



Authority for Nuclear Safety and
Radiation Protection

Public Information and Communications by the Dutch nuclear regulator

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Radiation Protection (ANVS)

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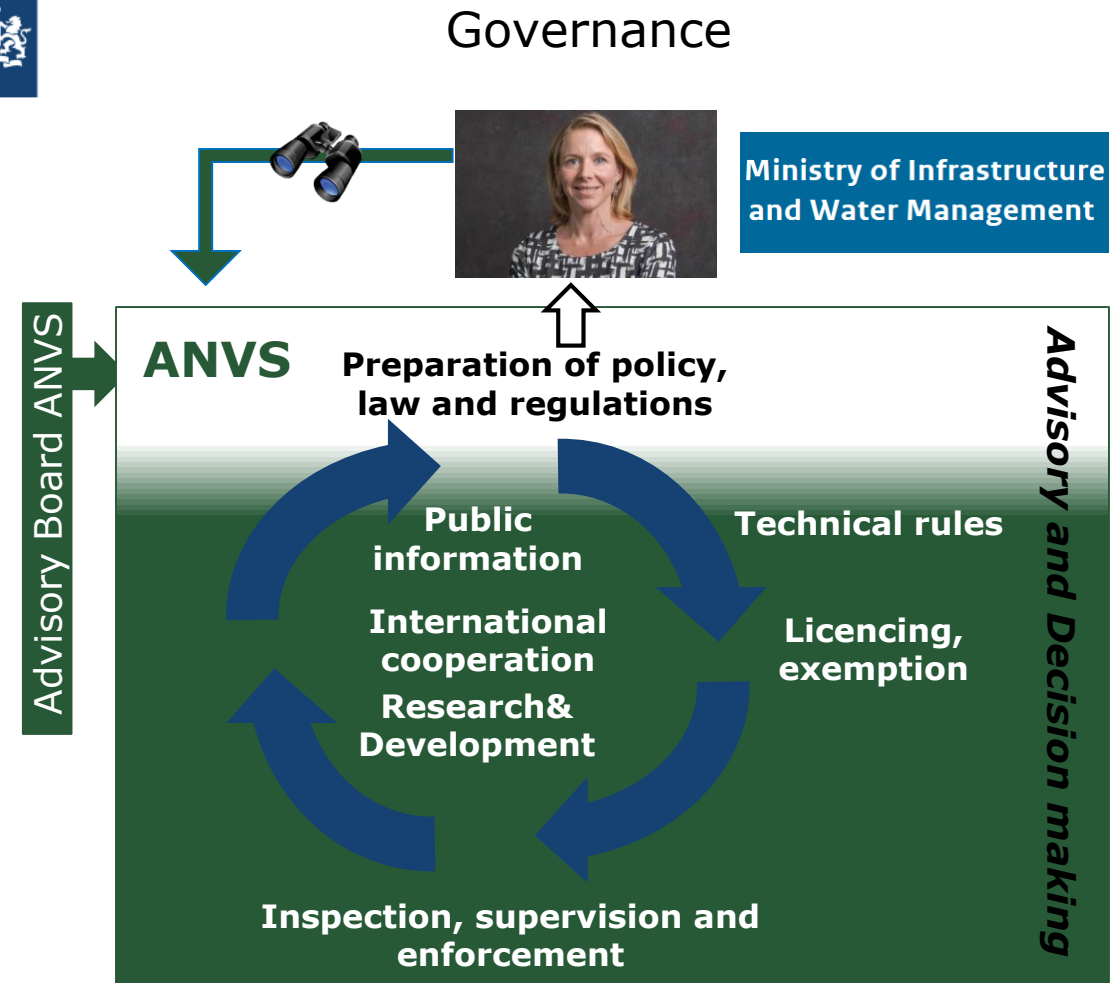
Topics to be discussed

1. Brief introduction ANVS - the nuclear regulatory body in the Netherlands
2. Attitude to nuclear power and Risk perception
3. Transparency as a core value
4. Security and public information



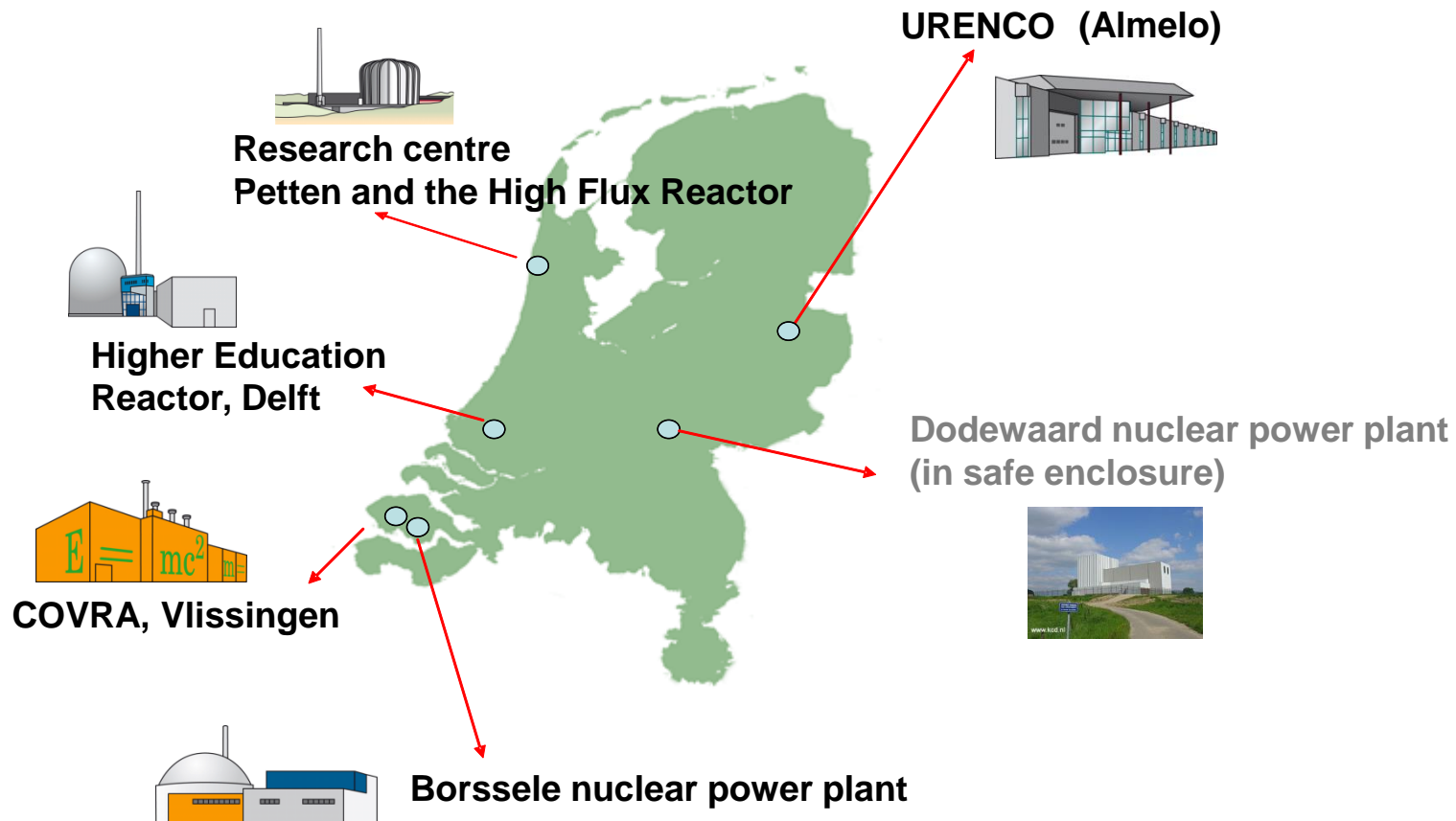
Regulatory body ANVS

- Nuclear safety
- Radiation protection (public & environment)
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Transport
- Security
- Safeguards
- Spent fuel, radioactive waste and decommissioning
- Financial warranty decommissioning
- Public communication





Nuclear domain in The Netherlands





Radiation environment in The Netherlands

- > **1.000** licensees (100 extra security)
- > **10.000** individuals subject to a registration requirement (dentists, veterinarians, those not subject to a licence requirement)
- > **30** complex licencees
- > **10.000** transports per year





Transparency is essential to gain trust

The risk perception, the attitude towards nuclear power and our democratic society demands an open communication:

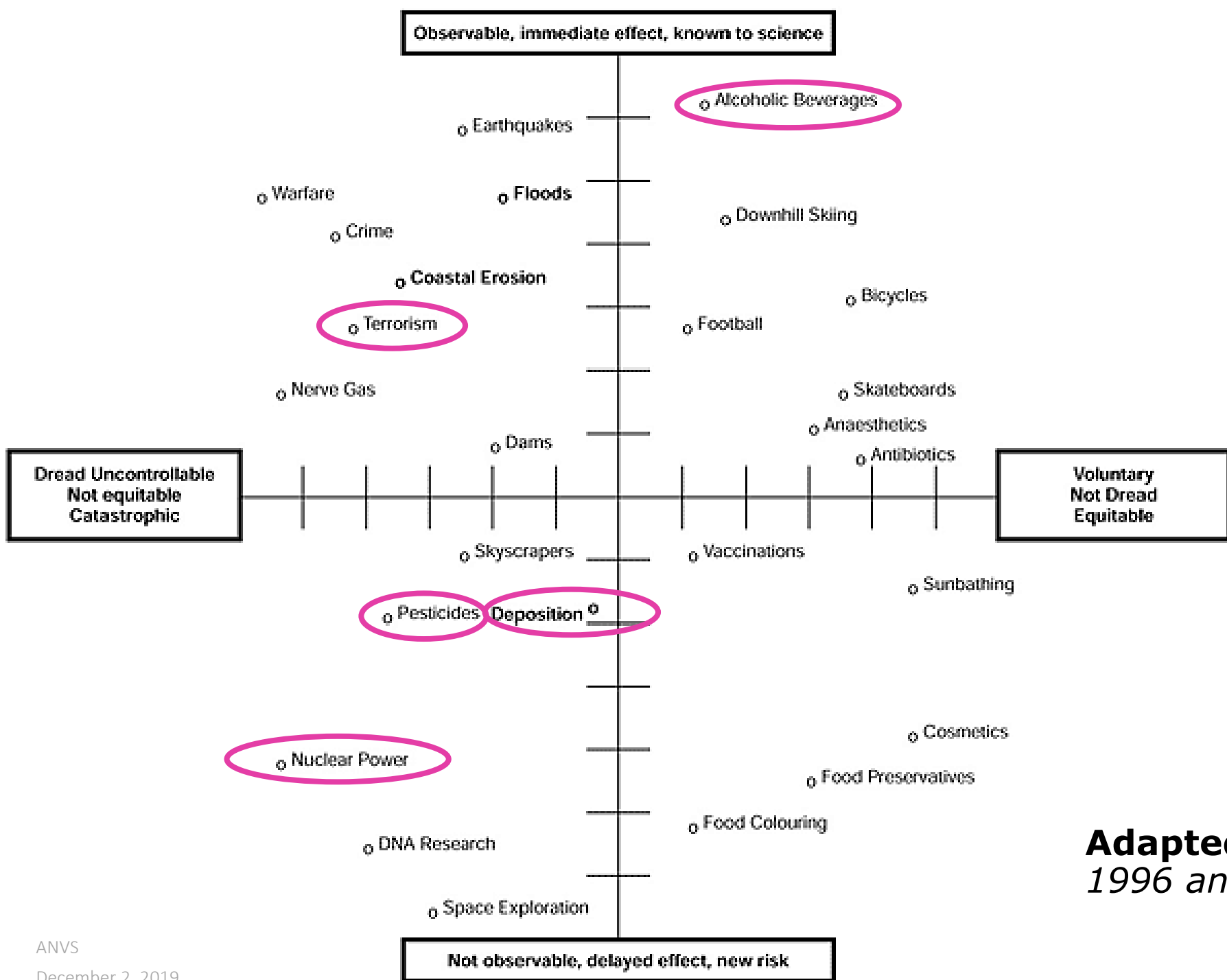
Shift from *'Everything is confidential, unless'* to *'Every is public, unless'*.

Not only open communications about what we do as a regulator but also show that we know the risks and that we act accordingly.



Riskperception Paradox





Adapted from P. Slovic, 1996 and Slovic et al., 1980



Factors that influence the public perception to radiation risks

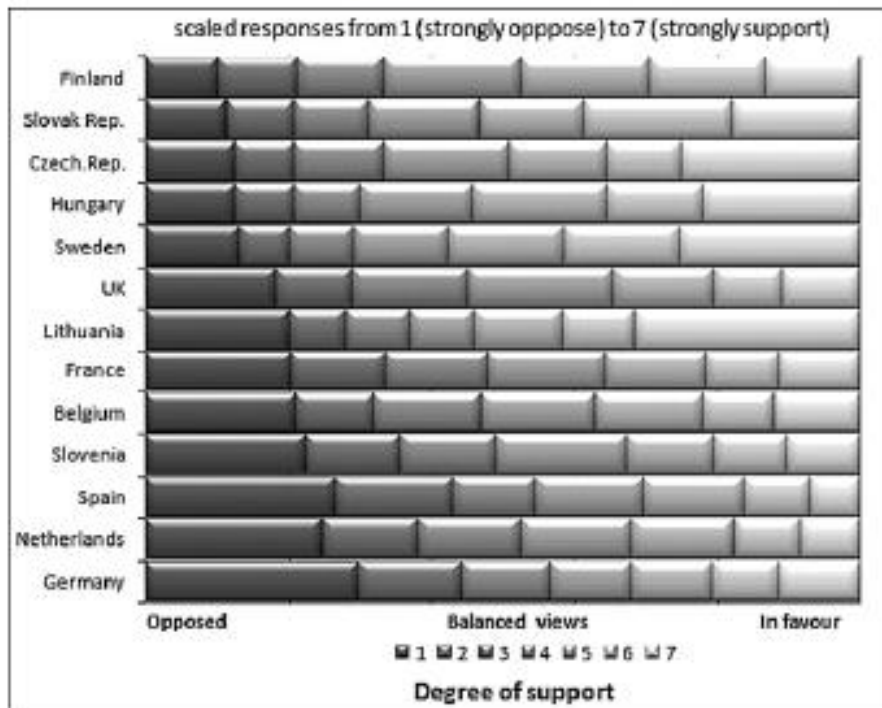
- › Unknown
(non-observable, delayed effect, novel risk...)
- › Dreadfulness / Fear
(uncontrollable, catastrophic effects, involuntarily, ...)
- › Attitude and trust
- › Social amplification (social environment / bubble, media, social-cultural differences...)

National Institute of Public Health, RIVM, 2018



Attitude to nuclear power

Figure 5: Degree of support for nuclear energy in countries with nuclear programmes



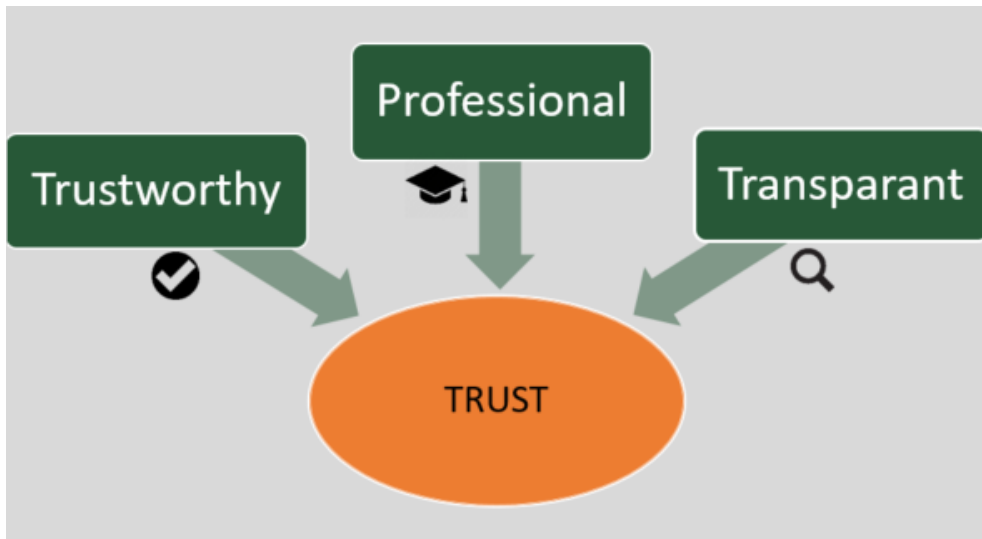
OECD Public Attitudes to Nuclear Power, 2010

Main aspects which are having an effect on the attitude of the group in the mid section of the scale are:

- Climate change
- Knowledge
- Concerns about radioactive waste, terrorism / proliferation
- (recent) Radiation incidents



Core values ANVS as a fundament for trust



- > Trustworthy
 - We act predictably, unambiguously and clear
- > Professional
 - We are competent and knowledgeable
- > Transparent
 - We choose for open communication and information provision

These core values together form the fundament for (public) trust -> We ensure the nuclear safety and security and we also want the public to 'feel' safe and secure.



Basic principle open communication

'All information and documents of the ANVS are public available, unless...'

1. the information is a danger for the nuclear security / national security;
2. the documents contain sensitive / confidential information about the licensee;
3. the documents contain sensitive / confidential information about the response measures regarding security by the authorities.

In these cases we are transparent about the reason why we do not provide this information.



Security and Communications (1)

The basic principle of open communication also applies to security.

'For the acceptance by the civil society we also need to be open as possible about security, we cannot allow ourselves to be mysterious.'

'When we keep certain information from the public about security we are fully transparent about the reasons why.'



Security and Communications (2)

For security we distinguish 3 levels of confidentiality:

1. Strategic information = available for the public
 - E.g. general guidelines, general requirements etc.
2. Tactical information = sometimes public, sometimes confidential information
 - Depends of the scope of this sensitive information
3. Operational information = sensitive and confidential information
 - E.g. Operational implementation plans, elaboration of general frameworks



Example Security and Communications (1)

Discussion process Design Basis Threats (tactical information):

- Equivalence between governmental bodies and private partners in a Trusted Community
- Public-Private Partnership is a central element in the DBT discussion process



Advantages

- Open exchange of sensitive and confidential information
- No top down approach

However, the final decision lies with the regulator ANVS



Example Security and Communications (2)

Publication of the IPPAS report (2012) in the Netherlands:

- An International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS) report is an expert assessment of the state of affairs in the field of nuclear security (legislation, policy, security plans, etc.) by the government and license holder.
- The report actually comprises two parts: a government part and a part about the license holder's security setup. In principle, the report is confidential.
- The Netherlands, as one of the first IAEA-countries, made the report with the governmental chapters public in 2012 by sending it to parliament.

