Odaka Dialogue

A Dream of Landscape and Community

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8th Dialogue, May 2014
Shared Vision of the Future?

• Would like there to be no social discrimination
• Would like a forum for community dialogue
• Would like a unified situation
• Would like available and trusted data
• Would like a better, clear language understanding of low dose effects
• Would like more community spirit
Odaka Agriculture

Working HARD to rebuild agriculture

— Farmers joining hands
  • Economies of scale
  • Joint equipment

— Farmers learning about their new circumstances
  • Water quality
  • Decontamination
Joint equipment

Economies of scale

Water quality

Decontamination
Odaka Advancement

Challenges
• Collective farming management
• Attract the next generation

Options
• CSA approach?
• Rebuild image through work with Fukushima high schools?
Collective farming management

Will you people stop arguing and just follow me!

Yes, I mean it! Farming is FUN!!

Attract the next generation
Odaka Inginuity

Use the land to its best advantage

• Crops: Rice or Soybeans
• Solar panels
Future Rice Paddies
Solar Panels
Wind and Water Break
Still Concern for Loss of Landscape
History of Improvement

• Agricultural lands have been a central part of Japanese culture for centuries
• The loss of agricultural landscape has been a significant recovery motivation

• Community solidarity has been a central part of Japanese culture for centuries
• The loss of community has been a significant recovery motivation
Lots of Challenges

• Recovery must start from scratch
• The demographics of residents is significantly aged – the young have not returned

But

• The focus of efforts seems to have shifted from radiological issues to cultural, social, economic issues
  – Landscape
  – Social venues
  – Table tennis
Panel Session

• Support for elderly
  – Transportation
  – Social venues
  – Support independence

• Important for young to return

• Evacuees feel excluded

• “the government helps, but we have ourselves”
What do the Dialogues Bring

• A chance to organise thoughts, revisit things I thought I knew, and express myself,
• A change to listen and learn
• Gives a bigger view
• Shows that there is still interest in problems
The Dialogue Allowed

To see the forest for the trees

And the trees in the forest
Sometimes you really step in something bad

Kibitan lets you on the Happy Bus anyway

Making the Best of a Difficult Situation
Sometimes you just can’t make up your mind, and you push the wrong button.

You get the Happy Cow

Make the best of your situation!
Drink Up!
It is important to take advantage of your situation as best as you can!
Life is a gift to enjoy
Not a problem to be solved

Thank You