

A scenic landscape featuring rolling green hills under a cloudy sky. Five wind turbines are visible, spaced out across the horizon. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

Climate conference:

# MAKING CLIMATE SERVICES A REALITY IN EUROPE

13-14 November 2019, Brussels

**CONFERENCE  
SCHEDULE**

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## 13 November 2019

12:00 – 13:30 Registration and lunch - Marketplace

13:30 – 14:30 Opening session and Welcome address

Moderator: **Cédric Hananel**, Managing Director, Arctik

Keynote speakers:

- **Stijn Vermoote**, Head of Copernicus Contract Management Section, ECMWF
- **Dirk Fransaer**, Managing Director, VITO

*More speakers TBC*

14:30 – 16:00 Parallel sessions & panel interviews

### Future cities

Cities are vulnerable to climate change because of dense population, congested infrastructure, and busy economic activities. Urban areas shape their own climate which amplifies climate extremes such as excessive heat and flooding. This session brings together urban actors, private consultants and researchers working together on this integrated challenge.

Moderator: **Katrien Witpas**, Senior consultant, Arctik, Belgium

Speakers:

- **Roger Cremades**, Project leader at HZG, Germany
- **Mária Kazmuková**, Senior consultant for air quality at City Development Authority, Czech Republic
- **Dirk Lauwaet**, Researcher, VITO, Belgium

### Tourism

The use of weather services, especially publicly available and tailored forecasts, is quite common in the tourism sector. Climate services are currently being developed to support tourism businesses and associations, public administrations, and related economic sectors. Overall, tourism stakeholders show higher interest in short term and seasonal services than in long-term projections.

Moderator TBC

Speakers:

- **Judith Köberl**, “The market for climate services in the tourism sector – An analysis of Austrian stakeholders’ perceptions”, Researcher, Joanneum Research Institute, Austria
- **Andrea Perrotta**, Researcher at SSColosso, Italy

More Speakers TBC

More Speakers TBC

16:00 – 16:30 Break

16:30 - 18:00 Parallel sessions & panel interviews

## Water

Recent hydrological extreme events demonstrate the vulnerability of our society to water-related natural hazards. There is strong evidence that climate change will worsen these events in the coming years. Decision-makers in both public and private arenas need accurate information on fluvial and pluvial flood risks to assess strategic decision-making on risk reduction and climate adaptation in the short-term (e.g. efficient warning and decision-making, emergency planning, financial liquidity to cover losses) as well as in the long-term.

Moderator: **Patrick Willems**, Researcher, KULeuven, Belgium

*More speakers TBC*

## Mobility

Climate change impacts the mobility of goods, services and people. Extreme heat causes road damages, public transport breakdown and it also creates obstacles for cyclists and pedestrians. This session brings together problem owners, mobility and climate experts and focuses on both public and private transport.

Moderator: **Dr. Franz Prettenthaler**, Director, Joanneum Research Institute, Austria

Speakers:

- **Judith Köberl**, Researcher, Joanneum Research Institute, Austria
- **Tom Rath**, Business Developer at Bike Citizens, Austria

*More speakers TBC*

18:00 - 19:30 Reception in the Marketplace

08:30 – 9:00 Registration

09:00 – 10:30 Parallel sessions & panel interviews

## Health

The physical environment, including natural factors such as climate and geography, is a key determinant of population health and health inequalities. Understanding how climate conditions such as heat waves directly or indirectly impact human lives drives the development of health strategies and actions plans.

Moderator: **Joan Ballester**, Researcher, IS Global, Spain

*Speakers:*

- **Rebecca Beeckman**, City of Antwerp, Belgium

*More Speakers TBC*

## Agriculture

Climate change is increasingly challenging crop production. Globally, crops suffer from longer lasting drought spells, more intense heat waves, torrential rains and devastating tropical cyclones. Long-term adaptation strategies are needed to secure food production. Innovative remote sensing monitoring solutions support farmers, contractors and advisors in their operational activities.

Moderator: **Eline Vanuytrecht**, Researcher, VITO, Belgium

*Speakers:*

- **Blaz Kurnik**, Expert - Climate change impacts and adaptation, European Environmental Agency
- **Frederic Rosseneu**, Corporate Business Development Manager Greenyard, Belgium
- **Claire Jacobs**, Wageningen Environmental Research, The Netherlands *TBC*
- **Anne Gobin**, Senior Researcher at WatchITgrow-VITO, Belgium
- **Cláudia Pascoal**, Senior Researcher at CLIMALERT – University of Minho, Portugal

10:30 – 11:00 Break

## Energy

Energy production and demand are heavily dependent on meteorological conditions. Both renewable energy sources and traditional energy production are affected by heat waves, droughts and storms. Having this in mind, we need to develop future energy systems that are climate robust. This session brings together business owners and researchers working towards energy efficient solutions for the public.

Moderator: **Cédric Hananel**, Managing Director, Arctik, Belgium

Speakers:

- **Blaz Kurnik**, Expert - Climate change impacts and adaptation, European Environmental Agency
- **Urs Grossenbacher**, Project leader, Pronoó AG, Switzerland
- **Michael Schmutz**, Meteorologist and Data scientist at Meteotest, Switzerland

*More speakers TBC*

## Disaster Risk Reduction

Climate services are important in the context of Disaster Risk Reduction, especially for planning related to disaster risk prevention and recovery. It is important to understand how climate services can be effectively developed to meet the various needs of the DRR community, considering the diversity of its actors and sub-communities, and to identify the current research and innovation gaps for developing such services in order to better support decision-making in climate risk management.

Moderator: **Cédric Hananel**, Managing Director, Arctik, Belgium

Speakers:

- **Erik de Bruyn**, Environmental Advisor, City of Antwerp, Belgium

*More speakers TBC*

**12:30 - 13:00**      **Closing session**

Moderator: **Cédric Hananel**, Managing Director, Arctik

*Speakers TBC*

**13:00 - 14:00**      **Lunch at the marketplace**

**14:00 - 18:00**      **Site visit of Antwerp Circular South**

Antwerp Circular South is an innovative and sustainable community project developed by the citizens of a newly created district in Antwerp. Its aim is to create awareness about sustainability among the citizens of Antwerp by focusing on finding circular solutions for waste material, water and energy streams.



Making climate services a reality in Europe is organised by the Climate-fit.city project, which has received funding from the European Union's H2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No. 73004.