

## CLISP

# Climate Change Adaptation by Spatial Planning in the Alpine Space

Newsletter No.6 – March 2011

## CLISP Final Conference on 8th September 2011 at the Vienna International Center (Austria)



The forthcoming CLISP Final Conference, organized with the support of the Environment Agency Austria and the Italian Ministry of the Environment, will be hosted by UNEP Vienna ISCC at the Vienna International Centre on the 8th September 2011. During the event, the main outcomes of the Project and the Final Results Booklet will be presented. As a highlight of the Conference a high-level panel discussion will be held. High-level representatives including the Director of the IPCC, Ms. Renate Christ, have already confirmed their availability

to participate in the discussion to address actions towards climate-proof spatial development.

Media announcements will be released in cooperation with the United Nations Information Service (UNIS) and a Press Briefing held during the Conference.

For further details on the Conference, please check regularly the CLISP Website: in fact, in the light of the forthcoming CLISP Final Conference, the Website of CLISP ([www.clisp.eu](http://www.clisp.eu)) will soon be updated with new content material, including Conference documentation. As of the 22 May 2011, interested participants can register for the attendance of the Conference via the CLISP website.

*Read More:*

<http://www.clisp.eu/>

## CLISP Transnational Planning Strategy close to finalization

Among the CLISP project's outputs, to merge the results of the various Work packages and Model Regions' studies into the elaboration of a new climate-proof planning strategies. In order to do so, the above mentioned results are being comparatively analyzed, synthesized, re-evaluated and extended in order to produce recommendations and policy options at the transnational, national and model region levels for the enhancement of spatial planning and risk governance systems (such as, for instance, legal and institutional frameworks, instruments, procedures and their practical applications).

In this framework, the project's results will be thus spread to policy-makers and decision-makers on the European and Alpine Space level, as well as to the relevant identified target groups on the national and regional levels, with the aim of further stimulating practical implementation and pilot projects in the field of climate change adaptation by spatial planning.

This objective is being addressed by a range of actions, in particular by elaborating a transnational strategy for "climate proof" spatial planning in the Alpine Space and trying to tailor this transnational

strategy to the planning systems at the national and regional levels in the various Alpine countries aiming at stimulating the implementation of a “climate proof” spatial development.

At the current stage, the revised second draft of the CLISP’s Transnational Planning Strategy (TPS) was submitted to the project partners in March 2011. The helpful comments and feedback received as well as the results from the WP will serve as a base for the preparation of the third (final) draft, which will be ready by the end of May 2011.

The development of the TPS is thus in its final phase! The next results will be soon disseminated through, therefore continue to follow the CLISP project to keep up-to-date about this project’s objective, whose outputs, information, knowledge and experiences promise to go beyond the running time of the project.

*Read More:*

<http://www.clisp.eu/>

### The CLISP Guidance for climate-related risk governance

The participatory risk communication processes in the CLISP model regions aiming at stimulating risk governance by discussing climate change-related risks and potential response options with stakeholders have been successfully implemented. Based on the evaluation of experiences from stakeholder interactions, the transnational synthesis of the lessons learnt is about to be finalized. Ongoing work in WP 6 focuses on the preparation of one of the core outputs –a guidance document for climate-related risk governance.

Following an tl introduction to the concept, theory and principles of risk governance and its relevance to spatial planning and climate change adaptation, the main parts of the manual will contain recommendations on how to handle natural hazard processes exacerbated by climate change as well as guidance for risk communication.

The guidance document will introduce and explain a newly developed “climate change fitness check for natural hazards”. This tool will offer practice-related decision support for the identification of climate change impacts on natural hazard processes), i.e. an estimation of the sensitivity of hazard processes to changes in climatic stimuli. The tool will give guidance on how to analyse the status quo of natural hazard processes within a region, their sensitivity to climate change, and the related uncertainties. The main user groups of the tool are natural hazard experts (mainly public authorities), whereas the results will be important for all spatial planning decision makers, like mayors or planners at the municipality level.

The risk communication section of the manual will survey in detail how to deal with differences in opinions, judgements and perceptions on risk between stakeholders and experts. For that purpose, the Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape (BFW) - subcontractor of WP 6 Responsible BMLFUW – has developed a “Communication and Decision Support Tool”. In a WP6 meeting on the 11th of April 2011 in Vienna with spatial planners and representatives of the Austrian service for torrent and avalanche control it was decided to select the municipality of Gasen in Styria as a pilot project area for testing this tool’s practicability. In the year 2005, spontaneous landslides occurred in the municipality, which has also been investigated as a case study site within the project AdaptAlp. Testing results could also be interesting to the running Alpine Space project PARAMount. Both projects, AdaptAlp and the PARAMount, are collaborating with the CLISP project within the “Alpine Space Climate Change Project Cluster”.

*Read More:*

<http://www.clisp.eu/>

## Several Final Conferences of "Alpine Space Programme" Cluster Projects on Climate Change Adaptation to be held within the next months



A series of "Alpine Space Programme" cluster projects on climate change adaptation are nearing their conclusion in the upcoming months. These projects' outputs and results will be contextually presented publicly in a round of Final Conferences, which are expected to take place in the next months.

### THE PERMANET PROJECT

The Final Conference of the Alpine Space Programme PermaNET – Permafrost

Long-Term Monitoring Network Project (<http://www.permanet-alpinespace.eu/>) is scheduled to take place from next 28th June to the 1st of July, 2011, at the Centre de Congrès (Congress Centre) in Chamonix Mont-Blanc (France).

The PermaNET Project focuses on permafrost degradation and related natural hazards affecting traffic routes, tourism areas, settlements and infrastructures. In so far, the main problem at stake is the lack of a common strategy for considering newly observed impacts of climate change in risk prevention and territorial development. Thus, PermaNET has aimed at the joint development of a common alpine strategy for dealing with permafrost and related hazards under changing climatic conditions as well as at creating an Alpine-wide monitoring network for the prevention of natural hazards and to contribute to sustainable territorial development and good governance.

The project's results, including the monitoring network, the Alpine permafrost map and some "ad hoc" guidelines, will be then presented in the Final Conference.

### ADAPTALP PROJECT

The AdaptAlp project (<http://www.adaptalp.org>) Final Conference will instead be held on 6 July 2011 in Munich. The event is directed to experts from NGOs, administrations, municipalities as well as scientists. The results of 3 years' collaboration will be contextually presented by means of oral and poster presentations. Experts and policy-makers are thus invited to share their experiences in the field of natural hazards and climate change.

Further details can be found on the project website (right box "Latest Project News").

### ALP-WATER-SCARCE FINAL CONFERENCE, 20TH SEPTEMBER TO 22ND SEPTEMBER 2011 IN GRAZ (AUSTRIA)

The Final Conference of the AlpWater-Scarce project (<http://www.alpwaterscarce.eu/>) organized by Université de Savoie (France) & Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung (Austria), is scheduled to take place from next 20th to 22nd September, 2011 in Graz (Austria).

The event will include a series of keynote lectures and project-related presentations, whereby an overview will be provided of the challenges of water scarcity in different regions of the Alps likely to be or already affected by climate change. The conference is expected to be of particular interest for experts in the field of water management, as well as for scientists and other stakeholders involved in this topic.

### CLIMALPTOUR PROJECT

As agreed by project partners, the ClimAlpTour Final Conference (<http://www.climalptour.eu/>) will take place on next 6-7 October 2011 in Venice (Italy).

The Conference will be jointly organized by the Lead Partner Regione Veneto together with the United Nations Environment Programme – Interim Secretariat for the Carpathian Convention (UNEP).

## Scientific Article on “Assessing Spatial Planning associations between perceptions of landscape value and climate change risk for use in climate change planning” now available on the Climatic Change Journal



A recent scientific article by C. R. Raymond and G. Brown titled “Assessing spatial associations between perceptions of landscape value and climate change risk for use in climate change planning” was published on the Volume 104, Numbers 3-4 of the Climatic Change Journal.

The study examines spatially referenced perceived landscape values and climate change risks collected through public participation and geographic information systems for potential use in climate change planning.

Using survey data from the Southern Fleurieu Peninsula, South Australia, the study presents a method for identifying perceived landscape values and climate change risks to describe and quantify their spatial associations.

Results indicate that perceptions of climate change risk are driven, in part, by the values people assign or hold for places on the landscape. Biodiversity and intrinsic landscape values have strong spatial association with biodiversity loss risk while recreation values have strong spatial association with riparian flooding, sea-level rise and wave action risks. Other landscape values show weak to no spatial association with perceived climate change risks. The methodology described provides a mechanism for governments to develop place-based adaptation strategies based on these associations.

Read, download and purchase the article at:

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/2x103425562p4083/>

## Outputs and Upcoming Events from the CIRCLE-2 European Network on climate change impacts and adaptation



CIRCLE-2 (Climate Impact Research & Response Coordination for a Larger Europe) is a European project started on last May 2010 to focus on the interface between climate change science and policy. Through the promotion of networking activities it aims to maximise the degree to which research outcomes address both national and European climate policy needs. Starting from the assumption that structuring impact on the European Climate

Change research landscape can be achieved through joint research funding and an effective transfer of the results. CIRCLE-2 aims to further reinforce the coordination and cooperation between national and regional climate research programmes.

Some CIRCLE-2 activities are directly related to research on spatial planning as an instrument for climate change adaptation, hence being of a particular interest for many of the topics the CLISP projects is intended to tackle. Some of the most recent relevant outputs and suggestions delivered by

the CIRCLE-2 networking cover many of the CLISP project fields of concern. More, the upcoming CIRCLE-2 events will also deal with some of our project's goals!

**POLICY BRIEF - MOUNTAIN AREAS/CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS; VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION**

Following CIRCLE-2 MOUNTain Kick-off on "Needs and opportunities in climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation research in mountain areas") last February, 2011 in Chambéry (France), this policy brief (<http://bit.ly/IL5BFy> ) is directed towards funding institutions and managers of research programmes on climate change impacts and adaptation as well as policy makers concerned with these issues. It notes various challenges in addressing climate change in research and policy for mountain areas and provides recommendations on research needs.

**CIRCLE-2: 1ST ANNUAL PROGRESS MEETING + DESIGN WORKSHOP FROM 21ST – 22ND JUNE IN BOLOGNA(ITALY)**

This meeting (<http://www.circle-era.eu/np4/243.html>) will present CIRCLE-2's first year (2010/11) activities and progress to partners, contributing partners and advisors working in the project, as well as it will address the key activities for 2011/12. Current interactions with other on-going projects, initiatives and frameworks on climate change research and policy will be illustrated, aiming to assess current and future needs of collaboration inside and outside CIRCLE-2.

**CIRCLE-2 SHARE WORKSHOP "FROM NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES TO CONCRETE ADAPTATION ACTIONS"; 20TH- 21ST OCTOBER 2011, VIENNA (AUSTRIA)**

A central goal of the workshop is to share knowledge and experience gained on the way "From National Adaptation Strategies to concrete adaptation actions" (e.g. practical adaptation measures) in support of either climate change adaptation policy development, identification of research needs and opportunities for joint research, and the establishment of conditions for transferability of good practices. Promoted by the Environment Agency Austria (EAA) in collaboration with ZAMG (Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics, Austria), this workshop (<http://www.circle-era.eu/np4/252.html>) - organized in the frame of the CIRCLE-2 ERA network - will cover different national climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation research programmes in Europe.

**Adapting to climate change – Case studies from the Baltic Region: a BSSSC\BALTEX Conference to take place in Hamburg (Germany) on next 31st May, 2011**



Beside the CLISP Project, international actions towards establishing sustainable adaptation measures to climate change are currently taking place large in a row at various levels in Europe and outside. In particular, several practices have already been collected in the Baltic Region.

In this sense, an international Conference on "Adapting to Climate Change – Case Studies from the Baltic Region" will be held on next 31st May, 2011 in Hamburg (Germany), under the joint promotion of the Baltic Sea Experiment (BALTEX) and

of the Baltic Sea States Subregional Cooperation (BSSSC).

The key objective of the conference is to give practitioners and decision makers at the regional level in the Baltic Sea Region a platform to present and discuss examples of regional/local adaptation to climate change. The conference shall also summarize up-to-date findings on regional climate research targeted at supporting decision making in the context of regional adaptation to climate change in the Baltic Sea Region. The Conference language will be English.

*Read More and Join the Conference at:*  
<http://www.baltex-research.eu/bsssc/>