

Report of the first day:

What is at stake?

11th ICRP Dialogue

**« The role of measurement in
regaining control »**

30-31 May 2015 – Fukushima City

Measurement as a salvation

- Radioactivity cannot be seen, smelted, tasted
- Measurement restores visibility
- Technical and human dimensions

Technical dimension (1)

- Measurement of everything everywhere
 - People:
 - External (D-Shuttle) may be coupled with other info (GPS, diaries)
 - Internal (WBC, babyscan)
 - Food and feed
 - Products, tap water
 - Meals (home, school)
 - Environment
 - Mountains, fields, forests, trees, water...
 - Roads, parking, gardens, kindergartens
 - Houses
 - Furniture

Technical dimension (2)

- Many needs
 - Devices: now available
 - Knowledge on how to use them
 - Knowledge about units, detection level
 - Understand RP: natural/artificial, radioactive decay, transfers...
 - Interpretation of the result
 - Guidelines should be prepared in advance
- Be careful with numbers
 - Need to understand their significance (broad variation)
 - No threshold between safe and dangerous
 - What is the level for a good protection?
 - Result depending on the context

Human dimension (1)

- Measurement is a necessity
 - Even in evacuated houses
 - Starting point to tackle the situation, regain control
- Radioactivity now visible, cause of exposure may be identified
- Fill the gap between perception and reality
- New referential helps to feel good and handle situation
- Measurement allow for specific info (no average person)
- Self-measurement is true
- A way to transmit information outside
- We don't want to be considered different

Human dimension (2)

- Now laughing but still crying
 - Measurements decrease anxiety but does not delete it
 - Result should be accepted
- Results lower than expected
 - For both people and food
- Exchanges, new relationship, positive minded approach, comparisons, emulation
- Allow for selection between good and toxic products
- Old-timer smiling again by able to eat sansai again
- Need to continue measurements, a key point for RP culture
- A way for a bright future but never forget the accident

Report of the second day:
How to move forward?

11th ICRP Dialogue

**« The role of measurement in
regaining control »**

30-31 May 2015 – Fukushima City

Moving forward: types and role of measurements

- 3 types of measurements:
 - D Shuttle to assess external dose and know where to go
 - Foodstuff measurements to know what to eat
 - WBC to check and answer concern about health
- Devices are becoming available for individual use for following external exposure and internal exposure
- Importance to measure correctly.
 - We don't look for precise data but correct data.
- Tap water remains a sensitive issue even if the level is low

Moving forward: Interpreting the results of measurements (1)

- Numbers are boring! They are useful but need to find a good balance!
- Importance of dialogue: sharing information
- Key role of counsellor in addition to volunteer to set up a sustainable system
- Key role of cooperation between citizens, scientists, media, local authorities... to develop meaningful measurements for managing the local situation
- Activities developed by the residents themselves are essential – toward “citizen scientists”
- Progressively people have a grip on their own exposure in comparison to the time of the accident when they were lost: “see the face of the ghost to capture it”

Moving forward: Interpreting the results of measurements (2)

- Measuring her/his local environment as a mean to:
 - Make own decision (no average person) – informed consent
 - Regain freedom
- Measurements made together with the local consumers.
 - We want to eat local products.
- We never use the word it is safe or dangerous, but this is an individual decision.
- We must not hide the values of our products, but also show the actions which are performed.
- Importance of taking account of individual diet and various activities

Moving forward: Interpreting the results of measurements (3)

- Measurement is more an issue for improving the quality of life than health itself.
- In certain cases, stress may be more unhealthy than Bq!
- The meaning of the standard level has to make sense for the society otherwise they don't trust it.
- Defining her/his own targets.
- Defining the reasonable level is a self-decision to be made by individuals (reference to ALARA)

Moving forward: Sustainability/continuity (1)

- In order to overcome from this distrust, need to assess the situation.
- Understanding the figures will help to feel safe at home.
- We wanted the local people to look at what we are doing.
- All stress the question of sustainability/continuity. This is not only an issue for authorities. This is an issue for all stakeholders.
- Need to find the good level for sustainability: not under pressure

Moving forward: Sustainability/continuity (2)

- Need to find a way to reach a wider audience, and to pass on the reality to young generation
- ICRP dialogue seminar would be good in the future for disseminating information to the residents and worldwide
- From the results of the measurements and past data, people start to think about the future, although this is not the view of all the citizens (20%)
- Importance to recognize what has been done and the persons involved in this work
- Willingness of recovering “normal life”

Moving forward: Messages for the future

- *Now we are able to hope in the future, even young generations*
- *Be proud of living in Fukushima*
- *Hope that everything we do will contribute to the pride of our village.*