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Grounding Climate Partnerships: The relevance of an 'emplaced' science-stakeholder interaction in the case of North Frisia.

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Studies on the social and cultural dimensions of perceiving and framing climate change (CC) have gathered momentum in recent years. Primarily sociologists, anthropologists, geographers, environmental psychologists and scientists in communications research have scientifically contemplated the socio-cultural facets of CC by applying a variety of qualitative and quantitative methods. Meanwhile, climate services and bureaus (CSB) entered the scenery holding the practical aim to comprehensively communicate scientific results to the public and to build climate partnerships with decision-makers and stakeholders. Conceptually based on the traditional conduit model of communication, the CSB's current attempts to improve communication between climate science and society remain on the theoretical level of an 'evidence-based' concept of communication that fails to take notice of regional climate framings and socio-cultural contexts. To overcome these shortcomings, we propose a move towards a so-called place-based approach that investigates practices of place-attachment and discloses regional 'climate-knowledges' as relevant for science-stakeholder interaction and the development of climate partnerships. Our study is empirically based on the analysis of a cadastre of centennial natural extreme events, a population survey on CC perception in Germany and on semi-structured interviews conducted with coastal dwellers in North Frisia. The aim of the paper is twofold: it – first – consists in empirically exploring the potentials of a place-based approach for an 'emplaced' science-stakeholder interaction and, – second – it theorises about the conceptual and methodological implications our study yields for a joint and socially sustainable elaboration of 'grounded' climate partnerships.