



CLIMATIC GRAND TOUR

PARALLELOZERO

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It's no news anymore: climate change is already on, everywhere in the world. Italy, that narrow territory extending in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea among North Africa and Central Europe, is no exception. Italy is the perfect place to host the "Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change". Here, scientists funded by the Italian government are working with researches and simulations to obtain useful, reliable anticipations about the impact of climate change on economy, politics and how this change will affect agriculture, forests and ecosystems.

In Italy, and in the whole Europe, temperature rising, glacier melting, climate tropicalization (less frequent but more intense rain), tornados, sea level rise, coastal erosion and saltwater intrusion are something real, factors already affecting nations' economy and people's everyday living.



DESERTIFICATION



In Italy, the areas with the higher risk of desertification are the South regions. Lack of water, violent precipitations, a high percentage of salt in irrigation ditches' water are leading to a quick degradation of the soil, and this means abandoned territory, erosion and an increased number of fires.



DESERTIFICATION ◀



DESERTIFICATION ◀



TORNADOES



“It looked like a Boeing flying through the house”, said a still shocked Lorenzo Cerasola from San Martino Spino, in the province of Modena. The day before, a tornado destroyed his house and the gas station he managed. Wherever it passed, that tornado left destruction and terror behind. Violent tornadoes, unusual in Italy until a few years ago, are now growing in number and intensity.



TORNADOES ◀



COASTAL EROSION AND SEA LEVEL RISE

▶ We all know, just watching a boiling pot on a fire, that when the temperature rises, water expands its volume. This is slowly happening, researches confirm it, in the Mediterranean sea. This phenomenon influences coastal erosion and sea level rise, now real and present dangers in particular for harbour cities like Venice, actually risking to disappear and trying to defend itself from the sea rising with the MOSE.



COASTAL EROSION AND SEA LEVEL RISE



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LITTORIZATION



Littorization is a consequence of degrade and progressive abandon of inner territories. Human activities, in the decades to come, will concentrate more and more on coastal areas, with a remarkably higher impact on the environment and its balance.



FIRES ▶

The temperature rising is part of the cause of the increased number of fires. Even though they're often arsons, in Sardinia and in other Southern Italian regions hot weather and aridity facilitate fire's propagation, putting at risk agriculture, livestock holdings, villages and their inhabitants.



FIRES ◀



FIRES ◀



VITICULTURE ▶

Temperature rising doesn't permit to cultivate some vine varieties at certain latitudes anymore. The solution? Moving cultivations norther. Or, like Rovereto's Cantine Ferrari did, moving vineyards higher respect to the sea level, deforesting huge mountain sections.



VITICULTURE ◀



SALTWATER INTRUSION

The sea level rise push salt water (heavier than fresh water) deeper and deeper in rivers' deltas. This phenomenon is called "saltwater intrusion", and it may cause serious damages to agriculture (farmers take water from the river for irrigation) and to the ecosystem.



SALTWATER INTRUSION ◀



MOSQUITOES



Hot weather brought an increase of the number of mosquitoes all over Italy, especially in humid areas like the city of Mantua, surrounded by Mincio river. Here operates Mantova Service, a qualified company of the disinfestation industry. "During last years our work grew considerably", they assured.



MOSQUITOES ◀



GLACIERS

On the Alps glaciers are slowly, relentlessly melting: where once was snow, now there's just stones and rocks. The remaining ice has to be protected. Now sections of the glaciers are covered with specially crafted tarpaulins that in some points, like near skilift's masts, can slow down the melting.



GLACIERS ◀



LANDSLIDES ►

Heavy, violent precipitations are often the base for the reactivation of weather-induced phenomena. A vast area of the Apennines is subject to landslides resulting in huge social damages, like roads and houses destroyed with consequent isolation of villages whose inhabitants are then forced to leave their territory forever.



LANDSLIDES ◀



LANDSLIDES ◀



CLOUDBURSTS ▶

In Italy they're often called "water bombs": they're the new precipitations, with tropical traits, up to ten times more intense than usual raining. Damages are quite evident, especially for agriculture and cities' drainage systems.



CLOUDBURSTS ◀



CLOUDBURSTS ◀



FLOODS ▶

The lack of maintenance of the territory and a wild, uncontrolled urbanization – not to mention the growing intensity of cloudbursts – are making floods more common, with devastating effects for residential areas: collapsed bridges, inundated houses, mud everywhere.



FLOODS ◀



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