

PROJECT PRESENTATION

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Project co-funded by the European Commission under the Euratom Research and Training Programme on Nuclear Energy within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the partners of the project	
CO	Confidential, only for partners of the project	

INTRODUCTION

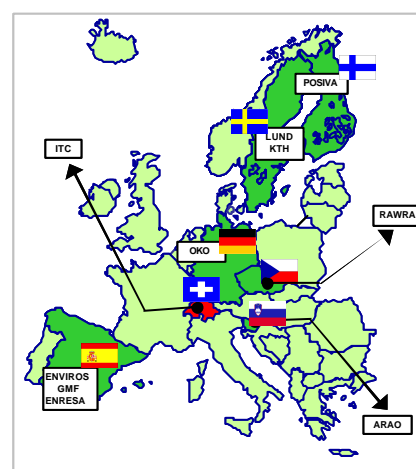
Due to continuing societal concerns that limit the application of deep geological disposal in many countries, a wider societal involvement at a variety of governance levels in an open, inclusive and transparent manner is a top-level concern in all European and national organisations involved in radioactive waste management.

The Coordination Action OBRA will assess the feasibility of creating an Observatory for long-term governance on radioactive waste management in Europe. OBRA will contribute (i) to provide mechanisms for all stakeholders to access to the knowledge generated by successive EU research programmes both in scientific and social sciences fields (ii) to promote the most appropriate forms of interaction between them and (iii) to jointly define how results from research, training and development in radioactive waste management and disposal are formulated and how their dissemination is managed.

SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The project presently has 10 partners from 7 European countries that represent National Waste Management Organizations (4), Research Institutions (2), Universities (2), Small and Medium-sized enterprises (1) and Non Governmental Organisations (1).

The project aims to benefit a wide range of stakeholders such as (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.



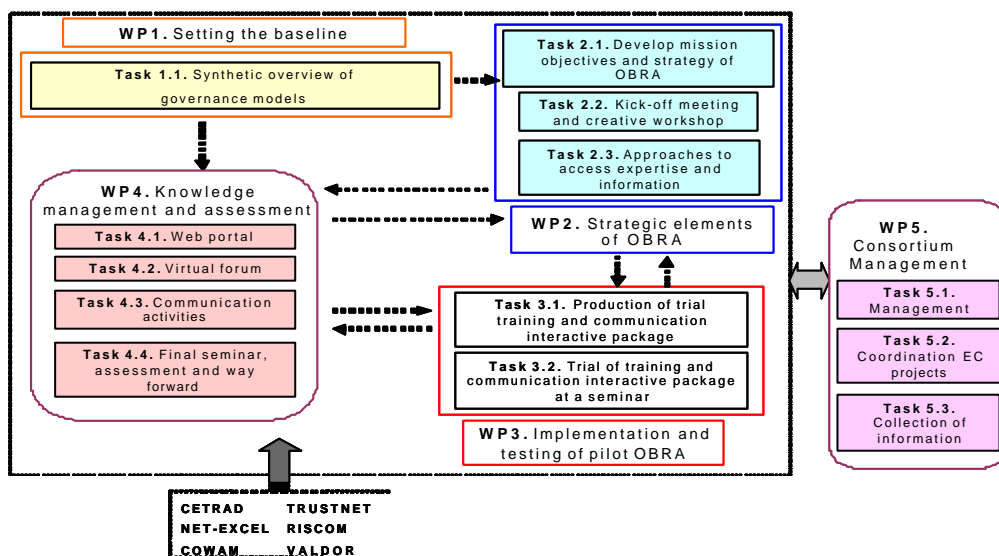
Partners participating in OBRA

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The key objectives of OBRA are: (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 and (4) to make recommendations on how the model of the Observatory could be implemented.

ACTIVITIES

The objectives of OBRA will be implemented through 5 Work Packages (WP) shown below: WP1: Setting the baseline to conceptualise the observatory; WP2: Strategic elements of OBRA based on the definition of mission, objectives and strategy and the approaches to access expertise and information through the Observatory; WP3: Implementation and testing of pilot OBRA based on the production and trial of training and communication modules in a seminar; WP4: Knowledge management and assessment; WP5: Consortium management.



EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results of OBRA will be (1) the provision of a significant and innovative contribution to the current model of governance of radioactive waste management (2) the development of a more harmonised approach for addressing societal concerns and perceptions of radioactive waste management, (3) the promotion of new and improved networking and coordination tools to improve the scientific and social activities regarding radioactive waste management and disposal.

POTENTIAL IMPACT

Expected contributions of this project are: (1) the definition and application of a reference model in the field of governance of radioactive waste management, (2) the promotion of a greater role for citizens at different territorial levels of governance by

improving the knowledge base of all stakeholders and in particular, regional and local communities, (3) the creation of a network consisting of local and regional communities, implementers and qualified researchers from universities with the provision of active training, (5) maximizing the output from existing efforts, (6) increasing Europe's competitiveness in radioactive waste management by leading an initiative for networking in social and technical sciences and (7) stimulating further collaborations between different stakeholders.

PROJECT WEBSITE ADDRESS

Project Website: www.obraproject.eu

LIST OF PARTNERS

Partic. No	Participant name	Participant short name	Country
1	Enviros Spain S.L.	ENVIROS	ES
2	ITC School of Underground Waste Storage and Disposal	ITC	CH
3	Posiva Oy	POSIVA	FI
4	Agency for Radwaste Management	ARAO	SI
5	Radioactive Waste Repository Authority	RAWRA	CZ
6	Group of European Municipalities with Nuclear Facilities	GMF	ES
7	Oeko-Insitut e.V.	OKO	DE
8	Empresa Nacional de Residuos Radioactivos S.A.	ENRESA	ES
9	Lund University	LUND	SE
10	Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan	KTH	SE

COORDINATION AND CONTACT PERSON

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EC contribution (€): 299,908,00,-