



SESSION 11. REPORT WORKING GROUP

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What is the purpose of engaging the public in the expertise function?

- Is there a common understanding of the definition of expertise?
- Experts from different areas and quality of experts
- Provide valuable knowledge
- Expertise: definition from SITEX (organisations involved in providing information into the decision-making process).

Improving the quality of expertise?

- Experts need to understand the public and ask the right questions
- Entrusted by the people
- Brings another dimension: raise public concerns and move out of the framework of expertise

Taking on board the values of the public in the expertise?

- Examples of experts “answers” versus societal “concerns” :
 - Chernobyl: values focused on future generations
 - Uranium mining: concern with ecosystems
 - Slovenian hydropower: work with fishermen for scenario analysis
- If the public is organised around nuclear waste issues, it is easier to transfer these values to institutions.

Raising the knowledge and capacities of the stakeholders from the public?

- Different ways: discuss issues on similar levels
- Important to organise public consultation, communication, etc - simplify information
- Complex versus complicated issues (more than one dimension)

Creating opportunities for concerned members of the public to develop their own expertise?

- Resources
- Meeting places : Swedish Council for Nuclear Waste as example
- What if no one organises a discussion?
- If you don't engage: risk to fail, out of legislation, don't improve the process and don't get confidence

Improving the RWM safety?

Good way to improve the process and enhance the safety

Challenge the technical and scientific solutions and provide better argumentation of safety case

Developing long-term societal vigilance on RWM?

- Problem of continuity of institutions: multi-level involvement (local, national and international)
- Knowledge management