



Down to Earth

ISOCARP INSTITUTE partners in Interreg Europe project DOWN-TO-EARTH



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Climate change and its consequences represents a common challenge for all European regions, notably with natural disasters such as wildfires and landslides increasing both in frequency and severity. **Rural areas and communities** affected by depopulation and land abandonment are especially exposed to these consequences.

Interregional cooperation for sustainable, resilient and attractive rural areas



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DOWN-TO-EARTH gathers a group of organisations working on different aspects related to disaster risk reduction and rural development from regions across Europe, who firmly believe that **retaining population** and encouraging **sustainable practices** in key sectors is crucial to **curb environmental deterioration**, and can greatly **contribute to risk prevention**.

Funded by the **Interreg Europe programme**, the partnership will work together to identify and promote win-win solutions to manage, maintain and enhance natural capital to reduce the risk and impact of environmental disasters, while generating economic and social opportunities to attract population to rural areas

Thanks to **mutual learning through interregional exchange of experiences**, the **capacities** of the regional and local authorities as well as relevant stakeholders from the participating rural areas to deal with the identified challenges will be increased.

DOWN-TO-EARTH's main objective is to **lead to a better use of available tools and resources**, including Cohesion Policy funds, in the participating regions, ultimately seeking to **promote sustainable development and increase the disaster risk resilience of rural communities across Europe**.

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