

PROJECT INFORMATION

As at August 2011

Advising the Estonian Environmental Board in the field of radiation protection



Headquarters of the Federal Office for Radiation Protection (BfS) in Salzgitter. Foto: BfS

Background

In Estonia, in 2009 the Radiation Protection Centre (Kiirguskeskus) was integrated into the Environmental Board (Keskkonnaamet) together with other environmental protection authorities. Against this backdrop, Estonia's Ministry of Environment requested that executive staff of the radiation safety department of the new Environmental Board receive advice and further training in Germany. The German Federal Environment Ministry complied with this request under the Interdepartmental Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, signed in 1992, by asking the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection (BfS) and the German Federal Environment Agency to organize and conduct advising and training on the topics communicated by Estonia. The Bavarian State Office of Environment (LfU) and the Max Rubner Institute (MRI) supported the two authorities in terms of content.

Project

The aim of this project was to pass on knowledge on individual radiation protection aspects relevant

to Estonia. Executive staff of the Estonian Environmental Board were advised and trained as part of topic-specific study visits. Topics included:

- National and international radiation protection standards,
- Domestic and occupational exposure to radiation,
- Authorizations for the transport, storage and handling of radioactive material for different purposes (medical, teaching, research),
- Monitoring and analysis methods,
- Reporting obligations,
- Sampling, and
- Emergency preparedness.

The participants visited the control centre of the monitoring network of the Bavarian nuclear-reactor remote monitoring system, the radiation protection laboratory of the LfU and the BfS radon laboratory. At the MRI experimental site, they practiced how to take samples.

This was how the project passed on expert knowledge from experienced German scientists to Estonian decision-makers to enable them to decide on radiation protection issues on a better information basis in future.

- Target country/region: Estonia
- Duration: 10/2010 – 08/2011
- Implementing organisations: Federal Office for Radiation Protection, www.bfs.de, Bavarian State Office of Environment, www.lfu.bayern.de, Max-Rubner-Institut, www.mri.bund.de, BTE – Tourismusmanagement, Regionalentwicklung, www.bte-tourismus.de
- Beneficiary: Environmental Board of Estonia (Keskkonnaamet)
- Project identification: FKZ 380 01 238