

What have we learned from Fukushima Dialogue Meetings?

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in the Event of a Large Nuclear Accident**

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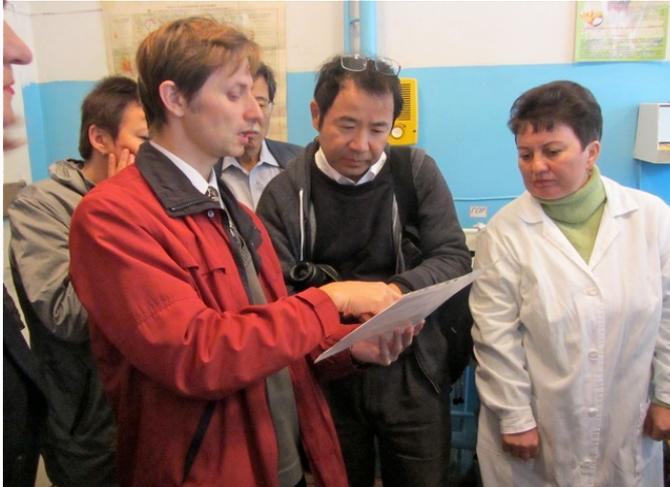
Who are those behind the 'we' of the presentation's title?

- 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, litate 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



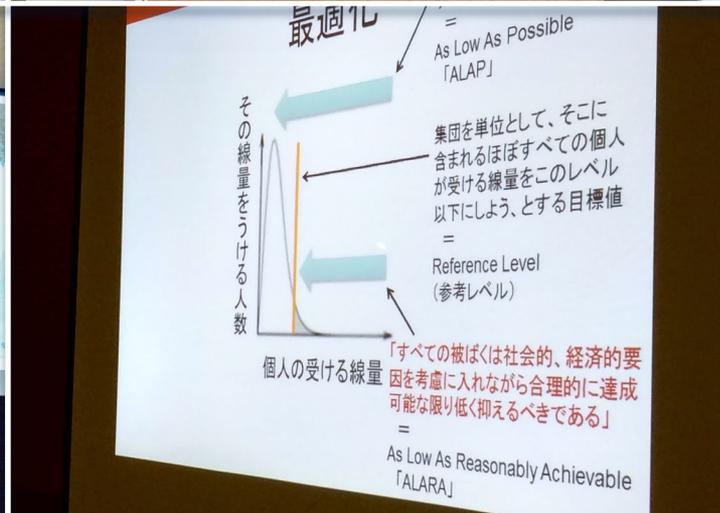
The fifth Dialogue meeting, February 13

To return or not, to stay or leave



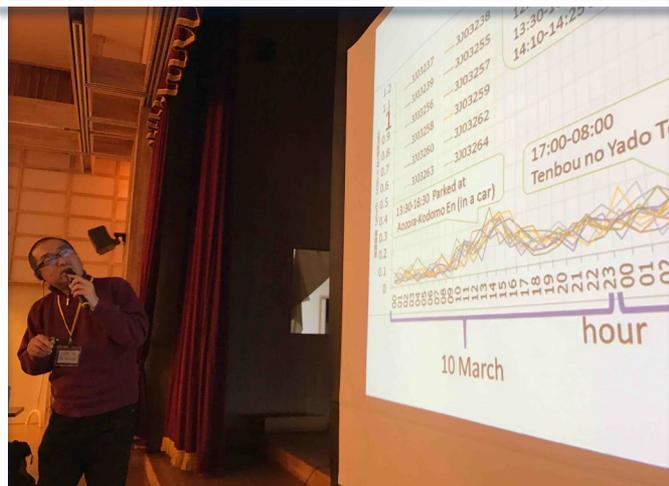
The eleventh Dialogue meeting, May 2015

The role of measurements in regaining control



The sixteenth Dialogue meeting, March 2017

Current situation of locals in Futaba and Ohkuma towns

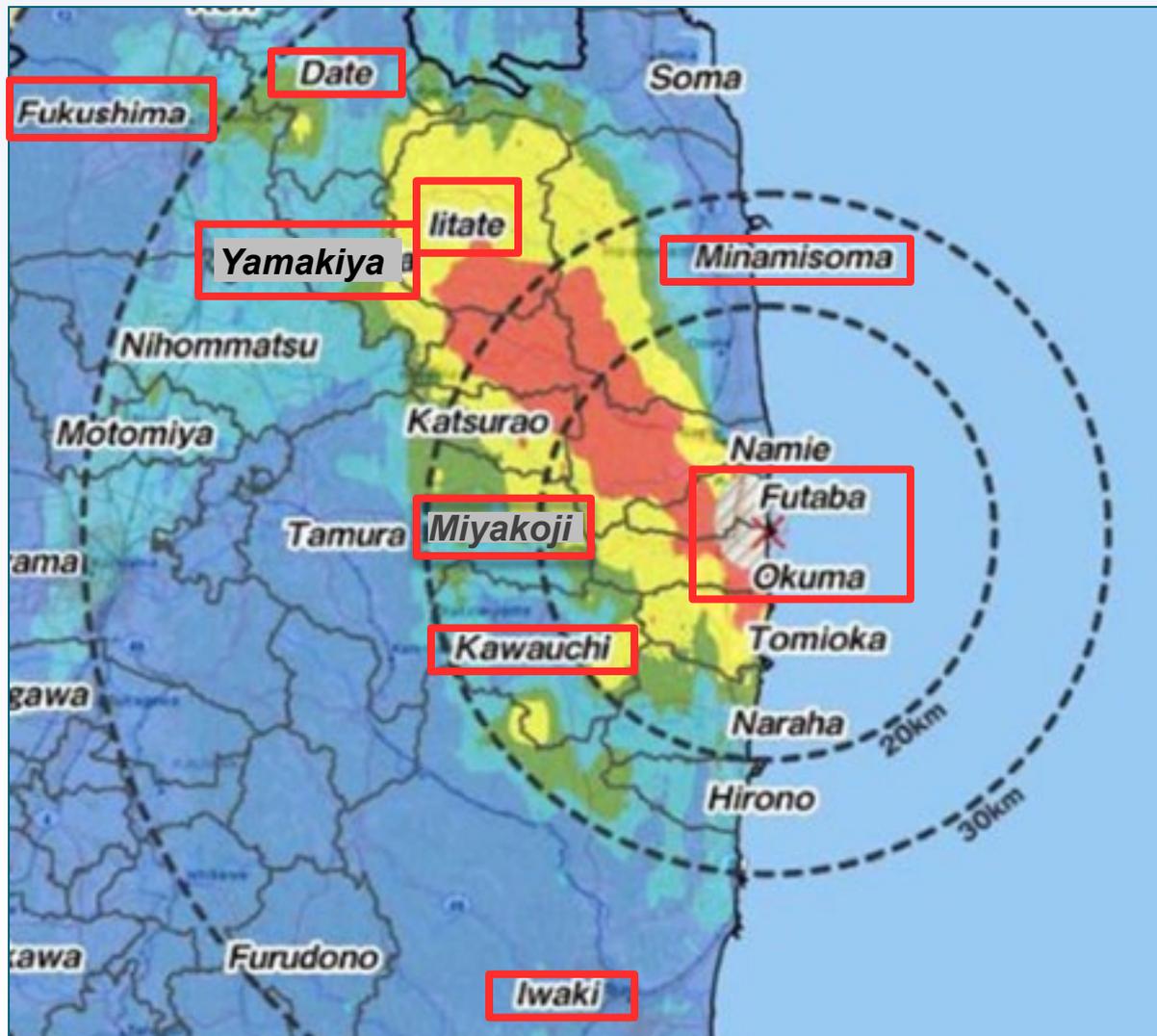


The twenty-first Dialogue meeting, August 2019

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

- Establishment Greeting (in preparation)

Membership, Donation

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

Plans of Dialogues

- Fukushima Dialogue Implementation Plan in FY2019 (in preparation)

Records of Dialogues (FY2019-)

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

Records of Dialogues (FY2011-FY2018)

- [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

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

- 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

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- 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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