

News from LIFE LOCAL ADAPT

Our LIFE project is proceeding. In the partner regions Styria and north-west Czech Republic the second round of workshops with municipalities has taken place. In Saxony, the winners of the first contest for municipalities which had submitted concepts for adaptation measures were announced. Especially, we are pleased that the municipality Valka in Latvia will now participate during the whole project period of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT. The municipality already belongs to the EU-wide platform *Covenant of Mayors - Mayors Adapt*. In this newsletter the project partner Valka is in the focus.

If you are interested to receive these information we would like you to register for the newsletter on www.life-local-adapt.eu.

With kind regards

Prof. Dr. Christian Bernhofer

Project coordinator

April 2018

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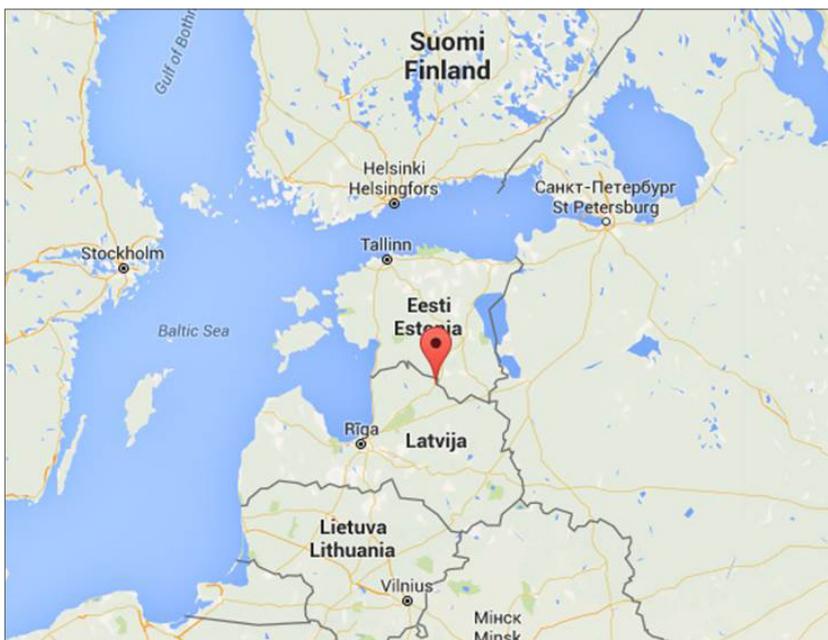
Climate Change in Latvia and Valka municipality



Climate change is an important topic not only on the global but also on the Latvian agenda, and even more locally on the agenda of Valka Municipality. The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Latvian Republic has been assigned to take lead in addressing the climate change related

matters.

Latvia is a relatively small country in Northern Europe and Valka municipality is located in the Northern part of Latvia. Valka municipality consists of Valka City (slightly more than 5000 inhabitants) and rural territories (approximately 4000 inhabitants). The average population density is 10 people per square kilometre. Unfortunately, there are no meteorological stations in the municipality; therefore, the possibility of localized monitoring of climate change in Valka municipality is limited. Taking this into account, together with the fact that the climate in Valka municipality has relatively small deviation from the overall climate in Latvia, the climate-change specific materials mostly relate to the research done on the national level. The identified risks are then assessed against the local situation to determine their relevance.





Summary of nationally identified risks and adaptation activities

In the past years, climate change risks have been identified for Latvia on the national level. Based on previously identified risks of climate change, strategies were developed in order to mitigate the negative impact and facilitate adaptation to the new conditions. It was further narrowed down to the most relevant **national**

adaptation activities based on predicted effectiveness, spectrum of action, implementation cost and effort required, as well as political support probability.

List of nationally identified risks and adaptation measures.

Summary of identified risks and adaptation activities in Valka municipality

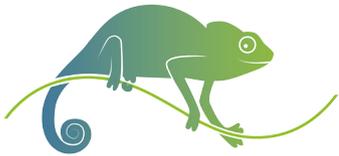
In order to discuss and evaluate the risks and preventive measures for the specific situation in Valka, a group of local specialists were gathered in Valka Municipality Council to attend a meeting on the 8th of September, 2017. Representatives from various fields were invited including health and welfare, construction, tourism, civil protection and work safety, county planning and development, as well as management. The goal of the meeting was to exchange information in various fields of expertise and how the latter can be affected

by climate change, and what kind of adaptive measures are required and can be implemented. Two methods were employed: (1) discussion, in which all identified risks were analysed and the main risks were recognized; (2) written survey that was filled in individually.

Based on the discussions and survey results five climate change risks are considered most relevant for Valka. Adaptation measures to address the respective risks have also been discussed.



Meeting on 8th September, 2017, Valka Municipality Council © Valka Municipality



Healthcare / public health sector

Risks	Adaptation measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic diseases flare (CVD, diabetes etc.) and increase in death rate Acquired endemic state and/or increase in diseases caused by insect-borne infections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informative seminars Raising awareness Educating medical personnel and social workers

Construction and infrastructure planning sector

Risks	Adaptation measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase storm-caused rooftop damage Electrical transmission network damage due to wind gusts Road damage risk due to rainfall caused flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewage system maintenance and upgrade to required level - in the case of heavy rainfall, it's not sufficient to pump large volumes of water; an increase in capacity is required. There is a need to develop technical guidance project to optimize rainwater drainage systems. Inspection of canal locks on river Pedele (Seliņa street) to assess its operational state. Maintaining power lines, ensuring alternative supply; Tree removal around power lines to prevent wind-caused disruptions Exploring alternative energy sources

The identified adaption activities are partially in line with the national research, but in this case, the focus lies on those activities that can be carried out locally.

For example, adjusting legislation or adapting the measurement, prediction or early warning system is also relevant, but taken into account the size of Latvia and Valka, these measures

should be implemented on a national level.

Until the end of 2018, Valka Municipality Council plans to summarize all information about climate change risks and vulnerabilities, adaption actions and submit the **Local Climate Adaption Strategy** and develop a **Monitoring and Evaluation System of Local Climate Adaption Strategy**.



Focus Report Valka

The Valka Municipality Council has already started implementing afore mentioned climate change adaption activities. On the 8th of December 2017 the first training about risks and adaption to climate change in public health and well-being sectors was carried out.

During the trainings representatives from educational institutions were informed about the identified risks in the public health and well-being sector with special focus on tick-borne diseases and virus infection diseases, including a discussion about prevention and mitigation measures. Valka Municipality Council plans to organize also other trainings and informative seminars about climate change risks and activities in other sectors and different target groups.

In addition to the LIFE LOCAL ADAPT project the Valka Municipality Council is also implementing a Europe for Citizens programme project EPICURO (European Partnership for Innovative Cities within an Urban Resilience Outlook).

The objectives of the project are to INTENSIFY citizens awareness on climate change adaptation, to ENCOURAGE dialogue and cooperation between citizens and public administrations, to INCREASE knowledge of local authorities and civil society organizations on climate change and resilience, and to IMPROVE the citizens capacity to respond against natural disasters.

More info: <http://www.epicuronetwork.eu/>



Training on 8th September, 2017, Valka Municipality Council © Valka Municipality



Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union



Results of the 2nd round of municipality workshops in Styria

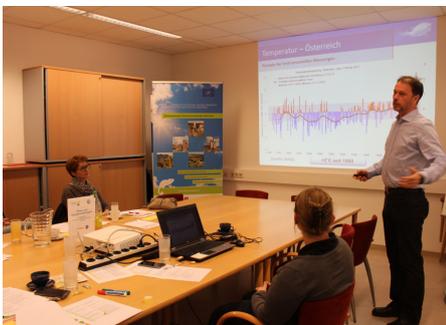
The second workshops took place during January and February 2018 in all five LIFE LOCAL ADAPT Municipalities.

In the second workshop, the participants had the possibility to gain a deeper understanding of how climate change will affect every municipality. The goal of the first workshop was to define three additional indicators (in addition to temperature and precipitation) for the regional factsheets. Now the goal of the second workshop was to present the results and to prepare together with the local stakeholders a regional adaptation plan.

At the beginning of the second workshop Mr.

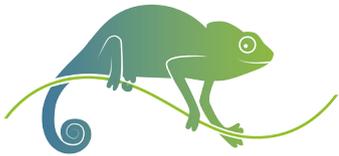
Gobiet from the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik tried to give every municipality a feeling of how the municipalities will look like when, for example, the days of heat will rise. After the introduction of the stakeholders were asked to prioritize the measures that were prepared for them.

At the end of the day, every municipality had at least three measures for every sector (residential area, security of supply, health care, social services and education, agriculture, forestry, ecosystems and economy). We (Land Steiermark) will work out every prioritized measure in detail and discuss it afterwards with the community leaders.



BILDUNG UND GLOBALE VERANTWORTUNG	
Maßnahme	Ziel
BG 1 Ausbau der Erwachsenenbildung zu Klimawandel, Klimaschutz und Anpassung. Multiplikatoren für „Bildungsstrategie Klimawandelanpassung“ nutzen, um das Thema außerhalb des schulischen Bereichs dauerhaft zu kommunizieren.	Erhöhung des Wissensstandes zum Thema Klimawandel und den Anpassungsmöglichkeiten, um Unsicherheiten in der Bevölkerung zu verringern
BG 2 Klimawandel und Anpassung als Schwerpunkt (gemeinsam mit globaler Verantwortung) in Schulen verankern sowie didaktische Materialien dahingehend er- und überarbeiten	Das Thema Klimawandel und die Anpassungsmöglichkeiten soll im Rahmen von Schwerpunkten in den schulischen Bereich integriert werden
BG 3 Unterstützung von Projekten und Initiativen zur Entwicklungszusammenarbeit	Projekte und Initiativen in Drittländern sollen in Zukunft verstärkt alle Klimaaspekte berücksichtigen und die dortigen Umwelt- und Lebensbedingungen sowie Gesundheit und Ernährung vor Ort verbessern. Dadurch soll die Widerstandsfähigkeit der lokalen Gesellschaften gegenüber Klimarisiken verstärkt werden.
BG 4 Berücksichtigung von externen Auswirkungen bei der Klimawandelanpassungspolitik, um die Auslagerung negativer oder sogar kontraproduktiver Effekte zu verhindern	Die Konsum- und Lebensgewohnheiten der industrialisierten Staaten bewirken vielfach negative Auswirkungen in den Ländern der Dritten Welt. Diese gilt es zu minimieren

Second workshops © Land Steiermark



Results of 2nd participatory workshop in Litoměřice

The 2nd participatory workshop in Litoměřice took place on 31st October 2017. Twelve stakeholders were acquainted with the results of previous workshop and were asked to assess their perception of different types of adaptation measures from different perspectives in the context of possible implementation in Litoměřice. Beside the other important re-

sults, it was shown, that adaptation measures with the highest priority among the stakeholder are:

- (i) rainwater retention and re-use for irrigation;
- (ii) permeable surfaces (increasing share), and
- (iii) trees and alleys (see Fig. 1).

Obtained results are to be reflected in adaptation strategy, which is being prepared.

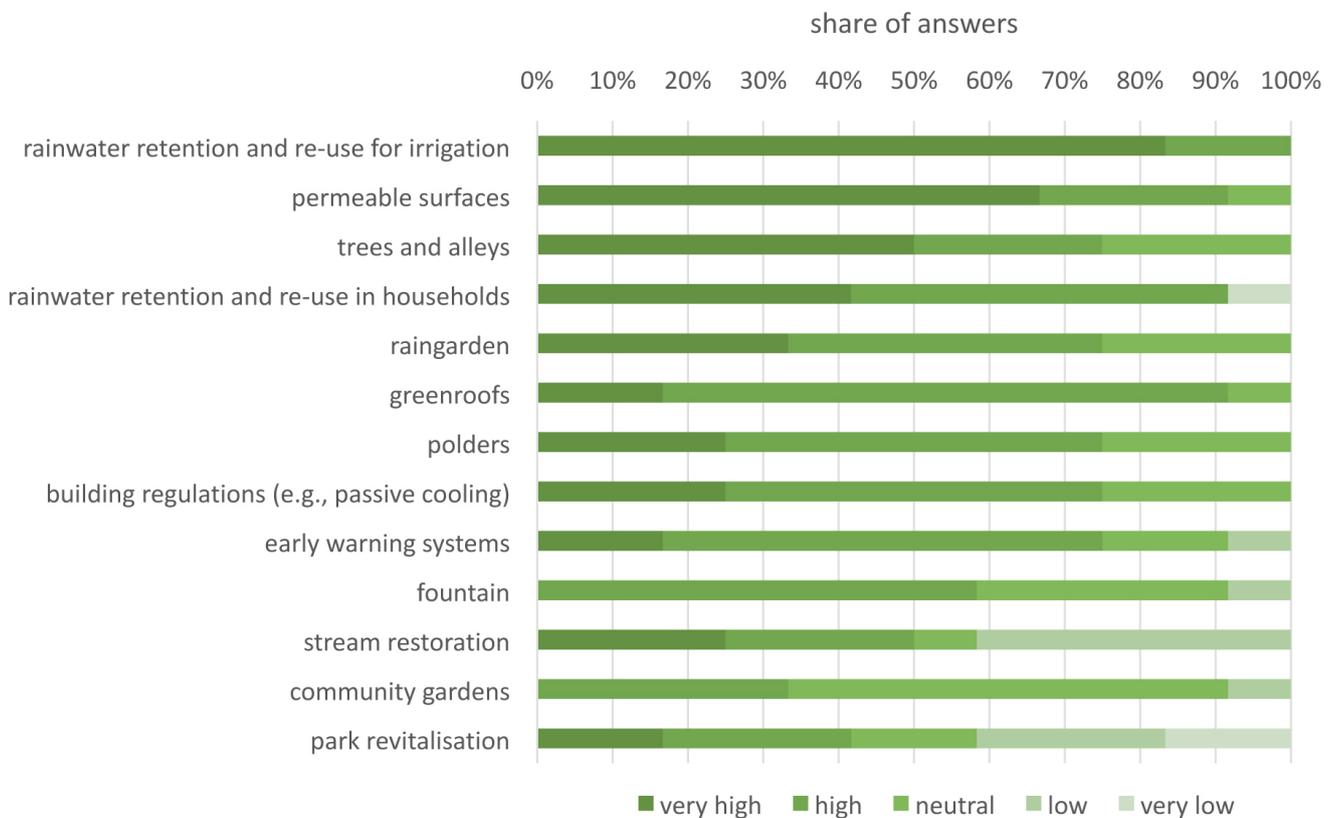
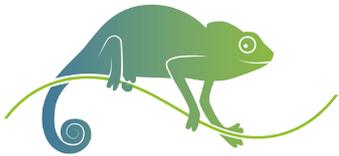


Fig. 1. Priority assessment of different types of adaptation measures among the stakeholders in Litoměřice.



Workshop in Litoměřice. © CzechGlobe



Results of 2nd participatory workshop in Ústí nad Labem

The 2nd participatory workshop in Ústí nad Labem took place on 1st December 2017. As in Litoměřice, eleven participating stakeholders were acquainted with the results of previous workshop and were asked to assess their perception of different types of adaptation measures from different perspectives in the context of possible implementation in Ústí nad Labem.

It was shown, that adaptation measures with highest priority among the stakeholder are: (i) permeable surfaces (increasing share), (ii) trees and alleys, and (iii) rainwater retention and re-use for irrigation (see Fig. 2). Preferred adaptation measures are similar to those identified by the stakeholders in Litoměřice.

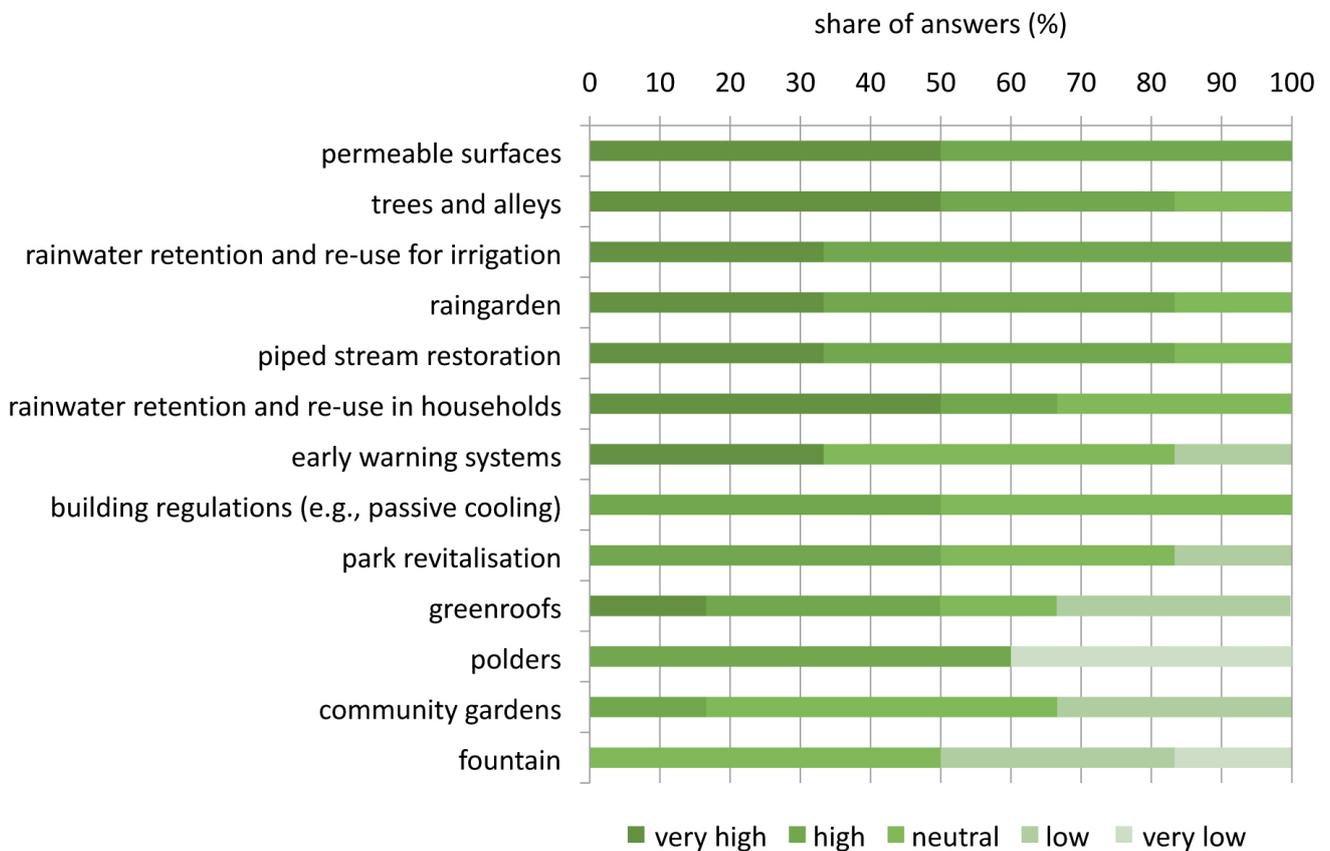


Fig. 2. Priority assessment of different types of adaptation measures among the stakeholders in Ústí nad Labem.



Workshop in Ústí nad Labem. © CzechGlobe



Six Good Ideas of Municipal Climate Adaptation Awarded

On the 7th of December 2017, the winners of the contest „Climate Adaptation in Saxon Municipalities“ were publicly announced and ho-

nored at the Climate Colloquium in the Saxon Development Bank in Dresden.



Winners of the contest © LfULG/Irini von Rechenberg

In 2017 small and medium-sized cities and municipalities applied to the Saxon State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology with ideas for climate adaptation. In autumn, an expert jury selected six winning ideas from twelve propositions. The selected non-investment climate adaptation measures will be supported with an amount ranging between EUR 15,000 and EUR 50,000. Examples of the measures sup-

ported are planning, analysis and workshops. The key issues range from adapting to heavy rain events in the city of Zittau to a climate-adapted urban greenspace in the city of Tharandt up to studying the impacts of climate change on the groundwater balance in the district of Mittelsachsen.

Brief overview of all six project ideas:



Status Report Saxony

The city of **Coswig** is planning a comprehensive revitalization of the island Gauernitzer Elbinsel. A prerequisite to this is the opening and reactivation of an old disused arm of the brook Lockwitzbachs. As a basis for planning, a hydrodynamic-numerical model should be used to calculate the flow guarantee, taking into account heavy rainfall events. The project will enlarge the retention area of the river Elbe and create positive synergies in tourism (e.g. cycle path Elberadweg).

In the city of **Freital**, the surface water from the arable land currently flows through private plots of land into the Poisenbach, causing pollution, deposits and damage to the slope. As part of the adaption project, runoff calculations, land-use recommendations and protection against soil erosion will be carried out. In addition, a mediation process should help resolve the conflicts between the participants.

The model project **Lauta-Süd** aims to improve the living environment under the influence of climate change. The planned concept includes the planning of greening and rainwater retention measures, which cause shading and cooling in the residential area and thus will help create leisure and well-being islands. The city of Lauta pursues the goal of significantly upgrading a previously disadvantaged residential area.

The district of **Mittelsachsen** secures its water supply primarily via its own water resources in the district. The planned concept aims to investigate the effects of climate change on the groundwater balance and thus make it possible to permanently secure the water supply. This will consider the requirements of specific

emergency and crisis situations.

In the city of **Tharandt**, decision-making aids and recommendations for a climate-friendly urban green are created. Firstly, the existing city green will be recorded and evaluated. Subsequently, the results will be incorporated into a geographic information system. In addition to planting recommendations, the city wants to take advantage of the synergies for the development of a land-use plan, or the expansion of public playgrounds.

The city of **Zittau** plans to draw up a master plan „Adaption to Climate-Induced Heavy Rain Events“. The holistic concept should contribute to the reduction of erosion damage and improve the handling of affected owners. Additionally, information for the population will be created and problem awareness regarding heavy rain risks increased.

Taking both idea competitions of 2017 and 2019 into consideration, municipal best-practice projects for climate change adaption will be supported in the conception and planning. Up to a total of 300,000 Euros from the European Union and the Free State of Saxony are planned for the two contests.

The aim of the European LIFE project „LIFE LOCAL ADAPT“ is to integrate climate change into the current administrative procedures of small and medium-sized municipalities. This will be done through practical workshops and targeted information on existing risks of climate change and possible adaptation measures.

For further information, please contact LfULG: Dominic Rumpf and Katerina Schawaller, E-Mail: klima.lfulg@smul.sachsen.de



Status Report Saxony

Current workshops in municipalities

In order to coordinate further steps to realize the municipal climate adaptation projects and to inform all involved (municipal) actors, two work meetings and two workshops took place in the first quarter of 2018 in the winners' municipalities.

The meetings took place with a reduced body of the project participants in Freital on the 11th of November, 2018 and in Zittau on the 18th of January, 2018. The meetings were used to coordinate further steps regarding the successful fulfillment of the projects. The discussions took place in a constructive and positive spirit.

During the workshops in the district of Central Saxony (Mittelsachsen, city Döbeln) on the 23rd of January, 2018 and in Lauta on the 25th of January, 2018, the stakeholders were informed

about the project. Through the means of exciting and stimulating group work and discussion, the priorities of the projects could be set together.

The measure in Lauta is very participative-oriented, because it is focused on the adaptation to climate change in a residential area. In order to allow the information and participation of all interested citizens and tenants' associations, a second workshop will be held on the 20th of March, 2018. All stakeholders can express their wishes in relation to the project.

In the first quarter of 2018, LfULG will prepare a specification for the six winning project ideas in cooperation with the winning municipalities to advertise the public tender of the planning services in the second quarter of 2018.



Workshop Mittelsachsen (Döbeln), 23.1.2018
© LfULG

Workshop Lauta, 25.1.2018 © LfULG



2nd World Symposium on Climate Change Communication

The second World Symposium on Climate Change Communication took place in Graz, Austria, from the 7th to the 9th February of 2018.

The focus was on “addressing the challenges in communicating climate change across various audiences”, and to provide a platform for reflections on climate change communication research and practice. The Symposium also offered concrete contributions towards a better understanding and in catalysing further action to better communicate climate change.

The event purposed for showcasing experiences from research, field projects and best practice to foster climate change communication among various settings and audiences. Together with the Federal Environment Agency and with the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie and Geodynamik Styria submitted an abstract

about “Working with regional adaptation managers in Austria: applying interactive methods for communicating climate and adaptation information”. The paper reflects on interactive, bi-directional communication methods applied when working with actors from different regions. It highlights the need to go beyond the information deficit and to emphasise the co-production process of climate change and adaptation knowledge, involving experts and actors from all levels.

Except the experiences gained from working with and motivating regional stakeholders during the project LIFE LOCAL ADAPT, the abstract is also addressed to the KLAR!-programme from the Climate and Energy funds Austria where 23 regions are supported in developing targeted adaptation strategies.

Cities and Climate Change Science Conference, Edmonton, Canada

The „Cities and Climate Change Science Conference“ was organized by CitiesIPCC and held in Edmonton from March 5-7, 2018. The conference aimed to inspire the next frontier of research focused on the science of cities and climate change.

In the framework of developing an „Integrated Urban Complexity model“ GERICS staff members Kevin Sieck and Roger Cremades gave

two talks. Furthermore the conference provided an excellent opportunity to discuss, exchange experiences and network with international practitioners.

One of the most important overall messages important also for LIFE LOCAL ADAPT is the following: The best way forward is to learn from other cities. What can your city teach others about climate action?



“Annaberger Klimatage” 16 - 17 May 2018 in Annaberg-Buchholz (Eastern Ore Mountains in Saxony)

This year's climate conference “Annaberger Klimatage” (Climate Days) deals with the topic „Low Mountain Ranges - A White Spot in Climate Change?“.

As a part of the conference, the LIFE LOCAL ADAPT project will also be presented with the municipal winning ideas of the 2017 contest.

Conference program of the 11th Annaberg Klimatage:

<https://www.umwelt.sachsen.de/umwelt/klima/47104.htm>

The conference will be simultaneously translated into English. If unable to attend, you can follow the specialist lectures via Live-Streaming (English).

Every two years since 2001, renowned climate scientists and representatives of specialist authorities, associations, chambers and educational institutions have come together for the Annaberger Klimatage. Over the years, the event has become one of the nation's leading conferences on regional climate change.

The “Annaberger Klimatage“ is a joint event of the Saxon State Foundation for Nature and Environment with the Saxon State Ministry of Environment and Agriculture, the Saxon State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology, the Technical University Bergakademie Freiberg, the Technical University Dresden, the city of Annaberg-Buchholz and the county Erzgebirgskreis, the German Meteorological Society and the German Weather Service.

Further information and registration:

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Adaptation Futures 2018, 18 - 21 June 2018

Dialogues for Solutions, Cape Town, South Africa

Further information and programme: <http://adaptationfutures2018.capetown/>



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For further information please visit our website: www.life-local-adapt.eu

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