



From Risk to Resilience: Building Capacity and Funding Local Action

Pre-CAIC Session | Online Symposium, September 15th, 11:00

Last year, we kicked-off the first-ever Summit of Central and Eastern European (CEE) Municipalities in Cologne, marked a milestone for Climate Alliance and its growing engagement in the region. One of the key feedback of participating municipalities was the rising importance of important scientific results that are relevant to the regions' climate change realities that can be used as justification background for local climate actions – and their funding. As a commitment to continue, we picked up this request and are pleased to invite you to participate in the 2nd Central and Eastern European Summit online.

Building on the insights to the local realities, successes and challenges CEE municipalities shared with us, we prepared a program that acknowledges the differences and presents the valid solutions. Climate change affects us differently, but it is a challenge for all, hence, the summit is a step to create a strong mutual supportive framework for positive change towards climate neutrality.

The Summit is built on the following thematic areas for the exchange and collaboration:

- Evidence-based climate resilience – Being aware to be better prepared. Using scientific analysis of climate forecasts for climate action strategic planning and funding.
- Low-cost yet impactful measures: Local infrastructural projects in combination with the strategic awareness campaigns.
- How do municipalities use direct funding and other support: Peer exchange on funding opportunities.





Agenda

Climate Risks and Local Action in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Baltic Regions

Dr. Martina Egedusevic, PhD, Impact Fellow, Green Futures Solutions, University of Exeter

Dr. Egedusevic will address climate trends and impacts in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Baltic region, with a focus on climate adaptation, flood risk, nature-based solutions, and citizen engagement. Drawing on practical experience with municipalities in Bosnia Herzegovina, she will explore how local authorities can translate climate risk evidence into locally appropriate action, even with limited resources. Her presentation will highlight key climate impacts, risks, and actionable pathways for mitigation and adaptation in the Central, Eastern European and Baltic region.

Climate action and low-cost infrastructure projects

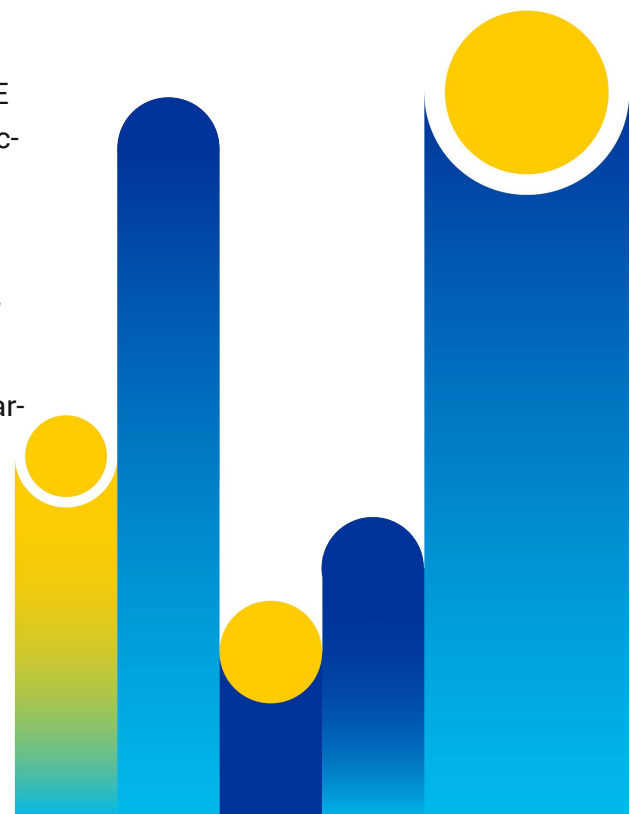
Terry Karampini, Expert, Mission on Adaptation, European Environment Agency

Terry Karampini will bring a high-level perspective informed by the European Environmental Agency's work and connect it to concrete examples of small and large infrastructure projects relevant to the CEE region. Her contribution will focus on how infrastructure can support climate resilience in practice.

Municipal implementation perspective

Izabela Szostak-Smith, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Office, Warsaw City Council

Izabela Szostak-Smith will offer an insight into Warsaw's climate action and low-cost climate infrastructure investment from the perspective of municipal implementation, with a focus on what it takes to turn plans into delivery at city level.





Q&A and Moderated discussion

How can the impact of infrastructure projects be strengthened through soft measures, such as awareness-raising campaigns alongside infrastructure investment?

Funding opportunities for municipalities: EU project experience from Vilnius

Lina Bubulytė, Head of EU Projects Team, Amiestas (Renew the City), Vilnius City Municipality, Lithuania

How can municipalities access external funding for climate-related projects? This session will share experiences and practical approaches to using EU funding effectively. Lina Bubulytė will present practical experience from municipal EU project work in Vilnius, including how cities can access and use EU funding for climate-related initiatives.

Building staff capacity: Climate Alliance resources, tools, and training support for municipal climate resilience: Selected resources, tools, and trainings from CA to support municipalities in strengthening climate resilience actions. Content selection is still to be finalized based on the discussion.

Closing Tour de Table

Registration: [Click here to register](#)

