



# VENETO, ITALY

Veneto is advancing climate adaptation through structured planning, stakeholder engagement, and multi-level coordination. By aligning regional strategies with EU goals and fostering inclusive dialogue, the region is building a solid foundation for long-term climate resilience.

## EU MISSION IMPACT

A Mission Charter Signatory, the Veneto Region is stepping up its climate resilience through structured planning and inclusive engagement. With tailored support from the MIP4Adapt programme, the region is advancing its Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (SRACC) using the EU's Regional Adaptation Support Tool (RAST).

Veneto received Type 1 and 3 Technical Assistance, facilitated by the Italian partner Ambiente Italia. Type 1 support enabled the region to host five thematic stakeholder meetings, gathering over 300 feedback points to refine adaptation actions aligned with local priorities. Type 3 support mobilised broader community engagement, including the use of the MIRO tool for stakeholder mapping and a regional conference to present the SRACC.

The region is now well-positioned to implement targeted, innovative adaptation measures, informed by both technical guidance and stakeholder collaboration.

*“The support provided was instrumental in facilitating the consultation process and effectively engaging key stakeholders. Their valuable feedback played a crucial role in refining the proposed measures for the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (SRACC). This collaborative approach not only ensured the strategy's relevance and practicality but also fostered a shared sense of ownership and strengthened partnerships among all participants.”*

**PAOLO GIANDON**

Director of Environment & Ecological transition Dept. of Veneto Region

## REGIONAL PROFILE

Located in northeastern Italy, Veneto stretches from the Dolomite Mountains in the north to the Adriatic Sea in the south, covering around 18,400 km<sup>2</sup>. With a population of nearly 5 million, it is one of Italy's most populous and economically important regions. Major cities include Venice, Verona, Padua, and Vicenza, each contributing to a rich mix of cultural heritage, tourism, agriculture, and industrial activity. The region features diverse landscapes, including coastal plains, river basins, and mountainous terrain, and is home to both densely populated urban areas and rural communities. Its economic strength lies in a combination of advanced manufacturing, agri-food production, and a world-renowned tourism sector.

## CLIMATE CHALLENGES

Veneto faces growing climate risks, including rising average temperatures and more frequent, prolonged heatwaves. Rainfall remains stable in annual totals but is becoming more intense and erratic, heightening the risk of droughts and flash floods. Coastal areas, particularly around Venice, are vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surges, saltwater intrusion, and dune erosion, threatening both ecosystems and local livelihoods.

## SOLUTIONS

Veneto focused on a comprehensive, participatory approach to strengthen its Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (SRACC). Key solutions included mapping existing regional planning tools related to climate change, building a common database on current and projected climate impacts, and identifying critical vulnerabilities across the territory.

Multi-level governance was prioritised to improve coordination across institutions and sectors, ensuring coherent adaptation planning. With the support of the Italian facilitator (Ambiente Italia), the region organised stakeholder-driven meetings to refine and localise the proposed measures in SRACC, ensuring they align with territorial knowledge and practical experience.



## OUTPUTS

As part of the technical assistance process, Veneto undertook a comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise using a structured MIRO board. This helped align stakeholders with specific climate risks and thematic areas of interest, ensuring more targeted and meaningful engagement. A tailored work plan was also developed to support ongoing consultation and cross-sector collaboration.

To gather local insights, five thematic stakeholder meetings were held, each focusing on a key area of climate impact. These meetings aimed to identify additional actions and measures needed to enhance the region's adaptation efforts and highlighted the value of contributions from a wide range of sectors. The sessions covered:

- Urban areas, involving public authorities, planners, and infrastructure stakeholders
- Mountain and rural areas, with a focus on forestry and agriculture
- Coastal and lagoon areas, centred on water resources
- Economic operators
- Associations and third-sector organisations

The feedback collected - over 300 individual points - along with written contributions submitted during the public consultation, played a key role in shaping the Strategy, particularly in refining the proposed adaptation actions.

A major milestone in the process was the presentation of the updated SRACC at a regional conference in Venice in July 2024. The event highlighted the collaborative approach taken and reinforced the Region's commitment to inclusive and evidence-based climate adaptation planning.

## LESSONS LEARNED

Veneto's experience shows the value of strong coordination between institutions, departments and local stakeholders. This approach helped ensure the strategy was realistic, widely supported and grounded in practical needs.

Bringing together a wide range of actors added useful perspectives and made the final plan more relevant and adaptable. Open dialogue helped build a sense of shared responsibility and encouraged long-term commitment to action.

Finally, combining data with local insights proved essential. It helped turn complex climate information into practical measures tailored to regional challenges.

