

Participatory development of Shared Socioeconomic Pathways for the agri-food system from continental to national scales

Katrin Karner, Hermine Mitter, Martin Schönhart

Strategic decision making in politics and industry and its ex-ante assessment, e.g. with integrated modelling frameworks, require assumptions on uncertain future socio-economic framework conditions. Scenarios allow to consider such uncertainties and help to describe a spectrum of plausible developments in a transparent way. The Shared Socio-economic Pathways (SSPs) have been developed by the international climate modelling community to support ex-ante studies. However, they are too coarse to be of immediate value for sectoral studies and studies at continental to local scales. INWE led a collaborative initiative to develop the Shared Socioeconomic Pathways for European Agriculture and Food Systems (Eur-Agri-SSPs) to overcome this gap. The Eur-Agri-SSPs qualitatively describe pathways along future challenges for climate change mitigation and adaptation. However, national integrated land use assessments require even further downscaling and refining. Hence, we proceed with developing Austrian AT-Agri-SSPs.

In our presentation, we want to share the final results on Eur-Agri-SSPs and present the process and first findings on the AT-Agri-SSPs. Furthermore, we will highlight two European initiatives that adopt the Eur-Agri-SSPs for sectoral (legumes system) and production resource specific (soil) purposes.