



INSTITUT
DE RADIOPROTECTION
ET DE SÛRETÉ NUCLÉAIRE

Faire avancer la sûreté nucléaire

NERIS WEBINAR ON CHERNOBYL FIRES

**Collective work, presented by
Olivier SAUNIER and Damien DIDIER
28 May 2020**



April 6: IRSN set up its emergency organization level 1

Key challenges

- Tracking the evolution of forest fires

- Measurements

 - Gathering measurements

 - Collect air sampling filters that are part of the French monitoring network (OPERA)

- Modeling

 - Forecast a potential arrival of the plume in France

 - Source term assessment (magnitude, duration)

 - Emission factors, contaminated areas

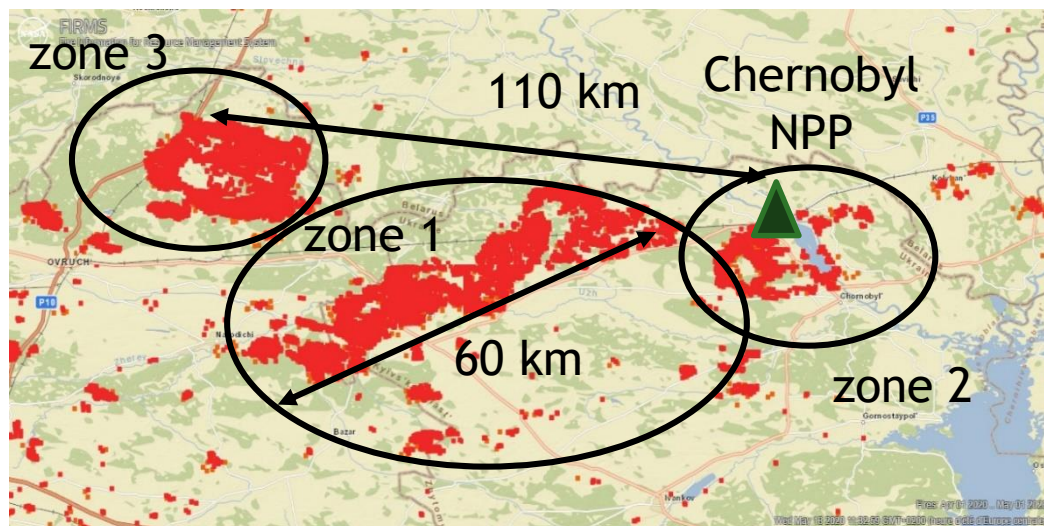
 - Inverse modeling techniques (deterministic, Bayesian)

- Dosimetric impact

 - Fire-fighters

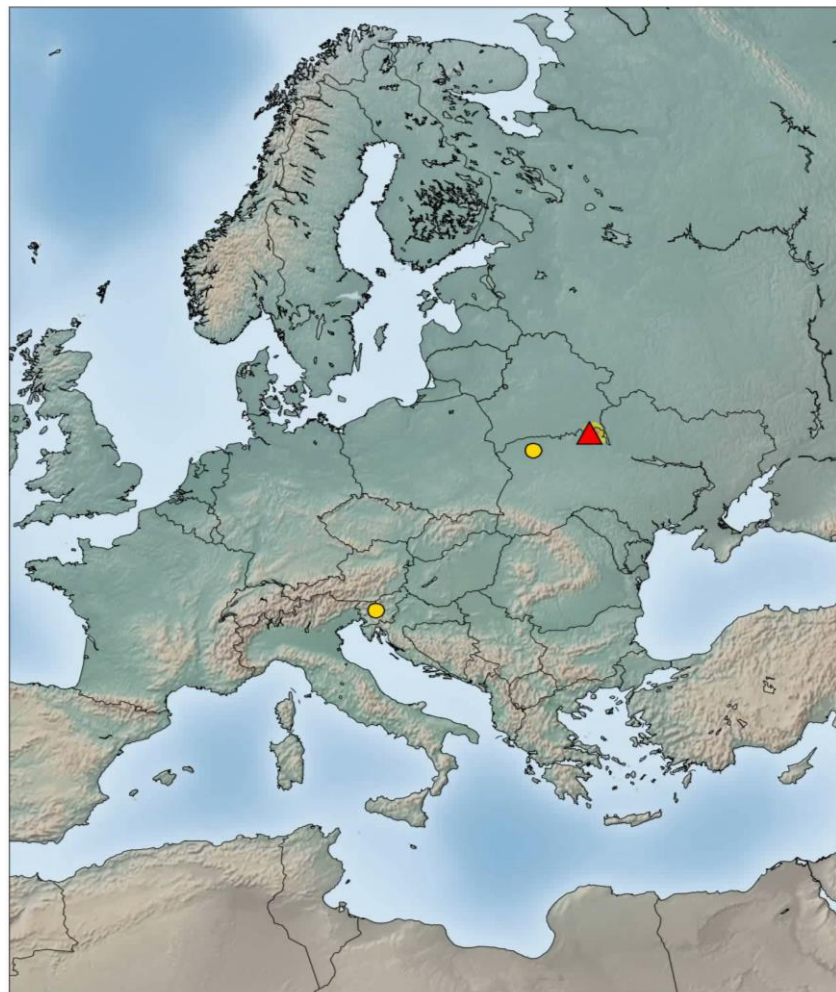
 - Inhabitants of Kiev and south-east France

Fire zones between April 2 and April 25



Plume reconstruction by combining atmospheric transport model and inverse modeling techniques

02-04-2020 01:00



$[\mu\text{Bq}/\text{m}^3]$

500

100

50

20

10

1

0.1

Low concentration levels of ^{137}Cs measured on the European scale

☐ Detections in Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Greece, Norway

☐ France

Measurements in south-east France reflect a weak marking linked to air masses coming from Ukraine

Measurements values are consistent with modeling results

○ < Measurement under detection limit

● Measurement averaged on air sampling period

Outcome and perspectives

Outcome

- ❑ Around 650 measurements available
 - Data exchanged through the Ro5 network
 - CTBTO measurements (SCK-CEN / IRSN collaboration)
 - Ukrainian measurements (Ecocenter and Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Institute)
 - Belarus measurements (Republican Center for Hydrometeorology, Radioactive Contamination Control and Environmental Monitoring)
- ❑ IRSN modeling results (source term) are consistent with other institutes
- ❑ 5 information notes available on IRSN website (4 in English)
 - https://www.irsn.fr/EN/newsroom/News/Documents/IRSN_Information-Report_Fires-in-Ukraine-in-the-Exclusion-Zone-around-chernobyl-NPP_15042020.pdf
 - https://www.irsn.fr/EN/newsroom/News/Documents/IRSN_Information-Report_Fires-in-Ukraine-in-the-Exclusion-Zone-around-chernobyl-NPP_17042020.pdf
 - https://www.irsn.fr/EN/newsroom/News/Documents/IRSN_Information-Report_Fires-in-Ukraine-in-the-Exclusion-Zone-around-chernobyl-NPP_24042020.pdf
 - https://www.irsn.fr/EN/newsroom/News/Documents/IRSN_Information-Report_Fires-in-Ukraine-in-the-Exclusion-Zone-around-chernobyl-NPP_05052020.pdf



Current and future collaborations

- ❑ Sharing IRSN source term and dispersion model results with Environment Canada
- ❑ Comparison between IRSN and SCK-CEN inverse modeling approaches