

SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME PRIORITY: ERA-NET

Coordination of National and Regional Activities (ERA-NET scheme)

Proposal/Contract no.: 011793

SSA CIRCLE

Climate Impact Research Coordination for a Larger Europe

Publishable executive summary of CIRCLE's activity report

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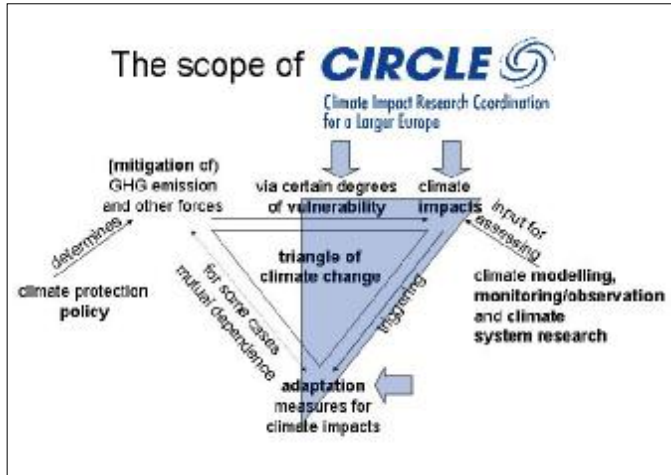
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CIRCLE'S scope

Climate change is increasingly seen as one of the world's major challenges in the 21st century, and Europe is taking a leading role in responding to its challenges. Whatever the success of mitigating climate change may be, certain impacts are unavoidable and European countries will need to adapt to these impacts, depending on the particular vulnerabilities and exposures in the



different regions of Europe. Their adaptation response must be informed by a coherent body of research and it is CIRCLE's prime objective to contribute to such efforts by aligning national research programmes. This process will be a strong support for the overall goal: Implementing a European Research Area (ERA) for the field of climate change.

CIRCLE SSA started in summer 2004. The CIRCLE CA proposal which was

submitted on 2nd of March was approved by the evaluators and accepted by the EC. CIRCLE CA starts in October 2005 and is planned for four years.

Choosing the way to go

The research programmes taking part in CIRCLE have different scientific scope, background and administrative structure. To elaborate differences and similarities by analysing various national research programmes in the field of climate impacts and adaptation measures is one major goal of CIRCLE SSA. First results are now available.

These are the main basis for transnational cooperation within Europe in the field of climate change. CIRCLE SSA provided carefully derived suggestions for and examples on cooperation among the partaking programmes and thus paves the way towards CIRCLE CA which incorporates research programmes in 17 European countries (including Israel).

18 United Kingdom



NOTE: Climate zones in overseas department and territories are various with a majority of them in tropical climate zones.

18.1 Climate zone(s) (after KÖPPEN-GEIGER)

our main climate zone:

Cfb: marine west coast climate: temperate, without dry season, low temperature gradient between day/night and summer/winter

our further climate zone:

Cfc: marine west coast climate: temperate, without dry season, low temperature gradient between day/night and summer/winter at the southern coastline, but less than 4 months above 10°C in some mountainous parts in Scotland and Wales

18.2 apparent driving forces triggering climate impact and adaptation research policy

- ▶ alterations in NAO (North-Atlantic Oscillation)
- ▶ possible alteration in gulf-stream
- ▶ impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems
- ▶ flood management and regional water resources

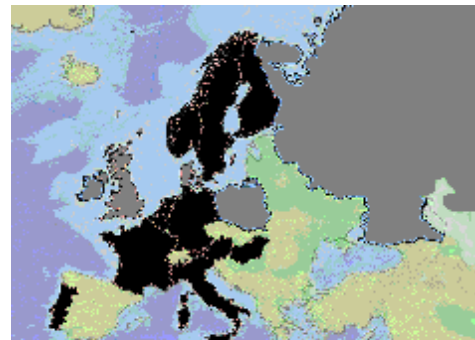
18.3 most important national programme on Climate Impacts and Adaptation measures

18.3.1 UKCIP: United Kingdom Climate Impacts Programme

scope	character/amount
structure	Almost always, studies arise from a designed process of engagement with stakeholders/funders to raise interest, scope research needs, devise study, raise funds, and appoint researchers.
focus of research	The UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) helps organisations assess how they might be affected by climate change, so they can prepare for its impacts. Set up in 1997 and funded by Defra (£ 160k / year), UKCIP is a research contract with the Environmental Change Institute, Oxford University, employing 8-8 WTE staff. UKCIP facilitates stakeholder-led participatory research, providing an integrating role as a central national facility. UKCIP has provided methods, expertise and guidance for over 100

The CIRCLE CA partnership has been successfully extended now from nine (CIRCLE SSA partners) to 26 institutions, from which 18 are full contractors, four are subcontracting and four observing institutions:

- 4 UBA-A: Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environment Agency), Austria (Co-ordinator)
- 4 BMBWK: Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture, Austria
- 4 AKA: Academy of Finland, Finland
- 4 SEPA: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Swede
 - o subcontracting RC: Rosaby Centre, Sweden
- 4 DLR-PT-UF: Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt, Projektträger Umweltforschung und -technik, Germany
- 4 BMBF: Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
- 4 KvR: Stichting Klimaat voor Ruimte, The Netherlands
 - o subcontracting RIVM: Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu, The Netherlands
- 4 MEW: Ministry for Environment and Water management, Hungary
- 4 ADEME: Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maitrise de l'Energie, France
- 4 MEDD: Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable, France
 - o subcontracting MEDIAS: Support Office for Regional Research on Global Environmental Change in the Mediterranean Basin and Subtropical Africa, France
- 4 PPS: Federal Public Planning Service Science Policy (BELSPO), Belgium
- 4 FCT: Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal
- 4 RCN: The Research Council of Norway, Norway
- 4 FORMAS: The Swedish Council for Environment, Agricultural Science and Spatial Planning, Sweden
- 4 MATT: Italian Ministry for Environment and Territory, Italy
 - o subcontracting INGV: Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Italy
- 4 IME: Ministry of the Environment, Israel
- 4 SYKE: Finish Environment Institute (FEI)
- 4 UKCIP: UKCIP Coordination Office, United Kingdom
- 4 IEPA: Environment Protection Agency, Ireland
- 4 IETU: Institute for Ecology of Industrial Areas/AIRCLIM-NET Coordination Office, Poland (with support of Ministry of Science and Information Society Technology)
- 4 IMCES: Center for Environmental Research and Training, Institute for Monitoring of Climatic and Ecological Systems, Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Science
- 4 DMI: Danish Meteorological Institute, Denmark



CIRCLE CA partner/observing countries

Find more under CIRCLE's current website:

<http://www.umweltbundesamt.at/circle/?&L=1> (English version)

<http://www.umweltbundesamt.at/circle> (German version)

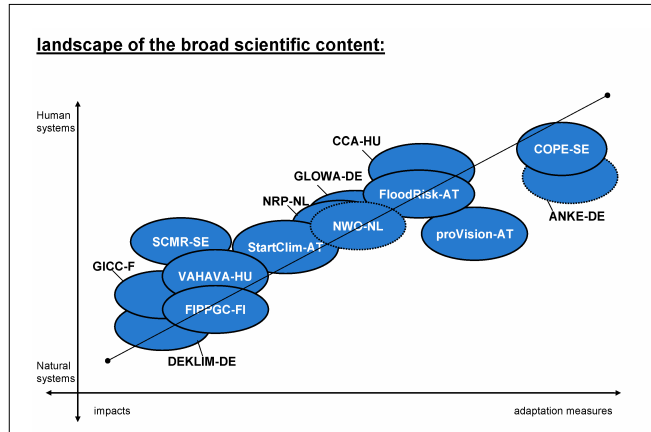
Most national research programmes in Europe cover both impacts and adaptation to a certain degree. Whereas many of the impact focused programmes are anchored more in the natural sciences/systems, some adaptation focused programmes integrate socioeconomic sciences/systems to a major degree. Through an exchange of experiences and information, the programmes integrated in CIRCLE already benefit a lot from their cooperation.

Programme managers and financers from each programme are represented in CIRCLE and transport CIRCLE results directly to their national programmes.

Adapting towards Europe's changing climate will be a major challenge for the European institutions, the national institutions as well as for Europe's regions and cities.

Scientific evidence is given and communicated by various sources (cp. IPCC 2001, EEA 2004, project results of FP5/FP6 projects like ACACIA, ATEAM and PRUDENCE).

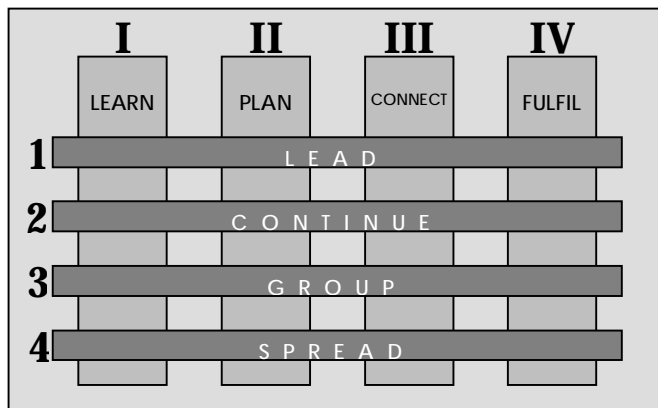
CIRCLE will support Europe's adaptation process by establishing a well functioning subsidiary level under the EU framework programme.



Preparing CIRCLE CA

By applying a simple workplan matrix, CIRCLE CA will ensure a smooth start of the work lying ahead. Within WP I LEARN all input from CIRCLE SSA will be integrated, updated and extended on a regular basis while the preparations done for the identification of common strategic issues and experience gathered by the the execution of first clustering activities, will be fully integrated now in CIRCLE CA's WPs II-IV.

The horizontal WPs will allow a good leadership of the project (WP 1 LEAD), ensure a continuation beyond 2009 (WP 2 CONTINUE) and take care of awareness rising through joint dissemination efforts (WP 4 SPREAD). A special opportunity for further and deeper integration of programmes is given by grouping countries by their geographical background (WP GROUP).



simplified CIRCLE CA workplan matrix