Overshoot Proofing Self-Assessment Tool

For adaptation planners & policy-makers

The PROVIDE project developed a self-assessment tool that allows adaptation planners and policy-makers to check whether risks linked to overshoot scenarios are sufficiently being taken into account in adaptation planning. While a lot of these concepts are rather new to the adaptation community and scientific advances on certain topics such as impact reversibility are still needed, raising awareness on these concepts is useful to avoid maladaptation in the long-term. Particularly limits to adaptation are a key aspect of both short- and long-term adaptation planning: they should be increasingly identified and integrated into planning.

The selection of climate scenarios depends on various factors, including the type of adaptation measure being planned, the availability of relevant scientific data and the time horizon covered. While it is common practice to look at climate outcomes for optimistic and pessimistic scenarios, there is no gold standard on which future scenarios to look at. Considering overshoot scenarios allows planners to look into impact reversibility which would potentially occur 30-50 years after peak warming, relevant information for long-term infrastructure-based measures for example. Generally, with increasing warming, further limits to adaptation will be transgressed which is essential information to capture in adaptation planning.

Assessment level → Indiator ↓	Not assessed	Awarenes around but not assessed	Partially assessed	Comprehensive assessment	Comprehensive assessment and prioritized
Are **overshoot scenarios** considered? (e.g.: current policies, delayed action, sustainable pathway)					
Are **limits to adaptation** identified? (e.g.: maximum number of days above x degrees during a heatwave)					
Are **unavoidable impacts** identified? (e.g.: committed sea level rise/glacier melt)					
Is **impact irreversibility after overshoot** considered? (e.g.: irreversible desertification)					
Are **uncertainty ranges linked to impact projections** taken into account? (e.g.: 90% confidence interval for the range of models considered)					