

European Environment Agency
Expert Workshop
Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction
- policies and practices -
at European and national level

11 - 13 April 2016

Kongens Nytorv 6, 1050 Copenhagen

Room 8.0.6, Ground Floor, Building 8

Rationale

Climate Change Adaptation¹ (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction² (DRR) offer a range of complementary approaches for managing risks associated with extreme weather and climate related events. Although CCA and DRR address similar challenges, they are governed by different policy, institutional and legal frameworks. There is a growing recognition of benefits obtained from a closer policy coordination and collaboration between organisations responsible for CCA and DRR. This has been emphasised in the United Nations *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2020* (SFDRR) and the *Paris Agreement* under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and supported by National Reference Centres (NRCs) for Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation during the *EIONET workshop* held in June 2015.

In the EEA Annual Work Programme for 2016 a new report is included, addressing the knowledge base, synergies, and countries' experiences of connecting CCA and DRR responses. This report will be published in 2017 under the draft title ***Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in Europe - Synergies for the knowledge base and policies***. It aims to foster a better awareness and exchange of information and experiences among policymakers, researchers and practitioners regarding potential synergies between DRR and CCA in terms of knowledge base, policy developments and implementation. The report has the ambition to support national policy development and implementation in the EEA member countries, and provide input for the European Commission's report on the EU climate change adaptation strategy, due in 2017.

¹ Climate Change Adaptation - The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate change and its effects. In human systems, adaptation seeks to moderate or avoid harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In some natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects.

² Disaster Risk Reduction - Denotes both a policy goal or objective, and the strategic and instrumental measures employed for anticipating future disaster risk; reducing existing exposure, hazard, or vulnerability; and improving resilience.

The development of the EEA CCA/DRR report started in January 2016 and involves a team of European experts³ guided by an Advisory Group. EEA will present the work-in-progress during the next EIONET workshop (14-15 June 2016) and will submit the draft version for a review by the EIONET network of countries and other organisations in January/February 2017.

Objectives of the workshop

EEA organises an expert workshop (11-13 April 2016) to bring together experts from various countries and organisations to review and discuss in detail those parts of the CCA/DRR report related to **national policies, practices and case studies**. This workshop is also meant to share knowledge and experiences. The knowledge and insights collected during the workshop will feed into the report. Furthermore EEA sent a small survey to countries on similar topics and the initial results will be presented and discussed at the workshop.

The scope of the workshop is to:

- Examine main EU, national, and sub-national policies on CCA and DRR,
- Explore approaches and good practices in linking CCA and DRR at national and subnational level,
- Explore the similarities and differences across countries and sectors,
- Facilitate learning and knowledge sharing, as well as identify major challenges in establishing effective linkages between CCA and DRR at national and sub-national level.

For background on national adaptation policies and their monitoring and evaluation see e.g. recent EEA reports on these topics⁴. For background on practices and experiences in climate change adaptation, see e.g. the section on case studies in the European Climate Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT).⁵

³ These experts are from EEA, JRC, the European Topic Centre on Climate Change impacts, vulnerability and Adaptation (ETC/CCA), the European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and Marine waters (ETC/ICM) and other institutions.

⁴ National adaptation policy processes in European countries — 2014, <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/national-adaptation-policy-processes> and National monitoring, reporting and evaluation of climate change adaptation in Europe, <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/national-monitoring-reporting-and-evaluation>

⁵ <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/sat>

Draft agenda

Day 1, 11 April 2016

14.00 – 14.45 **Opening and introduction**

- *André Jol* (European Environment Agency), Introduction to the expert meeting, EEA activities and EU climate change adaptation policy
- *Blaz Kurnik* (European Environment Agency), EEA 2017 report on CCA/DRR

14.45 – 16.00 **Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in Europe (1)**

Overview of the European and international policies and initiatives

- *Laura Schmidt* (EC Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection), Overview of EU policies on disaster risk reduction (remotely)
- *Luca Rossi* (The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction), Overview of relevant ISDR activities
- *Montserrat Marin Ferrer* (EC Joint Research Centre), Overview of relevant JRC activities

Plenary discussion

16.00 – 16.30 *Coffee break*

16.30 – 17.30 **Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in Europe (2)**

- *Jaroslav Mysiak*, (ETC on Climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation), ETC/CCA activities on the EEA 2017 CCA/DRR report

Plenary discussion

17.30 *Day 1 wrap up*

Day 2, 12 April 2016

09.00 – 10.45 Policies on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation across EEA member countries

Jaroslav Mysiak (ETC on Climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation), Overview of the responses received from the EEA member countries on the CCA and DRR integration.

Experts from the EEA member countries, tentative proposal:

- *Achim Daschkeit* (Germany, Environment Agency), Collaboration across multiple government levels (federal, state, local)
- *Harold van Waveren* (Netherlands, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, water management department), CCA/DRR integration in the Delta Programme
- *Michele Torsello* (Italy, Office of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, coordinating unit), Financing flood protection and river basin agreements

Plenary discussion

10:45 – 11.15 *Coffee break*

11:15 – 13.00 Methods and tools for risk assessment and policy evaluation

Reimund Schwarze (ETC on Climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation). Exploration of methods, tools and instruments used for and in DRR and CCA strategies and plans.

Experts from the EEA member countries, tentative proposal:

- *Francisco Espejo Gil* (Spain, Spanish Insurance Compensation Consortium), Risk transfer and public-private partnerships for insurance.
- *Marcin Grądzki* (Poland, Ministry of Environment), ITC system for national flood risk protection.
- *Karim Peltonen* (Finland, Finnish National Rescue Association), Sectoral policy instruments for inclusion of risk of extreme events (power distribution, land use planning, water management).

Plenary discussion

13.00 – 14.00 *Lunch*

14.00 – 16.00 **Practices across EEA member countries**

Selected examples of collaborative and synergetic DRR and CCA measures and practices

Rob Swart (ETC on Climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation)

Ad Jeuken (ETC on inland, coastal and marine waters)

Experts from the EEA member countries, tentative proposal:

- *Dag Olav Høgvold* (Norway, Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection), Integrating CCA and DRR in local planning and regulations and use of a national DRR platform.
- *Michael Staudinger* (Austria, Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics), Local capacity building and multi-hazard warnings in Austria.

Discussion in break-out groups.

16.00 – 16.30 *Coffee break*

16.30 – 18.00 **Practices across EEA member countries (cont.)**

Experts from the EEA member countries, tentative proposal:

- *Patricia Pires* (Portugal, Civil Protection Agency), Awareness raising at municipal level and educational programmes.
- *Emmanuel Vullierme* (France, Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, General directorate for risk prevention), Flood prevention program taking into account climate change.
- *Åsa Sjöström* (Sweden, Swedish Hydrometeorological Institute), Collaboration and integration of networks across government agencies (including the Adaptation Web Portal).

Discussion in break-out groups.

Day 2 wrap-up

Day 3, 13 April 2016

9.00 – 11.00 **Improving practice**

Patrick Pringle (ETC on Climate change impacts), Opportunities for better coordinated DRR and CCA efforts on vulnerability and adaptation.

The session builds upon the discussions during Day 2 and looks forward how the links between DRR and CCA can be strengthened in practice. The session will be structured around three main themes:

- Integrating and sharing knowledge
- Improving horizontal and vertical coordination
- Integrating DRR and CCA into practice

Discussion in break-out groups.

11.00 – 11.30 *Coffee break*

11.30 – 12.30 **Reflections on the workshop outcomes**

Roundtable discussion

12.30 – 13.00 **Summary, next steps and concluding remarks**

André Jol, European Environment Agency