

Sharing experiences of EU countries in the development and implementation of national adaptation strategies

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Important to keep regular updates on progress in adopting and implementing NAS:

- **Paris Agreement makes reporting on adaptation action and planning mandatory for all countries**, including NAS, with a view to exchanging information and sharing lessons learned → **UNFCCC global stocktaking every 5 years**;
- **The EU Commission is assessing the success of the EU Adaptation Strategy, including measuring the level of readiness at national level** → **In 2017, the Commission will report** to the European Parliament and the Council on the state of implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy, and propose its review if needed.

- Adaptation policies can take various forms national/sectoral legislation, strategies, or plans
- **Climate change strategy** with Adaptation component
- **National Adaptation Strategy** = official national vision

Self-definition of NASs by countries on Climate-ADAPT*

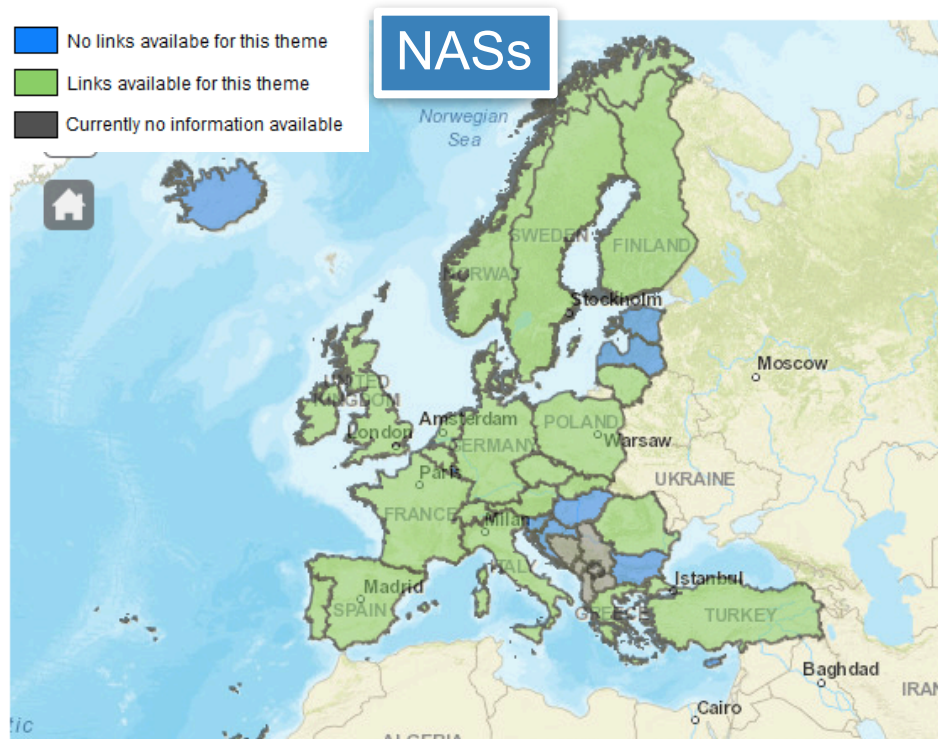
It has different legal status and degree of enforcement
across countries

The differences in definitions are likely to become politically relevant in
implementing the EU Adaptation Strategy.

NATIONAL ADAPTATION POLICIES / CURRENT OVERVIEW

- Currently (2016) **almost all countries in Europe have a National Adaptation Strategy in place:**

22 countries - Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, Turkey



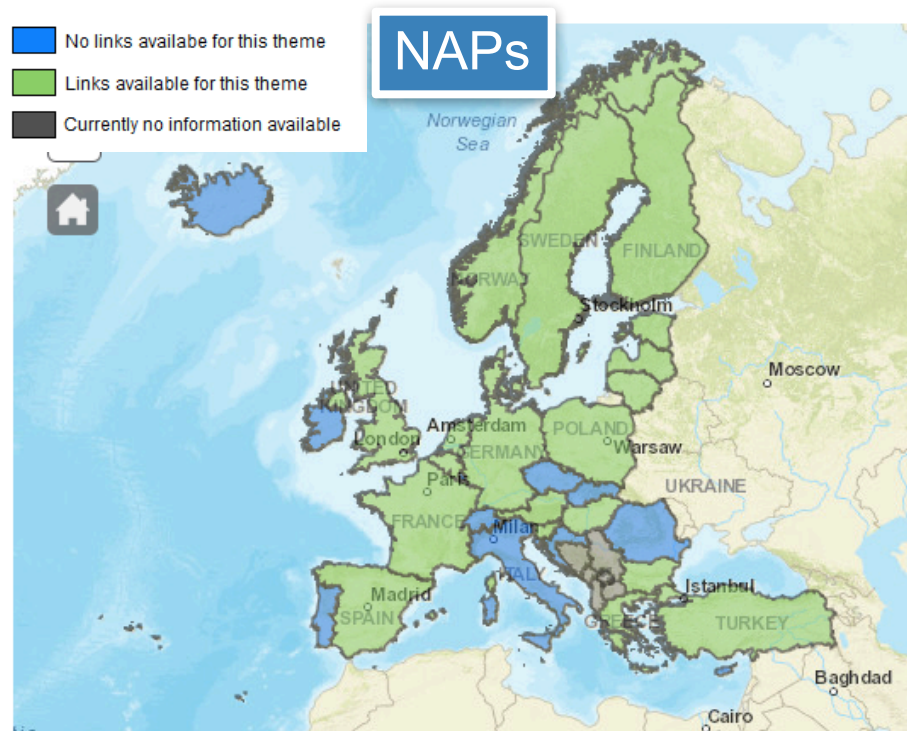
Source: Climate-ADAPT, 2016

NATIONAL ADAPTATION POLICIES / CURRENT OVERVIEW

- But not all of them have a **National Action Plan or Sectoral Action Plans** in place...

19 countries - Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria*, Denmark, Estonia*, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary*, Latvia*, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK, Turkey

* Some countries seems to have a NAP but not a NAS.



Source: Climate-ADAPT, 2016

- **EEA report: “National adaptation policy processes in European countries — 2014”**

provided an official Europe-wide state of play for adaptation activities

- Policy analysis based on self-assessment of Member countries

- In 2014, 21 European countries had developed a NAS and 12 had developed a NAP

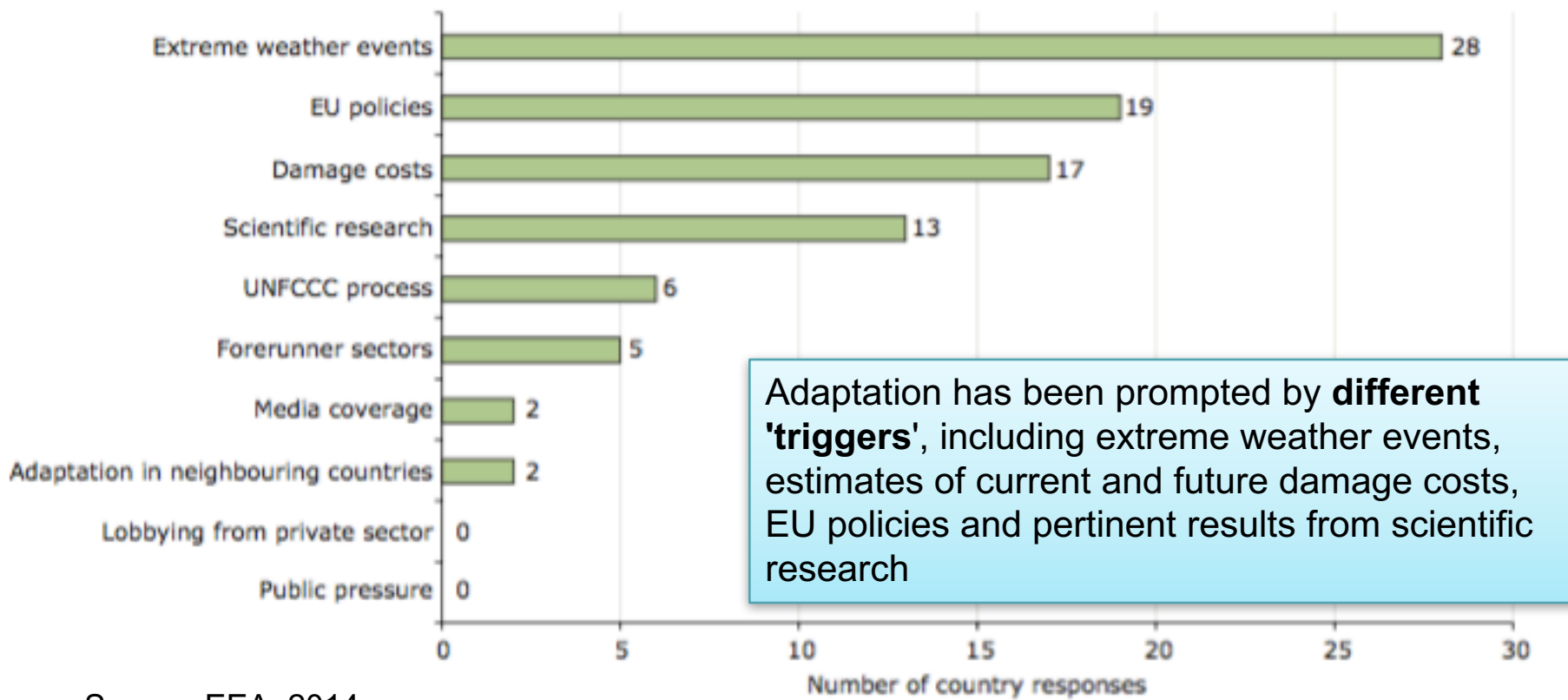
National adaptation policy processes
in European countries — 2014



Awareness of adaptation

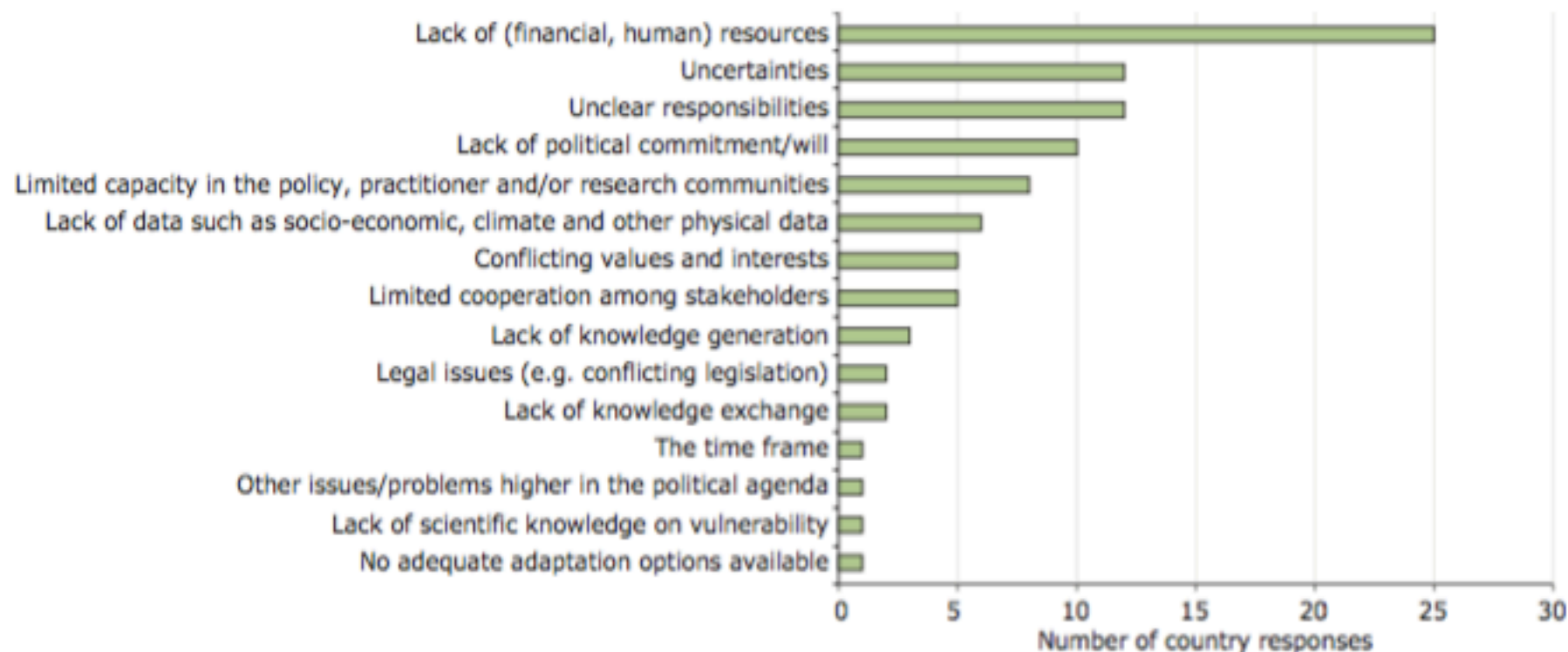
- Level of **public awareness has been increasing in the past 5 years**, adaptation has reached the national political agenda in almost all countries through introduction of legislation and NASs
- **Countries that have progressed in the adaptation policy process are typically those that also have high levels of awareness** of the need for adaptation. However, there are other factors that determine a country's stage in the adaptation process (barriers related to adaptive capacity).

Figure 2.1 Triggers of adaptation (Question 3; 30 responding countries; five countries identifying four triggers instead of three as requested)



Source: EEA, 2014

Figure 2.2 Barriers to adaptation (Question 11; 29 responding countries)



Source: EEA, 2014

Stakeholder involvement

- The **modalities in which the stakeholders have been involved** reflect progressive approaches towards “**real**” **participation**: creation of dedicated adaptation portals, newsletters, reports, awareness-raising campaigns through media, informative and technical workshops, on-line surveys, consultation on policy drafts, participation in advisory bodies, partnerships and negotiations
- **More and deeper involvement is reported in development of adaptation policy** than in implementation or monitoring and evaluation of policies
- **Government stakeholders at national and subnational levels** feature most visibly in involvement processes: civil society and private sector are less deeply involved

Degrees of “real participation”

Information given:	information has been provided to stakeholders (e.g. websites, newsletters, reports and informative meetings).
Information gathered:	information has been collected from stakeholders (e.g. online survey).
Consultation:	feedback on policy draft proposals has been obtained from stakeholders (e.g. written feedback on policy drafts).
Active involvement:	stakeholders have actively been involved in, and have had the possibility to shape decision-making in the adaptation policy (e.g. advisory committees).
Partnerships:	decision-making power is redistributed through negotiation between responsible authority and stakeholders.
Empowerment:	final decision is in the hands of the stakeholders.

Stakeholder involvement

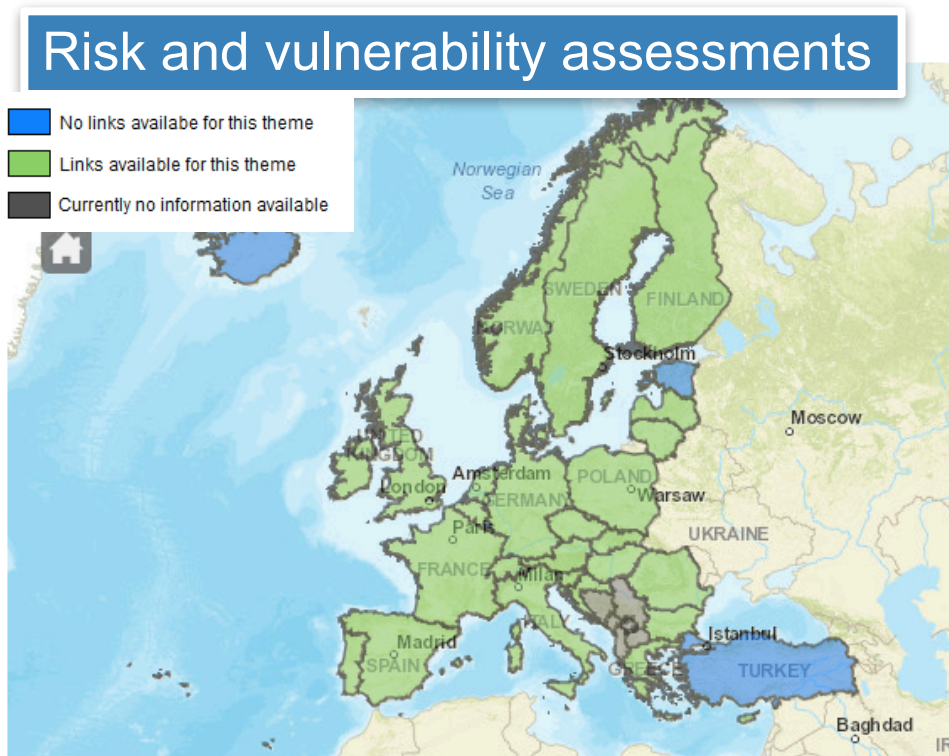
- **AUSTRIA:** broad participatory process over 4 years that informed NAS (meetings, workshops). Involved representatives of federal and provincial authorities, interest groups and relevant NGOs.
- **FRANCE:** a 10-month process in 2011 to support the elaboration of the implementation plan following the NAS. This was organized along the structure of the Grenelle Environment Forum gathering elected representatives and local authorities, businesses, trade unions and NGOs.
- **SPAIN:** specific series of sectoral workshops, framed under the NAS in coordination with the National Centre for Environmental Education to discuss options for adaptation measures

Stakeholder involvement

- **BELGIUM:** no national participatory process for the development of the NAS, however a various range of stakeholders were involved in the formulation of the Flemish Adaptation Plan.
- **ITALY, SWEDEN:** major role of scientific community in the development of the risk and vulnerability assessment in preparation of the NAS.

Knowledge generation of scientific-technical evidence relevant to climate change adaptation and its application in support to well informed decision-making

- Almost the totality of the NASs considered are grounded on **national risk and vulnerability assessments**
- **At the local level, risk and vulnerability assessments are still needed** (only SWEDEN, plus examples of municipalities)



Source: Climate-ADAPT, 2016

Knowledge generation and use

- **Agriculture, water, forestry, human health and biodiversity** are the sectors most frequently considered in assessments at this level. Economic issues seem quite neglected (except insurance).

Mixed-method approaches for elaboration are reported by most of the countries:

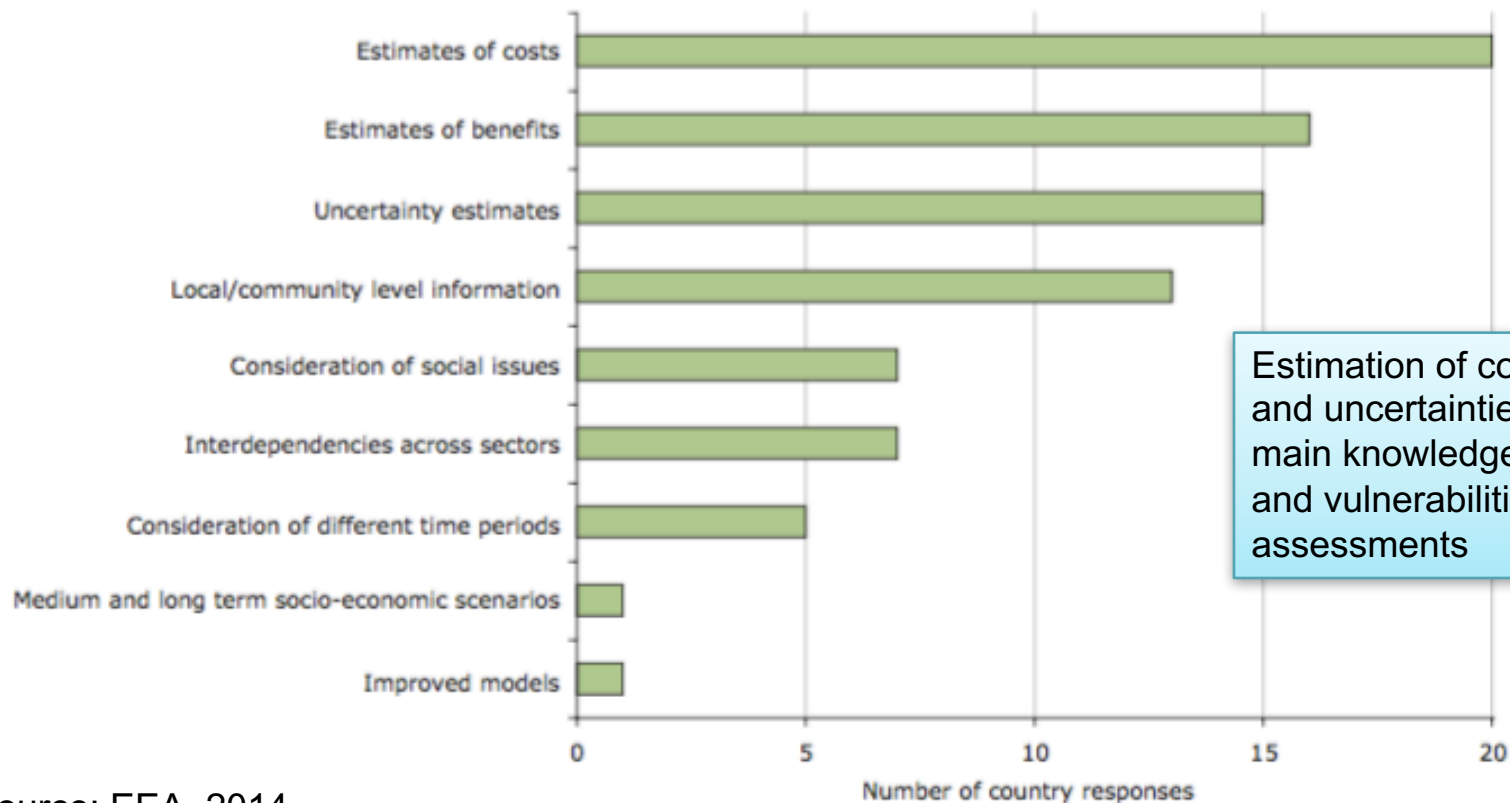
- **AUSTRIA, ITALY:** extensive literature review and quality vulnerability assessment
- **GERMANY:** mix of literature review, climate-impact models from different sources, indicators derived from impact models and expert judgement, quantitative and qualitative socio-economic scenarios and normative decisions made by experts from federal agencies.
- **DENMARK:** dialogue-based approach was developed, involving the private sector and industry

Knowledge generation and use

Scenarios:

- **DENMARK, IRELAND, SPAIN, BELGIUM-FLEMISH GOVERNMENT:** developed a sound methodology and are based on downscaled global climate scenarios
- **BELGIUM - FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND BRUSSELS AND WALLOON GOVERNMENTS, NETHERLANDS, GERMANY, SWITZERLAND, UK:** make use of ad hoc regional / high- resolution scenarios that provide specific information for the national territory

**Figure 2.7 Information that is still needed for risk or vulnerability assessments
(Question 20; 26 responding countries)**



Source: EEA, 2014

Knowledge generation and use

UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA)

- The UK CCRA is a five yearly assessment of the current and future risks and opportunities to the UK from climate change. The assessment is a **legal requirement under the Climate Change Act** (2008). The first assessment was published in January 2012 and the second in July 2016.
- There will be an **independent Evidence Report** produced by the Adaptation Sub-Committee of the Committee on Climate Change, and a **Government Report produced by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs** that will respond to the ASC's advice
- Provisional budget for the CCRA Evidence Report is **£1.24 million over 2014-2016**, made up of contributions from Defra, the devolved administrations and the Natural Environment Research Council. **Previous budget was about £ 5 million (new research needed).**
- **Risk monetisation is not possible across all risks/opportunities** due to the type of impacts involved and the paucity of available data.

Knowledge generation and use

UK CCRA

- Risks/opportunities **up to 2100** (in accordance with the Climate Change Act 2008).
- Inclusion of the **effects of current and planned policies** and other action in the overall assessment of risk.
- How **climate change overseas** could impact on the UK.
- What the **net effect of different risks acting together** could be, either due to concurrent timing, acting on the same location or the same receptor (coincidence).
- An assessment of the **magnitude of impact and the urgency of action** needed for different threats and opportunities.
- An **assessment of the uncertainties**, limitations and confidence in the underlying evidence and analysis for different risks.



UK
2017 | Climate
Change
Risk
Assessment

UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017

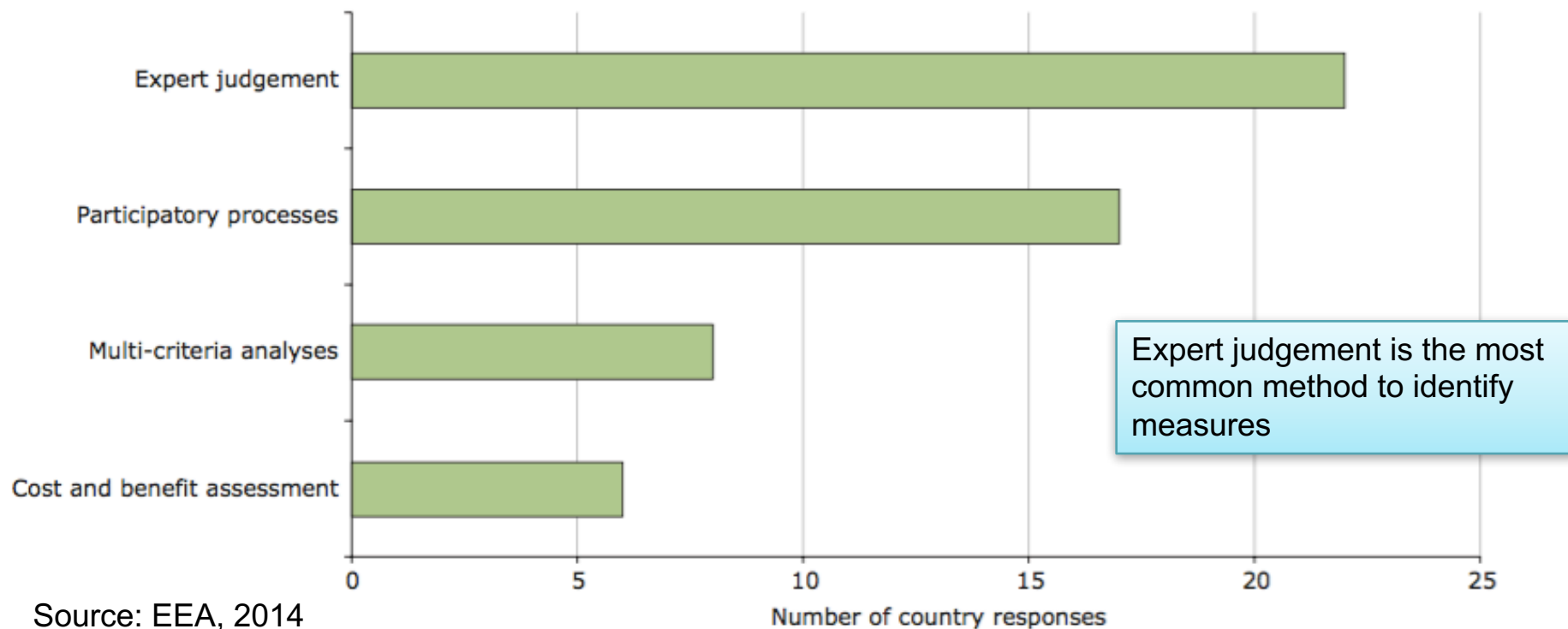
Synthesis report: priorities for the next five years



Identification of adaptation options

- **Efforts to identify and assess adaptation options have been or are being made by about half of the countries:**
 - **either in the framework of a NAP** (i.e. Austria, Denmark, France — presenting only some adaptation options, Germany, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom),
 - **in overall climate change policies** (i.e. in Belgium (subnational Climate Plans) and Lithuania),
 - **or in the format of adaptation plans for selected sectors at various administrative levels** (i.e. Portugal and Sweden).

Figure 2.9 Methodological approaches for designing adaptation options (Question 23; 25 responding countries)



Source: EEA, 2014

Identification of adaptation options

Identifying, assessing and prioritising adaptation options is mostly based on qualitative approaches

- **AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, DENMARK, FINLAND, ITALY, LIECHTENSTEIN, LITHUANIA, MALTA, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA AND SWITZERLAND:** expert judgement in combination with other methodological approaches, most often with participatory processes
- **FRANCE, NORWAY, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN AND UK:** CBA
- **CYPRUS, HUNGARY, THE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, SLOVAKIA, SPAIN, UK:** MCA (Cyprus has developed a software called CYPADAPT Tool)

Identification of adaptation options

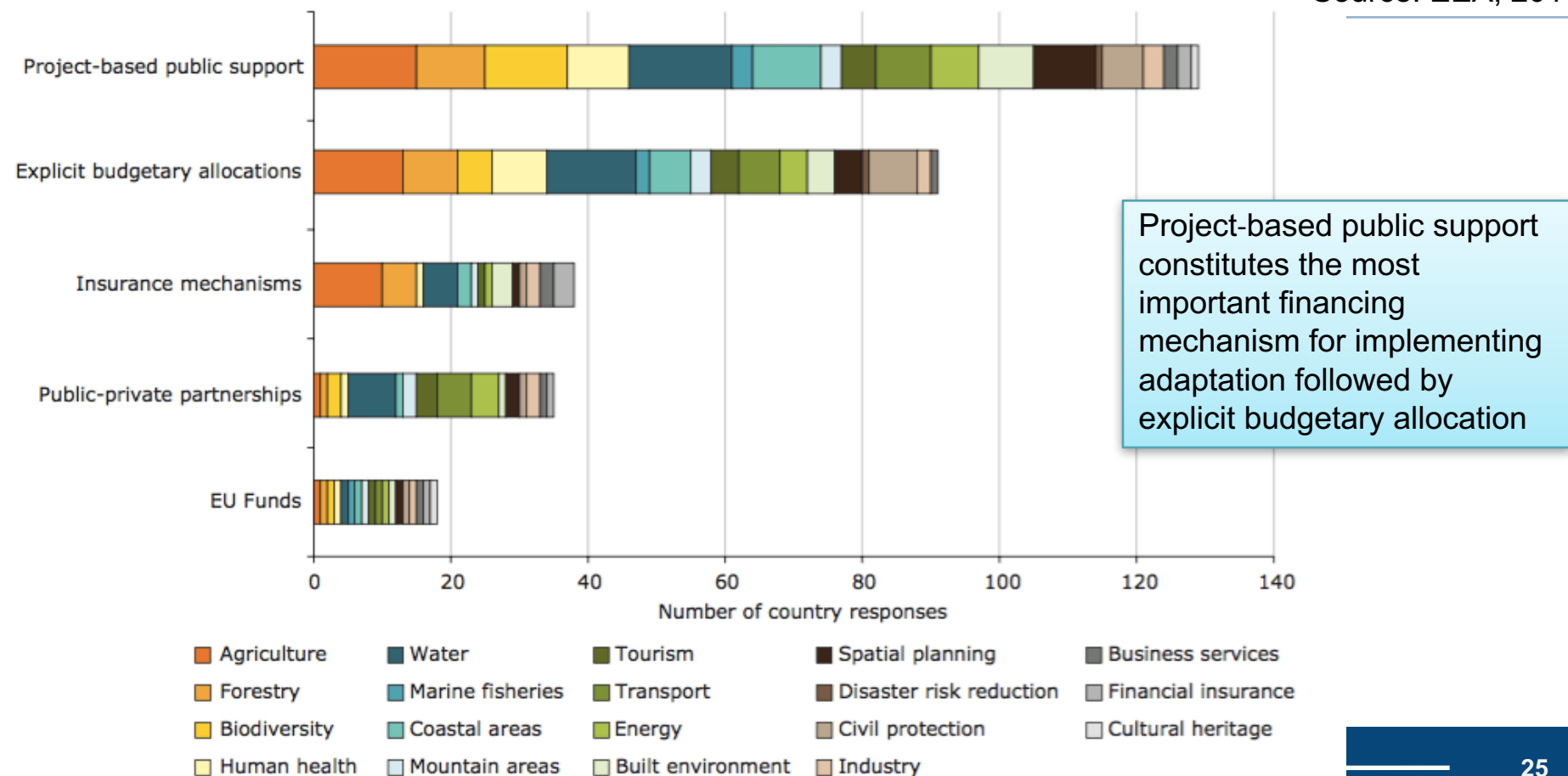
- **Prioritisation** is considered an important step in most guidelines for adaptation, but is seldom applied by European countries (e.g. Cyprus, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Malta, Poland, Switzerland and the United Kingdom)
- Nevertheless, **not all countries plan to carry out prioritisation at the national level but rather subnationally** through a portfolio of adaptation options, depending on specific contextual conditions, and make choices based on political priorities.

Implementation phase

- **Implementing adaptation is still at an early stage across Europe**
- **Most adaptation responses have been reported to be implemented at national level and in the water sector**
- **Sectors where private actors play a large role** (e.g. business and services, industries, finance/ insurance as well as tourism) are reported to be not very active in implementation. They are also reported as less prioritised for adaptation across Europe
- Due to the short history of adaptation, **implementation is still at an early stage, and is often carried out by applying 'soft' measures** (e.g. providing information or mainstreaming).

Figure 2.18 Financing mechanisms in place for implementing adaptation in sectors identified as relevant (Question 35; 20 responding countries)

Source: EEA, 2014



- Covers both **cross-border cooperation between (neighbouring) countries** and **transboundary cooperation among countries with shared transboundary resources** (e.g. water and protected areas) or otherwise shared interests
- **Transnational cooperation in national adaptation policy processes is considered by half the European countries, but there is limited evidence of its inclusion in actual policies**
- Transnational cooperation in adaptation has often emerged **with the support of European funding instruments** and in the context of established cooperation forums, such as European regional conventions → **Further integration of adaptation into conventions** and other institutions for transnational cooperation can strengthen transnational adaptation efforts
-

Alpine area

In the Alpine area, transnational cooperation on adaptation has been fostered by several different actors and projects. The Alpine Convention sets the frame as an international treaty between the Alpine countries (Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Slovenia and Switzerland) as well as the EU. It aims at promoting sustainable development in the Alpine area and at protecting the interests of the people living within it.

The European Regional Development Funds support the Alpine Space Programme of EU Territorial Cooperation. Specific projects include Adapt Alp (co-funded by European Regional Development Fund) that brought together partners from the Alpine Space Programme to collaborate on the topic of natural hazard management and climate change adaptation in the Alpine arc. Activities aimed at strengthening adaptive capacity of the region by harmonising data and sharing experiences, for example. This has been found to reduce the costs and implementation time of adaptation. Activities in other projects such as C3 Alps (co-funded by European Regional Development Fund) have also included synthesising, implementing and transferring best available adaptation knowledge related to policy and practice. Knowledge transfer driven by the information and communication needs of target groups can bridge the gap between the generation of adaptation knowledge and its application in practice.

More information

Alpine Convention: <http://www.alpconv.org/en/convention/default.html>

Alpine Space Programme: <http://www.alpine-space.eu/home>

C3 Alps project: <http://www.c3alps.eu/index.php/en>

AdaptAlp project: <http://www.adaptalp.org>



Danube Region

The EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) is a united response to challenges affecting an area that stretches from the Black Forest to the Black Sea, including over 100 million inhabitants. The Strategy provides a framework of cooperation for the region's 14 countries to address their common challenges from flooding to transport and energy links, environmental protection and challenges to security.

The accompanying Action Plan includes the preparation of a regional Adaptation Strategy for the Danube Region as soon as possible. This effort is supported by a number of specific actions, many of which focus on activities at various river basins in the region. For example, in the Sava River Basin, a pilot project is ongoing to develop an integrated water resources management and climate adaptation plan for the river basin. The Danube Region will be a new cooperation area in the next Interreg VB funding period (2014–2020), which may further encourage transnational adaptation-related collaboration, as seen in the Alpine and Baltic examples above.

More information

<http://www.danube-region.eu>



- **Adaptation to climate change is a typical multilevel governance problem.** The general strategies that are developed at a central level need to be interpreted and applied at subnational levels, and activities have to be coordinated across multiple sectors.
- In general, **coordination mechanisms found to be more effective at the implementation phase**
- Also, **horizontal coordination mechanisms generally assessed by countries as more effective** than vertical coordination mechanisms.

Why measuring adaptation is so difficult

- **Adaptation is not an outcome in its own right**; in order to assess adaptation progress, proxies for measuring 'reduced vulnerability' or 'increased resilience' will often be required.
- **Adaptation is context specific**, a characteristic which must be reflected in the indicators used. This can make it harder to develop meaningful indicators over a large geographical area or across many sectors.
- **Long timeframes**. Climate change will unfold over many years; adaptation is often not an outcome that will be achieved within a normal programme cycle, typically 3 to 5 years.
- **Uncertainty** — about the scale, timing and spatial nature of how the climate might change and how society might respond makes it challenging to define good adaptation. Thus indicators of flexibility can be valuable as well.
- **Adaptation has no prescribed target — there is no single metric**, unlike climate change mitigation which can be quantified in terms, for example, of tonnes of carbon. This means that gathering a set of indicators together that provide a comprehensive picture is challenging

Monitoring, reporting and evaluating adaptation

- 10 countries either already implementing or developing MRE indicators include Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom
- **Countries are using a variety of approaches for their MRE schemes, for example a review by an independent body and self-assessment by actors in different sectors :**
 1. **the use of periodic monitoring reports, working groups with the main stakeholders, sectoral reviews** and taking into account the requirements of the European Commission's adaptation preparedness scoreboard (e.g. Spain);
 2. **the regional authorities are tasked with developing regional action plans** to monitor adaptation work at the local level (e.g. Sweden);
 3. **a review by an independent body** (e.g. the United Kingdom);
 4. **self-assessment by sectors** (e.g. Austria and Finland)

Evaluation of a specific policy — the Adaptation Reporting Power

United Kingdom

Purpose

The Climate Change Act (2008) gives the British government the authority to request public and private sector organisations to report under the Adaptation Reporting Power (ARP). Organisations responsible for key services and infrastructure can be asked to assess the risk of climate change on their work and describe how they will address these risks. The first round of the ARP process (2010–2011) directed 91 organisations responsible for national infrastructure to report. In 2013, the Adaptation Sub-Committee (ASC) evaluated the first round of the ARP and advised government on the approach they should take in the second round.

Approach

The ASC assessed the first round of the ARP policy against three principles to ensure that it made a positive contribution to the national adaptation effort: usefulness, robustness; and cost-effectiveness.

Under 'usefulness' the ASC recommended that the ARP should encourage reporting organisations to identify and address their risks, particularly those who previously had a low awareness of adaptation. The outputs from the ARP report should also help to inform the government's adaptation policy. Under 'robustness' the ASC proposed that the reports should be based on quantitative assessments of risk and there should be a clear quality assurance process in place.

Under 'cost-effectiveness' the ASC recommended that the ARP should produce useful, low-cost reports, focussing on adaptation priorities, but avoiding duplication with existing regulatory requirements.

The key stakeholders (the reporting organisations) were given the opportunity for tailored support, they attended a stakeholder conference, and participated in discussions on sector-level assessments. They were also invited to comment on the ARP process and how it might be improved.

Country	Description of horizontal coordination mechanism (reference to stage of policy process is made where countries have indicated differences in mechanisms)
Very effective coordination mechanisms	
Switzerland	A working group established under the Interdepartmental Committee on Climate (IDA Climate) with representation of 10 federal agencies.

Interministerial body supports coordination across sectors

Switzerland

The Swiss strategy on climate change adaptation is coordinated by the Interdepartmental Committee on Climate, which was founded for the revision of the CO₂ Act (effective from 1 January 2013) that mandates the coordination of adaptation measures. A working group is responsible for climate change adaptation with representation from 10 federal agencies. The Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) has overall responsibility for developing the Swiss adaptation strategy. It chairs the procedures, ensures that a uniform approach is adopted and coordinates work between sectors. The individual federal offices are responsible for adaptation in their sectors.

Here vertical integration is reported to primarily fall under sectoral policies, and **only cross-sectoral topics** will be addressed through a framework dedicated to adaptation.

Source: EEA, 2014

Country	Description of horizontal coordination mechanism (reference to stage of policy process is made where countries have indicated differences in mechanisms)
Very effective coordination mechanisms	
Switzerland	A working group established under the Interdepartmental Committee on Climate (IDA Climate) with representation of 10 federal agencies.
Effective coordination mechanisms	
Austria	Policy formulation: NAS/NAP development was coordinated by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, with support from existing institutions including the Kyoto Forum (originally developed for mitigation issues) and Interministerial Committee on Climate (IMC Climate). Implementation: Existing committees step in on adaptation issues, and there is informal exchange between the environment ministry and other relevant ministries.
Belgium	Examples are the Flemish task force on adaptation and Walloon working group on adaptation.
Cyprus	Development of the Cyprus NAS has been coordinated by the Environment Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment (MANRE) by means of the Life+ CYPADAPT project. The CYPADAPT Steering Committee comprised representatives of all sectors (government departments, local authorities, universities, research institutions, consultants, NGOs, consumer organisations, etc.).
Denmark	Policy formulation: Cross-ministerial committee of government officials responsible for mapping climate impacts and preparing the action plan for climate-proof Denmark.
Finland	Policy formulation: Interministerial working group of sector ministries and key research institutes, coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Additional consultation of experts and actors from sectors and the research community. Implementation, monitoring and evaluation: Coordination Group for Climate Change Adaptation with representatives from sector ministries, regional and local authorities and research institutes.

Source: EEA, 201

NATIONAL ADAPTATION POLICIES / COORDINATION FOR ADAPTATION

Germany	Interministerial Working Group at federal level with representatives of all federal ministries (meets two to four times a year)
Lithuania	<p>The horizontal and vertical coordination is ensured by the Strategy for National Climate Change Management Policy (2013–2050) and its Interinstitutional Action Plan for the implementation of the goals and objectives for the period from 2013 to 2020. Implementation of the strategy and the action plan are coordinated by the Ministry of Environment.</p> <p>Also, horizontal and vertical coordination is ensured through the work of the National Climate Change Committee. The committee consists of experts from government, municipalities, science and NGOs, and has an advisory role.</p>
Portugal	The National Strategy (ENAAC) is supported by a coordination group involving nine sectors. Coordination responsibility lies with the Portuguese Environment Agency.
Romania	Policy formulation: Large consultation process including ministries and other stakeholders as part of strategy-drafting process.
Spain	Sectoral action programme for impacts and vulnerability assessments, including participatory workshops for key stakeholders.
United Kingdom	Cross-UK Government Climate Adaptation Board includes all key government departments and devolved administrations, as well as sectoral coordination groups e.g. Defra network adaptation delivery group and health coordination groups.

Source: EEA, 2014

Country	Description of vertical coordination mechanism (reference to stage of policy process is made where countries have indicated differences in mechanisms)
Very effective coordination mechanisms	
Denmark	The National Task Force on Climate Change Adaptation supports municipalities in their adaptation work.
Effective coordination mechanisms	
Austria	Policy formulation: NAS development was coordinated by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, with support from existing institutions including the Kyoto Forum (originally developed for mitigation issues) and Interministerial Committee on Climate (IMC Climate). Implementation: Existing committees (IMC Climate and National Climate Protection Committee) step in on adaptation issues and informal exchanges between the Environment Ministry and other relevant ministries.
Germany	A working group under the Conference of Environment Ministers integrates federal states in the process (meets twice a year).
Lithuania	Horizontal and vertical coordination is ensured by the Strategy for National Climate Change Management Policy (2013–2050) and its Interinstitutional Action Plan for the implementation of the goals and objectives for the period from 2013 to 2020. Implementation of the strategy and the action plan are coordinated by the Ministry of Environment. Also, horizontal and vertical coordination is ensured through the work of the National Climate Change Committee. The committee consists of experts from government, municipalities, science and NGOs and has an advisory role.
Romania	The responsible authority in each priority sector is responsible for coordination, implementation and for supporting local bodies.
Spain	Technical Working Group on Impacts and Adaptation established under the Coordination Commission of Climate Change Policies (CCPCC) coordinates among national and regional administrations. Local administrations are also represented in the CCPCC.
Switzerland	Vertical integration is part of sectoral policies. Vertical integration in cross-sectoral topics will be implemented, based on Article 8 of the CO ₂ Act.
United Kingdom	A local Adaptation Advisory Panel for England has been established by Defra. The panel comprises a wide range of local government bodies and their partners from across England to promote strong national/local dialogue on how best to support local adaptation action. Each government department works with its own network of local delivery partners to embed and operationalise adaptation action at the local level.

Source: EEA, 2014

Delta Programme embodies all administrative levels

The Netherlands

The legally-based national Delta Programme in the Netherlands incorporates all administrative levels in safeguarding the country from flooding and ensuring continued availability of freshwater resources. The programme is a joint responsibility of all involved ministries with a coordinating role for the Minister of Infrastructure and Environment.

The programme has a strong vertical commitment, through inclusion of provincial and municipal authorities and involved institutions such as water boards, business and civil society organisations. At regional level, advisory groups play an important role in the deliberations of the regional steering groups. At the local level, 'municipal ambassadors' have been appointed for the Delta Programme for each of the six area-oriented subprogrammes. They are responsible for involving municipalities in the Delta Programme by providing information, encouragement and, wherever necessary, support. They also act as liaison officers between the programme organisation and the municipal authorities.

More information

<http://www.deltacommissaris.nl/english/delta-programme>

<http://www.government.nl/issues/water-management/delta-programme/working-method-of-the-delta-programme>

Source: EEA, 2014

Integrated mechanisms for horizontal and vertical coordination

Italy, Finland and Portugal

While most countries have opted for separate institutional set-ups for horizontal and vertical coordination mechanisms, some countries use the same mechanisms for both coordination tasks. In Italy, the Institutional Panel coordinated by the Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea includes representatives from relevant ministries and other institutional stakeholders such as regional and local administrations.

In Finland, the Coordination Group for Climate Change Adaptation led by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has representatives from sector ministries, regional and local authorities and research institutes. Regional and local-level stakeholders were not members of the original Coordination Group appointed in 2008, but were invited to join the group when it was re-established in 2012 based on challenges experienced in coordination of adaptation activities across administrative levels. Likewise in Portugal, the coordination group that supports the National Strategy (ENAA) includes representation of sectoral and subnational-level stakeholders.

Source: EEA, 2014

- Whatever the approach, **unclear responsibilities, limited cooperation among stakeholders, lack of knowledge exchange, legal issues (e.g. conflicting legislations) and conflicting values and interests** can become obstacles to effective coordination. Ultimately, these obstacles are likely to be reflected in incoherent policies for adaptation.
- **Addressing the challenges of coordination should be a top priority**, although solutions to them are likely to depend on the particular societal context, including general governance structures.
- Huge potential for exchanging experiences.

Qualitative assumption: differences in adaptation frameworks mirror the differences in political-administrative systems

(Mullan et al., 2013; EEA, 2013; Bauer et al., 2012; Dumollard & Leseur, 2011; Juhola et al., 2011; BMVBS, 2010; Keskitalo, 2010)

- Analysis of the **influence of different political-administrative systems on national adaptation policy processes** and institutions and allowing transferability of knowledge among countries
- Focus on institutional settings that address the challenges of horizontal and vertical coordination of adaptation within NASs in Europe (as of 2013)

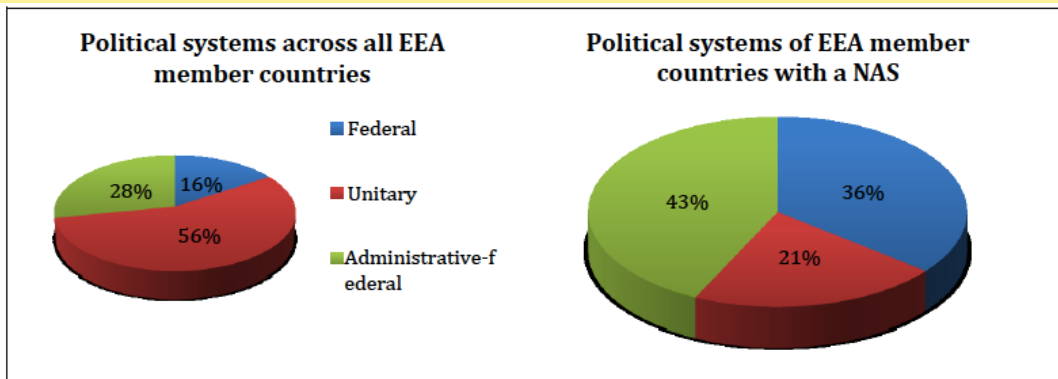
Method

- **14 countries** selected on the basis of a proposed definition of NAS and categorized according to their **political-administrative structure (unitary, administrative-federal, federal)**.
- **About 50 institutional settings** established to respond to horizontal and vertical integration challenges of adaptation within the existing NASs were analyzed along their main characteristics (**number of institutions, formalization, novelty, timing and focus of action, coordination mode, transversality**).
- **A Principal Component Analysis** was applied for the first time to the adaptation research domain. Assuming that the pattern of response of any nation to climate change is conditioned by the configuration of political systems, the aggregated country data were tested in order to verify the patterns and relations between the political systems and the institutional structure.

DIFFERENCES AND SIMILARITIES IN INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS THAT SUPPORT NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES ACROSS EUROPE

Europe: dominance of unitary systems (27 of which 9 administrative-federal
DK, FR, FI, IT, NL, NO, PT, SE, UK)

Representation of different political systems across Europe and across countries with a NAS



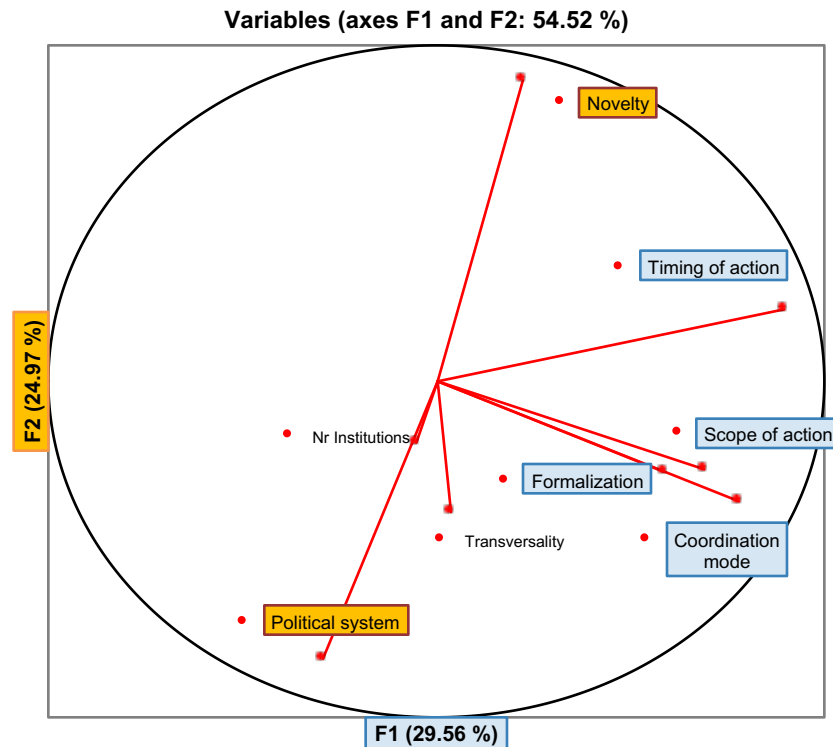
Evidence of **promptness of federal countries in adopting a NAS** as opposed to a late reaction by the majority of unitary countries.

Countries with NAS (2013): dominance of adm-fed and federal systems (all of them: AT, BE, DE, CH, ES)

Aggregated institutional settings per countries

Country with NAS	Nr. institutions	Formalization	Novelty	Timing of action	Scope of action	Coordination mode	Transversality	Political system
Austria	4	Equal combination	Equal combination	Pre-NAS	Adaptation + Climate Change (equal mix)	Voluntary	Integration	Federal
Belgium	2	Institutionalized	Pre-existing	Whole process (single institutions)	Adaptation + Climate Change (equal mix)	Mandatory	Integration	Federal
Denmark	1	Institutionalized	New	Whole process (single institutions)	Adaptation	Voluntary	Integration	Adm-Fed
Finland	3	Temporary	New	All phases covered (different institutions)	Adaptation	Mostly voluntary	Integration	Adm-Fed
France	3	Institutionalized	New	Post-NAS	Broader policies	Mandatory	Integration	Adm-Fed
Germany	5	Institutionalized	New	All phases covered (different institutions)	Adaptation	Mostly voluntary	Separation	Federal
Hungary	3	Institutionalized	New	Post-NAS	Climate change	Mostly voluntary	Separation	Unitary
Ireland	1	Institutionalized	New	Post-NAS	Climate Change	Mandatory	Integration	Unitary
Malta	2	Equal combination	New	Pre-NAS	Adaptation	Voluntary	Separation	Unitary
Netherlands	5	Institutionalized	New	Post-NAS	Sectoral policy	Mostly voluntary	Integration	Adm-Fed
Portugal	3	Institutionalized	New	Post-NAS	Climate change	Mandatory	Integration	Adm-Fed
Spain	5	Institutionalized	Pre-existing	Whole process (single institutions)	Climate change	Mostly voluntary	Integration	Federal
Switzerland	4	Institutionalized	Equal combination	Whole process and post-NAS	Adaptation	Mostly mandatory	Separation	Federal
UK	7	Institutionalized	New	Post-NAS	Adaptation	Mostly voluntary	Separation	Adm-Fed

DIFFERENCES AND SIMILARITIES IN INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS THAT SUPPORT NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES ACROSS EUROPE

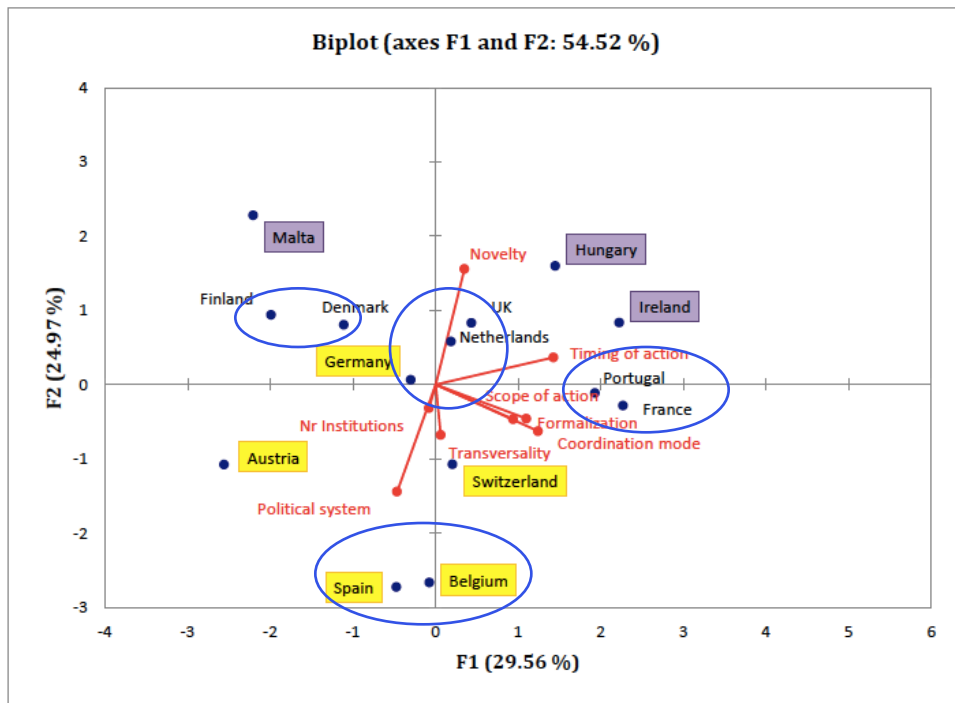


Main results

Statistical correlation between the political dimension and the degree of novelty of institutions dedicated to a NAS: federal countries tend to use pre-existing institutions, mechanisms and processes, while unitary tend to create new institutions.

Ultimately political systems only explain a limited part of the countries' choices in terms of adaptation governance settings, and other external or internal variables may have a stronger influence.

DIFFERENCES AND SIMILARITIES IN INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS THAT SUPPORT NATIONAL ADAPTATION STRATEGIES ACROSS EUROPE



- ***Is political dimension correlated to the institutional settings for adaptation?***

- ★ Federal countries are more proactive in developing NASs
- ★ While unitary countries tend to establish new institutions, federal countries tend to use pre-existing ones (statistical conclusion)
- ★ Federal countries tend to have more institutions and engage them since the earlier development phases of a NAS
- Other internal or external variables may have stronger influence on the choice of adaptation governance
- No best practice linked with administrative structures, exchange of lessons between similar countries (bio-geographically and institutionally)

- Two main different perspective on what a NAS is (vision document vs. climate change strategy) but **same implications on the delivery of adaptation, except for monitoring and review**
- Difference in definitions may become politically relevant as countries face **Commission's evaluation** (what the *adaptation scoreboard* will assess)

Thank you for your attention.

Hvala!



MAKING RESILIENCE HAPPEN

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