



EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change

Living in an increasingly hostile climate: what is the policy take and orientations?

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Climate change



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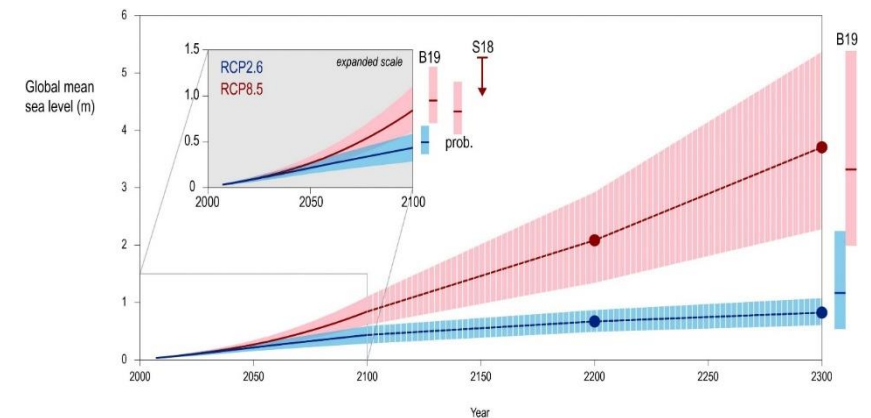
- Impact are already here...
- ...affecting every region in the Europe.
- And even in a best case scenario, these impacts are 'baked in'



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Urban areas are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts



So... how do we adapt?

- **Heat waves**



Green spaces and corridors in urban areas

Cooling and drinking fountains

Early warning systems to help us prepare for the heat in advance

- **Flooding**



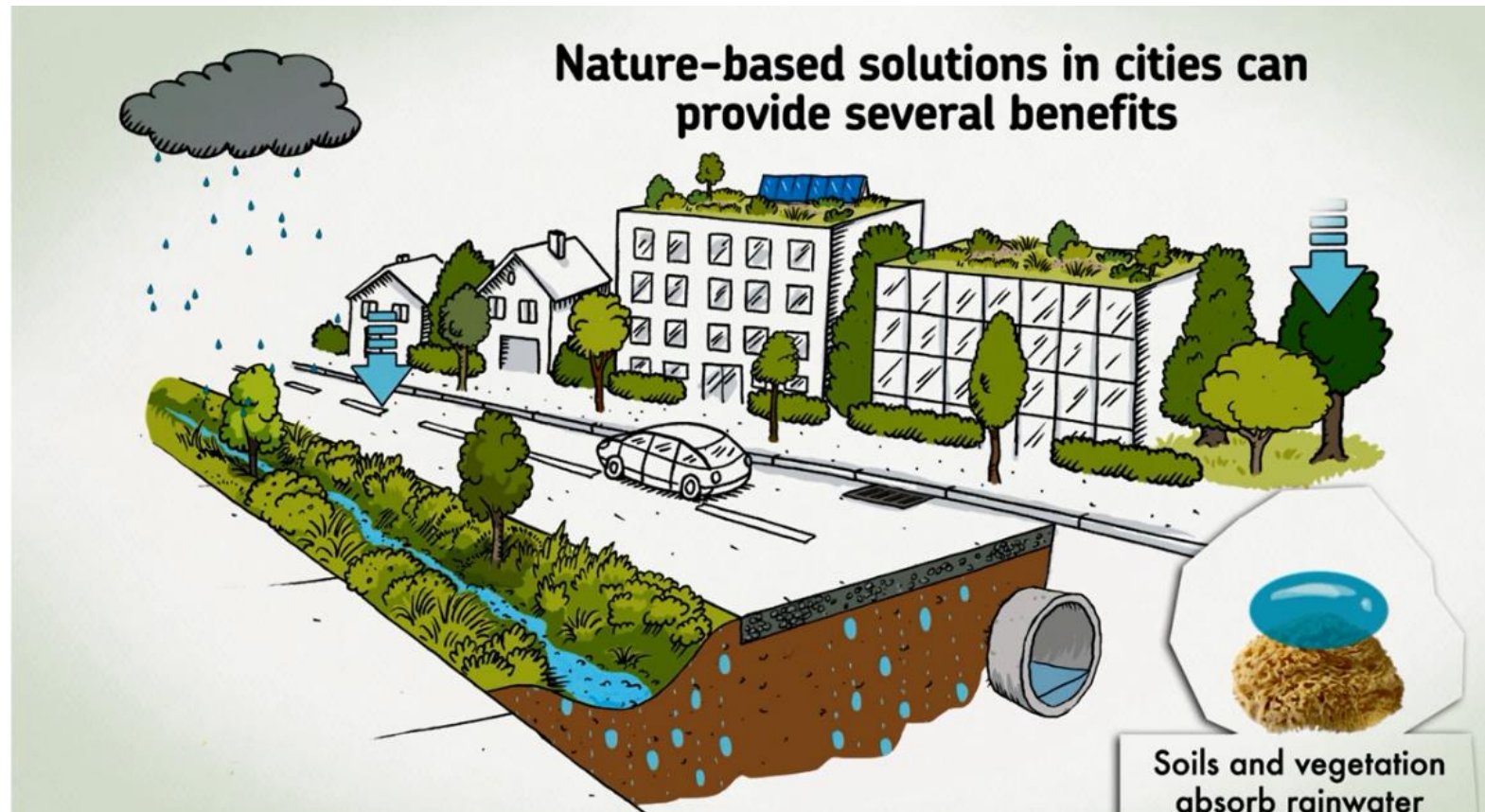
Reducing impervious surfaces (asphalt) and introducing more 'sponge-like' surfaces to absorb excess water

Early warning systems

'Water-sensitive' buildings with green roofs to absorb rainwater



Nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation



These measures reduced the strong June 2016 floods in the Paris area by 1 meter, reducing material damages!

Source: Biodiversity Regional Agency (ARB), Île-de-France

Examples of good practices – Rouen (France)

- The city is developing an **ecodistrict**, the Luciline district, including both **climate change adaptation and mitigation** solutions and with **multifunctional water management**
 - mixes dwellings, social housing, offices and businesses
 - has tackled flooding risks from rain and river through an integrated water management approach, including green areas
 - has shown economic benefits and has allowed increasing biodiversity



Local level action examples



Systemic solutions in Copenhagen, Denmark



Adaptation Plans for 44 cities in Poland



Reopening a canal for storm water management in Växjö , Sweden



Scheme for the purchase of rainwater management installations in Bratislava, Slovakia

Copenhagen's urban roof garden (ØsterGro)



Photo: Søren Rud

Integration of photovoltaic (PV) panels and green roofs

It can **improve panel efficiency** to produce electricity (due to the cooling effect of green roofs on the temperature-sensitive PV cells) and **enhance green roof species diversity** and productivity (due to partial shade)



Photo: Clapham Park – Biosolar roof London – Bauder Ltd

Policy context

- The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
- the **Paris Agreement**
- The **European Green Deal**:
 - European **Climate Law**, • **2030 Climate** Target Plan
 - European **Climate Pact** • **EU Biodiversity** strategy
 - **Farm to fork** strategy • **Forest** strategy
 - Renewed **sustainable finance** strategy
 - ... and more!



A new EU strategy on climate adaptation

“Forging a climate-resilient Europe - The new EU strategy on adaptation to climate change”

Adopted by European Commission on 24 February 2021

- First EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (2013)
- Evaluation of the first strategy (2018)
- Blueprint, open public consultation (over 1000 replies!), and expert reviews (2020)
- Impact Assessment
- Climate Law (2021): *MS will be required to develop and implement adaptation strategies to strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change”*

Vision & Objectives

- Vision: by 2050 the EU will be a climate-resilient society, fully adapted to the unavoidable impacts of climate change
- Objectives:
 - **Smarter adaptation** – improving knowledge and managing uncertainty
 - **More systemic adaptation** – support policy development at all levels and sectors
 - **Faster adaptation** – speeding up adaptation across the board
 - **Stepping up international action** for climate resilience



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Smarter adaptation

- Pushing the frontiers of **knowledge** on adaptation
- More and better climate-related **risk and losses data**
- Making **Climate-ADAPT** the authoritative European platform for adaptation knowledge



European Climate and Health Observatory

Climate ADAPT

About - Policy context - Evidence on climate and health - Resource catalogue - Publications and outreach -

European Climate and Health Observatory

We provide easy access to a wide range of relevant publications, tools, websites and other resources related to climate change and health.



© picture: NOAA

More systemic adaptation

- Improving **adaptation strategies and plans**
- Fostering **local, individual, and just resilience**
- Integrating climate resilience in **macro-fiscal policy**
- Promoting **nature-based solutions** for adaptation



© picture: Peter Löffler

Faster adaptation

- Accelerating **the rollout** of adaptation solutions
- Reducing **climate-related risk**
- Closing the **climate protection gap**
- Ensuring the **availability** and **sustainability** of **freshwater**



© picture: Peter Löffler

Stepping up international action

For climate resilience, by:

- Increasing support for **international climate resilience** and **preparedness**
- Scaling up **international finance** to build climate resilience
- Strengthen **global engagement** and **exchanges** on adaptation



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Engagement with Member States

- Based on subsidiarity and local nature of adaptation
- Support MS, subnational authorities, business & individuals
- Financially, with knowledge & tools
- Invitation to work together

- ‘Window show’



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Thank you



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