

# Stakeholder engagement and dialogue and their role in the improvement of the decision-making process

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*NERIS Workshop 2015  
April 27-29, 2015, Milano, Italy*

- using of **different forms of stakeholder' engagement and involvement** based on the experience of their participation in the decision aiding tools development
- the benefit of **the exchange visits** in the area of radiation control and practical radiological culture in the education and training process
- the system of **attracting more young people** by awaking their interest in radiation applications and radiation protection already during their schooldays and later on during their out-of-school education
- the method and way of the engagement and systematic **involvement of the retired senior radiation protection or nuclear safety specialists** as representatives of the community

- **Since the beginning of 2000s, different experiences on emergency and rehabilitation preparedness and management** have been developed in Europe, either in the context of the EVATECH, TC-OSEM, DSSNET, RODOS Migration, STRATEGY, FARMING, EURANOS, NERIS-TP project and NERIS Platform, or independently.
- **To share experience about different initiatives on emergency and rehabilitation preparedness and management throughout Europe** – the main Slovak interest and motivation to be involved in different projects.

- enhance the probability of a successful response,
- a better control of costs and uncertainties,
- build more efficient response regarding stakeholders concerns
- favour understanding between decision makers, authorities, experts, professionals and the public

- **complexity** of the emergency preparedness and post-accident management
- **the relations among different stakeholders**, their roles and tasks within the post-accident preparedness process
- **inspire people, to prepare them to be part and parcel** of the emergency and post-accident preparedness and recovery
- the **importance of the improvement** both national and local **plans for preparedness and recovery**
- **working together** in the framework of the emergency and post-accident response structure with agreed responsibilities and particular roles defined **in advance during a time before an accident**

- **Model**

- testing, customization and use of models and tools
- case studies using scenarios developed
- establishing the Slovak panel and EURANOS Handbooks Users Group
- participation in the network involved in development of the EURANOS Handbooks

- **Procedures**

- education seminars, topical facilitated workshops
- training of emergency staff
- facilitated table-top exercises, inclusion in national and international exercises (ERO+municip., INEX 4 Exercise on consequence management and the transition to recovery)
- development of scenarios (INEX 4, facilitated workshops)

- **Tools**

- The Handbooks, JRODOS/RODOS, RTARC – national DSS, MCDA tool Web-HIPRE

- **efficient**, focusing on possible real problems and on finding real solutions
- **very successful**, made the essential basis **for future activities in post-accident preparedness process development** and **for building network and trust** between partners within the Slovak Republic and within Europe in the EC projects
- **group dynamics**
  - to ensure all voices were heard equally
  - range of simple but effective techniques have been already used to keep the whole event feeling positive, focused and fresh
- **facilitator**
  - picked up on the mood of participants and used this in a way to help participants be productive and get the most out of their time during the workshop

- **the social programme** provided an opportunity
  - to get to know each other **closely**
  - to discuss details in an **informal way**
  - to understand deeply the problems and to establish **friendly relationships**
- essential for the preparation of the experts
  - to be able,
  - to be prepared
  - in case of an accident to be actively involved in post-accident management at the “service” of population
- the training and practical preparation of the experts also in the area of facilitation and mediation as a possible active actors in post-accident management in the role of an independent facilitator is very essential



- **There is a lot of frustration and social impact is not in the priorities queue.**
- **There is lack of direct contacts of researches with stakeholders and understanding and coping with the diversity of conditions and opinions even among the people and different communities as they are many times in different situations.**
- **To feel with people, understand their problems, be able to explain them the situation and transfer their needs to the language understandable by government -**

**THIS IS THE TASK OF THE SCIENTISTS AND RESEARCHERS  
IN THE ROLE OF MEDIATORS.**

- **Risk communication is key issue**
- need of **analyses of needs of different stakeholders** and they have to be prepared in advance as some basis or draft to be proposed for discussion based on knowledge and then to be discussed with different stakeholders
- important for people to **be involved in their projects, work together with them** as soon as possible on reconstruction and rebuilding their daily life
- restoration of community, rehabilitation of human is essential and common roundtables, meetings, workshops, fora are
  - the way leading to **better understanding of their needs**
  - the way how to make it possible for their **voices to be shared** and transferred further with the feedback from the authority in the form of real programs, projects and support

- direct participation of different stakeholders and discussions from eye-to-eye as during the round table in the form of different topical meetings or workshops could **develop the habit of communication among different levels** in the structure and hierarchy
- the common meetings of different communities could help people **to understand their need and to exchange their experience**
- two days topical workshops for different communities could have even better effect than only one day official round table meeting
- **social contacts** as in a family are very important and breaks the barriers, helps to maintain the trust and take authorities, experts and scientists as human beings with similar problems and needs as all other - this dimension is very important and should not be underestimated

- **the application and use of decision analysis tools** (for example Web-HIPRE) during the facilitated stakeholder workshops was experienced in different countries and the conclusion was made
  - tools help in structuring the problem and explore impact of assumptions on decisions using sensitivity analysis
  - helps robustness of decision-making process when decisions are more open and transparent
  - brings all issues to table, traceability of discussions, factors driving decisions, criteria used, weighting, etc.
  - helps communicate decisions to public for example why strategy was chosen, sensitivity to factors etc.
- recommend studying and using this approach and tools **to assist process of developing countermeasure strategies** as it provides transparency and facilitated consensus

- **the method** and way **of the engagement** and systematic involvement of **the retired senior radiation protection or nuclear safety specialists** as representatives of the community could be **prepared and implemented**
- they could be trained as representatives of the local community at the training courses which will prepare local community representatives in the area of the radiation protection – **train trainees courses**
- the representatives have to be **trustworthy and accepted by the community**
- the community will form and maintain their habit of looking for the information and will receive them not only through the internet or through the local self-government representative but also from their own representative

- **Decontamination information plaza in Fukushima**
  - there is information available and it is transferred to the community via the visits of specialists on request of residents
  - many of retired radiation protection experts are employed there
  - could have covered in more complex way the area of information about potential impact of the contamination on population and to provide local actors information using which they could develop their own evaluation of the potential impact of the contamination as well as of the potential means and strategies to reduce their level of exposure beyond the reduction that can reasonably be expected as a result of decontamination strategies
- **The general question “How clean is clean” has to be discussed widely with all stakeholders and the information in different “languages” for all involved has to be made available supported by analyses, topical workshops outputs and conclusions from the round-table discussions.**

- **The motivation and involvement in the process of the self-government representatives** from the Municipality Crisis Staff who are members of the GMF and national Association of Municipalities and local/regional Civic Information Commissions (Bohunice and Mochovce NPPs territory) **is the key element** for future development in the area of emergency preparedness and recovery management.
- The **local communities and private actors have an institutional role** in the emergency preparedness process.
- For municipalities within the emergency planning zone of nuclear facilities, their Crisis Staff have to prepare Community Safety Plans including nuclear issues.
- Even businesses are included in the organization of emergency planning and management for all types of risks, also nuclear.

- **The facilitated workshops** driven by exercise scenarios using the tools developed, have formed in Slovakia good conditions for continuation and are **foreseen to be used in the institutional preparedness process** also in the future.
- The presented **activities** which follow experiences from Belarus and Japan could be in addition to the facilitated workshops and seminars **valuable for the improvement of the emergency preparedness and post-accident management.**



- incorporated in more complex activities **related to the different exercises within the municipality** including active involvement of schools which focus on different threats – fire, flooding, and radioactivity.
- **improved and performed in more systematic way** to avoid stigmatic perception of the radioactivity
- **radiation contamination/dose maps could be developed** by the residents during peace time to understand what it means “radiation background”
- during such a “field exercise” members of community could **receive basic knowledge on radiation, radiation exposure, practice the measurements** and understand what it means for their health

- **experience from the practical radiological culture** development in Belarus and Japan could be valuable and useful
- **exchange visits could help to understand differences** in the level of radiation and experience what “zero” means or background for residents
- the practical activities in advance could help **in understanding of the risks** as well as getting feeling of the current status of radioactivity in the inhabited areas close to the nuclear power plants
- young generation and experienced experts being retired could **form a sufficient basis for knowledge and information dissemination to the wider community** – to parents, and thus uncover the stigmatic perception of radioactivity and make it clearer

**Thank you for your attention !**