



Policy recommendations for climate adaptation in the **TROMS & FINNMARK AREA**

Why climate adaptation matters

Europe is already facing the cost of climate inaction. Between 1980 and 2023, climate-related economic losses totalled €738 billion – and that figure could rise to 4% of EU GDP annually by the end of the century without effective adaptation.

The IMPETUS project

IMPETUS is an EU-funded project active across seven biogeographical regions – arctic, atlantic, boreal, coastal, continental, mediterranean and mountain. It aims to turn adaptation commitments into real-world actions that protect people, ecosystems, and infrastructure.

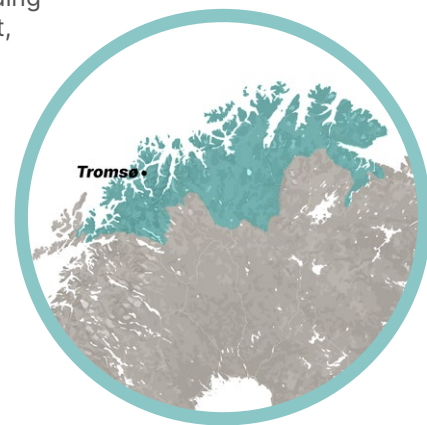
The project develops and tests tailored climate adaptation solutions, combining:

- technological and nature-based innovations,
- financing mechanisms,
- strong stakeholder and policy engagement.

About the region

Located beyond the Arctic Circle, Troms and Finnmark are Norway's northernmost regions. They face diverse climate risks including landslides, avalanches, glacial retreat, and sea-level rise. With a dispersed population and strong dependence on fisheries, tourism, and traditional livelihoods like reindeer herding, local communities and infrastructure are increasingly exposed to climate hazards.

Addressing these challenges requires flexible, locally-grounded adaptation strategies that strengthen technical knowledge, improve access to funding, and encourage private sector involvement.



Key recommendations for the Troms & Finnmark

Strengthen local capabilities for climate adaptation

Issue: Local stakeholders, including municipalities and citizens, often lack the technical skills and knowledge to implement adaptation measures effectively.

Actions:

- Develop capacity-building programmes for local governments and stakeholders.
- Establish regional support hubs (e.g. through institutions like CARE at UiT).
- Raise public awareness of specific hazards (e.g. snow avalanches) via tools like Varsom or Skiguide apps.

Outcome: Increased effectiveness and local ownership of climate adaptation efforts.



Funding



Awareness



Policy

Empower regional and local actors through flexible funding mechanisms

Issue: Centralised funding models limit the responsiveness and sustainability of local adaptation initiatives.

Actions:

- Advocate for decentralised funding models that provide long-term flexibility for local adaptation.
- Ensure local actors can mobilise and manage resources tailored to their needs.

Outcome: More context-specific and sustainable adaptation solutions.

Create incentives for private sector engagement

Issue: Private sector involvement in climate adaptation remains limited due to unclear benefits and undefined roles in public-private partnerships.

Actions:

- Introduce incentives such as tax benefits or blended finance schemes.
- Clearly communicate the expected benefits of engagement (e.g. reduced economic loss from climate risks).
- Establish transparent decision-making and liability frameworks for Public-Private Partnerships.

Outcome: Stronger private sector participation and investment in climate adaptation.

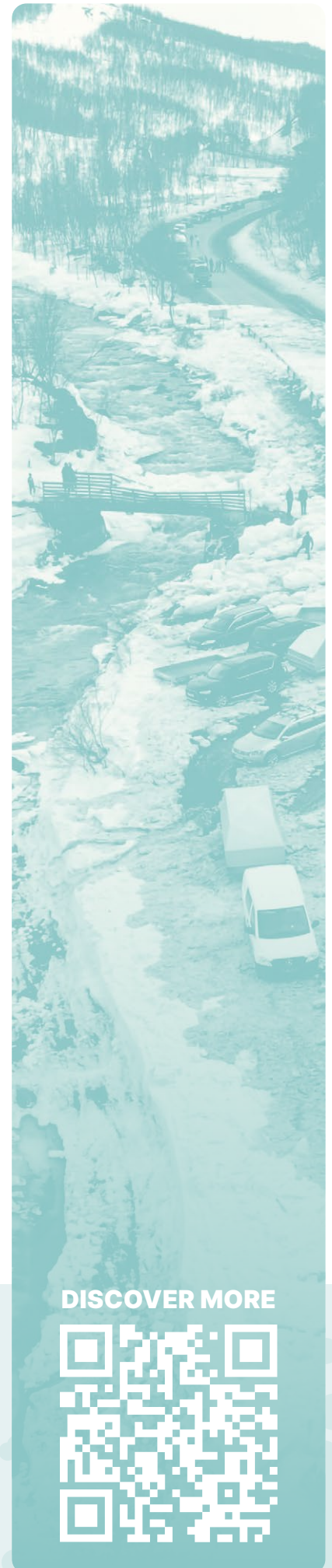
Integrate climate risk assessments into policymaking

Issue: Long-term risks such as sea-level rise or avalanches are not adequately addressed in current policy frameworks.

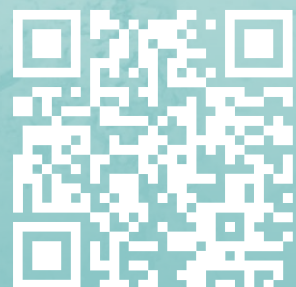
Actions:

- Mandate comprehensive risk assessments and foresight scenarios at all governance levels.
- Ensure agencies like the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate (NVE) enforce climate risk analysis in policy development.

Outcome: More forward-looking, preventive, and risk-informed adaptation policies.



DISCOVER MORE



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