

How confident are European regions in dealing with a changing climate?

What does it take to reduce carbon emissions while maintaining sustainable economic growth?

How do regions compare with one another and with European benchmarks?

What challenges remain to be overcome?

The Regional Climate Confidence Index (RCCI) developed by the RSC partnership is an innovative tool aimed at helping regions to answer these questions. The RCCI evaluates and scores regions according to seven key issues:

- **Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions:** GHG emissions per capita and GHG intensity (ratio of GHG emissions to GDP)
- **Energy consumption:** final energy consumption (FEC) per capita and energy intensity (ratio of energy consumption to GDP)
- **Renewable energy:** in terms of renewable energy sources in final energy consumption
- **Policy frameworks:** policies and planning processes available to tackle climate change
- **Institutional capacity:** the effectiveness of regional authorities in managing climate change issues
- **Socio-political aspects:** awareness of climate change among the population and key stakeholder groups, and their readiness for climate change-related actions
- **Financial instruments:** for financing climate change-related measures

The index combines subjective assessment with an evaluation of data against EU averages, allowing each region to learn more about how other regions perform. Like most composite indicators, the RCCI is not a definitive scientific tool. However, it does help regions to look critically at their capacity to deal with the changing climate. Regions completed a straightforward questionnaire about their energy production and consumption, GHG emissions, policies, institutions and other related factors, and the answers received were then assessed and scored.

The results, accompanied by detailed analysis and conclusions, were presented in the RSC Baseline Assessment Report. The report is available on the project website.

RSC: a regional response to the climate challenge

The RSC is a partnership of 12 organisations from eight EU member states. The partners share a common cause: to promote an EU-wide shift to low-carbon economic development. The three-year RSC project was launched in October 2008 and is co-funded by the EU programme INTERREG IVC, part of the European Territorial Cooperation Objective of the Structural Fund policies for the period 2007–2013.

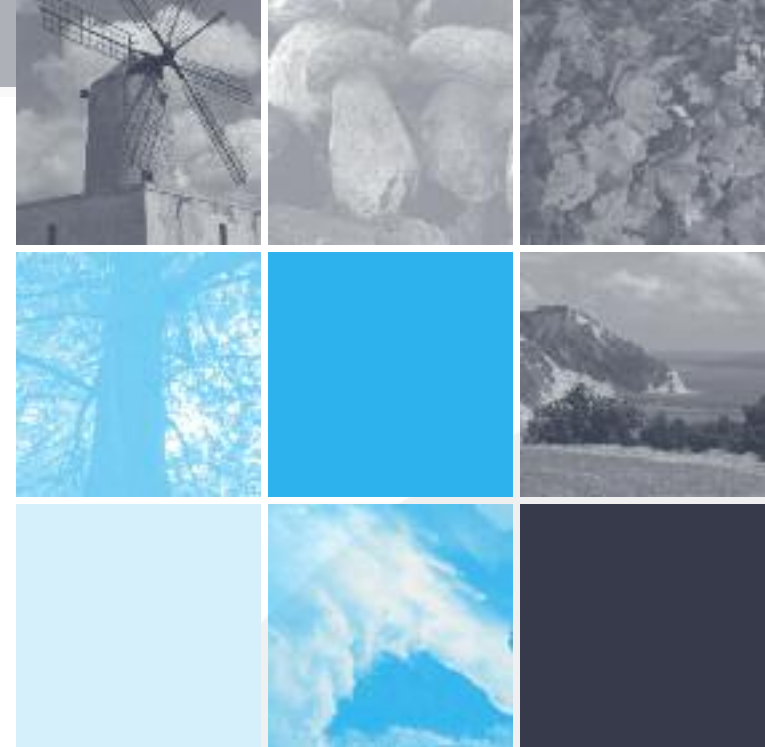
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- Malta Environment and Planning Authority
- Bulgarian Ministry of Regional Development
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- Cornwall Development Company • La Rioja
- Regional Environmental Center, Szentendre, Hungary

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REGIONS FOR
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CHANGE

The Regional Climate Confidence Index

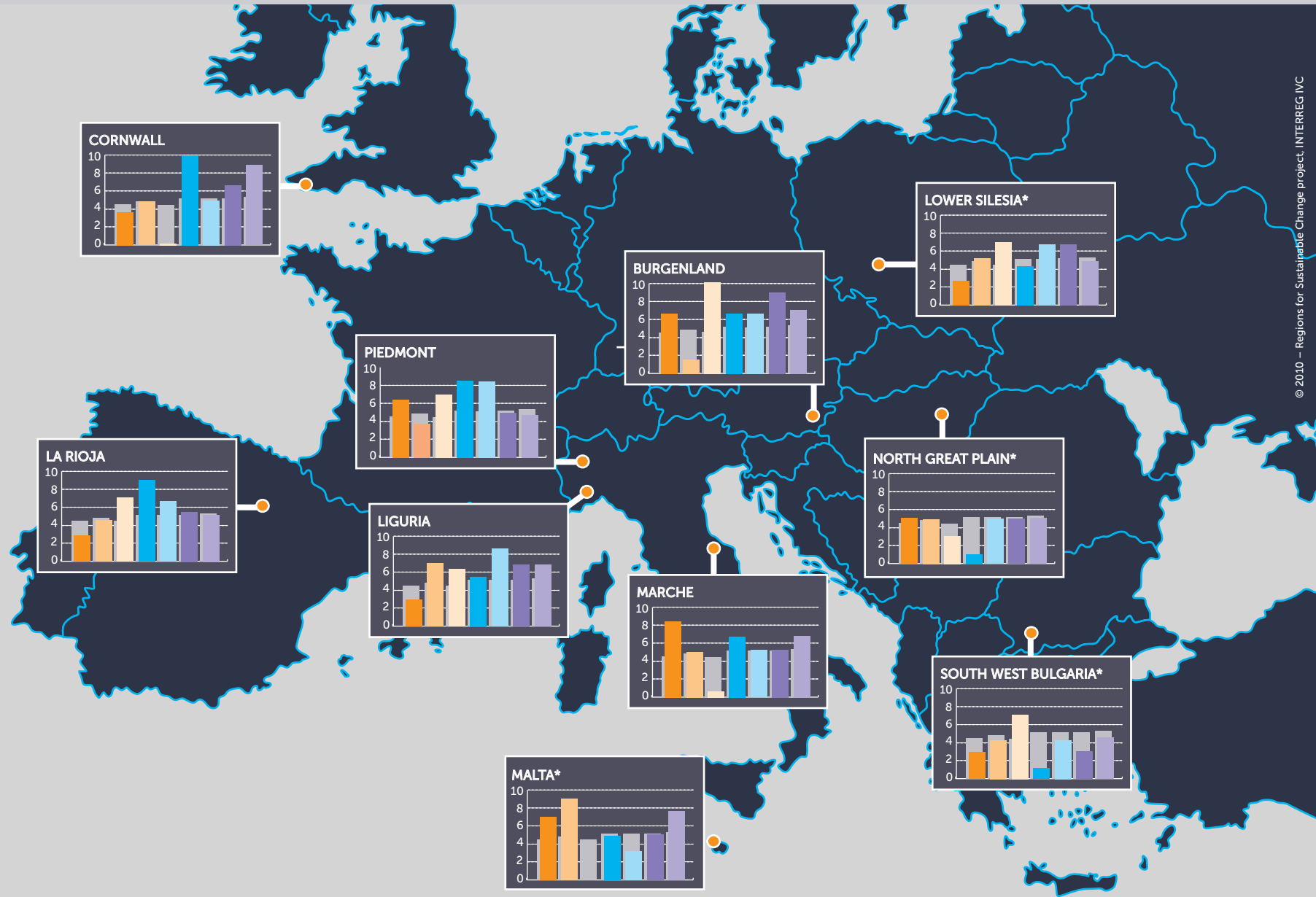
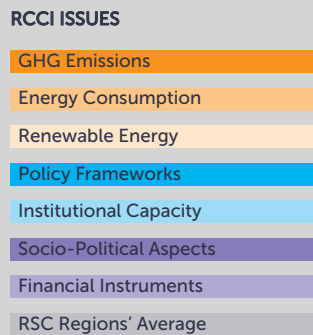
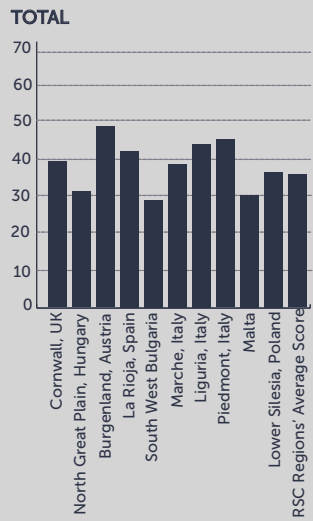


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Regional Development Fund



Made possible by the
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RSC Regions Scores in the Regional Climate Confidence Index



* Scores based wholly or partially on national-level data and information.

- The scores are performance oriented, that is, higher scores reflect lower GHG emissions and energy consumption rates, and better performance for the other five issues.