

News from LIFE LOCAL ADAPT

This newsletter focuses on reports on LIFE LOCAL ADAPT's participation in two international conferences: the European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA 2019) in Lisbon and the Urban Resilience Forum in Bonn. At both conferences, LIFE LOCAL ADAPT activities were presented in detail and discussed with stakeholders from other projects. We are very happy about the successful presentations and the positive feedback.

An important regional event will be the Status Colloquium Climate of the LfULG on 5 December in Dresden, where the current project status will be presented and the winners of the second competition round in Saxony will be awarded. The already active communities from the first round will organise a panel discussion. You are cordially invited to participate in the Status Colloquium Climate!

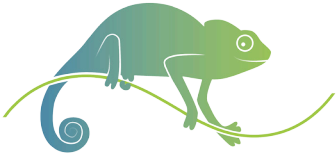
If you are interested to receive this information regularly, we would like you to register for the newsletter on www.life-local-adapt.eu. Please feel free to forward the newsletter to interested colleagues.

With kind regards

Prof. Dr. Christian Bernhofer

December 2019

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LIFE LOCAL ADAPT at ECCA 2019

In May, a LIFE LOCAL ADAPT team from TU Dresden, LfULG, CzechGlobe, GERICS and the Province of Styria participated in the 4th European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA, www.ecca2019.eu, 28-31 May 2019) held at the Centro Cultural de Belém in Lisbon, Portugal.

Every two years, the ECCA provides an international forum for knowledge sharing and discussion among different actors working on adaptation to the impacts of climate change. The conference thus supports the mutual coordination and create synergies in climate adaptation, the reduction of climate risks as well as strategies and their practical implementation. It provides an opportunity to share knowledge with adaptation experts and to learn about new research findings and alternative approaches to stakeholder engagement. The programme included the following topics:

1. Data, methods and approaches in climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction
2. Co-production of knowledge, solutions and services
3. Communication, data-sharing and decision support
4. Institutions, governance, citizens and social justice
5. Global climate challenges
6. Climate risk management and resilience

Next to various EU LIFE funded projects, the ECCA also provided general information on the EU LIFE programme. This also included the LIFE Climate Action, which was presented by Bernd Decker, representative of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterpri-

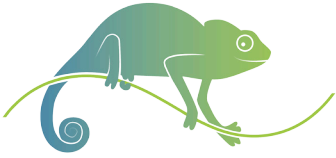
ses (EASME) of the European Commission.

The aim of our LIFE LOCAL ADAPT project at the ECCA was to exchange results and share the initiatives, approaches and experiences on climate change adaptation in small and medium-sized communities. A total of four talks and two posters were presented by our team.

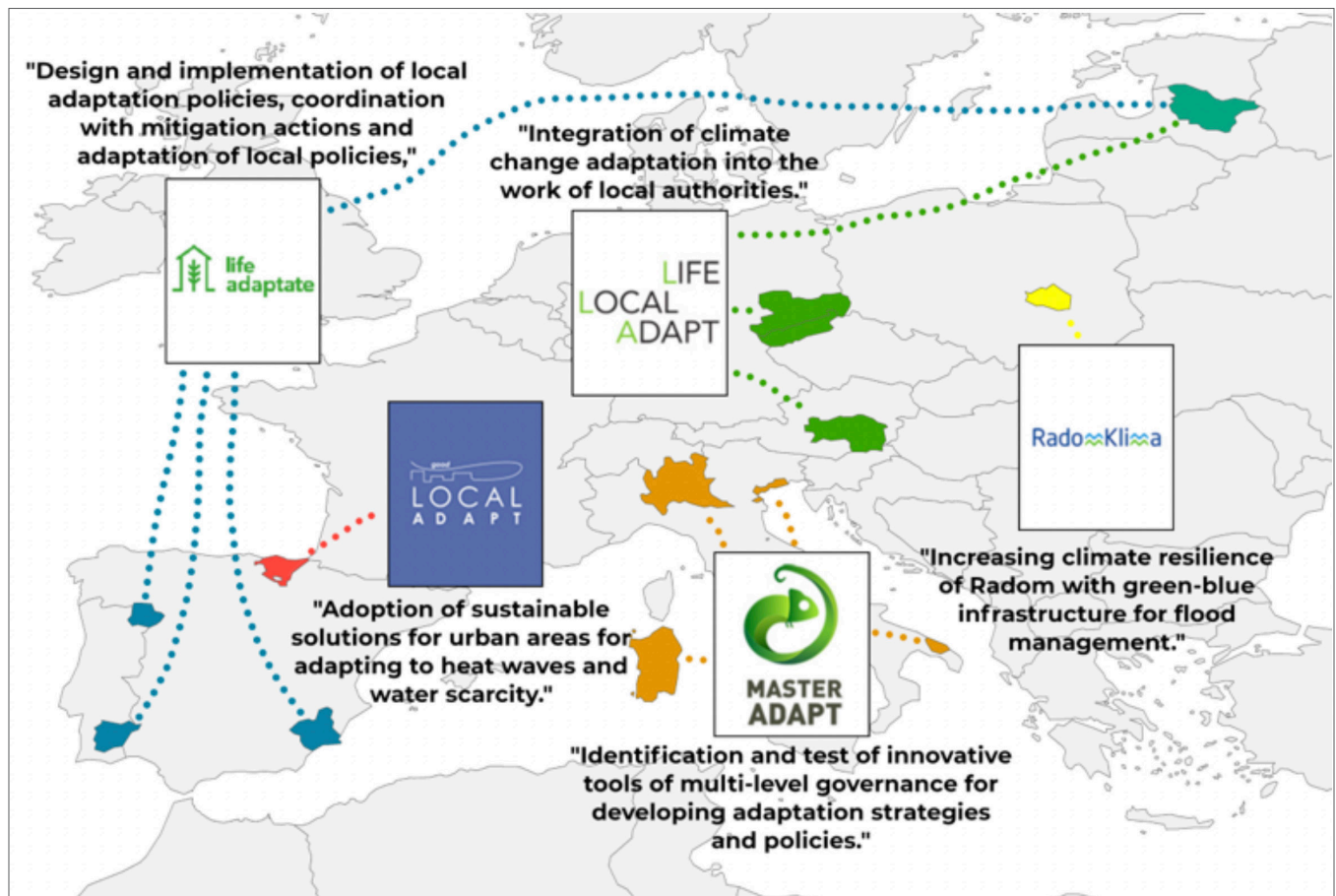
Own Session of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT

LIFE LOCAL ADAPT has initiated its own session together with other projects funded by EU LIFE. The session “EU LIFE Programme: Supporting the Integration and Joint Development of Climate Adaptation in Small and Medium-Sized Municipalities” took place under the ECCA topic „Co-production of knowledge, solutions and services“ and aimed in particular at enhancing networking among LIFE projects. The session was opened by a talk of the TU Dresden, which highlighted the challenges and obstacles of climate adaptation, in particular in relation to the impacts of heavy rainfall, drought and heat stress. CzechGlobe followed with sharing experiences, lessons learned and successful best-practice examples from the LIFE LOCAL ADAPT pilot regions Saxony (Germany), Styria (Austria), Valka (Latvia) and the North-West Region of the Czech Republic. Titles and speakers were:

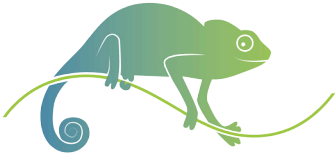
1. The EU project LIFE LOCAL ADAPT: Challenges for small and medium-sized municipalities to adapt to climate change in four European regions presented by Majana Heidenreich, TU Dresden, Germany
2. Lessons learned and best practices from LIFE LOCAL ADAPT municipalities presented by Helena Dubchová, CzechGlobe, Czech Republic



3. LifeAdaptate project: Supporting commitment of the European municipalities presented by Rafael Ataz, Instituto de Fomento de la Región de Murcia, Spain
4. The LIFE MASTER ADAPT project: MAIN-STREAMING Experiences at Regional and local level for ADAPTation to climate change presented by Gianluca Cocco, Regione Autonoma della Sardegna, Italy
5. New approach to climate change adaptation in Radom based on the presently conducted LIFE project presented by Katarzyna Jankowska, Radom Municipality, Poland
6. Project Life-Good Local Adapt: Facilitating good adaptation in urban areas of small and medium-sized municipalities of the Basque Country, Spain presented by Julie-Marie Urban, Factor, Spain



Map of LIFE projects presented during the session at ECCA2019. ©Vojtěch Cuřín



Further contributions from LIFE LOCAL ADAPT at the ECCA 2019

In addition to our own session, two further talks were given by Dominic Rumpf of LfULG.

In his first talk, Dominic highlighted the efforts of municipalities in Saxony and the supporting role of the LfULG in developing climate adaptation solutions in his talk on “How local authorities of small and medium-sized municipalities can be actively and successfully involved in climate adaptation”.

In his second talk Dominic introduced the web-based tool “ReKIS kommunal”“, which was developed by LIFE LOCAL ADAPT particularly for small and medium-sized municipalities and integrated into the existing ReKIS platform (www.rekis.org).

The presentations were further illustrated by two posters dealing with resilience to heat stress and heavy rainfall. They presented climate impacts as well as approaches and challenges of climate adaptation with selected best practice examples.

We are looking forward to further successful events in the future, where we can report on the positive progress in all pilot regions of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT!

Further information on ECCA 2019:

Homepage <https://www.ecca2019.eu>

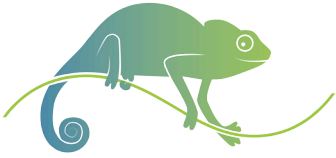
Twitter <https://twitter.com/ecca2019>



The LIFE LOCAL ADAPT Team with the poster „Measures of heat stress resilience of small and medium-sized communities”, presented by Bettina Fischer (from left to right: Dominic Rumpf, LfULG; Vojtěch Cuřín, Helena Duchková, CzechGlobe; Thorsten Weber, GERICS; Barbara Köstner, Majana Heidenreich, TU Dresden; Bettina Fischer, Styria)
© Barbara Köstner



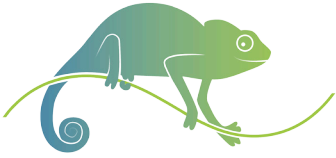
Bernd Decker from EASME, EU Commission (left) and Dominic Rumpf from LfULG (right) during the poster session © Barbara Köstner



LIFE session at ECCA 2019, from left to right: The speakers from Murcia/Spain, Poland, Czechia, Germany, Italy and Basque Country/Spain and chairman Vojtěch Cuřin from CzechGlobe © Barbara Köstner



Majana Heidenreich from TU Dresden presenting the poster on heavy-rain resilience at the poster session on climate risk management and resilience © Barbara Köstner



LIFE LOCAL ADAPT at the European Urban Resilience Forum

The “European Urban Resilience Forum” is a unique platform to learn about and discuss strategies for climate change adaptation and thus increase the resilience of cities. A special feature of the forum is its very interactive character.

At 38°C, many inspiring discussions were held with cities on ways to implement climate adaptation measures. The focus was on smaller municipalities, in which capacities, resources and administration of the smaller municipalities sometimes differ considerably from those of larger cities. Participants were encouraged to share their experiences and views on different issues, to address existing challenges in local adaptation to climate change and to explore possible future collaborations. The Forum had three main themes:

- nature-based solutions for urban resilience;
- multi-level governance for adaptation planning;
- and financing resilience and adaptation

The challenges of adaptation planning in smaller cities and municipalities, their specific support needs and possible solutions were discussed in a session organised by Birgit Georgi (Strong

Cities in a Changing Climate) and Majana Heidenreich (LIFE LOCAL ADAPT). Besides the Italian municipality of Urbino, two partner municipalities of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT, the German municipality of Coswig and the municipality of Weiz in Austria were also involved.

The biggest challenge that was addressed during this session was the fact that there are often no human resource capacities in smaller municipalities. Especially in small communities the lack of personnel, financial resources and expert knowledge is a tremendous issue.

Initiatives such as the EU project LIFE LOCAL ADAPT are very important when it comes to supporting local actors with expert knowledge and co-developing concrete measures for action to adapt to climate change. By participating in projects like these, capacities can be built in the communities and thus support local actors, in the context of adaptation to climate change.

Further Information on Urban Resilience Forum 2019:

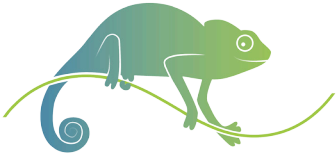
Homepage: <http://www.urbanresilienceforum.eu>

Twitter: <https://tinyurl.com/qssqegc>



LIFE LOCAL ADAPT Session at the Urban Resilience Forum

© Majana Heidenreich



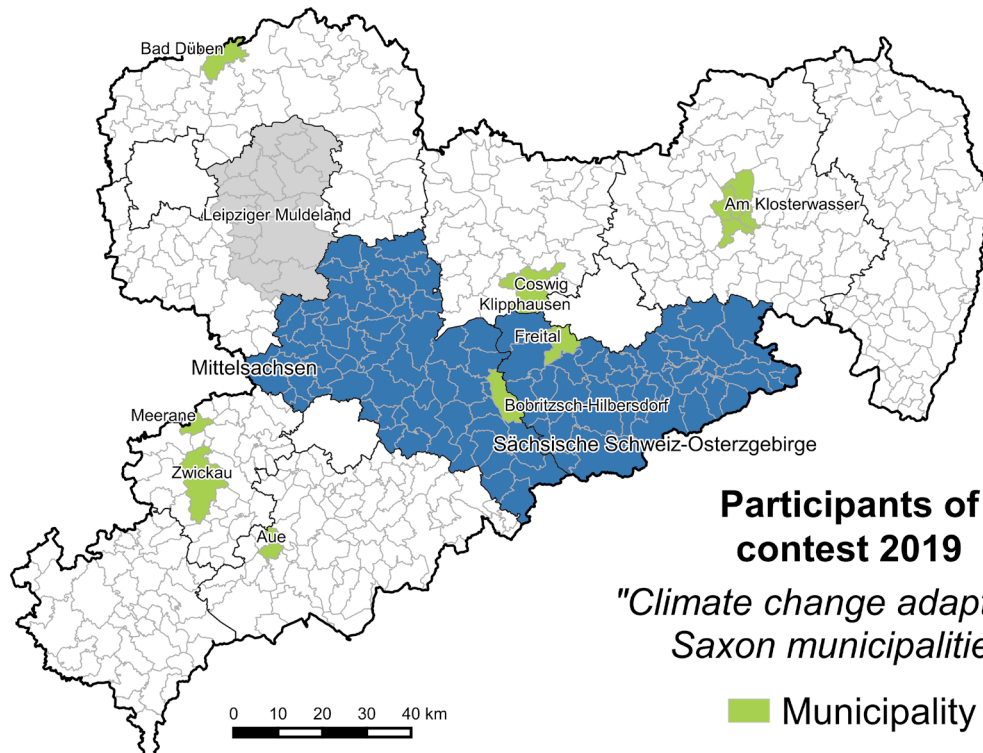
Contest 2019

The tool “Contest”, which was successfully tested 2017 to promote innovative projects for climate change adaptation, was continued this year in a second call for tenders.

A total of 13 ideas were submitted to this year’s call. Overall, there is a focus on measures to adapt the management of water bodies and their immediate surroundings. Water management concepts aiming at the near-natural development of streams and rivers is a major component of these applications. In addition, the need for adaptation measures in the areas of heavy rainfall, erosion and flooding is comparatively well represented.

In addition, applications were submitted for individual, concrete projects. These range from vertical green façades, bus stop greening, revitalisation of an Elbe island to the construction of a village pond. Similar to the last contest, the development of urban greenery and ensuring water supply in emergency and crisis situations remains of interest with regard to future climate changes. Two applications focus on the need to communicate climate adaptation issues.

An independent jury selected six out of the 13 submitted proposals for funding. The winners will be awarded at the status climate colloquium in Dresden on 5 December.

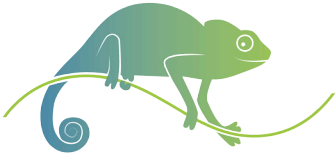


Participants of contest 2019

"Climate change adaption in Saxon municipalities"

ReKIS

Map created by order of LfULG
Geo-database: © 2019
State-owned enterprise for Geo-information and Surveying Saxony
Geo information: © 2019, Saxon State Office for Environment,
Agriculture and Geology



Workshops

The final event of the subproject in Freital took place in August 2019. The commissioned planning office presented measures to reduce erosion and their effectiveness. Green strips and embankments not only have a positive effect on the outflow of wild water, but also reduce soil erosion. The residents welcomed such measures as positive. The next challenge for the city administration will be the concrete implementation.

The Status Colloquium Climate of the LfULG will take place on 05. Dec. 2019. The thematic focus of the meeting will be the municipal

perspective. The selected project ideas for adaptation to climate change in this year's 2019 contest will be announced. During the meeting possibilities, success and obstacles to municipal work in this area will also be discussed in a panel session.

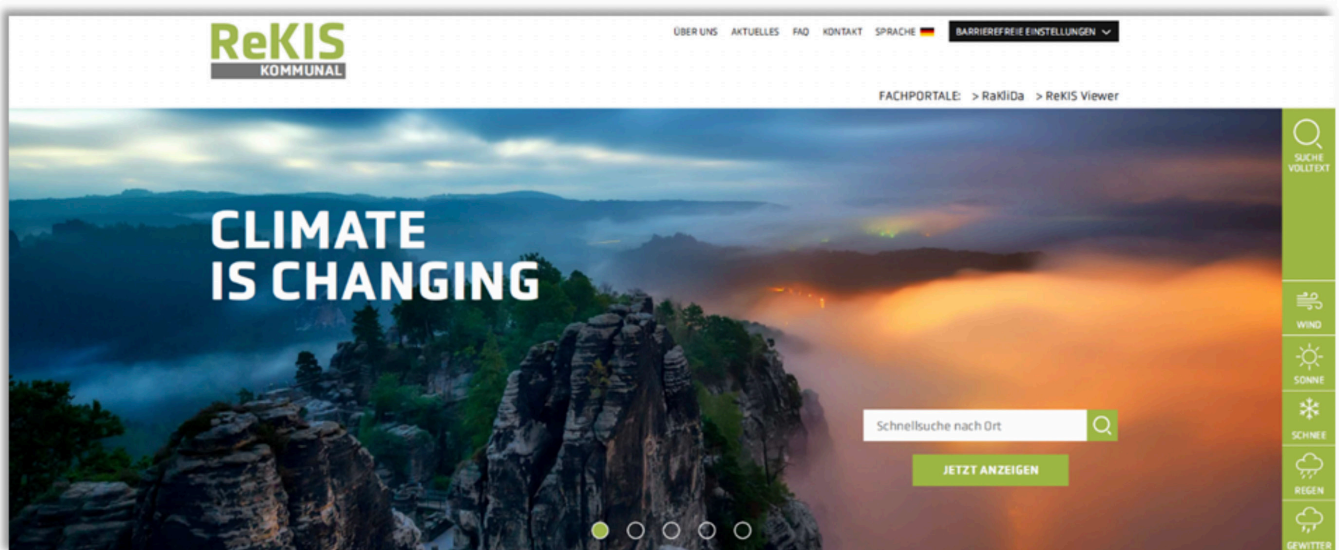
A workshop is planned for the municipalities, in which the topic of heat and health will be addressed. The experts will report on the topic from different perspectives and the focus of this event will be on heat-related health damage among vulnerable, sick and dependent people. This workshop will take place in February 2020.

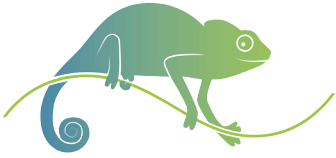
„ReKIS kommunal“

The layout and user guidance of the Regional Climate Information System (ReKIS) and the Portal for Municipalities (ReKIS kommunal) will be re-designed by Graphixer from Kamenz.

A very important aspect is the optimization of the

user guidance. The aim is to present existing offers of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT to our target group, the municipalities, in the best possible way. The release of ReKIS.de is planned for the Status Colloquium Climate on 5. December 2019.





Climate change adaptation communities in Styria

The action plans for the five Styrian pilot communities have been completed and are currently being presented and politically adopted in the respective environmental committees.

In the course of the LIFE LOCAADAPT project, more and more Styrian municipalities showed interest in working more intensively on the topic of adaptation to climate change. For this reason, the follow-up project „Climate Change Adaptation Communities of Styria” was developed for another ten Styrian communities.

In a first step, to deal not only with climate change but at the same time also adaptation to climate change, the project is structured in such a way that a basic workshop on climate

change adaptation is held in the municipalities following an initial discussion.

Subsequently, a climate change impacts assessment will be carried out, in which the risks for landslides, damage caused by heavy rainfall, but also heat days etc. will be discussed and clarified.

At the end, these communities will also receive an action plan in which concrete measures will be identified as the basis for actions and risks discussed in the workshop.

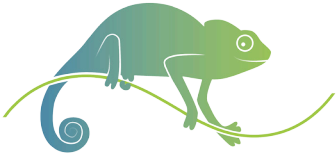
This project has just started, but the interest of the municipalities and the willingness to deal with the issue of adaptation is very high in all municipalities.



Flyer for the 10 climate change adaptation communities of Styria, © Land Steiermark



First workshop in the community of St. Barbara in Mürztal, © Land Steiermark



Visit of a delegation from Valka to Graz, Styria

A delegation from the municipality of Valka visited the Styrian provincial government in Graz from 05. to 08. November 2019 to share experiences and discuss adaptation projects. Members of the delegation from Latvia were Viesturs Zarins, deputy chairman of the municipal council, Gunta Smane, head of the development and planning department, Lasma Engere, her deputy and Toms Simtins, project manager. Bettina Fischer and Andrea Gössinger-Wieser, members of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT from the Energy and Housing Department of the Styrian Provincial Government, organised the visit on behalf of Styria. During the study trip the following activities took place:

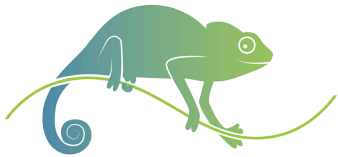
1. Excursion: "Sponge City", presentation and guided tour, office for landscape architecture „Freiland“.
2. Introduction to climate adaptation in the province of Styria with visits to the departments of energy and housing; disaster control; water management, resources and sustainability; health and science.
3. Smart City Graz - presentation and guided tour, "Stadtlabor Graz", Austria
4. Excursion to the municipality of Weiz, practice partner of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT; reduction of heat stress through urban greenery, demonstrated on the roof and facade of the city hall of Weiz.
5. Excursion: Challenges of agriculture, visit of the Styrian wine-growing region; exchange with winegrowers about problems of viticulture with landslides, erosion, late frost and drought in climate change.

Next annual project meeting in Valka

The municipality of Valka will host the next LIFE LOCAL ADAPT annual meeting from 25. to 27. May 2020.

In addition to the project meeting, we look for-

ward to sharing experiences with the municipality and visiting local adaptation projects of our easternmost project partner.



The second round of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT in the North-west region

As reported in previous newsletters, the cooperation of the department of Human Dimension of Global Change, CzechGlobe, with municipalities of Litoměřice and Ústí nad Labem was successfully finished. Thus, the second round of call for cooperation has been announced in spring 2019.

In the second round, nine municipalities in the North-west region, Czech Republic were contacted. Two of the candidates were interested in the cooperation and advantages that LIFE LOCAL ADAPT offers.

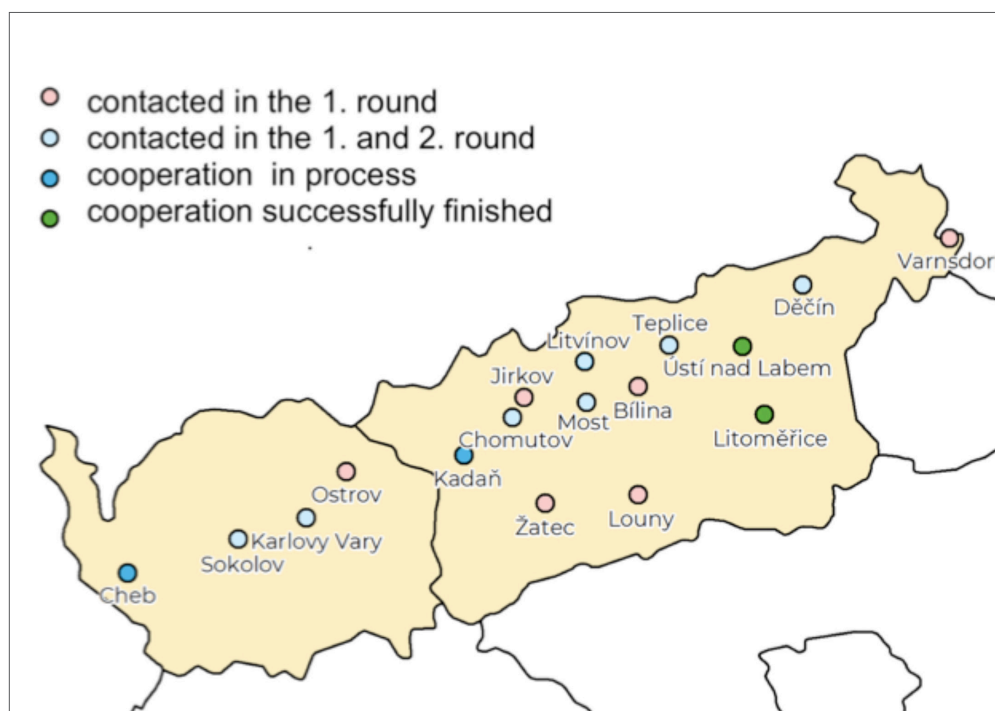
Cooperation with Kadaň and Cheb municipalities is currently at the stage of preparatory actions. CzechGlobe will inform the municipalities about climate change hazards, risks and vulnerabilities which are relevant for their area or may occur in the future.

CzechGlobe is planning and preparing for actions, which are gaining momentum to meet the

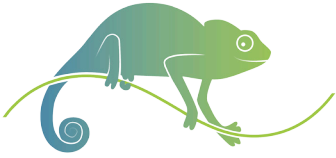
project aims of integration of climate change adaptation into the administrative practice of local authorities; enhancing the knowledge of municipalities of climate change adaptation; and improving the data and information base on climate change impacts.

Vulnerability analysis is currently in progress and will be provided during the participatory workshops, which are on the agenda for 2020. Involving local stakeholders is important to support co-production of knowledge on a local level. Hence, the planning for workshops has been in negotiations.

Jointly produced data and knowledge will further serve as a basis for the analysis of adaptation priorities into the administrative practice. As a case in previous cooperation, CzechGlobe is ready to deliver adaptation strategies with case-specific and tailored adaptation measures for each of the municipalities.



Map of contacted municipalities in North-west region



Transferconcept for project results

At GERICS we started to work on the transferability concept during the last months. Within the framework of the transferability concept, the project results are systematically processed. It will be a matter of identifying which products and services, which are developed and tested within the framework of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT together with the partner municipalities, can be transferred to whom and where. This refers to both target regions and target groups within these regions.

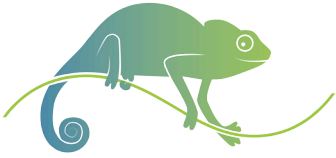
A particular difficulty in developing a transferability concept lies in the fact that the potential users of the final products and services have different context conditions and objectives when implementing climate adaptation measures.

In order to take these circumstances into account when developing a transferability concept, the products and services might be categorised according to a modular approach or to functional groups. Basis for both concepts are all products and services available at this

time from the project as well as interviews with the project partners about the transferability of their results.

Based on the insights gained in interviews, the next step will be to select the products and services that have a high transfer potential. At the end of the process, a Guidance Document will be developed, with which the transfer of the project results can be carried out.

Another focus is the preparation of a new communication activities. At the last LIFE LOCAL ADAPT Annual Meeting in Prague, various activities were discussed and have now started. First contacts with scientific publishers have taken place. A special issue is planned in order to scientifically process the project results on climate change adaptation in small and medium-sized municipalities. This is important, as the scientific debate usually focuses on large cities. At the same time, the dissemination of the project results in practice is also planned. However, these activities have not yet started.



Upcoming Events

Climate Status Colloquium, 5. December 2019 in Dresden

The thematic focus of this year's Status Colloquium Climate of the Saxon State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology will be the communal perspective. The focus will be on announcing of the winners of the second LIFE LOCAL ADAPT contest in Saxony, current pro-

ject progress and a panel discussion with municipalities from the first competition of 2017 (see Newsletter No. 3).

The programme flyer can be found on the website, registrations online at <https://lsnq.de/StatuskolloquiumKlima>

European Geoscience Union General Assembly, 3. to 8. May 2020, Vienna

The EGU General Assembly 2020 will bring together geoscientists from all over the world to one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, planetary and space sciences. The EGU aims to provide a forum where scientists, especially early career researchers, can present

their work and discuss their ideas with experts in all fields of geoscience.

More information on programme, key topics, abstract submission etc. can be found here:

<https://www.egu2020.eu>

Annaberger Klimatage, 11. to 13. May 2020 in Annaberg-Buchholz

The next Annaberger Klimatage will take place from 11. to 13. May 2020. The detailed programme with registration will be announced on the SMUL website <https://www.klima.sachsen.de/veranstaltungen-12953.html>.

The Annaberger Klimatage, which have taken place since 2001, is a joint event of the Säch-

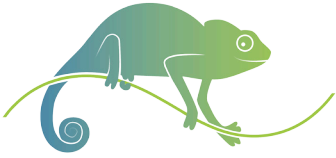
sische Landesstiftung Natur und Umwelt with the Saxon State Ministry for the Environment and Agriculture, the Saxon State Office for the Environment, Agriculture and Geology, the TU Bergakademie Freiberg, the TU Dresden, the city of Annaberg-Buchholz and the Erzgebirgs-kreis as well as the German Meteorological Society and the German Weather Service.

LIFE LOCAL ADAPT Annual Meeting, 25. to 27. May 2020 in Valka, Latvia

Our next LIFE LOCAL ADAPT Annual Meeting will take place from 25. to 27. May 2020 at our partner Valka in Latvia.

In addition to detailed reports on the project

status of all partners, the focus will be on activities of the Valka Municipality and the Vzdeme District.



Team members of LIFE LOCAL ADAPT

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

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