Summary of Session 5
“well-being” issues

NEA Workshop
February 20, 2020
Various issues related to well-being, even 9 years after the accident

• Among the evacuees:
  • loss of their “normal way of life” and their community (e.g. cultural and traditional activities, loss of neighbours, family members, etc.);
  • perception of stigma and discrimination;
  • suffer from a long-term evacuation (in some cases, evacuation orders are still ongoing) with provision of temporary housing progressively decreasing.

• Among the returnees:
  • loss of livelihood (e.g. unemployment, contaminated agricultural land, etc.)
  • loss of infrastructures (e.g. lack of schools, transports, hospitals, etc.).
Various observations

- Psychological and mental health issues;
- Lifestyle diseases (e.g. diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, etc.);
- Late-stage management of cancers;
- Anxiety from both affected population and host population.
VARIOUS IMPLEMENTED INITIATIVES

Dialogues and exchanges with evacuees and returnees

• **Important role of counsellors** aiming to build a trust-based relationships with the affected population (individual visits, public meetings, etc.);

• Key role of **individual monitoring devices**. Help people to **regain control of their daily life** and **better understand what is at stake** in their own environment. Individual visits in temporary houses;

• Progressive development of an **health care response** adapted to the local needs:
  • **nursing care** for evacuees;
  • Implementation of the **Futaba Medical Center Hospital**
WHAT CHALLENGES AHEAD? (1/2)

Health care response

- **Ensure the long-term vigilance** regarding health of an aging population and nuclear workers;

- **Address the various medical needs** in the affected areas (e.g. emergencies, multiple medical problems, etc.);

- **Promote health** among the population.

Find a balance between local expectations and real needs (and funding)

- On one side... local expectations to have cancer treatments/paediatric infrastructures whereas the real need is to develop facilities dedicated to elderly residents;

- On the other side... need strong health care infrastructures to entice new comers and younger generations.
Well-being is a public matter

- **Well-being issues are evolving over time**, need a long-term strategic plan;
- Importance of **participatory processes** with local population;
- Respect **ethical values**: dignity, autonomy of local population.
UPCOMING WORKSHOP IN MUNICH

International workshop

“Toward a better integration of Non-Radiological Public Health Aspects of Protection Strategies during Radiation Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery”

Co-organised by BfS, OECD/NEA and WHO

Munich, Germany

18-20 March 2020
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!