

# Odaka Dialogue

## A Dream of Landscape and Community

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# 8<sup>th</sup> Dialogue, May 2014

## Shared Vision of the Future?

- Would like there to be no social discrimination
- Would like a forum for community dialogue
- Would like a unified situation
- Would like available and trusted data
- Would like a better, clear language understanding of low dose effects
- Would like more community spirit

# Odaka Agriculture

Working HARD to rebuild agriculture

- Farmers joining hands
  - Economies of scale
  - Joint equipment
- Farmers learning about their new circumstances
  - Water quality
  - Decontamination

Joint equipment



Economies of scale



Water quality



Decontamination



# Odaka Advancement

## Challenges

- Collective farming management
- Attract the next generation

## Options

- CSA approach?
- Rebuild image through work with Fukushima high schools?

## Collective farming management

Will you people  
stop arguing and  
just follow me!



Attract the next generation

Yes, I mean  
it! Farming  
is FUN!!



# Odaka Ingenuity

Use the land to its best advantage

- Crops: Rice or Soybeans
- Solar panels



## Future Rice Paddies





# Solar Panels





# Wind and Water Break





# Still Concern for Loss of Landscape



# History of Improvement

- Agricultural lands have been a central part of Japanese culture for centuries
- The loss of agricultural landscape has been a significant recovery motivation
  
- Community solidarity has been a central part of Japanese culture for centuries
- The loss of community has been a significant recovery motivation



# Lots of Challenges

- Recovery must start from scratch
- The demographics of residents is significantly aged – the young have not returned

But

- The focus of efforts seems to have shifted from radiological issues to cultural, social, economic issues
  - Landscape
  - Social venues
  - Table tennis

# Panel Session

- Support for elderly
  - Transportation
  - Social venues
  - Support independence
- Important for young to return
- Evacuees feel excluded
- “the government helps, but we have ourselves”

# What do the Dialogues Bring

- A chance to organise thoughts, revisit things I thought I knew, and express myself,
- A change to listen and learn
- Gives a bigger view
- Shows that there is still interest in problems

# The Dialogue Allowed

**To see the  
forest for the  
trees**



**And the trees  
in the forest**





# Making the Best of a Difficult Situation

Sometimes you  
really step in  
something bad



Kibitan lets you on  
the Happy Bus  
anyway



Sometimes you just can't make up your mind, and you push the wrong button



You get the Happy Cow



Make the best of your situation!  
Drink Up!



It is important to take advantage of your situation as best as you can!



**Life is a gift to enjoy  
Not a problem to be solved**

**Thank You**