

WORLD
IT'S TOO HOT!
by Alessandro Gandolfi





Cineca, Bologna (Italy), staff at the consortium watch a 3D video as part of the Mistral (Meteo Italian Supercomputing poRtAL) project. It aims to create a national portal of Open Data concerning meteorology, which can be useful, for example, in predicting storms and flash floods. The Cineca inter-university consortium is one of the world's most important computing centers.

A 14-YEAR PHOTOGRAPHIC JOURNEY AMONG THE CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Famine in Ethiopia and hurricanes in the United States. Landslides in Italy and rising seas in Polynesia. The reduction of polar bear habitats in Canada and desertification advancing in northeastern Brazil. These are all consequences of global warming, i.e., the inexorable rise in temperatures on earth due to a series of interlinked events: the high consumption of fossil fuels (especially since the 1950s) that has produced large CO₂ emissions and that in turn have generated increased heat in the earth's atmosphere. An anthropogenic greenhouse

effect that has already led to disturbing records: the years between 2009 and 2019 were the hottest decade ever recorded on Earth while 2022 one of the hottest years ever. The consequences? Many are already visible; others we will discover in the coming decades. Some of these can be captured in a 14-year-long photographic journey, which the author undertook as he tried to tell small stories, pieces scattered around the globe: individual chapters of a global and epochal change.



Ethiopia, women carry water to their village by walking several miles along the dirt road between Filtu and Dolo. A severe drought has hit the country for four consecutive years, destroying crops, killing millions of cattle and condemning 10 million people to starvation - according to UNICEF.

San Martino Spino (Modena, Italy), gas station owner Lorenzo Cerasola checks the damage done to his house by a tornado, a phenomenon that is sharply increasing as a result of climate change.





Grand Isle (Louisiana, USA), a submerged pickup truck at the entrance to the island, which was hit by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The increase in extreme weather events has been shown to be linked to rising ocean levels.



Mantua (Italy), night disinfestation from mosquitoes by Mantova Service staff (Silvan Zecchina and, right, Raffaele Lamarca). Thanks to rising temperatures worldwide, the area inhabited by mosquitoes has expanded considerably.



Ferrara (Italy), children from the Ro Ferrarese primary school watch a puppet show at the Fabbrica dell'Acqua in Serravalle, the environmental educational center that grew out of the C.A.D.F. (Ciclo integrato Acquedotto Depurazione Fognatura) in collaboration with the province of Ferrara, with the intention of promoting awareness and respect for water resources.



Spessa (Pavia, Italy), Piero Attis, a technical inspector for Generali Italia (walking at the front) together with the insurers during a damage appraisal following strong winds at a farm growing Carnaroli rice. "Strong winds, which are becoming more and more frequent due to climate change, are causing increasing damage."



Wolfsburg (Germany), cars waiting to be picked up by their buyers at the Autostadt park (Volkswagen). According to the European Environment Agency, the transport sector is responsible for about a quarter of Europe's total CO2 emissions (and 71.7 per cent of the amount is produced by road transport).



Valsavarenche (Aosta, Italy), an ibex under sedation following a biometric survey. The absence of snow threatens both younger and older ibex, whose numbers have halved since the 1990s.



Masada (Israel), tourists visiting the archaeological site, which is close to the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea is gradually drying up on account of global warming.



Cineca (Bologna, Italy), applied physicist Eric Pascolo, an expert in supercomputing, uses a headset that enables him to view data in 3D. This is in order to examine an image produced as part of the Mistral (Meteo Italian Supercomputing poRtAL) project which aims to create a national portal of Open Data concerning meteorology. It is useful, for example, in predicting storms and flash floods. Next to the computer is Antonella Giudazzoli, Head of the Visual Information Lab. The Cineca inter-university consortium is one of the world's most important computing centers.



Gran Paradiso National Park, (Aosta, Italy), on the Grand Etret glacier park rangers get ready to carry out a survey of the snowpack. The scorching dry summer of 2022 shortened the Gran Paradiso glacier by 210 meters.



Shanghai (China), a view of the Huangpu River with the Pudong district. Shanghai is one of the most polluted cities in China, especially in terms of particulate matter.



Laconi (Oristano, Italy), cattle farmer Bruno Meloni, 50, walking through what's left of several hectares of his property. Rising temperatures are among the causes of the increase in the number of forest fires throughout the Mediterranean basin.



Faenza (Ravenna, Italy), netting to protect against hailstones and insects on the outskirts of the town. Due to climate change, high-intensity hailstorms are becoming increasingly frequent, as are invasions of alien insects that damage crops.



Gorodolla Woreda (Ethiopia), a woman in a state of shock after a fight between two shepherds during the vaccination of their cows. A severe drought has hit the country for four consecutive years, destroying crops, killing millions of cattle and condemning 10 million people to starvation – according to UNICEF.



Craco (Matera, Italy), badlands along a dry river. Even though badlands have been part of the region's landscape for many years, they are one of the symbols of progressive desertification in Basilicata: the degradation of the soil is due to both natural and human causes.

Delhi (India), golfers at the Delhi Golf Club. The well-to-do in Delhi, which is considered the most polluted city in the world, often take refuge in this green lung in the center of the city.





Marina di Carrara (Italy), on the beach after a sea storm.



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The Stelvio Pass (Italy), workers arranging special tarpaulins near some ski lift masts. These tarpaulins are crafted by the Italian company Edilfloor, and can help reduce the melting of snow and ice. In 2022 summer ski lifts on the Stelvio glacier did not open, for the first time.



Tebano (Ravenna, Italy), at the sensorial analysis lab at Astra (Agency for Technological Experimentation and Agro-environmental Research), tasting panel tests are carried out on the organoleptic qualities of new varieties of fruit, vegetables and wine products. Climate change is driving research into the development of new varieties which, before going on the market, are tested by tasting experts to assess how they will be received by consumers.



Aulla (Massa Carrara, Italy), this bridge, which broke into pieces after a flood, used to connect Stadano with the road to Aulla. In recent years water bombs and cloudbursts have increased considerably in Italy, causing damage to agriculture and confirming the inexorable tropicalization of the climate.



Shanghai (China), a view of the Pudong district. Shanghai is one of the most polluted cities in China, especially in terms of particulate matter.

Goro (Ferrara, Italy), in the delta of the Po di Goro river, technicians Claudio Dolcetti (in the water), Massimo Ferrari (on the boat, right) and Enrico Mazzola check their instruments in order to monitor saltwater intrusion. This is the rise of saltwater inland due in part to rising sea water.



parallel zero

