

Co-operation between

- Finnish Food Safety Authority and
 - Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority
- in serious radiation situations

NKS FOOD

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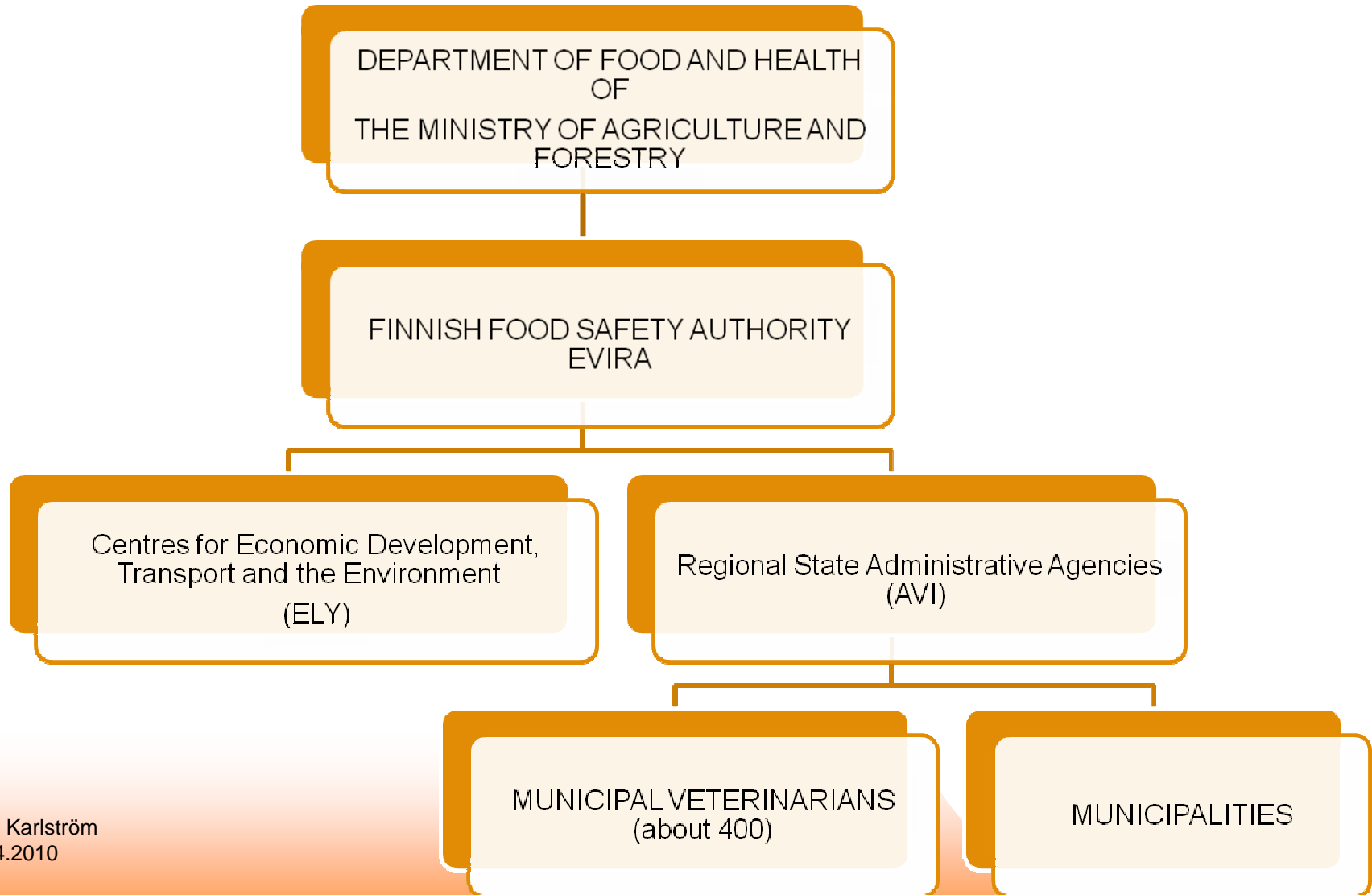
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Evira

- Finnish Food Safety Authority Evira started its operation in May 2006.
- Single authority in compliance with the "from the field to the table" principle.
- The operation of Evira focuses on
 - ensuring the safety of food and feed
 - promoting the health and welfare of animals
 - plant health.

Administration of food safety in Finland



Responsible authorities

- Evira and STUK are:
 - Governmental organisations
 - Organisations with high expertise in their own fields
- Both organisations have responsibilities to ensure food safety in
 - Current, "normal" situation
 - Exceptional radiation situations
- How do we determine responsibilities in different situations?

Co-operation agreement

- A group of experts from both institutions have prepared a written contract specifying responsibilities
- General directors have signed this contract
- Responsibilities have been discussed both in current situation and in emergency



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Role of STUK: Main tasks

- STUK is expert organisation who
 - evaluates the situation and its significance
 - makes prognosis on how the situation will evolve
 - estimates the need of limitations on food consumption and safety limits of foodstuffs
 - gives recommendations on the countermeasures for other authorities
 - gives advice to food producers (agriculture, food industry)
 - runs environmental monitoring programs

Role of Evira: Main tasks

- Evira is
 - competent authority for food and feed
 - putting into effect the decrees concerning food and feed safety
 - takes into account the recommendations that STUK have given (after discussion with Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry)
 - Gives guidelines to
 - ELY
 - AVI
 - Municipalities
 - Food and feed business operators

Duties of STUK concerning food and feed in exceptional radiation situations

- Estimates the need of food and feed monitoring and prepares monitoring programs with Evira for securing the safety of food and feed
- Analyses gamma-, beta- and alfa-emitting radionuclides on food and feed samples at STUK laboratories in Helsinki and Rovaniemi
- Guides sample analyses of local and regional laboratories; quality assurance, priority of measurements etc.

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Duties of STUK concerning food and feed in exceptional radiation situations (2)

- Evaluates the health risks concerning the radioactivity and the safety of food together with experts from Evira
- Prepares recommendations for using food and feed
- Informs on the development of the situation both to domestic and foreign authorities, partners and media
- Many other tasks, not involving food or feed

Duties of Evira concerning food and feed in exceptional radiation situations

- Takes the recommendations given by STUK into account
- Gives guidance to local food and feed authorities and business operators
- Delivers the food monitoring plan to municipal authorities via Regional State Administrative Agencies (AVI)
- Delivers the feed monitoring plan to Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY)

Duties of Evira concerning food and feed in exceptional radiation situations(2)

- Makes sure that local authorities are aware of the maximum permitted levels of radioactive substances in food and feed
- Makes intake calculations and risk assessment of the radioactive compounds in food in cooperation with STUK
- In the beginning of the situation gives guidance to protect feed and food supplies from contamination

Duties of Evira concerning food and feed in exceptional radiation situations(3)

- Helps municipal authorities to make decisions to reject and discharge food and lots, which are not safe for human consumption or animal feed
- Coordinates the withdrawal of food from market, if necessary
- After the acute situation, gives guidance to AVI, ELY and municipalities to monitor the situation regionally

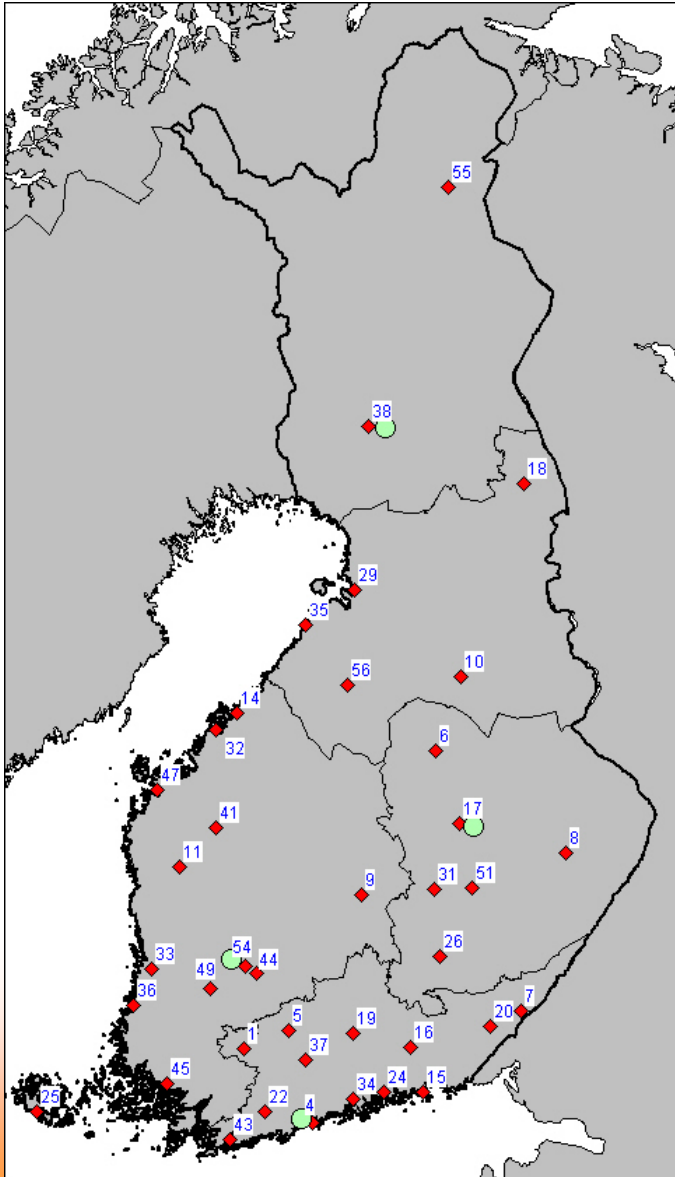
Food and feed consumption restrictions and risk communication

- Evira gives food and feed consumption recommendations and publishes them
- STUK publishes information about the radiation situation, security and gives advice on how to reduce the exposure

Laboratories

- STUK gives guidance to laboratories on how to measure radioactive compounds and how to interpret the measured radiation spectrum
- Evira coordinates sampling of food and feed together with municipalities, AVI and ELY-centres, taking STUK recommendations into consideration
- Laboratories are asked to deliver the results directly to STUK, but also to municipalities and Evira
- STUK analyses and makes summaries about the results and deliver them to Evira

Local environmental and food laboratories



- Gamma measurements for screening foodstuff samples; calibrated for Cs-137 and I-131
- STUK provides local laboratories with measuring equipment and gives advice and training
- Important for country wide monitoring in case of radioactive contamination of environment

Project in Evira 2010-2011

- Strengthening of the radioactivity monitoring concerning food in municipalities
- Purpose of this project is to encourage municipalities to
 1. recognise the situation concerning radioactivity in their own communities and to actively inform local people about it
 2. develop their emergency plans
 3. built a relationship to the local laboratories analysing radioactive compounds

4. produce information about radioactive compounds in different food items all around Finland
5. to increase the knowledge about EU-recommendations about the reference levels
 - All the local food authorities are asked to collect samples (mushrooms, berries, game, reindeer) and to get them analysed in local laboratories
 - Evira collects all the results