The future of social Acceptance
Braine-l’Alleud – Waterloo – BESTGRID pilot project 2

21th May 2014
Hamburg
V. Xhonneux (IEW)
Umbrella organisation – 150 members in Wallonia

Active on environmental topics (mobility, energy, climate change, health and environment, biodiversity, circular economy etc.) and transversal issues (participation, access to information/justice, …)

Our missions:

• federate our members
• lobby regional and federal authorities
• lead educative and pilot projects
WP3 – Pilot Project

New underground cable (150kV) between Braine-l’Alleud and Waterloo

**Technical constraints**
- Overhead line or cable
- Density of the infrastructure already in the ground
- Le Hain (river)
- Railway
- Main roads
- Elia’s cable

**Local constraints and opportunity**
- Municipalities
- Citizens
- Environmentalists
Stakeholders mapping

Runned by : Elia & IEW

Methodology
• Stakeholders identification
• Stakeholders classification
• Stakeholders research (communication media, networking)
• Stakeholders analysis

Stakeholders groups
• Local authorities and administrations
• Regional authorities
• Environmental and local experts
• Social and cultural stakeholders
• Economic stakeholders
• People directly concerned by the project
Stakeholders mapping
Run by: Elia & IEW

What we learned

- Local network provide informations about stakeholders
- “Key witnesses” give useful informations about the local context

==> Added value of a local NGO implication

- Importance of interviews to complete the mapping

Collaboration between NGO and TSO: positive impact towards authorities and local people

What we learned

- Difficulties to identify key local actors
- Some key local actors are not included in the municipalities directories

==> It’s not only about Internet and Facebook, but also about direct contacts!

- Local social context is not used to participation

Evaluation

Stakeholders mapping is an evolutive tool

No “missing groups” have been identified
WP3 – Interviews

10 Interviews

Runned by : IEW

Methodology
• Face to face meetings
• Short introduction on the situation
• Informal discussion – recorded
• Close and open questions (input IIASA) point of view/ experience

Goals
• Capture his/her opinion about environmental challenges
• Capture what are the concerns of opponents
• Define his/her opinion on Bestgrid methodology
WP3 – Interviews

10 Interviews
Runned by : IEW

What we learned
- Agreement of the relevance of environmental issues but larger concerns doubtful
- Thanks to IEW implication, people feel more confident and express more than during large meetings
- Good way to introduce the next steps
- Using “interview guide” helpful

What we learned
- Closed numbers of interviews not the best option
- Interviews should have started with all stakeholders before the workshop
- Local social-economic context is not “participation-friendly”
- Local politics adopt NIMBY postures

Evaluation by the participants
- People (both citizens and politics) welcome the process and are positive about Bestgrid’s project
- Everybody agreed to be recorded
- Expectations that “Bestgrid” should become a standard
- Some stakeholders concerned can not be identified two years before hand
WP3 – Workshop with representatives of regional and local authorities (D3.3)

Workshop
Runned by : Elia & IEW

Goals
- Initiate a dialogue
- Presentation of
  - the project (need and route)
  - BESTGRID and impact
  - Scheduling
  - Communication plan and tools
- Get feedbacks on
  - the project
  - local context
  - worries and concerns

Tools
- Initiated, organized and moderated by IEW
- 17 representatives invited
- 11 participants
- In one of Braine-l’Alleud offices
- Free sitting

Targets
All local authorities that will be involved in the legal procedure
WP3 – Workshop with representatives of regional and local authorities (D3.3)

Workshop
Run by : Elia & IEW

What we learned
- Elia and IEW side by side give credibility to the approach
- Can influence the approach of the next steps taking into account
- Good opportunity to meet regional stakeholders

What we learned
- We didn't choose a neutral location
- “Free” sitting is not optimal
- People of administration do not talk when politics are in the same meeting
- Some key stakeholders were missing
- Bad communication inside administration
- Introduce RGI and BESTGRID first
- First concern of politics: “don’t alert my electors before the elections please”

Evaluation by the participants
- Very positive evaluation by participants

=> written questionnaires useful to get feedbacks!
WP3 – Pilot Project

Input after the 3 events

Constraints
- Main roads
- Mobility during construction
- Other projects to take into account (Elia and others)
- Elections
- Underground cable already present
- Sufficient electricity in Braine.
- A new project again!
- Agricultural area vs urban area
WP3 – 1st Info Event (D3.3)

Flyers distribution 28th May

Official public information meeting 12th June

Evening Q&A sessions with residents 13th and 19th June

Collect remarks from public 13th June to 30th June

EIA

Present the project / Information about:

- upcoming process steps and the legal procedure.
- the public information meeting.
- communication tool.

Meet people.

Give answers and clarification.

Be available for informal discussions.
WP3 – 2nd Info Event (D3.3)

EMF topic 18th September

Independent expert gives answers.
Event organised by IEW and prepared with Elia.
EIA result
6th November

Environmental expert present result of EIA.
Environmental expert answers questions.
Event organised by Elia.
IEW as moderator.

EIA report

Clear explanation
WP3 – Roundtables (D3.3) & Field trip (D3.4)

1st roundtable
27th May

Panel of expert +
RGI subcontractor(*) report
Organised by IEW
Environmental report on current context and opportunities

Field trip
19th June

Environmental expert
& NGO
EIA maker
Local authorities
Organised by Elia/IEW

2nd roundtable
11st September

EIA 1st result presentation &
discussion
Organised by IEW
Adaptation
Proposition
Recommendation

EIA