

**Promoting Use of Local Volunteer  
Radiation Professionals in Emergency  
Response to Assist in Population  
Monitoring and Public Shelter Operations**

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# Outline

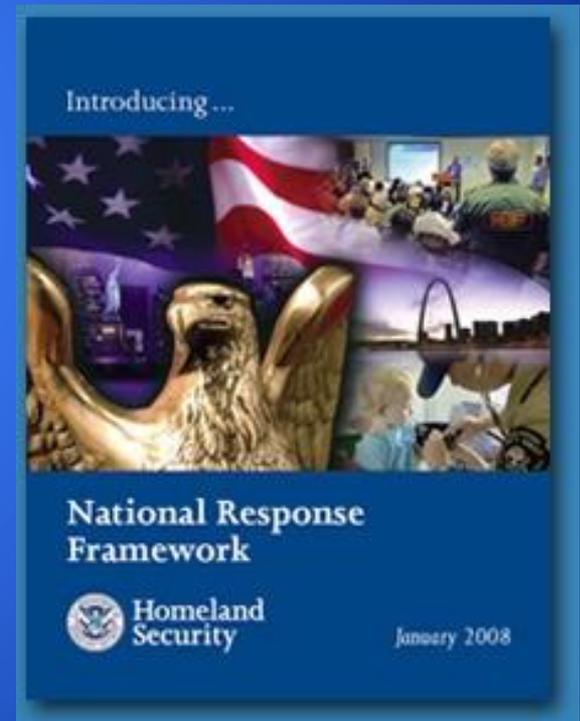
- Background
- Description of Radiation Response Volunteer Program
- Pilot Program for Recruitment, Registry and Training
- Future Activities in Volunteer Development

National Response Framework

# Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex

Decontamination/Population  
Monitoring are:

“the responsibility of State, local,  
and tribal governments.”



[www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf/](http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf/)

# Need for Radiation Professionals in a large scale radiation emergency

- Monitoring environment and workplace
- Monitoring people (“population monitoring”)
- Supporting operations at:
  - Hospitals
  - Public and special needs shelters
  - Emergency operations centers
  - Community reception centers
- Communications

**A Local  
Effort!**

“Planners should identify **radiation protection professionals** in their community and encourage them to **volunteer** and register in any one of the Citizen Corps or similar programs in their community.”

# Planning Guidance for Response to a Nuclear Detonation

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# Volunteer Radiation Professionals

- Potential pool of tens of thousands who can volunteer in their local communities.
- After a radiation emergency, many are likely to volunteer.
  - Spontaneous Unaffiliated Volunteers (SUVs)
- We need trained affiliated volunteers.
- Medical Reserve Corps can be the vehicle to recruit and train these professionals.



# Description and Scope of the Radiation Response Volunteer Program

- CRCPD: Contract with CDC funding to pilot program for incorporating radiation professionals into existing volunteer registries
- CRCPD issued sub-contracts to state radiation control programs to assess feasibility of use of volunteer radiation protection professionals in emergency plans
- Five states and one city participated and were funded
- Quarterly and final reports from participants used in developing CRCPD final report on the pilot project

# Responsibilities of State Agencies under Radiation Volunteer Project

- Pilot process for recruiting, managing and training volunteer radiation professionals
- Promote a volunteer registry of radiation professionals within existing programs
- Develop a publishable plan for effective deployment and utilization of training volunteers in alignment with state/local plans
- Develop action plan for continued and expanded use of program

# Outcomes of Pilot Program: Accomplishments

- Increased awareness of need for population monitoring system
- Potential pool of volunteer radiation professionals identified
- Various methodologies for mobilization identified
- Significant number of volunteers trained to assist with population monitor/public shelter needs
- Large collection of training material accrued
- Process for registering solidified
- Outreach to radiation professionals



# Outcomes of Pilot Program: Challenges and Lessons Learned

- Electronic reference material provides instant resources
- Need for increased communication and collaboration between radiation control programs and volunteer organization (MRC)
- Long term funding mechanisms needed follow-up training and drills
- In some cases, volunteer development can be carried out more efficiently by local radiation professional societies
- Triage and instructions are needed for non-removable contamination

# Current and Future Activities

- CDC/CRCPD 5-year cooperative agreement for development and enhancement of the radiation volunteer program
- System of sub-awards to state radiation control programs, public health preparedness
- Outreach at meetings of radiation professionals
- Coordination with Medical Reserve Corps
- Build a sustainable action plan for continued use of the program and engagement of volunteers

[www.crcpd.org](http://www.crcpd.org)

