

Regional Workshop for Members of Parliaments, Media and Stakeholders on Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Coastal Area
5-6 November 2015, Athens, Greece

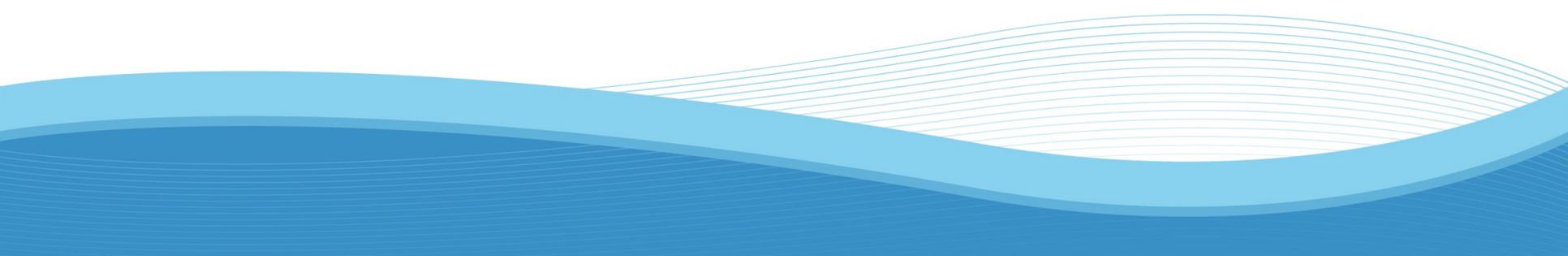
Regional Adaptation Framework

Key elements and perspectives

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Starting points

- The Mediterranean is “highly vulnerable” to climate change and potential impacts can be particularly strong
 - Consequences expected to worsen already critical situations present in the region
 - Essential resources like fresh water, agricultural production and fish provisions may become endangered
 - Coastal communities, ecosystems and infrastructure will be challenged by increased physical risks
 - Human lives may become endangered and health risks increased
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Why a Regional Framework

- Need for a cross-border collaborative and coordinated approach to adaptation
 - Climate risks extend well past territorial boundaries, and so do the necessary measures to address them.
 - Currently, responses to climate-related hazards are limited to short-term and reactive local emergency measures
- Med countries' capacity for environmental and socio-economic resilience is hampered, inter alia, by
 - limited knowledge on possible impacts, vulnerabilities and costs
 - limited coordination at national & regional levels
 - lack of awareness or consensus on policy options and possible response measures

Scope of the Framework

- The Mediterranean basin
 - 22 Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention
- Focus on marine and coastal areas
- Focus on adaptation
 - (i.e. not also on mitigation)
- Concise Policy document to be adopted by countries

Structure of the Framework

- The Framework is built around 4 “Strategic Objectives”
 - Policies – engagement – cooperation
 - Identification & implementation of best practices
 - Prioritisation and leveraging of financing
 - Better informed decision making
- “Operational Objectives” identified as appropriate for fulfilling each Strategic Objective
- “Priority fields of action” recommended for each Operational Objective

Strategic Objective 1

- Promote appropriate institutional and policy frameworks, increase awareness and stakeholder engagement and enhance capacity building and cooperation
 - Op. Obj. 1.1: To enhance awareness and engagement of key stakeholders on climate adaptation
 - Op. Obj. 1.2: To enhance adequate institutional and policy frameworks
 - Op. Obj. 1.3: To promote a regional approach on Disaster Risk Management
 - Op. Obj. 1.4: To improve the implementation and effectiveness of adaptation policies through monitoring and reviewing progress

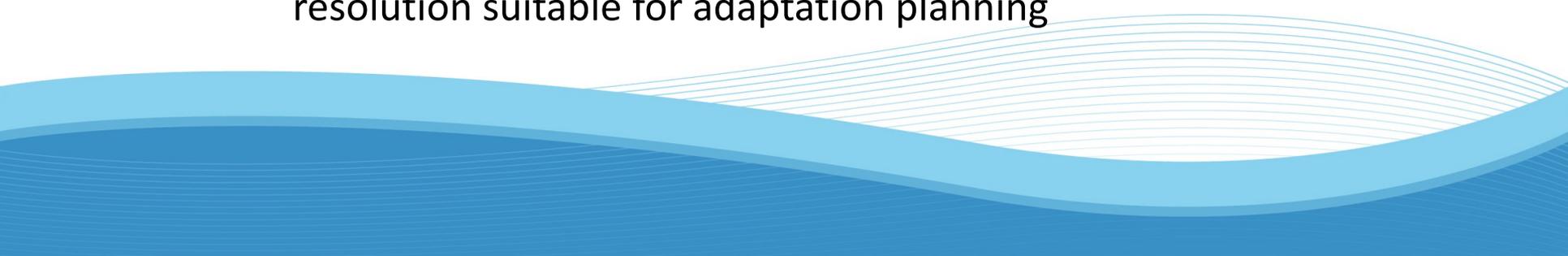
Strategic Objective 2

- Identify, assess and implement best practices (including low regret measures) for effective and sustainable adaptation to climate change impacts
 - Op. Obj. 2.1: To identify adaptation needs and best practices
 - Op. Obj. 2.2: To mainstream and adopt best practices

Strategic Objective 3

- Leverage existing and emerging finance mechanisms relevant to climate change, including international and domestic instruments
 - Op. Obj. 3.1: To overview and prioritize public spending relative to climate adaptation and mobilize national sources of climate finance
 - Op. Obj. 3.2: To support access to international financing
 - Op. Obj. 3.3: To promote and build alliances with banking and insurance sector

Strategic Objective 4

- Better informed decision-making through research and scientific cooperation and improved availability and use of reliable data, information and tools
 - Op. Obj. 4.1: To enhance the understanding of the vulnerability of natural and socioeconomic systems and sectors and of possible impacts
 - Op. Obj. 4.2: To build capacities for and promote use of vulnerability and risk assessment at regional to local levels
 - Op. Obj. 4.3: To strengthen science-policy interface by channeling and making accessible adaptation related knowledge
 - Op. Obj. 4.4: To strengthen regional climate information at a resolution suitable for adaptation planning
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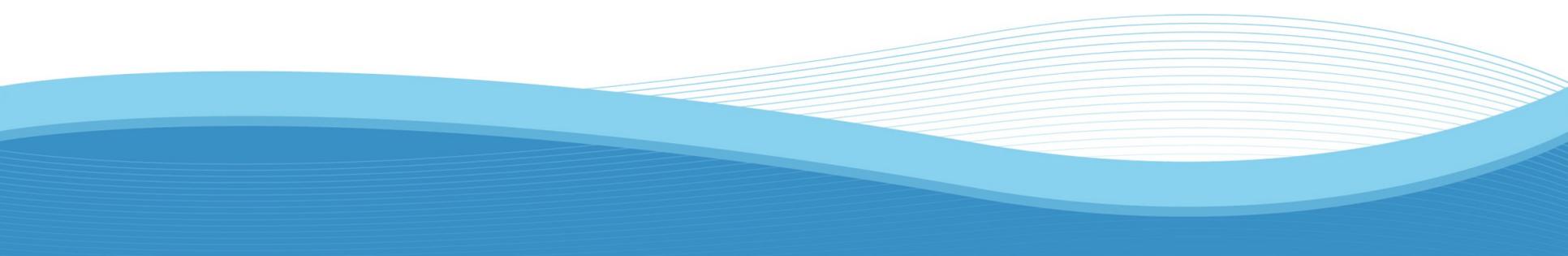
Background document – Overview of adaptation challenges in the Med

- Accompanies the Framework as a background doc
- Aims to provide an overview of:
 - Key concepts and perspectives
 - Latest knowledge
 - relevant national and international capacities and efforts,
 - recommended responses and approaches
 - available and emerging financing options

Climate change & sustainable development

- Two sides of the same coin
- Risks result from interaction of climate-related hazards with vulnerability and exposure of human and natural systems
- Existing aspects of unsustainable dvpt: drivers of vulnerability and undermine adaptive capacities
- 2015: a critical year & opportunity
 - Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-30)
 - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - COP21 Legal agreement (?)

Risks & vulnerabilities in the Mediterranean

- Natural resources and systems
 - Freshwater resources
 - Terrestrial systems
 - Coastal systems & low-lying areas
 - Ocean systems
 - Food production systems
 - Human Settlements, Industry, and Infrastructure
 - Urban areas
 - Tourism
 - Human Health, Well-Being, and Security
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Priority Dimensions of Adaptation Policies - 1

- Identifying and implementing low-regret measures
 - No need for “wait & see” approach even in face of uncertainty
 - Anticipate wide range of risks by promoting:
 - Reversible and flexible options
 - "Low-regret" options that yield benefits even in absence of climate change and where the costs are low vis-à-vis the benefits of acting
 - "Win-win" options that have the desired adaptive result while providing other social, environmental or economic benefits.
- Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction
 - The two approaches are increasingly being linked
 - Required: fundamental examination of development pathways that both create and reduce risk. Focus should be on addressing the greatest drivers of risk, not risk in general

Priority Dimensions of Adaptation Policies - 2

- Integrate climate resilience into the ICZM process
 - Establishment stage: co-ordination & governance issues, initial drivers and pressures, stakeholder analysis, a vision proposal, the work plan
 - Analysis and Futures stage: identify main elements of climate change and assess risks on key sectors; identify policies and priorities for action.
 - Setting the Vision stage: Build consensus, adopt adaptation as a high level objective, monitor and evaluate progress.
 - Designing the Future stage: formulate ICZM strategies, plans and programmes with specific climate-related elements and measures; establish a management structure; estimate changes in monitoring indicators
 - Realising the Vision stage: identify range and priorities of instruments to be used; find and secure financing; track info on impacts as new data appears.

Priority Dimensions of Adaptation Policies - 3

- Ecosystems-based adaptation
 - Use of natural capital in order to adapt to climate change impacts.
 - Significant potential for synergies with other adaptation options, climate mitigation and development goals
 - UNEP's EbA programme helps vulnerable communities to adapt through good ecosystem management practices and integration into climate change strategies and action plans.
 - Synergies between adaptation and mitigation
 - increase cost-effectiveness of actions, make them more attractive, generate mutual benefits, as well as co-benefits w development policies
 - Eg: wetlands restoration, buildings insulation
 - Crucial to avoid negative trade-offs
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International financing framework

- Developed countries committed to assist developing countries
 - COP15 (2009): 100bnUSD/y by 2020
- Operating entities under UNFCCC: GEF and GCF
 - Special purpose funds: Adaptation Fund (AF), Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)
- Other international funding opportunities
 - Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) administered by the WB
 - Other traditional multilaterals & instruments (AfDB, EIB, EBRD, ENPI, Horizon 2020 etc)
- Finance priorities at the national level
 - Qualitative shift in composition of expenditures, synergies with traditional development spending, financial market reform, valuation of green opportunities, innovative schemes etc

Thank you for your attention

Merci pour votre attention

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