



Transfer of knowledge as a process to enhance dialogue between researchers and decisions makers in Europe.

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Climate services produce accurate and relevant information on climate change trends and impacts on local, national and global scales. An important prerequisite for successful implementation of climate services is solid user targeted communication. A recognized challenge for the scientific and funding communities is to identify end user needs and address research questions and fund accordingly.

Within the ERA-network, FP-7 project Climate Impact Research and response Coordination for a Larger Europe, CIRCLE-2, an important focus is to enable arenas for users of climate information, such as decision makers and policy makers, to interact with the scientific- and the funding community in Europe, directed at climate change impact, vulnerability and adaptation. The aim has been to enhance the dialogue in between the different communities, assisting in the transfer of scientific knowledge, with a goal to further develop a research agenda within the CIRCLE-2 funding agencies.

Hence, CIRCLE-2 has during the last years developed extensive experience in facilitating knowledge transfer between science, policy and practice. Through international, interactive, multiple day workshops scientists and end users get together to exchange ideas. These workshops often operate at crossroads of multiple national or European programs and initiatives, i.e. JPI-Climate, PRO-VIA, the EEA. Through thematic (e.g. uncertainties) and geographically themed workshops (e.g. mountains, Mediterranean region) transfer of knowledge is especially concentrated to these end users.

Most importantly, CIRCLE-2 facilitates the building of a network of European researchers that operate in an informal, close-knit network, both within, but also outside CIRCLE-2, tying together similar institutions, or research groups, across Europe.

Reflections include challenges in this knowledge transfer process, related to means of communication, the question of who to involve, how to define areas of interest, how to attract participants to arenas of workshops or initiatives to follow-up a workshop, or how communicate findings targeted to the right audience.