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Future of the radon program Switzerland

and....



Predictive radon mapping

in collaboration with



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New assessment of the risk

- Epidemiology

before: irradiated underground miners now: population in dwellings

- ICRP: conversion factors 2009 (increase in the risk by a factor of 2): before : 600 Bq/m³ = 10 mSv/year now: 300 Bq/m³ = 10 mSv/year
- WHO: Radon handbook 2009 (reduction of the value by a factor of 3): before: not higher than 1000 Bq/m³ now: not higher than 300 Bq/m³
- EU: BSS-Standards (final project 2010) before: reference value for existing buildings 400 Bq/m³ now : reference value for existing buildings 300 Bq/m³
- Switzerland: Radiological Protection Ordinance (1994) now : limit value 1000 Bq/m³, guideline value 400 Bq/m³ future: ????



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Annual exposition of the Swiss population





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All Switzerland is a high risk area!

Map of the present situation



Theoretical radon map



Arithmetic mean: <100 Bq/m³ 100-200 Bq/m³ >200 Bq/m³

Prague, 22-24 September 2010 Martha Gruson, Division of Radiological Protection Arithmetic mean: <50 Bq/m³ 50-100 Bq/m³ >100 Bq/m³



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National radon action plan



Soon available in English!

Prague, 22-24 September 2010 Martha Gruson, Division of Radiological Protection

- From individual to collective approach
- Reduction of the limit from 1000 Bq/m³ to 300 Bq/m³ and optimization by mitigation
- Cost-effective solutions:

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- targeted measurements campaigns (dwellings, schools, public buildings...)
- regulation for new buildings
- synergy with energy mitigation

- Valorization of data (ex. geostatistic)

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New Project: Predictive radon mapping in collaboration with



Statistic model (Bays' network)

Observed data (determinant factors) and radon data set

Probability for non observed data

Software for radon mapping (kriging)





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Data set : indoor radon concentration

About 200'000 measurements in 140'000 houses, but:

- 10% invalid geoposition
- winter/summer correction



Martha Gruson, Division of Radiological Protection



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Determinant factor : geology





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Determinant factor : distance to geological faults



Digital Terrain Model (precision 2 meter)



Indoor radon measurement
Geological fault



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Determinant factor : characteristic of houses





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Radon mapping (example in canton Vaud)



More results in 2014!

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Energie and Radon

~7.5 Mio. Euro/year



Reduction of the limit value to 300 Bq/m³: 50'000-100'000 buildings to mitigate!



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National radon action plan

- Information to the regional health directors
- Coordination with energy mitigation program

Next steps....

- Decision of the federal council (~ March 2011)
- Revision of the Radiological Protection Ordinance (2011-2014)



Prague, 22-24 September 2010 Martha Gruson, Division of Radiological Protection



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Thank you for your attention