

# Introduction to Working Groups

14th EAN Workshop

“ALARA in Existing Exposure Situations”

Dublin, Ireland 4-6 September 2012

## WG1: recommendations & stakeholders

How can a system of protection be applied to situations not normally subject to regulatory control? Who does this?

Radon: Existing houses: support awareness campaigns /comms / info – aim to help people optimise their own risk; link with other public health info programmes, eg smoking campaigns

[New buildings: regulate & link to building control/regs]

Who does this? RP & public health organisations – must have a lead but link with other health professionals/local groups

Possible inconsistency in current practice: Exposures to frequent flyers. Should doses to employees flying on behalf of their employer be managed? Employers would have to track

Public – general info on airline websites?

## WG1: recommendations & stakeholders

Who decides when an emergency exposure situation becomes an existing exposure situation? What criteria are used to make this decision?

Regulatory Bodies / competent organisations – will vary between countries

Done in conjunction with various stakeholders

Move to existing exposure situation when prediction of current and future doses is possible (situation stable) and so can plan management strategy.

## WG1: recommendations & stakeholders

When is it appropriate to set national reference levels, and when should regional (or even site-specific) levels be used?

Reference levels (dose and risks) relatively uniform – set at national level – very hard to justify different levels, eg radon

Contaminated sites – appropriate to have site-specific levels.  
Done within regulatory framework with stakeholder input / ALARA

Existing exposures post accident are different – levels dependent on time post accident and areas. Regional levels appropriate to meet stakeholder needs etc.

## WG1: recommendations & stakeholders

What can be done when protection is not achieved, eg where doses are not reduced below the agreed reference levels?

Radon in homes – if people don't accept advice and tried best to inform – can't force people and need to respect individuals

For areas already in use:

- Set regional levels in agreement with local communities / stakeholders. Link with monitoring and on-going advice. Someone has to approve this – the appropriate organisation will depend on each country. Awareness and risk communication is central to any decision.
- Recommend more / on-going monitoring (environment and people) and health surveillance

For change in land use: don't allow <http://www.eu-alara.net/>