



DOES REGIONALLY-SPECIFIC CLIMATE DATA IMPROVE MUNICIPAL ADAPTATION PLANNING?

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Local
Governments
for Sustainability

FCM Webinar • July 19, 2012

About ICLEI

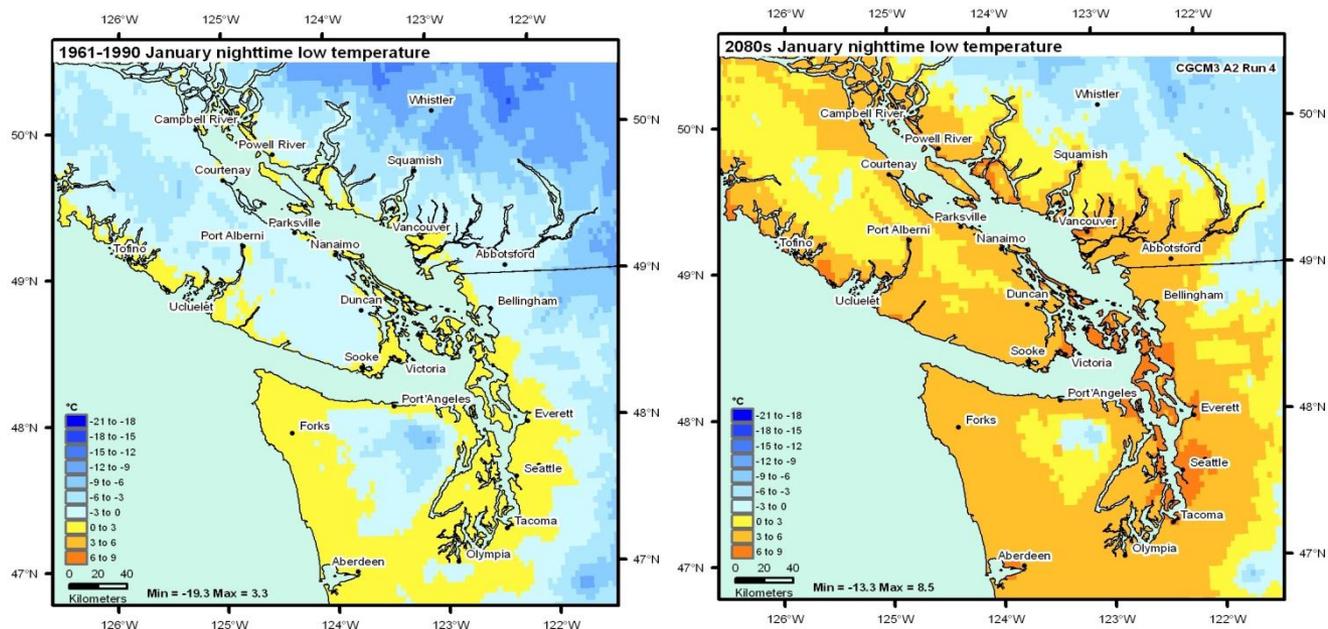
- Membership association of 1,225 local governments worldwide in 70 countries
- Program work in climate change mitigation and adaptation response, urban biodiversity, water, sustainability management, and stakeholder engagement
- Develop decision-support tools, planning guides, training and communications resources, and databases of actions

Survey Purpose

- Situate municipalities' progress on climate change adaptation
- Determine the types of data and information used
- Ascertain confidence in proceeding with vulnerability and risk assessments, and implementing adaptation actions with existing data and information
- Determine utility and value of localized and downscaled climate change data

Survey Background

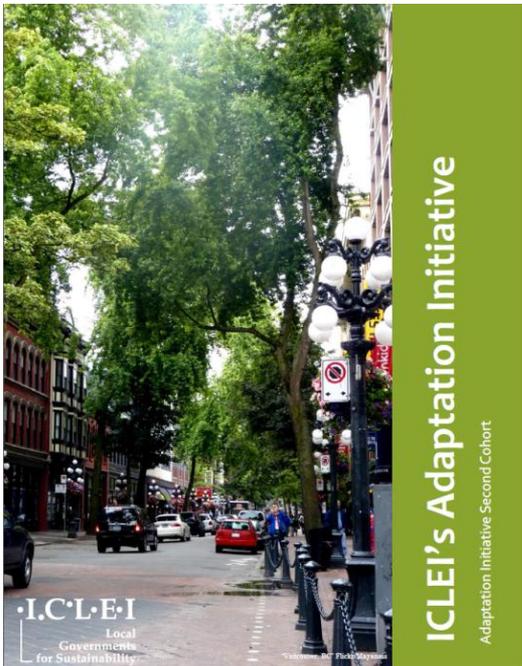
- 2011-12: Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC) undertook a study of future climate change projections for the Georgia Basin region, B.C.
 - *Georgia Basin: Projected Climate Change, Extremes, and Historical Analysis*, forthcoming



Adaptation Initiative

Working with municipalities from across Canada:

- Plan and implement local adaptation actions
- Support from ICLEI staff
- Networking and exchange opportunities



Survey Methodology

- First survey distributed to ICLEI Adaptation Initiative participants prior to report completion by PCIC
- Second survey distributed to Georgia Basin communities after receiving copies of PCIC's report
- Interviews conducted with six experts in a range of fields relating to future climate change data production and municipal use
- Analysis, comparison, recommendations

Survey Results

- First survey – pre-PCIC report: All municipalities
 - Previous adaptation work?
 - Generally ‘involved’ to ‘very involved’
 - Confidence in data?
 - Most were ‘somewhat confident’ or ‘quite confident’
 - Gaps in data?
 - Weather extremes, storms, locally-downscaled data
 - Barriers?
 - Finding and accessing data; capacity to use the data; uncertainty in the data; communicating the data!

Survey Results

- Second survey – post-PCIC report: Georgia Basin municipalities
 - Increased confidence and support from:
 - Staff: Yes
 - Senior managers: Mostly yes
 - Elected officials: Mixed
 - General public: Mixed
 - Overcome barriers?
 - Many, yes. Others, not yet.
- Expert interview questionnaire

Analysis

- Municipalities are undertaking climate change adaptation planning based on climatic change and impacts data information from a variety of sources.
- There is a fair amount of confidence.
- Significant barriers exist with regard to accessing and using downscaled future climatic changes and impacts data and information.
- More data on future climatic changes and impacts will improve certainty in municipal climate change adaptation actions and will improve confidence in decision-making.

Recommendations



- Take advantage of opportunities for action as they arise
- Support existing climate change adaptation and strengthen decision-making with new data
- Support data- and knowledge-sharing
- Important roles that downscaled regional climate data providers have
- The role of climate data and information facilitators is critical

THANK YOU!

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