LAUNCHING THE
« FORUM »

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IUR STRATEGY OF NETWORKING
initiated 10 years ago...

- Worldwide international research network in Radioecology launched in 2003 based on 2 TG work
  - "Protection of the environment" & "Radioecology and non-radioactive contaminants"
  - Identification of research teams, facilities, priorities in research
- Same basis used later for the construction of STAR (European Network of Excellence in Radioecology, EURATOM)
- Federating around IUR neighbour international scientific associations/networks ... largely developed now, to be continued...
- Fostering the creation of an International Observatory in charge of centralised data registry to support environmental radiological assessment ... still to be done ...
- Fostering international harmonisation of Radioecology networks ... the issue tackled here ...
WHY A NEED FOR HARMONISATION?

- A large variety of networks currently active
  - dealing with radioecology (exclusively or partly)
  - dealing with environmental radioactivity (exclusively or partly)
  - dealing with environmental issues of relevance (including non-radioactive)
  - governmental – non-governmental
  - international – regional – national
  - global – topical (problem-oriented)

- IUR : > 36 years old, large international membership now spread within 68 countries...

- ... has identified the need to achieve a **Worldwide effort of networking** ... in order to promote and maintain a harmonized and coordinated development process for Radioecology
IUR initiative to hold a workshop on worldwide harmonisation of radioecology

- Held on 19-20 June 2014 in La Baume, Aix en Provence, France
- 15 global/regional/topical networks and international organisations participating
- Sharing views on activities and priorities for R&D and expertise
- Aim to construct a collective view and an operational approach to harmonization of Radioecology
WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Share across all networks on-going activities of relevance, perspectives and orientations, priorities for research and expertise

- Initiate the development of an international framework instrument for worldwide harmonization of networks in radioecology, and for efficient global coordination

- Initial ideas:
  - optimize selection of priority research, avoid duplications
  - optimize exploitation of existing infrastructures and resources
  - support harmonized and coherent regulatory developments
  - help the development of well informed, balanced, and adapted consensus …
  … whilst meeting the specificities of problem-oriented or regional objectives
## FOUNDING NETWORKS REPRESENTED

### Regional networks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Network</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPERA</td>
<td>South Pacific Environmental Radioactivity Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMET</td>
<td>Coordination and implementation of a paneuropean instrument for radioecology (EC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALLIANCE</td>
<td>European Radioecology Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCoRE</td>
<td>US National Center for Radioecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fukushima Univ.</td>
<td>IER + international collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Network</td>
<td>Japan, Korea, and neighbour countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Council</td>
<td>Arctic countries and regions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAR</td>
<td>European network of excellence in radioecology (EC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOUNDING NETWORKS REPRESENTED

Networks led by international organizations:

- UNSCEAR: United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation
- IUR: International Union of Radioecology
- ICRP: International Commission on Radiological Protection
- IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency
- SETAC: Society for Environmental Toxicity And Chemistry
- OSPAR: Oslo-Paris Convention for the protection of the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic

Problem-oriented Networks:

- BIOPROTA: International collaboration on biosphere research for radioactive waste disposal
- Ring of Five: Low-level atmospheric contamination watch and surveillance
THE NETWORKS’ LEADERS ATTENDING

WORKSHOP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Presentation of the 15 networks activities
  Goals and objectives, organization (countries represented, legal status, executive operation...), on-going R&D activities of relevance, perspectives and orientations for the future

- Presentation of their on-going efforts of prioritization in research and expertise

- General discussion on global harmonization and competence sharing
  Constructing global priorities for worldwide research and expertise in Radioecology, application of resources to develop a framework instrument for efficient global coordination of research and expertise, and for a worldwide harmonization of networks (roles and functions, processes to achieve roles, identification of functional links and interfaces,...)

- Conclusions and drafting communication at ICRER
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Discussion outcomes:

- Roles and functions of various networks within radioecology R&D
  Explain how the whole integrated system works (is organized)
  Explain focus for R&D (improve reliability and confidence in risk assessments, eliminate unnecessary pessimism/over-cautious assumptions, support optimization of managing risk)

- Interface with international regulatory bodies, with operators needs, with stakeholders and society
Synergy of science and expertise in radioecology

The « FORUM »

Brazil
Norway
France
Sweden
Australia

Safety standards
Regulations
Expert Reports
Global, International National

R&D priorities
Scientific data, knowledge

Risk principles
Scientific paradigms

Stakeholders
Society

Global, International
Broad Regional
Topical/small regional
National

The « FORUM »

ICRU
UNEP
UNSCAR
SETAC
FORUM (IUR)

ICRP
WHO
NEA
IAEA

IUR TGs
Ring of 5
OSPAR
Arctic Council
BIOPROTA
IAEA/Modaria WG

ARPANSA
NRPA
ASN

Canada
USA
Australia
Norway
France
Sweden
Japan
Brazil

Harmonization
Priorities synthesis
Global integration

Export Reports

SCIENCE

REGULATION

Risk principles

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COLLECTIVE DECISION TO LAUNCH
THE « FORUM »

Discussion outcomes:

- Need to develop strategies to reach consensus on assessment and communication of risk
- Need to achieve a holistic view, system understanding
  Integration of ecological transfers, effects, dosimetry, ecology, risk...
  Cross-cutting issues (climate change, concomitant impact from other toxicants,...)
COLLECTIVE DECISION TO LAUNCH THE « FORUM »

Discussion outcomes:

- Need to work out better justification of the value of radioecology R&D to decision makers (demonstrating the value)
  Key accomplishments, key projects
  Success stories

- Need to improve communication (demonstrating the value)
  Across radioecology networks and other networks
  Towards decision makers, regulators
  Link R&D to reducing risk and costs associated to risk
COLLECTIVE DECISION TO LAUNCH
THE « FORUM »

Consensus agreement on the role of IUR to operate the FORUM

FORUM assigned overall objectives:

- Global integration and construction of consensus
- Communication
- Maintenance of expertise
What is next?

- Enlarge the FORUM network partners (NEA, UNEP, UNSCEAR, CERAD, CIS countries, South America, Africa...)

- Develop a framework instrument for efficient worldwide harmonization of networks
  - Roles and functions, processes to achieve roles, identification of functional links and interfaces,...

- Establish a working plan for the next years

- Hold a second international workshop in 2015 to achieve the above
Warm thanks to the 15 networks involved in founding the FORUM

All further new partners of the FORUM much welcome (please, contact IUR)

Good luck to the FORUM in strengthening radioecology