Plinius Conference Abstracts Vol. 15, Plinius15-62, 2016 15th Plinius Conference on Mediterranean Risks © Author(s) 2016. CC Attribution 3.0 License.

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Socio-Economc Impacts and Were Afraid to Ask

Susan Durden (1) and Martin Harm (2)

(1) United States (susan.e.durden@usace.army.mil), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Institute for Water Resources, (2) United States, (martin.t.harm@usace.army.mil), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District

Methods of calculating socio-economic impacts vary widely among countries. The authors have worked extensively on socio-economic impacts and human response in both the U.S. and EU. This presentation will present a structured easy to follow discussion of socio-economic analysis techniques used in U.S. government agencies. Comparisons to a select number of EU countries will also be included. The second part of the presentation will discuss the key risk factors which must be considered during such analyses. These range from integration of disparate disciplines to identification of risk drivers to "telling the story". Telling the story is an often undervalued activity, left to the last minute after most resources have been expended on technical analysis. However, without proper presentation of the results to decision makers, the most complex and sophisticated analyses will not fulfill their potential of protecting people and mitigating damages.