

# The process of Finland's National Adaptation Strategy and its Evaluation & Monitoring

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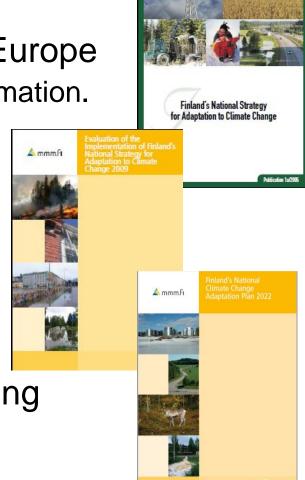
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# Finland's National Adaptation Strategy - continuing saga Past:

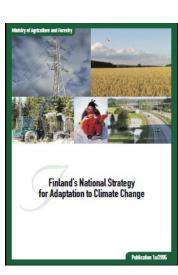
- 2005: First NAS published first in Europe
  - Based on then existing research information.
- 2009: (Midterm) Evaluation of the implementation of NAS
- 2012/2013: Final evaluation of the implementation
- (2012-)2013 Revision of the NAS
- 2014 Second NAP Published
- 2015-2016 Development of monitoring indicators





# Goals set out by the Finnish Government in the first NAS

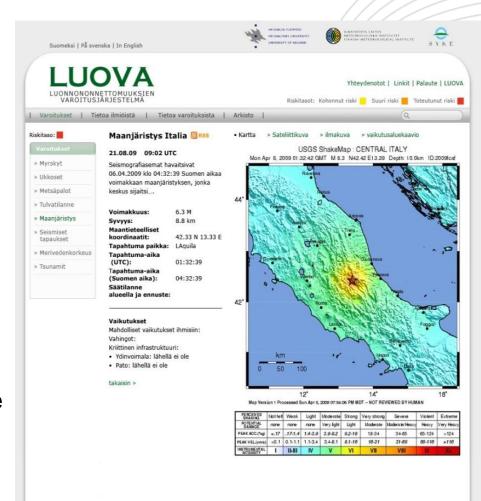
- The main objective of the 1<sup>st</sup> NAS was to build up Finland's <u>adaptive capacity</u> & <u>reduce the costs</u> of climate change to society where possible.
- Goals to be achieved by 2015:
  - Integrate impacts and adaptation into routine planning, implementation and follow-up (<u>mainstreaming</u>)
  - Strengthen and focus <u>research and development</u>
  - Include climate aspects into <u>long-term investments</u>
  - Improve capacities to address <u>extreme weather events</u>
  - Develop further observation and <u>warning systems</u>
  - Address <u>international linkages</u> and development cooperation.



### **LUOVA** situation picture and EWS

#### Supports correctly-timed decisionmaking, communication and risk management of safety and rescue authorities

- Situation picture is developed and visualized by taking into account end-users needs (text, maps etc.).
  - Summary of hazard
  - Present situation, forecasts and warnings
  - Location and time
  - Impacts
    - Potential impacts on people
    - Potential damages
    - Critical infrastructure



Finnish Meteorological Institute: Storms, Heavy rains - Flash floods, Sea level, Forest fires, tsunamis

HU Institute of Seismology: Earthquakes, tsunamis

Finnish Environmental Institute: Floods



### Institutional framework for NAS

- Starting point: <u>integrating/mainstreaming adaptation to sectors.</u>
- Ministries have overall responsibility for the implementation of NAS in their own fields of activity.
  - Some ministries have prepared sectoral assessments and <u>action</u> <u>plans</u>: Min. of the Environment, Min. of Agriculture and Forestry.
- Much of the practical implementation takes place in regions and municipalities
  - especially with regard to flood risk management and spatial planning at its different levels.



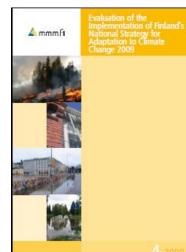
#### Institutional framework for NAS

- The implementation of NAS
  - is followed and promoted by the Coordination Group for Adaptation to Climate Change
  - steered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- Mitigation of climate change responsibility of the Min of Env.
- The Finnish Climate Panel
  - Established in 2012
  - Provides scientific advice for decision-making
  - Serves as an advisor to the Finnish ministerial working group on energy and climate policy



# (Midterm) evaluation of the implementation of Finland's NAS 2009

- Main objective of evaluation: what kind of <u>progress</u> has been made in 15 different sectors since 2005
  - incl. two new sectors: administrative sectors of Min. of Defence & Min. of the Interior
- 2009 evaluation was conducted by a <u>survey</u> of whether and how the indicative measures presented in the strategy had been launched in different sectors.
- Also new information on adaptation <u>research</u>
- Identified <u>new needs</u> for adaptation policy
  - for revising the adaptation strategy in 2012-2013





# Survey to ministries: measures launched by 2009

- NAS identified <u>indicative adaptation measures</u> (anticipatory/reactive) for 15 sectors, divided into
  - Public sector
    - Administration and planning
    - Research and information
    - Economic-technical measures
    - Normative framework
  - Private sector
  - 3 time periods: immediate (\*), short-term (\*\*) and long term (\*\*\*).
- Evaluation report added a new column: <u>measures</u> <u>launched</u>.



## **Example: Measures launched in Agriculture**

		Anticipatory (A)/Reactive (R)	Measures launched
Public	Administration and planning	<ul> <li>Attention to production methods adaptable to climate change, produc- tion structure and locations in support policy*** (A)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>In the context of the mid-term review of the EU's common agricultural policy (CAP) a decision to increase measures under Rural Development Regulation, incl. those concerning climate change adaptation.</li> </ul>
		Development of animal disease monitoring systems** (A)	<ul> <li>Finland has prepared a contingency plan for bluetongue disease, a catarrhal fever in ruminants spread by midges.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Development of plant disease and pest monitoring systems* (A)</li> </ul>	
	Research and information	<ul> <li>Development of new technologies and cultivation methods and providing information on them** (A)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Research project<sup>1</sup> on impacts of climate warming on the health of reindeer.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Conceptualisation of climate change and its risks* (A)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>One of the ISTO research projects<sup>2</sup> investigates the risks of changing climate.</li> </ul>
	Economic- technical measures	<ul> <li>Integration of changed climatic conditions and plant protection requirements into plant improvement programmes* (A)</li> </ul>	A joint Nordic plant breeding project has been launched.
		<ul> <li>Minimising the disadvantages of the potentially increasing use of pesti- cides** (R)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>National action programme required under the framework directive on sustainable use of pesticides is being prepared.</li> </ul>
	Normative framework	<ul> <li>Assessment of the revisions to water protection guidelines** (A)</li> </ul>	
Private		<ul> <li>Introduction of new cultivation methods, cultivated crops and technology** (A)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Companies Raisio plc and Boreal Plant Breeding Ltd contribute to the funding of the ILMASOPU<sup>2</sup> research project.</li> <li>Action on farmers' own initiative.</li> </ul>
		Extending the farm animal grazing period*** (R)	<ul> <li>For the animal welfare payments, 550 farms have selected grazing during the growing period as the additional measure.</li> </ul>
		Increasing the control of pests and diseases** (R)	<ul> <li>According to the ILMASOPU<sup>2</sup> research project, prevention has increased.</li> </ul>



## Indicator of the level of adaptation

- The Coordination Group for Adaptation to Climate Change assessed the level of adaptation by means of a <u>preliminary indicator</u> developed in the context of the evaluation process.
- The indicator (on a scale 1–5) consists of <u>four criteria</u> that develop from step to step:
  - need for adaptation
  - impacts known
  - adaptation measures
  - cross-sectoral cooperation.
- The levels of adaptation provide only indicative information
  - a great deal of variation between and within sectors.
- This type of <u>qualitative</u> evaluation works quite well in self-evaluation.
- Adaptation indicator <u>can be applied</u> in other decision-making environments.



# Levels of adaptation to climate change

Step 1 (lowest level)	<ul> <li>Need for adaptation recognised among a group of pioneers in the sector.</li> <li>Little research done on the impacts of or adaptation to climate change.</li> <li>Some adaptation measures identified but not yet implemented.</li> </ul>
Step 2	<ul> <li>Need for adapt. measures recognised to some extent in the sector (some decision makers).</li> <li>Impacts of climate change known indicatively (qualitative information), taking account of the uncertainty involved in climate change scenarios.</li> <li>Adaptation measures identified and plans made for their implementation, some of them launched.</li> </ul>
Step 3	<ul> <li>Need for adaptation measures quite well recognised (majority of decision-makers).</li> <li>Impacts of climate change quite well known (quantitative information), taking account of the uncertainty involved in climate change scenarios.</li> <li>Adaptation measures identified and their implementation launched.</li> <li>Cross-sectoral cooperation on adaptation started.</li> </ul>
Step 4	<ul> <li>Need for adaptation measures widely recognised and accepted in the sector.</li> <li>Adaptation incorporated into regular decision-making processes.</li> <li>Impacts of climate change well known, within the limits of the uncertainty involved in climate change scenarios.</li> <li>Implementation of adaptation measures widely launched and their benefits assessed at least to some extent.</li> <li>Cross-sectoral cooperation on adaptation measures an established practice.</li> </ul>
Step 5 (highest)	Adaptation measures under the Adaptation Strategy or recognised otherwise implemented in the sector.

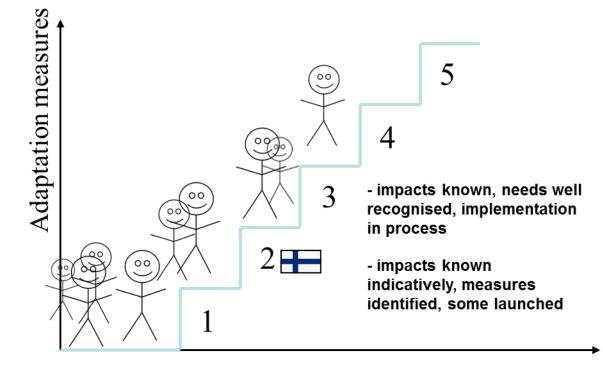


# Evaluation of the strategy: Five steps of adaptation

#### Finland:

- On average on step 2
- Agriculture,
   forestry, traffic,
   land use on step 3
- Water resources on step 3-4
- Measures

   launched in the
   private sector
   excluded



Adaptation research



# Mid-term evaluation identified new needs for revising the NAS

- Synergies and contradictions of mitigation and adaptation
- More <u>cross-sectoral collaboration</u>
- Wider understanding for need to adapt to <u>socio-economical</u> <u>impacts</u> of climate change
- Risk assessment and management for pessimistic scenarios
- Cost-benefit analysis for adaptation measures
- More <u>local/regional aspects</u> of adaptation
- More <u>user-oriented communication</u> about adaptation
- Recommendations of PEER study etc. into consideration
- Monitoring
- White Paper on adaptation / <u>EU</u>'s Adaptation Strategy 2013



## Past examples of adaptation work

#### Research:

- Climate change adaptation research programme, ISTO (2006-2010)
- Vulnerability assessment of ecosystem services for climate change impacts and adaptation, VACCIA (2009-2011)
- MIL-research programme Forests in changing climate (2007-2012)
- How to adapt to inevitable climate change? A synthesis of Finnish research on adaptation in different sectors
- The Finnish research programme on climate change, FICCA (2011-2014) of Academy of Finland

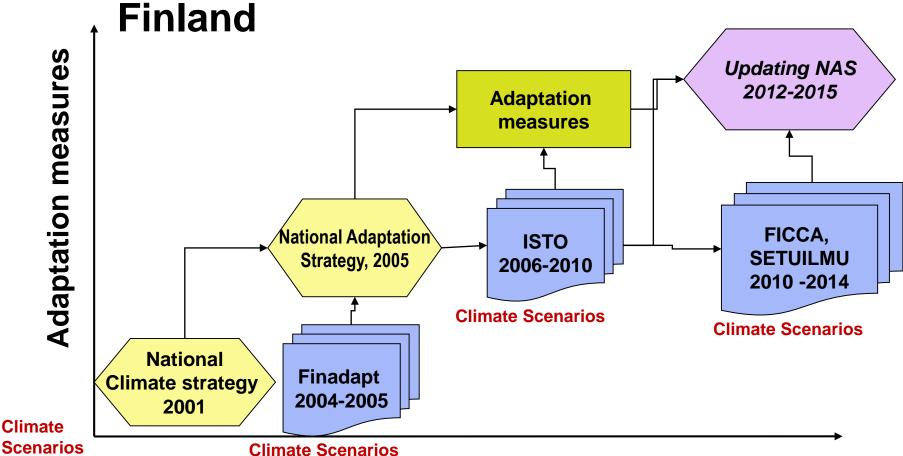
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#### Adaptation action plans:

- for environmental administration 2008 & 2011
- of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry 2011
- Adaptation surveys/pre-studies for road & rail management and maritime transport
- Provincial/regional and municipal climate strategies



Science–policy interaction in adaptation in Finland



**Adaptation research** 



# Finland's National Adaptation Strategy, final evaluation 2012-2013

- How the <u>objective</u> "to strengthen and increase adaptive capacity" has been advanced since 2005?
- Evaluation of the <u>implementation</u> of the indicative measures => adaptation level
  - + gaps in the implementation and required additional measures
- Overview of existing <u>regional and municipal level</u> adaptation measures and requirements for national strategy
  - 150 of 336 municipalities has a climate strategy, in 70 % of them adaptation in some level
  - 12/13 regional climate and energy strategies include adaptation in some level
- Influence of the relevant <u>EU policies</u>
- Assessment of the level of <u>knowledge</u> (research)
- Cross-sectoral measures (?)
- Some information of the adaptation in <u>private sector</u>



## Legislative framework

- Laws, regulations and guidelines for implementation
  - Climate Act 2015 Adaptation included
  - Electricity market Act
  - Water Resources Management Reassessment of existing permissions
  - Storm water guidelines
  - Flood risk management
  - Design values for building construction



## Revision of the NAS 2013: questions

- Form: revision/update/only additional measures -> "ACTION PLAN"
- Integrating <u>new elements</u> (cross-sectoral issues, regional/municipal level requirements) to strategy with "restricted" sectoral approach?
- Linking "the new" with "the old" (maintaining the ongoing work, not end up with two strategies...)?
- Balancing between <u>strategic and practical approach</u>
- Including more <u>pessimistic scenario</u> and possible additional/optional measures for that?
- <u>Awareness raising</u> and enhanced participation in the process - also private sector? -> ELASTINEN-project
- Getting/securing <u>resources</u>?



# Finland's 2<sup>nd</sup> National Adaptation Strategy

#### Fields of action Objectives Aim 1. Studies are conducted on climate resilience on the national level 2. Action plans for specific administrative branches are drawn up and implemented, taking account of the international repercussions of climate change Adaptation has been integrated into 3. Drafting of regional and local adaptation the planning and activities of both studies is promoted the various sectors and their actors. 4. Adaptation is promoted in international The Finnish cooperation society has Adaptation is included in EU policies and international region-based the capacity cooperation projects to manage the The actors have access to the risks associated Climate risk assessment and necessary climate change assessment with climate management is improved and management methods. change and 7. Instruments applicable to the management of financial risks caused adapt to by climate change are developed changes in the climate. Research and development work, 8. Adaptation research is reinforced communication and education 9. Business opportunities related to and training have enhanced the adaptation are developed adaptive capacity of society, 10. Tools are developed in support of regional developed innovative solutions and adaptation work improved citizens' awareness on 11. Communication on adaptation is climate change adaptation. developed 12. Education and training content on adaptation is developed

#### **ELASTINEN PROJECT (2015-2016)**

(Proactive management of weather and climate related risks in Finland)

Funding: Government's analysis, assessment and research activities

- support coherent/consistent adaptation to climate change
- develop solutions for different sectors for risk assessment and management related to extreme weather and climate events
- economic assessment methods
- find out what kind of information and tools (including climate scenarios)
  different actors need and study the possibilities to develop climate
  services and application tools for adaptation
- study how the international impacts of climate change (such as raw material availability, food security, water security, climate refugees) will be reflected to Finland and how they should be taken into account in risk management but also what kind of economic possibilities they provide















## Monitoring & Evaluation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> NAS

#### Measures:

- 13. A NATIONAL MONITORING GROUP ON ADAPTATION
- a) A national monitoring group is appointed to follow and evaluate the implementation of the adaptation plan, with representatives from the relevant ministries, research institutions, regional and local bodies and actors. The group is responsible for the implementation, follow-up and communication relating to the adaptation plan and promotes the cooperation between sectors in adaptation actions and the overall awareness raising on adaptation.
- 14. CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF THE PLAN IS ENSURED AND THE SCALE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE IMPLEMENTA-TION IS EVALUATED
- a) The available systems, follow-up procedures and indicators are utilised to compile information suitable in view of the adaptation plan from the follow-up of the adaptation plans and action programmes of sectors, municipalities and other parties. Procedures are developed for evaluation of effectiveness, including assessment of the suitability of the indicators for evaluating adaptation actions and any development needs in these. The information compiled is utilised already in the planning and programmes stage to steer the work towards the set objectives and for communication purposes.
- b) Action is taken to influence the development of the follow-up of the EU Adaptation Strategy with due account for the Regulation on reporting information relevant to climate change.



## Monitoring system

- Information, not indicators
  - Are the indicators telling what you want to know?
  - Is there a data collection system already in place to collect the indicator data
- What is adaptation to climate change? Increased dikes? New crops?
   Poverty reduction?
- How to measure effectiveness of adaptation?
  - Votsis & Perrels: Flood risk maps and impact on property value
- How to measure efficiency of adaptation?
  - Electricity Market Act



# Suggested indicator system in Finland



- Altogether 31 indicators suggested for
  - Energy, transport and communications
  - Water bodies, Water resources and management
  - Agriculture and forestry
  - Natural habitat and biodiversity
  - Health and welfare
  - Safety/Security and citizen preparedness 6/6
  - Regional adaptation
  - Adaptation opportunities



### Indicators - Keep in mind

- What is the purpose of the indicators? What are they used for?
- Who is using the indicators?
- How are they used?
- How are the indicators updated?
- Who will update?
- How are results published and disseminated?
- Categorisation of the indicators:
  - Statistics/indicators describing climate change
  - Statistics/indicators describing vulnerability
  - Indicators for policies/measures
  - Indicators for policy/measure effectiveness
- Keep it simple use existing data
- Needs to be a participatory process
- Make sure data exists and the format is usable



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Climate Change **Explained** 

Maps, graphs and

Community Response Wizard

Land Use and Construction | Technical Services | Education and Culture | Social and health | Environmental protection | Solutions

# Haaganpuro brook in Helsinki was restored to prevent flooding

Climate change will increase heavy precipitation events which will, in turn, increase storm water runoff as well as urban floods. To prepare for the increasing floods, the bottom of the Haaganpuro brook in Helsinki was restored by placing submerged weirs and boulders to slow down the flow velocity and to decrease the flood risk downstream



#### Basic information

Institution in Charge: Stara (Construction Services of the City of Helsinki) Location: Helsinki, Haaganpuro brook

#### Regulating the flow rate reduces flood risk

#### Kruunusillat (Bridges) in Helsinki

Major transport network planning project If approved, it will befinalised in 2024 Estimated budget 210 million euros

