Risk Communication

Rapporteur's report

E. van Deventer

Radiation Programme

World Health Organization

Organizer:

Federal Office for Radiation Protection
P.O. Box 10 01 49
D-38201 Salzgitter
Germany
www.bfs.de

Venue:

National Research Center for Environment and Health" (GSF)
Room Nr. 106 (big lecture room), building 33
Ingolstaedter Landstrasse 1
D-85764 Oberschleissheim
Germany
www.gsf.de

Contact:

Christiane Poelzl
Phone: +49 (0)3018 333-2144
Fax: +49 (0)3018 333-2205
Email : cpoelzl@bfs.de

How to get there

From the airport:

Take the suburban railway **S-Bahn** (line **S1**) to **Feldmoching**, from there take the underground **UBahn** (line **U2**/**U8**) to **"Am Hart" stop**, then take **bus 294** (Garching-Hochbrück, 20 minute service, between 10 a.m. und 3 p.m. hourly service) to **stop "Neuherberg, Forschungszentrum"**.
Or take the suburban railway **S-Bahn** (line S8) to **Central Station.** From Central Station take the underground **U-Bahn** (line **U2**/**U8** towards **Feldmoching**) to the stop **"Am Hart"**, then take **bus 294** (see above).

Location:

The Neuherberg research centre is located in the north of Munich, approximately 800 m beyond the city boundary.
Distance from city centre approximately 12km. **Distance from airport** approximately 30km.

| ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS

German Mobile Telecommunication Research Programme

International Workshop on Final Results of Risk Communication Projects

Federal Office for Radiation Protection

Munich/Oberschleissheim

October 18-19 2006

Bundesamt für Strahlenschutz

Objective

- The aim of this workshop was to discuss the results of the risk communication projects conducted within the research programme

- http://www.emf-forschungsprogramm.de/abschlussphase/KP_intFG_Risiko.html

Programme

Wednesday, 18th October

10:30 Introduction / Welcome by BfS and BMU

Session 1

Risk perception EMF

11:00 – 11:30 Identifying the general public's fears and anxieties with regard to the possible risks of high frequency electromagnetic fields of mobile telecommunications (annual surveys since 2003) (J. Belz)

11:35 – 12:05 Analysis of target groups for differentiated information (C. Poelzl)

12:10 Lunch break 12:10 – 13:30

13:30 – 14:00 A socio-psychological analysis of the characteristics and needs for information and communication of electromagnetic hypersensitive persons (S. Ulmer)

14:05 Panel Discussion to Session 1

14:45 Coffee break 14:45 – 15:15

Session 2

Information and communication measures

15:15 – 15:45 Examination of the knowledge and effects of information activities in the field of mobile telecommunications and determination of further approaches to improve information of different population groups (U. Pfenning)

15:50 – 16:20 EMF-Portal: Internet Information System and Literature Database on Biomedical Effects of Electromagnetic Fields (R. Wienert)

16:25 Panel Discussion to Session 2

17:00 End of Day 1

Programme

Thursday, 19th October

Session 3

Site acquisition in Germany - Risk communication in local settings

09:30 – 09:50 Introduction: Site acquisition process in Germany – Framework, Regulation, Practice (D. Gerhardt)

09:55 – 10:25 Realisation of the self commitment (A. Seidel-Schulze)

10:30 Discussion

11:00 Coffee break 11:00 – 11:30

11:30 – 12:10 Support of the co-operation between the mobile telecommunication actors by the local agenda 21 (A. Hoffmann)

12:15 Lunch break 12:15 – 13:30

13:30 – 14:00 Development of an online manual for successful siting processes and risk communication in the field of mobile phone conflicts (O. Renn)

14:05 – 14:35 Mediation as a possible alternative dispute resolution method in the site acquisition process (K. Winkler)

14:40 Panel Discussion to Session 3

15:15 Final Discussion

16:00 Close of Workshop

Rapporteur: Emilie van Deventer

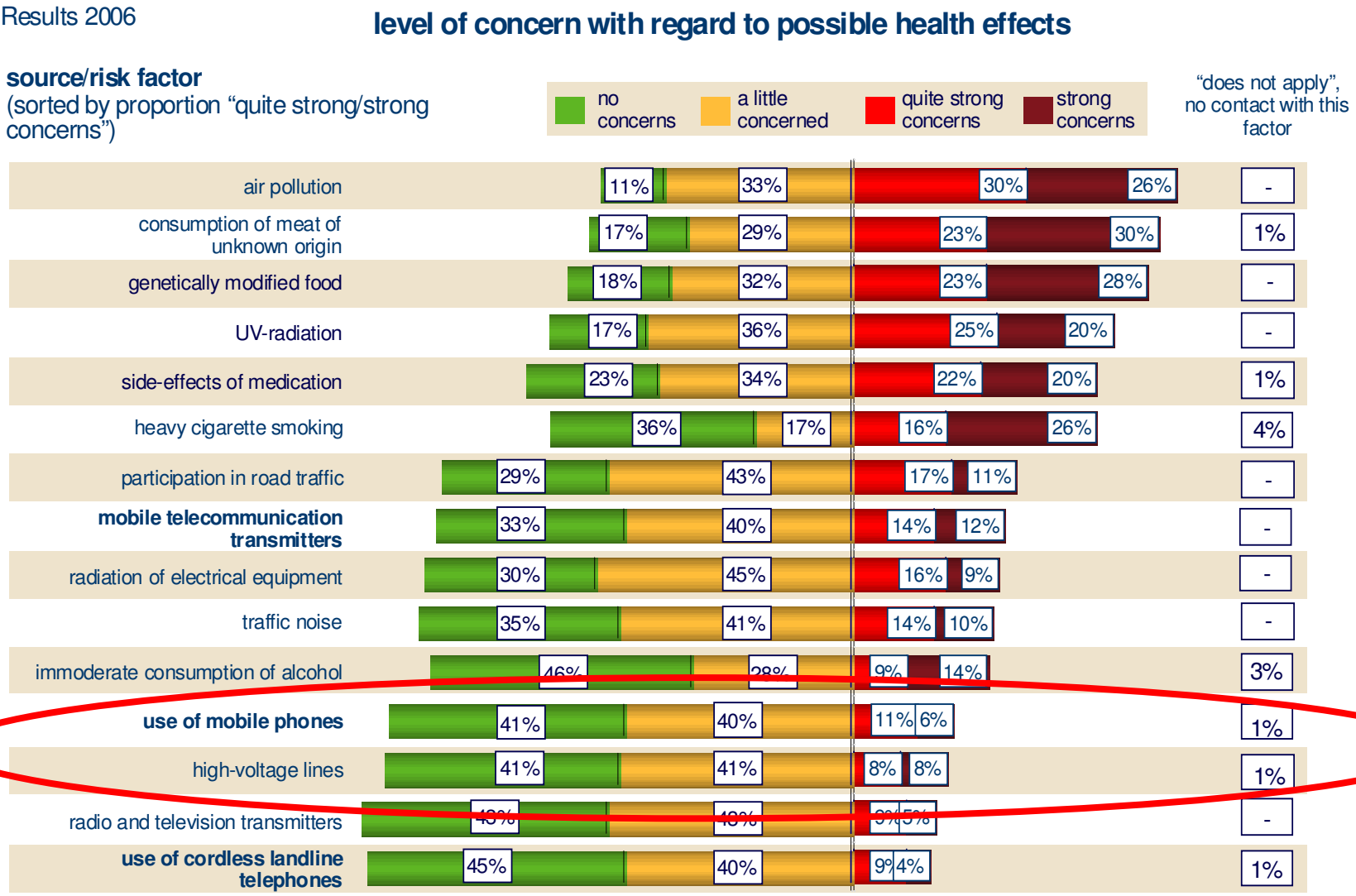
Session 1: Risk Perception EMF

- **Identifying the general public's fears and anxieties with regard to the possible risks of high frequency electromagnetic fields of mobile telecommunications**

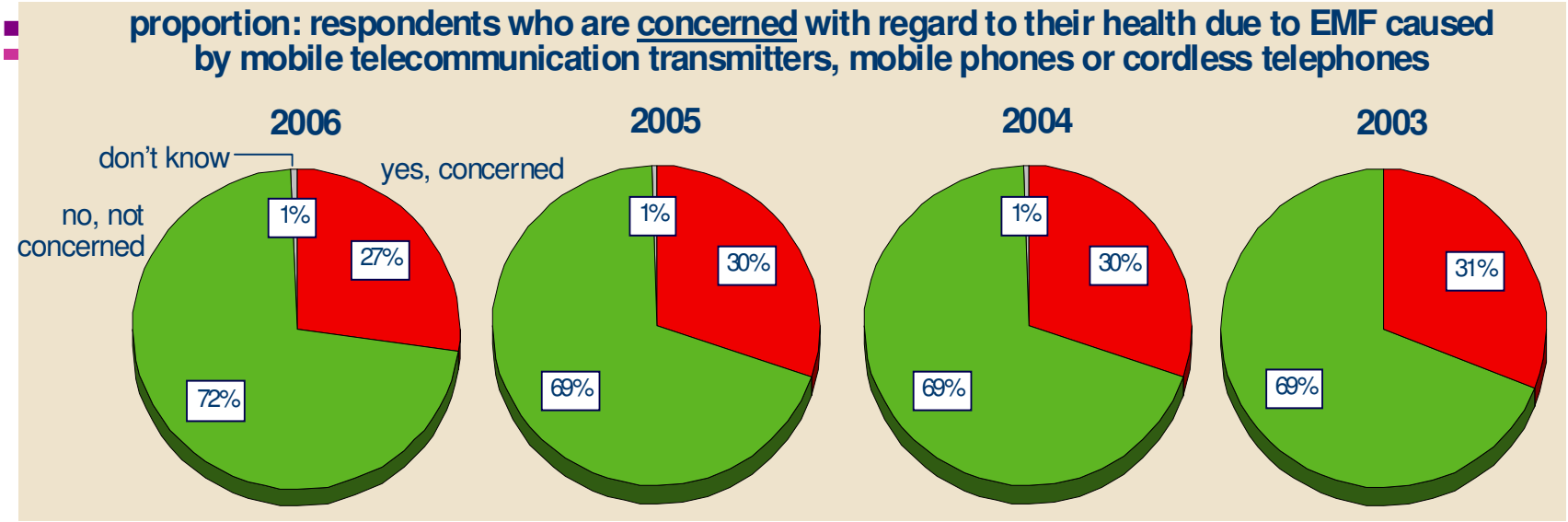
  Janina Belz, Institute for Applied Social Sciences (Infas), Bonn

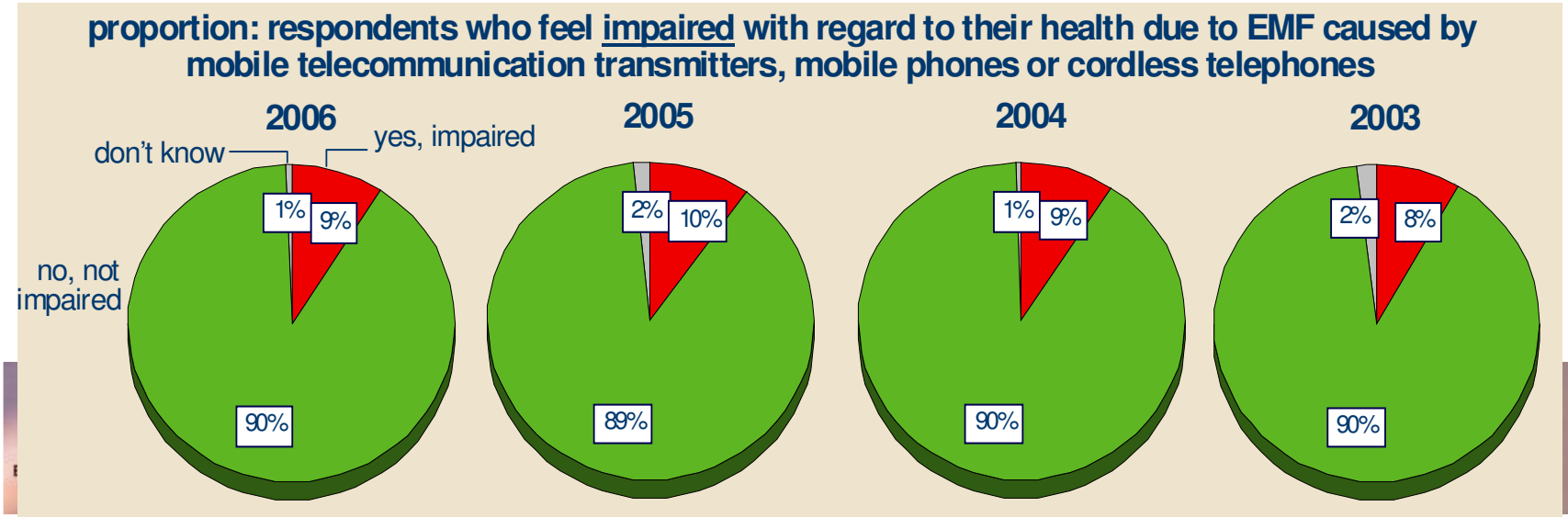
Mobile Telecommunication Compared to Other Risk Factors

Results 2006



Concern and Impairment Regarding Electromagnetic Fields of Mobile Telecommunication





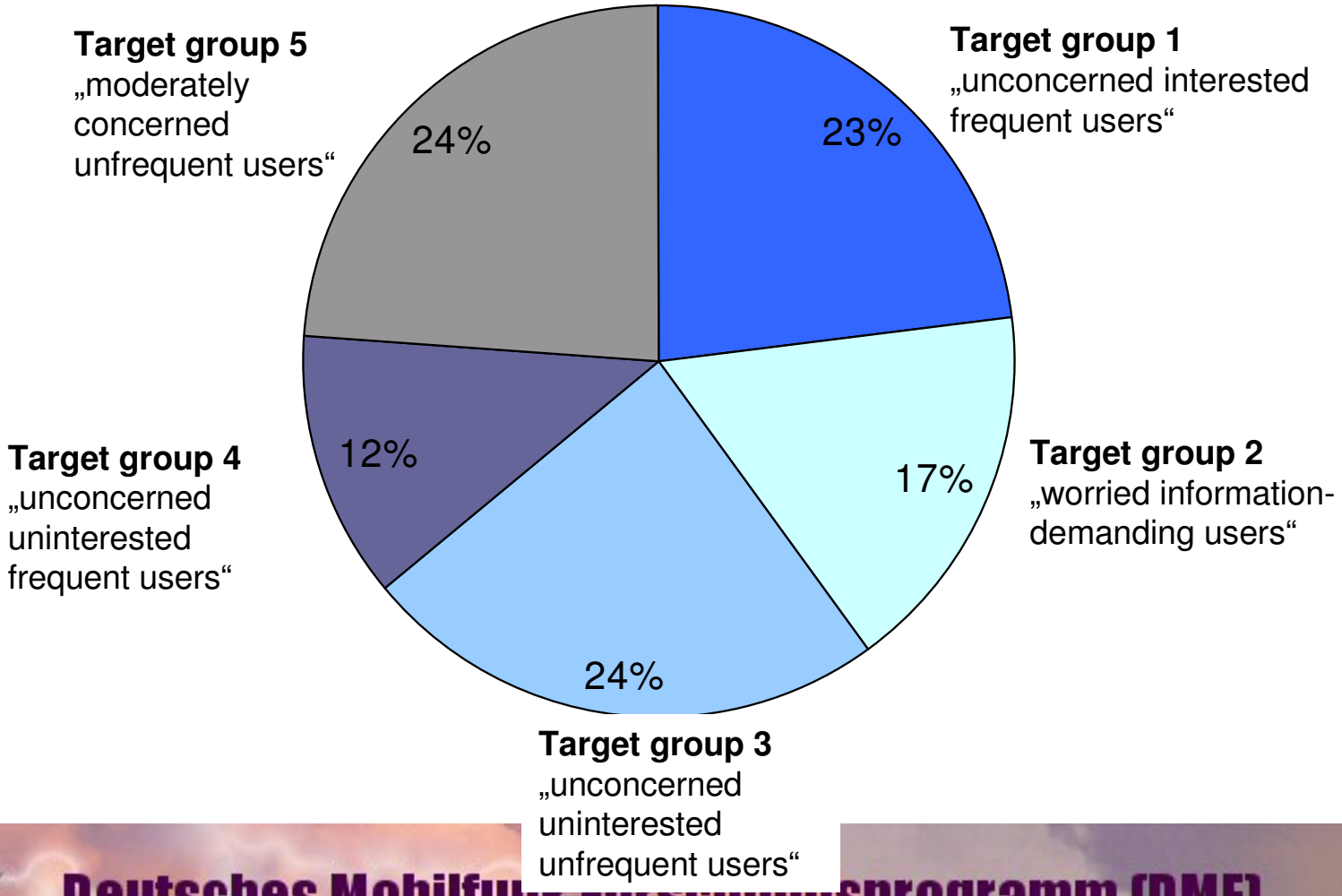
Session 1: Risk Perception EMF

- **Identifying the general public's fears and anxieties with regard to the possible risks of high frequency electromagnetic fields of mobile telecommunications**
  Janina Belz, Institute for Applied Social Sciences (Infas), Bonn

- **Analysis of target groups for differentiated information**
  C. Pölzl, BfS

- **A socio-psychological analysis of the characteristics and needs for information and communication of electromagnetic hypersensitive persons**
  Svend Ulmer, Katalyse e.V., Institute for applied environmental research

5 Target groups - proportion in population



Session 2: Information and Communication Measures

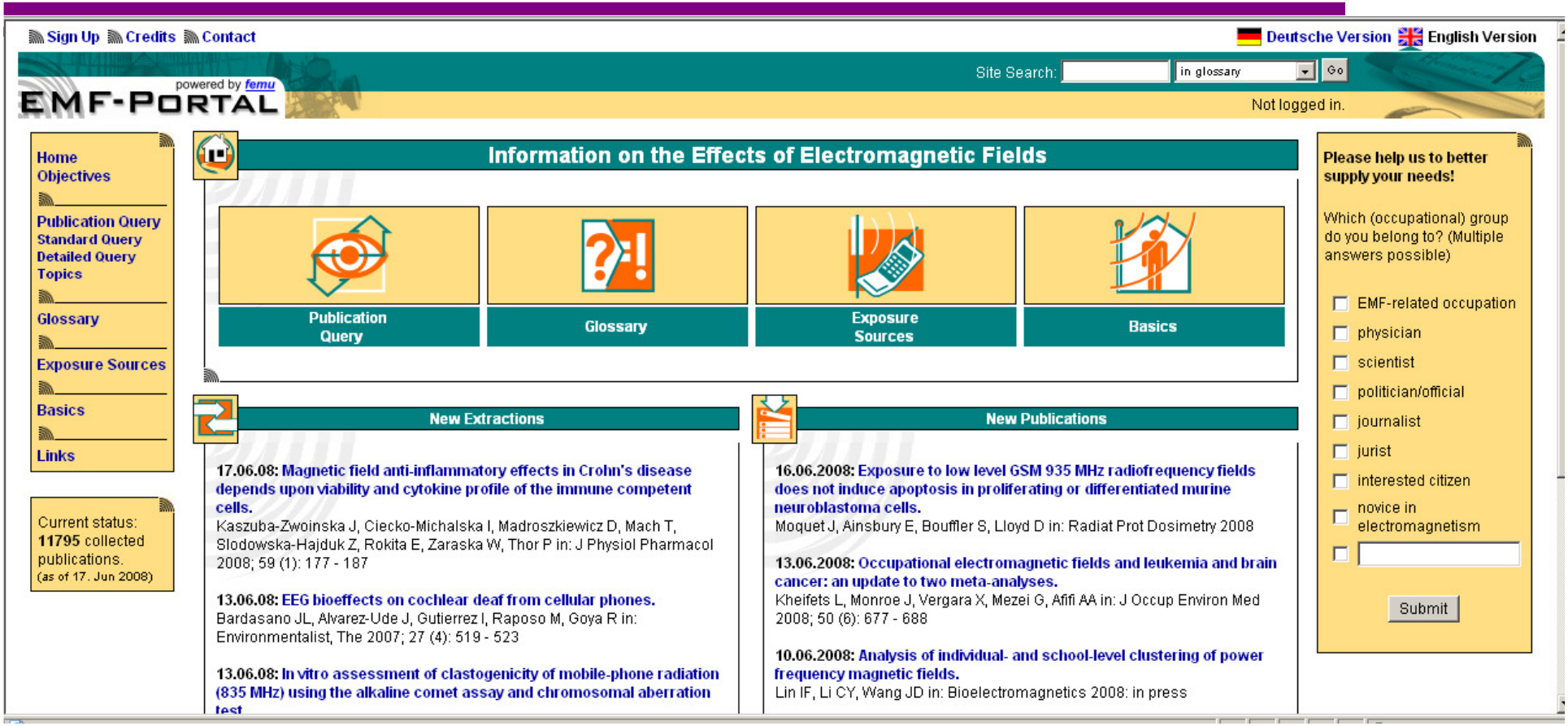
- **Examination of the knowledge and effects of information activities in the field of mobile telecommunications and determination of further approaches to improve information of different population groups**

  Uwe Pfenning, Dialogik gGmbH

- **EMF-Portal: Internet Information System and Literature Database on Biomedical Effects of Electromagnetic Fields**

  Roman Wienert, Aachen University

http://www.**emf-portal**.org



Session 3: Site Acquisition in Germany - Risk Communication in Local Settings

- **Introduction: Site acquisition process in Germany – Framework, Regulation, Practice**

  Dietmar Gerhardt, E-Plus Mobilfunk GmbH & co. KG

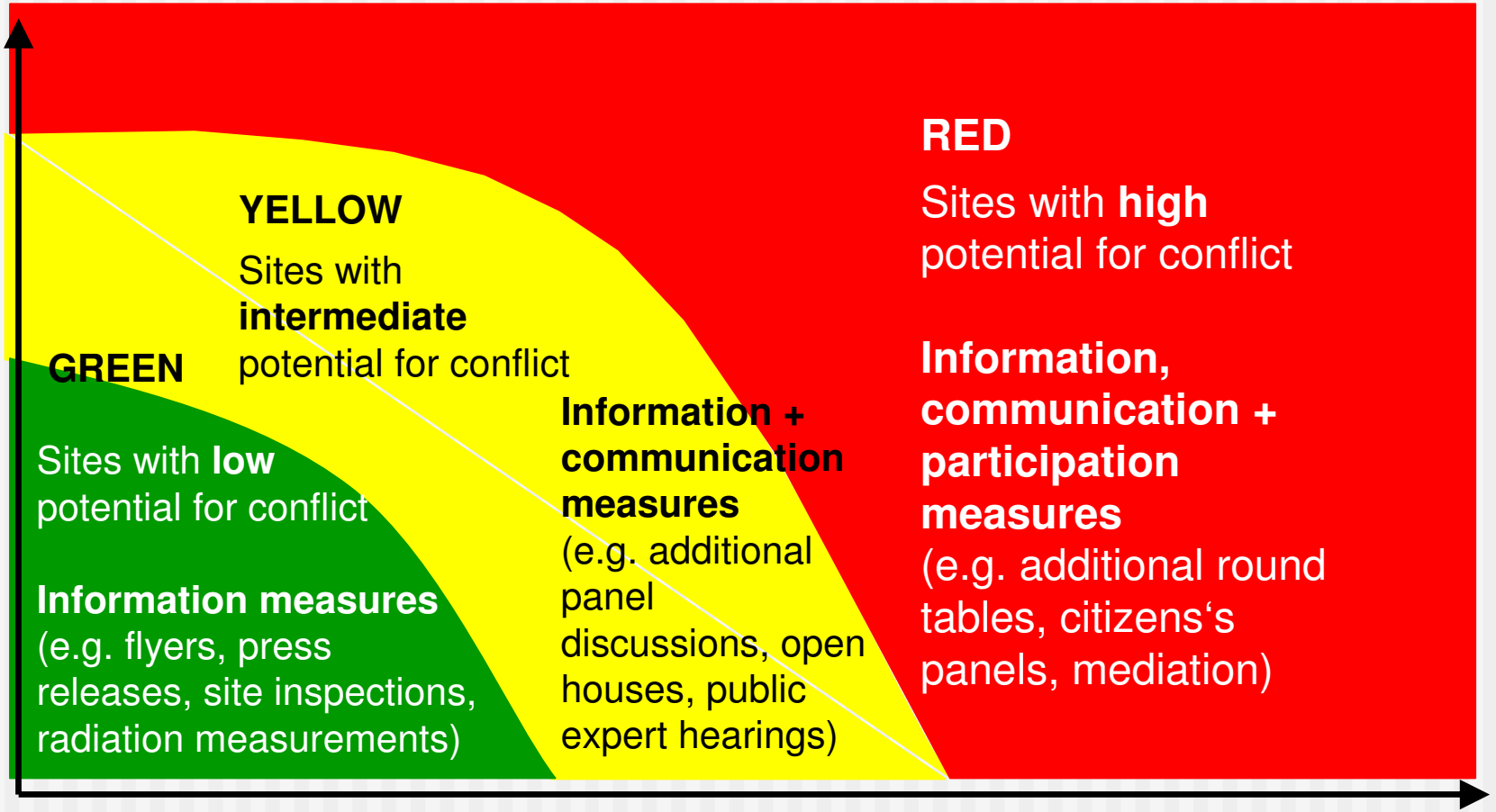
- **Realization of the self commitment of mobile network operators**

  A. Seidel-Schulze, German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu), Berlin

Session 3: Site Acquisition in Germany - Risk Communication in Local Settings

- **Introduction: Site acquisition process in Germany – Framework, Regulation, Practice**
  Dietmar Gerhardt, E-Plus Mobilfunk GmbH & co. KG
- **Realization of the self commitment of mobile network operators**
  A. Seidel-Schulze, German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu), Berlin
- **Support of the co-operation between the mobile telecommunication actors by the local agenda 21**
  A. Hoffmann, agenda-transfer Agency for Sustainability, Bonn
- **Development of an online manual for successful siting processes and risk communication in the field of mobile phone conflicts**
  Ortwin Renn, Dialogik gGmbH

„Traffic Light Model“



DIALOGIK gGmbH

Mobilfunk

Ratgeber
für Kommunen

[druckversion]

- **Startseite**
- Selbstdiagnose
- Standortplanung
- Kommunikation
- Rechtliche Grundlagen
- Technik
- Gesundheit
- Linksammlung

-> Suche

Startseite

Ratgeber: Planung von Mobilfunksendeanlagen
Abstimmungs- und Kommunikationsprozesse mit Netzbetreibern und Bürgern

Dieser Ratgeber verfolgt das Ziel, Ihnen schnell und direkt auf die Situation in Ihrer Kommune abgestimmte Informationen bereitzustellen.

-> Konkrete Hilfestellungen:

-> [Selbstdiagnose]
Nach dem Ausfüllen eines Fragebogens erhalten Sie konkrete Hinweise zu Maßnahmen und Kommunikationsstrategien

-> Allgemeine Informationen:

-> [Standortplanung]
Messverfahren / Konzepte / Verträge / Vereinbarungen mit Betreibern / Intra- und interkommunale Abstimmung

-> [Gesundheit]
Wirkungsweise elektromagnetischer Felder / Risikoeinschätzung / Öffentliche Debatte / Beratungseinrichtungen

-> [Kommunikation]
Adressatengerechte Kommunikation / Risikokommunikation / Konfliktschlichtung

-> [Technik]
Funkwellen und elektromagnetische Felder / GSM und UMTS Netze

-> [Rechtliche Grundlagen]
Gesetzlich festgeschriebene Vorgehensweisen

Session 3: Site Acquisition in Germany - Risk Communication in Local Settings

- **Introduction: Site acquisition process in Germany – Framework, Regulation, Practice**
  Dietmar Gerhardt, E-Plus Mobilfunk GmbH & co. KG
- **Realization of the self commitment of mobile network operators**
  A. Seidel-Schulze, German Institute of Urban Affairs (Difu), Berlin
- **Support of the co-operation between the mobile telecommunication actors by the local agenda 21**
  A. Hoffmann, agenda-transfer Agency for Sustainability, Bonn
- **Development of an online manual for successful siting processes and risk communication in the field of mobile phone conflicts**
  Ortwin Renn, Dialogik gGmbH
- **Mediation as a possible alternative dispute resolution in the site acquisition process**
  Klaus Winkler, Sumbiosis GmbH

Discussion

1. What has been achieved by the projects? What are the lessons learned?
2. Where do we still have knowledge gaps?
3. What practical impact do the findings have in the filed of information and risk communication?
4. Are there lessons learned that could be transferred to similar situations in the future?

Lessons learned

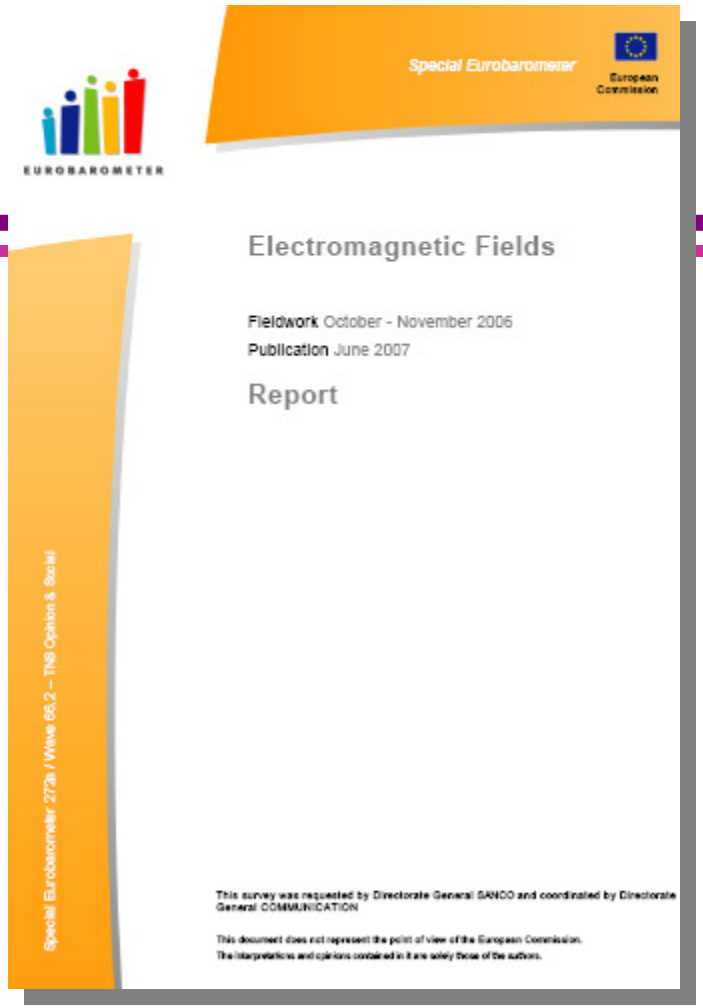
- Rich database on risk perception within the general public and certain sub-groups
- Magnitude of public concern in the general public rather stable over the years.
- Strong stability in the comparative risk perception
- Need to target information to specific groups
- Municipalities can provide a valuable contribution to solve local conflicts during site acquisition process

Gaps in knowledge

- Communication measures specific to different target groups
- Development of concern and the role of emotions in risk perception
- Importance of trust, credibility and acceptance
- Communicating scientific uncertainties
- Need to involve the medical professionals
- Use has to be made of knowledge acquired so far
- Develop international collaboration on risk communication and risk perception

Practical impact for information and risk communication

- Information requirements have to be met in a more differentiated fashion (content, format and medium)
- Inherent evaluation of risk communication measures
- Municipalities face the need to practice risk communication at the local level and to solve local conflicts emerging during the site acquisition process.
  - assistance for smaller and rural municipalities respective
  - not the municipalities' task to deal with the risk/health issue
  - Monitoring of field levels
- Use of the media for information about EMF



http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_272a_en.pdf

Acute vs. chronic…

- 11 May 2006 media reports of a ‘cancer cluster’ on the top two floors of RMIT University’s building caused widespread concern

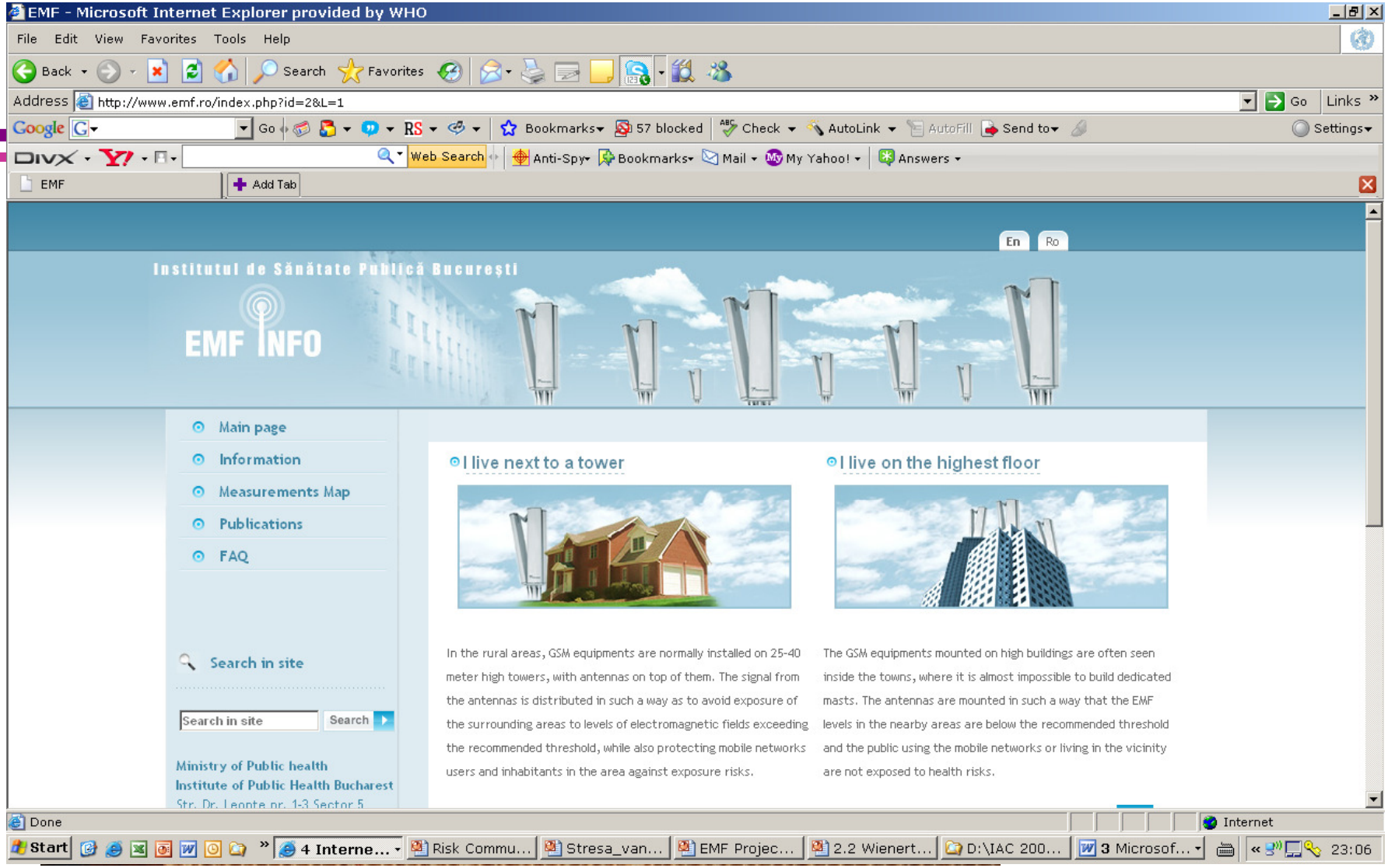
UNI HEALTH ALARM

Fear: the RMIT building in Bourke St

SEVEN RMIT staff working just metres underneath two mobile phone towers in a CBD building have been diagnosed with brain tumours.

Kate Jones, Kate Rose and Ellen Whinnett

the 17-storey building that are used to route mobile phone calls.


EMF - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by WHO
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
Back Search Favorites
Address http://www.emf.ro/index.php?id=2&L=1
Go Links
Google Go Bookmarks 57 blocked Check AutoLink AutoFill Send to Settings
DivX Web Search Anti-Spy Bookmarks Mail My Yahoo! Answers
EMF Add Tab
En Ro
Institutul de Sănătate Publică Bucureşti
EMF INFO
Main page
Information
Measurements Map
Publications
FAQ
Search in site
Search in site Search
Ministry of Public health
Institute of Public Health Bucharest
Str. Dr. Leonte nr. 1-3 Sector 5
I live next to a tower
I live on the highest floor
In the rural areas, GSM equipments are normally installed on 25-40 meter high towers, with antennas on top of them. The signal from the antennas is distributed in such a way as to avoid exposure of the surrounding areas to levels of electromagnetic fields exceeding the recommended threshold, while also protecting mobile networks users and inhabitants in the area against exposure risks.
The GSM equipments mounted on high buildings are often seen inside the towns, where it is almost impossible to build dedicated masts. The antennas are mounted in such a way that the EMF levels in the nearby areas are below the recommended threshold and the public using the mobile networks or living in the vicinity are not exposed to health risks.
Done
Internet
Start
4 Interne...
Risk Commu...
Stresa_van...
EMF Projec...
2.2 Wienert...
D:\IAC 200...
3 Microsof...
23:06

Home
About WHO
Countries
Health topics
Publications
Data and statistics
Programmes and projects
EMF Home
About electromagnetic fields
EMF Project
Research
Standards
EMF publications & information resources
Meetings

Electromagnetic fields (EMF)

About us | Publications | Contact us

WHO > Programmes and projects > Electromagnetic fields (EMF) > Publications and information resources

printable version

German version

Download the whole handbook

:: Herstellen eines Dialogs über die Risiken elektromagnetischer Felder [pdf 254kb]

Note regarding the translation

This work was originally published by the World Health Organization in English as Establishing a Dialogue on Risks from Electromagnetic Fields in 2002. This German translation was arranged by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, who is responsible for the accuracy of the translation. In case of any discrepancies, the original language will govern. The WHO EMF Project would like to thank Dr Axel Böttger for this translation.

Deutsch - Information zur Uebersetzung

Diese Publikation wurde erstmals im Jahr 2000 unter dem Titel "Establishing a Dialogue on Risks from Electromagnetic Fields" von der Weltgesundheitsorganisation (WHO) herausgegeben. Die deutsche Übersetzung wurde vom Ministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit durchgeführt, das für die Qualität der Übersetzung verantwortlich ist. Im Fall von Abweichungen ist das Original gültig. Das EMF-Projekt der WHO dankt Dr Axel Böttger für diese Übersetzung.

- 2nd Workshop on EMF risk communication on "Effective Risk Communication in the context of uncertainty" (Stresa, Italy, May 2-4 2007)

  http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/eis-emf/stresa2007.cfm

World Health Organization

2006 WHO Research Agenda for Radio Frequency Fields

Introduction

In 1997, the WHO International EMF Project developed a Research Agenda in order to facilitate and coordinate research worl[illegible] the possible adverse health effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF). In su[illegible] agenda has undergone periodic review and refinement.

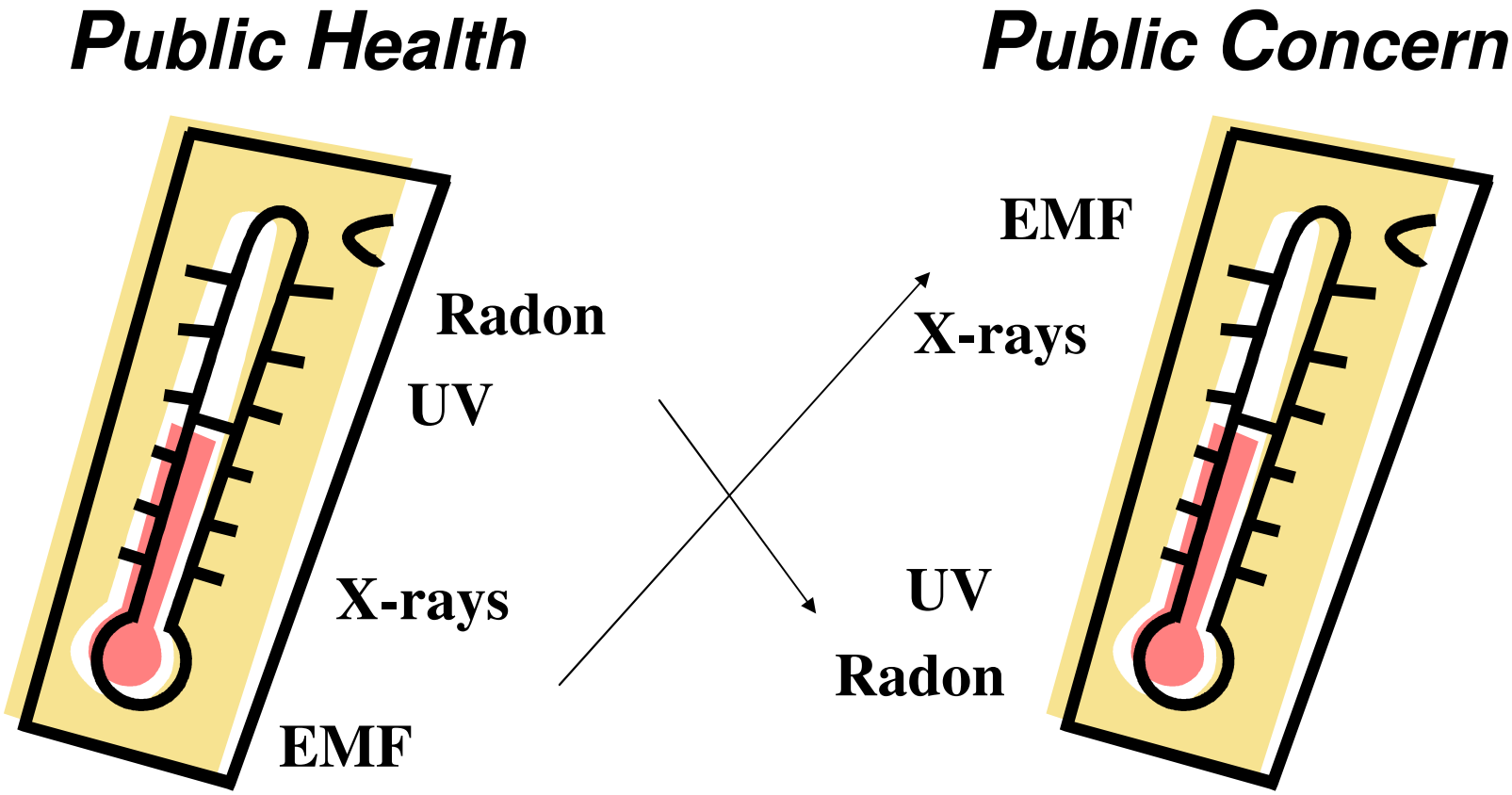
In June 2003, a major update to the r[illegible]n of the Research Agenda was undertaken with the input of an ad h[illegible] scientific experts. Since then, several of the research needs have b[illegible]revision was therefore deemed necessary. Also, three specialized works[illegible]eld since 2003, where research

Social Issues

There are public concerns about possible adverse health effects of RF fields from mobile communications technology. These concerns influence risk management and public acceptance of scientific health risk assessments. Rational risk management should build on evidence stemming from both scientific risk assessments and insights from social studies that investigate this concern through well formulated research.

Relatively few studies exist on RF risk perception and risk communication. The published studies have investigated impacts of risk management and risk communication strategies on

Radiation


Public Health
Public Concern
Radon
UV
X-rays
EMF
EMF
X-rays
UV
Radon

Thank you !!