



COOPERATION OF CITIES
AND LOCAL COMPANIES FOR
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

BROCHURE

*A methodological guide for local governments
and private companies to help create climate
change adaptation strategies in partnership*



The leaflet was elaborated by:
Energy Strategy Institute, and
The University of Miskolc

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Climate change is one of the most crucial global challenges of our era. Considering its effects experienced increasingly, strengthening the objectives and implementation of climate adaptation policies, strategies and plans is of key importance – in addition to reducing emissions – to mitigate risks and negative effects.

The expression of “Think globally, act locally” is becoming cardinal in climate policy, whose adaptation pillar is typically a local, regional issue: a search for locally/regionally relevant answers to challenges specific on a local/regional level.

Cooperation of municipalities and industrial companies operating on their area can be beneficial from a climate adaptation aspect for several reasons. Apart from benefits provided for both partners, this type of partnership can contribute to a more effective adaptive capacity of communities and the environment and improve sustainability.



*The climate is changing.
Let's adapt together!*

The elaboration of a joint climate adaptation strategy can be a tool against local/regional effects of climate change uniting efforts of municipalities, companies, and other stakeholder organisations, resulting in more coherent responses.

Cooperation facilitates sharing resources, expertise, and workforce, which can lead to cost savings and increase the efficiency of projects. Besides, preparing the strategy in cooperation provides support and legitimacy for its contents, boosting participation and long-term commitment of locals and stakeholders in implementation, and thus, in the fight against climate change.

This type of cooperation remains an untapped potential for Hungary and its broader region for the time being. This is why the methodological Guide demonstrating joint planning via the example of the city of Kazincbarcika and BorsodChem Inc. was elaborated, providing inputs for similar initiatives based on a city-company relation.



WHAT DOES THE GUIDE CONTAIN?

The Guide itself is the final part of the vulnerability-assessment, climate adaptation strategy, methodological guide logical chain, constituting the last phase of experience- and knowledge-sharing of the complete climate adaptation planning process.

The Guide presents in detail the method of adaptation-focused, joint city-company strategy planning aimed at giving an effective response – based on planning experience of the joint Climate Adaptation Strategy for the city of Kazincbarcika and BorsodChem Inc., elaborated in the framework of a LIFE-CLIMCOOP project.

The goal of the Guide is to offer step-by-step tangible planning-methodological tools and examples for other potential city-company cooperations, by walking through the elaboration process of the Strategy. The guide draws attention to possible mistakes, stumbling blocks and planning practices to avoid these.

For the planning, the Guide further developed and adapted the methodology for supporting the preparation of Hungarian county and settlement climate strategies, elaborated in 2017 by the National Adaptation Centre on behalf of the Association of Climate-Friendly Municipalities, as well as the solutions offered by Urban Adaptation Support Tool of the Climate Adapt webpage to a city-company cooperation.



STRUCTURE OF THE GUIDE

OVERVIEW OF CHAPTERS

1

INTRODUCTION

- Climate change and adaptation
- The goal of the task
- Methodology to be applied
- Instruction manual

2

TO DETERMINE THE PLANNING FRAMEWORK:

- Definition of conceptional frameworks
- Establishment of the planning team
- Overview of the research area
- Identification of the planning environment
- Identification and assessment of stakeholders

3

TO CONDUCT THE SITUATION ANALYSIS:

- analysis of planning documents
- analysis of natural, social, and economic environment
- Field research
- Risk mapping
- Study of climate vulnerability topics
- NAGiS municipality decision-supporting modules
- Mistakes to avoid

4

TO PERFORM A SITUATION ASSESSMENT:

- SWOT analysis
- Problem- and goal tree setting
- Narrative situation assessment
- Mistakes to avoid

5

TO DEFINE A VISION:

- Techniques of determining a vision
- Mistakes to avoid

6

TO PLAN AN OBJECTIVE SYSTEM:

- Planning a climate adaptation objective system
- Prioritization of adaptation
- Mistakes to avoid

7

TO PLAN MEASURES:

- The process of planning measures
- The approach applied during planning measures
- Mistakes to avoid

9

CONCLUSIONS TO HELP PLANNING:

- Data- and information fact background, foundation of the analysis
- Challenges, risks
- Lessons, suggestions



Defining the planning framework

Before the elaboration of joint city-company joint strategies, it's necessary to define the framework laying the foundation of the planning process, such as the purpose of the planning, the time frame, determination of the study area, the examination of the planning environment, the assessment and identification of stakeholders, and the selection of the members of the planning team.

Conducting a situation analysis

The situation analysis serves a dual2 purposes in adaptation strategies. On one hand, it presents natural, social, and economic characteristics of the city and its regions, highlighting the most important ongoing changes and tendencies; on the other hand, it defines and analyses the local manifestation and intensity of climate effects and vulnerability issues relevant for the city and its regions. These will constitute the base of the vision, the objective system, and the measures.

Carrying out a situation assessment

The situation assessment summarizes and synthetizes the local and regional assets, characteristics, strengths, and challenges revealed by the situation analysis, providing an evaluation of the situation of the studied area from an adaptation perspective.

Defining a vision

It states the desired state which the city and company want to reach medium-term as a result of the joint climate strategy.

Planning an objective system

Planning the objective system and its elements serves reaching the desired state of the vision. The complex, multi-level system of objectives on different levels (overall goal, specific and sub-objectives) outlines the direction of sectoral/thematic measures to achieve the vision.

Planning measures

Founded on the objective system, upon each sub-objective measures are set, serving the implementation of the objectives. Planned measures need to be well-founded, and feasible and their trackability should also be ensured. In contrast with objectives, measures contain an exact description. For each measure, it is necessary that the sub-tasks should be presented in detail, responsables for execution and contributors should be selected, financial background and the exact resources should be identified, and expected actual outputs should be presented. The involvement of stakeholders is also necessary when planning measures.

Planning the implementation framework

The framework of the implementation (sheduling, financial background, monitoring and evaluation tasks, public participation process) need to be laid precisely for the completed city-company joint climate adaptation strategy to function as an actually feasible development roadmap.

Climate policy planning is a multi-actor complex “game” with several stakeholders, sectors and organizations. Synchronizing the interests requires a strong facilitation and coordination role from planners, in which the toolbox of participatory planning provides significant assistance.



THE METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF JOINT CITY-COMPANY ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

can be downloaded from the project website:

<https://life-climcoop.hu/en/documents/>



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