



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**Nuclear Energy**

# International Perspective on the Future of Nuclear Power

*The 23<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Nuclear Engineering*



*Majuhari Messe, Chiba, Japan*

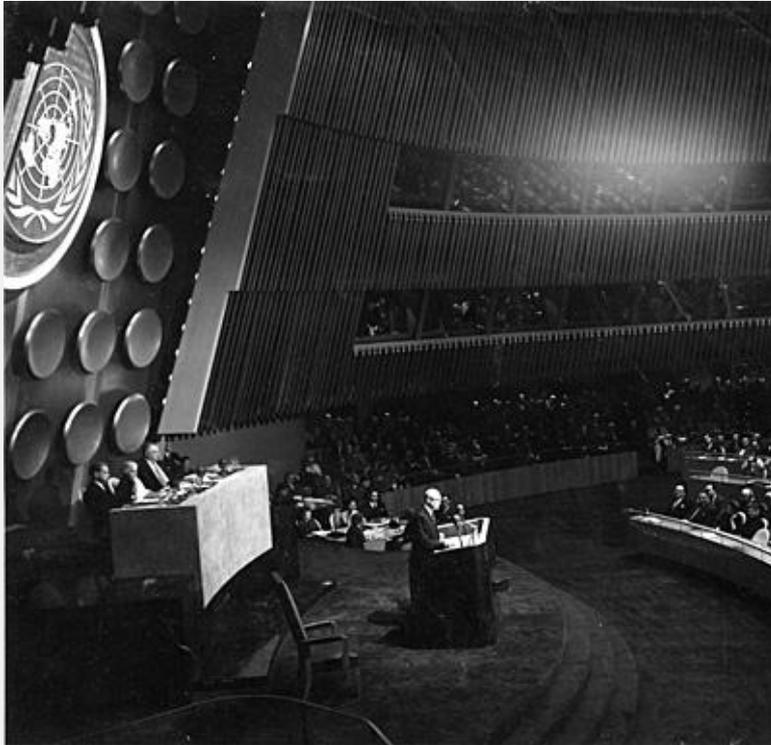
**John E. Kelly**  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Reactor Technologies  
Office of Nuclear Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy

**May 19, 2015**



## Atoms for Peace

### *The First Wave of Nuclear Power Deployment*



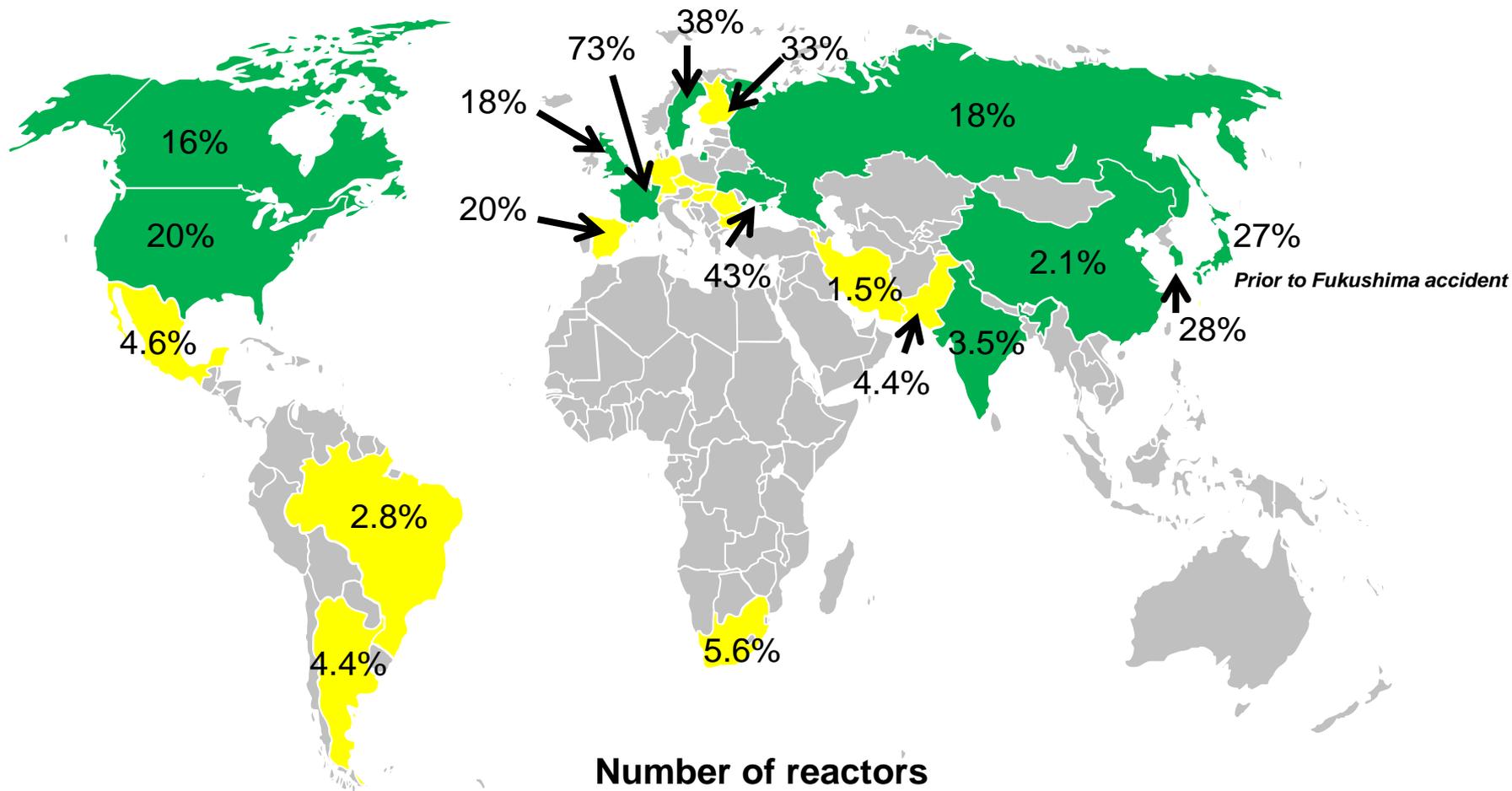
*President Dwight D. Eisenhower, December 8, 1953,  
to the 470<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the United Nations  
General Assembly*

*“Peaceful power from  
atomic energy is no dream  
of the future. That  
capability, already  
proved, is here – now –  
today.”*

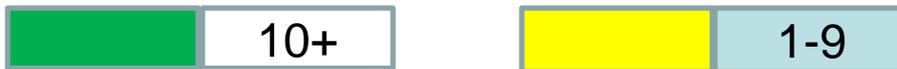




# Existing Nuclear Commercial Power Reactors (13.8% World Wide / 21.4% OECD)



Number of reactors



~ Source: IAEA information & news reports



# Drivers that Influenced the First Wave of Nuclear Power Deployment

## ■ Encouraging drivers

- Post World War II: Re-emerging economies required increased energy
- 1970s - Oil Crisis
- Strong Government Backing



## ■ Neutral drivers

- Acid Rain
- Air Pollution
- 1971- **Inadvertent Climate Modification.**  
*Report of the Study of Man's Impact on Climate*

## ■ Discouraging drivers

- High Interest Rates
- Fear of Radiation
- Fear of Nuclear Weapons
- Three Mile Island Accident
- Chernobyl Accident
- Waste Management Impasse





# Today, Worldwide Interest in Nuclear Power is Strong

## ■ Energy security

- Nuclear shelters countries from importing costly fossil fuels
- Replacement of retiring nuclear or coal power plants

## ■ Economic incentives

- Nations rich in fossil fuels would prefer to export those fuels and use nuclear for domestic electricity production

## ■ Environmental protection

- Replacing coal with nuclear can alleviate air pollution problems
- Dry condenser cooling possible with SMRs when water usage is restricted

## ■ Climate change concerns

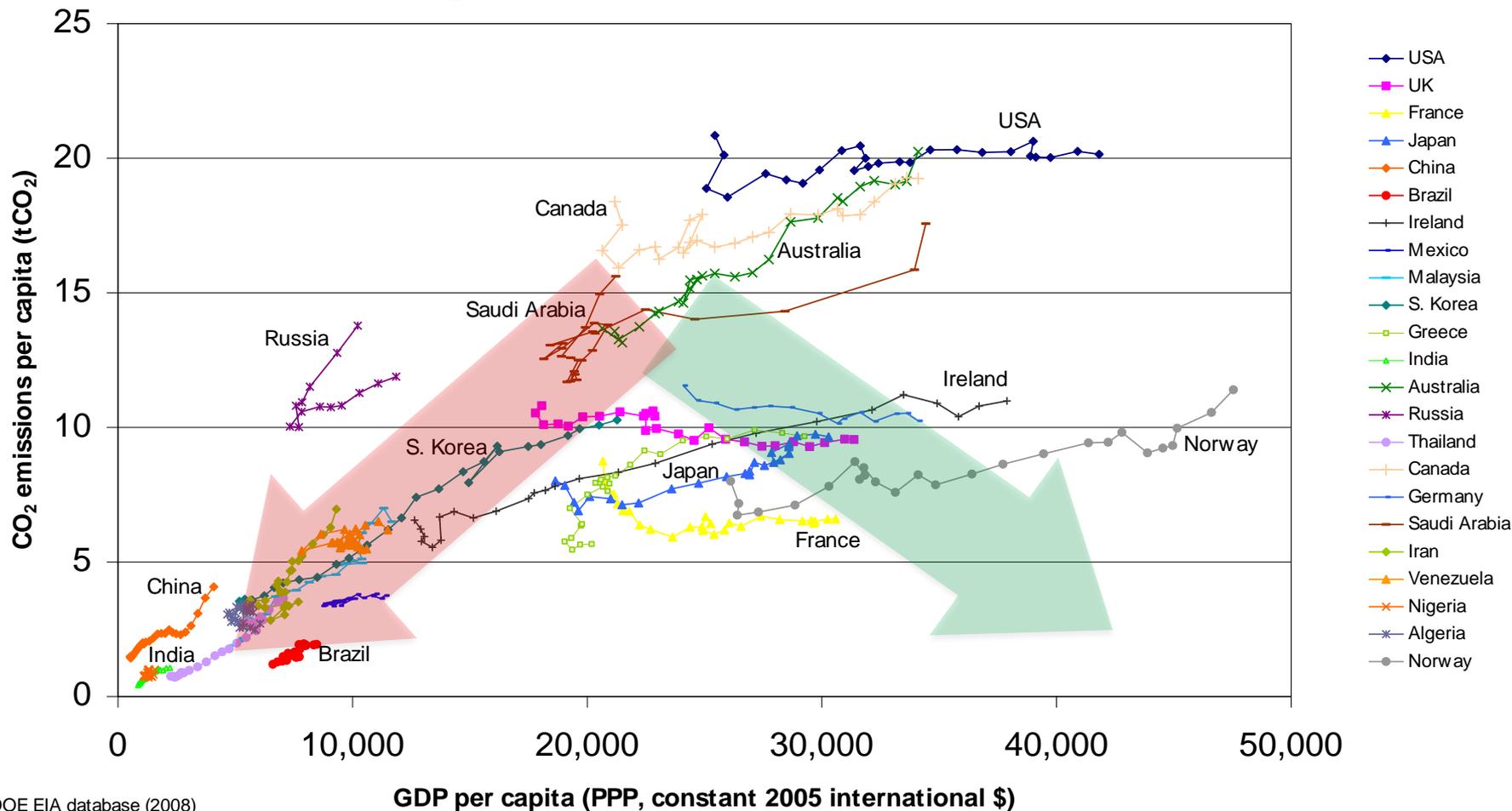
- Nuclear is the “Emission-free” base load generation technology





# CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and GDP per Capita (1980 – 2005)

### CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and GDP per capita (1980-2005)

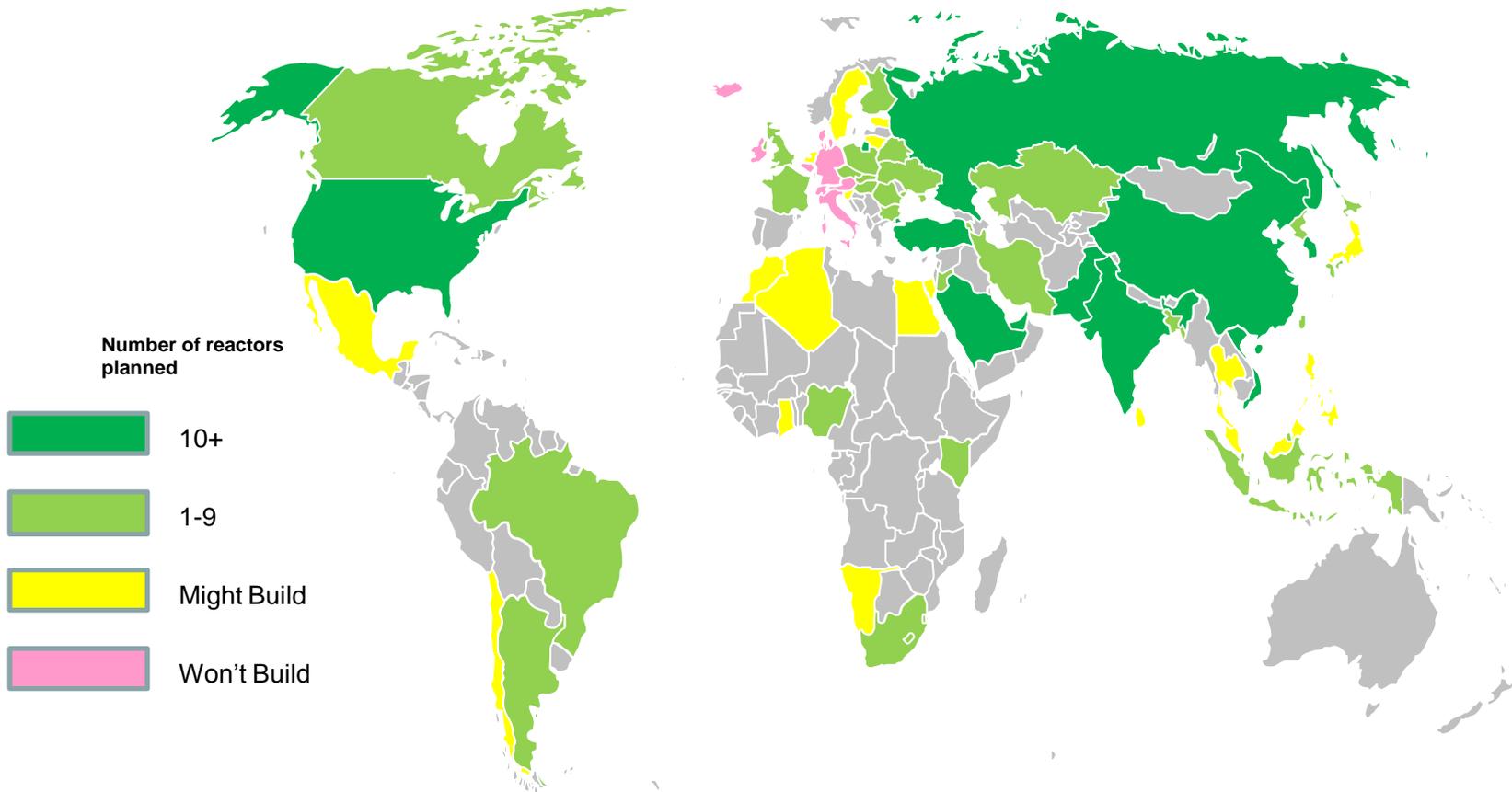


Source: DOE EIA database (2008)  
Russia data 1992-2005, Germany data 1991-2005



# Global Nuclear Construction Plans

## Nuclear Energy



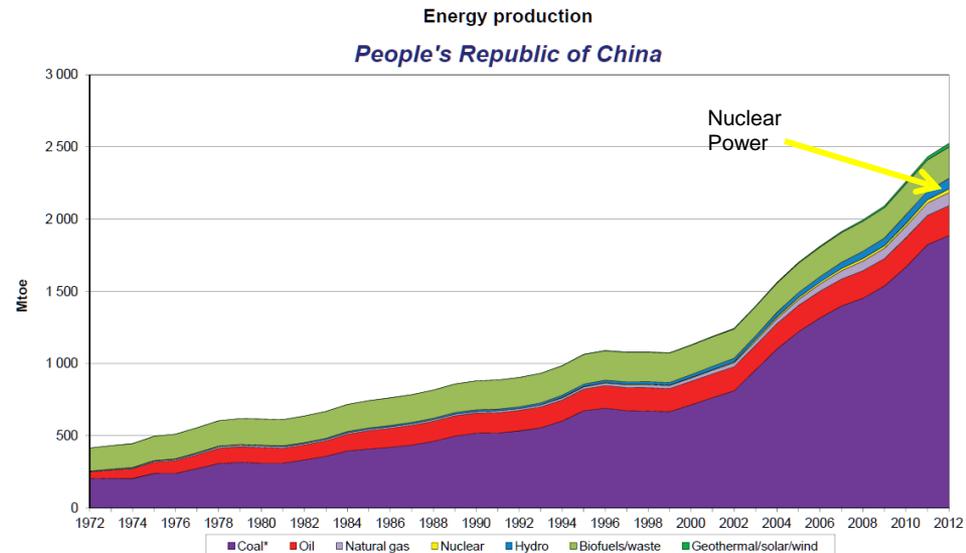
- 443 nuclear reactors operating in 30 countries (372 GWe capacity)
- 66 reactors currently under construction in 15 countries (23 in China)
- 164 reactors planned in 27 countries over next 8-10 years
- 317 reactors proposed in 37 countries over next 15 years

~ Source: IAEA information & news reports



# China is Driving the Nuclear Renaissance

- **Most of China's electricity is produced from fossil fuels**
  - 2014 data shows 80% coal, 2% oil, 1% gas, 15% hydropower & 2% nuclear
- **China has 26 nuclear power reactors in operation, 23 under construction, and more about to start construction**
- **Additional reactors are planned to increase nuclear capacity**
  - Goal is for 58 GWe by 2020, 150 GWe by 2030, and much more by 2050
- **China is largely self-sufficient in reactor design and construction, and other aspects of the fuel cycle, but is making full use of western technology to adapt and improve**



\* In this graph, peat and oil shale are aggregated with coal, when relevant.



# AP1000 Construction Worldwide

## Nuclear Energy



**Sanmen**  
April 2015 © SNPTC



**Haiyang**  
May 2014 © State Nuclear Power Engineering  
Feng Qingyi Wang Jinjie.



**VC Summer Steam Generator,**  
January 2015 © SCE&G



**Construction of Vogtle Unit 3 Turbine Building,**  
February 2015 © Georgia Power Company



## Status of New Builds in U.S.

### Nuclear Energy

- **Gen III+ designs are a major evolutionary step in large reactor technology**
- **First new reactors being built in U.S. in 30 years**
- **Nuclear construction**
  - Watts Bar 2015
  - Vogtle late 2017
  - V.C. Summer 2018 - 2020
- **Challenges of nuclear deployment**
  - High capital cost
  - Lower electricity demand
  - Low natural gas prices
  - Post – Fukushima safety concerns
  - Waste Management



Vogtle Unit 3 Nuclear Island ,  
March 2015 ©Georgia Power Co.



Aerial photograph of SCE&G's V.C. Summer Units 2 & 3,  
December 2014. ©SCE&G



## SMRs can be Game Changers



*Secretary Moniz addresses the Intermountain Energy Summit, August 20, 2014*

*“Small Modular Reactors represent a new generation of safe, reliable, low-carbon nuclear energy technology and provide a strong opportunity for America to lead this emerging global industry.”*

*“We are committed to fostering the safe and secure contribution of nuclear power to the global energy mix.”*

*~ IAEA International Conference on Nuclear Security – July 1, 2013*



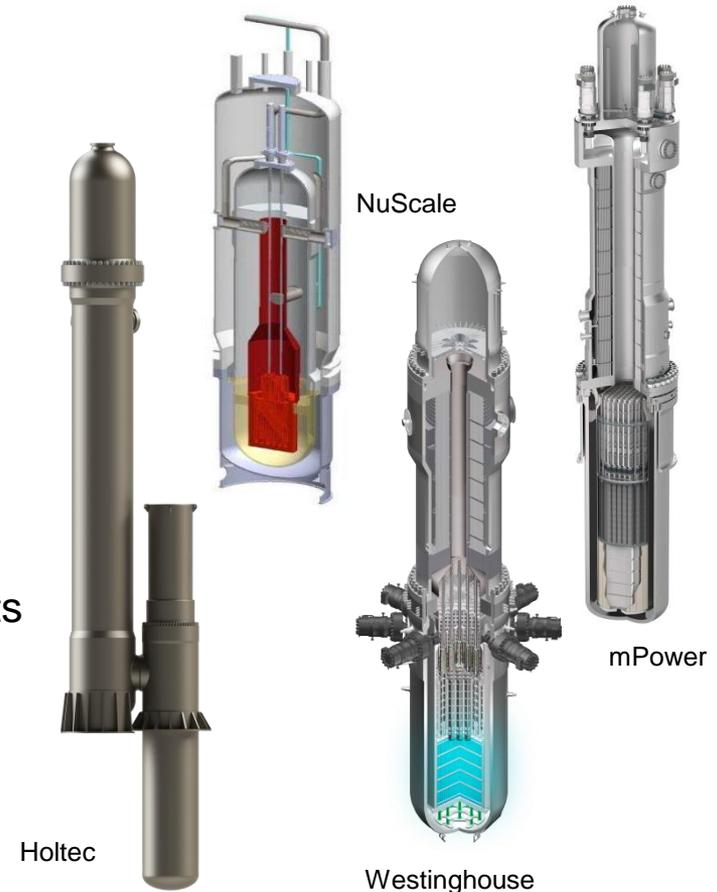
# SMR Technologies are of Great Interest

## ■ Safety benefits

- Passive decay heat removal by natural circulation
- Simplified design eliminates/mitigates several postulated accidents
- Below grade reactor sites
- Potential for reduction in Emergency Planning Zone

## ■ Economic benefits

- Reduced financial risk
- Flexibility to add units
- Right size for replacement of old coal and other plants
- Frees up hydrocarbons for export or reduce need for fuel imports
- Job and skill creation



**mPower and NuScale have been selected for the Department of Energy \$452M SMR Licensing Technical Support Program**



# SMRs are being Developed Globally

## ■ Russia

- KLT-40S is a 35 MWe barge mounted PWR - Available for commercial deployment
- Other SMR designs: VBER-150/300, VK-300, ABV & SVBR-100 (lead-bismuth variant)

## ■ Korea

- SMART is a 90-100 MWe PWR
  - Plan to begin operation of a demonstration plant in 2017
  - Could be used for electricity and/or non-electric applications such as desalination

## ■ China

- ACP100 is a 100 MWe PWR
  - Plan to begin construction of a 2 module plant in 2015
  - Could be used for electricity, heat or desalination
- HTR-PM is a High Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactor
  - First nuclear concrete poured December 2012

## ■ Argentina

- CAREM-25 is a 25 MWe PWR
  - Plan to complete construction of a prototype in 2017
  - Could be used for electricity, desalination or as a research reactor
  - Full scale 200 MWe CAREM reactor to follow in early 2020's

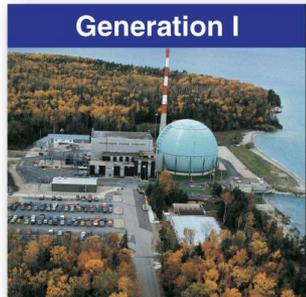


~ CAREM-25's Basemat  
February 2014 © Ministry of Federal Planning



# Generation IV International Forum

## Nuclear Energy

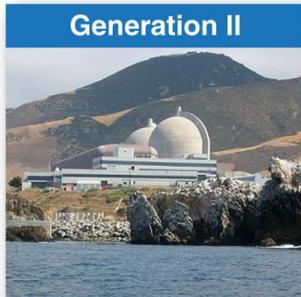


Generation I

Big Rock Point, GE BWR

### Early prototypes

- **Calder Hall** (GCR)
- **Douglas Point** (PHWR/CANDU)
- **Dresden-1** (BWR)
- **Fermi-1** (SFR)
- **Kola 1-2** (PWR/VVER)
- **Peach Bottom 1** (HTGR)
- **Shippingport** (PWR)



Generation II

Diablo Canyon, Westinghouse PWR

### Large-scale power stations

- **Bruce** (PHWR/CANDU)
- **Calvert Cliffs** (PWR)
- **Flamanville 1-2** (PWR)
- **Fukushima II 1-4** (BWR)
- **Grand Gulf** (BWR)
- **Kalinin** (PWR/VVER)
- **Kursk 1-4** (LWGR/RBMK)
- **Palo Verde** (PWR)



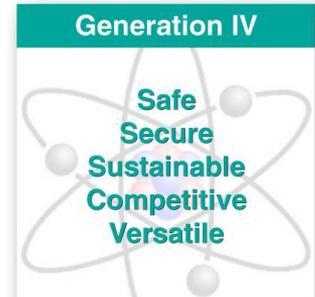
Generation III / III+

Kashiwazaki, GE ABWR

Olkiluoto 3 AREVA PWR

### Evolutionary designs

- **ABWR** (GE-Hitachi; Toshiba BWR)
- **ACR 1000** (AECL CANDU PHWR)
- **AP1000** (Westinghouse-Toshiba PWR)
- **APR-1400** (KHNP PWR)
- **APWR** (Mitsubishi PWR)
- **Atmea-1** (Areva NP -Mitsubishi PWR)
- **CANDU 6** (AECL PHWR)
- **EPR** (AREVA NP PWR)
- **ESBWR** (GE-Hitachi BWR)
- **Small Modular Reactors**
  - B&W mPower PWR
  - CNEA CAREM PWR
  - India DAE AHWR
  - KAERI SMART PWR
  - NuScale PWR
  - OKBM KLT-405 PWR
- **VVER-1200** (Gidropress PWR)



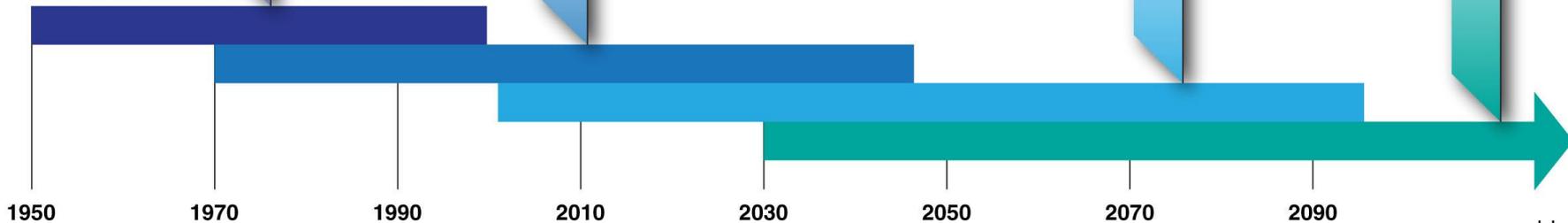
Generation IV

Safe  
Secure  
Sustainable  
Competitive  
Versatile

Arriving ~ 2030

### Innovative designs

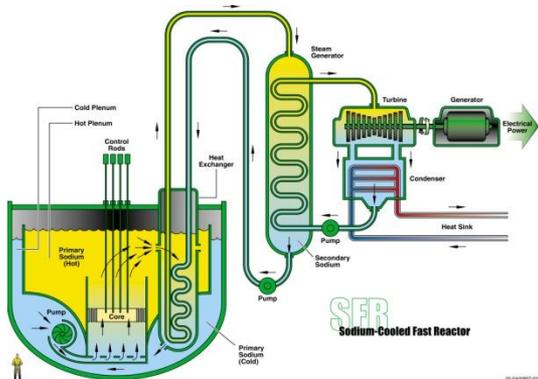
- **GFR** gas-cooled fast reactor
- **LFR** lead-cooled fast reactor
- **MSR** molten salt reactor
- **SFR** sodium-cooled fast reactor
- **SCWR** supercritical water-cooled reactor
- **VHTR** very high temperature reactor



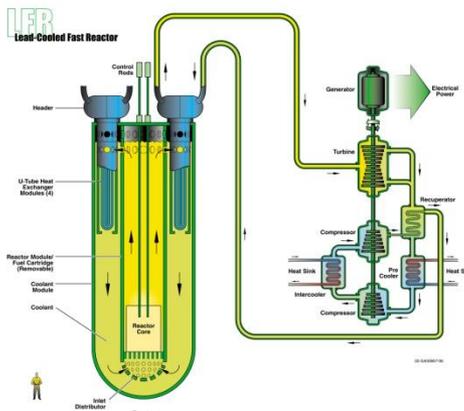


# Generation IV Reactor Concepts

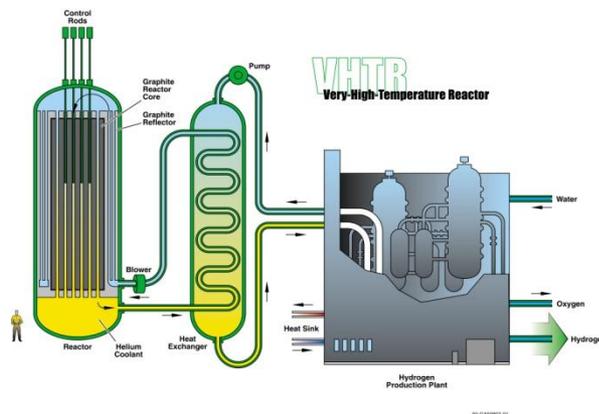
## Nuclear Energy



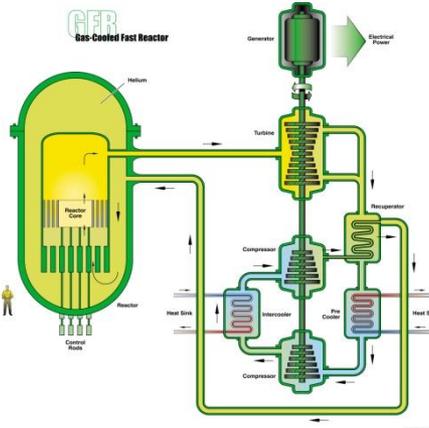
**Sodium Fast Reactor**



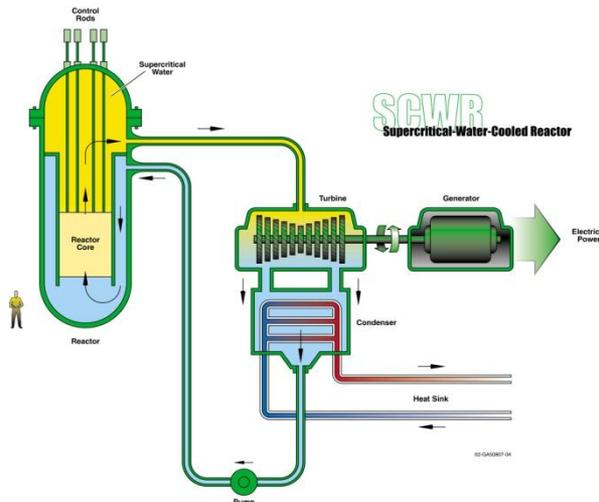
**Lead Fast Reactor**



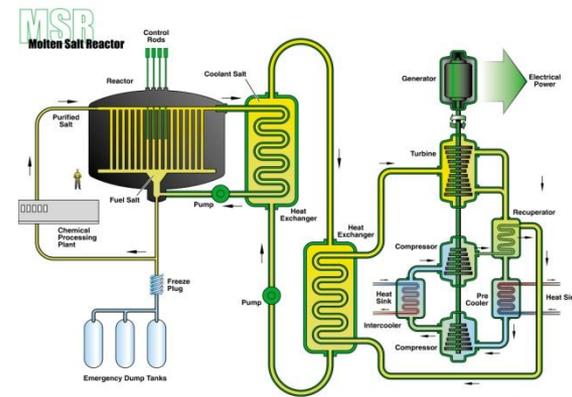
**Very High Temperature Reactor**



**Gas Cooled Fast Reactor**



**Supercritical Water Cooled Reactor**



**Molten Salt Cooled Reactor**



# Gen IV Systems Moving to Early Phase Demonstration

- **Very High Temperature Gas Reactor**
  - Chinese HTR-PM
- **Sodium Fast Reactor**
  - Operation of Chinese Experimental Fast Reactor
  - Start-up of BN-800 in Russia
  - Active design efforts in China, Korea, Japan, India, France, Russia, and U.S.
- **Lead Fast Reactor**
  - BREST and SVBR-100 in Russia
- **Molten Salt Cooled Reactor**
  - Demonstration reactor planned in China



*China's HTR-PM, Shidao Bay-1*



*Beloyarsk-4 July 2014*



### ■ Strong international interest

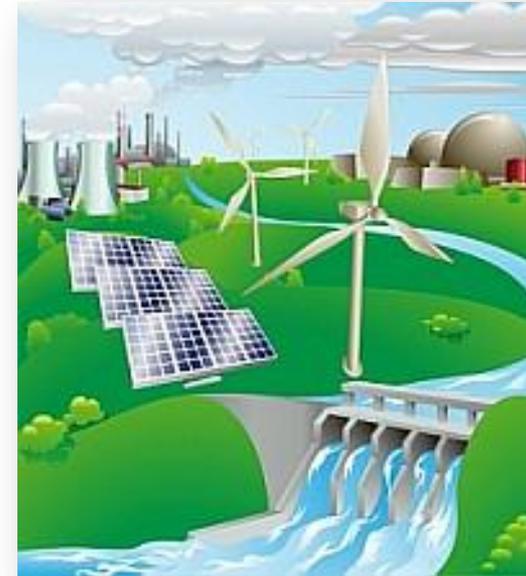
- Energy Security
- Climate & Environment concerns
- Economic incentives

### ■ Current construction

- China is leading the nuclear renaissance
- USA is making good progress in new builds

### ■ SMRs can be game changers

### ■ Early Generation IV demonstration reactors are likely in the next decade



**“Investing in clean energy isn’t a decision that limits our economic potential; it’s an opportunity to lead the global clean technology markets that are forming right now.”**

**~ Secretary Moniz at National Press Club, February 1, 2014**