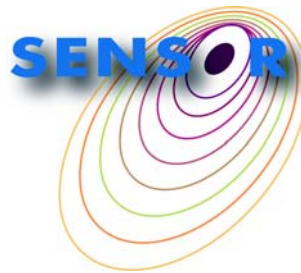




The University of  
Nottingham



## Next Generation Tools for Sustainability Impact Assessment

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2009, Nottingham (UK)

*Dear colleague,*

The **CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**, University of Nottingham, has the pleasure to invite you to a workshop on the “Next generation Tools for Sustainability Impact Assessment” that will take place in Nottingham on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2009. The aim of the day is to explore the effectiveness and usability of these new tools and test their relevance in policy development and appraisal.

At the workshop the tools will be used to look at options for reforming the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) through its influence on land use change. However, the tools and concepts covered during the day have much wider relevance in the context of making sustainability impact assessments more generally.

The workshop will be interactive, allowing time for discussion and reflection. Participants will have the opportunity to use the tools to develop scenarios and assess their implications for land use and sustainability using different types of indicator that are relevant to human well-being and the kinds of benefit that ecosystem services can provide. We aim to have groups of people with different backgrounds and interests so that we can compare their different reactions and requirements.

The key issues that the tools will be used to explore include:

- **RELEVANCE:** How relevant are the inputs of the scenarios for our assessment? Are the indicators used significant to the region in question? Are they valid and clear to understand?
- **OUTCOMES PLAUSIBILITY:** What are the outputs of the CAP scenarios? What do they mean to us? Do they mean differently to different stakeholders?
- **EUROPEAN vs REGIONAL:** Are regional experiences shifting opinions? Can we identify different levels of decision-making? Are European interests meeting local interests? If not, how can we ‘inform’ a decision? Are stakeholders’ views taken properly into account?
- **TRADE-OFFS:** How do we frame trade-offs? Can **Sustainability Choice Space** help to identify different set of choices (European, local) and therefore help or inform the decision?

- **DECISION-MAKING:** Is there a 'room for manoeuvre' in deciding the new policy? Can outcomes from scenarios help to design the new policy and carry out an *ex ante* impact assessment of EU policies?
- **TOOLS TO SUPPORT SIA:** What are the tools available to support Sustainability Impact Assessment (Participative Impact Assessment, Multi-criteria Assessment, Group Valuation, Internet valuation, etc.)? Are they suitable? Can they be integrated with model-based tools? Or can they be compared?

**The workshop represents a unique opportunity to use your expertise to shape the development of these new assessment tools that are designed to support deliberative and participative policy frameworks, and the choices that ultimately have to be made.**

### *Workshop agenda*

| TIME          | ACTIVITY   |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00         | Coffee and Registration  |
| 10:30 – 12:00 | 1) Introduction  |
|               | 2) Defining the scenarios and assessment criteria  |
|               | 3) Comparing scenarios (Land Use Functions, Indicators, etc.)  |
| 12:15 – 13:15 | Lunch break  |
|               | 4) Reviewing decisions (stakeholders input, insight from Participatory Impact Assessment approaches) |
| 15:00 – 15:20 | Tea break  |
| 15:30 – 16:30 | 5) Plenary discussion on tools and approaches  |
| 16:30         | Closure  |

Further details will be circulated prior to the workshop with information about location etc. Participation in the workshop is by invitation only. If you are unable to come, but could suggest a colleague, then we would be happy to extend the invitation to them. If you are able to come, but cannot cover your T&S, please contact us, because limited support is available.

Please email [Marion.Potschin@Nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Marion.Potschin@Nottingham.ac.uk) (tel. 0115 8467398) to confirm your interest, arrange local transport, accommodation and communicate dietary preferences.