Framing Extreme Event Attribution from the Bottom up

An Enquiry into the Social Representations of Stakeholders, of the Press and of Climate Scientists.

Jean-Paul Vander Linden 1, 3, *, Insa Meinke 2, Nathalia Capellini 3, Maria Schwab 3, Yorghos Remvikos 3, Dennis Bray 3, Chantal Pacteau 3, Marcus Reckermann 2 and Hans Von Storch 2

1. Risk theories

Risk Governance: It was found that extreme event attribution as a new tool within a climate risk governance framework can be utilized to identify risks and formulate strategies.

Risk Perception: Risk perception is influenced by the existence of evidence, normative and relevance claims. Extreme event attribution may influence these expressions of stakeholders' positioning on climate risks.

2. Material and methods

Dataset: Table 1: Summary corpuses description

3. Results:

“what is an extreme event?”, “what makes it extreme?”: This according to the corpuses that we analyzed

Within the context of climate risk, the concept of “extreme event” may take several meanings: is it the meteorological event that is extreme or is it the consequences? The judgement made on the “extremeness” dependent on the stakeholders’ interests, this may change through time.

“what is meant by attribution of extreme weather events?”, “what do we want to attribute?” according to the corpuses that we analyzed

The concept of attribution mobilizes the concept of causal chain. Which causal step does one want to attribute? The anthropogenic foraging, or the climate or the increased vulnerability to climate shocks, or both?

4. Conclusion

Need for a careful contextualization

How to set up processes where all structures potentially benefiting from an attribution exercise have access to the results?

How to set up processes where all structures potentially benefiting from an attribution exercise have access to the results?

Extreme event attributions may cater to high diversity of needs.