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.