



strict controls. Yet this is public land. Citizens, including children and pregnant women returning to their contaminated homes, are at risk of receiving radiation doses equivalent to one chest X-ray a week. This is unacceptable and a clear violation of their human rights,” said Jan Vande Putte, radiation specialist with Greenpeace Belgium and leader of the survey project.

Greenpeace Japan conducted the investigations in September and October last year, measuring tens of thousands of data points around homes, forests, roads and farmland in the open areas of Namie and Iitate, as well as inside the closed Namie exclusion zone. The government plans to

open up small areas of the exclusion zone, including Obori and Tsushima, for human habitation in 2023.

The survey shows the decontamination program to be ineffective, combined with a region that is 70-80% mountainous forest which cannot be decontaminated.

Key finding from the Greenpeace Japan survey:

- Even after decontamination, in four of six houses in Iitate, the average radiation levels were three times higher than the government long term target. Some areas showed an increase from the previous year, which could have come from recontamination.
- At a house in Tsushima in the Namie exclusion zone, despite it being used as a test-bed for decontamination in 2011-12, a dose of 7 mSv per year is estimated, while the international limit for public exposure in a non-accidental situation is 1 mSv/y. This reveals the ineffectiveness of decontamination work.
- At a school in Namie town, where the evacuation order was lifted, decontamination had failed to significantly reduce radiation risks, with levels in a nearby forest with an average dose-rate over 10 mSv per year. Children are particularly at risk from radiation exposure.
- In one zone in Obori, the maximum radiation measured at 1m would give the equivalent of 101 mSv per year or one hundred times the recommended maximum annual limit, assuming a person would stay

there for a full year. These high levels are a clear threat, in the first instance, to thousands of decontamination workers who will spend many hours in that area.

This contamination presents a long-term risk, and means that the government’s long-term radiation target (1mSv/year which is equivalent to 0.23µSv/hour) are unlikely to be reached before at least the middle of the century in many areas that are currently open, and into next century for the exclusion zone of Namie. In an admission of failure, the government has recently initiated a review of its radiation target levels with the aim of raising it even higher.

The Government’s policy to effectively force people to return by ending housing and other financial support is not working, with population return rates of 2.5% and 7% in Namie and Iitate respectively as of December 2017.

In November last year, the UNHRC’s Universal Periodic Review on Japan issued four recommendations on Fukushima issues. Member-governments (Austria, Portugal, Mexico & Germany) called for Japan to respect the human rights of Fukushima evacuees and adopt strong measures to reduce the radiation risks to citizens, in particular women and children, and to fully support self-evacuees. Germany called on Japan to return to maximum permissible radiation [levels] of 1 mSv per year, while the current government policy in Japan is to permit up to 20 mSv per year. If this recommendation was applied, the Japanese government’s lifting of evacuation orders would have been halted.

“Our radiation survey results provide evidence that there is a significant risk to health and safety for any returning evacuee. The Japanese government must stop forcing people to go back home, and protect their rights,” said Kazue Suzuki, Energy Campaigner at Greenpeace Japan. “It is essential that the government fully accept and immediately applies the recommendations at the United Nations.”

Notes:

[1] [Reflections in Fukushima: The Fukushima Daiichi Accident Seven Years On](#)

[2] The International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) sets a maximum dose of 1 mSv/ year in normal situations for the public, and in the range of 1-20 mSv/y under post-nuclear accident situations, such as that resulting from Fukushima Daiichi. The ICRP recommends that governments select the lower part of the 1-20 mSv/year range for protection of people living in contaminated areas, and “to reduce all individual exposures associated with the event to as low as [is] reasonably achievable.”

[Link to Photos and Videos](#)

## GOOD NEWS FROM WALES!

Kick Nuclear has received the following e-mail from the “re-emerging” Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance.

Dear Friend

The Welsh Anti-Nuclear Alliance (WANA) is re-emerging. Please pass on this news to other people and organisations with an interest in nuclear energy.

The relaunch is a response to increased activity on the nuclear energy front affecting all parts of Wales:-

1. Proposal to use Cardiff Bay as a dump for Hinkley Point mud that contains heavy metals and unknown levels of plutonium, uranium and other radioactive substances;
2. Nuclear Waste dumping consultation exercise by Welsh Government - due to end April 20th;
3. New-build plans for nuclear reactors at Wylfa (2 reactors), Hinkley Point (2 reactors), Oldbury (2 reactors), Moorside (3 reactors) - all of which could impact on Wales and its coastline;
4. Suggestion of Small Modular Reactors at Trawsfynydd.

We need to mobilise and get the message out that all of these developments are unacceptable in a country that has more than enough renewable energy solutions of its own. We need to make it clear that Wales will not become the sacrificial lamb for a dangerous and outdated technology that will cost the earth in more ways than one.

What you can do NOW:-

1. Have a look at our website and take suggested actions on the nuclear waste and Hinkley mud issues;
2. Subscribe to WANA;
3. Come to a Wales-wide meeting in Machynlleth on April 14th (details to follow);
4. Let us know who your Assembly comprehensive list of people willing to keep their local Assembly Members up to date with developments.

If we don't act now it will be too late. We look forward to hearing from you.

The WANA Secretariat, PO Box 90, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 9BP  
email [info@wana.wales](mailto:info@wana.wales) ; [www.wana.wales](http://www.wana.wales)

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## REGULAR FRIDAY SOLIDARITY VIGILS

**Every Friday** (since August 2012): leafletting outside the Japanese Embassy, 101-104 Piccadilly (Green Park tube) from 10am-12.30pm; and then outside Tokyo Electric Power Co. offices, 14-18 Holborn (Chancery Lane tube) from 1-1.30pm. Held in solidarity with the anti-nuclear movement in Japan. Organised by: *Kick Nuclear* and *Japanese Against Nuclear UK* (JAN UK)

## NEXT JOINT KN/NTAG PLANNING MEETINGS

**Monday April 9<sup>th</sup>**, 7pm, At CND Office. (Address at top.)

## “FUKUSHIMA RADIATION RISKS TO LAST INTO NEXT CENTURY”

From a Greenpeace Report, published in Tokyo, 1 March 2018:

A comprehensive survey by Greenpeace Japan in the towns of Iitate and Namie in Fukushima prefecture, including the exclusion zone, revealed radiation levels up to 100 times higher than the international limit for public exposure [1][2]. The high radiation levels in these areas pose a significant risk to returning evacuees until at least the 2050s and well into next century.

The findings come just two weeks ahead of a critical decision at the United Nations Human Rights Council review on Japan's human rights record and commitments to evacuees from the nuclear disaster.

“In all of the areas we surveyed, including where people are permitted to live, the radiation levels are such that if it was in a nuclear facility it would require