

Experience from the COMPASS Project – IRSES FP7

Prof. Athanasios Vafeidis
Christian-Albrechts University Kiel, Germany



Outline

1. A few words about COMPASS
2. Structure of the co-operation scheme
3. Experience so far – Issues arising, Problems, Positive feedbacks
4. Conclusions, suggestions



The COMPASS Project

- Comparative Assessment of Coastal Vulnerability to Sea-Level Rise at Continental Scale
- Duration – 48 months
- Involves six institutions



CAU Kiel (Germany)



University of Para (Brazil)



University of the Aegean (Greece),



University of La Plata (Argentina)



CODESOSUR-SINERGIAS (Chile)



Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (Germany)

Scientific Context and Project Aims

- Assessing coastal vulnerability to sea-level rise and associated impacts
- The DIVA model
- Transfer of knowledge on:
 - Application of the model
 - Model development, evaluation, validation
- Extend and strengthen existing co-operation (institutions with extensive research experience on the topic)

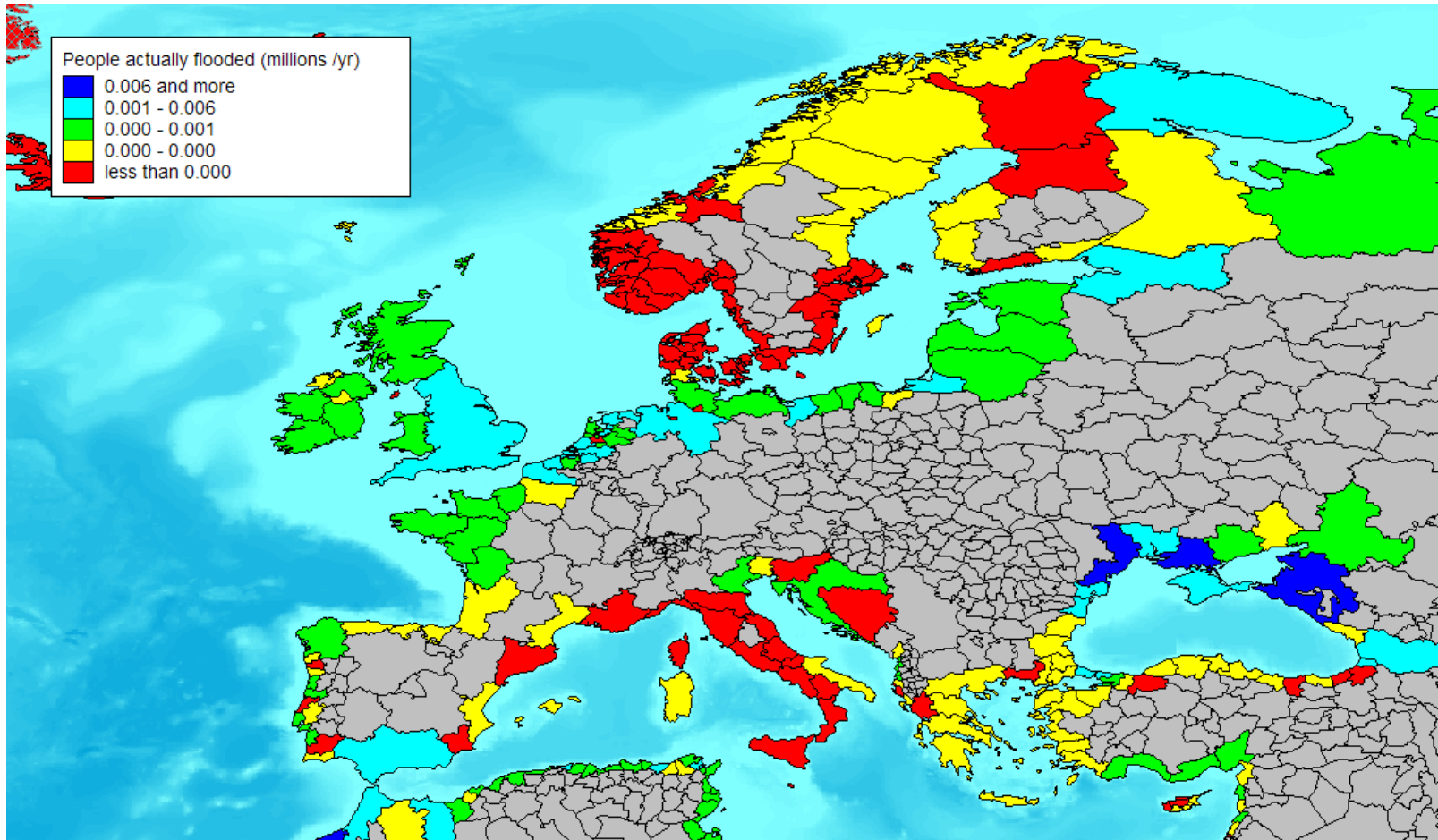


The DIVA tool...

- Main product/deliverable of DINAS-COAST
- A dynamic, interactive and flexible assessment tool
- It includes:
Models, geographic database (and GUI)
- It enables consistent and comparative analyses of mitigation and adaptation policies for a range of emission, s-e and other scenarios
- User friendly, low requirements so that it can be used by policy makers everywhere in the world

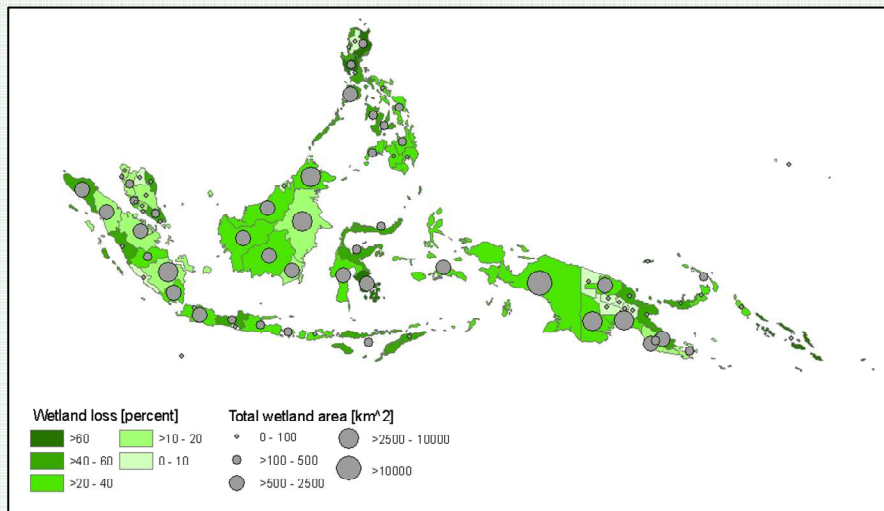
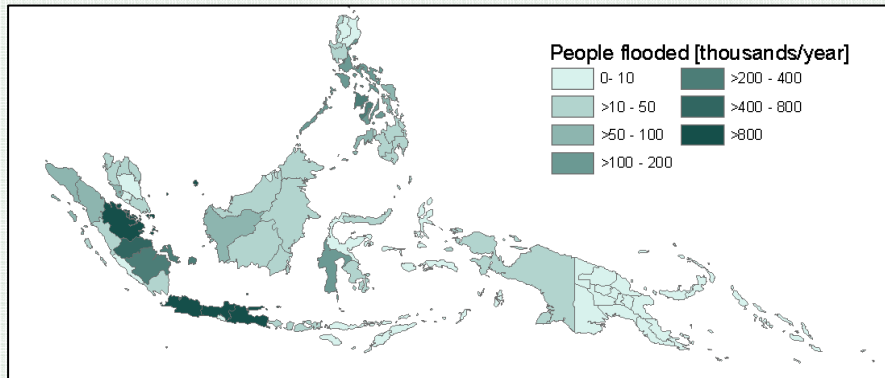


...and its applications

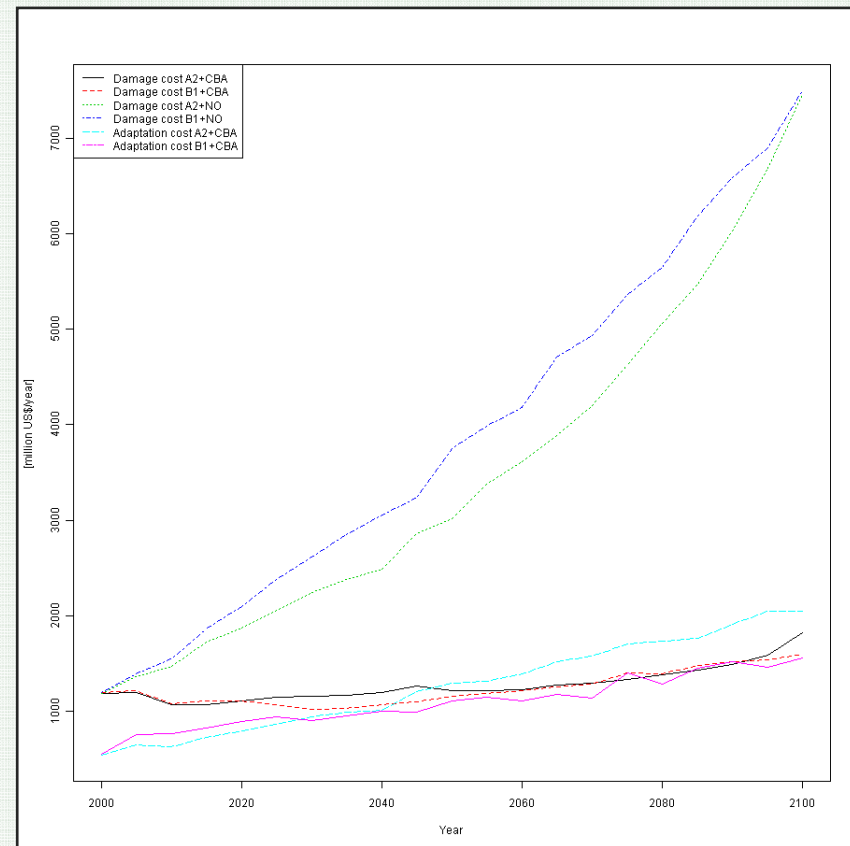


DIVA Outputs

SLR Impacts in the Coral Triangle Region



DIVA Analysis for the EU27 Countries



Education & Research

- Exchange of knowledge on coastal research
- Transfer of knowledge on technical and scientific aspects regarding the DIVA tool (EU to SA)
- Benefit from local expertise in interpreting model results and in further model development (SA to EU)
- Policy relevant research – provide input for:
 - UNEP, Pacific Continental Commission, Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean, Latin America Strategy for Coastal Zones (AVINA and Ford Foundations) and Inter American Development Bank
- DIVA is a regional/global policy support tool – can be employed for the formulation of SLR-related policies in South America

Experience so far (1)

First phase – Signing the agreement

- Numerous complications of legal nature in signing the partnership agreements
- Non-compatible administrative structures (e.g. transfer of funds, people responsible for the project)



Experience so far(2)

- Organising secondments – length of minimum visit
- Staff exchange – restrictions related to level of experience
- Financial compensation (also related to length of visit)
- Structures to host scientists



Experience so far (3)

- Simplified compensation scheme
(maybe even too simplified for admin officials?!
Separate travelling from living costs?)
- Brilliant perspectives for establishing strong research links both at institutional but also at personal level



Suggestions

- Flexibility regarding staff exchange – combine programs (e.g. Erasmus – Marie Curie)?
- Programs are highly demanding in administration/organisation – existing structures struggle to cope with this burden
- Allowances for this purpose would significantly enhance the efficiency of the scheme



Thank you for your attention

vafeidis[at]geographie.uni-kiel.de

