

NAME Babagana Abubakar

AFFILIATION Kanuri Development Association

TYPE Poster

TITLE Trade and Perception of Radioactive Waste Among the People of West Africa

ABSTRACT

West Africa is one of the Africa's most populated regions, with a total population of approximately 200 million people. The West African sub-region comprises of sixteen different countries, which are as follows: Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Code Ivore, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Sierra- Leone, Gambia, Senegal, Mauritania, Western Sahara, Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger Republique.

Apart from Nigeria, Senegal and Ghana all the other remaining countries are extremely poor and unviable. As a result of this the sub-region has been experiencing a lot of civil unrest, countries like Liberia, Sierra Leon and Code Ivore have been experiencing civil wars since the early 1990s. In addition to the already existing problems of trafficking in drugs, arms, humans and weaponry trade within the sub-region.

Today the sub-region is experiencing the coming of a new threat to human well being; "Trade in radio active waste"; which involves the transporting of radioactive wastes materials from the developed countries to it's waste bin in West Africa, where it is unsafely buried after collecting millions of dollars from It's original owners. Recent statistics have revealed that most of the people involved in the businesses of trafficking in drugs, human, arms and trading in weaponry, are diverting in to the so called evil business of "Trade in Radioactive waste" because this new illegal trade financially exceeds the rest of the above listed illegal businesses.

NAME Nicholas Doiron

AFFILIATION Code for America

TYPE Poster or Demonstration

TITLE Network and Map Communities with Ushahidi

ABSTRACT

Ushahidi, an open-source online mapping platform, has been used successfully to manage crisis response and collect information from volunteers around the world. How could the same system be applied to publicize environmental issues, make TRI data and clean-up programs more transparent, and process the information overload from social media and text messages?

New features for Ushahidi, based on research into the Dunkard Creek fishkill in Pennsylvania and community responses to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, will be presented along with information on social media activity surrounding toxic sites.

NAME Charles Herrick

AFFILIATION Stratus Consulting

TYPE Poster

TITLE TRI, the digital divide, and underserved populations: Alternative conceptions of the problem and alternative approaches to a solution

ABSTRACT

In popular parlance, the “digital divide” is commonly understood as a binary phenomenon, separating technology “haves” and “have-nots.” Research conducted on behalf of the U.S. EPA Office of Environmental Information (OEI) suggests that the digital divide is better understood as a continuum, and should be operationalized to describe specific constraints that impact an individual or group’s ability to access and use digital resources. While some information seekers truly are unable to proceed digitally, many more are prevented from fully accessing and using information online due to a diverse range of challenges that, together, result in an information access gap. The poster will include a color schematic that illustrates the diverse aspects of this access gap. “Underserved populations” are those who experience barriers related to access to environmental information, lack capacity to utilize information and ability to make decisions based on that information due to contextual factors such as minority status inequities, (including ethnicity, race and/or gender), geographic isolation, disability, socioeconomic status and life circumstances. Structured interviews with community-based environmental organizations were conducted to capture information on how various aspects of the digital divide impact the ability of underserved populations to access and utilize TRI data and information. The schematic (poster) will illustrate how different aspects of the digital divide problem can – and should – be addressed through different types of policy and/or programmatic intervention. Since the concept of sustainability includes a primary focus on social equity, taking actions to enhance access to TRI data is fundamental to the goals of sustainability.

NAME Denny Larson

AFFILIATION Global Community Monitor – Bucket Brigade!

TYPE Poster/Demonstration

TITLE How the Bucket Brigade makes TRI real and Empowers Communities to make change

ABSTRACT

The Bucket Brigade built on a foundation of evidence based community-driven environmental monitoring. The cornerstone of this work is the air sampling “bucket”, a low cost, user friendly device that allows community members to easily take air samples and begin to develop a toxic fingerprint for polluting facilities and to gather scientific data on what is in the air during accidents and ongoing emissions.

The second part of our strategy is to work with communities to link this data with health trends in the community through health symptom surveys and body burden testing. Working with our community partners, GCM designs a plan to put the information to work to enable communities to win concrete reductions in pollution and changes in public policy and the practices of individual facilities and companies.

How the Bucket Brigade Changes the Power Dynamic for Communities:

GCM’s technical assistance levels the playing field for communities. Once local community leaders are participating and educated on the sampling process (physically taking the sample, seeing the results, understanding and communicating the results) they are closer to achieving an equal seat at the table with regulators, industry managers and engineers.

The Bucket Brigade provides a trail of evidence and hard science behind the anecdotal stories of health impacts that all affected communities know too well: strange odors causing immediate health effects. This key information, combining science with the community experience, also helps bridge the gap between communities, regulators and industry.

NAME Heather Palfrey

AFFILIATION American Chemistry Council

TYPE Poster

TITLE Regulatory Compliance Program (RCAP) for MDI and PMDI Reporting

ABSTRACT

NAME Madeleine Strum

AFFILIATION US EPA

TYPE Poster

TITLE Use of the TRI in developing the 2008 NEI -- Challenges and Successes

ABSTRACT

This poster will discuss the method for incorporating TRI into the 2008 NEI and will summarize emissions of TRI data used vs the other sources of data for the point source sector of the inventory.