

What type of water reservoirs do Czech citizens want and how much are they willing to pay for them?

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context & goal



context

- last 20 years: 6 major flooding and 3 major drought episodes
- Natural Water Accumulation Sites Master Plan (Ministry of Agriculture 2011) promulgated 65 sites for potential building of large dams
- these may be build if needed for water retention or flood protection in ca. 100 years horizon

goal

elicit acceptability and willingness to bear the costs of building these dams

survey design

2 variants of discrete choice experiment (DCE) on Master Plan implementation:

- 4 common attributes:
 - no. of dams (20-30-45-65-100-120),
 - dams for water retention (0-30-70-100% share),
 - dams for flood protection (100%-retention share),
 - monthly increase of household water bill (CZK 100-250-400-600-800)
- 2 additional attributes in DCE variant 1:
 - availability of recreational use of dams (0-30-70-100%),
 - hydropower generation (0-30-70-100%)
- 6 choices (in variant 1) or 4 choices (in variant 2) per respondent



choice card (DCE variant 1)





plán nových přehrad

současný stav

Kterou možnost považujete za nejlepší?

status quo voters

Most important reason for choosing status quo in all choices	variant 1	variant 2
1. Master Plan too expensive / My expenses already too high	3.5%	3.8%
 I doubt that: floods or droughts will cause more damage in future / my household is affected by floods or droughts / dams can protect us against damage 	1.3%	2.8%
3. I don't believe in the Master Plan or its implementation	1.5%	2.8%
4. I doubt that funds collected will not be used for building of dams	3.4%	4.1%
5. Proposed number of dams is too high / too low	2.0%	1.7%
6. I don't believe in the information provided	0.5%	0.4%
7. Other	1.0%	0.9%

answers sub 3. & 4. & 6. & 7. qualify as protesters

data & methods

data collection

- sample sizes: 1594 (variant 1) and 968 (variant 2) respondents (from internet panel w/ quotas)
- data cleaning "speeders" and "protesters" excluded (~12% of sample)

data analysis

- DCE data modelled with discrete choice model (panel probit with random effects)
- respondent's socio-economic as additional explanatory variables

results

probability of choosing Master Plan implementation is negatively correlated with number of dams in the Plan (*and with water bill increase for household*)



Variant 1 – predicted probability of choosing Master Plan by number of dams in Plan, share of electricity generation and monthly water bill increase



Results (cont'd)

- respondents <u>do not</u> have significantly <u>different preference for</u> <u>flood protection and for water retention use</u>
- <u>hydropower generation</u> use (*variant 1*) <u>increases probability</u> of choosing the Master Plan, while <u>recreational use decreases</u> this probability (and these effects are comparable in size)
- from various socio-economic characteristics only household income is consistently significant (positive) explanatory variable

Results (cont'd)

predicted willingness to pay

(CZK/month/household, 50% recreational use in Variant 1)

No. of dams in Master Plan	Variant 1				Variant 2
hydropower generation share	0 %	30 %	70 %	100 %	-
20	595 (*)	624 (*)	662 (*)	691 (*)	822
30					698
45					650
65	478 (*)	507 (*)	546 (*)	575 (*)	568
100					409
120	512	541	580	609	397

* no signif. difference in Master Plans with 20/30/45 and with 65/100 dams

Conclusions

- almost 60% of respondents have positive willingness to pay for (some version of) Master Plan as an CC adaptation measure
- willingness to pay is 15-20% higher if dams are equipped with hydropower stations (and similarly lower if recreational use is permitted..) → up to 40% gap between opposite variants 100% hydropower & 0% recreational use vs. 0% hydropower & 100% recreational use
- total willingness to pay over all Czech households for Master Plan with 65 dams → CZK 27 billion/yr. (€ 1 billion/yr. at exchange rate)

Thank you for your attention vojtech.maca@czp.cuni.cz