

# NEWSLETTER #5

## MASTERING DECIPHER Insights on Simulation- Based Modeling

In an interview with the University of Deusto, [Femke Nijse \(University of Exeter\)](#) shares the cutting-edge work with [Cambridge Econometrics on energy transition modeling](#). Using global economic simulations, the research analyzes energy systems, economic behavior, and policy impacts.

◇ Key Insights:

- ☑ Covers 43+ sectors, focusing on power, heating & transport
- ☑ Incorporates real-world behaviors for better policy design
- ☑ Explores how policy mixes drive emerging & mature technologies

This research offers crucial guidance for policymakers aiming for a faster, more effective energy transition.



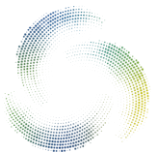
## UNVEILING THE PROGRESS

On November 28-29, 2024, [DECIPHER partners](#) met in Delft to assess project progress and plan upcoming milestones. The two-day meeting featured updates on key achievements, work package developments, and future deliverables. Partners also exchanged feedback and strategies to overcome challenges. The event concluded with a clear roadmap to ensure continued success. See [here](#) more details.



## RESEARCH ENDEAVORS

Through the research titled [Mapping global financial risks under climate change](#), authors assess the future impact of floods, storms, and wildfires on global securities using the CLIMACRED-PHYS climate risk model.



## JOINT ACTIONS WITH OTHER PROJECTS

On December 18, Deusto University hosted a hybrid workshop titled “Empowering Collective Action for the Energy Transition”. Organized within the framework of the SMARTLIVINGEPC, DECIPHER and IDESIGNRES projects, the event brought together experts, researchers, and practitioners to delve into the methodologies and frameworks that enable effective collective decision-making in the energy transition.



The workshop put in light the importance of collective action in addressing Energy Transition challenges at Neighborhood scale. Several critical aspects: Ownership, Transparency, Legitimacy, Trust, Commitment, Leadership and Governance were emphasized as catalysts for mobilizing and sustaining collective energy transition efforts.


The event concluded that collective efforts remain at the heart of the energy transition.



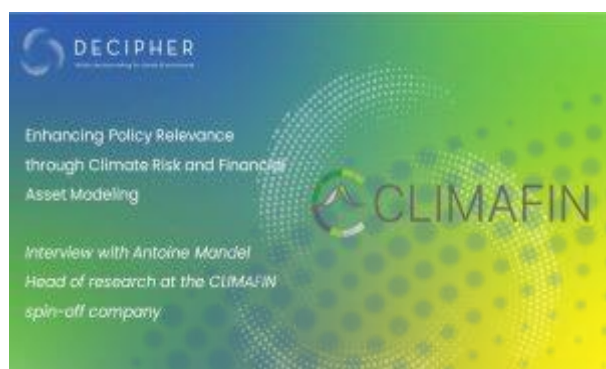
## DECIPHER advances climate, sustainability, and policy research

The DECIPHER Project continued addressing the complexities of climate change, sustainability, and policy integration through three transformative workshops in November and December 2024. Experts from diverse domains explored cutting-edge research and shared critical insights on wetland ecosystem service evaluation, empirical policy evaluation and sustainability in University Curricula. These workshops delved into three pivotal areas, each addressing distinct yet interconnected dimensions of sustainability and climate action.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:




 Join us for DECIPHER's webinar series exploring key project themes and insights. Stay tuned for details!

## MASTERING DECIPHER Enhancing Policy Relevance through Climate Risk and Financial Asset Modeling



In this interview, Antoine Mandel, Head of Research at Climafin, explains how advanced financial models help integrate climate risks into asset valuation.

### Key highlights:

-  Assessing transition and physical risks linked to climate change.
-  Using forward-looking scenarios to enhance climate stress testing.
-  Supporting financial regulators and central banks in building climate resilience.

This approach provides critical tools to address emerging climate-related risks.

**STAY STUNED on [EU](#)  
[climate action!](#)**

## DECIPHER WEBINAR SERIES

### Takeaways from the First Webinar

*Predicting willingness-to-pay values for mammals and birds using machine-learning*

The DECIPHER project recently hosted an insightful webinar on the application of machine learning to predict willingness-to-pay (WTP) values for the conservation of bird and mammal species. Led by Maarten Broekman from Radboud University the session explored innovative methods for incorporating biodiversity value into economic decision-making. During the session, Broekman highlighted the comprehensive data collection process, which involved analyzing over 2,000 studies and extracting WTP values for 81 bird and mammal species. The model incorporated various predictors, including body mass, popularity, image counts, threat status, and ecological factors, ultimately demonstrating superior predictive accuracy compared to conventional linear models.

Key takeaways from the discussion emphasized the significance of addressing uncertainties in WTP estimates, and the potential integration of these findings into economic frameworks such as the DECIPHER project's biodiversity assessment tools.

## MASTERING DECIPHER

### Valuing Nature: Coastal Wetlands & Economic Models



In this interview, Sebastiano Bacca, researcher at GCF – Global Climate Forum e.V., explores how economic valuation models help assess wetland changes due to sea level rise.

Key highlights include.



**Economic valuation:**

Understanding the perceived value of wetlands and their ecosystem services.



**Climate risk assessment:** Using the DIVA model to project future wetland areas and their economic implications.



**Policy applications:** Providing insights for nature-based solutions in coastal protection and climate adaptation strategies.

This approach provides critical tools to address emerging climate-related risks.

## DECIPHER WEBINAR SERIES

**Takeaways from the Second webinar**  
*The Economics of Coastal Adaptation*

The [DECIPHER Project's second webinar](#), led by Jonas Haas from the Global Climate Forum, explored the economics of coastal adaptation. Key insights included:


**Coastal Economic Risks:** The DIVA model was introduced as a tool for assessing adaptation strategies (e.g., protection, retreat, accommodation) through cost-benefit analysis, with an increasing focus on nature-based solutions.

**Policy Implications:** Combining multiple adaptation strategies typically reduces projected damages. The session questioned the utility of models that omit adaptation and emphasized the need to better integrate economic and social factors into decision-making tools.


**Q&A Highlights:** Discussions centered on enhancing the realism of models and better framing adaptation to support effective policy.

**Conclusion:** Adaptation is essential for reducing climate impacts. More comprehensive and realistic models are vital to support sound policy and investment choices.

## ANNOUNCEMENT | Applications Open for the DECIPHER Summer School 2025!

 University of Deusto, Bilbao  
(Spain)

 7–8 July 2025


 Hybrid format (15 in-person, 10  
online)


 Apply by: 20 May 2025

Join us for two days of advanced training in economic and biophysical modelling, led by Europe's top experts. You'll explore how modelling frameworks can shape climate, energy, and environmental policy and apply your skills hands-on.

 What to expect:

- ✓ Cutting-edge sessions with leading research institutes
- ✓ Practical workshops to boost your modelling skills
- ✓ A collaborative space to grow your research
- ✓ Connections with peers & experts shaping future policy

 Speakers from: E3 Modelling, Cambridge Econometrics, IIASA, Global Climate Forum, CLIMAFIN, University of Exeter, and more.

 More info & apply [here](#).

## DEUSTO RESEARCH SOCIAL IMPACT LABEL for Advancing Climate and Biodiversity Policy

The DECIPHER project, has been awarded with the [Deusto Research Social Impact Label](#) by the University of Deusto. This recognition highlights the DECIPHER's commitment to integrating scientific excellence with tangible societal transformation.

The [Deusto Research Social Impact Label](#) is awarded to research projects that show strong potential for meaningful social impact through transformative approaches, alignment with Sustainable Development Goals, and active collaboration with non-academic stakeholders. DECIPHER's innovative framework exemplifies these criteria by aiming to provide systematic and realistic impact assessments of policy options, thereby contributing to more sustainable and resilient societies.

This award not only highlights the project's scientific contributions but also its dedication to fostering inclusive and impactful research. DECIPHER's recognition demonstrates the vital role of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing some of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time.



# DECIPHER

Holistic decision-making for climate & environment



Funded by  
the European Union



## PROJECT DURATION

Project duration: 36 months

Timeline: 10/2022 to 10/2025

## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

DECIPHER aims to improve decision-making on the areas of climate change and biodiversity by proposing a new assessment framework beyond mainstream economics, integrating advanced economic and biophysical models, empirical methods, and stakeholder participation.

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<https://decipher-horizon.eu/>



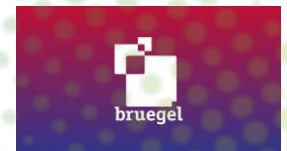
## PARTNERS



Global Climate Forum



University  
of Exeter



International Institute for  
Applied Systems Analysis



Radboud University

