

# Multi-level governance through regional adaptation partnerships

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# Overview

- The Go-Adapt project
- Partnerships as new governance approaches
- The cases: Regional adaptation partnerships in Canada and the UK
- Actors and coordination paths
- Vertical Coordination
- Horizontal Coordination
- Conclusions

# The GO-ADAPT project

## General

- Funded by the Austrian Climate Research Program (ACRP), 1st Call
- Duration: April 2010 - December 2012
- Partner: Austrian Environment Agency

## Objective

- Analyse the **Governance of Adaptation to Climate Change**, i.e. how **governments** develop and implement adaptation policies – focus on institutions and governing processes, not on policy contents

## Work packages

- **Stock taking survey:** provides an overview of how 10 OECD countries tackle four governance challenges that emerge when developing adaptation policies
- **Case studies:** analyse in how far selected governance approaches contribute to adaptation policies
- **Extended literature review:** aims to draw lessons from thematically related policy fields that are characterised by similar governance challenges
- **Synthesis of results:** compares the case studies (cross-case analysis) in the light of the lessons drawn from the extended literature review

# Partnerships as new governance approaches

## Partnerships

- Collaborative arrangements in a broadly defined issue area
- Heterogeneous actors from different levels and societal domains

## Expectations

- Effective, inclusive and legitimate mode of societal governing
- Innovative solutions and policies
- Go-Adapt- Survey -> important governance approach – vertical integration, stakeholder participation

## Questions

- In which way and to which extent do regional partnerships serve as a coordination mechanism between different levels (local, regional, national) as well as between societal domains?
- In how far do partnerships contribute to climate change adaptation in terms of adaptive capacities and adaptation policies?

# The cases

## Canada: Regional Adaptation Collaboratives (RAC)

RAC British Columbia, Prairies RAC, RAC Atlantic



- Since 2009 (3 years)
- RAC-Program by NRCan
- 6 collaboratives
- Capacitate decision-makers to make policy, operational, and management changes in response to CC

## UK: Regional Climate Change Partnerships (RCCP)

London Climate Change Partnership, Climate SouthEast, Climate South West



- Since 1999
- By regional bodies, supported by Defra, EA, UKCIP
- 11 partnerships
- Investigating and advising on the regional and local impacts of CC and the development of respective responses

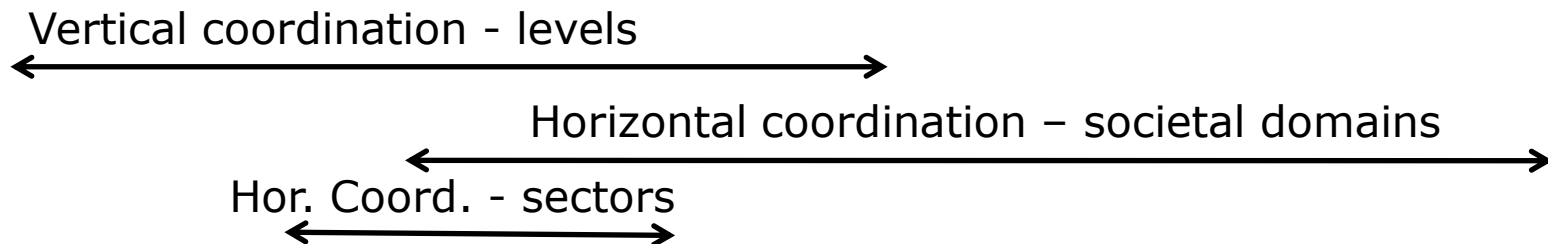
# Cautious comparison

- Size of the countries and regions: Region  $\neq$  Region



- Political systems: CA=federal state vs. UK=unitary state

# Actors & coordination paths



Horizontal coordin. between partnerships

	National authorities	Regional/provincial authorities	Local authorities	Public Agencies	NGOs	Research	Industry
<b>RAC BC</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓ +	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Prairies RAC</b>	✓✓	✓✓ +		✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>RAC Atlantic</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓ +	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Climate SouthEast</b>	✓	(✓✓+)	✓✓+	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓ +
<b>Climate SouthWest</b>	✓	(✓✓+)	✓✓+	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓ +
<b>London CCP</b>	✓	✓✓+	✓ +	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓ +

- ✓ - Partner: taking part in activities of the partnership
- ✓✓ - Key partner: also involved in steering the partnership
- + - Main target group of the activities/products of the partnership

# Vertical Coordination



	RACs	RCCPs
<b>Coordination means and structures</b>	Governing bodies, projects, events  National Coordination Committee, RAC program	Governing bodies, projects, events  LAAP (LRAP), funding
<b>Role</b>	Steering adaptation policies at regional and local levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Facilitating the implementation of national adaptation policies</li> <li>•Input to national adaptation strategies</li> </ul>
	Formulation or modification of regional and local policies and plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Formulation or modification of regional and local policies and plans</li> <li>•Implementation of regional adaptation strategies</li> </ul>
	Capacity building (local and regional level)	Capacity building (local and regional level)
<b>Patterns</b>	Uni-directional	Mutual interaction



# Horizontal Coordination



## Between societal domains

(public authorities and agencies, research organizations, NGOs, businesses)

	RACs	RCCPs
<b>Coordination structures and means</b>	Projects, events	Governing bodies, projects, events
<b>Role</b>	Consultative for public policies and plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Consultative for public policies and plans</li><li>•Initiating and coordinating adaptation activities in private sector</li><li>•Capacity building in private sector</li></ul>
<b>Patterns</b>	Focused on public sector	Shift to private sector

# Horizontal Coordination



## Between sectors and policy areas

	RACs	RCCPs
<b>Focus</b>	Water sector	Range of sectors (tourism, businesses, water, biodiversity,...)
<b>Coordination means and structures</b>	Projects	Governing bodies, guidance, events
<b>Role</b>	Mainstreaming	Mainstreaming
<b>Patterns</b>	Partly based on existing cooperation Indirect coord.	Mainly sectoral work Indirect coord.

# Horizontal Coordination

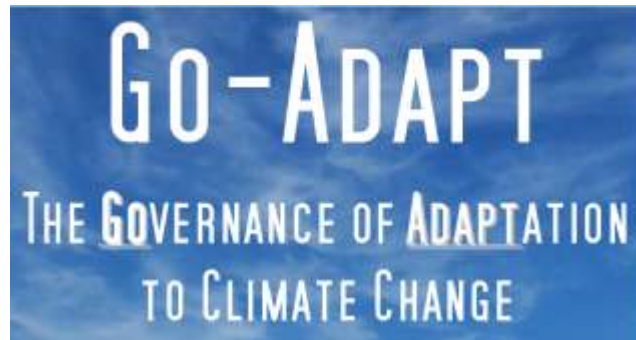


## Between regions

	RACs	RCCPs
<b>Coordination means and structures</b>	Collaborative (incl. Governing bodies) National Coordination Committee	ClimateUK
<b>Role</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Exchange of knowledge and experiences</li><li>•Potentially sharing of products</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Exchange of knowledge and experiences</li><li>•Sharing of products</li><li>•Joint projects (funding)</li><li>•Joint representation in LAAP</li></ul>
<b>Patterns</b>	Initiated and steered by national level	Independence from national level, but facilitated by Defra

# Conclusions

- **Partnerships as response to the multi-level governance challenge of adaptation**
  - Coordination mechanism for actors between and within levels
  - Many activities, mainly capacity building and informing local and regional decision-making
- **Different evolutions**
  - Bottom-up vs. Top-down
- **Distinct patterns of governing through partnerships**
  - Limited project vs. continuous partnership
  - Government -led vs. stakeholder-led
  - Driven by national agenda vs. driven by regional and local needs
  - Hierarchical, one-sided steering vs. network mode, two-sided relationship



<http://www.wiso.boku.ac.at/go-adapt.html>

Thank you!

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