

**CLIMATE CHANCE EUROPE  
2024 WALLONIA SUMMIT**  
BELGIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE  
EU ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL

Adaptation to Climate Change, Nature-based  
Solutions and Resilience



Liège  
08.02.24  
09.02.24

**Compte-rendu de la session**

**“Quelle intégration des échelons locaux dans les plans nationaux d'adaptation en Europe ? / How can local levels be integrated into national adaptation plans in Europe?”**

**du SCCE 2024 WA, 8 février 2024, 14:00 - 15:30**

**Description / Description :**

L'Europe se réchauffe plus vite que la moyenne mondiale ; les cinq dernières années ont dépassé de plus de 2,2°C les niveaux préindustriels (1850-1900), contre 1,5°C au niveau mondial en 2023, année la plus chaude jamais enregistrée. Pourtant, tous les indicateurs montrent que les politiques d'adaptation au changement climatique restent encore largement en marge des priorités nationales en matière d'action climat. Or, pour la seconde fois depuis 2021, les États membres de l'Union européenne ont dû communiquer à la Commission européenne des informations sur leur planification et leurs stratégies nationales d'adaptation au changement climatique, décrivant les actions qu'ils ont mises en œuvre et planifiées pour faciliter cette adaptation. À partir des analyses de ces stratégies et retours d'expériences de praticiens de l'adaptation, cet atelier propose d'interroger les modalités d'articulation des politiques nationales européennes avec les échelons infranationaux (villes, régions).

*Europe is warming faster than the global average, with the last five years exceeding pre-industrial levels (1850-1900) by more than 2.2°C, compared with 1.5°C globally in 2023, the hottest year on record. However, all the indicators show that policies to adapt to climate change are still largely marginal to national priorities for climate action. Now, for the second time since 2021, the Member States of the European Union have had to provide the European Commission with information on their national climate change adaptation strategies and planning, describing the actions they have implemented and planned to facilitate this adaptation. On the basis of analyses of these strategies and feedback from adaptation practitioners, this workshop will look at the ways in which European national policies can be coordinated with sub-national levels (cities, regions).*

**Organisé par / Organised by :**

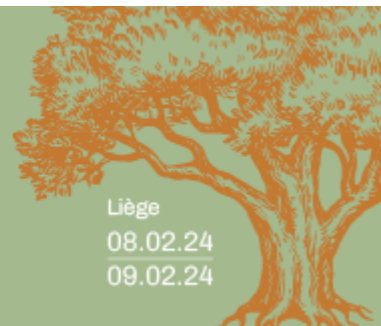
- Climate Chance

**Modération / Moderated by :**

- Ronan Dantec, President and founder, Climate Chance

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**Intervenant.es / Speakers :**

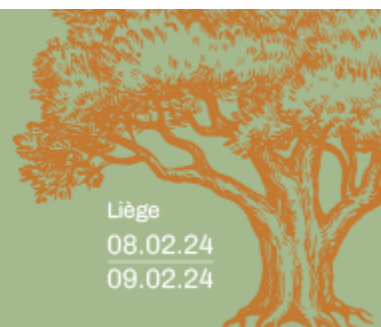
- Luc Bas, Director of Climate Risk Assessment Center- CERAC, Service public fédéral Santé publique
- Irene Bonvissuto, Team Leader, EU Mission Adaptation to Climate Change
- Angelika Tamášová, Climate Change Adaptation Expert, European Environment Agency
- Vasileios Latinos, Head of Resilience and Climate Adaptation, ICLEI Europe
- Tania Martha Thomas, Research Officer at the Global Observatory of Climate Action, Climate Chance

**Recommandations opérationnelles politiques publiques UE / Operational EU public policy recommendations :**

Sujet / Subject	Intervenant.e / Speaker	Recommandations opérationnelles politiques publiques européennes (l'adaptation, la résilience et les solutions basées sur la nature) / Operational EU public policy recommendations
Adaptation measures	Angelika Tamášová	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To plan adaptation measures, 6 steps should be followed: preparing, assessing risks and vulnerabilities, identifying adaptation options, assessing adaptation options, implementing, monitoring and evaluating. =&gt; Climate risk assessment is the beginning of the process: you really need to know the risk you face to take effective action.</li> </ul>
Local/regional adaptation measures	Angelika Tamášová	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional and local adaptation action : The action has to happen on the local level. There, community engagement is crucial but there are limitations due to implication and budget. It is often more a bottom up approach.</li> </ul>
Local/regional adaptation measures	Angelika Tamášová + Irene Bonvissuto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We need to scale down the risk and see what specific risks are present per region.</li> </ul>

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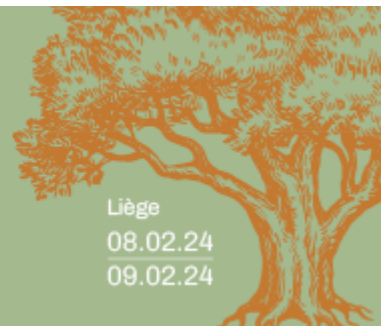


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Future of adaptation measures	Angelika Tamásová	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are doing well regarding the planning phase but now is really the time to move towards the implementation phase</li> </ul>
Local/regional adaptation measures	Irene Bonvissuto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local action and local people need to be mobilized (support a group in a region to go faster towards climate resilience by 2030).</li> </ul>
Importance of nature	Irene Bonvissuto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We should work with nature as an ally wherever we can. Therefore, we need some soft enabling mechanisms to adapt the behavior of the population because public money alone is not enough.</li> </ul>
Work with regional/ local level	Irene Bonvissuto + Luc Bas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify regional and local levels who want to join the coalition on adaptation to climate change and the efforts of doing so.</li> <li>- Work closely with local governments and map who/ which local government are already working in this direction =&gt; Involving local governments and their needs and knowledge in the operational plans is crucial because the knowledge of the local ones is much more precise on the gaps that need to be filled.</li> </ul>
Funding	Luc Bas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use EU- ETS revenues to fund local adaptation action</li> </ul>
Helping local/ regional authorities	Vasileios Latinos + Irene Bonvissuto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First capacity building is needed.</li> <li>+ Help the regions become self-sufficient</li> </ul>
Evaluation of adaptation measures	Luc Bas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need for mechanisms to evaluate the effectiveness of adaptation measures</li> </ul>
EU and local collaboration	Angelika Tamásová	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bottom up and Top down initiatives should meet in the middle =&gt; need the framework and the community engagement</li> </ul>
Data	Luc Bas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Real-time data is needed (and this data is only</li> </ul>

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		available at the local level)
Information availability	Audience + Luc Bas + Irene Bonvissuto + Vasileios Latinos	- Include the media and make sure that every citizen can access the information (should be independent media) => citizen participation is important (co-design)
Alignment	Tania Martha Thomas	- Better alignment is needed between the policies and integration between all the policy levels + break the silos (work across sectors)

**Bonnes pratiques remarquables et répliquables à l'échelle de l'UE :**

Intervenant.e / Speaker	Bonnes pratiques remarquables et répliquables à l'échelle de l'UE / <i>Good practices replicable at the EU level</i>
Luc Bas	- Climate and Environment Risk Assessment Center (CERAC) in Belgium is linked to security policies, not siloed into "environmental policies". It's a first in Europe, and helps mainstream adaptation in all policies. It also includes biodiversity risks, which is also new.
Angelika Tamasova	- Some countries have already legally binding planning obligations for local authorities

**Une phrase clé / verbatim par intervenant :**

Intervenant.e / Speaker	Verbatim, phrase clé / <i>Verbatim, key sentence</i>
Luc Bas	"There are enormous amounts of actions that can increase resilience to climate change and that the local levels can implement without much funding."
Irene Bonvissuto	"We should work with nature as an ally wherever we can. Instead of rocket science, we can also use things that have been laying around."
Angelika Tamasova	"Climate risks don't know borders: we all have them and share them to some extent."

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Vasileios Latinos	"First capacity building is needed."
Tania Martha Thomas	"There are two main regulations that make things legally binding in the EU: "Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action" as well as the "European Climate law"."