

# **NEA Uranium Activities**

**Reliable supply**

**Safe and environmentally  
responsible production**

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## Outline

**OECD-NEA uranium activities**

**Electricity Demand / Markets**

**Uranium Demand / Markets**

**Conclusions**



## OECD-NEA uranium activities “Red Book”

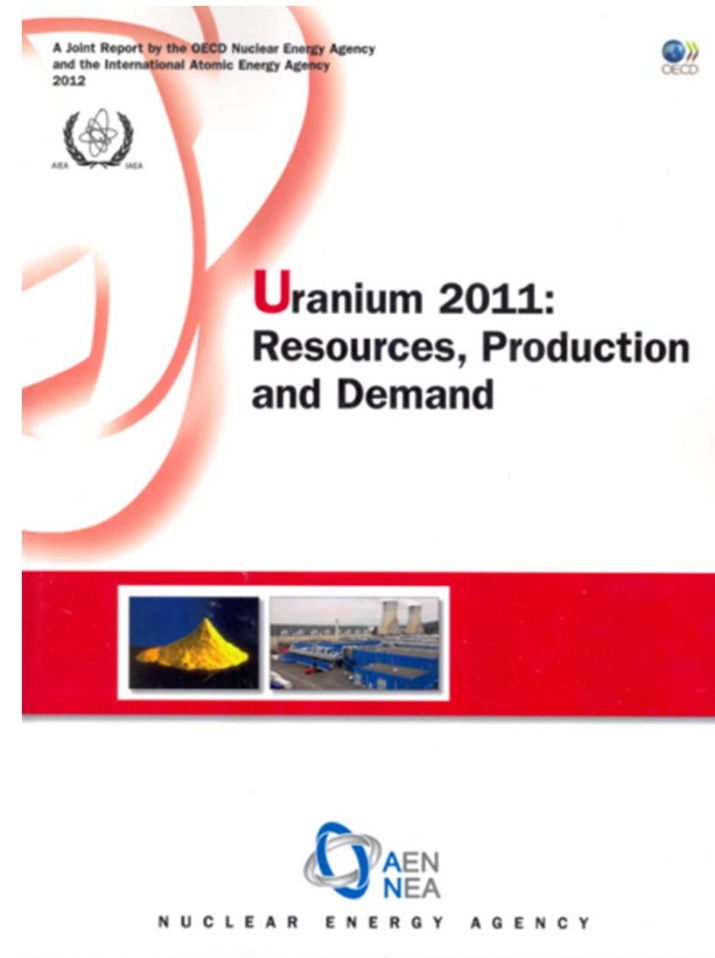
Need recognized early in development of commercial nuclear power

Widely consulted source for global resource information and more

Longstanding OECD/NEA and IAEA cooperation - published every 2 years

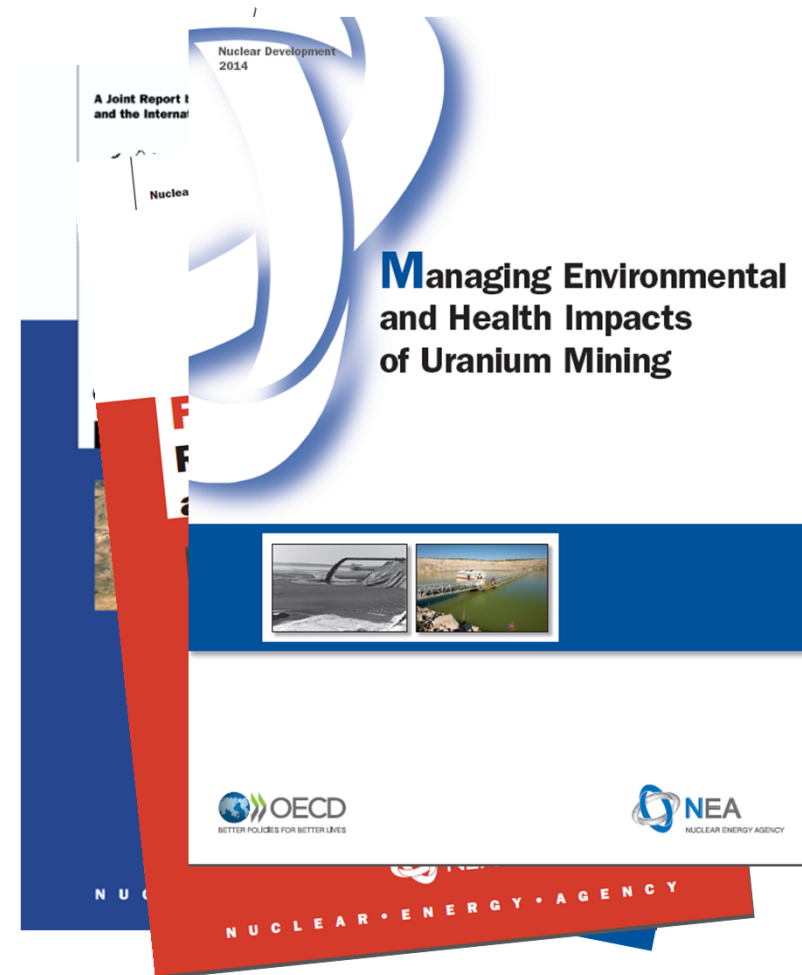
Relies principally on input from country representatives nominated by governments to the Uranium Group

Continued support from OECD-NEA Nuclear Development Committee



## OECD-NEA uranium activities publications

- In addition to Red Book:
  - 1999: Environmental Activities in Uranium Mining and Milling
  - 2002: Environmental Remediation of World Uranium Production Facilities
  - 2006: Red Book Retrospective
  - 2014: Managing Environmental and Health Impacts of Uranium Mining



URAM Symposium; 23-27 June 2014

## *Managing Environmental and Health Impacts of Uranium Mining*

Plain language for public consultation

History of uranium mining and significant changes that have been undertaken to manage impacts

Case studies comparing / contrasting practices and outcomes of historic and current leading practice uranium mining

Guidance to policy and regulatory framework needed to effectively manage uranium mining

Available free of charge

[www.oecd-nea.org](http://www.oecd-nea.org)



*Aerial view of Ranger Mine and Plant*

## Electricity Demand / Markets

Access to electricity key to economic development

Demand for electricity projected to grow to 2035 more rapidly than any other final form of energy

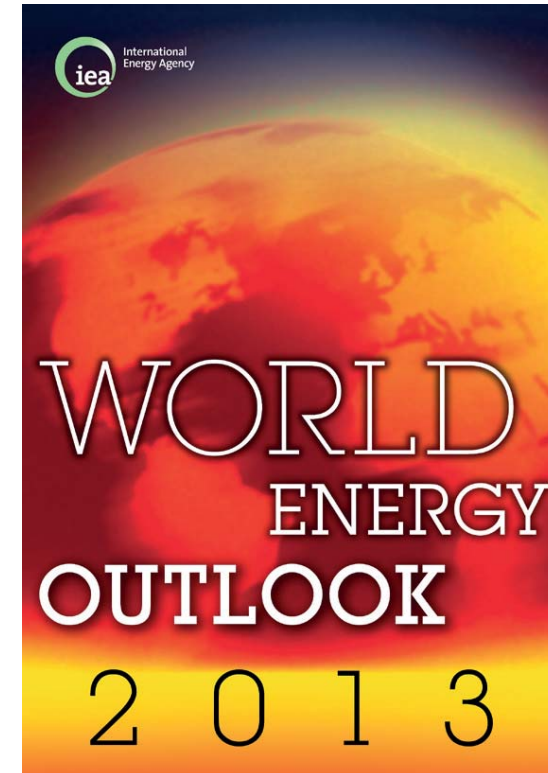
Led by non-OECD: China (36%), India (13%), Southeast Asia (8%), Latin America (6%) and Middle East (6%)

Global installed capacity to grow by 70% - \$17 trillion investment

Nuclear power expected to grow but share remains about 12% due to growth of other generating technologies

Rate of nuclear power policy driven

2014 Nuclear Energy Outlook feature section on nuclear power



## Electricity Demand / Markets

**Liberalized** ←————→ **Regulated**

Competition between generators

Prices vary with market conditions

Market structure - policy

Generally in developed countries

Demand declining

Generating fleet aging

Nuclear faces tough competition

Limited competition

Prices set for long term

Central planning

Generally in developing countries

Demand increasing

Generating fleet young

Nuclear power growth projected

## Projected Growth in Nuclear Generation

**Principally in developing countries – led by China and India**

Significant economic growth, urbanization,  
demand for electricity; clean air a high priority

Nuclear power attractive, but significant  
investment costs challenging

For China and India, investment not barrier –  
Rosatom BOO model

(Turkey, Bangladesh, Belarus...Jordan, Armenia?)

- loans for investment
- training
- fuel supply
- spent fuel management





## Implications for uranium demand

### **China and India**

Strategies to secure fuel supply - inventories

Reprocessing, fast reactors (eventually breeders), thorium

### **Russian Federation**

Fuel supply to support successful international marketing (BOO) and domestic growth in nuclear generating capacity - inventories

Reprocessing, fast reactors (eventually breeders), thorium

Excess enrichment capacity

## Uranium Demand / Market

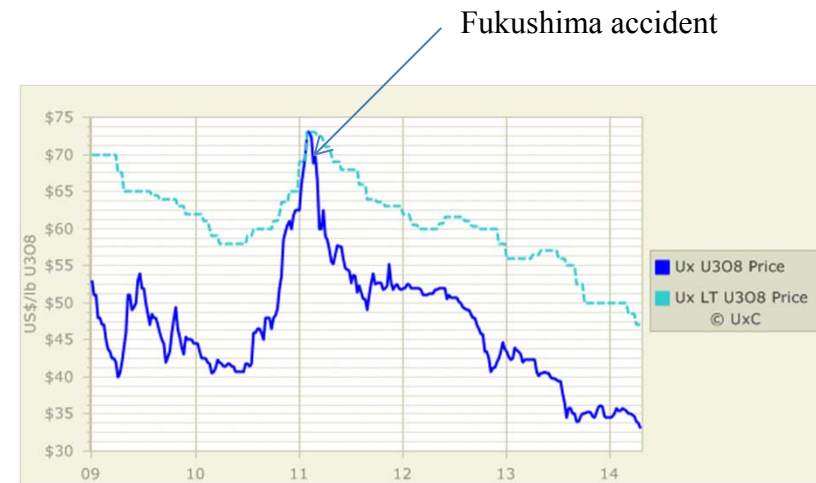
Price decline since Fukushima accident

Nuclear development policies little changed

U demand projected to increase, mainly in developing world, led by China and India

Uranium miners delaying development plans, reducing output

Will additional demand meet projections?



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## Secondary Supplies

Already mined uranium

Commercial and government inventories (HEU), depleted uranium tails (DU), used (spent) nuclear fuel (MOX, Repu)

Significant sources of potential supply

Beyond recently completed HEU downblend agreement, not extensively utilized today, but..?

- excess centrifuge capacity – DU
- Laser enrichment
- reprocessing technology, capacity
- HEU



## Market indicators to monitor

Japan: re-starts

China: construction (near and long term); reprocessing, thorium, FR;  
reactor exports; U sourcing, investments

Russian Federation – BOO signings, non-domestic and domestic  
sourcing; DU, reprocessing, HEU, FR

Liberalized markets – reforms to reward low CO<sub>2</sub> generation, SoS

EU – UK...Czech Republic, Poland

US – EPA proposed limits (coal, natural gas)

Market reform (Kewaunee, Vermont Yankee...)

DU re-enrichment; laser enrichment

## Conclusions

Shift in axis of nuclear power development (and uranium mining) away from OECD countries (83% of world nuclear generating capacity)

Nuclear capacity increase will create additional uranium demand, but countries with the largest and growing demand may meet all requirements using traditional market means

Market reforms needed in liberalized markets to maintain or increase nuclear generation share

Opportunities remain for producers, but may need to adjust expectations to these new circumstances

Secondary supply not done yet