



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Panel: Young Professionals in the Waste Management Industry

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Office of the Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Waste Management Symposia
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EM *Environmental Management*

safety ♦ performance ♦ cleanup ♦ closure

www.em.doe.gov

EM Mission

“Complete the safe cleanup of the environmental legacy brought about from five decades of nuclear weapons development, production, and Government-sponsored nuclear energy research”

- From a legacy of weapons production to the world’s largest environmental cleanup program
- Operating in the world’s most complex regulatory environment
- EM clean-up enables DOE to maintain ongoing operations and other critical missions while achieving compliance with governing environmental laws

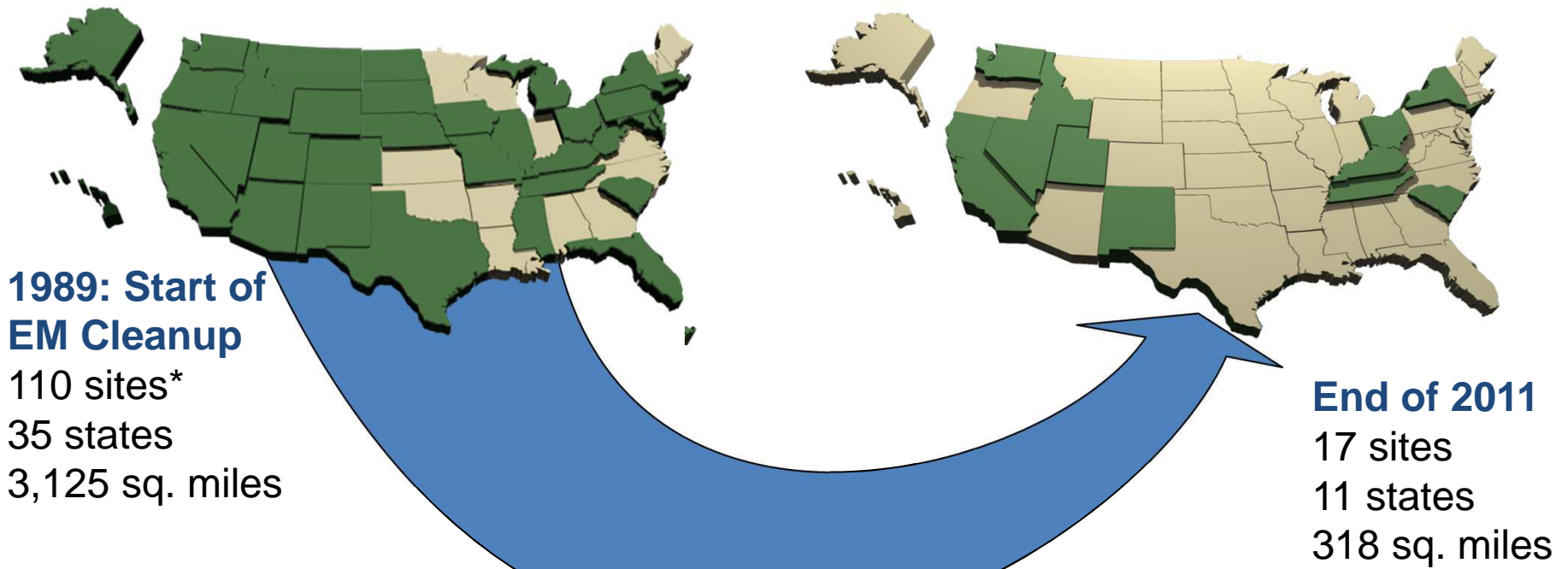


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Progress to Date and Challenges Ahead



- The program's toughest challenges are still ahead, including processing liquid tank waste and deactivating and decommissioning a large number of facilities
- These challenges require innovative technical solutions and scientific approaches

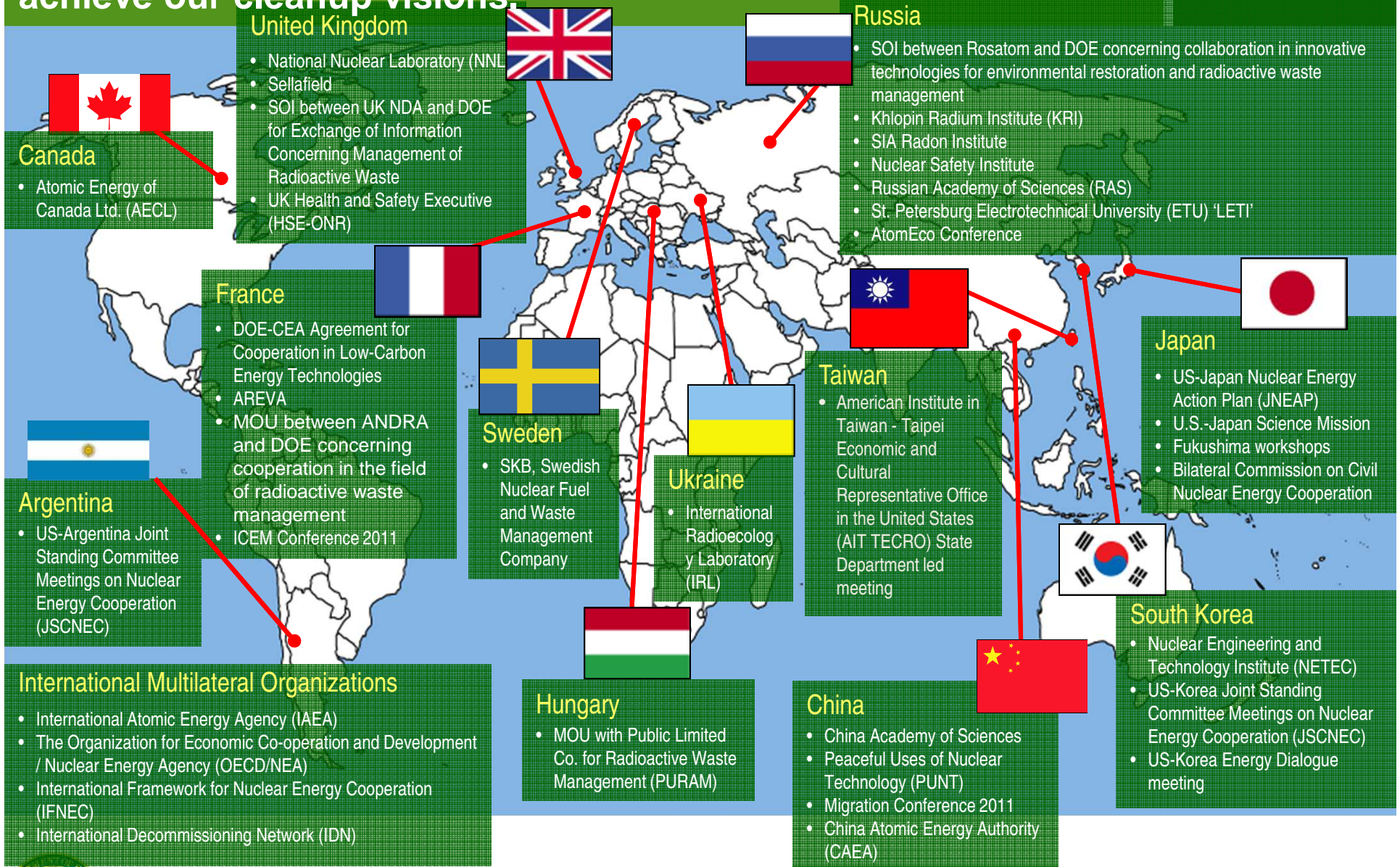


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We are committed to international cooperation so we may all achieve our cleanup visions



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EM Values International Cooperation



Renewal of the UK NDA-US DOE Statement of Intent, February 2012, Phoenix, AZ



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The DOE-FIU Science and Technology Workforce Development Program

- Innovative program between the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) and Florida International University's Applied Research Center
- Students specifically trained and mentored to enter the Department of Energy workforce in technical areas of need
- Integrates course work, Department of Energy (DOE) field work, and applied research work at FIU
- Upon graduation and completion of this fellowship, the students will submit an application to join Federal Internship programs such as Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) or DOE Contractors.



Opportunities as a DOE Fellow



US Secretary of Energy, Steven Chu, 2009



Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Ms. Ines Triay, 2009



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Working at the DOE-EM

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Ms. Tracy Mustin, 2011



DOE Hanford Site, 2011



FIU-ARC Director for Research, Dr. Leonel Lagos, 2011

Lessons Learned

Readiness to learn: It's not how much you know, it's your understanding of how much you have yet to learn and your willingness to learn it

Readiness to change: Organizational life is full of changes, and you need to be flexible.

Have an open mind: Be open to new ways of thinking and doing things and to new experiences.

Long-term perspective: "I'm here for the long haul and what I'm doing today (or even this month) is not as important as where it is taking me down the road."

Work ethic: Show up early, stay late, volunteer for projects, and work extra hard at your learning.

Find a mentor and Network, network, network!



Thank you.



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