

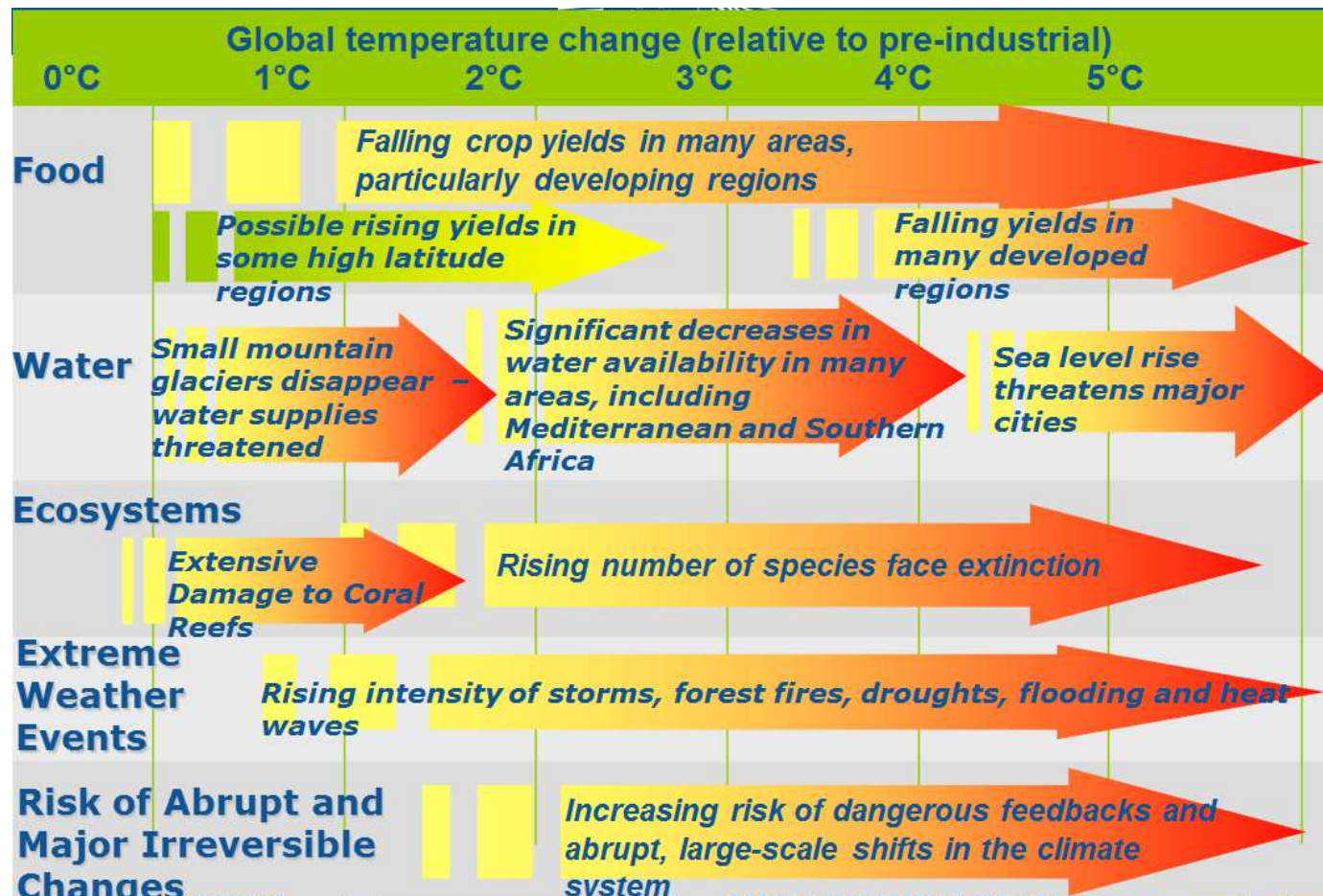


The EU strategy on adaptation to climate change

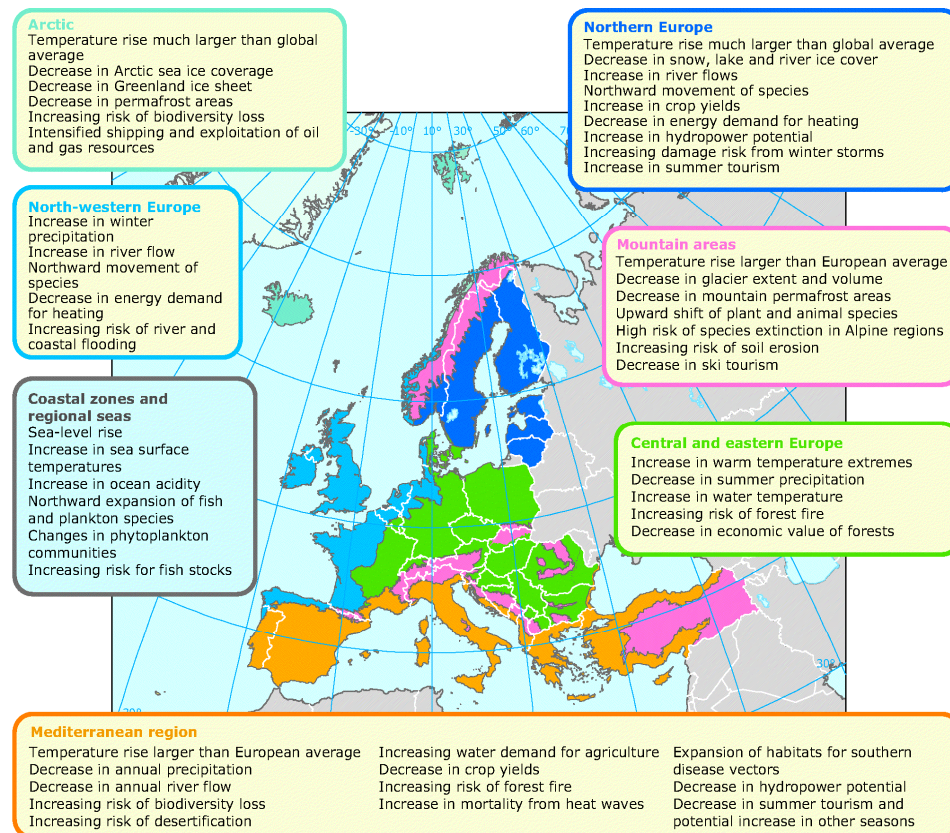
Sami Zeidan
European Commission
DG Climate Action
Unit: Adaptation



Projected impacts of climate change



Territorial climate impacts



Most vulnerable areas in Europe:

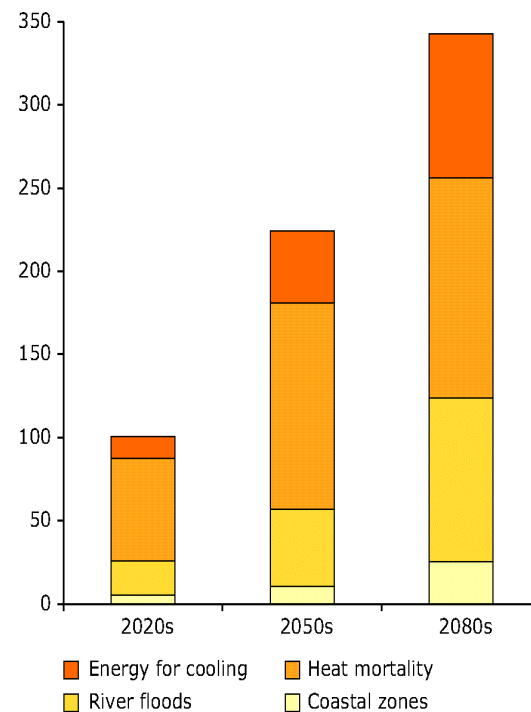
- Southern Europe and the Mediterranean basin
- Mountainous areas, in particular the Alps
- Coastal zones, floodplains, islands
- Arctic region
- Cities

→ **Climate change adaptation is very often about DRR!**

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.
- **We need to act now.** Postponed adaptation and maladaptation will lead to higher damage costs.
 - ≥ 100 bn/year by 2020; 250 bn/year by 2050 for the EU
- **We need to prioritise actions** by focusing on most urgent needs

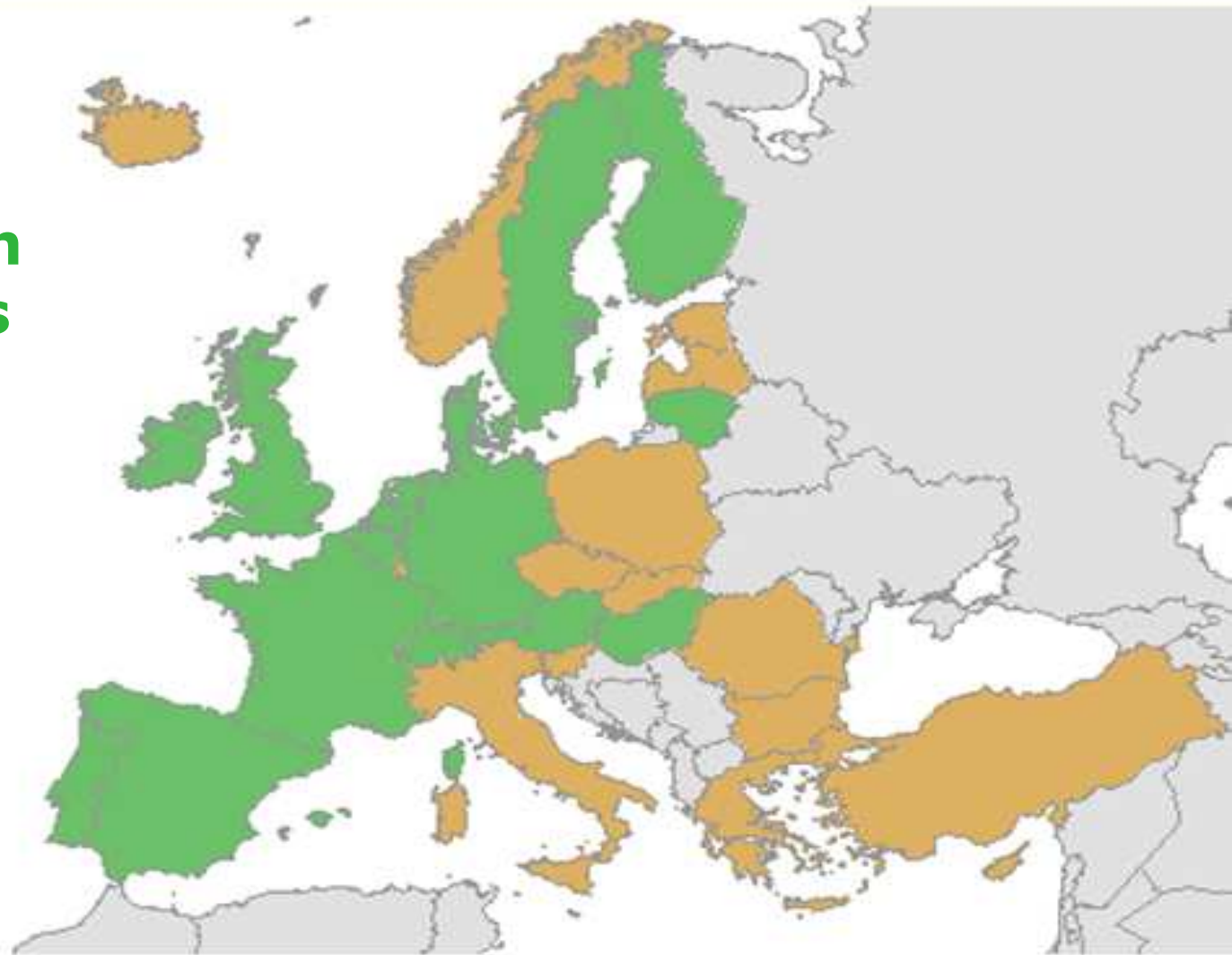
Projected damage costs, A1B, billion EUR per year, undiscounted



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

EU MS National Adaptation Strategies





Why an EU Strategy?

- **Cross-border** dimensions
- EU competence in **common policies** affected by climate change
- **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 (MFF)**: climate-related expenditure



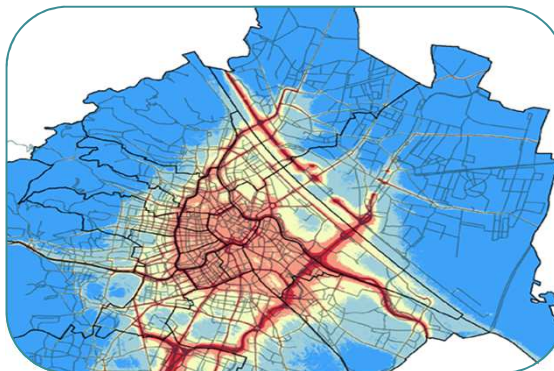
Overall objective

Contribute to a more climate-resilient Europe

Priority 1:
**Promoting
action by
Member States**



Priority 2:
**Better informed
decision-
making**



Priority 3:
**Key vulnerable
sectors**



**Climate
Action**



The documents

Commission Communication "An EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change" COM (2013) 216, including 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**.*

All documents are available at:

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

Priority 1: Promoting action by Member States

Action 1. Encourage MS to adopt Adaptation Strategies and action plans

- Guidelines on adaptation strategies
- Adaptation Preparedness scoreboard
- Check in 2017 coverage & quality of NAS

Action 2. LIFE funding, including adaptation 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

- Launch in 2013/2014
- Complements mitigation efforts under existing Covenant



Priority 2: Better informed decision-making

Action 4. Knowledge-gap strategy

- Identify and prioritise knowledge gaps
- Feed this into programming Horizon 2020
- Better interfaces science/policy/business
- EU-wide vulnerability assessments: JRC (economic costs of cc); Integrated threat and risk assessment reports (2015).

Action 5. Climate-ADAPT:

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



CLIMATE-ADAPT

European Climate Adaptation Platform

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Adaptation information

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Countries and other areas

Tools

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Search the database



Climate Change Adaptation

The European Climate Adaptation Platform (CLIMATE-ADAPT) aims to support Europe in its efforts to adapt to climate change. It is an initiative of the European Commission and helps users to access...

- Expected climate change impacts
- Current and planned adaptation measures
- National adaptation plans
- Tools that support adaptation

3 key tools have been developed for CLIMATE-ADAPT

- Adaptation support tool
- Overview of countries activities
- Case study search tool



Search the database



News



Events



EU sector policies



Agriculture &
Forestry

» [Read more](#)

EU information systems





Climate-ADAPT

Climate-ADAPT = Work in progress

Aim: stand as the reference site for information on IVA in the EU

New developments 2012-2013:

- *Development of Tools and IT functionalities for Climate-ADAPT.*
 - Facilitate input from users
 - Enhance friendliness & accessibility
 - Improve Tools (Map viewer, Case Study Search Tool...
- *Climate-ADAPT Time Series Tool*
 - Online interactive tool for visualization of climate change parameters
- *Dissemination of Climate-ADAPT*
 - Trainings, Presentations
- *Regional focus and relevance of Climate-ADAPT*
 - Recommendations for strengthening regional info.

Priority 3: Key vulnerable sectors

Action 6. Climate proofing the Common Agricultural Policy, Cohesion Policy, and the Common Fisheries Policy

- Guidance
- Capacity building

Action 7. Making infrastructure more resilient

- Mapping standards through CEN/CENELEC
- Guidelines for project developers

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

- Green paper insurance of disasters
- Stakeholder dialogue



Governance, financing and review

- **Governance:** discussion with Member States and stakeholders
- **Financing:** EU 2014-2020 programmes; EU funds, IFIs...
- **Monitoring:** developing indicators
- **Report to EP and Council in 2017.** Complementary steps?

Thank you!

For more information:

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

