

# Climate-ADAPT use case 4 — Italy

## Understanding the state of the art of EU countries' impact indicators to determine national indicators for climate change impacts in Italy

**Climate-ADAPT features used:** countries/regions/cities (country pages)

**Sector:** adaptation in general

**Governance level:** national

**Biogeographical region:**  
Mediterranean

**Macro-region:** southern Europe

**Policy stage:** monitoring and evaluation

### The challenge

Among the key points emerging from the Italian National Adaptation Strategy adopted in 2015 was the lack of a quantitative knowledge base on current and projected climate change impacts. To fill this knowledge gap, the National System for Environmental Protection, consisting of the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and the Regional Environmental Protection Agencies, was considered to be the most suitable institutional body. For this purpose, ISPRA, in collaboration with the Regional Environmental Protection Agencies, launched an

initiative aiming to define a national climate change impact indicators framework as a tool to support the development of adaptation strategies and plans.

### The approach

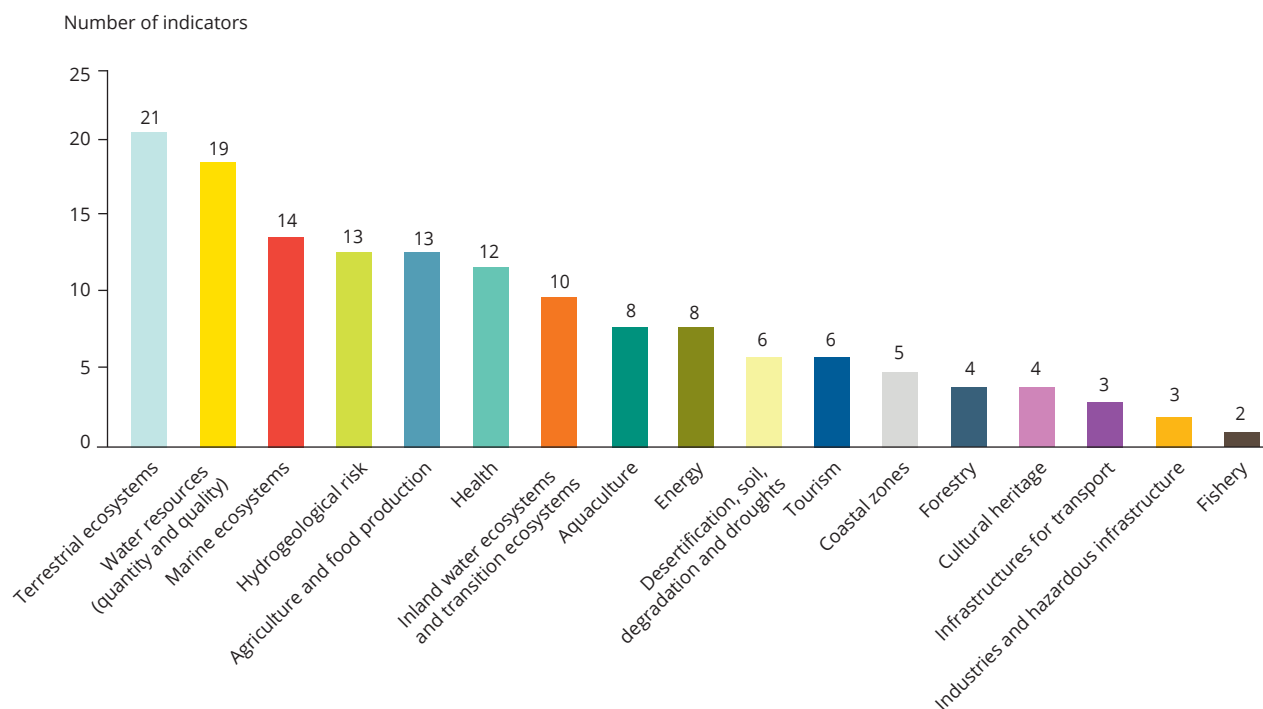
To take stock of existing experiences on climate change impacts and vulnerability indicators among the EU Member States, ISPRA developed an overview based mainly on the information provided within the country pages<sup>(21)</sup> of Climate-ADAPT, with a particular focus on the contents of the 'Assessments' and 'Summary' pages. The information provided, as well as the documents listed on the individual country pages, were analysed and were compared with the aim of gaining inspiration from other countries already working on climate change impact indicators. In particular, information and documents from Belgium, France, Germany, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom were analysed, and the most common and frequently used climate change impact indicators identified as references for the development of the Italian indicator system.

The selection of countries was mainly based on similarities in vulnerability features, as well as the availability of documents in English and/or French.

By using descriptive country information presented at EU level on Climate-ADAPT, ISPRA was able to take advantage of existing methodologies to develop evidence documents that will feed into the adaptation policy process in Italy.

<sup>(21)</sup> <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries-regions/countries>

**Figure A4 A first portfolio of potential climate change indicators for Italy**



**Source:** Francesca Giordano (ISPRA, Italy).

### Future plans

The future work of ISPRA and the Regional Environmental Protection Agencies over the next two years will focus on the definition of criteria for the selection of the best climate change impact indicators at national level and the best methodologies with which to study them. The purpose is to build a solid knowledge base on the current and projected impacts of climate change in Italy. ISPRA will use Climate-ADAPT to obtain quickly available and up-to-date information

on the approaches used by other Member States and select similar/comparable methods and tools when feasible. In this context, it would be helpful if the portlet of the thematic maps available on the introductory country pages of Climate-ADAPT, which use quick links to the information available on each topic for each country, could be enriched with more thematic maps such as those showing monitoring tools and indicators.