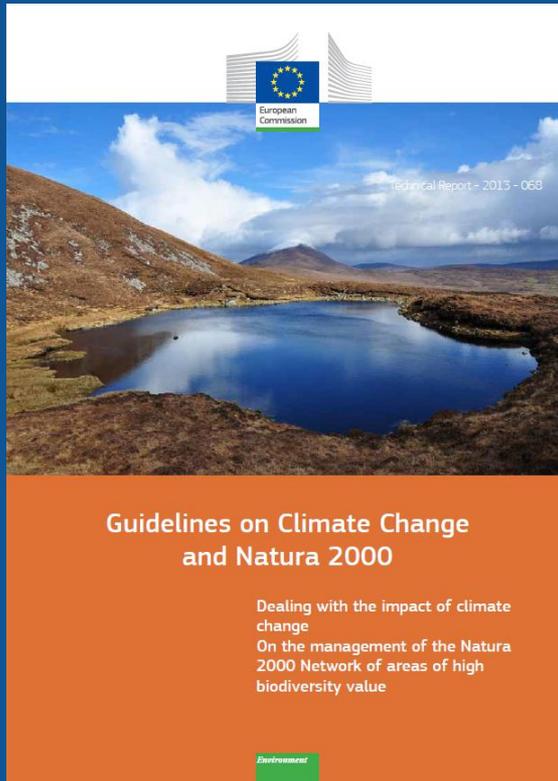




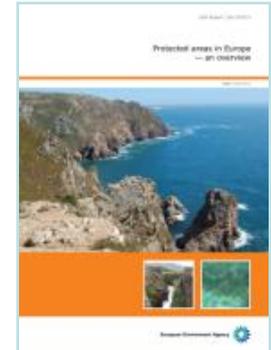
Guidelines on Natura 2000 and climate change



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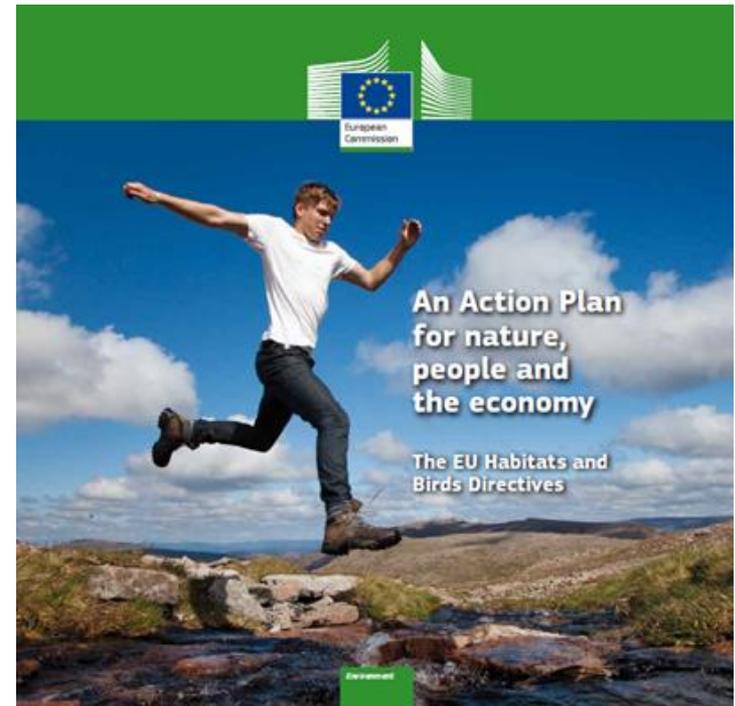
The Natura 2000 network



- >27 000 sites
- > 1 000 000 km²
- 18 % EU land
- ~6 % EU seas
- Largest co-ordinated PA network
- Almost complete on land
- Some additional work for marine

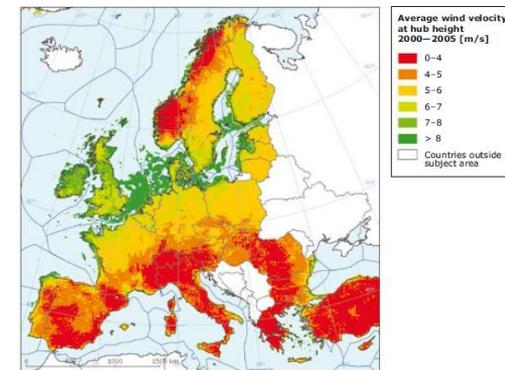
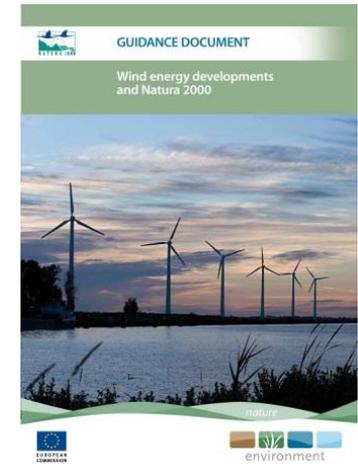
Challenges to ensure a functional Natura 2000 network

- Designation & legal protection
- effective management and restoration measures
- Investment and Optimising multiple benefits
- Reconcile Natura 2000 & economic development
- Stakeholder awareness and engagement
- Monitoring and Reporting



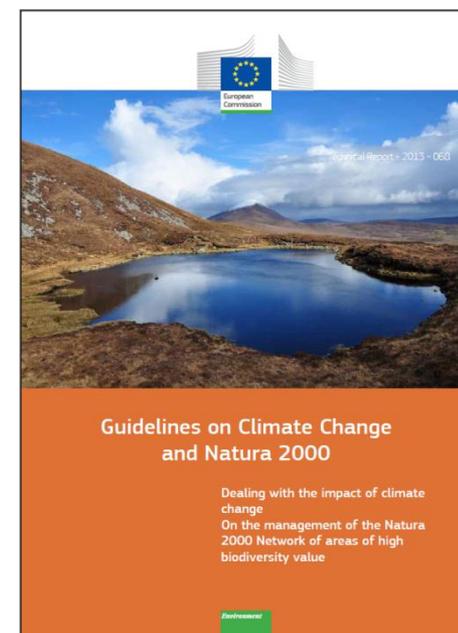
Minimising negative effect of climate change mitigation measures on Natura 2000

- *No a priori prohibition on developments – judged on case by case basis - Article 6 HD safeguards*
- *Risks from poorly planned development (wind, hydro, tidal, biofuels, grid connection etc)*
- *EU guidelines on wind energy (and grid connection)*
- *Key message is need for strategic planning over a broad geographical area*
- *Need good assessment procedures, tools and standards*
- *Measure significance of effects in the context of the conservation objectives sites*



The guidelines on Natura 2000 and climate change

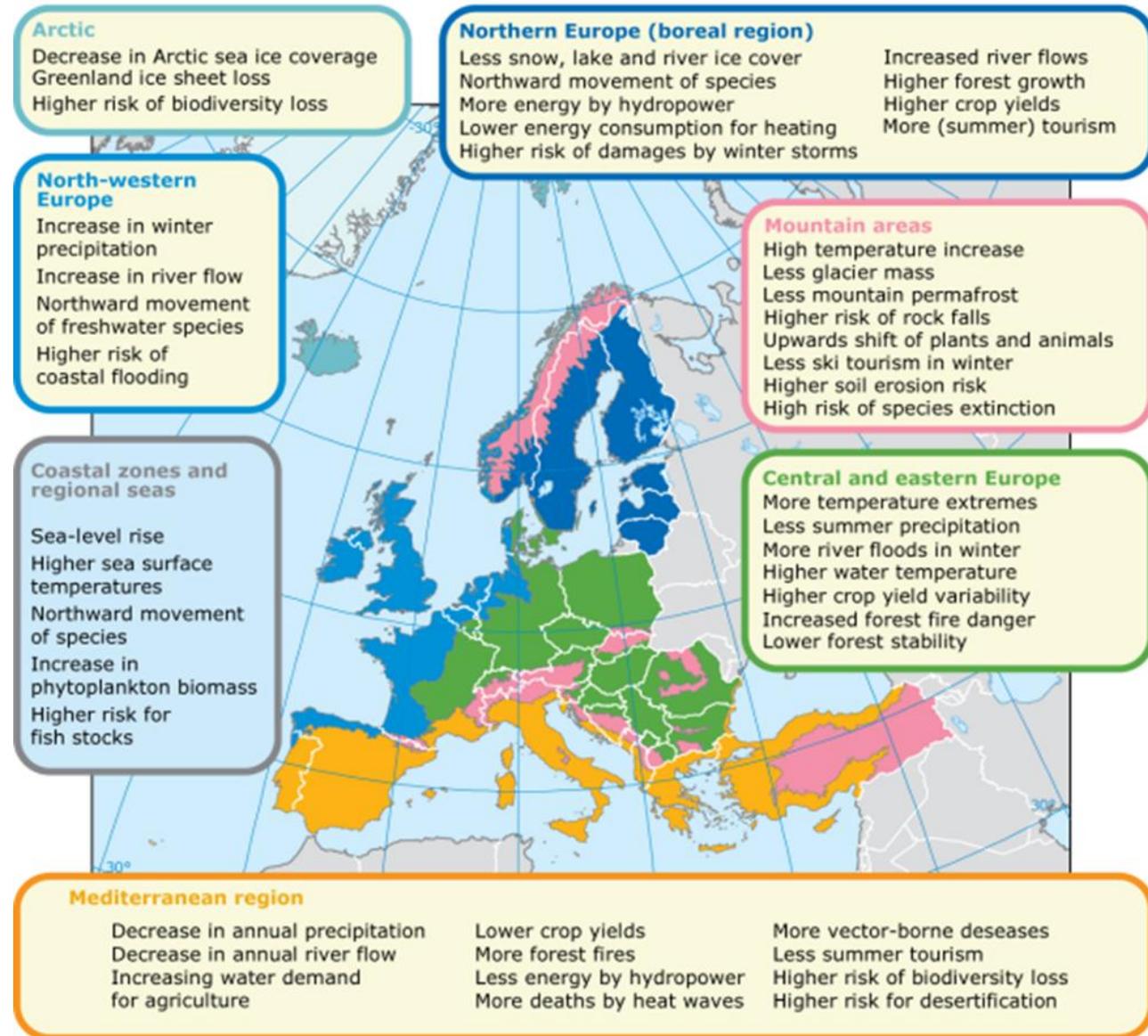
- *Response to 2009 Adaptation Communication - impact of climate change must be factored into the management of Natura 2000*
- *Primarily aimed at site managers and policy makers.*
- *Presents latest evidence of risk to species and habitats of EU interest*
- *Underline benefits in mitigating the impacts of climate change, reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience*
- *Provides practical advice on how to address climate change in management of Natura 2000 at site and network level*
- *Promotes good practice (case studies)*



Chapter 1: introducing climate change and Natura 2000

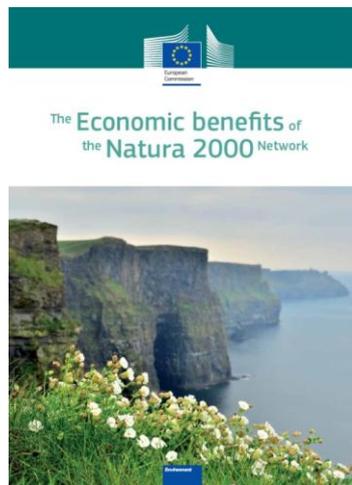
The EU is already facing *unavoidable impacts of climate change*

Impacts will affect the full EU territory, with regional differences



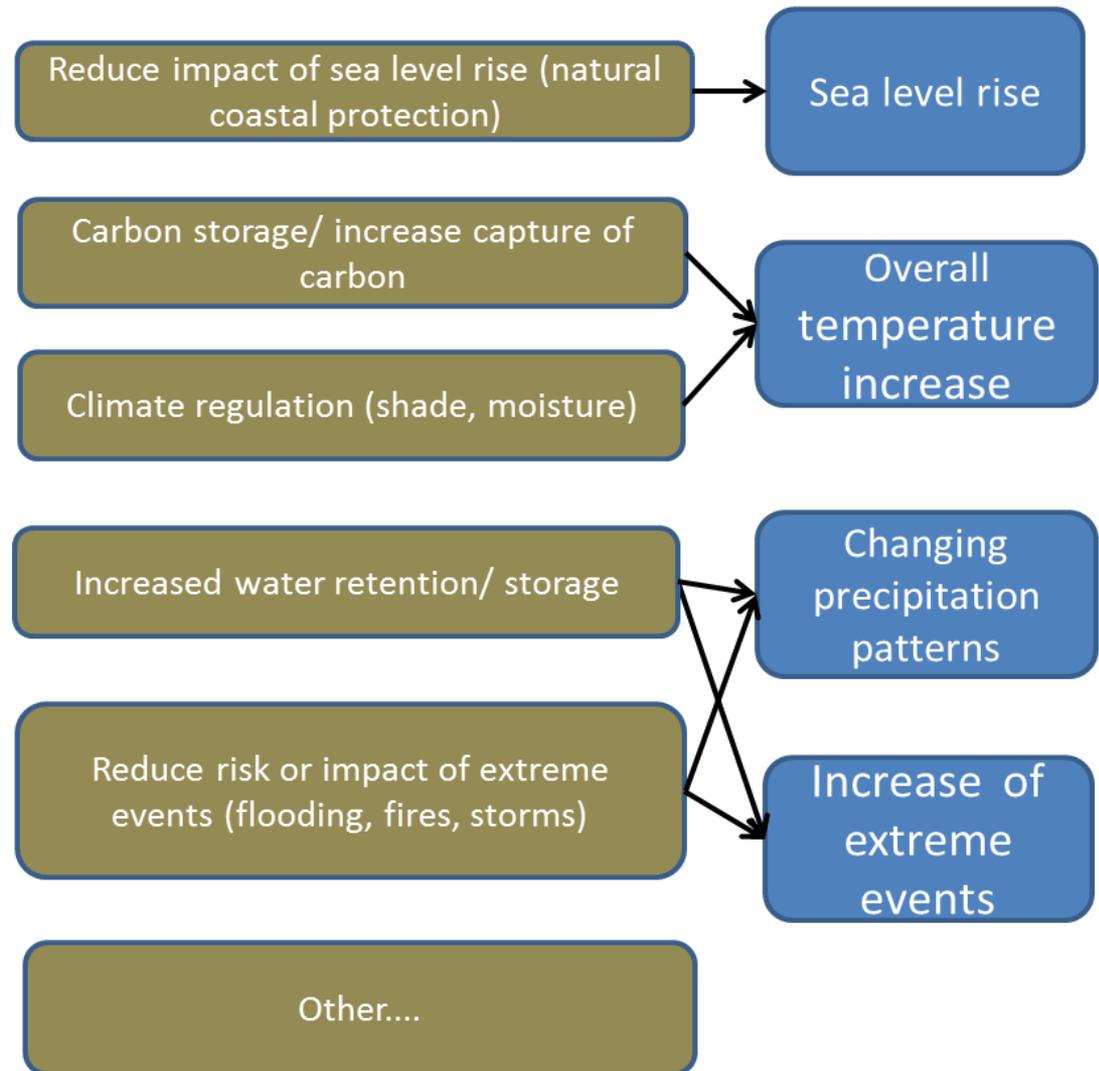
Chapter 2 Natura 2000 provides natural solutions

Managing Natura 2000 sites in ways that increase their mitigation or adaptation role, whilst at the same time delivering conservation objectives

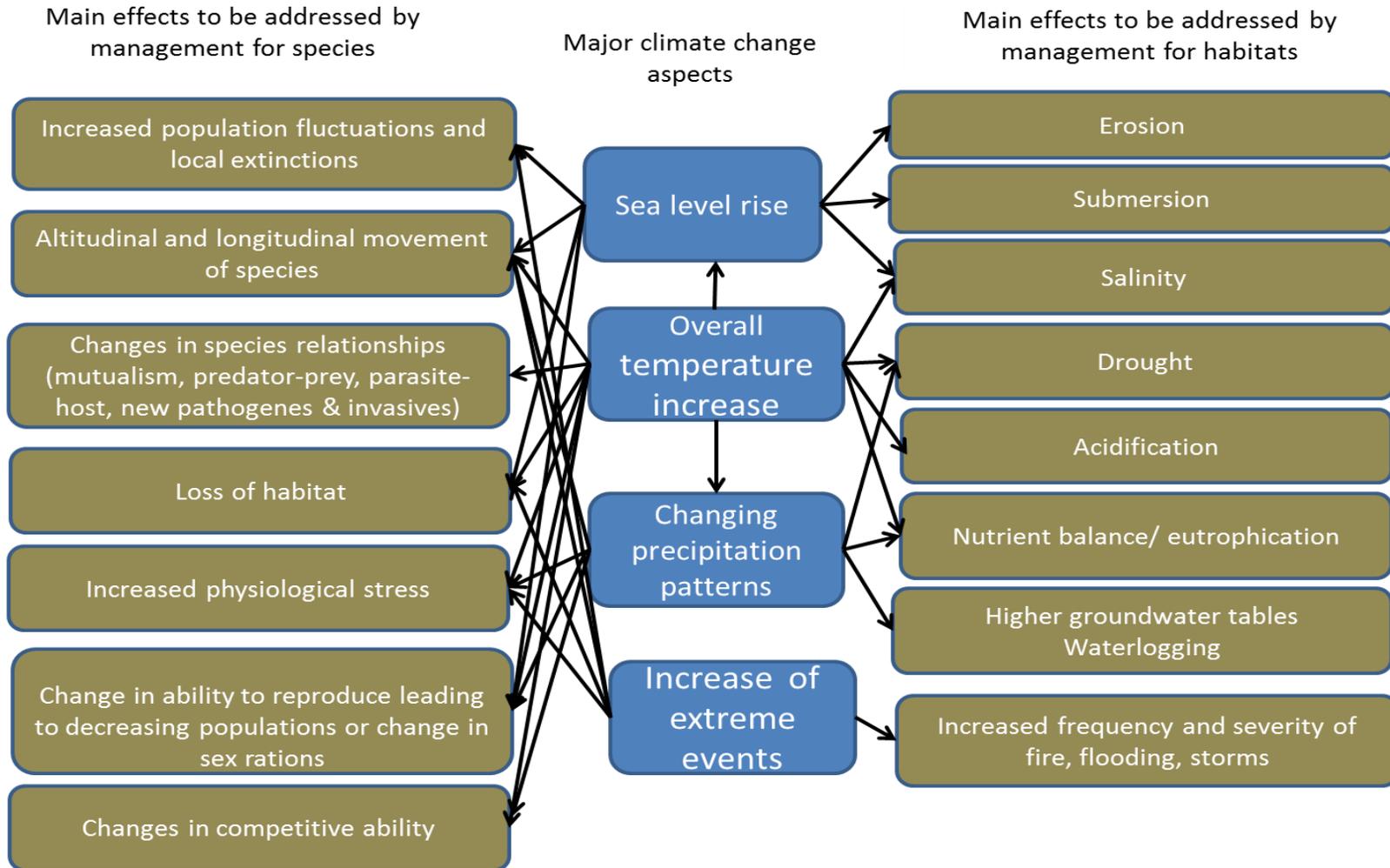


Ecosystem services of N2000 that help to address effects of climate change

Major climate change aspects



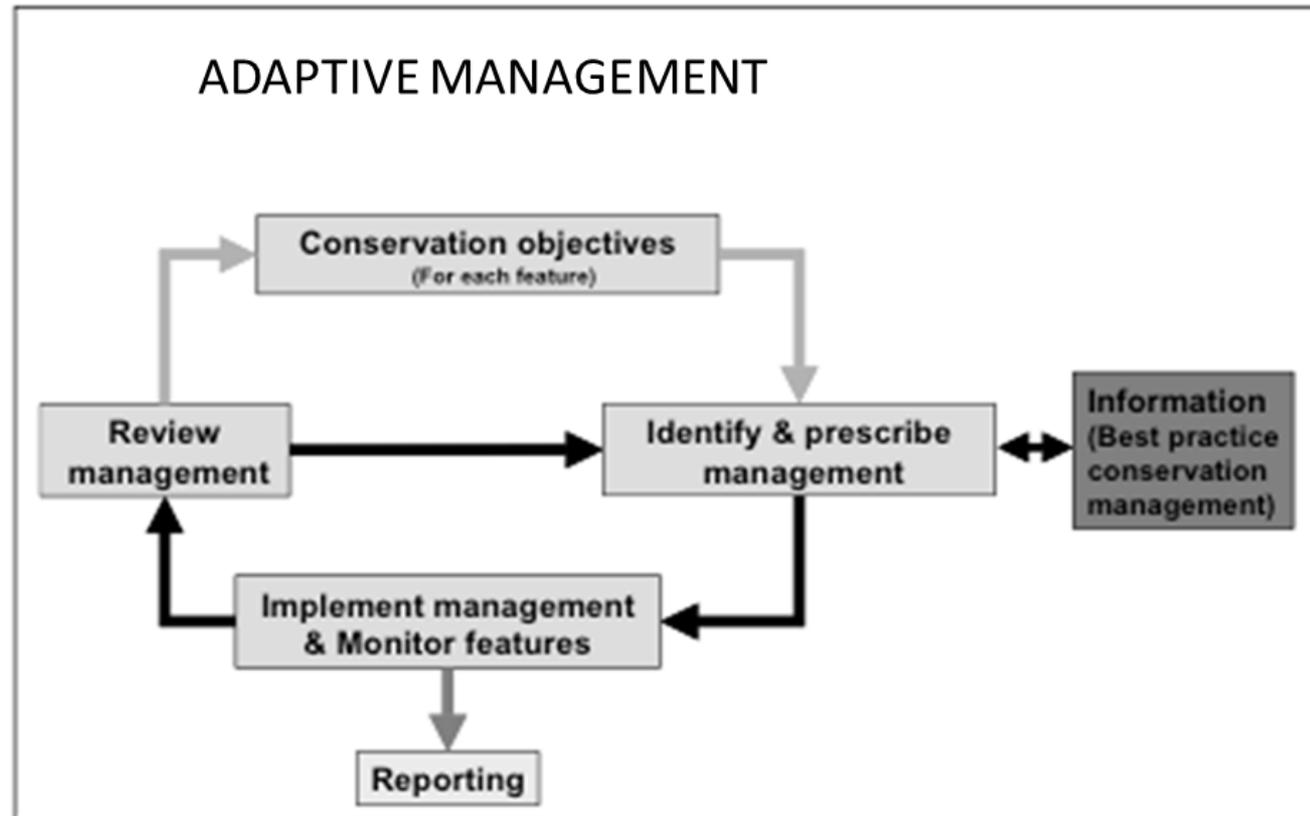
Chapter 3 describes risks to species and habitats



- *A supplement to Guide provides an indication of vulnerability and adaptation potential of different Natura 2000 species and habitats*

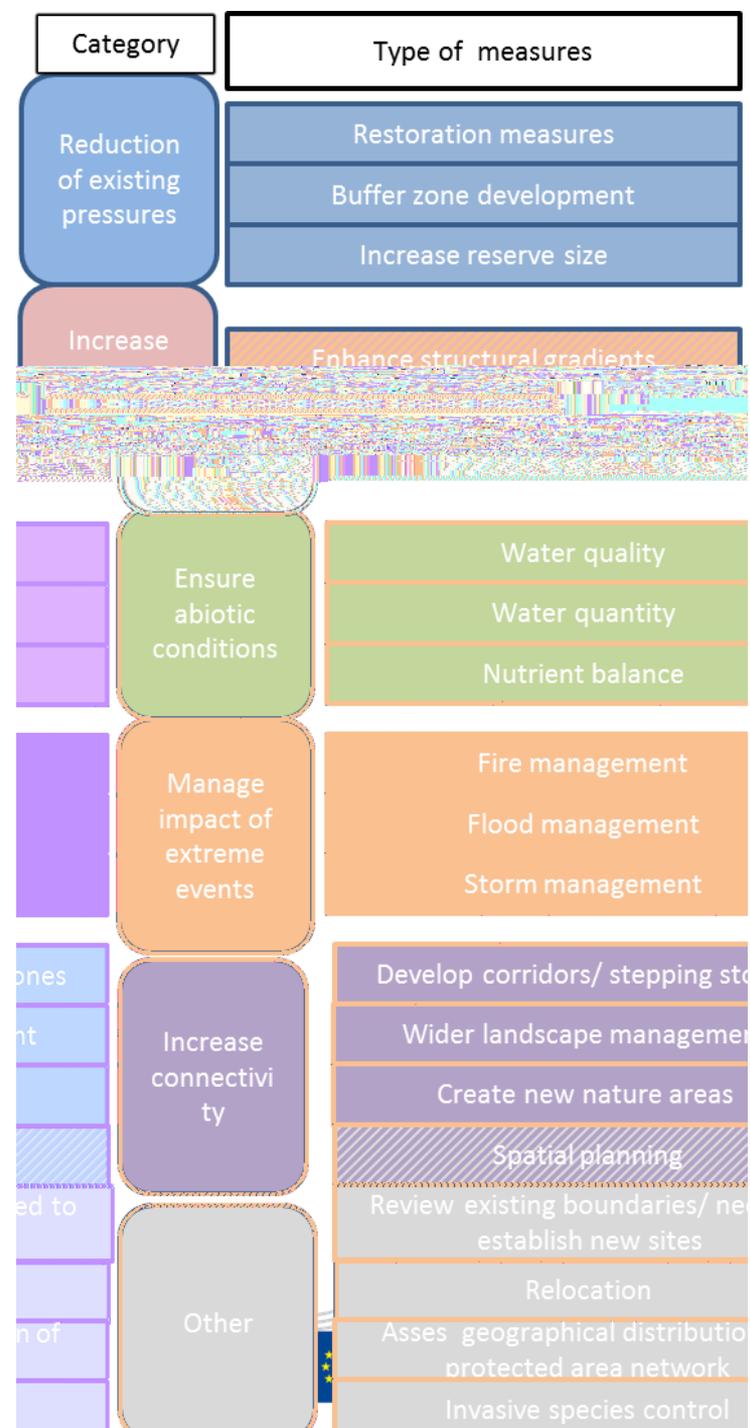
Chapter 4 introduces the concept of adaptive management

- *A structured, iterative process of optimal management decision-making in the face of uncertainty, based on systems monitoring*
- *Applicable at different scales (site, surrounding, biogeographical, and network levels)*



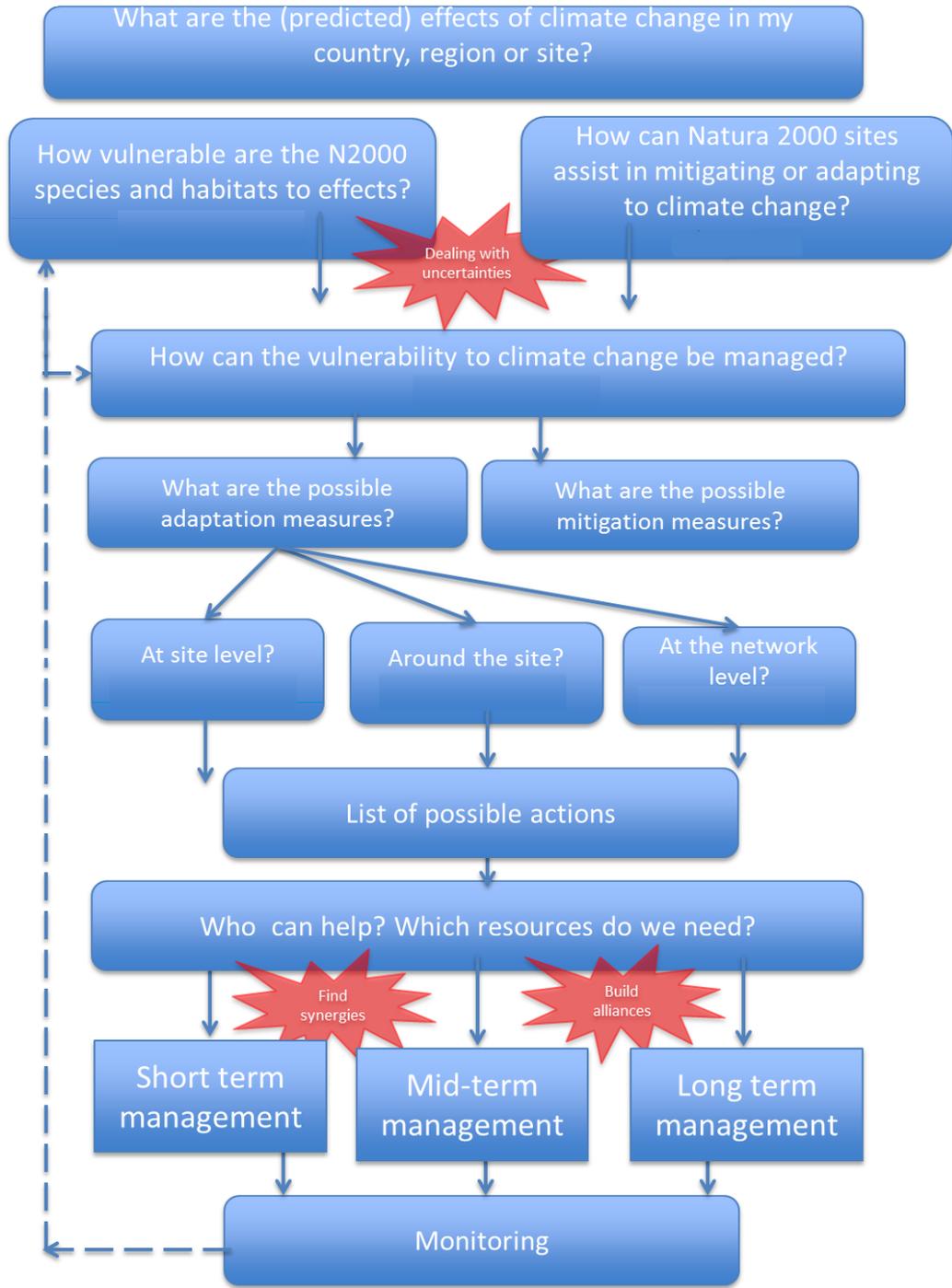
Chapter 5 examines adaptation measures for Natura 2000

- 6 categories of measures
- Can be applied on-site, in surroundings or at network level
- At greater scales need for landscape spatial perspective and development of green infrastructure
- Spatial planning an important policy tool



Chapter 6: Decision making framework

- *A tool to facilitate decision making*
- *A list of questions to be addressed in deciding which actions are required*
- *Example provided in Guide of a coastal site "Voornes Duin" in Netherlands*



Chapter 7 advice & recommendations for site managers & policy makers

Site managers

- *Reduce existing pressures on sites*
- *Identify knowledge gaps*
- *Assess vulnerability of site features*
- *Develop adaptive management plans*
- *Seek experience from others*
- *Work with stakeholders in other sectors*
- *Ensure local participation*

Policy Makers

- *Collaborate (eg biogeographical process)*
- *Public private partnerships*
- *Integrate nature in relevant cross sectoral policies*
- *Embed Natura 2000 in GI*
- *Biodiversity Monitoring in non-environmental sectors*
- *Develop international /transboundary climate zones*
- *Ensure communication actions for locals/ stakeholders*

Some concluding thoughts



- *Natura 2000 sites are critical “space for nature”*
- *Climate change risks but "dynamic nature" - losses & gains*
- *Reduce non-climate pressures & increase resilience to climate change*
- *Monitor to distinguish between natural & climate effects & management failures*
- *Natura 2000 provides natural solutions for mitigating and adapting to climate change*
- *EU funds provide opportunities to strengthen synergies in action for biodiversity and climate change*
- *EU guidance is tool for site managers/policy makers*





For more information, please consult:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/index_en.htm

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment>