



I-CISK  
HUMAN CENTRED CLIMATE SERVICES

# I-CISK Newsletter

July 2022 - October 2022 / ISSUE II



*Innovating Climate Services  
through Integrating  
**Scientific and Local Knowledge***



**Dear colleagues and friends,**

In this newsletter you will find some interesting updates on the EU-funded I-CISK project's latest activities and a series of inspiring events, which we have the pleasure to invite you to keep an eye and get involved. Feel free to share this newsletter and stay tuned for further news!

Sincerely,

**The I-CISK project team**

## About I-CISK

Climate Services (CS) are crucial to empowering citizens, stakeholders and decision-makers in taking climate-smart decisions that are informed by a solid scientific evidence base, that contribute towards a sustainable European economy, lifestyle, environmental protection and resource use, and that are resilient to climate change and compatible with achieving climate neutrality. I-CISK's ambition to innovate how climate information is used, interpreted and acted on through a next-generation of Climate Services that follow a human centred, social and behaviourally informed approach; integrating the knowledges, needs and perceptions of citizens, decision makers and stakeholders with climate information at spatial and temporal scale relevant to them. [Read more](#)

## 7 Living Labs

Seven Living Labs in Europe and Africa are central to the action-research approach. These are located in climate change hotspot with specific geographical and climatic settings, where climate services are co-produced with end-users from multiple sectors to meet their climate information needs.



In I-CISK we take an action research approach to fast-track research to impacts by co-developing a framework for human centred climate services in and with the users of seven Living Labs in Europe and Africa. Each living lab is located in a climate change hotspot with specific geographical and climatic settings, and with a focus on key socio-economic sectors. [Read more](#)

## News and Events from I-CISK

### An intense and successful first I-CISK project general assembly in Münster



The European project “Innovating Climate services through Integrating Scientific and local Knowledge” (I-CISK) recently held its general assembly in Münster. 52°North invited representatives from all partners across Europe to present their progress and to discuss open questions from the first project year. Read more [here](#).



### CENN together with the National Environmental Agency (NEA) hosted I-CISK experts in Georgia

From October 10-13, 2022, CENN and the NEA hosted I-CISK experts working in the field of hydrology. The purpose of the visit was to plan the development of a streamflow prediction system in the Alazani River basin. Read more [here](#).



### The Italian Living Lab – meeting with stakeholders during the worst drought ever in summer 2022

Late July 2022, during the worst drought ever, meeting with Stakeholders took place in Italian Living Lab for an open discussion in the frameworks of the ongoing extreme drought.

“Drought in summer 2022”, courtesy of Emilia Romagna Region



The drought offered a unique chance to spot a light on water scarcity and related adaptation both in the regional context and in specific on the study area of Secchia River. A set of adaptation strategies have been put in place from various perspectives (water users, permitting authorities) and their limitations have been touched (as never before) by hand. Read more [here](#).



## Living Lab Rijnland meets agriculture

On September 28, in the wake of one of the most severe droughts in the Netherlands, I-CISK team hold a first meeting with Rijnland agricultural stakeholders, supported by Rijnland water-authority. This meeting was organized to get to know each other and introduce the I-CISK project to the four farmer representatives from Agriculture (akkerbouw), arboriculture (boomteelt) and agriculture sector-organisations. From this meeting, project team got a preliminary understanding of how the drought affected them, and how I-CISK could support their needs. Read more [here](#).

## UHI survey in the Hungarian Living Lab



Erzsébetváros, Budapest  
Source: [www.kozossegitervezes.budapest.hu](http://www.kozossegitervezes.budapest.hu)

The Hungarian Living Lab was established in the inner city of Budapest, called Erzsébetváros. The district is greatly affected by the summer heat waves and urban heat islands due to the low coverage of green infrastructure and the density of the buildings. The Living Lab, whose members are policy-makers and climate experts aimed to help residents in the district to adapt to the changes in urban climate. The Living Lab initiated a co-creation process, to produce climate services that answer the needs and perspectives, and knowledge of stakeholders that helps to create more effective adaptation strategies. Read more [here](#).



Smallholder maize plots before the October/November planting high in the mountains of Lesotho (photo: Micha Werner)

## Initiating the co-exploration of climate information needs in the Living Lab in Lesotho

The Lesotho Red Cross Society, supported by 510, recently established the Lesotho Living Lab. To continue the setting up of the multi-stakeholder platform in Lesotho, several meetings and workshops were held in



Members of the Qacha's Nek District Disaster Management Team  
(photo: Micha Werner)

Lesotho from 24 to 27 October. These were also joined by Micha Werner, the I-CISK coordinator. Lesotho is a small, mountainous landlocked country that faces several challenges with climate extremes, which are exacerbated by changing climatic patterns. Read more [here](#).

## The Andalucía-Los Pedroches Living Lab holds its first multi-stakeholder platform meeting



On October 25th the Andalucía-Los Pedroches living lab organized its first multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) meeting. Thirty-one participants, representing 18 organizations, gathered at the headquarters of CICAP, in the town of Pozoblanco, Los Pedroches. The workshop successfully achieved an important first step: strengthening the living lab community, generating a common vision and defining its goals. Read more [here](#).

## I-CISK accepts young researchers in the project

As part of our consortium, I-CISK is happy to welcome a pool of young researchers – Balbina Nyamakura, Abidemi Bamidele and Nikoletta Roperó Szymańska who will be intricately linked with several core activities of the project, and will be instrumental in helping the project achieve its objectives. You can check our researchers' field of work and bios at our website. Read more [here](#).



Balbina Nyamakura (Binny)



Nikoletta Roperó Szymańska



Abidemi Bamidele

## I-CISK resources

### Integrating scientific and local knowledge to tackle climate challenges now and in the future



The European Green Deal seeks to support efforts by citizens, governments and businesses to adapt to change, while working towards a carbon neutral EU by 2050. As part of the Research and Innovation actions that underpin the Green Deal, the innovating climate services through Integrating Scientific and local Knowledge project, I-CISK in short, aims to bridge this gap by innovating how Climate Services are developed, through co-producing these with local stakeholders and citizens. For example, forecasting drought is a climate service that is useful to water dependent sectors

such as tourism, but also to agriculture, though each of these sectors may be impacted differently, and the sector specific needs and knowledges will influence how climate information is used, interpreted and acted on. [Read more](#)

### Partners and contact information

I-CISK brings together a highly specialised and multi-disciplinary team of experts from 13 consortium members: IHE Delft, The Netherlands (coordinator); European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF), United Kingdom; Sveriges Meteorologiska och Hydrologiska Institut (SMHI), Sweden; Free University Amsterdam; The Netherlands; Centro de Investigación Ecológica y Aplicaciones Forestales (CREAF), Spain; Uppsala University, Sweden; Red Cross 510, The Netherlands; GECO-Sistema, Italy; Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN), Georgia, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain; 52°North Spatial Information Research, Germany; IDEAS-Science, Hungary; and EMVIS, Greece.

For more information and questions, please send an email to Dr. Micha Werner, Project Coordinator ([m.werner@unihe.org](mailto:m.werner@unihe.org)) and Dr. Ilyas Masih, Deputy Project Coordinator ([i.masih@un-ihe.org](mailto:i.masih@un-ihe.org)).

## The I-CISK project team sent this information

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This newsletter is produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the I-CISK project and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union. The I-CISK project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101037293



Funded by  
the European Union



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