



Project No. 037005

CECILIA



Central and Eastern Europe Climate Change Impact and Vulnerability Assessment

Specific targeted research project

1.1.6.3.I.3.2: Climate change impacts in central-eastern Europe

D8.3: Workshop with potential endusers and stakeholders

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Lead contractor for this deliverable: Charles University (CUNI)

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

DELIVERABLE COMPLETION REPORT FOR DELIVERABLE D6 (D8-3)

LEAD PARTNER FOR THIS DELIVERABLE: Charles University (CUNI)

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS: All

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SUMMARY

Along with the scientific goals of CECILIA, presentation of the project, its outcomes and benefits to potential endusers and policymakers is one of the top priorities. Direct interaction with endusers plays a prominent role among these promotional and dissemination activities. Upon start of the project, it was decided to hold several meetings with endusers from different regions alongside with the periodic gatherings of project partners. This strategy is slightly different from the one foreshadowed in the Description of Work document, where a single workshop was planned (as deliverable D6). Organizing multiple meetings was chosen because it allows for better targeted and more effective communication. So far, two meetings with endusers have taken place: A meeting with Romanian governmental representatives in Bucharest (June 2006) and meeting with representatives of multiple public organizations in Vienna (January 2007).

INTRODUCTION

One of the primary goals of the CECILIA project, in addition to its core scientific activities, is communication of its results to people and institutions outside the climatological community. This is especially important since the raw project results, despite their scientific value, may be difficult to interpret without a detailed knowledge of the scientific background of climate change and its impacts. Since before the start of the project, there was an intensive communication with potential endusers to identify their needs. These activities are further pursued throughout the whole project duration at several levels: So far, they encompass preparation of written materials (such as project flyers and posters), dissemination of the results through internet (materials at CECILIA webpage) and oral presentations targeted at different types of audience (from attendants of purely climatological conferences to less science-oriented public). Very important is direct both-way communication with people and organizations, interested in the project or utilizing its outcomes for their own activities. This communication channel was considered so crucial that a dedicated deliverable was made a part of the project, focused on organizing a workshop devoted solely to direct contact with endusers, policymakers and stakeholders – D6.

The original intent, contained in the Description of Work (DoW) document, was to hold a single meeting with endusers in the beginning of the project period (the respective deliverable was scheduled for Month 6). This concept was, however, modified, mainly because:

- Organizing one of the main events of direct dissemination so early after the beginning of the project would not allow for presentation of actual results, just overview presentation of the aims and work ahead.
- By making a single meeting, endusers from all the countries in the target area (which includes seven countries of Central and Eastern Europe) would have to come to a single place, which many of them might find to be too inconvenient regarding time and financial costs.

So, instead of a single event, it was decided by the consortium that individual scientific meetings of CECILIA participants will be also accompanied by a meeting with endusers. Since most of the gatherings take place in the targeted countries of C-E Europe, this strategy will allow for better accessibility of the meetings by local endusers and decisionmakers, and hence their greater impact. This also helps assure that important members of CECILIA team, such as workpackage leaders, can be present to explain and discuss the project activities and results. By the end of the project, a final workshop will be held to present and disseminate its results, as planned for deliverable D54.

Two of the three CECILIA meetings were accompanied by meeting with endusers so far (Bucharest, Romania in June 2006 and Semmering, Austria, in January 2007). The third meeting, which took place in June 2007 in Chalkidiki, Greece, was an exception, since Greece is not one of the areas primarily targeted by the project. As CECILIA continues, other meetings with endusers will be organized (at the moment, four other gatherings are scheduled, all of the in the countries of C-E Europe). More detailed reports on individual past meetings with endusers are presented in the following sections.

MEETING IN BUCHAREST, JUNE 2007

The initial meeting with endusers and representatives of governmental offices took place during the CECILIA kick-off meeting in Bucharest. The actual meeting with endusers was organized during the third day of the gathering, June 14th 2006. CECILIA was represented by the participants of the scientific part of the meeting, including the project coordinator T. Halenka and heads of individual workpackages. Two guests from Romanian governmental institutions accepted the invitation to the meeting: A. Nastaseanu (Ministry of Education and Research) and V. Troska (Ministry of Environment). During the time reserved for enduser meeting, presentation of the project, its aims and expected results was provided by T. Halenka. Then the guests introduced themselves and presented their needs for high resolution climate simulations and impact studies. The event was concluded by discussion with CECILIA participants.

MEETING IN VIENNA, JANUARY 2007

The second meeting with potential endusers took place on January after the first CECILIA working meeting, taking place in January 29-31 2007 in Semmering, Austria. The gathering was hosted by BOKU (University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna) at its premises in Vienna, it started at 15:00 of local time and its official part lasted about two hours.

CECILIA representatives:	Tomáš Halenka	(project coordinator, WP8 leader)
	Radan Huth	(WP3 leader)
	Sonia Seneviratne	(WP4 leader)
	Rodica Mic	(WP5 leader)
	Vasile Turcu	(WP6 representative)
	Katarzyna Juda-Rezler	(WP7 leader)
BOKU representatives:	Herbert Formayer	(Inst. of Meteorology, also CECILIA participant)
	Mr. Hackl	chair of the meeting, Austrian Environmental Agency
Participating Institutions:	AGES	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety
	APA	Austrian Press Agency
	ARC	Austrian Research Centers Seibersdorf
	BMLFUW	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
	BOKU	University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna
	Med. UniVie	Medical University of Vienna
	NOEL	Provincial Government of Lower Austria
	UBA	Austrian Environment Agency
	Verbund AHP	Association of Austrian Electricity Companies Wiener Umweltschutzgesellschaft Vienna
Number of attendees:	about 50	

The attendees were welcomed by H. Formayer (BOKU) in German (fig. 1), the meeting was moderated by Mr. Hackl in English. Project overview was provided by the CECILIA coordinator, dr. Tomáš Halenka, who briefly introduced CECILIA's aims and targeted problems, structure of CECILIA consortium and participating institutions to the audience. Connection to other recent and current international projects was explained. Finally, structure of the project was addressed and objectives of individual workpackages were described in detail.

After the general presentation, the attendees were given opportunity to discuss their specific problems of interest with the present workpackage leaders or their representatives (fig. 2). The discussion was organized to several groups, according to the workpackages, and it lasted for approximately half an hour. After the discussion itself, its major conclusions were summarized by the workpackage leaders. Aside from oral presentation of the project, the attendees were also provided with a material containing basic information about CECILIA in a form of a flyer, covering both characterization of the project and a sample of its preliminary results.

The official part of the meeting lasted about two hours and it was followed by an informal debate outside the lecture room.



Fig. 1 Meeting with endusers in Vienna, 31st January 2007 – project introduction



Fig. 2 Meeting with endusers in Vienna, 31st January 2007 – discussion with workpackage leaders

CHANGE OF DELIVERABLE SUBMISSION DATE

In order to provide a more complete record of the realized activities, the report for this deliverable has been postponed from month 6 to month 12. Since the associated communication and dissemination activities do not constitute a direct prerequisite for further work in any other task of the project, this change does not have effect on its overall flow.