



ADAPT CITY

After Life Communication Plan

The project's problem is the negative impact of climate change on the urban ecosystem. In a specific urban environment there are both natural and anthropogenic components incorporated into the circulation of water, air and other components needed for life and functioning of the city.



The creation of an exemplary strategy of adaptation to climate change is to show that natural and anthropogenic components of the urban ecosystem provide equivalent services to city residents. The imbalance between the components of the urban ecosystem is exacerbating the negative phenomena associated with climate change.

The transformation of the environment in cities is so significant that without a comprehensive adaptation of all components of the ecosystem we will not achieve sufficient effects and deepen future losses. According to the IPCC, adaptation is the adaptation of decisions made in the natural and social system to the current or expected effects of climate change. The need for an integrated approach to adaptation is due to the expected impact of weather extremes in the perspective of 20-30 years.

Natural disasters in 1998-2009 cost Europe € 150 billion. During this period it occurred to almost 100 thousand natural disasters and weather anomalies that directly affected 11 million people. The biggest losses were caused by floods - 52 billion euros, and storms. The report applies only to the largest events, and if smaller damage is taken into account, losses increase to EUR 200 billion. In Poland, in the period 2001 - 2010, losses related to extreme weather events amounted to approximately PLN 10 billion a year. It is forecasted that the value of damages may reach PLN 48 billion annually (2090-2100) after 2090, i.e. approx. 5 times more than today), although in relation to GDP it will be from 0.5 to 0.7% annually in the period 2011-2100.

Cities, where 74% of the current EU population currently live, are particularly vulnerable. In Poland, 60% of the population currently lives in cities, and this share is expected to increase by 2035 up to 64%. Today's predictions are that climate change will continue, which presents major challenges for cities. Increasing weather extremes in particular, they will manifest themselves in heat waves, floods, droughts, hurricane winds increasingly strong in scale and more frequent.

The ADAPTCITY project was implemented with the participation of the European Commission's LIFE + financial instrument and co-financing of the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management.

## Project recipients / Target groups



## Project goals



### **Main goal:**

Reducing the negative effects of climate change on the Warsaw ecosystem and starting adaptation activities in other metropolises in Poland.

### **Specific objectives:**

- Building a strategy of adaptation to climate change for Warsaw using an ecosystem approach.
- Stimulating the activity of authorities, administration and city services in urban areas for actions for adaptation to climate change based on Warsaw's experience.
- Showing purposefulness and possibilities of using prognostic climate maps to build strategies for adapting the city to climate change.
- Deepening awareness of the global problem of climate change among city authorities and their involvement in European activities.

Preparation of a strategy for adaptation to the metropolitan city's climate change using the climate map and social participation.

## Project partners



INSTYTUT  
NA RZECZ  
EKOROZWOJU

The project is run by the Institute for Sustainable Development (InE) in partnership with the City of Warsaw, the Union of Polish Metropolises (UMP) and Verband Region Stuttgart. The Institute for Sustainable Development (InE) has initiated the project whose main beneficiaries are the City of Warsaw (partner) and other metropolises represented by another partner – the Union of Polish Metropolises (UMP).

**The Union of Polish Metropolises (UMP)** – the project partner, a foundation grouping together 12 Polish metropolises, established at the initiative of the President of Warsaw in order to strengthen the partnership of the City of Warsaw with other major cities in Poland, the UMP has its head office in Warsaw, <http://www.metropolie.pl/>



**The City of Warsaw** – the project partner and the main beneficiary of the project; the Infrastructure Office is directly responsible for the implementation of the project: <http://infrastruktura.um.warszawa.pl/biuro-infrastruktury>

**Verband Region Stuttgart** – the project partner from Germany; the institution is responsible for spatial planning at the regional level, the region covering the region in the south-western part of Germany; Verband Region Stuttgart is actively involved in the area of adaptation to climate change, <http://www.region-stuttgart.org/>



## Implementation of the project



The project started in 2014, and project activities are scheduled by 2019.



The first element of the project was for the exchange of good practices for implementing adaptation action with the city of Stuttgart. Then the climate map of Warsaw was prepared. The map was consulted by the Committee of Scientific Consultants, which was constituted by two climatologists, a physiographer and an urban planner, who during 8 meetings gave direction and gave a positive opinion on the work. Climate maps were developed by experienced scientists from the University of Warsaw, Warsaw Agriculture University, Institute of Geodesy and Cartography, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization of Polish Academy of Sciences. 150 maps were created, of which 69 are publicly available on the pages <http://www.mapa.um.warszawa.pl> and [www.adaptcity.pl/mapa-klimatyczna-warszawy](http://www.adaptcity.pl/mapa-klimatyczna-warszawy).

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The next step of the project was the commencement of the work of the Warsaw Round Table on adaptation to climate change (WOSAK). 8 meetings, with the participation 18 representatives of NGOs, industry organizations and city council offices that have developed goals, vision and directions for the future strategy. These meetings prepared a solid ground for assumptions of the adaptation strategy, which were then subjected to public consultations. 18 consultation meetings were held for all districts of the capital city Warsaw, the consultation process during outdoor picnics, online consultations and the 'Idea for Climate' competition. In total, over 1,345 people took part in the process, and so many opinions were collected.



After fruitful consultations, a draft adaptation strategy was prepared, which was submitted for public consultation in a similar process. Over 80 people took part in two consultation meetings and submitted more than 240 comments on the strategy.

The last element of the project was the submission of the draft adaptation strategy to the Council of the Capital City of Warsaw.

Under the ADAPTCITY project, Climate Metropolitan Fora were run. Two-day meetings were organized in each of the 11 cities of the Union of Polish Metropolises. Each meeting gathered 50 or more participants, in total over 600 people attended. Thanks to this cycle, more cities began to prepare urban adaptation plans, including Mińsk Mazowiecki, Świdnik, Mielec, Rumia.



In addition, for the needs of the project, within the Union of Polish Metropolises, the Metropolis Representative Committee on Climate was created. Six representatives meetings were held. During the meetings, the ADAPTCITY team exchanged experiences with officials who were largely members of the adaptation teams for climate change on the 44 Urban Adaptation Plans project coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment.

On September 18-19, 2018, an international city conference was also held. The main purpose of the two-day meeting was to present the effects of ADAPTCITY. The conference gathered over 200 people, which by one third exceeded the assumed number of participants.





## Communication strategy



The project was promoted through various channels. One of them was the website [www.adaptcity.pl](http://www.adaptcity.pl). The site has more than 500 articles on urban greenery, rainwater management, adaptation strategy preparation and public awareness.

As part of the project, publications were propagated:

- Educational film ‘Warm, warmer, hot - a city in the face of climate change’.
- Exhibition about climate change - which was exhibited in offices, during public consultations and outdoor festivals.
- Leaflet on the climate map - showing the most important phenomena associated with climate change in the city.



- Guide to the adaptation of cities to climate change - the publication presents the author's interpretation of the method of carrying out analyzes for the preparation of adaptation strategies and the urban plan formula.

- Warsaw from space - a collection of maps resulting from analyzes carried out for the purposes of preparing an adaptation strategy.



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- Climate in the eyes of local authorities - a publication which presents the achievements of social research carried out in the project among city officials.
- Educational path at the Służewiecki Dom Kultury
- Educational boards in district offices of the Capital City of Warsaw - showing the most important threats to each district.

## What's next?



### City climate policy

The accumulated capital of knowledge and experience begins to bear fruit in the form of undertaken and continued activities. In order to implement climate protection and adaptation projects, the City of Warsaw has established a special unit - the Office for Air Protection and Climate Policy. Work initiated by the city authorities on a new study of conditions and directions of spatial development of the Capital City of Warsaw clearly takes into account the results of the ADAPTCITY project. The young urban community, taking up the activity of a Climate Strike, is collecting signatures to organize a Citizens' Climate Panel with the city's mayor. Cooperation within the framework of the Union of Polish Metropolises results in the need to maintain and operate the Metropolis Climate Representatives Commission in order to continue the exchange of experience between the largest cities in Poland and to share good examples through them.

### Publications

In addition, publications created as part of the project will be promoted in the near future, including Warsaw from space, Climate perceived by local authorities and others. With their help, it is planned to constantly maintain the interest of local media (Warsaw) and nationwide topics related to adaptation and progressive climate change.

### Web page

The website [www.adaptcity.pl](http://www.adaptcity.pl) will continue to be a functioning and updated knowledge base on adaptation to climate change. Collecting and presenting an example and practice not only from Warsaw and Poland, but all of Europe and the world.

### Information boards

There are information boards throughout the city regarding the implementation of the project, which will continue to make citizens aware of climate change and adaptation to them using tools such as wall maps in the offices or the educational path.

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## Mobile application

In order to broaden awareness and knowledge about adaptation at outdoor events organized by the city, the subject of the project will be raised, and on the basis of the resulting climate maps, a mobile application is planned to be built that combines knowledge about climate-related threats to the city.

## Implement adaptation strategy

Council of the Capital City of Warsaw has adopted the proposed Strategy for the adaptation of the capital city Warsaw to climate change which was created as part of the ADAPTCITY project. In the near future, we will direct the attention of the media and the local environment to the progress of implementation of works in this area, and to the city authorities complying with it. This will happen through articles and publications appearing in traditional media as well as in the internet.

## Deepening awareness among residents

It is still planned to expand the knowledge and awareness of stakeholders and city residents through the promotion of publications created in the project, which can be obtained in paper form at thematic events in the city or in pdf format on the webpages of the Institute for Sustainable Development Foundation or the ADAPTCITY website.



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[www.adaptcity.pl](http://www.adaptcity.pl)

[www.pine.org.pl](http://www.pine.org.pl)

[www.um.warszawa.pl](http://www.um.warszawa.pl)



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