

Climate Change Adaptation Manual

Experiences and Lessons Learned across Europe and beyond



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...THE STORY

- ❑ Publication of guiding principles for climate change adaptation under the European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change 2010*
- ❑ Contacted by the publisher Earthscan (now Routledge)
- ❑ Principal decision, contract negotiations, authors search, design development,...
- ❑ ...and numerous questions of detail

* *ETC/ACC Technical Paper 2010/6: Guiding principles for adaptation to climate change in Europe:*
http://acm.eionet.europa.eu/docs/ETCACC_TP_2010_6_guiding_principles_cc_adaptation.pdf



...THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

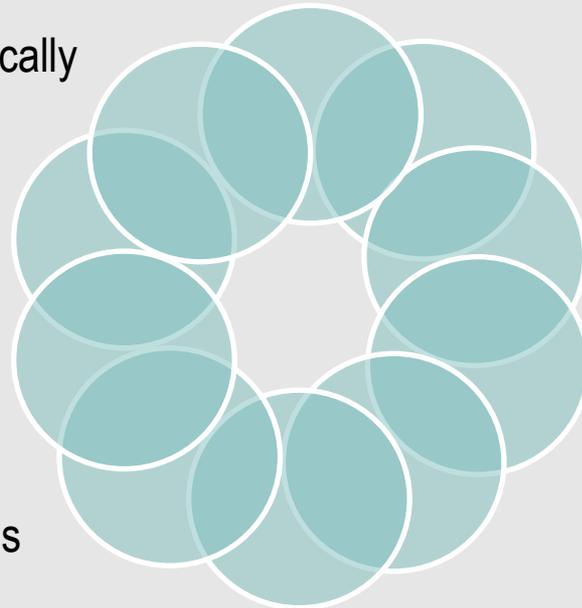
Explore potential climate change impacts and vulnerabilities and identify priority concerns

Monitor and evaluate systematically

Modify existing and develop new policies, structures and processes

Avoid maladaptation

Work with uncertainties



Initiate adaptation, ensure commitment and management

Build knowledge and awareness

Identify and cooperate with relevant stakeholders

Explore a wide spectrum of adaptation options

Prioritise adaptation options



...THE BOOK'S CONTENT

Part I: Introduction and overview

- Guiding principles for good adaptation and structure of this book
- Facing the specific challenges of adaptation
- Adaptation research: where do we stand and where should we go?
- Adaptation policy initiatives in Europe

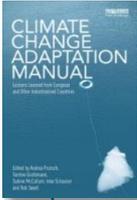
Part II: Phases of adaptation processes and guiding principles for good adaptation

- Case studies along the 10 guiding principles (3-4 per principle incl. synthesis of lessons learned)

Part III: State of art outside Europe

- US, Australia, Japan, Developing countries

Part IV: Lessons learned



...THE BOOK'S FOCUS

- ❑ Adaptation has become one of the main imperatives of international research and action
- ❑ Still, past and present research on adaptation is mostly not directly applicable to adaptation policy or practice

Scientific results



Practical advice for
decision makers / planners



...THE BOOK'S AIM

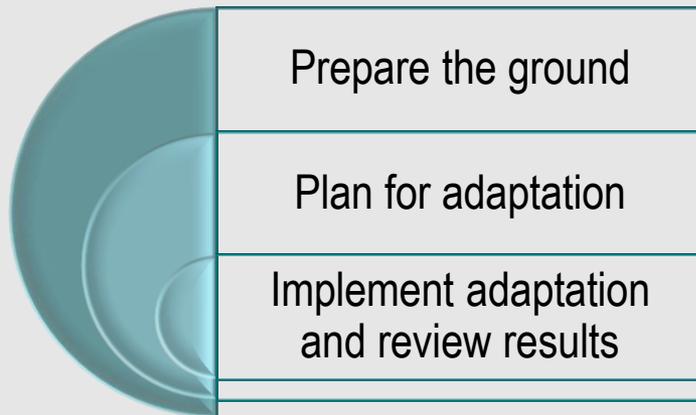


- ❑ To **provide readily applicable information** on climate change adaptation
- ❑ To **focus on practical experiences** and “test” scientifically developed guiding principles
- ❑ To **offer inter-disciplinary insights** into applied knowledge and lessons learned



...THE CORE OF THE BOOK

- ❑ Recommendations along 10 guiding principles for good adaptation and **examples of how these principles can work in practice**
- ❑ Principles are organised according to **three phases in the adaptation process**:

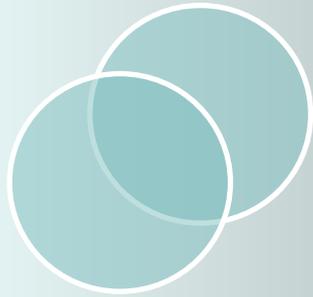


However, real life adaptation remains:

- ✓ Iterative
- ✓ Learning-by-doing
- ✓ Context specific



...LESSONS LEARNED FOR PREPARING THE GROUND



Explore potential
climate change
impacts and
vulnerabilities and
identify priority
concerns

Build knowledge
and awareness

- ❑ **Clarify the purposes** of the assessments with regard to decision-making and practice
- ❑ Acquire a sound understanding of the **state-of-the-art knowledge** with particular attention **on past and current vulnerabilities** as well as a broad range of future socio-economic changes
- ❑ Apply a **target- or user-group specific approach** to build trust, learn from experience and foster mutual understanding



...LESSONS LEARNED FOR PREPARING THE GROUND

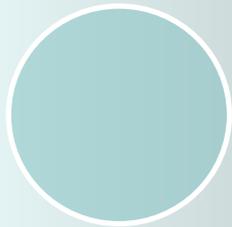


Identify and cooperate with
relevant stakeholders

- ❑ Devote adequate attention to the effective and equitable **design of the interaction process**, also to seek commitment and build leadership
- ❑ Consider **stakeholders from a wide range of contexts** and clearly **clarify the objectives** of stakeholder engagement
- ❑ Ensure appropriate and easily understandable information and **provide positive messages** about adaptation options to motivate stakeholders



...LESSONS LEARNED FOR PLANNING FOR ADAPTATION



Explore a wide
spectrum of
adaptation options

- ❑ Don't forget that adaptation is **much broader in focus** than one might think
- ❑ Use readily **available databases first**, then create opportunities to **develop innovative solutions** by working in partnership with people inside and outside of the system at risk
- ❑ Search for **positive adaptation options** that are relatively **insensitive to uncertainty, flexible to adapt over time** and **multi-purpose**
- ❑ Combine existing options and **find gaps in the current or planned adaptation activities**



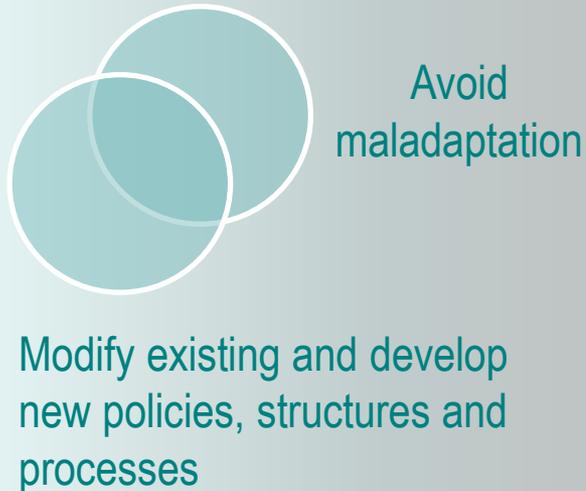
...LESSONS LEARNED FOR PLANNING FOR ADAPTATION



- ❑ Apply **more than one method** when evaluating options to stimulate learning and ensure **agreement regarding definitions and criteria** among the stakeholders
- ❑ Select the preferred option by **considering the strengths, weaknesses and data dependency** of all options
- ❑ Establish and maintain **long-term monitoring for adaptive management**
- ❑ Consider **robust decision-making (RDM)** as method of aiding long-term decision-making in an uncertain climate



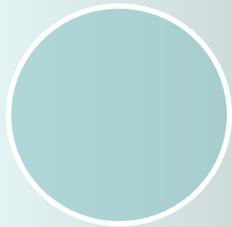
...LESSONS LEARNED FOR IMPLEMENTING ADAPTATION AND REVIEWING RESULTS



- ❑ Pay particular attention to **potential types of maladaptation** by evaluating complex linkages when measures become effective
- ❑ Apply a **systematic, integrated approach for climate-proofing** policies, structures and processes to **ensure coherence in mainstreaming efforts**
- ❑ Ensure **continuity beyond short-term political cycles** and consider how the special characteristics of adaptation might require **new institutional arrangements**



...LESSONS LEARNED FOR IMPLEMENTING ADAPTATION AND REVIEWING RESULTS



Monitor and evaluate
systematically

- ❑ Anticipate the **design of a monitoring concept at the beginning of planning** to save time and increase stakeholders' willingness to engage
- ❑ Adopt a flexible, question-based approach with **learning as a core characteristic** (within the own process and from experiences elsewhere)
- ❑ Develop **simple systems with understandable indicators** that capture the most important dimensions
- ❑ Be aware that **indicators only will not provide the complete picture**. Combine with other tools (e.g. comparative studies, stakeholder engagement, expert elicitation)



...FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- ❑ Put **implementation in the focus**. Good planning but poor implementation is the bane of government action worldwide
- ❑ Create a **positive message on the transformational benefits of taking action**, targeting synergies and co-benefits with activities in other related policy fields
- ❑ Build a **leadership group that will deliver long-term consensus and commitment**, bringing together the scientific community with governments, the private sector and civil society
- ❑ Find a **simple way to tell the story**. Simplify high-level scientific analysis and find a way to make personal, emotional connections, using images and stories as well as facts and figures to create awareness and foster identification



...CONTACT & LINK

Weblink to the book:

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415660341/>



Questions?



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