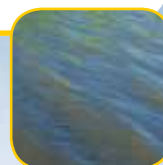
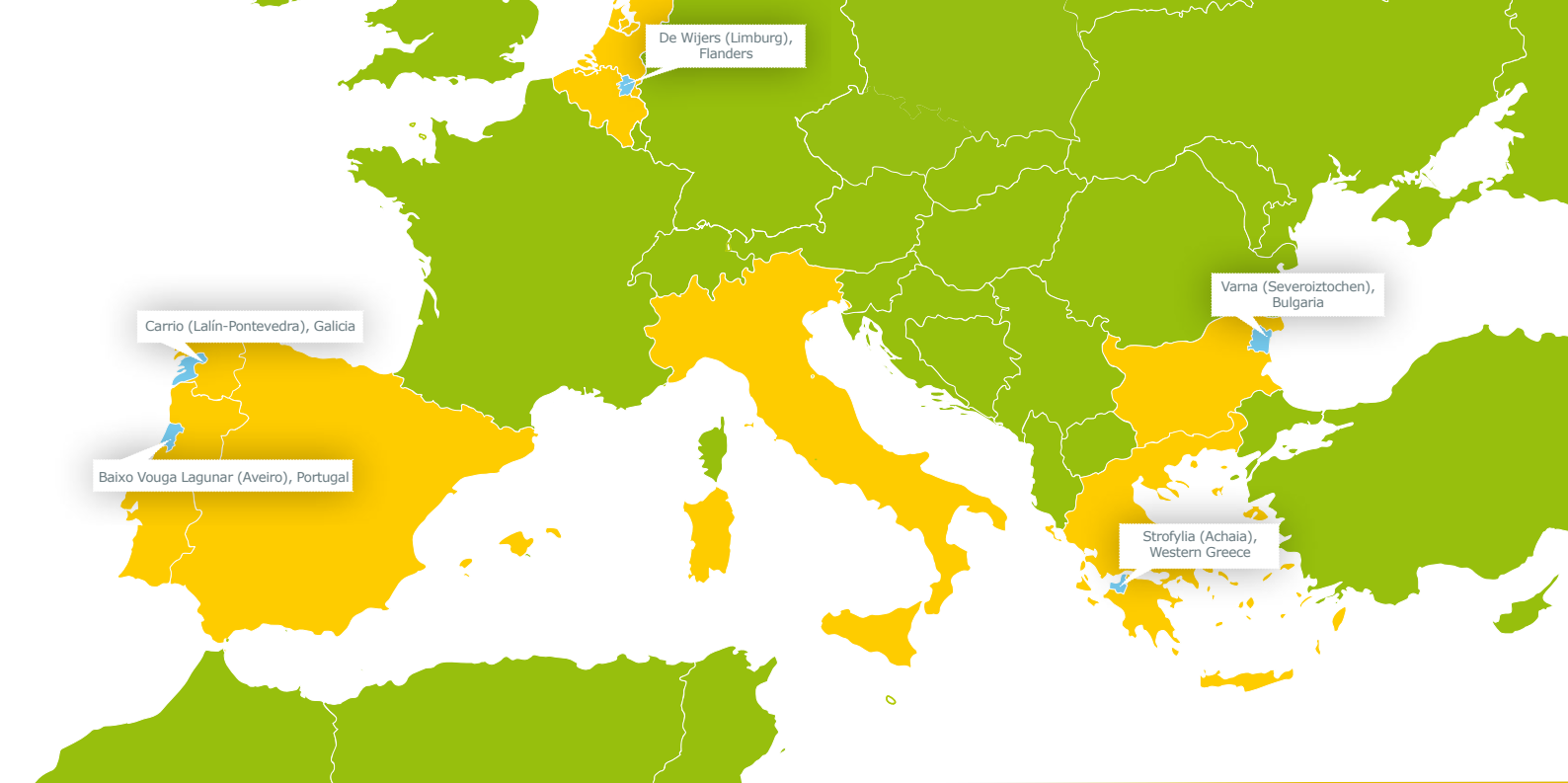


Forms for: Adapting to Climate change through Territorial Strategies!



F:ACTS! is a European partnership that focuses on increasing resilience of risk prone areas to respond to extreme weather conditions due to climate change. F:ACTS! is part of the Interregional Cooperation Programme INTERREG IVC, financed by the European Union's Regional Development Fund. INTERREG IVC, helps Regions of Europe to work together to share experience and good practices in the areas of innovation, the knowledge economy, the environment and risk prevention. The project runs from January 2010 to December 2012. Fourteen partners from eight European regions are involved.





Forms for: Adapting to Climate change through Territorial Strategies!

The effects of climate change put many European regions under pressure of more extreme weather conditions and increase of natural hazards. Policy makers at a regional and local level are facing a huge challenge in dealing with these effects. However, there is a big gap between the increasing amount of scientific research on the subject, and concrete and necessary actions on a regional and local level. ***F:ACTS! aims to close that gap by focussing on using 'integrated territorial strategies'. The integrated approach is crucial as ecological, social and economical aspects are all involved when implementing climate adaptation strategies.*** Some of the themes that the project addresses are: multifunctional land use, stakeholder involvement, governance and economical viability.

The diversity in the participating regions provides the opportunity to learn from each other. F:ACTS! works by exchanging knowledge and experience from the regions in the thematic workshops and study visits. Also practical experience is gained from implementing pilot projects.

F:ACTS! aims at increasing the capacity of European regions to deal with the effects of climate change, inspiring local policy makers, sharing ideas by scientists, policy makers and experts from different countries, developing best practices and demonstrating that solutions are possible by implementing them directly in pilot areas. All these actions will contribute to improved regional policies.

Please visit www.factsproject.eu for more questions, comments and information or let us know what you think on our CONT:ACTS! page!



5 pilot projects

The project looks F(or concrete):ACT(ion)SI!, therefore the knowledge exchanged between partners will be implemented directly in five pilot areas. In return the experience gained in the pilots will deliver new knowledge to share. The pilots focus on areas experiencing problems with natural hazards as forest fires, floods or droughts, and loss of biodiversity. The knowledge gained from the pilots will deliver valuable outcome for policy makers and practitioners.

- **Carrio (Pontevedra), Galicia**

The main problem that affects practically the entire area of Galicia is the risk of forest fires, caused by longer periods of drought in combination with badly maintained forests and the abandonment of agricultural land.

- **Strofylia (Achaia), Western Greece**

The National Park of Kotychi-Strofylia is a Natura 2000 forest, RAMSAR wetland of international importance and Specially Protected Area for birds, that suffers from forest fires. The multifunctional land use along with the weather conditions (winds, droughts, high temperatures etc.) contribute radically to extended forest fires, loss of biodiversity and slow sustainable development.

- **De Wijers (Limburg), Flanders**

De Wijers is a Natura 2000 pond area suffering from both floods and droughts, causing problems for the vulnerable pond systems. Longer dry periods increase the vulnerability for wild fires in the valuable heath areas.

- **Baixo Vouga Lagunar (Aveiro), Portugal**

Baixo Vouga Lagunar is a Natura 2000 area with high biodiversity and landscape values. The existing ecosystems, highly dependent on the maintenance of agricultural activity, give specific characteristics to this area. Higher sea water level, unpredictable river floods, higher temperatures and more irregular rainfall are some of the effects of climate change that bring extra pressure to this unique area in Portugal.

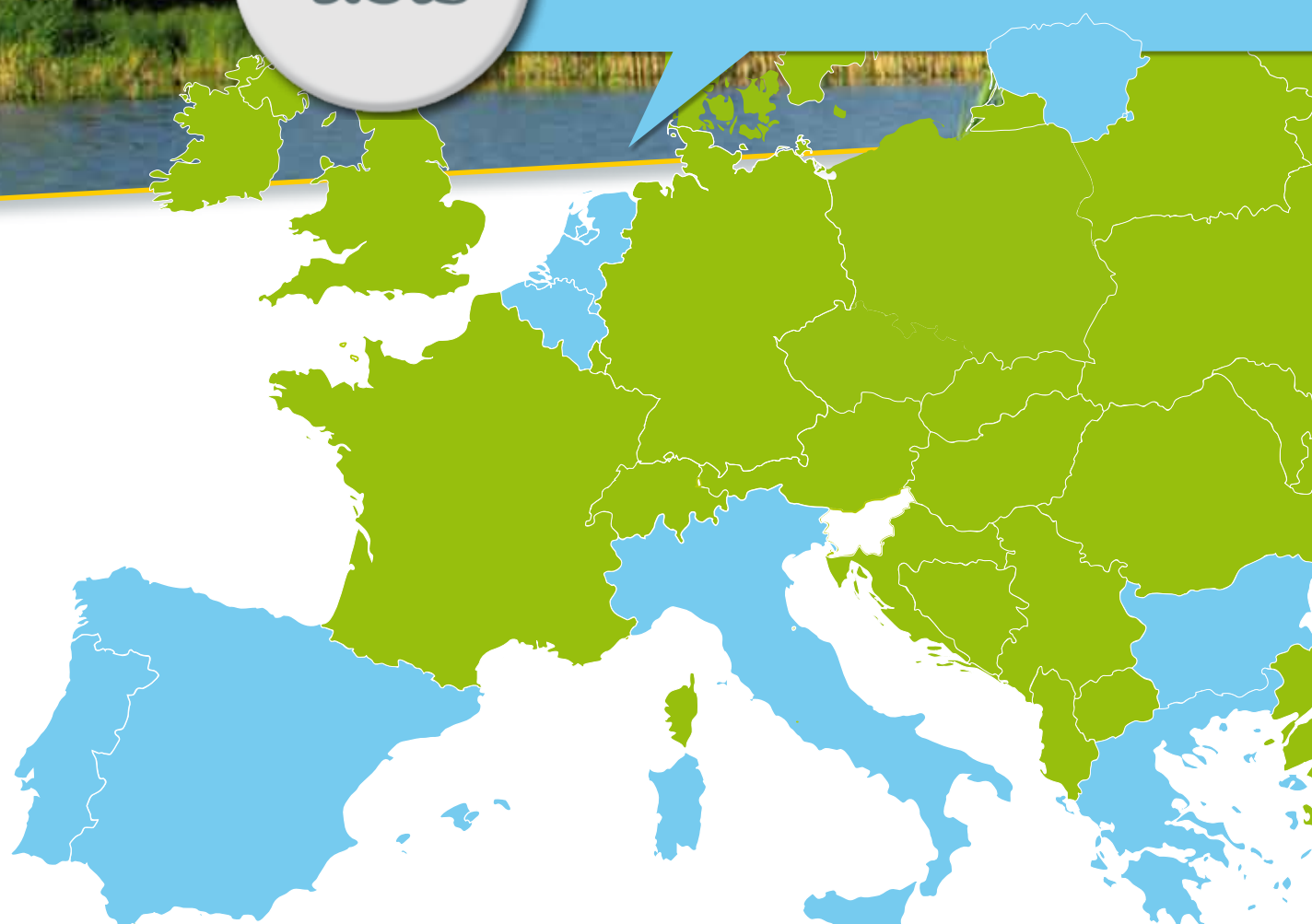
- **Varna (Severoiztochen), Bulgaria**

Varna is a highly urbanized area, coping with heavy rain causing floods, leading to overflowing sewer systems. As a consequence coastal swimming water quality is affected. Droughts in summer lead to shortage of drinking water.



The F:ACTS! partnership consists of 14 partners from 8 countries:

- DLG, Government Service for Land and Water Management: lead partner, NL
- Van Hall Larenstein University, NL
- Almere Municipality, NL
- VLM, Flemish Land Agency, BE
- Province of Limburg, BE
- Municipality of Varna, BG
- Development Enterprise of Achaia Prefecture, EL
- National Union of Mountain Municipalities, Communities and Authorities, IT
- National Land service under the Ministry of Agriculture, LT
- Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, LT
- DGADR, General Directorate for Agriculture and Rural Development, PT
- DGOTDU, General Directorate for Spatial Planning and Urban Development, PT
- Regional Ministry of Rural Affairs, Government of Galicia, ES
- University of Santiago de Compostela, ES



Please visit www.factsproject.eu for more information!

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