

SCENARIOS TECHNIQUES

Definition

A scenario as a plausible descriptions of how the future may develop based on a coherent and internally consistent set of assumptions about key relationships and driving forces. Scenarios enable: (i) the envisioning of future pathways and accounting for critical uncertainties; (ii) addressing real-world questions for which the future is subject to human actions and choices and not preordained. The objective is to encourage people to consider and discuss alternative futures. The focus is on the internal consistency of the scenario storyline rather than on their likelihood of coming true. In COST RELY, pathways and choices relate to the development of renewable energy systems in different landscape settings.

A range of techniques may be employed in development of different scenarios. In general, two broad approaches can be defined:

1. Non-participatory: Non-participatory scenario development usually involves a model with some kind of exploratory or predictive capacity which is projected forward to a future date, usually after calibration against historical (observed) data. The output of various climate models under IPCC scenarios is a good example of this technique. It is non-participatory in the sense that it uses only data collected by researchers, and participatory processes are not formally used for information gathering or scenario construction.

2. Participatory: Participatory scenario development differs from the above in that scenarios are constructed by, or based on information supplied by stakeholders engaged in some kind of participatory process. For example, the European Environment Agency PRELUDE project (2004-2005) engaged stakeholders from multiple backgrounds from across Europe to create five scenarios for a Europe affected by changing patterns of land use, climate change, agriculture and demographics. In Spain, local stakeholders developed four “Ecofuture” scenarios for the threatened Doñana natural area in the year 2035 under an ecosystem services approach. They then illustrated the scenarios on posters using a range of materials, like press and magazine cuttings. A Follow-up project mapped these scenarios inside a land use model.

Related terms

Landscape governance, Public participation, Planning process, Public participation process

Keywords

Participatory scenario planning, Future scenarios, Scenario modelling, Strategy formulation

Scenario Framework with Land Use Change storylines



Figure 43a Scenarios of alternative development pathways for land use. Developed from the UKCIP/Foresight socioeconomic scenarios. (Source: Brown and Castellazzi 2014)

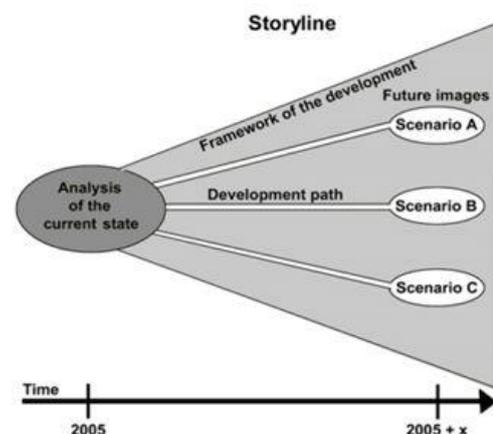


Figure 43b Scenario technique. (Source: Schroth 2010)



Figure 43c Workshop participants in Doñana, Spain locating hypothesized land use change under EcoFuture scenario “Trademark Doñana”. (Photo: Verónica Hernández Jiménez 2012)

Source

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Translations

Bosnia and Herzegovina Tehnike scenarija
 Bulgarian Техника на сценария
 Croatian Scenariji
 Czech Technika scénáře
 Danish Scenario teknik
 Dutch Scenario-technieken
 Esperanto Tekniko de scenaro
 Estonian Stsenaarium / tulevikuväljavaade
 Finish Skenaariotekniikka
 French Scénario technique
 German Szenario Methode
 Greek Σενάριο
 Hebrew תרחישים מתודת
 Hungarian Szenáriók technika

Italian Tecnica di scenario
 Icelandic Sviðsmýndagreining
 Latvian Scenāriju tehnika
 Lithuanian Scenarijai
 Montenegrin Scenario (tehnike)
 Polish Technika scenariuszy
 Portuguese Metodologia de cenário
 Romanian Tehnica scenariului
 Russian Технический сценарий
 Slovakian Technika scénára
 Slovenian Orodja in tehnike sodelovanja javnosti
 Serbian Технике сценарија
 Spanish Escenarios técnicos
 Swedish Scenarioteknik