Cross-sectoral planning decision-making platform to foster climate action

Rethink Action

D 8.6 | Report on the Activities with Early Replicators

WP8 – Exploitation and Market Deployment

Version 1.0 | September 2025

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29/09/25	1.0	Iván Ramos (CARTIF)	Final version ready for submission

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List of Organizations

	Participant Name	Short Name	Country	Logo
1	Fundación CARTIF	CARTIF	Spain	
2	University of Valladolid	UVa	Spain	
3	IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute	IVL	Sweden	
4	RINA Consulting	RINA-C	Italy	
5	Euro-Mediterranean Center of Climate Change	CMCC	Italy	
6	Climate Media Factory	CMF	Germany	
7	National Observatory of Athens	NOA	Greece	
8	GMV Aerospace and Defence SAU	GMV	Spain	
9	FCiências.ID - Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências	FC.ID	Portugal	
10	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability e.V. (World Secretariat) 10 A | ICLEI European Secretariat GmbH	ICLEI	Germany	
11	United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security	UNU-EHS	Japan	
12	Geonardo Environmental Technologies Ltd.	GEO	Hungary	
13	Institut National de la Recherche pour l'Agriculture, l'Alimentation et l'Environnement	INRAE	France	

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Abbreviation and Acronyms

Acronym	Description
D8.5	Deliverable 8.5
D8.6	Deliverable 8.6
ER	Early Replicators
IAP	Integrated Assessment Platform
LAMS	Land use-based Adaptation and Mitigation Solutions
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
Q&A	Question and Answer
T8.6	Task 8.6
WP8	Work Package 8
WP9	Work Package 9

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Executive summary

This deliverable builds on and connects with other key outputs of the project to ensure consistency and complementarity. In particular, it relates to "*D8.5 | RethinkAction Replication Strategy*", which focuses on scaling and transferring project results, and to "*D9.4 | Report on Capacity Building Strategy*", which provides the framework for strengthening skills and knowledge among stakeholders. By establishing these links, the deliverable contributes to a coherent approach across work packages, supporting replication, stakeholder engagement, and long-term impact.

Deliverable D8.6 "Report on the Activities with Early Replicators" documents the replication activities conducted with early replicators as part of the RethinkAction project. The aim was to test the Integrated Assessment Platform (IAP) in diverse contexts and to explore its applicability for broader adoption. Early replicators (ER), local and regional stakeholders who formally joined the ER group, participated in a structured process that included an open call, guidance documents, and a series of interactive webinars. These sessions introduced the platform, demonstrated its functionalities, and enabled participants to explore Land use-based Adaptation and Mitigation Solutions (LAMS) in practical exercises.

Early replicators provided feedback highlighting the platform's strengths and limitations. They found the platform accessible, visually intuitive, and useful for exploring land-based adaptation and mitigation options. Participants appreciated the case study matching and filtering functionalities, which helped contextualize solutions for their own regions. They also suggested enhancements, including more opportunities to input local data, additional guidance for decision-making, and ways to integrate platform outputs into real-world planning processes.

Building on these insights, the project team identified further opportunities for future use and upscaling. Enabling context-specific data input would allow regions to generate tailored solutions while leveraging the baseline provided by the case studies. The platform also shows clear educational potential and could serve as a versatile academic and training tool for students, practitioners, and policymakers. Maintaining communication channels with early replicators, refining interactive tools, and considering a follow-up research project would support continuous co-creation, strengthen usability, and enhance the platform's impact.

Overall, the replication activities confirmed both strong interest and practical value, while also providing key lessons for improving functionality and expanding adoption.

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1. Introduction

RethinkAction is driven by the goal of engaging citizens, stakeholders, and decision-makers in shaping land use transformation strategies that directly support climate adaptation and mitigation. At the heart of the project are six representative European case studies, selected to reflect a wide range of global climate conditions and socio-environmental contexts. These case studies provide the foundation for an open, inclusive process to co-develop solutions and tools that are adaptable and scalable. Within this context, Task 8.4 launched an open call to identify and engage early replicators, local and regional stakeholders interested in testing the applicability of the RethinkAction platform in diverse regional contexts. The aim is to extend the platform's use across Europe and beyond by supporting new regions and cities in applying its approach to local climate challenges. Early replicators were engaged through a series of dedicated webinars, where they were introduced to the RethinkAction Integrated Assessment Platform (IAP) and guided through its features, benefits, and potential applications, supporting wider learning and replication.

1.1 Purpose of the document

D8.6 documents the replication activities conducted with early replicators. It outlines the overall engagement strategy, methodology, and outcomes of the webinar series, and reflects on insights gained during the process. The deliverable also captures the role of the solution package, key platform features, and feedback received from early replicators to inform future adaptation and scaling.

1.2 Structure of the document

The document is organised into the following sections:

- Section 1: Introduction - Provides the background, purpose, objectives of replication activities, and rationale for engaging early replicators.
- Section 2: Overview of the Solution Package and Platform Features - Describes the main resources available to replicators, including platform components and supportive tools.
- Section 3: Methodology - Explains the open call, selection process, and webinar design and delivery.
- Section 4: Implementation of Replication Activities - Summarises the participants, partner roles, and webinar content.
- Section 5: Results and Engagement - Presents participant data, interaction outputs, and initial reflections.

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- Section 6: Feedback and Lessons Learned - Highlights replicators feedback, challenges encountered, and learnings for future efforts.
- Section 7: Conclusion and Recommendations - Summarises the replication experience and reflects on broader EU-wide adoption potential.

1.3 Background of Task 8.6

To support collaboration and participatory processes, replication activities focused on extending the use of the RethinkAction Platform beyond the six demonstration regions. The goal was to enable decision-makers, stakeholders, and citizens to work together on effective land-based climate actions. The platform was developed to catalyse the widespread adoption of this approach across Europe and beyond, helping communities plan for a more sustainable and climate-resilient future.

Initial reflections during the development of the Replication Strategy (Deliverable 8.5) highlighted key limitations in the platform's readiness for replication. Several features essential for broader uptake – such as the case study matching questionnaire and the filtering questionnaire to provide users from different contexts with a personalised set of relevant LAMS – were either underdeveloped or unavailable at the time. For instance, the questionnaire for case study pairing was not initially available, limiting the ability to tailor experiences for new users. Similarly, the LAMS (Land use-based Adaptation and Mitigation Solutions) did not envisage the possibility of extracting a set of relevant solutions for locations other than the six project's case studies. As a result, early replicators had limited possibility in exploring the platform's resources.

These limitations were progressively addressed in response to the replication strategy's guidance. The case study pairing questionnaire was introduced, enabling regions to identify contextual similarities with existing case studies. In parallel, the filtering questionnaire was embedded in the LAMS catalogue, offering replicators the possibility of creating their own set of adaptation and mitigations options according to their specific goals, location, and priorities. These improvements significantly enhanced the platform's replicability and shaped the final form of the solution package.

Due to some delays in the original timeline, as well as dependencies on outputs from other tasks, we adjusted the planning of the webinar series. In addition, given the natural thematic overlap and shared target audiences, and to streamline communication channels coordinated by ICLEI, we decided to merge the activities into a combined Webinar series across WP8 & WP9. This merging also implied that the activities reached and involved broader end-user communities, in line with the expanded scope of the joint webinars. The audience for this series included European and participants such as cities,

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regions and local governments, as well as global and EU stakeholders in climate adaptation and land-use planning, and urban practitioners, planners, technical officers and researchers.

The replication strategy also highlighted the importance of pairing technical tools with clear, structured guidance. This was translated into the development of platform guidelines and the design of the webinar series, which together form a core part of the replication solution package. These elements enable early replicators to engage actively, test the platform, and provide feedback within realistic decision-making contexts.

1.4 Objectives of Replication Activities

The replication activities pursued the following objectives:

- **Engage a diverse group of early replicators** to assess the applicability of the RethinkAction Platform in different regional settings.
- **Promote hands-on use of the platform** through structured guidance and interactive sessions that allowed participants to explore features and provide feedback.
- **Test the functionality and relevance of platform tools,** including the case study matching questionnaire and the LAMS Catalogue, in supporting real-world planning contexts.
- **Collect practical insights and user experiences** to inform further refinement of the platform and its replication strategy.
- **Encourage cross-regional learning and knowledge exchange** through tailored webinars and capacity-building activities.

2. Overview of Solution Package and Platform Features

This section outlines the key components used as the basis for early replicators engagement under Task 8.4. Together, these elements formed the foundation for the replication process by providing technical guidance, structured learning, and practical tools to assess land use-based adaptation and mitigation solutions in diverse regional contexts.

2.1 Core components for early replication

Those core components offered to early replicators consisted of three core elements: the RethinkAction Integrated Assessment Platform, the Call for Early Replicators Guidelines, and the structured webinar series. These elements were developed to facilitate understanding of the platform and support replicators in applying it to their own regional contexts.

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i) RethinkAction Platform: The platform provides access to data-driven insights, models, and scenario-based simulations related to land use-based adaptation and mitigation solutions (LAMS). Designed to be user-friendly and visually intuitive, the platform allows users to explore diverse land-based solutions and assess their potential impacts across sectors such as agriculture, forestry, water, energy, and urban development.

ii) Guidelines for Early Replicators: A detailed document was prepared to guide early replicators through the engagement process. It included information on the objectives of the replication activities, timeline, eligibility, expected benefits, and the structure of the platform. The guidelines also outlined the application and selection process and provided key information on what to expect from the webinars.

iii) Webinar Series: Three interactive webinars formed the backbone of the replication support strategy. These sessions aimed to:

- Introduce the structure and functionalities of the platform.
- Familiarize participants with case study contexts and matched LAMS.
- Facilitate practical exercises and peer-to-peer learning.
- Support replicators in contextualizing insights and developing actionable strategies.

The combination of these elements enabled early replicators to navigate the RethinkAction platform effectively, understand its potential applications, and explore solutions tailored to their specific local or regional realities.

3. Methodology

3.1 Open Call and Guidelines for Early Replicators

The open call was shared through a range of communication channels to ensure broad visibility and engagement. It was disseminated via the ICLEI Europe Urban Resilience newsletter, sent by email to the network of members. In addition, the call was promoted on the RethinkAction LinkedIn account to reach a wider audience beyond the project consortium. Direct emails were also sent to project partners, who in turn circulated the call through their own networks. Finally, the open call was shared with the end users community group via email, ensuring it reached practitioners and stakeholders directly involved in the project activities.

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Early Replicators were participants who explicitly expressed interest in joining the ER group and completed a dedicated form for this purpose. They engaged in a structured process to test the RethinkAction platform and its methodologies, helping to identify practical needs, limitations, and opportunities for improvement. In contrast, broader participants of the end-user community were individuals who had only signed up for the webinar series and were subsequently involved through the merger of the WP8 and WP9 webinar series, which expanded the target audience.

The open call invited local and regional authorities, agencies, planning bodies, and relevant public or semi-public organisations to participate as early replicators. Eligible applicants included:

- Local and regional governments (municipalities, districts, counties, regions)
- Planning agencies and public institutions working on land use, climate adaptation, or environmental management
- Inter-municipal bodies and development agencies with capacity for territorial-scale planning
- Research organisations and Non-Governamental Organisations (NGOs) partnering with local authorities for climate action projects

The Guidelines for Early Replicators clearly outlined:

- Objectives - to test the applicability of the RethinkAction Platform in diverse contexts, provide feedback for improvement, and explore replication potential beyond the demonstration regions.
- Benefits - access to the platform's features, guided training via webinars, tailored case study matches, peer-to-peer exchanges, and global visibility.
- Engagement process and timeline - from application to participation in three capacity-building webinars.
- Eligibility requirements - including authority to act in climate/land-use decision-making and commitment to attend all sessions.
- Application and selection details - with a transparent process and clear deadlines.

3.2 Invitation Process for the Webinars

Applications received from the applicants were reviewed using the following criteria:

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- Geographic and climatic diversity - to ensure testing across a range of territorial and environmental contexts.
- Institutional mandate and relevance - the applicant's authority to integrate climate-resilient land-use measures into local/regional planning.
- Commitment to active engagement - assessed through the application form, where applicants confirmed participation in all three webinars, readiness to explore the platform in advance, and provision of follow-up feedback.
- Potential replication impact - prioritising entities with the capacity to integrate platform outputs into policy, strategies, or action plans.

Selected applicants received a formal invitation with user access credentials to the RethinkAction Platform, preparatory materials and instructions for joining the webinar series.

3.3 Webinar Series Design and Approach

The webinar series is designed to equip early replicators – cities, regions, and stakeholders interested in adopting the RethinkAction approach – with the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to explore and use the RethinkAction platform.

By progressing from awareness and orientation (*Webinar 1*) to hands-on exploration (*Webinar 2*) and finally to application and adaptation (*Webinar 3*), the series enables participants to:

- Understand the replication framework and process.
- Navigate and interpret the Integrated Assessment Platform.
- Identify, assess, and adapt LAMS for their own contexts.
- Foster collaboration and participatory decision-making.

3.3.1. Structure of three webinar series

The series is delivered in three progressive webinars, each with a clear learning objective and a mix of presentations, live demonstrations, and interactive exercises.

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Table 1. RethinkAction webinar series overview.

	Webinar Title	Objective	Key Activities and Methods
1.	Replication pathways: framework, platform & case studies 10 July 2025	Set the context for replication and introduce the platform, datasets, LAMS, and pilot case studies.	• Short presentations • Live demos of platform tools (datasets, LAMS catalogue, climate risk mapping) • Case study snapshots • Interactive poll on priorities/barriers.
2.	Deep dive into the platform to access policy simulations and land use solutions 17 July 2025	Enable participants to navigate platform components, interpret matched case study simulations, and access tailored policy and LAMS recommendations.	• Platform walkthrough • Guided navigation of inputs/outputs • Breakout rooms for live platform navigation peer exchange • Plenary discussion on transferable measures and wrap-up.
3.	From insight to action: adapting LAMS & policies to your local context 23 July 2025	Move from exploration to application by localising LAMS and policy options.	• LAMS catalogue deep dive & filters • Guided + independent exploration • Scenario tools for local analysis • Q&A and wrap-up

The series combined live demonstrations, interactive exercises, and peer exchange to ensure participants could navigate the platform independently, interpret outputs effectively, and envision integration into their local planning processes.

4. Implementation of replication activities

4.1 Applications to the webinars

The process of identifying and selecting early replicators was designed to engage actors who could meaningfully adopt and apply the RethinkAction platform as a decision-making tool within their professional or community contexts. The objective was not only to recruit participants, but also to ensure they represented sectors and roles where the platform's features could be directly integrated into climate resilience, land use planning, and related policy or operational processes.

To facilitate this, a *Google Form* was developed and distributed widely across the RethinkAction network – including project partners, established stakeholder groups, and broader community channels. The form was designed to capture key identifying information such as name, organisation, and job title, in

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order to position each applicant within their respective ecosystem. Applicants were also asked to indicate their sector, choosing from categories such as local and regional public authorities, public organisations, academia, researchers/advisors/experts working on climate resilience or land use planning, citizens and community stakeholders, local organisations, and the private sector.

Beyond organisational affiliation, the form gathered geographic details (city and region of interest) and substantive input on climate-related hazards relevant to the applicant's location, as well as the sectors most vulnerable to such hazards. This allowed the project team to both map the diversity of interest and assess the alignment of applications with the project's thematic focus.

Between June 18 and August 1, a total of 39 applications were received, of which 3 were duplicates, resulting in 36 unique applicants. The call for applications was open for three weeks and aligned with the start of the webinar series. While it was not strictly time-bound, it was designed to coincide with this initial engagement period. Nevertheless, applications continued to arrive well after the conclusion of the webinar series. These later applicants were not included in the initial activities but were contacted and provided with follow-up information for future engagement opportunities.

Applicants represented a wide range of organisational types and professional roles, including youth representatives, associates, professors, programme managers, students, and agronomists. The largest single group was researchers, advisors, and experts, accounting for 30% of the total. This was followed by nearly equal representation from citizens and NGO/community stakeholders, public organisations, and academia. Among those who applied before the webinar rollout, there were 4 from academia, 5 citizens and NGO/community stakeholders, 8 local and regional public authorities, 5 public organisations, and 9 researchers/advisors/experts. This distribution indicates that private sector representation was comparatively limited.

Geographically, expressions of interest were global in scope: 60 applicants were based in Africa, 3 in the Americas, 5 in Asia, 17 in Europe, and 1 in the Middle East. Applicants who expressed interest after the webinars had been broadcast were added to the end-user community mailing list, giving them access to the webinar recordings, supporting materials, and invitations to future engagement opportunities.

4.2 Summary of Webinars

4.2.1. Webinar 1: Replication pathways – Framework, platform, and case studies

The first webinar, entitled "Replication Pathways, Framework, and Platform in Case Studies", aimed to introduce participants to the RethinkAction replication approach and to set the stage for using the platform in local contexts. The session highlighted the strategic value of replication and provided an

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overview of the RethinkAction platform, including the LAMS catalogue and its role in supporting land-use decisions across sectors such as agriculture, forestry, water, energy, and urban development. Six pilot regions were presented as case studies, illustrating diverse climate challenges, land-use dynamics, and policy responses. The webinar was designed to guide participants through a clear and structured flow. It began with an introduction to the project and replication activities, followed by a high-level overview of the platform's structure and features. Participants were then guided through the replication process, demonstrating how global and local climate data are integrated into the platform to support context-specific decision-making. The session also included a discussion of the risk assessment methodology and snapshots of the pilot region case studies to show how climate risks are analysed and LAMS solutions are applied. The webinar concluded with an interactive question and answer (Q&A) session and a participant poll to reflect on replication priorities and barriers, and a wrap-up highlighting next steps.

The session engaged six early replicators, along with seven technical partners from the project who were not part of the webinar series presentations, and three additional participants who joined outside of the early replicator registration pathway, bringing the total number of participants to sixteen.

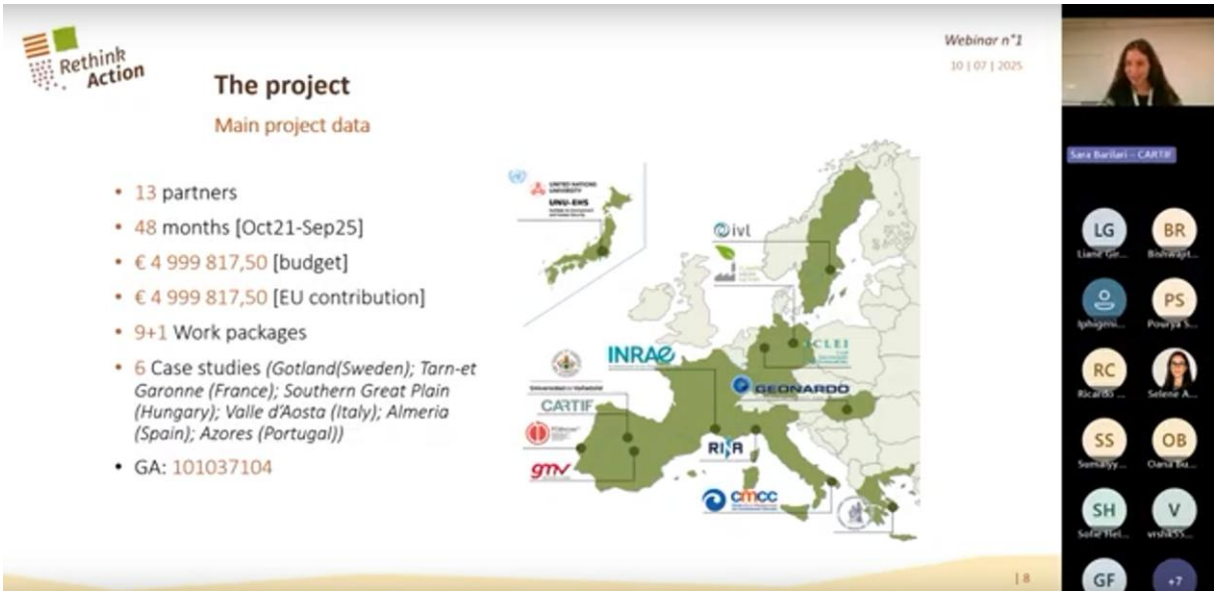

Figure 1: Screenshot carried out during webinar 1.

4.2.2. Webinar 2: Using the platform – Learning from similar contexts

The second webinar focused on providing participants with a hands-on understanding of the RethinkAction platform and how to navigate its features using matched case study outputs. The session began with a brief recap of the first webinar and an overview of the objectives for exploring platform functionalities. Participants were then introduced to the platform's structure, including the four main

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components, with a particular focus on viewing model inputs and outputs, understanding policy scenarios and impact analysis, and accessing the LAMS catalogue with prioritized lists for potential local application.

A live demonstration guided participants step by step through the platform, showing how to log in, start the matching assessment, interpret matched case study simulations, access policy recommendations, and localize LAMS solutions to their own regional context. Participants were encouraged to reflect on the relevance of these outputs to their cities or regions, and to consider the transferability of adaptation measures and policies presented in the matched case studies.

The session engaged three early replicators, along with six technical partners from the project who were not part of the webinar series presentations, and twelve additional participants who joined outside of the early replicator registration pathway, bringing the total number of participants to twenty-one.

Figure 2: Screenshot carried out during webinar 2.

4.2.3. Webinar 3: Making it relevant – Applying LAMS and policies in your context

The third webinar in the series focused on making the RethinkAction platform relevant to participants' local contexts, with a particular emphasis on applying the Land-use Adaptation Measures and Solutions (LAMS) catalogue and associated policy tools. The session began with a short welcome by ICLEI, providing an overview of the series, clarifying objectives, and explaining how this final webinar built on the learnings from the previous two.

The first part of the session, provided an in-depth navigation of the LAMS catalogue, showing participants how to filter and search for relevant adaptation measures suited to their own geographical

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and sectoral priorities. This was followed by a guided interactive exploration in which participants were walked through the key platform features, enabling them to identify, compare, and analyze measures relevant to their projects. To consolidate the learning, participants were given time for independent exploration of the platform, during which they could apply the search and filtering tools to their own contexts. The focus then shifted to using the platform's scenario planning tools for local analysis. Project partners demonstrated how to work with different policy scenarios, interpret their outputs, and assess their potential implications for decision-making at the local and regional levels. Participants explored how these tools could be adapted to address climate vulnerabilities and risks in their own contexts. A second period of independent exploration allowed participants to test the scenario planning tools themselves, interpreting data and simulations to better understand how they could inform real-world planning processes.

In terms of attendance, Webinar 3 also saw lower participation. We had three early replicators attending, along with two external participants. Two project partners, who were not involved in presenting the webinar also joined bringing the total number of participants to eight. Attendance was further limited due to technical issues, with two early replicators reporting difficulties and being unable to join the session.

Figure 3: Screenshot carried out during webinar 3.

4.3 Roles of Partners in implementation

The implementation of the early replicator webinar series was a collaborative effort, combining ICLEI's facilitation and organisational support with the technical expertise of project partners. The agendas for

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each webinar were initially drafted by ICLEI) and subsequently adapted by the technical partners to reflect their respective areas of expertise. Several preparatory calls were held before each webinar to align expectations, clarify roles, and ensure technical coherence. ICLEI hosted the webinars on Microsoft Teams, moderated the sessions, and provided a master slide deck to partners, who then developed tailored slides for their interventions.

In the first webinar, which introduced replication pathways, frameworks, and the RethinkAction platform through case studies, ICLEI moderated the session and provided the opening welcome. CARTIF presented the project introduction, replication activities, and platform overview. FC.ID delivered the replication process walkthrough and risk assessment methodology, while GMV demonstrated climate risk mapping tools. NOA provided insights on using global climate data for regional action, and CMCC explained the use of local data. FC.ID also presented case study snapshots, and ICLEI facilitated participant Q&A and interactive polling.

During the second webinar, focused on using the platform and learning from similar contexts, ICLEI provided the welcome and recap of the previous session, and CARTIF guided participants through the platform components and step-by-step walkthrough. Breakout rooms were facilitated by UNU and ICLEI, allowing participants to explore matched outputs and reflect on key insights. CARTIF continued to provide technical guidance, supporting the understanding of case study data and localising policy recommendations. The plenary debrief was conducted by UNU, summarising insights and highlighting areas of interest for subsequent webinars.

The third webinar concentrated on making the platform relevant by applying LAMS and policies in participants' local contexts. ICLEI opened the session, and CMCC provided a deep dive into the LAMS catalogue and its features. ICLEI facilitated guided and independent platform exploration, helping participants to navigate and analyse the tools. UVa demonstrated scenario planning tools for local analysis, while ICLEI ES led interactive exploration and Q&A. ICLEI concluded the session with a wrap-up and summary of key takeaways.

5. Results and Engagement

5.1 Attendance and participation metrics

Overall attendance

The detailed breakdown of replicator information, including profiles and relevant engagement details, can be found in the annexes.

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Across the entire webinar series, there were 61 registrants in total. Of these, 37 participants actively attended at least one webinar. Focusing specifically on the early replicators, 34 had registered, with 9 of them attending a session, and 4 attending more than one webinar. If participants affiliated with project partner organizations are excluded, the number of active participants drops to 26.

In Webinar 1, a total of 16 participants joined the session. This included 6 early replicators, 7 project technical partners who were not directly involved in presenting the webinar, and 3 external participants who registered outside the early replicator pathway. Webinar 2 saw a slightly higher turnout, with 21 participants in total: 3 early replicators, 6 project technical partners, and 12 external participants. The increase in participation for this session reflects renewed outreach efforts and the engagement of participants who may have missed the first webinar. Attendance in Webinar 3 was smaller, totaling 8 participants, comprised of 3 early replicators, 2 project technical partners, and 2 external participants. The reduced number for the final session likely reflects a combination of participant fatigue and the technical issues some participants experienced, limiting their ability to join.

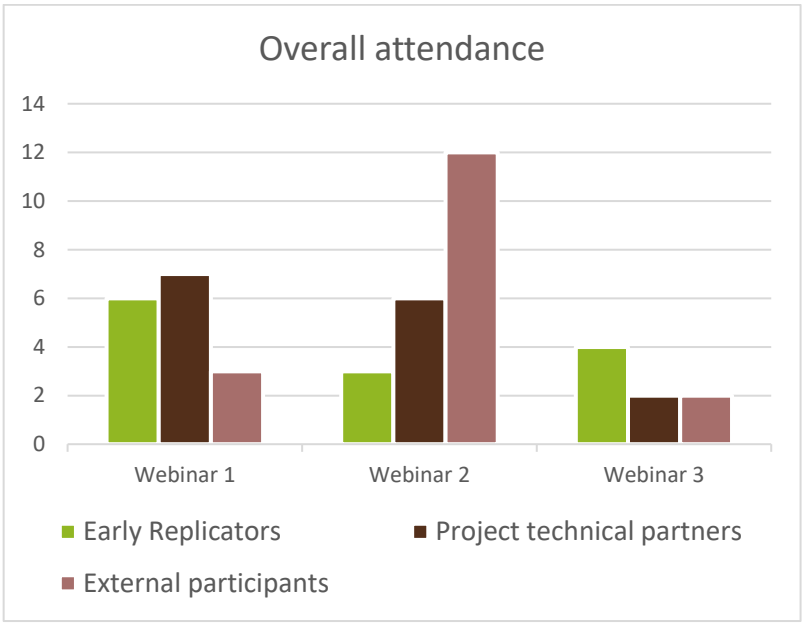

Figure 4: Webinar series overall attendance.

Table 2. Early replicators participation breakdown.

Attendance	Webinar 1	Webinar 2	Webinar 3
Early Replicators	6	3	4
Project technical partners	7	6	2
External participants	3	12	2
Total	16	21	8

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Early replicators overview

Across the webinar series, early replicator engagement demonstrated both geographic breadth and sectoral diversity. In total, nine distinct organizations registered, spanning Africa, Europe, and the Americas, and representing a mix of public authorities, academia, research institutions, and community stakeholders.

Webinar 1 attracted six participants: the Association for Nature Conservation and Environmental Protection of Hammam-Lif (Tunisia, Africa), ABCD Ltd (Tirana, Albania), the Polytechnic University of Catalonia (Barcelona, Spain), Fundación Asturiana De La Energía (Asturias, Spain), ACUMAR (Buenos Aires, Argentina), and the municipality of Cluj-Napoca (Romania). These participants brought a wide range of professional perspectives, from leadership roles such as presidents and CEOs to technical and project management expertise, reflecting the platform's relevance to both strategic and operational levels.

Webinar 2 saw a shift in engagement, with three early replicators attending, all different from the first session except for the Polytechnic University of Catalonia. This group included the Municipality of Kadıköy (Istanbul, Turkey) and the Municipality of Kreis Euskirchen in Germany, highlighting the ongoing expansion of the platform's reach across European municipalities and research organizations.

Webinar 3 combined both new and returning participants, with four organizations represented: the Association for Nature Conservation and Environmental Protection of Hammam-Lif, Municipality of Kadıköy, the municipality of Cluj-Napoca, and the Municipality of Kreis Euskirchen. This pattern indicates partial retention of early replicators alongside continued onboarding of new actors, suggesting both sustained interest and ongoing outreach effectiveness.

Participation fluctuated across the three webinars, likely influenced by factors such as scheduling, outreach strategies, and technical accessibility. These dynamics provide valuable insights for planning future engagement, particularly in targeting diverse sectors while ensuring consistent participation.

Table 3. Early replicators webinar participation.

Sector	City or region	Area	Webinar 1	Webinar 2	Webinar 3
Citizens and community stakeholders	Hammam-Lif, Tunisia	Africa	x		x
Local and regional public authorities	Kadıköy, Istanbul, Turkey	Europe		x	x
Researchers, advisors, and experts	Tirana, Albania	Europe	x		
Academia	Barcelona, Spain	Europe		x	
Local and regional public authorities	Cluj-Napoca, Romania	Europe	x		x
Public organisation	Asturias, Spain	Europe	x		
Local and regional public authorities	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Americas	x		

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Sector	City or region	Area	Webinar 1	Webinar 2	Webinar 3
Researchers, advisors, and experts	Monterrey,Mexico	Americas	x		
Local and regional public authorities	Kreis Euskirchen, Germany	Europe		x	x

5.2 Outputs from webinars (poll results, breakout group discussions)

Initial outreach: Google form registration

The initial registration via Google Forms (see Annex) served as the first instrument to capture early replicators' priorities and insights. Analysis of participants' expressions of interest revealed that they could select multiple climate-related hazards, providing a nuanced view of regional concerns. Heat waves, precipitation changes, and droughts emerged as the most frequently cited hazards, clearly standing out compared to others. Regarding sectoral vulnerability, water management was identified most often, followed closely by social/health, well-being, and education. Other sectors noted by participants included agriculture, energy, and forestry, with tourism mentioned less frequently. This initial data collection offered valuable insights into the hazards and sectors that early replicators perceive as most critical, helping to shape subsequent engagement and focus areas in the webinar series.

Webinar 1 Slido poll

During the first webinar, which included a broader group of participants beyond the early replicators, similar questions regarding regional climate and land-use challenges were revisited through Slido polls and prompts. This allowed us to assess continuity in topics of interest across a wider audience. Participants responded to the Slido questions, highlighting pressing challenges such as flooding, high nighttime temperatures (tropical nights), water scarcity and quality concerns, and biodiversity loss. The alignment of these responses with earlier registration inputs underscores the persistent relevance of these hazards and the sectors they affect, reinforcing the focus areas for replication and collaborative efforts.

Participants were also asked to consider the sectors presented in the LAMS catalogue and identify which held the greatest potential for replication in their region. Agriculture emerged as the top priority, followed by energy and social sectors. To better understand barriers to replication, participants ranked a series of potential obstacles based on their regional context. Funding was identified as the most significant barrier, followed by technical capacity gaps, institutional and procedural constraints, and data availability and quality. Community or stakeholder resistance was perceived as the least significant barrier. When asked to assess their readiness to explore replication in their region on a scale from 1 to

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5, the average response peaked at 3, indicating that participants felt partially prepared but not fully ready to implement replication immediately. Participants were also invited to reflect on which aspects of the webinar were most valuable to their work. The top responses were insights from the case study examples of regional implementation, followed by knowledge of the RethinkAction platform and tools, and the replication approval framework. Finally, participants were asked to rank areas for potential collaboration with the RethinkAction Project, its techncal partners and pilots. Capacity building and training emerged as the highest priority, followed by joint projects, knowledge exchange, and data sharing and risk assessment. The webinar also gathered preferences for further exploration of specific LAMS, with Solar Panels on Rooftops and Buildings receiving the highest interest, informing the focus of subsequent webinars in the series.

Webinar 2 breakout rooms

Following the live demonstration of Webinar 2, participants engaged in breakout sessions, logging into the platform to explore their own matched outputs and comparing their local context with similar regions. To gather feedback and encourage hands-on learning, breakout room exercises were conducted in which participants were given instructions on how to explore the platform autonomously. This approach allowed participants to engage directly with the platform, experimenting with its features and understanding how to navigate matched case studies and policy scenarios within their own context.

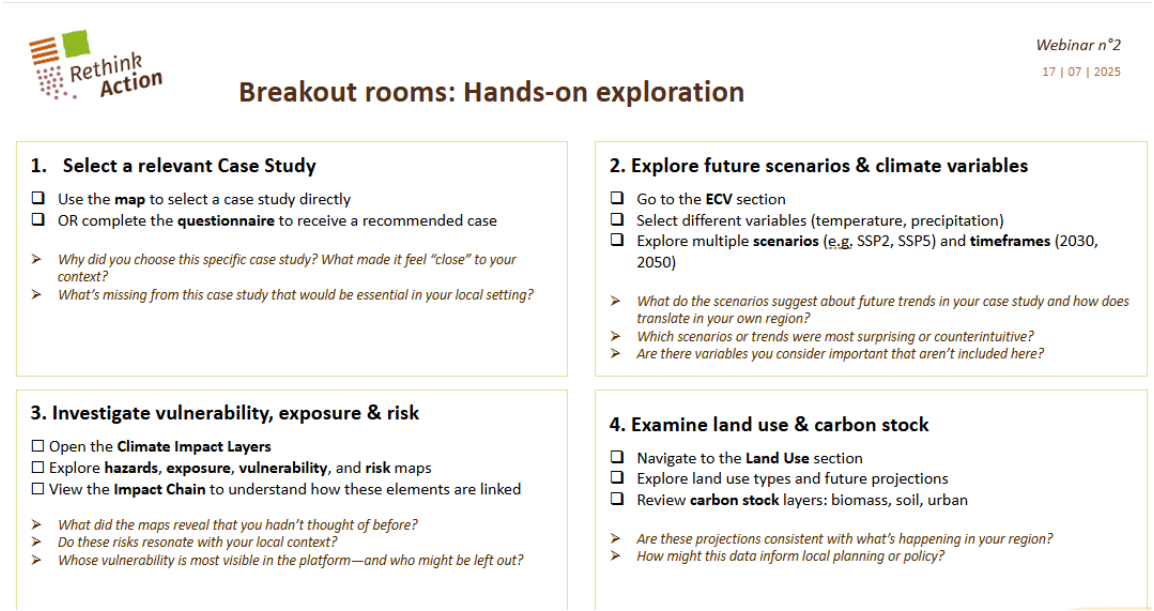

Figure 5: Webinar breakout room exercise.

The session concluded with a plenary debrief, during which participants shared insights from the breakout rooms, reflected on the LAMS and policies they found most relevant, and identified priorities for deeper exploration in the subsequent webinar.

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These exercises proved challenging to implement fully, as several participants from Asia and Eastern Europe could not initially access the RethinkAction platform prototype. The list of countries where the platform was available had been included in the annexes of D7.5 'RethinkAction Platform Prototype,' a document in which ICLEI was not directly involved. As a result, this key information was not considered during the planning of our activities, nor was it expected to represent a final feature, given the nature of our engagement and the global scope of our activities. To facilitate participation, CARTIF temporarily opened access to the platform for the countries from which webinar participants came, but only for the duration of the webinar series. Breakout room moderators adapted the sessions by sharing their screens and soliciting input from participants.

During the breakout rooms, participants raised several key questions and discussion points, which were later shared in plenary sessions. They inquired about the geospatial data underlying the platform's maps, the potential to replicate the platform in regions beyond the current access zones, and how regional or macro-level analyses could be adapted to city-level contexts, including metrics such as GDP loss. Participants also explored ways to link the platform with national climate planning instruments, such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). Through exploration of case studies from Azores and Gotland, participants found the platform intuitive and easy to navigate, noting that the examples reflected real-world regional challenges. At the same time, the exercises highlighted limitations in assessing impact chains related to capacity and vulnerability, pointing to areas where additional guidance or platform development could better support end users in future replication efforts.

6. Feedback and Lessons Learned

6.1 Overall Feedback from early replicators

The feedback gathered across webinars, polls, breakout discussions, and surveys points to a strong convergence around both the challenges faced by regions and the systemic barriers to replication.

Participants consistently situated climate risks like flooding, tropical nights, water scarcity and biodiversity loss within a broader context of structural vulnerabilities, highlighting the way such hazards compound pressures on agriculture, infrastructure, and social systems. This reinforces the idea that replication cannot be addressed in sectoral silos but requires approaches that cut across ecosystems, economies, and governance levels. Agriculture's prominence as the top replication sector reflects this cross-cutting nature, since it touches simultaneously on water, energy, biodiversity, and livelihoods.

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On barriers for replications, the ranking of funding, technical capacity, and institutional constraints above stakeholder resistance suggests that the central obstacles are systemic rather than social. This indicates that even in contexts where political or community buy-in exists, replication will remain limited without structural investment mechanisms and stronger institutional frameworks. Interestingly, participants perceived themselves as partially ready for replication—suggesting appetite and awareness are present, but confidence in implementation capacity is lagging.

Reflections on the platform itself mirror this dynamic. Users valued the impact tools and case studies as credible entry points for learning, but they also identified usability gaps and questioned scalability. They questionned how far regional analyses could meaningfully inform local planning processes, or how tools could align with established policy frameworks. In this sense, the platform is seen less as a turnkey solution than as a catalyst: useful to raise awareness, guide prioritization, and inform early-stage decision-making, but dependent on additional resources and adaptation to local governance realities.

Finally, the future collaboration preferences highlighted capacity building, joint project and knowledge exchange, underlining that replication is not perceived as a purely technical exercise, but as a relational and institutional one. Replication will succeed to the extent that the project fosters collective capacity and bridges the gap between global modelling outputs and the practical, localized needs of decision-makers.

6.2 Challenges encountered

To begin with, the project faced significant delays, particularly in the delivery of the models that directly affect the platform, which resulted in a short window for rolling out replication activities. Although the project was due in September 2025, the platform was officially launched in June 2025 including a complete pathway to evalaute LAMS at case study level, being the first release available at M36 (September 2024) with limited functionalities in the case study path like the basesline analysis or the LAMS catalogue. Consequently, the entirety of the replication activities had to take place over the summer break, limiting availability for participants and stakeholders alike, although a strategy could have been defined in which the platform was not only considered as the element of replication. Th delays encountered in the project and the compressed timeline were an initial and significant challenge.

By the time the official prototype of the platform was delivered, additional work was required to create content that was replicable, usable by external stakeholders, and compatible with the platform's features. We had to focus and narrow our efforts on what could realistically be shared with a broader audience and scaled up for replication purposes. This directly affected the LAMS catalogue, the case

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study selection, the baseline definition and the SD model that requires specific data at case study level to run accurate simualtions.

Another major challenge was the platform's accessibility limitations. As mentioned earlier, only users in Western Europe and North America were able to directly access the platform. This restriction due to security issues that could affects could the integrity of the platform and all components, was reported in D7.5 – "RethinkAction platform prototpe" (M36) and became apparent during the webinar roll-out, leaving the replication team unable to plan engagement activities involving a global audience. To mitigate this, CARTIF temporarily opened access for the countries from which webinar participants came requiring expanded resources to ensure the security of the platform. The temporarily opened access is esured until the end of the project. This, however, did not allow for further interaction after the end of the project in the areas defined in D7.5. As a consequence, it will no longer be possible for a large part of the early replicators to continue evaluating the potential of the platform.

Beyond time constraints and limited content used for replication, there was an evolving challenge regarding the nature of the content itself. While ICLEI's replication strategy was initially focused on supporting the use of the platform despite knowing that the greatest potential was in the ability to integrate new case studies that replicated the project's methodologies, by the end of the project it became clear that the most valuable content to replicate was not the platform per se, but the methodology behind its development and deployment to engage new potential case studies. This shift had significant implications for engagement: while the platform content was technical and methodological, it was more easily understood and appreciated by academia and researchers than by municipalities or policymakers, although efforts have been made to adapt the content adding features ans functionalities aimed at these stakeholders. As a result, engaging the originally targeted audience proved more challenging, and replication efforts had to adapt to align with the interests and capacities of stakeholders capable of engaging with the technical and methodological aspects of the platform.

6.3 Lessons learned for future replication and scaling

Several lessons from the RethinkAction and Replicators experience highlight ways replication and scaling could be improved in future projects. First, replication activities should be decoupled from the delivery of the project's end product, such as a platform. Relying solely on the final product can create bottlenecks if there are delays or technical limitations. This requires greater coordination between technical partners and the replication leaders. By planning replication independently, projects could engage stakeholders earlier, share methodologies and other valuable outputs even before the final product is ready, and maintain momentum throughout the project.

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Content selected for replication could be more diverse, extending beyond the platform itself to include methodologies, case studies, and technical insights. This approach would enable engagement with a broader range of stakeholders—municipalities, policymakers, researchers, and technical experts—depending on the relevance of the content. It would also reduce dependency on a single output, which may be constrained by accessibility or technical issues, and allow replication activities to continue even if the platform is not fully available.

Early involvement of replicators and actors responsible for dissemination and communication is critical. Late engagement, limited replicators' ability to fully assume their role, and communication actors were not always aware of limitations orconstraints affecting the technical results. Involving these actors from the start would give them time to understand the content and results, provide feedback to improve their usability, and design realistic, user-friendly replication strategies.

Ensuring a global accessibility for the results is also essential. However, access to the results cannot expose or make vulnerable the users' data of a project. This directly affect a results like the RethinkAction Platform, that need to be secure to avoid data vulnerabilities. Early planning is essential to understand how the replication activities could be implemented and the material that are ready and functional to thie end.

Finally, it is important to define early, what aspects (methods, models or tools) of the project are replicable and who the target audiences are. Close collaboration with technical providers and project partners can help identify the most valuable and usable elements to share and ensure alignment with stakeholders' capacities and interests. This clarity would make replication activities more effective, targeted, and likely to produce a sustainable legacy.

7. Conclusions and Recommendations

The replication activities carried out so far demonstrate that the platform is running smoothly and is accessible to a wide range of stakeholders. Interest in becoming early replicators has been expressed across different contexts, showing the strong potential for wider uptake. Contact points established during the process have ensured that communication channels remain open, with users actively reaching out with questions and requests. To build on this momentum, it will be important to continue strengthening these lines of communication and ensure that end-users remain closely involved. Project partners play a key role in maintaining this dialogue, facilitating feedback loops, and supporting further adaptation of the solutions. A key feature to further develop is the ability to feed context-specific data into the platform. By building on the baseline provided by the case studies, this would significantly

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broaden the scope of analysis and enhance the practical use of the platform across diverse contexts. Such an approach would allow users to tailor the tool to their own realities, making replication more relevant and impactful.

Beyond its practical application, the platform also demonstrates clear educational potential. It could serve as a valuable academic tool, adaptable to different audiences such as students, practitioners, or policymakers. Exploring this dimension further would not only strengthen capacity-building but also ensure that the platform becomes a resource for long-term knowledge transfer.

Looking ahead, the platform offers a strong basis for broader EU-wide adoption. A dedicated follow-up research project could help consolidate lessons learned, enable users to contribute project ideas directly, and foster continuous improvement. Such an approach would not only support replication across new contexts but also create opportunities for co-creation, ensuring the platform evolves in response to real needs and prioritie

Annexes

Annex I - Early replicators registration form

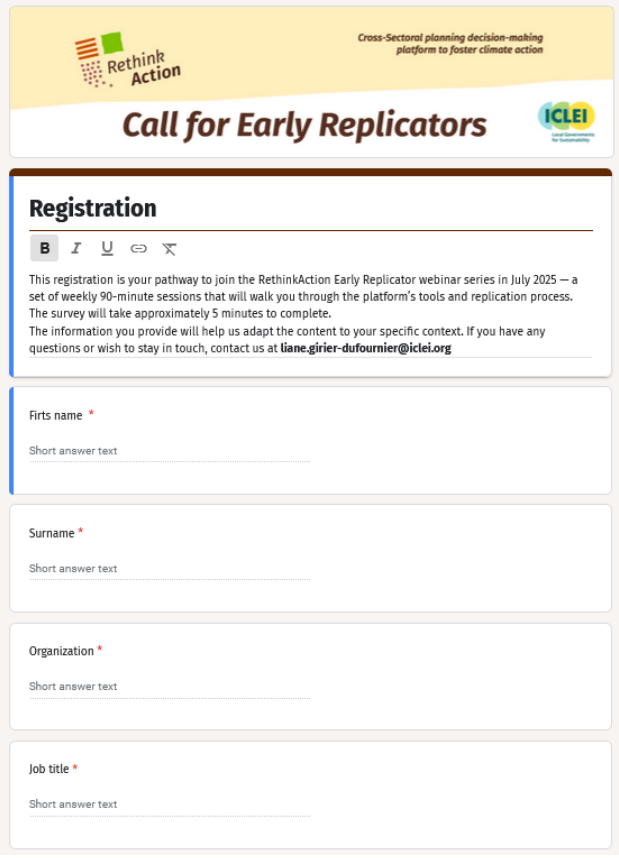

Figure 6: Form to be registered as early replicator (view 1).

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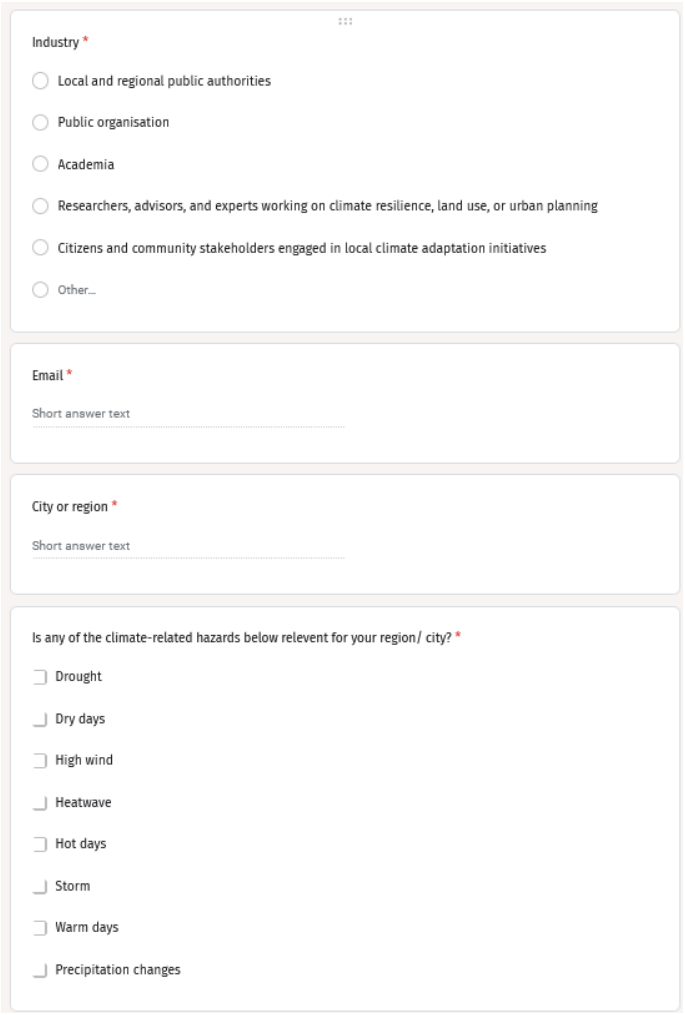

Figure 7: Form to be registered as early replicator (view 2).

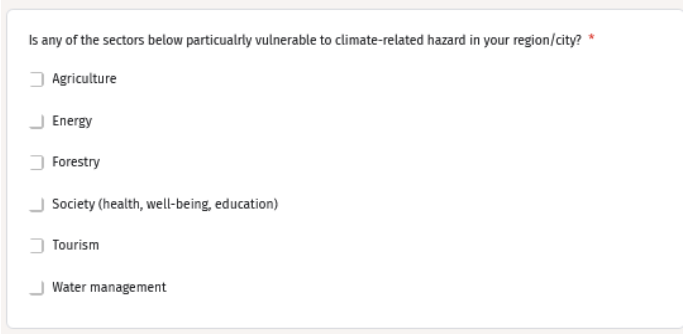

Figure 8: Form to be registered as early replicator (view 3).

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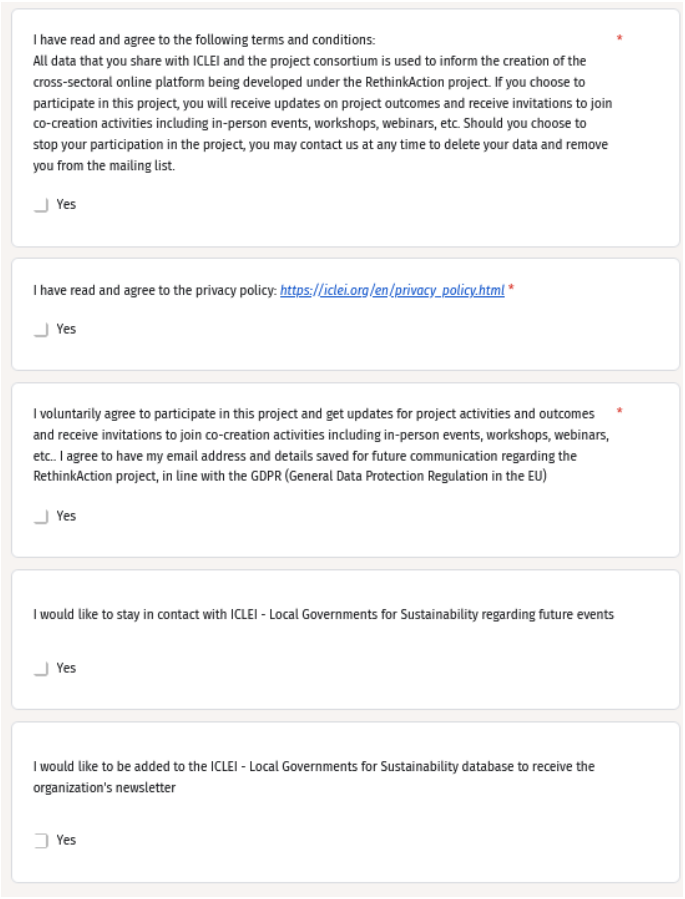

I have read and agree to the following terms and conditions: *
All data that you share with ICLEI and the project consortium is used to inform the creation of the cross-sectoral online platform being developed under the RethinkAction project. If you choose to participate in this project, you will receive updates on project outcomes and receive invitations to join co-creation activities including in-person events, workshops, webinars, etc. Should you choose to stop your participation in the project, you may contact us at any time to delete your data and remove you from the mailing list.

Yes

I have read and agree to the privacy policy: https://iclei.org/en/privacy_policy.html *

Yes

I voluntarily agree to participate in this project and get updates for project activities and outcomes and receive invitations to join co-creation activities including in-person events, workshops, webinars, etc.. I agree to have my email address and details saved for future communication regarding the RethinkAction project, in line with the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation in the EU) *

Yes

I would like to stay in contact with ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability regarding future events

Yes

I would like to be added to the ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability database to receive the organization's newsletter

Yes

Figure 9: Form to be registered as early replicator (view 4).

Annex II - Early replicators breakdown

Job title	Industry	City or region	Region	Webinar 1	Webinar 2	Webinar 3
Associate Professor	Academia	Bloemfontein- South Africa	Africa			
President	Citizens and community stakeholders	Hammam-Lif, Tunisia	Africa	x		x
Agronomist	Public organisation	Dar es Salaam	Africa			
Youth CoE	Citizens and community stakeholders	NAIROBI	Africa			
Project Manager	Local and regional public authorities	Kadıköy, Istanbul, Turkey	Europe		x	x
Transport, Energy and Mobility Project Managem	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Tirana, Albania	Europe	x		
Architect and Urban Planner	Academia	Barcelona, Spain	Europe		x	
Project Manager	Local and regional public authorities	izmir	Europe			
Nature Finance	Public organisation	London	Europe			
Senior manager	Public organisation	Berlin	Europe			
Head of Urban Mobility Unit	Local and regional public authorities	Bucuresti-Ilfov	Europe			
spokesperson	Local and regional public authorities	Cluj-Napoca, Romania	Europe	x		x
Sustainability Consultant & Responsible Tourism	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Hamilton, Bermuda	Americas			
Professor	Academia	Bucharest	Europe			
Associate Admin Personnel	Citizens and community stakeholders	Lae, Morobe Province - Papua I	Asia			
engineer	Public organisation	Azores	Europe			
TECHNICAL STAFF	Public organisation	Asturias, Spain	Europe	x		
Student	Academia	Bangladesh	Asia			
Coordinator of Habitat and Urban Planning	Local and regional public authorities	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Americas	x		
Social worker	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Goa, India	Asia			
Projektkoordinator, flexibilitet och lagring	Local and regional public authorities	Visby	Europe			
Researcher	Academia	Chattogram	Asia			
Ceo	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Monterrey,Mexico	Americas	x		
Senior sustainability consultant for international r	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Greater London	Europe			
director	Citizens and community stakeholders	Zaragoza	Europe			
Project Manager	Local and regional public authorities		Europe		x	x
Consultant	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam	Asia			
Research analyst	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Cape Town	Africa			
Volunteer	Citizens and community stakeholders	Zimbabwe Midlands Gweru	Africa			
Team leader	Local organisation	Cameroon	Africa			
Fysisk planerare	Local and regional public authorities	Region Gotland	Europe			
Sustainable Innovation Lead	Researchers, advisors, and experts	Bucharest, Romania	Europe			
Climate Change adaptation specialist	Private sector	Auckland, New-Zealand	Oceania			
				6	3	4

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Annex III - Summary of poll results and participant feedback

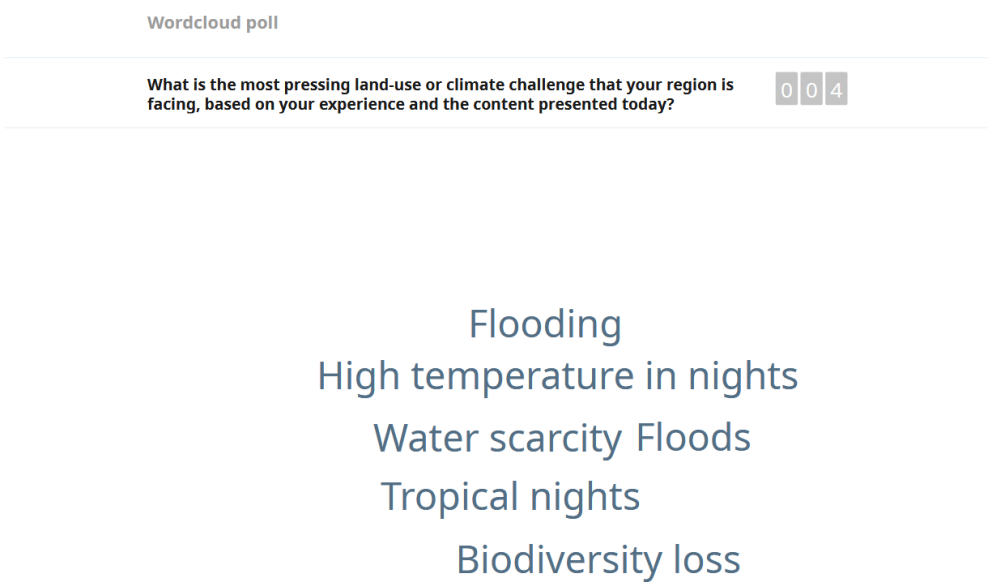

Figure 10: Results for question 1.

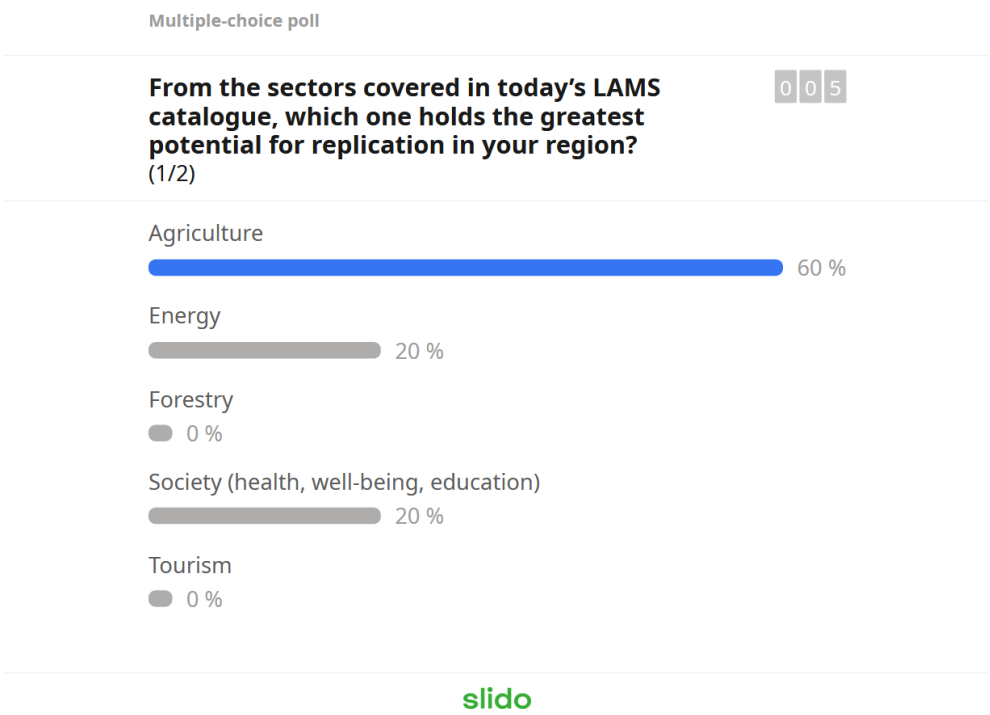

Figure 11: Results for question 2.

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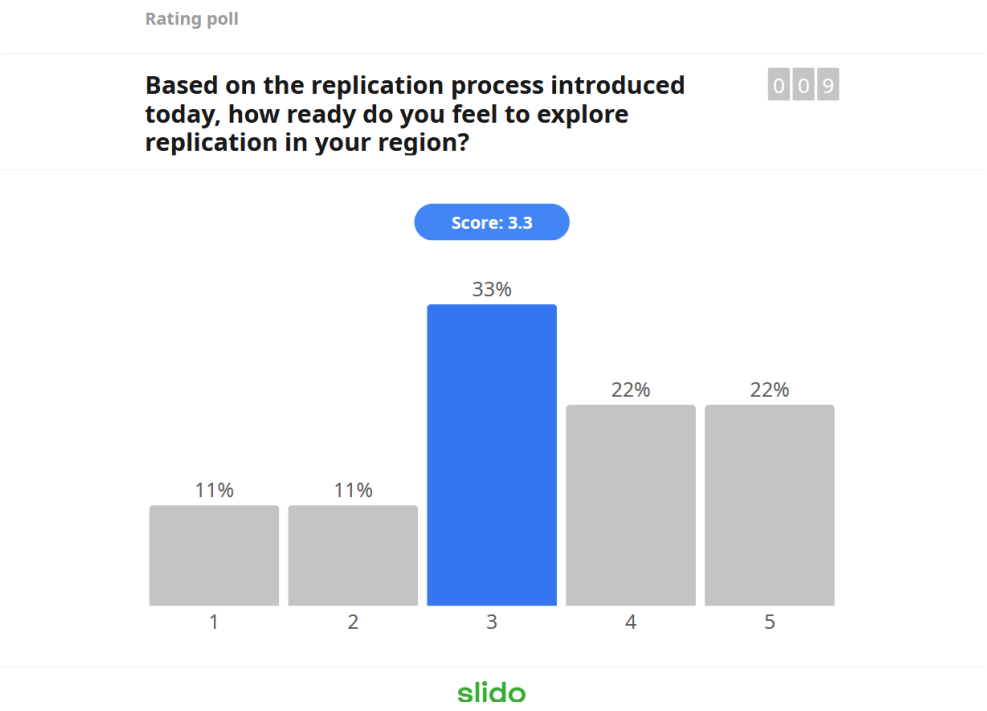

Figure 12: Results for question 3.

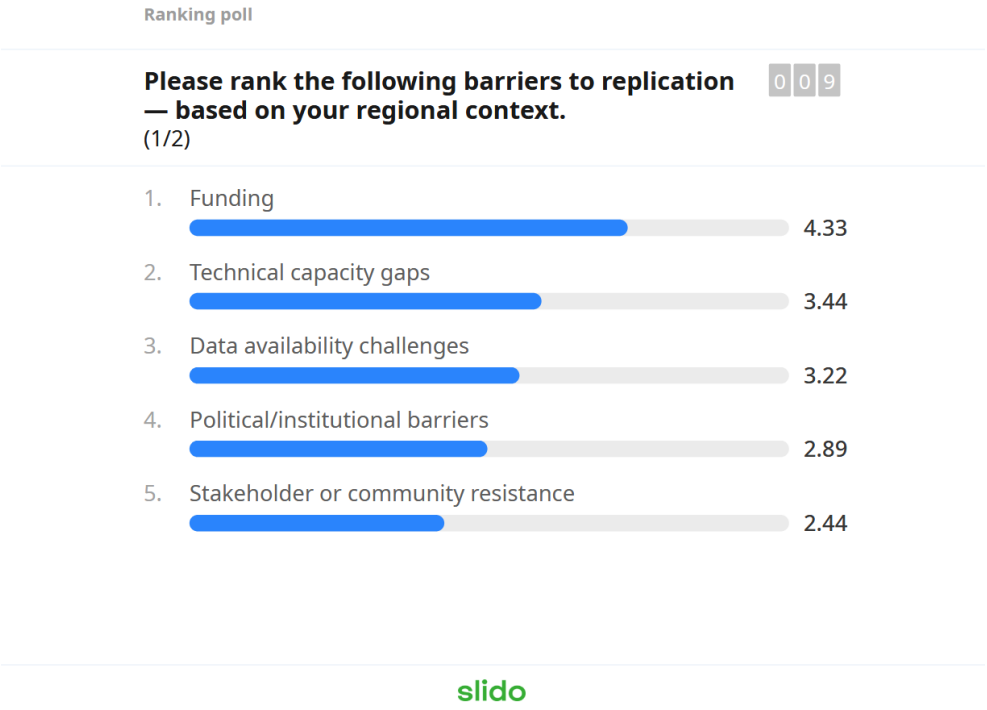

Figure 13: Results for question 4.

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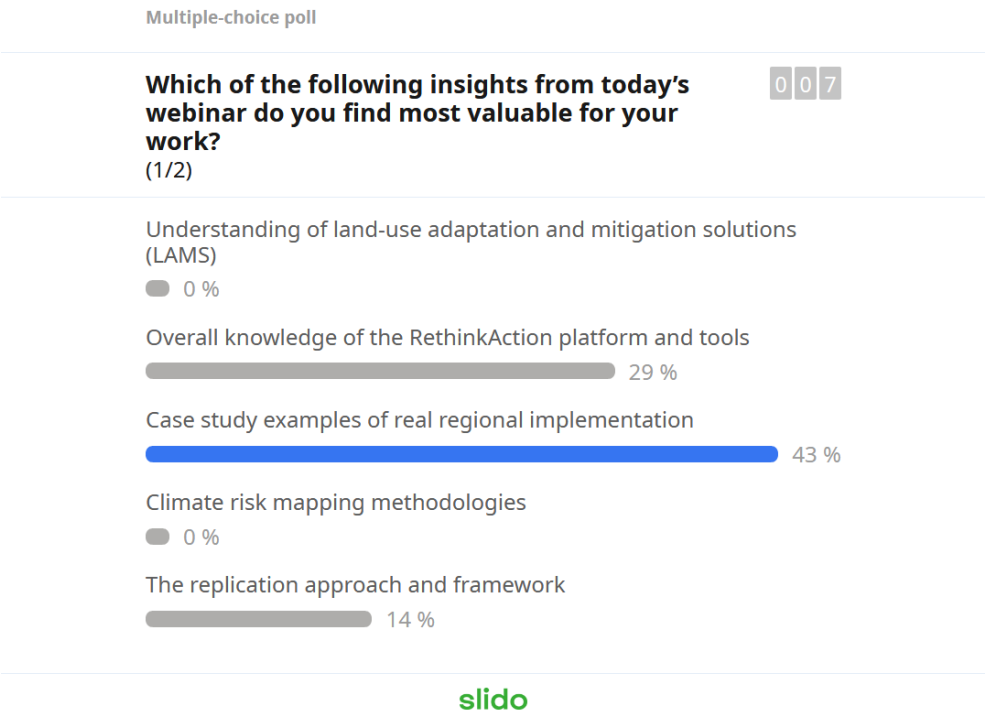

Figure 14: Results for question 5.

Figure 15: Results for question 6.

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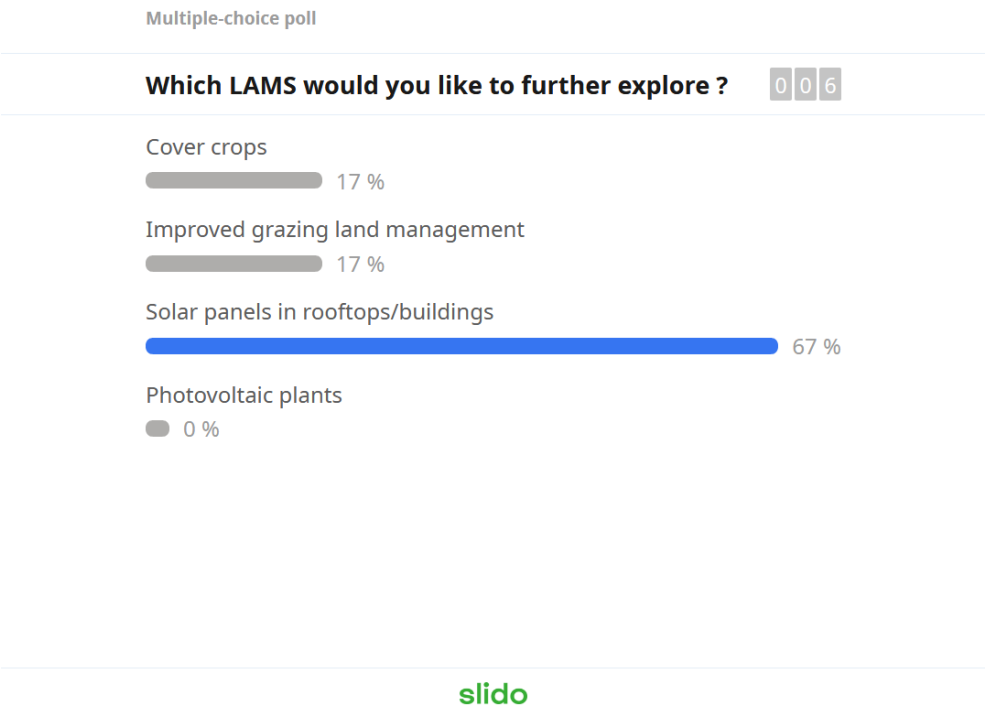

Figure 16: Results for question 7.

Annex IV - Webinar agendas and materials

The webinar materials are provided as three documents attached to this main document that are also included as part of the submission of the deliverable

- Annex IV_Agenda_RethinkAction_Webinar1
- Annex IV_Agenda_RethinkAction_Webinar2
- Annex IV_Agenda_RethinkAction_Webinar3

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