

Evaluation of the EU's Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

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General information about respondent

*** 1. In what capacity are you completing this questionnaire?**

NGO

*** 2. Please indicate your name, the name of your company, organisation, or institution:**

Text of 3 to 200 characters will be accepted

Maeve McLynn, Climate Action Network Europe,

3. If your organisation is registered in the Transparency Register, please give your Register ID number:

20 character(s) maximum

55888811123-49

If your organisation is not registered, you can [register now](#). Please note that contributions from respondents who choose not to register will be processed as a separate category 'non-registered organisations/business'.

4. Contact email address:

The information you provide here is for administrative purposes only and will not be published

maeve@caneurope.org

*** 5. Where are you based and/or where do you carry out your activity?**

Belgium

*** 6. Please indicate your preference for the publication of your response on the Commission's website:** (Please note that regardless of the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under [Regulation 1049/2001](#) on public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In this case the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable [data protection rules](#).)

- Under the name given:
I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication
- Anonymously:
I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication

Questions

7. In your place of living, have you experienced unusually frequent or severe events that could be attributed to climate change?

- Abnormally warm overall temperatures during one or more seasons over several years
- Heat waves causing death among the vulnerable (elderly, sick)
- Restrictions on water availability due to prolonged drought
- Forest fires
- River floods
- Flash floods or landslides from heavy rain
- Seaside storm surges
- Coastal erosion
- Intrusion of seawater in freshwater aquifers
- Extreme wind (150 km/h or more)
- Appearance of invasive species (insects, plants etc.)
- Emergence of tropical diseases that are otherwise not endemic in your area
- Other

8. In your place of living, are you aware of any of the following actions which have been implemented recently with the intention to prepare for the likely effects of climate change?

(several options can be selected)

- Reinforcement of infrastructure (transport, energy, communication networks) to withstand natural disasters
- Preparation for floods (water retention, dykes, designated flood plains/areas, restriction of activities in areas at flood risks, floating houses etc.)
- Adaptation of agriculture to the changing climate (e.g. water efficient irrigation, selecting different crops)
- Heat wave action plans
- Increase of green areas in towns to cope with heatwaves / floods
- Encouragement of water saving and reuse
- Forest fire prevention (e.g. awareness raising campaigns, forest management...)
- Reinforcement and protection of the seacoast
- Early warning systems for natural disasters (heatwaves, floods, forest fires...)
- Communication to the public about the need to adapt to climate change

- Insurance products against damage from the effects of climate change
- Scientific research on the effects of climate change in your place of living
- Other

9. How would you characterise your knowledge of the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change?

- I have not heard of it
- Very limited
- Limited
- Good
- Very good

10. Have you heard of the following Adaptation initiatives?

I have already heard of the adaptation strategy or action plan of my:

Please tick the relevant boxes

- My Country
- My Region
- My Municipality

I have already heard of adaptation action under:

Please tick the relevant boxes

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
- LIFE support programme of the EU
- Horizon 2020 research programme of the EU
- Common Agricultural Policy of the EU
- Common Fisheries Policy of the EU
- Regional funds of the EU
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

11. In your view, is action at EU level necessary on adaptation to climate change?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know

12. In the following table, you will find some preliminary generic conclusions from the study supporting the evaluation.

To what extent do you agree with them?

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Do not know |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) Adaptation action is needed at all governance levels. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <p>b) There is a need for ensuring that EU policies, investments in infrastructure and insurance and financial products take due account of climate change and respond to its impacts.</p> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>c) The EU needs to encourage adaptation action by Member States.</p> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>d) Knowledge of the economic, environmental and social costs of inaction has less influence on national decision makers than tangible experience of climate impacts.</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>e) The financial resources for the implementation of the actions described in the Strategy were adequate and proportionate.</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>f) There is a need for the EU to support research on adaptation.</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>g) The Climate-ADAPT website has been an important and useful information source in climate change adaptation work.</p> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>h) There have been changes to the rules for major EU funding programmes so that they include adaptation, and these changes are having a positive impact on adaptation action.</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>i) Infrastructures and economic systems are not sufficiently resilient to the impacts of climate change.</p> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <p>j) Adaptation and disaster risk reduction policy are inadequately coordinated: (i) at the EU level.</p> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (ii) at the national level. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| k) Adaptation actions do not make sufficient use of green infrastructure and ecosystem-based approaches. | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| l) Coherence is not sufficiently ensured between climate adaptation and mitigation actions. (i) at the EU level. | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| (ii) at the national level. | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| m) The EU's vulnerabilities to climate impacts from outside the EU (because of other countries not taking proper adaptation action) are not yet mapped | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| n) Cooperation is not in place with 3rd countries to reduce EU vulnerabilities to climate impacts from outside the EU. | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| o) EU adaptation action is not aligned with international obligations and expectations under the Paris Agreement. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| p) Coherence between the actions of the EU's Adaptation Strategy could be improved. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

13. In the following tables, you will find some preliminary specific and technical conclusions from the study supporting the evaluation. For more details, please refer to the interim summary report published as a background to this consultation.

To what extent do you agree with them?

Relevance (did the Strategy respond to real needs, to all the needs, have the needs evolved?)

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) The Strategy is relevant for local government and private sector stakeholders. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| b) Knowledge gaps remain and new gaps are emerging. There remains a need to bridge these gaps and improve how this information is shared. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) There is a need to address the impact of high-end climate change (>2°C). | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| d) There is a need to align EU adaptation policy with international developments like the Paris Agreement. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Effectiveness (did the Strategy achieve its objectives?)

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) The ex-ante conditionality on adaptation for accessing EU funding (ESIF programmes) has been an effective mechanism for ensuring the adoption of national adaptation strategies | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) Climate change adaptation has been effectively mainstreamed in EU spending | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) The Strategy has been more effective in encouraging preparatory adaptation activities, than in encouraging the implementation and review of such activities. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Efficiency (were the resources used to achieve the objectives adequate?)

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| a) Administrative costs resulting from the direct implementation of the Strategy are very low and mostly limited to the European Commission. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) Costs resulting from the Strategy for stakeholders other than the European Commission are voluntary and mostly incurred when applying for EU funds. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| c) There is only very limited monitoring and evaluation burden from the Strategy and no unnecessary administrative burden. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> |

Coherence (was the Strategy coherent internally and with other policies?)

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) Progress has been made in integrating adaptation concerns into a wide range of EU policy areas | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) Adaptation concerns are insufficiently integrated in: | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - the EU's external policy areas | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - climate mitigation policy | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| c) The Strategy does not conflict with adaptation action at: | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - international level | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - national level | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - sub-national level | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

EU added value (did the strategy have added value to act at EU level compared to lower levels of governance?)

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly disagree | Don't know |
|--|----------------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| a) The Strategy adds value to the adaptation actions at national and sub-national level | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| b) The greatest added value of EU action is - where the EU can integrate adaptation into its own policies | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - bridging knowledge gaps | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| - promoting EU-wide action | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Other comments

14. If you wish to add further information, comments or suggestions - within the scope of this questionnaire - please feel free to do so here:

1000 character(s) maximum

While progress has been made in the EU to integrate climate action - including adaptation - into EU policies, state and non-state actors need to increase efforts to ensure that effective and long-term measures are being taken at sectorial and geographic level.

Member States need to take a more stringent approach in how they are using and reporting EU funds that are eventually labelled climate mitigation and/or adaptation. While mainstreaming in practice ensures that all investments are de-facto more resilient and prepared for future climate shocks, it cannot be taken for granted that each responsible actor is fully implementing the principle of mainstreaming. Rather, a loose approach to defining what is climate-related has been used by many actors; this waters down both the responsibility and the eventual action that is taken at local/regional/national level.

Member States must do a lot more to improve public awareness and knowledge of climate impacts in their localities.

In addition, you could also upload a document proving further information, comments or suggestions.

The maximum file size is 1 MB

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Contact

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