



## **Water management and trans-disciplinary research: what is the role for social sciences?**

Anna Scolobig

Human Environment Systems Group, Department of Environmental Systems Science, ETH-Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Universitätstrasse 22 CHN J72.2 8092 Zürich, Switzerland (anna.scolobig@usys.ethz.ch)

The presentation will focus on trans-disciplinary research and science in water management. After describing three pillars of the European research agenda in this sector, some results of projects claiming an inter- or trans-disciplinary vocation will be presented. The focus will be on the challenges related to the coproduction of knowledge between natural and social sciences, including the modelling of individual and community behaviours and the forecast of human response. Some preliminary ideas about the development stages of transdisciplinary research in water management will be presented, with specific attention on the role of stakeholder engagement. The difficulties in connecting stakeholders' perspectives to models/scenarios and in turning stakeholders' discourses into numbers will be discussed. The conclusion will focus on the transformative changes that are needed to improve the integration between natural and social sciences in transdisciplinary research.