

# In short

## Figures and facts

- Funded by the European Territorial Cooperation Alpine Space Programme 2007–2013
- Priority 3, Environment and Risk Prevention
- 3.117.291 € Project budget
- 2.199.659 € ERDF
- 3 Years of project duration (01/2012 – 12/2014)
- 17 Partners from all Alpine Space countries: Austria, Italy, France, Germany, Slovenia, Liechtenstein and Switzerland
- 7 Work Packages
- 10 Accomplished Alpine Space projects to build on: CLISP, AdaptAlp, Alp-Water-Scarce, ClimAlpTour, PermaNet, SILMAS, MANFRED, ALP FFIRS, PARAMOUNT, AlpHouse
- 10 Partners transferring climate change knowledge to decision-makers and pioneering action on adaptation in pilot regions and municipalities in all Alpine countries
- More than 25 observers and supporting organizations at all governance levels, ranging from the European to the regional level, as well as the private sector
- 1 Transnational synthesis knowledge base for national, regional and local action on adaptation in the Alpine Space

Further details are available on [www.c3alps.eu](http://www.c3alps.eu)

# Partnership

- Environment Agency Austria (A)  
[www.umweltbundesamt.at](http://www.umweltbundesamt.at)
- Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Public Health (D)  
[www.stmug.bayern.de](http://www.stmug.bayern.de)
- Forest Research Institute of Baden-Wuerttemberg (D)  
[www.fva-bw.de](http://www.fva-bw.de)
- Chamber of Trade und Crafts for Munich und Upper Bavaria (D)  
[www.hwk-muenchen.de](http://www.hwk-muenchen.de)
- Lower Austrian Regional Government Office (A)  
[www.noel.gv.at/klima](http://www.noel.gv.at/klima)
- Regional Government of Carinthia (A)  
[www.umwelt.ktn.gv.at](http://www.umwelt.ktn.gv.at)
- Paris-Lodron University Salzburg, Centre for Geoinformatics (A)  
[www.zgis.at/research](http://www.zgis.at/research)
- UNEP Regional Office for Europe (A)  
[www.unep.at](http://www.unep.at)
- Region of Veneto (I)  
[www.regione.veneto.it](http://www.regione.veneto.it)
- Regional Agency for Environmental Protection of Piedmont (I)  
[www.arpa.piemonte.it](http://www.arpa.piemonte.it)
- Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change (I)  
[www.cmcc.it](http://www.cmcc.it)
- European Academy Bolzano (I)  
[www.eurac.edu](http://www.eurac.edu)
- University of Savoie, Laboratory EDYTEM (F)  
[www.edytem.univ-savoie.fr](http://www.edytem.univ-savoie.fr)
- Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (SI)  
[www.uirs.si](http://www.uirs.si)
- Federal Office for Spatial Development (CH)  
[www.are.admin.ch](http://www.are.admin.ch)
- Federal Office for the Environment (CH)  
[www.bafu.admin.ch](http://www.bafu.admin.ch)
- Principality of Liechtenstein, Office of Forests, Nature and Land Management (FL)  
[www.awnl.li.li](http://www.awnl.li.li)



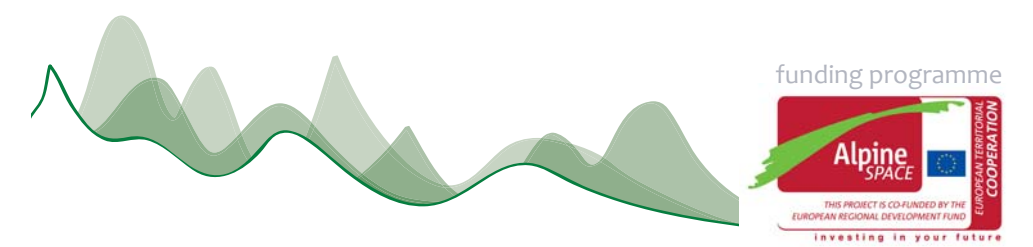
Capitalising climate change knowledge for adaptation in the alpine space

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## Smart knowledge on climate change adaptation

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# Adaptation: a necessity and an opportunity for the Alps

The Alps are more strongly affected by climate change than other regions in Europe. Further warming and a range of adverse impacts are already unavoidable today. Long-term climatic changes and growing risks from extreme weather events and natural hazards are causing critical impacts on natural systems, ecosystem services, health, and the built environment. This can in turn result in severe knock-on effects on all economic sectors and on the development and growth potential of all Alpine regions. Often, other environmental and socio-economic pressures are exacerbated by climatic stresses. However, the impacts and their magnitude will be distributed unevenly across Alpine regions, depending on specific vulnerabilities and adaptive capacities. This calls for tailored response strategies that are embedded in a joint transnational framework for action.

EC's White Paper on adaptation to cli-

mate change stresses the need for building a solid knowledge base, integrating adaptation into key policy areas, developing regional adaptation strategies, and ensuring coherency across different sectors and levels of governance.

Adaptation also represents an opportunity. Preventive adaptation not only reduces negative effects and damages, it also allows taking advantage of potential benefits from climatic changes. Well-planned adaptation can leverage future development paths that are more sustainable than often the case today, and it provides a chance to explore and exploit new economic growth potential for the Alpine regions.

## C3-Alps and adaptation

Step by step, adaptation to climate change is already taking place at various levels. Previous ETC Alpine Space projects and other studies and initiatives have analysed climate change impacts in the Alps and recommended options for action, opening up a wide range of adaptation opportunities. Experiences and good examples of adaptation activities do exist. There is an "Alpine adaptation capital" made up of knowledge and practice.

However, this adaptive capacity does not automatically translate into successful adaptation. At regional and local scales adaptation is crucial to advance Alpine resilience to climate change, but the actual implementation of adaptive action on these levels is still widely lacking. This indicates that both awareness and the positive use of existing adaptation knowledge are still limited. This raises important questions about the accessibility, usability and transfer of the information available so far.

Moreover, there is a unsatisfied need for cross-cutting adaptation strategies that are harmonized across sectors, customized to the user needs of target groups and tailored to the specific adaptation challenges of different Alpine territories.

So, how can we build on available know-how and generate an advanced and consolidated adaptation knowledge base for the Alps that matches the needs of decision-makers? How can we effectively transfer that knowledge to target groups in the Alpine Space and beyond and make adaptation really happen?

Herein lays the challenge of C3-Alps.

## Goals, activities, actors

C3-Alps is a transnational capitalisation project. Building on available results of previous projects and initiatives, C3-Alps aims at synthesizing, transferring and implementing in policy and practice the best available adaptation knowledge in the Alps. By applying a knowledge transfer concept that is driven by the information and communication needs of target groups, the project optimizes the usability of available knowledge and seeks to bridge the gap between the generation of adaptation knowledge and its use in real-world decision-making. Interactions with target groups are used to facilitate communication and learning processes. C3-Alps supports bottom-up action on adaptation in Alpine regions and municipalities, contributes to implementation of national adaptation strategies, and spreads out Alpine adaptation capital in the Alpine community and beyond.

The strategic partnership bundles au-

thorities responsible for climate adaptation policies on national and regional levels as well as expert institutions supporting national and EU adaptation strategies.

Relevant target groups comprise policy and decision makers, stakeholders, and experts at national, regional and local levels that take or influence decisions on adaptation: ministries, regional authorities, municipal councils, climate policy coordinators, regional development managers, future adaptation managers, persons able to act as 'change agents', inter alia are all invited to join the C3-Alps experience.

### Pilot areas

C3-Alps implements adaptation in policy and practise. Customized knowledge is transferred and tailored action delivered at the regional and municipal scales. The project supports the design and implementation of adaptation strategies, action plans, and measures in concrete Alpine regions and municipalities.

