

Risk issues in EU Climate Policy

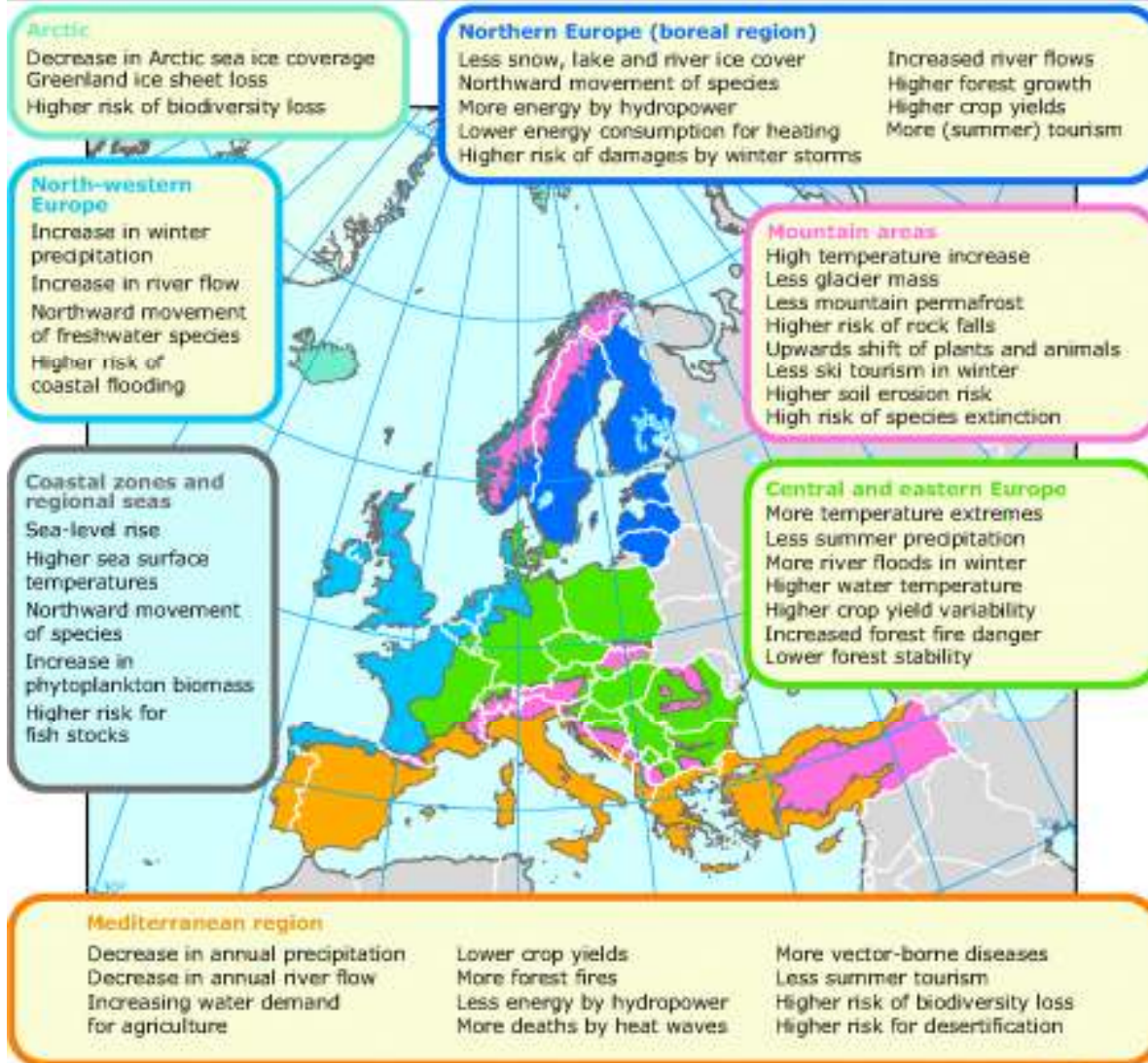
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- ★ **Climate risks**
 - ★ **EU developments: Adaptation Strategy and Clearinghouse mechanism**
 - ★ **Adaptation and disaster risk reduction**
 - ★ **International issues**
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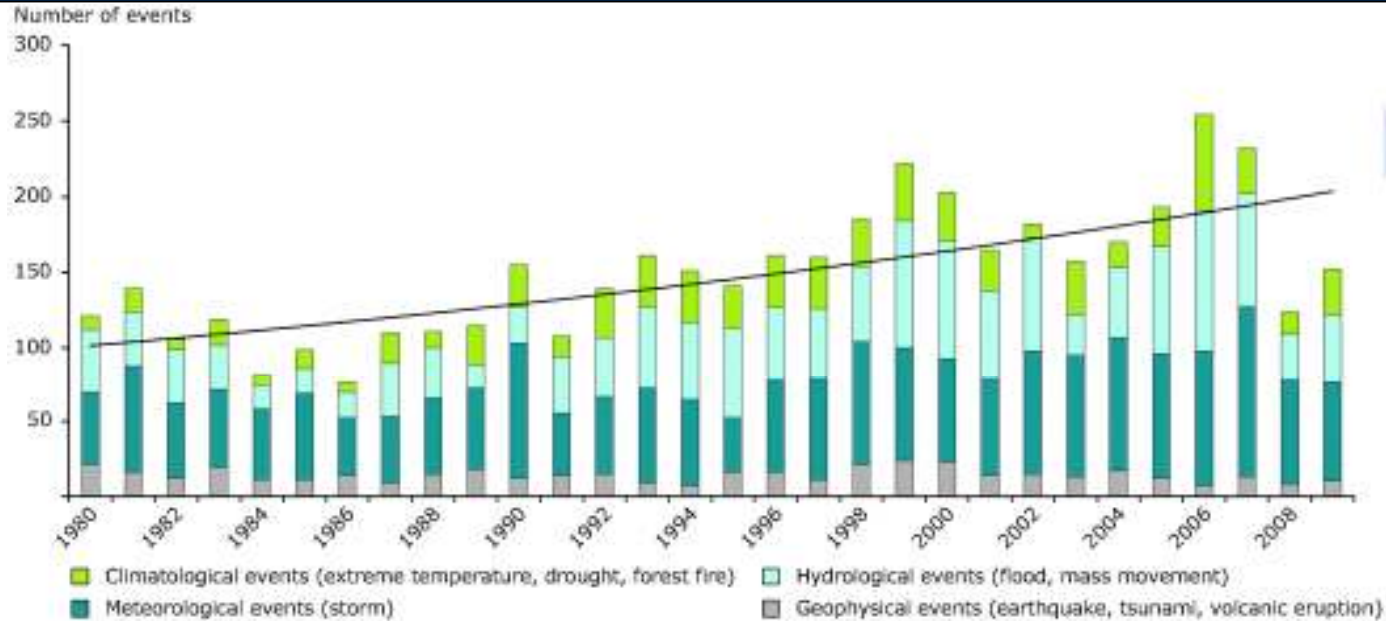
Key past and projected impacts of climate change



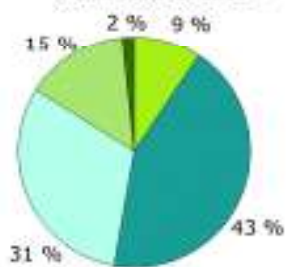
Most vulnerable areas in Europe:

- Southern Europe and the Mediterranean Basin
- Mountain areas, in particular the Alps
- Coastal zones, densely populated floodplains
- Arctic region

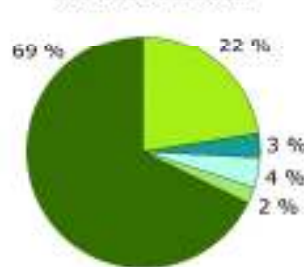
Natural disasters in Europe, 1980–2009



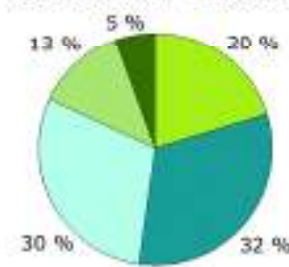
4 500 loss events ^(*)



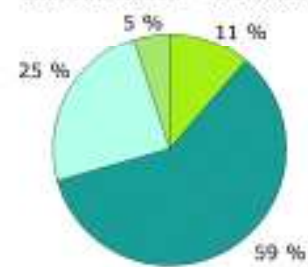
108 000 fatalities



Overall losses ^(**) EUR 414 bn



Insured losses ^(**) EUR 121 bn



■ Geophysical events (earthquake, tsunami, volcanic eruption)
■ Hydrological events (flood, mass movement)
■ Climatological events (heat wave)

■ Meteorological events (storm)
■ Climatological events (cold wave, drought, forest fire)

EU Strategy:

- ★ Currently being developed and to be published in 2013, will comprise the following elements:
 1. Enhancing the knowledgebase and widening access to information
 2. Mainstreaming adaptation into policies, strategies and programmes at EU level
 3. Support and facilitation for Member States, regions, cities and other stakeholders
 4. Capturing the potential of the market, market-based instruments and the private sector

2. National Strategies:

- ★ Currently 11 EU-MS have adopted National Adaptation Strategies
- ★ EU strategy and tools can help facilitate the development of national strategies

Establishing the EU “Clearinghouse Mechanism”

- ★ provide access to key data sources on climate change (including spatial maps)
- ★ extensive library of adaptation measures, national and sub-national adaptation strategies and best practices
- ★ a web-tool to guide policy-makers in the development of national or sub-national adaptation strategies/plans
- ★ 1st prototype was delivered end of April; will be followed by evaluation and further development phase
- ★ Operational in March 2012

- ★ It is important that Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is part of our adaptation strategies, both at international and national levels.
- ★ The links are clear: Adaptation to climate change is about climate change risk reduction. Most of disasters last year were climate-related.
- ★ We are working together with Commission Services on disaster prevention to promote policy coherence, a holistic approach and to step up political commitment.

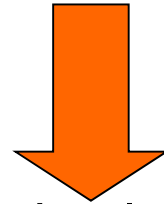
★ Risk management priorities

1. Taking adequate adaptation actions that reduce the risks
2. Insuring the risks that can not be prevented

★ The role of insurance

- a) provide information on climate change risks
- b) reflect costs of the climate change risks
- c) provide incentives for adaptation
- d) cover remaining risks that can not be prevented

- ★ UNFCCC Cancun Adaptation Framework makes explicit link with DRR
- ★ Communication in 2009 on disaster risk reduction in developing countries



Staff working document on the implementation adopted Feb 2011

- ↪ Supports coherence between adaptation and DRR in development policy
- ↪ Special attention to the least developed and highly vulnerable countries

<http://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/change/>
Thank you!

