



Policy instruments for the promotion of adaptation to climate change

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Action for adaptation to climate change will need to be taken by both private and public actors. Optimally, it would be integrated into long-term planning in a very early stage, i.e. by today. However, apart from some public action taken today (such as dyke planning and building) most of today's initiatives focus on research and communication on a political level. This is an elementary but not a sufficient level. Policy measures need to be taken to enable broad action by all stakeholder groups to take adequate adaptation measures, in particular when doing long-term investment.

We look at a broad range of policy and economic instruments that could be used to promote adaptation by public and private actors, such as taxes, subsidies, public-private-partnerships, an adaptation market mechanism and other market based instruments; and analyse how these instruments can be applied to reach the above named objective. After an extensive analysis of barriers for the implementation of potential economic instruments for adaptation, we discuss concrete measures to remove the barriers and improve the instruments. We conclude with a prioritisation of market mechanisms for further research and possible pilot implementation, differentiating by types of adaptation.