Revision and update of the national strategy on adaptation to climate change in Slovakia

Deliverable 2.5 – Report on training needs and provided training to support the operationalisation of the new NAS and governance framework

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SG REFORM

Deliverable 2.5 – Report on training needs and provided training to support the operationalisation of the new NAS and governance framework

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings and outcomes of activities undertaken to assess, design, and deliver training initiatives supporting the operationalisation of Slovakia's revised **National Adaptation Strategy (NAS)**[1] and its associated governance framework. Developed under the project *"Revision and update of the national strategy on adaptation to climate change in Slovakia"*, the deliverable aims to guide strengthening of institutional and individual capacities across national, regional, district, and municipal levels to enhance climate resilience and adaptation implementation.

A comprehensive **training needs assessment** (chapter 1) was conducted in March/April 2025 through a national survey with a total of 65 responses. Respondents represented all levels of governance, providing insights into awareness, readiness, and existing skill gaps related to climate change adaptation. Results highlighted high awareness but uneven preparedness across administrative levels - particularly at municipal and district levels - underscoring the need for targeted training and improved coordination mechanisms. Priority training themes identified include **water management**, **disaster risk reduction**, **biodiversity conservation**, and **urban resilience**. Respondents expressed a strong preference for **blended, participatory, and practice-oriented learning formats**, reflecting the need for flexible yet hands-on approaches.

Building on the survey findings, a **training strategy and programme** were developed to ensure that all actors involved in adaptation policy and practice will be equipped with competencies required to implement the NAS and corresponding National Adaptation Plan (NAP) effectively.

The **training strategy** (chapter 2) defines **four functional training groups**: (1) Strategic Leaders and Policymakers – focusing on governance, financing, and policy coherence; (2) Adaptation Project Managers and Coordinators – emphasising project cycle management and monitoring frameworks; (3) Technical Specialists and Implementers – addressing practical implementation of sectoral adaptation measures; and (4) Support and Enabling Functions – enhancing integration of adaptation into finance, procurement, and communication processes.

Beyond the definition of the four functional training groups, **Chapter 2** also outlines the **guiding principles for identifying training participants** and the **overarching strategic learning objectives** common to all groups, establishing a shared understanding of climate risks, clarifying institutional roles, strengthening decision-making, fostering inter-sectoral collaboration, and ensuring the sustainability of acquired competencies. Finally, it describes the **engagement approach**, which prioritises participatory, blended, and context-specific learning methods, including interactive workshops, case studies, and train-the-trainer elements to ensure long-term capacity building and institutional ownership of adaptation knowledge.

The training programme (chapter 3) operationalises the strategic framework defined in chapter 2, translating the training strategy into a structured set of learning modules and delivery mechanisms. It provides a detailed curriculum tailored to the four functional training groups, ensuring that each group receives targeted, role-specific capacity-building support. The programme is designed to equip participants with both the conceptual understanding and the practical tools required to plan, finance, and implement adaptation measures under the revised NAS.

Training cycles are modular and flexible, accommodating the differing needs and time constraints across governance levels. National and regional actors participate in more comprehensive sessions lasting one to three days, while district and municipal representatives benefit from shorter, more frequent workshops and blended learning options. The curriculum integrates cross-cutting sessions bringing together all groups to strengthen collaboration between sectors and institutions and to promote coherence between national, regional, and local adaptation efforts.

[1] See Trinomics (2025). Revision and update of the national strategy on adaptation to climate change in Slovakia. Deliverable 2.4 – Technical note on a draft Slovak NAS, NAP and roadmap - Project report.

Active learning is a core feature of the programme, combining expert input with interactive exercises such as scenario analysis, simulations, and case study discussions. This ensures that participants not only acquire theoretical knowledge but also develop the practical skills to apply it in their daily work. Each module includes hands-on exercises, real-world Slovak examples, and opportunities for peer learning and exchange.

To ensure consistency and quality across training cycles, **dedicated training manuals** were developed for each group (Annex II – Training Manuals per Group), providing facilitators with structured session plans, agendas, exercises, and reference materials. These manuals, together with additional resources and glossaries (Annex III – Further resources), form a comprehensive toolkit for long-term use. The chapter also introduces mechanisms for sustainability and follow-up, including a **Train-the-Trainer (ToT)** component, refresher sessions, and the establishment of peer-learning networks to embed adaptation knowledge within institutions. Overall, the training programme ensures that the capacities built through this initiative are durable, scalable, and aligned with the long-term goals of Slovakia's National Adaptation Strategy.

In 2025, first training sessions and workshops (chapter 4) were successfully organised at national, regional, and district levels. These sessions served both as pilot activities and as early implementation steps to familiarise stakeholders with the revised National Adaptation Strategy (NAS), introduce new coordination mechanisms, and initiate the application of the developed training materials. At the national level, a half-day online workshop brought together representatives from ministries, central authorities, and research institutions to discuss the NAS revision, governance framework, and financing opportunities for adaptation measures. Regional and district-level workshops, facilitated by the Slovak Academy of Sciences, focused on operationalising adaptation priorities in practice—linking national objectives to regional implementation contexts, exploring scenarios, and identifying funding pathways. In addition, three short educational videos (see Annex IV

– Evaluation of Feedback from regional workshops

Table 60: Number of registered participants and feedback forms received

Region	Number of registered participants	Total number of feedback forms received
Prešov	55	38
Žilina	60	53
Banská Bystrica	54	41
Total	169	132

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

Content of the Event

Question 1: Relevance of topics: To what extent were the topics presented relevant to your interests and professional needs?

	1 = not relevant at all	2	3	4	5 = highly relevant	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	1	2	12	17	6	38
Žilina	3	2	2	23	21	2	53
Banská Bystrica	0	5	12	14	7	3	41
							132

Question 2: Quality of presentations: How do you rate the overall quality of the presentations and speakers?

	1 = very poor	2	3	4	5 = excellent	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	0	11	13	12	2	38
Žilina	0	1	9	26	12	5	53
Banská Bystrica	0	0	5	21	14	1	41
							132

Question 3: Depth of information: Did the content provide a good balance between introductory and detailed information?

☐ Too basic ☐ Just right ☐ Too detailed

	Too basic	Just right	Too detailed	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	20	12	6	38
Žilina	0	32	19	2	53
Banská Bystrica	0	19	18	4	41
					132

Question 4: Key takeaways: What was the most valuable insight or experience you gained from this event?

[Space for response]

- *How the revised NAS can be translated into region-specific actions when planners, municipalities, and state agencies sit together with shared data and clear roles.*
- *Regional risks differ (floods vs. drought/heat), so measures must be tailored, not one-size-fits-all.*
- *Stronger emphasis on protecting vulnerable groups must be built into project design and eligibility*
- *Direct dialogue with SHMÚ experts clarified use of 2050–2070 scenarios*
- *Problem with access to data*

Question 5: Suggestions for content: What topics would you like to see at future events?

[Space for response]

- *More on financing adaptation*
- *Access to data and how address it (where are the data, who may help in access)*
- *Not clear competencies of regional actors – what are the roles and responsibilities here?*
- *Nature-based solutions for floods/drought/heat: design, permitting, O&M, and co-benefits.*
- *Urban heat & health: heat-health action plans*
- *Critical infrastructure resilience: energy, transport, digital*

Organization of the Event

Question 1: Registration process: How would you rate your registration experience?

	1 = complicated	2	3	4	5 = seamless	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	0	0	5	31	2	38
Žilina	0	0	0	9	43	1	53
Banská Bystrica	0	2	0	7	32	0	41
							132

Question 2:. Venue and equipment: How would you rate the venue and technical arrangements (e.g., seating, lighting, technologies)?

	1 = very poor	2	3	4	5 = excellent	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	0	0	0	32	6	38
Žilina	0	0	0	7	44	2	53
Banská Bystrica	0	0	0	5	33	3	41
							132

Question 3: Timing and program: Was the overall schedule well-structured and easy to follow? ☐ Too fast and short ☐ Just right ☐ Too slow and long

	Too fast and short	Just right	Too slow and long	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	13	15	5	5	38
Žilina	17	23	9	4	53
Banská Bystrica	12	19	7	3	41
					132

Question 4: Overall experience: Please share any additional comments or suggestions regarding the organization of the event.

- *Room too big for discussion (Zilina)*
- *Keep scenario presentation less technical (Prešov)*
- *Add more time for discussion*
- *Would be good to make it hybrid next time for bigger outreach*

Annex V – Video tutorials) were produced to demonstrate practical adaptation approaches, tools, and case studies applicable across governance levels. Participant feedback from all workshops confirmed strong interest and engagement, validating the participatory, problem-solving approach of the training design.

Chapter 5 presents a **postgraduate learning programme – Summer School: "Climate Adaptation: From Theory to Action"**, a university-level extension of the national training framework. Designed to foster long-term professional development and academic collaboration, the Summer School offers an intensive, multidisciplinary learning environment where participants explore the science, policy, and practice of climate adaptation in an integrated manner. The Summer School targets postgraduate students, early-career professionals, and public officials seeking to deepen their understanding of adaptation planning and implementation. It combines lectures by national and international experts with practical exercises, group projects, and field visits, providing participants with exposure to real-world case studies and hands-on problem solving.

Assessment and certification components ensure that learning outcomes are formally recognised and can contribute to career advancement and institutional capacity-building. By bridging academic learning with policy and practice, the Summer School strengthens Slovakia's capacity to cultivate a new generation of adaptation professionals and embeds continuous education into the country's broader climate resilience framework.

In conclusion, this report provides Slovakia with a coherent, evidence-based framework for building the human and institutional capacities needed to implement its revised National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) effectively. Grounded in a comprehensive training needs assessment, it translates strategic priorities into concrete training actions, tailored curricula, and practical learning formats. The approach connects all governance levels—from national decision-makers to local implementers - and integrates both public and private sector actors to ensure coherence, ownership, and scalability.

1 TRAINING NEEDS

1.1 Survey

Introduction

Slovakia is currently revising and updating the National Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (NAS). The process is coordinated by the Ministry of Environment (MoE) of the Slovak Republic with technical support from a consortium of international and local experts. The technical support project was launched by the European Commission (DG REFORM) in 2023 and aims to assist the national authorities of Slovakia in reviewing and updating the NAS and creating a framework to improve capacity and step up the efforts towards adaptation to climate change.

The **aim of investigating on training needs to support the operationalisation of the new NAS and governance framework** was to **ensure the training strategy and programme are tailored to background and needs of** local, regional, and national administrations to increase their operational skills and capacities for implementing adaptation actions proposed for the 2025 NAS revision. The results of the survey thus provide the basis for a wider training strategy and programme as well as a Summer School for Postgraduate Learning.

Methodology

An online survey has been prepared in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment (MoE). The survey weblink has been sent out along with a cover letter from MoE on 24 March 2025 to all members of the Slovak Working Group on Adaptation and was open until 14 April 2025.

The survey questionnaire consisted of six sections (see Annex I: Survey questionnaire 0): (1) General Information, (2) Awareness and Understanding of Climate Change, (3) Training Topics, Format and Duration, (4) Sector-Specific Needs, (5) Collaboration and Resources, and (6) Suggestions and Feedback. While the questionnaire was distributed and completed in Slovak, the analysis was conducted in English and is based on the translated feedback.

The analysis of the survey data collected was carried out using Microsoft Excel. A quantitative approach was applied, focusing on numerical evaluation to identify patterns, trends, and differences across the participant responses. **A total of 65 complete surveys were included in the analysis.**

To allow for more targeted insights and tailored strategic recommendations, the data was differentiated by the level of administration, using the provided information from the survey. Specifically, responses were categorised into four groups: district, local, national and regional. This allowed for a nuanced understanding of how perceptions and needs vary depending on the scope of operations and level of governance.

Each main section of the survey was evaluated separately and is presented in its own dedicated chapter within the report. This structure supports a clear and systematic presentation of findings, making it easier for readers to follow the analysis and focus on specific areas of interest. Additionally, the analysis is conducted and presented question by question, allowing for a detailed exploration of each response item.

Overall, this method ensured both clarity and flexibility in interpreting the results, while remaining accessible and transparent in terms of the tools and processes used.

1.2 Analysis

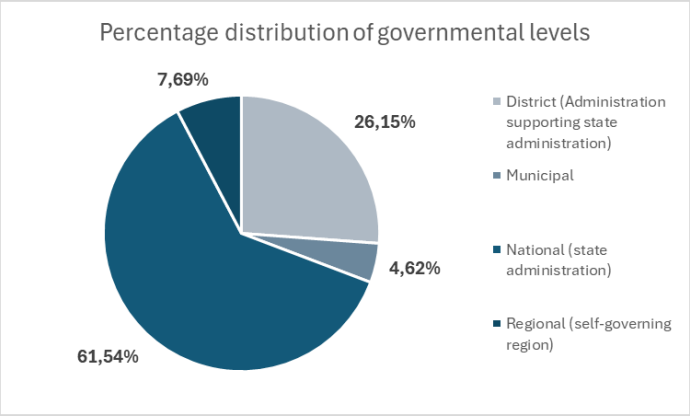
The following presents the analysis of feedback received, structured along the sections of the questionnaire.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

The first section of the questionnaire focused on gathering general background information from the respondents. This included details such as the name of the institution, the respondents' position, the level of administration they represent, and their respective department or unit. This foundational data provided important context for interpreting the subsequent answers and understanding the institutional diversity within the sample.

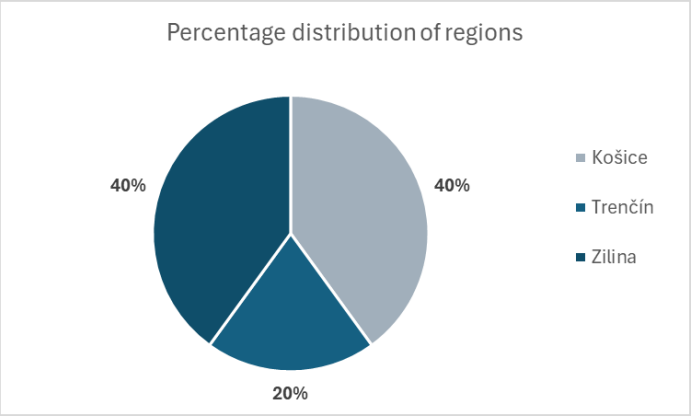
A total of 65 institutions participated in the survey, with representation across different administrative levels: 17 from the district level (26,15 %), 3 from the municipal level (4,62 %), 40 from the national level (61,54 %) and 5 individual answers from three regions (regional level) (7,69 %). This broad range of administrative backgrounds ensured that the findings would reflect a comprehensive perspective across governance levels, however with the caveat that given the limited number of responses from regional and municipal level, results should be interpreted accordingly.

Figure 1: Percentage distribution of governmental levels.



The split of the regions that responded to this survey is shown in Figure 2. Two questionnaires were received from Žilina and Košice and only one from Trenčín. No one from the other regions took part in the survey.

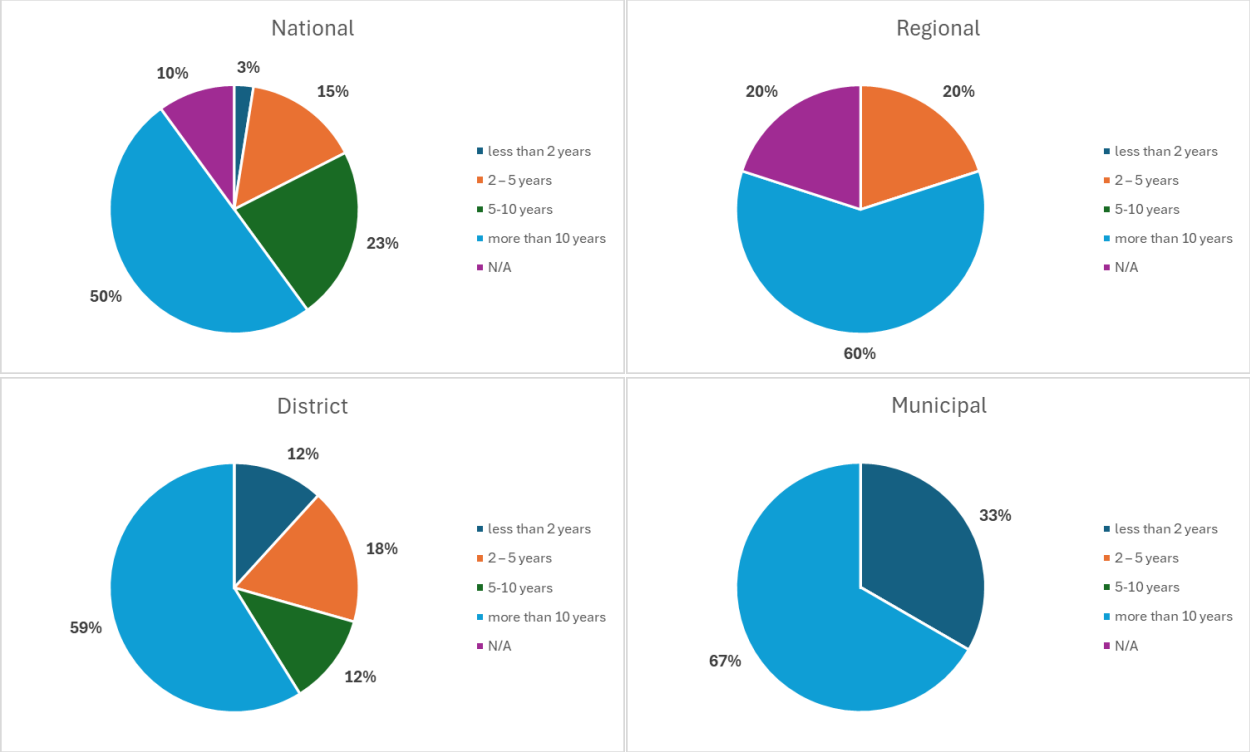
Figure 2: Percentage distribution of regions.



Question 1: How long do you work in public administration?

Figure 3 shows the work experience per government level. Most respondents at all four levels have been working in public administration for over 10 years, indicating a high level of institutional experience and stability. A smaller proportion is new to public administration, which opens development potential for targeted further training.

Figure 3: Percentage distribution of the work experience per governmental level.



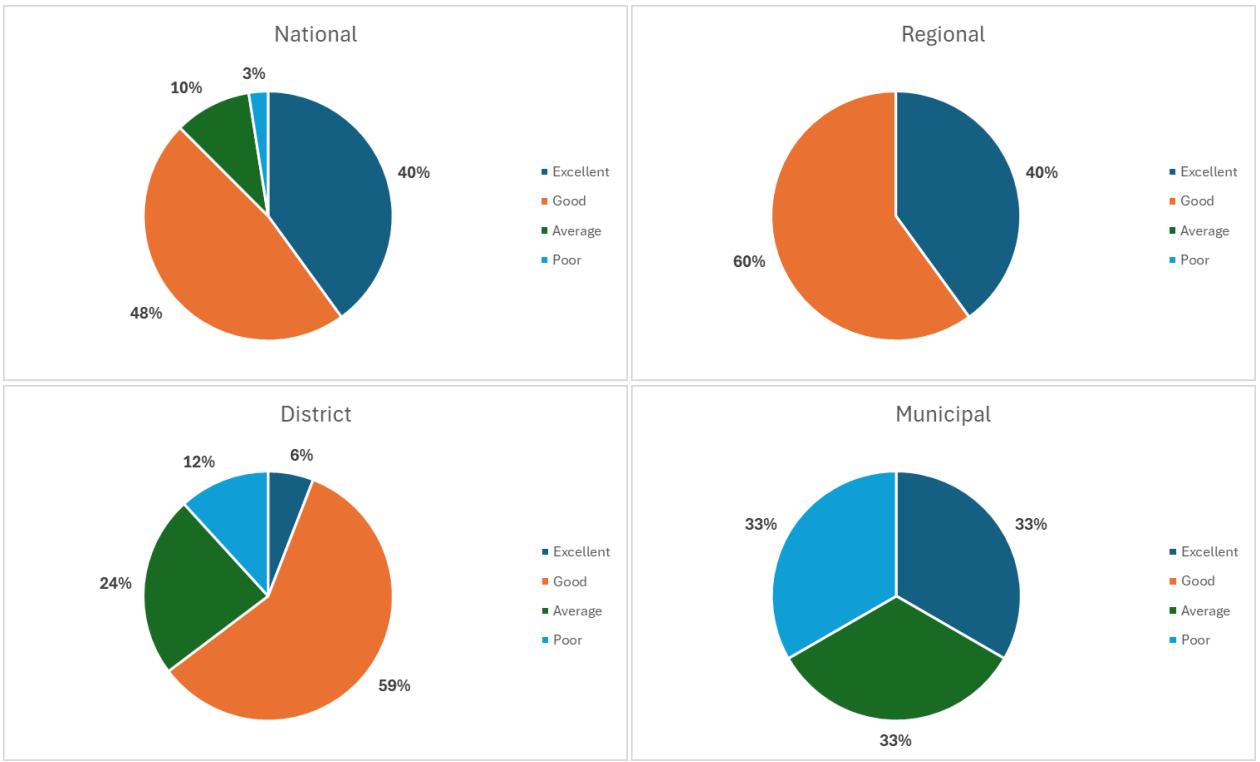
SECTION 2: AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change requires comprehensive awareness and understanding to implement effective adaptation strategies. In Slovakia, this section explores the current state of awareness and understanding across four governmental levels: national, regional, district, and municipal. It examines perceptions of climate change impacts, adaptation priorities, the effectiveness of public outreach, personal involvement, information sources, and organisational readiness to implement adaptation policies. This multi-level analysis will provide insights into the strengths and challenges of climate change adaptation in Slovakia, highlighting areas for improvement and opportunities for collaboration.

Question 1: How would you rate your understanding of the impacts of climate change in Slovakia?

A large proportion of respondents rated their understanding of the effects of climate change as good to excellent. This indicates broad awareness but also shows opportunities for optimising in-depth specialist training. However, 33 % of respondents at the municipal level, 12 % at the district level, and 3 % at the national level stated that they have a poor understanding of the effects of climate change. Here, it is recommended to create a suitable introductory training programme (see Figure 4).

Figure 4: Percentage distribution of the understanding of the impacts of climate change in Slovakia per governmental level



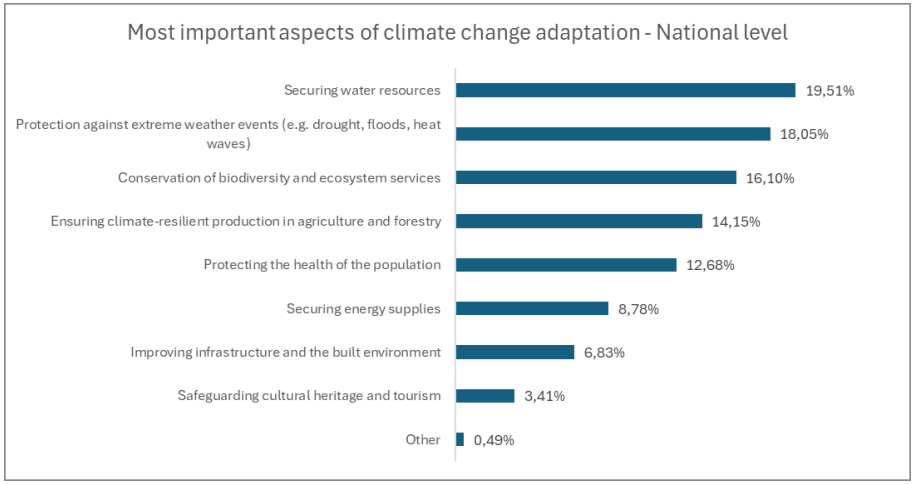
Question 2: What aspects of climate change adaptation do you consider most important? (Select all that apply)?

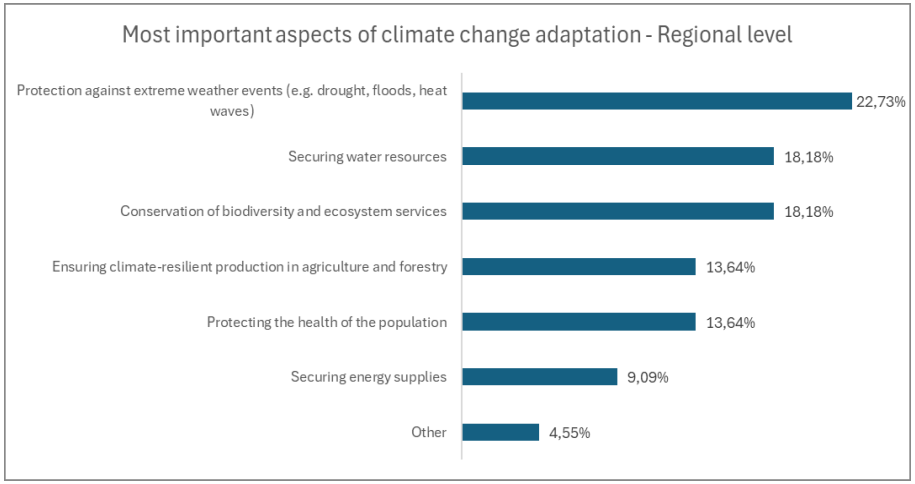
Figure 5 shows the percentage distribution of the most important aspects of climate change adaptation per governmental level.

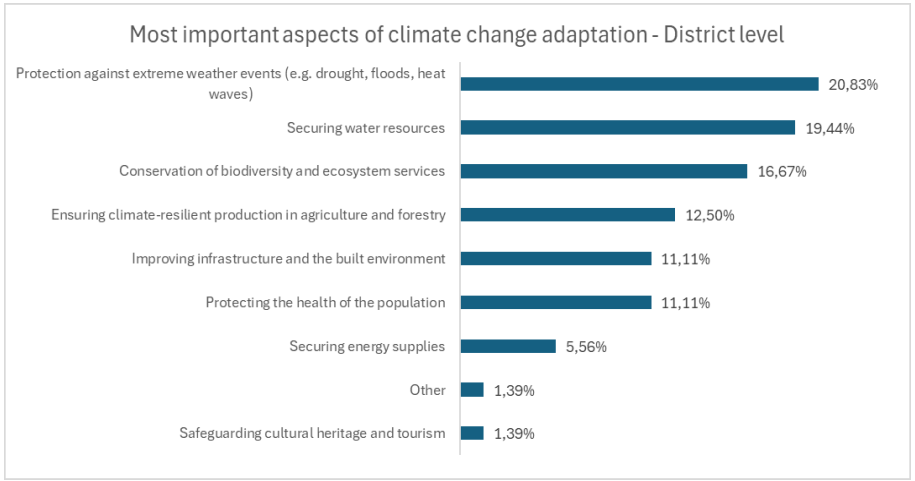
- At the national level, the following three aspects were mentioned most frequently: 'Securing water resources' is in first place, 'Protection against extreme weather events' and 'Conservation of biodiversity'.
- At the regional and district level, 'Protection against extreme weather events' is in first place, followed by 'Securing water resources' and 'Conservation of biodiversity'.
- At the municipal level, 'Protection against extreme weather events' is also in first place, followed by 'Securing water resources' and 'Improving infrastructure and the built environment'.

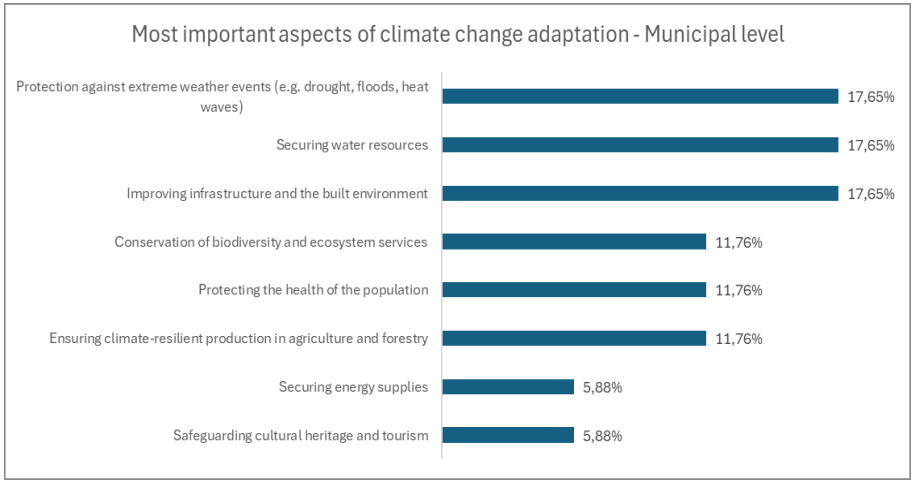
This distribution shows that weather-related risks and water supply are highly relevant at all administrative levels, although there are sector-specific nuances. Issues such as socio-economic impacts, such as '*Safeguarding cultural heritage and tourism*", are less frequently prioritised.

Figure 5: Percentage distribution of the most important aspects of climate change adaptation on governmental level









Other aspects mentioned in question 2 by the participants referred to the composition of the Earth's atmosphere and its cycles, , securing the energy supply through renewable energies, as well as nature-based solutions (utilisation of rainwater).

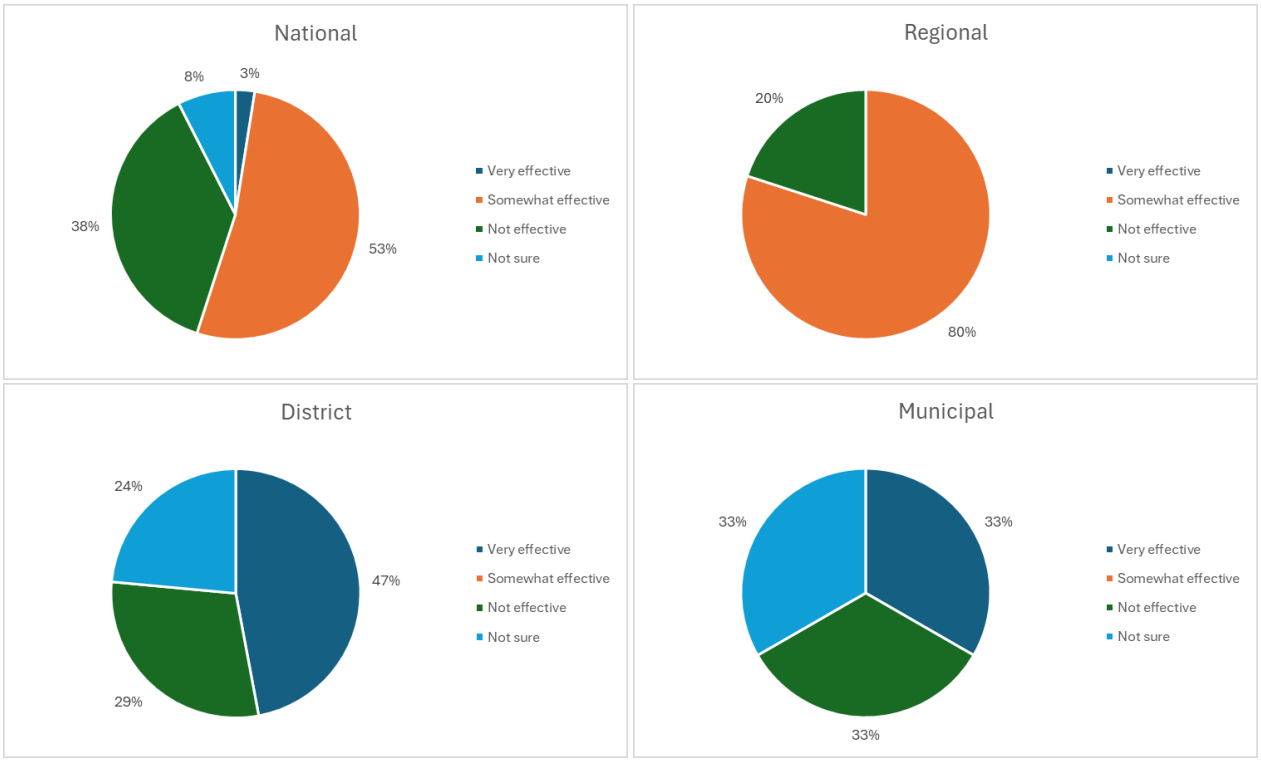
Question 3: How effective do you think public outreach initiatives, such as awareness campaigns and events, are in promoting climate adaptation in Slovakia?

Figure 6 shows the percentage distribution of the effectiveness of public outreach initiatives in promoting climate change adaptation per governmental level.

The majority rate existing public awareness initiatives as rather moderately effective. At the district and municipal level, one-third even believe that this measure is not effective, and another third are unsure. The gap is particularly high at this level of the public administration (33 % and 47 % say 'very effective' at municipal and district level, respectively).

This shows a mismatch between awareness-raising measures and actual impact, which indicates a need for improvement in the communication strategy.

Figure 6: Percentage distribution of the effectiveness of public outreach initiatives in promoting climate adaptation per governmental level.

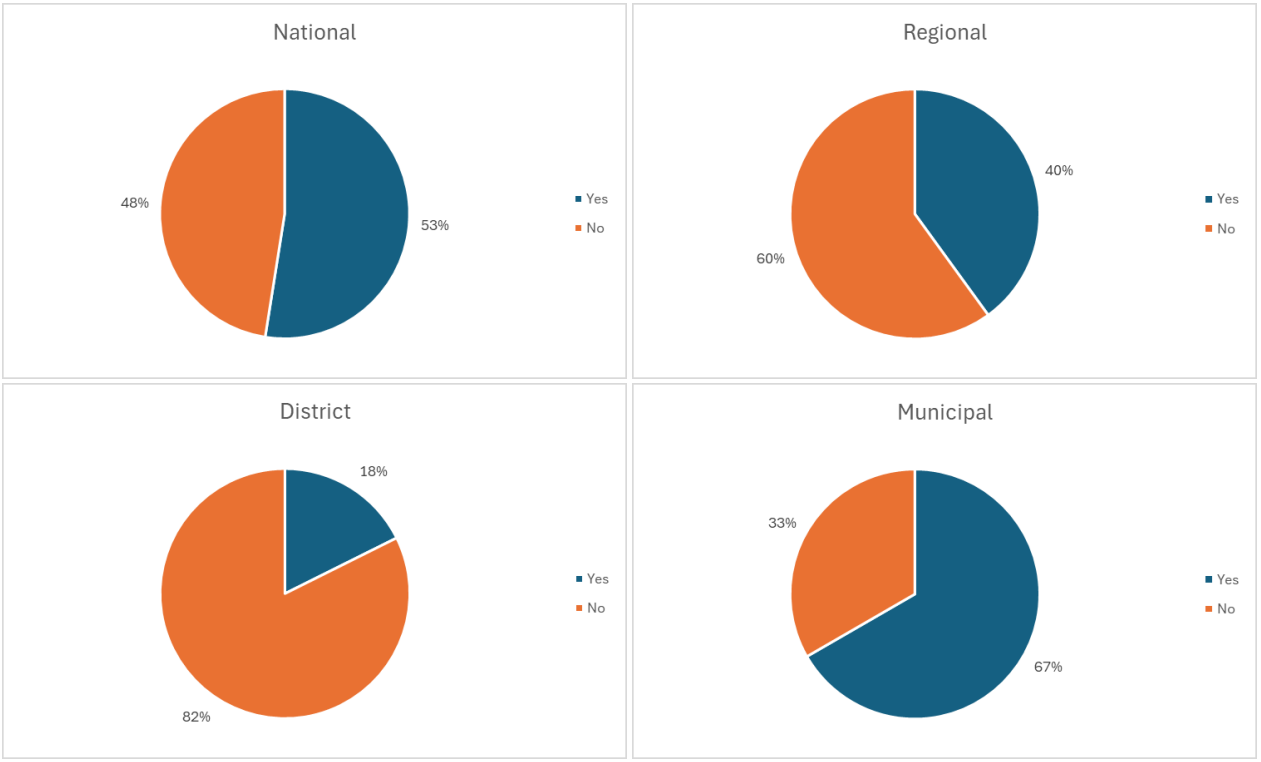


Question 4: Have you been involved with any public awareness initiatives related to climate change adaptation?

At national and municipal level, more than half of the respondents stated to having already been involved in public awareness initiatives.

At regional and district level, however, the picture is the opposite - the majority were not involved, which indicates regional differences in active public relations work and suggests the need for targeted support measures (see Figure 7).

Figure 7: Percentage distribution of the involvement with public awareness initiatives related to climate change adaptation per governmental level.



When answering question 4 with "yes", the respondents have been asked to briefly describe the initiative and their involvement and provide a weblink if available for further information.

At the **Regional level**, the Košice Self-Governing Region actively organises conferences, workshops, and public discussions on climate change adaptation, participating in projects like OSA[2] and Klimapark Kysak[3]. At the **National level**, multiple initiatives exist, including WWF Slovakia's RestoRiver project[4], coordination of klima-adapt.sk, educational publications by the Slovak Academy of Sciences, and various lecture series for universities, farmers, and the public. **Municipal initiatives** include EU-funded projects in Košice focusing on creating climate-safer urban environments and prioritizing green infrastructure standards. At the **District level**, activities comprise environmental protection work, consultations with mayors, and development of air protection programmes (see detailed feedback and weblinks to further information in Table 1).

Table 1: Description of initiatives and the involvement of the organisation/institution.

Governmental Level	Comment
Regional	Yes, the Košice Self-Governing Region is actively involved in initiatives aimed at raising awareness about climate change adaptation. We organize professional conferences, workshops and public discussions, where we present specific measures and examples of good practice. In addition, we engage in education through information campaigns and cooperate with professional institutions and schools. Our goal is not only to inform, but also to motivate the public to actively participate in adaptation measures in the regions. The region also uses technical assistance projects to obtain expert analyses, plan adaptation measures and implement pilot activities that can serve as a model for other territories.
	We worked on the OSA project https://www.arr.sk/osa/ We actively participate in the development of information programmes in Klimapark Kysak

[2] https://www.arr.sk/osa/
[3] https://klimapark.sk/
[4] https://wwfsk.org/projekty/restoriver/

Governmental Level	Comment
	We participate in programmes aimed at increasing motivation and awareness, for example https://www.arr.sk/projekty_arr/upscale/.
National	Within the framework of WWF Slovakia projects, a part of the capacities is always reserved for communication and informing the public. At this time, for example, within the framework of the RestoRiver project, which is aimed at improving the ability of riverine areas to adapt to climate change, reduce flood risk, drought risk and extreme heat, we have implemented a public opinion survey, and based on its results, we are gradually holding various workshops, meetings, information tables, etc. - https://wwfsk.org/projekty/restoriver/.
	Coordination https://www.klima-adapt.sk/, cooperation in organizing educational events
	It was raising awareness among my close circle, such as family and friends. I consider it necessary because they will then pass it on to their close circle, etc.
	Lectures for the public, publishing informative publications on climate change, we are currently preparing the third continuation of the publicly accessible publication https://otvorenaakademia.sav.sk/
	international project COEVOLVERS
	lectures for high schools and universities, as well as sectoral organizations; organized seminars for farmers and foresters; media outlets in newspapers, television and radio; news on the web and social networks
	lecture series for university students
	lectures for farmers
	organizing workshops on increasing the resilience of water infrastructure
	Information seminar after the announcement of the call in the Slovakia Programme with the code PSK-MZP-003-2023-DV-KF 'Water retention measures for adaptation to climate change in settlements and the landscape and/or flood protection'
	creation of the klima-adapt.sk portal
	I was at an information conference organized by the Environmental Protection Agency.
	https://klimatickakoalicia.sk/
	Participatory working meeting on the topic of developing an adaptation strategy for the city of Puchov with representatives of important organizations, state and local administration, school and extracurricular facilities, social facilities, entrepreneurs and civic associations. https://www.puchov.sk/puchov-bude-mat-svoju-strategiu-adaptacie-na-zmenu-klimy-oznam/mid/408320/.html#m_408320 Participatory meeting with representatives of the municipality of Dubová as part of the development of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the municipality of Dubová https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sazp.sk%2Fnovinky%2Fsazp-pomaha-v-oblasti-adaptacié-na-zmenu-klimy-aj-v-obci-dubova&h=AT1frc309RjB1AmvRN85-g1vGo1R5FHPzb34Xn69NLT-CUvfRh2YW2OtvH1hcz6L2upwy6YbcrjQF3kaX0BwcNsr1pXb4115e05i4GFa3FWRT_KM9iX5dttxOzg8ZcA4Us1XylM2bQ4QDA&s=1 Catalogue of selected adaptation measures to the adverse consequences of climate change in relation to land use https://www.sazp.sk/dokument/f/katalog-vybranych-adaptacnych-opatreni-na-nepriaznive-dosledky-zmeny-klimy-vo-vztahu-k-vyuzitiu-krajiny-2.pdf
	lecturing and organizing workshops (Settlements and biodiversity, Green infrastructure in urban settlements) https://www.sazp.sk/zivotne-prostredie/starostlivost-o-zivotne-prostredie/zmena-klimy/podujatia - preparation of the poster exhibition 'Green infrastructure in urban settlements' https://download.sazp.sk/Zelena_infrastrukutra_25%20plagatov.pdf - participatory meeting in Púchov and Dubová as part of the preparation of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy https://www.sazp.sk/novinky/strategia-adaptacie-na-zmenu-klimy-pre-mesto-puchovhttps://www.sazp.sk/novinky/sazp-pomaha-v-oblasti-adaptacie-na-zmenu-klimy-aj-v-obci-dubova - preparation of Climate Change Adaptation Strategies for the city of Púchov and the municipality of Dubová

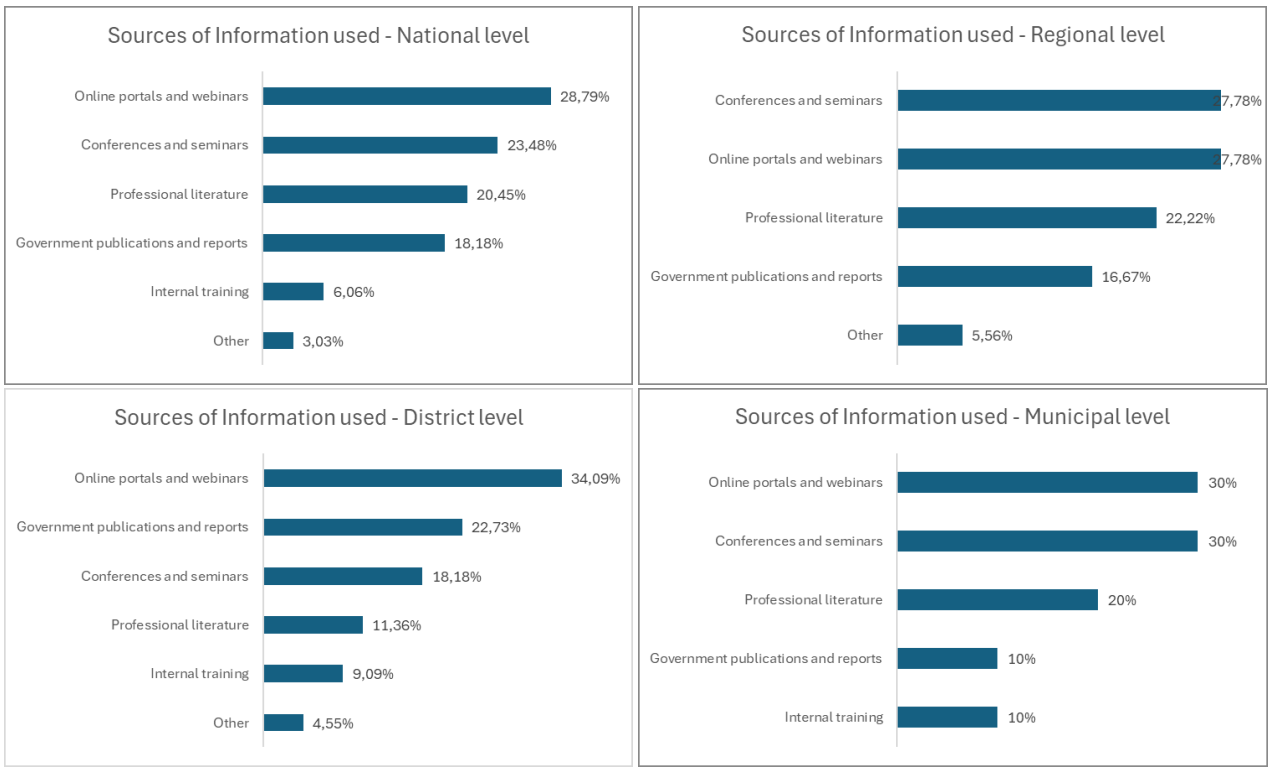
Governmental Level	Comment
	https://www.sazp.sk/cms/documents/2025/strategia-adaptacie-na-zmenu-klimy-pre-obec-dubova_final_67bc0712ca5fb.pdf https://www.sazp.sk/cms/documents/2024/strategia-adaptacie-na-zmenu-klimy_puchov_final_14.10.2024_671b4ca0c4bce.pdf - lecture 'Water retention in the landscape' https://www.sazp.sk/cms/documents/2024/strategia-adaptacie-na-zmenu-klimy_puchov_final_14.10.2024_671b4ca0c4bce.pdf - head of the author team of the publication 'Green infrastructure and its importance in flood protection' https://www.sazp.sk/dokument/f/sazp-zelena-infrastruktura-dec-2021.pdf
	For example, ClimaAdapt (https://www.klima-adapt.sk/o-platforme), and many others ...
	Clima Best project https://www.sazp.sk/projekty-eu/klima-best
	Horizon Europe Missions - Mission Restoring our Oceans and Waters, Mission Land Deal, Mission Climate Adaptation, Mission Climate Neutral and Smart Cities; BioEast - https://bioeast.eu/ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14491-European-Water-Resilience-Strategy_en
	Those that relate to the protection of nature and biodiversity and its prevention of impacts on climate change.
Municipal	Through the implementation of projects from EU funds: https://www.kosice.sk/clanky/skupina/projekty-mesta , https://www.kri.sk/verejnost-pomaha-samosprave-vytvarat-klimaticky-bezpecnejsie-kosice/
	Prioritized MZI standards for greenery against climate change.
District	the department's work includes environmental protection
	consultations, meetings with mayors and education
	development of air protection programmes, participation in public hearings

Question 5: What sources of information do you use to obtain information on climate change adaptation? (Select all that apply)

At the national, municipal and regional level, '*online portals and webinars*' and '*conferences and seminars*' are the most important sources of information on climate change adaptation.

At the district level, in addition to '*online portals and webinars'*, respondents rely on '*government publications and reports*' (see Figure 8).

Figure 8: Percentage distribution of the used sources to obtain information on climate change adaptation per governmental level.



When respondents selected 'Other' for question 5, they were asked to briefly specify their answer. **Chyba! Nenašiel sa žiaden zdroj odkazov.** Responses mentioned that information on climate change adaptation is primarily obtained from thematic professional networks focused on related missions, for example from the European Community of Practice on the Climate Change Adaptation Mission. Additional sources include publications from European institutions (Commission and European Environment Agency), academic literature, commercial articles, and content from social networks. Some responses also referred to public media and personal judgment. Further answers highlighted that experiential knowledge, close observation of nature, and practical common sense play a role, guided by the idea of learning from ecosystems rather than oversteering through excessive regulation.

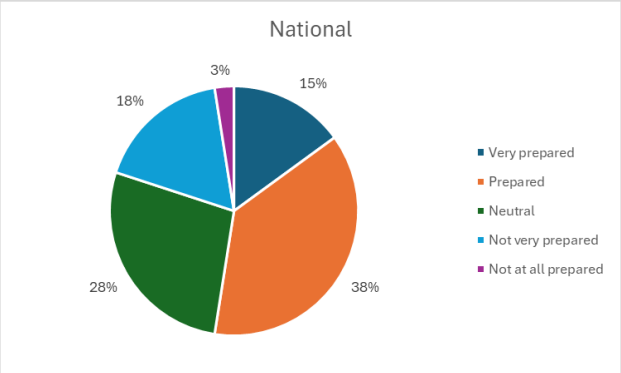
Question 6: How do you rate your organisation/institution's current readiness to implement adaptation policies, programmes or measures?

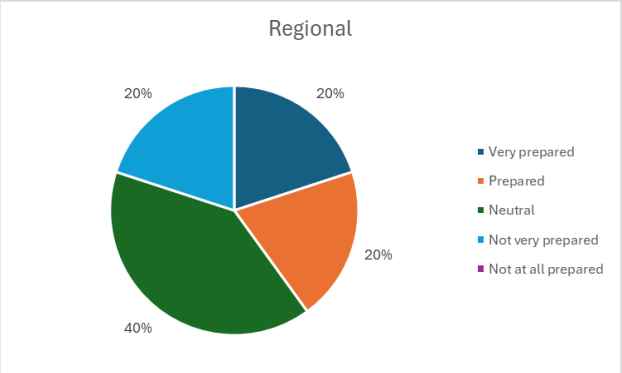
Figure 9 provides a percentage distribution of the organisation/institution's readiness level to implement adaptation policies per governmental level.

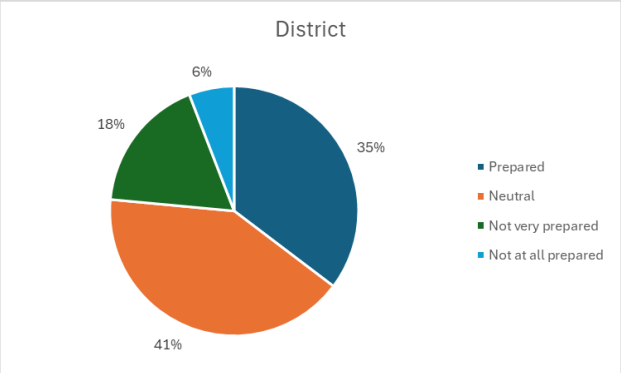
- At the national level, more than half of the respondents state that they are currently ready (very prepared and prepared). However, just under 20 % consider that they are hardly prepared or not prepared at all.
- At the regional level, 40 % of respondents consider that they are very prepared to prepared and around 20 % claim that they are not prepared at all. The remaining 40% are neutral about this aspect.
- At the district level, only 35 % consider that they are prepared, 41 % are neutral, and more than 20 % claim that they are not prepared at all.
- At the municipal level, no less than 67% are neutral, and only 33% think they are prepared.

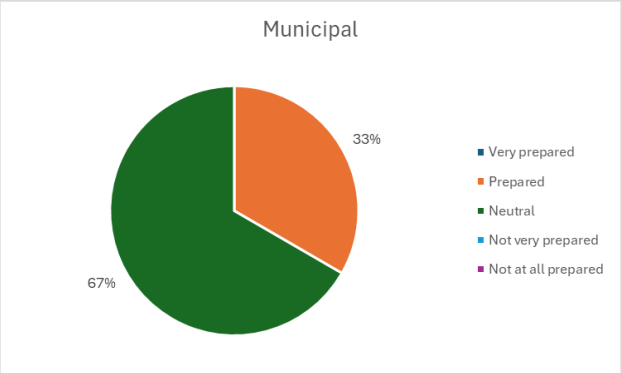
The proportion of 'neutral' responses is high across all governmental levels.

Figure 9: Percentage distribution of the organisation/institution's readiness level to implement adaptation policies per governmental level.


National
3%
15%
18%
28%
38%
Very prepared
Prepared
Neutral
Not very prepared
Not at all prepared


Regional
20%
20%
20%
40%
Very prepared
Prepared
Neutral
Not very prepared
Not at all prepared


District
6%
18%
35%
41%
Prepared
Neutral
Not very prepared
Not at all prepared


Municipal
33%
67%
Very prepared
Prepared
Neutral
Not very prepared
Not at all prepared

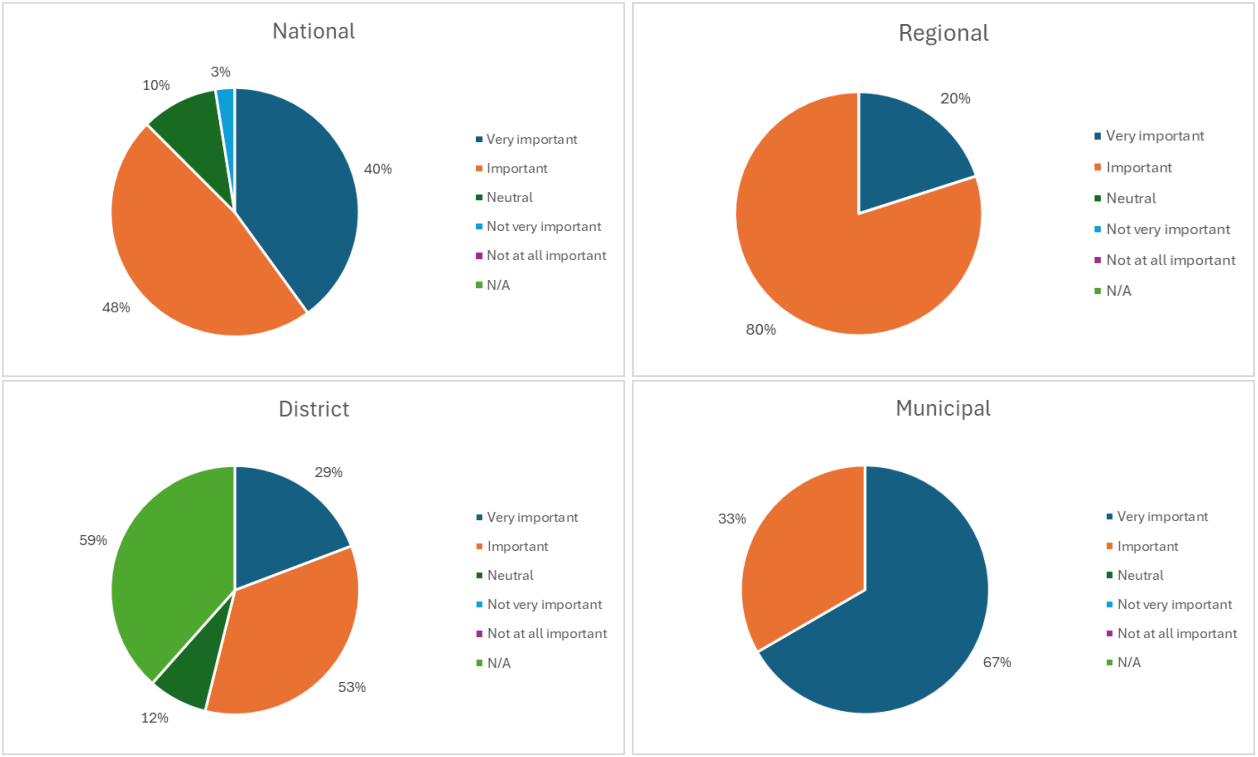
SECTION 3: TRAINING TOPICS, FORMAT AND DURATION

Effective climate change adaptation requires not only awareness but also targeted training to equip professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge. This section focuses on the training needs for climate change adaptation in Slovakia, exploring the perceived importance of such training, past participation in relevant programmes, and preferred topics, formats, and durations for future training sessions. By understanding these aspects, training initiatives can be tailored to better support climate adaptation efforts across different sectors and enhance the capacity of organisations to address climate change-related challenges.

Question 1: How would you rate the importance of climate change adaptation training for your work?

An overwhelming majority at all governmental levels considers climate change adaptation training to be very important or important for their daily work, which emphasises the high priority of the topic in the public sector (see Figure 10: Percentage distribution of the importance of climate change adaptation training per governmental level.Figure 10).

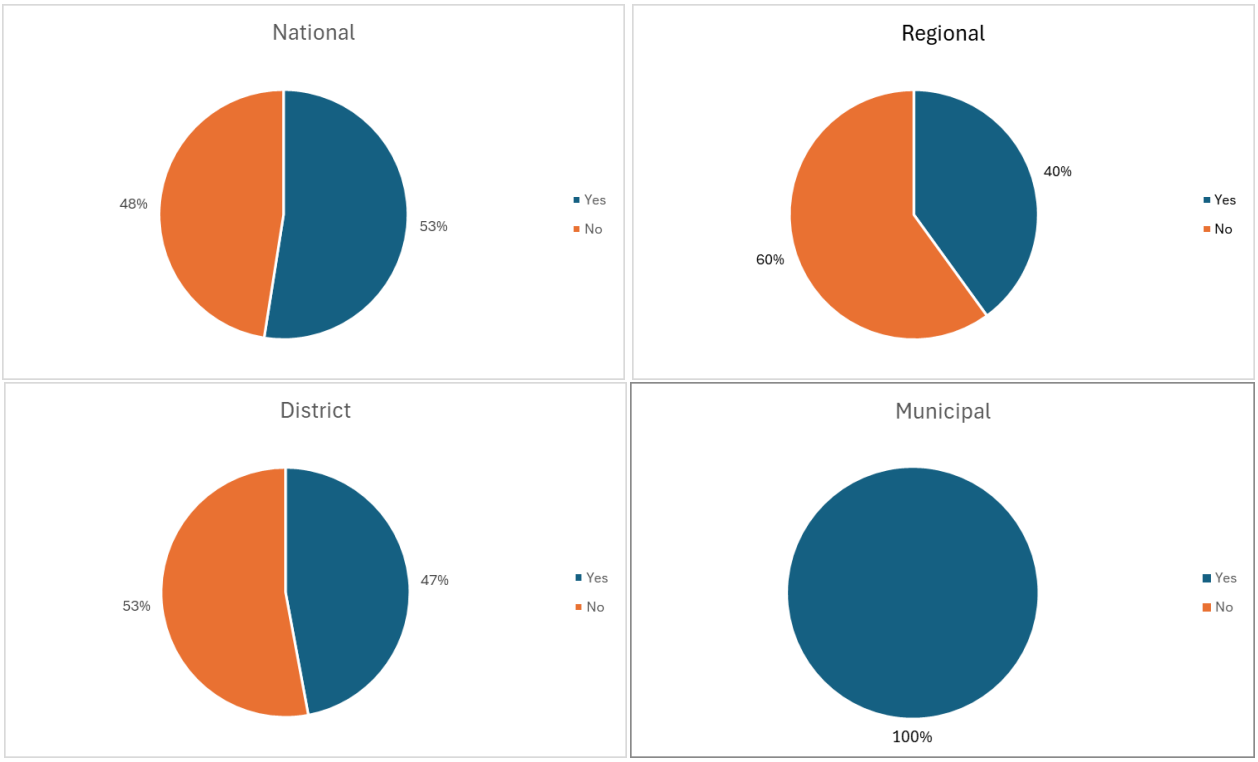
Figure 10: Percentage distribution of the importance of climate change adaptation training per governmental level.



Question 2: Have you participated in any training related to climate change adaptation in the past?

Around half of the respondents at the national and district levels have already taken part in training. At the municipal level, all have already participated in at least one training event on climate change adaptation. At the same time, the results of the questionnaire indicate a possible backlog in the 3 regions that replied to the questionnaire, which indicates the need for additional programmes or more direct advertising. (see Figure 11).

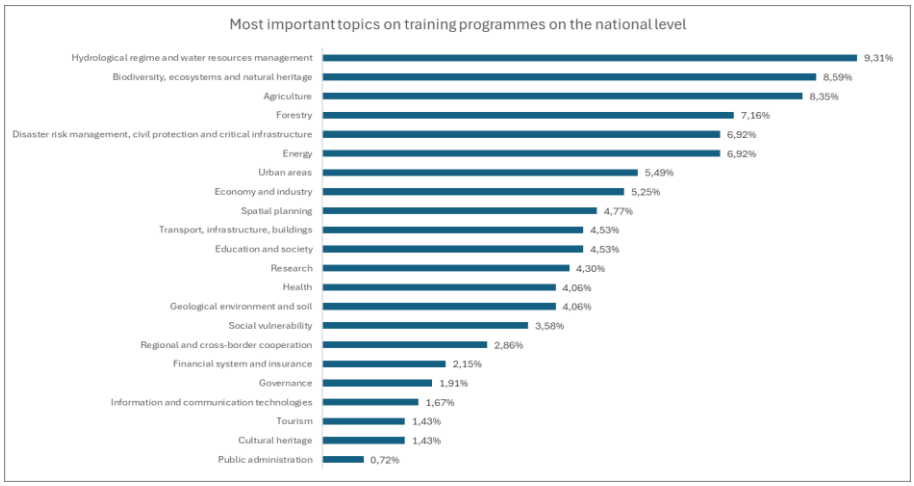
Figure 11: Percentage distribution of the participation in any training related to climate change adaptation per governmental level.

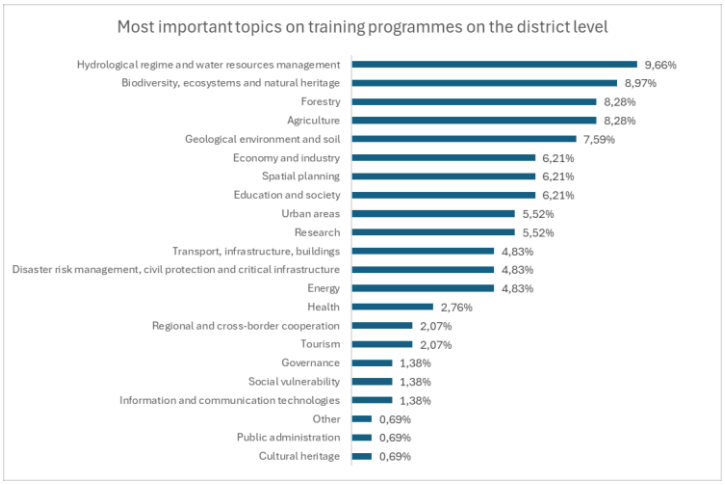


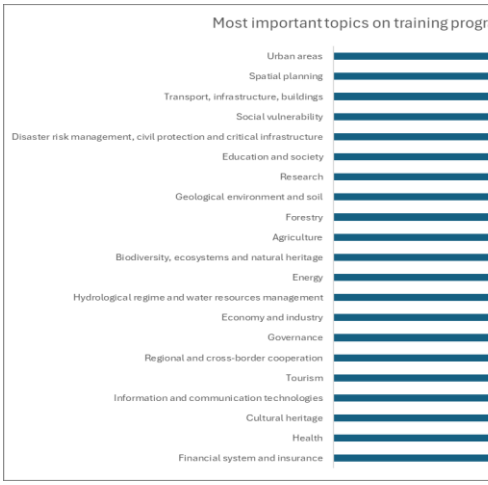
When respondents selected 'yes' for question 2, they were asked to briefly specify their answer**Chyba! Nenašiel sa žiaden zdroj odkazov.**. Replies from the **Regional level** includes mentioning of training formats such as "Sustainability for municipalities", "School of Regional Development" and technical assistance under MIP4ADAPT. The **National level** responses show the most diverse training participation, including online training on agricultural meteorology, educational events by the Environmental Protection Agency, webinars, seminars, workshops, conferences, and specialised courses like those from UN Environment Programme. Feedback from the **Municipal level** includes participation at conferences, online workshops, seminars, study visits, and specialised events like the iCARI Conferences on Climate Resilient Cities. Feedback from the **District level** mentions various formats including conferences, webinars specifically on stormwater drainage, work-consultation meetings, and training workshops organised by the Ministry of Environment and SAŽP (Slovak Environment Agency).

Question 3: Which topics do you think are most important for training programmes to enhance climate adaptation efforts? (Select all that apply from the sectors and cross-cutting aspects of the draft revised National Adaptation Strategy)

Figure 12: Percentage distribution of the most important topics for training programmes to enhance climate adaptation efforts per governmental level.



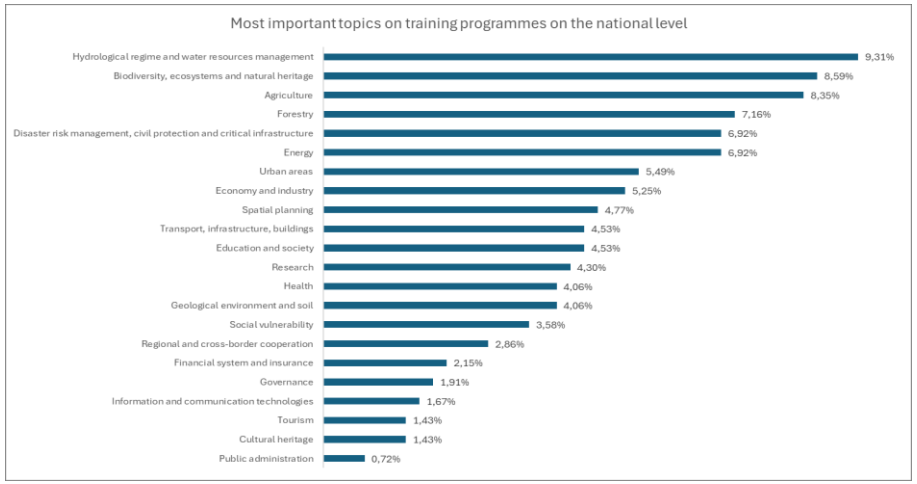


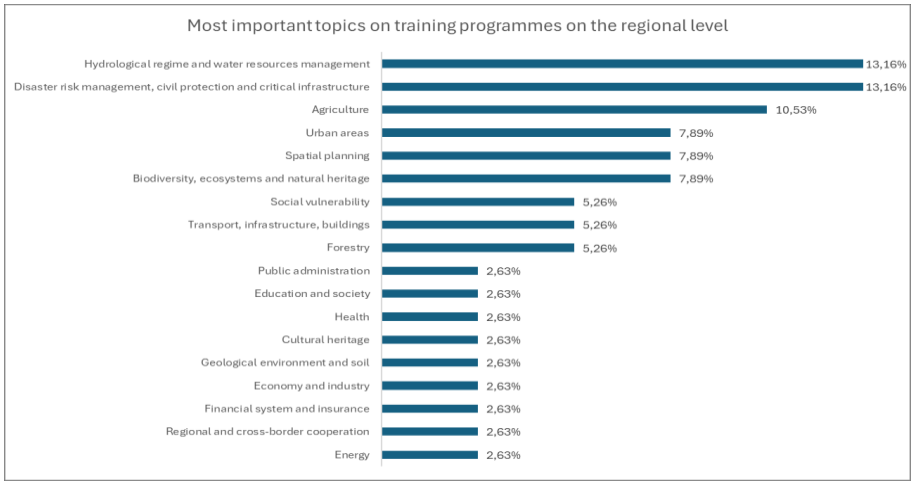


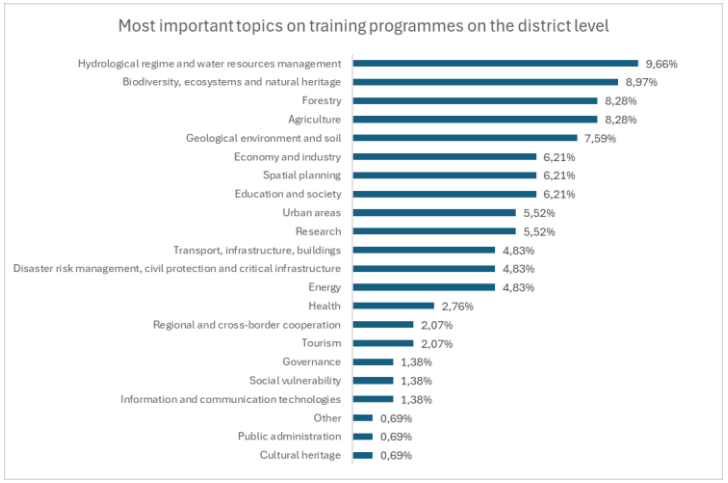
shows the percentage distribution of the most important topics for training programmes to enhance climate adaptation efforts per governmental level.

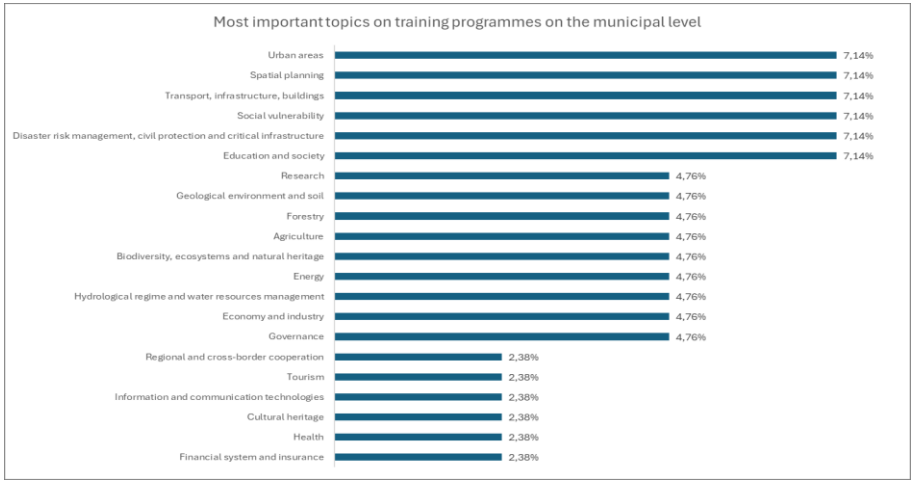
- At the national level, the following three topics were mentioned most frequently: 'Hydrological regime and water resources management' is in first place, 'Biodiversity, ecosystems and natural heritage' and 'Agriculture'.
- At the regional level, 'Hydrological regime and water resources management' and 'Disaster risk management, civil protection and critical infrastructure' are equal in first place, followed by 'Agriculture'.
- At the district level, 'Hydrological regime and water resources management' is in first place, followed by 'Biodiversity, ecosystems and natural heritage' in second place, and 'Forestry' and 'Agriculture' which are equal in third place.
- At the municipal level, 'Urban areas', 'Spatial planning', 'Transport, infrastructure, buildings', 'Social vulnerability' and 'Disaster risk management, civil protection and critical infrastructure' are all equal in first place.

Figure 12: Percentage distribution of the most important topics for training programmes to enhance climate adaptation efforts per governmental level.









There was only one additional topic raised at the district level:

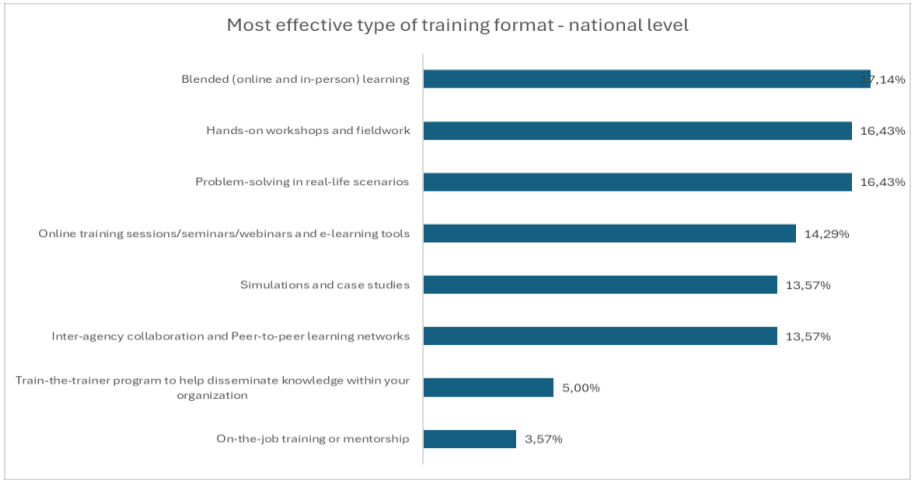
There was only one additional topic raised when it comes to training topics to enhance climate adaptation efforts: building meta-skills. People stressed self-reflection and personal growth, asking good questions, linking what they see and hear, and learning from multiple expert perspectives rather than just one.

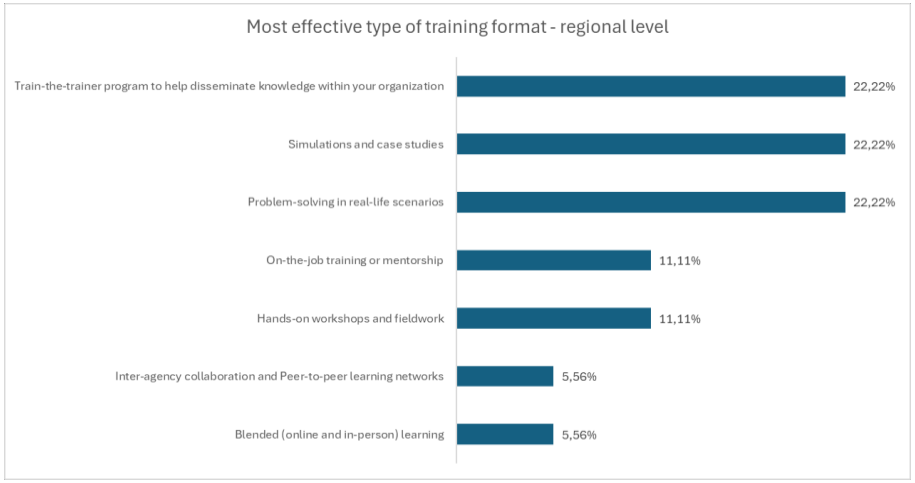
Question 4: What type of training format would be most effective for you/your organisation?

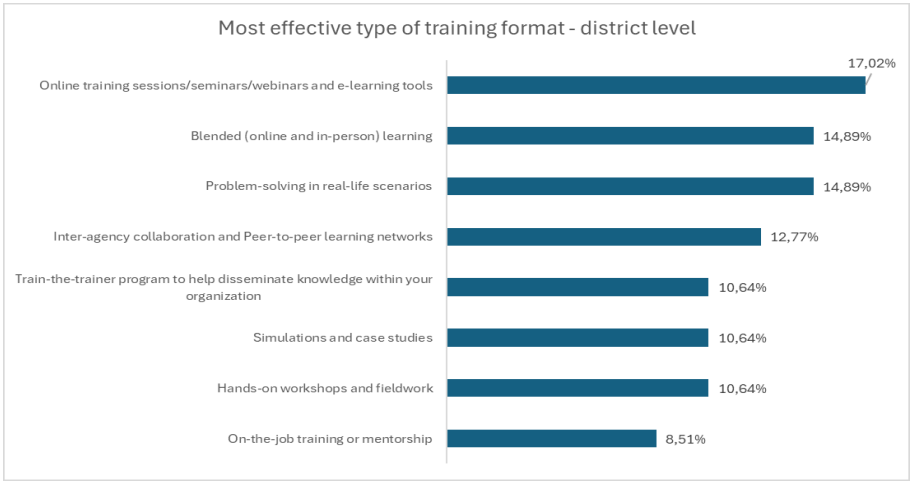
Figure 13 shows the percentage distribution of the most effective training format per governmental level.

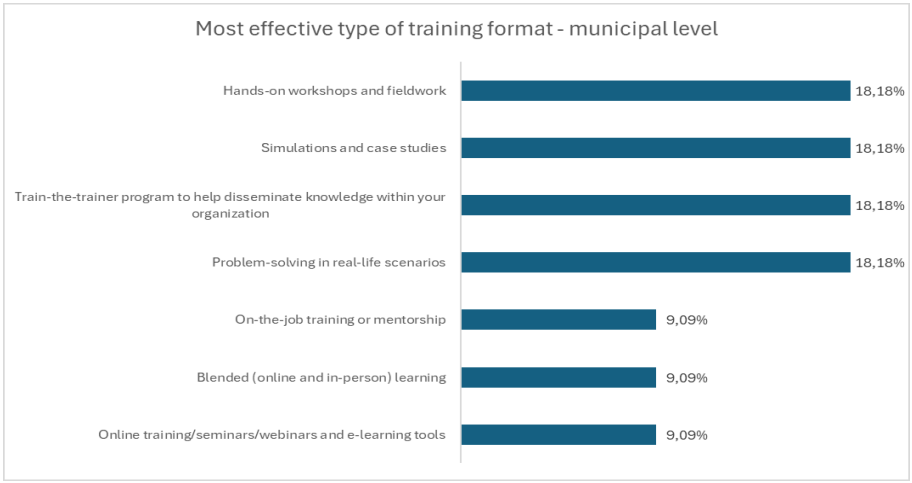
- At the national level, the following three topics were mentioned more frequently: 'Blended (online and in-person) learning' is in first place, followed by 'Hands-on workshops and fieldwork' and 'Problem-solving in real-life scenarios'.
- At the regional level, 'Train-the-trainer programme to help disseminate knowledge within your organization', 'Problem-solving in real-life scenarios' and 'Simulations and case studies' are equal in first place.
- At the district level, 'Online training sessions/seminars/webinars and e-learning tools' is in first place, followed by 'Blended (online and in-person) learning' and 'Problem-solving in real-life scenarios' which are equal in second place.
- At the municipal level, 'Problem-solving in real-life scenarios', 'Train-the-trainer programme to help disseminate knowledge within your organization'; 'Simulations and case studies' and 'Hands-on workshops and fieldwork' are equal in first place.

Figure 13: Percentage distribution of the most effective training format per governmental level









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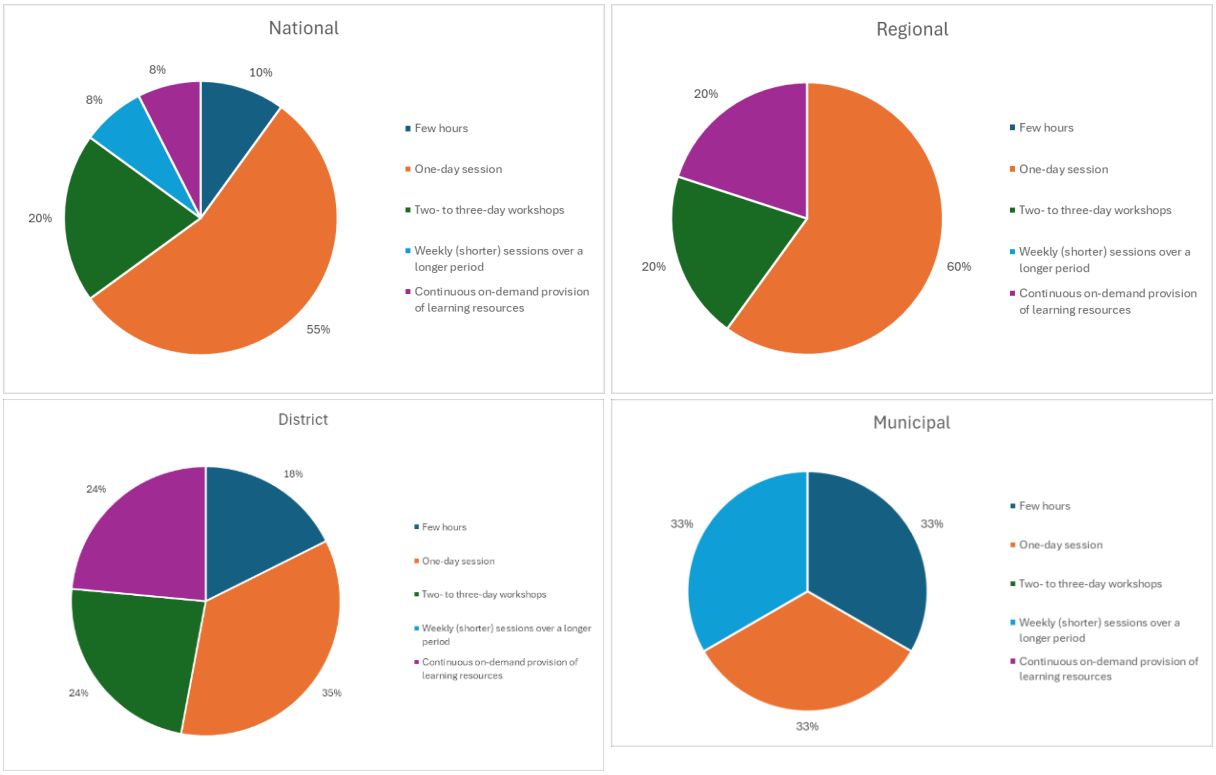
Question 5: What duration do you find most suitable for training sessions?

Training sessions lasting one day are favoured at the national, regional and district level, directly followed by workshops lasting 2-3 days. This speaks in favour of compact but in-depth formats.

At the municipal level, on the other hand, a heterogeneous picture emerges: 33 % of respondents favour either 'short units lasting a few hours', 'one-day events' or 'short weekly formats over a longer period'. This variation indicates different working realities and needs in smaller administrative units. (see Figure 14).

Figure 14: Percentage distribution of the duration for training sessions per governmental level.



SECTION 4: SECTOR SPECIFIC NEEDS

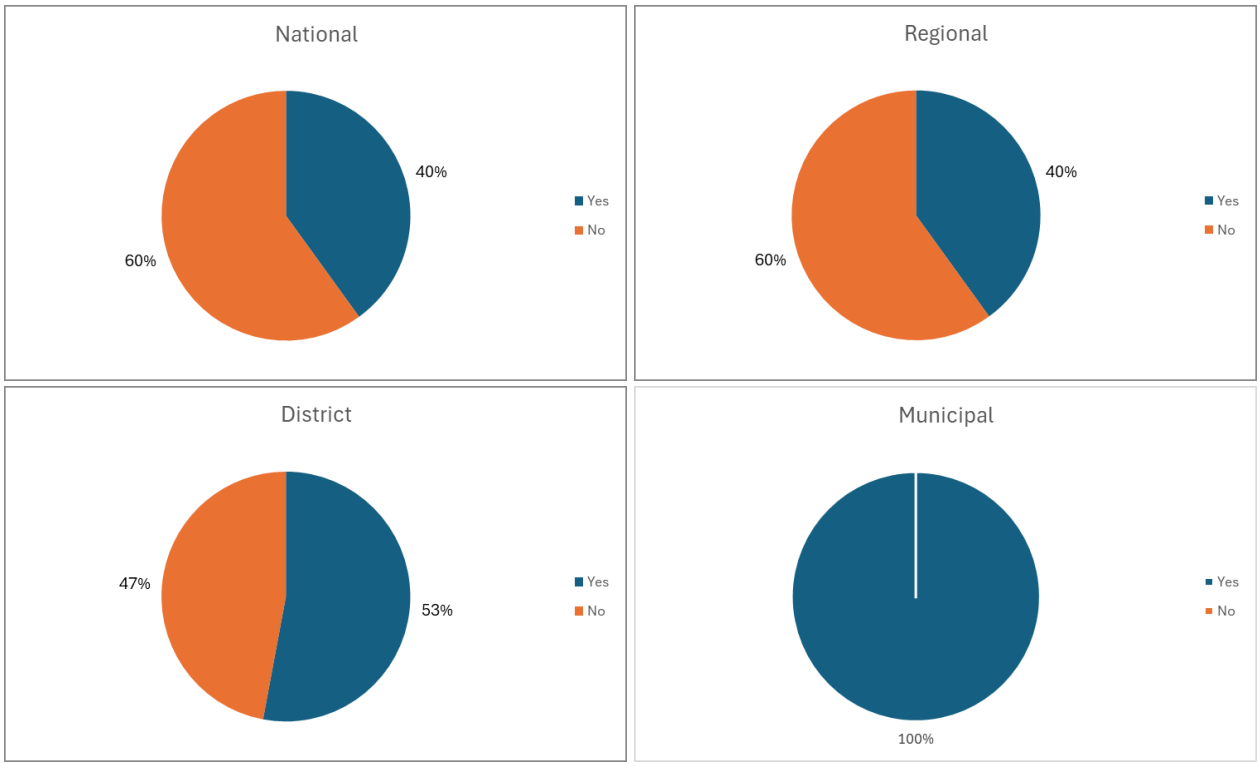
Climate change impacts vary across different sectors, each with unique challenges and needs. This section delves into the specific requirements of various sectors in Slovakia, focusing on existing skill gaps in addressing climate change impacts, desired tools and methodologies for training, and the potential benefits of collaborative training programmes involving multiple stakeholders. By identifying these sector-specific needs, targeted support strategies can be developed to enhance the resilience and adaptability of different sectors to climate change.

Question 1: Does your sector/department currently face skill gaps in addressing climate change impacts?

Figure 15 shows the percentage distribution of the skill gaps addressing climate change impacts per governmental level.

- At the national and regional level, 60 % state that they are currently not facing skill gaps in addressing climate change impacts.
- At the district level, slightly more than 50 % state that they are facing skill gaps.
- And at the municipal level, 100 % reported that they are facing skill gaps in addressing climate change impacts.

Figure 15: Percentage distribution of the skill gaps addressing climate change impacts per governmental level.



Respondents were also asked about the adverse effects that their sector/department consider more challenging for adaptation planning.

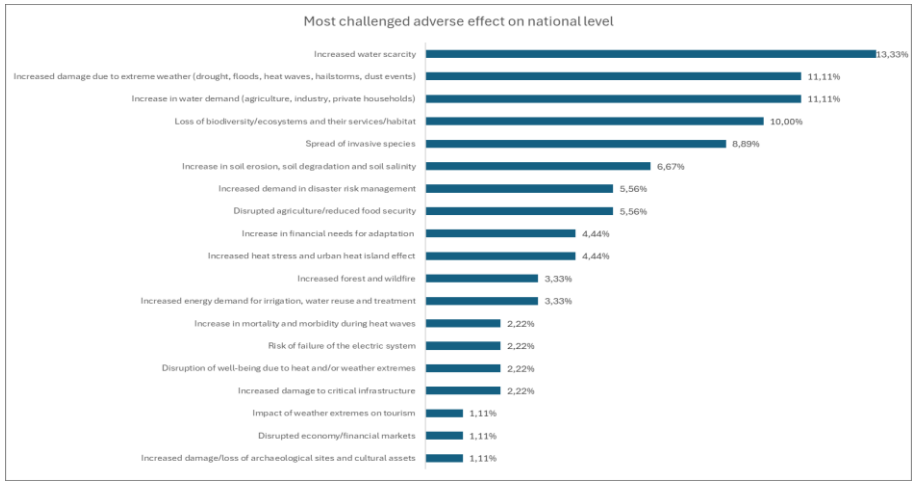
Figure 16 shows the percentage distribution of the most challenging adverse effects per governmental level.

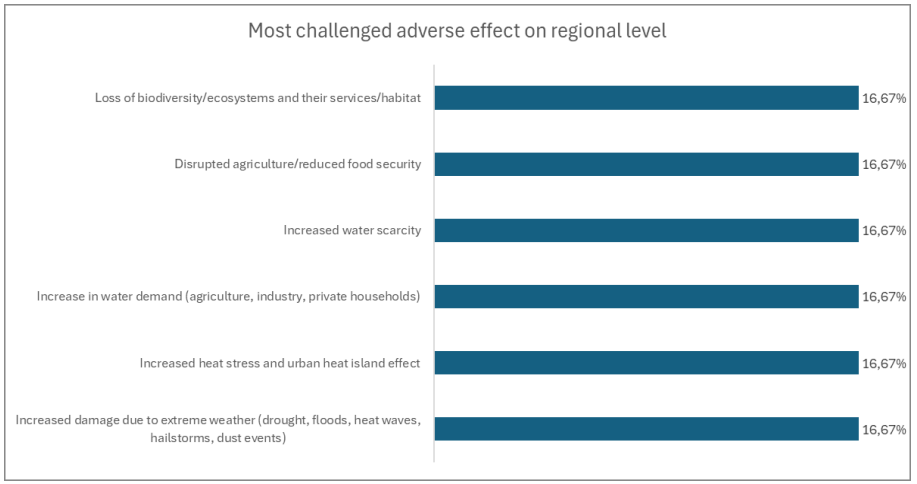
- At the national level, the following three topics were mentioned most frequently: 'Increased water scarcity' in first place, 'Increase in water demand (agriculture, industry, private households)' and

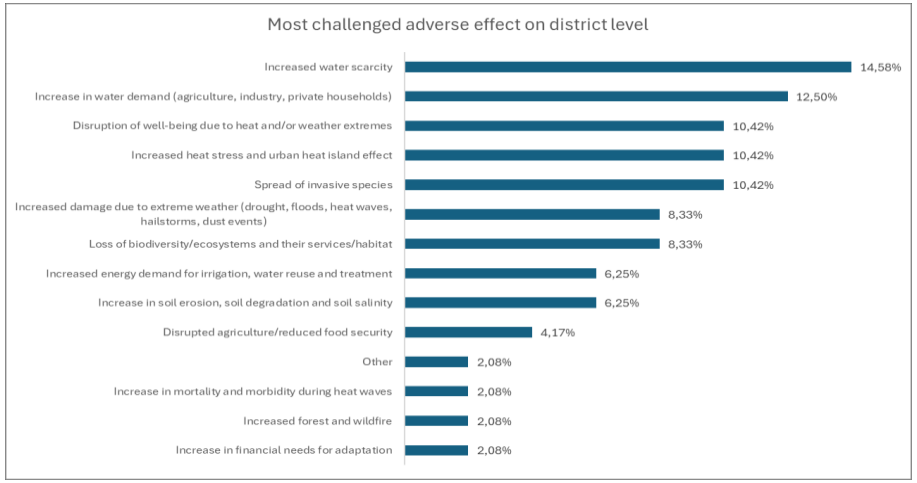
'Increased damage due to extreme weather (drought, floods, heat waves, hailstorms, dust events)' are equally in second place.

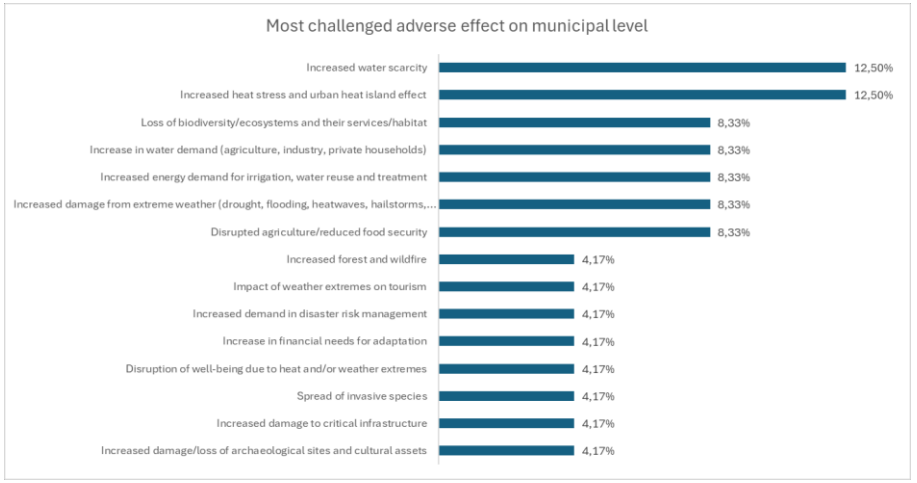
- At the regional level, the following five effects are equally mentioned: 'Increased damage due to extreme weather (drought, floods, heat waves, hailstorms, dust events)', 'Increased heat stress and urban heat island effect', 'Increase in water demand (agriculture, industry, private households)', 'Increased water scarcity', 'Disrupted agriculture/reduced food security' and 'Loss of biodiversity/ecosystems and their services/habitat'.
- At the district level, 'Increased water scarcity' is in first place, 'Increase in water demand (agriculture, industry, private households)' in second and ''Spread of invasive species', 'Increased heat stress and urban heat island effect' and 'Disruption of well-being due to heat and/or weather extremes' equally in third place.
- At the municipal level, 'Increased water scarcity' and 'Increased heat stress and urban heat island effect' are equally in first place, 'Train-the-trainer programme to help disseminate knowledge within your organization', 'Simulations and case studies' and 'Hands-on workshops and fieldwork' are equal in first place.
- 'Disrupted agriculture/reduced food security', 'Increased damage from extreme weather (drought, flooding, heatwaves, hailstorms, dust events)', 'Increased energy demand for irrigation, water reuse and treatment', 'Increase in water demand (agriculture, industry, private households)' and 'Loss of biodiversity/ecosystems and their services/habitat' are all in second place.

Figure 16: Percentage distribution of the most challenged adverse effects per governmental level.









Question 2: Are there any specific tools, systems, or methodologies you would like to receive training on? (open question)

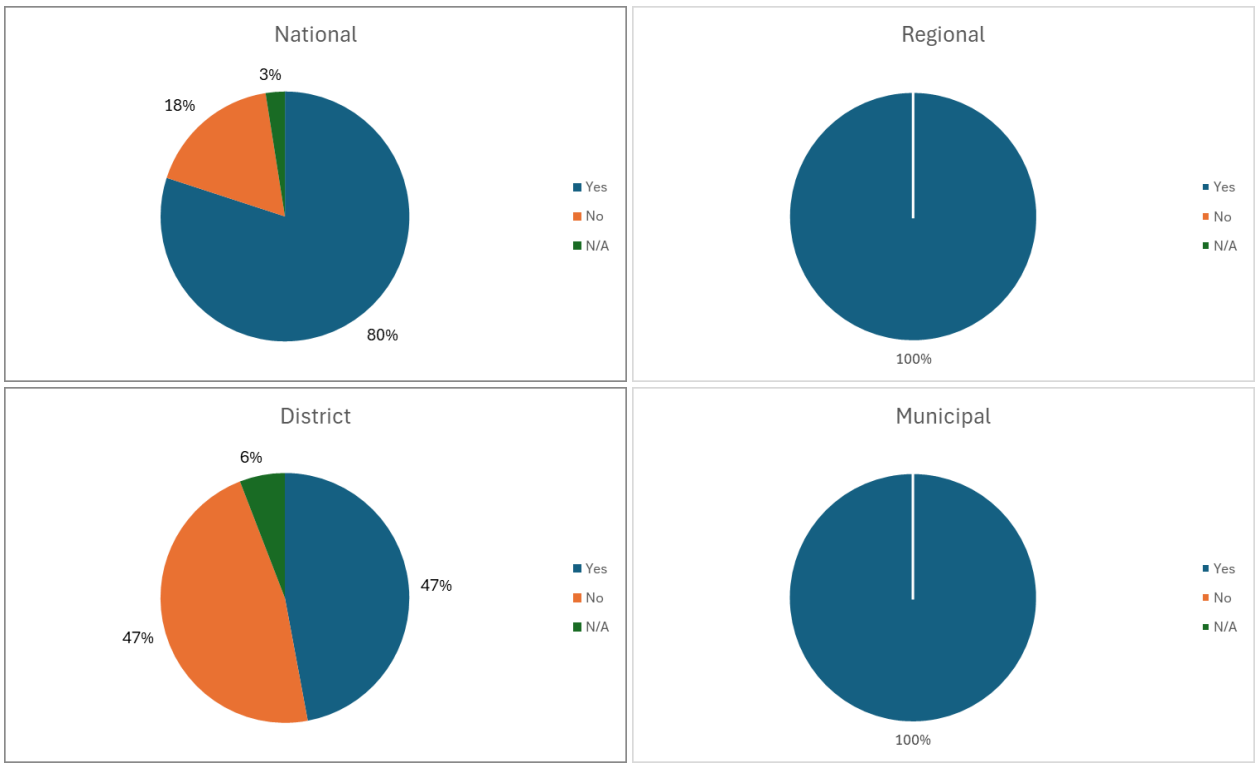
Responses point to strong demand for practical, systems-level training rather than single tools. Priorities include: integrating adaptation systematically into investment planning, building reconstructions and architectural competitions; designing and permitting water-retention and nature-friendly measures across agriculture, forests and cities; and using multi-criteria methods to quantify effectiveness. Technical capacities sought span groundwater impact assessment, climate models and climate-risk assessment, remote sensing, programming, urban green infrastructure planning (species choice, planting, maintenance, permeable surfaces), sustainable land and water management to address drought, and tools for risk assessment and for linking disaster risk management with civil protection. Participants also asked for guidance on financing and implementing water-resilience measures, valuation and financing of ecosystem services, and the water–soil–climate nexus, supported by successful European case studies, demonstrations and site visits. Cross-cutting needs include better coordination across agendas, tailored training for tourism as a highly exposed sector, and formats that are hands-on and pragmatic.

Chyba! Nenašiel sa žiaden zdroj odkazov.

Question 3: Would your organization benefit from training programmes that involve collaboration with other entities (e.g., NGOs, schools, private companies)?

All respondents at the regional and municipal level state that there is a benefit from training programmes that involve collaboration with other entities (schools, NGOs, or to create consortia). At the national level, 80 % have the same opinion. But at the district level, there is a clear divide, with 47% seeing either a benefit or none at all.

Figure 17: Percentage distribution of the training programme benefits involving collaborations with other entities per governmental level.



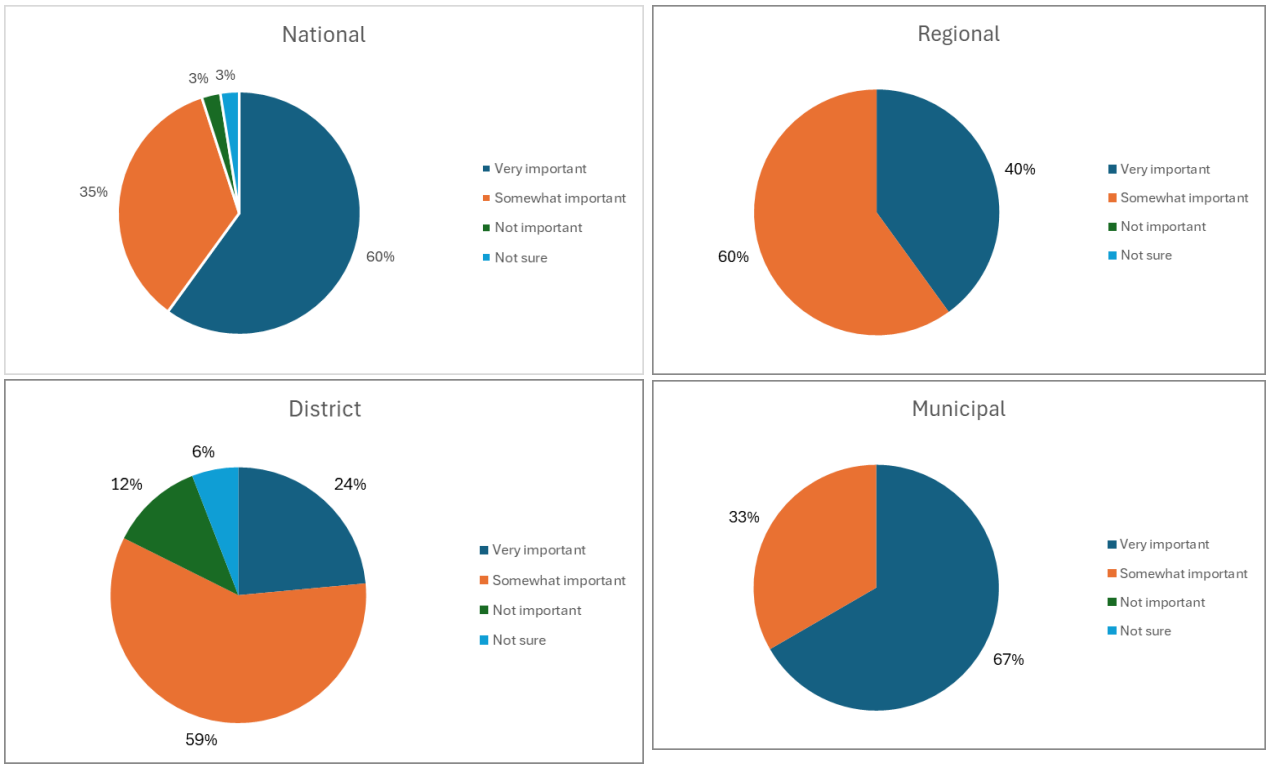
SECTION 5: COLLABORATION AND RESOURCES

Effective climate change adaptation relies heavily on collaboration and the strategic use of resources. This section explores the importance of inter-agency collaboration across sectors and governance levels, identifies potential models for training initiatives, and examines the benefits of partnering with educational institutions or environmental education centers. By understanding these collaborative opportunities and resource needs, we can foster a more cohesive and supportive environment for climate adaptation efforts in Slovakia.

Question 1: How important is inter-agency collaboration (across sectors and governance levels) for climate adaptation in your work?

Collaboration between authorities, sectors and levels is rated as 'somewhat important' or 'very important' by every governmental level. This confirms the need for integrated governance approaches (see Figure 18).

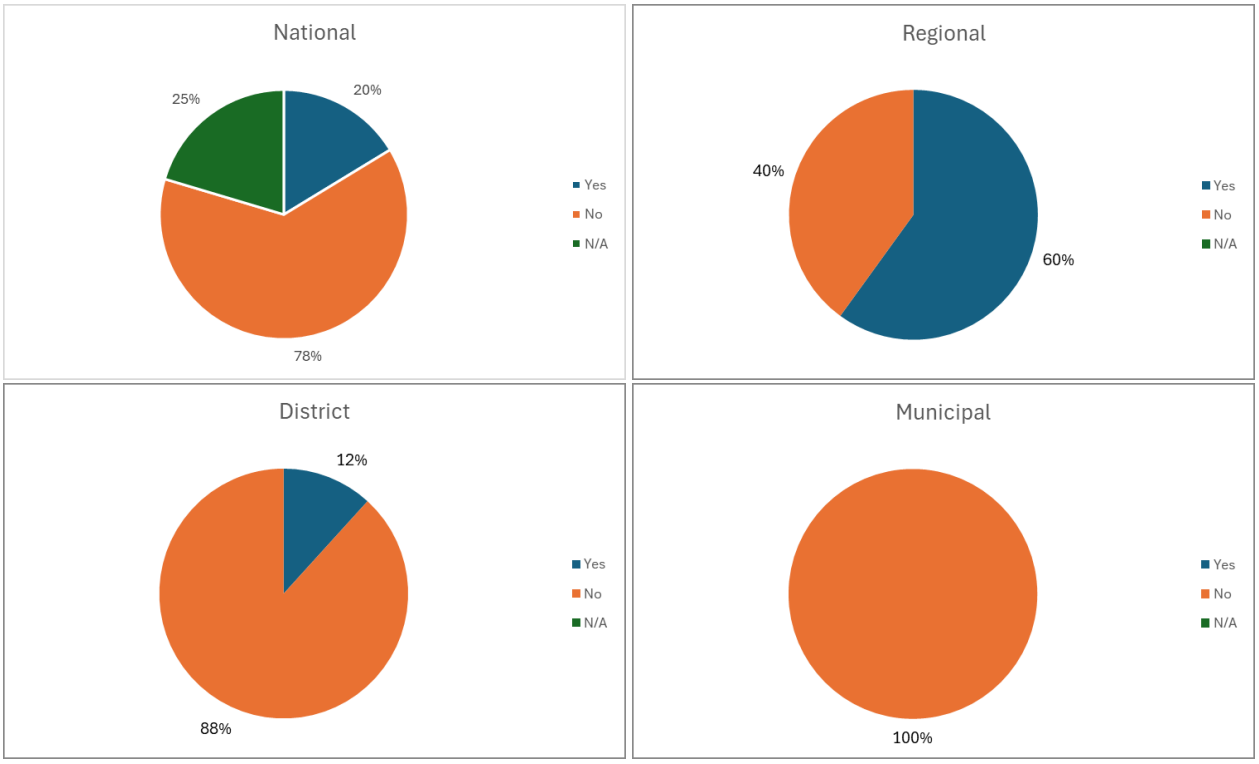
Figure 18: Percentage distribution of the importance of inter-agency collaboration per governmental level.



Question 2: Are you aware/familiar with existing educational or outreach programmes you believe could serve as models for broader training initiatives?

Figure 19 shows that at the national, district and municipal levels, most of the respondents are not familiar with existing educational or outreach programmes to serve as models for broader training initiatives. Only at the regional level, 60 % are aware of such programmes (see Figure 19).

Figure 19: Percentage distribution of the familiarity with existing educational or outreach programmes per governmental level.



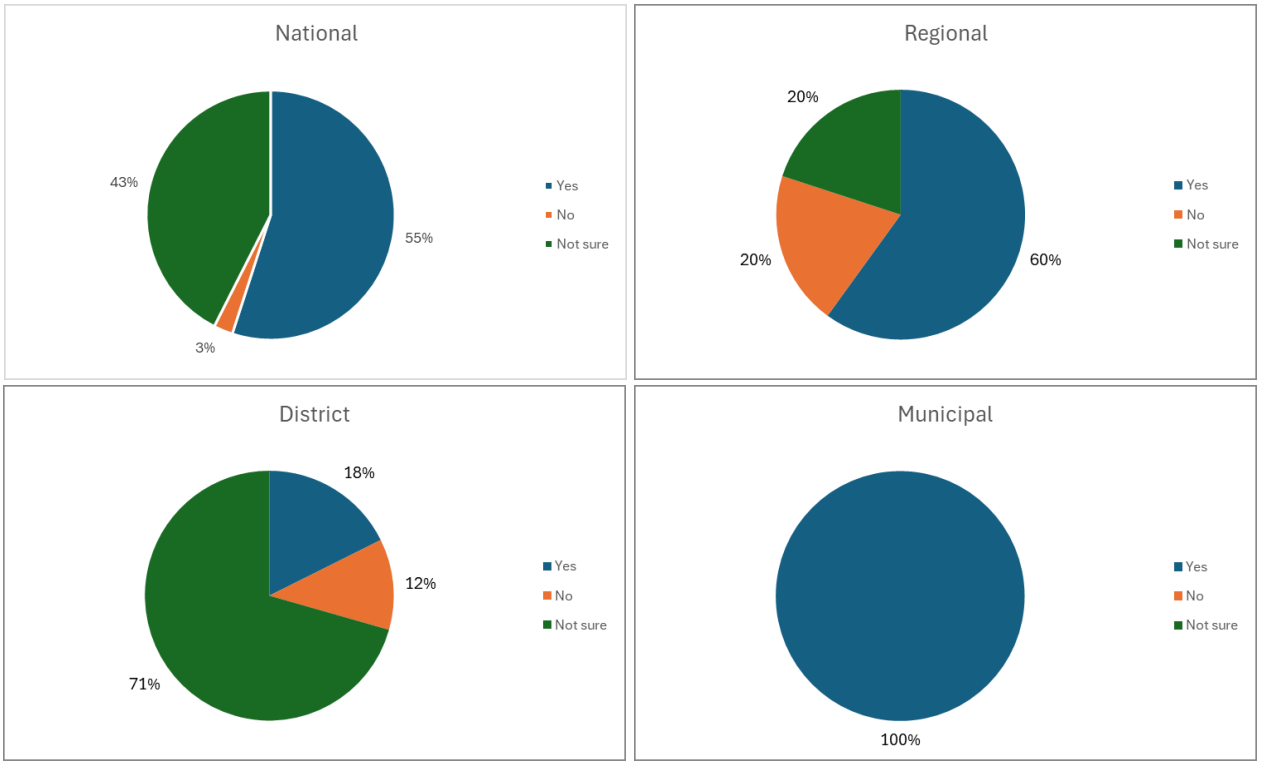
Respondents reported broad familiarity with existing education and outreach offers on climate adaptation. They highlighted EU-level communities of practice under the Adaptation Mission (noting that English can be a participation barrier), funding and learning opportunities via LIFE and Horizon, and EEA climate education materials for schools and municipalities. Concrete programmes mentioned include the COALA project in the Moravian-Silesian Region, national portals and initiatives[5] (, documentary films with local case studies, and training by national environment authorities for schools and the public. European platforms and networks such as Climate-ADAPT and adaptation working groups were also valued, alongside NGO-led initiatives ("Committed to the Climate"[6], "Climate Connects Us"[7]) and in-house teaching activities. At district level, resources like PopulAir.sk and events by SAŽP and the Ministry of Environment are known, though some offices lack earmarked funds to participate, underscoring both awareness and access constraints.

[5] https://www.klimaready.cz/; https://wwfcee.org/water-stewardship/sk
[6] https://nadaciatipsport.sk/ako-pomahame/nasadeni-pre-klimu/
[7] Živica, https://zivica.sk/projekt/klima-nas-spaja/

Question 3: Would your sector/department/organisation benefit from collaboration with educational institutions or environmental education centres on climate change projects?

At the national and regional levels, more than half of the respondents confirm the benefit. At the district level, 71 % are not sure if there is a benefit from collaboration with educational institutions or environmental education centres on climate change projects (see Figure 20: Percentage distribution of the benefit to the collaboration with educational institutions or environmental education centres per governmental level.).

Figure 20: Percentage distribution of the benefit to the collaboration with educational institutions or environmental education centres per governmental level.



When respondents selected 'yes' for question 3, they were asked to briefly specify their answer**Chyba! Nenašiel sa žiaden zdroj odkazov.**. Regional respondents mentioned the importance to integrate climate adaptation into planning but face capacity challenges, particularly in educating key groups due to a lack of environmental education coordinators. They stressed the importance of partnerships for communication strategies and specialised training and recognise the role of educational institutions in research and awareness.

National feedback emphasises collaboration and interdisciplinarity, suggesting mixed working groups, stronger knowledge-sharing between institutions, and cooperation with psychologists and communicators to better engage the public. There is a call to make climate strategies more practical and relevant for sectors like agriculture and ecology.

Municipal actors raised the issues of improving project implementation and engaging specific target groups more effectively.

District level input (only one) notes the opportunity for stakeholder comments to shape strategic documents, highlighting participatory approaches.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTIONS AND FEEDBACK

This short final section contains two questions to get an insight into whether anything was forgotten in the questionnaire and whether the participating institutions and organisations would be willing to participate in follow-up programmes.

Question 1: Are there any additional topics or areas you believe should be considered when designing training programmes?

Feedback from Regional stakeholders emphasises practical, context-specific training aligned with Slovakia's environmental challenges. They suggest hybrid programmes for key non-expert groups (e.g., architects, permitting authorities), focusing on regional impacts and incentivized participation.

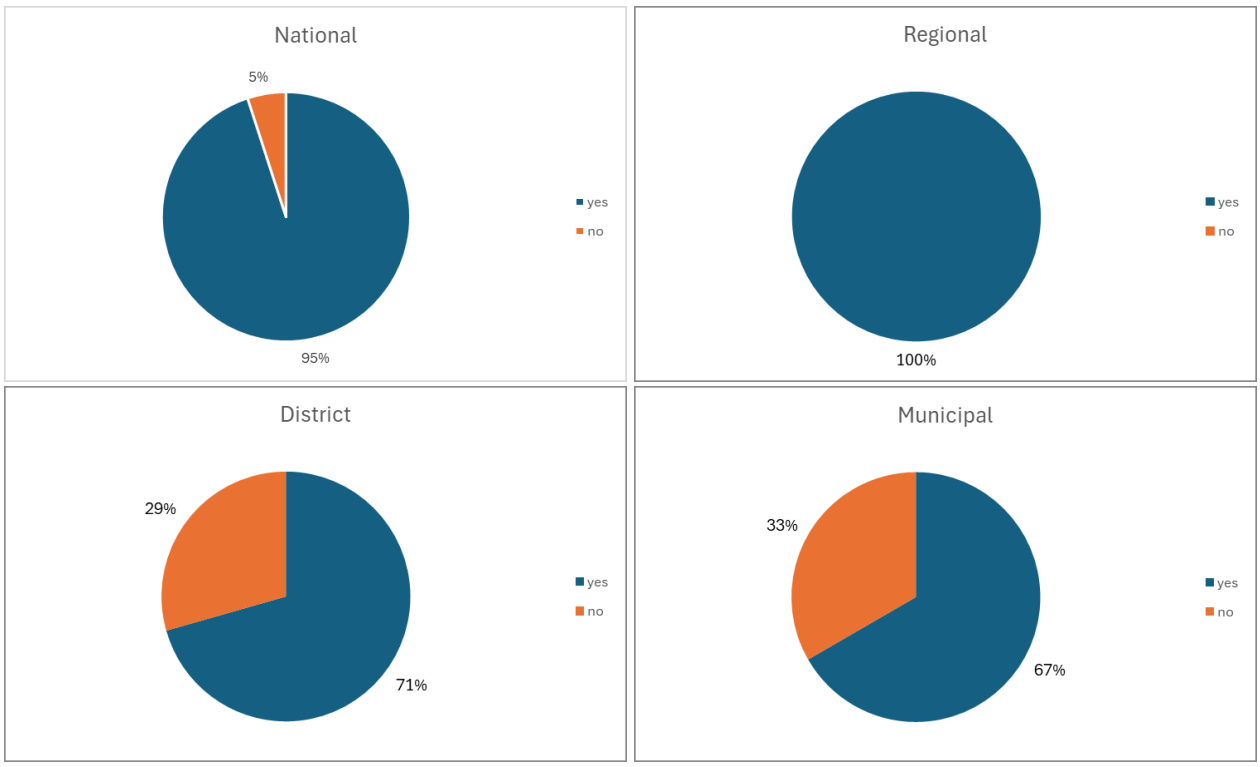
National responses call for better policy coordination and systemic training on planning, data access, and best practices. Key themes include combating disinformation, interministerial cooperation, integrating biodiversity and water resilience, and aligning policies in strategic documents like the Water Plan.

Municipal actors stress locally relevant training tied to tourism, waste, and circular economy. They advocate capacity-building for local authorities and public education on actionable climate change adaptation measures.

Question 2: Would you be willing to participate in follow-up discussions or pilot training programmes?

The majority of all governmental levels show a willingness to get involved in pilot training sessions or discussion rounds. This provides a good basis for the development of participatory learning formats.

Figure 21: Percentage distribution of the willingness to participate in follow-up discussion or pilot training programmes per governmental level.



2 TRAINING STRATEGY

The successful implementation of Slovakia's revised National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) depends not only on robust policy frameworks and sufficient financial capacities but also on the knowledge, skills, and coordinated efforts of the institutions and individuals responsible for adaptation action. To ensure the NAS is translated from strategic vision into measurable, on-the-ground results, a structured training strategy is required.

This training strategy outlines an approach to build the capacities of key actors across governance levels, sectors, and functions. It aims to ensure that all stakeholders possess the skills, tools, and shared understanding necessary to effectively respond to the country's climate risks and adaptation priorities. The priorities and design of this strategy are directly informed by the survey analysis (chapter 1.2), which highlighted both strong demand for training (with over 80% of respondents rating it as important), as well as specific skill gaps (particularly at district and municipal levels), preferred training formats (notably blended and practical sessions), and thematic focus areas (especially water management, disaster risk management, and biodiversity).

Drawing on the stakeholder mapping and role definitions established in **Deliverable 2.2**[8], the training strategy takes a targeted approach to participant selection, thematic priorities, and engagement methods. It is tailored to:

- Address the specific competencies required for climate change adaptation in the Slovak context tailored to the revised NAS and corresponding adaptation measures.
- Promote collaboration between national, regional, and local actors.
- Encourage the integration of adaptation considerations into decision-making across all sectors.

Building on the training strategy, the training programme (chapter 3) is structured to combine **knowledge transfer** with **practical, interactive engagement**, fostering an environment where participants can exchange experiences, co-develop solutions, and build long-term professional networks that support ongoing adaptation action.

2.1 Guiding principles for the identification of trainings participants

The training strategy builds directly on the comprehensive stakeholder mapping and role analysis undertaken in Deliverable 2.2. This ensures that the selection of participants is evidence-based, inclusive, and directly aligned with the practical needs of implementing the revised NAS. The stakeholder analysis served as the baseline to identify both primary and secondary target audiences, capturing individuals who are either directly responsible for adaptation action or who provide critical enabling support. Survey findings confirmed that training demand exists across all governance levels, with national and district-level respondents already having some training experience, while municipal respondents highlighted acute skill gaps (100% reporting deficits). This underlines the importance of ensuring that all four levels—national, regional, district, and municipal—are systematically engaged.

Participants shall be identified using the following **guiding principles**:

- **Relevance to adaptation implementation** – ensuring participants have direct or indirect influence over adaptation planning, financing, or execution.
- **Coverage across governance levels** – including national, regional, and local authorities to ensure vertical policy integration. This reflects survey findings that awareness and readiness to act are uneven across governance levels, with municipalities showing weaker preparedness.

[8] Trinomics (2024). Revision and update of the national strategy on adaptation to climate change in Slovakia. Deliverable 2.2: Report on the state of play of the climate adaptation policies and governance framework and proposal for a stakeholder engagement plan – Final Report. https://www.klima-adapt.sk/cms/documents/2024/state-of-play_67330086d1201.pdf.

- **Sectoral diversity** – covering all sectors and cross-cutting aspects outlined in the revised NAS. The survey confirmed strong demand for training in water management, agriculture, biodiversity, and urban planning, which should be reflected in participant selection.
- **Inclusivity and representation** – ensuring the engagement of underrepresented voices, including civil society and private sector actors where relevant.

2.2 Training Groups & Focus Areas

To tailor content and learning approaches effectively, participants will be grouped into four distinct training categories according to their functional roles and responsibilities in adaptation policy and practice. This grouping allows for tailored capacity-building that meets specific needs while maintaining coherence across the NAS implementation framework. Importantly, both public and private sector representatives will be included within relevant groups to foster coordination, shared understanding, and joint action.

Group 1 – Strategic Leaders and Policy Makers (Public & Private)

Survey results showed that while national-level actors often rated themselves as well-prepared, they also highlighted financing and inter-agency coordination as areas needing further strengthening. Respondents stressed the importance of building capacity to access and manage EU and national funding streams, as well as creating mechanisms for more effective collaboration across ministries and with the private sector. Furthermore, survey findings pointed to a gap in long-term strategic planning and policy integration, particularly in aligning Slovak adaptation action with EU and international frameworks. Training for this group should therefore emphasise mechanisms to mobilise resources and improve policy alignment and coordination across ministries and sectors.

Table 2: Group 1 actors

Group 1 actors			
Public sector	**Private sector**	**Responsibilities**	**Focus areas for training**
Ministers, state secretaries, regional governors, senior agency directors.	Senior executives and sustainability leads from companies in key climate-sensitive sectors (e.g., energy, construction, agriculture, transport, insurance)	Policy formulation, strategic oversight, resource allocation, climate risk governance, inter-ministerial and public–private coordination.	Strategic governance, financing, inter-ministerial and public–private coordination, policy integration, and long-term investment planning.

For this group, a more specific interaction planning and involvement will be necessary given their high political and strategic roles. Engagement will be limited primarily to political and financial endorsement where needed, ensuring alignment with the broader strategic vision.

Group 2 – Adaptation Project Managers & Coordinators (Public & Private)

The survey analysis confirmed a widespread recognition of the importance of collaboration (rated "very important" by all governance levels) and a need for clearer frameworks to operationalise coordination. Municipal respondents in particular reported significant gaps in project management skills, underlining the need for targeted support at local levels. Respondents also stressed the value of robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks and adaptive management approaches to ensure projects deliver tangible results. Training for this group should include practical exercises on stakeholder mapping, negotiation, and building inter-municipal/regional partnerships.

Table 3: Group 2 actors

Group 2 actors			
Public sector	**Private sector**	**Responsibilities**	**Focus areas for training**
Mid-level managers in ministries, regional administrations, municipalities, and state agencies.	Corporate adaptation and ESG managers, supply chain coordinators, and operations managers.	Planning, managing, and monitoring adaptation projects and programmes across both public and private domains.	Operational planning, adaptive project cycle management, project delivery frameworks and MEL, risk management processes, and stakeholder engagement.

Group 3 – Technical Specialists & Implementers (Public & Private)

Survey findings confirmed strong demand for training in in hydrological regime and water resources management, biodiversity protection, disaster risk management, and sector-specific implementation skills. Municipal and district respondents reported the largest capacity gaps in these areas, underlining the urgency of targeted technical training at the local level. Respondents also expressed clear preferences for hands-on, applied formats that use Slovak-specific data, case studies, and site-based learning. Training for technical staff should therefore prioritise these thematic areas and include applied case studies relevant to Slovak regions.

Table 4: Group 3 actors

Group 3 actors			
Public sector	**Private sector**	**Responsibilities**	**Focus areas for training**
Engineers, planners, agronomists, hydrologists, environmental officers in local governments and agencies.	Technical specialists from construction firms, agricultural cooperatives, water utilities, infrastructure operators, and climate technology companies.	Designing and executing adaptation measures on the ground in both public infrastructure and private operations.	Application of adaptation measures, technical innovation, use of climate and environmental data, and integration of resilience measures into infrastructure and operations.

Group 4 – Support & Enabling Functions (Public & Private)

Survey findings showed that communication gaps persist, as outreach initiatives were often rated only moderately effective. Strengthening enabling roles will therefore be crucial. The survey also highlighted uneven familiarity with adaptation-related financial instruments and legal frameworks, particularly at the municipal and district levels, as well as weak integration of climate considerations into corporate planning. This underlines the importance of equipping Group 4 actors with the skills to mainstream adaptation into institutional processes. By targeting these roles, the training programme responds directly to the identified gaps in communication, financial integration, and regulatory compliance, while also supporting innovation and the effective use of climate data.

Table 5: Group 4 actors

Group 4 actors			
Public sector	**Private sector**	**Responsibilities**	**Focus areas for training**
Finance officers, procurement specialists, legal advisors, communication staff.	Financial planners, investment officers, compliance teams, and corporate communication leads.	Institutional processes, financial integration, procurement planning, legal compliance, adaptation-related investment mechanisms, and effective communication strategies.	Application of adaptation measures, technical innovation, use of climate and environmental data, and integration of resilience measures into infrastructure and operations.

Groups 2 - 4 will benefit from occasional **joint, cross-group sessions** to ensure mutual understanding across roles and sectors, particularly in areas where collaboration between public authorities and the private sector is critical to NAS success.

In addition to the above categories, several stakeholder groups will have a cross-cutting role across multiple levels of NAS implementation. This includes **research institutions and academia**, which provide evidence, data and innovation; and **non-governmental organizations**, which facilitate community engagement, outreach, and advocacy. These actors shall be invited to participate in tailored sessions to strengthen contribution to adaptation planning and practice, while also engaging in joint sessions that promote collaboration and knowledge exchange across governance levels and sectors.

2.3 Strategic Learning Objectives

The training strategy seeks to deliver the following **high-level learning outcomes** across all participant groups, ensuring both public and private sector actors are equipped to contribute to the successful implementation of Slovakia's NAS:

- **Shared Understanding**

- Establish a common knowledge base on climate risks, vulnerabilities, and adaptation solutions in Slovakia, enabling public authorities, private enterprises, and civil society to work from a unified perspective. Survey data confirmed uneven levels of understanding (e.g., 33% of municipal respondents reported poor understanding), making foundational training a priority.

- **Role Clarity and Complementarity**
  - Strengthen understanding of specific institutional and corporate responsibilities in NAS implementation, while identifying areas for partnership and complementary action between sectors. This addresses survey findings that many respondents see inter-agency collaboration as essential but lack clear frameworks.

- **Capacity for Decision-Making**
  - Equip participants with the skills to make informed, climate-resilient choices in policy, investment, operational planning, and project delivery — ensuring that both public funding and private capital contribute effectively to adaptation outcomes. Survey responses stressed the need for decision-making tools, particularly related to water and land-use planning.

- **Collaboration and Integration**
  - Promote inter-sectoral (across policy areas) and inter-level (national–regional–local) coordination, as well as **public–private partnerships** for climate-resilient approaches and innovation. Survey analysis revealed enthusiasm for collaborative training formats, with over 80% supporting programmes involving NGOs, schools, or private companies.

- **Sustainability of Competence**
  - Ensure that knowledge and skills are institutionalized in public agencies and embedded into corporate governance structures, allowing adaptation capacity to endure beyond the training programme and evolve with emerging climate challenges. Survey respondents expressed willingness to participate in follow-up discussions and pilot trainings, providing a strong foundation for long-term capacity building.

2.4 Engagement Approach

The engagement approach is designed to maximize the practical relevance, interactivity, and collaborative value of the training for all participants. It ensures that knowledge transfer is paired with opportunities to apply learning in practical adaptation contexts, with a strong emphasis on **public–private cooperation**. Survey findings clearly indicated preferences for blended learning (online + in-person), hands-on workshops, and problem-solving exercises in real-life scenarios. Municipal actors in particular favoured short, modular formats, while national and district-level actors preferred 1-3-day sessions. The engagement design therefore incorporates flexible delivery modes to accommodate different needs.

Key Engagement Principles

- **Participatory Learning**
  - Use of facilitated discussions, problem-solving exercises, and group work to actively involve participants rather than relying solely on presentations. Survey results showed strong support for interactive methods rather than lecture-style formats.

  - In addition, the programme will also include more experiential learning formats such as simulations, role-playing exercises, and field trips. These activities allow participants to practise real-life decision-making, observe adaptation measures in context, and strengthen collaboration and critical thinking skills.

- **Contextual Relevance**
  - Integration of European and Slovak-specific case studies, climate data, and sectoral examples, including public sector projects and private sector adaptation initiatives. This responds to requests for practical, context-based training voiced by regional and municipal respondents.
- **Interdisciplinary and Cross-Sector Exchange**
  - Design of joint sessions bringing together public officials, corporate representatives, NGOs, and researchers to exchange perspectives and align strategies. Survey analysis highlighted that collaboration across governance levels was rated as highly important.
- **Public–Private Collaboration Formats**
  - **Sector-specific roundtables** to identify partnership opportunities.
  - **Innovation labs** where mixed teams co-design adaptation solutions (e.g., technology applications, financing models, operational practices).
  - **Investment matchmaking sessions** to connect adaptation project leads with potential private investors and financiers.

This is reflecting survey findings that cross-actor collaboration is widely seen as beneficial, especially for securing funding and implementing projects.

- **Blended Delivery and Learning**
  - Combination of interactive face-to-face workshops for deep engagement and networking with online learning modules and self-paced materials for flexibility, follow-up, and continued collaboration.
    This is directly mirroring survey preferences, where blended learning was the most popular option at the national level.
- **Train-the-Trainer Component:**
  - Selected participants will receive advanced facilitation skills and materials to independently deliver the programme within their institutions, ensuring long-term sustainability and replication.
    This directly responds to survey findings that a majority of respondents across governance levels were willing to participate in follow-up or pilot trainings, and that municipal and district administrations in particular face acute capacity gaps. By equipping local trainers, the programme will help embed knowledge where it is most needed and reduce reliance on external resources.
- **Feedback Loops**
  - Continuous collection of participant feedback (surveys, interviews, reflection sessions) to adjust content and methods in real time and capture evolving needs.
    These build on survey evidence of respondents' willingness to remain engaged in iterative learning processes.

3 TRAINING PROGRAMME

The Training Programme operationalizes the strategic framework set out in Chapter 2 and is designed to **ensure consistent, coordinated implementation** of climate change adaptation actions across all levels of governance and relevant sectors. It aims to strengthen the competencies of employees, authorities, and other implementation actors, addressing **identified gaps** from Deliverable 2.2[9] and through in the training needs survey (Chapter 1)while making effective use of available resources. Sectoral priorities such as water management, disaster risk reduction, and biodiversity were identified as the most pressing, while blended and participatory formats were consistently preferred across governance levels. These insights directly shape the programme structure, curriculum, and delivery methods outlined in this chapter.

The programme targets those **directly responsible for managing and implementing adaptation measures** under the revised NAS, ensuring that the training:

- Clarifies the concept of climate change adaptation in the Slovak context.
- Introduces identified adaptation needs, objectives, and targets.
- Communicates the urgency and rationale for adaptation actions.
- Provides practical skills and tools to support day-to-day implementation.

3.1 Training Programme Structure

The training programme is organized by **participant group** defined in the Training Strategy (chapter 2), with each group following a session-based curriculum (chapter 3.2.) aligned with their roles and responsibilities.

Group-Specific Training Cycles

Considering survey findings on preferred duration (municipal respondents favoured short, modular sessions, while national and district-level actors preferred 1–3 day trainings), the following training cycles are suggested:

Table 6: Overview of training cycles for the four target groups

Group	Training Cycle	Overall Aim
Group 1 – Strategic Leaders & Policymakers	2–3 high-level sessions	Equip senior decision-makers with foresight to guide and champion the NAS
Group 2 – Adaptation Project Managers & Coordinators	4–5 in-depth sessions	Strengthen operational capacity for adaptation project management
Group 3 – Technical Specialists & Implementers	3–5 sector-specific sessions	Build practical capacity to implement sector-specific adaptation actions
Group 4 – Enabling Functions	1–2 focused sessions	Strengthen enabling functions to support adaptation integration

[9] Trinomics (2024). Revision and update of the national strategy on adaptation to climate change in Slovakia. Deliverable 2.2: Report on the state of play of the climate adaptation policies and governance framework and proposal for a stakeholder engagement plan – Final Report. https://www.klima-adapt.sk/cms/documents/2024/state-of-play_67330086d1201.pdf.

Cross-Cutting Integration Sessions

Two additional *joint sessions* will bring together representatives from all groups to:

- Foster mutual understanding of roles and responsibilities.
- Facilitate public–private collaboration on adaptation solutions.
- Strengthen coordination between national, regional, and local implementation levels.
- Survey results showed strong willingness (over 80%) to engage in collaborative training formats, confirming the value of such sessions.

3.2 Curriculum overview

The training curriculum is structured to progressively strengthen the knowledge, skills, and leadership capacity of participants, ensuring that each group of stakeholders can effectively contribute to the implementation of Slovakia's revised NAS. It is directly informed by the adaptation needs, objectives, and competency gaps identified in the training needs survey (chapter 1.2), ensuring that learning is directly aligned with the requirements of the revised NAS.

The following **summary tables** provide an overview of the proposed training curricula for the four target groups. While the detailed session descriptions in Annex II – Training Manuals per Group set out the full content, methods, and learning objectives, the summary tables below offer a concise at-a-glance view of each group's training cycle, highlighting the number and type of sessions, session focus, methods, learning outcomes, and duration.

Group 1 - Strategic Leaders & Policymakers

Table 7: Overview of curricula for Group 1 – Strategic Leaders & Policymakers

Session	Focus / Content	Methods / Activities	Learning Outcome	Duration
1: Strategic Leadership in Climate Adaptation	Global and EU adaptation context (Paris Agreement, EU Adaptation Strategy, EU Green Deal), Slovakia NAS vision and priorities, stakes of inaction (OECD Adaptation Guidance)	Expert briefing + high-level roundtable	Leaders understand their strategic role in shaping and endorsing adaptation priorities	3–4 hrs
2: Governance, Policy Coherence & Financing	Governance models, policy alignment across ministries, financing options (national budgets, EU funds, private sector)	Case examples from EU peers + moderated dialogue	Leaders able to foster coherent governance and champion resource mobilisation	3–4 hrs
3: Public Leadership & Strategic Communication	Communicating adaptation priorities, building political support, advocacy at national and international levels	Scenario-based role play (press conference, inter-ministerial briefing)	Leaders equipped to communicate, advocate, and mobilise support	3–4 hrs

Group 2 – Adaptation Project Managers & Coordinators

Table 8: Overview of curricula for Group 2 – Adaptation Project Managers & Coordinators

Session	Focus / Content	Methods / Activities	Learning Outcome	Duration
1: Foundations of Climate Adaptation	Climate science recap, Slovak Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2024, strategic adaptation objectives	Expert presentation + discussion	Understand NAS priorities and managers' coordinating role	3–4 hrs
2: Adaptation Project Cycle Management	Designing projects, resource mobilisation, risk management	Workshop exercises, case study analysis	Ability to design NAS-aligned, fundable, feasible projects	4–5 hrs
3: Stakeholder Engagement & Multi-Level Coordination	Mapping & engaging stakeholders, participatory planning, cross-sector collaboration	Group exercises + role play	Strengthen coordination and coalition-building skills	3–4 hrs
4: Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning (MEL)	MEL frameworks, indicators, reporting, adaptive management	Practical exercises, checklists	Monitor progress, report effectively, enable learning	3–4 hrs
5 (Optional): Advanced Topics	Climate risk assessments, mainstreaming, digital tools	Hands-on exercises, simulation	Apply advanced tools and methods to strengthen project delivery	3–4 hrs

Group 3 - Technical Specialists & Implementers

Table 9: Overview of curricula for Group 3 – Technical Specialists & Implementers

Session	Focus / Content	Methods / Activities	Learning Outcome	Duration
1: Understanding Climate Change & Adaptation	Local impacts, sector-specific adaptation science, NAS/NAP sector priorities	Expert presentation + discussion	Build foundational knowledge	3 hrs
2: Sector-Specific Adaptation Needs & Objectives	Technical challenges, objectives, sector linkages	Workshops, case studies	Connect NAS priorities to sector responsibilities	3–4 hrs
3: Implementing Adaptation Actions	Practical adaptation measures, tools, technology transfer	Hands-on exercises, field visits/virtual demos	Apply sector-specific measures effectively	4–5 hrs
4: Communication & Awareness Raising	Communicating technical solutions to managers, communities	Role play, participatory exercises	Advocate and secure stakeholder buy-in	2–3 hrs
5: Mainstreaming Adaptation	Embedding adaptation in daily operations and standards	Practical exercises, checklists	Ensure institutionalised, sustainable practices	3–4 hrs

Group 4 – Enabling Functions

Table 10: Overview of curricula for Group 4 – Enabling Functions

Session	Focus / Content	Methods / Activities	Learning Outcome	Duration
1: Climate Change & Adaptation for Enabling Roles	Impacts on finance, procurement, communication, HR/legal functions	Expert briefing + discussion	Understand enabling roles in adaptation	2–3 hrs
2: Functional Implementation of Adaptation Measures	Integrating adaptation into financial planning, procurement, legal compliance, communication strategies	Simulation exercises, template development	Translate adaptation principles into day-to-day practices	3–4 hrs

3.3 Active learning

The training programme will prioritise **active learning** methods that engage participants, encourage knowledge sharing, and promote the practical application of concepts. Survey analysis indicated strong preferences for participatory and problem-solving methods over lecture-based approaches, especially among municipal respondents. Each activity will therefore be carefully chosen to match the learning objectives of the relevant module and stakeholder group, ensuring that training sessions are both informative and impactful.

Core Interactive Formats

To ensure high participation, deep engagement, and long-term retention of knowledge, the following formats will be used throughout the programme:

- **Group Discussions:** Facilitate the exchange of experiences, challenges, and potential solutions among participants, fostering peer learning and cross-sectoral understanding.
- **Case Studies:** Analyse real-world examples of successful and unsuccessful adaptation initiatives in Slovakia and internationally, drawing lessons for local application.
- **Role-Playing Exercises:** Simulate decision-making processes and stakeholder interactions in adaptation planning and implementation.
- **Brainstorming Sessions:** Encourage innovative thinking to develop creative, context-specific adaptation solutions.
- **Participatory Workshops:** Engage participants in hands-on activities, such as developing adaptation plans, designing vulnerability and risk assessments, or mapping stakeholder roles.
- **Expert Presentations followed by Q&A:** Deliver foundational or advanced technical knowledge, with opportunities for clarification and discussion.
- **Interactive Quizzes and Polls:** Check comprehension in real time and encourage active listening.
- **Site Visits (where feasible):** Provide first-hand exposure to adaptation measures in practice, strengthening the link between theoretical concepts and practical implementation.
- **Peer-to-Peer Learning:** Create opportunities for knowledge exchange between participants from different institutions, regions, or sectors to identify transferable best practices.
- **Simulation Exercises:** Provide participants with realistic, scenario-based challenges to practice decision-making, stakeholder coordination, and implementation of adaptation measures in a controlled environment.

Integration with the Curriculum

Each session **combines at least two** of the core interactive formats. This directly reflects survey preferences for blended and applied learning formats which shall be adapted to each group's needs:

Methods are **tailored to session focus**:

- Foundational sessions: presentations, discussions, quizzes
- Applied implementation: workshops, role-play, brainstorming

3.4 Reference guides including educational materials

Training Manuals

For each of the four groups training manuals (see Annex II – Training Manuals per Group) are designed to be used as a **practical guide for the organisation and facilitation** of the curricula. While the focus areas differ per group, all manuals share a common structure and provide facilitators with ready-to-use content.

Key components of the manuals include:

- **Training approach:** Guidance on how the sessions should be delivered (e.g., number of sessions, target duration, delivery format, level of interactivity), adapted to the availability and needs of the target group.
- **Overall aim:** A clear statement of the intended learning outcome, aligned with the roles and responsibilities of the participant group in implementing the NAS.
- **Format & duration:** Recommendations on session length, balance between in-person and online formats, and use of blended approaches.
- **Session design:** Structured agendas that break each session into components (expert input, case studies, interactive exercises, plenary discussions).
- **Slide deck outlines** and **exercise instructions** to support trainers in delivering consistent and engaging sessions.
- **Resources and references:** Curated lists of background documents, weblinks, and toolkits (Slovak, EU, and international) that allow participants to deepen their knowledge after the sessions. Survey findings highlighted uneven familiarity with existing resources; thus, these materials will help standardise knowledge and provide practical tools. Please note that several of these training materials are freely available under the Mission on Adaptation or under Climate-ADAPT.

In summary, the training manuals provide a structured script and ready-to-use facilitation package, ensuring that training sessions across all groups are consistent, evidence-based, and interactive, while also tailored to the specific responsibilities and learning needs of each audience.

Further resources

Further to the detailed training manuals the following additional resources are provided in Annex III:

- **Provision of Links to existing platforms for case study/adaptation solutions compendiums:**
  Entry points to illustrating successful approaches as well as lessons learned from less effective initiatives linking to Slovak, EU and international platforms.
- **Glossary of key Terms:**
  A short, user-friendly glossary covering climate change, resilience, and adaptation terminology to ensure consistent understanding across all stakeholder groups.

3.5 Sustainability & Follow-up

To ensure long-term impact and the continued application of knowledge and skills gained through the training programme, a sustainability and follow-up framework will be implemented. This approach aims to embed climate adaptation competencies within the institutional structures and workflows of relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Train-the-Trainer (ToT) Component

- A select group of participants from each stakeholder category will receive additional training to become certified trainers.

- These trainers will be equipped with the full curriculum, educational materials, and facilitation guides to deliver the programme independently.
- The ToT approach ensures scalability and continuity of the training beyond the initial programme delivery.

Refresher and Advanced Sessions

- Periodic refresher sessions will be offered to update participants on emerging adaptation challenges, policy updates, and innovative solutions.
- Advanced sessions may be organized to deepen knowledge for specialized roles, such as project managers and technical specialists, responding to evolving adaptation needs.

Integration into Institutional Capacity-Building

- Training modules and materials will be aligned with internal capacity-building initiatives within public authorities and partner organizations.
- The programme will include guidance on embedding adaptation knowledge into standard operating procedures, planning cycles, and performance evaluation frameworks.

Knowledge Management and Resource Sharing

- An online platform or repository will host all training materials, case studies, assessment tools, and multimedia resources for ongoing access.
- Participants and trainers can contribute updated examples, lessons learned, and best practices, creating a living knowledge base.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Training Impact

- Post-training surveys, assessments, and follow-up interviews will evaluate knowledge retention, practical application, and behaviour change.
- Feedback will inform updates to curriculum, materials, and training methods, ensuring continuous improvement.

Encouraging Stakeholder Networks

- Peer-to-peer networks and discussion forums will be fostered to facilitate ongoing collaboration among participants from different administrative levels, sectors, and the private sector.
- These networks will help maintain momentum for climate adaptation initiatives, encourage knowledge exchange, and support joint problem-solving.

3.6 Addressing Available Resources and Identified Gaps

To ensure the training programme is feasible, targeted, and effective, it is designed with a clear understanding of **available resources** and the **competency gaps** identified in the training needs survey and possibly additional gaps occurring during trainings. This approach guarantees that the programme is both practical and aligned with the needs of the beneficiary stakeholders and institutions.

Resource Assessment

- The programme design will take stock of existing resources, including budget, personnel, training infrastructure, and digital tools.

- Training activities will be tailored to these resources, ensuring that sessions are realistic in terms of participant numbers, duration, and delivery formats.
- Where constraints exist, the programme may prioritize critical modules or use existing internal capacities to maximize impact.

Gap Analysis Integration

- The content and curriculum will directly respond to the competency gaps identified through the training needs survey.
- This ensures the programme builds the specific knowledge, skills, and capacities needed for effective implementation of climate adaptation actions at all administrative levels.
- Tailored approaches will be used for different stakeholder groups, focusing on strategic, managerial, technical, and enabling functions.

Cost-Effectiveness

- Efficient training delivery methods will be explored, including:
    - Utilizing internal expertise to conduct sessions, reducing reliance on external trainers.
    - Leveraging open-source learning platforms and digital resources for blended learning approaches.
    - Incorporating self-study modules and online materials to complement in-person sessions.
- These measures will optimize resource use while maintaining high-quality learning outcomes.

4 WORKSHOPS/TRAINING SESSIONS

4.1 National level

A **half day training workshop** was organised for the national level on **4 September 2025**, informing national actors (representatives of the ministries, central administration bodies, organisations supervised by the ministries, research and scientific institutes) about the revised NAS.

The workshop aimed to

- Present core elements of the proposal for the revised NAS and outline preparations towards government adoption
- Provide an overview of planned coordination and implementation mechanisms
- Outline current and future financing opportunities for funding adaptation action

The workshop was held online in Slovak language with some presentations in English (offering translation).

Table 11: National level training workshop agenda (Facilitation: Slovak Academy of Sciences)

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
8:45 – 9:00	Meeting link open for log in	all
9:00 – 9:10	Facilitator´s Welcome and Opening *Brief welcome to participants, outline of objectives and agenda*	Richard Filcak, Slovak Academy of Sciences
9:10 – 9:30	Welcome Address	Jozef Škultéty (MoE)
9:30 – 09:50	EU policy context and knowledge/support platforms (*EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change, Climate ADAPT)* *Presentation and Q&A in plenary (in English)*	Thomas Dworak, Fresh Thoughts

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
09:50 - 10:20	Core Elements of the proposed revised National Adaptation Strategy *Overview presentation and Q&A in plenary (in English)*	Sabine McCallum, Fresh Thoughts
10:20 - 10:30	***Coffee break***	
10:30 – 11:10	Update on the NAS revision process and planned coordination and implementation mechanisms *Presentation and facilitated discussion for questions and feedback*	Viktória Látal Pokorná (MoE)
11:10 - 11:40	Current and future financing opportunities for funding adaptation action *Presentation and facilitated discussion*	Richard Filcak Slovak Academy of Sciences
11:40 – 12:00	Wrap up and next steps	Jozef Škultéty (MoE)

The half-day online workshop was attended by participants from ministries, central agencies, regional authorities, supervised organisations, and research institutes and offered detailed information on the revised NAS, including the path to government adoption, planned coordination/implementation mechanisms, and current/future financing opportunities. The agenda was followed on time, facilitation by the Slovak Academy of Sciences worked smoothly, only English presentations with Slovak interpretation caused some problems due to technical difficulties.

Discussion was substantive across all items: the EU policy context (T. Dworak), core NAS elements (S. McCallum), coordination and implementation (V. Látal Pokorná), and financing options (R. Filčák). Q&A segments elicited constructive feedback and clarified responsibilities and next steps presented by the Ministry of Environment. The input was provided also by European Environmental Agency, rooting the NAS into evolving EU context.

Key takeaways:

- Objectives achieved; stakeholders aligned on the NAS direction and process.
- Strong participation and interactive Q&A; questions will inform final drafting.
- Clear next steps outlined by MoE for adoption, coordination set-up, and follow-up engagements.

- Positive engagement of participants from regional authorities and good potential for linking the meeting with upcoming regional workshops.

4.2 Regional and district level

Training workshops at regional and district level were organized in the **3 regions of Prešov, Žilina, and Banská Bystrica** for representatives of regional administrations and district authorities.

The regional workshops aimed to present the revised National Adaptation Strategy and outline its relevance for regional planning and implementation, as well as to provide an overview of long-term climate scenarios for 2050–2070 and their implications for the region. The discussion focused on identifying policy priorities, investment needs, and coordination mechanisms that can strengthen regional resilience, while also reviewing existing regional strategies, activities, and programmes related to adaptation. Furthermore, the meeting aims to explore opportunities for mainstreaming climate change adaptation into decision-making across key sectors and cross-cutting issues, to share good practice examples and knowledge platforms such as Climate-ADAPT and klima-adapt.sk, and to define next steps for coordination and cooperation among regional administration and stakeholders, ministries, and relevant institutions. The evaluation forms were jointly developed with MoE and distributed among participants to collect their feedback (see Annex IV – Evaluation of Feedback from regional workshops).

The workshops were held on-site in Slovak language on the following dates:

- 12 September 2025: Prešov
- 16 September 2025: Žilina
- 22 September 2025: Banská Bystrica.

Table 12: Regional Training workshops agenda: The Revised National Adaptation Strategy and Regional Climate Adaptation – Strategy, Scenarios, and Implementation (Facilitation: Slovak Academy of Sciences)

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome, Opening and Introduction *Brief welcome to participants, outline of objectives and agenda*	MoE and Slovak Academy of Sciences
9:10 – 10:00	Presentation 1 • Revised National Adaptation Strategy • Preparation for government adoption • Coordination and implementing mechanisms • • Financing arrangements	MoE and Slovak Academy of Sciences

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
10:00 – 10:30	Presentation 2 • Climate change scenarios 2050–2070 • Key regional implications	Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute
10:30 - 11:25	Facilitated Discussion • Regional approaches and implications and policy/investment priorities • Regional strategies, activities, and programmes • Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in regional planning and decision-making • Cross-cutting aspects across key sectors • Good practice examples and knowledge platforms (e.g., Climate-ADAPT, klima-adapt.sk)	Slovak Academy of Sciences
11:25 – 11:30	Wrap-up and Next Steps	MoE and Slovak Academy of Sciences

The three on-site workshops (12, 16, and 22 Sept 2025) were successful and fulfilled their purpose of presenting the revised NAS in a regional planning context and link the national framework with regional/local strategies, plans and activities. Participation from regional administrations and district authorities was strong, the agenda was kept, and delivery in Slovak (with clear materials) supported active engagement across all sessions.

MoE & SAS provided a concise overview of the revised NAS, the road to government adoption, coordination/implementation arrangements, and financing options—linking these directly to regional mandates.

To improve evidence-based approaches at the regional level we engaged SHMÚ (Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute). Their experts presented 2050–2070 climate scenarios and region-specific implications, which anchored discussions in robust data and regional context.

Facilitated discussions produced concrete inputs on policy priorities, investment needs, and coordination mechanisms. Based on regional case studies and projects, participants explored how to embed adaptation in regional strategies, programmes, and permitting/planning processes, and were introduced to Climate-ADAPT and klima-adapt.sk as practical knowledge platforms.

Key takeaways

- Across regions, recurring themes included water and flood/landslide risk management, heat-health preparedness in towns, resilient infrastructure and transport, land-use/spatial planning, agriculture/forestry adaptation, and nature-based solutions.
- Regional priorities and flagship projects provide strong potential for synergies with NAS actions in each region.
- There is potential for regional authorities act as adaptation hubs and to establish light coordination with civil protection, spatial planning, health, transport, and environment units.
- Identification of capacity needs (data access, project preparation, financing navigation) to be addressed through targeted support
- The regional series created a common understanding of NAS relevance, strengthened networks between key institutions, and generated actionable inputs to guide implementation at the sub-national level.

4.3 Local level

Local governments and actors in Slovakia play a crucial role in preparing communities for the impacts of climate change. Yet, many municipalities face challenges such as limited staff, scarce resources, and competing priorities. In support and to provide sustained access to relevant information, it has been agreed with MoE to produce 3 training videos in Slovak language, focusing on practical skills, hands-on examples, and tools that can be directly applied at the local level.

The videos will:

- Provide a clear overview of the revised National Adaptation Strategy with a focus on what matters most for municipalities.
- Share good practice examples and stories that show how others managed to act despite limited capacities.
- Strengthen practical skills for awareness-raising, education, and communication, enabling local actors to motivate colleagues, citizens, and decision-makers.

The overall goal is to empower local actors to take realistic, effective adaptation steps—even with scarce resources—and to explore opportunities for building stronger local teams over time.

The following table provides a summary of content for each of the videos. Detailed scripts are given in Annex V – Video tutorials.

Table 13: Summary of video content

VIDEO NO.	TARGET GROUP	CONTENT	LANGUAGE
1	Local authorities, municipal planners, NGOs, regional development agencies	**Revised National Adaptation Strategy - what matters locally.** Focus on practical entry points for municipalities: where to start, how to integrate adaptation into existing tasks (spatial planning, infrastructure, social services) without extra burden.	SK
2	Local actors, municipal representatives, local NGOs, practitioners	**Good practice examples and knowledge platforms.** Case studies showing how Slovak and EU municipalities overcame limited staff/capacity. **Skills training:** How to use Climate-ADAPT & klima-adapt.sk efficiently for project ideas, funding sources, and ready-to-use materials.	SK
3	Local actors, educators, trainers, community leaders	**Awareness, education and training.** How to communicate adaptation so that citizens, colleagues, and decision-makers are motivated to act despite scarce resources. **Practical tools:** ready-made communication materials, participatory methods, simple training modules for staff and schools.	SK

4.4 Communication and Outreach on trainings

Effective communication and outreach are essential to ensure **high participation, engagement, and impact** of the training programme. The communication strategy will target all relevant stakeholder groups, ensuring that potential participants are informed, motivated, and able to integrate training insights into their roles.

Key Elements of the Communication and Outreach Strategy:

1. **Targeted Messaging:**
    - Develop role-specific messages highlighting the **relevance and benefits** of the training for each participant group (e.g., strategic insights for leaders, practical tools for implementers, process integration for enabling functions).
    - Emphasise how participation contributes to the **successful implementation of the revised National Adaptation Strategy (NAS)**.
2. **Multi-Channel Communication:**
    - Utilize a combination of **emails, newsletters, and institutional websites** to reach stakeholders at all administrative levels.
    - Promote trainings via **social media channels and professional networks**, where appropriate, to raise awareness among external stakeholders such as NGOs, researchers, and private sector actors. Conferences or workshops on similar or related topics could also be used as communication platforms to present the training offer and promote participation among specialised audiences.
    - Leverage **internal champions or trainers** to share personal experiences and encourage peer participation.
    - *Optional: Consider leveraging traditional media channels such as TV, radio, and newspapers to raise broader awareness and highlight the relevance of the training to reach adaptation goals across governance levels.*
3. **Stakeholder Engagement:**
    - Coordinate with **department heads, project managers, and key institutional contacts** to ensure appropriate staff are nominated and able to attend.
    - Involve **external partners** selectively for modules where collaboration or sector-specific expertise is beneficial.
4. **Monitoring and Feedback:**
    - Track communication reach and engagement through registration numbers, email open rates, and responses to outreach campaigns.
    - Adjust communication tactics based on feedback to improve future engagement and participation.

In addition to outreach, a continuous monitoring and feedback mechanism shall be established to ensure that training activities remain relevant and effective. This will include:

- Post-training assessments and participant feedback surveys to evaluate the quality, relevance, and practical application of the training content.
- Regular review and updating of the curriculum based on new policy developments, emerging climate challenges, and evolving training needs identified through follow-up engagement.

- Integration of lessons learned from each training cycle into future sessions, creating a dynamic and iterative learning process that continually enhances the impact and responsiveness of the programme.

Together, these actions ensure that communication about the trainings remains inclusive and far-reaching, while systematic feedback and evaluation mechanisms support the continuous improvement of the national adaptation training framework.

5 POSTGRADUATE LEARNING PROGRAMME - SUMMER SCHOOL: "CLIMATE ADAPTATION: FROM THEORY TO ACTION"

5.1 Core features of the programme

Background:

The Climate Adaptation Summer School is a two-week immersive programme designed to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical implementation of climate adaptation strategies. The programme offers interdisciplinary insights, skill-building workshops, and collaborative problem-solving exercises focused on real-world climate adaptation challenges. Set in a designed learning environment, participants will engage with leading experts, local stakeholders, and each other to learn how to co-create adaptive solutions.

Goal:

To provide an **intensive, hands-on introduction** to climate adaptation for researchers, early-career professionals, students, and practitioners, equipping them with the knowledge, tools, and networks to implement climate adaptation strategies effectively.

Focus:

- Intensive learning and skill development.
- Application of theory to practical, real-world challenges.
- Networking and collaboration across disciplines and sectors.

Duration: 2 weeks (full-time, intensive)

Format:

Primarily in-person, with **optional pre- and post-programme virtual sessions** to provide preparatory resources and follow-up support.

Target Audience:

Graduate students, early-career professionals, NGO staff, urban and regional planners, public sector practitioners, and municipal representatives interested in climate adaptation planning and implementation.

Location: TBD

Credential Awarded: Certificate of Completion

Host: TBD

Relevant Educational Institutions with Climate/Environment Programmes:

To ensure complementarity and build on existing expertise, the programme could draw inspiration from or seek collaboration with:

- Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava – Faculty of Civil Engineering (focus on water management, hydrology, and urban planning).
- Comenius University Bratislava – Faculty of Natural Sciences (programmes in environmental studies, climate science, and geography).
- Technical University in Zvolen (forestry, biodiversity, and natural resource management).

- Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica – Faculty of Natural Sciences (environmental management and geography).
- European partners such as the European University Institute's School of Transnational Governance, Wageningen University & Research, and Central European University – Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy which run climate/environment-related programmes and summer schools.

Suggested Next Steps for the Ministry of Environment

To move the Climate Adaptation Summer School concept forward, the Ministry could:

1. Engage with accreditation authorities (e.g., Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education) to explore formal recognition or integration into continuing education frameworks.
2. Initiate discussions with Slovak universities and European partners listed above to identify potential co-hosting arrangements and academic endorsement.
3. Develop a pilot programme (shorter version or workshop) in collaboration with existing adaptation projects, using lessons learned to refine the full summer school.
4. Secure funding partnerships (e.g., EU LIFE Programme, Horizon Europe, Erasmus+ for mobility and exchanges).

5.2 Programme structure

Week 1: Theory, Frameworks, and Foundations of Climate Adaptation

Participants will gain a **basic but comprehensive introduction** of climate change science and adaptation planning frameworks. No prior knowledge or professional experience in climate adaptation is required; the content is designed to accommodate participants from diverse educational and professional backgrounds.

Content:

- Introduction to climate science and observed impacts in global and Slovak contexts.
- Overview of vulnerability and risk assessment methods, using accessible case examples.
- Adaptation planning frameworks (UNFCCC, EU, Slovak NAS), with emphasis on practical policy integration, and implementation approaches.
- Foundational terminology and concepts, supported by a glossary and recommended post-course readings.
- Examination of common myths, disinformation, and misconceptions about climate change; strategies for identifying reliable sources, assessing evidence, and constructing clear, science-based arguments for effective public and policy communication.
- **Group Simulation Exercise:** "City Adaptation Planning in a X°C World" - participants work in teams to develop adaptation scenarios for a selected country or region, applying the concepts learned.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the scientific basis of climate change and its socio-economic impacts.
- Conduct basic vulnerability and risk assessments.
- Develop initial adaptation planning approaches using frameworks and scenario analysis.

Week 2: Applied Adaptation Practice and Case Studies

Focus on sector-specific adaptation strategies, practical application, and real-world examples.

Content:

- Adaptation in key sectors: water management, agriculture, urban resilience, and infrastructure.
- Analysis of successful national and international adaptation case studies.
- Field visits to local adaptation projects and hands-on exercises.
- **Applied Exercise:** Teams analyse and propose improvements to an ongoing adaptation initiative.

Learning Outcomes:

- Apply adaptation principles to specific sectors and contexts.
- Learn from existing projects and identify best practices.
- Enhance problem-solving and practical skills through hands-on exercises and fieldwork.

Networking and Project Development

Participants will collaborate in small groups to tackle a live adaptation challenge and develop actionable solutions. Networking sessions will facilitate cross-disciplinary connections and knowledge sharing.

Content:

- Group project work: co-create adaptation action plans addressing real-life challenges.
- Mentorship sessions with experts from academia, government, and NGOs.
- Networking events: informal gatherings, knowledge exchange sessions, and discussion panels.

Learning Outcomes:

- Develop collaborative and project management skills.
- Translate theoretical knowledge into actionable adaptation strategies.
- Build professional networks for future collaboration in climate adaptation initiatives.

5.3 Assessment and Certification

Participants will receive a **Certificate of Completion** upon demonstrating active participation, completion of group projects, and reflection on learning outcomes. Optional pre- and post-programme virtual sessions will support preparation and consolidation of knowledge.

Annex I: Survey questionnaire

REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE SLOVAK NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY

TRAINING NEEDS

Slovakia is currently revising and updating the National Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (NAS). The process is coordinated by the Ministry of Environment (MoE) of the Slovak Republic with technical support from a consortium of international and local experts. The technical support project was launched by the European Commission (DG REFORM) in 2023 and aims to assist the national authorities of Slovakia in reviewing and updating the NAS and creating a framework to improve capacity and step up the efforts towards adaptation to climate change.

Aim of investigating on training needs to support the operationalisation of the new NAS and governance framework

Increase the operational skills and capacities of local, regional, and national administrations to implement adaptation strategies, policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of climate change.

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Institution/Organisation Name:**
   _____(Open-ended)

2. **Your Position/Role:**
   _____(Open-ended)

3. **Level of Administration:**

☐ National level (State administration)

☐ Regional level (Self-governing region)

☐ Bratislava Region

☐ Trnava Region

☐ Trenčín Region

☐ Nitra Region

☐ Žilina Region

☐ Banská Bystrica Region

☐ Prešov Region

☐ Košice Region

☐ District Level (Administration supporting state governance)
☐ Municipal Level

4. **Department/Division:**
   _____(Open-ended)

5. **How long do you work in public administration?**

☐ less than 2 years
☐ 2 – 5 years
☐ 5-10 years
☐ more than 10 years

SECTION 2: AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF CLIMATE CHANGE

2 How would you rate your understanding of the impacts of climate change in Slovakia?

☐ Excellent
☐ Good
☐ Average
☐ Poor

3 What aspects of climate change adaptation do you consider most important? (Select all that apply)?

☐ Protection against extreme weather events (e.g., drought, flood, heat waves)
☐ Conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services
☐ Ensuring climate resilient production in agriculture and forestry
☐ Securing water resources
☐ Improving infrastructure and the built environment
☐ Protecting the health of the population
☐ Safeguarding cultural heritage and tourism
☐ Securing energy supply
☐ Other (please specify): _____

4 How effective do you think public outreach initiatives, such as awareness campaigns and events, are in promoting climate adaptation in Slovakia?

☐ Very effective
☐ Somewhat effective
☐ Not effective
☐ Not sure

5 Have you been involved with any public awareness initiatives related to climate change adaptation?

☐ Yes
☐ No
If yes, please briefly describe the initiative and your involvement and provide a weblink if available for further information:
_____(Open-ended)

6 What sources of information do you use to obtain information on climate change adaptation? (Select all that apply)

☐ Government publications and reports
☐ Internal training
☐ Professional literature
☐ Conferences and seminars
☐ Online portals and webinars
☐ Other (please specify): _____

7 How do you rate your organisation/institution's current readiness to implement adaptation policies, programmes or measures?

☐ Very prepared
☐ Prepared
☐ Neutral
☐ Not very prepared
☐ Not at all prepared

SECTION 3: TRAINING TOPICS, FORMAT AND DURATION

1. How would you rate the importance of climate change adaptation training for your work?

☐ Very important

☐ Important

☐ Neutral

☐ Not very important

☐ Not at all important

2. Have you participated in any training related to climate change adaptation in the past?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please specify the type of training:

_____(Open-ended)

3. Which topics do you think are most important for training programmes to enhance climate adaptation efforts? (Select all that apply from the sectors and cross-cutting aspects of the draft revised National Adaptation Strategy)

☐ Agriculture

☐ Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Heritage

☐ Forestry

☐ Geological environment & soil

☐ Hydrological Regime & Water Resource Management

☐ Economy and Industry

☐ Energy

☐ Financial and Insurance System

☐ Tourism

☐ Disaster risk management, Civil protection and Critical infrastructure

☐ Health care

☐ Information and Communication Technology

☐ Cultural heritage

☐ Spatial planning

☐ Transport, infrastructure and buildings

☐ Urban areas

☐ Social vulnerabilities

☐ Education and society

☐ Research

☐ Governance

☐ Regional and cross-border cooperation

☐ (Any other topic): _____(Open-ended)

4. What type of training format would be most effective for you/your organization?

Please select all that apply:

☐ Hands-on workshops and fieldwork

☐ Simulations and case studies

☐ Problem-solving in real-life scenarios

☐ Online training sessions/seminars/webinars and e-learning tools

☐ Blended (online and in-person) learning

☐ Inter-agency collaboration and Peer-to-peer learning networks

☐ On-the-job training or mentorship

☐ Train-the-trainer programme to help disseminate knowledge within your organization

5. What duration do you find most suitable for training sessions?

☐ Few hours

☐ One-day sessions

☐ Two-to-three-day workshops

☐ Weekly (shorter) sessions over a longer period

☐ Continuous on-demand provision of learning resources

SECTION 4: SECTOR SPECIFIC NEEDS

1. Does your sector/department currently face skill gaps in addressing climate change impacts?

☐ Yes
☐ No
If yes, with which of the following adverse effects is your sector/department challenged most for adaptation planning:

- o Increased damage due to extreme weather (drought, floods, heat waves, hailstorms, dust events)
- o Increased heat stress and urban heat island effect
- o Disrupted agriculture/reduced food security
- o Increased water scarcity
- o Increase in water demand (agriculture, industry, private households)
- o Loss of biodiversity/ecosystems and their services/habitat
- o Spread of invasive species
- o Increase in soil erosion, soil degradation and soil salinity
- o Increased forest and wildfire
- o Increased damage to / loss of archaeological sites and cultural assets
- o Increased damage to critical infrastructure
- o Increase in financial needs for adaptation
- o Disrupted economy/financial markets
- o Risk of failure of the electric system
- o Increased energy demand for irrigation, water reuse and treatment
- o Disruption of well-being due to heat and/or weather extremes
- o Increase in mortality and morbidity during heat waves
- o Increased demand in disaster risk management
- o Impact of weather extremes on tourism
- o Other, please specify: _____(Open-ended)

2. Are there any specific tools, systems, or methodologies you would like to receive training on?

_____(Open-ended)

3. Would your organization benefit from training programmes that involve collaboration with other entities (e.g., NGOs, schools, private companies)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please specify: _____(Open-ended)

SECTION 5: COLLABORATION AND RESOURCES

1. **How important is inter-agency collaboration (across sectors and governance levels) for climate adaptation in your work?**
   ☐ Very important
   ☐ Somewhat important
   ☐ Not important
   ☐ Not sure

2. **Are you aware/familiar with existing educational or outreach programmes you believe could serve as models for broader training initiatives?**
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   If yes, please specify: _____(Open-ended)

3. **Would your sector/department/organisation benefit from collaboration with educational institutions or environmental education centers on climate change projects?**
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   ☐ Not sure
   If yes, please explain how: _____(Open-ended)

SECTION 6: SUGGESTIONS AND FEEDBACK

1. **Are there any additional topics or areas you believe should be considered when designing training programmes?**
   _____(Open-ended)

2. **Would you be willing to participate in follow-up discussions or pilot training programmes?**
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your input will be invaluable in designing effective training programmes for climate adaptation in Slovakia.

Annex II – Training Manuals per Group

Group 1 - Strategic Leaders & Policymakers

Training Approach

The training for Group 1 will be delivered through 2–3 high-level, focused sessions, designed to fit into the busy schedules of senior decision-makers. The approach will prioritise strategic dialogue, scenario-based discussions, and peer exchange, rather than technical detail. Sessions will combine expert briefings (on climate science, EU/national policy obligations, and financing opportunities) with interactive roundtables and facilitated debates to allow leaders to reflect on governance choices and policy trade-offs. Selected case studies from Slovakia, the EU, and neighbouring countries will be used to illustrate successful adaptation governance models. The emphasis will be on strategic foresight, cross-sectoral alignment, and enabling conditions for implementation, equipping participants with the insight needed to champion adaptation at the political and institutional level.

Training Cycle: 2–3 high-level sessions

Overall Aim:
Provide senior decision-makers with the strategic insight needed to guide, champion, and oversee the effective implementation of Slovakia's revised National Adaptation Strategy (NAS).

Format & Duration

- **2–3 half-day sessions** (3–4 hours each).
- Blended format possible (short in-person retreats or virtual workshops).
- Highly interactive, concise, and tailored to leaders' time constraints.

SESSION 1: STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Overview

Table 14: Component overview session 1: Strategic Leadership in Climate Adaptation

Component	Details
Focus	• Global & EU adaptation context (Paris Agreement, Article 7 (UNFCCC), EU Adaptation Strategy 2021, EU Green Deal) • Slovakia's revised NAS – vision, priorities, and national relevance • Economic, political, and social stakes of inaction
Background Notes	• NAS Vision 2050: *"A climate-resilient Slovakia, safeguarding health, ecosystems, and prosperity."* • Key risks: floods, droughts, heatwaves → mounting costs to infrastructure, health, competitiveness (OECD evidence)
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organizing
Method	Expert briefing + foresight roundtable
Practical Exercise	Strategic foresight scenario: *"Slovakia in 2050 if adaptation succeeds vs fails."* Small groups compare outcomes with NAS Vision 2050.
Outcome	Leaders understand their strategic role in shaping and endorsing adaptation priorities and guiding adaptation pathways.

Timing & Flow

Table 15: Possible agenda session 1: Strategic Leadership in Climate Adaptation

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Welcome & framing	Introduce objectives; emphasize strategic focus.
30	Expert briefing	Global/EU context + Slovakia NAS Vision 2050.
15	Interactive Q&A	Clarify relevance for Slovakia.
30	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause.
60	Practical exercise	Foresight roundtable: "Slovakia 2050 – success vs failure."
15	Plenary discussion	Share insights; identify leadership implications.
Total: ~180 min		

Slide deck sequence:

1. Welcome & session objectives
2. Global frameworks: Paris Agreement (Art. 7), EU Adaptation Strategy (2021), European Green Deal
3. NAS Vision 2050 – *"A climate-resilient Slovakia…"*
4. Key risks of inaction (heatwaves, droughts, floods) – OECD cost estimates
5. Case Studies
6. Foresight exercise instructions ("Slovakia 2050: success vs failure")
7. Discussion prompts (what leadership choices matter most?)

Exercise Instructions

Foresight Roundtable: "Slovakia 2050 – Adaptation Success vs Failure":

- Divide into groups (5–7 participants).
- Group A envisions Slovakia in 2050 *with successful adaptation*.
- Group B envisions Slovakia in 2050 *with failed adaptation*.
- Each group prepares a 5-minute presentation comparing to NAS Vision 2050.
- Facilitator prompt**:** "What decisions taken in the 2020s–2030s determine these outcomes?"

Resources

Table 16: Resources session 1: Strategic Leadership in Climate Adaptation

Resource	Description	Link
Paris Agreement, Article 7	Establishes the global goal on adaptation to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change.	Paris Agreement – Article 7
EU Adaptation Strategy (2021)	Outlines the EU's vision to become a climate-resilient society by 2050, focusing on adaptation to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.	EU Adaptation Strategy – European Commission
European Green Deal	Aims to make Europe climate-neutral by 2050, including measures to enhance climate resilience across sectors.	European Green Deal – European Commission
Slovakia's National Adaptation Strategy (2026 Update)	Slovakia's updated strategy to improve preparedness for climate change impacts, including institutional frameworks and coordination mechanisms.	Slovak NAS 2026 Update – Ministry of Environment
OECD Report on Climate Risks in Slovakia	Discusses the status of municipal climate risk assessments and the need for methodologies to evaluate adaptation costs and benefits.	OECD Report – Assessing Municipal Climate Risks

SESSION 2: GOVERNANCE, POLICY COHERENCE, AND FINANCING

Overview

Table 17: Component overview session 2: Governance, Policy Coherence & Financing

Component	Details
Focus	• Multi-level governance: national, regional, municipal coordination • Policy alignment across sectors and EU/national budgeting processes • Financing adaptation: national budgets, EU funds, PPPs
Background Notes	• NAS promotes/requires cross-sectoral coordination • Policy integration with EU Cohesion Policy, CAP, Recovery & Resilience Facility • Financing options include EU Green Deal, Horizon Europe, Cohesion Fund, national budgets, private sector mobilisation
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organizing
Method	Expert briefing + case-based strategic dialogue
Practical Exercise	Budgeting simulation: ministries allocate a fixed adaptation budget (€200M) across sectors; discuss trade-offs and alignment with NAS priorities
Outcome	Leaders strengthen governance foresight, cross-sectoral alignment, and resource mobilisation capacity

Timing & Flow

Table 18: Possible agenda session 2: Governance, Policy Coherence & Financing

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Recap & warm-up	Reflect on leadership takeaways from Session 1
30	Expert input	Governance models + financing mechanisms overview
45	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause
75	Practical exercise	Budgeting simulation: allocate €200M across sectors
30	Plenary discussion	Compare allocations, extract governance/financing lessons
Total ~210 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & session objectives; recap Session 1
2. Multi-level governance: national, regional, municipal coordination
3. Policy alignment with EU Cohesion Policy, CAP, Recovery & Resilience Facility
4. Financing adaptation: EU funds, national budgets, private sector
5. Case Studies
6. Budgeting exercise instructions (€200M allocation scenario)
7. Reflection prompts: trade-offs, co-benefits, alignment with NAS

Exercise Instructions / Handouts

Budgeting Simulation: "€200M Adaptation Budget Allocation"

- Groups act as inter-ministerial committees.
- Allocate €200M across sectors: water, agriculture, forestry, health, energy.
- Justify allocations in relation to NAS priorities & EU policy coherence.
- Prepare short 5-minute presentation.
- Facilitator prompts: "What trade-offs did you make? Which co-benefits emerged?"

Resources Table

Table 19: Resources session 2: Governance, Policy Coherence & Financing

Resource	Description	Link
OECD Green Budgeting Framework	Guidance for aligning budgets with climate goals	OECD Green Budgeting
EU Climate Mainstreaming in Cohesion Policy	Guidance for integrating climate into EU-funded programmes	European Commission – Cohesion Policy & Climate Action
Slovak NAS Financing	Overview of funding options, including EU funds, national budgets, and PPPs	Slovak NAS 2026 Update – Ministry of Environment

SESSION 3: PUBLIC LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Overview

Table 20: Component overview session 3: Public Leadership & Strategic Communication

Component	Details
Focus	• Communicating climate adaptation priorities to stakeholders and the public • Building political support and countering resistance/misinformation • Leaders as advocates nationally and internationally
Background Notes	• Adaptation is often perceived as abstract and low priority • NAS emphasizes awareness-raising, education, and public participation • Leadership involves framing adaptation as opportunity: health, jobs, safety
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organizing
Method	Scenario-based role play
Practical Exercise	Ministerial press conference simulation: participants answer challenging questions on costs, urgency, and feasibility
Outcome	Leaders gain capacity to effectively communicate, advocate, and mobilise support for adaptation

Timing & Flow

Table 21: Possible agenda session 3: Public Leadership & Strategic Communication

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Recap	Link back to governance/financing lessons
25	Expert input	Communication challenges & NAS objectives
45	Case studies	Brief introduction of 3 different case studies (one SK, two EU)
15	Break	Short pause
80	Practical exercise	Role play: simulated ministerial press conference

Time (min)	Activity	Description
30	Debrief & plenary	Reflect on framing strategies, effective messaging, leadership role
Total ~210 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & session objectives; recap Session 2
2. Communication challenges: adaptation perceived as abstract/low-priority
3. NAS objectives for awareness, education, and public participation
4. Framing adaptation as opportunity (health, jobs, safety)
5. Case Study 1
6. Case Study 2
7. Case Study 3
8. Role play instructions: simulated ministerial press conference
9. Debrief prompts: what worked, what to improve, key takeaways

Exercise Instructions / Handouts

Role Play: "Ministerial Press Conference on Adaptation Policy"

- Participants split into **Ministers** (policy champions) and **Journalists** (skeptical media).
- Ministers prepare a statement announcing a new adaptation policy.
- Journalists ask tough questions: costs, urgency, feasibility, political resistance.
- Rotate roles if time allows.
- Facilitator prompt: "How can leaders use framing to build trust and mobilize support?"

Resources Table

Table 22: Resources session 3: Public Leadership & Strategic Communication

Resource	Description	Link
UNFCCC – Communication & Public Awareness	Guidance and good practices for public engagement on climate	UNFCCC Communication Resources Action for Climate Empowerment Good practices
Slovak MoE Communication & Education Theme	Environmental education & awareness page under Ministry of Environment	https://www.minzp.sk/en/areas/environmental-education/

Resource	Description	Link
Slovak Environment Agency Environmental education and training	Comprehensive offer of non-formal environmental education, training and awareness programs. It provides practical, methodological, publishing, project and conceptual activities in this area.	https://www.sazp.sk/en/the-environment/environmental-education-and-training
Climate Outreach reports & guides	British charity to focus exclusively on public engagement with climate change through **research and advice**, **workshops and training**, and **Climate Visuals**.	Climate Outreach

Group 2 – Adaptation Project Managers & Coordinators

Training Approach for Group 2

The training for Group 2 will consist of **4–5 in-depth sessions**, combining structured input with highly interactive methods to strengthen the operational capacity of mid-level managers. The approach will be practical and problem-solving oriented, focusing on project cycle management, stakeholder coordination, and monitoring and evaluation of adaptation measures. Each session will blend expert presentations with hands-on workshops, group exercises, and case study analysis, enabling participants to apply concepts directly to their areas of responsibility. Special attention will be given to cross-sector collaboration and vertical coordination (national–regional–local), ensuring that managers can act as effective bridges between strategic leadership and technical implementers. The sessions will also include simulated exercises, such as designing adaptation project pipelines or coordinating stakeholder consultations, to build confidence in applying newly acquired skills.

Training Cycle: 4–5 sessions, each designed to progressively build competencies for managing adaptation projects and ensuring coherence with the NAS.

Overall Aim:
Strengthen the operational capacity of mid-level managers to design, coordinate, and monitor adaptation projects that are coherent with the NAS, financially viable, and supported by effective stakeholder collaboration.

Format & Duration

- 4–5 full- or half-day sessions (3–6 hours each).
- Delivered in blended format (in-person workshops with virtual options).
- Highly interactive, hands-on, and practice-oriented, combining expert input with applied exercises and peer learning.

SESSION 1 – FOUNDATIONS OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION FOR PROJECT MANAGERS

Overview

Table 23: Component overview session 1: Foundations of Climate Adaptation for Project Managers

Component	Details
Focus	• Climate science recap relevant for Slovakia • Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for Slovakia (floods, droughts, heatwaves) • Strategic adaptation objectives in NAS 2026
Background Notes	• Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Slovakia. • Slovak NAS Vision 2050 & NAS revision 2026 • Sectoral vulnerabilities (agriculture, forestry, water, health)
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organizing
Method	Expert presentation + plenary discussion
Practical Exercise	Group reflection: “How do NAS priorities translate into my sector/region/organisation?”
Outcome	Participants understand NAS priorities, vulnerabilities, and their role as coordinators

Timing & Flow

Table 24: Possible agenda session 1: Foundations of Climate Adaptation for Project Managers

Time	Activity	Description
15	Welcome & objectives	Framing session; link to training cycle
30	Expert input	Climate science recap + Slovak climate risks
15	Q&A	Clarify risks
30	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause
45	Group discussion	Translate NAS objectives to participants' context
30	Plenary	Share reflections; highlight key themes
Total: ~180 min (3 hrs)		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & objectives
2. Climate science recap (Central Europe)
3. Slovak vulnerabilities
4. NAS Vision 2050 & 2026 update
5. Case studies
6. Group exercise instructions
7. Discussion prompts & wrap-up

Exercise Instructions

Group Reflection Exercise:

- Step 1: Identify one NAS priority relevant to your sector
- Step 2: Discuss barriers & enablers
- Step 3: Groups share 3 points in plenary

Resources

Table 25: Resources session 1: Foundations of Climate Adaptation for Project Managers 1

Resource	Description	Link
Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2024	Slovakia's risks and vulnerabilities	Trinomics (2024). Revision and update of the national strategy on adaptation to climate change in Slovakia. Deliverable 2.3: Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Slovakia.
Slovak NAS 2026	National priorities	Ministry of Environment

SESSION 2 – ADAPTATION PROJECT CYCLE MANAGEMENT

Overview

Table 26: Component overview session 2 Adaptation Project Cycle Management

Component	Details
Focus	• Project cycle management basics • Designing adaptation projects aligned with NAS • Financing mechanisms (EU funds, national budgets, PPPs) • Risk management
Background Notes	• EU Climate ADAPT Adaptation Support Tool • Financing adaptation: National budget, EU financing opportunities, PPPs • Climate-proofing investment
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organizing
Method	Workshop + case study analysis
Practical Exercise	Groups draft project "concept notes" (problem, objectives, financing)
Outcome	Participants can design feasible, fundable, NAS-aligned projects

Timing & Flow

Table 27:: Possible agenda session 2 Adaptation Project Cycle Management

Time	Activity	Description
20	Intro & framing	Link project design to NAS
40	Expert input	Adaptation support tool and further sources for project cycle management (PCM) guidance + financing
20	Q&A	Clarify approaches
30	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause
75	Workshop	Draft project concept notes

Time	Activity	Description
30	Plenary	Present concepts & feedback
Total: ~230 min (3.8 hrs)		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Intro & link to NAS
2. Climate ADAPT Adaptation support tool and further sources for PCM
3. Adaptation financing overview
4. Case studies
5. Group exercise template
6. Feedback prompts

Exercise Instructions

Project Concept Note Exercise:

- Define problem & objectives
- Align with NAS priorities
- Suggest financing source
- Present 5-minute pitch

Resources

Table 28: Resources session 2 Adaptation Project Cycle Management

Resource	Description	Link
Climate ADAPT – Adaptation Support Tool	Project design & evaluation	Adaptation Support Tool Urban Adaptation Support Tool Guidance: How to develop a risk and vulnerability assessment (2025)
Revised NAS 2026	Includes estimates and sources for financing	Ministry of Environment

SESSION 3 – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & MULTI-LEVEL COORDINATION

Overview

Table 29: Component overview session 3 Stakeholder Engagement & Multi-Level Coordination

Component	Details
Focus	• Stakeholder mapping & analysis • Participatory planning methods • Multi-level governance (national, regional, local)
Background Notes	• Importance of inclusive processes • Barriers to coordination (silos, mandates) • NAS cross-sector emphasis
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organising
Method	Group mapping exercise + role play
Practical Exercise	Role play: Simulated stakeholder consultation (ministry, local gov't, NGOs, farmers, business)
Outcome	Participants strengthen coalition-building & coordination skills

Timing & Flow

Table 30: Possible addenda session 3 Stakeholder Engagement & Multi-Level Coordination

Time	Activity	Description
20	Intro & framing	Why stakeholder engagement matters
30	Expert input	Multi-level governance & stakeholder mapping
20	Q&A	Clarify concepts
30	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause
60	Stakeholder mapping	Groups map stakeholders in Slovak adaptation projects
45	Role play	Simulated consultation with diverse actors
30	Plenary	Reflection: enablers & barriers
Total: ~250 min (4 hrs)		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Intro: importance of participation
2. Stakeholder mapping framework
3. Multi-level coordination challenges
4. Case studies
5. Mapping exercise instructions

6. Role play setup
7. Plenary discussion prompts

Exercise Instructions

Role Play Exercise:

- Assign roles: ministry, municipal gov't, NGO, business, farmer
- Simulated consultation on local adaptation project
- Debrief: Who had power? Who was heard? What improved outcomes?

Resources

Table 31: Resources session 3 Stakeholder Engagement & Multi-Level Coordination

Resource	Description	Link
MIP4Adapt DIY Manual	Tools for stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder and Citizen Engagement
Pathways2Resilience climate toolbox	Repository of open-access resources, tools and materials	P2R Climate toolbox

SESSION 4 – MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING (MEL)

Overview

Table 32: Component overview session 4 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

Component	Details
Focus	• MEL frameworks & indicators • Reporting requirements (EU, national) • Adaptive management
Background Notes	• EU MLE frameworks for climate adaptation • Slovakia's reporting obligations • Revised NAS indicators (output, outcome and impact)
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organising
Method	Practical exercise with MEL templates
Practical Exercise	Groups apply indicators to sample project and draft reporting matrix
Outcome	Participants can track progress and report adaptation outcomes effectively

Timing & Flow

Table 33: Possible agenda session 4 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

Time	Activity	Description
20	Intro & framing	Role of MEL in adaptation
40	Expert input	Frameworks & indicators
20	Q&A	Clarify challenges
30	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause
60	Exercise	Apply indicators to sample project
30	Plenary	Share results & facilitator feedback
Total: ~215 min (3.5 hrs)		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Intro: MEL
2. EU frameworks & indicators
3. Slovak reporting obligations
4. Case studies
5. Group exercise instructions
6. Reporting template slide
7. Discussion prompts

Exercise Instructions

MEL & Reporting Exercise:

- Provide a sample project (e.g., flood protection)
- Groups fill in reporting matrix: indicators, baselines, targets
- Reflect on challenges & adaptive management needs

Resources

Table 34: Resources session 4 Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning

Resource	Description	Link
Revised NAS 2026	Includes MEL framework	Ministry of Environment

Resource	Description	Link
EEA Climate-ADAPT Dashboard	Indicators for adaptation monitoring	Measuring progress towards climate resilience
EU Mission "Regional Adaptation Support Tool" (Step 6: MEL)	Includes how to define MEL approach, choosing indicators, stakeholder involvement, learning from results. Very practical and regionally focused.	RAST MEL

OPTIONAL SESSION 5 – ADVANCED TOPICS IN PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

(to be delivered depending on resource availability and identified needs)

Overview

Table 35: Component overview session 5 Advanced Topics in Project Implementation

Component	Details
Focus	• Climate risk assessments • Mainstreaming adaptation into other sectors • Digital tools (GIS, modelling)
Background Notes	• Importance of integrating adaptation in all planning • Role of risk assessments in prioritisation • Tools for data-driven adaptation
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organising
Method	Hands-on demo of tools
Practical Exercise	Participants test digital tool or risk matrix in small groups
Outcome	Participants can apply advanced tools to strengthen adaptation planning

Timing & Flow

Table 36: Possible agenda session 5 Advanced Topics in Project Implementation

Time	Activity	Description
15	Intro & framing	Why advanced tools matter
40	Expert input	Risk assessment & mainstreaming
20	Q&A	Clarify applications
30	Case studies	Brief introductions on 3 different case studies (one SK, 2 EU)
15	Break	Short pause
60	Demo exercise	GIS or digital tool hands-on

Time	Activity	Description
30	Plenary	Reflect on opportunities & limitations
Total: ~210 min (3.5 hrs)		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Intro: Why advanced tools?
2. Climate risk assessment steps
3. Mainstreaming adaptation across policies
4. Case studies
5. Digital tool demo (GIS/Copernicus)
6. Exercise instructions
7. Discussion wrap-up

Exercise Instructions

Risk Assessment Simulation:

- Provide sample dataset (flood map or vulnerability index)
- Groups run simple prioritisation exercise
- Discuss: how can this improve adaptation project delivery?

Resources

Table 37: Resources – Session 5 Advanced Topics in Project Implementation

Resource	Description	Link
Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)	Data & tools for climate risk assessment	Copernicus C3S
CLIMAAX Framework	Designed to empower regions to conduct inclusive and harmonised Climate Risk Assessments (CRAs).	CLIMAAX CRA

Group 3 - Technical Specialists & Implementers

Training Approach

The training for Group 3 consists of **3–5 sector-specific sessions** providing practical knowledge, technical skills, and applied methods for implementing climate adaptation measures. The approach emphasises **hands-on exercises, field visits or virtual demonstrations, and problem solving in participants' own sectors**. Each session combines expert input with interactive workshops, case studies, and applied exercises.

Training Cycle: 3–5 sessions

Overall Aim:
Strengthen the technical capacity of practitioners to effectively implement adaptation measures, communicate technical solutions, and mainstream adaptation into daily sectoral practice.

Format & Duration

- 3–5 sessions (2.5–5 hours each).
- Practice-oriented, including field visits or virtual demonstrations.
- Highly interactive and applied.

SESSION 1: UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATION

Overview

Table 38: Component overview session 1: Understanding Climate Change & Adaptation

Component	Details
Focus	• Local climate impacts in Slovakia • Sector-specific adaptation science (agriculture, forestry, water, health, infrastructure) • Priorities in revised NAS 2026
Background Notes	• Slovakia faces floods, droughts, heatwaves, biodiversity decline • NAS sectors: water, agriculture, forestry, energy, health • Adaptation requires linking scientific data with operational practice.
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organising
Method	Expert presentation + guided discussion
Practical Exercise	Hazard-to-priority mapping exercise
Outcome	Build foundational knowledge and shared understanding of sectoral adaptation relevance.

Timing & Flow

Table 39: Possible agenda session 1: Understanding Climate Change & Adaptation

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Welcome & framing	Introduce objectives and scope.
45	Expert briefing	Climate trends, sectoral impacts, NAS priorities.
20	Q&A	Clarify sector-specific implications.
30	Case studies	Short presentations from SK + EU.
15	Break	
60	Practical exercise	Hazard-to-priority mapping activity.
15	Plenary	Key takeaways.
Total ~180 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & objectives
2. Local climate impacts (maps, datasets)
3. Sectoral science (agriculture, water, forestry, health, infrastructure)
4. NAS sector priorities
5. Case studies
6. Exercise instructions
7. Reflection prompts

Exercise Instructions

- Divide participants by sector.
- Each group receives hazard cards (floods, droughts, heatwaves, etc.) + NAS priorities.
- Groups map hazards to sector priorities and discuss implications.
- 5-minute group presentation.

Resources

Table 40: Resources for session 1: Understanding Climate Change & Adaptation

Resource	Description	Link
Slovak NAS 2026 Update	National strategy priorities	Ministry of Environment SK
CLIMAAX Handbook	Framework for regional climate risk assessment	CLIMAAX
Copernicus Climate Data Store	Climate data and sectoral indicators	Copernicus CDS

SESSION 2: SECTOR-SPECIFIC ADAPTATION NEEDS & OBJECTIVES

Overview

Table 41: Component overview session 2 Sector-Specific Adaptation Needs & Objectives

Component	Details
Focus	• Technical challenges and vulnerabilities in each sector • Adaptation objectives • Cross-sector linkages
Background Notes	• Adaptation requires bridging silos (e.g., water–energy–agriculture nexus).
Case Studies	Slovak & EU sectoral cases
Method	Workshops, case study analysis
Practical Exercise	Draft sector objectives + cross-sector linkages
Outcome	Participants align sector roles with NAS priorities.

Timing & Flow

Table 42: Possible agenda session 2 Sector-Specific Adaptation Needs & Objectives

Time (min)	Activity	Description
20	Recap & framing	Connect to session 1 outcomes.
30	Expert briefing	Sectoral adaptation objectives.
30	Case studies	Examples SK + EU.
15	Break	
70	Workshop	Define objectives + linkages.
25	Plenary	Group presentations + synthesis.
Total ~190 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & recap session 1
2. Sector-specific adaptation challenges
3. NAS objectives by sector
4. Cross-sector linkages
5. Case studies
6. Workshop instructions
7. Reflection prompts

Exercise Instructions

- Groups work by sector (e.g., agriculture, forestry).
- Task: define **3 adaptation objectives** and identify **2 linkages** to other sectors.
- Present results in plenary.

Resources

Table 43: Resources session 2 Sector-Specific Adaptation Needs & Objectives

Resource	Description	Link
Revised NAS 2026	National adaptation strategy	Ministry of Environment
MIP4Adapt	Mission Implementation Platform knowledge and data	MIP4Adapt
OECD Slovakia	Assessing municipal climate risks	OECD Slovakia report

SESSION 3: IMPLEMENTING ADAPTATION ACTIONS

Overview

Table 44: Component overview session 3 Implementing Adaptation Actions

Component	Details
Focus	• Practical adaptation measures • Tools and technology transfer • Applying measures in real-world contexts
Background Notes	•Implementation requires cost-effective, context-appropriate tools.
Case Studies	Slovak demo project + EU pilot
Method	Field visit, virtual demo, or hands-on exercise
Practical Exercise	Simulation of a technical intervention

Component	Details
Outcome	Specialists gain skills for applying sector measures.

Timing & Flow

Table 45: Possible agenda session 3 Implementing Adaptation Actions

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Recap	Link to Session 2.
30	Expert briefing	Measures & tools.
40	Case studies	Demo projects SK + EU.
15	Break	
90	Practical exercise	Apply tools/visit/demo.
30	Plenary reflection	Lessons learned.
Total ~220 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & recap
2. Technical measures overview
3. Implementation tools and technologies
4. Case studies
5. Hands-on exercise instructions
6. Reflection prompts

Exercise Instructions

- Participants test a tool (e.g., risk mapping, crop adaptation measure).
- Or join a virtual demonstration/field site.
- Report back on challenges and success factors.

Resources

- Forest Adaptation Resources – Adaptation Workbook
- Copernicus tutorials (floods, drought)
- Slovak pilot projects (TBD)

SESSION 4: COMMUNICATION & AWARENESS RAISING

Overview

Table 46: Component overview session 4 Communication & Awareness Raising

Component	Details
Focus	• Communicating technical solutions to managers, communities, stakeholders • Building awareness and advocacy
Background Notes	Technical experts must “translate” knowledge into accessible language.
Case Studies	SK local communication initiative + EU outreach
Method	Role play + participatory exercises
Practical Exercise	Role play: explaining adaptation action to a skeptical manager/community
Outcome	Participants build communication and advocacy skills.

Timing & Flow

Table 47: Possible agenda session 4 Communication & Awareness Raising

Time (min)	Activity	Description
10	Recap	Connect to session 3 implementation.
25	Expert input	Communication challenges & best practices.
25	Case studies	SK + EU examples.
15	Break	
80	Practical exercise	Role play scenarios.
25	Debrief & plenary	Reflection on effective framing.
Total ~180 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & recap session 3
2. Why communication matters
3. Barriers to understanding adaptation
4. NAS communication objectives
5. Case studies
6. Role play instructions

7. Debrief questions

Exercise Instructions

- Divide into pairs/groups: one “technical expert”, one “manager/community leader”.
- Experts explain a technical measure in plain language.
- Managers challenge with questions (cost, feasibility).
- Rotate roles and reflect.

Resources

Table 48: Resources session 4 Communication & Awareness Raising

Resource	Description	Link
Slovak NAS – Education/Communication	Awareness-raising priorities	Ministry of Environment

SESSION 5: MAINSTREAMING ADAPTATION

Overview

Table 49: Component overview session 5 Mainstreaming Adaptation

Component	Details
Focus	• Integrating adaptation into daily operations and sector standards • Using checklists and guidelines
Background Notes	• Mainstreaming ensures sustainability and institutionalization.
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organising
Method	Integration exercise using checklists
Practical Exercise	Audit an existing process (procurement, planning) and integrate adaptation
Outcome	Specialists learn how to embed adaptation in routine practice.

Timing & Flow

Table 50: Possible agenda session 5 Mainstreaming Adaptation

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Recap	Link to communication lessons.
30	Expert input	Mainstreaming adaptation (policies, standards).
30	Case studies	Examples SK + EU.

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Break	
75	Practical exercise	Adaptation mainstreaming audit.
30	Plenary	Lessons + next steps.
Total ~195 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & recap session 4
2. Why mainstreaming adaptation matters
3. Examples of mainstreaming in practice
4. Case studies
5. Exercise instructions
6. Reflection prompts

Exercise Instructions

- Participants receive a standard procedure (e.g., municipal procurement).
- Task: identify where climate risks/adaptation should be integrated.
- Use an adaptation checklist.
- Present back adjustments.

Resources

Table 51: Resources session 5 Mainstreaming Adaptation

Resource	Description	Link
Revised NAS 2026	Sectoral clusters and cross-cutting issues	Ministry of Environment
Climate ADAPT: Adaptation in EU policy sectors	Adaptation in sectors	Climate ADAPT
MIP4Adapt tools	EU Mission integration tools	MIP4Adapt

Group 4 – Enabling Functions

Training Approach

The training for Group 4 will be delivered through **1–2 focused sessions**, tailored to staff in enabling roles such as **finance, procurement, communication, human resources, and legal compliance**. The approach will emphasise **applied exercises, simulations, and practical tools** for integrating adaptation into day-to-day functional practices. Sessions combine expert input with case-based exercises to illustrate how enabling functions can facilitate adaptation across the institution.

Training Cycle: 1–2 focused sessions (with optional additional modules)

Overall Aim:
Strengthen the capacity of enabling functions to support and mainstream climate adaptation into institutional operations, financial and legal processes, and internal/external communication.

Format & Duration

- 1–2 half-day sessions (2–4 hours each).
- Blended format possible (in-person workshops or virtual sessions).
- Practical, integration-oriented, with case-based simulations and templates.

SESSION 1: CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATION FOR ENABLING ROLES

Overview

Table 52: Component overview session 1: Climate Change & Adaptation for Enabling Roles

Component	Details
Focus	• Impacts of climate change on finance, procurement, communication, HR/legal functions • Why enabling functions are essential for NAS implementation
Background Notes	• Climate risks affect budgeting, procurement standards, labour regulations, and public information. • Enabling functions ensure institutional coherence and compliance.
Case Studies	TBD at the time of organising (examples of finance, procurement, and communication integration in EU/NAS contexts)
Method	Expert briefing + structured discussion
Practical Exercise	Guided reflection: participants identify adaptation-relevant responsibilities in their own functions.
Outcome	Participants understand their enabling role in mainstreaming adaptation.

Timing & Flow

Table 53: Possible agenda session 1: Climate Change & Adaptation for Enabling Roles

Time (min)	Activity	Description
10	Welcome & framing	Introduce objectives and relevance for enabling roles.

Time (min)	Activity	Description
30	Expert briefing	Climate change impacts on finance, HR, procurement, legal, communication.
20	Q&A	Clarify implications for Slovak institutions.
30	Case studies	2–3 short EU + SK examples.
15	Break	
45	Practical exercise	Reflection: participants map adaptation relevance in their daily tasks.
15	Plenary discussion	Sharing results and lessons.
Total ~165 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & objectives
2. Climate impacts on enabling roles (finance, HR, procurement, legal, communication)
3. Why enabling functions matter for NAS
4. Case studies (1 SK, 2 EU)
5. Practical exercise instructions
6. Debrief prompts

Exercise Instructions

- Each participant reflects on their function (finance, HR, procurement, etc.).
- Task: identify **3 specific responsibilities** that intersect with climate risks or adaptation.
- Participants write these on cards/virtual boards.
- Facilitator groups responses to highlight cross-cutting enablers.

Resources

Table 54: Resources session 1 Climate Change & Adaptation for Enabling Roles

Resource	Description	Link
Revised NAS 2026	Functional responsibilities for adaptation	Ministry of Environment

SESSION 2: FUNCTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF ADAPTATION MEASURES

Overview

Table 55:: Component overview session 2: Functional Implementation of Adaptation Measures

Component	Details
Focus	Integrating adaptation into: • Financial planning • Procurement processes • Legal compliance and risk management • Communication strategies
Background Notes	• Enabling functions operationalise adaptation through processes and standards. • Integration requires tools, templates, and institutional alignment.
Case Studies	Examples of adaptation in finance, procurement, and communication (EU & SK).
Method	Simulation exercises, template development
Practical Exercise	Simulation: teams adapt a budget, procurement tender, or communication plan to include adaptation criteria.
Outcome	Participants can translate adaptation principles into daily enabling practices.

Timing & Flow

Table 56: Possible agenda session 2 Functional Implementation of Adaptation Measures

Time (min)	Activity	Description
15	Welcome & recap	Link to session 1 outcomes.
30	Expert input	Functional adaptation integration: finance, procurement, HR/legal, communication.
30	Case studies	Examples from Slovakia and EU peers.
15	Break	
75	Practical exercise	Simulation: integrate adaptation into budget/procurement/communication.
30	Plenary reflection	Compare group outputs, extract lessons.
Total ~195 min		

Slide Deck Sequence

1. Welcome & recap session 1
2. Functional integration overview (finance, procurement, HR/legal, communication)
3. Case studies (SK + EU examples)
4. Simulation exercise instructions
5. Group templates for budget, procurement, communication
6. Plenary reflection prompts

Exercise Instructions

- Participants split into functional groups (finance, procurement, communication, HR/legal).
- Each group receives a **simulation case** (e.g., procurement tender for infrastructure, HR policy update, communication campaign).
- Task: integrate climate adaptation considerations into the case (e.g., add resilience criteria in procurement, include adaptation budget line, add climate risks to HR policy).
- Groups present a revised version in plenary.

Resources

Table 57: Resources session 2: Functional Implementation of Adaptation Measures

Resource	Description	Link
Revised NAS 2026 – Functional Guidance	National adaptation strategy functional responsibilities	Ministry of Environment

Annex III – Further resources

SLOVAK RESOURCES

Table 58: Slovak Information Platforms

Resource	Relevance / How to use	Link
Klima-adapt.sk	Slovakia's national **Climate Change Adaptation Platform** – a one-stop source tailored to Slovak conditions and maintained by the Slovak Environment Agency in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute. It offers climate data and information on climate change risks and impacts, provides documents adopted in the field of adaptation to climate change at international, national, regional and local level and presents examples of practical solutions implemented. The Platform also offers selected tools, such as financial instruments including mechanisms for financial support for the implementation of adaptation measures, but also, for example, support for the environmental awareness of the population through educational, training, awareness-raising and information activities.	https://klima-adapt.sk/
Information Platform Green Economy (IP GE)	This platform informs about news about the green economy and offers a space for the presentation of environmental solutions, experience exchange and practical examples. The IP GE aims to address consumer behaviour as it provides solutions applicable in real life with their implementation directly affecting the individual environmental and climate footprint. The website was created in 2018 and is managed by the Slovak Environment Agency.	https://www.zelenehospodarstvo.sk/
Slovak Environment Agency Environmental education and training	Comprehensive offer of non-formal environmental education, training and awareness programs. It provides practical, methodological, publishing, project and conceptual activities in this area.	https://www.sazp.sk/zivotne-prostredie/environmentalna-vychova-a-vzdelavanie (English: https://www.sazp.sk/en/the-environment/environmental-education-and-training)

PAN-EUROPEAN / GLOBAL TRAINING & GUIDANCE RESOURCES

Table 59: Training & Guidance Resources (Pan European/Global)

Resource	Relevance / How to use	Link
Climate-ADAPT (EEA)	The central European platform on adaptation: policies, country profiles, sectoral strategies, indicators, case studies, data & tools. Essential reference to benchmark Slovakia within EU context.	https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/

Resource	Relevance / How to use	Link
MIP4Adapt (Mission Implementation Platform for Adaptation)	The EU Mission's support platform for regional/local authorities: provides technical assistance, funding pathways, citizen engagement approaches, and adaptation pathways guidance.	https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/mission/the-mission/about-mip4adapt
MIP4Adapt DIY Manual	Tools for stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder and Citizen Engagement
Pathways2Resilience climate toolbox	Repository of open-access resources, tools and materials	P2R Climate toolbox
CLIMAAX (Climate Risk & Vulnerability Assessment Toolbox)	A Horizon Europe project developing a harmonised framework & digital toolbox for multi-hazard climate risk assessment. Offers a step-by-step handbook and supports EU regions with data & methods.	https://www.climaax.eu/handbook/toolbox/
WeADAPT – Climate Adaptation Training	A large library of training modules (vulnerability assessment, adaptation planning, decision support) you can pick and adapt for technical & managerial audiences	https://weadapt.org/knowledge-base/climate-adaptation-training/
EU Climate Action Academy (Courses & Training)	Self-led modules plus live training; useful especially for policy / communication content (Group 1 & 4)	https://climate-pact.europa.eu/eu-climate-action-academy/courses-and-training_en
SDG Academy MOOC – Transformative Approaches to Climate Adaptation in Europe	A European-focused MOOC covering adaptation strategies, finance, modelling, etc. Good preparatory or reference reading for participants	https://sdgacademy.org/course/transformative-approaches-to-climate-adaptation-in-europe/
Copernicus – User Learning Services	Technical training / tutorials on climate data, modelling and using datasets — useful for specialists (Group 3)	https://climate.copernicus.eu/user-learning-services
BASE (Bottom-up Adaptation Strategies for a Sustainable Europe)	Good for bridging science ⇄ practice; case studies & tools that can feed into Group 2 & 3 module design	https://base-adaptation.eu/
OECD – Assessing Municipal Climate Risks (Slovakia Case)	A case study + methodology you can use as a local example / exercise in your training, particularly for Group 2	https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/adaptation-measurement-assessing-municipal-climate-risks-to-inform-adaptation-policy-in-the-slovak-republic_dad34bb3-en.html
IEECP – Good Practices & Tools (InPlanPractice)	A compendium of tools and case examples in European	https://ieecp.org/inplanpractice/good-practice-exemples-and-tools-climate-adaptation/

Resource	Relevance / How to use	Link
	adaptation you can draw from for exercises and inspiration	

GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

Adaptive Capacity. In this report, adaptive capacity describes the *current* ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damages and climate impacts, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequences. Adaptive capacity therefore describes the status quo of all presently available adaptation options, including e. g. financial or human resources. The adaptive capacity might differ between risks and sectors (European Environment Agency (EEA n.d.); IPCC, 2021c) and is highly dependent on volatile factors such as political direction, leadership and administrative actions, which decreases the reliability of predictions about its future development. Although the adaptive capacity can adjust and alter flexibly, limits to adaptation might be reached, when a system's needs or an actor's objective cannot be secured from intolerable risks, which threaten 'core social objectives associated with health, welfare security or sustainability' (IPCC, 2022a). Those limits might be soft, when adaptation options exist but are currently not available, or hard, when no adaptive actions are possible or feasible to avoid intolerable risks. Climate change will exacerbate the occurrence of hard limits to adaptation, which have already been reached in some natural ecosystems (IPCC, 2022a). Additionally, not all adaptive measures show an immediate effect. To achieve large-scale adaptation, far-reaching adaptation actions might be necessary, which in turn require longer periods to unfold their full impact. This also encompasses the time needed for preparatory and implementation steps. Examples of sectors with prolonged adaptation times are forestry, the geological environment and soil.

Climate impact. A climate impact describes an already observed or possible future, relevant impact of one or more climatic influences on a defined system and/or system components (e. g. livelihoods, social/cultural objects, ecosystems). Climate impacts can be described as consequences or results and can be disadvantageous or advantageous. A climate impact always refers to a specific period. As a rule, the term climate impact is used based on the definition of the IPCC up to the point at which an assessment of the climate risk takes place (GIZ, 2023; Umweltbundesamt (UBA), 2021).

Climate impact chain. Climate impact chains (CIC) are used to visualise cause-effect relationships between climate impacts and associated risks as well as cross-sectoral interdependencies (GIZ, 2023). In this report, climate impact chains are structured as the ones developed in the course of the EUCRA (EEA, 2024), whereby slight adaptations were made.

Climatic impact driver. A climatic impact driver describes a changing aspect of the climate system that influences a component of a man-made or natural system. The stronger the climatic influence, the stronger the climate impact tends to be (Umweltbundesamt (UBA), 2021).

Exposure. Defined by the IPCC as 'presence of people; livelihoods; species or ecosystems; environmental functions, services, and resources; infrastructure; or economic, social, or cultural assets in places and settings that could be adversely affected' (IPCC, 2021c). Following the sectoral assessment approach, which focuses on one system (e. g. agriculture) at a time, exposure refers to the extent to which a respective climate impact within the system is dependent on climate change.

Hazard. A hazard is defined as the 'potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event or trend that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, ecosystems and environmental resources' (GIZ, 2023).

Key risk. According to the Climate Risk Sourcebook, so-called key risks are defined as having 'potentially severe adverse consequences for humans and social ecological systems resulting from the interaction of climate-related hazards with vulnerabilities of societies and systems exposed' (GIZ, 2023). Contrary to climate risks (see below), key risks have consequences of high magnitude or likelihood, they affect essential systems and functions and might have a critical timing, i. e. severe impacts are already occurring.

Sensitivity. Sensitivity is defined as the extent to which a system might be positively or adversely affected by climatic changes and is therefore susceptible to harm. An example might be the demographic age distribution or forest structures (IPCC, 2022d; Umweltbundesamt (UBA), 2021). Factors and indicators determining the sensitivity of a system can be derived from the characteristics and attributes, which make the system susceptible to changing hazards (Deutsches Institut für Normung e. V., 2021).

Strategic directions. The strategic directions describe the fundamental objectives within each sector, supporting the targeted planning of measures and achieve short- and long-term goals. They should enable stakeholders to maintain greater consistency in decision-making processes.

Risk. Risk, or more precisely climate risk refers to the potential for adverse impacts on man-made or natural systems, considering the diversity of values and objectives associated with such systems. In the context of climate change, risks can arise both from the potential impacts of climate change and from human responses to climate change. In connection with the effects of climate change, risks arise from dynamic interactions between climatic influences and the spatial exposure as well as the sensitivity and adaptive capacity of the affected system. The term climate risk is used as soon as the risk is assessed (GIZ, 2023; Umweltbundesamt (UBA), 2021). It has to be noted that the mentioned aspects influencing the risk are subject to spatio-temporal changes and come along with uncertainties (e. g. likelihood of occurrence) (GIZ, 2023).

Vulnerability. According to the IPCC, vulnerability is understood as '[t]he propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements, including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt' (IPCC, 2022b).

Annex IV – Evaluation of Feedback from regional workshops

Table 60: Number of registered participants and feedback forms received

Region	Number of registered participants	Total number of feedback forms received
Prešov	55	38
Žilina	60	53
Banská Bystrica	54	41
Total	169	132

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

Content of the Event

Question 1: Relevance of topics: To what extent were the topics presented relevant to your interests and professional needs?

	1 = not relevant at all	2	3	4	5 = highly relevant	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	1	2	12	17	6	38
Žilina	3	2	2	23	21	2	53
Banská Bystrica	0	5	12	14	7	3	41
							132

Question 2: Quality of presentations: How do you rate the overall quality of the presentations and speakers?

	1 = very poor	2	3	4	5 = excellent	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	0	11	13	12	2	38
Žilina	0	1	9	26	12	5	53
Banská Bystrica	0	0	5	21	14	1	41
							132

Question 3: Depth of information: Did the content provide a good balance between introductory and detailed information?

☐ Too basic ☐ Just right ☐ Too detailed

	Too basic	Just right	Too detailed	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	20	12	6	38
Žilina	0	32	19	2	53
Banská Bystrica	0	19	18	4	41
					132

Question 4: Key takeaways: What was the most valuable insight or experience you gained from this event?

[Space for response]

- *How the revised NAS can be translated into region-specific actions when planners, municipalities, and state agencies sit together with shared data and clear roles.*
- *Regional risks differ (floods vs. drought/heat), so measures must be tailored, not one-size-fits-all.*
- *Stronger emphasis on protecting vulnerable groups must be built into project design and eligibility*
- *Direct dialogue with SHMÚ experts clarified use of 2050–2070 scenarios*
- *Problem with access to data*

Question 5: Suggestions for content: What topics would you like to see at future events?

[Space for response]

- *More on financing adaptation*
- *Access to data and how address it (where are the data, who may help in access)*
- *Not clear competencies of regional actors – what are the roles and responsibilities here?*
- *Nature-based solutions for floods/drought/heat: design, permitting, O&M, and co-benefits.*
- *Urban heat & health: heat-health action plans*
- *Critical infrastructure resilience: energy, transport, digital*

Organization of the Event

Question 1: Registration process: How would you rate your registration experience?

	1 = complicated	2	3	4	5 = seamless	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	0	0	5	31	2	38
Žilina	0	0	0	9	43	1	53
Banská Bystrica	0	2	0	7	32	0	41
							132

Question 2:. Venue and equipment: How would you rate the venue and technical arrangements (e.g., seating, lighting, technologies)?

	1 = very poor	2	3	4	5 = excellent	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	0	0	0	0	32	6	38
Žilina	0	0	0	7	44	2	53
Banská Bystrica	0	0	0	5	33	3	41
							132

Question 3: Timing and program: Was the overall schedule well-structured and easy to follow? ☐ Too fast and short ☐ Just right ☐ Too slow and long

	Too fast and short	Just right	Too slow and long	No evaluation	Total
Prešov	13	15	5	5	38
Žilina	17	23	9	4	53
Banská Bystrica	12	19	7	3	41
					132

Question 4: Overall experience: Please share any additional comments or suggestions regarding the organization of the event.

- *Room too big for discussion (Zilina)*
- *Keep scenario presentation less technical (Prešov)*
- *Add more time for discussion*
- *Would be good to make it hybrid next time for bigger outreach*

Annex V – Video tutorials

Regional and local governments and actors in Slovakia play a crucial role in preparing communities for the impacts of climate change. Yet, many municipalities face challenges such as limited staff, scarce resources, and competing priorities. In support and to provide sustained access to relevant information, it has been agreed with MoE to produce 3 training videos in Slovak language, focusing on practical skills, hands-on examples, and tools that can be directly applied at the regional and local level.

The videos will:

- Provide a clear overview of the revised National Adaptation Strategy with a focus on what matters most for municipalities and key stakeholders.
- Share good practice examples and stories that show how others managed to act despite limited capacities.
- Introduce practical skills for awareness-raising, education, and communication, enabling local actors to motivate colleagues, citizens, and decision-makers.

The overall goal is to encourage local actors to take realistic, effective adaptation steps—even with scarce resources -and to explore opportunities for win-win solutions and building stronger local teams over time. The following Table 13 provides a summary of content for each of the videos.

Table 61: Summary of video content

VIDEO NO.	TARGET GROUP	CONTENT	LANGUAGE
1	Regional and local authorities, municipal planners, NGOs, regional development agencies	**Revised National Adaptation Strategy - what matters locally.** Focus on practical entry points for municipalities: where to start, how to integrate adaptation into existing tasks (spatial planning, infrastructure, social services, emergency planning) without extra burden.	SK
2	Regional and local actors, municipal representatives, local NGOs, practitioners	**Good practice examples and knowledge platforms.** Case studies showing how Slovak and EU municipalities overcame limited resources and/or staff/capacity. **Skills training:** How to use Climate-ADAPT & klima-adapt.sk efficiently for project ideas, funding sources, and ready-to-use materials.	SK
3	Regional and local actors, educators, trainers, community leaders	**Awareness, education and training.** How to communicate adaptation so that citizens, stakeholders, colleagues, and decision-makers are motivated to act despite scarce resources. **Practical tools:** ready-made communication materials, participatory methods, simple training modules for staff and schools.	SK

1 NARRATION SCRIPT – VIDEO NO. 1

Title: *Revised National Adaptation Strategy – What Matters Locally*
Duration: ~15–18 minutes

Opening

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 0:00 - 1:00

Visuals: Title card with Slovak MoE logo; aerial footage of Slovak towns, rivers, forests, and community spaces.

Narration:
"Welcome to this introduction to Slovakia's revised National Adaptation Strategy. This video focuses on what the strategy means for municipalities, regional and local authorities, planners, and community organisations.

Climate change is no longer a distant threat. It is already affecting us everywhere - in our towns, our neighbourhoods, and our everyday lives. Warmer summers with heatwaves, changes in rainfall and flooding, and new pressures on our water, health, and infrastructure systems are already visible.

The vision for 2050 is clear: a Slovakia that is resilient to the impacts of climate change - where communities, businesses, and people are empowered to adapt, where nature thrives, and where an innovative, sustainable economy supports our shared future.

To achieve this, the strategy is built around five strategic objectives. These include protecting and restoring healthy ecosystems, supporting a climate-smart economy, ensuring resilient infrastructure, fostering an informed and empowered society, and strengthening governance and policy frameworks for effective adaptation.

The revised strategy offers a roadmap for how communities can respond. It highlights how climate resilience can be built over time, often by simply adjusting how everyday tasks are carried out. To help visualize what the future could look like, climate change scenarios provide clear examples of possible conditions and help guide decision-making. Let's look at what really matters locally."

Part 1: Why Adaptation Matters Locally

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 1:00 – 4:00

Visuals: Infographic of icons for "water", "infrastructure", "health & social care", "green spaces"; clips of urban flooding, heatwaves, and forest areas.

Narration:
"Climate adaptation is not only a national priority — it is a local urgency! Municipalities shape the spaces where people live, work, and socialise. From parks and transport to water management and social care, most of the decisions that influence resilience happen at the local level.

The revised NAS highlights that communities do not need to reinvent their role. Instead, they can strengthen resilience by adjusting the way they already plan, design, and manage their services.

This means making sure our towns are comfortable in hot summers, that streets and squares are pleasant and safe after heavy rain, droughts do not adversely affect biodiversity and agriculture and that schools, hospitals, and public buildings remain functional even under new climate conditions. In short: building climate resilience is building better places to live."

Part 2: Practical Entry Points for Municipalities

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 4:00 – 10:00

Visuals: Case-style animations showing "before" (empty concrete square, unshaded playground, waterlogged street) and "after" (green park absorbing floodwater, shaded playground, restored wetland).

Narration:
"Adapting to climate change does not mean taking on more work. It means approaching existing responsibilities through a climate lens.

There are **three practical entry points** where municipalities can begin right away**.**

The first is **spatial planning**. Local land-use plans can integrate climate data to guide where and how development happens. Preventing floods, protecting natural areas, creating green corridors, or designing parks with water retention features not only reduce risks but also improve community well-being.

The second is **infrastructure**. Roads, water systems, and public buildings all face new climate pressures. Small design choices can make a big difference: permeable pavements that let rain soak into the ground, shaded bus stops that make commuting more comfortable, or simple rainwater harvesting systems that save resources.

The third is **social services**. Local authorities are closest to people, especially the most vulnerable. Elderly residents, young children, and people with lower incomes are less able to cope with changing climatic conditions such as increasing number of tropical days. Municipalities can take simple actions: planning drinking water supplies, cooling centres during hot periods, ensuring reliable emergency communication systems, or providing shaded areas in schools and care homes. These actions protect lives and strengthen communities."

Part 3: No-Regret and Low-Cost Measures

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 10:00 – 14:00

Visuals: Photo montage of Slovak towns with tree planting, rain gardens, shaded playgrounds, energy-efficient schools.

Narration:
"Many measures that support adaptation are low cost and not expensive. They are called 'no-regret measures', because they provide benefits regardless of how climate change develops.

Planting trees along streets and in squares brings shade, lowers temperatures, and creates attractive public spaces. Restoring small wetlands or ponds supports biodiversity and manages water naturally. Adding shading or reflective surfaces to schools and public buildings keeps them cooler in summer and lowers energy costs. Public drinking water stations or water jets on public squares are another example.

Even small-scale actions can have a big impact. Installing energy-efficient lighting or improving insulation in municipal buildings not only lowers maintenance costs but also reduces emissions.

These measures are visible, practical, and often very popular with residents. They show that adaptation is not only necessary, but also an opportunity to improve quality of life."

Part 4: Integration Without Extra Burden

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 14:00 – 17:00

Visuals: Flow diagram: "Current tasks → Climate lens → Better outcomes"; clips of city councils in session, local infrastructure works, community events.

Narration:
"Adaptation should not be seen as an additional burden. It is about making smarter choices in the work municipalities already do and finding local win-win solutions.

Climate resilience can be integrated into urban development plans, into infrastructure upgrades, and into community and social service programmes. This way, resilience becomes a natural part of everyday governance, not a separate project.

Funding opportunities are available through national and European sources, or in collaboration with private entities and many municipalities already access them for green spaces, mobility, or energy efficiency. Cooperation between neighbouring municipalities is also encouraged, because many climate risks, such as floods, extend across geographical boundaries.

By aligning with the National Adaptation Strategy, towns and regions can save costs, make better use of resources, and ensure that today's investments are prepared for tomorrow's conditions."

Closing

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 17:00 – 18:00

Visuals: Closing slide with slogan: *"Start Local. Start Now. Build Resilience."*; uplifting background images of resilient Slovak communities, parks and natural landscapes.

Narration:
"To summarise, the revised National Adaptation Strategy provides a clear framework for municipalities. It encourages towns and regions to act locally, to build resilience, and to do so without creating unnecessary extra work.

By starting with what municipalities already manage — planning, infrastructure, and social services — communities can introduce practical measures that are affordable, effective, and popular.

Climate action is local. Every tree planted, every shaded playground, and every smart investment makes our towns more resilient and more enjoyable for the people who live there. Small investments may protect health and sometimes save lives.

Thank you for watching. In the next videos, we will explore financing opportunities and sector-specific solutions for local adaptation."

2 NARRATION SCRIPT – VIDEO NO. 2

Title: *Good Practices and Knowledge Platforms for Local Climate Adaptation*
Duration: ~15–18 minutes

Opening

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 0:00 – 1:00

Visuals: Title card with Slovak MoE logo; montage of Slovak towns and EU cityscapes; people working in municipal offices and community spaces.

Narration:
"Welcome back to our video series on Slovakia's revised National Adaptation Strategy. In this session, we will focus on good practice examples and on the knowledge platforms that help with climate adaptation approaches and solutions for municipalities.

Adapting to climate change can sometimes feel overwhelming, especially when municipalities face limited staff, tight budgets, or a lack of technical expertise. But the good news is: you are not alone. Across Slovakia and Europe, local authorities are already finding practical solutions, sharing their experience, and using online tools that make adaptation work more accessible."

Part 1: Good Practice Examples

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 1:00 – 5:00

Visuals: Short case-style visuals: green roofs on municipal buildings, revitalised parks, community planting events, riverbank and watershed restoration, and local adaptation projects supported by national or EU funds.

Narration:
"Many municipalities in Slovakia are already showing how adaptation can work in practice, even when staff and resources are limited. Let´s look at a few examples from across the country:

Our capital city **Bratislava** has been a pioneer. Through its '*Rainwater Management in Urban Areas*' project, the city introduced green roofs, permeable surfaces, and tree planting to better manage heat and rainfall. These measures make the city more resilient while also creating greener, more pleasant public spaces.[10]

In **Trenčín**, the city is revitalising its riverfront along the Váh River. The 'City on the River' project is reconnecting both banks, improving flood protection, and creating new public spaces that offer both recreation and cooling during summer heatwaves[11].

The **Košice Region** runs a broader landscape and watershed restoration programme focusing on retaining water in the landscape, restoring small reservoirs, and improving the region's resilience to floods and droughts[12].

In **Trnava**, the municipality has taken steps to improve green infrastructure and public spaces. Recent projects include the *revitalisation of local parks and tree planting initiatives*, which increase urban greenery and help the

[10] https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/metadata/case-studies/eea-grants-supporting-the-city-of-bratislava-to-implement-climate-adaptation-measures
[11] See https://www.urbantranscripts.org/project/trencin-city-on-the-river/
[12] See KSK-EN

city better manage stormwater[13][14]. These actions show how even medium-sized cities can balance development with climate adaptation.

In **Žilina**, local schools and municipal buildings are leading by example. One secondary school has introduced a *rainwater harvesting system* to reduce water use and raise awareness about sustainable management[15]. The region also participates in several European projects—**RETIME, JUSTSAFE, MAXICONZA,** and **GRACE**—focused on climate adaptation and resilient regional development[16].

In **Banská Bystrica**, the city is responding to the growing impacts of climate change by working with local forestry and environmental organisations to implement *measures against floods and overheating*, including green corridors and better management of urban forests[17].

Nearby in **Banská Štiavnica**, a school and an environmental centre have introduced educational and practical activities that promote sustainable land management and environmental awareness—showing that adaptation also starts with knowledge and youth engagement[18][19].

In **Nitra**, revitalisation projects such as *the new park on Sihoť and the Brezový háj area* bring nature back into the city, offering more shade, biodiversity, and space for recreation[20]. In the surrounding municipality of **Nitrianske Rudno**, *water retention measures* are being introduced to reduce erosion and keep rainwater in the landscape—small but impactful steps for local resilience[21].

Also, the city **Prešov** has recently *renewed two public parks*, improving greenery, water retention, and comfort for residents during heatwaves[22]. These projects show how cities in eastern Slovakia are making adaptation visible in daily life.

From *community tree plantings* to *innovative school projects*, these examples show that practical, local solutions already exist. Even with limited capacity, municipalities can make real progress by starting small, building partnerships, and making climate action part of everyday development."

Part 2: Overcoming Limited Staff and Capacity

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 5:00 – 10:00

Visuals: Animation of a municipal office with only a few staff members, then links forming with partners (universities, NGOs, neighbouring towns).

Narration:
"Many Slovak municipalities share the same concern: they have small teams and limited time. So how can they still deliver climate action?

There are three approaches that work especially well:

First, **partnerships**. Municipalities can work with universities, NGOs, private entities and neighbouring towns to pool knowledge and resources. There are international collaborations or projects where municipalities may build on European experiences.

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[13] Trnava – City revitalisation and green measures: https://www.trnava.sk/aktualita/14573/
[14] Trnava – Urban greenery projects: https://www.trnava.sk/aktualita/14495
[15] Žilina – Rainwater reuse at secondary school: https://www.asb.sk/zelena-obnova/stredna-skola-v-ziline-vyuzivanie-dazdovej-vody
[16] Žilina Region – RETIME, JUSTSAFE, MAXICONZA, GRACE: https://www.zilinaklima.sk/
[17] Banská Bystrica – Municipal adaptation and forest cooperation: https://www.bystricoviny.sk/spravy/klimaticke-zmeny-maju-dopad-aj-na-nase-mesto-preto-samosprava-so-zaaresom-i-mestskymi-lesmi-reaguju-opatreniami/
[18] Banská Štiavnica – Environmental education and activities: https://envirocentrum.sk/aktuality/
[19] Banská Štiavnica – School environmental projects: https://www.zakladnaskola.com/o-skole
[20] Nitra – Urban park revitalisation: https://www.nitralive.sk/vystavba/infrastruktura/66296-revitalizacia-novy-park-na-sihoti-a-brezovy-haj-vizualizacie
[21] Nitrianske Rudno – Water retention measures: https://www.nitrianskerudno.sk/projekty/projekt-vodozadrzne-opatrenia-v-obci-nitrianske-rudno/
[22] Prešov – Park revitalisation: https://presov.korzar.sme.sk/c/23244731/v-presove-skolaudovali-dva-obnovene-parky.html

Second, **integrating adaptation into existing roles**. Instead of creating a new position, municipalities can give current staff the tools and training to add a climate perspective to their work.

Third, **using ready-to-use resources**. This is where knowledge platforms become so valuable. They save time by providing tested and validated measures, funding opportunities, and guidance documents that municipalities can adapt directly to their needs."

Part 3: Knowledge Platforms – How to Use Them

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 10:00 – 15:00

Visuals: Screen recording-style walkthroughs of klima-adapt.sk, Climate-ADAPT and the **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Portal**, showing search bars, case studies, funding pages, and downloadable materials.
[Subtle motion graphics could highlight clickable sections and show short snippets of real examples (maps, reports, or visuals of adaptation in action).]

Narration:
"Across Slovakia and Europe, there's already a wealth of knowledge available - practical tools, real examples, and guidance just waiting to be explored. Three platforms are especially valuable for Slovak towns and regions: **klima-adapt.sk, Climate-ADAPT** and the **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Portal**.

Klima-adapt.sk is Slovakia's national adaptation portal – a one-stop source tailored to Slovak conditions. It offers climate data, national policy documents, and inspiring examples from Slovak towns and regions. Make sure you also look at the dedicated sub-section on methodologies for municipalities[23]. Overall, this portal is the best place to browse and find information and useful materials in *Slovak language*.

There is also dedicated content on *Green Infrastructure*, provided by the Slovak Environment Agency - helping communities design greener, more resilient spaces. [Show weblink on screen]

Climate-ADAPT, the European Union's adaptation platform opens the (virtual) door to a wider world of experience across Europe. It is full of practical case studies, step-by-step guidance, and sector-specific examples, from nature-based solutions to urban cooling or flood protection. You can browse by country, by sector, or by type of measure - or explore the interactive map to see what's happening near you.

The **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Portal** goes one step further - it's all about collaboration and support. Here, municipalities and regions can *assess their climate risks, plan adaptation pathways, and connect with others* facing similar challenges. The portal also features pilot projects, success stories, and practical tools that make it easy to take the next step - from joining the Mission to accessing expert guidance and peer networks.

To turn your idea into reality, you will further want to explore financing opportunities on the Green Economy information platform set up for Slovakia[24].

Together, these platforms can save municipalities significant time. Instead of starting from zero, local authorities can build on what has already worked elsewhere. By using these tools efficiently, even a small municipal team can develop strong project ideas, identify funding sources, and adapt ready-to-use materials for their own community."

Part 4: Skills Training and Practical Tips

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 15:00 – 17:00

[23] https://www.klima-adapt.sk/metodicke-usmernenia
[24] https://www.zelenehospodarstvo.sk/financovanie/zdroje-vyzvy

Visuals: Step-by-step infographic: "Search → Select → Apply locally → Fund & Implement."

Narration:
"To use these platforms effectively, here are a few practical tips:

- Start with a clear question. For example: 'How can we reduce heat in schools?' or 'What low-cost flood measures are available for small towns?'
- Use the search functions and filter options on both platforms to find relevant case studies.
- Look at funding pages early. Many measures are already eligible under EU and national programmes. There may be private owners willing to co-finance when they understand added value.
- Finally, adapt what you find to your own community. Case studies are not recipes to copy word-for-word — they are inspirations you can tailor to your local needs."

Closing

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 17:00 – 18:00

Visuals: Closing slide with slogan: *"Knowledge is Power. Share, Adapt, Apply."*; uplifting images of resilient Slovak communities and European collaboration.

Narration:
"In summary, good practices and knowledge platforms make climate adaptation possible even for municipalities with limited staff, experience and resources. The revised National Adaptation Strategy encourages towns and regions to learn from each other, use online tools, and build partnerships.

Climate change is global, but action is local and you are never alone. By sharing knowledge and applying tested solutions, municipalities can move from ideas to action more quickly and with more confidence.

Thank you for watching. In our next video, we will explore how municipalities can raise awareness, broadly communicate and empower."

3 NARRATION SCRIPT – VIDEO NO. 3

Title: *Awareness, Education, and Training for Local Climate Adaptation*
Duration: ~15–18 minutes

Opening

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 0:00 – 1:00

Visuals: Title card with Slovak MoE logo; clips of community events, schools, town hall meetings, and citizens engaging in public spaces.

Narration:
"Welcome back to our video series on Slovakia's revised National Adaptation Strategy. In this third session, we will focus on awareness, education, and training.

Climate adaptation depends not only on technical measures, but also on people — citizens, colleagues in local government, and decision-makers. Motivating them to act is essential, especially when resources are limited.

In this video, we will explore how to communicate adaptation in a way that inspires action, and we will introduce practical tools that municipalities can use immediately."

Part 1: Why Awareness and Education Matter

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 1:00 – 4:00

Visuals: Infographics showing links between awareness → participation → action; footage of families, schools, municipal offices, and local council meetings.

Narration:
"Adaptation is not only concrete measures, but also about people understanding why resilience matters and what role they can play. It is about knowledge and motivation to act.

Citizens who understand climate risks are more likely to support local initiatives, whether it is planting trees, creating water retention areas, or changing mobility habits.

Colleagues in regional and local government who are aware of adaptation needs are better prepared to include resilience in their daily work — for example, in procurement, maintenance, or social services.

And decision-makers who are informed and motivated are more likely to prioritise adaptation, even when budgets are tight. In short: awareness and education turn climate action into a shared responsibility."

Part 2: Communicating Adaptation Effectively

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 4:00 – 9:00

Visuals: Side-by-side comparisons of dry technical reports versus simple visuals/posters; clips of community meetings, social media campaigns, and participatory workshops.

Narration:
"Communication is most effective when it is clear, practical, and relatable. Here are three principles municipalities can use:

First, **keep it simple**. Use clear language and visuals instead of technical jargon. Instead of talking about 'hydrological extremes', talk about 'heavy rains that flood streets'. Instead of 'heat stress', talk about 'hot classrooms and overheated care homes'.

Second, **make it local**. Show how climate adaptation benefits the community directly: cooler public spaces in summer, safer streets after rainfall, lower energy bills in public buildings. People are more motivated when they see how adaptation improves their everyday lives.

Third, **make it positive**. Emphasise the benefits of action, not just the risks of inaction. Climate adaptation can mean greener towns, healthier communities, and better quality of life." Investments today save more resources in the future.

Part 3: Practical Tools for Municipalities

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 9:00 – 13:00

Visuals: Demonstrations of toolkits, ready-made posters, digital platforms, and participatory workshops; footage of schools and municipal activities using educational modules.

Narration:
"Several practical tools are already available to help municipalities raise awareness, communicate effectively, and provide training, even when staff and budgets are limited. Let´s have a look at some examples:

Right here in Slovakia, our own Climate Change Adaptation Platform (https://klima-adapt.sk/) provides a variety of selected tools and examples of practical solutions, but also support for the environmental awareness through educational, training, awareness-raising and information activities. Make sure you browse through our own Communication toolkit [show link[25]]

In **Slovakia**, the primary school in Slovenská Ľupča introduced a project that combined awareness with real adaptation measures. Pupils, teachers, and the local community took part in seminars and peer-to-peer education, while the school installed rainwater harvesting, a rain garden, and solar lamps. This showed that climate education can go hand in hand with practical solutions that benefit everyone.[26]

Other Slovak municipalities have also used digital tools such as **Klimatický atlas Slovenska**[27] to visualize climatic characteristics, and the **Enviroportal.sk** database to explore environmental data for planning.

To complement national tools, several European projects also offer valuable resources. For example, the **REACHOUT Triple-A Toolkit – Analyse, Ambition, Act**[28] helps municipalities understand climate risks and plan actions step by step, while the **EU Climate Pact Communications Toolkit**[29] provides adaptable templates and materials for local awareness campaigns. Similarly, the **NetZeroCities Communication Playbook** offers guidance on how to motivate citizens, colleagues, and decision-makers, while the **Climate Action Planning Communications Toolkit for Cities** explains how to frame climate messages for different audiences.[30][31]

By using these practical tools, municipalities can communicate more effectively, engage their citizens, and train their staff and schools without having to start from scratch."

Part 4: Building a Culture of Learning and Action

[25] https://www.klima-adapt.sk/narodna-adaptacna-strategia
[26] https://www.zsslovlupca.edu.sk/klima.html
[27] https://www.shmu.sk/sk/?page=2169
[28] https://www.deltares.nl/en/news/reachout-helps-european-cities-with-new-climate-adaptation-toolkit
[29] https://climate-pact.europa.eu/eu-climate-action-academy/resources/communications-toolkit_en
[30] https://netzerocities.app/assets/files/Communication_Playbookv0.2.pdf
[31] https://creativeconcern.com/work/climate-action-planning-communications-toolkit-cities

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 13:00 – 16:00

Visuals: Montage of different groups — municipal staff in workshops, children in classrooms, councillors in town halls, residents in public events — all working together.

Narration:
"Awareness and training are not one-off activities. They work best when they become part of everyday practice and culture in a municipality.

For **municipal staff**, short training sessions can be built into existing meetings. A half-hour briefing on how to consider climate risks in procurement or infrastructure planning can already change daily decision-making. Periodic refresher courses ensure that awareness remains high as staff and political priorities change.

For **schools and young people**, climate topics can be integrated into lessons and extracurricular activities. School gardens, citizen science projects, or energy-saving competitions are simple ways to turn learning into action. This builds knowledge from an early age and shows children how they can be part of the solution.

For **decision-makers**, awareness raising can be part of strategic workshops, council retreats, or site visits. Taking councillors to see a successful green infrastructure project in another town or presenting them with clear local data on heat or flood risk, can be powerful motivators for action.

Municipalities can also extend this learning culture to **other groups in the community**. For **elderly residents**, workshops on heatwave preparedness, home shading, and efficient water use can be run through senior clubs or local health centres. For **families**, community events, open days, and household challenges - like reducing water waste or greening balconies - make adaptation visible and personal. And for **local businesses**, short consultations, joint clean-up or greening actions, or training on energy efficiency and climate resilience can foster cooperation and shared responsibility.

Municipalities can also use **local media and communication channels** to keep residents informed and engaged. Regular short stories in the municipal newsletter, social media posts, or information boards in public spaces keep climate adaptation visible and relatable.

Finally, **peer-to-peer exchange** is an effective way of building a culture of learning. Municipal staff and local leaders learn a great deal when they share experiences with neighbouring towns. Regional networks and cross-municipal projects can help spread solutions and create a sense of collective progress.

By embedding awareness, education, and training into the everyday rhythm of municipal life, adaptation becomes more than a project. It becomes part of how communities function."

Closing

Approximate timestamp (minutes): 16:00 – 18:00

Visuals: Closing slide with slogan: *"Awareness Creates Action. Train, Share, Adapt."*; uplifting images of Slovak communities, schools, and green urban areas.

Narration:
"In summary, awareness, education, motivation and training are key to turning adaptation strategies into real action.

When citizens understand the benefits, when colleagues are trained, and when decision-makers are motivated, adaptation becomes easier and more effective.

Municipalities can use ready-made materials, participatory methods, and simple training modules to build capacity without needing large new resources.

Awareness creates action. By communicating clearly, involving people, and sharing knowledge, municipalities can ensure that climate action truly begins at the local level.

Thank you for watching.“