




Regions 4Climate

**Building resilient
communities**



There is a pressing need to establish climate resilience across Europe as the effects of climate change put increasing stress on systems and infrastructures. Unsustainable practices and use of resources, combined with greater frequency of extreme weather events and slow onset changes to the global climate, have resulted in increasing risk to the livelihood of individuals and communities in the EU.

The EU created the **EU Mission Adaptation to Climate Change** in September 2021 to accelerate resilience. The mission aims at supporting around 150 European regions and communities to become more **resilient to the impacts of climate change by 2030**.

Peer-to-peer learning, social innovation, and crossborder knowledge sharing are key to overcoming social, cultural, institutional, political, economic and technological obstacles to progress towards climate resilience.

The **Regions4Climate** project will collaboratively design and implement with citizens and other stakeholders a diverse range of regional-scale **climate resilience** innovations in support of Europe's just green transition.

13.8 million



At least 13.8 million people, inhabitants of the 12 R4C partner regions, are expected to directly benefit from the project's outcomes.

Climate change related events have cost the EU around €145 billion over the past decade.



As the climate changes, Southern Europe will become less suitable for tourism during the summer.

Rural populations are aging, with the number of people aged 65 years or over in rural areas increasing by 1.8 % each year.



Each year around 100,000 EU citizens are affected by coastal flooding.

Over 15 million people live on more than 2 000 islands across the EU.



FASTER Adaptation Challenge Suite

Frontrunner region: Basque Country (Spain)

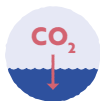
Follower regions: South Aquitaine (France), Azores (Portugal), Tuscany (Italy)

Local context: As climate change worsens, its impact on coastal areas grows. Coastal regions need locally-attuned solutions to reduce climaterelated risk, increase protection from impacts of climate change and safeguard coastal ecosystem integrity.

Main objectives:



Benchmarking of techniques for coastal protection and restoration.



Examining opportunities for Blue Carbon Credits.



Educating and engaging with citizens.



Improving cross-border actions.

SMARTER Adaptation Challenge Suite

Frontrunner region: Køge Bay (Denmark)

Follower regions: Burgas (Bulgaria), Helsinki-Uusimaa (Finland), Pärnumaa (Estonia)

Local context: Improved synthesis and visualisation of the latest data enhances understanding of the effects of climate change. Evidence-based digital tools can better inform stakeholders and support collaborative decision-making to tackle climate-related risks such as flooding, temperature increases and drought.

Main objectives:



Bridging the science stakeholder-policy gap via digital tools.



Raising citizens' awareness of climate issues, adaptation solutions, and potential trade-offs.



Improving the use of existing data.



Supporting evidence-based and collaborative decision-making.

MORE SYSTEMIC Adaptation Challenge Suite

Frontrunner region: Sitia (Greece)

Follower regions: Castilla y León (Spain), Nordic Archipelago (Finland, Åland, Sweden), Troodos (Cyprus)

Local context: Collaboration among local authorities, businesses and citizens in rural areas is essential to address the socio-economic impacts of climate change at all levels of society. Shared vision and strategy development helps to effectively address water scarcity, impacts of heatwaves, pressures on agroecosystems, and rural depopulation.

Main objectives:



Developing Green Social Business Models for sustainable socioeconomic renewal, focusing on primary industries.



Engaging with regional communities including sustainable resource use.



Developing locally-adapted resilience strategies through monitoring and modelling.



Working towards the long-term sustainable use of resources in the face of a changing climate.

Partners

Coordinated by: VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

Belgium

- REVOLVE

Bulgaria

- “Risk-Space-Transfer” Technology Transfer Office
- Burgas Municipality

Cyprus

- Cyprus Energy Agency
- Troodos Network of Thematic Centres

Denmark

- Danish Coastal Authority
- VIA University College
- Region Hovedstaden
- Region Sjælland
- University of Copenhagen

Estonia

- Stockholm Environment Institute Tallinn
- Eesti Keskkonnauuringute Keskus
- Pärnu County Development Centre
- City of Pärnu

Finland

- Teknologian Tutkimuskeskus VTT Oy
- Forum Virium Helsinki Oy
- Demos Research Institute Oy
- Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council
- Government of Åland
- University of Helsinki

France

- SUEZ Water France – Center Rivages Pro Tech

- Communauté d’Agglomération du Pays Basque
- University of Pau and the Pays de l’Adour (UPPA)

Germany

- ICLEI European Secretariat GmbH

Greece

- National Center for Scientific Research “Demokritos”
- Municipality of Sitia

Italy

- Engineering Ingegneria Informatica
- RINA Consulting
- Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies
- University of Florence
- IRIS Ambiente Bacci Maurizio
- NEMO srl
- Region Tuscany

Portugal

- Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação SPI
- Empresarial e Fomento da Inovação SA
- University of the Azores
- The Regional Fund of Science and Technology (FRCT)

Spain

- Fundacion AZTI – AZTI Fundazioa
- Zabala Innovation Consulting, S.A.
- Tecnalia Research & Innovation
- CARTIF Technology Centre
- Junta de Castilla y León
- Sociedad Pública de Gestión Ambiental IHOBE SA
- Consejería De Desarrollo Económico, Sostenibilidad y Medio Ambiente. Euskadi

Sweden

- Region Stockholm

Project Coordinator

Carmen Antuña Rozado

VTT

carmen.antuna@vtt.fi

Communication Manager

Rosa Vallespinós

REVOLVE

rosa@revolve.media



regions4climate.eu

✉ info@regions4climate.eu

in  **Regions4Climate**



**Funded by
the European Union**

The Regions4Climate Project is 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 the granting authority. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.