

Key points for session 2

Radon national action plan workshop
From the 30th September to the 2nd October 2014

Session 2: Action to reduce radon exposure in dwellings

Rapporteurs: Marie-Line Perrin (ASN) and Maria Larsson (NRPA)

Topics

- Existing buildings
- High radon levels
- Remediation and research
- New buildings
- Training

Existing buildings

- Establishing national reference levels
- Awareness campaigns
- Information about health risks
- Motivate homeowners to do measurements and remediation if necessary
- Targeted surveys to identify radon risk areas and dwellings with high radon levels
- Involving local authorities and stakeholders

High radon levels

In case of dwellings with high radon levels :

- Case by case strategy
- Cooperation between relevant actors
- Full transparency
- Communication: public and individual

Remediation and research

- Need of general standards of mitigation
- Development of guidelines
- Research and cost effectiveness
 - ventilation
 - remediation techniques
 - energy saving

New buildings

- Establish a reference level in regulations
- Considering radon when developing construction regulations/building codes
- Radon to be managed together with air quality and energy saving at the design stage
- Preventing radon ingress into the building
- Take into account the maintenance

Training

- Training of professionals
 - in building construction
 - in remediation
- Basic and continuous training
- Approval system
- Short on-line training may be appreciated by professionals

Strategy of measurements and remediation in existing housing

Regulatory approach Versus Voluntary approach, encouragement or regulation

Individuals dwellings and Collective housing buildings ?

Different strategies in case of sale or rent ?

Prevention

Czech Republic : efficiency of prevention (verification on counter-measure)

Norway : Importance of regulation in new build with legally binding limit values

Regulation and Control

Spain, Switzerland : Control of compliance of regulation (strategy and instrument, inspection and breaches, periodicity of measurements)

Czech republic : validity of measurement (reliability, comparability)

Czech republic : understandability (RL in the case of sale or rent)

Belgium : control measures in new buildings and responsibilities

Norway : Importance of legally binding levels for rental accommodations and effect of regulations on private dwellings (bystander effects)

Energy saving

Switzerland : energy renovation VS air quality and radon

Training

Switzerland, IAEA : to enhance the building professional training, appropriate outreach to building professionals

Finland : collaboration between authorities, experts and professionals, on line materials, training courses, ...

High level of doses

France : how to manage very high level of radon exposure due to latest radium contamination : responsibilities, coordination, risk assessment, transparency, information and recommendations to exposed people ?

Some countries have areas with especially serious radon problems, how to manage those problems