Environmental degradation, a risk for human health

**Air Pollution**
Main environmental health burden with 228,000 deaths

**Climate change**
Increased risks to human health: heat waves and extreme events (droughts, storms and floods), potential for increased transmission of vector-borne, water and food-borne diseases

**Chemical products**
With synergistic effects are increasingly present in the environment (pesticides and fertilizers, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products, flame retardants, additives for plastics, phytoestrogens, etc.) and their human health effects are largely unknown.

**Waste**
Exposure to managed and unmanaged waste streams can impact human health: cancers, birth defects, miscarriages and premature deliveries, behavioral disorders, ...

**Natural hazards**
(Volcanic and seismic events that can cause tsunamis) and risks related to emergencies and crises caused by humans (conflicts, wars, civil unrest, chemical or radiological incidents) that can impact the quality of the environment and human health.

**Obesity**
Gradual abandonment of the Mediterranean diet: > 20% obesity in all countries (up to > 30%)

**30%**
Of the population live in water-scarce countries. 220 million people suffer from water scarcity, 26 million do not have access to safely-managed drinking water services, 160 million people do not have access to safe sanitation.

**Food insecurity**
17% of children suffer from stunted growth, 12% from underweight, 5% from wasting

**500 000**
Deaths per year in Med countries, attributable to modifiable environmental factors = 15% of deaths. Rate 2 to 3 times higher in the SEMCs and the Balkans than in the EU countries.

**Good news**
Improvement in the quality of bathing water: 90% qualified “good” or even “excellent”

To consult the full report on the state of the environment and development in the Mediterranean, and its sources of information: www.planbleu.org/soed

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