

Using Climate-ADAPT to support mainstreaming adaptation across sectoral departments of the Polish National Government

- **Climate-ADAPT features used:** Events and Webinars
- **Sector:** Adaptation in general
- **Governance level:** National
- **Biogeographical region:** Continental
- **Macro-region:** Baltic Sea
- **Policy stage:** Agenda setting (awareness raising)

The challenge

As in many other European countries, the national government in Poland has been facing a challenge of persistent silo thinking that has hindered effective action and progress on adaptation policy. This has generated a need for information on good adaptation practices in other parts of Europe, and on examples of maladaptation, that could help the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment (MoCE), leading national adaptation policy, mainstream adaptation across sectoral ministries and lead to more integrated policy responses.

The approach

Webinars featuring knowledge from various researchers and experts are seen by the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment as highly effective to raise awareness, and as informative resources to increase climate adaptation literacy across sectoral units and at all governance levels in Poland. Informing widely about [series of training sessions and webinars](#), funded by [DG REFORM](#), helped to promote this important knowledge transfer and ensured that this event reached the right audience in the Polish municipalities.

On top of that, the [Joint MoCE and EEA webinar](#) 'Boosting adaptation to climate change: National and EU level knowledge and tools for Poland' in May 2022, funded by the European Commission, helped to raise awareness on the full range of adaptation knowledge which is available on Climate-ADAPT to complement national knowledge on the Climate Change Knowledge Platform (Klimada2.0). A significant development, most probably supported by this promotional webinar, is the emergence of Poland among the top 10 EEA countries visiting Climate-ADAPT between 2019 and 2023. As a potential impact of this webinar with 300 participants from Polish municipalities, local stakeholders may have reached a better understanding of the multi-level adaptation governance in Europe and how this helps to support implementing adaptation at local level in Poland.

A survey, carried out in 2023 for the [2024 Special Report of the European Court of Auditors 'Climate adaptation in the EU – Action not keeping up with ambition'](#) has shown a higher awareness and use of Climate-ADAPT among Polish municipalities compared to municipalities in 3 other European countries.

Climate-ADAPT events and webinars

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Climate-ADAPT Webinars aim at:

- Informing about the EU Adaptation policy context and knowledge development in which Climate-ADAPT operates,
- Presenting ongoing and planned development of Climate-ADAPT and collecting feedback to it,
- Improving awareness and understanding of specific sections and features of Climate-ADAPT, and promoting the uptake of this knowledge for action on adaptation policies, planning, practical implementation as well as monitoring, reporting and evaluation of adaptation.
- Stimulating participants to support Climate-ADAPT's function as a "first-stop shop" by showcasing their innovative initiatives on climate change adaptation, thus boosting their own outreach and contribution to enrich the knowledge provided on Climate-ADAPT.

Please find below the recordings and presentations of **past webinars**. Please find information on **upcoming webinars** [here](#)



Recordings and presentations from webinars on the ongoing and planned development of Climate-ADAPT

- > [8. Exploring potential adaptation options for policy and decision-makers: The Climate-ADAPT Catalogue](#)

Recordings and presentations from webinars on specific content of Climate-ADAPT

- > [Climate-ADAPT Urban Content](#)
- > [Climate-ADAPT Case studies](#)

Source: EEA

Future plans

The Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment values the DG REFORM-funded webinars as a first step towards integrating knowledge and putting cross-sectoral adaptation on the agenda of the Polish ministries who need to manage climate risks and undertake adaptation actions (e.g. water management, agriculture, transport, health, education). To fully engage representatives from ministries and departments beyond climate and environment, the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment has proposed to establish a collaborative community for knowledge exchange among national authorities across Europe, to tackle adaptation-related issues. Such a 'Community of Practice' would benefit significantly from better showcasing adaptation activities at the EU level on Climate-ADAPT. For instance, responding to the questions: What is the progress on the rollout and implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy? What is the current knowledge of the cost-of-no-action on adaptation across the EU?

In addition to better addressing sectoral experts to boost adaptation actions across the board, the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment also has suggested investing more into topical EU webinars for the local level in Poland. Extensive responses from representatives of local level administration entities ('gmina') indicated a substantial demand for such knowledge. It is crucial to showcase both good practices and examples of maladaptation to provide comprehensive insights that can be taken up in the national and local contexts. The recent experiences in Poland have shown that there is also a

huge interest in those formats: a webinar focusing on landslides where a contractor, on behalf of DG REFORM and the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment, attracted approximately 300 participants from the country, predominantly local authority representatives. The online format eliminates the need for travel, making it accessible to a broad audience. This positive experience shows the high potential of such promotional events and could be role model for further topical webinars, e.g. supported by and announced on Climate-ADAPT.

The set of regular Climate-ADAPT webinars, carried out 2 time per year already offer a fairly comprehensive overview on new and planned Climate-ADAPT resources and how to use them. However, by synthesising lessons learnt for cross-sectoral/cross-theme collaboration, future webinars, showcased on Climate-ADAPT, could be made more topical and tailor-made for sectoral experts and municipalities to promote further exchange and implementation at local level.