



AELCLIC Pathfinder project **DELIVERABLE 4**

Information and findings from the
local networks

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Table of contents

Introduction	p. 2
Summary of the conclusions of the Deliverables 1, 2 & 3	p. 2
Comparison between the Deliverables 1, 2 & 3 and the results of the Bologna International Meeting	p. 7
Conclusions	p. 14
APPENDIX:	p.15
AELCLIC International Meeting Bologna (13.11.2019) Minutes	

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INTRODUCTION

The AELCLIC-Pathfinder project defines, tests and disseminates proactive and catalysing models for the configuration of regional/local networks with the social, financial, administrative and technical capacity to co-define in the future Landscape Adaption Plans to Climate Change (LACAPs hereafter).

The present deliverable provides on its first chapter a summary of the conclusions of all the previously generated deliverables:

- Deliverable 1: Generation of Local Networks and Co-Definition of Work Plans
- Deliverable 2: Co-identification of Climate Change Impacts, Opportunities, Solutions and Obstacles
- Deliverable 3: Co-Definition of Programmatic Documents and Inputs for Future LACAPs

The second chapter relates those conclusions with the main findings from the AELCLIC International Meeting, which took place in Bologna (Italy) on the 13th of November 2019. It is based on the minutes prepared by Aalto University, which are attached in the appendix.

This deliverable is also displayed in the WEB of the project (<https://aelcllicpathfinder.com/results>), along with all the previously cited minutes and deliverables.

SUMMARY OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE DELIVERABLES 1, 2 & 3

Generation of AELCLIC local networks and co-definition of work-plans in every pilot landscape

The aim of the AELCLIC Deliverable 1 (available in the “Results” section of the web, <https://aelcllicpathfinder.com/results>) was to reflect on the methods, processes and results for the creation of AELCLIC local networks and co-definition of work-plans in all the pilot landscapes of the AELCLIC project.

The flexible approach followed in the AELCLIC project regarding work-plans definition or local networks generation was considered one of the key outcomes that could be taken into account in the development of future projects, in the preparation of future LACAPS, or in the integration of Climate Change Adaptation inputs into other plans or strategies. Moreover, the knowledge and experience gained have proven their potential and scalability for other landscapes and regions. The main shortcomings and barriers, reasons for success and lessons learnt during this process are detailed in the Deliverable 1.

LACAPs should be flexible tools, not rigid roadmaps, in order to be able to evolve and adjust to local landscapes, to their socio-economic, political, cultural and biophysical contexts, to new types of knowledge, to new policies or to the new societal demands. Therefore, at least at landscape level, it is considered that a flexible approach to the preparation of the LACAP’s structure can be also crucial for its future success.

In each pilot landscape, the AELCLIC project has identified a wide range of impacts or opportunities due to climate change, has considered different types of stakeholders and governance systems, and has responded to plans or projects approved or under preparation, while dealing with a great variety of issues. Therefore, it was clear from the beginning of the project that its ultimate result

could not be a universal LACAP model to be applied in every landscape but a flexible model that could address different issues and challenges by considering not only their root causes but also the way they are perceived or can be managed by each specific local community.

If each landscape requires a different LACAP, then each LACAP itself needs a different structure and a different work-plan to create it. The process of adaptation of landscapes to climate change itself has to be flexible and it is not enough to define a flexible workplan, or a flexible LACAP, if both are constructed without the involvement of local stakeholders.

In the AELCLIC project, the local networks have been responsible of building the process as well as defining the programmatic contents of future LACAPS, in such a way that the adaptation plans do not respond only to the climate that characterizes or will characterize the studied landscapes, but also to their people and their interests.

Thus, the integration of different types of stakeholders was considered essential to provide diversity and legitimacy to the discussions and proposals developed by the network. This legitimacy was based in the inclusive, transparent, open and democratic functioning of the local network and in the participation of key stakeholders already empowered by the local communities to represent them (e.g. local or regional authorities). In addition, the composition of the local networks was expected to provide multiples types of knowledge and to integrate the complementary, converging or opposing interests required to plan and manage the adaptation and evolution of local landscapes to climate change.

Moreover, the diverse composition of the networks was paramount to ensure the implementability of the decisions made by the local network. On this point, it was crucial to count with the participation of local and regional administrations, public bodies, private companies, sector and business associations, entrepreneurs and representatives from the civil society, since the dialogue and cooperation between these groups is essential to develop and implement systemic actions, generate synergies as well as identify and solve potential conflicts.

Overall, through the successive workshops and discussions implemented in each pilot landscape, the AELCLIC project was expected to test the potential of the landscape concept as an inclusive platform to promote new models of governance for Climate Change Adaptation by integrating public and private initiatives as well as top-down and bottom-up approaches. This idea is rooted in the European Landscape Convention (2000), in which the landscape is defined as “an area perceived by people whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”, as well as in the approach of the authors of the deliverables to the landscape, conceived as a socio-ecological, dynamic and adaptive system. Furthermore, thanks to the local networks and the bottom-up project approach, people’s perception was incorporated in the works developed during the AELCLIC project, and hopefully in the way in which these works could continue in the future.

Co-identification of Climate Change impacts, opportunities, solutions and obstacles

The AELCLIC Deliverable 2 (also available in the AELCLIC web) compiled the results from the workshops held in all leading and multiplier pilot landscapes in order to co-define strategic topics to address Climate Change Adaptation and co-identify Climate Change impacts, opportunities, solutions and obstacles in the defined topics.

This co-identification of impacts was activated through a joint review of the climate change

impacts identified by the European Environmental Agency and by other national, regional or local sources. In addition, in the Deliverable 2, these impacts were connected with the ones listed in the IPCC Report AR5 Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability.

Various conclusions regarding those aspects were drawn from the large variety of findings in the various pilot landscapes and were analysed from the perspective of the feasibility, legitimacy, relation to governance models and relation to existing policies of the derived programmatic documents and inputs for future LACAPs.

Firstly, the main findings of the AELCLIC PATHFINDER concerned the impacts of climate change on the landscape and the opportunities to overcome the negative effects of climate change:

- The impacts of climate change on the landscape are felt strongly by local communities in the 15 AELCLIC-pilot landscapes all over Europe;
- The continuing climate change is perceived as a strong threat for environmental, economic and societal sustainability, including the future of agriculture, forestry, tourism, ecosystem functioning, public health in urban environments, wellbeing and quality of life;
- At the same time, many opportunities are identified to adapt to and to mitigate climate change. In some pilot landscapes Climate Change is also perceived as a source of potential opportunities;
- Generally, local solutions are preferred, and many ideas were put forward to organise climate adaptation and mitigation at a local or regional scale;
- The support of both market mechanisms and national/international public policies is generally perceived as largely insufficient;
- Incentives to foster the identification of funding opportunities for climate-friendly solutions should be promoted more strongly by the regional and national authorities.

In most pilot landscapes it is possible to find references to governmental climate policies, but these references were generally insufficiently formulated, and were seldom accompanied by adequate budgets to support their implementation at local or regional scales.

From the perspective of legitimacy, the information produced in the AELCLIC workshops was an activator for the development of future Plans or for the incorporation of the AELCLIC outcomes in other Spatial or Sectorial Plans. These plans will be expected to include the official participation processes foreseen in the local or regional planning system. The qualitative diagnosis conducted within the AELCLIC project was particularly useful and appreciated by local communities and authorities. These diagnoses demonstrated its importance and necessary complementarity to most common quantitative surveys in restoring a more faithful picture of the landscape transformations due to Climate Change. In most of the cases, in fact, the local or regional authorities actively supported AELCLIC's participatory activities.

Inadequate governance was often mentioned during the AELCLIC workshops as a critical factor affecting climate change adaptation. As many participants stated in the 15 AELCLIC Pilot landscapes, a more proactive governance system would encourage more stakeholders to take more (economic) risks to adapt to climate change, or contribute to mitigation measures. Thus, a strong participatory process as well as a local network based approach, as implemented in the AELCLIC project, were recognized in many landscapes as key components of an adequate governance for climate change adaptation.

Existing policies, National Adaptation Strategies (NAS) or Plans (NAP) are key instruments in developing local adaptation strategies, including the enhancement of landscape quality. The

November 2018 evaluation package of the EU Adaptation Strategy contains an Adaptation Preparedness Scoreboard (see https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what_en) with assessments for each of the Member States national adaptation strategies. Those assessments are summarized in the AELCLIC Deliverable 2 in relation to the countries where pilot landscapes were activated, in order to highlight the potential that the Programmatic documents and inputs for future LACAPs developed during the AELCLIC project could provide to inform, support and implement the National Adaptation Plans or Strategies.

Co-Definition of Programmatic documents and inputs for future LACAPs

The AELCLIC Deliverable 3 provided an overview of the “programmatic documents and inputs” for future Landscape Adaptation Plans to Climate change (LACAPs) developed and agreed between all the members of each local network, and the different forms they have assumed in the various pilot landscapes of the project. This Deliverable is also freely available in the Results section of the AELCLIC website.

The programmatic documents and inputs for future LACAPs produced in each pilot landscape clearly present all the elements deemed crucial by the local networks for the creation of adequate plans to adapt landscapes to climate change, while further specifications and elements have emerged in each pilot, generating an interesting and profitable diversity and richness of results.

The variety of contents of each of these programmatic documents and inputs reflects the biogeographic, cultural and socio-economic diversity of the 15 pilot landscapes and local networks of the AELCLIC project. It also testifies to the flexibility and scalability of the AELCLIC methods, which also benefitted from the mutual comparison of the ongoing experiences carried out by the partners during the development of the AELCLIC project.

In drawing a picture of the general feasibility of future LACAPs in the 15 AELCLIC pilot landscapes, the following factors were found specially relevant: (1) taking into account their previous situation in relation to sustainability and climate change mitigation and adaptation policies, (2) their landscape and socio-economic characteristics, and (3) the magnitude of the ongoing or expected climate change impacts. In addition, it was concluded in Deliverable 3 that each LACAP can acquire changing and adaptive forms, also configuring itself as an innovative type of instrument. Thus, as displayed below, a LACAP (Landscape Adaptation Plan to Climate Change) can become:

- A thematic “layer” capable of informing and sometimes correcting or improving existing programs and planning tools that regulate territorial, sectoral and landscape transformations.
- A tool capable of linking different documents, sectorial and strategic plans, or becoming an informative document, supporting territorial and sectorial planning, as well as a reference for public or private initiatives on climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- A strategic or detailed plan, including in some cases pilots or demonstrative actions.

A LACAP could therefore be described as a tool capable of optimally fitting the needs of individual cases or landscapes, with no restrictions or imposed structures, but with the priority of assuming the most streamlined, effective, incisive and inclusive possible form. The process proposed and tested in the AELCLIC project for the collective definition of the key programmatic contents of a LACAP and materialized in the various outlines for LACAPs, provides a model of trans-scalar, inclusive and effective action.

The flexibility that should characterize a LACAP as a tool was therefore essential to guarantee the implementation and real assimilation of the results or outcomes that the AELCLIC project produced in each pilot landscape. As presented in Deliverables 1, 2 and 3, in some pilot landscapes this assimilation and transfer of results has already been initiated. The implementability of the outcomes produced in the AELCLIC project is also closely connected to the networks' proactivity and cohesion. For this reason, the project has paid special attention to co-creation and transfer of knowledge and operational tools within local networks. This process of empowerment stimulated the work of local networks, reaching in some cases very high levels of commitment that are already turning into concrete actions. The empowerment, transparency, inclusivity, identity and recognition of the network are therefore deemed important factors to ensure the legitimacy of the results obtained so far.

The information produced in the AELCLIC project (available in the web <https://aelcllicpathfinder.com/>) was an activator for the development of future LACAPs or for the incorporation of Climate Change inputs in other spatial or sectorial plans that, subsequently, will follow the official participation processes foreseen in their local or regional planning systems.

The AELCLIC project has demonstrated the importance and usefulness of integrating participatory processes in the preparation of landscape adaptation plans, at least for three crucial reasons:

- *Consistency, transversality and local identification:* Through a process aimed at sharing and defining the themes, objectives, actions and solutions for climate change adaptation, a shared scenario of sustainable development is envisaged, in which all the actors feel themselves represented.
- *Legitimacy and implementability/feasibility:* If the network of stakeholders is well balanced and is representative of the local population (see for this Deliverable 1), the legitimacy of the taken decisions increases and the timing of the implementation or administrative approval of LACAPs shortens.
- *Open and democratic governance:* Multidirectional (both vertical and horizontal) decisions and actions are promoted in an active dialogue among multiple actors and a broader engagement and control is ensured.

While satisfactory results and positive signs were collected in terms of human and technical resources and availability and active involvement of local administrations, the major criticalities emerged from the financial feasibility point of view or other aspects detailed in Deliverable 1. As revealed in the discussion carried out within each Pilot Landscape, the programmatic documents outlining the contents of potential LACAPs as well as the entire experience of the AELCLIC process have had a positive influence on the existing governance models, in some cases generating synergies already explicitly formalized, while in other cases facilitating future collaborations. One of the factors that most certainly influenced these synergies were the widespread presence of administrations and authorities within the local networks. Where this relationship was weaker, the networks had to be activated through additional and time-consuming methods. In general, from the testimonies collected, the AELCLIC project and the results produced in it have been considered a precious source of data, tools, visions and strategies able to inform current governance models and flow into local planning.

Finally, as it can be verified from the critical analysis presented in Deliverables 1, 2 and 3, an alignment between the AELCLIC project and the EU framework on Climate Change was sought from the initial phases. Moreover, one of the main goals in the AELCLIC project was to contribute in achieving the sustainability goals set at the community level. The analysis of the ongoing

planning context at different scales (European, national, regional and local) informed the AELCLIC project from its first steps, together with the community objectives, appropriately linked to the fundamental principles of the European Landscape Convention. This aimed to understand their potential connections to a future LACAP and to facilitate their synergic implementations (as an example, see the connections between the AELCLIC project and some metropolitan or local plans in the WP2-Northern Europe region). In those pilot landscapes with sustainability or climate change adaptation directives, policies or plans already in force, one of the greatest merits and potentials of the AELCLIC project was precisely the incorporation of the landscape dimension (as defined by the European Landscape Convention). Alternatively, in those pilot landscapes lacking local or regional adaptation plans to climate change, the work conducted during the AELCLIC project was even more relevant since it stimulated the development of future plans including adaptation strategies focused on the landscape. Overall, the integration of the landscape approach in the definition of Adaptation Plans to Climate Change (LACAPs) proved to be particularly effective to facilitate the simultaneous achievement of a broad and multidisciplinary range of environmental, socio-cultural and economic objectives. In summary, the analysis of the AELCLIC outcomes proves the potential of the landscape concept to strengthen the EU identity by approaching Climate Change Adaptation as an opportunity to advance in our diversity, to bridge past and future and to promote new models of governance based in deep democracy and the combination of local and global values.

COMPARISON BETWEEN THE DELIVERABLES 1, 2 & 3 AND THE RESULTS OF THE BOLOGNA INTERNATIONAL MEETING

Background

The International Meeting was designed to achieve the following four main goals:

- EXCHANGING EXPERIENCES on the AELCLIC activities developed in each Pilot Landscape;
- NETWORKING: Identifying potential partners for future projects based on the works and results produced during the AELCLIC project;
- EXPLORING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND CO-DEFINING POTENTIAL PROJECTS;
- PROVIDING NEW INFORMATION FOR THE DELIVERABLES OF THE AELCLIC PROJECT.

These four main goals will define the framework for analysing the connections between the International Meeting and the conclusions from the deliverables 1, 2 and 3.

Exchange of experiences on the AELCLIC activities developed in each pilot landscape

During the International Meeting, the representatives of each pilot landscape and its associated local network presented an assessment of the AELCLIC experience so far. This could be considered as a supplement to the critical review which has been conducted on previous deliverables by the AELCLIC academic partners, and that has been summarized in the preceding section.

The following wordcloud was produced on the basis of the inputs presented in Bologna by the AELCLIC local networks, as summarized in the International Meeting Minutes. Since the wordcloud is based on a secondary source, and not in the own words of the local networks' representatives, some limitations and biases, might occur. However, it is still considered a valid graphic summary of the opinion of local networks about the AELCLIC project.

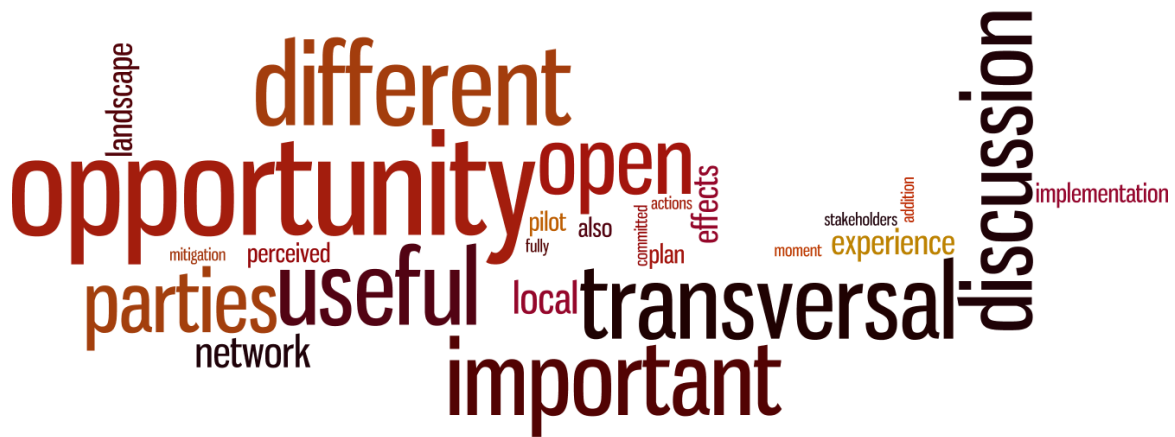


Fig. 1 | Word cloud based on the inputs from the AELCLIC local networks presented in Bologna, as summarized in the International Meeting Minutes.

The AELCLIC project was mainly perceived by the local networks as an opportunity to advance and learn in the field of Landscape Climate change adaptation. In addition, its transversal character, originality and inclusive character were also highly recognised as well as the fact of basing its results on an open discussion about the topics proposed by by the local stakeholders. The project was considered extremely useful. This means that the positive impact of the AELCLIC project in climate change governance, as well as the legitimacy of the obtained proposals were also acknowledged by the local networks. Other topics which have been discussed on previous Deliverables, such as the advantages of a landscape-based approach, were also mentioned.

However, this exchange of experiences was not only retrospective, but also provided an opportunity for the local networks to express their potential interest in continuing working beyond 2019. Their unanimous desire to progress towards a clearer definition and further development of the elements deemed crucial in the programmatic documents and inputs for future LACAPs (as described in the Deliverable 3) is a clear indicator of their legitimacy and implementability/feasibility, as assessed by the own local networks.

Networking

The AELCLIC International Meeting was conceived as an opportunity to take network creation for climate change adaptation to a higher level, thus increasing the project impact on climate change governance among other aspects. While all the previous work during the project aimed at the creation of local or regional networks (see Deliverable 1 for further details) - even if the continuous connection among the WP leaders and the regular meetings of the Management Group and Advisory Board assured a good level of exchange and cross-fertilization - a real network at the European level (a network of networks) was effectively generated and activated in the International Meeting. Three clusters within that European network were formed during the second part of the workshop, based on the criteria agreed by the majority of local networks' representatives, and the decision of each local network's representative regarding which cluster they wanted to join (see details in the Appendix). Basically, the co-defined clusters were based on the scope and scale of the a potential future LACAP: (TYPE-1) Landscape strategic plans for climate

change adaptation; (TYPE-2) Landscape thematic/detailed plans for climate change adaptation; (TYPE-3) Landscape based solutions for climate change adaptation (pilot actions). In accordance with the flexible, bottom-up approach which has been followed throughout the AELCLIC project (as described in the Deliverable 1), these clusters are still open to further modifications and the pilot landscapes are free to subdivide or regroup the established clusters in order to generate more operative alliances, for instance, on the requirements or assessment criteria of future funding calls.

The identification and establishment of potential alliances was achieved based on the information acquired during the first half of the workshop, which allowed the representatives from the local networks to familiarize with the other pilot landscapes and identify potential connections. The new links between landscapes materialized during the second part of the Workshop. As displayed in the Appendix, the presentations of the local networks were diagrammatically summarized, and each pilot landscape had the opportunity to comment on other landscapes via sticky notes placed on the corresponding diagram. While some comments were related to the previously developed work, most of them highlighted potential similarities and created a common ground for further collaborations, such as the creation of plans based on the programmatic documents or inputs for future LACAPs produced in each pilot landscape, as described in the Deliverable 3.

A network diagram (Figure 2) has been prepared in order to summarize all the relationships among landscapes that were identified in such activity. Pilot landscapes are coloured in the diagram according to their respective geographical regions and associated work packages (WP). Arrows go from the landscape whose representative made the comment towards the landscape that received the comment. Two-headed arrows connect landscapes where a mutual interest was shown, therefore suggesting the existence of an even stronger link between them. Dashed lines indicate some potential synergies between pilot landscapes that were not discussed or considered by the local networks but identified by Aalto University in the International Meeting Minutes.

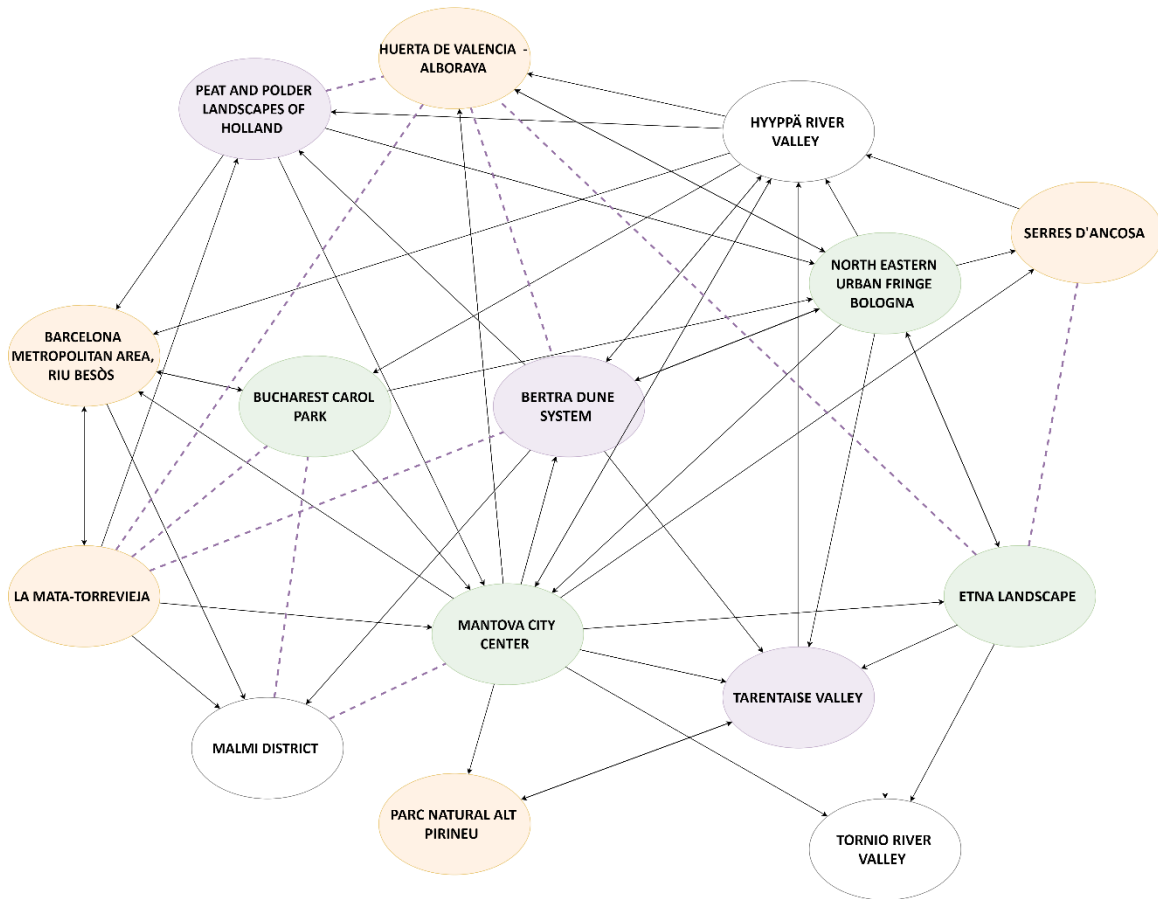


Fig. 2 | Network diagram based on the inputs among AELCLIC local networks during the International Meeting WORKSHOP Part2 (CLUSTERS WITHIN THE AELCLIC PROJECT) (*Pilot landscapes are coloured according to their WP. The point of the arrow (where applicable) indicates the recipient landscape. Dashed lines indicate some potential synergies between Pilot Landscapes that were not discussed or considered by the local networks but identified by Aalto University in the International Meeting Minutes*).

Figure 2 shows the strength, richness and diversity of the links created during the International Meeting Workshop. These links clearly exceed pure geographic proximity, as indicated by the amount of connections among pilot landscapes located in different geographical regions and Work Packages. The development of this dense web of common interests enhances the possibilities for joint work, even beyond the above-mentioned clusters formed in the workshop. Furthermore, this figure complements those clusters nicely, since cluster formation was based on the scope and scale of potential LACAPs (as decided by the representatives of the pilot landscapes during the workshop), while the relationships displayed on the figure are mainly based on common impacts, opportunities and barriers. In this manner, the diagram is also a complement of the Deliverable 2, in which those aspects were also comparatively studied.

Since some local networks did not have any representative physically present at the International Meeting, their potential connections with other local networks were just suggested by the participants but still show a lower level of interaction than the rest. However, since they will have access to all the information generated during the International Meeting, these pilot landscapes will still be able to explore and deepen their relationships with the other networks.

The next three figures have been produced based on the same information and methodology but focusing on the established relationships within each of the configured clusters.

Figure 3 shows the Cluster 1 (LANDSCAPE STRATEGIC PLANS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION) network diagram. It must be highlighted that the 3 pilot landscapes without established visible links are the only landscapes within the cluster that did not have a personal representative in the meeting. Thematic or geographic connections could be easily established among those landscapes and other pilots in the Cluster, or even between themselves. For instance, this is evident in the mountainous and rural landscapes located in Serres d'Ancosa and the Parc Natural de l'Alt Pirineu pilots. These two landscapes could not only benefit from the advantages of geographical and cultural proximity, or those arising from sharing a common national and regional regulatory and institutional framework, but also from the fact that, despite belonging to different biogeographical regions (alpine and Mediterranean), they share some common impacts (e.g. wild fire risk), opportunities (e.g. forest and agricultural management) and barriers (e.g. lack of funding).

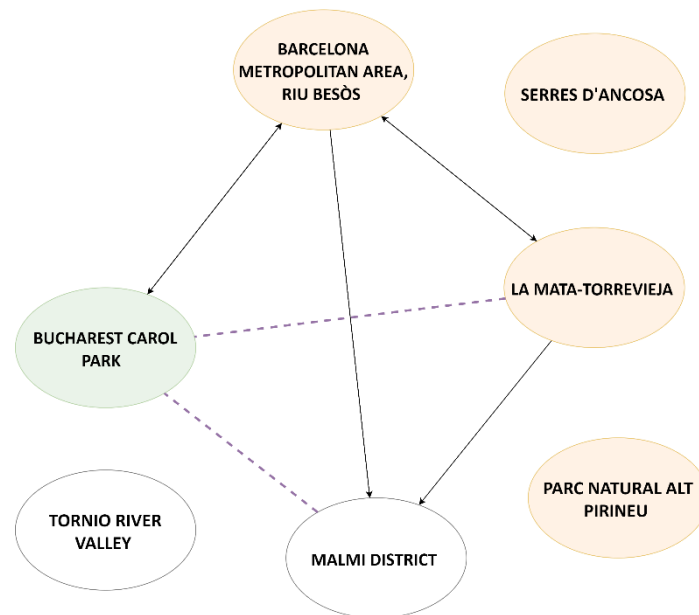


Fig. 3 | Cluster 1 (LANDSCAPE STRATEGIC PLANS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION) network diagram based on the inputs among AELCLIC local networks during the International Meeting WORKSHOP Part2 (CLUSTERS WITHIN THE AELCLIC PROJECT) (Pilot landscapes are coloured according to their WP. The point of the arrow (where applicable) indicates the recipient landscape. Dashed lines indicate some potential synergies between Pilot Landscapes that were not discussed or considered by the local networks but identified by Aalto University in the International Meeting Minutes).

Additional links could also be identified within the Cluster 2 (LANDSCAPE THEMATIC/DETAILED PLANS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, Figure 4), and not only regarding those landscapes whose representatives were physically present. Thus, since the four landscapes belong to the same biogeographical region (Mediterranean), they share many common issues and challenges regarding climate change adaptation. Being the Mediterranean basin one of the climate change hotspots identified at a global level, they also have in common a specially strong urgency to act.

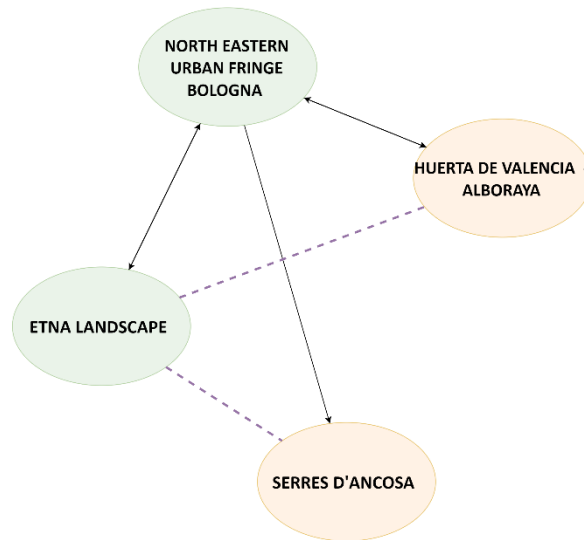


Fig. 4 | Cluster 2 (LANDSCAPE THEMATIC/DETAILED PLANS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION) network diagram based on the inputs among AELCLIC local networks during the International Meeting WORKSHOP Part2 (CLUSTERS WITHIN THE AELCLIC PROJECT) (Pilot landscapes are coloured according to their WP. The point of the arrow (where applicable) indicates the recipient landscape. Dashed lines indicate some potential synergies between Pilot Landscapes that were not discussed or considered by the local networks but identified by Aalto University in the International Meeting Minutes)

Finally, Cluster 3 (LANDSCAPE BASED SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION (PILOT ACTIONS)) shared a dense web of relationships, as seen in Figure 5. This could be related to the presence of all three landscapes from WP3 (two of these were, in addition, represented by the same person in the meeting). Those landscapes found an appropriate fit with two landscapes (Hyypä River Valley and Mantova City Center) from other geographical areas, but with many common aspirations and challenges.

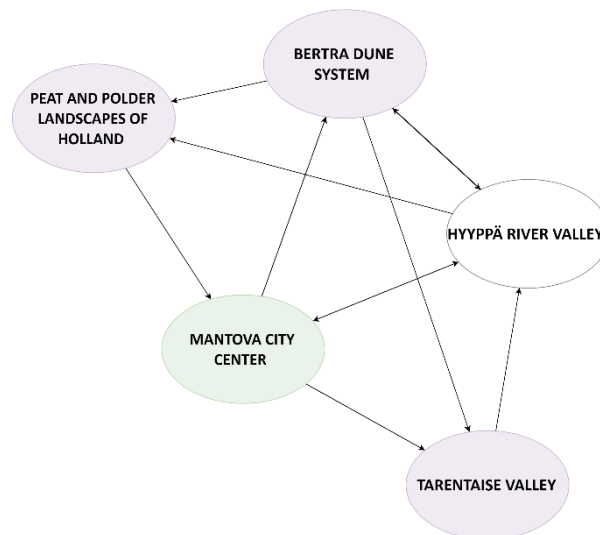


Fig. 5 | Cluster 3 (LANDSCAPE BASED SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION (PILOT ACTIONS)) network diagram based on the inputs among AELCLIC local networks during the International Meeting WORKSHOP Part2 (CLUSTERS WITHIN THE AELCLIC PROJECT) (Pilot landscapes are coloured according to their WP. The point of the arrow (where applicable) indicates the recipient landscape.)

Exploring funding opportunities and co-defining potential projects.

During the AELCLIC project, the identification of potential funding opportunities was not addressed in the works developed by each local network in their respective Pilot Landscape. Therefore, it is considered out of the scope of this document to analyse or assess the different funding opportunities identified during the International Meeting, which are described in the Appendix. However, the lack of funding itself has been repeatedly identified throughout most of the pilot landscapes as one of the main obstacles for climate adaptation and was in fact considered as the most important barrier in the Deliverables 2 and 3. Therefore, the activities developed in the meeting in relation to the identification of potential funding opportunities have proved fundamental in order to advance towards the development of LACAPs and their future implementation.

The analysis of potential funding opportunities was developed openly and democratically, accordingly to the way in which all the activities were developed in each pilot landscape. First, the agenda included two presentations from experts in the matter, which provided a common basis for further teamwork. Potential funding opportunities were later jointly assessed by the representatives from the local networks in two different rounds of work. Firstly, the participants co-generated a summary table of all the considered funding schemes including key aspects such as their geographical scope or eligible costs (see Appendix for details). Secondly, and building upon the co-created table, funding opportunities were again assessed during the third part of the workshop by each cluster, in order to prioritise those schemes which better suited the scale and scope of their respective type of LACAPs.

As mentioned in the International Meeting Minutes, all pilot landscapes are free and welcome to use the produced information according to their own interests, such as developing independently funding applications, incorporating the results in their own planning tools or generating new alliances with other partners. This allowed to empower the local networks beyond the AELCLIC project.

This is considered another key step to reinforce the implementability and feasibility of the generated Programmatic Documents and Inputs for future LACAPs discussed in detail in Deliverable 3. Suitable funding opportunities were identified and analysed jointly by the whole network of networks, and new contacts among landscapes with shared climate change impacts, opportunities and barriers were established and can also be created and strengthened ex post. Due to the nature of most of the main funding schemes assessed, the creation of a strong, multi-national partnerships is an indispensable prerequisite to create any grant application. These transboundary connections can therefore play a crucial role to overcome funding barriers and to advance towards landscape climate change adaptation, strengthening at the same time the impact and influence of the AELCLIC project in climate change governance.

Provision of new information for the deliverables of the AELCLIC project.

As presented in the previous subsections, the Bologna International Meeting produced extremely valuable inputs. On the one hand, it reinforced or confirmed some of the conclusions presented in the deliverables 1, 2 and 3. On the other hand, it generated new insights that would have been unreachable without having a joint discussion between all the partners, third parties and

representatives of the AELCLIC Pilot Landscapes and their local networks. In addition, the information produced in the International Meeting was essential for the production of the Deliverable 5 (Transversal findings of the AELCLIC project) and Deliverable 6 (Guidelines for the conformation of Local Networks for Landscape Adaptation to Climate Change).

The results of the International Meeting reinforce the legitimacy of the local networks, their decisions and the followed workplans on several levels. First, the representatives were further empowered as climate change adaptation agents in their own pilot landscapes by being able to verify first-hand how the flexible approach followed during the AELCLIC project has led to comparable results in 15 different landscapes across Europe, as well as by acquiring new experiences, knowledge and contacts during the meeting. Secondly, they were able to work together through a new workshop, in order to co-produce new information that will help them to advance together beyond 2019. Finally, the already mentioned opportunity to create new multinational alliances (beyond the local and regional level at which works had been previously conducted), can also boost the capacity of the AELCLIC local networks to develop their LACAPs in the future, and could leverage further investments or expansions of the local networks. Some missing key stakeholders have been identified at most of the local networks, as previously described in Deliverable 1, and the gained experience and new connections and possibilities reinforce the appeal of those networks to new candidates.

CONCLUSIONS

The legitimacy and implementability of all the work described and analysed in detail in the Deliverables 1, 2 and 3 and summarized in the first section of this document, is proven and strengthened. Firstly, by the fact that, despite not being included in the initial plans of the AELCLIC pathfinder project, the need of initiating a European network of local networks, naturally emerged as the AELCLIC project advanced. The second strong indicator of the interest and impact on climate change governance of the AELCLIC Project is the achieved participation rate in the Bologna Meeting: every local network accepted to take part in the meeting, whether on site (9 landscapes), on Skype (1 landscape) or preparing a slideshow to be presented by the corresponding academic partner (5 landscapes). This participation rate, along with the unanimously favourable appraisal of the AELCLIC experience made within the meeting, is also indicative of the positive assessment made by local networks of the necessity, implementability and feasibility of developing Landscape Adaptation Plans to Climate Change.

Finally, the achievement of all the goals defined for the meeting, as described in the previous section, reveals the strong support received by the AELCLIC project, its methodologies and innovative bottom-up approach, as well as its success and positive influence in climate change adaptation throughout 15 different landscapes across Europe.

At the beginning of the AELCLIC project, most of the pilot landscapes did not even count on climate change related networks. At its end, not only these networks have been created, strengthened or revitalized, but they have also become part of a pan-European network. This alliance will hopefully enable them to continue planning through open and democratic governance the adaptation of their landscapes to climate change in a way adequate to their specific characteristics, impacts, opportunities, barriers and priorities, while counting on the support of other partners across Europe which will strengthen the implementability and feasibility of the decisions made by the local network and which will promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences.

■ **Appendix**



Minutes

AELCLIC International Meeting Bologna (13.11.2019)



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