

Project Team

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Why is ADAM important?

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol provide the primary international policy context for the work undertaken in ADAM. ADAM examines the extent to which existing policy trajectories in Europe will deliver Europe's commitments to these agreements. We are co-developing with stakeholders portfolios of policy options where current policy trajectories are insufficient to reduce emissions in line with targets.

To achieve this, ADAM is developing a Policy Appraisal Framework which will engage policy communities within Europe and allow policy advisors to examine and explore the effectiveness of different policy options against specific yet contrasting criteria.

Find out more

This leaflet provides only an introduction to the ADAM project. For more information please visit us at www.adamproject.eu or contact us at the address below.

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www.adamproject.eu

Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies

Supporting European Climate Policy

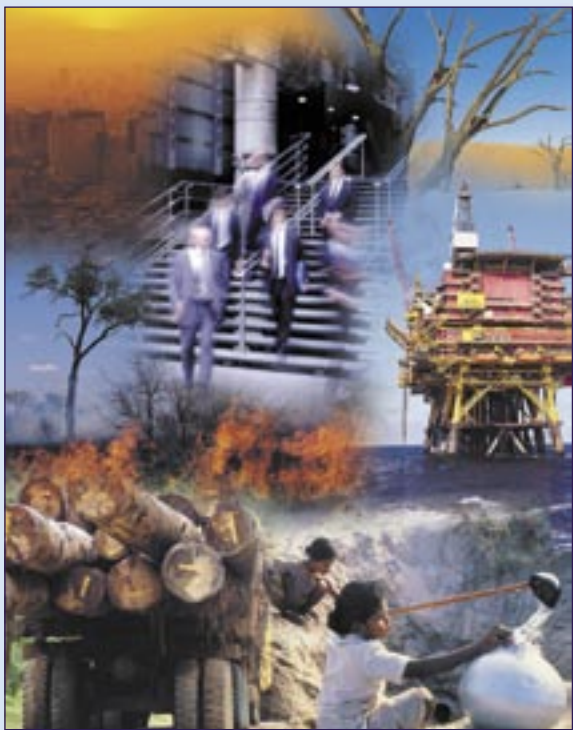


ADAM is supported by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Programme, Priority: Global Change and Ecosystems

Coordinated by the UK's Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, ADAM is an integrated research project running from 2006 to 2009 that will lead to a better understanding of the costs and benefits, trade-offs and synergies of climate change adaptation and mitigation policies. Funded by the European Commission, ADAM is supporting EU policy development in the next stage of the development of the Kyoto Protocol and will inform the emergence of new adaptation strategies for Europe.

Core ADAM Objectives

- To assess the extent to which existing and evolving EU (and world) mitigation and adaptation policies can achieve a socially and economically tolerable transition to a world with a global climate no warmer than 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to identify their associated costs and effectiveness.
- To develop and appraise a portfolio of longer term policy options that could contribute to addressing shortfalls both between existing mitigation policies and the achievement of the EU's 2°C target, and between existing adaptation policy development and EU goals and targets for adaptation.
- To develop a novel Policy Appraisal Framework and a portfolio of new, long-term policy options based on the analysis and appraisal of both to existing and evolving climate policies in the following four case studies: European and international climate protection post-2012 negotiations; international development assistance; the EU electricity sector; and regional spatial planning.



ADAM Domains

The ADAM work programme is structured around four overarching domains: Scenarios, Policy Appraisal, Mitigation and Adaptation.

Developing framing scenarios for adaptation and mitigation

The Scenarios Domain is laying out framing scenarios that guide the ADAM analysis. We will develop several framing scenarios of global change over the coming century, drawing upon existing studies, but adding new insights from work conducted within ADAM on costs of mitigation and adaptation. These scenarios span a range of climate futures from a 2°C stabilization scenario, where the primary challenge is mitigation, to a 5°C warming scenario, for which impact and adaptation costs may be substantial.

Analytical and deliberative appraisal of climate change policy options

The Policy Domain is mapping and appraising current policies in the context of international agreements on global change and governance systems in the EU. We are examining the extent to which existing policy trajectories in Europe will deliver Europe's commitments to the existing agreements and we are preparing portfolios of policy options where current trajectories are insufficient. We are also developing the Policy Appraisal Framework (PAF), a mechanism by which we will engage appropriate stakeholders in Europe and which will allow policy-makers to examine the effectiveness of different strategic policy options for climate mitigation and adaptation, and will contain modelling tools, policy analyses and deliberative participatory processes. To develop the PAF we are building on the climate change policy appraisals in four very different contexts as reflected by the ADAM case studies.

Analysis of mitigation policy options globally and for the EU

The Mitigation Domain is evaluating the costs and effectiveness of different mitigation options at the EU level and estimates their corresponding contribution at the global level. These evaluations address the main interactions between the EU and other world regions regarding international trade, development aid, technology transfer, and investments. At the global level, we will assess mitigation options of post-2012 EU and global climate policies, taking into account recent research findings; at the EU level we are evaluating net costs and impacts of the ADAM scenarios.

Analysis of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation options globally and for the EU

The Adaptation Domain is developing a quantitative knowledge base on Europe's vulnerability to climate change, in order to provide the EU and other stakeholders with the rationale for a concerted focus on adaptation and mitigation. We are analysing social, technical and environmental factors that influence adaptive capacity to climate change (especially changing extreme weather events) at various regional and temporal scales and for different sectors and cross-cutting issues. The results of this work are feeding directly into the broader economic and social analyses of climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and adaptation, which will be of great value for the development of the Adaptation White Paper. We will also deliver a strategic assessment of climate change impacts, damage costs and adaptation options for the EU.

ADAM Case Studies

In ADAM we are conducting four specific case studies where climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies have a crucial bearing on the objectives of international conventions. The Policy Appraisal Framework will be used in each case study to evaluate policy options. The four case studies focus on:

- **The development of a post-2012 climate governance architecture.** This will take a global perspective, but will appraise a range of possible policy regimes and options against multiple criteria as they apply to the EU.
- The question of **Europe's international development assistance** and the ways in which more careful design and operation of such assistance can simultaneously meet the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals and the UNFCCC.
- **The electricity sector.** Using the European electricity sector as a prism through which mitigation and adaptation options are examined, specific options for new measures and policies and their impacts are being assessed.
- **Three specific regions** – the Tisza Basin in Hungary, the Guadiana Basin in Spain/Portugal, and Inner Mongolia – with distinct climate change related environmental problems. We are analysing and appraising regional policies in order to inform the development of the PAF.