Water-related climate change impacts in Europe

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Joint Research Centre

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JRC **PESETA** studies

Projection of Economic impacts of climate change in Sectors of the European Union based on boTtomup Analysis What are the most important climate impacts in Europe? Is there a regional pattern in impacts? How much climate impacts are avoided at Paris targets? How much climate impacts are avoided by adaptation?

Strengths of PESETA approach

- Results are based on bottom-up, process-based impact models
- Consistency (common climate scenarios)
- Coupling with sectoral economic model



PESETA climate impact categories



PESETA IV impact analysis framework



Climate change in Europe with global warming





1.5

1

-15

-10

2 °C

2.5

2

2 °C

3

3.5

4



temperature (in °C)

Projected change (°C) in annual average temperature compared to pre-industrial times







-5

0

5

10



change in annual average 15 precipitation (in %) Projected change (%) in annual average precipitation compared to 1981-2010



Climate change in Europe with global warming





1.5

1



2 2.5 3 3.5 4 temperature (in °C)

Projected change (°C) in annual average temperature compared to pre-industrial times

1.5 °C





2 °C

-20 -15 -10 -5 0 5 10 15 20



3 °C

change in summer (JJA) average precipitation (in %) Projected change (%) in summer average precipitation compared to 1981-2010



Key messages from PESETA and WEFE for water

- Benefits of climate **mitigation** keep global warming at 1.5°C:
 - 172 billion €/year reduced damages (river + coastal floods, droughts) by 2100
 - 7 million persons less exposed to floods (1M) and water scarcity (6M)
- Benefits of climate **adaptation** (measures to reduce negative effects)
 - **122 billion €/year** reduced damages (river + coastal floods, droughts)
 - ~10 million persons less exposed to floods (1M) and water scarcity (9M)
 - · depending on the measures implemented
- More **ambition**, beyond current planned measures, seems needed to counter water scarcity effects and keep groundwater levels sustainable



LISFLOOD: water resources, floods, droughts and crop simulation model



Groundwater depletion

- 5km Europe
 - EFAS floods
 - EDO droughts
 - EU: WEFE Nexus, BLUE2, PESETA
- 0.1° Global
 - GloFAS floods
 - E2O Tier1&2
 - 0.083° Africa
 - JRC WEFE nexus
- 0.5° Global
 - HELIX



LISFLOOD – Example water/crop outputs



Table A1. Regional climate projections used in river flood impact analysis and corresponding year of exceeding 1.5, 2 and 3°C warming.

RCM (R)	Driving GCM (G)	RCP4.5	RCP8.5	RCP4.5	RCP8.5	RCP4.5	RCP8.5
		1.5 °C		2 °C		3 °C	
CCLM4.8-17	CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5	2035	2029	2057	2044		2067
	ICHEC-EC-EARTH	2033	2026	2056	2041		2066
	MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR	2034	2028	2064	2044		2067
HIRHAM5	ICHEC-EC-EARTH	2032	2028	2054	2043		2065
WRF331F	IPSL-IPSL-CM5A-MR	2023	2021	2042	2035		2054
RACMO22E	ICHEC-EC-EARTH	2032	2026	2056	2042		2065
RCA4	CNRM-CERFACS-CNRM-CM5	2035	2029	2057	2044		2067
	ICHEC-EC-EARTH	2033	2026	2056	2041		2066
	IPSL-IPSL-CM5A-MR	2023	2021	2042	2035		2054
	MOHC-HadGEM2-ES	2021	2018	2037	2030	2069	2051
	MPI-M-MPI-ESM-LR	2034	2028	2064	2044		2067

PESETA methodology

11 RCP 4.5 11 RCP 8.5 1980-2100



River flood risk in Europe

Annual flood losses in EU + UK

Population annually exposed in EU + UK



River risk in Europe will increase with global warming



Adaptation to rising river flood risk in Europe

Hard infrastructure



- Benefit to cost ratio of 2.4
- Transfer risks downstream
- Levee effect

Retention areas



🕴 = 100,000 people

expose EU & UK

- Benefit to cost ratio of 3.3
- Restores natural functioning of floodplain areas
- Improves ecosystem quality

Other measures evaluated: Flood Proofing; Relocation

Adaptation to increasing coastal flood risk



EU + UK annual damages with and without adaptation in 2100



Coastal flood risk in Europe will dramatically increase with global warming with mitigation and adaptation economic losses can be reduced by 95%



Water scarcity & Drought risk in Europe



Population annually exposed in EU + UK

14



Water scarcity exposure in Europe will increase with global warming



Adaptation measures reducing water scarcity

- Irrigation efficiency increases
- Water re-use for irrigation
- Changing crop varieties to less water depending ones (CAP?)
- Groundwater recharge (south and central Europe)
 - Current and future groundwater depletion underrated issue
- Desalination (using renewable energy) for urban water supply





Change in WEI+ by all 4 measures combined (BAU)

Planned (adaptation) measures:

- ok under current climate
- might not be sufficient under climate change

WEI+

impact of PoM measures 2030 & climate change 2 degrees

Change in WEI+ 2013-2042 climate + 4 BAU measures as compared to 1981-2010 climate



Water quality & climate change

- Not included in PESETA (until now)
- Key uncertainties:
 - CO2 effects on crop yield <> fertilizer management
 - Shifting crop patterns/varieties <> fertilizer management
 - Drought resistant crops <> different fertilizer needs
 - Farmer adaptation planting & harvesting dates <> fertilz
 - Climate models not designed for short duration rainfall events, influencing urban runoff & sewer overflows



Beyond PESETA: research challenges



- PESETA agriculture computations done under assumption of sufficient irrigation water
- Groundwater taken as an unlimited source of water -> use of groundwater depletion as a restriction
- Projections of industrial water usage depend on innovations in sector; variations cause different results
- Other additions:
 - Various energy scenarios & cooling water scenarios evaluated
 - Further computations including water re-use
 - Further computations including desalination water
- Seasonal effects & recent droughts in NW & central Europe
- Addressing water quality using CAPRI 2030>
- JRC-WEFE & BLUE2-V2 are addressing some of those issues



Dissemination – reports & infographics



https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/peseta-iv

Conclusions water & climate change

- Benefits of climate **mitigation** keep global warming at 1.5°C:
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 - depending on the measures implemented
- More **ambition**, beyond current planned measures, seems needed to counter water scarcity effects and keep groundwater levels sustainable
- Water quality projections hampered by uncertainties

Thanks to all JRC, ENV and CLIMA colleagues for the collaboration!

