

**GLP Draft Session 1 : Land-use continuity and change: adaptation in coupled human-environment systems**

**Short description:**

This session links to the crosscutting theme “System changes and transitions”. The concept of the coupled-human environment system is proposed to be useful to frame research on complex patterns and processes of land use changes spanning different spatial and temporal scales. Coupled human-environmental systems are integrated systems in which humans interact with the environment. The trajectory of coupled human-environmental system frequently reveals a combination of continuity and change when a range of descriptive parameters are considered. Land use may, for example, remain almost stable while adaptation to societal and environmental changes takes place through changes in the broader livelihood portfolio. Understanding the multidimensional nature of drivers of change (including globalisation), responses and feedback mechanisms is essential to assess vulnerability and resilience of coupled human-environmental systems.