

THE AREA

Venice Lagoon Basin Demo site



- Drainage basin 2000 km² - about half (1000 km²) studied in NATALIE
- Veneto region - Rural/agricultural but densely urbanized
- Study area include a drainage network of about 2300 km of stream.
- Veneto region has signed the EU mission charter for Adaptation

INVOLVED PARTNERS



THE NATALIE PROJECT

ABOUT NATALIE

NATALIE is an **European Union research project** contributing to the objectives of the **EU mission "Adaptation to Climate Change"**, aiming to empower at least 150 regions and local communities to become climate resilient by 2030.

To achieve our technical, financial, legal and social objectives, we are a consortium of **43 partners** committed for **5 years** to the common goal of accelerating the adoption of **Nature-based Solutions (NBS) across Europe**.

8 CASE STUDIES

18 NBS are being implemented, monitored and their performance assessed in 8 demonstration sites covering 6 different biogeographical regions of Europe. All these sites have different context and are facing different climatic challenges. The potential of replication of these solutions will be studied in 4 "follower sites".



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SUSTAINABLE RIVER RESTORATION, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT

ITALY



Pianton, Venice lagoon basin, Veneto region



CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES

1 Increase of **heavy rains, erosion** and **landslides risk**



2 **Rising temperatures**, intensifying pressures on local **biodiversity** and water demand for agriculture.



OBJECTIVES

- * Shift from a grey and rigid river banks management to a **greener, more gentle management**
- * Make the area more **resilient to flood** events or **extreme temperatures**



HOW WILL THIS WORK?



- * **Monitor** appropriate indicators to track progress in **environmental** parameters (biodiversity, hydrology, and geomorphology) and **societal** fields (capacity building and social acceptance),
- * **Build capacity** by training workers to adopt and implement the proposed approach effectively,
- * **Raise social awareness** through dialogue with **citizens and landowners**, particularly targeting **farmers' associations**.

“Nature Based Solutions for river restoration and maintenance can really trigger the transition toward sustainable practices and behaviours in our society”



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What are Nature-based Solutions (NBS)?

Ever wondered how nature can help us tackle climate change?

NBS are “**Solutions inspired and supported by nature**, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide **environmental, social and economic benefits** and help build resilience.”
European Commission, 2015.

What NBS will be implemented in Veneto ?

- **Revegetation**: strips with uncut herbaceous vegetation at the base of the banks reduce the risk of landslide and increase biodiversity.
- **Slope reduction**, avoiding the use of rocks and stones, and favouring instead the widening of the canal bed and shaping fewer steep banks.
- **Widening the canal bed** and avoiding the use of rock and stones.
- **Increasing biodiversity and ecological connectivity** in the region

