

Key Messages of the Symposium "Climate Change and the European Water Dimension"

Common Implementation Strategy (CIS) activities on Climate Change (CC) and the European Water Policy

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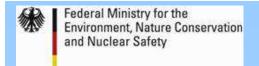
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Germany



Background

- DE Presidency Conference, in cooperation with EC
- Reports on
 - "Climate Change Impacts on the Water Cycle, Resources and Quality" (DG Research together with JRC) and
 - "Climate Change and Water Adaptation Issues" (EEA)
 delivered a valuable input to the symposium.
- > Aim: draw up recommendations for adaptation strategies

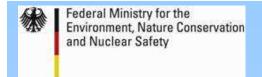


It is time to adapt!

Key Messages

- > It is time to adapt now! Scientific evidence urges action
- EU water and marine policy provide a solid basis for integrated water resource management
- The "user pays principle" needs to be fully implemented
- Further research activities are necessary
- > A successful adaptation strategy needs a common and integrated approach
- Do not forget the world outside the EU!

- ► All EU policy areas need to undergo an adaptation check
- ► Intensive cooperation and common action at EU level needed

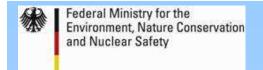


Mandate:

➤ WD agreed in Dec. 2006 on CIS Activity on CC & WATER (milestone succeeding it: Conference on CC...)

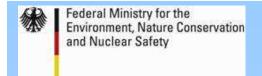
Organisation:

- Co-Lead by EC and Germany
 Representatives from MS, Stakeholders and NGO's
- Other CIS-groups deliver specific input from their field of expertise (hydromorphology, floods, ecological status, water scarcity and droughts, agriculture)



Objectives:

- identifying best uses of existing EU water legislation
 - Impact of CC on qualitative and quantitative issues in different regions
 - Climate relevant gaps (pressure, impacts)
 - What should and could be done in upcoming RBMP
- identifying adaptation measures and best practices at different levels
 - Contribute to EU adaptation strategies/ensure cross-sectoral perspective
 - Strategies and possible measures at national/regional level
 - > EU funding possibilities for adaptation measures
- strengthening the science/policy link to Climate Change and Water to ensure
 - a science/policy interface by identifying research needs,
 - > communicating them to the research community and
 - making best use of available research results.

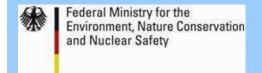


First milestones:

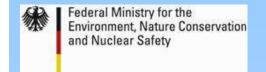
Workshop in Bonn 20-21 November 2007

Outcomes:

- 1. Relevant CC impacts for WFD implementation
- 2. Action for 1st RBMP
- 3. Action for 2nd/3rd cycle
- 4. Data and knowledge gaps
- 5. Uncertainties and science-policy link

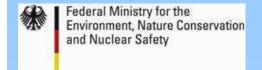


- 1. Relevant CC impacts for WFD implementation
- Cooling water for power plants
- Hydropower
- Navigation
- Water supply and water ressources management plans
- Infrastructure
- Land use changes



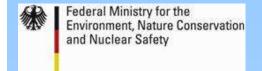
2. Action for 1st RBMP

- Chapter on CC is recommended (national/international level)
- Facilitating public consultation
- Improving awareness of all factors for CC trends and impacts
- Paving the way for more CC related actions in 2nd/3rd cycle
- Allowing incorporating international, national, regional information on prediction



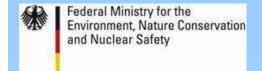
3. Action for 2nd/3rd cycle

- Focus on monitoring to detected CC impacts
- Consider long-term water management time scale (25-50 years)
- RBMP should look into broader water management issues related to CC (flood management, spatial planning/land use change,etc.)
- Programmes of measures need to be climate proofed
- ...



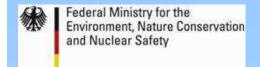
4. Data and knowledge gaps

- Model chains need to be improved (global -> local)
- CC impact need to be transformed into impacts on ecological status
- Agreement at appropriate level is needed on scenarios and model application (European and/or river basin level)
- Make research results more widely available
- Data infrastructure needs to be improved
- ...



5. Uncertainties and science-policy link

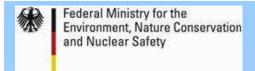
- Uncertainties need to be communicated transparently
- More research is needed on physical processes and on how to deal with still remaining uncertainties
- Scientific information needs to be translated to water managers
- Measures with less uncertainties should be prioritised
- **...**



Follow-up

> Foreseen activities:

- Discuss Workshop Outcomes
- Prepare exchange of best practices on a climate check of the first Programme of Measures
- Prepare guidance for 2nd and 3rd cycle on the basis of the outcomes of the workshop and the workshop input paper
- > Exchange of practices presented to WD end 2008
- Guidance for 2nd/3rd cycle presented to WD end 2009



Thank you for your attention!

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