

Adaptation Strategy Development in Lithuania

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Perm. Rep. of Lithuania to the EU

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Outline

- Climate change legislation
- Preparing the ground
- Assessing risks and vulnerabilities to climate change and identifying adaptation options
- Assessing adaptation options
- Implementation of adaptation policy
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Strategy development and implementation challenges in LT



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Climate change legislation

Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Financial Instruments for Climate Change Management (FICCM) (2009)

The Strategy for National Climate Change Management Policy by 2050 (2012)

Inter-institutional Action Plan for the implementation of the goals and objectives for the period of 2013-2020 of the Strategy (updated in 2015)



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Strategy for National Climate Change Management I

Strategy covers both - adaptation to climate change and climate change mitigation policies

Is implemented by the respective ministries, municipal and other institutions within their remit

The implementation is coordinated by the Ministry of Environment



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Strategy for National Climate Change Management II

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The implementation is funded from the state budget, municipal budgets, EU funds

The development of the LT adaptation to climate change policy is closely related to the developments at the EU level

The update of the Strategy is preliminary planned prior to the 2020 after the approval of the EU 2030 climate and energy framework legislation



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Preparing the ground – LT Perspective



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Preparing the ground – LT Perspective

High-level support obtained with the approval of
Law on FICCM (2009)

Main elements of the development process set up
by the Law on FICCM (2009)

Human and financial resources estimated during
the development of the ToR (2011)

Communication and awareness raising – National
Climate Change Committee



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Setting a process I

Min. of Env. was responsible for the development of
the Strategy and Inter-institutional Action Plan

Experts were contracted (following the public
procurement) to prepare the draft Strategy

Respective ministries, municipal and science
institutions, NGOs were engaged in the preparation
of the draft Strategy



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Setting a process II

Involvement of the other ministries:

- Persons coordinating the preparation of the draft Strategy appointed in the ministries
- Ministries obliged to provide experts with the relevant information:
 - respective policies/objectives under their competence, studies, projections, research, programmes, relevant EU legislation and etc.



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Setting a process III

Contracted experts assigned the following functions:

- collection of all potentially relevant information
- assessing risks and vulnerabilities
- identifying adaptation goals, objectives and measures

All steps performed in tight collaboration with competent governmental and municipal institutions



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Assessing risks and vulnerabilities to climate change and identifying adaptation options – LT approach



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Assessing past weather events I

Air temperature observations in Lithuania started in 1770 in Vilnius University - more than 240 years ago

LHMS is responsible for meteorological and hydrological observations and forecasts

Network of meteorological observations covers all territory of LT

Further improvements regarding observations are foreseen in the Strategy



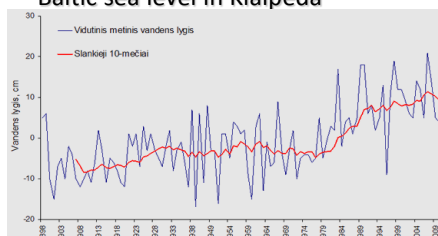
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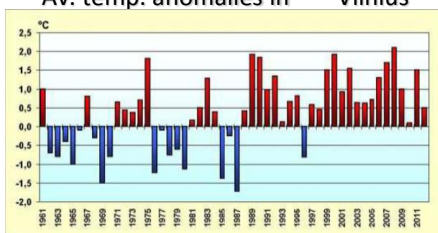
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Assessing past weather events II

Baltic sea level in Klaipeda



Av. temp. anomalies in Vilnius



Facts from mid. XX century

- average air temperature increased in LT ~ 0,8 °C
- average precipitation increased in LT ~ 3%
- the quantity of the days when the temperature is more than 30 °C increased 3 times
- the quantity of the days with the negative temperature decreased with 10 days a year
- the average Baltic sea level rose about 12 cm



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Assessing risks and vulnerabilities

Relevant existing work:

- The study of climate change carried out by the Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University (2007):

Transboundary cooperation:

- Important to address common challenges – in case of LT – Baltic sea Reg.
- LT NGO and academic institutions are active in various regional projects



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Presumptions for the establishment of adaptation goals and objectives

Priority adaptation sectors defined following:

- Law on FICCM
- Analyses performed during the preparation of the BSR CC AS
- Principles and data for preparation of the EU AS
- Sectors indicated in the EU Strategy for the BSR (2009)
- Examples of the AS of other EU MS (i.e. DK, FIN, DE)
- different level and relevance of current research

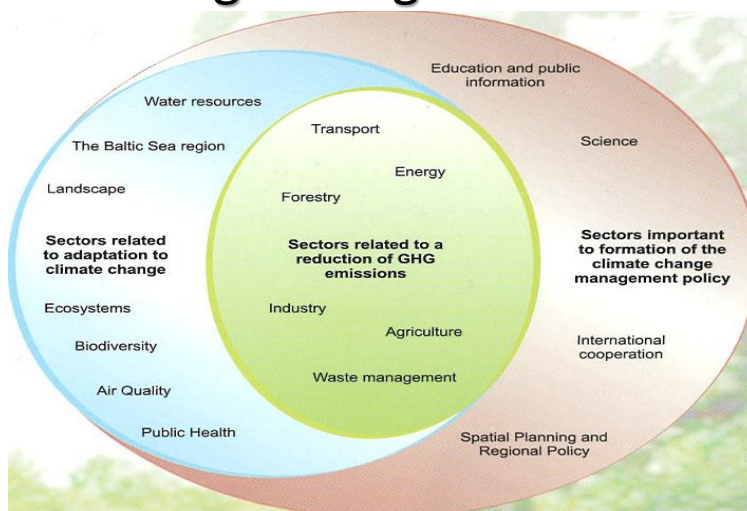


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Setting strategic direction



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Setting strategic direction

The **strategic goal** of adaptation policy:

- To **reduce vulnerability** of the natural ecosystems and national economy sectors
- To **ensure favorable conditions** for social life and economic activities



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Setting strategic direction

The **strategic goal** is implemented following those main directions:

- The integrated approach
- The synergy of mitigation and adaptation measures
- The contribution of country-specific scientific research to adaptation
- A strong knowledge basis



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Addressing knowledge gaps

Research was planned to be done in sectors in which areas affected by climate change had not been identified or research was inadequate:

- Study identifying the climate change threats to human health including the recommendations (2014)
- Study identifying the vulnerability to climate change of the individual sectors, risk assessment and opportunities to adapt to climate change, the most efficient adaptation measures and evaluation indicators (2015)



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Assessing adaptation options – LT approach



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Assessing adaptation options – LT approach II

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The prepared draft Strategy was considered within:

- The subordinated institutions of MoE and relevant departments of MoE
- Other ministries
- National Climate Change Committee
- NGO
- Public

Meetings were organized to consider the comments provided within the MoE and by other institutions, organizations

After the approval of the Government, the Strategy was submitted for the approval to the Parliament



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Implementation of Adaptation policy



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Implementation of Adaptation policy I

Inter-institutional **Action Plan** for the goals and objectives (2013-2020) was approved in April 2013

- The **Action Plan** is developed according the methodology for strategic planning:
 - The methodology is approved by the Government
 - Plan is prepared for a three year period and is updated annually



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Implementation of Adaptation policy II

Action plan includes:

- Goals, objectives, measures, allocations and implementing institutions
- Assessment criteria and values, e. g.:
 - The number of implemented measures in order to reach goals and objectives
 - The number of prepared programming documents, studies, science programmes and etc.
 - The % of public considering itself aware about climate change impacts
 - the increase of the territory in which certain measures are implemented and etc.



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Implementation of Adaptation policy III

Besides the Action Plan, ministries and other governmental institutions are obliged:

- to integrate the goals and objectives as set forth by the Strategy
- to establish implementation measures
- to ensure close inter-institutional cooperation



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Monitoring and evaluation – LT practice



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Monitoring and evaluation – LT practice I

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- The progress is evaluated by a set of **criteria** established in the Action Plan
- MoE is responsible for the monitoring and evaluation
- State and municipal institutions provide the MoE with:
 - the information about the progress by submitting annual activity reports
 - the reports on planned measures that could be included in the Action Plan



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Monitoring and evaluation – LT practice II

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- MoE annually collects the information about the progress and planned measures
- Government prepares a biannual reports to the Parliament on the implementation of the Strategy
- The outcomes of the monitoring, reporting and evaluation feeds into further development of the **Action Plan** and the update of the **Strategy**



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Strategy development and implementation challenges in LT



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Strategy development and implementation challenges in LT I

- Ensuring efficient collaboration
- Sectors' vulnerability assessment:
 - challenge - inadequate research
 - solution - short-term climate adaptation measures were planned feeding into further development of the adaptation policy in LT
- Ensuring implementation of adaptation goals and objectives



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Strategy development and implementation challenges in LT II

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- Reporting on implementation:
 - establishment of consistent reporting system that would also feed in to the preparation of the reports under EU and UNFCCC requirements
 - evaluation of the effectiveness of the adaptation measures



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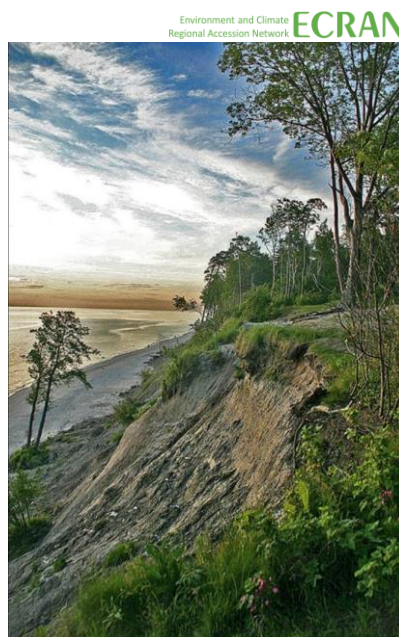
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Thank you!

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Photo: Rimantas Kisieličius,
Dutchman's Cap, 2006 June

Dutchman's Cap is a hill with a 24.4 m high bluff, which is in Lithuania's Seaside Regional Park, near Karklė on the Baltic Sea coast



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