**Hydrometeorological disasters and climate change: The role of space based data and information in policy making for climate change related disasters**

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Abstract

Recognizing that data and information relevant to policy and decision making is key to reduce the uncertainty of climate change and the vulnerability it poses to emerging communities, this papers seeks to enhance understanding of the role of space-based data and information in policy-making for climate change and hydrometeorological disasters, and the different entry points they can have in the policy-making cycle.

Providing a number of examples and case studies, the text highlights the role, usefulness and strengths of spatial data and information all along and for each step of the climate change policy making cycle, unfolding various aspects and applications of spatial data and information that can be of service in climate change policy making, from the identification of the problem, through the different phases of policy formulation, to decision making, policy implementation and evaluation. Finally, a section is dedicated to some of the challenges presented by the science-policy interface and interaction, as one of the fundamental aspects of how relevant information feeds in the policy making cycle.