

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NATUR'ADAPT ADAPTATION PLANS

This study consists of a comparative analysis of 18 of the 21 adaptation plans produced by the pilot and test sites of the LIFE Natur'Adapt project. The aim is to draw lessons from this study for managers who are about to embark on a similar approach, and who will be required to draw up an adaptation plan for the management of their protected area. Here is its summary.

### A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF ADAPTATION PLANS

**IT HIGHLIGHTS THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OBSERVED WHEN READING THEM, AND THE FACTORS THAT MAY HAVE LED TO THEM.**

On average, the 18 adaptation plans contain around forty pages devoted to the adaptation strategy and action plan. The structure of the adaptation plans is often similar (strategy, operational objectives and action plan), but there is a variety of approaches, despite the common methodological base provided by the Natur'Adapt project: the nature of the protected area is an important criterion for differentiating adaptation plans (as are the resources allocated to drawing them up). Management actions,

knowledge acquisition, animation, communication or awareness-raising, and anthropic pressures and their management make up a significant proportion of action plan measures. These documents show very different levels of operability for the concrete implementation of actions. The most accomplished adaptation plans have taken the time to work on prospective scenarios, enabling the formalization of roadmaps in adaptive management mode, precisely describing the actions to be implemented and the deadlines by means of very complete action sheets.

### A PROPOSAL FOR A GENERAL METHODOLOGY

#### 7 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ADAPTATION PLANS:

- ➔ **Position yourself** in relation to the context, to choose your adaptation actions with a clear understanding of the scope of your action and in complementarity with the territory;
- ➔ **Use the results of the diagnosis** to identify new issues and objectives; and plan ahead: this involves strengthening the links between the results of the vulnerability assessment and the adaptation actions to be included in the adaptation plan, and making them clear and comprehensible;

- ➔ **Adapting/articulating the management document strategy to climate change ;**
- ➔ **Clearly define and describe the actions in the adaptation plan;**
- ➔ **Work on the internal levers** to be activated to facilitate implementation of the adaptation plan;
- ➔ **Anticipate the monitoring-evaluation** system for adaptation actions to track progress and argue the relevance of the adaptation plan;
- ➔ **Stay tuned.**

# POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS AND POINTS TO WATCH OUT FOR


**CARRY OUT THE WORK OF QUESTIONING ROOM FOR MANEUVER, THE MEANS TO ACT OR THE DESIRE TO ACT IN PARALLEL WITH OR AFTER THE WORK ON ADAPTATION ACTIONS.**

It's best to apply these criteria at the end of the process. This will also avoid certain potential forms of self-censorship.

- **Beware of the risk of a "laundry list"** of adaptation plan actions. In the interests of simplification and efficiency, we must select a limited number of actions, concentrating on those that directly address the vulnerability assessment - trajectories - objectives => actions link.
- **Check that adaptation actions are not just recommendations,** but concrete, operational measures.

- **Beware of the often-quoted shortcut that free evolution is a "solution",** without clearly demonstrating what it answers, and to which elements of the diagnosis and objectives it responds.
- **Beware of the message that "adaptive management" means "we'll see tomorrow",** often in connection with free evolution. Hence the importance of scenarios and of presenting a roadmap with horizons.
- **One of the pitfalls of some adaptation plans** is the lack of integration of adaptive management concepts into the process. In this report, we offer a summary of this concept, with examples from the plans analyzed.

**Entire report available here (in French):**

 *CHAIX C. et PORTERET J., 2023. Analyse comparative des 21 plans d'adaptation des 21 sites Natur'Adapt. LIFE Naturadapt – Rapport AGATE/CEN SAVOIE. 31p.*  
<https://naturadapt.com/groups/communaute/documents/777/get>

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## Partners involved in the project



## Project co-financers



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