

The EU strategy on adaptation to climate change

State of play

What are we doing

3 priorities

- **Promoting action by member states**
- **Better informed decision making**
- **Enhanced resilience in key vulnerable sectors**
 - **Actions:**
 - **... among which:**
 - **7. Ensuring a more resilient infrastructure**

Member States take Action

First priority in the Adaptation Strategy:

Member states embed adaptation to climate change in their national decision-making, policies, strategies

The aim: each Member State drafts a **National Adaptation Strategy** by 2017.



20 Member States have already done their Strategies

National Adaptation Strategies

Priority sectors

Evaluation through adaptation scoreboard

- **Preparing the ground (policies)**
- **Assessing risk and vulnerability**
- **Adaptation options**
- **Implementing adaptation**
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Funding and financing

Beyond **policies**, adaptation to climate change is mainstreamed into **EU funds** and financial instruments

EU Budget 2014-2020

At least 20% of the expenditure must be climate-related
This includes adaptation

European Structural and Investment Fund

'Climate proofing' of projects, promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management



LIFE & H2020

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

Climate proofing of (major) projects

Project Context and Assessment
Methodology

Vulnerability Assessment

Risk Assessment

Identification and Appraisal of
Adaptation Options

Integration of Adaptation Measures
and Residual Risk

Urban adaptation: Mayors Adapt

- First pan-European initiative to support cities in leading the way on adaptation to climate change
- More than 130 European cities have already voluntarily committed to develop local adaptation strategies/plans
- mayors-adapt.eu
- Proposals on urban adaptation encouraged:
 - **green infrastructure and ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation;**
 - **innovative adaptation technologies;**
 - **Adaptation to water management challenges (floods & droughts);**
 - **elaboration and implementation of adaptation strategies and plans.**

EU Funding for urban adaptation (1)

- **EU budget 2014-2020: 20 % climate-relevant expenditure = around €190 billion, via the European Structural and Investment Funds**
 - **minimum 5 % of the ERDF** for integrated sustainable urban development
 - **€370 million** for sustainable innovative urban development
 - **URBACT** Action Planning Networks
- **Horizon 2020:** 35% of the budget for climate-related projects
- **European Investment Bank:** project finance
- **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development**

EU Funding for urban adaptation (2)

- **LIFE** fund:
 - **encourages urban adaptation** projects (e.g. green infrastructure; innovative adaptation technologies; elaboration and implementation of (local) adaptation strategies and action plans)
 - About **400 M EUR** for adaptation projects in 2014-2020.
 - **Yearly Calls for proposals (open in Spring):**
 - For Traditional Grants
 - For Integrated projects: projects implementing climate action plans or strategies on a large territorial scale (e.g. multi-city)
 - **Natural Capital Financing Facility** (with EIB): leverages private funding for ecosystem based approaches

The New Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy

- *new target of at least 40% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030*
- *includes both the mitigation and adaptation pillars through the integration of the Covenant of Mayors and Mayors Adapt
→ integrated approach
→ coherence, synergies, efficiency*
- *reinforces the external dimension of the Covenant of Mayors*

The New Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy

STEPS \ PILLARS	MITIGATION	ADAPTATION
1) Initiation and baseline review	Preparing a Baseline Emission Inventory	Preparing a Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability Assessment
2) Strategic target setting & planning	Submitting a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) * and mainstreaming mitigation and adaptation considerations into relevant policies, strategies and plans <u>within two years following the formal signing</u>	
3) Implementation, monitoring and reporting	Report progress <u>every second year following the SECAP submission</u> in the initiative's platform	

Voluntary commitment & political ownership!

Key sectors, key policies

Consequences of climate change lead to **vulnerabilities**

Mean temperature, sea level rise
Extreme weather events

Many **sectors** affected

Buildings, energy, transport infrastructure

Making EU infrastructure resilient to climate change

Mainstreaming into **policies**

CAP, Cohesion Policy, Common
Fisheries Policy...



Standardisation in support of the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change

3 - Content of the Standardisation Request

The Standardisation Request (1)

- **Main objective** - to contribute to building and maintaining a more climate resilient infrastructure throughout the EU in the three priority sectors.
- **Priority sectors considered:**
 - transport infrastructure;
 - energy infrastructure;
 - buildings/construction;
 - **plus** ICT infrastructures that are closely interconnected with, and support the functioning of the ones above.
- **Scope:** consider the existing European standards and European standardisation deliverables, including those under development;
- all types of standards managed by the ESOs, whether they are for products, systems, services, testing and measurements, processes etc. ... but excluding the EUROCODES.

The Standardisation Request (2)

- **Scope (cont'ed) -> Standards to be considered relevant for adaptation to climate change** = the ones that have the potential of contributing in any way towards the general objective of making the infrastructure in the three priority sectors more resilient to climate change.
- **Integrated approach** consisting of 3 main tasks:
 - **"Programming component" (Phase 1):**
 - Identify the existing European standards and standardisation deliverables, including those under development, that are most relevant for adaptation to climate change in the three priority sectors;
 - Develop a set of 'prioritisation criteria' to be used when selecting 'priority standards' to be revised or adapted first;
 - Draw-up the list of priority standards (suggested max. 20 per sector).

Climate-ADAPT portal

Knowledge and best practices on adaptation

- **Portal for Members States action, sectors and projects**

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



Thank you for your attention



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/index_en.htm

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

European Climate Adaptation Platform:

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

Mayors Adapt:

<http://mayors-adapt.eu/>

Fact sheets on climate mainstreaming:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/publications/index_en.htm#Mainstreaming

