



DIY Manual on Engaging Stakeholders and Citizens in Climate Adaptation

Tools, Good Practices and Experiences





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ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS AND CITIZENS IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Engaging stakeholders and citizens enhance the relevance, effectiveness, and credibility of climate adaptation plans, building trust and supporting a collective mandate for implementing adaptation actions. It does so by incorporating local insights and concerns, complementing top-down approaches, fostering shared ownership, and clarifying common goals.

Developed by the EU Mission Implementation Platform for Adaptation to Climate Change (MIP4Adapt), this DIY (Do-It-Yourself) Manual for regional and local authorities emphasises four key actions for engaging stakeholders and citizens in climate adaptation:

- Communicating: providing clear and accessible information
- **Engaging** stakeholders and communities
- Connecting stakeholders and citizens to facilitate collaboration and
- **Enabling** collective and individual action.



Figure 1. Steps of the Regional Adaptation Support Tool (RAST). Source: Regional Adaptation Support Tool

The Manual offers practical ways of engaging with stakeholders and citizens and promoting their active participation in all climate adaptation planning and action elements. It guides users through relevant participatory activities and highlights tools, good practices and examples for involving stakeholders and citizens in all climate adaptation planning cycle steps, as outlined in the **Regional Adaptation Support Tool (RAST)** (Figure 1).

General participatory activities (such as workshops, focus groups, and citizen assemblies) and associated tools for engaging stakeholders and citizens can be used in various contexts, not just for climate adaptation planning and action, to provide a sound basis for engagement. You can use these participatory activities and tools for gathering diverse perspectives, understanding concerns, fostering dialogue, active participation, and building consensus. While they may not always capture every viewpoint, these general participatory activities can be effective and a basis for developing and implementing more innovative participatory activities and associated tools for engaging with stakeholders and citizens.

WHAT'S NEW...

The original DIY Manual on Stakeholder and Citizen Engagement in Climate Adaptation outlined the general participatory activities and associated tools. In this second version of the Manual, we now also present participatory activities in thematic flyers and related tools that you may find helpful during the adaptation planning cycle for:

- Creative engagement to harness creativity
 for climate adaptation that promotes
 resilience. Creative participatory activities
 and associated tools can help capture a wider
 range of perspectives by allowing people to
 feel free to express themselves and contribute
 in diverse, artistic, and original ways. Creative
 engagement fosters emotional connections,
 knowledge sharing, community building,
 inspiring actions and influencing climate
 policies.
- **Engaging the private sector**, particularly in identifying and implementing climate adaptation actions and innovative solutions. The private sector has resources, expertise, and innovative capacity to contribute significantly to climate action. By involving businesses in developing and implementing climate strategies, you can harness their potential for promoting sustainable practices that support climate adaptation. Collaborations between the public and private sectors can lead to the development of effective, innovative solutions that address climate vulnerabilities and risks, enhancing adaptation from environmental, social, and economic perspectives.
- Supporting vulnerable groups to ensure that climate action is inclusive. Those who may be most affected by climate change often need targeted interventions to adapt to changing conditions and build their resilience. Initiatives can focus on providing access to resources, mutual learning, and support systems that allow vulnerable groups to participate in climate adaptation planning and implementation. Empowering these communities requires actively involving them in identifying and prioritising their unique vulnerabilities and capacity gaps in adapting to climate-related hazards. It involves group members identifying, prioritising and implementing climate adaptation actions that address their needs.
- By adopting a whole-of-society approach, you can ensure that no one is left behind, promote social justice, and enhance the effectiveness of climate adaptation to reduce vulnerabilities and risks and increase resilience.

To use the Manual effectively, start by reviewing Step 1, which is crucial for developing your engagement strategy. This foundational step will help you engage stakeholders and citizens throughout the climate adaptation planning process.

As you move forward, navigate the Manual according to your specific needs. Use the Manual as a flexible, comprehensive resource, selecting the parts that best serve your objectives. Each section corresponds to a different step of the planning cycle and can be accessed independently.

Here is how to get the most out of each section:

- Thematic Flyers: Begin with these for a quick overview of examples of tools.
- RAST Step Tables: Use the tables included in this manual to find detailed tool description.

In this manual, you can find direct links for further information on each tool, with examples of applications and best practices. All the tools from **last year's version** are included, with additional new ones.

The Manual follows the RAST, presenting specific participatory activities and associated tools, good practices and experiences related to engaging stakeholders and citizens in each step of the climate adaptation planning cycle.

The selection of participatory activities and associated tools for engaging stakeholders and citizens in climate adaptation planning and action depends on the objectives of each step and your overall goals. These may include exchanging information, undertaking joint analysis, promoting mutual learning, enabling collective decision-making, and involving specific stakeholders. Depending on your in-house knowledge and capability, it may be worth commissioning a consultant to support you in effectively engaging stakeholders and citizens and deploying participatory activities and associated tools.

Please note that regardless of how far you have progressed in your adaptation cycle, it is important to read Step 1, which addresses developing an engagement strategy. You can refine and adapt your engagement strategy as you progress through the steps of the climate adaptation planning cycle.

STEP 1: PREPARING THE GROUND FOR ADAPTATION

How to read this section:

Begin by reviewing your objectives for engaging stakeholders and citizens at Step 1 of the RAST to understand the key focus areas of action. This section explains the importance of early stakeholder and citizen engagement. Explore the practical examples provided for developing an engagement strategy. This will set the foundation for more effective risk assessments and policy development in later steps.

Objectives of this section:

- Overview of the first step of the RAST: preparing the foundation for the climate adaptation cycle.
- Focus on early engagement of stakeholders and citizens in the process.
- Highlights the importance of participatory activities to foster collaboration.
- Provides practical examples for developing an engagement strategy that ensures inclusive and effective adaptation planning.

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Step 1, preparing the ground for adaptation, is crucial as it involves assembling and organising the foundational elements needed to begin the adaptation planning process. This includes identifying key stakeholders and citizens involved throughout the process. Engaging them early ensures that their perspectives and insights are integrated from the start, laying the groundwork for more effective and inclusive risk assessments (Step 2) and policy development (Steps 4 and 5). By establishing this engagement strategy in Step 1, you create a strong basis for meaningful participation, exchange and collaboration throughout the entire adaptation planning cycle.

In this step, you can develop an engagement strategy (see Figure 1 and Box 1) tailored to your local context by addressing the following key questions:

- Why is it important to you to engage with stakeholders and citizens in general, specifically regarding each step of the adaptation planning process?
- Who are the operational leads for sectors or services from the public and private sectors that need to be involved in the adaptation planning cycle?
- How will you ensure long-term political commitment?
- How will you ensure a successful participatory process that will help you gain public acceptance of your climate adaptation plan and inspire action?
- What engagement activities will you include in your engagement strategy and why?

To start, you can undertake a stakeholder mapping and network analysis. For example, the **RESIN guide** proposes that you should:

- Identify stakeholders through the stakeholder mapping exercise,
- Categorise stakeholders using an influence interest matrix and
- Analyse stakeholder relationships (see introductory guidelines to social network analysis).

We recommend you showcase your good practices and gain reputation and visibility through the existing Community of Practice of the EU Mission on Adaptation. The Community highlights events, training courses, and other useful technical and engagement resources and enables collaboration with Charter Signatories to the Mission and other organisations across Europe.

An essential consideration is aligning your engagement strategy with your communication strategy. Effective communication on climate change is essential to ensuring that the main messages are communicated to key audiences by the most appropriate participatory activities. It should resonate with the audience's characteristics, priorities, and concerns, sharing relevant and tailored information while highlighting compelling stories and visual elements. A well-crafted communication strategy will help identify the main messages, target audiences, and appropriate channels.

In this first step of the RAST, larger regional and local authorities with the necessary capacity and resources may also wish to consider developing their own community of practice (See Community of Practice Playbook) and/or a citizen assembly to be involved in all subsequent steps (see Table 1). However, you must ensure that you can sustain a community of practice or citizen assembly in the long run before committing to establishing them.

As indicated in Table 1, other participatory activities and associated tools, particularly those related to creative engagement, can be implemented in Step 1.

Figure 1: Example of a roadmap for an engagement strategy detailing the participatory activities at different RAST steps

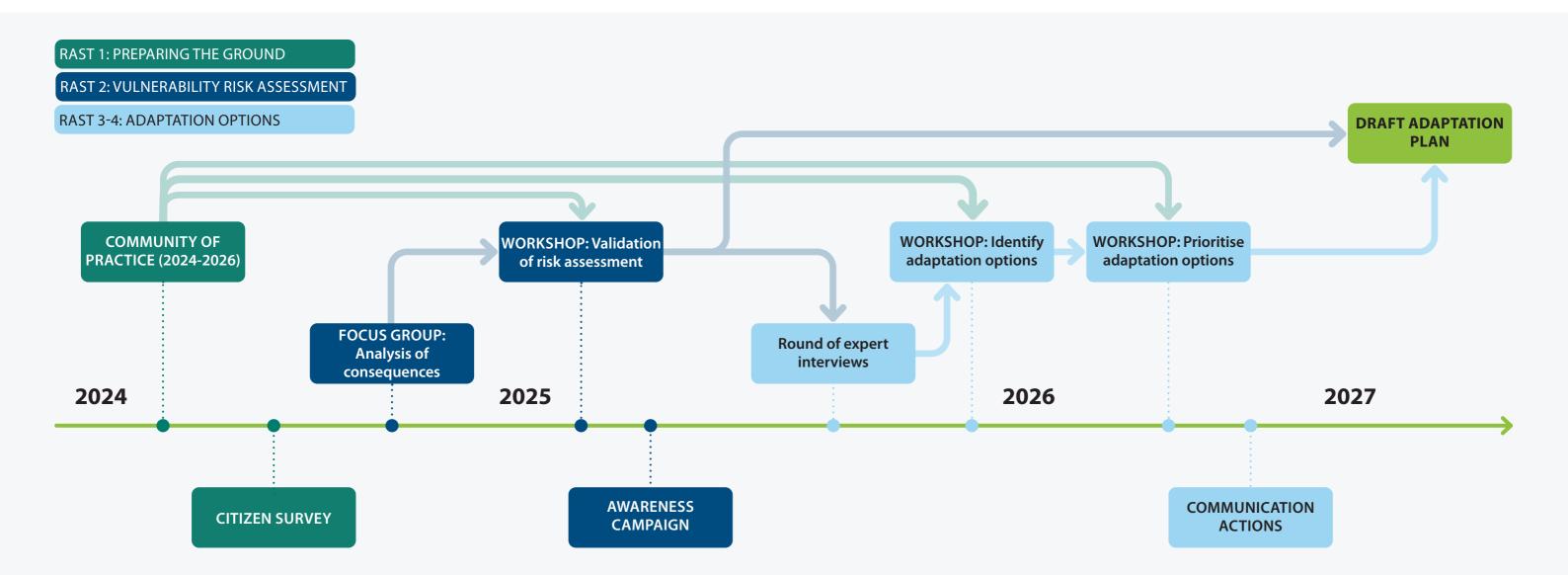


Table 1. Recommended participatory activities for engaging stakeholders and citizens at Step 1: Preparing the ground for adaptation.

Participatory activity	Target group	Why use this activity in Step 1?	Considerations	Examples of useful tools, and good practices and experiences
Stakeholder mapping and analysis	Stakeholders	Joint analysis for identifying and categorising stakeholders. Essential for building the evidence base, political support, setting up governance structures and identifying and analysing stakeholders and roles	Accurate identification and engagement Potential bias in categorisation	Useful tools RESIN methodology and guidance for stakeholder mapping; categorising and prioritising stakeholders using social network analysis; assigning roles and responsibilities using the RACI matrix. Good practices and experiences Network of stakeholders in Rogaland County Council; how to engage innovators ecosystem with an innovative approach in Blekinge Region; a roadmap of key stakeholders in Andalusian region.
Communities of practice	Stakeholders; citizens	Involve and consult regarding climate adaptation planning cycle decisions. Helps mutual understanding, building the evidence base and setting up governance structures through mutual learning and collaboration.	Sustained engagement strategy needed	Useful tools EU-JRC's Community of Practice Playbook; Specific article on communities of practice and climate change. Good practices and experiences Regional COP in Centre-Val de Loire to translate environmental ambitions into concrete actions; EU project Digital Water City with a community of practice focused on addressing climate change challenges for the water sector and new technologies.
Climate assembly	Citizens	Ensuring successful participation. Critical for creating a secure space for debate and deliberation, political support, ownership of issues, and raising awareness about adaptation plans.	High organisational and logistical requirements	Useful tools Toolkit for Climate Assembly and Living Lab from EU project CLIMAS; resources on Climate Assembly in KNOCA (Knowledge Network on Climate Assemblies). Good practices and experiences Inspiring experiences in Westminster, Scotland, Krakow, Catalonia, Milano, Cambridge, and Zagreb.
Storytelling	Citizens	Communicating climate impacts through narratives. Effective for communicating adaptation, raising awareness and mutual learning.	Effectiveness depends on narrative quality	Useful tools ParCos project; Climate story map of Ambrogio and Gaia. Good practices and experiences Storytelling experience in Nantes Metropole; Climate Story tool from the region of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Énergie Environnement (AURA-EE).
Climate walk	Citizens	Engaging the citizens through interactive experiences. It facilitates raising awareness and mutual learning in adaptation in an engaging way.	Weather- dependent, may not engage all audiences	Useful tools Climate City Walk of the Climate Pact; Climate Walk and Wanderers of Changing Worlds project. Good practices and experiences The Climate Walk in the Graz city.
Climate festival	Citizens	Information exchange and mutual learning by engaging the citizens through art events, shows, and interactive exhibits. Useful for raising awareness, political support, and engaging a broad and large audience.	High organisational effort	Good practices and experiences Climate festivals in Galway and Edinburgh; climate services and innovation festival Climateeurope2 festival in Venice; Climax Festival in Bordeaux.

KEY POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN DESIGNING YOUR ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

This box presents you with key information guiding you through setting clear objectives, identifying key stakeholders, conducting a thorough stakeholder analysis, and developing a sustainable engagement strategy.

SET CLEAR OBJECTIVES

- Identify your specific objectives for involving stakeholders and citizens in each step of the RAST and identify the associated outputs and desired outcomes.
- Determine your desired level of engagement of stakeholders and citizens.
- Manage expectations about roles and aspirations.

IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Identify the key stakeholders who will allow you to secure long-term political commitment, gather data to support your case for adaptation, and establish adaptation governance, including public and private sector and local organisations.
- Please note that some stakeholders will be relevant to all steps, while others will only be relevant to specific steps. It is recommended that you review and identify key stakeholders when those steps are reached.

CONDUCT A STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

- Categorise stakeholders using an influenceinterest matrix and assign roles and responsibilities using a RACI matrix.
- Analyse stakeholder relationships and networks and consider their aspirations and existing relationships between them.
- Perform the analysis at the start of your adaptation cycle broadly, considering the most relevant stakeholders to engage. You will need to refine and update it as you progress through the steps of the RAST.

SUSTAINABLE ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- Identify appropriate participatory activities and associated tools for engaging stakeholders and citizens by developing an outline roadmap of participatory activities for each step of the RAST (See Figure 1).
- Clarify benefits for stakeholders and citizens to manage expectations and build a sense of community.
- Outline necessary resources and the expected duration for each participatory activity. Bear in mind that the length of the process may need to change over time.

ALIGNING COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

- Identifying messages, audiences, and communication channels, which will be tailored at each step of the RAST.
- Connecting with what matters to the audience.
- Using effective visual communication.
- Creating compelling narratives.



Torres Vedras Municipal Council for Climate Action

(CMAC) Stakeholder Meeting, March 2024

STEPS 2, 3, AND 4: ASSESSING CLIMATE RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES, AND IDENTIFYING, ASSESSING AND SELECTING ADAPTATION OPTIONS

How to read this section:

Start by reviewing the objectives to understand the focus of this section, which explains how stakeholders and citizens can be involved during Steps 2, 3, and 4 of the RAST. These steps emphasise validating climate risk assessments, identifying and prioritising adaptation options, ensuring commitment to implementation, and specific participatory activities and related tools that can be used to reach, connect, and engage citizens and stakeholders.

Objectives of this section:

- Explains how stakeholders and citizens can be consulted during Steps 2, 3, and 4 of the RAST.
- Highlights participatory activities and related tools for engaging with citizens and stakeholders, including examples of best practices.
- Emphasises the need to manage expectations to support decision-making and build consensus throughout these steps to vulnerable groups.

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In these steps, you can consult stakeholders and citizens to enhance your climate adaptation strategy or plan by:

- Seeking input to and validating and refining the climate vulnerabilities and risks assessment, identifying adaptation options, and prioritising and selecting adaptation options for your strategy or plan and subsequent implementation.
- Ensuring the relevance, credibility, and legitimacy of the adaptation actions selected and common understanding, commitment, and a desire to implement them.

Step 5

Implementing adaptation policies and actions

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FOCUS GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS

Participatory activities can use focus groups and stakeholder workshops to validate and receive input to identify and prioritise climate vulnerabilities, risks and/or adaptation options. They also provide an opportunity to encourage key stakeholders, such as operational leads in the public and private sectors, to take oversight of their assessment elements. Focus groups and workshops can be organised either as theme- or sector-specific activities or as cross-thematic or cross-sectoral activities. For example, when promoting synergies or resolving trade-offs and conflicts across themes or sectors. This includes addressing indirect impacts, spill-over effects, and potential maladaptation.

Understanding collective motivations, beliefs, and concerns about climate change is crucial for successfully developing and implementing your climate adaptation strategy or plan. This involves engaging with the community to gauge their perceptions and attitudes towards climate change. Understanding collective thought can provide valuable insights into potential barriers to adaptation actions and develop your climate adaptation strategy or plan tailored to the needs and expectations of the stakeholders and citizens, thereby increasing its relevance, understanding and success. You can consult citizens on climate perceptions and behaviour or for the identification and prioritisation of adaptation options via citizen surveys. Examples include the climate change survey in Valladolid - ES, the **KNOWING** EU project survey on coping climate change, and the citizen survey in the IMPETUS project in seven bioclimatic regions across Europe.

ENGAGING VULNERABLE GROUPS

There is a need to consult those vulnerable or at risk regarding climate-related hazards and/ or proposed solutions. The use of a living lab, a real-life testing environment where solutions are co-created, tested, and refined in a real-world setting, can allow a joint analysis and evaluation of climate risks and adaptation options (Steps 2 and 3) and iterative refinement and long-term engagement of selected measures (Step 4).

A good example is the EU project **FEAST**, which utilises user-focused experimental environments to engage vulnerable groups, gaining their insights to address economic and geographic barriers to adopting sustainable diets. Also, workshops working on turning climate anxiety into empowerment, such as those from the **CALM-EY** and **EMBRACE** projects in Lithuania, Italy, and Greece, address emotional responses to climate change, fostering mutual learning and resilience. These workshops transform anxiety into proactive engagement, ensuring emotional well-being is considered when assessing key risks and vulnerabilities, setting adaptation priorities and objectives, and selecting suitable adaptation options through skilled facilitation and community empowerment.

ESTABLISHING COMMON GROUND AMONG STAKEHOLDERS AND CITIZENS

More generally, there are a myriad of well-proven participatory tools (such as the MSP guide) that can be used by focus groups or stakeholder workshops to facilitate validation or further input to the vulnerability and risk assessments. To establish common ground when identifying specific objectives and involving stakeholders and citizens in each stage of the RAST, tools such as visioning, Pentagonal Problem, participatory mapping, study circles, and cognitive mapping can be useful. For knowledge exchange, social learning and co-creation of new ideas such as World Café, Fish Bowl, role-play exercises and Pro Action Café are recommended.

There are also tools to help you manage expectations about roles and aspirations, support decision-making and build a consensus to take action in prioritising and selecting adaptation options, including the participatory multicriteria analysis, open forums, round-robin, and regenerative dialogues.

Table 2 presents other participatory activities. Your objectives should guide your choice of participatory activities.



Setúbal Municipal Council on Environment (CME) Inaugural Meeting, September 2024

Table 2. Recommended participatory activities for engaging stakeholders and citizens in Steps 2, 3, and 4: Assessing climate risks and vulnerabilities, and identifying, assessing and selecting adaptation options

Participatory activity	Target group	Why use this activity in Steps 2, 3 and 4?	Considerations	Examples of useful tools, and good practices and experiences
Participatory workshop	Stakeholders; citizens	Identifying climate risks and vulnerabilities (Step 2), exploring adaptation options (Step 3), and evaluating/selecting measures (Step 4) by promoting mutual learning, active listening and specific engagement tools and facilitation techniques.	Coordination and facilitation challenges	Useful tools Create your future – Participatory workshop for creating goals for climate adaptation efforts; role- play simulations for climate change decision-making; supporting adaptation decisions through scenario planning; The Playbook Version 5 of TransformAr on how to organise a participatory workshop used in different regions and cities in Europe. Good practices and experiences 'Scenarios for a sustainable Europe in 2050' project; participatory workshops of the EU project REXUS; workshop on challenges and opportunities for climate adaptation across Copernicus, Earth observation and the policy landscape; the ISWEL project, in scenario adaptation planning.
Focus groups	Citizens	Effective for in-depth discussion for detailed exploration of climate risks (Step 2), gathering input on potential adaptation options (Step 3), and refining selection criteria (Step 4).	It may not represent wider community views	Useful tools EIP-AGRI 46 Focus Groups; Focus Group on 'Transition Plans on Climate Change Mitigation'. Good practices and experiences CREST Focus Group on Urban
Awareness raising campaign	Stakeholders; citizens	Important for building the evidence base, increasing public awareness and providing information exchange of climate risks (Step 2). Promoting potential adaptation options (Step 3), and securing stakeholder buy-in for selected measures (Step 4).	Requires sustained effort to maintain engagement	Good practices and experiences 'You control Climate', a campaign launched by the European Commission; public awareness campaign 'The Netherlands Lives with Water' (video); Zaragoza Water Saving City programme.
Citizens survey	Citizens	Collecting a broad range of perceptions in climate risks and vulnerabilities (Step 2), gauging support for adaptation options (Step 3), and informing the selection of measures (Step 4).	Limited depth of insights, potential bias, specific communities to reach	Good practices and experiences Surveys on climate perceptions conducted by local governments, such as survey launched by the EU-funded IMPETUS project; the European Commission open consultation on the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change; citizen surveys in Dresden and Valladolid; KNOWING EU project survey.
Living labs	Stakeholders; citizens	Joint evaluation in a real-world environment of climate risks and adaptation options (Step 2 and Step 3), and iterative refinement of selected measures (Step 4).	Complex setup, requires ongoing management	Good practices and experiences EuCliPa association for climate and its labs; living labs for climate adaptation of the score project; ECO-READY living labs; I-CISK living labs developing human-centred climate services through action research in Europe and Africa's climate change hotspots.
Hackathons	Stakeholders	Generating innovative adaptation options (Step 3) and collaborative evaluation of potential measures (Step 4).	Intense time commitment, requires facilitation	Good practices and experiences Hackathons to develop climate tech solutions such as windeurope hackathon, climate hackathon and for citizens and researchers; 'EU Sparks for Climate' initiative is organising a series of online hackathons in several countries.
Participatory multi-criteria analysis	Stakeholders	Crucial for refining, evaluating and selecting adaptation options based on agreed criteria (Step 4) in a collective decision-making process.	Requires expertise in criteria and analysis	Useful tools The BCNUEJ, Participatory Multi-Criteria Decision Aid (MCDA).

STEP 5: IMPLEMENTING ADAPTATION POLICIES AND ACTIONS

How to read this section:

Begin by reviewing the objectives to understand the need to engage stakeholders and citizens during Step 5 of the RAST, which focuses on implementation. Participatory activities and practical tools are suggested, on how to include and involve citizens and stakeholders in developing costed implementation plans, identifying funding sources, and involving them in the process of implementation.

Objectives of this section:

- Explain how stakeholders and citizens can be engaged during Step 5 of the RAST.
- Highlight participatory activities to develop costing for implementation plans, identify funding sources, and involve key stakeholders in policy implementation.
- Provide tools, examples of frameworks and experiences for collaboration and consensus-building, participatory budgeting, and other examples to foster structured dialogue and collective work for successful adaptation action and implementation.

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Engaging stakeholders and citizens in the implementation of climate adaptation policies and actions is crucial to ensure their effectiveness. In this step, you can engage stakeholders and citizens in:

- Developing costed implementation plans for the selected adaptation actions
- Identifying relevant sources of funding and finance, and
- Developing policy implementation plans.

You can engage stakeholders and citizens to highlight the importance of:

 Involving operational leads from the public or private sectors in developing adaptation action implementation plans and identifying their responsibilities.

Top Tip: Use the **RACI matrix** to identify who is **Responsible or Accountable and who to Consult or Inform.**

- Consulting with stakeholders and citizens who can contribute in some way to the implementation of adaptation action implementation plans, and
- Informing all those citizens who may benefit from the implementation of such plans.

ADAPTATION IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLANS

Adaptation implementation action plans, including any necessary development of the enabling environment (such as legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, plans or incentives), can be a process where diverse participants discuss and deliberate on specific issues to ensure an inclusive and structured dialogue. This process can include facilitating informed discussions, consensus-building, and the integration of diverse perspectives to ensure that the resulting actions and plans are comprehensive and widely supported. You can see examples of frameworks developed by the EU-funded projects **PHOENIX** and **REAL DEAL**, and engagement tools, like **Community** dialogue, for more inspiration. Other tools, such as climate advocacy campaigns and Community-Based Participatory Research, are also proposed to leverage engagement and foster collaborative decision-making.

STAKEHOLDER AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN FINANCING AND FUNDING

For developing costed implementation plans, a co-decision process can accompany Step 5 with green participatory budgeting. This was demonstrated in Lisbon and Molina de Segura and involved citizens directly in resource allocation for climate projects. To gather diverse insights and ideas from stakeholders about relevant sources of funding and finance for implementing climate adaptation policies, you can use participatory activities (such as participatory budgeting, stakeholder workshops, deliberative forums, focus groups, community-based participatory research, or public meetings).

At Step 5, you can engage with existing local action groups and networks (for example, the AdaptLocal network and initiative from the City Council of Cascais, Portugal) or encourage their creation if not already established. Additionally, when implementing adaptation measures, you can use incentives like Environmental Policy Instruments (EPIs) or Nudge (for example, see the EU project Nudge for energy efficiency) can help to encourage behavioural change and to develop collective goals (see Table 3).



Table 3. Recommended participatory activities for engaging stakeholders and citizens in Step 5: Implementing adaptation policies and actions

Participatory activity	Target group	Why use this activity in Steps 2, 3 and 4?	Considerations	Examples of useful tools, and good practices and experiences
Green participatory budget	Citizens	Joint decision-making on budget allocation by involving citizens to ensure that funds are used for adaptation measures. It helps in prioritising actions based on community needs and contextual aspects.	Complexity in budgeting and financial management	Useful tools Participatory Budgeting Theory of Change as a tool to understand changes. Good practices and experiences Experiences of Green Participatory Budget from Scotland, in Lisbon, in Molina de Segura.
Climate advocacy campaign	Stakeholders; Citizens	Advocate for integrating adaptation plans into broader policies, for raising awareness and securing political support for adaptation measures.	Requires strong communication strategies	Useful tools Description of advocacy strategies in Climate-ADAPT. Good practices and experiences Advocacy Guide on how to engage with the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). European Transparency Register – European Parliament.
Incentives	Stakeholders; Citizens	Implement incentives to encourage behavioural change and motivate and engage stakeholders and citizens in the implementation and adoption of adaptation measures.	Needs effective monitoring and evaluation	Useful tools The description of economic incentives for behavioural change in Climate-ADAPT. FP7-funded WEATHER project and incentives to transport adaptation and their potential impact. Overview of economic instruments in the EU project EPI-Water.
Public meetings	Stakeholders; Citizens	Share information about adaptation plans and gather collective input for decision-making. This ensures transparency and broad community involvement.	Potential for low turnout, requires good facilitation	Good practices and experiences Plenary session of Benidorm City Council for Climate Change Adaptation Plan. Public World Economic Forum: weforum Federal City of Bonn, in collaboration with ICLEI, hosts Daring Cities, a global forum empowering urban leaders and decision-makers to tackle the climate emergency.
Community- based participatory research (CBPR)	Citizens	Involve citizens in a joint analysis of adaptation measures and support mutual learning with the development of more informed and accepted adaptation actions.	Requires strong community collaboration	Useful tools University of Girona toolbox including CBPR. CBPR from Swedish International Centre for local democracy.
Local climate action group	Citizens	Engage local climate action groups to involve communities and facilitate mutual learning. This supports the development and implementation of localised adaptation strategies.	Sustained motivation and coordination needed	Useful tools Local Climate Action Group.

STEP 6: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

How to read this section:

Start by reviewing the objectives, which focus on engaging stakeholders and citizens during Step 6 of the RAST, covering monitoring and evaluating the implementation of climate adaptation plans. This section contains tools and successful and powerful projects that can encourage public engagement and co-creation, mutual learning, and support for monitoring efforts.

Objectives of this section:

- Explain how stakeholders and citizens can be engaged in Step 6 of the RAST.
- Understand how to perform monitoring of processes, outputs, and outcomes, and address challenges related to timelines and difficulties in attributing outcomes.
- Highlight tools to foster engagement, mutual learning, and support for monitoring efforts.
- Provide examples of successful projects that demonstrate public participation in assessing progress, reducing vulnerabilities, and ensuring long-term engagement and data quality.

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Monitoring the implementation of your climate adaptation plan by focusing on the delivery of processes and outputs is straightforward. Monitoring climate adaptation outcomes (i.e., regarding changes to sensitivity and adaptive capacity and thereby climate vulnerability, and to changes in the exposure of vulnerabilities and thereby climate risks) is challenging due to:

- The time it can take to implement adaptation actions due to their scope and scale.
- The time it can take for 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. This can be due to the wide range of potentially confounding variables that may operate at all scales and difficulties in identifying truly analogous comparisons.
- The length of time that monitoring needs to be sustained, which poses practical issues regarding long-term funding and the use of a consistent methodology for producing comparable data. Hence, successful long-term monitoring schemes are rare.

Regularly reporting progress when implementing your climate adaptation plan to decision-makers and stakeholders helps to build trust and your ability to adapt.

Engaging stakeholders and citizens in monitoring, evaluation, and learning can build their understanding of the needs and encourage their support for and involvement in implementing your climate adaptation plan.

CITIZEN SCIENCE TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Citizen science can aid in monitoring and refining the plan by involving the public in tracking relevant variables and allowing mutual learning, joint analysis, and information exchange between regional and local authorities and citizens. Citizen science can be valuable in assessing progress with implementation and reducing climate vulnerabilities and risks. However, measures will need to be put in place to ensure quality and consistency in data and to maintain citizens' engagement.

Examples of good practices include the ScienceUs Project, the co-creation labs of citizen science for shared solutions of the EU project NEWSERA, the project Hackair on air quality, the EU project AGORA and its application of citizen science, and the European Citizen Science Association (ECSA), which offers a lot of resources and examples of projects.





More information:

Adaptation to climate change -European Commission (europa.eu)

EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Portal (europa.eu)

Mission platform https://futurium. ec.europa.eu/en/eu-missionadaptation-community/

#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionClimateAdaptation