

Coastal vulnerability and resilience to climate change

Warm-up event for the 2014 conference

Agropolis Montpellier

December 13, 2013

This workshop is the last of a workshop series in preparation for the 2014 Resilience Conference to be held in Montpellier, France <http://www.resilience2014.org/>. The objective of the workshop series is to bring together French and international scientific communities together for an in depth exploration of the multiple dimensions of resilience following the theme of the 2014 Resilience Conference: “Resilience & development: Mobilizing for transformation”.

For the last decades, diverse research fields addressing natural resource management and environmental issues have been pursuing concepts and practices that resonate with a resilience approach. During this workshop we will explore the relationships between the two concepts of resilience and vulnerability with a specific focus on coastal areas.

Resilience is the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, identity, and feedbacks. More recently, there is increased emphasis on transformability i.e., the capacity to cross thresholds into new development trajectories, as well as emerging insights into how transformation at smaller scales can enhance resilience and capacity for transformational change at larger scales. Prof. K. Brown will develop her vision on resilience. In the Mediterranean area different projects have looked at the vulnerability of coastal areas to climate change. They look at the exposure of the coastal system, its sensitivity and the capacity to cope with the perturbations. Two projects on coastal changes in Languedoc-Roussillon will be presented. A general debate on resilience and vulnerability of coastal areas will end the workshop. The expected output is the preparation of a session for the Resilience 2014 conference.

9h00-10h00 K. Brown (University of Exeter, UK): **The social dimension of coastal systems resilience.**

10h00-10h45 H. Rey Valette, Cécile Bazart (University of Montpellier 1), Paul Sauboua, Hugues Heurtefeux (EID) , Philippe Carbonnel, Alexandre Richard (Conseil general de l’Hérault) et Michel Gautier (DREAL): **Which territorial solidarities and which strategies for coastal resilience?**

10h45-11h00: Break

11h00-11h45: Ywenn de la Torre (BRGM): **The territory vulnerability to sea-level rise**

11h45-12h30: Olivier Barreteau (IRSTEA). **Multi-scale adaptations to climate change and social-ecological sustainability in coastal areas**

12h30-14h. Lunch

14h-15h. Debate and preparation of an off-site session conference for the conference.

Please contact: francois.bousquet@cirad if you intend to attend the workshop.