

NEWSLETTER N°1

June 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PG. 2

Did you know? – 2nd wave

A look back

PG. 3

Digest - Roadmap

Upcoming events

PG. 4

Focus – Covid-19

We are out there

BREAKING NEWS

Postponement of the annual event

Due to the current health situation and travel restrictions, the first annual event of EURAD which was planned for 15th-17th September 2020 is postponed to 16th-17th and 18th March 2021.

This postponement should allow all partners to attend this event and give a real added value to it.

In order not to jeopardize the progress of EURAD, in particular to be able to make a decision on 2nd wave, the third General Assembly will still take place on 15th September morning via videoconference.

New coordinator

Following the departure of Marie GARCIA as Coordinator of EURAD, Laurent TRENTY successfully took over all coordinator's responsibilities since March 1st 2020 for a transition period.

On 18th May 2020, the new Coordinator of EURAD program, Louise THEODON, arrived at Andra Research and Development Division. During this new transition phase, Laurent TRENTY will assist Louise THEODON with coordination with the support of Jacqueline OLTRA



DID YOU KNOW?

At the commencement of EURAD in June 2019, a key principle was that we would only commit around 70 % of the programmes intended €60M budget. Around 30% was retained to allow us, besides strong engagement in knowledge management, the flexibility to launch 2nd wave activities in June 2021. Since the turn of the year, Our Bureau, supported by the PMO have been busy developing and actioning a transparent and fair process to agree our 2nd wave activities.

Each of EURADs three Colleges were asked to propose outline topics for up to 4 new R&D work packages and 2 new or/extended Strategic Studies (StS). Sixteen great ideas were put forward. Following a quick eligibility check (e.g. against the agreed criteria, covering notably our shared SRA priorities) and some commonality screening, a 'Consolidated long list' of proposals was formed (of 7R&D WP and 4StS). In order to keep everyone's use of resource efficient, it was agreed not to develop all of these ideas into detailed proposals, instead prioritised proposals around common needs have been identified and the following 'short list' of proposals has been agreed with EURAD's Colleges. The proposals that will be worked up in more detail are:

- R&D "Container performance" nuclei: nikitas.diomidis@nagra.ch, Guido.bracke@grs.de, kmijnend@sckcen.be
- R&D "MAGIC" nuclei: erika.neeft@covra.nl, alexandre.dauzeres@irsn.fr, sergey.churakov@psi.ch
- R&D "Monitoring" nuclei: johan.bertrand@andra.fr, ov_tokarevsky@sstc.ua, tomas.cernousek@cvrez.cz
- SS "UMAN" extension": astrid.goebel@bge.de, frank.lemys@belv.be, wilfried.pfingsten@psi.ch
- SS "ROUTES" extension": peter.rampl@nes.at, Jitka.miksova@suro.cz, savidou@ipta.demokritos.gr

These proposals have been worked up in more details by the interested organizations, represented by the contact points identified above. Based on these proposals, and the budget constraints, a final decision on the 2nd wave WPs and StS to be developed will be taken in early July. The detailed development of these WPs will then start.

If people would like to learn more, or contribute to the development of the R&D WP and StS then please contact (if not already done) the proposal contact points listed above or the EURAD Bureau or PMO.

A LOOK BACK

**EURAD training on
Multiphysical Couplings
in Geomechanics - 22nd-
24th January 2020
(Liège, Belgium)**



The first GAS/HITEC Joint training course has been organized from 22 to 24 January 2020 at the Liège University in Belgium within the framework of EURAD as a Doctoral School entitled "Multiphysical Couplings in Geomechanics, a focus on thermal effect and gas transfer impact on the behaviour of geomaterials".

Launch of the mobility program

Launched in April 2020, the EURAD Mobility Program is intended to support individuals who would like to further develop their knowledge and skills in the field of Radioactive Waste Management including deep geological disposal.

Following the first deadline, one application was received that led to one successful candidate!

Next deadlines: June 30th and August 31st 2020

DIGEST



EURAD Roadmap - A generic roadmap for implementing radioactive waste management, from generation to disposal

A Roadmap Advisory Committee was appointed in April to provide insight from advanced program implementation perspectives. It comprises Johan Andersson (representing WMOs), Neil Chapman (representing TSOs) and Bernd Grambow (representing REs), plus members from EURAD PMO and the Chief Scientific Officer.

Over the summer, domain experts from across the European RWM community will be working together to evaluate knowledge maturity across the 7 themes of the EURAD Roadmap to create a broad baseline of:

- Guidance on typical goals, activities and competencies for RWM
- Contextual insight on how existing domain knowledge is used, relative to functional requirements, and the impact of domain knowledge, relative to long-term safety or practical implementation
- Experts view of the most relevant knowledge and associated uncertainties in each domain

Want to know more?

Attend our 1-hour lunch and learn engagement sessions: 1 PM (CET) 8th & 21st July 2020.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

1st - 3rd: UMAN Seminar

8th and 21st: Roadmap engagement sessions

September

14th: Introductory course on EURAD and Radioactive Waste Management

15th: General Assembly n°3

15th: PhD's/Postdoc's Day

29th-30th: SFC WP Meeting



On September 14th 2020, a one day course "Introductory course on EURAD and Radioactive Waste Management" that will be open to everyone involved in EURAD will be launched.

The intention is to show how EURAD is positioned in the frame of radioactive waste management within EU.

The preliminary programme can be found [here](#).

This one day course will be linked to a ½ day EURAD PhD/PostDoc come-together event on the 15th September 2020 where PhD's and PostDoc's will be able to present themselves and their work to the entire EURAD community to trigger connections between the young scientists and experienced researchers within and between EURAD WPs. Further information will be provided on the EURAD webpage at the beginning of July 2020.

FOCUS

Eurad in the post-Covid world

The lockdown imposed across large parts of Europe in response to the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted EURADs planned work scope, primarily through access restrictions to laboratories, as well as imposing difficulties in hiring staff. The delay experienced has been accepted by the European Commission. However, all the work packages, the Bureau and the PMO have worked hard, often in home-offices to ensure that the majority of the work scope has continued largely on the originally planned timeframe. A significant achievement has been the production of the initial SoTA documents, which are now nearing completion.

Based on the strong foundation of our updated Roadmap, a powerful needs-driven KM program, the ongoing RD&D work packages and strategic studies, as well as an exciting range of 2nd wave activities, are all still expected to be delivered within the originally planned timeframe of EURAD1, i.e. by mid-2024. A longer term vision for EURAD is also still intended and being worked towards.

We took the difficult decision to postpone the first annual EURAD event to the 16th -18th March 2021 in Paris at IRSN, as we expect about 200 participants and will require lots of interaction. Please save the dates! The 3rd General Assembly meeting will still be held on the 15th Sept 2020, except it has now been switched to a video meeting. The entire EURAD consortium and the members of each WP are now accustomed to this type of frequent exchange at distance, a practice which certainly will continue in the future. Smaller meetings in person are expected to start to become possible, perhaps from around autumn this year.

WE ARE OUT THERE

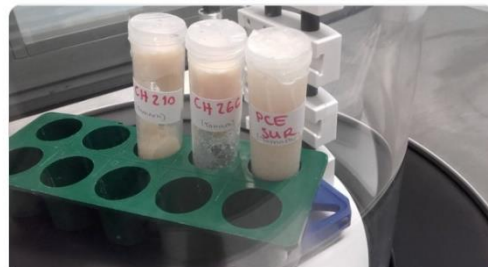


eurad

EURAD a retweeté
Anne-Catherine Dieudonné @acdiedonne · 22 janv.
Let's go for 3 days of @EJP_EURAD doctoral school on multiphysical couplings in #geomechanics!



EURAD a retweeté
Marko Štok @MarkoStrok · 27 janv.
Freezedrying of superplasticizer to be irradiated to analyse degradation products within #CORI @EJP_EURAD



The first official publication of EURAD is accessible [here!](#)