# Mountains and climate change: adaptation and mitigation strategies

**DIBAF** - Dept. for Innovation in Biological, Agro-food and Forest systems-DIBAF University of Tuscia, Italy **CMCC** - Euromediterranean Center on Climate Change, Italy

Tommaso Chiti 16/07/2017







## OUTLINE

- A) Climate change
- B) Role of forests (AFOLU sector)
- C) International policies
- D) Mitigation and Adaptation strategies
- E) Case studies



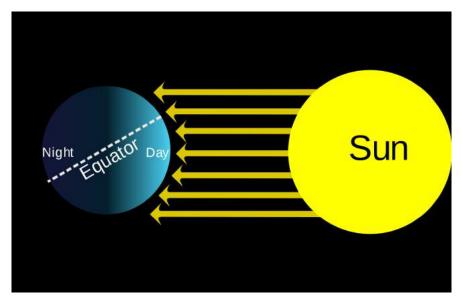
The difference between weather and climate is a measure of <u>time</u>.

#### **WEATHER**

Weather is what conditions of the atmosphere are over a short period of time







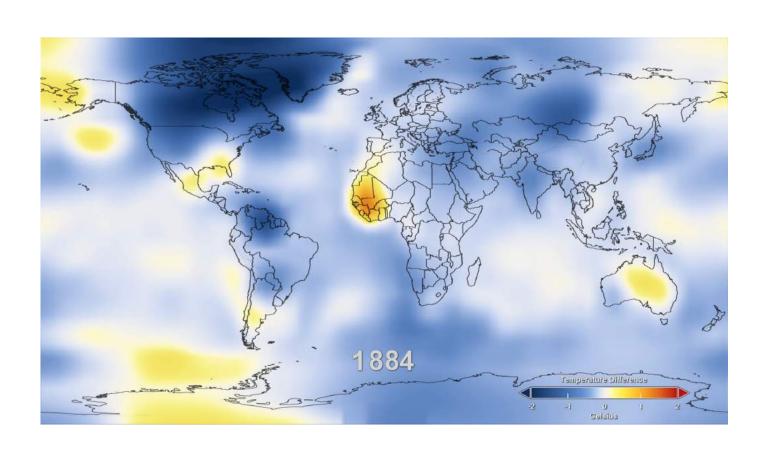
#### CLIMATE

Climate is how the atmosphere "behaves" over relatively long periods of time (10-30 years)

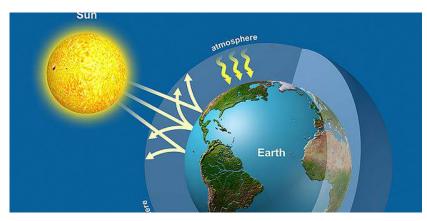
# **CLIMATE vs WEATHER**



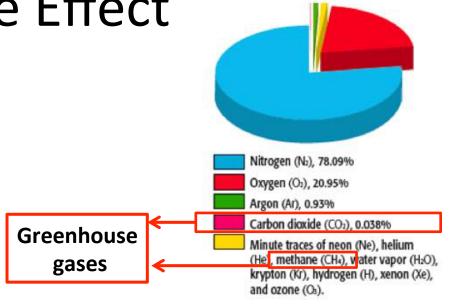
# **Temperature rise**











Atmospheric composition

Without the atmosphere the Earth's temperature would be of -19°C on average

The greenhouse effect makes the Earth with an average temperature of 14°C

transportation

agriculture

**Carbon dioxide** 

**CO**,

natural gas systems

Methane

landfills

CH<sub>4</sub>

cars

Nitrous oxide

fossil fuel combustion

coal and crude oil

hydrofluorocarbons

substitute of ODS

**HFCs** 

manufacturing

agricultural soil management

Greenhouse gases (GHG) and their sources

The global warming potential (GWP) of each GHG is measured using the equation 'Tg CO<sub>2</sub>Eq' Each gas's GWP is measured against the reference gas, CO<sub>2</sub>. CO<sub>2</sub> is measured in 1million metric tons.

1 metric ton is 1000 kilograms = average weight of a female giraffe.

semiconductor manufacturing

**PFCs** 

electrical transmission

perfluorocarbons

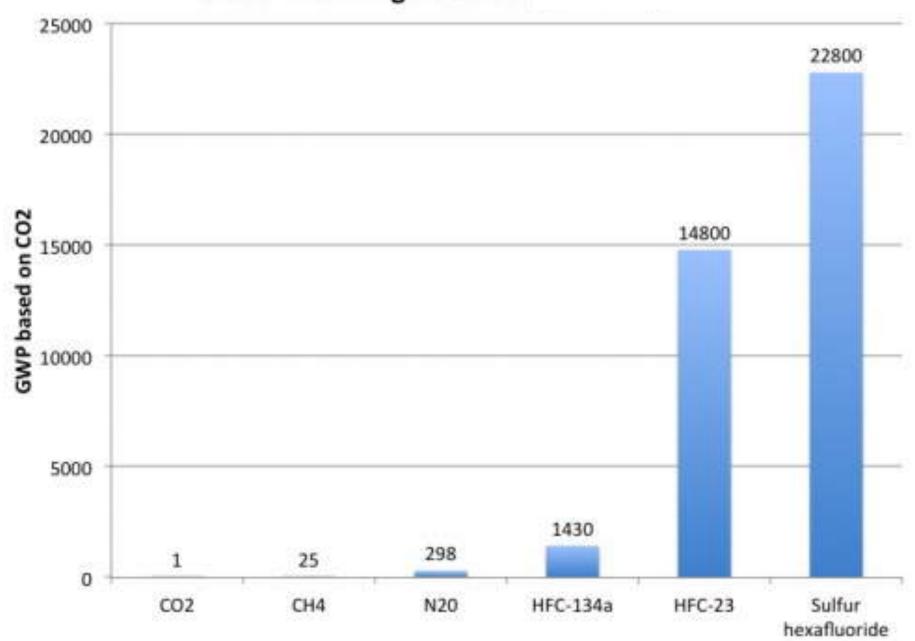
aluminium production

SF<sub>6</sub>

sulfur hexafluoride

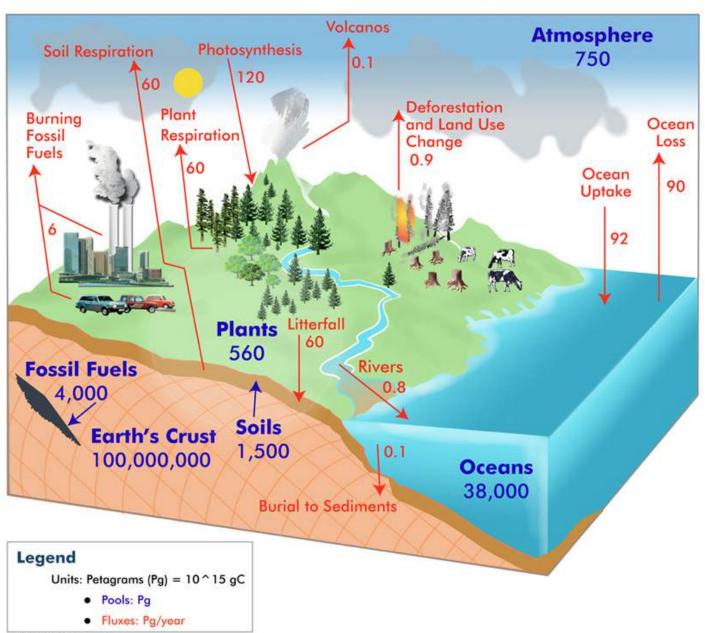
magnesium prod

#### **Global Warming Potential**

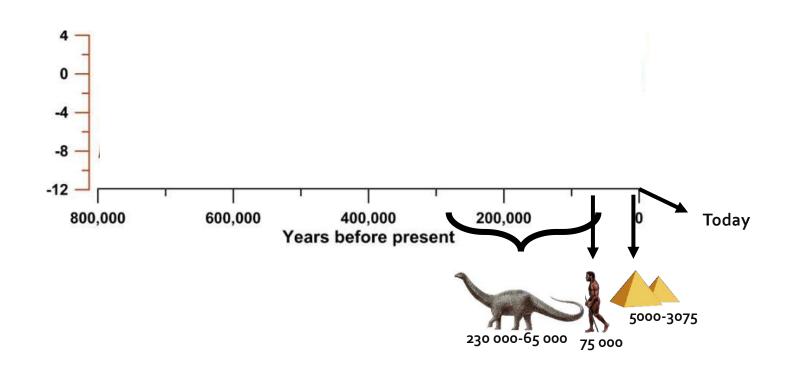


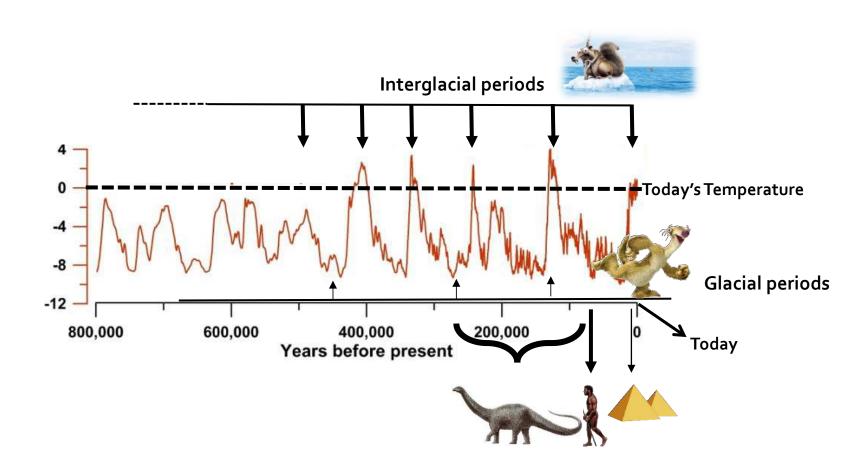


## **Global Carbon Cycle**

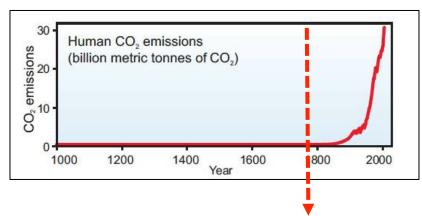


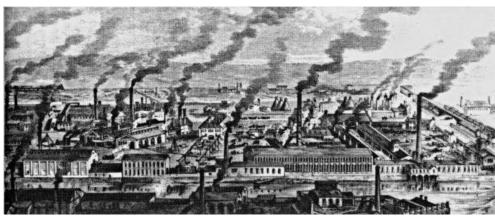
## Has Earth climate been always the same?





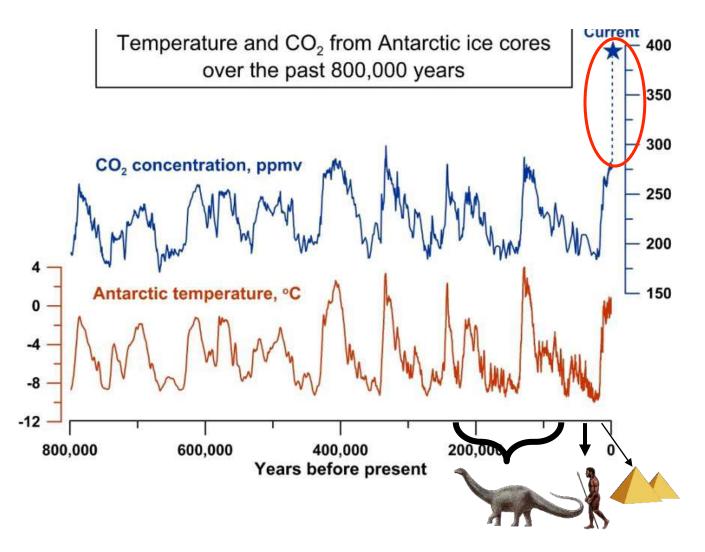
# **Historical trends**





Industrial revolution in England from 1750.....

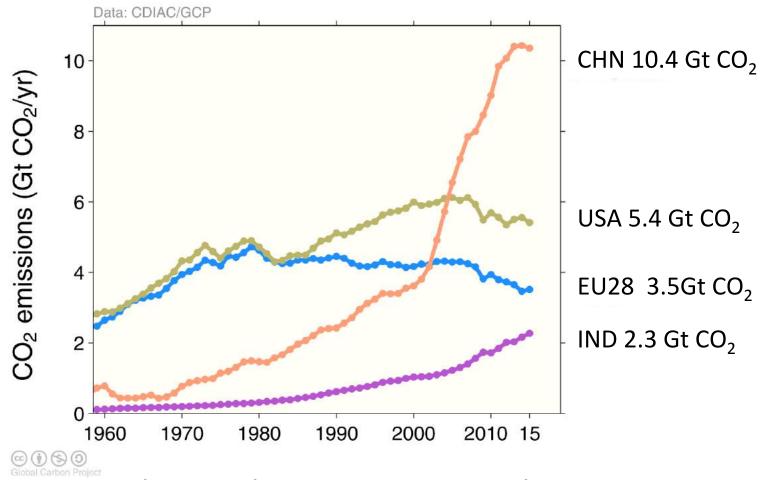
# Historical changes of T





#### Top emitters: fossil fuels and industry (absolute)

The top four emitters in 2015 covered 59% of global emissions China (29%), United States (15%), EU28 (10%), India (6%)

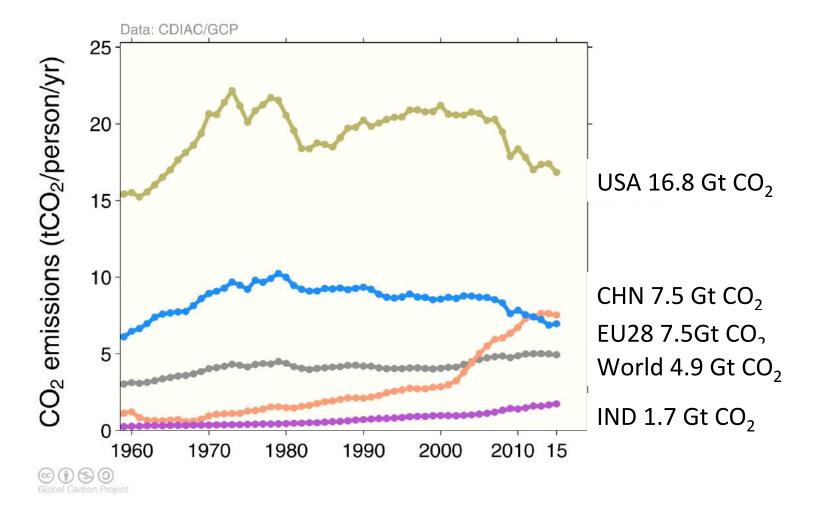


Bunker fuels are used for international transport is 3.1% of global emissions. Statistical differences between the global estimates and sum of national totals are 1.2% of global emissions. Source: <a href="CDIAC">CDIAC</a>; <a href="Le Quéré et al 2016">Le Quéré et al 2016</a>; <a href="Global Carbon Budget 2016">Global Carbon Budget 2016</a>



#### Top emitters: fossil fuels and industry (per capita)

Countries have a broad range of per capita emissions reflecting their national circumstances

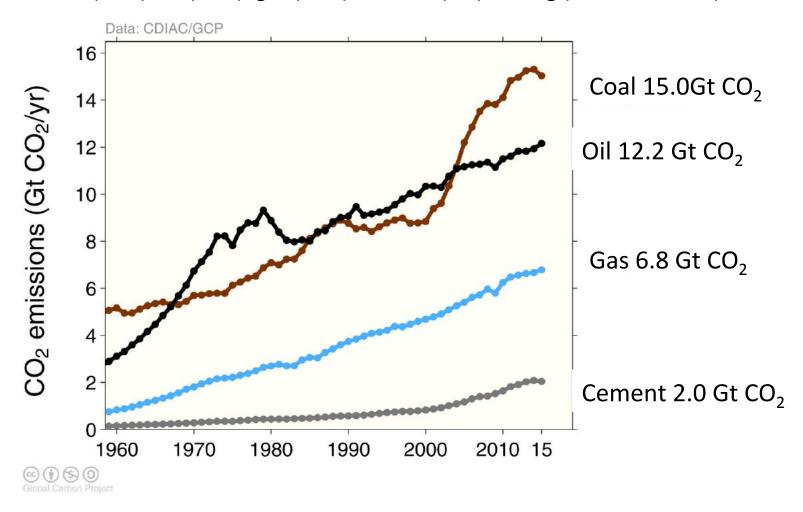


Source: CDIAC; Le Quéré et al 2016; Global Carbon Budget 2016



#### Emissions from coal, oil, gas, cement

Share of global emissions in 2015: coal (41%), oil (34%), gas (19%), cement (6%), flaring (1%, not shown)

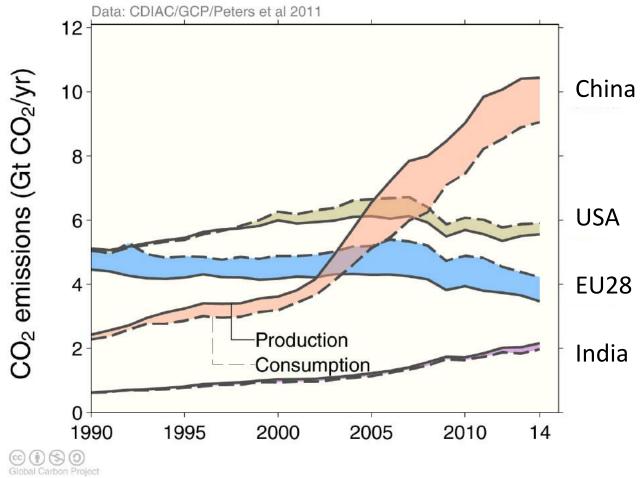


Source: CDIAC; Le Quéré et al 2016; Global Carbon Budget 2016



#### **Consumption-based emissions (carbon footprint)**

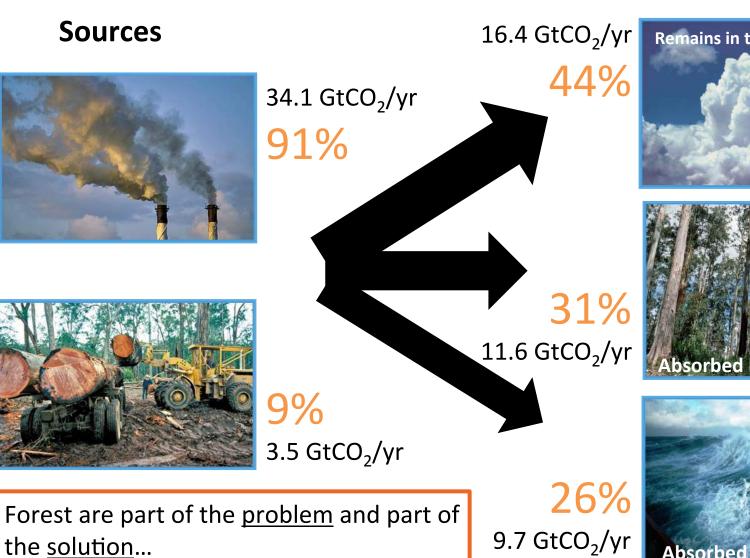
Allocating emissions to the consumption of products provides an alternative perspective USA and EU28 are net importers of embodied emissions, China and India are net exporters



Consumption-based emissions are calculated by adjusting the standard production-based emissions to account for international trade Source: Peters et al 2011; Le Quéré et al 2016; Global Carbon Project 2016

### **GLOBAL CARBON BUDGET**

#### Sinks

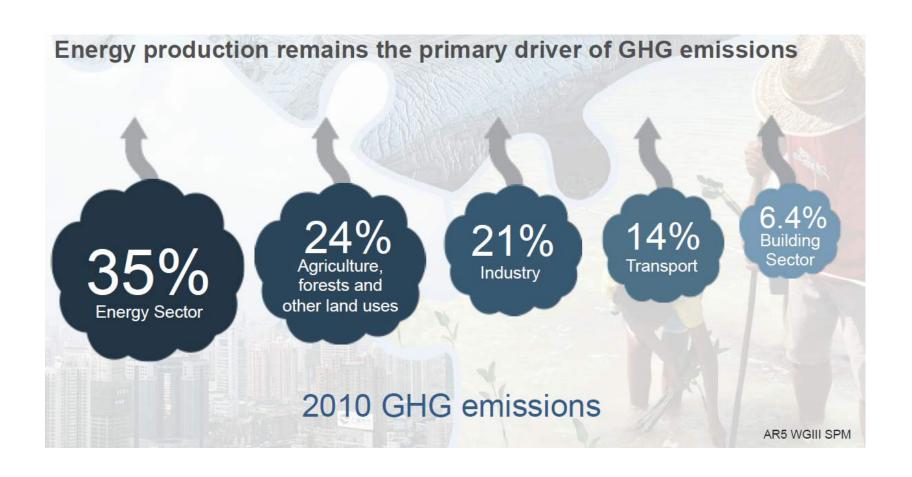








# Causes of the increase of GHG concentrations in the atmosphere



#### **AFOLU** sector

Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF): CO<sub>2</sub>

AGRICULTURE non-CO<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O)

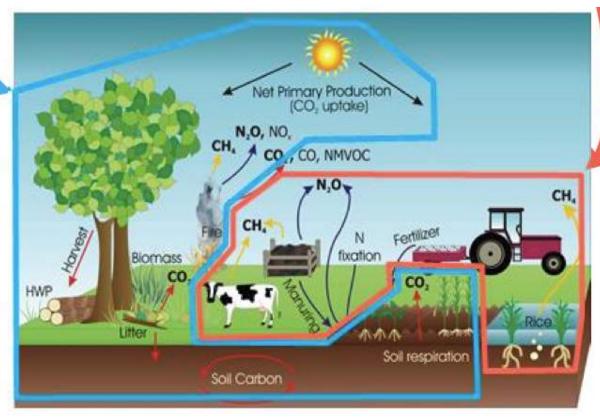
Partly human induced (strongly linked to global natural carbon cycle)

Uncertainties?

Additionality?

Permanence?

Leakage?



Mainly humaninduced

=> More readily quantifiable

#### **AFOLU SECTOR**

Importance of the AFOLU sector

- Land use sector is responsable of 4 Gt CO2 /yr emissions LULUCF
- Agriculture (non-CO2 emissions from fertilizers, enteric fermentation and manure management is of around 4 GtCO2 per year.

The AFOLU sector (LULUCF+ Agriculture) contributes of about 24% of the global emissions.

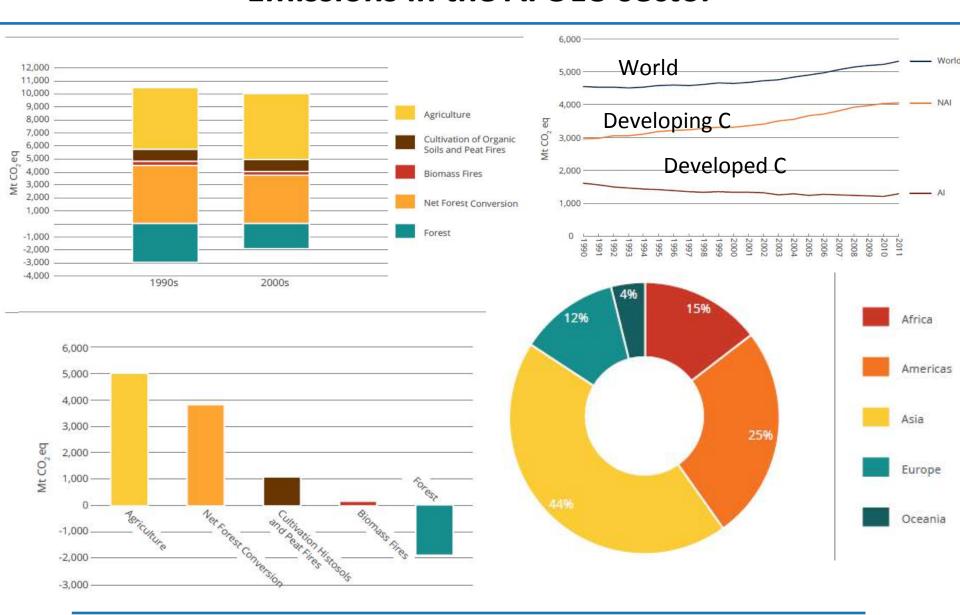
Emissions will remain high and increasing following the increasing demand of food, biofuel, fibers linked with the population increase







#### **Emissions in the AFOLU sector**



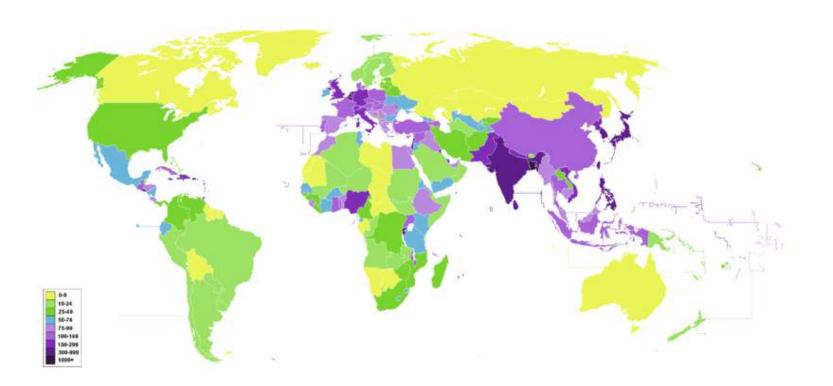
Source: FAO 2014

### **Food security**

Importance of the sector as % of GDP (World Bank, 2013):

- Africa **23**%
- Asia 22%
- Latin America 10%
- Industrialized countries **3-4**%

Current population 7.5 bilion ->~9 bilion in 2050



# **RISKS OF CLIMATE CHANGE**



# Climate change impacts



- Increase of mean temperature
- Sea level rising
- Increase of the number of extrem precipitation events
- Increase of dry periods
   (Mediterranean area)

# ADAPTATION vs. MITIGATION



- <u>Climate adaptation</u> refers to the ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to cope with the consequences.
- The **IPCC** defines adaptation as the, "adjustment in natural or human systems to a new or changing environment. Adaptation to climate change refers **to adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli** or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities. Various types of adaptation can be distinguished, including anticipatory and reactive adaptation, private and public adaptation, and autonomous and planned adaptation."

## ADAPTATION vs. MITIGATION

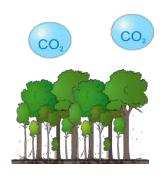
- <u>Climate mitigation</u> is any action taken to permanently eliminate or reduce the long-term risk and hazards of climate change to human life, property.
- The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines mitigation as: "An anthropogenic intervention to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases."

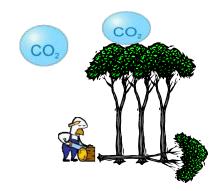


#### The CLIMATE MITIGATION options in forestry include:

- 1. Enhancement of C sink (new forests, increased C stocks in existing forests)
- 2. Reduction of C sources (reduce deforestation and forest degradation)
- 3. C substitution (wood replacing fossil fuels or other products)

Forests offer synergies between mitigation (at low cost), adaptation, biodiversity ... forests are a key element in climate policy debate



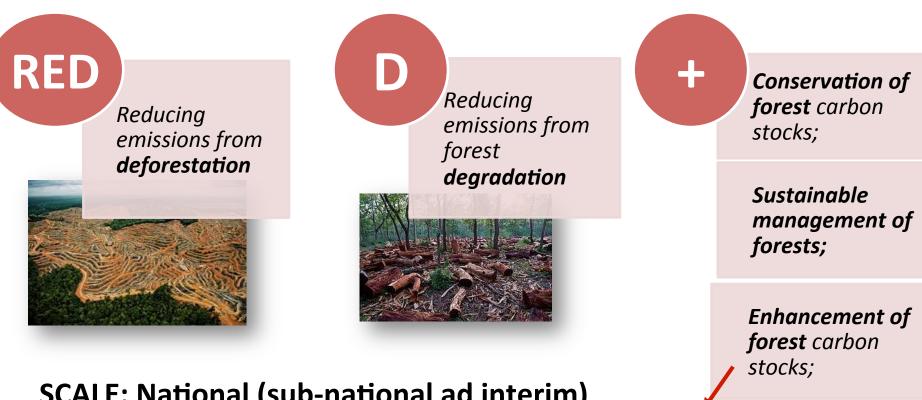


#### The CLIMATE ADAPTATION include:

- a) Stability of mountainside;
- b) Water management;
- c) Costal protection (Mangroves)

## **REDD+ scope** (Dec. 1/CP.16 par. 70)

Encourages developing country Parties to contribute to mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking the following activities[...]:



Afforestation/reforestation **Activities** 

**SCALE: National (sub-national ad interim)** 

## **Peculiarities of the Forestry sector**

# LULUCF sector is the only sink (oceans as well but they are not considered as economic sector)

- Factoring out: On the same unit of land net carbon stock changes are the result of a number of factors including various human activities, natural variables and associated disturbances, and the lagged effect of previous activities and disturbances. Need to factor out natural processes in the GHG balance.
- Long time scales of the effect of forestry-related activities (long growth/harvesting cycles) -> emissions/removals in a particular year may reflect the choices taken long time ago, not related to particular choices during the commitment period.
- Saturation which limits biological sequestration potential but not necessarily provision of renewable energy or wood products
- Non-permanence of removed carbon
- Uncertainity: estimates are affected by high uncertainty level (e.g. UE uncertainties for land sector ~30% other sectors <5%)</li>



## **FORESTS**







Water regime and soil protection against erosion

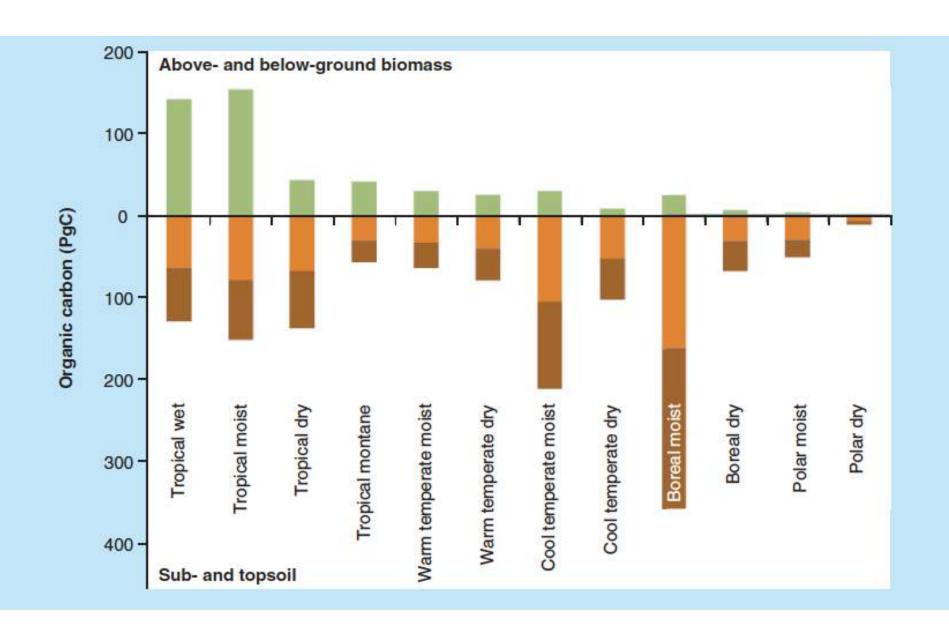


More than 1 billion people depend directly from forest resources

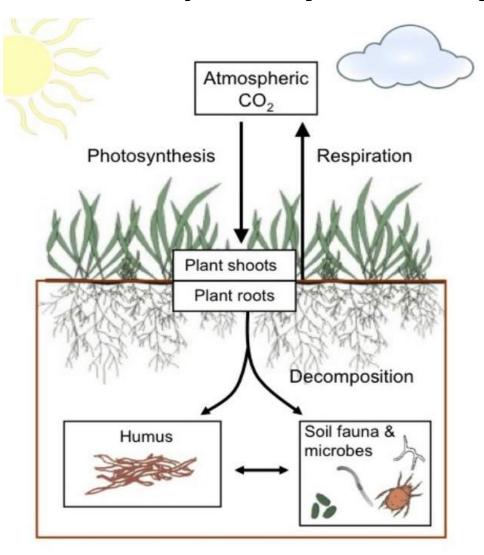




Wood is the primary energetic source for cooking and heating for more than 2 billion people covering the 70% of the dayly energetic needs of the population in Africa and south east Asia.



## Atmospheric C is a primary source of C for soil



# The amount of biomass arriving to soil varies according to climatic conditions

#### **Above ground Biomass**

1.0 – 4.0 Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> Artic and Alpine Tundra

3.0 – 7.5 Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> Broaleaves Boreal Forest



3.0 – 6.0 Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> Temperate Grasslands

Root production

2.3 – 10 Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> Temperate forests

5.0 Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup> Temperate Grasslands



#### Forest disturbances due to.....

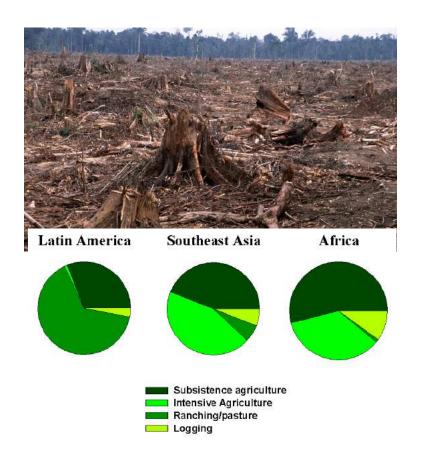


- Land use change
- Change in management
- Forest degradation

#### As a results *Biomass* and *SOM* dynamics *change*

- Change in the amount of C inputs to soil
- Change in vegetation type
- Change in the quality of C inputs to soil

#### **DEFORESTATION**





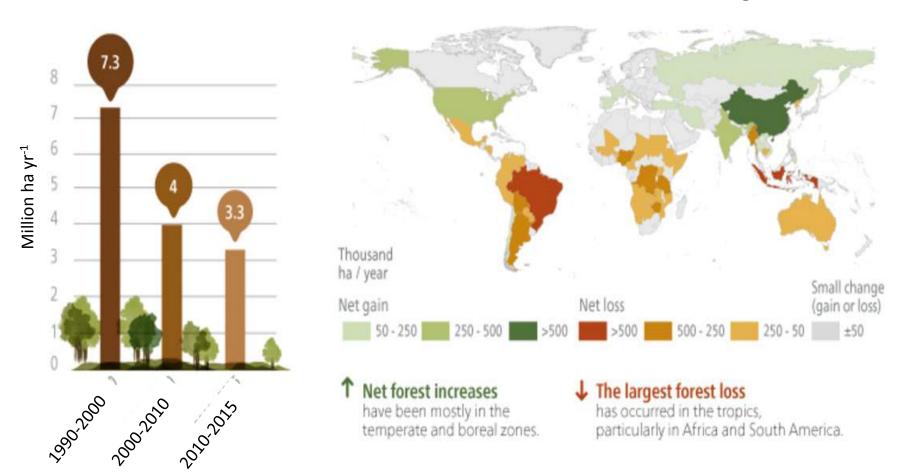


## How are the world's forests changing?\*

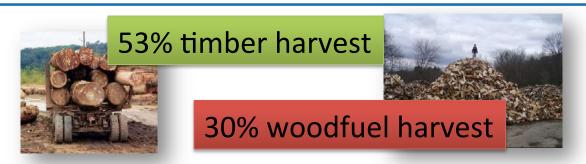
# Forest areas have decreased since 1990 but the rate of net forest loss has been cut by 50%

World forests annual net loss

Forest area annual net change 1990-2015



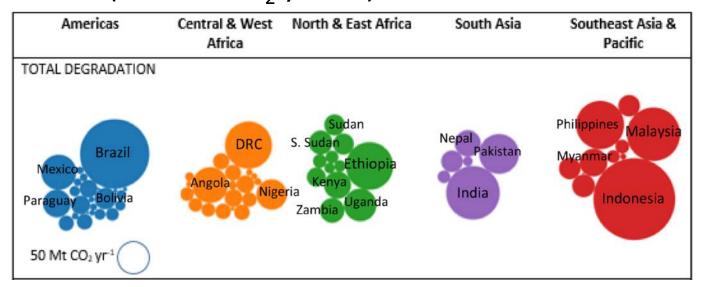
#### FOREST DEGRADATION EMISSIONS





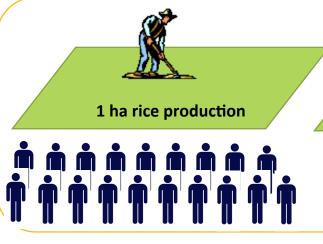
#### Forest degradation emissions = 2.2 Gt CO<sub>2</sub> year<sup>-1</sup>

25% of the summed emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (8.28 Gt  $CO_2$  year<sup>-1</sup>)



### **AGRICULTURE**

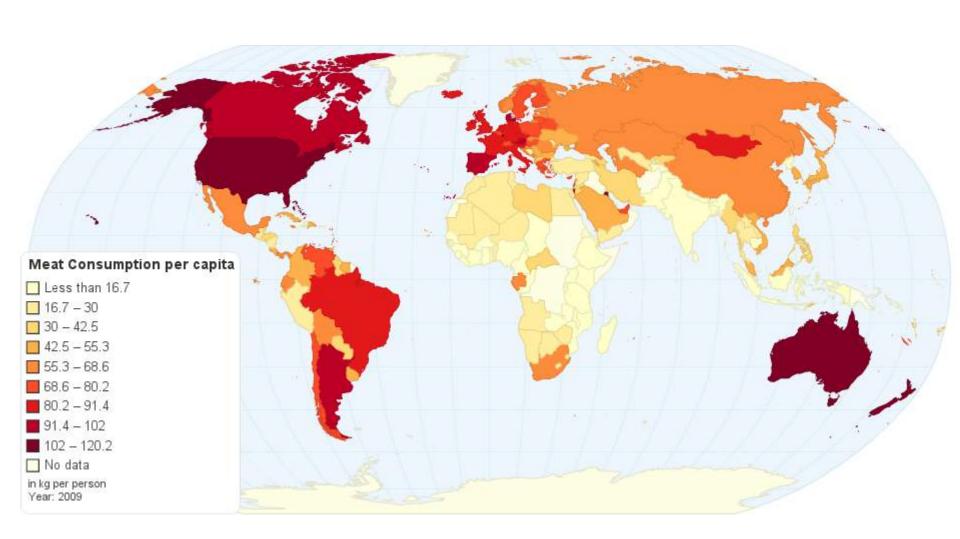




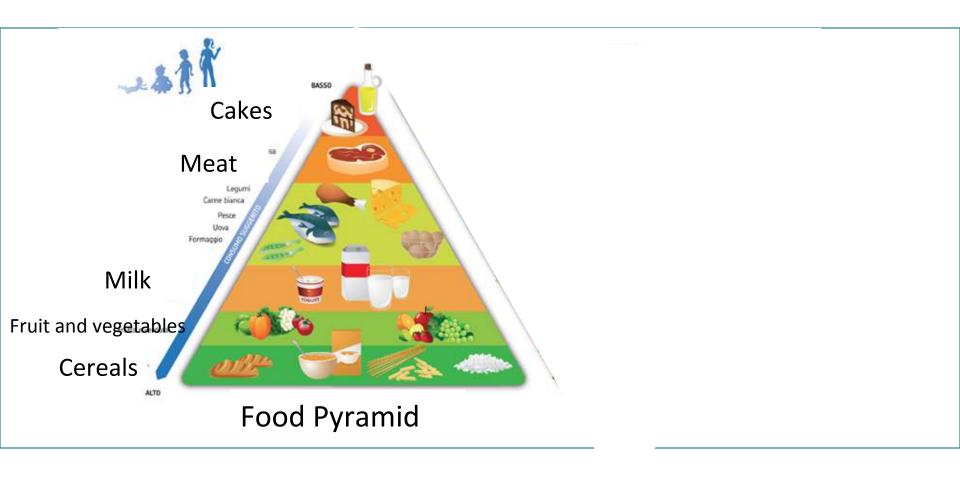


In US and Europe, half of cereal production is for animal consumption

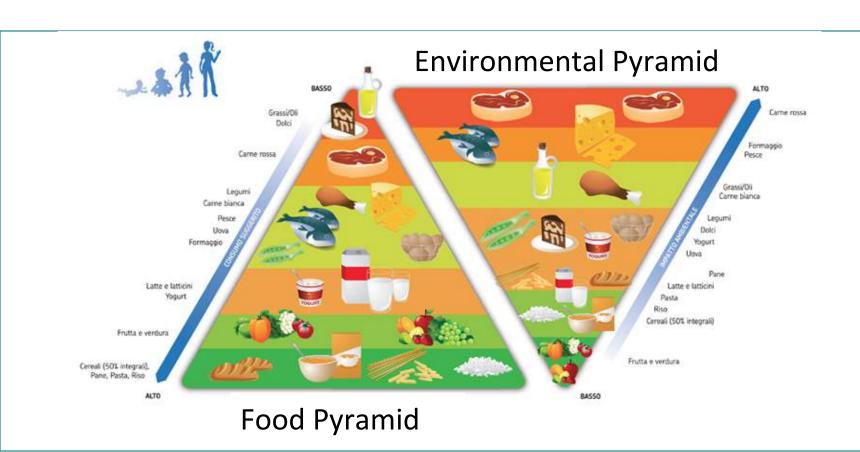
## Meat per capita consumption



## FOOD PYRAMID



## **ENVIRONMENTAL PYRAMID**



MILESTONE	YEAR	IMPORTANCE
First World Climate Conference	1979	Lays the foundation for some international climate programmes including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
IPCC's First assessment report	1990	Provides the first estimates of confidence about the extent of global climate change and the human influences behind it
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) signed	1992	A major international climate change treaty representing worldwide agreement that action is needed against climate change
UNFCCC enters into force	1994	Countries signing the UNFCCC are now bound by its rules.
First Conference of the Parties (COP) of the UNFCCC	1995	The first of the (generally annual) international negotiations on climate change stipulated by the UNFCCC, leading to the Kyoto Protocol
Kyoto Protocol signed	1997	Thirty-seven developed nations and economies in transition commit to reducing their emissions by at least five per cent below 1990 levels from 2008-2012
Kyoto Protocol enters into force	2005	Countries with greenhouse gas reduction targets are now committed to them
IPCC's Fifth assessment report	2013- 2014	Follows reports in 1995, 2001 and 2007. Makes strong statements about the high likelihood of human influence on the global climate and the consequent impacts
Twenty-first UNFCCC COP in Paris	2015	The meeting is aiming for an agreement to succeed the Kyoto Protocol











#### 1990

SO, THIS CLIMATE CHANGE THING COULD BE A PROBLEM ...



2007

LIKE A BROKEN RECORD



#### 1995

CLIMATE CHANGE: DEFINITELY A PROBLEM.



2013

WE REALLY HAVE CHECKED AND WE'RE NOT MAKING THIS UP.



2001

REALLY BE GETTING ON WITH SORTING THIS OUT PRETTY SOON ....



15 THIS THING ON?



TAP

FUR LA

#### **PARIS AGREEMENT**





#### 153 Parties have ratified of 197 Parties to the Convention

On 5 October 2016, the threshold for entry into force of the Paris Agreement was achieved. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. The first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) took place in Marrakech, Morocco from 15-18 November 2016.

More information





## **PARIS AGREEMENT**









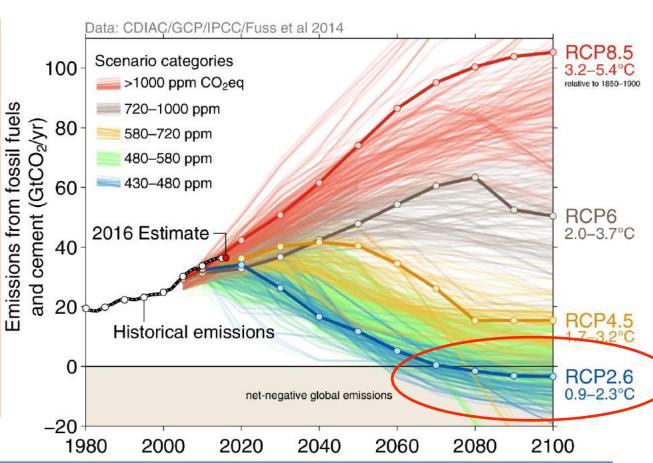


#### PARIS AGREEMENT



## Mitigation – long term objective:

hold the increase in T below 2°C [1.5°C] Adaptation – Increase the adapting capacity to climate change Finance - ensure funds in line with the pathway towards a low carbon and resilient development



**«BOTTOM UP» agreement based on National Determined Contribution (NDC) with a long term ambition** 

## **GOAL**MITIGATION – ADAPTATION

FINANCE

CAPACITY BUILDING

**FINANCE** 

LOSS&DAMAGE

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

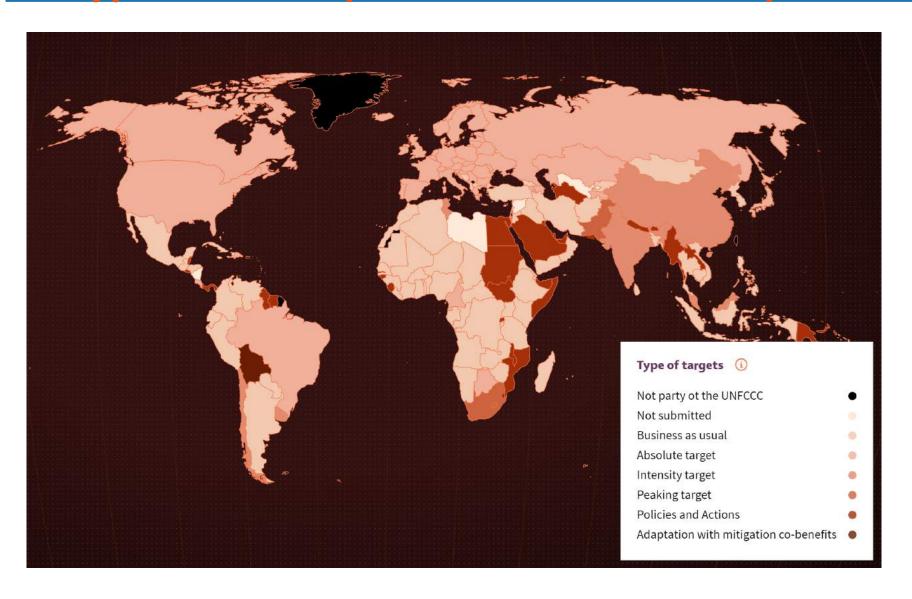
TRANSPARENCY

**VOLUNTARY COOPERATION** 

VERIFICATION (GST)

FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL PARTIES WITH AMBITIOUS TARGETS

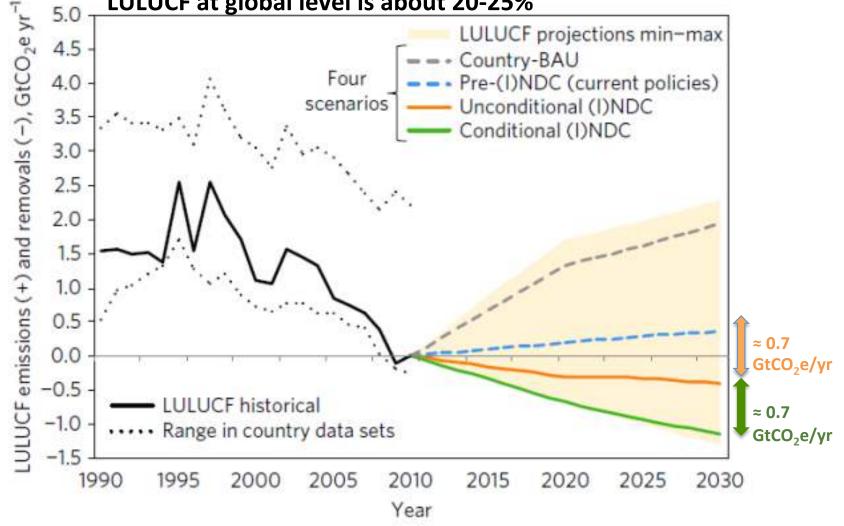
## Types of NDC (136 submitted so far)



http://datadrivenjournalism.net/resources/ndc\_explorer

#### LAND USE SECTOR CONTRIBUTION

Relative to the emissions from all sectors, the estimated contribution from LULUCF at global level is about 20-25%



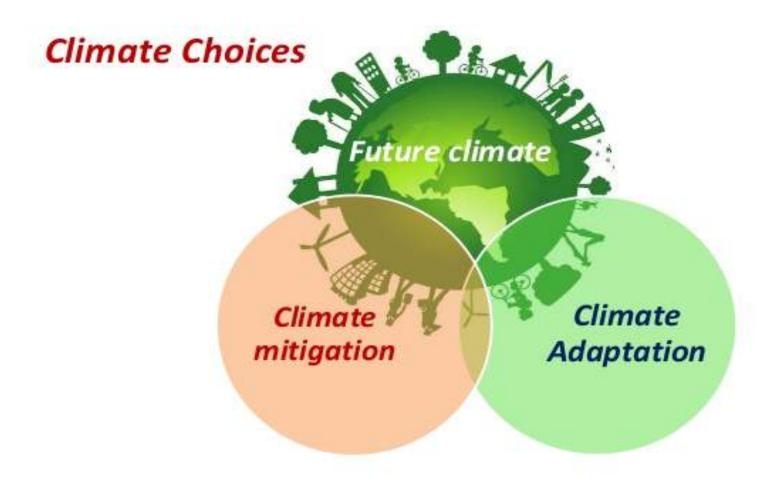






Give me clean, beautiful and healthy air not the same old climate change (global warming) bullshit! I am tired of hearing this nonsense.





"Avoiding the unmanageable, and managing the unavoidable"

# WOODY ENCROACHMENT OVER ABANDONED PASTURE ALONG THE ITALIAN PENINSULA

The effect of the process on soil and ecosystem carbon stocks

#### **Guido Pellis and Tommaso Chiti**

DIBAF Dept. for Innovation in Biological, Agro-food and Forest systems-University of Tuscia

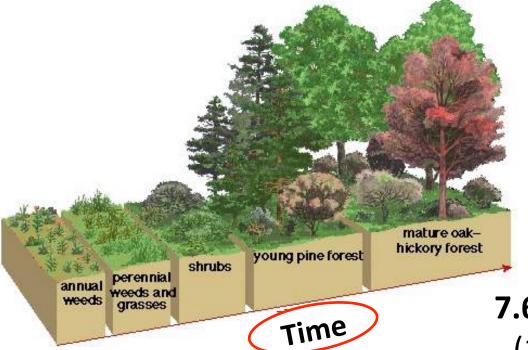


## Woody encroachment over pastures and grasslands

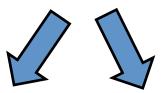
- Secondary succession
- Woody vegetation expansion







Mountain and rural territories after WWII



**7.6%** S Europe (1950-2010)

**1.1%** Italy (1990-2008)





Carta forestale del Regno d'Italia, realizzata nel 1936 dall'allora Milizia Forestale. (Ferretti at al., 2016 modificata)



Formazioni Forestali in base al Corine Land Cover 2012 (CLC, 2012)

## Background

- Increment in biomass and necromass C stocks
- Discordant results for Soil organic C stocks

(largest C pool)

**Limitations:** 

**Generally topsoil (0-30 cm) only** 

(Thuille & Schulze, 2006; Alberti et al., 2008; Risch et al., 2008; Fonseca et al., 2011; La Mantia et al., 2013; Guidi et al., 2014)

#### **Drivers:**

Climate (MAP)

Time from abandonment Plant species

Aspect or exposure Soil properties

Pair plot (pasture vs. forest)
Italian case studies:
(Jackson et al., 2002; Guo & Gifford, 2002; Alberti

Alps → decrease / mo/changes

(Thuille & Schulze, 2006; Alberti *et al.*, 2008; Risch *et al.*, 2008; Guidi *et al.*, 2014)

Sicily → increase / decrease / no changes (La Mantia et al., 2013)

**Apennines** → no data

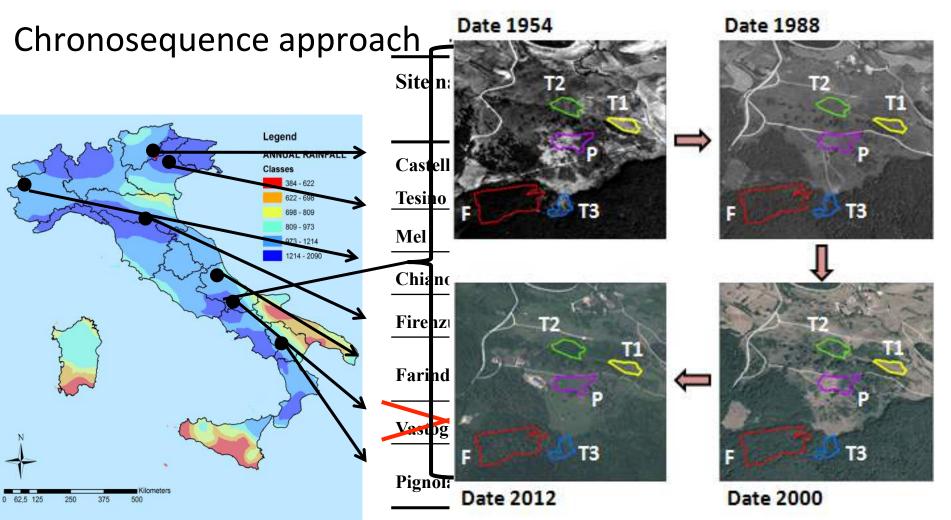
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## **Objectives**

- 1. Estimate **SOC stock changes** along woody encroachments (WEs) in some Italian sites
- 2. Investigate the role of subsoil
- 3. Test the **MAP** key role in SOC stock changes along Italian peninsula
- 4. Evaluate the WE effect on **ecosystem C stocks** (i.e. sum of above and belowground biomass, litter, dead wood, soil pools)

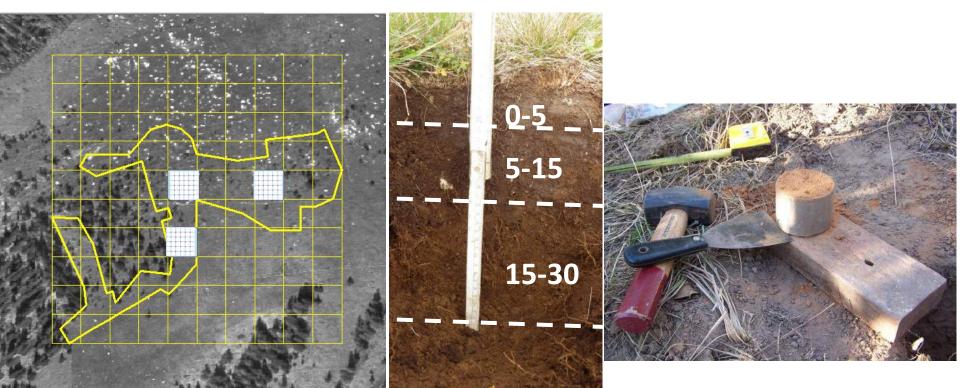
## Sites selection

Seven sites with different climatic conditions



## **SOC** stocks

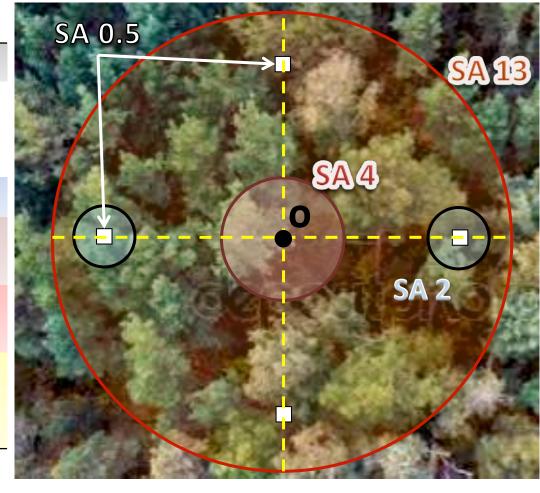
- Sampling protocol: suggested by JRC for EC (Stolbovoy et al., 2007)
- Depth intervals: 0-5, 5-15, 15-30, 30-50, 50-70 cm
- Composite samples
- $SOC_{stock} = C_{conc} * BD*depth*[1-(%rock volume/100)]$



## Biomass and necromass

In Pasture (P), Intermediate (T2), Forest (F) stages

Graphic element	Pool
Central point O	Litter – mass
SA 0.5	Grasses and Fine Woody Debris (FWD) – mass
SA 2	Shrubs – mass
SA 4	Trees, 9.5 < DBH < 2.5 cm – mass
SA 13	Trees, 9.5 < DBH – mass
Dotted diameters	Coarse woody debris (CWD) – volume Density decay classes

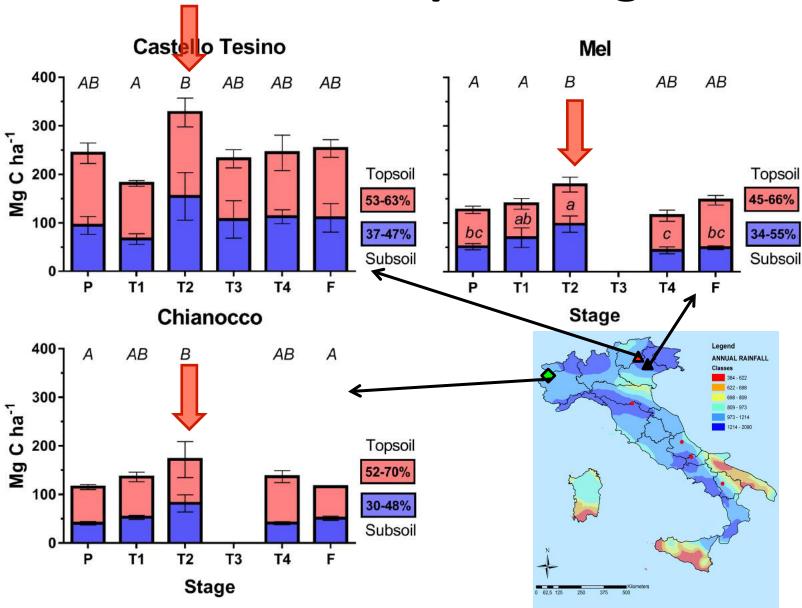


#### **Belowground biomass:**

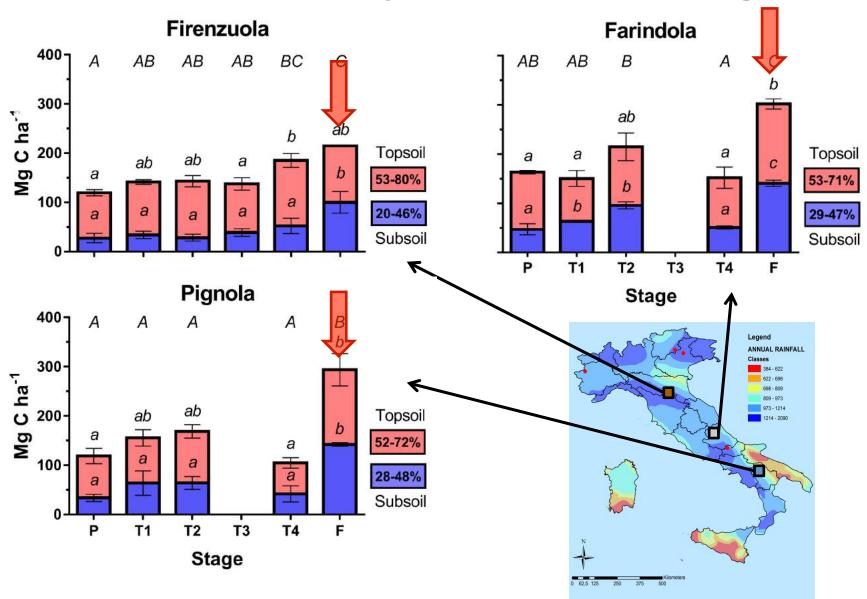
Root-to-Shoot ratio

Inspiderd by MPAF (2006), Bovio et al. (2014)

## **SOC stock Alps changes**

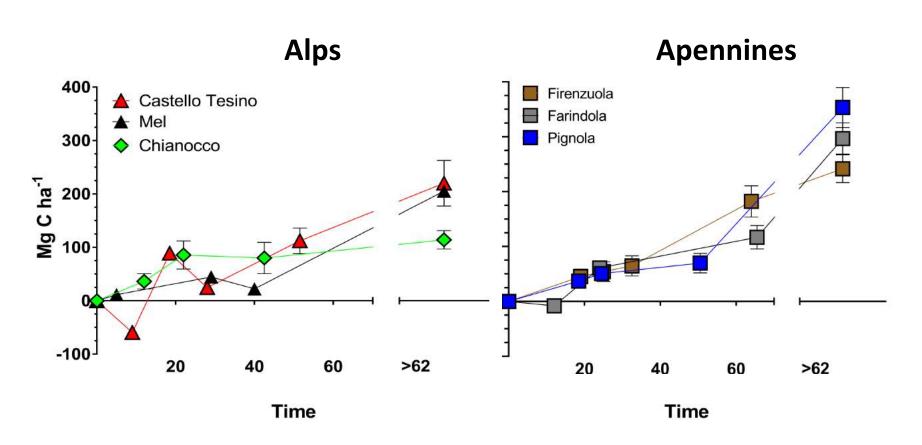


## **SOC stock Apennines changes**



## **Ecosystem C stocks changes**

Soil + aboveground biomass + belowground biomass + litter + dead wood



## **CONSIDERATIONS**

- SOC stock changes vary among sites Alps and Apennines very different
- 2. The subsoil is a large pool (30-40%)
- 3. **Temperature** (not precipitation) is the best climatic predictor for SOC changes
- The woody encroachment acts as a C sink at ecosystem level
- 5. Importance of the intermediate stages
- Aboveground diversity could explain the microbial enzyme activity

## Adaptaion measures

The UNFCCC refers to adaptation in several of its articles: Article 4.1(f):

"All Parties shall "Take climate change considerations into account, to the extent feasible, in their relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions, and employ appropriate methods, for example **impact assessments**, formulated and determined nationally, with a view to minimizing adverse effects on the **economy**, on **public health** and on the **quality of the environment**, of projects or measures undertaken by them to mitigate or adapt to climate change."



## Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

## Local Adaptation plans in a Mediterranean Mountain Environment - PALMO









## **Objectives**

#### Context and law

#### Reference context

- 1 Framework EU → COM (2013) 216 ruolo e funzione per gli SM;
- 2 Network EU → Promozione piattaforma Climate-Adapt
- 3 CMCC-MATTM SNAC Definition Alps and Appennins
- 4 PAL → Consultazione Conferenza Stato Regioni
- MATTM → decreto del 16 Giugno 2015



Strategia Nazionale adattamenti climatici

#### **Objectives**

Verify the applicability of adaptation measured at local scale in a Montane Mediterranean climate.

Help the decision making to define a planning scheme multi level at local scale.

## **Expected results**

#### vulnerability – risk perception

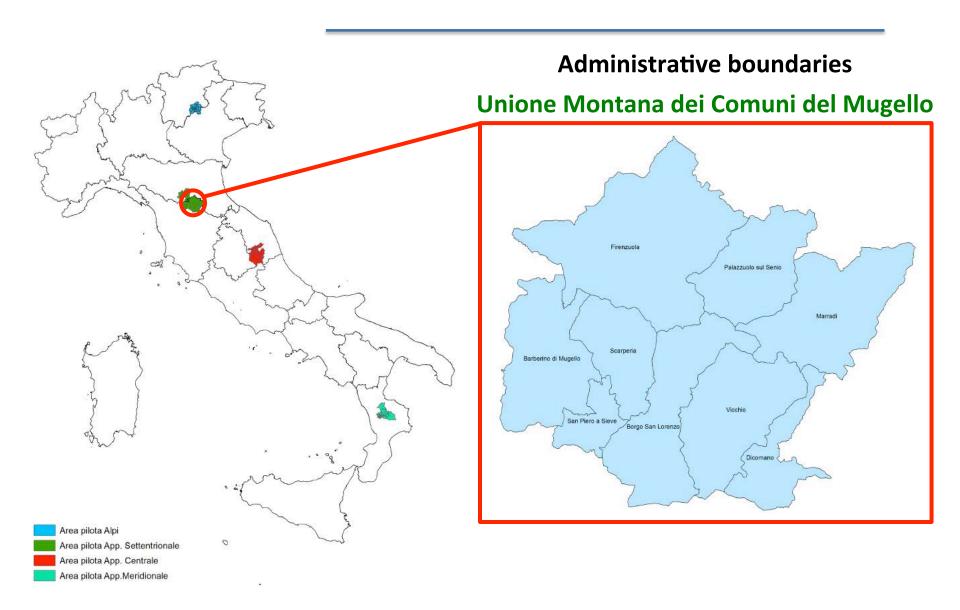
#### **Outputs**

- Methodology to investigate risk perception related to CC in a mountain community
- Criteria for harmonizing politics and strategy of intervention at local scale

#### **Application**

Guidelines in which are identified both methodological aspects and tools useful to produce a "Local Adaptation Plan" in a montane context, to be used by local administration, local entity civil society.

# **Case studies**





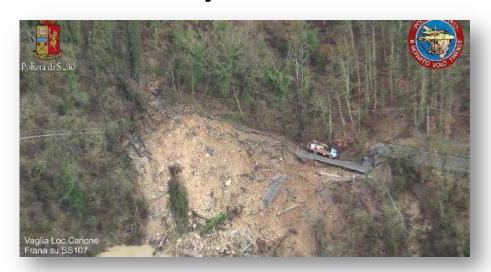
20<sup>th</sup> September 2014
Palazzuolo, Firenzuola e Marradi:
ten landslides, interrupted roads,
isolated villages.

Rainfall in 24 hours: 144 mm

19<sup>th</sup> March 2013 landslide and flood in the Mugello valley



## 14<sup>th</sup> February 2014 – landslides and floods



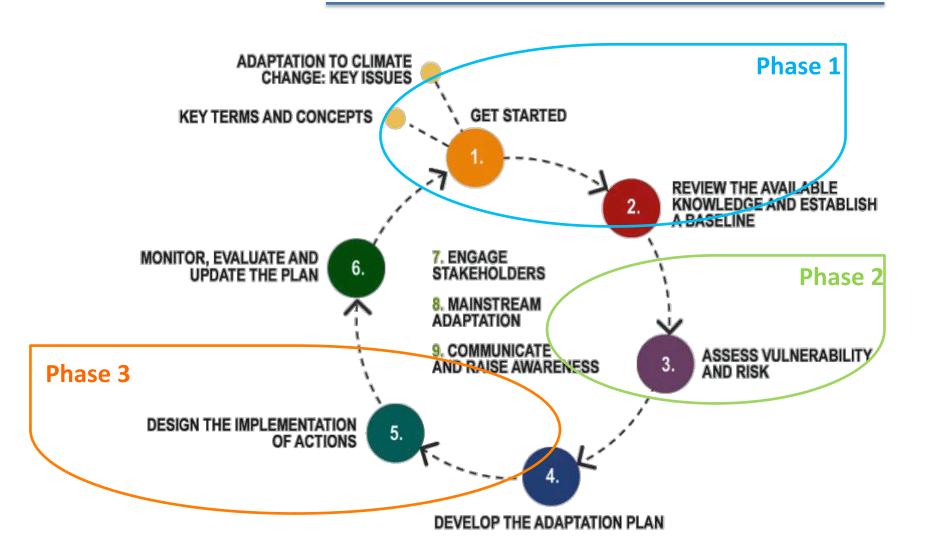
National street 107



**21**<sup>st</sup> October **2013** 

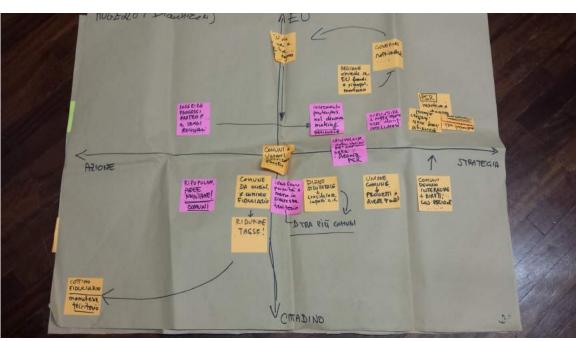


# **Activities and methodology**









# Collecting data for the specific case study

Evidences of CC	Data collected	Source	Reference period
Temperatures	Trend of Temperatures (Mean, Max, Min)	CMCC - Centro Euro Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici	1950-2014
Precipitations - Rain	Monthly mean rainfall	CMCC - Centro Euro Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici	1950-2014
Precipitations - Snow			
Frozen soils			

## Useful data to describe the territory

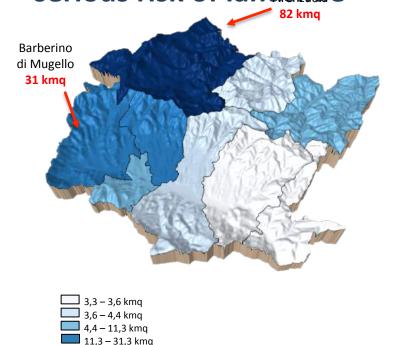
Influence of CC on different sectors	Data collected	Source	Reference period
Water resources	Water available for municipalities	Istat - Censimento popolazione e abitazioni	2012
	Volume of water used in agriculture	Istat - Censimento agricoltura	2010
Protected areas	Surfaces EUA	MATTM	2010
	Aree Natura 2000	MATTM	2015
Natural hazards	Landslides risks	Ispra	2015
	Hydraulik risks	Ispra	2015
Soil Degradation	Soil consumption	Ispra	2012
	Not consumed soil	Ispra	2012
Air	pollutant		
Tourism	Number of hosting structure	Istat - Censimento popolazione e abitazioni	2009-2014
Healt	allergies		
Agriculture/Forests	Employed in agriculture	Istat - Censimento agricoltura	2010
	Numbers of farms	Istat - Censimento agricoltura	1982-1990-2000- 2010
	Total agric. Surface (SAT)	Istat - Censimento agricoltura	1982-1990-2000- 2010
Energy	pro-capite gas consumption	Istat - Censimento popolazione e abitazioni	2000-2005-2011
	Electricity for domestic use	Istat - Censimento popolazione e abitazioni	2000-2005-2011

Landslide risks

#### Landslide risk

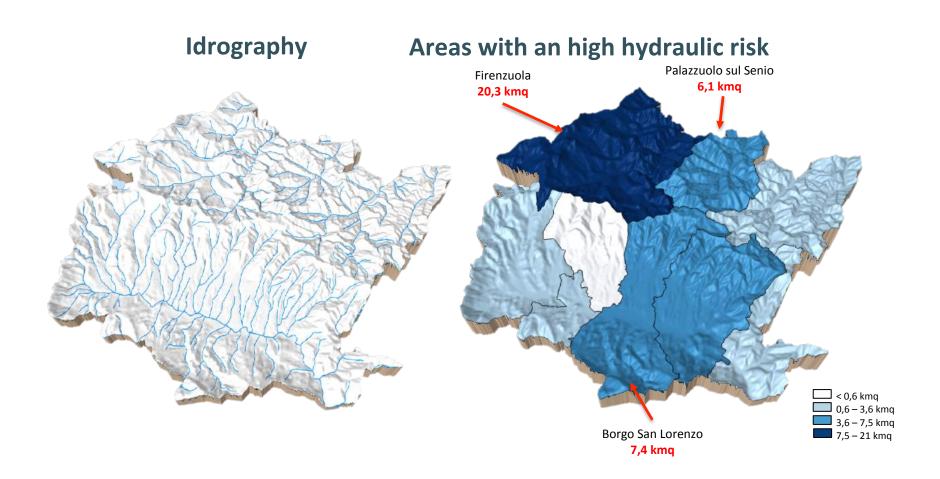
Molto elevata
Elevata
Media
Moderata
Aree di attenzione

# Area of the municipality interested by serious risk of landslide



31,3 - 82,0 kmg

Hydraulic risk



### Trends- temperature - Precipitation

#### **Data and statistics**

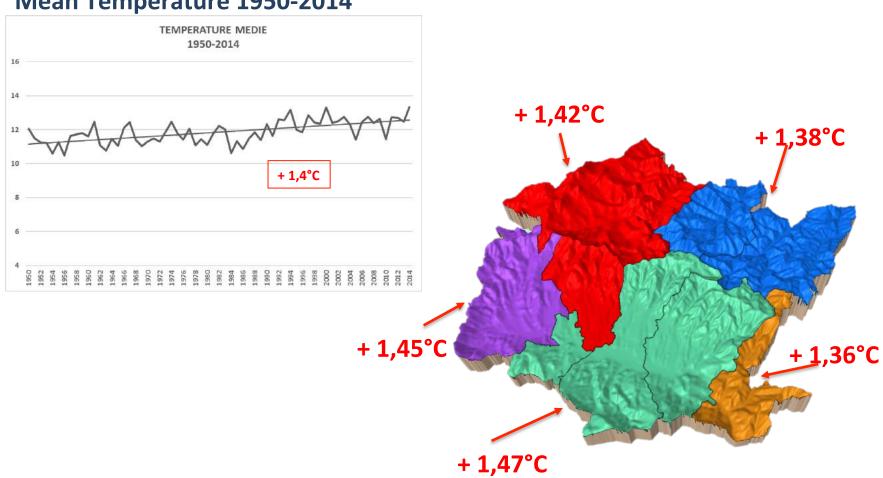


#### Data refer to 2014

Mean annual T	T max annual mean	T min annual mean	Annual rainfall
13,3°C	17,4°C	8,9°C	988 mm

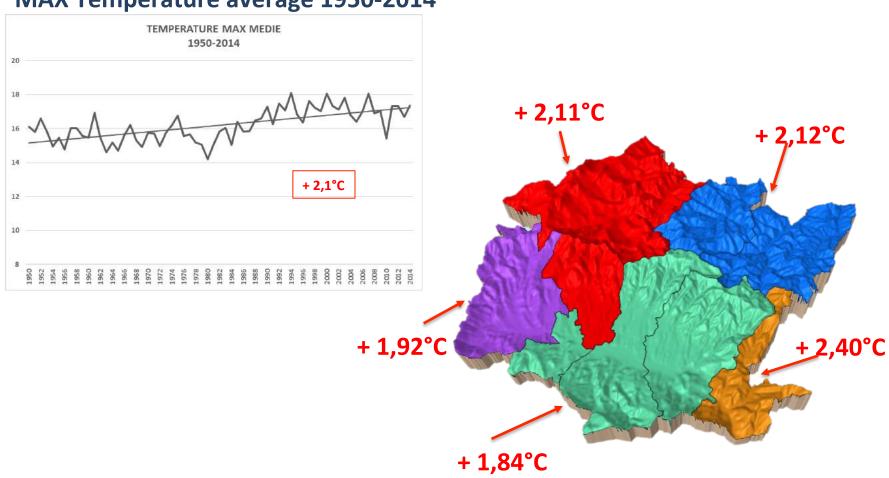
### Trends- temperature

Mean Temperature 1950-2014



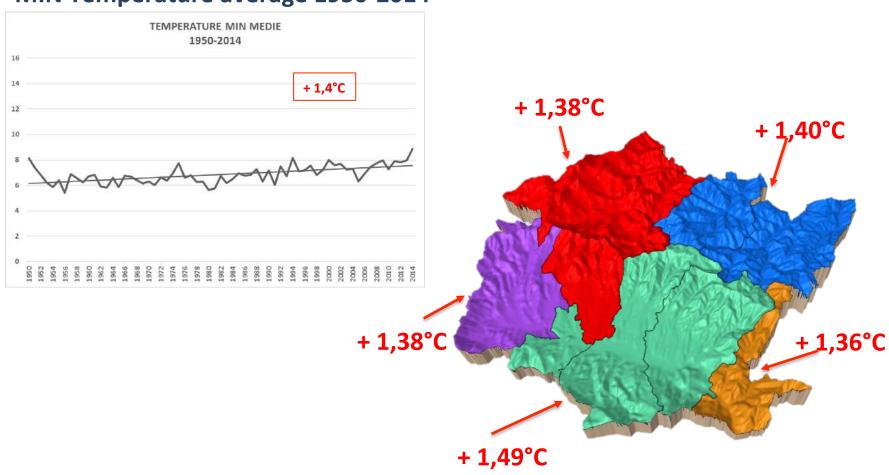
#### Trends- temperature

#### **MAX Temperature average 1950-2014**



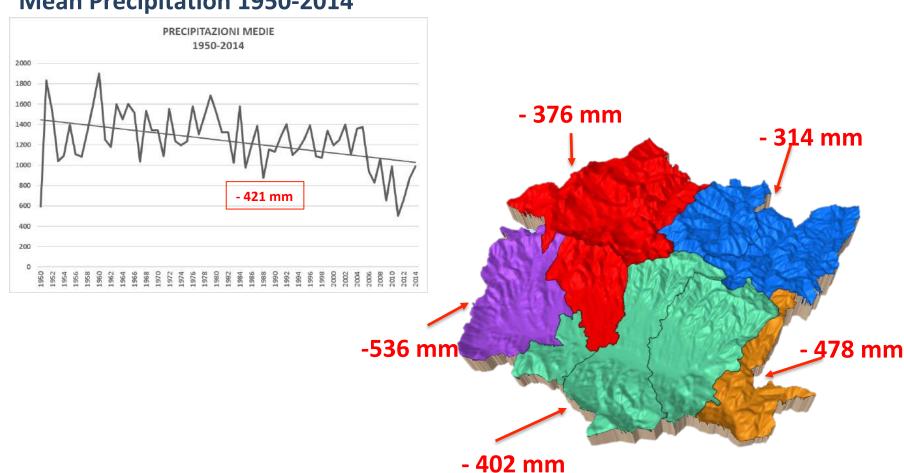
#### Trends- temperature

#### MIN Temperature average 1950-2014



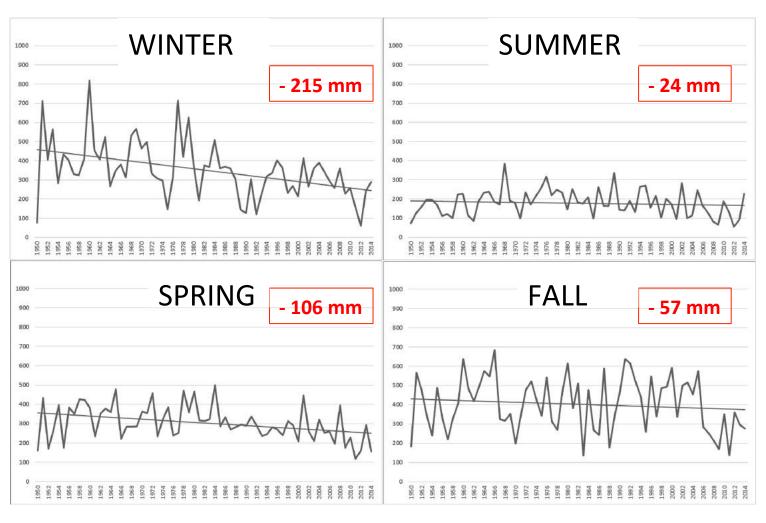
#### **Trend - Precipitations**

#### Mean Precipitation 1950-2014



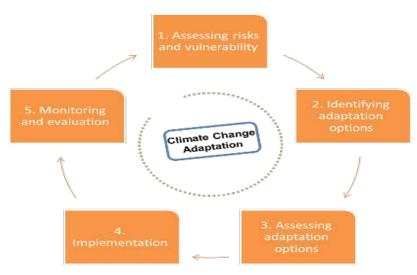
#### **Trend - Precipitation**

#### Mean Precipitation 1950-2014 - seasons



### FINAL ADAPTATION PLAN

- Adaptation plan with the measures to be adopted to combat CC
- Individuation of specific areas/sectors where the effect of CC will be more severe
- Indication about where to find the resources
- Timetable about the time of the different interventions



# Working groups

- Identify the main problems related to climate change in your area
- Mitigation and Adaptation measures possibly to be adopted in the study area
- How these measures can contribute to decrease the effect of climate change and be sustainable with the time



# THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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