

Radio-Ecological Monitoring of the Uranium Mining in the Mountain Areas

Kyrgyzstan was a country producing uranium ore in the USSR from 1940 to 1970. There were remained the huge amount of uranium waste in the country. Many tailings and uranium wastes were located in seismically hazardous mountainous areas along the mountains, rivers, populated areas and areas at risk of landslides. The radiological impact on the environment and the population was not fully known yet. Because there were low standards of living, social and migration issues and it could be influenced to poor socio-psychological situation in these areas, including the threats and risks from radiation, as well as other potential physical risks. The protective structures of the uranium tailings and dumps were destroyed because of weak monitoring and did not timely doing repair works. It was found that the potential dangerous waste was the uranium tailings; Tuyuk-Suu, Taldy-Bulak, Kaji-Sai and Mailu-Suu in the uranium technogenic province near the mountains of the republic, which are included in the register of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic.

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