RETHINKING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE: A PROPOSED FRAMEWORK BASED ON ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

The concept of resilience has gained increasing interest in the economic literature. Because the hegemony of Economics in a range of decisions from territorial planning to climate adaptation, this study focused on: i) reviewing the way in which Economics is looking at the concept of resilience and ii) proposing a conceptual framework for economic resilience analysis, which relies on the concept of ecosystem services (ES). For the first objective, a search of the term *economic resilience* was conducted in Scopus, which returned 44 articles published between 1985 and 2013. The analysis showed that resilience was defined only in 47% of cases. Within this group, in 33% of cases resilience was defined as the capacity of bouncing back to previous production levels (resilience for what?), in response to economic shocks (resilience to what?), considering as unit of analysis a closed economic subsystem, at different spatial scales (resilience of what?). For the second objective, key elements from resilience and ES’s theories were combined. As to the *resilience to what* question, the framework recognizes the singularity of climate change (CC) as stressor, whose impacts are far more complex than those of a single, one-time, disturbance. The ES concept can serve as an integral indicator to measure the complex impacts of different pulses and pressures derived from CC. Regarding the *resilience of what* question, the framework proposes to look at the socioecological system (SES), as the space where ES provision and use takes place. As to the *resilience for what* question, the framework proposes: i) achieving, maintaining or increasing environmental integrity, measured as the capacity of the SES to provide a sustainable flow of valued ES bundles; ii) achieving, maintaining or increasing social justice, measured as the access and fair distribution of these ES bundles across population, minimizing social trade-offs and maximizing well-being. Thus, the resilience concept involves not only the capacity to return to the state that existed before the disturbance, but also the capacity to absorb the impact and change to another more desirable state. This research contributes to the debate of different adaptation paths, considering CC as an opportunity to shift from a development model based solely on economic growth to one led by the sustainable provision and fair access to ecosystem services, thus ensuring environmental integrity and social justice.