

SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE AND REGIONAL PLANNING: IMPLEMENTING THE ANP TO DEFINE THE “DESIRED STATE”

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ABSTRACT

Resilience is the new buzz-word in regional planning. It implies the ability of a system not only to “bounce back” following a crisis, but also to learn and adapt so as to reduce future vulnerabilities. What constitutes a resilient system, and how to enhance resilience in existing places, is still a relatively theoretical concern. Nevertheless, the rising socio-environmental crisis around the globe is driving a search for new approaches to regional planning. In practice, enhancing system resilience is challenged by conflict and disagreement among social groups over the normative dimensions of natural resource use, individual and collective economic goals, and what elements and attributes constitute an “ideal” or “desired” system. In this paper we present an ANP implementation to address the challenges of defining the desired state of socio-environmental systems. Results demonstrate the usefulness of the ANP for achieving a collective vision of what is desired, which conceivably would facilitate re-organization and re-bounce following a disturbance.