

INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM
ON ENHANCED LANDFILL MINING



LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN ELM: THE CHALLENGE TO BRIDGE BETWEEN COMMUNITIES

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May 5, 2006



STOP
STORT

TOT HIER
EN NIET VERDER!

TOT HIER
EN NIET VERDER!

1- Let's not forget ...



DE LOCALS

Think Global, Act Local

- Don't forget **the past**
- Don't forget the **concerns of citizens**
- NIMBY as an **excuse** to **minimize** reality
- It's all about absolute **trust** and absolute **security**
- Politicians don't decide at technical level but at **strategic level**

May 5, 2006



2- A new beginning



DE LOCALS

Think Global, Act Local

- Do we **restore trust** by **being part** of an ELFM congress?
- Not with one person but with a **representative group** of Locals
- Being “**sold to**” the Group Machiels becomes a media issue!
- **Accept** a new formula → The Locals
- Not a risk but an **opportunity**



Locals visiting Remo E-
Power plant on June 6, 2013

3- Looking for new challenges

- Approach **social change** as any other **technological challenge**
- **Technological transition** is apparently much faster than **social acceptance**
- Give fair, correct **first hand information** directly to the Locals
- Important lesson: **Locals understand complex issues**





**12^{de} Locals meeting
June 27, 2013**

4- Sharing knowledge is exchanging trust

- **First 'see'**, then **'know'** so you can **'choose'**
- Give an opportunity to **acquire insight** as well as **information**
Company visits and let the **experts explain**
- Everyone needs to **understand** → next stage
- Scientists, technology holders, knowledge institutions... and Group Machiels → not only increase the knowledge level, but **confidence** for a lasting **dialogue**



5- Voluntary but not optional



DE LOCALS

Think Global, Act Local

- **Exchange information**
(Locals Symposium)
- There is **no absolute certainty**
- **We** expect the highest possible security
- ELFM → is a **production plant**
Waste ↔ material and energy
- **Faith** in people is necessary but **blind trust** is foolish



**Locals Symposium, October 13, 2013
GreenVille, Houthalen – Helchteren, Belgium**

6- Locals and transition



DE LOCALS

Think Global, Act Local

- Every social and technological **change** is **based** on **knowledge**.
- **Scientific** basis is always at the **base** of **innovation**. The Locals **know** that!
- Even when the company is in operation. The **Locals** will **stay**!
- **New views** which transition will drive to **higher levels**
- **Sharing information** drives all stakeholders, so progress **becomes possible**

7- Voluntary but not optional

- **Social knowledge**, a spin off of the ELFM project
- Thanks to **the Locals...**
- The locals are **not a fashion** of one day
- We are **here to stay**

