

A sociological case study of residential practices in floodplain. Understanding vulnerability to flashflood.

Séverine Durand^{1,1}, Céline Lutoff¹, Sylvie Duillard¹, Isabelle André-Poyaud¹, Marc Bertran-Rojo¹, Charles-Antoine Choquet¹

¹ PACTE - UGA, Université Grenoble Alpes, 38 000 Grenoble, France

This communication proposes to present results from MobiCLIMEx french project : « Residential and routine mobility dynamics and weather extremes under changing climate ». This project addresses the question of human exposure to flash floods associated to storms in the Mediterranean area (ANR 2012-2016). This project proposes a framework and methods to integrate environmental and social dynamics in scenarios at 50 past years and to test them on a particular area prone to extreme meteorological events in South of France (the Gard Department). The main objective is to understand the evolution of human exposure to heavy precipitation and flash floods. Exposure is studied at two different spatial and temporal scales : (i) the daily exposure during an event, which depends on the way people adapt their usual activities to the flood and in particular their mobility and (ii) the residential exposure at decadal and regional scales resulting from social, political, demographical, economical and environmental forcing (Black, Adger et al. 2011). Exposure also depends on the interaction between these two scales. Choices of residential settlements indeed induce individual daily organization and movements. Objectives of the project are to point out the dynamics of the residential mobility (quantitative analysis) and the motivations of the residential mobility (qualitative analysis).

What is the socio-economical profile of the residents in these risk-prone areas ? How is the risk perceived ? How is the risk taken in consideration by the residents? What are the links between the residents, the notary public and estate agencies ? Do residents put in place vulnerability reduction measures in their home ? On the basis of the method I proposed during my PhD thesis on flood risk culture (Durand, 2014), I contribute to this projet by providing a sociological investigation associated with urbanization dynamics. This poster presents first results of analysis which aims at understanding how inhabitants take in account flood risk in their residential practices.

Cited references :

Black, R., W. N. Adger, et al. (2011). « The effect of environmental change on human migration. » *Global Environmental Change* 21, Supplement 1(0): S3-S11.

Durand, S. (2014) « Vivre avec la possibilité d'une inondation ? Ethnographie de l'habiter en milieu exposé... et prisé » (*i.e. Living with a constant flood risk ? Ethnographic work in a popular neighborhood in the South of France*), PhD thesis, Aix-Marseille Université, France.

¹ Corresponding author: severine.durand07@gmail.com