



Analysis of adaptation policies in the Baltic Sea Region

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Outline of the presentation

- ≡ Purposes of the study
- ≡ Background
- ≡ Examples of national approaches
- ≡ Finnish case
- ≡ Approach of the analysis
- ≡ Tasks & milestones

Purposes of the study

- ≡ Need to address the policy level in adaptation – not only local level
- ≡ Gather existing information on adaptation policies and strategies around the Baltic Sea
- ≡ Compare existing practices across the BSR
- ≡ Need to understand the context of case studies
- ≡ Develop informed policy recommendations
- ≡ Development of a "pan-baltic" adaptation strategy

Background (1): Risks rising on the EU agenda



- ≡ Risk management is becoming increasingly important in EU policies
- ≡ Regional policy: Focus on risks and risk management in ERDF programmes 2007-2013
- ≡ EU solidarity fund (EUSF) established in 2002 to help member states recover from exceptional natural catastrophies
- ≡ New programme for flood risk management, including a new flood directive
- ≡ Implementation of the SEA –directive important for risk management

Background (2): Adaptation rising on the climate policy agenda



- ≡ Recent extreme events as "focusing events"
- ≡ Adaptation is taking a larger role in EU climate policy: thematic working group on adaptation included in the ECCP II
- ≡ Concern exists over the compatibility of mitigation and adaptation policies
- ≡ Need to combine adaptation and mitigation measures
- ≡ ASTRA helps to identify cross-national policy priorities on adaptation issues, providing input for the ECCP II

Examples of national approaches



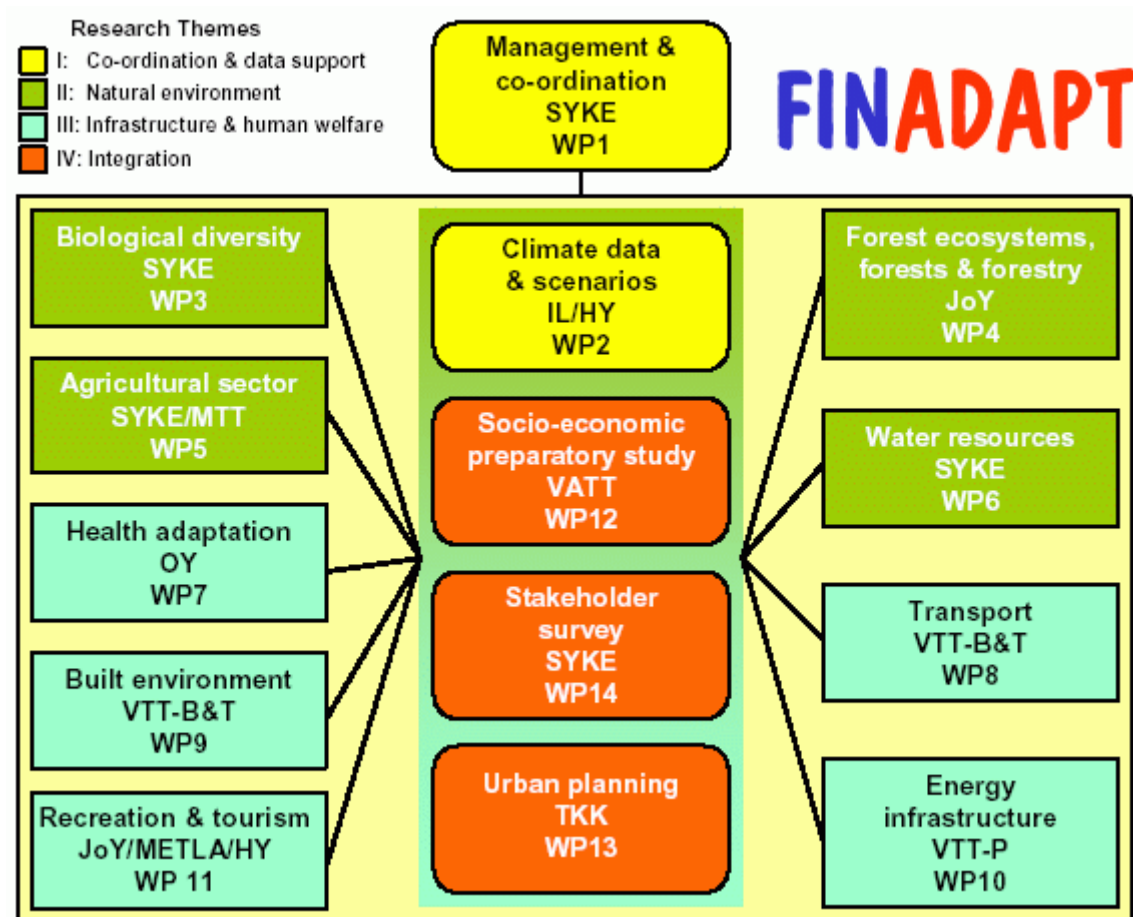
- Great Britain: Advanced adaptation research. Adaptation is considered a part of climate policy
- Netherlands: adaptation is part of water policy and was a part of a research programme on climate change
- Canada: regional adaptation programmes exist and adaptation is part of national climate policy. Research is also conducted on adaptation.
- Finland: National adaptation strategy adopted, FINADAPT research programme
- Norway: climate policy does not address adaptation, but a wide-ranging research programme has been started
- Sweden: SweClim research programme, no national policy

- Is adaptation a policy issue in the BSR countries? After ASTRA it will be.

Finland: national policy and research



- ≡ The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry prepared a national strategy for adaptation to climate change in 2005
- ≡ Work lead by the adaptation strategy will be used to update the Finland's national climate strategy
- ≡ The strategy is only an initial step, not a state-of-the-art policy
- ≡ Research programme FINADAPT (2004-2005): scoping study to identify further research needs on various sectors
- ≡ FINADAPT Conference in Helsinki 14-15. Dec 2005



Approach to the analysis of adaptation policies



- ≡ Increasing the level of detail: proceed from overview of national policies to detailed comparison
- ≡ Finnish adaptation strategy serves as tentative template for comparison
- ≡ Linkages to other WP3 elements: winter storm & policy recommendations
- ≡ Linkages to other WPs: Exchange with case studies
- ≡ Integration of ASTRA partners; share work between WP partners (subsidiarity!), get input from local and regional case studies, involve outer circle partners
- ≡ Integration between policy level and local case studies; policy as enabling and constraining context for local measures, local cases illuminate needs for supportive policies
- ≡ Participation and feedback from real-life stakeholders e.g. decision-makers, policy-makers

Tasks – Milestone 1 (Dec 2005)



- ≡ Development of common methodology
 - templates for the overview of national policies and for comparison of BSR measures
 - linkages to the winter storm study

Tasks – Milestone 2 (May 2006)



1. Overview of National adaptation strategies
What comprehensive national policies exist at national level addressing climate change adaptation?
What is the role of adaptation in national climate policy?
What sectoral policies exist addressing adaptation?
What research programmes exists on adaptation?
2. Input needed from BSR countries & partner case studies by 28 Feb 2006
3. Finnish (pilot) case study; Deadline: 30 March 2005.
4. Scoping study on existing and planned climate change policies (special attention on adaptation strategies)
5. Development of a common methodology for the studies carried out in the ASTRA project countries

BSR Comparison: Sectoral coverage



1. Agriculture and food production
2. Forestry
3. Fisheries
4. Water resources
5. Biodiversity
6. Industries
7. Energy
8. Transport and communications
9. Land use and planning
10. Construction and built environment
11. Health
12. Tourism and travel
13. Insurance

BSR Comparison: Overarching issues



1. Adaptation to global effects of climate change
2. Linkage between adaptation and mitigation issues
3. Institutional interplay: linkages to EU policies (e.g. SEA implementation, WFD)
4. Scale: level of implementation and coherence of national policy & regional and local measures
5. Financing adaptation measures
6. Monitoring and early warning systems
7. Research and development measures – identification of knowledge gaps
8. Identification of innovative adaptation measures
9. Education and awareness raising measures

Tasks – Milestone 3 (Dec 2006)



- ≡ Comparative analysis of existing adaptation policies (Deadline: August 30, 2006)
- ≡ Scoping the current level of policy making
- ≡ identifying the best practices and knowledge gaps in relation to local and regional actors
- ≡ → Work feeds into preparation and development of policy document
- ≡ Specialist seminar on policy development organised

Kiitos! Thank you!



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