



# AELCLIC Pathfinder project **DELIVERABLE 1**

**Generation of Local Networks and  
Co-definition of Work Plans**

12 December 2019



## Table of contents

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Introduction</b>   | <b>p. 2</b> |
| <b>Results</b>  | <b>p. 2</b> |
| <b>Conclusions</b>  | <b>p. 7</b> |
| <br>  |             |
| <b>APPENDIX:</b>  | <b>p.15</b> |
| <br>  |             |
| <b>WP2</b> Northern Europe  |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Malmi District Center (Helsinki, FI), leading landscape                          |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Hyppänjoki Valley (FI), multiplier landscape                                     |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Tornio River Valley (FI), multiplier landscape                                   |             |
| <br>  |             |
| <b>WP3</b> Atlantic-Alpine Europe   |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Holland Lowland Peat Landscape (NL), leading landscape                           |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> -2 <sup>nd</sup> Workshop_Bertra Dunes System (IR), multiplier landscape                  |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Workshop_Haute Tarentaise Valley (FR), multiplier landscape             |             |
| <br>  |             |
| <b>WP4</b> South Western Europe   |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Huerta De Valencia-Alboraya (ES), leading landscape                              |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Riu Besòs_Barcelona Metropolitan Area (ES), multiplier landscape                 |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_La Mata-Torrevieja (ES), multiplier landscape                                    |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Parc Natural De L'Alt Pirineu (ES), multiplier landscape                         |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Serres D'Ancosa (ES), multiplier landscape                                       |             |
| <br>  |             |
| <b>WP5</b> South-Eastern Europe   |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Workshops_Bologna North -Eastern urban fringe (IT), leading landscape |             |
| Reports of the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Workshops_Mantova City Center (IT), multiplier landscape             |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Giarre-Etna Landscape (IT), multiplier landscape                                 |             |
| Report of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop_Carol Park & Filaret-Rahova neighborhood (Bucharest, RO), multiplier landscape   |             |

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### AUTHORS:

**Francisco Galiana (Polytechnic University of Valencia)**  
**Emilio Servera (Polytechnic University of Valencia)**  
Bas Pedroli (University of Wageningen)  
Daniele Torregiani (University of Bologna)  
Ludovica Marinaro (University of Bologna)  
Juanjo Galan (Aalto University)

# INTRODUCTION

## Rationale

This Deliverable is an edited and improved compilation of Workshop Reports from the different geographical zones included in the AELCLIC (Adaptation of European Landscapes to Climate Change) Pathfinder project: Northern Europe, Atlantic & Alpine Europe, South-Western Europe and South Eastern Europe.

These inputs are attached to the present deliverable as an Appendix, which is organized according to the relevant AELCLIC Work Packages (or “WP”):

- WP2: implementation in NORTHERN EUROPE
- WP3: implementation in ATLANTIC AND ALPINE EUROPE
- WP4: implementation in SOUTH-WESTERN EUROPE
- WP5: implementation in SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE

The aim of this deliverable is to reflect on the creation of AELCLIC Local Networks and co-definition of Work Plans in every Pilot Landscape of the AELCLIC project.

This deliverable is also displayed in the WEB of the project (<https://aelcllicpathfinder.com/>) for open discussion and feedback.

# RESULTS

## Workplans

No rigid, pre-defined workplans were considered for each AELCLIC pilot landscape prior to the beginning of the project. Instead, four different workplan typologies were initially considered throughout the whole project, as shown in Table1.

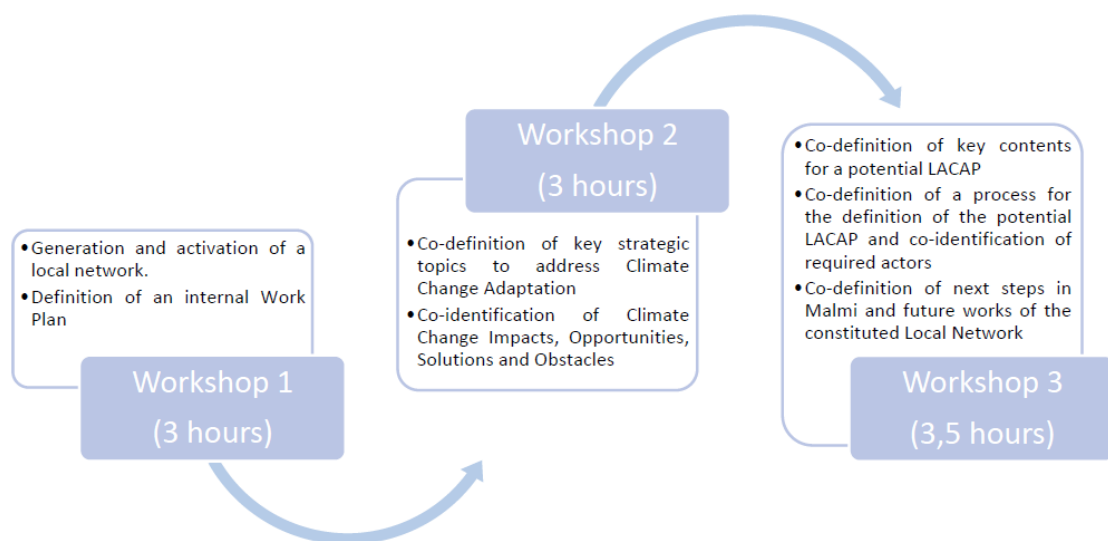
| <b>OPTION 1<br/>(3 workshops)</b>                                    | <b>OPTION 2<br/>(2 workshops)</b>  | <b>OPTION 3<br/>(2 workshops)</b>   | <b>OPTION 4<br/>(1 workshop)</b>  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>WORKSHOP1</b><br>Intro + Co-definition of a Workplan and calendar | <b>WORKSHOP1</b><br>Intro + Co-identification of Impacts and Opportunities                           | <b>WORKSHOP1</b><br>Intro + Co-identification of Impacts and Opportunities + Brainstorming potential topics and solutions | <b>WORKSHOP1</b><br>Intro + Co-identification of Impacts and Opportunities + Brainstorming potential topics and adaptive solutions + Co-defining of key contents of a LACAP |
| <b>WORKSHOP2</b><br>Co-identification of Impacts and Opportunities   | <b>WORKSHOP2</b><br>Brainstorming potential adaptive solutions + Co-defining key contents of a LACAP | <b>WORKSHOP2</b><br>Elaborating on potential topics and adaptive solutions + Co-defining of key contents of a LACAP       |   |
| <b>WORKSHOP3</b><br>Co-definition of key contents of a LACAP         |  |   |   |

Based on the previously shown options, different workplans were proposed in each Work Package in order to achieve the intended objectives at every pilot landscape, namely and mainly, the co-definition of the key contents of a specific Landscape Adaptation Plan to Climate Change (LACAP hereafter). Usually, this entailed the development in the first place of several potential workplans for the leading pilot landscape in each WP, which served as a first test, and then the fine-tuning and correction of such workplans for the multiplier landscapes, in order to adjust the activities developed in the leading pilot landscape to the local specifics. Among other criteria, the choice of a specific workplan for each specific pilot landscape depended on the desire and availability of the stakeholders. In many cases, choosing between all or some of the options above was one specific activity that took place during the 1st workshop at each pilot landscape. The overall objective was to develop all workshops between March 2019 and October 2019.

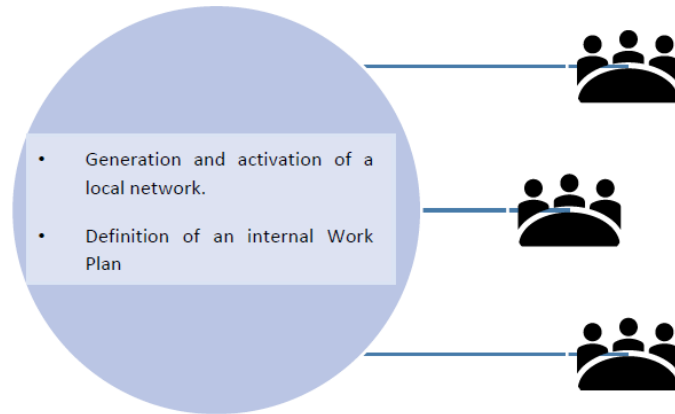
Workshops were usually scheduled by agreement with the local or regional authority which was usually involved in their co-organization and that usually hosted the workshop in their own facilities. After the local network was created, sometimes online meeting schedulers such as Doodle were used to define a workshop date. In many cases, discussing and verbally agreeing on the date of the next meeting among all the participants was the last activity performed in a workshop.

In the WP2, a very similar workplan was followed in every pilot landscape, forecasting the development of 3 workshops per landscape (option 1, Table 1). In the other WPs, the developed workplans were more diverse. Workplans based on options 2 and 3 (comprising 2 workshops) were implemented in some pilot landscapes in the WP3, WP4 and WP5. Option D (1 workshop) was also chosen for some pilot landscapes in the WP5. In one case in the WP3, even no workshops took place, strictly speaking, but several small meetings were developed instead.

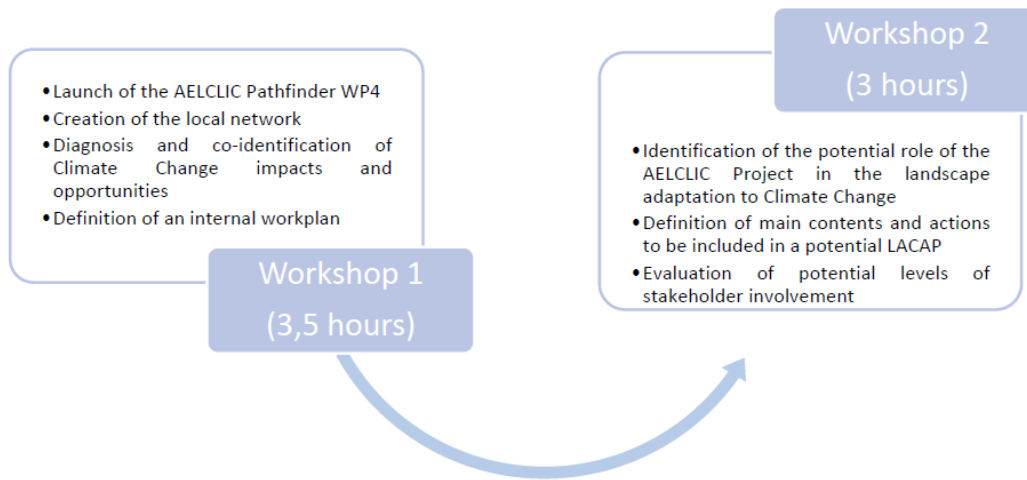
The next figures show the workplans implemented in each of the WPs' leading pilot landscapes. Their variety exemplifies the flexible approach of the AELCLIC project, and some of the diverse ways in which the activities were organized. The duration and main expected outcomes of each workshop are presented. The workplan carried out in each of the multiplier pilot landscapes can be found on the specific reports in the Appendix.



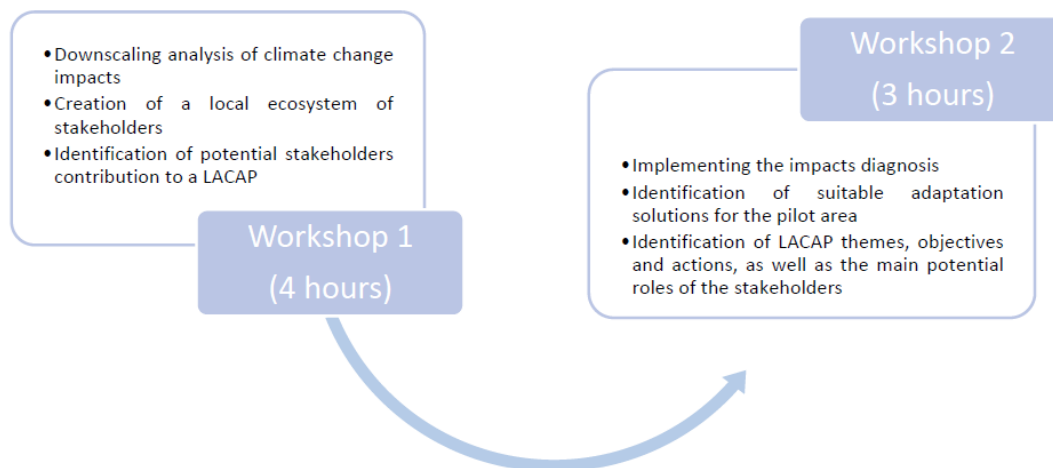
**Fig. 1 | WP2 leading pilot landscape (MALMI DISTRICT CENTER) workplan**



**Fig. 2 |** WP3 leading pilot landscape (HOLLAND LOWLAND PEAT LANDSCAPE) workplan



**Fig. 3 |** WP4 leading pilot landscape (HUERTA DE VALENCIA-ALBORAYA) workplan



**Fig. 4 |** WP5 leading pilot landscape (URBAN FRINGE CITY OF BOLOGNA) workplan

Workshops usually started with a series of presentations, in order to provide the necessary background to the participants. Networking with other projects and close collaboration with local and regional authorities or other public organisms made it possible in several occasions to benefit from presentations by experts and representatives from other plans or projects taking place in the pilot landscape. Such collaborations aimed at achieving a better alignment of the potential LACAP with existing plans and projects, or in some case to the direct use of their results in the AELCLIC project and vice-versa, for instance by considering regionalized climate change projections produced by other projects or organisms in the co-identification of climate change impacts.

The presentations were followed by several teamwork activities, in which different methodologies were used, such as brainstorming using sticky notes (with several variations based for instance on the use of the colour of the notes, or the delimitation of different areas or axis in the paper on the flipboard), aerial photographs, maps, open discussion or even the use of an online application (Mentimeter) for the simultaneous management of data and the creation of graphs. Remote participation, for instance via the creation of online forms, was also promoted in some cases to allow contributions by interested stakeholders who could not attend the workshop. A more detailed description of those methodologies is also included in the AELCLIC Deliverable 5.

To participants in the workshops was also offered the opportunity to include their organization details in the pilot landscape local network, in order to display it in the AELCLIC webpage. Many stakeholders agreed by signing (or even confirming via e-mail) the necessary authorization form provided by the organizers.

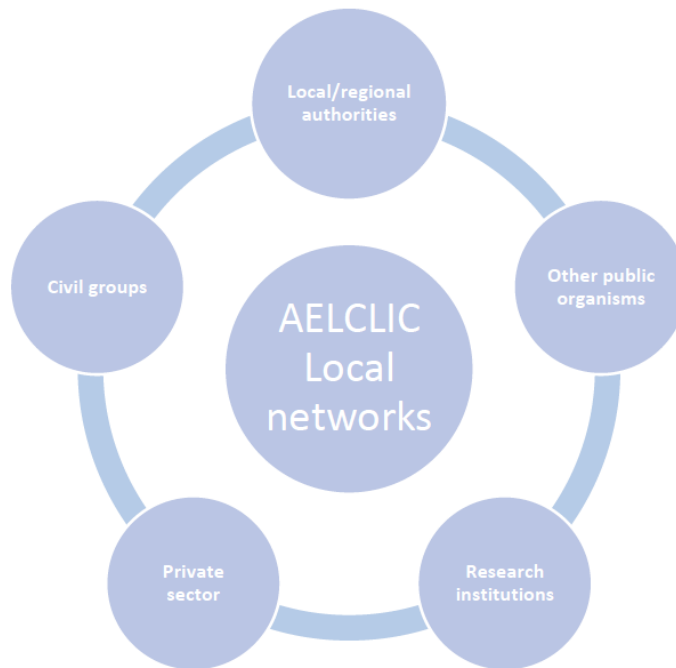
In order to maximize the impact of the project, several press releases were published. This has been usually planned in order to coincide with critical stages of the corresponding workplan, for instance before or after the development of a workshop. In some cases, press statements were prepared by the project team or their institution's press office, and directly released to the media. In other cases, draft press releases were prepared by the university team and submitted to the co-organizing public organism, which would then review it and send it out by means of their own official communication channels.

## **Local networks**

In order to develop the activities specified in the previous section, the first step was to create the local networks. Some of them were created ad hoc, some other raised on the base of existing networks, depending on the specific characteristics of each pilot landscape. In every case, the objective was to build a strong, representative network, which would be able to develop the designed activities in order to identify the potential specific LACAP contents or actions for their corresponding pilot landscape, as well as the rest of desired outcomes.

To that end, in most occasions, the creation of the local network was promoted by the academic and governmental Climate-KIC partners of each WP based on their existing knowledge of the pilot landscape, previous participatory processes or other sources. This was the case for instance in the leading landscapes of each Work Package. In other landscapes, a local or regional counterpart helped to create a new ad hoc local network, to engage with an existing network, or to combine both approaches (modifying or complementing an existing network in order to better suit the project objectives). Usually, this role of local or regional contact was played by a public authority or organism, which in most of the WPs were the AELCLIC Third Parties. In the WP4 it was not possible to activate the initially established multiplier pilot landscapes, therefore the regional

Third Parties did not play such role. Instead, other local and regional public entities provided the necessary link to the new multiplier landscapes and their stakeholders, thus their invaluable support made the creation or activation of the local networks possible. Just as there was no predefined methodology to establish each workplan, it was also clear from the beginning of the project that there was not any patented recipe or uniform structure for the creation of local networks. On the contrary, they should be adjusted to the characteristics of each pilot landscape. The objective was therefore not to obtain a predefined or established composition, common at every landscape, but to foster flexibility in order to adapt to the landscape conditions and obtain as many different points of view as possible. As the landscape is defined by the European Landscape Convention (2000) according to the way it is perceived by people, AELCLIC project ment to assemble a diversity of landscape perspectives, which in turn would make it possible to identify multiple perceptions on climate change impacts and adaptation options. The ultimate goal was to create valid networks in order to configure and execute each landscape specific workplan, which should include if possible the key identified stakeholders. To this end, a series of stakeholder categories were considered (such as the ones shown in Fig. 5) as reference to guide the creation of local and regional networks fit for the purposes of the project.



**Fig. 5 |** Main stakeholder categories considered during the creation or modification of local networks

## CONCLUSIONS

### **Main Shortcomings or barriers identified during the workshops for the full achievement of the expected outcomes:**

- The available time was in some cases considered insufficient to identify or engage some stakeholders (especially some crucial authorities and some representatives of the private sector and from different ethnical or social groups).
- Unforeseen circumstances prevented some key stakeholders who had confirmed attendance to take part in some workshops. Some specific groups such as farmers or local authorities might be more prone to these circumstances due to inherent job characteristics.
- In some cases, attendees were not able to confirm the interest of their institutions in being present in the AELCLIC webpage without further approval by their superiors or managers.
- Some actors occasionally excused themselves and left the workshop during the coffee break after having received detailed information about the project objectives and the initial background information on climate change. This could perhaps have been avoided by a better selection of stakeholders.
- Some pilot landscapes have highly specific systems of governance (e.g. those in protected areas) which required more complex prior approval procedures. This required additional flexibility in adjusting the work plans and workshop methodologies.
- Developing joint workshops or sessions with other projects that share similar aims made possible to provide highly detailed knowledge to the attendants regarding the specific territorial situation of the landscape. On one hand, this was extremely beneficial for the further development of the teamwork, but also usually implied an accumulated backlog which diffculted the achievement of the initial objectives. Very strict time management is needed in heavily loaded sessions in order to obtain an adequate balance between the informative presentations and the development of the teamwork.

### **Main Reasons identified after the workshops for the successful achievement of the expected outcomes:**

- The collaboration of every AELCLIC project partner, the active 3rd parties and the leading local institutions in the initial contacts with the key stakeholders in each pilot landscape has been essential for the successful start, public engagement and development of every participatory process.
- Being able to count on local networks at least partially existing, as well as their level of experience, has been a key factor to achieve higher and better participation from every stakeholder category considered.
- The development of joint workshops with other research projects which could be working in the same territorial scope and with similar objectives has increased the representativeness of the local network.
- The development of workshops in adequate facilities, including the necessary space and auxiliary equipment for instance for allowing remote participation, good materials and even details such as providing an adequate catering during the coffee break, allowed a smooth execution of the planned activities, enabling a better workshop facilitation.



- The clear definition of the expected outcomes, good time planning and subsequent adjustment to the schedule were key ingredients to achieve successful results.
- The experience conducted in the leading pilot landscapes in each WP were essential in order to adjust the actual requirements of each workshop activity, both in materials needed as in execution time.
- Good prior preparation of the information materials employed in the workshops, as well as their level of suitability to the workshop needs and the profiles of the stakeholders, or providing precise bibliographic references, increased the participants' interest. It also promoted an enabling environment for the further discussion of the subjects covered during subsequent tasks.
- The participation and help from some local or regional authorities and experts enabled the local network to gain a better understanding of the activities objectives and the effects and impacts of climate change on the landscape. This also led to a better work environment.
- Better linkages among the collaborating partners and the leading institutional stakeholders enabled better participatory processes.
- Workshops activities could either be developed on single groups or in multi-stakeholder groups.
- Local actors were highly active and knowledgeable regarding the problems related to their local landscape environmental issues.
- In some landscapes, the stakeholders' activities are already regularly affected by climate change, which boosts their urgency to tackle the challenge and to create networks.
- Public dissemination and communication after the workshops by the WP coordinating partners and the local leading authorities was in general highly satisfactory.
- Organisational flexibility regarding the workshops planning processes as well as the consensus reached in each group allowed to optimize and agree a workplan suitable to each local network.

### **Learnt lessons and recommendations for workshop planning and facilitation**

- Workshop invitations should be sent well in advance in order to enable participation from a wider range of stakeholders, who often have busy agendas.
- Workshops should be organized in the most appropriate place available to promote participation from the most sensitive stakeholders in the local network. Access to the facilities should be easy.
- Knowing and analysing beforehand the attendance list allows the preparation and presentation of materials suited not only to the landscape analysed but also to the level and interests of the audience. This is basic to influence the workshop success, measured in terms of final outcomes and impact.
- Developing workshops with local networks which already have a culture and experience of participatory work, and which have been working together for a long time, is also a key ingredient for success.
- The length of the working sessions should be limited, and if possible limited to a maximum around 3 hours.
- The development of joint workshops with other research projects raises the profile of the local networks and enables an adequate trust-building atmosphere for teamwork.

However, it can also face some obstacles if time is not strictly managed or participants become overwhelmed.

- Including a coffee break and the corresponding catering between the most informative part of the workshop and the teamwork session not only facilitates rest but also provides an opportunity to break the ice among stakeholders and facilitators. This can be invaluable to create a relaxed atmosphere and to improve stakeholder engagement.
- Some stakeholders are very interested in sharing their own experience and establishing linkages to other places, in order to benefit from networking at a broader scale.

### Workplans implementation assessment

The implemented workplans showed not only differences among WPs, but also different approaches to each Pilot Landscape within the same WP. These differences were established according to reasons such as the interests and availability of the local network or the Pilot Landscape specific needs and governance system. In some cases, the finally implemented workplan implied some delay with regards to the initially agreed project timeline and schedule for the finalization of outputs and deliverables. This was caused by some specific difficulties which were found during the activation process of those landscapes, which even led to the cancellation of five multiplier landscapes and the activation of four new ones.

The following tables show the finally implemented activities per WP and Pilot Landscape. The structure of the Workplan Option 1 (based on three workshops) is shown as a reference, to facilitate comparability among the different followed approaches.

**Table 2 | WP2 implemented activities**

|                            | WORKSHOP1<br>"Who" Local Network &<br>Work-Plan | WORKSHOP2<br>"What for" Co-<br>identification of impacts<br>and opportunities | WORKSHOP3<br>"How" Co-definition of key<br>contents for a LACAP |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>MALMI (HELSINKI)</b>    | 10.5.2019                                       | 12.6.2019   | 29.8.2019   |
| <b>HYYPÄJOKI VALLEY</b>    | 26.4.2019                                       | 14.6.2019   | 6.9.2019  |
| <b>TORNIO RIVER VALLEY</b> | 24.5.2019                                       | 30.8.2019   | 8.10.2019   |
| <b>TØNDER MARSHLANDS</b>   | --  | --  | --  |

**Table 3 | WP3 implemented activities**

|   | WORKSHOP1<br>"Who" Local Network & Work-Plan | WORKSHOP2<br>"What for" Co-identification of impacts and opportunities | WORKSHOP3<br>"How" Co-definition of key contents for a LACAP |
|---|--|--|--|
| <b>LOWLAND PEAT AND POLDER LANDSCAPE OF HOLLAND</b> | --   | --   | --   |
| <b>BERTRA DUNES SYSTEM</b>                          |  | 7.5.2019   | 1.10.2019  |
| <b>HAUTE TARENTEISE</b>                             |  | 9.10.2019  | 22.10.2019   |
| <b>MONT SAINT MICHEL</b>                            | --   | --   | --   |

**Table 4 | WP4 implemented activities**

|                                    | WORKSHOP1<br>"Who" Local Network & Work-Plan | WORKSHOP2<br>"What for" Co-identification of impacts and opportunities | WORKSHOP3<br>"How" Co-definition of key contents for a LACAP |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>HUERTA DE VALENCIA-ALBORAYA</b> |  | 17.6.2019  | 17.10.2019   |
| <b>RIVER BESÒS</b>                 |  | 2.10.2019  | 30.10.2019   |
| <b>SERRES D'ANCOSA</b>             |  | 8.10.2019  | 8.11.2019  |
| <b>PARC NATURAL ALT PIRINEU</b>    | 4.10.2019                                    | 31.10.2019   |  |
| <b>LA MATA-TORREVIEJA</b>          |  | 25.9.2019  | 23.10.2019   |

**Table 5 | WP5 implemented activities**

|  | WORKSHOP1<br>"Who" Local Network & Work-Plan | WORKSHOP2<br>"What for" Co-identification of impacts and opportunities | WORKSHOP3<br>"How" Co-definition of key contents for a LACAP |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>URBAN FRINGE CITY OF BOLOGNA</b>                            |  | 16.5.2019  | 18.9.2019  |
| <b>CITY OF MANTOVA</b>   |  | 13.5.2019  | 16.7.2019  |
| <b>CAROL PARK AND FILARET- RAHOVA NEIGHBORHOOD (BUCHAREST)</b> |  | 4.7.2019   |  |
| <b>GIARRE- ETNA LANDSCAPE</b>                                  |  | 19.7.2109  |  |

Considering the number of pilot landscapes finally activated per WP, and the differently scheduled Workplans, activities were finally organized in 15 landscapes. A total of 29 workshops were developed, organized according to table 6.

**Table 6 |** Summary of main activities performed per WP

| WP2   | WP3   | WP4  | WP5   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•3 Pilot landscapes</li> <li>•9 Workshops</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•3 Pilot landscapes</li> <li>•4 Workshops</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•5 Pilot landscapes</li> <li>•10 Workshops</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•4 pilot landscapes</li> <li>•6 Workshops</li> </ul> |

The level of achievement of the main outcomes of the first workshops developed at each landscape are summarized on the following table, which is based on the assessments included in the reports in the Appendix.

**Table 7 |** Level of achievement of goals in the main activities performed per WP

| MAIN OUTCOMES   | LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT (From 1 (min) to 5 (maximum)) |    |    |                              |    |     |                           |     |    |    |     |                       |      |     |     |
|---|--|----|----|------------------------------|----|-----|---------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|
|   | WP2.NORTHERN EUROPE                                |    |    | WP3. ATLANTIC-ALPINE EUROPE. |    |     | WP4. SOUTH-WESTERN EUROPE |     |    |    |     | WP4. SOUTH-EASTERN E. |      |     |     |
|   | MD   | HV | TR | HLP                          | BS | HTA | HVA                       | LMT | RB | AP | SDA | BLG                   | PCFR | ETN | MAN |
| Creation of the local network for the Pilot Landscape   | 4  | 4  | 4  | -                            | -  | -   | 3                         | 3   | 4  | 5  | 4   | 5                     | 5    | 5   | 5   |
| Defining a work agenda towards a Landscape Adaptation Plan to Climate Change with a second AELCLIC Workshop | 5  | 5  | 5  | -                            | -  | -   | 5                         | 5   | 5  | -  | 5   | 5                     | 5    | 5   | 5   |

*(Those outcomes whose level of achievement was not quantified in the related report are marked with a “-“. Abbreviations = MD: Malmi District (Helsinki, FI); HV: Hyppänjoki Valley (Town of Kauhajoki, FI), TR: TORNIO RIVER (Tornio City; FI-SE); HLP: Holland Lowland Peat (La Hague, NL); BS: Bertra System (Galway, IR); HTA: Haute Tarentaise (Bourg St. Maurice; FR); HVA La Huerta de Valencia- Alboraya (Valencia Region, ES); LMT: La Mata-Torrevieja (Valencia Region, ES); RB: Rio Besòs (Catalonia, ES); AP: Natural Parc d’Alt Pirineu (Catalonia,ES); SDA: Serres d’Ancosa (Catalonia, ES); BLG: Bologna (IT); PCFR: Parcul Carol and Filaret Rahova Neighborhood (Bucharest, RO); ETN: Etna (Sicily, IT); MAN: Mantova (IT)).*

The societal impact of those activities was often strengthened by the media presence in some workshops, which led to higher public dissemination via press, social networks or even TV. This was promoted and facilitated by the coordination of each WP, e.g. by preparing press releases or even cooperating with journalists in the final editing of reports or pieces about the project and its activities.

### Local networks relevance assessment and impact on climate change governance

The bottom-up approach followed throughout the AELCLIC project was since the beginning considered as one of its key points. Rather than the usual top-down approach which has been prevalent in adaptation planning, this strong emphasis in the interests and knowledge of the local networks is seen as an original contribution by the AELCLIC project to climate change governance. Being able to co-identify not only the main climate change impacts in their landscape, but also the opportunities and barriers for their solutions, or the potential ways to address them from a planning perspective, gave the stakeholders a strong empowerment as climate change adaptation agents. This was further reinforced by stressing two facts. On one hand, the consideration of the nature and behaviour of greenhouse gases, mitigation efforts are often only perceived at a global scale, while successful adaptation efforts will clearly benefit at a smaller scale. On the other hand, the recognition of the importance of climate change mitigation, in order to avoid the worst possible impacts of climate change and achieving significant mitigation, success was in some cases exceeding the scope of a local or regional network like the ones that were formed during the

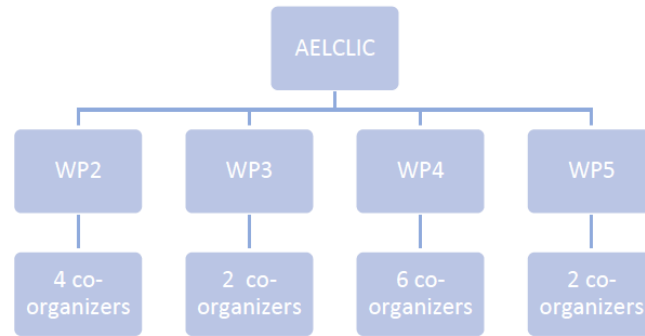
project. However, a network of such scale could make a real difference with regards to the implementation of needed adaptation measures at landscape level.

In each of the pilot landscapes, the further development of a LACAP (Landscape Adaptation Plan to Climate Change) would probably need and benefit from further participatory processes, for instance as established by the relevant local or regional planning regulations. However, the inception of each potentially developed LACAP based on the results of the AELCLIC project would have already been a participatory process. This is considered another significant step towards public engagement in adaptation to climate change, and therefore on the legitimacy, impact and influence of the potentially developed plans.

The local networks created during the AELCLIC Project include more than 100 local organizations. More than 500 participants have taken part in the activities developed across the 15 activated pilot landscapes (see the appendix for details). The participation of local and regional authorities, as well as other public organisms, must be highlighted, since it is seen as a strong indicator of several key aspects. In the first place, the engagement of several public authorities and organisms is a very good demonstration of the potential interest aroused by the project on the public sector. Therefore, it reinforces the importance and necessity of further development of the outlined LACAPs, or their potential assimilation by other plans. In the second place, it shows that the coordination between top-down and bottom up approaches to adaptation planning, or, in other words, between national, regional or local adaptation plans, (promoted by public authorities) and landscape level plans (pushed by local or regional consortia) is seen by the public sector not only as possible but even desirable. In every case, the strong collaboration with the public sector helped to achieve a smooth alignment of the potential LACAPs with other plans and projects. In this regard, landscape level plans were throughout the project considered, for instance, as a way in which adaptation plans promoted by the public sector can be downscaled or coordinated between different administrations with competencies in the same landscape, as will be presented in more detail in future deliverables. In addition to the previous ideas, the fact that successful collaboration bridges with public entities in each landscape have been established is also considered as a key ingredient for the potential development of LACAPs, since these couldn't be further developed without the support from local or regional administrations. These connections with the public sector provided not only the needed administrative or organisational support, but also enabled them to perform an essential role as bridges between the university and institutional partners and the stakeholders of each landscape. Therefore, their invaluable contribution to provide this already mentioned sense of empowerment as climate change adaptation agents to the local stakeholders was two-sided. In helping the local actors to become climate change adaptation agents, some local or regional authorities who hadn't previously worked in adaptation topics in their territories became adaptation agents as well. And this is considered crucial, because this double empowerment could be beneficial for climate change adaptation beyond the own scope of this project, or even of the potential LACAPs that could arise from it. The key local stakeholders are now aware of the importance of adapting their landscapes to climate change, if they weren't before, and have discovered (and even taken part!) a different way in which this could be achieved. Additionally, local and regional authorities who hadn't started adaptation work have now already done it, and therefore the AELCLIC project can be already considered as an activator of climate change adaptation in many areas. These public authorities are furthermore aware not only of different approaches that could be followed, but also that key stakeholders in their areas are now conscious about the need to establish a clear, science-based, flexible roadmap towards climate change adaptation, and will therefore ask them do to so. Therefore, even if adaptation planning in these places doesn't finally take place at a landscape-scale, as proposed in

the frame of this project, it is undeniable that AELCLIC will have played a role on the adaption of these pilot landscapes to climate change too.

Furthermore, it must be emphasised that 14 of the public authorities involved did not only participate in the workshops as stakeholders, or even as invited experts to make a presentation, but also assumed a coordinating and co-organizing role. The next figure summarizes their distribution among the different WPs.



**Fig. 6 |** Co-organizing public authorities per WP

The interest of the participatory process for the stakeholders which took part on it, and therefore its impact on local and regional climate change governance, can be further assessed by the fact that it created specific results related to the own local networks. Thus, the AELCLIC way of working and the interest in continuing developing the LACAP by means of collaborative work was identified in some of the specific activities as some of the main roles which the project could play in the landscape adaptation to climate change. Even the development of specific climate change communities or boards, which could be seen as the advancement or expansion of the local networks developed during the AELCLIC project, were identified among the potential contents or actions that should be included within some of the LACAPs.

### Final remarks

The flexible approach followed in the AELCLIC project regarding workplan definition or local network generation is considered one of its key outcomes that could be taken into account for the development of future projects, in the preparation of the own outlined LACAPS, or in the integration of Climate Change Adaptation inputs into other plans or strategies. Moreover, the knowledge and experience gained in the generation of local networks during the AELCLIC project has a clear potential to be used in other landscapes and regions. Climate change adaptation plans should be flexible, not rigid roadmaps, in order to be able to evolve and adjust to new sciences and knowledges, to the new policies or to the new societal demands. Therefore, at least at landscape level, it is considered that a flexible approach to the preparation of the plan can be also crucial in defining its success.

Each pilot landscape in the AELCLIC project had different impacts or opportunities due to climate change, different stakeholders and governance systems, and different plans or projects approved or being prepared. Therefore, it was clear from the beginning of the project that its ultimate goal couldn't be the definition of a universal LACAP model, appropriate for every landscape, because

each LACAP would address different issues considering not only their root causes but also the way they are perceived by each specific stakeholder.

If each landscape was going to require a different LACAP, then each LACAP itself would need a different workplan. Flexibility is therefore necessary in the process of building adaptation that has to be flexible in itself. But it is not enough to define a flexible workplan, or a flexible LACAP, if both are constructed without the stakeholders. Local networks have been responsible of building the process as well as the LACAPS in such a way that they can meet other basic criterion: that the adaptation plans and their design process do not respond only to the climate that characterizes or will characterize the studied landscapes, but also to their people and their interests.

Thus, the integration of different types of stakeholders was considered essential to provide **legitimacy** to the discussions and proposals developed by the network. This legitimacy was based in the inclusive, transparent, open and democratic functioning of the network and in the participation of key stakeholders already empowered by the local communities to represent them (e.g. local or regional authorities).

In addition, the composition of the local networks was expected to provide the multiples **types of knowledge** and to integrate the complementary, converging or opposing interests required to plan and manage the adaptation and evolution of local landscapes to climate change.

Moreover, the diverse composition of the networks was paramount to ensure the **implementability and feasibility** of the decisions made by the local network. In this point, it was crucial to count with the participation of local and regional administrations, public bodies, private companies, entrepreneurs and representatives from the civil society since the dialogue and cooperation between these groups is completely necessary to develop systemic actions, generate synergies and identify and solve potential conflicts.

Overall, through the subsequent workshops and discussions, the AELCLIC project was expected to test the potential of the landscape concept as an amalgamating platform to promote **new models of governance** for Climate Change Adaptation by integrating public and private initiatives and top-down and bottom-up approaches. This idea is rooted in the European Landscape Convention (2000), in which the landscape is defined as “an area perceived by people whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”, as well as in the approach of the authors of the deliverables to the landscape as a socio-ecological, dynamic and adaptive system. Furthermore, thanks to the local networks and the bottom-up project approach, this ingredient of “people perception”, which is by definition essential to the landscape, has been incorporated to the works developed during the AELCLIC Project, and hopefully to the way in which these works could continue in the future.

# ■ **Appendix**





# **WP2**

**Northern Europe**



# **WP3**

**Atlantic & Alpine Europe**



# **WP4**

**South Western Europe**



# **WP5**

**South Eastern Europe**



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