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Insights and Reflections: The 'Exploring Unprecedented Extremes' Workshop

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Due to the various regions and contexts around the world with distinct climatic characteristics, climate hazards vary significantly in their nature, frequency, and impact, causing property damage, population distress, communication failures, environmental damage, and economic losses. Unfortunately, 2023 showcased extreme weather and climate events that have surpassed previous records. These include heatwaves, floods, wildfires, tornadoes. The occurrence of these extreme events poses a challenge to our comprehension of future climates, primarily due to their divergence from our conventional thought patterns or their status as out-of-sample scenarios. With ongoing climate warming, the potential for more severe events in the future is a concern. Insufficient preparation may result in breakdowns within specific sectors or even societal collapse. Effective preparation involves multiple factors, with the initial challenge lying in forming expectations - a task complicated by events that fall outside our usual anticipations, such as out-of-sample occurrences.

In the face of those climate challenges, understanding and mitigating the impacts of unprecedented climate extremes has become a critical area of focus. To shed light on this challenge, a workshop titled "Exploring Unprecedented Extremes" was convened in November 2023. This event brought together experts from diverse fields to deliberate on innovative approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Emphasizing co-creation and interdisciplinary collaboration, the workshop addressed key themes such as the integration of various sectors into climate change strategies, the complexities of decision-making under uncertainty, and the crucial role of transdisciplinary research in comprehensively understanding and effectively responding to climate extremes. This poster focuses on the key takeaways and strategic reflections that emerged following the workshop, capturing the essence of our collaborative discourse on climate challenges.