

# What have we learned from Fukushima Dialogue Meetings?

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in the Event of a Large Nuclear Accident**

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

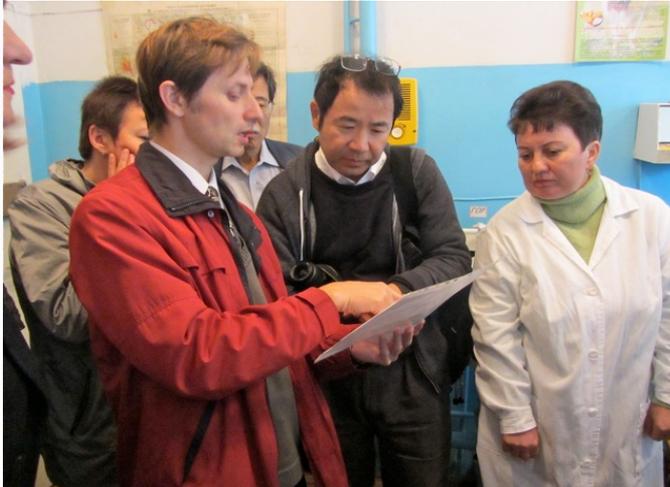
## Who are those behind the 'we' of the presentation's title?

- Nobuhiko Ban
- Chris Clement
- Hiroki Fujita
- Noboyuki Hamada
- Toshimitsu Homma
- Michiaki Kai
- Jean-François Lecomte
- Ohtsura Niwa
- Haruyuki Ogino
- Michiya Sasaki
- Thierry Schneider

## The Dialogue meetings (1)

- An **initiative of ICRP** following a mission of Prof. O. Niwa, and Prof. M. Kai in Belarus in Sept./Oct. 2011, with C. Clement and J. Lochard, to share experience about engaging stakeholders in the recovery process after a nuclear accident
- Aim of the Dialogue meetings:
  - To find ways to respond to the challenges of the **rehabilitation of the living conditions** in the affected territories by the Fukushima accident
  - To benefit from the **Chernobyl experience**
- For ICRP obviously an opportunity to learn from the accident by **listening to all stakeholders**

# The ICRP visit in Belarus, September-October 2011 (1)



# The ICRP visit in Belarus, September-October 2011 (2)



## The Dialogue meetings (2)

- The **ICRP Dialogue**: 12 meetings from 2011 to 2015. Organized by ICRP. Supported by foreign organizations
- The **International workshop**: November 2015, Date City. Proceedings and a Web documentary
- The **Fukushima Dialogue**: 9 meetings from 2016 until now, organized by local stakeholders in cooperation with ICRP. Supported by the Nippon Foundation and JAEA
- Creation of the **NPO Fukushima Dialogue** in June 2019

## The Dialogue meetings (3)

- **2 days meeting** during weekends
- **Invited participants** including Belarusians and Norwegians
- Local, national and foreign **observers**
- **Facilitation** by ICRP members
- Use of **common language**
- Simultaneous **translation**
- Use of a **dialogue technique** to give each participant the opportunity to express her/his view and to react to the views of the other participants
- Summary of discussions by **rapporteurs**
- General discussion
- **Video recorded** and **open to the media**

## The Dialogue meetings (4)

- Themes centred on the **problems of the recovery phase**:
  - Quality of food products
  - Education of children and youth
  - To return or not, to stay or leave
  - Self-help actions
  - Raising children
  - The value of tradition and culture
  - The role of measurements
  - What do we need for our future?
  - The preservation of memory
  - Progress in agriculture and fishery
- ... or the **challenges of affected municipalities** : Date City, Iitate village, Minamisoma, Miyakoji, Kawauchi, Futaba and Ohkuma, Yamakiya

# The first Dialogue meeting, November 2011

## The rehabilitation of living conditions after the Fukushima accident: lessons from Chernobyl and ICRP Recommendations



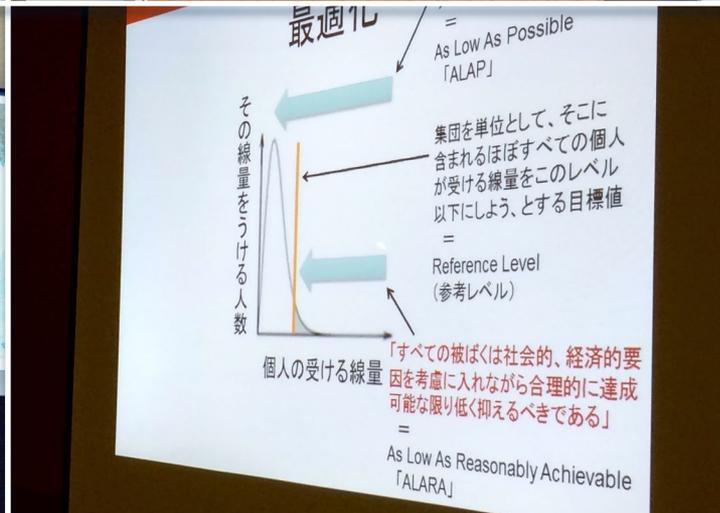
# The fifth Dialogue meeting, February 13

## To return or not, to stay or leave



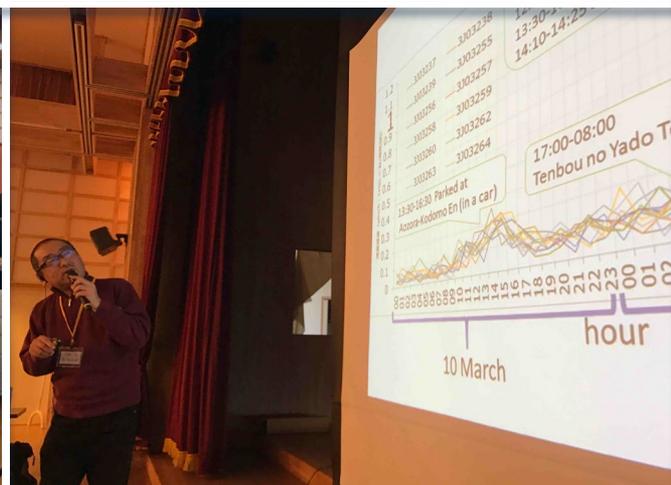
# The eleventh Dialogue meeting, May 2015

## The role of measurements in regaining control



# The sixteenth Dialogue meeting, March 2017

## Current situation of locals in Futaba and Ohkuma towns

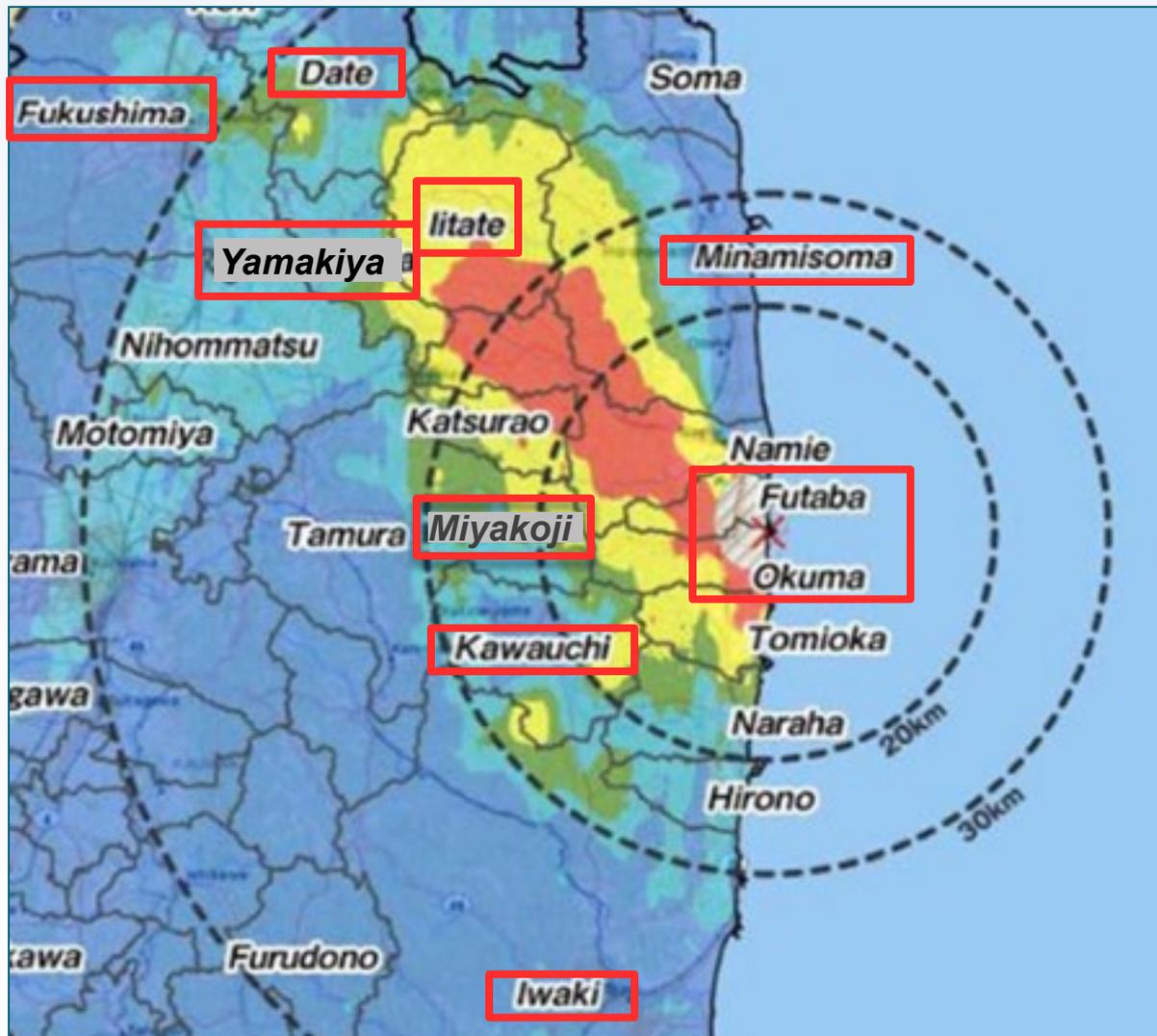


# The twenty-first Dialogue meeting, August 2019

## How far has the rehabilitation in Fukushima progressed in agriculture and fishery?



# Locations of the dialogue meetings held so far



# The lessons from the Dialogue (1)

- The testimonies of the participants allowed to better understand:
  - the sequence and articulation between the different **phases** of the accident
  - the psychological, health, societal, environmental and economic **consequences**
  - the problems associated with implementing the **principles** of protection and the **protective actions** particularly in the recovery phase
  - the **ethical dimensions** associated with the management of the accident
- These lessons were incorporated in the **Task Group 93** draft report

## The lessons from the Dialogue meetings (2)

- The Dialogue meetings confirmed what had already been observed in the affected areas after the Chernobyl accident, namely:
  - the **loss of trust** in authorities and experts
  - a strong **concern about radiation and its potential health effects** especially on children
  - the **disintegration of family and social ties** and the breakdown of the economic fabric
  - a general feeling of helplessness and **loss of control** on daily life, abandonment and **apprehension about the future**
- Beyond the dread of the contamination what is at stake after a nuclear accident is the **autonomy** and **dignity** of the affected people

## The lessons from the Dialogue meetings (3)

- The issue of the values of **dose criteria** for the management of the post-accident situation has rarely been raised during the Dialogue meetings
- On the other hand, the participants emphasized on several occasions the **destabilizing nature** of the dose criteria on the quality of the living together (separating and blocking factors)
- The Dialogue seminars have underlined the **complementarity role** of the protective actions implemented by **authorities** and the **affected people**, but also the difficulty to coordinate the two approaches (e.g. the decontamination actions)

## The lessons from the Dialogue meetings (4)

The Dialogue helped to clarify the **ethical dimensions** involved in the recovery process:

- the general aim of ensuring both the **well-being of individuals** and the **quality of the living together**
- the respect of **people's decisions** concerning their life choices
- for experts the need to:
  - master the scientific basis of radiation protection (**accountability**)
  - adhere to the ethical values that underlie radiation protection (**beneficence / non-maleficence, prudence, justice, dignity**)
  - listen carefully to stakeholders (**empathy**)
  - share information (**transparency**)
  - deliberate and decide with stakeholders (**Inclusiveness**)

## The lessons of the Dialogue meetings (5)

- The Dialogue provided opportunities for ICRP members to also be involved in several **recovery experiences in Fukushima communities** characterized by a strong cooperation between experts, local authorities and professionals and the affected population
- This was particularly the case for the participatory approaches implemented in the communities of **Kawauchi, Iitate** and **Suetsugi**
- With different modalities of implementation these experiences contributed to refine the so-called '**co-expertise process**' developed in Belarus in the 90 and 2000s and to recommend its implementation to accompany the recovery process in the forthcoming ICRP Publication

# The co-expertise process



## Concluding remarks

- The Dialogue meetings did not address all the issues related to nuclear accident as for example the **protection of workers** on site or off site
- These issues were addressed in the context of **ad hoc meetings** with the relevant stakeholders
- The Dialogue meetings gave rise to rich **testimonies**, particularly as regards the **human dimension** of the accident, which will be a precious **legacy** of the people of Fukushima for improving **preparedness** and **supporting** affected people in case of a similar event in the future
- From 2020, the Dialogue meetings will be completely in the hands of local stakeholders through the **Fukushima Dialogue NPO**. ICRP will however maintain links with the organizers to continue to benefit from the experience of the participants

# The Dialogue meetings on the Web

## NPO Fukushima Dialogue

Under construction

ホーム (日本語)

Home (English)

### Greetings

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- Establishment Greeting (in preparation)

### Membership, Donation

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- Membership Application (in preparation)
- Donation (in preparation)

### Plans of Dialogues

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- Fukushima Dialogue Implementation Plan in FY2019 (in preparation)

### Records of Dialogues (FY2019-)

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-  [3-4 Aug., 2019, Record of Fukushima Dialogue](#) (Presentation files, etc.)

### Records of Dialogues (FY2011-FY2018)

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- [FY2011 to FY2018: Records of ICRP Dialogue and Fukushima Dialogue](#) (Link to the website of ETHOS IN FUKUSHIMA)

[https://fukushima-dialogue.jp/index\\_e.html](https://fukushima-dialogue.jp/index_e.html)

# References

- ICRP, 2016, Proceedings of the International Workshop on the Fukushima Dialogue Initiative. Ann. ICRP 45(2S).

[https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/ANIB\\_45\\_2S](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/ANIB_45_2S)

- Kotaba: Web documentary on the ICRP Dialogue Seminar. IRSN, France (Japanese version)

<http://www.fukushima-dialogues.com>

- Lochard J. *et al.* An overview of the dialogue meetings initiated by ICRP in Japan after the Fukushima accident. Radioprotection 54(2): 87–101

[https://www.radioprotection.org/articles/radiopro/full\\_html/2019/02/radiopro190031/radiopro190031.html](https://www.radioprotection.org/articles/radiopro/full_html/2019/02/radiopro190031/radiopro190031.html)

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  - **IRSN, NRPA, NEA-OECD, ASN, the Nippon Foundation and JAEA** for their financial support
- They are also thankful to the **ICRP Main Commission** and particularly to **Claire Cousins**, the chair of ICRP, for their on-going support to this exceptional activity since its inception



**ICRP Chair Claire Cousins  
at the 12th Dialogue meeting  
in September 2015 with  
Jun Takai and Chris Clement**



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