



PIANC
The World Association for
Waterborne Transport Infrastructure



Dear PIANC member

Working Group 178 encourages you to share your experiences of adapting port and navigation infrastructure to the effects of a changing climate

Background

As some of you may already know, PIANC is currently working with several partner organisations in a new 'Think Climate' coalition. More details are provided in the attached PIANC Press Release, which was issued at the recent SMART Rivers conference in Argentina. A new website is also being developed for the Think Climate coalition. The website is at: <http://www.pianc.org/thinkclimate.php>.

The Think Climate partners are collaborating under the Transport Focus of the Lima Paris Action Agenda on an initiative entitled 'Navigating a Changing Climate'. This initiative is amongst those to be showcased at the Transport Day during the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) in Paris, France, in December 2015. More information is available through the above website.

A Road Map has been developed and an Action Plan is now being elaborated. The developed Action Plan will be coordinated with the PIANC's Permanent Task Group on Climate Change (PTGCC: <http://www.pianc.org/climatechange.php>) for implementation.

A key theme of the Navigating a Changing Climate initiative is '**strengthening resilience in the inland and maritime navigation sector**'. The initiative will include various actions designed to help the owners, operators and users of waterborne transport infrastructure prepare for, and adapt to, projected changes in sea level, in precipitation, flooding extent or frequency, flow conditions, storminess, extreme wind or waves, fog, air and water temperature, and so on.

Case studies

PIANC is aware that, around the world, there are already many examples of good practice in climate change adaptation insofar as it relates to waterborne transport infrastructure. Examples are not limited to the design of new infrastructure: many ports and waterways will need to adapt their existing infrastructure, activities or operations. And it is not only the larger organisations that will need to adapt: smaller or less well-resourced operators may face some of the biggest challenges.

PIANC's Working Group 178 is currently preparing technical guidance on climate change adaptation for maritime and inland port and navigation infrastructure. This guidance, which will play an important role in helping the waterborne infrastructure sector adapt to climate change, will include a toolbox of adaptation measures compiled from a library of case studies.

WG 178 has developed an on-line questionnaire to collect case study information. This is available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/navigating_climate_change. The case studies collected via the questionnaire will inform the forthcoming guidance document.

PIANC therefore encourages you to share your experiences of climate change adaptation for waterborne transport infrastructure, whether this involves the physical modification of existing or new assets, the development or delivery of an adaptation strategy, changes in management practices, or institutional change.

Depending on the particular initiative you select, completing the questionnaire should take no more than 30 minutes. To be able to complete the survey most effectively, it would be useful to have the following to hand when you start:

- information about the initiative, its location and its objectives
- understanding of which climate parameters were considered
- overview of the main findings or recommendations and any lessons learned.

If you would like to see a Word version of the questionnaire – for example to be able to gather together any relevant information before you submit your case study on line, please request this from jan@janbrooke.co.uk

Finally, **please only include information that you have authority to share**. PIANC will refer to the case study information provided in preparing the WG 178 guidance document and may choose to make the library of case studies publicly available via its website. We would be very grateful if you could submit your case studies **by 31st December 2015**.

PIANC thanks you in advance for helping us to make the Working Group 178 report as useful and as comprehensive as possible.

Photographs

And we have one more request. PIANC is very keen to be able to use photographs to illustrate the type of event that might be expected to happen more frequently as climate changes (flooding, storms, wind damage, high or low flow conditions; heat damage, etc. and associated disruption). However, such photographs must be free of copyright issues. Therefore, if you have personal photographs that you are happy for PIANC to use (or if your organisation has unrestricted-use photographs), we would be very grateful if you could contact jan@janbrooke.co.uk as soon as possible. And please be reassured that the photos will not be represented as being caused by climate change – only that they represent what we might see more of in future.

We look forward to hearing from you with regard to photographs **by 31st October please**.

Finally, with the meeting of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change just around the corner, PIANC HQ would like to express its gratitude in advance for your prompt assistance with this timely and topical initiative.

We would be extremely grateful if you are able to help us by contributing to these important activities and we look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

Geoffroy Caude
PIANC President

Louis Van Schel
PIANC Secretary General

Jan Brooke
Focal Point for PIANC's
Think Climate coalition