

CLIMATE ADAPTATION RESEARCH IN A LARGER EUROPE:

AN ANALYSIS AT LOCAL AND
NATIONAL SCALES

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CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH
& RESPONSE COORDINATION
FOR A LARGER EUROPE
EU FP7 ERA-NET



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CIRCLE-2 REPORT “Climate Adaptation Research in a Larger Europe: an analysis at local and national scales”

Main authors:

Ana Ferrada Gomes (FFCUL, Portugal), Sara Venturini (CMCC, Italy), Marie Mojaisky (VERSeau Développement, France).

Contributing authors:

David Avelar (FFCUL, Portugal), Dina Carrilho (FCT, Portugal), Markus Leitner (EAA, Austria), Maurice Imbard (MEDDE, France), Orna Matzner (IME, Israel), Roger Street (UKCIP, United Kingdom), Sergio Castellari (CMCC, Italy) , Tiago Capela Lourenço (FFCUL, Portugal).

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Executive Summary

The CIRCLE-2 Climate Adaptation INFOBASE (<http://infobase.circle-era.eu>) is a public database on climate adaptation research that CIRCLE-2 has been developing within its integrated communication strategy and management task. The Climate Adaptation INFOBASE includes research projects finalised after 2005, funded at national and local levels (referred to as "National projects"), as well as transnational projects jointly funded by CIRCLE CA or CIRCLE-2 members (referred to as "CIRCLE-2 projects").

The present report encompasses all **projects uploaded in the CIRCLE-2 INFOBASE until the 31st of January 2012**. The aim of this report is providing policy-makers and the involved scientific community, especially research managers, with relevant statistical information on climate change adaptation research at local and national scales over the larger Europe landscape that includes the 32 member countries of the European Environment Agency plus Israel.

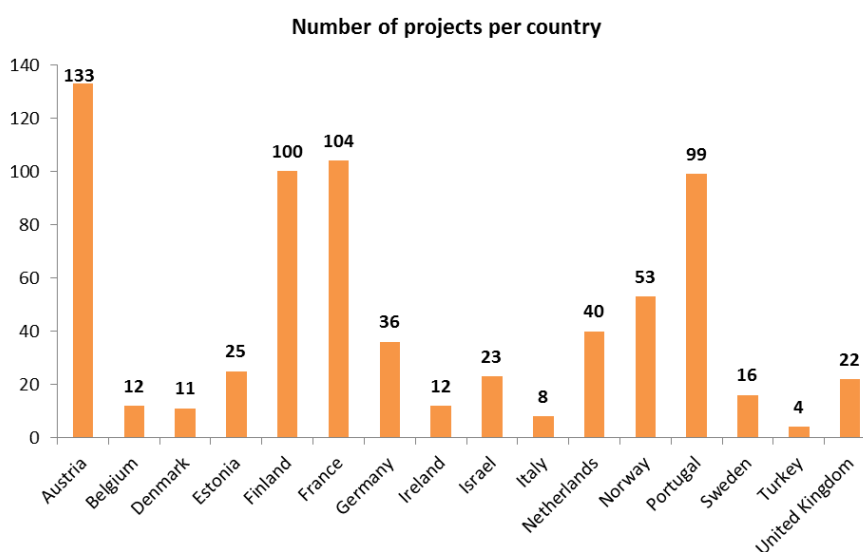
This report is intended as the first synthesis to regularly provide updated information on the INFOBASE content in a series of editions. **Two further updated editions are foreseen within CIRCLE-2 lifetime (2014), which will involve more detailed and comprehensive analysis, considering the development of the INFOBASE itself and feedback from intended users.**

The criteria chosen to analyse the data in this edition is the same used in cataloguing each individual project in the INFOBASE, namely: project level (national or transnational), countries involved, categories, sectors that have been addressed by the project, funding, timeframe, original language of the project, and outcomes.

A number of policy-relevant messages and recommendations were drawn from the report:

1. THERE ARE EVIDENT GAPS IN THE INFOBASE CONTENT IN TERMS OF COUNTRY COVERAGE.

Recommendation #1: Countries not represented in the CIRCLE-2 INFOBASE should further collect and submit information on national and sub-national projects, and encourage other relevant institutions to provide input to the INFOBASE, in order to give more visibility to national research efforts.



2. A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF DATA IS MISSING WITH RESPECT TO CATEGORIES, SECTORS, BUDGET AND OUTCOMES OF PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE INFOBASE.

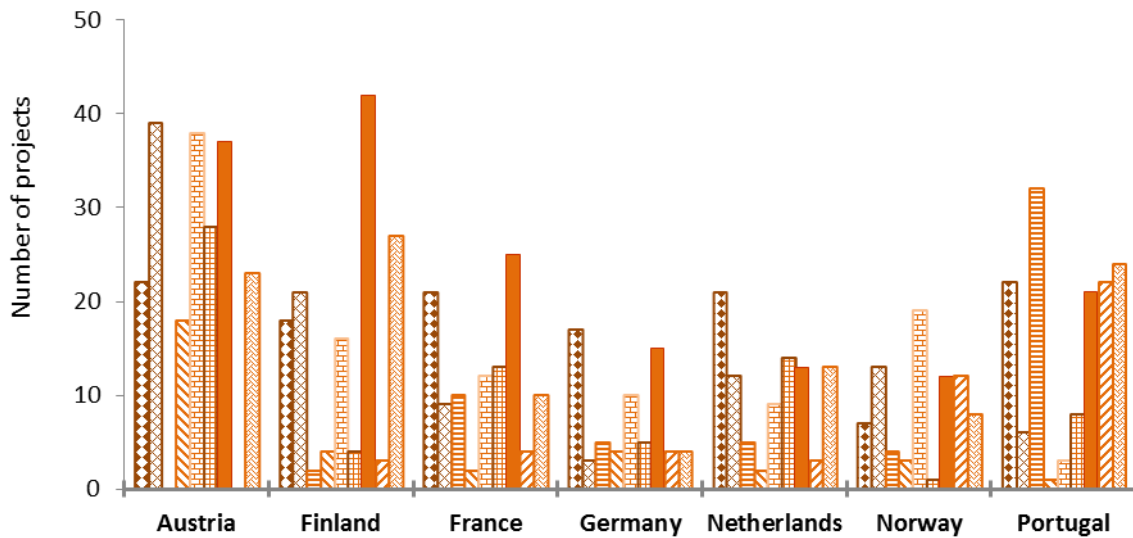
Recommendation #2: Countries represented in the CIRCLE-2 INFOBASE should update those research projects showing missing information in order to facilitate the database search. In particular, projects outcomes are of utmost importance for knowledge sharing and should be further collected and updated.

3. THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS PER SECTOR IS NOT HOMOGENEOUS.

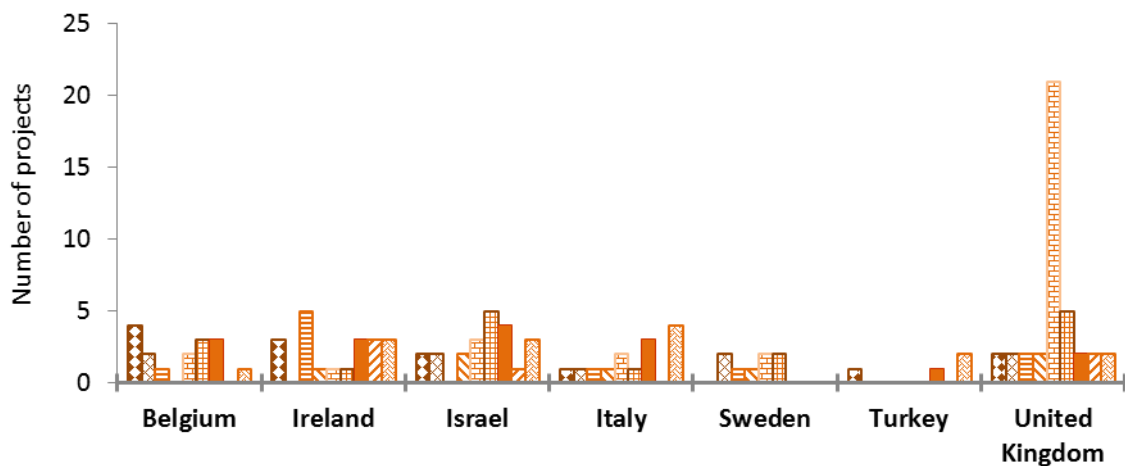
Recommendation #3: There are sectors poorly represented. Some attention from member countries should be given to this weakness in order to understand the rationale for it and if this underrepresentation is a research gap.

4. THE ANALYSIS OF NUMBER OF PROJECT PER SECTORS SHOWS A HUGE HETEROGENEITY BETWEEN COUNTRIES.

Recommendation #4: This heterogeneous sectorial investment may indicate different national priorities. Understand the different national priorities, may help to facilitate future joint programming between countries.



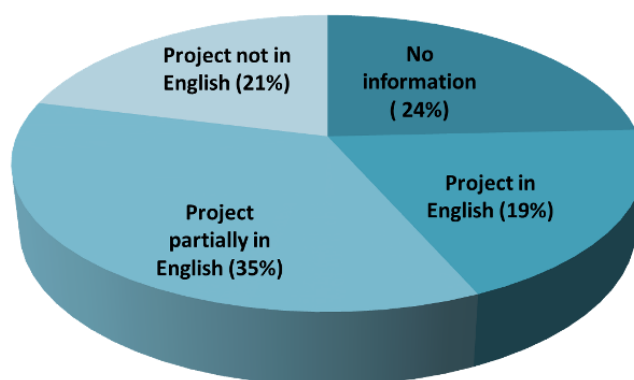
- ◆ Water management
- Coastal areas
- ▨ Infrastructure (transport, energy, other)
- Agriculture and forests
- ▨ Biodiver./nature protection (terrestrial, freshwater)
- ▨ Disaster risk reduction
- ▨ Financial instruments and insurance
- ▨ Health (human, animal, plant)
- ▨ Marine (biodiversity) and fisheries



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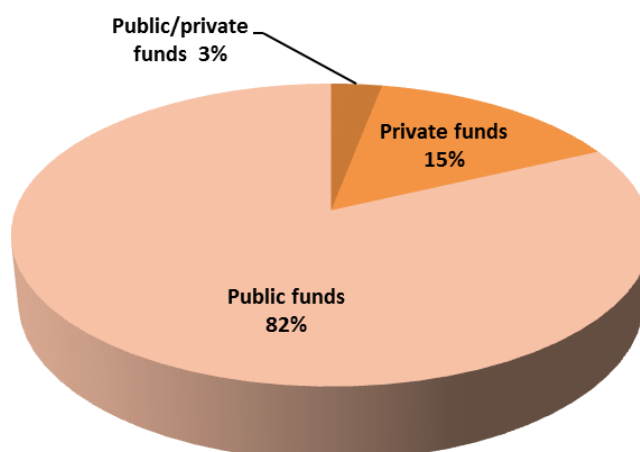
5. THE POSSIBILITY TO EXCHANGE AND SHARE KNOWLEDGE ACROSS COUNTRIES IS VERY LIKELY AND HAS GREAT POTENTIAL DUE TO THE GOOD AVAILABILITY OF PROJECT INFORMATION IN ENGLISH.

Recommendation #5: All national projects should include provisions for English translation of basic project information and here especially project outcomes, in order to facilitate knowledge exchange and transfer and uptake at the EU level. This is crucial for a real joint programming.



6. PUBLIC FUNDING APPEARS AS THE MAIN SOURCE OF SUPPORT FOR ADAPTATION RESEARCH IN EUROPE. THIS FINDING SUGGESTS A LACK OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT (WHICH REFLECTS A LACK OF INTEREST ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION RESEARCH) OR THAT THERE IS RELUCTANCE TO SHARE RESULTS.

Recommendation #6: Involvement of the private sector (e.g. in public-private partnerships) should be encouraged with the aim of enhancing the financing scope for adaptation research and should be encouraged to share existing information.



7. THIS FIRST ANALYSIS OF INFOBASE HAS IDENTIFIED POTENTIAL THEMATIC SYNERGIES AMONG COUNTRIES THAT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO A REAL FUTURE JOINT PROGRAMMING IN A LARGER EUROPE.

Recommendation #7: Countries represented and not represented in the CIRCLE-2 INFOBASE are asked to update/collect and submit national/local research projects and classify all of them in the different categories and sectors. This would improve the value of CIRCLE-2 INFOBASE and at the end would allow the identification of common sectors of interest addressed by different countries which could drive to the implementation of common programmes, e.g., mobilisation of non-competitive funds by funding organizations of different countries to facilitate the exchange of knowledge (e.g. methodologies) within a specific sector.

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