

CIA/CLEVER – climate impact actions/climate events responses

Q: What is the addressed challenge shared between the countries?

- How to implement a (national) climate adaptation strategy at all authority levels whilst giving space to public and stakeholder involvement?
- How to deal with future extreme weather events, either too much or too little water?
- How to realize policies that diminish the impact of climate change?

Q: What could be the objective of the project?

- to find methods for reaching out at concrete planning regulations level
- to create scientific and process support for local and regional planning officers in filtering the enormous amount of information, tool boxes and climate portals already available
- to create a European climate change platform for interchange of experiences

Q: What do you want from the other participants?

- willingness to open up existing and coming projects for pan-European exchange of knowledge and of best practices for regions outside the North Sea region
- willingness to include partners from the ENCORE¹ network in coming NSR projects, potentially even outside the eligible area

Background: in many regions a climate adaptation strategy is being developed, often at national or regional level. How to implement these on decisive levels? We concentrate on extreme weather events that roughly can be divided in scarcity or abundance of water. Priority often is on abundance as immediate action is needed; drought is a long-term (slow) process and it is easier to wait and see what happens. Maybe it gets better next week! Both types of events will occur more often in the future. How to prepare for nasty decisions that influence our way of living? How to filter all available information, toolboxes, weather and climate portals for proper decision-making? How do we know that we really reach out with our message?

Climate change strategy should be internalised in each planning perspective, which means that climate is inside each and everyone's head and part of regular thinking. Compare it with accessibility: no architect draws without incorporating accessibility criteria, no municipal planner dares to plan a sidewalk forgetting the disabled. How to get that far that even climate change is in each planner's mind? What is the resistance against changes? How to get this one step further? We should include social sciences more in climate change processes.

A climate change strategy cannot be realised relying on free market mechanisms. A climate change strategy needs public support and political consensus – it is a long-term perspective that cannot be dependent of short-term election results or commercial interests. At the same time it is a kind of a 'Magical Mystery Tour': how to get into the heads and hearts and get people committed. It is climate adaptation as much as climate mitigation,

1. We have to react when heavy rainfall occurs, we have to do something when people suffer from heat waves, and we have to act when there is not enough water in case of drought. We need a better coordination between authorities; we need action plans for public safety. We need planning for casualties.
2. We have to plan including climate change
example building sector: design goods terminals that can use all transport modes, promote and demand passive houses for reduction of energy use
and build both on places to avoid the impact of heavy rainfall or flooding
example drought: we have to propose and impose water restriction measures that each and everyone respects and at the same time we will have to reflect on subsidies to future agriculture, on what tourism will be common, on sustainable use of water reservoirs.

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¹ <http://www.provincie.drenthe.nl/encoreweb/>