

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

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Photo credit: Mitja Legat

In a world grappling with unpredictable climate patterns, the X-RISK-CC project, in partnership with ten allies across the Alpine Space, is charting the course for risk managers and policymakers. Together, we're tackling the intricate challenges brought about by extreme weather events in our changing climate.

X-RISK-CC WHAT'S GOING ON?

Our journey kicked off with a deep dive into the realm of extreme weather. Harnessing data from our pilot areas, we embarked on a comprehensive assessment of the likelihood of meteorological extremes. This included analyzing the significant Vaia storm in Trentino South Tyrol. Simultaneously, we scrutinized historical and current trends in climate drivers impacting the region, with a particular focus on intense precipitation in the Gorenjska Region. We expanded these assessments across the entire Alpine Space, leveraging innovative downscaling methods to enhance the precision of climate projections and better equip us for preparedness and planning.

Understanding Risks and Impacts

In Work Package 2, our focus shifted to the collection of vital data concerning hazards, vulnerability, and exposure in our pilot areas. This forms the cornerstone of our efforts to assess risks associated with extreme events. Our approach combines quantitative tools, such as a modular scheme for assessing compound and cascading hazards, with qualitative methods that delve into sequential impact chains. To extend the reach of our impact analysis across the Alpine Space, we've introduced a data-driven scheme. This innovative approach assists in modeling and predicting impact probabilities linked to weather conditions, climate drivers, and other environmental factors.

Rapid Risk Management and Collaboration

Within Work Package 3, we've successfully developed a rapid risk management appraisal approach. This method will guide upcoming workshops in each pilot area, where local experts and decision-makers will assess the strengths and limitations of risk practices during targeted extreme events. Our recent partner meeting in Munich further cemented the crucial link between the scientific analyses in Work Packages 1 and 2 and the practical needs outlined in Work Package 3. Together, we've laid the groundwork for the risk assessment manual and pilot action plans.

Highlights

from the pilot
areas



ASSESSING AND IMPROVING RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE PILOT AREAS OF SOUTH TYROL (ITALY)

From October to December, workshops were held in all pilot areas of the project, in which local stakeholders and experts in the field of risk management in connection with extreme weather events participated.

There are two pilot areas of the X-RISK-CC project in the province of Bolzano. The first workshop for the "VAIA" pilot area took place on 24 October 2023 at the Latemar Forestry School, while the workshop for the "Wipptal/Pfersch" pilot area was held on 10 November 2023 in the community hall in Gossensaß.

The workshops provided a platform where representatives from various sectors, including municipal representatives, public authorities, civil protection organisations, etc., came together to jointly analyse risk management in connection with the respective events. Based on the findings, the next step will be to develop tailored actions for the pilot areas to help improve risk management. This step will also be carried out in collaboration with the various stakeholders and experts in the pilot areas.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- European Academy of Bozen-Bolzano – EURAC Research (Lead partner)
- Civil Protection Agency, Autonomous Province of Bolzano
- Autonomous Province of Trento
- Slovenian Environment Agency
- Development agency Sora
- Auvergne Rhône-Alpes Energy Environment Agency
- GeoSphere Austria
- Forest-technical service for torrent and avalanche control, Section Tyrol
- Technical University of Munich
- Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL
- Environment Agency Austria

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