## Session number and name:
**CS5.7 Scenarios, time horizons and climate change in IA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th># Persons attending session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8 May 2008</td>
<td>11.00-12.00</td>
<td>c.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Name(s) of Session Chair(s):
Elizabeth Wilson

### Contributors:
Jack Krohn, Sanne Larsen, He Xu

### (a) Three current issues in application of assessment processes discussed in this session:
- Need to handle dimensions (scales and non-linearities) of change in IA
- Perceived difficulties in assessment of climate change impacts
- Infrequent use of scenarios in IA

### (b) One or more emerging trends
- Use of future scenarios in IA
- Incorporation of climate change considerations in plans and SEA of plans

### (c) Issues relating to impact assessment effectiveness:

#### (i) dimensions of IA effectiveness (i.e. what are the characteristics of effective IA?)
- Recognition of dynamic/changing baseline
- Use of future scenarios to assess resilience and robustness of PPPs as part of IA

#### (ii) challenges/barriers to IA effectiveness
- Over-emphasis on uncertainties of climate change
- Over-emphasis on existing processes and procedures
- Lack of horizon-scanning

#### (iii) how these barriers might be overcome
- Practice in and more experience with use of scenarios in IA
- Training of IA practitioners and proponents
- Shared events with Climate Change impacts assessment community
- Action now – not awaiting regulatory or procedural guidance

### (d) Comments on the Art and Science of Impact Assessment (i.e. the relative importance and interplay between science and values/politics/subjectivity in impact assessment)

Responding to climate change in IA requires both art (of persuasion, consensus building, shared values and imagination) and science (models, scenarios, social and cultural learning)