

Prime objective: Networking national research programmes

Overall goal: Implementing a European Research Area (ERA) for the field of climate change

CIRCLE SSA: 2004-2005

CIRCLE CA: 2005-2009

**EU Funding ~ 3 Million EURO
from EU-FP6 ERA-Net scheme (SSA+CA)**

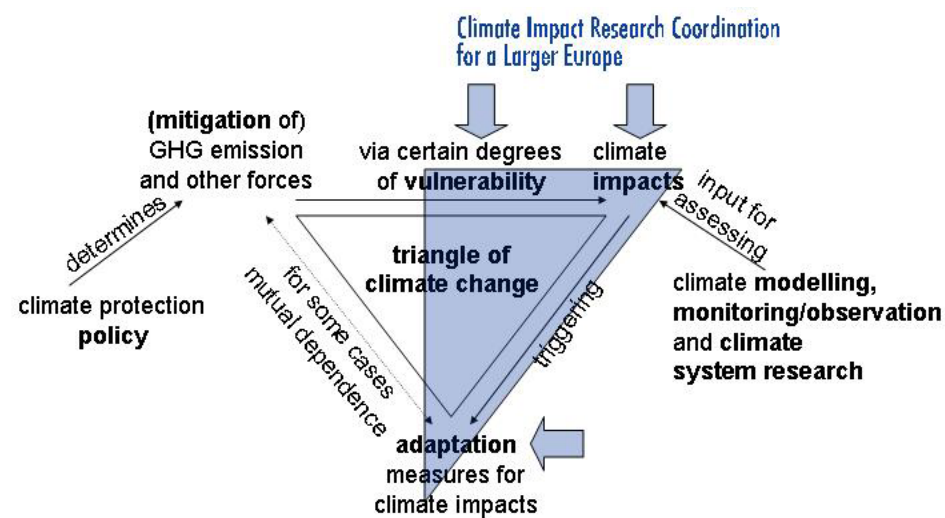
BACKGROUND: THE ERA-NET SCHEME

The **European Research Area (ERA)** is regrouping all European Community supports for the better coordination of research activities and the convergence of research and innovation policies, at national and EU levels. The ERA-Net scheme is a tool for implementing the ERA. It provides support **for trans-national networking and coordination of national research programmes**. It also enables national systems to take on tasks collectively that they would not have been able to tackle independently.

CIRCLE is a networking project, aiming at aligning Europe's national research programmes in the field of climate change impact, adaptation and vulnerability (CCIAV) research and at developing collaborative forms of research. It is a network of research funders sponsored by the EU.

CIRCLE'S SCOPE: ADAPTING TOWARDS EUROPE'S CHANGING CLIMATE

Climate change is increasingly seen as one of the greatest issues facing the world in the 21st century, and Europe is taking a leading role in responding to its challenges.

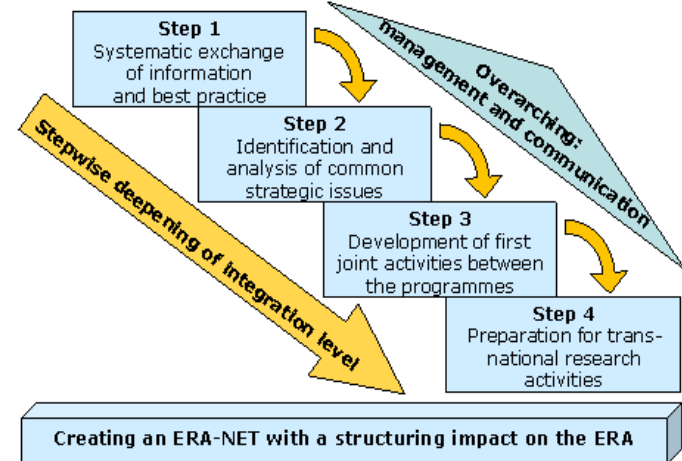


In the field of climate change, research can be grouped in three major areas:

- ✓ The **mitigation** of greenhouse gas emissions.
- ✓ The climate **impact** research: consequences of global climate change on the regional (or sectoral) scale. Certain degrees of vulnerability can be distinguished for certain regions and certain economic sectors.
- ✓ The development of **adaptation** measures to address the adverse effects of climate change, which is more and more becoming a field of its own in research, policy and decision support.

Whatever the success of mitigating climate change may be, **certain impacts are unavoidable** and European countries will need to adapt to those impacts driven by certain vulnerabilities and exposures in the regions of Europe.

CIRCLE objectives:



The adaptation response must be informed by a coherent body of research. CIRCLE will support Europe's adaptation process by establishing a well functioning subsidiary level under the ERA-Net scheme. For example by setting up area-related groups, such as geo-climatic areas and/or areas related to socio-economic circumstances (like the Mediterranean area, Mountainous regions, etc).

CIRCLE PARTNERS

CIRCLE started in summer 2004, with partners from 7 countries. **23 European countries** (including Russia and Israel) are now taking part in the consortium, which remains open for additional regional and national pertinent programmes.



Partners

- ▶ Austria
- ▶ Belgium
- ▶ Finland
- ▶ Israel
- ▶ France
- ▶ Italy
- ▶ Germany
- ▶ Norway
- ▶ Hungary
- ▶ Portugal
- ▶ Netherlands
- ▶ Greece
- ▶ Sweden

Associated countries

- ▶ Denmark
- ▶ UK
- ▶ Ireland
- ▶ Iceland
- ▶ Poland
- ▶ Switzerland
- ▶ Russia
- ▶ Malta
- ▶ Latvia
- ▶ Galicia



FIRST RESULTS

One of CIRCLE's prime objectives is to organise and execute joint calls of the partaking research programmes. Two research calls have been launched so far:

1) Mediterranean Call

Topic: "Integrated Coastal Zones and Water Management", launched on the 11th of July and closed on the 12th of October 2007. 16 proposals were submitted with some 3.3 million euros request for funding.

2) Nordic Call

Topic: "Consequences of climate change for policy making in the Nordic Countries", launched on the 19th of October and closed on the 10th of December 2007. The call had a total maximum budget of 400000 euros.