



"An EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change"

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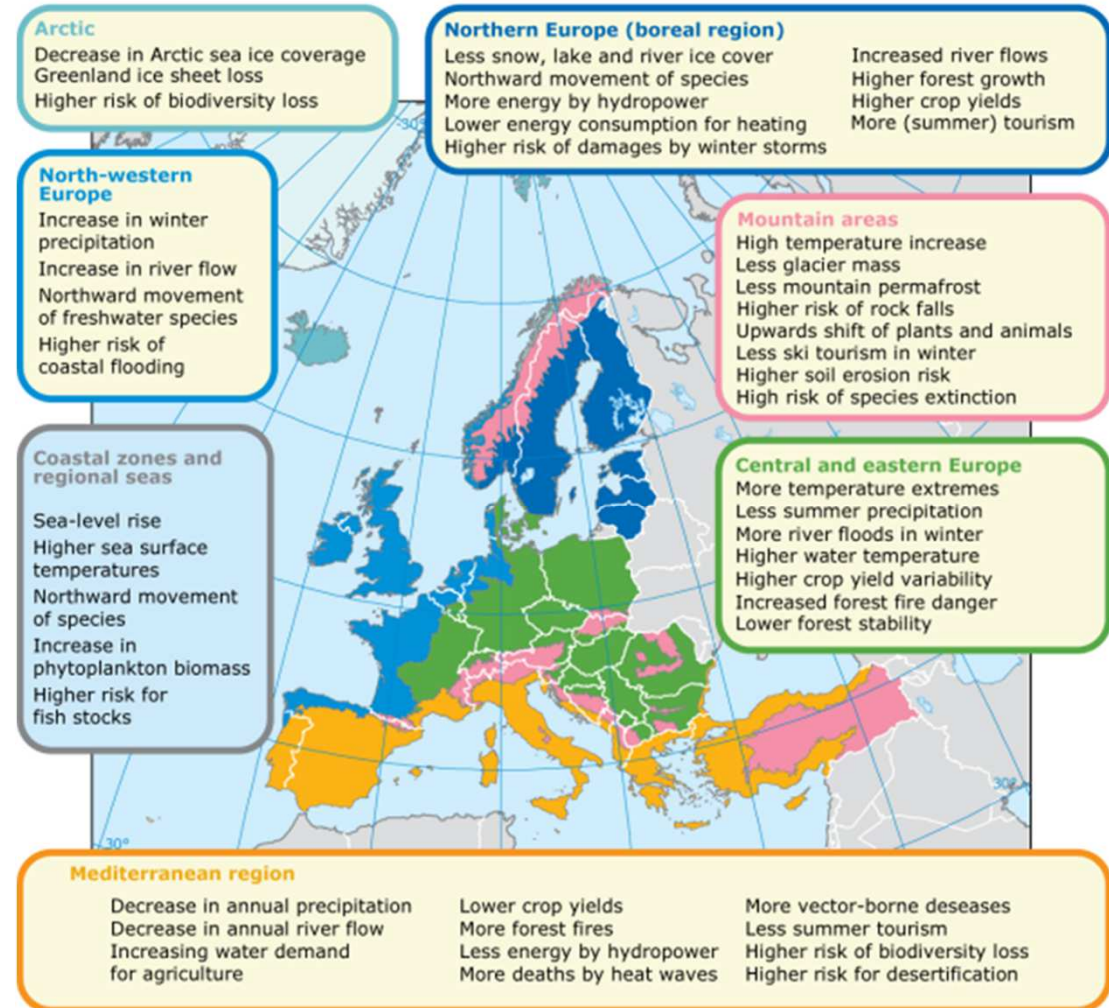
29 May 2013

Vulnerable EU

The EU is already facing **unavoidable impacts of climate change**

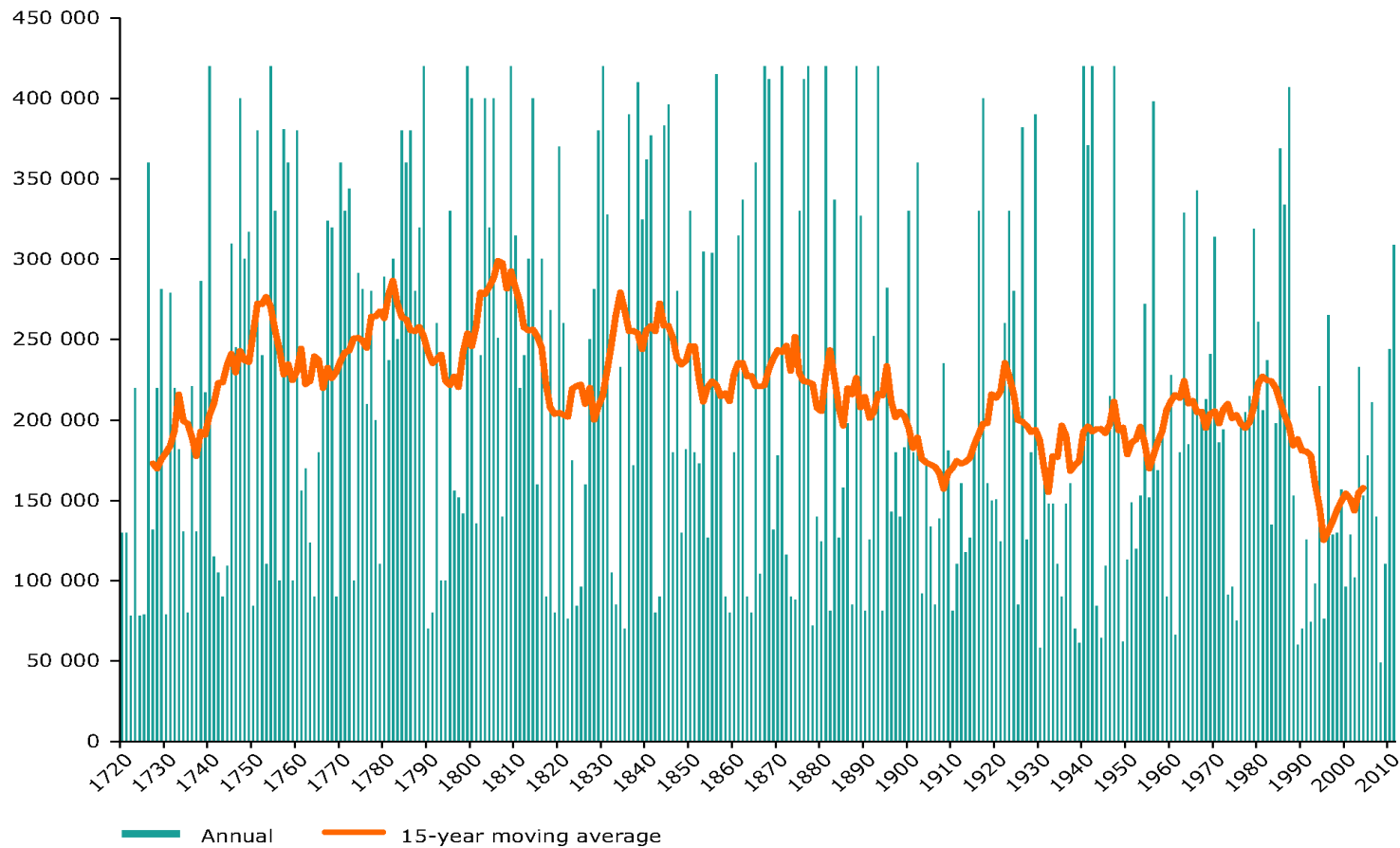
Impacts will affect the full EU territory, with regional differences

Sea level rise, increasing temperatures and changes in precipitation and flood patterns have impact on **coastal areas**



Example: Baltic Sea ice cover (EEA, 2012)

Maximum ice extent (km²)



Projected impacts of climate change

Global temperature change (relative to pre-industrial)

0°C

1°C

2°C

3°C

4°C

5°C

Food

Falling crop yields in many areas, particularly developing regions

Possible rising yields in some high latitude regions

Falling yields in many developed regions

Water

Small mountain glaciers disappear – water supplies threatened

Significant decreases in water availability in many areas, including Mediterranean and Southern Africa

Sea level rise threatens major cities

Ecosystems

Extensive Damage to Coral Reefs

Rising number of species face extinction

Extreme Weather Events

Rising intensity of storms, forest fires, droughts, flooding and heat waves

Risk of Abrupt and Major Irreversible Changes

Increasing risk of dangerous feedbacks and abrupt, large-scale shifts in the climate system

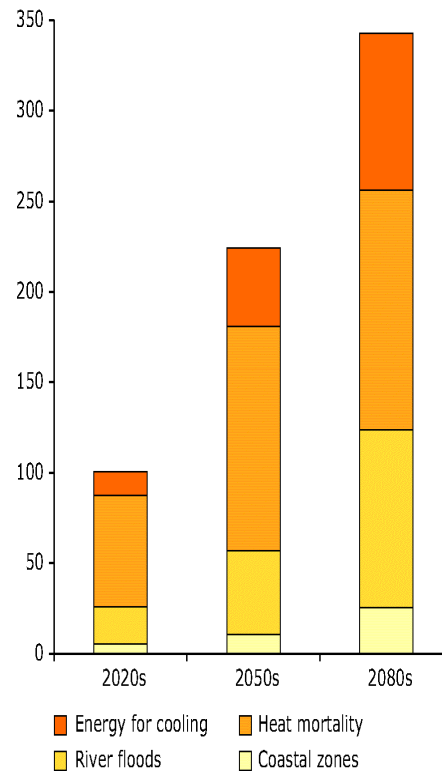
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To adapt or to mitigate: is that the question?

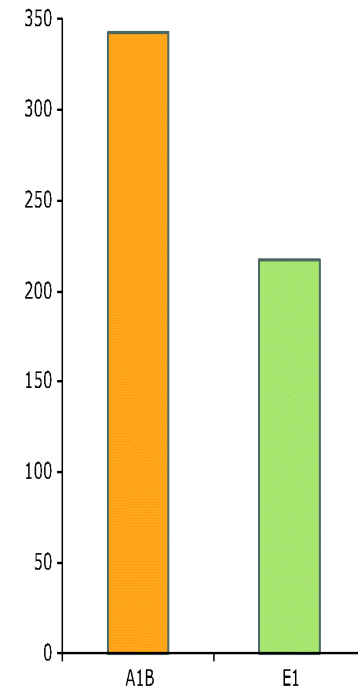
Mitigation and adaptation are both necessary and complementary.

- **We need to increase mitigation efforts.** If the 2°C target is missed, adaptation increasingly costly.
- **We need to adapt.** Adaptation is inevitable (delayed impact of emissions). Adaptation is cheaper
- 1€ invested in flood protection saves 6 € damage costs.
- Postponed adaptation and maladaptation will lead to higher damage costs.
- ≥ 100 bn/year by 2020; 250 bn/year by 2050 for the EU

Projected damage costs, A1B, billion EUR per year, undiscounted



Projected damage costs, billion EUR per year, undiscounted





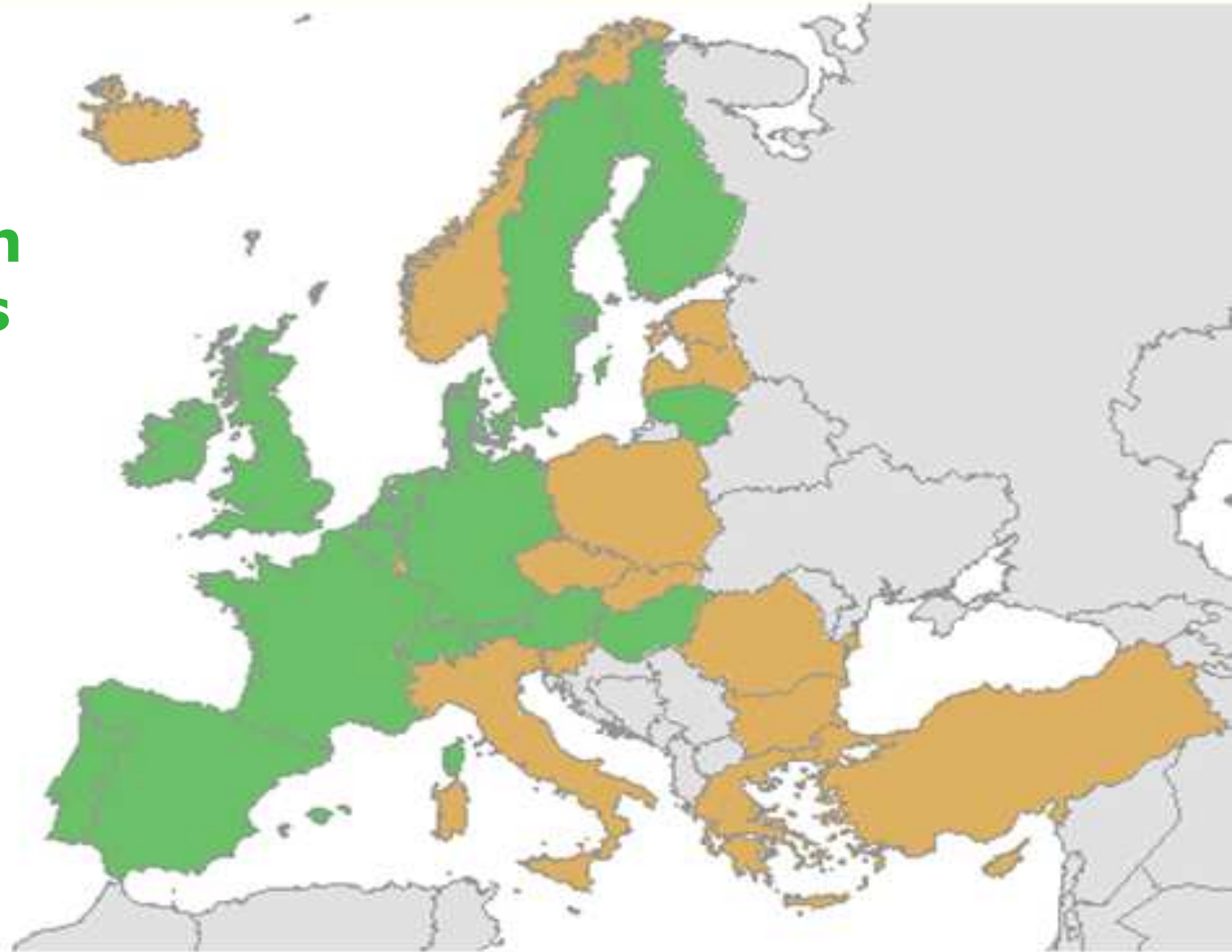
What have we done so far?

- *Member States:*
 - National Adaptation Strategies (15 EU MS)
 - Some Action plans / few concrete activities
 - Vulnerability assessments (few)
 - Dedicated online portals (some)
 - Research on adaptation / priority areas (most)
 - Monitoring, evaluation (starting)
- *Cities (some):*
 - Adaptation strategies
 - Sector-specific action e.g. heat wave plans
 - Small-scale local adaptation projects



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EU MS National Adaptation Strategies



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What gaps are there?

- **MS action** to cover the whole EU territory
- **Knowledge**
 - Impacts, vulnerabilities, costs
 - Regional & local level analyses and risk assessments
 - Models and tools to support decision making
 - Monitoring & evaluation past adaptation efforts
- Additional **mainstreaming**, eg. CAP, CP, energy, transport, health
- **Private sector** activity and products



Why an EU Strategy?

- **Cross-border** dimensions
- EU competence in **common policies** affected by CC
- **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**



The Adaptation Strategy package

- **Communication**
- **Impact assessment**
- **Green Paper on the insurance of natural and man-made disasters**
- *Commission Staff Working Documents on:*
 - Climate change adaptation, **coastal** and **marine** issues;
 - Adaptation to climate change impacts on human, animal and plant **health**;
 - Adapting **infrastructure** to climate change;
 - Climate change, environmental degradation and **migration**;
 - Technical guidance on integrating climate change adaptation in programmes and investments of **Cohesion Policy**;
 - Principles and recommendations for integrating climate change adaptation considerations under the 2014-2020 **rural development programmes**;
 - Guidelines on **developing adaptation strategies**.



Strategy objective and priorities

To contribute to a climate-resilient Europe

3 Priorities:

- 1. Promoting action by Member States**
- 2. Better informed decision making**
- 3. Promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors**

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Priority 1.

Promoting action by MS

Action 1. Encourage MS to adopt adaptation strategies and action plans

- Guidelines on adaptation strategies
- Check coverage & quality of NAS (preparedness scoreboard; MMR reports) in 2017

Action 2. Life funding. 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



Priority 2. Better Informed Decision-Making

Action 4. Knowledge-gap strategy

- **Identify and prioritise knowledge gaps**
- **Feed into programming Horizon 2020**
- **Better interfaces science/policy/business**
- **EU-wide vulnerability assessments**

Action 5. Climate-ADAPT

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



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CLIMATE-ADAPT

European Climate Adaptation Platform

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Adaptation support tool

New to adaptation?
Use the Adaptation Support Tool

What are European countries doing?

Choose your country

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:

- Expected climate change in Europe
- Current and future vulnerability of regions and sectors
- National and transnational adaptation strategies
- Adaptation case studies and potential adaptation options
- Tools that support adaptation planning

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Find case studies on adaptation in Europe

Share your information



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News



Events



EU sector policies



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Priority 3.

Key vulnerable sectors

Action 6. Climate proofing: Agriculture, Cohesion, Fisheries policies

- Guidance
- Capacity building

Action 7. Making infrastructure more resilient

- Mapping standards through CEN/CENELEC
- Guidelines for project developers
- Guidance for green infrastructure and Ecosystem-based Adaptation (?)

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

- Green paper on insurance of disasters



Governance, financing and review

- Financing:** EU 2014-2020 programmes; EU funds; IFIs (e.g. EIB, EBRD).
- Monitoring:** developing indicators
- Report to EP and Council in 2017
- IPCC 5th Assessment report (2014).
- Complementary steps?

Thank you!

For more information:

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

