

# Analysing the commission and constructing the problem statement

## Exercise

## INSTRUCTIONS

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### LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Know how to analyse a commission.

### PROCEDURE STEP-BY-STEP:

A two-week study was conducted in the *Causses Méridionaux* region of southern France in 2009 by researchers and students in a training programme (Sibelet *et al.*, 2010; Sibelet *et al.*, 2010a). The study was commissioned by the Centre Permanent d'Initiative pour l'Environnement (CPIE), an association managing three Natura 2000 sites on the *Causses*. The CPIE is composed of elected officials, agricultural and forestry socio-professionals, and nature conservation, environmental education, and hunting associations.

The study commission statement was as follows:

*"Since 1994, the CPIE has been conducting management and environmental education activities on the Causses Méridionaux territory. Often preoccupied with the pressing demands of management activities, usually related to administrative and financial mechanisms (Natura 2000, agri-environmental measures...), the director of CPIE would like to gain some perspective through this study by collecting the impressions of inhabitants and local actors regarding several points:*

- *the word agropastoralism. What meaning is given to this word used regularly now mostly by technicians? Is the notion of sylvopastoralism spontaneously included in this word?*
- *The place and function of rangelands (grass resources, land capital, landscape unit...?)*
- *The future of agropastoralism on the Causses Méridionaux territory.*

*The results of the study will allow reflection on information and awareness-raising campaigns and to plan, if needed, complementary management activities.*

#### 1) Analysis of the commission:

- a. Identify the polysemous terms.
- b. Comment on the validity of the questions asked (in terms of form and content).
- c. What clarification questions would you ask?

2) Prepare an interview with the commissioner of the study by formulating a dozen questions that you would like to ask her.

► **Bibliography cited:**

Sibelet, N., M. Mutel, M. Dulcire, and R. Peltier. 2010. Landscape evolution of Southern Causses: Perceptions of inhabitants and socioprofessional stakeholders. Study report Thematic school CIRAD/Agropolis-Fundation, October 2009: 'Formation to human sciences applied to agroforestry ' from the 5th to 17th of October 2009. Montpellier: CIRAD-ES, 25 p.

Sibelet, N., M. Mutel, M. Montzieux, and S. Nguyen Ba. 2010a. Allier attractivité et authenticité du territoire : un défi pour les Causses méridionaux. Etude menée du 5 au 17 octobre 2009. Montpellier: CIRAD, 50 p.