

#### Climate change and the impact on agriculture in Republic of Macedonia

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#### **Republic of Macedonia – facts**





#### Temperature



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#### Precipitation





#### **Climate conditions**

- Sub-mediterranean zone (20 500 m)
- Moderate continental sub mediterranean zone (up to 600 m)
- Hot continental zone (600 900 m)
- Sub-highlands continental mountain zone (1100 – 1300 m)
- Highlands continental mountain zone (1300 1650 m)
- Sub-alipne mountain zone (1500 2250 m)
- Alpine mountain zone (> 2250 m)

### Agriculture in Macedonia – facts









#### Agriculture & climate change



Source: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

Total emission of gasses in Republic of Macedonia (1990 – 1998)





Source: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

Emission of gasses by sector in Republic of Macedonia (1990 – 1998)





Agriculture related greenhouse gas emission in Republic of Macedonia (1990 – 2002)

#### Agricultural subsectors and climate change



Analysis of three sub-sectors related to climate change:

- 1. Agricultural crops
- 2. Soils
- 3. Animal husbandry



### **Agricultural crops**

- The most vulnerable zone
  - Central Vardar valley region of Povardarie
    - valley of river Crna
    - river Bregalnica
- Very susceptible zones
  - South-eastern part of the country
  - Southern Vardar valley
  - Skopje-Kumanovo valley
  - Ovche Pole
- Less susceptible zones
  - Pelagonija
  - Polog
  - Perspa/Ohrid region



#### The most affected crops

- **Grapevines** in the Povardarie region
- Tomato in the southeastern part of the country (Strumica Gevgelija)
- Winter wheat in Skopje-Kumanovo region & Ovce Pole
- Apple in the Prespa/Ohrid region
- Alfalfa in all agricultural regions of the country, especially in the region of Bitola



Area	Culture	2025	2050	2075	2100
Kavadarci	Grapevine	46	50	55	59
Gevgelija	Tomato	75	78	81	84
Strumica	Tomato	72	75	79	82
Stip	Winter wheat	14	17	21	25
Skopje	Winter wheat	8	12	16	21
Bitola	Alfalfa	58	<mark>62</mark>	66	70
Resen	Apple	46	50	55	59

Expected yield decrease as result of influence of climate changes (in %)



#### Map of vulnerable zones





#### **Adaptation measures**

Agriculture where irrigation is applied

- Extension of techniques for water saving during irrigation.
- Maintenance or enlargement of irrigated areas with same amount of water.



#### **Adaptation measures**

- Rainfed agriculture:
  - Genetic and breeding measures
  - Application of meliorative measures
  - Improvement of agritechnical measures
  - Improvement of irrigation
  - Improvement of knowledge of farmers
  - Raising public awareness for new techniques of adaptation



## Soil organic matter & adaptation measures

- Application of organic manures
- Fertilization based on agrichemical analysis
- Introduction of legume crops
- Crop rotation
- Land conservation



Source: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

## Soil erosion & adaptation measures



- Afforestation
- Introduction of new irrigation techniques
- Raising farmers' awareness for proper land management

## Soil salinisation & adaptation measures



- Improvement of hydrological condition of the valleys
- Drainage of microdepressions in valleys
- Introduction of new irrigation techniques
- Irrigation with small and exact quantities of water



### Animal husbandry

- Direct influence
  - Increased heat stress decreased productivity of domestic animals
  - Especially vulnerable are highly productive modern breeds



#### Animal husbandry

- Indirect influence
  - Decrease of forage production
  - Introduction of new diseases



# Animal husbandry & adaptation measures

- Determination of suitable regions for animal breeding
- Identification and introduction of resistant breeds to high temperatures and diseases
- Introduction of specific feed schedule
- New skills and knowledge on farmer level and institutional level
- Support of research programmes towards improvement of animal genetic resources
- Dissemination of results and raising public awareness



### CONCLUSION

- The Macedonian agriculture will be significantly affected by the global climate change.
- The most affected crops will be grapevines, tomatoes and alfalafa.
- Effects on soils and animal husbandry.
- Adaptation measures rather than combating global climate change.
- Necessity of raising public awareness on different levels.