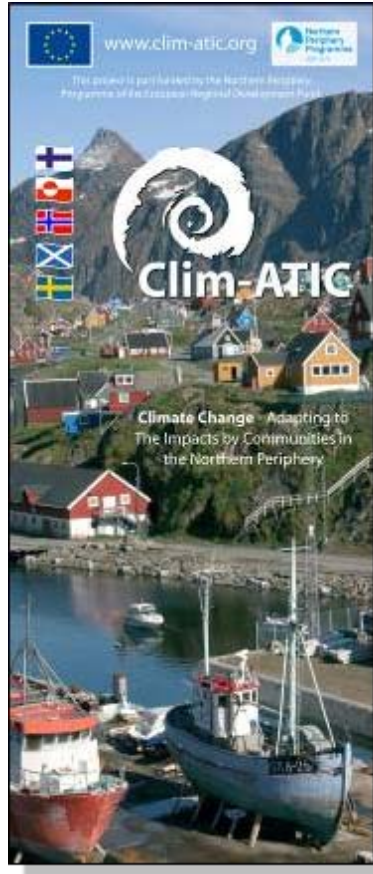


# Climate Change:

## Building capacity for adaptation across the Northern Periphery



**Clive Bowman**  
Clim-ATIC project coordinator  
Centre for Mountain Studies  
Perth College  
UHI Millennium Institute

[clive.bowman@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:clive.bowman@perth.uhi.ac.uk)

[www.clim-atic.org](http://www.clim-atic.org)

**Presentation – SSN  
June 26th 2008**



***Climate change tourism?***



[www.clim-atic.org](http://www.clim-atic.org)

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# Why bottom up adaptation?

## Communities are on the front line!

The consequences of climate change are felt at the local level and adaptation predominantly takes place locally.

However the current processes for adaptation are linked to regional, national and international events and policies.

Communities can be more responsive as individuals, small groups and small businesses if supported politically or financially.

Cumulatively many small adaptations are more resilient in the face of uncertainty than large scale adaptations.



**Impacts on tradition & culture?**

# What could councils learn from communities?

There are a **number of issues** to consider when understanding local adaptation to climate change:

- 1) there are different concerns within a community, a sector or a stakeholder group
- 2) there are indirect consequences of climate change on a local community
- 3) it is a challenge for communities, politicians and policy makers to plan locally when faced with uncertainty and cross border issues
- 4) adaptation is something that primarily takes place at the local level, therefore it is important that local people themselves define the risks related to change



**Local and sustainable?**

# What could councils learn from research?

**Resilience** (both social and ecological) is a crucial aspect of sustainable communities and resource use, thus there is a need for greater understanding of how societies build adaptive capacity in the face of climate change.

**Policy responses** need to be informed by a greater understanding of how potential impacts of climate change are distributed across different regions and populations – **learn from case studies**.

**Local focus and local knowledge** are essential in studies on and for adaptation. Variation is found in adaptation needs and strategies between sectors and different levels within a local community.



**Impacts on transport?**

# Clim-ATIC project overview

**Clim-ATIC** is a 2.35 Million Euro, trans-national project that aims to result in the best possible understanding of all issues associated with

**climate change adaptation at a community level for northern regions**

It is part funded by the *European Regional Development Fund's* Northern Periphery Programme 2007 - 2013.



**Risk management?**

# Clim-ATIC's overall objective

The project will establish a sustainable, self-financing delivery mechanism to

**provide information, training and advice on climate change adaptation**

to communities, small businesses, and local administrations across the Northern Periphery.



**Adaptation knowledge?**



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## How will we do this?

- ✓ Support community stakeholders to make informed adaptation decisions
- ✓ Support communities to deliver real adaptations that provide local economic and social advantages
- ✓ Explore a range of themes and involve stakeholders from a range of community and government levels
- ✓ Exchange ideas, experience and good practice between participating communities, small businesses, and local administrations and internationally through exchange visits, publications and at least one international conference
- ✓ Disseminate lessons to local actors, politicians, and regional and national decision-makers

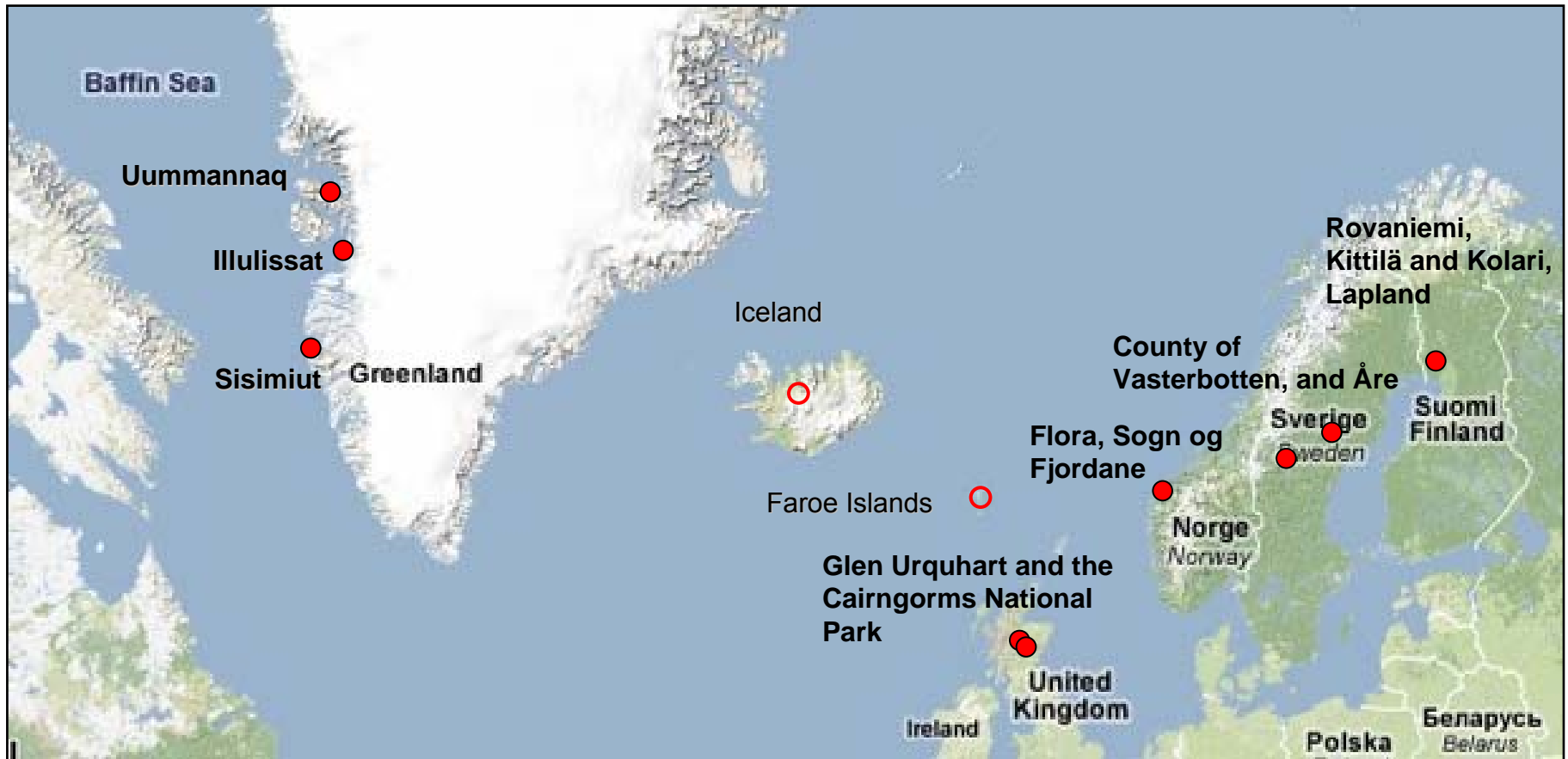


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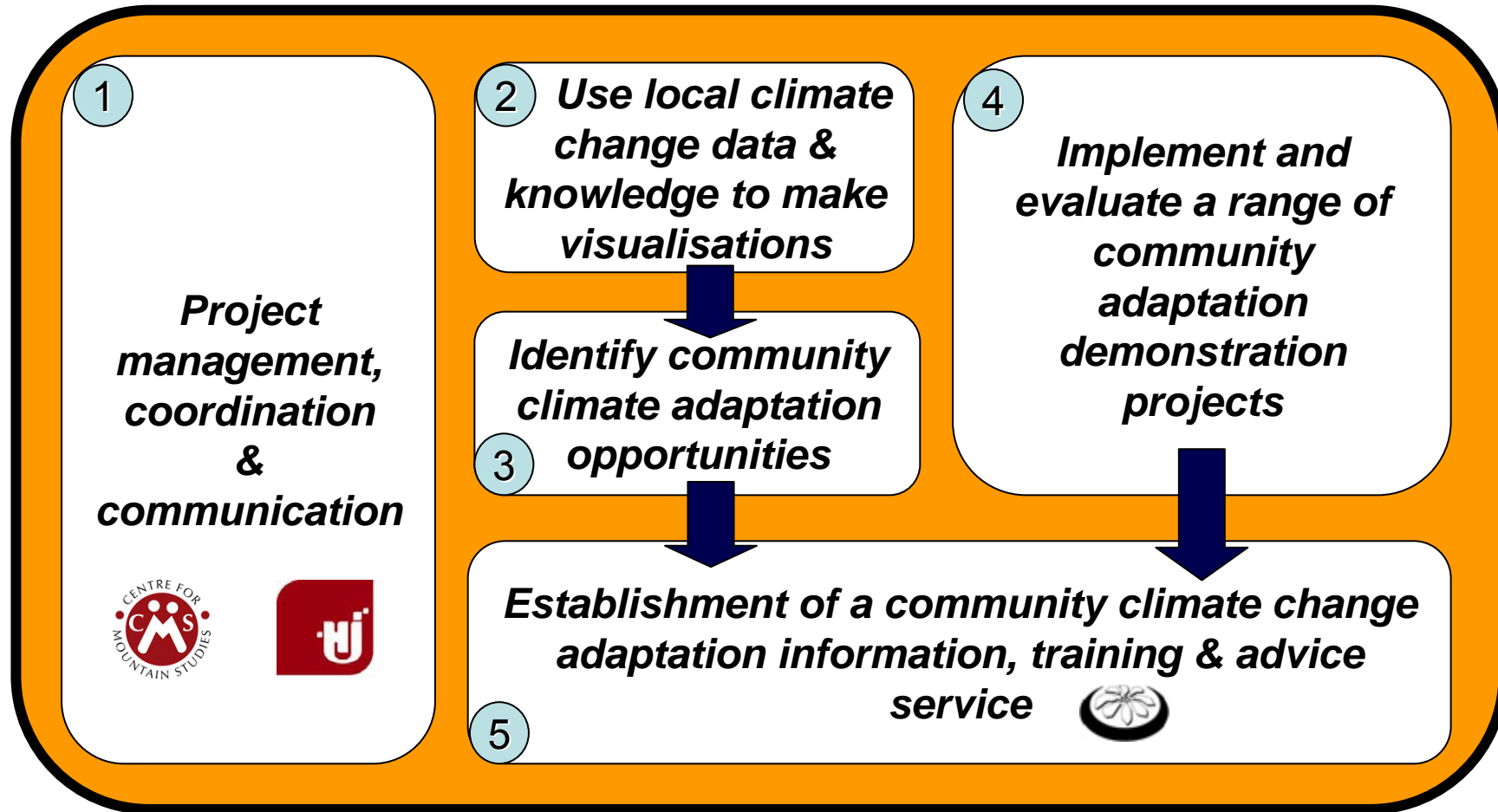


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# 5 participating regions with similar climate change impact issues



# Clim-ATIC has 5 interlinked transnational workpackages



# Community Adaptation Demonstration Projects will focus on 4 key priority themes for the Northern Periphery

Planning, supporting, managing, evaluating and extracting lessons from 14 adaptation projects:

	local sustainable transport	tourism opportunities	sustainable energy management	risk management and response
				
<b>Finland</b>		✓		✓
<b>Greenland</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Norway</b>			✓	✓
<b>Scotland</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sweden</b>	✓	✓		

# Clim-ATIC in Scotland

## Communities:

1. Glen Urquhart/Drumnadrochit
2. Cairngorms National Park



## Demonstration projects:

1. Community lead **river restoration project** in Glen Urquhart
2. **EV use by community transport group** in the Cairngorms National Park
3. Establishment of **wood fuel cooperative** to deliver local sustainable energy in the Cairngorms National Park
4. Explore **alternative tourism opportunities** as a result of unreliability of snow sport conditions on Cairn Gorm Ski Area.

## Project partners/funders:



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## Selected case studies

### Community capacity building in Scotland

Working with 11 to 18 year olds within 7 secondary schools across the Cairngorms National Park area, to support them to explore/discover the impacts of climate change on their community/ecosystem (*John Muir Award scheme*), to discuss and communicate the direct and indirect impacts (*through websites and forums*) and produce a short film about how they could adapt for the future (*school media project*) ► Links with Greenland and young person representation at conferences.



### Future tourism prospects for local communities in Lapland

Dissemination of existing knowledge of climate change impacts through workshops for local decision-makers and tourism entrepreneurs, in order to evaluate their attitudes and outlooks and discuss future possibilities for, and threats to, tourism businesses. Crucial issues such as energy consumption, transportation, and winter tourism products will be addressed. ► A local-level climate change strategy for the industry will be produced.



**Impact on winter sports?**

# How can Local Authorities help build adaptive capacity with communities?

**Flexibility** – respect differences and drivers

**Progressive** – risk and innovation

**Partnerships** – support and resources

**Who's vulnerable** – rural communities/demographic groups/sectors

**Knowledge** - link research to policy-making and existing local knowledge

**Expertise** - training of local leaders in long term sustainable thinking and adaptation knowledge

**Scale** – support the micro and as well as the macro –  
▶ cumulative and resilience

**Sustainable choices** – multi benefits!



**New tourism opportunities?**