



*Climate change: yes, we care!*

# CHANGE WE CARE

Climate challenges on coastal and transitional changing areas: Weaving a Cross-Adriatic Response





## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The project intends to explore climate risks faced by coastal and transition areas contributing to a better understanding of the impact of climate variability and change on water regimes, salt intrusion, tourism, biodiversity and agro-ecosystems affecting the cooperation area. The main aim is to define a paradigm for transferring successful methods of analysis, development and implementation of adaptation measures from five pilot sites to other systems facing similar problems at the cross-border scale and to deliver integrated, ecosystem-based and shared planning options, coupled with adaptation measures to decision makers and coastal communities.

## PARTNERSHIP



## PILOT SITE OVERVIEW

NAME	BANCO DELLA MULA DI MUGGIA
Country	Italy
Responsible Partner	Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia (RAFGV)
Reference Map	 
General description	The area comprises a wide shallow waters coastal area off the mouth of the river Isonzo, presenting a system of sandy bars covered in its inner part by a wide seagrass meadow, an important nursery and feeding site for many marine species.

### Contact person

Antonio Bratus  
 Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia (RAFGV)  
 Piazza Unità d'Italia, 1, Trieste (TS), Italy  
 +39 040 xxxxxxxxxx  
[antonio.bratus@regione.fvg.it](mailto:antonio.bratus@regione.fvg.it)

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CNR-ISMAR, [davide.bonaldo@ve.ismar.cnr.it](mailto:davide.bonaldo@ve.ismar.cnr.it)

## **GEOMORPHOLOGICAL AND ECOLOGICAL FEATURES**

Banco della Mula di Muggia comprises a succession of sandy bars (between -2 m and -5 m), arranged in the form of an arc, representing the outer limit of a wide muddy intertidal zone partially covered by seagrass. The back-barrier is dominated by muddy sand, commonly covered by dense seaweed meadows. The fore-barrier present higher-energy conditions and rippled sand. It is commonly assumed to represent the remnants of the former Isonzo river delta having formed during the Middle Ages and it is part of Natura 2000 sites.



## **MAIN PROBLEMS TO BE TACKLED & OBJECTIVES TO ACHIEVE**

External sandy bars tend to migrate toward south-west, following the littoral drift generated by waves. Sediment supply derives from east, from the fluvial source of the Isonzo River. On the western terminus, the bathymetric contours curve abruptly, thus inducing bars to shift landward toward the touristic beaches. Therein, sediment tends to accumulate over time, and the area is currently the final sink for the whole up-drift sector. Therefore there is the urgent need to balance between tourism development and protection of the natural areas.



## **ACTIVITIES TO CARRY OUT & STAKEHOLDER TO BE INVOLVED**

The project intends to develop an adaptive management plan for solving the conflicts between tourism and protected areas. The “living with nature” approach aimed at enhancing circulation and sediment transport dynamics will be used to reestablishing attractiveness of the landscape. The activities will be carried out in collaboration with tourism operators, local authorities, protected areas management bodies and environmental associations.

