

Together for Climate, Nature and People

A pledge for Climate Change Adaptation
in and around Protected Areas



LIFE
NATUR'
ADAPT

As recognised in the [EU Green Deal](#), the [Paris Agreement](#), the [United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity](#), climate change and global nature loss and degradation are currently affecting the very conditions upon which human communities and wildlife depend. The latest joint report* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) highlighted how “the mutual reinforcing of climate change and biodiversity loss means that satisfactorily resolving either issue requires consideration of the other”.

On the one hand, Protected Areas are directly threatened by Climate Change. And, on the other hand, Protected Areas are key providers of natural solutions and therefore have an important role to play to tackle global challenges and build a sustainable society.

Taking into account the recommendation of the EUROPARC Climate Change Task Force as well as the key outputs of the LIFE Natur'Adapt Project, we, the undersigned Agencies for nature conservation, Protected Area Managing authorities, organisations and networks of Protected Areas from across Europe, **recognise**:

- The need and urgency to jointly tackle the interdependent issues of climate change and biodiversity loss;
- The serious threats posed by climate change to nature in general, to human communities and to habitats and species managed by Protected Areas in particular;
- The fact that climate projections directly question the capacity of many Protected Areas to deliver long-term protection of their features;
- Therefore, the need and urgency to take climate change into account in the management of Protected Areas;
- The value of the work and outputs produced by the [LIFE Natur'Adapt project](#) and the EUROPARC Climate Change Task Force, with specific reference to guidelines and learning tools to build and implement adaptation strategies in Protected Areas.

* Source: Pörtner, H.O., Scholes, R.J., Agard, J., Archer, E., Arneth, A., Bai, X., Barnes, D., Burrows, M., Chan, L., Cheung, W.L., Diamond, S., Donatti, C., Duarte, C., Eisenhauer, N., Foden, W., Gasalla, M. A., Handa, C., Hickler, T., Hoegh-Guldberg, O., Ichii, K., Jacob, U., Inzarov, G., Kiessling, W., Leadley, P., Leemans, R., Levin, L., Lim, M., Maharaj, S., Managi, S., Marquet, P. A., McElwee, P., Midgley, G., Oberdorff, T., Obura, D., Osman, E., Pandit, R., Pascual, U., Pires, A. P. F., Popp, A., Reyes-García, V., Sankaran, M., Settele, J., Shin, Y. J., Sintayehu, D. W., Smith, P., Steiner, N., Strassburg, B., Sukumar, R., Trisos, C., Val, A.L., Wu, J., Aldrian, E., Parmesan, C., Pichs-Madruga, R., Roberts, D.C., Rogers, A.D., Díaz, S., Fischer, M., Hashimoto, S., Lavorel, S., Wu, N., Ngo, H.T. 2021. IPBES-IPCC co-sponsored workshop report on biodiversity and climate change; IPBES and IPCC. [DOI:10.5281/zenodo.4782538](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4782538).



Moreover, **we believe** that:

- Climate and nature protection issues must be tackled jointly and integrated into public and sectoral policies in a cross-cutting manner;
- Protected Areas have an important role to play to tackle climate change within and around their borders: they actively contribute to the health of ecosystems, ensure the provision of ecosystem services in the long term, and enhance the adaptive capacity of communities and territories to climate change;
- Involving Protected Areas and managing authorities in strategic landscape and climate planning, at multiple scales, will contribute to ensure that nature is represented in risk assessments. It should support the collaborative development of innovative spatial planning strategies integrating both climate change and biodiversity loss challenges;
- Protected Areas and their managing authorities require adequate capacity, knowledge and resources in order to develop and implement climate adaptation strategies.

On behalf of the organisation we represent, **we** therefore **pledge** to:

- Work together with our members and/or partners to promote the integration of climate change within Protected Area Management plans and practice;
- Support and encourage Protected Areas to undertake climate change vulnerability assessments, and to plan for adaptation, leveraging the methodology, tools and results from the [LIFE Natur'Adapt project](#) (or similar relevant ones);
- Support and encourage Protected Areas to develop partnerships with local or regional authorities in order to design integrated climate change adaptation plans;
- Contribute to raise the expertise and capacity of Protected Area managing authorities on climate adaptation, providing opportunities for capacity building and international learning exchanges.

Together, with this pledge, we seek to accelerate the transition towards a nature-inclusive and climate-resilient society in order to safeguard a sustainable living environment in the future.

LIFE17 CCA/FR/000089 – LIFE #CC #NATURADAPT
LIFE Natur'Adapt is a 5-year project
developed with the enthusiastic
financial support of:



Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.