

Conference
**Pathfinding through
Climate Change**



Climate Change in the Baltic Sea Region – Approaches to Respond

Keynote speech



Mattias Hjerpe, Centre for Climate Science and Policy Research (CSPR), Sweden
Riga/Latvia, Nov. 8th 2011

The conference theme:

Path-finding through climate change

- Be prepared (for the unknown);
 - Avoid loneliness;
- Many paths can lead to the final destination

Intergovernmental policy on climate change

- Bali Roadmap: mitigation, technology transfer, adaptation, and financing;
- Hopenhagen – Nopenhagen?
- Agreement in 2015?

Climate change scientific advances:

IPCC AR₄: 'warming ... is unequivocal' and most of it is due to anthropogenic GHG emissions.

- 'New' Ensembles scenarios;
- Improved down-scaling ability;
- Improved impact modelling ability;
- Emerging visualisation of climate data
- Growing vulnerability and adaptation research

Integrated Vulnerability

Who, how and why somebody is vulnerable?

- **Exposure:** What changes will face our community?
- **Sensitivity:** How much will these changes affect our community?
- **Adaptive Capacity:** To what extent are we able to counteract these changes?

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Climate change in the Baltic Sea Region:

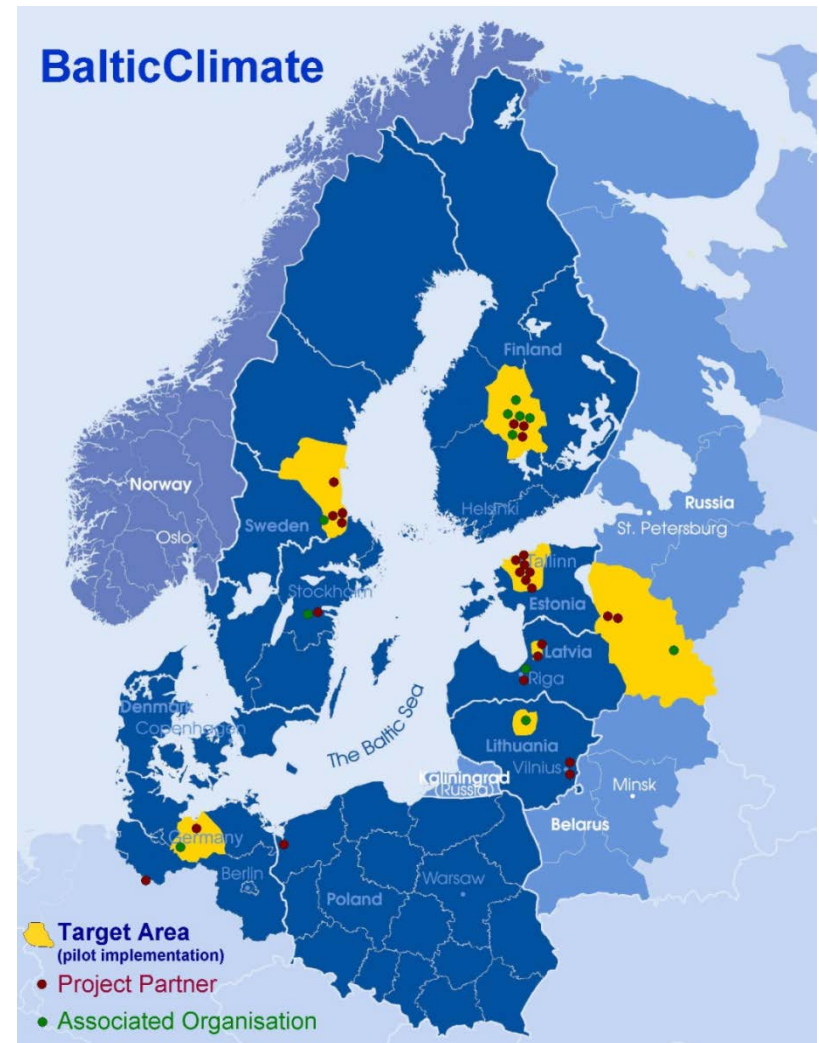
- BALTEX – Assessment of Climate Change for the Baltic Sea Basin (2008);
- EEA 'Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in Europe'
- Regional strategy for adaptation?
- National and local action: mitigation
- Discrete in time, rather than continuous

Local responses matter

“Given the well known difficulties of achieving policy agreement at the international level, ever greater hope is being invested in the ability of national and sub-national policy systems to meet this need.” (Jordan and Huiteima, 2011)

BalticClimate 's Local /Target Area Activities

- Inventory phase,
- Vulnerability phase
- Implementation case phase



BalticClimate Inventory Phase

- Local statistical inventory;
- Policies and measures inventory;
- Climate change support material;
- Skeleton maps;
- Screening of climate change risks, opportunities, and stakeholders.

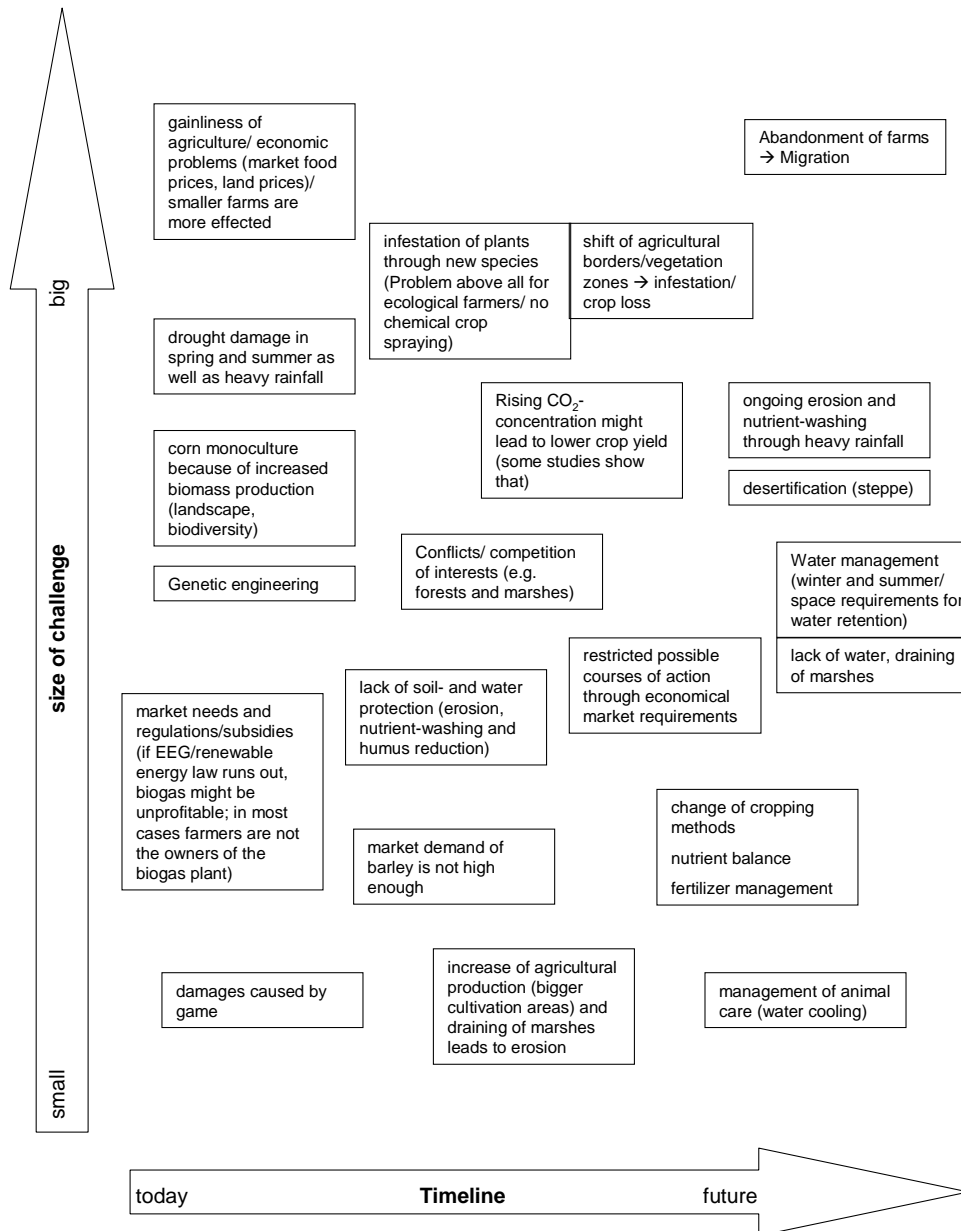
Climate Change Support Material

- Target Area (later country and whole region);
- Rossby Centre RCA3: temperature, precipitation, snow cover, and wind (2100);
- First glance of how climate might change

Screening of climate risks and opportunities

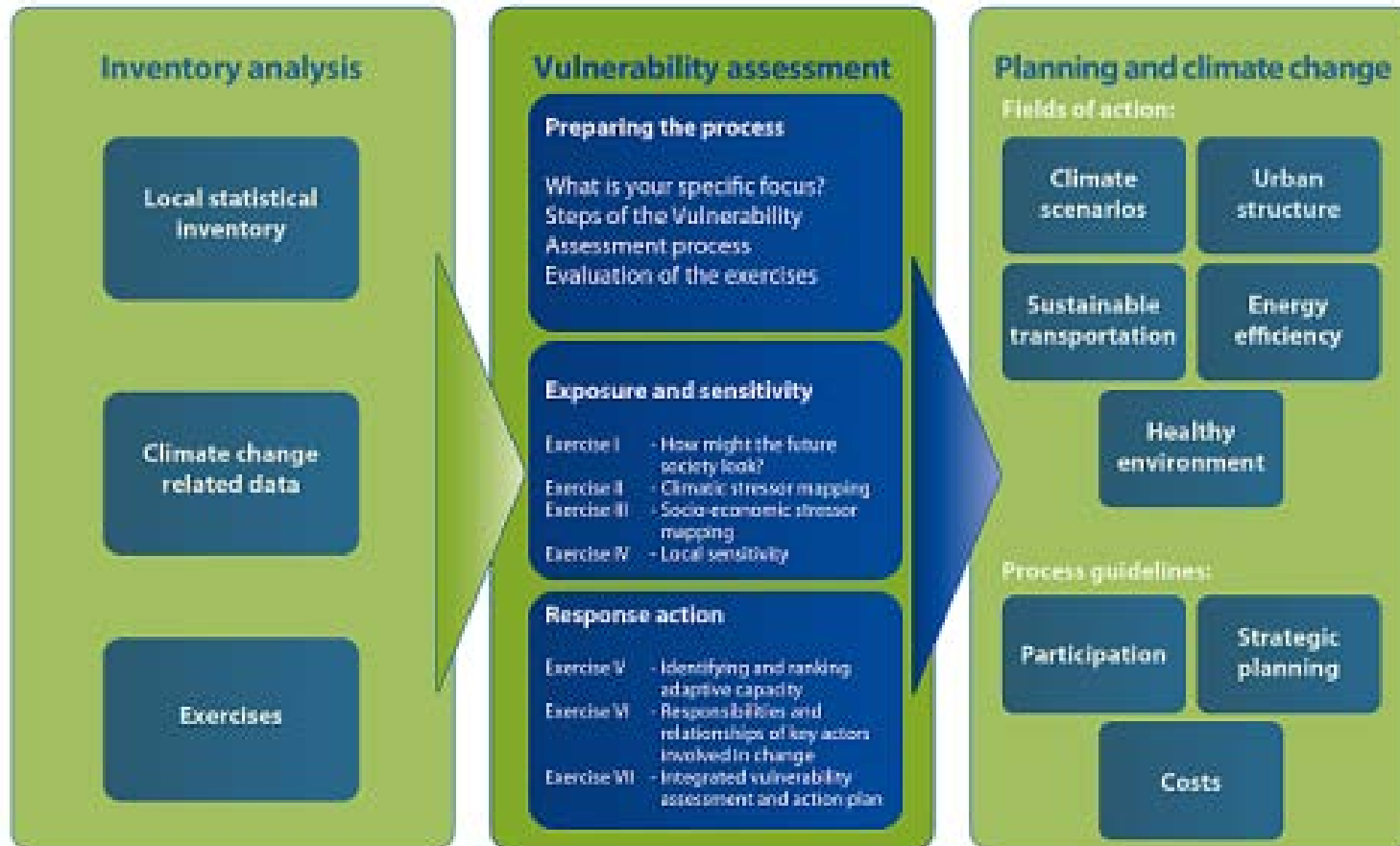
- Exercise conducted in Gävle (Julie Wilk and Lotta Andersson);
- Systematic ranking of challenges and chances according to its time and size;

Challenges of climate change for IC Agriculture



Screening of climate risks and opportunities

Vulnerability assessment phase



Questionnaire responses:

Table 1: Percentage of surveyed organizations that actively integrate the issue of climate change into their development activities

| Is your organization working actively with climate change? | | | |
|--|----------|------|--------|
| | Baseline | | Target |
| | 2009 | 2011 | |
| Respondents | | | |
| Estonia | 42% | 47% | 71% |
| Finland | 47% | 77% | 71% |
| Germany | 67% | 87% | 71% |
| Latvia | 71% | 56% | 71% |
| Lithuania | 52% | 46% | 71% |
| Sweden | 94% | 89% | 71% |
| Russia | 7 % | 7 % | 71 % |
| Overall | 61% | 69% | 71% |

Questionnaire responses:

Table 2: Percentage of surveyed persons in BalticClimate Target Areas that feels at least “fairly well” informed about ways in which they mitigate climate change and ways in which they can adapt to climate change.

| Do you think you are well informed about...? | | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|------------|--|-------------|------------|
| | ...the ways in which you mitigate climate change | | | ...the ways in which you can adapt to climate change | | |
| | Baseline | | Target | Baseline | | Target |
| | 2009 | 2011 | | 2009 | 2011 | |
| Respondents | 2009 | 2011 | | 2009 | 2011 | |
| Estonia | 67% | 62% | 81% | 25% | 74% | 57% |
| Finland | 87% | 90% | 81% | 33% | 70% | 57% |
| Germany | 62% | 94% | 81% | 40% | 77% | 57% |
| Latvia | 65% | 67% | 81% | 25% | 44% | 57% |
| Lithuania | 35% | 48% | 81% | 23% | 43% | 57% |
| Sweden | 100% | 89% | 81% | 94% | 55% | 57% |
| Russia | 24% | 40% | 81% | 20% | 30% | 57% |
| Overall | 64% | 78% | 81% | 37% | 65% | 57% |



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Good luck and enjoy the conference!

Thank you for your attention!

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