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EU Develops Integrated Framework to Strengthen Climate Resilience and Risk Management

Key policies: *Integrated Framework on Climate Resilience and Risk Management, EU Adaptation Strategy, European Climate Law, European Green Deal, European Climate Risk Assessment (EUCRA), EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change*

The European Commission is developing a new **Integrated Framework on Climate Resilience and Risk Management** to strengthen the European Union's preparedness for the growing impacts of climate change and support Member States in preventing, anticipating and managing climate-related risks.

Planned for adoption in the **second half of 2026**, the framework will establish a more ambitious, coherent and comprehensive EU approach to climate resilience. It will build on existing adaptation policies while promoting closer coordination between Member States and EU institutions to better protect people, infrastructure, ecosystems and the economy from increasingly frequent and severe climate impacts.

The initiative forms part of the European Union's broader efforts to safeguard Europe's security, prosperity, competitiveness and public health in a changing climate.

A more coordinated approach to climate resilience

The new framework aims to strengthen the European Union's capacity to anticipate and respond to climate-related risks through a more integrated policy approach.

Its objectives include:

- Improving climate resilience across the European Union
- Strengthening preparedness for climate-related hazards
- Enhancing coordination between Member States
- Integrating climate risk considerations into public policies
- Supporting long-term adaptation planning

The Commission intends the framework to complement existing EU legislation while ensuring greater consistency across climate adaptation, disaster risk management and resilience policies.

Responding to increasing climate risks

The initiative responds to growing evidence that climate change is increasing risks to European societies, economies and ecosystems.

Its development follows:

- Calls from the **European Parliament** for stronger climate resilience measures
- Requests from the **Council of the European Union** for enhanced preparedness

This project is supported by the Interreg Danube Region Programme co-funded by the European Union.

- Recommendations published by the **European Court of Auditors** in 2024
- Findings of the **European Climate Risk Assessment (EUCRA)**

Together, these assessments highlight the need for more coordinated and forward-looking approaches to managing climate risks across Europe.

Protecting Europe's economy, health and competitiveness

According to the Commission, strengthening climate resilience is becoming increasingly important for safeguarding Europe's long-term prosperity.

The future framework aims to support:

- Economic competitiveness
- Public health
- Critical infrastructure
- Environmental protection
- Social wellbeing
- Long-term security

By reducing vulnerability to climate impacts, the framework is expected to help minimise disruption to economic activity while improving Europe's capacity to adapt to changing environmental conditions.

Developed through broad stakeholder engagement

The Commission is preparing the framework through an open and participatory process involving a wide range of stakeholders.

Contributors include:

- Citizens
- Businesses
- Local authorities
- Regional authorities
- Civil society organisations
- Public institutions
- Climate experts

This collaborative approach aims to ensure that the framework reflects practical experience, scientific evidence and the needs of communities across Europe.

Public consultation highlights strong support

As part of the preparation process, the European Commission conducted a public consultation on strengthening climate resilience across Europe.

Participants expressed broad support for more ambitious climate adaptation measures and identified several key priorities, including:

- Integrating resilience into policy design and investment planning
- Coordinating climate risk assessments across Europe
- Expanding nature-based solutions as a first line of defence
- Ensuring stable long-term financing for climate adaptation
- Strengthening consideration of climate-related health impacts

The consultation has now concluded, and its findings will help shape the final framework.

Building on existing EU adaptation policies

The Integrated Framework will complement existing European initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience to climate change.

These include:

- The **EU Adaptation Strategy**
- The **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change**
- **Climate-ADAPT**, the European climate adaptation knowledge platform
- Other EU resilience and preparedness initiatives

By improving coordination between these policies, the Commission aims to establish a more coherent and effective European approach to climate adaptation.

Background

The **Integrated Framework on Climate Resilience and Risk Management** is being developed by the European Commission to strengthen the European Union's capacity to anticipate, prepare for and respond to the increasing impacts of climate change.

Following a comprehensive impact assessment, the framework is expected to be adopted during the **second half of 2026**. It will establish a more integrated approach to climate resilience by aligning adaptation, risk management and preparedness policies across the European Union.

Building on the **EU Adaptation Strategy**, the **European Climate Risk Assessment (EUCRA)** and the **EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change**, the framework seeks to improve policy coherence, strengthen cooperation among Member States and ensure that climate resilience becomes a central consideration in future European policymaking and investment decisions.

Source: *https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/adaptation-and-resilience-climate-change/european-climate-resilience-and-risk-management-integrated-framework_en*