EU Green Week

PARTNER EVENT

Climate-sensitive targets set under the Protocol in Montenegro

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Protocol on Water and Health

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Climate Change in Montenegro

- Due to geographical location, topography and socio-economic characteristics, Montenegro is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

- The results from the climate projections show an increase in the annual temperature of 1.5° C to 2° C by 2040 throughout the country. The increase in the temperature during the winter months December–January–February (DJF) is expected to be between 2° C and 2.5° C, and in the summer months June–July–August (JJA) it is expected to be on average around 2° C.

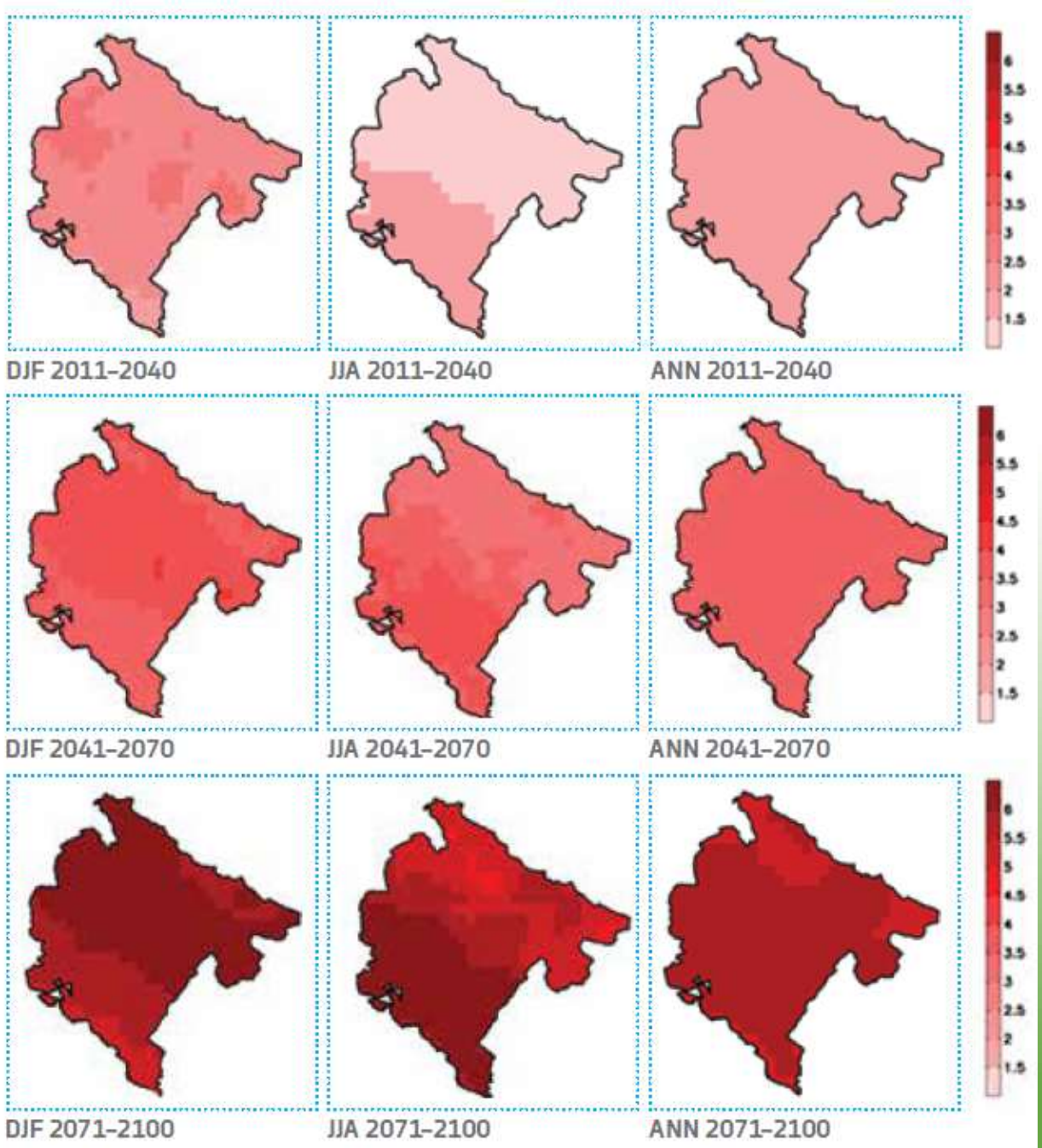
- The impacts of climate change are already visible in Montenegro and are expected to result in additional impacts in key sectors, including the health and water sector.

- The average annual temperature in 2023 was + 2.5 °C higher than the climatological norm for the period 1961-1990.

- 2023 was the warmest year over a larger area of the country: spring +0,9 °C, summer +3,9 °C , autumn +1,97 °C, winter 1,16 °C.

- Change (° C) of the mean winter (DJF), summer (JJA), and annual (ANN) temperatures,for the periods 2011–2040, 2041–2070, and 2071–2100, compared to the period 1971–2000, according to scenario RCP8.5I

- The water sector shows a reduction in the water balance in all river basins in Montenegro. The decrease in rainfall and snowfall will drastically affect surface water availability. By the end of the 21st century, a reduction in average annual flow of 27% is expected



Integrating Protocol targets into NAP

- In response to the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change, Montenegro has embarked on a strategic initiative titled “Enhancing Montenegro’s Capacity to Integrate Climate Change Risks into Planning” (NAP Project);
- Approved for funding under The Green Climate Fund Readiness Programme (GCF), aimed to bolster Montenegro’s institutional resilience against climate change impacts.
- A comprehensive stocktaking exercise in collaboration with national stakeholders and the Government of Montenegro identified water, agriculture, tourism, and health as the initial sectors prioritised for intervention;
- The National Council for Sustainable Development established a permanent working group, backed by UNDP, to support mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
- Close cooperation between the representatives of this working group and the representatives of the Water Commission;
- Process of setting Protocol targets presented and analyzed, especially in terms of target sensitivity to climate change concerning the appropriate national and international regulations (Montenegro Programme of Accession to the European Union 2024-2025, NSSD Montenegro, NC to the UNFCCC, etc.)

Climate sensitive targets - examples

Article 6	Target	Indicator	Time frame	Source for Indicator
6.2.f Water supply and sanitation management	2.Development and implementation of Climate Resilient Sanitation Safety Plans/ Integrated Water and Sanitation Safety Plan	2.1 Pilot study conducted in at least one municipality	Q IV 2025	Protocol on Water and Health
6.2.h Quality of treated wastewater	1.Updating wastewater discharge and treatment legislation including provisions to be put in place during risk extreme weather events	1.1The legislative framework related to the quality of wastewater discharged from wastewater treatment plants into the open reservoirs during risk events improved (Law on Municipal Wastewater Management (“Official Gazette of Montenegro” 17/17) improved).	Q IV 2025	Montenegro Programme of Accession to the European Union 2024-2025
6.2.j Quality of water used as sources for drinking, bathing or aquaculture	2.Develop early warning system for bathing waters during extreme weather events	2.1 Monitoring Program for surface bathing waters linked to early warning system developed	Q II 2026	Protocol on Water and Health
6.2.c Population served – Water supply (collective systems or other means)	2.Construction of micro-reservoirs, irrigation infrastructure and rainwater collection for drought resistance	2.1 Construction of micro-reservoirs, irrigation infrastructure and rainwater collection in at least one municipality	Q I 2027	National Sustainable Development Strategy; Third National Communication (TNC) to the UNFCCC

Lessons learnt for future work

Main obstacles identified:

- lack of legislative, regulatory and strategic framework for climate services and disaster risk management;
- unsatisfactory coordination framework;
- insufficient climate information and data for individual sectors;
- limited communication and use of information on climate hazards and risks;
- limited institutional and technical capacities in the public and private sectors;
- limited capacities and financial resources related to the climate risk preparedness and management

Thank you for your attention!