SISC2023: Mission Adaptation! Managing the risk and building resilience

Milan,22-24 November 2023

Increase in airborne allergenic pollen in Trentino (North Italy):

knowledge to adapt to climate change.

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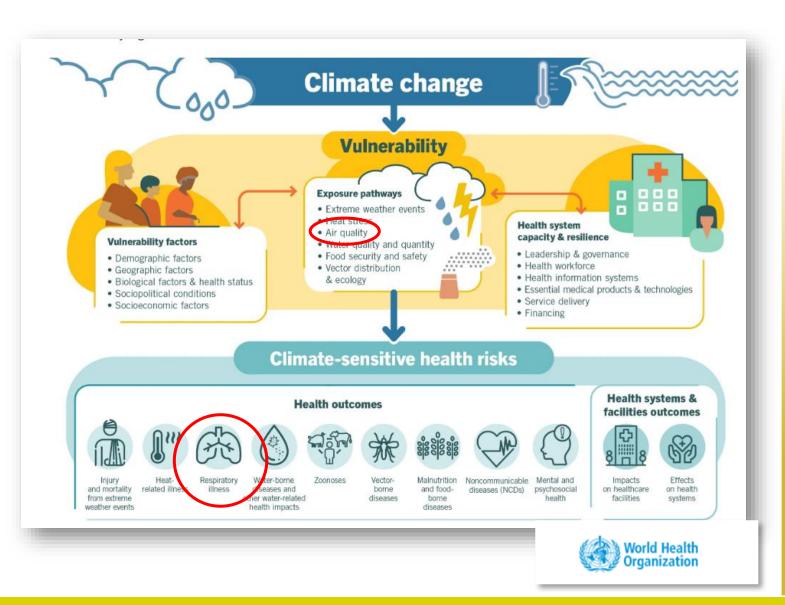
(b) Environmental Protection Agency - APPA – Autonomous Province of Trento



The contest:

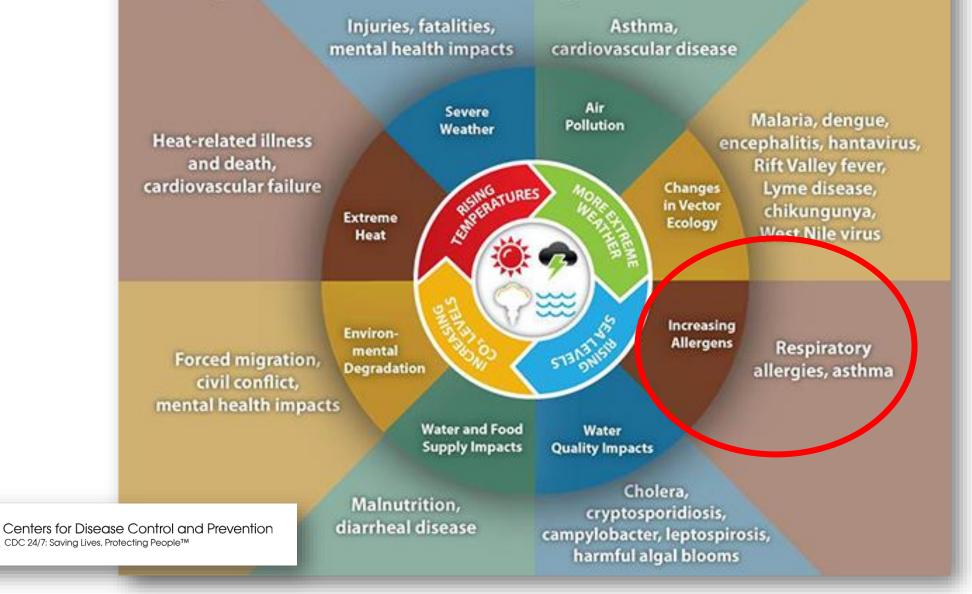
Impact of climate change on human health

- Air quality -> bioaerosol
- Respiratory illness
- Increase in respiratory allergies
- Pollen allergies

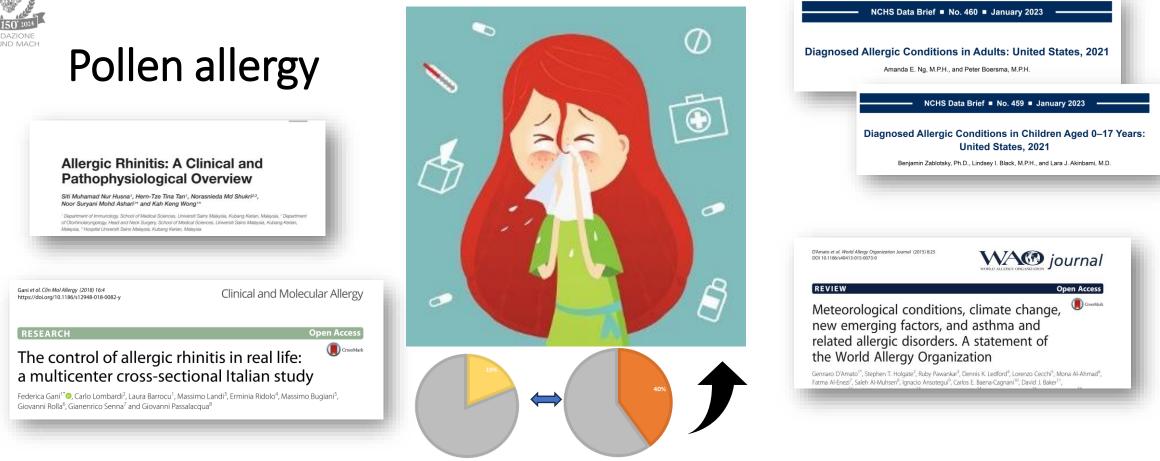




Impact of Climate Change on Human Health







- Allergic rhinitis is a high-prevalence disease that affects approximatively from 19% to 40% of population globally
- In Europe about 25% of the general population is affected, and in Italy the prevalence is estimated to be 19.8%. (Gani et al 2018
- There is an upward trend in allergic diseases (D'Amato et al. 2015).



Pollen and climate change



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Climate and Health

n Health

Allergens and Pollen

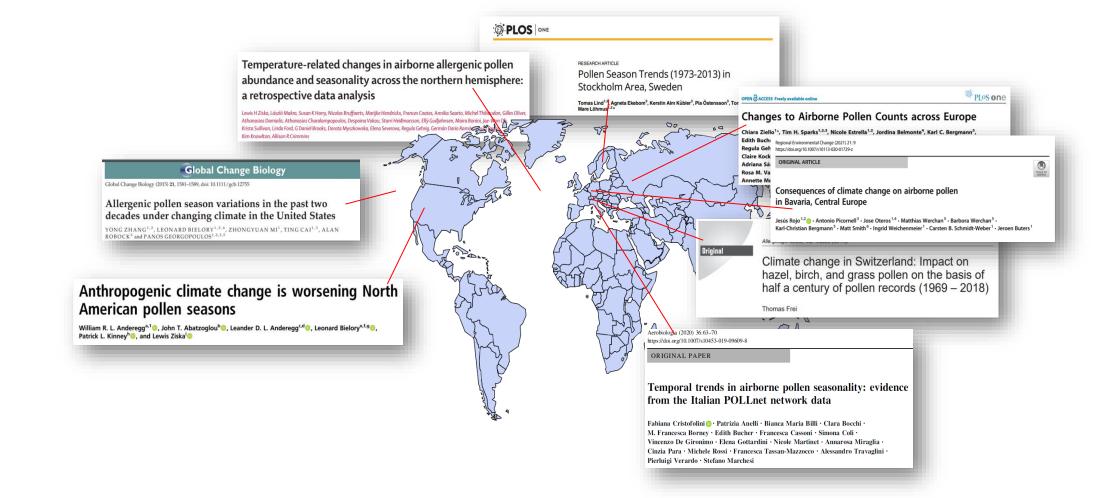
Climate change will potentially lead to both higher pollen concentrations and longer pollen seasons, causing more people to suffer more health effects from pollen and other allergens.

Pollen is an airborne allergen that can affect our health. Pollen grains are tiny "seeds" dispersed from flowering plants, trees, grass, and weeds. The amount and type of pollen in the air depends on the season and geographic region. Though pollen counts are typically higher during the warmer seasons, some plants pollinate year-round.



Climate change will potentially lead to shifts in precipitation patterns, more frost-free days, warmer seasonal air temperatures, and more carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere. These changes can affect:

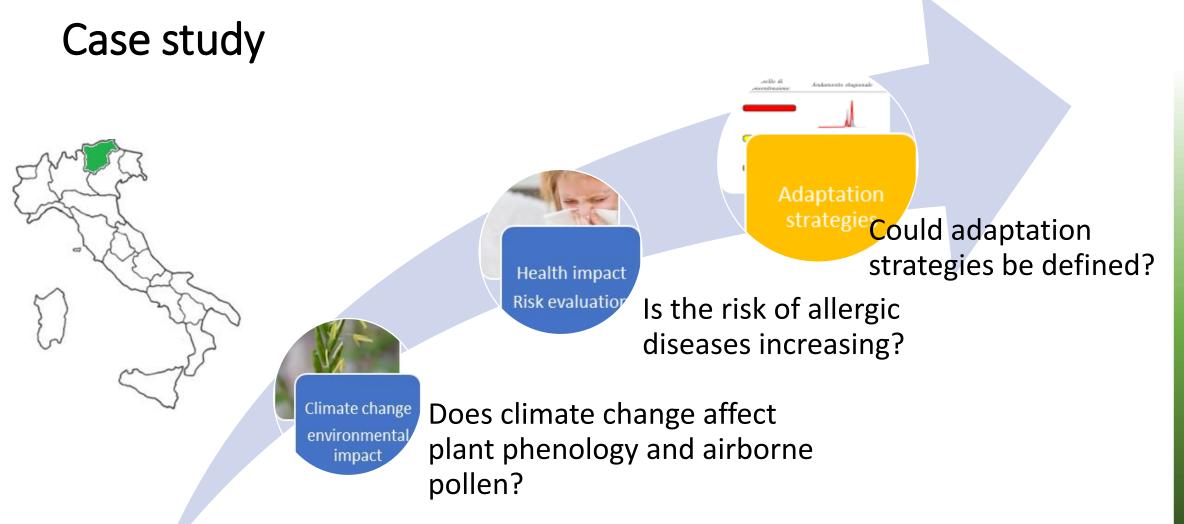
- · when the pollen season starts and ends and how long it lasts each year,
- · how much pollen plants create and how much is in the air,
- · how pollen affects our health (the "allergenicity" of pollen),
- · how much pollen we're exposed to, and
- our risk of experiencing allergy symptoms.



Early pollen season	overlap/confusion with other symptoms
Increase in pollen amount	increased exposure and risk of allergic symptoms/development of new sensitization
Longer pollen season	longer duration of allergic symptoms

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CENTRE





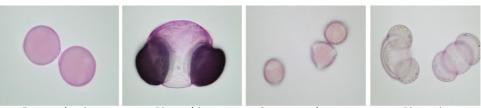


Case study





sampler	Hirst type aerobiological trap
protocol	UNI EN 16868:2019
period	1989- 2018
pollen record	daily concentration
pollen taxa number	24
pollen season	6 descriptors



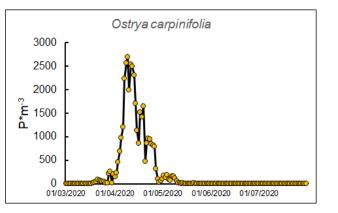
Fagus sylvatica

Picea abies

Quercus pubescens

Pinus nigra





8 Case study





Case study_results

A larger amount of pollen, an increase in the number of days with high pollen concentration, and an early start to the pollen season, which have been occurring since 1990 in the study area, all constitute a worsening situation and a major threat to people with pollen allergies.



The adaptation strategy





Adattamento: un percorso condiviso

Il percorso in atto in Trentino si colloca nell'azione più generale che l'Unione Europea e i Paesi membri stanno compiendo verso l'individuazione di azioni di adattamento in grado di contrastare gli impatti dei cambiamenti climatici. Risultano di grande importanza pertanto gli ambiti di coordinamento e cooperazione che sono attivi a livello europeo, nazionale e tra le regioni



Adaptation to Climate Change" e alla partecipazioni de gruppi di lavoro avviati





Define the adaptation strategies to climate change...



...create connection at national and european level...



...consider different topics...

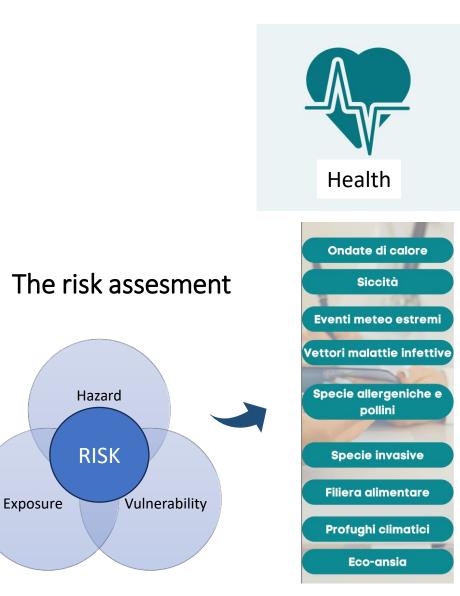


The adaptation strategy

Gli attori del percorso verso la Strategia

Il percorso verso la Strategia provinciale di mitigazione e adattamento ai cambiamenti climatici si avvale del supporto di diversi nel e soggetti del territorio per lo svolgimento sia delle attività tecnico-scientifiche che di quelle di comunicazione ed educazione





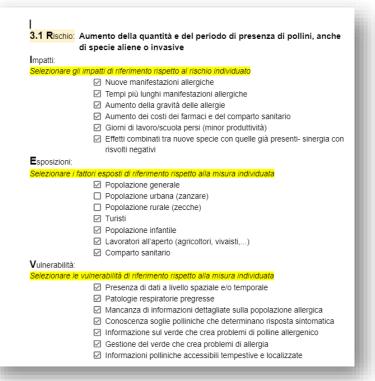




The adaptation strategies

RISK:

Increase in airborne **pollen** amount and lenghtening in seasonality, also for alien and invasive species



Impact: more health effects from pollen; more people suffers; new allergy; increase in sanitary costs;....

Exposure:

people in general

Vulnerability:

knowledge of pollen data; comunication of pollen risk; scarce awareness of the problem...

Priority analysis

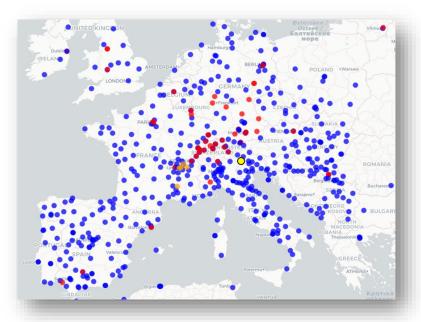


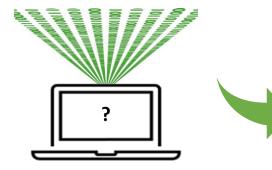
- Analisi di priorità: 1 - verde = Non prioritar



First strategy: monitoring

- aerobiological monitoring
- collect data





Pollen data with high temporal and spatial resolution

Worldwide Map of Pollen Monitoring Stations https://www.zaum-online.de/pollen/pollen-monitoring-map-of-the-world.html



Second strategy: dissemination, comunication, awareness

Developing communication systems at risk of pollen allergy for allergic people and doctors

Developing early warning systems or forecasting models

Increasing knowledge and awareness



Nocciole

Alternaria

Salice Frassino comune Alternaria Poacee





GLAS





Le specie presenti nella nostra regione, P officinalis e P. diffusa, hanno una diversa istribuzione ecologica: la prima predilige ambier mbrosi, spesso nitrofili, terreni abbandonati nacerie, suoli boschivi eutrofici, la seconda cresce su muri, macerie, rupi calcaree soleggiate Forma vegetativa

Piante erbacee perenni di taglia relativar elevata.

scuola

Pollini, salute e cambiamenti climatio

Fogli

Alterne, ovali od ellittiche, acuminate con peli no urticanti.

Fiori Generalmente unisessuali, riuniti in glomeri significanti, presentano un perigonio piccol circa 2 millimetri) costituito da quattro element rdastri. Il frutto è un achenio. Caratteristica è la

Adaptation strategies 17



nno scolastico 202



Third strategy: green management

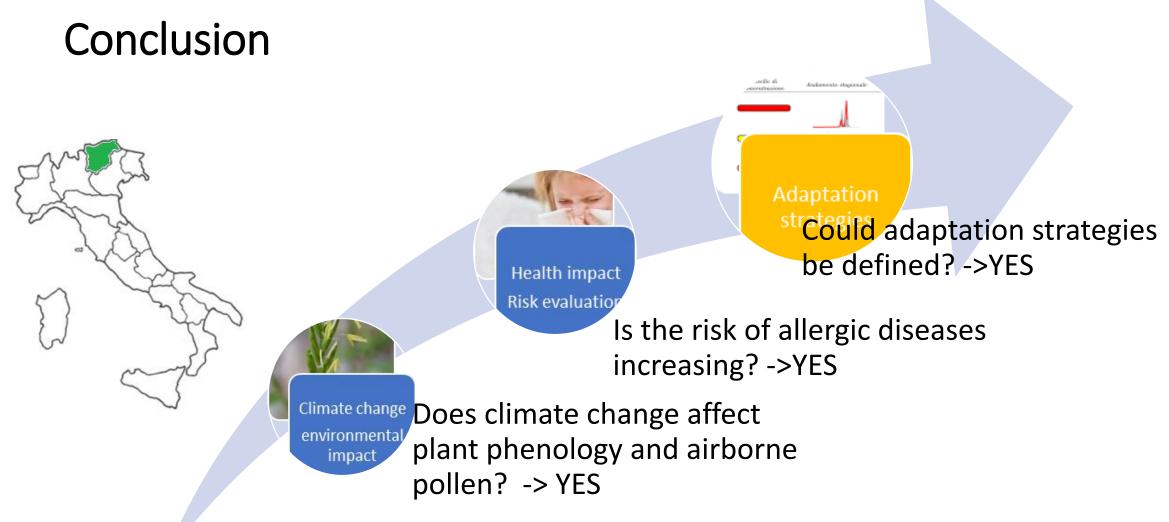
Increase knowledge about botanical species, that produce pollen potentially allergenic

Increase collaboration with administration to promote «low allergy best practics» in urban green areas

Spreading information for private green management











The definition of adaptation strategies must be coordinated in order to avoid negative effects. For example, to limit the impacts of extreme heat waves, NBS are often suggested; the allergenic potential of new green structures should be considered.



Thank for the attention!

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