CLIMAAX Community of practice

From Climate Risk Assessment to Adaptation in Place

May 21, 2026
11:30-12:30 CEST

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under Grant agreement ID 101093864.
This publication was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

CLIMAAX
climate ready regions

Housekeeping

- Please note that the meeting is being **recorded**.

- Post your **questions in the Q&A box** (bottom centre of the screen)

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under grant agreement No. 101093864.
This work was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

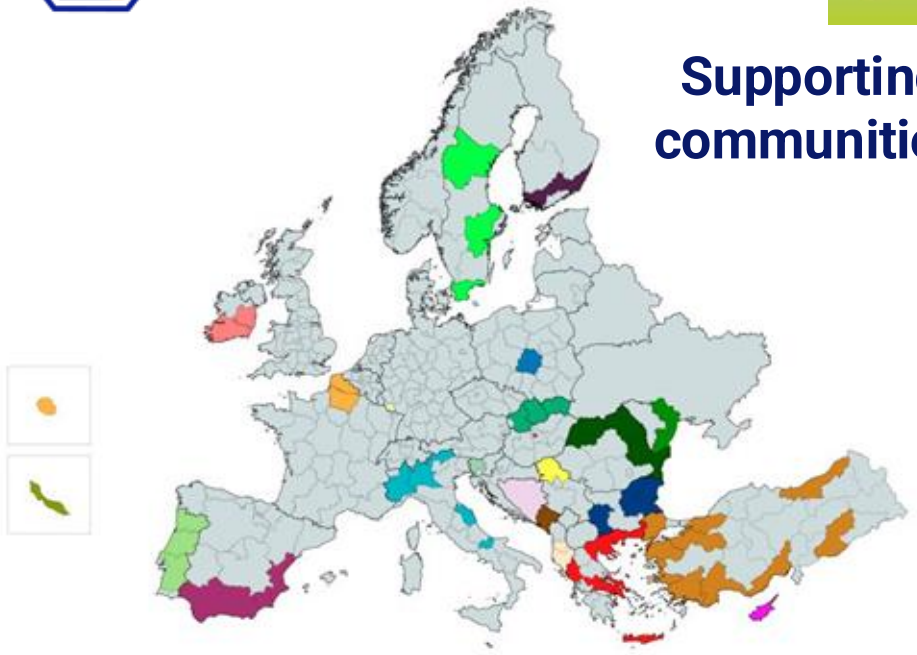
Meeting agenda

- ✓ 11:30-11:40 **Welcome & introduction to the webinar**
- ✓ 11:40-12:00 **From CRA to Adaptation in Place: Learnings from New Zealand**
  - Speaker: Nic Newman (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
- ✓ 12:00-12:25 **Q&A and discussion**
  - Moderators: Fulvio Biddau, Maria Katherina dal Barco (CMCC)
- ✓ 12:25-12:30 **Closing remarks**

CLIMAAX
climate ready regions

EU MISSIONS
ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

ARCADIA
Transformative climate resilience by nature-based solutions in the continental bio-geographical region



Supporting at least 150 European regions and communities towards climate resilience by 2030

A harmonised framework and toolbox for regional climate risk assessment across Europe

- 67 regions supported through cascading funds
- Open handbook with CRA framework and Toolbox
- Community of Practice connecting 300+ members
- Guiding regions from hazard data to climate risk management and adaptation

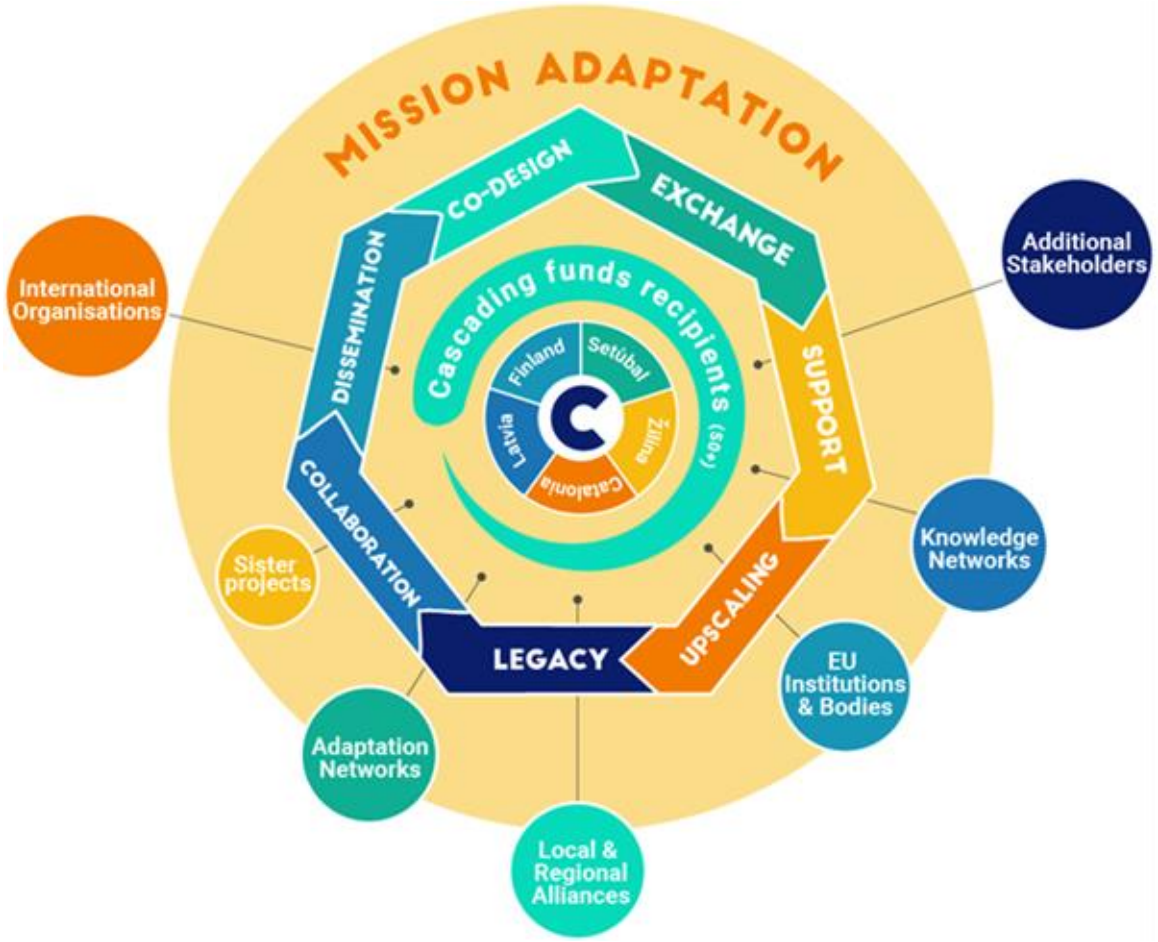
Nature-based solutions for accelerating climate adaptation transformative pathways

- 8 regions accompanied in transformative adaptation
- 17 regional co-innovation labs accelerating NbS uptake
- Science-policy-society interface
- Twinning regions to share and scale good practices

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under grant agreement No. 101093864.
This work was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

CLIMAAX Community of practice

- Connect regions and practitioners working on Climate Risk Assessments (CRA).
- Foster co-design, knowledge exchange, and mutual learning.
- Bridge the gap between risk assessment and adaptation planning.



The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under grant agreement No. 101093864.
This work was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Capacity & guidance

- **Thematic webinars** and workshops connecting science, policy and practice to support CRAs using the CLIMAAX Framework and Toolbox
- **Demo & co-design sessions** for refining and fostering usability of CLIMAAX outcomes

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under grant agreement No. 101093864.
This work was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

HAZARD- AND WORKFLOW-FOCUSED SERIES

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
CLIMAAX
climate ready regions

ARCADIA
Transformative climate resilience by nature-based solutions in the continental bio-geographical region

FROM CLIMATE RISK ASSESSMENT TO ADAPTATION IN PLACE

VOICES FROM THE FIELD

EU MISSIONS
ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

NIC NEWMAN

BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL

From Climate Risk Assessment to Adaptation in Place

BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL
TOI MOANA

Learnings from Regional New Zealand

May 2026

Context: The National Landscape

- A **National Adaptation Plan** exists but it is more of a prioritised list of actions for Central Government.
- The **Climate Change Commission** exists to provide independent (non-binding) advice to government. Focused heavily on emission budgets.

- A **new planning system** is coming whereby..
- **Regional Spatial Strategies** will identify existing at risk locations, along with land-use constraints on development.
- **Local Adaptation Plans** will be mandatory in these priority locations

Context: The Bay of Plenty

- One Regional Council and Six Local Authorities
- Similar size to Abruzzo
- 380,000 people
- 50% Maori
- 186 Marae

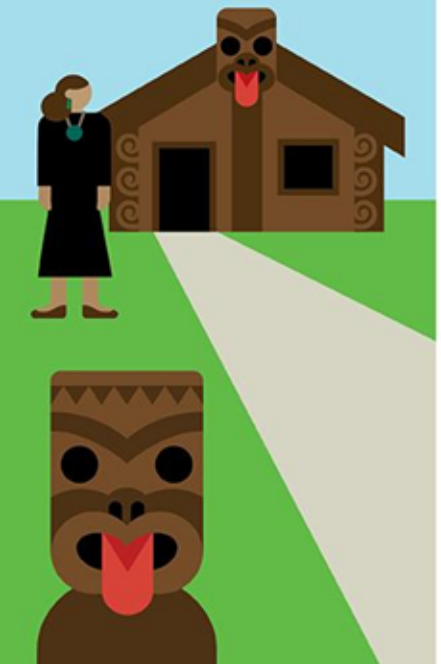
Context: The Bay of Plenty

Climate Challenges:

- A long coastline of small communities exposed to coastal erosion and inundation,
- Big rivers with lowland towns protected by stopbanks, exposed to extreme rainfall events
- Numerous volcanic lakes surrounded by settlements, exposed to extreme rainfall events
- Horticulture and Aquaculture exposed to rising temperatures

Regional Risk Assessment: Process

- Developed for our region in 2022 to provide a common baseline for adaptation
- Phase one: long-list of potential risks with stakeholders via online and in person workshops.
- Phase two: Detailed technical analysis, by domain, with specialists and stakeholders.
- Case studies of risks to Maori.



Regional Risk assessment: Outputs

- A summary of risk for sectors
- A summary of risks for each district
- A workbook

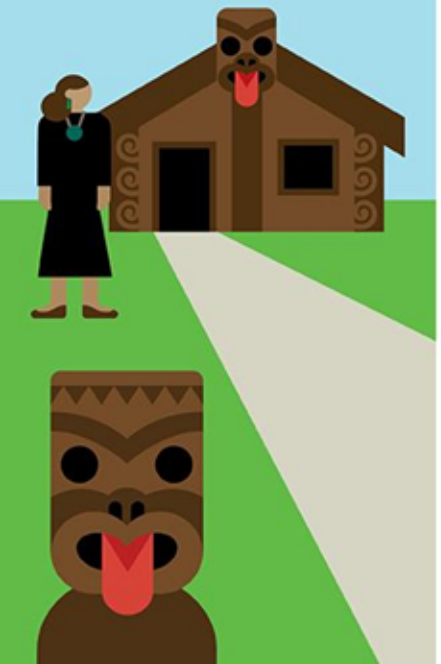
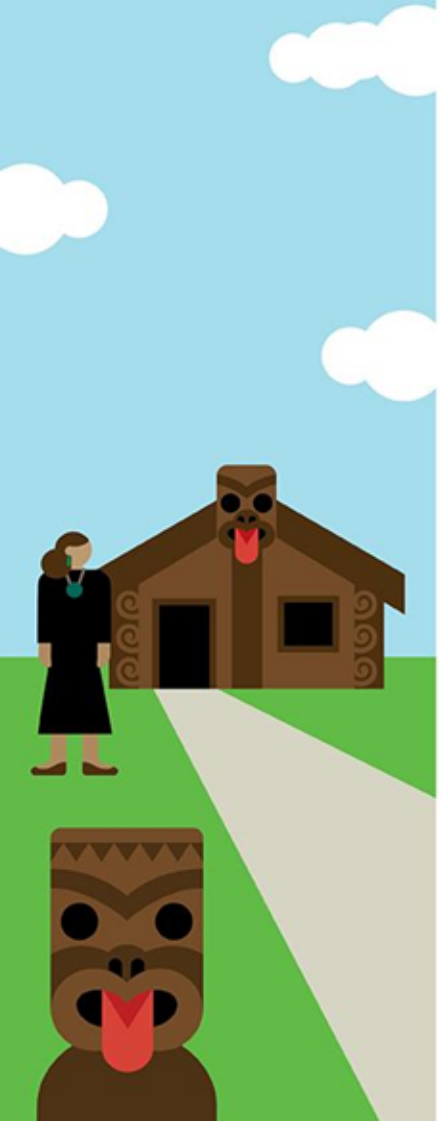


Table 15.1: Climate risk ratings for horticulture

Risks to horticulture						
			RCP4.5	RCP8.5	RCP4.5	RCP8.5
		Now	2050	2050	2100	2100
Decreased winter chill		🟡	🟡	🟡	🟠	🔴
Temperature		🟡	🟡	🟡	🟠	🔴
Pests and disease		🟢	🟡	🟠	🟠	🔴
Dryness and drought		🟡	🟠	🟠	🟠	🔴
Fire weather		🟢	🟡	🟡	🟠	🟠
Extreme weather		🟡	🟠	🟠	🟠	🔴
Flooding		🟢	🟡	🟡	🟠	🟠
Coastal hazards		🟡	🟠	🟠	🔴	🔴
Groundwater rise and salinity stress		🟢	🟡	🟡	🟠	🟠

Regional Risk assessment: Outputs



Bay of Plenty Climate Change Risk Assessment

BOP Risk assessment workbook for direct climate risks

Transport - Roads & Rail

Grey text indicates a preliminary assessment has been made

Risk_ID	Domain	Element at risk (primary)	Element at risk (Secondary)	Climate hazard	Risk statement	Risk description	District/sub-region	Exposure					Exposure rating justification / comments
								Present	Mid 2050 RCP4.5	Mid 2050 RCP8.5	Long 2100 RCP4.5	Long 2100 RCP8.5	
B39	Built	Rail infrastructure		Higher temperature (including increased hot days)	**Risk to rail infrastructure due to higher temperature (including increased hot days)**	Higher temperatures can affect rail track (distort rail lines- track buckling) which is a potential derailment hazard.	Regional	High	High	High	Extreme	Extreme	Temperatures occur that exceed management thresholds regularly at present - tends to occur at localised locations. Temperatures increasing regionally over time. The issue is most severe for curves of 500 m radius or less, or "tight" curves. 100% of the Murupara branch line has a 'Heat40' speed limit (40km/hr limit) applied during heat season, with 40% of the Te Maunga to Kawerau under a 'Heat40' speed limit.
B39a						Train operations, particularly in the yard can cause high levels of dust to be emitted. This can cause health, safety and wellbeing issues for staff and community	Yards	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	Extreme	Increasing temperature combined with high winds can generate dust. Dust generation in Mt Maunganui is the area of greatest concern due to it being a polluted airshed and the high concentration of activity and surrounding population.
B40	Built	Rail infrastructure		Increasing landslides	**Risk to rail infrastructure due to increasing landslides**	Landslides can destroy / damage rail tracks and cause train derailment.	Regional	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	High	At a regional level, small portions of track in areas prone to landslides.

Agriculture | Health | Tourism Business | Forestry | WaterAvailability&WaterQuality | Flood Management | Transport 2 Airports & Ports | Telecoms & Energy | 3 Waters | Waste mar

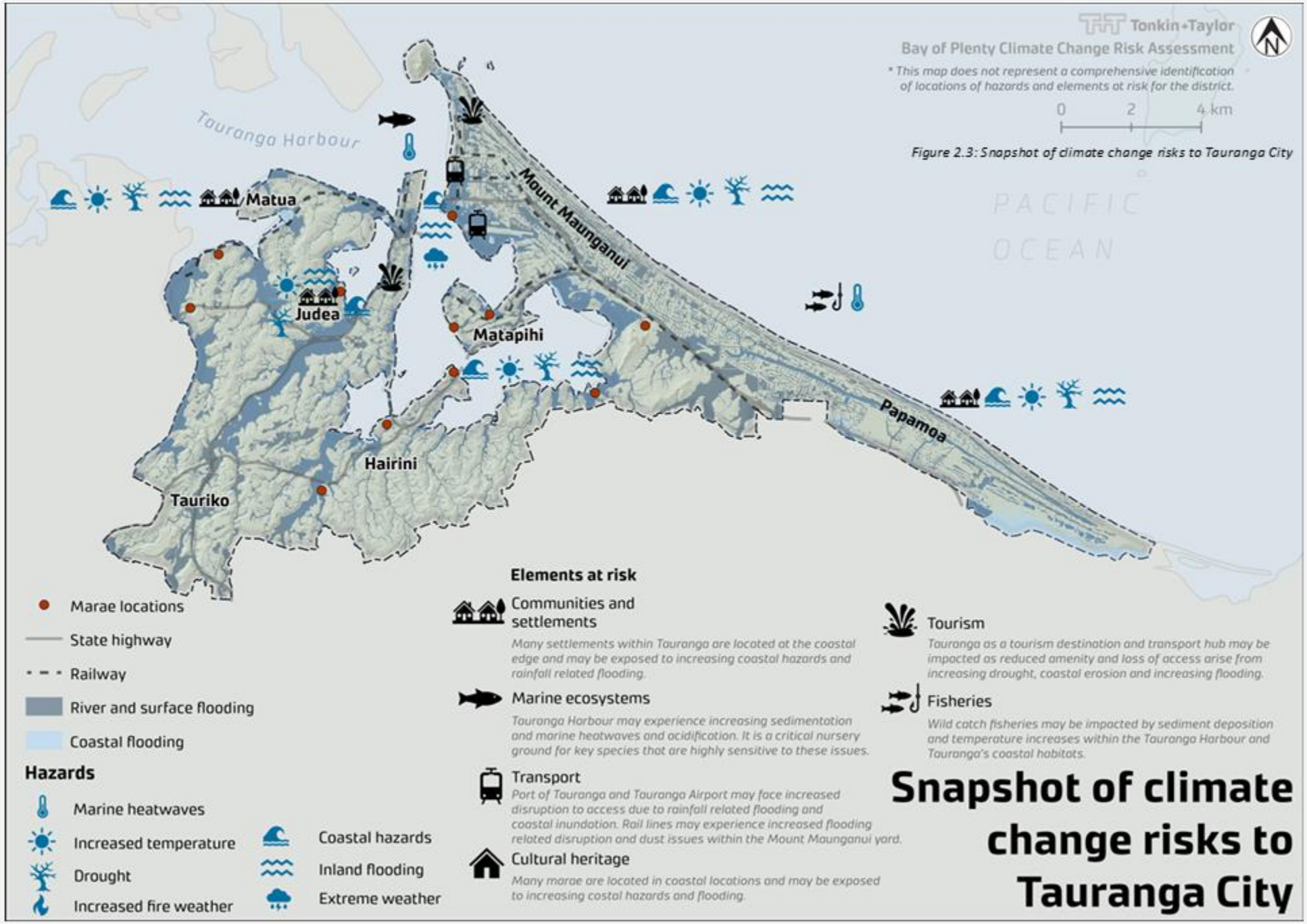


Figure 2.3: Snapshot of climate change risks to Tauranga City

Snapshot of climate change risks to Rotorua District

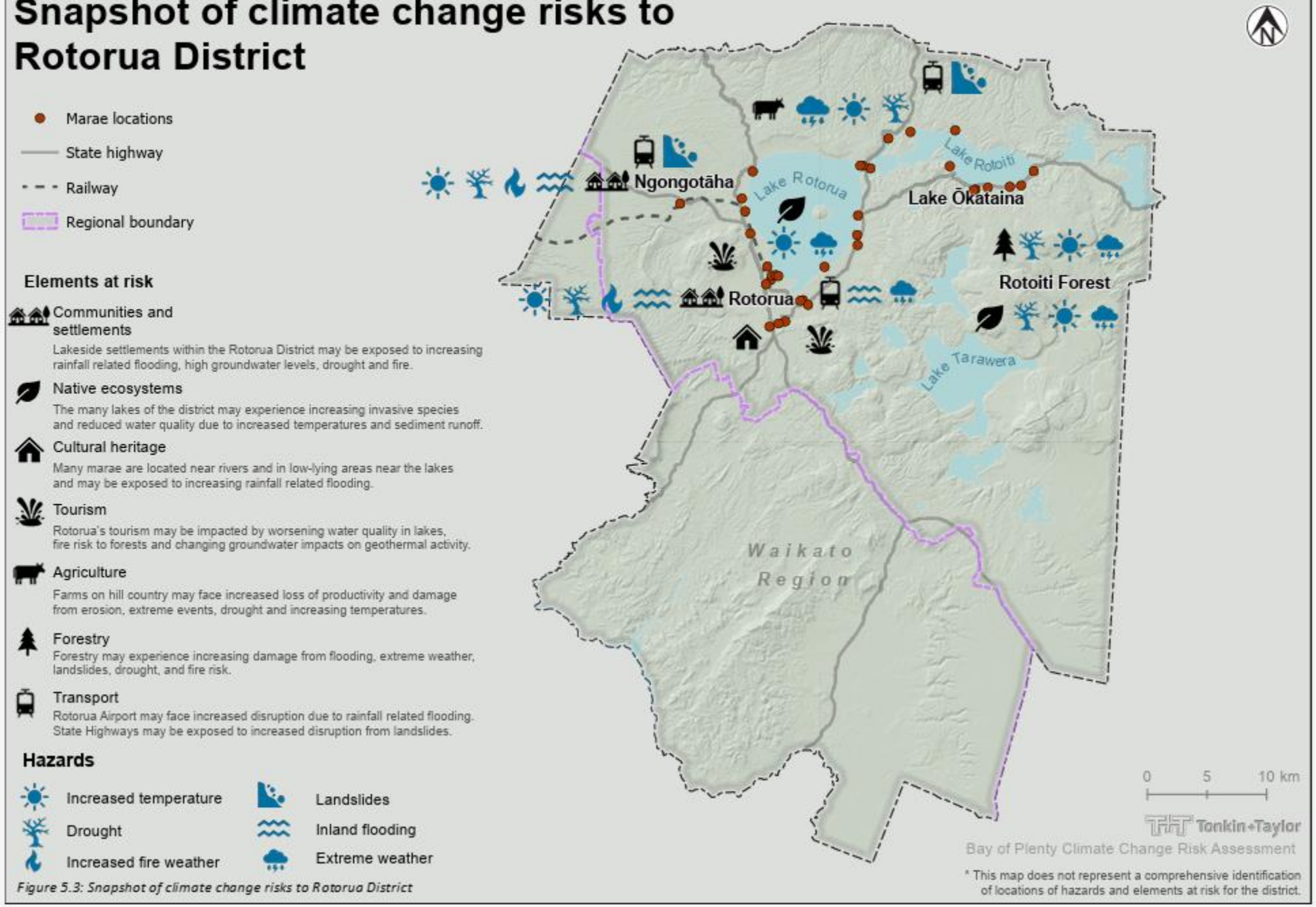
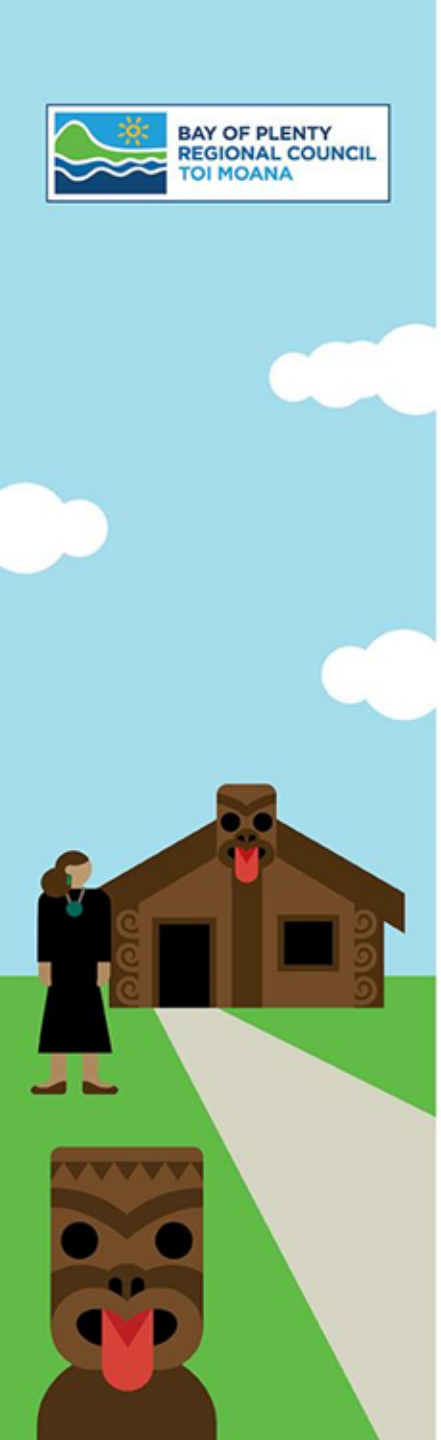


Figure 5.3: Snapshot of climate change risks to Rotorua District



Regional Risk assessment

- The CCRA gave the region a common language and common understanding of risks with a regional lens.
- Spurred more detailed local work and enabled sector specialists to be engaged and armed to act.

- The CCRA by itself was not detailed enough for adaptation planning.
- Ownership and anchoring of responsibilities is key.

- The entry into adaptation planning per se depends on the choices you make

Community led Adaptation Planning

How to spark place-based adaptation?

- Incentivise and support communities who were ready to plan
- Established grants and technical support
- Provided a “stable vessel” to advance local adaptation in place

Community led Adaptation Planning

Simple process logic

Building a shared understanding >> clarifying what is at stake >> co-designing adaptation pathways

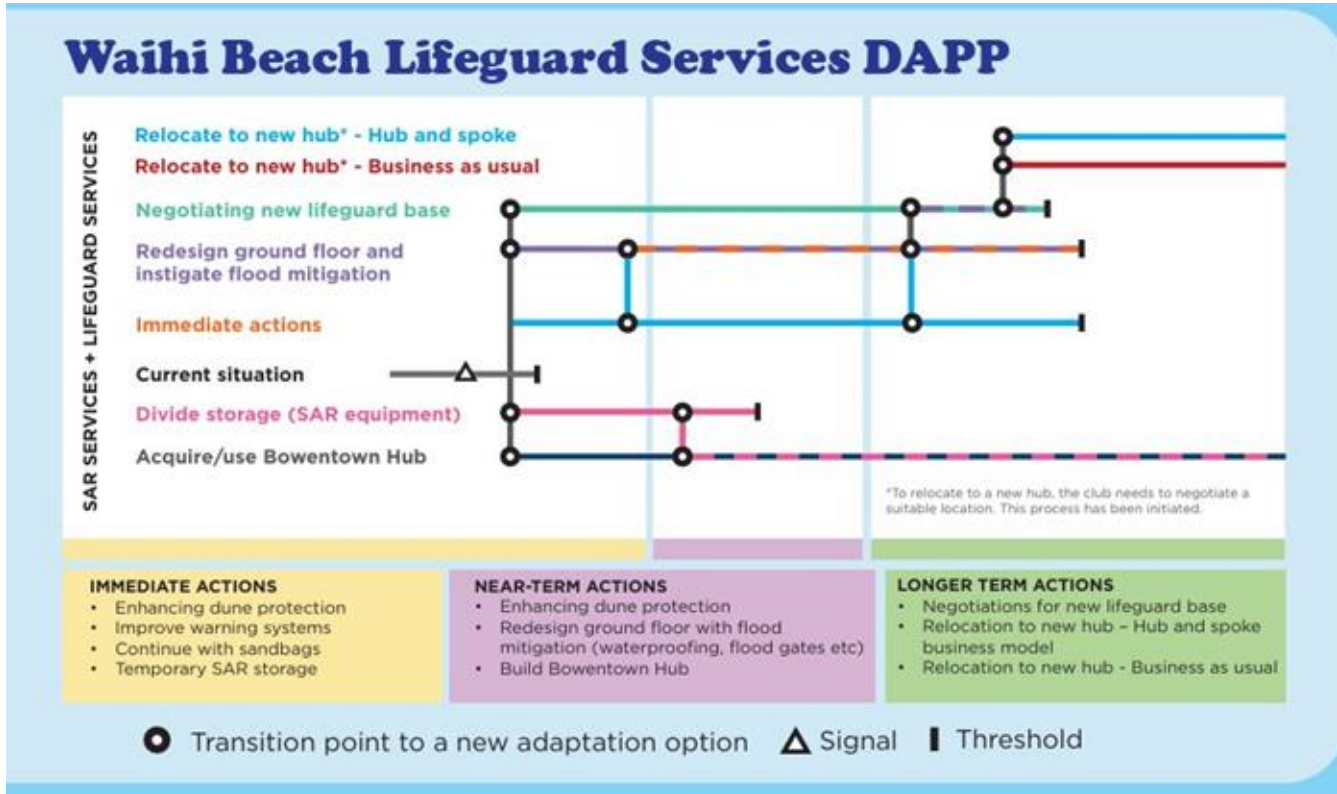
Concepts for success

- Thinking beyond hazards..
- Thinking in time horizons...
- Thinking with a ‘bucket of options’..

Community Adaptation Planning

Reflections:

- The community can lead when given support and a ‘stable vessel’
- The community can be a ‘unifying force’
- Scale will find itself naturally
- Community approaches can be a circuit breaker



Cultural Heritage

- Connection to place is an entry point into Adaptation
- Risks to Maori include not just physical risks but risks to traditional practices, heritage, economy based on natural resources
- Hapu have been the major participant in Community led Adaptation due to connection (and vulnerability) to place
- Many entry points into Adaptation Planning: physical risks to marae, urupa, risks to natural environment, food security

BAY OF PLENTY
REGIONAL COUNCIL
TOI MOANA


Activity 3a
How could we plan the whenua to increase kai security for whānau, hapū and hāpori, in the long term?

Ecosystems: Dune Systems

- Integrating Nature Based Solutions into Adaptation Planning
- Enhancing community connection to nature and to the services it provides
- Coast Care programme supports the Climate Programme
- Example: at Waihi Beach, renourishing the dunes can 'buy' 1-2 decades time against coastal erosion and inundation.

BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL COUNCIL
TOI MOANA

Reflections: Adaptation taking hold

- Adaptation needs to happen at a range of scales with a range of actors
- Risk information becomes usable and meaningful when it is shared in its development with stakeholders
- We can bridge to local action when we connect technical information with what matters most and facilitate adaptation happening
- For adaptation to stick it needs to be connected to what matters and ownership needs to be enabled

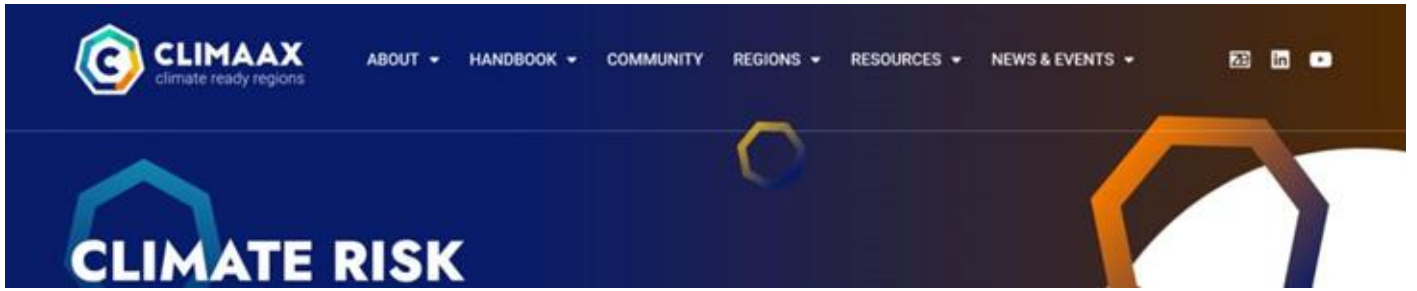
What's next for the CoP

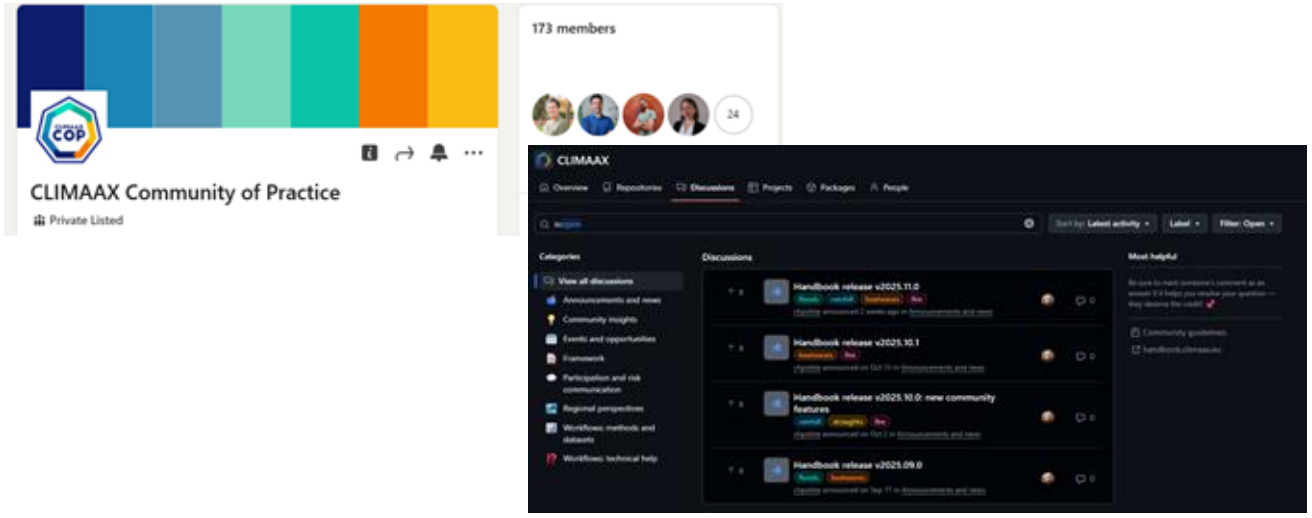
- Today's webinar opens a new thematic series: from CRA to climate risk management and adaptation
- We are rethinking upcoming activities based on emerging community needs
- A short poll will follow to hear community priorities on topics, formats, and exchanges

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under grant agreement No. 101093864.
This work was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

How to engage in the Community of practice

- Join our LinkedIn group and community forum
- Take our surveys
- Subscribe to the CoP to receive communication of further updates
  https://www.climaax.eu/community-of-practice/





!! Scan this !!

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under grant agreement No. 101093864.
This work was funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

CLIMAAX
climate ready regions

www.climaax.eu

Thank you and see you next time!

cop@climaax.eu

The CLIMAAX project is funded by the European Union under Grant agreement ID 101093864. This publication was funded by the European Union.
Its contents are the sole responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.