



# Management of Contaminated Goods in post-accident situations

## NERIS Workshop

27-29 April 2015, Milano

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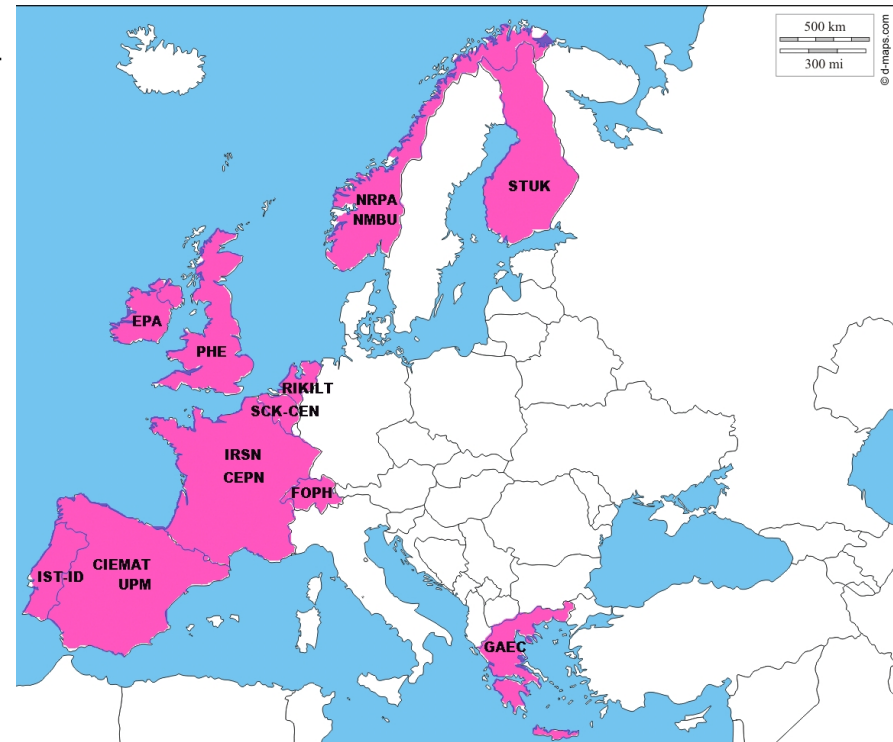
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# PREPARE Work Package 3 (Contaminated Goods)

- Development of recommendations related to quality control and management of contaminated goods which are applicable to whole Europe, taking into account the viewpoint of all relevant stakeholders (e.g. producers, retailers, consumers and all the administrations involved at national and regional levels)
- Coordinated by IRSN with the support of CEPN
- 11 European countries involved (Belgium, Finland, French & Switzerland, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom)
- Constitution of panels to gather the expression of their relevant stakeholders. Experiences learned from past accidents are also taken into account.





# Global organisation - Methodology

- According to the country specificities and past national experiences on post-accident management, different issues were identified and discussed in the different European panels.
- However it was observed a common structure for organisation of each national panel meeting with:
  - a PREPARE project presentation;
  - Presentations of basic issues on radiation protection, regulation framework and post-accident management through table top exercises based on NPP accident scenarios, training course, feedback presentations (Chernobyl, Fukushima);
  - Discussion sessions on specific topical issues addressed.

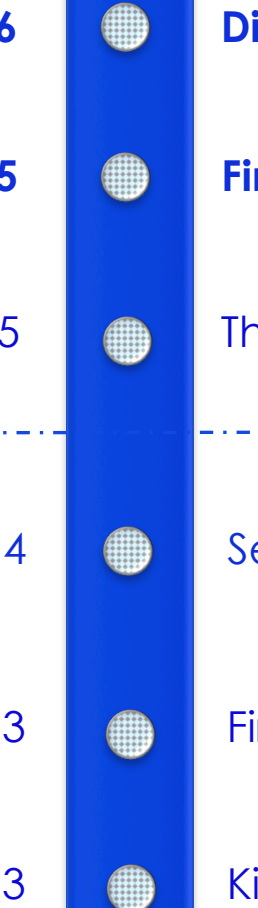


# Focus achieved and expected

<b>Belgium</b>	Contaminated food product <i>(Other consumer goods)</i>
<b>Finland</b>	Contaminated industrial products
<b>France &amp; Switzerland</b>	Contaminated food
<b>Greece</b>	Contaminated ships, trucks and containers <i>(Foodstuffs)</i>
<b>Ireland</b>	Contaminated foodstuffs
<b>Netherlands</b>	Contaminated foodstuffs and feedstuffs
<b>Norway</b>	Contaminated foodstuffs and feedstuffs
<b>Portugal</b>	Contaminated foodstuffs and feedstuffs <i>(Other consumer goods)</i>
<b>Spain</b>	Contaminated foodstuffs, feedstuffs and other consumer goods
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Contaminated scrap metal and goods



## PREPARE WP3 Calendar

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|---------------------|--|
| 20-22 January 2016  | Dissemination Workshop of the PREPARE Project - Bratislava |
| 12-13 November 2015 | Final Workshop of the PREPARE WP3 Project - Paris          |
| 20-22 May 2015      | Third Task Force WP3 Meeting - Dublin                      |
| 26-28 May 2014      | Second Task Force WP3 Meeting - Athens                     |
| May 2013            | First Task Force WP3 Meeting - Madrid                      |
| February 2013       | Kick-off Meeting of the PREPARE Project                    |



# Presentation of the French-Swiss Results



# Process & methodology

- Reflection on contaminated foodstuff management
- Constitution of two panels :
  - Consumers
  - Producers / Retailers
- Objective : *promote strategy, guidance and tools to manage contaminated food taking into account all stakeholder viewpoints*
- Integration of feedback experience of countries concerned by this issue, after Chernobyl and Fukushima accidents
- Constitution of a 'mirror Panel' involving institutional organisations concerned by contaminated food management and control



# Membership of panels

## ○ **Consumers' Panel**

- Local Information Commissions close to Nuclear Power Plants
- Federal Union of Consumers (NGOs)
- French People's Aid NGO
- Environmental and Health NGOs
- Swiss District ('Canton') Superintendent
- Chief doctor of Swiss telemedicine ('Medgate')

## ○ **Producers/Retailers' Panel**

- Local Producers (wine, milk)
- Agriculture Chambers representatives
- Association for International Cooperation for Agricultural Development (FERT)
- Inter-professional Centre of the Dairy Economy
- Regional Fisheries Committee





## French-Swiss Calendar

20-22 January 2016	Dissemination Workshop of the PREPARE Project - Bratislava
12-13 November 2015	Final Workshop of the PREPARE Project
9 February 2015	Presentation of the results to the 'Mirror' Group & the National Post Accident Committee
1 December 2014	Joined meeting of the two French-Swiss Panels
3 November 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the 'Mirror' Group
5 June 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the 'Producers/retailers' Panel
25 April 2014	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the 'Consumers' Panel
25 March 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the 'Mirror' Group
13 February 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the 'Producers/retailers' Panel
4 February 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the 'Consumers' Panel
February 2013	Kick-off Meeting of the PREPARE Project



# Results of the Panel Meetings

3 main messages were expressed by the different stakeholders:

- **Everything must be done to avoid any accident** -> citizens are victims
- Totally new situation for all actors -> **loss of references and values; nobody will be ready**; unrealistic to try to predict everything; be ready to react quickly
- The **concept of MPL's is useful but complex** -> needs of adaptability / control / trust / solidarity & ethics



# Complexity

- **Multidimensional situation:** affects everyone, difficult to understand, diversity of attitudes and reactions
- **Need to consider all aspects:** scientific, technical as well as social, health, economic, psychological and environmental issues
- **Health aspect** is important but considerations on dose is not easily understandable (risk <100 mSv, cumulative dose, uncertainties); take care to specific subgroups at risk (children, pregnant women, atypical behaviours); ALARA (optimisation) is seen as a relevant principle
- **Importance to beforehand preparedness**
  - Diffusion of radiological protection culture
  - Organisation of national post-accident exercises and also exercises at the European level (*cross border aspects, role and responsibility of each actors involved, coordination between local, national and international levels...*)



# Tools for managing foodstuff contamination

- **Zoning must be based on criteria as objective as possible to be justified** (*avoid arbitrary, consider issues and specificity of the territories*)
  
- **MPL's are useful but are complex for the stakeholder**
  - Many set of number established
  - Method of calculation not clear
  - Wording of MPL's not explicit -> ≠ black or white
    - should be adapted to the situation
    - other decision making tools also can useful (diversification of diet...)



# Elaboration of response strategies

- Stakeholders remind that the **consumer is always the decision-maker** -> individual criteria (taste, quality, price...)
  
- **Public health protection must be ensured and guaranteed**
  - Compromises will be done (loss of image, quality vs price...)
  - All countermeasures and evolutions will have to be justified
    - Be strict but reasonable and fair
    - Cost / benefits analysis
    - Take decisions with common sense



# Ethics & solidarity issues

- **Avoid risk transfers:** exportations of foodstuff above local MPLs is questionable (however, the flow of “grey” products will be a matter of price) ; waste production (contamination of environment)
- **Balance between producer/consumer interests** - food safety vs sustainable development – food quality vs solidarity
- **Build solidarity networks**
  - Rely on regional and professional organisations and health safety groups
  - Response teams, mutual aid funds
  - Cross border solidarity more complex to set up
- **Dilution of radioactivity**
  - Sensitive issue -> Forbidden “in a period of peace” but can be appropriate to mitigate exposures and reduce collective and individual internal doses
  - Matter of trust and acceptance by the consumer



# Communication / information & trust issues

- **Communication is a crucial issue** in the response
  - Importance to **inform** about the risk and the different means of management **before the accident**
  - **Prepare clear messages in advance**: relevant and understandable
  - **Be straightforward** to keep the trust
  - **Plurality of information sources** is needed **but** be careful to have an **'only one voice'** in order to disseminate relevant message (credibility of experts)
- **Trust restoration** means having it before the accident but it is often not the case for experts -> **importance to restore credibility of experts**



# Conclusion & perspectives

- PREPARE WP3 Project is an opportunity to:
  - Open dialogue between authorities, experts, industries, producers, retailers, consumers and NGO'S
  - Engage reflection beyond emergency action plans -> focussed on transition and long term phase
- The most of the issues discussed in the French & Swiss Panels were similar to the issues expressed by the stakeholders in the European Panels
- Specific issues linked with the management of other goods were also discussed by some countries (monitoring management issue...)
- Final results will be presented and discussed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Task Force meeting in Dublin on 20-22 May 2015





# Conclusion & perspectives

- The final PREPARE WP3 results will be presented and shared with international organisations (ICRP, WHO, FAO, AIEA, HERCA, ...) at the occasion of the Workshop organised in cooperation with the NERIS Platform on 12-13 November 2015 in Paris. In addition, Japanese partners will present their experience in the management of goods after the Fukushima accident
- Further developments seem interesting to be discussed such as:
  - the progressive economic market recovery in link with trust restoration;
  - the specific fishing issue;
  - the issue dedicated to other consumer goods and the monitoring management;
  - foodstuffs management and the issue of the return of populations in areas evacuated following the Fukushima accident...
- These open issues could be suitable inputs to implement the NERIS Scientific Research Agenda



Thank you for your attention