Policy recommendations

FOR POLICY MAKERS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

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 national 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

Coastal Cities Living Labs (CCLLs)
CCLL Framework, Co-Creation Toolkit, Monitoring and Evaluation

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

Educational, communicational and Capacity-Building Tools
Massive Open Online Courses, EBA training schools, EBAcraft workshops etc.

SCORE OUTPUTS & TOOLS

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

Data collection, downscaling and modelling
Hazard flooding maps, Long-term coastal erosion analysis

COASTAL CITIES LIVING LABS (CCLLS)

Recognize Living Labs as key innovation instruments in national climate strategies, also for testing and implementing Ecosystem-Based Adaptations (EBA).

National governments should create dedicated climate innovation funds that support the establishment and scaling of CCLLs.

Governments could incentivize the development of training programs for policymakers and municipal planners on how to implement and sustain Living Labs for climate adaptation.

ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION (EBA)

Socio-economic assessments (such as Multi-Criteria Analysis, Cost-Benefit Analysis and others) should be encouraged for all types of climate adaptation investments, to help evaluate their effectiveness and ensure value for money. When it comes to EBA, such assessments can support the case for increased funding by highlighting long-term financial and environmental benefits. In parallel, national adaptation plans, often focused on larger-scale EBA initiatives, can require socio-economic assessments of EBA measures to understand their effectiveness in comparison to other adaptation options, before approving corresponding investments.

Governments should introduce dedicated Climate Resilience Funds, prioritizing grants and subsidies for wetland restoration, urban forests, natural flood buffers and other EBAs.

PARTICIPATORY AND CITIZEN SCIENCE APPROACHES

Governments should develop standardized protocols for integrating citizen-generated data into formal monitoring frameworks and environmental decision-making. Integrate the platform into national climate monitoring frameworks, ensuring data from local communities feeds into national-level decision-making processes.

National agencies should include citizen science methodologies in climate governance training programs for policymakers and civil servants.

DATA COLLECTION, DOWNSCALING AND MODELLING

Governments should implement standardized methodologies for flood and erosion hazard mapping across all coastal municipalities, ensuring consistent and comparable risk assessments nationwide.

National authorities should provide dedicated funding programs for municipalities to adopt advanced flood modeling tools and improve local data collection on flood risks.

National agencies should allocate dedicated funding to help municipalities and research institutions deploy high-resolution monitoring tools, ensuring long-term tracking of coastline evolution.

FINANCIAL RESILIENCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Establish national guidelines for integrating hazard, exposure, and vulnerability indicators into regional planning and thus standardize climate risk assessment.

National governments should develop integrated disaster risk financing strategies that support municipalities in managing climate-related financial risks. These strategies could combine public funds, insurance mechanisms, and private sector contributions to strengthen overall financial resilience.

National policies should encourage public-private partnerships (PPPs) to fund climate adaptation projects. This can include incentives for private sector investments in climate-resilient infrastructure and nature-based solutions (NbS).

Governments should require climate risk stress testing for large-scale public investments to ensure financial sustainability under future climate conditions. This should be integrated into national budgeting processes and fiscal planning frameworks.

IT SOLUTIONS

Use the SCORE ICT platform as a national tool to consolidate environmental monitoring data from diverse regions, enabling comprehensive analysis and reporting. Although the platform is local in use, it benefits from centralized coordination, particularly in terms of sensor standardization, data quality assurance, and capacity building.

National and regional authorities should promote the adoption of interoperable Digital Twin platforms to support regional adaptation planning and emergency response. This includes issuing technical guidelines, funding integration in regional climate risk platforms, and training programs for public agencies.

EDUCATIONAL, COMMUNICATIONAL, AND CAPACITY-BUILDING TOOLS

National education and environment agencies can incorporate digital education tools and citizen engagement formats (like those piloted in SCORE) into official climate education and awareness programs.

RESOURCES

For further details on SCORE's outputs and tools, please visit **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
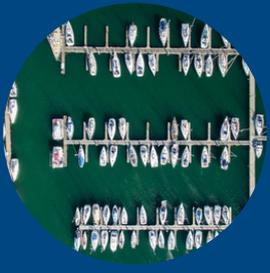
Dublin, Ireland

Gdańsk, Poland

Piran, Slovenia

Oarsoaldea, Spain

Benidorm, Spain

Vilanova i la Geltrú, Spain

Massa, Italy

Samsun, Turkey

Oeiras, Portugal

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