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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

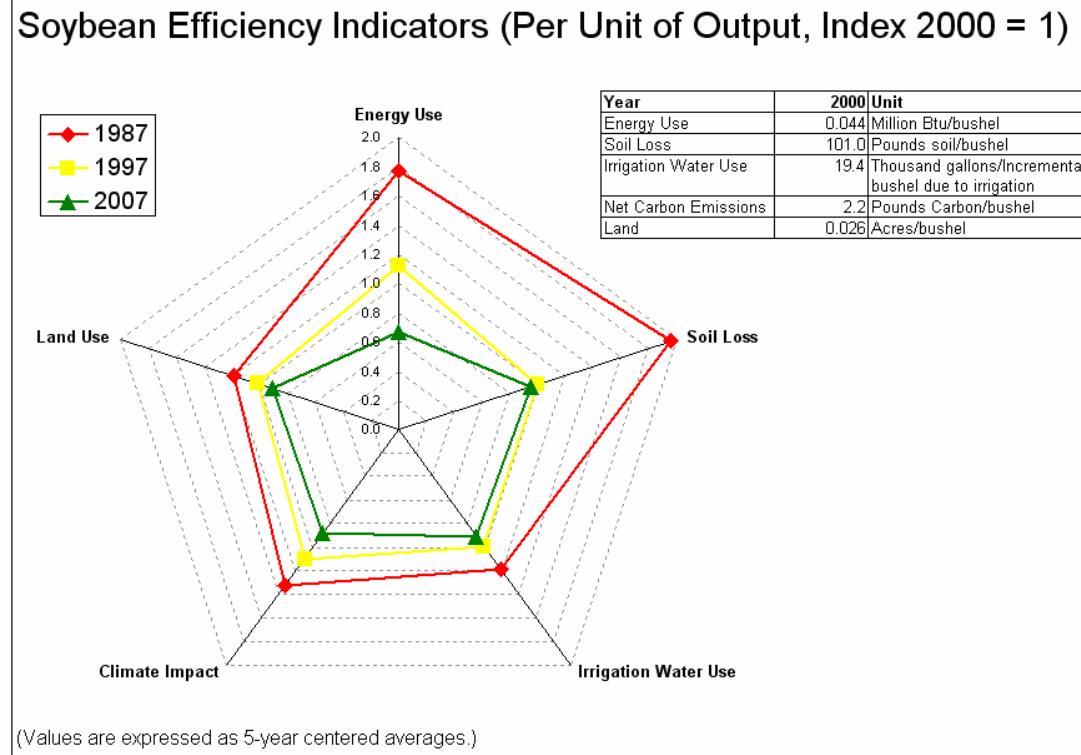
Field to Market Objectives

- 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.



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