

# The EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, implications for droughts

Kick-off Network of Drought Observatories in the EU, 17 June 2021

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#### Policy context

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- The Paris Agreement
- The European Green Deal:
  - European Climate Law
- 2030 Climate Target Plan
- European Climate Pact
- EU **Biodiversity** strategy

- Farm to fork strategy
- Forest strategy
- Zero Pollution Action Plan Nature restoration law
- EU Adaptation Strategy







#### A new EU strategy on climate adaptation

### "Forging a climate-resilient Europe - The new EU strategy on adaptation to climate change"

Communication, adopted by European Commission on 24 February 2021

- 2020: Blueprint, open public consultation, and expert reviews
- 2018: Evaluation of the first EU Adaptation strategy (2013)

https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/adaptation-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy\_en



#### Vision & Objectives

- Vision: by 2050 the EU will be a climate-resilient society, fully adapted to the unavoidable impacts of climate change
- Objectives:
  - Smarter adaptation improving knowledge and managing uncertainty
  - More systemic adaptation support policy development at all levels and sectors
  - Faster adaptation speeding up adaptation across the board
  - Stepping up international action for climate resilience



#### **Smarter adaptation**

- Pushing the frontiers of knowledge on adaptation
  - Help to close knowledge gaps on climate impacts and resilience
- More and better climate-related risk and losses data
  - Help to ensure comprehensive data collection
- Making Climate-ADAPT the authoritative European platform for adaptation knowledge
  - Update and expand Climate-ADAPT, including monitoring and reporting mechanism



#### More systemic adaptation

- Improving adaptation strategies and plans
  - Upgrade adaptation monitoring, reporting and evaluation
  - Stimulate cooperation across borders
  - Provide ex-ante project assessment tools to better identify co-benefits
- Fostering local, individual, and just resilience
- Integrating climate resilience in macro-fiscal policy
- Promoting nature-based solutions for adaptation
  - Assist Member States to rollout NBS through assessments, guidance, capacity building, and EU funding



#### Faster adaptation

- Accelerating the rollout of adaptation solutions
  - Implement Horizon Europe Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
- Reducing climate-related risk
  - Enhance climate proofing guidance
- Closing the climate protection gap
- Ensuring the availability and sustainability of freshwater

[....]



## Ensuring the availability and sustainability of freshwater

- Help ensure climate-resilient use and management of water across sectors and borders, [...] such as water resources allocation and water-permits
- Help to guarantee a stable and secure supply of drinking water
- Help reduce water use by
  - raising the water-saving requirements for products
  - encouraging water efficiency and savings,
  - by promoting the wider use of drought management plans as well as
  - sustainable soil management and land-use



#### Stepping up international action

For climate resilience, by:

- Increasing support for international climate resilience and preparedness
- Scaling up international finance to build climate resilience
- Strengthen global engagement and exchanges on adaptation



#### Implementing the EU Adaptation Strategy

- Council conclusions on the EUAS
- EU Climate Law
- 5 Horizon Europe Missions
  - Adaptation to climate change
  - Restore our Ocean and Waters
  - Healthy soils
- WFD CIS Ad-hoc Task Group on Water Scarcity and Droughts



### Thank you



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