

Feedback from Interaction with Civil Society in Modern 2020

ACN Online Seminar 2021

January 14th 2021 - Third Session

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*This project has received funding from the Euratom research and training programme 2014-2018
under grant agreement n° 662177*

The modern2020 project

Collaborative project funded by Euratom under grant agreement n°662177.

Aim: providing a **framework for the development and possible implementation of monitoring and associated stakeholder engagement** during **operational phases** of the RW disposal process.

EURATOM Research & Training Programme 2014-2018

TOPIC: « Contribute to the development of solutions for the management of ultimate radioactive waste

IGD-TP Topic : Joint Activity 7 - Monitoring

Project Duration: 4 years (Start June 30th, 2015)

Total budget : 8,6 million €

EC contribution : 6 million €

Website : www.modern2020.eu



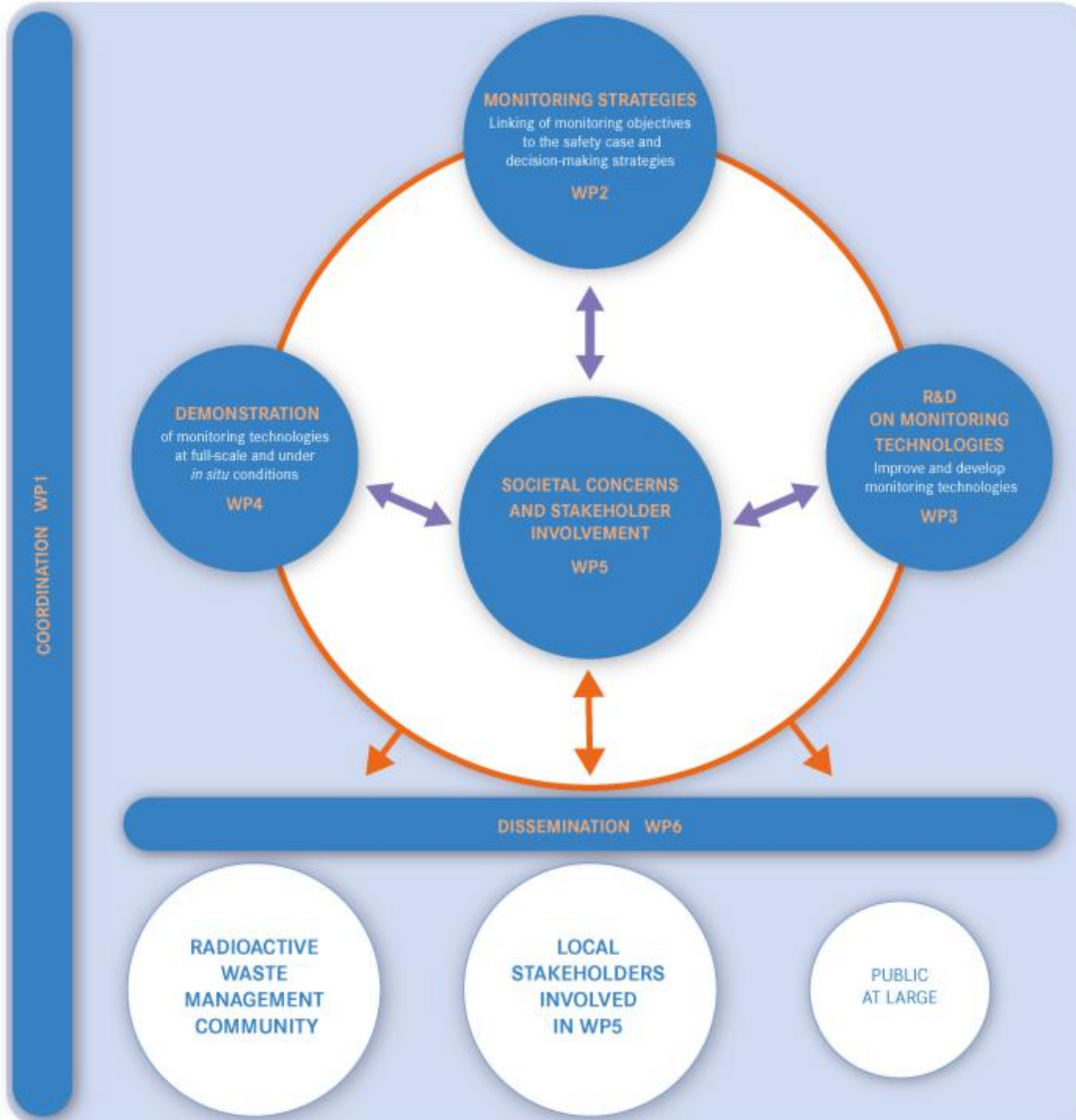
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Modern2020 consortium

Consortium: 29 partners EU + non-EU countries (Coordinator : Andra)

<p>8 radioactive waste management organisations</p>	
<p>5 organisations undertaking research on radioactive waste management in their respective country</p>	
<p>1 technical support organisation</p>	
<p>6 organisations with specialist technical monitoring expertise</p>	
<p>8 academic research units</p>	
<p>2 specialist consultants</p>	

Approach



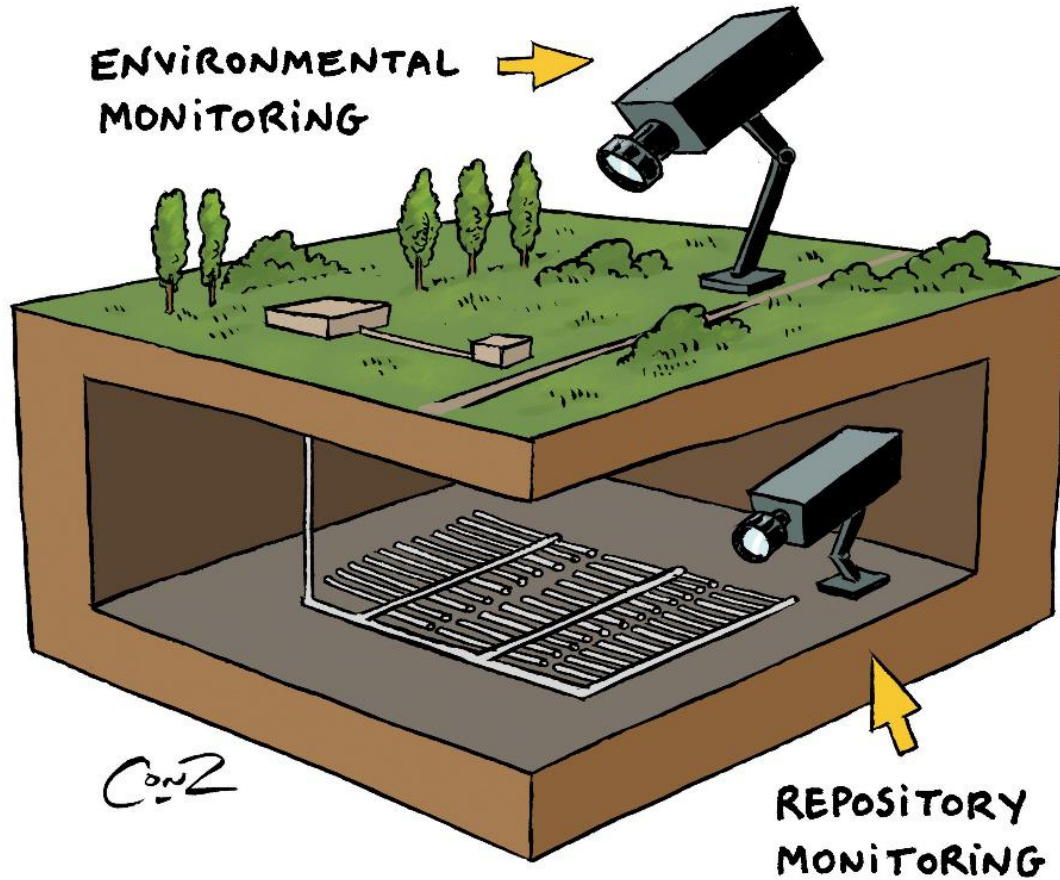
WP2 Strategy: Linking of monitoring objectives to the safety case and decision-making strategies.

WP3 Technology: Research and development on monitoring technologies.

WP4 Demonstration and Practical Implementation: Demonstration of monitoring technologies at full-scale and under *in situ* conditions.

WP5 Societal concerns and Stakeholder Involvement: Development and evaluation of ways for integrating public stakeholders concerns and societal expectations into national **repository monitoring** programmes

Focus on REPOSITORY monitoring



Putting “Responsible Research & Innovation” and “Co-production” into practice

- Organising engagement activity

- ✓ At the project level

- 5 project workshops (4 WP2 + 1 WP5), 3 GA’s
- online interactive survey
- development of stakeholder guide

- ✓ At the national/local level

- 6 home engagement workshops

- Research activity

- ✓ Background research

- on RRI and co-production in R&D
- on national contexts and other relevant cases)

- ✓ Analyse, reflect back and report on the engagement activity



2 'liason officers' for each group

- Participation in project workshops and GA's
- Dedicated 'engagement workshop'
- Development of a 'stakeholder guide'
- Online interaction



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Online interaction

✓ An interactive survey in two rounds

Not a classical survey, but a **DELPHI style dialogue**

Between the consortium members and stakeholder participants in the project

In order to come to:

- A shared appreciation of the SE activities within the project
- Lessons learned regarding *“the effective engagement of local citizen stakeholders in RWM related R&D activities”*
- A shared view on what constitutes a *“broader repository governance perspective, and the role of GD monitoring therein”*

Modern 2020 - Engaging Stakeholders in Monitoring Systems

Modern 2020

Round 2

Start date Jan 7, 2019 16:20:00 2 months ago
End date Feb 10, 2019 01:00:00 1 month ago



Answers count:
25 / 27

Last activity 2 months ago

[Read answers](#) [Review my answers](#)

Round 1



Answers count:
66 / 68

'Home engagement activity'

- Making use of existing configurations (in collaboration with respective NWMO)
 - ✓ Municipality of Eurajoki (Finland), Municipality of Östhammar (Sweden), Local partnerships in Mol and Dessel (Belgium), Clis de Bure (France)
 - ✓ Belgium and Sweden from the start; Finland and France to follow later
 - ✓ 'Activity level' influenced by national programme (cf. environmental court process in Sweden)



Adapting strategy along the way

- In view of expressed needs (and restrictions) from engaged citizens as well as from project partners
 - ✓ E.g. no meetings with WP3 but development of technology “index cards”; dedicated activity (e.g. on the stakeholder guide) aligned to GA
- Citizens felt their role in the project was not to influence the course of the technical research, but to understand what it was for and how it could affect their national waste management programmes
 - ✓ Development of a Stakeholder Guide to Repository Monitoring
 - To open up for broader debate beyond Modern2020



Of immediate practical use

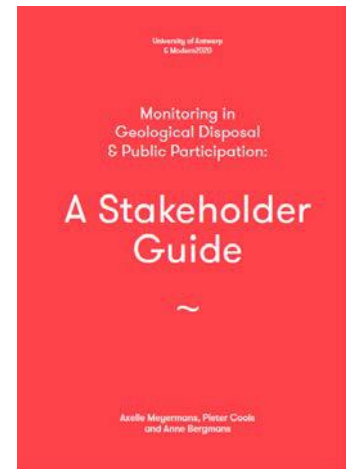
- The Stakeholder Guide to Repository Monitoring (D5.2)

More reflective and analytical

- Monitoring the Underground: Specific Challenges for Engaging Concerned Stakeholders (D5.1)
- Lessons learned from engaging with local citizens in an international R&D project (D5.3)

Related academic articles in process

- Purpose
 - ✓ Science communication
 - ✓ Tool to arrange (future) dialogue between heterogeneous stakeholders in different contexts
- Inter- and transdisciplinary exercise
 - ✓ Iterative feedback-loops (Editorial Board)
 - ✓ Input and feedback from local stakeholders
- Discusses both technical and governance related topics
 - ✓ Input from all partners (different WPs and stakeholders), literature and policy documents.
 - E.g.:
 - Introduction of relevant monitoring technologies (WP3)
 - What is happening with the demonstrators? (WP4)
 - Experiences with participation (Citizen stakeholders – WP5)
 - Relevant differences in GD concepts (WP2) and national legislation (WP5)
- Target public
 - ✓ Local citizen stakeholders, politicians, journalists, broader society
- Available in English and French: www.modern2020.eu



Some difficulties along the way

- **EXTERNAL**
 - ✓ Getting citizens interested
 - Able to draw on first experience with Modern for BE and SE
 - ✓ Timing of national programmes
 - ✓ NWMO – stakeholder relations
 - Can have a positive (Fi) or negative (FR) impact
- **INTERNAL**
 - ✓ Alignment with other WPs
 - Project logic and engagement logic don't always go well together
 - Difficulty to open up internal meetings for citizens (mismatch in timing and content): WP2 (strategy) closer to stakeholder participants' interests and 'hands-on-knowledge'; WP3 (technology) very technical; WP4 (demonstration) also technical but mainly timing issues
 - ✓ Language barrier

Key messages

- Citizen stakeholders very positive about interaction with project and technical partners
- CS not prepared to legitimate research outcome
 - ✓ Similar to social scientists: we want to **open up, not close down**
 - ✓ A particular type of co-production
- CS do not seek to **engage in** research but **in the research process**
 - ✓ to see how it is done and what it is for; to witness debate among researchers; to get a sense of the knowledge and the knowledge gaps
 - ✓ to confront the researchers with the real world outside the lab; to keep them alert and answerable
 - ✓ to gather information and knowledge to allow them to play a role of bridge-builder or broker towards broader public groups

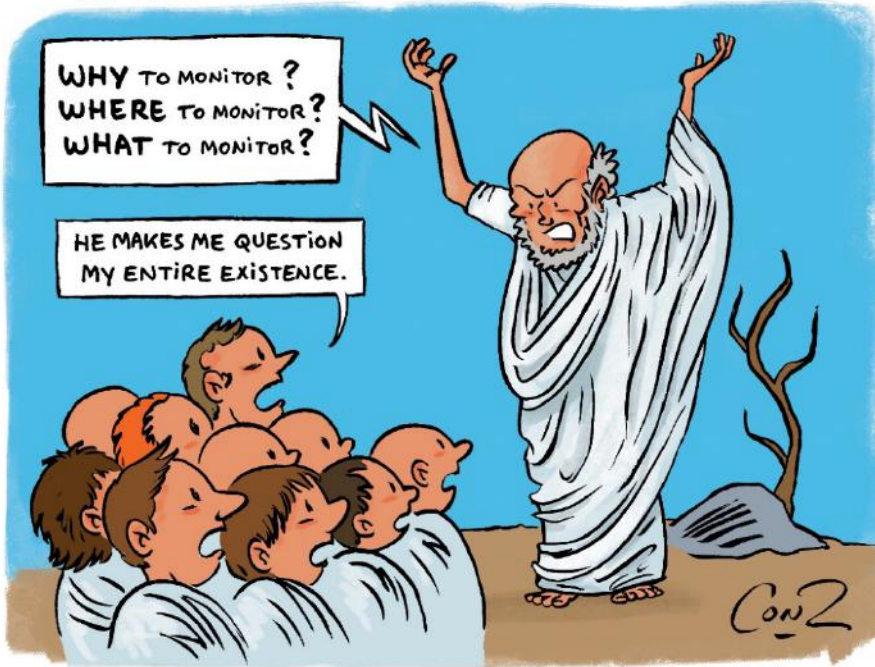
Key messages

- Relative “messiness” of interaction shows authenticity (no cleaned-up marketing messages) which stimulates trust
- Added value for CS in participating in international project
 - ✓ Comparison ; putting own programme in perspective
 - ✓ At liberty to discuss “sensitive” issues
- Practical things to consider for taking this further
 - ✓ Accessible meeting places; adaptable planning (in view of availability of stakeholder participants)
 - ✓ Engagement as a goal for all work packages
 - ✓ Overcoming the language barrier?? (e.g. via project partners from respective language community; simultaneous translation?)
 - ✓ Budget (and funding mechanism behind it) to acknowledge two types of COST: Research & Interaction (≠ dissemination)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

AS THE ANCIENT PHILOSOPHER RADIUS ACTIVUS SAID:



TIME TO REVISIT RADIUS ACTIVUS.

