



# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN PORTUGAL

Action on Adaptation to Climate Change in Portugal is being channelled through two main instruments: ENAAC, the Portuguese National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change; and Programme AdaPT, Adapting Portugal to Climate Change, an EEA Grants programme to finance important projects for the development of adaptation in the country.

## **EN AAC – The Portuguese National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change**

The National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (EN AAC) was adopted by the Portuguese Government on 1 April 2010, through the Resolution of the Council of Ministers No.24/2010.

EN AAC sets the ground for the need for adaptation, through a synthesis of the main observed changes in the climate over the 20th century and a summary of the conclusions of climate scenarios and projections for Portugal. EN AAC is structured around four objectives that reflect its approach to the problem:

### **1. Information and knowledge.**

This is the basis for the development of the strategy, focusing on the need to collect, consolidate, and develop a strong technical and scientific basis;

### **2. Reducing vulnerability and increasing the response capacity.**

This is the core of EN AAC and frames the work of identification of vulnerabilities, definition of priorities and implementation of the main adaptation measures;

### **3. Participation, awareness raising and dissemination.**

This highlights the importance of educating and involving all relevant agents in the efforts to identify and implement the most adequate adaptation measures;

### **4. International cooperation.**

This addresses cooperation efforts within the European Union, the UNFCCC and other international forums to promote coordination and information sharing and to support adaptation efforts in developing countries.

EN AAC also identifies nine priority sectors and creates nine sectoral working groups, each coordinated by the ministry or the agency responsible for the policy area. This sectoral approach brings together the actors with interest and know-how in each particular sector and thus identifies the most adequate adaptation measures. The creation of an inter-ministerial coordination group aims to address all cross-cutting issues and provides a forum for discussing issues that are, by nature, cross-sectoral. The coordination group also includes representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira and of the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities. The nine sectors considered are: territory and urban development; water resources; safety of people and goods; human health; energy and industry; tourism; agriculture, forests and fisheries; coastal areas; and biodiversity.

Phase 1 (2010-2013) was recently concluded and included a first assessment of adaptation vulnerabilities and a first identification of adaptation needs. Phase 2 (2014-2020) is currently being discussed and aims at creating the conditions to facilitate the initiation of concrete adaptation action across sectors and regional scales.

# PROGRAMME ADAPT ADAPTING PORTUGAL TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Programme AdaPT is one of the 8 programmes supported by the EEA Grants in Portugal for the period 2009-2014 (projects will run until 2016). The total Support of EEA Grants to Portugal in this period is 57.95M€.

Programme AdaPT was designed to support the start-up of supported projects on “**Adaptation to Climate Change**” in Portugal. The design of the programme is informed by the needs and contributions of the coordinating group of ENAAC, the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change.

**Programme AdaPT’s strategy is to intervene through four axes:**

1. The pre-defined project “**Local Warming Website**” will prepare and disseminate information on past trends, develop local level climate change information, using the latest IPCC climate scenarios, and develop climate indicators for specific sectors in Portugal. This project will produce information to be used by all other projects in the programme.
2. The call “**Local Adaptation Strategies**” will select one large project to address the training of Municipality officers, create a network of Municipal officers dealing with adaptation and develop a set of local action plans for adapting to climate change, or mainstreaming adaptation into municipal plans.
3. The call “**Climate Change Education and Award**” will select one large project to address public education on climate change at school level, focusing on training of teachers, production of educational materials and a competition for climate change measures at school level.

4. The call for small grants scheme “**Sectoral Projects**” will select a series of projects to support the work of ENAAC at sectoral level, focusing on vulnerability assessments and cost-benefit analysis of adaptation.

These four areas of work will strongly contribute to the two expected outcomes of the programme: to increase capacity to assess vulnerability to climate change (axis 2 and 4); and to increase awareness of and education on climate change (axis 1 and 3). This strategy will also ultimately create a solid ground for further adaptation work in Portugal upon conclusion of the Programme.

The programme operator is Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente, as manager of the Fundo Português de Carbono and the donor programme partner is Direktoratet for Samfunnssikkerhet og Beredskap (Norway).

The total budget of AdaPT is 3 529 412€ (3 000 000€ EEA + 529 412€ FPC).