

# POLCITCLIM

Organizing for Resilience: A Comparative Study on Institutional Capacity, Governance, and Climate Change Adaptation in Poland and Norway

November 2013-October 2016

[www.polcitclim.uw.edu.pl](http://www.polcitclim.uw.edu.pl)



# Research Team

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- NIBR – Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research
  - Marte Winsvold/ Jørn Holm Hansen – team leader
  - Jan Erling Klausen, Gro Sandkjær Hansen



# Main assumptions

- We do NOT ask if climate changes, what is the pace and reasons of changes; but we ask:
- What is perception of changes by local governments?
- What is reaction in terms of:
  - Mitigation
  - Adaptation
- What are factors beyond differences:
  - Between two countries
  - Among cities in each of the countries

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# Empirical research – survey of local governments (2014)

- POLAND – gmina level  
1311 responses (53%)



- Norway – kommune level  
219 responses (51%)



# Empirical research – case studies – Poland

Bydgoszcz (358,000 residents, 17 interviews)



Sandomierz (25,000 residents, 12 interviews)



Sopot (38,000 residents, 13 interviews)



Słupsk (94,000 residents, 14 interviews)



# Empirical research – case studies – Norway

- Bergen (265,000 residents)



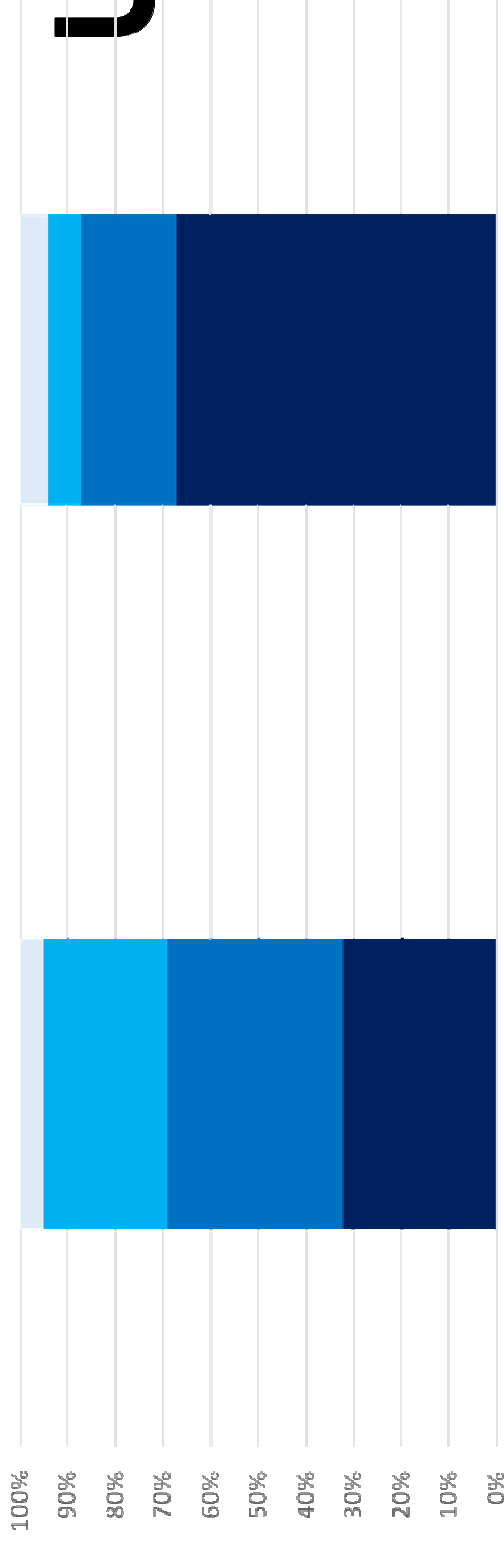
- Stavanger (125,000 residents)



- Moss (28,000 residents)



# Opinions of local government politicians and staff on global climate change



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**NIBR**

Norwegian Institute for  
Urban and Regional Research

**Poland**

**Norway**

- Convinced that changes are affected by human activity
- Evidence of human impact is strong, but there are still some doubts
- Human impact on the climate is exaggerated or uncertain
- I am not sure that climate is changing

The National Centre  
for Research and Development

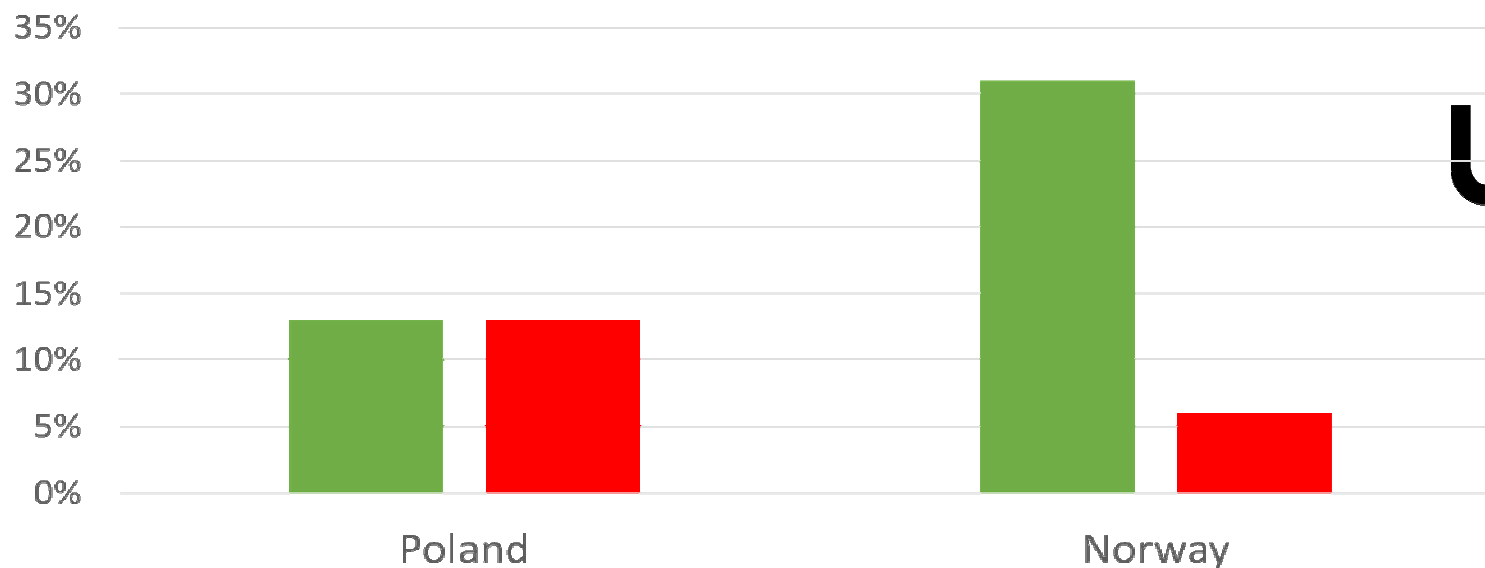


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## Opinions on taking actions in response to climate change. Percentage of answers "strongly agree"



- Climate change is a serious problem. The action should be taken immediately, even if it involves costs
- As long as we're not sure that climate change is a real problem, we shouldn't take any actions entailing costs

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 **NIBR**  
Norwegian Institute for  
Urban and Regional Research

 The National Centre  
for Research and Development

 norway  
grants

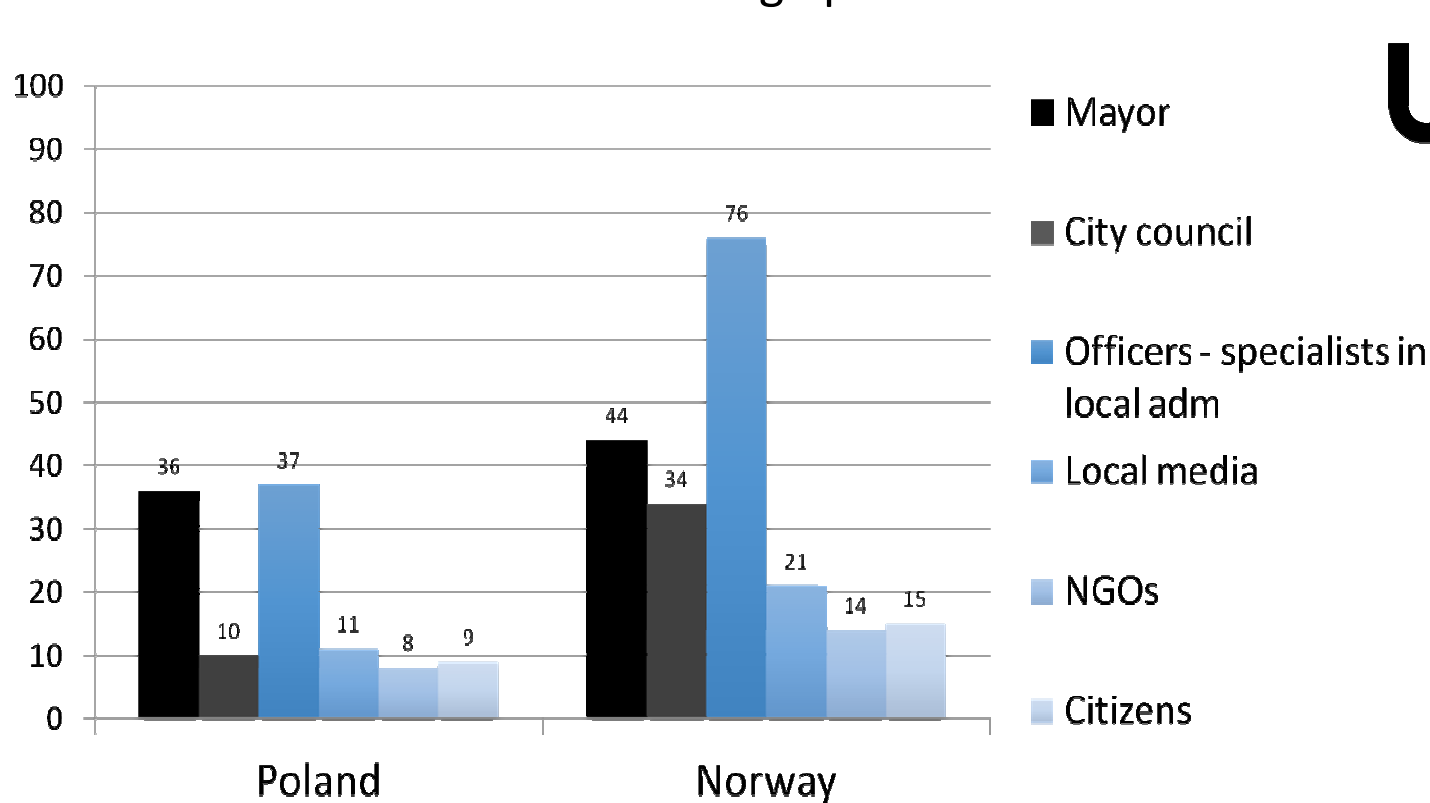
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# Administrative *versus* political steering

Interested in local climate change policies



# Examples of differences in between Poland and Norway

- The networks of cooperation (among cities, between public and non-public actors) are more institutionalized in Norway.
- More network management in Norway, in comparison to more hierarchical mode of governance in Poland
- Downscaled scenarios concerning future consequences of climate change in Norway; lack of (or locally unknown) downscaled scenarios in Poland.



# Academic outcomes

- 4 comparative (Polish-Norwegian) papers under preparation for international journals
  - Awareness of climate change and significance of climate change policies at the local agendas
  - The assignment of responsibility and manifestations of climate change policy
  - Modes of Governance in Local Adaptation to Climate Change
  - Governing risk society: Does different mayor-models affect active political steering of local climate adaptation?
- Also: popular articles in local government journals/ newspapers
- Several conference presentations
- Press release
- Conference for practitioners – September 2016

