

CLISP

Climate Change Adaptation by Spatial Planning in the Alpine Space

Newsletter No.8 – July 2011

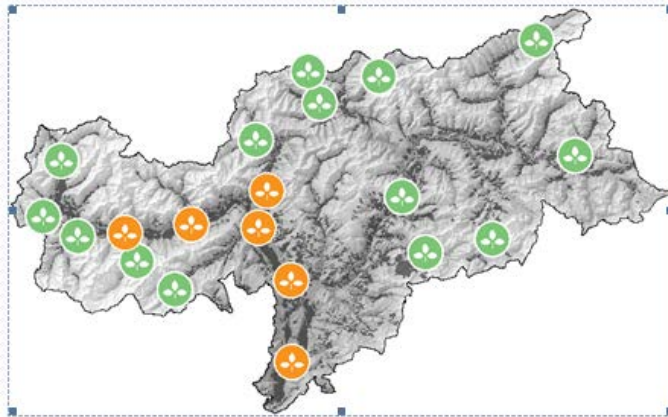


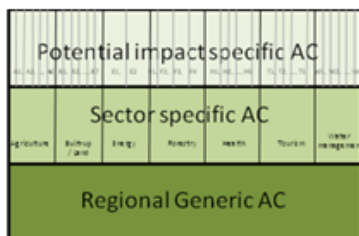
Figure 1 – example vulnerability map for sector agriculture in South Tyrol.



available. Vulnerability is based on the combination of potential impacts arising from climate change and the evaluation of the adaptive capacity of a region both in general terms and with specific reference to spatial planning.

Potential impacts are described on the basis of climate change scenarios, a qualitative analysis of the basic conditions within a region and the climate sensitivity of the sectors of concern, past and current trends, and a number of quantitative indicators of water and energy demand, natural hazards, well-being, and potentials for agriculture and forestry, which may change as a consequence of climate change, in this way uncovering potential risks to the respective sectors. A more detailed description of the impact models and quantitative indicators is provided in the CLISP manual for the climate change impact assessment, which has been provided to the model regions to guide their assessment.

Adaptive Capacity concept



overall sector of concern and, finally, at regional generic level into the vulnerability assessment.

An adaptive capacity assessment method has been proposed by the project partner EURAC Research and applied to all CLISP model regions with reference to their specific sectors of interest, including agriculture, built-up areas, energy, tourism, forestry, health, and water management. The adaptive capacity of a region is assessed on the basis of its socioeconomic, organizational, administrative and demographic characteristics as well as the organization of planning levels and instruments. In this context, indicators have been identified and applied to integrate the adaptive capacity regarding individual impacts, the overall sector of concern and, finally, at regional generic level into the vulnerability assessment.

As an overall result of the vulnerability assessment, qualitative descriptions, summary tables and maps that highlight the most vulnerable sectors and areas within the region, are provided for each model region.

Read More: www.clisp.eu

The CLISP Vulnerability Assessment for the Model Regions finalized and soon to be disseminated in the Final Reports

The assessment of regional vulnerability to climate change is one of the main thematic work packages within the CLISP project. During the final period of the project, the vulnerability assessment for all the CLISP model regions has been finalized. The final results will be soon

CLISP Final Conference, 8th September 2011, Vienna (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.

the discussion on actions towards climate-proof spatial development.

During the event, the main outcomes of the Project will be presented and discussed with the audience and high-level panel debaters. High-level representatives including the Director of the IPCC, Ms. Renate Christ, have already confirmed their attendance to the event and to

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 the CLISP Website (www.clisp.eu), which is regularly updated with new content material, including Conference documentation. Interested participants can now register for the attendance of the Conference via the CLISP website until 31st August 2011.

On the occasion of the CLISP Final Conference, a special issue of the CLISP Newsletter will be published, with relevant information about the event and special contents of the project's topics and outputs that will be presented in Vienna.

Read More and Join the Conference: www.clisp.eu

Climate Change in High Mountain Regions – From Understanding the Past to Modeling of the Future, from August 28th to 1st September, 2011 in Salzburg (Austria)



An International Conference will be held on the occasion of the 125th Anniversary of the Sonnblick Observatory, from 28th August to 1st September, 2011 in Salzburg (Austria).

The conference aims to bring together climatologists from around the world with focus on high mountain regions both to describe the status of research and to formulate important issues for the near future.

High mountain regions are known to react especially sensitive to climate change.

Beside the general interest in the climate of high mountain regions, its understanding is essential for climate impacts such as, for example, changes of glaciers and permafrost and related geo-risks. Although climate research gained much success over the last years in the understanding of high mountains climate, the complex geographical structure of these regions still poses limits in the comprehension of their climatology and, consequently, in their modeling, implying there is wide space, and there is at the same time strong need, for further investigations. The conference therefore

aims to constitute an occasion for the sharing of scientific knowledge and of international experiences that will deal with a varied number of topics and themes, ranging from - just to make some examples - the reconstructions of mountain climate to the influence of mountain regions on climate; from the regional climate model runs for mountain regions to the role of snow and ice in the climate of high mountain regions, or also on other specific issues such as the role of high mountain observatories for climate change studies.

Read More about the Conference: <http://www.zamg.ac.at/veranstaltungen/125jahresonnblick/>

The European Meteorological Society Annual Meeting to host “European Conference on Applications of Meteorology – Session CE1 Adaptation Strategies”, 12th – 16th September 2011, Berlin (Germany)

Climate change impact assessment and related adaptation research are emerging scientific and policy areas in Europe. Expert scientific advice has been increasingly called upon to enable informed decision-making. At times, countries, regions and local authorities are at different stages of preparing, developing and implementing national adaptation strategies. The development depends on the magnitude and nature of the observed impacts, assessments of current and future vulnerability and the capacity to adapt.



This issues will be dealt with in the context of an “European Conference on Applications of Meteorology – Session CE1 Adaptation Strategies” , organized on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the European Meteorological Society (EMS) that will be held in Berlin (Germany), from next 12th to 16th September 2011.

The adaptation strategies session aims at sharing experiences about how climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation (CCIVA) issues are addressed in

European countries, regions and at local levels.

Contributions to the various topics linked to climate change impact assessment and the role of meteorology had been called for the Conference and will be thus presented, encompassing themes such as: ways of fostering the cooperation between scientists and policymakers; or the facilitation of the transfer of research outcomes that decision makers need to design effective yet economically efficient adaptation initiatives and strategies. The Conference also aims at promoting an European debate and the sharing of knowledge either on adaptation and on how to foster the production of research along identified needs, in order to contribute to the development of an European knowledge-base on climate change and to support European countries in their efforts to adopt appropriate climate adaptation strategies, action plans and measures. Moreover, the Conference will share experiences and lessons learnt on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation (CCIVA) research funding and management - as well as on the development of national and regional adaptation practices - in order to talk about how to improve information flows among Europe's national and regional CCIVA research programmes and international frameworks.

The CIRCLE-2 ERA-Net supports and convenes this session as one of its joint activities in the CCIVA field.

Read More:

<http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EMS2011/session/8058>

<http://www.clisp.eu/content/?q=taxonomy/term/3>

“UFRIM – Urban Flood Risk Management. Approaches to enhance the resilience of communities” International Symposium to be organized in Graz (Austria), from 21st to 23rd September, 2011



An International Symposium, “UFRIM - Urban Flood Risk Management. Approaches to enhance the resilience of communities”, will be organized from next 21st to 23rd September 2011 in Graz (Austria), in the context of the 200 year jubilee of the Graz University of Technology.

The aim of the conference is to provide a forum for scientists and engineers to exchange ideas and sample applications in order to gain new knowledge as well as to identify research needs. Additionally, a study

tour will provide an insight into the flood situation in Graz and the related measures.

As the International Symposium organizers well pointed out, “what could be better than a conference, where one of the basic purposes of universities – research – shows its importance in regard to an improvement of people’s life and the society”.

Read More about the Conference: <http://www.sufri.tugraz.at/en/symposium.html>

Scientific Paper “Climate Change Adaptation in Urban Systems: Strategies for Planning Regimes” released on February 2011 by the Griffith University – Urban Research Program (Australia)



A scientific paper by Tony Matthews from the Griffith University’s Urban Research Program on “Climate Change Adaptation in Urban Systems: Strategies for Planning Regimes” was released on the Urban Research Program - Research Paper 32, on last February 2011.

The Urban Research Program (URP) was established in 2003 as strategic research and community engagement initiative of the Griffith University, with the aim to focus on research and advocacy in an urban regional context. URP seeks to improve understanding of, and develop innovative responses to urban challenges and opportunities in Australia by conducting and disseminating research, advocating new policy directions, and by providing training assistance.

This scientific paper specifically focuses on the recognition that adaptation is increasingly being viewed as a necessary response in respect of climate change.

The purpose of the research is to illustrate, consider and demonstrate how urban planning regimes can use some of their professional tools to develop adaptation strategies and interventions in urban systems. These tools include plan-making, development management, urban design and place-making. Urban systems contribute disproportionately to climate change and will also likely suffer considerably from the resulting effects. Moreover, the majority of the world’s population is now

urbanized, suggesting that adaptation will be crucial in order to develop urban systems that are resilient to climate change effects.

Shaped on the basis of a reflexive, qualitative method, this paper offers an informed understanding and illustration of adaptation as a climate change response, its use in urban systems and some of the roles and strategies that planning may take in developing and implementing urban adaptation. The research concludes that urban planning regimes play key roles in adapting urban systems to many climate change effects.

“Climate Change Adaptation in Urban Systems: Strategies for Planning Regimes”

By Tony Matthews

Urban Research Program – Research Paper 32

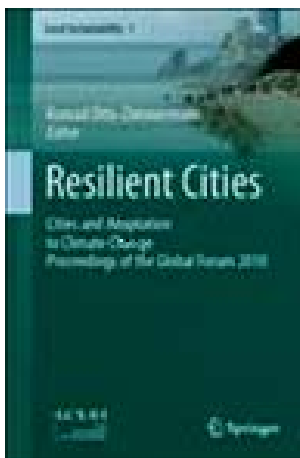
February 2011

Read and download the paper at:

http://www.griffith.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0004/275107/urp-rp32-matthews-2011.pdf

Scientific Paper “Climate Change Adaptation in Dutch Municipalities: Risk Perception and Institutional Capacity” on the Resilient Cities – Local Sustainability Journal

A recent scientific paper from the Netherlands dealing with topics closely connected to the work of the CLISP project was published on the “Resilient Cities – Local Sustainability Journal” (Resilient Cities – Local Sustainability, 2011, Vol. 1, Part 4, 265 – 272). This scientific article has been produced by Maya M. Van den Berg and is titled “Climate Change Adaptation in Dutch Municipalities: Risk perception and Institutional Capacity”.



This contribution presents case studies of nine Dutch municipalities. Interview-based data show that the drivers of local climate adaptation in these cases are determined more by local contextual factors than by past experience with flooding or an expected increase of climate change risk. The paper suggests that the presence of larger institutional capacity did not prove to be determinative of the level of action in climate change adaptation policies. According to the paper, only in urban cases where a green party administrator was responsible for environmental affairs was a high level of ‘adaptation action’ observed. Another mediating factor appeared to be the variation in quality of climate change information.

Read, Download and purchase the article: <http://www.springerlink.com/content/vmh42467j4g1x885/>