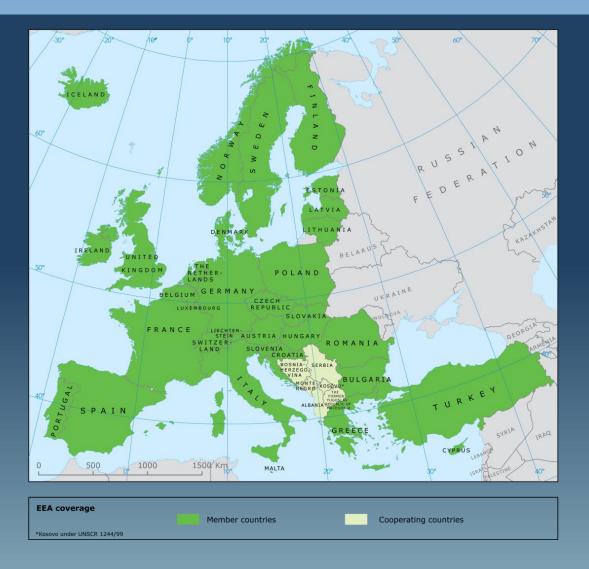
International Conference 'ADAPTtoCLIMATE', Nicosia, Cyprus, 27-28 March 2014

Keynote Speech

# Facilitating Climate Change Adaptation in Europe

Stéphane Isoard Adaptation and economics, EEA

## EEA member and cooperating countries

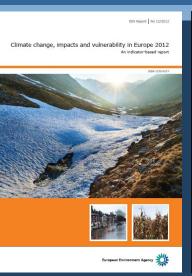


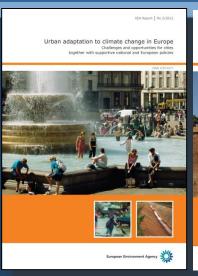
The EEA is a specialised agency of the European Union

The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy makers and the public.

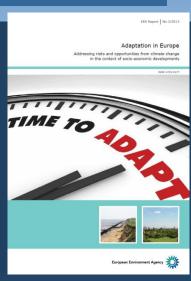
## EEA activities 2011-2013













# Climate change, impacts and vulnerability in Europe (EEA indicator based report, Nov 2012 ) (Action 4)

### Objectives:

- present climate change and impacts
- identify sectors and regions most at risk
- identify main sources of uncertainty
- demonstrate how monitoring and scenario development can improve the knowledge base

Contributions by European Topic Centres, incl ETC climate change adaptation, WHO, ECDC, JRC (about 90 experts)

ETC CCA: http://cca.eionet.europa.eu/

Data from research projects and international databases

Selected indicators on the EEA web site to be updated after publication of IPCC WGI/II reports in 2013/2014

EEA Report No 12/2012

Climate change, impacts and vulnerability in Europe 2012

An indicator-based report





## Key messages

- Climate change (increases in temperature, changes in precipitation and decreases in ice and snow) is occurring globally and in Europe
- Wide range of impacts on environmental systems and society is occurring; further climate change impacts are projected for the future.
- Climate change can increase existing vulnerabilities and deepen socio-economic imbalances in Europe.
- **Damage costs from natural disasters** have increased; the contribution of climate change to these costs is **projected to increase** in the future.
- The causes (hazards) of the most costly climate impacts are projected to differ strongly across Europe.
- Projected future damage costs from climate change can be reduced significantly by mitigation and adaptation actions.

### Europe's key past and projected impacts and risks/vulnerabilities

Temperature rise much larger than global average

Decrease in Arctic sea ice coverage Decrease in Greenland ice sheet

Decrease in permafrost areas Increasing risk of biodiversity loss

Intensified shipping and exploitation of oil

and gas resources

#### **Northern Europe**

Temperature rise much larger than global average Decrease in snow, lake and river ice cover Increase in river flows

Northward movement of species

Increase in crop yields

Decrease in energy demand for heating Increase in hydropower potential

Increasing damage risk from winter storms Increase in summer tourism

#### **North-western Europe**

Increase in winter precipitation Increase in river flow Northward movement of species Decrease in energy demand for heating Increasing risk of river and

#### Mountain areas

Temperature rise larger than European average Decrease in glacier extent and volume Decrease in mountain permafrost areas Upward shift of plant and animal species High risk of species extinction in Alpine regions Increasing risk of soil erosion Decrease in ski tourism

### Coastal zones and regional seas

coastal flooding

Sea-level rise Increase in sea surface temperatures Increase in ocean acidity Northward expansion of fish and plankton species Changes in phytoplankton communities Increasing risk for fish stocks

### Central and eastern Europe

Increase in warm temperature extremes Decrease in summer precipitation Increase in water temperature Increasing risk of forest fire Decrease in economic value of forests

#### Mediterranean region

Temperature rise larger than European average Decrease in annual precipitation Decrease in annual river flow Increasing risk of biodiversity loss Increasing risk of desertification

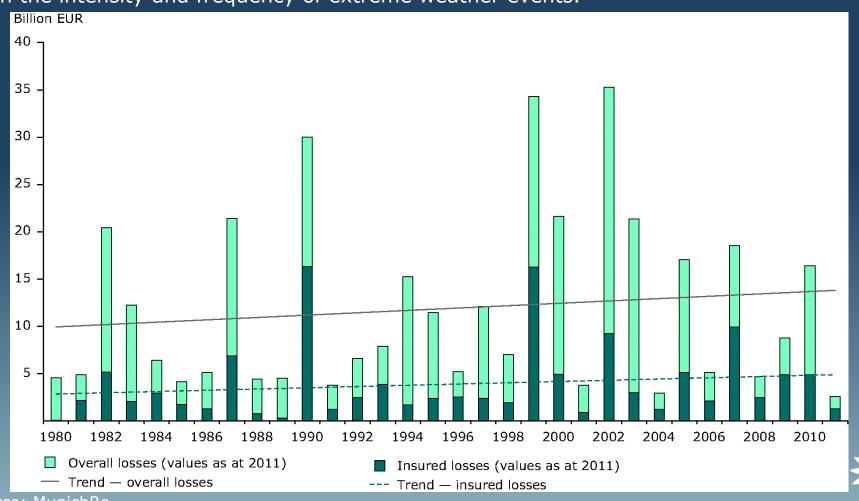
Increasing water demand for agriculture Expansion of habitats for southern Decrease in crop yields Increasing risk of forest fire Increase in mortality from heat waves

disease vectors Decrease in hydropower potential Decrease in summer tourism and potential increase in other seasons



## Example: Natural disasters

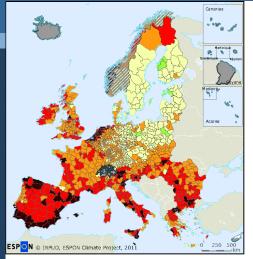
- Increases in damage costs from extreme weather events are due to increases in population, wealth and human activities in hazard-prone areas and to better reporting.
- Climate change is projected to increase these damage costs due to a projected increase in the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events.



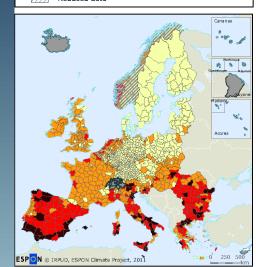
Source: MunichRe

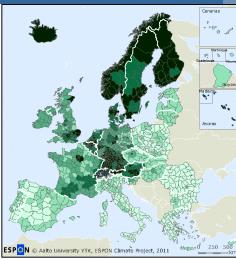
## Example: Aggregated vulnerability

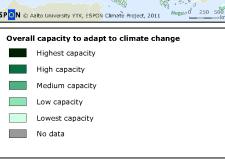
- Economic, technical, and institutional capacity to adapt to climate change differs across Europe.
- When impacts of climate change affect regions with low adaptive capacity, the consequences can be severe.
- Territorial cohesion may be negatively affected by deepening existing socio-economic imbalances.

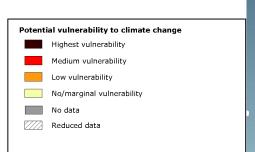










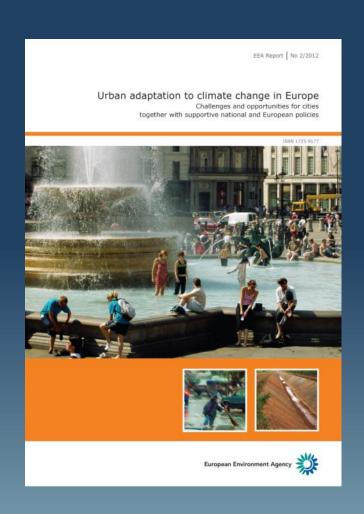


Source: ESPON Climate

# Urban adaptation to climate change (EEA report May 2012) (Action 4)

- Heat waves, flooding, water scarcity and droughts
- Planning urban adaptation
- Multi-level governance enabling urban adaptation

More information on cities see: EU cities adapt project http://eucities-adapt.eu



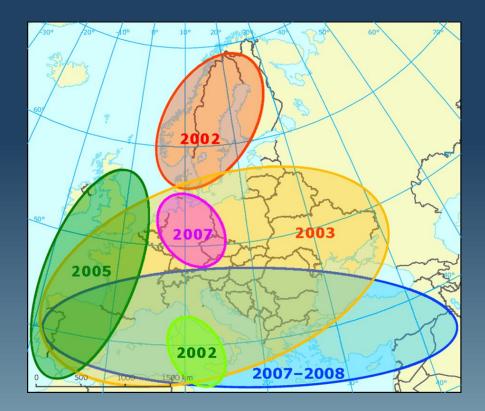


## Key messages

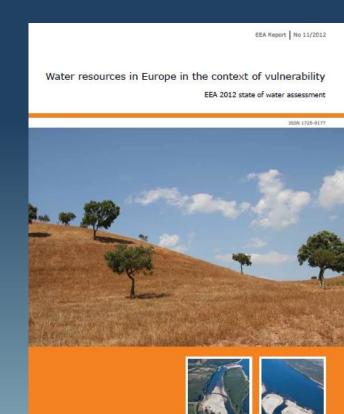
- Climate change **exacerbates existing socio-economic pressures** (urbanization, competing demands for water, increasing number of homes, industry and infrastructure in flood-prone areas)
- Cities face specific challenges (e.g. urban heat island, soil sealing)
- Investments for **urban infrastructure** should include adaptation (e.g. improve water retention, urban drainage, sewage systems, building standards)
- Need for green infrastructure (forests, parks, wetlands, green walls/roofs) and 'soft' measures (e.g. sharing information, capacity building, participation of stakeholders) and linked to spatial planning
- **Support** from **national and European level** is crucial (e.g. legal and institutional frameworks, funds)

# Water resources in the context of vulnerability (EEA report Nov 2012) (Action 4)

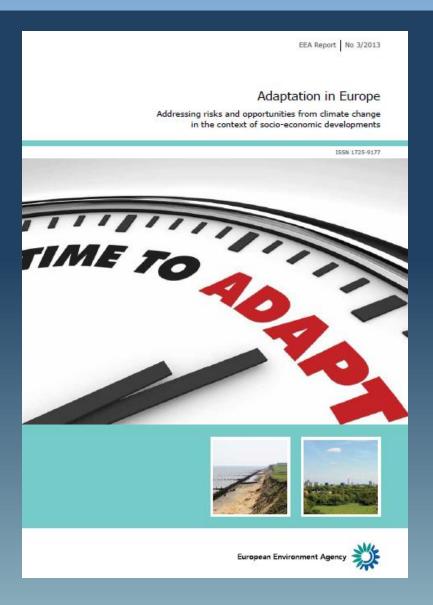
- Main threats: land use change; over abstraction; climate change
- Droughts are increasing in frequency
- Need sufficient water for all use, also ecosystems



Main drought events in Europe, 2000-2009 source: EEA



# Adaptation in Europe (EEA report, 29 April 2013) (Action 4)



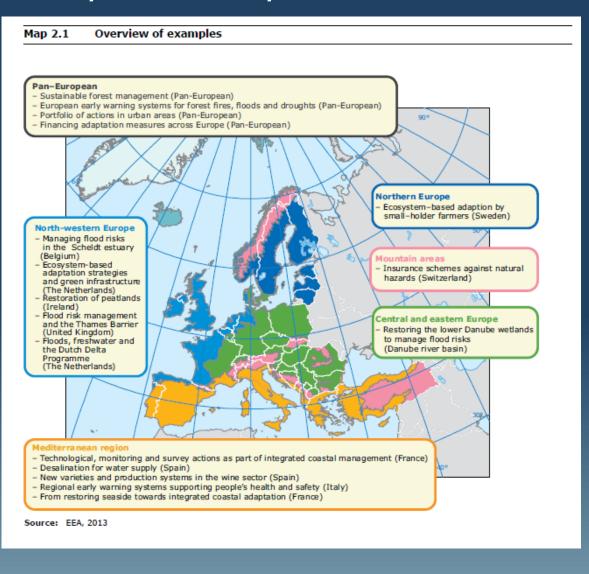
- To inform and support policymakers who are/will be formulating or implementing adaptation policy and actions ((trans-)national, regional, local authorities, private stakeholders)
- To demonstrate that adaptation actions are already being taken across Europe
- To support the implementation of the 2013 EU Adaptation Strategy

## Some key messages

- Overview of policies taken at EU level and by European countries; 16 of the 33 EEA member countries have national adaptation strategies (9 more than in 2008), and some have started to prepare/implement action plans. National adaptation strategies address primarily the water, agriculture and forestry, biodiversity and human health sectors. 12 additional EEA member countries are currently preparing a national adaptation strategy and 15 in total have already established web portals.
- Some **transnational regions** (e.g. the Danube, the Baltic, the Alps and the Pyrenees) and **cities** have developed or are developing adaptation strategies.
- Examples of implemented actions show that adaptation of both natural and human systems is already taking place across Europe. Examples are available of actions taken, using different measures ('grey' measures using technological and engineering approaches, 'green' ecosystem-based approaches using nature, and 'soft' measures such as policies to change governance approaches)
- Challenges include the need for coherent, flexible and participatory
   European Environment Agency



## Adaptation in practice



- 1. Grey adaptation actions
- 2. Green adaptation actions
- 3. Soft adaptation actions
- 4. Combined adaptation actions

- Adaptation goals
- Adaptation context
- Adaptation actions
- Administrative interactions
- Financing
- Results/lessons learned
- Sources

### Adaptation is already happening...



'Sand motor' beach replenishment, Ter Heijde, Netherlands



Campaign to prevent insect-borne diseases, Emilia-Romagna, Italy



Peatland restoration, Lough Boora, Ireland



New grape variety research, Spain

Cantonal Insurance Monopolies, Switzerland



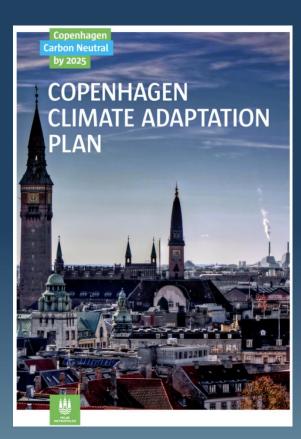




Restoration of the Danube, Kalimok marsh, Bulgaria

### Denmark and Copenhagen adaptation actions





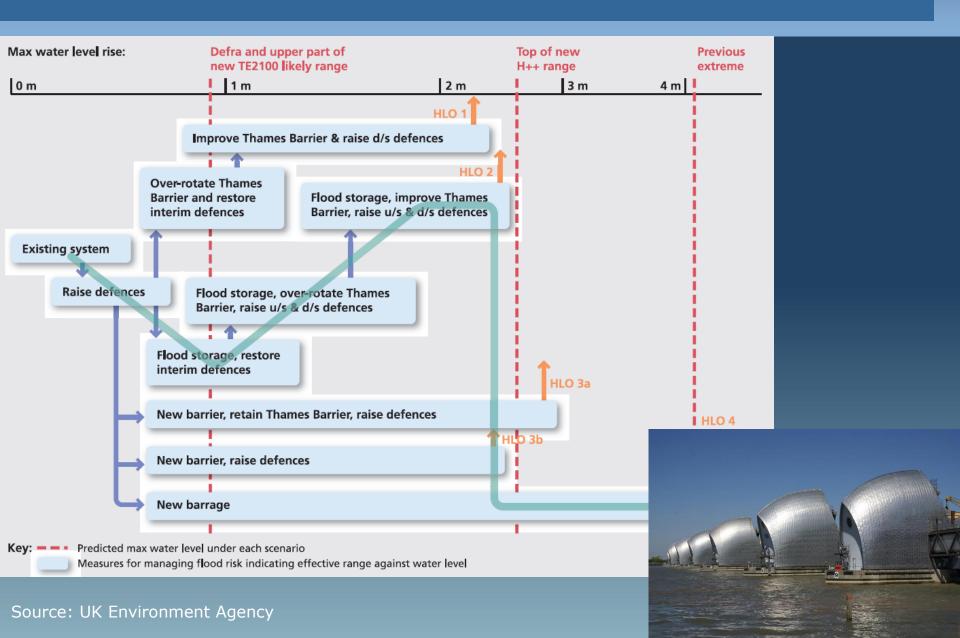
Extreme rainfall on 2 July 2011. Sewage system heavily overloaded, basements flooded, several motorways closed. Millions euro damage costs.

### Priorities for action:

- Areas with high risk
- Synergies (road infrastructure, water frame directive)
- Aiming for a green and blue city



## 'Adaptation pathway' UK Thames barrier



## National 'Room for the River' Programme, Netherlands

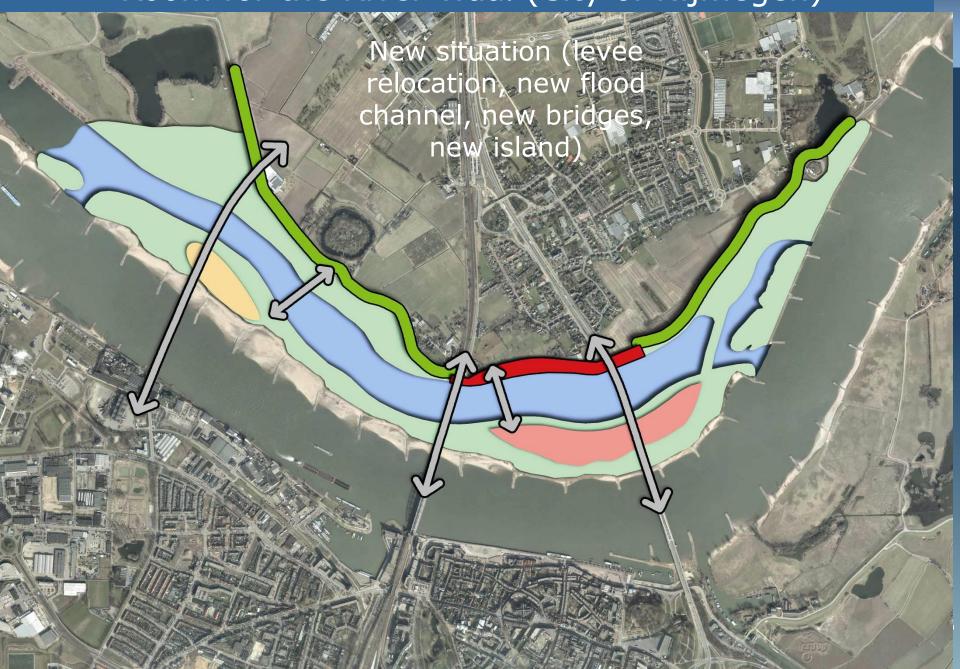








## Room for the River Waal (City of Nijmegen)







## EU adaptation policy initiatives (mainstreaming)

Table A2.1	Mapping of EU policy initiatives and related sectors

	Water management	Marine and fisheries	Coastal areas	Agriculture	Forestry	Biodiversity	Infrastructure	Finance and insurance	Disaster risk reduction	Health
CURRENT INITIATIVES										
Water management										
Water Framework Directive (WFD)										
Floods Directive										
Communication on addressing the challenge of water scarcity and drought in the EU, and the forthcoming 2012 Water Scarcity and Droughts policy review										
2012 'Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water'										
Marine and fisheries										
EU Integrated Maritime Policy and action plan										
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)										
Maritime Spatial Planning										
Marine Knowledge 2020										
Coastal areas										
Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), the Protocol on Integrated Management of Coastal Areas for the Mediterranean, the 2002 ICZM recommendations, and the OURCOAST initiative										
Agriculture										
2003 Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the so-called Health Check (2008), and the EC Communication on the CAP towards 2020										
Forestry										
EU Forestry Strategy and the 2006 EU Forest Action Plan										
2010 Green Paper on options for an EU approach to forest protection and information systems										
Biodiversity, green infrastructure										
2006 Soil Thematic Strategy, and Draft Proposal for a Soil Framework Directive										
Habitats and Birds Directives in the Natura 2000 network										



### Overview of countries actions

Table 3.1

Web Portal

Methodologies

- National adaptation strategies: 16
   (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, HU, IE, LT, MT, NL, PT, SE, UK)
- Some of these also have adaptation action plans
- Impacts, vulnerability and adaptation assessments (dealing differently with uncertainty and scenarios)
- Research programmes
- Climate Services
- Web Portal
- Monitoring of adaptation

Th/4	State					
Theme/topic	Adopted	Under development	n/a			
National Adaptation Strategy	16 (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, HU, IE, LT, MT, NL, PT, SE, UK)	12 (BG, CY, CZ, EE, GR, IT, LV, NO, PL, RO, SK, SI)				
Action Plans	13 (BE, BG, DE, ES, FI, FR, HU, LT, NL, NO, PL, SE, UK)	19 (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, DK, EE, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, PL, PT, SK, SI, UK)	2 (CZ, RO)			
	Completed	Being undertaken	n/a			
Impacts, vulnerability and adaptation assessments to support policy	17 (AT, BE, CH, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, HU, LT, NL, NO, RO, PT, SE, UK)	15 (BE, BG, CV, CZ, DE, EE, GR, FR, HU, IE, IT, LV, PL, SI, SK)				
Research programmes	27 (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, UK)					
	Online/established	Under development				
Climate Services/ Met Office	24 (BE, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, LT,	4 (AT, BG, IT, NO)				

LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,

Less broad

7 (BE, FR, HU,

LT, NL, PT, SI)

SK, UK) Broad

8 (AT, CH, DE,

Process in a rather

advanced phase

DK, FI, NO,

SE, UK)

Monitoring, Indicators, 2 (DE, UK)

Overview of adaptation policies in European countries. In total the EEA has 32 member countries, 28 of which have provided material for Climate-ADAPT (\*



does not necessarily equal the total number of countries as in some cases a country may appear of the work is completed while other parts are still being developed or on-going (e.g. action available for Lichtenstein, Luxembourg, Iceland and Turkey.

Process in an initial phase

Under development

10 (BG, CV, ES, EE, GR, IE, IT, LT, LV,

24 (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DK, EE,

ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, MT, NL, NO, PL, SK, SE, SI)

is follow Eurostat country codes (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\_explained/index. s; June 1 2012): Austria (AT), Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Switzerland (CH), Cyprus (CY), iny (DE), Denmark (DK), Estonia (EE), Spain (ES), Finland (FI), France (FR), Greece (GR), Iceland (IS), Italy (IT), Liechtenstein (LI), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Latvia (LV), Malta way (NO), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Sweden (SE), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), in (UK).



3 (CZ, RO, SK)

2 (PT, RO)

## Overview of countries actions

Table 3.2	Overview of sectors identified and addressed in national adaptation policies in
	Europe

Sectors	Number of countries mentioning sector	List of countries			
Water management and water resources	23 countries	AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, IE, IT, NL, NO, LV, PL, PT, SK, SI, UK			
Forests and forestry	23 countries	AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, PL, PT, RO, SK, SI, UK			
Agriculture	22 countries	AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LV, PL, PT, RO, SK, SI, UK			
Biodiversity, ecosystem services	19 countries	AT, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LT, NO, PL, PT, SK, UK			
Human health and wellbeing	18 countries	AT, BE, CH, CZ, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, HU, IT, LT, PL, PT, SK, SI, UK			
Infrastructure and built environment	14 countries	AT, CV, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, HU, NO, PL, UK			
Spatial planning, urban planning and development	14 countries	AT, CH, DK, GR, DE, ES, FI, FR, HU, IT, NL, PL, PT, UK			
Energy, energy consumption	14 countries	AT, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, IT, LT, PL, PT, UK			
Coastal areas, coastal management	13 countries	BE, CY, DE, DK, ES, FR, GR, IE, IT, LT, LV, PL, PT			
Tourism	13 countries	AT, CH, CY, CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, HU, IT, PL, PT, UK			
Civil protection, safety preparedness and rescue services	10 countries	AT, CZ, DE, DK, FR, GR, NL, LV, PT, UK			
Transport, transport infrastructure	10 countries	AT, CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, LT, NO, PL, UK			
Fishery and aquaculture	9 countries	CY, DK, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, PT, UK			
Industry	8 countries	CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, LT, PT, UK			
Natural disasters/hazards	5 countries	AT, CH, FR, IT, SI			
Soils and desertification	5 countries	BG, DE, ES, GR, IT			
Business and Services	4 countries	DE, ES, FI, LV, UK			
Green infrastructure, urban green spaces	2 countries	AT, HU			
Economy	2 countries	AT, LV			
Regional development	2 countries	DE, HU			
Communities	2 countries	FI, UK			
Heat-related issues	1 country	BE			
Mountain areas	1 country	ES			

Note: Sectors are marked in different colours depending on how many countries have identified them in their adaptation policies



# Many Interreg projects on CC adaptation

### Opportunities and challenges to share and transfer knowledge

Transnational region	Project			
Northern Periphery Programme	Clim-ATIC			
Baltic Sea	Baltadapt, BaltCICA			
North West Europe	SIC Adapt, Future Cities, ALFA, AMICE, C-CHANGE, Flood ResilienCity, FORESTCLIM, IMCORE, WAVE			
North Sea Region Programme	Climate Proof Areas, CLIWAT, SAWA, Aquarius, DIPOL, MARE			
Atlantic Area	REINFFORCE			
Alpine Space	C3ALPS, CLISP, Adaptalp, CLIMALPTOUR, Alp-Water-Scarce, Permanet, SILMAS, MANFRED, ALPFFIRS, PARAMOUNT			
Central Europe	HABIT-CHANGE, Ceframe, EULAKES, INARMA, UHI			
South-East Europe	EU.WATER, CADSES			
Mediterranean	CAT-Med, COASTANCE, FOR CLIMADAPT			

## Some knowledge gaps

- Costs and benefits of adaptation actions
- Overview of activities at national, sub-national /regional/city levels
- Actions by businesses and the private sector
- Indicators for monitoring and evaluating adaptation

## 2013 networking activities (Action 1)

Adaptation to climate change in the transport sector: Expert meeting, 23 May, EEA, Copenhagen

Expert Meeting on 'National Adaptation Platforms (19 June 2013) and 7th EIONET Workshop on 'Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation' (20 June 2013) (EEA, Copenhagen)

EEA/CIRCLE2 meeting on adaptation platforms, 7/8 Nov 2013 (Vienna)



First "Open European Day" and "EU Cities Adapt" final conference, 3 June 2013, Bonn



Workshop on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in West Balkan countries, 22-23 April 2013, Belgrade, Serbia



# European Climate Adaptation Platform Climate-ADAPT (Action 5)

- Supports governmental decision-makers developing/implementing climate change adaptation strategies, policies and actions
- Launched March 2012 (DG CLIMA, EEA)
- EEA maintains, with Commission, and supported by ETC CCA



http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu

## EU sectoral policies

Home | Adaptation information | EU sector policies | Countries, regions and cities | Tools | Links | Search the database

General | Agriculture and forestry | Biodiversity | Coastal areas | Disaster risk reduction | Financial | Health | Infrastructure | Marine and fisheries | Water management

### **EU Adaptation Policy**

In April 2013 the European Commission adopted the <u>EU strategy on adaptation to climate</u> <u>change</u> which sets out a framework and mechanisms for taking the EU's preparedness for current and future climate impacts to a new level. The EU finances adaptation to climate change in Europe through a <u>wide</u> range of instruments.

Climate policy mainstreaming is the involvement of actors, whose main tasks are not directly concerned with climate change, working towards the goals of <u>mitigation</u>, or <u>adaptation</u>. Adaptation means anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause. Early action will save damage costs later on, so adaptation strategies are needed at all levels of administration, from local to international.

Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in EU policies is one of the pillars of the European Commission's 2009 White Paper "Adapting to climate change: Towards a European framework for action". In the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the following statement is made on combating climate change: "We must also strengthen our economies' resilience to climate risks, and our capacity for disaster prevention and response'.

EU policies in which such mainstreaming is ongoing or explored are:





#### Agriculture and Forestry

The European Commission's EU strategy on adaptation to climate change...»

Read more



#### Rindiversity

Climate change is expected to have a substantial impact on biodiversity, the functioning of ecosystems...>>

Read more



#### Coastal areas

Sea level rise can cause flooding, coastal erosion and the loss of low-lying...»

Read more



#### Disaster risk reduction

Over the last few years, Europe has experienced severe forest fires, floods, and droughts...»

Read more







Sign In | Glossary | Contact | Sitemap | Legal notice | About

Search the website

Search...

Home

Adaptation information

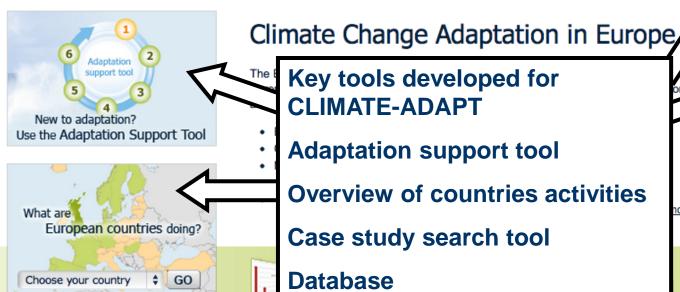
EU sector policies

Countries and other areas

Tools

Links

Search the database



Key tools developed for **CLIMATE-ADAPT** 

Adaptation support tool

Overview of countries activities

Case study search tool

**Database** 



### News



- Apr 2013 EU adaptation strategy launched - advancing adaptation action
- Apr 2013 EU adaptation strategy: stakeholder event, 29 April
- Feb 2013 LIFE+ 2013 call for proposals

### **Events**



- 17-19 April 2013, 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, Geneva, Switzerland
- 29 April 2013, Launch event for EU strategy on adaptation to climate change, Brussels, Belgium
- 31 May 2 June 2013, Resilient

### EU sector policies



Agriculture & Forestry

» Read more



Water management

- » Read more
  - » View all sectors

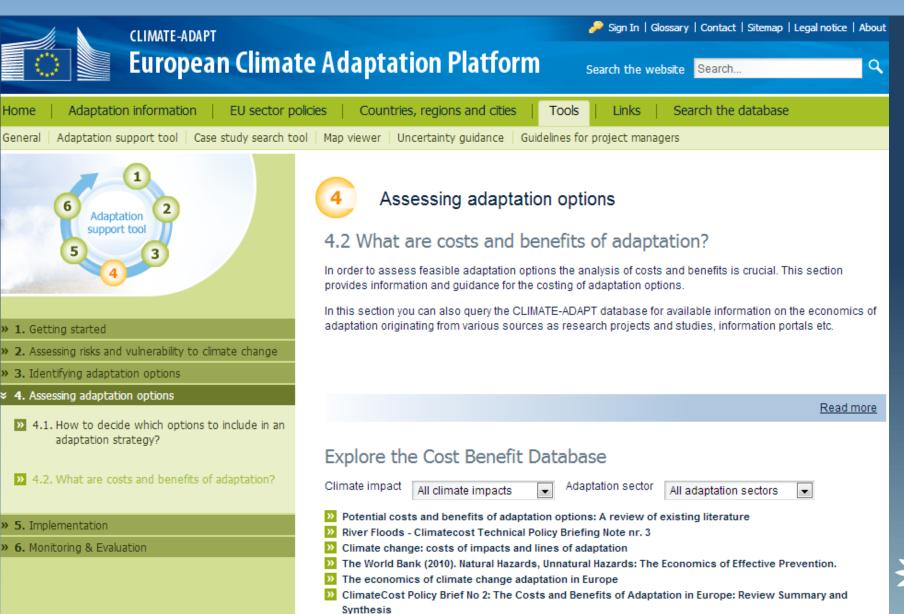
### **EU** information systems





Biodiversity

## Adaptation support tool





## Information on countries adaptation strategies





Choose a country

### France

Legal framework Assessments Priority sectors Local actions Summary Contact

Responsibility for climate change adaptation is split between national, regional and local levels.

- The creation of a National Observatory for the Effects of Global Warming (<u>ONERC</u>) in 2001, tasked specifically with adaptation to climate change, followed by the adoption of the <u>National Adaptation Strategy</u> in 2006, marked the beginning of French government activity in the adaptation field;
- Programme law 2009-967 of 3 August 2009, relating to the implementation of the Grenelle Environment
  Forum, makes provision in Article 42 for "the preparation of a National Adaptation Plan for a variety of areas
  of activity by 2011". The first National Adaptation Plan was published on 20 July 2011 and aims to present
  concrete measures designed to prepare for and exploit new climatic conditions in France. The Plan covers
  a five-year period (2011-2015). 20 key fields are identified for action. More than 90 % of actions have started
  and some like Drias les futur du climat are completed.
- Regional adaptation guidelines are defined in Regional Climate, Air and Energy Schemes (SRCAE) and local adaptation actions are designed within Territorial Climate-Energy Plans (PCET), under the provisions of Law 2010-788 of 12 July 2010.

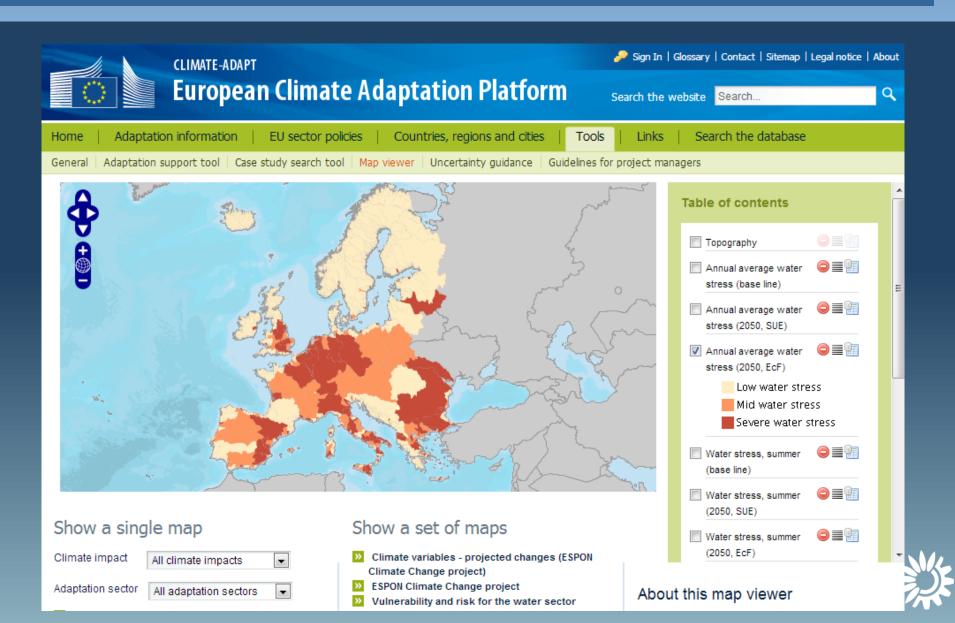
Some French overseas communities have a specific competency regarding environmental policy (e.g. French Polynesia, New Caledonia). Thus adaptation policy falls under their local decision making process. French Polynesia is currently developing its strategic climate plan with specific provisions for adaptation issues.

In November 2009, France submitted its <u>fifth national communication</u> to the UNFCCC, with a significant part dedicated to adaptation issues and policies.

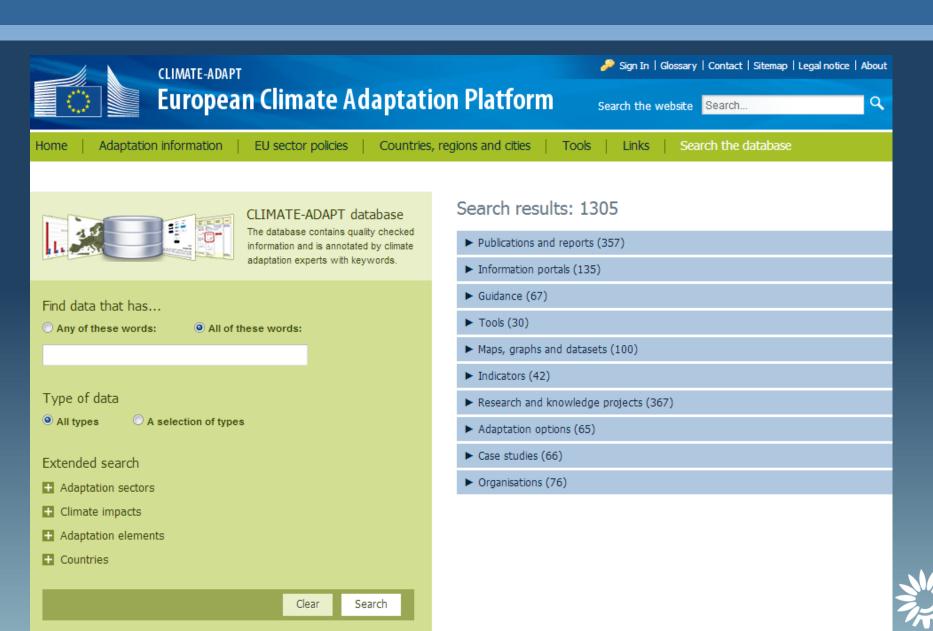
## Case study search tool



## Map viewer



### Database search



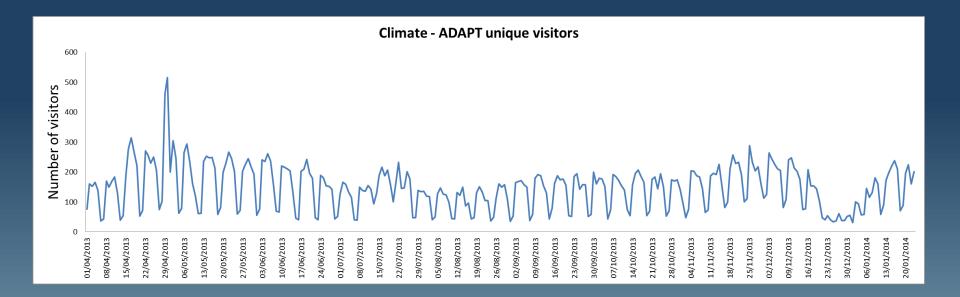
## Statistics on Climate-ADAPT (1)

- About 23000 page views, 5800 visits and 3600 unique visitors per months on average (average visit time 4 min) (period April 2013 – Jan 2014; similar in period March 2012 – March 2013)
- One of the most visited EEA thematic sites
- Pages most visited are:
  - Country profiles (Average number of unique visitors: 67/day (= 2000/month)
  - Adaptation support tool (Average number of unique visitors: 37/day (= 1100/month)
- Visitors are mostly from (alphabetical) Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy,
   Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, UK, US
- Origin of visitors is influenced by e.g main conferences held in the country
- Visitors access through:
  - Direct link (25%)
  - Google (25%)
  - EEA web site (20%)



# Statistics on Climate-ADAPT (2) (Trends)

- Some links to events/conferences, e.g. max number of unique visitors on 29 April 2013 (515) (launch event of the EU adaptation strategy, Brussels)
- Average number of unique visitors: 120/day (= 3600/month)



## Climate-ADAPT lessons learnt

- Define and communicate the goal and the target audience
- A **comprehensive knowledge base** for adaptation is regarded important by users
- Country pages are regarded as very useful by EEA member countries
- The platform has already supported national and sub-national level adaptation policy and action
- Continuous efforts are needed to keep the presented information up to date
- Researchers and adaptation actors have been engaged and are interested to present their results
- Transparency is needed on the communication of uncertainties and boundaries of the information

## Climate-ADAPT challenges

- Long-term planning on resources
- **Engage** users further to **uptake** the information
- **Engage** researchers and adaptation actors further to **share results**
- Assess use of new approaches to present the information (visualisation techniques and interactive tools)
- Enhance further **links to other platforms** (e.g. sectoral)
- Evaluate if/how the platform can be used for future countries' reporting on adaptation
- Evaluate the use of the platform

## Climate-ADAPT next steps

- Dissemination (Trainings, presentations, brochure, videos);
   Newsletter
- Update transnational information (e.g. Baltic Sea Region) and national information including links to national adaptation platforms
- Extend to include other countries (e.g. West Balkan)
- Enhance city information
- Case studies improvement and enhancement
- Include outputs from key EU research, DG CLIMA, Interreg, LIFE+ projects on adaptation
- Include information on EU funding options
- Improve maps and map viewer (e.g. with JRC)
- Develop links to the (future) Copernicus climate change service

## Sharing experiences on adaptation platforms

- 19 June expert meeting (EEA, Copenhagen)
- Participants: 17 countries, EEA, DG CLIMA, ETC/CCA, CIRCLE-2 project, ECDC, Pyrenees Climate Change Observatory, Alpine Convention
- Countries presenting a national climate change adaptation platform: Austria, Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom
- Discussion on lessons learned, good practices and main challenges across countries, links and synergies with Climate-ADAPT
- Further exchanges in a follow-up workshop, inviting some transnational and research platforms and experts on disaster risk reduction and climate services
- Possible outcome: recommendations on development of 'good practices'
- EEA/CIRCLE2 workshop on adaptation platforms,
   7/8 Nov 2013 (Vienna),
- EEA/CIRCLE2 workshop on adaptation platforms,
   23 June 2014 (Copenhagen) Tentative date



# Assessment of adaptation policy processes in EEA member countries (2013/2014) (Action 1)

### Rationales

- Country pages on Climate-ADAPT provides a useful overview of activities at national and sub-national levels.
- This information, however, provides a static view and allows mainly for descriptive work.
- Transnational and transboundary activities are marginally included in the country pages of Climate-ADAPT.
- Country pages on Climate-ADAPT are those most visited, demonstrating the demand from EEA member countries for information at national and sub-national levels.
- -> An overview and assessment of activities at national, sub-national and transnational levels would be informative to our stakeholders. EU-wide overview of key topics across EEA member countries, reflect on lessons learned, highlight 'good practices' and enhance exchange of information between countries- 'Name and Honour'.
- Self-assessment Consultation of countries is critical
- One coordinated official (but voluntary) answer per country. The country responses to the survey, i.e. the base for the analytical work, will be publicly accessible (e.g. online).

# Assessment of adaptation policy processes in EEA member countries (2013/2014)

- Online Self-assessment, consultation of countries.
- Topics (42 questions):
  - General statements on adaptation
  - The adaptation policy process:
    - Prepare the ground for adaptation
    - Identify risks and explore options
    - Implementation, monitoring and evaluation
  - Level of adaptation and policy instruments in sectors
  - Involvement of stakeholders
  - Open questions on next steps

- Received 27 coordinated country responses so far.
- Draft report in January 2014 sent back to countries
- Official consultation of country in May 2014
- Publication planned for Automn 2014

### Added value:

- ✓ Assessment covers all 32 EEA member countries (thus, complement information on CLIMATE-ADAPT)
- ✓ Assessment provides up-to-date information
- Assessment allows to draw lessons learned on what worked and what did not work
- Develop an (stable) assessment methodology which can be applied in the following years and allow to report on the adaptation progress across Europe

1. Use template provided for country page on CLIMATE-ADAPT as starting point, update information and integrate it into fact sheet

2. Involve experts from Member Countries & approach them with an self-assessment

3. Prepare an assessment report based on selfassessment and fact sheets

European Environment Agency

## Conclusions

- Indicators are available but further monitoring and national and EU
  research are needed. Copernicus projects and the planned EU climate change
  service and national services are essential
- Many EEA member countries have developed impacts, vulnerability and adaptation assessments and several countries and cities have strategies in place (and some also action plans); also many transnational actions have taken place or are planned (e.g. Baltic Sea Region). More detailed overviews and analysis of country approaches to adaptation are needed to facilitate transfers of knowledge and good practices.
- Mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in EU policies is taking place;
   the European Commission adopted an EU adaptation strategy in April
   2013 with proposals for further action
- The European Climate Adaptation Platform and transnational, national and city level adaptation platforms support climate change adaptation at various governance levels

### Thank you for your attention!

Please do not hesitate to ask the European Environment Agency for information

http://www.eea.europa.eu

http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate

http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu

Stephane.Isoard@eea.europa.eu

