

NERIS Workshop 2017

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Abstract Template

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Title

TERRITORIES (To Enhance uncertainties Reduction and stakeholders Involvement Towards integrated and graded Risk management of humans and wildlife In long-lasting radiological Exposure Situations)

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Text

TERRITORIES is a three-year project (jan 2017-dec 2019), funded by Euratom research and training programme in the framework of the CONCERT grant agreement No 662287. The proposal addressed topic 2 (Reducing uncertainties in human and ecosystem radiological risk assessment and management in nuclear

emergencies and existing exposure situations, including NORM) of the First transnational CONCERT call.

The TERRITORIES project targets an integrated and graded management of contaminated territories characterised by long-lasting environmental radioactivity, filling in the needs emerged after the recent post-Fukushima experience and the publication of International and European Basic Safety Standards. A graded approach, for assessing doses to humans and wildlife and managing long-lasting situations (where radiation protection is mainly managed as existing situations), will be achieved through reducing uncertainties to a level that can be considered fit-for-purpose.

The integration will be attained by:

- Bridging dose and risk assessments and management of exposure situations involving artificial radionuclides (post-accident) and natural radionuclides (NORM),
- Bridging between environmental, humans and wildlife populations monitoring and modelling,
- Bridging between radiological protection for the members of the public and for wildlife,
- Bridging between experts, decision makers, and the public, while fostering a decision-making process involving all stakeholders.

This project interlinks research in sciences supporting radiation protection (such as radioecology, human or ecological dose and risk assessments, social sciences and humanities, etc.), providing methodological guidance, supported by relevant case studies. The overall outcome is an umbrella framework, that will constitute the basis to produce novel guidance documents for dose assessment, risk management, and remediation of NORM and radioactively contaminated sites as the consequence of an accident, with due consideration of uncertainties and stakeholder involvement in the decision making process. The results will be widely disseminated to the different stakeholders and accompanied by an education and training programme.

The eleven partners of TERRITORIES (P1 IRSN, P2 BfS, P3 CEPN, P4 CIEMAT, P5 NMBU, P6 NRPA, P7 PHE, P8 SCK.CEN, P9 STUK, P10 University of Tartu, P11 Mutadis) will develop a common coherent guidance with a greater understanding of multiple sources of uncertainties along with variabilities in exposure scenarios, making the best use of scientific knowledge to characterize human and wildlife exposure, integrating this knowledge and know-how to reduce uncertainties and finally taking consideration of social, ethical and economic aspects to make decisions.

The dissemination of such guidance to broad audience at the regional and international levels will promote the fact decisions can be made through dialogues with stakeholders, where environmental, social and radiological sciences underlying decisions will be better understood and therefore gain public confidence.