

Objectives of the Workshop and Challenges for Remedial Actions and Waste Management in Fukushima

Fukushima Environmental Safety Center
Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA)
Mikazu Yui



Contents

- Background and status of off-site Fukushima contamination / remediation
- Overall goals of workshop
- Session 1-3 Questions; e.g.
 - How to decontaminate and how to reduce volume of wastes produced?
 - How will the contamination develop in the future?
 - How will public acceptance be gained?
 - What can scientists do to address these concerns?
- Approach and tools used in the workshop

Background and status of off-site Fukushima contamination / remediation

Status of

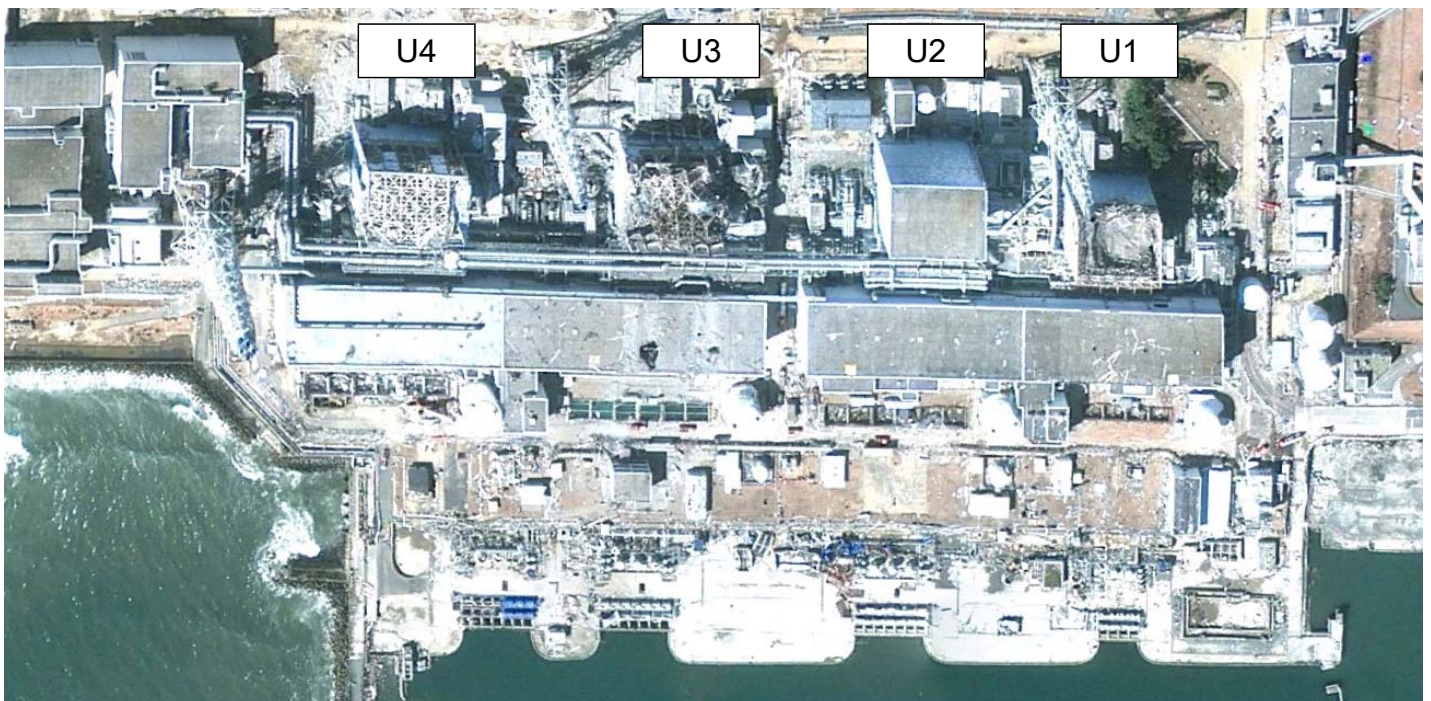
- Fukushima NPP accident
- Cs distribution
- R&D for implementation of decontamination
- Studies of Cs Behavior

Background to Fukushima NPP accident



Overview of the Fukushima NPP site

The disastrous earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011 devastated Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.

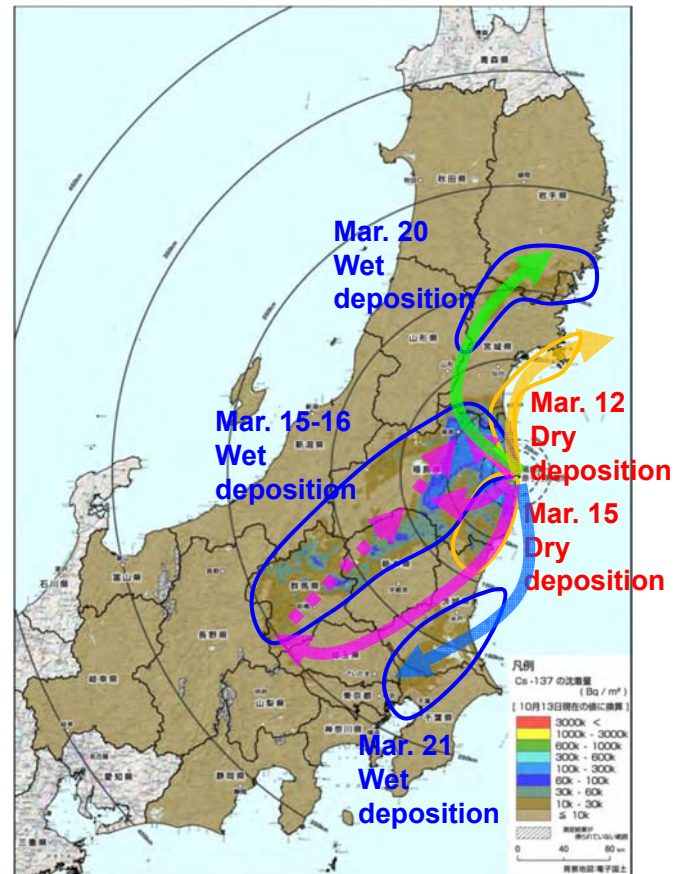


Estimated Deposition of Cs-137

7

- Deposition of Cs-137 was estimated by WSPEEDI model, with input from measured surface soil concentration and meteorological data.
- Radioactive material deposited by wet and dry deposition processes depending on wind directions at the time of specific releases.

H. Nagai *et al.*, "Atmospheric dispersion simulations of radioactive materials discharged from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant due to accident: Consideration of deposition process", The first NIRS symposium on reconstruction of early internal dose due to the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident, Chiba, Japan, 10-11 July, 2012



Discharge of radioactivity from units 1 to 3

8

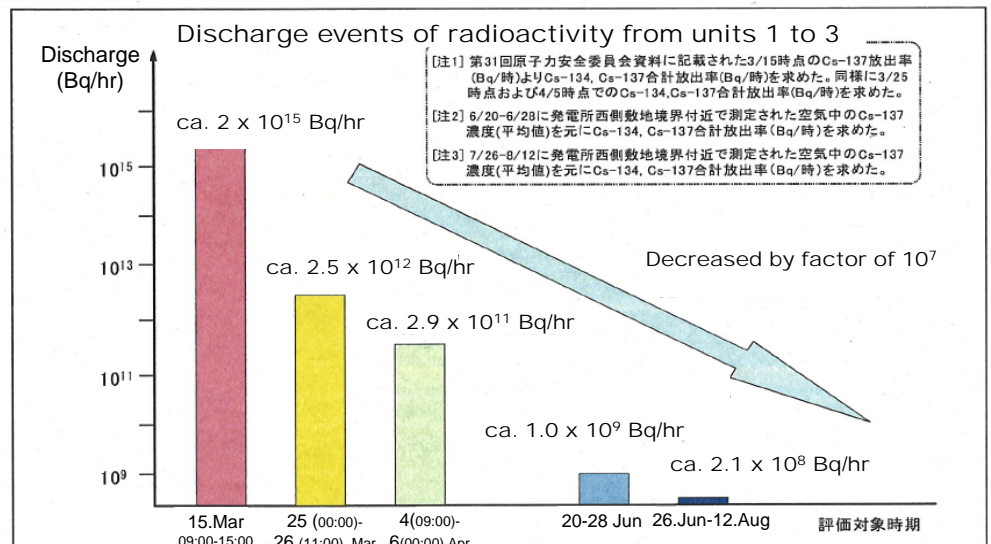
	NSC(Aug.24)	Estimation By JNES	Estimation by NISA
Iodine-131	1.3×10^{17} Bq	1.3×10^{17} Bq	1.6×10^{17} Bq
Cs-137	1.1×10^{16} Bq	6.1×10^{15} Bq	1.5×10^{16} Bq

Estimates of integrated releases

NSC: Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan (Aug.23, 2011)

JNES: Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization

NISA: Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency



1. Discharge of radionuclides from the NPPS

Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP

• To atmosphere *1

^{131}I : 1.3×10^{17} Bq

^{137}Cs : 1.1×10^{16} Bq

• To ocean *2

^{131}I : 2.8×10^{15} Bq

^{134}Cs : 0.94×10^{15} Bq

^{137}Cs : 0.94×10^{15} Bq

*1 2011/8/23 NSC (Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan)

*2 2011/4/21 TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Com.)

Chernobyl

Total : 1.4×10^{19} Bq

^{131}I : 1.8×10^{18} Bq

^{137}Cs : 8.5×10^{16} Bq

^{90}Sr : 1.0×10^{16} Bq

Total Pu : 3×10^{15} Bq

*1 IAEA "STI/PUB/1239" (2006)

2. Land-use classification around the NPP site

Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP

- Urban area; <5%
- Paddy field; <10%
- Other field; <10%
- Forest; > 75%

Area contaminated by Cs-137 over 300kBq/m2

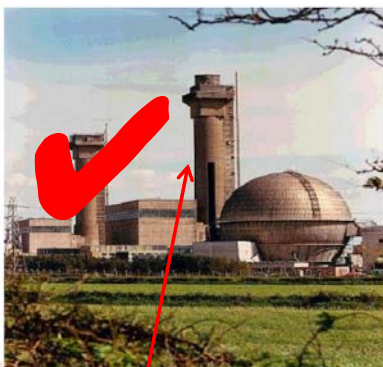
Chernobyl (Av. Belarus)

- Agriculture; 43%
- Forest; 39%
- River & Lake; 2%

"Belarus in Figures" (March, 2010)

From T.Inoue, presentation at
GLOBAL 2011, Makuhari, Chiba, December 12-15, 2011

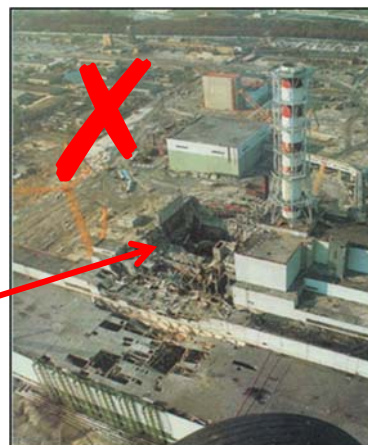
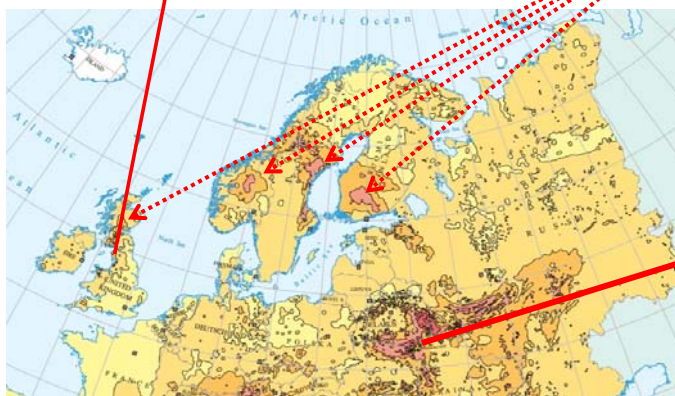
But Fukushima is NOT like Chernobyl!



Volatile, mainly short-lived fission products, e.g. Cs

Windscale, 1957

Distant Fallout



Chernobyl, 1986

- ➡ Explosively dispersed reactor core,
- ➡ Includes a full suite of long-lived actinides, U, Pu, ...
- ➡ CEZ remains hazardous indefinitely - (or until regional remediation)

Status of Cs distribution

Ground monitoring



Soil sample collection and analysis



In situ measurement using a portable Ge gamma spectrometer



Radionuclide deposition distribution



Measurement on ground
(undisturbed flat fields) with a survey-meter



Mobile monitoring
with the KURAMA system mounted in cars



Air dose rate distribution

Airborne monitoring

13

Range	Large Area 100 km >	Semi Large 10 km >	Mid Area 1 km >	Small Area ~100m
Aircraft	Helicopter	UAV w/ FW	AUH	Micro UAV
Alt.	~ 300m	~ 150m	~ 50m	≤ 10m



UAV – unmanned aerial vehicle
FW – fixed wing

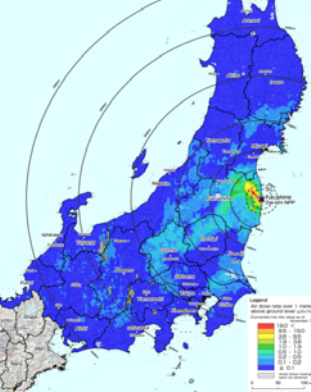
Aerial radiation monitoring



Cs deposition



Dose rate

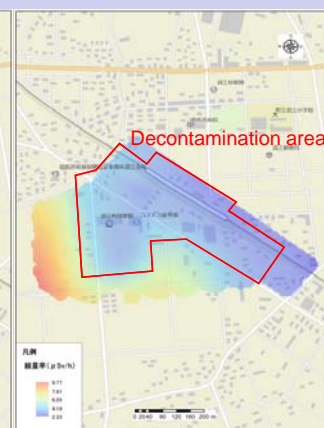
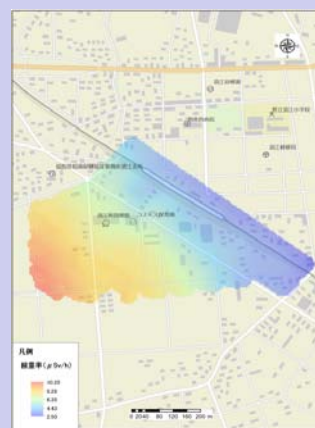


Autonomous Unmanned Helicopter



Camera

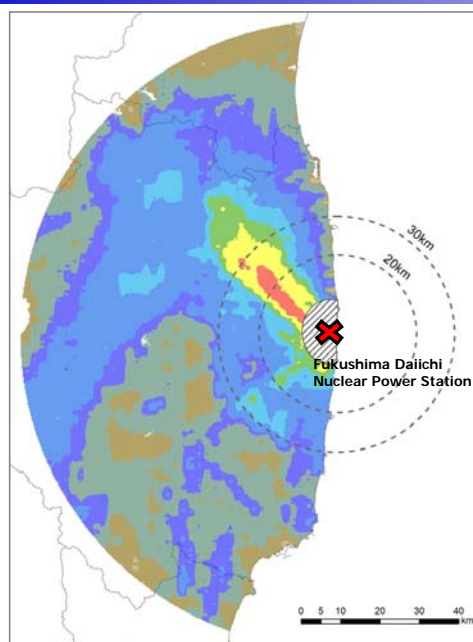
Detector



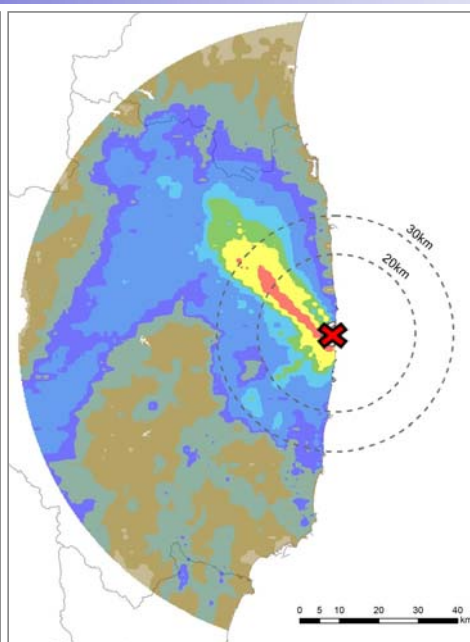
Decontamination area

¹³⁷Cs distribution measured by aerial monitoring

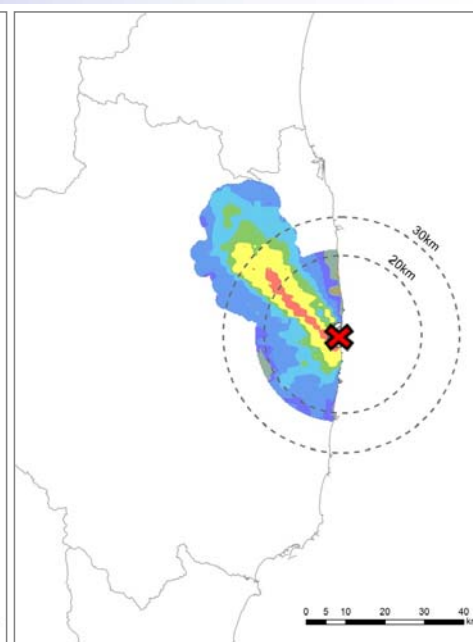
14



2 July 2011



28 June 2012



11 March 2013

Deposition of
Cs-137(Bq/m²)

- 3000K <
- 1000K - 3000K
- 600K - 1000K
- 300K - 600K
- 100K - 300K
- 60K - 100K
- 30K - 60K
- 10K - 30K
- ≤ 10K

Area from which the
measurement result is not obtained

Reference: Nuclear Regulation Authority
Monitoring information of environmental radioactivity level
WWW Document at <http://radioactivity.nsr.go.jp/en/>

Evaluation of additional accumulated effective doses over 50 years

15

- **Maximum** nuclide concentrations of soil (Bq/m²) were used.
- **External exposures and inhalation** due to re-suspension were evaluated.

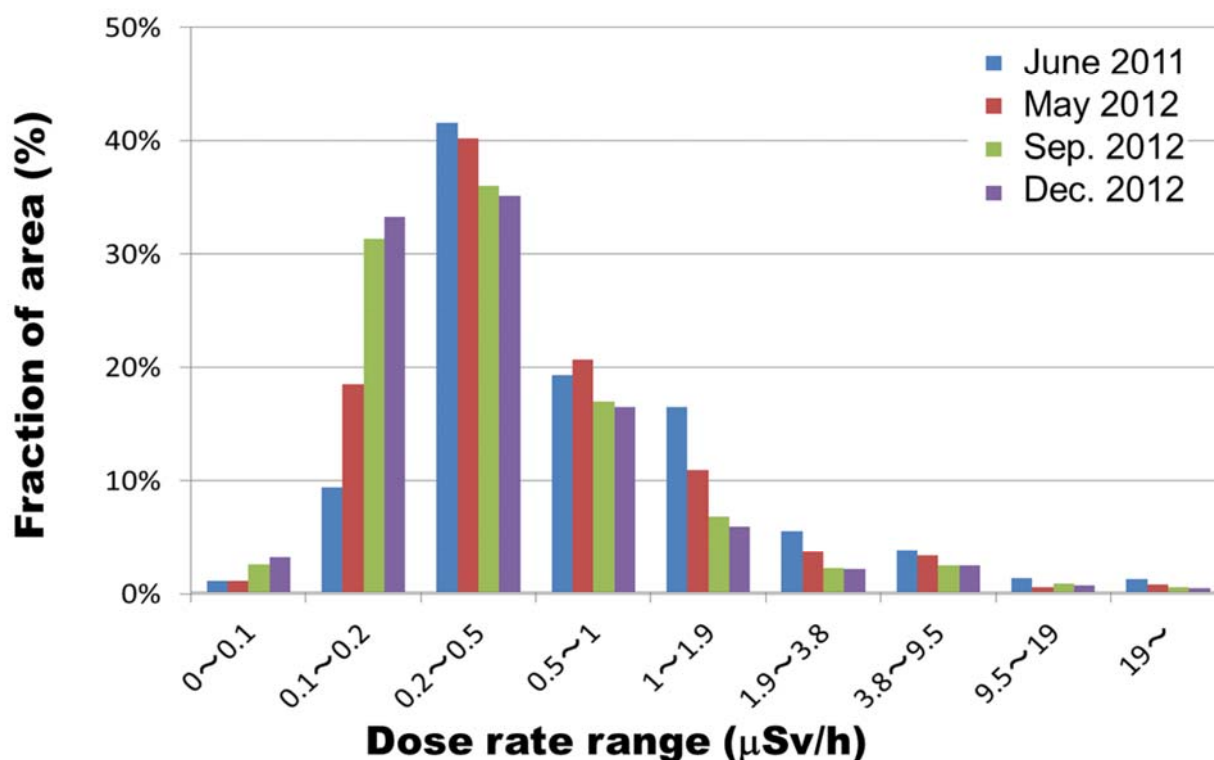
Nuclide	Half life	Maximum concentration (Bq/m ²)	Effective dose for 50 years	
			Conversion coef. (μSv/(Bq/m ²))	Dose (mSv)
Cs-134	2.065 y	1.4×10^7	5.1×10^{-2}	710
Cs-137	30.167 y	1.5×10^7	1.3×10^{-1}	2000(2.0Sv)
I-131	8.02 d	5.5×10^4	2.7×10^{-4}	0.015
Sr-89	50.53 d	2.2×10^4	2.8×10^{-5}	0.00061 (0.61 μSv)
Sr-90	28.79 y	5.7×10^3	2.1×10^{-2}	0.12
Pu-238	87.7 y	4	6.6	0.027
Pu-239+240	2.411×10^4 y	15	8.5	0.12
Ag-110m	249.95 d	8.3×10^4	3.9×10^{-2}	3.2
Te-129m	33.6 d	2.7×10^6	2.2×10^{-4}	0.6

(Dose conversion coefficients from IAEA-TECDOC-1162)

Distribution of areas with different dose rates within the 80 km zone

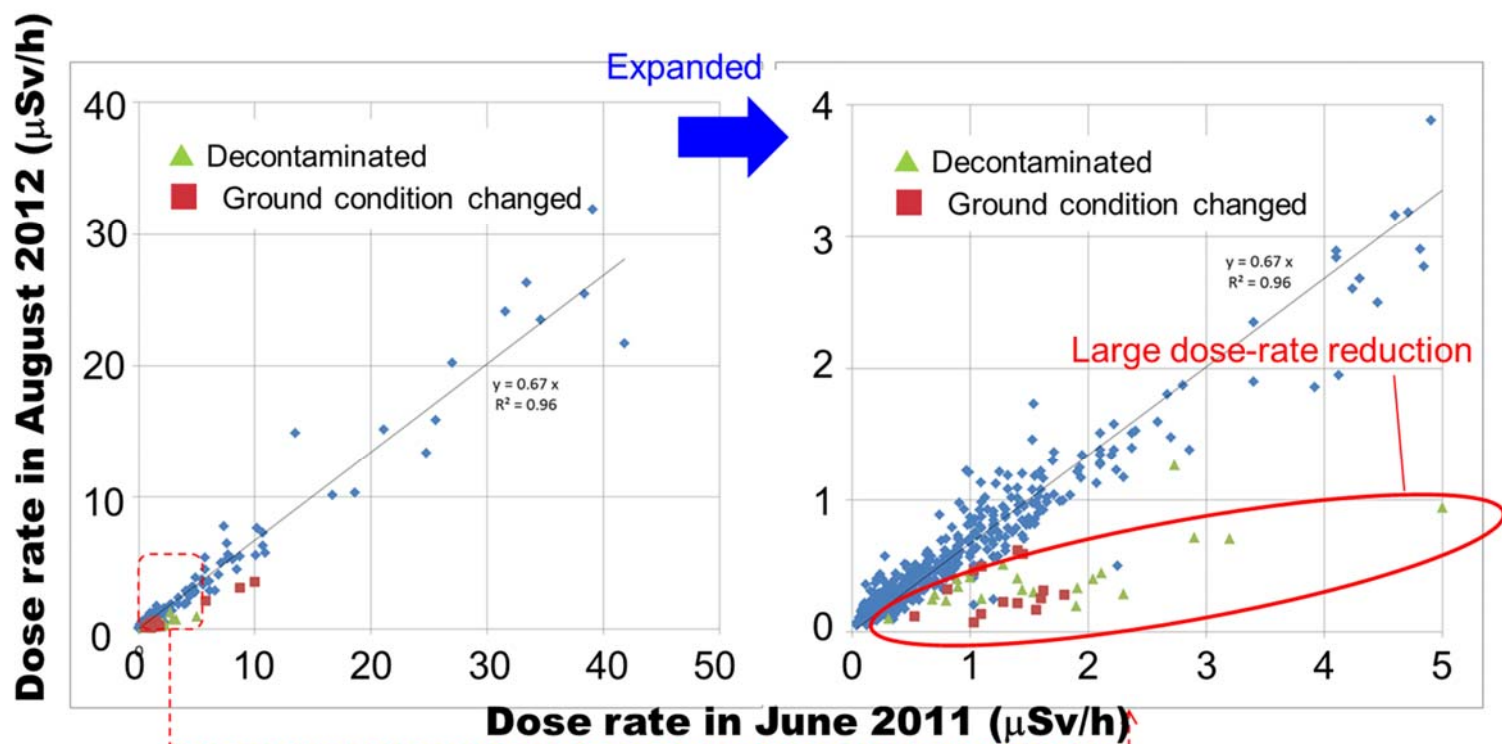
16

- **Areas more than 0.2 μSv/h are decreasing, less than 0.2 μSv/h increasing.**
- **Nearly 70% of the total area has dose rates between 0.1-0.5 μSv/h.**



Comparison of dose rates in air at 1 m between June 2011 and Aug. 2012

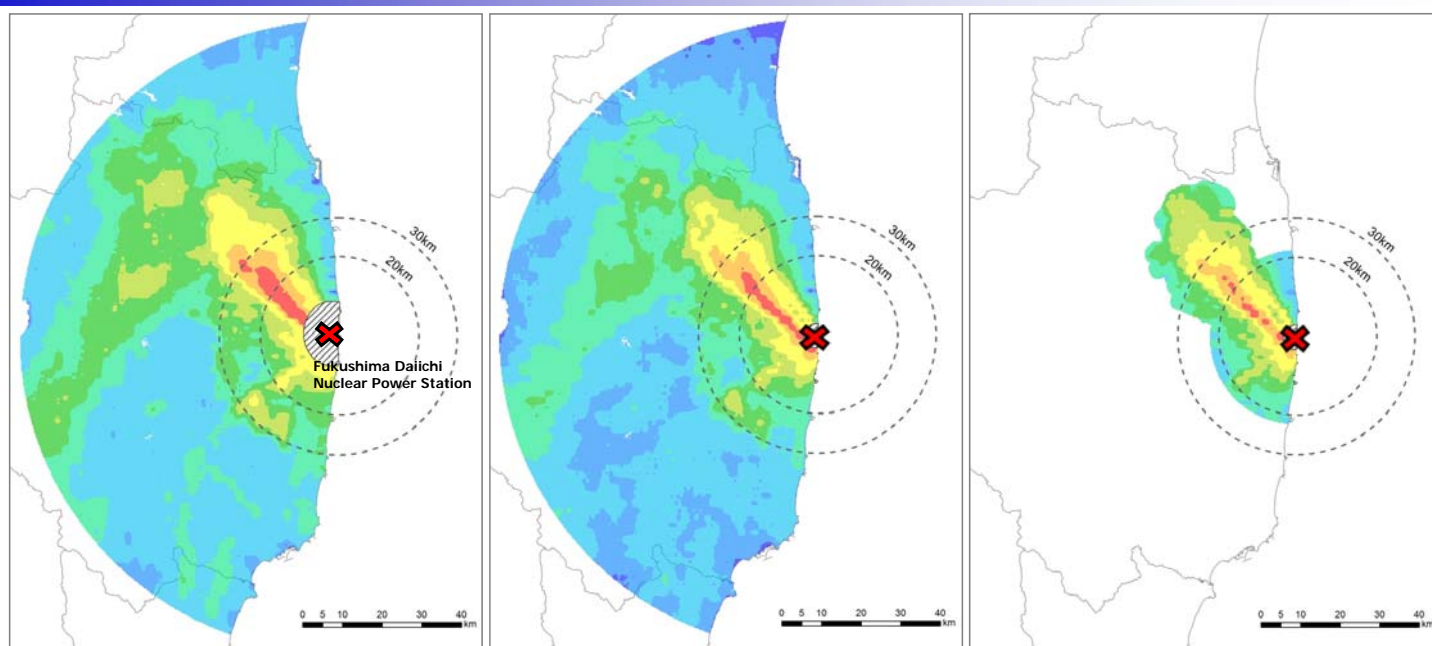
17



- Dose rates in air decreased by more than 30%. (Physical decay : 25%)
- There exist locations showing large dose-rate reduction.

18

Dose rate distribution in air at 1m measured by aerial monitoring

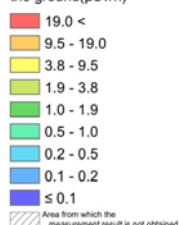


2 July 2011

28 June 2012

11 March 2013

Dose rate at 1m on the ground ($\mu\text{Sv/h}$)



Reference: Nuclear Regulation Authority
Monitoring information of environmental radioactivity level
WWW Document, <http://radioactivity.nsr.go.jp/en/>

Status of R&D for implementation of decontamination

- Prior to implementation of the national government’s regional decontamination, the Cabinet Office commissioned a **“Decontamination Pilot Project”** from JAEA.
- The purpose of the project is to acquire technical data and knowledge to reduce the dose rates in living areas and provide integrated expertise for subsequent regional decontamination;
 - Check the availability and effectiveness of proven and new techniques
 - Determine associated costs, work duration, workforce requirements, waste generated and radiation exposure to workers
 - Establish waste management processes, including volume reduction of wastes and treatment of secondary wastes
 - Assess worker safety, including radiation protection
 - Establish optimal radiation monitoring procedures
 - Establish public communication approaches

Decontamination Pilot Project



Clean-up of Roads and Pavement

22

◆ high pressure water



◆ surface stripping



◆ blasting



Clean-up of Houses

23



Clean-up of Farmland

24

◆ plow



◆ turf stripping



◆ topsoil removal



Clean-up of Trees and Forest

25

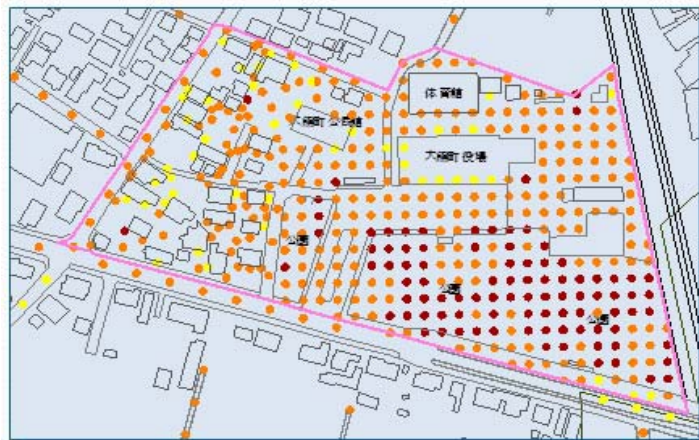
- ◆ weeding
- ◆ removal of leaf mold
- ◆ clipping
- ◆ water hosing



Before and After Clean-up

26

Dose rate before clean-up



Dose rate after clean-up

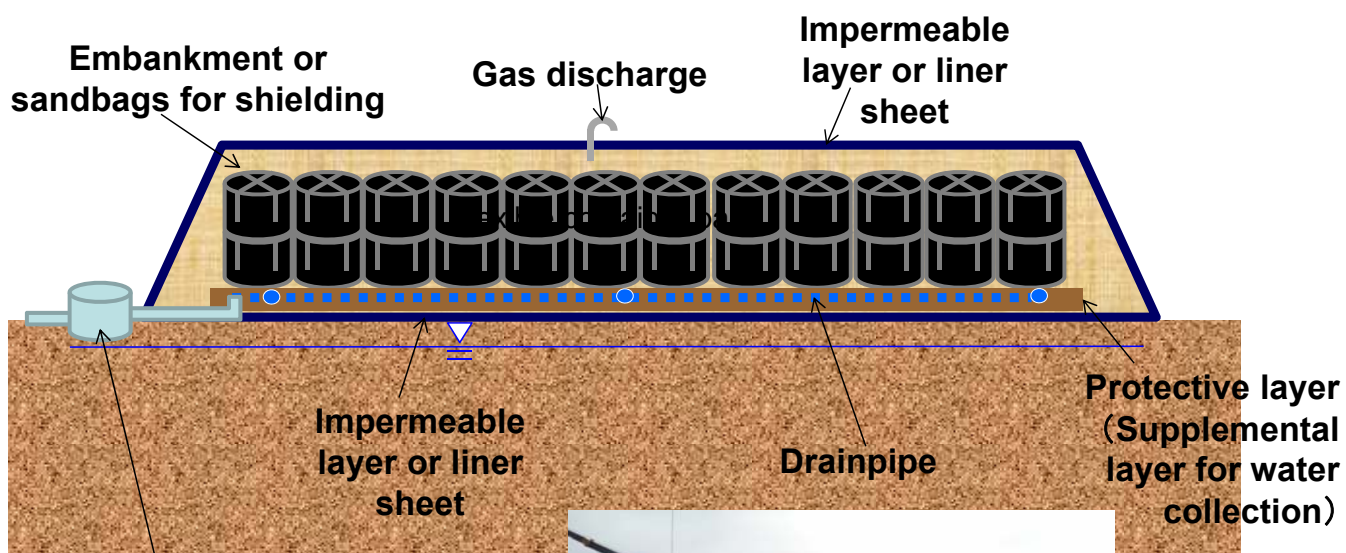


	BEFORE, $\mu\text{Sv/h}$	AFTER, $\mu\text{Sv/h}$
playground	8.4 - 33.1 (19.2 ave.)	2.0 - 14.5 (7.2 ave.)
residential area	2.5 - 26.7 (11.5 ave.)	1.8 - 8.7 (3.9 ave.)
road, parking lot	5.2 - 43.6 (13.8 ave.)	2.0 - 15.7 (5.3 ave.)
outside the area	7.2 - 18.8 (11.3 ave.)	6.7 - 13.8 (9.7 ave.)

- $0 \mu\text{Sv/h} \leq \text{測定値} < 1.0 \mu\text{Sv/h}$
- $1.0 \mu\text{Sv/h} \leq \text{測定値} < 1.9 \mu\text{Sv/h}$
- $1.9 \mu\text{Sv/h} \leq \text{測定値} < 3.8 \mu\text{Sv/h}$
- $3.8 \mu\text{Sv/h} \leq \text{測定値} < 9.5 \mu\text{Sv/h}$
- $9.5 \mu\text{Sv/h} \leq \text{測定値} < 19.0 \mu\text{Sv/h}$
- $19.0 \mu\text{Sv/h} \leq \text{測定値}$

Temporary Storage of Waste

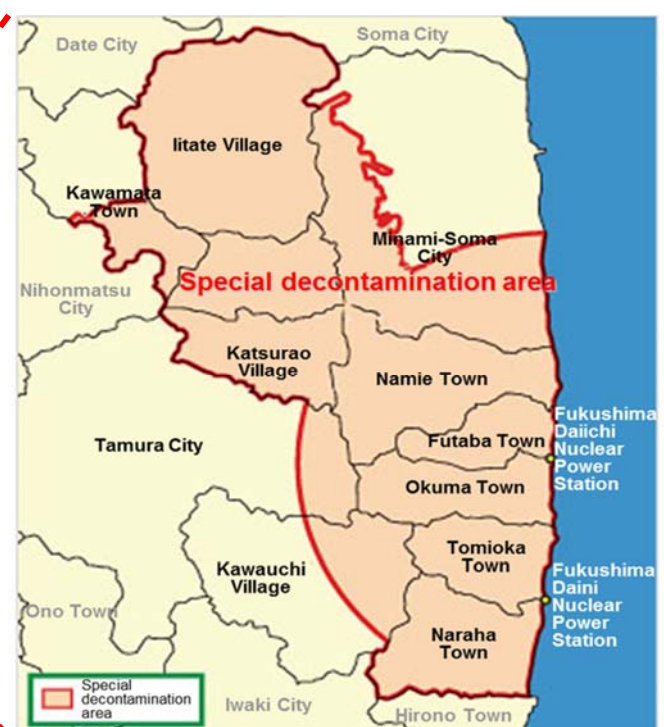
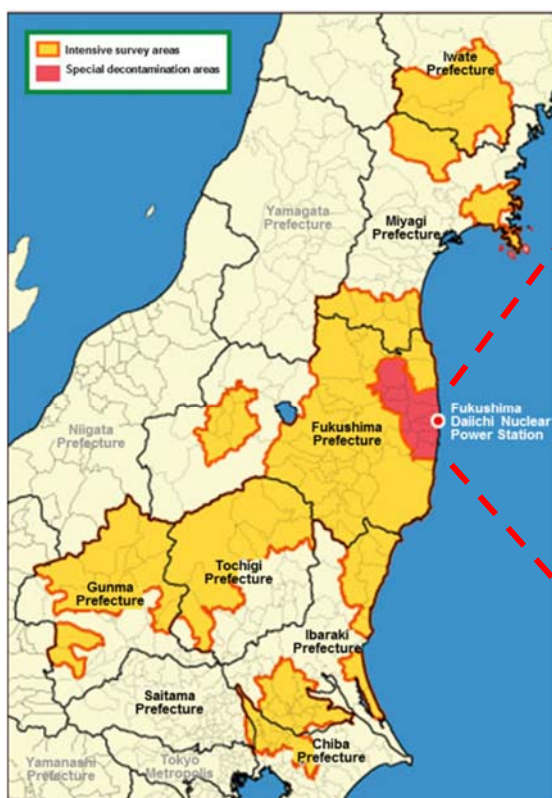
27



Temporary storage under construction

- **Special Decontamination Area (>20 mSv/y)**
: 11 Municipalities **by National Government**
- **Intensive Contamination Survey Area (1 to 20mSv/y)**
by Each Municipality Funded by Government
: 104 Municipalities, 8 Prefectures
- **Based on the Guidelines for Decontamination Works**
Issued by Ministry of the Environment

Special Decontamination Area and Intensive Contamination Survey Area



STATUS OF STUDIES ON Cs BEHAVIOR

Cs sorption behavior

Cs sorption can be significantly affected by:

- Characteristics of solid phases present
- Ionic strength of aqueous phase
- Organic matter present

Critical factor is:

- Degree of reversibility of Cs sorption on natural materials

Cs dissolved concentrations in water are now very low, thus

- Cs sorption / uptake generally irreversible (or very poorly reversible)
- Cs transport associated with solid particles (suspensions, colloids), especially in fresh waters

- **Decontamination for Forest**
- **Decrease in Waste Generation**
- **Waste Storage and Disposal**
- **Possible Recontamination processes**

**Based on Understanding of Cs Behavior in the Environment:
In many cases may be dominated by sorption on clay
minerals in the soil zone**

The most difficult decontamination work is for forest

- Forest covers about 70% of Fukushima Prefecture
- Limited forest decontamination is reasonable, considering effective dose reduction, ecosystem conservation and prevention of risks like landslides
- After decontamination, long-term investigation of the potential Cs source term from non-decontaminated forest is important.

Based on this study, countermeasures to reduce Cs transport in relevant areas may also be considered.

Long-term assessment of **T**ransport of **R**adioactive **C**ontaminant in the **E**nvironment of **F**ukushima

⇒ Studies on Cs Transport in the Forest
~ River ~ Reservoir(Dam, Lake)
~ Estuary System.

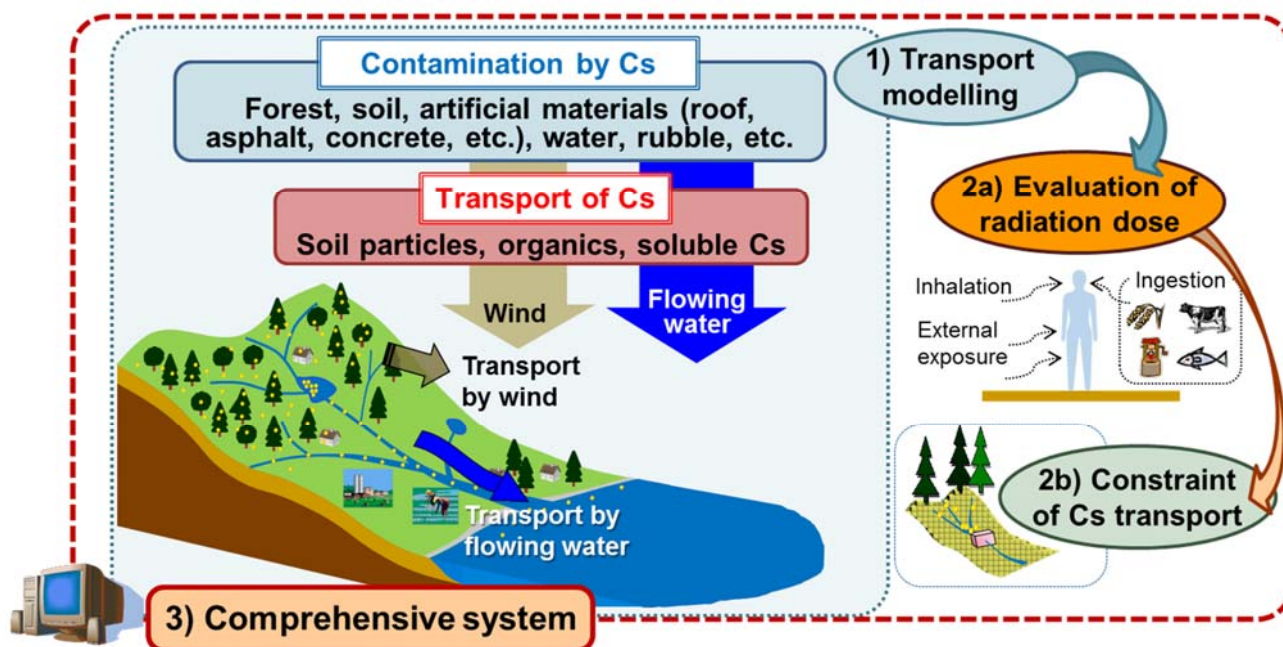


F	-	T	R	A	C	E
P	R	O	J	E	C	T

Overview of the Fukushima-TRACE project

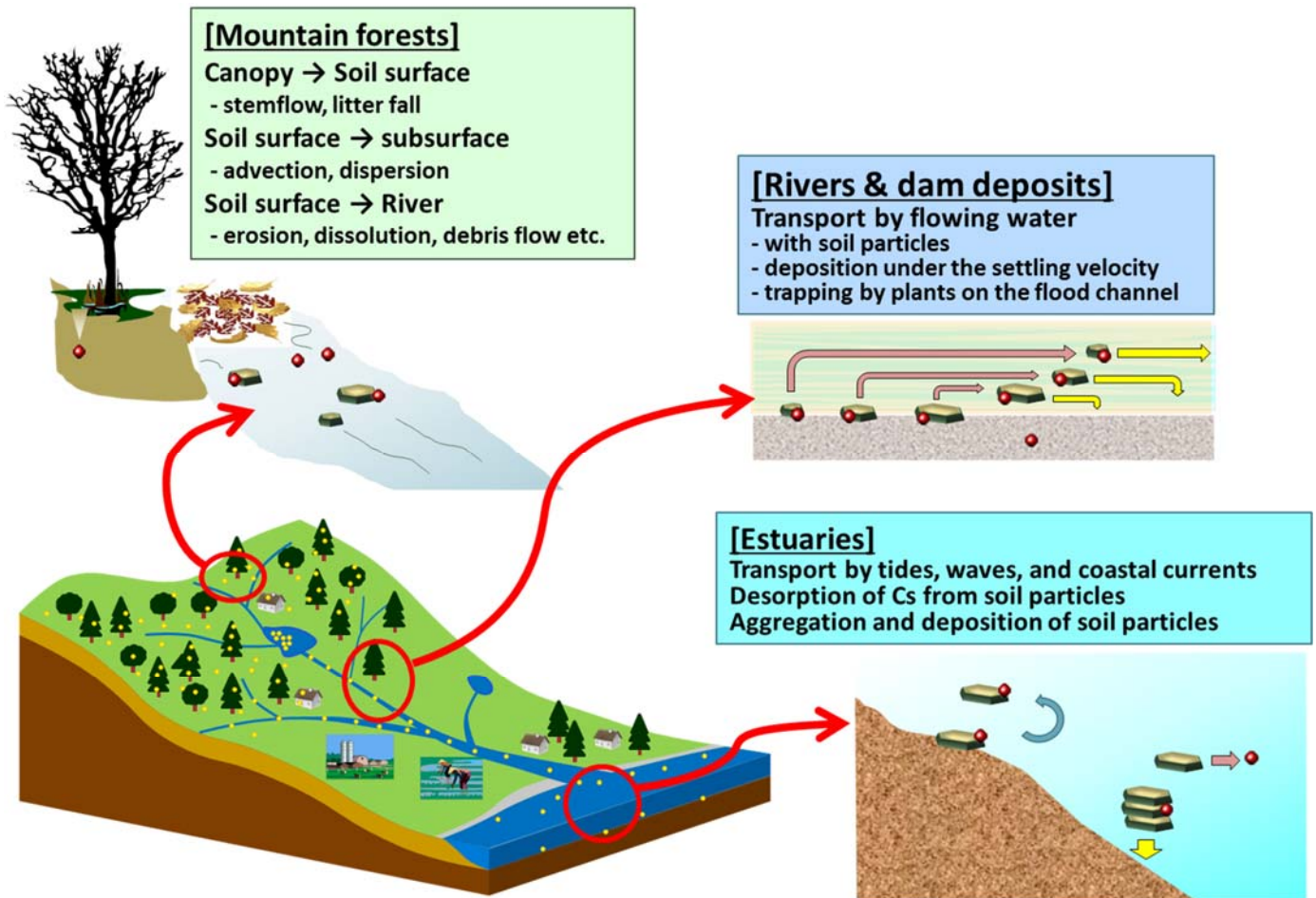
□ Objectives

- 1) Elucidation of transport behavior of radionuclides (esp. radiocaesium; Cs) from contaminated forest to biosphere and sea.
- 2) Development of dose evaluation system and methodology to constrain Cs transport.
- 3) Construction comprehensive system for prediction and constraint of radionuclide transport.



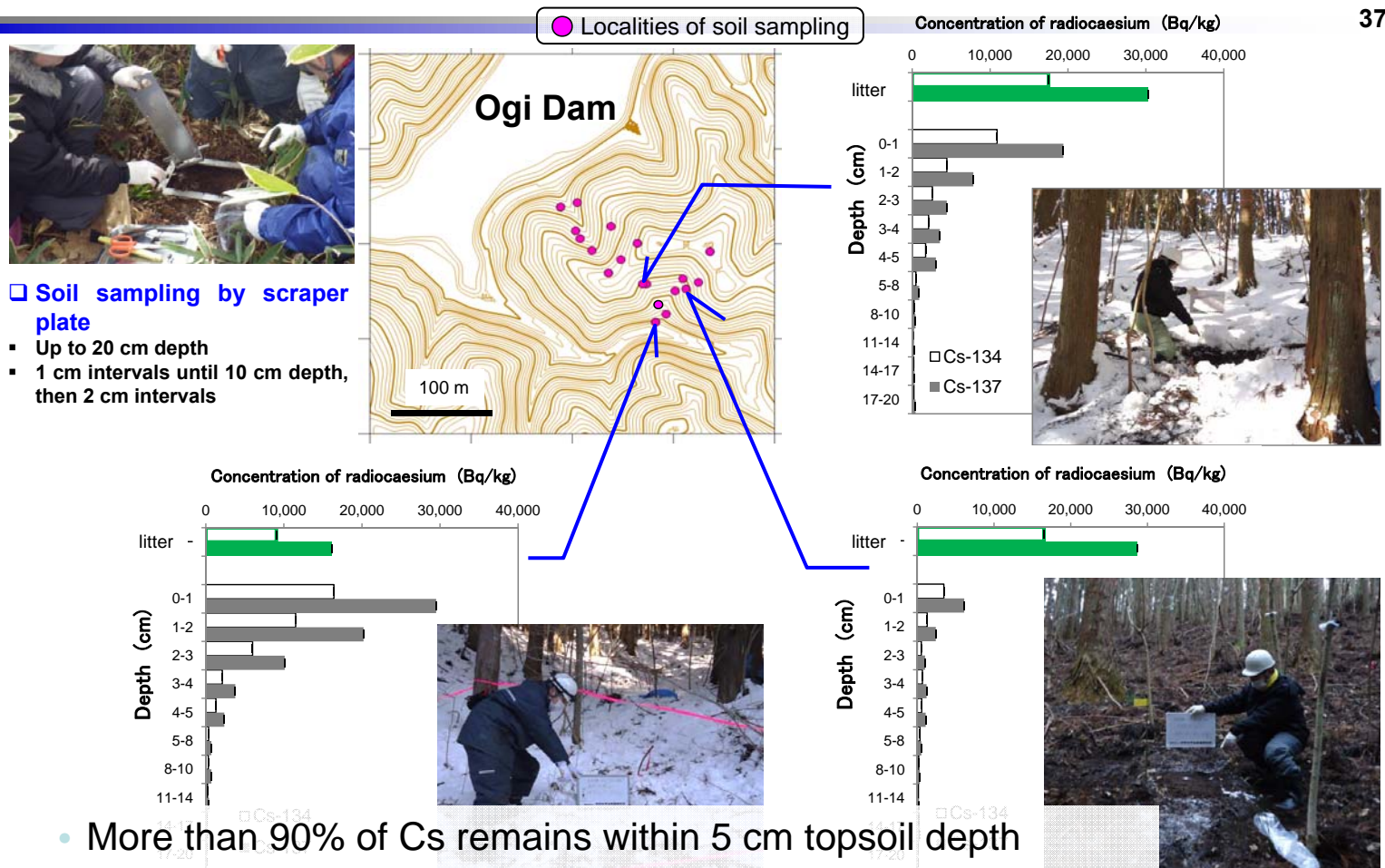
Key phenomena influencing Cs transport

36



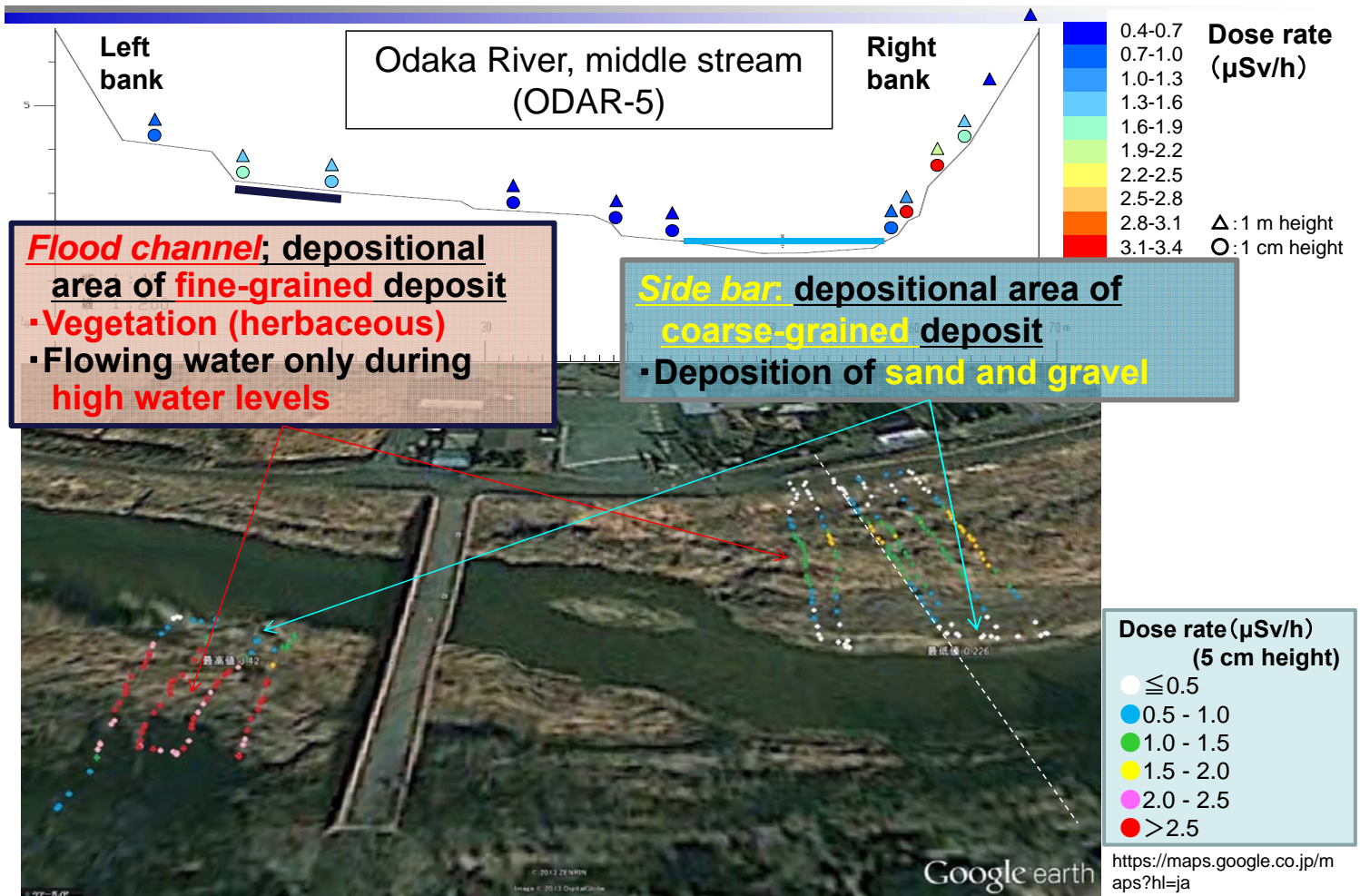
Depth profiles of Cs in forest topsoil

37



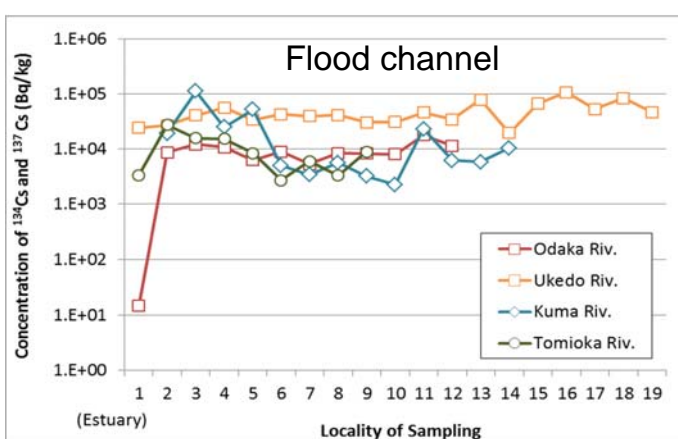
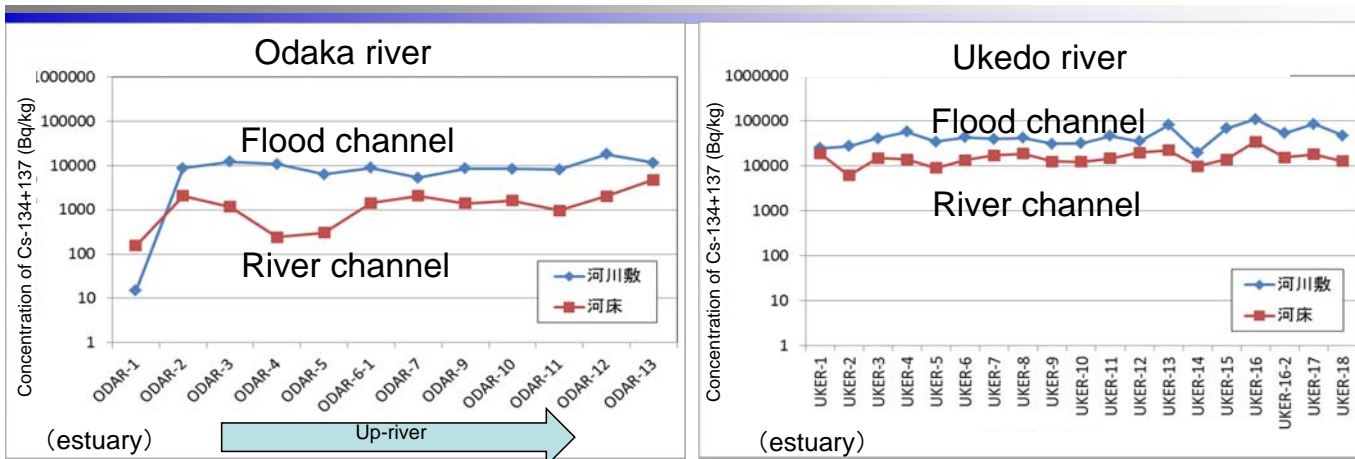
Dose rate distributions in river sediment

38



Cs concentrations in river sediments

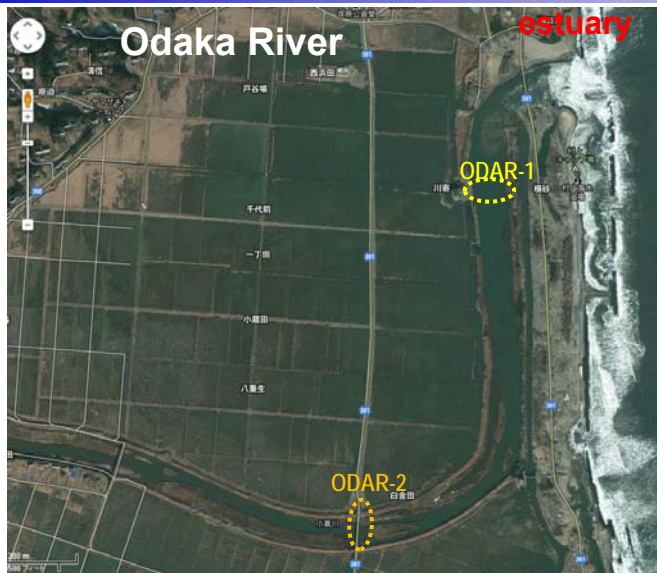
39



- Cs concentration of sediment in flood channel is higher than that of river channel, but the difference is within one order of magnitude.
⇒ Cs is strongly adsorbed onto sediments.
- Cs concentration drastically decreases at the closest point to estuary in **Odaka River**, where;
 - ✓ no coastal sandbar was formed at estuary,
 - ✓ salinity near estuary was similar to seawater.
- ⇒ Cs was possibly **desorbed** from soil particles **near estuary due to high salinity** (possibly also dilution – mixing with lower contaminated sediments from coast)

Salinity of river water

40

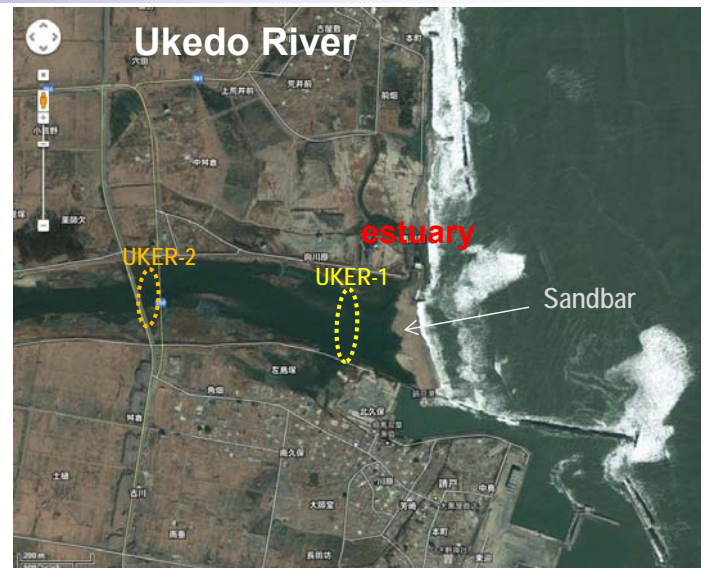


➤ Observation:

No coastal sandbar was formed at estuary.

➤ Sample analyses of ODAR-1 and 2 show:

Salinity near estuary was similar to seawater.



➤ Observation:

Coastal sandbar was formed at estuary.

➤ Sample analyses of OKER-1 and 2 show:

Salinity near estuary was similar to freshwater.

Summary of Status

41

- Clear importance of understanding Cs behavior that will support development of practical ways for...
 - Decreasing waste generation during cleanup
 - Long-term assessment of the impact of Cs in untreated forest
- Continuous / focused R&D (F-TRACE project) is needed to decrease uncertainties and allow optimal treatment to assure a safe future for Fukushima.

Overall Goals of Workshop

42

- International expert review of current plans for F-TRACE / R&D supporting regional decontamination and waste management (**technical QA**)
- Summary of relevant international experience and assessment of relevance to Fukushima (**mining of international Knowledge Base**)
- Brainstorming to gain input for key identified challenges (**capture of national / international tacit knowledge**)
- Establishing contacts between experts in this field (**network building**)

Session 1 - Questions

43

- How can we predict future radiocaesium migration?
- How can we reduce waste volume from decontamination activities?
- How to rationalise forest decontamination (covers ~70% of the Fukushima prefecture)
- How can international experience help deal with these difficulties?
- How do we gain public acceptance/confidence

Session 2 - Questions

44

- How do we provide a mechanistic understanding of Cs behaviour on RELEVANT environmental materials
- Relate this understanding to practical application in waste volume reduction and further decontamination work
- What international experience is available contribute to these difficulties

Session 3 - Questions

45

- How can we predict radiocaesium migration from forests
- What models are available?
- How do we test them?
- How do we validate them (much trickier)?
- What will Cs migration prediction contribute to e.g.
 - Rationalisation of forest decontamination?
 - Rationalisation of river, lake, reservoir decontamination?
 - Development of measures to prevent radiocaesium getting into agricultural irrigation water?
 - Future dose rate evaluation to predict return of residents from evacuated areas

- 3 technical sessions with focused presentations by national / international experts
- Discussion / brainstorming to capture undocumented expertise, focused by use of an argumentation model (very intuitive, requires no preparation by participants)
- Field trip to allow foreign participants to gain insight into the research areas and encourage contacts between foreign experts and JAEA team
- Summarisation of output in a report produced quickly after the workshop