

LET'S FARM A BETTER CLIMATE!



Green Economy
and CO₂

GECO2



@geco2eu

www.italy-croatia.eu/geco2

Why the GECO2 project?



Agriculture is a key sector to decrease carbon emissions.

The adoption of the Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015 set the basis for a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change phasing out CO₂ and other greenhouse gases emissions.

Besides international efforts to mitigate climate change, communities throughout the world need to enhance the implementation of innovative local policies to limit emissions and adapt their economic and social system to the changing climate.

In this framework the GECO2 project aims at strengthening the potential of the agricultural sector in the Adriatic Region to decrease carbon emissions in the atmosphere through better management of soils and crop residues and to create income with the implementation of voluntary carbon markets.

What are GECO2's goals?



The GECO2 project will set up an innovative interregional system to improve climate change monitoring, experiment eco-friendly agricultural practices and launch a new voluntary carbon market.

The project actions, carried out through an effective cross-border cooperation, will contribute in introducing more eco-friendly use of the land, decreasing climate change risks and promoting new environmentally qualified products.

GECO2 will support the adoption of sustainable farming practices and will enhance the cooperation between agricultural, industrial and services companies, with gains both from an economic and environmental point of view.

Key project numbers

8 PARTNERS
3 CROATIAN COUNTIES
15 ITALIAN PROVINCES

PROJECT DURATION: 30 MONTHS

ERDF: 2.115.851 EURO

TOTAL BUDGET: 2.489.237 EURO

NATIONAL CO-FINANCING: 373.385 EURO

Partners



What are the expected results?

Setting up and testing a **voluntary carbon market** designed to offset greenhouse gases, GECO2 focuses on the revalorization of the **agricultural sector** and the promotion of carbon neutrality for **industrial and services sectors**.



Agricultural clusters and farmers will be selected in each area to test mitigation, adaptation and CO₂ sequestration measures, in order to enhance soil carbon fixation. **Scientific guidelines** will define cropping protocols and jointly shared methodologies for the evaluation and validation of CO₂ sequestration. Each selected farmer will be supported in measuring stocked carbon and carbon credits so generated.



Emitters - such as industrial and service companies - will be encouraged to buy carbon credits generated by farmers, in order to reduce their own carbon footprint and achieve a "Zero emission status", at least for a product or a service line. GECO2 will provide them with a "**CO₂ free**" logo that will be used to testify their commitment to the reduction of GHG emissions and to enhance the green marketing lever. The matching of carbon credits supply with the compensation requests may therefore be a winning formula for everyone: farmers, landowners, companies, public administrations, citizens and for the environment as a whole.



Through the creation of a **Regional climatic change observatory**, that will collect data regarding resilience, GHG emissions and sequestrations, GECO2 will improve the regional capacity to monitor and understand climate change in the Adriatic region and at local level, favouring the introduction of innovative policies and techniques on climate change adaptation and mitigation.



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ARPAE - Regional Agency for Prevention, Environment and Energy in Emilia-Romagna - Hydrometeorology Service (Lead partner)

CIHEAM Bari - International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies - Mediterranean Agronomic Institute Of Bari

Molise Region

Marche Region

RERA S.D. - Public Institution for Coordination And Development Of Split - Dalmatia County

Zadar County Rural Development Agency

Dubrovnik Neretva Region

Legacoop Romagna