

Submitted Abstract

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Abstract

The urgent need for adaptation measures to improve the resilience of European territories and communities has become increasingly clear with the irreversible acceleration of climate change¹. For this reason, some key strategies such as the EU Adaptation Strategy² and the EU Green Deal³ have been developed.

The main objective of the IMPETUS H2020 project⁴, launched in October 2021, is to turn climate commitments into tangible actions. It develops and validate multiscale, multi-level, and cross-sectoral set of solutions for climate change adaptation to speed up the transition towards a climate-neutral economy and society. The project aims to build communities of local actors able to assess future development scenarios based on objective data and to support strategic decision-making processes. Local communities are engaged in co-design, assessment, implementation, and monitoring of the innovative solutions to tackle climate change. IMPETUS Demo Sites cover 7 biogeographical regions of EU (continental, coastal, Mediterranean, Atlantic, Arctic, boreal, mountainous), demonstrating a full variety of present and future climate threats.

Valle dei Laghi (NE Italy) represents the mountainous region, where the impacts of climate change are leading to an increase in current land and water use conflicts. The local partnership follows the quadruple helix engaging academy, industry, public bodies and civil society. The Agency for Environmental Protection of the Province of Trento is privileged observer. The involvement of local stakeholders is ensured by the partners and observers, bringing together farmers, municipalities, citizens, economic and tourism operators, to facilitate the design and adoption of the adaptation solutions by the local community. A strong synergy is foreseen with the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Province government (Trento) as an opportunity to identify and test effective innovative solutions to address sustainability and climate resilience within the local context. The Bio-District model (a well-established association bringing together several local stakeholders) is taken as a reference for the connection between civil society and environmental/climatic issues. Networks of climate practitioners included among the project observers will ensure the replication of IMPETUS solutions in other mountain territories.

This contribution details the approach of IMPETUS to achieve a suitable adaptation pathway for the Valle dei Laghi. From knowledge and data to analyse and model present and future climate change impacts on different sectors (viticulture, hydro-power production, ecosystems, tourism, built environment, risk management) to the governance processes that will shape the participatory development and the testing of the multi-sectoral adaptation solutions.

1

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/285d038f-b543-11e7-837e-01aa75ed71a1>

2

https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/adaptation-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy_en#tab-0-1

3

https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

4

<https://climate-impetus.eu/>