

Summer school workshop: Models and Scenarios of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

11 – 15 June 2018, Lugano, Switzerland

Scenarios are a systematic way to explore possible futures, and to evaluate policy and management interventions. Models are robust tools to compare the outcomes and impacts of the scenarios explored and can serve as a basis for action.

In the past, scenarios have proven highly effective in enabling response to unpredicted change, and are now proving highly effective in the contemporary context of understanding and planning for challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, crossing planetary boundaries and poverty and inequity. Scenarios are important and valuable tools used to explore sustainability problems, and to understand the viewpoints of different stakeholders and to build common visions. They thus aid in conflict resolution and generating realistic pathways for sustainability interventions.

Since the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, scenarios are an integral part of assessments, evaluating the impact of policy and management actions on biodiversity and ecosystem services provision, and for the exploration of possible future policy.

The graduate school is aimed at students at PhD and advanced MSc level, who are interested in learning about the use and implementation of scenarios in sustainability, biodiversity and ecosystem services studies.

The graduate school intends to equip the students with the necessary skills to understand the purpose of using and applying scenarios in a policy context. It will introduce them to the scenario building process, placing a particular importance on approaches that allow to integrate different stakeholder views. Students will learn how to apply scenarios and models to examine different policy options, and conduct analysis to evaluate trade-offs and synergies in scenarios outcomes.

Goals of the workshop:

- Introduce a diversity of different scenario types and their purposes
- Introduce common approaches and methods to build scenarios
- Introduce a variety of modelling tools and their purposes
- Provide an overview over the different purposes, contexts and scales of modelling and scenario use and application, and enable students to select appropriate scenario designs for specific contexts and diverse scales
- Introduce a range of diverse participatory tools that support bringing multiple knowledges together
- Introduce methods and techniques used in evaluating processes and outcomes from scenarios and equip students with the skills to evaluate scenarios and processes and outcomes from scenarios.
- Introduce methods and tools that help create visual representations of complex data and compelling images for communication and information dissemination

Lecturers:

William Cheung, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Simona Pedde, Wageningen University, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Isabel Rosa, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig, Germany

Osamu Saito, IAS, United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan

Program:

11 June – Day 1: Introduction		
- 11:00	Participants arrive, take rooms	
11:00 – 11:30	Welcome Coffee	
11:30 – 12:30	Welcome and Introduction	Cornelia Krug
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Use of scenarios and models in decision-making	William Cheung
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	
16:00 – 17:30	Discussion: scenarios and models in decision-making	William Cheung, all
17:30 – 18:30	Welcome Apéro	
12 June - Day 2: Scenario application in different contexts and scales		
09:00 – 10:30	Scenarios of marine ecosystems environmental change – lecture	William Cheung
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 – 12:30	Scenarios of marine ecosystems environmental change – practical and discussion	William Cheung
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 17:00	Landscape valuation and stakeholder perception	Simona Pedde
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	
16:00 – 17:30	Participatory scenarios: approaches and tools – practical and discussion	Simona Pedde
18:30	Joint dinner	
13 June – Day 3: Stakeholder perceptions and different viewpoints		
09:00 – 12:30	Participatory scenarios: approaches and tools – practical and discussion	Simona Pedde
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 17:00	Excursion – Monte San Salvatore or Monte Bre - tbc	
18:30	Joint dinner	
14 June – Day 4: Stakeholder perceptions and different viewpoints ctd		
09:00 – 12:30	Scenarios for global decision-making	Isabel Rosa
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
	Application and Evaluation	
14:00 – 15:30	Scenarios for global decision-making	Isabel Rosa
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	
16:00 – 17:30	Analysis of scenario results and outcomes	Osamu Saito
18:30	Joint dinner	
15 June – Day 5: Application and Evaluation ctd		
09:00 – 12:30	Evaluating scenarios and communicating the results	Osamu Saito
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Closing Session	Cornelia Krug
15:30	Participants depart	