

In Europe, adaptation to climate change became the mainstream answer for climate crises and rising public spending, particularly in urban areas. The selection and subsequent implementation of specific adaptation solutions in a given area or city are often preceded by an assessment of changing climate conditions, prepared by persons or entities specialized in this field. The research conducted so far on adaptation to climate change shows that the connection between knowledge about climate change and the implementation of adaptation solutions is a complex process influenced by many factors. In addition to knowledge about climate conditions, there is also an unknown, uncertainty, and even ignorance by given persons/decision-making groups. The influence of factors responsible for the dissemination of this knowledge (e.g. the level of social trust, the role of the media, the image of nature) is also important, the same as the political and economic conditions in a given place. As a result of these factors all together, specialist/professional knowledge about climate conditions is locally "translated" into the practice of adaptation measures in a given city.

Collecting and examining detailed information on factors and conditions determining the implementation of given adaptation measures is necessary for the adaptation to climate change to be effective, socially accepted, and sensitive to environmental justice. Therefore, the planned project aims to trace how and by what methods/tools different social groups "translate" specialist knowledge about changing climatic conditions into local adaptation measures in Polish cities.

The study will examine 44 cities that in the years 2017 - 2019 took part in the project of the Ministry of the Environment entitled Let's feel the climate and Warsaw; in total, about 1/3 of the Polish population lives in this urban area. Residents of these cities had an opportunity to become acquainted with detailed information on the negative consequences of climate change and to be involved in the development of plans to adapt to those changing conditions at the local level. In the first stage of the study, all cities will be a subject of a detailed analysis to see if there are any recurring patterns of choosing adaptation measures. Cities with similar climate conditions but different adaptation measures will be selected for further analysis. In each of these cities, the information will be gathered and detailed interviews will be held to find out how the issue of adaptation to climate change has appeared in recent years in: local traditional and social media, the activities of local environmental groups, and civic budgets.

The study will track both challenges and opportunities related to adaptation to climate change in urban conditions, as well as the effects and limitations of education and information projects of public authorities. This perspective should be interesting for both participants of similar projects and for entities that are considering the implementation of similar activities. Research results will be presented at national and international scientific conferences. Also, scientific and popular articles will be published for those who are interested in climate change debate, as well as an academic course on adaptation to climate change will be introduced at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences. Together with the results of my previous projects (conflicts over urban tree logging, the role of environmental bureaucracy in cities), the results of this project will provide a holistic overview of a dynamically changing urban environmental governance. In this way, the project should contribute to more effective actions related to the climate crisis in cities.