



The **CLIMSAVE** Project

Climate Change Integrated Assessment Methodology for Cross-Sectoral Adaptation and Vulnerability in Europe

Non-technical summary describing the new methodology for scenario analysis of climate impacts and adaptation assessment in Europe, including guidelines for its implementation

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Introduction

This summary is intended to provide a short overview of the methods that were used to develop participatory scenarios in CLIMSAVE, accompanied by some of the main lessons learnt. This is followed by an overview of the most important guidelines for implementation. What follows is limited to the socio-economic stories, adaptation options, and the link between qualitative scenarios and the CLIMSAVE Integrated Assessment Platform. For full details, please see http://www.climsave.eu/climsave/doc/Report_on_scenario_analysis_and_guidelines.pdf.

Socio-economic stories

How and what?

Standard methods were used to develop storylines as part of the participatory socio-economic scenarios in CLIMSAVE, but two novel elements stand out. Firstly, we used information on a set of existing drivers rather than starting from scratch, a so-called “fast-track” procedure. Secondly, tables with information on about a dozen additional model parameters were constructed based on the storylines.

Main lesson learnt

Stories remain an excellent type of qualitative scenario and any scenario developing exercise should include stories as one of the main products. At the same time, additional qualitative products were highly complementary and it is recommended to aim at developing multiple outputs.

Adaptation options

How and what?

Adaptation options to climate change were developed using two distinct methods. First, an open brainstorm with stakeholders was conducted to yield a long list of about 150-200 options for both Europe and Scotland. During the last multi-scale workshop and using the CLIMSAVE Integrated Assessment Platform, this list was ultimately reduced to a set of three broad adaptation strategies that were considered to be potentially successful in all scenarios across both scales:

- Spatial planning. At both scales, the efforts to preserve natural resources were emphasised.
- Social and technological innovation. This category relates to both technological innovation and social/planning aspects.
- Social dimension. This category includes a broad sweep of social issues from social trust and cohesion, to active citizenship. At both scales, it was specifically noted that local efforts were more feasible.

Main lesson learnt

The majority of adaptation options related to natural and manufactured capital, despite a reasonable balance. It is recommended to provide extra stimulus to include human capital or social capital to improve this balance.

Linking stories and the CLIMSAVE Integrated Assessment Platform

How and what?

Stakeholders interacted with, and informed the development of the Integrated Assessment Platform in a number of different ways. Firstly, prototypes of the Platform were presented at workshops to get progressive feedback on the design and functionality. Additionally, the narratives that stakeholders produced were also mined by the project team for additional information to assist the model input quantification. Most importantly, however, stakeholders provided scenario-specific quantitative values for a number of key model input parameters, such as future GDP or oil price.

Main lesson learnt

Various methods together provided a comprehensive insight into the perceptions of stakeholders on key quantifiable parameters of the Integrated Assessment Platform. Multiple, largely complementary, methods were used (stories, fuzzy sets and qualitative tables) that all provided valuable information.

Overall conclusions

Process

Stakeholders at both scales were very satisfied with individual as well as with the overall series of workshops. Due to a committed and skilled team of facilitators, scenario supporters and modelling experts, the meetings were almost flawless logistically, as noted by the stakeholders.

Methods

The Story-And-Simulation approach was successfully implemented, adapted, and executed at two scales. Story-And-Simulation was, is and will continue to be the state-of-the-art framework when the aim is linking stories and models. In particular, we found that:

- Having stakeholders develop scenarios leads to strong feelings of ownership.
- Directly translating these scenarios into elements of the Integrated Assessment Platform fosters this feeling.
- Linking stories and models, particularly in a “live” workshop, is a powerful means to bring together scientists and stakeholders in a process of co-production of knowledge.