



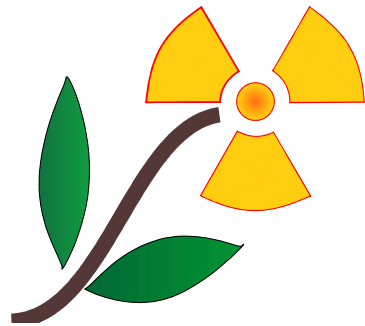
NERIS-TP
Dissemination Workshop
22 January 2014

BELARUS EXPERIENCE



MINISTRY FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

Research Institute of Radiology (RIR)



INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL POPULATION IN POST-CHERNOBYL RECOVERY PROCESSES

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Director of RIR



Outline

- Evolution of public communication system
 - Stages of public perception of the post-accident situation
- Shift of emphasis
 - **Public outreach and training**
- **Practical radiological culture: the role of CPRCs**
 - **Ways of involving people in self-management of the local situation**
- **Conclusions on the present-day situation in Belarus**
 - **NERIS-TP: Lessons and Benefits**



EVOLUTION OF PUBLIC COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

1

During the first post-Chernobyl years any information relevant to the disaster and its consequences was disseminated in the first place amongst the officials of different national and local levels of governance involved in the post-accident response and recovery actions.

In that period there were other top-priority issues to be urgently addressed and emergency measures to be taken →

Evacuation



Large-Scale Decontamination



Development of Radiation Control Systems



Health and Social Protection



Development and Implementation of Countermeasures in Agricultural and Forest Sectors



Communication with local stakeholders was not a priority task in the initial period. The Government's top priority to provide public health safety and protection.

EVOLUTION OF PUBLIC COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

2

УТВЕРЖДАЮ

Заместитель Председателя
Госагропрома СССР



ПЛАН МЕРОПРИЯТИЙ

по пропаганде знаний в области сельскохозяйственной радиологии на 1987-1990 гг.

Мероприятия	Сроки	Ответственные исполнители
I	2	3
1. Организовать серию лекций и бесед специалистов и ученых с населением по вопросам сельскохозяйственной радиологии (по особому плану), а также выступлений по радио	1987-1988	ВНИИ сельскохозяйственной радиологии и его филиалы, госагропромы союзных республик совместно с ВО "Знание", ВАСХНИЛ
2. Выделить целевым назначением для проведения массовой разъяснительной работы в сельских районах, подвергшихся загрязнению автоклубы Т-12, О2 на шасси УАЗ-3303-01	1987	Ляпченков А.П.
РСФСР - 5 шт. УССР - 5 шт. БССР - 4 шт.	1987 1987 1987	
3. Подготовить и обеспечить издание:		
- книги: "Изотопы и радиация в растениеводстве"	1988	Батыгин Н.Ф. Пташкин А.А. ВНИИ сельскохозяйственной радиологии ВО "Агропромиздат"
- руководства по ведению агропромышленного производства в	1988	Корнеев М.А. Поваляев А.П.

I	2	3
- плакаты "Технологии ведения сельскохозяйственного производства на загрязненных территориях"	1988	Ратников А.В. Финов В.П. ВНИИ сельскохозяйственной радиологии ОКПСХ ВО "Агропромиздат"
4. Организовать производство кинофильма "Мирный атом в сельском хозяйстве"	1989	Госагропром СССР Госагропром Грузинской ССР ВНИИСХР ГрузНИИСХР Рунов Б.А. Худяков М.А. Алексахин Р.М. Могилевкин В.Б. Финов В.П.
5. Подготовить набор слайдов с текстом по "Ведению сельскохозяйственного производства в условиях радиоактивного загрязнения"	1987	ВНИИСХР Клишцева Е.В. Анненков Б.Н.
6. Организовать видеозапись беседы ученых сельскохозяйственных радиологов по мерам, обеспечивающим безопасное проживание в сельской местности, подвергшейся радиоактивному загрязнению	1987	ГУНИИЭМУ, Рунов Б.А. Худяков М.А. Соколов В.А. Поваляев А.П.
7. Опубликовать ряд статей ведущих ученых и специалистов в области радиологии в журналах "Сельскохозяйственная биология", "Вестник сельскохозяйственной науки", отраслевых журналах, центральной печати	1987-1988	ВНИИ сельскохозяйственной радиологии Худяков М.А. Рунов Б.А. ВО "Агропромиздат"
8. Предусмотреть на ВДНХ СССР в экспозиции межотраслевой выставки "Наука - агропромышленному комплексу" раздел "Использование атомной энергии в АПК"	1987 ноябрь	Никонов А.В. Макаров И.П. Рунов Б.А. Худяков М.А. Дерябин А.А.
Организовать разделы по радиологии в павильонах "Животноводство" (головой), "Ветеринария", "Зерно"		
Выделить для награждения экспонентов широкого показа участников выставки по разделу радиологии 10 дипломов и 200 медалей ВДНХ СССР		
Согласовано: Начальник Главного управления научно-исследовательских и экспериментально-производственных учреждений Заместитель начальника Отдела внедрения и пропаганды достижений науки и передового опыта		М.А. Худяков Е.Б. Хлебунин



STAGES OF PUBLIC PERCEPTION/UNDERSTANDING OF RADIATION PHENOMENON AND RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATION

1

1986-1989

- Fear of deadly health effects and especially of the safety of children;
- Can we live here and consume the food we produce?
- Confusing variance of information

2

1990-1995

- Steady belief that living under such conditions is possible;
- How to reduce the radiation levels in locally produced food? What recommendations should be used?
- What food products should be produced to assure their good sale?

3

1996-2013

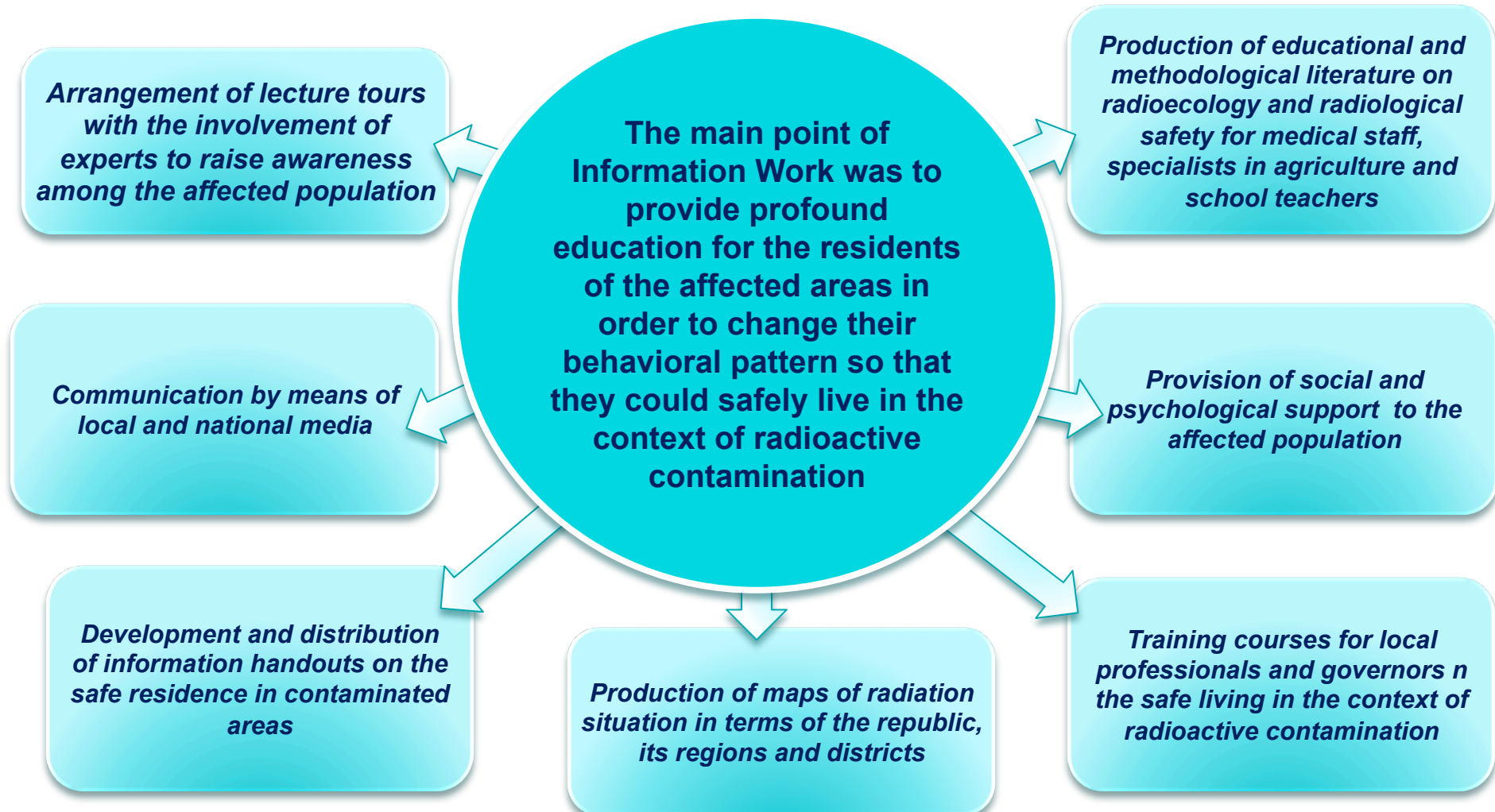
- Confidence in food safety (compliance with the standards);
- Improved credibility to the affected areas;
- Radioecological education of all local residents through children and youth;
- Direct access to measuring radionuclide concentrations in food



SHIFT OF EMPHASIS TOWARDS POPULATION INVOLVEMENT IN POST-ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT

4

Communication and Information Support as a priority task was fully recognized only in the frames of IV National Program on Overcoming the Consequences of the Chernobyl NPP Disaster for 2001-2005





Public Outreach and Training



Training programs for health-care and education professionals on the methods of information work amongst the population



Seminars for medical staff relating to implementation of radioecological information activities amongst different groups of population



Seminars for teachers relating to implementation of radioecological information activities amongst different groups of population, and the teaching methods of promoting healthy lifestyle



"Peer education" workshops



Training courses for professionals at higher educational specialist establishments

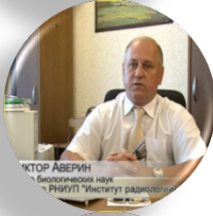


Public Outreach and Training

Outreach and awareness-raising work on the basics of radioecological skills amongst the residents of the affected areas



Thematic expositions and dissemination of informational print-outs



Public lectures by specialists and demonstration of thematic films



Whole-body measurements



Publication of informational materials and their dissemination among population



Public Outreach and Training

Training for Schoolchildren:

- Radiology basics, and
- Measurements of radionuclide concentrations in foodstuffs, feed, ambient gamma-radiation dose rates



Creation of the Centers for Practical Radiological Culture (CPRC) in the local schools of the affected areas



Improvement of radiological knowledge and practical skills of radiation protection among schoolchildren and other groups of population



IMPROVEMENT OF PRACTICAL RADIOLOGICAL CULTURE

The local Centers for practical radiological culture are created and successfully function in schools located in the affected areas



Various informational events are held there with participation of wide range of stakeholders





Why create CPRC?

1

Direct involvement of population in activities related to control and management of radiological situation is an effective method of working out the residents' skills necessary *for safe living and environmental management in contaminated areas*;

2

Practical radiological culture should be spread amongst different groups of population and in the first place among health care and education workers;

3

Involvement of public representatives contributes to higher credibility to the radiometric measurement results.

- The main objective of the CPRCs is to increase the level of radiological knowledge and practical skills of radiological protection of the residents of contaminated areas providing them access to measuring radioactive contamination of foodstuffs and feed
- The CPRCs are established in rural schools located in the affected areas



What are the Centers' roles?



Measure cesium contents in food produced on private farm plots and in forest products

National recognition of the local needs. Involvement of local population



Organize Information Days which imply dissemination of information materials, dialogues with the relevant specialists, and also demonstration of topic-related videos

Reassurance and higher credibility in food safety and safe living conditions



Perform whole-body examinations of the local population

Health protection. Dose reduction. Sustainable radiation control system



Analyze the results of whole-body measurements and provide the risk families where high doses were detected respective individual consultation and determine the potential sources of such excess contamination



DIFFERENT WAYS OF INVOLVING LOCAL POPULATION



International Support

Improvement of communication with population is an integral compound of international projects implemented in Belarus



Statens strålevern
Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority

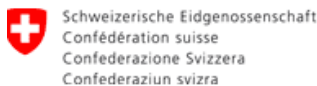
NRPA: Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority

CEPN

Centre d'étude sur l'Evaluation de la Protection dans le domaine Nucléaire



UNDP: United Nations Development Programme



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

SDC: The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

ACRO

Association pour le Contrôle de la Radioactivité dans l'Ouest



IRSN
INSTITUT DE RADIOPROTECTION ET DE SÛRETÉ NUCLÉAIRE

Institut de Radioprotection et de Sûreté Nucléaire

NERIS-TP: Lessons and Benefits

After 27 years of post-Chernobyl management, Belarus is now at the last stage of finalizing this process, **moving away from** the concept of "**post-accident recovery**" **towards economic development** of the areas, which is an official national policy at the present time.

Being part of the NERIS-TP Project, we have learnt and shared much and come up with one major conclusion:

- Although the value of Belarus experience in the long-term post-accident management of contaminated territories can hardly be overestimated, our attention must be turned now to **the importance of emergency preparedness** providing stakeholder participation, especially in view of our first NPP construction – something that we didn't take much into account while being focused on the post-accident recovery.

NERIS-TP: Lessons and Benefits

Exchange Visit within NERIS-TP Project

15

Bragin is a district area in Gomel region located within 45km from Chernobyl NPP.

For this reason, we chose it as a **project area** to implement the project activities as a subcontractor to NRPA in the frames of NERIS-TP WP3.

The **Bragin Workshop** held during the exchange visit of the Slovak delegation was focused on the issues of post-accident management and, importantly, accident preparedness and stakeholder involvement.

The Workshop **identified** a number of **weak points** in the local-regional system of nuclear emergency preparedness.

Considering the area heavily affected by the Chernobyl disaster which has been struggling for its recovery for decades, *such results on its preparedness state were quite unexpected.*



NERIS-TP: Lessons and Benefits

Lessons from the Bragin Workshop

- ❑ It is vital to not only **consider** the fact of absence of contamination (radiation safety), but also **the state of emergency preparedness**.
- ❑ Lack of obvious threat doesn't give rise to necessity of radioecological knowledge. There's no reason to involve all population in preparedness and response: **special target groups** must be identified (apart from the designated emergency units and teams), **which potentially could be involved in the response**, e.g. security guards, drivers, medical staff, who live in the NPP area or in the area of other facilities of potential threat.
- ❑ According to the Belarus experience, **involvement of local stakeholders** in the processes of post-accident management and emergency preparedness and response, especially those who directly live in the area of hazardous installations, **should be continuously initiated and motivated** "from above-level", meaning from the national and regional authorities, with the assistance of science, NGOs, and, what was found most effective, within global initiatives, international programs and projects.



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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND
ATTENTION !**

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