

# Determinants and Issues of New Comers to Nuclear Power in Asia

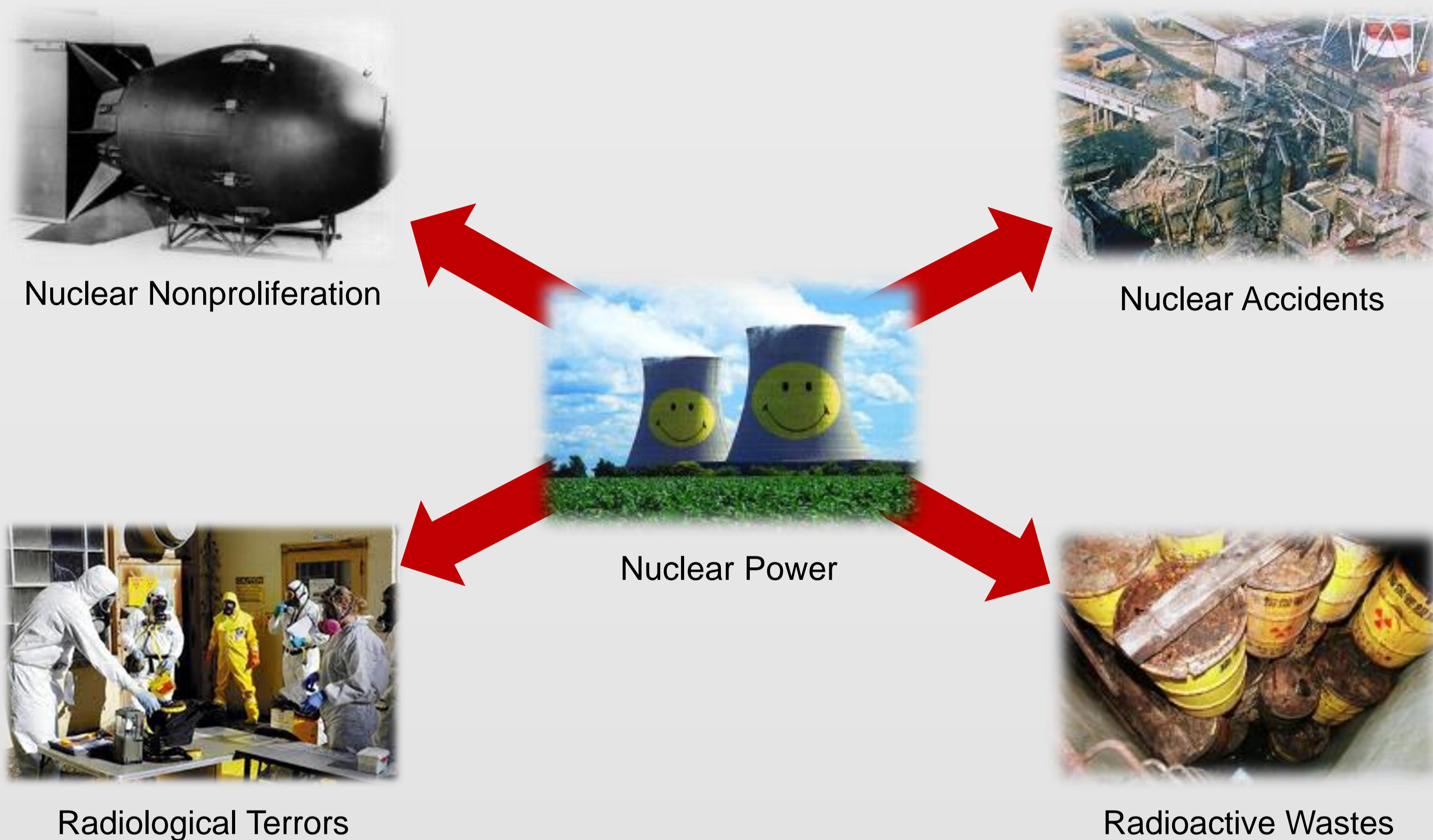
Sungyeol Choi\*, Hyunyub Noh, Il Soon Hwang

## Key Summary

- Despite the Fukushima accident, the number of new comers to nuclear power is still growing worldwide
- The expansion of nuclear power is especially high in Asia – 27.1% of nuclear power plants in operation, 71.0% under construction
- Drivers include the increased demand for energy, the desire for energy independence, and the concerns on climate change
- Top priority issues are public support, human resources, financial resources, safety, waste management, and potential suppliers
- Since these issues are definitely not easy, several countries have failed to operate nuclear power plants as they planned
- These challenges can be used as an opportunity to achieve more active and transparent level of regional cooperation

## Introduction

Since all issues are interconnected, we cannot solve one issue without solving the others



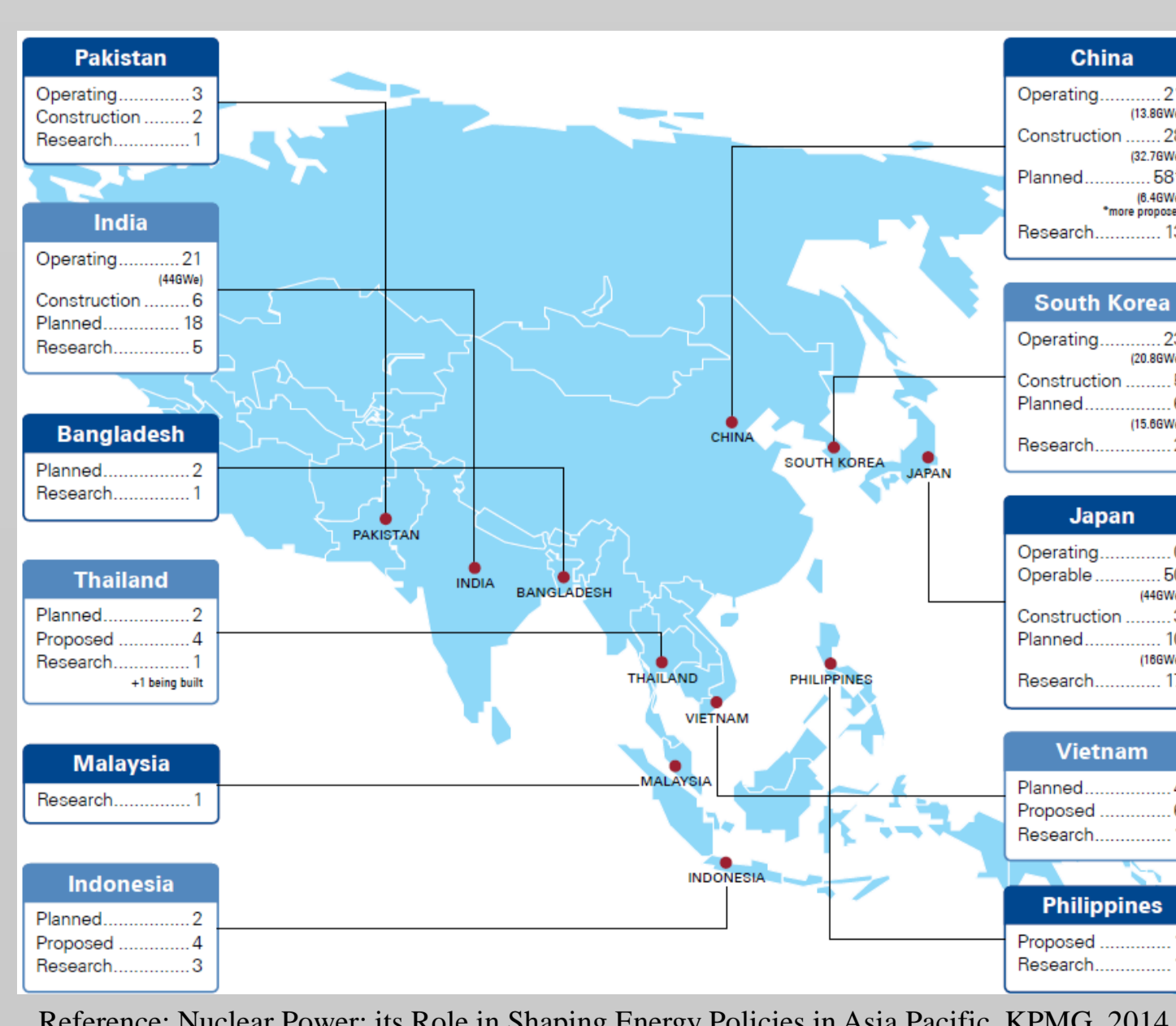
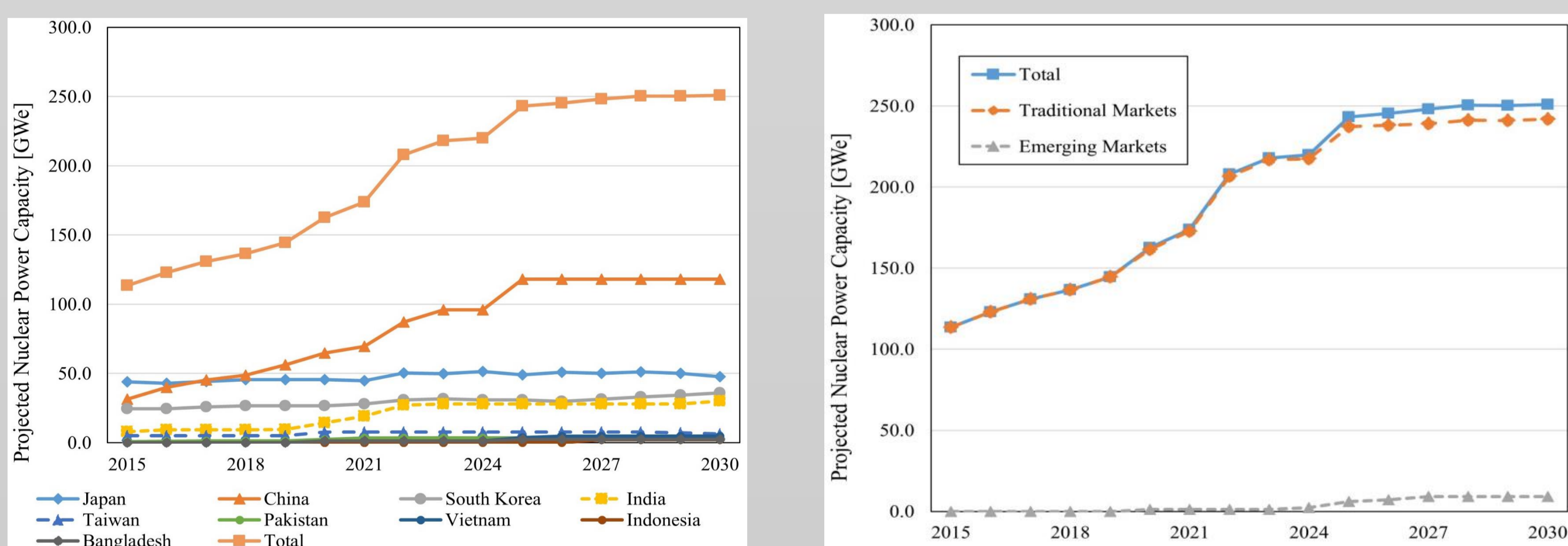
## Demand and Supply

### Supply

- Used to be governed by 6 major supplies, USA, USSR, UK, France, Canada, and Germany, – about 90% capacity
- New suppliers built 30% new units after the Chernobyl accident including Japan, South Korea, China, and India

### Demand

- The number of new comers is still growing, over 45 countries
- The market size of nuclear industry can double by 2030
- Asia has 27.1% of units in operation, 71.0% under construction



## Determinants of New Comers

Drivers for nuclear power in new comers are still unchanged

- The increased demand for low cost energy
- The desire for energy independence
- The concerns on climate change

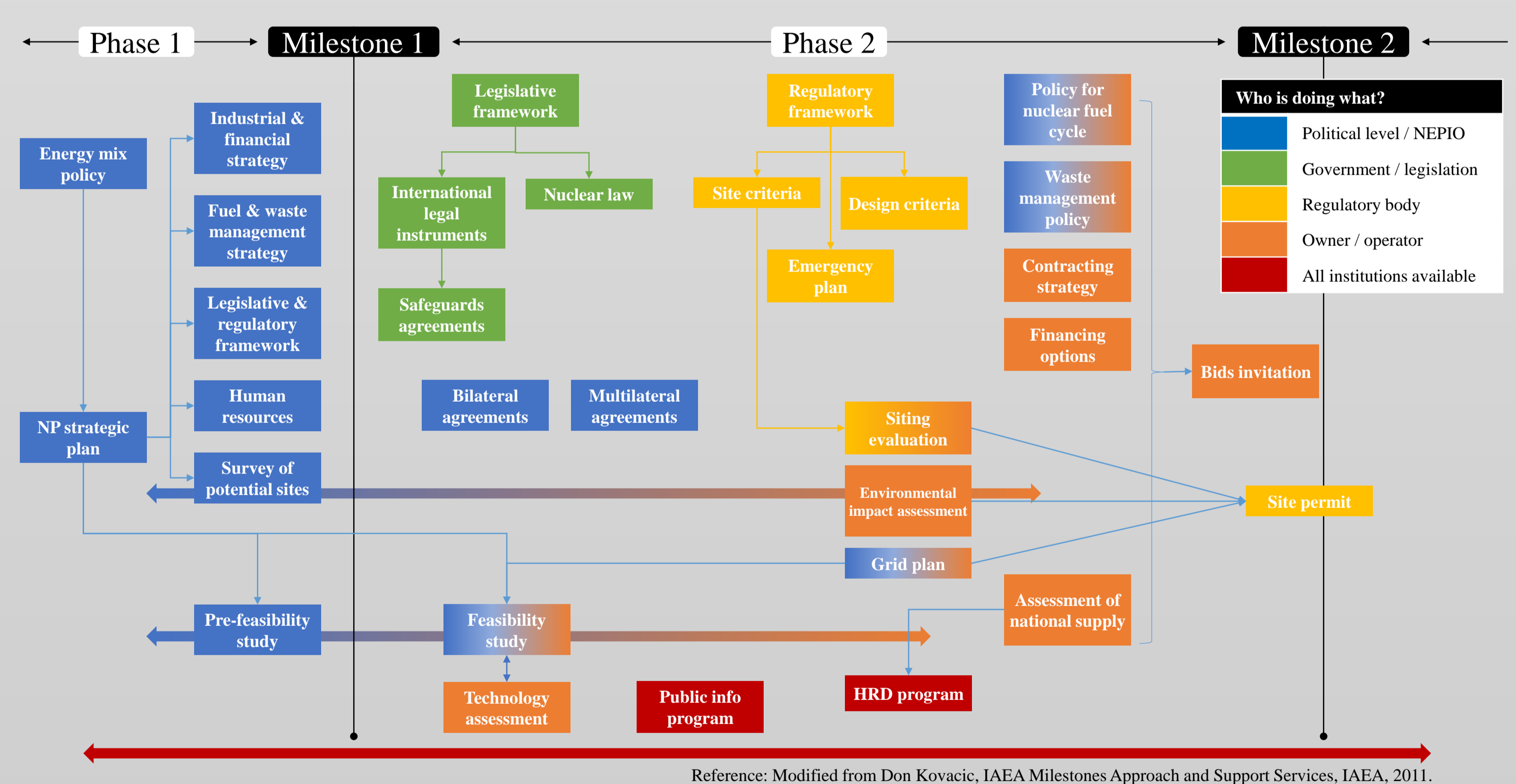
## Issues of New Comers

### Top Priority Issues

- Obtaining public support to nuclear power program
- Developing high quality human resources
- Securing financial resources from inside and outside
- Ensuring safety in technical, legal, and regulatory domains
- Considering a solution for waste (initially not well recognized)
- Finding potential suppliers for nuclear power plants and fuels

### Risk of Nuclear Power Programs

- A near completed plant cancelled in Philippines
- The Angra 3 unit delayed for 30 years in Brazil
- Only three of five units completed in Romania
- The French project in Finland delayed for over 4 years
- The two units in Korea delayed for fake equipment certificates
- The United States has cancelled 88 nuclear power plants under construction or in planning (38 units during construction)



## Opportunity to Cooperation

### Multinational Approach

- Spent fuel issues often overlooked by new comers because it is the later step of the nuclear power program
- These challenges can be used as an opportunity to achieve more active and transparent level of regional cooperation
- Cooperation on safety goals, standards, and regulatory practices among three nuclear suppliers in East Asia
- Human resources to nuclear security and nuclear fuel cycle