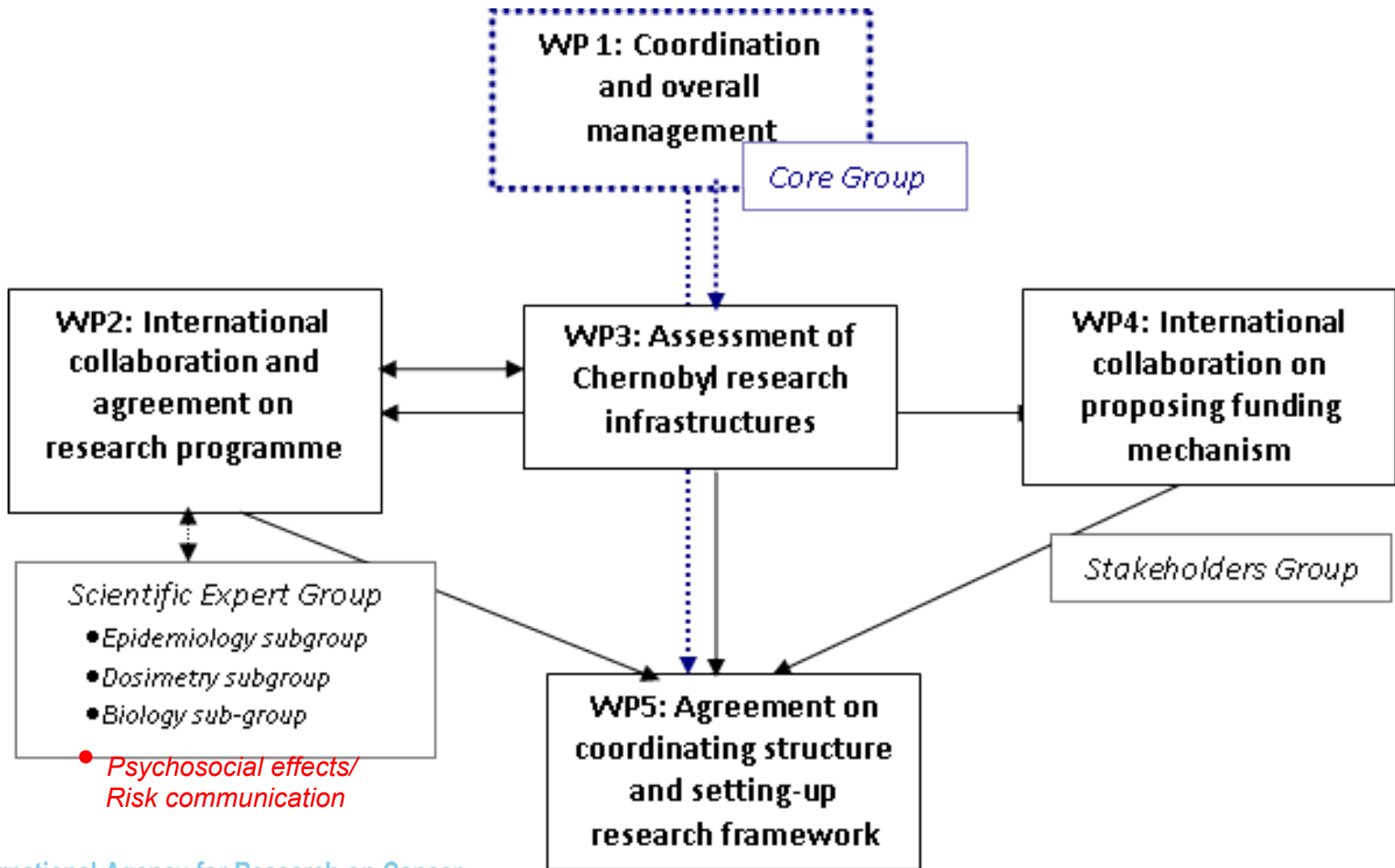
CO-CHER: objectives

- Identifying **key institutions, including research platforms**, willing to commit to future collaboration on the Chernobyl research
- Assessment of existing infrastructures (cohorts of affected populations, dosimetry data bases, biobanks) in terms of their suitability and needs for improvement
- Evaluating accessibility to the infrastructures and rules for data access rights
- Identifying the nature and structure of an **international coordinating mechanism** for future Chernobyl research
- Development of a long-term research plan **with agreed research priorities**

list of partners

Participant no.	Participant organisation name	Country
CO	International Agency on Research on Cancer (IARC)	France
2	Association MELODI	France
3	SATEILYTURVAKESKUS (STUK)	Finland
4	Federal Office for Radiation Protection (BfS)	Germany
5	Research Centre for Radiation Medicine of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine (RCRM)	Ukraine
6	Republican Research Centre for Radiation Medicine and Human Ecology Institution (RRCRM & HE)	Belarus
7	Medical Radiological Research Centre of the Ministry of Health of the RF (MRRC)	Russia
8	National Cancer Institute (NCI)	USA
9	Science Council of Japan (associated partner)	Japan

scope of work



where we are?

- Evaluation of infrastructures, including requirements on data access – being finalised
- First draft of the **Chernobyl Research Program (CRP)** was prepared and discussed in December 2015
- Dissemination of the final version of CRP to stakeholders, including NERIS platform, planned – date and venue - TBD
- Negotiations on the nature of coordinating mechanism ongoing with the three most affected countries (Belarus, Russia and Ukraine), European US institutions and Japan
- **CO-CHER ends on 31 July 2016**

more info: <http://co-cher.iarc.fr/>

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Health Research



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STRUCTURE

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Chernobyl – 30 years after

The symposium marks the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl accident

11 June 2016

IARC, Lyon, France

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The Chernobyl accident occurred in April 1986 in Ukraine. It resulted in the most severe exposure of a human population to ionizing radiation apart from the 1945 atomic bombings in Japan. Although several reviews of the accident's health consequences have been conducted, there remains disagreement over both the consequences to date and those expected in the future.

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