

LIFE SHARA

project

explanatory summary of the project

AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE FOR
ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

LIFE SHARA

project



explanatory summary of the project

Adaptation to
climate change,

AN URGENT CHALLENGE

Climate change

is a complex phenomenon with a global scope. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) defines it as “a change of climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable periods of time”.

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CLIMATE
CHANGE

Adaptation to climate change

comprises all actions aimed at avoiding or reducing the potential impacts and risks derived from climate change, reducing vulnerability and exposure to climate change and increasing the resilience of societies and ecosystems. Adaptation is therefore **essential for confronting the impacts that climate change is already causing and will inevitably cause in the future.**

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The levels of risk in the face of climate change are conditioned by three factors: exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity. Within the field of adaptation, there are proposals to intervene in all three of these to limit vulnerability to the climate change risk.

Climate change projections show a series of trends for Spain and Portugal that include: an increase in maximum and minimum temperatures, with longer duration of heat waves; a decrease in rainfall and a rise in the average sea level. These changes will, in turn, affect the hydrological cycle, and projections show a reduction in average river flows, a decrease in the recharge of aquifers, and an increase in droughts, coupled, paradoxically, with torrential rains and floods.

Spain and Portugal, due to their socio-economic characteristics, climate, geographical location - on the border between the African and European continents - orography, extensive coastline and the existence of archipelagos, face significant risks from climate change. Key sectors such as agriculture, forestry, tourism and transport are intimately dependent on the climate, but so are many other essential areas such as human health, cities and biodiversity.

All of this makes it necessary and urgent to adopt measures at all levels: institutional, administrative, technical, scientific, private, etc., enabling progress to be made in adapting to the transformations brought on by climate change.

ADAPTATION

comprises all actions aimed at avoiding or reducing the potential impacts and risks derived from climate change, reducing vulnerability and exposure to climate change and increasing the resilience of societies and ecosystems

The LIFE SHARA project

has created an important community for adaptation to climate change, through participation, capacity building y communication in Spain and Portugal. Public policies directly linked to adaptation have been promoted with new spaces for dialogue and participation where useful tools and resources, knowledge, learning and good practice on adaptation have been shared and disseminated, which have helped to strengthen and improve governance and, therefore, to increase resilience to climate change. In short, the LIFE SHARA project has managed to strengthen the components related to knowledge management, capacity building and governance, all of which are strategic fields in adaptation.

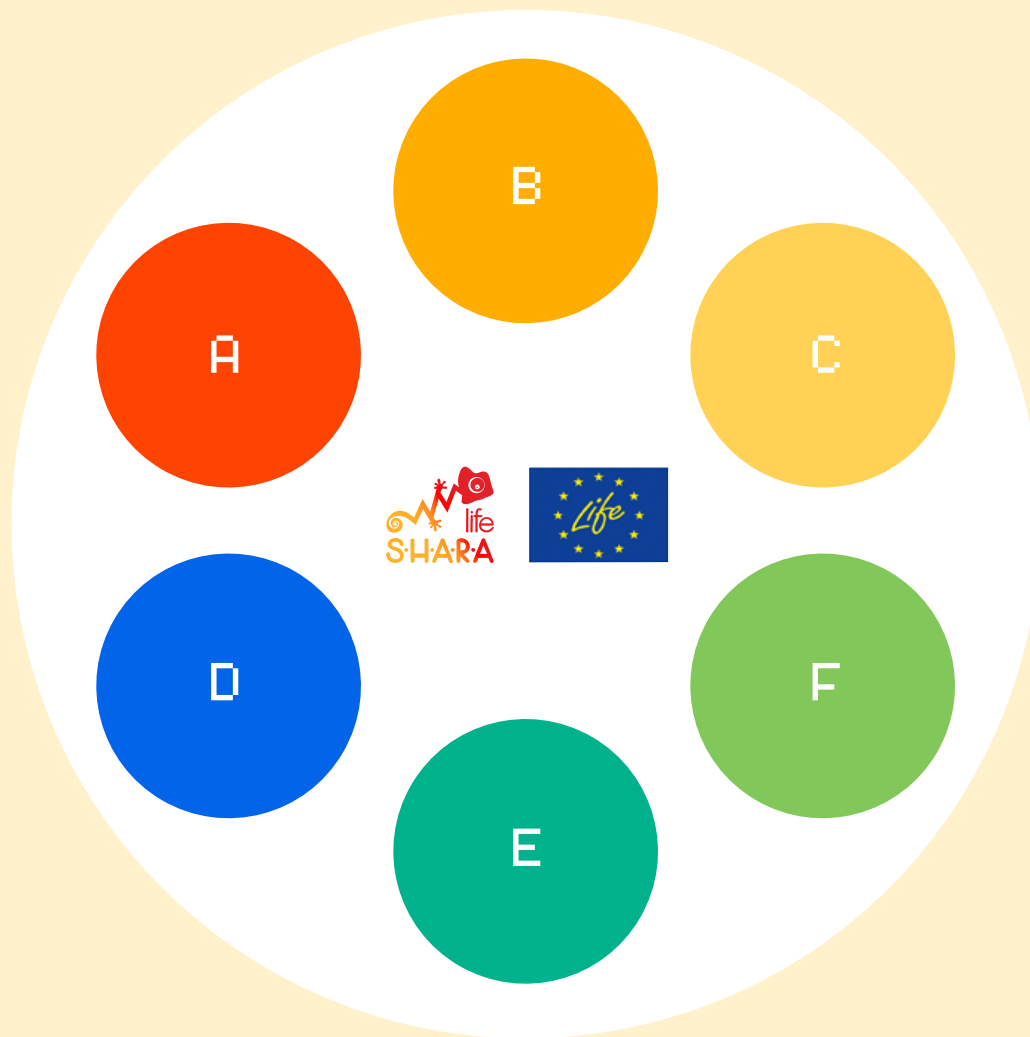
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The main
initiatives

IN DETAIL





The LIFE SHARA project has created an important **COMMUNITY** for adaptation to climate change, through participation, capacity building y communication in Spain and Portugal.



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RESOURCES AND TOOLS

AdapteCCa
Scenario viewer
Case studies module
Travelling exhibition
Adaptation Narratives



STRENGTHENING OF NETWORKS/ MOBILIZATION OF ACTORS

Sectoral Seminars



TRAINING OF KEY ACTORS

Training for local managers,
technical officers
and university professors



IMPROVING THE WAY ADAPTATION IS COMMUNICATED

Breakfast with journalists
Reports on the media coverage



STRATEGIC ADAPTATION PLANNING

PNACC Evaluation Process (2006-2020)
and new PNACC (2021-2030)



STRENGTHENING OF SPANISH-PORTUGUESE COOPERATION

1st Iberian Conference on Adaptation
to Climate Change #Adaptas

AdapteCCa: Platform on Adaptation to Climate Change in Spain

AdapteCCa is a **platform for consultation and the exchange of information** on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change that aims to strengthen the capacity for adaptation actions by society and administrations, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the **National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change** (PNACC).

The new AdapteCCa is also more participatory, as users themselves can upload documents to the website to share them, as well as set up internal working groups on topics of interest to them, helping to strengthen the network of people interested in adaptation, as explained in section **Participate in AdapteCCa.**

Its main objectives are:

- To facilitate **access to data, information and knowledge** about climate change adaptation and provide a solid, consistent and up-to-date knowledge base.
- To be an **instrument for open exchange** to enable multi-directional communication and coordinated work among the different actors in the field of adaptation: Spanish administrations, the scientific community, planners, public and private managers, etc.

↓ meeting point



Climate change scenario viewer

The main objective of this tool **hosted by AdapteCCa** is to make it easier to consult regional climate change projections, in accordance with various zonal boundaries (administrative regions, protected areas, watersheds, etc.), for a range of climate variables and in relation to different climate change scenarios. Results are visualized through maps and graphs, but raw data are also available to download.

Specifically, the viewer allows interaction using two main variables - Temperature and Precipitation - and different climate indices defined for them; for a historical reference period that covers the current climate (1971-2000), as well as three future periods (near: 2011-2040, medium: 2041-2070 and distant 2071-2100); and for two future emission scenarios (RCP4.5 and RCP8.5). The viewer enables analysis of the information to be conducted on an annual or seasonal basis, focusing on the whole year or a particular season of the year.

This viewer of climate change scenarios has served as a reference model and inspiration for the new **large interactive climate change atlas**, which has been developed by a team of CSIC scientists for the IPCC.

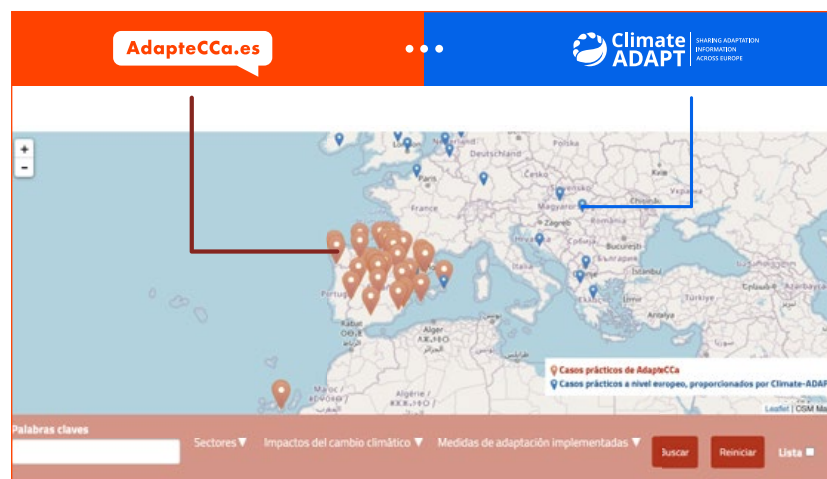


Case studies module and connection to the European Climate ADAPT platform

By **hosting this module, AdapteCCa** has been able to identify and describe more than 40 cases of good practice in adaptation. Specifically, the module enables users to explore a catalogue of experiences, initiatives and projects intended to promote actions to adapt to climate change in different parts of Spain, led by public administrations, private sector entities, organizations and other actors.

Moreover, through AdapteCCa it is also possible to access the case studies highlighted in the European **Climate-ADAPT** Platform and vice versa.

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Case study

Adaptation to climate change of
Mediterranean rainfed farming systems



Case study

Life Reusing Posidonia Project



Case study

Pyrenees Climate
Change Observatory



“Adaptation, the other fight against climate change” travelling exhibition

This exhibition aims to bring the challenge of adapting to climate change to the general public.

With examples of adaptation in nature, tourism, water use, agriculture, health and town planning, the exhibition is a valuable resource for an introduction to the subject.

It is available for loan at the following [link.](#)

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Collection of Adaptation Narratives

Under the title “Sharing solutions. Initiatives for adaptation to climate change”, a collection of educational resources has been created setting out 30 true stories about adaptation in Spain with a wide range of participants from very different geographical areas, productive sectors and with a diverse range of problems.

The main objective of these resources is to publicise and disseminate inspirational best practice and real examples of adaptation to climate change on topics as diverse as: agro-ecology, health, energy transition, livestock, biodiversity conservation, reduction of flood impacts and insurance. Humanizing a subject that is often complex and abstract by having it presented by real people sharing their experiences also helps to bring adaptation closer to the general public.

All the narratives, in their various formats, can be viewed at the following [link.](#)

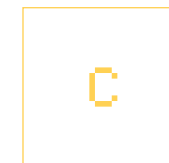
The graphic panels of the cases make up the **“Sharing solutions”** exhibition, a travelling display available for loan.



Sectoral Seminars for the National Adaptation Plan

LIFE SHARA has helped in the task of mobilizing actors interested in the issue of adaptation by organizing six seminars that have made progress in integrating climate action into sectoral policies, spreading relevant information and encouraging exchanges between stakeholders: Impacts and adaptation to climate change in the insurance sector ; Impacts and adaptation to climate change in the arable and industrial crops sector ; Adaptation to climate change: society, education and lifestyles ; Risk assessments and adaptation to climate change Adaptation to climate change in water management and in the management of agro-silvo-pastoral systems (dehesa and montado grasslands) in the Iberian context.

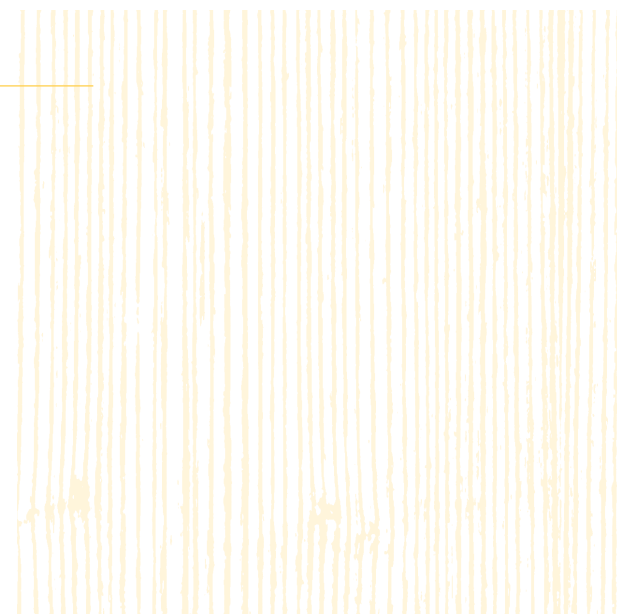
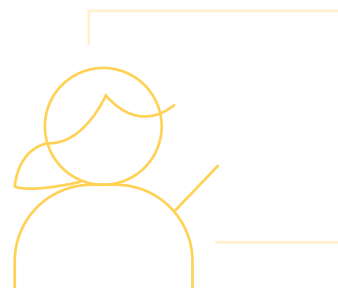


TRAINING OF
KEY ACTORS

Training for local managers, technical officers and university professors

This action has been key to training agents with particular importance in climate change adaptation, either because of their capacity to act on the ground or because of their ability to broadcast the message.

By running courses aimed at **local managers**, **administration technical officers** and at **university teaching staff**, progress has been made in strengthening their ability to incorporate adaptation to climate change into their respective professional fields, while at the same time spreading knowledge and awareness of climate change.



Breakfast briefings with journalists

There have been breakfast briefings with reporters and communicators. These were used to set out the latest knowledge on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change at the national level and in different areas.

This initiative has sought to contribute to improving the coverage of climate change adaptation in the media.



Reports on the media coverage of climate change adaptation

Two studies have been made of the media coverage of climate change adaptation in the Spanish press. The first covers the years 2012-2016 and the second covers the years 2017-2019. They have analysed how the issue of climate change adaptation is presented in the print media.

The summary report “Adaptation to climate change in the Spanish press. Analysis of the media treatment of climate change adaptation in Spain (2012-2019)” was published in 2021. It includes the final results of the whole period analysed, in which some trends stand out such as: the low newsworthiness of the topic despite an increase in its presence over the years; the framing of the stories in mainly political terms, before scientific and economic ones, and the concentration of news in a few sectors (water, energy and biodiversity).

Finally, a series of recommendations are set out to help improve social communication on adaptation to climate change, whether by public institutions or by professional journalists.



IMPROVING
THE WAY
ADAPTATION IS
COMMUNICATED

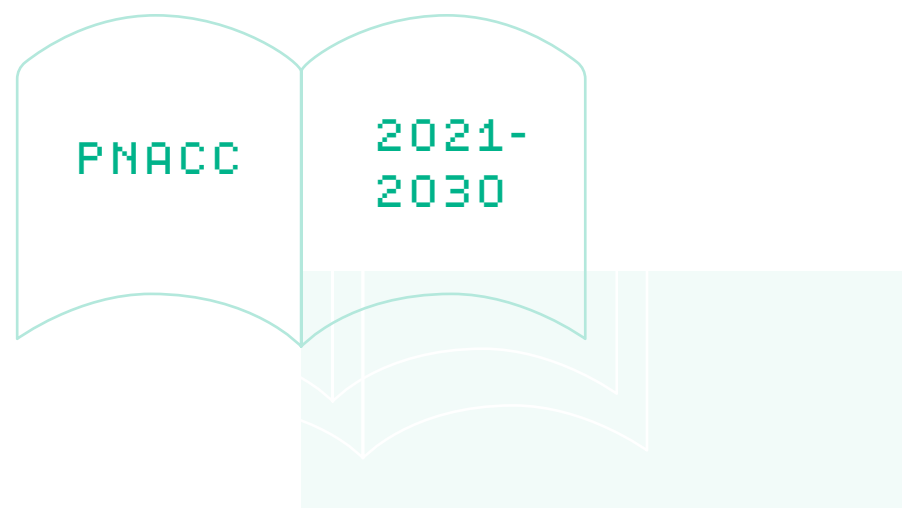
PNACC Evaluation Process (2006-2020) and publication of the new PNACC (2021-2030)

The LIFE SHARA project has had a direct link with public policies, contributing directly to the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC).

In 2018 and 2019, a comprehensive Evaluation of the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (2006-2020) was conducted, with the main goal of recognizing the progress made, and identifying what challenges remain and the lessons learned so far.

The result of this analysis is the **Evaluation Report of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change.**

These results have been essential in designing and creating, through a wide participatory process, the new **PNACC (2021-2030).** The new PNACC broadens the themes addressed, the actors involved and the ambition of its objectives. For the first time, it sets strategic objectives and defines a system of indicators of impacts and adaptation to climate change as well as for drawing up risk reports. In short, a new governance based on the lessons learned from Spain's first National Adaptation Plan, which systematizes the risks, the responses to them and monitors their effectiveness.



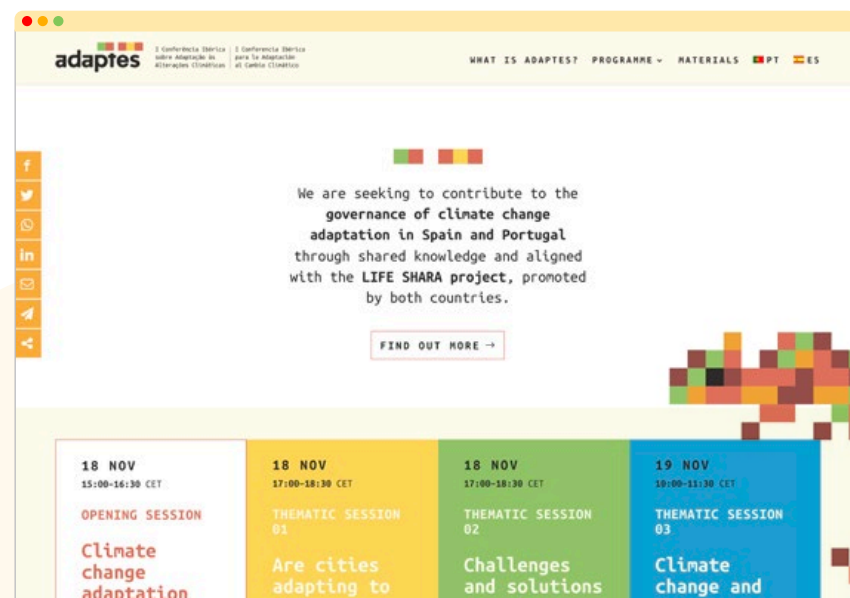
1st Iberian Conference on Adaptation to Climate Change #Adaptes

As a result of the collaborative work between Spain and Portugal, evident throughout the entire project, the **1st Iberian Conference on Adaptation to Climate Change #Adaptes** was held in November 2020. For three days, more than 2.450 participants and 90 speakers addressed in 10 thematic sessions (cities, agriculture, water, coastal areas, health, Mediterranean and Macaronesian islands, information, education and training, disaster risk, tourism and biodiversity) a range of issues related to climate change adaptation in both countries.

The intense work during these three days resulted in the following **conclusions from the Conference**, which represent an **important roadmap for further work in the coming years in terms of adaptation to climate change between Spain and Portugal**.

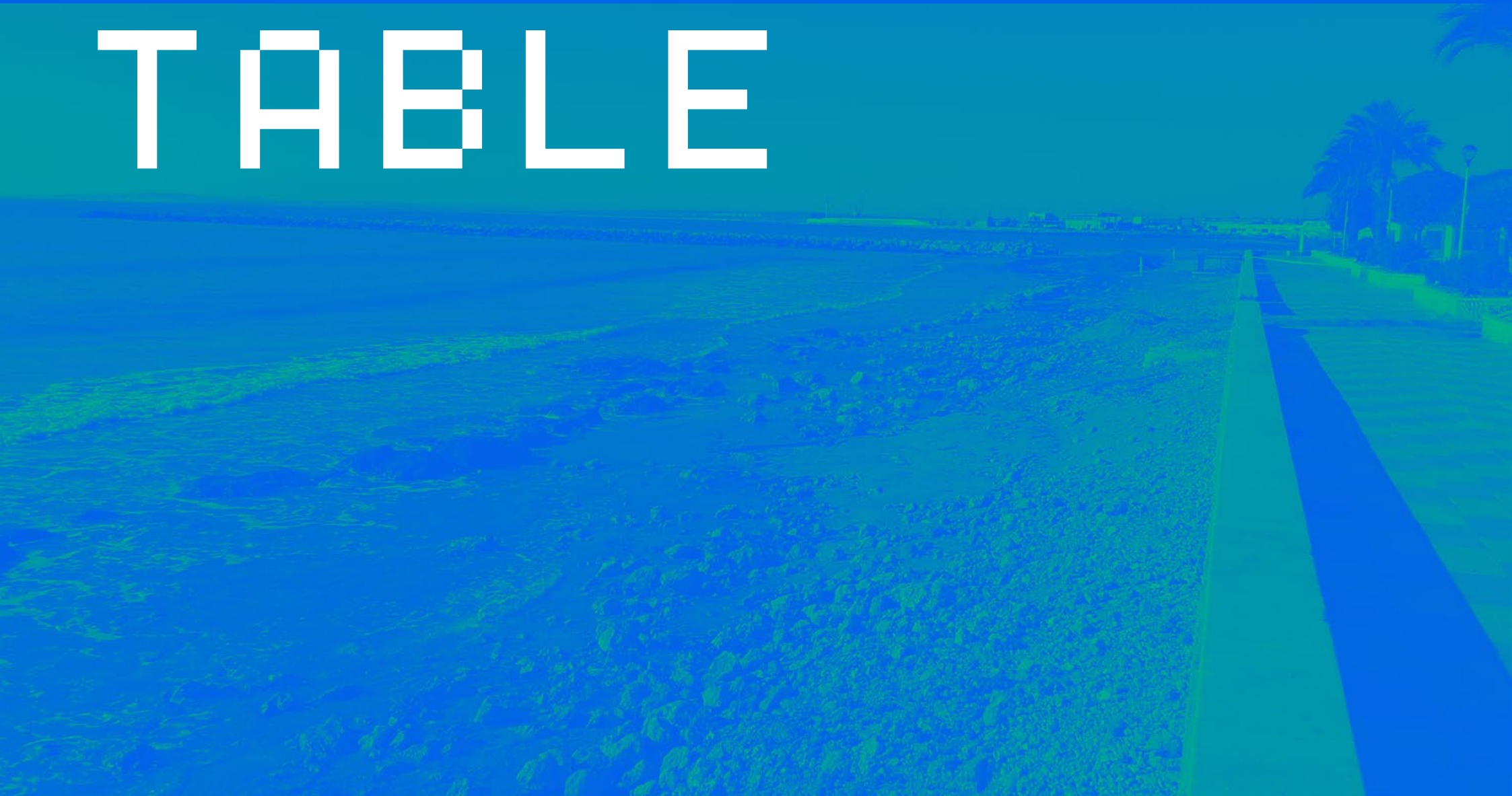
For more details on the results of the Conference, please see **the final report**.

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Final summary

TABLE



LIFE SHARA PROJECT	
Title	Sharing awareness and governance of adaptation to climate change in Spain
Objective	To strengthen the governance of adaptation to climate change and increase resilience to climate change in Spain and Portugal, in line with the European Adaptation Strategy
Duration	September 2016 - October 2021 (62 months)
Budget	€1,569,139
Scope	Spain and Portugal
Coordination	Biodiversity Foundation of the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge
Partners	Spanish Climate Change Office State Meteorological Agency Autonomous Organism of National Parks - through the National Centre for Environmental Education Portuguese Agency for the Environment.
Contact	lifeshara@fundacion-biodiversidad.es
Web	https://lifeshara.es

EDITED BY: The LIFE SHARA project "Sharing awareness and governance of adaptation to climate change" (www.lifeshara.com), coordinated by the Biodiversity Foundation, of the Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge (MITECO).

The project has a budget of more than 1.5 million euros and is 57% co-financed through LIFE funds, the European Union's financial instrument for the environment. The Spanish Climate Change Office, the Spanish State Meteorological Agency (AEMET), the Autonomous Agency of National Parks -through the National Centre for Environmental Education (CENEAM) and the Portuguese Agency for the Environment are partners in the project.

LIFE SHARA IN DETAIL	
Objectives	Results
1 To generate knowledge on adaptation and to contribute to its dissemination through the AdapteCCa Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New AdapteCCa Platform website, which includes the development of eight new features: viewer, image bank, case studies, search engine, connection with Climate ADAPT, forums, internal network and option for users to upload information to the platform • Climate Change Scenario Viewer • AdapteCCa User Manual • Informative digital leaflet about AdapteCCa and its new functions (ES/EN) • More than 130 news items have been published (21.8% average annual increase since the start of the project), more than 300 documents have been uploaded (51.5% average annual increase since the start of the project) and more than 290 events have been added (49.3% annual increase since the start of the project).
2 Communicate, raise awareness and build capacity for climate change adaptation through training, information and awareness campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four online information days to publicise the new features and content of AdapteCCa, with the participation of 449 people • Seven AdapteCCa Digital Newsletters • Image Bank on climate change adaptation in AdapteCCa, with free access and more than 440 images • 42 case studies of adaptation in Spanish and 15 in English • Publication "Solutions. Climate Change Adaptation Case Studies", which contains a selection of these case studies • Seven working breakfasts on topics related to climate change adaptation with the participation of 146 journalists • Two reports on the media treatment of adaptation in the periods 2012-2016 and 2016-2019, as well as the final report presenting the results of the entire period 2012-2019 "Adaptation to climate change in the Spanish press" • "Sharing solutions. Climate change adaptation initiatives" collection, which brings together 30 stories of adaptation in four formats: panels, story, video interview-report and video-trailer • Travelling exhibition "Adaptation: the other fight against climate change" available for loan and for download online. It has toured 28 locations • Two training initiatives aimed at administration technical officers, reaching 42 participants. • Two training initiatives aimed at local managers, with a participation of 61 people. • Two training initiatives for university lecturers, with a participation of 126 people. • FAQs brochure of the new PNACC (2021- 2030) in digital and paper format (ES/EN) • 120 mentions of the project in the media and more than 550 mentions in social media, of which 380 relate to #Adaptates • 13 press releases published
3 To promote and strengthen coordination and cooperation between key actors, especially with the private sector, between public administrations and with Portugal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection module between Climate-ADAPT and AdapteCCa and infographic (ES/EN) • Five meetings between Spain and Portugal • Two cross-border seminars in Évora (Portugal) and Lisbon (Portugal), with the participation of 81 technical officers • Infographic summary in digital format on the framework for cooperation on adaptation between Spain and Portugal (ES/PT/EN) • Four sector seminars (insurance; arable crops; society and lifestyles; and risk assessments), with the participation of a total of 153 people • First Iberian Conference on climate change adaptation #Adaptates (18, 19 and 20 November 2020) with the participation of more than 2,450 people and 90 speakers on 10 different topics (ES/PT/EN)
4 Evaluate the impact of the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change PNACC (2006-2020).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad participatory process has enabled the drafting of the Complete Evaluation Report of the PNACC (2006-2020) • The above process involved surveys and interviews with key actors and stakeholders, as well as four meetings of the GTIA advisory group • Finally, based on the evaluation, the new PNACC (2021-2030) was approved in 2020

www.lifeshara.es