

Moving toward climate change adaptation strategy for Estonia



Reeli Jakobi
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MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Climate change adaptation in Estonia

GHG emissions are the part of our economic system and mitigation of anthropogenic GHG has been regarded as priority. Beside the reducing GHG emissions we also have to adapt to those consequences of CC which is unavoidable.

Estonian governmental positions were agreed in accordance with the EU green paper on adaptation in 2007 and white paper in 2009.

Priority areas are: energy, transport, water management and coastal areas and human health.

Government also pointed out that more relevant information is needed.



Estonia does not have national programme or strategy for climate change adaptation but there are few measures taken under sectorial plans

The overview about climate adaptation topics is given in „Estonia`s Fifth National Communication“ under the UNFCCC

MoE has ordered from expert an overview about existing researches concerning with climate adaptation.



Estonian Forest Development Plan until 2020

Public Health Development Plan 2009-2020

HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

Nature Conservation Development Plan up to 2020.

emergencies and crisis management plans under regulation of Emergency Act.



The aim to adapt to climate change is added to the:

- * to draft of new Estonian Environmental Action Plan until 2013;
- * to the draft of Ministry of the Environment's Development plan for the period 2012-2015;
- * to the draft of Ambient Air Protection Act.

However, various EU programmes such as the Common Agricultural Policy and EU funding instruments period 2014-2020 also include climate change adaptation issues.



Several research projects and programmes related to the impacts of climate change have contributed to the development of Estonian adaptation policies and will also support the development of the NAS

1. The project “Developing Policies and Adaptation Strategies to Climate Change in the Baltic Sea Region” (**ASTRA**), implemented from 2005-2007, has contributed to the development of adaptation policies, funded by the INTERREG IIIB Programme of the European Commission. The project was carried out from 2005-2007

2. The "Baltic Climate Change: Impacts, Costs and Adaptation in the Baltic Sea Region" (**BaltCICA**) international project focused on the the Baltic Sea Region coastal areas and their problems like erosion and flooding. In the frame of BaltCICA, a small regional adaptation strategy and measures for Western Estonia coastal region has prepared

3. The project “**Baltadapt**” within the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013 of the EU aims at developing a Baltic Sea Region-wide climate change adaptation strategy, Focus on regional climate information, Baltic Sea ecosystem and coastal zone; develops information portal The Baltic Window and Baltic Sea Region climate adaptation strategy and action plan; identify suitable funding mechanisms.

4. The Baltic Environmental Forum project **BaltClim** encourage and support relevant stakeholders on national in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to initiate climate adaptation programmes.level

Projects under development

Integrated water resources management in Baltic Sea Region programm coordinated by the Ministry of Environment departments

Proposed project: mapping the impacts of CC, developing measures and awareness raising, prioritisation and socio-economical analysis for the adaptation measures.

GOAL: proposal of the national climate adaptation strategy document;

Partner: Climate and Pollution Agency, Norway;

Financing: EEA and Norway Grants

Period 2012 nov until 2015, budget not confirmed
(approx. 1 MEUR)



ACTIVITIES:

1. COLLECTING RELEVANT CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS INFORMATION

2. ANALYSIS - Assessing climate impacts and vulnerability in different sectors, CC future scenarios and proposition of adaptation measures

* *Socio-economical analysis*: cost of measures and benefit for implementing these measures

3. COMPILING ADAPTATIONAL STRATEGY

* *Suitable form for strategical choices for adaptation activities*

* *Proposal for adaptation strategy*

The rise of the sea level, coastal erosion, floods and increased precipitation are the most important impacts of CC for Estonia

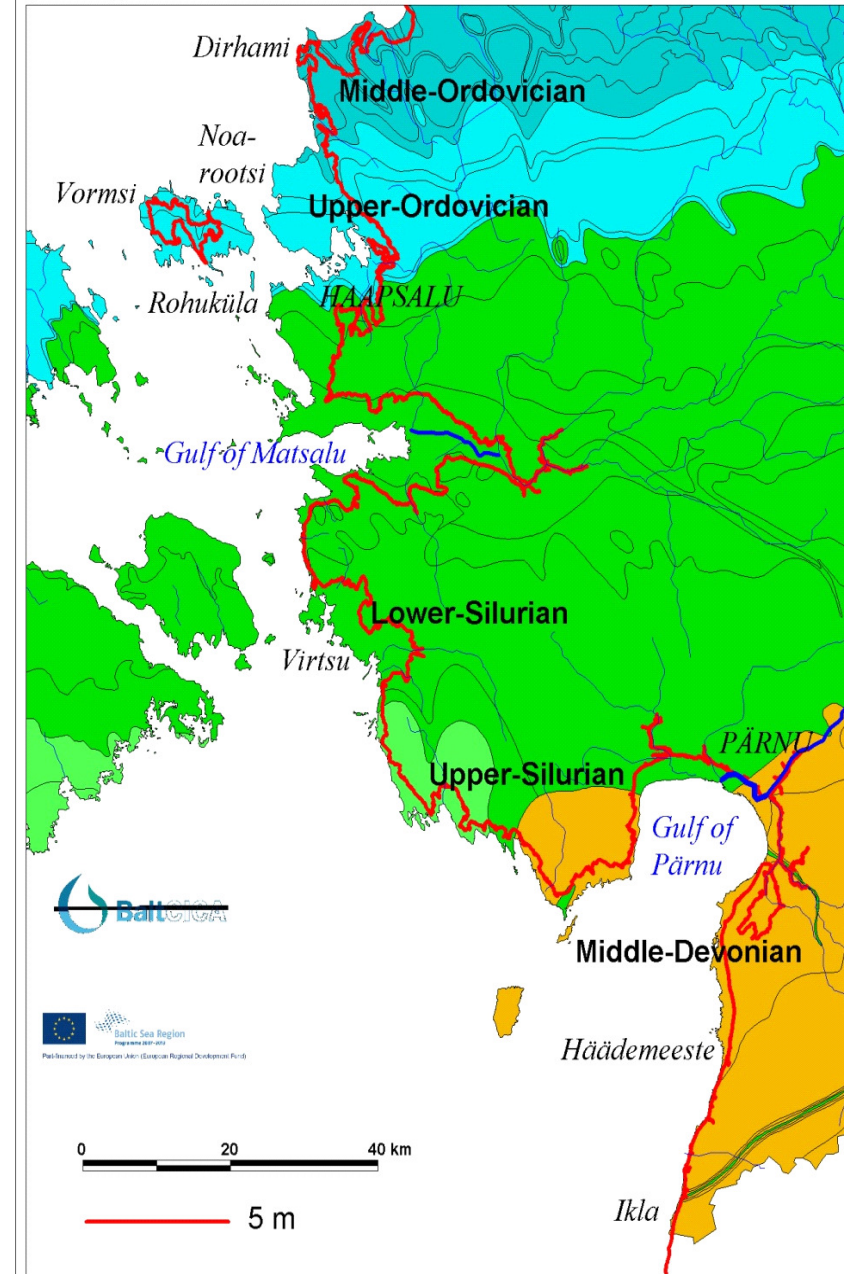
A MAP OF PREDICTED SEA IMPACT ON WEST ESTONIAN COASTAL ZONE BY THE END OF 21ST CENTURY

EESTI GEOLOOGIAKESKUS

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ESTONIA

Leht 1. Aluskorra geoloogiline kaart

Sheet 1. Bedrock geological map





Challenges in the Development of a National Adaptation Strategy

There is uncertainty on a possible structure of the national adaptation strategy, topics that should be covered and suitable adaptation measures for Estonia

A major barrier in the development of a NAS is the lack of institutional and human capacity

Summarising, the main challenges in the development of a NAS in Estonia are the following:

- 1) lack of knowledge on methods and approaches how to analyse adaptation options and chose possible actions and adaptation measures
- 2) structure of the strategy document (design and topics covered)
- 3) lack of human and institutional capacity.

Results and conclusions of these projects and challenges MoE will make a decision for suitable content and form of national adaptation strategy (2015)





Let`s adapt together!
Thank You!

