How can societies adapt to the consequences of global change? This question has gained importance at EU level given the alarming trends currently observed. This project analysed the challenges that climate change poses to water management in Europe and developed options and strategies to meet these challenges. The German EU presidency hosted a conference in February 2007 which discussed both the effects of climate change on European water resources and possible adaptation strategies in water management.

Global climate change entails multiple impacts on regional water balance that partly are already being observed and partly are predicted by modelling studies. The rise of temperatures may, for instance, exacerbate existing water shortages, impair water quality or enhance the frequency and intensity of floods and droughts. These changes in water resources and water-related extreme events are likely to affect social and economic development in the EU and may lead to conflicts between different water users.

To prepare and provide input to the conference, the project partners Ecologic and the Potsdam-Institute for
Climate Impact Research [1] evaluated scientific evidence related to the effects of climate change on regional water balance, identified challenges to water management in Europe and developed strategies for adaptation.

12 February 2007 to 14 February 2007
Berlin

Sigmar Gabriel [2]

Attaches

- Background Paper
- Programm Booklet

Main Link

Conference Website

Ecologic Related Articles

- Time to Adapt - Climate Change and the European Water Dimension: Vulnerability - Impacts - Adaptation

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