# URBAN PLANNING THROUGH THE LENS OF EQUITY

## Stakeholders' perspectives
### Webinar series

## BOOKLET

**Climateurope2**

# About the Stakeholders' perspectives webinar series

**Th**is webinar series aims to understand the needs related to climate services and their standardisation from different stakeholders' point of view. Each webinar focuses on a specific stakeholder group, aiming to learn about their experiences and requirements for the integration of climate-related information in their day-to-day activities.

## Urban planning through the lens of equity

This webinar session took place on June 5, 2025, and focused on the needs for urban planning at different levels. It examined how climate services are integrated into urban policy-making, with a special emphasis on equity.

Climate change is reshaping urban landscapes, often deepening existing social inequalities. Public policies at all administrative levels — local, regional, and European — play a crucial role in addressing these challenges. This webinar brought two experts on urban planning and public administration, representing both local and European perspectives. They shared their experiences on how climate services are integrated into urban policy-making, presented good practices, and reflected on ways the climate services can be improved to help prevent or reduce inequalities exacerbated by climate change.

You can also revisit the complete webinar on our **youtube channel**.



**Climateurope2**

# About the speakers

## Julia Rawlins

She has an MA in Literature & History and an MSc in Environmental Policy. Julia has worked at the intersection of education/culture/sustainability for several international organisations in Europe and other parts of the world. Currently, she is a Senior Climate Expert at ICLEI - a global network of more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. She works on the 'EU Climate-neutral and Smart Cities Mission' where her main focus is on policy and partnerships.

## Minerva Campos

Biologist, PhD in Environmental Sciences with experience in Spain and Latin America (Mexico and Colombia) at the public administration, in research, teaching and as consultant. During the last years, I have been working at the Climate Action Department of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB) developing different projects mainly related to the adaptation to climate change. I also collaborate as a professor of Climate Change and Health at the Interuniversity Master degree on Planetary Health of the Open University of Catalonia (UOC).

*Moderator*

## Marina Baldissera

Interdisciplinary scholar whose research draws from history and philosophy of science, environmental social science and physical climate science to address knowledge production, justification and uptake issues in climate change science. Marina is particularly interested in how these issues materialize in the context of climate change adaptation in the public and private sectors. I currently divide my time between the Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy at the University College London and the Earth System Services Department at the Barcelona Supercomputing Center.

# In this booklet, you will find:

# Introduction to Climateurope2

*Marina Baldissera*

## Climateurope2 objectives

**Standardising**
Develop standardisation procedures and recommendations for climate services
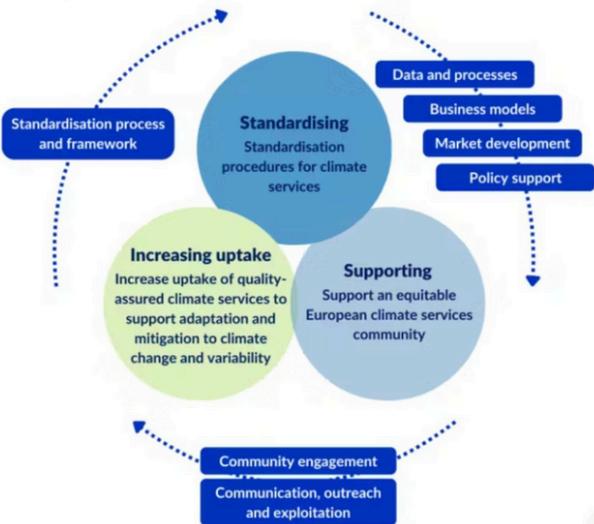
**Supporting**
Foster and support an equitable European climate services community
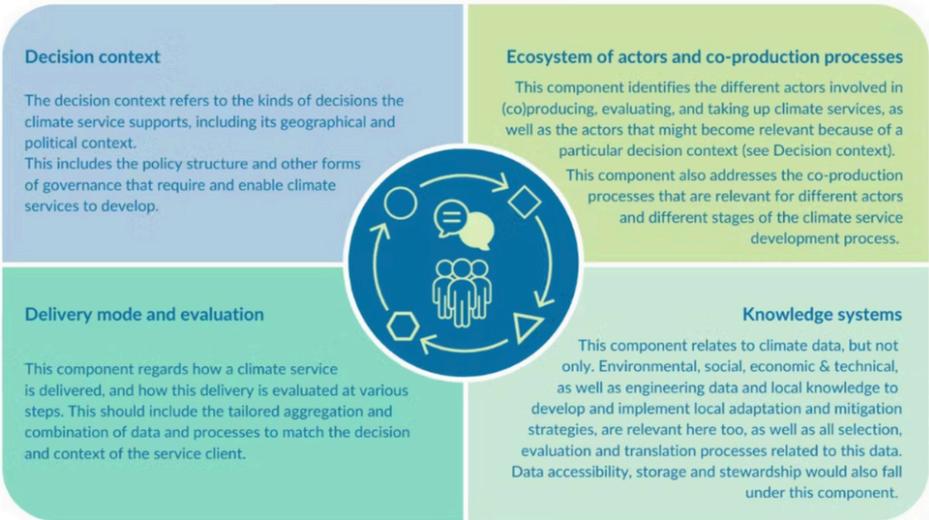
**Increasing uptake**
Promoting uptake of quality-assured climate services to support climate adaptation and mitigation

CSA Horizon Europe, Sep 2022–Feb 2027

Standardisation process and framework

**Standardising**
Standardisation procedures for climate services

Data and processes
Business models
Market development
Policy support

**Increasing uptake**
Increase uptake of quality-assured climate services to support adaptation and mitigation to climate change and variability

**Supporting**
Support an equitable European climate services community

Community engagement
Communication, outreach and exploitation

## Climate services components

**Decision context**

The decision context refers to the kinds of decisions the climate service supports, including its geographical and political context.
This includes the policy structure and other forms of governance that require and enable climate services to develop.

**Ecosystem of actors and co-production processes**

This component identifies the different actors involved in (co)producing, evaluating, and taking up climate services, as well as the actors that might become relevant because of a particular decision context (see Decision context).

This component also addresses the co-production processes that are relevant for different actors and different stages of the climate service development process.

**Delivery mode and evaluation**

This component regards how a climate service is delivered, and how this delivery is evaluated at various steps. This should include the tailored aggregation and combination of data and processes to match the decision and context of the service client.

**Knowledge systems**

This component relates to climate data, but not only. Environmental, social, economic & technical, as well as engineering data and local knowledge to develop and implement local adaptation and mitigation strategies, are relevant here too, as well as all selection, evaluation and translation processes related to this data. Data accessibility, storage and stewardship would also fall under this component.

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# Public policy and governance - Key findings

**Decision context**
Climate information must align with governance structures, policies, and local planning cycles.

**Ecosystem of actors and co-production processes**
Successful services require collaboration across sectors, including municipalities, businesses, and citizens.

**Delivery mode and evaluation**
The way information is shared matters; products and tools may not be enough—storytelling, citizen science, and networks enhance accessibility.

**Knowledge systems**
Climate adaptation is shaped by **local, historical, and traditional knowledge,** not just scientific data.

**Standardisation has limits:**
While useful, it must account for local complexity and diversity.

**Standards and standardisation are political**
Climate services cannot and must not replace politics.

## Supporting an equitable climate services community means

- Developing a shared understanding of equitability in climate services.

- Ensuring fair access, opportunities, and benefits for all stakeholders.

- Addressing systemic barriers that limit participation in the development and uptake of climate services.

- Recognizing diverse knowledge systems—ranging from scientific expertise to local, experience-based insights.

# Where are you joining this webinar from?

# What's your relationship with today's topic? I work on...



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ■ | 7 | Urban planning |
| ■ | 9 | Climate services |
| ■ | 0 | Equity issues |
| ■ | 1 | Public administration |
| ■ | 10 | Research and Academia |
| ■ | 0 | Third sector (NGO, Coops, social enterprises...) |
| ■ | 1 | Other |

# What does equity mean for you in the urban planning policy context?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| justice | inclusive and accessible urban spaces | cooperation and shared knowledge | inclusive and accessible urban spaces |
| Justice | Fair | Policies that acknowledge and address impacts of urban planning on different groups. | Shared knowledge |

2 👍  14 👤

# What does equity mean for you in the urban planning policy context?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Inclusive and holistic development focusing on vulnerable and marginalised populations | Accessibility for all members of the public | Progress | Policies that address inequities and disadvantage groups |
| considering the limitations of the most vulnerable population groups | Making urban spaces that are inclusive, accessible and safe for everyone | First time thinking about equity in this area | Making sure public services and infrastructure( green space, clean air, affordable housing) are equally distributed |

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# Cimate-neutral cities:
# Perspectives on equity

*Julia Rawlins*
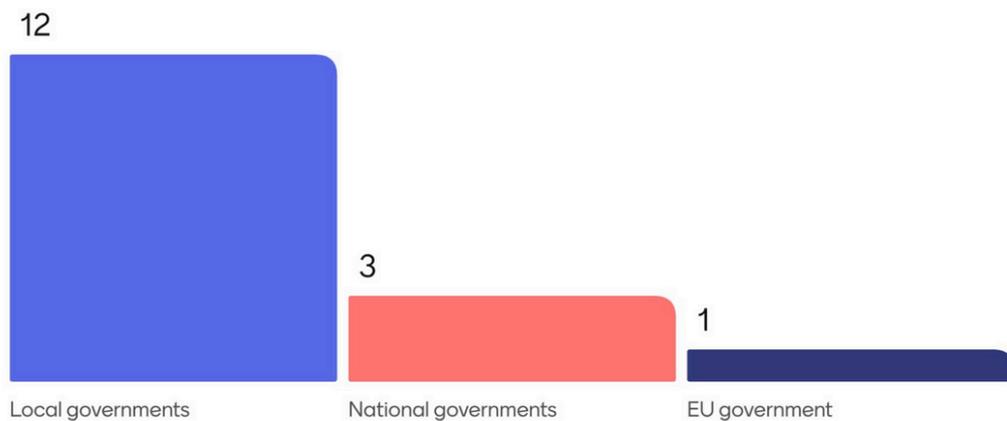
**Climateurope2**

# Climate-neutral Cities -
## Perspectives on equity

- The Cities Mission approach
- The EU Policy Landscape
- Challenges & opportunities

# The relevance of equity in the transition to climate neutrality in cities

- The advancement of socially just climate action presents a **complex, highly contextual** challenge.
- In the energy transition context, for example, equity might mean **providing additional support to low-income households or disadvantaged communities** to ensure they can benefit from cleaner energy, lower costs, and new job opportunities.
- Equity focuses specifically on addressing disparities by **ensuring that disadvantaged individuals and groups are not disproportionately affected** by policies and have access to the benefits of these policies.

# EU Mission "Climate Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030"

The objectives of the Mission are

- to achieve **100 climate-neutral and smart European cities by 2030.**
- to ensure that these cities act as experimentation and innovation hubs to **enable all European cities to follow suit by 2050.**

It will help Europe in its ambition to achieve climate neutrality by providing cities with **world-class expertise and services** tailored to their needs.

100 EU cities & 12 cities from Horizon Europe Associated Countries

# Supporting Cities towards Climate Neutrality

TWINNING PROGRAMME

CITY LEARNING PROGRAMME

PILOT CITIES PROGRAMME

CLIMATE TRANSITION MAP

NETZEROCITIES PORTAL

TRANSITION TEAM

CLIMATE CITY CONTRACT

CITY ADVISORS

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# Systems Approach to Change



**Top-down single actor leadership**
Siloed efforts, centralised action and investments

**Fragmented actions**
Standalone solutions, managing narrow projects, linear planning

**Isolated analysis**
Breaking down into parts, siloed understanding

**Deep collaboration**
Collective efforts, distributed action and investments

**Portfolios of actions**
Coordinated levers, orchestrating an open portfolio, iterative programming

**Understanding systems**
Spotting patterns in the whole, collective understanding

**Funded by
the European Union**

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# A Roadmap to Climate Neutrality

**A multi-level government collaboration tool** to help cities collaboratively address barriers to accelerate transformative action.

The **Climate City Contract** (CCC) has three interlinked components:

- **Commitments**
- **Action Plan**
- **Investment Plan**



Commitments

CCC Core Contract

Regional / National Engagement

Social Innovation

Systems Innovation

Governance Innovation

Actions

Investments

2030 Action Plan

2030 Investment Plan

Mission Label

Cities Mission Climate City Contract

| CCC Core Contract | 2030 Action Plan | 2030 Investment Plan |

**Funded by
the European Union**

## Analysis from CCCs

- **Cities are incorporating justice considerations into their climate neutrality plans**, with a strong emphasis on **shared responsibilities** and **inclusive decision-making processes**. CCCs underline cities' goals to promote **shared ownership** of planned actions across the local ecosystem of actors and to ensure the **legitimacy** of the transition through participatory processes.

- **Recognition of structural inequalities as a foundation for a just transition remains limited**. Sønderborg stands out as an exception, systematically applying socio-economic data to inform its overall strategy, from the guiding principles to specific climate measures, demonstrating how **recognition of different starting points and impacts of climate change to different communities** can be integrated into climate action planning.

- **To ensure a just transition, municipalities are adopting a communication and education role**, working to foster a culture of sustainability and encourage behavioural change. At the same time, many cities describe how they are institutionalising consultative practices in both planning and implementation to embed different perspectives into their climate neutrality journey.

## EU Policy Landscape

- Legislative and non-legislative initiatives and policies designed to reduce GHG emissions while considering impacts on communities.
- European Green Deal (EGD) and Fit for 55 Package
- Just Transition Mechanism
- Renewable Energy Directive (RED II) and Energy Efficiency Directive
- Social Climate Fund

# The role of Multi-level Governance

- Policy is developed at multiple levels, incl. EU and National levels
- The local level is where policy agendas intersect with residents' lives
- How can these frameworks be aligned and coordinated better?

➢ Cities Mission activities, e.g. National Platforms, Policy Labs, Stakeholder Engagement

**CAPACITIES** Advancing national support for climate neutral cities

Funded by
the European Union

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# Challenges – how might Climate Services help?

- Lack of comprehensive **guidance** for municipalities in addressing specific needs of disadvantaged populations

- Cities face **structural and administrative** challenges, e.g. limited capacity, administrative complexity, lack of long-term funding

- Persistent **demographic and geographic inequalities**

➢ Need for tailored solutions to the local contexts. **Cities need to be empowered to play this tailoring role.**

Funded by
the European Union

# Potential opportunities for increased equity

- Ensure **representation** of local governments (e.g. in development of national Social Climate Fund plans)

- Facilitate **equitable access** to funding & resources for local governments

- Ensure equity is addressed in **project proposals**

- Encourage community involvement by investing in **capacity-building programmes** for local communities

- Implement robust **monitoring and reporting** systems

# Get in touch with NetZeroCities!

🐦 @NetZeroCitiesEU

📷 NetZeroCities

in NetZeroCitiesEU

▶ NetZeroCities EU

🌐 www.netzerocities.eu

✉ hello@netzerocities.eu

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# Climate Action policies and adaptation to hot temperature extremes in the Barcelona Metropolitan Area
## *Minerva Campos*

# Metropolitan territory

**Catalonia**
7.6 M inh.
32,108 km²
236 inh./km²

More than 1,000,000 inhabitants
Between 100,000 and 1,000,000 inhabitants
Between 10,000 and 100,000 inhabitants
Under 10,000 inhabitants
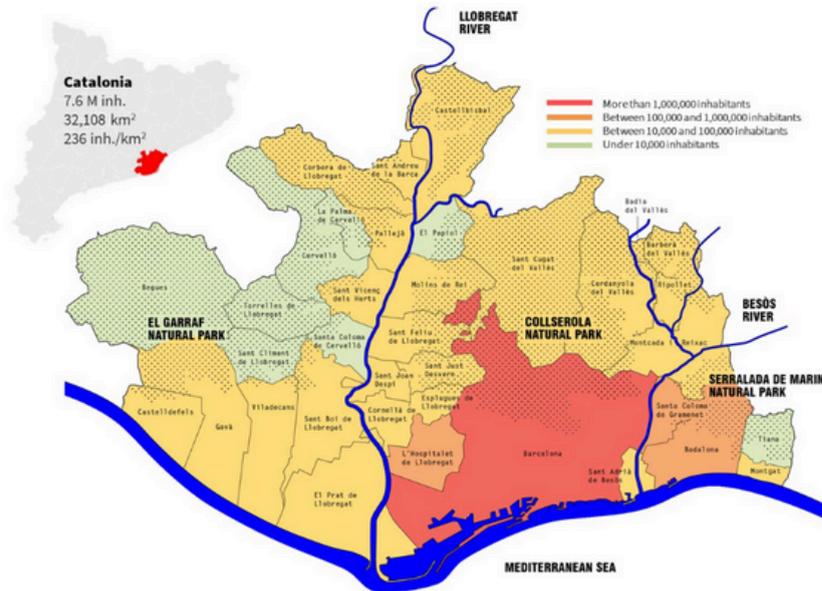
**3.3 M**
inhabitants

**636** km2

**5.093**
inh./km2

**36**
municipalities

# Competences

**Land and Housing**

**Environment**

**Mobility and Transport**



**Urbanism**

**Social and Economic Development**

**International Relations**

## Climate Action Department



## Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CCVI)
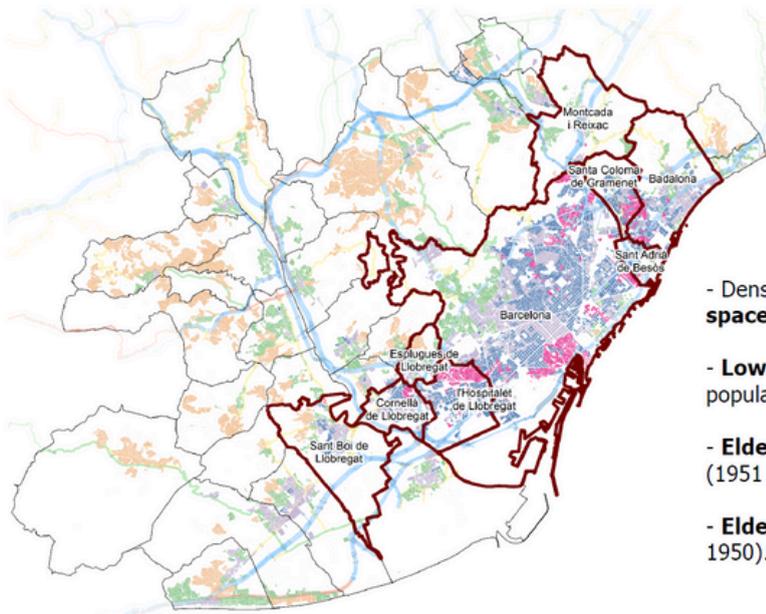


- Densely populated areas with a **lack of green spaces**.

- **Low income** population, lower proportion of population with higher education, foreign.

- **Elderly women** in relatively older housing (1951 to 1980).

- **Elderly people** living alone in older homes (≤ 1950).

# Metropolitan climate shelter network

**2019**
- Study of potentiality
- (330 public facilities + 80 parks)

**2020**
- Webinar to present the study (19/35 city councils)
- Voluntary call to create the metropolitan climate shelter network

**2021**
- 7 municipalities
  **(20 climate shelters)**
- Graphic image design
- Alliances/ collaboration with other public institutions
- Creation of financial aids (to create new CS)

**2022**
- 9 municipalities
  **(55 Climate shelters)**
- Communication campaign
- Talks to vulnerable people
- CCVI
- Monitoring thermal comfort in small parks

**2023**
- 11 municipalities
  **(74 Climate shelters)**
- Climate shelter network adhesion protocol
- Training to facilities support staff
- Production of merchandising articles
- Communication campaign
- Monitoring thermal comfort in small parks

# Metropolitan climate shelter network

# Metropolitan climate shelter network

## SUMMER 2025

### Metropolitan Climate Shelter Network

Total climate shelters
**244**

**31** municipalities

**151** indoor climate shelters

**93** outdoor climate shelters

Population at less than 10 minutes walk

**1,271,708** people

**80.5 %** of the metropolitan population (excluding Barcelona)

| Count | Municipality |
|---|---|
| 4 | Barberà del Vallès |
| 4 | Badia del Vallès |
| 14 | Cerdanyola del Vallès |
| 21 | Sant Cugat del Vallès |
| 4 | Castellbisbal |
| 3 | El Papiol |
| 8 | Sant Andreu de la Barca |
| 3 | Pallejà |
| 3 | La Palma de Cervelló |
| 5 | Corbera de Llobregat |
| 9 | Sant Vicenç dels Horts |
| 9 | Santa Coloma de Cervelló |
| 1 | Torrelles de Llobregat |
| 6 | Begues |
| 7 | Castelldefels |

| Municipality | Count |
|---|---|
| Tiana | 8 |
| Ripollet | 1 |
| Montgat | 4 |
| Montcada i Reixac | 8 |
| Santa Coloma de Gramenet | 8 |
| Badalona | 11 |
| Sant Adrià de Besòs | 8 |
| Barcelona* | 390 |
| Sant Just Desvern | 7 |
| Sant Feliu de Llobregat | 9 |
| Esplugues de Llobregat | 7 |
| L'Hospitalet de Llobregat | 12 |
| Cornellà de Llobregat | 21 |
| Sant Joan Despí | 10 |
| Sant Boi de Llobregat | 10 |
| El Prat de Llobregat | 17 |
| Viladecans | 3 |

*Climate shelters of Barcelona don't belong to the Metropolitan Climate Shelter Network.

Find out the locations at refugiclimatic.amb.cat and barcelona.cat/barcelona-pel-clima/cartaccions-concretes/xarxa-de-refugis-climatics

AMB | Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona

# Metropolitan climate shelter network

Maintain set temperature 27°C

*Provide rest area with seating**

Drinking water (reusable or compostable glasses)

Accessible for reduced mobility

Security

Open during summer season (June 1 – August 31)

*Inform and train equipment staff (prescribers)**

Sign in a visible place, at the entrance

# Measurement of thermal comfort in climate shelters
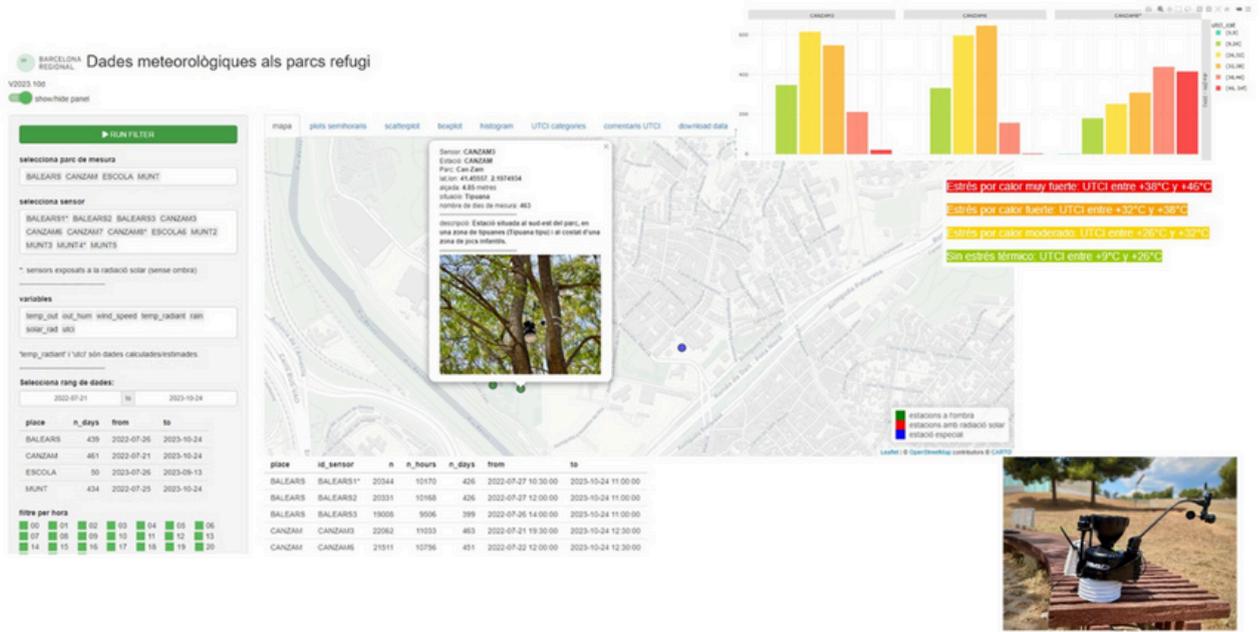


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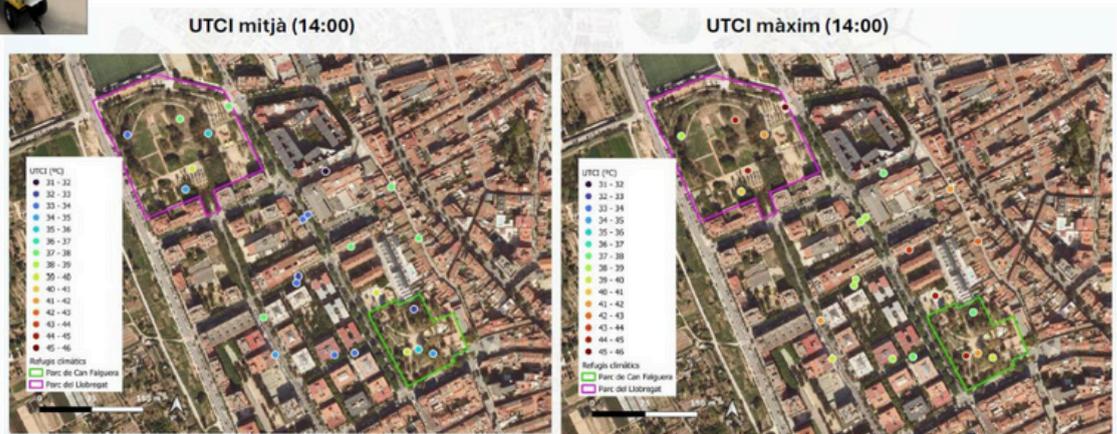
# Cartographic Viewer for Climate Scenarios

Meteorological Service of Catalonia (SMC) (2015)

RCP scenarios

Escenari ideal (Kyoto): +1-1,5 °C (0,1-0,15°C per dècada)

Escenari moderat (Paris): +1,9°C (aproximadament 0,2°C per dècada)

Escenari pessimista (cap acord): +3,5-4,0°C (0,3-0,4°C per dècada)

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# New Climate Scenarios


ICARIA — Improving climate resilience of critical assets
HORIZON EUROPE
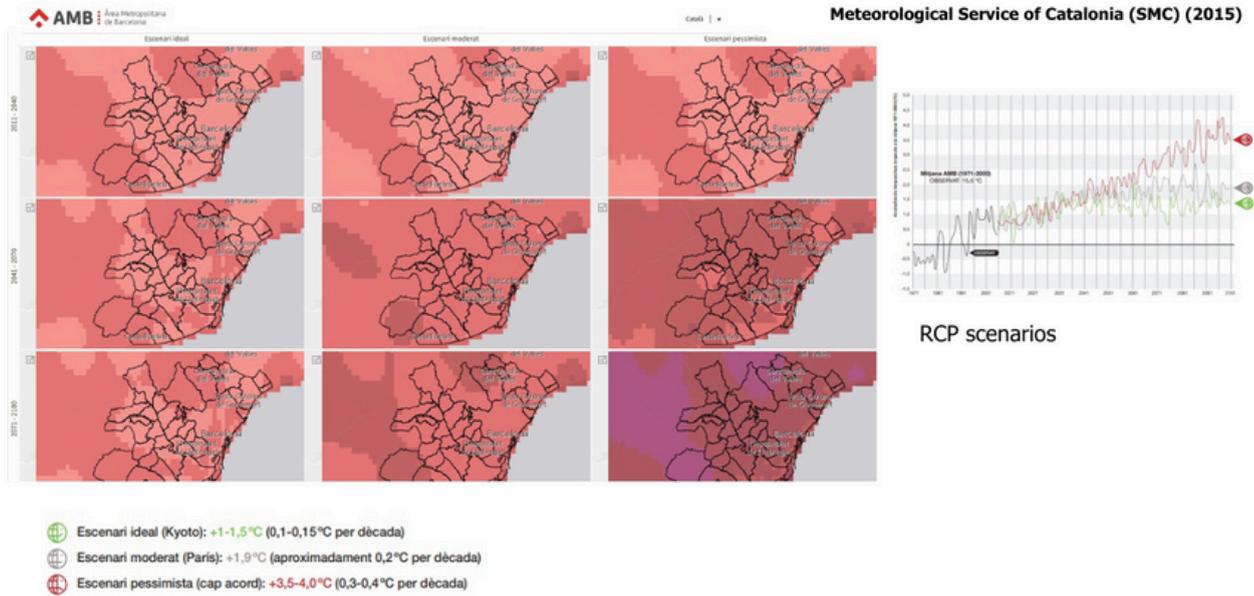
**Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSP):**
SSP1: Sustainability
SSP2: "Middle of the Road"
SSP3: Regional Rivalry
SSP5: Fossil-fueled Development

| INDEX | 81-10 HIST. | 2021-2050 | | | | 2041-2070 | | | | 2071-2100 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1-2.6 | 2-4.5 | 3-7.0 | 5-8.5 | 1-2.6 | 2-4.5 | 3-7.0 | 5-8.5 | 1-2.6 | 2-4.5 | 3-7.0 | 5-8.5 |
| Thermal indicators | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TXm (°C) | 20.2 | +1.2 (+0.4/+1.6) | +1.3 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.4 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.4 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.6 (+0.9/+2.2) | +1.9 (+1.2/+2.7) | +2.2 (+1.5/+3.0) | +2.5 (+1.8/+3.2) | +1.7 (+1.0/+2.6) | +2.6 (+1.9/+3.7) | +3.7 (+2.9/+4.5) | +4.5 (+3.7/+5.3) |
| TNm (°C) | 16.2 | +1.0 (+0.4/+1.6) | +1.1 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.1 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.1 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.6 (+0.9/+2.2) | +1.9 (+1.2/+2.7) | +2.2 (+1.5/+3.0) | +2.5 (+1.8/+3.2) | +1.7 (+1.0/+2.6) | +2.6 (+1.9/+3.7) | +3.7 (+2.9/+4.5) | +4.5 (+3.7/+5.3) |
| TM (°C) | 12.2 | +1.0 (+0.4/+1.6) | +1.1 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.1 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.1 (+0.5/+1.9) | +1.6 (+0.9/+2.2) | +1.9 (+1.2/+2.7) | +2.2 (+1.5/+3.0) | +2.5 (+1.8/+3.2) | +1.7 (+1.0/+2.6) | +2.6 (+1.9/+3.7) | +3.7 (+2.9/+4.5) | +4.5 (+3.7/+5.3) |
| HWle (nd) | 4.0 | +2.0 (+0.8/+3.5) | +2. (+0.9/+3.2) | +2.7 (+1.8/+3.5) | +2.5 (+1.5/+4.0) | +2.9 (+1.9/+3.6) | +3.6 (+2.5/+4.5) | +4.5 (+3.3/+5.4) | +6.4 (+5.0/+7.8) | +2.6 (+1.6/+3.3) | +6.3 (+4.8/+7.7) | +10.4 (+8.8/+12.0) | +14.9 (+13.2/+16.6) |
| HWix (°C) | 33.4 | +0.3 (+0.0/-0.6) | +0.2 (+0.0/-0.4) | +0.4 (+0.2/-0.7) | +0.4 (+0.2/-0.7) | +0.6 (+0.3/-1.0) | +0.8 (+0.4/-1.2) | +0.9 (+0.5/-1.4) | +1.1 (+0.6/-17) | +0.5 (+0.2/-0.9) | +1.2 (+0.7/-1.8) | +1.9 (+1.2/-2.6) | +2.4 (+1.5/-3.3) |
| HWf (ne) | 0.4 | +1.5 (1.0/2.1) | +2.3 (1.7/3.0) | +2.3 (1.7/3.6) | +2.3 (1.7/3.6) | +3.0 (2.4/3.8) | +3.6 (3.0/4.4) | +3.3 (2.4/4.4) | +3.3 (2.6/4.5) | +3.3 (2.7/4.1) | +3.3 (2.7/4.1) | +4.2 (3.1/5.1) | +4.2 (3.6/5.0) |
| HWd (nd) | 3.6 | 10.4 (+8.3/+13.0) | +11.3 (+9.2/+14.1) | +13.0 (+10.9/+15.9) | +11.8 (+9.7/+14.6) | +21.3 (+12.2/+25.9) | +26.5 (+17.4/+35.3) | +33.8 (+24.7/+47.6) | +38.4 (+25.3/+52.2) | +18.3 (+16.2/+28.9) | +42.3 (+29.2/+54.1) | +63.3 (+51.2/+79.1) | +79.0 (+62.2/+96.1) |
| HI-P90 (°C) | 31.8 | +1.9 (+0.5/+3.5) | +1.9 (+0.5/+2.9) | +2.4 (+0.8/+4.3) | +2.3 (+0.8/+4.0) | +2.5 (+1.0/+4.3) | +3.3 (+1.8/+5.1) | +4.1 (+2.6/+6.0) | +4.5 (+3.0/+6.4) | +2.4 (+0.9/+4.2) | +5.3 (+3.7/+7.2) | +7.4 (+5.8/+9.2) | +9.2 (+7.6/+11.0) |

## New Climate Scenarios



- Substantial increase in the frequency of extreme heat events .

- Largest relative increase in maximum temperature (TX) for the period 2071–2100

- Warmer nights, which may have implications for public health and nighttime thermal comfort.

## Metropolitan climate shelter network



**Line of action8.1. Reductionof urbanheatislandeffectand impactof heatwaves–Climatesheleternetwork**

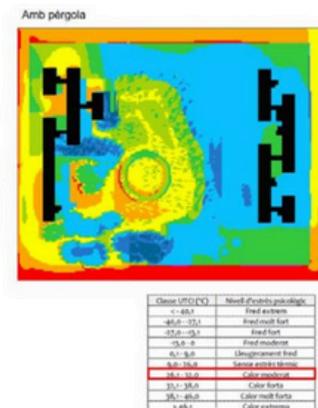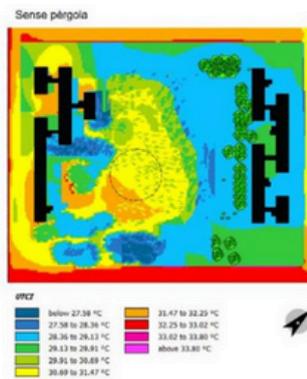# Bioclimatic criteria in the design of new climate shelters

Bioclimatic criteria guide to improve the quality and design of parks
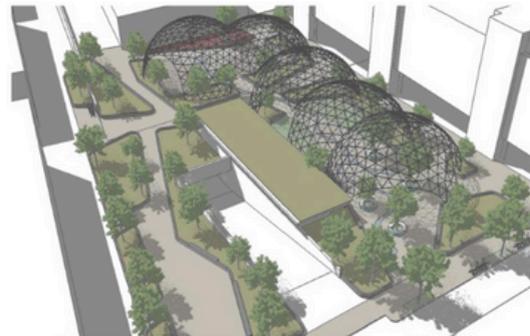


# Bioclimatic criteria in the design of new climate shelters

# Bioclimatic criteria in the design of new climate shelters



AMB

SchoolBusquets i Punset

# Analysis of non-shaded areas and heat exposure in urban areas

AMB
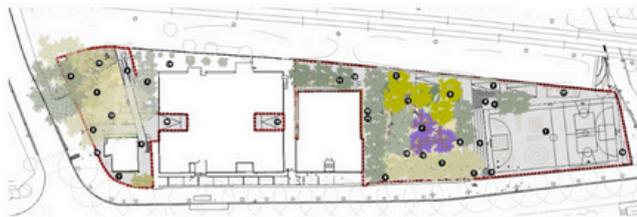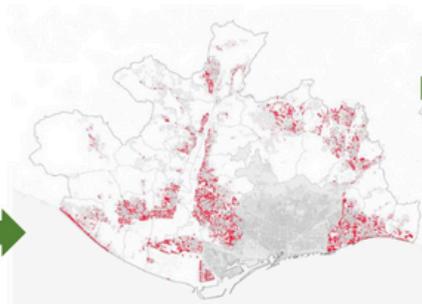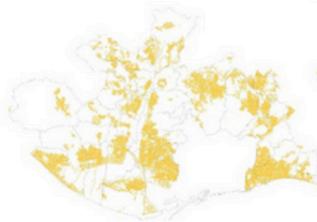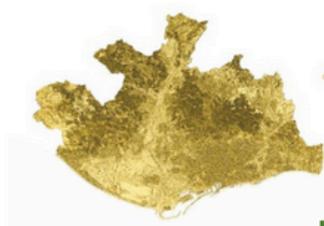


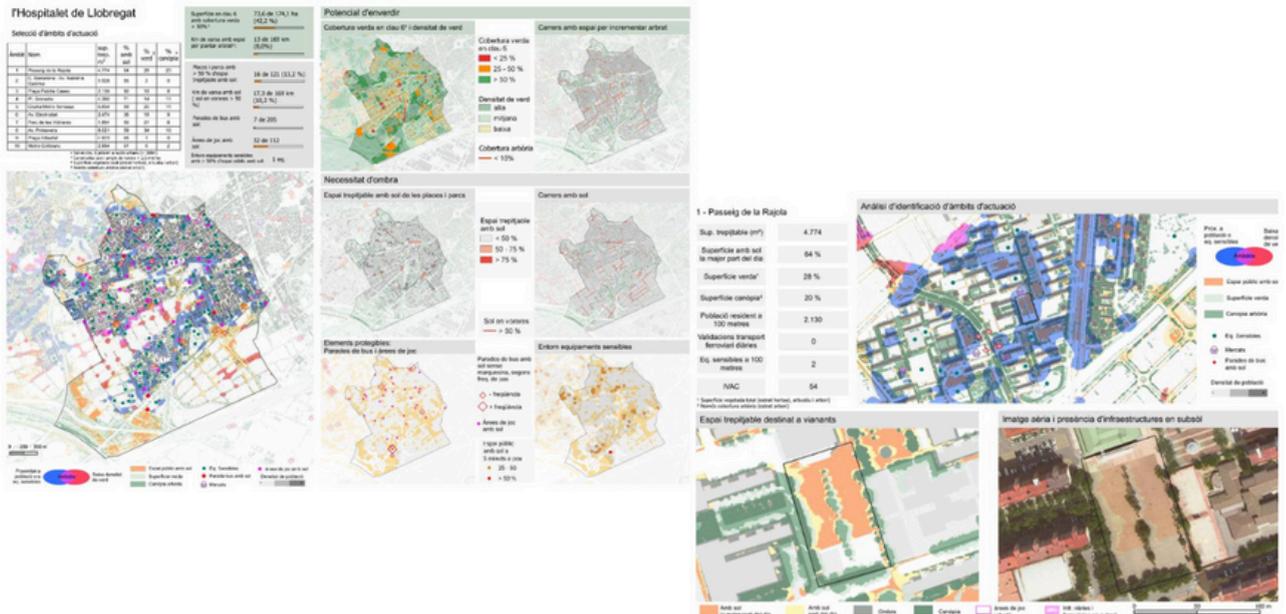Solar radiation + Public space = walkable public space that receives more than 5 hours of sunlight (between 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.)
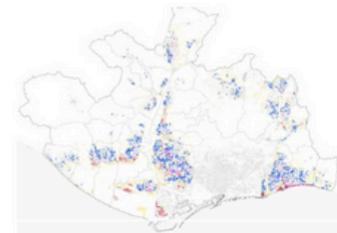
Prioritization of areas:
- Low density of green vegetation
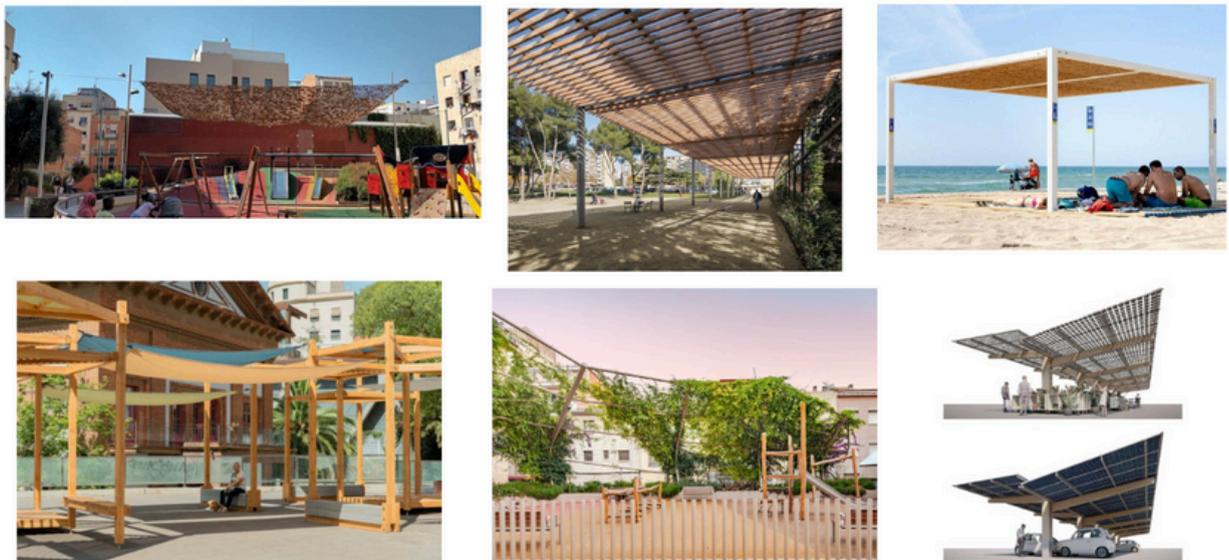- Proximity to population
- Proximity sensitive facilities

Identification of priority areas for each municipality

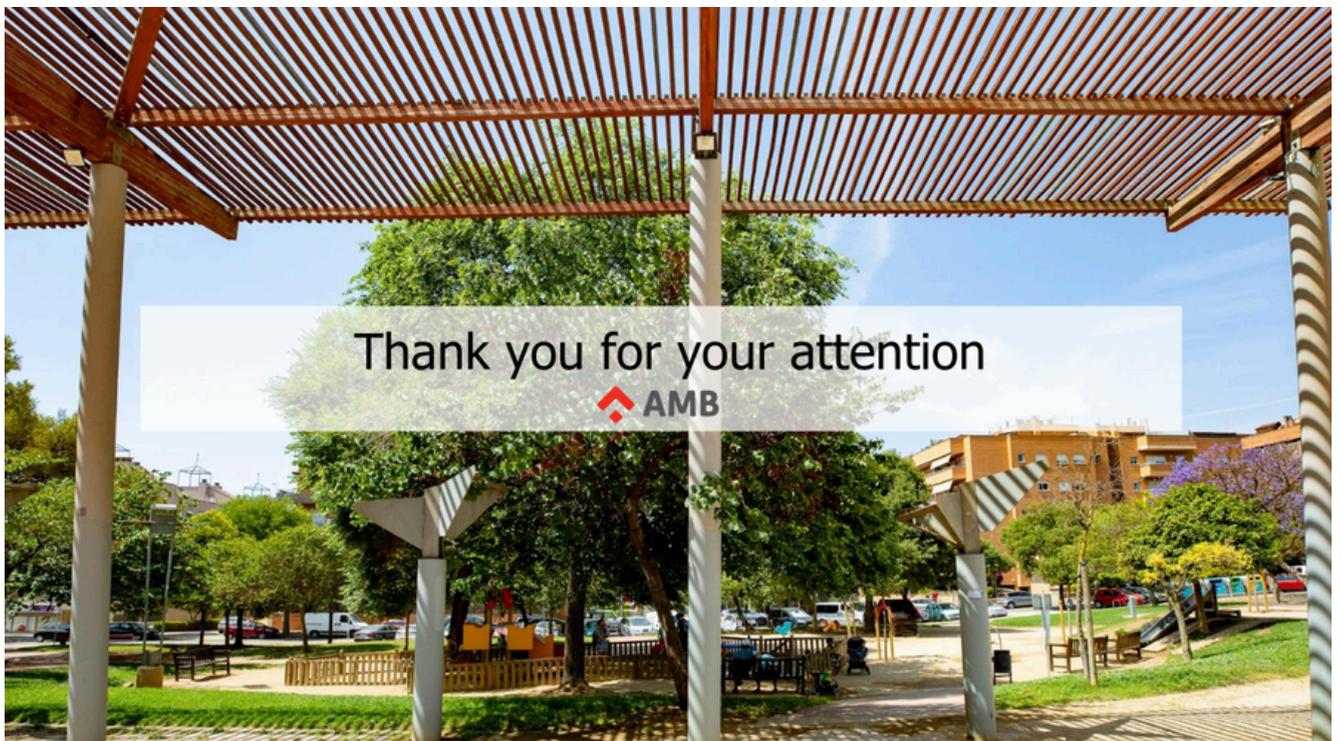# Analysis of non-shaded areas and heat exposure in urban areas



# Analysis of non-shaded areas and heat exposure in urban areas

**Final ideas**

- Investment
- Maintenance
- Integrate bioclimatic criteria in:
  - Urban planning
  - Public space management
  - Capacity building-Training
  - Decision makers
- Climate justice


Thank you for your attention
AMB

# Mentimeter results during the discussion

## What aspects of equity do you think are overlooked in urban planning policies?

Who are the most vulnerable, who will be at a loss from these planning policies, and where is the financial support going to come from.

For example green infrastructure investments should target not just wealthy districts but also heat-vulnerable poor neighborhoods

Environmental quality

Gentrification as a by product of new developments

## How can Climate Services support the embedding of equity in the climate transition?

Make sure everyone has knowledge of climate relevant to their possibilities of action?

As in other fields, greater attention to the rights of particularly susceptible minorities leads to greater rights for all.

By integrating socioexonomic data with climate models, services can highlight disparities in climate exposure, vulnerability and capacity to respond.

# Resources shared by the speakers

**Informative Summary Heat in the Future:  Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CCVI) - Acció Climàtica, AMB**
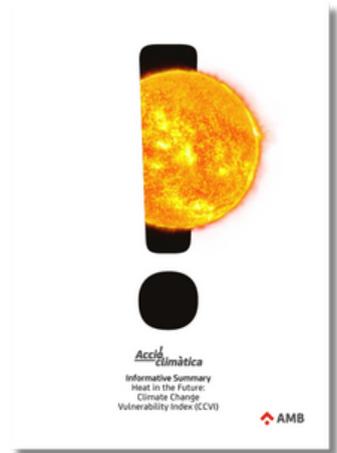


 **Diverse Perspectives on Climate Justice - Climate City Contracts Highlights**



**Advancing a Just Urban Transition - ICLEI**

# Join the Climateurope2 network!

## Festival and webstival series

For in-depth community discussions on standardisation needs for fit-for-purpose climate services.

## Stakeholder's perspectives webinars series

Each session focuses on a specific stakeholder group to explore the role that standardisation plays in the integration of climate-related information into their daily activities.

## Climateurope2 Roadshow

Combining science and art, the roadshow visits 10 locations in Southeastern Europe, an underrepresented region in the climate services landscape, to raise awareness on the importance of climate information.

## And much more!



bit.ly/CE2_join_us