

# Policy recommendations

FOR EU POLICY MAKERS



**score**

Smart Control of the Climate Resilience in European Coastal Cities (SCORE) is a four-year EU-funded project aimed at enhancing climate resilience in European coastal cities. This brief presents targeted policy recommendations tailored to EU policymakers, offering practical guidance on integrating Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA) measures, participatory planning, the living lab approach, and innovative technical and financial tools into existing policy and planning frameworks. They are based on SCORE's comprehensive research, pilot implementations, and stakeholder engagement across ten Coastal City Living Labs (CCLLs).

## **Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EBA)**

Socio-economic assessment of EBA (cost-benefit analysis and multi-criteria analysis), EBA Catalogue

## **Educational, communicational and Capacity-Building Tools**

Massive Open Online Courses, EBA training schools, EBACraft workshops etc.

## **Coastal Cities Living Labs (CCLLs)**

CCLL Framework, Co-Creation Toolkit, Monitoring and Evaluation



## **Data collection, downscaling and modelling**

Hazard flooding maps, Long-term coastal erosion analysis

## **Participatory and Citizen Science Approaches**

Community Geosurveys platform, Low-Cost Sensors Catalogue, Citizen Science Playbook, Geodesign game, Citizen science framework

## **IT Solutions**

ICT Platform, Digital Twin Platform

## **Financial Resilience and Risk Management Tools**

Methodology for assessing climate risk for European coastal cities, Quantitative Risk assessment, Financial resilience strategies and decision support tool to address residual risks

## **COASTAL CITIES LIVING LABS (CCLLs)**

The EU Adaptation Strategy, related directives (e.g. Flood Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive) and Horizon Europe Missions (ex. Mission: 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030) should explicitly recognize Living Labs as formal innovation ecosystems. Include CCLLs as a pillar of EU-funded programs to enhance citizen engagement in climate policy development.

Foster knowledge exchange between European cities and not only, and projects to share lessons learned from the Living Lab models.

## **ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION (EBA)**

Enhance NetworkNature (EU's flagship Nature-based Solutions knowledge platform) with harmonized assessment methodologies (like Cost-Benefit Analysis, Multi-Criteria Analysis and others) to ensure comparable socio-economic evaluations of EBA solutions across the EU.

Enhance Climate-ADAPT (EU's platform in support to climate change adaptation) with case studies focused on socioeconomic assessment of EBA measures.

The EU should support cross-border adaptation programs, particularly for shared coastal regions affected by climate risks.

## **PARTICIPATORY AND CITIZEN SCIENCE APPROACHES**

The EU should fund training programs across Member States to enhance public participation through citizen science actions in data-driven climate policies.

The European Environment Agency (EEA) could establish a centralized repository for validated citizen-collected environmental data, supporting EU-wide policymaking.

The EU Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and related directives should formally recognize citizen science as a valuable tool for climate risk assessment, environmental monitoring, and community-based resilience. Citizen-generated data should be integrated into key EU policies such as the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Floods Directive, and the EU Biodiversity Strategy, ensuring it informs both planning and response.

## **FINANCIAL RESILIENCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT TOOLS**

Standardize coastal risk assessment methodologies across Member States to align with EU directives.

The EU should require climate-related financial disclosures for public and private sector investments to increase transparency and improve risk-informed decision-making.

The EU should introduce regulatory incentives for insurance companies to expand coverage for climate risks, including parametric insurance models for coastal flooding and extreme weather events.

## **DATA COLLECTION, DOWNSCALING AND MODELLING**

The EU Floods Directive should mandate that Member States incorporate dynamic flood hazard models into their national and regional adaptation strategies to improve cross-border climate resilience.

The EU Adaptation Strategy and Coastal Zone Management policies should integrate high-resolution, long-term coastal evolution models into climate resilience planning and funding programs.



## IT SOLUTIONS

EU could recognize and promote platforms like SCORE ICT Platform as models of best practice for implementing the EU Digital Strategy, INSPIRE Directive, Flood Directive, Biodiversity Strategy and the EU Climate Adaptation Strategy. SCORE-like platforms should also be encouraged under EU Missions and co-funded regional initiatives. Supporting interoperability across Member States enables cross-border data exchange, especially in shared climate risk regions (e.g. river basins, coastal zones).

The European Commission should support Digital Twin technologies as scalable, open-access tools for local adaptation. Funding programs should encourage Digital Twin deployment in vulnerable regions and cross-border coastal zones.

## EDUCATIONAL, COMMUNICATIONAL, AND CAPACITY-BUILDING TOOLS

The EU could promote the adoption of innovative and accessible communication tools (e.g. gamified learning, open MOOCs, creative workshops) in funded climate adaptation projects and education programs, ensuring greater inclusivity and knowledge transfer.

## RESOURCES

For further details on SCORE's outputs and tools, please visit [www.score-eu project](http://www.score-eu project).

We also encourage you to review Deliverable '**D7.5 SCORE Policy Guidelines**', which presents the full set of policy recommendations across local, national and EU policy levels. It explains how each recommendation was developed, highlights the specific contributions of the SCORE project and outlines the policy gaps it aims to address.

## SCORE COASTAL CITY LIVING LABS



Sligo, Ireland



Dublin, Ireland



Gdańsk, Poland



Piran, Slovenia



Oarsoaldea, Spain



Benidorm, Spain



Vilanova i la Geltrú, Spain



Massa, Italy

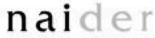


Samsun, Turkey



Oeiras, Portugal

Photo credits: Oeiras Municipality – Communication Office (Oeiras photo); Vilanova i la Geltru City Council (Vilanova photo)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101003534

