

# **Finland's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change**

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**[www.mmm.fi/adaptationstrategy](http://www.mmm.fi/adaptationstrategy)**

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# Finland's National Adaptation Strategy - continuing saga

## Past:

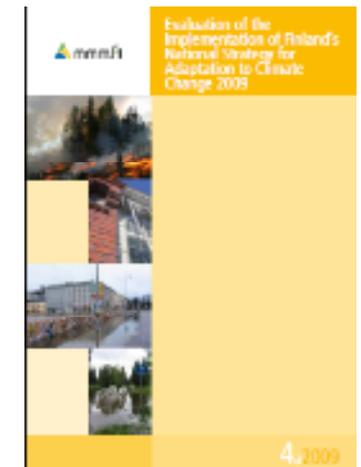
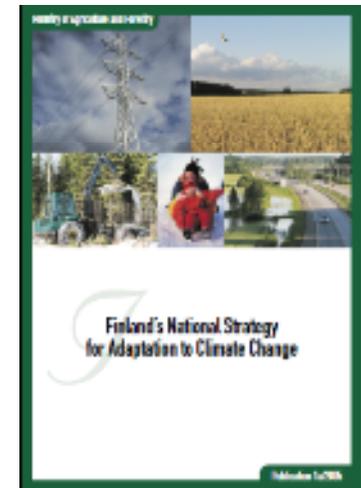
- 2005: NAS published - first in Europe
- 2009: (Midterm) Evaluation of the implementation of NAS

## Present:

- 2011/2012 Final evaluation of the implementation

## Future:

- 2012-2013 Revision of the NAS



# Goals set out by the Finnish Government

- The aim of the NAS is to build up Finland's adaptive capacity & reduce the costs to the society where possible.
- NAS presents impacts and indicative adaptation measures for 15 sectors & for three time periods: immediate, short-term and long-term
- Aims to be achieved by 2015:
  - Integrate impacts and adaptation into routine planning, implementation and follow-up (mainstreaming)
  - Include climate aspects into long-term investments
  - Improve capacities to address extreme weather events
  - Strengthen and focus research and development
  - Develop further observation and warning systems
  - Address international linkages and development cooperation



# Implementation of the NAS

- Ministries have overall responsibility for the implementation of NAS in their own fields of activity
  - Some ministries have prepared sectoral assessments and action plans: Min. of the Environment, Min. of Agriculture and Forestry
  - Climate Change Adaptation Research Programme ISTO (2006-2010)
- The implementation of NAS is followed and promoted by the Coordination Group for Adaptation to Climate Change, steered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- Much of the practical implementation takes place in the regions and municipalities, especially with regard to flood risk management and spatial planning at its different levels.



# Relation of implementation to encouraging and supporting local and regional adaptation actions

- Strategies and action plans and the participative process of preparing them help raising awareness on adaptation.
  - [www.Climateguide.fi](http://www.Climateguide.fi) web portal provides info & tools especially for municipalities & the public (to be launched in October 2011)
- Finnish municipalities and regions are independently active: some have already made or are making their own adaptation strategies.
- Implementation calls for more cross-sectoral cooperation.
- Developing and enhancing cooperation between ministries and regional and local authorities will be one of the key issues during the revision process of the NAS.



# Challenges for implementation

- One of the challenges of effective adaptation is the coordination of various ministries and agencies, and the collaboration across different levels of government.
- Awareness raising that extends to private sector is also important: may lead to innovations.
- Adaptation measures should be based on applied research on adaptation and communication of the results.
- There is also need for detailed regional and local info on the impacts of climate change, means of adaptation and an inventory of the particularly vulnerable areas.
- Systematic evaluation of measures.

