Environmental degradation, a risk for human health



State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean

Obesity

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

Air Pollution

Main environmental health burden with 228,000 deaths

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.

Climate change

increased risks to human health: heat waves and extreme events (droughts, storms and floods), potential for increased transmission of vectorborne, 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.



Good news

Improvement in the quality of bathing water: 90% qualified "good" or even "excellent"



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.





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.





Waste

Exposure to managed and unmanaged

waste streams can impact human health:

cancers, birth defects, miscarriages and premature deliveries, behavioral disorders, ...