Climate-ADAPT use case 6 — Spain

Spain is inspired by Climate-ADAPT case studies to create its own adaptation good practice examples

Climate-ADAPT features used: database; knowledge (Case Study Search Tool and criteria); share your information

Sector: adaptation in general

Governance level: national

Biogeographical region or macro-region: Mediterranean

Policy stage: policy implementation

The challenge

In the Spanish National Adaptation Strategy, adopted in 2006, case studies are valued as a very useful way of illustrating adaptation policy and action and promoting adaptation in provinces and cities as well as among different kinds of stakeholders.

In 2013, the Spanish Climate Change Office (Oficina Española de Cambio Climático (OECC)), together with the Biodiversity Foundation (Spanish Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment), launched the national adaptation platform, AdapteCCa, through which adaptation action is promoted at national and regional levels. The LIFE SHARA project, which began at the end of 2016, aims to further develop the platform in several areas, one of which is identifying and publishing good practice examples through the development of a common case study fiche and clear selection criteria.

The approach

Inspired by discussions in the 2014 EEA workshop on adaptation platforms in Europe and in the 2015 webinar on adaptation platforms, which was explicitly dedicated to cooperation on case studies, the OECC started to revise the Spanish case studies published on Climate-ADAPT through the Case Study Search Tool.

Case studies on Climate-ADAPT are mainly developed based on the results of EU-funded research projects (the 7th Framework Programme or Horizon 2020) or LIFE projects. The seven case studies identified using the tool served as the starting point for identifying cases that could be used to promote action at national level in Spain.

To develop a systematic approach to the selection of national case studies for Spain, Selection criteria for Climate-ADAPT case studies was used to determine how Climate-ADAPT defined its policy on identifying European-level cases. Through the LIFE SHARA Project this methodology was revised and adapted to Spain’s specific national circumstances. The OECC is now applying the national selection criteria to identify a list of 30 national case studies.

As the next step, within the LIFE SHARA project, Spanish colleagues used the case study metadata sheet available on Climate-ADAPT as an inspiration for the Spanish case study description sheet and tested, using real cases, if the metadata categories were fit for the specific purpose of identifying Spanish good practice examples. A final case study template was drawn up to be used for all Spanish case studies, with a description. This set of information will be not only included in AdapteCCa but also monitored regarding visits, downloads and surveys to evaluate its usefulness.

The use of the Climate-ADAPT features mentioned above allowed the OECC to start developing evidence documents to feed into the policy- and decision-making processes on adaptation at national and regional levels.

Future plans

The OECC seeks to establish strong links between AdapteCCa and Climate-ADAPT to enable them to work complementarily and to use synergies by efficiently exchanging information on case studies and other potential areas of interest. Common filter criteria will be selected to develop the automatic exchange of
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Figure A6  Screenshot of AdapteCCa home page

Source: http://www.adaptecca.es

Information and synergies in the evaluation of case studies and the further development of the case study concept in the future. The strong link between adaptation to climate change and biodiversity on the Spanish platform may be particularly interesting in relation to the promotion of ecosystem-based approaches at European level.