



Submission by Latvia and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its Member States

This submission is supported by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

2 June 2015

**Subject: European Union undertakings in adaptation planning
(according to paragraph 12 of Decision 1/CP.20)**

SUMMARY

In response to the invitation in the Lima Call for Climate Action for Parties to consider communicating their undertakings in adaptation planning, the European Union (EU) and its Member States are pleased to highlight some of our experiences in fostering climate resilient sustainable development and adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change, and to provide direction to where more information can be found by interested partners.

We consider engagement in the sharing of experiences, knowledge and lessons learned as a vital component of global collaboration to increase our understanding and improve the effectiveness of our own efforts to adapt as well as to support others in undertaking their actions. Importantly, we consider cooperation of all Parties and partners as critical to enabling the continuous enhancement of action on adaptation to achieve climate resilient sustainable development.

The EU considers adaptation to be an integral element in its internal policy and planning processes and we continue to learn valuable lessons as we implement actions to adapt to our changing climate.

- Member States are increasingly recognizing that adaptation is an iterative process and learning from planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and new information from research, which are fed back into the process helps to improve the adaptation interventions. Challenges in this regard include addressing knowledge gaps, such as on costs and benefits of adaptation and vulnerability at local level.
- The most frequently reported policy instruments for implementation are information provision and mainstreaming of adaptation.
- Although there has been an increase in the public and policy awareness of adaptation, keeping adaptation high on the political agenda remains another important challenge.
- In 2013, the European Commission adopted the communication 'An EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change', which includes several elements to support Member States in adaptation: providing guidance and funding, promoting knowledge generation and information-sharing, and enhancing resilience of key vulnerable sectors through mainstreaming. In addition, the EU has also agreed that at least 20 % of its budget for 2014–2020 should be spent on climate change-related action, including mitigation and adaptation.

The first part of this submission provides some insights into the state of adaptation undertakings



within the EU, at both the European and Member States level. The second part highlights some examples of where more detailed information has been shared and made available already, with weblinks as appropriate, in order to allow for convenient and direct communication between interested partners and stakeholders.

The EU hopes that this submission contributes to facilitating improved adaptation action on the ground, by all Parties and at all levels. The EU and its Member States remain committed to supporting the efforts of developing countries, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable, now and beyond 2020, to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

1. STATE OF UNDERTAKINGS IN ADAPTATION PLANNING IN EUROPEAN UNION

The EU and its Member States regularly submit – in line with its commitments under article 4.1b of the Convention – information on our adaptation actions through National Communications and other existing reports under the UNFCCC. The latest – 6th National Communication of the EU, as well as individual National Communications of its 28 Member States – can be found on UNFCCC website.¹

Furthermore the EU is engaged in communicating relevant information, experience and lessons learned on adaptation planning and implementation via submissions and workshops in different areas of negotiations, e.g. Nairobi Work Programme, NAP Expo, Capacity Building and the EU will continue to engage in international joint efforts to share information and knowledge about approaches to adaptation and practical experiences and lessons learned.

1.1. ADAPTATION ACTION AT EU LEVEL

This section aims to provide information regarding the EU Adaptation Strategy and its implementation, including ongoing and planned actions beyond the detailed information which was provided in the 6th National Communication.

The EU strategy on adaptation to climate change² aims at making Europe more climate-resilient. Taking a coherent approach by complementing the activities of Member States, it promotes adaptation action across the EU, ensuring that adaptation considerations are addressed in all relevant EU policies (mainstreaming), promoting greater coordination, coherence and information-sharing.

Objective 1: Promoting action by Member States

All Member States are encouraged to adopt, implement and review comprehensive adaptation strategies.

¹ http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_natcom/submitted_natcom/items/7742.php

² http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what/documentation_en.htm



Ongoing and planned actions:

- Full EU coverage: As of April 2015 20³ Member States have adopted adaptation strategies/actions plans. Several Member States are in the process of either planning or reviewing their adaptation strategies and action plans, based, inter alia, on the guidelines prepared for the formulation of adaptation strategies.⁴
- Governance: The European Commission facilitates policy coordination and cooperates with Member States through regular meetings of a Working Group on Adaptation. Participants in this group are national contact points on adaptation appointed by the EU Member States.
- Monitoring: The European Commission proposed an ‘adaptation preparedness scoreboard’, that identifies key indicators for assessing Member States’ level of readiness and aims to review the classical steps in adaptation policy making – preparing the ground for adaptation, assessing risks and vulnerabilities, identifying adaptation options, implementing adaptation action; monitoring and evaluation.
- By March 2015 Member States provided reports on their adaptation activities within an EU climate monitoring and reporting system (the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation⁵), including information on Member States national adaptation planning and strategies, outlining their implemented or planned actions to facilitate adaptation to climate change. Information reported will be made publicly available in Climate-ADAPT.
- Evaluation: In 2017, the European Commission will assess whether action being taken in the Member States is sufficient and consider whether additional measures would be needed.
- Action at local level: Mayor’s Adapt⁶ is an initiative, whereby European cities sign up to contribute to a more climate-resilient Europe and to develop local adaptation strategies and to review the outcomes on a biannual basis. More than 120 European cities or provinces have already committed with the aim of committing at least 200 cities in total by 2017.

Objective 2: Better informed decision making

The EU Adaptation Strategy promotes better informed decision-making by addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation through various channels.

Ongoing and planned actions:

- Climate-ADAPT, the European Climate Adaptation Platform⁷ aims to support Europe in adapting to climate change and helps users to access and share information on e.g. current and future vulnerability of regions and sectors, national/ transnational adaptation strategies, case studies and potential options, tools that support adaptation planning. Currently, it contains more than 1.500 adaptation resources in its database, as well as adaptation information relevant to all EU policy sectors; information on countries adaptation policies and actions, information on EU funding sources, etc. The platform is continuously updated. The links to national adaptation platforms will be improved and more urban adaptation initiatives will also be integrated.

³ Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

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

⁵ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0525&from=EN>

⁶ <http://mayors-adapt.eu/>

⁷ <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/>



- *Horizon 2020*⁸, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, aims to dedicate 35% of funds to climate-related research, including adaptation. It is already supporting the addressing of outstanding knowledge gaps, including the development and testing of decision making support tools monitoring, systems for adaptation, resilient infrastructures, and the integration of climate change adaptation in sectoral research (health, water, etc.).
- Currently *Copernicus climate service*⁹, the EU programme on observations and climate services to support climate change policy making, is under development with the operational service scheduled to start around 2018.

Objective 3: Climate-proofing common EU action: promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors

Ongoing and planned actions:

- The objective of the *European Multiannual Financial Framework (2014-2020)* includes a minimum contribution of 20% for climate related expenditure, including in development cooperation programmes. In order to facilitate the Member States' efforts of programming, principles and recommendations regarding the integration of adaptation into common EU funding instruments have been prepared¹⁰.
- Setting out adaptation relevant priorities for the *LIFE-Programme*¹¹ that is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental, nature conservation and climate action projects in the countries of the EU. Yearly calls for proposals are launched since 2014.
- Under the requirements of the *Water Framework Directive*¹², Member States are due to present River Basin Management Plans by December 2015. These plans will be assessed and the results of the assessment will be published at the latest by the end of 2018. Climate change considerations and adaptation strategies will be looked at both in the plans and in the definition of the Programmes of measures.
- One of the *EU Common Agriculture Policy 2014-2020's* main objective is to promote the sustainable management of natural resources and climate action. The CAP integrates environmental and climate change concerns by rewarding the introduction of practices that are beneficial for the environment and climate, by setting minimum targets for measures concerning environment and climate related investments and by promoting Member States' action on preservation of ecosystems and support to a climate resilient economy. Adaptations to the CAP policy implementation and/or design might occur as a follow up to the mid-term report on implementation foreseen in 2017.

⁸ <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>

⁹ <http://www.copernicus.eu/>

¹⁰ for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, for programmes and investments of Cohesion Policy, for rural development programmes. http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what/documentation_en.htm

¹¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>

¹² http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/index_en.htm



1.2. ADAPTATION PLANNING PROCESSES AND LESSONS LEARNT AT MEMBER STATES LEVEL¹³

This section provides a brief introduction to some of the adaptation actions undertaken at the level of the individual EU Member States. As stated above, detailed information regarding adaptation action in EU Member States have been reported in the 6th National Communications of the respective EU Member States. Furthermore, examples of adaptation activities of several Member States in different sectors have been communicated in the latest submission of the Nairobi Work Programme in August 2014¹⁴.

a) *Planning adaptation*

20 Member States have adopted adaptation strategies that outline their national adaptation planning process and priorities. They are often operationalized by using adaptation action plans, which define specific priorities and schedule them.

United Kingdom	In 2011, in its Water White Paper ¹⁷⁹ the UK government set out the long term priorities for a sustainable, resilient and customer focused water sector and its agenda for delivering substantial improvements in the health of its rivers through improving water quality and tackling unsustainable abstraction. This set out the case to plan now to protect the resilience of future water supplies. This planning should take into account climate change, population growth, patterns of demand and the need for resilience to hazards such as drought and flooding.
Poland	The frameworks and mechanisms that serve for better adaptation of Poland to the climate change were designed in Strategic Adaptation Plan until 2020 (SPA 2020) Following one of priorities set up in the SPA2020 Poland plans to implement a system project, coordinated by Ministry of the Environment, that includes development and updating of Urban Adaptation Plans for cities with more than 100,00 inhabitants.
Germany	In 2008 the Federal Government of Germany adopted the "German Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change" (DAS;). It lays the foundation for a medium-term process to progressively identify the effects of global climate change, assess the risks, and develop and implement adaptation measures. To underpin this strategy with specific action, the DAS was followed by the "Adaptation Action Plan of the German Adaptation Strategy" (APA) in relation to climate change, adopted in 2011. The action plan commits to concrete steps in the further development and implementation of the DAS. Please note that most Federal States established sub-national (Länder) Adaptation Strategies.

b) *Coordination of adaptation efforts*

Adaptation to climate change is a cross-cutting topic that concerns all sectors of society and requires action at multiple levels from national governments to local actors. In the EU, setting up governance

¹³ Information based on examples provided by Member States, National Communications, as well as the report of the EEA "National adaptation policy processes in European countries — 2014" which presents a unique collection of information and most comprehensive overview of national adaptation policy processes in Europe, to date.

¹⁴ <http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/SitePages/sessions.aspx?showOnlyCurrentCalls=1&populateData=1&expectedsubmissionfrom=Parties&focalBodies=SBSTA>



bodies are common ways to coordinate adaptation action across sectors and levels of governance. Member States find that knowledge exchange, coordination of stakeholders and assignment of responsibilities can support coordination of adaptation action but also find that these activities can be challenging.

Austria	Policy formulation: National Adaptation Strategy 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).
Hungary	Interministerial Coordination Group (EKTB) at national level with representatives of all ministries is responsible for the governmental coordination.
Belgium	Coordination group between federal and regional governments is in place and effective. The Walloon and Flemish parts of Belgium provide some support to local administrations in their regions, and Brussels collaborates at the national level as a region of the national working group.
Sweden	Regional government offices hold the overarching regional responsibility to coordinate climate adaptation. Regional action plans with nearly 800 actions were elaborated in 2014 involving stakeholders from national to local level. The regional government offices collaborate with a broad selection of public and private stakeholders, including regional and municipal authorities, industry and universities. Collaboration across sectors is demonstrated by the active involvement of 16 national authorities and all 21 regional government offices in running a joint Swedish Climate Change Adaptation Portal: klimatanpassning.se .

c) Stakeholder involvement

Member States have mostly involved stakeholders in planning their adaptation policy processes by involving national and subnational level government stakeholders and consultation of scientists and researchers. Non-government institutions were often involved by consultation and information-sharing and the general public via public consultation and dissemination of information.

Member States emphasize the importance of transparent, inclusive and well-informed stakeholder involvement processes. The factors identified as contributing to successful involvement can be grouped into:

- (a) the strengthening of the awareness raising, capacity building, knowledge provision to ensure informed discussions on adaptation;
- (b) selection of stakeholders, involving a wide range of stakeholders, definition of roles and responsibilities;
- (c) early involvement, dialogue, transparency and continuity, motivating stakeholders to participate and ensuring continued commitment.

Countries have yet to explore and expand in-depth involvement processes that would increase the commitment to adaptation of private sector and civil society stakeholders.

Finland	Stakeholders were involved both in assessment as well as revision of the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change. For the strategy revision process the stakeholder involvement included among others: (a) a “stock taking” questionnaire in spring 2013 to wide group of stakeholders on climate change impacts and risks,
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	sectorial or regional vulnerabilities, strategic goals and other relevant aspects (b) an open seminar (“public hearing”) of the strategy; (c) draft strategy was in the “ <i>Have your say</i> ” –eParticipation forum for public.
The Netherlands	Within the Delta Programme, the government, provinces, water boards and municipalities work together to protect \from flooding and to ensure sufficient fresh water. Social organisations, businesses and organisations with extensive knowledge in the field of water are involved as well.
Spain	Regarding private sector engagement, a pilot project (called <i>Iniciativa ADAPTA</i>) has been developed in collaboration with five main national companies in key sectors of the Spanish economy: tourism, energy, transport, construction and food industry, pioneers in adaptation to climate change. Its main aim is to explore adaptation options and tools to incorporate risk and vulnerability considerations into different business strategies.
United kingdom	The UK’s Environment Agency provides the Climate Ready support service for England, for businesses, public sector and other organisations. Support includes, inter alia, raising awareness and understanding about climate change risks, increasing the extent to which businesses are actively considering climate change impacts and taking appropriate action, and helping businesses better understand and manage climate change risks to their supply chains. Specific areas of work include: (a) Engaging with the Continuity Forum and British Standard Institute to help make business continuity and risk management standards appropriate for managing climate risks and encouraging their use; (b) Publishing supply chain guidance to help organisations identify risks from extreme weather and climate change both domestically and internationally and testing this with a major supermarket chain.
Luxemburg	In 2010, the “Partenariat pour l’Environnement et le Climat” (“Environment and Climate Partnership”) was launched, bringing together stakeholder representatives to discuss climate change and sustainable development issues. The objective of the partnership consisted, amongst others, in the elaboration of a first “National Adaptation Strategy on Climate Change. Five thematic working groups were created under the Partnership with the aim of building a “Climate Change & Sustainable Development“ package of Policies and Measures that could be accepted, hence implemented, by all stakeholders and citizens. The five themes were: (1) urban planning, housing & construction; (2) mobility; (3) energy & eco-technologies; (4) biodiversity, forest, water & agriculture and (5) international aspects and impacts of climate change.
France	Stakeholders were involved in the definition and implementation of the national adaptation plans. In addition, private sector is mobilized, for instance, by “enterprises pour l’environnement”, a French association from all sectors that is wishing to take into account environmental in their strategy and decisions, but also by other networks driven by CdC or Ademe.

d) Implementation of adaptation

Priority sectors for adaptation implementation in the EU are currently water, agriculture, forestry, human health, spatial planning, urban planning, coastal areas, energy, built environment, tourism, biodiversity, DRR, transport, insurance, industry, civil protection, mountain areas, marine and fisheries.

Providing information (e.g. on adaptation tools, education, guidelines) is the most frequently reported policy instrument used for implementation. The second reported is mainstreaming or integration into specific, priority policies, via programmes, plans, legislation and financial support (e.g. subsidies, taxes).



Member States indicate a wide range of financing instruments for implementing adaptation, from project-based public support to explicit budgetary allocation for adaptation. In addition, insurance mechanisms are indicated to be often used in agriculture and water as well as in the forestry sector. Public-private partnerships play an important role in the water sector, followed by transport and energy.

Finland	The main approach in adaptation in Finland is integration of adaptation in policy instruments and planning. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is responsible for the national level coordination. However, each ministry is responsible for adaptation resources as part of their adaptation actions.
United Kingdom	The UK's Department for Transport is working with industry to increase climate resilience in the planning and design of transport infrastructure while also continuing to build adaptation into their major plans and strategies. One example of factoring adaptation into current plans and strategies is the Network Rail Strategic Business Plan for 2014-19 which includes the need to future proof critical infrastructure against the impacts of changing weather by allocating funds to protect tracks and bridges from flooding and heatwaves, further analysis of climate change impacts, and other actions.
Ireland	The Climate Policy Section of the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government currently chairs a steering committee to provide assistance and guidance to the various sectors in the development of their sectoral adaptation plans. Uniquely, the Committee represents an example of multi-level governance through its membership of sectoral and local level interests. The advice and assistance being provided by the Environmental Protection Agency to the steering committee follows a step wise process which is in line with EU guidelines and best international practice. For example, a series of seminars have been developed on adaptation planning; these included vulnerability/baseline assessment, risk assessment, selection of adaptation options and development of adaptation indicators.

e) Transnational/ regional cooperation

Transnational cooperation in adaptation to climate change has increased with the recognition of the importance of adaptation as a cross-cutting policy area.

Water management has broad experience of transnational cooperation in the EU and has been the first to take on board adaptation to climate change, e.g. transboundary river basins or catchment management. Coastal area management is another common sector for transnational cooperation and where adaptation to climate change has been recognized as a transboundary issue as well as biodiversity conservation and strategies and risk management protocols for natural hazards.

The EU supports the development of regional strategies that involve several countries and integrate the consideration of climate change impacts and adaptation e.g. for the **Baltic Sea Region**¹⁵, the **Danube Region**¹⁶, the **Adriatic and Ionian Region**¹⁷, the **Alpine Region**¹⁸ and the **international river basin**

¹⁵ <http://www.baltadapt.eu>

¹⁶ <http://www.danube-region.eu>

¹⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index.cfm/en/policy/cooperation/macro-regional-strategies/adriatic-ionian/library/

¹⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index.cfm/en/policy/cooperation/macro-regional-strategies/alpine/



district Rhine¹⁹. Valuable cooperation and exchange of experience is also taking place within the Interest Group on ‘Climate Change and Adaptation’ (IG CCA) of the Network of European Environmental Protection Agencies.

f) Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

In the EU M&E has been planned or implemented for different purposes and for differing objectives. In some countries the purpose relates to the evaluation of a national strategy, while in another it may relate to a specific policy measure or a broader purpose that may have implications for the strategy/policy.

Countries are using a variety of approaches for their M&E schemes, e.g. a review by an independent body and self-assessment by actors in different sectors. Some Member States are implementing, or developing indicators on climate impacts, risks and adaptation. However, there are many challenges when developing indicators such as the long time-frames and the availability of data. Member States are planning to use the information from their M&E schemes to revise either their national strategy or plan. EU Member States are increasingly recognizing that adaptation is an iterative process whereby learning from planning, implementation, M&E schemes and new information from research are fed back into the process to improve the adaptation interventions.

Finland	The National Strategy was evaluated both mid-term and a broader assessment was done in 2013. In the new adaptation plan the results of evaluation were taken into consideration. As a part of the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan 2022 Finland has launched a study to develop and improve monitoring, reporting and assessment of adaptation. The mid-term evaluation of the National Adaptation Plan is foreseen for 2018. A national monitoring group is appointed in spring 2015 to follow and evaluate the implementation of the National Adaptation Plan.
Spain	Monitoring reports on the progress of the Spanish National Climate Change Adaptation Plan are carried out periodically by the Spanish Climate Change Office. Up to date, three monitoring reports, 2008, 2011 and 2013, have been produced. The Third Monitoring Report analyses the ongoing and completed activities undertaken in the period 2011-2013.

2. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PARTIES

The EU is committed to share information, knowledge and lessons learned about approaches to adaptation and practical experiences and lessons learned with other Parties, and stakeholders beyond the EU.

Examples of communication channels used or planned to be used by the EU and its Member States to share information, knowledge and lessons learned with partners:

SOURCE	INFORMATION SHARED
6th National Communication and 1 st Biannual Report of the EU	https://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/amex_i_natcom/application/pdf/eu_nc6.pdf

¹⁹ <http://www.iksr.org/index.php?id=58&L=3&cHash=455fdab52ce6eafb6f72632159564bf>



Submission to Nairobi Work Programme, 26 August 2014	Information on tools and methods for adaptation planning process, good practices and lessons learned in relation to adaptation planning processes addressing water, health, human settlement and ecosystems, and processes and structures for linking national and local adaptation planning www4.unfccc.int/submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/39_23_130536050256575017-IT-08-26-NWP%20submission.pdf
Climate-ADAPT	http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/
Mayor's ADAPT	http://mayors-adapt.eu/
Member States adaptation platforms	Links to Member States adaptation platforms can be found at Climate-ADAPT http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/
European Environment Agency Reports on national adaptation policy processes in European countries	This report provides a Europe-wide state of play for adaptation activities, up-to-date and targeted information to support the development, implementation and evaluation of national adaptation policies and measures. http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/national-adaptation-policy-processes
EU Member States' obligations to report on national adaptation actions (Art 15 MMR)	Information will be available on Climate-ADAPT country pages (country pages are currently being updated)
European Climate Change Adaptation Conference' 12.-14. May 2015, Copenhagen	The conference offers a platform for researchers, policy makers, and businesses to share new research results, novel policy developments, and practical implementation experiences regarding climate change impacts and adaptation, as well as highlight opportunities for business innovations aimed at supporting the transition to low carbon societies.
Biennial conference of the Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA) – 2016, 10.-13. May 2016 The Netherlands	"Adaptation Futures 2016" is where scholars, practitioners and policymakers go to connect, learn and inspire. It highlights adaptation practices and solutions for people, governments and businesses. The programme will address all sectors and all parts of the world, with a special focus on urban and coastal areas.

The above examples are part of a wider international priority of the EU and its Member States to support each other and other Parties and partners to adapt, within and beyond our borders. This approach builds capacity and supports implementation of action on the ground. Our approach encompasses the sharing of information, knowledge and lessons learned as well as mobilizing technical and financial resources. The EU and its Member States remain committed to supporting the efforts of developing countries, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable, now and beyond 2020, to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change.

The EU uses policies and measures to leverage and direct investments to adaptation and building climate resilience, as well as to create environments that enable public and private resources and investments to support and integrate the necessary adaptation actions. These policies relate to domestic EU and, in some cases, national Member States' policies, as well as to the development cooperation undertaken with developing country partners through bilateral and multilateral channels. The outcome of these policies can be seen in examples such as the fact that as at mid-2014 the EU and its Member



States are the largest financial contributor to the adaptation focused UNFCCC and KP funds and the largest provider of climate relevant international public finance in general.

Many EU Member States have mainstreamed climate risk management into their approaches to international development and cooperation. For example:

United Kingdom	In the UK, the Department for International Development (DFID) is implementing its 'Future Fit' strategy to ensure that it has the knowledge, skills and resources to respond to the challenges of climate change in all its programmes. All its departments and offices have already completed reviews of portfolios and identified priority areas for programmes to address the challenges brought by climate change.
Germany	Germany has been applying a compulsory assessment of impacts of climate change and adaptation into the standard programme planning procedures in its development cooperation since 2011. Adaptation impacts need to be specified in objectives and indicators in order to ensure climate resilience of project outcomes.
Finland	In Finland climate sustainability is a cross-cutting objective of Finnish Development Policy. All projects are screened to be climate proof and opportunities for adaptation and mitigation are integrated into the project approach.
France	The French Development Agency (AFD) has been working, in conjunction with its technical and financial partners, on the integration of the analysis of climate risks into the appraisal cycle for the projects it finances and intends to systematize this analysis in 2015.
European Union	Since 2007, the European Commission has been strengthening dialogue and cooperation on climate change between the European Union (EU) and developing countries most vulnerable to climate change through the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA). The initiative and its extension (GCCA+) provide both a platform for learning and exchange and a source of technical and financial support.

More details of these are available within the National Communications, Biennial Reports²⁰ as well as other relevant submissions made by the EU to the UNFCCC.

Furthermore, the EU actively promotes the integration and building of climate resilience into relevant multilateral frameworks, such as at the recent 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which resulted in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the on-going post 2015 Development Agenda. This is just one example of where the EU position in international negotiations supports the integration of climate risk management and adaptation into relevant international agreements, as well as the mandates and work programmes of relevant multilateral bodies.

²⁰ http://unfccc.int/national_reports/biennial_reports_and_iar/submitted_biennial_reports/items/7550.php



3. FINAL REMARKS

The EU hopes that this submission, by highlighting the state of adaptation undertakings within the EU, at both EU and Member States level, contributes to facilitating improved adaptation action on the ground, by all Parties and at all levels. The EU and its Member States invite all partners undertaking adaptation, including Parties, UNFCCC institutions and other relevant partners and stakeholders from all sectors, at all levels, to follow up with the relevant EU or Member States body on any of the information above or in our National Communications. Cooperation of all Parties and partners on adaptation is critical to enabling the most effective pursuit of climate resilient sustainable development.