

A satellite-style map of Southeastern Europe, showing the Balkan Peninsula, the Aegean Sea, and the Mediterranean coast. The land is depicted in shades of green and brown, while the water is a deep blue. The text is overlaid on the map.

Water and Climate Change in Southeastern Europe: Understanding Impacts & Planning for Adaptation

24-25 June 2008

Tirana, Albania



Key Observations (Draft)

- ❖ Climate science & hydrology improving
- ❖ Actions can be taken now
- ❖ Need to reach decision-makers
- ❖ Further activities will be helpful

Climate Science & Hydrology is Improving

- § Valuable information on trends (> 100yrs)
- § Climate projections by hydromets and global centers shows significant impacts by mid-century; severe by 2100
- § Selected downscaling probably needed; national and targeted water basins
- § Impact modeling needed
- § Skills & infrastructure from outside SEE
- § Longer term “seamless” forecasts and projections

A satellite-style map of the world, showing continents in green and brown and oceans in blue. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean, with North and South America on the left and Europe and Africa on the right. The title "Actions Can be Taken Now" is overlaid in yellow text at the top.

Actions Can be Taken Now

- § “No-regrets” investments (e.g. more efficient irrigation; Hydromet strengthening)
- § Integrate climate certainty & uncertainty into water planning (e.g. WFD)
- § Start with some project design/feasibility
- § Educate and communicate
- § Regional and international partnerships

A satellite-style map of the world, showing continents in green and brown and oceans in blue. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean, with North America on the left and South America on the right.

Need to Reach Decision-Makers

- § Recognize competing demands and longer term nature of climate
- § Communicate but not confuse
.....range in certainty and uncertainties
- § Build cross-sector linkages
- § Express options in economic terms
- § Regional and international partnerships
- § New funding for climate adaptation

Further Activities will be Helpful

- § Analytical work and pilot projects with support from UNDP, EU, GEF, UNECE, World Bank; bilaterals, etc.
- § Sava, Drin and Adriatic – crucial pilot areas worthy of attention
- § Continuing dialogue under the Athens/Petersberg and other fora
- § Highlight SEE at COPs (Poznan; Copenhagen); 5th WWF (Istanbul); etc.

Thank You!

