



# First Seminary on Exchange with the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)

MINISTÉRIO DA  
CIÊNCIA, TECNOLOGIA,  
INOVAÇÕES E COMUNICAÇÕES



## Public Acceptance of Nuclear Energy of Nuclear Sector in Brazil

Cássia Helena Pereira Lima  
Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear (CNEN)

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# Summary

1. A little bit of Brazil – bases of the context to public acceptance
2. Basic concepts
3. Background of public acceptance in Brazil and some examples of action toward it
4. Final remarks

# 1. A LITTLE BIT OF BRAZIL

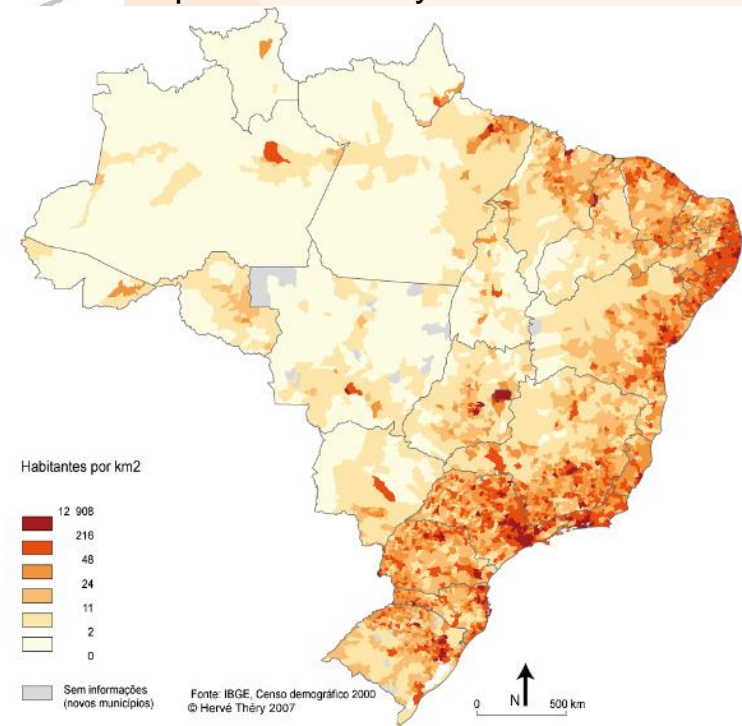


Presidential Republic

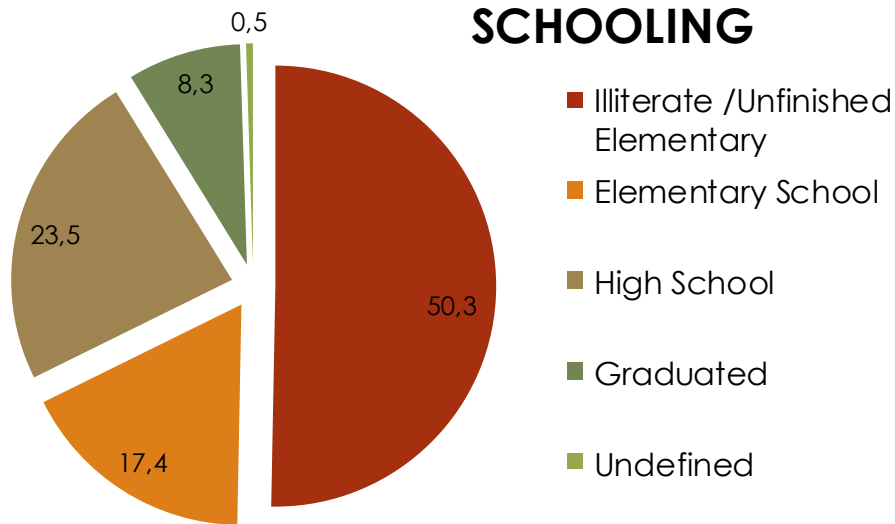
Population: 205million  
Area: 8 515 767 km<sup>2</sup>  
GDP US\$ 3,072 trillion  
HDI 0,755

**HUGE CONTRASTS**

Population density:



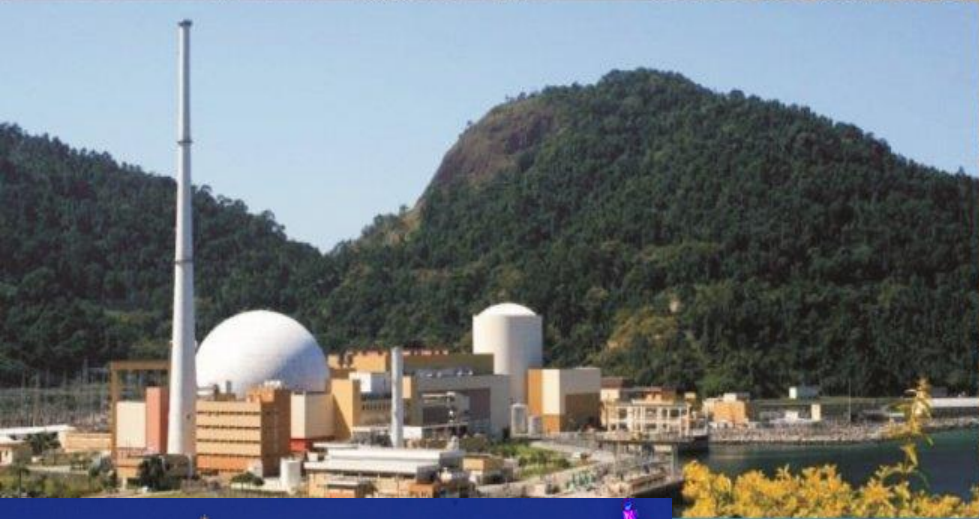
## SCHOOLING



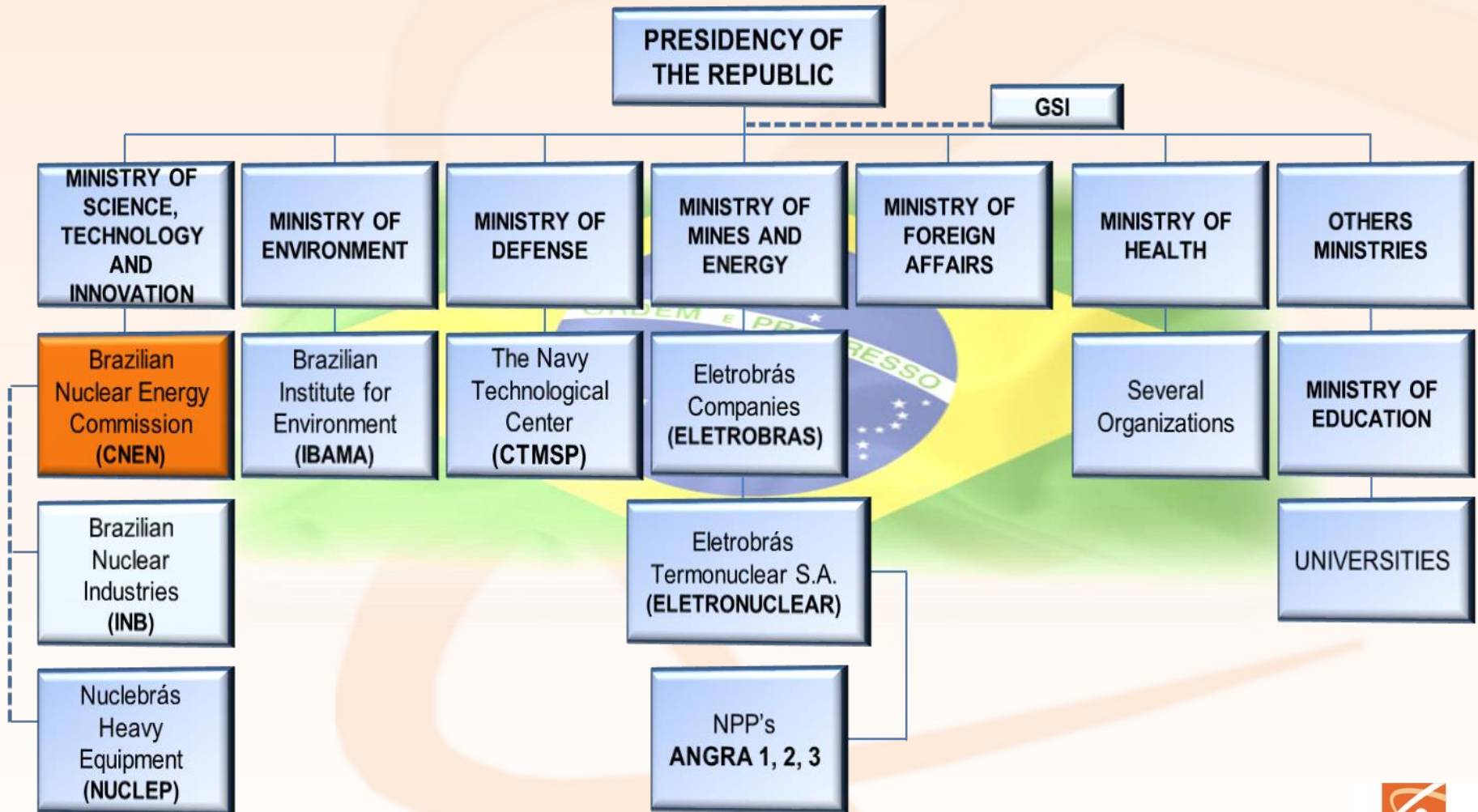
# Natural Resources



# Technological development, urbanization



# Nuclear Sector in Brazil



# THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

Mining  
& Processing

Conversion

Enrichment

UO<sub>2</sub> powder

Pellets

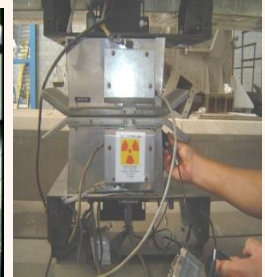
Fuel  
Elements

Power  
Generation,  
Medicine,  
Industry,  
Security uses



## A synergic mix of:

- Large uranium reserves;
- Fuel cycle technology;
- PWR technology;
- Non-proliferation;
- Intensive use in medicine industry and security.



## 2. Basic Concepts

PUBLIC  
ACCEPTANCE



***Communication is not what you say,  
but what the other person  
understands about what you say.***

*“The most important thing in communications  
is to listen to what was not said.”*

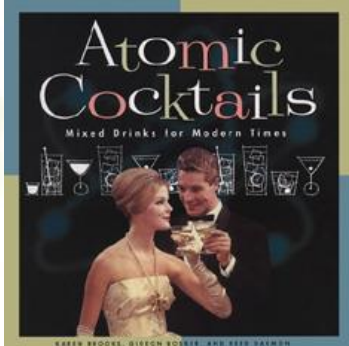
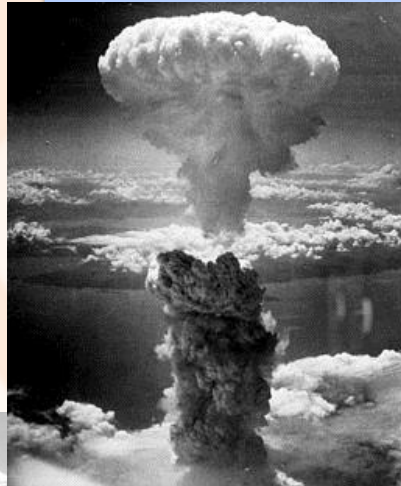
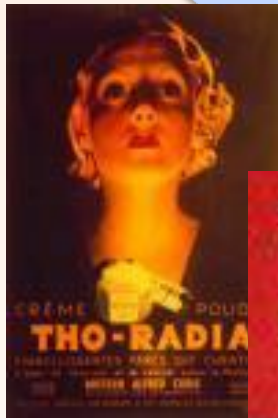
*Peter Drucker*



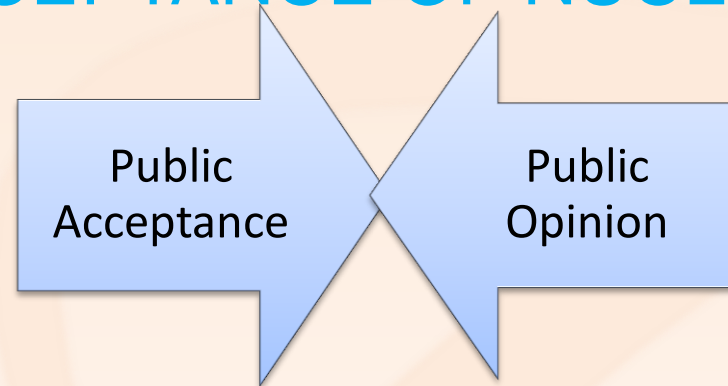
# ATTITUDES RELATED TO RADIOACTIVITY AND NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

From enthusiasm  
and fascination

To negative stigma



# PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY?



- How did the public become aware of nuclear energy?
  - The experience at the time of the first contact or knowledge of a technology or product is crucial for its acceptance
- What is our strategy (as a sector) for presenting nuclear energy?
- What is our strategy to demonstrate the benefits - and even the risks - of our product? **We talk a lot more about risks than about the benefits.**
- What is our strategy to show that society needs our product? Applications in medicine, industry, agriculture, power generation etc.

# PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY?

- Acceptance?
  - action or effect of accepting, agreeing or consenting;
  - easiness of being welcomed (by the public); receptivity
- It's not a passive action, it's an individual choice, not an imposition.
- “I accept, but Not in my backyard”.
  - NIMBY – not in my backyard
  - NIABE – not in anyone backyard
  - BANANA – built absolutely nothing anywhere near anybody
  - LULU - locally unwanted land use

### 3. BACK GROUND OF PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE AND INFORMATION IN BRAZIL 1/2

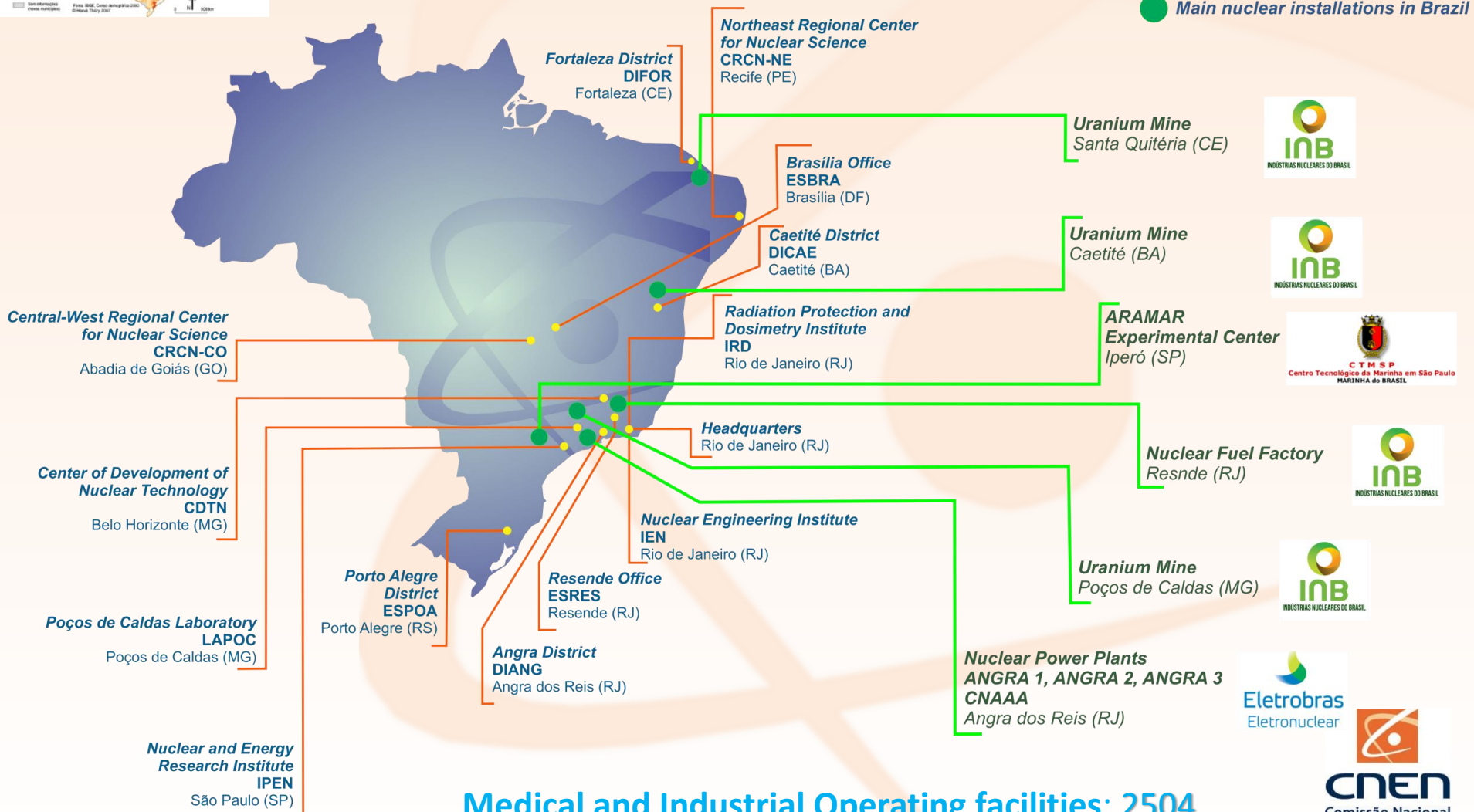
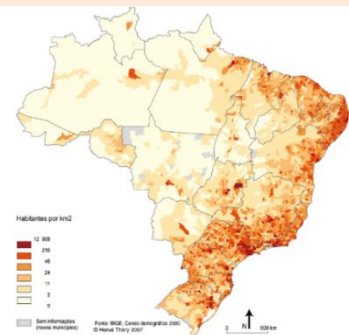
- ✓ In general, governmental institutions and the Government are seen and regarded as unreliable; however people trust some technicians, mainly the ones who live around the facilities.
- ✓ The nuclear sector is always subject to prejudice and rejection, no matter which activity it relates to.
- ✓ The Cesium accident in Goiânia has still been considered a threat in the view of the majority of the population.
- ✓ Lack of information on the nuclear sector, by the public and the media.
- ✓ For those whose level of schooling is low understanding nuclear matters is much more difficult.

# BASIC SITUATION OF PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE AND INFORMATION IN BRAZIL 2/2

- ✓ Public doesn't perceive some operators as transparent as they should be.
- ✓ “Judicialization” - if the community is not allowed to take part in all different steps of the process, they will seek access and impeach through the law (legal right).
- ✓ Addressing the risks to community opposition was not effectively done before the projects begun.
- ✓ There aren't national opinion pools on the perception and the opinions about nuclear area.
- ✓ There are very few politicians who are in favor of nuclear energy due to the fact that it does not result in votes.

# CNEN UNITIES IN BRAZIL AND MAIN NUCLEAR INSTALATIONS

- CNEN's Institutes
- Main nuclear installations in Brazil



**CNEN**  
Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear

Medical and Industrial Operating facilities: 2504

# Actions towards acceptance



- Formal requests for information received through e-mail and specific systems in 2017 : **41.818.**
- Participation in major Nacional Science Fair, Seminars and Conferences.
- News on website, intranet, contact proactivity and reactivity with journalists.
- Support in Public hearings – most of them are conducted by operators.
- Lectures in Schools – CNEN used to perform them but currently the operators are in charge of them in their communities.

# CNEN – Visiting Programs in all unities





# Research Institutes

**CDTN - Belo Horizonte**



**Headquarters  
Rio de Janeiro**



**IPEN São Paulo**



**IRD - Rio de Janeiro**



**IEN - Rio de Janeiro**



**LAPOC - Poços de Caldas**

**CRCN-CO  
Goiânia**



**CRCN-NE  
Recife**



# Scientific Communication:

## CIN – Centro de Informações Nucleares (Nuclear Information Center)

- Articles, papers, books, presentations, most of them in technical and academic language
- Free access to public
- Private area for technicians
- Lectures

<http://www.cnen.gov.br/centro-de-informacoes-nucleares>

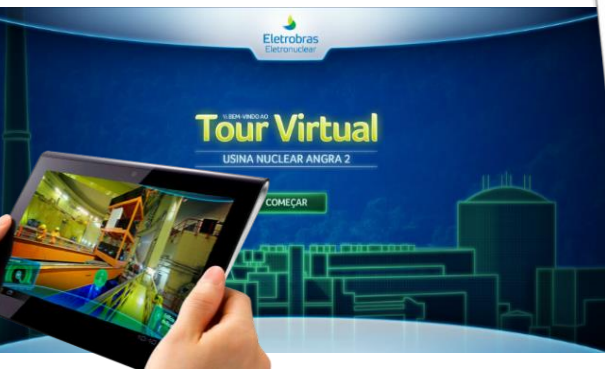
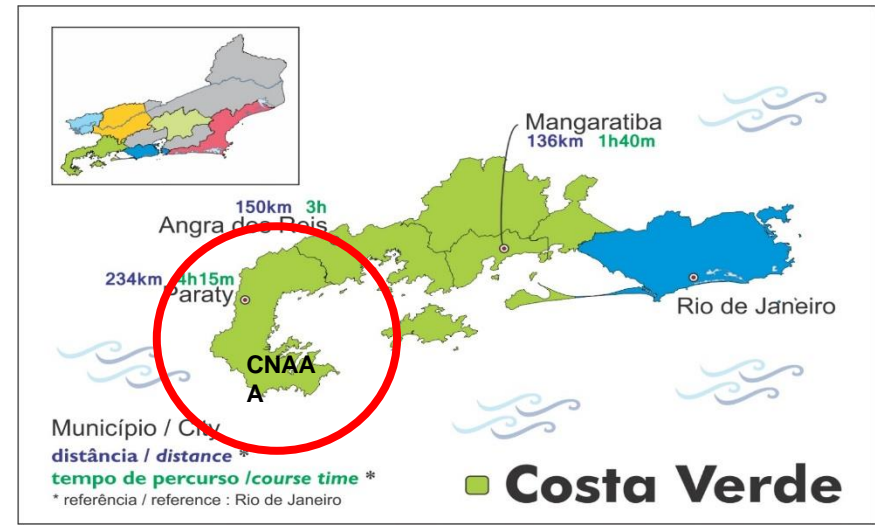
The screenshot displays the website of the Centro de Informações Nucleares (CIN). At the top, there is a navigation bar with the text 'PÁGINA INICIAL > INFORMAÇÕES TÉCNICO-CIENTÍFICAS'. The main header features the CIN logo and the title 'Centro de Informações Nucleares - CIN'. Below this, a descriptive paragraph states: 'O Centro de Informações Nucleares (CIN) é responsável pela gestão das Informações técnico-científicas da área nuclear e correlatas. Através de seus produtos e serviços, busca apoiar o ensino e pesquisa da comunidade científica nacional.' To the right of this text is the CIN logo.

The left sidebar contains a vertical menu with the following items: 'Quem Somos', 'Emergência Radiológica', 'Normas', 'Certificação de Supervisores', 'Instalações Autorizadas', 'Informações Técnico-Científicas' (highlighted), 'Biblioteca', 'PNS - Base de Dados', 'Solicitação de texto científico', 'Livre', 'Catálogo de anais de eventos', 'Catálogo de normas técnicas', 'Eventos Nucleares', 'Periódicos Nucleares', 'SONAR INIS', '2º SABP', 'Mídia Estática', 'Envio de trabalhos científicos sobre Energia Nuclear', 'Dose Ocupacional', and 'Último Concurso'. Below this menu is a section for 'PESQUISA E DESENVOLVIMENTO' with sub-items: 'Pesquisa, Desenvolvimento e Inovação', 'Pós-Graduação', 'Produção de Radiofármacos', 'Serviços Técnicos Especializados', 'Armazenamento de Rejeitos Radioativos', and 'RADIOPROTEÇÃO E SEGURANÇA NUCLEAR' with sub-items: 'Registro de Venda de Radiofármacos' and 'Requerimentos'.

The main content area features a large blue banner titled 'Lista de eventos científicos na área Nuclear' with a calendar icon. Below the banner is a section for 'RSS Nuclear' with a list of news items: 'IAEA Reaches Milestone in Disposal of Radioactive Sources', 'Harvesting the energy of small bending motions', 'Westinghouse ready to make SMR fuel in UK', 'Peninsula completes first uranium delivery via Strata', 'Cameco announces Cigar Lake 2016 production outlook', 'UK decommissioning agency lays out plans to 2019', 'Ningde 4 fuel loading completed', and 'Two Chinese units complete commissioning'. Below this is a section for 'Serviços do CIN' with icons and text for: 'Biblioteca' (Catálogo da rede de bibliotecas da CENEN com recursos online), 'Livre - periódicos de livre acesso' (Coleção de periódicos de acesso livre com recursos avançados de busca), 'Catálogo de normas técnicas' (Ferramenta de localização de normas técnicas em bibliotecas e instituições), 'Solicitação de textos completos' (Serviço de busca de textos completos para pesquisas científicas), 'Boletim Webnuclear' (Boletim mensal de divulgação de conteúdos relacionados à área nuclear), 'Catálogo de anais de eventos' (Ferramenta de localização de anais de eventos científicos em bibliotecas), 'Memória da CENEN' (Repositório da produção científica da CENEN), and 'SONAR INIS' (Disseminação seletiva de informação sobre a área nuclear).

At the bottom, there are three sections: 'Material didático' (Radiações Ionizantes e a vida, Aplicações da Energia Nuclear, História da Energia Nuclear, Guia de Gestão de Dados de Pesquisa, Energia Nuclear e suas Aplicações (Infante-Juvenil), Informações básicas sobre energia nuclear e radiações), 'Parceiros' (ibict, CENEN Rede de Bibliotecas, IAEA), and 'Curta nossa fanpage!' (Centro de Info... 2.214 curtidas, Centro de Informações Nucleares - CIN).

- ✓ Target audience: 250.000 inhabitants, (25.000 living in a 15km distance of the NPP)
- ✓ Low level of schooling, large socioeconomic differences
- ✓ < 20.000 visitors/year at the Information Center in CNAAA
- ✓ Permanent Consciousness Campaign
- ✓ Lectures and events in schools and universities
- ✓ Virtual tour in website



- ✓ Public Hearings
- ✓ Intensive presence in social media
- ✓ Strong communication with internal public
- ✓ Nuclear on the road - Itinerant exhibition circulated by 3 municipalities and was visited by more than 3.500 people



# ELETRONUCLEAR + CNEN + CIVIL DEFENSE + TOWN HOUSE IN ANGRA DOS REIS E PARATY

Teachers coaching



PARTNERSHIP WITH PUBLIC SAFETY BODIES, REGULATORS (ENVIRONMENTAL AND NUCLEAR) AND MAYORS

IN 5 YEARS, 20% OF THE TEACHERS OF ANGRA AND PARATY CONCLUDED THE COURSE

32 HOURS / CLASSROOM WITH A TECHNICAL VISIT TO THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



Communication actions during  
Emergency Exercise

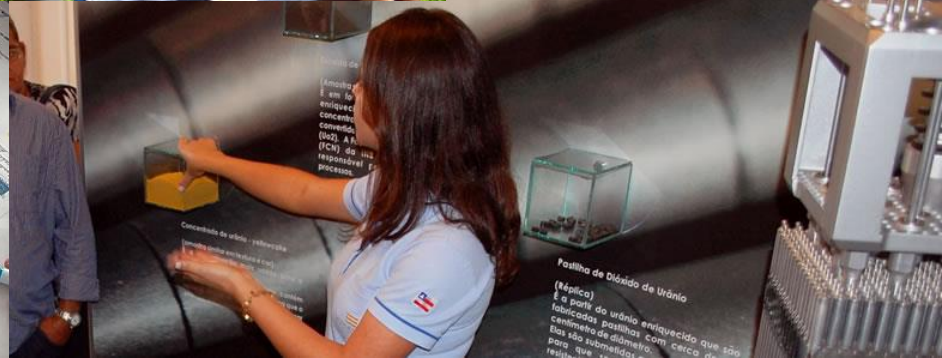
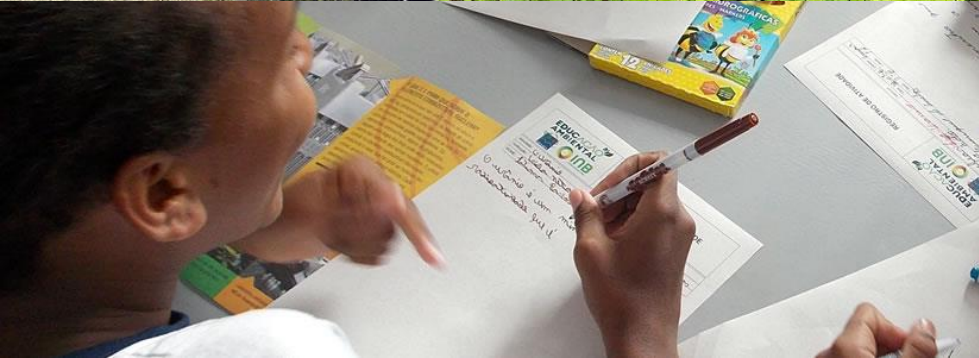




Espaço de Cultura INB  
Caetité

Source: INB website

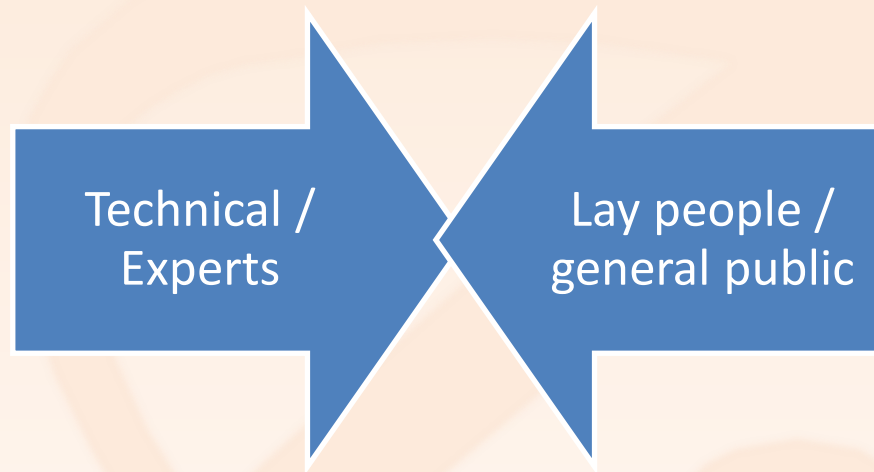
- ✓ Visits to units in Caetité, Caldas and Resende;
- ✓ Chat with the neighborhood - visits to family homes or residents' associations
- ✓ Radio Talk show in Caetité
- ✓ Environmental Education Program
- ✓ Public Hearings



## 4. Final remarks: Working on “Social Acceptance” – Communication, Clarification?

- Understanding the psychological determinants of social acceptance for a specific technology;
- Factors to be considered:
  - Risk, confidence, perceived benefits, knowledge, fears, individual differences and attitudes, cultural differences and international context, implications for future generations
- Reversal of the usual treatment given by the media and activists, correlating nuclear energy with danger, deadly radiation, bomb, accident.
- Lack of knowledge and promotion of applications.
- Establish communication strategy.

# Language – Barrier and bridge



Rational, logical, scientific, statistical language, associated with technology, benefits and peaceful applications

Colloquial language, intuitive, passionate, common sense; associated with the threat to future generations, potential catastrophe and nuclear weapons

*What is great in man is that he is a bridge and not the end.*

*Nietzsche*



# STRATEGIES FOR THE NUCLEAR SECTOR TO WORK "PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE"

- Communicate more (two-way communication);
- Listen more (get feedback), learn more about public perception;
- Explore the emotional bases for the risk judgment (expand the knowledge) ;
- Clarify and Inform in plain language;
- Practice communication actions from the strategy and planning to the development, application and commercialization of technologies, products and projects.

# One good answer can lead the regular citizen into becoming a partner



Figure 2 Page 23 of draftDS460

Figure 2 Page 23 of draft Safety Guide DS460  
Communication and Consultation with Interested Parties  
by the Regulatory Body

# First Seminary on Exchange with the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)

Muito obrigada!



Cássia Helena Pereira Lima  
Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear (CNEN)  
chlima@cnen.gov.br – (21) 2173 2112