

SEPTEMBER 2024 | VOL. 1

# CLIMATE NEWSLETTER

A NEWSLETTER ON THE PROGRESS AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES OF  
THE CLIMATE PROJECT

## IMPROVING EU REGIONS' ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Extreme weather events attributed to climate change have caused up to 145,000 fatalities and more than €500B in economic losses over the past 40 years in the EU. Europe tends to experience warmer summers every year, with prolonged heatwaves in the Mediterranean accompanied by severe floods in Western Europe. Similar incidents are expected to increase in intensity and frequency, exacerbating existing territorial stresses and resulting in greater environmental (biodiversity loss, deforestation) and socioeconomic (shortage of resources, disruptions in infrastructures, displacement of populations) damage.

ERDF  
1,571,458 €

DURATION  
1 Apr 2024 -  
30 Jun 2028

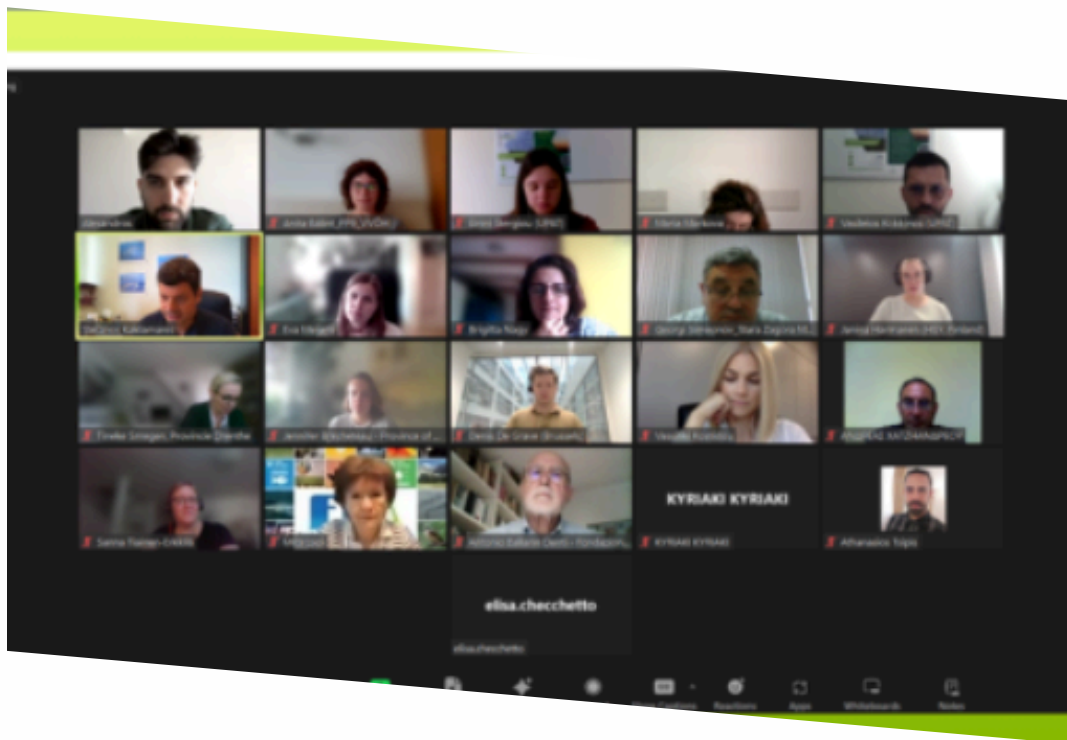
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### CLIMATE Partners will:

- Enhance the cross-departmental collaboration towards a whole-of-government approach to climate hazards and civil protection.
- Improve territorial authorities' preparedness and adaptive capacities and guide the formulation of fit-for-purpose and socially just responses.
- Strengthen open discussion to promote civic participation and inclusiveness in climate planning.
- Mobilise public and private investments for preventive structural measures, climate-resilient infrastructure, and civil protection mechanisms.



## OUR FIRST GATHERING MEETING

The first meeting of the CLIMATE project was hosted by the Region of Ionian Islands (Lead Partner) on 30th of May virtually, with the participation of all project partners. During the meeting, the consortium discussed various topics related to project implementation focusing on the activities of the 1st semester, including thematic, financial, and management aspects. The partners presented upcoming activities and had the opportunity to engage in detailed discussions and exchange ideas.

CLIMATE partners renewed their appointment in the beginning of November where the official Kick off meeting of the project will be held!

## OUR CONSORTIUM EXPANDED

We are excited to share that during summertime our consortium expanded by one Project Partner. In particular Region of Ionian Islands requested from the JS in the context of the restricted call to include in CLIMATE Project the Saranda Municipality from Albania. The objective of the restricted call was to give the possibility to all approved projects to work with organisations from the new Partner States through the extension of their partnership ([more info here](#)). Saranda Municipality joined our consortium as a Discovery Partner and will have the opportunity to be involved in the exchange of experience activities and build its staff capacity in climate change adaption.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

### **Joint identification of the environmental and socioeconomic factors of CLIMATE territories' vulnerability to climate hazards, vis-à-vis partners' climate adaptation policies and natural & built environment territorial regulations**

The Activity includes the collection, exchange, and analysis of territorial evidence pertaining to a) the evolving weather patterns and projections for future climate conditions in partners' areas, and b) the environmental and socioeconomic factors that act as drivers for CLIMATE areas' exposure and vulnerability to the anticipated climate hazards in the short, mid, and long term (i.e., 5, 10, 15-20 years). In addition partners will identify gaps regarding climate knowledge management, disaster risk prevention mechanisms, civil protection services, environmental management, climate communication and community engagement, as well as discrepancies and complementarities with land use, environmental, waste management and building regulations in place.



### **Regional Stakeholder Meetings**

The CLIMATE project considers biannual meetings with stakeholders as a vital and essential component. These meetings are organized by each project partner within their respective regions. The primary purpose of these meetings is to provide a platform for constructive discussions and the sharing of ideas for the purpose of stakeholder policy learning as well as dissemination and impact multiplication. The meetings foster effective communication and collaboration between project partners and stakeholders at the regional level.

Our Italian Partner , FLA, developed comprehensive guidelines for the stakeholder meetings. These guidelines aim to support and assist project partners by offering detailed instructions, practical tools, and essential thematic background information for conducting successful meetings. FLA seeks to ensure that the meetings are organized efficiently and effectively, fostering meaningful exchanges of ideas between stakeholders and project partners.

Take a look from the 1st stakeholder meeting organised by our Hungarian Partner Vas County Government Office [here!](#)

## We target to...

- **Public authorities** responsible for crisis management, infrastructure, and the environment
- **Civil emergency** planning and protection units
- **Meteorological** and climate data services
- **Regional** development agencies
- **CSOs** promoting environmental sustainability and social cohesion
- **NGOs** combatting climate change
- **Universities** in the field of environmental engineering and sustainable development
- **Economic operators** from high polluting industries and sectors at greatest risk from climate change



## UPCOMING STUDY VISIT IN GREECE

Region of Ionian Islands will host a **study visit** in **Lefkada, Greece** to exchange experiences on emergency response protocols, in order to improve CLIMATE territories' prevention, preparedness, and response capacities to counter climate-related threats, with a particular focus on wildfires, floods, and coastal erosion.

Along with the study visit, the Region of Ionian Islands will held the physical Kick off meeting of CLIMATE Proejct in order partners streamline the upcoming activities and discuss the progress of the project so far! More news and updates will follow!

Visit our Website [here!](#)



# CLIMATE CONSORTIUM



Region of Ionian Islands  
**(Lead Partner) (EL)**



Helsinki Region Environmental  
Services Authority **(FI)**



City of Brussels **(BG)**



Lombardy Foundation for the  
Environment **(IT)**

*provincie* Drenthe

Province of Drenthe **(NL)**



Vidzeme Planning region **(LV)**



STARA ZAGORA  
MUNICIPALITY

Stara Zagora Municipality **(BL)**



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΠΑΤΡΩΝ  
UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS

University of Patras  
**(Advisory Partner) (EL)**



Vas County Government Office **(HU)**



Saranda Municipality  
**(Discovery Partner) (AL)**

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