

International Experience with Stakeholder Involvement in the Rehabilitation of Contaminated Areas

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Objectives of Stakeholder Involvement

- Incorporate public values into decisions
- Increase the substantive quality of decisions
- Resolve conflict among competing interests
- Build trust in institutions
- Educate and inform the public in a timely manner
- Build mutual understanding
- Identify and build acceptance for sustainable decisions

Key Lessons Learned

- It is essential to work together, each party (e.g. person, group, organization) has a role
- There are many different “tools” to facilitate stakeholder involvement, taking into account the national/cultural perspective
- Stakeholder involvement is necessary to address complex situations

It is Essential to Work Together

- Central government
- Local government
- Those Affected:
 - Public
 - Businesses / Industry
 - Farmers
 - The medical community
 - National and Local media
 - NGOs
 - Anyone who is willing to actively participate

Needs and Roles

Central Government: perform and support local activities, such as

- Send experts to support local work
- Provide technical equipment/knowledge
- Perform radiological monitoring and assessment, health surveys, decontamination actions
- Provide local access to scientific knowledge

Local Government : manage and perform local activities, such as

- Develop mechanisms to identify and address local concerns
- Manage technical projects and operational training
- Provide education and information in response to local questions

Affected Groups: bring local knowledge, identify concerns and priorities, such as

- Clearly express concerns to be addressed, and their priorities
- Ensure that the local context is taken into account in planning
- Develop a local radiation protection awareness and culture

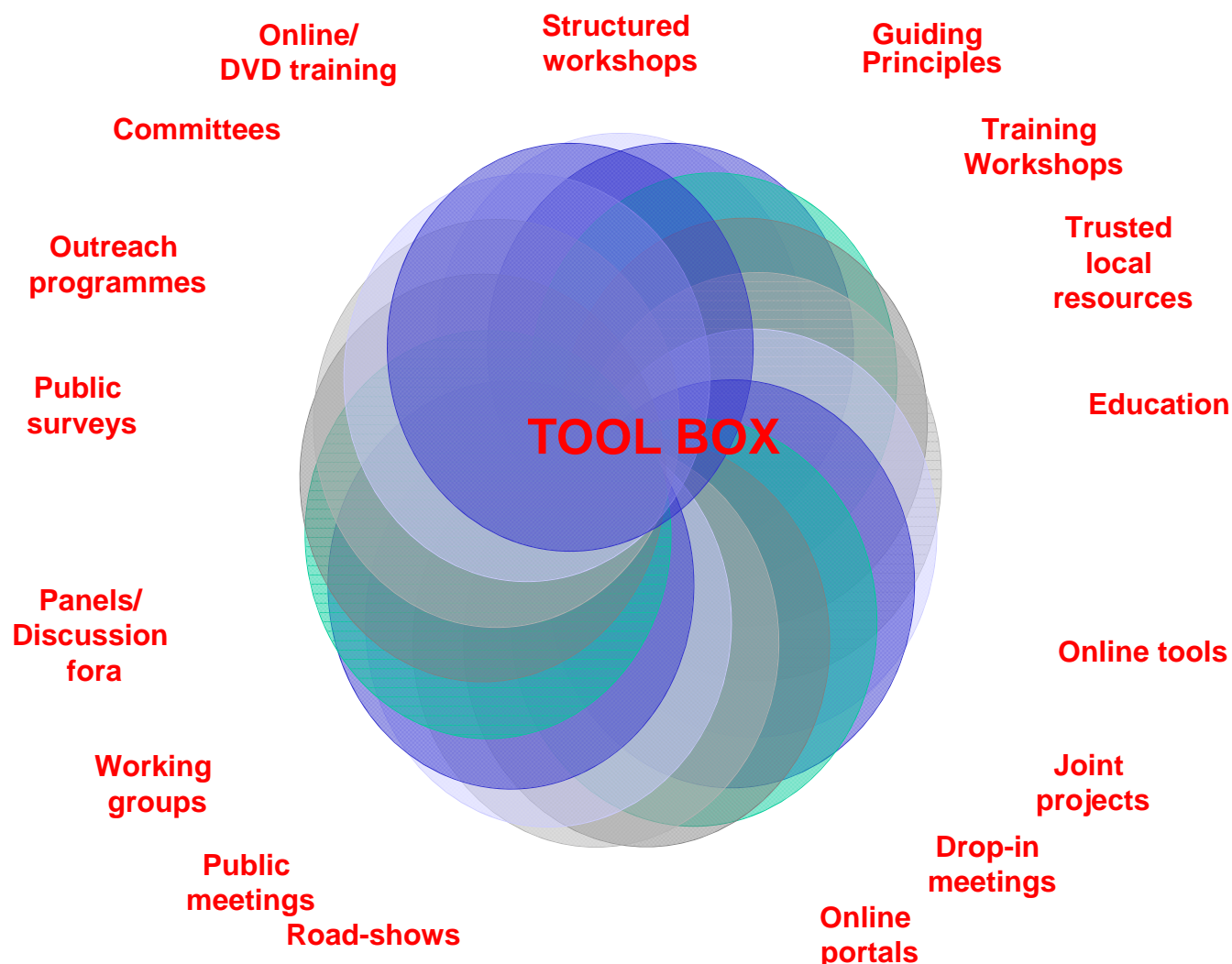
Stakeholder Involvement Tools

No one size fits all situations

- Groups may be small (e.g. 5 to 10 people)
- Groups may be big (e.g. meetings with 300 people)
- Groups may be different types (e.g. ongoing working groups, seminar sessions, short-term discussion groups, etc.)
- Groups may have different objectives (e.g. to develop plans, to develop criteria, to identify problems, to identify priorities, etc.)

Stakeholder Involvement: HOW?

Stakeholder involvement takes patience and determination – it is an investment



The skills required at the individual and organisational level are challenging

Examples of Local Stakeholder Groups

Rocky Flats Radionuclide Soil Action Levels Oversight Panel

- local residents supported by external technical experts
- Developed acceptable cleanup levels

Stakeholder working groups in Belarus

- radiological protection of children
- management of the radiological quality of milk production
- management of the radiological quality of meat production
- education of children living in a contaminated environment
- management of contaminated wastes
- production of a video film by the youth of the village

The Norwegian RP Authority work with Sami people

- approaches and criteria for acceptable continuation of reindeer production
- reindeer monitoring programmes
- acceptable contamination levels in reindeer meat
- approaches to marketing reindeer meat in Norway

Stakeholder involvement is necessary to address complex situations

Rehabilitation in Fukushima involves all levels of central and local government, all levels of local stakeholders, a great variety of contamination levels and situations, much advanced scientific knowledge and qualified uncertainty

IT IS COMPLEX!

- Major decisions must have broad public support to be acceptable
- Communication and consultation, not just information, are essential
- Those affected and those with responsibility for implementation must be involved in decision processes
- Recovery is multidisciplinary, needing the experience of many specialists
- Radiation risks are only part of the broad accident context
- Stakeholder involvement must be continuous

Stakeholder involvement is necessary to address complex situations

The shift from crisis management to recovery involves:

- Working **WITH** society (decontamination and rehabilitation) rather than **FOR** society (early, urgent actions)
- A growing role and responsibility for local actors in decision making
- Shift from implementing pre-planned measures to developing a situation-specific and territory-specific strategies
- The need for co-ordination with an increasing number of concerned stakeholders

Conclusions

- In today's society, stakeholder involvement is **an obligation** to address complex situations
- Experience shows that stakeholder involvement can lead to **sustainable solutions**
- Local people are **needed and excellent resources** to identify solutions to local concerns
- **Patience and determination** are essential for effective stakeholder involvement
- Stakeholder involvement is a **cultural issue** and varies from country to country. There is no universal solution
- **National solutions need to be found**
- Tomorrow will be more detailed, concrete discussion of stakeholder involvement