

RP Culture in the Field of Emergency Preparedness and Response: First Outcomes from the European Project ENGAGE

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NERIS WORKSHOP 2019

3 – 5 April 2019

Roskilde, Denmark



- **ENGAGE : ENhancinG stAkeholder participation in the GovernancE of radiological risks** for improved radiation protection and informed decision-making (2017-2019)
- Identify and address key challenges & opportunities for stakeholder engagement in relation to ionising radiation exposure situations:
 - Medical use of ionising radiation,
 - Exposure to indoor radon and
 - Emergency preparedness and response.
- WP3 : Investigate the **processes for enhancing RP culture** and their **role in facilitating stakeholder engagement in RP**, and **develop guidelines** for building RP culture
 - Analysis based on case studies in the three exposure situations

Case studies addressing *preparedness phase of emergency and post-accident management*

- France: Elaboration of “Policy elements for post-accident management of nuclear accident” in the framework of CODIRPA
- Italy: Preparedness to nuclear emergency management at the level of hospitals
- Slovak Republic: Improving and strengthening the emergency and post-accident preparedness and recovery management at all levels: national, regional and local

Case study addressing *post-accident situation (long term)*

- Belarus: Radiation protection knowledge and culture in education and in Public Information / mass media, after the Chernobyl accident

Case studies available on www.engage-h2020.eu

Target Stakeholders – Aim of RP Culture (1/4)

In preparedness phase of emergency and post-accident management (1)

- **Stakeholders involved in the various processes** (elaboration of guidelines or handbook, exercises, workshops, ...):
 - **Professionals that would be involved in the emergency phase:** public authorities, civil security, firemen, health professionals, ...
 - **Professionals that would be involved in post-accident management, due to their function and responsibilities:** public authorities (national and local level), health professionals, teachers, economic actors, ...
 - **Representatives of populations**

In preparedness phase of emergency and post-accident management (2)

● Aim of RP culture for these stakeholders:

- To allow stakeholders to **make their mind on what is at stake** in case of a nuclear accident for the daily life
 - Understand the complexity of a nuclear accident
 - Identify possible concerns of the population (health effects, daily life,...)
- To **identify their role** during emergency and/or post-accident situations and the consequences of their actions/decisions
 - Identify possible protective actions (collective and individual) and their effectiveness
- To **build capacities to participate and to interact in the process** of elaboration of EP&R plans and exercises, and to **identify needs** for policy framework, tools, guidelines,...

In the emergency or post-accident phase (1)

- For the **local communities, general population** affected by an accident, the **aims of RP culture** are:
 - To **understand their environment** (characterization of the radiological situation, interpretation of measurements) and to get a grasp on the potential health effects
 - To **be able to act** (individually or with the support of local authorities or professionals) in their day-to-day life
 - To **take informed decision, participate** to decision-making processes
 - To better **discern the consequences of exposures and the other consequences**, other disturbances in their daily life

In the emergency or post-accident phase (2)

- For the **professionals involved** in the emergency or post-accident management, due to their function and responsibilities, the **aims of RP culture** are:
 - To **identify which role they have to play** for the management of the situation
 - To **consider the consequences of their actions/decisions** from the RP point of view
 - To **act as relay in disseminating RP culture** in order to favour the involvement/empowerment of affected population in the decision-making processes

For the stakeholders involved in the preparedness phase of emergency and post-accident management

- Working groups, seminars, training sessions, nuclear emergency exercises, ...
- Some key elements from these processes:
 - **Practical issues** rather than theoretical knowledge.
 - **Practical experimentation or real-situation based exercises:** testimonies, feedback from past accident situations, use of models and simulation tools...
 - Put the **radiological risk into perspective**
 - **Key role of the European projects in EP&R** (EVATECH, EURANOS, NERIS-TP, PREPARE, CONFIDENCE, TERRITORIES, ...)
 - Key role of **INEX**
 - **Use of network** to identify stakeholders (eg: ANCCLI, GMF)

For the local communities, general population affected by an accident, and the professionals involved in the management of the situations

- **Not fully addressed in the case studies**, except in guidelines for the population, and in the Belarus case study
- **Need to train experts** that would be in charge of answering questions from the various stakeholders
 - **Experts to be mobilised in processes of co-operation with local stakeholders** to share local knowledge and scientific expertise
 - **Co-expertise process** contributing to the empowerment of the local population and to the development of the radiological protection culture

- In the preparedness phase of emergency and post-accident management:
 - Issue related to the **capacity to involve and motivate the stakeholders** for addressing the preparation of guidelines, policy framework, tools...
 - Essential **to provide them ability to cope with the complexity** of the post-accident management without direct experience
 - Needs for **setting up involvement processes and preparedness objectives** where RP culture can be mobilized and shared among various categories of stakeholders.
 - Usefulness of networks of stakeholders, such as national association of local liaison committees, or education professionals, health professionals...
 - **Multi-disciplinary approaches** combining RP culture with other dimensions to cope with the complexity of the situation

- **In both, preparedness phase and phase of emergency response or recovery**
 - **Contribution from the RP experts** together with the stakeholders themselves allowing to favour the development of skill, knowledge and practical measures combining science, expertise and practical experience : **co-construction of RP culture.**
 - Considerations on **radiation-induced health effects** and **more broadly on disturbances of daily life**
 - **RP Culture should be integrated into a broader context**, addressing well-being, health, economic, social aspects and Safety Culture



ENGAGE Final Workshop

11-13 September 2019
Bratislava, Slovak Republic



<http://www.engage-h2020.eu/>



This project has received funding from the Euratom research and training programme 2014-2018 under grant agreement No 662287.