



The EU strategy on adaptation to climate change

*Mugurel George Paunescu
Policy Officer, Unit C.3 (Adaptation), Climate Action DG*

*3rd Forum on the Climate-Energy Security Nexus
Paris, 25 October 2013*

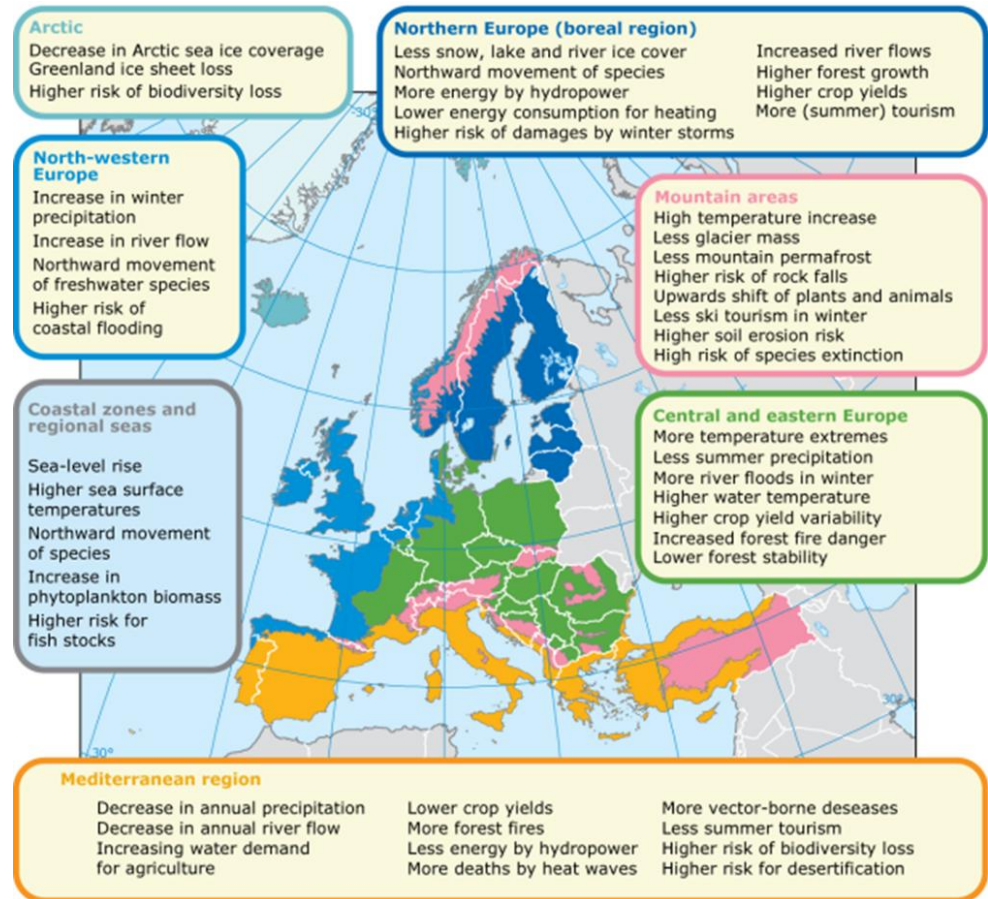




European
Commission

Climate change & future impacts

- **Climate change** is now heavily supported by evidence. The EU is already **facing unavoidable impacts**
- **Impacts** will affect the full EU territory, with regional differences
- We **must adapt to climate change, increase the resilience** of our social and economic systems and **manage the negative impacts**
- Effective adaptation actions can **reduce** overall damage **costs, save lives and** natural and human **assets**.



Climate
Action

Why an EU Strategy?

- **Cross-border dimensions**
- **EU competence in common policies** affected by climate change
- **Economies of scale** in capacity-building, research, data-gathering and knowledge transfer
- Different capacities and vulnerabilities across regions and population call for **solidarity**
- **EU Funding (MFF)**: climate-related expenditure

The documents

- **Commission Communication** "An EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change" COM (2013) 216, including impact assessment
- **Green Paper** on the insurance of natural and man-made disasters
- **Commission Staff Working Documents** on:
 - ...
 - Adapting **infrastructure** to climate change;
 - Guidelines on **developing adaptation strategies**.
- **Non-paper:** Guidelines for Project Managers: Making vulnerable investments climate resilient

All documents are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what/documentation_en.htm

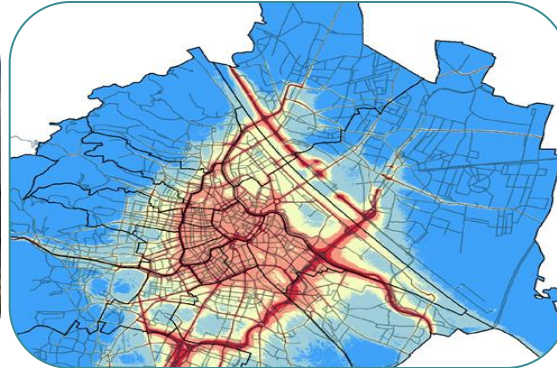
Overall objective

Contribute to a more climate-resilient Europe

Priority 1:
Promoting
action by
Member States

Priority 2:
Better informed
decision-
making

Priority 3:
Climate-proofing
EU action:
Adaptation in
key vulnerable
sectors



Priority 1: Promoting action by Member States

Action 1. Encourage MS to adopt Adaptation Strategies and action plans

- Guidelines on adaptation strategies
- Adaptation Preparedness scoreboard
- Check in 2017 coverage & quality of NAS

Action 2. LIFE funding, including adaptation priority areas

- cross-border floods management, cross-border coastal management
- urban environment
- mountain and island areas
- drought-prone areas (water, desertification, fire risks)

Action 3. Promoting adaptation action by cities along the Covenant of Mayors initiative

- Launch in 2013/2014
- Complements mitigation efforts under existing Covenant

Priority 2: Better informed decision-making

Action 4. Knowledge-gap strategy

- Identify and prioritise knowledge gaps
- Feed this into programming Horizon 2020
- Better interfaces science/policy/business
- EU-wide vulnerability assessments: JRC (economic costs of cc); Integrated threat and risk assessment reports (2015).

Action 5. Climate-ADAPT:

- Develop interfaces with other databases and climate services
- Inclusion of Copernicus (Ex-GMES) climate services

Priority 3: Climate-proofing EU action: promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors

Action 6. Climate proofing the Common Agricultural Policy, Cohesion Policy, and the Common Fisheries Policy

- Guidance
- Capacity building

Action 7. Making infrastructure more resilient

- Mapping and revising standards through CEN/CENELEC/ETSI
- Guidelines for project developers

Action 8. Promote products & services by insurance and finance markets

- Green paper on insurance re. disasters
- Promote stakeholders dialogue

A more climate resilient infrastructure

- **3 priority sectors considered by the Strategy:**
 - Transport infrastructure
 - Energy infrastructure
 - Buildings/Construction
- **What we propose for those sectors in relation to standardisation:**
 - To draw up a 'mapping' of the standards that contribute to the resilience of the infrastructure to the adverse effects of climate change;
 - To assess the scope of updating/upgrading some of these standards for promoting better adaptation to climate change;
 - To put in place guidance for embedding the climate considerations from the outset when drafting new standards or revising the existing ones;
 - To start revising the existing standards with a view to adaptation to climate change.

Other actions

- Mainstreaming adaptation into other EU sectoral policies (including energy);
- Ensuring that funding is made available (ESIF, Horizon 2020, CEF (TEN-E), LIFE);
- Providing tools/methodologies (Guidance for project managers, inclusion in CBA, Guidelines for including in EIA, Guidance for standardisation activities);
- Addressing the knowledge gap (CLIMATE ADAPT)



European Climate Adaptation Platform

Search the website

- Home
- Adaptation information
- EU sector policies
- Countries and other areas
- Tools
- Links
- Search the database

Adaptation support tool

New to adaptation?
Use the Adaptation Support Tool

What are European countries doing?

Choose your country

Climate Change Adaptation

The European Climate Adaptation Platform (CLIMATE-ADAPT) aims to support Europe in its adaptation to climate change. It is an initiative of the European Commission and helps users to access...

- Expected climate change
- Current and planned adaptation
- National adaptation plans
- Tools that support adaptation

Adaptation resources for EU policy Sectors, including Infrastructure.

3 key tools have been developed for CLIMATE-ADAPT

- Adaptation support tool
- Overview of countries activities
- Case study search tool

Find case studies on adaptation in Europe

Share your information



Search the database

News

Events

EU sector policies

Agriculture & Forestry

» [Read more](#)

EU information systems

WISE Water
WATER INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR EUROPE

Thank you for your attention!

mugurel-george.paunescu@ec.europa.eu

For more information visit:

<http://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/change/>

