

11 - Adaptation Policy & Governance

The Future of Climate Change Adaptation: from Strategy to Implementation

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A large number of research projects have assessed the economics of green, ecosystem-based and other adaptation options, their trade-offs with mitigation and improved vulnerability assessment methodologies. European policy has laid the groundwork for climate-resilient urban and rural development, including technology-based early warning systems, green investments and ecosystem-based flood and drought risk reduction and management.

Climate change adaptation research has created an impressive knowledge base. To tackle climate change as a global societal challenge, it will be important to move from policy and strategy development to implementation. This will require new ways of approaching adaptation: in the public and private sector, with new models of financing, using innovation capacity and international synergies in new governance models.

In May 2016, the Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA), the European Commission and the Government of the Netherlands will host the Fourth International Climate Change Adaptation Conference: Practices and Solutions (Adaptation Futures 2016) to promote the transition from strategy to implementation.

This ECCA session will present the concept of the Adaptation Futures 2016 and will ask the audience for advice on:

- topics to be covered
- networks to be addressed
- practitioners to be approached
- best practices that can be showcased.

The format of the session would be three short presentations by the hosts of Adaptation Futures 2016 (PROVIA, European Commission, Government of the Netherlands) followed by a structured plenary discussion of about 90 minutes. The total length of the session would be two hours.

Adaptation Futures 2016 will attract a global audience of scientists, practitioners and policy-makers. We are planning for an attendance of up to 1500 representatives of these groups. At this ECCA session we would expect attendance of about 100 people.

The expected outcome of the session would be an improved articulation of the key challenges and questions to be addressed at Adaptation Futures 2016.