

Environmental Radioactivity

Monitoring Activities in GREECE

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Euratom Art. 35-36 Experts' Meeting 2018

Greek Atomic Energy Commission

Regulatory authority in Greece

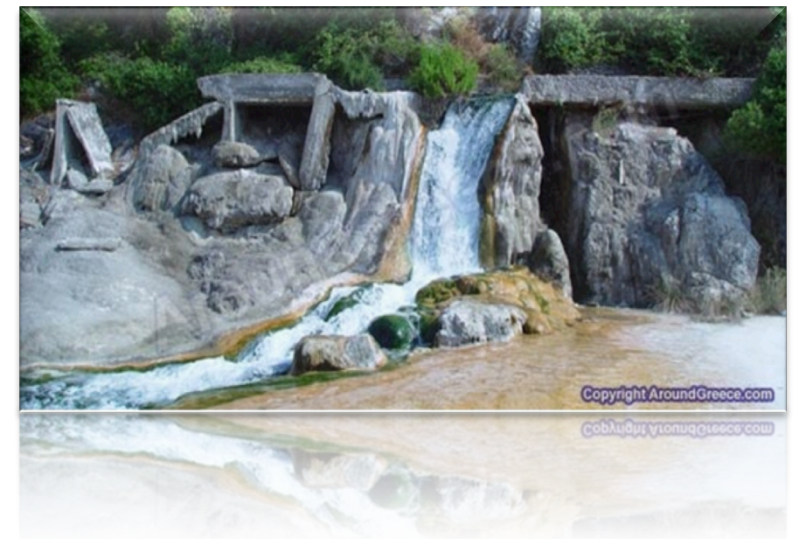
- Competent authority for the control, regulation and supervision in the fields of nuclear energy, nuclear technology, radiological, nuclear safety and radiation protection.
- Public entity (Legal person of public law)



Environmental Radioactivity Monitoring Programme

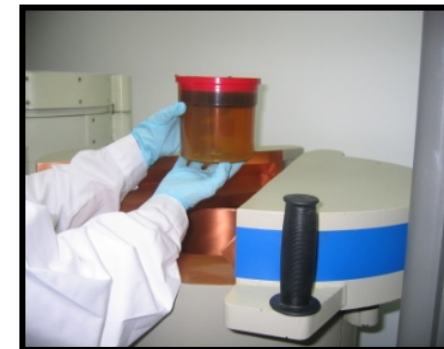
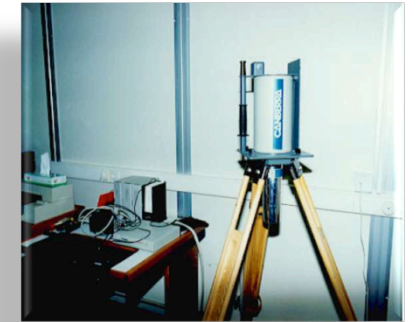


- Telemetric network (air, aerosol)
- Airborne particulates, milk, mixed diet, water, fallout
- Drinking water monitoring (2013/51/EURATOM)
- Surface water (rivers & lakes)
- Imported food stuffs
- Spring water monitoring (U-isotopes, ^{226}Ra , Radon)
- Greek research reactor monitoring
- Measurements of NORM samples
- Inspections in entrance points (customs)
- Imported scrap & final product
- Emergency response



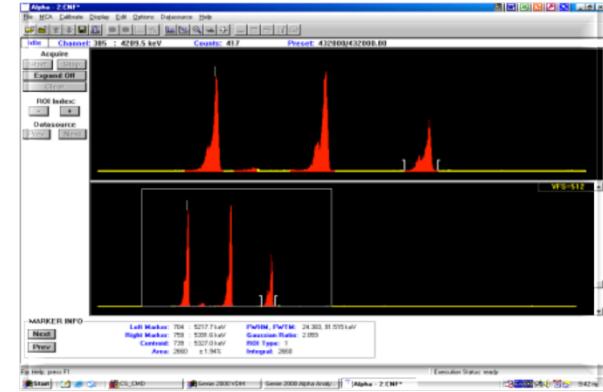
EEAE Infra-structure

- Telemetric network for radioactivity monitoring
- Gamma-spectroscopic system: 2 HPGe (70% & 50% low energy)
- Alpha-spectroscopic system :12 chambers PIPS
- Total α/β : 1 proportional counter
- Liquid scintillation counter
- In situ γ -spectroscopy: 2 HPGe (20% & 50% low energy)
- Mobile laboratory: HPGe 30%, proportional counter, etc.
- Portable XRF unit
- Fully equipped radiochemical laboratory
- Whole body counter, thyroid uptake
- Radon measurements



Laboratory Measurements

- Gamma spectrometry (in situ / laboratory)
- Alpha spectrometry (U-isotopes, Th-isotopes, ^{241}Am , ^{239}Pu , ^{238}Pu , ^{226}Ra , ^{210}Po)
- Radon concentration measurements
- Total alpha/beta measurements
- Liquid scintillation (^3H , ^{14}C , ^{90}Sr , ^{210}Pb , Radon)



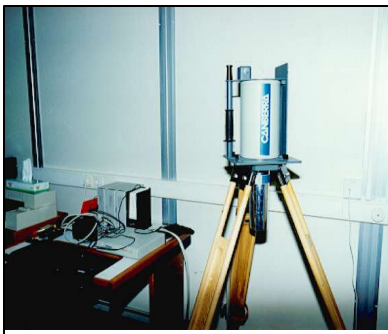
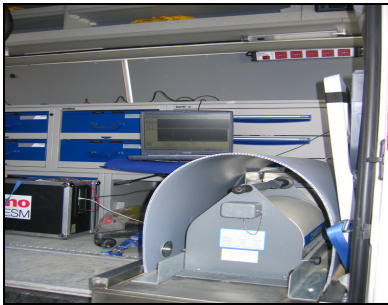
In-situ Measurements



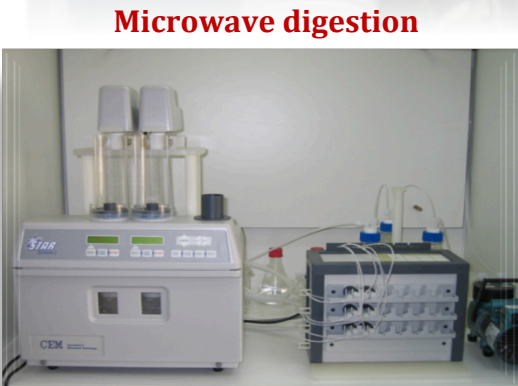
In-situ measurements are usually included in the environmental radioactivity monitoring programme.

In situ measurements are performed for:

- 1. the qualitative and the quantitative determination of a potential radiological contamination,*
- 2. the radiological inspection of scrap metals,*
- 3. the in-situ characterization of the materials and*
- 4. the characterization of places during decommissioning activities.*



Measuring Devices in EEAE



LSC counter

1220-003 QUANTULUS 

- The Ultra Low Background Liquid Scintillation Spectrometer
- Detects down to environmental levels of alpha and beta radiation



Radon Measurements

Measurements of indoor radon concentration in dwellings and workplaces by the use of

- passive radon dosimeters
- electrets

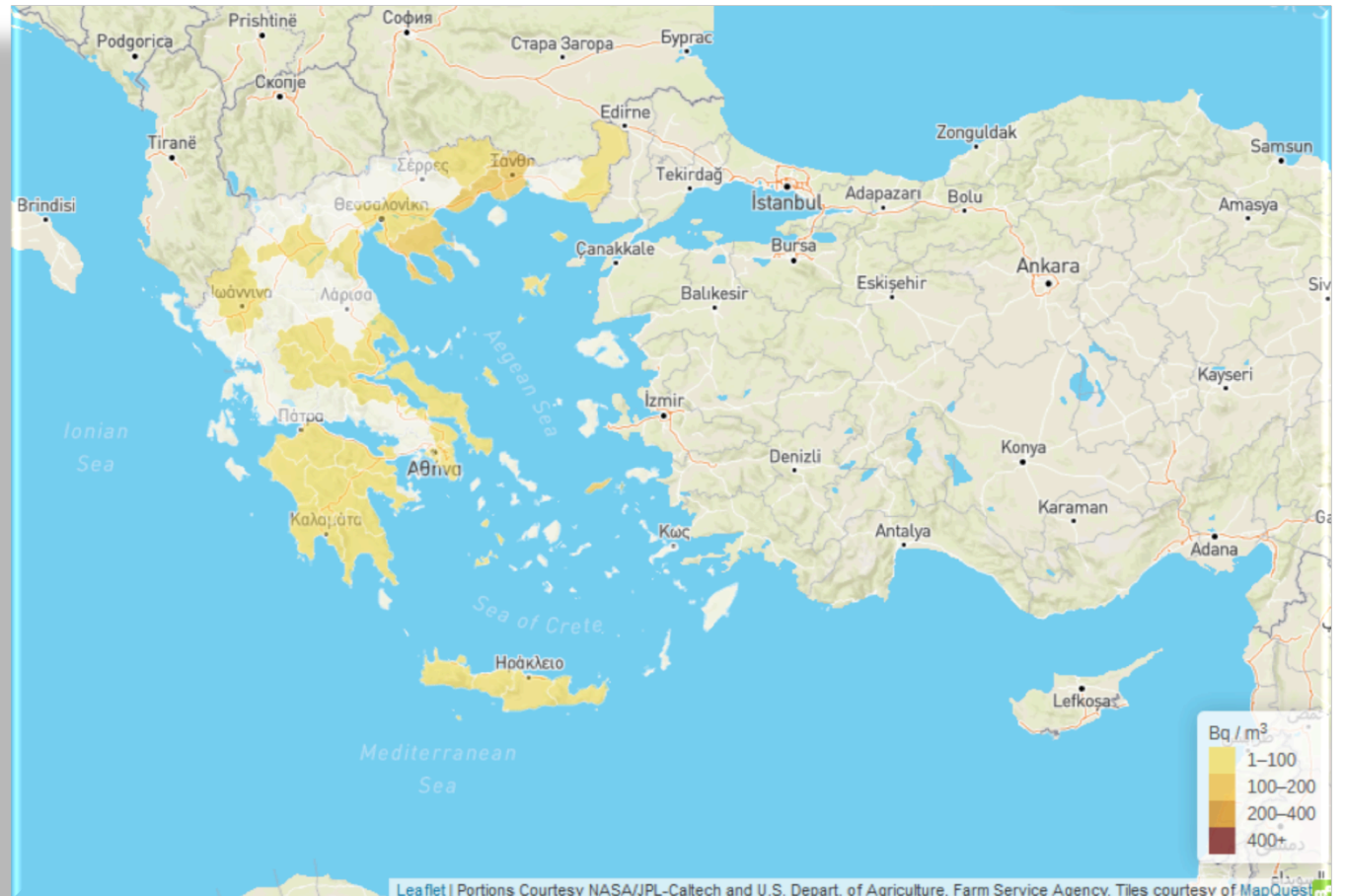
Measurements of radon concentration in water (LSC)

The Radon Laboratory performs measurements of indoor radon concentrations in dwellings and workplaces by the use of passive radon dosimeters. The radon dosimeters are consisted of a CR-39 alpha track detector material supplied by the Track Analysis System Ltd (TASL) of Bristol and the black SSI radon holder.

RML's Radon dosimeters



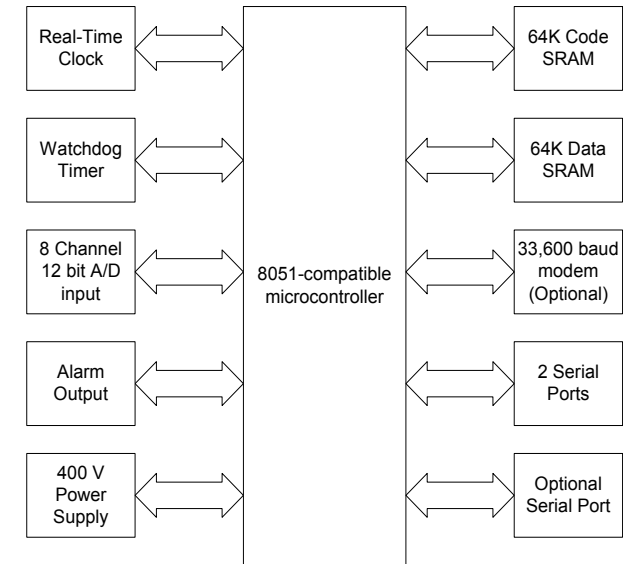
Radon detectors



Telemetric Monitoring Network in Greece



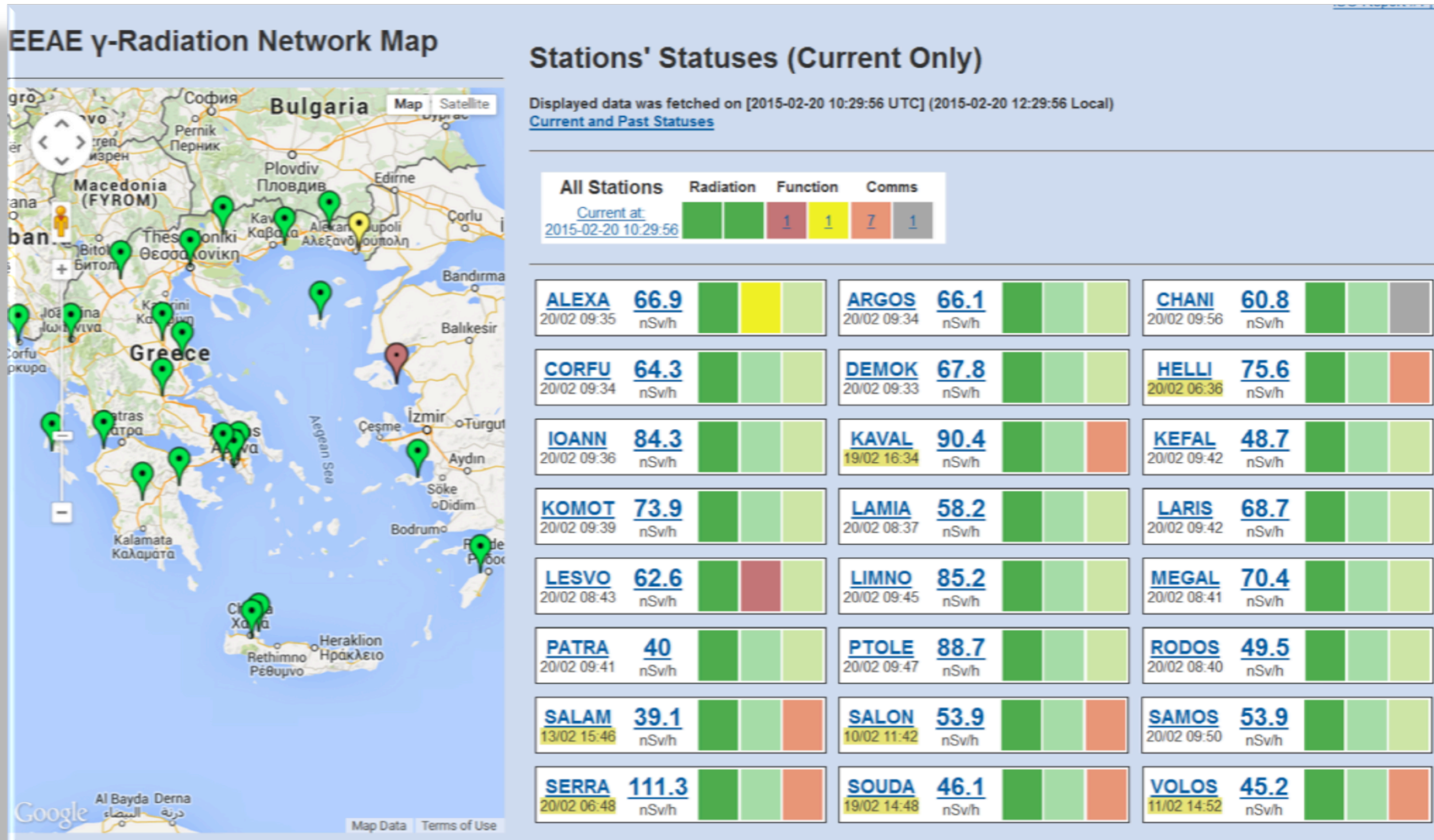
- High Pressure Ion Chamber
- Argon
- 25 Atm
- Volume 8.5 lt
- 50 keV – 10 MeV
- 10^{-8} – 10^{-3} Sv/h
- Resolution : $\pm 4\%$
- -40°C - $+55^{\circ}\text{C}$



- Aerosol filter+pumping system
Glass fibre filters $0.5\ \mu\text{m}$, air pump $\sim 6\text{m}^3/\text{h}$
- PIPS (alpha/beta detector) $1700\ \text{mm}^2$
Resolution: $\sim 55\text{keV} - \alpha$
 $\sim 30\ \text{keV} - \beta$
- NaI(Tl) detector, 2" PM-tube
Resolution: 8.5% ($662\ \text{keV Cs}^{137}$)
- Weather Station
Temperature, wind velocity, wind direction, rain gauge



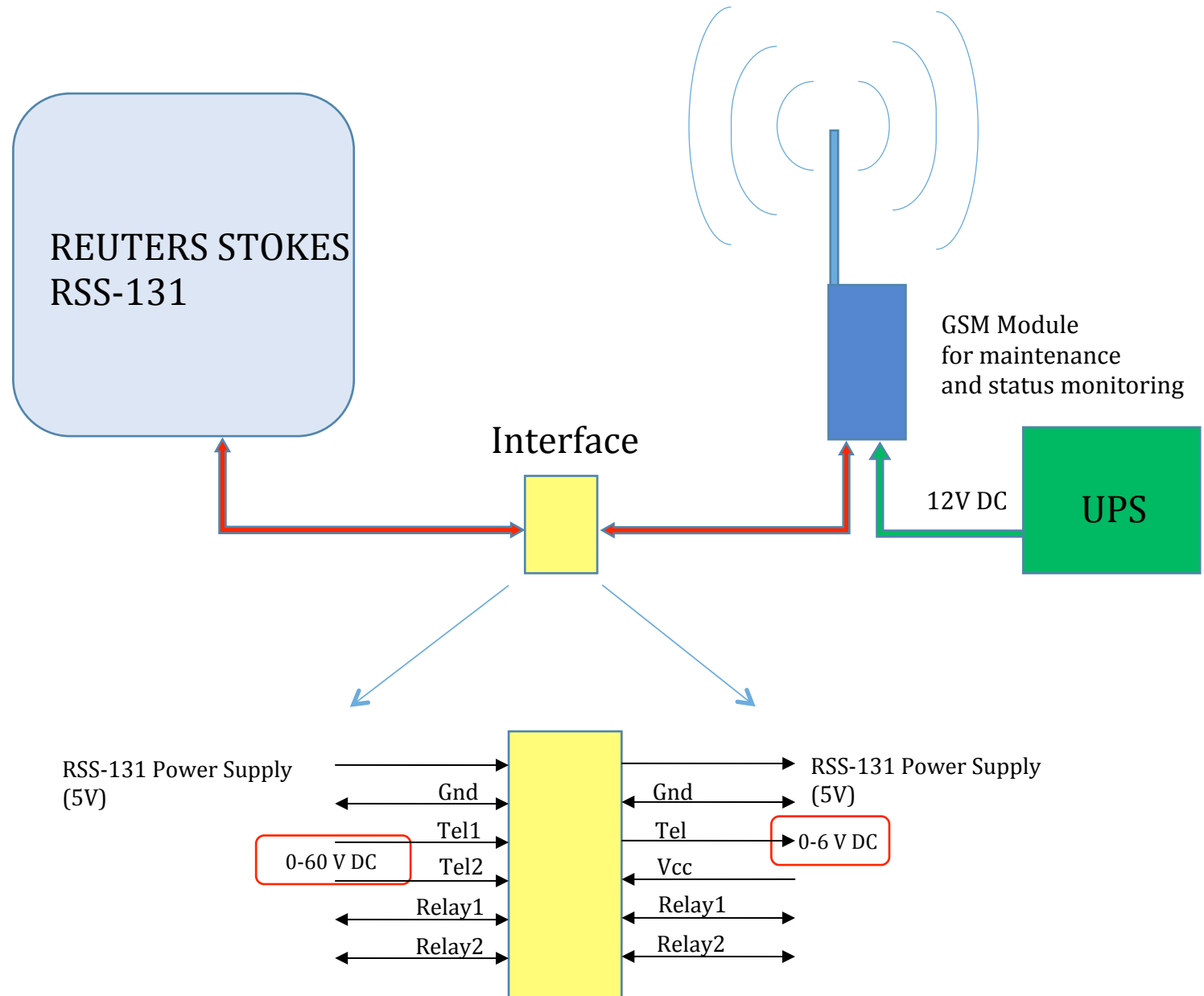
Upgrade Software – New System Communication Network



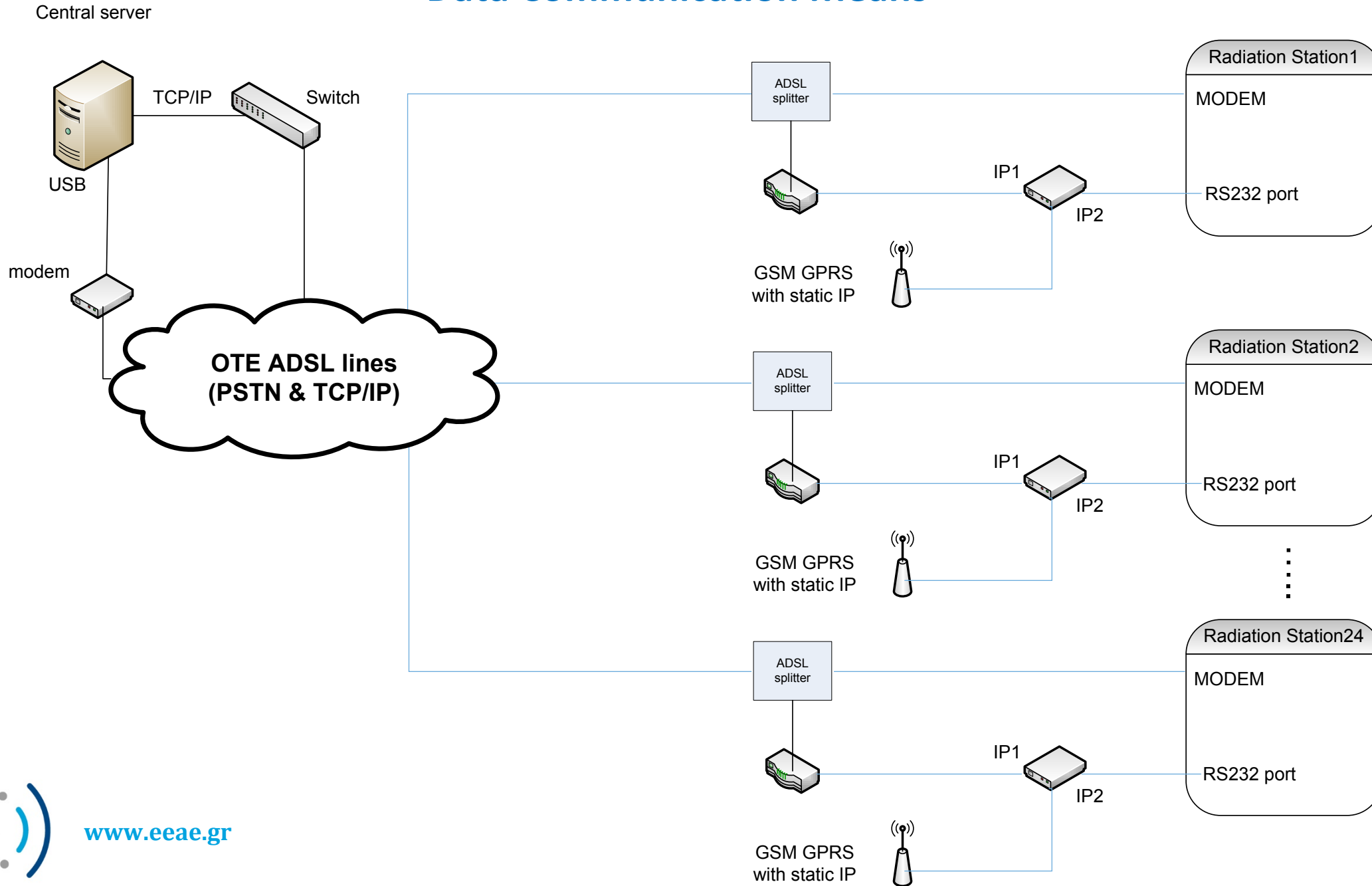
Upgrade with a GSM Maintenance Communication System

- Power 220 V
- PSTN Failures
- Reset
- Calibration coefficients lost (reload)
- Any Other (firmware download, etc)

- Repair → e.g. micro-processor change



Data Communication Means



Quality Assurance / Intercomparisons

- GAEC's laboratory systematically participates in the intercomparison exercises of the following organizations:
 - ✓ *WHO (World Health Organization)*
 - ✓ *ALMERA*
 - ✓ *IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)*
 - ✓ *BfS (Bundesamt für Strahlenschutz)*
 - ✓ *NPL (National Physical Laboratory)*
 - ✓ *EU (European Commission)*
 - ✓ *PROCORAD (Association for the Promotion of Quality Controls in Radiotoxicological bioassay).*



Collaborating laboratories in Greece

Environmental Radioactivity Laboratory, INRASTES, NCSR “Demokritos”

Nuclear Engineering Department, National Technical University of Athens

Nuclear Technology Laboratory, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Technical University of Crete, School of Mineral Resources Engineering

Hellenic Centre for Marine Research

Department of Nuclear and Elementary Particle Physics, School of Physics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Physics Department, University of Ioannina

Laboratory of Medical Physics, University of Ioannina



Thank You!



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