

**Elena Xoplaki** – *Ph.D., Research Professor, Justus-Liebig University, Giessen, Germany*

- Mediterranean regions are very important in terms of climate change
  - Extensive land-use changes
  - High biodiversity
  - Large population with high density
  - Strong dependence on financial activities due to weather and climate
  - Already experiencing early impacts of climate change
- Health risks hit Mediterranean areas hard
  - Water resource exploitation
  - Heat waves and high temperatures change distribution and patterns of infectious diseases and can trigger migration and conflict
- More southern countries have less financial flexibility to react quickly to climate change issues

**Jack Sahl** – *Ph.D., Director, Environment and Resource Sustainability, Southern California Edison*

- We must use energy that is appropriate to its use
- The water embedded in generation/production and agriculture, and the energy embedded in water has to be a priority
- Pricing is the strongest way to motivate people to change energy use
- Key is connecting people to what the problem is (knowledge and education)
- Need to account for the cost of environmental impacts (prioritized on the local, regional, and national level and in the context of now, soon, later)
- Need to internalize costs (cap and trade)
- Need to distinguish between price and cost
- Resource scarcity is tied to a lack of fairness worldwide
- Our energy solutions need to reflect the diversity of viewpoints in the population
- Climate is a trans-generational issue so the value is put on the next generation

**Prudencio Perera** – *Former Director, European Commission, Directorate-General for the Environment*

- Cost/effectiveness analysis rather than cost/benefit analysis
  - There is a time cycle that does not fit with our lives or with our political cycles
  - Cost effectiveness will optimize costs
- Adaptation and mitigation need to be merged
  - Engender support by showing tangible effects close to home, make it personal
  - Communication and coordination are vital (internet is a key aspect of this)
- If projects are not considering climate change modifications they shouldn't be financed

## **Discussion/Questions**

- **Jack:** There is no new money. We have to use our existing money more effectively. There is no more time. We have to prioritize.

- **Prudencio:** We need to identify the scope of the cycle, build on one problem, extend the scope, and go further and further. This is a process with no end.
- **Jack:** Mitigation suggests that we can fix climate change which isn't true. Adaptation is a hunkering down to prepare for impacts. We need to move beyond this and focus on communities. Our cities are not good enough. We would have had this conversation regardless of climate change.