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## MARGISTAR

Transforming marginalised mountain regions  
towards their green, digital, and healthy futures.

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Dear <<First Name>>,

Thank you for subscribing to the MARGISTAR newsletter!

MARGISTAR brings together scientists, stakeholders, and policymakers to address sustainability and connectivity challenges faced by marginalised mountainous regions. We reflect on the natural, environmental, social, and economic relationships and interactions within marginalised mountainous areas to collectively work towards real-world solutions.

This newsletter introduces the MARGISTAR project along with our first Country Focus on Italy. Each month, MARGISTAR discusses the marginalisation challenges and transformation pathways of one country represented within our consortium. Country Focuses highlight research in the field and blogs written by MARGISTAR members and other local organisations from that country.

Horizon 2020 MOVING project. Don't forget to follow MARGISTAR on social media for more regular updates - our profiles are linked at the bottom of this email.

All the best,  
The MARGISTAR Team

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## Introducing MARGISTAR



The MARGISTAR project today involves 3 working groups, 127 working group members from 29 countries, and 54 management committee members. Over the course of the next four years, we will be organising annual meetings, training schools, and short-term scientific missions for researchers working with themes like periphery traps, social and socio-ecological innovation, and post-marginalisation visions as they relate to mountainous areas.

[Read the MARGISTAR MOU](#)

It's not too late to join MARGISTAR if you're still not a member of our consortium - just follow three easy steps below.

[Join MARGISTAR](#)

## MARGISTAR Launches First Country Focus with Italian Consortium Members



This summer, MARGISTAR kicked off its first monthly Country Focus with Italy as a way of bringing our community closer together and raising awareness for the marginalised mountain regions represented within our consortium.

[View Italian Country Focus](#)

MARGISTAR's Italian members were the first to share insights into their regions and areas of expertise. We would like to thank Ms Cristina Dalla Torre ([Eurac](#)), Prof Roberto Tognetti ([Università degli Studi del Molise](#)), Dr Matteo Vizzari and Dr Giorgio Vacchiano ([Università degli Studi di Milano Statale](#)), Dr Alberto Doretto ([Università del Piemonte Orientale](#)), and Stefano Bruzzese ([Università degli Studi di Torino](#)) for their input and dedication to this project!



**Making the Management of Mountain Commons Fit-for-Future through Community Engagement and Knowledge Co-Creation**

By Cristina Dalla Torre

[Read Blog](#)



**The Sweet Chestnut Tree as a Source for Recovery in Italian Marginalised Mountain Areas**

By Stefano Bruzzese, Prof Simone Blanc, and Prof Filippo Brun

[Read Blog](#)



**Nurturing Italy's Mountain Landscapes and Forests: A Story of Threats, Loss, and Resilience**

By Prof Roberto Tognetti



**Exploring Italy's Backbone: The Remarkable Resilience of Mountain Forests**

By Dr Matteo Vizzarri and Dr Giorgio Vacchiano



## Notable Research Initiatives

The below projects actively support research and life in Italian marginalised mountain areas. MARGISTAR is happy to highlight their efforts and invites you to connect with them online.



### The ALPSTREAM Research Centre

The ALPSTREAM Centre involves the Università degli Studi di Torino, the Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale, and Politecnico di Torino, and works towards the conservation of alpine rivers and water supplies in mountain areas.

[Learn More](#)

### CASTAGNOPIÙ

The local research project CASTAGNOPIÙ, financed by the Piedmont region's Measure 16 in the Rural Development Programme for 2014-2020, aims to create new value from the chestnut wood resource.

[Learn More](#)



## Research Centre on Inner Areas and the Apennines

AriA, founded in 2016, is a research centre that addresses the problems of internal areas with the aim of identifying actions and methods to promote the improvement of lives of the people who live there.

[Learn More](#)

## LIFECO2PES&PEF

The research project LIFECO2PES&PEF identifies forest areas prone to natural disturbances, helping researchers distribute disturbance management practices more effectively and supporting the long-term adaptive governance of mountain forest landscapes.

[Learn More](#)

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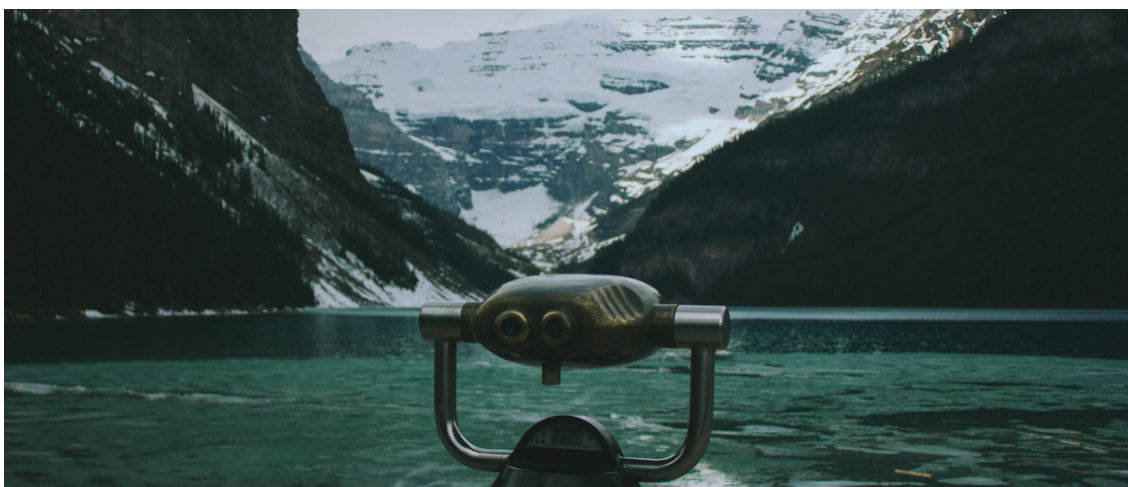
## More from MARGISTAR



## The MARGISTAR Method: Pinching policymakers towards better choices

In recent years, the concept of ‘nudging’ the citizen has gained traction as a powerful tool for promoting positive behavioural change and achieving policy goals. But why focus only on citizens? Policymakers also require motivation and commitment to act on pressing economic, environmental, and social issues. This calls for ‘pinching.’

What does “Pinching the Policymaker” mean?



## Combatting Periphery Traps in Marginalised Mountainous Regions



to 17% of its human population. Mountainous livelihoods are largely based on productive and culturally distinct practices such as natural resource extraction, agroforestry, nature-based tourism, and small-scale agriculture. However, mountainous areas are also characterised by disparity, poorer territorial cohesion, unbalanced protection and use of ecosystem services, exploited natural resources, and marginalisation.

What are Periphery Traps?

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## MARGISTAR Moves

MARGISTAR has been out and about since the project's launch in April 2023. Find out what's been keeping us busy 🏠 🔄



Our first annual COST Action meeting took place in Inari and Utsjoki, Finland, this May and gave MARGISTAR members a chance to meet face-to-face and learn about the periphery challenges facing local municipalities and the indigenous Sámi people.





MARGISTAR is teaming up with [MOVING](#) (MOuntain Valorisation through INterconnectedness and Green growth), a Horizon 2020 project that (i) builds capacities and co-develops policy frameworks across Europe and (ii) establishes new or upscaled value chains to contribute to the resilience and sustainability of mountain areas to climate change.

You can sign up for MOVING's upcoming webinar on Protected Natural Sites on October 5 [here](#) or join the project's EU MAP platform to stay updated about their latest results and deliverables.

Join the MOVING EU Multi-Actor Platform



The MARGISTAR Communications Team travelled to Brussels, Belgium, this June to connect with and learn from other COST Action Science Communication Coordinators.



**MARGISTAR is registered a COST Action (MoU – 039/22) that involves 29 member countries, 54 Management Committee members, and 127 Working Group members.** COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career, and innovation.



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