



# **MAGICA**

***Maximizing the synergy of European  
research Governance and Innovation  
for Climate Action***

## **D4.2 Report on ECCA2025**

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## Key Takeaway Messages

- The European Climate Change Adaptation Conference 2025 (Rimini, 16-18 June 2025) successfully gathered experts, researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders
- ECCA2025 served as Europe's major platform for exchange on climate adaptation, fostering collaboration across sectors, governance levels, and the scientific community, while also showcasing innovative solutions and practical experiences.
- The conference identified several areas that require strengthening, while confirming and updating the key messages of ECCA2023, including:
  - Cohesiveness and inclusiveness for climate action
  - Communities' Empowerment as a driver of resilience
  - A strong science-policy-society nexus for Resilience)
  - Connections and consensus in communities' engagement for adaptation
  - From stakeholder engagement to genuine participation
  - Systemic and holistic change: education, knowledge sharing and capacity building as backbone of adaptation
  - Translation and accessibility of climate language
  - Locally led and context-specific climate action

## Summary

This report outlines the organisation, the programme, participant feedback, the communication activities, and key takeaways from the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA2025) "Smarter, Faster and More Systemic Adaptation", organised by CMCC and held in Rimini (Italy) from June 16 to June 18, 2025.

ECCA2025 aimed to foster collaboration, knowledge exchange, and transformative action in climate change adaptation and resilience building by bringing together policymakers, the scientific community, and stakeholders from Europe and beyond. The conference was structured around five main themes: 1) Living with climate extremes; 2) Managing cities to be fit for the future; 3) Protecting coastal and mountain areas; 4) Human and legal dimensions of change; and 5) Adaptation finance: reducing communities' economic or social vulnerabilities.

The conference adopted a multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach, featuring sessions on innovative solutions, good practices, and cutting-edge research. The conference programme included 4 plenary sessions, 39 parallel sessions, 2 Explore & Connect sessions. The sessions proposed presented diverse key scientific outputs as well as policy challenges and solutions in the climate adaptation, and fostered dialogue among stakeholders.

This report highlights key messages and the main thematic contributions and topics discussed over the three-day conference. These reflect the perspectives shared during ECCA2025 plenary and parallel sessions by panellists and participants (including communities of practice, researchers, policymakers, and the private-sector representatives), highlighting areas of shared understanding. In addition, the findings



were complemented by insights gained through targeted interviews conducted specifically for the conference.

The report underscores how fora for dialogue such as ECCA can stimulate a shared and participatory reflection on climate challenges, demonstrating their potential to drive change, foster collaboration, and spark new ideas for climate change adaptation across Europe.

## List of abbreviations

CINEA	European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency
CMCC	Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change
DG ENER	Directorate-General for Energy
DG RESEARCH	Directorate-General for Research
DG RTD	Directorate-General for Research and Technological Development
ECCA	European Climate Change Adaptation
EU	European Union
JPI	Joint Programming Initiative



## 1 About ECCA2025

### 1.1 The European Climate Change Adaptation Conference and 2025 Edition

The European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA) is the **main conference on climate change adaptation in Europe**. It has been held biennially since 2013 and, over the years, has brought together thousands of scientists, practitioners and policymakers to share **examples of climate adaptation** and **advance a climate-resilient Europe**. ECCAs provide a trusted forum for exchanging knowledge, showcasing innovative research and technologies, and discussing challenges and solutions in adaptation at local, national and international levels. The previous editions of ECCA have been held in Hamburg, Germany (2013), Copenhagen, Denmark (2015), Glasgow, United Kingdom (2017), Lisbon, Portugal (2019), online (2021), and Dublin, Ireland (2023). The 2025 edition marked an important milestone, as for the first time, ECCA conference was held twice within the framework of the same EU-funded project.

ECCA2025, titled “**Smarter, Faster and More Systemic Adaptation**”, was hosted by the [CMCC Foundation](#) with [JPI Climate](#) within the Horizon Europe [MAGICA](#) project. It took place in Rimini, Italy from June 16<sup>th</sup> to June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, with more than a thousand participants from around the world.

The title reflected the evolving nature of climate adaptation in a context marked by increasing urgency and complexity. ECCA2025 adopted for its title the objectives of the EU Adaptation Strategy, which aims to help the EU to become climate-resilient:

- **Smarter adaptation:** *Using better data and tools to guide actions, such as protecting homes, businesses, and farms.*
- **Faster adaptation:** *Developing solutions to reduce climate risks, enhance protection, and secure water resources.*
- **More systemic adaptation:** *Addressing climate impacts across all sectors by integrating climate resilience into policies, supporting local actions, and promoting nature-based solutions.*

In addition, as the conference inherently aligns with its broader European mandate, it already embodies the objective of ‘*Stepping up international action: Increasing global support, financing, and cooperation for climate resilience.*’ Consequently, this objective was not included explicitly in the title of this edition.

### 1.1 Conference Committees

Four committees<sup>1</sup> were established to organize the conference, to ensure scientific quality, promote inclusiveness, preserve (or highlight) the connection between policy and practice, and to align the conference with the European Commission’s strategic direction:

- The **Organising Committee** was responsible for the overall coordination and logistics, as well as the organization of activities before, during and after the event.
- The **Programme Committee** wrote the theme descriptions, reviewed the submissions received, and ensured the thematic focus of the selected sessions. The Programme Committee was composed of the members of the Organising Committee and the Theme Experts, two per theme.

<sup>1</sup> See committee composition in Annex 1.



- The **Advisory Committee** provided guidance from stakeholders and partner networks. The Advisory Committee was composed of members of MAGICA Advisory Board and Horizon Board.
- The **Policy Board** ensured alignment between the conference's content and the European Commission, as main funder and key stakeholder.

## 1.2 Conference Themes

A structured process was adopted to develop the conference themes. This process first involved defining the thematic scope in relation to the central title of the conference. It then focused on identifying the trends and needs of policymakers and practitioners, with particular attention to challenges related to implementation and decision-making in climate adaptation. The choice was guided by the need to address topics of high scientific, social, and practical impact, while also encouraging interdisciplinary dialogue. Finally, the process aimed to highlight practical examples of adaptation and identify areas where innovative practices and scientific breakthroughs are emerging or still needed.

ECCA2025 was ultimately built around five core themes<sup>2</sup>:

- **Living with climate extremes,**
- **Managing cities to be fit for the future,**
- **Protecting coastal and mountain areas,**
- **Human and legal dimensions of change, and**
- **Adaptation finance: reducing communities' economic or social vulnerabilities.**

ECCA2025 embraced innovation by addressing two emerging and salient themes in the international discourse: the human and legal dimensions, as well as adaptation finance and social vulnerabilities, which had not been explicitly covered in previous editions.

## 2 Conference Programme

The conference programme<sup>3</sup> was carefully designed by the Organizing and Programme Committees to maintain a balance across different aspects of the event. The organizers aimed to guarantee an adequate length of each session, keeping a smooth rhythm of presentations and discussions. Scheduled breaks, including coffee breaks and lunches, allowed participants to refresh and recharge, while dedicated sessions promoted informal networking and engagement with interdisciplinary or artistic sessions.

The programme was also structured to maximize participant engagement, while minimizing potential dispersion across sessions. A particular challenge addressed in the programme design was the risk of uneven session attendance. The Organizing Committee avoided as much as possible scheduling multiple sessions on the same theme within a single parallel session time slot. Likewise, interdisciplinary and artistic sessions, potentially more vulnerable to low attendance, were scheduled separately from parallel and plenary sessions.

<sup>2</sup> For the full description, please see Annex 2.

<sup>3</sup> The full programme can be found in the annex 10.



The conference organizers engaged in the co-organization of several aspects of the conference and its programme with the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency** and the **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change**. The conference programme featured a plenary session organized by the EU Mission and a parallel session organized by CINEA in order to showcase the European Commission's strong commitment and significant investments to the conference broad audience.

Overall, the conference spanned three days, including **4 plenary sessions, 39 parallel sessions, 2 Explore & Connect sessions** (2 art performances, 2 film screenings and Director's Q&As, complemented by exhibition area and an equipped yoga-room and a photo exhibition). In addition, participants were offered a **welcome reception** on the first day, which was included in the registration fee, and had the opportunity to attend the **conference dinner**, available for an additional fee on a first-come, first-served basis.

The three conference days were structured as follows:

- June 16 (half day): two plenary sessions and one welcome reception;
- June 17 (full day): one plenary session, three parallel session slots, one explore & connect session. Optional: conference dinner;
- June 18 (full day): one plenary session, three parallel session slots, one explore & connect session.

Moreover, in the framework of the official programme, **9 events** (5 project sessions open to the conference audience within the conference venue, and 4 info sessions organized by the European Commission on open calls of Horizon Europe Cluster 5, Mission Climate Adaptation, and LIFE programme) took place during the second and third day of the conference.

The conference did not include poster sessions, or single presentations.

For more information on the program and its elements, please refer to Annex 5 and 10.

### 3 ECCA2025 Key Messages

The following key messages summarize the main discussions and conclusions that emerged from plenary and parallel sessions. They reflect the collective contributions of speakers and participants and highlight areas of shared agreement. The messages are also the result of targeted interviews that were conducted to further expand concepts presented during the sessions. From these combined sources, cross-cutting takeaways as well as highlights more specifically related to the five main themes of ECCA2025, were drawn.

More in detail, during the conference, a dedicated team was established with responsibility for communication support and cross-session synthesis. The team was composed of eight members of the conference organizers with different professional backgrounds and expertise, all related to the conference's main thematic areas, ranging from the scientific and financial domains to legal studies, as well as the humanities and communication fields. The team was tasked with systematically capturing the key messages emerging from the various sessions and facilitating their consolidation into a coherent set of overarching conclusions.



The members of the team followed the discussions across the different plenary and parallel sessions of the conference. Their role consisted of observing the exchanges among speakers, panellists, and participants, identifying recurrent themes, noting points of convergence or that reflected a clear orientation in the collective discussion, and documenting insights that were considered particularly relevant to the conference. This process allowed the team to collect qualitative evidence from across the full range of discussions, ensuring that the diversity of perspectives expressed during the event was appropriately reflected.

Following the conference sessions, the team compared and cross-referenced inputs from multiple sessions in order to verify the relevance and representativeness of the messages being recorded. The material collected was reviewed and synthesized through an internal consolidation process. This phase involved organizing the observations gathered during the sessions, clustering related ideas, and identifying the principal thematic strands that characterized the discussions. The objective of this synthesis phase was not to reinterpret the contributions of participants, but rather to faithfully reflect the substance of the exchanges while presenting them in a structured, schematic, and accessible format. The outcome of this work is presented below.

### 3.1 Cross-Cutting Takeaways



#### 1. **Empowerment for resilience**

Sustainable climate resilience begins with resilient, empowered people, who are, and feel, that they are treated justly. Understanding the various needs of citizens, communities and neighbourhoods, including recognising their lived experiences of climate change impact, and equipping them with localised, accessible information, in their own language/dialect/context, inspires and empowers them/us to adapt and thrive.

#### 2. **Cohesiveness and inclusiveness - A strong science-policy-society nexus is key for resilience**

Climate action is effective when all communities are brought along on the journey. We must foster inclusivity, ensuring that people from diverse backgrounds feel united in diversity. To build community confidence, it is essential for scientists and policymakers to have open and frequent dialogue opportunities, such as the European Climate Adaptation Conference and the Equinox Process. Scientific data is essential in providing trustworthy, actionable evidence to underpin climate adaptation policy and decision-making. . Repeated/Continuous Dialogue between scientists and adaption practitioners on the ground is crucial and helps building mutual understanding of the various facets of climate change adaptation (CCA) problems in the view of jointly working on solutions.



### **3. Connections and consensus in communities' engagement for adaptation**

Building consensus and connections at every administrative level, from local to global, is vital. Collaboration must be multi-level, between citizens, neighbourhoods, institutions, science and policy. Effective climate adaptation requires precise, well-informed and contextual information to support decision-making and the enforcement of policies on the ground. However, public engagement and understanding are also essential for these efforts to be accepted, effective, and sustained over time. Adaptation requires addressing specific local vulnerabilities through practical and well-designed targeted initiatives, such as improving sewage treatment systems and enhancing water and hydraulic quality, that can directly contribute to climate resilience. Local adaptation initiatives benefit significantly from the involvement of stakeholders with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and knowledge. Engaging people across different age groups and communities helps capture a wide range of needs, perceptions, and insights, ensuring that adaptation strategies reflect local realities. Besides, successful implementation of adaptation measures at territorial levels of governance depends heavily on public awareness and support, as these authorities are typically responsible for enforcing climate policies.

### **4. Moving beyond engagement to genuine participation**

Climate adaptation requires more than stakeholder engagement. This engagement is complex, intricate, it needs to constantly adapt to evolving situations, involving every level of community, policy and governance directly in shaping and implementing adaptation projects, decisions and strategies, ensuring proposed actions and policies reflect lived experience. Social sciences and humanities have an important role to play here to better understand drivers for behavioural changes, etc. There is the need to empower citizens to take an active and meaningful role in adaptation actions, as well as strengthening the capacity and resources of authorities to implement engagement actions and fostering a culture of citizen engagement and sharing of best practices.

### **5. Systemic and holistic approach: Education, knowledge sharing and capacity building as backbone of adaptation**

Effective adaptation relies on public understanding, trust and support, but also on systemic, holistic approaches that integrate social, environmental and economic dimensions of resilience. Long-term resilience starts with people who understand climate risks, trust the solutions, and feel equipped to act. Education, whether formal, informal, technical, or community-led, is essential to build shared language, competencies, and agency across institutions, professionals and citizens. From security actors to farmers, from youth activists to coastal engineers, from city officials to children in schools: everyone needs the knowledge and skills to navigate climate uncertainty. Education also means addressing complexity, turning scientific concepts into practical guidance, and enabling people to engage confidently with their governments, their cities and their territories. When people are informed and included, they are empowered, thus moving from passive recipients of adaptation to active co-creators of it.

### **6. Translation and accessibility of climate language data and knowledge**

Climate data is fundamental for climate change adaptation, but there is a problem with too much data and a lack of capacity at local level to absorb available information and in implementing climate change adaptation measures. It is essential to make targeted, useable and accessible data and there is the need



to find a new, different and common language to translate it and communicate it to people, institutions and other stakeholders in a way they can use. High-resolution climate projections, Earth-observation datasets, vulnerability indicators or AI-enhanced water models matter only if they are trusted, co-validated and contextualised. Making data actionable means grounding it in local realities and ensuring that the people who depend on those decisions understand its implications. Accessible formats, co-interpretation with users, and continuous feedback loops turn raw information into shared intelligence. This is how data becomes a driver of adaptation rather than a barrier. Potential tools to use in this direction are culture, design and storytelling: climate adaptation gains traction when scientific evidence becomes emotionally resonant, visually understandable and culturally meaningful, helping people see themselves in the climate story, not as distant observers but as protagonists. This cultural translation is essential to build broad coalitions for adaptation. People act when they understand, and they understand when knowledge speaks their language.

### 7. **Locally led and context-specific climate action**

Climate change adaptation solutions need to consider the specificities of the place, its vulnerabilities, indigenous knowledge, culture and institutions. Locally led approaches recognise farmers, coastal communities, women, youth and neighbourhood residents as experts of their lived experience. Their insights can shape priorities and validate whether technological tools, models or policy proposals fit reality. Local knowledge carries centuries of experience on how to read landscapes and cope with extreme conditions. When adaptation strategies are rooted in these perspectives, from a bottom-up approach rather than a top-down one, they become more relevant, socially just, legitimate and, ultimately, more effective.

### 8. **EU Mission, experiment by 2030**

The EU Mission Adaptation to Climate Change is an experiment by 2030 and will need the support by national governments to continue. Beyond pilot projects, there is a need to focus on scaling outputs and leveraging results, ensuring that achievements align with the ambition and outcomes set in the Mission and implementation plans.

## 3.2 Takeaways from Main Themes

Below are the takeaways from the five main themes of the conference. These takeaways have been derived across the sessions by theme, covering both scientific and policy/solution sessions. For the full description of the themes, please refer to Annex 2.

### **Living with climate extremes**



- ⇒ **Willingness to adapt**: There is a growing willingness to adapt, with new actors coming to the table - from the architects of Notre Dame to NATO - signalling increasing societal impact. As more people engage, it becomes crucial that newcomers learn from and build on what has already been developed to strengthen collective adaptation capacity.



- ⇒ **Systemic and proactive approaches**: Extreme weather events such as droughts, heatwaves and floods are becoming more frequent and severe across Europe. This requires moving from reactive measures to systemic and proactive adaptation strategies, integrating long-term planning, participatory governance and cross-sectoral coordination.
- ⇒ **Water management for resilience**: Integrated river basin planning and nature-based solutions, such as wetlands and green infrastructure, enhance resilience to droughts and floods while providing co-benefits for ecosystems and communities. These approaches demonstrate how water management is central to climate-extreme preparedness.
- ⇒ **Risk assessment, monitoring and forecasting**: Effective decision-making under climate extremes depends on robust risk assessment, monitoring and forecasting systems. Examples such as Austria's index-based agricultural insurance and HERA Group's integrated water management highlight how early information and anticipatory action reduce vulnerability.
- ⇒ **Cross-sector strategies**: Scaling adaptation requires coordinated strategies across sectors, including agriculture, tourism, energy and urban infrastructure, to address interconnected risks. Cross-sector alignment strengthens resilience and ensures that measures reinforce rather than contradict one another.
- ⇒ **Local knowledge and context-specific solutions**: Local knowledge is essential to complement scientific data and tailor adaptation measures to specific vulnerabilities and territorial needs. Combining community insight with technological innovation and climate information leads to more effective and grounded solutions to climate extremes.

## Managing cities to be fit for the future



- ⇒ **Cities as frontline responders**: Urban areas face compounded risks from heat, flooding, and air pollution. Cities act simultaneously as frontline responders and experimental laboratories for adaptation, demonstrating how urban contexts concentrate both vulnerabilities and opportunities for climate resilience.
- ⇒ **Tools to map, monitor and evaluate risks**: Earth Observation data, digital twins, and modelling tools like NEVERMORE and SPACE4CITIES enable municipalities to map risks, monitor conditions, and evaluate adaptation strategies. The tools and processes are increasingly ready to support businesses as well as local and national governments, from risk assessment to costing and financing, with further R&I expected to enhance their sophistication.
- ⇒ **Citizen engagement for trust and inclusiveness**: Citizen engagement, through Climate Assemblies and participatory planning, ensures that adaptation policies are grounded in lived experiences, builds trust, and promotes inclusive decision-making. Examples such as Worms' Heat Health Action Plan and the HEAL pedestrian routing app illustrate how involving residents improves relevance and uptake.
- ⇒ **Combining top-down and bottom-up approaches**: Integrating adaptation into urban planning requires combining top-down governance frameworks with bottom-up approaches. Intermediaries and multipliers play a key role in translating policy into actionable measures and ensuring that strategies remain connected to local realities.



- ⇒ **Nature-based solutions for liveable and resilient cities:** Nature-based solutions, including urban greening, green roofs, and floodable public spaces, enhance resilience while improving quality of life. These interventions highlight how environmental, social and spatial benefits can be achieved simultaneously.
- ⇒ **Knowledge exchange and scalable solutions:** Cities benefit from cross-city knowledge exchange, scalable tools, and EU funding mechanisms that accelerate adaptation. Sustainable urban resilience is as much about people and governance as it is about infrastructure, requiring shared learning and coordinated investment across Europe.

### Protecting coastal and mountain areas



- ⇒ **Decision-support tools for resilience:** For coastal areas to build resilience, decision-support tools must be able to compare hard engineering, Nature-based solutions, and do-nothing approaches. Effective systems need to be integrated, relocatable, affordable, tailored to local needs, and powerful, relying on multidisciplinary science, technology and policy, and accessible even to the Global South through open-source tools.
- ⇒ **Visualization to make impacts tangible:** Visualization offers real value for stakeholders. While abstract data and models are useful, they rarely help stakeholders grasp tangible impacts. Visualization enables people to see how a project might change familiar places, such as how their daily walk in the park may look once an intervention is implemented, making adaptation outcomes concrete and accessible.

### Human and legal dimensions of change



- ⇒ **People centred approach to climate change adaptation:** This dimension lies at the heart of climate change adaptation. Research cannot stay confined within academic boundaries. Instead, it must put people, communities, and their livelihoods at the centre. Understanding how climate change affects real lives, beyond environmental metrics, ensures that adaptation strategies are meaningful, effective, and socially relevant.
- ⇒ **(Re)discover eco-emotions and mental health:** More people are experiencing eco-emotions such as anxiety, grief, and solastalgia as climate impacts intensify. Yet, mental health remains largely absent from national climate policies, adaptation plans, and until recently, academic research. There is a strong need for studies on effective prevention, coping strategies, resilience, and the hidden mental health costs of climate inaction. Recognizing eco-emotions is crucial to address the human side of climate change.



- ⇒ **Creative tools that go beyond science**: In reconnecting climate research to human experience, new languages and unconventional tools, like artistic expressions, performances, and immersive storytelling, have proven powerful. Art can shift perception, trigger empowerment, and foster behavioural change by speaking to emotions, bodies, and imagination in ways scientific communication alone often cannot.
- ⇒ **Bridge critical research gaps**: Significant gaps remain in understanding how climate change affects human wellbeing. Key areas include cross-cultural experiences of eco-emotions, strategies to prevent and cope with climate-related mental health impacts and quantifying the hidden psychological costs of inaction. Addressing these gaps is essential to make adaptation research fully human-centred and socially impactful.

### Adaptation finance: reducing communities economic or social vulnerabilities



- ⇒ **Finance clarity emerging**: On finance, there is a lot more clarity, whilst there is still work to do, about the roles of public and private sector, the distinction between funding and financing, and the need to think much more about what adaptation costs, who pays, and who benefits. Clearer messages are now available to give to decision makers.
- ⇒ **Prevention is better than reaction**: Climate impacts are creating growing economic and social pressures across Europe, highlighting the need for financial systems that anticipate risks rather than react to damages. The core idea emerging across sectors is clear: preventing climate risks is more effective, more efficient, and far less costly than responding to their consequences.
- ⇒ **Insurance as a central role**: Insurance plays a central role in this shift. Insurers have developed a deep understanding of how different hazards translate into financial and operational disruptions. They explain vulnerabilities clearly, guide prevention measures, and help quantify the capital needed to manage climate-related challenges, acting not only as a safety net, but as a driver of risk awareness, early action, and informed investment.
- ⇒ **Long-term information matters**: A consistent message from practitioners is that climate adaptation must be guided by high-quality information. Long-term projections matter more than historical trends, and decisions must reflect future conditions rather than past patterns. Effective adaptation finance depends on reliable data, transparent communication, and alignment between scientific analysis and financial planning.
- ⇒ **Demonstrating value through costs and benefits**: Demonstrating the value of adaptation requires clear analysis of its costs and benefits. By quantifying economic gains—reduced losses, lower recovery costs, preserved productivity—stakeholders can understand why investing early is more advantageous than relying on reactive responses. Making these benefits visible is essential for mobilising capital and securing long-term commitment.



- ⇒ **Innovation in adaptation finance:** Innovation remains a vital component of the adaptation finance landscape. Instruments that link financial returns to environmental or resilience outcomes attract investment while ensuring transparency on performance. Insurance models that reward risk reduction encourage behavioural change and support nature-based and preventive solutions. Fiscal incentives and contractual mechanisms for ecosystem services show how existing financial systems can channel resources toward resilience.
- ⇒ **Collaboration and alignment:** Effective adaptation finance relies on accurate risk information, long-term thinking, and coherent communication between science and finance. Financial institutions, insurers, public authorities, and local communities must work together, aligning incentives and sharing responsibilities to make adaptation feasible and economically justified.
- ⇒ **Funding nature-based solutions:** There is a need to stimulate private resources for nature-based solutions, including securing the mobilisation of private lands to expand their implementation beyond public lands only.
- ⇒ **Persistent challenges:** Adaptation costs are not assessed consistently across countries, methodologies vary, and many sectors lack comprehensive data. These gaps complicate national planning and limit the scalability of financial solutions. Adaptation generates large societal benefits but often limited direct financial returns, requiring public involvement and cross-sector cooperation.

## 4 Partnerships

Regarding conference sustainability, visibility and support, and in line with similar events, the ECCA2025 organizers proposed various opportunities to support the event. Based on the significance of the conference and its long-standing role as a key reference point on climate adaptation in Europe, these opportunities were considered particularly relevant and impactful to attract various institutional, private, and public organizations and authorities:

- **Patronages:** Based on previous experience and the conference's level of relevance, it was decided to request patronages from key institutional stakeholders. The conference successfully obtained patronage from five major entities: the [Italian Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security](#), the [Italian Ministry of University and Research](#), the [Emilia-Romagna Region](#), the [Municipality of Rimini](#), and the [United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#).
- **Partnerships:** A four-tier partnership scheme was developed and presented through a dedicated brochure, outlining different levels of involvement and contributions. The partnerships received strong interest from ECCA traditional partners.

The [European Space Agency](#) participated as ECCA2025 Main Partner.

Furthermore, several EU-funded projects proposed to partner with the conference, as ECCA is a traditional EU-funded biennial event, and an appropriate and valuable frame in which present their progress. ECCA2025 partnered with six EU-funded projects, namely, in alphabetical order:

- [DIRECTED project](#) - Disaster Resilience for Extreme Climate Events providing interoperable Data, models, communication and governance;
- [ICARIA project](#) - Improving Climate Resilience of critical Assets,



- [IMPETUS4CHANGE project](#) - Improving Near-Term Climate Predictions for Societal Transformation;
- [LOCALISED project](#) - Localised decarbonisation pathways for citizens, local administrations and businesses to inform for mitigation and adaptation action;
- [MAIA project](#) - Maximising Impact and Accessibility of European Climate Research;
- [SCORE project](#) - Smart Control of the Climate Resilience in European Coastal Cities.

Finally, ECCA2025 partnered with the [UN Coastal Decade Collaborative Centre for Coastal Resilience](#).

- **Sponsorship:** Sponsorship served as a mechanism for receiving financial support for the conference. This option was primarily targeted at private, for-profit organizations. The conference was sponsored by [APT Servizi Regione Emilia Romagna](#).
- **Supporting opportunities (in-kind):** The conference welcomed in-kind contributions, established through specific agreements between the organizers and interested parties. These contributions could include goods, services, or resources made available to support the successful delivery of the event. The conference received support from [Birra Peroni s.r.l.](#), providing beers for free for the welcome reception at the end of the first day of activities.
- **Twinning:** As the main European event on climate change adaptation, the conference organizers proposed to create bridges with other relevant international initiatives. ECCA2025 officially twinned with [Adaptation Futures 2025](#).
- **Media Partnership:** As part of its communication strategy, the conference offered media partnerships and press passes. The conference officially partnered with [SKYTG24](#).
- **Collaborations:** ECCA2025 organizers, in line with the conference spirit of promoting the event and its contents not only to the ticket-paying audience but also to the local community, decided to organize an off-site exhibition called '[Our Ocean from Space](#)', installed in collaboration with [Rimini BlueLab](#). The exhibition was installed in Piazzale Boscovich, Rimini.
- **Venue's agreements:** Thanks to the collaboration with the venue, Palacongressi di Rimini, it was also possible to offer special discounts and deals for participating in the conference. This included deals for Trenitalia, Shuttle bus, BIT mobility, Lime micromobility, Rimini Art Card for Business, E-sim offers and discounted/facilitated hotel reservations through AIA PALAS Consortium.

## 5 ECCA2025 Audience

The European Climate Change Adaptation Conference is conceived as the main European platform for Adaptation, with a focus on advancing dialogue, knowledge exchange, collaboration and support to the dissemination of scientific knowledge, as well as on the promotion of policy-relevant discussions and the facilitation of sharing experiences among a broad range of stakeholders.

ECCA2025 by facilitating interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral exchanges expected a significant attendance and participation from key actors involved in climate change science, policy, and practice. This Conference also aimed to increase the overall number of participants, in comparison to 2023, and specifically to attract more participants coming from the private sector.



A total of **1053 people registered** to take part in ECCA2025. **646 individuals** (61.3%) registered to attend **in person** (including guests) and **407 individuals** (38.7%) opted for **online participation**. 271 people also chose to attend the conference dinner.

At ECCA2023 in Dublin, 575 individuals registered for in-person participation. In 2025, in-person participation increased by 11%. For online participation, 902 individuals registered for ECCA2023. By contrast, there was a significant decrease (54,8%) in the number of online participants at ECCA2025. Unlike ECCA2023, where participants could register for both online and in-person attendance, the 2025 edition allowed registration for only one format. This may partly explain the decline in online registrations.

For more information on ECCA2025 audience composition is available in annex 8.

## 6 Feedback from Post-Conference Surveys

After the conference, ECCA2025 organizers administered feedback surveys:

1. In person and online participants;
2. Parallel sessions contributors (speakers and chairs);
3. Non-attendants (those who expressed interest initially but did not attend).

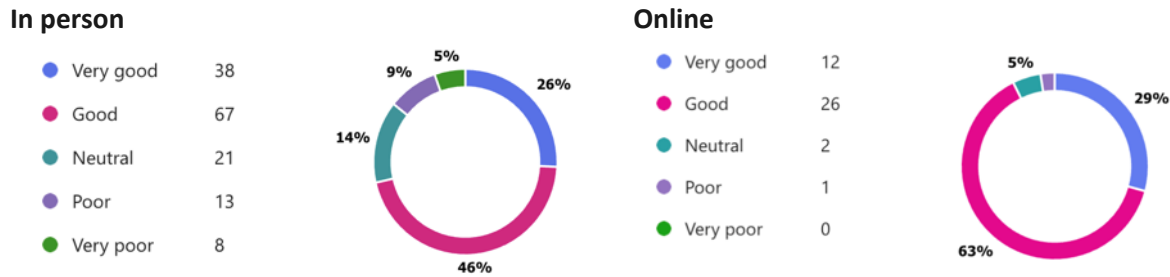
Overall, the following number of responses were received:

- 147 people responded to the in-person participant feedback questionnaire, and 41 responded to the online participant feedback questionnaire;
- 35 responded to the chair and panellist feedback questionnaire;
- Out of 1,023 individuals who expressed interest but did not register to the conference (neither in-person nor online), 154 responded to the questionnaire for non-attendees.

In addition, some interviews were conducted to have a deeper understanding of the participant's feedback.

### 6.1 Feedback from In-Person and Online Participants

Among the in-person participants who responded to the survey (N=147), 67 (46%) rated their overall experience of ECCA2025 as good and another 38 (26%) as very good. A further 21 participants (14%) gave a neutral rating, while 13 (9%) rated the experience as poor and 8 (5%) as very poor. The average satisfaction score was 3.77 on a 1-5 scale. While the majority of respondents (72%) rated the conference positively, the range of responses reflects a diversity of experiences among participants. The online participants who responded to the survey rated their overall experience of ECCA 2025 online positively, with an average score of 4.2, equal to 92% positive feedback.



**Figure 1 Survey results of the ECCA2025 experience by registration**

In addition, participants were asked to rate their agreement on a set of statements (see figure below). It was generally agreed that the conference had a positive impact on them.



**Figure 2 Responses to the feedback questionnaire for in-person (top), and online participants (bottom). Positive responses (agree or strongly agree): Statement 1: 62.6% for in-person; 95% for online; Statement 2: 73.5% for in-person; 90% for online. Statement 3: 44.9% for in-person; 77,2% for online. Statement 4: 66.6% for in-person; 87.5% for online.**

In-person participants were generally satisfied with the number of sessions (i.e., 43 plenary and parallel sessions). A majority reported being somewhat satisfied 34.7% or very satisfied 28.6%. Around one-fifth were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied 20.4%. Less positive responses included somewhat dissatisfied 11.6% and very dissatisfied 4.8%. The online participants could attend a subset of the sessions: all plenaries and 2 rooms where parallel sessions were broadcasted (i.e., 16 plenary and parallel sessions). The online participants were satisfied with the number of sessions made available online: 46% were satisfied, 27% very satisfied, 12% neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 12% dissatisfied and 1 individual very dissatisfied.



In addition, most respondents were positive about networking opportunities: 36.7% were very satisfied and 35.4% were somewhat satisfied, while smaller groups were neutral 12.2%, somewhat dissatisfied 12.2%, or very dissatisfied 3.4%.

Responses to the Explore & Connect activities were mixed. While 21.1% were very satisfied and 27.9% were somewhat satisfied, the largest group reported being neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (36.1%). Less positive responses included somewhat dissatisfied (10.2%) and very dissatisfied (4.8%).

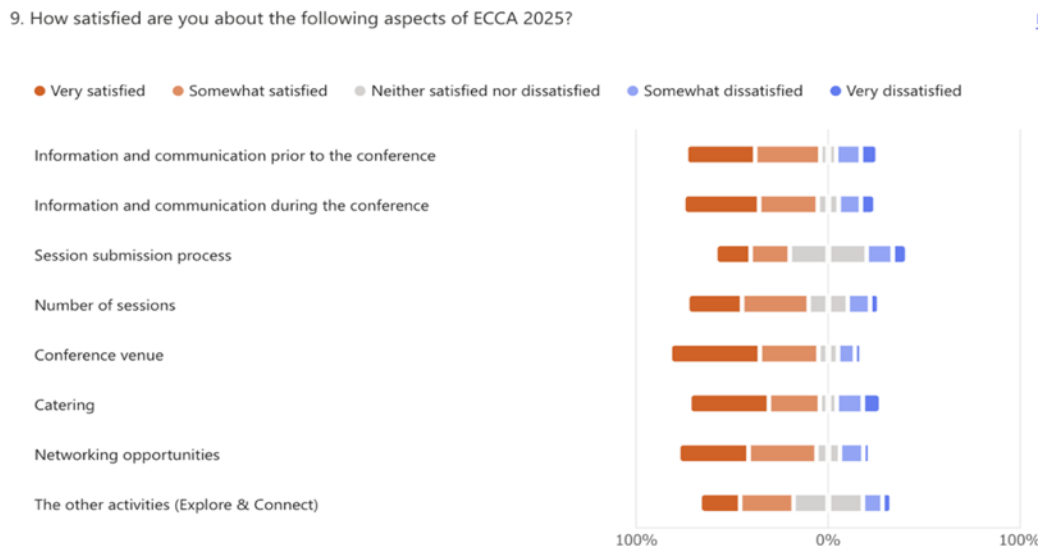


Figure 3 In-person participants' feedback on different aspects of the conference

## 6.2 Feedback from Parallel Sessions Contributors (Speakers and Chairs)

Among the chairs and speakers who responded to the survey, 49% were very satisfied about their session overall; 49% were satisfied, and 1 answered 'neutral'. Regarding practical aspects such as organisation and amenities, 63% found them adequate for their session, 31% felt they were somewhat adequate, and 2 respondents were dissatisfied. Regarding communication with ECCA organisers, 71% of the session chairs and speakers, answered that the communication with the ECCA organisers was timely and informative. 26% said it was mixed, and 1 individual said it was not timely or informative. Most respondents to the separate questionnaire for session chairs and speakers were satisfied with the use of full session proposals instead of individual abstract submissions. Of these, 34% (12 respondents) were very satisfied, 31% (11) were satisfied, 11 were neutral, and 2 expressed dissatisfaction. The session chairs and speakers generally felt that the session audiences were aligned with their intended target group: 66% (23) answered positively, whereas 37% (12) were partially satisfied or unsure.



### 6.3 Understanding Non-Participation

We had the opportunity to explore the views and perceptions of individuals who had initially expressed interest in attending ECCA2025 by registering for the ECCA newsletter but ultimately did not participate, neither in person in Rimini nor online. This provides highly valuable insights for drawing lessons for future ECCA conferences. There appears to be a significant gap between those who subscribed to the ECCA newsletter in February 2025 and those who actually attended the event: many newsletter subscribers did not participate, while many attendees were not on the newsletter list.

More specifically, 1,249 people registered for the ECCA newsletter, while 1,053 registered for online or in-person participation in ECCA. Only 226 individuals both subscribed to the newsletter and participated in the event, which represents just 18% of those who had expressed interest via newsletter registration. This means that 82% of newsletter subscribers did not ultimately attend ECCA.

We used the ‘We have missed you’ survey to explore the reasons why people did show interest but did not attend in the end. This survey was completed by a total of 154 individuals (out of the 1023 people). We explored how they experienced the ECCA communication efforts by asking whether they felt the information about the conference was clear and sufficient:

- 106 respondents (69%) found the information clear and sufficient.
- 29 respondents (19%) found it partially clear and sufficient.
- 19 respondents (12%) did not find it sufficient.

Regarding the reasons for not attending ECCA 2025, multiple factors were identified:

- 51 people were unavailable during the conference dates.
- 40 people selected “other reasons” not included in the options provided.
- 37 people indicated that travel and location were too difficult or costly.
- 36 people cited high registration fees as a barrier.
- 31 people did not attend because their session proposal was not accepted.
- 12 people found the programme not relevant enough.
- 6 people reported they forgot or missed the registration deadline.

In other words, non-attendance can be attributed to a wide range of reasons that are largely unrelated to the communication efforts.

Despite non-attendance, interest in future engagement remains high:

- 121 people (79%) indicated they were interested in participating in future events organised by JPI Climate and MAGICA.
- 30 people (19%) answered “maybe”.
- Only 3 people (2%) said they were not interested.

## 7 ECCA2025 Communication

ECCA2025 organizers developed a dedicated communication strategy, applying it from the earliest stages up to the conference follow-up. As mentioned above, a dedicated Communication and Visibility Team was specifically established for the conference. The team organised and coordinated its work to ensure timely and responsive media coverage, which included producing short reportage articles for the ECCA2025



website and social media posts that captured key discussions, highlights, and emerging messages from the sessions in near real time.

The Communication Plan considered various objectives, including increasing awareness and visibility, promoting participation, communicating the conference's themes, goals, organizational steps (opening of call for sessions, registrations, etc.), and strengthening the conference's identity, among others. ECCA2025 communication could leverage new dedicated and existing channels, including the conference website and social media, MAGICA, and JPI Climate website and communication channels. In addition, it could take advantage of the previous experience with ECCA2023 (organized within the MAGICA project) and ECCA2021 (with which the conference organizers had collaborated), as well as traditional points, e.g., the target audience, context, the support of the European Commission and the conference stakeholders. The initial ECCA2023 and ECCA2025 Communications Plans were first outlined within MAGICA and its 'MAGICA Communication, Dissemination and Engagement Plan' (D5.2).

Social Media Visuals	Online Platforms	Website articles	Press Releases	Mailshots	Newsletters
ECCA LinkedIn Group Page	ECCA X	ECCA2025	Horizon EU projects	JPI Climate email community	Subscribers to JPI Climate and MAGICA newsletters
JPI Climate LinkedIn Group Page	JPI Climate & MAGICA X	MAGICA Climate Project	Climate media	MAGICA Climate Project email community	Newsletters identified as engaging our target audiences
MAGICA LinkedIn Page	JPI Climate & MAGICA Bluesky 2025ecca Instagram	JPI Climate	Rimini regional media	Those registered to receive ECCA2025 updates	Newsletters that published ECCA2023 content

**Table 1 Platforms featured in ECCA2025 Communications Plan**

For further information, please refer to Annex 9.

## 8 Conclusions

As the European Climate Change Adaptation Conference 2025 drew to an end, attention turned toward the future and the legacy of the discussions and exchanges that took place during the event. The outcomes of the conference provide a basis for **reusability and continued knowledge sharing**, offering valuable insights for adaptation practitioners, researchers, and the wider climate community. The exchanges, lessons learned, and emerging perspectives collected throughout the conference represent important **inputs for upcoming EU climate research agenda** planning processes, helping to shape future priorities for a faster, smarter, more systemic and international climate adaptation.

In this perspective, the outcomes of the conference make an important contribution to **policy reflections and debate at both EU and Member State level**, supporting the development of more coordinated, evidence-based, and forward-looking approaches to climate adaptation and resilience. The strong participation, support, and engagement in ECCA from the **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change**



further reinforce the relevance of the discussions and helped amplify key messages emerging from the conference. The exchanges at ECCA2025 also provided important insights to **inspire the design of future initiatives and programmes**, including the next European framework programme for research and innovation such as **Framework Programme 10**.

Beyond the immediate outcomes, the conference is expected to generate a **multiplying effect** across related initiatives and policy processes, contributing, for example, to strategic discussions shaping the future **Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for Climate Sciences (2026-2035)**. Through these channels, the insights generated at the conference can continue to inform collaboration, research priorities, and policy development across Europe.

The **high attendance, together with the strong institutional and stakeholder support** at ECCA2025, gives a strong signal of the engagement of the climate adaptation community and the importance that climate adaptation holds for society at large. It highlights both the interest in these events and the consistent need for spaces where practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders can exchange information, share results, and discuss scientific and policy solutions.

Looking ahead, the closing session of ECCA2025 **opened the perspective toward the next editions of the ECCA conference**. In this regard, the present document aims to serve as a reference and foundation for future editions, capturing the rationale behind choices, the standards and organizational insights that can support the continued evolution of the conference. It seeks to weave a continuous thread through ECCA2023, ECCA2021, and earlier editions, building on past experiences while embracing new perspectives. By doing so, future editions can continue to foster high-quality dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collaboration, further strengthening the European community working on climate adaptation.



## 9 References

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- ECCA Conference X account (2025): [https://x.com/ECCA\\_Conference](https://x.com/ECCA_Conference)
- JPI Climate & MAGICA Bluesky account (2025). <https://bsky.app/profile/jpiclimatemagica.bsky.social>



## 10 Annexes

### 10.1 ANNEX 1 Committees of the ECCA2025 Conference

Name	Organisation
Gabriele Canzi	CMCC Foundation
Michael Depuydt	JPI Climate
Giulia Galluccio	CMCC Foundation
Petra Manderscheid	JPI Climate
Eleonora Mattacchione	CMCC Foundation
Kanika Singh	JPI Climate
Chiara Trozzo	CMCC Foundation

**Table 2 ECCA2025 conference organising committee**

Theme	Theme Experts
Theme 1 Living with climate extremes	Candice Howarth (LSE) Christopher Phillips (UCC)
Theme 2 Managing cities to be fit for the future	Vasileios Latinos (ICLEI) Cristobal Reveco (HEREON)
Theme 3 Protecting coastal and mountain areas	Giovanni Coppini (CMCC FOUNDATION) Katharina Zwettler (BMK, AT)
Theme 4 Human and legal dimensions of change	Eugenia Baroncelli (UNIBO) Francesco Sindico (Strathclyde University)
Theme 5 Adaptation finance: reducing communities' economic or social vulnerabilities	Tom Coppens (University of Antwerp) Kit England (Paul Watkiss Associates)

**Table 3 Theme experts, members of the Programme Committee**

Name	Affiliation
Jan Cools	University of Antwerp
Elke Dall	Centre for Social Innovation
Francisco J. Doblas-Reyes	Barcelona Supercomputing Centre
Thomas Koetz	EIT Climate-KIC
Cristobal Reveco	GERICS
Guido Schmidt	Fresh Thoughts Consulting GmbH

**Table 4 ECCA2025 conference Advisory Committee**

Name	Affiliation
Irene Bonvissuto	EC - DG CLIMA / EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
Giulia Galluccio	CMCC Foundation
Petra Manderscheid	JPI Climate
Antonio Navarra	CMCC Foundation
Alessia Pietrosanti	EC - CINEA
Federico Porrà	EC - DG RTD / EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
Philippe Tulkens	EC - DG RTD / EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change

**Table 5 ECCA2025 conference Policy board**



## 10.2 ANNEX 2 ECCA2025 Conference Themes

### Living with climate extremes



Communities, organizations, and individuals are facing escalating impacts from climate extremes such as floods, heatwaves, droughts, and storms, which call for urgent adaptation across homes, workplaces, and the environment. There is a need to support local solutions that can strengthen our systems to be prepared for a future marked by extreme weather events.

We also need to understand the changing nature of climate threats, as well as the concurrency of multiple catastrophes. Sessions under this theme will explore both successful and challenging examples of adaptation in different settings (e.g., coastal, rural, and urban areas), encouraging discussions on equitable solutions, representation of underrepresented groups, and case studies on resilience and interactions between communities, policymakers, and practitioners.

Topics exploring technological advancements, such as early warning systems, progress metrics, and the role of cross-sector cooperation in building resilience to climate extremes, are also welcome.



## Managing cities to be fit for the future

Over the last 10 years, significant scientific, methodological and practical advances have supported urban climate adaptation. Despite progress, many European cities remain vulnerable to complex, interconnected and often compounding climate risks.

There is an urgent need to scale up existing solutions to a wider range of urban environments. Contributions under this theme can address transformative urban planning, scalable climate services and solutions, innovative financing mechanisms, governance strategies, integrating adaptation with mitigation. Emphasis will be put on addressing barriers to scalability and replicability, tools and methodologies that reflect the diverse needs of cities and addressing the lack of data in planning using digitalization, artificial intelligence, and improved data infrastructure.

The aspects of balancing long-term climate strategies with immediate socio-economic needs, while focusing on climate justice and inclusive transitions, will be of paramount importance. Sessions may also explore the acceleration of urban adaptation through innovative multi-level governance approaches, public-private partnerships, as well as place-based approaches to climate risks, and innovative research methodologies (narratives, climate storytelling, implementation of adaptation pathways, etc.).



## Protecting coastal and mountain areas

As climate change intensifies, coastal and mountain regions face critical risks that require targeted adaptation strategies. Coastal regions face rising sea levels, severe storms, coastal erosion, inundation, and coastal heat waves all of which threaten ecosystems, infrastructure, and communities. This theme will cover adaptation strategies and measures such as engineered defences and nature-based solutions, including marine restoration and dune reinforcement. CoastPredict's Global Coast initiative can serve as a reference for climate resilience planning. Sessions will explore actionable strategies for coastal resilience, focusing on predictive modelling, digital twin of coastal areas, adaptive land use, and community engagement that integrates ecological and socio-economic needs.

Mountain regions are also particularly affected by climate change with temperatures rising faster in higher altitude, and natural hazards accelerating. By the end of the century, European mountains are predicted to have changed radically: large glaciers will have experienced significant mass loss; changes will also impact the lower, mid-hills, and floodplain environments. Changes are also predicted in socio-economic contexts (e.g. tourism flows changing). Adaptation in mountain areas requires an integrated approach involving water management, spatial planning, agriculture, forestry, and tourism. Sessions will highlight existing challenges, best practices, nature-based solutions, and the latest knowledge and complementarity between local initiatives, national policies, and global frameworks, in increasing the resilience of European mountain regions.



## Human and legal dimensions of change

Climate change is a risk multiplier with socio-economic, environmental and cultural consequences. In line with the European adaptation agenda that endorses the UN “Leave No One Behind” principle, this theme will feature sessions that explore the human, political and legal dimensions of adaptation efforts.

For the human aspect of this theme, sessions should focus on the fair distribution of benefits of adaptation responses, the avoidance of maladaptation, and broader discussions on environmental justice and social vulnerability in adaptation responses. Sessions should also deal with the evolving architecture of climate change politics, at different governance levels as well as the policy challenges of adaptation. More particularly, contributions that explore innovative approaches to climate change, coupling cross-policy and inter-agency collaboration, to advance progressive and pragmatic understandings of adaptation policies, are welcome.

On the legal dimension, sessions should cover litigation as an emerging tool to address adaptation, with attention to its role in managing business risks for the private sector, as well as challenges for public administrations. Emphasis will be placed on its impact on climate governance, its potential to strengthen adaptation efforts in Europe, and the implications of human rights and due diligence obligations in such cases. Finally, sessions on addressing other conference themes through legal and governance lens are welcome.



## Adaptation finance: reducing communities' economic or social vulnerabilities

Adaptation finance is a continuing challenge for Europe. With impacts accelerating, global adaptation needs are considerably larger than flows, widening the adaptation gap (UNEP, 2024). The World Bank estimates European investment needs as between €15bn and €64bn a year through to 2030 (World Bank, 2024). The Adaptation Mission recognises finance as a key enabling condition to create a climate resilient Europe (European Commission 2023).

Contributions under this theme will explore new and innovative approaches to boost the supply of adaptation finance. These will include estimating and assessing adaptation finance needs and flows of the EU, Member States and Regions, translating adaptation plans into bankable programmes and projects, engaging the private sector, and developing innovative financial instruments and business models. The theme will also address solutions which help close the insurance protection gap and discuss enabling environments for adaptation including in building adaptive capacity, governance arrangements, policies and regulation, legal instruments, and economic valuation methods. By showcasing real-world examples, this theme aims to advance understanding of how finance can support resilient and inclusive adaptation for communities across Europe.



### 10.3 ANNEX 3 Venue

ECCA2025 took place at Palacongressi di Rimini. The city of **Rimini**, located on the Adriatic coast of the Emilia-Romagna region, Italy, provided an ideal setting for a conference focused on climate change adaptation. Rimini is actively engaged in promoting coastal resilience, sustainable tourism, and environmental innovation. Its location underscores the challenges faced by low-lying coastal areas vulnerable to sea-level rise and extreme weather events. Furthermore, Rimini’s well-developed infrastructure and facilities, accessibility from major European cities, and reputation as a popular tourist destination make it particularly attractive for participants.



Figure 4 Palacongressi di Rimini: conference entrance (left) and plenary session room (right)

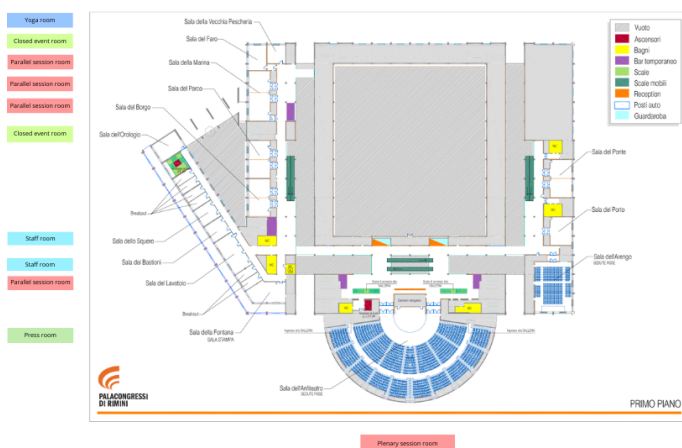


Figure 5 Distribution of the rooms on the first floor of Palacongressi di Rimini, ECCA2025 venue.

the best international venue. The jury highlighted its flexibility, the beauty of its spaces, its social responsibility, and its commitment to sustainability.

The Palacongressi di Rimini is a renowned convention centre located in the coastal city of Rimini, Italy. It is a large, spacious and modern structure, with a total area of 38,000 sqm. It is sustainable and environmentally conscious, committed to implementing best practices in the management of food, waste, water, and energy. Recognized for its excellence, it was awarded first place in the Best Location Awards Festival in 2019 in the Conference & Convention Location category, standing out as



## 10.4 ANNEX 4 Conference Format and Fees

ECCA2025 adopted a **hybrid format**, allowing in-person or online participation. For in-person participation, the registration fee covered access to all conference sessions, coffee breaks and meals (excluding the conference dinner on June 17), and networking opportunities. For online participation, the registration was free, including access to all live-streamed plenary sessions and selected parallel sessions, without physical attendance.

The fees were established on a **non-profit basis** intended solely to cover costs. They were set in line with the sector average, while remaining more economical. Reduced fees were available for **students** and **early-career researchers**. In addition, a **discounted fee** (early bird) was applied up to 28/04/2025 and a **favourable cancellation policy** was available up to 30/04/2025<sup>4</sup>. **Media accreditation** was permitted to support visibility of conference results and activities. Payment **flexibility** was granted on a case-by-case basis to facilitate the participation of policymakers and public sector representatives, including customized administrative procedures, specific timelines, and deferred payment arrangements.

The registration for both in-person and online participation was possible until the end of the conference. The conference emails remained active up to the end of the year 2025<sup>5</sup>.

Registration Fee	Cost
<b>In person</b>	
Early-bird fee (until 28/04/2025)	€250
Standard fee (from 29/04/2025)	€300
Student fee <sup>6</sup>	€120
Media Accreditation <sup>7</sup>	Free
<b>Online</b>	
Online registration	Free

**Table 6 ECCA2025 conference registration fees**

<sup>4</sup> For cancellations made by April 30, 2025, a refund of the fee could be requested, minus an administrative fee of €100 for in-person tickets. After May 1, 2025, the registrants were no longer eligible for a refund.

<sup>5</sup> The conference used three separate email addresses, namely secretariat@ecca.com, application@ecca.com, registration@ecca.com with which participants could interact with the organizing committee and the dedicated registration team.

<sup>6</sup> Proof of student status was required. This discount was available to individuals enrolled in an educational program, up to PhD level.

<sup>7</sup> Proof of media status (e.g., press card) was required. This option was available exclusively to media professionals, such as reporters, editors, and journalists, officially assigned to report on conference activities.



## 10.5 ANNEX 5 Programme Structure - Sessions

### 10.5.1 Parallel Sessions

Parallel sessions were thematic segment organized by selected third parties, running at the same time in different rooms. In total the conference had **39 parallel sessions** divided into **six separate slots** (numbered from one to six) on the second and third days. Each session had a fixed duration of **90 minutes**. The parallel session programme was organised according to panellists' availability and, as mentioned, with the purpose of avoiding as many theme overlapping as possible.

Overall, 38 parallel sessions were chosen as a result of a dedicated **call for sessions** and selected by the Programme Committee. Furthermore, one parallel session was organized by the **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change**.



**Figure 6** Various moments from parallel sessions: presentations (top left), panel discussion (top right), world café session (bottom left) and online speaker interacting with the room (bottom right)

#### 10.5.1.1 Call for Sessions

Similar to ECCA previous editions, the conference organizers launched a call for sessions to collect proposals to organize panels on the conference topics. For this purpose, an **official template and guidelines** were provided. The ECCA2025 Call for Sessions was organized as a single-stage application



procedure running from December 19, 2024, to February 3, 2025. The deadline was further extended to February 24, 2025.

All submissions had to be submitted through the **dedicated form** accessible on the conference website

(<https://www.ecca2025.eu/submissions>). The form required participants to input:

- Session title
- Main theme and secondary theme
- Session type (Scientific / Policy-Solutions)
- Chair and/or alternative contact person and details
- Session keywords, abstract, and description (using the official proposal template)

**Figure 7** Screen capture of the submissions page on the ECCA2025 website.

The proposal template to be uploaded into the abovementioned form required each applicant to specify session purpose, panellists, session flow, and expected impact.

Parallel sessions could be customized according to the five conference themes (primary and secondary theme, if any) and the type. Each submission had to conform to the length of a full session (90 minutes). Applicants could choose between two different parallel session types. The idea was to bring out and give representativeness to the two core dimensions of the conference:

- **Policy/Solutions sessions:** Policy/Solutions sessions were dedicated to exploring and discussing practical policy measures, strategies, or solutions for addressing the challenges related to the conference themes. These sessions aimed to bridge the gap between research and practical application, featuring policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders in dialogue on actionable plans, implementation experiences, and new and existing policy. Applicants were strongly encouraged to involve different stakeholders and representatives from diverse sectors such as public authorities, regulatory bodies, certification bodies, private/business sectors, consumer associations, or similar organizations. These sessions were at the heart of ECCA2025, representing researchers, policymakers and practitioners in both the presenters and the audience and fostering mutual exchange.
- **Scientific sessions:** Scientific sessions were focused on presenting and discussing the state of the art, recent research findings, knowledge gaps, methodological approaches, and other advancements in methodologies related to the theme. These sessions aimed to foster knowledge exchange and provide a platform for the dissemination of scientific discoveries. They had to address specific challenges/issues and could cover demonstrations of proposed technologies, methods, or research applications. As ECCA is the primary gathering for adaptation research in Europe, these sessions allowed for peer-focused scientific exchanges.



Based on feedback from previous editions, the conference organisers aimed to increase the number of **interactive sessions** throughout the programme. The call for sessions was therefore designed with a clear intention to foster stronger audience engagement and participation, mentioning interactivity as a mandatory requirement in the programme guidelines (see Annex 6). For instance, all sessions were required to allocate a minimum of 15 minutes for audience Q&A. The application template was structured to nudge applicants by design toward adopting appropriate interactive formats, requiring them to *“Describe what tools or methods would be employed to keep the audience interested and actively participating, including but not limited to Q&A.”*

### 10.5.1.2 Selection Process

After the closing of the call for sessions, the applications received were first screened based on its minimum **formal requirements**, e.g., compliance with the required format (template, language, etc.), correct session type, themes, and structure as specified in the call (panel, roundtable, etc.). In total, ECCA2025 received 267 applications, out of which the eligible were 240.

The Programme Committee was then responsible for the **evaluation and selection** of the eligible proposals. Each session was evaluated in each of its parts, i.e., its contents and objectives, panel composition, session flow and impact (all the sections of the proposal template).

The evaluation prioritized proposals that promoted a diversity of perspectives (by bringing together stakeholders from different groups and sectors) as well as that introduced innovative ideas, new scientific knowledge, policy or technological solutions, and insights.

The following guiding questions were used during the evaluation phase:

- Is the session derived from the results of a specific project, programme or initiative?
- Is it based on relevant state-of-the-art research / most recent policies, regulations or other relevant documents?
- Is the session going to use interactive tools / methods to encourage participation?
- Is the session demonstrating technologies, methods or research applications?
- Does the session include non-academic stakeholders? (particularly decision-makers, practitioners, private sector, ...)

Given the call-for-sessions approach, the final programme was inherently the outcome of the proposals received, thus reflecting the formats and approaches offered by the panels themselves. Overall, the majority of sessions followed a more traditional structure. Notably, it was possible to complement them with a dedicated room specifically designed for more participatory activities. There, sessions were conducted using interactive formats, such as the World Café methodology. Moreover, out of the 38 parallel sessions, 15 were scientific sessions and 23 were policy/solutions sessions.

Overall, it is possible to observe an alignment between the theme preferences indicated during registration, those received during the call for sessions for selection, and the sessions that were ultimately chosen and held.



Which theme are you most interested in at ECCA2025?	Registered for in-person attendance	Registered for online attendance	Share of applications by theme (primary theme)	Share of selected applications (primary theme)
Adaptation finance	14%	19%	9%	16%
Human and legal dimensions of change	11%	7%	15%	16%
Living with climate extremes	33%	34%	37%	26%
Managing cities to be fit for the future	28%	25%	28%	21%
Protecting coastal and mountain areas	14%	15%	11%	21%

**Table 7 Theme preference by participants. At registration, in-person and online attendees were asked their theme preference. Parallel sessions were proportionate to the interest in themes and in the number of applications received.**

## 10.5.2 Plenary Sessions

The plenary sessions played a central role in the conference programme. They had to provide participants with a concise yet meaningful **exploration of key topics, and foster dialogue among a diverse range of stakeholders**. They were designed, on the one hand, to complement the specific topics explored in the parallel sessions, and on the other hand to reinforce the overarching themes and values that shaped the conference as a whole. Each session was dedicated to a distinct perspective:

- **First Plenary Session** (length: 1h45m): it started with the opening remarks by the conference organizers, funders and institutional speakers. The first panel ‘Adaptation on the Ground’ included high-level institutional stakeholders in climate action and sustainability, holding leadership or decision-making roles in public authorities, agencies, and organizations at local, regional, and international levels, shaping policies and initiatives that advance sustainable development and climate resilience.
- **Second Plenary Session** (length: 1h45m): the second plenary session brought together the private sector, in particular players from the European and international market, to discuss challenges, opportunities and solutions. The plenary session was divided into three panels, namely ‘Funding and Financing Adaptation: EU, Banking and Insurance Perspectives’, ‘Water Innovation and Beyond in Food, Beverage and Agribusiness’ and ‘Energy, Infrastructure, and Heavy Industry: Technology and Innovation for a Climate Resilient Transition’.
- **Third Plenary Session** (length: 1h30m): the third session was hosted by the European Commission - EU Mission Adaptation to Climate Change. Several projects and initiatives were showcased with a specific focus on bringing together the research community and various disciplines supporting regions/local authorities, reflecting on the needs, untapped potential and knowledge gaps.
- **Fourth Plenary Session** (length: 1h30m): the final session shifted from a European perspective to a broader, global outlook, exploring how these issues resonate across different contexts. This transition aimed to connect grassroots experiences with international framework. The plenary “ECCA: a Dialogue Forum in the Global Context”, addressed science’s contribution to global negotiations and the importance of international fora fostering dialogue between science, policy, and society.



Plenary sessions **featured strong and inspirational messages** from special speakers (by order of appearance): Jan Dusík, Deputy Director-General, European Commission, DG Climate Action (DG CLIMA); Rosalinde van der Vlies, Director for Just Transition, Consumers, Energy Efficiency and Innovation, European Commission, DG for Energy (ENER); Lena Cappelen Endresen, Special Advisor, Research Council of Norway, connected from the Svalbard Island (the world's northernmost settlement), Maurizio Molinari, Head of the European Parliament Office in Milan; Philippe Tulkens, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation (RTD), and Deputy Mission Manager of the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change; Bas Smets, Founder of Bureau Bas Smets, Professor in Practice at Harvard University; Irene Bonvissuto, European Commission, DG CLIMA, and Head of EU Mission on Adaptation to the Climate Change Secretariat.



Figure 8 Pictures from the first and second plenary sessions (top left and right) and third and fourth plenary sessions (bottom left and right)

### 10.5.3 'Explore & Connect' Sessions and Conference Dinner

As part of the main event, ECCA2025 included two sessions (one hour each) called 'Explore and Connect', on the second and third days. These sessions were designed to foster dialogue, spark new ideas, and experience the Conference through reflection, creativity and human connection. They aimed to be engaging, allowing participants to move beyond the role of passive observers, creating a dynamic environment that fosters a deeper sense of community.



The sessions included:

- The **movie screening** of the legal drama "**Duty of Care**" (June 17) and the theatre play "**For Rosa**" (June 18), both featuring conversations with Nic Balthazar, Movie Maker and Climate Activist. The documentary Duty of Care follows Dutch environmental lawyer Roger Cox and the landmark climate litigation he brought against governments and the multinational oil and gas company Shell, arguing they have a duty of care to protect citizens from the harms of climate change. For Rosa dramatizes the true story of a teenage climate activist, Rosa, who tragically lost her life during the 2021 Western European floods, while reflecting on climate justice advocacy.
- The immersive installation that connects visitors to the deep, rhythmic breath of the ocean called "**Destination Earth**" by the artist and performer Salomé Bazin. Destination Earth is a real time installation, which follows the cycle of one Earth year, using poetic data visualization to show seasonal shifts in ocean temperature and current patterns. The work is highly interactive as both visuals and sounds respond in real time to the movements of performers and the audience, creating a rich, immersive multi-sensory experience.
- The art exhibition from Roberto Ghezzi's "**The Greenland Project**", a 2022 artistic residency in Greenland. The exhibition brought a new perspective on the effects of climate change and glacier melting. By combining visual art with scientific observation, it explores the melting of Arctic glaciers through cyanotype printing, to raise awareness about climate impacts.
- The **Yoga Room**, to pause, breathe, move in a fully equipped room. Inspired by global recognition of how yoga fosters solidarity, connection with nature, and conscious lifestyles that support inclusive green growth and sustainable action, the Yoga Room offered participants a space to restore body and mind, while reinforcing the role of individual actions and lifestyle choices in promoting green growth and climate action.
- The opportunity to network and explore the conference **exhibition area**. The exhibition area, organized across several distinct zones within the conference venue, included cutting-edge work in climate change adaptation by ECCA organizers, ECCA-related institutions, and partners (11 booths).

The 'Explore and Connect' sessions reimagined the concept of the 'Piazza' of ECCA2023<sup>8</sup>. Based on the feedback received from the participants, it was decided to differently integrate interactive content, and creative and intersectional arts into the conference. They received dedicated slots to maximize engagement, learning, and collaboration.

In addition, in line with the conference spirit, a **conference dinner** was organized on June 17 in Rimini. It provided another opportunity for socializing and networking in a different setting. The conference dinner took place at the local restaurant called Rockisland, located at the end of a long pier (a landmark of the Riviera Romagnola), and near the so-called 'Parco del Mare', a large-scale initiative and well-known case study implemented by the conference's patron, Rimini Municipality. Moreover, to reach the dinner venue, the attendees had to naturally walk through the off-site ECCA2025 ESA's exhibition '**Our Ocean from**

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<sup>8</sup> The 'Piazza' was designed as an informal, interactive, knowledge-sharing space outside of standard plenary and parallel sessions.



**Space'**, which explores current efforts to protect marine ecosystems and offers an opportunity to understand, from a space-based perspective, the dynamics affecting them, from climate change to the impact of human activities. This provided attendees with the opportunity to enjoy the exhibition before dinner.

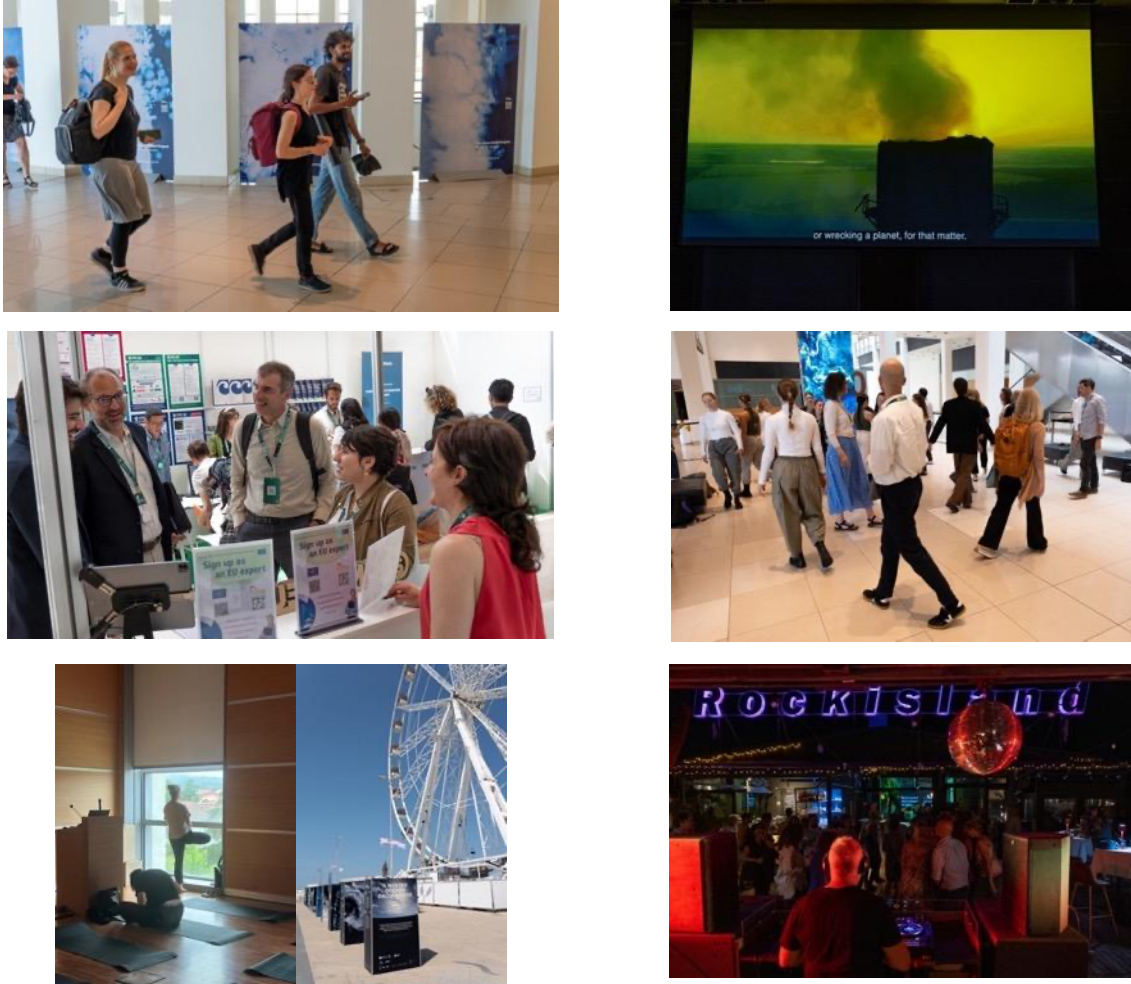


Figure 9 “The Greenland Project”, Roberto Ghezzi’s exhibition (top left), “Duty of Care” screening (top right), exhibition area (upper middle, left), Salomé Bazin’s “Destination Earth” (upper middle, right), yoga room and “Our Ocean from Space” exhibition (bottom left), and conference dinner snapshot at Rockisland Restaurant (bottom right).



## 10.6 ANNEX 6 Call for sessions – Guidelines and Template



# Submission Guidelines

## Call for sessions – Submission Guidelines

### SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Proposals must be submitted through the official form by completing all required fields. The official online form is available at [www.ecca2025.eu](http://www.ecca2025.eu)
- Submissions must be in English, as the conference will be conducted in this language. Make sure to proof-read the contents submitted. Proposals containing text generated by AI tools may be subject to stricter evaluation.
- Proposals must be complete in all their parts, including the upload of the full proposal text using the official template provided. The proposal should also be summarized in a short abstract (e.g., 1000 characters including spaces) touching upon all the key elements.
- Proposals must align with one of the five ECCA2025 themes:
  - Living with climate extremes
  - Managing cities to be fit for the future
  - Protecting coastal and mountain areas
  - Human and legal dimensions of change
  - Adaptation finance: reducing communities' economic or social vulnerabilities

If the proposal intersects with two themes, a second theme can be indicated in the online form. The second theme will be considered secondary to the primary theme.

Theme description is available at [www.ecca2025.eu](http://www.ecca2025.eu) as well as at the end of this document.

- Each proposal shall specify whether the content of the session derives from the results of a specific project, program, or initiative and provide information on the panelists, their contributions to the session and their background.

**Deadline for Submissions:** February 24, 2025, 23:59 (CET)

## SESSION DESIGN

- Each proposal must clearly indicate whether it has a policy/solution focus or a scientific focus.
- Interactive session formats (e.g., roundtables, polling) are encouraged for all submissions. Interactive session formats are mandatory for policy/solution-focused sessions.
- Each session will be allocated a 90-minute slot. Proposals are expected to design content that utilizes the full duration.
- All sessions must allocate a minimum of 15 minutes for audience Q&A.

## SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR SESSION TYPES

### SCIENTIFIC-FOCUS SUBMISSIONS

Scientific sessions are focused on presenting and discussing the state of the art, recent research findings, knowledge gaps, methodological approaches, and other advancements methodologies related to the theme. These sessions aim to foster knowledge exchange and provide a platform for the dissemination of scientific discoveries.

- Clearly define the challenge or issue that the session will address.
- Include a list of relevant papers or publications that will be presented, along with an explanation of their significance.
- Use of interactive tools (e.g., Slido, Mentimeter) is encouraged to foster engagement.
- Demonstrations of proposed technologies, methods, or research applications are welcome where relevant.

### POLICY/SOLUTION-FOCUS SUBMISSIONS

Policy/Solutions sessions are dedicated to exploring and discussing practical policy measures, strategies, or solutions for addressing the challenges related to the conference themes. These sessions bridge the gap between research and practical application, featuring policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders in dialogue on actionable plans, implementation experiences, and new and existing policy. We encourage and welcome the participation of stakeholders from the private/business sector.

- Clearly define the challenge or policy issue that the session will address.
- Include a list of relevant policies or documents that will be presented, along with an explanation of their significance.
- Policy/solution sessions must use a roundtable format to encourage dialogue and open discussion.
- Panels should include representatives from diverse sectors such as public authorities, regulatory bodies, certification bodies, private/business sectors, consumer associations, or similar organizations.

## IMPORTANT FOR APPLICANTS

- By submitting a proposal, the applicant confirms that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief.
- By submitting a proposal, the applicant confirms that contributors to the session would be available on 17 and 18 June 2025. Requests for specific timeslots cannot unfortunately be accommodated.
- Applicants are responsible for their own in-person conference registration; acceptance of a proposal does not include automatic registration to ECCA2025.
- All participants, including speakers and session organizers, are required to pay the registration fee. Travel and accommodation are not covered.
- If a visa is needed to travel to Italy, an invitation letter will be provided upon request.
- The conference will take place in person, with limited online broadcasting of select parallel sessions.
- Web streaming for your session cannot be guaranteed under any circumstances.
- The allocation of broadcasted sessions will be finalized at a later stage based on organizational and conference needs.
- The participation of remote speakers should be kept to a maximum of 2 per session.

## Call for Sessions – Selection Process

The ECCA2025 Programme Committee will be responsible for the evaluation and selection of the proposals received.

The evaluation will take place following the end of the call for sessions and its duration will depend on the number of applications received. Decisions will be provided at the earliest convenience to facilitate the session organization.

The evaluation process will prioritize proposals that promote a diversity of perspectives by bringing together stakeholders from different groups and sectors. Proposals that introduce innovative ideas, new scientific knowledge, policy or technological solutions and insights will be highly valued.

If your application is selected, the Organizing Committee will contact the applicant, using the contact details provided at the time of submission.

# **ECCA2025 Themes**

## **THEME 1: LIVING WITH CLIMATE EXTREMES**

Communities, organizations, and individuals are facing escalating impacts from climate extremes such as floods, heatwaves, droughts, and storms, which call for urgent adaptation across homes, workplaces, and the environment. There is a need to support local solutions that can strengthen our systems to be prepared for a future marked by extreme weather events. We also need to understand the changing nature of climate threats, as well as the concurrency of multiple catastrophes. Sessions under this theme will explore both successful and challenging examples of adaptation in different settings (e.g., coastal, rural, and urban areas), encouraging discussions on equitable solutions, representation of underrepresented groups, and case studies on resilience and interactions between communities, policymakers, and practitioners. Topics exploring technological advancements, such as early warning systems, progress metrics, and the role of cross-sector cooperation in building resilience to climate extremes, are also welcome.

## **THEME 2: MANAGING CITIES TO BE FIT FOR THE FUTURE**

Over the last 10 years, significant scientific, methodological and practical advances have supported urban climate adaptation. Despite progress, many European cities remain vulnerable to complex, interconnected and often compounding climate risks.

There is an urgent need to scale up existing solutions to a wider range of urban environments. Contributions under this theme can address transformative urban planning, scalable climate services and solutions, innovative financing mechanisms, governance strategies, integrating adaptation with mitigation. Emphasis will be put on addressing barriers to scalability and replicability, tools and methodologies that reflect the diverse needs of cities and addressing the lack of data in planning using digitalization, artificial intelligence, and improved data infrastructure.

The aspects of balancing long-term climate strategies with immediate socio-economic needs, while focusing on climate justice and inclusive transitions, will be of paramount importance. Sessions may also explore the acceleration of urban adaptation through innovative multi-level governance approaches, public-private partnerships, as well as place-based approaches to climate risks, and innovative research methodologies (narratives, climate storytelling, implementation of adaptation pathways, etc.).

## **THEME 3: PROTECTING MOUNTAIN AND COASTAL AREAS**

As climate change intensifies, coastal and mountain regions face critical risks that require targeted adaptation strategies. Coastal regions face rising sea levels, severe storms, coastal erosion, inundation, and coastal heat waves all of which threaten ecosystems, infrastructure, and communities. This theme will cover adaptation strategies and measures such as engineered defences and nature-based solutions, including marine restoration and dune reinforcement. CoastPredict's Global Coast initiative can serve as a reference for climate resilience planning. Sessions will explore actionable strategies for coastal resilience, focusing on predictive modelling, digital twin of coastal areas, adaptive land use, and community engagement that integrates ecological and socio-economic needs.

Mountain regions are also particularly affected by climate change with temperatures rising faster in higher altitude, and natural hazards accelerating. By the end of the century, European mountains are predicted to have changed radically: large glaciers will have experienced significant mass loss; changes will also impact the lower, mid-hills, and floodplain environments. Changes are also predicted in socio-economic contexts (e.g. tourism flows changing). Adaptation in mountain areas requires an integrated approach involving water management, spatial planning, agriculture, forestry, and tourism. Sessions will highlight existing challenges, best practices, nature-based solutions, and the latest knowledge and complementarity between local initiatives, national policies, and global frameworks, in increasing the resilience of European mountain regions.

## **THEME 4: HUMAN AND LEGAL DIMENSIONS OF CHANGE**

Climate change is a risk multiplier with socio-economic, environmental and cultural consequences. In line with the European adaptation agenda that endorses the UN “Leave No One Behind” principle, this theme will feature sessions that explore the human, political and legal dimensions of adaptation efforts.

For the human aspect of this theme, sessions should focus on the fair distribution of benefits of adaptation responses, the avoidance of maladaptation, and broader discussions on environmental justice and social vulnerability in adaptation responses. Sessions should also deal with the evolving architecture of climate change politics, at different governance levels as well as the policy challenges of adaptation. More particularly, contributions that explore innovative approaches to climate change, coupling cross-policy and inter-agency collaboration, to advance progressive and pragmatic understandings of adaptation policies, are welcome.

On the legal dimension, sessions should cover litigation as an emerging tool to address adaptation, with attention to its role in managing business risks for the private sector, as well as challenges for public administrations. Emphasis will be placed on its impact on climate governance, its potential to strengthen adaptation efforts in Europe, and the implications of human rights and due diligence obligations in such cases. Finally, sessions on addressing other conference themes through legal and governance lens are welcome.

## **THEME 5: ADAPTATION FINANCE: REDUCING COMMUNITIES' ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL VULNERABILITIES**

Adaptation finance is a continuing challenge for Europe. With impacts accelerating, global adaptation needs are considerably larger than flows, widening the adaptation gap (UNEP, 2024). The World Bank estimates European investment needs as between €15bn and €64bn a year through to 2030 (World Bank, 2024). The Adaptation Mission recognises finance as a key enabling condition to create a climate resilient Europe (European Commission 2023).

Contributions under this theme will explore new and innovative approaches to boost the supply of adaptation finance. These will include estimating and assessing adaptation finance needs and flows of the EU, Member States and Regions, translating adaptation plans into bankable programmes and projects, engaging the private sector, and developing innovative financial instruments and business models. The theme will also address solutions which help close the insurance protection gap and discuss enabling environments for adaptation including in building adaptive capacity, governance arrangements, policies and regulation, legal instruments, and economic valuation methods. By showcasing real-world examples, this theme aims to advance understanding of how finance can support resilient and inclusive adaptation for communities across Europe.

## CALL FOR SESSIONS

# Proposal template

This template is designed for a single-stage application procedure and must be followed when preparing your proposal.

- Proposals will be evaluated following their submission through the online form.
- The proposal evaluation will not account for successive potential improvements or modifications. Only proposals that fully address all required aspects at the time of submission will be considered.
- The combined length of the proposal must not exceed 3 pages. The page limit is a maximum, not a target. Page size is A4.
- Font: use Arial or a similar legible font.
- Font size: the minimum font size for body text is 11 points.
- Spacing: standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing must be used.
- Margins: all page margins (top, bottom, left, right) must be at least 15 mm (excluding headers and footers).
- Images, tables, or other visual content can be included in the proposal, provided that the 3-page limit is respected.
- Proposals must follow the submission guidelines.

This template must be attached to the online form.

For more information and submission guidelines, please visit [www.ecca2025.eu](http://www.ecca2025.eu)

**NB:** These instructions will have to be deleted when submitting the proposal. Delete also the italicized text in the table.

## **Title**

*e.g. 100 characters, including spaces*

## **Session purpose**

*Describe the session core contents and objectives*

## **Panelists**

*Describe the panel composition, the role of each panelist and their specific contributions. Consider the involvement of different stakeholders from different fields and describe how the participation of different stakeholders contributes to the session and conference objectives. The maximum number of panelists is six, including the chair of the session.*

## **Session flow**

*Describe how the 90-minute session would be structured. Please ensure a logical and coherent development of the session and ensure that at least 15 minutes are dedicated to Q&A. Describe what tools or methods would be employed to keep the audience interested and actively participating, including but not limited to Q&A*

## **Expected impact**

*Please describe the expected impact of your session, in particular takeaways for participants, practical application, contribution to addressing key challenges or advancing progress in the selected theme*



## 10.7 ANNEX 7 Call for sessions - Results

Submissions	Themes						Total
	Adaptation finance	Human and Legal dimensions of change	Living with climate extremes	Managing cities to be fit for the future	Protecting coastal and mountain areas	Blank	
Accepted	6	6	10	8	8	0	38 <sup>9</sup>
Not accepted/ Incomplete/ Withdrawn	14	29	73	55	18	13	202
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>240</b>

**Table 8 Overview of all parallel session submissions. 26 proposals were found to be duplicates or ineligible. In the table below the session organized by the European Commission - EU Mission on Climate Change Adaptation is not included.**

Submissions	Themes					Total
	Adaptation finance	Human and Legal dimensions of change	Living with climate extremes	Managing cities to be fit for the future	Protecting coastal and mountain areas	
Primary theme	6	6	10	8	8	38
Secondary theme	0	4	8	6	1	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>57</b>

**Table 9 Overview of all parallel session submissions for the call for sessions. Overview of parallel session main theme and secondary theme.**

<sup>9</sup> In total there were 39 parallel sessions. One session was organized by the European Commission - Mission Adaptation to Climate Change and was considered transversal to all themes.



## 10.8 ANNEX 8 Audience Composition

### 10.8.1 Geographical Representation

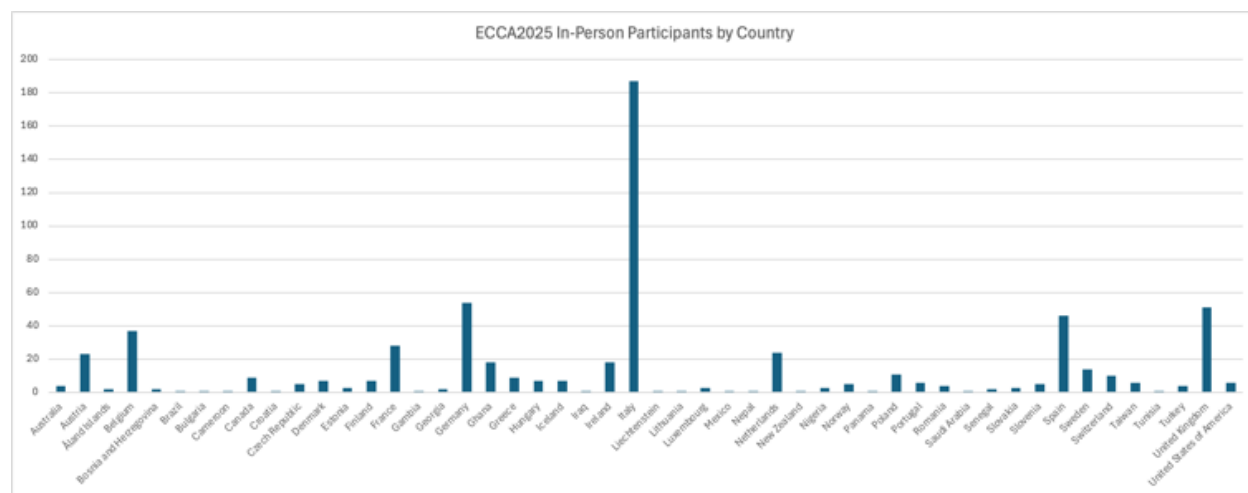
Concerning the geographical dimension, participants came mainly from Europe<sup>10</sup>, although participants from six continents joined the event, with a total of 76 countries of origin (in-person participants from 51 countries and online participants from 59 countries). A clear predominance of Italian participants was reported, making up almost 29% of all in-person participants. The next main countries are all located relatively close to the ECCA2025 conference location (Germany, the UK, Spain and Belgium).

Online participation spanned 59 countries, with a distribution similar to the in-person pattern. Italy was again the leading country, accounting for nearly 19% of online attendees. After this, the UK, Germany, Spain and Belgium complete the top 5 online countries represented, while many European countries are equally represented.

In person registered participants by country			Online registered participants by country		
Italy	188	28,8%	Italy	76	18,9%
Germany	54	8,2%	United Kingdom	47	11,6%
United Kingdom	53	8,1%	Germany	30	7,4%
Spain	47	7,2%	Spain	23	5,7%
Belgium	38	5,3%	Belgium	20	4,9%

**Table 10 ECCA2025 conference registrations by country (in-person & online), specifying number of attendees.**

Considering both online and on-site participation, attendees from Europe accounted for a total of 85%.



**Figure 10 Registrations by country of in-person participants**

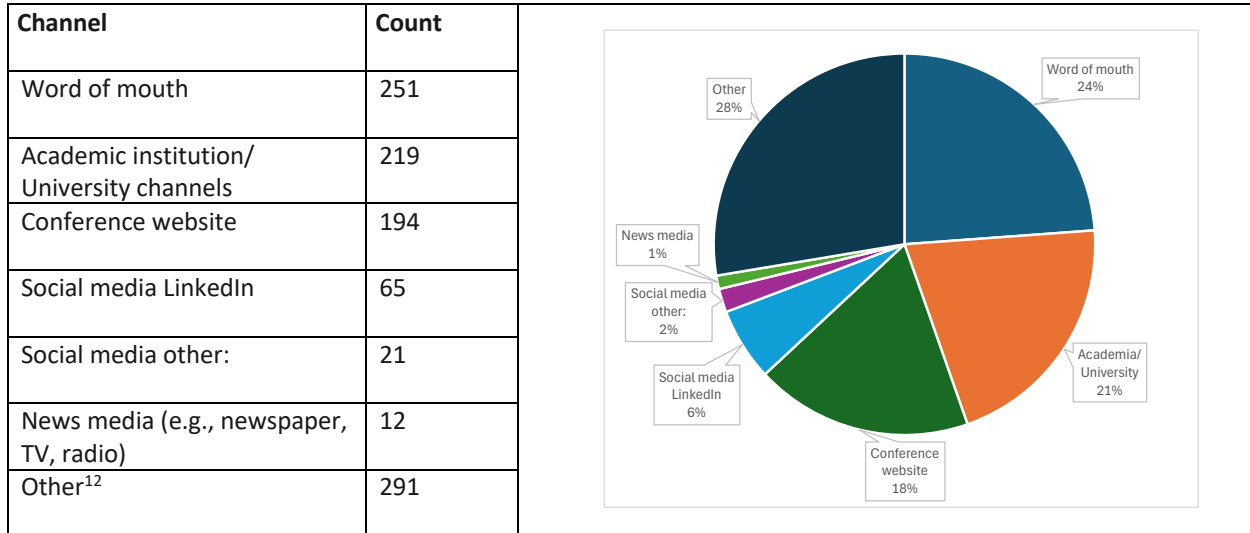
<sup>10</sup> European countries represented by the registered participants are: Southern Europe: Croatia, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain; Western Europe: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom; Northern Europe: Åland Islands, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden; Eastern Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia.





### 10.8.4 Information Channels

At registration, the individuals were asked how they heard about ECCA2025. Most of the attendees were informed through their network.



**Table 12 Channels through which participants learned about the conference**

<sup>12</sup> The ‘Other’ category includes guests, preferred not to answer, and other channels not mentioned above.



## 10.9 ANNEX 9 Additional Information on ECCA2025 Communication

### 10.9.1 Visual Identity

The conference adopted a dedicated visual identity, built on that of previous editions, with the conference logo refined and further developed to ensure continuity and recognisability. In addition, a set of thematic symbols was created to visually represent the core five themes of the conference (see annex 2).

The predominant colour was green (and its shades<sup>13</sup>), as it is usually associated with nature, sustainability, ecological responsibility, and a positive commitment to climate action.

Finally, ECCA2025 adopted Baloo2 as the official conference font. Baloo2 is approachable and highly readable, giving a modern and inclusive feel to the text. In addition, the font is not proprietary, which means that it can be reused in other editions too.

The developed visual identity was then consistently used across communication materials for the promotion of the conference and were also integrated into the on-site branding at the venue.



Figure 13 ECCA2025 Conference logo



Figure 14 ECCA2025 visual identity

### 10.9.2 Online Communication on ECCA2025

In this chapter, data, findings and insights are presented with respect to online communication and impacts of communication, before, during and after the ECCA2025 conference. The monitoring period ended on 30 June 2025.

<sup>13</sup> Frost White, Green Ice, Mountain Woods, Frog Green, Pine Green and Woods Shadow.



### 10.9.2.1 Websites

ECCA2025 conference was first communicated through its dedicated website (<https://www.ecca2025.eu/>). Together with MAGICA project website (<https://magica-project.eu/>), the JPI Climate website (<https://jpi-climate.eu/>), key communications and messages were conveyed to the target audience.

#### ECCA2025 website

The website was structured to include the platform for registration and the call for sessions, important information (what is ECCA, ECCA2025 themes, venue, committees, programme), organizers, funders, sponsor, patronages, and partners' visibility, supporting information (how to reach, accommodation recommendations, discounts). At a later stage, the website included also a news section and a gallery, including photos and videos.



Figure 15 ECCA2025 official website Homepage (left), Submissions (middle), and venue (right)

During the limited monitoring period of the ECCA2025 website (19 May - 30 June), the following topics were measured:

- Visits to the ECCA webpages
- Channels used for reaching the ECCA2025 website
- Social media channels referring to ECCA2025

In the first three weeks of the measurement period a steady pattern could be seen in terms of numbers of visits and pageviews: low numbers during weekends and higher numbers on weekdays. Numbers grew significantly in the week before the ECCA2025 conference, so from 9 June. The Sunday before the ECCA2025 conference also showed high numbers, suggesting the participants were looking for information on logistics.

Top	ECCA-2025 webpage	Number of page views
1	Programme	13621
2	Home	10806
3	Registration	2317
4	News	1361
5	Themes	838

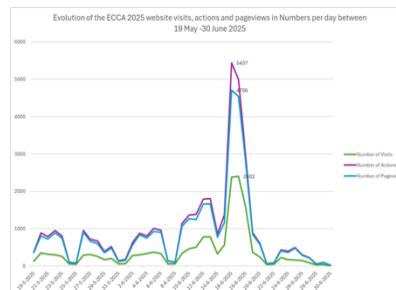


Figure 16 Evolution of the ECCA2025 website visits, actions (representing key user interactions, like views, searching and downloads) and pageviews in numbers per day between 19 May - 30 June 2025 (left), most visited ECCA2025 pages during the measuring period of 19 May - 30 June 2025 (right)



Almost two third of the total visits came from directly entering the ECCA2025 website address into a browser; one fourth came from Search Engines; 8% from external sites referring to ECCA2025; 3% came from social media, with LinkedIn the highest share, and less than 1% of the total visits came from external newsletters.

	Channels used to get to ECCA2025 website	Number of Visits	Share (%) of Total Visits
1	Direct Entry (direct typing of ECCA2025 in browser)	10434	64,2
2	Search Engines	3897	24,0
3	External Websites	1281	7,9
4	Social media		
4.1	• LinkedIn	480	3,0
4.2	• Facebook	36	0,2
4.3	• Instagram	17	0,1
4.4	• X (JPI & ECCA2025 combined)	15	0,1
4.5	• Bluesky	7	0,0
5	Campaigns = Newsletters	80	0,5

**Table 7 Channels used for reaching the ECCA2025 website, presented in number of visits and its share, during the measuring period of 19 May - 30 June 2025, including the top 5 Social media channels referring to ECCA2025, presented in number of visits and its share**

Word of mouth and recommendations by colleagues/friends were the most frequently cited as means of communication. It is reasonable to assume that this led to the ECCA website being typed directly into the browser.

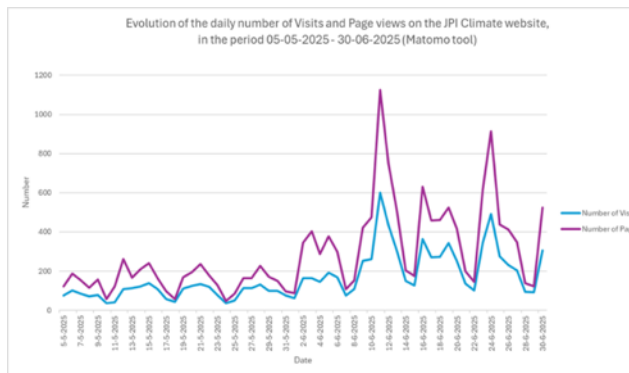
#### *JPI Climate website*

The number of Visits and Pageviews shows a rather steady pattern in the month of May 2025, since the measuring date of 5 May 2025. Numbers are increasing in the month of June 2025, the month of the conference. Numbers grow in the first week of June, and in particular in the second week of June; the 11<sup>th</sup> shows a high peak in page views. Social media messages with a link to JPI Climate posted in that week could have led to extra page views.

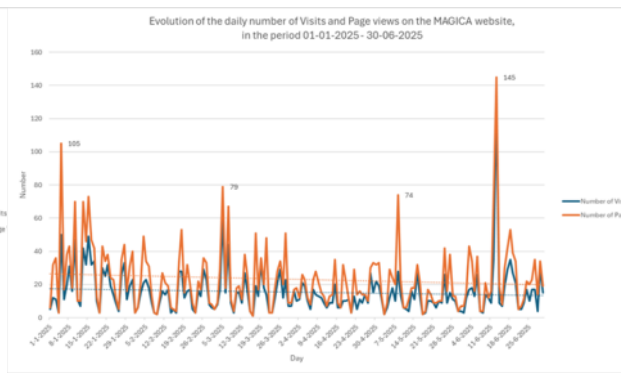
#### *MAGICA website*

Since 1 January the average weekly number of visits and pageviews on the MAGICA website has been around 100 and 162 respectively, with a peak on the Sunday before the conference started (130 visits and 145 pageviews). Interaction between the ECCA communications and MAGICA website and vice versa is low.

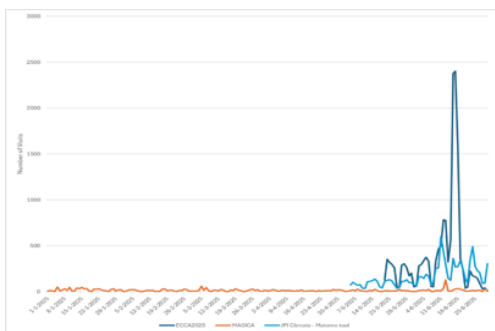
Overall, the average number of daily and weekly visits was relatively high for the ECCA2025 and JPI Climate websites, but low for the MAGICA project website. As expected, the numbers increased in the period leading up to and during the conference. The daily number of visits to the three websites is presented in the period from 1 January to 30 June 2025.



**Figure 17 Evolution of the daily number of visits and pageviews on the JPI Climate website between 5 May - 30 June 2025**



**Figure 18 Evolution of the MAGICA website visits, and pageviews in numbers per day between 1 January - 30 June 2025**



No. visits website	ECCA2025	MAGICA	JPI Climate
Average a day	387	17	197
Average a week	2707	118	1397

**Figure 18 Number of Visits (not unique visitors) daily to the ECCA2025, JPI Climate and MAGICA website, in the period 1 January 2025 - 30 June 2025 (left) and Average Number of Visits per day and per week to the ECCA2025, MAGICA and JPI Climate websites, in the period from 19 May to 30 June 2025 (right)**

The ECCA2025 website saw a strong peak in visits during the first two conference days, followed by a decline after the event to levels even lower than before the conference. In contrast, the JPI Climate website attracted fewer visits overall but showed higher traffic after the conference, with post-event peaks exceeding those of the ECCA2025 site, suggesting users sought ECCA information there instead. The MAGICA website showed consistently low traffic with no noticeable conference-related effect.

### 10.9.2.2 Social Media Channels

Social media channels were actively used to promote the ECCA2025 conference and support broader communications. Metrics such as the number of followers and posts were tracked over time to assess reach and engagement. The following social media channels were used for ECCA2025 conference:

#### LinkedIn

LinkedIn was by far the most effective social media channel in promoting the ECCA2025 conference, before, during and after the event. It generated the highest levels of public interaction and was a key driver of traffic to both the ECCA and JPI Climate websites, particularly in the weeks leading up to the



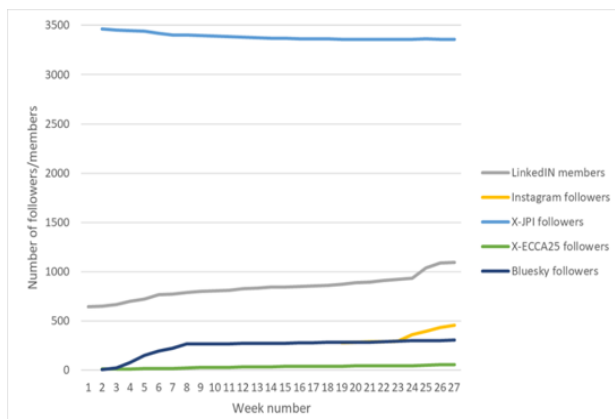
conference. It is worth noticing that despite posting many messages on the group pages of ECCA2025 and JPI Climate, hardly any followers interacted with posts (just a dozen in total in 2025). The MAGICA LinkedIn project page on the other hand, developed into a very dynamic area with many posts and interactions. For monitoring purposes, only the usage of the MAGICA project page on LinkedIn was analysed.

### Instagram

Instagram had a significant role in making the conference and its programme known to mostly the younger generation (as an assumption, based on their profiles), especially from the conference host country (Italy). Instagram contributed to increasing and strengthening the adaptation community, in particular the early-career and student generation. Instagram can be used for promoting the next ECCA conference in particular with video materials and side information, rather than programme content.

Messages with pictures and text were initially posted on the ECCA2025 Instagram account, with occasional reposts on MAGICA and JPI Climate accounts. Sufficient interaction took place only on the ECCA2025 account. For this reason, only the data of the ECCA2025 Instagram account was used for analysis.

On 30 June 2025, nearly 500 users were connected to ECCA's Instagram account. During the ECCA 2025 conference, the number of followers grew daily (a total of 38 new followers, mainly from Italy).



**Figure 19** Number of followers/members of ECCA related social media channels from 1 January 2025 - 30 June 2025.

### X/Twitter

During the previous ECCA conference editions, Twitter/X was a rather well-used platform, where conference items were well-read and reposted. For the 2025 edition two X accounts were used; JPI Climate with more than 3000 followers running for a decade, and a newly established account created in 2025 specifically for ECCA2025. Messages were posted starting from the beginning of 2025.

Based on the numbers of X followers for both JPI Climate and ECCA2025, presented in the graph, this social media network has hardly any effect anymore on raising awareness and promoting

conference activities, and it contributed less in traffic to the website. Numbers of followers of the ECCA2025 X account (green line) barely grew in the first half year of 2025; and even declined for the JPI Climate X account (blue line). X would not be recommended for the next edition of ECCA, despite the high numbers of JPI Climate followers built up in the previous years.

### Bluesky

As an alternative for Twitter/X, a Bluesky account was set up in November 2024, and a campaign started in the first quarter of 2025 to reach out to the climate adaptation community with ECCA2025 information. In the first quarter of 2025, attention was given to this new account, and users were invited to follow. Fifty-three ECCA2025 messages were posted since 17 February 2025. Some Bluesky users were active in mentioning 'ECCA2025' in their posts, in particular a representative from the Impetus4Change project.



Only limited interactions were recorded on Bluesky posts, both at launch and during the conference. Follower numbers showed virtually no growth, and comments were few.

The Bluesky account contributed little to the publicity of the ECCA conference in advance and generated few interactions from conference participants during the conference. The account contributed little to increasing and strengthening the adaptation community. The Bluesky account could have a potential role in the outreach of the next conference, in place of X, which appears not serving the intended goals anymore. However, this depends on sustaining and developing the usage of Bluesky itself.

### 10.9.2.3 Other Communication Channels/ Resources

#### *MAGICA/JPI Climate Newsletter*

ECCA2025 Newsletter releases were done for promoting the conference through Mailchimp, before the start of the conference, from January to May 2025. A total of five releases were sent, of which four were sent to three separate audiences. On average, the opening rate of the newsletters was 37%.

A slight growth of numbers was seen over time, before the conference started. The first edition of 2025 was sent to just one split audience, which is why the numbers were really lower than the other editions. It is assumed that this Newsletter with more than 1000 recipients had a significant impact on raising and maintaining awareness of the conference activities within the climate adaptation community, even though the traffic leading to the ECCA website and vice versa could not be recorded.

#### *ECCA2025 Newsroom*

A dedicated newsroom was created on the ECCA2025 website to publish articles covering a selection of plenary and parallel sessions, as well as other key elements of the conference. The newsroom provided audiences with a more creative and interpretative perspective from the communications team, highlighting key messages, insights, and lessons emerging from the sessions. All articles are available at: <https://www.ecca2025.eu/news>

#### *ECCA YouTube Channel*

The ECCA YouTube channel, created in 2019 and used for content from previous conference editions, was used as a platform to publish video content related to ECCA2025. This included interviews with selected ECCA speakers and contributors, as well as walk-in and walk-out videos capturing the atmosphere of the conference. A dedicated public playlist for ECCA2025 was created to host these videos and is available on the ECCA YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZoHcd-61aU&list=PLpZ2YjcYNCnM-qLJz\\_esgzismhrBR8aQY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZoHcd-61aU&list=PLpZ2YjcYNCnM-qLJz_esgzismhrBR8aQY).



## 10.10 ANNEX 10 Full programme





# ECCA

EUROPEAN  
CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
ADAPTATION

7th Conference  
June 16-18, 2025 | Rimini

2025

## Programme

Organized by



Major Partner



Project Partners



Media Partner



With the patronage of



## DAY 1

16 June 2025

14:30 - 18:30

Opening  
Plenary Session 14:30  
16:15

Plenary  
panels 16:45  
18:30

## DAY 2

17 June 2025

9:00 - 18:00

Plenary Session by EU  
Mission on Adaptation  
to Climate Change 9:00  
10:30

Parallel Session 1 11:00  
12:30

Explore and Connect 12:30  
13:30

Parallel Session 2 14:30  
16:00

Parallel Session 3 16:30  
18:00

## DAY 3

18 June 2025

9:00 - 18.00

Parallel Session 4 9:00  
10:30

Explore and Connect 11:00  
12:00

Parallel Session 5 12:00  
13:30

Parallel Session 6 14:30  
16:00

Closing Plenary Session 16:30  
18:00

# THEME



Living with climate extremes



Managing cities to be fit for the future



Protecting coastal and mountain areas



Human and legal dimensions of change



Adaptation finance: reducing communities' economic or social vulnerabilities

**DAY 1**

**16 June 2025**

**14:30 - 16:15**  
**Opening Plenary Session**

**Anfiteatro Hall**

## Institutional opening and welcoming remarks

Master of Ceremony, Karen Coleman, Conference Moderator, Broadcaster and Journalist.  
Message by Jan Dusík, European Commission Deputy Director-General, DG Climate Action (CLIMA)

- Anna **Montini**, Councilor for Ecological Transition and Blue Economy, Municipality of Rimini
- Antonio **Navarra**, President CMCC Foundation and Chair of JPI Climate
- Matthias **Langemeyer**, Head of Green research and Innovation Department, European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)
- Alessandro **Guerra**, Director General for European, International, and Sustainable Finance, Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security
- Morena **Diazzi**, Director-General for Knowledge, Research, Labour and Enterprises, Emilia-Romagna Region
- Carlo **Buontempo**, Director of Copernicus Climate Change Service, ECMWF
- Susanne **Mecklenburg**, Head of Climate Office, European Space Agency

## Adaptation on the ground

A conversation with:  
Live message from 78°13' N 15°33' E

- Blaz **Kurnik**, Acting Head of the Climate Risk and Resilience Unit, European Environment Agency
- Anna **Montini**, Councilor for Ecological Transition and Blue Economy, Municipality of Rimini
- Giulia **Garavaglia**, Head of the 2030 Sustainable Development Metropolitan Agenda Office, Metropolitan City of Milan
- Sabrina **Dekker**, Regional Climate Action Coordinator, City Council of Dublin
- Joško **Klisović**, President, City Assembly of Zagreb
- Ronan **Dantec**, Vice-President of the Committee of sustainable development in French Senate – Région Loire Atlantique, and President of Climate Chance
- Antonio **Navarra**, President CMCC Foundation and Chair of JPI Climate

**16:15- 16:45**  
**Break**

**DAY 1**

**16 June 2025**

**16:45 - 18:30**  
**Plenary panels**

**Anfiteatro Hall**

## **Funding and Financing Adaptation: EU, Banking and Insurance Perspectives**

Moderator: Kit England, Senior Climate Adaptation Specialist, Paul Watkiss Associates

- Céline **Ollier**, Senior Auditor, European Court of Auditors (invited)
- Giulia **Balugani**, Sustainability Manager, UnipolSai Assicurazioni S.p.A
- Yvonne **McCarthy**, Head of Sustainability Research, The Alliance of Irish Banks
- Roberto **Rando**, Senior Climate Officer, European Investment Bank
- Yassine **Saidoun**, Head of Zurich Resilience Solutions France
- Lindsey **Jones**, Senior Climate Change Specialist, World Bank

## **Water Innovation and Beyond in Food, Beverage and Agribusiness**

Moderator: Miria Pigato, Visiting Professor, Ca' Foscari University

- Fatma **Trabelsi Bouchendira**, Director of International Cooperation, IRESA - Tunisia
- Massimo **Fortunato**, Sustainable Development Manager, Birra Peroni
- Andrea **Anselmi**, Food Value Chain Manager, Horta srl
- Simona **Castaldi**, Associate professor of Ecology, University of Campania 'Luigi Vanvitelli'
- María José **Sanz Sánchez**, Scientific Director, Basque Centre for Climate Change
- Sandro **Bottega**, CEO, Bottega S.p.A.

## **Energy, Infrastructure, and Heavy Industry: Technology and Innovation for a Climate Resilient Transition**

Moderator: Giulio Boccaletti, Scientific Director, CMCC Foundation

- Rosalinde **van der Vlies**, Director, DG ENER Energy Transition
- Borana **Kullolli**, Natural Hazards & Climate Change Officer, ArcelorMittal Sheet Piling, ArcelorMittal Europe
- Ana Patricia **de Rodrigues Quemel** e Assis **Santana**, Environmental Engineer, Petrobras
- Sam **Longman**, Head of Sustainability and Corporate Environment, Transport for London
- Francesco **Maffini**, Head of Asset Management, Water Division, HERA Group

## **Two Words from the Organizers**

- Giulia **Galluccio**, Director Advanced Training and Education Center, CMCC Foundation
- Petra **Manderscheid**, Executive Director, JPI Climate

**18:30 - 19:30 Peroni Reception**

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**9:00 - 10:30**

**Opening by the Master  
of Ceremony**

**Anfiteatro Hall**

**Plenary Session by EU Mission  
on Adaptation to Climate Change**

## **Bridging the gap for faster action Bringing together the research community and regions/local authorities**

- Philippe **Tulkens**, Head of Unit, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission, Deputy Mission Manager of the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
- Hein **Pieper**, Chairmain of the Board, Regional Water Authority Rijn&Ijssel, Netherlands
- Catherine **Lauranson**, Adviser on Ecological Transition, City of Marseille, France (invited)
- Richard **Smithers**, Director Climate Adaptation & Resilience at Ricardo plc, Director of the EU Mission Implementation Platform MIP4Adapt
- Vilija **Balionyte-Merle**, Vilija Balionyte-Merle, Senior Business Developer EU at SINTEF, Coordinator of RESIST Project
- Thomas **Koetz**, Senior Advisor for Climate Neutral and Resilient Regions at EIT Climate-KIC, Coordinator of Pathways2Resilience ProjectF
- Matthias **Langemeyer**, Head of Green Research and Innovation Department, European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

## **Closing by the Master of Ceremony**

Video message by Maurizio Molinari, Head of European Parliament Office in Milan

**10:30 - 11:00  
Break**

DAY 2

17 June 2025

11:00 - 12:30

## Turning knowledge into adaptation action: lessons learnt, barriers and enablers through the experience of EU-funded projects



Arengo Room

### Chair

European Commission, European Climate Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

### Speakers

Matthias **Langemeyer**, Head of Department Green Research and Innovation, CINEA

Frederiek Sperna **Weiland**, Deltares, CLIMAAX coordinator

Mattia **Leone**, PLINIVS Competence Centre, University Federico II of Naples, KNOWING project

Katja **ten Hove**, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management. Life IP NL-NASCELERATE coordinator

Hilppa **Gregow**, Finnish Meteorological Institute, PIISA coordinator

Francesca **Framba**, Metropolitan City of Milan, Sustainable development and decision support systems, Life METROADAPT project

11:00 - 12:30

## Strengthening coastal adaptation in EU regions: closing gaps on Nature-based Solutions



Borgo Room

### Type

Scientific Session

### Chair

Stefano **Gamberoni** (Deltares)

Elena **Allegri** (CMCC Foundation)

### Speakers

Luigi **Cipriani** (Toscana Region)

Els **de Roeck** (Province West Flanders)

Samanta **Bačić** (University of Split)

Silvia **Torresan** (CMCC Foundation)

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**11:00 - 12:30**

## Accelerating Transformational Change in Europe: A Roadmap for Citizen Engagement in Adaptation



**Lavatoio Room**

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Paola **Mercogliano** (CMCC Foundation)

### Speakers

Enora **Bruley** (University of Geneva)

Dmitry **Erokhin** (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis)

Sukaina **Bharwani** (Stockholm Environment Institute)

**11:00 - 12:30**

## Innovative climate insurance solutions for “shared resilience”



**Marina Room**

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Oihana **Luque** (Icatalist)

### Speakers

Heikki **Tuomenvirta** (Finnish Meteorological Institute)

Oleksandr **Sushchenko** (Helmholtz Centre for environmental research)

Laura **Trentini** (AMIGO S.r.l)

Sina **Rühland** (Helmholtz Centre for environmental research)

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**11:00 - 12:30**

## **Climate Change Litigation for European Coastal Zones: Lessons from Current Cases and Future Paths toward an Adapted Governance**



**Type**

Scientific Session



**Parco Room**

**Chair**

Riccardo **Luporini** (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa)

**Speakers**

Anna Berti **Suman** (Luiss University)

Mathilde Luna **Joly** (University of Bologna)

Elisa **Fiorini Beckhauser** (CMCC Foundation)

**11:00 - 12:30**

## **Physical Climate Storylines in Impact and Adaptation Research of Future Climate Extremes**



**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Albert **Ossó** (Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change)

**Speakers**

Eulàlia **Baulenas** (Barcelona Supercomputing Center)

Philipp **Stanzel** (AFRY Austria GmbH)

Wilson **Chan** (University of Reading)

Paolo **Ruggieri** (University of Bologna)

Douglas **Maraun** (Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change)

**Ponte Room**

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**11:00 - 12:30**

**Cross-sectoral and multi-scale climate services -  
upscaling of mitigation and adaptation actions**



**Porto Room**

**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Jürgen **Kropp** (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research)

**Speakers**

Efren **Feliu** (Tecnalia)

Sara **Barilari** (CARTIF Technology Centre)

Dr Nuria **Hernandez-Mora** (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

Dr Bernd **Hezel** (Climate Media Factory)

**12:30 - 13:30**

**Explore and Connect**

**Arengo Room**

**Booth Area**

**Foyer**

**Yoga Room**

This moment is designed to foster dialogue, spark new ideas, and experience the Conference through reflection, creativity and human connection

**13:30 - 14:30**

**Lunch Break**

DAY 2

17 June 2025

14:30 - 16:00

## Upscaling adaptation finance at national and European scales: costs, economic and fiscal rationale



### Type

Scientific Session

### Chair

Eva **Preinfalk** (Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change, University of Graz)

### Speakers

Paul **Watkiss** (Paul Watkiss Associates)

Solène **Dengler** (World Bank)

Vivian **Depoues** (Institute for Climate Economics, IC4E)

Birgit **Bednar-Friedl** (Department of Economics & Wegener Center for Climate and Global Change, University of Graz)

Arengo Room

14:30 - 16:00

## Aligning spatial and urban plans with EU Nature & Climate Laws: readiness, challenges, and opportunities



### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Gemma **Garcia-Blanco** (TECNALIA)

### Speakers

Benjamin **Rolles** (European Commission DG ENVIRONMENT)

Alessandro **Deserti** / Beatrice Maria **Béle** (Politecnico di Milano)

Anna **Bruen** (ICLEI)

Maria Chiara **Pastore** (Politecnico di Milano)

Marc **Montlleó** (Barcelona Metropolitan Area)

Borgo Room

## DAY 2

17 June 2025

14:30 - 16:00

### Nature-based solutions and climate change adaptation in the Alpine region: the competition for land



Lavatoio Room

#### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

#### Chair

Wolfgang **Pfefferkorn** (CIPRA International)

#### Speakers

Irina **Kozban** (Bundesamt für Naturschutz Germany)

Nikodemus **Colloredo-Mannsfeld** (Vereinigung Land-und Forstbetriebe Austria)

Stephan **Hart** (European Investment Bank)

14:30 - 16:00

### Turbulence Ahead: how will aviation adapt to climate extremes?



Marina Room

#### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

#### Chair

Rachel **Burbidge** (Eurocontrol)

#### Speakers

Tomaso **Barilli** (Aeroporto di Bologna)

Marc **Wetterwald** (Airbus)

Ian **Elston** / Georgie **Covill** (UK Department for Transport)

Paul **Williams** (University of Reading)

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**14:30 - 16:00**

## **Bridging Climate Adaptation and Security: NATO's Role in Enhancing Resilience**



**Parco Room**

### **Type**

Scientific Session

### **Chair**

Andrew **Sirjoosingh** (NATO Climate Change and Security Centre of Excellence)

Silvia **Biondini** (Biodiversity National Center - Carabinieri Biodiversity Department)

### **Speakers**

Ayesha **Siddiqi** (University of Cambridge)

Panagiotis **Tripontikas** (NATO Maritime Command)

**14:30 - 16:00**

## **Looking to the future: Adapting to climate change in protected areas**



**Ponte Room**

### **Type**

Scientific Session

### **Chair**

Lovisa **Lagerblad** (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

### **Speakers**

Timo **Persson** (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Keith **Larson** (Arctic Centre and Climate Impacts Research Centre at Umeå University)

Wylie **Carr** (US National Park Service)

Stefano **Sala** (UNIMONT University of Milan)

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**14:30 - 16:00**

**Empowering Citizens through Climate Assemblies:  
Promoting engagement in climate change adaptation**



**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Rebecca **Hueting** (Deep Blue)

**Speakers**

Floridea **Di Ciommo** (cambiaMO)

Mohammad Azizur **Rahman** (Technovative Solutions)

Lucia **Cristea** (European Integrated Projects)

İlgü **Özler** (The State University of New York)

**Porto Room**

**16:00 - 16:30**

**Break**

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**16:30 - 18:00**

**From Rimini to New York: Building Resilient Urban Shorelines**



**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Sanjukta **Sen** (James Corner Field Operations)

**Speakers**

Shlomit **Wartenburg** (ECONcrete)

Eric **Rothstein** (eDesign Dynamics)

Giovanni **Coppini** (CMCC Foundation)

**Arengo Room**

**16:30 - 18:00**

**Upscaling climate services: sharing approaches and insights**



**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Marta **Terrado** (Barcelona Supercomputing Center)

Marta **Bruno Soares** (NORCE)

**Speakers**

Cristobal **Reveco** (HEREON)

Emma **Visman** (Save the Children International)

Isadora **Jimenez** (Lobelia Earth)

Melissa **Campagno** (G.A.C Group)

**Borgo Room**

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**16:30 - 18:00**

## Scaling Innovative Adaptation Finance Solutions: Transference of Financial Structures and Instrument



**Lavatoio Room**

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Gloria **Salmoral** (Icatalist/MIP4Adapt)

### Speakers

Marco **Carreira Silva** (World Climate Foundation/CLIMATEFIT)

Elena **López Gunn** (Icatalist/SOTERIA)

Federico **Aili** (Resilient Cities Network/REGILIENCE)

Najla **Kamergj** (UT-SEMIDE/CARDIMED)

Oihana **Luque** (Icatalist/NATALIE)

Alessandro **Bosso** (ART-ER/ARCADIA) Samuel Juhel (ETH Zürich)

**16:30 - 18:00**

## Turning scientific research into actionable solutions by tackling challenges of interoperability in DRM and CCA



**Marina Room**

### Type

Scientific Session

### Chair

Stefan **Hochrainer-Stigler** (IIASA)

### Speakers

Tatiana **Ferrari** (Technical University of Denmark)

Jacob **Pedersen** (Region Hovedstaden)

Janne **Parviainen** (Stockholm Environment Institute)

Sukaina **Bharwani** (Stockholm Environment Institute)

Benedikt **Gräler** (52°North Spatial Information Research GmbH)

Samuel **Juhel** (ETH Zürich)

**DAY 2**

**17 June 2025**

**16:30 - 18:00**  
**Strengthening Climate Adaptation: The Role of Ex-Ante Assessments in Policy Design**



**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Vivien **Kargoll** (German Environment Agency)

**Speakers**

Linda **Hölscher** (Adelphi)

Andreas **Vetter** (German Environment Agency)

Wolfgang **Lexner** (Environment Agency Austria)

Roland **Hohmann** (Swiss Federal Office for the Environment)

**Parco Room**

**16:30 - 18:00**  
**Dublin City Council: A challenge led approach to support systems innovation for climate action**



**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Sabrina **Dekker** (Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office)

**Speakers**

Mariana **Mirabile** (OECD)

**Ponte Room**

## DAY 2

**17 June 2025**

**16:30 - 18:00**

### **Adapting to a changing climate in the management of drought**



**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Marta **Arbinolo** (OECD)

**Porto Room**

**19:30**

**Conference Dinner on Registration**  
**Rockisland Restaurant**

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**9:00 - 10:30**

## Exploring the Role of Digital Technologies for Urban Climate Adaptation



**Arengo Room**

**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Tina-Simone **Neset** (Linköping University)

**Speakers**

Lotten **Wiréhn** (Linköping University)

Lotte **van der Jeugt** (University of Helsinki)

Scott **Williams** (University of Helsinki)

Marco **Acri** (University of Nova Gorica)

**9:00 - 10:30**

## Nature-based solutions for climate adaptation in coastal and mountain regions - EU experiences



**Borgo Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Amy M.P. **Oen** (Norwegian Geotechnical Institute)

**Speakers**

Silvana **di Sabatino** (University of Bologna)

Charles **Karangwa** (International Union for Conservation of Nature)

Francesco **Tornatore** (Po River District Basin Authority)

Albert **Sorolla** (NATURALEA)

Irina **Pavlova** (UNESCO)

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**9:00 - 10:30**

## Strategic R&I priorities for climate adaptation to inform climate action and policies



**Lavatoio Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Ses

**Chair**

Roger **Street** (CMCC Foundation)

**Speakers**

Irene **Buonvissuto** (DG Climate Action - European Commission)

Lola **Kotova** (GERICS)

Hans-Martin **Fussel** (EEA)

Christopher **Phillips** (UCC)

Matilde **Monnier** (ANR)

**9:00 - 10:30**

## InnoFiNS. Implementing innovative financing for nature-based solutions in Flemish cities



**Marina Room**

**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Thomas **Machiels** (University of Antwerp)

**Speakers**

Joeri **Vandendriessche** (University of Antwerp)

Tara **Op de Beeck** (University of Antwerp)

Caroline **Van Esbroeck** (Hasselt University)

Steven **De Vadder** (University of Antwerp)

**10:30 - 11:00**

**Break**

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**9:00 - 10:30**

## Strategies and Tools for Improving Infrastructure Resilience in Multi-Hazard contexts



**Parco Room**

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Mattia Federico **Leone** (University of Napoli Federico II)

### Speakers

Beniamino **Russo** (UPC Barcelona and Aquatec)

Carlo **Cintolesi** (University of Bologna)

Elco **Koks** (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Pietro **Colonna** (Sicilia Region)

Ana **Romero** (Barcelona Metropolitan Area)

**9:00 - 10:30**

## FAIR data and Open Science in support of climate change adaptation



**Ponte Room**

### Type

Scientific Session

### Chair

Tiago **Capela Lourenço** (Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia)

### Speakers

Raul **Palma** (Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center)

Lauren **Snyder** (Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology)

Sukaina **Bharwani** (Stockholm Environment Institute)

Azizur **Rahman** (Technovative Solutions)

Thanasis **Sfetsos** (National Center for Scientific Research Demokritos)

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**12:30 - 13:30**  
**Explore and Connect**

**Arengo Room**

**Booth Area**

**Foyer**

**Yoga Room**

This moment is designed to foster dialogue, spark new ideas, and experience the Conference through reflection, creativity and human connection

**12:00 - 13:30**  
**Mental Health and Climate Change: Addressing Research Gaps, Vulnerability, and Resilience Building**



**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Chris **Phillips** – MaREI Centre, University College Cork

**Speakers**

Alexandra **Revez** (University College Cork)

Emma **Lawrence** (Imperial College London)

Benjamin **Norris** (The University of Queensland)

Jennifer **Uchendu** (SustyVibes & The Eco-anxiety Africa Project)

Matteo **Inocenti** (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore)

Chiara **Cadeddu** (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

**Arengo Room**

DAY 3

18 June 2025

12:00 - 13:30

## Fostering an EU Enabling Ecosystem to Close the European Adaptation Finance Gap



Borgo Room

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Kit **England** (Paul Watkiss Associates)

### Speakers

Kostas **Dellis** (AUEB/P2R)

Michael **Mullan** (OECD)

Allison **Lobb** (BwB/ Capital Hub)

Marco **Carreira Silva** (World Climate Foundation)

12:00 - 13:30

## Knowledge Integration for Climate Services: The Role of Knowledge Brokers



Lavatoio Room

### Type

Scientific Session

### Chair

Dragana **Bojovic** (Barcelona Supercomputing Center)

Andria **Nicodemou** (Barcelona Supercomputing Center)

Marta **Terrado** (Barcelona Supercomputing Center)

Stefan **Sobolowski** (University of Bergen and NORCE Climate)

Pete **Walton** (University of Leeds)

Philipp **Stanzel** (AFRY Austria GmbH)

Adeola **Jaiyeola** (LGI Sustainable Innovation)

Isadora Christel **Jimenez** (Lobelia Earth)

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**12:00 - 13:30**

## **Earth Observation for Urban Climate Adaptation Strategies**



**Marina Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Phillip **Harwood** (Evenflow – SEF Project)

**Speakers**

Sarah **Connors** (ESA)

Patrizia **Bianconi** (Emilia-Romagna Region)

Sara **Barilari** (CARTIF, Region of Murcia)

Diego **Carcedo** (Serco Italia)

**12:00 - 13:30**

## **Measurable Targets and Citizen Participation – New approaches for the German Adaptation Strategy**



**Parco Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Sebastian **Ebert** (German Environment Agency)

**Speakers**

Kirsten **Sander** (German Environment Agency)

Esther **Hoffmann** (Institute for Ecological Economy Research)

Wiebke **Meister** (German Institute for Standardization)

Hans-Martin **Füssel** (European Environment Agency)

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**12:00 - 13:30**

**Cultural Heritage and Climate Resilience: Innovative Strategies for Coastal and Mountain Areas**



**Ponte Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Mariachiara **Esposito** (Science Europe)

**Speakers**

Shangyun **Shen** (JPI Cultural Heritage)

**13:30 - 14:30**

**Lunch Break**

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**14:30 - 16:00**

## **Nature-based Solutions in action: scaling resilience pathways to face climate extremes**



**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Elisa **Furlan** (CMCC Foundation)

**Speakers**

Carla **Asquer** (Sardinia Region)

Beniamino **Russo** (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya)

Marco **Ranzoni** (Po Delta Regional Park)

Sarah **Lund** (Midtjylland Region)

Laura **Hokajarvi** (Finnish Lapland Tourist Board)

**Arengo Room**

**14:30 - 16:00**

## **Resilient Shores: Protecting Cultural Landscapes from Climate Change – The RescueME Experience**



**Type**

Scientific Session

**Chair**

Daniel **Lückerath** (Fraunhofer IAIS)

**Speakers**

Aitziber **Egusquiza** (Tecnalia)

Katharina **Milde** (Fraunhofer IAIS)

Angela **Santangelo** (University of Bologna)

Mario **Chiesa** (Linksfoundation)

Catharina **Greve** (Ministry for the Environment, Climate, Energy and Agriculture Hamburg)

Lola **Vicente-Almazán** (Las naves Innovation Centre Valencia)

**Borgo Room**

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**14:30 - 16:00**

**Workshop: Experiences, lessons and tools for stakeholder and citizen engagement in climate adaptation**



**Lavatoio Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Yara Shennan-**Farpón** (MIP4Adapt/Icatalist)

**Speakers**

Marianne **Whebe** (MIP4Adapt/Icatalist)

Gloria **Salmoral** (MIP4Adapt/Icatalist)

Óscar **Bernardez** (MIP4Adapt/Fundación Universidad-Empresa Gallega)

**14:30 - 16:00**

**Bridging the adaptation finance gap: private stakeholder collaboration insights from TransformAr**



**Marina Room**

**Type**

Policy/Solutions Session

**Chair**

Linda **Romanovska** (University of New South Wales)

**Speakers**

Thomas **Machiels** (University of Antwerp)

Tara **Op de Beeck** (University of Antwerp)

Axelle **Vincent** (University of Antwerp)

Emily **Wibbecombe** (West Country Rivers Trust)

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**14:30 - 16:00**

## Reaching the Heat-Vulnerable: Actor-centred approaches to Participation and Implementation



**Parco Room**

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Marco **Elischer** (Worms Municipality)

### Speakers

Wolfgang **Hofstetter** (Climate Alliance)

Peter **Bez nec** (Centre for Health and Development Murska Sobota)

Sven **Lautenbach** (University of Heidelberg)

Max **Ulrich** (atmoVera)

**14:30 - 16:00**

## Protecting Terraced Landscapes: erosion control, agricultural revival and local associations



**Ponte Room**

### Type

Policy/Solutions Session

### Chair

Francesco **Marchese** (PN5T)

### Speakers

Emanuele **Raso** (PN5T / Centro Studi Rischi Geologici)

Heydi **Bonanini** (Azienda Agricola Possa)

Paolo **Tarolli** / Eugenio Straffellini (UniPD)

Antonio **Nicoletti** (Legambiente)

Patricia **Varona** (DIBA / Parc Garraf)

**DAY 3**

**18 June 2025**

**16:00 - 16:30**  
**Break**

**16:30 - 18:00**  
**Closing Plenary Session**

**Anfiteatro Hall**

## **INSPIRATIONAL TALK by Bas Smets, Founder of Bureau Bas Smets, Professor in Practice at Harvard University**

### **ECCA: a Dialogue Forum in the Global Context**

Moderator: Karen Coleman – Master of Ceremony

Take home message for the Mission on Adaptation by Irene **Bonvissuto**, DG CLIMA and Head of EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Secretariat

#### **The role of science to inform global negotiations**

- Frank **McGovern**, Chief Climate Scientist, Irish EPA and JPI Climate Vice-Chair and Anna **Pirani**, CMCC Foundation, live from UNFCCC negotiations in Bonn
- Nadia **Pinardi**, UN Decade Collaborative Center on Coastal Resilience/Knowledge Hub on Sea Level Rise
- Loide **Matias da Silva**, UNIDO – CTI (Climate Innovation Unit) Focal Point for Climate Adaptation, Innovation & Resilience Projects

#### **Science-policy-society dialogue, the role of exchange fora**

- Bronwyn **Hayward**, Director of The Sustainable Citizenship and Civic Imagination Research group, University of Canterbury, Adaptation Futures 2025 Convenor
- Sirkku K. **Juhola**, Chair of NOCCA2025 (Nordic Conference on Climate Change Adaptation) Programme Committee
- Maria-Gabriella **Baldarelli**, on behalf of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences

**ECCA2025 Closing by Master of Ceremony**

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