REPORT ON CLIMATE - RESILIENT REGION

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INTRODUCTION

Climate change has become a reality that we can no longer ignore or deny. Its impacts are increasingly visible, which means that adaptation is no longer a choice, but a necessary and responsible step toward our shared future. Through the CLeAR-CLIMATE-CAPA-ORRI project, we managed to bring together people from diverse backgrounds, ages, genders, and perspectives, uniting them around a common goal — climate change adaptation. Through three contests, we encouraged reflection, creativity, and the development of ideas, while listening closely to their views on the challenges we are facing. The contests were designed and implemented according to the CAPA principle, which is an ORRI tool. The contests are replicable, and the CAPA methodology and implementation process are described in detail in the Final Guidelines for CAPA Implementation.

All content regarding the project is published on our web page:
https://www.golea.si/reinforcing

CONTEST 1

The aim of the literary-science contest "Narratives about fields, forests and rivers in the past, present and future" was to explore the past and how people once coped with floods, droughts and other extreme weather events. We were particularly interested in the experiences they gained and how their knowledge can be applied in the present day. The competition was intended for students from the 7th to the 9th grade of primary schools in the Goriška region.

In their stories, students combined research into local history with personal conversations with family members, grandparents, and other community members. They highlighted the ways people in the past adapted to weather extremes, while also reflecting on current conditions and the future challenges that may appear in the climate crisis.

Main goals of contest 1 were:

- Raising awareness about climate change adaptation among vulnerable groups (youth and elderly) and teachers and general public
- Assessing local knowledge on CC adaptation in the region

The invitation to participate in the contest was sent to 28 schools in the wider Goriška region (also contacted by phone), of which 8 responded to the call. We received stories from 20 students representing various primary schools across the region. That means that 20 pupils and their grandparents actively participated and also 10 mentoring teachers supporting the implementation of the Contest.

The evaluation process was carried out by 5 jury members. The jury was proposed by the participants, which allowed us to form a diverse commission ranging from younger to

older members. The jury members participated in an online training session and workshop prior to the evaluation process. Jury which evaluated the submitted contributions on climate resilience based on pre-defined criteria. The jury members were trained in advance using the Jury Guidelines. The members of the jury were acquainted with the basic concepts of climate change mitigation and adaptation, existing climate hazards in Slovenia and Goriška Region, existing consequences of CC in Slovenia, timeline and evaluation criteria of the Contest 1, implementation and their role in it.

Intergenerational knowledge transfer stands out strongly in the stories, as young people, through conversations with their grandmothers, grandfathers, and other elders, learn how people once coped with droughts, floods, snow, strong winds, and ice storms; how they thoughtfully constructed houses, collected water, conserved energy, and lived more modestly and closely connected to nature. The past is not portrayed as outdated, but rather as a valuable source of wisdom. The shared message of the stories emphasizes living in harmony with nature instead of competing against it—people once listened to nature, respected the limits of space and climate, and adapted their construction and way of life accordingly, while the modern world too often overlooks these principles. A strong emphasis is also placed on community and solidarity, as natural disasters repeatedly reveal the power of mutual help, cooperation, and connectedness. At the same time, the stories suggest that the future does not lie in returning to the past, but in combining traditional knowledge with new technologies and developing sustainable solutions. The young authors often conclude their reflections with an awareness of personal responsibility—that although an individual cannot save the world alone, they can contribute to collective change through small, thoughtful steps.

At the end of the Contest 1, seven winning stories were awarded. Short descriptions of stories are listed below:

1. **The Shade of the Old Linden Tree (***pupil from primary school Most na Soči, 9th grade)*

The story revolves around memories shared beneath an old linden tree, where a grandmother teaches her granddaughter about life in the past. It highlights thoughtful house construction, natural insulation, rainwater harvesting, and a frugal way of living. The granddaughter then explains how she carries these values into the present and wishes to preserve them for the future — through sustainable living, gardening, and renewable energy. The central message is clear: adapting to nature is not a step backward, but a form of wisdom.

2. **Grandpa and Me** *(pupil from primary school Dobravlje, 7th grade)*

Written as a dialogue between a granddaughter and her 82-year-old grandfather, the story offers an emotional and educational reflection on the impact of climate change in the Vipava Valley. The grandfather speaks about changes in agriculture, extreme weather

events, and adaptations such as rainwater collection systems and more resilient crops. He emphasizes the importance of intergenerational cooperation and teaching young people that change is not an enemy, but an opportunity for growth and sustainable solutions. By planting an olive tree, the granddaughter symbolically connects the past, present, and future.

3. **Together for a Better World** *(pupil from primary school Bovec, 9th grade)*

The narrator visits his great-great-grandmother in Bovec, where she recounts the hardships of life in the past — without running water, facing frequent natural disasters, yet strengthened by a close-knit community that always supported one another. Her stories inspire him to reflect on today's climate challenges. He believes that through knowledge, cooperation, and respect for nature, we can build a more sustainable and connected future, much like the one his ancestors once knew.

4. **Building New Inventions on the Foundations of the Past** *(pupil from primary school Dornberk, 7th grade)*

The story reflects on how humanity has adapted to natural disasters such as floods, fires, and landslides throughout history. Through a thoughtful conversation with his father, who has long recorded weather observations, the narrator explores how people in the past relied on experience, close observation of nature, and practical solutions to protect themselves. He then compares these traditional approaches with modern technological advancements, including satellites, sensors, smart infrastructure, and innovative materials. Looking toward the future, the story imagines even more advanced solutions, such as artificial intelligence, adaptive buildings, and automated protection systems. Its central message emphasizes that the most effective climate adaptation strategies will arise from combining traditional knowledge and lived experience with scientific progress and technological innovation.

5. **Living with Water and Weather Through Time** *(pupil from primary school Most na Soči, 8th grade)*

The story explores how people in a village near the Soča River have adapted to floods, droughts, fires, and harsh winters from the past to the present, and how they may need to adapt in the future. Through the narrator's grandfather's memories, it describes traditional methods such as building sand embankments, carefully selecting construction sites, digging drainage channels, collecting rainwater, and transporting water during droughts. It also reflects on past challenges like heavy snowfall, frost, hail, and fires, comparing them with modern safety measures and technologies. Looking ahead, the story anticipates less snow but more droughts, wildfires, and extreme storms, emphasizing the growing importance of water management, technology, and weather forecasting. The central message highlights that while living conditions may have improved, adapting to climate change will remain an ongoing and increasingly complex challenge.

6. **Our Climate in the Past, Present, and Future** (*pupil from primary school Vipava, 7th grade)*

The story reflects on climate change in the Vipava region through the memories of the narrator's grandfather, comparing past weather patterns and farming practices with present-day conditions. It describes how people once adapted to strong winds, heavy snowfall, droughts, and excess rainfall using practical solutions such as planting windbreak trees, digging drainage channels, relying on wells, and adjusting agricultural cycles to natural rhythms. The narrative highlights clear changes over time, including warmer winters, less snow, earlier springs, shifting harvest periods, and increased use of pesticides. Looking to the future, the author emphasizes personal and collective responsibility, advocating for environmentally friendly practices, the use of traditional and resilient crop varieties, natural plant protection methods, and greater local self-sufficiency. The central message underscores that while climate conditions have changed significantly, society must respond with awareness, cooperation, and sustainable action.

7. **Solutions for the Planet Were Invented Long Ago… We Just Don't Want to or Don't Know How to Use Them** *(pupil from primary school Dornberk, 8th grade)*

The story reflects on how different regions of Slovenia have traditionally adapted their architecture, farming practices, and water management to local climate conditions. Through personal memories and family experiences, it highlights how thick stone walls, steep roofs, straw insulation, carefully chosen building locations, wells, rainwater collection systems, and natural flood protection measures once enabled communities to live in harmony with nature. The narrative contrasts these time-tested solutions with modern interventions that sometimes disrupt natural balance and contribute to new challenges such as drought and water shortages. Observing warmer winters, longer summers, and disappearing streams, the author questions how the next generation can respond responsibly. The central message suggests that many sustainable solutions already exist in traditional knowledge, and that the future depends on rediscovering, respecting, and adapting these practices to today's changing climate.

Overall, 7 practical awards were distributed in the award-giving event with 320 visitors. The conclusion of the contest and the award ceremony took place on 23 May 2025, as part of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RES & EE) Day event, which was held within the framework of the Crafts and Entrepreneurship Day in Tolmin.

The contest had a positive impact by raising awareness and encouraging discussion about climate change adaptation among vulnerable groups—particularly youth, the elderly, teachers, and the wider public—while also gathering valuable local knowledge and perspectives from both younger and older generations. The contest was successfully completed; however, participation was lower than expected due to the short planning timeframe and limited prior knowledge of climate change adaptation among students.

To improve future editions, the contest should be announced and coordinated with schools earlier in the school year to align with their annual planning cycle (unfortunately it was impossible as the project started in January). Stronger capacity building for teachers is recommended to ensure students are well prepared before the submission deadline, along with additional options such as online training for pupils and guest lectures to further strengthen understanding and engagement.

Lessons learnt: The literary-science contest demonstrated that storytelling is a powerful tool for raising awareness about climate change adaptation, particularly among

vulnerable groups such as youth and the elderly. Intergenerational dialogue proved especially valuable, as it not only strengthened community bonds but also revealed rich local knowledge and practical experiences that remain highly relevant today. The process showed that traditional knowledge, when combined with modern understanding, can provide meaningful insights for building climate resilience. Lower participation highlighted the importance of earlier coordination with schools, stronger capacity building for teachers, and additional educational support—such as online training or guest lectures—to ensure deeper understanding and higher-quality contributions in future editions.

Through Contest 1, we encouraged intergenerational connection and the transfer of valuable knowledge and experience from older to younger generations. Through storytelling and creative writing, we also fostered participants' awareness of climate change and its impacts. In this activity we included vulnerable groups as we considered also elderly and young people.

CONTEST 2

The aim of Contest 2 «Good practices in climate resilience» was collecting ideas and good practices, that can inspire further development of climate resilience practices in Slovenia. We were looking for inspiring stories and solutions from the local environment that demonstrate how community or organization successfully manages climate-related risks, particularly those connected to water, in the context of climate change. This included ideas concerning innovative approaches to rainwater retention, effectively preventing droughts or forest fires, implementing good practices for adapting to drought in agriculture or forestry. It also included ideas in climate change adaptation projects across sectors such as agriculture, forestry, tourism or other fields, as well as innovative methods and solutions that strengthen resilience to climate change in local environment.

Main goals of Contest 2 were:

- raising awareness about climate change adaptation among the general population and professional stakeholders working in the field of climate change.
- Identification of "movers and shakers" in the Goriška region.

280 individuals from various regional organizations (municipalities, associations, cooperatives, agencies, NGOs, and other local/regional stakeholders) were invited (by e-mail and phone) to participated in Contest 2. The contest was prolonged 2 times due to summer holidays period. A total of 22 organizations responded and submitted their good practice examples of climate change adaptation.

Overall, we received 22 good practices from 18 participating organizations. The evaluation process was carried out by 6 jury members. The jury was proposed by the participants,

which allowed us to form a diverse commission ranging from younger to older members. The jury members participated in an online training session and workshop prior to the evaluation process. Jury which evaluated the submitted contributions on climate resilience based on pre-defined criteria. The jury members were trained in advance using the Jury Guidelines. The members of the Jury were acquainted with the basic concepts of climate change mitigation and adaptation, existing climate hazards in Slovenia and Goriška Region, existing consequences of CC in Slovenia, timeline and evaluation criteria of the Contest 2, implementation and their role in it.

Through the submitted stories, we gained insight into various good practices of climate change adaptation in the Goriška region. Dominant topic of received ideas was water management, as local communities are primarily concerned with addressing both droughts and floods, which increasingly shape everyday life and long-term planning. Biodiversity restoration is closely connected to education and cultural initiatives, serving as a bridge between environmental protection and community engagement, and reinforcing the idea that ecological action is also a social and educational process. Community resilience appears as a transversal topic throughout the initiatives, highlighting that adaptation is not only technical but also deeply social—rooted in awareness-raising, cooperation, and solidarity. A notable trend is the development of hybrid solutions that combine engineering measures with nature-based approaches, such as terraces, retention basins, green corridors, and reforestation, demonstrating an integrated and forward-looking approach to climate adaptation.

At the end of the Contest 2, three winning ideas were awarded. Short descriptions of ideas are listed below:

1. **“From Torrential Waters to a Source of Life: The Regulation of the Konjščak Stream”** *(Local Community of Črniče – Ravne)*

First place was awarded to a solution that clearly demonstrates how comprehensive and well-considered spatial planning can simultaneously reduce risks and create new opportunities. For many years, residents of the Konjščak valley faced torrential waters that threatened homes, agricultural land, and infrastructure. The integrated riverbed restoration provided a dual solution: in the upper section, a retention basin was established to reduce flood risk, while in the lower section, a natural pond was created to preserve water for dry periods. This approach represents an exemplary case of climate change adaptation, as it both protects residents and infrastructure from extreme rainfall and ensures a reliable water source for agriculture during droughts. The project proves that one holistic solution can effectively address two key climate challenges—excess water during heavy rainfall and water scarcity during dry periods.

2. **“Together for the Karst”** *(Public Institution Miren Kras for sustainable Karst)*

Second place was awarded to an initiative born out of a natural disaster—the largest wildfire in Slovenia’s history. From the burned landscape emerged a nationwide restoration campaign that brings together volunteers, experts, and local communities. Key measures include reforestation with native broadleaf species, the establishment of a nursery for climate-adapted seedlings, and the organization of community actions aimed at restoring the forest ecosystem while strengthening social cohesion. This is a clear example of climate adaptation, as the region is systematically preparing for increasingly frequent and intense wildfires. The initiative has also introduced new sustainable elements, such as a cross-border hiking trail that responsibly connects people with nature. “Together for the Karst” has become a symbol of solidarity and resilience, recognized internationally as a model of good practice. Through collaboration among diverse stakeholders, a comprehensive approach has been developed to protect the Karst landscape, strengthen community resilience, and support long-term sustainable development.

3. **“The Pine Grove in Črniče – Shade, Shelter, and a Respectful Community Space”** (Public Utility and Housing Company Ajdovščina)

Third place was awarded to a practice that shows how even small steps can serve as meaningful adaptation measures. The establishment of the grove has provided residents with a pleasant refuge during hot days while raising awareness of the importance of natural shade and green spaces for community well-being. The initiative illustrates that even smaller, thoughtfully designed interventions can have significant impacts in adapting to climate change. By planting a pine grove, the community of Črniče created a multifunctional space offering shade and wind protection while strengthening social bonds. At the same time, the measure delivers clear environmental benefits: trees mitigate the effects of heatwaves, improve soil moisture retention, enhance air quality, and increase biodiversity. It is a valuable example of how local communities can create environmental and social sustainability through carefully planned green infrastructure.

The public announcement of the award winners took part at the traditional Vipava Grape Harvest Festival 2025 on 14 September 2025, with more than 500 participants.

The award they received was study visit to Barcelona, where they were introduced to good practices in climate change adaptation. The newly acquired knowledge and experience will represent an important resource for their future work, as they can transfer and implement lessons learned into local solutions in Slovenia. Bellow you can see some pictures from study visit and good practice.

The contest generated several positive impacts, including raising awareness among involved stakeholders and interested parties, and identifying progressive actors in the region who are actively implementing climate resilience measures. It also strengthened collaboration with the regional adaptation working group, whose members participated in and promoted the contest, as well as enhanced cooperation with municipalities. However, some challenges were identified, including the short timeframe given to participants to prepare and submit their contributions, the need to extend the implementation period of the contest, and the overlap with the summer holiday period, which limited engagement.

To improve the process in the future, it would be beneficial to extend the submission deadline to give participants more time to prepare their contributions and to avoid overlapping the implementation period with the summer holidays. Greater visibility could be achieved through more intensive use of social media and improved communication efforts. Strengthening collaboration with municipalities would further enhance outreach and engagement, while providing on-demand support to participants could ensure better guidance and higher-quality submissions.

Lessons learnt: Contest 2 demonstrated that there are strong interest and significant existing capacity for climate change adaptation within the region, particularly in the field of water management. The initiative successfully identified progressive organizations and strengthened cooperation among municipalities, regional working groups, and other stakeholders. The diversity of submitted practices confirmed that adaptation is not only a technical challenge but also a social and cross-sectoral process, often combining engineering and nature-based solutions. At the same time, the implementation highlighted several organizational challenges. The summer holiday period significantly affected engagement, requiring deadline extensions, and some participants needed additional guidance in structuring and presenting their adaptation measures. Future editions would benefit from earlier planning, extended submission timelines, stronger communication through social media, closer coordination with municipalities, and the provision of on-demand support to ensure broader participation and higher-quality submissions.

Through Contest 2 we confirmed that the path to climate resilience is paved with local stories, collaboration, and mutual learning. Good practices remind us that the greatest changes begin with people who join forces for the common good.

CONTEST 3

The aim of Contest 3 »Community climate resilience – plans, scenarios and/or solutions (promotional video on climate resilience) « was to identify and promote successful approaches, encourage knowledge sharing, and strengthen the link between practice and citizens. Applicants were invited to prepare a concept outline, story, or scenario design for an awareness-raising video, which may include existing or planned activities aimed at strengthening climate resilience.

Main goals of Contest 3 were:

- raising awareness about climate change adaptation among the general population and professional stakeholders working in the field of climate change.
- Identification of "movers and shakers" in the Goriška region.

280 individuals from various regional organizations (municipalities, associations, cooperatives, agencies, NGOs, and other local/regional stakeholders) were invited (by e-mail and phone) to participated in Contest 3. Overall, we received 20 solutions/scenarios for video from 18 participating organizations.

The evaluation process was carried out by 4 jury members. The jury was proposed by the participants, which allowed us to form a diverse commission ranging from younger to older members. The jury members participated in an online training session and workshop prior to the evaluation process. Jury which evaluated the submitted contributions on climate resilience based on pre-defined criteria. The jury members were trained in advance using the Jury Guidelines. The members of the Jury were acquainted with the basic concepts of climate change mitigation and adaptation, existing climate hazards in Slovenia and Goriška Region, existing consequences of CC in Slovenia, timeline and evaluation criteria of the Contest 3, implementation and their role in it.

Through the Contest 3 we received 20 solutions/scenarios for video from 18 organizations actively participating in the contest.

Based on all 20 scenarios, dominant topic was water management, with measures addressing both droughts and floods through retention basins, rainwater harvesting, smart monitoring systems, and nature-based solutions. Increasing wildfire risk and rising temperatures highlight the need for fire prevention, reforestation with resilient species, and long-term preparedness. Many scenarios emphasize ecosystem restoration and biodiversity as natural defences against climate extremes, alongside sustainable mobility and emission reduction to improve air quality and long-term resilience. Digital tools and smart technologies support a shift from reactive to preventive management, while strong community engagement, education, and local self-sufficiency underline that adaptation is not only a technical challenge but also a social process requiring active participation and cooperation.

At the end 3 winning scenarios for video were selected by the jury. Short description of the scenarios is listed below:

1. **We Do Not Compete with Water – We Listen to It** *(Institute XIRIS, institute for smart solutions and water challenges)*

The scenario is based on the fact that climate change is bringing increasingly frequent extremes—prolonged droughts on one hand and intense rainfall and floods on the other. Instead of fighting nature, it proposes smart adaptation through the use of modern technology. Soil moisture sensors, water level gauges, and digital networks enable real-time monitoring and timely response. This allows farmers to irrigate at the right moment and municipalities to prepare for potential flooding. It represents a shift from a reactive to a preventive approach, where data helps better protect people, infrastructure, and natural resources. Efficient water use becomes a strategic adaptation measure in a time of growing water uncertainty. The scenario emphasizes that technology is not an end in itself, but a tool for more thoughtful and responsible water management in a changing climate.

Video is available on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dVuKo_5K_c

2. **The Wine Train of the Vipava Valley – On the Tracks of Climate Adaptation** *(Burjatik d.o.o., company for promotion of sustainable tourism)*

The scenario connects viticulture, sustainable mobility, and local self-sufficiency into a unified story of climate resilience. The Vipava Valley is already facing higher temperatures, drought, and changing growing conditions, prompting winegrowers to adapt through grass-covered vineyard rows, biodiversity preservation, and careful water management. Each vine thus becomes a symbol of adaptation and resilience to new climate realities. The Wine Train, as a low-carbon mode of transport, further reduces traffic emissions and promotes slower, more responsible tourism. The scenario demonstrates how tradition and innovation can complement one another—preserving cultural landscapes while introducing sustainable practices. It also highlights local self-sufficiency, which reduces dependence on long supply chains and strengthens regional resilience. The message is optimistic: climate adaptation is not only a necessity, but also an opportunity for a more authentic, connected, and sustainable future for the valley.

Video is available on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjQneRWHX24

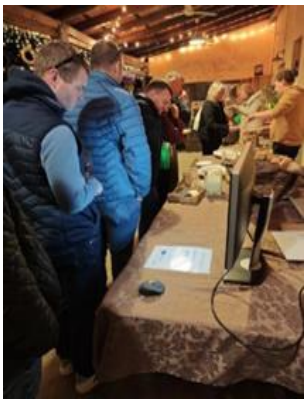
3. **Fire Without Borders – Shared Strength for a Safer Future** *(Nova Gorica Fire Brigade)*

The scenario highlights increasingly frequent and intense wildfires as a direct consequence of climate change—longer droughts, higher temperatures, and stronger winds. The response lies in cross-border cooperation, prevention, and shared preparedness. The video presents concrete adaptation measures: firebreaks, protective buffer zones around settlements, controlled burns to reduce biomass, and reforestation with native species that are more resistant to drought and fire. The key message is that adaptation is not a one-time action, but an ongoing process—from educating young

people and training firefighters to using advanced technologies to predict fire spread. Through collaboration between local communities, experts, and fire units, long-term resilience of both the landscape and its inhabitants is strengthened in the face of increasingly frequent climate extremes.

Video is available on the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=euFCVM1U0CM

Winners were announced at the beginning of November, after that the videos were produced and presented in December at the event with more than 150 participants. The event took place on 13 December 2025 at the Baša Tourist Farm in Dornberk, which also serves as an intermediate stop of the Wine Train (a sustainable tourism train initiative) that was also included in one of the winning scenarios of the contest. Short (1 min) promotional videos were produced based on all of the winning scenarios.



The contest generated several positive impacts, including raising awareness among stakeholders and interested parties and identifying progressive organizations in the region actively working on climate resilience. It strengthened collaboration with the regional adaptation working group, which participated in and promoted the contest, as well as with municipalities. The initiative also increased the visibility of local good practices and nature-based solutions, encouraged cross-sectoral dialogue between tourism,

agriculture, technology, civil protection, and education, and demonstrated high thematic diversity covering most key adaptation areas. However, certain challenges were noted, including a short timeframe for participants to prepare their contributions, limited time for mentoring and refining scenarios, and the need for additional guidance for some stakeholders in structuring their adaptation concepts.

The contest was successfully concluded and contributed to strengthened collaboration with key strategic actors, including municipalities and the regional working group on Climate Change Adaptation. To improve future implementation, it would be beneficial to extend the submission deadline to provide participants with more preparation time. Greater visibility could be achieved through more intensive use of social media, along with closer collaboration with municipalities. Additionally, offering on-demand support to participants would help ensure better guidance and stronger overall results.

Lesson learnt: Contest 3 confirmed that local communities and organizations are actively developing innovative and diverse climate adaptation solutions. The video format proved to be an effective tool for communicating with broader audience and strengthening the link between practice and citizens. The initiative successfully identified key regional actors and reinforced collaboration with municipalities and the regional adaptation working group. Anyway, the relatively short preparation timeframe limited opportunities for mentoring and refinement of scenarios, and some participants required additional guidance in structuring their concepts. Future editions would benefit from longer submission deadlines, stronger social media promotion, closer cooperation with municipalities, and the provision of on-demand support to enhance both participation and the quality of submissions.

Through Contest 3 we emphasized local communities' contribution to the dissemination of knowledge and good practices in the field of climate change adaptation and encouraged reflection on the responsible management of natural resources at the local level.

OVERVIEW

In **Contest 1** the literary-science contest “Narratives about Fields, Forests and Rivers in the Past, Present and Future” aimed to explore how people historically coped with floods, droughts, and other extreme weather events, and how their experiences can inform present-day climate adaptation. Targeted at 7th to 9th grade students in the Goriška region, the contest encouraged participants to combine local historical research with intergenerational dialogue. Its main objectives were to raise awareness about climate change adaptation among youth, the elderly, teachers, and the broader public, and to assess local knowledge on adaptation in the region. Out of 28 invited schools, 8 participated, resulting in 20 submitted stories supported by grandparents and 10 mentoring teachers. The evaluation was conducted by five trained jury members based on predefined criteria. The stories highlighted intergenerational knowledge transfer,

community solidarity, harmony with nature, and the importance of combining traditional wisdom with modern technology to address current and future climate challenges.

Contest 2, titled "Good Practices in Climate Resilience," aimed to collect inspiring ideas and practical examples that can support and further develop climate resilience in Slovenia. The contest targeted local communities and organizations implementing adaptation measures, particularly in areas such as water management, drought and flood prevention, biodiversity restoration, and cross-sectoral climate adaptation initiatives. A total of 280 regional stakeholders were invited to participate, and despite the summer holiday period and two deadline extensions, 22 good practices from 18 organizations were submitted. The evaluation was conducted by seven trained jury members based on predefined criteria. The submitted practices highlighted water management as the dominant theme, along with strong links between biodiversity, education, and community engagement, and a growing trend toward hybrid solutions combining engineering and nature-based approaches. The contest strengthened regional cooperation, increased awareness of climate adaptation, and identified key progressive actors. Award winners received a study visit to Barcelona to explore international good practices and transfer knowledge to local implementation.

Contest 3, titled "Community Climate Resilience – Plans, Scenarios and/or Solutions," aimed to identify and promote successful climate adaptation approaches through the development of promotional video concepts. The contest sought to strengthen knowledge sharing, connect practical solutions with citizens, and highlight active regional stakeholders. A total of 280 regional organizations were invited to participate, resulting in 20 video scenarios submitted by 18 organizations. The evaluation was conducted by four trained jury members based on predefined criteria. The dominant topics among the submissions were water management, wildfire prevention, ecosystem restoration, biodiversity protection, sustainable mobility, digital monitoring tools, and strong community engagement. Short promotional videos were produced based on the winning scenarios and presented in December 2025 at a public event. The contest increased the visibility of local good practices, strengthened regional cooperation, and encouraged cross-sectoral dialogue.

Climate change and adaptation to its impacts are becoming an increasingly important part of our everyday lives. Living in harmony with nature and learning to listen to it must become part of our collective mindset and shared responsibility. Together, the three contests demonstrated that climate resilience is not only a technical challenge but also a social process rooted in knowledge sharing, cooperation, creativity, and community engagement. They showed that meaningful adaptation begins at the local level—with informed individuals, connected communities, and a willingness to act for the common good.