



Northern Periphery and  
Arctic Programme  
2014-2020



EUROPEAN UNION  
Investing in your future  
European Regional Development Fund

# Newsletter

## Issue 6

18/03/2020

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING INITIATIVE MANAGING AND ADAPTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Steering Group Meeting, Iceland.

The CLIMATE project partners meet in Iceland for the final bi-annual steering-group meeting and project Conference held from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November.

Throughout the course of the four days, partners attended meetings, accompanying workshops and excursions which provided an opportunity for partners to work together on several project outputs including research, adaptation planning, monitoring and evaluation and communications. The meetings were well attended with representation from all full partner organisations.

The closing conference held on Friday 22nd November provided an opportunity for partners to share experience and expertise as well as hear from associate partners and gain insight into climate change impacts in Iceland.



Project partners pictured to the left at the Presidential Visit Bessastaði. Gifts were presented on behalf of the project and municipalities.

During the Presidential visit, the CLIMATE delegation engaged in discussions regarding climate change, adaptation within Iceland and dissemination of project results.

### Site visits on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November:

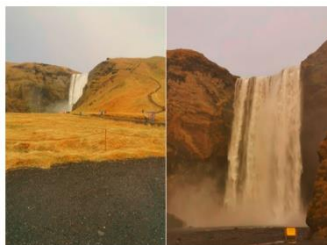
#### *Bingvellir National Park*



#### *Geysir Hot Spring*



#### *Skógar waterfall*



#### *Friðheimar greenhouse*



## Friday 22nd November: Regional Climate Conference

During this conference there was the opportunity to share knowledge and learning throughout the course of the CLIMATE Project. Looking at different aspects such as the Adaptation Planning in Practice, the Research & Adaptation Planning Model Development and Stakeholder Engagement.

We had a very successful conference with the presence of Matthildur Ásmundardóttir - Mayor of Hornafjörður Municipality, pictured below.



Helga Árnadóttir the Manager of Vatnajökull National Park, where our conference was hosted gave an oversight to the work carried out in this area alongside Cathy Burns (DCSDC) project manager who outlined to the project, deliverables, progress and legacy

Härnösand Municipality - Daniel Johansson from Härnösand Municipality updated those in attendance regarding putting their Municipality Climate Adaptation Planning into Practice. As did Sofie Eriksson regarding Sundsvall Municipality.

During the conference we heard findings from the project research partners into work carried out by Stephen Flood (Climate Ireland) and Jennie Sandström (Mid Sweden Uni).



Pictures above of attendees at the Final CLIMATE Adapting to Change conference at Vatnajökull National Park.



Philip O'Kane (RAPID) highlighted the key ways to engage with relevant stakeholders while Stephen Jones (Climate NI) explained how CLIMATE would have a continued legacy through the model and dissemination of adaptation planning guidance across Northern Ireland.

Einar Sveinbjörnsson gave an overview of the variations and trends within the Climate of Iceland while Snævarr Guðmundsson Glaciologist Náttúrustofa Suð austurlands focusing on the vanishing Glaciers within Iceland.

Below shows the same photo taken 80 years later illustrating the retreating of the glaciers. (Photo taken by Snævarr Guðmundsson)



To close the conference Steinunn Hödd Harðardóttir, Vatnajökull National Park gave an overview of the National Park and its UNESCO status and Helga Árnadóttir facilitated question time.



## Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November: CLIMATE Steering Group Project Meetings

During the project meeting, all project partners and associate partners attended.

During this meeting the following points were covered extensively:

1. Review of project action plan
2. Agreed delivery of outstanding actions
3. Preview project budget
4. Agree final reporting and closing procedures

## Site Visit – Glacier Tour Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November

Visit to glacier to witness at first hand glacial retreat in Iceland.



## Wednesday 22nd January 2020: CLIMATE adaptation in built environment Workshop.

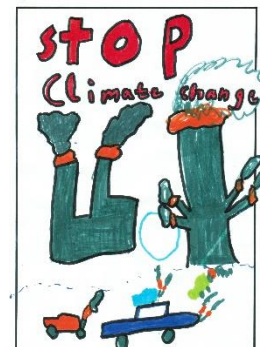
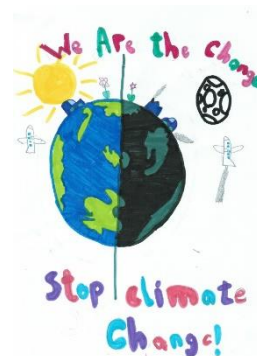
Sofie Erikson gave a presentation at the Workshop about the CLIMATE project and the work done in Sundsvall. Organized by: the National Board of housing, building and planning.

Participants: Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, Swedish Geotechnical Institute, Royal Institute of Technology, Swedish environmental protection agency, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute, The municipalities of: Malmö, Göteborg, Karlshamn, Halmstad, Skövde, Umeå, Ljungby, Falkenberg, Lerum, Ängelholm, Jönköping, Ronneby, Varberg, Karlskrona, Alingsås, Helsingborg, Vellinge, Simrishamn, Lund, Kristianstad, Falkenberg, Laholm, Norrköping and Ystad. The county administrative boards of: Gävleborg, Skåne, Kronoberg, Blekinge, Västra götaland. NSVA and VASYD (both water and wastewater companies owned by municipalities)



## Getting Young People Involved.

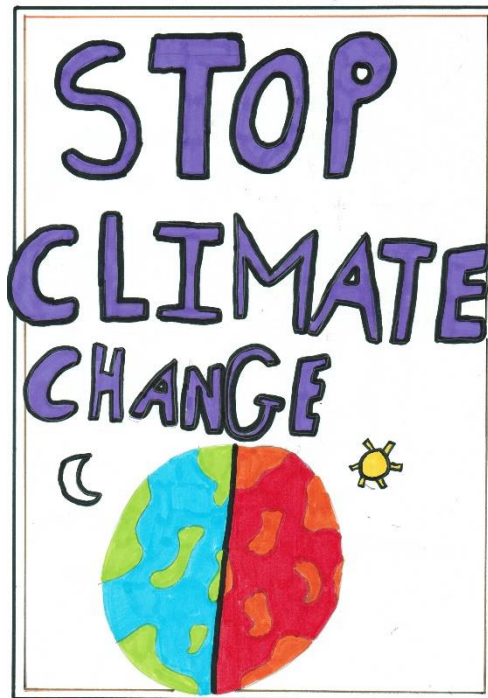
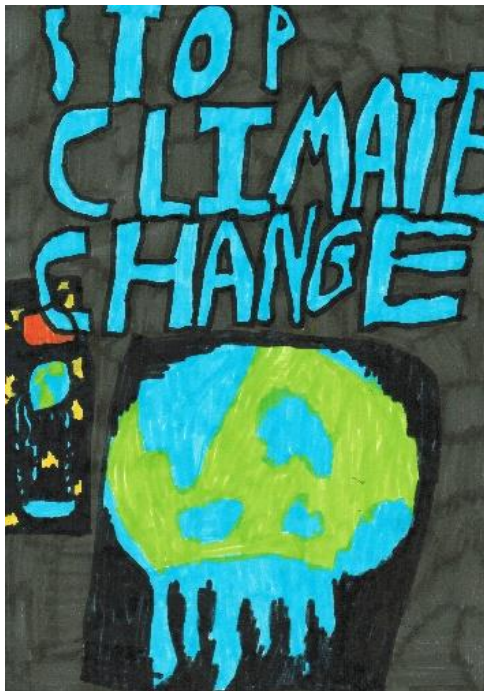
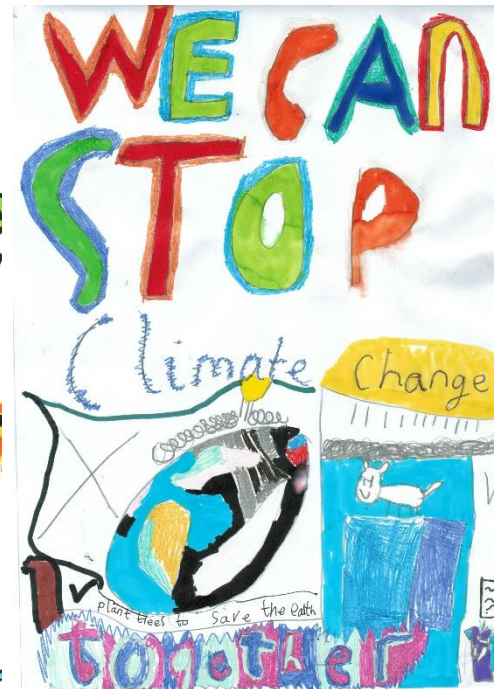
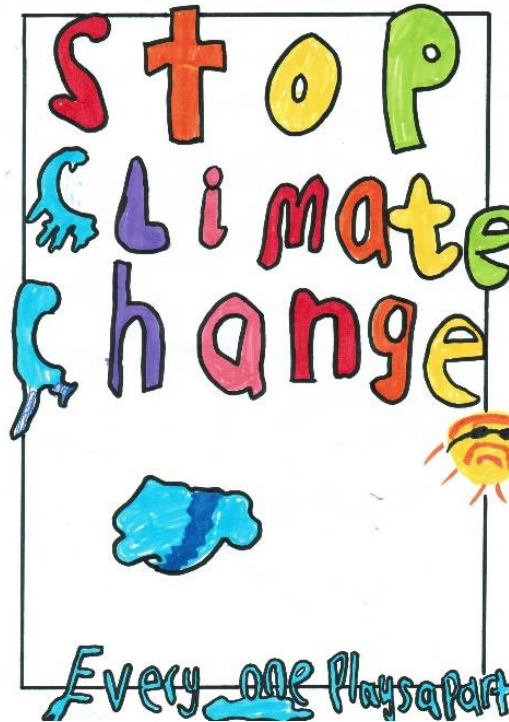
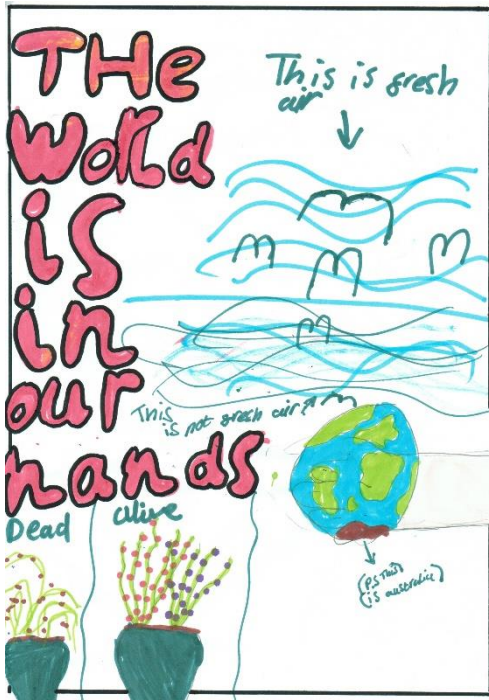
In partnership with local schools, RAPID recently ran a climate change poster competition for 8 year olds living in the rural Derry City & Strabane District Council area. Here are some examples of the posters. While some posters were themed around environmental protection, biodiversity and anti-littering etc the majority of posters stressed the urgency of addressing global warming and the fact that this generation feel they are the ones who will need to act to tackle the problem which shows an acute awareness of the climate crisis in ones so young.





## Primary 5 Poster Competition

A sample of some of the posters entered into the poster competition.



## Climate Adaptation Plan 2020-2025

Derry City & Strabane District Council have developed Northern Ireland's first local authority climate adaptation plan. A dedicated Adaptation Working Group is in place to deliver the vision that:

"Derry City & Strabane District Council is prepared for and resilient to the effects of climate change creating a safe and sustainable region for all"

The following aims will guide our work as we seek to:

- Increase capacity to respond to climate change ensuring resilience of our services, people, operations, assets and estate to the impacts of climate change.
- Raise awareness of the impacts of climate change across the City & District to deliver effective adaptation.
- Lead by example and work collaboratively to ensure resilience and deliver climate adaptation.

The Climate Adaptation Working Group will continue to meet every quarter to monitor progress and maintain momentum towards delivering the actions. A monitoring and evaluation program will ensure the Council's adaptation efforts are delivered and kept up to date with emerging research, risks, tools and guidance.

The adaptation planning process has proven to be a catalyst for further action across DCSDC including the integration of climate adaptation within key strategic policies including the Green Infrastructure Plan, Draft Local Development Plan, Heritage Plan and Local Community Growth Plans.

## Climate Change Risk & Opportunity Assessment

A Climate Change Risk & Opportunity Assessment has been undertaken for two major regeneration projects in Derry and Strabane. This is the first of its kind in DCSDC and Northern Ireland and will ensure that projects consider climate risk at the early stages of design. This will also inform future 'climate proofing' and checklists for all future masterplans and capital development in DCSDC.



## North West Climate Action Plan

A major legacy of the CLIMATE Programme in DCSDC is the development of a North West Climate Action Plan. Building on the awareness and support created by the adaptation planning process in Council, funding has been secured from a DCSDC and Donegal County Council led cross border fund to develop a cross border multi-agency climate action plan. The funding will see the development of a nature-based climate adaptation study, and the appointment of three officers to develop the wider action plan from 2020 – 2021.



## Local Government Climate Action Network (LGCAN)

Leading on from the success of the CLIMATE planning tool development, Climate NI developed the Local Government Climate Action Network (LGCAN) which would use the same methodology to promote adaptation planning across every council in Northern Ireland.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019, the initial meeting of LGCAN took place in the Guildhall, Derry/Londonderry and aimed to train council staff, share learning on adaptation planning and clarify their role in order to deliver a plan for their own region.

All 11 local councils are now members of LGCAN, along with representatives from central government, regional emergency planning, Northern Ireland Local Government Association and Sustainable NI. Although the original timeline has now been hindered by the COVID-19 outbreak, Climate NI and the council representatives are keen to push forward when it is safe to do so, to give each council something to build on and report against on climate action. Organisational resilience and collaboration will form a vital role in the coming decades.

## NI Adaptation Planning Toolkit

LGCAN will also feature an online toolkit, taking the NPA tool and tailoring it for use specifically for circumstances in Northern Ireland. The toolkit has been created to support a lead contact through the adaptation planning process, providing them with the information and skills they need to run workshops and develop their own plan.

While initially developed as an outworking of CLIMATE for local councils, the expectation is that this will be useable by a wide range of other organisations to form their own adaptation plans.



# CLIMATE

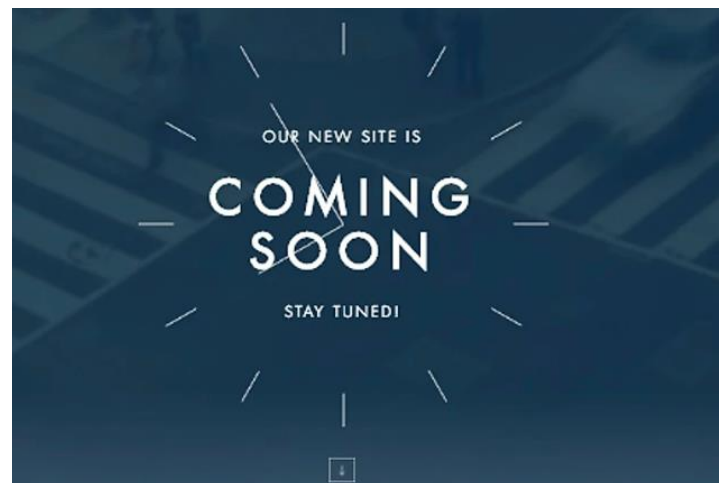
## Adapting to Change

COLLABORATIVE

LEARNING

INITIATIVE

[www.climate-project.net](http://www.climate-project.net)



# April 2020



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

To keep up to date with the progress of the CLIMATE project, you can follow us on our various Social Media Platforms;

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ClimateNPA/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ClimateNPA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/climate.npa/>

Website: <http://climate.interreg-npa.eu/>



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