

# Impact of Climate Change on Insurers – Threats and Opportunities





Budapest, October 8th, 2013



### Climate circumstances of our planet are undergoing significant changes leading to increasing number of extreme weather events

#### Selected indicators of climate circumstances

**GLOBAL MEAN SURFACE TEMPERATURE** 



+ 0.75°C in the last 100

LAND MASS WARMING VS. **WARMING OF OCEANS** 



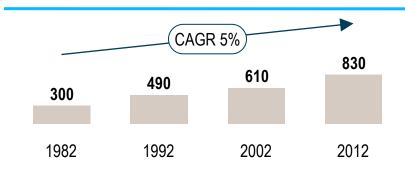
x 2 over the last 100 vears

**SEA LEVEL RISE** 

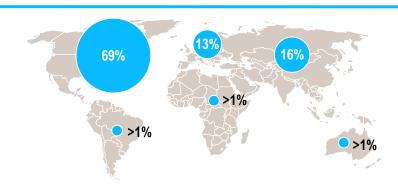


+ 3 mm per year

#### DEVELOPMENT OF NUMBER OF EXTREME WEATHER **EVENTS [#]**



#### **GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF LOSSES, 2012 [%]**





# Insurers are the first line of defense against extreme weather loses with inevitable consequences on property, casualty and life

#### Weather events by type **METEOROLOGICAL EVENTS** HYDROLOGICAL EVENTS **CLIMATOLOGICAL EVENTS Event** type **Storm** Flood Landfire Landslide **Drought** Hail **Extreme** temperature Nr. of ext-30 400 320 120 150 110 reme event 1982 2012 1982 2012 1982 2012 Nr. of fatalities

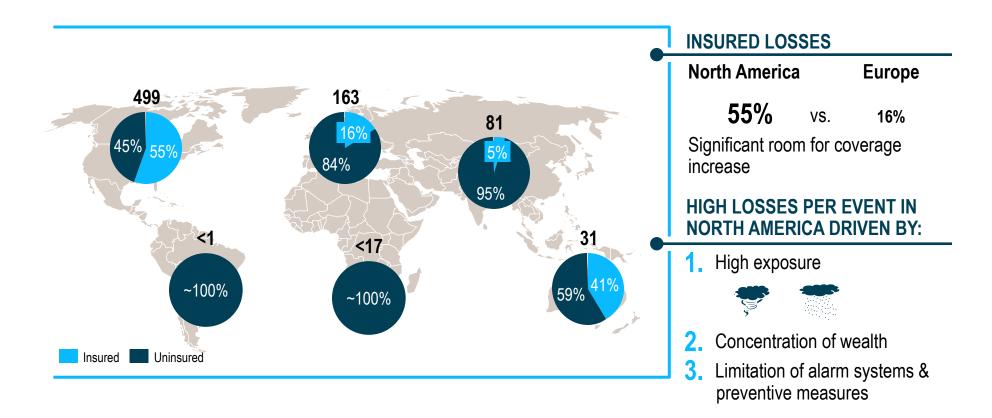
in 2012 ,600

1,250



# Catastrophe insurance market is the most developed in North America – European insurers are significantly lagging behind

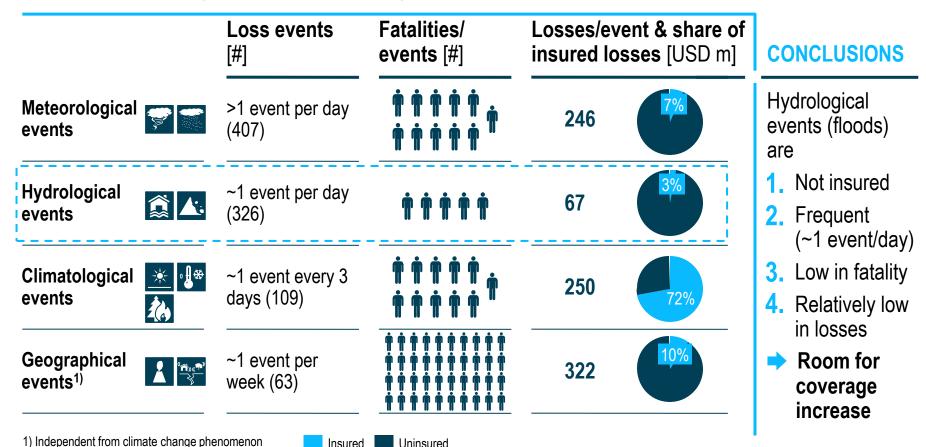
Review of natural catastrophes size per event, 2012 [USD m]





# Flooding losses are hardly insured, providing insurers significant room to increase coverage and expand their business

Review of losses per natural catastrophe, 2012





# In Central Europe, floods and storms are the most feared natural disaster type, providing space to increase coverage

**Natural disasters review** 

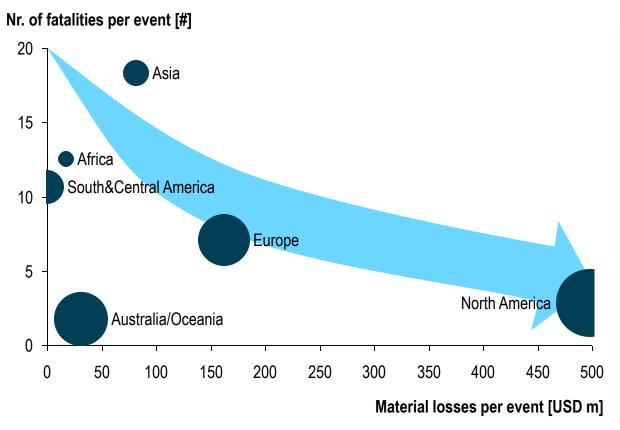
#### Most feared natural disasters in selected European countries

#### Risk of natural disasters Hail **Floods Storms** Frequency/ High Medium Medium seasonality seasonality probability seasonality Impact on Impact on the Impact on the Impact on the portfolio the portfolio whole portfolio portfolio (agriculture. (property, car, (property, car, agriculture. agriculture) car, property) health, life) Geographical Well Limited Not concentration predetermined predictability predictable danger zones Size of The threat is Might lead to Moderate potential loss floods and predictable prodestructive viding timeframe inland flooding force to implement preventive Flood Storms Avalanche measures andslide A Wildfire



# In Europe, P&C insurers are the most vulnerable to extreme weather events – Future challenge is to mitigate these risks

#### Impacts of extreme weather events by continent



#### **INSIGHTS**

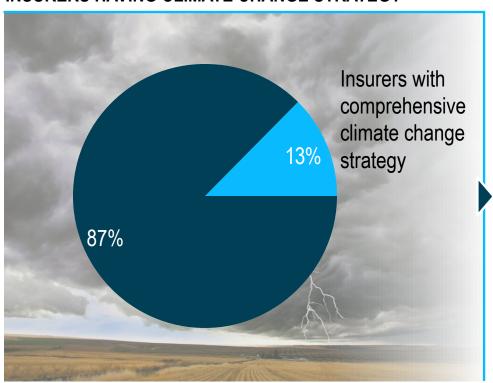
- The more developed a country is the less fatalities and health losses occur as a result to extreme weather events:
  - Life before wealth in priorities
  - More stable resistant architecture
  - Awareness of possible impacts
  - Forecast of extreme events
  - Availability of early warning systems
  - Deployment of prevention steps
- The more developed a country is the higher its property and casualty losses are in extreme weather events:
  - Higher wealth in form of property
  - Immobility of most of the property
  - Geographical concentration of property
- In Europe, the main impact of extreme weather events is material loss absorbed by the P&C insurers



# Most of the insurers are not yet prepared to successfully tackle the impact, as most of them lack strategy on climate change

Results of research on climate strategies of insurers

#### **INSURERS HAVING CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY**



#### CONCLUSIONS

- Majority of insurers have no climate change strategy
- 2. Mainly large insurers have strategy in place to cope with the impacts of climate change
- 3. P&C insurers are the most advanced in understanding and tackling the impacts of climate change

Forerunners:





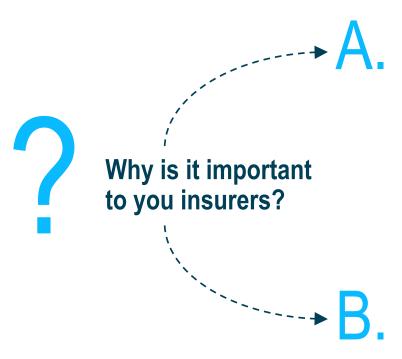




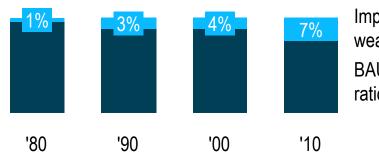


# Impact of climate change is tangible on the industry bottom-line, while simultaneously threatens the core function of insurance

Impacts of climate change on insurance



#### **REDUCES THE PROFITABILITY** [decade average %]



Impact of extreme weather events
BAU combined ratio<sup>1)</sup>

#### THREATENS THE RISK SPREADING FUNCTION

- > Climate change impacts entire geographical areas, thus insurers' diversification within one state will not be sufficient and global risk spreading will significantly gain importance
- > Example: Allstate Insurance Company, Hurricane Katrina, 2005



### Impact on insurance industry is on three levels: inevitable threats, potential business opportunities and a game changing momentum

#### Three levels of climate change impact



THREATS: Aftermath of the climate change posses significant challenges on the insurance industry, especially on P&C players in the form of increased claims due to extreme weather events

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY: Changed weather circumstances and the resulted new / higher risks open new business opportunities to insurers in mitigating them

**GAME CHANGING MOMENTUM:** Insurers have the opportunity to play an active role in fighting climate change through increasing the awareness, introducing green products and influencing client behavior



## Insurers have three strategic options to turn the impacts of climate change into their favor – Prevention will be the focus of next 3 years

### MITIGATION OF FINANCIAL RISKS

- Spreading the financial risks of the portfolio using reinsurance, financial vehicles (CAT bonds) and defensive underwriting
- > Spreading the claim cost, in order to ensure liquidity in case of event

#### PREVENTION OF LOSES RE-SULTED BY WEATHER EVENTS

- > Reducing the risks or / and exposure of client by increasing awareness, early warning and limiting devastating impact
- > Reducing material, injury and fatality risk, thus improving profitability and creating value



Groupama 🔭





### INFLUENCING CLIENT BEHAVIOR TO IMPACT GLOBAL WARMING

- Motivating or enabling clients to use green products such as wind power and green houses
- Reducing environment unfriendly behavior of clients and impact global warming as a result









#### **Multiple insurers**



Focus of the next 3-5 years for insurers in Europe





DESCRIPTION

**EXAMPLES** 

MPACT



### The role of insurers is to influence society and reduce risky behavior and decrease the number of claims as a consequence

#### Examples of insurers preventing climate risks

#### **INSURER** PREVENTION MEASURE(S)



> Provision of meteorological SMS alarm system to prevent losses caused by storms or destructive weather conditions



- > Provision of multi-risk weather and crop insurance offer to manage climate risks
- > Separate guarantees for tractors and other equipment



> Chubb Wildfire Defense Services providing preventive measures: lay-down temporary water lines, removal of grass, limbs, patio furniture etc. around the house, application of thermo-gel



> Training for the staff, customers and citizens in general to deal with natural disaster management organized with French Red Cross



### Game changing momentum: Insurers have the chance to play active role in fighting the climate change by introduction of green products

#### Examples of insurers influencing clients' behavior

#### **Allianz Climate Solutions (ACS)**

Allianz (ii) AXA Research 📈 🏰 Research Fund Fund



**Travelers** TRAVELERS Green Insurances

Introduced >70 products and services globally to mitigate climate change and environmental risk:

- > Cars Discounts for hvbrids
- > Property Upgrade for "green homes"
- > Industrial clients -Pollution liability, plantation insurance
- > Asset Management -Renewable energy funds



AXA fund and promote risk research and education (surveys, conferences, reports etc.)

Provide insurance for renewable technology projects to enhance the shift to a low carbon economy

Provide Comprehensive risk analysis service about clients' potential environmental exposures:

- > Site condition uncertainties
- > Third-party toxic tort uncertainties
- > Probabilities modeling techniques
- > Decision tree analysis
- > Monte Carlo risk evaluation

**Eco-friendly coverage** option to build green solutions in the event of a covered loss

**Protective device** discounts (alarms, smoke detectors etc.)

**Green Home discounts in** case of LEED1) certified property





1) Leadership Energy and Environmental Design



### Ten actions recommended to the Hungarian insurers to tackle the impacts of climate change

#### Recommended actions

- **Educate your clients** to understand the most frequent extreme weather events, to prepare for them and to avoid or minimize the connected losses
- **Introduce new riders/ product add-ons** specializing on the most feared impacts of extreme weather event
- **Request the government** to implement **more preventive measures** and to increase awareness of possible impacts of extreme weather events and to promote financial self-care
- Motivate your clients to minimize their exposure towards the impacts of extreme weather events through discounts and special offers
- Build-up your in-house automatic warning line to your clients through which you can warn them in case of forthcoming severe weather events
- Cooperate with research centers specializing on **forecasting and modeling extreme weather events** and aftermath
- **Implement joint preventive measures** in cooperation with multiple insurers (i.e. MABISZ members)
- **Adjust** the **pricing** to the real risk profile of your client
- **Introduce** and promote wide spread usage of **green products** for corporate and retail segment
- 10. Show leadership to your clients to make them think and act environmentally friendly **Be a game changer**

