

Social uncertainties in the preparation and planning of the transition phase.

Findings from nine national stakeholders' panels.

Sala, R., Montero, M., Trueba, C., García-Puerta, B., Germán, S., Abelshausen, B., Bohunova, J., Capucho, M., Charron, S., Croüail, P.; Durand, V.; Duranova, T., Hilliard, C., Madruga, M.J., Maitre, M., Mitrakos, D., Monteiro Gil, O., Nunes, P., Oliveira, J., Paiva, I., Portugal, L., Schneider, T., Skuterud, L., Smith, V., Tafili, V., Thoring, H., Turcanu, C., Twenhöfel, C., Van Asselt, E., Vaz, P.

RICOMET 2019

Barcelona, 3rd of July

Background



CONFIDENCE- WP4: Transition to long-term recovery,
involving stakeholders in decision making processes

CEPN

vüje

IRSN
INSTITUT
DE RADIOPROTECTION
ET DE SÛRETÉ NUCLÉAIRE

epa

Environmental Protection Agency

SCK•CEN
STUDIECENTRUM VOOR KERNENERGIE
CENTRE D'ETUDE DE L'ENERGIE NUCLEAIRE



National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

AGÊNCIA
PORTUGUESA
DO AMBIENTE

ΕΕΑΕ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΑΤΟΜΙΚΗΣ ΕΝΕΡΓΕΙΑΣ
GREEK ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

DSA
Norwegian
Radiation and Nuclear
Safety Authority

RIKILT
INSTITUTE OF FOOD SAFETY
WAGENINGENUR

C²TN

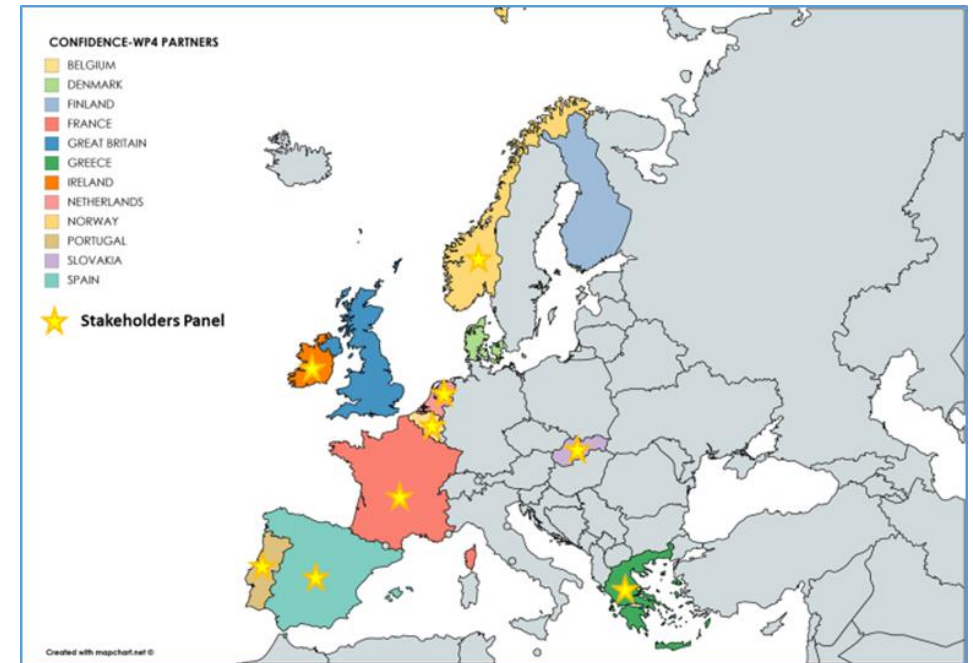
Research objectives



- **WP4 goal:** Improve the preparedness and response during the transition phase of a nuclear emergency, identifying and trying to reduce the uncertainties in the subsequent management of the long-term exposure situation by involving technical experts and stakeholders.
- **Stakeholders' panels goal:** Initiating consultation and dialogue at national level about the inherent difficulties and uncertainties of transition and recovery phases of an emergency.
- **Research objective:** To identify the main social uncertainties and classify them.

Method

- Stakeholders' panels were organized in nine different countries.
- Panel members met once or twice at the national level.
- The main topics of discussion were the challenges and critical aspects of the transition phase, as well as the main uncertainties.
- A semi-structured protocol of discussion that included a table-top exercise, simulated scenarios and different problem structuring methods was used.
- Discourses were analysed qualitatively.

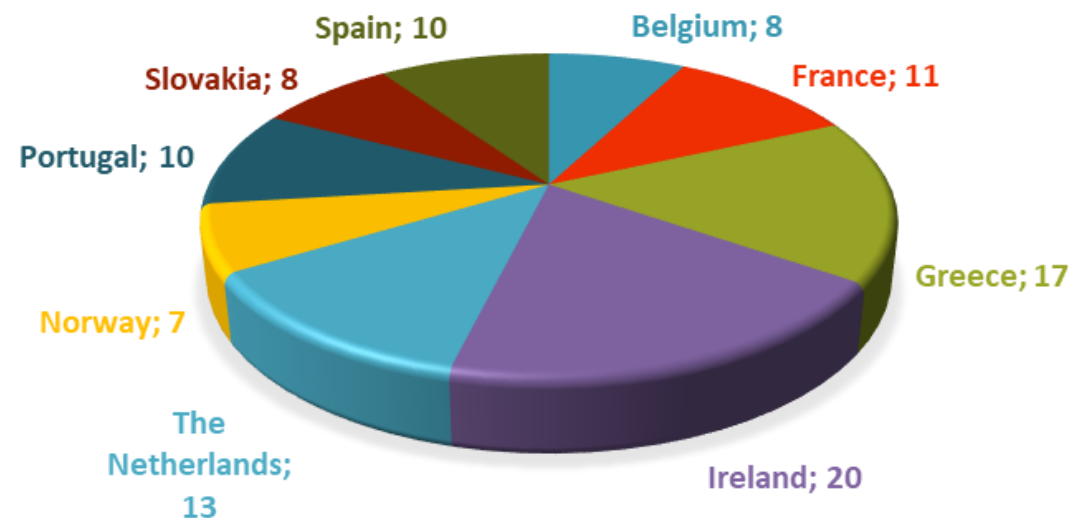


Sample

The panels have been composed of representatives of stakeholders groups, covering three broad categories:

1. Representatives of Government institutions, agencies or companies (directly involved in the management of the transition phase)
2. Representatives of the population, producers, industries, marketers (affected)
3. Experts with high level of knowledge (interested)

NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS



Findings

Uncertainties raised from the 9 panels can be classified in 6 categories:

- Environmental
- Economic
- Human health and safety
- Social
- Communication
- Governance

Classified according to French et al. (2018) & Durand et al. (2019) approaches



2nd panel meeting session (Source: CIEMAT)

Social uncertainties

- Will the affected population accept and follow-up countermeasures ?
- To what extent the protective actions will be implemented by producers?
- Willingness of the population to return after temporary relocation.
- Willingness to house people from the affected areas as they are relocated (stigmatisation of the affected people)
- How to build trust of consumers?
- Willingness to work in the contaminated areas.
- How to deal with the fear of non-radiation personnel, e.g. local inspectors, to perform sampling in contaminated areas?
- Attitude to the property and home (stigmatization of the affected areas)
- How to ensure that foods found in homes and on the market do not generate panic or rejection? (stigmatisation of consumer goods)

Communication uncertainties



- When should we communicate about relocation?
- Will prior communication (by social media, traditional media, etc.) be able to broadcast the “right” messages and prevent panic?
- What are the best messages?
- If a distinction is made between restriction for consumption and restrictions for commercialisation, how to adjust the messages to the individuals: the general population, the clients, the sellers and distributors etc.?
- How to communicate and consult with industries in favour of an effective response?

Governance uncertainties



- How to involve stakeholders in decision-making?
- When to involve them?
- Which stakeholders should be involved?
- How to involve the affected population?
- Will decisions from the local authorities be validated by higher authorities?

Conclusions

- Decision-makers have to cope with a wide variety of uncertainties. They require additional information to the strictly technical or radiological one.
- Communication is very important: people must have the feeling that their concerns are taken seriously into account and that the government is really helping them.
- Decisions should be taken by involving the local level in order to adapt them to the specific situation.
- Need to involve all the affected stakeholders in the decision-making.

Most uncertainties can be addressed starting in the preparedness phase, involving stakeholders, and creating a solid ground to build on during the transition phase

Further questions

1. Comparison between the uncertainties from early emergency and the transition phase. During the transition phase new uncertainties emerge? How uncertainties evolve from the early phase to the transition phase? How prior decisions during the emergency phase have influence in the following phases?
2. Are social factors much more important in the transition phase than they were in the first phase? Perhaps early phase focuses primarily on minimising the human health risks...?
3. Many of these uncertainties appeared in the different studied countries, is there something common beyond the different national contexts?

References



Montero, M; Trueba, C.; Sala, R. (2018) Scenario-based Stakeholders Engagement. Guidelines for national discussions. (HORIZON 2020 EJP-CONCERT, EC GA 662287). Internal Technical Document CONFIDENCE-WP4/T4.2.1-R01, v1.0 Final, CIEMAT, Madrid, Spain. 2018.

Montero, M; Trueba, C. (2017). Methodology design of the multi-method consultation process. HORIZON 2020 EJP-CONCERT, EC GA 662287, Technical Deliverable CONCERT D9.18, CONFIDENCE-WP4/D4.1 v1.0 Final.

Montero, M; Trueba, C. (2017). Scenarios and issues to address with stakeholders. Structured communication technique results. Technical deliverable D9.19 of the HORIZON 2020 EJP-CONCERT, EC GA 662287. CONFIDENCE-WP4/D4.2 v1.0 Final, CIEMAT, Madrid, Spain

Vanessa Durand (IRSN), Mélanie Maître, Sylvain Andresz, Thierry Schneider, Pascal Crouail (CEPN) and Sylvie Charron (IRSN): Results from the French panel. Stakeholder engagement through scenario-based discussions panels. Compilation of national stakeholder's panel reports. Technical deliverable D9.22 Part B 02; (2019). HORIZON 2020 EJP-CONCERT, EC GA 662287. CONFIDENCE-WP4/D4.5 v1.0 Final, CIEMAT, Madrid, Spain

Simon French and al. (2018). EJP-CONCERT – CONFIDENCE report- The Various Meanings of Uncertainty.

Thank you for your attention!

roser.sala@ciemat.es



This work has been accomplished under the CONFIDENCE project. CONFIDENCE is part of the CONCERT project. This project has received funding from the EURATOM research and training programme 2014-2018 under grant agreement No 662287.