

Tools and Modelling in Impact Assessment

Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, Germany

10 – 13 January, 2012

Course description

The *EU – Network of Excellence LIAISE: Linking Impact Assessment Instruments to Sustainability Expertise* (<http://www.liaise-noe.eu/>) invites applicants for the LIAISE Winter School which will be held from 10 – 13 January, 2012 at the Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ in Leipzig, Germany.

The focus of the LIAISE Winter School will be on Impact Assessment (IA) as a general procedural framework for policy appraisal in decision-making processes. Policy-level impact assessments such as Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) and more recently Sustainability Impact Assessment (SIA) have been applied over the past years in different venues all over Europe. To support policy assessments within such generic frameworks, different methods and tools can be deployed. These can help to generate or structure scientific evidence, to design possible future scenarios or to model complex and dynamic social, economic or environmental developments.

The LIAISE Winter School will be organized as a training course on discussing, using and developing especially advanced computer-based modelling tools and participatory approaches for policy assessment. The Winter School will deliver an overview and new insights into different tools and assessment methods. Participants will learn how to generate data and how models and tools can be used for policy assessments. Furthermore the utilization of advanced and complex tools will be discussed drawing on the understanding of the role of tools within policy-making processes. The interdependencies between modellers and users of tools and policy makers will be discussed throughout the training course. This encompasses user needs and how to integrate these in the development of advanced modelling tools. This should help modellers to get an understanding of how the application of tools within decision-making processes can be enhanced.

The LIAISE Winter School will combine different modelling strategies and approaches from the natural sciences as well as modelling in economics and in the field of sustainability. Qualitative and participatory approaches for impact assessment will also be addressed. Practical training sessions, hands-on applications, as well as discussions and short presentations of the participants' own research projects will be the key elements of the Winter School. The combination of different approaches will make the Winter School a truly interdisciplinary experience with lecturers from all over Europe.

Tools and Modelling in Impact Assessment – Programme (as of 24/10/2011)

	Tuesday 10/01/12	Wednesday 11/01/12	Thursday 12/01/12	Friday 13/01/12
	Opening	Quantitative Approaches	Multi Criteria Analysis	Economic Approaches
Morning I 9:00-10:30	10:00 Opening & Outline	Modelling and Online-Tools: The APIS Tool <i>Dr Bill Bealey (CEH Edinburgh), Dr Stefan Reis (CEH Edinburgh)</i>	Multi Criteria Analysis in Flood Risk Assessment <i>Prof Dr Dagmar Haase (HU Berlin), Sebastian Scheuer (UFZ Leipzig) Dr Volker Meyer (UFZ Leipzig)</i>	Challenges for modelling climate policies <i>Bert Saveyn (JRC – IPTS, Sevilla)</i>
10:30-10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>			
Morning II 10:45-12:15	Introduction of Participants	Making Impact Assessment operational for the case of multifunctional land use <i>Dr Katharina Helming (ZALF Müncheberg)</i>	MCA continued	The Economic Modelling Approach <i>Frank Pothen (Centre for European Economic Research Mannheim)</i>
12:15-13:15	<i>Lunch</i>			
	Introduction: Challenges for Policy Assessment	Integrated Tool Development	Participatory Approaches	Tool Use and Reflection
Afternoon I 13:15-14:45	Introduction: Policy Assessment and Sustainable Development <i>Dr Klaus Jacob (FU Berlin)</i>	Megasite Management Toolsuite: Assessing Impacts of Revitalization Processes <i>Dr Alena Bleicher (UFZ Leipzig), Stephan Bartke (UFZ Leipzig), t.b.a. (U Tübingen)</i>	How to Bridge the Gap between Modellers and Stakeholders? <i>Dr Eleftheria Vasileiadou (Institute for Environmental Studies, Amsterdam)</i>	Session with TIAS -- <i>t.b.a.</i>
14:45-15:00	<i>Coffee break</i>			
Afternoon II 15:00-16:30	<i>t.b.a.</i>	Megasite Management Toolsuite - continued	Participatory Tools in Impact Assessment <i>t.b.a</i>	Reflecting, wrap-up, & feedback (in collaboration with TIAS)

Administration

The LIAISE Winter School will be hosted by the

Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ

Permoserstr. 15
04318 Leipzig
Germany
www.ufz.de



Contact:

Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ

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Venue

The Winter School will be held at the Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ). UFZ is a research institution within the Helmholtz Association and was established in 1991. UFZ provides scientific contributions to the safeguarding of the natural basis of life and of human development potentialities for current and future generations under the challenges of global and climate change. In this way the UFZ contributes towards a sustainable development.

LIAISE

LIAISE was established as part of the European Commission's FP7 work programme (2009) as a Network of Excellence (NoE) to improve the application of Impact Assessments (IA) by both the research and the policy making communities. LIAISE combines the multi-disciplinary competences of a core group of well respected European research institutions with the consolidated experience developed from a wide range of relevant FP6 and FP7 projects.

The main approach of the LIAISE NoE is to identify and bridge the existing operational gaps between researchers of IA tools and practitioners within the policy making community in order to improve the quality and application of IA tools resulting in enhanced effectiveness and efficiency in decision making. Its focus is on policy development relating to sustainable development strategies.

Aim and Target group

One general aim of the Winter School is to initiate exchange between researchers in the field of modelling and tool development for IA. Besides the Winter School's core sessions related to IA tools, possible impacts of evidence in policy processes will also be discussed.

The LIAISE Winter School mainly addresses advanced students and doctoral students working in the area of IA, tool development and application, modelling, science-policy interface or other related fields. The aim is to select a limited number of 15 highly motivated, advanced students and PhD candidates to participate in the Winter School. Major selection criteria will be a clear indication of motivation and expectations the programme will have on their further research and working activities.

1.75 Credit Points (ECTS) can be gained by participating in this training event.

Working language and language proficiency

The working language of the LIAISE Winter School is English. In order to assure active participation of all participants, a good proficiency of English in all its aspects (spoken, written and comprehension) is a prerequisite.

Fee

There will be **no fee** applied for the participants. Accommodation, breaks and lunch during the training course as well as transportation in Leipzig will be covered by UFZ and the LIAISE NoE. Please note that the travel expenses of participants to and from Leipzig will not be covered.

At the end of the Winter School all participants will be kindly asked to fill in a questionnaire to evaluate the training programme.

Application procedure:

In order to apply, you will need to complete the application form. Applicants are kindly requested to also submit a short CV and a brief letter of motivation clearly indicating their research interests.

Please send the application form as an attachment to vivien.behrens@ufz.de. Deadline for submission is 9 December, 2011. A confirmation letter and information package will be sent to all participants in the second half of December. The package will include practical information as well as reading material as an essential preparation for successful attendance of the programme.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Leipzig!



Application Form

Tools and Modelling in Impact Assessment

Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, Germany

10 – 13 January, 2012

Deadline: 9 December, 2011

Personal details:

Family Name:	First Name:	
Date of birth:	Nationality:	Sex:
Address:		
Telephone:	Fax number:	
E-mail address:		

Academic information:

Home institution and department:
Field of research:
Year of completion of your PhD degree:
E-mail address of reference:

Letter of motivation:

Please give a brief summary why you wish to participate in the LIAISE Summer School. What are your expectations? What is your current research focus?

Date:	Signature:
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Please send a copy of the application form to:

Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ

Vivien Behrens
Department of Urban and Environmental Sociology
Permoserstr. 15
04318 Leipzig
Germany

Or by e-mail:

Vivien.behrens@ufz.de