

IMPACT OF IAEA COORDINATED RESEARCH PROJECTS ON TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES

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eBeam Technology for Cleaning, Healing, Feeding, and Shaping this World and Beyond...
an International Atomic Energy Agency Collaborating Centre for Electron Beam Technology



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Over-Arching Topics in Environmental Health

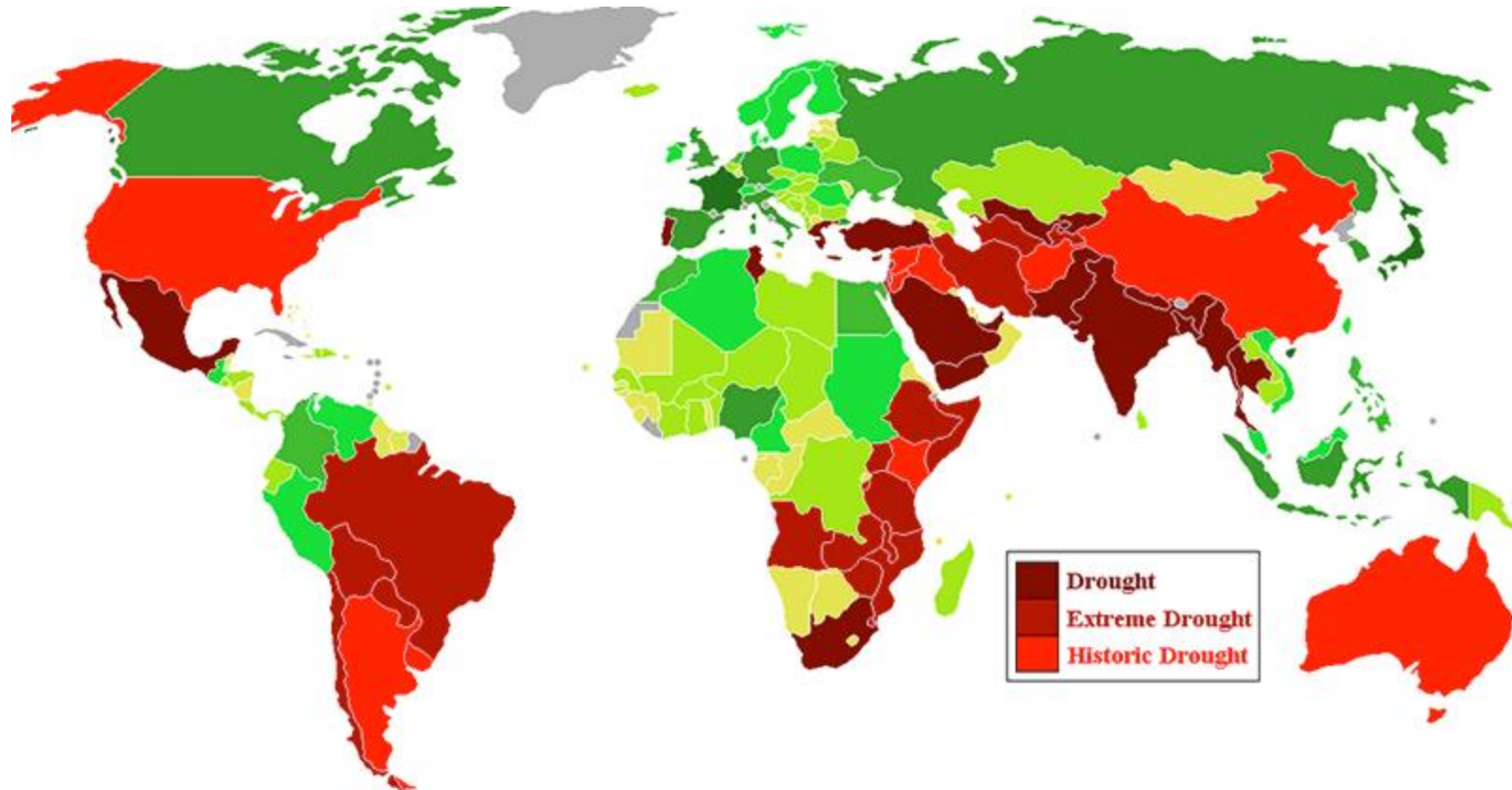
- Municipal Drinking water
- Industrial and Domestic Wastewater
- Organic Pollutants
 - **Microbial Pathogens**
 - Bacterial, viral and protozoan pathogens
 - **Organic Chemical Pollutants**
 - Pesticide residues
 - Pharmaceutical industry wastewater
 - Municipal solid and liquid wastes

IAEA Coordinated Research Projects to Address Grand Challenges

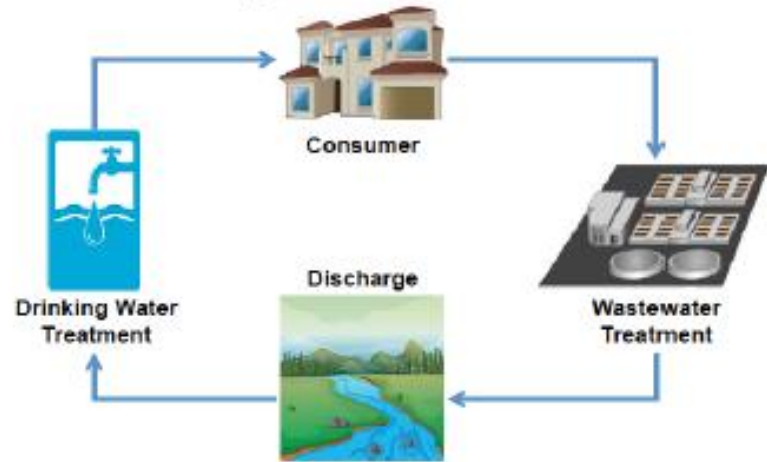
Example Projects focused on environmental contaminants

- Use of irradiation for chemical and microbial decontamination of water, wastewater and sludge. 1995-2001
- F23024- Electron Beam Treatment of Organic Pollutants Contained in Gaseous Streams- 2004 - 2009
- F23029- Radiation Treatment of wastewater for reuse with particular focus on wastewaters containing organic pollutants –2010-2016
- F2303- Radiation inactivation of biohazards using high powered electron beam accelerators –*Nov 2017*
- F23034- Radiation based technologies for treatment of emerging organic pollutants – 2019-2024

Grand Challenges



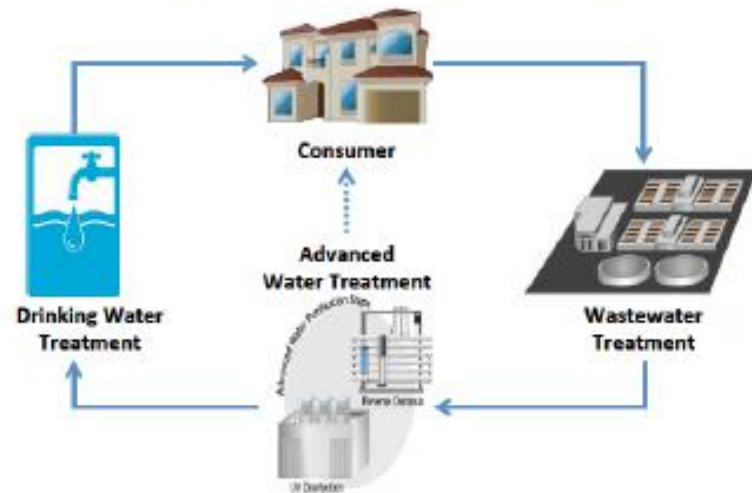
De facto Water Reuse



Indirect Potable Reuse



Direct Potable Reuse



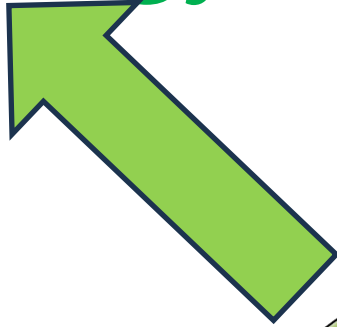


Contemporary View

- Sewage sludges are significant pools of energy substrates and nutrients
- ~~Wastewater Treatment Plants~~
- **Sustainable Resource Recovery Facilities**
 - Compelling need to exploit different technologies to extract as much of the energy and nutrients as possible from different waste-streams

Contemporary Challenges

Energy



Forever Chemicals (PFAS)

Organic Compounds (pesticide/antibiotics,
drug residues)

Microbial Pathogens/Textile water decolorization

Per and polyfluorinated chemical compounds (PFAS)

PFAS are short for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, meaning that they **contain a chain of carbon atoms (alkyl) bonded to fluorine atoms (fluoro)**.



C: Carbon; F: Fluorine; O: Oxygen;
H: Hydrogen; S: Sulfur

PFOA and **PFOS** are the most studied, and they both have an **8-carbon chain**.

They differ in their terminal groups:



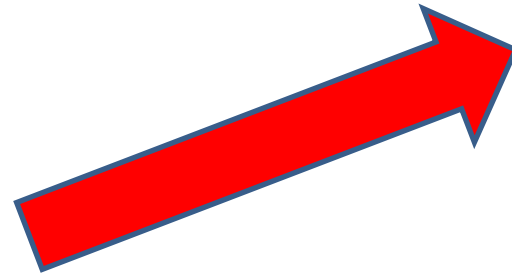
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)

PFOA has a **carboxylic group (-COOH)**,

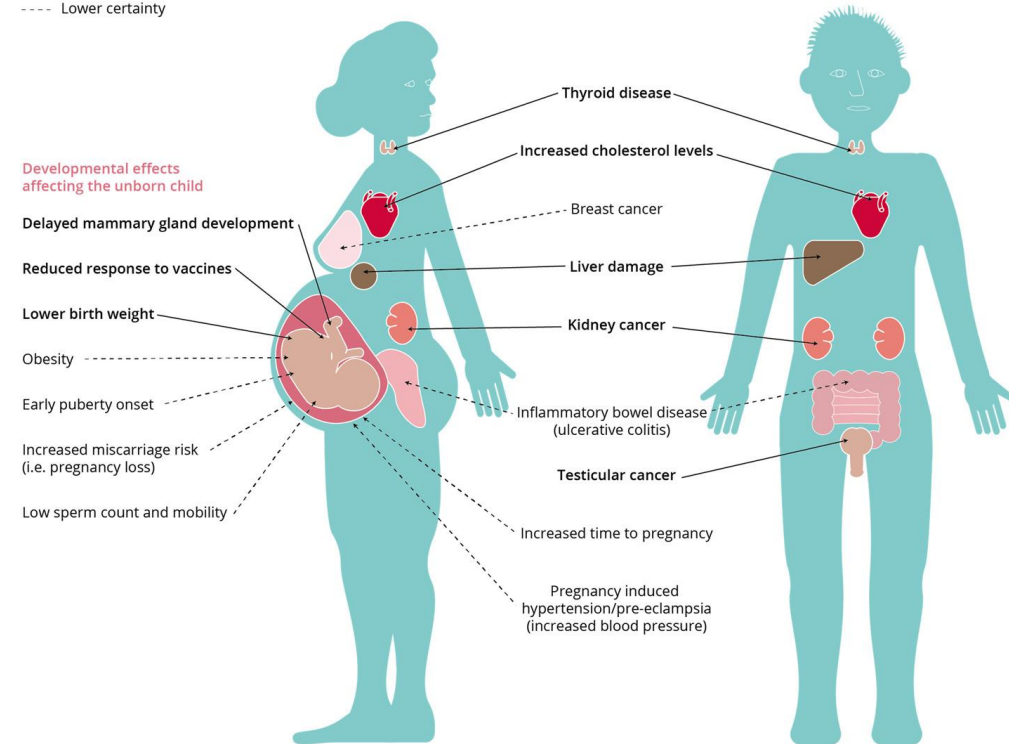
while **PFOS** terminal group is a **sulfonic acid (-SO₃H)**



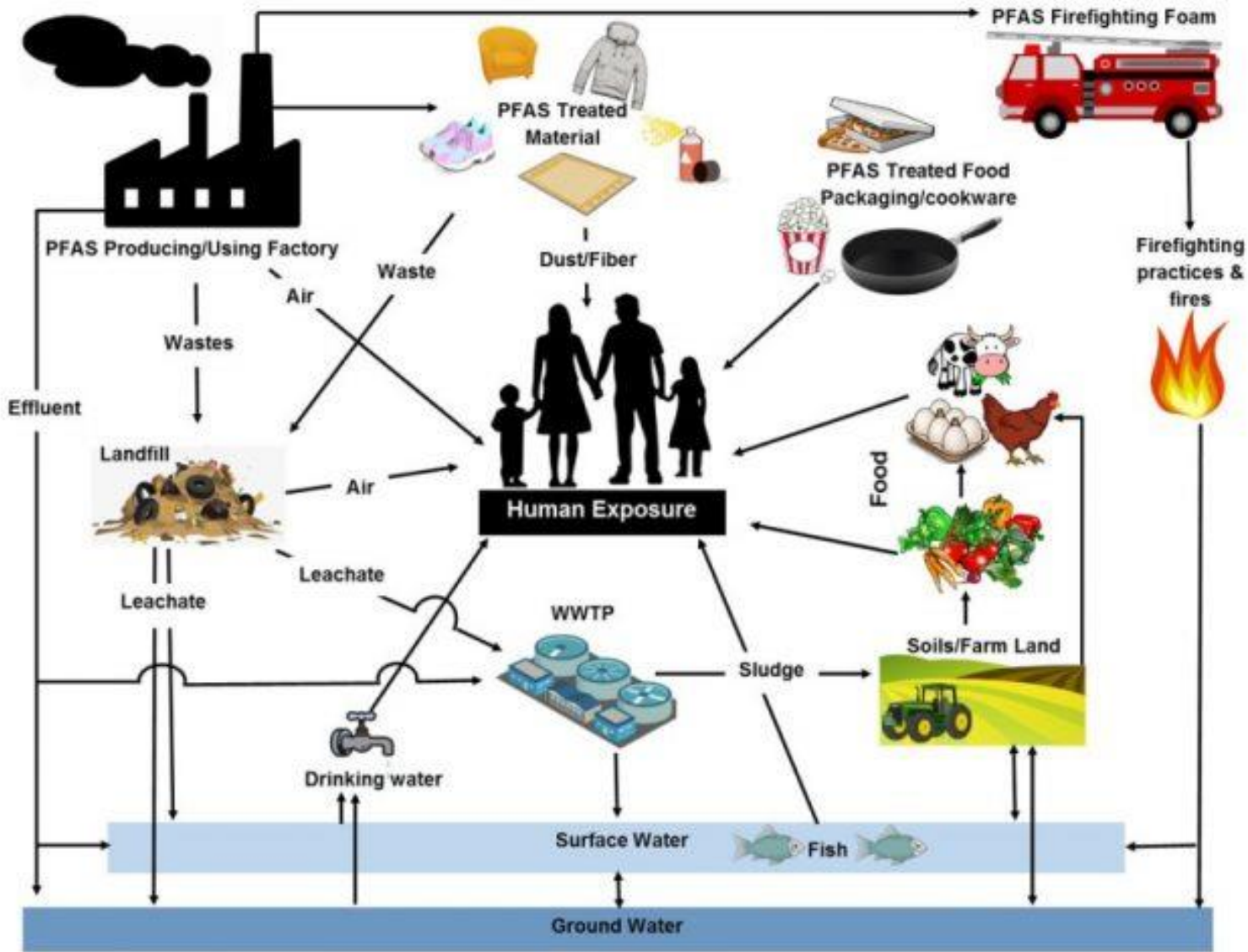
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)



— High certainty
- - - Lower certainty



Per and polyfluorinated chemical compounds (PFAS)

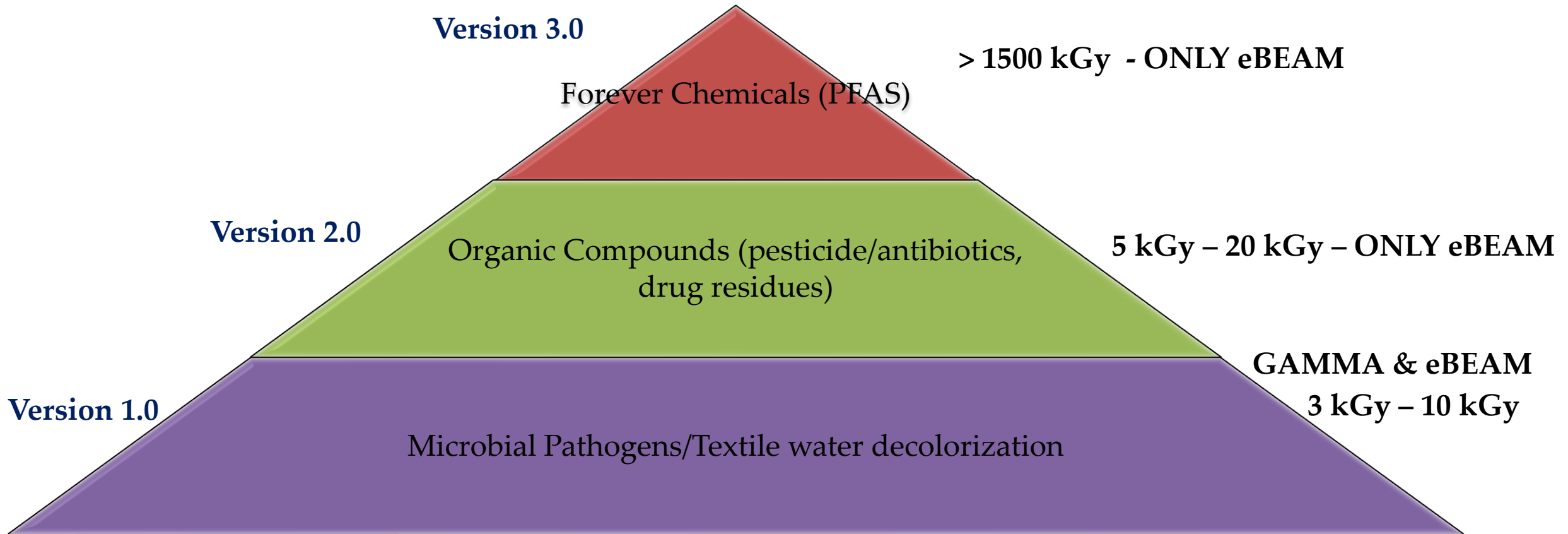


Human Exposure and sources of PFAS
Image: DWP, adapted from Oliaei et al. 2013.

Current Situation – Environmental landscape is quickly changing

- **PFAS remediation**
- **Energy recovery from municipal sludges**
 - **Waste valorization**
 - **Circular economy**
 - **Sustainable Development Goals**
- **Water Reuse**

Technology Options



Current State of the Science-Its not a question whether the technology will work..

Project	Location	Technology	Year
Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant -400m ³ /day	Boston, Massachusetts, USA	eBeam	1980's
Impela Project 2454 dry tons/year	Ontario, Canada	eBeam	1980's
Virginia Key Project 645 m ³ /day	Miami, Florida, USA	eBeam	1990's
Mobile eBeam Demonstration Project	Daejeon, S. Korea	eBeam	2011
Dyeing Wastewater Treatment Project (2000 m ³ /day)	Jinhua City, China	eBeam	2016
Dyeing Wastewater Treatment Project (30,000 m ³ /day)	Jiangmen City, Guangdong Province, China	eBeam	2020
Hospital wastewater Treatment Project (400 m ³ /day)	Shiyan City, Hubei Province, China	eBeam	2021
Antibiotic Fermentation Residues Treatment Project (200 dry tons /day)	Yining City, Xinjiang, China	eBeam	2021
Dyeing Wastewater Treatment Project (5000 m ³ /day)	Xiangyang City, Hubei Provinve, China	eBeam	2022
Landfill Leachate Treatment Project (300 m ³ /day)	Mianyang City, Sichuan Province, China	eBeam	2022

Electron Beam Technology for Water Treatment

- China – pilot scale eBeam facility for treating wastewater from the dyeing industry 2017

Secure | <https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/news/chinas-first-wastewater-plant-using-radiation-opens>


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China's First Wastewater Plant Using Radiation Opens

Miklos Gaspar, IAEA Office of Public Information and Communication

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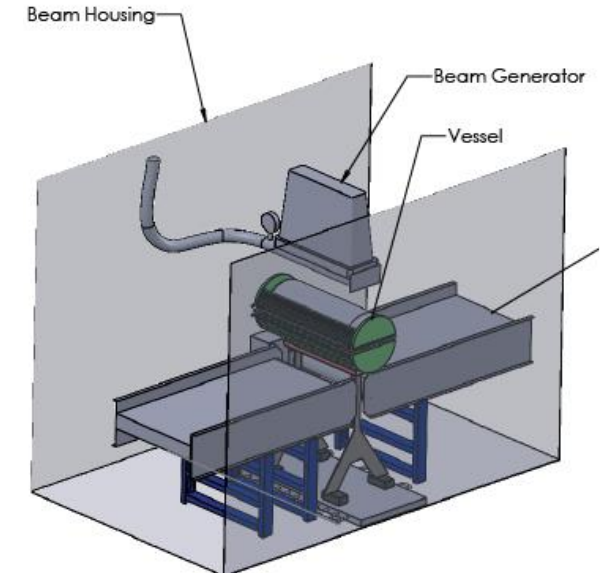
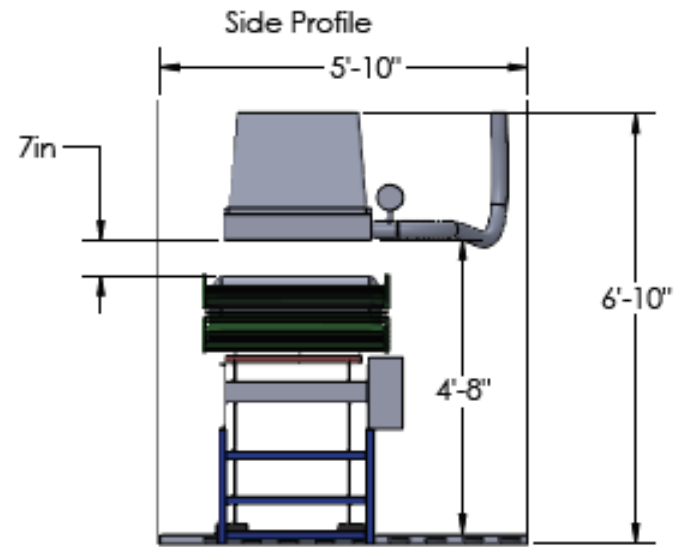
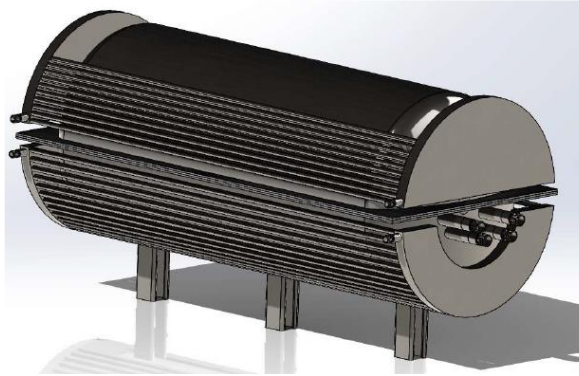
Electron beam technology is used to clean industrial wastewater at a textile dyeing facility in Jinhua city, 300 kilometers south of Shanghai. (Photo: Nuclear and Energy Technology Institute, Tsinghua University, Beijing.)



China's example investment in eBeam technology



Texas A&M University - eBeam Technology for PFAS Remediation



International Water Association-Source Water

Harnessing Electrons to Clean and Power the World

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International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) – Collaborating Center




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International Atomic Energy Agency

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ELECTRON BEAM RESEARCH
at Texas A&M Agri Life Research

IAEA Collaborating Centre

for
Electron Beam Technology for Food, Health and
Environmental Applications

2014–2017



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2019 – 2023

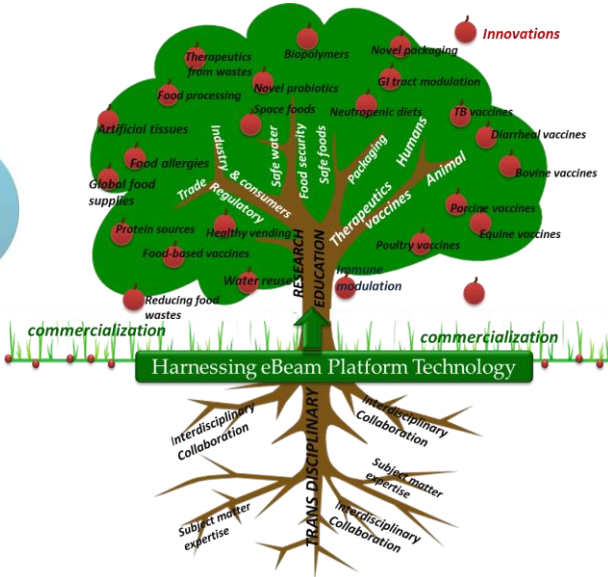
Strategic Partnership Between Texas A&M University and US Government



Accelerate the transition from the use of radioactive sources to machine sources all around the world

- *Unleash private investments in the technology*
- *Sustainable economic prosperity*
- *Safe, secure access to nuclear technologies*

NCEBR's Global Vision



Help Educate, Support Research, Help Design and Empower Commercially Viable eBeam Facilities and Businesses worldwide

- ✓ Mexico
- ✓ Pakistan
- Peru
- Uruguay
- Argentina
- Sri Lanka
- Bangladesh
- Kuwait
- Jordan
- Morocco
- Botswana

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Remember

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