EEA 'National Adaptation Platforms' Experts meeting

19 June 2013, EEA premises (Kongens Nytorv 6, 1050 Copenhagen, Denmark)

Draft Minutes

This document provides an overview of the EEA/CIRCLE-2 'National Adaptation Platforms' Experts meeting which took place in Copenhagen at EEA premises on 19 June 2013. This report is intended to complement the presentations that were given by participants and background information.

All documents related to this workshop are accessible at the following Eionet Forum Web site: http://forum.eionet.europa.eu/nrc-climate-change-adaptation/library/workshops-meetings/eionet-workshop-climate-change-impacts-vulnerability-and-adaptation/agendas. The agenda of the workshop, the participants list and background information are also annexed to this document.

Participants to the meeting are kindly requested to consider this document and submit their comments to André Jol <Andre.Jol@eea.europa.eu>, Stéphane Isoard <Stephane.Isoard@eea.europa.eu> and Roger Street <roger.street@ukcip.org.uk> by **25 July 2013**.

Overall objectives of the meeting

- To exchange experiences about managing existing national web-based platforms on climate change adaptation.
- Learn lessons from these and discuss possible next steps for further developing these and the complementary European Climate Change Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT).

Specific objectives of the meeting

- Opportunity for countries to present their platforms, the main challenges and the development plans.
- Opportunity for countries and the EEA to learn from each other (e.g. visibility, engaging with the audiences, evaluation of the platform) and explore relationships with each other and Climate-ADAPT.
- Need to look at and explore synergies and associated challenges (horizontally and vertically).
- Understanding the adaptation platform landscape across Europe (e.g. scope and objectives, audiences, governance), sharing experiences and lessons learnt, and the main challenges.
- Identify follow-up activities by EEA and/or CIRCLE-2.

Participants

The meeting was targeted at member countries, which have an existing climate change adaptation platform. The meeting was held in collaboration between EEA and the EU FP7 CIRCLE-2 ERA-NET project (http://www.circle-era.eu/np4/home.html). The meeting was attended by 31 participants from: 17 EEA member countries, EEA, European Commission (DG CLIMA), ETC/CCA, CIRCLE-2 project, , , ECDC, Pyrenees Climate Change Observatory (OPCC) and Alpine Convention.

Summary

The EEA and EC-DG CLIMA provided an update on respective recent activities in relation to Climate-ADAPT, and the Commission's EU 2013 Strategy on climate change adaptation. Participating countries which have an existing climate change adaptation National Platform (8: Austria, Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom) presented them. Other participating countries presented activities towards the development of such platforms (4: Belgium, Cyprus, Slovakia, and Slovenia).

Participants then discussed lessons learned, good practices and main challenges across countries. In addition participants discussed possible next steps for the European Climate Change Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) in relation to the National Adaptation Platforms.

Outcomes

- The meeting was a successful first step towards further understanding:
  - the National Adaptation Platform landscape across Europe and the potential for interaction and links with Climate-ADAPT.
  - lessons learned, good practices and main challenges related to the overall management of National Adaptation Platforms across Europe.
- Possible next steps for further developing Climate-ADAPT in relation to the National Platforms were identified.

Key actions/next steps

- It was decided to organise a follow-up workshop (CIRCLE2 in collaboration with EEA) in Nov 2013 (Vienna, date to be set)
- Topics for discussion at this second workshop include: further learning from experiences and lessons, identification and exploration of synergies and associated challenges and possibly the development of recommendations for 'good practices'
- more focus on transnational platforms is expected/needed and managers of such platforms will be invited for the next workshop;
- links to the ISDR Working group on European disaster risk reduction platforms will be considered (for example by inviting members of this platform to the next workshop);
- identifying additional experts interested to join the Advisory Group for the next workshop;
- proceedings and a policy brief (on research and knowledge gaps) will be prepared after the next workshop

Details of presentations, discussions and resulting key actions and an overview of the main features of the National Adaptation Platforms are provided in the following pages.

10.00 – 10.30: Welcome and objectives of the meeting (*Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA; André Jol, EEA; Roger Street, UKCIP*)

It is the first time for the EEA to hold this type of meeting focused on understanding the National Adaptation Platform landscape across Europe and the potential for interaction and links with Climate-ADAPT.

EEA recent progresses on Climate-ADAPT (*André Jol, EEA*)

- Policy framework: EU 2013 Strategy on climate change adaptation.
- Highlights from June Council Conclusions: the need for a strategy was recognized; Climate-ADAPT was welcomed; and an interaction of Climate-ADAPT with other national Platforms was recommended.
- Progress on Climate-ADAPT:
  - EC-DG CLIMA contracts on IT development and dissemination (workshops and material) and further improvement by EEA and ETC/CCA was explained;
  - Many database items have been checked and enhanced;
  - Policy sections were updated;
  - Case studies are being improved;
  - National info was updated from the deputed Ministries on adhoc basis;
  - Continuing inclusion of research project results has taken place;
  - Enhancement of transnational pages (e.g. Baltic Window) is in preparation;
  - Upcoming IT developments were mentioned;
  - The news & events section has been maintained and the next steps for a regular newsletter were explained;
  - The main outcomes of a West Balkan workshop (held April 2013) were mentioned.

DG CLIMA recent progress on Climate-ADAPT (*Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA)*

- Climate-ADAPT dissemination and feedback from the users was achieved through training and presentation at many conferences supported by a contractor (Jan-July 2013).
- A new contract will start soon aimed at use of Climate-ADAPT for science-policy forums in countries that do not have an adaptation strategy.
- DG CLIMA, with EEA, is working on a Climate-ADAPT Work plan for the coming years including a prioritization of improvement activities, also in connection to the EU 2013 Strategy on climate change adaptation (which includes several references to Climate-ADAPT).
- Further development of Climate-ADAPT should also facilitate the fulfilment of reporting obligations by MS.
- DG CLIMA acknowledges the transnational platforms.

CIRCLE-2 recent activities on National Adaptation Platforms (*Roger Street, UKCIP – CIRCLE-2*)

- It is a network that organises CCIVA initiatives, including workshops.
- Countries are eager to learn from each other's National Adaptation Platforms, in order to address some common and similar challenges jointly (e.g. understanding how to present info; aspects related to the governance for developing and maintaining Web Platforms).
- CIRCLE2 is interested to receive feedback from participants whether to have regularly or ad hoc exchange of experiences.

10.30 – 12.30: Presentations of National Adaptation Platforms (*Chair: Stéphane Isoard, EEA*)

Participating countries which have an existing climate change adaptation National Platform (8: Austria, Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom) presented them, covering the following issues:

- objectives, scope and perceived target audience;
- governance; responsibilities and roles for delivery and management;
- information on the use and the nature of users;
- links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services;
- lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders; evaluation of the platform; improvements needed.
- challenges and development plans for the coming years.

Other participating countries presented ongoing or planned activities towards the development of such Platforms (4: Belgium, Cyprus, Slovakia, and Slovenia).

Overview of the main features of the National Adaptation Platforms

An overview of the main features of the National Adaptation Platforms is included in annex to this document (pages 7-15).

13.30 – 15.30: Lessons learned, sharing good practices and main challenges across countries (*Chair: André Jol, EEA; Roger Street, UKCIP*)

National Adaptation Portals have different scopes (some portals have i.e. maps, some include mainly information related to the national adaptation policies) and different types of governance. Therefore the aim is to share lessons learned, good practices and main challenges at this stage, rather than trying to identify common solutions.

- **Resources/funding**
  - There is a need for a core budget to maintain the platform after the end of the initial supporting project/programme. It is useful to keep the portal connected to governmental actions to ensure continuity. There is an issue of ownership; e.g. in some countries individual municipalities don't want to financially contribute to a platform with a national scope. It is important to get commitment from government, within the context of the NAS. That may make it easier for funding to be implemented in public budgets of the platform manager (often environmental agencies, sometimes others including meteorological institutes).
  - Funding may depend also on issues covered in the platform (by content of sector) - it could be an option to consider use of private-public partnerships for funding.
  - Using information from other organisations (e.g. leave ownership and updating of the information by the data delivering entities) and promoting the infrastructure as a platform to be used by others can have some success
  - An option may be to use some financial resources from the "commercial" part of projects and/or organisations (e.g. delivering climate services, training, etc.) to maintain the Platform.
  - There is a need to include training costs for use of the platform into the budget.
  - It is important to find a good balance between the level of ambition and the efforts and costs for maintenance.
- **How you demonstrated/prove the value of what you do – evaluation**

- The use of government resources should in general demonstrate its value and benefits
- Web statistics can be used to acquire some information how users enter the platforms and which pages are seen most.
- It is important to evaluate the need of users and how successful that need was met, using various approaches. It is also important to consider the perspective of the user in developing the web site and when improving the website as part of the evaluation process.
- Process indicators might be used to evaluate, whether adaptation is successful and thus to demonstrate value for money. This may also be relevant for web-based platforms.
- Is demand driving supply of information or vice-versa? It was concluded that in practice this takes place in both directions.
- It is relevant to understand that delivering information does not automatically lead to action: thus moving from informing to encouraging taking action is happening in some countries.
- Use of the occurrence of extreme events can help to enhance dissemination of information on the platforms.

- **Case studies**
  - Can case studies be inspiring/promoting adaptation mainstreaming. Good practices should be highlighted, but the reasons why these are not used/taken up by implementers/planners are very important and should be evaluated and, if known, communicated.
  - Cases are already available in various portals aimed at municipalities to implement adaptation (for example in Denmark and Norway)
  - The German portal contains a database with 200 case studies, classified by sector (municipalities and companies dealing with water resources); the searchable database contains comments from those implementing the case study. Case studies are related to good practice: they defined assessment criteria (e.g. effectiveness, cost-benefit analysis, stakeholders participation, acceptance of a measures in a community, transferability, adaptation pioneers). Germany also started a contest on good examples of cases and selected 'champions' and they provided an 'adaptation label' to contest winners. This was considered a successful approach.
  - It may be better to use another term instead of "Case studies", namely 'learning studies' – Adaptation implementers are interested in the lessons learnt and they want to consider what has already been developed elsewhere. It is seen as helpful to show which solutions work in practice. At the ICLEI/DG CLIMA/EEA Bonn resilient city conference (3 June 2013) representatives were interested in case studies but also want a process in which cities can learn from each other through direct interaction. The latter approach was used in the EUcities adapt project and should be used further involving more cities.
  - The Alpine Convention Web portal also focuses on good practices, with several practical examples, and offers training for young people.

15.45 – 16.45: Next steps for the European Climate Change Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) in relation to national platforms (*Chairs: André Jol, EEA, Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA*)

- Some of the most visited Climate-ADAPT parts are the country pages, so it is important to keep them updated. They are currently updated by Countries' Environment Ministries on a voluntary basis.
- The EEA has increasing experience in understanding the target audiences for Climate-ADAPT by means of workshops and training events that were held the past year (partly together with the contractor for DG CLIMA). Feedback from users was provided at or after these workshops, which is very helpful to improve the structure and the content. Based on these experiences EEA regards the national and sub-national governments in all EEA member countries as the main target audience. City networks (in particular

ICLEI) have been identified as an additional key emerging target audience, which will get more attention in future.

- Many national Adaptation Platforms were developed to support the development of national adaptation strategies (NAS). The relevance of Climate-ADAPT on governance in MS should not be underestimated: the European context presented in Climate-ADAPT is very useful for country adaptation processes.
- Climate-ADAPT (e.g. tools and database items, and the good updating of all parts) is useful to complement national information, also considering that in some countries resources (people and funding) are not available to develop and maintain a national portal with similar scope and quality.
- It would be useful to add somewhere on Climate-ADAPT (e.g. within the country pages) a short abstract of what is available in the national adaptation portal.
- Climate-ADAPT is valuable because it provides a good overview of the actions and progress in other countries. However impacts indicators and risk maps at European level, included in Climate-ADAPT, are not suited for application at city level (due to the limits of spatial solution of European maps). European level vulnerability maps are good for awareness raising and for initial considerations for fund allocation at European level. However, Climate-ADAPT should not include information on vulnerability maps on sub-national (including city) level, because nationally developed more spatially detailed maps are more suitable as a basis for national applications. Climate-ADAPT should be limited to include EU-wide indicators and vulnerability/risk maps as well as a connection to the future COPERNICUS climate service. It should also include easily accessible links to more detailed maps within National Adaptation Portals or elsewhere within other national portals (e.g. managed by national meteorological institutes)..
- It was suggested that the EU-wide vulnerability and risks maps in Climate-ADAPT should provide more meta-information on the differences with (sub-)national maps to avoid misinterpretation .
- There was a discussion how to ensure consistency between EU-wide vulnerability and risks maps from a range of ongoing and new EU funded projects and how to present and explain differences in results (e.g. different heat stress maps from two EU projects were mentioned). Climate-ADAPT should provide a clear summary of the data, assumptions and interpretations of outputs from these different projects. In addition the European Commission (DG RTD) could encourage closer coordination between EU-funded projects..
- Case studies descriptions in Climate-ADAPT should not necessarily include all details but focus on the aspects most relevant for a wide audience. Key information is the contact data, which allows direct interaction and learning from those that were involved in the case study. Having case study information both in Climate-ADAPT and also in national databases (and portals) is not a problem for the MS, provided it does not lead to additional workload.
- Consider that there is also a non-European international audience using Climate-ADAPT. Thus one additional role for Climate ADAPT is to present how Europe is dealing with adaptation.
- Climate-ADAPT's national pages should be taken into account when considering streamlining of the reporting process by MS. MS need to provide information to UNFCCC (national communications every 4-5 years), in specific cases also to OECD and to the European Commission (through the Monitoring Mechanism). In addition they provide on a voluntary basis information to Climate-ADAPT. DG CLIMA is considering the use and potential improvement of the Climate-ADAPT templates for national information to reduce the reporting burden. The Climate Change Committee will be the appropriate place for these types of discussions.
- EEA proposes to establish an EU-wide forum of managers of adaptation platforms to improve development of both Climate-ADAPT and national portals. This can be further discussed at the next workshop planned for autumn 2013.

16.45 – 17.00: Closing session - Wrap-up and next steps (*Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA; André Jol, EEA; Roger Street, UKCIP*)

The discussion sessions on lessons learned, sharing good practices and main challenges across countries and on possible next steps for further developing Climate-ADAPT in relation to the national platforms

resulted in much useful information to further reflect on. It was considered too premature to draw conclusions and prepare recommendations on e.g. good practices at this workshop.

It was decided to organise a follow-up workshop (CIRCLE2 in collaboration with EEA) in Nov 2013 (Vienna, date to be set). Topics for discussion at this second workshop include: further learning from experiences and lessons, identification and exploration of synergies and associated challenges and possibly the development of recommendations for 'good practices'. More focus on transnational platforms is expected/needed and managers of such platforms will be invited for the next workshop. Links to the ISDR Working group on European disaster risk reduction platforms will be considered (for example by inviting members of this platform to the next workshop). Additional experts interested to join the Advisory Group for the next workshop will be identified. Proceedings and a policy brief (on research and knowledge gaps) will be prepared after the next workshop.

Overview of National Adaptation Platforms

Austria

Webportal name: Climate Change Adaptation in Austria	URL: http://www.klimawandelanpassung.at/ms/klimawandelanpassung/en/
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	• Launched in 2009. Developed to support the NAS. • has been substantially updated and revised in January 2013 (financed by the Austrian climate and energy funds). • Material relevant for Austria. • Target audience: interested public. • Language: German.
Governance	UBA
Information on the use and the nature of users	Regularly updated info on: • CC in Austria (observed trends, projections also at regional level); • Impact tables for various sectors; • Adaptation; • NAS; • CC Research; • DB of adaptation measures; • Links/glossary /newsletter. Info specific to CC adaptation include: • political context; • guiding principles for good adaptation; • possible adaptation options for various sectors; • practical examples; • DB on adaptation activities (currently 330 examples including new research and practical examples– searchable by sector, administrative level, biogeographic regions, Research activity or practical example); • adaptation options; • tools for adaptation; • guidance documents; • newsletter.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	Links to tools and info of other Platforms and Climate-ADAPT.
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	• Keeping the Web portal up to date • Financial constraints and time (funding is project-based) • Current lack of web statistics functionality • How to present info to target-group users in the language they can understand
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	• Translating into ENG relevant parts of the Web portal • Several projects are working on adaptation tools and projects • Brochure for the general public on Austrian NAS • Training and support on-line tools • Support more harmonized approach for reporting

Belgium

No platform at the moment.

They are developing and finishing NAP this year and then set up a National Adaptation Platform.

They want to learn and understand about money, because finance not clarified.

They have Platforms on marine area and biodiversity and still have to understand how to link them.

Cyprus

(More or less like Belgium) No platform at the moment.

They are developing their NAS with the support of a Life project which includes an activity to develop a Platform by 2014, using the Cypadapt Project Web site.

They value climate-ADAPT as very helpful, in particular the case studies.

Intend to focus on case studies and on the choices and best practices.

They are developing multi-criteria analysis tools on environment, biological, geological, financial to make a set of the first options for each sectors.

People are willing to pay for this information.

Denmark

Webportal name: Danish National Adaptation Platform / klimatilpasning	URL: http://en.klimatilpasning.dk/
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	• Launched in 2009. Developed within the NAS (2008). • Aim: guide the users - local and regional planners – through the process of adaptation planning, from fundamental understanding of change in climate to being able to integrate its consequences into decision making. • Target audience: municipalities (main group); aim to reach also business (but at the moment there is no much info for them) and citizens (dissemination). • Language: DK and ENG – ENG part less elaborated
Governance	• Task Force (funded every 5 year with a call) for climate change adaptation is responsible for the maintenance and development of the portal and tools. • Ministries and agencies provide information to the portal. • Research institutions provide the scientific basis and research results.
Information on the use and the nature of users	Regularly updated info on knowledge base and climate data – interactive maps for scenarios from Met Office; data can be downloaded. • Already very targeted information presentation: a webGIS has been developed with interactive maps and tools – coastal planner, flooding form sea tool (how much sea level will rise), municipal plans and strategies, local climate impact planner (inspired by UKCIP), climate meter, resilience house (ENG), precipitation and cloudburst management, groundwater managment. • Best practice and case studies.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g.	• Public information campaign. • Mobile team to visit the municipalities to support them

national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	and prompt their action plans.
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	• Target groups need; facts, scenarios, tools, guidance (especially for municipalities to develop action plans), case studies. • Challenges: relevance and usefulness of the information for the target users.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	Development plans • Deliver information based on authoritative data. • Guidance on action on precipitation management. • Focus areas. • Prepare guidelines for municipalities to develop local action plans by the end of 2013. Challenges • Providing data on extreme precipitation. • Providing methods to identify and prioritize areas at risk – buildings, infrastructure, farms, nature etc. • Digital Elevation Model.

Germany

Webportal name: German Adaptation Platform / anpassung.net	URL: http://www.anpassung.net/
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	• Launched in 2008 as a follow up of the NAS process: the 2008 NAS was supplemented by an Action Plan (2011) requiring the strengthening of the Adaptation Platform. • Aim: exchange information among users. • Carried out an on-line survey (25 questions) to understand their target audience: for 4 Main Target Groups (Personas prototypes) – municipalities; Federal/State Governments; enterprises/I-NGOs; Scientists. • Language: German.
Governance	German Federal Environment Agency (KomPass - Climate Impacts and Adaptation).
Information on the use and the nature of users	CCIVA knowledge, including: • data access; • funding programs and scientific projects; • adaptation activities; • database on aggregated research results (searchable by regions, sectors); • database on implemented adaptation actions (“Tatenbank”); • newsletter, schedule, documentation of events.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	Linking information with German Federal States: • results and metadata of 300 regional CCIVA studies – exposition maps, here: temperature change; • use templates for gathering information similar to those used for MS within Climate-ADAPT; • region-specific climate change, impacts and vulnerability, policy framework, regional and

	local adaptation measures, contact, links etc.; • KomPass offers Extranets (web spaces for the exchange with the Federal States); Started linking with German CC research institutions e.g.: • Anpassung.net can be found via Climate Navigator (CSC); • it will be also closely linked to the German Climate Portal, hosted by the German Weather Service (DWD); • agreed on different content: DWD-observation/projections climate data and impact information (sectors and regions); • KomPass: start with impact information + vulnerability, adaptation information in same sectors and regions.
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	Lessons learnt • Setting objectives and a well focused content ease cooperation with further CC-platforms. • Evaluation of information formats with the help of online surveys is necessary. • Definition of Personas and consequently addressing the different user requirements enhance communication success. • Action on local level needs information on good example and funding schemes.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	• Re-launch after improvement in August. • ENG version in 2014. • Definition of target audience (Personas prototypes). • Enhance communication success.

The Netherlands

Webportal name: Klimaatadaptatieservices.nl	URL: http://www.klimaatadaptatieservices.nl/home
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	• Driver: gaps identified between the science and planning communities. • Funding from the “Knowledge for Climate” project, look now for institutional funding.
Governance	
Information on the use and the nature of users	• Data and info from Met office (actual data not only meta data). • Adaptation Atlas to the local level. • Adaptation measures DB. • Case studies in DUTCH. • Touch Table. • Supplemented by workshops.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	Link to Met office (including responsibility of data update).
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation	Challenges • In the NL info is scattered among different

actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	institutions and project/programme based website, favour one-stop-shop for spatial information. • Too much science driven, limited inclusion of end users. • Maintenance: a number of project or program based websites will disappear due to lack of funding. Lessons learnt • Significant amount of budget is devoted to further developing the science policy interface. • Importance of visualization techniques and interactive maps/tools.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	• Moving beyond primary CC impacts: from Climate services towards Adaptation services. • Persuading scientists to share their results. • Need to integrate various existing web portals (e.g. Delta, climate Adaptation Atlas (K4C), KNMI, etc.) into a central portal as one-stop shop for: – tools and services to support adaptation planning; – adaptation options data bases; – best practices; – touch table (workshop support). • Voting for a EU-wide panel to streamline adaptation portal development.

Norway

Webportal name: klimatilpasning.no	URL: http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/md/kampanjer/engelsk-forside-for-klimatilpasning.html?id=539980
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	Published in March 2009 as a national coordination initiative led by the Ministry of Environment. Target group analysis: • Local and regional planners; • County administrators; • Local and regional politicians.
Governance	Climate Service Centre: • Norwegian Meteorological Institute; • The Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research; • The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate. Project Leader: • The County Governor in Troms; • 4 Municipalities in Troms participate; • Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning (DSB) - economic contribution and participation. Ministries are discussing/making decision on the National Platform.
Information on the use and the nature of users	User analysis: surprise, that a big share of users are students and pupils.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change)	

services	
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	Need to 'interpret' the research language and Climate Projections. In particular needs were identified for: • information on CC impacts and adaptation; • good practices on adaptation; • tools to integrate adaptation in planning; • Information presentation organized by underlying laws, but due to data limits at different elaboration levels.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	Development plans - finalize the Climate Service Centre to: • cope with the big variety of natural conditions in the country; • close data gaps (flood data at regional level); • assist the municipalities with mapping, organizing and finding the data needed; • provide more detailed knowledge to the Climate Service Centre, helping them to improve their products and service; • develop a Climate profile for each of the four participating municipalities, using this method to generate similar Climate profiles for all Norwegian municipalities. Challenges • The Norwegian Government recently presented Norway's White paper on Climate Change Adaptation. A debate is currently undertaken about which sector agency should be appointed as the national focal point for climate adaptation. Web development put 'on ice' until decision is made. • No technological development since 2010. • Analysis on the web site can hopefully be used for the next generation web.

Slovakia

No NAS yet, but adaptation measures already integrated into various sector policies. Actions were already implemented by NGOs, cities (e.g. City Bratislava within the EU Cities Adapt Project) and regions (also supported by EU projects). Preparatory work on NAS started in Jan 2013 by Min. of Environment with involvement of several Min. and NGOs. First draft NAS planned for July 2013.

They are looking forward to learn from other countries' experiences especially on tools.

Slovenia

No NAS nor Adaptation Platform. Information is fragmented. The governmental office on CC was suppressed.

210 Municipalities are delegated to deal with CC. Many of them are very small and don't have resources, capacities and budget to deal with that.

Slovenian Environment Agency developed web based tool to deal with spatial planning, including to some extent climate change adaptation. The application includes maps of landslide risks and flood prone zones and data of precipitation (but without direct link to metadata).

Awareness regarding adaptation is not very well developed; online-services alone are considered not effective.

Spain

Webportal name: National Adaptation Platform / AdapteCCa	URL: http://www.adaptecca.es
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	• Preparation activities started in 2010. • Launched on 4 June 2013. • Aim: exchange of Information and stakeholder communication. • User oriented approach. • Target groups: administrations at all levels, media, private sector, researchers, international audiences. • Provides web-space for working groups on cc (self management). • Log-in required.
Governance	• Full alignment with National Adaptation Framework (on the elements of the adaptation cycle). • The Platform is regular feeding the NAP and exchange. • Main governing groups: Central Node (OECC) – main administrator – and Territorial Nodes (17 CCAA) (bottom-up and top-down approach). • Developed with a specific Project; maintenance on Spanish Governance.
Information on the use and the nature of users	Repository information allows users to upload, post, link, store, search and retrieve CC adaptation: • information; • practices; • news and events.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	Links with climate change services and sectoral platforms (e. g. biodiversity).
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	Lessons learnt • Strong preparatory work with stakeholders (e.g. municipalities, regions) for the design (structure, contents and functionalities) of the platform. • Testing phase with specific users and nodes. • Full consideration of Climate-ADAPT and close participation with EC and EEA. • Language is a key barrier. • Participatory process by cities and local stakeholders is a challenge.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	• Aligning national developments with European milestones. • Strengthening knowledge gap identification (meta analysis of the content of the platforms information). • Ways to exchange info by means of operative reporting information among National and European Platforms.

	• Outreach on EU financial opportunities and resources to the National adaptation field in common vulnerable sectors among several MSs. • Facilitate partnership among MSs (e.g. via extranets). • Enhance database search functions.

Sweden

Webportal name: Climate change adaptation portal / Klimatanpassingportalen	URL: www.klimatanpassning.se
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	• Target group (2013/20143): regional and local authorities, as they will be doing much of the actual adaptation work. • Language: Swedish.
Governance	2012 Swedish National Knowledge Centre for Climate Change Adaptation, developed by (and based at the) based at the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) upon request by the 2007 National Commission on Climate and vulnerability, runs the Climate change adaptation portal. (Task not supported by a strong mandate, depends on good will).
Information on the use and the nature of users	• Collects and provides tools and information to help society adapting to cc. • Section of daily updated pages. • Knowledge base by sector. • Tools – how do you work practically (currently a list of links).
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	Links science, policy and practice (sector authorities).
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	Challenges • Limited resources, but high expectations. • Lack of national target. • No national coordination. • Designing the tools and examples areas of the Platform.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	

United Kingdom

Webportal name: Climate Ready Support Service	URL: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/137557.aspx
Objectives, scope and perceived target audience	A support service to help businesses, public sector and other organisations in adapting to a changing climate.
Governance	• The UK Env. Agency was given role in April 2012. • NAP planned to published in July 2013. 2 delivery components: online provision and

	targeted support to key sectors.
Information on the use and the nature of users	The service is built on the previous work by UKCIP. It provides resources, tools and guidance related to CCA.
Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services	Climate Ready Support Service is the umbrella name for the UK National Adaptation Programme.
Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders	Find the right entry point to attract new users.
Challenges and development plans for the coming years	Challenges • UK is very reach in high quality information and tools for CCIVA (mostly developed by UKCIP), but people are not very engaged in using this info. • Build an influential online network. • Authoritative info on future climate exist but are complex for non expert users. • Desire for derived info such as impacts. Development plans for the coming years: • developing on line services to support Climate Ready • use of market research to understand target audience • do not rely on a single platform, look for ways to feed information into existing (e. g. sector) websites and so attract new users • use social media to post information • look for ways to more simplify the information.

European Environment Agency

‘National Adaptation Platforms’ Experts meeting

19 June 2013

EEA premises (Fontana room)
(Kongens Nytorv 6, 1050 Copenhagen, Denmark)

Final Agenda

The overall objectives of the meeting are:

- To exchange experiences about managing existing national web-based platforms on climate change adaptation,
- Learn lessons from these and discuss possible next steps for further developing these and the complementary European Climate Change Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT).

The meeting is targeted at member countries which have an existing climate change adaptation platform, and is held in collaboration with the EU FP7 CIRCLE-2 ERA-NET project (http://www.circle-era.eu/np4/home.html).

The specific objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- Opportunity for countries to present their platforms, the main challenges and the development plans.
- Opportunity for countries and the EEA to learn from each other (e.g. visibility, engaging with the audiences, evaluation of the platform) and explore relationships with each other and Climate-ADAPT
- Need to look at and explore synergies and associated challenges (horizontally and vertically)
- Understanding the adaptation platform landscape across Europe (e.g. scope and objectives, audiences, governance), sharing experiences and lessons learnt, and the main challenges.
- Identify follow-up activities by EEA and/or CIRCLE2.

10.00 – 10.30: Welcome and objectives of the meeting (Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA; André Jol, EEA; Roger Street, UKCIP)

10.30 – 12.30: Presentations of National Adaptation Platforms (Chair: Stéphane Isoard, EEA)

(7 min per presentation)

- Austria
- Belgium
- Cyprus
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- UK

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 15.30: Lessons learned, sharing good practices and main challenges across countries (Chair: André Jol, EEA; Roger Street, UKCIP)

15.30 – 15.45 Coffee break

15.45 – 16.45: Next steps for the European Climate Change Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) in relation to national platforms (Chairs: André Jol, EEA, Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA)

16.45 – 17.00: Closing session - Wrap-up and next steps (Alfonso Gutierrez Teira, EC-DG CLIMA; André Jol, EEA; Roger Street, UKCIP)

Background information

The European Climate Adaptation platform Climate-ADAPT (managed and maintained by EEA in collaboration with the European Commission) was launched in March 2012 and has since then been updated with new information and several improvements are ongoing and planned.

The past years national climate change adaptation platforms have been continued or launched in many EEA member countries, with some common elements but also some differences regarding objectives, types of contents, governance and target audiences.

There is an increasing interest to exchange experiences about managing these existing national web-based platforms on climate change adaptation, to learn lessons from these and discuss possible next steps for further development. In addition there is an interest to explore how to ensure complementarity between national platforms and Climate-ADAPT. Hence EEA, together with CIRCLE2, is organizing an expert meeting on 19 June focusing on these objectives (see also the agenda for the meeting).

Furthermore there are various transnational adaptation platforms emerging (from EU Interreg projects and from various organisations) e.g. for the following regions: Baltic, Alps, Danube, Pyrenees and Carpathians. In addition several European organizations provide information on climate change adaptation on their web sites (e.g. ECDC, WHO, ISDR). However there are various differences between these platforms and national platforms regarding e.g. the objectives, content, target audience and language. Thus it is considered not to be useful to include these platforms in the meeting on 19 June. Instead it is seen as more effective to organise other processes for exchange of information across these transnational and EU-wide platforms, including bilateral discussions with EEA (regarding Climate-ADAPT) and possibly a further workshop in 2013.

The national platforms are asked to give a presentation in the meeting on 19 June on the following topics:

- Objectives, scope and perceived target audience;
- Governance; responsibilities and roles for delivery and management;
- Information on the use and the nature of users;
- Links to national climate (change) services, usually managed by other organisations (e.g. national meteorological institutes) and the perceived key difference between the national adaptation platform and these climate (change) services;
- Lessons learnt and challenges, e.g. on presentation of scenarios, guidance on adaptation actions, adaptation case studies, engagement with target audiences/stakeholders; evaluation of the platform; improvements needed.
- Challenges and development plans for the coming years;
- The relationship between the national platform and Climate-ADAPT;
- Ideas for key follow-up actions after the workshop for EEA and/or for the CIRCLE2 project.

These topics will form the basis for the discussion at the workshop. The outcomes can be used to better define follow-up activities by EEA and/or by the CIRCLE2 project.

Advisory Board for workshops preparation currently consisting of just 1 person: give feedback for next workshop contents and date

List of participants

Country	First name	Last name
Austria	Sabine	MCCALLUM
Belgium	Johan	BOGAERT
Belgium	Maarten	HENS
Cyprus	Kyriaki	IOANNOU
Czech Republic	Simona	LOSMANOVA
Denmark	Louise	GRØNDAHL
Germany	Petra	MAHRENHOLZ
Hungary	Anna	PALDY
Italy	Francesca	GIORDANO
Latvia	Zanda	SKUJA
Norway	Guro	ANDERSEN
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Romania	Constantin	HAREJEU
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Slovenia	Tanja	CEGNAR
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The Netherlands	Hasse	GOOSEN
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CIRCLE-2 Project	Roger	STREET
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EEA	Birgit	Georgi
EEA	Martin	Fuessel
EEA	Stéphane	Isoard