

Climate change risks and national adaptation – priorities for climate change management

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Outline



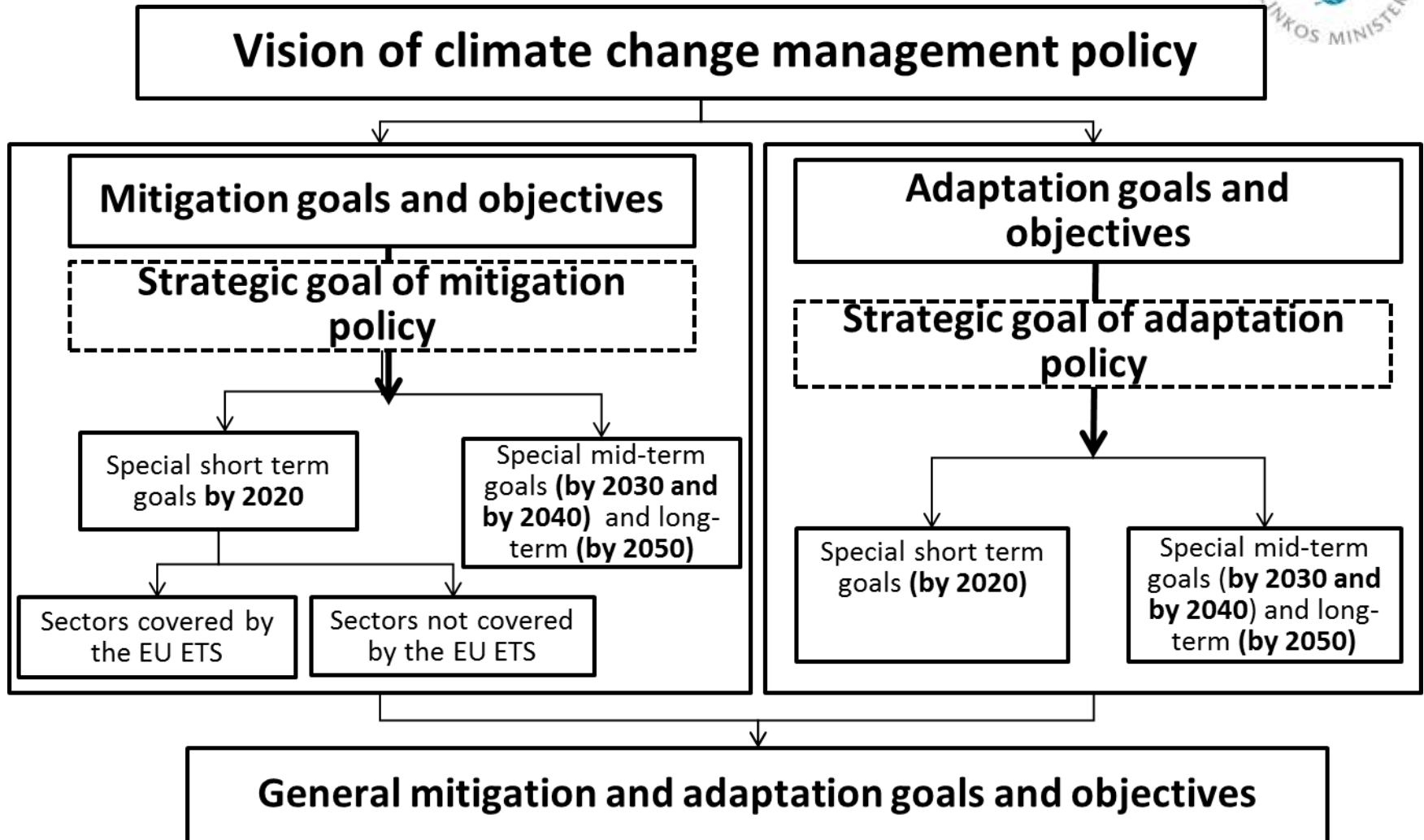
- Lithuania's key climate change policies
- Adaptation policy goals and objectives
 - Sector specific short-term goals by 2020
- Measures in public health sector
- Public warning system
- Case study for adaptation

Lithuania's key climate change policy

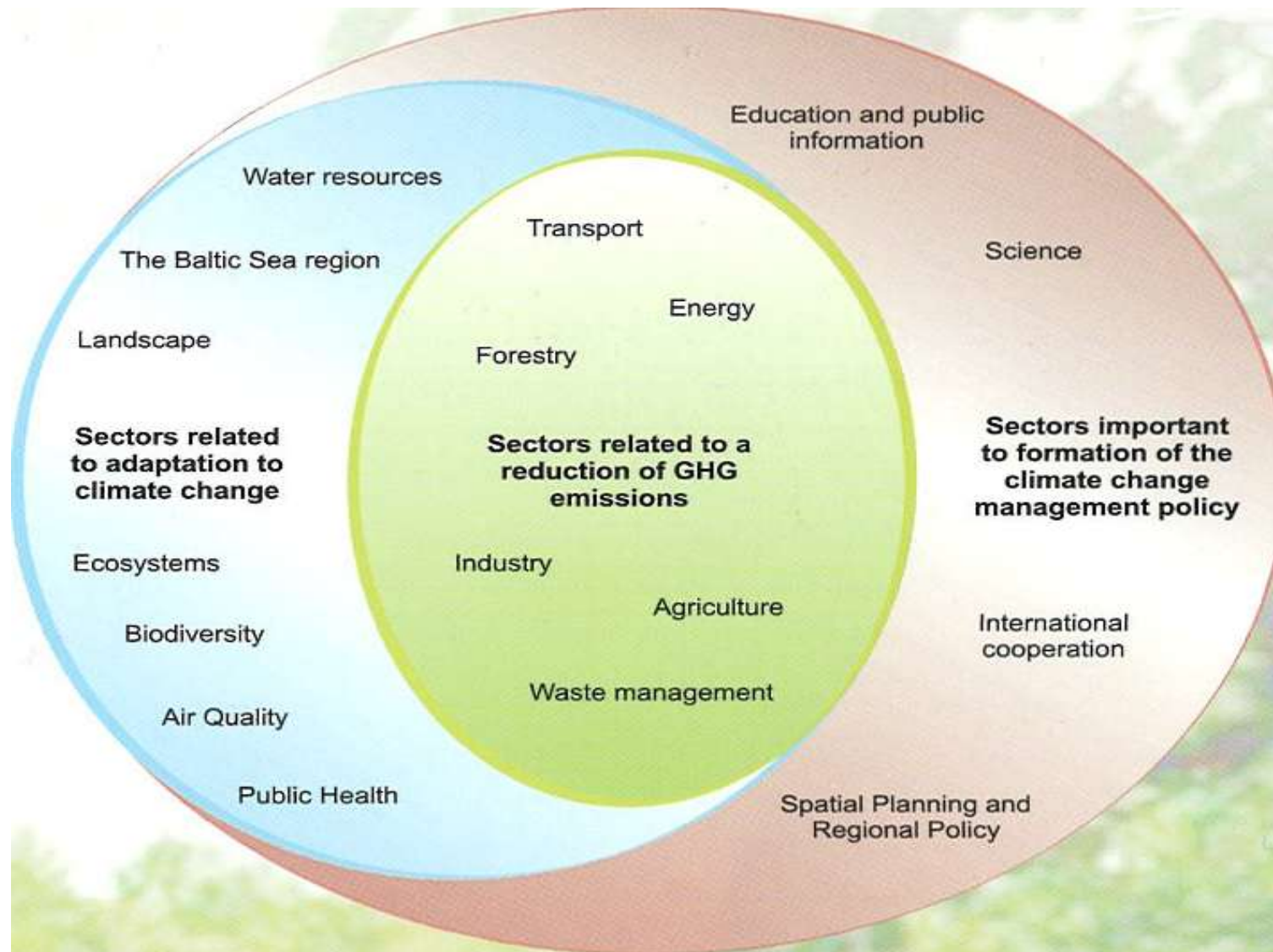


- Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Financial Instruments for Climate Change Management (2009)
- The Strategy for National Climate Change Management Policy by 2050 (2012)
- Inter-institutional Action Plan for the implementation of the goals and objectives for the period of 2013-2020 of the Strategy (updated in 2016)

The Structure of the Strategy



Division of the sectors



Adaptation to climate change policy



The strategic goal of adaptation policy:

- To reduce vulnerability of the natural ecosystems and national economy sectors
- To ensure resilience and favorable conditions for social life and economic activities in all economy sectors

Main directions for implementation



- Integrated approach
- Synergy of mitigation and adaptation measures
- Contribution of country-specific scientific research
- Strong knowledge basis

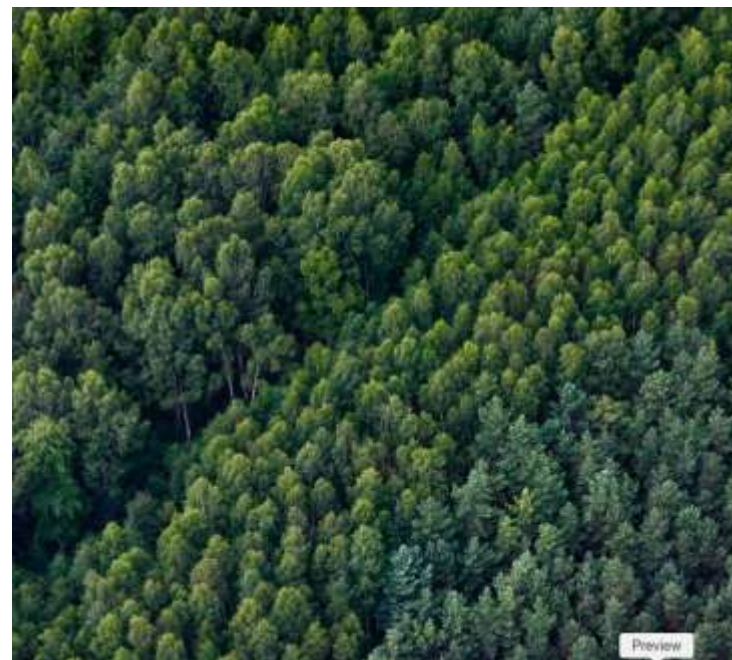
Sector-specific short-term goals (1)

➤ **agriculture, soil**

- to increase resistance of the agricultural sector to climate change

➤ **forestry, ecosystems, biodiversity, landscape**

- to reduce negative impact of climate change on natural ecosystems
- to preserve and improve sustainability of forest ecosystems and strengthening their environmental and social role



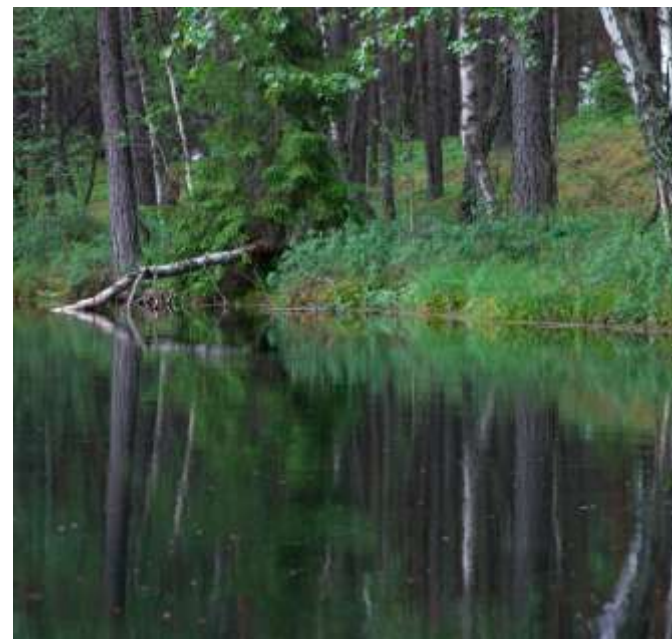
Sector-specific short-term goals (2)

➤ water resources

- to reduce the negative effects of rising of water levels and extreme weather events on the **quality** of the surface **water** and groundwater
- to develop an effective **flood risk assessment and management system**

➤ energy, transport, industry

- to enhance adaptation of the most climate change **sensitive areas** of these sectors
- to improve the resilience of the engineering **infrastructure**



Sector-specific short-term goals (3)

Baltic Sea Region is defined as the most vulnerable region in Lithuania

- **integrated** into sectorial targets and objectives of sectors
 - forest
 - ecosystems, biodiversity
 - landscape
 - water resources



Development of climate change portal

Adaptation to climate change policy in Lithuania puts a big emphasis on **raising awareness**:

- one of the assessment criteria directly related to implementation of climate change adaptation goals and objectives is fully functioning national climate change information coordination mechanism by 2020



Public health sector (1)

Short-term goal

- to reduce negative impact of climate change on human health

Objectives

- ensuring **protection** of the population health by reducing risks posed by climate change
- developing an effective system for the **prevention** of climate change related diseases

Public health sector (2)



Implemented measures

- Study identifying the climate change threats to human health including the recommendations (2014)
- National Public Health and Heat Prevention Action Plan for 2016-2020

Public health sector (3)

Planned measures

- prepare and adopt the list of climate change and health **indicators**
- Improve **cooperation** at the international level
- Improve **awareness** about risks of climate change and adaptation measures

- Implementing institution – Ministry of Health
- Financial allocations for the period 2017-2019 – over 90 thousand EUR

National Public Health and Heat Prevention Action Plan 2016-2020

➤ **Main goals:**

- to protect population health from negative heat impacts by increasing public awareness of the dangers of heat and prevention providing timely advices and announcements of upcoming **heat-waves**;
- raising **awareness** among the public, health specialists, general medical practitioners and school workers;
- coordinating and **mobilizing** all available **resources** in a timely manner to prevent the health consequences of heat waves

Heat Impacts Prevention Inter-sectorial Working Group



The main goal of working group:

➤ To duly prepare for a possible heat and its negative impacts which pose a health threat.

Following the adopted National Public Health and Heat Prevention Action Plan 2016-2020, the Heat Impacts Prevention Inter-sectorial Working Group was established in 2016.

Informing the public on climate change impacts

- According to the Order of the Ministers of Health and Environment
 - obligation to inform the public on climate change impacts and disaster risks to human health
- Centre for Health Education and Diseases Prevention collects data from:



- Report is compiled and published twice a year

Public Warning System



Functions of The Fire and Rescue Department

- warning and informing public on
 - emergency at state level
 - potential consequences
 - means of their elimination
 - protection against emergency



- Syrens warning system
 - installed on state institutions, economic entities, public buildings, residential buildings or towers (columns).
- Cell Broadcast Technology
 - delivering informational messages

Public Warning System



- Cell Broadcast Technology
 - developed in 2012
- Project “The development of the system for public warning and information using the network infrastructure of public mobile telephone communication service providers“.
- informational messages within a specified territory of the public mobile phone communication network coverage area

- very high inhabitants’ reach level
 - full coverage of GSM network in the country
 - very high level of mobile phone usage



Rusnė case study



Rusnė case study



Thank you!



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Illustrations used from BFL, S. Paltanavicius and other private sources