

# BUILDING RESILIENCE TO OVERCOME VULNERABILITY



Mountains act as socio-ecological ecosystems, providing diverse range of public goods and services

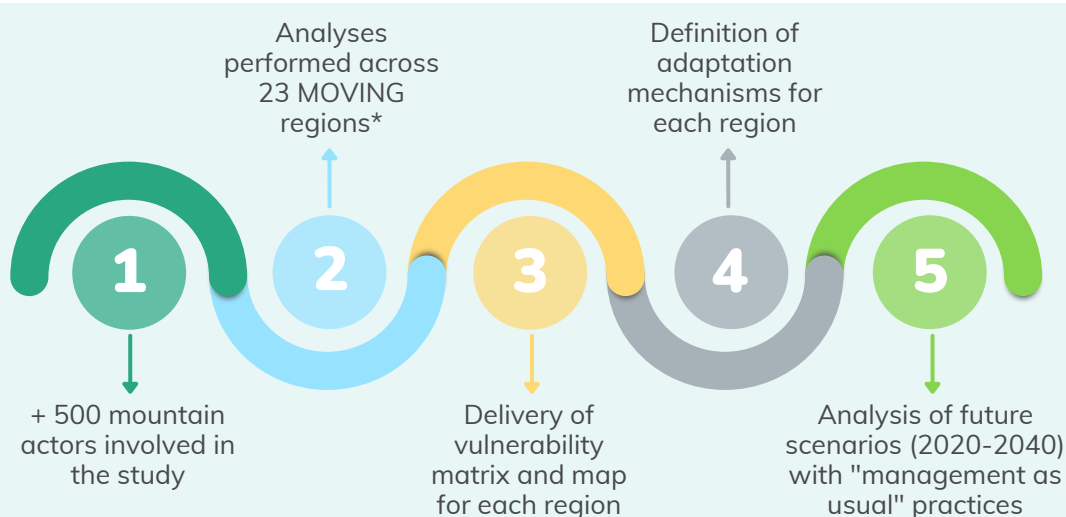


Global changes expose these ecosystems to various threats, increasing their **VULNERABILITY**

Understanding the extent and magnitude of the **vulnerability** of mountain regions to **different drivers of change** is crucial to **design mitigation and adaptation strategies** that enable the sustainability of these ecosystems

## OBJECTIVE

Analyse the vulnerability to key drivers of change in Europe's mountains through a participatory approach



\*The analyses were carried out at the level of Mountain Reference Landscapes (MRL)

## INSIGHTS FROM THE STUDY



**Rainfall and temperature**  
Identified as the most important factors affecting mountain vulnerability



**Variability in non-climatic drivers**  
Their impacts vary greatly across analysed regions



**Demographic changes**  
Exhibited high sensitivity in all 23 regions



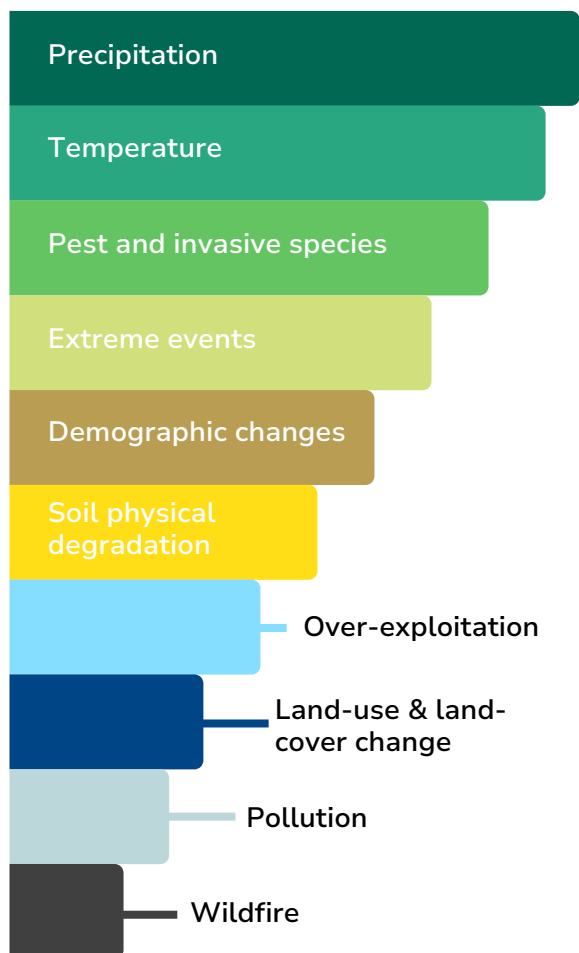
**All drivers of change increase in magnitude**  
Primarily in the realm of climate factors

## Key definitions

- **Vulnerability:** propensity of exposed elements such as human beings, their livelihoods, and assets, to suffer adverse effects when impacted by hazards
- **Contextual vulnerability:** System's inability to cope with changing climatic conditions
- **Drivers of change:** Natural or human-induced factors that directly or indirectly cause a change in the system and affect its vulnerability

Check the 23 MOVING vulnerability matrixes

## VULNERABILITY DRIVERS RANKING



## ADAPTATION MECHANISMS

- 160 adaptation mechanisms identified across analysed mountain areas.
- Most adaptation mechanisms found to have **high social and environmental feasibility**, with moderate technical and economic feasibility.
- 50% of these mechanisms already implemented within analysed mountain value chains, with **30% considered novel or innovative**.
- A **well-balanced combination** of adaptation mechanisms is often the optimal approach, as few mechanisms alone can fully mitigate drivers of change vulnerability.



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