

PRESS RELEASE

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BC3 participates in a large EU-funded project to facilitate the transition to a low carbon society

[Bilbao, 5th of October 2015] The new EU project, TRANSrisk, celebrated its kick-off meeting in Brussels recently. TRANSrisk (*Transitions pathways and risk analysis for climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies*) has received funding of €7.4 million from the European Commission under the Societal Challenges pillar of the Horizon 2020 program, and BC3 is one of the main partners of this consortium.

The EU has adopted ambitious policy goals for the transition to a low carbon society by 2050. A detailed roadmap published in 2011 suggests that the EU should cut its emissions to 80% below 1990 levels through domestic reductions alone by 2050, with a cut of 40% in the next 15 years. If these goals are to be met, fundamental transformations to energy generation and demand are required.

Currently, ways of analysing and assessing climate evolution, impacts, and mitigation options are faced with a high degree of uncertainty. TRANSrisk will create a framework in which risks and uncertainties are integral to the assessment of how climate change mitigation affects the overall economic, social and environmental well-being of society in the EU, emerging countries, and at the broader global level. It will also assess the interlinkages between climate change and other dimensions of sustainable development. One of the innovative aspects of TRANSrisk is that multiple stakeholders will be engaged in the entire research process so the public acceptability of the different low carbon options can be addressed, directly helping those who have to finally implement the policies or deal with their consequences.

TRANSrisk involves 12 partner organisations. Dr. Mikel Gonzalez-Eguino, the Principal Investigator at BC3, said: "I'm delighted that BC3 will be one of the main partners on this large EU-funded project with partners across Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America. We want to help with our research to move as quickly as possible towards a low carbon society and to avoid the worst consequences of climate change. BC3 will contribute to this project by assessing the synergies and conflicts associated to different types of solutions, so that policy makers can take better informed decisions".

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