

Evaluating the sustainability of climate response measures in the Alps



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Comune Alpino verso l'impatto zero

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The starting point

- cc.alps aims to ensure that climate response measures are in keeping with the principles of sustainable development
- how do we know if climate response measures are in keeping with the principles of sustainability?



Which climate response measures (CRM's)?

- 146 climate response measures from a competition (summer 2008)
- 153 climate response measures from research by the national CIPRA organisations (fall 2008)
- In total: 299 CRM's from all Alpine countries
- 35 adaptation and 264 mitigation



What do we know about the CRM's?

- **Adaptation and/or Mitigation**
- **Country**
- **Activity field:** Agriculture, Building/Housing, Education, Energy, Forestry, Natural Hazards Management, Nature Conservation, Spatial Planning, Tourism, Transport/Mobility, Water Management, Other
- **Type:** educational, financial, legal, strategic, technical, other
- **Regional scale:** local, regional small scale, regional large scale, national, transnational
- Detailed **description** of the CRM, particularly according to evaluation criteria

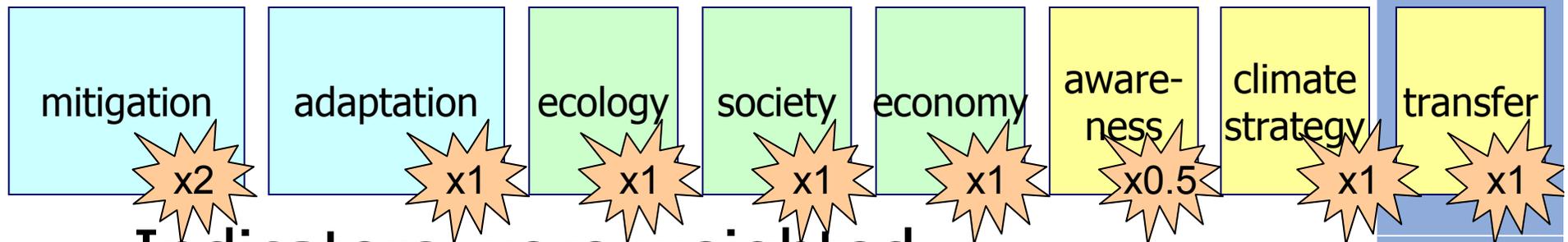


How did we evaluate the climate response measures? (1)

- Three criteria



- Two to three indicators per criterion



- Indicators were weighted



How did we evaluate the climate response measures? (2)

- All indicators were evaluated in an ordinal scheme:
 - +2: strong positive impacts / This is highly the case
 - +1: positive impacts / This is the case
 - 0: no impacts, not relevant / This is a little bit the case
 - -1: negative impacts / This is not the case
 - -2: strong negative impacts / This is not the case at all
- Two persons evaluated seperately and agreed on an aggregate evaluation



An example: a strategy for energy autarky in an Austrian district



	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2	Average
Mitigation	2	2	2
Adaptation	0	0	0
Ecology	0	0	0
Society	1	1	1
Economy	1	1	1
Awareness raising	1	0	0.5
Climate strategy	1	1	1
Transfer	2	1	1.5



To be safe about the decisions...

- ...all reviewers took notes about their evaluation
- ...thresholds were introduced for „best practice“ examples
- ...all potential „best practice“ examples were cross-checked by local experts



What did we learn from the sustainability evaluation?

The 10% most sustainable CRM's include high numbers of

- Strategic
- Regional
- Mobility; Spatial Planning

The 10% least sustainable CRM's include high numbers of

- Technical
- Local
- Natural Hazards Management; Tourism

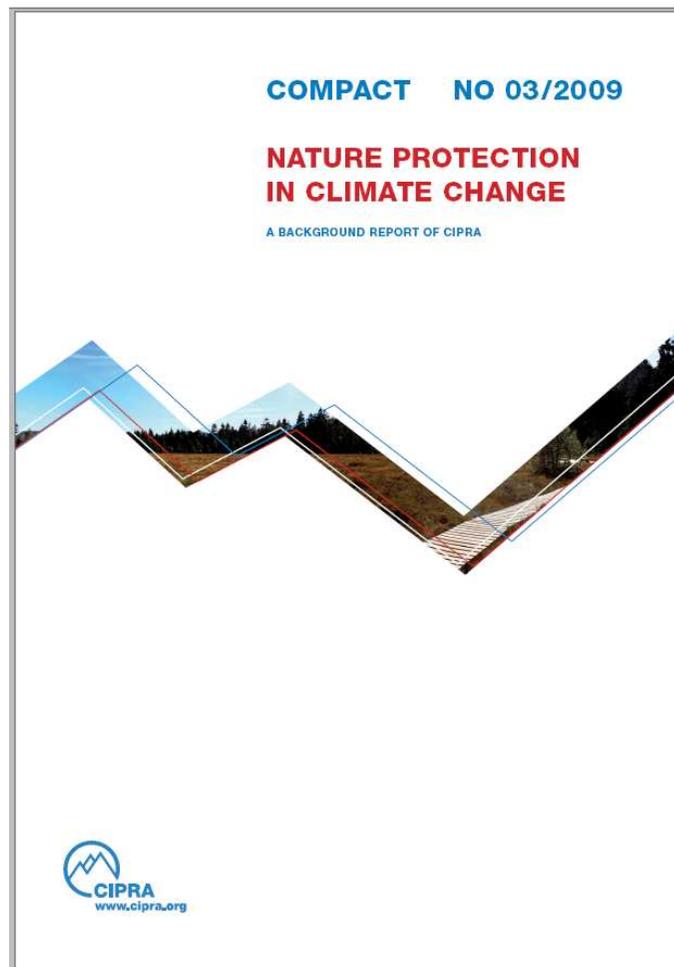
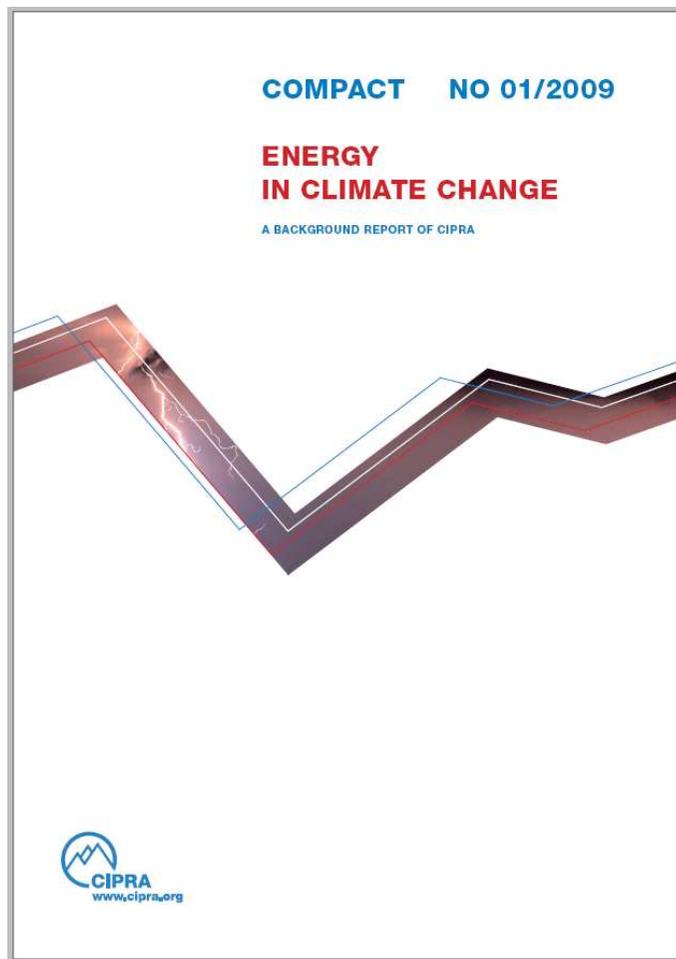
In general, adaptation measures performed more poorly than mitigation measures



What were the conclusions of the data evaluation?

- There are a lot of CRM's in the Alps
- Mitigation is much more advanced than adaptation
- Only 10% can be regarded as Good Practice in terms of sustainability (many regional and strategic CRM's)
- There are a lot of local and technical CRM's which perform poorly in terms of sustainability
- **Integration of individual CRM's is lacking**





Read more at <http://www.cipra.org/it/cc.alps/>



Thank you for your
attention!

