

Round table: What are the characteristic features of the methodological contribution of group members to MCDA?

Which MCDA characteristics have facilitated the group members in their interventions?

The **Multiple Criteria Decision Aid** methodology is an approach that connects the possibility of using **MC methods** with a specific way of acting on different **representations of a decision problem** with the **actors who are involved in the decision process**

MCDA in an individual interaction with the client,
or collectively (with DMs, actors, RK sources,...)

to face the main complexity elements of an ill structured problem (**multiple actors, conflictual points of view, limited knowledge of the situation, fragmented data from different sources**)

MCDA

✓ only one **language**, which creates a **communication space** and becomes a sort of “guideline” to overtake **conflictual situations**

✓ all kinds of **data** and an MC **method consistent** with their state, to limit descriptive, interpretative and communication constraints and to resolve/dissolve “very complex problems” (“intangibles”, “social metrics”, ...)

MCDA

- ✓ an easy and clear **integration with methods** (such as PSM, simulation, optimization or other MC methods)
- ✓ a non problematic **disaggregation** of the perceived problem and a multidimensional and consistent inquiry system, because there is the possibility of **aggregating** different points of view and problem dimensions, at the appropriate moment and by one of the MC methods
- ✓ a **learning process** that includes problem and model structuring, method application, result analysis and then:
 - ~ model validation and stabilization
 - ~ incremental modifications
 - ~ new interpretations and model restructuring moving from the action space to the criteria space and vice versa, without a substantial change of formalisms