Public Perception Workshop

CATO/PORT OF ROTTERDAM − CCUS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NORTH SEA REGION MEETING, 26 JUNE 2019

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Program

INTRODUCTION
(DR. EMMA TER MORS)

INTERACTIVE TASK & DISCUSSION
(DR. KEVIN BROECKS,
DR. CHRISTINE BOOMSMA)

WRAP-UP
(DR. CHRISTINE BOOMSMA)
Introduction

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Public opposition towards projects
Social license to operate = key for the successful and timely implementation of CCUS and other climate mitigation technologies

Social science research can help to reduce non-technical risk for CCUS implementation, e.g. by providing insights in narratives, arguments and visuals used in the media, relevant stakeholders and their perceptions, and determinants of public opinion – this will help in making site selection decisions and developing effective public engagement strategies.
Social Science Research 2004-2015
Some lessons learned

• Assume low knowledge levels among the general public
• Knowledge (transfer) isn’t everything
• Lukewarm attitudes towards CCUS (at best)
• There’s a lot to learn from successful (non-)CCUS projects
• Important to distinguish between general & local public
Assume low knowledge levels among the general public.
Knowledge (transfer) isn’t everything

Public acceptance depends on many factors—knowledge is only one of them.

Correction of misconceptions can result in more but also less favorable opinion towards CCUS: Debunking is tricky—hire experts!

So many stakeholders, so many (conflicting) messages.

Message source & content matter

Deficit model
Lukewarm attitudes (at best)

Attitudes towards industrial CCUS, clusters, offshore storage, pipelines, utilisation?
There’s a lot to learn from successful (non-)CCUS projects.
Important to distinguish between general & local public
Interactive task & discussion

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• Unites science and industry in a shared goal of transforming six European industrial regions into economically robust, low-carbon centres by 2025: Teesside and Grangemouth (UK); Rotterdam (NL); North Rhine-Westphalia (DE); Grenland (NO); and Oltenia (RO)

International partnership of >30 research institutes and industrial companies working on six specific but interlinking areas of research into CC(U)S.
WP6 Implementing CCUS in Society

6.1. Assessing informed public opinion about industrial CCUS

6.2. A fair distribution of perceived costs and benefits: designing effective community engagement & compensation strategies

6.3. Changing the conversation about CCUS in Europe
Scenario

1. Capture at local industries.
2. Storage in offshore gas field.
3. Transport via pipeline (partially onshore, close to community).
4. Project is in early stage.

1. Sizeable town (75,000 inhabitants).
2. Most people work in fisheries and tourism.
3. Industry is relatively new to the area, supplies a small number of jobs.
4. Many inhabitants are entrepreneurial-minded and there is a strong community-sense.
5. Little experience with large-scale infrastructure projects in community.
Interactive task

1. Work together in small groups (4-6 persons), preferably people from different organizations.

2. You are in charge of managing contact with local stakeholders (“omgevingsmanagers”).

3. How can you engage the community with the proposed CCS project effectively?

4. You will receive 9 cards with engagement measures.

5. Because time and funds are limited, you can pick 4 of these measures to use.
Questions to discuss in groups

To help in selecting the four measures, use the following questions:

• Are there any important measures missing? (if so, add)
• Which aims are these measures trying to achieve?
• Are all measures aimed at the same stakeholders?
• Why would certain measures not be effective or helpful in this case?
Wrap-up

DR. CHRISTINE BOOMSMA
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Discussion points

1. When is stakeholder engagement effective?

2. Which types of stakeholder engagement are most effective?

3. Is engagement for offshore projects different from onshore projects?

4. What kind of policies are needed for stakeholder engagement, if any?
Thank you for listening and participating!
Thank you

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Engaging communities with CC(U)S

Information → Education → Consultation → Deliberation

Measures differ in level of public involvement and aim: debunk misunderstandings, build support (prevent opposition), learn from/understand the public

The effect of providing information ("if we give them the right information they will accept the right thing" is limited) → need for participation
Compensation

- Sum of money for individual households, local fund, compensation for property value loss of houses, creation of new local jobs, improvement of local amenities/infrastructure.

All different types of community compensation.

*Host community compensation are a form of equity adjustment aimed at correcting imbalances between (inter)national benefits and local burdens associated with the siting of new or expanded facilities.*

- Public perceptions/opposition: a common perception is that the costs and benefits are not distributed in a fair way.
ALIGN-CCUS Interviews

- 35 interviews with community engagement managers in NL, UK and RO.
- CC(U)S context, along with other energy/infrastructure projects

What are the experiences with community compensation measures?

Do different forms of community compensation have different goals?

What are perceptions of community compensation among different stakeholders?

What is the impact of laws and regulations on community engagement and compensation?
Compensation in the CC(U)S context: Lessons learned so far

- Fit compensation with local needs and concerns
- Offer local communities a meaningful voice
- Leave room for negotiations when institutionalizing community compensation
- Consider community compensation for offshore CCUS as well
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