CHEMICAL AND RADIATION RECOVERY DECISION SUPPORT TOOL (C&R DST)

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C&R DECISION SUPPOR PROJECT OVERVIEW

The **Chemical & Radiation Recovery Decision Support Tool Project (C&R DST)** is being developed to accompany current guidance and advice, specifically the **UK Recovery Handbooks for Radiation** (2009, v3) and **Chemical Incidents** (2012, v1) available at www.gov.uk/phe.

OBJECTIVE

The **main goal** of the C&R decision support tool is to **facilitate and guide users through the process of developing a recovery strategy** for the remediation of a chemical or radiation incident.

The user will be able to easily identify and evaluate different options for clean-up, recovery and restoration of a contaminated environment in the aftermath of an incident.

METHODOLOGY

The **C&R DST project** has been split into three phases:

Phase 1 (March-July 2013): Involves developing the concept and evaluating the pilot version of the C&R DST following a chemical incident, focussing initially on inhabited areas.

Phase 2 (July 2013-June 2014): Involves extending the pilot version of the C&R DST to include food production systems and water environments for a chemical incident. Phase 2 also includes updating and refining the Chemical and Radiation Recovery Handbooks.

Phase 3 (June 2014-September 2015): Involves extending the C&R DST to include the updated Radiation Recovery Handbook.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES ON THE PROJECT

- To make the recovery option selection process more efficient and user friendly by providing standard templates within a linked framework (decision-support tool).
- Provide a framework that documents all parameters, assumptions and the data used to reach the decision on the recovery strategy.
- Facilitate reproducible and transparent decision making by providing a mechanism for recording decisions made (auditable decision trail).
- Developed using software that is freely accessible (via the internet) compatible with computers or other web enabled devices.

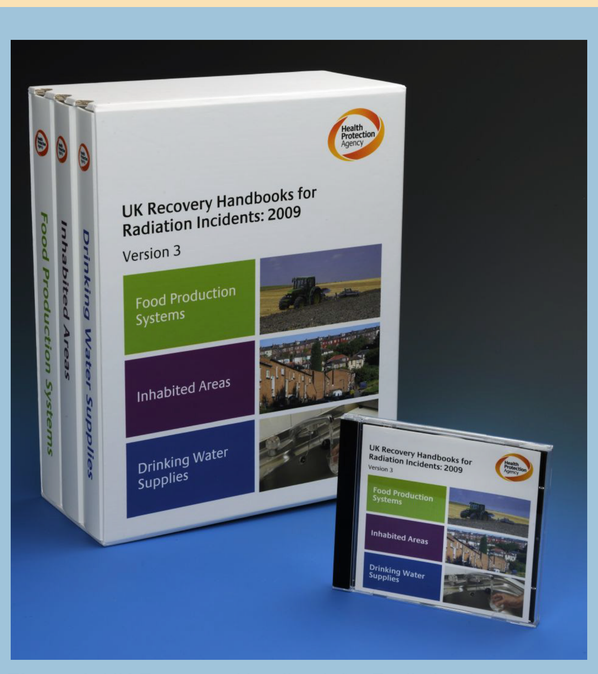

Figure 1. UK Recovery Handbook for Radiation Incidents

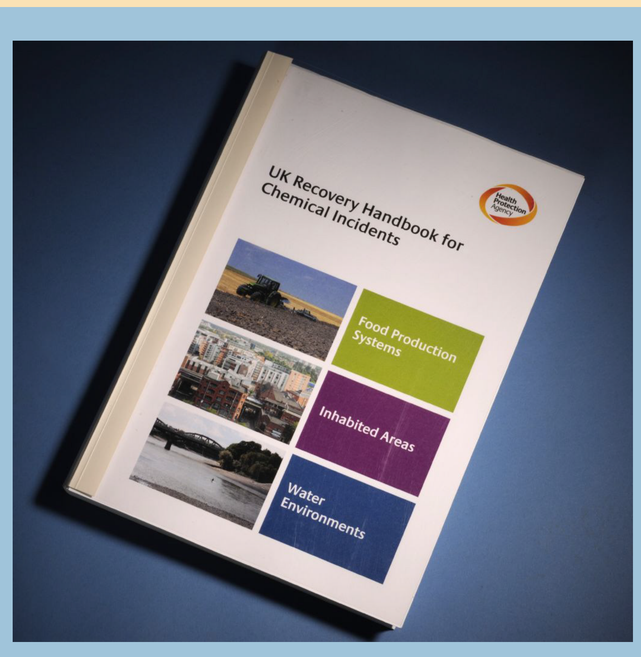

Figure 2. UK Recovery Handbook for Chemical Incidents

KEY PROJECT OUTPUTS

- Updated guidance on recovery and remediation following a chemical or radiation incident.
- User friendly C&R DST, suitable for use on computers or other web enabled devices.
- Facilitate reproducible and transparent decision making by providing a mechanism for recording decisions made (auditable decision trail).

For further information, or if you would like to collaborate in the project, please contact Chemical.Recovery@phe.gov.uk or visit www.gov.uk/phe.

PROJECT STRUCTURE

Project lead
- Public Health England (PHE)

Co-authorities (Customer Steering Group)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Department of Transport (DfT)
- Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- UK Government Decontamination Service (GDS)

External Stakeholder Steering Group
- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)
- Home Office (HO)
- Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA)
- Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA)
- Scottish Government Office (SG)
- Public Health Wales (PHW)
- Department of Health (DH)
- Northern Ireland Public Health Agency (NIPHA)

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