



Towards an EU Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

DG Climate Action, European Commission
Rosario Bento Pais, Head of Unit, Climate Change Adaptation
DG CLIMA

EU Adaptation Strategy

▶ **the general aim**

To enhance the preparedness and capacity to respond to the impacts of climatic change at EU, Member State, regional and local levels

▶ **the basis**

Commission White Paper (2009)

- *4 pillar action plan: knowledge base, mainstreaming, international cooperation, policy instruments*
- *33 long-term actions*
- *implementation from 2009-2012*

The EU Adaptation Strategy

► the objectives

(1) Knowledge

- *Improve and widen the knowledge base and identify gaps*
- *Further the understanding of vulnerabilities and adaptation options*
- *Facilitate knowledge use and exchange*

(2) Policy and market-based instruments

- *Mainstream adaptation into policies at EU level, including revision of legislation to include climate adaptation*
- *Identify potential adaptation actions (insurance, standards, regulations, projects...)*

(3) Cooperation and facilitation

- *Facilitate cooperation with and between Member States, regions, cities and other relevant stakeholders*
- *Provide guidelines for adaptation*

EU-Adaptation Strategy: added value

▶ **European added value**

- *Providing a common framework, guidance and tools*
- *Allowing flexibility for Member States that are advanced in adaptation while providing impulse and support to those that are just starting*
- *Facilitating integrated cross-border solutions where required*
- *Facilitates experience exchange and mutual learning*

EU Adaptation Strategy: the mainstreaming approach

- *Earmarking of 20% of the 2014-2020 budget (Multiannual Financial Framework) for climate-related expenditure*
- *Mainstreaming of climate action in the future Cohesion Policy, Common Agriculture Policy, Research & Innovation (Horizon 2020), Common Fisheries Policy*
- *LIFE+ to have a dedicated programme for climate action (1/3 of budget) and a funding line for adaptation*

EU Adaptation Strategy: development of the knowledge-base

► **CLIMATE ADAPT** (climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu)

Online platform on adaptation

- *Facilitating knowledge dissemination and exchange*
- *Database comprising publications, projects, guidance documents, organizations, case studies...*
- *Tools, indicators, maps for adaptation planning*
- *Information on sectoral policies and on spatial entities (countries, regions, cities, etc)*
- *50.000 unique visitors since launch 23 March 2012*



Adaptation support tool

New to adaptation?
Use the Adaptation Support Tool

Climate Change Adaptation in Europe

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

- **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

What are European countries doing?

Choose your country

Share your information

News



- » Adaptation in Scotland – ASC assessment
- » Environment Agency to invite you to participate in adaptation research
- » Adaptation reporting power – final tranche of reports published

Events



- » Planet under Pressure, 26-29 March 2012, London
- » Earth Systems Engineering 2012

EU sector policies



Agriculture & Forestry
» [Read more](#)



Water management
» [Read more](#)

» [View all sectors](#)

EU information systems



Adaptation Support Tool



» 1. Getting started

- » 1.1. How to use the adaptation support tool?
- » 1.2. Why adapt to climate change?
- » 1.3. How to plan for adaptation?

» 2. Assessing risks and vulnerability to climate change

» 3. Identifying adaptation options

» 4. Assessing adaptation options

» 5. Implementation

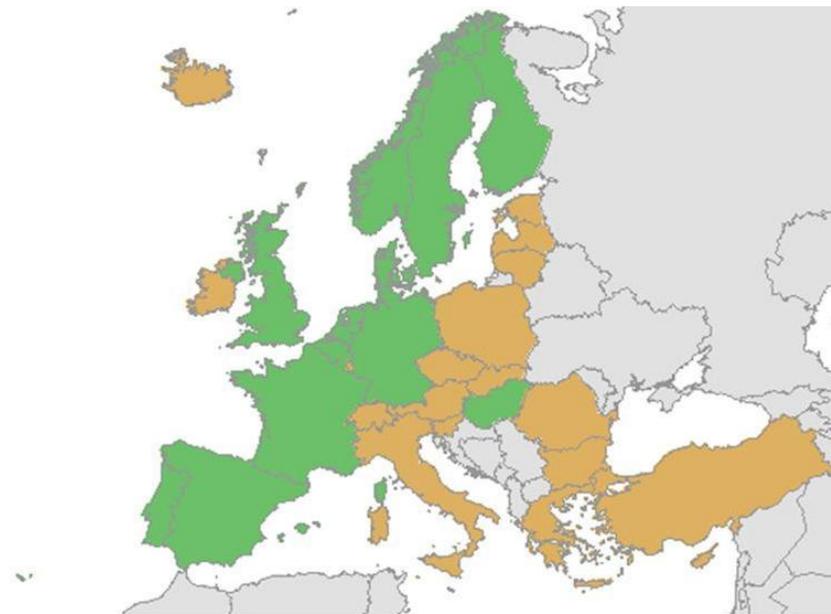
» 6. Monitoring & Evaluation

The Adaptation Support Tool guides the user through the policy making cycle of adaptation: from the assessment of risk and vulnerability to the identification, implementation and evaluation of adaptation measures

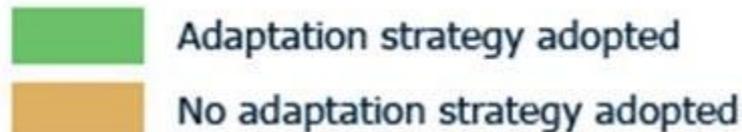
For each step it provides:

- Guidance Documents
- Information Resources
- Risk and assessment tools
- Relevant case studies
- Links to useful information

Overview of National Activities



Austria



CLIMATE ADAPT presents information on National Activities for most European Countries

European countries are at very different stages of development of climate change adaptation policies

There are 12 countries with an adopted adaptation strategy and **CLIMATE-ADAPT** has gathered information on adaptation actions/measures/strategies from 25 European countries

CLIMATE-ADAPT contains a large database of case studies

Users will be able to upload their case studies

All case studies will be quality checked and made available to the European adaptation community

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Improved water resource management in areas with acute water shortage - MT

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1. Policy Objective & Theme

- ADAPTATION TO RISK: Managing impacts of climate change and safeguarding resilience of coasts/coastal systems
- ADAPTATION TO RISK: Integrating coherent strategies covering the risk-dimension (prevention to response) into planning and investment

2. Key Approaches

- Ecosystems based approach
- Technical

3. Experiences that can be exchanged

Water leakage control from supply pipelines has been developed to become a strategically important component for water resource management. It has been used to reach an optimum economic balance between water supply and water demand. The case is particularly relevant for many coastal areas of the Mediterranean which face water shortages. The gap between supply and demand is likely to get bigger as the effects of climate change become more pronounced in the coming decades as the Mediterranean region is predicted to become both hotter and drier.

4. Overview of the case

In Malta, extreme water shortage has led to integrated water resource management being used to improve ...
[read more](#)



people, cities, adapting to climate Europe? What can learn from others?

allows to browse all case studies in searching by sector impact.

region is selected (eg

climate impact is (eg drought)

tool shows all adaptation case

studies. Red dots are case studies in a region with similar climate impacts as Marseille (Southern Europe). Grey dots are case studies outside that region

EU policies: water management



CLIMATE-ADAPT
European Climate Adaptation Platform

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Search the website

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

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

Water Management

Water resources are directly impacted by climate change, and the management of these resources affects the vulnerability of ecosystems, socio-economic activities and human health. Water management is also expected to play an increasingly central role in adaptation.

Climate change is projected to lead to major changes in water availability across Europe with increasing water scarcity and droughts mainly in Southern Europe and increasing risk of floods throughout most of Europe.

Search results

- ▶ Publications and reports (54)
- ▶ Information portals (51)
- ▶ Guidance (13)
- ▶ Tools (4)
- ▶ Maps, graphs and datasets (47)

Indicators

- » Coastal areas (floods)
- » European precipitation
- » Freshwater biodiversity and water quality
- » Glaciers
- » Precipitation extremes in Europe
- » River floods
- » River flow

[View all](#)

Resources

- » IPCC WG2, 2007, chapter 3: Freshwater resources and their management
- » Water resources: quantity and flows - EEA SOER 2010 thematic assessment
- » Addressing the challenge of water scarcity and droughts in the European Union
- » EEA report Water resources across Europe — confronting water scarcity and drought
- » EU Policy paper on Water, Coasts and

Multimedia

- » City of five of Europe
- » Floating of Europe
- » Living w

For each sector, CLIMATE-ADAPT presents how the EU is mainstreaming adaptation

This is relevant in particular for the water sector, which will be severely impacted by climate change.

Each sector page presents relevant:

Indicators of climate change

Publications

Research Projects

Information resources

CLIMATE-ADAPT: water stress projections

Users of CLIMATE-ADAPT will be able to visualize the key results of ClimWatAdapt, a study which provide a comprehensive analysis of risks and vulnerability in the water sector.

This will allow the assessment of vulnerability to climate change impacts and adaptation measures in the water sector

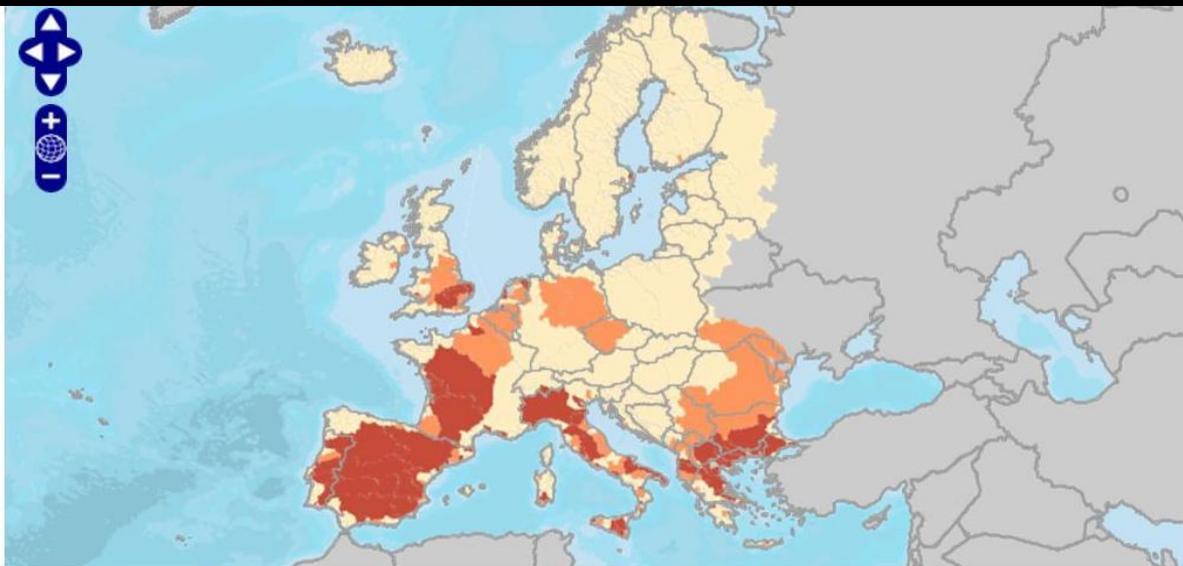


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 - Water stress, summer (base line) ⊖ ☰ 📄
 - Water stress, summer (2050, SUE) ⊖ ☰ 📄
- Low water stress
 Mid water stress
 Severe water stress
- Water stress, summer (2050, EcF) ⊖ ☰ 📄

Show a single map

Climate impact All climate impacts ⌵

Adaptation sector All adaptation sectors ⌵

- » Annual average water stress (2025, EcF)
- » Annual average water stress (ClimWatAdapt project)

Show a set of maps

- » Climate variables - projected changes (ESPON Climate Change project)
- » Terrestrial vulnerability and risk (ESPON Climate Change project)
- » Vulnerability and risk for the water sector (ClimWatAdapt project)

Thank you!

