

## Description

The title of the 3<sup>rd</sup> summer school is ***Methods and tools for environmental appraisal and policy formulation***. It will take place between May 26 – June 6 2008 and is organized by Paula Antunes, [Foundation of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology, New University Lisbon](#), Portugal.

The 3rd THEMES Summer School will be organized as a combination of theoretical lectures and hands-on exercises and debates. It will be organized in close cooperation with the Knowledge Assessment Methodologies Sector, European Commission Joint Research Centre (Ispra) and the Department of Economics at the Universidad de La Laguna (Tenerife, Spain).

The summer school is based on the observation that environmental policy-making is bounded by the complexity and multiple dimensions of environmental problems, which calls for the development of integrated, transdisciplinary and participatory methods and tools. In dealing with the complexity of environmental phenomena, new research streams have arisen focusing on participatory approaches whereby conflicts are ameliorated and the multiple perspectives and values of the implicated actors are integrated in the co-production of knowledge supportive of environmental appraisal and policy formulation processes.

Topics to be addressed in the school focus on:

- a) Preferences, values and beliefs;
- b) Principles and concepts for participation and deliberation;
- c) Tools for public and stakeholder participation in environmental decision making;
- d) Multicriteria evaluation – integrating different points of view, uncertainty, complexity;
- e) Appraisal methods as value articulating institutions;
- f) Science – society interfaces in policy formulation;