



Work package 2 – Structuring MELODI

The evaluation of low dose radiation health effects is a matter of public concern since human exposure to low ionizing radiation from natural, industrial and medical sources is quite common. Generally, low dose health risks are much more difficult to assess due to inherent difficulties of working close to the limits of detection. For low doses a number of uncertainties and open questions still exist. It is now generally accepted that the evaluation of low dose health risks needs to be backed up by better understanding of the fundamental mechanisms involved. The High Level Expert Group ([HLEG](#)) (see [report 2009](#)) proposed an operational strategy for a long term low dose health research in Europe including the establishment of a dedicated organisation and a strategic research agenda (SRA). On these grounds, the European platform [MELODI “Multidisciplinary European Low Dose Initiative”](#) was created in 2009 consisting of major national bodies with research programmes and long term commitment to low dose risk research. Its aim is the promotion and coordination of low dose research at the European level. Moreover, with the help of the EC the European Network of Excellence [DoReMi \(“Low Dose Research towards Multidisciplinary Integration”\)](#) was launched as an operational tool to address key policy questions and help structuring the MELODI platform. MELODI activities include integration of R&D to foster low dose research, a program for training and education to keep and develop expertise, a program for infrastructures and the organisation of dedicated workshops. Within DoReMi (2010–2015), WP2 acts as a main driving force for these activities.

WP2 tasks include the integration of partners into the project, setting-up short and long term research agendas and roadmaps including education and training (see [WP3](#)) and suitable infrastructures (radiation facilities,

cohorts, data- and biobanking and high throughput analysis platforms) (see [WP4](#)) as well as ensuring corresponding dissemination activities. The short term (6 years) [Transitional Research Agenda \(TRA\)](#) is designed for integrative low dose research and pilot studies in DoReMi, whereas the [Strategic Research Agenda \(SRA\)](#) of MELODI is setting long term (>20 years) priorities and implementing sustainable research on low dose risk and radiation protection in Europe.

Both agendas are living documents with regular updating. All actors in this domain are kindly invited to [send comments and views](#) to make sure that all relevant scientific and societal issues are considered in both agendas (see Website). The organisation of Websites, collaboration and interaction with the wider scientific community, experts, stakeholders, regulatory bodies and the public at the European as well as international level are an essential part of DoReMi dissemination activities. In this way, DoReMi remains always open to future scientific and societal developments. All DoReMi activities serve to get a better understanding of low dose radiation effects and aid to improve radiation protection.

For more information on the WP2 tasks, see WP2 page on the [DoReMi Website](#).

Dr. Dietrich Averbeck



Training courses

In order to facilitate training and education in support of the research program, short 2–3 week training courses are organised during December 2012 – June 2013. DoReMi Training Courses are open to any postgraduate student or researcher interested in the scientific disciplines related to radiation protection.

Approaching application deadline 17 October 2012:

Inter-individual variability of radiation-sensitivity: Mechanisms and Biomarkers, organised in Paris, France on 10–21 December.

More information available [here](#).

Further enquiries: doremi.training@pv.infn.it.

DoReMi Scientific Information Centre created

In these pages recently added to our website, you will find information about DoReMi activities (publications, posters) and about fields/topics relevant to DoReMi aims. More information [here](#).

Opportunities

Positions open in DoReMi organisations, more information [here](#).

Subscription info

DoReMi Newsletters are published roughly every three months. They are sent to subscribers and published on DoReMi website. If you wish to receive the DoReMi Newsletters directly by email, please subscribe by sending a message to doremi@stuk.fi.

DoReMi members

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Institute for Environmental Sciences ([IES](#)), Japan
Dublin Institute of Technology ([DIT](#)), Ireland
Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam ([ERASMUS](#)), the Netherlands

DoReMi and related events

Future events

- A one-day symposium **The prominent role of low energy electrons and ions in radiation therapy and biology** will be organised on 30 November – 1 December in Stockholm, Sweden. More information available [here](#).
- **11th International LOWRAD Conference** "The Effects of Low Doses and Very Low Doses of Ionizing Radiation on Human Health and Biomes" will be organised on 17–18 December in Lyon, France. More information available [here](#).
- **2nd International Radiation Proteomics Workshop** will be organised on 30–31 January in Neuherberg by Munich, Germany. More information available [here](#).

Past events

- **4th International MELODI Workshop** was organised on 12–14 September 2012 in Helsinki, Finland. See www.melodi2012.org for publishable [presentations](#) and more information.

Highlights and interesting documents available

- A peer-reviewed publication "Iodine-deficiency-induced long lasting angiogenic reaction in thyroid cancers occurs via a vascular endothelial growth factor-hypoxia inducible factor-1-dependent, but not a reactive oxygen species-dependent, pathway" by Gérard et al. has been published in *Thyroid*, Vol. 22, No 7, June 2011, pp. 699–708. More information available [here](#).

