



Winter School

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Climate change

Adapting the Social Contract to Embrace Its Challenges and Opportunities





**3. Existing
EU
approaches**

**4. Social
protection**

5. Adaptation



vision of
the

An outdated social contract

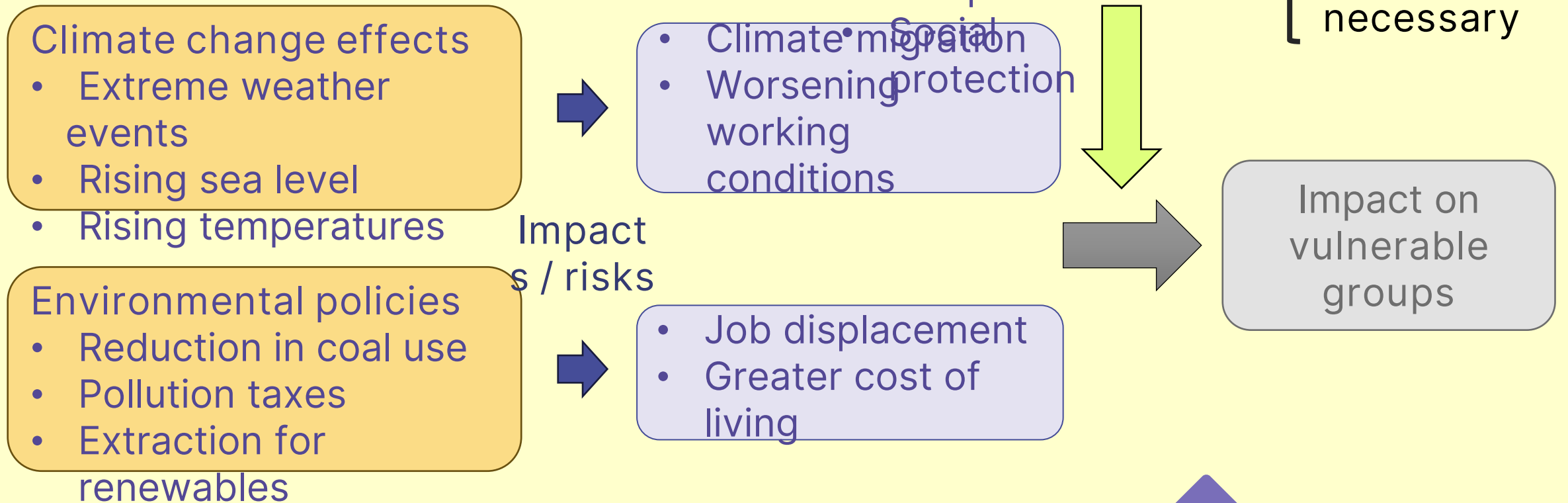
**Not adapted to
new realities**

Unsustainable

Narrow

Exclusionary

Climate change: impacts & mitigation



Impacts & mitigation actions at EU level

Examples	Programs	Challenges	
1	Exacerbation of social and geographical inequalities	Just Transition Mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administrative complexity• Lack of local capacity
2	Job losses in polluting industries	Social Climate Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack of funds• Vague definition of vulnerable groups
3	Energy poverty	Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, EU Solidarity Fund	Focus on infrastructure reconstruction

Why social protection as an adaptation and mitigation tool?



Values-driven reasons

- Social protection is characterised by its emphasis on (benefits') equity and (costs) redistribution.



Practical reasons

- Leverage of existing institutional frameworks (inc social dialogue).
- Improve social perception of climate reforms.
- Decent living allows for long-term prevention (which is cheaper).

Existing social protection adaptation and mitigation actions

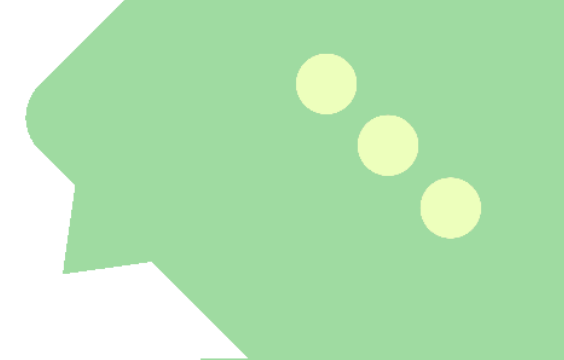
Traditional social protection

Climate-Adaptive Social Protection Measures

- **Disaster preparedness** in conditional cash transfers' (MX) or employers' **training** (ES)

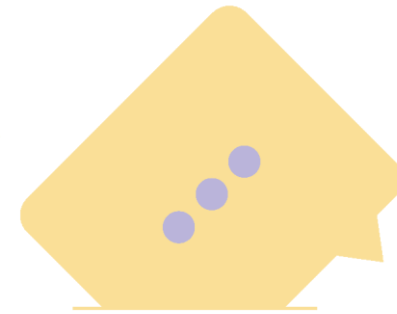
Green Transition Employment and Training Programs

- Unemployment benefits recipients: **Green training** (BE, DL) and **green jobs** (BE, FR, NL).
- Climate-linked school allowance **bonus** (BE).



Adaptations necessary

- 1. Additional financing** (to cover more risks and more often)
- 2. Decoupling from economic growth** (to avoid contributing to climate change)
- 3. Shift towards non-domination discourses** (to ensure restorative and redistributive justice)
- 4. Need for (more) supranational regulation** (because global problems need global solutions)





Thank you!

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