The Stakeholder Engagement Protocol

NAIAD Stakeholder Engagement Protocol

A core operating principal of NAIAD is to proactively engage with stakeholders in the case studies throughout the application of its conceptual and assessment methodologies for Natural Assurance Schemes. The interdisciplinary nature of the whole approach fundamentally makes it relevant to a wide range of stakeholders, including decision makers, practitioners, scientists, end users and communities. Each stakeholder will have their own particular knowledge and perspectives of the integrated physical, social, cultural and economic systems in which the case study is situated, with all these needing to be shared and synthesised during the assessments. In addition, the stakeholders served an important function in terms of "road testing" and validating the tools and methods developed and presented in this volume.

In order to fulfil this principal, various participatory modelling techniques and approaches were applied. The selection of the relevant approaches for each case study depended upon the particular contextual realities and the specific problems being addressed. However, a general set of guidelines compiled into a "stakeholder engagement protocol" were developed to serve as a practical source of guidance for case study practitioners, while ensuring some standardization and coherence/comparativeness of the process across the case studies.

The Stakeholder engagement protocol was composed of ten iterative and sequential steps which set the framework, objectives and proposed the range of methodologies that could be applied to advance through the participatory data collection, co-design, modelling and validation activities. The sequence of steps was as follows:

- STEP 1: DEMO DESCRIPTION BY DEMO LEADER. Develop a general description of the demo including an ex-ante identification of water risks to be tackled (to be validated through stakeholder engagement), and of possible NBS to address them.
- STEP 2: STAKEHOLDER MAPPING. Develop a mapping exercise including: 1) Definition of issue/policy/problem at stake, 2) identification of all potential stakeholders, 3) Analysis of interests, positions, 4) Prioritization according to power, proximity, influence, 5) Identification of potential alliances among stakeholders, 6) Elicit importance of stakeholders: power and leadership.
- STEP 3: LEADERS OF OPINION-EXPERTS INTERVIEWS. Identify two leaders of opinion per case study representing institutional and contextual knowledge respectively. Carry out individual expert interviews following a pre-defined individual stakeholder questionnaire.
- STEP 4: STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS. This step was composed of a first round of stakeholder interviews as two levels:

  A) Individual interviews at demo level targeting a balanced representation of demo stakeholders integrating questions on knowledge required to apply the different methods (social analysis, institutional analysis, economic analysis, integration and business models/financing).

  B) IVE survey (national level): A European Survey on insurance held in the different test countries looked at how insurance systems are different from one country to another (e.g. French CATNAT system vs. Anglo-Saxon systems), to consider ecosystems as real reliable means to reduce risks.
- STEP 5: 1st SH WORKSHOPS/COLLABORATIVE MODELLING. This workshop is aimed at the collaborative identification and ranking of a set of measures and the

validation of conceptual maps for the Systems Dynamic Model – Agent Based Models.

- STEP 6: 2nd ROUND OF INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWS. Carry out a second round of stakeholder interviews to gather data on perception of feasibility of the measures and associated benefits and co-benefits to prepare the ground for the second workshop.
- STEP 7: 2nd SH WORSHOPS/INDICATORS AND STRATEGIES. A second workshop is carried out with three objectives. First, define future scenarios in terms of climate change and socio-economic conditionings that could affect the strategies. Second, cluster combinations of measures into NAS strategies based on desired visions and identify the perceived associated co-benefits. Third, define the set of indicators including biophysical impacts, and social and economic impacts - co-benefits to be included in the integration metamodel.
- STEP 8: 3rd ROUND OF STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS. These interviews will be targeted at stakeholders dealing directly with risks and to understand the role insurance plays in risk management in order to identify the links and entry points of the insurance sector.
- STEP 9: 3rd SH WORKSHOP: BUSINESS MODELS, FINANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION. This last workshop is aimed at validating the possible business models identified ex-ante through the NAS canvas tool, and collect the required information to design an arrangement for finance and implementation.

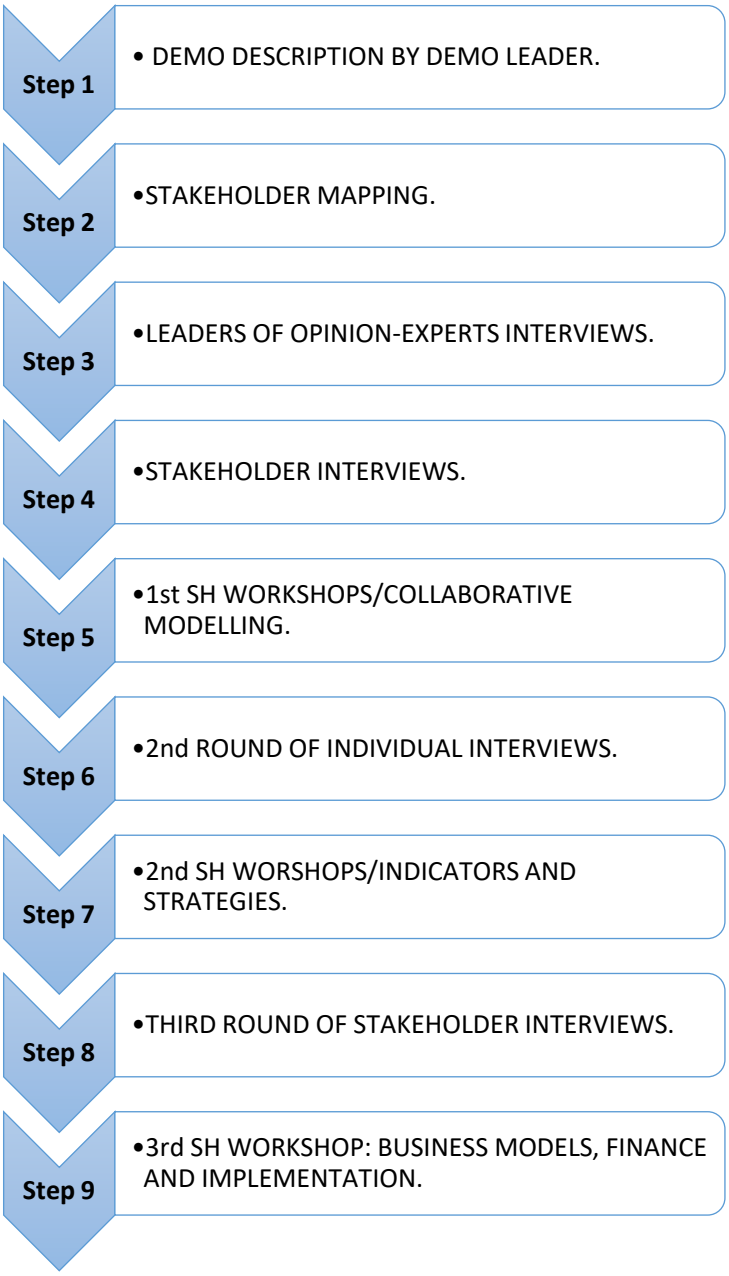

Figure 1: Stakeholder engagement protocol applied to all demos (co-design process).