

Session D
Improving Community Involvement in Site
Remediation and Reuse Decisions

Folks in Room F

Challenges

- Citizen knowledge base
- Money
- Communication of risk management
- Communication between government departments and agencies
- Political awareness of and commitment to tackle contaminated land issues
- Engagement fatigue
- Lack of long term planning and resource commitment

Solutions

- Navajo Nation is creating a tariff
- EU superfund
- Increased political awareness
- Adopt an ordinance for an official procedure for cases where there is no technical solution ... yet
- State run fund for municipalities to apply to
- Educate people from school age
- Research into risk management
- Tax potential polluters
- Technology - web

D1 Superfund community involvement program

Suzanne Wells

- Full transparency required
- Systematic and well funded US EPA approach
- US EPA grant for independent advisors

D2 Community involvement in Republic of South Africa

Mpho Tshitangoni

- Development has been stopped by public pressure
- RSA has come a long way in a short time
- Balance between industry and public pressure
- Introducing mandatory public participation
- Emphasis on polluter taking responsibility

D3 Navajo Nation

Freida White

- NN is the size of Ireland
- AUM & Navajo language in WW2
- A state within a state has to cope with the sins of the other state ... and had to battle for resources for a long time
- Federal government facing up to historic responsibilities
- Remediation takes a long time from assessment to implementation

D4 Hungarian red mud accident

Gabor Hasznos

- Amazing result after only 1 year
- How quickly the problems were solved; need for long term aftercare
- Global support for a local disaster
- Need for companies to have a disaster management plan

D5 Large sites in Switzerland

Christoph Wenger

- Community involved in where to invest public money
- NGO involvement can create complications
- Interim concerns accommodated

D6 Social and opportunities through remediation in N Canada

Lou Spagnuolo

- 5 tier priority class used to allocate resources
- Aboriginal involvement
- Socio-economic opportunities integrated: training, procurement, skills development, jobs
- Impact of climate change on risk management
- Public sector procurement as a means of empowering aboriginals