



European Commission



June 2020

Scientific Opinion on

Adaptation to health effects of climate change in Europe

Climate change has consequences for human health

Scientific evidence shows that the climate is changing; a child born today may experience a world that is 1.5-4 °C warmer than the long-term pre-industrial average.

Negative effects on health through

- heat(waves)
- infectious and vector-borne diseases
- extreme events like floods and fires.

Challenge

Next to the reduction of greenhouse gas emission, we need to adapt to inevitable consequences of climate change on our health sector

GOAL

To strengthen the resilience of the health sector in Europe in view of impacts from climate change

Recommendations



Integrate human health into all climate change adaptation policies across all sectors and governance levels



Support the capacity and preparedness of the health sector as part of broader disaster and emergency risk strategies, including surveillance, monitoring and assessment.

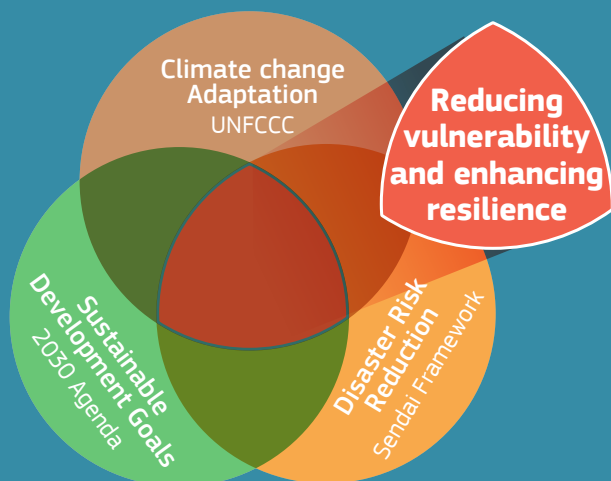


Design policies to support the most **vulnerable social groups and geographical areas**

Impact

The scientific opinion informs:

- ▶ The implementation of the European Green Deal and the EU climate law on adaptation
- ▶ The new EU adaptation strategy



This is a summary of a scientific opinion by the **Group of Chief Scientific Advisors**,

an Independent expert group providing high-quality and timely scientific advice to the European Commission, to inform European Union policies and legislation.

Read the full report [here](#).

<https://ec.europa.eu/science-advice>