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Session abstract

Title: Decision support in a changing environment

Conveners:

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Motivation:

Planning processes are integral parts of decision processes. These are commonly initiated by a gap between the actual and the desired state of the system under consideration. A changing decision environment (e.g. climate change and socio-economic change) may add disturbance variables to long term environmental management schemes. Further more, the prediction of future changes is uncertain if possible at all.

This session focuses on methodological innovations, how the uncertainty of climate and socio-economic change can be regarded in environmental decisions. The approaches presented in this session should a) be based on quantitative decision analyses or b) specifically address adaptive approaches, which make use of improved knowledge during the process.

Topics:

- How can the possible impact of climate and socio-economic change on long-term environmental planning (e.g. river basin management, flood risk management) be quantified?
- Risk informed decision making: how to combine the probability of change with the expected impact of change in order to decide about adaptation measures?
- Optimization of adaptation schemes: which methods can be used to find the best combination of measures in space and time? Which events are "triggers" to adapt the schemes in the future?
- How can the complex uncertainty information be reduced to support decision makers?