

EVALUATION ROADMAP			
TITLE OF THE EVALUATION/FC	Evaluation of the EU Adaptation Strategy		
LEAD DG – RESPONSIBLE UNIT	CLIMA – A3	DATE OF THIS ROADMAP	01/09/2016
TYPE OF EVALUATION	Evaluation	PLANNED START DATE	Q4 / 2016
	Interim	PLANNED COMPLETION DATE	Q4 / 2018
	Mixed	PLANNING CALENDAR	http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/key-documents/index_en.htm#planned2011
This indicative roadmap is provided for information purposes only and is subject to change.			

A. Purpose
(A.1) Purpose
<p>The purpose of the exercise is to provide a first evaluation of the EU Strategy on Adaptation to climate change. It will examine its actual implementation and performance. Drawing on available evidence, it will look at the experience gained, the lessons learnt, and assess whether what has actually happened matches the earlier expectations. The evaluation will cover the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value of the Strategy, the evaluation will be conducted in a proportionate manner, reflecting the still recent implementation stage of the Strategy.</p>
(A.2) Justification
<p>The EU strategy on adaptation to climate change (COM(2013)216 final) foresees that, in 2017, "the European 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". It also foresees, under Action 1 "Encourage all Member States to adopt comprehensive adaptation strategies, to consider proposing a legally binding instrument if preparedness actions by Member States is considered insufficient".</p>

B. Content and subject of the evaluation
(B.1) Subject area
<p>The EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change¹, adopted in April 2013, provides a framework and mechanisms to improve the preparedness of the EU for current and future impacts of climate change. It recognizes that improved access to funding is critical in building a climate-resilient Europe. The Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 aims to ensure that at least 20% of the European budget is in support of the climate change objectives, including both adaptation and mitigation. The implementation of adaptation policies in many European countries and worldwide is gradually picking up pace, recently buttressed by the Paris Agreement. The agreement sets out a global action plan to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C. In relation to climate adaptation,</p>

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what/documentation_en.htm

<p>Governments agreed to strengthen societies' ability to deal with the impacts of climate change and provide continued and enhanced international support for adaptation to developing countries.</p>
<p>(B.2) Original objectives of the intervention</p>
<p>The overall aim of the EU Adaptation Strategy is to contribute to a more climate-resilient Europe. This means enhancing the preparedness and capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change at local, regional, national and EU levels, developing a coherent approach and improving coordination.</p> <p>It is structured around the following three objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promoting action by Member States in order to achieve coordination and coherence at the various levels of planning and management; 2. Better informing decision-making by improving adaptation knowledge 3. "Climate-proofing" EU action by mainstreaming adaptation measures into EU policies and programmes and promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors
<p>(B.3) How the objectives were to be achieved</p>
<p>(Cf. draft intervention logic in Annex)</p>

C. Scope of the evaluation
<p>(C.1) Topics covered</p>
<p>The evaluation will examine the actual implementation and the achievements of the objectives and the eight Actions of the EU Adaptation Strategy. It will assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and EU added value of the overall Strategy, and assess the actual state and progress in the implementation of the 8 actions against what could reasonably expect to have been achieved by end 2016.</p> <p>The geographical scope shall cover the implementation in all 28 EU Member States but also take into account the relevant international context, in particular the implications of the Paris Agreement and the direct and indirect effects of climate change outside the European Union.</p> <p>The reference period for the evaluation of the Strategy is April 2013 – December 2016 (as far as data are available). The evaluation will be conducted in a proportionate manner, reflecting the still recent implementation stage of the Strategy, It can be expected that some actions of the Strategy be more advanced than others, or, on the contrary, at an early stage of implementation. After presenting the state of play and the progress made in the implementation of the Strategy, the evaluation will focus on assessing outputs and results achieved so far, the factors influencing this and any links to the strategy, concentrating on identifying first lessons learned.</p>
<p>(C.2) Issues to be examined</p>
<p>The evaluation will address the following questions:</p> <p>Relevance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To what extent do the objectives and actions of the Strategy respond to needs within the EU and at international level? 2. How relevant is the Strategy for the different stakeholders (EU Member States, regional and local authorities and private sector and businesses) at local, regional, national and supra-national level? <p>Effectiveness</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. To what extent have the objectives been achieved during the period 2013-2016?

<p>4. To what extent has each of the eight actions of the Strategy contributed to these achievements? For each action explain the extent to which the effects achieved were expected or unexpected (i.e. not considered at the moment when the strategy was adopted).</p> <p>5. What drivers and barriers (expected or unexpected) contributed to or stood in the way of implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy.</p> <p>6. What are the effects the strategy has produced so far for different stakeholders?</p> <p>Efficiency</p> <p>7. Were the resources adequate for the overall implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy and proportionate across its eight actions?</p> <p>8. How do the different stakeholders view the monitoring of the implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy? Which aspects are perceived as a burden, if any, and to what extent?</p> <p>Coherence</p> <p>9. How well does the Adaptation Strategy fit together with other relevant EU legislation and policies, or similar initiatives at international, national or regional level? Are there any gaps or inconsistencies between policies? Are there components to be further developed or added to increase coherence of actions?</p> <p>EU Added Value</p> <p>10. What is the added value of addressing climate adaptation at EU level, in addition to the vertical and horizontal cooperation at national level?</p>
(C.3) Other tasks

D. Evidence base
(D.1) Evidence from monitoring
<p>The EU Adaptation Strategy provides for monitoring and evaluating the status and progress of adaptation across the EU, based on Member States' reporting (e.g. via the EU Monitoring Mechanism Regulation² and submissions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)), an adaptation preparedness scoreboard including indicators for measuring Member States' level of readiness and other sources of information, such as European Environment Agency (EEA) reports³ or reports by other reputable sources (e.g. the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)). The adaptation preparedness scoreboard was developed during 2014 and early 2015, the preliminary results of the assessment will be used in the analysis</p>
(D.2) Previous evaluations and other reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Adaptation Strategy package and its impact assessment (published on DG CLIMA's website⁴)

² March 2015 reporting available here: <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries>

³ For example: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/national-adaptation-policy-processes>

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what/documentation_en.htm

- The Paris Agreement, other relevant documents such as the post-Paris Communication by the European Commission or the Council conclusions on climate diplomacy, or submissions by the European Union to the UNFCCC⁵
- Scoreboard developed by DG CLIMA and the results of the 2014/2015 exercise to test the scoreboard
- Member State reports under Article 15 of the Mechanism for Monitoring and Reporting (MMR) greenhouse gas emissions and for reporting other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change and repealing Decision No 280/2004/EC⁶
- Climate-Adapt information and user statistics
- Reports from the EEA, JRC
- Reports from the consortium implementing the Mayors Adapt and new Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy initiatives
- Relevant input from the mid-term evaluation of the LIFE Programme on environment and climate (2016)
- Relevant input from the mid-term evaluation of the Mayors Adapt initiative (2014)
- Reports from the contract on 'Mainstreaming Climate Change into CSF-Funds 2014-2020' (i.e. specific report on the mainstreaming of adaptation into ESIF), recently published

(D.3) Evidence from assessing the implementation and application of legislation (complaints, infringement procedures)

No specific legislation underpins the Strategy, with the exception of Article 15 of the MMR Regulation (N.525/2013⁷) for which no infringements and complaints are recorded to date. Relevant legislation exists in a number of thematic policy areas where the Strategy calls for mainstreaming of climate change adaptation, such as the Water Framework Directive and Floods Directive⁸ (including Disaster Risk Reduction measures) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, just to mention some of the main legislative acts.

(D.4) Consultation

A stakeholders consultation process will be launched and maintained all along the course of the evaluation process, using different tools and methodologies such as:

(1) Interviews with relevant Commission, European Parliament, and Member States' officials from line ministries working with/responsible for the implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy.

(2) Interviews/surveys with key stakeholders (e.g. regional authorities, representatives of city and local

⁵ (to include references/websites)

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the EP and the Council of 21 May 2013, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32013R0525&from=EN>

⁷ Regulation n.525/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council of 21 May 2013 on 'A mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and for reporting other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change and repealing Decision n. 280/2004/EC, OJ L 165, 18.6.2013, p.13

⁸ The Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive will be evaluated in 2019. Prior to this, implementation reports will be presented to the European Parliament and the Council in 2018. Furthermore, the assessment of the updated River Basin Management Plans and 1st Flood Risk Management Plans is on-going, and will consider climate change adaptation aspects.

governments, Civil Society Organisations and NGOs, private sector and business entities) in Member States

(3) open web based public consultation, addressing all categories of stakeholders, on the Your Voice in Europe web site⁹

(4) Two experts workshops, one at the beginning of the evaluation, one at the end, to present draft methodologies, questions as well as findings and answers respectively in order to test and validate approaches and results.

(D.5) Further evidence to be gathered

- European Commission, and other EU Institutions documentation
- EU legislation relevant to the implementation of the EU Adaptation Strategy
- Academic literature (EU and worldwide)
- Official statistics
- Studies and research projects on topics and sectors which are relevant for the implementation of the Strategy
- Documentation and decisions produced in international fora (UNFCCC, CBD, etc.)

E. Other relevant information/ remarks

[e.g. comments on scope, further detail on communication activities or validation exercises]

⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index_en.htm