



The **CLIMSAVE** Project



Climate Change Integrated Assessment Methodology for Cross-Sectoral Adaptation and Vulnerability in Europe

There is widespread acceptance that the climate is changing due to human emissions of greenhouse gases. Such changes in climate will affect all sectors of society and the environment at all scales, ranging from the continental to the national and local. Decision-makers and other interested citizens need to be able to access reliable science-based information to help them respond to the risks of climate change impacts and assess opportunities for adaptation.

CLIMSAVE is a pan-European project that is developing a user-friendly, interactive web-based tool that will allow stakeholders to assess climate change impacts and vulnerabilities for a range of sectors, including agriculture, forests, biodiversity, coasts, water resources and urban development. The linking of models for the different sectors will enable stakeholders to see how their interactions could affect European landscape change. The tool will also enable stakeholders to explore adaptation strategies for reducing climate change vulnerability, discovering where, when and under what circumstances such actions may help. It will highlight the cost-effectiveness and cross-sectoral benefits and conflicts of different adaptation options and enable uncertainties to be investigated to better inform the development of robust policy responses.

The project includes the following elements:

- Analysing the policy and governance context for adaptation.
- Developing a web-based tool (the integrated assessment platform) for stakeholders to use to assess cross-sectoral climate change impacts and adaptation options for themselves.
- Developing new socio-economic scenarios with stakeholders that will be quantified within the tool along with a range of climate scenarios.
- Assessing climate change impacts on, and adaptation options for, ecosystem services as well as other sectoral indicators.
- Analysing the cost-effectiveness of adaptation strategies.
- Identifying vulnerability hotspots through metrics of impacts and adaptive capacity across sectors.
- Investigating sources of uncertainty to inform appropriate policy options.



CLIMSAVE outputs will inform many policy processes ensuring that decisions on how best to adapt to climate change are based on solid scientific analysis. This includes the EC White Paper on Adapting to Climate Change and national adaptation strategies which have been adopted, or are under preparation, in many European countries. CLIMSAVE's integrated assessment approach will enable stakeholders to explore and understand the interactions between different sectors, rather than viewing their own area in isolation. This contributes to the development of a well adapted Europe by building the capacity of decision-makers to understand cross-sectoral vulnerability to climate change and how it might be reduced by various adaptation options.

Six professionally facilitated workshops are being organised throughout the lifetime of CLIMSAVE to effectively integrate stakeholder views into climate change impact and adaptation research. These workshops will focus on the development of participatory scenarios which test and apply the integrated assessment platform. Three workshops are taking place at two levels (European and regional) to ensure that the CLIMSAVE methodologies work at different scales. The regional workshops will focus on Scotland as a case study to test the methodology:

First set of European and regional workshops: Spring 2011

Second set of European and regional workshops: Winter 2012

Third set of European and regional workshops: Autumn 2012

CLIMSAVE is coordinated by the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford and involves 18 partners:

- University of Oxford, UK
- TIAMASG Foundation, Romania
- Prospex bvba, Belgium
- ESSRG Kft, Hungary
- Cranfield University, UK
- CREAM, Spain
- University of Kassel, Germany
- Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic
- University of the Aegean, Greece
- Rob Tinch, Belgium
- SERI, Austria
- University of Edinburgh, UK
- University of Lund, Sweden
- Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- University of Southampton, UK
- Institute of Environment and Sustainable Development in Agriculture, China
- University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia
- Victoria University, Australia



Further information and details on how to become involved in the project can be obtained from the project's website (www.climsave.eu) or by contacting the Project Coordinator: Dr. Paula Harrison (paharriso@aol.com).



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