



## Study on public information and transparency in case of a radiological emergency: identification of **good practices** in Member States

Tanja Perko, SCK•CEN & Meritxell Martell, MERIENCE

*Workshop 'Public Information and Transparency in case of a radiological emergency according to the new Basic Safety Standards and amended Nuclear Safety Directive: collecting good practices'*

11-12 June 2018, Antwerp, Belgium

This project received funding by EC, DG Energy; Project Ref. Ares(2016)7037963  
Call for tender N° ENER/D3/2016-409

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## Background for the study

Call for tenders N° ENER/D3/2016-409

The revised **Basic Safety Standards Directive 2013/59/Euratom** had to be transposed by February 2018.

The amended **Nuclear Safety Directive 2014/87/Euratom** had to be transposed by August 2017.

These two Directives provide an opportunity to review existing procedures and improve implementation measures in the area of **public information** and **transparency** requirements in the event of an **emergency**.

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## Objectives of the study

Assess **current practices in public information and transparency** in 28 EU Member States under the existing legal requirements

*How and to what extent these are implemented in practice?*

Highlight **good practices** regarding public information and transparency in the event of a nuclear or radiological emergency

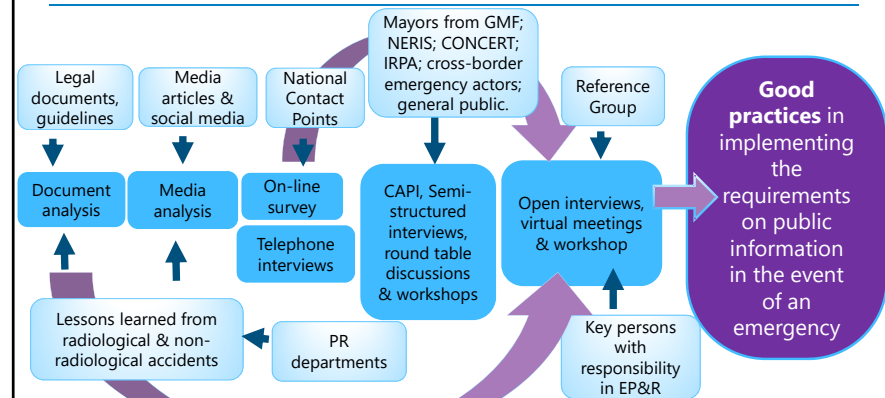
*Taking into account the points of view of different stakeholders.*



To give **ideas and help** Member States to transpose the directives towards good public information and transparency practice.

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## Methodology: quantitative and qualitative (from June 2017 – September 2018)



GMF: Group of European municipalities with nuclear facilities

EP&R: Emergency, Preparedness & Response

NERIS: European Platform on preparedness for nuclear and radiological emergency response and recovery

CONCERT: European Joint Programme for the Integration of Radiation Protection Research

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## Focus and procedure of the workshop

To collect your opinion, views and experiences on **good practices on public information and transparency** in the event of a nuclear or radiological emergency through:

- Open discussion on communication and transparency from other non-radiological emergencies
- Working group discussion and collecting good practices
- Post-it
- Informal discussion in reception and morning coffee



Will be included in the **final project report** as identified good practices for the effective implementation of public information & transparency provisions under the new BSS and amended NSD

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## Focus of this presentation

- Changes in **national legislation** in Member States due to BSS and NSD requirements;
- Current **public information** plans / strategies available;
- **Interpretation** of public information and transparency in the legislation;
- **Good practices** on public information and transparency in the event of a nuclear or radiological emergency.

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## Drawing on...

- **Consultation** with NERIS Platform members at the workshop held in Dublin, 25 April 2018 on:
  - How should Member States interpret the public information requirements from the amended BSS and NSD?
  - Can you point out specific good practices at national level regarding information provision and transparency in case of an emergency?
- **Survey** sent to Nuclear Regulatory Organisations of 28 Member States:
  - 26 responses received
- **Study** report on 'Lessons learned from recent nuclear and radiological events in Europe and neighbouring countries'
  - NPP Krsko in Slovenia 2008; Cesium Finland, 2016; Ascó in Spain 2007; Fleurus, Belgium, 2008, Areva Tricastin France, 2008; I-131 in Europe 2017; Ru-106 in Europe 2017.

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## Changes in **national legislation** in Member States

No need for changes in legislation in 7 Member States (n=26)

Update or change of national legislation due to BSS and NSD in 19 (n=26)

9 Member States indicate that changes are made (or have been made) specifically concerning **public information and transparency**:

*Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Sweden.*

*Examples of good practice:*

- *New regulation on **public information** in case of emergency exposure situations (Sweden); Govt. Decree on the rules of **public communication** in nuclear or radiological emergency (Hungary)*
- *All 26 countries (3 in drafting stage) include **communication aspects** in their respective emergency response plans (either in general plans or specific).*

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## Current public information plans / strategy

- A **few countries** (8, n=26) have specific public information plans/strategy for nuclear or radiological emergencies.
- In 9 out of 26 countries, **public information strategy** is **included in the EP&R** plans.
- **Great variety** regarding the frequency for review and improvement of communication plan/strategy:
  - From no update (3, n=26), to daily, once a year, every 3 or 5 years to on a needs basis, after exercises and drills, etc.

*Example of good practice:*

*In order to correct erroneous coverage related to emergencies Greece establishes personal communication with journalist and writes letters to editors.*

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## Interpretation of public information and transparency

Difference between **transposition**, **interpretation** and **implementation**:

- Most countries (21; n=26) do not expect **challenges** in transposition of the new regulations related to public information.
- Challenges, if any, are related with **implementation** (e.g. stakeholder identification, cross-border communication, translation of templates to English, documentation of arrangements)
- **Comprehensive changes** or development of overall communication strategy/plan in Croatia, Cyprus, the Netherlands and Romania.

*Example of a good practice:*

- *Action plan in Ireland addresses communication aspects much more in detail than national legalisation (e.g. engagement with affected population). It has been taken as an opportunity.*

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## Interpretation of public information and transparency

- Existing requirements/laws require NROs to release information **proactively** in 22 Member States (n=23) in the event of an emergency.
- Most countries transpose the **minimum requirements in BSS and NSD** at the legal level (e.g. Germany, Ireland), not necessarily in practice.
- **Triggers** for change may not be the legislation but rather social media, NGOs or/and Fukushima.

*Example of a good practice:*

- *In some cases, BSS has been interpreted as an opportunity to develop a new communication plan for nuclear and radiological emergencies (e.g. Austria, Hungary, etc)*

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### Good practices: some examples

- **Pluralistic group of stakeholders** to develop policy elements (e.g. CODIRPA in France for post-accident phase of a nuclear accident or a radiological emergency)
- Involvement of **local liaison commissions** in emergency **exercises** (France)
- A permanent tool, a “**call centre**” in case of crisis, where people from the medical field answer questions (Switzerland)
- Empowering citizens through **citizen science** (France) (e.g. SAFECAST)
- Training and exercising **spokespersons** for communication before emergencies, and educating PR personnel. (Germany, Poland, etc.)

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### Good practices: some examples

- Proactive approach: **communicate timely and openly**, even if related to an **insignificant** event (Slovenia, Finland, Greece, Germany, etc)
- **Public warning mechanisms using GSM** in time of crisis to communicate information and protective actions (Belgium; Estonia; Hungary, Nederland etc)
- **Sciencewise programme** in the UK to assist policy-makers on public dialogues on science and technology issues; emergency **exercises** (France)
- **Radiological measurements** publicly available (TELERAY in France, TELERAD in Belgium)
- Involvement of **students of journalism** in nuclear emergency exercises (Belgium)

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## Inviting the Reference Group views on good practices

### Reference Group members at this workshop (1/2)

<i>European Platform on Preparedness for Nuclear and Radiological Emergency Response and Recovery (NERIS)</i>	Wolfgang Raskob
<i>Nuclear Transparency Watch (NTW)</i>	Nadja Zeleznik
<i>Radiation Protection Society Belgium</i>	Gilbert Eggermont
<i>The Society for Radiological Protection UK</i>	Phil Tatterssal
<i>International Radiation Protection Association</i>	Roger Coates
<i>ENGAGE H2020 Project</i>	Christianne Pölzl-Viol
<i>Mesh &amp; Moser Situation Management</i>	Patrick Meschenmoser

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## Inviting the Reference Group views on good practices

### Reference Group members at this workshop (2/2)

<i>STORA local community</i>	Geert Lauwen & Herman Sannen
<i>CLI Cattenom</i>	Anne-Laure Maclot
<i>Atomic reporters</i>	Alexander Nitzsche
<i>European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG)</i>	Ciara McMahon
<i>Group of European Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities (GMF – Beveren)</i>	Yves d'Eer
<i>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies</i>	Martin Krottmayer

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Refreshments break!



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