



Climate Change Centre
AUSTRIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Figures Data Facts

Imprint

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Foreword

Dear CCCA members, scientists, partners and interested parties,

2020 was a challenging year for all of us. In addition to the fragility of life, the COVID-19 pandemic has also made us aware of the vulnerability and systemic risks of our social structures and global economic structures. However, the climate crisis has the potential to have an even more serious impact on our lives. But we still have the chance to curb climate change. **Joint efforts** are urgently needed to achieve this, and unfortunately, five years after the Paris Climate Agreement, we are still having to push for them. The CCCA network, the board and the CCCA institutions were therefore also very active this year, even if, like many others, increasingly only via screens and reasonably stable internet connections.

The new Executive Board elected at the General Assembly in April 2020 sees it as an essential task to provide **members**, politicians and society with scientifically sound advice on the assessment of climate effects, the design of climate policy and measures for climate protection and adaptation in this **critical phase of civilization's development together with CCCA experts**.

We have already been able to exchange ideas with the Federal Minister for Climate Protection, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (**BMK**) Leonore Gewessler. Through the mediation of **Fri- days for Future**, a meeting was held with representatives of the Federal Chancellery, which was very constructive and has already been followed by another meeting with the State Secretary at the BMK, mediated by the **BKA**. We are also in close contact with the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (**BMBWF**) and the **Climate and Energy Fund**. We were also involved in the appointment of new members to the ACRP Scientific Steering Committee.

Despite the cancellation of some events (e.g. Climate Day), the CCCA and its institutions can look back on numerous **successful activities**, such as the publication of the 2019 Climate Status Report, the implementation of the current state analysis of research activities at Austrian universities and non-university research institutions on behalf of the BMBWF and the virtual networking event on the topic of health and climate change, together with the British Embassy. Together with the **Alliance of Sustainable Universities, UniNETZ** and **Scientists for Future** Austria, we launched an **appeal by scientists** to join forces for climate policy, which has been signed by over 750 scientists to date. These and other activities are described in more detail in the annual report.

Due to the successful work of the CCCA and its institutions in this unusual year, I look forward to **2021 with confidence and optimism** with regard to our CCCA network. The worrying development of the climate makes the work of the CCCA and its member organizations, institutions and partner organizations even more important and demands **more and more commitment** from us. This is another reason why the exchange between the Executive Board and the CCCA's members and partners should be further intensified. To ensure that the Austrian climate research community can continue to operate effectively **at national and international level**, we must also secure the continued funding of the CCCA facilities from 2022. 2021 marks the start of a landmark decade for the future climate on our planet and I invite you all to join the CCCA Board in continuing to work for a future worth living in line with the Paris climate goals and the 2030 Agenda.

Helga Kromp-Kolb (Chairwoman)

The new Executive Board

The 14th extraordinary General Assembly of the CCCA took place on **April 29, 2020**. Due to the COVID-19 situation, it was held digitally for the first time. In addition to brief reports on the past and future activities of the CCCA and its facilities, a new board was also elected, consisting of the following persons:

Board function	Person	Institution
Chairwoman	Helga Kromp-Kolb	
Deputy Chairwoman	Isabella Uhl-Hädicke	University of Salzburg
Deputy Chairwoman	Hans Stötter	UIBK
Deputy Chairwoman	Alexander Passer	TU Graz
Secretary	Harald Rieder	BOKU
Deputy Secretary	Lukas Meyer	Uni Graz
Treasurer	Gerhard Wotawa	ZAMG
Deputy Treasurer	Simon Tschannett	Weatherpark
Board member	Eva Horn	University of Vienna
Board member	Nebojsa Nakicenovic	IIASA
Board member	Kurt Weinberger	HV *
Board member	Reinhold Lang	

* Austrian Hail Insurance

The new CCCA members

The [University of Applied Arts Vienna](#) (member representatives Friedrich Hinterberger and Ulrike Payerhofer) and [GEORESEARCH Forschungsgesellschaft mbH](#) (member representatives Markus Keuschnig and Ingo Hartmeyer) joined the CCCA as **new full members** in 2020.

In 2020, we welcomed the Austrian hail insurance company Kurt Weinberger and Sabine Kamraner-Köpf and Reinhold Lang as a natural person as **new supporting members**.

The admission of new ordinary and supporting members was approved at the 14th Extraordinary General Meeting on 29. Confirmed by the CCCA member representatives as of April 2020.

ÖSTERREICH MAPS of the research landscape



Fig.: Mapping of Austrian universities in the climate research sector (c) CCCA 2020

The Austrian research landscape

As part of the survey project on the status of Austrian climate research, a **mapping of the Austrian research landscape** was created using the information available on the respective **publicly accessible homepages**. An overview is provided for both the university sector (yellow) and the non-university sector (blue), revealing a clustering of institutions in Vienna.

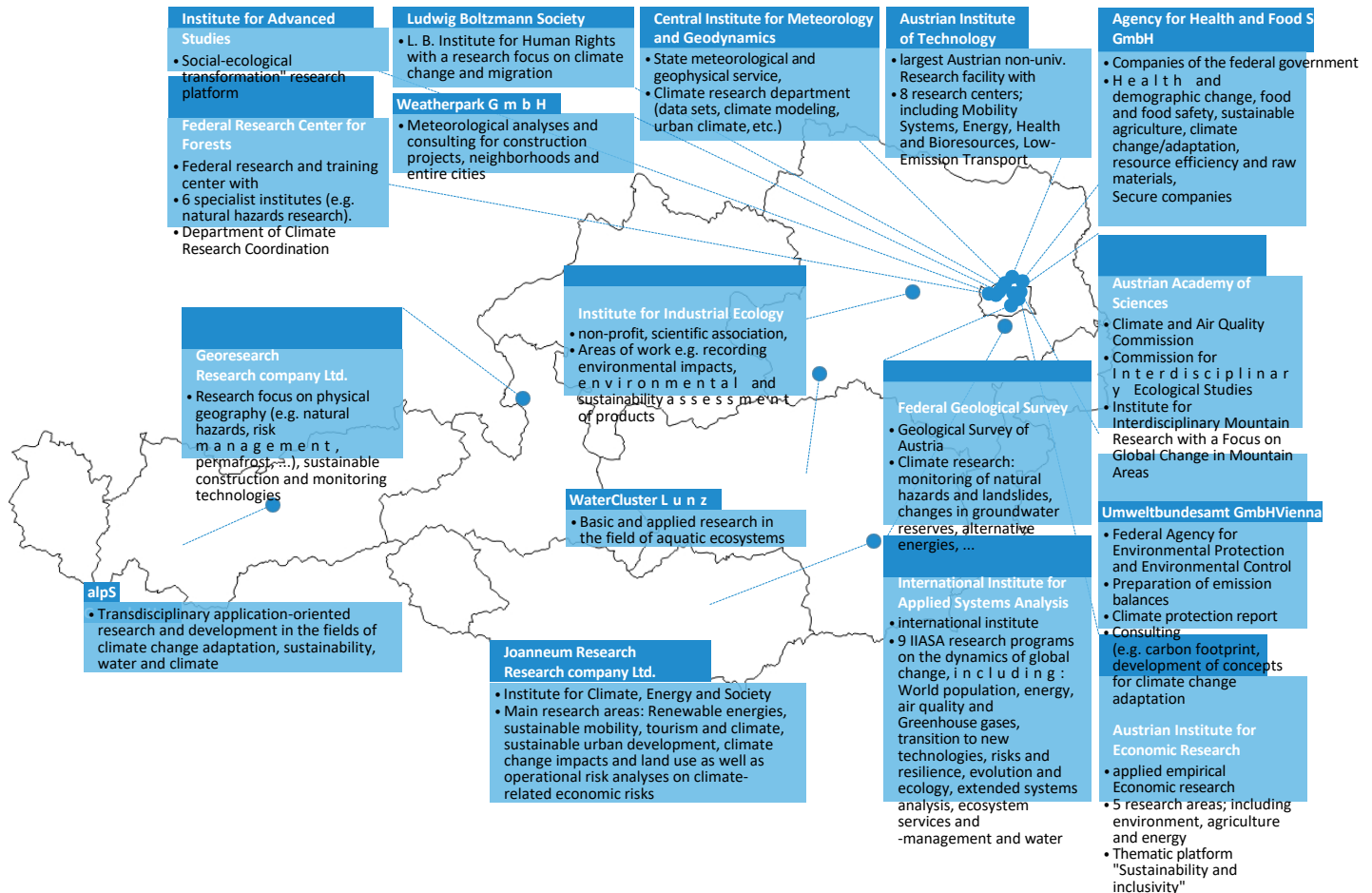
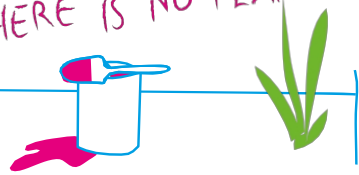


Fig.: Mapping of Austrian non-university research institutions
in the climate research area (c) CCCA 2020

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THERE IS NO PLANET B!



National and international networks

ALPACA

As a member of the **international network ALPACA (Alpine Partnership for Local Climate Action)**, the CCCA once again exchanged ideas with partners from the entire Alpine region **on climate protection and energy efficiency in the Alps** in 2020 with the aim of better supporting municipalities and local governments in the Alpine region in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The CCCA supported the network in planning the conference "Listening, storytelling and matchmaking: let's accelerate the transition towards climate neutral and resilient Alps", which was organized by 30. June to July 1, 2020, over 200 people took part virtually. Three smaller joint network events are planned for the following year 2021.

Mappings

The **networking platform** carried out several mappings in Europe (for example on **climate change research programs** or the **definition of carbon neutrality** in other countries) in order to exchange expertise on specific topics.

The CCCA's international networking platform strengthens the international connection of the Austrian research community in climate change research. This takes place primarily in two areas: On the one hand, through **strategic research coordination within the Joint Programming Initiative Climate (JPI Climate)**, which operates at an important interface between national and international research in the European Research Area (ERA), and on the other hand, by **offering various services** for the Austrian climate research community and in particular the members of the CCCA.



ECMWF and Copernicus activities

With the establishment of "remote conversation" in the home office and the reduction of mobility in spring 2020, we published a **thematic focus on the European Earth observation program Copernicus** and Austrian activities in this context for the first time in a [CCCA mailing in April 2020](#). In addition to the observed effects of the **impact of the 1st lockdown in the atmosphere**, this mailing presented data, services and data infrastructure of the CCCA Data Center, as well as the publicly accessible data and services of Copernicus.

As a result of the CCCA's Copernicus mission and the successful cooperation with the BMK and BMBWF, including in the context of the climate research survey for Austria, the CCCA was asked to **actively support Austria's ECMWF-Copernicus application** and to draw up a well-founded picture of the R&D prospects for the establishment of ECMWF services in Austria. From the point of view of network maintenance, this was a successful implementation, but unfortunately not from the point of view of the application result.

In the second half of 2020, training activities were **held** as part of the **CopHub.AC - Copernicus Academy Hub**, where the Copernicus Tool Box, the CCCA data server and the **analysis of Austrian climate data** were presented. Attendees were able to find out about the possibilities for data storage and processing in the CCCA data center.

In connection with earth observation, the **Group on Earth Observation, GEO Austria**, should be mentioned. Within this GEO network, there are working groups on various topics in which the **CCCA and its members** are also involved. In addition to AIT and ZAMG, the Angewandte was also able to join a thematic GEO working group on "Climate Change and Cultural Heritage". Further experts were nominated for GEO working groups on Disaster Risk, Climate and Data. Chris Schubert, Head of the CCCA Data Center, has been leading the **GEO Data subgroup on Data Sharing and Data Management Principles** since autumn 2020.

JPI Climate tender SOLSTICE

The JPI Climate call SOLSTICE ("Enabling Societal Transformation in the Face of Climate Change") addresses **human and social science aspects of climate change research** and focuses on three central topics:

- Social justice and participation
- Sense-making, cultural significance and risk perception in connection with climate change
- Transformative financial and economic systems

From August 2018, the networking platform led the strategic development of SOLSTICE on **behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF)** (scoping, development of the **thematic white paper** as the basis for the call for proposals, coordination of the participating funding organizations, design of the content and criteria).

A total of 6.9 million euros was mobilized from ten participating European countries to fund the research projects. Of the 75 projects submitted, seven were selected for funding, two **of** which **involved Austrian project partners:**

- *"Justdecarb - Socially Just and Politically Robust Decarbonization: A Knowledge Base and Toolkit for Policymakers"* (University of Graz)
- *"CLEANcultures - An approach for innovative Climate Learning, Evaluation and Action in Neighborhoods"*
(JOANNEUM RESEARCH)

The submission deadline ended in February 2020 and all projects were able to start in December.

CCCA Membership EOSC

EOSC - European Open Science Cloud is an environment for processing research data in support of EU science. The process to create EOSC was initiated in 2015. The aim was to develop a **trustworthy, virtual, federated environment** that implements digital research objects (such as publications, data and software) across borders and scientific disciplines according to **FAIR principles.**

The EOSC brings together institutional, national and European actors, initiatives and data infrastructures to develop a comprehensive **open science ecosystem in Europe.** The CCCA has applied for membership of the EOSC via an expression of interest.

EOSC in the second half of 2020 - the CCCA will assume observer status. The application was coordinated by the BMBWF and the universities involved.

UniNETZ in the year 2020

The second project year of UniNETZ - Universities and Sustainable Development Goals (www.uninetz.at) - of the **Alliance of Sustainable Universities** in Austria was characterized by interdisciplinary networking between the SDG groups and the joint development of future-oriented options for action. The [perspective report](#) was published in spring and officially handed over to the BMBWK. It describes the initial results and objectives of the individual SDG groups and thematic intersections between the SDGs.

The **UniNETZ SDG 13 team, which** is scientifically coordinated by the CCCA as part of the partnership¹ for SDG13 "Climate Action", consists of representatives of the CCCA members: **University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna, University of Linz, Danube University Krems, Karl Franzens University Graz, University of Leoben, Graz University of Technology, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Weatherpark**. Together, seven different options for action were developed, which will be tested for their impact on the targets of all SDGs in the third year of the project. The results will be incorporated into a joint report on all SDGs, which will be published at the end of 2021 and presented to the Austrian federal government.



As part of the network, the Ref-NECP (*reference plan as the basis for a scientifically sound national energy and climate plan for Austria that is in line with the Paris climate targets*) was also published by the Austrian Academy of Sciences in early 2020. In fall 2019, the **Ref-NEKP** was supplemented by an **"Update to the Ref-NEKP Greenhouse gas budget for Austria on the way to climate neutrality in 2040"**.

Thematic working groups in the CCCA

Due to corona and a lack of budget, there were fewer physical meetings and exchanges between the [working groups](#) this year than in previous years. The thematic working groups of the CCCA and meetings and events of the working groups in 2020 are listed below:

- **AG KlimKom** (climate communication)
- **AG CBA** (Consumption Based greenhouse gas Accounting)
- **AG SÖT** (Social Ecological Transformation)
- **AG KlimaSchutzRecht:**
 - January 15: Meeting in Graz, exchange on the topic area Mobility turnaround.
 - June 17: Opening event of the ClimLaw Center Graz.
 - Virtual meeting on December 10: Exchange on the Austrian climate lawsuit and climate referendum.

In 2020, **2 new thematic working groups** were established in the CCCA:

- the **Climate Neutral Working Group** headed by **Martina Haindl** and **Dominik Schmitz (University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna)**. The aim of the working group is to create a scientific basis for climate and CO2 neutrality for companies and organizations in Austria. In 2020, the working group produced a **CCCA fact sheet** and a more detailed orientation and discussion paper entitled: What does climate neutrality mean in the context of companies? A climate-friendly view of the terms "Climate Neutrality", "Carbon Neutrality", "Net Zero". At the same time, a "Climate Neutrality" **knowledge hub** is being set up at **JPI Climate**; these parallel developments have created synergies and maximized expertise.
- the **Climate Justice Working Group** under the leadership of **Lukas Meyer (University of Graz)** aims to critically discuss the current state of disciplinary and interdisciplinary research on climate justice with the involvement of experts and to advance it through his own workshops and publications.



Cooperations



As in 2019, **there** was an intensive exchange with our cooperation partners - **DCNA, GreenTechCluster and EIT Climate KIC**. For example, three workshops were organized with EIT Climate KIC (see Events), and discussions **were held** with the **GreenTechCluster** about jointly hosting the GreenTechJam and the Climathon 2021. Together with the **DCNA** and the **Biodiversity Network, the** aim is to revise the competence map in 2021.



Workshops and events

K3 - Congress on climate communication

Following the successful K3 Congress in Karlsruhe in fall 2019, which was very well attended with around 500 participants, the CCCA and the four other K3 network partners started **planning the next K3 Congress** in 2020, which is scheduled for fall 2021 under the auspices of the Swiss partners. The congress will have a new logo and a new motto under the title "Our climate, our future. Climate communication in times of crisis" will take place in Zurich. The **program advisory board, newly appointed in 2020 (with two members of the CCCA AG KlimKom Sybille Chiari and Andrea Prutsch)**, supported the K3 partners in developing the concept and planning the program at the joint **workshop on 29 October 2020**.





Invitation

**SOURCE OF LIFE AND
NATURAL HAZARD?**
WATER IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

on October 19, 2020 Event Center
Kunsthhaus Weiz Rathausgasse 1, 8160
Weiz
Start: 17:00



Climate Forum Weiz

Like so many things this year, the Climate Forum had to start three runs in order to be able to take place on October 19, 2020 in Weiz in front of around **40 registered people** on the topic of "**Source of life and natural hazard? Water in times of climate change**". Weiz, as one of the pioneering cities in Styria in the field of climate and environmental protection, was also chosen as the venue because water (e.g. due to hail) poses major challenges in this area every year.

After the opening words from the municipality of Weiz by **City Councillor Oswin Donnerer** and **Provincial Councillor Ursula Lackner**, who both emphasized the goals and previous successes in climate protection and adaptation, the **Climate Protection Coordinator of the Province of Styria Andrea Gössinger-Wieser** explained how important a regular and professional exchange between the scientific community and the people concerned in the various regions is. The province of Styria has been trying to promote this dialog for years as part of this series of events. The three expert speakers, **Douglas Maraun (University of Graz)**, **Andreas Gobiet (ZAMG)** and **Adelheid Spiegel (AGES)**, were able to elaborate and convey various approaches to the topic of water and its importance for many areas of life, such as the local economy or tourism.

e-IRG Workshop

The e-IRG workshop, organized as part of the German EU Council Presidency, took place in December 2020. Topics such as **e-infrastructures**, tackling societal challenges including health and climate change were given as individual keynotes and discussed together.

Chris Schubert gave an introduction to **EU directives** dealing with **data access, interoperability and infrastructures**. These were linked to ongoing technological activities such as the Open Data Cube for Earth Observation data to demonstrate a scaling approach from local to an international level. The presentation referred to data reuse and reproducibility as **central agendas of the CCCA Data Center**.

Regional networking workshops for science, business and society together with EIT Climate-KIC

A series of three online webinars for the Traunviertel, Eastern Upper Styria and Carinthia regions was jointly organized by EIT Climate-KIC and the CCCA in October and November 2020. The so-called "ecosystem meetings" served as a virtual exchange on resilience, climate and environmental protection as well as successful business in the regions. **More than 100 businesspeople, scientists and representatives of countries, cities and regions were able to exchange ideas.**

The University of Leoben, IIASA, the University of Graz and BOKU from the CCCA network actively participated in the events. The **federal states** were represented by representatives from the fields of climate protection as well as business and innovation. The events gave pioneers and thought leaders from the regions the opportunity to connect with various national and international organizations and networks and to discuss together how sustainable innovations for the climate transition can be promoted at regional level.
can be used.





Virtual Expert Talk on Health and Climate

In cooperation between the **British Embassy in Vienna** and the CCCA, a **virtual expert talk on the topic of health and climate** took place on October 13, 2020. 25 experts from administration and science took part. Among other things, the **exchange of experiences between the UK and Austria** was enriching. After introductory words by **Ambassador Robert Leigh Turner, Jessica Beagley from Lancet Countdown** and **Willi Haas from the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna** provided input on their current research.

The following issues were discussed:

- What are the highest climate change risks for personal and public health? How can we increase resilience in our countries?
- How can we increase cooperation and synergies between the areas of public health and climate change? Where can we identify overlaps and common interests?
- What can climate and public health policy learn from the Covid-19 pandemic?
- How can we bring green recovery plans and just transition to life?

Climate Day 2020 incl. outlook for Climate Day 2021

Due to the developments regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, the CCCA reacted immediately in March 2020 and postponed the 21st Climate Day from April 2020 to September 2020. The event would have taken place at the **University of Leoben (MUL)**. Unfortunately, the alternative date also had to be postponed due to the special challenges. In consultation with co-organizers and sponsors, a new date was found: the **21st Climate Day** will now take place from **April 12-13, 2021** as an **online event**. As usual, the scientific sessions and poster sessions as well as presentations from the Austrian Climate Research Program (ACRP) and the CCCA Young Scientist Award are a fixed part of this interdisciplinary conference.

FFG qualification network SNOWLEDGE

In dem FFG Programm wird die Kommunikation zwischen der Forschungswelt und der Wirtschaft gefördert. Das CCCA Datenzentrum bot in einem Workshop zum Thema **»Digitalisierung und Datenmanagement - Modelle für den digitalen Workflow«** ein ganzheitliches Bild vom Beginn der Digitalisierung bis »hands-on« von AI- (künstlichen Intelligenz) Prozessen an, z. B. Auswirkung von Szenarien der Schneebedeckung und Lenkung von Besucher_innen, als auch Planung von Fuhrparks.

The program coordinated by BFW was aimed at winter tourism stakeholders, railroad operators and industry partners such as vehicle fleet manufacturers.



Stakeholder workshops as part of the CCCA dissemination program

As in previous years, the CCCA once again supported its members in the preparation, planning and moderation of workshops as part of the dissemination program. Here is a selection:

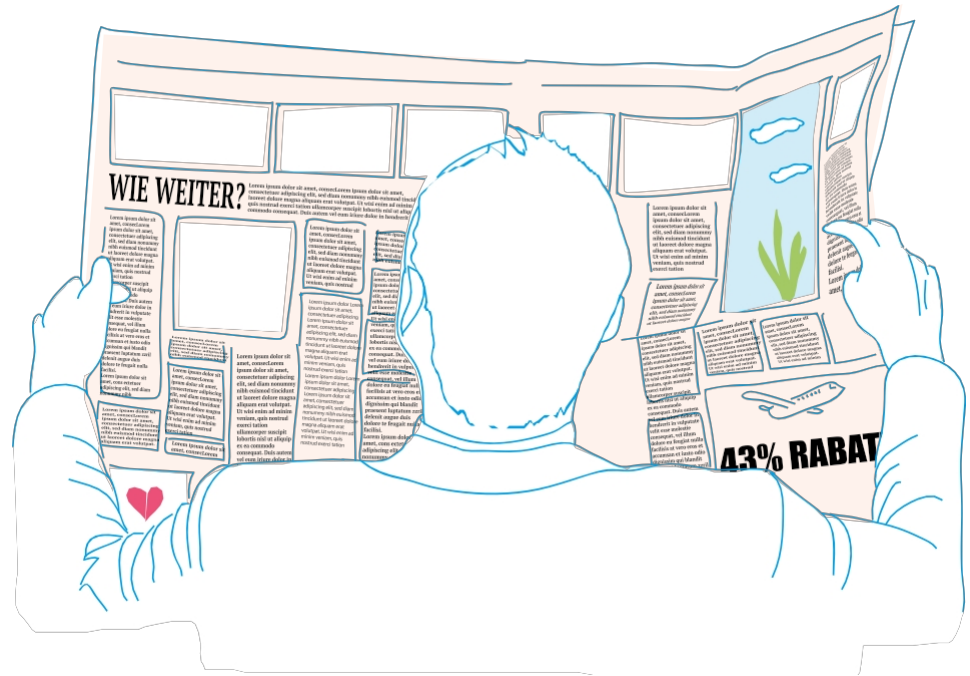
ClimGrassHydro project or groundwater cluster of the Austrian Academy of Sciences Under the title: "Water resources in climate change: consequences for water, energy and agriculture." a workshop with 33 participants was held in Graz on 27 February 2020 to support the project team in shaping future communication work in a targeted manner, integrating existing knowledge into the project, reducing "blind spots" in research and identifying possible conflicts between the various groups around water as a resource.

Workshop COIN Int

At a virtual workshop on June 25, 2020, 14 participants discussed the topic "The effects of global climate change impacts on Austria's foreign trade and economy". At the final workshop of the COIN-INT research project, the results of the project on the economic impact of transnational climate change impacts on Austria and Europe were presented and discussed with stakeholders.

Workshop SR Land use

On November 11, 2020, the 2nd Stakeholder Dialogue to reflect on and discuss the "First-Order Draft" of the APCC Special Report on Land Use, Land Management and Climate Change took place virtually with around 25 participants. The aim was to bring practitioners and researchers together to discuss the content of the report and to take it forward.



Public relations

Press conferences and press releases

Informing the public about the latest findings of climate change research is the key to transparent knowledge transfer. Wherever possible, this controversial topic is highlighted in the public media or on social networks. In 2020, the CCCA, in cooperation with the CCCA Board and its member institutions, sent out **eight press releases, two statements** to media representatives in this country and organized a **virtual press conference on "Five Years of the Paris Climate Agreement"** at the end of the year, as well as a **virtual press conference on the "KlimaKonkret" project with Andre Heller**. You can find the press releases below. You can read the press reports published on: <https://ccca.ac.at/wissenstransfer/presseberichte>.

Press releases

UniNEtZ - Universities and Sustainable Development Goals: "SDG interactions, contradictions and further developments" (03.03.2020)

Ensure climate protection - seize irretrievable opportunity! Open letter from Austrian researchers on climate and air quality to the federal government (30.04.2020)

New CCCA board urges swift action: Thinking and tackling Covid-19 and the climate crisis together (30.04.2020)

Ensure Climate Protection-Seize the Irrecoverable Opportunity! Open Letter of Austrian Researchers in Climate and Air Quality to the Federal Government (07.05.2020)

Voices from research: Sustainable living makes us all more resilient (14.05.2020)

The board of the Austrian Climate Research Network CCCA supports the climate referendum (23.06.2020)

1 year after the reference climate plan of science - Where does Austria stand with its climate policy? (09.09.2020)

Appeal from the scientists: Where do we stand five years after the Paris Climate Agreement? (03.12.2020)

Press conference: Appeal from scientists: Where do we stand five years after the Paris Climate Agreement? (09.12.2020)

Press conference: KlimaKonkret and André Heller present first-tenth step towards a climate-friendly future (25.11.2020)

Open letters and statements

Opinion on the review draft regarding the provincial law amending the Upper Austrian Spatial Planning Act 1994, the Upper Austrian Building Code 1994 and the Upper Austrian Building Technology Act 2013 (Upper Austrian Spatial Planning Act Amendment 2020) - Supplement to Verf- 2013-80108/84-May (27.03.2020)

Statement from CCCA experts on the fact sheet: "Kostenwahrheit CO2" of the BMK (02.04.2020)

Newsletter, member information, special mailings and international newsletter

With **7 CCCA member information** and **7** newsletters every two months, CCCA members and those interested in the topic received event announcements, calls for tender, consultations, participations and information on current developments, projects, research results and publications. In addition, member information and newsletters provide the opportunity to exchange ideas within the climate research community.

Since June 2020, there has been a new format for the "**Newsletter for International Affairs**", which is sent to the CCCA newsletter mailing list. This newsletter specifically highlights relevant activities in the international arena. It was sent out six times and contained relevant content from Europe or beyond. This will make it easier for you in future to filter out what is happening in climate change research outside of Austria - and where you might be able to get involved.

48 special announcements provided direct information about upcoming dates.



Social Media

In summer 2020, the CCCA **significantly expanded** its **social media presence**. In addition to the active Twitter account, the CCCA is now also represented on **LinkedIn and Facebook**. News about climate change, current events and scientific findings are regularly shared there. The expanded online presence also serves to **increase interaction** with our members and partners as well as with other groups and contributes to climate change communication in general. Follow us on

- Twitter: https://twitter.com/_ccca_
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/climate-change-centre-austria/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/climatechangecentre-austria/>

to stay up to date with the latest CCCA news!

Statements

Statement of the CCCA Board of Directors on the draft review of the Upper Austrian Spatial Planning Act Amendment 2020 on March 27, 2020:

In this statement by the Board of the Climate Change Center Austria (CCCA) network, the focus is placed on the climate change aspect because this corresponds to the expertise of the CCCA and the authors of this statement. However, it should be expressly pointed out that habitat loss is the number one cause of the biodiversity problem (IPBES, 2018),

and this is essentially a question of what land is used for and how it is used. The connection with spatial planning is obvious.

[Statement](#) by CCCA experts on the factsheet: "Kos- tenwahrheit CO2" by the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) on April 2, 2020:

In line with the government program, the BMK is looking for ways to establish true cost accounting for CO2 emissions and has approached the CCCA for a statement on the BMK factsheet "True Cost CO2" (draft version March 20, 2020). The position paper was prepared by the following experts in the CCCA network: *Core team (in alphabetical order)*: Hartmut Graßl, Mathias Kirchner (BOKU), Helga Kromp-Kolb (BOKU), Sigrid Stagl (WU Vienna), Karl Steininger (University of Graz); *Contributors (in alphabetical order)*: Michael Getzner (TU Vienna), Claudia Kettner-Marx (WIFO), Gottfried Kirchengast (University of Graz), Angela Köppl (WIFO), Ina Meyer (WIFO), Mark Sommer (WIFO), Isabella Uhl-Hädicke (University of Salzburg)

[Appeal from scientists on 5 years of the Paris Climate Agreement](#)

Scientists from **the CCCA, Scientists for Future Austria, the Alliance of Sustainable Universities and the UniNETZ project** made an [appeal](#) to the public in December 2020 [to mark the fifth anniversary of the Paris Climate Agreement](#). They are calling for a national alliance, similar to that in nuclear policy, that puts climate protection at the forefront of po

priorities in Austria and defines and implements a roadmap to climate neutrality that will endure through changes of government. In 17 different points, it is pointed out that it is no longer possible to stabilize the global climate at 1.5 °C warming if effective measures are not taken immediately. **Over 750 scientists** from or in Austria have supported the appeal. At the press conference with Helga Kromp-Kolb, Nebojša Nakićenović and Thomas Schinko on December 9, 2020, the appeal was presented to the public and the key messages were reiterated.



Video series: What future do we want?

The COVID-19 crisis has presented many people with major challenges and has demanded almost all of our attention in 2020. However, we must not forget that even before COVID-19, we were and continue to be confronted with many problems, crises and global challenges such as climate change, species extinction and environmental pollution.

The **CCCA** has therefore launched a future-oriented project on the **initiative of the University of Soil Culture Vienna**, together and in close cooperation **with the Alliance of Sustainable Universities, Scientists for Future Austria and the UniNEtZ project.**

In the video series "[What future do we want?](#)", **27 scientists from various disciplines and research institutions** throughout Austria were asked in 2020 where they believe the greatest levers and opportunities for a future-oriented

The project partners' platforms and YouTube channels were made available. These impulses and ideas were made available in the form of 2-minute short videos on the project partners' platforms and on YouTube.

Homepage new 3.0

In the summer months of 2020, the CCCA homepage **was** redesigned **in cooperation with FH Joanneum** and spruced up with new accents.

Together with students from FH Joanneum, the content and layout of the CCCA website were audited as part of a course in the **FH Content Strategy degree program** in the summer semester of 2020. The students learn the basics of organizing content with a focus on structure and findability within complex information systems and how to analyze existing content as part of the strategic development of an organization's content. Under the direction of Heinz Wittenbrink, Roger Fienhold Sheen and Paula Land (content strategist at NASA) as lecturers for this course, nothing escaped the trained eyes of the 26 or so students and the CCCA website was equipped with many optimizations.

In addition to the accessibility requirements, which were already implemented during the last revision together with the **Odilien-Institut Graz**, this time the focus was on a simpler presentation, more clarity in the appearance and more functionality of the site and above all the search functions. The challenge was to achieve this with limited financial resources. This

The process of redesigning the homepage is an ongoing one - additions, changes and extensions are constantly being incorporated without disrupting the operation of the homepage. The subpages are also being redesigned step by step. In addition, the new homepage features "tracking-free" buttons, which only switch to the respective third-party providers when actively clicked, thus ensuring that the CCCA homepage can be used without the storage of IP addresses via third-party providers.

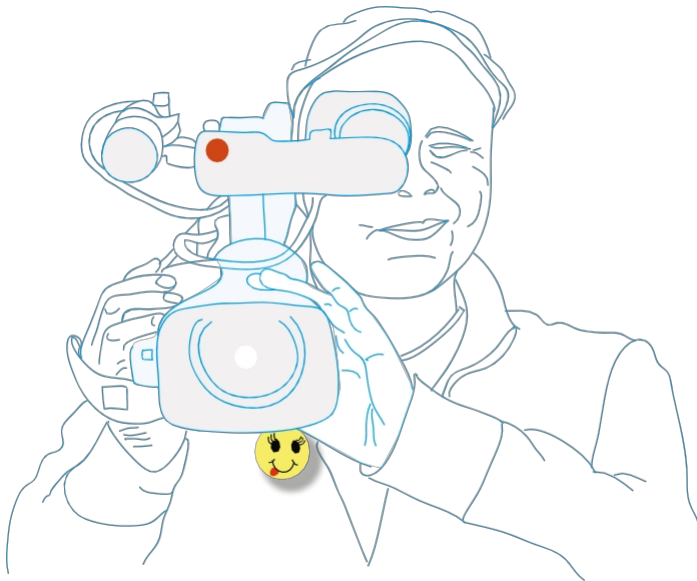
For the start of 2021, we will emphasize the international focus by presenting the "[international networking platform](#)" project in more detail, among other things. The English version of our website will also be updated soon.

Expert placement

One of the CCCA's central services continues to be the placement of experts. Following a sharp increase in enquiries in 2019, the need for experts was also high in 2020.

expertise very high. In addition to the **traditional inquiries from media (houses)**, there was a lively influx of inquiries from **various organizations, individuals, municipalities and research institutions.**

Mainly via the service center of the CCCA, the official contacts of experts are transmitted to the inquiring body with reference to their professional orientation. The selection of the actual expert contact is the responsibility of the respective inquirer. In some cases, however, contact is also made directly when it comes to urgent inquiries and topics (e.g. press inquiries).



Knowledge transfer

Climate status report

In 2020, the CCCA once again produced the annual Climate Status Report **in cooperation with the Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics (ZAMG) and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) on behalf of the federal provinces and the Climate and Energy Fund.** The report places the weather situation of the past year in the context of climate change, focusing on the effects of (extreme) weather situations of the past year on the environment and society. The aim of the climate status report is to describe the climate change already experienced and to place it in the context of possible future developments as well as to present possible strategies for action and adaptation. The thematic focus of the 2019 report was on the topic of **"Persistently unchanging weather conditions that lead to extreme weather situations"**. In particular, the extreme weather events in November, which were triggered by a series of "Italian lows" on the southern side of the Alps and led to huge amounts of precipitation and massive impacts on the environment and society, were examined in more detail. **For the first time, the climate review** was prepared not only for Austria, but also **for all 9 federal states.**



Fact Sheets

In 2020, **4 new fact sheets** were published on the following topics published by researchers from the CCCA community:

The **Fact Sheet #28**: "[Impact of climate change and urban development on thermal stress during heat waves in Vienna](#)" summarizes the results of the URBANIA research project, which investigated the influence of urban expansion in combination with climate change on the heat island effect in the city of Vienna.

The **Fact Sheet #29**: "[Designing a WTO Compliant Border Carbon Adjustment for the European Union](#)" was prepared in English and is dedicated to the possibilities of a WTO-compliant CO2 border adjustment system for the European Union.

Fact Sheet #30: "[What does climate neutrality mean in the context of companies? A climate-friendly view of the terms 'Climate Neutrality', 'Carbon Neutrality', 'Net Zero'](#)" was created by the CCCA Climate Neutral Working Group and takes a closer look at the widely used but not yet precisely defined concept of climate neutrality.

Fact Sheet #31: "[Increasing damage caused by bark beetles due to climate change](#)" examines the links between the increasing number of bark beetle calamities in Austria and the changed climatic conditions of recent decades.

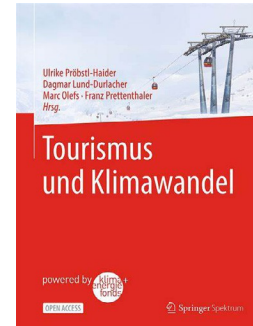
APCC Special Report "Tourism and Climate Change"

The **report** was published in book form and open access by Springer Spektrum in December 2020. The publication sheds light on the complex relationships between **tourism and climate change for Austria as a tourism destination** and is based on a comprehensive survey, summary and evaluation of the current state of research on this topic. For this report, 39 scientists from leading research institutions, supported by a broad team of reviewers, worked on its completion for more than two years.

The CCCA was responsible for **review management** during the preparation of the special report. The aim was to ensure that the highest quality standards were met through a professional **review process based on IPCC guidelines** and APCC standards. The management **sought** broad participation from the **relevant research community and the general public**. This was ensured by applying a **multi-stage review process** that was independent and transparent.

In addition to the **CCCA**, the **project partners** were the **University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna, the University of Vienna, ZAMG, Joanneum Research, the University of Innsbruck, the Federal Environment Agency** and **WIFO**.

This project is **funded** by **the Climate and Energy Fund** and is being carried out as part of the "10th Call Austrian Climate Research Programme - ACRP".



APCC Special Report "Land use, land management and climate change"

As part of the ongoing project, on January 23, 2020, the **first stakeholder dialog to reflect on and discuss the "Zero-Order-Draft" took place at the Federal Research Center for Forests.** A total of **47 participants** took advantage of the exchange with the authors.

The **second stakeholder dialog** followed on November 11, 2020 in an online format, where practitioners and researchers once again came together to discuss the content of the report and take it forward.

The **first review** took place between the two stakeholder workshops. The aim was to ensure that the breadth of scientifically relevant literature (peer-reviewed and gray literature) was taken into account in the report and that relevant scientific areas were covered.

APCC Special Report "Structures for a climate-friendly life"

Another Special Report celebrated its project launch in 2020. The **APCC Special Report, which is to be published in 2022,** is an evaluative summary of current research on the **transformation towards structures that enable climate-friendly action.** With a systematic presentation of effective design options, the report contributes to climate policy debates. In narratives, theories of social transformation are combined with contextualized strategies for sustainably overcoming the climate crisis. This enables a **well-founded but at the same time multi-perspective discourse** on the substantial reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in all areas of contemporary societies.

The report is edited and coordinated by **Christoph Görg (BOKU), Verena Madner (WU Vienna), Andreas Muhar (BOKU), Alfred Posch (University of Graz), Karl Steininger (University of Graz) and Ernest Aigner (WU Vienna)**. Around 40 people are currently involved in various roles. The respective author teams write and coordinate Chapter 2, Chapter 3, Chapter 4 and Chapter 5. The writing process is accompanied by a **stakeholder process**, a **scientific review** (coordinated by **CCCA**) and an **open commentary** for interested parties.

Finding topics for a new APCC Special Report in the 13th ACRP Call

At the beginning of the year, the Climate and Energy Fund approached the CCCA AG APCC with a request to name new topics for an APCC Special Report in the 13th ACRP CALL.

The following suggestions have been received from the community:

- Microorganisms and climate
- Climate Law: closing Austria's regulatory gap
- Climate change in the mountains

Due to the work for a possible status report in 2024 (AAR24), the CCCA Board unanimously decided, after consultation with the APCC Panel, to make a recommendation to the Climate and Energy Fund that special reports should already be issued for the 13th ACRP call in order to save personnel and financial resources in the APCC for AAR24. This approach was discussed with the APCC working group, among others. The topic "Climate change in mountain regions - challenges and opportunities" announced in the 13th ACRP Call is to be included in the AAR24 instead of a separate report.

Projects

MAKING A CHANGE!

makingAchange: What has happened so far and outlook for 2021

After corona-related restrictions and an associated extension of the application deadline, the climate education project "**makingAchange**" (in **cooperation with the University of Innsbruck, BOKU, Graz University of Technology, University of Graz, IIASA, CCCA**) started at the end of 2020. The project involves the development and testing of innovative methods for establishing research-education cooperations on the topics of climate change and sustainability in Austria. Initial activities are already being implemented at some of the **31 schools involved from all over Austria. For example**, the first workshops, including the training of internal school peers and the program to determine the carbon footprints of schools, were held virtually for the time being. In summer 2021, the interdisciplinary project lessons, the phenological observations (in collaboration with the Vienna Botanical Garden) and the Climate Weeks will be held at various locations in Austria. As a holistic, long-term project (applications for the coming school year are possible from spring of this year), in addition to the independent implementation of climate-relevant projects inside and outside the

In addition to school lessons, an **effectiveness analysis** was also carried out by the **University of Innsbruck. The** central aim of the project is to monitor and consolidate climate protection among the pupils themselves and to subsequently disseminate and use the knowledge gained in their environment.



Survey project

At the beginning of 2020, the CCCA was asked by the BMBWF to carry out a **survey on the state of climate and environmental research in Austria**. After a positive response from the CCCA Board, the project started in mid-March 2020 and was completed in October 2020. As part of the survey, over 40 Austrian researchers were asked about their assessments and activities in the field of environmental and climate research. Written surveys were also conducted with organizations outside the research world. In addition to **qualitative analyses**, a wide range of **quantitative data** was also included in the report: **bibliometric analyses** and alternative metrics on the publication performance of individual universities and research institutions, data on **third-party funding** and **awards** as well as participation in **publications**. The evaluations and map-pings of the survey provide a quick overview of central **research focal points and activities**. They are intended to serve as a basis for discussion between researchers and stakeholders in order to jointly identify measures to strengthen Austrian climate research.

AAR24_scoping

The idea and desire for a **new edition of the Austrian Assessment Report - AAR14 - published in 2014** became more concrete over the course of 2020 and led to a scoping process, which started in September 2020. With more than **110 participants in seven workshops** - the first of which were still physical, then switched entirely to digital - the contents, key topics and structure were developed. These are now being commented on by the community.

This results in the basic framework for the planned project proposal for the preparation of the new Austrian Assessment Report, which is to be launched in 2021 and completed in 2024. This means that exactly ten years after the first publication, a new, revised and completely redesigned edition of the Assessment Report is planned with the involvement of the Austrian research community. In order to make use of the time until the entire publication appears, there will be ongoing "extracts" in the form of fact sheets or similar.

You can find more information at www.aar24.ccca.ac.at.

Klima →Konkret

KlimaKonkret

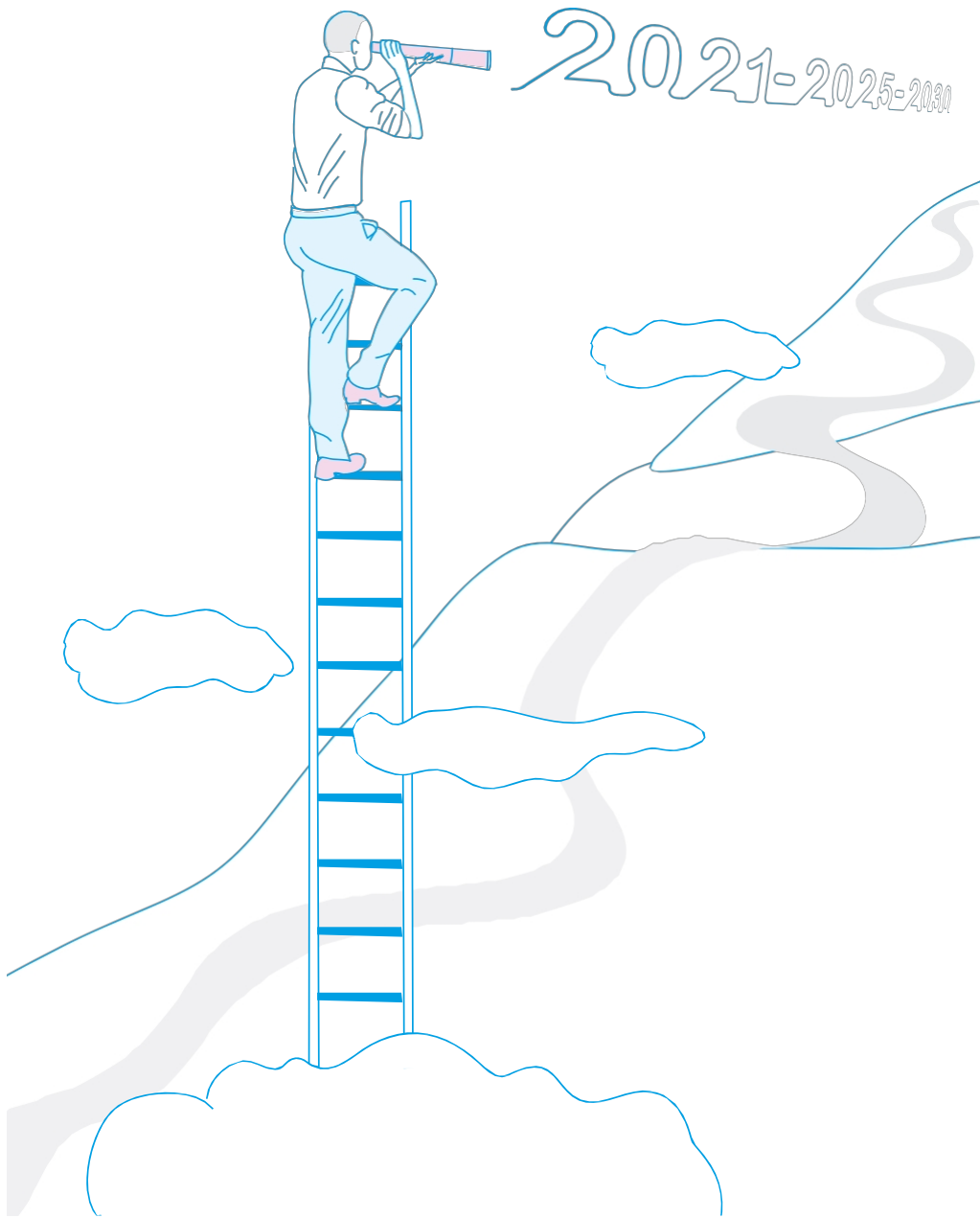
The "KlimaKonkret" project, initiated under the **patronage of André Heller** and by **Weatherpark GmbH, Raumposition, 3:0 Landschaftsarchitektur and con. sens verkehrsplanung zt gmbh**, promises bundled knowledge, first-hand expert mediation and clear answers to specific questions on the topics of climate protection and climate change adaptation. In fall 2020, the CCCA was asked to work on the "KlimaKonkret" project as part of its expert placement service. The aim of this project, which was developed through countless contributions by the participating organizations, is to provide a **contact point for climate change adaptation** and to supplement the existing services in Austria. This is done in consultation with the existing networks and with the involvement of the Climate and Energy Fund as an additional hub. The CCCA is also providing the **existing expert mediation activities as an in-kind service**, as this has become increasingly important in the course of the awareness-raising process.

The aim of the project is to create added value for the scientists in the CCCA network. In the course of the information about the project in fall 2020, a call for cooperation and participation was also made to all CCCA members. The project manager, [Simon Tschannett](#), is available for detailed information.

[Adoption of Research Data Alliance Solutions](#)

In 2019, [RDA](#) - Europe selected 8 initiatives, including the **CCCA Data Center**, which **focus** on data management and technical implementation of **best practices for research data repositories**. Together with **TU WIEN**, we were able to take the one-year funding one step further in the direction of fostering data repository systems. A concept and a design study as well as a prototype implementation of the openEO interface were created. This allows various data catalogs and access points to be linked with each other.

As part of the [GEOCLIM](#) project, it is planned to integrate an operational implementation in the long term.



Outlook for 2021

Outlook on 10 years of CCCA

The CCCA was officially founded as a non-profit association on July 18, **2011** and has experienced many ups and downs over the past ten years. Following the expiry of the HRSM funding granted in 2014 on December 31, 2018 and the resulting financial gap for the continued employment of staff and the execution of basic activities as an association, the CCCA has been able to support many new projects in the last two years and also carry them out itself. In 2021, the focus will once again be on the members and their needs. Some of the tried-and-tested formats will be resumed following the coronavirus-related restrictions and contact with members will also be physically intensified. Work is also being done on longer-term financing.

On November 11, 2021, there will be a celebration of the eleventh CCCA year in Vienna. Details will be sent to the CCCA member organizations.

Outlook for skills map 3.0

The year 2020 was used to revise the **conceptual model for mapping expertise** - the CCCA Competence Map - and adapt it to the new requirements. With the **expansion of the specialist domains of Biodiversity and Disaster Risk** (DCNA), it has become apparent in the past that concepts for the formalized description of expertise do not correlate as desired or lead to the best search result. Our conceptual implementations for this, as the foundation of the application, were a little slow. The priorities for this will be significantly increased in 2021.

Personal details

Team introduction

The operational part of the CCCA, i.e. the employees of the three organizational units - Data Centre, Head Office and Service Centre - are available to the members of the CCCA for mediation activities, project support, information exchange, consortium building support, event support, press activities, data management plans, national and international networking and contact mediation.



Partners Economy



MARTHA



CHRIS

Management Data & Project Development
Head of Data Center



ELISABETH

International & JPI-Climate

LEA

Communication & Networking & International

Dissemiation & cooperations



ANGELICA

Development Projects & Dialog formats

office Head



CLAUDIA

Coordination & Finances



LISA

Head of Service Center

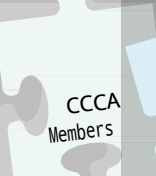


KATRIN



HEIDE

CLIMATE-KIC & makingAchange



CCCA Members

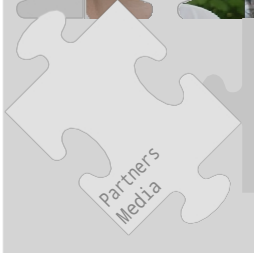


CCCA-Management Board



ALEXANDRA

APCC SR & Climate Day & SDG 13



Partners Media

CD & PR

Social Media



LAURA

IT consulting
IGOR



Projects Coordination & Consulting

INGEBORG



Partners Politics



Notes

