

Climate change adaptation and mitigation in EIA / SEA

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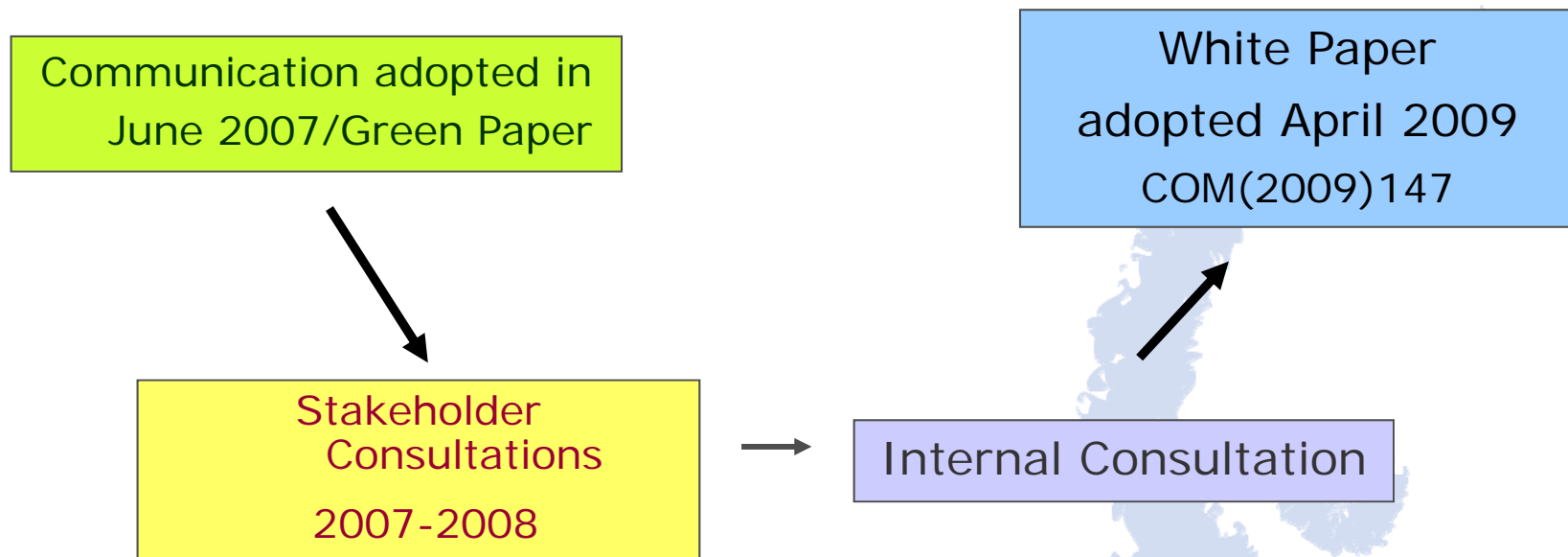


Agenda

- White paper on adaptation
- EIA / SEA – current situation
- Some considerations for addressing climate change in EIA / SEA
- Steps forward

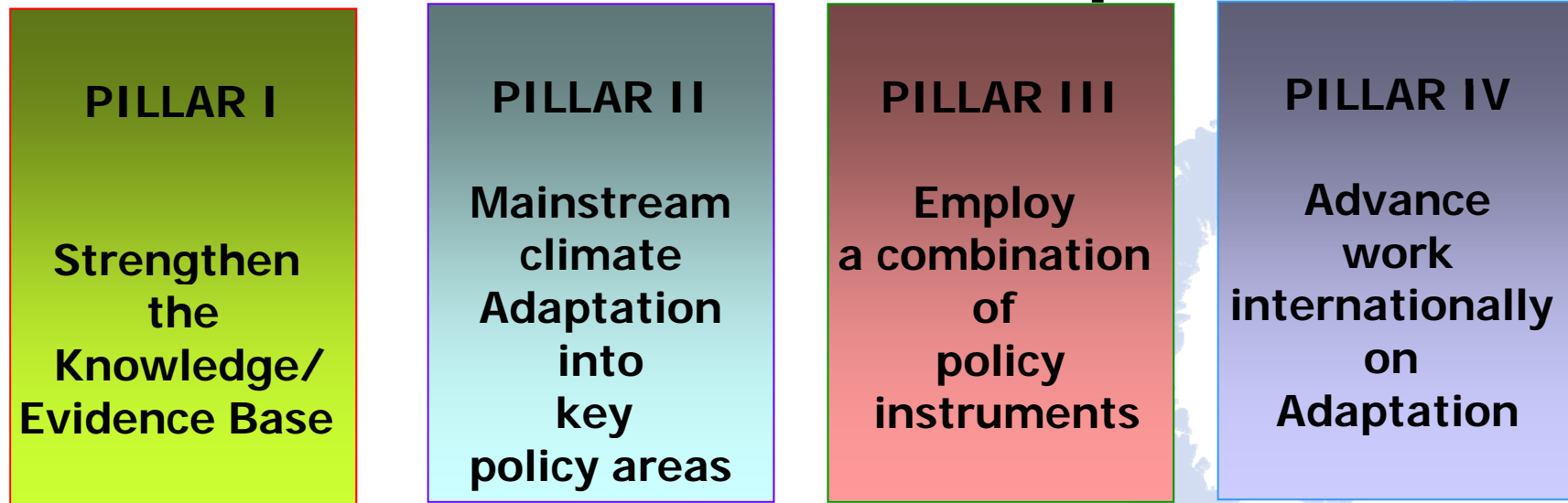


Adaptation White Paper



EU adaptation framework

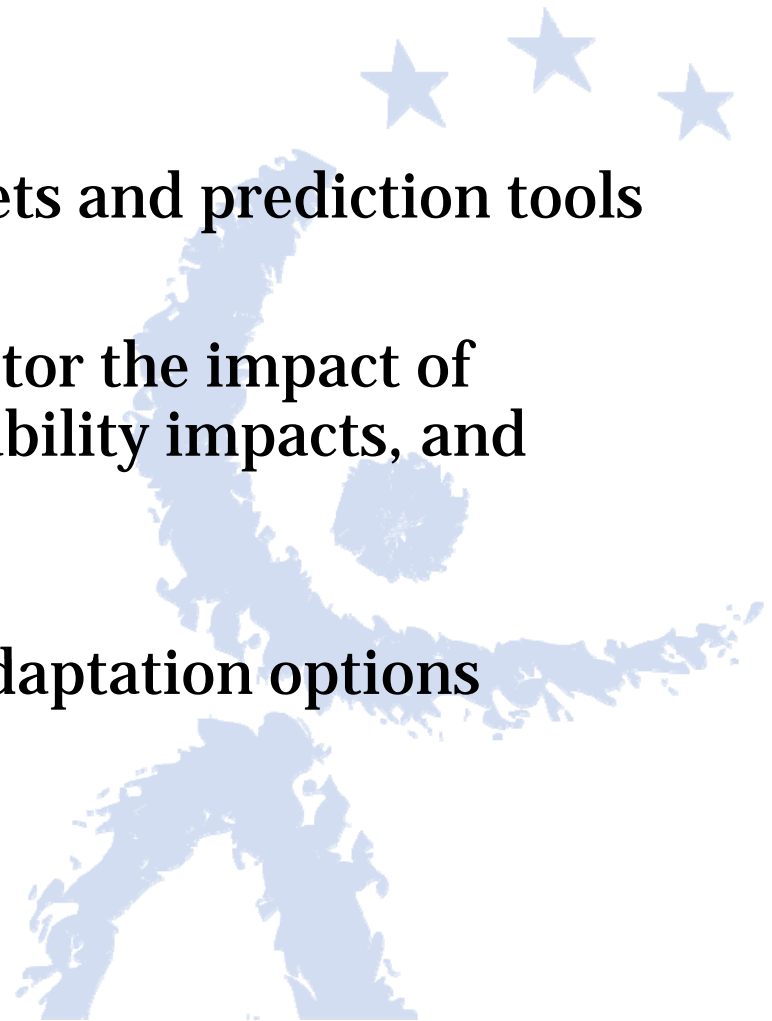
Phase 1: 2009-2012 Preparation



Phase 2: 2013 > Strategy

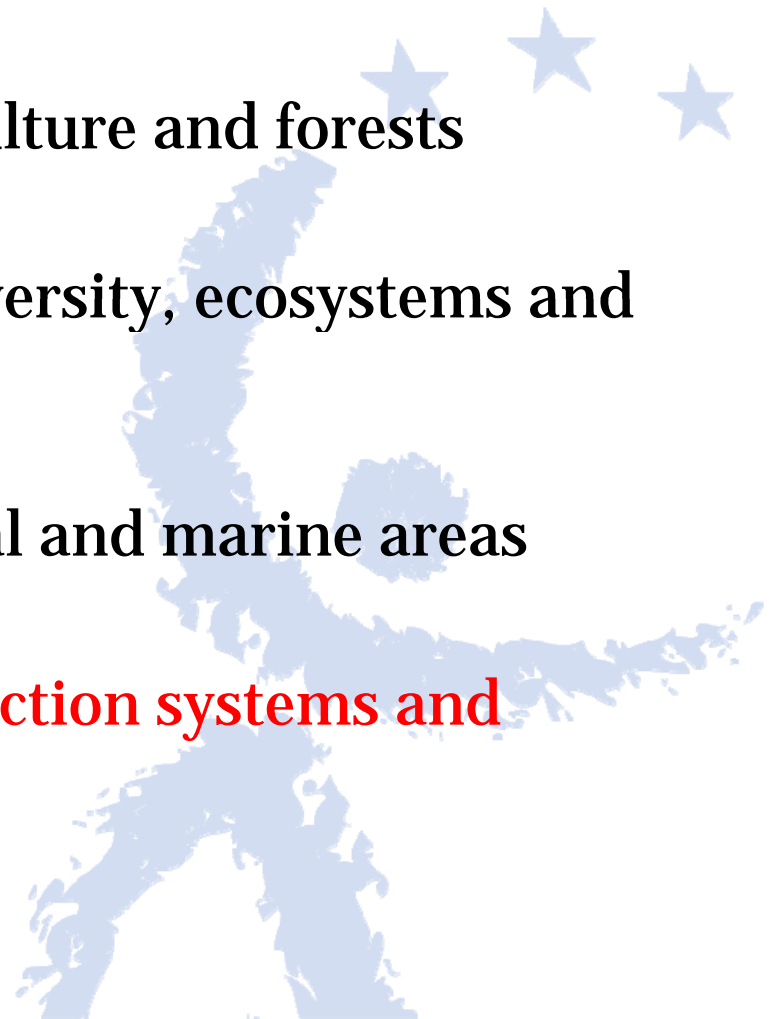
Pillar I – Knowledge base

- Take the necessary steps to establish a Clearinghouse Mechanism
- Develop methods, models, data sets and prediction tools
- Develop indicators to better monitor the impact of climate change, including vulnerability impacts, and progress on adaptation
- Assess the costs and benefits of adaptation options



Pillar II – Mainstreaming

- Increasing the resilience of health and social policies
- Increasing the resilience of agriculture and forests
- Increasing the resilience of biodiversity, ecosystems and water
- Increasing the resilience of coastal and marine areas
- Increasing the resilience of production systems and physical infrastructure



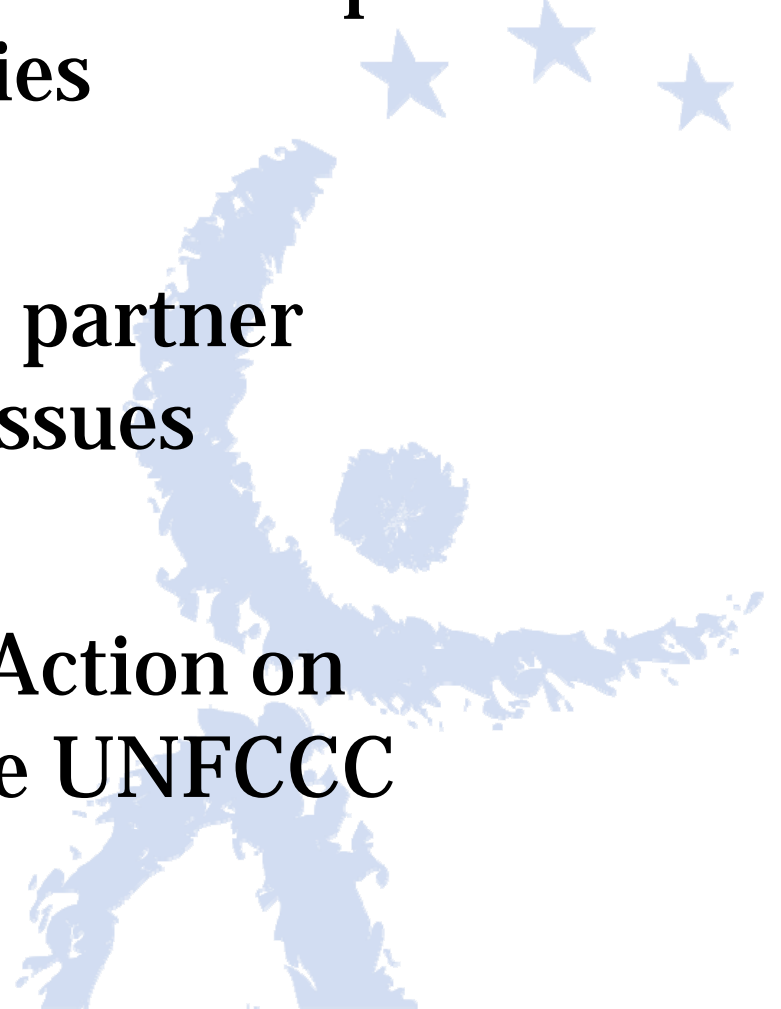
Pillar III – Policy instruments

- Estimate adaptation costs for relevant policy areas so that they can be taken into account in future financial decisions
- Further examine the potential use of innovative funding measures for adaptation
- Explore the potential for insurance and other financial products to complement adaptation measures and to function as risk sharing instruments
- Encourage Member States to utilise the EU's ETS revenues for adaptation purposes



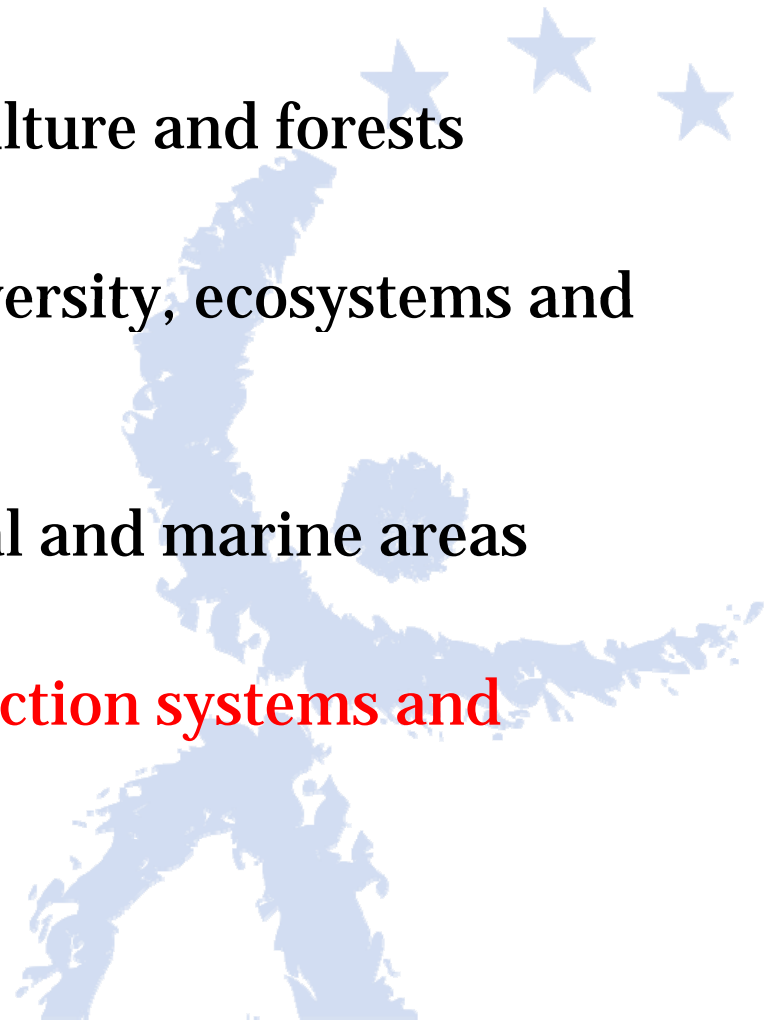
Pillar IV – International action

- Step-up efforts to mainstream adaptation into all EU external policies
- Strengthen dialogue with partner countries on adaptation issues
- Take the Framework for Action on Adaptation forward in the UNFCCC



Pillar II – Mainstreaming

- Increasing the resilience of health and social policies
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Increasing the resilience of production systems and infrastructure

- Take account of climate change impacts in the Strategic Energy Review process
- Develop methodologies for climate-proofing infrastructure projects and consider how these could be incorporated into the TEN-T and TEN-E guidelines and guidance on investments under Cohesion policy in the current period
- **Explore the possibility of making climate impact assessment a condition for public and private investment**
- Assess the feasibility of incorporating climate impacts into construction standards, such as Eurocodes
- **Develop guidelines to ensure that climate impacts are taken into account in the EIA and SEA Directives**

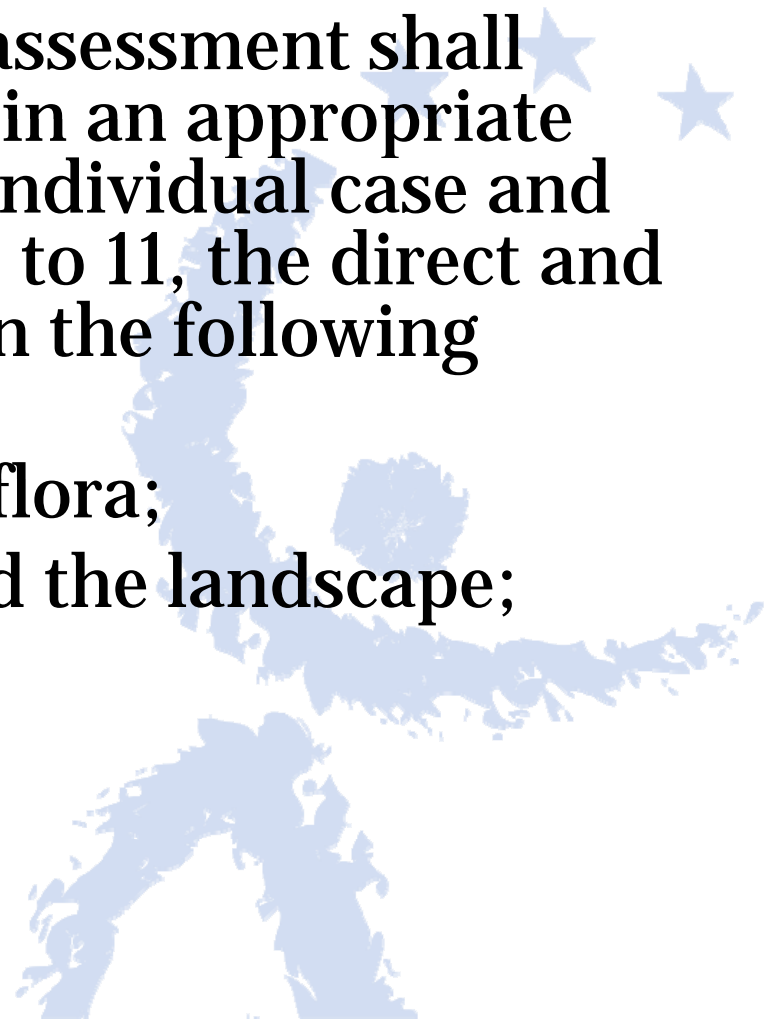
Climate change and EIA/SEA

What to integrate?

- Climate change **mitigation**
 - GHG emissions (impact on environment)
- **Adaptation** to climate change
 - impacts of climate change on a project / programme
- Implications for mitigation are to some extent addressed in EIA / SEA

EIA Directive

- Article 3
- "The environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in the light of each individual case and in accordance with Articles 4 to 11, the direct and indirect effects of a project on the following factors:
 - — human beings, fauna and flora;
 - — soil, water, air, **climate** and the landscape;



EIA Directive

- ANNEX IV
- Information referred to in Article 5 (1) - the information to be submitted by the developer
- "... 3. A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the proposed project, including, in particular, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, **climatic factors**, material assets, including the architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between the above factors."

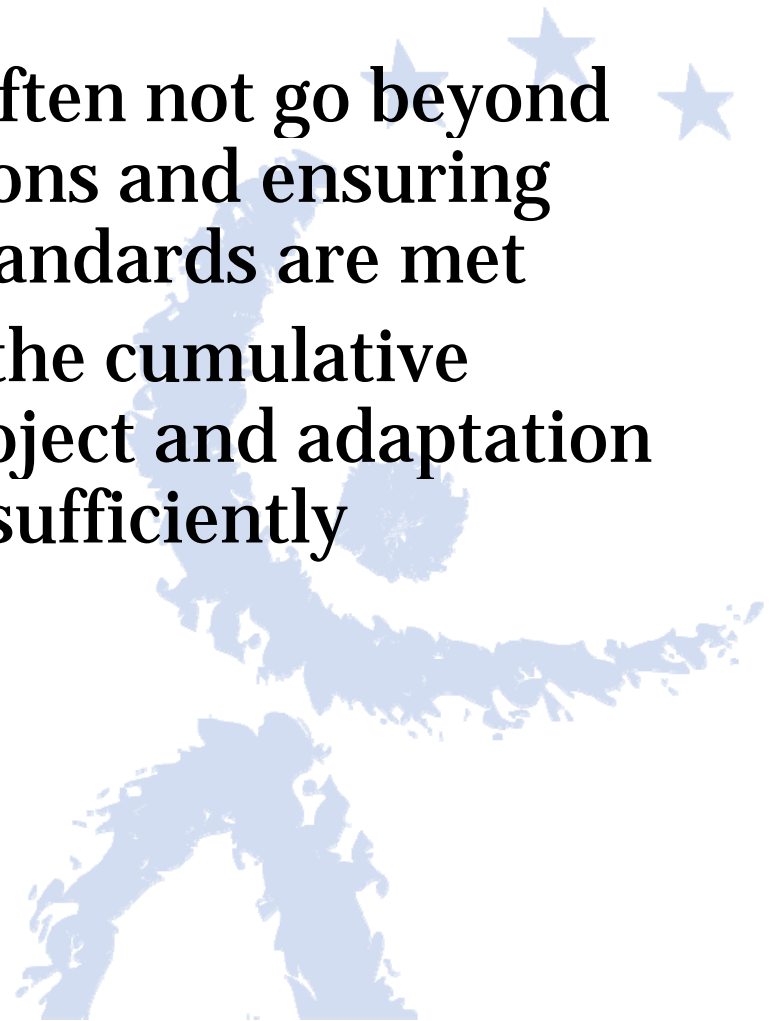
SEA Directive

ANNEX I

- Information referred to in Article 5(1) - the information to be included in the environmental report
- "(f) the likely significant effects(1) on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, **climatic factors**, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors;"

Report COM(2009) 378 on the application and effectiveness of the EIA Directive

- In respect to climate change report points that:
 - The EIA assessment will often not go beyond evaluating existing emissions and ensuring that ambient air quality standards are met
 - Effects on global climate, the cumulative effects of an additional project and adaptation to climate change are not sufficiently considered within the EIA



Climate change **mitigation** and EIA/SEA

- Needs to be more elaborated and better guided
- Include various GHG
- Address various impacts:
 - direct impacts
 - indirect impacts
 - cumulative impacts



Climate change **adaptation** and EIA/SEA

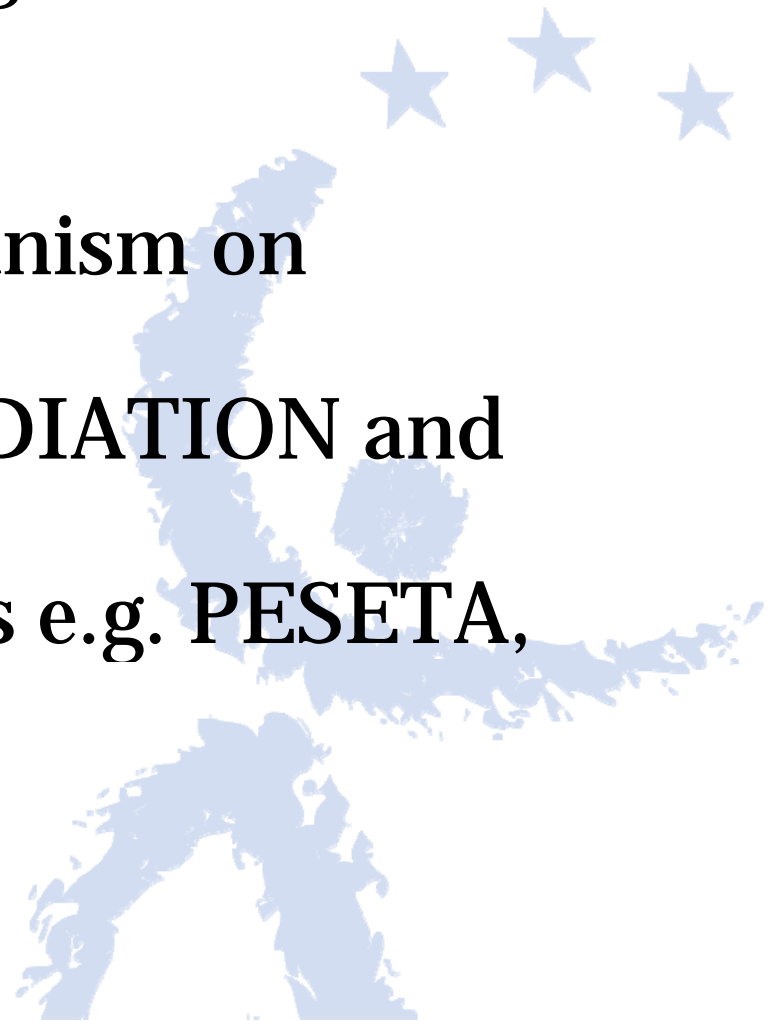
- **Why to address adaptation in EIA / SEA?**
 - because climate change will impact viability and functioning of projects / programmes
- **New concept to EIA / SEA directives**
 - impact of the environment on a project / programme
- **Broad spectrum of potential climate change impacts**
 - physical (floods, draughts, wind storms, etc.)
 - economic, social, environmental, health, etc.
- **Many sectors affected**
 - infrastructure, energy, water, agriculture, etc.
- **Different time frames**
 - Short term, mid term, long term

Climate change **adaptation** and EIA/SEA

- Questions to be asked:
 - how a project / programme will be affected by climate change?
 - is foreseen risk level manageable?
 - what measures should be taken to reduce potential impacts?
 - What are potential synergies with impacts on the environment?
- Adaptation considerations are in the interest of developers
 - will help to assess and prevent potential losses

Steps forward and supporting tools

- Integrating climate change into EIA / SEA directives
- Guidance by DG ENV
- EU Clearinghouse mechanism on adaptation (2012)
- FP7 projects such as MEDIATION and CLIMSAVE
- Other studies and reports e.g. PESETA, EEA reports, etc.



Questions

- Do annexes I and II of the EIA directive cover all activities with the potential implications for climate change?
- How to address adaptation in EIA /SEA?
- Case studies / examples ?



Thank you for the attention

Information on DG Climate Action:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/eu/index_en.htm

Information on adaptation:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/index_en.htm

