

# GLOSSARY

of terms used  
in CCC-CURA

Coastal communities challenges facing  
climate changes

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ALLIANCE DE RECHERCHE UNIVERSITÉS-COMMUNAUTÉS  
Défis des Communautés Côtières  
[www.defidescommunautescotieres.org](http://www.defidescommunautescotieres.org)



Social Sciences and Humanities  
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sciences humaines du Canada

Canada





## **Accompaniment of communities**

Accompagnement des communautés

A group of stakeholders in a community who work together to resolve an issue with the involvement of external people such as researchers or consultants.

## **Accountability**

Imputabilité

“The obligation to demonstrate and take responsibility for actions in light of agreed-upon commitments. Essential elements for accountability include: setting clear roles, responsibilities and objectives; involving stakeholders; and monitoring and efficient reporting on progress and achievements.”

*(Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment [CCME], 1998).*

## **Action plan**

Plan d’action

“A document that identifies the steps a group, community, organization or government intends to take over time (typically one to five years) to achieve an objective.”

*(Canadian Heritage, 2008)*

## **Adaptation**

Adaptation

“Adjustment in our activities in order to respond positively and sustainably to a change. This change can include climate, economy, etc. Our responses to change can be social, economic, behavioural, psychosocial, etc.”

*(Smit et al., 1999)*

## **Alliance**

Alliance

An association of individuals or groups (community, governmental, non-governmental, etc.) working together to advance a common interest or cause.

## **Anthropogenic effect**

Effets anthropiques

“Changes produced by human activities. In the context of climate change, the term usually refers to greenhouse gas emissions that result from human activities. “

*(Downie, 2009, 317)*

## **Anticipation**

Anticipation

Any action of considering, planning and preparing ourselves for an event. This event can be a storm (short term) or sea level rise (long term).

## **Auto-organization**

Auto-organisation

“System constituted of simple, independent, interactive, adaptive and evolutionary elements that allows the system to be organized without the use of external forces (such as new laws, need for consultants, etc.). “

*(University of Calabria, n.d.)*



## **Baseline data**

Données de base

“Any information or data that can help understand the initial status of a system being studied. A system can include socio-economic aspects of a community, environmental conditions a region, etc.”

*(Verbruggen, 2007)*

## **Beneficiaries**

Bénéficiaires

“Individuals or groups of individuals who experience a positive change due to a targeted program or an activity. Improvements can economic, social, political, environmental, or well-being.”

*(Earl et al., 2001, 44)*

## **Biodiversity**

Biodiversité

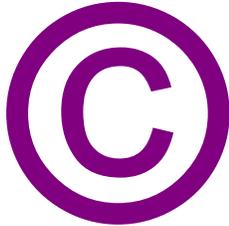
Variety of organisms in a given region. We can refer to organisms as individuals from a same species with different genetic makeup (genetic diversity), number of species (species diversity) or different communities of species (ecosystem diversity).

## **Boundary partner**

Partenaire limitrophe

“Boundary partners are those individuals, groups, or organizations with whom the program interacts directly and with whom the program can anticipate opportunities for influence on the broader social vision.”

*(Earl et al., 2001, 41)*



## **Capacity building**

Renforcement des capacités

“Improvement of the skills, knowledge and resources of an individual, organisation, public agency, etc. to respond to an issue.”

*(Kay & Alder 1999, 147)*

## **Carbon cycle**

Cycle du carbone

“Complex process through which carbon is cycled through the air, ground, oceans, plants and animals. At its most simplistic the process involves plants absorbing carbon dioxide from the air during photosynthesis. The plants then release the oxygen part of the CO<sub>2</sub> molecule back into the air, which is what we breathe.”

*(BC Forestry Climate Change Working Group [BC working Group], 2008).*

## **Climate**

Climat

“Generally defined as average weather conditions (temperature, precipitation, etc.) over a period of at least 30 years.”

*(Baede, 2007).*

## **Climate change**

Changement climatique

“Long-term fluctuations in temperature, precipitation, wind, and all other aspects of the Earth's climate.”

*(BC working Group, 2008).*

## **Climate model**

Modèle climatique

“Mathematical programs supported by computers that allow simulating climatic conditions and their changes in function of factors such as increased greenhouse gas emissions, etc.”

*(International City/County Management Association [ICMA], 2009, 4).*

## **Climate normals**

Normales climatiques

“Averaged data of the climate for a given place.”

*(Environment Canada, 2008).*

## **Coastal hazards**

Aléas côtiers

“Natural and man-made events (continual and periodic) that threaten the health of coastal ecosystems and communities. This definition includes, but is not limited to, hurricanes, , erosion, contaminant spills, pollution, etc.”

*(NOAA Coastal Services Center, n.d.)*

## **Coastal risk**

## Risques côtiers

“Coastal risk is the probability of social, economic and environmental damages occurring along in a coastal zone due to a hazard.”

*(UNESCO, 2006).*

## Coastal zone

### Zone côtière

“The interface between coastal waters and the adjacent land area. Coastal zones form a dynamic interface of land and water of high ecological diversity.”

*(Natural Resources Canada, 2007).*

## Co-construction

### Co-construction (courtage des connaissances)

“Individuals and groups collaborating to internalize knowledge in order to produce effective, positive and sustainable changes in their community or region. The changes are made through an interactive process between various actors such as researchers, consultants, governments, NGOs, etc.”

*(Hull & Saxon, 2009, 626).*

## Collaboration

### Collaboration

“Process in which individuals or groups work together in a project or activity and having common goals or interests.”

*(Keough & Blahna 2006, 1375).*

## Collaborators

### Collaborateurs

Individuals or groups working together in a project or activity and having common goals or interests.

## **Collective empowerment**

### Appropriation collective

“Strengthening and linking already existing networks in order to work towards a common goal or interest. Usually, this may facilitate the establishment of networks with greater power to act.”

*(International Land Coalition [ILC], 2005).*

## **Community (ecological)**

### Communauté (écologique)

“An assemblage of species interacting together in a specific habitat.”

*(Levin, 2009, 777).*

## **Community (society)**

### Communauté (social)

“Assemblage of people who have common interests or living in a common place. This place can be a territory, province, region, or even be virtual, according to the interests or connections between individuals.”

*(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).*

## **Community engagement**

### Engagement des communautés

“Establish or increase participation, communication and involvement of individuals in a community in a particular event, activity or project.”

*(Glenelg Hopkins, n.d.)*

## **Community of practice**

### Communauté de pratique

“Assemblage of people who share a concern or have a common interest and who work together on an ongoing basis to resolve this issue.”

*(Wenger et al., 2002, 3)*

## Conservation

### Conservation

“Any action to promote or help manage the protection of a component of an ecosystem. This can include, but not limited to, the conservation of water, biodiversity or a specific species.”

*(Levin, 2009, 777).*

## Consultation

### Consultation

“A process of active communication and exchange between diverse groups designed to develop a better understanding of issues and problems to work towards the development of solutions and recommendations potential acceptable to all.”

*(CCME, 1998).*

## Context

### Contexte

The variables (e.g. surroundings, circumstances, environment, demography, etc.) crucial to understanding and interpreting a concept.

## Cooperation

### Coopération

Process in which individuals or organizations connected to work together for a common benefit.

Inspired from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/cooperation>

## Co-production

### Co-production

“Process in which solutions or actions are created by a group working together in its definition and implementation.”

*(Brudney, 1983).*

## **Co-researcher**

Cochercheur

“A participant (individual, organization, community group etc.) who actively collaborates with a researcher to better understand a subject.”

*(Elfers, 2009).*

## **CURA (Community University Research Alliance)**

ARUC (Alliance de Recherche Communauté-Université)

“An alliance founded on an equal partnership between organizations from the community and postsecondary institutions which provide co-ordination and core support for planning and carrying out diversified research centring on areas of mutual importance to the partners. Each CURA contains three components: research, education and training, as well as knowledge-mobilization.”

*(Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2010).*

## **CCC-CURA**

ARUC-DCC

Coastal Communities Challenges- Community University Research Alliance

This CURA – Challenges of Coastal Communities of the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence at a time of climate change – includes nine community partners and 22 researchers from universities in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario.



## Database

Base de données

An organized integrated collection of qualitative and/or quantitative data or information.

## Decision making

Prise de décision

“The process of making a selective judgment and select a direction for action when presented with several alternatives.”

*Decision Making. (n.d.) In Lexic.U.S. Retrieved from [http://www.lexic.us/definition-of/decision\\_making](http://www.lexic.us/definition-of/decision_making)*

## Dialogue

Dialogue

An exchange of ideas, opinions, and knowledge between two or more persons, groups or organizations.

*Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/netdict/dialogue>*

## Discharge

Déversement

Accidental or intentional release in the environment of a chemical (usually a pollutant) that can have risks on ecosystem health (including human health). The

pollutant can be dispersed into the water, air or soil, rapidly or slowly, in a continuous or in a point in time.



## **Ecological footprint**

Empreinte écologique

“Calcul based on a tool that assesses the consumption of natural resources by individuals, groups, industry or a community and the relative space it takes when compared to the finite resources that exist in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. It helps measure sustainability.”

*(Environment Canada, 2010).*

*(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).*

## **Traditional Ecological knowledge**

Savoir écologique traditionnel

“Traditional ecological knowledge is within traditional knowledge focuses more on a local culture’s conceptualization and interactions with their biotic and abiotic environment. It encompasses awareness of natural histories associated with local wildlife to cultural norms for land management and resource allocation including conservation and enhancement natural resources.”

*(Becker & Ghimire, 2003, 1).*

## **Ecosystem**

Écosystème

“A system of living organisms including humans interacting with each other and their physical environment. The extent of an ecosystem may range from very small spatial scales to the entire Earth.”

*(Baede, 2007).*

## **Ecosystem management**

Gestion des écosystèmes

“Series of planning, decisions and actions that are taken in order to maintain, protect or restore functions and services provided by an ecosystem. The general goal is to maintain the sustainability, health or ecological integrity of the system.”

*(Grumbine, 1994).*

## **Effect**

Effet

An outward sign, or evidence of, an event or decision.

Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/netdict/effect>

## **Emergency plan**

Plan d’urgence

“A document describing the organizational structures, roles and responsibilities, means and principles for intervention during an emergency. Emergency plans are prepared at several different levels: national, provincial, and local. They may include all activities planned to be carried out by all relevant organizations and authorities, or may be primarily concerned with the actions to be carried out by a particular organization. They should include such elements as emergency functions of government agencies, mobilization of resources, and public information.”

*(San Diego State University, 2007).*

*(Nuclear Installation Safety Net, n.d.)*

## **Empowerment**

Responsabilisation ou appropriation.

“The process of increasing the capacity of individuals or groups to make choices and to transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes. This includes the increased ability to participate, influence and hold institutions accountable.”

*(The World Bank, 2010).*

## **Environment**

### **Environnement**

“The air, water, soil, organisms, and all other external factors surrounding and affecting a given organism at any time. It can also represent the space in which people live or interact.”

*(Downie, 2009, 317).*

## **Environmental audit**

### **Suivi environnemental**

“A management tool that allows the continuous or periodical evaluation of the conditions of the components being studied or under management. The tool allows to systematically document how well a project, organisation or equipment is performing with the aim of safeguarding the environment. It should facilitate compliance with regulatory requirements.”

*(European Commission Environment, 2010).*

## **Environmental changes**

### **Changements environnementaux**

“Changes in any component of the air, water, soil or organisms that affect the functions, services or the health of an ecosystem. Environmental changes can be local or global, rapid or slow, predicted (eg: climate change) or not (eg: asteroids).”

*(Huggett, 1997, 30).*

## **Environmental education**

### **Éducation environnementale**

“Any actions, training or communication that increase the capacity, knowledge or awareness of learners regarding the environment (in particular the relationship

between humans and the natural world). Usually it helps promote new skills, attitudes and motivations to enable learners to make informed decisions and take responsible environmental action. The ultimate goal or outcome of environmental education is the creation of environmentally literate citizens.”

*(Canadian Environmental Grant Makers’ Network, 2006, 2).*

## **Environmental impact assessment**

### **Évaluation des impacts environnementaux**

“Process used to identify and if possible predict the effects of a proposed project on the environment (physical, biological including human populations) before it is carried out. The effects can be spatial, temporal or cumulative. The goal is to also determine how to mitigate those impacts. This process is usually legislated and require for promoters / development of the proposed project to apply for a licence, approval or other permission before the project can go ahead.”

*(Environmental Law Centre, n.d.).*

*(Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, 2010).*

## **Environmental impacts**

### **Impacts environnementaux**

“Any change, positive or negative, to land, ecosystems, and human health as a result of an action. For example, an engineering proposal recommends the construction of a highway : the environmental impacts of this action could include erosion and deposition-sedimentation.”

*(Leopold et al., 1974, 299).*

## **Environmental indicators**

### **Indicateurs environnementaux**

“Measures that are representative of the state or condition of environmental components. It usually represents of a large component of an ecosystem (including human activities). Indicators are used to monitor or evaluate the change of something over time.”

*(Environment Canada, 2010).*

## **Environmental law**

## Droit environnemental

Field of law comprising laws designed to protect the natural environment. Environmental law is a shared jurisdiction in Canada between the Federal and Provincial governments, thus necessitating integrated action.

Inspired from <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1ARTA0002628>

## Environmental monitoring

### Suivi environnemental

“Repeated measures of the state of the environment, usually using environmental indicators. It allows assessing the direction of changes in the environment and to provide data for planning and decision making process in environment management.”

*(Global Development Research Center, n.d.)*

## Environmental prevention

### Prevention environnementale

“The use of processes, practices, materials, products, substances or energy that avoids, minimizes or reduces overall risk to the environment or human health.”

*(Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, 2006, 10).*

## Environmental protection

### Protection environnementale

“Any processes, practices, materials, products, substances or energy that maintains or restores the quality of the environment including air, water, soil or organisms (including humans).”

*(OECD, 2003).*

## Erosion

### Érosion

“Phenomenon resulting from the action of water or wind that results in the removal of the top layer of soil from the land.”

(Ministry of Agriculture, food and Rural Affairs, 2003).



## **Field**

Champ ou discipline

Specific topic or subject that is being studied by researchers.

## **Field partner**

Partenaire de terrain

Representatives of the communities chosen for the longitudinal project and having signed the code of conduct of the CCC-CURA.

## **Flooding**

Inondation

“A general and temporary condition of partial or complete submersion of normally dry land area from an overflow of inland or tidal waters; an unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source; a mudflow; or a collapse of land along the shore of a lake or similar body of water as a result of erosion exceeding anticipated cyclical levels.”

(FEMA, n.d., 1).

## **Fossil fuel**

Carburant fossile

“Fossil fuels are hydrocarbons, primarily coal, oil or natural gas, formed from the remains of fossilized ancient plants and animals and used to produce energy for human consumption (e.g. transportation, electricity, etc.).”

*(Science Daily, n.d.).*



## **Geographic information system**

Système d'information géographique

“A computerized system of capturing, storing, integrating, analyzing and displaying data in a geographical space. Data can be visualized as a point, line or a space and through modelling, demonstrate variation over time.”

*(Geographic Information System, n.d.)*

*(DFO, n.d., 53)*

## **Govern**

Gouverner

To exercise continuous sovereign authority or to control, direct, or strongly influence the actions and conduct of persons in a community.

Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com>

## **Governance**

Gouvernance

“The process of regulating behaviour or coordination action between the actors in accordance with shared objectives, missions or interests. It recognizes the contributions of various levels of government (global, international, regional, local) and the roles of the private sector, non-governmental actors and civil society to a situation.”

*(Verbruggen, 2007).*

*(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).*

## **Government**

### Gouvernement

The organization or agency through which a political unit exercises authority and performs functions. Government is a combination of political institutions, laws, and customs through which the function of governing is carried out.

*Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>*

## **Gulf (southern and northern) of St Lawrence**

### Golfe (sud et nord) du Saint-Laurent

“The Gulf of St. Lawrence is similar to an inland sea with a distinct ecosystem. It is characterized by partial isolation from the North Atlantic, freshwater runoff from the land, and high biological productivity and diversity. It is surrounded by five provinces of which populations are composed of Anglophones and Francophones and many First Nations, which create a wide array of culturally and socially distinct settlements.”

*(Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2010).*



## Harmonization

### Harmonisation

“Cooperative process of enhancing environmental protection and promoting sustainable development with greater effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability through the use of consistent environmental measures in all jurisdictions, thus addressing gaps and weaknesses in environmental management, and finally preventing overlapping activities and inter-jurisdictional disputes.”

*(CCME, 1998b).*

## Human capital

### Capital humain

The set of skills (acquired through training, experience, and/or education) or human resources that are available and on which the economy is based and valued on the marketplace.

*Inspired from <http://www.investorwords.com/> and Becker, 2002*



## Impact

### Impact

To have an effect on something. The effect can be positive or negative, immediate or over time. Impacts can be identified and are measurable.

*Inspired from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com>*

## Indicator

Indicateur

“Information or measures that are representative of the state, condition, characteristic, or property of a system and are used to evaluate its change over time.”

*(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).*

## Input

Intrants / apports

“Resources (human, capital, material or financial) needed and used to initiate a project or to act.”

*(Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, 2009).*

## Institution

Institution

Complex of norms and behaviours that persists over time by serving some socially valued purpose. For example, post secondary institutions are places where the main goal is education with set principles such as academic freedom, integrity, ethics, etc.

## Insular

Insulaire

Two meanings: A community or ecosystem characteristic or living on a island or being isolated or; a community that is concerned only with local matters or one that remains physically or emotionally removed from others.

*Inspired from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com>*

## Integrated coastal zone management

Gestion intégrée de la zone côtière

“A continuous and dynamic process that unites government and the community, science and management, sectoral and public interests and perspectives in

preparing and implementing an integrated plan for the protection and development of coastal ecosystems and resources.”

*(Bastien-Daigle, et al., 2008, 97).*

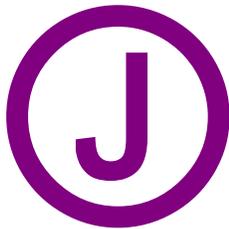
*(Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).*

## Interdisciplinarity

### Interdisciplinarité

“Research, study or activity that efficiently integrates concepts from different disciplines (such as physical, social, biological, health, and engineering sciences) and leads to a better synthesized or co-ordinated understanding of the global system.”

*(National Academy of Sciences, 2010).*



## Jurisdiction

### Jurisdiction

“The authority of a sovereign power to govern, interpret or legislate a specific case or situation within a geographical territory.”

*Jurisdiction. (n.d.) In Merriam-Webster Online. Retrieved from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/jurisdiction>*



## Knowledge transfer

Transfert de connaissances

“Process of sharing timely, useful, information, expertise, skills or evidence-based research findings for mutual learning. Transfers can be written or oral.”

*(Institute for Work and Health, n.d.).*

*(Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, n.d.).*

## Kyoto protocol

Protocole de Kyoto

“International agreement originating from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and that sets binding targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by five per cent against 1990 levels over the five-year period 2008-2012.”

*(United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC], n.d.).*



## Landscape

### Paysage

“Set of ecosystem components that are highly integrated and forms the functional characteristics of an area.”

*(Levin, 2009, 784).*

## Leadership

### Leadership

“Process whereby an individual, group or community influences a group or the direction of a group or individuals to achieve a common goal.”

*(Northouse, 2000, 3).*

## Life cycle assessment

### Évaluation du cycle de vie

“Tool that evaluates and measure the environmental impacts of a product, its functioning, process or service from design to disposal, i.e. across its entire lifecycle, in terms of inputs and outputs of material, energy and waste flows associated with a product over its entire life cycle.”

*(Royal Society of Chemistry, 2010).*

## Littoral

### Littoral

“Any element that is related to the shore of a water body (e.g. ocean, sea, etc.).”

*(Ricklefs & Miller, 2000, 734).*

## **Local development**

### **Développement local**

“Process by which a community, locality or municipality works together to change and improve its living, economic or environmental conditions.”

*(Centre for International Studies and Cooperation, n.d.)*

## **Local institution**

### **Institution locale**

“Institution that provide a basis for collective action, building consensus and undertaking coordination responsibilities at the community or group level. Such institution can be the local chapters of the Rotary or other organizations. These organizations focus on the needs and /or interests of the local area.”

*(Uphoff, n.d.)*

## **Local knowledge**

### **Savoir local**

“Cumulative and complex bodies of knowledge, skill, and practices that are maintained and developed by people with extended histories of issues at the local level.”

*(United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 2003).*



## Marine resources

### Ressources marines

“Features of the aquatic ecosystem, including organisms or parts thereof, populations, minerals etc. with actual or potential value for humanity.”

*(Fisheries Resources Monitoring System, n.d.).*

## Mission

### Mission

“A pre-established and self imposed task or objective that a person or group has been charged to accomplish.”

Concerning a development program: “An ideal description of how the program intends to support the achievement of the vision. It states with whom the program will work and the areas in which it will work, but does not list all the activities in.”

Retrieved from <http://mw1.meriam-webster.com>

*Outcome Mapping: Building Learning and Reflection into Development Programs Author: S Earl et al.*

## Mitigation

### Atténuation

“Human actions, such as programs and strategies that directly address the reduction, avoidance or limitation of the causes of an impact on the environment including humans.”

*International City/County Management Association. (2009). Adapting to Climate Change: Strategies for Local Government. IQ Report 41(1) 1-18.*

## Modeling

### Modélisation

“Mathematical equations and computer simulations that help understand complex systems. Models can help also predict changes in a system over time or in function of given decisions or planning process.”

*(University of Skovde, 2009).*

## Multicriteria model

### Modèle multicritère

“Tool that enables the use of multiple criteria or components of a system, allowing comparison and prioritization for a better decision support.”

*(Balkema et al., 2000).*

## Multiscale model

### Modèle multiscalaire

“The coupling together of different levels of description because each individual theoretical framework is inadequate on its own. Multiscale modelling is highly interdisciplinary in nature.”

*(Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, n.d.).*

*(Doi, n.d.)*



## Natural capital

### Capital naturel

“The set of environmental resources (such as the land, air, water, living organisms etc.) including the flows of ecological services, that exist in a region at a given point in time and on which the economy is often based and valued on the marketplace.”

*(Kennedy & Wilson, 2009).*

## Natural resources

### Ressources naturelles

“Features of the environment utilized by humans in their natural state, through activities such as forestry, fishing, and mining.”

*(Levin, 2009, 786).*

## Negotiation

### Négociation

“A process designed to reach an agreement that can be mutually agreed upon by the involved parties. Negotiations can be oral or written, in person or virtual and set as a dialogue or arbitration.”

*(Fisher & Ury, 1991).*

## Network

### Réseau

A large and widely distributed group of people or groups such as governments, community groups, universities, and individuals that communicate with one another and work together as a unit with common interests or goals.

Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com>



## Output

Sortie

“Short term direct products or results of a project.”

*(Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, 2009).*



## Participation

Participation

The state of being related to a larger whole and taking part in an event or activity with that body.

Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com>

## Participatory action research

## Recherche action participative

“Type of research approach in which researchers are working with local communities or groups or organizations in order to empower them in their actions or decisions through knowledge sharing and actions.”

*(International Institute for Sustainable Development, n.d.).*

## Participatory assessment

### Évaluation participative

“Opportunity for the stakeholders of a project to contribute to a bottom-up governance approach to evaluate a specific condition. It can help determine what activities are needed and can be supported; whether insiders accept the activities proposed by outsiders and; whether the activities are reasonable and practical.”

*(Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1990).*

## Partner

### Partenaire

Individuals or organizations who are involved together and collaborate in an activity or association and have similar goals or interests.

## Partner in practice

### Partenaire de pratique

Partner from a community group who signed the code of conduct of the CCC-CURA.

## Performance indicators

### Indicateurs de performance

Information or measures that are representative of the state, condition, characteristic, or property of a project and can be used to evaluate its progress or performance over time.

## Planning

### Planification

“Process in which policies, procedures or actions are established to achieve a goal or complete a project.”

*(Steiner, 2002, ix).*

## **Politics**

Politiques

Sets of relations and procedures between people living in a group, organization, community or society and generally established in a government to direct its state of affairs.

Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com>

## **Pollutant**

Polluant

Substance having a unpleasant or negative effect, coming from natural, industrial, residential or agricultural sources and which can be found in the air, soil, water or organisms.

## **Pollution**

Pollution

Discharge or release of a toxic chemical into water, soil or air which can have negative impacts on the environment or human health.

## **Precautionary principle**

Principe de précaution

Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development stating that care should be taken to avoid or reduce as much as possible the threats of damage or risks to ecosystem (including humans) thus preventing environmental degradation through a proactive process and postponing actions if there is limited or a lack of full scientific certainty.

*(United Nations Environment Programme, 1992).*

## Process

Processus

A series of actions by an individual or group which seeks to achieve an end.

## Progress monitoring or reporting

Processus de suivi ou de rendement

“The ongoing process of collecting and analyzing data to make decisions about the adequacy of project status toward a goal. This is done based on an assessment of a project’s effectiveness and possible adaptations if the project is not functioning satisfactorily. Environmental monitoring programs have key objectives of: defining problems and their solutions; reporting on the effectiveness of control actions; and in identifying new issues.”

*(Buffalo State University, n.d.).*

*(Brydges, 2001, 89).*

## Project

Projet

A specific and planned undertaking usually by an organization, government or community.

*Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com>*

## Projection and scenario

Projection et scénario

Projection is a calculation or planning of some future thing based on series of events or historical data. Includes the when, where, what, who and why. Scenario is an account or synopsis of a possible course of action or events, usually defined by climate or other type of modelling.

*Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com> and <http://dictionary.reference.com>*

## Public consultation

Consultation publique

“A process of active and open communication and exchange between diverse individuals or groups which have a range of views and concerns and designed to develop a better understanding of issues and problems while informing decision-making and helping build consensus to work towards the development of solutions and recommendations potential acceptable to all participants.”

*(The World Bank, 2010).*

## Public institution

Institution publique

Complex of norms and behaviours that persists over time by serving some socially valued purpose, with activities being primarily publically funded and serve a public or community good and usually form an organization. For example, post secondary institutions are public institutions and should be accessible to all the public.

Inspired from <http://www.thefreedictionary.com>

## Public policy

Politiques publiques

“A system of laws, regulatory measures, courses of action, and funding priorities concerning a given issue generated by a governmental entity or its representatives. The public policy making process involves conceptualizing problems, formulating alternatives, selecting solutions, and implementing, evaluating and revising those selections.”

*(Sabatier, 3; Kilpatrick, 2000).*



## Qualitative method

### Méthode qualitative

“Approach to research or a study in which data collected are non-numerical and can include observations, interviews, focus groups, etc. to examine issues such as patterns of change, relationships between elements. Its strength is on its ability to provide complex descriptions of how people experience a given research issue.”

*(Casebeer & Verhoef, 1997).*

*(Mack et al., 2010).*

## Quantitative method

### Méthode quantitative

“Approach to research or a study in which data collected are numerical in nature and can include measurements, numbering, recording, probabilities, etc. to examine issues such as patterns of change, relationships between elements. The advantage of quantitative method is its allowance for a meaningful comparison of responses across participants and study sites in an objective manner.”

*(Casebeer & Verhoef, 1997).*



## Regional development

### Développement régional

Process by which a region (defined from small communities to large areas) works together to change and improve its living, economic or environmental conditions and thus improving the well-being of people.

*Retrieved from <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com>*

## **Renewable energy**

Énergie renouvelable

“Resources capable of regenerating themselves within a relatively short time frame through natural processes. For example, wind or solar energy and hydropower.”

*(Levin, 2009, 789)*

## **Representation**

Représentation

“An individual or group that speaks, acts, or is representing another person, group, or organization, sometime being unable to attend or get a representation.”

*Retrieved from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com>*

## **Resilience**

Résilience

“The ability of a social or ecological system to absorb disturbances while retaining the same basic structure and ways of functioning, the capacity for self-organisation, and the capacity to adapt to stress and change.”

*(IPCC, 2007)*

## **Restoration**

Restauration

“The process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.”

*(Levin, 2009, 789).*

## **Retreat**

Retrait

The movement away from a commitment or activity, specifically to avoid something hazardous or unpleasant. In climate change adaptation it is used to mean removing

human settlements or infrastructure from at risk areas as a way to adapt by decreasing vulnerability.

## **Risk assessment**

Evaluation des risques

“Process used to identify and if possible predict the risks that a proposed project could have on the environment (physical, biological, socio-economic or cultural) before it is carried out. The risks can be spatial, temporal or cumulative. The goal is to also determine how to mitigate i.e. reduce or avoid these risks.”

*(The Edinburgh Centre for Toxicology, 1999).*



## **Scientific knowledge**

Savoir scientifique

Cumulative and complex bodies of knowledge, skill, and practices that are coming from sciences, i.e. in the form of hypotheses, theories, principles, models or laws that have been conclusively drawn from observed or verifiable facts or from experimental findings.

*Inspired from <http://www.biology-online.org/dictionary>*

## **Sea level rise**

Hausse du niveau marin

“An increase in the mean level of the ocean either from climate change and melting of glaciers or polar ices and water temperatures and salinity changes or, from the

subsidence of terrestrial mass due to the rebound of glaciations.”

*(Baede, 2007).*

## **Social capital**

### Capital social

“The set of social organization such as networks, norms, and social trust that facilitates coordination and cooperation for mutual benefit and exists in a region at a given point in time and on which the economy is often based and valued on the marketplace.”

*(Putnam, 1995, p. 67).*

## **Social perception**

### Représentation sociale

The perceiving of attributes, characteristics, and behaviours of individuals or groups which can serve as an adaptive function to guide functional behaviour.

*Social Perception. (n.d.) In Lexic.US. Inspired from <http://www.lexic.us> and McArthur, et al., 1983*

## **Socio-ecological system**

### Système socio-écologique

“An ecological system and a linked social system of resource users and their governance arrangement, if present.”

*(Levin, 2009, 790).*

## **Socio-economic assessment**

### Evaluation socio-économique

“The systematic analysis used to identify and evaluate the potential socio-economic and cultural impacts of a proposed development on the lives and circumstances of people, their families and their communities.”

*(Mackenzie Valley Review Board, n.d.).*

## **St. Lawrence Estuary**

## Estuaire du Saint-Laurent

“The world's largest estuary where the outlet originates from the Great Lakes (Ontario) and discharges into the Atlantic Ocean. It is a partly enclosed coastal body of water with a part being freshwater and changing to seawater in the region of Quebec City and, covering an area of about 236,000 km<sup>2</sup> and containing 35,000 km<sup>3</sup> of water.”

*(Environment Canada, 2006).*

## Stakeholders

### Intervenants, acteurs

“All individuals or organisations that have a genuine interest in a project, or would be affected by a particular action or policy.”

*(Baede, 2007).*

## Statistics

### Statistiques

“The study and analysis of quantitative data that can help evaluate a status or calculate probabilities regarding an event or an issue.”

*(Ricklefs, 2000, 743).*

## Steering committee

### Comité de direction

Group of people who are responsible of the management and decision making regarding a project and who will set agendas and schedules of business, as for a larger body or other assemblage.

## Storm surge

### Onde de tempête

“The temporary increase, at a particular locality, in the height of the sea due to extreme meteorological conditions and which can be influenced by lunar activities.”

*(Baede, 2007).*

## Strategy

### Stratégie

A carefully devised plan of action to achieve a goal, or the art of devising or employing such a plan.

Inspired from <http://www.merriam-webster.com>

## Subsidence

### Subsidence

“The sudden collapse or slow sinking down of land resulting from natural shifts or human activity.”

America’s Wetland Campaign to Save coastal Louisiana. Glossary. Retrieved from [http://www.americaswetlandresources.com/background\\_facts/glossary/index.html](http://www.americaswetlandresources.com/background_facts/glossary/index.html)

## Summer institute

### Institute d’été

“Workshops and seminars designed to train, improve knowledge or encourage the free exchange of ideas and experiences and explore topics in higher education and research. Usually these institutes are organized in the summer and are very concentrated in time (one to three week training).”

(American Association of University Professors, n.d.)

## Sustainability

### Viabilité

“The capacity for current and future generations to maintain their livelihoods, not only in terms of economic conditions but also socio-cultural and environmental conditions.”

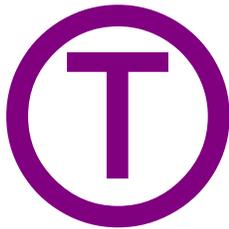
(Vasseur 2010).

## Sustainable development

### Développement durable

UN Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development Our Common Future as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (1987, p. 54).

*(World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987).*



## **Teledetection / aerial photos**

Téledétection-photos aériennes

“A photograph taken from an aircraft or satellite in flight.”

Aerial photographs have many practical uses, such as map compilation, planning, environmental impact assessments etc.

*(Natural Resources Canada, 2010).*

Retrieved from <http://dictionary.reference.com>

## **Territorial community**

Communauté territoriale

“Group of individuals living in a common geographical area and who have a common history and shared values, participate together in various activities, and have a high degree of cohesion.”

*(Phillips, 1993, 14).*

## **Territorial development**

Développement territorial

“Process by which people from a territory (such as metropolitan area, urban center, region, province, municipality, etc.) work together to change and improve their living, economic or environmental conditions through a sense of greater identity.”

*(Centro Boliviano de Estudios Multidisciplinarios, n.d.)*

## Tools

### Outils

An instrument that enables some act or project to be accomplished.

## Traditional knowledge

### Savoir traditionnel

Cumulative and complex bodies of knowledge, skill, and practices (often intertwined with culture, values and spirituality) that are maintained and developed by people and that are transferred (often orally) from generations to generations.

## Transdisciplinarity

### Transdisciplinarité

“Research, study or activity that efficiently melts concepts from different disciplines (such as physical, social, biological, health, and engineering sciences) requiring the negation of the boundaries between academic disciplines and has for goal of understanding the present world, with a unity of knowledge.”

*(Nicolescu, 2007)*

## UNFCCC

### CCNUCC

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Adopted in 1992 as the basis for a global response to the climate change problem, the UNFCCC sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change.

*(UNFCCC, 2009).*



## Usage conflict

Conflit d'usage

A disagreement over the allocation and consumption of resources in a particular area or region.



## Values mapping

Cartographie des valeurs

“Definition of people’ attitudes and beliefs about how to achieve organizational success or effective performance to achieve their needs. It integrates and represents the most useful performance measures and can help to overcome member disenfranchisement.”

*(Dana Engineering, Inc., n.d.).*

*(Jack, n.d.).*

## Vision

### Vision

“A description of the large-scale development changes (economic, political, social, or environmental) to which the program hopes to contribute.”

*(Earl et al., 2001)*

## Vulnerability

### Vulnérabilité

“Probability or degree to which a system is susceptible to, and unable to cope with, adverse effects of a change. It can be climate change, including climate variability and extremes, economic downturn, recession, labour dispute, etc.”

*(Baede, 2007).*



## Water management

### Gestion de l'eau

“Series of planning, decisions and actions that are taken in order to maintain, protect or restore functions and services provided by water resources. The general goal is to maintain the sustainability, health or ecological integrity of the aquatic system.”

*(CCME, 2002).*

## Watershed

## Bassin versant

“A region of land within which water flows down into a specified body, such as a river, lake, sea, or ocean.”

*Environment Canada*

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