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“In the end it is not biotechnology, but the will of stakeholders to work together that is the basis for sustainable food security” : Roles and needs of stakeholders, the different modalities of public participation: from multi-stakeholder dialogues to social networks.



Background on The Keystone Center

- Founded in 1975 to help collaboratively resolve environmental policy disputes through consensus building
- Serve as facilitator, mediator, process consultant, and coach in complex, science-based public policy decision-making
- Current work in agriculture, forestry, mining, transportation



10 Principles for Consultation

1. **Be clear on purpose for consultation**
2. **Foster focus on interests, not positions or personalities**
3. **Institute reliable operating structure and process management**
4. **Practice transparency**
5. **Use effective communication channels**
6. **Allow for independent verification**
7. **Engage diverse stakeholders, be responsive to all concerns**
8. **Make use of existing networks**
9. **Incorporate capacity building**
10. **Allow for process adjustments**

Consensus Building Framework

JOINTLY:

- Frame the problem at hand
- Create a hypothesis
- Gather data to test the hypothesis
- Analyze data
- Formulate solution
- Implement solution

ALSO:

- Establish common language and goals, shared action
- Define roles and expectations
- Develop strategic options that share responsibility
- Reframe problems for resolution

Elements of Durable Solutions

- Stronger trust and relationships
- Decisions based on shared data sets
- Agreements decision-making process, particularly in the face of incomplete data sets
- Built in feedback loops
- Ability to adapt to new information
- Clarity and transparency

Additional tools

- Field trips to joint fact-find and hear from farmers, scientists and other stakeholders
- Joint selection of consultants and experts
- Specific structures and responsibilities for reporting progress
- Multiple communication methods to raise awareness

Case Study: Field to Market Alliance



Field to Market

- A **collaborative stakeholder group** of producers, agribusinesses, food and retail companies, and conservation organizations
- Working together to develop a supply-chain system for agricultural sustainability for commodity crops in the United States

Field to Market Mission

Premise:

- Productivity will need to double by 2050
- Less land and water will be available for farming
- Solutions need to work for farmers, our communities and our environment, and our food and fiber supply

To identify solutions, we need to be:

- Transparent
- Grounded in science
- Focused on outcomes
- Open to the full range of technology choices, and
- Committed to creating opportunities across the agricultural supply chain for continuous improvements



Field to Market Objectives

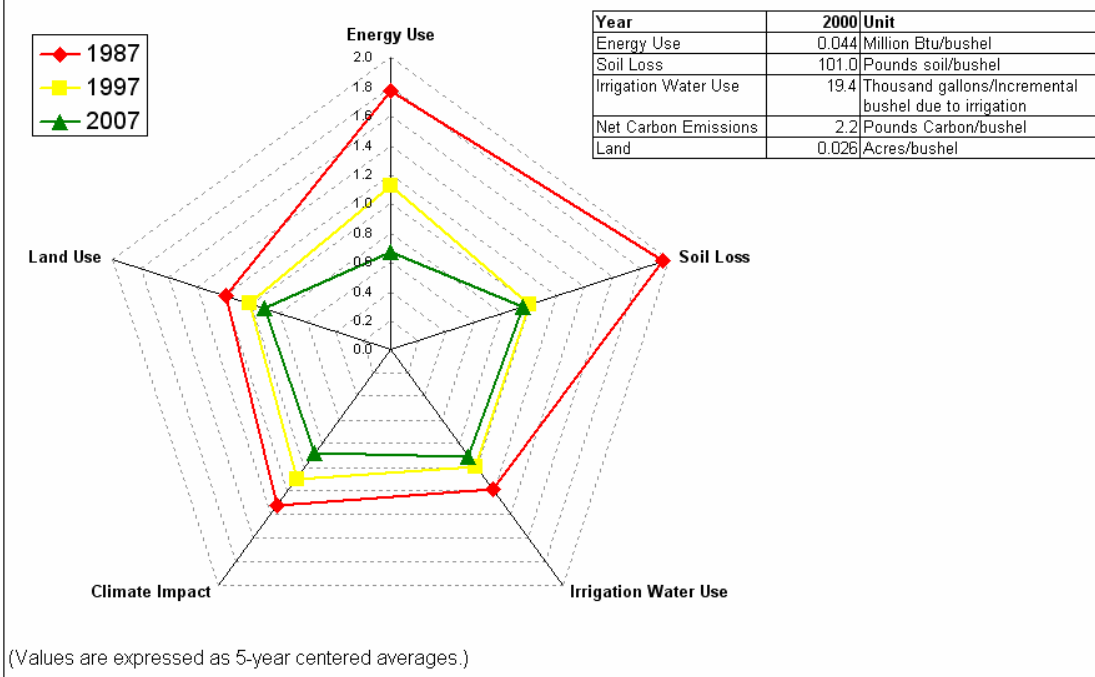
- To provide useful measurement tools and resources for growers and the supply chain that track and achieve continuous improvement against key outcomes.
 - First Steps:
 - Environmental Indicators Report
 - Grower Fieldprint Calculator

Soybeans: Summary of Results

Over the study period (1987-2007)

- **Productivity** (yield per acre) increased steadily by 29 percent.
- **Land use** increased in absolute terms and by 31 percent while land use efficiency per bushel improved by 26 percent.
- **Soil loss** per acre decreased roughly 31 percent while soil loss per bushel decreased 49 percent. Total soil loss decreased 11 percent.
- **Irrigation water use** per acre has changed little over time and water use per bushel improved 20 percent. Total irrigation water use increased 39 percent.
- **Energy use** per acre has decreased 48 percent while per bushel energy use decreased 65 percent. Total energy use decreased 29 percent.
- **Greenhouse gas emissions** per acre declined 14 percent and emissions per bushel decreased 38 percent. Total climate impact increased 15 percent.

Soybean Efficiency Indicators (Per Unit of Output, Index 2000 = 1)



Lessons we are learning from being in it together

- **Empowerment: meet people where they are**
 - People will embrace problems when they feel like there is something they can do about them
- **Listening and story-telling**
 - Listening is the first step in empowerment. Stories motivate action and reciprocity
- **Start on common ground**
 - Identify areas of agreement/shared needs early on
- **Be firm on principles, adaptable in solutions**
 - Honor shared principles while allowing solutions to adapt to changing situations