

## CIRCLE (2) ERA-Net

# Climate Impact Research (and Response) Coordination for a Larger Europe



**Tiago Capela Lourenço**

Foundation Faculty of Sciences - University of Lisbon

**Overview**

- European Research Area (ERA)
- ERA-Net [work]
- CIRCLE CA ERA-Net key results
- Adaptation challenge
- Future of CIRCLE (or the tale of two challenges):
  - ❖ Outlook
  - ❖ Work plan
  - ❖ Consortium
  - ❖ Approach
- Coordination dimensions
- Status and next steps

## European Research Area

- Creation of a **unified area** able to define the European path to excellence in research.
- **Major driver** of European competitiveness in a globalised world.
- **Open circulation of knowledge** across national borders.
- Share, teach and use knowledge effectively for social, business and policy purposes.



**“2020 VISION  
FOR THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA”**

[ec.europa.eu/research/era](http://ec.europa.eu/research/era)



## ERA-Net scheme

### Goals

To optimise research programmes and priorities

To increase the efficiency and impact of public research funding

### Drivers

Promotion of common principles across the ERA

Reciprocal opening of national/regional programmes

Joint identification of major societal challenges that are beyond national capacity

**CIRCLE SSA (2004)**

**CIRCLE ERA-Net**

**CIRCLE CA (2005-2008)**

**CIRCLE 2 - *Science meets Policy***  
(under negotiation 2010-2014)?

**Transition in European (and National) climate research policy  
development over recent years - reflects on CIRCLE future approach**

2004

2009

Climate impact research  
Science driven

Climate adaptation research  
Policy driven

**CIRCLE CA key results**

- ◆ **Establishing the network:** cooperation between national research agencies and programmes;
- ◆ **Setting up** of a variable group approach (e.g. Mediterranean, CEES, Mountains, Nordic);
- ◆ **Launching** of 2 (MEDiterranean, NORdic) and preparation of a 3rd call (Mountainous areas) for collaborative research projects;
- ◆ **Funding** of 11 transnational research projects and 48 national research teams with a **total combined call budget of 4.7 Million EUR** (against 2.7 Million EUR of coordination budget);
- ◆ **Organising** joint activities (e.g. workshops, conferences) and support of review studies (e.g. PEER);
- ◆ **Agreeing on continuity** of activities under a 2nd generation ERA-Net.



## Adaptation Challenge

## At the European level...



Adaptation and  
Mitigation Strategies

Supporting European Climate Policy

*Even with high levels of mitigation considerable adaptation efforts will be needed.*

Final  
Report  
May 2009

*Climate policy in the EU beyond 2012 will need to become increasingly ‘Europeanised’.*

## ... and National level

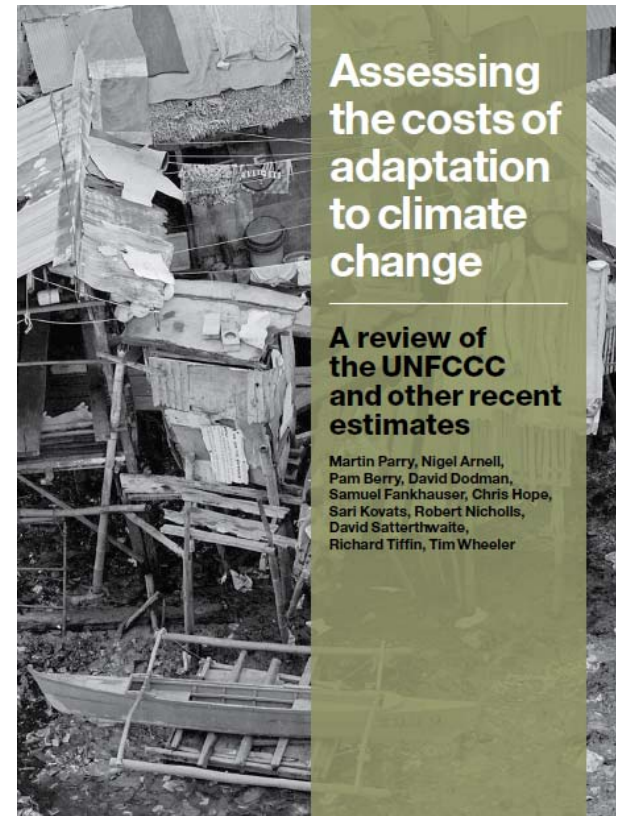
**“Some Member States are well advanced in their thinking on adaptation and already have policies in place, while others are still at the phase of identifying the problems or debating the direction that action should take.”**

*(EC White Paper on Adaptation)*

## Adaptation is also a knowledge challenge...

*“Information is scarce about the scale of future potential impacts, and is even more scant for the costs of avoiding them by adaptation...”*

*“It is important that robust studies of adaptation cost are, in future, based upon case studies that cover a wide range of places and sectors, and support top-down analyses...”*



August 2009



**A tale of two challenges:**

- (1) To develop the ERA concept,**
- (2) while addressing Europe's climate adaptation needs**

## The challenge:

Outlook

Creation of a 2<sup>nd</sup> generation ERA-Net on climate change impacts and response research

## Chosen approach:

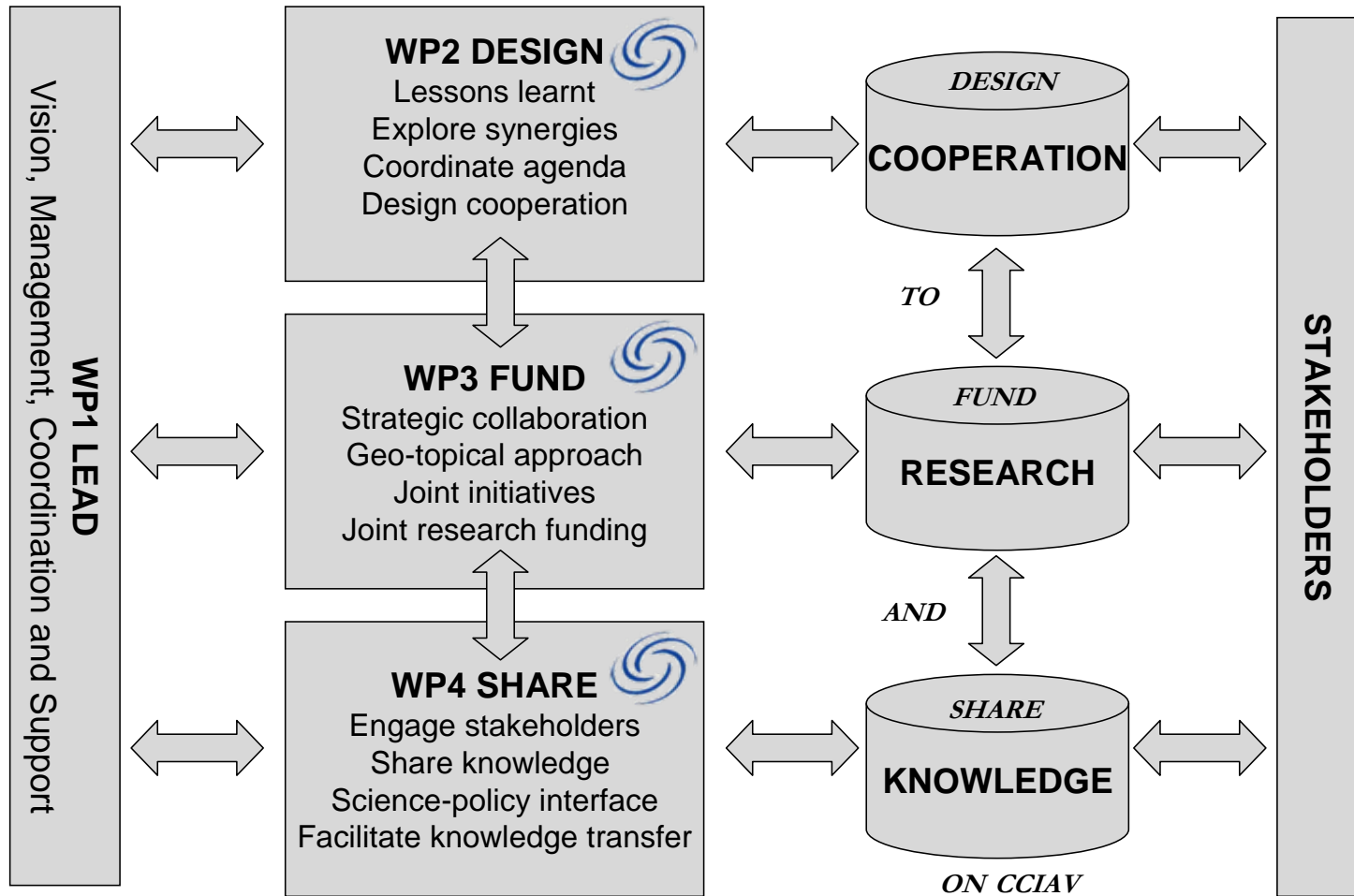
*Science meets Policy*

## Rationale:

Support European policy needs on adaptation knowledge by implementing (at least) two of the main ERA features:

Well-coordinated research programmes and priorities

Effective knowledge-sharing



**Work Plan**

 **Operational Work Packages**

Proposal under negotiation

## DESIGN research agenda

ERA aim: potential backbone of a **future European joint research programme** on climate adaptation (*priorities! filling in gaps!*)

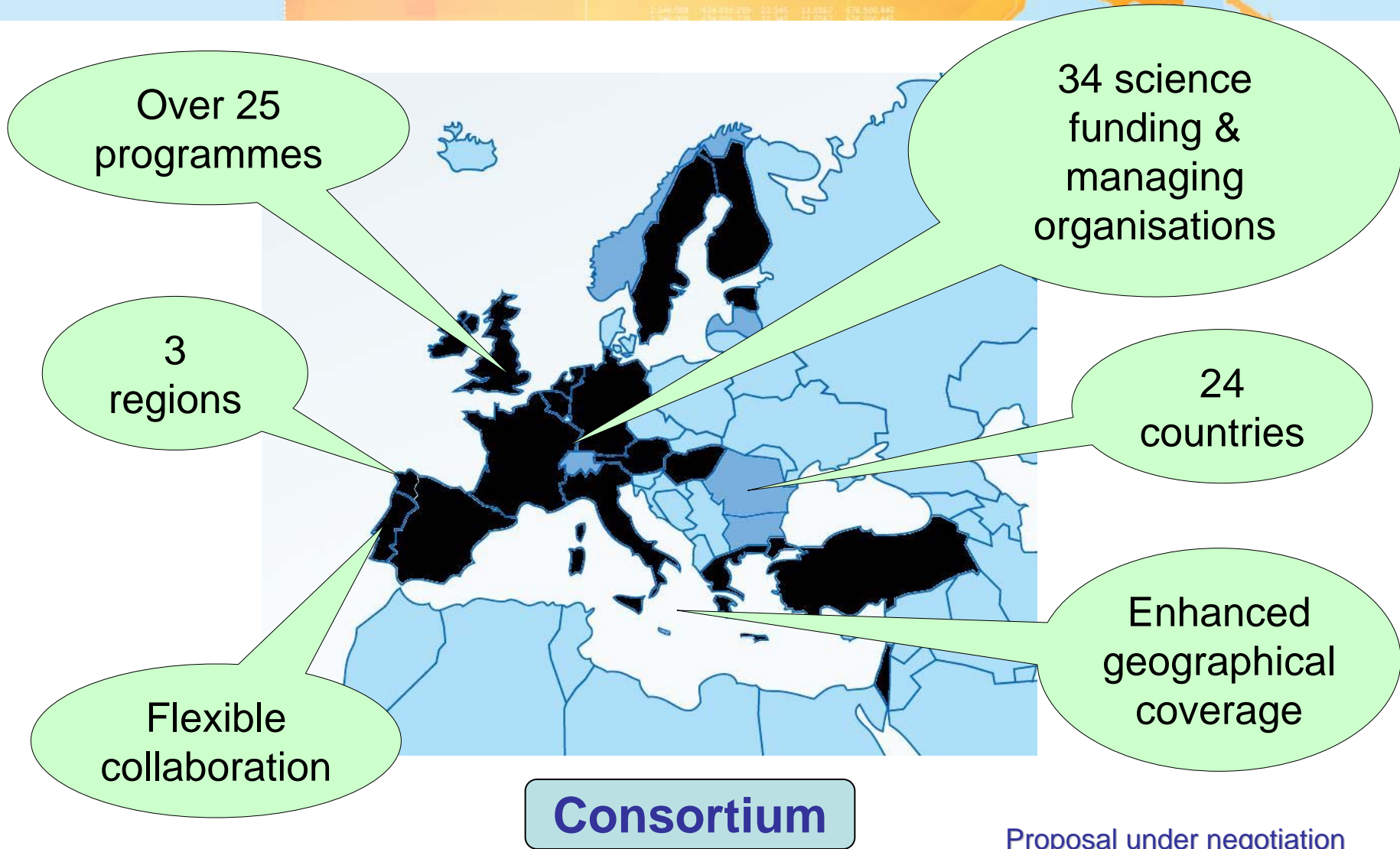
## FUND transnational research

ERA aim: **funding platform** to pull resource into the **programme** and **tailor** them into joint initiatives, including **joint calls for projects**

## SHARE knowledge

ERA aim: **engage interested stakeholders** (science & policy) to **communicate/transfer** knowledge (*taking it to the users!*)

Proposal under negotiation





## CIRCLE 2 approach

### Flexible “Variable Geometry”

- ➔ Current C-1 geo-topical groups to be further supported
- ➔ New groups to be implemented (e.g. small islands? SPI?)
- ➔ Interaction “within” and “across” groups fostered

## C-2 Adaptation Workshop Series

**Objective:** 2 workshops per year

ADVISORY BOARD

**Content:** topics “*in the pipeline*”

- Multilevel governance, policy integration and coherence
- Adaptation & mitigation: synergies and trade-offs
- Uncertainties: how to manage and communicate?
- Climate service centres: information “tailors”?
- Impacts, vulnerability & adaptation: indicators & guidelines
- National Adaptation Strategies: status and good practices
- C-1 and C-2 funded projects results

## C-2 Adaptation Web-Portal

**Objective:** communication tool with embedded database on national & regional programmes/projects on adaptation research

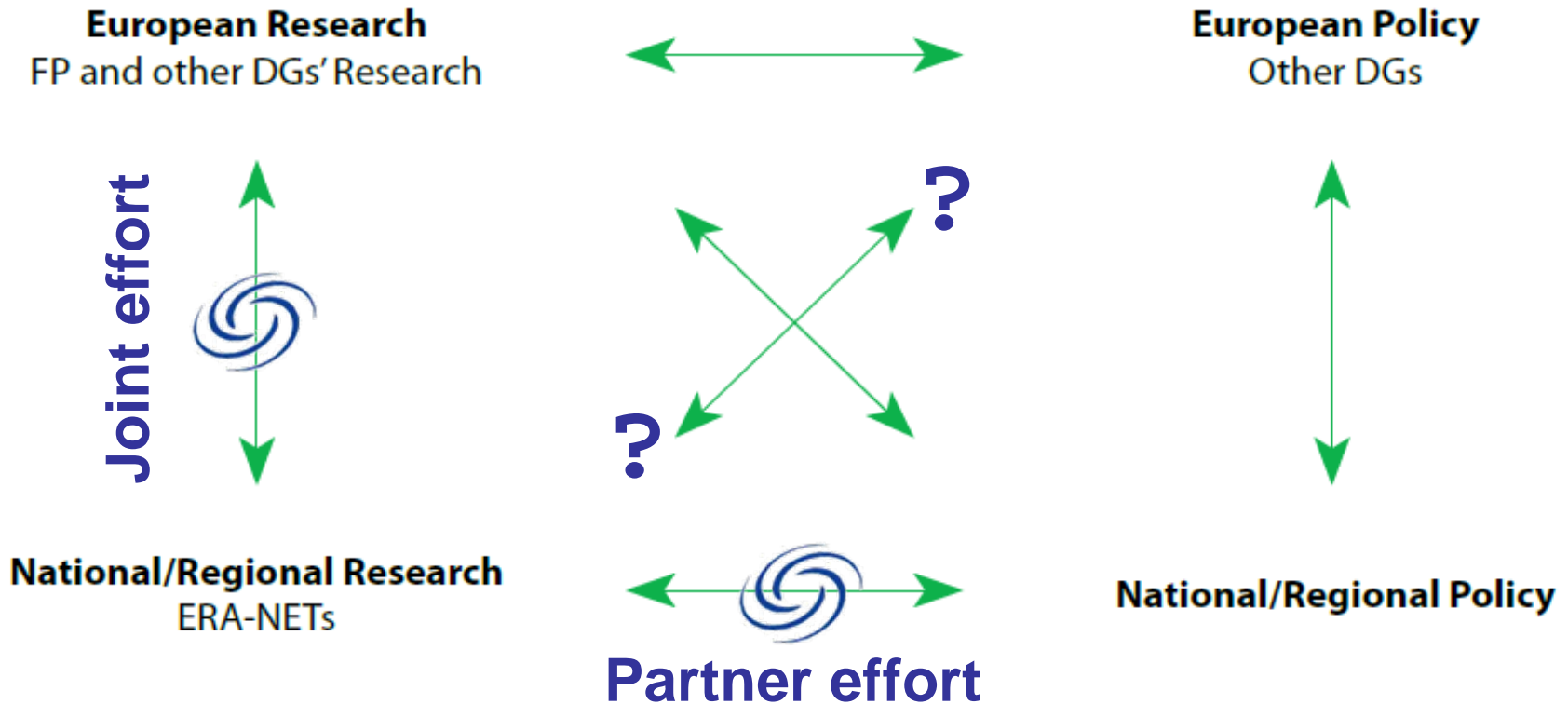
**Content:** new concept under development (inputs welcome!)

**Special features:** “links” with external activities (e.g. EC Clearing House, ERA-Nets, NETWATCH, national portals) will be facilitated

**Central tool to support all other C-2 features**

Challenging Europe's Research:  
Rationales for the European  
Research Area (ERA)

## Commission Inter-Service Consultations



National Coordination Mechanisms

 **main axis of action**

## STATUS

Proposal under negotiation until end of 2009

## NEXT STEPS

➤ Work and activities connecting C-1 and CIRCLE-2

e.g.; MOUNTAIN joint call launch (next week); Bonn workshop on CBA (next week), MED projects mid-term seminar (November)

➤ Negotiation concluded



**Thanks!**



Comments and suggestions:

**[tcapela@siam.fc.ul.pt](mailto:tcapela@siam.fc.ul.pt)**

## CIRCLE MED

# Integrated Coastal Zones and Water Management

- ▶ **Funded projects:**
  - ▶ **ACIDBIV;**
  - ▶ **AQUIMED;**
  - ▶ **CANTICO;**
  - ▶ **CLIMWAT;**
  - ▶ **INTERMED;**
  - ▶ **MEDCODYN;**
  - ▶ **CLIMBIOMEDNET;**
  - ▶ **WATERKNOW**

Further details:  
[www.circle-med.net](http://www.circle-med.net)



## CIRCLE NORDIC

# Consequences of climate change for policy making in the Nordic countries

### Funded projects:

- ▶ **Climate change:** A Regional Assessment of Vulnerability and Adaptive capacity for the Nordic countries (CARAVAN)
- ▶ **Climate Change adaptation in Norway, Sweden and Finland -** Do research, policy and practice meet? (CAREPol)
- ▶ **Climate change, community response and multilevel governance** (Community Response)

## **CIRCLE MOUNTAIN**

### **Climate change impacts and response options in mountainous areas** (France, Greece, Hungary, Spain, Sweden and Austria)

The following general topics are stated:

- Consequences of Climate Change impacts (natural and anthropogenic) on mountainous areas;
- Climate Change response strategies and adaptation policies for mountainous areas;
- Trade-offs and synergies between Climate Change adaptation and mitigation policies and their relevance for national, transnational and European strategies; etc.

**The CIRCLE MOUNTAIN call will be open from September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009 to January 29<sup>th</sup> 2010. The total available budget for the call is 2.1 Mio. €**