

EU MISSIONS

ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change: Second Barometer Update (to 31 March 2024)

July 2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Barometer Update is to report on the progress of delivery of the Mission's three objectives, which are to:

1. Provide general support to European regions, local authorities and communities (RLACs) in preparing and planning for climate resilience
2. Accelerate the transformation to a climate-resilient future, supporting at least 150 European RLACs to accelerate their transformation to a climate resilient future
3. Build deep resilience by scaling up actionable solutions through 75 large-scale demonstrations of resilience across a number of European RLACs, with emphasis on cross-border cooperation and cohesion.

The Barometer Update is produced every six months in April and October, within a month of data cut-off points on 31 March and 30 September. This timing enables reporting prior to the annual Mission Forum and to feed into year-end reporting.

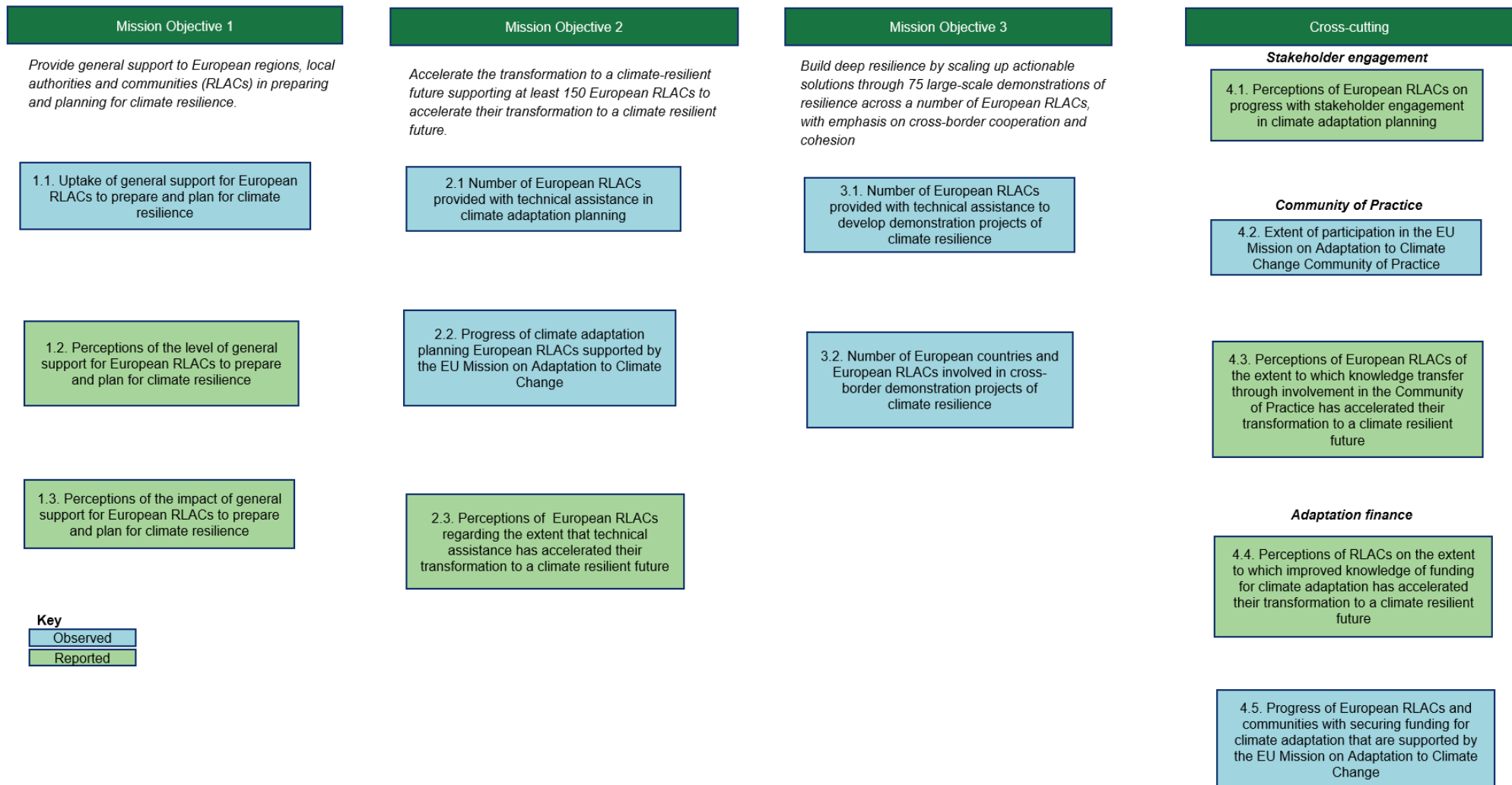
The First Barometer Update covered the period 1 January 2023 to 31 October 2023 (the initial phase of the Mission Implementation Platform for Adaptation to Climate Change, MIP4Adapt, when the barometer was developed). The Second Barometer Update covers a five-month period from 1 November 2023 to 31 March 2024.

The barometer comprises 13 process and output indicators that each relate to one of the Mission's objectives or are cross-cutting in addressing more than one of the objectives (see Figure 1 below). Detailed information regarding each indicator, including its relevance, data collection, data manipulation, comparability, coverage, and dissemination can be found in individual indicator fiches.

The barometer does not include outcome indicators regarding the components of risks (i.e., the sensitivity, adaptive capacity, and exposure of receptors to climate-related hazards) due to associated challenges, which include:

- The length of time that it can take to implement adaptation actions due to their scope and scale
- The length of time that it can take adaptation actions to mature and deliver measurable outcomes, as exemplified by trees and their ecosystem services
- The difficulties of attributing outcomes to an adaptation action, for example, due to:
 - The wide range of potentially confounding variables that may operate at all scales
 - Difficulties in identifying a truly analogous comparator/control
- The length of time that monitoring needs to be sustained, which poses practical issues regarding long-term funding and use of a consistent methodology for production of comparable data; meaning that successful long-term monitoring schemes are rare.

Figure 1. How the barometer's 13 indicators relate to the Mission's objectives



This Second Barometer Update presents data for 12 indicators:

- Indicator 1.1 – Uptake of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience
- Indicator 1.2 - Perceptions of the level of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience
- Indicator 1.3 - Perceptions of the impact of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience
- Indicator 2.1 - Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance in climate adaptation planning
- Indicator 2.2 - Progress of climate adaptation planning by European RLACs supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
- Indicator 2.3 - Perceptions of European RLACs regarding the extent that technical assistance has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future
- Indicator 3.1 - Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience
- Indicator 3.2 - Number of European countries and RLACs involved in cross-border demonstration projects of climate resilience
- Indicator 4.1 - Perceptions of European RLACs on progress in stakeholder engagement in climate adaptation planning
- Indicator 4.2 - Extent of participation in the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Community of Practice
- Indicator 4.4 - Perceptions of European RLACs on the extent improved knowledge of climate adaptation funding opportunities has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future
- Indicator 4.5 - Progress of European RLACs with securing funding for climate adaptation that are supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change

It is not yet possible to report data for one indicator (4.3. Perceptions of European RLACs of the extent to which knowledge transfer through involvement in the Community of Practice has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future), which is explained in Section 2. It will be possible to present data for this indicator in the Third Barometer Update in October 2024.

Section 2 provides an update regarding each of the indicators and Section 3 presents overall conclusions and next steps.

2. PROGRESS OF DELIVERY OF THE MISSION'S OBJECTIVES

This section presents the indicators of relevance to each of the Mission's objectives and then those that are of cross-cutting relevance to more than one of the objectives. For each indicator, it provides:

- A brief description of the indicator
- An explanation of the baseline
- Its status at the time of the latest data cut-off, i.e., 31 March 2024 at
- A brief review of progress, and
- A future outlook.

2.1 MISSION OBJECTIVE 1

Provide general support to European RLACs in preparing and planning for climate resilience.

The focus of the three indicators that relate to Mission Objective 1 is 'general support', which is defined as "any support that is intended to further European RLACs' abilities to prepare and plan for climate resilience that is not specifically tailored or limited to Charter Signatories or individual RLACs". The indicators address:

- Uptake of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience
- Perceptions of the level of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience

- Perceptions of the impact of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience.

2.1.1 Indicator 1.1 Uptake of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience

2.1.1.1 Indicator description

The indicator monitors uptake of the following types of general support provided by MIP4Adapt and Mission-funded Projects (defined as climate adaptation projects funded by a Mission-specific budget under Horizon Europe, see Appendix 1 for current list):

- Events – total number of participants from RLACs
- Training – total number of participants from RLACs
- Online resources – total number of unique visits across the MIP4Adapt, and Mission-funded projects' digital platforms and portals
- Tools and guidance – total number of downloads.

Mission-relevant Projects may also provide general support that furthers European RLACs' abilities to prepare and plan for climate resilience. However, they are not funded from a Mission-specific budget. The types of general support listed above provided by Mission-relevant Projects would be challenging to attribute to the Mission and be onerous for them to report, hence, they are not included here.

2.1.1.2 Baseline

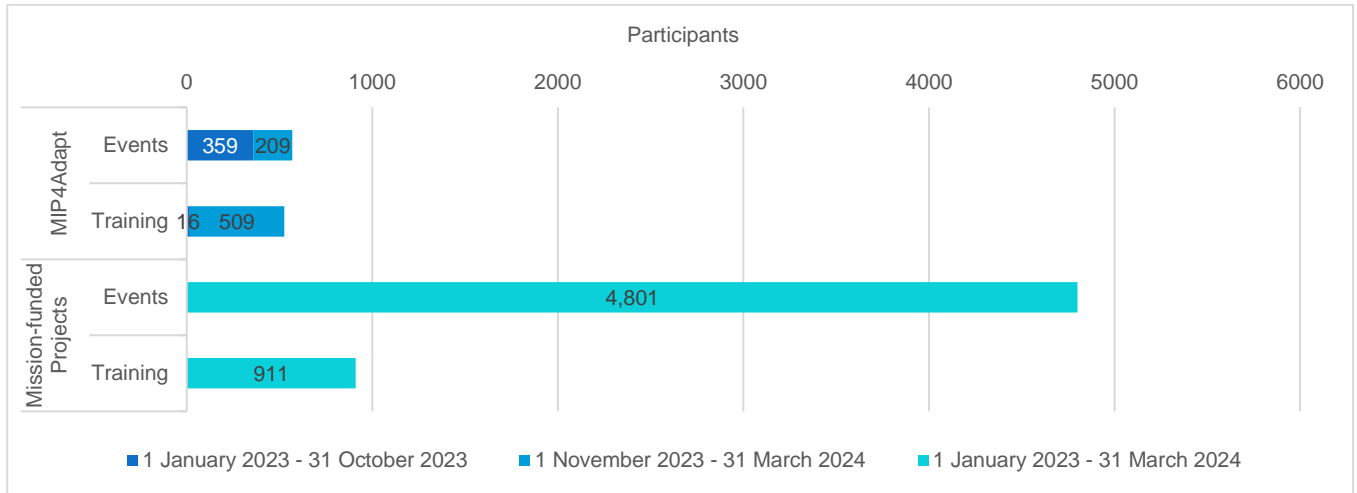
The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.1.1.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024) ¹

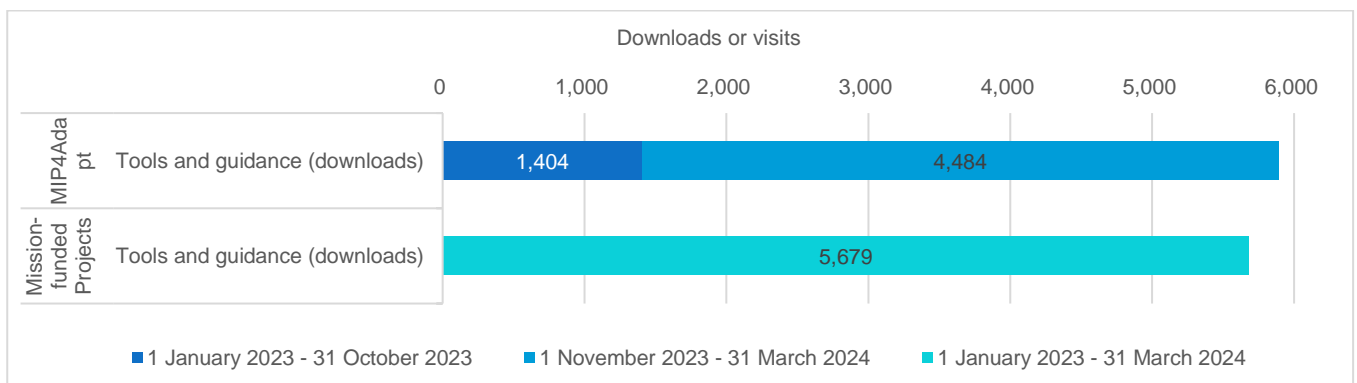
Eighteen out of 32 Mission-funded Projects provided information for this indicator².

Figure 2 Uptake of general support for RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience regarding: (a) events (n=7) and training (n=4); (b) tools and guidance (n=4); and (c) online resources (n=11)

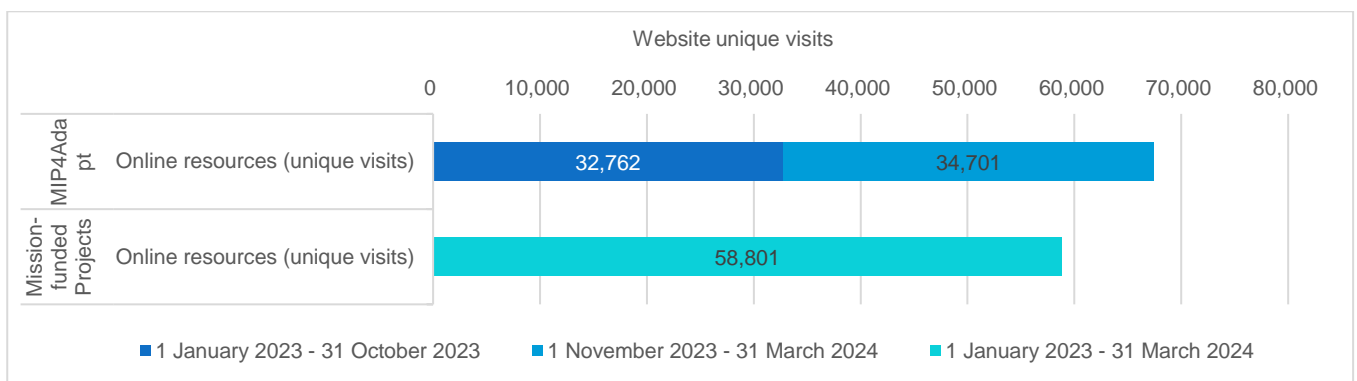
a)



b)



c)



¹ This barometer report represents the first input from Mission-funded Projects. Indicator data for this round of reporting is from January 2023 to March 2024. Mission-funded Projects data for this indicator will be disaggregated by reporting round in future updates.

² These are RESIST; ClimEmpower; Valorada; CLIMAAX; DesirMED; AGORA; REGLIENCE; CLIMATEFIT; MOUNTRESILIENCE; FARCLIMATE; ARCADIA; CARDIMED; NATALIE; LAND4CLIMATE; SpongeSpaces; MIRACA; ICARIA; PIISA.

2.1.1.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The ability of this indicator to be representative and detect meaningful trends over time is highly dependent on how many Mission-funded Projects supply the required information. In this instance, only 18 out of 32 Mission-funded Projects did so. Further efforts will be made to encourage Mission-funded Projects' monitoring and evaluation leads to submit the required information for future barometer updates.

MIP4Adapt has established a schedule of events and training sessions to provide general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience. Building on the two events and one training session relevant to this indicator held between 1 January and 31 October 2023, MIP4Adapt delivered 14 events and training sessions relevant to this indicator between 1 November 2023 and 31 March 2024. These were:

- An event held in December 2023 entitled 'How to access private funds for adaptation' where 15 Charter Signatories participated
- Two good practice seminars about vulnerability risk assessments (VRA) and indicators for monitoring adaptation with 117 and 58 attendees, respectively
- Four practical training sessions on Maladaptation, VRA and the Joint Research Centre Data Catalogue - Disaster Risk Data Hub (with an average 90 participants per session and 361 participants in total), and
- Seven citizen engagement training sessions held during February and March 2024 attended by a total of 87 Charter Signatories.

Building on the 32,762 unique visits to the Mission Portal on Climate-ADAPT between its launch on 19 April 2023 and 31 October 2023, the Portal received a further 34,701 unique visits between 1 November 2023 and 31 March 2024. The total number of unique visits to the Mission Portal was 67,463, as of 31 March 2024. In early 2024, enhancements to page layout and navigation were made to make the site more engaging and to allow it to better showcase the EU Adaptation Mission and its achievements.

The tools and guidance provided through the Mission Portal between 1 November 2023 and 31 March 2024 included:

- "Part 1: Assessing Climate Change Risks and Vulnerabilities (Climate Risk Assessment): A DIY Manual"
- "Part 2: Climate Risk Assessment Guide templates in Microsoft Excel format"
- Seven Adaptation Stories (i.e., real-life examples of regional or local actions and good practices regarding the planning, funding, implementing and monitoring of climate adaptation solutions) on:
 - Coastal Contract: A Governance Approach for Integrated Wetland Management
 - Adapting to climate change through spatial planning
 - Unlocking Green Potential with Adaptation: Natural Habitat and Leisure Activities by the River
 - Drenthe's Adaptation Picture – A resourceful regional tool to visualise climate impacts in the province of Drenthe (NL)
 - Refreshing the city of Toulouse, France
 - Strategically addressing climate change in the Euskirchen county, Germany
 - Green Heritage in Salamanca city.

The number of downloads of tools and guidance from the Mission Portal increased during the second reporting period (4,484 downloads compared to 1,404). The higher number of downloads in the second reporting period is the result of higher number of tools available. The number of downloads of online resources from the Mission Portal during the first reporting period remained relatively consistent during the second reporting period. Although unique visits to "online resources" and downloads of "tools and guidance" are not attributable to RLACs, the data are regarded as a reasonable proxy, as the support is targeted to further RLACs' abilities to prepare and plan for climate resilience.

The values reported by the 18 Mission-funded Projects vary considerably across these projects, highlighting their different modes of operation (e.g., some focus on convening events and stakeholder engagement, others on the development of tools) and the different stages of their project cycles (e.g., some having started in January 2023, others in September 2023).

2.1.1.5 Future outlook

An updated MIP4Adapt schedule of events has been developed up until July 2024 and agreed with the Mission Secretariat. The events aim to enhance Charter Signatories' and RLACs' awareness and understanding of key topics of relevance to accelerating their transformation to a climate-resilient future. The events will cover a range of topics, with each month focusing on events for a specific theme from May 2024 onwards.

MIP4Adapt has agreed a protocol with the Mission Secretariat for selecting tools that are suitable for upload to the Mission Portal. As a result of this, up to 20 tools and guidance notes will be made available through the Portal in early May 2024, so it is anticipated that the number of downloads will increase markedly.

It is anticipated that the total number of unique visits to the Mission Portal will continue to increase, following its recent and continuing enhancement, which is intended to improve the users' experience.

2.1.2 Indicator 1.2 Perceptions of the level of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience

2.1.2.1 Indicator description

The indicator uses a survey question to monitor the perceptions of RLACs that are Charter Signatories regarding the level of general support available to RLACs more generally across Europe.

Data for this indicator is collected as part of a six-monthly online survey of RLACs that are Charter Signatories.

The survey question is: "What is your perception of the level of general support¹ available to all RLACs across Europe not just Charter signatories on a scale from 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good)?"

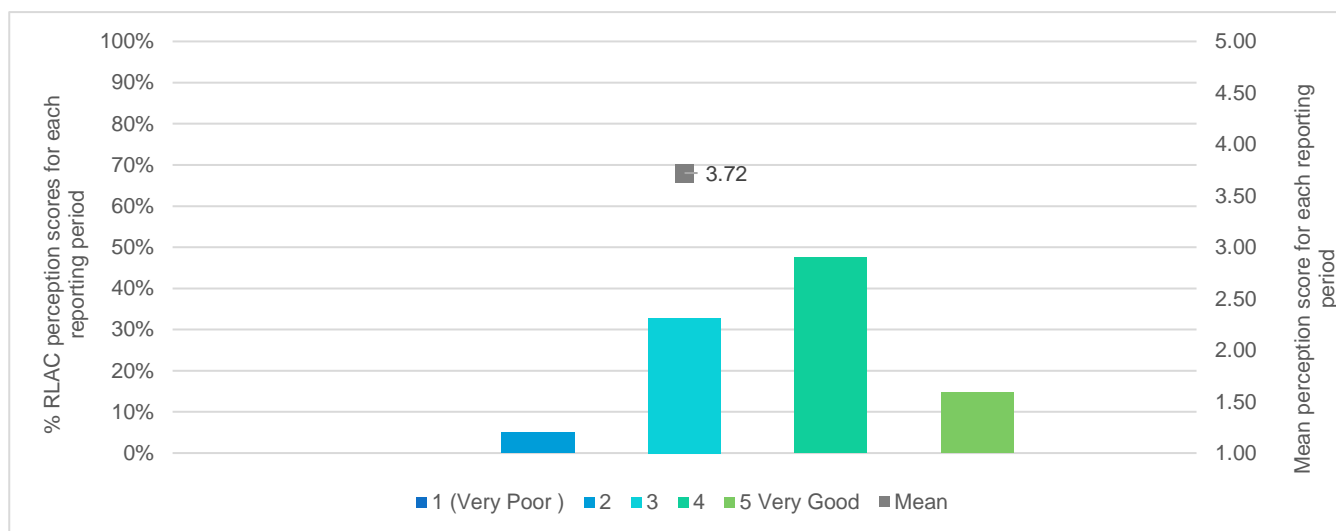
2.1.2.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.1.2.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)³

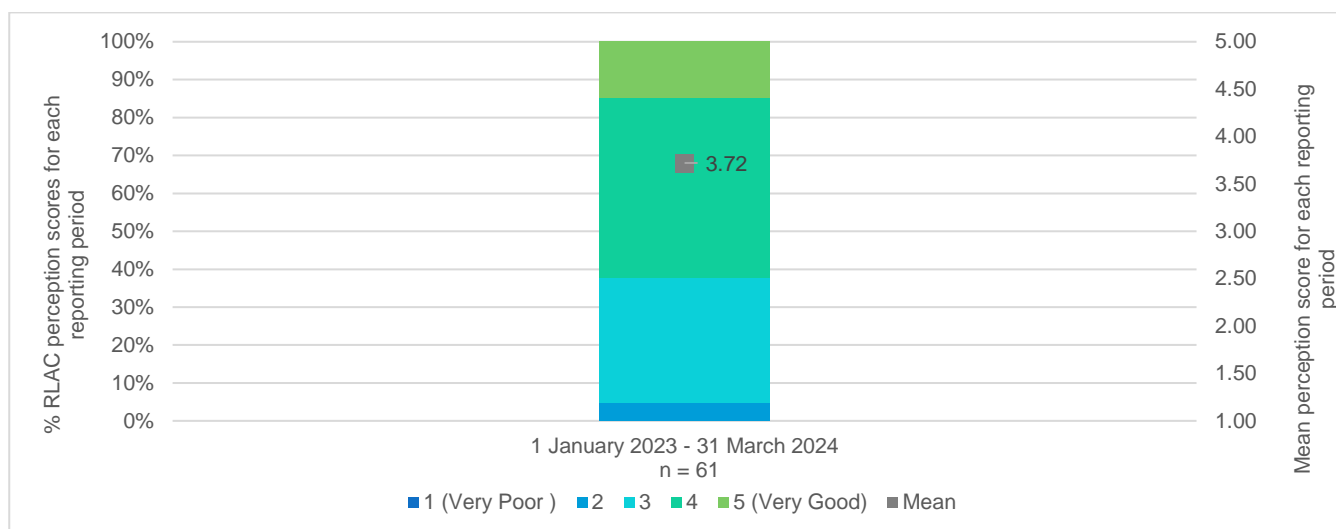
Sixty-one out of 311 Charter Signatories provided information for this indicator.

Figure 3 Perceptions of the level of general support for RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience for the reporting period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2024 (n= 61)



³ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

Figure 4 Perceptions of the level of general support for RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience by reporting period (time series)



0001

In future barometer updates, this figure will present stacked bar charts for each reporting period to present change over time.

2.1.2.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The ability of this indicator to be representative and detect meaningful trends over time is highly dependent on how many Charter Signatories respond to the survey. In this instance, only 61 out of 311 Charter Signatories did so. Further efforts will be made to encourage Charter Signatories to respond to the survey for future barometer updates.

Whilst acknowledging the limitations of sample size, data for this indicator point to RLACs appreciating that general support to assist in climate adaptation is available to them. Comments from Charter Signatories accompanying their ratings include: “the Mission provides Charter Signatories with a lot of support, documents, links etc”, “a lot of funding and knowledge sharing is available” and “there is a real commitment to reaching out to us [Charter Signatories] ... the Mission really wants and cares about our [Charter Signatories] progress”.

2.1.2.5 Future outlook

There are two factors that suggest it may be reasonable to forecast that perceptions of the level of general support should continue to improve. Firstly, the provision of events, training, tools, guidance and other online resources will continue to increase (as outlined in Indicator 1.1), although that may not necessarily correlate with ‘higher levels of general support’ being perceived by RLACs. Secondly, although general support has been tailored in accordance with insights from the Needs Assessment undertaken in 2023, as further insights are gained, general support become ever better tailored and, thereby, enhance RLACs’ perceptions of the level of general support available. Nevertheless, it is important to note that this indicator already has quite a high value at this first reporting of it, so there is limited scope for it to increase in subsequent Barometer Updates.

2.1.3 Indicator 1.3 Perceptions of the impact of general support for European RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience

2.1.3.1 Indicator description

This indicator monitors the perceptions of RLACs that are Charter Signatories regarding the extent general support that has helped them progress towards climate resilience.

Data for this indicator is collected as part of the six-monthly online survey of RLACs that are Charter Signatories. The survey question is:

“To what extent has general support¹ you have received led to progress in preparing and planning for climate resilience on a scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (substantially)?”

2.1.3.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.1.3.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)⁴

Sixty out of 311 Charter Signatories provided information for this indicator.

Figure 5 Perceptions of the impact of general support for RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience for the reporting period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2024 (n=60)⁵

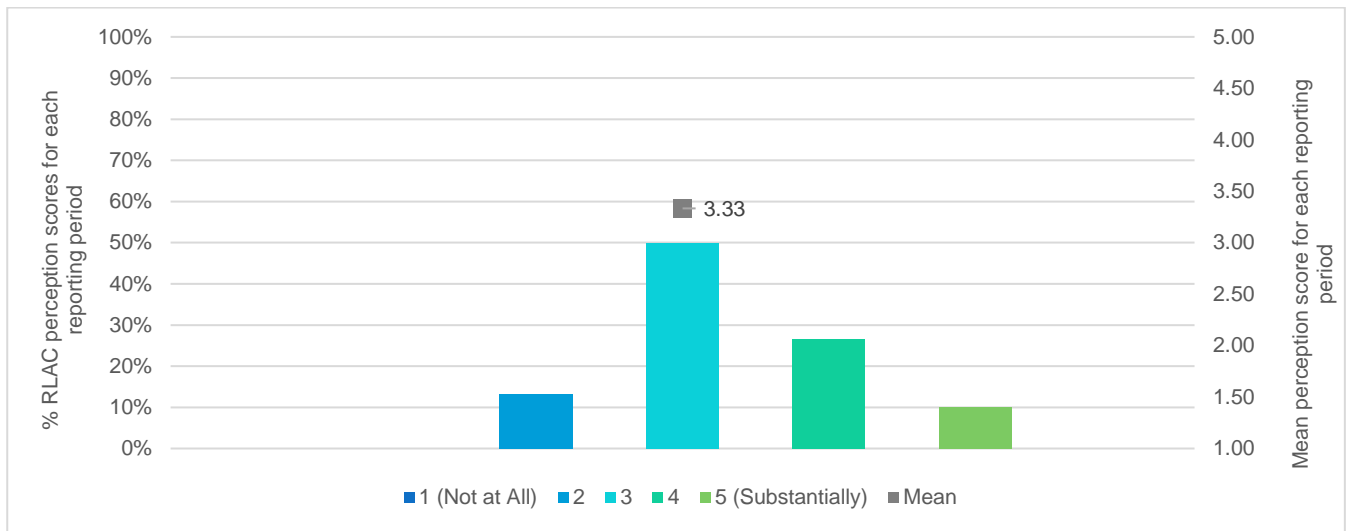
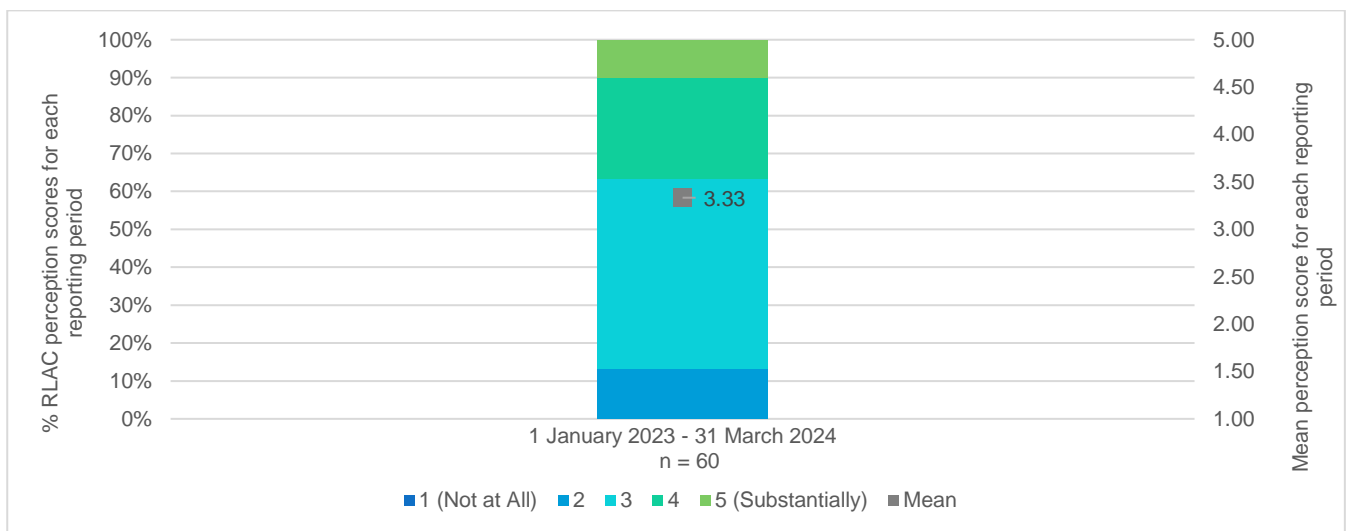


Figure 6 Perceptions of the impact of general support for RLACs to prepare and plan for climate resilience by reporting period



In future barometer updates, this figure will present stacked bar charts for each reporting period to present change over time.

2.1.3.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The ability of this indicator to be representative and detect meaningful trends over time is highly dependent on how many Charter Signatories respond to the survey. In this instance, only 60 out of 311 Charter Signatories did so.

⁴ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

⁵ Note: One of the 61 respondents did not answer this survey question.

Further efforts will be made to encourage Charter Signatories to respond to the survey for future barometer updates.

Whilst acknowledging the limitations of sample size, data for this indicator suggest that the general support available is having a positive impact on RLACs' ability to prepare and plan for climate resilience, with 87% of respondents providing a rating of 3 or more. Notable comments from Charter Signatories accompanying their ratings include: "one of the most challenging aspects is to have time to dedicate to following-up of all Missions' activities" and "we've noticed is that we need to create structures internally (organisation) and processes (through the Climate Adaptation Plan) to best utilise the support made available via the Climate Adaptation Mission".

2.1.3.5 Future outlook

There are three factors that may increase RLACs' perceptions that general support is having an impact on their ability to prepare and plan for climate resilience. First, the extent of general support will continue to increase (see Indicator 1.1), as may RLACs' perceptions of it (see Indicator 1.2). Secondly, as more insights are gained about RLACs' needs, general support will become ever better tailored to deliver impact, albeit this may be offset by the sort of practical challenges that some RLACs have highlighted regarding their ability to utilise the support. Thirdly, the time it may take for general support to have an impact on RLACs means that it may not be captured until future reporting periods.

2.2 MISSION OBJECTIVE 2

Accelerate the transformation to a climate-resilient future supporting at least 150 European RLACs to accelerate their transformation to a climate resilient future.

The focus of the three indicators that relate to Mission Objective 2 is the Mission-related technical assistance received by RLACs. 'Technical assistance' is defined as any support received by individual RLACs that is specifically tailored to their context and needs regarding climate adaptation planning (as relevant to any step of the European Environment Agency's Regional Adaptation Support Tool – RAST) and provided by MIP4Adapt or Mission-funded Projects. The indicators address:

- Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance in climate adaptation planning
- Progress of climate adaptation planning by European RLACs supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
- Perceptions of European RLACs regarding the extent that technical assistance has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future.

2.2.1 Indicator 2.1 Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance in climate adaptation planning

2.2.1.1 Indicator description

The indicator monitors the number of RLACS that receive "technical assistance" and its relevance to each of the Mission's ten thematic areas:

1. Ecosystems and nature-based solutions
2. Land use and food systems
3. Water management
4. Critical infrastructure
5. Health and human wellbeing
6. Local economic systems
7. Knowledge and data
8. Governance and engagement
9. Behavioural change
10. Finances and resources.

2.2.1.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.2.1.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)⁶

Figure 7 Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance in climate adaptation planning

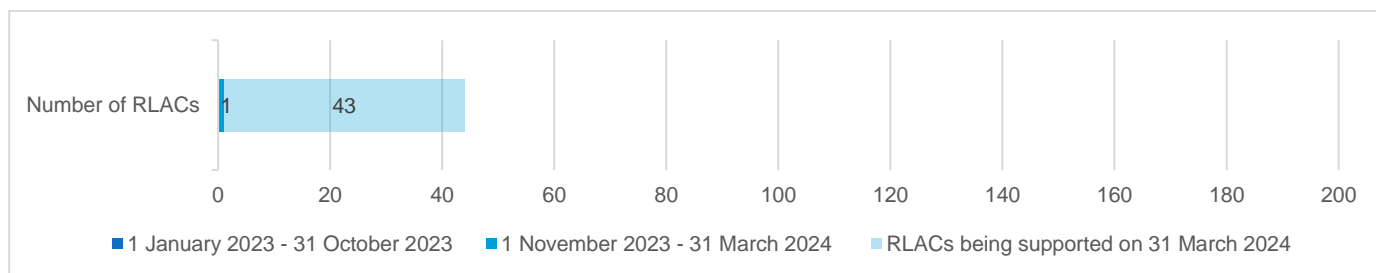
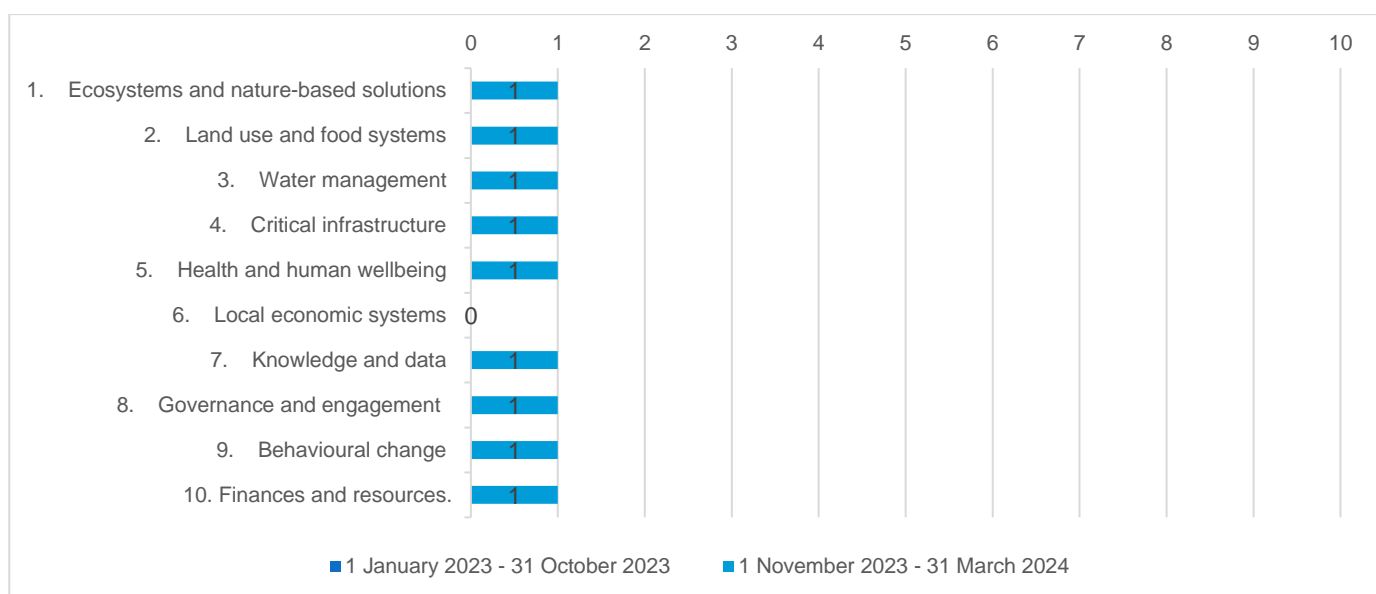


Figure 8 Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance in climate adaptation planning by thematic area



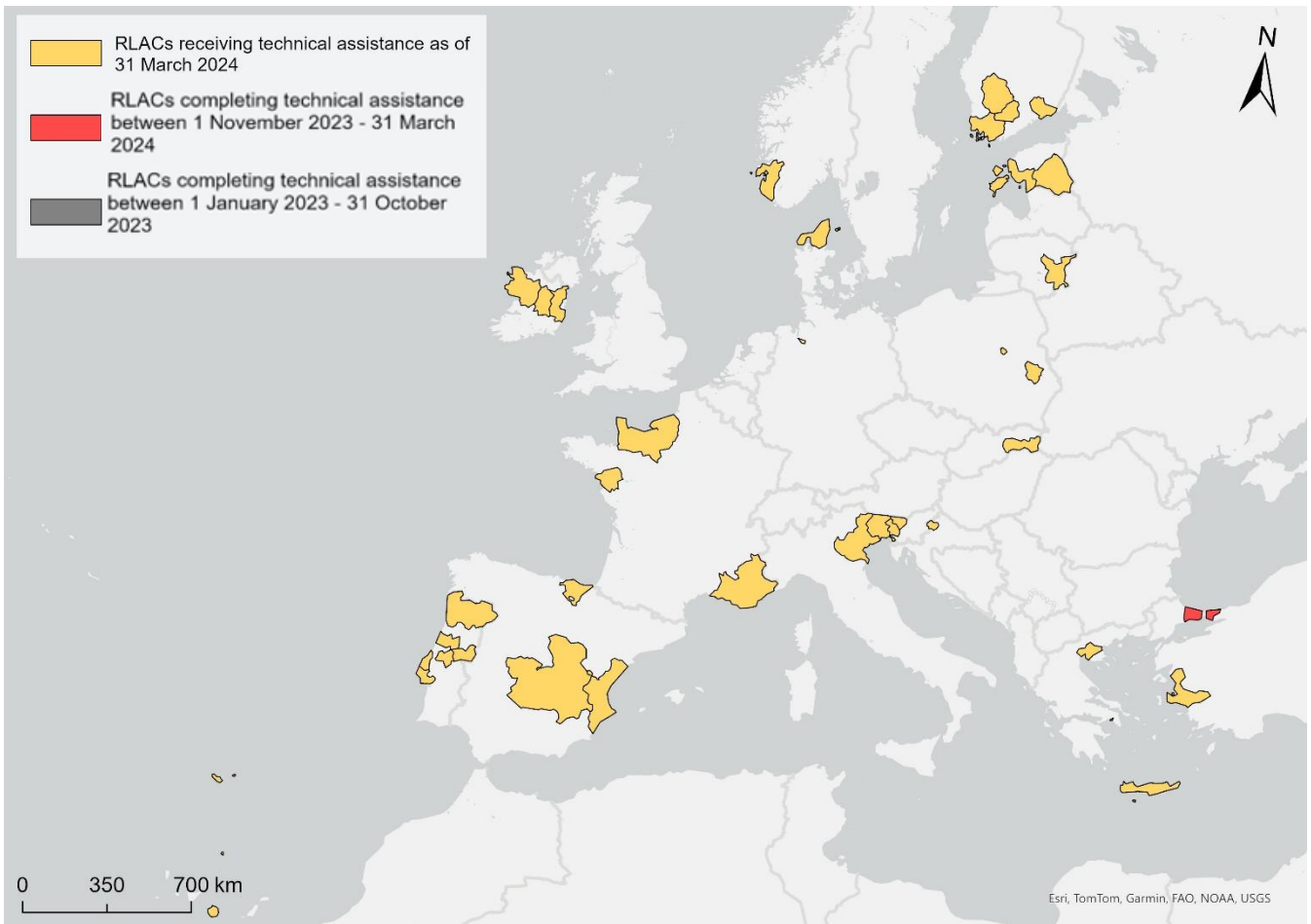
Future barometer updates will include information on thematic areas for RLACs receiving technical assistance as of the reporting cut-off point. This information will be presented in stacked bar charts to present change over time.

2.2.1.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The first eligible beneficiary of MIP4Adapt's technical assistance started on 28 September 2023. For the one RLAC, Izmir, Turkey, whose full technical assistance programme has been completed, the support covered all ten thematic areas except for local economic systems. As of 31 March 2024, 44 RLACs had received or were receiving technical assistance in climate adaptation planning from MIP4Adapt (see Appendix 2 for a list of those RLACs and Figure 9). There were 37 kick-off meetings with RLACs during this reporting period. In total, 125 days of climate adaptation planning assistance were provided to RLACs. The highest number of days for adaptation planning support was received by Nantes Métropole with 10.5 days.

⁶ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

Figure 9 Map of European RLACs receiving technical assistance in climate adaptation planning on 31 March 2024

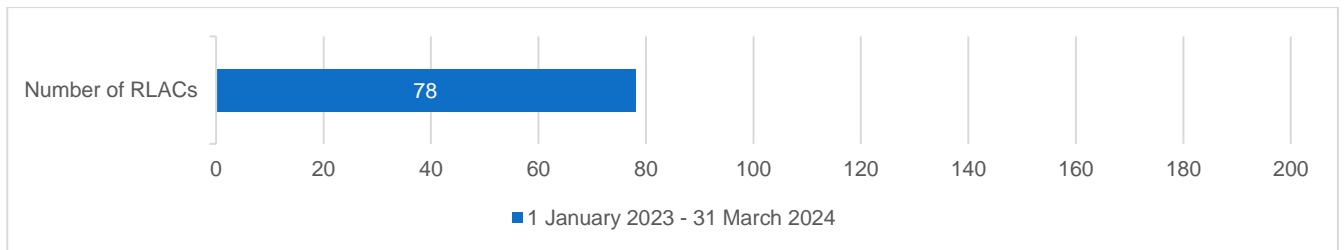


2.2.1.5 Future outlook

It is expected that technical assistance with climate adaptation planning to approximately 10-20 RLACs will be completed by the Third Barometer Update. The number of RLACs receiving such technical assistance will also increase substantially by then. A total of 63 eligible applications for MIP4Adapt's technical assistance with climate adaptation planning were received from Charter Signatories by 31 March 2024. Thus, in addition to the 44 Charter Signatories that had or were receiving such technical assistance, it is anticipated that the remaining 19 eligible applicants will begin to receive technical assistance before the Third Barometer Update. Furthermore, applications received from Charter Signatories in response to MIP4Adapt's next call for technical assistance will be considered on 30 June 2024 and support for many of those that are eligible will also commence by 30 September 2024.

Technical assistance for RLACs provided by the Mission-funded Projects Pathways2Resilience and CLIMAAX will begin prior to the Third Barometer Update. However, the technical assistance to any RLAC supported by these projects will not be completed by 30 September 2024. Regarding other types of engagement RLAC are having with Mission-funded Projects, there are 7 RLACs working with 16 projects funded through the Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Action (RIA) funding scheme (see Figure 10).

Figure 10 Number of European RLACs engaging in climate adaptation planning with Mission Projects funded through Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Action



2.2.2 Indicator 2.2. Progress of climate adaptation planning by European RLACs supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change

2.2.2.1 Indicator description

This indicator monitors progression through each of the six steps of the RAST by RLACs that receive technical assistance. Progress of each RLAC is monitored by rating them on a five-point scale specific to each of the six-steps, which approximates to: 1) not started, with no understanding of need, 2) not started, with understanding of need, 3) ongoing, 4) completed, to a 'good enough' standard, 5) completed to a high standard.

2.2.2.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.2.2.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)⁷

Figure 11 Progress of climate adaptation planning by European RLACs supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change



2.2.2.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

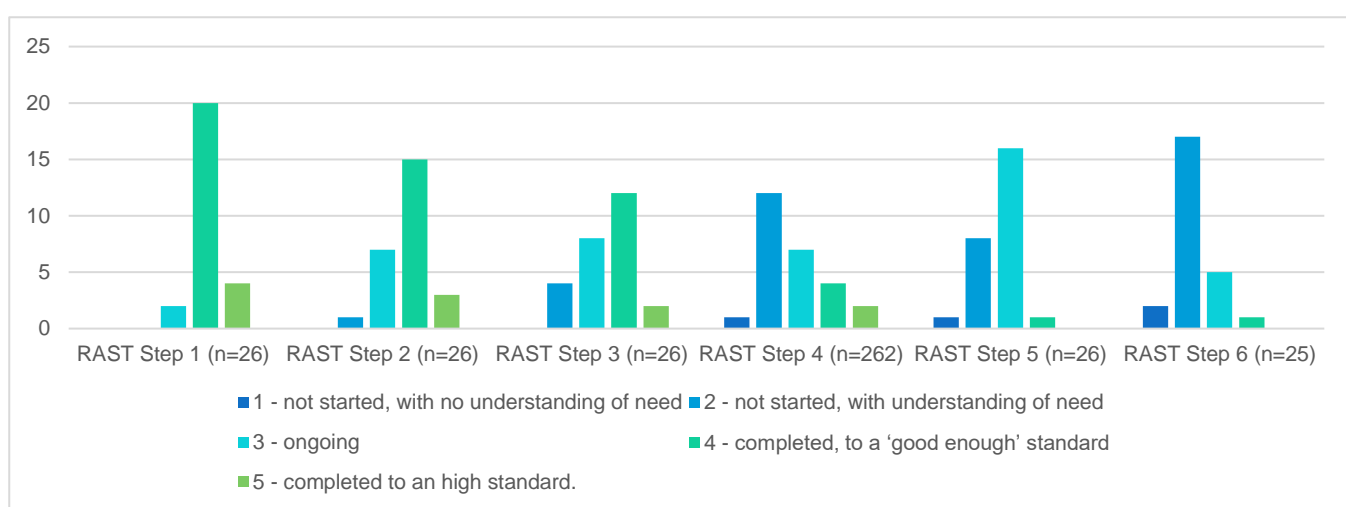
By 31 March 2024, full technical assistance on adaptation planning had been completed for one RLAC; Izmir, Turkey, so was the only RLAC with an 'After' TA rating. Izmir began receiving technical assistance from a high starting point, as it was determined to have completed, to some degree, all steps of the RAST, except for Step 5, which was the focus of the support. As an RLAC belonging to an Associated Country, Izmir received a compact

⁷ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

technical assistance programme of 2.5 days. This programme included a quality check of its current plan and demonstration projects and identification of an action plan to address the gaps and limitations of Izmir’s existing adaptation planning. As a result, the indicator does not show a change in scores from before and after receipt of the technical assistance. However, the impact on Izmir will become tangible in the short-term, as the action plan proposed by MIP4Adapt to Izmir was actioned immediately the technical assistance was completed.

Figure 12 presents starting points in relation to each step of the RAST for RLACs receiving technical assistance from MIP4Adapt where this had already been determined by 31 March 2024.⁸ Unsurprisingly, the majority of RLACs score high for first two steps, preparing the ground for adaptation and assessing climate change risks and vulnerabilities, as Charter Signatories need to have completed a VRA to be eligible for technical assistance. Notably, RLACS also score relatively high for Step 3 (identifying adaptation options). Steps 4 (assessing and selecting adaptation options), 5 (implementing adaptation), and 6 (monitoring and evaluating adaptation), are lower scoring. Hence, RLACs may require most support for those three steps. Future barometer updates will add stacked bars to Figure 12 to differentiate cumulative progress between reporting periods.

Figure 12 Starting points of European RLACs supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change before receiving technical assistance



2.2.2.5 Future outlook

Data will be available for this indicator from a much larger number of RLACs for the Third Barometer Update (see section 2.2.1.5). These will bolster insights on how MIP4Adapt’s technical assistance is advancing RLACs’ climate adaptation planning.

2.2.3 Indicator 2.3. Perceptions of European RLACs regarding the extent that technical assistance has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future

2.2.3.1 Indicator description

This indicator monitors the extent to which RLACs that receive technical assistance perceive that it will help to accelerate their transformation to a climate resilient future.

The relevant individual RLACs are asked when their technical assistance is completed: “To what extent will the specific technical assistance received by your RLAC help to accelerate its transformation to a climate resilient future on a scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (substantially)?”

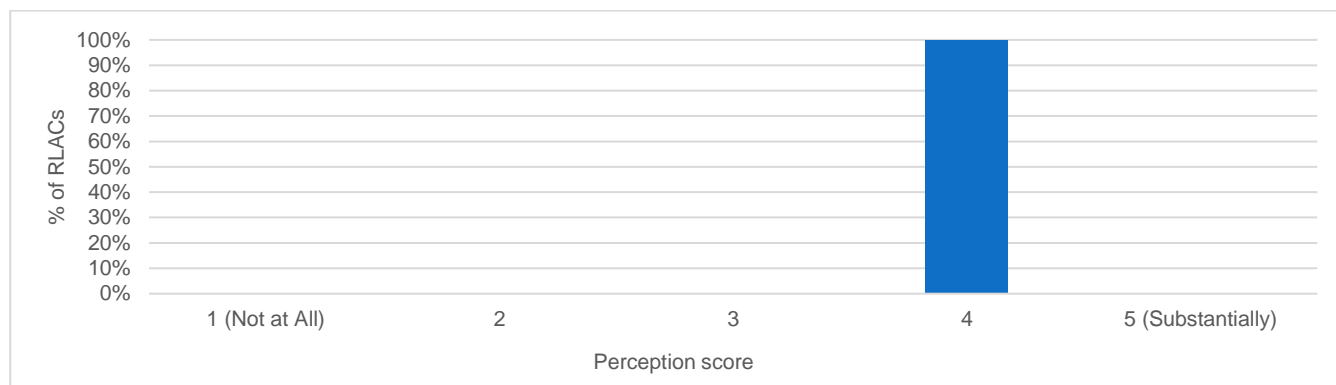
2.2.3.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

⁸ Note: starting points are not available for all RLACs receiving technical assistance as of 31 March 2024. An overall indication of the status of the region to the RAST steps is received during the preliminary calls and kick-off meeting stages. However, some TA facilitators have found it more accurate to complete the starting point information of the RAST steps for RLACs during the respective TA sessions, which follow the kick-off meeting. This explains why 44 RLACs are in the process of receiving support however Figure 12 has numbers varying from 25 to 26 for each of the steps.

2.2.3.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)⁹

Figure 13 Perceptions of accelerated progress towards climate resilience by European RLACs receiving technical assistance (n=1)



In future barometer updates, information for this indicator will be presented in stacked bar charts for each reporting period to present change over time.

2.2.3.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

Technical assistance had been completed for one RLAC (Izmir, Turkey) by 31 March 2024. While this RLAC, as an Associated Country, only received 2.5 days of support, it gave this indicator a rating of 4. As such, it provides a very initial positive indication of the extent to which RLACs may perceive MIP4Adapt's technical assistance can accelerate their transformation to a climate resilient future.

2.2.3.5 Future outlook

It is expected that MIP4Adapt will have completed its technical assistance to 10-20 RLACs by the Third Barometer Update, so it will be possible to provide greater insight then on the extent to which RLACs perceive MIP4Adapt's technical assistance can accelerate their transformation to a climate resilient future.

2.3 MISSION OBJECTIVE 3

Build deep resilience by scaling up actionable solutions through 75 large-scale demonstrations of resilience across a number of European RLACs, with emphasis on cross-border cooperation and cohesion.

The two indicators relate to Objective 3:

- Number of European RLACs provided with technical assistance to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience
- Number of European countries and RLACs involved in cross-border demonstration projects of climate resilience.

2.3.1 Indicator 3.1 Number of European RLACs developing projects demonstrating climate resilience

2.3.1.1 Indicator description

This indicator monitors the number and location of RLACs that are supported to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience either by (a) MIP4Adapt's technical assistance, whereby an RLAC is counted once it has identified a demonstration project through this support, or (b) involvement with Mission Projects funded by Horizon Europe. Demonstration projects are defined by the European Commission as having elements of the following characteristics:

- a) Demonstrate the feasibility of implementing one or several climate adaptation solution(s) at scale in real-life (beyond lab conditions), whereby R&D/innovation is required to be able to implement the solution at scale in real-life in the specific project/environment at hand

⁹ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

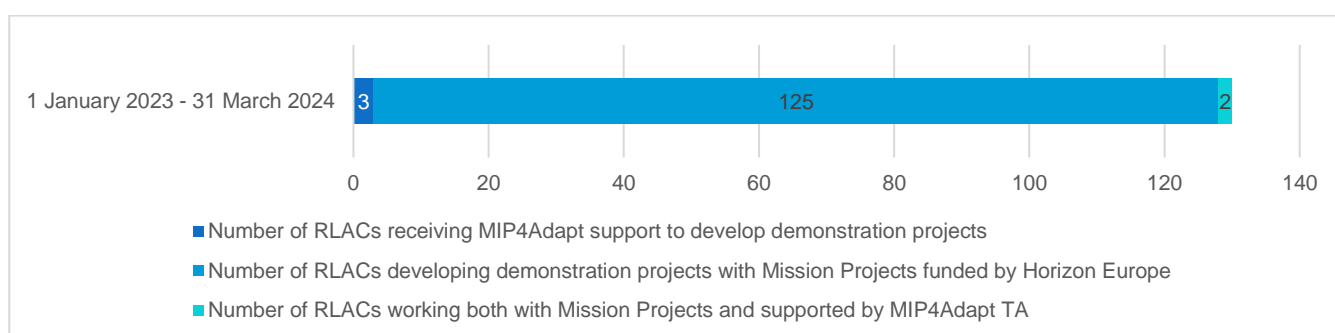
- b) With a view to transforming a key system into a more climate resilient system (i.e., the water management system, land use and food system, health system, biodiversity and ecosystem, critical infrastructure, or regional economic system)
- c) With nature-based solutions to be explored as a priority
- d) In line with the National Adaptation Plan and regional adaptation pathway/strategy, where available
- e) Carried out whilst ensuring citizens and stakeholder engagement
- f) Mobilising funding also from sources other than Horizon Europe, e.g., the European Investment bank (EIB), other EU funding, state aid, other public funding, private funding)
- g) Whereby the demonstration project has the commitment by the region to maintain it for the future, beyond the implementation duration of the project.

2.3.1.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.3.1.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)¹⁰

Figure 14 Number of European RLACs working to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience



2.3.1.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

There were 15 Mission Projects funded by Horizon Europe that were classified as innovation actions, with 125 RLACs (as listed in Appendix 3) working on demonstration projects, acting in either a leader/frontrunner or follower/replicator capacity. These demonstration projects cover a range of different climate adaptation innovations, including nature-based solutions for urban regeneration and community-driven revitalization strategies. Examples include aiming to empower mountain communities, enhancing urban liveability, and incorporating advanced technologies like digital twins and artificial intelligence for effective climate resilience. The focus is on policy and behavioural changes, with a strong emphasis on participative methods and multi-sector collaboration. Three of the projects are stemming from the joint call between the climate adaptation and cities missions: GreeninCities, URBREATH, and ReGreenation.

With MIP4Adapt’s technical assistance, five regions had identified a demonstration project, these are İzmir Metropolitan Municipality; Torres Vedras Municipality, Southwest Finland (The Regional Council of Southwest Finland and City of Turku); Municipality of Figueira da Foz; and Stowarzyszenie Aglomeracja Kalisko-Ostrowska. MIP4Adapt was also providing technical assistance to 42 RLACs with the selection of viable demonstration projects and development of funding applications.

Two regions were both working on demonstration projects through Mission Projects funded by Horizon Europe and through the support of MIP4Adapt technical assistance (İzmir Metropolitan Municipality, and Southwest Finland – The Regional Council of Southwest Finland and City of Turku).

¹⁰ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

2.3.1.5 Future outlook

A total of 54 eligible applications for MIP4Adapt’s technical assistance with the selection of viable demonstration projects and development of funding applications were received by 31 March 2024. Thus, in addition to the 44 RLACs that had or were receiving such technical assistance, the remaining 20 eligible applicants will begin to receive technical assistance before the Third Barometer Update. Furthermore, applications received from Charter Signatories in response to MIP4Adapt’s next call for technical assistance will be considered on 30 June 2024 and support for many of those that are eligible will also commence by 30 September 2024. Thus, it is anticipated that MIP4Adapt will support RLACs to identify at least 20 demonstration projects by then.

2.3.2 Indicator 3.2 Number of European countries and RLACs involved in cross-border demonstration projects of climate resilience

2.3.2.1 Indicator description

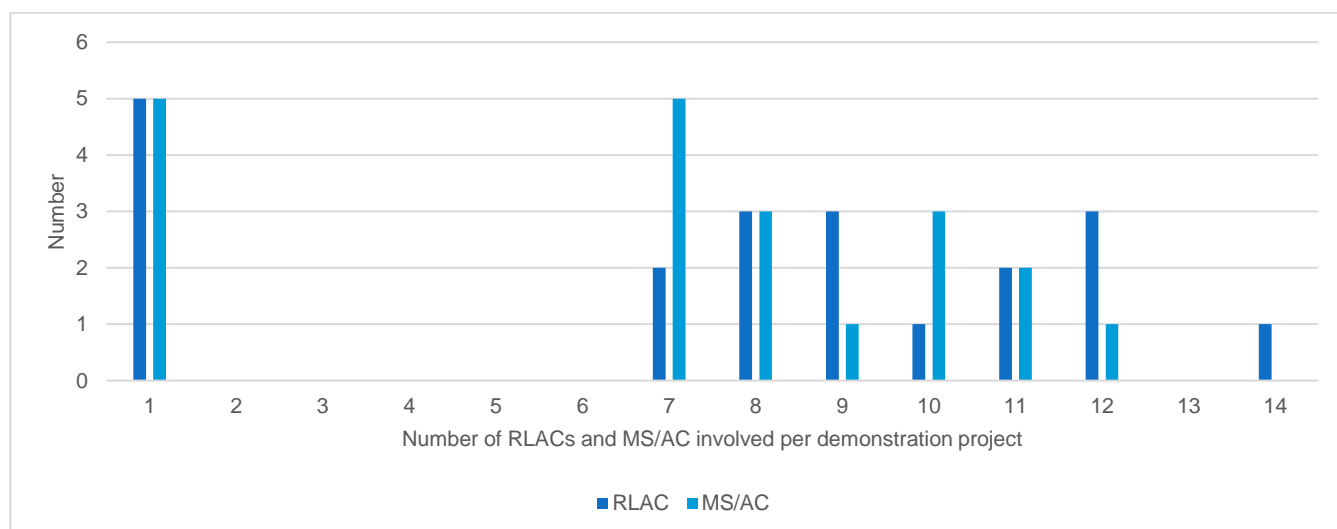
This indicator monitors the number of European countries and RLACs involved in cross-border demonstration projects of climate resilience from either (a) MIP4Adapt technical assistance to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience or (b) as part of Mission Projects funded by Horizon Europe. Demonstration projects are defined by the European Commission as having elements of the characteristics listed in section 2.3.1.1.

2.3.2.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

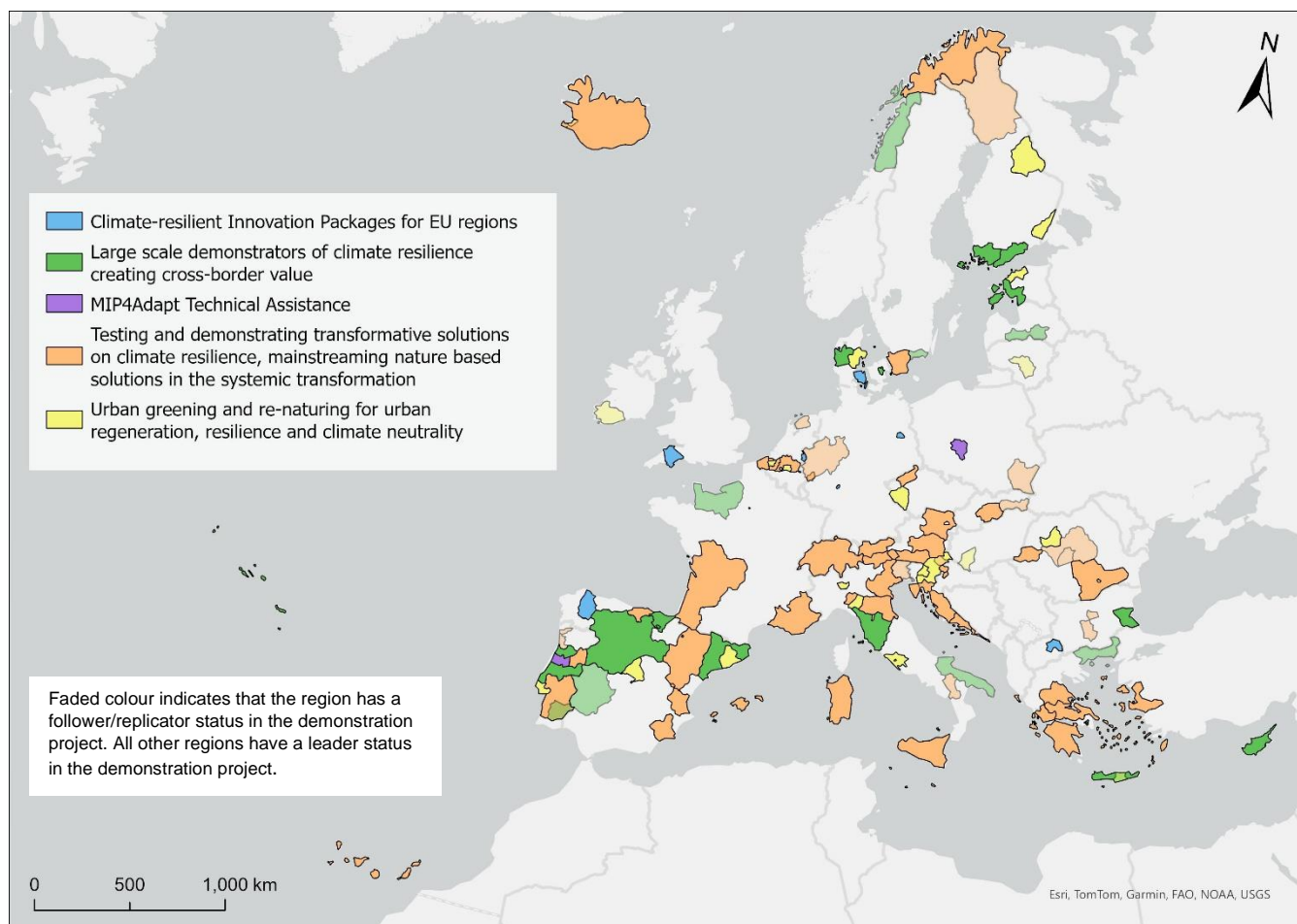
2.3.2.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)¹¹

Figure 15 Demonstration projects by the number of Member States/Associated Countries (MS/AC) and RLACs involved



¹¹ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

Figure 16 Map of RLACs developing demonstration projects, categorised by Horizon Europe call or MIP4Adapt technical assistance



2.3.2.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The 15 demonstration projects being developed by Mission-funded Projects have strong cross-border characteristics. All involve 7 to 14 RLACs per demonstration project, spread across a similar number of Member States (6 to 11 Member State per demonstration project). This cross-border activity is not confined to particular areas of Europe (e.g., projects involving RLACs and Member States/Associated Countries with a solely Mediterranean focus) but involves RLACs and Member States/Associated Countries across Europe (e.g., demonstration projects such as RESIST and MOUNTRESILIENCE). Five demonstration projects identified by Charter Signatories with MIP4Adapt’s technical assistance focus only within each of their RLACs. The 44 RLACs receiving MIP4Adapt technical assistance to develop demonstration projects are also focusing within the boundaries of their jurisdiction. The reasons for such an inward-looking approach given by these RLACs include concerns about the challenges of networking with other RLACs to explore potential for scale-up and the complexity of governing cross-border projects.

2.3.2.5 Future outlook

As MIP4Adapt’s technical assistance with the selection of viable demonstration projects and development of funding applications progresses, the number of demonstration projects identified and supported will increase. However, given that all 44 RLACs are developing projects focusing inwards, there is a strong indication that the number of cross-border projects will not be substantially higher in the next reporting round (October 2024). At the request of Charter Signatories, the technical assistance offers the possibility of holding networking sessions between the technical assistance beneficiaries within the same country to explore the opportunities to connect and scale up demonstration projects across boundaries. This will only be provided if the RLAC requests these sessions and where it will assist their progress through the steps of the RAST. For demonstration projects resulting from

Mission-funded Projects, it is reasonable to assume that the next cohort of Mission-funded Projects commencing in September 2024 will have similarly high levels of cross-border characteristics.

2.4 CROSS-CUTTING

Five indicators address cross-cutting elements of the Mission’s delivery (stakeholder engagement, the Community of Practice, and finance for climate adaptation) that relate to all three Mission Objectives. The indicators focus on:

- Perceptions of European RLACs on progress with stakeholder engagement in climate adaptation planning
- Extent of participation in the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Community of Practice
- Perceptions of European RLACs on the extent that knowledge transfer through the Community of Practice has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future
- Perceptions of European RLACs on the extent that improved knowledge of climate adaptation funding opportunities has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future.

2.4.1 Indicator 4.1 Perceptions of European RLACs on progress with stakeholder engagement in climate adaptation planning

2.4.1.1 Indicator description

This indicator monitors the extent to which RLACs perceive that they have been enabled to engage stakeholders and citizens in climate adaptation planning to accelerate their RLACs’ transformation to a climate resilient future.

Data for this indicator is collected through surveying of RLACs that are Charter Signatories or involved with the Community of Practice. The question asked is: “As a Charter Signatory or an RLAC involved in the Community of Practice, to what extent has your RLAC been enabled to engage stakeholders and citizens to accelerate its transformation to a climate resilient future?”. The survey question seeks responses on a five-point scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (substantially).

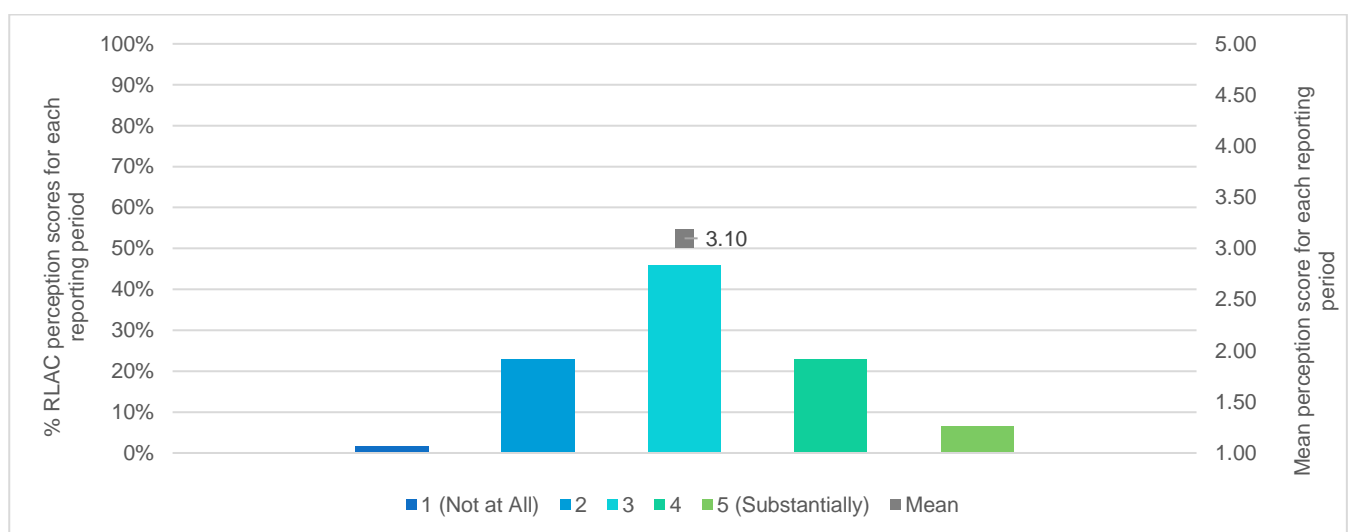
2.4.1.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.4.1.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)¹²

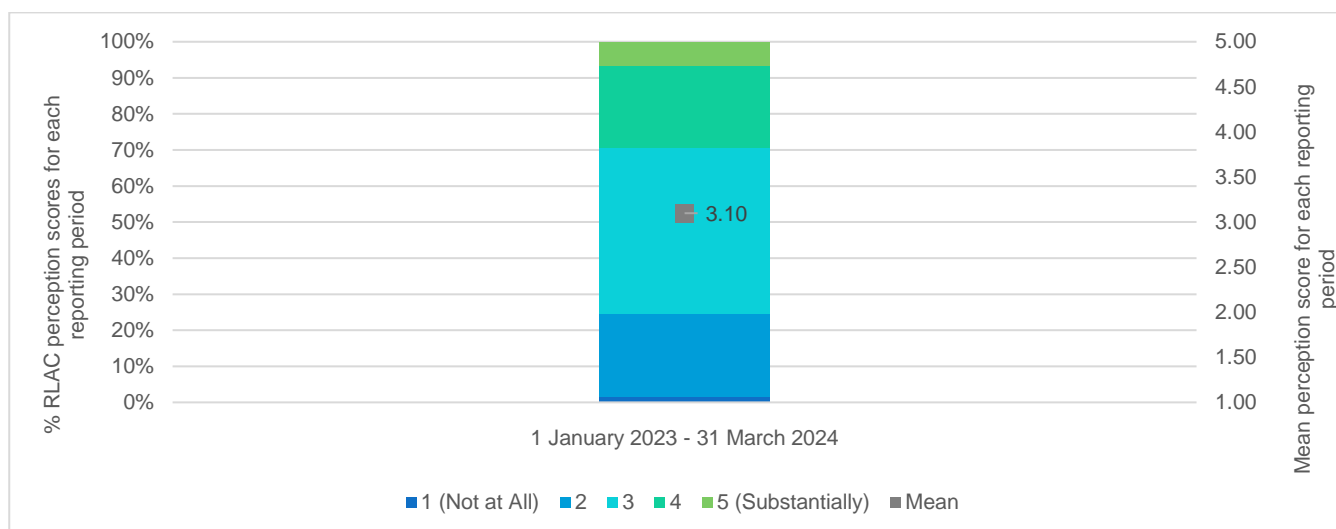
Sixty-one out of 311 Charter Signatories provided information for this indicator.

Figure 17 The extent RLACs have been enabled to engage stakeholders and citizens in climate adaptation planning to accelerate their climate resilient future for the reporting period 1 January 2023 to 31 March 2024 (n=61)



¹² Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

Figure 18 The extent RLACs have been enabled to engage stakeholders and citizens in climate adaptation planning to accelerate their climate resilient future across reporting periods



In future barometer updates, this figure will present stacked bar charts for each reporting period to present change over time.

2.4.1.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The ability of this indicator to be representative and detect meaningful trends over time is highly dependent on how many Charter Signatories respond to the survey. In this instance, only 61 out of 311 Charter Signatories did so. Further efforts will be made to encourage Charter Signatories to respond to the survey for future barometer updates.

Whilst acknowledging the limitations of sample size, the status of this indicator suggests that Charter Signatories are feeling enabled to engage stakeholders and citizens in their climate adaptation planning, with three-quarters of respondents providing a medium to high rating (3 or more). Relevant MIP4Adapt activities have included:

- Publication of a “Do it yourself (DIY) manual for mobilising and engaging stakeholders and citizens in climate change adaptation planning”, as reported in the First Barometer Update
- A series of training events for Charter Signatories on stakeholder and citizen engagement linked to the DIY manual and to the steps of the RAST
- Beginning the provision of technical assistance on stakeholder and citizen engagement to 38 out of 44 Charter Signatories that submitted eligible applications
- Confirming support to 32 Charter Signatories with the organisation of community-level events either for stakeholders where relevant to the provision of technical assistance on adaptation planning or for citizens.

However, supporting the need for further training events, comments from Charter Signatories accompanying their ratings include that they sometimes found it difficult to know how to engage stakeholders in the most effective way.

2.4.1.5 Future outlook

It is anticipated that the status of this indicator will continue to improve, as MIP4Adapt and Mission-funded Projects continue to enable RLACs to mobilise and engage stakeholders and citizens. For example, over the next reporting period to 30 September 2024, MIP4Adapt will:

- Update and enhance the DIY Manual based on its use and feedback received
- Continue the series of training events to which RLACs, more generally, will be invited
- Complete the provision of technical assistance on stakeholder and citizen engagement to the 44 Charter Signatories that submitted eligible applications
- Consider applications received from Charter Signatories in response to MIP4Adapt’s next call for technical assistance on 30 June 2024, which will mean that support for many of those that are eligible will also commence by 30 September 2024
- Complete support to Charter Signatories with the organisation of many community-level events.

2.4.2 Indicator 4.2 Extent of participation in the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Community of Practice

2.4.2.1 Indicator description

With regard to the Community of Practice, this indicator monitors:

- The number and types of members
- Charter Signatories registered
- Mission-funded and Mission-relevant projects registered
- Friends of the Mission registered (Friends of the Mission are organisations, such as research institutions or businesses, that have expressed an interest and been invited by the European Commission to endorse the Charter and to contribute to the Community of Practice).

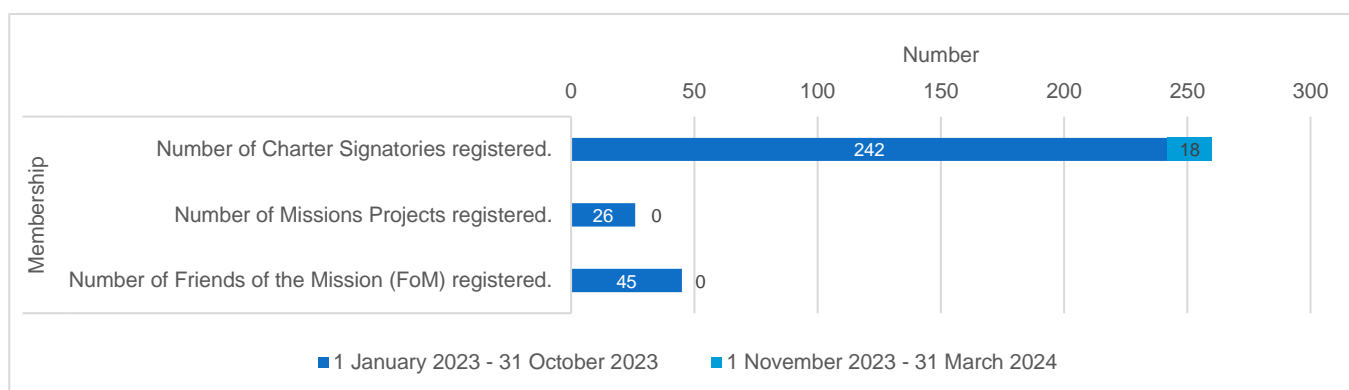
The number of participants in events associated with each of the Community of Practice's 'nodes' (i.e., spaces for different target audiences within the Community of Practice). These include the Interregional Node for RLACs, the Research & Innovation (R&I) Node for Mission projects, the EU-level Node for policymakers, and the Dialogue Among Nodes¹³.

2.4.2.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

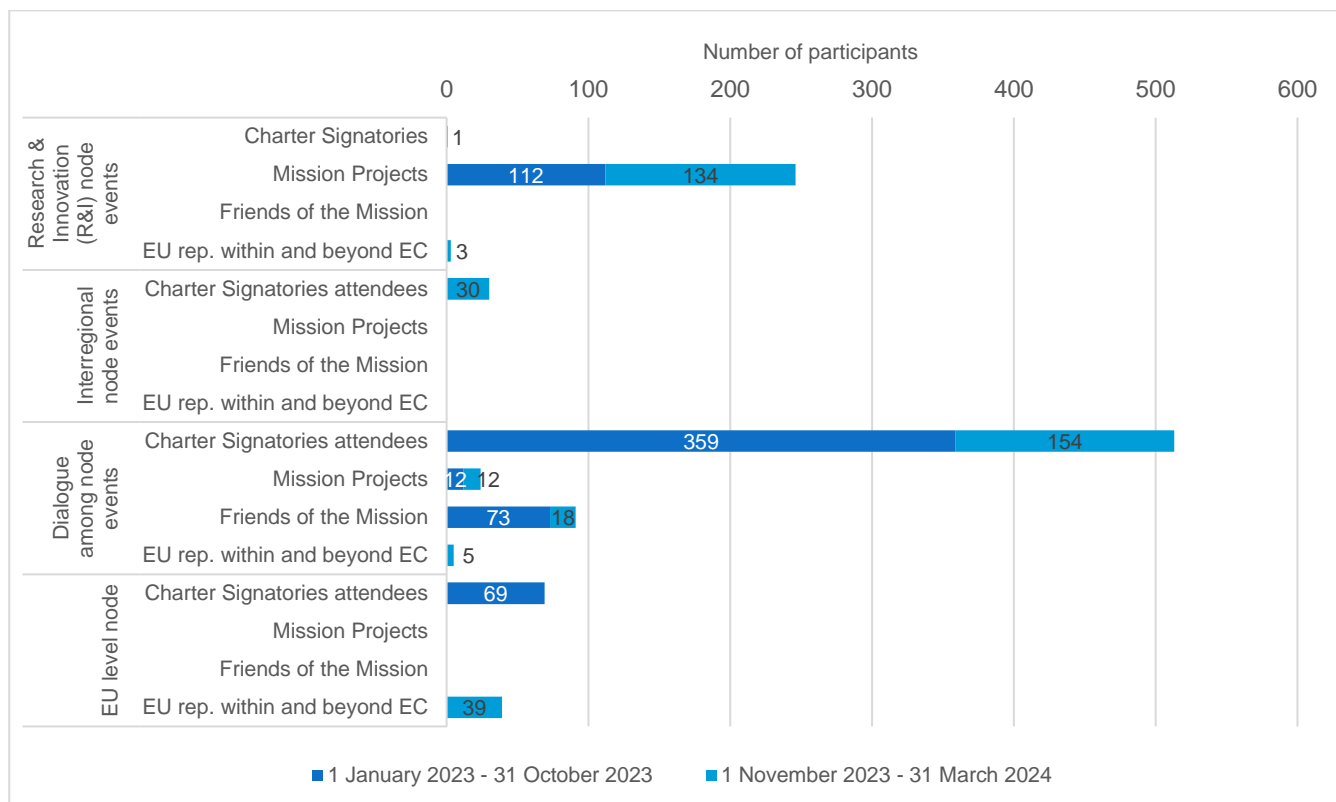
2.4.2.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)

Figure 19 Extent of participation in the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Community of Practice (membership)



¹³ The Dialogue Among Nodes links the Community's three nodes and thereby fosters collaboration and coherence between their respective discussions and initiatives.

Figure 20 Extent of participation in the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Community of Practice (event participation)



2.4.2.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

Between 1 November 2023 and 31 March 2024, the number of Charter Signatories who were members of the Community of Practice increased slightly from 242 to 268; most Charter Signatories had already become members at the time of the First Barometer Update. A total of 26 out of 28 Mission-funded Projects were members of the Community of Practice, an increase of one since the last reporting round.

Between 1 November 2023 and 31 March 2024, ten Community of Practice events were held: six for the Dialogue Among Nodes, two for the Research & Innovation Node, one each for the Interregional Node and the EU-level Node. The events that took place were:

1. How the MIP4Adapt Technical Assistance works in practice (November 2023)
2. Synergy Workshop for Mission Projects (November 2023)
3. Matchmaking for joint proposals: Propose Together, Thrive Together! (November 2023)
4. Preparing the ground for adaptation (November 2023)
5. Learning from each other: Identifying, assessing and selecting options (December 2023)
6. Thematic Dialogue for Mission Projects on M&E (January 2024)
7. Nature-based Solutions as Adaptation Options (January 2024)
8. Learning from each other: Assessing climate change risks and vulnerabilities (February 2024)
9. Adapting now: From planning to action (March 2024)

On average 40 participants attended each of these events. Comparing participation levels between the first and second reporting period, the average attendance per event declined from 104 (between May 2023 when the first Community of Practice event took place and end-October 2023) to 40. This may have been because of the more focused nature of many of the events, which were targeted to Charter Signatories whose adaptation planning was at a particular point, e.g., regarding climate risk assessment, identification and prioritisation of adaptation options, or implementation.

The Peer Learning Programme was launched in January 2024 and 24 Charter Signatories registered to be involved. The programme lasts four months and three peer-groups formed focused on:

- Citizen and stakeholder engagement
- Assessing adaptation measures
- Ecosystem and nature-based solutions.

2.4.2.5 *Future outlook*

It is likely that only a few more Charter Signatories and Mission-funded Projects will register to the Community of Practice, as most are already members. Drawing upon feedback from RLACs that are members of the Community of Practice about their specific needs, the schedule of future events has been tailored to encourage their participation and engagement.

It is recognized that members of the Community of Practice have limited time and resources to be involved, so the Community of Practice will continue to be developed in ways that seek to ensure that the benefits justify their investment in it. Furthermore, MIP4Adapt will coordinate with key Mission Projects to ensure that the Community of Practice is complementary to their activities.

In April 2024, the Community of Practice will be migrated to a new online platform called Futurium, which is intended to enhance opportunities for information exchange, collaboration and engagement. As this new platform requires existing members of the Community of Practice to re-register, a step-by-step guide to has been developed to make the process as straightforward as possible.

2.4.3 **Indicator 4.3. Perceptions of European RLACs of the extent to which knowledge transfer through involvement in the Community of Practice has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future**

2.4.3.1 *Indicator description*

This indicator monitors the extent to which RLACs perceive knowledge transfer through the Community of Practice has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future.

Data for this indicator is collected through surveying RLACs that are involved in the Community of Practice. The question asked is: “As a Charter Signatory, to what extent has knowledge transfer through the Community of Practice accelerated your RLAC’s transformation to a climate resilient future?” The survey question seeks responses on a five-point scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (substantially).

2.4.3.2 *Baseline*

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.4.3.3 *Indicator status (31 March 2024)*

An indicator fiche has been developed.

2.4.3.4 *Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)*

It had been intended that data for this indicator would be collected at an event with members of the Community of Practice. However, it will now be included in the survey of Charter Signatories for the Third Barometer Update.

2.4.3.5 *Future outlook*

It is not possible to know what value will be reported when this indicator is first reported in October 2024. However, RLACs’ perceptions of the extent to which involvement in the Community of Practice has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future should increase across reporting periods as RLACs accumulate benefits from being involved.

2.4.4 **Indicator 4.4. Perceptions of European RLACs on the extent to which improved knowledge of funding for climate adaptation has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future**

2.4.4.1 *Indicator description*

This indicator monitors the extent to which RLACs perceive that their improved knowledge of funding opportunities for climate adaptation measures has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future.

Data for this indicator are collected through surveying RLACs that are Charter Signatories or involved in the Community of Practice. The question asked is: “As a Charter Signatory or an RLAC involved in the Community of

Practice, to what extent has your improved knowledge of funding for climate adaptation accelerated your RLAC’s transformation to a climate resilient future?” The survey question seeks responses on a five-point scale from 1 (not at all) to 5 (substantially).

2.4.4.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.4.4.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)¹⁴

Sixty-one out of 311 Charter Signatories provided information for this indicator.

Figure 21 The extent to which RLACs improved knowledge of funding for climate adaptation has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future for the reporting period 1 January 2023 – 31 March 2024 (n=61)

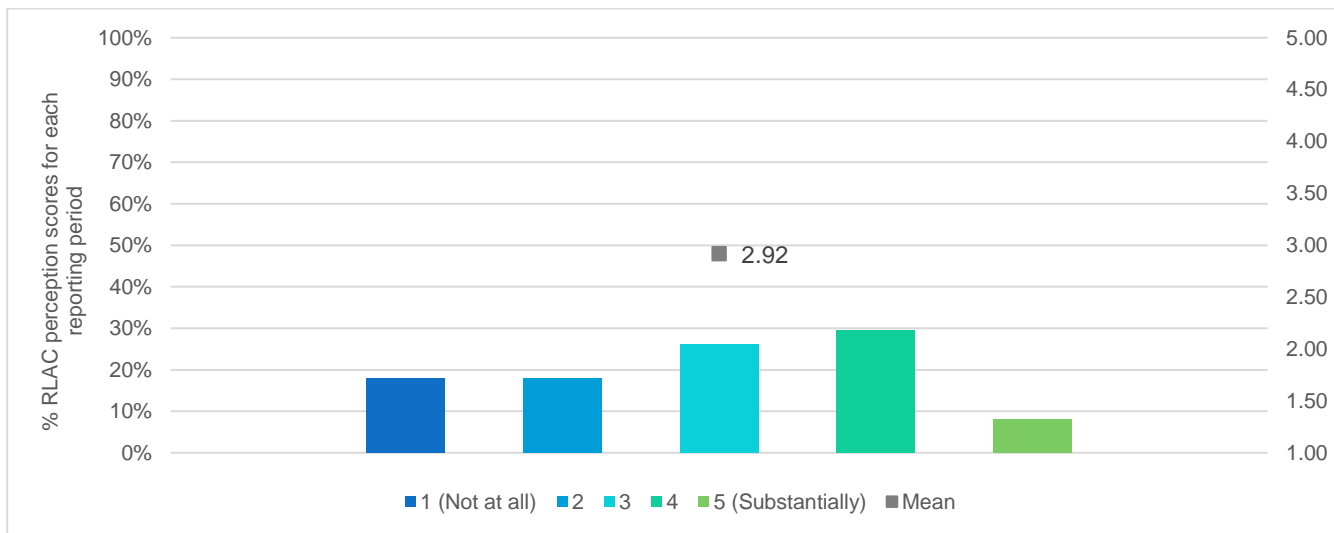
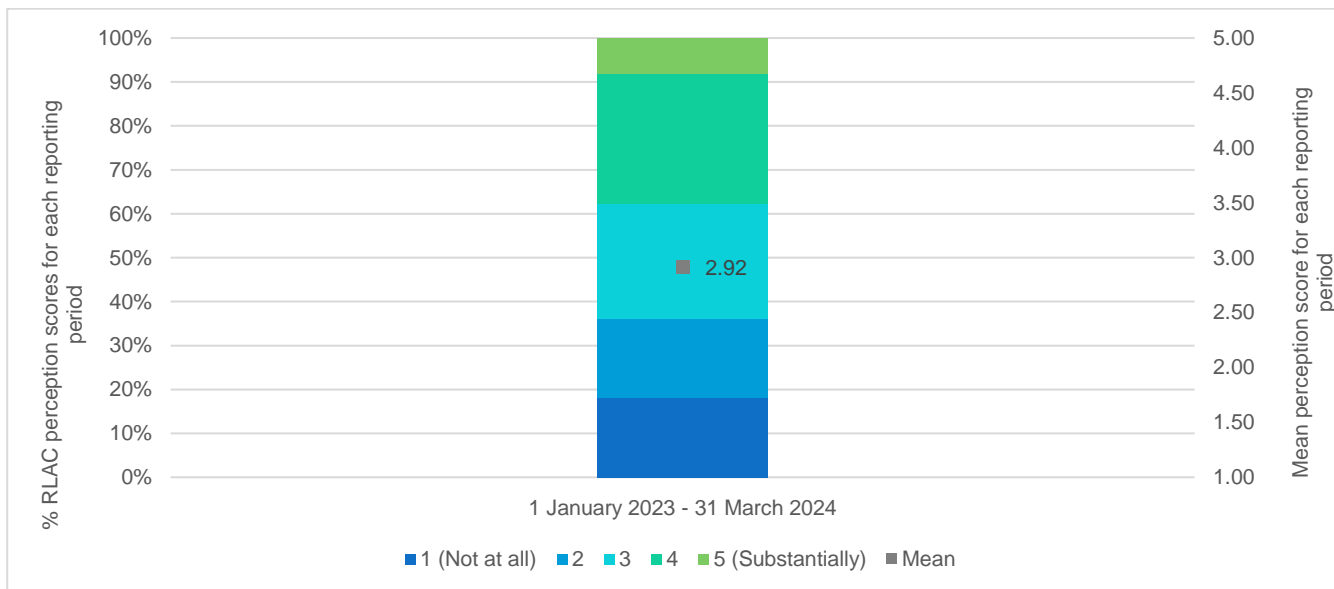


Figure 22 The extent to which RLACs improved knowledge of funding for climate adaptation has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future by reporting period



In future barometer updates, this figure will present stacked bar charts for each reporting period to present change over time.

¹⁴ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

2.4.4.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The ability of this indicator to be representative and detect meaningful trends over time is highly dependent on how many Charter Signatories respond to the survey. In this instance, only 61 out of 311 Charter Signatories did so. Further efforts will be made to encourage Charter Signatories to respond to the survey for future barometer updates.

Actions taken by MIP4Adapt to enhance RLACs knowledge of funding for climate adaptation included:

- Publication of a “Funding and Financing Guide to Support Regional Climate Adaptation” in February 2024
- A training event on “Funding adaptation projects: context and the role of debt financing”, and
- Commencing provision of technical assistance on finance and funding to 43 Charter Signatories and completing such support for Izmir, Turkey.

Acknowledging the limitations of sample size, there was wide variation in RLACs’ perceptions regarding this indicator. Just over a third of RLACs (38%) felt positively about how improved knowledge of funding for climate adaptation had accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future (giving a high rating of 4 or more). However, in contrast, just over a third of survey respondents (36%) gave a low rating (2 or less) to the extent to which RLACs improved knowledge had helped progress. Challenges related to funding of climate adaptation is an issue often cited by RLACs as a barrier to action, as described in MIP4Adapt’s [‘Needs of the Mission Charter Signatories to implement climate change adaptation’](#). Therefore, it is unsurprising to find that some respondents provided low ratings for this indicator. Reasons cited by RLACs in comments accompanying their ratings included:

- The type of funding opportunities that they believed were available, (“So far, there have been few opportunities for funding, beyond research, innovative, novel projects. This hinders the possibility for implementing and scaling already developed and well-functioning solutions, and thus adaption to climate change” and
- Capacity issues that they perceived limit RLACs abilities to take advantage of those opportunities (“We have not made use of the resources available to us in a large extent yet, due to capacity and resource challenges”, “A lot of funding and knowledge sharing is available, but we do not have enough people to make use of it all”).

2.4.4.5 Future outlook

MIP4Adapt will explore the reasons underpinning RLACs’ contrasting perceptions about their knowledge of funding, as it will provide useful insights. Through the general support, technical assistance and wider activities carried out under the Mission, efforts will continue to help RLACs become aware of and utilise relevant funding opportunities. A total of 54 eligible applications for MIP4Adapt’s technical assistance on financing and funding were received by 31 March 2024. Thus, in addition to the 44 RLACs that had or were receiving such technical assistance, the remaining 20 eligible applicants will begin to receive technical assistance before the Third Barometer Update. Furthermore, applications received from Charter Signatories in response to MIP4Adapt’s next call for technical assistance will be considered on 30 June 2024 and support for many of those that are eligible will also commence by 30 September 2024. MIP4Adapt may also hold further training events on funding and financing towards the end of this year. It is anticipated that these activities will have a positive impact on the survey respondents’ perceptions of how their improved knowledge of adaptation funding is accelerating their progress, albeit balanced by the types of challenges that they have highlighted.

2.4.5 Indicator 4.5. Progress of European RLACs with securing funding for climate adaptation that are supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change

2.4.5.1 Indicator description

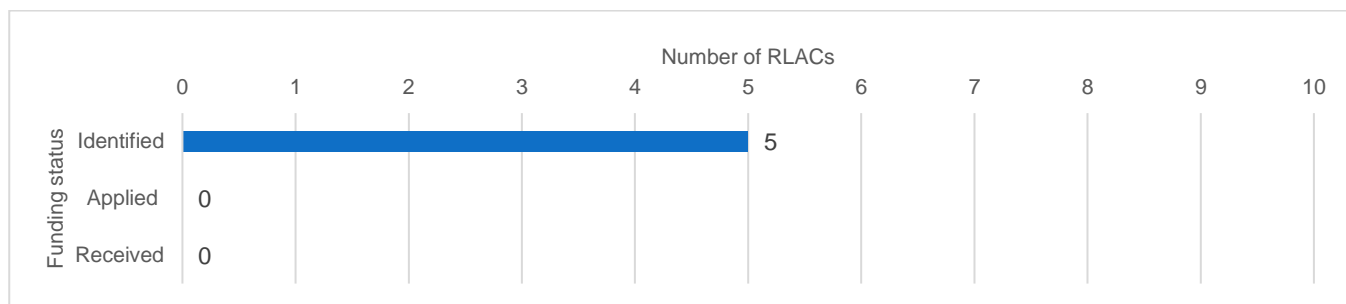
This indicator monitors progress in obtaining climate adaptation funding by RLACs that receive technical assistance from MIP4Adapt on funding and financing. The number of RLACs that have ‘Identified’, ‘Applied for’, and ‘Received’ funding is monitored. The total value of funding “Identified”, “Applied for” and “Received” is also monitored.

2.4.5.2 Baseline

The reference period started from a zero baseline on 1 January 2023.

2.4.5.3 Indicator status (31 March 2024)¹⁵

Figure 23 Progress of European RLACs with securing funding for climate adaptation that are supported by the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change



In future barometer updates, information for this indicator will be presented in stacked bar charts for each reporting period to present change over time.

2.4.5.4 Review of progress (to 31 March 2024)

The five RLACs being supported through the MIP4Adapt technical assistance that have identified funding opportunities have done so in relation to demonstration projects. These are: İzmir Metropolitan Municipality; Torres Vedras Municipality, Southwest Finland (The Regional Council of Southwest Finland and City of Turku); Municipality of Figueira da Foz; and Stowarzyszenie Aglomeracja Kalisko-Ostrowska. Funding opportunities include the EIB. MIP4Adapt has been coordinating with the EIB, so that it can provide specific support to the RLACs development of financial proposals.

2.4.5.5 Future outlook

As MIP4Adapt's technical assistance on funding and finance progresses (see section 2.4.4.4), then the number of RLACs that identify, apply for and receive funding will increase. As technical assistance on funding and finance has commenced with 43 Charter Signatories and been completed for Izmir, Turkey, it is anticipated that a reasonable proportion of those RLACs will have identified relevant sources of funding, and some will have applied by the Third Barometer Update.

3. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

This Second Barometer Update presents data as of 31 March 2024 for 12 out of the 13 indicators that comprise the monitoring framework. These indicators are designed to measure the Mission's progress against its three objectives and cross-cutting themes.

For Mission Objective 1, regarding general support to European RLACs in preparing and planning for climate resilience, Indicator 1.1 presents the extent of participation in events and training and usage of tools, guidance and online resources designed by MIP4Adapt and the Mission-funded Projects. MIP4Adapt's schedule of events has been further developed to be responsive to Charter Signatories' and RLACs' feedback and needs, so it is anticipated will increase their participation. Recent and continuing enhancement of the Mission Portal and publication there of up to 20 tools and guidance notes in May are expected to increase usage of online resources. Indicator 1.2 suggests that RLACs are appreciative of the general support for climate adaptation that is available with 37% rating it as having a high impact (rating 4 or more) and some Charter Signatories providing very positive feedback. A vast majority (87%) of Charter Signatories gave a rating of 3 or more on a five-point scale regarding Indicator 1.3, indicating that general support was having an impact on their climate adaptation planning. Notable comments from Charter Signatories were that they lacked time to follow up the Missions' activities and needed to organize themselves to make best use of the available support.

Indicators for Mission Objective 2 focus on the Mission-related technical assistance that is tailored to individual RLACs. Regarding Indicator 2.1, MIP4Adapt started providing technical assistance on climate adaptation planning

¹⁵ Note: this indicator was not reported in the first barometer update.

to the first beneficiary on 28 September 2023. Such technical assistance had been completed for one Charter Signatory and 44 more were being supported by 31 March 2024. It is expected that technical assistance to another 10-20 will be completed by 30 September 2024 and the number of RLACs receiving technical assistance will also increase substantially by then. In addition, technical assistance for RLACs from the Mission-funded Projects Pathways2Resilience and CLIMAAX will begin prior to the Third Barometer Update, although it is unlikely that their support to any RLACs will be completed by that time. Indicator 2.2 that monitors progression through each of the six steps of the adaptation planning cycle by RLACs that receive technical assistance with adaptation planning is not insightful at this point, as support to only one Charter Signatory has been completed. However, it has been determined that all those RLACs receiving such technical assistance from MIP4Adapt started by having already prepared the ground, assessed their climate risks, and identified adaptation options. MIP4Adapt's technical assistance is focused on supporting them to assess and implement adaptation options and develop their monitoring and evaluation. Data from a much larger number of RLACs for the Third Barometer Update will bolster insights on how MIP4Adapt's technical assistance is advancing RLACs' climate adaptation planning. Regarding Indicator 2.3, the one region where MIP4Adapt's technical assistance has been completed gave very positive feedback on the extent to which it had accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future. Greater insights in that regard will come from MIP4Adapt's completion of technical assistance to 10-20 RLACs by the Third Barometer Update.

Mission Objective 3 seeks to develop 75 large-scale demonstrations of resilience across a number of European RLACs, with emphasis on cross-border cooperation and cohesion. Regarding Indicator 3.1, 12 demonstration projects were being developed by RLACs in association with the Mission Projects, plus five demonstration projects were identified as a result of MIP4Adapt's technical assistance. In addition, a total of 44 RLACs had or were receiving technical assistance from MIP4Adapt with the selection of viable demonstration projects and development of funding application. A further 20 eligible applicants will also begin receiving technical assistance before the Third Barometer Update. For Indicator 3.2, the 12 demonstration projects being developed by Mission-funded Projects all have strong cross-border characteristics, each involving 7 to 14 RLACs spread across a similar number of Member States. In contrast, the 43 RLACs receiving MIP4Adapt technical assistance to develop demonstration projects, and the one where such support was completed, were all focused within their own boundaries because of their concerns about the challenges of working with other RLACs and the complexity of governing cross-border projects.

There are five cross-cutting indicators that address all three of the Mission's Objectives. Indicator 4.1 suggests Charter Signatories are feeling enabled to engage stakeholders and citizens in their climate adaptation planning. Relevant MIP4Adapt activities have included publication of a "Do it yourself (DIY) manual, a series of relevant training events for Charter Signatories, and beginning technical assistance on stakeholder and citizen engagement to 38 Charter Signatories. However, feedback suggests that they can find it difficult to know how to engage groups effectively, which supports need for further training events. As of 31 March 2024, 268 out of 311 Charter Signatories and 26 out of 28 Mission-funded Projects were members of the Community of Practice (Indicator 4.2). Between 1 November 2023 and 31 March 2024, ten Community of Practice events were held, which on average were each attended by 40 participants. This was fewer than reported in the First Barometer Update and may reflect the more focused nature of many of the events being targeted to Charter Signatories' adaptation planning at a particular point. Drawing upon feedback about the specific needs of RLACs that are members of the Community of Practice, MIP4Adapt's future events schedule has been tailored to encourage their greater participation. A total of 24 Charter Signatories are participating in the Peer Learning Programme, which was launched in January 2024 and will complete in May. The Community of Practice will continue to be developed in ways that seek to ensure that the benefits of being involved justify members investment in it, and MIP4Adapt will coordinate with Mission-funded Projects to ensure that the Community of Practice complements their activities. Migration of the Community of Practice to a new online platform called Futurium in April 2024 is intended to improve information exchange, collaboration and engagement. Indicator 4.3 will monitor the extent to which RLACs perceive the Community of Practice has accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future but will not be reported until the Third Barometer Update. Almost two-thirds of RLACs that are Charter Signatories or involved in the Community of Practice gave a rating of three or more on a five-point scale regarding the extent that their improved knowledge of funding for climate adaptation had accelerated their transformation to a climate resilient future, although the remainder felt more positive (Indicator 4.4). RLACs perceived that limitations included the type of funding opportunities available and their capacity to take advantage of those opportunities. MIP4Adapt sought to enhance RLACs knowledge of funding by publishing a "Funding and Financing Guide to Support Regional Climate Adaptation" in February 2024, delivering a training event on "funding adaptation projects" and beginning support on finance and funding to 44 Charter Signatories and completing such support for one of them. Activities carried out under the Mission will continue to build RLACs awareness and utilisation of relevant funding opportunities. These will include MIP4Adapt starting technical assistance on funding and finance with another 20 eligible

applicants before the Third Barometer Update. Indicator 4.5 monitors RLAC's progress in obtaining climate adaptation funding by RLACs that receive technical assistance from MIP4Adapt. Five of those RLACs have identified funding opportunities in relation to demonstration projects. It is anticipated that many of the 43 Charter Signatories already receiving such technical assistance (plus the one whose support has been completed) will have identified suitable funding and some will have applied by the Third Barometer Update.

The Second Barometer Update provides evidence that the Mission is making good progress. It appears that the general support relevant to RLACs' climate adaptation planning is appreciated, and that this support is having a positive impact. While 44 Charter Signatories have or are benefitting from MIP4Adapt's technical assistance with adaptation planning, the speed at which it can be accelerated is to large degree dictated by RLACs' resources that RLACs. Nevertheless, it is expected that technical assistance to another 10-20 RLACs will be completed by the next Barometer Update and many more RLACs will be receiving technical assistance from MIP4Adapt and the Mission-funded Projects Pathways2Resilience and CLIMAAX by then. The 12 demonstration projects being developed by RLACs funded through the Mission Projects reflect the Mission's aim for cross-border cooperation and cohesion. However, the 44 RLACs receiving technical assistance from MIP4Adapt with the selection of viable demonstration projects are more inward-looking due to the challenges that they perceive, which may be shared by RLACs more generally. Continuing efforts will be made to encourage the next 20 eligible applicants that will begin receiving such support before the Third Barometer Update to look outwards. This reflects That that Mission Objective 3 specific "emphasis on cross-border cooperation and cohesion". Charter Signatories' appreciation of the Mission's support for engaging stakeholders and citizens in their climate adaptation planning is notable as MIP4Adapt's support in that regard will continue to grow. Participation in the Community of Practice, events, training, and usage of resources designed by MIP4Adapt and Mission-funded Projects demonstrates real interest and commitment of RLACs in preparing for a climate-resilient future. It will be vital that MIP4Adapt and the Mission-funded Projects continue to seek feedback from RLACs at every opportunity to ensure tailoring and complementarity of their services. Building RLACs understanding of adaptation funding from a seemingly low base seems key if the Mission is to accelerate their transformation to a climate resilient future. MIP4Adapt can continue to provide general and tailored support to advance RLACs identification of suitable funding sources and subsequent applications. However, it seems that a more fundamental challenge may be to build RLACs understanding of the very real urgency to prioritise their own resources to accelerate their preparations and planning for climate resilience commensurate with the growing urgency for adaptation to climate risks.

APPENDIX 1. MISSION-FUNDED PROJECTS AS OF 31 MARCH 2024

1. AGORA
2. ARSINOE
3. CLIMAAX
4. CLIMAS
5. ICARIA
6. IMPETUS
7. MIRACA
8. P2R
9. R4C
10. REGILIENCE (CSA)
11. RESIST
12. RISKADAPT
13. TransformAr
14. VALORADA
15. PIISA
16. ClimEmpower
17. CLIMATEFIT
18. SOTERIA
19. FARCLIMATE
20. SpongeScapes
21. CARDIMED
22. NATALIE
23. NBRACER
24. MountResilience
25. LAND4CLIMATE
26. OCEANIDS
27. SpongeBoost
28. DesirMED
29. ARCADIA
30. GreenInCities
31. URBREATH
32. ReGreeneration

APPENDIX 2. LIST OF EUROPEAN RLACS RECEIVING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING FROM MIP4ADAPT AS OF 31 MARCH 2024

1. Basque Country
2. Business Region North (Region of North Denmark, North Denmark EU Office, Business region North representing 11 municipalities in the North)
3. Cabildo de Gran Canaria (island local government)
4. City of Pärnu
5. City of Tartu
6. Comunidade Intermunicipal do Cávado- Cim Cavado
7. Comunidade Intermunicipal do Médio Tejo
8. Free Hanseatic City of Bremen
9. Galway City Council
10. Gorenjska region
11. Goriška region
12. Häme Region
13. Ilion Municipality
14. Intermunicipal Community of Coimbra Region
15. İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality
16. İzmir Metropolitan Municipality (completed technical assistance)
17. Košice Self Governing Region
18. Krapina-zagorje county
19. Lisbon Metropolitan Area
20. Louth County Council
21. Municipality of Ambelokipoi - Menemeni
22. Municipality of Figueira da Foz
23. Municipality of Fundão and Municipality of Câmara de Lobos
24. Municipality of Fyli
25. Municipality of Sintra
26. Municipality of Valongo
27. Municipality of Vila Franca de Xira
28. Município das Caldas da Rainha
29. Nantes Métropole
30. Offaly County Council
31. Région Alpes Cote d'Azur
32. Region Normandie
33. Region of Crete
34. Regional Council of Kymenlaakso
35. Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia
36. Regione del Veneto
37. Rogaland County Council
38. Setubal Municipality
39. Southwest Finland (The Regional Council of Southwest Finland and City of Turku)
40. Tampere
41. Torres Vedras Municipality (LAU 1113)
42. Valencian Community
43. Vilnius city
44. Warsaw City

APPENDIX 3. LIST OF EUROPEAN RLACS WORKING TO DEVELOP DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE

RLACs working with Mission-funded Projects to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience

1. Aarhus (DK)
2. Adriatic Croatia (RH)
3. Alentejo (PT)
4. Alverca (PT)
5. Aragón (ES)
6. Athens (EL)
7. Attiki (EL)
8. Azores (PT)
9. Baixo Alentejo (PT)
10. Balearic Islands
11. Barcelona, Spain
12. Basque (ES)
13. Berlin-Brandenburg (DE)
14. Black Sea region (BG; EL; RO; TR)
15. Blekinge (SE)
16. Bristonas (LT)
17. Bucharest (RO)
18. Burgas (BG)
19. Canary Islands
20. Cantabria (ES)
21. Carinthia (AT)
22. Castilla y León (ES)
23. Catalonia (ES)
24. Cávado (PT)
25. Central Denmark - Midtjylland (DK)
26. Central Greece Region (EL)
27. Centro Portugal (PT)
28. Centru (RO)
29. City of Egaleo (Greece)
30. City of Gjøvik (Norway)
31. Cluj-Napoca (RO - Continental)
32. Comunidade Intermunicipal das Beiras e Serra da Estrela (PT)
33. Cork (IE)
34. County of Euskirchen (DE)
35. Crete (EL)
36. Cyprus (CY)
37. East Flanders (BE)
38. Eastern Macedonia Thrace (EL)
39. Emilia-Romagna region (IT)
40. Extremadura (ES)
41. Flanders
42. Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy
43. Fryslân (NL)
44. Funen (DK) (from which Zagreb & Krapina-Zagorje are convergence regions)
45. Gabrovo, Bulgaria
46. Galicia region (Spain)
47. Gent (BE)
48. Guadeloupe Archipelago (France)
49. Helsinki (FI)

50. Hersonissos (GR)
51. Iceland
52. Kajaani (FI)
53. Koge Bay (DK)
54. Kosice Region (SK)
55. Lafnitz river catchment (AT)
56. Lapland, Finland
57. Lappeeranta (FI)
58. Leuven (BE – Atlantic)
59. Limassol (CY)
60. Ljubljana (SL)
61. Lower Austria (AT)
62. Lower Timiș river catchment (RO)
63. Madrid (ES – Mediterranean),
64. Main River Basin (DE)
65. Malta (MT)
66. Matosinhos (PT)
67. Mediterranean Ports Piraeus (EL)
68. Mittel-griechenland
69. Muntenia
70. Murcia (ES)
71. National Park Bohemian Switzerland and Krásná Lípa
72. Nicosia city (CY)
73. Nordic Arch. (SE/AX/FI)
74. Normandy (FR)
75. North-South Aegean islands (EL)
76. Nouvelle-Aquitaine (FR)
77. Nova Gorica (SI).
78. Ohrid/Prespa Lakes (MK)
79. Oristano Gulf (Italy)
80. Paris (FR)
81. Parma (IT)
82. Pärnumaa (EE)
83. Pecs (HU)
84. Piemonte, Italy
85. Pilsen (CZ)
86. Plovdiv (BG)
87. Podravje (SI), represented by single regional partners
88. Porto (PT)
89. Potenza Province (IT)
90. Prato (IT)
91. Primorje-Gorski Kotar, Croatia
92. Puglia (IT)
93. Râu Sadului, Romania
94. Région Sud - Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur (FR)
95. Reykjavik (IS).
96. Roma (IT),
97. Ruzova (CZ)
98. Sardinia (IT)
99. Segrate (IT)
100. Sicily (IT)
101. Skåne region (SE)
102. South Aquitaine (FR)
103. Southern Denmark region (DK)
104. Split-Dalmatia Province (Croatia)
105. Stare Krecany (CZ)

106. Subcarpathian region, Poland
107. Tallin (EE – Boreal)
108. The Lower Po Delta/ region of East Emilia (IT)
109. the Rovana river basin (SK)
110. The upper Timiș river (RO)
111. Tirol, Austria
112. Toscana (IT)
113. Troms & Finnmark
114. Uusimaa (FI)
115. Valais, Switzerland
116. Valencia Region (ES)
117. Valle el Laghi (IT)
118. Veneto
119. Vesterålen (NO)
120. Vulkaneifel (AT)
121. West Flanders (BE)
122. Westcountry Region (UK)
123. Zagreb & Krapina-Zagorje (Croatia)
124. Zeeland (NL)
125. Zemgale (LV)
126. Basque Country (Spain)
127. Occitanie (France)
128. Noord-Brabant (The Netherlands)
129. Thames River Basin District (United Kingdom)
130. West Jutland (Denmark)
131. Normandie (France)
132. Midlands East Ireland (Ireland)
133. Niedersachsen (Germany)
134. Andalusia
135. Extremadura
136. Castilla y Leon
137. Alentejo
138. Tirso Region
139. Sardinia
140. South Tuscany
141. Grosseto
142. Xiromero
143. Aetoloakarnania
144. Occitaine
145. Pays de cevennes
146. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
147. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
148. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
149. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
150. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
151. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
152. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
153. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
154. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
155. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
156. "Boreal (different regions in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia and Denmark)
157. Hierro (Canary Islands) (ES)
158. Islands of La Palma (Canary Islands) (ES)
159. Gran Canaria (ES)
160. Faial (Azores) (PT)
161. Madeira (PT)
162. Santiago (Cape Verde)

- 163. Lattenbach (AT)
- 164. Brasov (RO)
- 165. Vrhovo (SL)
- 166. Zvolen (SK)
- 167. Globocica (N Macedonia)
- 168. Tirol (AT)
- 169. Grenoble (FR)
- 170. Alba Iulia (RO)
- 171. Selnica (SI)
- 172. Trikala (EL)
- 173. Leon (ES)
- 174. Barcelona (ES)
- 175. Catania (IT)
- 176. Limassol (CY)
- 177. Nicosia, (CY)
- 178. Lisbon (PT)
- 179. Riga (LV)
- 180. Tallinn (EE)
- 181. Vilnius (LT)
- 182. Tampere (FI)
- 183. Pori (FI)
- 184. Vecht river basin (NL, DE)
- 185. Lèze river basin (FR)
- 186. Pinios river basin (EL)

RLACs working to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience with support from MIP4Adapt's Technical Assistance

- 187. Torres Vedras Municipality
- 188. Municipality of Figueira da Foz
- 189. Stowarzyszenie Aglomeracja Kalisko-Ostrowska

RLACs working to develop demonstration projects of climate resilience RLACS with Mission Projects and with support from MIP4Adapt's Technical Assistance

- 190. Southwest Finland (The Regional Council of Southwest Finland and City of Turku)
- 191. Izmir Metropolitan Municipality