



Implementing methods of participation and transparency at national and international levels

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Background

EU Projects: Cowam, Cowam II, Cowam in Practice (CIP)

RISCOM II, ARGONA, OBRA, now IPPA and InSOTEC

Multi-national projects: CARL

Experiences from national programs

International fora: Forum for Stakeholder Confidence
(OECD/NEA/FSC)



ARGONA Project

Euratom FP6 Project

Start: November 1, 2006 End: October 31, 2009

14 organizations from 8 countries

Coordinator: Swedish Radiation Safety Authority

IPPA Project

Euratom FP7 Project

Start: January 1, 2011 End: December 31, 2013

17 organizations from 12 countries

Coordinator: Karita Research

Fundamentals for public involvement

Levels of participation

Its all about societal decision making

..... and ultimately this means political decisions

- in representative assemblies (parliament, municipality council ...)**
- by governments**
- by referenda**

We want these decisions to have as high quality as possible and to be as legitimate as possible

Key elements for high quality decision making

Transparency and accountability

Clarity of issues, awareness about the value-laden contents of alternative ways of action, still avoiding polarization

Broad initial framing to include all aspects, and “vaccination” against fragmentation

More understanding between stakeholders

To achieve all this participation from many angles is needed, but difficult to establish and , above all, difficult to sustain

Levels of participation to support decision making

A. LEGISLATION AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

International Conventions, EIA and SEA Directives (in EU),
national implementation

B. ARENAS Voluntary initiatives, not required by law (e.g.
Transparency Arenas, Partnerships)

C. INSTRUMENTS Internet consultations, focus groups,
consensus conferences, stakeholder panels, single RISCUM
hearings etc,

Which one shall be the lead process to support decision making?

There are many possible combinations, e.g.

- ❖ EIA as lead process, at the same time fulfilling Conventions using Transparency Arenas
- ❖ Transparency Arena or Partnership as lead process, fulfilling EIA and Conventions
- ❖ Or parallel processes, such as: Formal process for EIA, in parallel with an arena process

Who shall be the process driver ?

Industry, Implementer? Government? Regulator?
Municipality? NGO?

Depends on regulations, stage of process etc.

If there are parallel process there can be different drivers

The process must be trusted – let go of expert control!



ARGONA Project

Arenas for Risk Governance

Understanding the context

What has ARGONA done?

- ✓ **Studies of the context within which processes of participation and transparency take place - to understand how the processes can be used in the real world**
- ✓ **Studies of theory – in order to build participation and transparency on a firm democratic ground**
- ✓ **One work package dealt with risk communication**
- ✓ **Case studies – to understand how different processes work**
- ✓ **Implementation – to make a difference, learn and demonstrate**

ARGONA in Czech Republic



RISCOM Activities

- ❖ RISCOM Reference Group (RG) established; Agreement
- ❖ RG had five meetings;
- ❖ RG designed a Public Hearing
- ❖ Public Hearing: Restarting repository siting investigations
- ❖ Follow up by RG and at national political level

Other Activities

- ❖ Science Shop: to increase awareness amongst the public
- ❖ Interaction panel: stakeholder involvement and safety case
- ❖ Consensus Panel: to reach wider consensus

END OF ARGONA

ARGONA “suggested guidelines

- ❖ Rules and regulations
- ❖ How to get started
- ❖ Basic approaches
- ❖ The need for a “safe space”
- ❖ Early public involvement
- ❖ The safety analysis
- ❖ Resources
- ❖ Trust is basic
- ❖ Local compensation
- ❖ The relation between research and implementation
- ❖ Situation based guidelines
- ❖ Practical recommendations

We now know

From ARGONA and other projects, we know:

- that information is not enough
- that involvement of public and stakeholders is needed
- how involvement shall be organized depends on phase of DMP, who is the organizer, cultural and institutional factors, and (above all) the aim of involvement

We also know

- that stakeholders often need a **safe space** for their involvement, for example in cases when they don't find it suitable to form a partnership together with the implementer aiming for shared solutions
- **that success or failure depends on trust in the process**
- how processes of participation and transparency can **link to existing political decision making structures**, including representative democracy

ARGONA Reports

24 reports, published on the ARGONA web site

Suggested Guidelines on participation and transparency – Deliverable 22

Summary Report – Deliverable 23b

Final Report – Deliverable 23a

Policy making structures – Deliverable 2

RISCOM in Czech Republic - Deliverable 22

The RISCUM methodology and the safe space

Understanding the issues

The RISCOM model

The RISCOM model gives clarity and structure to complex issues

1. Arguments are clarified with respect to their scientific support and their value-laden basis
2. The dialogue gets organization and order by "levels of meaningful debate"

The RISCUM model

In the RISCUM Model, **stretching** is a means to get transparency – this needs to be organized in a “transparency arena”

Central actors join to let their arguments be challenged in a structured way – a process for clarity and mutual learning in a “safe space”

The Transparency Arena – a safe space

1. Working group – ”pre understanding” and organization
2. **Reference group** with stakeholders (e.g. industry, communities, academia, authorities, NGO:s) – **Formal agreement**
3. The reference group sets the principles into action
4. Knowledge building activities
5. **Hearings with stretching**
6. Documentation

Levels of ambition

1. Single events, e.g. an hearing with "stretching"
2. Reference group established, agreement
Mobile phone project in Sweden (SSM); ARGONA in Czech Republic
1. More systematic and more formal , ITA process
2. Institutionalisation



IPPA Project

Implementation

**Implementing Public Participation Approaches in
Radioactive Waste Disposal**

IPPA offers a “safe space” for participating countries

An arena for dialogue where different stakeholders join to increase their understanding of the issues and also of their respective views without the aim of reaching a shared solution together with, for example, the implementer.

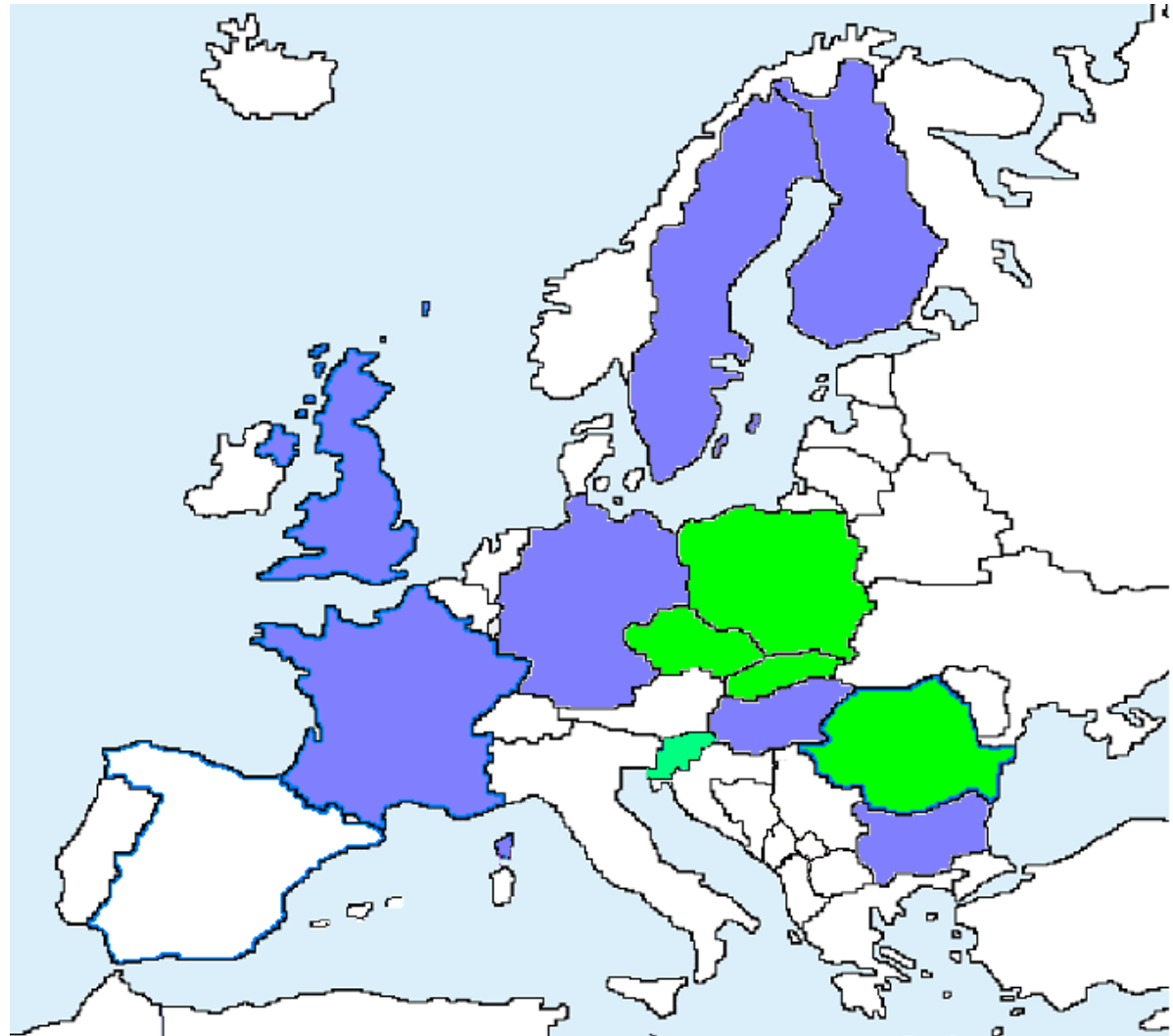
With this purpose, the RISCUM Model will be implemented for the clarification of arguments with respect to their scientific support and their value-laden basis.

- Karita (SE)
- NRI (CZ)
- RAWRA (CZ)
- GSL (UK)
- UTA (FI)
- Oeko (D)
- DECOM (SK)
- MBU (SK)
- MUTADIS (F)
- INCT (PL)
- IAE (PL)
- UNILJ (SLO)
- INR (RO)
- AREN (RO)
- REC (HU)
- CSD (BG)
- URC (SE)



**IPPA
implementation
countries**

**IPPA other
participating
countries**



IPPA major elements

- **Implementation of RISCUM Model (safe space) in Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia**
- **Implementation of public participation in Romania and Slovenia**
- **How to build a safe space for Common Crosscutting Issues - Transboundary EIA and SEA, Regional repositories, and Application of the Aarhus Convention**

IPPA major elements

- **Building the knowledge base and a “toolbox”**
- **Analysis of added value approaches**
- **Review and feedback to knowledge base**

Creating safe spaces

Poland. Establishing an RG - enhancing communication of the main actors, broadening the spectrum of potential participants, training young researchers and students, seminars, hearings

Czech Republic. Resuming the Reference Group (RG) created under ARGONA project as part of RISCUM model application, linking to the recently created national working group and to the site selection programme

Slovakia. Past experiences with public participation SEA and EIA processes will be analysed, then and RG will be established and the RISCUM Model will be tested under Slovak conditions



IPPA major public events

European workshop (about mid 2012)

IPPA Experiences will be presented and discussed with focus on implementation

End users conference (autumn 2013)

Preliminary IPPA results will be presented and be the subject of stretching

Summary

**There are several processes for participation available.
They should be seen as means to support societal
decision making**

**ARGONA helped us understand how this can done and
the overall context**

**Meaningful safe spaces are needed and RISCUM helps
us implement**

In IPPA such implementation takes place

More information

IPPA Deliverable 6.1

Arenas for risk governance - Linking ARGONA results to practical implementation

Web sites

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www.agonaproject.eu

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Thank you for your attention!