

EIT Climate KIC Session 1

Entrepreneurs in adaptation – making it happen!

- Organised jointly by Climate KIC and JPI Climate.
- 13 May, 1400 – 1600, Meeting room 7

Introduction

Although climate change is often framed as a very demanding global problem, it also provides opportunities for businesses and regional economic growth at all levels. The session will illustrate the challenge posed by climate change and will present real life stories of entrepreneurial businesses which are already succeeding in the market. Climate-KIC and JPI Climate support businesses from idea to market growth and you will leave this session with an understanding of support which is offered and hopefully the success stories will inspire you to grab the action!

The session aims to foster entrepreneurial activities in climate change adaptation by inspiring entrepreneurs and scientists to take up the opportunities presented by climate adaptation, and to identify sources of business and knowledge support. Participants will be motivated by inspiring talks from successful entrepreneurs, who already run a business related to climate change adaptation - sharing experiences on dos and don'ts, on bottlenecks and success factors they encountered on their journey to success.

There will be lively discussion at the end of the session - where a panel of entrepreneurial advisers, climate adaptation experts and the featured companies - with audience participation and considering questions gathered by a social media campaign - will discuss the opportunities for, and challenges of, making business in adaptation.

Key findings will be published on the websites of Climate KIC and JPI Climate as well as various partner networks, after the event.

At the end of the session we will have:

- Opened up mind sets about climate change adaptation as a business opportunity
- Convinced participants that they can start-up adaptation businesses
- Shared experiences of start-up businesses in climate change adaptation
- Gained a better understanding of bottlenecks and success factors related to business in adaptation
- Identified knowledge gaps for entrepreneurs that can be addressed in new initiatives
- A further strengthened network of climate adaptation entrepreneurs

Exhibition area

Climate-KIC will have an exhibition area, including the businesses featured, at the conference – and representatives will be on hand to answer questions and be the first point of contact into Climate-KIC.

Programme

14.00	Introduction from Chair, Susanne Pedersen, Director Climate-KIC Nordic <i>www.climate-kic.org</i>	Introducing Climate KIC and JPI, their views on making business from adaptation and interest in entrepreneurial business people and researchers.
14.05	The challenge - business solutions Bernd Hezel, Creative Scientist, Climate Media Factory <i>www.climatemediafactory.de</i>	An inspiring visual introduction to the climate challenge that business can overcome.
14.15	Addressing the challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jakob Steen Jensen, Climate-KIC Nordic Entrepreneurship Lead • Rob Swart, JPI Climate <i>www.jpi-climate.eu</i> 	C-KIC and JPI outline their services to business and research entrepreneurs.
14.25	Entrepreneurs in adaptation	Three entrepreneurs present their motivation for, and process of setting up, a business – and challenges to be overcome.
	Tube Barrier, The Netherlands Sukhjinder Singh, CEO <i>www.tubebARRIER.com</i>	This user-friendly flexible dam can be quickly rolled out and efficiently integrated into its surroundings. A unique tube system as an alternative to sand bags.
14.40	Heliac, Denmark Henrik Pranov, Founder <i>www.heliac.dk</i>	With climate change comes flooding and drought resulting in displaced people requiring energy to cook food, distil water, and provide heating. Heliac's concentrated solar power solution - based on micro and nanostructured polymer foil - is cost-efficient, light, and easy to clean and distribute.
14.55	Fruition Sciences, France Sébastien Payen, President and Co-Founder <i>fruitionsciences.com</i>	By precisely measuring the water consumption of vines, this innovative monitoring technology helps farmers irrigate efficiently.
15.10	Panel discussion between the speakers and additional participants. Moderator , Ingrid Coninx, Researcher Regional Innovation and Climate Change, Alterra Wageningen UR, Netherlands <i>wageningenur.nl</i>	Including questions gathered by a social media campaign organised before and during the conference. Additional participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jakob Steen Jensen, Entrepreneurship Lead, Climate-KIC Nordic • Bernd Hezel, Creative Scientist, Climate Media Factory • Harilaos Loukos, Board Member, Climpact-Metnext • Bente Pretlove, Programme Director, Climate Change, DNV GL - Strategic Research and Innovation and JPI Climate Advisory Board • Sukhjinder Singh, CEO, Tube Barrier, UK • Henrik Pranov, Founder, Heliac • Sébastien Payen, President and Co-Founder, Fruition Sciences
16.00	End	