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European Climate Vulnerabilities and Adaptation: A Spatial Planning Perspective

By Philipp Schmidt-Thome, Stefan Greiving



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European Climate Vulnerabilities and Adaptation: A Spatial Planning Perspective By Philipp Schmidt-Thome, Stefan Greiving

European Climate Vulnerabilities and Adaptation: A Spatial Planning Perspective analyses the impacts climate change might have on regions and their local economies. Regions clearly differ in view of the complex patterns of climate change impact, but also regarding the given vulnerability and coping capacity.

Impacts of climate change can have a marked effect on the functioning of regions and sectors of the society, if not properly addressed. Readiness to adapt to the impacts and lasting changes counts towards vulnerability of the regions.

The book builds upon the findings of a project conducted under the European observation network for territorial development and cohesion (ESPON), The ESPON Climate project. Following the stipulations of the ESPON programme and the tender for this project the territorial focus is the *raison d'être* and methodological core of the project as a whole and its various research actions: The outcomes of each action will be focused on what impacts global climate change will have for the different European regions and how the regions can cope with the projected impacts in order to become less vulnerable to climate change.

This book:

- Provides a comprehensive analysis of climate change impacts on 29 European regions and their local economies
- Takes an interdisciplinary approach dealing with the physical, social, economic, environmental, cultural and institutional aspects of climate change vulnerability and the consequences for spatial planning
- Builds on the findings of the ESPON Climate project with a policy focused approach
- Is in full colour throughout with a broad range of case studies



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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

European Climate Vulnerabilities and Adaptation describes the steps from analyzing and assessing climate change impacts towards the transfer of this knowledge for implementation of related regional development policies. The explicit territorial focus is a distinguishing characteristic of this book which builds upon the findings of a project conducted under the European observation network for territorial development and cohesion (ESPON), The ESPON Climate project. The territorial focus is the raison d'être and methodological core of the project as a whole and this book exemplarily displays the potential impacts of climate change for the different European regions. It follows that analysis of the results can support regions in formulating territorially differentiated policies to better cope with the projected regionally specified impacts in order to become less vulnerable to climate change.

The integrated methodology of this book includes the potential for climate change adaptation of the European regions into the climate change vulnerability analysis. This complex methodology is not only applied on the European level, but also tested and further developed in case studies covering different spatial levels from national to local. Case studies follow the systematic comparative approach across countries and enables cross-checking and cross-fertilization with the pan-European statistical analyses.

Future projects and analysis may thus build on the methodology presented in this book and will be of value to students and scientists working on the development of climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies, public administrators in the related fields (including environment, water management, civil defense) at local, regional and state level as well as private company personnel, including engineering, urban planning agencies, and technological solutions.

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