Three phases:

a) Learning (2000-2010)
c) New challenges (2015 - )

2000-2010
- Impacts in Europe
- Adaptation elsewhere
- Raise of understanding

2011-2015
- Peseta (I & II)
- EU Strategy 2013: impacts/measures. EU/MS
For the European Union, Adaptation means:

- “Anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking appropriate action to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause, or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise.”

- “It has been shown that well planned, early adaptation action saves money and lives later.”
What does Adaptation to climate change mean, concretely?

**ADAPTATION** = **RESILIENCE** + **ANTICIPATION**

- to climate change
- to climate extremes
- to gradual climate-related environmental changes

...EU strategy is on the right way to be able to address **both** short- and long-term climate change-related challenges
In April 2013 the European Commission adopted an EU strategy on adaptation

3 main points:

Promoting action by Member States:
- Encourage all Member States to adopt comprehensive adaptation strategies;
- Provide funding to help Member States;
- Support adaptation in cities through the “Mayors Adapt” initiative, a voluntary commitment within the framework of the Covenant of Mayors.

'Climate-proofing' action at EU level by further
- Promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors such as agriculture, fisheries and cohesion policy;
- Ensuring that Europe's infrastructure is made more resilient;
- Promoting the use of insurance against natural and man-made disasters.

Better informed decision-making by
- Addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation
- Further developing the European climate adaptation platform (Climate-ADAPT) as the 'one-stop shop' for adaptation information in Europe.
8 Actions for adaptation:

- All MS with an adaptation plan
- Life funding to support capacity building
- Introduce adaptation in the Covenant of Mayors
- Bridge the knowledge gap
- Knowledge: platform Climate-ADAPT
- Climate proof Cohesion and Agriculture Policies
- Ensuring more resilient infrastructure
- Promote insurance and other financial products for business resilience

(Using scarce water resources more efficiently; Adapting building codes to future climate conditions and extreme weather events; Building flood defences and raising the levels of dykes; Developing drought-tolerant crops; Choosing tree species and forestry practices less vulnerable to storms and fires; Setting aside land corridors to help species migrate, etc).
New challenges:

- Implementing/broadening/reviewing: 2017
- Business understanding
- Interactions with external action: secondary impacts... the adaptation abroad...
- Is it a contribution to the global action? Adaptation in the (I)NDCs