

Ready or not?

Findings of the evaluation of the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change

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UNECE Conference of
European Statisticians
Geneve, 3 October 2018



Adaptation to climate change in Europe

Dual challenge

1. We must sharply cut greenhouse gas emissions to prevent unmanageable impacts
2. We must also adapt to climate change to increase society's resilience and manage unavoidable impacts



2030 Climate and Energy Package



European Adaptation Strategy (2013)

***Complementary
mutually reinforcing!***

2013 EU Adaptation Strategy – towards resilient Europe

**Under
evaluation!**

✱ Promote action by all member states

- ✱ Encourage all MS to adopt adaptation strategies
- ✱ Provide funding to help them build resilience
- ✱ Launch voluntary adaptation initiative for towns and cities

✱ Make EU-level action 'climate-proof'

- ✱ Further integrate climate adaptation needs into key vulnerable sectors e.g. regional development, energy, transport, fisheries, agriculture, disaster risk reduction
- ✱ Make infrastructure more resilient
- ✱ Promote insurance against disasters

✱ Make decision-making better informed

- ✱ Address knowledge gaps through research
- ✱ Develop European climate adaptation platform as 'one-stop shop' for adaptation information in Europe



Policy indicators for adaptation to climate change in the EU

National Adaptation Strategies overview

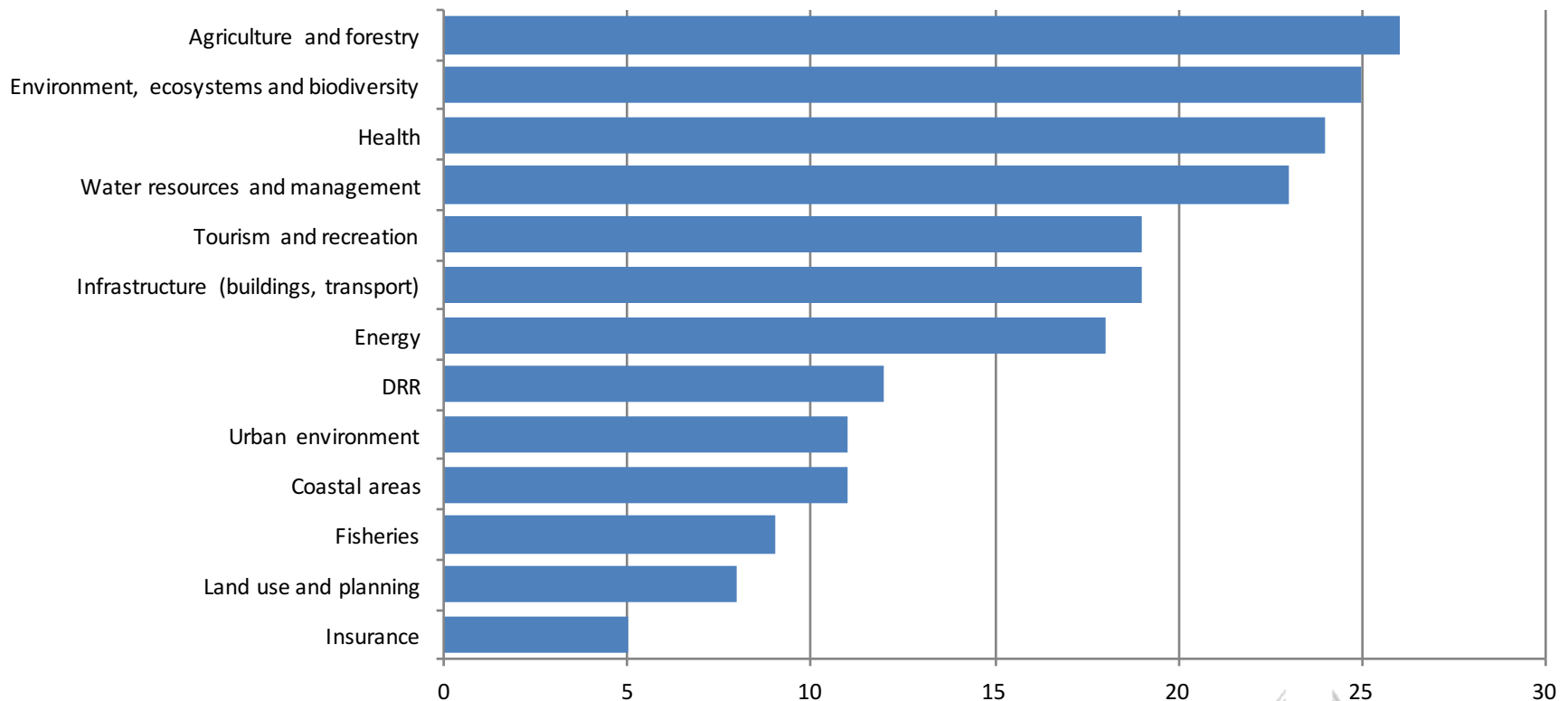


- National Adaptation Strategy Adopted**
- National Adaptation Strategy under development**
- Outside coverage**

Source: EEA (2018)

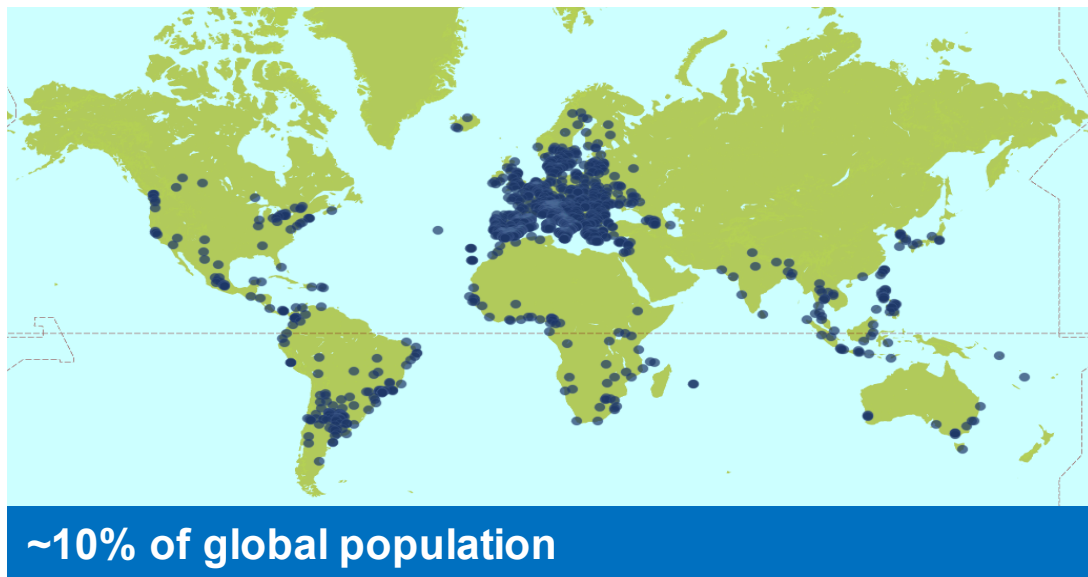
National Adaptation Strategies

Climate-vulnerable sectors identified in the EU



Covenant of Mayors for climate and energy

- ★ **7,755** signatories, **1,000+** committed to 2030 targets and adaptation



- ★ **6,038** Sustainable Energy Action Plans developed, with a total GHG reduction of **23%** achieved to date
- ★ **40%** reductions by **2030**, and development of local adaptation plan



Covenant of Mayors
for Climate & Energy

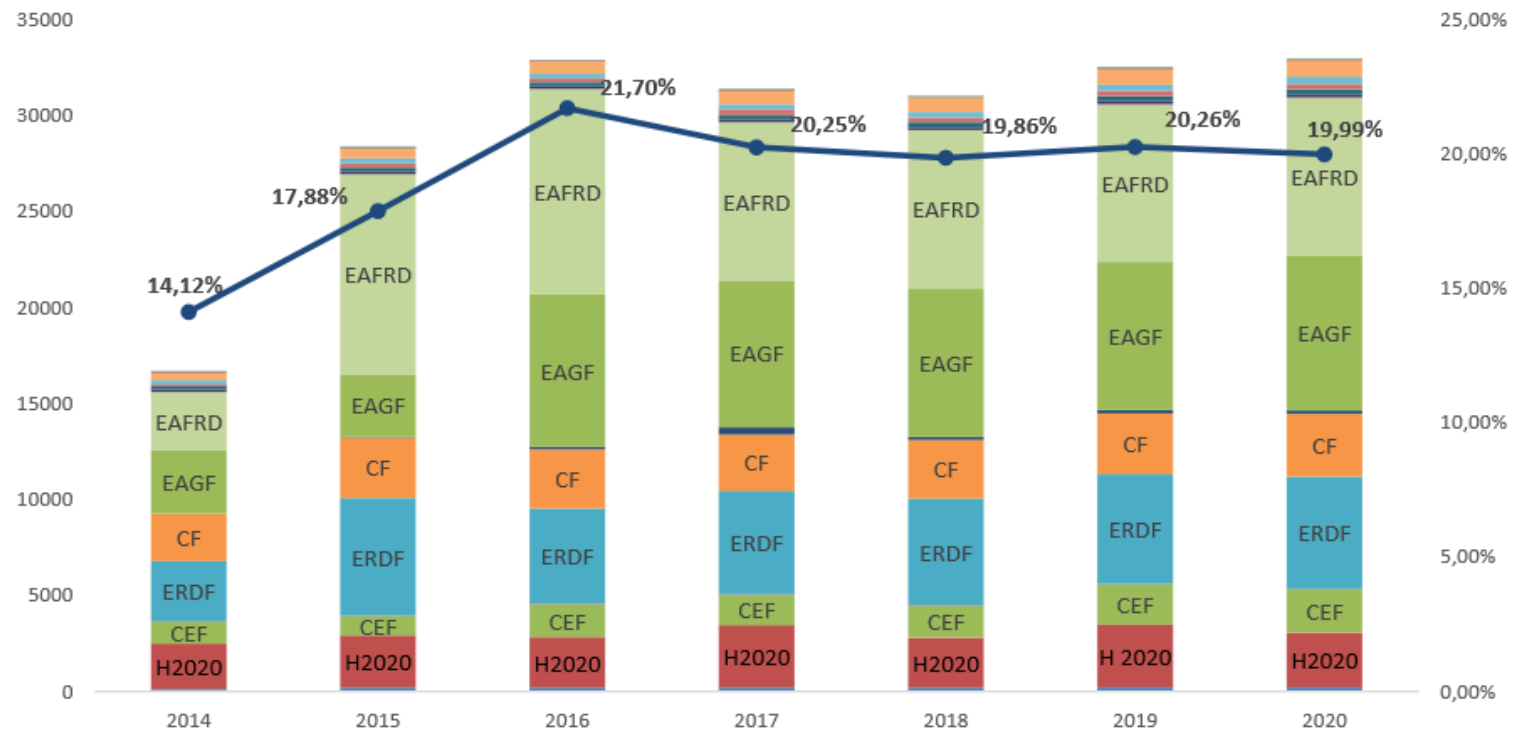


GLOBAL COVENANT
of MAYORS for
CLIMATE & ENERGY

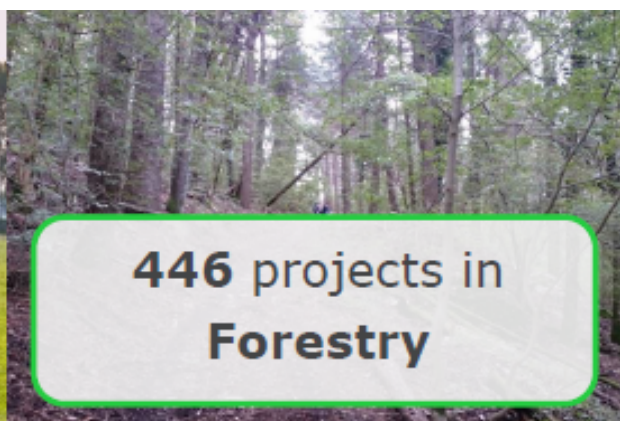


European
Commission

Main EU spending programmes contributing to tackle climate change



LIFE: Agriculture and Forestry 1992-2015

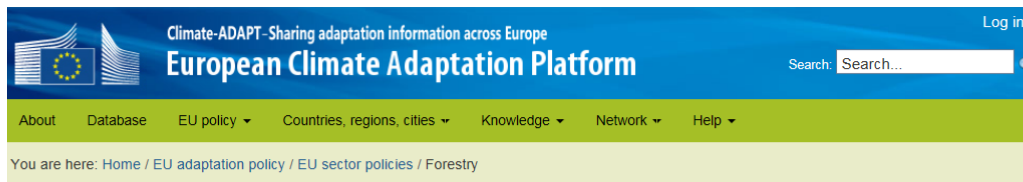


Bridge the knowledge gap

✱ EEA Climate change impact and vulnerability assessment

✱ JRC Modelling

✱ Climate ADAPT



Forestry

The rapid rate of climate change may overcome the natural ability of forest ecosystems to adapt. It leads to increased risk of disturbances through storms, fire, pests and diseases with implications for forest growth and production. The economic viability of forestry will be affected, mainly in southern areas of Europe, as well as the capacity of forests to provide environmental services, including changes in the carbon sink function. In 2013, the Commission adopted a new [EU Forest Strategy](#), which responds to new challenges facing forests and the forest sector.

[Read more](#)

Indicators

- » Forest composition and distribution
- » Soil organic carbon
- » Forest fires

Resources

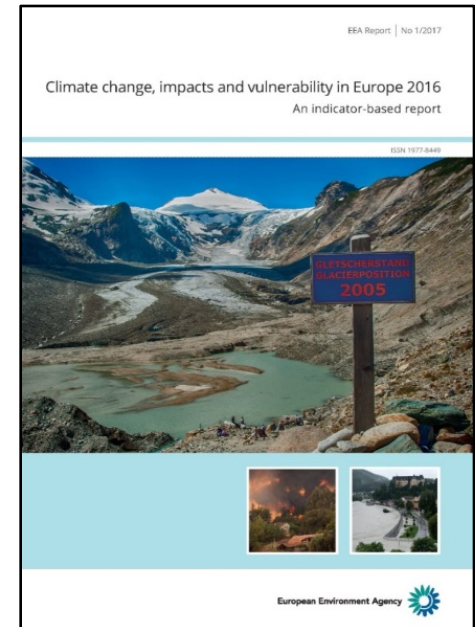
- » Overview of CAP Reform 2014-2020
- » Climate Change in European Forests: How to Adapt
- » Forest Management and Climate Change: a literature review.
- » A new EU Forest Strategy: for forests and the forest-based sector
- » Impacts of Climate Change on European Forests and Options for Adaptation

FACT sheet on forestry

Search results

- » Publications and reports (797)
- » Information portals (147)
- » Indicators (34)
- » Guidance (140)
- » Tools (72)
- » Research and knowledge projects (505)
- » Adaptation options (40)
- » Case studies (76)
- » Organisations (94)

Share your information



<https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/climate-change-impacts-and-vulnerability-2016>

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

In summary

The Strategy has been so far...

- ✱ RELEVANT, but new needs have emerged (high-end CC, spill over effects, Paris Agreement, alignment with DRR, work with private sector)
- ✱ EFFECTIVE, but in the case of MS, mostly in encouraging preparatory action (NAS), less in promoting implementation and review
- ✱ EFFICIENT, light on overall costs
- ✱ COHERENT internally, at EU and at national level, less so at sub-national level
- ✱ showing EU ADDED VALUE, except where little policy outcome has been realised so far.



Ricardo
Energy & Environment



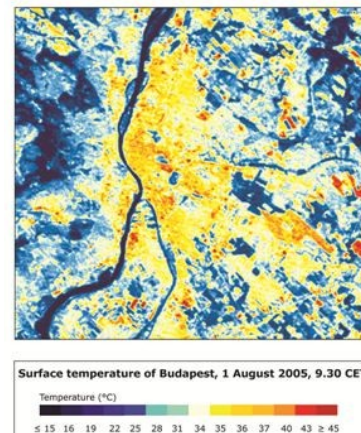
WAGENINGEN
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Climate data for decision-making

- 2 examples**

Standards define infrastructures...

- Safe construction and operation;
 - Resilience to extreme weather events
 - Referred to in contracts and engineering specifications
 - Eurocodes: safety of construction works
 - In some cases referred to in legislation
- ⇒ At present most standards refer to **historical climate data**



What can a standard do?

- Ensure 'build back better' before disaster strikes
- Increase infrastructure services and up-time in changing weather patterns
 - **NB: For extreme weather *and* slow-onset events**

Standards link to

- **Urban resilience**
- **Local adaptation**
- **Financing adaptation (cost-benefit analysis)**
- **Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Vulnerability Analysis**

DATA

Mandate from European Commission to standardisation organisations

- *Time frame: 2018 - 2021*
- *Objective:*
 - **Revise/develop** a number of pre-selected standards
 - **Develop 'tailored guidance' for use of relevant future climate data and dealing with uncertainties for the development of standards**

Guidance for standard writers



Future climate data!!

- *How to know about it?*
- **Where to find it?**

How to use it?

How to trust it?

EU action plan on Sustainable Finance

- *How can the financial sector contribute to the solutions in climate change and sustainable development goals?*
 - **Taxonomy**
 - **Climate related risk disclosures**

DATA

Future climate data!!

- *How to know about it?*
- **Where to find it?**

How to use it?

How to trust it?

The beginning of an answer:

Show added value to user communities

- **Future climate data DOES exist!**
- **Clarity on where to find data**
- **Information on extremes: use cases, pilots and and good practice-base are needed**
- **Scenarios and probabilities of those scenarios**

Directorate-General for Climate Action ("DG CLIMA"):

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

EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation_en

Evaluation of the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change:

https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what_en#tab-0-0

