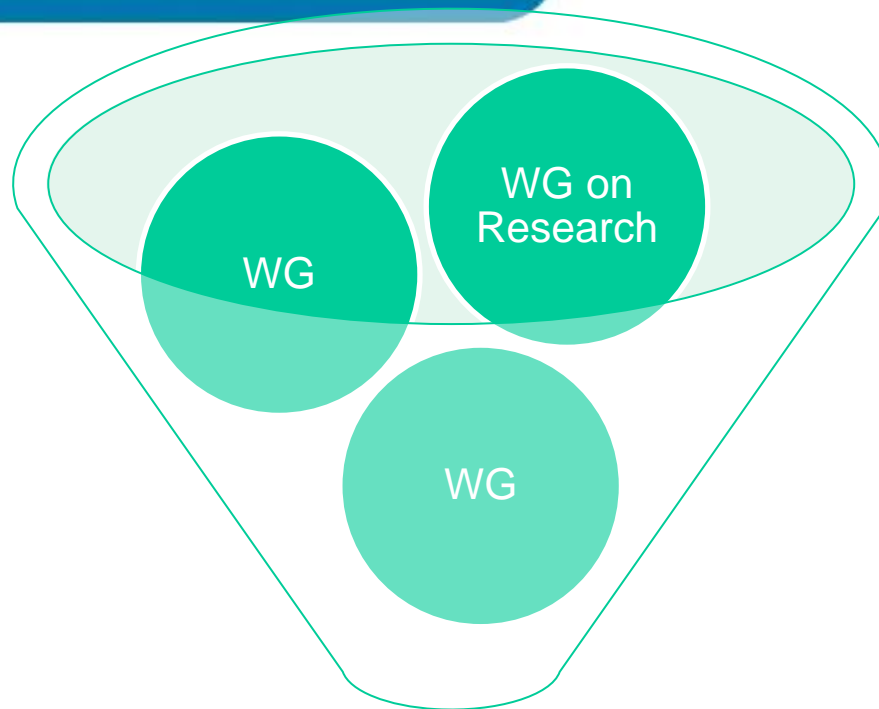


# Current Radon Research under the NRCS

Dr Barbara Rafferty

# NRCS – Strategy Development

1. Identify these knowledge gaps
2. Identify areas where further targeted research could support and improve the effectiveness of the NRCS



# NRCS

National Radon Control Strategy  
Straitéis Náisiúnta um Rialú Radóin

## Knowledge gaps – 4 thematic areas

- a. Establish current baseline values for the NRCS
- b. Better targeting of measures and resources
- c. Improve the effectiveness of radon preventive measures and radon remedial work
- d. Develop better ways for communicating radon risk and raising awareness

## a. Establish current baseline values

1. Study to determine the current national indoor average for radon in homes in Ireland. *National Radon Forum 2015 and Dowdall et al in press*
2. Ongoing: Study to determine the population weighted national average. (EPA with UCD). This value will be used to update the health risks of radon in Ireland. (2017)
3. Rate of radon remediation in Ireland 2011-2015: Establishing a base line rate for Irelands NRCS. *National Radon Forum 2015 and Dowdall et al (2016) J. Env Rad.*
4. 2016/7: Market research planned – baseline assessment of public awareness of radon and attitudes to radon

- [illegible]

## c. Improve the effectiveness of radon preventive measures and radon remedial work

1. Pilot study on the influence of house type / characteristics and radon levels in homes. *Long et al. National Radon Forum 2015*
2. UNVEIL: UNderstanding VEntilation and radon in energy efficient buildings in Ireland. NUIG 1yr Dr Miriam Byrne
3. Factors underlying persistently high radon levels in a house located in a karst limestone region of Ireland - lessons learned about remediation. *Long et al Nukleonika, 2016*
4. Investigation to determine the optimum specifications for installation of radon preventive measures *NUIG. 3 yr. Dr Mark Foley*
5. Long term effectiveness of radon remediation work in Irish Schools. *Gunning et al (Prague 2016, J Env Rad)*

## d. Develop better ways for communicating radon risk and raising awareness

1. Review of Public Information Programmes to Enhance Home Radon Screening Uptake and Home Remediation. *D Hevey. EPA Research Publication No. 170.*
2. Piloting a new communications approach in 2017: focus on public engagement on remediation – real life video, 1:1 advice for householders with high radon.

# Post 2018 – it is now time to plan

- Our intention is build upon the work done and on what has been learned
- To set out knowledge gaps and research topics for the next phase of the NRCS – post 2018.
- This work should begin in 2017.



# Thank you