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# OBRA

## European Observatory for long-term governance on radioactive waste management

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**Author(s):** Dr. Meritxell Martell, Amphos XXI Consulting S.L

Irene Kopetz, Amphos XXI Consulting S.L

Daniela Russi, Amphos XXI Consulting S.L

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CO	confidential, only for partners of the OBRA project	

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Radioactive waste management raises strong societal concerns and it often generates conflicts among different categories of social actors with different views on the same issues. For this reason, it is acknowledged that wider societal involvement in an open, inclusive and transparent manner can improve the quality of decision-making in this sensitive issue.



Better information is crucial in order to favour involvement of the stakeholders in the decision-making process. However, the 2008 Eurobarometer results show that 74% of the European citizens do not consider themselves well informed on radioactive wastes. However, stakeholders need to be provided with the sufficient knowledge base to be able to take sound decisions concerning the long-term. In many cases, local and regional communities lack access to an authoritative yet independent platform of experts to address their concerns and information needs in a systematic way.

The Coordination Action OBRA aimed at assessing the feasibility of creating an Observatory for long-term governance on radioactive waste management in Europe. OBRA will contribute to improve governance of radioactive wastes by setting the basis for providing mechanisms for all stakeholders to have access to the knowledge generated by EU research programmes and research in scientific and social sciences.

The vision and strategy of the Observatory were developed through a) discussion among partners, who are knowledgeable in the radioactive waste management arena and represent different categories of stakeholders, b) information obtained from stakeholders and community members addressing their concerns and information needs, c) the review of experiences and results from European governance projects, d) the review of different observatories that are currently in operation in Europe.

## 1. PROJECT EXECUTION

### 1.1 OBRA OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of OBRA was to assess the feasibility of creating an Observatory for long-term governance on radioactive waste management. OBRA explored whether such an Observatory would be a useful mechanism for all stakeholders firstly, to access to the knowledge generated by successive EU research programmes, both in scientific and social sciences fields; secondly, to promote the most appropriate forms of interaction between them and thirdly, to jointly define how results from research, training and development in radioactive waste management and disposal are formulated and how their dissemination is managed.

The key objectives of OBRA were:

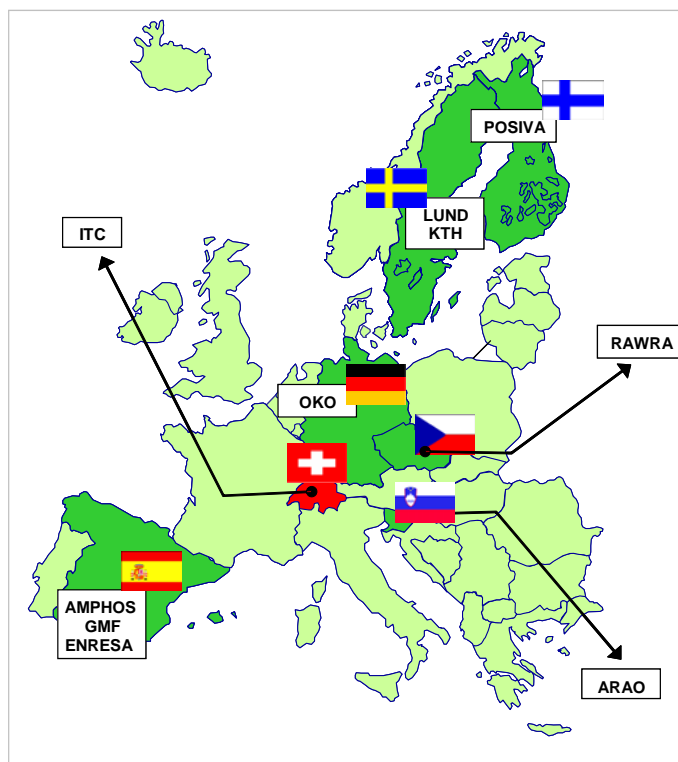
- (1) to establish a European networking platform between universities, implementers, stakeholders and civil society in general,
- (2) to develop a model of a European Observatory for long-term governance in radioactive waste management,

- (3) to test the efficiency of a pilot training package as a mechanism for the transfer and dissemination of knowledge,
- (4) to make recommendations on how the model of the Observatory could be implemented.

## 1.2 PARTNERS AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The project involved 10 partners from 7 European countries, representing national Waste Management Organizations (4), research institutions (2), universities (2), small and medium-sized enterprises (1) and non-governmental organisations (1).

The project aimed at benefiting the following range of stakeholders (1) local communities, through improvement of the access to information, knowledge and expertise support, (2) academic and research community, through multidisciplinary education and a networking platform, (3) European Commission, with new approaches to governance at a European level, (4) implementers, by increasing communication and transparency (5) public in general by raising public awareness on radioactive waste management.



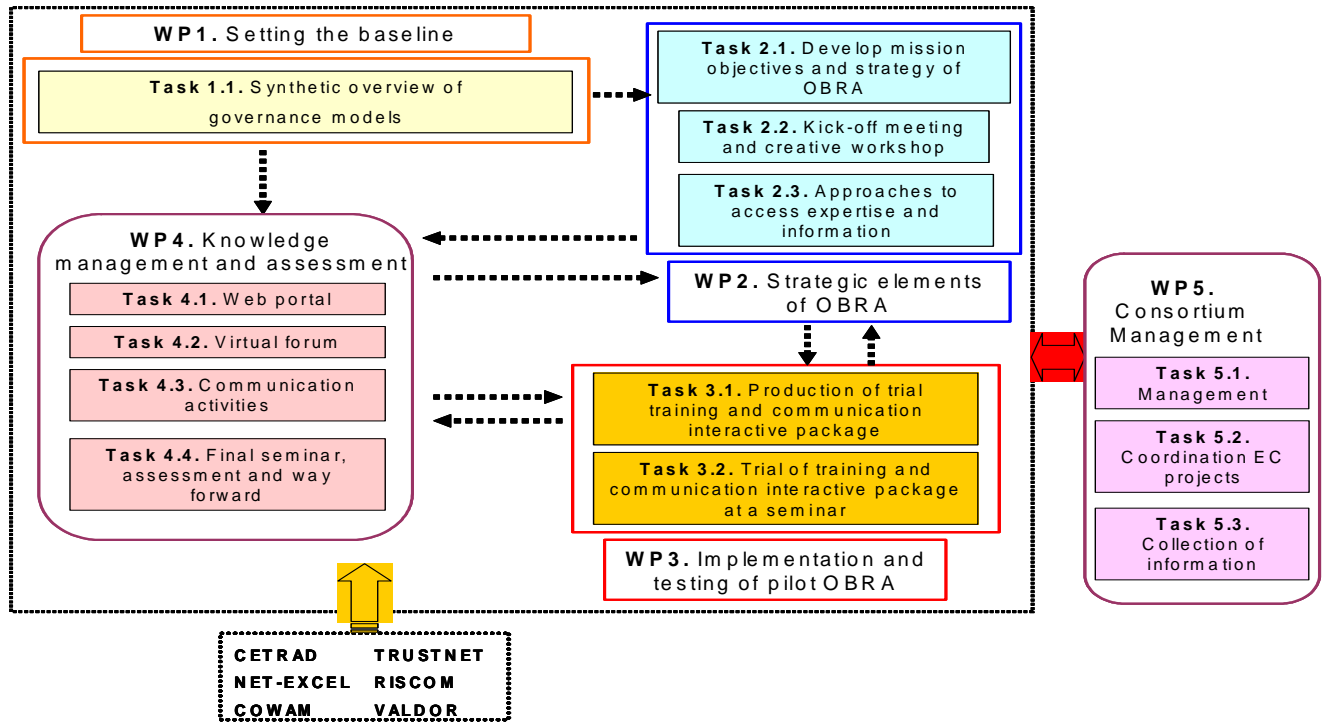
### Partners participating in OBRA

### Countries participating in OBRA

No.	Partners	Names	Country
1	<b>AMPHOS</b> <a href="http://www.amphos21.com">www.amphos21.com</a>	Amphos XXI Consulting S.L.	ES
2	<b>ITC</b> <a href="http://itc-school.org">http://itc-school.org</a>	ITC School of Underground Waste Storage and Disposal	CH
3	<b>POSIVA</b> <a href="http://www.posiva.fi">www.posiva.fi</a>	Posiva Oy	FI
4	<b>ARAO</b> <a href="http://www.arao.si">www.arao.si</a>	Agency for Radwaste Management	SI
5	<b>RAWRA</b> <a href="http://www.rawra.cz">www.rawra.cz</a>	Radioactive Waste Repository Authority	CZ
6	<b>GMF</b> <a href="http://www.gmfeurope.org">www.gmfeurope.org</a>	Group of European Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities	ES
7	<b>OKO</b> <a href="http://www.oeko.de">www.oeko.de</a>	Oeko-Insitut e.V.	DE
8	<b>ENRESA</b> <a href="http://www.enresa.es">www.enresa.es</a>	Empresa Nacional de Residuos Radioactivos S.A.	ES
9	<b>LUND</b> <a href="http://www.lu.se">www.lu.se</a>	Lund University	SE
10	<b>KTH</b> <a href="http://www.kth.se">www.kth.se</a>	Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan	SE

elow:

- ✓ WP1: Setting the Baseline
- ✓ WP2: Strategic Elements of OBRA
- ✓ WP3: Implementation and Testing of Pilot OBRA
- ✓ WP4: Knowledge Management and Assessment
- ✓ WP5: Consortium Management



Each WP included a list of deliverables (documents describing the activities and the results of the work carried out), which are detailed in Table 1.

**Table 1 List of deliverables and date of delivery**

WP	Deliverable	Date of delivery
1	D1.1 “Descriptive overview of governance models”	December 2006
1	D1.2 “Performance indicators”	December 2006
2	D2.1 “Working document on long-term mission, objectives and strategy of OBRA including scope, content and approaches for access to information and expertise”	January 2007
2	D2.2 “Draft thesis and working paper”	July 2007
2	D2.3 “Thesis”	April 2008
2	D2.4 “Report on the common vision and strategy of OBRA, including background information for the training and interactive package”	July 2008
3	D3.1 “Interactive training Package”	May 2008
3	D3.2 “Assessment report on the interactive training package: lessons learned and way forward”	June 2008
4	D4.1 “OBRA website”	April 2007 (updated afterwards);
4	D4.2 “Communication Action Plan”	January 2007
4	D4.3 “Strategy for using and disseminating knowledge”	February 2007
4	D4.4 “Virtual forum on the OBRA website”	April 2007 (updated afterwards)
4	D4.5 “Report on raising public participation and awareness”	February 2007
4	D4.6 “Project Presentation”	January 2007
4	D4.7 “General Poster”	January 2007
4	D4.8 “Joint Newsletters with CIP and ARGONA”	September 2007, June 2008
4	D4.9 “Governance web portal jointly with CIP and ARGONA”	March 2007
4	D4.10 “Brochures and Flyers of OBRA”	January 2007
4	D4.11 “Final report including comprehensive summary of the project activities, results and impact assessment”	November 2008
5	D5.1 Management reports: Mid-term Management Reports	April 2007, April 2008
	D5.1 Management reports: Annual Management Reports	October 2007, November 2008
5	D5.2 Activity reports: Mid-term Activity Reports	April 2007, April 2008
5	D5.2 Activity reports: Annual Activity Reports	October 2007, November 2008
5	D5.3 Final reports	November 2008

In the framework of OBRA, the following meetings and workshops were organized:

1. Kick-off Meeting (31<sup>st</sup> January 2007, Eurajoki, Finland);
2. Creative Workshop (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007, Eurajoki, Finland);
3. Internal meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007, Prague, Czech Republic);
4. Trial Course (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, April 2008, Meiringen, Switzerland);
5. Internal meeting (9<sup>th</sup> April 2008, Meiringen, Switzerland);
6. Final meeting (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2008, Barcelona, Spain).

## **WP1: SETTING THE BASELINE**

As an exploratory study, the first step of OBRA was to synthesise the different results achieved in various projects analysing governance of radioactive waste management in order to identify a set of success factors to be applied to OBRA activities and organisation.

In addition, the elaboration of a set of performance indicators supported the management of the project, strengthened common responsibility and ensured scientific quality and the cognitive integration of knowledge, allowing self-reflection and (external) evaluation.

## **WP2: STRATEGIC ELEMENTS OF OBRA**

WP2 consisted in a qualitative exploration of the views of project partners and other stakeholders regarding the development of mechanisms for knowledge transfer. The objective was to develop a shared proposal for the setting up and implementation of the Observatory. The main issues treated were related to the development of mechanisms for knowledge transfer, interdisciplinary training and education, as well ways to increase interaction among experts and local and regional communities.

In the framework of WP2, two meetings were organised:

- ✓ Kick-off Meeting (31<sup>st</sup> January 2007, Eurajoki, Finland): only for the partners of the consortium;
- ✓ Creative Workshop (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007, Eurajoki, Finland): open to any interested participant.

About 40 people from 29 organisations and 14 different countries attended the workshop, which provided an opportunity for networking and exchanging information and opinions, besides defining the vision and strategy proposed for the Observatory.

The Observatory was envisioned to become a central point of reference for knowledge acquisition in the decision making related to the siting process. It will be set up through gradual phases and will focus initially on the governance process concerning the siting of nuclear facilities. The Observatory will produce a user-friendly web site, providing an independent view through the engagement of different stakeholders groups. The main results of the Creative Workshop are described in Section 5.

Furthermore, WP2 allowed the preparation of Ms. Elisa Vahteristo's (from Posiva) Master thesis on a practical approach for the pilot Observatory. The thesis analysed in depth stakeholder information needs and preferred ways of access to information on radioactive waste management. The results of the thesis were mainly based on a) a literature review on attitudes towards nuclear energy and information needs in Sweden and Finland (the two most successful European countries in radioactive waste management); b) five semi- structured interviews with Swedish university professors of different social and environmental disciplines; c) three group discussions with university students, followed by a survey to 41 students (22 of which participated in the group discussions).

The thesis stated that information needs on radioactive waste management differ between stakeholder groups. In general, local residents require very basic and easily understandable information in lay language; local decision makers are concerned about effects to local economy and attitude of local communities; the information needed by professors should have high academic credibility; radioactive waste management was not a very familiar subject to most of the students and therefore they need basic information on that. However, all these stakeholders agreed on the need of a general overview regarding radioactive waste management issues, including different points of view on nuclear matters. Most of them asked for information provided by an impartial party.

### **WP3. Implementation and testing of a pilot observatory**

The objectives of WP3 were to prepare and test the pilot model developed in WP2. For this purpose, a trial training and communication interactive package was produced and tested in the Trial Course, which was held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April 2008 in Meiringen, Switzerland. The Trial Course brought together representatives of communities who are becoming involved in the siting process of geological repositories with those who already have experience on that, together with experts willing to answer technical questions and report on other experiences. The objective was to explore the information needs of local communities and the possible interaction among different categories of stakeholders, as well as to receive the participant feedbacks and improve the communication interactive package. The workshop involved 4 tutors, a representative of the IAEA and 17 participants from 8 countries. Five of the participants were local community representatives, 4 were from Universities, 4 were from research institutes or NGOs and 4 from waste management implementing organisations.

The Trial Course showed the need of community members, especially local representatives, to obtain information on radioactive waste management to address their concerns. Nevertheless, the workshop also underlined several difficulties, such as the lack of economic resources of local authorities and problems related to the lack of a common language, which will need to be further considered.

In addition, the need to produce a wide variety of materials, ranging from technical information to disseminating instruments (e.g. brochures, FAQ answers, visual materials and interactive activities), which should be aimed at different types of users, was suggested. The materials should be accessible by the internet in a layered structure and should be at least in part translated to various European languages. Role-play exercises were considered useful, and should be further developed, e.g. in the field of stakeholder negotiations. In addition, it was suggested to incorporate in the training package experiences from other environmentally sensitive, non-nuclear facilities. Finally, favouring networking among different types of stakeholders is crucial to improve governance, and training courses can be an efficient mean for that.

### **WP4. Knowledge management and assessment.**

In order to ensure a truly integrated dissemination of OBRA activities, the following activities were undertaken: a) a web portal to provide information on events, results and publications, b) a virtual forum to enhance participation and gather different points of view of a wide audience c) dissemination of the project through distribution of a project presentation, brochures, newsletters and presentations in conferences to a wide range of stakeholders. The dissemination activities followed the guidelines of two documents, which were prepared at the beginning of the project: “Communication Action Plan” and “A Strategy for Using and Disseminating Knowledge”.

### **WP5 Consortium management**

WP5 included general management and co-ordination of the project activities. Coordination with the other two EC projects related with governance of radioactive waste (Cowam In Practice and ARGONA) was carried out through several meetings. The first joint meeting between the leaders of the three projects took place in Prague on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007 and the second one took place on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in Paris.

Presentations of the progress and results of the three projects were provided by each project coordinator and common activities discussed.

## **1.4 RESULTS**

### *1.4.1 Vision*

The Observatory will be a central point of reference for knowledge acquisition, discussion and exchange for stakeholder groups and experts on radioactive waste management in Europe. In addition, it will act as an independent platform that supports communication and mutual understanding of stakeholders and experts, allowing diverse points of view to come together without being dominated by a particular institutional mandate. Thus, the objectives of the Observatory will be:

- ✓ To provide local communities with the necessary knowledge to participate in an informed way to the governance of radioactive waste management;
- ✓ To develop a network for systematising knowledge and experience sharing;
- ✓ To observe, compare and analyse stakeholder needs and governance practices of nuclear waste management in Europe;
- ✓ To build the information resources to support long term collaborative partnership through the collection and provision of information on radioactive waste, taking in consideration context-specific aspects;
- ✓ To gather a multidisciplinary approach regarding radioactive waste management by bringing together technical and scientific expertise with the knowledge held by stakeholder groups and previous and ongoing research programmes;
- ✓ To disseminate information regularly on governance and decision-making processes in an understandable and accessible fashion.

### *1.4.2 Strategy*

#### Development of the Observatory through phases

The exploratory study undertaken within the OBRA project shows that the Observatory has to be set up through different phases. The contents and issues addressed will gradually increase, according to the needs and expectations expressed by stakeholders and the means at disposal.

In a first phase, the Observatory will be initially established as a virtual platform and will focus on collection and structuring of a range of information on radioactive waste management, including national policies and governance experiences at local and regional levels. In addition, the Observatory will also facilitate networking among potential users. The main categories of users, e.g. waste agencies, experts, local communities, etc., will be mapped in order to create a reference pool of contacts.

In a second phase, the contents and topics addressed by the Observatory will be further elaborated by focussing on information needs and expectations specifically reported by stakeholders. In this regard, a wide range of stakeholders will be contacted. They will also be asked to provide feedback on the virtual platform set up by the Observatory website in the first phase. Furthermore, the Observatory will provide active training on radioactive waste governance, using the experience gained through the trial training and communication interactive package.

In a third phase, activities will be undertaken in order to guarantee a firm foundation of the Observatory. Therefore, the independence and functionality of the Observatory will be analysed. Agreements with external resources for information provision on a regular basis will be developed and the financing and management of the Observatory will be established.

#### Scope and topics addressed by the Observatory

The scope and the topics of the Observatory were identified on the basis of the needs of information and training from stakeholders, as defined during the Creative Workshop and in the Master thesis. Since the topics related to the radioactive waste management are many, it is not feasible to address them all simultaneously during the development of the Observatory. Therefore, the results of the OBRA project pointed out that the topics related to the siting phase should be prioritised.

#### Means for accessing the information

The first step of the Observatory creation will be to set up an internet-based virtual platform. The virtual platform will consist of an attractive and highly user-friendly website to interface with all types of stakeholders and provide them with an easily usable and independent database, as well as with an information exchange mechanism. The website will place the collected information at the disposal of a wide range of social actors, disseminating widely to different parties all knowledge gathered in the field of governance of radioactive wastes in Europe in an efficient and inexpensive way.

Other possible information channels for the Observatory could be an e-inventory summarizing and synthesizing the on-going research, library, database with definitions (such as a wikipedia on governance of radioactive waste), a virtual network or discussion forum, training courses, articles in newspapers and magazines, educational television programmes and newsletters.

#### Customers and end users

The results of the OBRA project point out that the Observatory shall not focus specifically on the general public and shall not actively promote its involvement. The reason is the high level of resources that the Observatory would need to do that and the language constraints existing among the general public of different European countries.

The Observatory's customer may be any person interested in governance of radioactive waste management, including public authorities at local and regional levels, residents of local communities affected by a decision on nuclear facilities, NGOs, implementers, experts and other end-users like media. In particular, residents of local communities and local authorities will be targeted with special emphasis by the Observatory from the beginning.

#### Structure and independence of the Observatory

The importance and difficulty in guaranteeing the legitimacy, neutrality and independence of the Observatory has been a concern during the whole project. In this regard, it was suggested that a way to provide legitimacy to the Observatory could be presenting it as a tool which could be settled and maintained by the research community. In addition, stressing the openness of the Observatory and inviting people to participate

could enhance the perception of the Observatory as an inclusive and credible tool. Trust could be obtained by showing in an open and transparent manner the uncertainties currently existing in the radioactive waste management arena.

Neutrality and independence will be assured by engaging different stakeholder groups in its activities from the beginning. One way of achieving this could be using representatives from different stakeholder groups as members of a board overlooking the activities of the Observatory. This would also facilitate the marketing of the Observatory to possible end users.

Furthermore, in order to guarantee neutrality and independence, it is important that the documents disseminated through the Observatory are obtained from independent sources of information (scientists, international organisations, etc.) and pass through a peer-review process, which incorporates also the non-experts into the review. The affiliation and values of the authors will be made explicit, in order to increase transparency.

### Language

In a first phase, the language of the Observatory will be English. Additionally, some reports and key documents may be translated to other languages. Nevertheless this aspect will depend on funding possibilities.

### Funding

Several possibilities for funding the Observatory were considered. In general, two options appear feasible, which are not mutually exclusive:

1. Direct financing by a Directorate General of the European Commission, such as the DG Energy and Transport, which would have the advantage of assuring its independency and providing the European-wide approach of this mechanism;
2. Partnership among national licensing/regulatory authorities, governments, radioactive waste management agencies, municipalities and electrical companies.

#### *1.4.3 Degree of accomplishment of the initial objectives*

The objectives initially set for OBRA were met through the activities of the project. In fact:

- (1) A network among experts belonging to universities, implementers and other stakeholders was established during the project. All project partners were interested in participating in the creation of the Observatory and in continuing collaboration among them on topics related with radioactive waste governance;
- (2) A model for the Observatory was developed, including vision, strategy and next steps (see Section 5);
- (3) The pilot training package was tested during a workshop, allowing to obtain feedbacks to improve it in the future (see Section 4);

- (4) As a result, a step-by-step strategy for the implementation of the Observatory was designed (see Section 6).

## **1.5 THE WAY FORWARD**

The results obtained by OBRA showed that the creation of an Observatory for long-term governance of radioactive wastes could significantly contribute to improve governance on this sensitive issue. Furthermore, OBRA activities brought to the conclusion that the creation of an Observatory is feasible from a technical, strategic and social point of view. The feasibility of creating an Observatory from the economic point of view depends very much on the model chosen for the Observatory, but an initial investment for further research and the first steps towards full operation are required.

The Observatory could become a central point of reference for monitoring, disseminating and sharing information and practices regarding radioactive waste management in Europe. In addition, the Observatory will serve as a European contact point, allowing people needing information to contact with those willing to provide it.

The next step for the creation of the Observatory will be to prepare a web-based virtual platform to make the Observatory visible. Starting the implementation of the Observatory as a tangible website will help to market the Observatory to interested stakeholders, facilitating the following implementation steps. This pilot Observatory will be showed and marketed to stakeholders and at the same time it will be improved throughout their input.

As regards the contents, a high amount of information regarding radioactive waste management, including that generated by OBRA, is currently available and can be used. However, a review process will be needed in order to assure trustworthiness and comprehensibility of information by lay people. In order to do that, a well balanced review panel, including a wide range of stakeholders, will be established. Among the topics that the Observatory could address, the problems associated to the siting process were considered the most important.

With respect to financing, at least in a first phase the Observatory will not be expensive, since financing will be basically needed for staff (e.g. persons working half time), background material and to run the web site.

OBRA carried out some research on the stakeholders' information needs and the possible support that the Observatory could receive from them but as pointed out in the results, more research on these topics is needed. The Observatory project should go step by step, and the feasibility should be more deeply analyzed. In this regard, the contacts made throughout the development of the project could provide a good basis to obtain this information. For this reason, a conclusion of the project is to create a Pilot Observatory in the framework of a research study. The research will consist, among other activities, of identifying further information needs and expectations from a wider group of stakeholders (so far, the already investigated local communities have been in Sweden and Finland) regarding radioactive waste, including NGOs, local communities in less advanced countries, journalists, etc.. In this way, the Observatory could provide more specific and demand-driven services.

## **1.6 IMPACT**

OBRA contributed to the improvement of governance in the field of radioactive waste management, by identifying information needs and possible mechanisms to favour information exchange among experts and potentially interested groups of social actors. In addition, OBRA can constitute a reference model to improve governance also in other environmentally sensitive issues.

OBRA set the basis for the creation of the Observatory on long-term management of radioactive wastes, which will improve the knowledge base of local and regional communities. Giving more information to local and regional communities will enable them to be involved in the decision-making processes, thereby improving European governance. In addition, exchanging information about experiences in other countries will allow to define good practices, improving the quality of the decision-making processes in the European regions. The Observatory will allow national and local governments to better understand the point of view of other stakeholder groups, including their concerns and their information needs.

In addition, OBRA contributed to training in the field of radioactive waste management for local communities, which is often neglected. The impact of the training course consisted not only in the knowledge gained by participants, but also in the experience made by the experts in the preparation and development and in the feedbacks obtained from the participants. As a result of the Trial Course, the training package can be improved in the future and then can be further used in other similar activities.

The impact of OBRA was amplified by the creation of a network of institutions interested in improving governance of radioactive wastes, which are willing to collaborate in the future on these issues.

## **2. DISSEMINATION AND USE**

The dissemination activities within the OBRA project were carried out as part of Work Package 4 ‘Knowledge management and assessment’. The main objective of WP 4 was the dissemination of knowledge at different levels, giving special emphasis to the science- public interface and the dissemination of results outside the consortium. This section reports the activities that allowed dissemination of the project’s results.

### **2.1 WEB SITE**

OBRA website is available at <http://www.obraproject.eu>. The OBRA website was created and managed by Amphos. The website represented the main vehicle to disseminate OBRA’s results inside the consortium, among OBRA target groups and externally. It includes the project description, access to public deliverables, links to the partners’ institutions and related projects websites. It also provided information on the events related to the project. In addition, it includes a restricted access intranet that was used by the project partners to exchange documents and communicate. This public website will be available after the end of the project.

In addition, an umbrella website has been created with the following specific neutral name: [www.radwastegovernance.eu](http://www.radwastegovernance.eu). This website has been designed and is regularly updated by the CIP coordinator, Mutadis.

## **2.2 INTRANET**

The intranet was available from the website and from the address <http://cobweb.businesscollaborator.com>. Access to the intranet was provided not only to partners but also for some interested organisations who participated to the first creative workshop of OBRA. These organisations, however, did not have access to information on the project management.

## **2.3 VIRTUAL FORUM**

A virtual forum was set up in the project's intranet for on-line discussions. The virtual forum aimed at enhancing interaction among experts and the general public, facilitating an open and structured discussion on the feasibility of the Observatory. In order to facilitate discussion among partners four questions were uploaded.

1. Should the Observatory only deal with governance on radioactive waste or with more general issues related with nuclear energy?
2. How should the Observatory be financed? Should it depend directly on the DG Energy and Transport or should it be financed through a partnership of governments, agencies, research institutions, etc.?
3. How should the Observatory be managed? Who should coordinate it?
4. Can you suggest an appropriate acronym?

In addition, an email was sent to the partners and to the interested participants at the first kick-off workshop to ask them to take part in the discussion. Unfortunately, although some answers to the mentioned questions and some further questions were uploaded, the virtual forum did not succeed in stimulating participation and was barely used as a communication channel among project partners and stakeholders. The main communication channels remained the telephone and email.

## **2.4 OBRA LEAFLET AND POSTER**

Leaflets and posters with the project description were prepared by Amphos and uploaded in the OBRA website for free use and dissemination. They described the project objectives, results and events. They were also updated regularly with the new results from the project. Participants in the consortium were informed that they could use this material whenever they

## **2.5 NEWSLETTER**

Two joint newsletters of OBRA, CIP and ARGONA were prepared respectively in summer 2007 and spring 2008, and uploaded in the common website (<http://www.radwastegovernance.eu>). ARGONA coordinator was responsible for organising the edition of the newsletter. The other project coordinators provided him with the contents related to each one of the projects. The newsletters were distributed to the project partners and other interested stakeholders, such as partners of EU projects (e.g. FUNMIG, CARL, CIP, SAPIERR2) and members from ITC, GMF (Group of European Municipalities with nuclear facilities) and NULEAF (Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum).

## **2.6 PROJECT PRESENTATION**

At the beginning of the project, a presentation with the objectives, structure and expected results of OBRA was prepared by Amphos and made available to all partners. The objective of the presentation was to provide information to any potentially interested person. The project presentation can be downloaded from OBRA website.

## **2.7 CONFERENCES**

OBRA's activities and results were presented in different conferences and meetings, which were external to the project itself. A list of events where OBRA project was presented is provided below:

- Presentation of OBRA at the GMF Seminar "Local level and energy policies" held in Brussels, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2006, by the coordinator.
- Presentation of OBRA in the FUNMIG Second Annual Workshop held in Stockholm, on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2006, by the coordinator.
- Presentation of OBRA at the ITC General Assembly on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2007, in Baden, Switzerland, by the coordinator.
- Presentation of OBRA at the GMF Assembly in the European Parliament on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2007, Brussels, by the coordinator.
- A paper summarising the project objectives was provided for the ICEM conference held in Bruges, Belgium from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007, prepared by the coordinator, AMPHOS.
- The partner OKO presented the project at the International Conference on Radioactive Waste Disposal in Geological Formations (RepoSafe) held in Braunschweig (Germany) on November 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- The partners Posiva and Lund presented the OBRA project to students of social and environmental sciences at Lund university on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 (Sweden)

## **2.8 OBRA'S CREATIVE WORKSHOP**

OBRA's Creative Workshop was held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007 in Eurajoki (Finland). The workshop aimed at bringing stakeholders together in order to help identify a model for an Observatory for Long Term Governance on Radioactive Waste Management in Europe by discussing the scope, vision and mission of the observatory as well as the development of a strategic roadmap. An initial guidance on the topics that the Observatory should address and on how to structure communication and knowledge transfer was also discussed.

The creative workshop also provided the different stakeholders with an opportunity to interact with each other and learn about the efforts made towards achieving better governance on radioactive waste in Europe. The creative workshop was attended by all contractors and was extended to other representatives of stakeholder partners for the project NIB- HEEP (Nuclear Installations in the Baltic Sea Region- Combining Human

Health with Environmental Energy and Political Security). Around 40 people from 14 different countries attended the workshop in representation of 29 different organisations.

## **2.9 SEMINAR TO TRIAL THE TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION INTERACTIVE PACKAGE**

A two-day training seminar, between 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008, was held in Switzerland in order to trial the training and communication interactive package drawn up in WP3. The workshop aimed at bringing stakeholders together in order to explore their views and needs in the early development stage. About 40 people from 29 organisation and 14 different countries attended the workshop, which provided an opportunity for networking and exchanging information and opinions. The agenda of the workshop is shown in Appendix A.

## **2.10 OBRA'S INTERNAL MEETING**

The following OBRA internal meetings were held between 2007 and 2008:

2. Kick-off Meeting (31<sup>st</sup> January 2007, Eurajoki, Finland);
3. Internal meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007, Prague, Czech Republic);
4. Internal meeting (9<sup>th</sup> April 2008, Meiringen, Switzerland)
5. Final meeting (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> September 2008, Barcelona, Spain).

The meetings aimed at reviewing and discussing the achievements of each Work Package, and contributed to disseminate the project results. The final meeting allowed to disseminate OBRA's results to a wider audience, because not only the partners were invited, but also various institutions not participating directly in the project.

## **3. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Duration and budget**

Duration: 01/11/2006 – 31/10/2008

Budget: Total project cost (€): 320,448,00,-

EC contribution (€): 299,908,00,

### **Project website**

More information regarding the OBRA project can be found in the following website:  
<http://www.obraproject.eu/>

### **Coordination and contact person**

Meritxell Martell  
Amphos XXI Consulting S.L.  
Passeig de Rubí 29-31

0897 Vallldoreix, Barcelona, Spain  
[meritxell.martell@amphos21.com](mailto:meritxell.martell@amphos21.com)

**EC Project Officer**

Kateřina Ptáčková, European Commission  
DG RTD, CDMA 0/55  
BE-1049 Brussels  
Belgium.