



The EU Perspective on Adaptation

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Overview

- The challenge
 - Why adaptation?
 - We are preparing to meet the challenge
 - More needs to be done by all
 - Adaptation to be integrated in policies and planning at all levels
 - More prominent role for adaptation in the future regime
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The challenge – is global

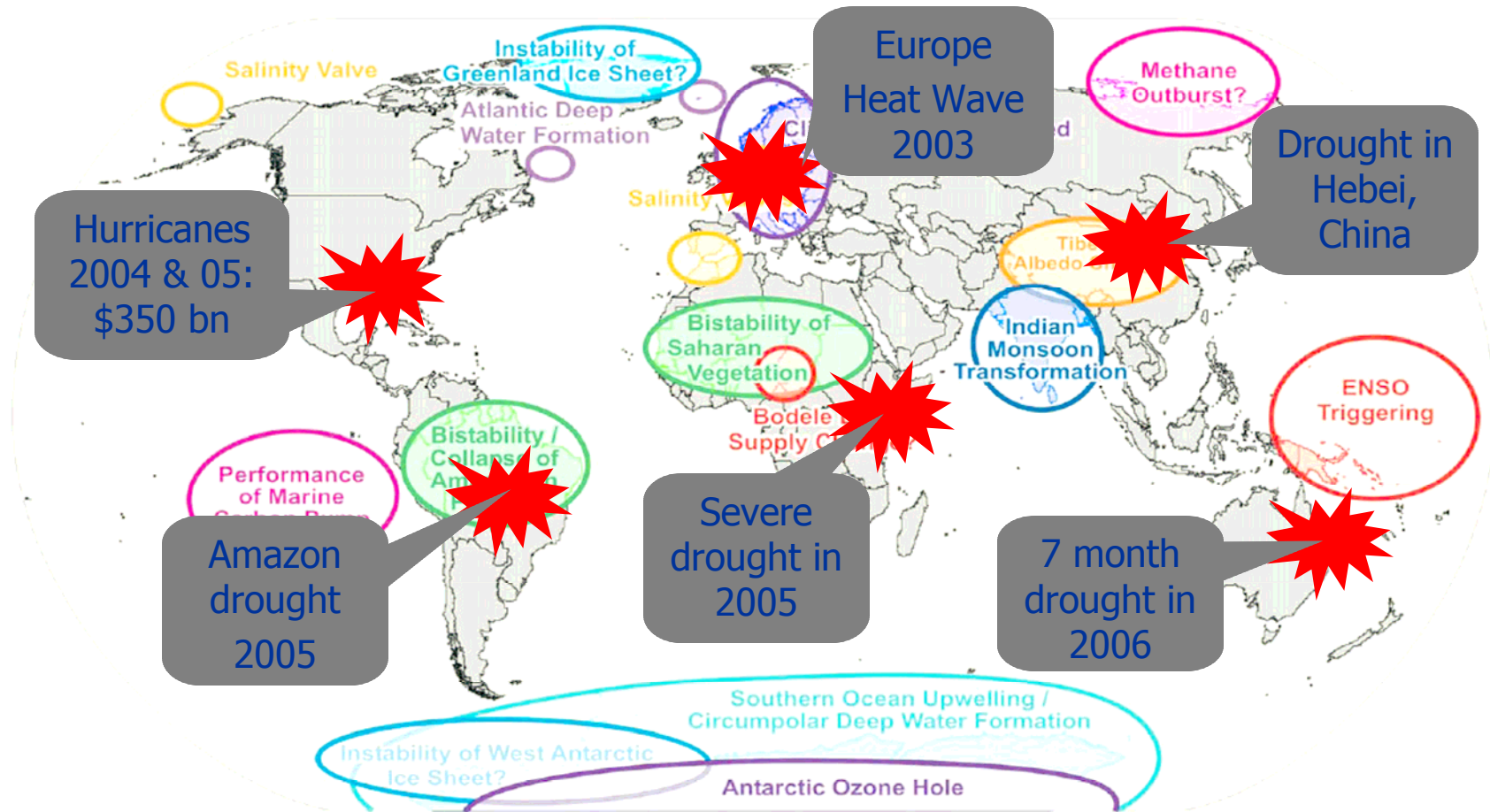
- Climate change will affect all our lives especially in countries that are the most vulnerable

"Many impacts can be avoided, reduced or delayed by mitigation." (IPCC, SPM WGII)

- We need to act urgently to reduce GHG emissions
 - We also need to urgently address adaptation:
 - Adaptation support for vulnerable developing countries must be strengthened
 - Institutional, technological, and political obstacles have to be overcome
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Why adaptation? Our world is changing and we are not prepared

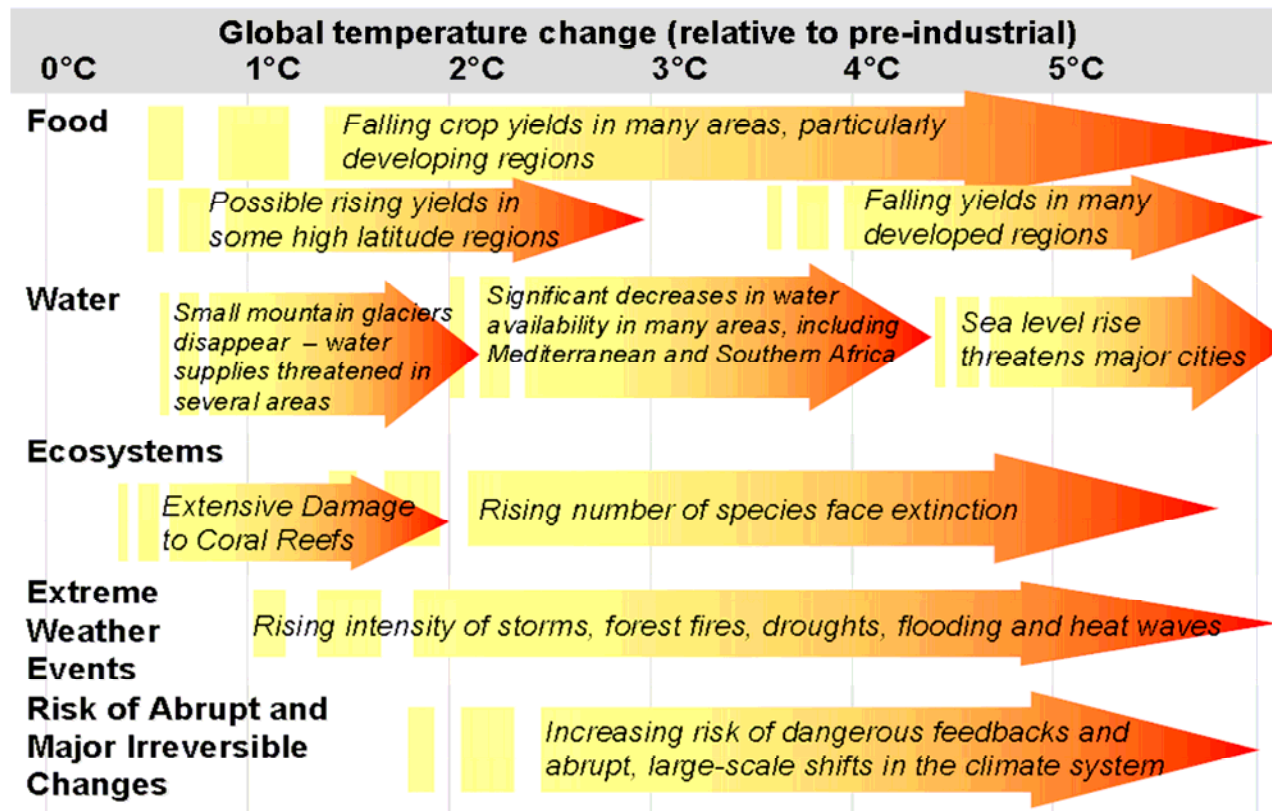


Source: Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research



Why adaptation? The Future looks worse

Projected impacts of climate change



Schellhuber after Stern, 2007



Why adaptation? The Future looks worse

Many natural systems, on all continents and in some oceans, are being affected by regional climate changes, particularly temperature increases.

Impacts are very likely to increase due to increased frequencies and intensities of extreme weather events.

IPCC, 2007, WG II SPM



In the EU we have started

- Developing the evidence base, policies and tools to move towards an EU that is adapting well
- Mainstreaming at all levels as the most effective way to adapt
- A major donor for adaptation inside the UNFCCC and outside
- Cooperating in particular with developing countries



The EU has already started to work together with other countries

Example: Ibero-American Adaptation Programme

Key activities:

1. Strengthening institutional framework
2. Supporting CC research and systematic observation
3. Enhancing knowledge exchange and availability
4. Promoting participative projects on adaptation
5. Cooperating with regional institutions and initiatives





Under the UNFCCC we have started

- The Buenos Aires Programme of work
 - National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)
 - Nairobi Work Programme (NWP)
 - LDCF, SCCF and the Adaptation Fund
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More needs to be done by all

- Raise awareness
 - Enhance the information basis for the development of adaptation strategies
 - Climate proof investments
 - Increase efforts to develop risk assessment tools and technologies for adaptation
 - Monitor the effectiveness of adaptation measures
 - Enhance the predictability and adequacy of adaptation financial flows
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Integrating Adaptation

At the National Level

- Development plans
- Budgets
- Sectoral policies
- Public and private investment decisions



Integrating Adaptation

At the International Level

- Link with UN organisations
 - World Bank Investment Framework for Clean Energy and Development
 - OECD guidance for adaptation in international development cooperation
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More important role of Adaptation in a future regime

- Enhancing the catalytic role of UNFCCC on adaptation
 - Strengthen capacity of international, national and local institutions and improve governance and linkages
 - Better knowledge exchange
 - Enhancing efforts to develop risk management instruments and technologies for adaptation
 - Operationalise adequate support
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Key messages

- The challenge is global
- The EU is preparing to meet the challenge
- More needs to be done by all
- Adaptation to be integrated
- Prominent role of adaptation in the future climate regime
- Political leadership



**Adaptation must be a key feature
of the future regime**

**How can we strengthen
adaptation under the UNFCCC?**