

Urban Risk Management Considering the Households' Decision Process for Insurance Purchase and Risk Mitigation under the Earthquake Risk in Turkey

This paper introduces a likely cooperation of urban planning and TCIP (Turkish Catastrophic Insurance Pool) in the frame of an urban risk management approach (URM) in Turkey. URM assumes that urban planning is the most suitable framework to manage earthquake risks due to its power and ability to change the built-environment depending on its legal sources, close relationships to local governments, land use planning instruments and strategic planning methodology, which considers all involved stakeholders in urban areas.

On the other hand, as one of the potential stakeholders of URM, TCIP is established after 1999 earthquakes to finance disaster losses in residential areas using insurance techniques. Although it aims to increase the low penetration ratio with an obligatory implementation, the insurance purchase ratio is nearly 15 %. Thus, TCIP may confront with the problems arising from earthquake insurance as moral hazard, adverse selection and the non-marketability of insurance. Hence, TCIP may participate in URM both as an incentive instrument for risk mitigation using the coinsurance methods and deductible from premiums, and as a financial instrument contributing to a pool for risk mitigation. Such cooperation can be achieved with the development of risk reduction and insurance policies to implement land use decisions with other urban planning instruments regarding earthquake risks. Consequently, to develop suitable policies, this paper will evaluate factors influencing the insurance purchase and risk mitigation decision making of Turkish households in the frame of the economic theory, theories of reasoned action and person relative to event, and risk perception.

Human Dimensions of Landscape Changes in the Amazon

The Amazon region is home to the world's largest tropical forests. Although human occupation has changed Amazonian landscapes for centuries, high rates of deforestation and colonization have drastically affected the region especially during the last three decades. Significant landscape changes, their effects over Earth Systems, and their relations with human populations have been the foci of several research efforts. The complexity of investigating such subjects has led to disciplinary and interdisciplinary work at local, regional or global scales. This session proposes to review some results and lessons produced by social sciences, as well as their relationships to natural sciences in research dedicated to understand processes and patterns of change in the Amazon. Land-use/land-cover dynamics, expansion of the agricultural, mining, and logging frontiers, production systems, logistics and regional development, population fertility, mortality, morbidity and mobility, urbanization, institutional and cultural factors, livelihoods, traditional populations, land tenure and agrarian systems, as well as the effects of such factors on climate, ecosystem functioning, and human populations are among the topics of interest of this session. Studies pertinent to the session may draw upon data from the micro to the macro level, from satellite imagery to ground data, from household surveys to census data, and from qualitative to quantitative methods of data collection, analysis, and synthesis.

A Few Challenges in LUCC Research in Brazilian Amazon

The Brazilian Amazon has undergone significant changes during the last decades including the expansion of the agricultural frontier and human settlements, involving a variety of

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