CLIMATE ADAPTATION * EQUITY/ JUSTICE: INSIGHTS OF TWO ASSESSMENTS

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CLIMATE ADAPTATION * EQUITY/ JUSTICE: INSIGHTS OF TWO ASSESSMENTS

• What do we know about justice considerations in European adaptation plans? Recent study of the EURO-LCP network on European cities.

• Does public participation lead to more ambitious and transformative local climate change planning? Review of scient. literature.
Our recent paper in Nature Urban Sustainability: https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00085-1
We develop the ADAQA index consisting of six well-established plan quality principles, including a measure for participation and plan consistency.
QUALITY OF ADAPTATION PLANNING OVER TIME

• **Finding#1:** Urban climate change adaptation Plan Quality in European cities is increasing from 2005 to 2020, by about 1.3 percentage points/ year.

Recent paper in Nature Urban Sustainability: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00085-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00085-1)
QUALITY OF ADAPTATION PLANNING ACROSS EUROPEAN CITIES

• **Finding#2:** Newer plans, which are higher in quality, are mainly found in cities in Ireland, France, and Eastern Europe, in particular Poland. But there are also some good plans before 2018, spread across Europe, mostly in larger cities. Top-ranking cities are Sofia (BG), Galway (IE), and Dublin (IE) Potsdam (DE), Waterford (IE), and Dublin (IE).

Recent paper in Nature Urban Sustainability: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00085-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00085-1)
QUALITY OF ADAPTATION PLANNING ACROSS PRINCIPLES/ COMPONENTS

- **Finding#3**: Across principles of climate change adaptation plan quality, specifying adaptation goals improved most in recent plans.

- Specifying monitoring & evaluation, and participation is generally low.

Recent paper in Nature Urban Sustainability: https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00085-1
QUALITY OF ADAPTATION PLANNING: CONSISTENCY

- **Finding #4:** Adaptation plans are consistent to a degree between risks to specific hazards and adaptation goals, and risks to industries and measures.

![Graphs showing consistency in adaptation planning](image-url)
QUALITY OF ADAPTATION PLANNING: CONSISTENCY

• **Findings#5:** We are missing out on focusing on people most in need.

• **Consistency decreased over time when looking at risks for vulnerable groups and measures.** Consistency between measures for vulnerable groups and M&E, and risks for vulnerable groups and participation is very low.

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c) Consistency 3 - Alignment of impacts/risks for vulnerable groups and adaptation measures

d) Consistency 4 - Alignment of adaptation measures for vulnerable groups and monitoring & evaluation

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Paper in Nature Urban Sustainability: [https://doi.org/10.1038/s42085-022-00085-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s42085-022-00085-1)
Summary

→ Adaptation plans got worse in aligning identified risks for vulnerable groups with adaptation measures.
→ The extent of participation of civil society, particularly in M&E is low;
→ Participation of vulnerable populations in M&E is nearly non-existent.

• Largest vulnerable group is: people of low-income → Focus on them
• Best adaptation options for vulnerable groups:
  • Social safety nets; Farm/ fishery practice adjustments; Diets changes/ Food waste reduction; Health and health system adaptation
  • Public administrations are extremely important for those and other adaptation → Steering/ guiding role for European institutions
DOES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION LEAD TO MORE AMBITIOUS AND TRANSFORMATIVE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING?

- Review of the scientific literature on participation in planning, assessing:
  - Re adaptation: Is the level of participation associated with transformative potential of adaptation?
  - Re mitigation: Is public participation significantly related to local greenhouse gas reduction targets?

Cattino & Reckien, 2018: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2021.03.013
DOES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION LEAD TO MORE AMBITIOUS AND TRANSFORMATIVE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING?

- **Findings#1:** Positive outcomes re transformative adaptation and ambitious mitigation are related to more meaningful participation, i.e. higher ladder of participation (Arnstein, 1969).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5 Thematic codes/ themes</th>
<th>Ladder of participation for Adaptation, average</th>
<th>Ladder of participation Code for Mitigation, avg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diversity of citizens' role in local climate planning</td>
<td>4,2</td>
<td>Consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits of community empowerment and engagement</td>
<td>4,6</td>
<td>Placation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of clear and meaningful public participation leading to ineffective or detrimental local climate planning</td>
<td>3,3</td>
<td>Informing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive examples of participation in regards to transformative adaptation/ ambitious mitigation</td>
<td>5,8</td>
<td>Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative examples of participation in regards to transformative adaptation/ ambitious mitigation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Consultation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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DOES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION LEAD TO MORE AMBITIOUS AND TRANSFORMATIVE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING?

• **Findings#2**: Adaptation:
  - Public participation highly significantly associated with more transformative local adaptation planning.
    - (log regression highly significant, $\chi^2(1) = 11.440$, $p < .001$; R2 (Nagelkerke): 45.0% variance explained)
  - Local adaptation planning processes including a higher level of interaction in participation are 4.02 times more likely to exhibit a transformative outcome.

• **Findings #3**: Mitigation:
  - Significant positive relation between public participation and mitigation ambition.
    - $(F (1, 250) = 9.605$, $p < .002$, R2 = .033).
  - Public participation increases the mitigation ambition of local climate plans by 0.192, i.e. 1/5.
DOES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION LEAD TO MORE AMBITIOUS AND TRANSFORMATIVE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE PLANNING?

Summary:

• Public participation has a positive impact on both, the transformative potential of adaptation and the ambition for mitigation.
  • The influence of participation on adaptation is stronger than the influence on mitigation.
  •
  •
  • We highlight four conditions under which public participation can lead to potentially transformative action and greater local climate ambition:
    • Recognition of all actors,
    • Their clear and meaningful engagement in all decision making stages,
    • Full decision-making power of the involved public, and
    • The support of a logic of welfare.

Cattino & Reckien, 2018: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2021.03.013
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

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STUDY ON QUALITY OF ADAPTATION PLANNING

• **Findings#6:** Happy to announce that we developed a scoring tool [here](https://www.lcp-initiative.eu/) useful to compute the adaptation plan quality score of any city by inputting plan content along a questionnaire.

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