

CIRCLE Newsletter

Climate Impact Research for a Larger Europe www.circle-era.net

Welcome!

CIRCLE is a European Networking project aiming at implementing a European Research Area (ERA) in the field of climate change and adaptation research.

1. About CIRCLE

CIRCLE goals

The aim of CIRCLE is to establish cooperation among national programmes of European countries in the field of climate change impacts and adaptation research. This will be done by promoting information exchange, alignment of research agenda's and the setting out of trans-national research calls.

[More about CIRCLE's goals](#)

Project approach

CIRCLE is organised into eight self-contained but interconnected activities. The first step is to LEARN from each other, then PLAN ways of cooperation in order to be able to CONNECT in the development of joint activities, leading to possible joint calls, so as to FULFIL the means of an ERA-Net. These goals will be enhanced by 4 cross-sectional activities: project management (LEAD), establishing a platform for continued coordination (CONTINUE), enabling groups with similar issues (GROUP) and SPREADING the information to stakeholders.

[More about CIRCLE's project design](#)

2. CIRCLE news

CIRCLE website launched!

The new CIRCLE website went online in May 2006. [Visit the Website.](#)

New results

The extended country report is now available on the website. It contains a description of the current state of national research programmes on climate change impacts and adaptation.

The collected information indicates that most (about 89%) of the considered European countries have a national programme on climate changes impacts and adaptation. Only the Russian federation and Poland do not yet have any national programme related to climate change issues.

Almost all the programmes (92%) encompass basic climate science (climate, climate change, climate protection) and most of them (ca 84%) focus on climate change impacts assessment. A smaller part of them (about 64%) covers adaptation issues too.

[Download the extended country report.](#)

Work package CONNECT

Trans-national adjustment of research agendas can be a tricky matter, intertwined with domestic research politics, national interests as well as constraints of decision makers and particular agendas at various levels. DLR/Germany describes how they will try to make it work.

[Read here about the plans of WP CONNECT.](#)

Workgroup COCO

BELSPO/Belgium draws the inter-linkage between policy COntext and scientific COntent.

The workgroup aims at identifying the driving forces that trigger climate change impact and adaptation research and the critical players interacting in this process. The process acting between the driving forces and the CIRCLE programmes is rather complicated.

[Read here about the approach of WG COCO.](#)

Workgroup MAP

The workgroup on Management and Administration of the CIRCLE partners Programmes MAP aims at mapping the national programmes' administration and management procedures of the CIRCLE partners, in order to provide an information base for trans-national research funding initiatives.

The workgroup has started a new round of questioning to enlarge the information base they build during the first stage of CIRCLE with more countries.

3. Country news

Finland

Finland has published its climate change adaptation strategy in January 2005. It was drawn up as a self-standing and comprehensive work and it was based on available research information and expert assessments and judgements. The main issues of the strategy were later included in the National Climate and Energy Strategy in 2006. The English version of the strategy as well as a brochure is available.

[More about Finland's climate change adaptation strategy](#)

[Download the strategy](#)

Portugal

In Portugal the second report of the project Scenario's, Impact and Adaptation Measures (SIAM II) has been published in the form of a book. The public presentation was chaired by the President, and the Minister for the Environment made an address to the public during the meeting.

[More about Portugal's SIAM project](#)

[Visit the SIAM Homepage.](#)

Poland

In the year 2004 'Poland's national Climate Policy', strategies for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction in Poland until 2020, has been accepted by the Polish Government.

[More about the Polish strategy](#)

Sweden

The government inquiry on Climate and Vulnerability was appointed in the summer of 2005 to map the vulnerability of the Swedish society to climate change and the potential to adapt to it. The investigators will present their proposals in October 2007.

[More about the Swedish Vulnerability Analysis](#)

The Netherlands

The Dutch board of Ministers approved the National Programme Adaptation, Spatial Planning and Climate "Nationaal Programma Adaptatie, Ruimte en Klimaat 'ARK' on March 10 2006. The goal of the programme is to climate proof spatial planning in the Netherlands including setting a National Adaptation Agenda and Strategy. With the programme the Dutch government broadens its climate policy from mitigation to adaptation.

[More about the Dutch Programme](#)

United Nations

The five-year programme of work of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice SBSTA on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change under the UNFCCC advances slowly.

[More about the Five-Year Programme](#)

4. Conferences, Meetings, Workshops

CIRCLE partner countries organise various conferences and workshops on climate impacts and adaptation. The most relevant can be found on the [CIRCLE event page](#).

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