

PROJECT BULLETIN



Project Title:

**Strengthening the Local Intervention Capacities for
Climate Change in the Black Sea Region – LAP BLACK**

BSB00353 LAP BLACK

Interreg



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NEXT Black Sea Basin

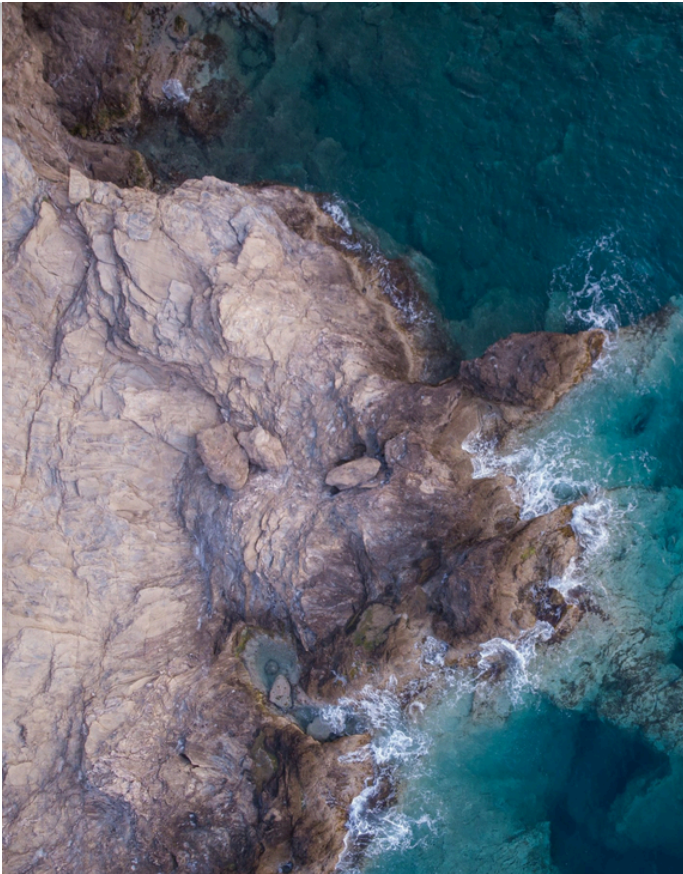


LAP BLACK

Overview

LAP BLACK (Strengthening Local Intervention Capacities Against Climate Change in the Black Sea Region) is an international cooperation initiative aimed at enhancing the response capacities of local authorities against the growing impacts of climate change in the Black Sea Basin. The project is being implemented under the Interreg VI-B NEXT Black Sea Basin Programme, within the priority area of “A Clean and Green Region.” In this context, it seeks to support climate change adaptation, reduce disaster risks, and promote the development of ecosystem-based approaches.

The effects of climate change are becoming increasingly visible across the Black Sea Basin. Hotter summers, irregular rainfall patterns, drought, rising flood risks, and increasing pressure on coastal areas directly affect daily urban life. LAP BLACK was developed to help local authorities become better prepared, more resilient, and more effective in responding to these changes.



A New Step Toward Climate Resilience: The LAP BLACK Project

Project Duration: 24 Months

A 24-month initiative aimed at strengthening climate adaptation capacity across the Black Sea Basin.

Total Budget: €1.46 Million

The project is supported by a total budget of €1.46 million, dedicated to fostering regional cooperation and climate resilience.

Target of 3 Sustainable Parks

Through pilot implementations, the project is developing tangible examples that make climate adaptation visible on the ground.

Strong Focus on Citizen Participation

Neighborhood representatives, students, NGOs, and local actors have been directly involved in the planning process.



Advancing Climate Action on the Ground

Adapazarı stands out as one of the important settlements where the local impacts of climate change can be observed in a concrete way. In the district, risks such as heavy rainfall and flooding, drought, and heatwaves draw particular attention. In addition, the availability of data on population, infrastructure, environment, and urban life contributes to a more sound assessment of climate risks. With these characteristics, Adapazarı provides a strong example for the development of local adaptation efforts.



Strong International Partnership Driving Climate Resilience in the Black Sea Region

The LAP BLACK project, which aims to enhance climate change adaptation capacity in the Black Sea Region, brings together partners from different countries with strong and complementary expertise. The project is led by Istanbul Technical University, which provides scientific knowledge and coordination capacity.



Among the project partners, Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality from Türkiye, Kobuleti Municipality City Hall from Georgia, and Kavala Municipality from Greece are the local authority partners responsible for preparing Local Adaptation Plans and implementing pilot climate adaptation actions through sustainable parks in their cities. The Ukrainian Association of Business Support Centres (UABSC), in cooperation with local authorities in Ukraine, contributes to the implementation and dissemination of project activities.



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Establishment of Local Adaptation Teams

A phased working methodology is adopted in the LAP BLACK project to integrate climate change adaptation policies into local planning processes. In the first phase, Local Adaptation Teams are established in the cities where the project partners are located. Through these teams, technical cooperation is ensured between local authorities and academic institutions, and the coordination of local data collection, stakeholder engagement, and planning processes is carried out.



Climate Risk and Vulnerability Analysis

In the second phase, climate risk and vulnerability analyses are conducted to identify cities' vulnerability to climate change. Regional climate projections, meteorological data, and local socio-economic indicators are evaluated, and the potential impacts on urban infrastructure, water resources, and ecosystems are assessed.



Sectoral Analysis and Stakeholder Engagement

Additionally, literature reviews, sectoral data analyses, stakeholder consultations, and field observations are carried out to identify the sensitivity of sectors such as agriculture, tourism, and water management to climate change. The findings obtained from these studies are systematically documented in the Risk Assessment Analyses Report.



Development of Local Adaptation Plans (LAPs)

In the third phase, Local Adaptation Plans (LAPs) are developed for each city based on risk and vulnerability assessments. Priority intervention areas, adaptation measures, institutional responsibilities, and implementation timelines are identified in these plans, and a strategic roadmap for integrating climate change adaptation into local planning and implementation processes is provided.



Pilot Implementations and Monitoring

In the final phase, pilot implementations based on sustainable parks and nature-based solutions are carried out to demonstrate the applicability of the plans. At the same time, their effectiveness is monitored and updated when necessary.

From Planning to Practice: The LAP-BLACK Implementation Framework

COMBINING DATA-DRIVEN INSIGHTS WITH PRACTICAL INTERVENTIONS ON THE GROUND.

Inside the Project

The LAP BLACK project is now moved beyond the preparatory stage and into a more grounded local process. In Adapazarı, one of the most important steps is the establishment of the Local Adaptation Plan (LAP) Team. The 25-member team is composed of representatives from public institutions, academia, civil society, the private sector, and the local community, and a shared platform is created to discuss how the city can respond to climate change in a practical and inclusive manner.

Citizen participation is included as a visible part of this process from the beginning. Local community voices as well as institutional actors are included in the LAP Team. Two neighborhood muhtars and representatives from university student clubs are included in the team, and thus it is ensured that the discussions are not limited to technical institutions alone, but are also informed by everyday urban experience, local expectations, and community priorities.

The orientation meeting organized for the team is regarded as an important starting point of the LAP process and was successfully held on 23 January 2025. During the meeting, participants were provided with an overview of the project objectives, proposed approach, expected results, and the key role of the LAP teams in shaping local climate adaptation. They were also informed about their responsibilities in risk assessment, the identification of adaptation actions, and decision-making processes. In addition, the meeting served as the first opportunity to bring together different institutions and community representatives, establish a common working structure, and build a shared understanding of the challenges faced by Adapazarı.



Bridging Analysis and Implementation

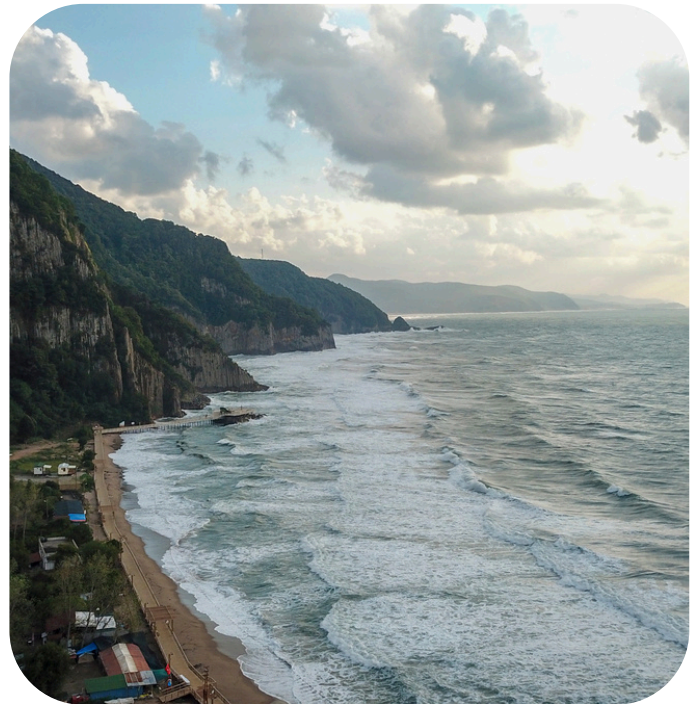
The process is carried out through a total of three meetings. During these meetings, attention is given to the local effects of climate change in Adapazarı and the risks considered most significant for the city. Issues such as heatwaves, drought, and extreme rainfall are discussed collectively, and knowledge, experience, and available data are shared by the participating institutions. In this way, climate adaptation is framed as a collaborative local conversation rather than as a document prepared behind closed doors.



A Clearer Picture of Climate Challenges in Adapazari

In the study carried out in Adapazari, the possible impacts of climate change on urban life are aimed to be made more visible. Within this scope, local conditions are assessed with the contributions of different institutions and stakeholders, and a common framework is established regarding the main climate hazards that may affect the city. In the assessments conducted in Adapazari, six different climate hazards are examined, and three of them are identified as standing out.

At the end of the assessments, the most prominent risk areas for Adapazari are identified as heavy rainfall and flooding (29.0%), drought (22.1%), and heatwaves (18.3%). Through these findings, it is demonstrated once again that climate change is not addressed merely as an environmental issue, but as a multidimensional challenge that directly affects urban life, water resources, agriculture, and everyday life.



Changing Climate Conditions and Their Growing Consequences

As a result of the assessments carried out, it is revealed that climate-related risks in Adapazari affect many areas of life. It is determined that the risks of heavy rainfall and flooding create impacts on water management, transportation, agriculture, and industry. It is observed that drought puts pressure on water resources, agriculture, and natural life. Heat waves, on the other hand, are stated to have significant consequences for health, energy use, production, and social life.



Deepening Insights, Expanding Impact: The Road Ahead for LAP BLACK

From data-driven risk analysis to real-world solutions, LAP BLACK is turning knowledge into climate action.

The next phase of LAP BLACK will build on the work already carried out by the LAP Teams and project partners. In Adapazarı, the discussions held so far, the data shared by institutions and the contributions of local participants will help shape the next steps of the Local Adaptation Plan. The aim is to move from identifying the city's climate-related challenges to defining clear and realistic responses.

Climate Risk Analysis Is Guiding Strategic Decision-Making

As this work continues, the project will keep its participatory character. The experience of the three LAP Team meetings already held in Adapazarı has shown the value of bringing different actors together on a regular basis. Public institutions, experts and community representatives have each contributed from their own perspective, and this shared process will remain essential as the plan becomes more detailed.



On the implementation side, preparations for the Sustainable Park in Adapazarı are expected to move forward with the completion of the remaining technical steps. At the same time, the project will continue to strengthen its visibility through the website, bulletins, and communication activities so that climate adaptation is not discussed only among experts, but becomes a subject that wider audiences can follow, understand, and support.

In this sense, LAP BLACK is growing not only as a planning project, but also as a local story of cooperation. By combining scientific support, municipal action and citizen participation, the project is helping create a broader sense of awareness and ownership around climate adaptation in the Black Sea region.

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