Participatory Approaches, Technology and Democracy

Pierre-Benoit Joly
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Outline

- The participative turn on science and technology
- Some basic elements on public participation
- A case study: iTA on GM Vine in Colmar
- A wider view on public participation

LISIS

THE PARTICIPATIVE TURN ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The participative turn on science and technology

- Challenging the deficit model


ÇA ÊTRE NOUVELLE POMME. MEILLEUR ! PLUS MIAM MIAM ! PAS BANGER. VOUS COMPRENDRE MOI ?
POMME TRANS GÉNIQUE
CHAZVIN.

The participative turn

- Challenging the deficit model
- The participative turn is related to a series of changes:
  - Series of Crisis (Environmental, financial, etc.) / Societies which will face greater uncertainties
  - Societies with high level of education and plurality of channels of information
  - Societies where the public sphere has a greater autonomy
  - Information and Communication Technologies

The participative turn

- Challenging the deficit model
- The participative turn is related to a series of changes
- The promises of participatory technology assessment

- Participative Technology assessment (pTA) is a practice intended to enhance societal understanding of the broad implications of science and technology. This creates the possibility of preparing for – or constructively influencing – developments to ensure better outcomes.

- « A well-crafted pTA capability can assist citizens and decision-makers in understanding these kinds of broad and deep implications of technological innovation – implications that might otherwise escape attention until well after they, too, have become entrenched.» (Sclove 2010)

The participative turn

- Challenging the deficit model
- The participative turn is related to a series of changes
- The promises of participatory technology assessment
- The institutionalisation of participation

Institutionalisation – New Rules/Regulations - The European example

- Aarhus Convention on access to information and public participation for environmental issues (1998)
- EU White Paper on Good Governance (2001) – Participation as one of the principles of good governance
- Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) (2012) – Participation as one of the pilars of RRI

Institutionalisation

- Dedicated actors:

DBT (DK), Rathenau (NL), OPECST and CNDP (F), STOA (EU), Etc. Consultancies, Etc.

- Semantic proliferation: pTA, cTA, iTA, PES, etc.

- Competences and tools

COMPARATIVE CHART FOR PARTICIPATORY METHODS

Method	Objectives	Topic*				Participants	Time		€
		Knowledge	Maturity	Complexity	Controversial		Event	Total	1-4
21st Century Town Meeting	to engage thousands of people at a time (up to 5,000 per meeting) in deliberation about complex public policy issues	+	+/-	+	+/-	Anyone	1-3 days	a year	4
Charrette	Generate consensus among diverse groups of people and form an action plan.	+/-	+/-	-	+/-	Average citizens or stakeholders. Others give input.	1-5 days	2-3 months	3
Citizens Jury	A decision that is representative of average citizens who have been well informed on the issue. Aims	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	12-24 randomly selected citizens. Experts, stake-holders & politicians give input.	3 days	4-5 months	4
Consensus Conference	Consensus and a decision on a controversial topic.	+	+/-	+	+	10-30 randomly selected citizens. Others give input.	3 weekends	7-12 months	4
Deliberative polling©	to get both a representative and an informed (deliberative) view of what the public thinks and feels about an important public issue	-	+/-	-	+/-	A random and representative sample of the population	1 day	8 months	4
Delphi	Expose all opinions & options regarding a complex issue.	-	-	+	+/-	Experts	Variable	Variable	1-3
Expert Panel	Synthesise a variety of inputs on a specialised topic and produce recommendations.	-	-	+	+/-	Experts	Variable	Variable	2
Focus Group	Expose different groups' opinions on an issue and why these are held (reasoning).	+/-	-	m	+/-	Stakeholders and/or citizens	2 hours – 1 day	1 month	1
PAME	Evaluating and learning	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	All stakeholders	Variable	Variable	Var
Planning Cells	Citizens learn about and choose between multiple options regarding an urgent & important issue. Develop action plan.	+/-	-	m	-	25 average citizens. Experts & stakeholders present positions.	5 days	5 months	4
Scenario building exercise	Planning and preparedness for uncertain future. Vision-building.	-	-	+	+/-	Anyone	2-5 days	6 months	1-3
Technology Festival	Provide a means for public debates about societal issues of science and technology	-	-	+/-	+/-	Anyone	1-2 days	6-12 months	4
The World Café	Generating and sharing ideas	+/-	-	-	+/-	Anyone	4 hours – 1 day	1 month	1

Legend: Explanation of chart symbols:

*Topic	+	m = medium	-
Knowledge	A lot of common knowledge exists.		There is little common knowledge.
Maturity	Most people have already formed opinions on the subject.		The subject is new; people are still forming their opinions.
Complexity	Highly complex or technical		Not very complex or technical
Controversial	Highly controversial		Not very controversial

Note: +/- means that the method can address subjects with either + or –.

BBSRC bioscience for the future

EPSRC Pioneering research and skills

sciencewise EXPERT RESOURCE CENTRE

Synthetic Biology Dialogue

Sciencewise - the UK's national centre for public dialogue in policy making involving science and technology issues

in YouTube updates blog Dialogue TOOLKIT

World Wide Views

A methodology for global citizen deliberation

World Wide Views is a global citizen consultation initiative. A World Wide Views citizen consultation provides decision-makers with a unique insight into the global public opinion on complex governance issues that are debated and negotiated at global venues, such as the UN.

Right now

Partners are currently fundraising for World Wide Views on Oceans and Seas. For more information, go here

Projects

Climate and Energy

The third WWViews project, and the largest ever global citizen consultation, held in 2015 with almost 10.000 citizens participating in 76 countries.

Biodiversity

The second WWViews consultation, held in 2012 with 3000 participating citizens in 25 countries.

Go to website

Global Warming

The first World Wide Views consultation, and the first-ever global citizen consultation, held in 2009 with 4000 participating citizens in 38 countries

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SOME BASIC ELEMENTS ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

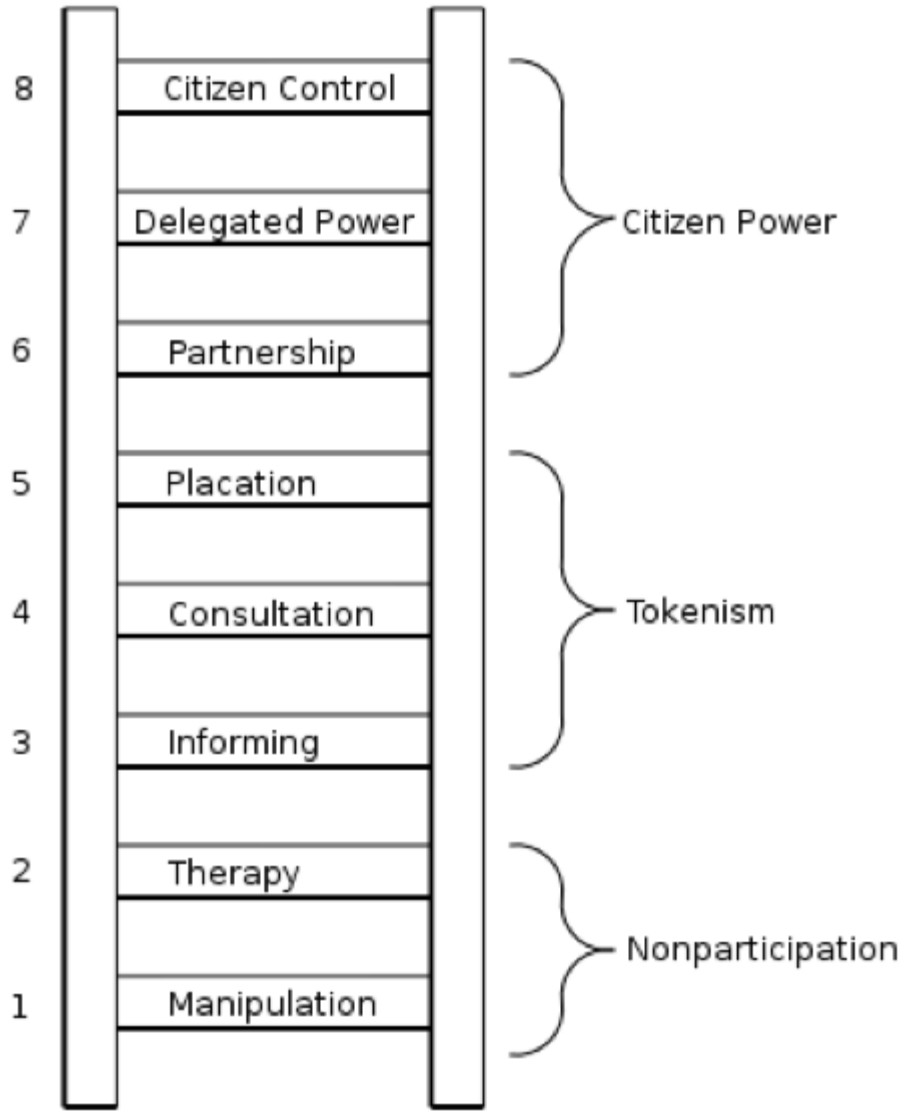
What is public participation?

Arnstein (1965): The ladder of public participation

Rowe and Frewer (2000; 2005): about 100 mechanisms / 3 main models

Callon (1998), Callon, Lascoumes & Barthe (2001): the 3 models for “technical democracy”

« Eight rungs on the
ladder of citizen
participation »



Rowe & Frewer (2005)

- Public communication: TV broadcast, hotline, conferences, etc.
- Public consultation: referenda, surveys, focus groups, etc.
- Public participation, : citizens' juries, citizens' and consensus conferences, planning cells, etc.

Callon (1998), Callon et al. (2001)

- Model of public enlightenment
- Model of public debate
- Model of coproduction

Normative Models

- Fiorino, D. (1990). "Citizen participation and environmental risk: A survey of institutional mechanisms." Science, Technology, and Human Values 15(2): 226-244.
- Nelkin, D., Pollak, M., (1979). "Public participation in technological decisions: Reality or grand illusion?" Technology Review 9: 55-64.

Two visions of expected benefits

Fiorino

- Substantial benefits – improvement of the quality of decision making
- Normative benefits – public participation conforms to the values of an active democracy
- Instrumental benefits – public participation increases the legitimacy of decisions and improves implementation. It may restaure trust to institutions which manage risks.

Nelkin & Pollak

- Participatory processes should redistribute ressources and contribute to the empowerment of dissenting groups . Break the monopoly of technological expertise.

- A convergence on the understanding of knowledge
  - Plurality of ways of knowing (scientific knowledge, action knowledge, experiential knowledge)
  - Challenge of a clear-cut separation between experts and lay people (competence of stakeholders, lay-people, etc.)
  - Productivity of controversies, public deliberations as ways for de facto TA and socio-technical explorations
- Different views on what is the social and what is the « society »

	Nelkin & Pollak	Fiorino
What is the « public »?	Dissenting Groups, Public in the making	Lay people
Objectives of participation	Pluralism, empowerment	Conflicts avoidance, increased efficiency
What is democracy?	Agonistic space / Conflicts as an engine of democracy	Irenic space / Democracy embedded in a rational-legal order

Two sources of legitimacy:

- Legitimacy by generalisation / **General interest** requires the distancing of special interests / *« Citoyen ordinaire »* (Veil of ignorance)

  General will / Citizen subject of right

- Legitimacy through attention to **singularity**/ Lived world, attachement / « Groupe concerné »

  Plural world (pluriverse)/ Citizen author of choice

LISIS

A CASE STUDY: ITA ON GM VINE IN COLMAR

Des bulles transgéniques

ÇA s'arrose ! Quelques jours avant que l'Europe ne décide à retardement (le 25/6), sous pression de l'opinion publique, et avec moult emberlificotages, que sur son territoire plus aucun nouveau produit transgénique ne sera commercialisé ni cultivé jusqu'à nouvel ordre, on en apprend une bien bonne : Moët et Chandon est en train de nous concocter un champagne transgénique. Grande victoire, selon un nommé Dominique Bodin-Rodier (« Libération », 16/6), que le monde entier nous envie déjà ! Epaulée par l'Inra de Colmar, qui lui fournit l'aide de ses chercheurs, la firme champenoise compte en effet cultiver *« à grande échelle »* des vignes transgéniques qui résisteront miraculeusement à la maladie du court-noué. Celle-ci étant jusqu'à présent traitée à coups de pesticides, ce champagne sera *« plus écologique »* ! Hips ! N'en jetez plus, la coupe est pleine !

Et, pendant ce temps-là, plusieurs variétés de maïs transgéniques continuent d'être cultivées en France. Rappelons que c'est la Verte Dominique Voynet qui en signa en novembre 97 la première autorisation de culture, une décision pas vraiment écolo dont elle se mord les doigts aujourd'hui... Surtout

que certaines de ces variétés ne sont que des *« ratages »*, les biologistes Jean-Marie Pelt et Gilles-Eric Seralini l'ont récemment rappelé (« Libération », 23/6). Ces bricolages précipités comportent entre autres un gène de résistance à un antibiotique qui n'a strictement aucune utilité, et qu'on a laissé là pour la simple raison que l'en retirer coûte cher. C'est comme si un fabricant de voitures laissait une clef à molette dans le moteur, et qu'on ne pouvait pas l'enlever. Mais une clef à molette est-elle aussi dangereuse qu'un gène qui risque d'augmenter la résistance aux antibiotiques ?

On voit donc que le moratoire européen arrive bien tard. Et du coup les opposants aux OGM en mettent un coup. La France étant le pays européen où il y a eu le plus d'essais en plein champ de plantes transgéniques, – des autorisations ont été accordées sur plus de 3 000 sites (1) –, et les chercheurs des organismes publics travaillant souvent main dans la main avec les firmes privées, les militants anti-OGM s'en prennent désormais aux blouses blanches. Le 2 juin à Gaudiès, dans l'Ariège, des paysans détruisaient une parcelle de colza expérimental de l'Inra, et trois jours plus tard à Montpellier c'était une parcelle de riz qui morflait.

Les chercheurs s'indignent de cette furie, obscurantiste forcément, et l'ont fait savoir dans une tribune à « Libération », signée par 337 d'entre eux : « Nous cherchions à démontrer l'innocuité de ces produits transgéniques, disent-ils en substance, nous travaillions pour le bien public ! » Ce à quoi un ingénieur agronome, François Prat, rétorque (« Libération », 25/6) : *« Est-ce à la recherche publique de démontrer l'innocuité d'une variété transgénique pour qu'elle puisse ensuite être mise sur le marché par une firme privée ? »*

Enfin un peu de logique dans ce débat ! Champagne !

Jean-Luc Porquet

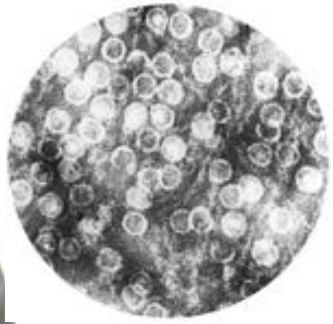
(1) « Du poisson dans les fraises », d'Arnaud Apotecker, La Découverte, 1999.

Research on transgenic root stocks potentially resistant to Grapevine Fanleaf Virus (GFLV)

Le court-noué est une maladie virale, mortelle pour la vigne, transmise par un nématode. Elle touche, plus ou moins gravement, 2/3 du vignoble français.
L'essai permet d'étudier le comportement des plants greffés sur des porte-greffe transgéniques résistants aux virus.

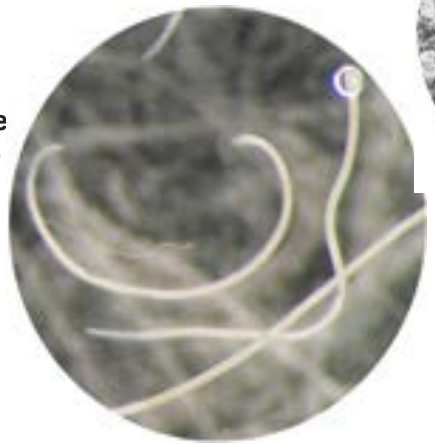
Virus

28 nm (10^{-9} m) de diamètre



Nématode

1-3 mm de long sur 50 µm (10^{-6} m) de large
soit 100 000 fois plus grand que le virus



« Should INRA perform field trials of transgenic vine rootstocks potentially resistant to GPLV? »

- An experiment with iTA:
  - A working group composed of scientists, Stakehilders, and lay people
  - Exploration and deliberation
  - Recommendations produced by this WG
  - Commitment of the INRA to take into account these recommendations and explain its decisions accordingly
- An involvement in research action (Claire Marris, Pierre-Benoit Joly, Arie Rip)

Mains steps

Feb to Sept 2001	Design of the project	. Rédaction du cahier des charges . Discussion avec les équipes concernées
Sept to March 2002	Preparation of the work of the WG	. Enquêtes sociologiques . Constitution du groupe de travail
April to Sept 2002	WG working!	. Préparation d'un rapport à l'attention de la DG de l'INRA
January 2003	Public announcement of decisions by INRA	.Réponse de l'INRA au WG . Annonce de la décision
June 2003	Evaluation of the overall experience	. Rapport d'évaluation

LISIS


OGM
À L'HEURE ACTUELLE VOILÀ CE QUE NOUS SAVONS DES OGM...
PAR CONSÉQUENT, IL N'Y A AUCUNE RAISON RATIONNELLE D'EN AVOIR PEUR...
SCIENTIFIQUES
CHALVIN

Outputs of the deliberation (1)

A consensus on four points:

1. About genetic engineering: OK to explore the technical possibilities, but do not put all the eggs in one basket
2. Avoid the tests being the Trojan of the commercialisation of GM Vine
3. Challenge the limits of a reductionist approach to problems (the virus of GPLV as a symptom of a deeper problem - soil degeneration linked to the long-term use of phytosanitary products, ...)
4. Vine and wine have a symbolic importance in our Judeo-Christian societies / Attachment to the idea of the tradition / Wine is not a « technological » product

Outputs of the deliberation (2)

A strong disagreement on the field trial:

Yes if :

- Commitment to exploring alternative avenues
- Local committee for monitoring / information and co-construction of the protocol
- The agreement concerns testing, not marketing. Requests that INRA undertake further consultations in the event of switching to a commercial application

No even though :

- Because the establishment of a barrier between research and application is illusory
- Because if we accept GMOs for vine and wine, we blow up a lock. All applications will be possible!

Decisions of the INRA

- Implementation of the trial following the recommendations of the WG (including setting up a local monitoring committee that played an important role in the development of the protocol)

- General lessons on the use of genetic engineering:
  - Principle of parsimony concerning the tests (not to be done in the field if one can produce the knowledge in greenhouse or in vitro;
  - For the vine, work with the transgenesis for resistance to the aggressors, not on the organoleptic qualities

Outcomes?

Critical voices (1)

The pilot experience « OGM-Vigne »: A programme of opinion modification

Signataires (1er février 2003)
Organismes
Nature et Progrès
Confédération paysanne
ATTAC
FNAB
FRAPNA-07 (Fédération Rhône-Alpes de Protection de la Nature - section Ardèche)
GIET (Groupe International Transdisciplinaire)
OGM Danger

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Critical voices (2)

Public control could be a nightmare for researchers

Dan Graur
Department of Biology and Biochemistry,
University of Houston

« Last night I had a nightmare. In my dream, all the recommendations made by Pierre-Benoit Joly and Arie Rip in their Essay 'A timely harvest' became a reality here in the United States. The public were consulted and actively engaged in practical scientific matters.

ESSAY NATURE|Vol 450|8 November 2007

A timely harvest

The public should be consulted on contentious research and development early enough for their opinions to influence the course of science and policy-making.

Pierre-Benoit Joly and Arie Rip

Public engagement in emerging science and technology is thriving, particularly in the United Kingdom. Recent initiatives such as 'Nanodialogues', organized by the think-tank Demos, suggest that citizen juries, dialogue exercises and interactive public understanding projects can be fruitful for scientists and members of the public. Over two years, the Nanodialogues series allowed members of the public to join scientists in discussions on regulation, research funding, development and corporate innovation of nanotechnologies. Such enterprises may foster mutual understanding, but they can struggle to make a difference to research or to policy-making.

Governments and research institutions generally fail to respond to the outcomes of public engagement exercises, perhaps because the outcomes are often too late and too vague on concrete strategies to move forward. We've learnt that it is better to engage the public 'midstream', at a point in the research process when it is possible to incorporate their opinions into research orientation and policy-making.

The French National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA) used such an approach to focus on research into and field trials of genetically modified vines. In 2001, INRA had to decide whether to run field trials of a genetically modified vine that is potentially resistant to a disease-causing virus. INRA's research director for plant sciences, Guy Riba, voiced the opinion of most researchers: "Surely scientists have a responsibility to carry out these experiments with a view to the future, even in the face of current public opposition!"

INRA met strong opposition to the trials because of the cultural significance of wine in France. A group of wine producers, including some prestigious châteaux, had signed a petition in June 2000 calling for a moratorium on the use of genetic modification techniques in wine production, and joined forces to create the non-governmental organization Terre et Vin du Monde (Land and Wine of the World).

In response, INRA asked a group of social scientists who specialize in science and technology studies to organize a public consultation, in which we took leading roles. Our goal was to produce a public report to be taken into account in decision-making at INRA.

Our working group comprised 14 people, including members of the public, wine growers and researchers. It had seven days of intensive discussions over a six-month period in 2002. The set of recommendations it produced was made freely available on the web. The INRA directorate prepared a public response explaining the decisions it intended to make and how these would accommodate the group's recommendations.

One outcome of the discussions was the creation of a local steering committee to follow up and give feedback on the field experiments taking place in Colmar, a town in the Alsace region of France. This committee has since grown into a forum for debate on various research options to fight vine viruses.

The experiment was highly productive. It yielded some unexpected recommendations that could be worked into the decision-making process. Some of the participants opposed the field trial at all costs, but most supported it under strict conditions, including that INRA guaranteed that the trials would be used only for research, not for commercial purposes; that a local committee would be in charge of monitoring the experiment; and that INRA would commit to exploring alternative ways to fight viruses. Appropriately, it was not a smooth process, either during deliberation within the group, or in implementing the agreement.

Researchers at INRA criticized the public consultation process for its power to reduce the freedom of research. Non-governmental organizations claimed that INRA was manipulating public opinion through the exercise. These tensions are an unavoidable part of the process.

Three important lessons emerged from the exercise. First, midstream engagement is not a recipe for wide social agreement and acceptance. Rather, it improves the robustness of decisions by taking into account the diversity of world views and interests. Second, it stimulates institutional learning. Third, the process can produce research and development options not previously considered. This is of particular value if directors of public research are truly committed to generating beneficial sociotechnical innovation.

Public consultations in science and technology should be undertaken at a point early enough in the development process when it is still feasible to change course. The nanotechnology world often refers to "the lessons to be learned from genetic modification" — the main one is timely, considered public engagement. ■

Pierre-Benoit Joly is director of research at INRA, 65 Boulevard de Brandebourg, F-94205 Ivry, France, and director of the TSV (Social and Political Transformations related to Life Sciences) research unit. Arie Rip is emeritus professor of philosophy of science and technology at the University of Twente in Enschede, the Netherlands, and leads a programme on social and ethical aspects of nanotechnology.

For more essays and information see http://nature.com/nature/focus/scipol/index.html.

Correction
In the Essay 'Big lessons for a healthy future' (*Nature* **449**, 791–792; 2007) the conversion of €45.5 billion should have read US$93 billion, not million.

SCIENCE & POLITICS

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I dreamed that the dos and don'ts of science and research were dictated democratically by the American public, of whom 73% believe in miracles, 68% in angels, 61% in the devil and 70% in the survival of the soul after death. In my dream, this majority dictated through vigorous 'public engagement' that science should deal with virgin birth, the thermodynamics of hell, the aerodynamics of angel wings, and the physiology and haematology of resurrection. »

LISIS

A key role of the Local Committee (1)

For the design of the protocol of the field trial:
A technical and symbolic containment

Excavation de 40 m³ : zone destinée à recevoir la terre porteuse des nématodes vecteurs du virus du court-noué.
Septembre 2005

Parcelle du vignoble atteinte de la maladie du court-noué, où a été prélevée la terre pour l'essai.
Septembre 2005

LISIS

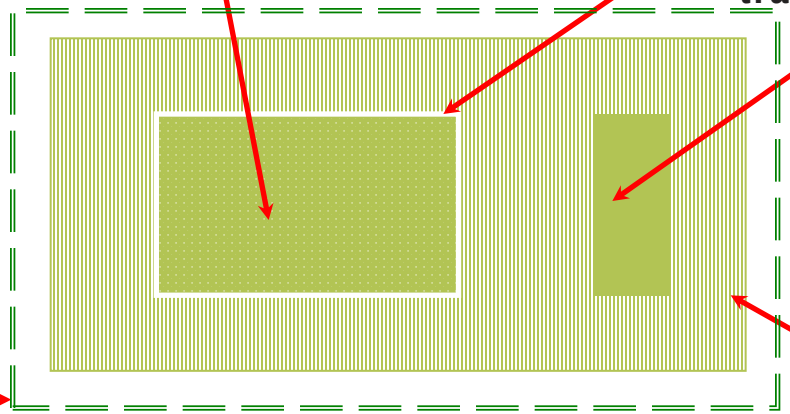
4. La zone « infestée », au centre d'un dispositif d'étude

Zone infestée par des nématodes porteurs de virus
Evaluer la résistance de la vigne greffée sur des porte-greffe transgéniques résistants au court-noué.
(50 plants transgéniques)

Rang de bordure (plants non transgéniques)
Mesurer le taux de transmission du virus par les nématodes.

Zone conservatoire de 20 plants transgéniques sur sol sain.

Zone de sécurité (sol nu)
Barrière aux nématodes qui ne se nourrissent que sur vigne ou figuier.



Toile géotextile
Barrière aux nématodes

Zone de confinement
(336 plants non transgéniques)
Vérifier si les nématodes restent dans la zone contaminée.

Zone de bordure pour isoler l'essai (1150 plants non transgéniques).

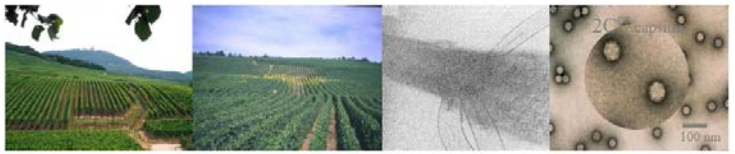
A key role of the Local Committee (2)

The Local Committee as a space for exploration of ST options

Dialogue Science – Société

L'INRA et le Comité Local de Suivi organisent un colloque sur

Les moyens de lutte contre le nématode vecteur de la maladie du court-noué



le 21 novembre 2007

à l'INRA de Colmar

INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE
Centre de Colmar
28, rue de Herrlisheim BP 20507 68021 COLMAR Cedex
Tel : 03 89 22 49 00 www.colmar.inra.fr

ALIMENTATION
AGRICULTURE
ENVIRONNEMENT

INRA

PROGRAMME repere

RÉSEAU D'ÉCHANGE ET DE PROJETS SUR LE PILOTAGE DE LA RECHERCHE ET L'EXPERTISE

Ministère de l'Écologie, du Développement durable et de l'Énergie

FICHE DE MARS 2014 – AAP2

3SCED

Sciences de la nature, sciences humaines et sociales et savoirs «profanes» co-construisent des connaissances pour le développement durable

Coordinateur

Jean E. Masson, INRA, jean.masson@colmar.inra.fr

Tiers-veilleur

Bernard Ancori, université de Strasbourg

Partenaires

- Association des Viticulteurs d'Alsace, Gérard Boesch
- Association de Consommateurs d'Alsace, Vincent Dorfner
- Alsace Nature, Michel Breuzard
- Université de Strasbourg, Bernard Ancori et Frank Hausser
- INRA Colmar, Jean E. Masson et Anne Moneyron

End of story: the destruction of field trials

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LE FIGARO

Les vignes OGM de l'Inra de Colmar saccagées hier

AGRICULTURE Les seuls essais de plantes OGM conduits en plein champ par l'Institut national de recherche agronomique (Inra) ont été entièrement détruits hier matin à Colmar. Les 70 pieds de vignes transgéniques ont été coupés au sécateur par un individu isolé qui a revendiqué son saccage auprès du quotidien *L'Alsace*. Pierre Azelvandre, docteur en biologie, militant anti-OGM et antinucléaire, s'est ensuite rendu volontairement au commissariat de police, précise le journal. L'Inra a annoncé qu'elle va déposer plainte.

sent dans les sols. Il n'existe à ce jour contre cette maladie que des traitements phytosanitaires très polluants.

Les premiers résultats allaient être connus tout prochainement. «*On avait transporté de la terre contenant le nématode et on allait pouvoir mesurer sa résistance à la maladie*», se désole Jean Masson, président de l'Inra Colmar. L'expérimentation pilote faisait l'objet d'un comité de suivi réunissant notamment l'association Alsace Nature, les professionnels du vin et la Confédération paysanne. «*C'est*

Here scientism:
False solutions for false problems!

Delcacroix – La liberté guidant le peuple (1830)

Court trials – Public Debate on civic desobediance

Lessons learned

- Participation embedded in a long dynamic: iTA, Local Committee, Participatory research
- Basic issues debated:
  - Boundary between research and social world
  - Research as a Trojan Horse?
  - The will to challenge the logic of research orientation
  - Mobilisation of local knowledge of wine-makers
- A rich socio-cognitive experiment but weak outcome in terms of legitimacy
- An experiment that confirms the competence of non-scientists but which lead to raise the question of the ways to interact with radical critic

Critic of public participation

Not so new!

Une affiche de mai 1968

But currently very active!

« You too, organise your fake public debate!»

(Leaflet widely distributed during the 2009 National Public Debate on nanotechnologies in France)

Décideurs : industriels, élus, technocrates,... Vous cherchez à faire accepter à la population des décisions déjà prises ? Vous aimez faire croire aux gens qu'ils participent aux prises de décision ? Vous êtes confrontés à une opposition de plus en plus gênante ?

VOUS AUSSI, ORGANISEZ VOTRE DEBAT PIPEAU !

La Commission Nationale du Débat Pipeau vous livre le secret de l'organisation de Débats Pipeaux en 10 leçons.

1- Organisez le débat public une fois que les décisions sont prises.
Gardez en tête que l'objectif du débat est de faire accepter ces décisions à la population, et surtout pas de la faire participer aux prises de décisions. Faites comme le gouvernement, qui 3 ans aprés l'inauguration de Minatec, n'organise ces débats que parce qu'il craint un « syndrome OGM » (un refus de l'opinion publique) avec les nanos. Rappelez-vous ce principe des experts en acceptabilité de France Telecom : « faire participer, c'est faire accepter »

2- Présentez-vous comme une commision indépendante.
Peu importe que le débat soit commandité par 7 ministères, que tous les membres de la commission soient nommés par l'Etat parmi des parlementaires, des élus locaux, et des responsables des hautes juridictions. Peu importe que vous soyez financés par l'Etat, par le biais du ministère de l'écologie par exemple, et logés à Grenoble par le ministère des finances. Peu importe que le président de la commission soit un ingénieur, ancien directeur général d'EDF, et pro-nucléaire, bref, un technarque. Peu importent tous ces détails. L'important est de clamer votre indépendance sur tous les toits. Pour être crédibles, vous pouvez même vous montrer vexés lorsqu'on remet en cause cette indépendance, et écrire une lettre aux opposants pour vous plaindre de leurs allégations.(1)

(1) - Inspirez-vous par exemple de celle-ci : http://www.nanomonde.org/La-CNDP-nous-ecrit-encore-nous
(2) - N'hésitez pas à vous inspirer de la liste de 147 questions de la CNDP, diponible ici : http://www.nanomonde.org/Exclusif-La-liste-des-questions

3- N'organisez pas le débat vous-même.
Vous n'avez pas les compétences nécessaires en marketing, communication et « stratégie d'opinion ». Faites plutôt appel à des professionnels comme l'agence I&E consultants, embauchée pour organiser les débats sur les nanos. C'est encore mieux si, comme I&E, l'agence que vous recrutez s'est illustrée à l'automne 2008, en répondant à un appel d'offre du gouvernement visant à repérer les leaders d'opinion dans l'éducation nationale et à anticiper les risques de contestation (le Canard Enchainé 30/09/09). Cela montre le peu de scrupule qu'elle a dans la manipulation de l'opinion.

4- Ne laissez pas de place à l'inconnu, à ce qui fait la vraie discussion, le vrai débat.
Comme la CNDP, préparez la liste des questions que les gens risquent de vous poser, et entrainez-vous à y répondre de manière naturelle. Au bas de cette liste de question, inscrivez les sujets sensibles à ne pas évoquer pendant le débat. Comme le conseille la CNDP : attention tout de même à « ne pas donner l'impression de circonscrire arbitrairement le débat ». (2)

5- Souvenez-vous toujours que le débat n'aura aucune conséquence.
Ainsi, lors des débats, vous pouvez, et devez encourager l'expression de toutes les opinions. L'important est de pouvoir dire ensuite que tout le monde a pu s'exprimer, surtout les opposants. S'ils décident de boycotter votre débat, suppliez-les de venir au nom de la démocratie.

LISIS

A WIDER SCOPE ON PARTICIPATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND DEMOCRACY

Back to some basics

- Knowledge and democracy

Sapere aude

Responding in 1784 to the question

« What is the Enlightenment ? »
Emmanuel Kant advocated human emancipation through active knowledge.

Enlightenment is the human being's emergence from his self-incurred minority. Minority is inability to make use of one's own understanding without direction of another.

To leave the minority state, citizens have to enlighten themselves by the generalization of the public use of reason. The search for knowledge is considered as a right and a duty of the citizen.

Sapere aude!

LISIS

Back to some basics

- Knowledge and democracy
  - *Sapere aude*
  - A long tradition that considers the active use of knowledge by citizens as the base of democracy and development
    - Robert Chambers – PAR (consider peasants as knowledgeable actors)
    - Paolo Freire – Popular education = knowledge and empowerment
    - Amartya Sen –
    - Etc.

Back to some basics

- Knowledge and democracy

- Political theory

  Participatory democraty vs. Representative government

  - Dominique Rousseau / Continuous democracy
  - Pierre Rosanvallon / Counter democracy

Some general propositions

Proposition 1. Public participation should aim to « open up » rather than « close down »

- Conditions for opening up: no strong irreversibility (debate after decsion!) and/or possibilities of co-existence

Proposition 2. Public participation has to be designed as a multi-level activity

- General orientations / Coproduction (…)

Proposition 3. Invited participation should not be designed against non-invited participation

Proposition 4. Invited participation should follow the good principles of participation

LISIS

Good principles of participation

- Independence
- Equity
- Publicity
- Openness
- Commitment of the sponsor
- Evaluation

Thanks for your attention !