

Accelerating transformative climate change adaptation for higher resilience in European Mountain Regions



Co-funded by the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor CINEA can be held responsible for them.

47 partners

Mountains are admired for their breathtaking landscapes and as perfect sites for relaxation. Moreover, mountains play a much more significant role in our daily lives as they provide vital ecosystem and community services.

10 Mountain Regions

However, mountain ecosystems are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (CC), and their adaptation responses have been insufficient so far. Thus, **MountResilience** has been formulated to tackle these challenges by increasing the adaptation capacity of mountainous regions and communities to strengthen climate resilience.

Project

MountResilience is a project in line with the EU Mission on adaptation to Climate Change, led by the Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (DISAA) - UNIMONT - University of Milan and involves 47 partners from 12 European Countries. The duration of the project is 54 months.

OBJECTIVES

Core Objectives

Support European regions and communities located in mountainous areas in increasing their climate change adaptation (CCA) capacity and their transition to a climate-resilient society by developing, testing and scaling up multi-level, multidimensional and reapplicable innovative CCA solutions in their regional and local settings.

Specific Objectives

- Laying the foundations of transformative climate adaptation in the European mountains.
- Implementation of regional demonstrators for the development and testing of innovative CCA solutions involving a quadruple-helix approach and mobilising massive numbers of local communities.
- Transfer of know-how/knowledge and practices between project regions and beyond, enabling crossborder mutual learning and replication of climate adaptation solutions.
- Deployment of a widespread digital and face-to-face communication and dissemination campaign for increased awareness about CCA, engagement of communities, diffusing results and forging synergies with linked initiatives.
- Paving the way for further scale-up of CCA solutions and other exploitable outputs.

METHODOLOGY AND CONCEPTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

Validation and scale-up of CCA tech and social innovation solutions in quadruple innovation frameworks

Capacity-building programme and mentorship scheme

Common demo methodology and implementation plan

Stage 2

Development, demonstration

and local scale-up of region

specific cross-sectoral tech &

social innovative solutions

Stage 1

Preparing the ground for resilient transformation

Conceptual models + Regional diagnosis

Adaptation and social engagement strategies

Monitoring and impact assessment

Stage 3

Sustainability and broader take-up

Knowledge transfer, cross-fertilisation and replication platforms

Multiscale communication, dissemination, networking

Business exploitation coaches, upscaling, access to funding, financial instruments

REGIONS INVOLVED

MountResilience aims to accelerate the climate resilient transformation of mountain areas of 9 EU countries.



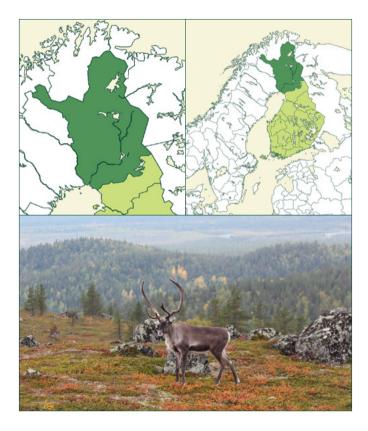
Regional replicator sites



6 of the regions/communities will develop and test transformative climate change adaptation solutions on various key community systems (e.g. tourism, water consumption in agriculture, land use)

Lapland, Finland

The objective is to strengthen the adaptability of the region's nature-based livelihoods and the entire economic structure so that the area can find a balance between the key naturebased livelihoods suitable for future natural conditions. Additionally, the demonstrator seeks to reinforce the ability of entrepreneurs in the region to identify the climate risks of their own business and to strengthen companies' ability to anticipate and adapt to the effects caused by climate change. The following activities will take place: develop the use of new Public Participation Geographic Information Systems (PPGIS); develop a model for regional adaptation plan; develop company-specific adaptation plans; develop adaptation coaching.



Tirol, Austria

A portion of the region's summer and winter tourism is connected to nature and consequently highly sensitive to changes in climate. For snow-based tourism products, climate change causes a later start and earlier end of the season at low altitudes and thus leads to a shorter season overall. In Tirol, the following activities will take place: further development and expansion of the newly established policy-instrument "Platform for Climate, Energy and Circularity; prototyping and testing innovative solutions for adaptation in the tourism sector; prototyping and testing of innovative solutions for adaptation based on digital solutions, new indicators, and instruments of financing/incentives to foster sustainable NB CCA measures.



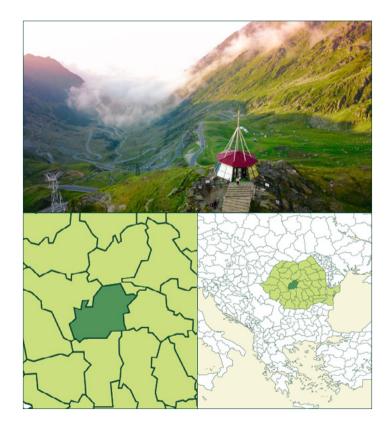


Piemonte, Italy

The demonstrator will create a framework to gather information from previously unconnected sources (soil data, meteorological registration, surface and groundwater monitoring, land use at the parcel level, satellite Sentinel photos), link them together, and create an integrated platform. In Piemonte, the activities will take at two scales: 1) farm scale: an application will be developed to integrate existing information with the use of irrigation water; 2) local scale (sub-catchment) or District: the action at the district scale will focus on the development and testing of a decision support tool to identify the best solutions for CCA.

Râu Sadului, Romania

The main objective is to develop sustainable solutions for maintaining and using mountain meadows to help farmers face the challenges caused by CC. The demonstrator also plans to demonstrate new ways to scan the field with an equipped drone with NDVI sensors and an HD camera. The demo will use special seeding machines for over-seeding on meadows with flat terrain or smooth slopes and with drones equipped with a seed spreading system for meadows with irregular terrain and stiff slopes. Lastly, it is also intended to spread fertilizers with a drone.





Gabrovo, Bulgaria

Demonstrator project 1: Innovative solutions for Green Infrastructure. This pilot project integrates technological and social innovations such as: map of urban green environment in Gabrovo or concept of new Green Infrastructure (GI) strategy. Demonstrator project 2: Early-Warning and Monitoring System (EWMS). This pilot focuses on the development of an EWMS for risk management and involves several activities.



Valais, Switzerland

The demonstrator will be developed on the topic of water. The objective is to deliver both generic tools and methodologies, demonstrating the impact of the ecosystem, the digital platform and the associated methodologies and implement specific practices and technologies supporting the nature based solution (NbS). It involves: natural fertilization for local farming through glacier water monitoring; inclusive anticipatory ecosystem to support co-creation and decision-making at regional level on water; NbS river bed and shore design; new digital platform for inclusive dialogue, co-creation and decision-making on water; new sensors systems for the measurement of CO₂ in glacier water for natural fertilization by alpine water.



REGIONAL REPLICATORS OVERVIEW

4 regions will serve as "replicator" regions, repurposing climate change adaptation solutions and lessons learned from the demo regions in their regions through special initiatives to improve their adaptive capacity.



Catalonia, Spain

Catalonia is a region in the northeastern part of the Iberian Peninsula, with an area of 32,108 Km² and a population of 7.6m people. Mountains are 46% of the total area. The main economic sectors in the mountain regions include tourism, sport and leisure, and agriculture and farming.

Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy

The Friuli Venezia Giulia region shows a complex territory that encompasses different environments, such as sea, swamps, plains, hills and an Alpine area with particular characteristics.



REGIONAL REPLICATORS OVERVIEW

Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, Croatia

Primorje-Gorski Kotar County (County) represents a relatively large area of 7,931 km² and is the sixth largest region in Croatia with 266 503 inhabitants (2021). The county consists of three microregions: the coastal area, islands and mountain area of Gorski Kotar.





Subcarpathian region, Poland

Podkarpackie (Subcarpathian region) is a region in the southeastern corner of Poland, at the eastern border of the EU, in the northeastern outer part of the Carpathian Mountains, with an area of 17,846 Km² and a population of 2.1m people. Mountains consist of 46% of the total area.

SOLUTIONS

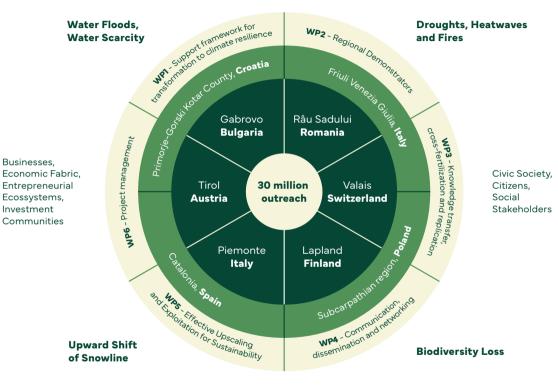
The climate change adaptation solutions will address policy, governance, societal needs and behaviours, technological requirements, public and financing targets, and climate change risks typical of mountainous areas.

MontResilience addresses several systemic CCA solutions:

- Restoration of ecosystems and the establishment of ecological corridors.
- ▲ Climate resilience agriculture.
- Better management of water scarcity and impacts of droughts or to better management of water flooding (greening infrastructures, etc).
- Regeneration of (public) spaces to create climate resilience neighborhoods (heat-waves, floods, etc).
- Inclusion of digital solutions and services to better predict, monitor and report climate events.
- Economic analysis and business models.

SOLUTIONS

Policymakers, EU Institutions, National and Local Governments



CCA Communities, Scientific and Technological Communities

WORK PACKAGES

The MountResilience objectives will be achieve through 6 interconnected work packages implemented by an experienced high quality consortium.

WP1 Provides a support framework to enable climate resilient regional transformation, setting the conceptual basis, providing a baseline analysis, and formulating strategies for the project regions, as well as creating and implementing tools for monitoring and impact measurement.

WP2 Ensures the design, capacity-building, set-up, and deployment of the regional demonstrators, developing and testing tech and social innovations for CCA, and mainstreaming NbS.

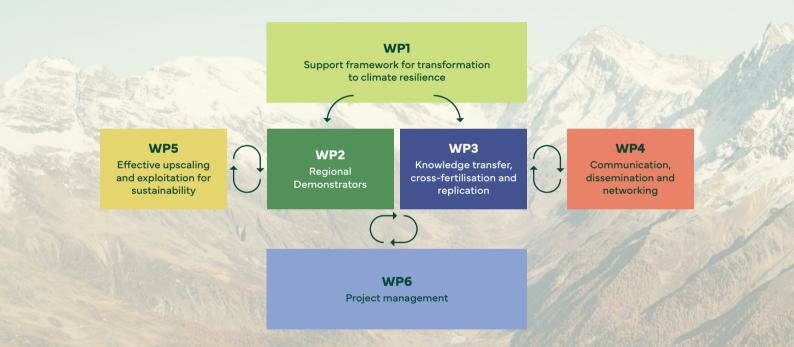
WP3 Occupies itself as a center for knowledge transfer, cross-fertilization and replication, linking demo regions, replicators and a larger group of mountainous territories. This WP is fed by WP2 and the regional strategies developed in WP1.

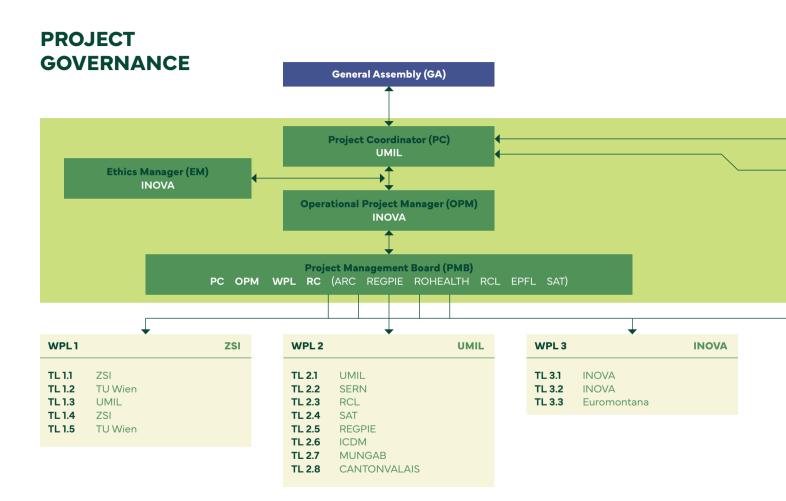
WP4 Interacts with the public and society to encourage greater societal awareness and receptivity of CCA and understanding of novel and innovative CCA solutions, it will contribute to mobilizing stakeholders and synergies with linked initiatives.

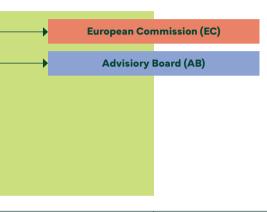
WP5 Encompasses the effective upscaling and exploitation of results, exploring and promoting sustainable pathways, including access to funding.

WP6 Supports project coordination and management.

WORK PACKAGES







A multi-layer governance structure assures an effective general management and direction of MountResilience but also creates more accountability and transparency and provides favourable settings for the consortium performance.

		↓		•	
WPL 4	Euromontana	WPL	5 META	WPL	6 UMIL
TL 4.1 TL 4.2 TL 4.3 TL 4.4	Euromontana REVOLVE	TL 5.1 TL 5.2 TL 5.3	2 META	TL 6.1 TL 6.2 TL 6.3 TL 6.4	2 INOVA 3 INOVA
TL 4.5	TU SERN Task Leader	RC	Regional Coordinator	WPL	Work Package Leader

MOUNTRESILIENCE CONSORTIUM

Austria

AMT DER TIROLER LANDESREGIERUNG (LANDTIROL)

ENERGIEAGENTUR TIROL GMBH (EAT)

GFG GENOSSENSCHAFT FUR GEMEINWOHL EG (GFG)

ZENTRUM FUR SOZIALE INNOVATION GMBH (ZSI)

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÀET WIEN (TU WIEN)

STANDORTAGENTUR TIROL GMBH (SAT)

KLIMABUNDNIS TIROL (KLIMABTIROL)

UNIVERSITÀET INNSBRUCK (UIBK)

France

EUROMONTANA (EUROMONTANA)

Belgium

REVOLVE (REVOLVE)

STARTUP EUROPE REGIONS NETWORK (SERN)

FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DE FINANCES ET BANQUES ETHIQUES ET ALTERNATIVES (FEBEA)

Bulgaria

APPLIED RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS FUND (ARC)

REGIONAL INNOVATION CENTER AMBITIOUS GABROVO (RICGABROVO)

TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY - GABROVO (TUGABROVO)

MUNICIPALITY OF GABROVO (MUNGAB)



Horizontal Partners

MOUNTRESILIENCE CONSORTIUM

Croatia

URBANEX DOO ZA GRADEVINARSTVO (URBANEX)

ZAVOD ZA PROSTORNO UREDENJE PRIMORSKO-GORANSKE ZUPANIJE (ZAVODPM)

Finland

LUONNONVARAKESKUS (LUKE)

FINNISH LAPLAND TOURIST BOARD (FLTB)

UTSJOEN KUNTA (UTSJOKI)

ENONTEKIÖN KUNTA (ENONTEKIÖ)

REGIONAL COUNCIL OF LAPLAND (RCL)

Portugal

INOVA+ - INNOVATION SERVICES, SA (INOVA)

Romania

INSTITUTUL DE CERCETARE - DEZVOLTARE PENTRU MONTANOLOGIE CRISTIAN - SIBIU (ICDM)

SOCIAL FINANCE ASSOCIATION - ASOCIATIA PENTRU FINANTARE SOCIALA (SFA)

HOLLAND FARMING AGRO SRL (HFA)

COMUNA RAU SADULUI (RAUSADULUI)

ROHEALTH - CLUSTERUL PENTRU SANATATE SI BIOECONOMIE (ROHEALTH)

Spain

DEPARTAMENT DE TERRITORI - GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA (CATALANGOV)

CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION ECOLOGICA Y APLICACIONES FORESTALES (CREAF)

MOUNTRESILIENCE CONSORTIUM

Italy

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO (UMIL)

META GROUP SRL (META)

REGIONE PIEMONTE (REGPIE)

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE (UNITS)

REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA (REGFVG)

UNIONE NAZIONALE COMUNI COMUNITA ENTI MONTANI (UNCEM)

CONSORZIO DEL PESIO (CPESIO)

COUTENZA CANALI CAVOUR (CCC)

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO (UNITO)

POLITECNICO DI TORINO (POLITO)

Poland

PODKARPACKIE CENTRUM INNOWACJI SPOLKA Z OGRANICZONA ODPOWIEDZIALNOSCIA (PODKARPACKIE)

Switzerland

APPTITUDE SA (APPTITUDE)

BLUEARK ENTREMONT (BLUEARK)

ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE FEDERALE DE LAUSANNE (EPFL)

CANTON DE VALAIS (CANTONVALAIS)

FONDATION POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE DES RÉGIONS DE MONTAGNE (FDDM)

Demo Partners

Horizontal Partners

MOUNTRESILIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ▲ ≥ 53 new CCA technological and social innovations, incl. NbS 100m€ of public funding and 25m€ of private venture capital funding captured to fund CCA results
- ▲ 6 demonstrators in 6 European countries
- ▲ 4 replicators from 4 European countries
- ▲ 4 regions eligible for EU Cohesion Fund
- ▲ 5 European mountain ranges covered
- 13m€ allocated to regional de monstrators and replicators 30m citizens with higher awareness about CCA

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- ▲ ...mountains cover 30% of the land?
- ... mountains are the origin of 60-80% of the world's freshwater?
- ▲ ... every 6th EU citizen lives in mountainous areas?
- ... the regions involved on MountResilience include some of the highest peaks on the continent?



A discourse

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO





