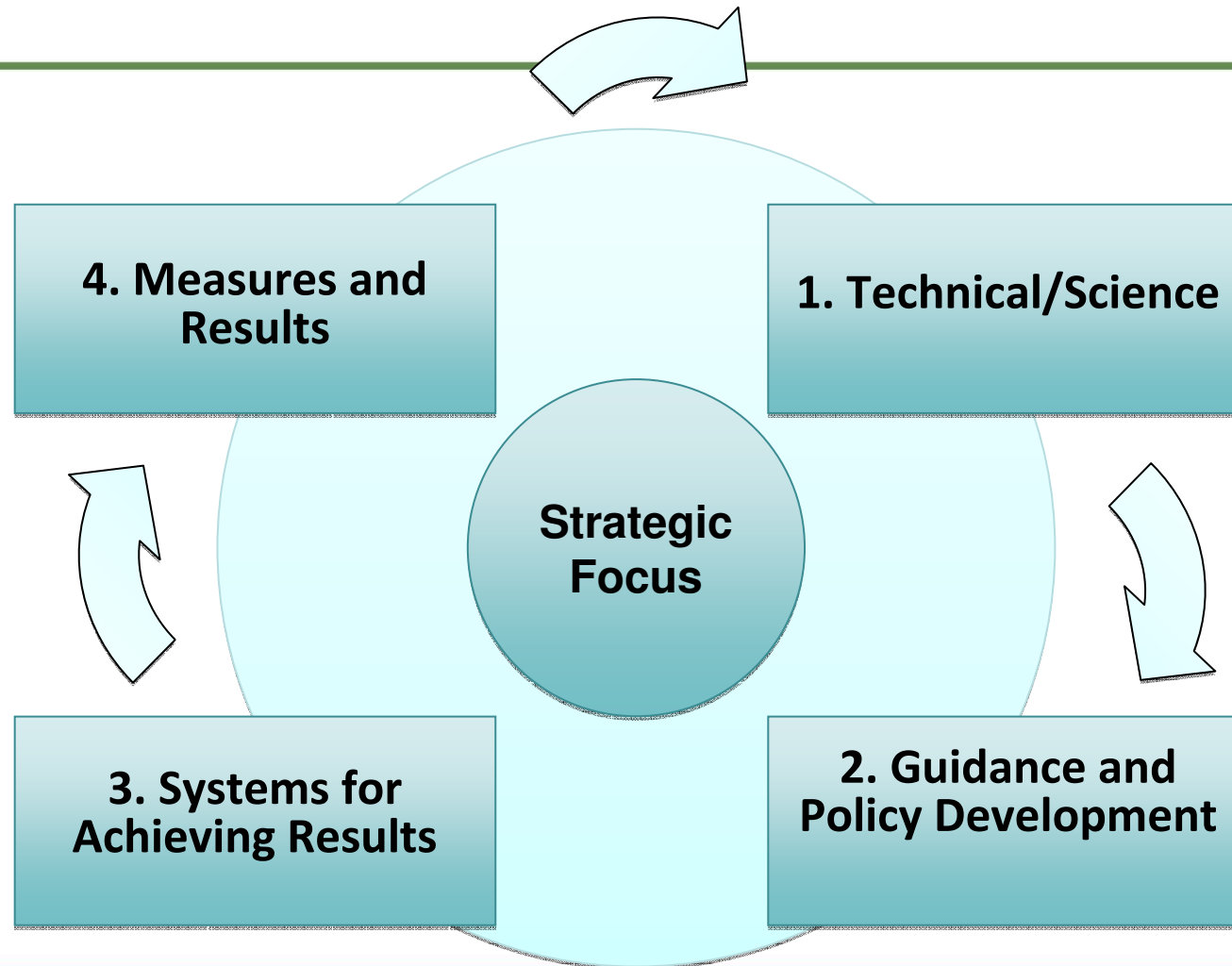


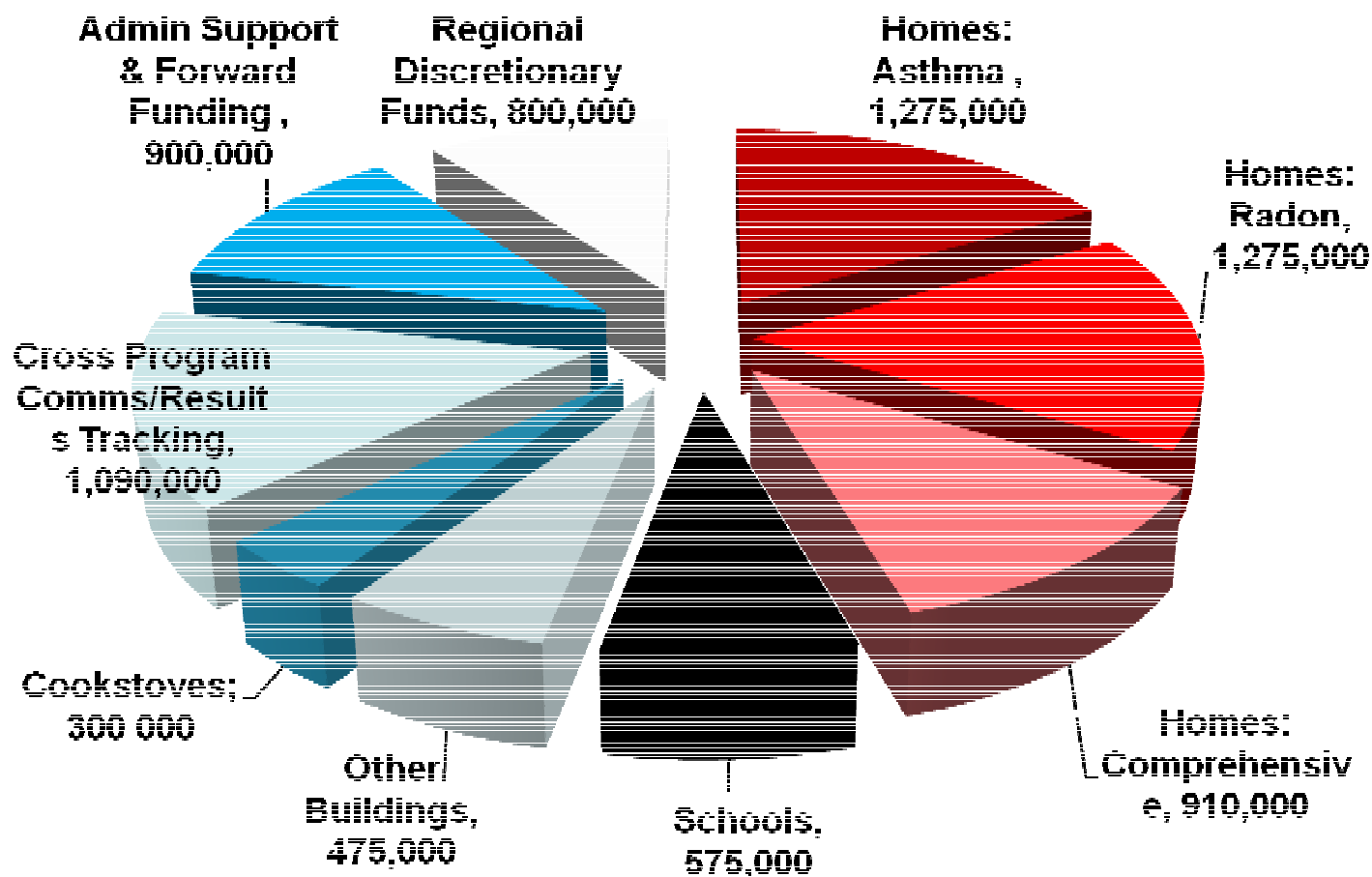


US Federal Radon Action Plan



Bill Long -- Director, Center for Radon and Air Toxics, Office of Air and Radiation, US EPA





Indoor Air Quality (IAQ)

Federal Radon Action Plan

- Federal leadership required to accelerate action on radon risk reduction – *a key Healthy Homes concern*
- An example of Inter-Agency Collaboration (USDA, DOD, DOE, EPA, GSA, HHS, HUD, DOI, VA)
- A special focus on families and low income communities



Framework for Federal Action:

Our Areas of Focus

- **Demonstrate Importance** of radon risk reduction
- **Provide Incentives** to encourage testing and mitigation
- **Build Demand** for testing and mitigation

Key Milestones Tracking Our Progress

- Nov 2010:** Held Federal Radon Summit where agencies agreed to develop the Federal Radon Action Plan
- Jun 2011:** Launched the Action Plan at the Healthy Homes Conference
- Jan 2012:** Released the Action Plan Scorecard
- Aug 2012:** Celebrated one-year anniversary at CDC's National Cancer Conference in Washington DC
- Feb 2013:** Released the Accomplishments Report in conjunction with the unveiling of the *Advancing Healthy Housing – A Strategy for Action*.

Status of Commitments

Agency	Green – Completed	Yellow – On Track	Red – No Progress
USDA	6		
DoD	1	1	1
DOE	2	2	
EPA	1	1	
GSA	1	1	
HHS	2	1	
HUD	3	1	
DOI	2	1	
VA		1	1
Multi	1	3	
TOTAL	19	12	2

33 Total Commitments

To access Scorecard visit www.epa.gov/radon/action_plan.html

An Overview of Our Accomplishments

Protecting People and Families
From Radon: A Federal Action
Plan for Saving Lives

The Action Plan
aims to reach about
860,000
homes, schools and
day care facilities in **2013***

Celebrating Success. Looking to
the Future.
www.epa.gov/radon

FEBRUARY 4, 2013:
FEDERAL RADON ACTION PLAN

Celebrating Success. Looking to the Future.

The Risk of Radon

Radon causes an estimated 21,000 lung cancer deaths in the United States every year. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer after active smoking and the leading cause among nonsmokers.

Even though we've made progress in addressing high radon levels, because of housing construction over the last twenty years, there are more homes today in the United States with elevated radon levels than ever before.

Most low-income Americans do not have the financial resources to mitigate high radon levels in their homes and many other Americans are not yet convinced of the value of mitigating high radon levels.

Many radon-induced lung cancer deaths are preventable. Testing for and mitigating high radon levels uses time-proven, straightforward techniques. Homes can now be built to resist radon intrusion.

Protecting People and Families from Radon: A Federal Action Plan for Saving Lives

In 2011, leaders from nine federal agencies began exploring strategies that would have a significant and long-term impact on indoor radon risk reduction. Creativity, persistence and a focus on public health led senior leaders from the nine agencies to produce the first-ever comprehensive, multi-agency effort to address the leading environmental cause of cancer death in North America. The result is the Federal Radon Action Plan.

Together, the agencies committed to 33 specific actions with radon reducing potential – actions that could be completed with existing resources and take advantage of interagency collaboration to extend their reach and increase their impact.

EPA's Deputy Administrator and the Deputy Secretary of HUD formally announced the Action Plan at the National Healthy Homes Conference in Denver, Colorado in June 2011.

The nine agencies celebrated the Action Plan's one-year anniversary at CDC's National Cancer Conference in Washington, DC on August 22, 2012. At this event, EPA's Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation was joined by the Assistant Secretary for Health from HHS and the Deputy Secretary of HUD to showcase the actions and activities that have resulted from the plan.

Participating Agencies

- Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- General Services Administration (GSA)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Department of the Interior (DOI)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

An Overview of Our Accomplishments (cont)

Build Demand for Testing & Mitigation

- The **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** wrote new radon testing and mitigation requirements for their multifamily housing mortgage insurance programs, estimated to reach 105,000 housing units in 2013.
- The **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** is investing in 4 new standards of practice. New provisional standard for radon mitigation in multifamily housing released this year.

Provide Incentives to Encourage Testing and Mitigation

- The **Department of Agriculture (USDA)** issued new secretary-level guidance to all of its field office housing, community, loan (~301K this year), and public information programs to promote radon mitigation and new construction.

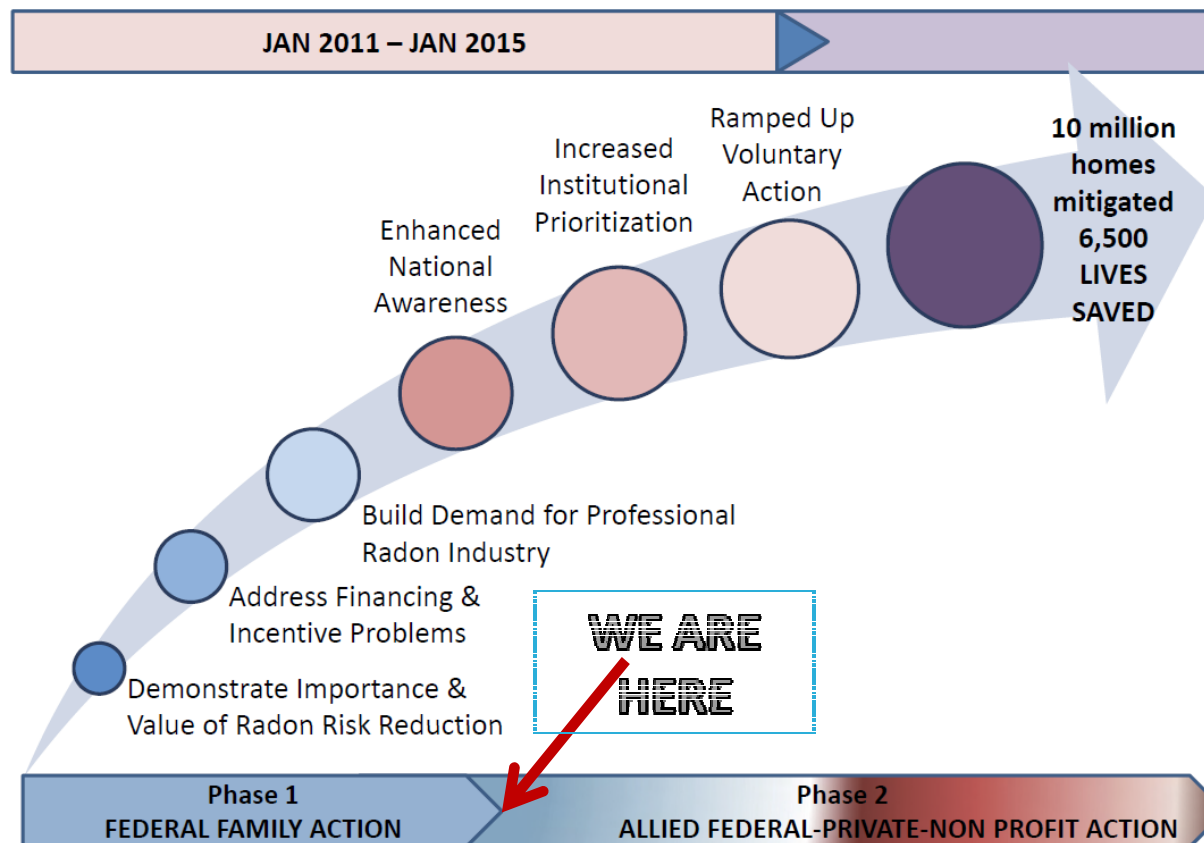
An Overview of Our Accomplishments (*cont*)

Demonstrate the importance of radon testing & mitigation

- The **Department of Health and Human Services** reported that 27 CDC sponsored state five-year cancer plans now include radon, representing 41% of existing cancer plans.
 - Of that total, two cancer programs have included radon activities for the first time and two have expanded radon activities within their plans.

Moving Forward: Leadership, Leverage and Visibility

ELIMINATING PREVENTABLE RADON RISK



The Beginnings of a Transition to Something Larger....

- June 2013: ALA and EPA convened federal and non-federal leadership to discuss path forward.
- Oct 2013: ALA hosted the Allies Radon Breakthrough Event.
- Jan 2014 - Present: Meeting periodically to map out process moving forward
- Key Outcomes:
 - Initial leadership committee formed
 - Non-federal participants: ALA, AARST, ASHI, CanSAR, Citizens for Radioactive Radon Reduction, CRCPD, ELI, NCHH
 - Federal Participants: EPA, HHS, HUD
 - Institutionalization identified as key leverage point for driving outcomes & three new strategies identified addressing risk management, codes and targeted outreach (healthcare/childcare/professionals)
 - Group working collaboratively to prioritize actions that will drive outcomes

Establishing a National Effort

- Two-phased approach
 - Sept 2014: Announce upcoming national scale-up
 - Highlight & discuss plans at National Meeting
 - Release updated online report highlighting impacts from FRAP
 - Jan 2015: Formally launch national effort in partnership with allies

Key Components for a National Plan

- Collaborative effort involving feds and allies
- EPA: Maintain leadership role; drive strategy work; write a national plan, publish results
- ALA: Run meetings (set agenda, convene group) & enlist new partners
- Expand impacts on the market
- Focus efforts on strategies that are most likely to yield impacts
- Progress tracking system

Systematic Approach for Prioritizing Action within a National Plan

- Leverage national radon expertise
- Apply consensus-based process to evaluate current and new strategies
 - Potential impact (RRNC, mitigations)
 - Feasibility
 - level of effort
- measurability
- Generate prioritized list of strategies & develop timeline for action

Examples of New Strategies Being Scored

- HUD SF requirement
- EPA rulemaking
- Revamped SIRG
- Philanthropy
- Tax credit for testing/mitigation

Strategy Modeling Participants

Federal Radon Action Plan Workgroup

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Centers for Disease Control
- Environmental Protection Agency
- General Services Administration

Leadership Committee

- American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists
- American Society of Home Inspectors
- Cancer Survivors Against Radon
- Citizens for Radioactive Radon Reduction
- Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors
- Environmental Law Institute
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency
- National Center for Healthy Housing

Summary Points

- Collaborative effort involving feds and allies
 - EPA: Leadership role
 - ALA: Facilitator & marketer
 - Innovative selection of actions to pursue
 - Focus on strategies with large impact
 - Transparent progress tracking system