Climate Taskforce
23 May 2018

Presentation of results
Gregg Jones, CPMR Director
Update since last meeting

• Questionnaire: Regional Infrastructures
• Submission of response to adaptation consultation
• Working with other networks:
  – Green Week Partner Event with ICLEI
  – Higher Ambition Coalition (9 May) – proposed letter to Climate Commissioner (see next slide)
  – CAN Europe delegation to European Political Strategy Centre (Commission inhouse Think Tank): Västra Götaland participated (16 May)
• European Council conclusions (March): Long-Term Strategy on Climate Action 1st trimestre 2019 – Consultation June?
• Publication of Sustainable Finance Action Plan (March) and further proposals due to be adopted end May
• Trilogues on Clean Energy Package (ongoing)
• Talanoa Dialogue (13 June): High Level Stakeholder event in Brussels organised by Commission
Joint advocacy

• Higher Ambition Coalition:
  – Letter to EU Climate Commissioner (mid-June)

• Key messages:
  – Clean Energy Package to be in line with the ambition levels adopted by the European Parliament
  – Ensure that the long-term strategy that is being developed sets us on a pathway that delivers on the 1.5°C objective of the Paris Agreement, which will need to include a net-zero emissions target by 2050 at the latest, as also agreed by the European Parliament;
  – Ensure that on the basis of this long-term strategy, a timely revision takes place of the 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction target so as to allow the EU to lead by example and resubmit its new National Determined Contribution (NDC) well in time for the 2020 deadline agreed in Paris.

• Suggest CPMR sign-up to letter: messages in line with CPMR policy positions and evolution of position on the Long-Term Strategy

• Call for specific reference to regions to be added to the letter
Questionnaire

Regional Infrastructures
Background

• How regions are addressing resilience of regional infrastructure to climate change, in light of growing number of extreme weather events?

• Very broad definition of publicly-owned regional infrastructure (could be at national, regional or local level)

• Open questions

• For all CPMR membership

• 14 responses
Main conclusions

- **Complex and technical area** covering a wide range of issues
- **Considerable variation in competences and responsibilities** amongst CPMR regions – often depending on the infrastructure mentioned
- Responses do not address specifically insurance but address **more broadly issues related to resilience/adaptation** to climate change
- Many responses **focus on a specific service area or sector/or a specific climate-related risk** (floods - Aberdeen city, forest fires - Lower Saxony)
- Difficult to assess the costs of climate-related damage because of **very few coordinated and systematic assessments** in case of such events

*Therefore we did not get a precise overview of financial costs of climate change for our Member Regions*
Insurance responses

- Everything is insured : 4 respondents
- A bit is insured (i.e. only for buildings owned by the region) : 3 respondents
- Nothing is insured: 3 respondents
- Do not know: 4
- Other observations:
  - Infrastructures can be insured to their full value or according to the costs of the damage
  - Sometimes no insurance for regional infrastructures but ‘insurance reserve’ in the regional budget in case of unexpected events
  - Or choice to not insure...but to invest in prevention!
  - National funds for crises
Good practices

• Local initiatives: ‘Aberdeen Adapts’ – Local climate adaptation strategy for the city
• Regional initiatives: Regional Development Programme of Tuscany region, including a flood risk management plan; Greek regional adaptation plans funded by Cohesion Policy
• National schemes i.e. UK Bellwin scheme
• Involvement in EU projects (e.g. EU BEGIN - Interreg North Sea)
• Other observations:
  - Multi-level governance: Collaboration between national and local authorities on climate risk assessments
  - Possible to involve academic world/research centres in adaptation strategies: Northwest German Forest Research Institute; Resilient Regions Association (Skane); R3 project in Norway
The way forward

- Questionnaire raises more questions than it provides answers
- Is there interest from regions in looking at this issue in more detail?
  - Identifying key technical people in the regions
  - Working with DG CLIMA
Task Force priorities 2018
Long-Term Strategy

• Respond to consultation:
  – Expected to run June-Sept 2018
  – 10-11 July Commission stakeholder event on LTS?
  – Mandate from Political Bureau 21 June for Task Force to respond on behalf of CPMR
  – Technical Group of interested regions from Task Force
    • 2-3 meetings June-September
  – Political sign-off: Noord Holland and Brittany
  – Policy debate at AGM Madeira:
    • European Commission – DG CLIMA (invite)
    • European Parliament e.g Claude Turmes (invite)
    • CPMR regions
  – Work closely with other networks (Higher Ambition Coalition)
Next meetings

• Energy:
  – Marine energy: potentially as ‘spin-off’ or in partnership with Geographical Commissions
  – Clean Energy Package: updates on negotiations and implications of new package to regions

• Adaptation/resilience:
  – Follow-up work with DG CLIMA (Technical Group)
  – Interest from number of regions in water (flooding, drought, changes in water resources)
Next meetings

• Possibly in September:
  – Long-Term Strategy (depending on timing of consultation deadline)
  – Update on Clean Energy Package?

• AGM in Madeira

• February 2019