

Press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Regional governments, representing over 223 million people,
launch report on accelerating climate change adaptation**

- *The document discloses the result of one of the commitments taken by the regions through [RegionsAdapt](#), a global initiative for regional governments to take concrete actions, cooperate and report efforts on climate adaptation.*
- *35 regional governments reported in 2017 on their climate risks and adaptation actions through CDP's states and regions platform.*
- *Together, the regions reported over 270 different adaptation actions.*
- *Report launch simultaneously constitutes the beginning of the RegionsAdapt's renewed pathway.*

On 7 February 2018, the [Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development – nrg4SD](#), launched the “**RegionsAdapt 2017 Report: Regions accelerating climate change adaptation**”. The report is the result of the latest disclosing process of the *RegionsAdapt* - an initiative led by the nrg4SD as its Secretariat- and covers data from 35 regional governments that reported their climate risks and adaptation through CDP's states and regions platform.

In total, 208 physical risks resulting from the impacts of climate change were reported, in addition to numerous water supply and socio-economic risks. Droughts, changes in the seasonality of rainfall, as well as extreme rainfall events and heat are the most pressing issues in this regard.

“The RegionsAdapt report reveals regional governments’ commitment to protect their territories and populations from the undeniable impacts of climate change, with over 270 adaptation actions reported, addressing several physical and water supply risks” explains Natalia Vera, nrg4SD Secretary General.

On the occasion of the two-year anniversary of the *RegionsAdapt* and the accompanying completion of the deadline to accomplish three commitments as part of the first phase of *RegionsAdapt*, the report also assesses the achievements so far. Within these two years, the initiative grew from its 27 founding members to 69 members, which represent a combined population of more than 295 million inhabitants from 26 countries on 5 continents. Six Working Groups were established, and various formal online meetings and webinars were organised, to exchange knowledge, solutions and challenges on climate change adaptation. Further, the report shows, that 74% of the founding members of *RegionsAdapt* fulfilled all three commitments and can thus enter into the next phase of *RegionsAdapt*.

The renewed pathway encompasses new rounds of commitments until 2021. Regional governments, that successfully fulfilled the initial three commitments, will be invited to improve the effectiveness of their adaptation strategies by carrying out self-assessments. This will be done either by the Adaptation Policy Checklist (APC) designed and offered by

the Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3), or any other self-assessment to be chosen by the regional government.

The “**RegionsAdapt 2017 Report: Regions accelerating climate change adaptation**” was launched in an open online event, supported by CDP and BC3 on **7 February, 15:30 – 17:00 GMT**. During the event, nrg4SD presented the main findings of the report, including the data collected in the 2017 reporting process and the assessment of the first two years of *RegionsAdapt*, as well as the new pathway of the initiative.

The full report is available to download at: http://www.nrg4sd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/nrg4SD_RegionsAdapt2017Report_compressed.pdf

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About nrg4SD

The Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development - nrg4SD - was established in 2002, and currently has 57 members from 29 countries in four continents. The Network acts in three main fields: sustainable development, biodiversity and climate change, and seeks greater international recognition of regional governments, especially in the context of the global agendas at UN and EU levels. In addition, nrg4SD promotes cooperation among members, fostering exchange of information, know-how and best practices. In the field of climate change, nrg4SD runs *RegionsAdapt*, an initiative designed to inspire and support regional governments to act, collaborate and report efforts on climate change adaptation. Launched at UNFCCC COP 21, the initiative expanded from 27 founding members to almost 70 members from all continents.

Please visit <http://www.nrg4sd.org/regionsadapt> or follow [@nrg4sd](https://twitter.com/nrg4sd) and #RegionsAdapt
For more information on *RegionsAdapt* Initiative, please contact:
regionsadapt@nrg4sd.org

About CDP

CDP is an international non-profit that drives companies and governments to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard water resources and protect forests. Voted number one climate research provider by investors and working with institutional investors with assets of US\$100 trillion, we leverage investor and buyer power to motivate companies to disclose and manage their environmental impacts. Over 6,300 companies with some 55% of global market capitalization disclosed environmental data through CDP in 2017. This is in addition to the over 500 cities and 100 states and regions who disclosed, making CDP's platform one of the richest sources of information globally on how companies and governments are driving environmental change. CDP, formerly Carbon Disclosure Project, is a founding member of the We Mean Business Coalition.

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