

# Strengthening Climate Resilience in Mountainous Regions

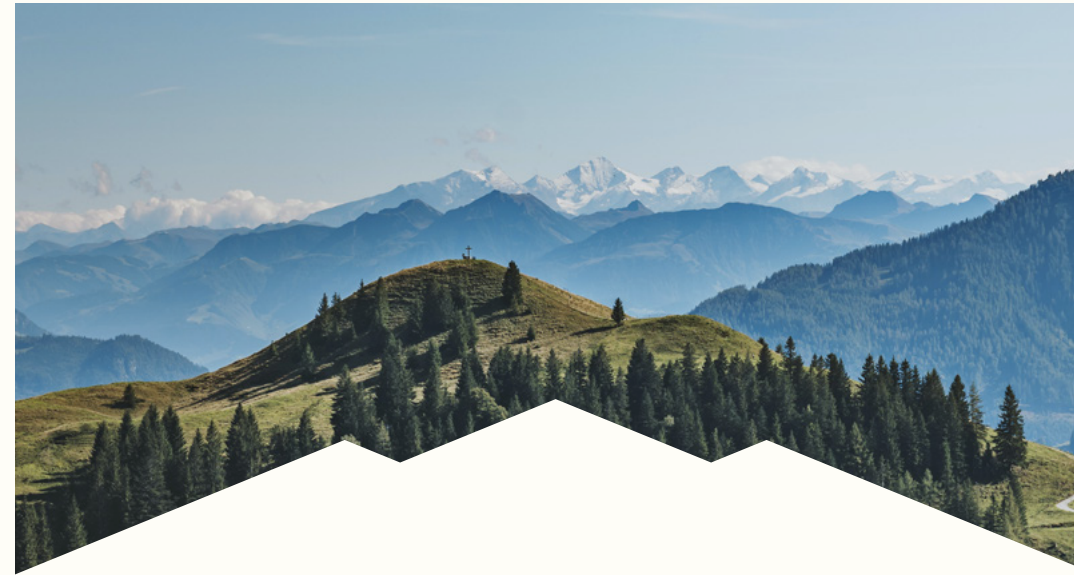


## EUROPEAN CONTEXT

Mountains cover [36% of Europe's land area](#) and are home to 17% of its population. More than just majestic landscapes, **mountains provide a range of ecosystems services and public goods to highland and lowland communities alike**. From regulating water flow and supplying clean air, to recreation and tourism.

However, mountain ecosystems are particularly sensitive to climate change, with [the Alps warming two times faster than the rest of the northern hemisphere](#), for example. The harmful conditions provoked by climate change are exacerbated by **significant deficits in adaptation responses in mountainous areas**: shortcomings in climate change adaptation measures, deficits in implementation, and a lack of coherence in the strategies at different levels (European, national, regional).

In 2021, the European Commission launched the new [EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change](#), with the aim of accelerating adaptation by offering concrete solutions, sharing knowledge, and enabling regions to become climate-resilient by 2030. In mountainous regions, the strategy's focus is on adaptation in **key sectors such as agriculture, water management, forestry and tourism**.



## FACTS

**63M** people



63 million people live in mountain areas in the EU ([EEA, 2016](#))

**2.5K**  
species of flora



Over 2,500 species and subspecies of flora live in mountainous regions ([Joint Nature Conservation Committee, 2003](#))

**40%**  
of Europe's freshwater



The Alps alone provide 40% of Europe's freshwater ([EEA, 2009](#))

**53%**  
of ski resorts at risk



53% of Europe's ski resorts could face serious operational risks due temperature increases and lack of snowmaking ([ANCT, 2024](#))

## RESOURCES

[Recognising the true value of Europe's mountains](#)

[10 messages for 2010 — Mountain ecosystems](#)

[Alpine Biodiversity in Europe: An Introduction](#)

[Water resources across Europe](#)

[Biodiversity Information System for Europe](#)

[Climate Change | Alpconv](#)

[Climate-ADAPT database: Mountain areas](#)

[EU Adaptation Strategy](#)

[Climate adaptation in the EU](#)

# Project Overview



## ABOUT

MountResilience is dedicated to strengthening the resilience of European regions and communities situated in mountainous areas. Its primary goal is to **enhance their ability to adapt to climate change and facilitate a transition toward a climate-resilient society**. The project is strategically focused on the development, testing, and scaling up of flexible climate change adaptation strategies and nature-based solutions. This comprehensive approach takes policy considerations, societal requirements, and citizen behaviours into account.

The project will accelerate the climate-resilient transformation of **ten key mountainous communities** and regions across nine European countries. Among these, six “demo” regions will focus on **developing and testing innovative climate change adaptation solutions**, integrating technological and social innovations with nature-based approaches. The remaining four regions will serve as “replicator” regions, **repurposing climate change adaptation solutions and lessons learned from the demo regions** and applying similar solutions in their areas to improve their ability to adapt to climate change.

[mountresilience.eu](http://mountresilience.eu)

## KEYWORDS

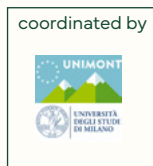
- ▲ Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)
- ▲ Climate Adaptation
- ▲ Water Management
- ▲ Mountain Development
- ▲ Climate Resilience
- ▲ Mountain Communities

## BUDGET

**Total budget:** € 16 million

For more details about Partners and Budget, visit [CORDIS](https://cordis.europa.eu)

## PARTNERS



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