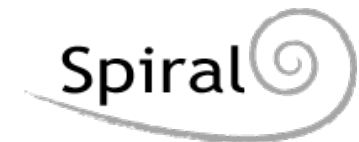


Citizens in the Wasteland: The trouble with Radioactive Waste Management in Belgium

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4S, San Diego, 9-12th october 2013

- I. Introduction, Research questions & Methodology**
- II. Citizens in the Wasteland in practice**
- III. ONDRAF Assessment of public participation**
- IV. Conclusion**

I. Introduction

- **HL & LL waste management in Belgium**

- No institutional policy yet

- ONDRAF, the Federal Agency of NWM

- Waste Plan & Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as suggestive guidelines

- Public participation as legal obligation

I. Research questions

- **How has the wider public opinion been integrated in the Waste Plan & SEA so far?**
 - How ONDRAF actually assesses the quality of public/stakeholders participation?
 - How it makes use of it in its communication and management strategies?
- **Second part of PhD reflexions**

I. Methodology

- Participatory observation (2009-2010)
- ONDRAF official Declaration analysis (2011)
- Semi structured interviews of ONDRAF key actors (2010 & 2013)

General Director of ONDRAF

Director of Long term NW management

Director of general services (in charge of communication skills)

ONDRAF Engineer (safety task in LL NWM team)

II. Citizens in the Wasteland in practice

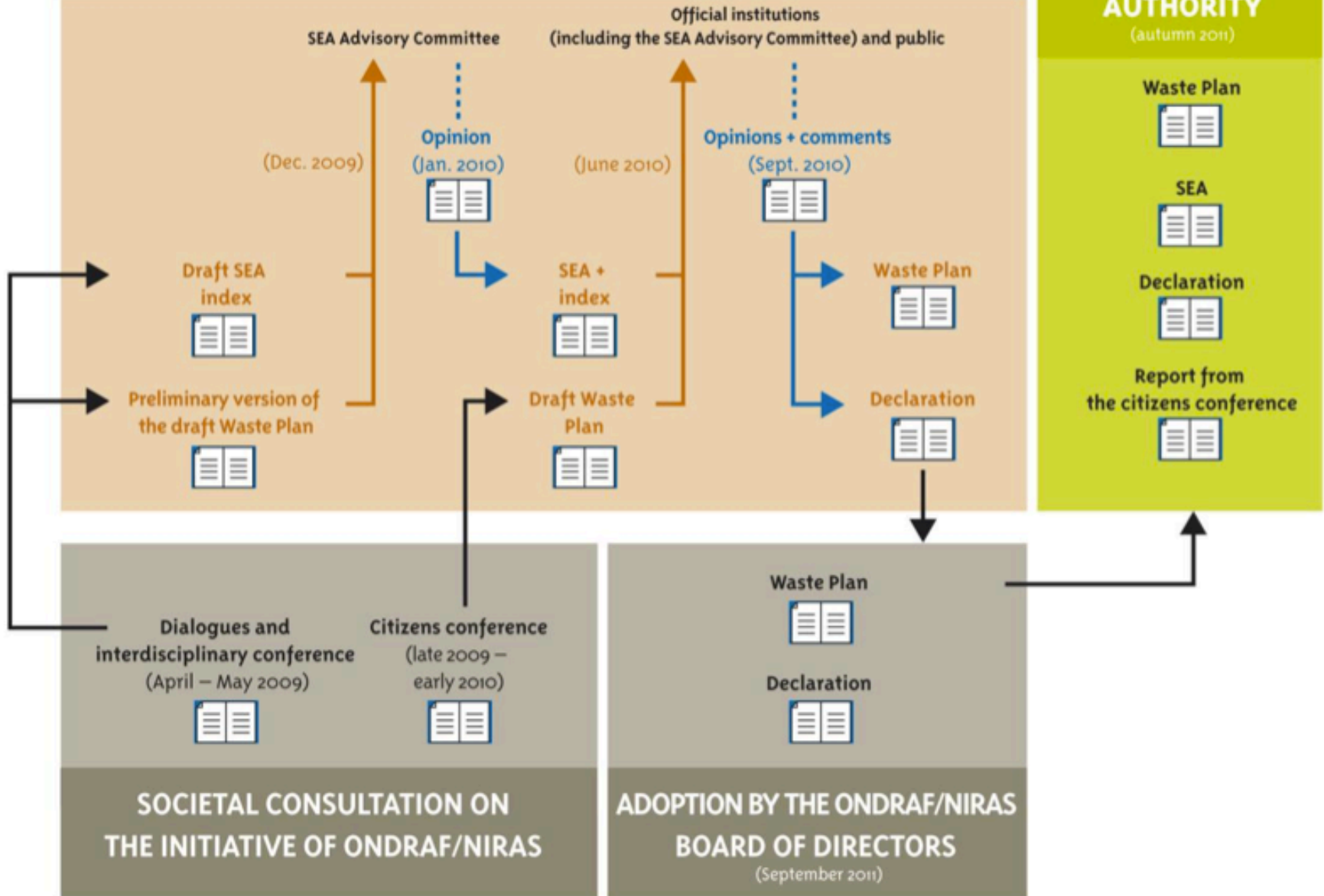
Legal framework for SEA & Waste Plan

- **How?** Classical Public Inquiry
- **When?** 7 June to 6 September 2010 (3months)
- **\$**

Public consultations initiatives as innovation.

- **How?** Citizens Focus group (1) & expert discussion group (2)
Consensus Conference (3)
- **When?** April 2009 – January 2010
- **\$\$\$**

SEA LEGAL CONSULTATION PROCEDURE



III. ONDRAF Assessment of public participation

Legal framework for Public Consultation

- **Which method?** Public opinion integrated to Waste Plan & SEA in a **systematic way**

Phase 1. Description of the issue raised by the citizens

Phase 2. Reacting to it

Phase 3. Exposing official institutions considerations

Phase 4. Integration or not in the Waste Plan.

Public consultations initiatives as innovation.

- **Which method?**

/

III. ONDRAF assessment of public participation

SEA document

- SEA document: **no modification has been done.**

Waste Plan

- Emphasizing the importance of some principles :
**RETRIEVABILITY,
CONTROLABILITY,
TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE,
INDEPENDENT MONITORING.**

III. Public participation: influence on the content?

SEA (technical document)

Waste Plan (technical & political
document)

Geological
disposal

No public
integration

Alternative

Alternative

Alternative

OPEN

All options/
Researches on
geological disposal

Public/
stakeholders
integration
Technical
consideration

GD

CLOSE

IV. Conclusions

- HL & LL decision making process and public participation design : “opening up, closing down” (Stirling, 2008)
- Consultation initiatives & integration of public opinions: a “creative destruction” or an “enduring change”? (Alter, 2000)

Thank you for your attention

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