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No776661



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**Downscaling climate impacts and decarbonisation pathways
in EU Islands, and enhancing socioeconomic and non-market
evaluation of Climate Change for Europe, for 2050 and beyond**



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Work Package 7:

Ranking and Mapping transition pathways in islands and enabling networking and information system for regional and EU policy design

Deliverable 7.2. Draft Island Reports for stakeholder engagement

Coordinated by Ramboll/ULPGC with the participation of all IFPs and reviewed by Christos Giannakopoulos (NOA) and Mark Meyer (GWS), according to the quality review internal process.

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ABSTRACT

The draft island report (Task 7.2- D7.2) forms the core material for user engagement at island level. It will be used to disseminate project research outcomes to regional stakeholders, aiming to raise social awareness among policy-makers and practitioners about CC consequences at regional level, and provide knowledge based information for the upcoming co-definition of optimal adaptation pathways for EU islands (Tasks 7.3 and 7.4).

This background report is a single and easy-to-understand document that presents existing knowledge and Soclimpact's findings regarding Climate Change's socio-economic impacts on 12 EU islands. This synthetic presentation includes a broad overview of the current situation of the island (geography, socio-economic context, current climate and risks) and economic projections. Further sections are dedicated to climate change outlook and expected risks for the four blue economy sectors (tourism, aquaculture, energy and maritime transport), operationalized Impact Chains, socio-economic impacts of climate change, and current climate policy status for each island.

Each draft report is jointly developed by Ramboll/ULPGC and the Island Focal Point partners and Work Package leaders.



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STRUCTURE OF THE ISLANDS' REPORTS AND CONTENT DESCRIPTION

The reports' structure was designed and validated by all partners during the last SOCLIMPACT General Assembly (November 2019) in Sicily, Italy. The next tables briefly describe the general structure for each island report, the chosen approach for data inventory, collection and presentation. The structure is coherent with the logical workflow of the project on one hand, and a comprehensive overview of the project results by island's case study.

The twelve appendices present the material collected so far in the form of texts and graphs for each island but also data and visualization tables. In spite of the significant work accomplished so far in terms of collecting and presenting existing knowledge and new results, this information should still be considered as raw material at this stage. More work is required to synthesize the information, to homogenize the presentations across islands, and to provide user-friendly visualization in interaction with WP8. Finally, it is important to point out that the content of the report could differ from one island to another, given that the available information and sources for data production are different, thus leading to well personalized research outcomes at regional level (i.e. not all impact chains will be operationalized in all islands, and also climatic projections will not cover all impacts for each island), although the valuable work provided by the Island Focal Points partners.

Table 1 : Draft Island Report: table of contents

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Current situation and recent trends<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1. Current geopolitical context1.2. Current climate and risks1.3. Macroeconomic status1.4. Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors2. Economic projections<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1. Macroeconomic projections2.2. Sectoral projections3. Climate Change outlook<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1. Tourism3.2. Aquaculture3.3. Energy3.4. Maritime Transport4. Climate change risks<ol style="list-style-type: none">4.1. Tourism4.2. Aquaculture4.3. Energy4.4. Maritime Transport5. Socio-economic impacts of climate change<ol style="list-style-type: none">5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC: tourism, aquaculture, energy, maritime transport5.2 Macro-economic projections6. Towards climate resiliency<ol style="list-style-type: none">6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle6.2 Building resiliency: adaptation pathways7. References



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Table 2 : Draft Island Report: description of content and source of information

Sections	Description	Source: project deliverable*
Introduction	Brief presentation and storylines for the blue economy sectors	Deliverable 3.4
1. Current situation and recent trends		
1.1 Current geopolitical context	Geography, political status, population dynamics, labor force	Deliverable 6.2
1.2 Current climate and risks	Climate means and extremes (temperature, precipitation, wind), main climate risks and significant past events	Deliverable 6.2 & 7.1
1.3 Macroeconomic status	Country GDP profile and income sources.	Deliverable 6.2
1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors	Recent trends observed with regards to tourism, aquaculture, maritime transport and energy	Deliverable 6.2
2. Economic projections		
2.1 Macroeconomic projections	Changes in GDP components	Deliverable 6.2
2.2. Sectoral projections	Changes in sectoral value added	Deliverable 6.2
3. Climate Change outlook: Hazard indicators outlook: projected changes for the mid-century and end-century considering RCP 2.6 and RCP 8.5 and multi-model approach		
3.1 Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea-grass evolution • Fire weather index • Beach flooding • Humidity Index • Percentage of days when T > 98th percentile • Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases 	Deliverables 4.3, 4.4



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3.2 Aquaculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Species Thermal Stress Indicator 56 • Annual Mean Significant Wave Height (AMSH) 63 • Extreme Wave Return Time 	Deliverables 4.3, 4.4
3.3 Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicators of change in renewable energy productivity • Extreme wind NWiX98 • Extreme temperature • Cooling Degree Days • Available water: Total Precipitation, Total Runoff and Standardized 	Deliverables 4.3, 4.4
3.4 Maritime Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean Sea Level Rise • Storm surge Extremes • Frequency of extreme high winds • Wave extremes 	Deliverables 4.3, 4.4
Climate change risks: Risk assessment based on Impact Chain modelling approach		
4.1. Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in environmental attributes ICs available: Impact of forest fire - Loss of tourist attractiveness due to marine habitat degradation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in human being comfort ICs available: Impact of heatwaves on thermal comfort	Deliverable 4.5
4.2. Aquaculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes in sales and profit as a result of climate change ICs available: economic losses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects of extreme weather events • Repair/replacement and upgrade costs for infrastructure • Farming of non-native species and invasions ICs available: temperature	Deliverable 4.5



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4.3. Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitations and temperatures ICs available: Increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand - Energy demand desalinsation	Deliverable 4.5
4.4. Maritime Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of changes in power generation due to LT climate change and variability • Risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events Damages to ports infrastructures and equipments due to floods and waves Damages to ships on route due to extreme weather events Risk of isolation due to transport disruption ICs available: Risk of transport disruption	Deliverable 4.5
5. Socio-economic impacts of climate change: Empirical evidence of the CC socio- economic effects on the supply and the demand side of the 4 blue economy sectors, for different RCP scenarios and risks. Different techniques/experiments are employed for each sector which fed the macroeconomic projections.		
5.1. Market and non-market effects of CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism sector: Changes in tourism arrivals and expenditure for different CC risks and adaptation measures • Maritime transport: change in operation costs • Energy: change in cooling and desalination energy demand • Big data analysis-tourism: change in hotels prices • Aquaculture: changes in productivity 	Deliverable 5.2, 5.3 5.5 and 5.6
5.2 Macro economic projections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multisectoral Scenarios Simulation results thanks to the integration of GEM-E3 and GINFORS models. 	Deliverable 6.3
6. Towards climate resiliency		
6.1 Current situation:	Current climate policies status: general commitment, specific limits and obstacles	Deliverable 7.1
6.2 Building resiliency:	Ranking of adaptation pathways: results of regional workshops for each island	Deliverable 7.3

*Availability of the source at 30/04/2020: (Green for yes / Red for no)



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METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

An iterative process has been implemented with constant interaction with WP Leaders, so as to ensure an effective integration of data when it becomes available. In parallel, regular meetings with the IFPs are organised to provide those updates. The material provided to IFPs so far encompasses:

- the Report's structure and related template;
- a knowledge table mapping data availability for each island and updates.

Further material to be provided includes:

- text with accompanying visualizations for critical parts of the report to ensure homogeneity and consistency across the reports.

Collecting selected contents

Various types of content are collected:

- text and graphs from existing reports (e.g. from deliverable 6.2 to feed parts 1 and 2 of the Island report); They are integrated directly into the draft report;
- raw data from climate modeling (from deliverable 4.3 for instance) and maps. This information is collected in a dedicated table.
- existing visualization and data from external sources (Meteo Blue and World Bank data). This information is stored in a dedicated table.

Translating scientific content into accessible information

Collected data is to be prepared before final integration:

- Text and graphs will be homogenized and synthesized across the islands;
- Raw data from climate modeling is being adapted and transformed into nice visualizations. This requires substantial work on appropriate wording across the indicators. For instance, we selected "reference period" wording to name the period 1986-2005. This period was named in various ways across the reports (historical, reference, etc.). Similar work is conducted to name the indicators, the models, the scenarios, the values in a consistent way across the sectoral indicators.
- In interaction with WP8 infographic-type illustrations should be produced to feed the reports. Below is an indicative example of illustrations to be produced.

Inventory of data availability and Impact Chains

At this stage, it is possible to present an inventory of data availability and Impact Chains by island, information that will define the final structure of each island report. **Tables from 3 to 5** provides a global picture of data availability for each island and allows for the identification of gaps. In the table 3 the N/A boxes is the information that has not been provided by any deliverable of the project. In these cases further effort is required in order to provide similar information as per the rest of the islands.



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Data gaps can be divided into two types:

- Gaps common to all islands: for instance, 'current climate and related risks' (section 1.2) is not well covered by existing project data. For this purpose, external data and visualizations have been collected for each island (see appendix 13) and will be formatted to fit the reports.
- Individual data gaps: whereas certain islands are well covered by project output data (e.g. Malta, Cyprus), certain islands suffer from a lack of data availability. This is largely due to a lack of input data at island level. But when it is possible, additional literature review can be compiled to feed certain parts of the report (e.g. current context).



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Table 3 : Data inventory per island (knowledge table)

Report outlines	1. 1.Current situation and recent trends	2. 2.Economic projections	3. Climate Change outlook	4. Climate change risks	5. Socio economic impacts	6. Main ongoing adaptation policies	
Where to find relevant info	D6.2 + KO meeting presentations	D.6.2	D4.1 to 4.4	D4.5 (Results partially available for 11 Impact Chains-IC)	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R
Azores	D6.2 - Ch 3.6.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.6.2	D4,3 + Appendix 1 - D4.4a,b	2 IC- Tourism	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Balearic Islands	D6.2 - Ch 3.6.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.6.2	D4,3 + Appendix 2 - D4.4a,b,d,e	3 IC - Tourism 1 IC- Maritime TRansport	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Baltic Islands	N/A	N/A	D4,3 + Appendix 3- D4.4a,b,e	2 IC- Tourism	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Canary Islands	D6.2 - Ch 3.7.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.7.2	D4,3 + Appendix 4 - D4.4a,b,e	2 IC - Tourism 1 IC- Maritime Transport 2 IC - Energy	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Corsica	N/A	N/A	D4,3 + Appendix 5- D4.4a,b,c,e	3 IC - Tourism 2 IC- Aquaculture 1 IC - Maritime TRansport	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Crete	D6.2 - Ch 3.3.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.3.2	D4,3 + Appendix 6- D4.4a,b,c,e	3 IC - Tourism 1 IC - Maritime TRansport	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Cyprus	D6.2 - Ch 3.1.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.1.2	D4,3 + Appendix 7- D4.4a,b,e	3 IC - Tourism 2 IC- Aquaculture 2 IC- Energy 1 IC - Maritime transport	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
French West Indies	N/A	N/A	D4,3 + Appendix 12	2 IC- Tourism	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Madeira	D6.2 - Ch 3.9.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.9.2	D4,3 + Appendix 8- D4.4a,b,e	2 IC - Tourism 2 IC- Aquaculture	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Malta	D6.2 - Ch 3.2.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.2.2	D4,3 + Appendix 9- D4.4a,b,e	3 IC - Tourism 2 IC- Aquaculture 2 IC- Energy 1 IC - Maritime transport	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Sardegna	D6.2 - Ch 3.5.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.5.2	D4,3 + Appendix 10- D4.4a,b,c,e	3 IC - Tourism 2 IC- Aquaculture	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59
Sicily	D6.2 - Ch 3.4.1	D6.2 - Ch 3.4.2	D4,3 + Appendix 11- D4.4a,b,e	3 IC - Tourism 2 IC- Aquaculture	D5.2-D5.3-D5.5-D5.6	D6.3	D7.1_R – Chapter: SOCLIMPACT ISLANDS CONTEXT +staring in page 59



Table 4: Check list Impact Chain operationalization per island

Sector	Impact Chain	Azores	Baleari	Baltic	Canary	Corsica	Crete	Cyprus	Madeira	Malta	Sardegna	Sicilia	West
Tourism	IC Thermal Comfort	Exposure data	AHP	Exposure	AHP	Exposure	Exposure	AHP	Exposure	AHP	AHP	Exposure	All data
Tourism	IC Forest Fires	GIZ	GIZ	Expos./vul	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	All data
Tourism	IC Marine Habitat Degradation	Expos./vuln.	AHP	Expos./vul	AHP	Expos./vul	Expos./vul	AHP	Expos./vuln	AHP	Expos./vuln.	AHP	All data
Aquaculture	IC Economic losses	Exposure data	Exposure	Exposure	Exposure	AHP&GIZ	Exposure	AHP&GIZ	AHP	AHP&GIZ	AHP&GIZ	AHP&GIZ	All data
Aquaculture	IC temperature	Exposure data	Exposure	Exposure	Exposure	GIZ	Exposure	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	All data
Energy	Energy demand - Desalination	Hazard data	Expos./vul	Expos./vul	GIZ	Expos./vul	Expos./vul	GIZ	Hazard data	GIZ	Expos./vuln.	Expos./vul	All data
Energy	Energy demand - Cooling	Hazard data	Expos./vul	Expos./vul	GIZ	Expos./vul	Expos./vul	GIZ	Hazard data	GIZ	Expos./vuln.	Expos./vul	All data
Maritime Transport	Transport Disruption	adaptation	GIZ	Expos./vul	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	GIZ	Expos./vuln	GIZ	Expos./vuln.	Expos./vul	All data

Colour code

	Finalized
	Not available hazard data missing
	Not available vulnerability data missing
	Not available adaptation capacity data missing
	All data

***Energy:** There are islands for which the operationalization was not possible, but the normalization and analysis of hazards is provided in this section (section 4. Climate risks of the islands report).



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	Balearic	Canary	Crete	Madeira	Sardinia	West	Azores	Fehmarn	Corsica	Cyprus	Malta	Sicily
Maritime transport (MT)												
Mean Sea Level Rise	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Storm surge Extremes	ok		ok		ok				ok	ok	ok	ok
Frequency of extreme high winds	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok		ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Wave extremes	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok		ok	ok	ok	ok
Tourism (T)												
Sea-grass evolution	ok	ok	ok		ok				ok	ok	ok	ok
Fire weather index	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok		ok		ok	ok	ok	ok
Humidity Index – Humidex percentage of days when T <35oC	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok		ok	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases	ok		ok		ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Beach reduction	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok		ok		ok	ok	ok	ok
Energy (E)												
Wind energy productivity (onshore/offshore)	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Solar PV energy productivity (onshore/offshore)	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Wind energy drought frequency	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Solar PV energy drought frequency	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Combined (wind/PV) energy drought frequency	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Extreme wind NWIX98	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Extreme temperature T>98th percentile	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Cooling Degree Days	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Standardized precipitation-evapotranspiration index	ok	ok	ok	ok	ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Available water: Total Precipitation, Total Runoff	ok		ok		ok			ok	ok	ok	ok	ok
Aquaculture (A)												
Annual Mean Significant Wave Height (AMSH) 63	ok		ok		ok				ok	ok	ok	ok
Extreme Wave Return Time	ok		ok		ok				ok	ok	ok	ok
No. of day exceeding the threshold of 24 oC of fish thermal stress	ok		ok	ok	ok				ok	ok	ok	ok

Table 5: Check list availability of hazard indicators projections per island

	Not enough information available/regional level, some simulations were run but with coarse resolution (thus not included)
	Lack of data/Resolution is very coarse and results are not fully reliable due to model limitations
	Island did not show interest in the sector, hazard data can be derived from EU sources and literature
	Island did not show interest in the sector, data might possibly be available from dedicated regional programmes (e.g. BALTEX - https://www.baltex-research.eu)
	Not only resolution is very coarse as data come from GCMs, but precipitation is totally unrealistic as island orography is completely or largely missing in the global model and runoff cannot even be defined in the absence of land
	Though the indicators have been calculated, the climate model data are inadequate (SRES emissions scenario instead of RCP emissions scenario, projections only until 2050) and unreliable (Azores lies very near to a corner of the model domain, which is a source of biases in the results)
	Inadequate and unreliable data + the precipitation data are also unrealistic as the island orography is not adequately captured due to the limited resolution of the model
	Not considered a hazard for the area
	Extreme storm surges were not modelled (only atmospheric pressure), although overall mean coastal surge levels can be calculated considering sea level rise



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APPENDIXES



APPENDIX 1





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in the Azores Islands. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

The Azores at a glance

The nine islands of the Archipelago of the Azores are all of volcanic origin and are located in the middle of the North Atlantic, dispersed along a 600 km long stretch from Santa Maria to Corvo and approximately between 37° and 40° north latitude and 25° and 31° west longitude. Some 246,772 people live (data from 2011) in this island territory of 2,325 km², which is at a distance of 1,600 km from the European continent and 2,454 km from the North American continent (Canada). The population distribution is around half for the main island São Miguel, one quarter to Terceira island and the remaining islands account for another one quarter.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Tourism**

The coastal recreational and leisure activities are one of the main tourist attractions in the region. These include activities such as recreational boating, and maritime-tourist activities (e.g. cruise tourism, diving, whale, and dolphin watching, swimming with dolphins, sport fishing) and nature tourism (e.g. hiking and sightseeing). A growing activity is also tourist real estate, especially on the coast, which results in the construction of various support infrastructures along the coast.

- **Energy**

In 2019 the annual consumption was around 743 GWh. Production was 38.3% from renewables and local resources, but all islands have different energy mixes. They are all non-connected and depend on fossil thermal generation to ensure energy quality and face a challenge to add more renewable energy. Islands have well established geothermal energy running (São Miguel and Terceira). They all face and cope with harsh climatic conditions and are challenged with high winds (i.e., 213 km/h; Flores, 2014), heavy precipitation with the risk of floods and landslides. Climate change will aggravate these risks and create new ones, challenging the region.

- **Aquaculture**

The aquaculture sector in the Azores aims to contribute to the creation of business niches associated with aquaculture products, providing opportunities for social development and employment and, at the same time, increasing regional productivity without increasing the extractive pressure on fishery resources. The sector is still developing in the Region, and conditions are still being defined for the exercise of the activity on an experimental or scientific basis.

- **Maritime Transport**

The maritime-port sector is responsible for around 70% of international trade and plays a fundamental role in the development of the Region. The importance of maritime transport, namely cargo, led to the development of port infrastructures, which assume on all islands a fundamental role in the flow of goods in and out. This is the main means of transporting goods, both for connections abroad, namely to Madeira and the Portuguese mainland, as well as inter-island connections. Passenger shipping works all year round in the central group and service is extended in the summer months to all other islands.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

The Azores archipelago is an autonomous region of Portugal located in the North Atlantic, approximately 1,500 km from the European mainland. The Island group comprises 9 islands and several islets belonging to three groups: 1) the Western Group (with two islands: Flores and Corvo); 2) the Central Group (with five islands: Faial, Pico, São Jorge, Graciosa and Terceira); and 3) the Eastern Group (with two islands: São Miguel and Santa Maria).

The Azores have a moderate climate, influenced by the surrounding Atlantic. The marine surface area of the Azores is 954,496 km², yielding one of the largest exclusive economic zones (EEZs) in the European Union. The Azores have been autonomous since 1976 and have self-governing institutions. They can levy own taxes and participate in international negotiations for treaties and agreements which concern their region.

Population dynamics of the island

Today, total population on the Azores equals 243,862 residents, of which 51% are female. 13.5% are younger than 15 years and 16% are older than 65. The share of under 15-year-olds is similar to mainland Portugal, while the share of 65+ is significantly lower. The structure compares to the age structure in Italy, Germany or Malta. The total population figures remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2018 on the Azores. The higher education rate of population between 30 and 34 years old is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Higher education rate of population aged 30 - 34 years old (3 year moving average).

Education level		30 y.o.	31 y.o.	32 y.o.	33 y.o.	34 y.o.
Basic education	All	58%	58%	59%	60%	60%
	Male	62%	63%	62%	62%	63%
	Female	55%	54%	56%	57%	57%
Secondary education	All	15%	15%	16%	16%	16%
	Male	14%	13%	14%	15%	14%
	Female	17%	17%	17%	16%	17%
Tertiary education	All	11%	11%	10%	9%	9%
	Male	8%	8%	7%	7%	7%
	Female	13%	14%	12%	11%	11%

Source: INE, Labour Force Survey.

Harmonised medium-term population outlooks for European regions are available from the *EuroPop2013* population projections. The respective main scenario results for the Azores show a slightly declining population figures until 2050.

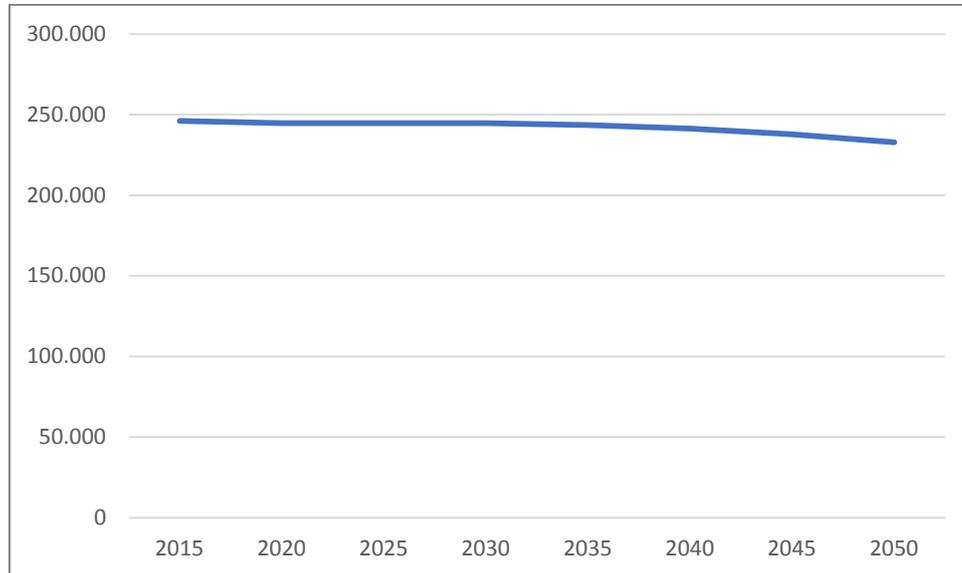


Figure 1: Baseline population projection for Azores (2015-2050).
 Source: Eurostat proj_13rphms3 database, own representation.

1.2 Current climate and risks

The Azores islands have an autonomous adaptive capacity that was driven by centuries of exposure to harsh conditions presented by the North Atlantic sea. All aspects of life and infrastructure are designed to withstand stresses that are not applicable to the mainland. For instance, storm Hercules brought high winds with gusts reaching 213 km/h on the Flores island in February 2014, resulting in some damages to the energy grid.

The same event would most likely cause havoc in Portuguese mainland, as it was the case of storm Leslie, where wind gusts of 176 km/h were recorded but where 200 high and medium voltage transmission towers were downed. Therefore, not neglecting existing vulnerabilities, the same events may have less impact in the Azores Islands than expected, especially when comparing with Portuguese main land infrastructure. Also, there are significant differences regarding systems' resilience inside the region and in different Island. For example, the occidental island can resist to extreme wind that would be problematic in the central islands.



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Figure 2: *Climate factsheet.*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

The Azores have received EU funding since 1986: they face challenges regarding supply (e.g. of energy) due to its difficult topography and its small size. However, GDP growth rates exceed those of the Portuguese mainland in quite some years since then. In particular, in the years before 2009, the Azores exhibited strong growth of up to 10% (in 1999 and 2001). The economy took a dive in 2011 and 2012, in the wake of the EURO crisis post 2009. The Azores' economy dived a little less, but growth rates have not exceeded the mainland's ever since.

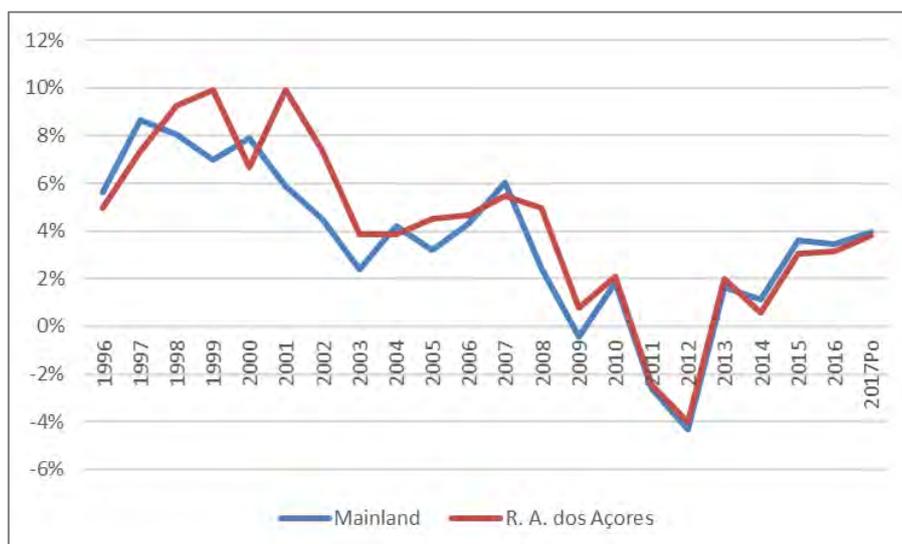


Figure 3: GDP Growth rates, Açores and mainland Portugal.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations - Statistics of the Açores (SREA), own graph.

Between 2000 and 2017, nominal GDP increased by slightly more than 68%. However, on a per capita basis, this economic growth lagged behind average economic developments in the European Union. The Açores' GDP shrank to a larger extent in 2012 and did not come back more strongly than the Portuguese mainland. Both have recently been growing much stronger than the EU in total. Other regions, too, came better through the financial crisis, but are lagging currently compared to EU average, such as Germany or UK.

The Açores do not own fossil fuel resources; all fuels are imported as are all other raw materials. Official trade statistics can be highly misleading as they do only pertain to direct trade with foreign countries. This is a very small percentage of all trade of the Açores with other regions. Most of the trade is done with Lisbon and Porto. A lot of Azorean exports to third countries is done through Lisbon. It is very difficult to track these exports.

The Açores economic structure is essentially characterized by the development of service activities. The public sector contributes 29% to gross value added, followed by 25% from the trade, accommodation and food services sector, which comprises most of the touristic activities. Real estate contributes 13%, agriculture and fishery contribute 9%. All other sectors together contribute the last quarter to total value added.



Figure 4: Gross value added by sector in Azores, 2017.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations; own elaboration

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

More than one 800,000 tourists came in 2017 to the Azores. By far the largest part of this tourist flux comes from the Portuguese mainland, almost 50% in 2018. The second largest group comes from Germany, followed by Spain, France and UK

The expenditure structure can be taken from the Azorean tourism satellite accounts.

Table gives an overview. Tourists spend the largest amount on food and drinks, followed by accommodation, and then air transport. Activities, such as car rentals, cultural events,



recreational activities comprise roughly 30 million Euro, travel agencies and guides more than 10 million Euro.



Figure 5: Development of tourists' arrivals in Azores. Source: SREA.

Table 2: Tourists' expenditures in Azores 2015, in 1000 Euro

Products	Excursionists (1)	Tourists (2)	All visitors (3=1+2)
A. Characteristic products	4,343	317,163	321,506
1. Accommodation	0	86,683	86,683
2. Catering and Beverages	2850	100,644	103,494
3. Passenger Transport	1446	105,249	106,695
3.1 Interurban road transport	1337	4,712	6,048
3.2 Water transport	0	635	635
3.3 Air transport	0	82,604	82,604
3.4 Services incidental to transportation and Maintenance and repair services of transport equipment	0	507	507
3.5 Hire transport equipment	109	16,791	16,901
4. Travel Agencies, Tour Operators and Tour Guides	3	10,644	10,647
5. Cultural Recreation and Leisure Services and Other Tourism Services	44	13,943	13,987
B. Non-Characteristic Products	3047	55,880	58,927
Total Tourism Money Consumption (net)	7390	373,042	380,433

Source: TSA of the Azores, SREA.

Maritime transport

Maritime transport developed steadily over time regarding freight transport. Unloaded merchandise follows the economic business cycle and the oil price, freight cargo follows a very



steady path and reflects the exports of food, wine and other goods. Passengers increased since 2012 to slightly below 600,000; not including cruise ships.

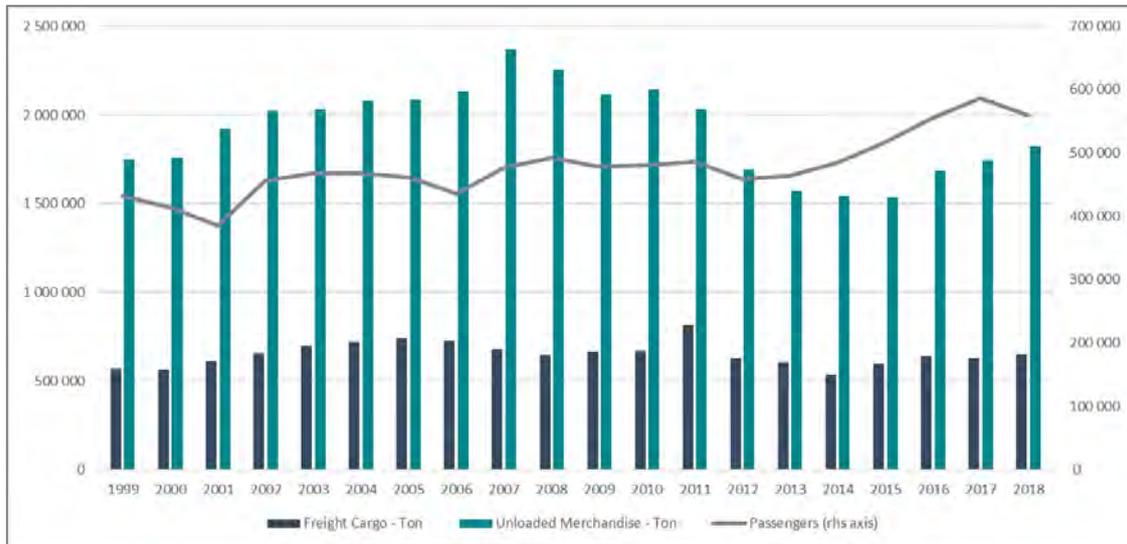


Figure 6: Azores Maritime transport of goods in tons.
Source: SREA, own graph.

Aquaculture

The Blue Economy sector aquaculture is always rather dwarfed. On the Azores, no economic significant contribution exists from aquaculture. A pilot project is currently pursued, but no expansion planned.

Energy

Electricity generation still relies heavily on imported fuel and Diesel, but uses the Island's natural source, i.e. geothermal energy and hydro energy. Wind energy and solar PV are marginal as of yet. EDA - Eletricidade dos Açores is the national company for energy production and distribution.

Table 3: Contribution of renewable resources to the electricity production (Normalized Data %) by Geographic localization in Azores islands (NUTS - 2013); 2017, in %.

	Zone	Share in %
Portugal	PT	
Mainland	1	47.11
Azores	2	39.16
Madeira	3	26.60

Source: DGEC, Statistics on coal, oil, electric power and natural gas.

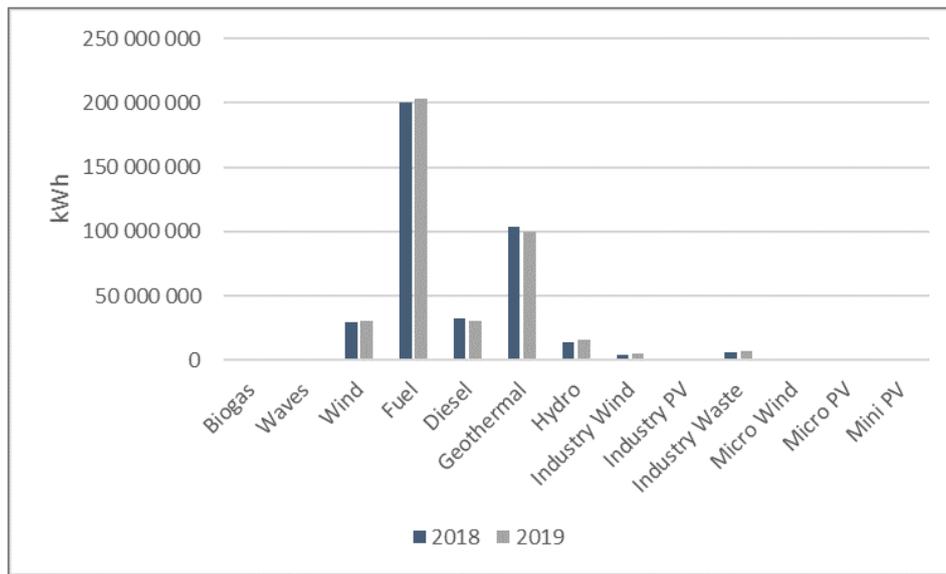


Figure 7: Electricity generation on the Azores (in kWh).
Source: <https://www.eda.pt/Mediateca/Publicacoes/Producao/Paginas/default.aspx>.

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

According to our reference projections, the Azores continue to grow on average with a 1.5% yearly rate throughout the 2015-2100 period. The main driver of growth is private consumption with an average yearly growth rate of 1.8% over the whole projection period (Table). While the respective GDP- shares of trade and investments remain relatively stable over the projections period, the GDP-shares of public consumption are projected to decrease over time.

Table 4: Azores GDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GDP	2.9%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%
Private consumption	4.5%	1.8%	1.7%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Public consumption	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.4%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Investments	2.8%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Trade	2.8%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

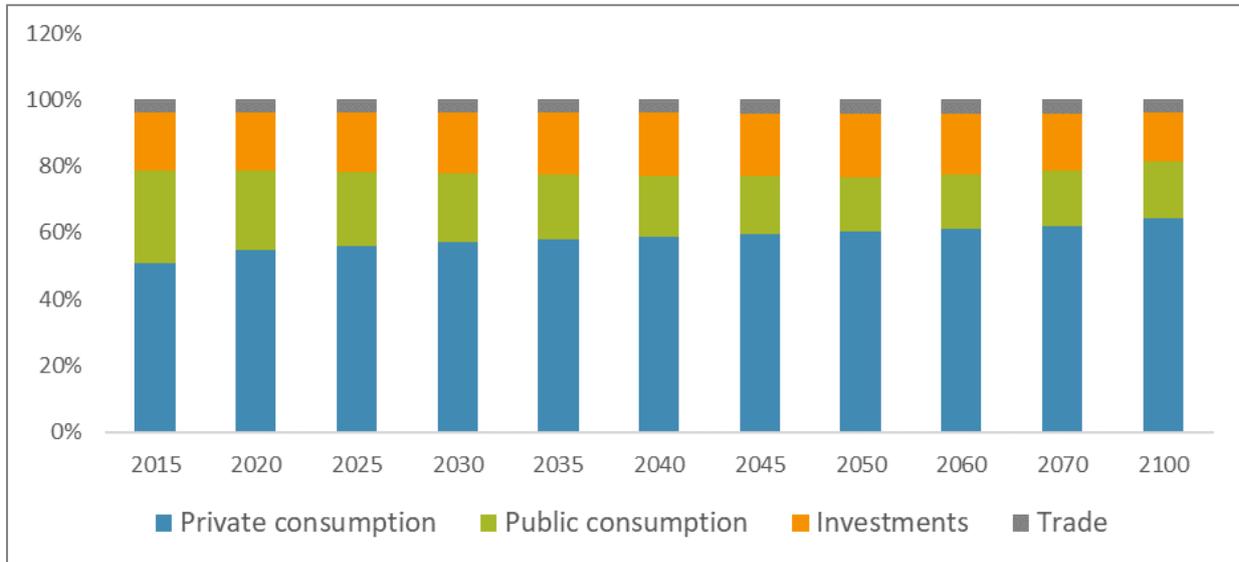


Figure 8: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Azores in 2015-2100.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

2.2 The sectoral projections

The economy of the Azores remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period with an increasing contribution of other market services, other transport services, electricity, water and accommodation and food services.

The aggregated gross value-added shares of agriculture, fishery, manufacturing and consumer goods sectors is projected to decline slightly from above 15% in 2015 to about 13% until 2100. The respective shares of electricity and water services are projected to increase only slightly until 2100. Construction activities contribute between 7% and 8% to total gross value added throughout the projection period.

Total tourism activities are projected to increase their respective gross value-added shares. Starting from more than 8% in 2015, this share is projected to increase to 9.3% until 2100¹.

¹ The share of tourism in GDP is calculated via the tourism satellite account (TSA) matrices of 2015, assuming that the same shares that indicate the contribution of tourism to the productions of tourism-related sectors (such as the accommodation and food services, transport services, travel agency and related activities, cultural and recreational activities) remain throughout the 2015-2100 period. Please see Appendix B for the complete database of the estimated TSAs.

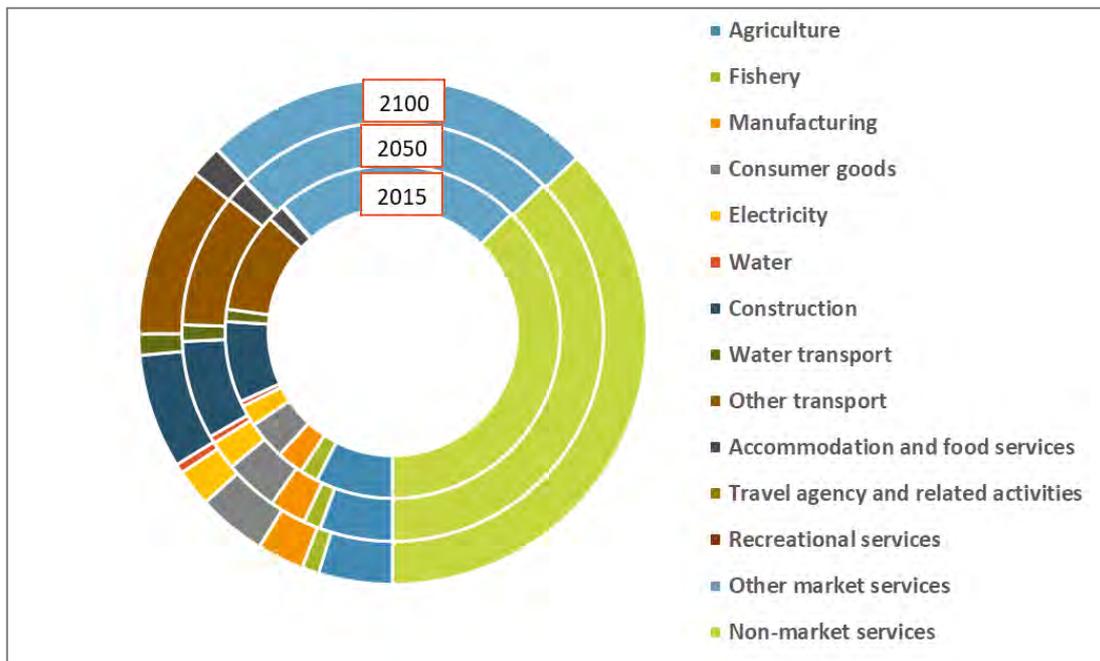


Figure 9: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Azores in 2015, 2050 and 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

Table 5: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Azores in 2015-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
<i>Agriculture</i>	7.5%	6.6%	6.3%	6.1%	6.0%	5.8%	5.7%	5.6%	5.4%	5.2%	4.7%
<i>Fisbery</i>	1.7%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%
<i>Manufacturing</i>	2.6%	2.6%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%
<i>Consumer goods</i>	3.8%	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%
<i>Electricity</i>	2.0%	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%
<i>Water</i>	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
<i>Construction</i>	7.9%	7.6%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%	7.6%	7.6%	7.6%	7.3%
<i>Water transport</i>	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%
<i>Other transport</i>	9.7%	9.8%	9.9%	10.1%	10.2%	10.2%	10.3%	10.3%	10.5%	10.6%	10.9%
<i>Accommodation and food services</i>	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%	2.0%
<i>Travel agency and related activities</i>	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Recreational services</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Other market services</i>	23.8%	24.8%	24.9%	24.9%	24.9%	24.9%	24.9%	24.9%	24.9%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Non-market services</i>	37.5%	37.6%	37.5%	37.5%	37.5%	37.4%	37.4%	37.3%	37.3%	37.2%	37.1%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

2.3 Employment

The service-led economic growth brings positive effects to the labour market with unemployment projected to more or less clear out in the long run. The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labour intensity of the sector. The biggest employing



sectors are non-market and other market services. Construction as well as the consumer goods industries, other transport and accommodation and food services do also still provide significant employment contributions in 2100.

Tourism is largest employer of the Blue growth sectors under analysis, particularly due to the high labour intensity of accommodation and food services. The fisheries sector is projected to undergo a slight decline in economy-wide employment shares from around 2% to 1.5% in 2100. Electricity and water transport services feature more or less stable aggregated employment shares throughout the projection period. However, none of these sectors is projected to contribute more than 1% to total employment in 2100.

Table 2: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Azores in 2015-2100.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	12.8%	11.3%	10.1%	9.1%	8.2%	8.0%	7.7%	7.3%	6.7%	6.2%	5.6%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

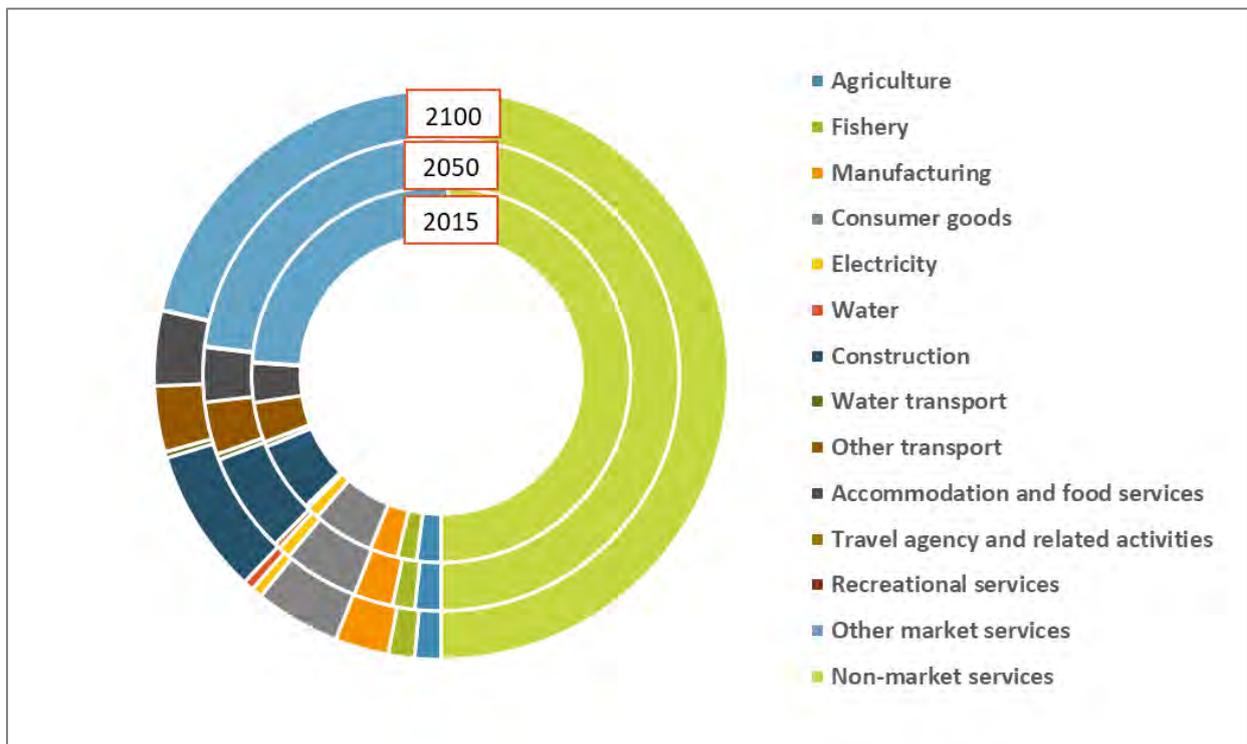


Figure 10: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Azores in 2015, 2050, 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

3 Climate change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have generally been computed for two scenario



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RCP2.6 (ambitious mitigation scenario) and RCP8.5 (business as usual) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for the Azores Islands is MENA-CORDEX ensemble even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

As to its reliability, it is important to note that Atlantic islands (Azores, Madeira, Canaries and West Indies) lie in very critical areas where global models might be inaccurate in predicting the large scale patterns (regional models are not available), and resolution is so coarse that in fact many islands don't even exist in model orography. This acknowledged, this is the only information we can provide, and at least future tendencies can be inferred. The new CMIP6 simulations might shed more light on this issues, but we can only suggest that results should be updated as they become available.

The same partly holds for the wave simulations: local resolution has been significantly increased in the dedicated new simulations of this project, performed by the partner ENEA (up to 0.05°), but the forcing wind field is still derived from the coarse global models.

Stakeholders should be made aware that uncertainty is an inherent characteristic of climate data, and that any future planning must cope with it. Climatologists can only high light POTENTIAL threats and constraints, they cannot predict the future and pave the way to solutions. Conveying this piece of information is one of the most critical points of climate-change-related information.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of run-up). In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The larger values are found for the Atlantic islands, where slightly larger sea level rise is combined with the effect of much larger wind waves. The values in that scenario is 170 cm in the Azores. Under RCP2.6 scenarios the values are less than half, suggesting that a mitigation scenario could largely minimize the negative impact of climate change on beach flooding.

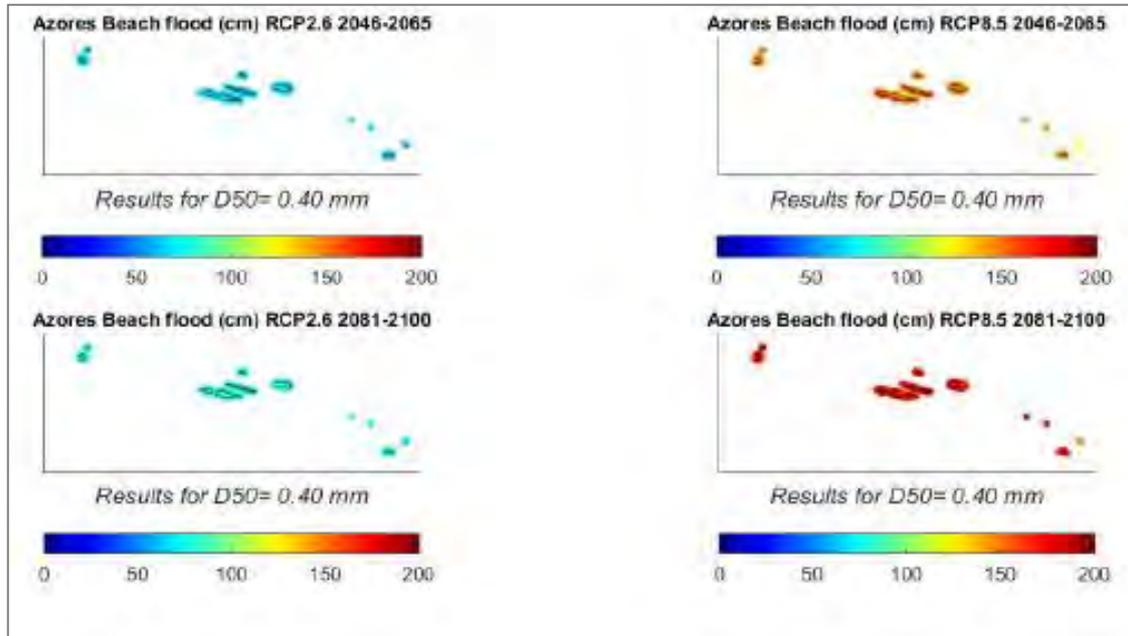


Figure 11: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cml) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.4d Report](#) on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~85% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~99% under scenario RCP8.5. The beach could disappear in the Azores islands.



BEACH REDUCTION

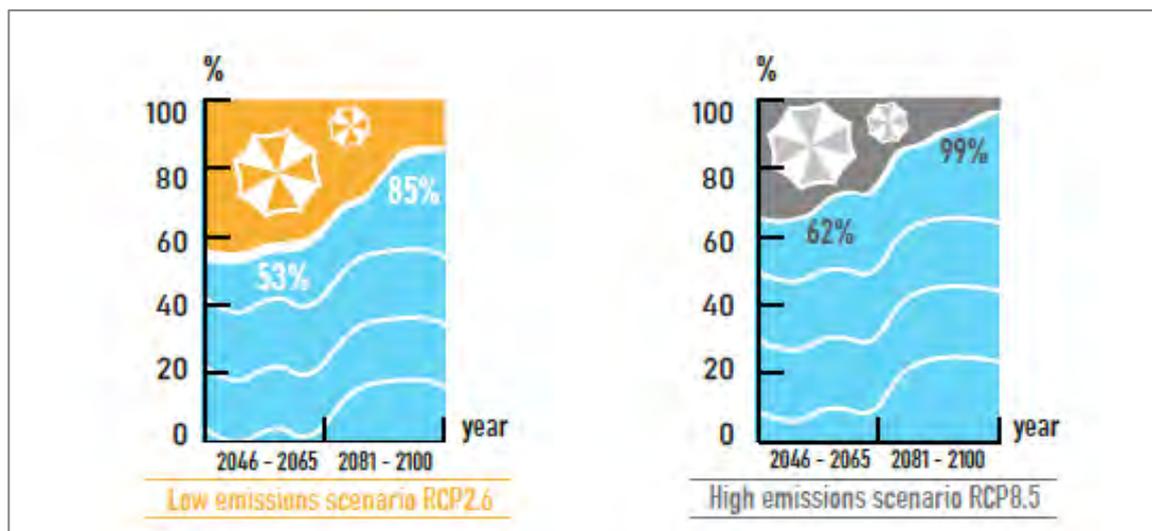


Figure 12: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.4d Report](#) on the evolution of beaches

Humidity Index

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' thermal comfort, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For the Azores, which are not included or are included marginally in the EURO and MENA-CORDEX domains, the ESCENA Project model runs (Jiménez-Guerrero *et al.* 2013) were employed that have been produced under the AR4 IPCC scenarios with 25 km spatial resolution. Here, SRES B1 and A1B scenarios are selected, considered to be closer to RCP2.6 and RCP8.5, respectively. The historical period is 1981-2000 and the near future period is 2031-2050.

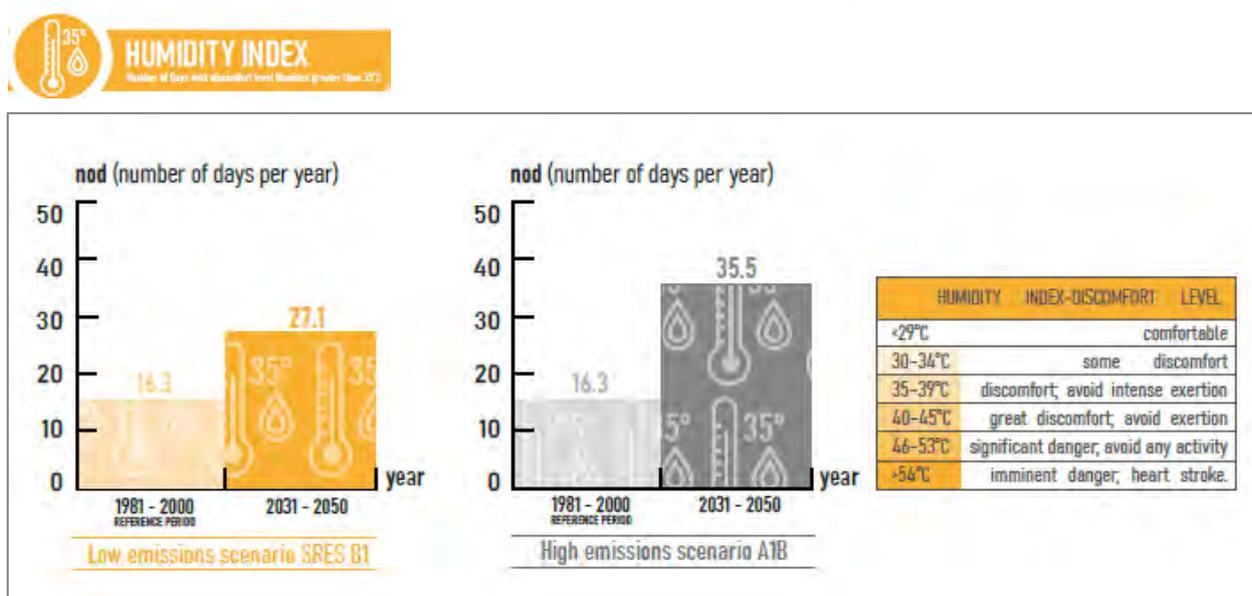


Figure 13: Humidex in number of days (ESCENA)
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile - T98p

The T98p is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005. For the archipelago of Azores, two sets of ensembles are presented due to the different runs available for each scenario, in order to have inter-comparable results; *i.e.* ECHAM5_r2/PROMES and ARPEGE/PROMES have been used for both A1B and B1 ensembles, while all 4 GCM/RCM pairs have been used for an A1B ensemble. The two land grid points correspond to Sao Miguel and Terceira islands. The T98p will increase in the future from 4% (B1- equivalent RCP2.6.) for both islands to almost 7% (A1B – equivalent RCP8.5), 4 models).

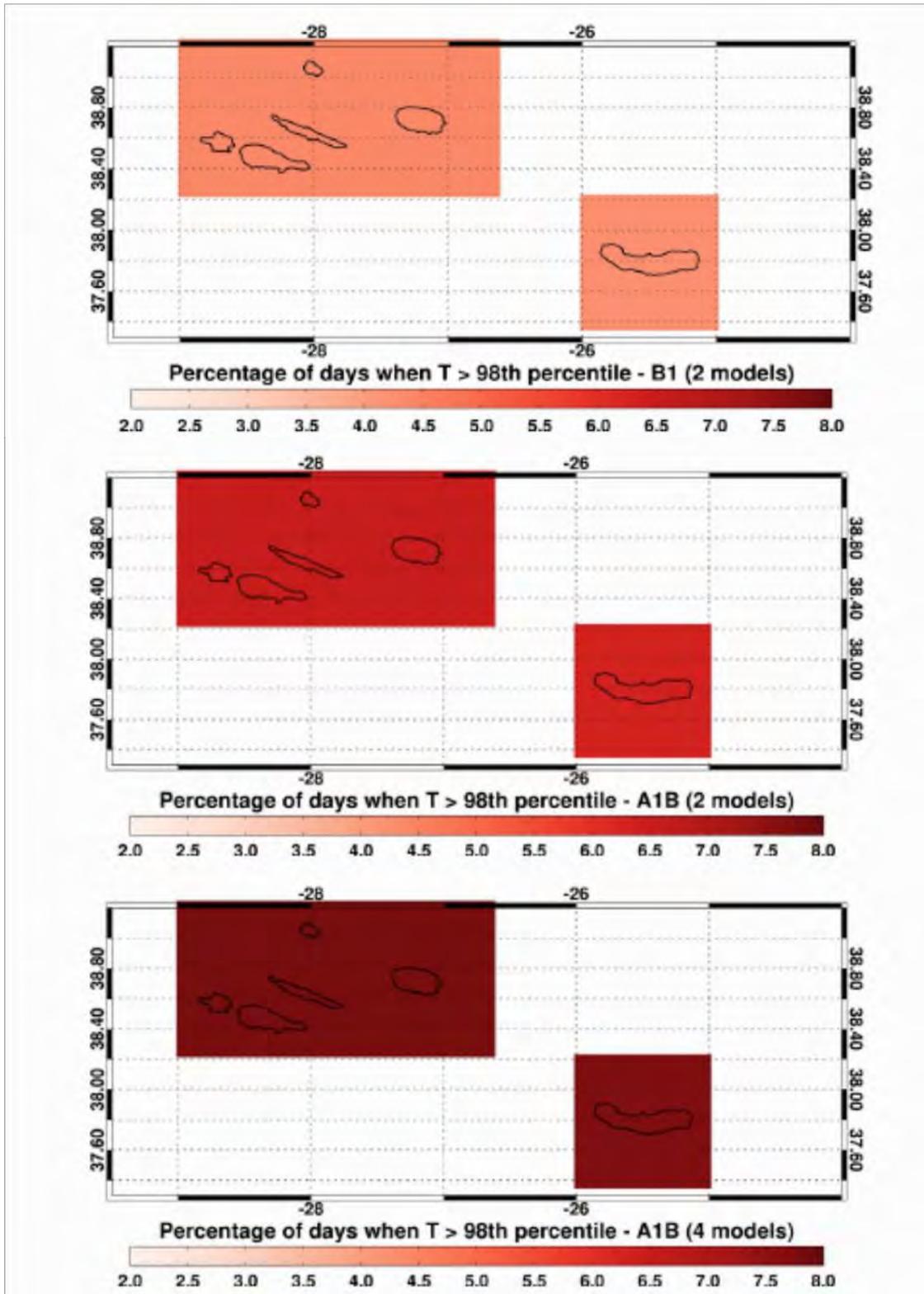


Figure 14: Percentage of days when T > 98th percentile (ESCENA)
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator



Fire weather index (FWI)

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015). The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) for all models, scenarios and periods.

For the Azores islands, under the scenario (B1), the class of hazard changes from low to high. It is important to note that when using normalized data, in order to compare different time periods and scenarios, only the lowest and the highest grid point values are considered. Additionally, FWI results include temperature, precipitation, relative humidity and wind. It is not only a matter of temperature (which is in fact higher under A1B). This is, during the days with high temperatures and high relative humidity (as Azores are in the middle of the ocean), the index values are expected to decrease, which seems to be the scenario A1B.

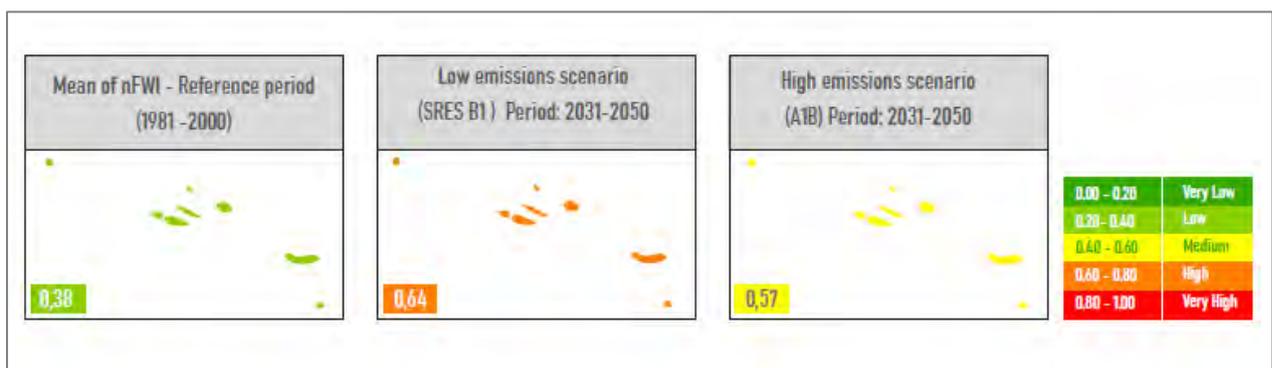


Figure 15: Fire Weather Index (ESCAPA) with the color associated to the class of hazard

Source: D4.4c Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure

3.2 Aquaculture

The predicted impacts of climate change on the oceans and seas of the planet is expected to have direct impacts on marine based aquaculture systems. Basic effects are the following (Soto and Brugere, 2008):

Change in biophysical characteristics of coastal areas.

- Increased invasions from alien species.
- Increased spread of diseases.
- Changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, salinity, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters.
- Changes in the differences between sea and air temperature which will alter the seasonality, frequency and severity of storms, cyclones and other extreme events, affect the stability of the coastal resources and potentially increase the damages in infrastructure.



- Sea level rise, acidification, changes in precipitation and other effects will also add to the changes in coastal ecosystems and environment, thus affecting production and infrastructure (=investments).

Annual Mean Significant Wave Height (AMSH)

Annual Mean Significant Wave Height was selected as a relevant indicator of the average For the Atlantic as a whole, no major changes in wave height mean values are observed, but a northward shift of the zonal belt where the meridional gradient of the field is strongest. For the Atlantic as a whole, no major changes in wave height mean values are observed, but a northward shift of the zonal belt where the meridional gradient of the field is strongest. Concerning the Azores, the AMSH could be decreased under RCP8.5 (far future).



ANNUAL MEAN SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT (AMSH)

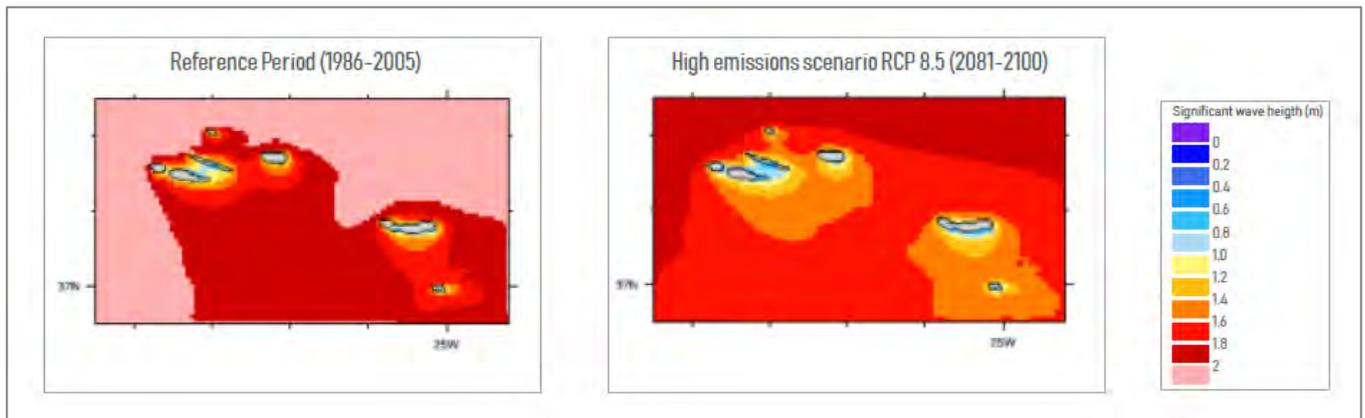


Figure 16: Significant wave height (m) under present climate and under RCP8.5 (far future)

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators

Extreme Wave Return Time

Return times for a threshold of 7 m significant wave height (hs) were computed, this significant height having been identified by stakeholders as the critical limit for severe damages to assets at sea, for both the near (2046-2065) and the far (2080-2100) time horizons. Return times can be related to the payback times of investments and help assess potential economic losses and economic sustainability. The hazard for Azores remains virtually unchanged.

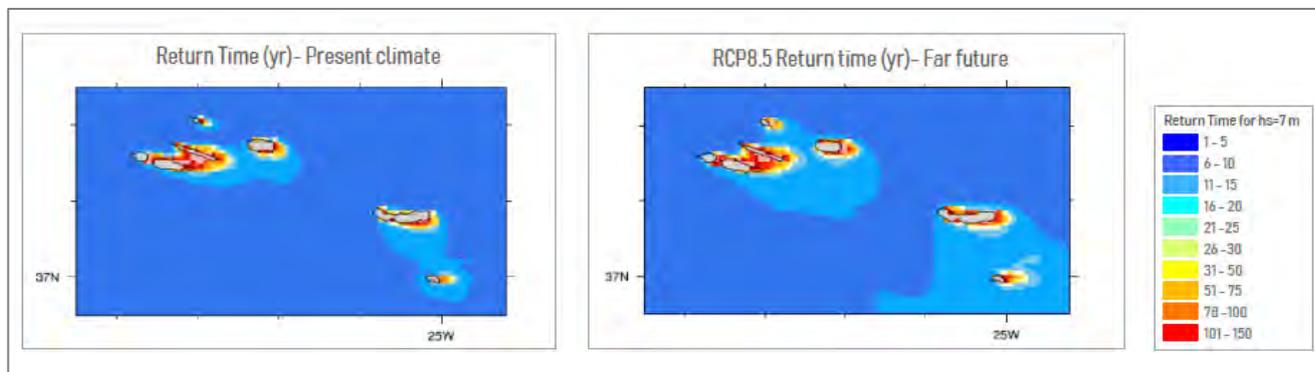



Figure 17: Extreme wave return under present climate and under RCP8.5 (far future)

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators

3.3 Energy

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are extreme temperatures, wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud *et al.*, 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Extreme temperatures

The T98p is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period. For the archipelago of Azores, two sets of ensembles are presented due to the different runs available for each scenario. The T98p will increase in the future from 4% (B1- equivalent RCP2.6) to 6% (A1B – equivalent RCP8.5.), showing that, daily temperatures will be above T98p for 24 days per year approximately.



EXTREME TEMPERATURES
(Percentage of days per year when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$)

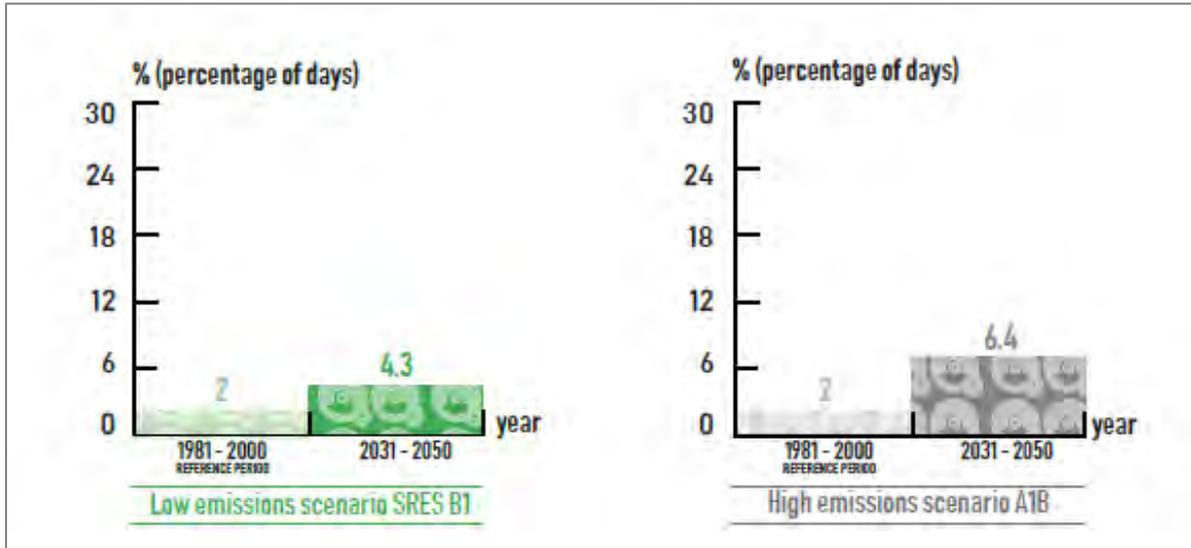


Figure 18: Percentage of days per year when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$
Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators

Wind and photovoltaic (PV energy) productivity

Wind energy productivity

It can be observed that the ensemble-mean projects an increase of W_{prod} for A1B emissions scenario for the period 2031-2050. This increase is highest for the islands located more to the southeast, while no changes or slight decreases to the northwest of the area are expected. In B1 scenario, a similar pattern of changes as in A1B is seen, but decreases are more extended than increases, so that the spatially averaged changes (map) show a slight decrease in this case. The spatially averaged changes are rather small ensemble mean changes are around 1%, which is partly due to a high model spread, as different models show changes of opposite sign and similar magnitude.



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WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

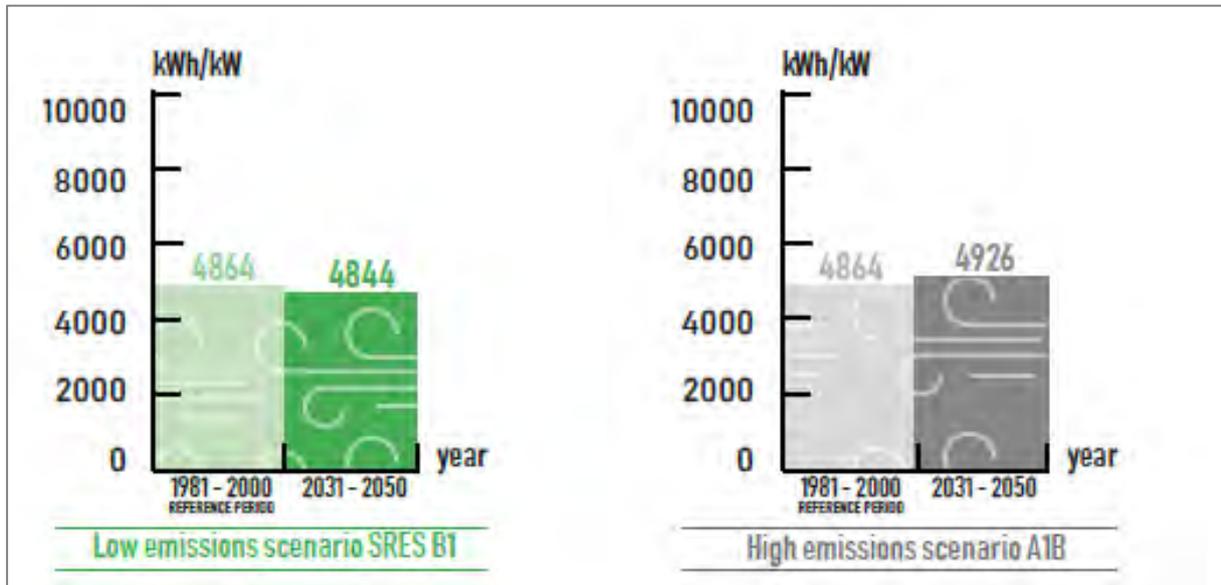


Figure 19: Wind energy productivity. Models of ESCENA project. Ensemble mean values of annual wind productivity indicators (kWh/kW) in the control period (1981-2000) and ensemble mean changes in the future period (2031-2050) for the B1 and A1B scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are shown in brackets. In the simulations corresponding to the Azores region, land areas are too small, and averages are computed over the whole domain, which is mainly sea.

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable- [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

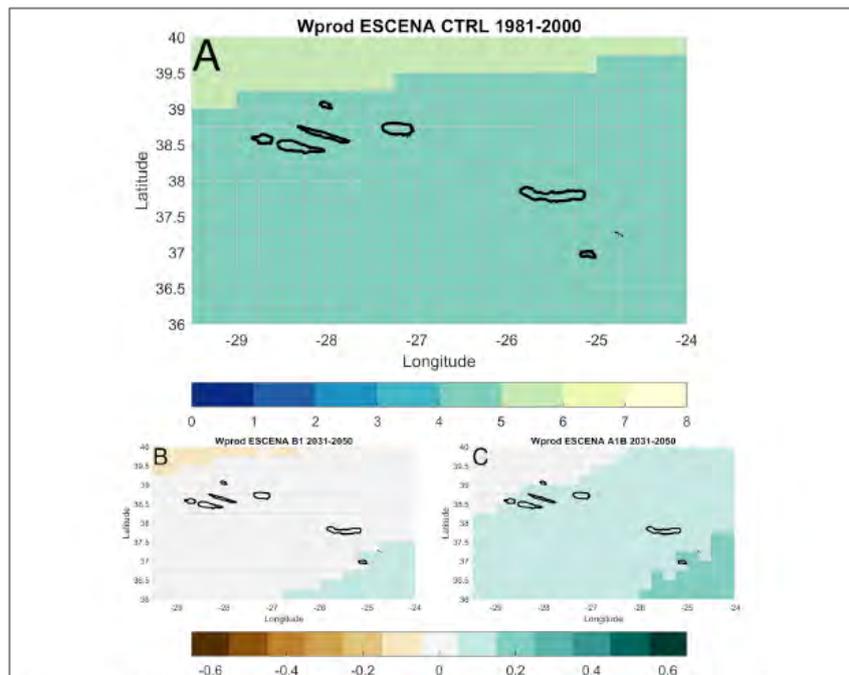


Figure 20: Panel A: Yearly mean wind energy productivity [$10^3 kWh/kW$] for the control time period (1981-2000). Panel B: Changes in yearly mean wind energy productivity in the B1 scenario for the 2031-2050 period with respect to the control. Panel C: As for panel B, but for the A1B scenario.

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable- [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

PV productivity

Annual photovoltaic productivity over the Azores Islands shows mean values between 650 to 750 kWh/kW. These values are below the ones expected with simulated and observed solar radiation found in the literature (Magarreiro, 2016). However, this negative bias is likely due to the fact that the region is very close to the model boundaries. For changes in both scenarios, A1B and B1 for the future period 2031-2050, a slight increase can be observed in both cases, with higher values in the eastern islands in the B1 scenario. The spatially averaged changes are small (around 1% with respect to the control period) for both scenarios.



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

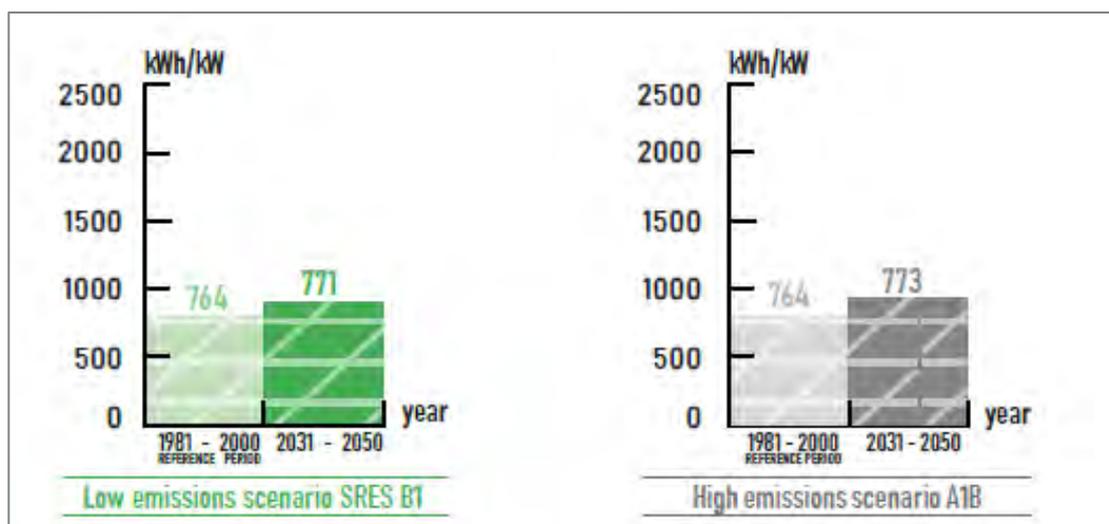


Figure 21: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity. Models of ESCENA project. Ensemble mean values of annual solar productivity indicators (kWh/kW) in the control period (1981-2000) and ensemble mean changes in the future period (2031-2050) for the B1 and A1B scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are shown in brackets. In the simulations corresponding to the Azores region, land areas are too small, and averages are computed over the whole domain, which is mainly sea.

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable- [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

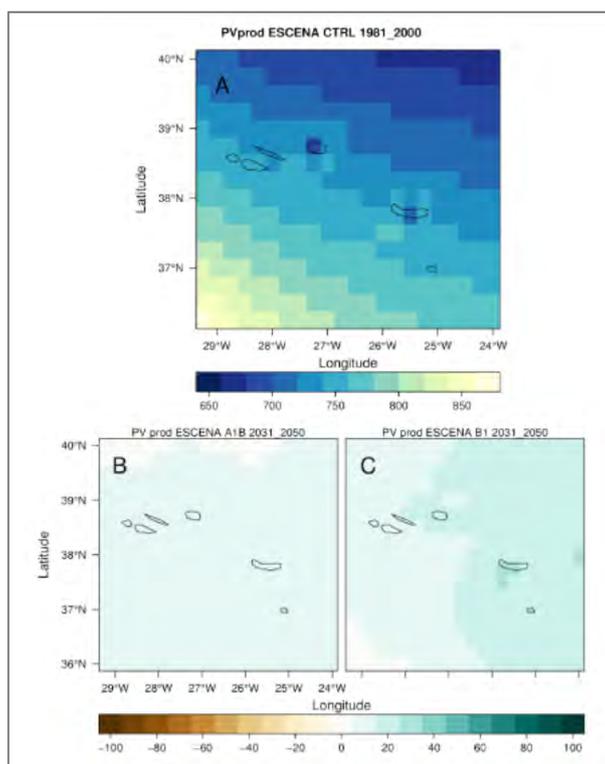


Figure 22: Panel A: Yearly mean photovoltaic productivity [kWh/kW] for the control time period (1981-2000). Panel B: Changes in yearly mean photovoltaic productivity in the A1B scenario for the 2031-2050 period with respect to the control. Panel C: As for panel B, but for the B1 scenario.

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable- [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Moderate and severe wind droughts tend to experience a subtle increase in frequency, especially in the B1 scenario. In the A1B scenario, the frequency of wind droughts tends to decrease. Results obtained for the different scenarios are in line with wind productivity changes. Severe PV droughts, in contrast, experience a little increase in the B1 scenario and a subtle decrease in the A1B case. In most of the cases, there is uncertainty in the sign of change.



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ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

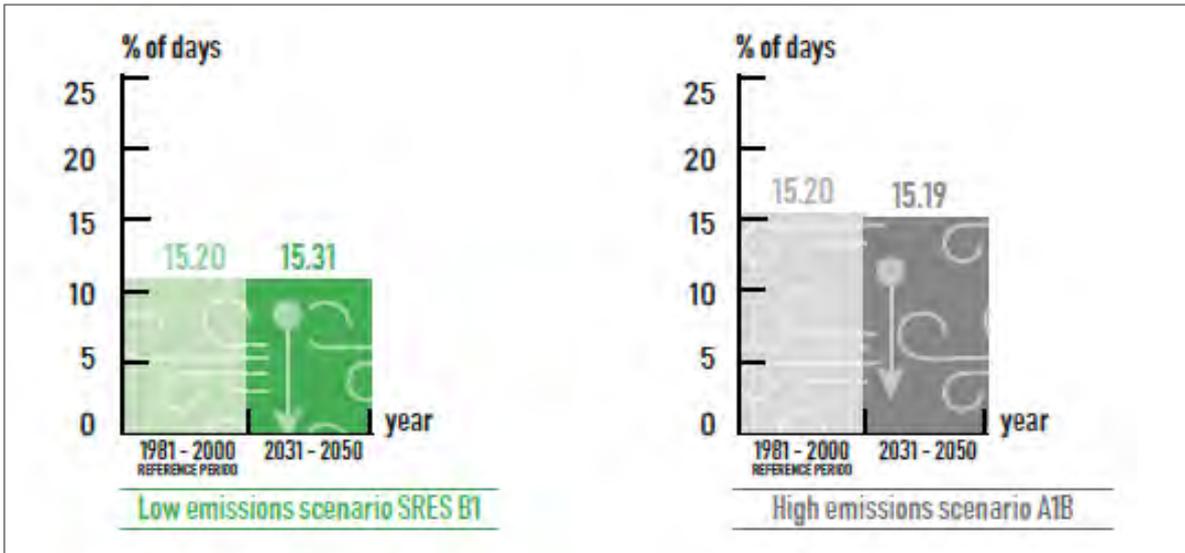


Figure 23: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered.

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy



ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

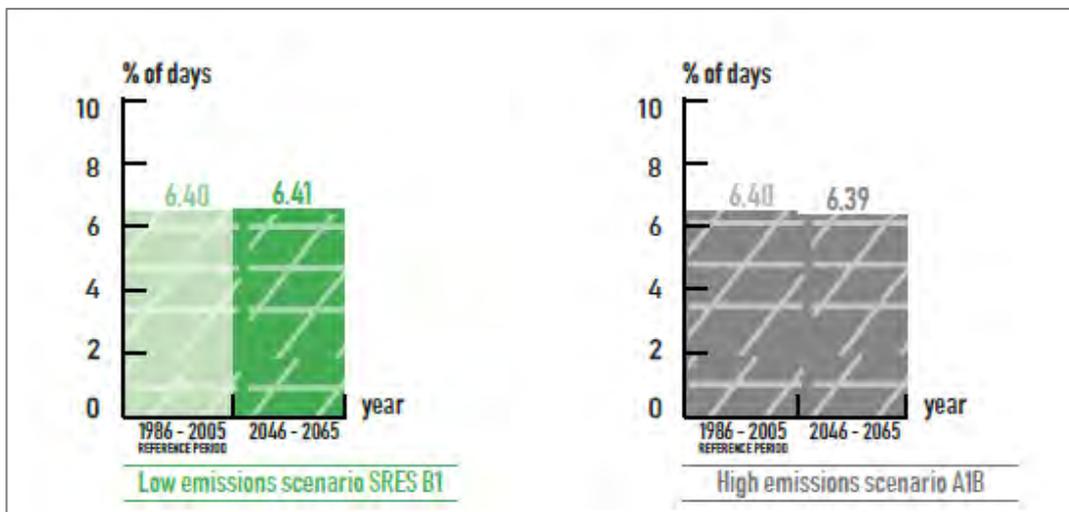


Figure 24: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered.

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy



Cooling Degree Days

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (CDD) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Farenheit. It is found that the CDD values triple according to the A1B scenario, while are more than double for the B1.

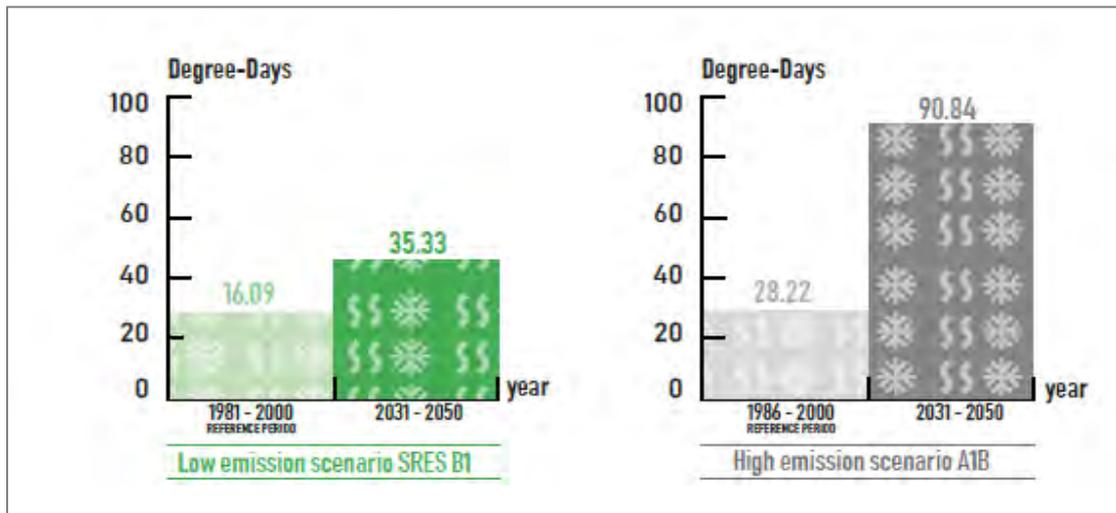


Figure 25: Cooling Degree Days

Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators

In the map, the two land grid points correspond to Sao Miguel and Terceira islands. It is found that for both analyses (for 2 and 4 models, respectively), the CDD values triple according to the A1B scenario, while are more than double for the B1.

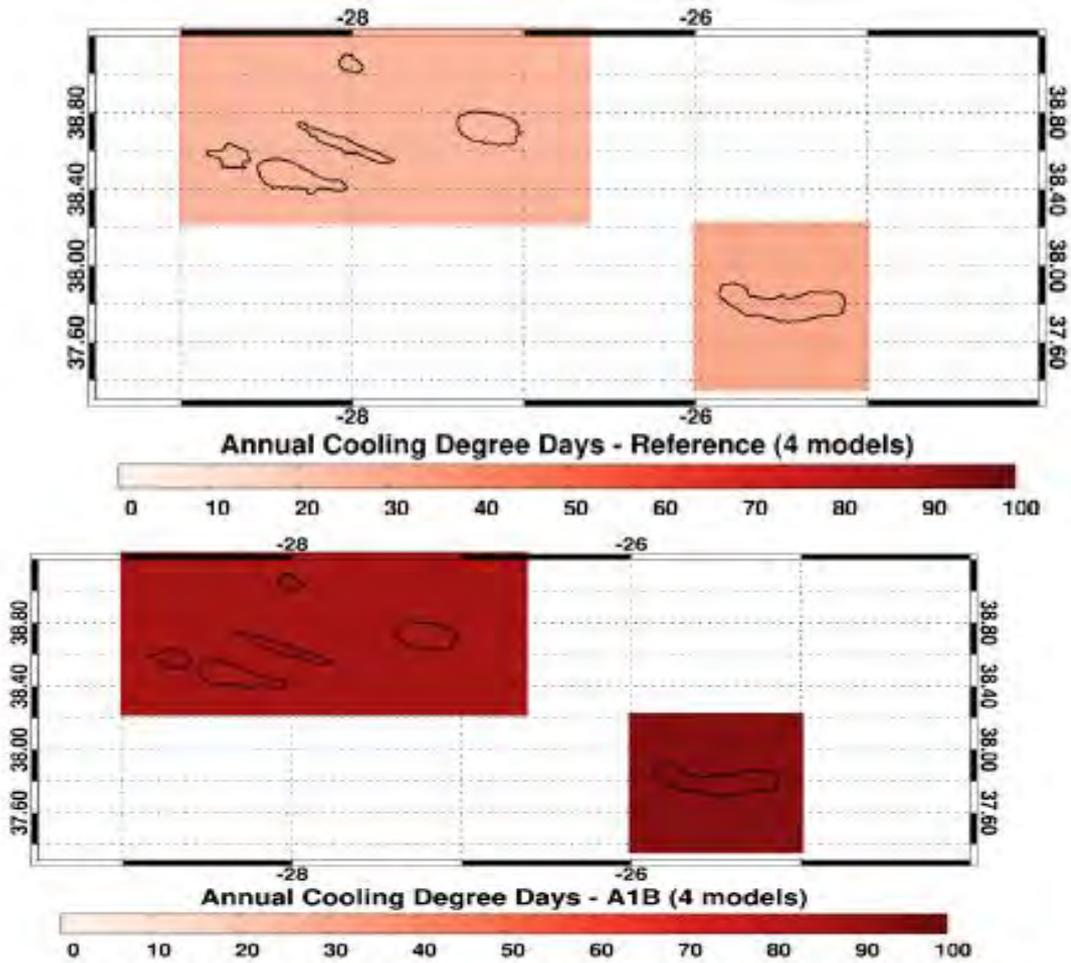


Figure 26: Cooling Degree Days (4 models' simulations).
Source: Soclimpact Project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators

3.4 Maritime Transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Azores Islands, the SLR ranges from 24, 44 cm (RCP2.6) to 68, 69 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.



MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE
(in cm) with respect to the present (1986-2005)

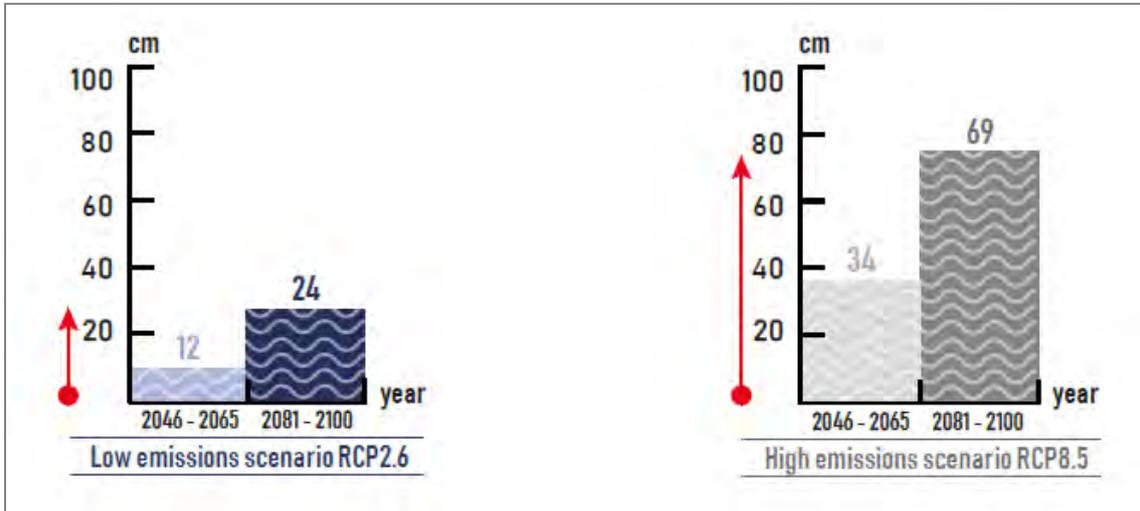


Figure 27: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: [D4.4b Report on storm surge levels](#)

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future under RCP8.5 (- 24 %). Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases under RCP8.5.

WINDS EXTREMITY INDEX

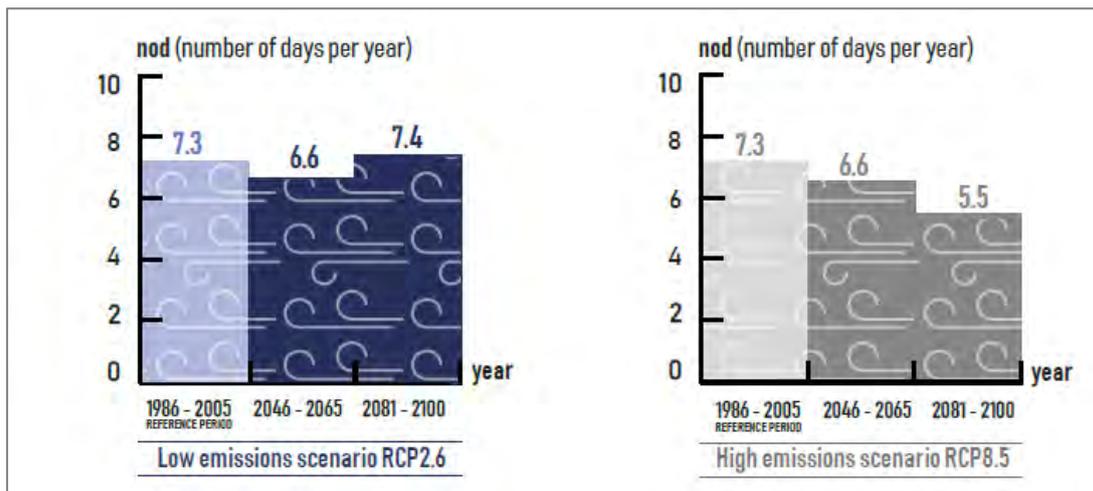


Figure 28: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the MENA-CORDEX simulations.

Source: [D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator.](#)



Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map. In relative terms, the averaged changes are lower than 10% even under the RCP8.5.

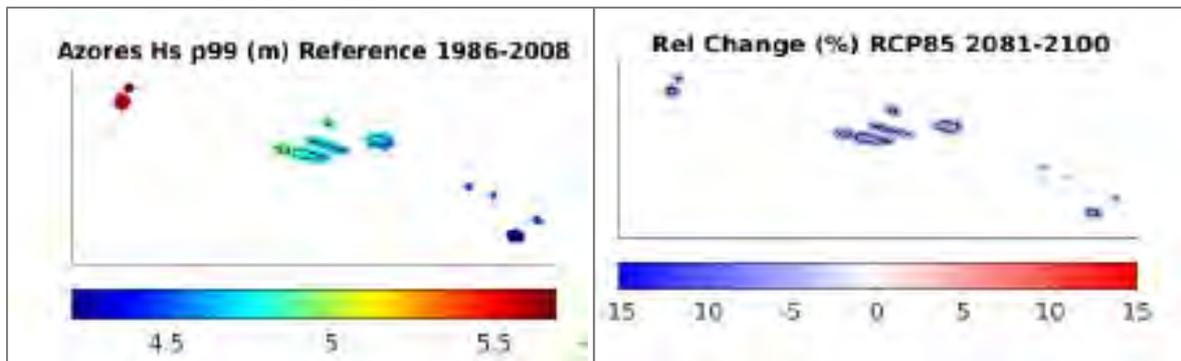


Figure 29: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

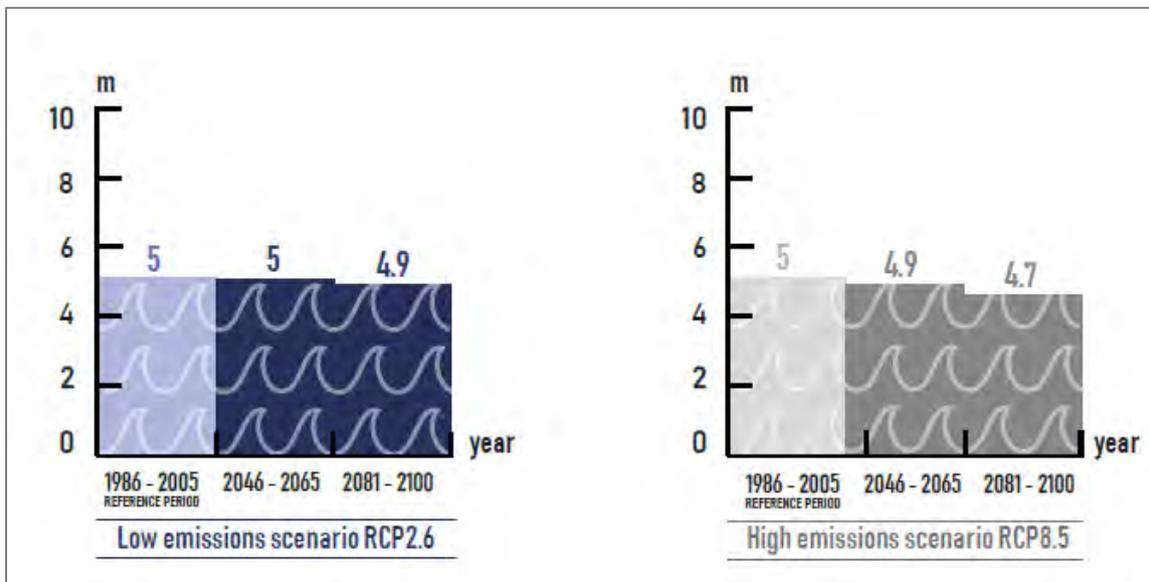


Figure 30: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels



4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,*
- ii) *Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress*
- iii) *Risk of forest fires and loss of attractiveness*

For the first two, the AHP method was employed. This methodology is ideal to respond to the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators. By the side of shadows, this method requires quite specific data that wasn't able to collect for some islands. The AHP method also requires "values" for experts to compare.

More specifically, for the first IC the data is needed for "Tourist Arrivals" and "Vulnerable Groups" indicators, which is regards the Exposure of people to heatwaves for the hottest period, such as:

- Number of tourist arrivals per month for the past 5 years.
- Number of tourists per month aged 14 and under for the past 5 years
- Number of tourists per month aged 65 and over for the past 5 years
- Percentage of tourist activities that are sensitive to heatwaves (such as hiking, etc.).
- Number of beds available in medical facilities per 100,000 inhabitants.

If, for example, an island gets a lot of tourists, but most of them just spend their time by the beach, then the island is not so much at risk of losing tourists because when they visit they'll be by the beach and able to cool down. On the other hand, if almost all the tourists visit the island for hiking, but it gets too hot, then the island could be at risk since some may change their minds and visit somewhere else with a moderate climate and do their hiking there. Additionally, it is necessary to investigate how well an island is equipped with dealing with patients who suffer from a heatwave-related episode.

For the second IC, the data collected was:

- Surface of marine Phanerogams & Phanerogams' reduction due to heat: Surface, in km²; and expected % of surface loss for RCP8.5 distant future.
- Number of divers: Number of tourists practising Diving at the destination.
- Products substitution capacity: capacity to derive tourist demand to non-marine habitat-based activities.
- Seagrass removal: capacity to remove dead seagrass lying on beaches.
- Sea water pollution: quality of management of inshore and offshore sewages.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands.

Finally, the third IC Provided some results for the case of Azores, which are summarized in this section.



Risk of forest fires and loss of attractiveness

Forest fires are considered an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season. The concept of Impact Chain (Fritzsche et al. 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method, and is considered an ideal tool to communicate to stakeholders the complex relations between climate hazards and socio economic effects on sectorial activities (Schneiderbauer et al. 2013).

The Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks). For each of these components, several indicators are selected and collected. Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated with different weights. The final objective is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

In the framework of SOCLIMPACT project, the following steps have been developed:

- The selection of “priority impacts” with the sector teams;
- The identification of risks with the sector teams and Islands Focal Points (IFPs) and the construction of theoretical impact chains, filling the components and identifying the factors inside the different risk components, with the sector teams for the generic IC and with the IFPs for the specific IC;
- The identification and selection of the indicators for each factor of risk in the various impact chains, according to a number of characteristics and criteria, with the help of the sector leaders and the IFPs to replace theoretical component of the risk with indicators commonly used in the scientific publications or projects on climate change.

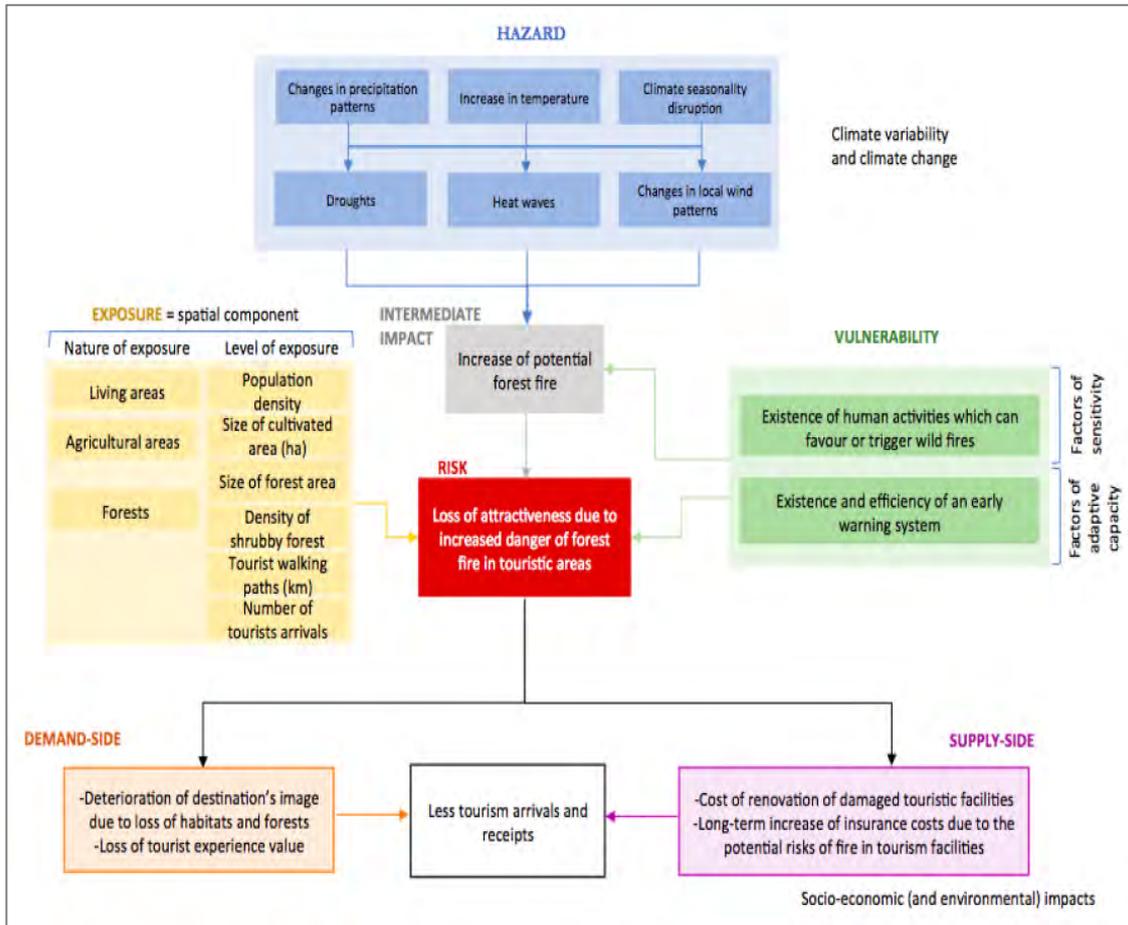


Figure 31: Theoretical IC - Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas
Source: Soclimpact deliverable D3.2

After defining the theoretical design, the identification and selection of suitable indicators were associated to each factor of the impact chain and a new diagram tool has been proposed.

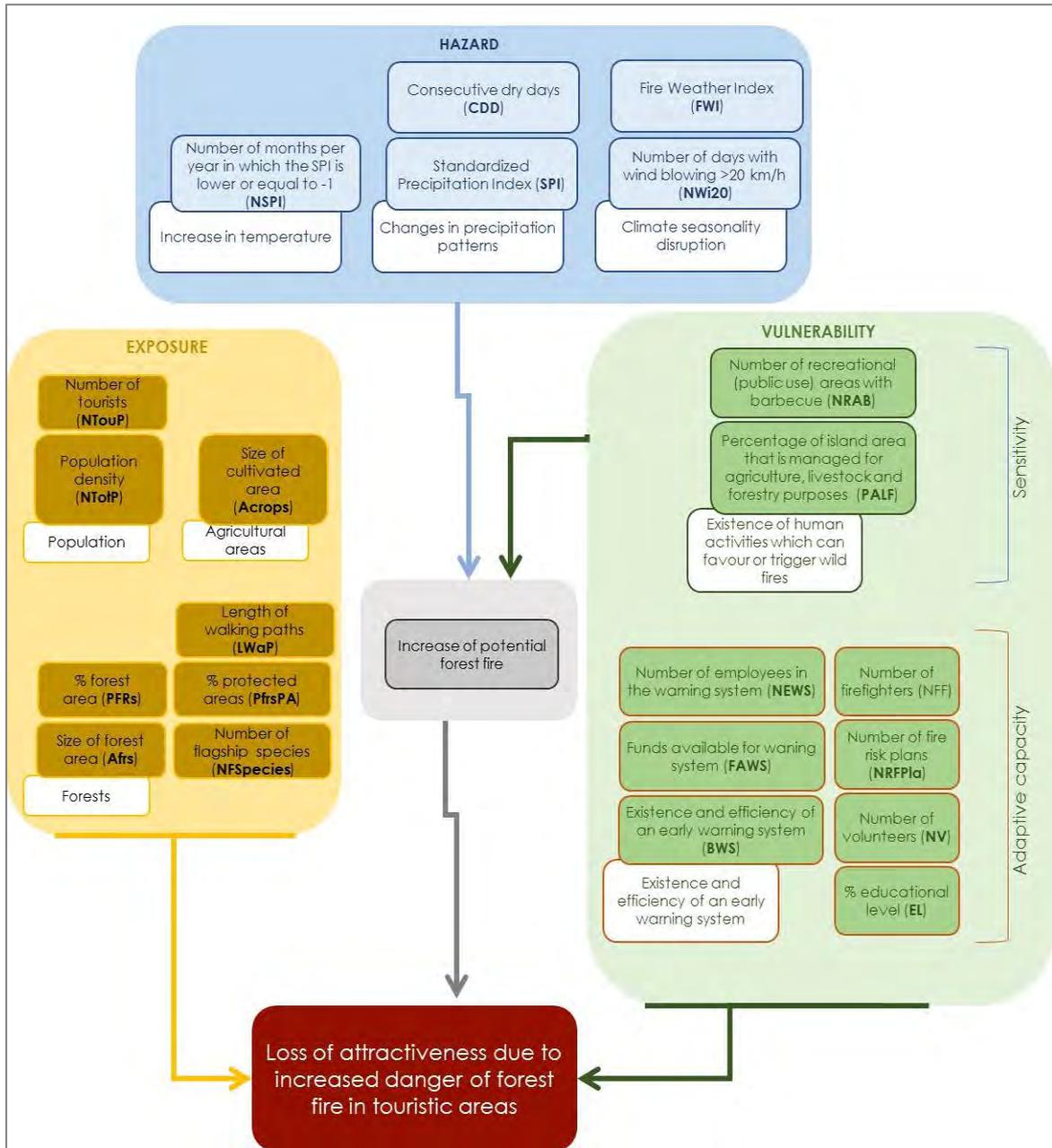


Figure 32: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas

Source: Sodlimpact deliverable D3.3

For the operationalization, we assessed whether selected indicators are sufficiently explicit or not. Indeed, many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

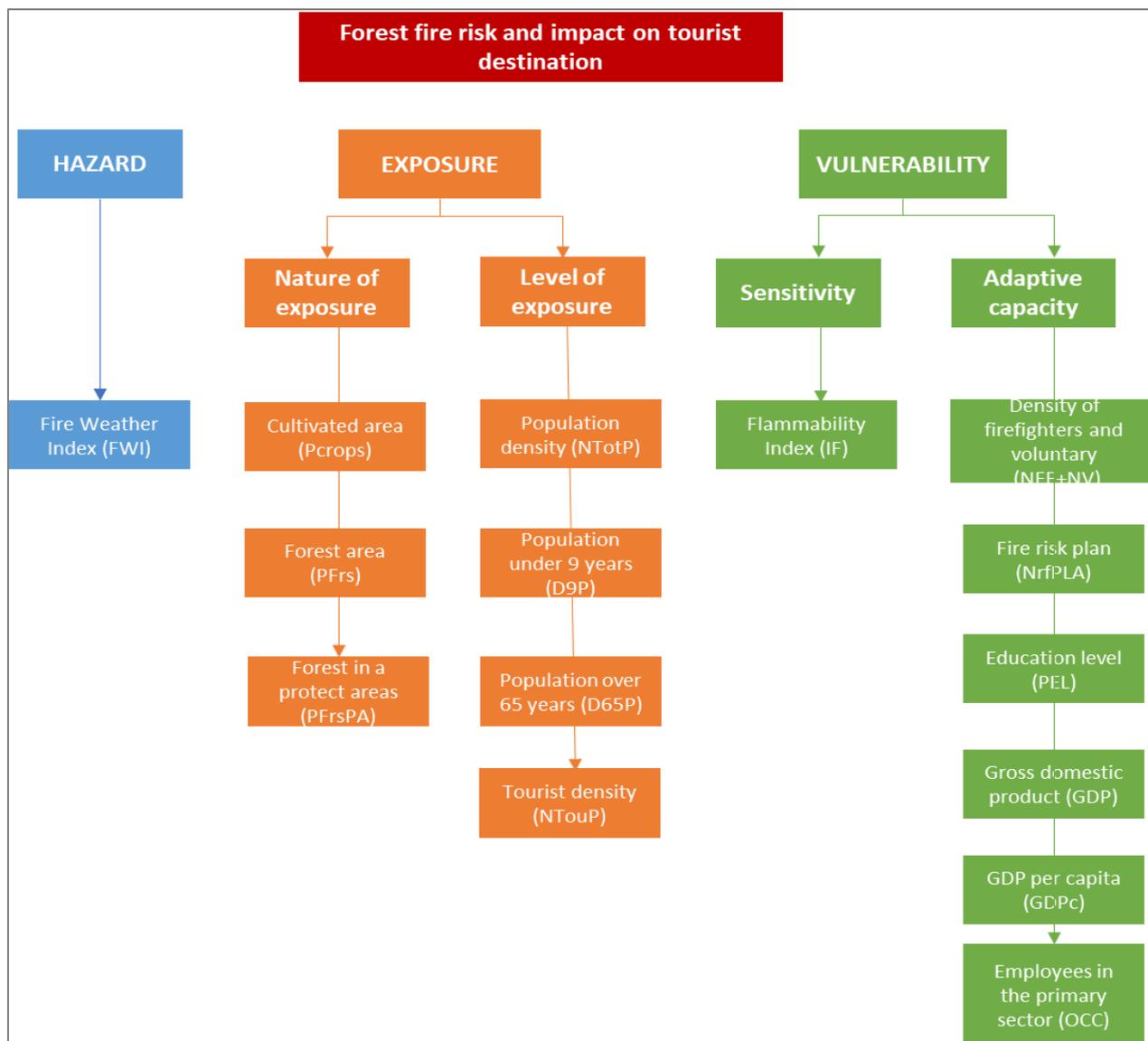


Figure 33: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: Sodimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

For the Azores islands, which are not included or are included marginally in the EURO and MENA-CORDEX domains, the ESCENA Project model runs (Jiménez-Guerrero et al. 2013) were employed. They have been produced under the AR4 IPCC scenarios with 25 km spatial resolution. Here, SRES B1 and A1B scenarios are selected, considered to be closer to RCP2.6 and RCP8.5, respectively.

The historical period (reference) is 1981-2000 and the near future period is 2031-2050. The selected RCM/GCM pairs that were available are presented in the following table:

Table 7: Climatic input variables and data sources for hazard component calculation for Azores

GCM/RCM pairs	Experiments
ECHAM5 r2/PROMES	Historical SRES A1B SRES B1
ARPEGE (version 3)/ PROMES	Historical SRES A1B SRES B1

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from "Very low" to "Very high". With respect to Azores, as the models emission scenarios and future periods differ, the results are not comparable with the rest of the islands.

Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf dedicated 4.5 to forest fires). Then, the risk score was calculated for the Azores separately from the other 9 islands as future data is not the same (for Azores, to compute the part of hazard (FWI), the scenario B1 and A1B have been used and for other islands RCP 2.6 and RCP 8.5). Finally, in the calculation of risk, the exposure is the major component with 57% of the final score.

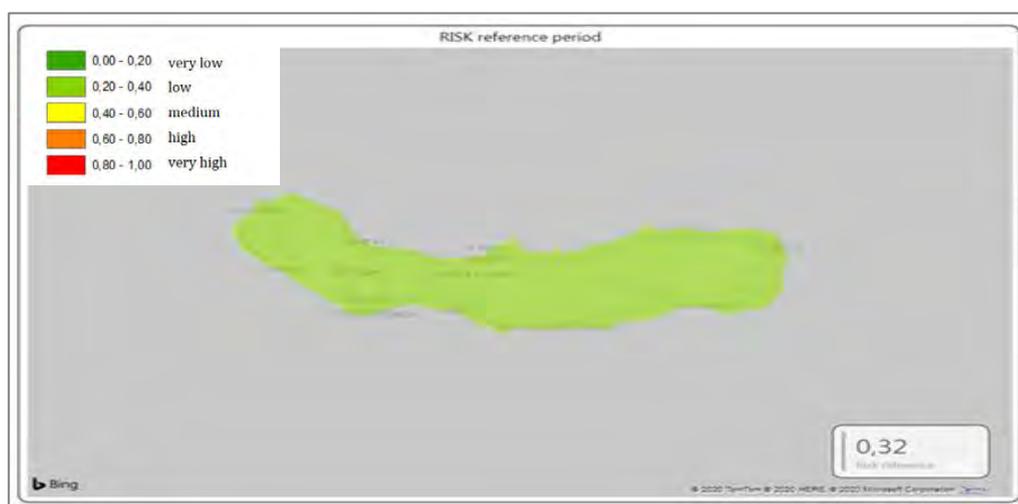


Figure 34: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

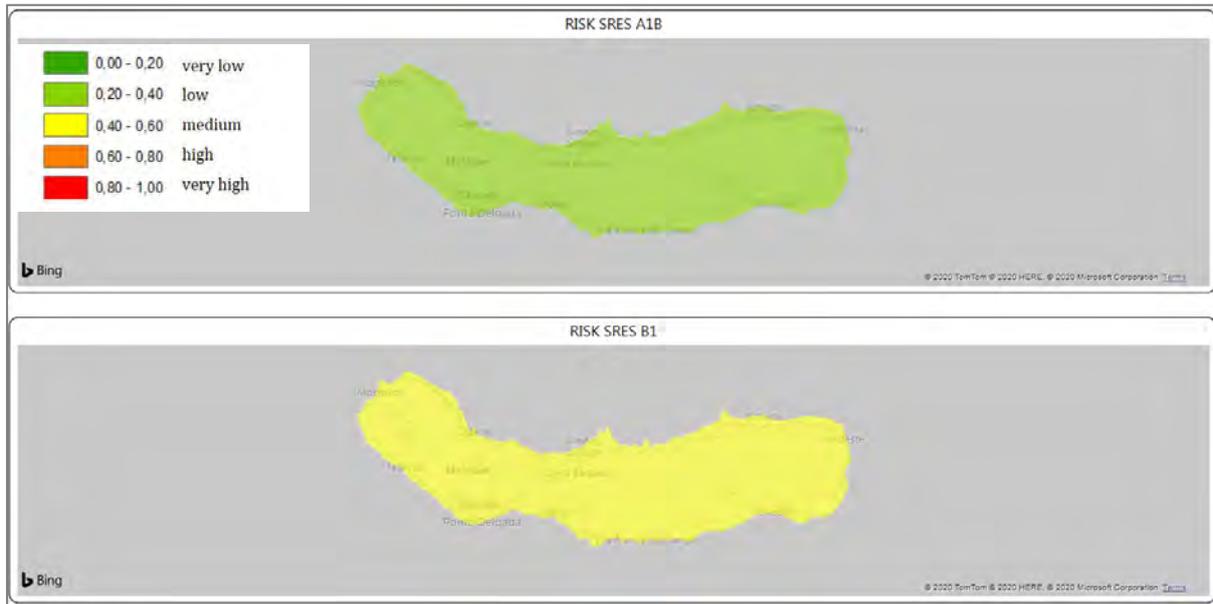


Figure 35: Risk score for scenarios for SRES B1 and A1B (near future)
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

The score of risk is low for Azores during the current period and for the near future under the scenario B1. Under the scenario B1, the risk will be medium.

Concerning the component of exposure in the calculation of the risk, the nature of exposure explains the majority of component with 75% and within the nature of exposure, the indicator “cultivated area” (%) is the most important in the sub-component.



Figure 36: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure)
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Concerning the vulnerability component, there is no current sensitivity with the flammability index and the component is only composed of adaptive capacity. The indicator about GDP is the most significant in the calculation of adaptive capacity.

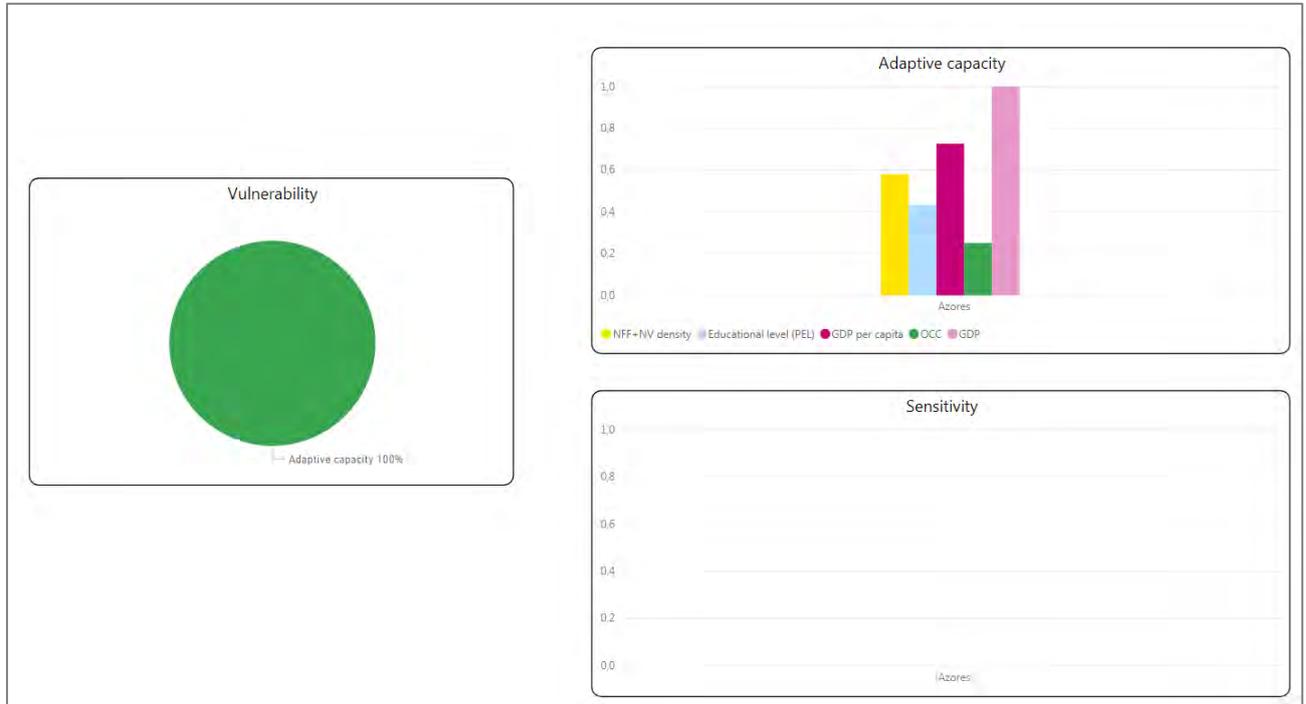


Figure 37: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity)
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

4.2 Aquaculture

In the Soclimpact project, aquaculture includes only marine-based operations where off-shore and coastal aquaculture are included, and freshwater and land-based aquaculture are excluded. Examples of climate change hazards that can impact aquaculture are changes in ocean warming and acidification, as well as oceanographic changes in currents, waves, and wind speed. Sudden impacts such as an increase in the frequency and intensity of storms and heat waves are also impacting aquaculture. Other effects of climate change on aquaculture activities are increased invasions from alien species, increased spread of diseases and changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters. An important indirect impact to aquaculture is the change in fisheries production due to climate change. Aquaculture of finfish is highly dependent on fisheries for feed ingredients. This already a current problem with many fisheries overexploited and will only intensify in the future. Climate change is also predicted to impact food safety, where temperature changes modify food safety risks associated with food production, storage, and distribution.

Socio-economic impacts on aquaculture are hard to assess due to the uncertainty of the changes in hazards and the limited knowledge these impacts have on the biophysical system of aquaculture species (Handisyde et al. 2014). In the framework of Soclimpact, the following risks were studied:

1) Risk of Fish species thermal stress due to increased sea surface temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

2) Risk of increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

Indeed, the objective of the risk assessment is to obtain final risk scores according to a gradient (very low to high) and to be able to compare the European islands with each other.

As mentioned in the part dedicated to the forest fire impact chain, the concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is also applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 7 steps for aquaculture, present risk and future risk are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

These steps will be described in detail in the following sections.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded



from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: Corsica, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

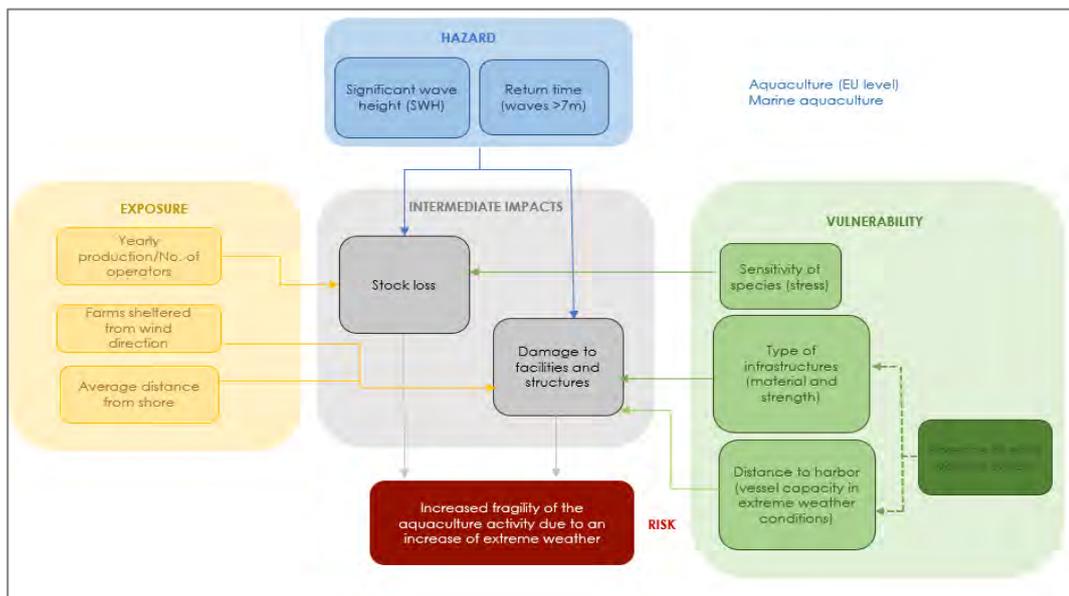


Figure 38: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 3.2

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.



Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

Table 8: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.3	0.9

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 9: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event				
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams	
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6	

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 10: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.



Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

Table 11: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in



de data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators
- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature: - yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$x_{normalized} = \frac{(x - x_{min})}{(x_{max} - x_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

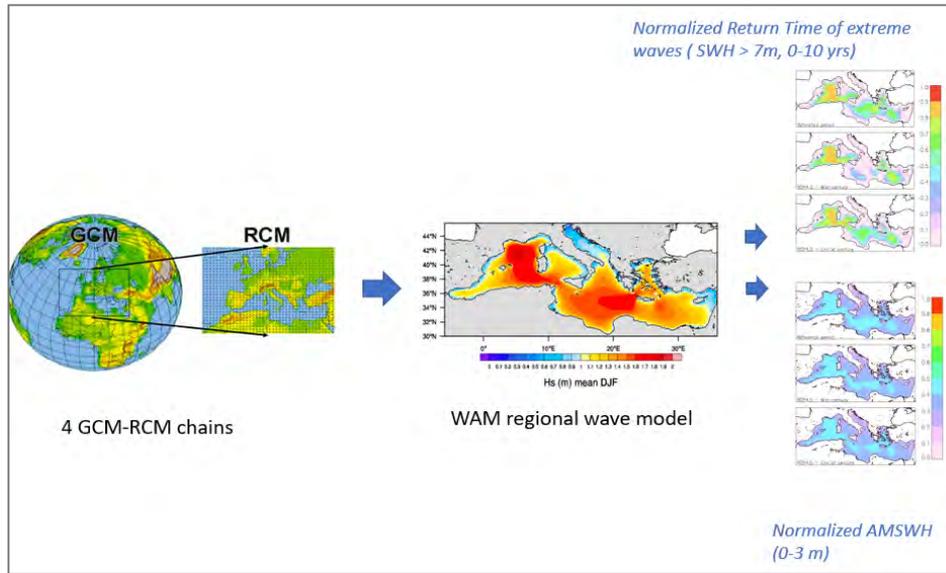


Figure 39: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which are fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater than 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk 1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in D4.4 of Soclimpact, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window (highlighted in red in Table 12) is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

Table 12: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula.

$RL, T=1-(1-1/T)**L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Therefore, using a combination of the normalized values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such as "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.



Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

- Extreme weather events:
- farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
 - sensitivity of species
 - vulnerability of type of infrastructure
 - presence of warning system

- Sea surface temperature:
- estimated temperature sensitivity of species
 - capacity to change species
 - monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account. Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 13: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	<i>Sea surface temperature</i>	<i>Extreme events</i>
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/ subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:

$$S_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$



- s* – score
- comp* – component or subcomponent
- ind* – indicator
- n* – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = S_{haz} * W_{haz} + S_{exp} * W_{exp} + w_{vul} * (S_{sen} * W_{sen} + S_{ac} * W_{ac})$$

- s* – score
- w* – weight
- haz* – hazard
- exp* – exposure
- vul* – vulnerability
- sen* – sensitivity
- ac* – adaptive capacity

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Atlantic islands

Table 14: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Atlantic Islands

	Hadley centre			ACCESS		
Risk	Historic	RCP 8.5 Mid-century	RCP 8.5 End-century	Historic	RCP 8.5 Mid-century	RCP 8.5 End-century



Azores	0.83	0.76	0.79	0.15	0.41	0.67
Madeira	0.20	0	0.01	0	0	0

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For the Atlantic islands, 2 models are available (Hadley Centre and ACCESS) for data on return time. As can be seen in table, the results of these models are highly variable. For the Azores even the change of the risk is different, where the Hadley riley model shows a decrease in risk while ACCESS shows a significant increase in risk. Therefore, no conclusion can be made. For Madeira, the risk in the future will be nihil. Not considering probability, it could be concluded that climate change has no or a positive effect on the occurrence on extreme events in Madeira. However, since this data is not accurate, more work needs to be done.

4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

Most Renewable Energy Systems (RES) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination, and extreme weather events (particularly extreme winds) challenging the distribution infrastructure. After intensive desk research, the latter was ruled out, due to the low number of past incidents found in the literature or news media and the future projections showing a reduction in wind extremes for most islands.

Thus, for the energy sector three general impact chains (IC) have been developed in the SOCLIMPACT project:



- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC was selected for operationalization. Data availability constraints for all islands have been a basic reason for this selection. For this IC, two different analysis were carried out:

- the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand,
- the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs.

Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change.

The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modelling constraints of the hazard component.

Specifically, there are important limitations regarding the resolution of the climate data for the small Atlantic islands. The available simulations covering the Atlantic Ocean have a significantly lower spatial resolution than the simulations for the Mediterranean Sea. Thus, the demand-side ICs have not been operationalized for smaller islands such as Azores.

4.4 Maritime Transport

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified. These are: i) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves, ii) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events and iii) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

The operationalization was applied to the third one (risk of isolation due to transport disruption) which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The selection of islands to be included in the analysis was based on the importance and dependency on the Maritime Transport sector and on data availability.

Although this sector is of great importance for Azores, the lack of reliable and consistent data limited the analysis, especially in regard:

- Value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot)
- Number of renovated infrastructure (NAgePo).
- Percentage of renewables (PEnRR),
- Early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt).

Nevertheless, this information is also useful at the moment of evaluating and ranking adaptation measures for the islands.

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 300 tourists visiting Azores whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

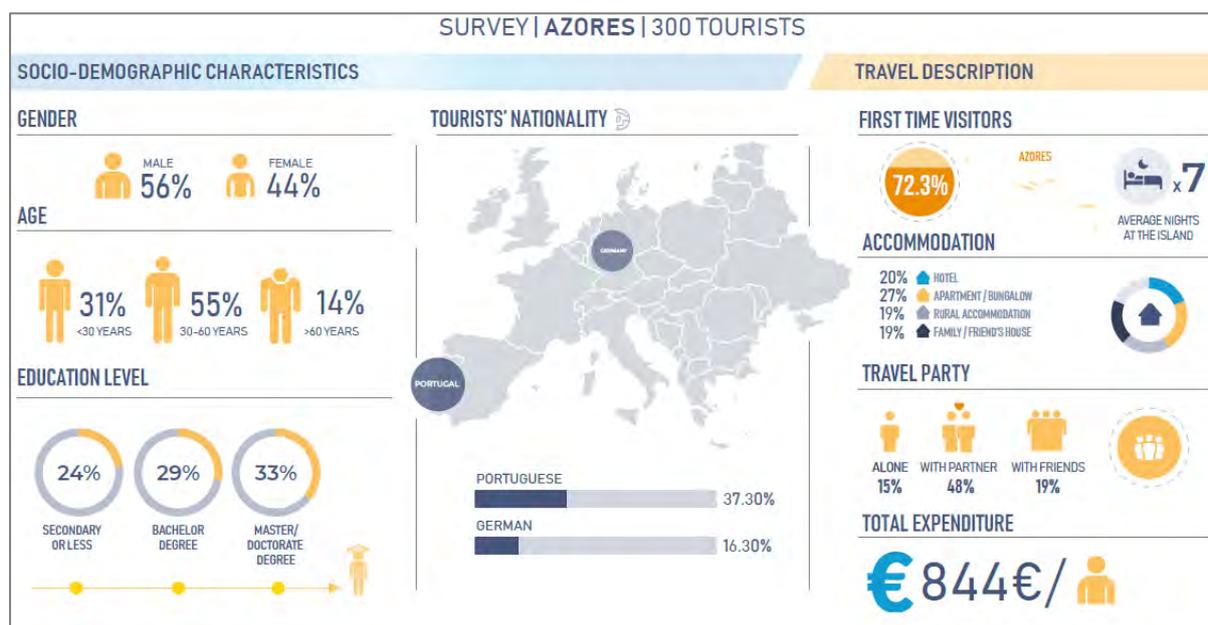


Figure 40: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Azores
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D5.5 Report on market and non-market costs of Climate Change and benefits of climate actions for Europe

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to marine wildlife disappearing to a large extent (75.30% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit the islands when there is risk of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (72.70%) or when water is scarce for leisure activities (57.70%). In addition, policies related to marine habitats restoration (10€/day), water supply reinforcement (8.4€/day) and cultural heritage protection (6.3€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting these islands.



Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.

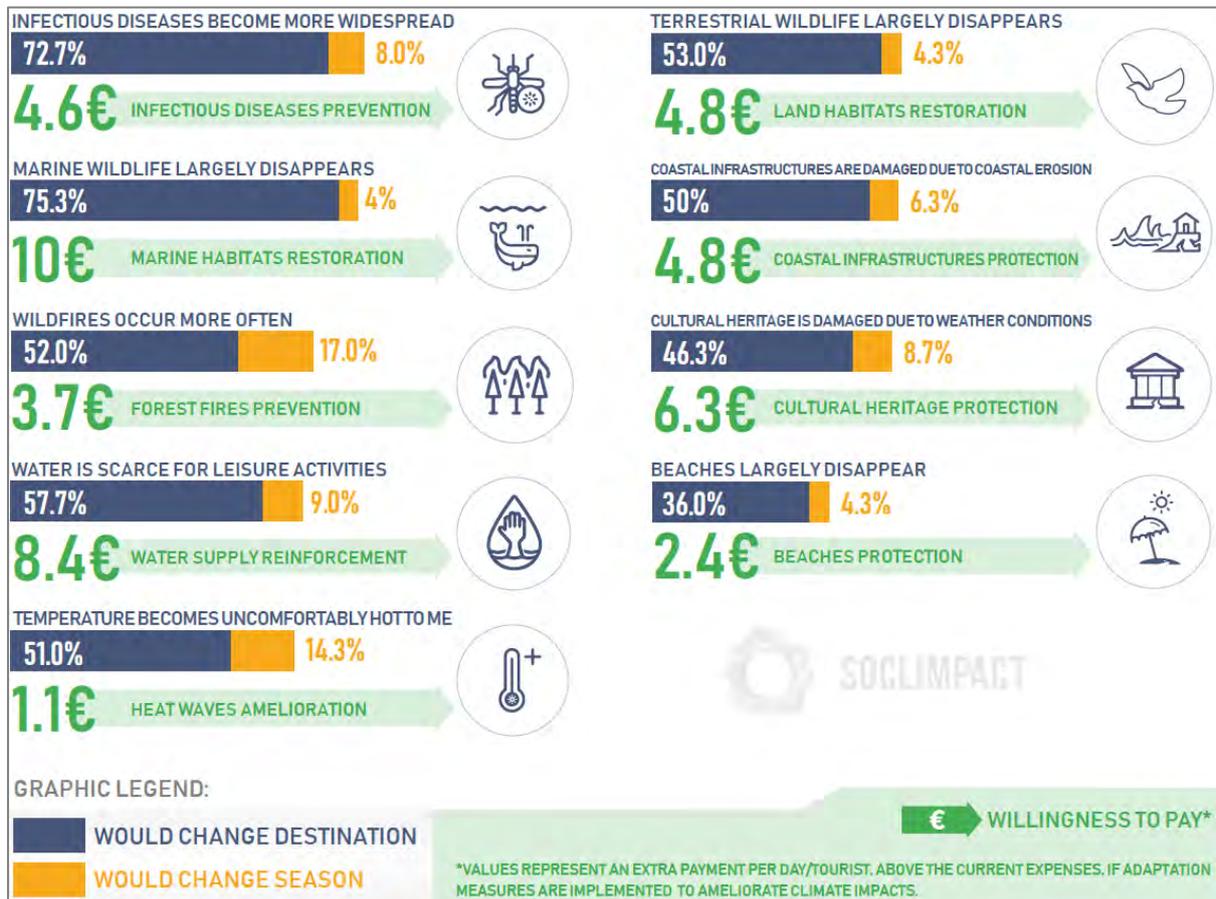


Figure 41: Tourists' response to climate change impacts and related policies: Tourists visiting Azores
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D5.5](#) Report on market and non-market costs of Climate Change and benefits of climate actions for Europe
 SEE VIDEO SUMMARY OF RESULTS [HERE](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price



determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination's perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. Other estimations were provided for Azores using the Index of Distance in Destination Image to position each island in a range that goes from Sardinia / Corsica on one side and Sicily on the other side. Without entering the details of the extrapolation method (which are explained in D5.6 appendixes) a summary of results is reported here:

Table 15: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Azores

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
8.93%	rcp26near	14.88%	2.4%	0.5%	2.9%
	rcp85near	18.38%	3.8%	0.8%	4.5%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this



pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The economic impacts on aquaculture production was not analysed for Azores for two reasons:

- The sector is still under development for the region, and the production levels of the four main species analysed (seabream, seabass, Medmussels, and Bluefin Tuna) are very low.
- The hazards indicators that are expected to affect the aquaculture production and infrastructures do not show significant changes in the region.

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (CDD) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (GWh/year) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 91 CDD² approximately. This value could be, for example, a combination of 50 days with temperatures of 19°C (50CDD) and other 20 days with temperatures of 20°C (400CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 936%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

² The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as $100 \cdot (20 - 18) = 200\text{CDD}$

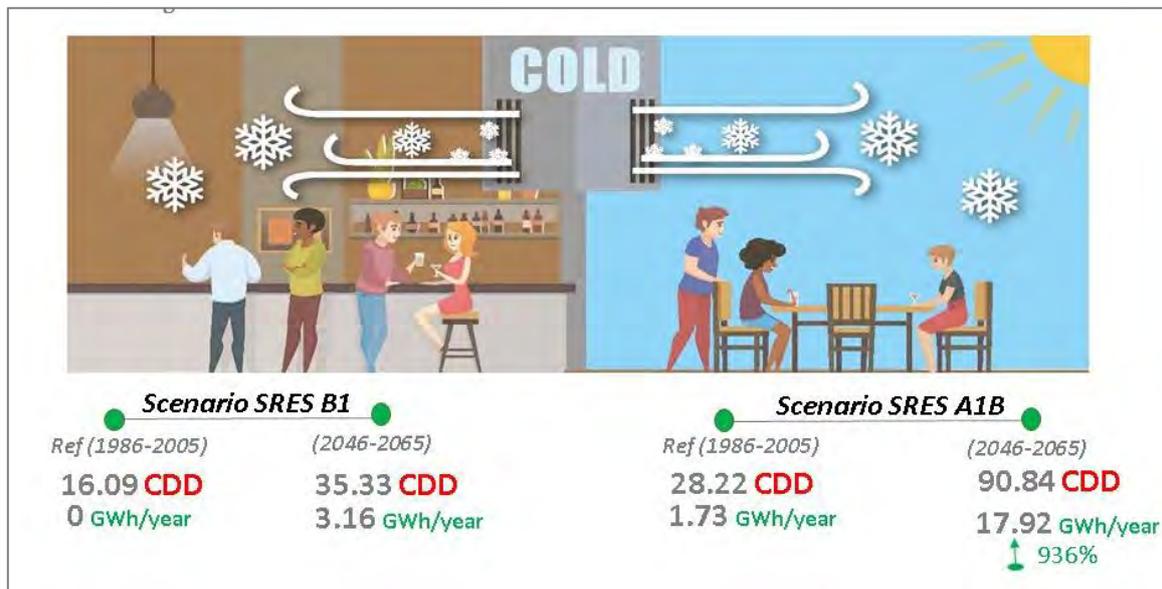


Figure 42: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Azores under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D5.6](#). Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

Maritime transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' economy of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all porsts' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investments will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 357,000.00 euros per year until the end of the century.



The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

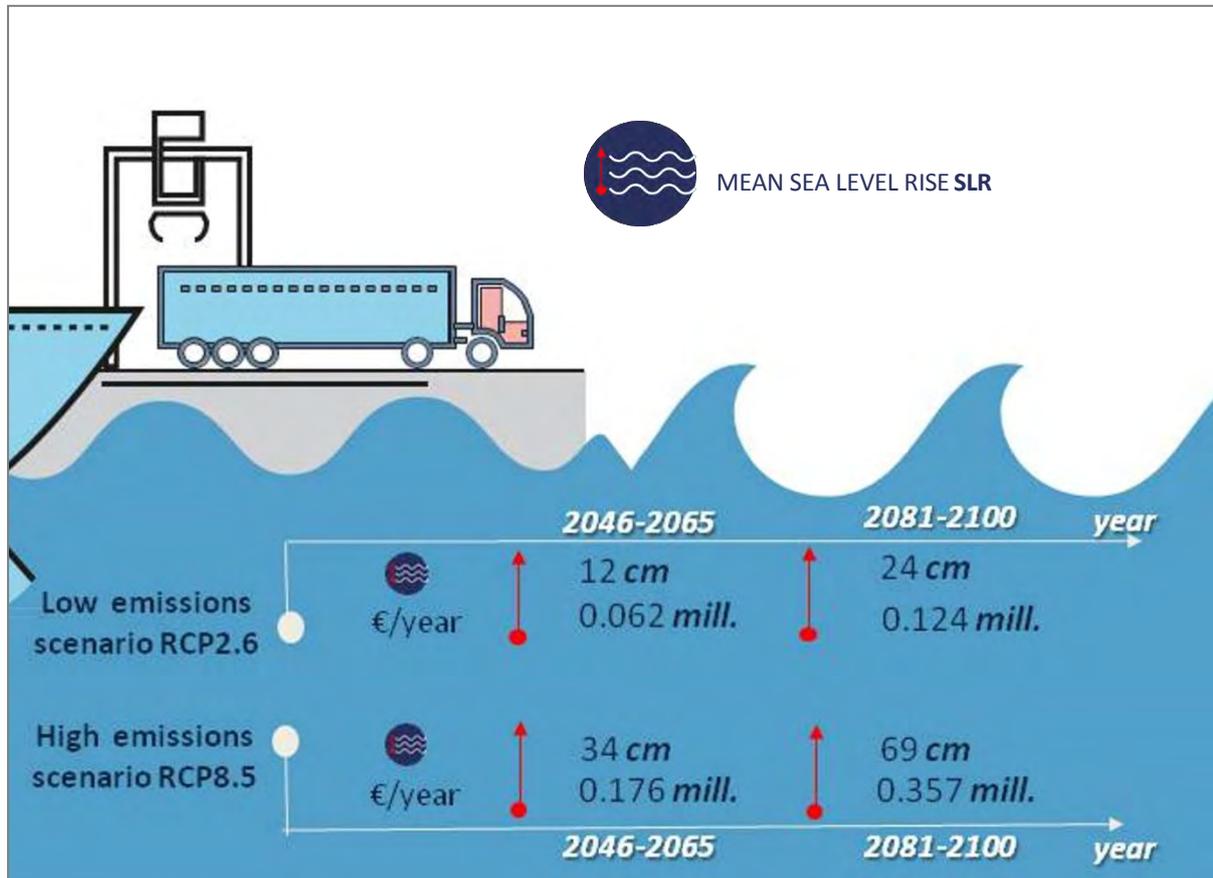


Figure 43: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Azores under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D5.6. Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the Azores. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a



temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 14 scenarios have been quantified for Azores. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 16: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-20.62	0	-0.04
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-25.40	18.24	-0.04
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-33.03	0	-0.10
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-40.56	33.1	-0.12

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces is a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of



models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -0.3% and -3.1% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -0.8% and -4% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative change over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to -2.8% in the RCP2.6 and -6.5% in the RCP8.5.

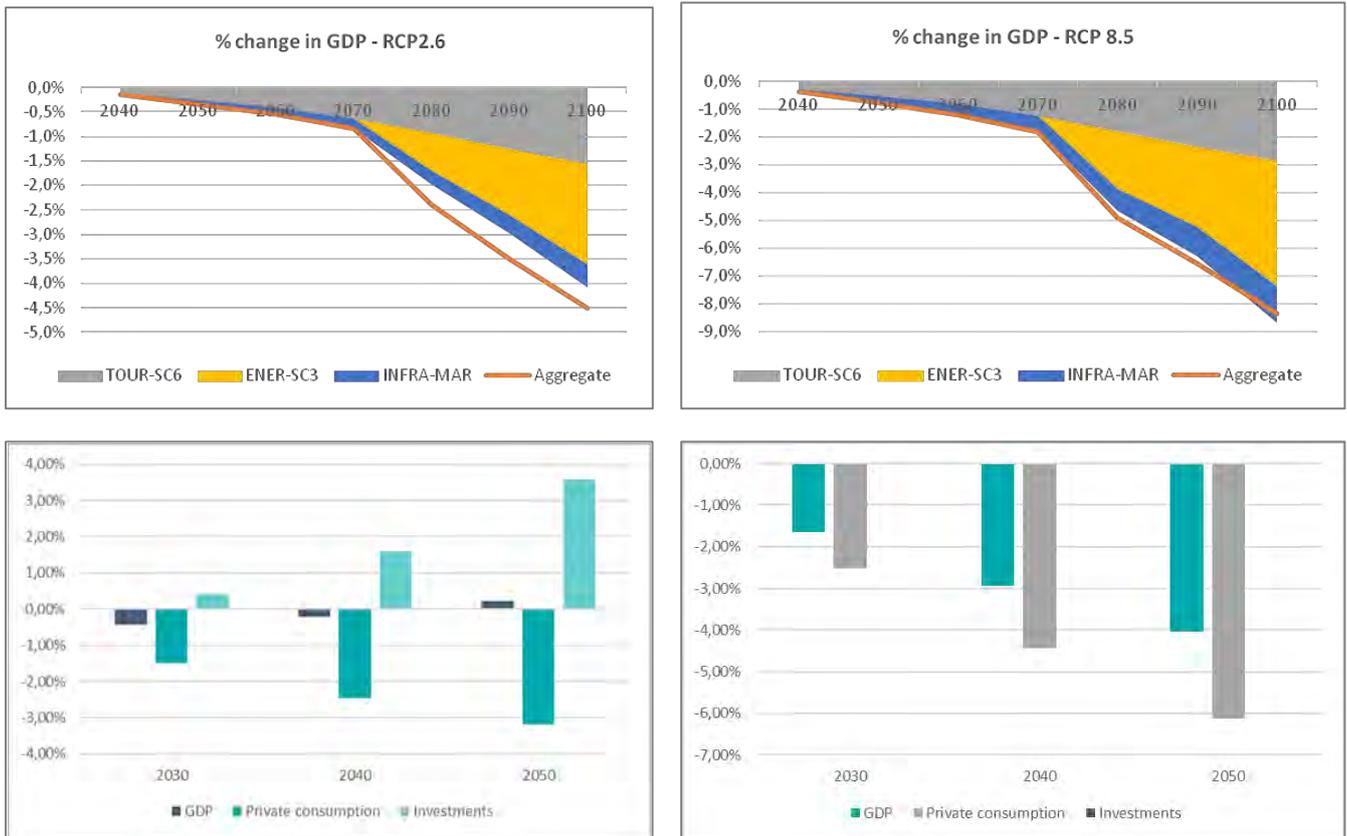


Figure 44: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the primary and secondary sectors.

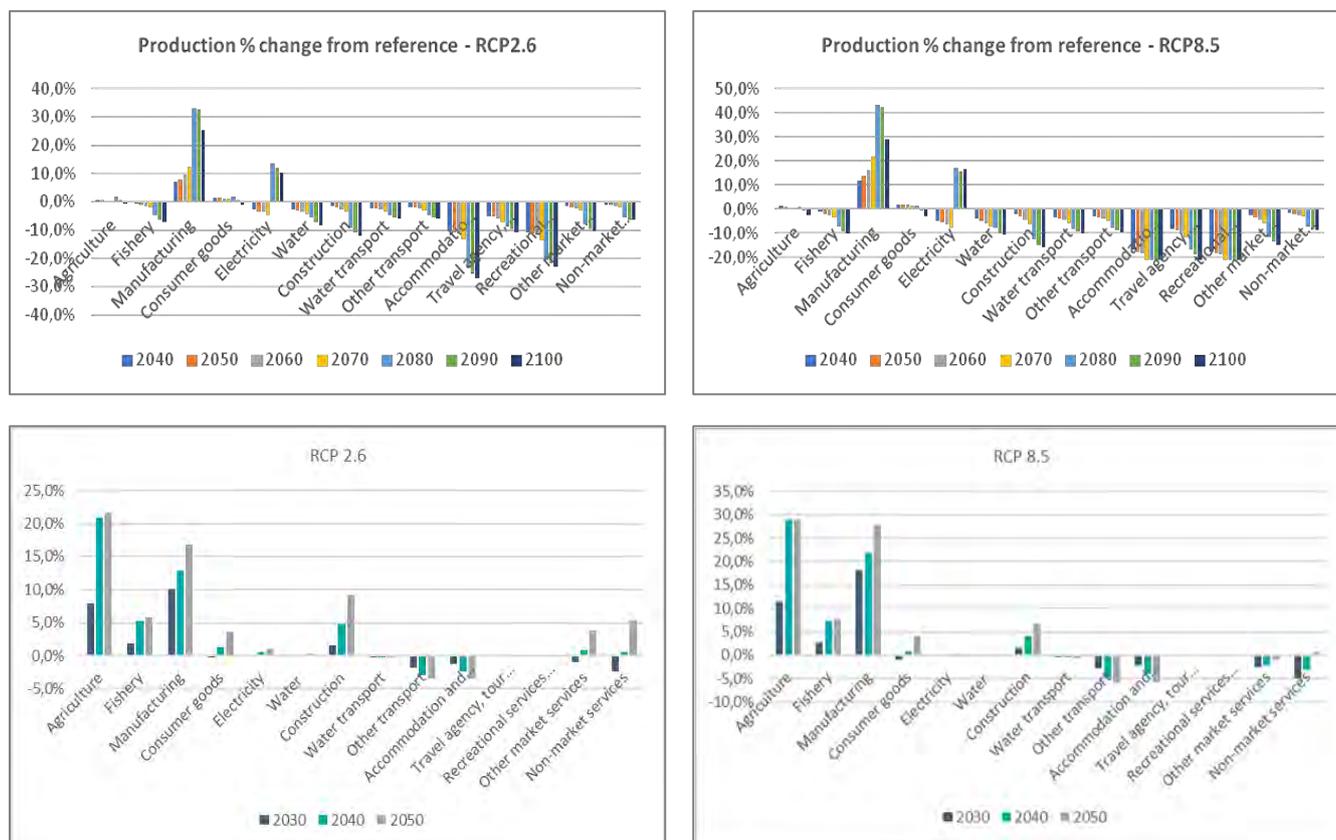


Figure 45: Production percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 0.2% in the RCP2.6 and by 0.3% in the RCP8.5.



Figure 46: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacles

The Azores approved its Regional Strategy on Climate Change (ERAC) in 2011 (Resolution 123/2011). The ERAC is to be put into action through the Regional Program for Climate Change (PRAC) approved by Resolution of the Council of the Government 93/2014. The PRAC is focused in mitigation and adaptation to climate change to major economic sectors and natural assets, and its interaction with the climate.

Since its conclusion (PRAC, 2016) and public presentation in November 2017 no action plan has been put in force although the PRAC was proposed for approval in July 2018 by the regional autonomous government. Despite this, the SRIERPA (Sistema Regional de Inventário de



Emissões por Fontes de Remoção por Sumidouros de Poluentes Atmosférico), a regional system of inventory and monitoring of carbon sinks and emissions, that feeds the IRERPA (Inventário de Emissões por Fontes de Remoção por Sumidouros de Poluentes Atmosféricos, was created within the scope of PRAC and seems to be still active (Despacho n.º 84/2018). This inventory produces results that comply with IPCC methods and that can be fully integrated with the national inventory system INERPA (Inventário Nacional de Emissões Atmosféricas), using the CRF (Common Reporting Format) and producing the NIR (National Inventory Report).

The autonomous regional government continues to announce its commitment on renewable energy and future investments. Also, it must be noted that harsh consequences on fossil fuel-based energy have not been put in force, both in energy sector and the transport sector. Both sectors benefit from tax relieves given for the purchase of fuel-oil and diesel fuel that may come to end if the commitment to climate change reaches its full potential.

The expansion of renewable energy sources in the electric sector continued, for instance in 2017, the geothermal electricity plant started operation of 4 MW of stable production. The project started in the year 2000, first drills were made in 2007 and in 2015 the installation of a (predicted) 3.5 MW went underway. This facility will provide for 10% of the electricity and intentions exist to increase the available power. There has been also the announcement of an energy plan with the 2030 horizon (Estratégia Açoriana para a Energia 2030) and a plan for the electrification of mobility (Estratégia para a Implementação da Mobilidade Elétrica nos Açores) which aims for having 2000 electric vehicles in the islands by 2030 as well. Both for the adaptation and mitigation part the PRAC contain recommendations regarding electric mobility that may shape its' future course.

To sum-up the regions commitment to fight climate change and deal with risks is:

Risk:

Improve the research capacity:

- a. Climate;
- b. Monitorization
- c. Vulnerability assessment);

Mitigation:

- (1) Promote low carbon economy;
- (2) GEE emission sustainable reduction;
- (3) Integrate the mitigation objectives in the sectors;

Adaptation:

- (1) Build resilience for the territory;
- (2) Promote adaptative capacity on key sectors;
- (3) integrate the mitigation objectives in the sectors.

Table 17: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<p>Specific limits and obstacles</p> <p>The major constrain in this territory is the fact that this is an outermost Regions, some 1600 kms away from main land Portugal (locally referred as the continent). The dimension of some islands leads to a lack of critical mass to achieve economies of scale, making them economically depend from the outside. This reality is aggravated by the fact that this archipelago very spread out, stretching 600 kms from its further corners, grouped in three clusters, very much dependent on air and sea transport. The sea ports and airports tend to be oversized to ensure (whenever possible) regular direct connections to the main land (where feasible), even in through rough conditions, as those found in north Atlantic (frequent) storms.</p> <p>Each island has an isolated electrical grid as the connection between different islands has not been possible to attain. A connection between Faial and Pico islands has been tried but failed due to technical and endurance difficulties. The advent of a sustainable energy grid linking some of the five islands of the central group could reshape their energy system, reducing context costs, increasing quality, reliability of service and ensuring the feasibility of further development of renewable energy.</p>
<p>Relevant documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ERAC (Climate Change Regional Strategy) - PRAC (Climate Change Regional Program) as it was on the public discussion phase; - IRERPA - INERPA

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D7.1 Conceptual framework](#)



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APPENDIX 2



*Balearic
Islands*





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in the Balearic Islands. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of-the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

The Balearic Islands at a glance

The Balearic Islands constitute the westernmost Spanish archipelago in the Mediterranean. With a total area of 4,984 km² and a population of 1,150,962 inhabitants (Eurostat, 2018). The co-official languages are Catalan and Spanish. Regarding to the geographical characteristics, the highest mountain is located in Mallorca (Puig Major in the Serra the Tramuntana) has an altitude of 1,432 m. The minimum distance separating Mallorca from Menorca is 35 km, and Ibiza is 75 km far from Valencia. The islands enjoy a mild climate with an annual average of 2,850 hours of sunshine and an average annual temperature of 18°C. The main international airports are on Mallorca, Menorca and Ibiza. Access to the island of Formentera is only possible by ferry boat. There are seven ports with regular sea lines that host around 98,000 passengers. The islands can be reached via ferry and airplane.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

Production in the Blue Economy sector aquaculture is increasing, but at very low speed, and has very low importance in terms of economic weight in this region

- **Maritime Transport**

The passenger's ships with positive growth rates and positively growing revenues in the islands are cruise ships, a holiday activity with a rapidly growing market. However, the freight maritime transport is even more important. They provide paramount sources such as fuels, food, building material, consumer goods such as cars etc mostly arriving from the Peninsula. The maritime transport is principally operated by the 5 most important ports of the Islands (Alcúdia, Eivissa, Maó, Palma and La Savina) which are managed by Puertos del Estado.

- **Energy**

Regarding energy supply and electricity generation, the Spanish grid operator Red Electrica de España provides electricity to the islands. Moreover, two electricity subsystems of the Balearic Islands were connected in 2016 by the Majorca-Ibiza double electricity link with a submarine cable resting on the seafloor at depths of up to 800 metres. There are other interconnection projects between islands that will interconnect the islands. In 2019 the Government of the



Balearic Islands has decided to meet the energy demands with 10% renewables by 2020, 35% by 2030 and 100% by 2050. Currently, 80 MW PV are installed.

- **Tourism**

Tourism is the island's most important source of income, contributing to approximately 35% of the GDP, and closing 2019 with 16.45 million tourists. Even though arrivals have decreased 0.6%, tourist spending increased 1.4% last year to 16.51 billion euros, the highest historical value. The average stay is 6 days and the most popular time of the year is June to September. Most of the tourists come from the UK and Germany. The management of the increase in tourist arrivals along with the climate-related hazards (heat waves, flooding) are the main concerns to be addressed by the stakeholders.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

The Balearic Islands (regional capital: Palma de Mallorca) constitute the westernmost Spanish archipelago in the Mediterranean. With their weather, they attract tourism. The European Regional Innovation Monitor describes the archipelago with “a total area of 4,984 km², and its population, with 1,150,962 inhabitants, represents 2.5% of the state (Eurostat, 2018). The co-official languages are Catalan and Spanish. The Balearic Islands' industry has undergone an important process of modernisation and has backed the promotion of a strategy based on quality and design.”¹

The Balearic Islands Regional Context Survey² describes the geographical outlay of the islands as follows: The highest mountain is located in Mallorca. With 1,432 m altitude, Puig Majorin the Serra de Tramuntana, is a protected natural area that in 2011 was declared UNESCO World Heritage. The minimum distance separating Mallorca from Menorca is 35 km, and Ibiza is 75 km far from Valencia by sea. The islands enjoy a mild climate with an annual average of 2,850 hours of sunshine and an average annual temperature of 18°C. There are 3 UNESCO declarations, one on each island related to natural biodiversity and culture: Serra de Tramuntana in Mallorca, Menorca Biosphere Reserve and Ibiza World Heritage Site. Population in 2016 was of 1,107,220 people, and the main cities are: Palma de Mallorca (the capital), Calvià, Ibiza, Manacor, Santa Eulària, Marratxí, Lluçmajor and Inca.

Main international airports are on Mallorca, Menorca and Ibiza. Access to the island of Formentera is only possible by ferry boat. Approximately 75% of the air traffic is concentrated in Palma airport, followed by Ibiza. There are seven ports with regular sea lines that hosted around 97,773 passengers.

Each Island has a regional government. The data situation for the Balearic Islands is less detailed than for other Spanish regions, for instance for the Canary Islands (see report on Canary Islands).

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/base-profile/balearic-islands>

² https://www.interregeurope.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/tx_tevprojects/library/file_1508251726.pdf

Population dynamics of the island

Between 2000 and 2018, total population figures rose from 0.8 million to almost 1.2 million inhabitants. This implies a marked average annual growth rate of almost 2%. However, growth rates dampened from 2010 afterwards.

Population density on the Balearic Islands (Balears) is high and growing. More than twice as many people live on the Balears per square kilometer compared to the mainland. The most densely populated Balears is Formentera, which also exhibits the largest growth rate. Mallorca comes second and Menorca third. The latter have much lower growth rates.

The population on the Balearic Islands is younger on average than the mainland population, with the mean age being 45 as opposed to 48 on mainland Spain (Eurostat, demo_r_d2jan). Regarding the education levels, the share of persons with tertiary education, or employed in science or both lies significantly lower than in mainland Spain. Also, the time trend differs: while the respective shares in Spain constantly rise over time, they reached a peak in 2017 on the Balears and fell since.

Table 1: Shares of persons with higher education in the workforce (percent).

	Region	Persons with tertiary education (ISCED)	Persons employed in science and technology	Persons with tertiary education (ISCED) and employed in science and technology	Scientists and engineers
2014	Spain	37.2	21.6	17.9	5.5
	Illes Balears	29.3	17.9	13.4	2.9
2015	Spain	37.6	22.2	18.4	5.6
	Illes Balears	28.9	17.8	13.3	3.9
2016	Spain	38.3	23.3	19.3	5.9
	Illes Balears	30.2	18.7	14.7	4.6
2017	Spain	39.0	24.1	19.9	6.1
	Illes Balears	32.0	20.0	15.8	4.6
2018	Spain	39.9	24.7	20.5	6.3
	Illes Balears	30.7	18.3	13.9	4.1

Source: Eurostat, HRST by category and NUTS 2 regions.

Unemployment typically is lower than on the Spanish mainland. During the crisis, the Balears exhibit the same unemployment rate for all labor force, and almost the same for young workers until 24 years (even slightly higher than Spain in the year 2010. After 2012, the Balears recovered more rapidly and to a lower level. The relation between youth unemployment and full unemployment rates is about the same as on mainland Spain, but both on a lower level. However, youth unemployment is very high and well above the EU average.

Harmonised medium term population outlooks for European regions are available from the Europop2013 population projections. Figure 1 shows the respective main scenario results for the Balearic Islands.

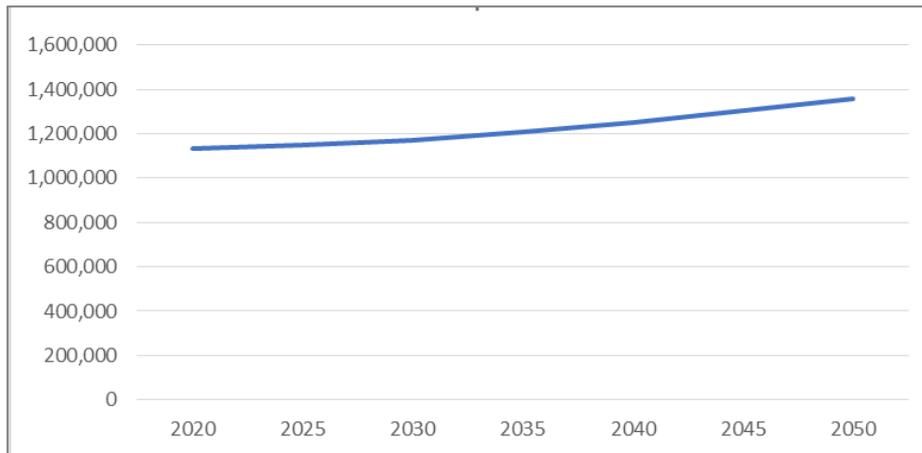


Figure 1: Baseline population projection for Balearic Islands (2020-2050).

Source: Eurostat proj_13rpms3 database, own representation.

As shown, the Balearic Islands are expected to experience lasting population growth until 2050. The projected population growth from slightly more than 1.1 million inhabitants in 2015 to less than 1.4 million inhabitants in 2050 corresponds to an average annual growth of slightly less than 0.6%.

1.2 Current climate and risks

In the Balearic Islands, the Mediterranean maritime climate predominates. Annual rainfall ranges from 350 mm to 650 mm. Usually, autumn records the highest rainfall. Temperatures are mild throughout the year, without extremes, with soft, wet winters and dry, hot summers. The winds are predominantly from the north and in winter from the south.

In Mallorca, the annual precipitation varies from one part of the island to another, between 350 mm in the south and 1,500 mm in the high mountain areas of the Tramuntana Mountains. In Minorca, the average annual rainfall is 650 mm. This figure varies depending on the year and the region of the island.

Ibiza and Formentera have a climate with high average temperatures. Rainfall is irregular and scarce, a total of 380 mm on Ibiza and 350 mm on Formentera. The predominant winds are from the west-southwest in winter and from the east in summer.



Figure 2: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework and Meteoblue](#); Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

The Balearic Islands have a higher GDP per capita than the Spanish mainland. Until the crisis, the per capita GDP was higher than EU28 average, too. Like Spanish mainland, the recovery went less quickly than for EU28. Figure 3 shows the respective developments for the Islands, Spain, EU28 and Germany for comparison. While Spain and the Islands seem to have managed the turn around and positive, increasing growth rates, the EU28 slackens over the last two years in the data set. Germany left the crisis very fast and shows no slowing in the data set. However, the data set ends with the year 2017.

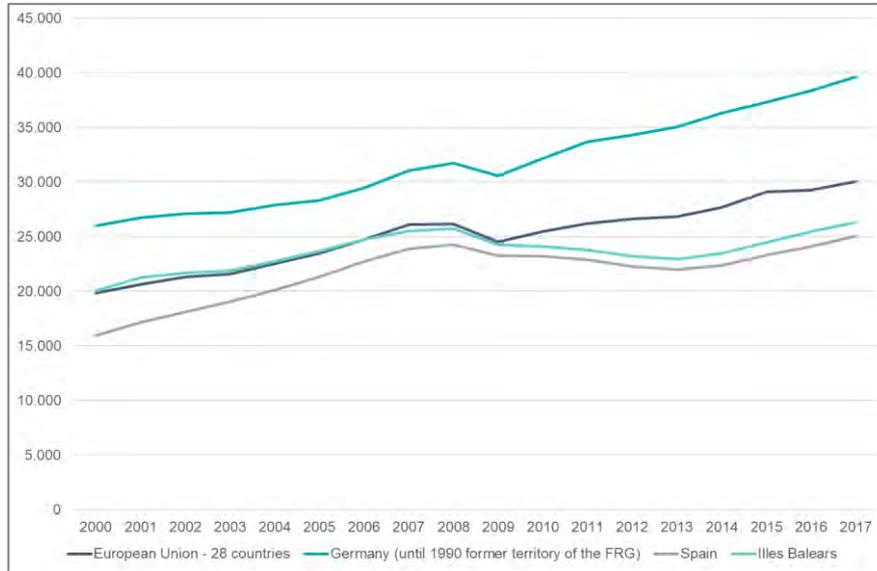


Figure 3: Development of GDP per capita for the Balears, Spain, Germany and the EU28 (current Euro).
Source: Eurostat.

Figure 4 shows the distribution of gross value added by sector for the Balearic Islands (inner ring) and Spain (outer ring). The largest value-added contribution stems from tourism, with 38% in the sector wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food activities. This share is much larger than the respective share in Spain (24%). The largest difference in relevance can be found in the industrial sector. While it contributes more than 18% to the Spanish economy, the share of industry on the Balearics is 7%. Real estate on the Balearic Islands outranks Spain with 15% compared to 11%.

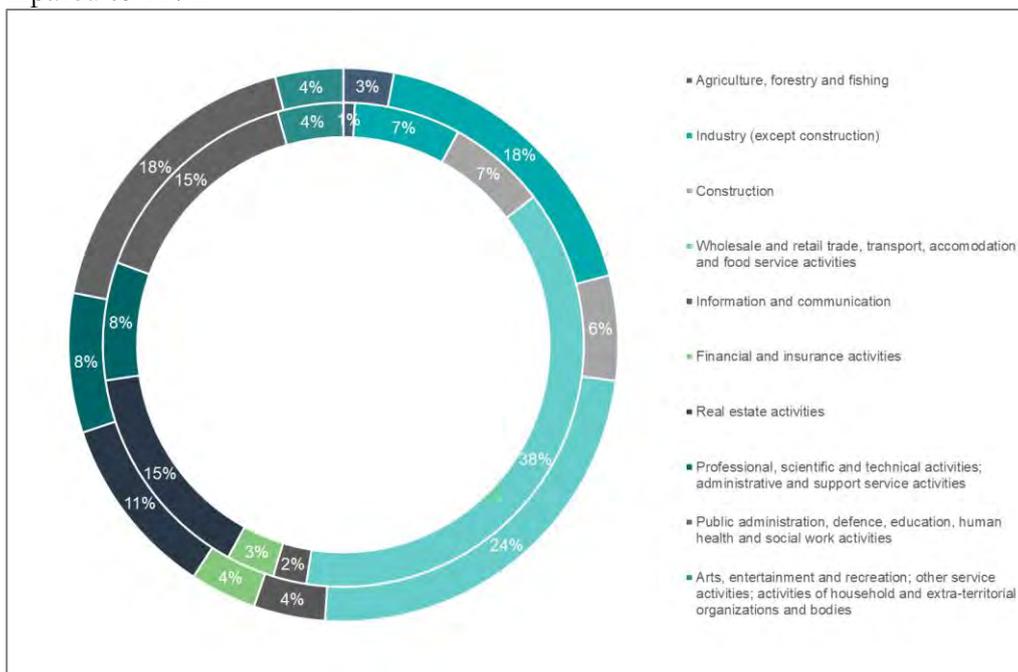


Figure 4: Gross value added by sector – comparison Spain with Balearic Islands.
Source: Eurostat nama_10r_3gna.



The development of the contributions to gross value added by sector shows that tourism related value increased more rapidly than other sectors (Figure 5). Financial and insurance activities lost in relevance, as well as the construction sector. The latter did not recover from the real estate crisis in Spain. Real estate activities, however, recovered in full and gained strongly in importance. Industry, information and agriculture stayed stable at low levels.

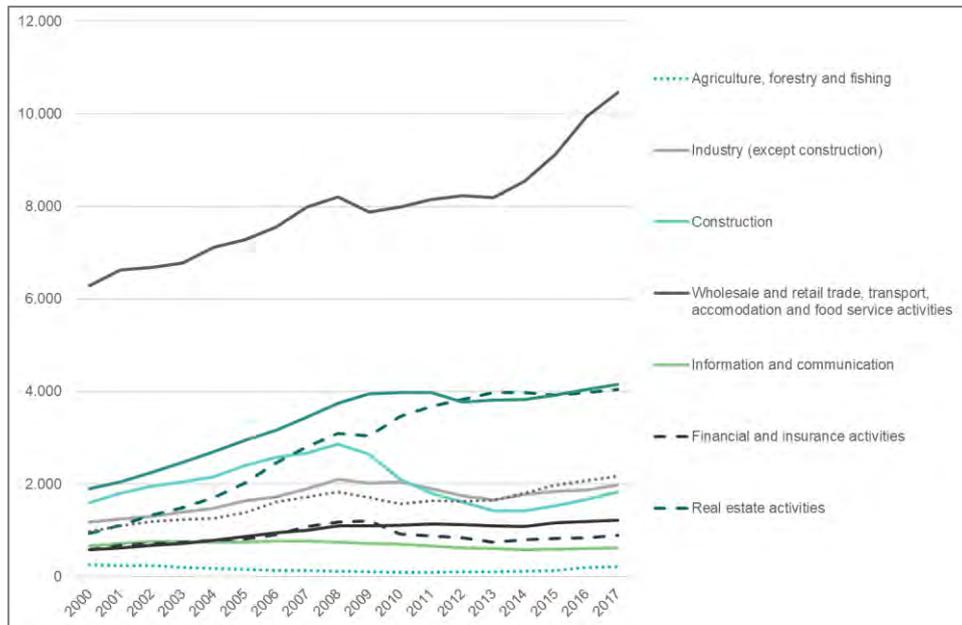


Figure 5: Gross value added by sector in 1000 Euro. Source: Eurostat, nama_10r_3gva, own graph.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

Tourism is still increasing on the Balearic Islands. Lately, there has been a public discussion about overtourism, mainly in cities but on Islands as well. The online travel magazine mypics states: “Resources are scarce on islands. The ecological balance in nature is even more sensitive than in the city. In several years it has been reported (...) that drinking water has become scarce. The sewage and garbage disposal for the many people on the islands is a problem. They are inhabited only by relatively few natives. The sewage and garbage disposal are adjusted to them and of course also to tourists. However, when seven to thirty times the amount of waste and sewage is produced in the season, it is no longer manageable. Waste water is discharged untreated into the sea.” Adding climate change to this scenario makes the islands even more vulnerable.

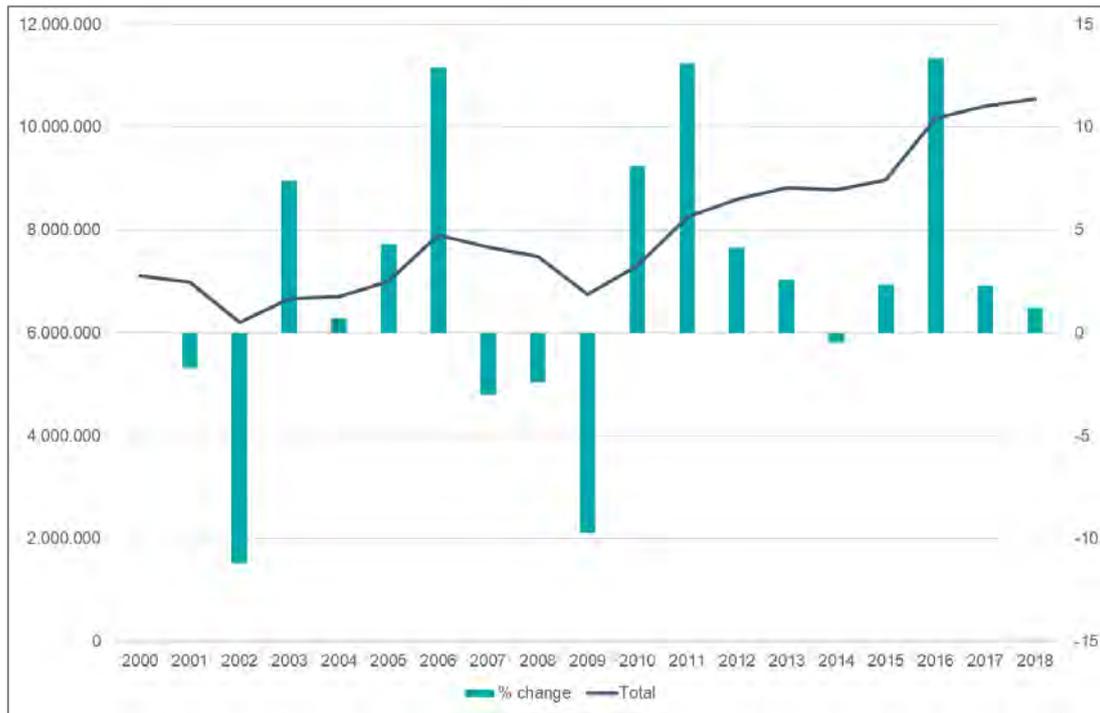


Figure 6: Tourism on the Balearics: absolute numbers and growth rates. Source: Eurostat, tour_occ_arm2, own graph.

Tourist number mainly know one direction of development: upwards. The Balearics benefit from the global trend as well as from shift in tourism in the Mediterranean Sed. During the crisis, global tourism took a dent, only to recover at full speed very early on. Growth then stagnated and tourist number stayed at a very high level until they were boosted again in 2016, mainly benefiting from the shift in tourism away from Turkey and, to some extent, Egypt.

Total number now are well exceeding 10 million tourists per year. The main reasons for tourism on the Balears are the natural beauty, landscapes and beaches (Table 2).

Table 2: Main motifs of German tourists to travel to Mallorca.

Motif	Percent
Natur and Landscape	70%
Beach	62%
Culture	58%
Cuisine	57%
Nightlive/Ballermann/ElArenal	12%

Source: Statista.

Maritime transport

While global maritime transport of goods grows steadily with global trade, the transport of people by ship has been replaced by airplanes if it comes to going from one place to another. The only passenger ships with positive growth rates and positively growing revenues are cruise ships, a holiday activity with a rapidly growing market.



Islands participate in the latter, but have more reasons for the freight maritime transport: they rely on resources such as fuels, food, building material, consumer goods such as cars etc. are brought to the island by ship.

Figure 7 shows the development of freight and passenger maritime transport for the Balearics. While passenger transport is increasing lately, freight transport decreased by more than 50% since 2006. The reasons will be researched further during the scenario building and modelling analysis.

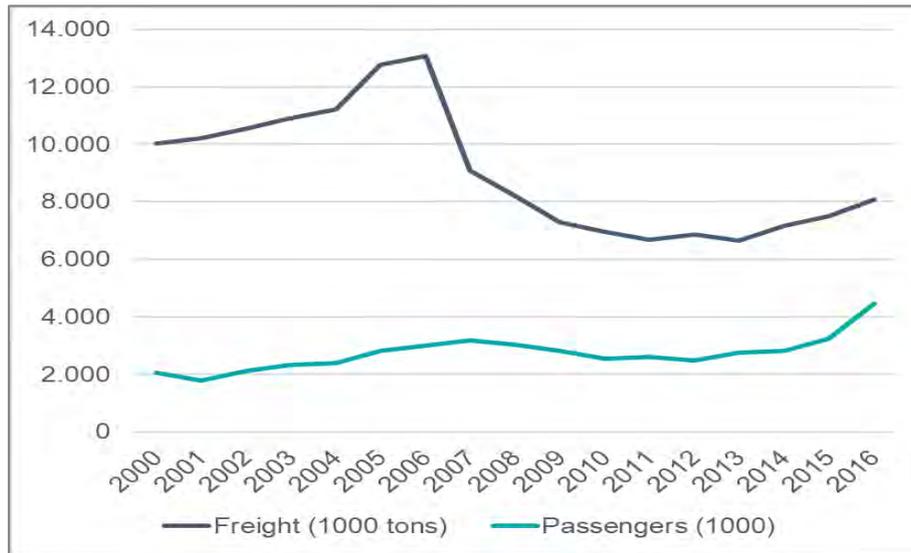


Figure 7: Freight and Passenger Transport on the Balearics

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D6.2 Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

Aquaculture

Production in the Blue Economy sector aquaculture is increasing, but at very low speed.

Table 3: Production value of Balearic Aquaculture 2018.

Species	2015	2016	2017	2018
Sea bass or sea bass	5,891,119	9,938,250	8,171,690	12,267,879
Dorade	4,123,899	6,293,130	1,241,546	783,395
Gold or red carp	-	-	750	-
Cyprinids nep	3,000	-	3,000	-
Common carp	-	-	3,000	-
Total	10,018,017	16,231,380	9,419,987	13,051,275

Source: Spanish Ministry for Agriculture, Food and Fishery:

Electricity

Regarding energy supply and electricity generation, the Spanish grid operator RED Electrica de Espagna describes the challenges as follows: “Until the electricity interconnection between the Spanish peninsula and the Balearic Islands was put into service, the Balearic Islands electricity system was comprised of two smaller-sized subsystems which were electrically isolated, Majorca-Menorca and Ibiza-Formentera, which made it difficult to achieve similar stability and service quality indexes as those systems which are larger and interconnected.



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For this reason, Red Eléctrica undertook this electricity interconnection project to provide a link with the transmission grid on the Spanish peninsula. This interconnection, in addition to representing a complementary option to the construction of new power stations on the Balearic Islands, will also allow competition in the Islands' generation market to be increased, with the consequent improvement in energy efficiency and sustainability of the Balearic Islands' electricity system.

In 2016 the two electricity subsystems of the Balearic Islands are finally connected by the Majorca-Ibiza double electricity link. At the time of its commissioning, this interconnection link is the longest and deepest submarine link in alternating current of its kind in the world, as the submarine cable rests on the seafloor at depths of up to 800 meters. The Majorca-Ibiza submarine interconnection also provides advantages of an environmental nature and also cost savings for the electricity system as a whole. Although this is the major development project in the Balearic Islands, there are other interconnection projects between islands that will connect Majorca to Menorca and Ibiza to Formentera.” Therefore, the Balearic Islands are less inclined for own solutions, compared to more isolated Islands. However, only this year, 2019, the Government of the Balearic Islands has decided to meet the energy demands on Mallorca, Menorca, Ibiza and Formentera with 10% renewables by 2020, 35% by 2030 and 100% by 2050 (PV Magazine, 2019)³. Currently, 80MW PV are installed, thus the plan can be called rather ambitious. To support PV development, existing car parks will be required to install PV as well as every new building. Estimates exist which foresee 230 MW of PV being currently in the pipeline, which will bring RE shares in the Balears to 10%.

Infrastructure, R&D and planned projects

The main infrastructure plans at the regional level are the Industrial Plan Illes Balears 2018-2025 which will support diversification and modernization with the following expenditure plan:⁴

- Technological acceleration and innovation (€25m)
- Financing and improvement of the institutional environment (€15m)
- Capacity building for human capital and quality employment (€30m)
- Internationalization of companies (€13m)
- Promotion of industrial clusters (€5m)
- Industrial land, logistics and energetic resources (€7m)
- Monitoring and analysis (€7m)

This strategy is expected to create 3,000 new jobs, increase the occupation in manufacturing and increase Gross Value Added by 9%. The strategic relevant sectors comprise: nautic, aeronautic, fashion, habitat, food and cultural and technological industries.

The European Regional Development Fund program has very similar targets and expects similar results. Both programs do not go beyond 2025.

³ <https://www.pv-magazine.com/2018/02/15/spains-balearic-islands-propose-ambitious-100-renewable-energy-law/>

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/policy-document/industrial-plan-illes-balears-2018-2025>.



2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

According to our reference projections, Balearic Islands continues to grow with a 1.6% yearly rate throughout the 2015-2100 period. A main driver of growth is investments with an average yearly growth rate of 1.8% over the whole projection period (Table 4). While growth rates of private and public consumption are projected to decrease over time, a long-term reduction of the trade deficit also plays a key role for the sustained economic growth. This indicates a transition towards a more sustainable economy that reduces its reliance on imported consumption and increases its productive capacity through investment activity.

Table 4: Balearic Islands GDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GDP	3.1%	2.0%	1.9%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%	1.2%
Private consumption	2.3%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%
Public consumption	2.8%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	1.0%	0.8%
Investments	3.8%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%
Trade	1.4%	-1.5%	-1.7%	-1.9%	-2.1%	-2.4%	-2.9%	-3.7%	-5.2%	-5.7%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

The high growth contribution of investments in the period up to 2050 is due to a high paced growth towards 2020 which counterbalances a lack of investments during the economic crisis. Throughout the 2025-2050 period, investments growth rates do not exceed overall GDP growth rates. Private consumption is projected to represent also in 2100 the largest demand component of GDP, followed by investments and public consumption.

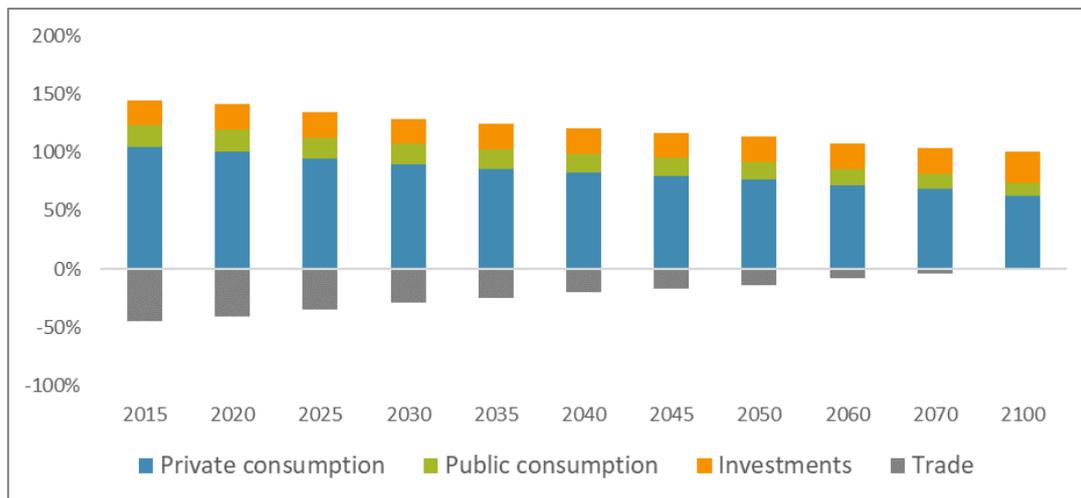


Figure 8: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Balearic Islands in 2015-2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

2.2 The sectoral projections

The Balearic Islands economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period with an increasing contribution of other market services, construction services and other



transport services. Whereas declining shares in overall gross value added are projected for accommodation and food services as well as non-market services, both sectors are still projected to provide significant contributions (more than 27%) to total gross value added in 2100.

The aggregated gross value added share of agriculture, fishery, manufacturing and consumer goods is projected to decline from almost 3% in 2015 to less than 2% until 2100. This observation is mainly driven by respective decreases in the gross value added shares for the consumer goods industry.

Electricity and water services are projected to contribute between 2 and 3% to total gross value added throughout the projection period.

Total tourism activities are projected to provide rather stable contributions to total gross value added throughout the projection period. Starting from more than 18% in 2015, the respective shares decline slightly to less than 17% in 2100⁵.

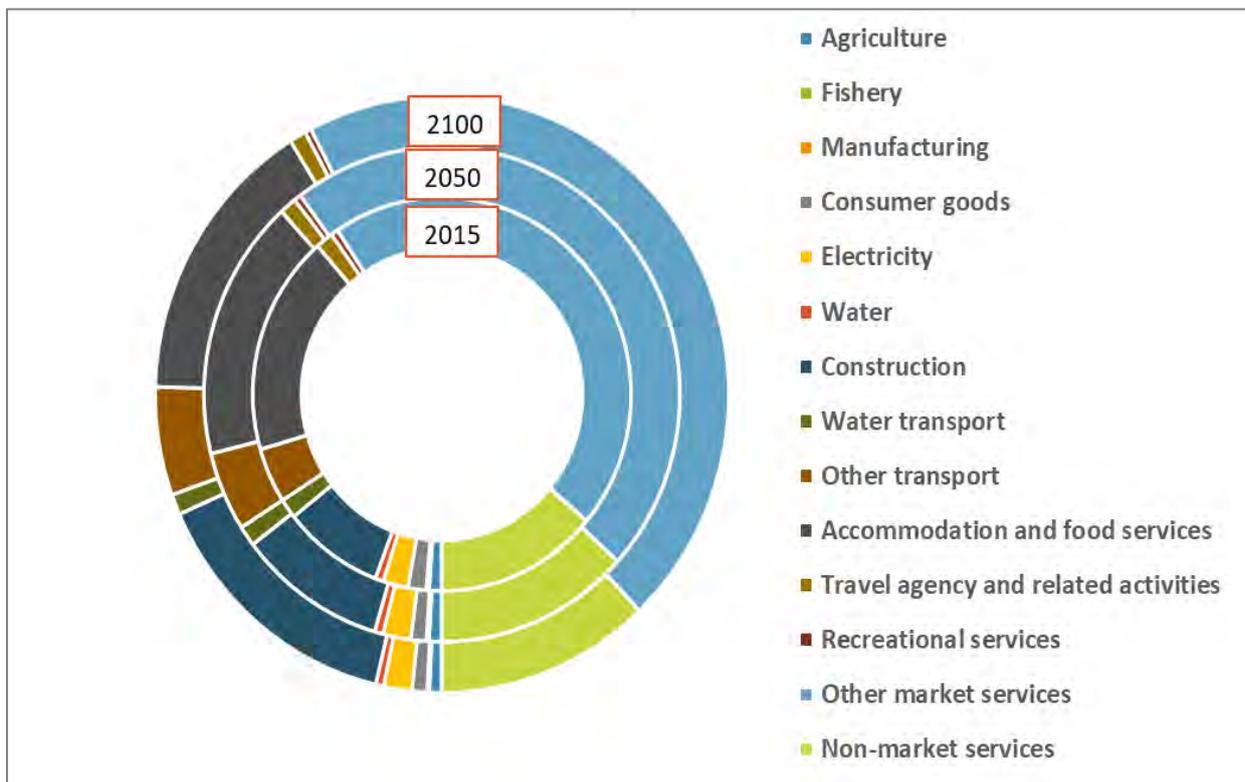


Figure 9: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Balearic Islands in 2015, 2050 and 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

⁵ The share of tourism in GDP is calculated via the tourism satellite account (TSA) matrices of 2015, assuming that the same shares that indicate the contribution of tourism to the productions of tourism-related sectors (such as the accommodation and food services, transport services, travel agency and related activities, cultural and recreational activities) remain throughout the 2015-2100 period. Please see Appendix B of SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report D6.2 for the complete database of the estimated TSAs.



Table 5: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Balearic Islands in 2015-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
<i>Agriculture</i>	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%
<i>Fishery</i>	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Manufacturing</i>	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
<i>Consumer goods</i>	1.6%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%
<i>Electricity</i>	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%
<i>Water</i>	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
<i>Construction</i>	8.6%	9.5%	9.6%	9.7%	9.8%	9.9%	10.0%	10.1%	10.3%	10.5%	14.7%
<i>Water transport</i>	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.1%
<i>Other transport</i>	4.5%	4.5%	4.6%	4.7%	4.8%	4.9%	5.0%	5.2%	5.5%	5.8%	5.9%
<i>Accommodation & food services</i>	18.1%	17.6%	17.5%	17.4%	17.3%	17.2%	17.2%	17.1%	16.9%	16.7%	15.8%
<i>Travel agency & related activities</i>	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%
<i>Recreational services</i>	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
<i>Other market services</i>	45.4%	45.8%	46.1%	46.3%	46.5%	46.7%	46.8%	46.9%	47.2%	47.4%	45.5%
<i>Non-market services</i>	13.9%	13.7%	13.6%	13.5%	13.4%	13.4%	13.3%	13.2%	13.0%	12.8%	12.1%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

2.3 Employment

The service-led economic growth brings positive effects to the labour market with unemployment projected to fall from almost 14% in 2015 to slightly less than 7% in 2100. The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labor intensity of the sector. The biggest employing sectors are non-market and other market services as well as accommodation and food services. Recreational services and construction services also feature significant employment shares throughout the 2015-2100 period.

Tourism is largest employer of the Blue growth sectors under analysis, particularly due to the high labor intensity of accommodation and food services. The lowest contribution to overall employment among Blue growth sectors is attributed to the fisheries sector.

Table 6: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Balearic Islands in 2015-2100.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
<i>Unemployment rate</i>	13.8%	10.4%	9.0%	8.1%	7.7%	7.6%	8.0%	7.9%	7.3%	6.3%	6.9%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

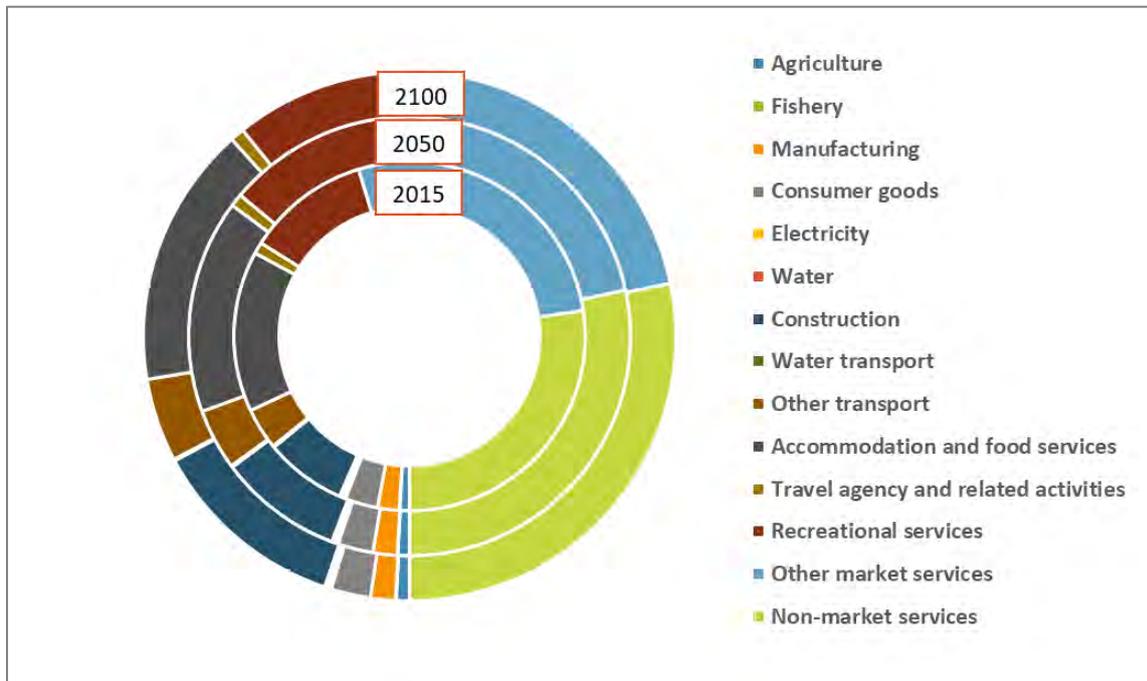


Figure 10: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Balearic Islands in 2015, 2050, 2100.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

3 Climate change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for the Balearic Islands is MED-CORDEX ensemble (regional scale of Mediterranean area) and CMIP5 Ensemble (global scale) even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Seagrass evolution

Posidonia Oceanica and Zostera are foundation species in Mediterranean waters. Foundation species have a large contribution towards creating and maintaining habitats that support other species. First, they are numerically abundant and account for most of the biomass in an ecosystem. Second, they are at or near the base of the directional interaction networks that characterize ecosystems. Third, their abundant connections to other species in an ecological

network mostly reflect non-trophic or mutualistic interactions, including providing structural support for other species, significantly altering ecosystem properties to [dis]favor other species, altering metabolic rates of associated species, and modulating fluxes of energy and nutrient flow through the system.

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, *etc.* Therefore, the state of seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment.

3 species are located in the coasts of Balearic Islands: *Cymodocea*, *Zostera* and *Posidonia*, which is the most represented species. The results of RCP8.5 projections indicate a complete disappearance of *Zostera* from mid-century and for *Posidonia*, a loss of 35% could be observed at end of century.

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

- **Extreme flood level (95th percentile of flood level averaged)**

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runoff). An increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5.

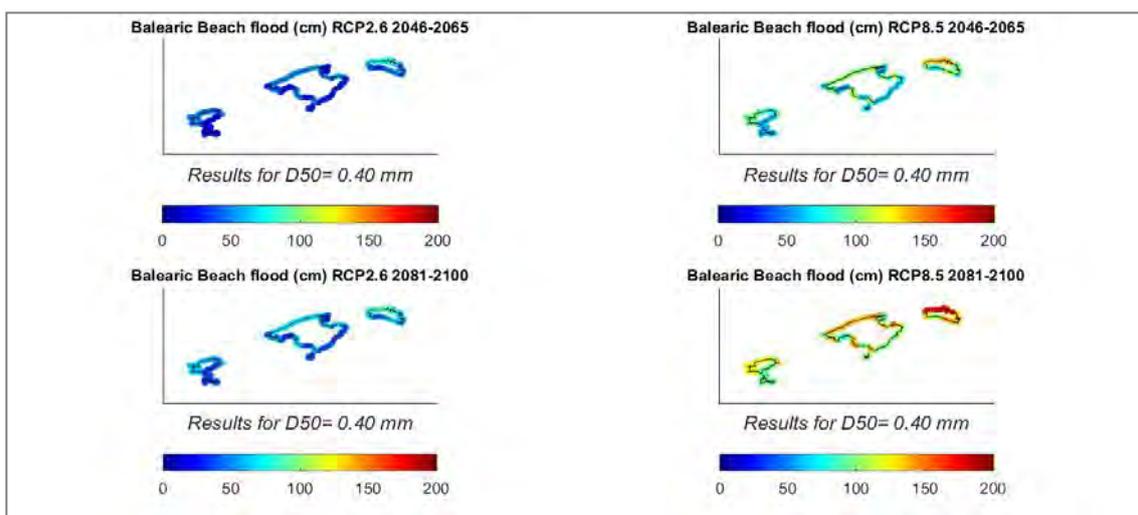


Figure 11: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cm) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: [D4.4 Report on the evolution of beaches](#)



Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~45% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~70% under scenario RCP8.5.

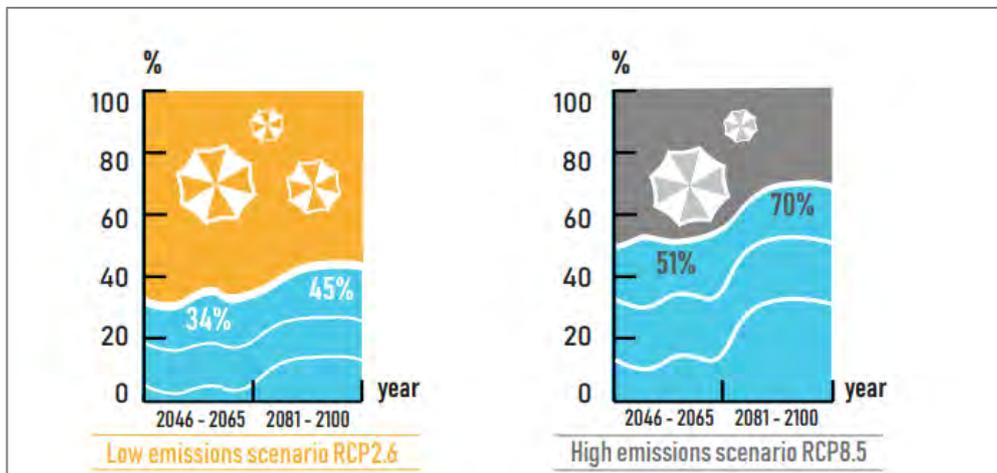


Figure 12: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches.

Fire weather Index

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods.

For the archipelago of Balears, N=49 grid cells were retained from the model's domain. In the following figure the ensemble means, and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. It seems that under RCP2.6, the index slightly increases at the middle of the century, while it returns to present levels towards the end of the century. On the other hand, under RCP8.5 there is an increased fire danger that exceeds 30% at the end of the century.

In any case, the fire danger for Balears is among the lowest of the Mediterranean islands with a normalized FWI in the low category for fire danger and only the central areas of Mallorca reach medium fire danger by the end of the century.



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FIRE WEATHER INDEX (FWI)

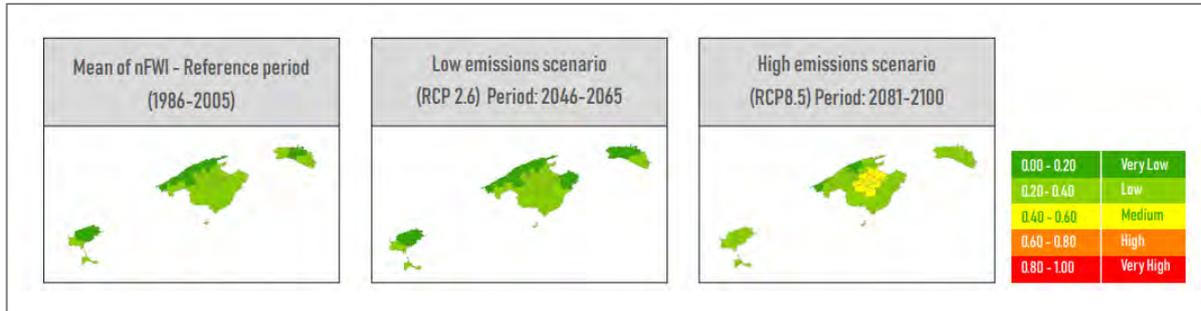


Figure 13: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the class of hazard
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4c](#) Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure

Humidex

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For the archipelago of Balears, N=49 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. It is found that the number of days above discomfort threshold will be double under RCP8.5 by the end of the century.

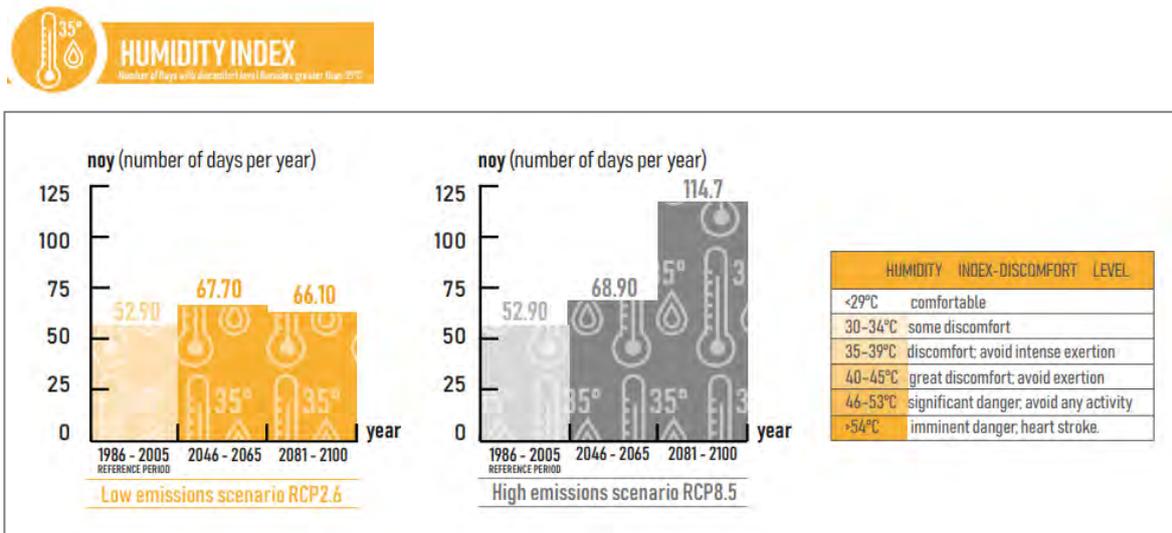


Figure 14: Humidex in number of days (EURO-CORDEX)
 Source: [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.2 Aquaculture

Extreme Wave Return Time



Changes in currents and waves cause decreased flushing rates (shellfish) and salinity changes, leading to accumulation of waste under cages, stock loss, and damage to facility/structure. Under this scenario, there is a need to invest in stronger constructions and higher insurance costs. In order to analyse these changes, return times for a threshold of 7 m significant wave height (hs) were computed. This significant height has been identified by stakeholders as the critical limit for severe damages to assets at sea. Return times can be related to the payback times of investments and help assess potential economic losses and economic sustainability. In the future, under RCP8.5. (far future), the extreme wave return time will increase all around the islands.



EXTREME WAVE RETURN TIME

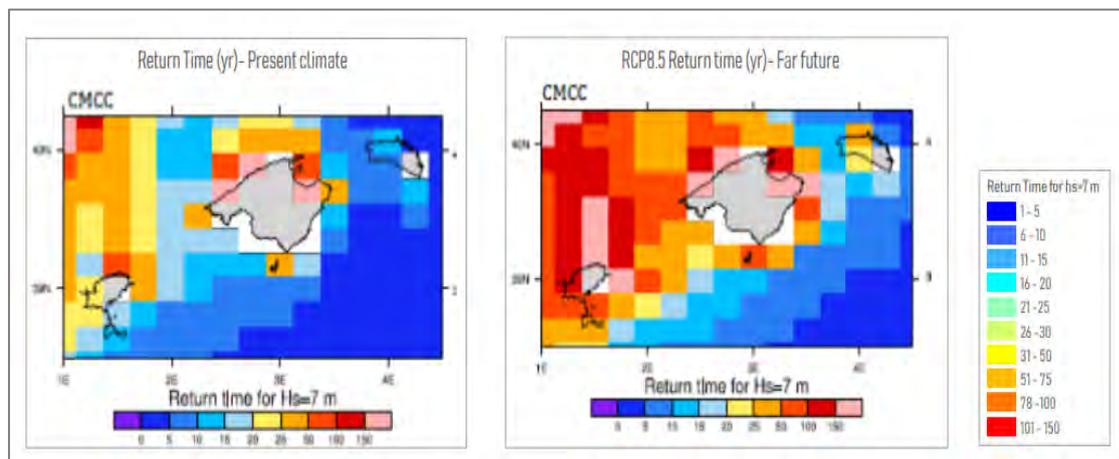


Figure 15: Extreme wave return under present climate and under RCP8.5 (far future)

Source: [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

Annual Mean Significant Wave Height (AMSH)

The Annual Mean Significant Wave Height was selected as a relevant indicator of the average stress for aquaculture infrastructures. For Balearic Islands, a decrease of annual mean significant wave height could be observed under RCP8.5 at the end of century.

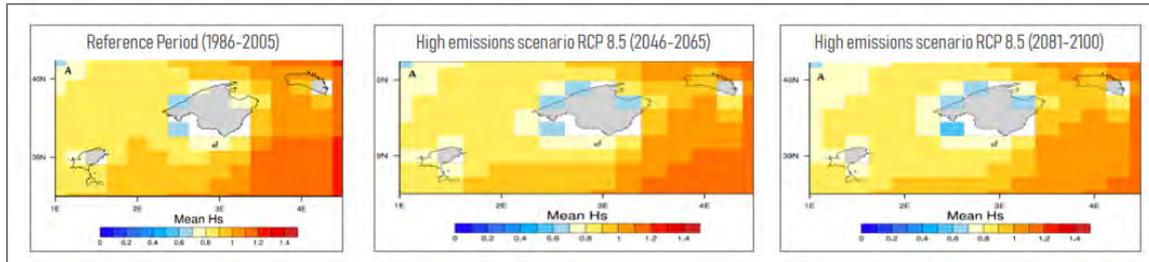


Figure 16: AMSH

Source: [D4.3 Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendices](#)

3.3 Energy

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud et al., 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

- **Wind and photovoltaic (PV energy) productivity**

A general decrease can be observed for every scenario and period, being the 2081-2100 period in RCP8.5 the one with the highest decrease. A noticeable maximum decrease is observed between Mallorca and Ibiza in this latter case, while over land the decrease is maller in absolute terms, but higher in relative terms as W_{prod} is systematically loer.

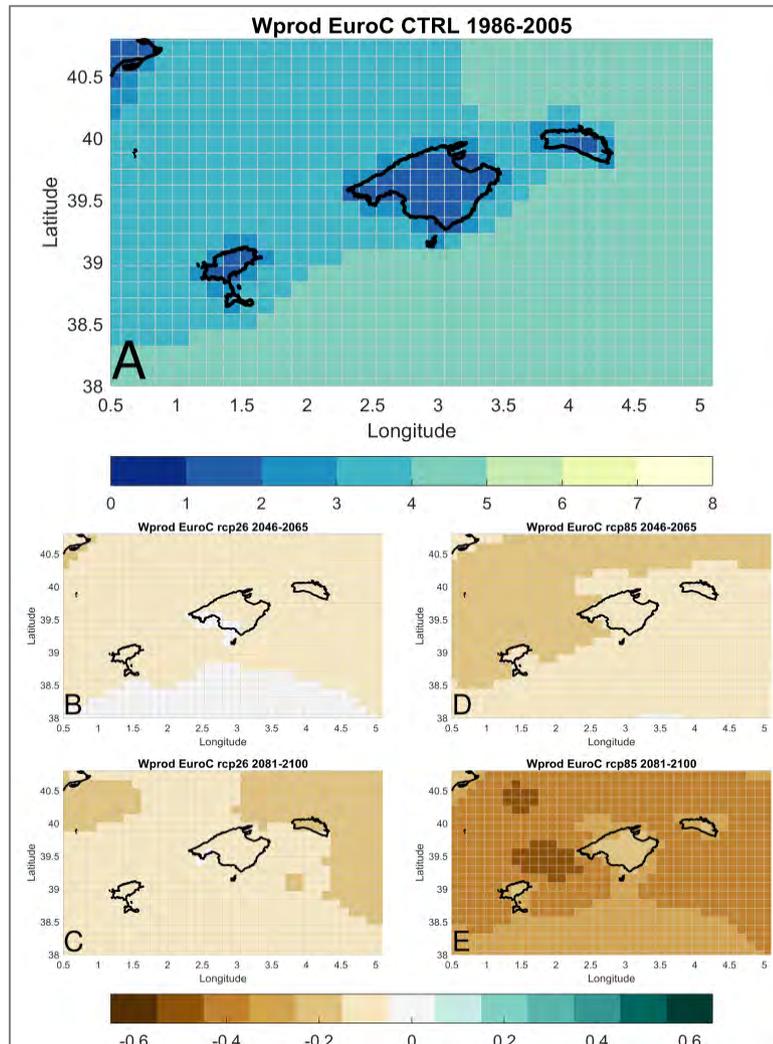


Figure 17: E2: Panel A: Yearly mean wind energy productivity [10^3 kWh/kW] for the control time period (1986-2005). Panels B - C: Changes in yearly mean wind energy productivity in the RCP2.6 scenario for periods 2046 - 2065 and 2081 - 2100 with respect to the control. Panels D - E: As for panels B - C, but for the RCP8.5 scenario.

Source: Soclimact Project deliverable- [D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy](#)

Wprod is systematically much higher over the sea, due to the fact that there is less friction than over land. This occurs in all areas of the domain. The future decrease in Wprod is found for both land and maritime regions and both emissions scenarios, although with differences in the magnitude. RCP8.5 is clearly the scenario where a higher decrease in productivity is expected. It is worth noting that RCP2.6 seems to recover from the decrease by the end of the 21st century, in contrast to RCP8.5. The decreases are higher in relative terms over land (up to 13%).

With respect to the wind energy productivity and PV production a clear decrease is found in the Balearic Islands in the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the XXI century.



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WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

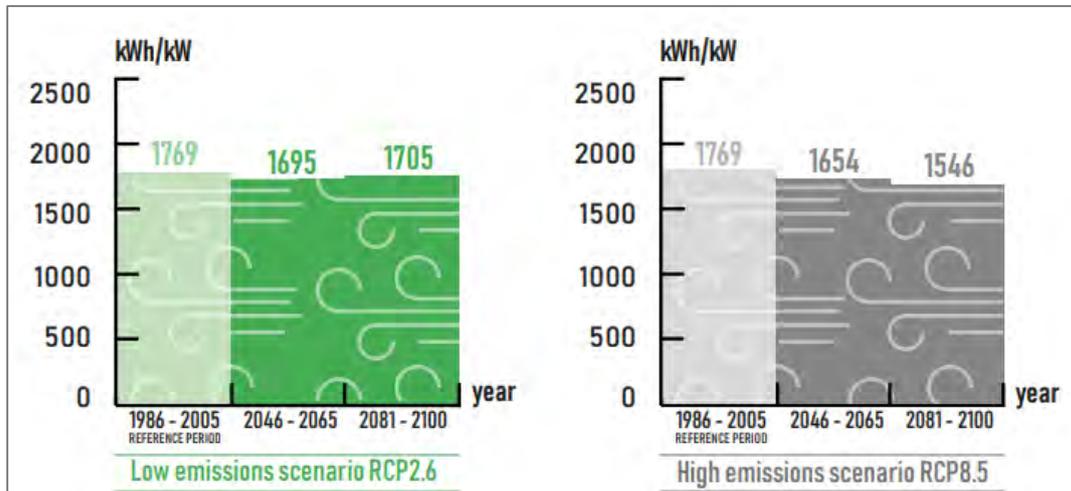


Figure 18: Wind energy productivity.

Source: [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

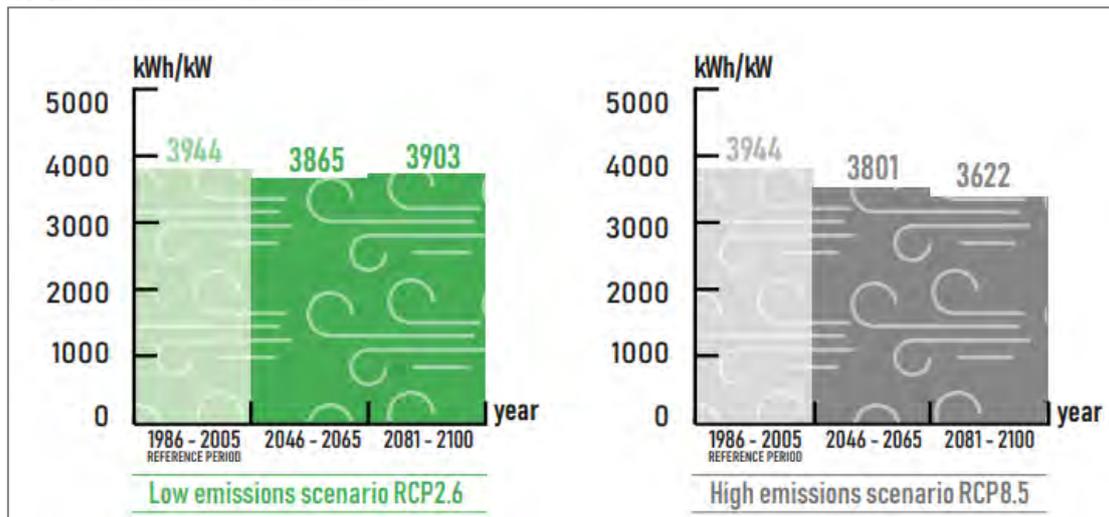


Figure 19: Wind energy productivity.

Source: [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

There is a general decrease in photovoltaic productivity for the Balearic Islands with respect to the control period (1986-2005). The most negative changes can be found in RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the century (2081-2100). The photovoltaic productivity decrease is larger over the sea than over land. Uncertainty in the sign of the projected changes in future scenarios is low, with a general agreement except for RCP2.6 over land, where one of the models project a positive change. Changes are rather small in scenario RCP2.6 (around 1%), while in scenario RCP8.5 a decrease of 2% (land) and 5% (sea) is projected at the end of the century. These results agree with previous references that project a slight decrease of PV production over the south of Europe (Jerez et al., 2015).



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

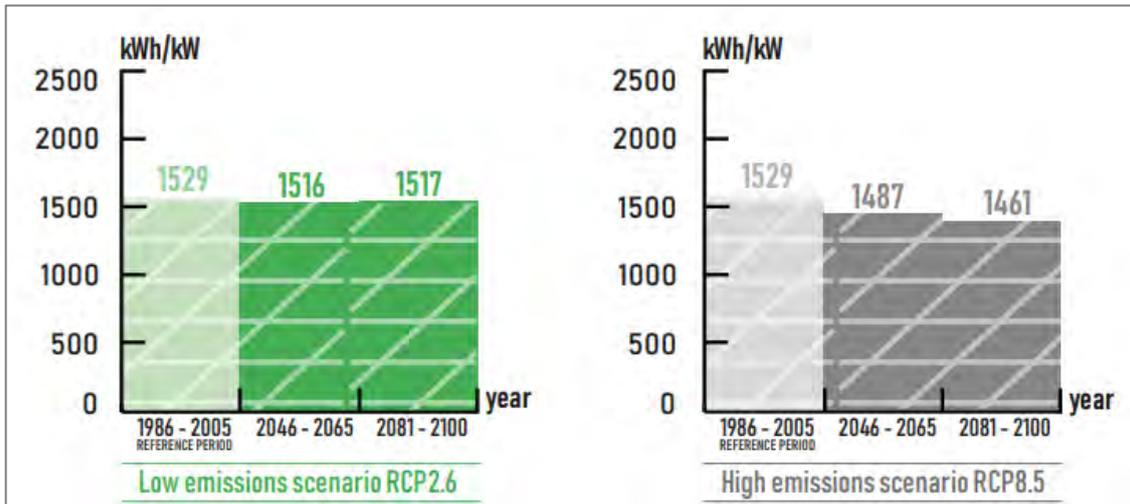


Figure 20: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity(sea). Ensemble of models using. Source: D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy

PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

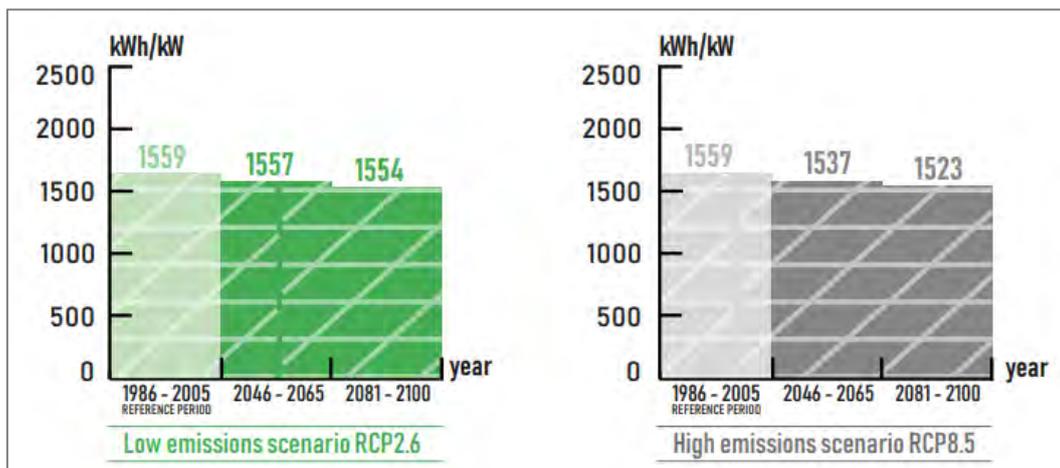


Figure 21: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity(land). Ensemble of models using. Source: D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Wind energy productivity droughts are generally much more frequent than photovoltaic productivity droughts. Also, the duration of wind energy drought episodes (measured by the maximum consecutive energy drought days) is greater than that of photovoltaic droughts. This highlights the steadiness of photovoltaic production in the analyzed island.



Projected changes in the % of days of drought are generally not larger than 5%. For instance, in line with what is found for wind energy productivity, in the Balearic Islands we observe an increase in the occurrence of wind energy droughts in the RCP8.5 scenario, especially in the second half of the XXI century. For moderate wind and severe droughts, a generalized increase in the occurrence is observed for the both scenarios. Regarding moderate and severe PV droughts, their frequency in the reference period and their changes are very small in both scenarios.

Wind droughts experience a generalized increase in frequency in all scenarios and time periods considered. The increase in the occurrence of wind droughts is especially remarkable in the second half of the 21st century, in the RCP8.5 scenario, where moderate droughts occur on average for 17 days more per year and severe droughts for 13 days more per year.

 ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

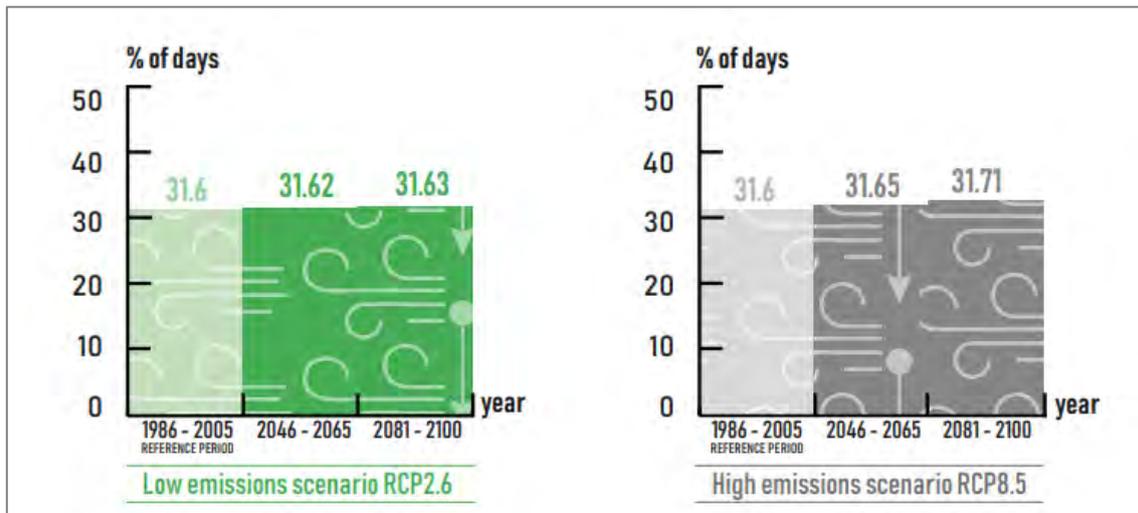


Figure 22: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe WIND productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy



ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

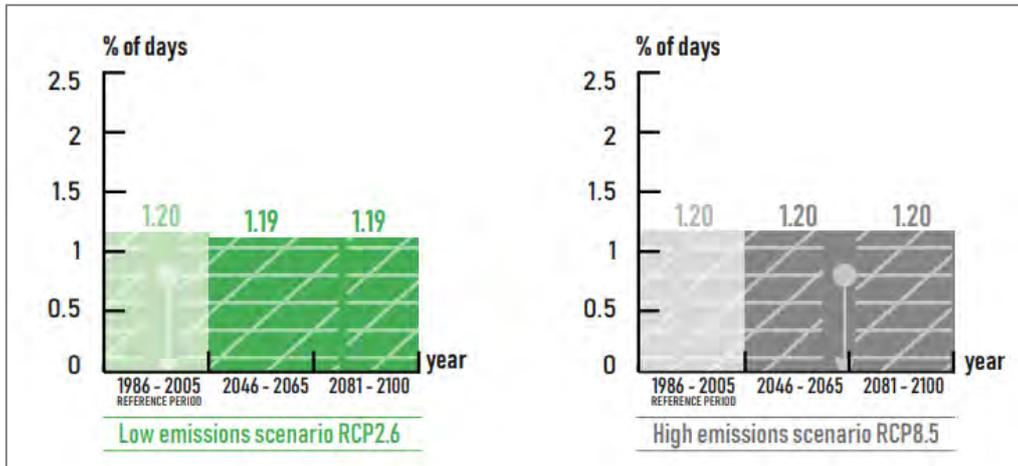


Figure 23: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe PV productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

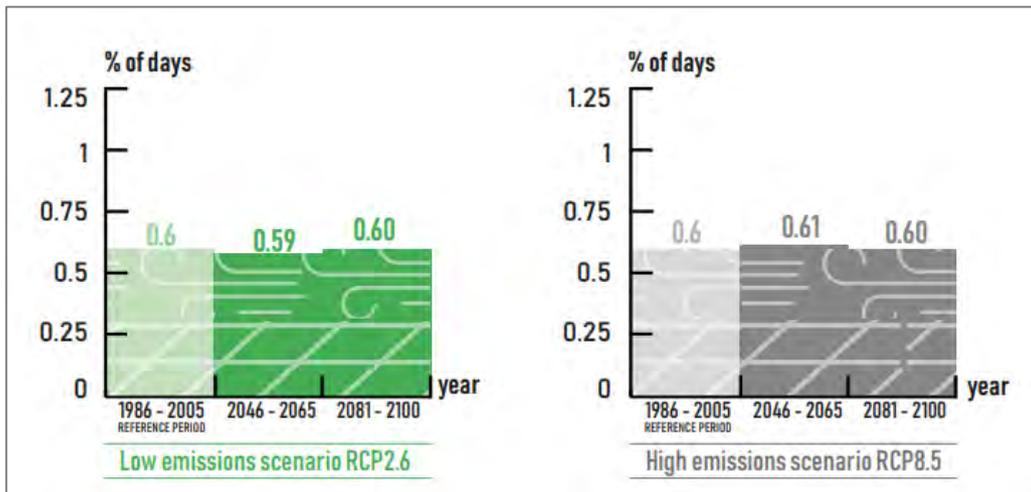


Figure 24: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (COMBINED) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy



3.4 Maritime Transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise.

For Balearic Islands, the SLR ranges from 24, 92 cm (RCP2.6) to 65,86 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.

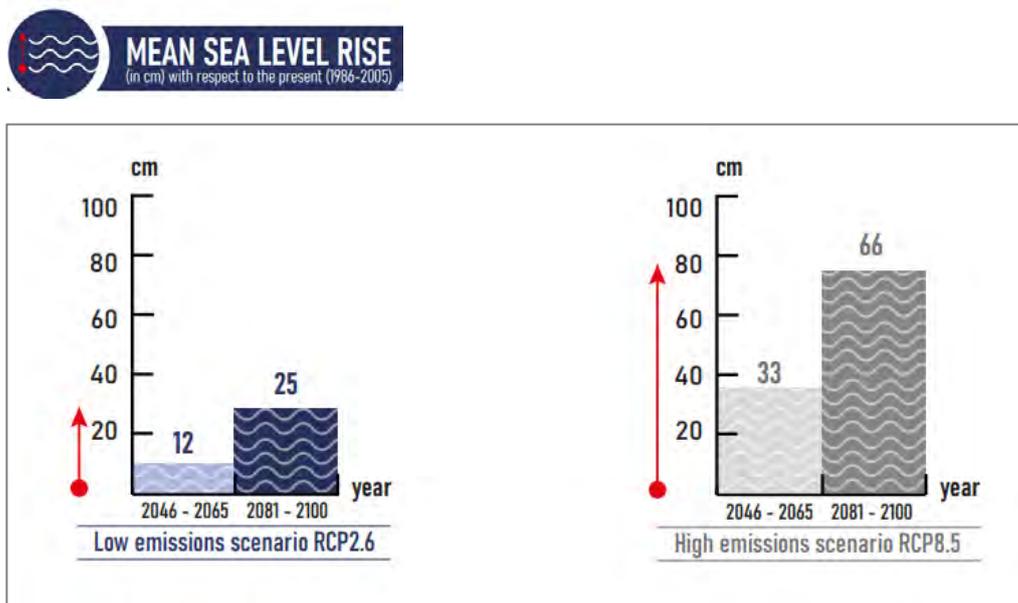


Figure 25: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: Deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides.

To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello *et al.* (2016). This ensemble consists on 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at 1/4° of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations. The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels. Storm surge could decrease amount 10% under RCP8.5 (far future).



STORM SURGE EVENTS

99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level in cm for the reference period and relative change in % for mid and end of century

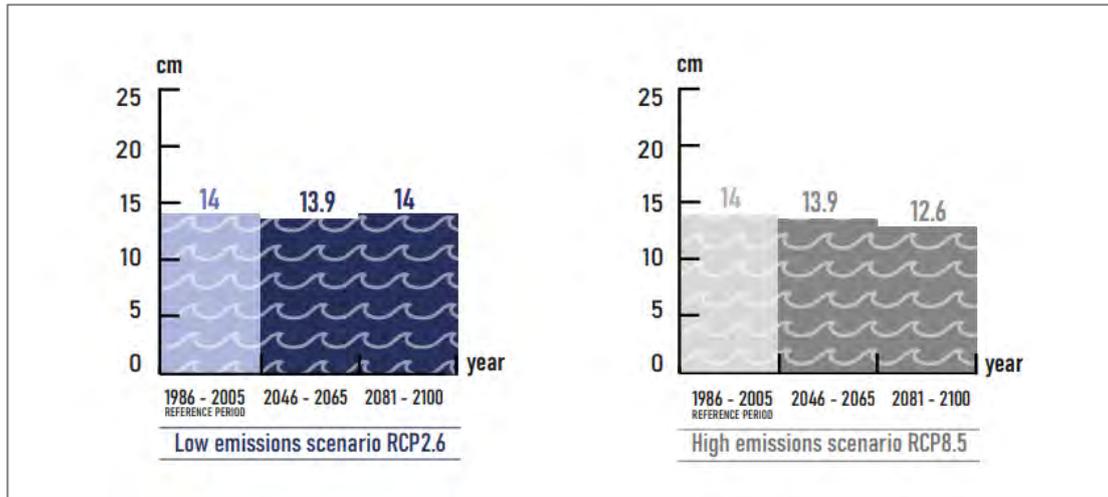


Figure 26: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5, relative change in brackets.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Frequency of extreme high winds (Wind Extremity Index – NWIX98)

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future with a strongest value under RCP8.5 (- 27 %).



WINDS EXTREMITY INDEX

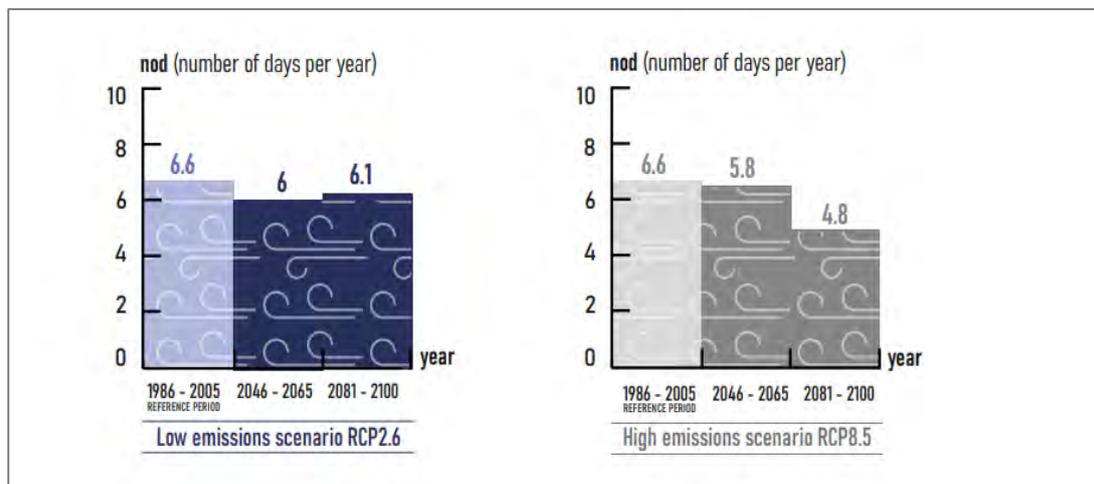


Figure 27: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator



Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map.

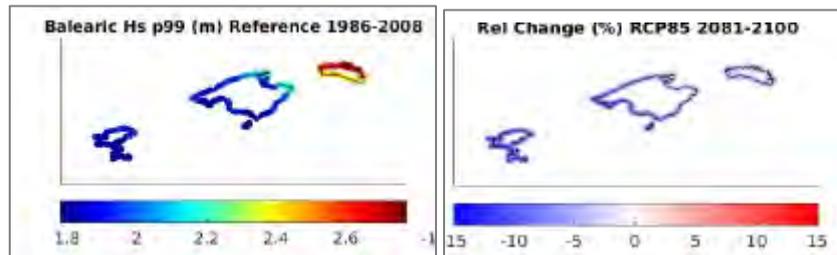


Figure 28: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. MED-CORDEX and Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

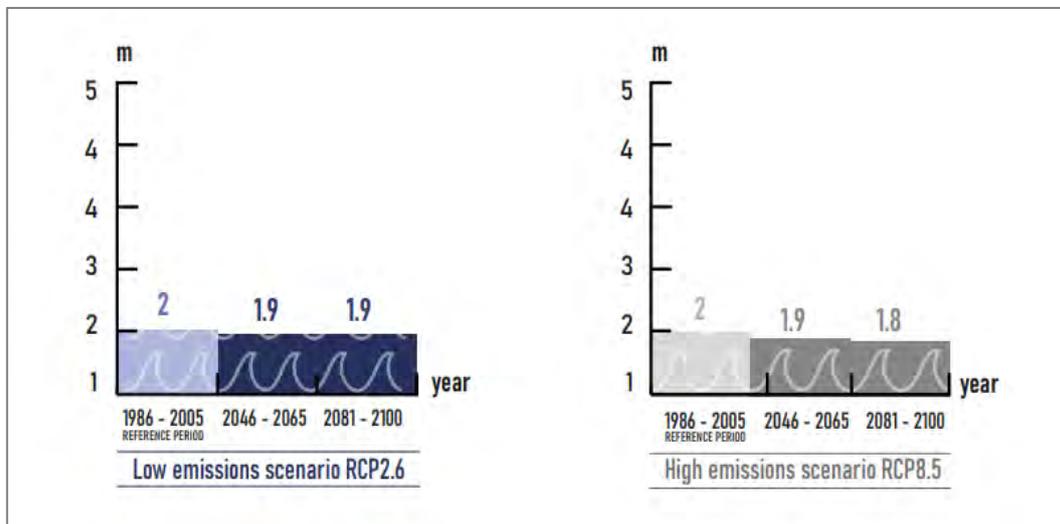


Figure 29: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. MED-CORDEX and Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels



4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitats degradation*
- ii) *Loss of comfort due to a decrease in thermal comfort*
- iii) *Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas*

For the first two, the AHP method was employed. This methodology is ideal to respond to the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators. By the side of shadows, this method requires quite specific data that wasn't able to collect for some islands.

Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitats degradation

Climate change is expected to impact tourism activities through direct impacts on comfort and health of tourists, on the infrastructures and facilities that provide basic services to visitors and on the natural ecosystems that hold a big part of the attractions of the coastal and marine tourism destinations. The analysis of those impacts was decomposed into a single impact chain.

Specifically, it presents a conceptual model on the effect that Climate Change would have on conditions that make marine environments attractive for tourists visiting coastal destinations. More in detail, climate hazards like the increase of mean and variability of seawater temperature and the increase of oceans acidification, mainly, are affecting marine habitats with touristic relevance through diminishing bio-productivity and attracting exotic species, some of them toxic, and because of that, reducing the attractiveness of marine landscapes and the presence of flagship species; increasing turbidity in bathing and diving sea waters affecting the quality of bathing, diving, snorkelling and bottom-glass boating experiences, at least; and increased frequency and intensity of episodes of seagrasses massive death that arrive to the beaches affecting the experience of lying and staying there.

The next figure shows the theoretical impact chain. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. Increase in the mean and variability of seawater temperature is the main driver of marine habitat degradation; also seawater acidification impacts marine life although it substantially varies depending of the marine organisms;
2. The risk of those marine habitat transformations for tourism critically depends on the nature exposed to it, the amount and proportion of tourists that feel marine habitat is a relevant motivation to visit the destination, and the resilience of the exposed natural assets and tourists to those changes in the marine environmental conditions;
3. Finally, the preparedness to cope with the deterioration of its marine environment by developing substitutive attractions, is also a key aspect to assess the effective risk that those hazards pose on the tourism industry at the destination.



The complex relationship between climate change, marine habitats and tourism still exhibits important gaps of knowledge. For example, there is no evidence on the impact that the abovementioned hazards may have on the communities of cetaceans that live or pass through near the coasts of the islands under study. In some cases, this is a very important economic chapter within the tourism industry in the islands. Whether climate change is going to diminish or not the abundance, or affect the distance of those cetacean communities from the island requires further research.

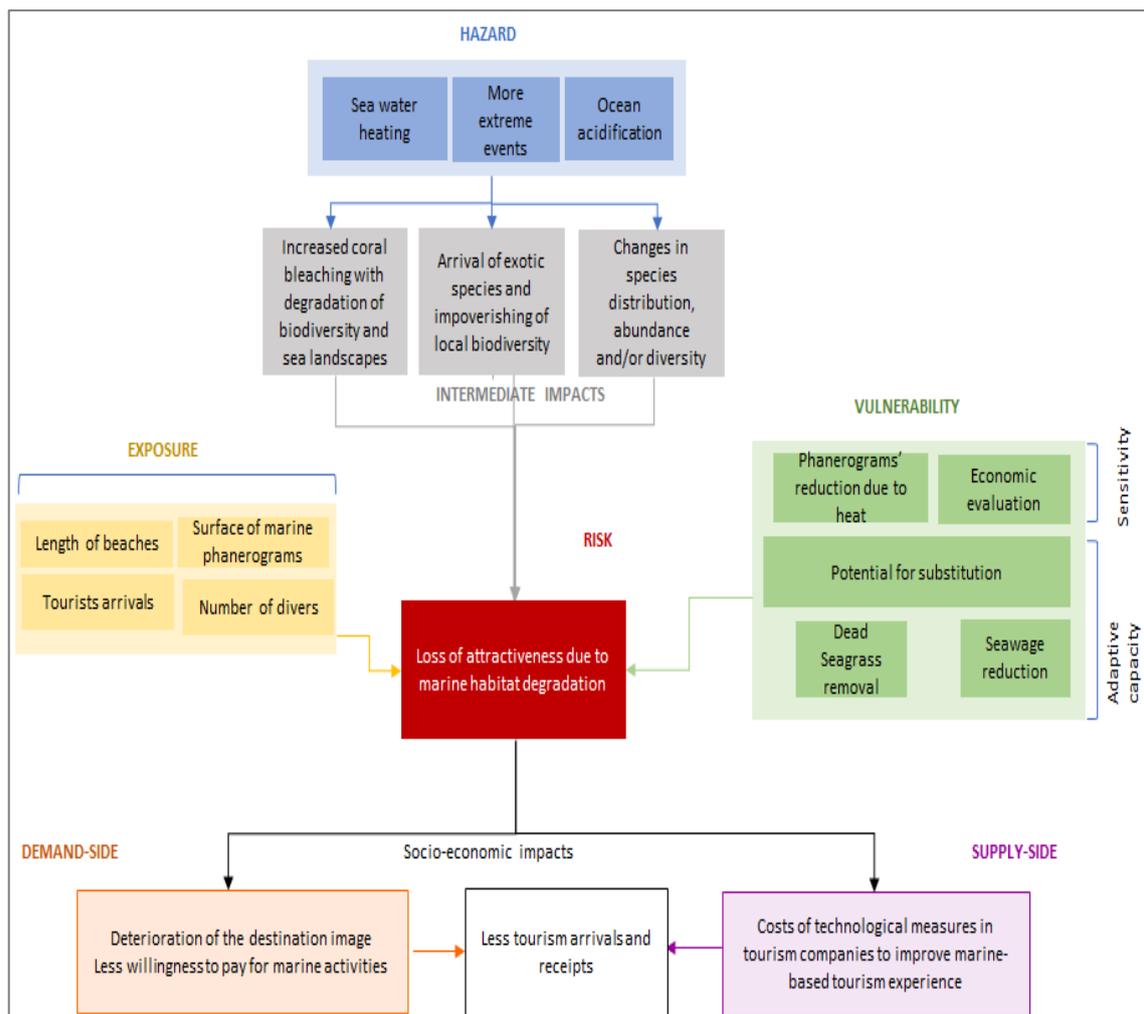


Figure 30: Loss of destination attractiveness due to marine environment degradation as a result of climate change hazards.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors



SOCLIMPACT

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No776661



Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method, introduced by Saaty (1980), was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability, which includes sensitivity and adaptive capacity) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to the degradation of the marine environment.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to the deterioration of their marine habitats as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements, together with the variables that express the tourism-related environmental and social systems' exposure to those hazards, the sensitivity of the exposed systems to the referenced hazards and the social capacities to cope with the potential impacts of climate change by protecting nature and the society and/or making them more resilient.

Some modifications of the original impact chain were undertaken for the sake of feasibility, although experts were encouraged to have in mind all the factors they know can affect the impact of climate change

on the marine habitat services for tourism. It means that the hierarchy tree is a simplified structure of the main factors explaining the complex relationship between climate change and the ecosystem services that support tourist use of marine environments, but other factors also known by experts must be taken into account at the time of comparing the components of the risk between islands. This is one of the most interesting strengths of the decision processes based on expert participation and, particularly, of the multicriteria analysis used in this case. The next figure shows the basic structure, or hierarchy tree, of the decision making process that was presented to the experts.

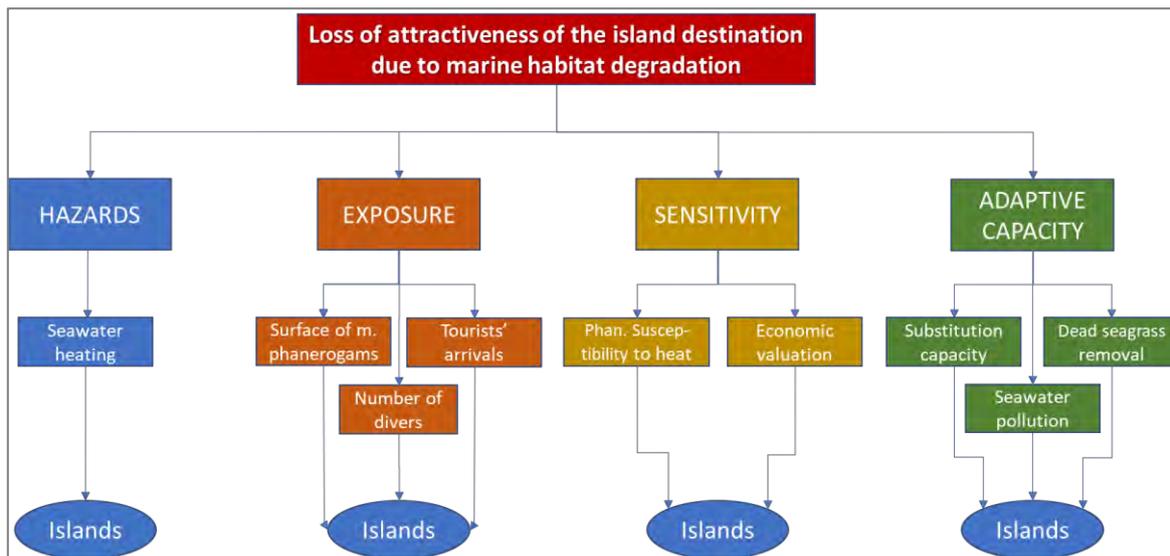


Figure 31: Hierarchy tree for marine habitats impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. In our context, seawater heating was considered as the most relevant variable to assess changes in the conservation status of the marine habitats that provide services for coastal tourism activities. Other hazards initially considered, like acidification and storms, were finally discarded. The first one because its effects on living marine organism are still under study and the evidence is dispersed and not conclusive. The second one because in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean that surrounds the islands under study, storms are considered not so frequent and intense to not giving time to marine ecosystems to recover their previous conservation status.

Regarding indicators, published research shows 25 and 26 Celsius degrees as the threshold temperatures over which seagrass meadows, the foundation species that mainly structure ecosystems in the marine habitats of reference, start to decline. The indicators used were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. Sources of information and data were provided by the Soclimpact modellers.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion, the natural and social systems potentially damaged by the selected climate hazards, was decomposed into three sub-criteria, one referred to the marine environment, and the other two related to the use that tourists make of the services provided for the marine environments at the destination. These three sub-criteria were expressed through three respective indicators. One, referred to the surface of marine phanerogams that suffer from the climate stressors. Phanerogams, specially Posidonia in the Mediterranean and Cymodosea in the Atlantic, are the very foundation species organizing most of the coastal ecosystems. They provide food and shelter to many different species and keep seawater clear by absorbing sediments. Additionally, when become damaged, seagrasses meadows deliver dead individuals that go to lay on the beaches used by tourists.

The second sub-criterion is one about the different types of direct uses that tourists make of the ecosystem services. Diving was selected to represent these uses and the selected indicator was the number of divers per year. It was assumed that other sea watching activities like snorkelling and bottom-glass boating evolve similarly than diving. Experts were also invited to consider other sea environment users potentially affected by the lack of water transparency and dead seagrass suspended in seawater like surfers, windsurfers and other active users of the marine environment.

The third sub-criterion was related to the impact on most of tourists as bathers. Turbid water affects the quality of the bathing experience, which is an activity that most tourists do.

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of the phanerogam meadows to changes in seawater temperature and to the extent to which the impoverishing of seawater conditions and marine ecosystems may affect tourists' welfare.

Regarding the effects of episodes of seawater heating on the integrity of seagrasses meadows, the variable selected was periods of overheating and the indicators were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. As explained above, experts were invited to take into account their experience and their knowledge about the differences between the way seagrasses behave in the real world and in the laboratory when studying the impact of water heating.

With respect to the impact of the marine environmental degradation on the welfare of tourists, the indicator selected was the tourists' willingness to pay for the preservation of marine ecosystems⁶. Thus, ecosystems' and social's susceptibility are both taken into account when comparing risks of marine environment degradation due to climate change between islands.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system. This criterion was split into three sub-criteria, one referred to the substitution of marine-based activities by lesser marine habitats dependent ones, and two concerning actions to heal the marine environment like removing dead seagrasses or reducing non-treated sewage discharges (and consequently, seawater pollution). In this case, island experts were consulted about the capacity of their reference destination to address these adaptation actions using a 1-4 scale, where 1 represented a very poor management capacity and 4 expressed a full capacity to deal with it.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk

⁶ This information was delivered by Soclimpact researchers who are in charge of the work package WP5. More information at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*



for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 7: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sicily
Hazards	Seawater heating RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.018 (8.0%)	0.004 (2.2%)	0.054 (23.6%)	0.025 (12.7%)	0.025 (14.7%)
Exposure	Surface of marine phanerogams	0.034	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.022
	Number of divers	0.009	0.005	0.001	0.002	0.002
	Tourists' arrivals	0.013	0.013	0.002	0.001	0.006
	<i>Total</i>	0.056 (25.0%)	0.020 (11.0%)	0.007 (3.1%)	0.012 (6.1%)	0.029 (17.1%)
Sensitivity	Phanerogams' susceptibility to heat	0.072	0.072	0.008	0.024	0.024
	Economic valuation	0.003	0.027	0.004	0.006	0.010
	<i>Total</i>	0.075 (33.5%)	0.099 (54.7%)	0.012 (5.2%)	0.030 (15.2%)	0.034 (20.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Products substitution	0.034	0.034	0.086	0.060	0.016
	Seagrass removal	0.020	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Sea water pollution	0.021	0.021	0.063	0.063	0.063
	<i>Total</i>	0.079 (35.3%)	0.058 (32.0%)	0.155 (67.7%)	0.130 (66.0%)	0.082 (48.2%)
Total		0.224	0.181	0.229	0.197	0.170
Rank		2	4	1	3	5

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The risk: from Eastern to Western and viceversa

The relative risk for marine habitat-based tourism demand due to the heating of seawaters surrounding the European islands is determined by the combination of three different factors already reflected in the marine habitat impact chain: the intensity and lasting of periods of seawater heating, the susceptibility of the marine habitats and tourism activities based on it to the heating process and the changes in the habitat, respectively; and the capacities of the respective islands' societies to reinforce natural and social systems' resilience to seawater heating and its ecosystem impacts.

Based on the available indicators and on their own knowledge, the experts' evaluation of the complex relationships between seawater heating, habitats transformation and the response of the tourism system, depicts a big picture featured by the following results:

- From the perspective of the intensity of the hazard, threats diminish from Eastern to Western. Effectively, episodes of water heating threatening the integrity of marine ecosystems will be much more relevant throughout the Eastern Mediterranean and will become softer as moving Western.
- From the perspective of the susceptibility of the marine foundation species to seawater heating, western Mediterranean hosts the most vulnerable phanerogam communities as genetically they are not ready to face increasing water temperature variability at the rhythm climate change is powering. As a result, this risk factor decays from Western to Eastern.
- Other relevant factors determining the relative risk faced by each island are related to the management capacity of other hazards, different than seawater heating, also degrading marine habitats (i.e. the current relevance of marine habitat-based tourism and the capacity of the local tourism system to provide competitive alternatives giving value to other, not marine-based natural and cultural tourist attractions). Those capacities are unevenly distributed across the islands, basically depending on the level of development of their respective environment management and tourism management subsystems.

Some characteristics of the risk ranking provided by experts, and consequently, the final scores, are:

- Cyprus leads the rank of risk due to, in addition to the greater seawater heating, its experiencing ecological disruptive processes related to its closeness to the Red Sea; strongly attracting exotic species with high capacity to destabilise the marine ecosystems.
- On the other extreme, Sicily is the island exhibiting a lesser risk mainly due to it holds a more balanced distribution of the indicators expressive of the range of factors determining the risk.
- The Canary Islands hold a relatively low risk mainly due to their expected low level of seawater heating; their higher weakness consists of the magnitude of the tourism system exposed to the potential risk.
- The **Balearic Islands** are the most exposed islands. In addition, RCP8.5 distant future shows a progress in heating relatively higher than other islands, meaning a strong threat for their relatively susceptible Posidonia meadows.
- Malta holds a relative low risk mainly due to its low exposition to the risk and the potential of alternative, non-marine-habitat-based, tourist products.

Below are presented some paragraphs devoted to go deeper into the complexity of the ecosystem dynamics that influence the holistic effect of climate change on the European islands' marine habitats; before presenting some lines highlighting the specificities of this impact chain for each island.

In the Eastern Mediterranean, the impact of seawater heating on the seagrass meadows (and on the marine habitat as a whole) not only depends on the physiological response of the plants



concerned to heating, but also on the response of the system as a whole. On the Eastern shore of the Mediterranean, a strong increase in herbivorous species from the Red Sea has been observed that cross the Suez Canal and have settled near the continental and insular coastal areas. Posidonia meadows have been found to be part of their diet.

The heating exacerbates the metabolic needs of these herbivorous species (*Siganus Luridus* and others) increasing their voracity and, consequently, leading to greater pressure on the phanerogams. Given that, on the other hand, the surface of these meadows in the environment of Cyprus is small, predation by these herbivores may threaten Posidonia with extinction, disappearing with it the conservation functions of the ecosystem that it currently carries out as protection against erosion, containment of water turbidity (assimilation of organic residues), shelter and food for fingerlings of fish and other marine organisms, etc.

Other factors such as the sewage treatment or the sedimentation of waste from coastal constructions interact with the seawater heating, exacerbating the degradation of marine habitats. Together, factors of global change other than seawater heating are expected to act more intensely in Cyprus, increasing the vulnerability of this island's marine habitat to climate change.

Analysis of Balearic Islands

Balearic's risk regarding seawater heating rests on the high natural exposure represented by the surface of their Posidonia meadows and the size of their marine habitat-based tourist activity, representing the 25% of the risk. Of course, as Posidonia surface must be preserved, and the flow of tourists maintained, resilience against this risk should be achieved through strengthening mainly the potential to successfully substitute marine based demand for demand for other tourist products, that need to be properly developed and commercialised. The Archipelago has a wide range of other natural and cultural resources and technical and financial capabilities to go forward this way and is already working on it. The eradication of other pressures on Posidonia meadows, as sewage and coastal infrastructures, is capital for keeping this risk under control, as it has been outlined by recent research.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of the **Balearic Islands** are depicted in the next figures. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

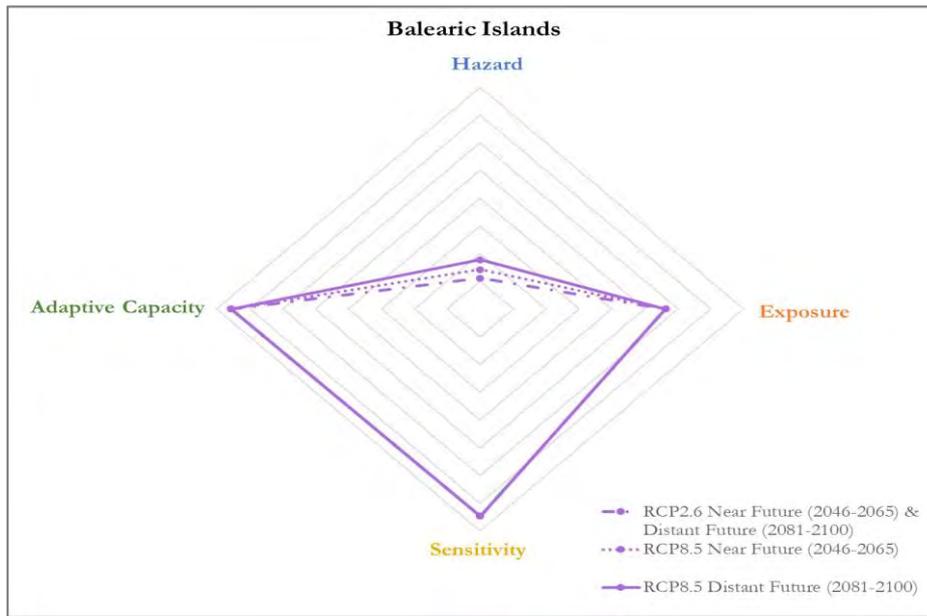


Figure 32: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

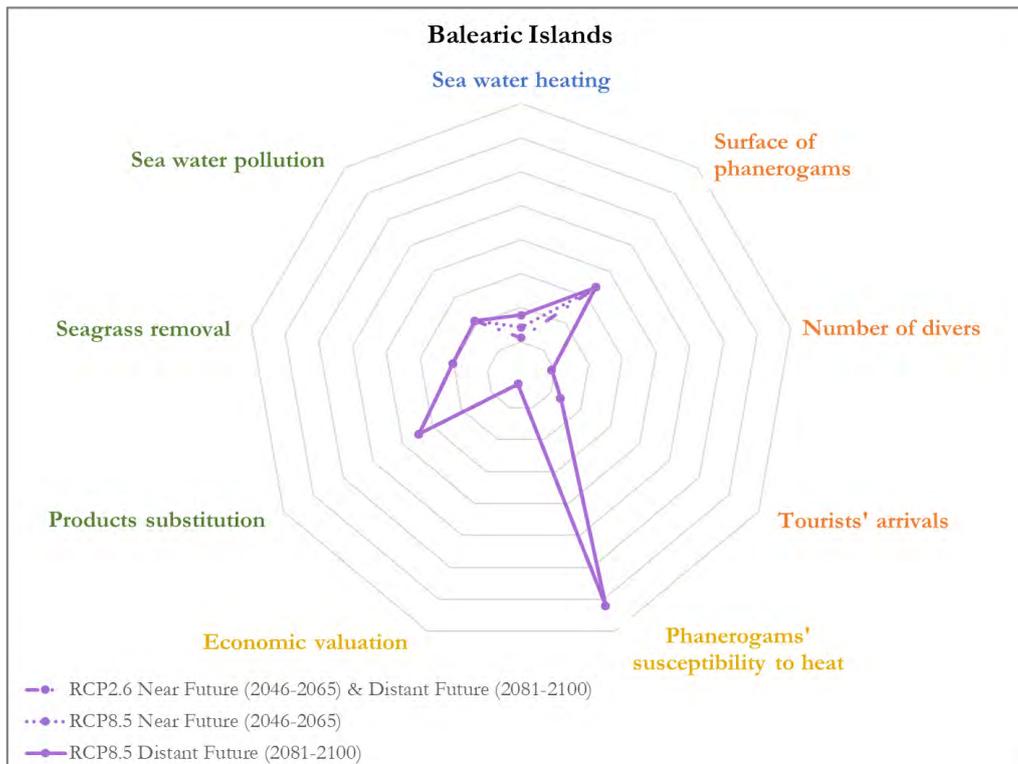


Figure 33: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public



The operationalization of the impact chain for the “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems*” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of comfort due to a decrease in thermal comfort

This section describes the work carried out for the operationalization of the impact chain “*Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”⁷. It provides details on the method applied for the operationalization, the island data used, and the results obtained. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. the frequency, intensity, and duration of heatwaves,
2. to what extent and how tourist activities and tourists become exposed to heatwaves, and how sensitive different segments of tourists are to extreme heat, and
3. the preparedness of the destination to cope with thermal discomfort episodes through information, technology, alternative activities, and medical attention.

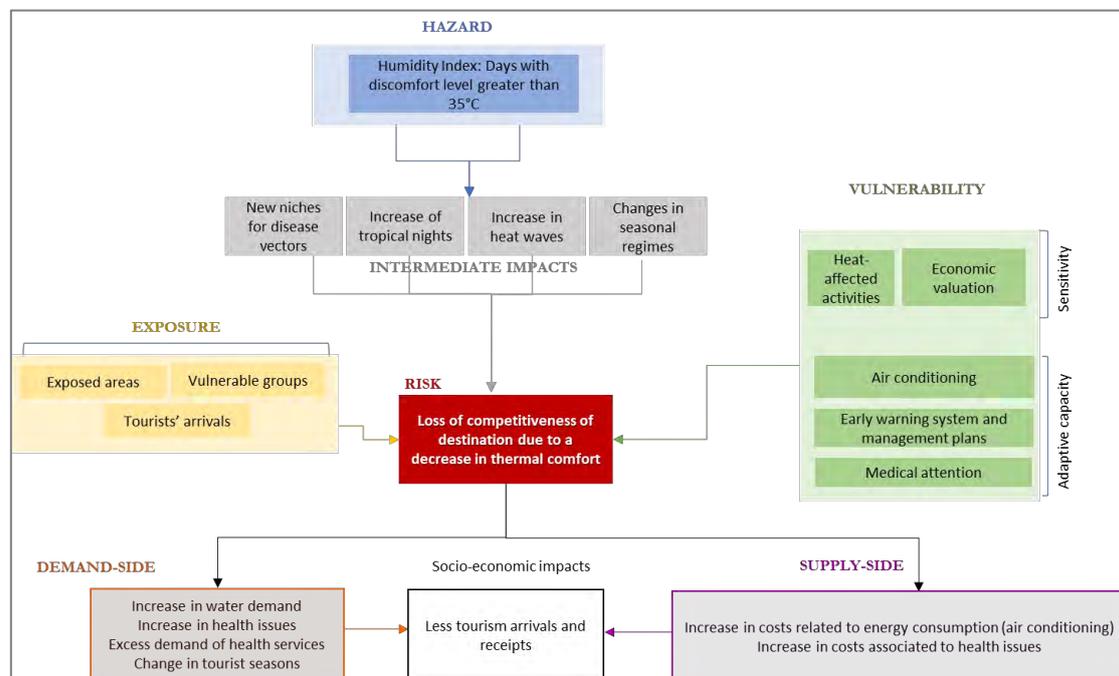


Figure 34: Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

⁷ Detailed information about the methodology used and the results obtained is available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.*



For the purposes of the operationalization it was decided by the team to retitle the risk as “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”. This was done in order for the risk to more accurately reflect the effects of the hazards, exposure and vulnerability on an island rather than an on an individual tourist.

The selection of islands to be compared was based on the availability of island data provided by the IFPs. The five islands selected for comparison were the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Cyprus, Malta, and Sardinia.

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements. Some refinements were necessary regarding the indicators (at sub-criteria level) that were to be used for comparing the islands.

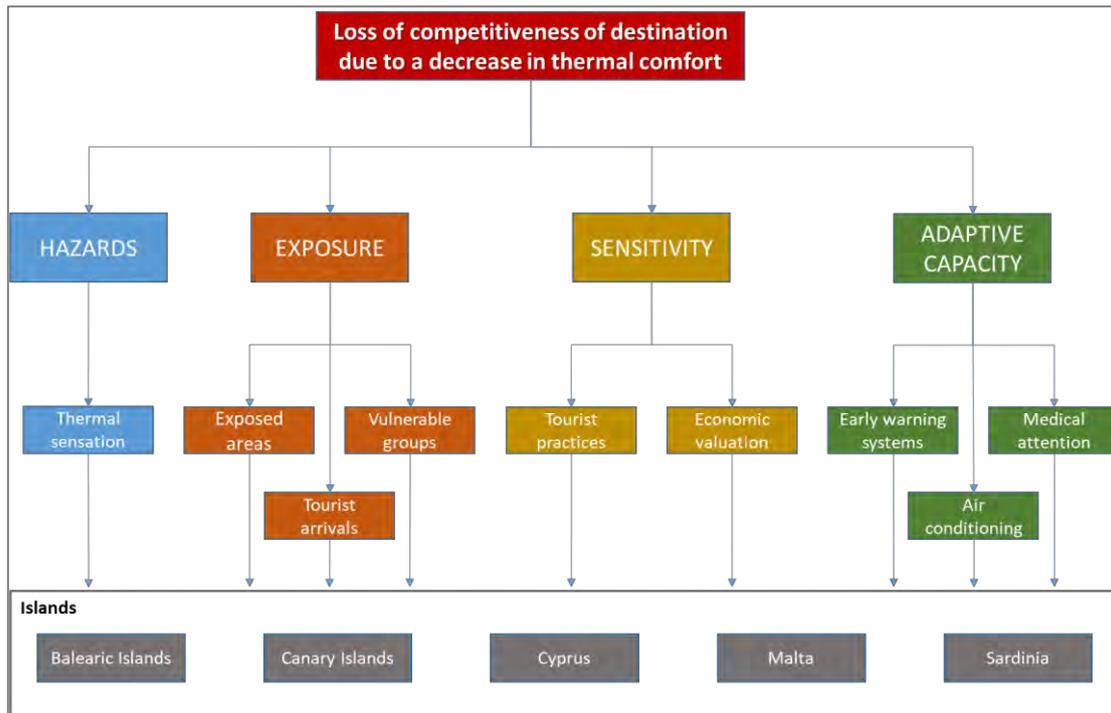


Figure 35: Hierarchy tree for thermal comfort impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. For the AHP method, thermal sensation was considered as the most relevant indicator to assess changes in the thermal comfort of tourists while staying at their destination as it is a concept that combines temperature and humidity. Thus, it is the only sub-criterion of the Hazard criterion. Moreover, the humidity index (humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) was selected as the most appropriate metric for thermal sensation. The metric is an equivalent temperature that express the temperature perceived by people (i.e., the temperature that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion was decomposed into sub-criteria relating to three indicators. The first indicator relates to the exposure of tourists to heatwaves. The measure of the indicator combines the percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the percentage of the tourist accommodations and facilities located in those areas prone to heatwaves. It is necessary to factor in both these aspects of exposure in order to allow for a better comparison of islands. For example, if an island has a small area that is prone to heatwaves with the majority of tourists frequenting in that small area, then the combination of the two factors will play a role when comparing, for instance, an island that has large areas prone to heatwaves, but with tourists frequenting in places outside these areas, since the overall exposure will be different. Specifically, it was decided to assign a weight of 75% to percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the remaining 25% to the percentage of tourist accommodations and facilities located in heatwave-prone areas. The second indicator deals with the number of tourist arrivals during the hottest



months. The indicator is represented by the percentage of tourists that visit an island between the months of May and September averaged over the last five years. Finally, the third indicator concerns vulnerable groups of tourists who have the highest risk of being affected by heatwaves. Literature confirms that under-6s and over-65s are the most vulnerable age groups, however, the statistical services of the islands homogeneously provide data for the under-14 and over-65 age groups. For this indicator, two values were computed:

1. the number of tourists visiting an island that were under 14 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years, and
2. the number of tourists visiting an island that were over 65 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years.

For purpose of combining the two values and adjusting the change to age groups, it was decided to apply a ratio of 15:85 in order to emphasize the proportion of over-65s (85%) to the proportion of under-14s (15%).

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of tourists and is broken down into sub-criteria pertaining to two indicators. The first indicator involves tourist activities. The effect of heatwaves on tourist activities varies greatly. For example, a tourist sunbathing at a beach will not feel the effects of a heatwave to the same degree as a tourist that is trekking. Different destinations have different rates of tourists practicing activities incompatible with heatwaves events. So, this indicator aims at catching these differences. More specifically, this indicator is a measure of the percentage of visitors who state that they practice activities not compatible with heatwave events. The second indicator concerns the economic valuation of heatwaves from the perspective of tourists. In the case of a heatwave event, all tourists will suffer from thermal discomfort to a certain degree. Hence, the indicator represents their willingness to avoid this discomfort as expressed in monetary terms. Therefore, it is measured by much money tourists are willing to pay to avoid a heatwave during their vacation time⁸.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system through providing information, adopting proper technology, supplying alternative activities, and improving medical attention. This criterion is split into sub-criteria concerning three indicators. The first indicator has deals with early warning systems. Setting up a proper early warning system can help tourists and service providers to plan effective responses to heatwaves, making them less distressing and reducing the destination's vulnerability. Hence, this indicator is measured with a score representing the quality of early warning systems in place and advisement of options for tourists. The second indicator involves air conditioning. Air conditioning is the most effective technology used to combat extreme heat. Therefore, the indicator uses the percentage of hotel accommodations and tourist

⁸ Further information available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*



facilities offering air conditioning systems as a measure of the capacity of the destination to cope with this hazard. The final indicator concerns the care and medical attention (such as in the case of heatstroke or similar) available on an island that may be necessary to help reduce pain or avoid casualties due to diseases related to heatwaves. Therefore, the number of hospital beds available on an island per 100,000 potential users, both residents and tourists, is taken as the measure of this indicator.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 8: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sardinia
Hazards	Humidex RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.024 (12.1%)	0.008 (4.6%)	0.088 (34.6%)	0.023 (11.7%)	0.023 (13.1%)
Exposure	Exposed areas	0.007	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.007
	Vulnerable groups	0.007	0.017	0.016	0.017	0.038
	Tourists' arrivals	0.050	0.008	0.029	0.018	0.065
	Total	0.064 (32.2%)	0.027 (15.5%)	0.053 (20.9%)	0.042 (21.3%)	0.110 (62.9%)
Sensitivity	Heat-sensitive activities	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.074	0.012
	Economic valuation	0.004	0.004	0.015	0.028	0.010
	Total	0.079 (39.7%)	0.078 (44.8%)	0.089 (35.0%)	0.103 (52.3%)	0.021 (12.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Early-warning systems	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Air conditioning	0.011	0.048	0.011	0.021	0.012
	Medical attention	0.014	0.006	0.005	0.002	0.005
	Total	0.032 (16.1%)	0.061 (35.1%)	0.024 (9.4%)	0.030 (15.2%)	0.020 (11.4%)
Total		0.199	0.174	0.254	0.197	0.175
Rank		2	5	1	3	4

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public



Cyprus is at most risk of loss of competitiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort in all four scenarios as it is ranked the highest in all cases. This is mainly attributed to the fact that the number of days with a heatwave is predicted to increase greatly both in the near and distant future. In addition, the island's tourist accommodations and facilities are located in areas most prone to heatwaves, and these are visited by many tourists during the months of May to September. Cyprus also scores the highest in Sensitivity and average in Adaptive capacity.

The **Balearic Islands** and Malta are ranked second and third, respectively, with regards to the risk of loss of competitiveness. However, their overall scores are very close: 0.199 for the Balearic Islands and 0.1970 for Malta in the RCP8.5 distant future scenario. They score relatively high in Exposure and Sensitivity (the most important criteria for the risk) and average in Hazard and Adaptive capacity.

Sardinia and the Canary Islands are the lowest at risk of loss of competitiveness. Even though Sardinia scores the highest for Exposure, it has a low score for Sensitivity (which contributes most to the risk) and average scores for Hazard and Adaptive capacity. On the other hand, the Canary Islands has a low score for Hazard and Exposure, but relatively high for Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity.

Analysis of Balearic Islands

The islands show some disadvantage in the criterion Sensitivity and Exposure, which contribute 39.7% and 32.2%, respectively, to the total risk. In the former stands out the importance of the heat-sensitive activities, while the latter can be explained by the high amount of tourists that arrives to the islands each year.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Balearic Islands** are depicted in the next figure. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

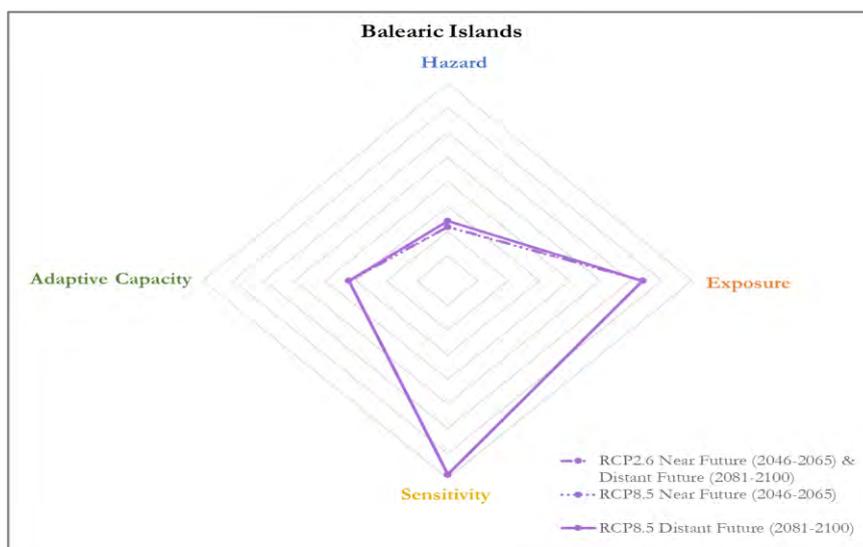


Figure 36: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

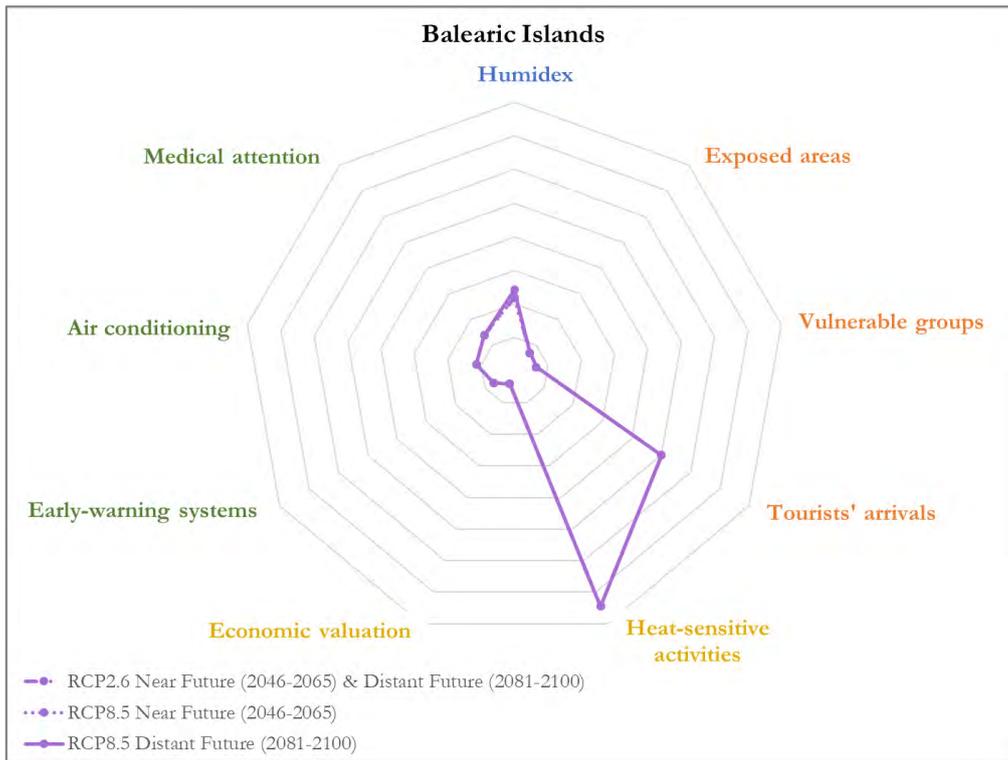


Figure 37: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “**Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination**”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).



The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1)). For each of these components of the theoretical IC (figure, step 2), several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

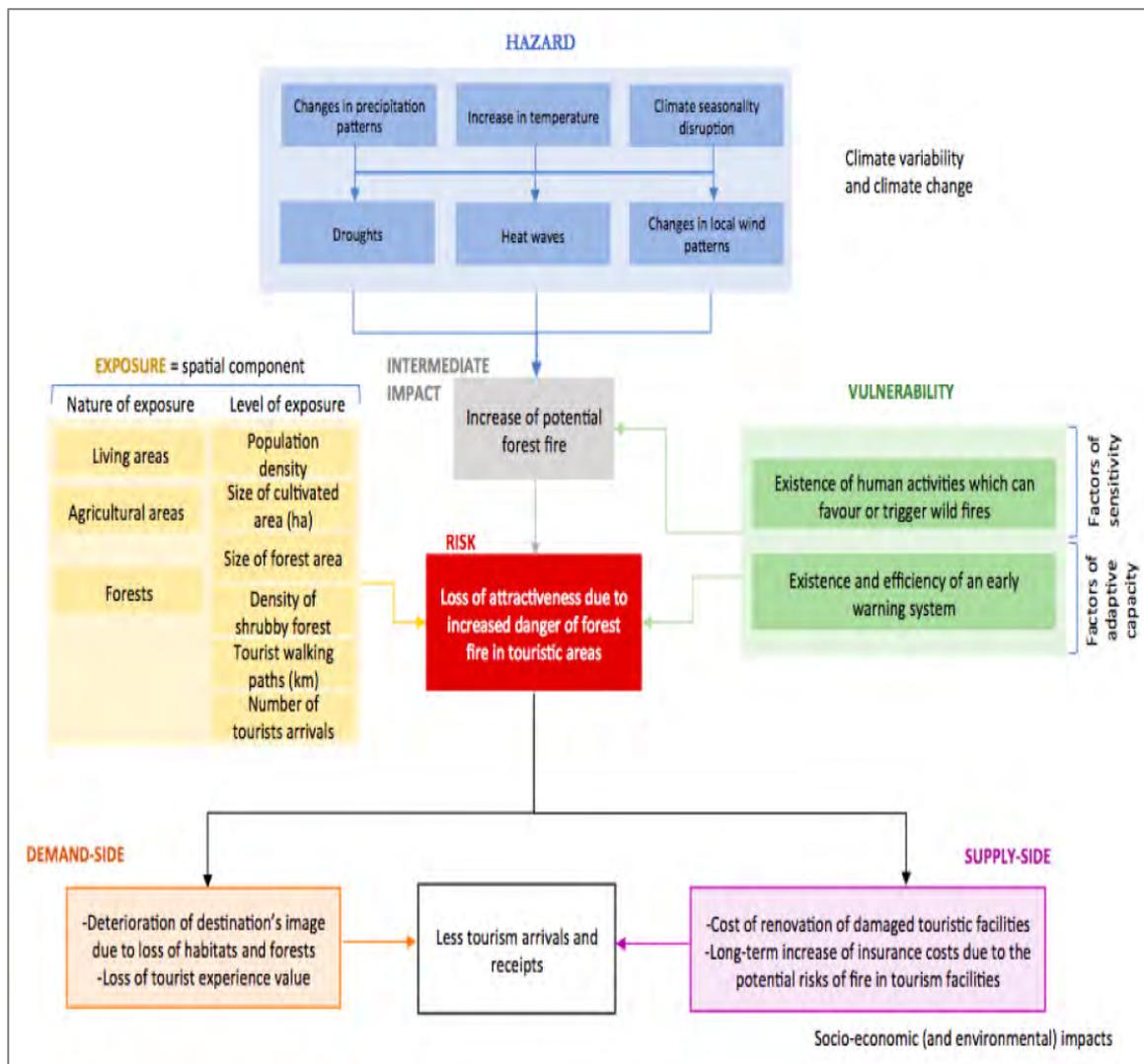


Figure 38: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.

Source : SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

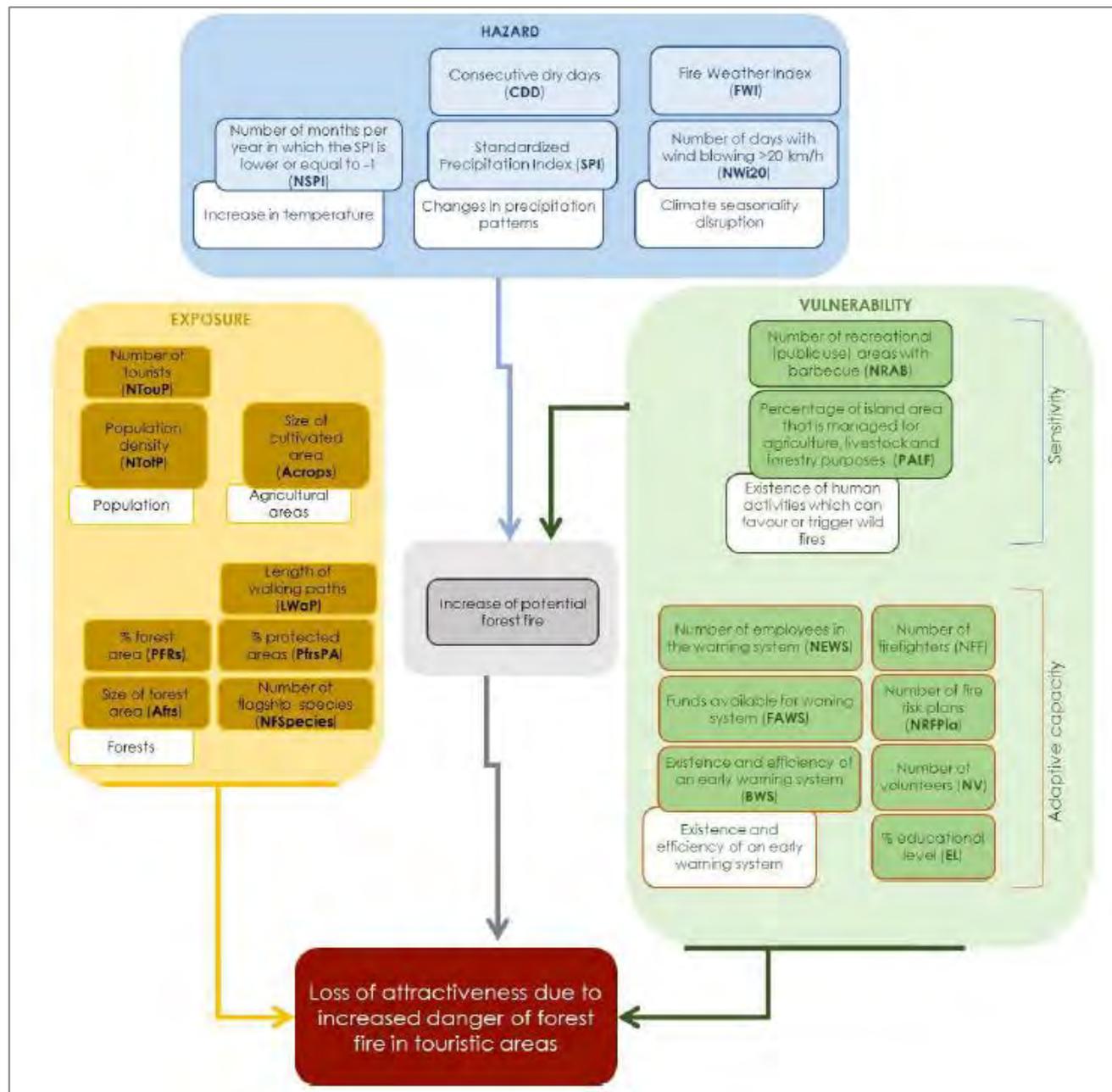


Figure 39: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.
 Source : SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.3](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

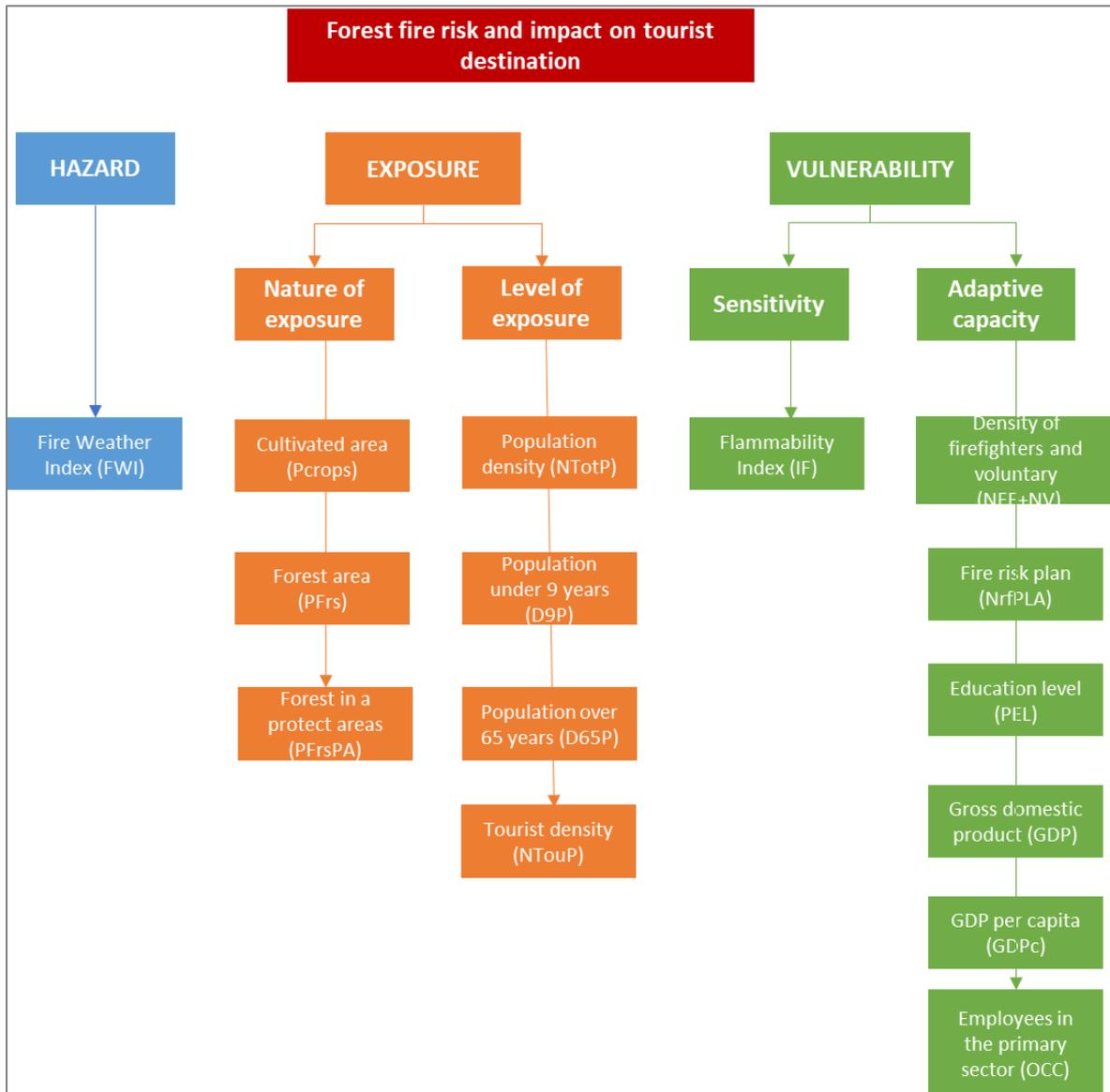


Figure 40: Final Impact Chain Model.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from "Very low" to "Very high". Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected.

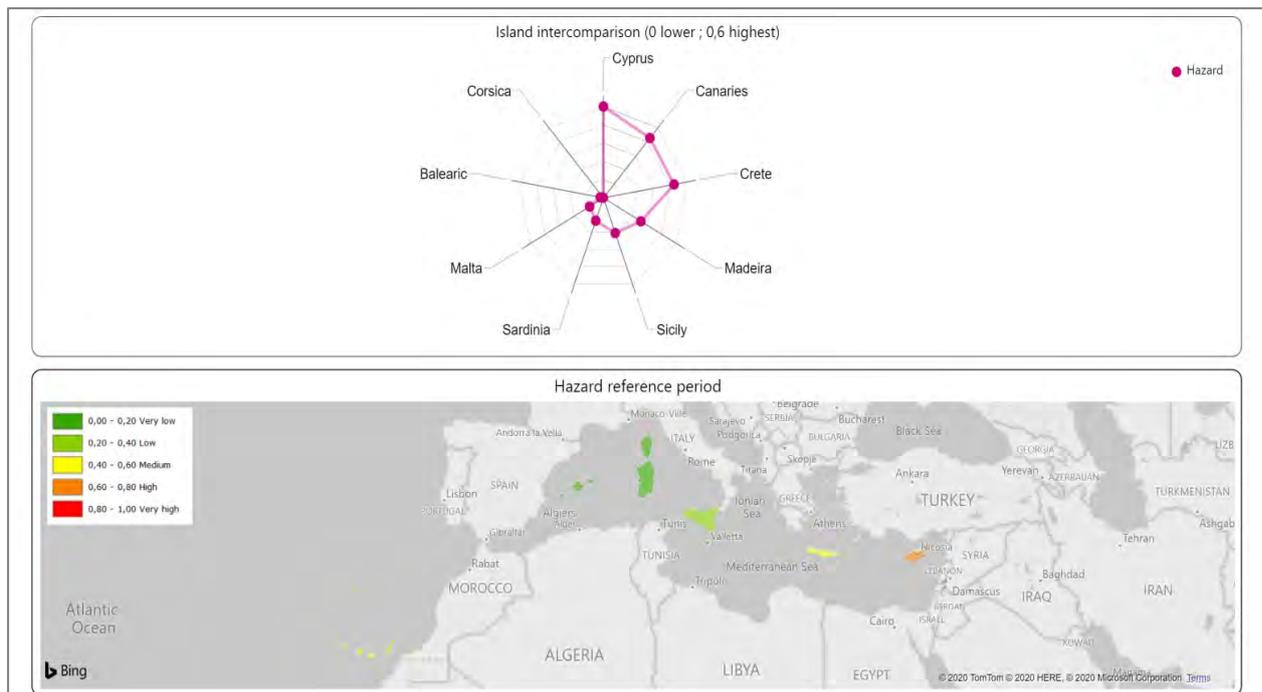


Figure 41: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

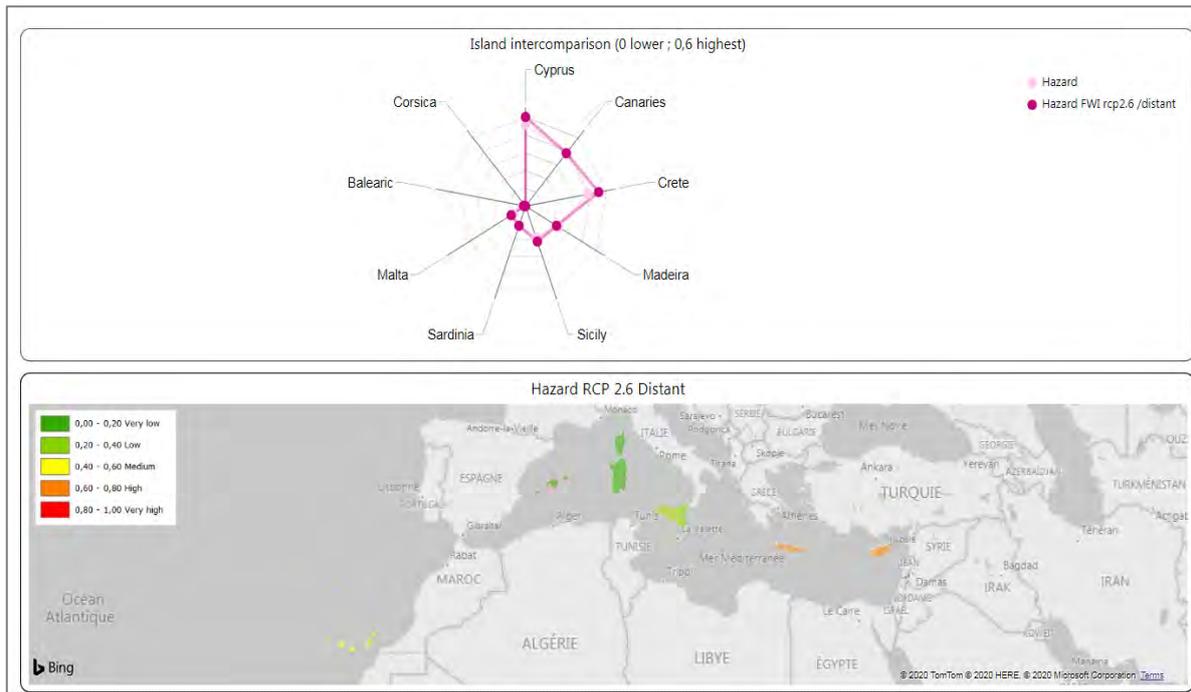


Figure 42: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

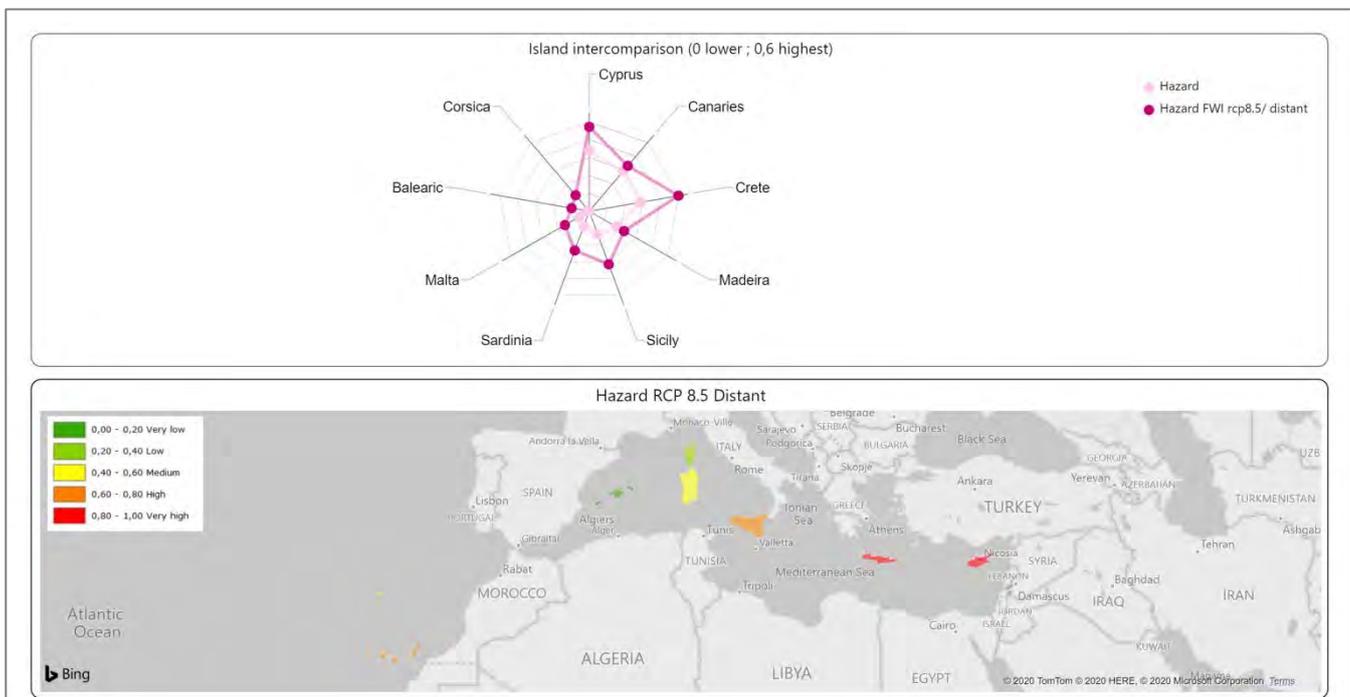


Figure 43: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed (high score) than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, **Balearic Islands**, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density

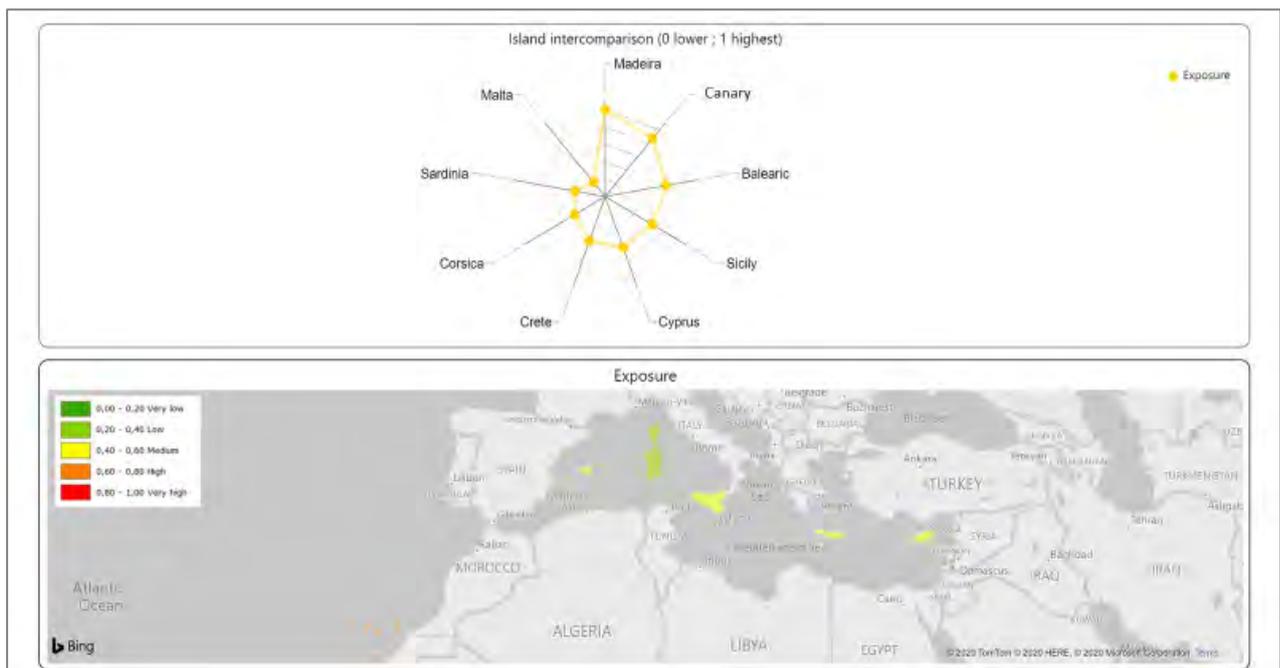


Figure 44: Exposure score (current period) per island.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

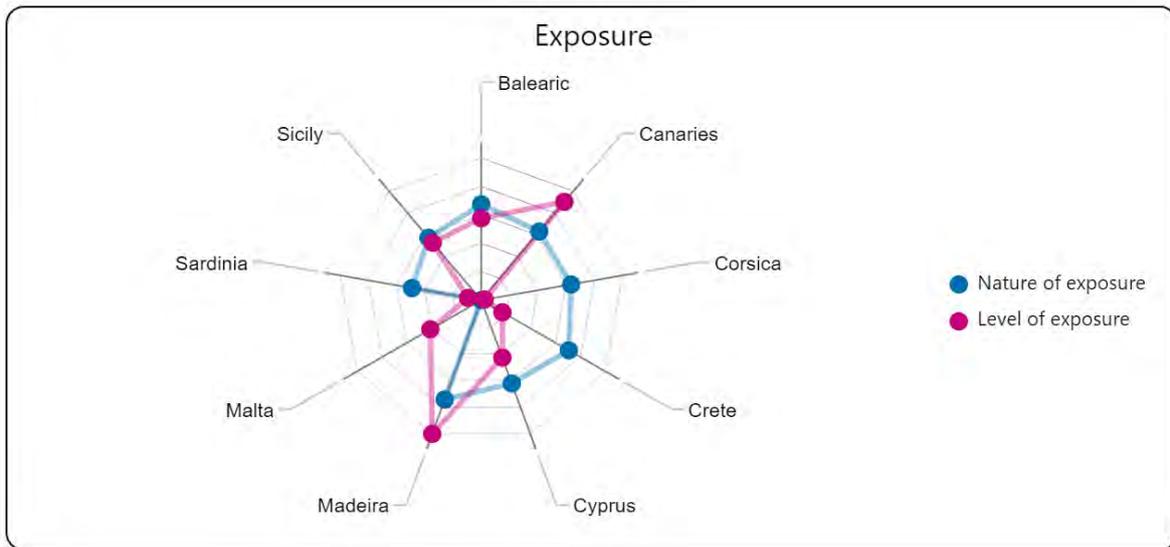


Figure 45: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

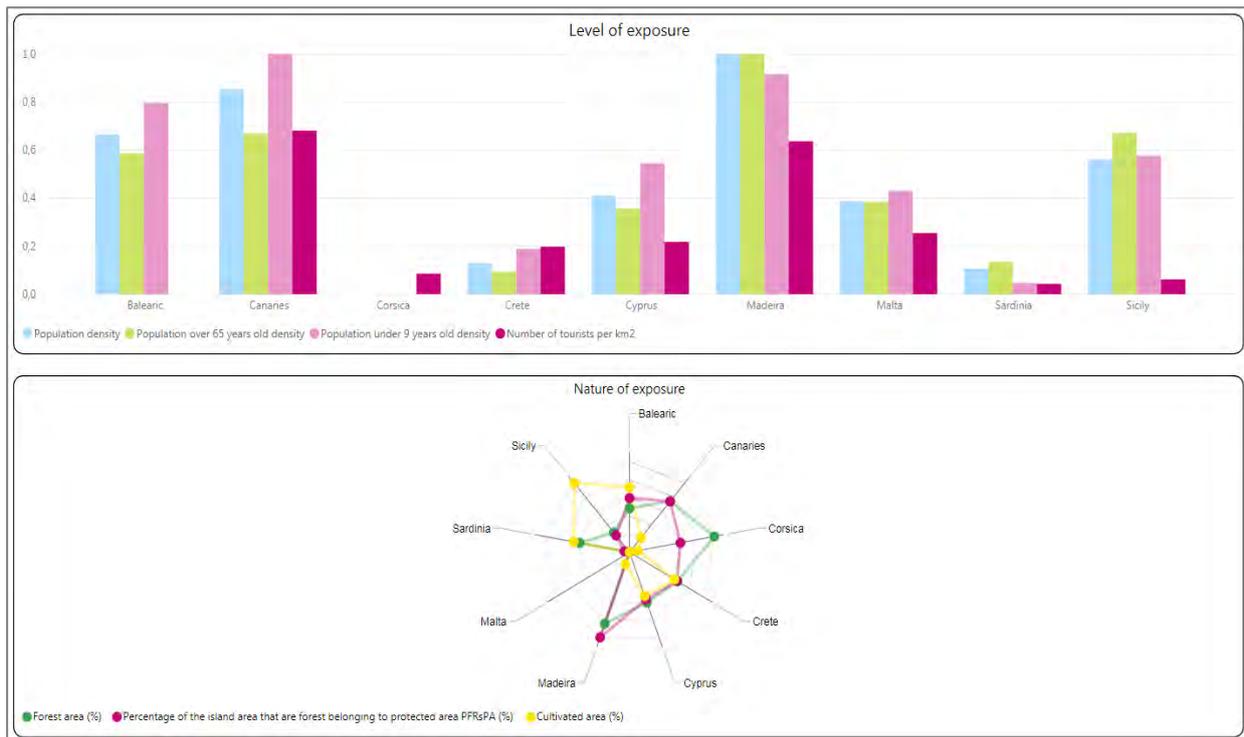


Figure 46: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, **Balearic Islands** and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and **Balearic Islands**.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

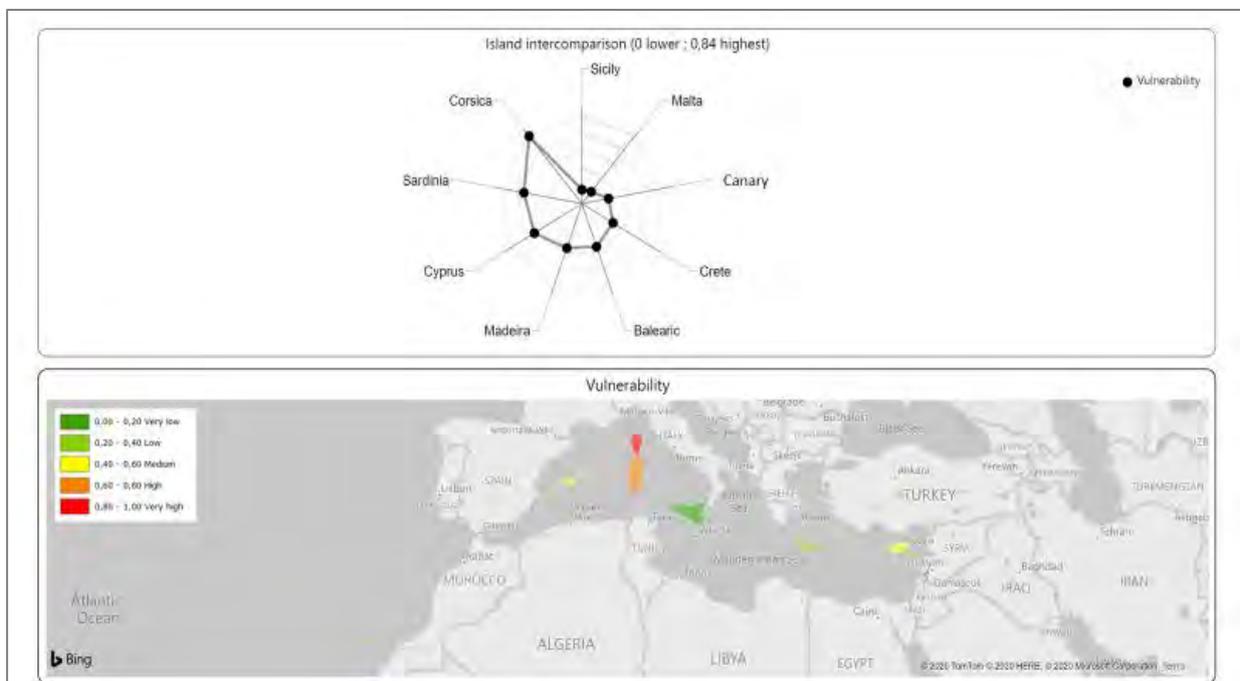


Figure 47: Vulnerability score per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

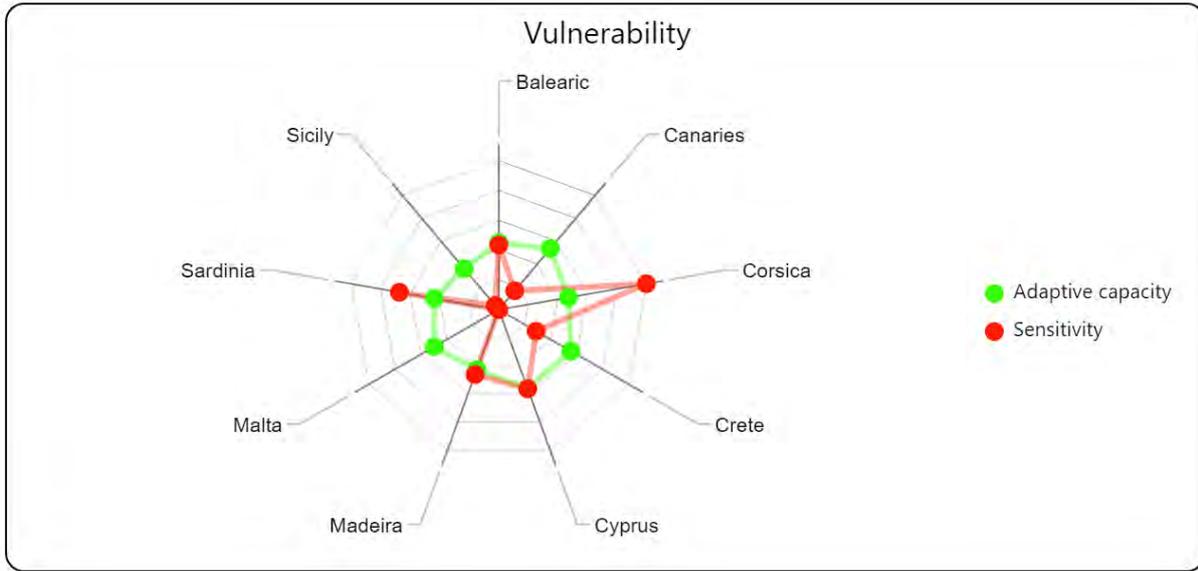


Figure 48: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

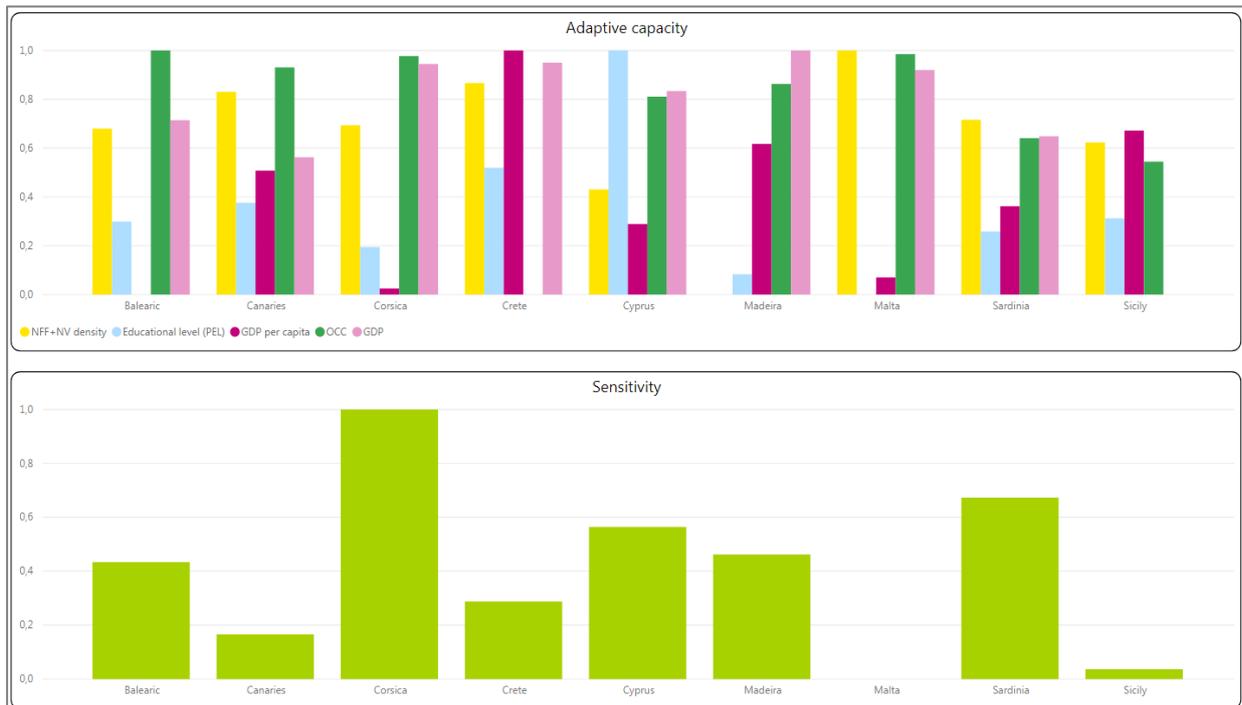


Figure 49: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk Figure is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, Sicilia and **Balearic Islands**: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for **Balearic Islands**, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5 (distant future). Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

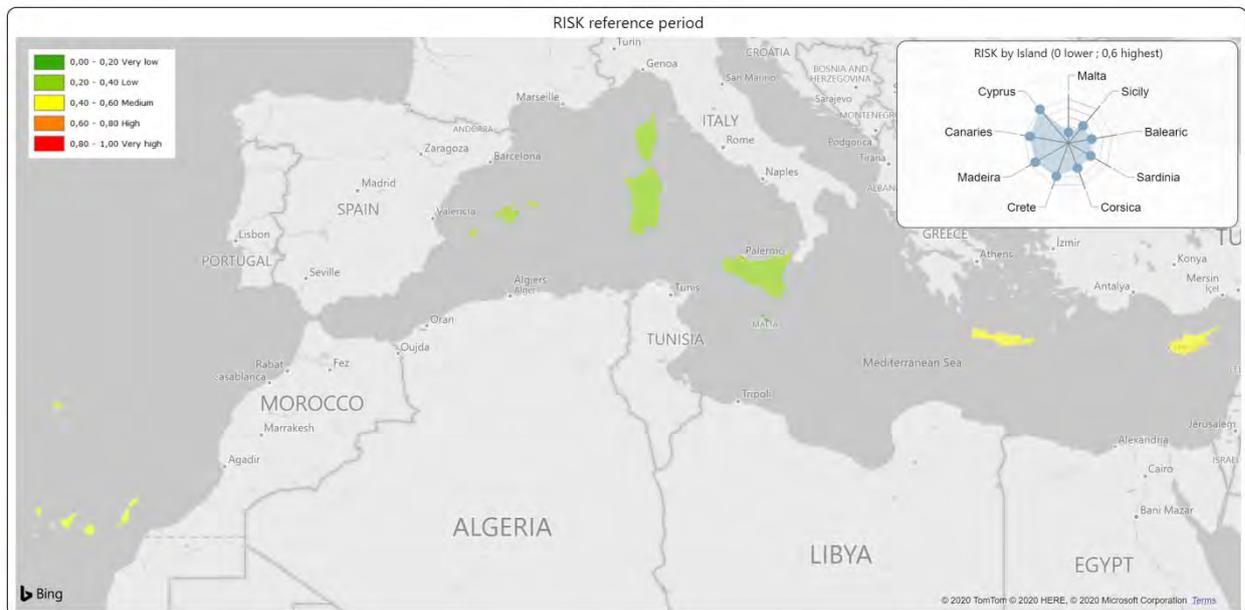


Figure 50: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

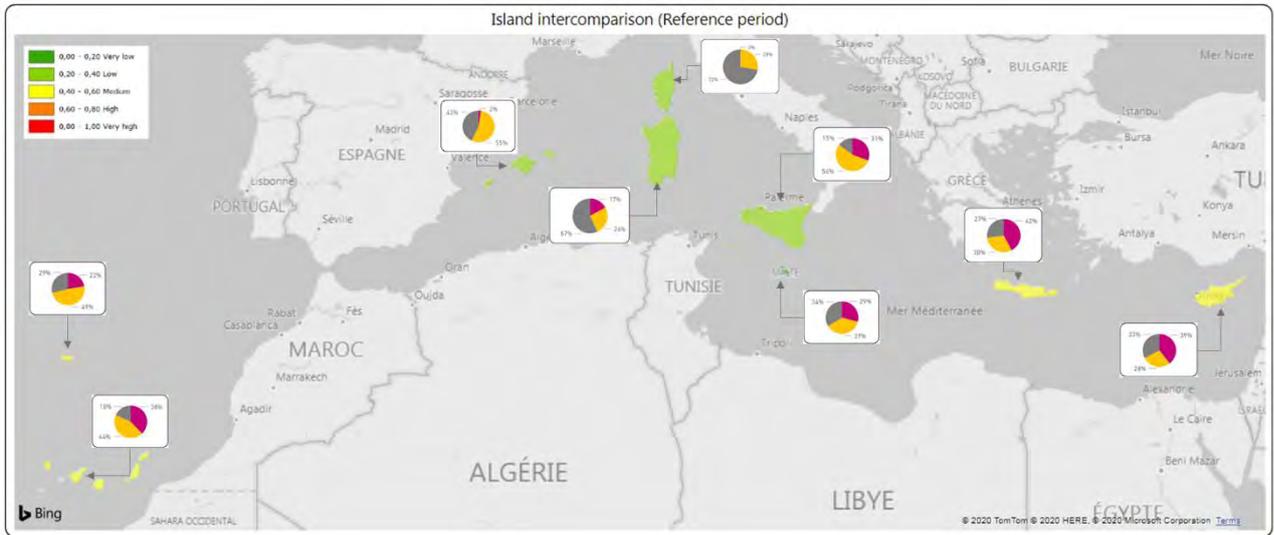


Figure 51: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

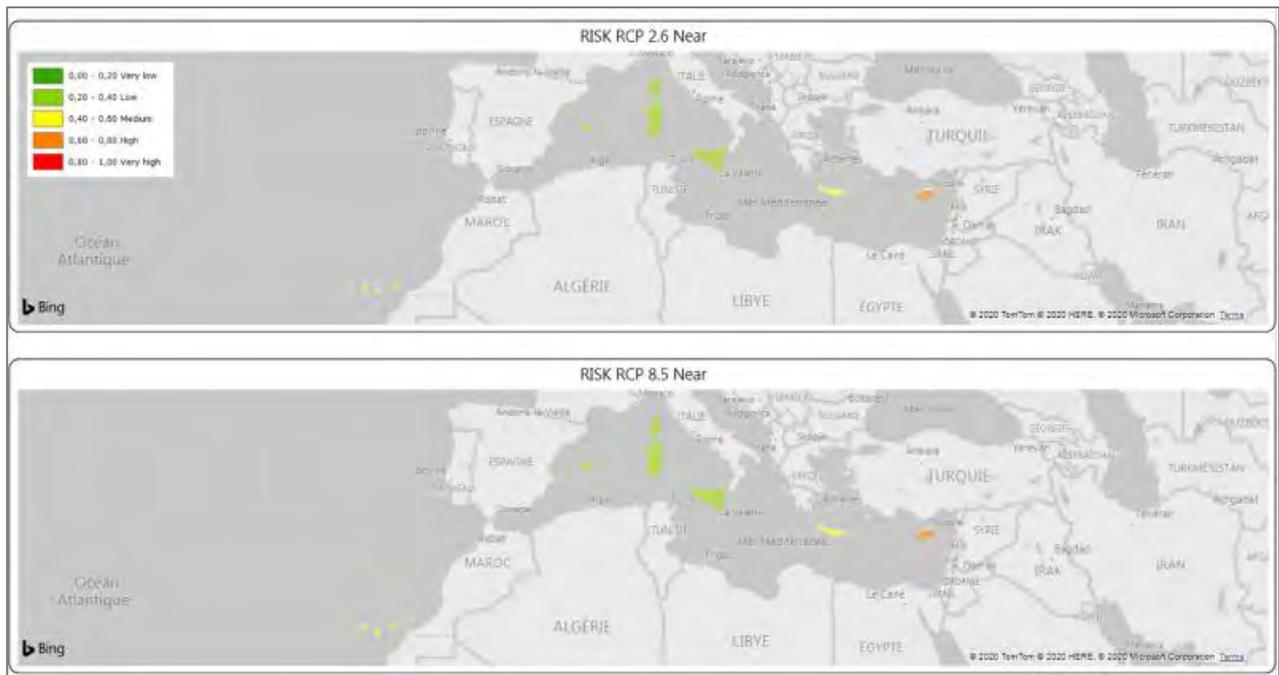


Figure 52: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

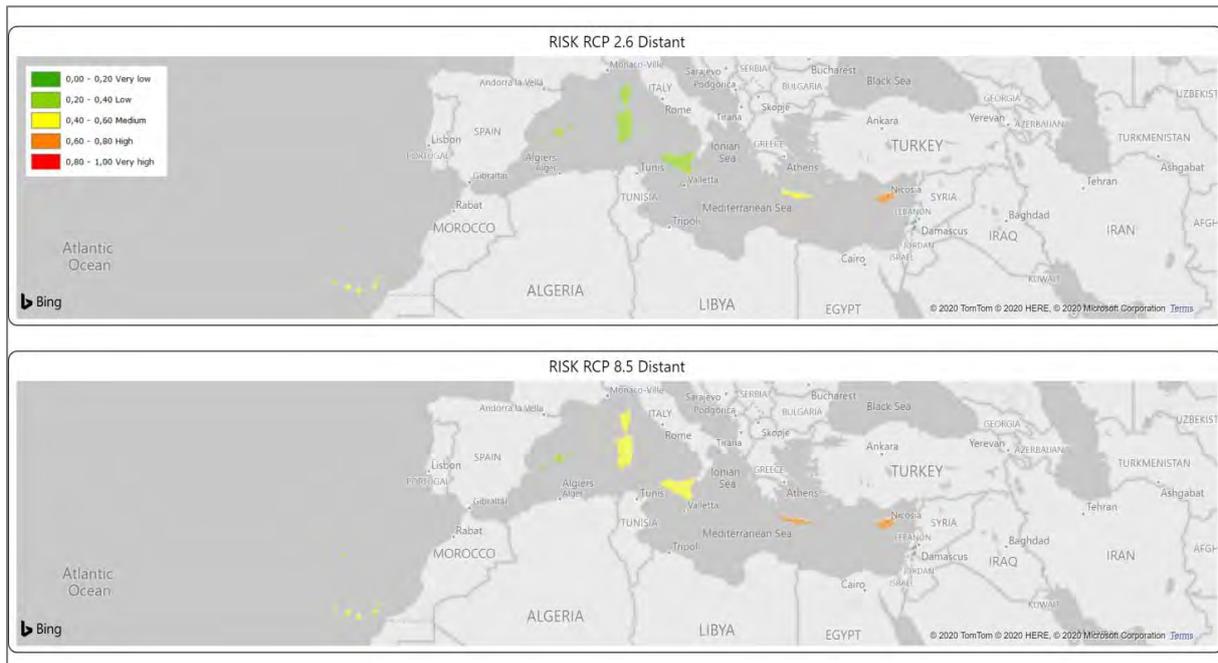


Figure 53: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

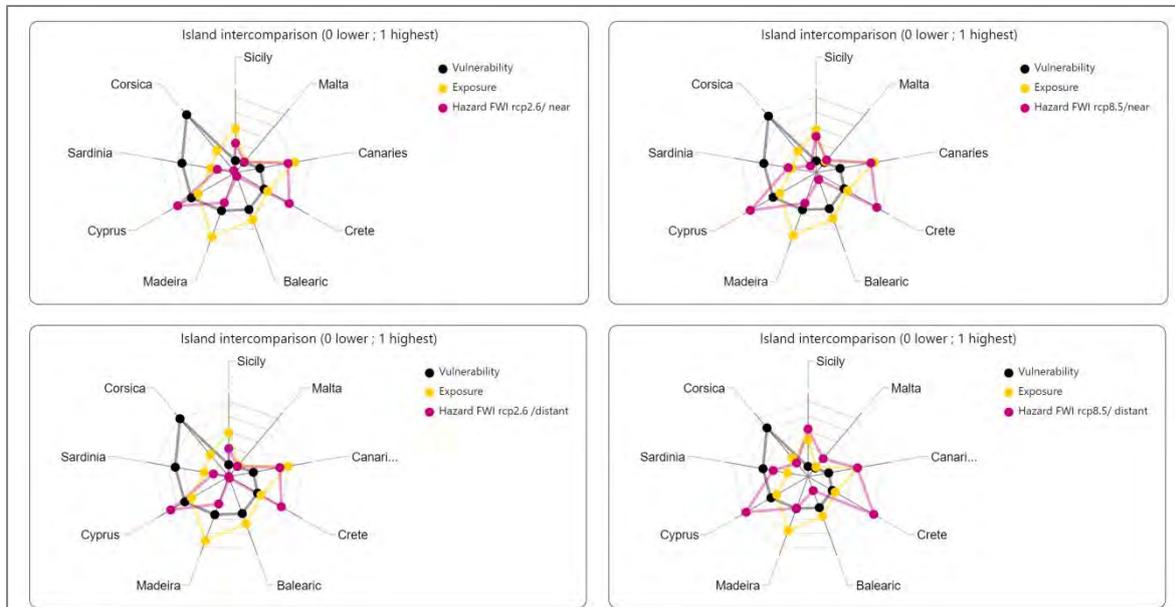


Figure 54: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Balearic Islands results

The risk is low under the reference period and futures scenarios.



Figure 55: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Figure 56: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Considering the component of exposure, the nature of exposure is the most represented sub-component (54%) and cultivated areas is the most significant indicator in the calculation.

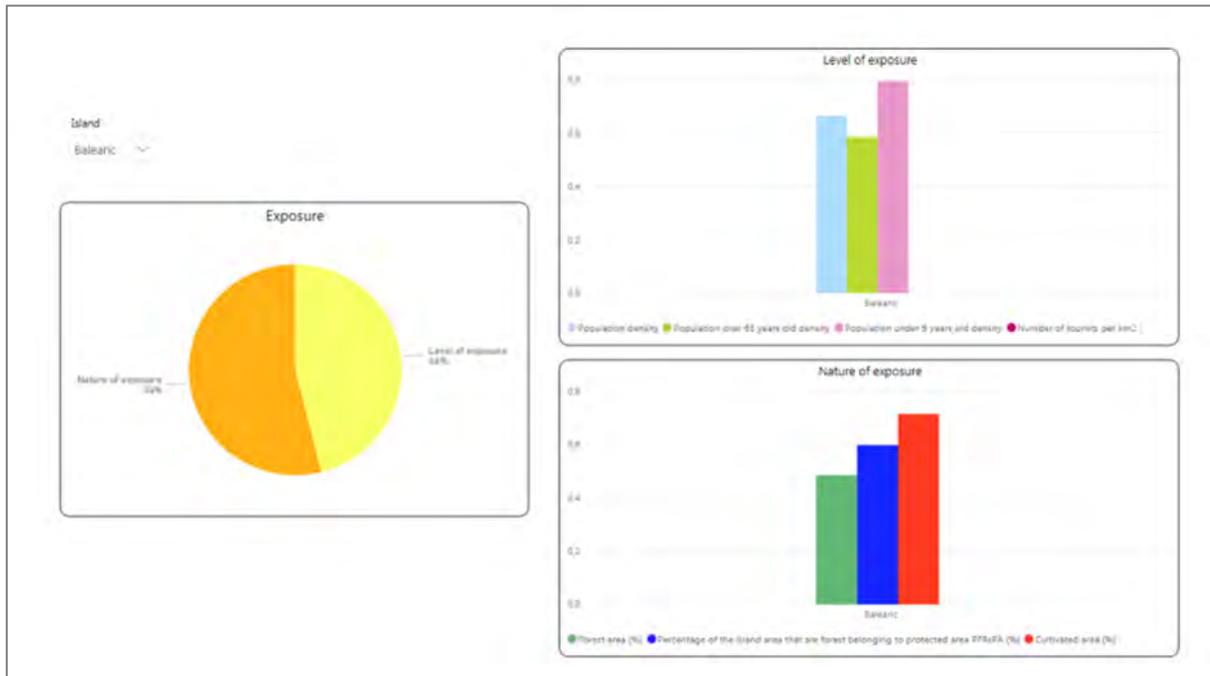


Figure 57: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Considering the vulnerability component, both sub-components have almost the same importance (around 50%).

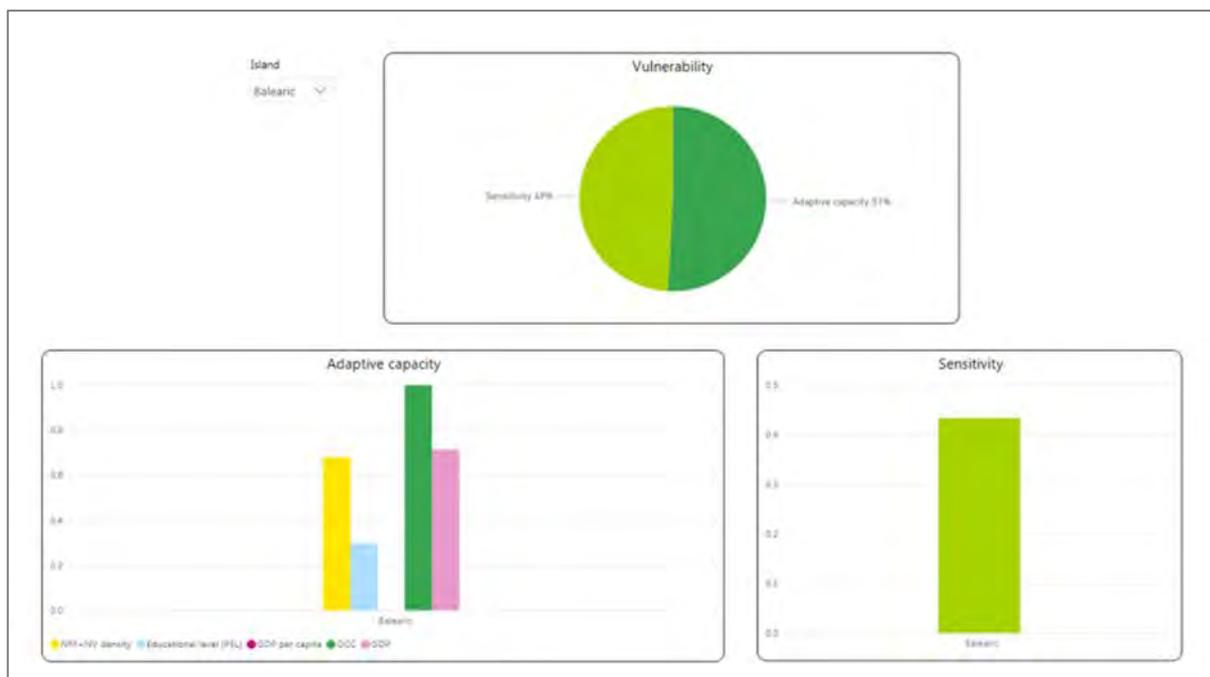


Figure 58: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



4.2 Aquaculture

In the Soclimpact project, aquaculture includes only marine-based operations where off-shore and coastal aquaculture are included, and freshwater and land-based aquaculture are excluded. Examples of climate change hazards that can impact aquaculture are changes in ocean warming and acidification, as well as oceanographic changes in currents, waves, and wind speed. Sudden impacts such as an increase in the frequency and intensity of storms and heat waves are also impacting aquaculture. Other effects of climate change on aquaculture activities are increased invasions from alien species, increased spread of diseases and changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters. An important indirect impact to aquaculture is the change in fisheries production due to climate change. Aquaculture of finfish is highly dependent on fisheries for feed ingredients. This already a current problem with many fisheries overexploited and will only intensify in the future. Climate change is also predicted to impact food safety, where temperature changes modify food safety risks associated with food production, storage, and distribution.

Socio-economic impacts on aquaculture are hard to assess due to the uncertainty of the changes in hazards and the limited knowledge these impacts have on the biophysical system of aquaculture species (Handisyde et al. 2014). In the framework of Soclimpact, the following risks were studied:

1) Risk of Fish species thermal stress due to increased sea surface temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

2) Risk of increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

Indeed, the objective of the risk assessment is to obtain final risk scores according to a gradient (very low to high) and to be able to compare the European islands with each other. For the Balearic Islands, it was difficult to obtain the adequate data to make these comparisons. The type of data that was necessary to compile was:

- Farm area (km²)
- Value of stocks
- Quick support intervention plans
- Early warning system
- Sensivity of species



4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through an expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

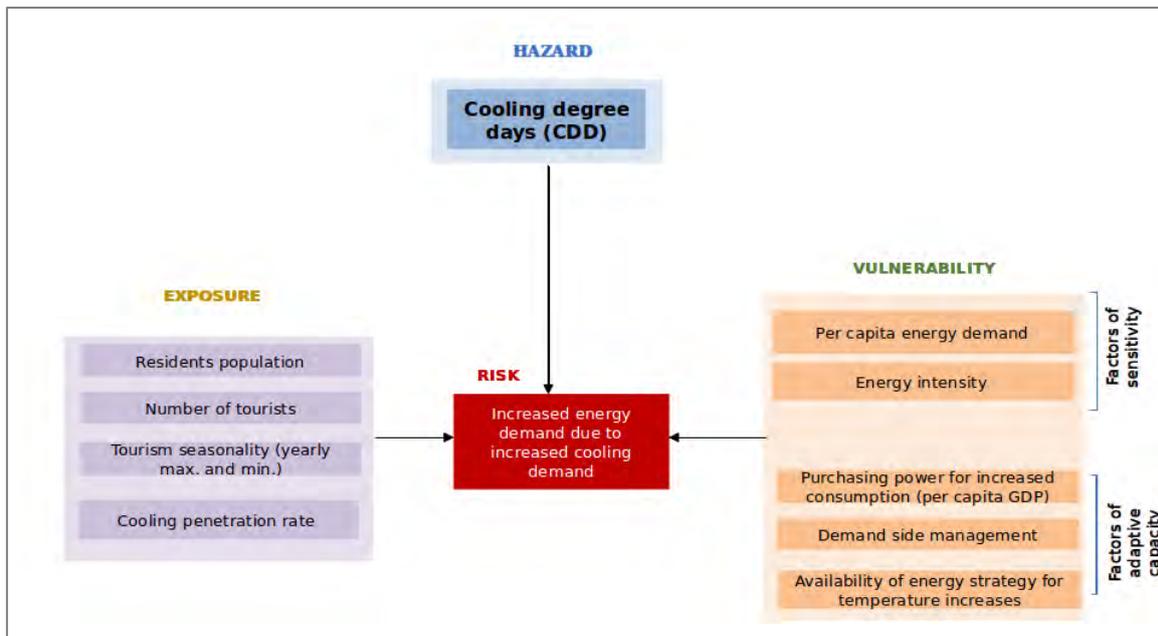


Figure 59: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand.

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

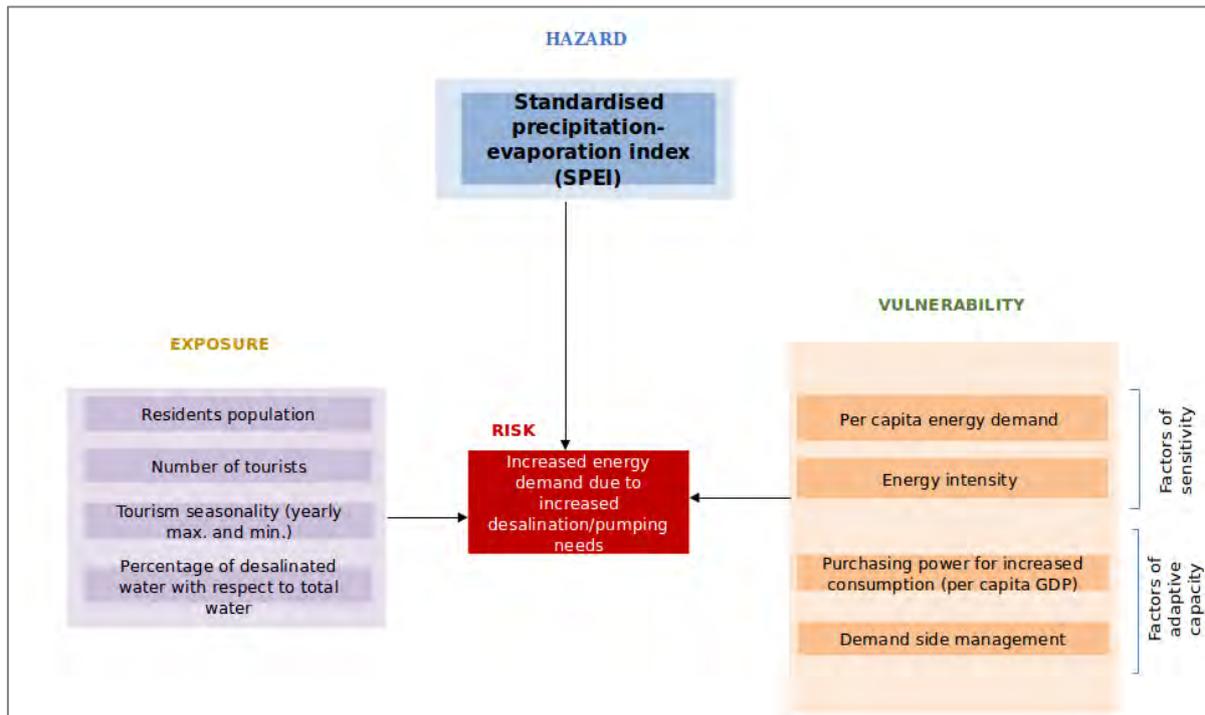


Figure 60: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series



correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

It was not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Balearics. The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the hazard component. In the next tables we present the normalized hazard scores for the island.

Table 9: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Balearics

<i>Histori-cal ref.(1986-2005)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
CDD	0.16		0.99	0.25	0.95
SPEI	0.00		0.22	0.25	0.13
			Combined		0.23

<i>RCP2.6 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
CDD	0.26		0.7	0.6	0.7
SPEI	0.32		0.5	0.6	0.1
			Combined		0.5

<i>RCP8.5 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
CDD	0.36		0.9	0.8	0.8
SPEI	0.60		0.6	0.7	0.6
			Combined		0.8



RCP2.6 (2081-2100)		Demand		Supply:		Productivity change		Droughts change	
CDD	0.24	Wind	0.7	0.6	0.7	Solar PV	0.5	0.6	0.2
SPEI	0.24	Combined			0.6				

RCP8.5 (2081-2100)		Demand		Supply:		Productivity change		Droughts change	
CDD	0.60	Wind	1	0.9	1.0	Solar PV	0.6	0.8	0.4
SPEI	0.92	Combined			0.9				

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

The increase in cooling energy demand should be relatively moderate under the low-emissions scenario, reaching high values only at the end of the century under the high-emissions scenario. In contrast, drought conditions will be much worse under RCP8.5 scenario, which could threaten the availability of groundwater and reservoir water and induce a large increase in desalination demand. The contribution of desalinated water is already substantial, though the introduction of new surface and groundwater sources in Mallorca by 2009-2010, among other factors, reduced for a few years the high percentage of desalinated water. This percentage has increased again in the last years.

The present good solar PV resources will not change substantially under RCP2.6 scenario, while a slight reduction is expected under the high-emissions scenario. PV is already a stable resource, as shown by present climate PV droughts, and this stability will even improve under RCP2.6. Wind resources are rather limited and highly-variable over land, and will even decrease in the future, but offshore wind energy could play a significant role in the decarbonization process.

The large variability of wind energy could be compensated to a high degree through a combination with PV energy, which should limit the need for storage or backup power for the high RE shares planned by the regional government. The availability of a power interconnection to mainland is also helpful for the decarbonization of energy supply in the Balearic Islands. The potential coverage through RES of future cooling and desalination energy demand increases seems much easier under the mitigation scenario than under RCP8.6.



**** Islands' comparison and future challenges***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).
- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.
- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).
- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry



surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.

- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.

- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).

- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.

- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or



deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute



threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is defined as the carriage of goods and passengers by sea-going vessels, on voyages undertaken wholly or partly at sea. It is often considered as the backbone of the world economy, with 80% of the global trade volume passing through ports (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). For islands, the transport of goods and passengers by ship is even more essential. At the same time, Maritime Transport contributes to climate change through its carbon emissions which are found to be near 3% of the global CO₂ equivalent emissions (Smith et al. 2015). Compared to land and air transport, it is the (economically and ecologically) most effective way of distributing goods globally. A changing climate will challenge Maritime Transport to adapt to future risks and lower its emissions.

The whole range of potential impacts of climate change on ports operations and throughput is still under study and it remains a high degree of uncertainty about it. Various climate change stressors can affect both harbour infrastructure and ships on route. For example, ports are vulnerable nodes of Maritime Transport as they are strongly affected by rising sea-levels, which in turn affect port facilities and increase the risk of flooding. Sea-level rise has accelerated in the last century and will rise by 0.43 to 0.84 m until 2100, depending on the emission scenario (Pörtner et al., 2019). Due to ocean dynamics and the Earth's gravity field, there will also be regional differences in sea-level rise in the order of 0.1 m (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). The causes of sea-level rise are the thermal expansion of water and the melting of glaciers due to the increase in global mean temperature (Vermeer & Rahmstorf, 2009).

Maritime transport can also be affected by climate change through the increase in the intensity of extreme weather events including tropical-like cyclones. According to climate projections, tropical cyclones are not expected to change significantly in frequency but in intensity due to rising sea-surface temperatures (Pörtner et al., 2019). The resulting extreme winds and waves can harm ships, but also cause damage and flooding of ports, especially in combination with sea-level rise (Hanson & Nicholls, 2012).

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified for the SOCLIMPACT project. These are:

- (a) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves,
- (b) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events,
- (c) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

We selected to operationalize the third one which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The hazard risk component indicators considered for the operationalization were: extreme waves (SWHX98), extreme wind (WiX98) and mean sea



level rise (MSLAVE). The exposure indicators are: number of passengers (NPax), islands' total population (NTotP), value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot) and number of ports per island or archipelago (NPo), while the sensitivity indicators include: the number of isolation days (NIID) and renovated infrastructure (NAgePo). Finally, for the component of adaptive capacity the proposed indicators are: percentage of renewables (PEnRR), number of courses/trainings (NTrCoRM), early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt). Unfortunately, due to the lack of reliable and consistent data we had to exclude the "number of isolation days" and "number of courses/trainings" indicators. The conceptualization framework of the operationalization is summarized in the next Figure.

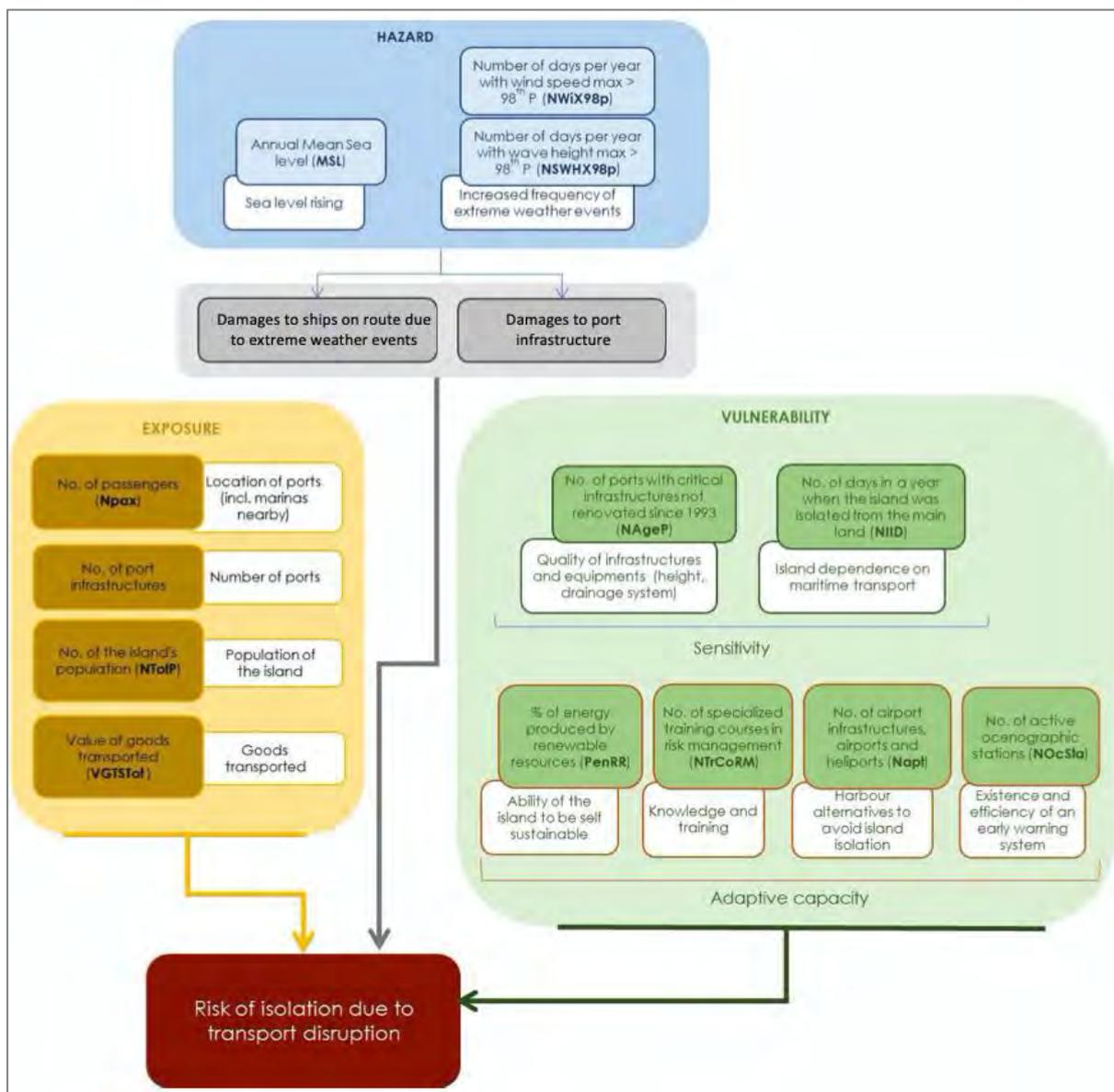


Figure 61: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain: Risk of Transport Disruption.

Source: Soclimpac project deliverable 4.5



For assessing future risk, we considered projections or estimations for the indicators when these were available. This was mainly the case for the components of hazard (mean sea level rise, extreme waves and wind), exposure (population, number of passengers, value of goods), and the contribution of renewables. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) were considered for meteorological hazards. One “high-emission” or “business-as-usual” pathway (RCP8.5) and a more optimistic one (RCP2.6) that is closer to the main targets of the Paris Accord to keep global warming to lower levels than 2 °C since pre-industrial times.

Besides the historical reference period, we consider two 20-year future periods of analysis. One over the middle of the 21st century (2046-2065) and one covering the end of the 21st century (2081-2100). The normalization of indicators was performed across the different islands in order to facilitate and inter-island comparison and prioritize the islands of higher risk.

Regarding the weighting of the different risk components, we have tested several weights, however, according to expert judgement and discussion with specialists on the Maritime sector, we have found more appropriate to assign equal weights to all main components of risk (i.e. 0.33 for Hazard, 0.33 for Exposure and 0.33 for Vulnerability). For the sub-components of Exposure, we have assigned a weight of 0.33 for Nature of Exposure and a weight of 0.66 for Level of Exposure since the latter one is believed to be of greatest importance. Similarly, for the vulnerability sub-components, we have assigned a weight of 0.25 for the Factors of Sensitivity and a weight of 0.75 for the Factors of Adaptive Capacity.

The weighting and categorization of risk is a subjective decision, nevertheless we consider our selection to be quite conservative and therefore we believe that a slightly different choice would not significantly affect the main conclusions drawn. For the recent past/present conditions, the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain indicates low risk for all investigated islands. In general, the Maritime Transport sector of the larger islands (e.g. Corsica, Cyprus and Crete) is found to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Up to a point, this is related to the large number of harbour alternatives in comparison with smaller islands.

Our results for the future highlight the importance of adopting a low-emission pathway since this will keep the risk for Maritime Transport disruption in similar as present conditions while for some islands the risk is expected to slightly decline. In terms of island inter-comparison, Malta's maritime sector is found to be most vulnerable, nevertheless, future risk even under RCP8.5 is not expected to exceed medium risk values. On the contrary, Corsica is the island less susceptible to climate change impacts. Detailed results for each investigated SOCLIMPACT island are presented in the following sub-sections.



Table 10: Summary of present and future risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption for each island and scenario based on the Impact Chain operationalization.

RISK VALUE PER ISLAND	Historical Reference	RCP2.6 MID	RCP2.6 END	RCP8.5 MID	RCP8.5 END
CYPRUS	0.241	0.210	0.218	0.258	0.292
CRETE	0.229	0.208	0.201	0.257	0.282
MALTA	0.376	0.347	0.335	0.395	0.414
CORSICA	0.220	0.194	0.194	0.243	0.273
CANARY ISLANDS	0.336	0.292	0.250	0.346	0.341
BALEARIC ISLANDS	0.326	0.281	0.264	0.331	0.344

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

The Balearic Islands in the western part of the Mediterranean is the last archipelago that was investigated for the impact of climate change in the Maritime Transport sector. For the historical reference period, the impact change operationalization resulted in a risk value of 0.326 (low risk). The greatest contribution to the overall risk comes from the low adaptive capacity because of the small number of harbour alternatives and low percentage of renewables in the island. Since the contribution of renewables is expected to increase under RCP2.6 while the contribution of exposure and hazard indicators is more or less the same, for the middle of the current century the risk under this scenario is expected to decrease to a value of 0.281. By the end of the century, the risk for Maritime Transport disruption for the Balearics is expected to further decrease (0.264). For the “business-as-usual” RCP8.5, the risk is expected to slightly increase (values of 0.331-0.344), as a result of the meteorological hazards (mainly extreme winds and mean sea level rise) and smaller contribution of renewable energy.

READ MORE about the risk indicator computation: normalization of sub-component indicators on **Deliverable 4.5 Soclimpact project** [HERE](#)

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 253 tourists visiting Balearic Islands whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

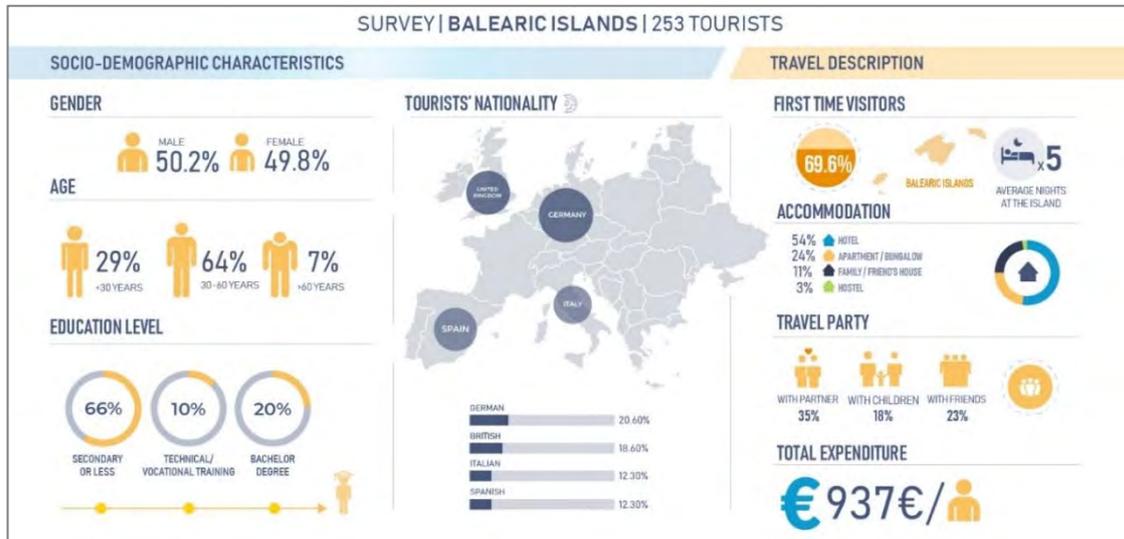


Figure 62: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Balearic Islands
 Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (98.40% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit the islands if beaches largely disappear (91.30%) or if the temperature becomes uncomfortably hot to them (87.40%). On the other hand, policies related to coastal infrastructures protection (1.2€/day), infectious diseases prevention (1€/day), water supply reinforcement (1€/day), and heat waves protection (1€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting these islands.

Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.

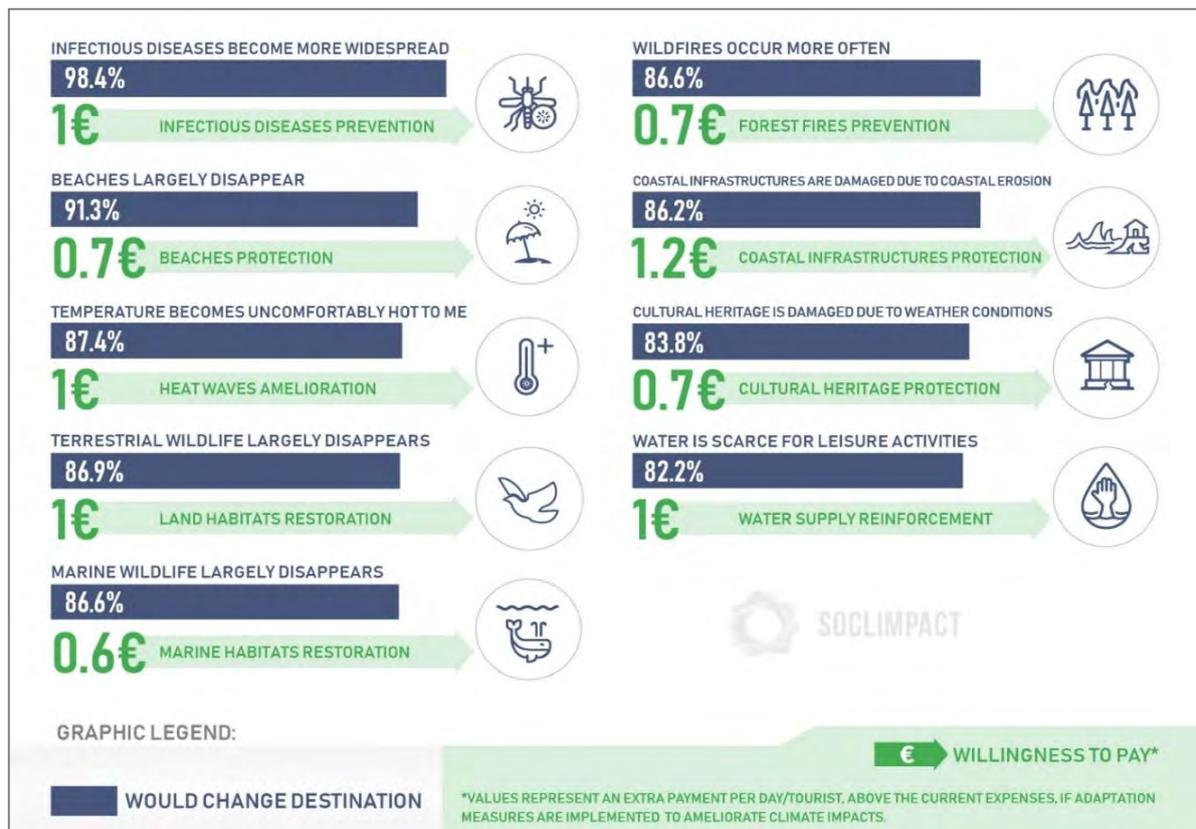


Figure 63: Choice experiments results: Tourists visiting Balearic Islands

Source: Deliverable Report D5.5 Market and non-market analysis

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination’s perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).



Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. Other estimations were provided for Balearic Islands using the Index of Distance in Destination Image to position each island in a range that goes from Sardinia / Corsica on one side and Sicily on the other side. Without entering the details of the extrapolation method (which are explained in D5.6 appendixes) a summary of results is reported here:

Table 11: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Balearic Islands

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
28.99%	rcp26near	37.10%	3.0%	0.6%	3.6%
	rcp26far	36.22%	2.7%	0.5%	3.2%
	rcp85near	38.30%	3.4%	0.7%	4.1%
	rcp85far	62.85%	12.5%	2.5%	15.3%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperatures on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold, and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant)



were analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases in the region (mean values), with respect to the reference period.

To do this, we assume one main specie cultured in this region: Mussels, and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios. As expected, the production levels (tons) will decrease for both, low and high emissions scenarios.

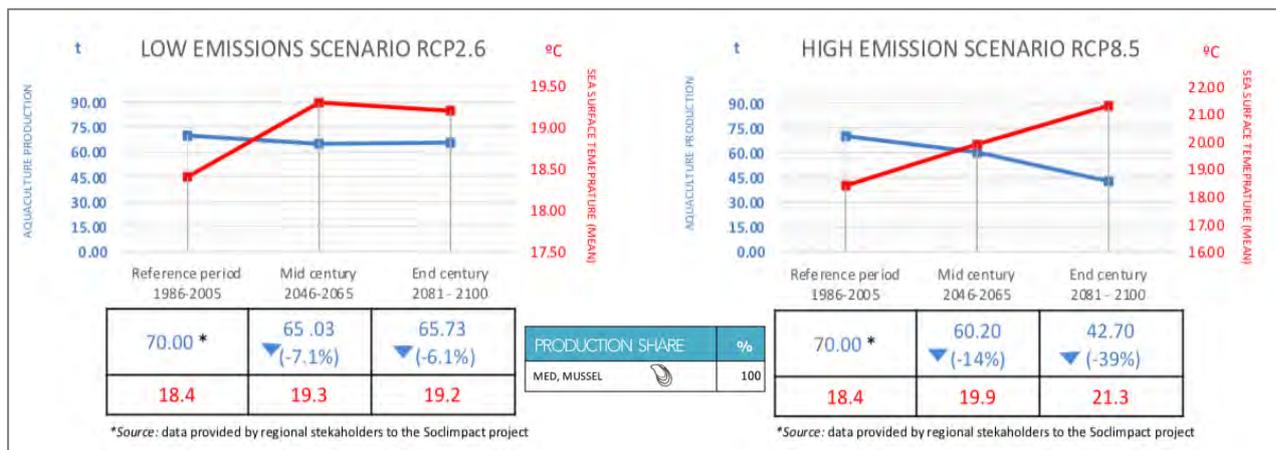


Figure 64: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature
Source: Deliverable Report D5.6

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (**CDD**) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (**GWh/year**) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 712 CDD⁹ approximately. This value could be, for example, a combination of 100 days with temperatures of 24°C (600CDD) and other 56 days with temperatures of 20°C (112CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 277%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

⁹ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example, the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18) = 200CDD

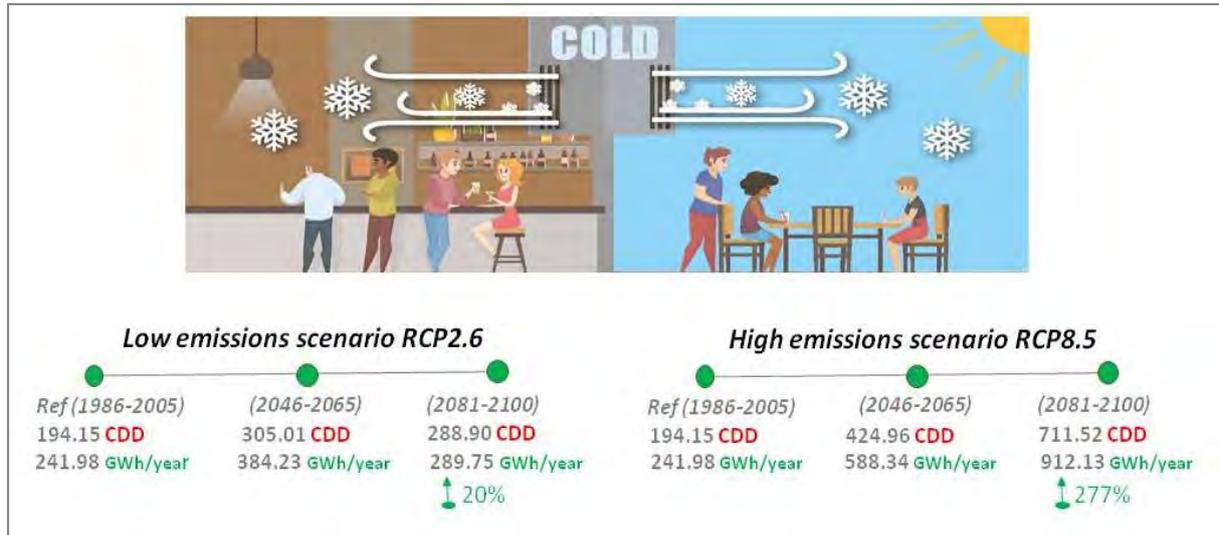


Figure 65: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Balearic Islands under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable Report D5.6

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (GWh/year) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the high emissions scenario (RCP8.5), the situation could be critical as the indicator reaches the highest levels, which could lead to an increase of 153% in desalination energy demand.

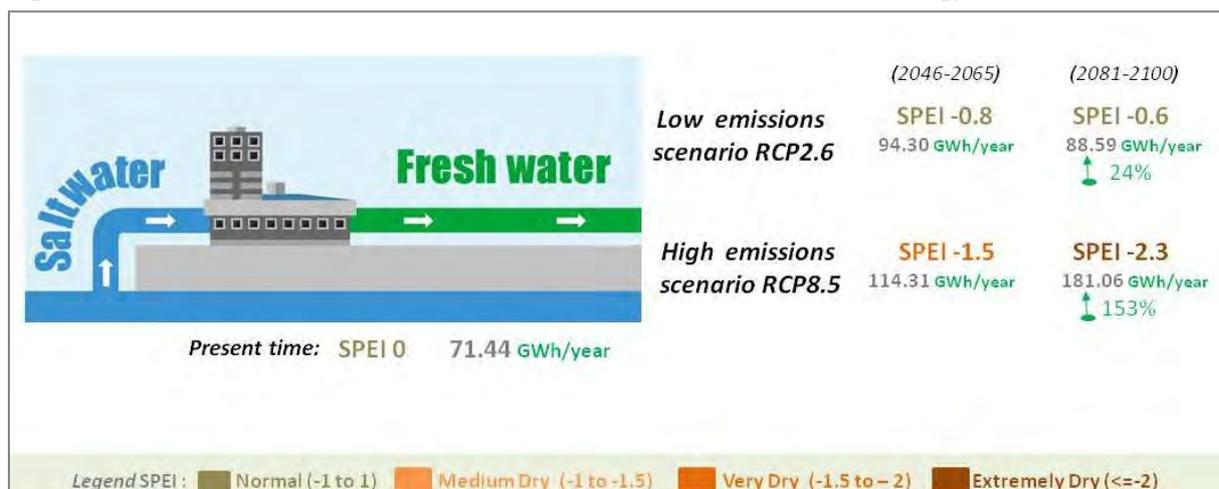


Figure 66: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Balearic Islands under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable Report D5.6



Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the islands. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all ports' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investments will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase up to 5.5 million euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

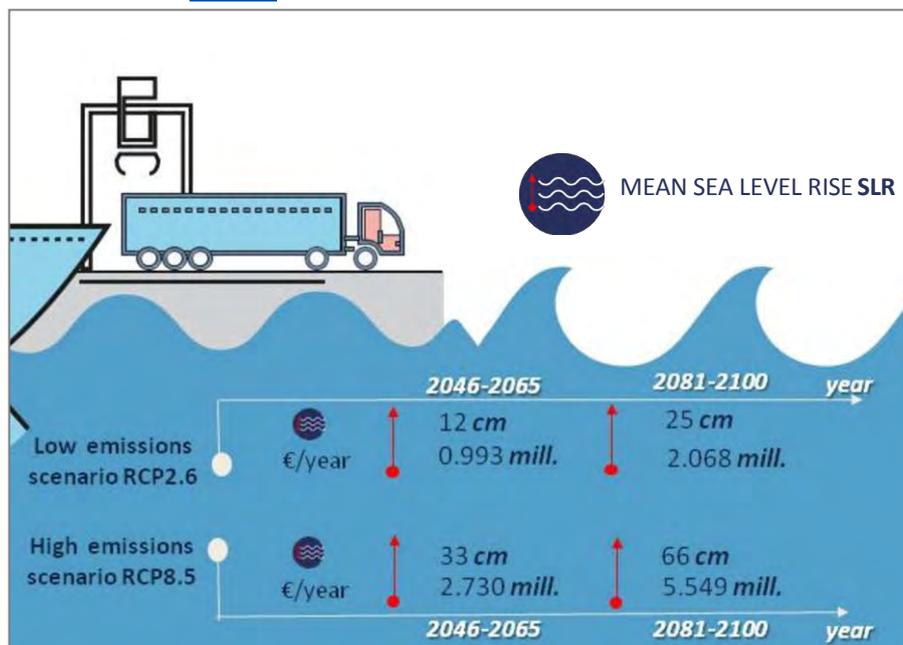


Figure 67: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Balearic Islands under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for Balearic Islands. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 16 scenarios have been quantified for Balearic Islands. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 12: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-8.14	10.8	-0.01
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-10.71	4.4	-0.01
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-11.36	25.2	-0.01
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-34.08	51.2	-0.03

Source: GEM-E3-ISL



The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the model allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determine competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100,

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -2.2% and -3.4% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -3.3% and -4.5% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative CHANGE over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to -2.8% in the RCP2.6 and -6.5% in the RCP8.5.

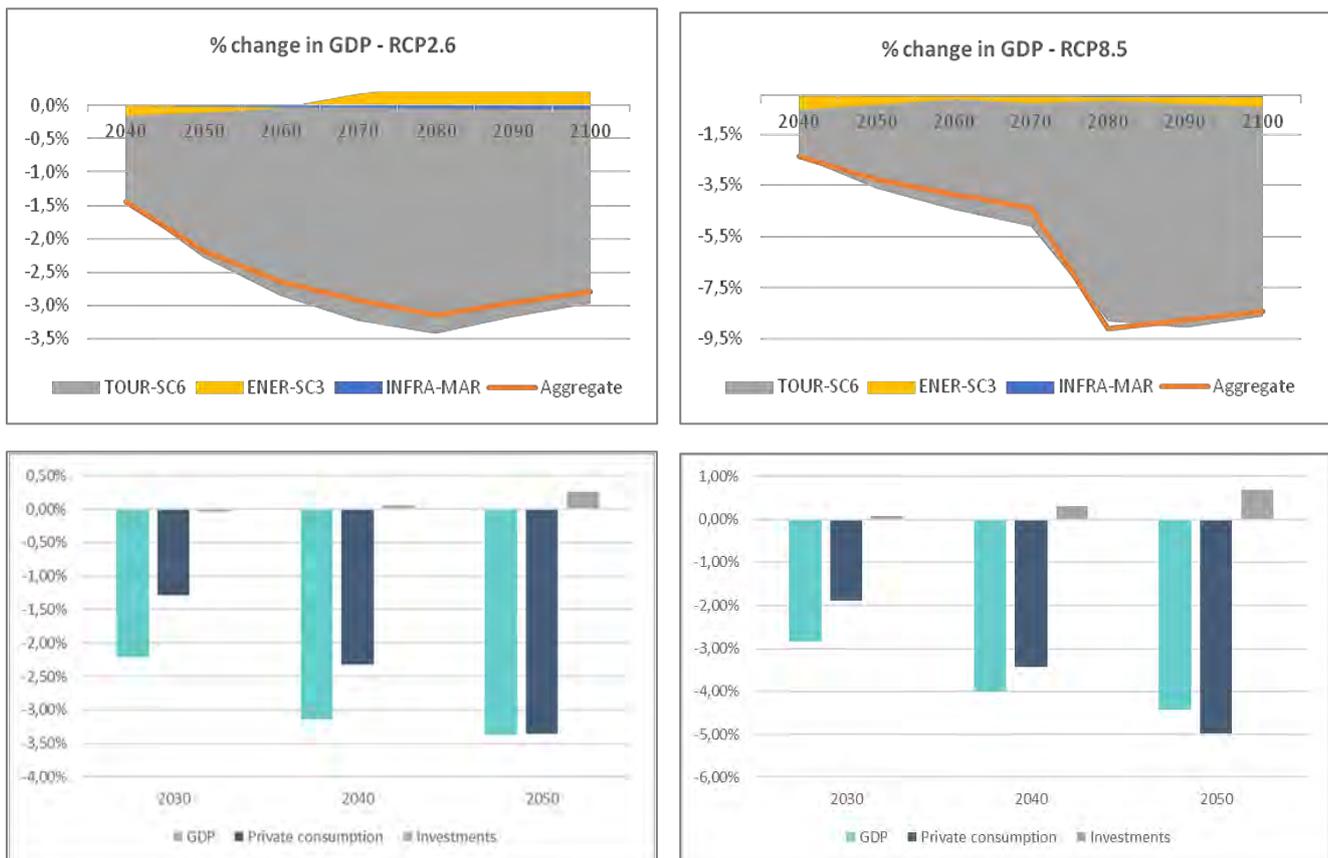


Figure 68: Percentage Change in GDP.

Source: GWS, own calculation



With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the primary and secondary sectors. Construction services also increase driven by the expansion of power generation facilities.



Figure 69: Production percentage change from reference. Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 1.6% in the RCP2.6 and by 2.9% in the RCP8.5.



Figure 70: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle

The region should follow the commitments at European and Spanish level with a limited capacity of action as the responsibilities on energy or coastal infrastructures, for instance, are not all held at regional level.

In the case of the Balearic Region, and while the Spanish government is finalizing yet his Law on Climate Change, the Governing Council approved in February 2019, the Climate Change and Transition Law Energy of the Balearic Islands. This law is in line with the global targets of reduction of the EU by 2030 and 2050 and therefore obliges the Balearic Islands to be responsible in the reduction of emissions and the penetration of the renewable energies.

In the particular case of the Menorca island, there are several initiatives even more ambitious and the islands is being considered as a pilot case at EU level for the transition to decarbonized islands.

The present regional government is committed with the actions on climate change and adaptation, but there will be elections in a couple of months and is unknown what will be the



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position of the new government. This is a major concern as far as involvement on actions on climate change strongly depends on the color of the party.

Also, some strategies can be designed at regional level, but their effective implementation will depend on the regulations and strategies at National Level. Furthermore, actions at local level can face the opposition of some economic sectors (basically linked to tourism activities) which are strong and usually reluctant to changes.

Relevant documents

- Regional department on climate change:
<http://www.caib.es/govern/organigrama/area.do?coduo=2679877&lang=es>
- Regional roadmap for adaptation to climate change:
<http://www.caib.es/govern/sac/fitxa.do?codi=3098540&coduo=2679877&lang=es>
- Summary of the Regional Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition:
<http://www.caib.es/pidip2front/jsp/es/ficha-convocatoria/9199460>
- Assessment of vulnerability of the Balearic Islands:
<http://www.caib.es/govern/sac/fitxa.do?codi=3098540&coduo=2390767&lang=es>



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



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SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Reports

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.3. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.3. Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.4b Report on storm surge levels.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.4c Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure.



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SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.4e Report on estimated seagrass density.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.4d Report on the evolution of beaches.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.6. Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D6.2. Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D7.1. Conceptual framework.

APPENDIX 3





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in the Canary Islands. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

The Canary Islands at a glance

The Canary Islands are a Spanish archipelago (the southernmost autonomous community) located in the Atlantic Ocean. Actually, the islands are geographically located in the African Tectonic Plate (at 100km. away from Morocco), even though the archipelago is economically and politically European.

The seven main islands are (from largest to smallest in area) Tenerife, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, La Palma, La Gomera, El Hierro¹; but the archipelago also includes some more smaller islands and islets.

The Canary Islands were formed by volcanic eruptions millions of years ago. They have a total extension of 7493km², a population of 2,153,389 inhabitants and a density of 287.39 inhabitants per km². The population of the archipelago is mostly concentrated in the two capital islands: around 43% on the island of Tenerife and 40% on the island of Gran Canaria.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

In the Canary Islands there are mainly fish farms (seabass, Senegalese sole and seabream). The most important species in the Canary Islands are seabream and European seabass, which represent more than 95% of the aquaculture production in the islands and 22% of the total production of these species in Spain. In 2017 were obtained in Gran Canaria the first productions of penaeid shrimps, but due to the needed land, their development will not be highlighted in our region.

The total production of fisheries and aquaculture registered in Canarian first-sale ports reached 7810 tons of fish in 2017, with a total value of 43 million EUR. The former represents 36.09% of the fresh fisheries production in the islands, while 63.91% of the production corresponds to fishing. However, aquaculture products represent most of the total production value (58.10%).

- **Maritime Transport**

The Canary Islands are not self-sustaining, so they depend on maritime transport. This sector plays a significant role in the archipelago's economy, not only because of the islands' dependence on the outside in terms of goods' imports and their condition of outermost region, which drives

¹ The island of La Graciosa is the eighth island, but it is not included in our analysis.



costs up, but also because of the strategic location of the islands, which are located in the middle of the transatlantic routes.

In the year 2019, the passenger traffic amounted to almost 7 million people, while total freight traffic (including goods loaded, unloaded and transshipped) reached 39,667,153 tons. The Port of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria is among the most important national maritime ports, along with the Port of Algeciras, the Port of Barcelona and the Port of Valencia. It has occupied the 100th-120th position with respect to container traffic worldwide in several occasions.

- **Energy**

The archipelago has seven main islands, with seven independent electrical isolated electrical systems. Only Fuerteventura and Lanzarote are interconnected through a submarine cable. The small and weak island grids pose a big challenge towards maximizing penetration of variable and intermittent RES generation, without jeopardizing grid stability, and quality and guarantee of power supply.

At the moment, the Renewable Energy covers in the Canary Islands 13% of electricity demand; but regarding the primary energy balance, it only covers 2% (Canary Islands still depend on oil derivatives around 98%). In the smaller island, El Hierro, the hydroelectric power plant was launched in 2014, with a penetration of 20% in electricity balance (but not of the total primary energy of the island). In 2016, it attained almost 40% (again, only on electricity balance); and almost 50% in 2017 (of annual electricity balance). In the first months of 2018, the plant managed to cover 60% of electricity demand, thanks to the improvements made by the technicians of ITC.

- **Tourism**

The economy of Canary Islands relies in the service sector, which accounts for 84.9% of the gross value added (GVA). Activities related to tourism have an especial importance (Instituto Canario de Estadística – ISTAC, 2019).

The archipelago's beaches, climate and important natural attractions, especially Maspalomas in Gran Canaria and Teide National Park and Mount Teide (a World Heritage Site) in Tenerife (rising to 3,718 metres, the highest point on Spanish soil and the third tallest volcano in the world measured from its base on the ocean floor), make it a major tourist destination with over 12 million visitors per year, especially Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Fuerteventura and Lanzarote.



1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

The Canary Islands are located in the Atlantic Ocean, nearby the South coast of Morocco (between about 27° 38' and 29° 30' north latitude and 13° 22' and 18° 11' west longitude). The Canary Islands therefore represent one of the outermost regions in Europe. The autonomous Spanish archipelago group is formed by seven main islands and a few smaller islands. The main islands are Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Fuerteventura, Lanzarote, La Palma, La Gomera and El Hierro. The overall territory has an extension of 7,447 km² and is inhabited by 2,154,978 people (2017), accounting for 4.6% of the total population in Spain. Besides already being one of the regions with the highest density of population, it is also among those that have been consistently gaining population over time².

Trade winds and the cool waters of the subtropical North Atlantic prevent the Canary Islands to suffer from the extreme weather conditions of the nearby Sahara Desert³. According to the national meteorological service for the UK, “the Canary Islands experience a Mediterranean climate typified by extremely dry summer months with warm temperatures and mild winters with more rainfall, particularly to the north of the region. In terms of temperature alone, the Canary Islands experience a subtropical climate which means that temperatures [are] mild and stable throughout the year within the range 18 - 24 °C. Summer in the Canary Islands sees consistently high temperatures in the high 20's with only traces of rainfall on any of the islands. Despite their southerly location, temperatures do not become unbearably high due to the cooling influence of the surrounding waters of the Atlantic Ocean. The hottest days occur when easterly winds cause hot dry air from the Sahara Desert to sweep across the islands, often laden with dust. Winters in the Canaries are mild, Tenerife for example still sees average maximum temperatures of 21 °C in January despite being the coldest month. In winter Atlantic depressions can cause infrequent stormy periods with disturbed weather and higher rainfall. Winter rainfall varies between islands and is higher in the northern parts of the archipelago which are more exposed to the northeast trade winds. Las Palmas de Gran Canaria on the exposed northern side of Gran Canaria sees 46 mm rainfall during February while the sheltered Arrecife on Lanzarote sees just 14 mm⁴.”

In a summary assessment for the European Service Innovation Centre, Lahtinen et al. (2013) summarized detailed information on territorial structures and administrative hierarchies as follows: “The islands are divided into two provinces: Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Las Palmas. The former covers the islands of Tenerife, La Gomera, La Palma and El Hierro, while the latter contains the islands of Gran Canaria, Fuerteventura and Lanzarote. Instead of having a single regional capital, there are two: the cities of Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. There are four layers of administration on the islands:

1. The Government of Spain;
2. The Government of the Canary Islands – a joint administration of the seven islands;

² European Commission. <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/base-profile/canary-islands>.

³ Hernandez, Y., Guimarães Pereira, Â., Barbosa, P. (2018): Resilient futures of a small island: A participatory approach in Tenerife (Canary Islands) to address climate change, *Environmental Science & Policy*, 80, 28-37.

⁴ <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/travel-and-events/holiday-weather/europe/canary-islands>.



3. The administration of each island (isle council); and
4. The administration of each municipality.⁵

According to the European Commission, the “Canary Islands present a wide range of possibilities in terms of technological innovation due to its strategic geographical location, its special fiscal status and the high quality of human capital it holds. On the other hand, this region also suffers from clear weaknesses caused mainly by the fragile innovative and environmental systems of the islands. The business ecosystem of the Canary Islands relies heavily on the geographical location and the particular characteristics of the archipelago. However as expected; it is mainly devoted to the service sector, with special emphasis in tourism”.⁶

Population dynamics of the island

In terms of total population, the Canary Islands rank eighth in Spain. The average population density of the Canary Islands already amounts to more than twice the Spanish average. Total population figures still exhibit a clear trend towards growth. Figure 1 illustrates the development of total population figures since the year 2000. The majority of the overall population lives on the two main islands Gran Canaria and Tenerife. The European Job Mobility Portal (EURES) reports that foreign population residing in the Canary Islands accounts for 12.22 % of the total. “The most numerous in rank order are Italians, Germans, British, Moroccans, Venezuelans and Cubans”⁷.

As a reference to latest available harmonized regional population projections, Figure 2 shows main scenario results for the Canary Islands from the *EuroPop2013* population projections. According to this projection, the Canary Islands will continue to experience population growth until 2050. However, with only moderate growth rates: the projected population growth from more than 2.1 million inhabitants in 2015 to nearly 2.5 million inhabitants in 2050 corresponds to an average annual growth of (slightly more than) 0.4%.

⁵ Lahtinen, H., Viljamaa, K., Buligescu, B., Wintjes, R (2013): Summary Assessment of the Canary Islands. Report prepared for the European Service Innovation Centre (ESIC).

⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/base-profile/canary-islands>.

⁷ <https://ec.europa.eu/eures/main.jsp?countryId=ES&acro=lmi&showRegion=true&lang=en&mode=text®ionId=ES5&nuts2Code=ES53&nuts3Code=null&catId=441>.

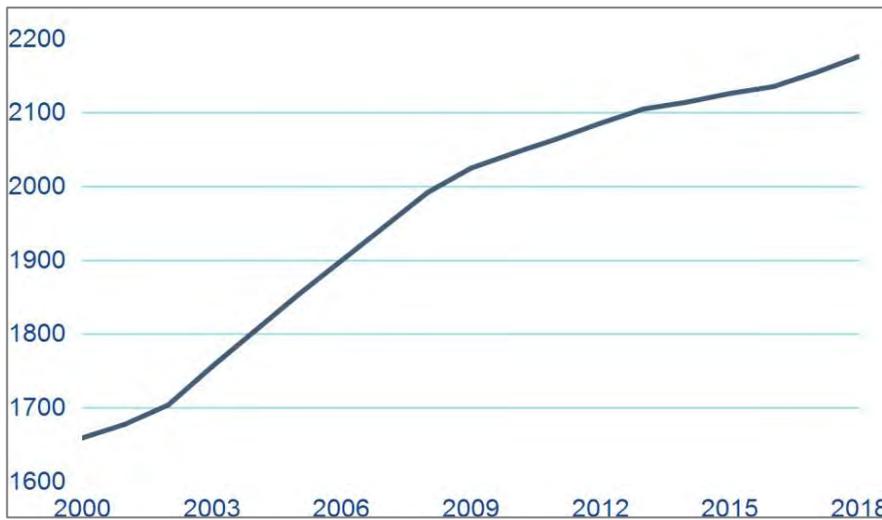


Figure 1: Population development in the Canary Islands region 2000 – 2018.
Source: Eurostat demo_r_gind3 database, own representation.

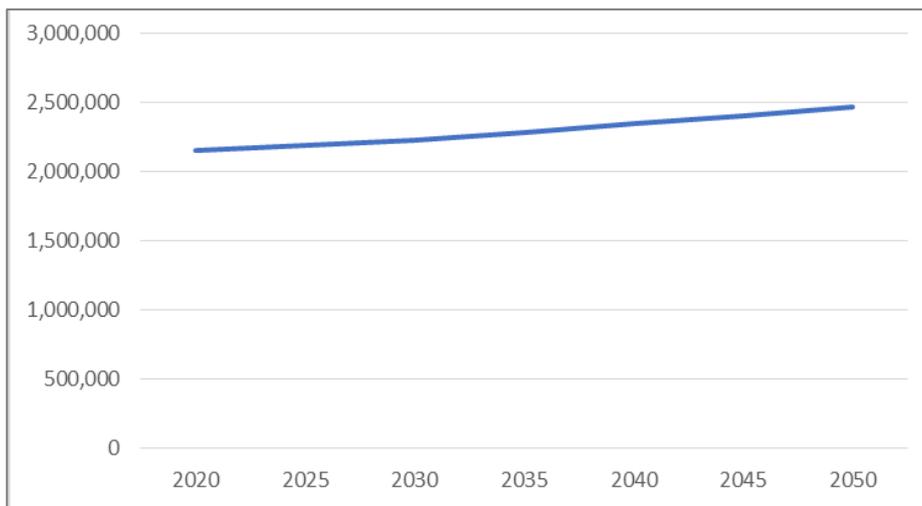


Figure 2: Baseline population projection for Canary Islands (2015-2050).
Source: Eurostat proj_13rtps3 database, own representation.

1.2 Current climate and risks

The climate in the Canary Islands is subtropical and arid. The temperature fluctuations are not big. It is characterized by deficient and irregular rainfall, especially in the lower areas (less than 300mm) due to the predominance of the Azores Anticyclone. In the midland's areas exposed to the trade winds, rainfall can reach 800-1000 mm.

Rainfall is more intense in late autumn, especially in winter, while summer is the driest season of the year. Tenerife, La Palma and Gran Canaria are the islands where it rains most.

In the area of summits, on the higher islands, the trade winds cease to affect, lowering precipitation compared to average, around 400 mm, which in some cases may be in the form of snow.



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The temperatures are mild all year round. The south of all the islands registers the warmest temperatures with an annual average above 20°C. Lanzarote and Fuerteventura are the aridest islands, so this average is generalized. On the other islands, as we go up in altitude, the average annual temperature drops, to 14°C for example on the peaks of Gran Canaria, to 13°C on El Hierro and La Gomera, in the higher areas of La Palma it reaches 9°C or in the Canadas del Teide (Tenerife) up to 5°C.

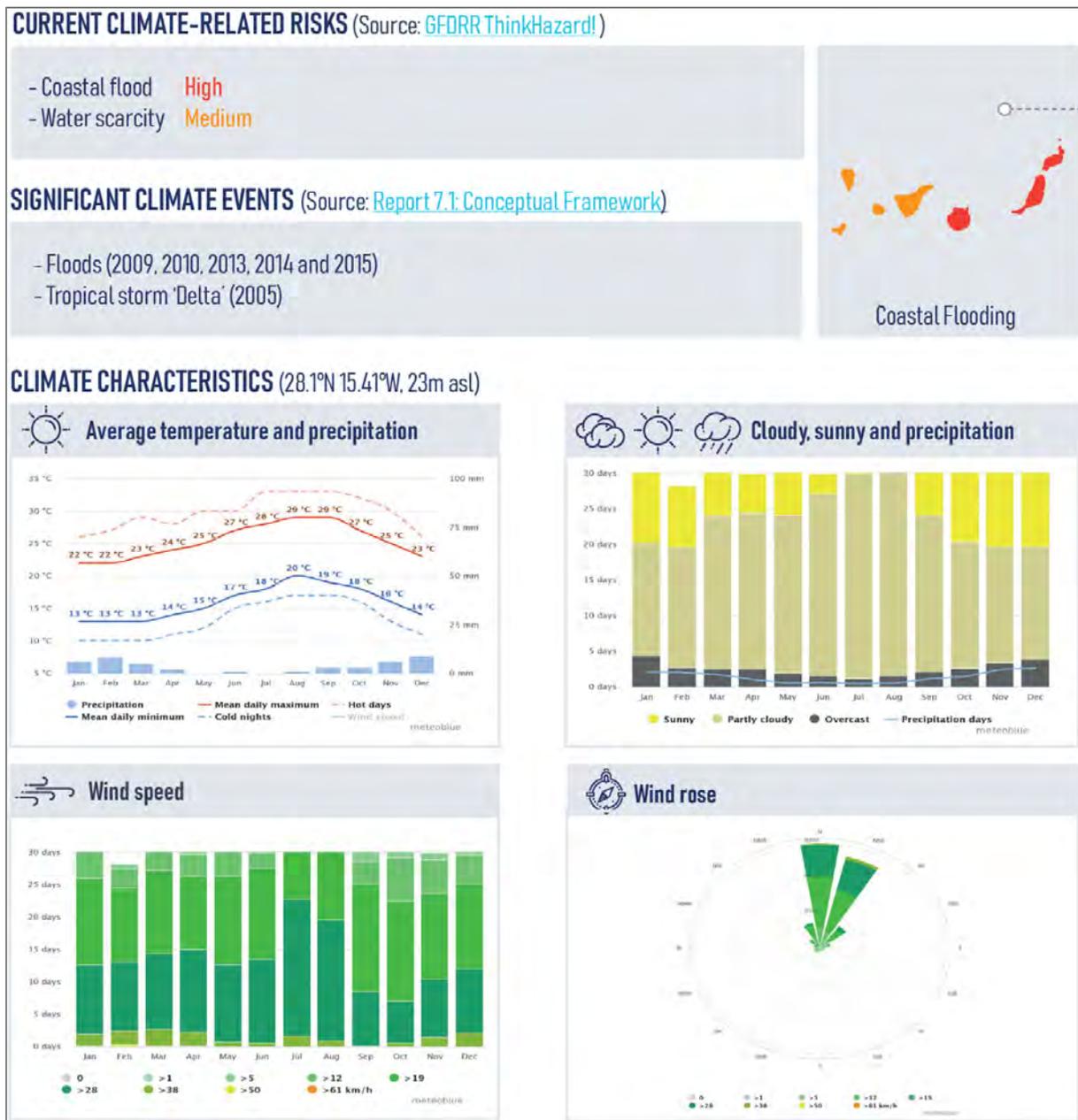


Figure 3: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)



1.3 Macroeconomic status

Between 2000 and 2017, nominal GDP increased by slightly more than 71% in the Canary Islands region. However, on a per capita basis, this economic growth lagged behind average economic developments in the European Union.

Table 1: Real variation rate of gross domestic product. 2006-2017

Year	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17
Canary Islands	3.2	0.1	-4.4	1.0	-1.0	-2.5	-1.3	0.8	2.4	3.0	2.9
Spain	3.8	1.1	-3.6	0.0	-1.0	-2.9	-1.7	1.4	3.4	3.3	3.1
Germany	3.3	1.1	-5.6	4.1	3.7	0.5	0.5	1.9	1.7	1.9	2.2
United Kingdom	2.4	-0.5	-4.2	1.7	1.5	1.5	2.1	3.1	2.3	1.9	1.8
Euro Area	3.0	0.4	-4.5	2.1	1.6	-0.9	-0.2	1.3	2.1	1.8	2.4
EU	3.0	0.4	-4.3	2.1	1.7	-0.4	0.3	1.8	2.3	2.0	2.4

Source: National Statistics Institute; EUROSTAT, Compiled by: CCE

Whereas regional per capita GDP equaled about 78% of average European per capita GDP in the year 2000, this benchmark figure decreased to less than 70% by 2017. In 2017, several sectors grew faster than in mainland Spain (Table 2), such as agriculture and fishing, construction, trade, transport and hotels and real estate activities. Overall GDP grew less than mainland Spain, due to less growth in manufacturing and in energy industries. The latter sectors should be strengthened and are the targets of economic diversification and development strategies (see below).

Table 2: Sectoral development of the Canary Islands 2011-2017, and Spain 2017, annual growth rates.

	Canaries							Spain
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2017
GDP	-1.0	-2.5	-1.3	0.8	2.4	3.0	2.9	3.1
<i>Agriculture, fishing</i>	-17.0	-0.7	1.2	-6.9	-8.4	6.2	4.1	3.7
<i>Industry and energy</i>	-7.1	-5.9	-12.7	0.5	-0.8	2.3	2.2	3.7
<i>Manufacturing industry</i>	-11.1	-6.8	-7.9	-4.0	9.8	-0.3	3.0	3.8
<i>Construction</i>	-15.3	-7.9	-6.9	-2.0	2.9	2.0	8.9	4.9
<i>Services</i>	1.9	-1.7	0.5	0.9	2.3	3.0	2.5	2.6
<i>Trade, transport, hotel</i>	4.0	-1.7	-0.6	1.3	2.9	3.7	3.5	3.2
<i>Information and communications</i>	-1.1	0.3	7.3	9.3	3.5	5.6	5.1	5.1
<i>Financial, insurance</i>	-4.2	-5.4	-6.4	-5.7	-5.0	-0.6	-0.9	-1.5
<i>Real estate activities</i>	4.2	2.7	2.0	0.4	0.4	1.8	1.9	1.3
<i>Service activities</i>	-2.0	-7.1	0.1	2.2	10.7	7.1	3.5	6.2
<i>Public administration</i>	0.5	-2.4	1.6	-0.5	0.4	1.6	0.5	1.4
<i>Other services</i>	0.7	-1.2	-1.2	1.8	3.7	1.6	3.7	1.7
<i>Gross Value Added</i>	-0.6	-2.4	-1.1	0.5	1.9	2.9	2.8	2.9

Source: National Statistics Institute, Compiled by: CCE

Figure 4 illustrates the development of gross value added in selected key sectors of the Canary Islands economy. The graphs of the time series depict an economic structure that is essentially characterized by the development of service activities. As can be inferred from the solid dark line, aggregated “wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities” provide predominant contributions to total regional income generation. With aggregated gross value-added figures levelling around 14 billion Euros in 2017, the economic significance of this



sector also clearly exceeds the economic significance of “public administration, defense, education, human health and social work activities”.

The Canaries have no own fossil fuel resources; all fuels are imported. Also, the Canaries exhibit a lack of all other raw materials. Agricultural areas and natural resources such as beaches, water and scenery, however, are abundant and contribute predominantly to regional export flows.

The regional economy runs a serious trade deficit which increased considerably in the past. As reported by the Canarias’ Statistical Office (Instituto Canario de Estadística, ISTAC), this deficit rose from almost 8.5 billion euros in 2000 to more than 13 billion euros in 2017. Table 3 reproduces a most recent overview on aggregated import and export data. The development of imports is essentially driven by imports of mineral fuels, mineral oils and other refined products (more than 2.8 billion euros in 2017), motor vehicles, other land transportation vehicles and parts thereof (more than 2.4 billion euros in 2017) as well machinery and mechanical appliances and parts thereof (almost 1 billion euros in 2017).

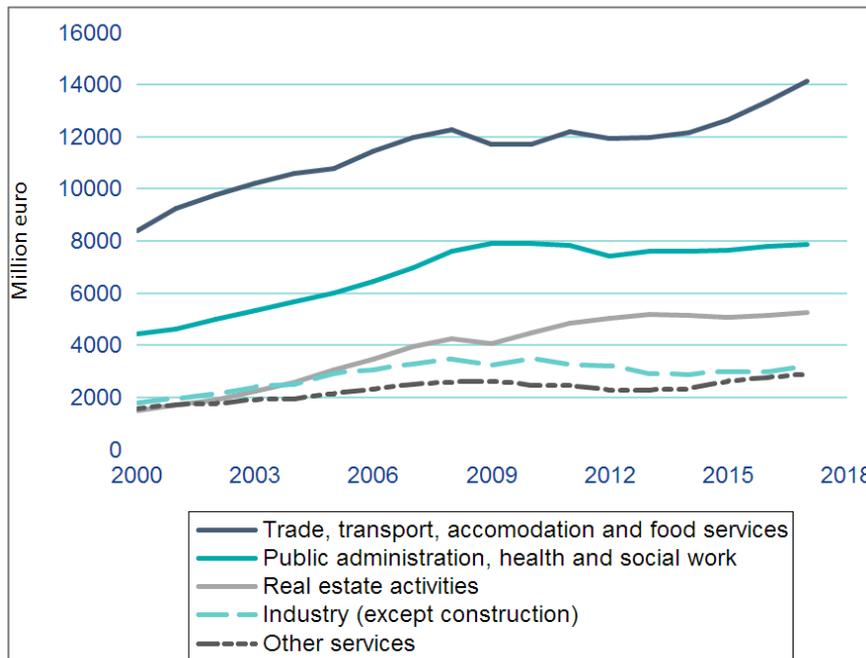


Figure 4: Development of gross value added in selected key sectors.
Source: Eurostat TGS00010 database, own representation.

Table 3: Summary of foreign trade flows for the Canary Islands 2017.

	Total value (in thousands of euros)			Difference		Year-to-Year Variation (%)	
	2007	2016	2017	16-17	07-17	16-17	07-17
TOTAL	3,223,403	3,055,300	3,523,337	468,037	299,934	15.3	9.3
Oil products (chapter 27*)	1,266,958	269,117	483,254	214,136	-783,704	79.6	-61.9
Total (excluding chapter 27*)	1,956,445	2,786,183	3,040,083	253,901	1,083,638	9.1	55.4

Source: Canary Islands Economy Annual Report 2017

It is interesting to note that the above-mentioned major import categories do also represent major export categories. However, the reported export volumes are considerably lower than the import values mentioned above (around 483 million euros for mineral fuels, mineral oils and other refined products, 187 million euros for motor vehicles, other land transportation vehicles and parts thereof and 178 million euros for machinery and mechanical appliances and parts thereof). Whereas individual products of the most important export category “special encodings” can hardly be named in more detail, fruits and nuts, tobacco and tobacco products as well as fish and other aquatic products represent relevant domestic contributions to the reported export flows.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

Tourism is still increasing on the Canaries. Lately, there has been a public discussion about overtourism, mainly in cities but on islands as well. The online travel magazine *Mypics* states: “Resources are scarce on islands. The ecological balance in nature is even more sensitive than in the city. In several years it has been reported that drinking water has become scarce. The sewage and garbage disposal for the many people on the islands is a problem. They are inhabited only by relatively few natives. The sewage and garbage disposal are adjusted to them and of course also to tourists. However, when seven to thirty times the amount of waste and sewage is produced in the season, it is no longer manageable. Waste water is discharged untreated into the sea.” Adding climate change to this scenario makes the islands even more vulnerable. Figure 5 and table 4 show an overview of the development of the main tourist indicators for the Canary Islands. Almost 14 million visitors spent close to 17 billion Euro in 2017 and employed close to 60 thousand people in the accommodation sector alone.

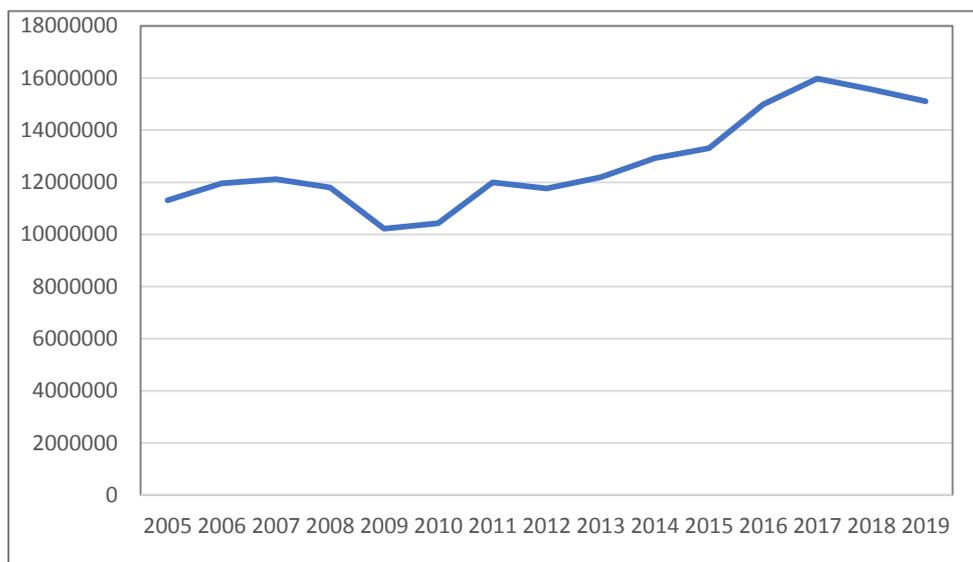


Figure 5: Development of tourist arrivals in Canary Islands.

Source: Promotur

The expenditures are distributed to accommodation (31%), transport (except flights) (10%), food and drink (20%), souvenirs 7%), and leisure (tours, sports, cultural events) (32%) (Tourist profile.



Canary Islands, 2017).

Apparently, the choice of this destination by tourists is predominantly influenced by prevailing climate conditions. Other relevant impact factors of respective traveler decisions are given by available regional possibilities to relax, the availability and quality of beaches and individual landscapes features. In general, the two big islands (Tenerife and Gran Canaria) offer both beach and nature activities. Fuerteventura is famous for beaches, the dunes, and sea sports. La Palma and La Gomera are well-known for their nature and forests. Lanzarote is famous for its cultural heritage (gastronomy: vineyard) and its exacerbated volcanic landscapes. The later attribute is also predominant in El Hierro.

Table 4: Main tourist indicators from Canary Island for 2016 and 2017.

	2016	2017	Var. abs. 16-17	Var. (%) 16-17
Average stay (days)	7.7	7.5	-0.2	-
Employed personnel tourist accommodation				
Hotels	45,695	47,264	1,569	3.4
Apartments	11,425	11,635	210	1.8
Bed places				
Hotels	214,852	215,836	984	0.5
Apartments	212,502	218,252	5,750	2.7
Employed personnel per each bed places				
Hotels	18.9	19.4	0.5	-
Apartments	7.2	7.4	0.3	-
Total establishments	14.3	14.7	0.5	-
Tourist Expenditure Survey				
Total tourists' expenditure	15,070	16,780	1,710	11.3
Average expenditure per person	1,137	1,181	44	3.9
Average daily expenditure per person	130	138	8	6.2

Source: FRONTUR-Canarias (ISTAC); AENA; Establishments occupancy survey (INE); EGATUR (INE); ISTAC.

Maritime transport

While global maritime transport of goods grows steadily with global trade, the transport of people by ship has been replaced by airplanes if it comes to going from one place to another. The only passenger ships with positive growth rates and positively growing revenues are cruise ships, a holiday activity with a rapidly growing market.

Table 5: Maritime transport activities.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Passengers (in 1000)	3,356	4,035	3,801	3,658	4,652
Freight (in 1000 tons)	29,816	25,707	24,409	25,570	25,020

Source: Eurostat

Islands, and such the Canaries participate in the latter, but have more reasons for the freight maritime transport: they rely on resources (such as fuels, food, building material, consumer goods such as cars etc.) which are brought to the island by ship. Both activities have been relatively



stable over the last five years. Nevertheless, the Canarian Port Authorities plan several additional ports in the near future.

Aquaculture

The Blue Economy sector aquaculture is always rather dwarfed. On the Canaries, it only has a share of 0.2% of total value-added. The aquaculture in the Canary Islands stands out because at present the range of temperature between summer and winter is not very pronounced, which causes an advantage in production, in time and a specific commercial size.

The main fishing activities of the Canary Islands are coastal artisanal fishing (for small pelagic species, demersals and tuna), cephalopod fishing off the coast of Africa by a fleet of freezer trawlers, and high seas tuna fishing. All the catches are landed in ports authorised as first-sale markets. Currently, there are 31 entities authorised as first-sale points for fresh fisheries products, and 17 for frozen fisheries products. More than half of the total fresh fisheries production is landed in Tenerife, particularly as regards pelagic fish and crustaceans. Gran Canaria is very significant for landings of demersal fish and molluscs. In Lanzarote pelagic landings are dominant, whereas La Palma and El Hierro have important parts of the crustacean landings.

Table 6: Economic contribution of aquaculture.

	2015	2016	2017	2018
NACE 03 Fishing and Aquaculture				
Output	149,537	199,067	226,722	185,849
GVA	28,811	42,899	11,177	31,999
Aquaculture				
Output	130,864	178,474	201,747	163,756
GVA	18,596	31,265	-2,072	19,533
GVA of Aquaculture to GVA of total economy	0.22%	0.34%	-0.02%	0.18%
GVA of Aquaculture to GVA of NACE 03	64.54%	72.88%	-18.54%	61.04%
Output of Aquaculture to output of NACE 03	87.51%	89.66%	88.98%	88.11%
Full time equivalent employees	159	161	178	223

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

Electricity

The Greenpeace Energy Revolution Scenario describes the challenges of electricity generation and energy supply on the Canaries as follows⁸: The structure of energy demand in the Canary Islands shows relevant differences with respect to the Peninsula or European Union countries, and it is particularly defined by the mild climate, yielding lower needs regarding heating, the demand from tourists, the transport sector, because the Canary Islands have a vehicle per capita

8

https://www.dlr.de/dlr/Portaldaten/1/Resources/documents/2015/Energy_R_evolution_CanaryIslands_ExecutiveSummary_EN.pdf



ratio 20% over the national average, and an ageing fleet. The need for drinking water production, through sea water desalination puts additional pressure on electricity generation. Energy demand in the residential sector is inferior to the national average, not only due to the mild climate, but also to the inadequate coverage of heating and cooling needs. In fact, only 30% have air conditioning systems, and out of household energy demand only 3% corresponds to climate control (heating/cooling). This 3% would rise to 10% with a desirable incorporation level. High cost of electricity generation due to the high dependence on fossil fuels are a key issue. The costs of electricity generation in the Canary Islands, 237 € / MWh (according to latest data from the National Commission of markets and competition, CNMC) are among the highest in the European electricity markets. To prevent the Canarian electric bill to be higher than the rest of the state, these extra costs are shared on the bill of all customers in the country, in other words: subsidized.

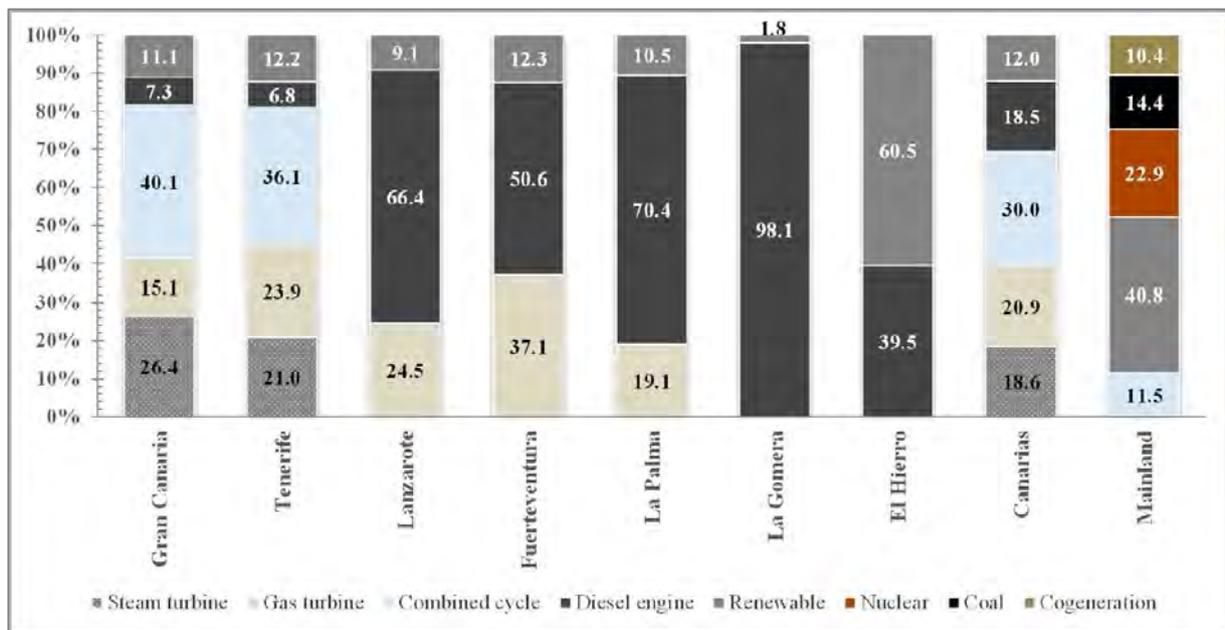


Figure 6: Power generation technologies currently applied in the Canary Islands.

Source: Uche-Soria & Rodríguez-Monroy (2018)⁹

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

According to our reference projections, Canary Islands continue to grow with a 1.6% yearly rate throughout the 2015-2100 period. Main drivers of growth are investments and public consumption with an average yearly growth rate of 1.5% over the whole projection period. (Table 7). While growth rates of private consumption are projected to range around 1%, a long-term

⁹ Uche-Soria, M.; Rodríguez-Monroy, C. Special Regulation of Isolated Power Systems: The Canary Islands, Spain. Sustainability 2018, 10, 2572.

reduction of the trade deficit also plays a key role for the sustained economic growth (Figure 7) This indicates a transition towards a more sustainable economy that reduces its reliance on imported consumption and increases its productive capacity through investment activity.

Table 7: Canary Islands' GDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GDP	3.0%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%
Private consumption	1.3%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	1.0%	1.3%	1.1%
Public consumption	2.9%	2.3%	2.1%	1.9%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%	1.1%	1.1%
Investments	4.0%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%
Trade	-0.7%	-0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	-3.9%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

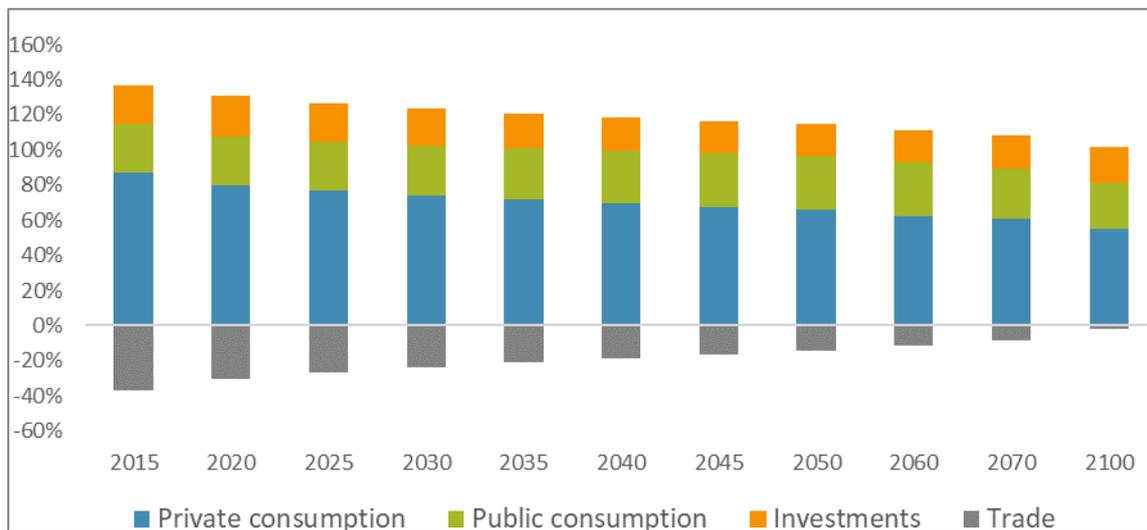


Figure 7: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Canary Islands in 2015-2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

The high growth contribution of investments in the period up to 2050 is primarily due to a high paced growth towards 2020 which counterbalances a lack of investments during the economic crisis. Throughout the 2025-2050 period, investments growth rates do not exceed overall GDP growth rates. Private consumption is projected to represent also in 2100 the largest demand component of GDP, followed by public consumption and investments.

2.2 The sectoral projections

The Canary Islands' economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period with an increasing contribution of non-market and other market services. The aggregated gross value added share of agriculture, fishery, manufacturing and consumer goods sectors is projected to diminish by roughly 1.5% until 2100. The aggregated share of electricity services, water services and construction services remains relatively stable close to 13% until 2100.



The aggregated gross value added share of total tourism activities is projected to range around 13% throughout the projection period.

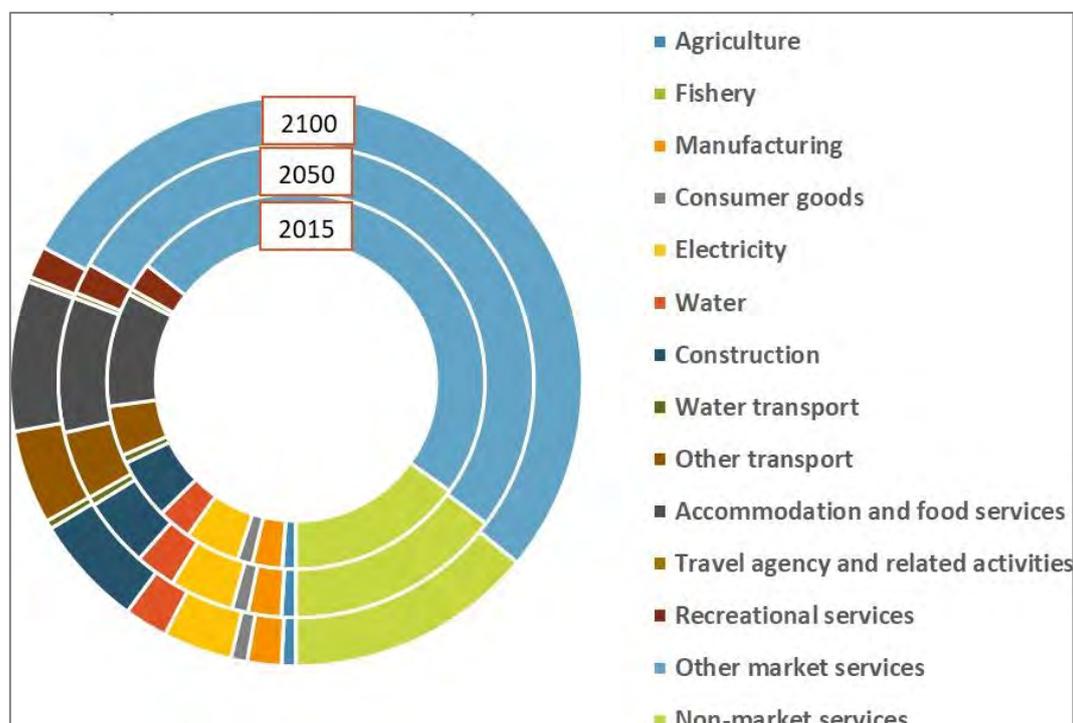


Figure 8: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Canary Islands in 2015, 2050 and 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

Table 8: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Canary Islands in 2015-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Agriculture	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%
Fishery	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Manufacturing	2.5%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	1.9%
Consumer goods	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%
Electricity	4.7%	4.6%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.2%	3.9%
Water	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%
Construction	5.2%	5.5%	5.3%	5.2%	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	4.7%	5.1%	5.4%	6.3%
Water transport	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%
Other transport	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	4.5%	4.6%	4.6%	4.7%	4.8%	4.9%	5.3%
Accommodation and food services	9.8%	9.6%	9.5%	9.5%	9.4%	9.3%	9.3%	9.2%	9.1%	9.0%	8.5%
Travel agency and related activities	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%
Recreational services	2.4%	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	1.8%
Other market services	49.3%	49.9%	50.4%	50.8%	51.2%	51.5%	51.8%	52.0%	52.2%	52.5%	53.2%
Non-market services	15.1%	14.9%	14.9%	14.9%	14.8%	14.8%	14.8%	14.7%	14.6%	14.4%	14.0%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations



2.3 Employment

The service-led economic growth brings positive effects to the labour market with unemployment projected to fall from more than 15% in 2015 to less than 7% until 2100. The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labor intensity of the sector. The biggest employing sectors are the non-market and market services as well as accommodation and food services. Accommodation and food services together with recreational services can therefore also be identified some most significant employers amongst the Blue growth sectors under analysis. The lowest contributions to overall employment among Blue growth sectors can be observed for the Fishery sector.

Table 9: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Canary Islands in 2020-2100

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	15.5%	12.1%	10.8%	10.0%	9.5%	9.2%	8.9%	8.7%	8.5%	7.7%	6.5%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

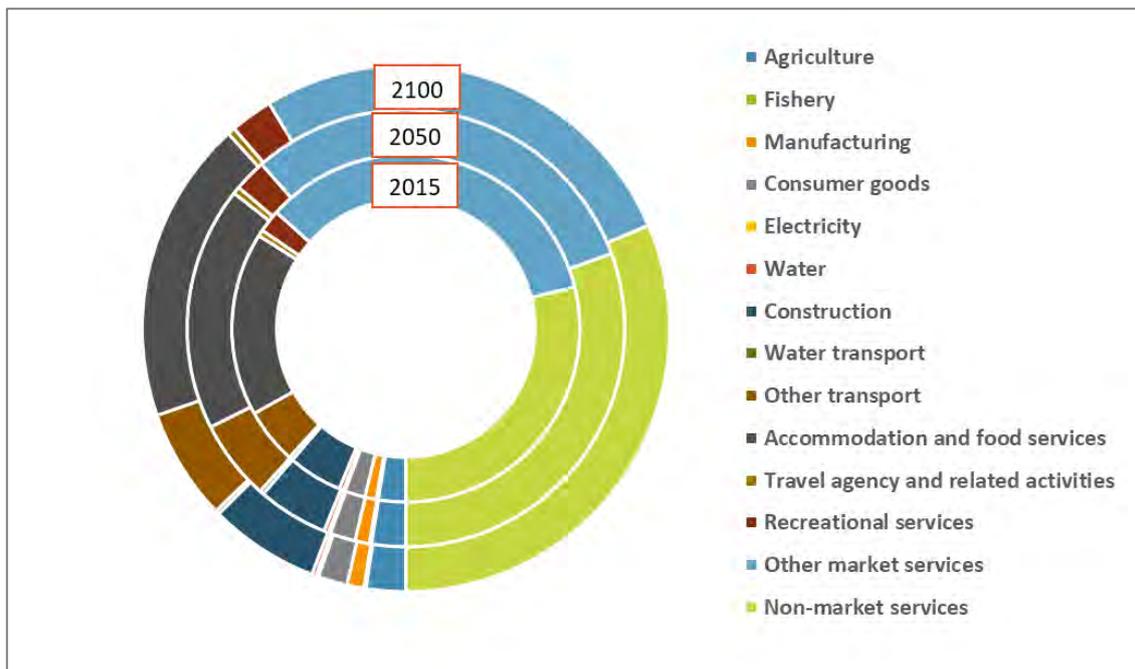


Figure 9: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Canary Islands in 2015, 2050, 2100

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D6.2](#) Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations

3 Climate change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenarios, RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario), and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). The main source of climate projections for the Canary Islands is MENA-CORDEX, even if other



model sources were applied when required. Results are presented in the form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

As to its reliability, it is important to note that Atlantic islands (Azores, Madeira, Canaries and West Indies) lie in very critical areas where global models might be inaccurate in predicting the large scale patterns (regional models are not available), and resolution is so coarse that in fact many islands don't even exist in model orography. This acknowledged, this is the only information we can provide, and at least future tendencies can be inferred. The new CMIP6 simulations might shed more light on this issues, but we can only suggest that results should be updated as they become available.

The same partly holds for the wave simulations: local resolution has been significantly increased in the dedicated new simulations of this project, performed by the partner ENEA (up to 0.05°), but the forcing wind field is still derived from the coarse global models.

Stakeholders should be made aware that uncertainty is an inherent characteristic of climate data, and that any future planning must cope with it. Climatologists can only highlight POTENTIAL threats and constraints, they cannot predict the future and pave the way to solutions. Conveying this piece of information is one of the most critical points of climate-change-related information.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Tourist [thermal] discomfort (Humidity Index)

As a representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidity Index (Humidex) greater than 35°C was selected. From a predefined classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans. For Canary Islands, under RCP8.5 (far future), the number increases.

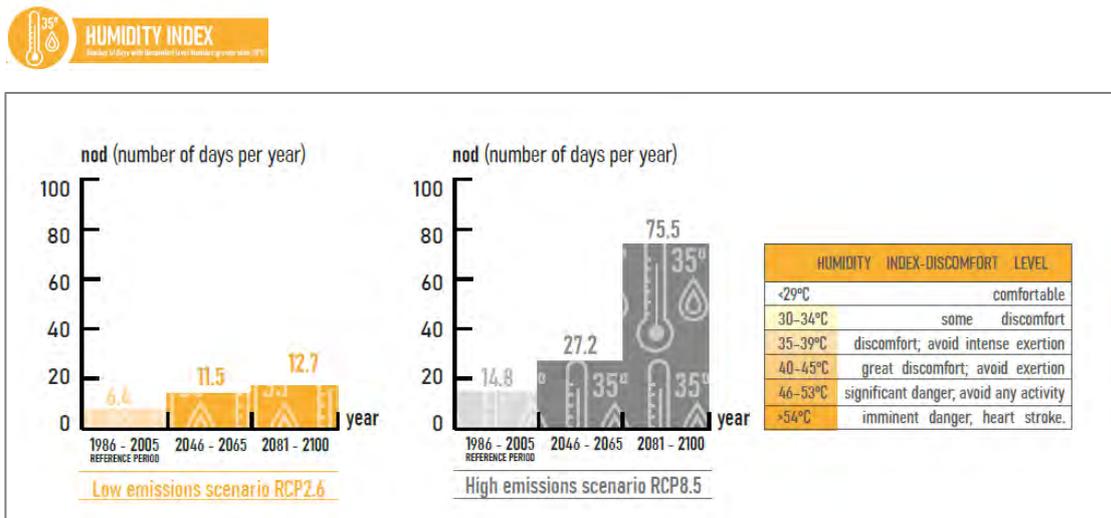


Figure 10: Humidex. Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator



Seagrass evolution

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, *etc.* Therefore, the state of seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. Our results suggest that no seagrass losses are expected for the three following species located in the coasts of Canary Islands: *Cymodocea*, *Zostera* and *Halophila*.

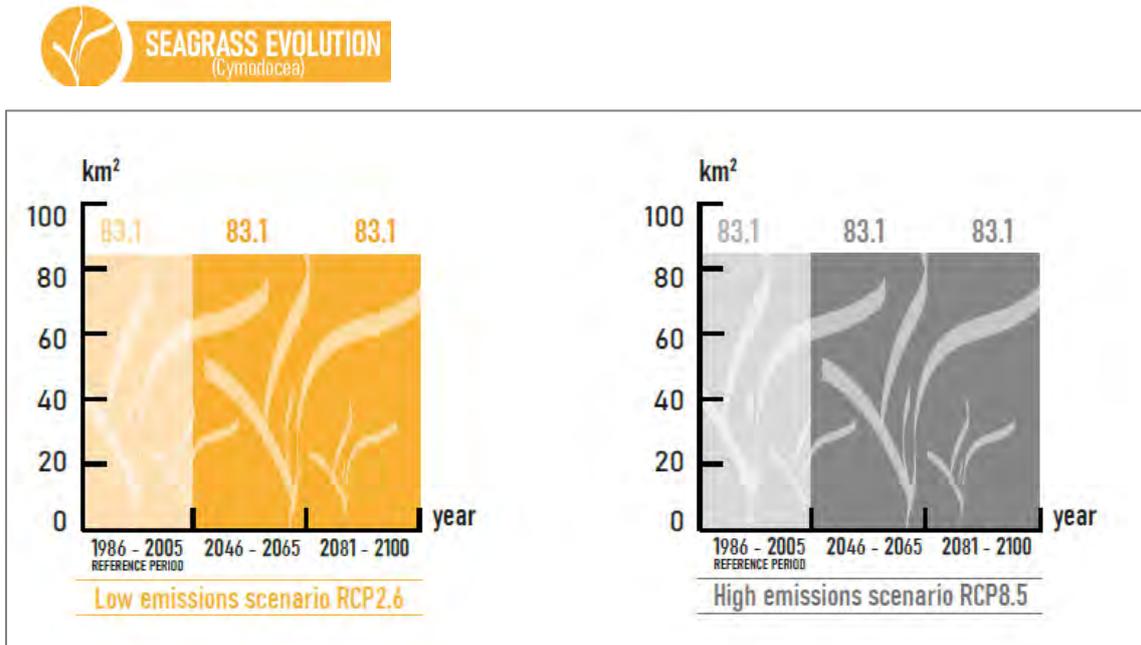


Figure 11: Seagrass evolution (covered area in km²).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4e](#) Report on estimated seagrass density

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The larger projected values are found for the Atlantic islands in SOCLIMPACT, where slightly larger sea level rise is combined with the effect of much larger wind waves. The values range from 59.92 cm for RCP2.6 to 137.8 cm for RCP8.5 in the far future. Under the RCP 2.6, the values are less than half, suggesting that a mitigation scenario could largely minimize the negative impact of climate change on beach flooding.

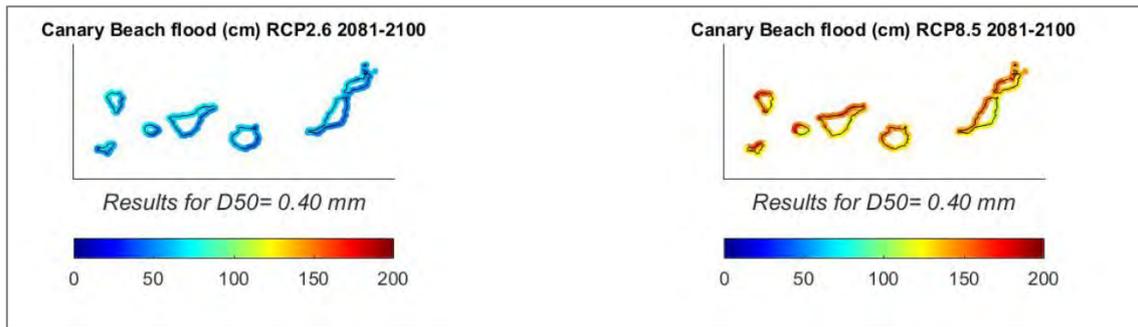


Figure 12: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the island (far future only). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss ranges from ~48% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~80% under scenario RCP8.5.

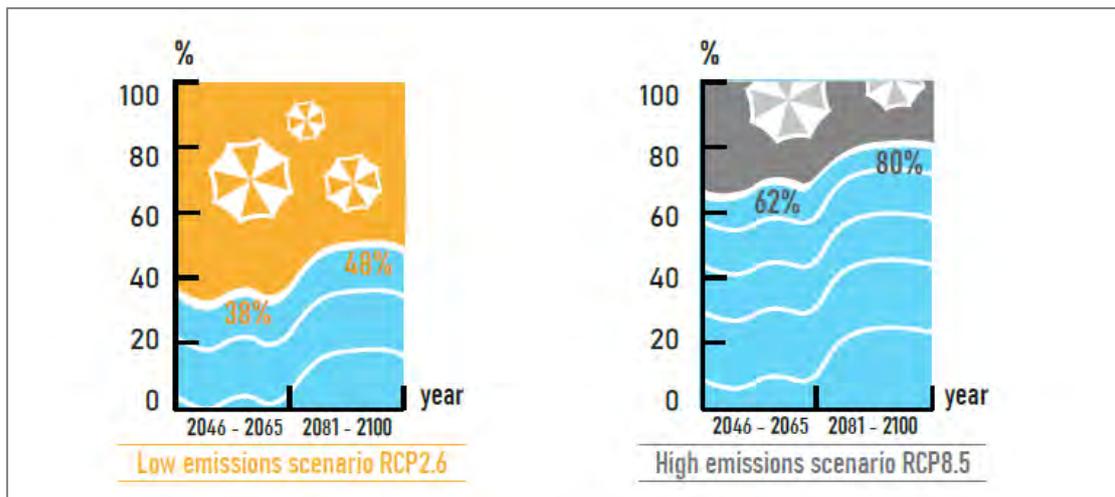


Figure 13: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches.

Fire Weather Index

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).



It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) for all models, scenarios and periods. For the Canary Islands, the ensemble means, and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. Under RCP8.5 there is an increased fire danger: the hazard class changes from medium (reference period) to high.

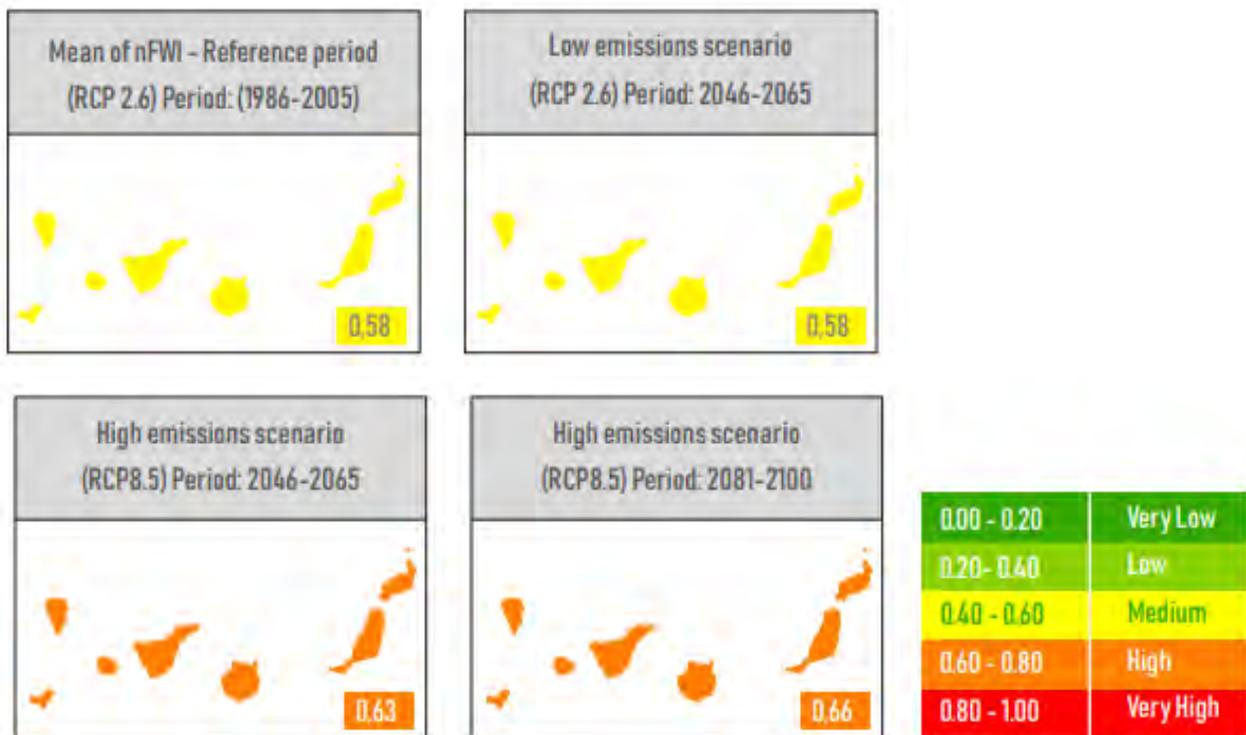


Figure 14: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the class of hazard

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4c](#) Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure

3.2 Aquaculture

The predicted impacts of climate change on the oceans and seas of the planet is expected to have direct impacts on marine based aquaculture systems. Basic effects are the following (Soto and Brugere, 2008).

Change in biophysical characteristics of coastal areas:

- Increased invasions from alien species.
- Increased spread of diseases.
- Changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, salinity, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters.



- Changes in the differences between sea and air temperature which will alter the seasonality, frequency and severity of storms, cyclones and other extreme events, affect the stability of the coastal resources and potentially increase the damages in infrastructure.
- Sea level rise, acidification, changes in precipitation and other effects will also add to the changes in coastal ecosystems and environment, thus affecting production and infrastructure (=investments).

Annual Mean Significant Wave Height (AMSH)

Annual Mean Significant Wave Height was selected as a relevant indicator of the average stress aquaculture infrastructures are subject to. For the Atlantic as a whole, no major changes in wave height mean values are observed, but a northward shift of the zonal belt where the meridional gradient of the field is strongest. The seasonal means for the reference period are presented hereafter.



ANNUAL MEAN SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT (AMSH)

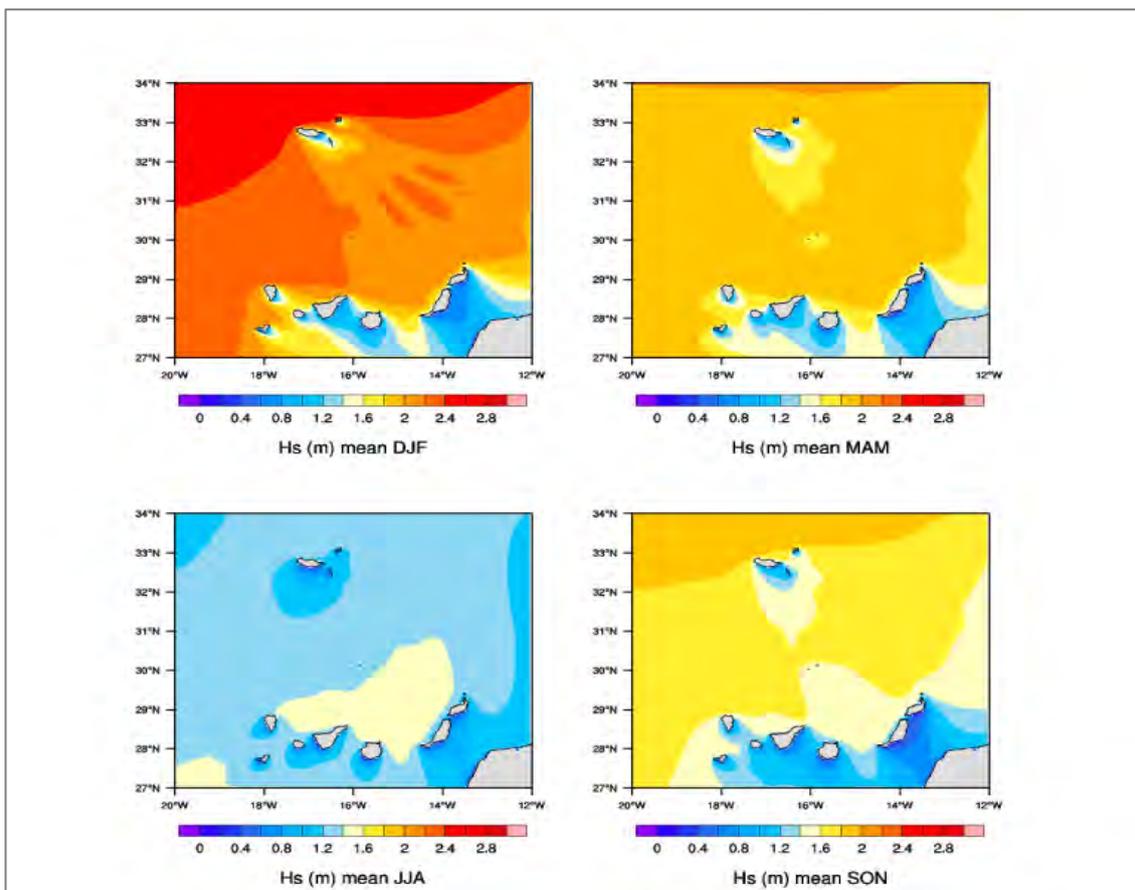


Figure 15: AMSH (seasonal; DJF=Winter, MAM=Spring, JJA=Summer, SON=Autumn).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes



Extreme Wave Return Time

Return times for a threshold of 7 m significant wave height (hs) were computed, this significant height having been identified by stakeholders as the critical limit for severe damages to assets at sea. Return times can be related to the payback times of investments and help assess potential economic losses and economic sustainability.

The Atlantic islands under observation in SOCLIMPACT deserve special treatment, due to their location in an area that is particularly sensitive to climate-change induced changes in the global circulation.

A uniform increase in return times is observed, as the meridional gradient in extreme event frequency experiences a northward shift and is confined within a thinner zonal belt. In the far future and under the RCP8.5 scenario, the Canaries appear to be less exposed to the extreme events potentially harmful to aquaculture infrastructures.

The evident limitation of such conclusions is their being based on a single driving model experiment, which is clearly insufficient to investigate the natural variability of the position and intensity of the observed meridional gradient.

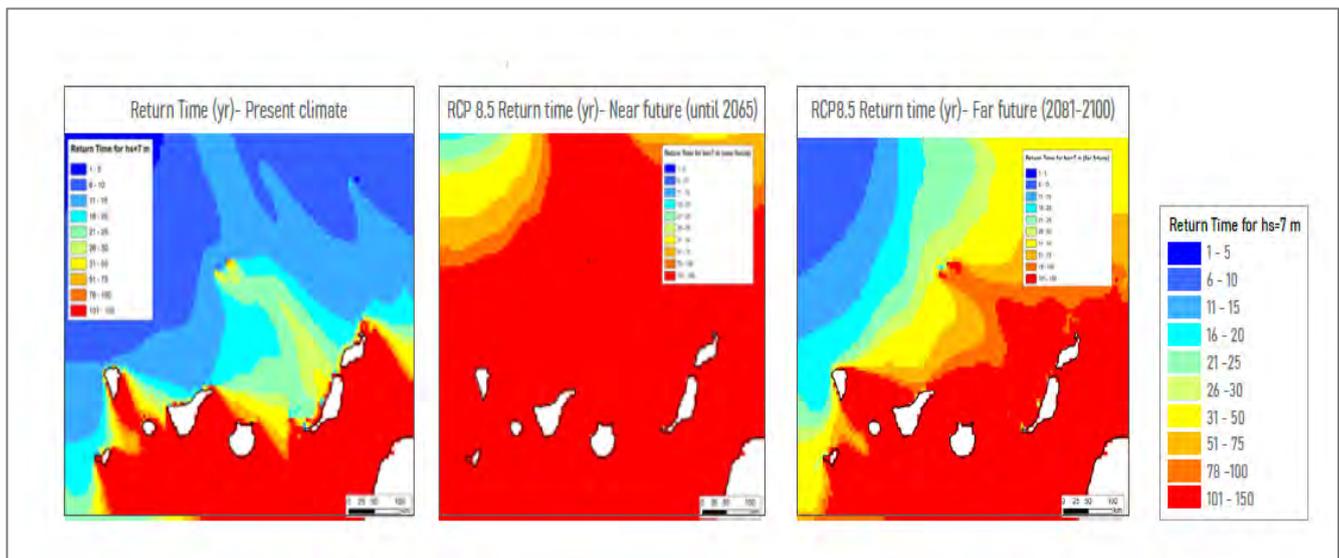


Figure 16: Extreme Wave Return Time.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

3.3 Energy

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud et al., 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy



sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity

Yearly photovoltaic productivity shows generally small changes over the island (with respect to the yearly productivity of the reference period), with some increases mostly over the mountainous areas of the islands, while coastal areas show mostly decreases. Larger changes are found for RCP8.5, but even for this emissions scenario they remain below 5% over land, pointing towards a stable energy resource.

In general, eastern islands have higher productivity values, while lower values are seen on the north-west side of the domain. With respect to the wind energy productivity a clear increase is found in the Canary Islands in the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the XXI century (nearly 5%).

WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

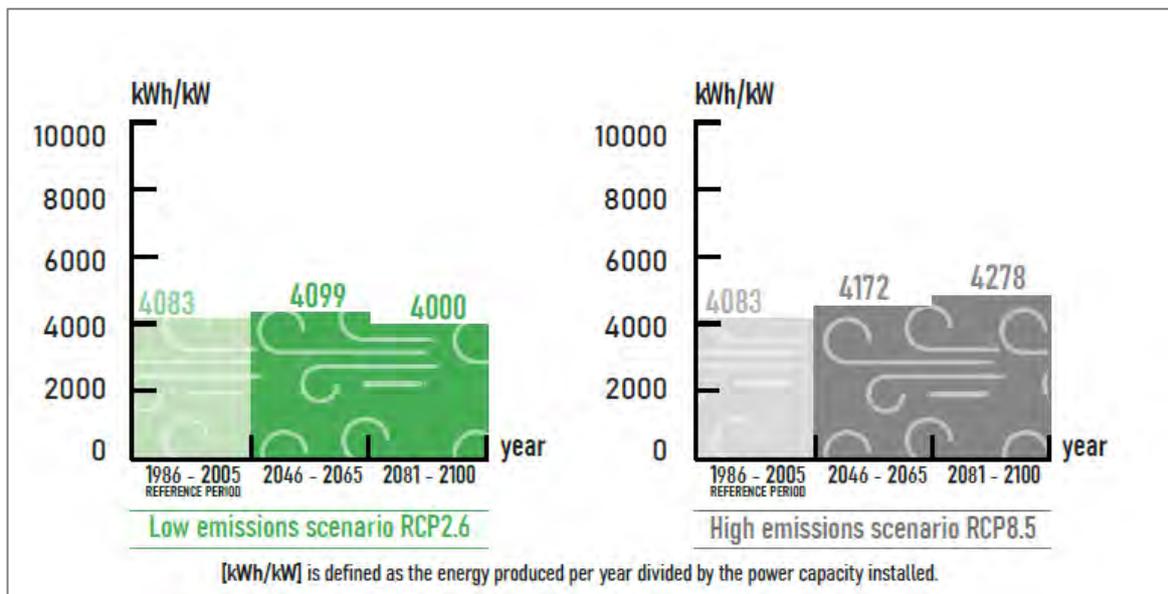


Figure 17: Wind energy productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

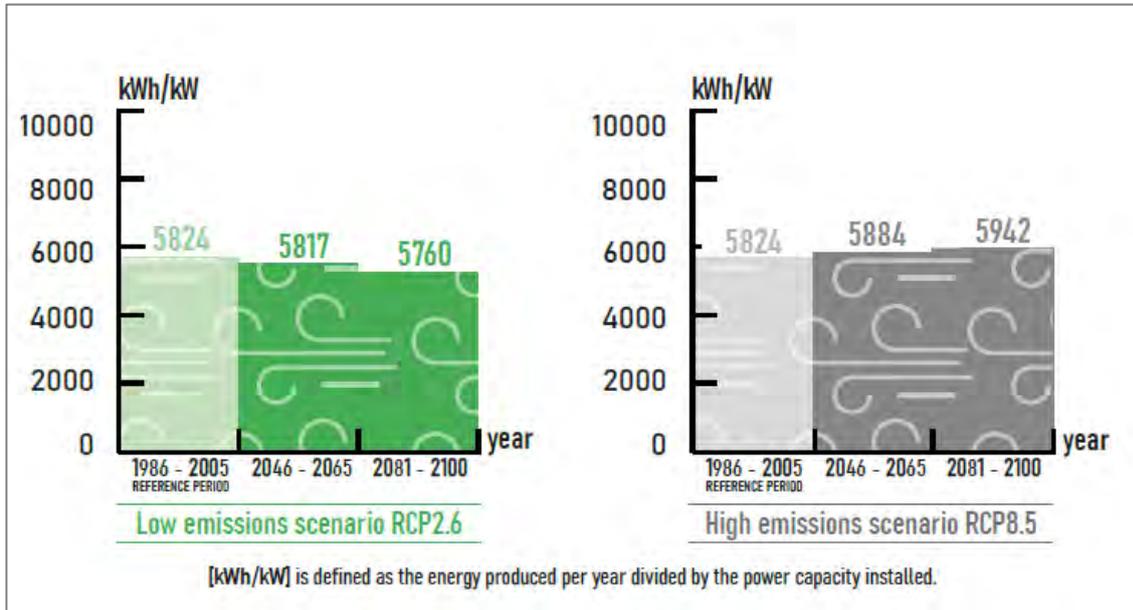


Figure 18: Wind energy productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

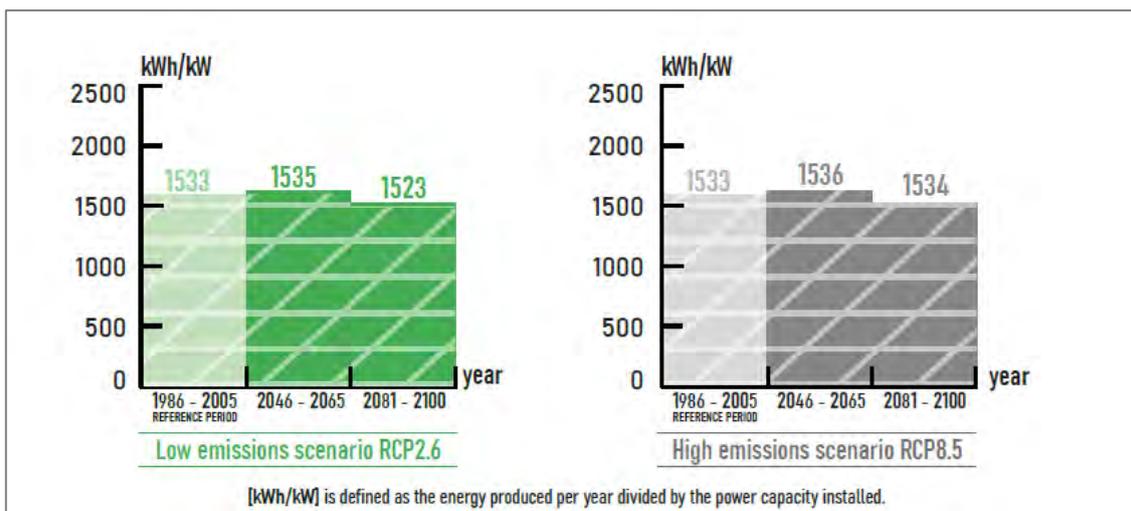


Figure 19: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

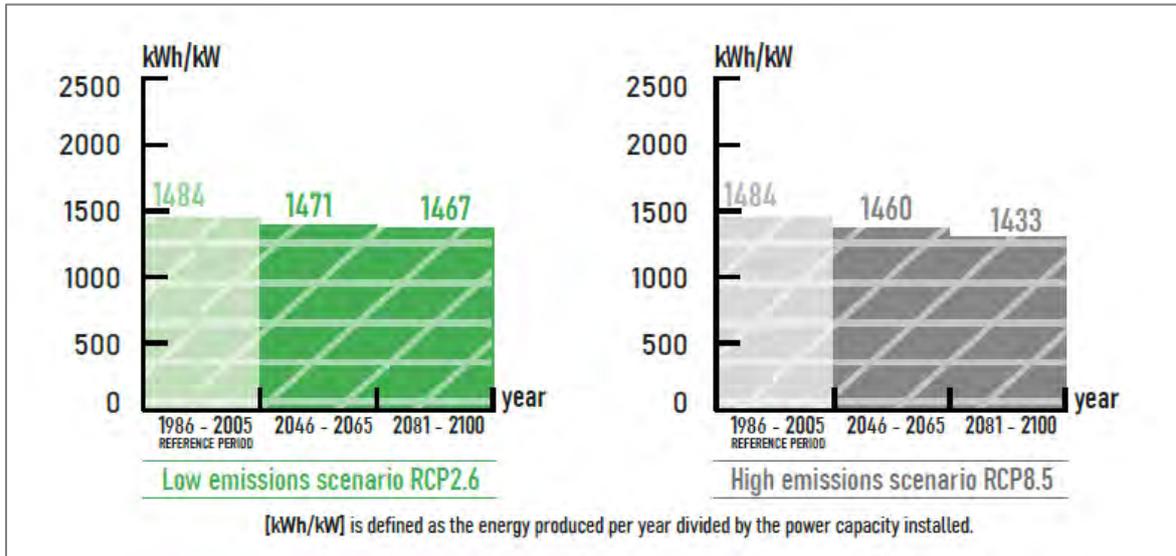


Figure 20: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy

Time series of PV productivity show the expected seasonal pattern with higher values in central months of the year. In general, a substantial relative interannual variability of PV productivity over the Canary Islands is found, except for summer months. Future negative changes can be appreciated easily for summer in RCP8.5 and RCP2.6, particularly in RCP8.5 at the end of the century. PV productivity tends to decrease also in spring and autumn in RCP8.5. These changes are responsible of the annual mean changes in PV productivity projected over the domain. In other seasons changes are less clear due to the higher interannual variability.

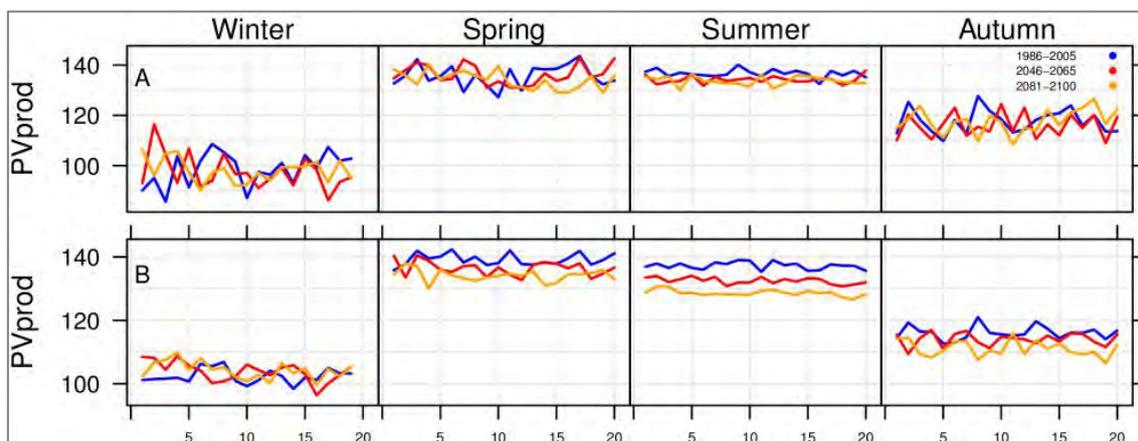


Figure 21: Annual and seasonal variability of PV productivity (kWh/kW, in monthly average for each season) for the Canary Islands domain for selected periods for (A) RCP2.6 and (B) RCP8.5. Note that only complete winters (DJF) have been taken into account to construct the time series.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy



The annual and seasonal variability analysis for wind energy shows that this region has a weak seasonal cycle. The maximum occurs in summer, the minimum occurs in autumn, although it is very close to winter values. However, models project seasonal changes so that the future seasonal cycle should be even weaker. The increase found in RCP8.5, especially by end of century, is mainly related to the winter, also with a slight increase in autumn. A decrease in summer occurs in both periods.

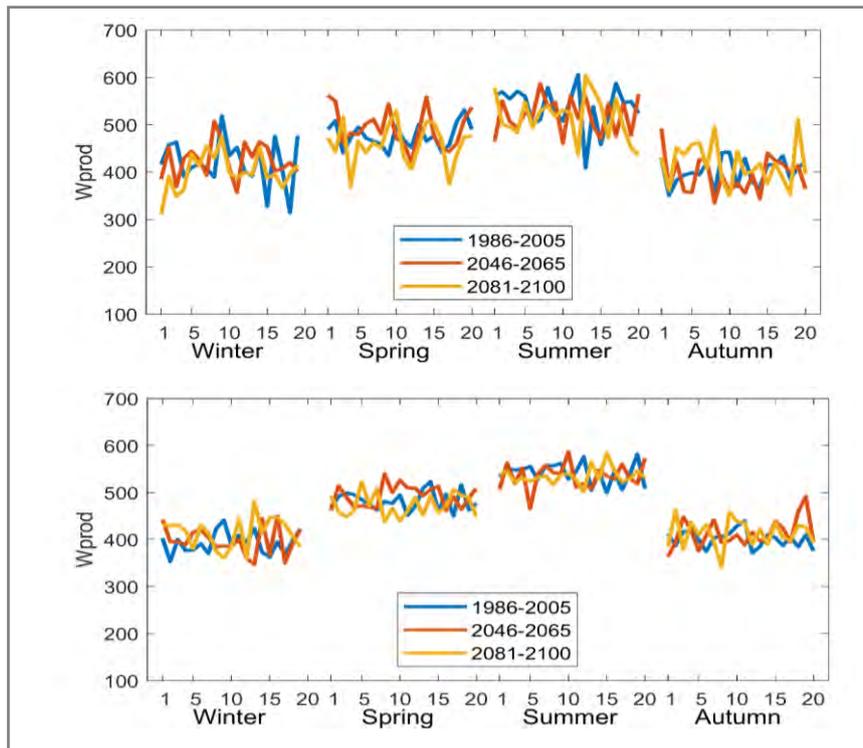


Figure 22: Annual and seasonal variability of W_{prod} (kWh/kW , in monthly average for each season) for the Canary Islands domain for selected periods for RCP2.6 (upper panel) and RCP8.5 (lower panel). Note that only complete winters (DJF) have been taken into account to construct the time series.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Wind energy productivity droughts are generally much more frequent than photovoltaic productivity droughts. Also, the duration of wind energy drought episodes (measured by the maximum consecutive energy drought days) is greater than that of photovoltaic droughts. This highlights the steadiness of photovoltaic production in the analyzed island.

Projected changes in the % of days of drought are generally not larger than 5%. For instance, in line with what is found for wind energy productivity, in the Canary Islands we observe a pronounced decrease in the occurrence of wind energy droughts in the RCP8.5 scenario, especially in the second half of the XXI century. Results indicate also that in general, offshore wind energy is less variable than onshore wind energy, as wind energy droughts over the sea are less frequent and last less than over land.

As for moderate wind droughts, changes in the frequency of moderate PV droughts show great spatial variability in the RCP2.6 case, while a generalised decrease in the occurrence of moderate



PV droughts is found for the RCP8.5 scenario. Regarding severe PV droughts, their frequency in the reference period and their changes are very small in both scenarios.

ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

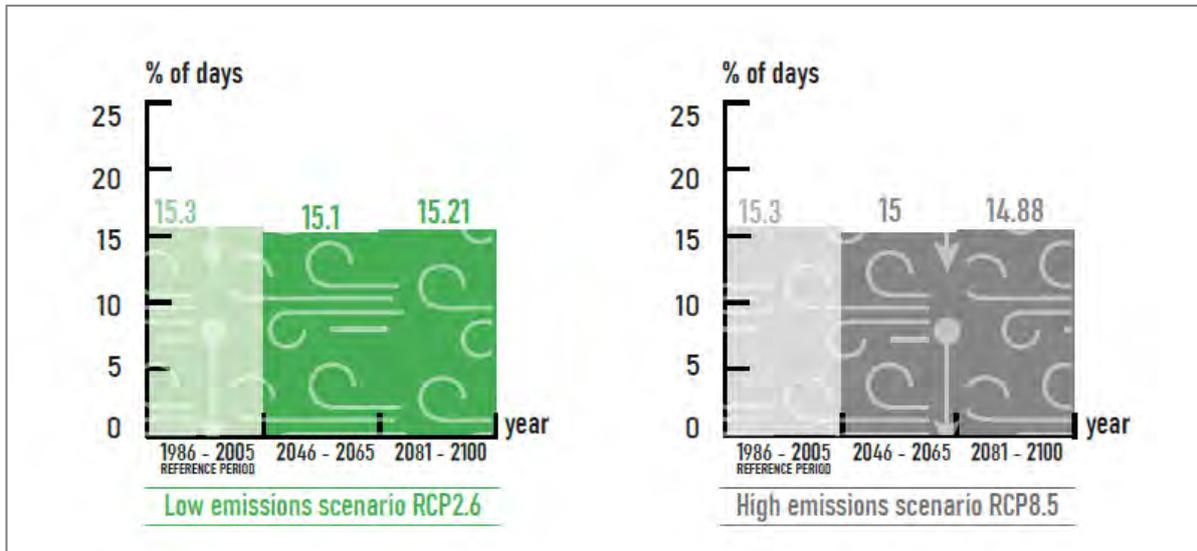


Figure 23: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

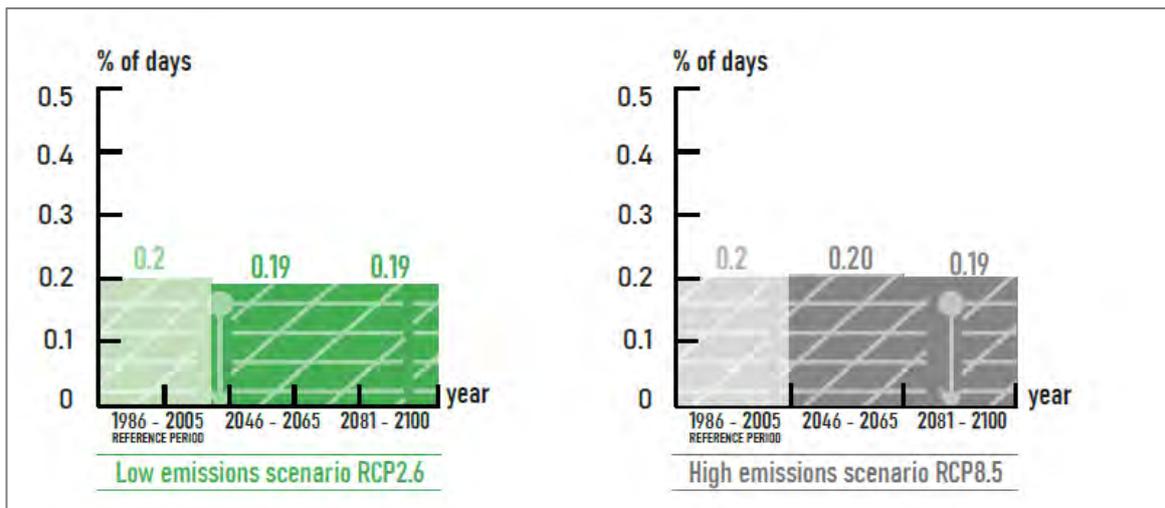


Figure 24: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



The Figure expands the results presented and provides a good overview regarding the ensemble mean frequency (%) and maximum number of consecutive energy drought days for the different time periods and scenarios considered. We observe that wind drought episodes are much more frequent and of a longer duration than PV events. Both the frequency and the maximum duration of combined PV and wind energy droughts tend to take intermediate values between both. Wind, PV and combined energy productivity droughts, respectively, experience a decrease in frequency and maximum duration in the RCP8.5 scenario (compare red dots in Figure below). Changes in the frequency and maximum duration of drought episodes in the RCP2.6 scenario are not homogeneous (compare orange dots).

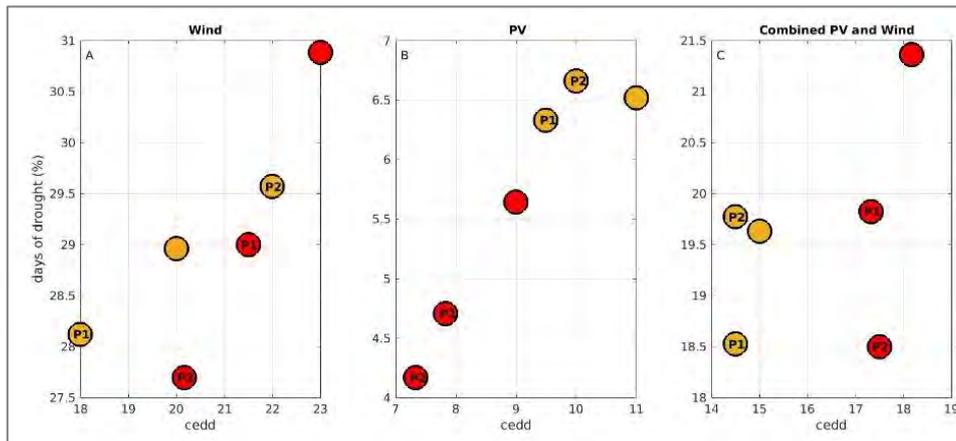


Figure 25: Ensemble mean frequency (%) and maximum number of consecutive energy drought days (cedd) for wind (A), photovoltaic (PV; B) and combined PV and wind (C) moderate droughts in the Canary Islands (note that means have been exclusively computed over land). Orange dots (not annotated) are computed for the control time period (1986-2005) taking into account the model available for the RCP2.6 scenario, whilst red dots (not annotated) are calculated for the control time period considering the models available for the RCP8.5. Annotated orange and red circles are calculated for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios, respectively, for P1 (2046-2065) and P2 (2081-2100).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Regarding wind productivity droughts, we observe that these are more frequent in winter and autumn and take the minimum values in summer. This result is consistent with the seasonal cycle of the wind productivity, with maximum values in spring/summer, when wind trades intensify. In both scenarios interannual variability is larger in the RCP2.6 case, given that this scenario accounts for just one model. In the RCP8.5 scenario, a decrease in the number of wind drought days can be observed in winter and autumn in both time periods. The decreased number of wind drought days found in RCP8.5 scenario can be therefore mainly attributed to the wind productivity increase that occurs in winter and autumn.

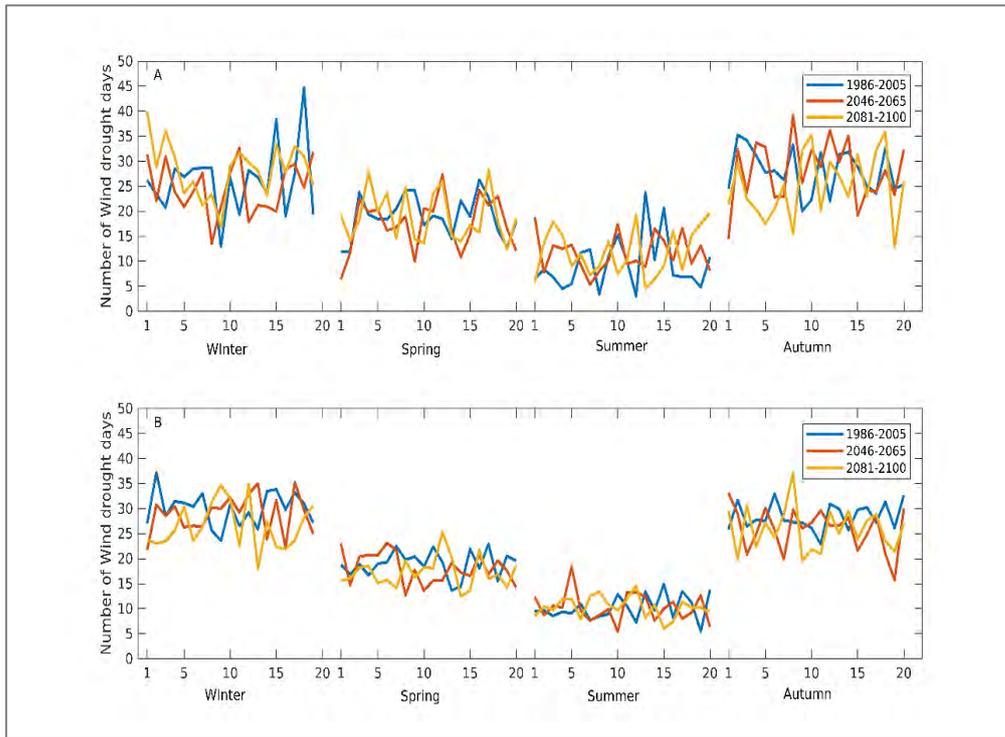


Figure 26: Annual and seasonal number of moderate wind drought days for the Canary Islands domain for the selected periods for (A) RCP2.6 and (B) RCP8.5 scenarios. Note that only complete winters (DJF) have been taken into account to construct the time series.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Focusing on PV droughts we note that, in line with what has been found for the wind productivity, droughts are more frequent in winter in autumn.

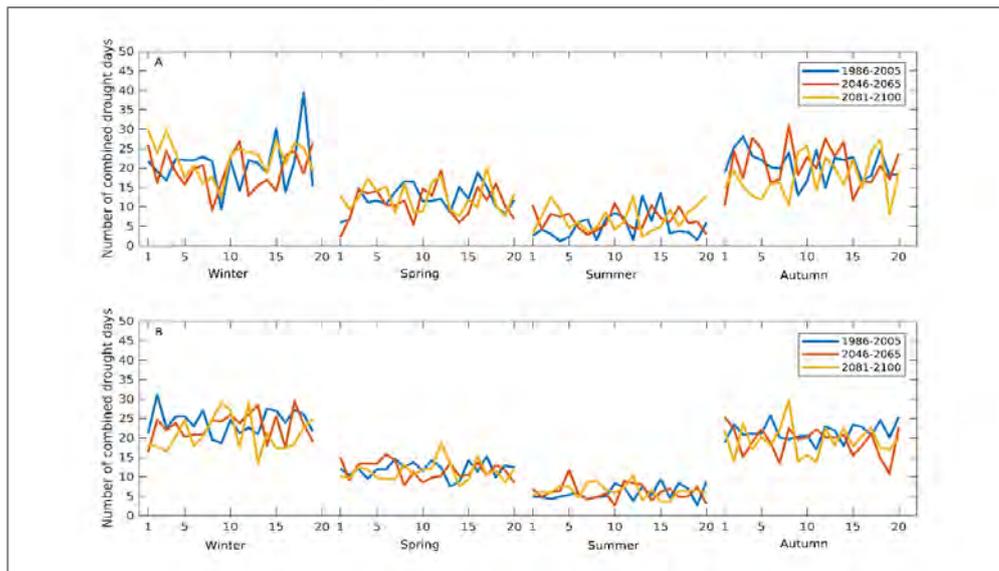


Figure 27: Annual and seasonal number of moderate combined PV and wind drought days for the Canary Islands domain for the selected periods for (A) RCP2.6 and (B) RCP8.5 scenarios. Note that only complete winters (DJF) have been taken into account to construct the time series.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



Whilst wind droughts are less prone to occur in spring and summer in both cases, PV droughts are now almost absent in these two seasons. This is consistent with prevailing anticyclonic conditions in spring and summer and higher atmospheric instability associated with the arrival of Atlantic fronts in winter and autumn. Therefore, annual mean changes in the frequency of PV droughts are largely set by insolation changes in the winter season.

Interannual variations are largest in winter. In the RCP8.5 scenario, PV droughts experience a remarkable drop in frequency in winter, especially at the end of the 21st century. This is again consistent with the subtle increase of the PV productivity observed in this season. In both RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios PV productivity experiences a decrease in summer in the two considered time periods. Interestingly, this is not linked to a noticeable increase in the frequency of PV droughts in summer, which suggests that the productivity decrease is mostly evenly distributed among most summer days and is not mainly due to larger daily variability in surface solar radiation.

Regarding the seasonal cycle of combined PV and wind droughts, we note that this is in all time periods and scenarios qualitatively similar to that found for wind droughts. However, now the frequency of droughts has a smaller magnitude than in the case of wind droughts, as expected from the combination with a low variability energy source like PV. Wind productivity, which has a greater magnitude and a larger variability in time than PV productivity, seems to control the seasonal cycle to a larger extent. In this case, as for wind droughts, a decrease in the frequency of combined droughts occurs in winter and autumn in both periods of the RCP8.5 scenario.

Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room. For RCP2.6 (one model analysis), we found that for near future the increase is almost 60% while at the end of the century this increase will be above 80%. On the other hand, the analysis of the RCP8.5 with 4 models provides a more devastating picture as the number of CDD will be almost 3 times larger than the reference period.



COOLING DEGREE DAYS

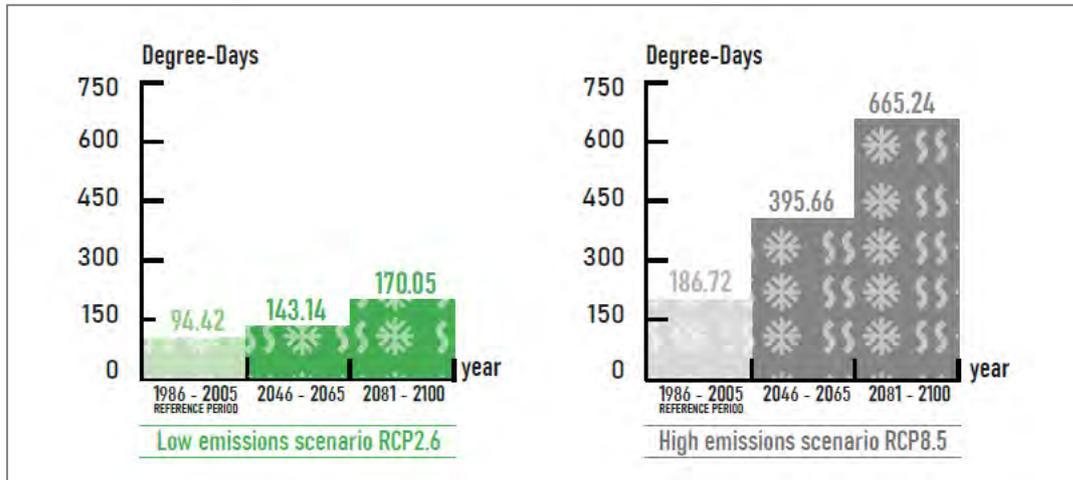


Figure 28: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.3 Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

Extreme temperature (Percentage of days when $T > 98^{th}$ percentile – T_{98p})

For the assessment of climate hazard on temperature related impacts of climate change on the energy sector, the percentage of days when $T > 98^{th}$ percentile (T_{98p}) has been used. For RCP2.6, the indicator will reach 7% by the end of the century. On the other hand, the RCP8.5 future projections show that, while in mid-century about 7% of the days will be above T_{98p} threshold, at the end of the century, daily temperatures will be above T_{98p} for almost 25% (~90 days per year) of time.



EXTREME TEMPERATURES

(Percentage of days per year when $T > 98^{th}$ percentile – T_{98p})

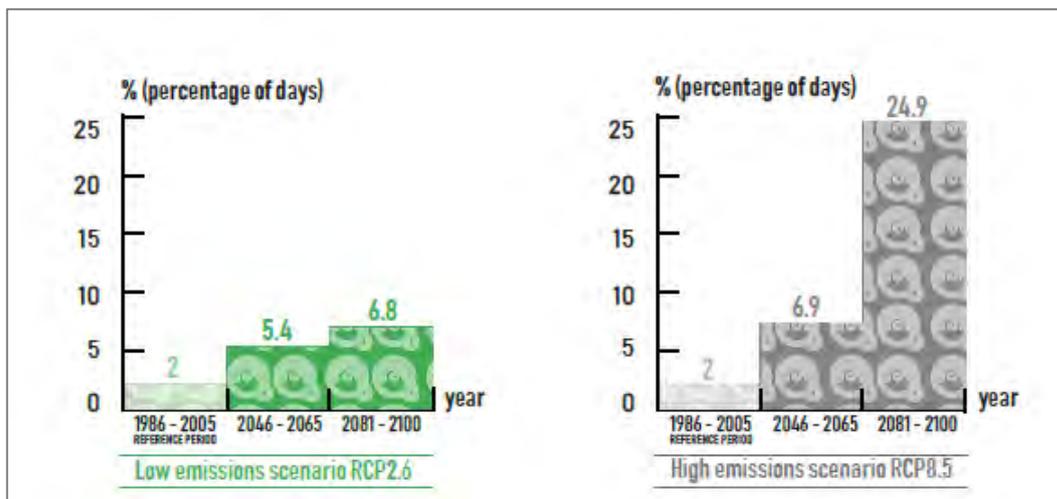


Figure 29: Percentage of days when $T > 98^{th}$ percentile. Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.3 Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

Available water: Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index

This index is used as an indication of water availability. The Canary Islands are located in a geographical zone that is expected to be greatly affected by climate change. Although there are much less available simulations for Macaronesia, it is the only case of the investigated SOCLIMPACT islands where a clear transition to drier conditions is evident even under the ambitious pathway.

In particular, Gran Canaria, Fuerteventura and parts of Tenerife are projected to experience moderate to extreme dry conditions under RCP2.6. For all islands, the extreme dry thresholds are also expected to be exceeded by the middle of the current century under RCP8.5.

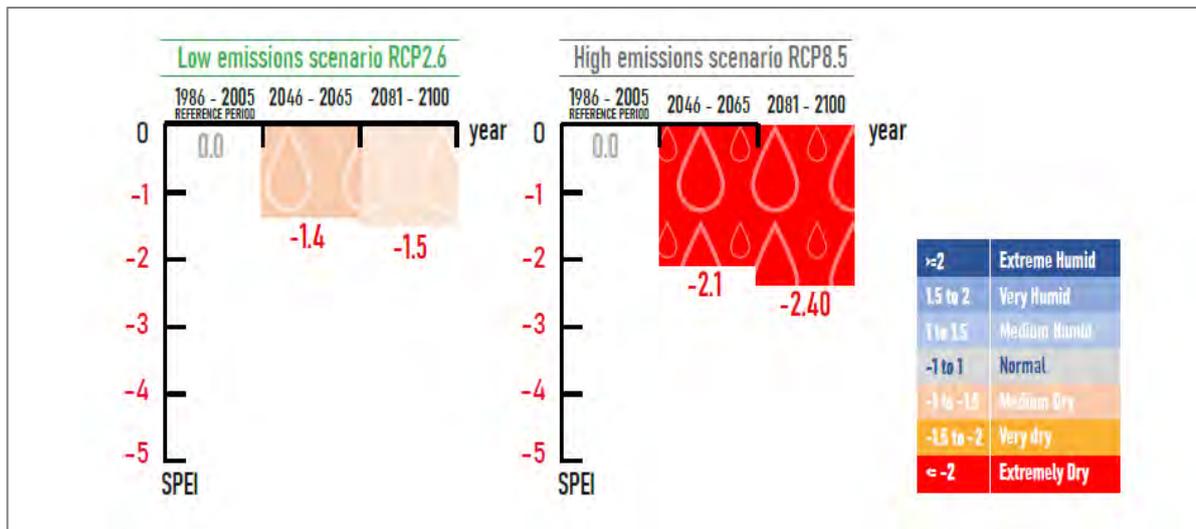


Figure 30: Ensemble mean values of the Standardized Precipitation-Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

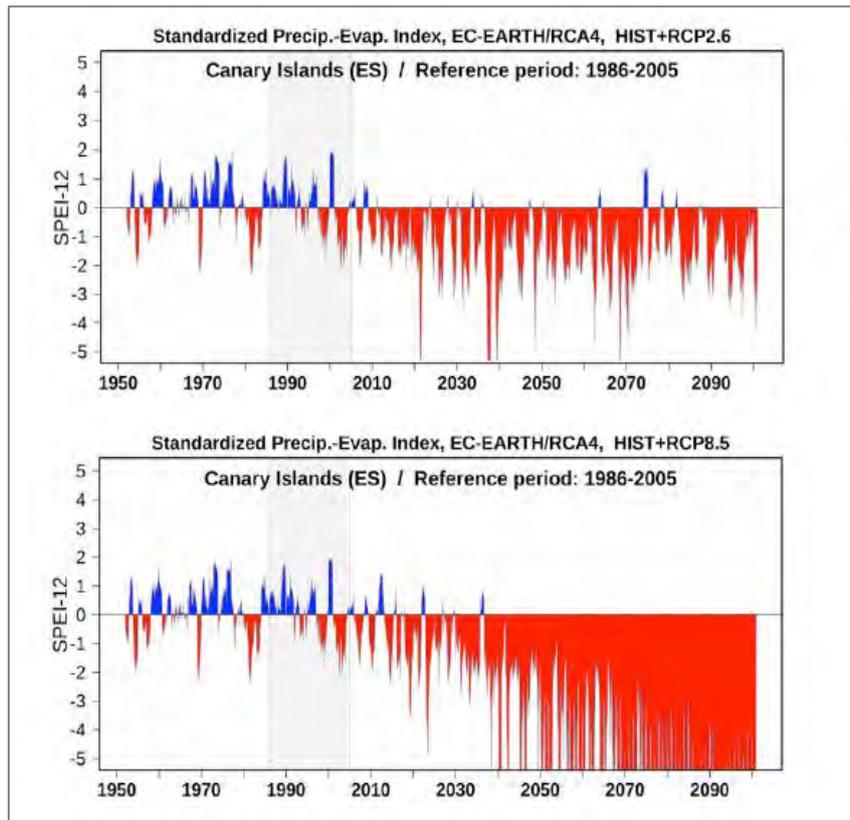


Figure 31: Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) time-series for the RCP2.6 (top) and RCP8.5 (bottom).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendices

3.4 Maritime Transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on the society, on the economy on the and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of averaged sea level rise. For Canary, the SLR ranges from 27cm (RCP2.6) to 74 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.



MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE
(in cm) with respect to the present (1986-2005)

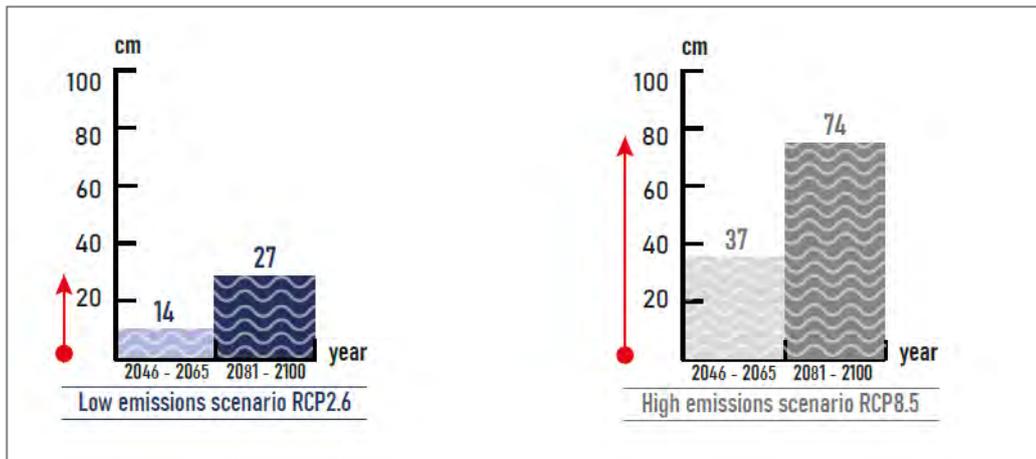


Figure 32: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future with a strongest value under RCP2.6 (-10%) than under RCP8.5 (-2.1%).

WINDS EXTREMITY INDEX

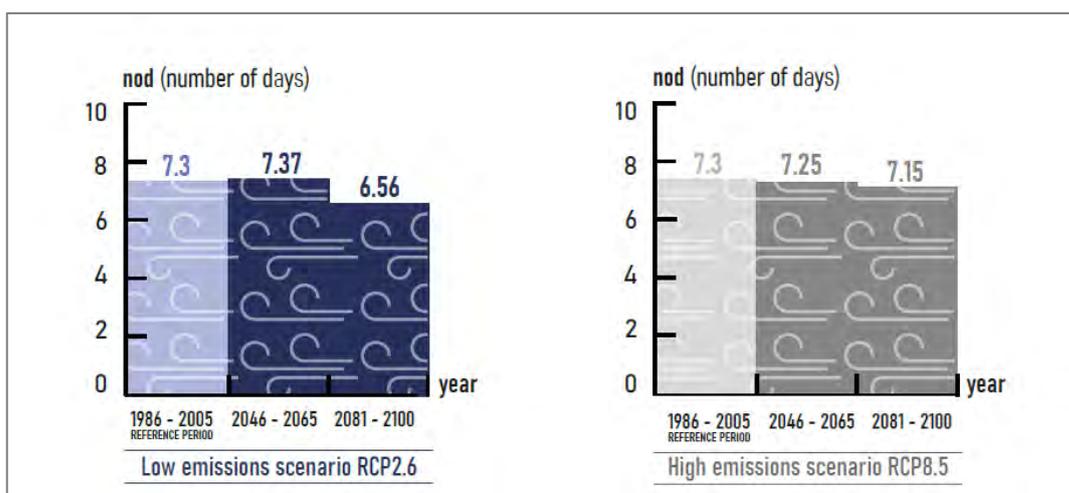


Figure 33: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator



Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases but with a smaller magnitude for RCP 2.6. It remains constant for RCP8.5.

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5, as illustrated in the following map. In relative terms the averaged changes are lower than 10% even under this stronger scenario.

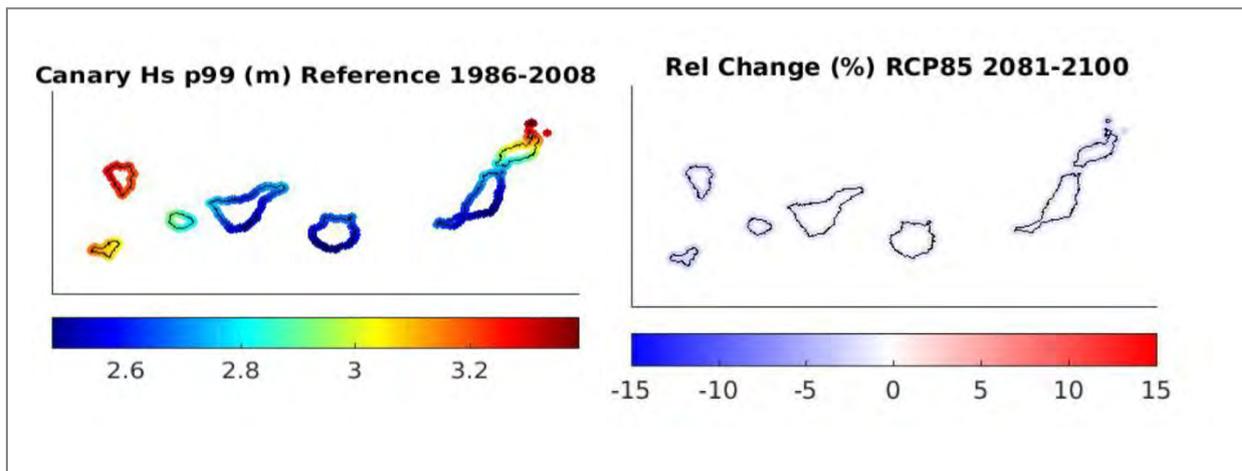


Figure 34: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels.

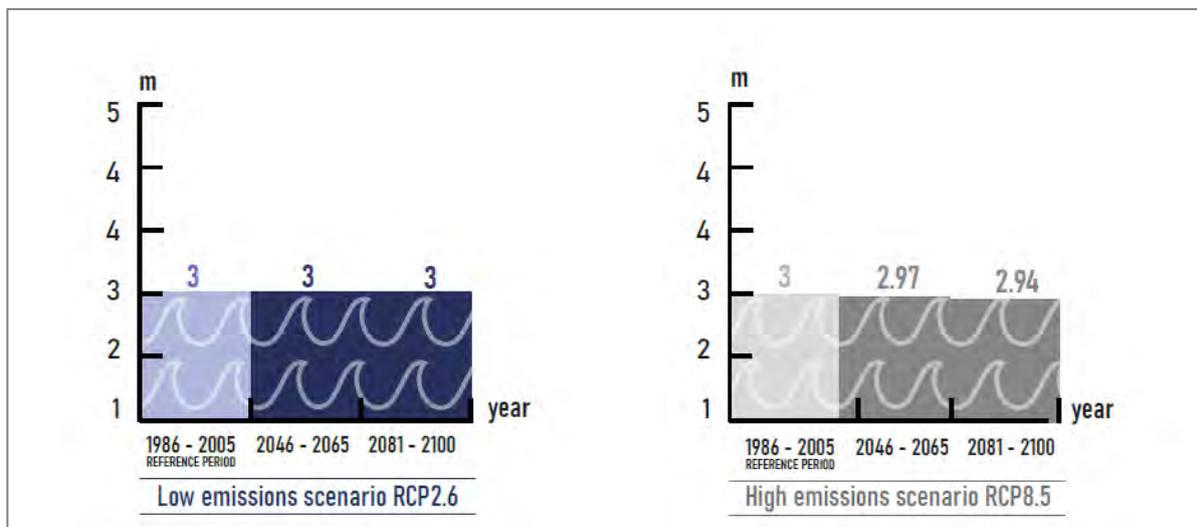


Figure 35: The 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and extreme wave height for RCP2.6 and RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels



4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,*
- ii) *Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress*
- iii) *Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires*

Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitats degradation

Climate change is expected to impact tourism activities through direct impacts on comfort and health of tourists, on the infrastructures and facilities that provide basic services to visitors and on the natural ecosystems that hold a big part of the attractions of the coastal and marine tourism destinations. The analysis of those impacts was decomposed into a single impact chain.

Specifically, it presents a conceptual model on the effect that Climate Change would have on conditions that make marine environments attractive for tourists visiting coastal destinations. More in detail, climate hazards like the increase of mean and variability of seawater temperature and the increase of oceans acidification, mainly, are affecting marine habitats with touristic relevance through diminishing bio-productivity and attracting exotic species, some of them toxic, and because of that, reducing the attractiveness of marine landscapes and the presence of flagship species; increasing turbidity in bathing and diving sea waters affecting the quality of bathing, diving, snorkelling and bottom-glass boating experiences, at least; and increased frequency and intensity of episodes of seagrasses massive death that arrive to the beaches affecting the experience of lying and staying there.

The next figure shows the theoretical impact chain. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. Increase in the mean and variability of seawater temperature is the main driver of marine habitat degradation; also seawater acidification impacts marine life although it substantially varies depending of the marine organisms;
2. The risk of those marine habitat transformations for tourism critically depends on the nature exposed to it, the amount and proportion of tourists that feel marine habitat is a relevant motivation to visit the destination, and the resilience of the exposed natural assets and tourists to those changes in the marine environmental conditions;
3. Finally, the preparedness to cope with the deterioration of its marine environment by developing substitutive attractions, is also a key aspect to assess the effective risk that those hazards pose on the tourism industry at the destination.

The complex relationship between climate change, marine habitats and tourism still exhibits important gaps of knowledge. For example, there is no evidence on the impact that the abovementioned hazards may have on the communities of cetaceans that live or pass through near the coasts of the islands under study. In some cases, this is a very important economic chapter within the tourism industry in the islands. Whether climate change is going to diminish or

not the abundance, or affect the distance of those cetacean communities from the island requires further research.

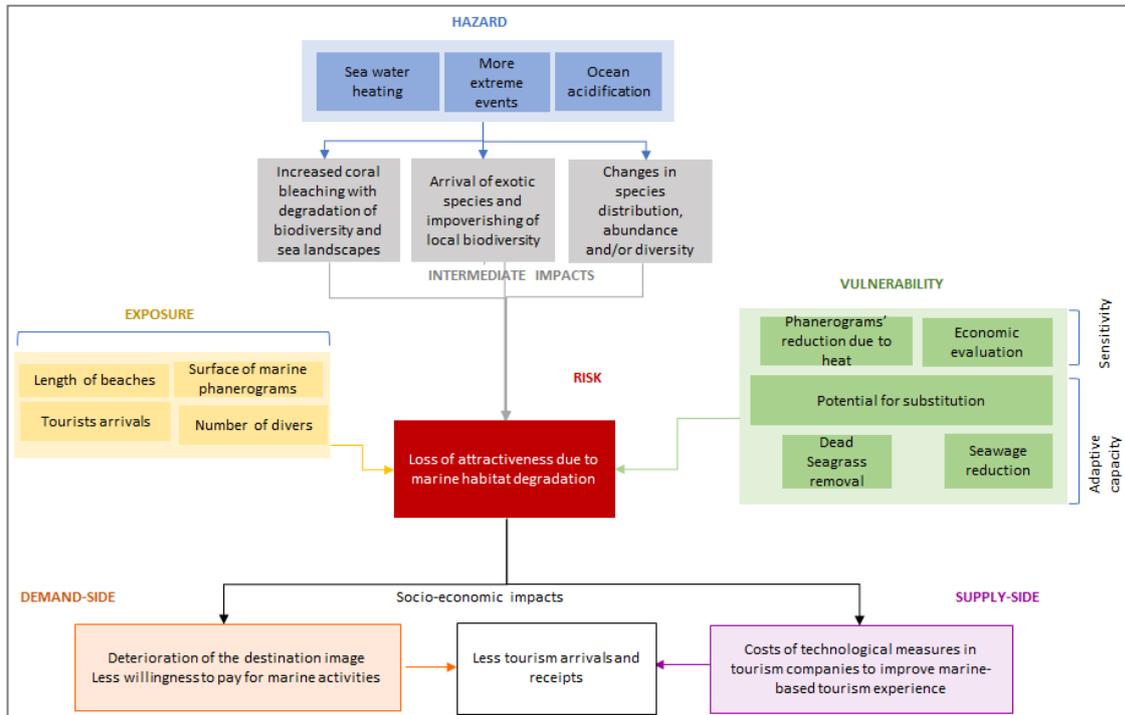


Figure 36: Loss of destination attractiveness due to marine environment degradation as a result of climate change hazards.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP), introduced by Saaty (1980), method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability, which includes sensitivity and adaptive capacity) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to the degradation of the marine environment.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to the deterioration of their marine habitats as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements, together with the variables that express the tourism-related environmental and social systems' exposure to those hazards, the sensitivity of the exposed systems to the referenced hazards and the social capacities to cope with the potential



impacts of climate change by protecting nature and the society and/or making them more resilient.

Some modifications of the original impact chain were undertaken for the sake of feasibility, although experts were encouraged to have in mind all the factors they know can affect the impact of climate change on the marine habitat services for tourism. It means that the hierarchy tree is a simplified structure of the main factors explaining the complex relationship between climate change and the ecosystem services that support tourist use of marine environments, but other factors also known by experts must be taken into account at the time of comparing the components of the risk between islands. This is one of the most interesting strengths of the decision processes based on expert participation and, particularly, of the multicriteria analysis used in this case. The next figure shows the basic structure, or hierarchy tree, of the decision making process that was presented to the experts.

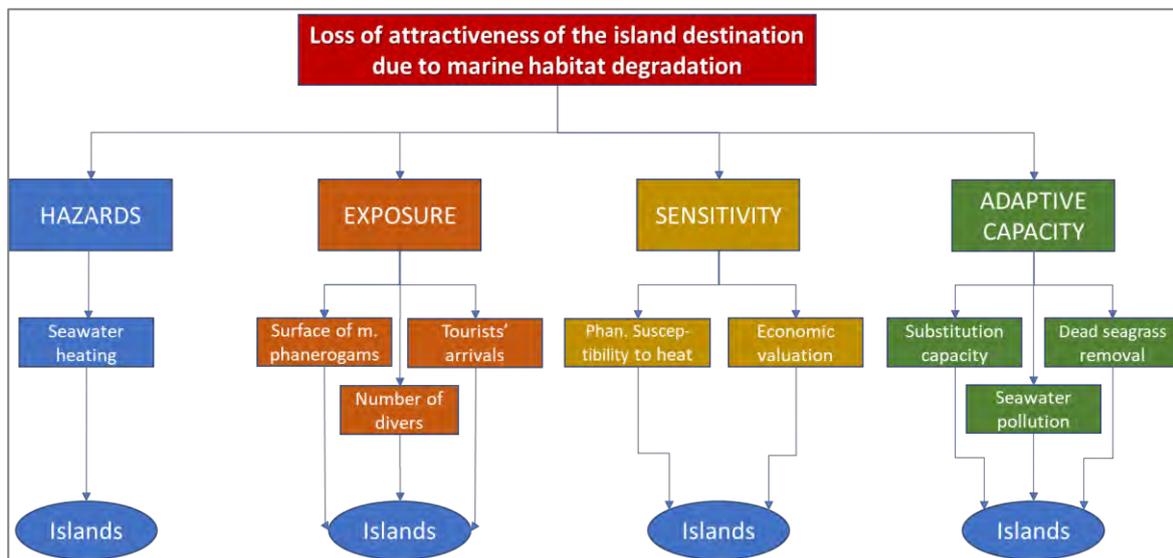


Figure 37: Hierarchy tree for marine habitats impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. In our context, seawater heating was considered as the most relevant variable to assess changes in the conservation status of the marine habitats that provide services for coastal tourism activities. Other hazards initially considered, like acidification and storms, were finally discarded. The first one because its effects on living marine organism are still under study and the evidence is dispersed and not conclusive. The second one because in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean that surrounds the islands under study, storms are considered not so frequent and intense to not giving time to marine ecosystems to recover their previous conservation status.

Regarding indicators, published research shows 25 and 26 Celsius degrees as the threshold temperatures over which seagrass meadows, the foundation species that mainly structure ecosystems in the marine habitats of reference, start to decline. The indicators used were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. Sources of information and data were provided by the Soclimpact modellers.



Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion, the natural and social systems potentially damaged by the selected climate hazards, was decomposed into three sub-criteria, one referred to the marine environment, and the other two related to the use that tourists make of the services provided for the marine environments at the destination. These three sub-criteria were expressed through three respective indicators. One, referred to the surface of marine phanerogams that suffer from the climate stressors. Phanerogams, specially Posidonia in the Mediterranean and Cymodosea in the Atlantic, are the very foundation species organizing most of the coastal ecosystems. They provide food and shelter to many different species and keep seawater clear by absorbing sediments. Additionally, when become damaged, seagrasses meadows deliver dead individuals that go to lay on the beaches used by tourists.

The second sub-criterion is one about the different types of direct uses that tourists make of the ecosystem services. Diving was selected to represent these uses and the selected indicator was the number of divers per year. It was assumed that other sea watching activities like snorkelling and bottom-glass boating evolve similarly than diving. Experts were also invited to consider other sea environment users potentially affected by the lack of water transparency and dead seagrass suspended in seawater like surfers, windsurfers and other active users of the marine environment.

The third sub-criterion was related to the impact on most of tourists as bathers. Turbid water affects the quality of the bathing experience, which is an activity that most tourists do.

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of the phanerogam meadows to changes in seawater temperature and to the extent to which the impoverishing of seawater conditions and marine ecosystems may affect tourists' welfare.

Regarding the effects of episodes of seawater heating on the integrity of seagrasses meadows, the variable selected was periods of overheating and the indicators were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. As explained above, experts were invited to take into account their experience and their knowledge about the differences between the way seagrasses behave in the real world and in the laboratory when studying the impact of water heating.

With respect to the impact of the marine environmental degradation on the welfare of tourists, the indicator selected was the tourists' willingness to pay for the preservation of marine ecosystems¹⁰. Thus, ecosystems' and social's susceptibility are both taken into account when comparing risks of marine environment degradation due to climate change between islands.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system. This criterion was split into three sub-criteria, one referred to the substitution of marine-based activities by lesser marine habitats

¹⁰ This information was delivered by Soclimpact researchers who are in charge of the work package WP5. More information at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*



dependent ones, and two concerning actions to heal the marine environment like removing dead seagrasses or reducing non-treated sewage discharges (and consequently, seawater pollution). In this case, island experts were consulted about the capacity of their reference destination to address these adaptation actions using a 1-4 scale, where 1 represented a very poor management capacity and 4 expressed a full capacity to deal with it.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 10: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sicily
Hazards	Seawater heating RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.018 (8.0%)	0.004 (2.2%)	0.054 (23.6%)	0.025 (12.7%)	0.025 (14.7%)
Exposure	Surface of marine phanerogams	0.034	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.022
	Number of divers	0.009	0.005	0.001	0.002	0.002
	Tourists' arrivals	0.013	0.013	0.002	0.001	0.006
	<i>Total</i>	0.056 (25.0%)	0.020 (11.0%)	0.007 (3.1%)	0.012 (6.1%)	0.029 (17.1%)
Sensitivity	Phanerogams' susceptibility to heat	0.072	0.072	0.008	0.024	0.024
	Economic valuation	0.003	0.027	0.004	0.006	0.010
	<i>Total</i>	0.075 (33.5%)	0.099 (54.7%)	0.012 (5.2%)	0.030 (15.2%)	0.034 (20.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Products substitution	0.034	0.034	0.086	0.060	0.016
	Seagrass removal	0.020	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Sea water pollution	0.021	0.021	0.063	0.063	0.063
	<i>Total</i>	0.079 (35.3%)	0.058 (32.0%)	0.155 (67.7%)	0.130 (66.0%)	0.082 (48.2%)
Total		0.224	0.181	0.229	0.197	0.170
Rank		2	4	1	3	5

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public



The risk: from Eastern to Western and viceversa

The relative risk for marine habitat-based tourism demand due to the heating of seawaters surrounding the European islands is determined by the combination of three different factors already reflected in the marine habitat impact chain: the intensity and lasting of periods of seawater heating, the susceptibility of the marine habitats and tourism activities based on it to the heating process and the changes in the habitat, respectively; and the capacities of the respective islands' societies to reinforce natural and social systems' resilience to seawater heating and its ecosystem impacts.

Based on the available indicators and on their own knowledge, the experts' evaluation of the complex relationships between seawater heating, habitats transformation and the response of the tourism system, depicts a big picture featured by the following results:

- From the perspective of the intensity of the hazard, threats diminish from Eastern to Western. Effectively, episodes of water heating threatening the integrity of marine ecosystems will be much more relevant throughout the Eastern Mediterranean and will become softer as moving Western.
- From the perspective of the susceptibility of the marine foundation species to seawater heating, western Mediterranean hosts the most vulnerable phanerogam communities as genetically they are not ready to face increasing water temperature variability at the rhythm climate change is powering. As a result, this risk factor decays from Western to Eastern.
- Other relevant factors determining the relative risk faced by each island are related to the management capacity of other hazards, different than seawater heating, also degrading marine habitats (i.e. the current relevance of marine habitat-based tourism and the capacity of the local tourism system to provide competitive alternatives giving value to other, not marine-based natural and cultural tourist attractions). Those capacities are unevenly distributed across the islands, basically depending on the level of development of their respective environment management and tourism management subsystems.

Some characteristics of the risk ranking provided by experts, and consequently, the final scores, are:

- Cyprus leads the rank of risk due to, in addition to the greater seawater heating, its experiencing ecological disruptive processes related to its closeness to the Red Sea; strongly attracting exotic species with high capacity to destabilise the marine ecosystems.
- On the other extreme, Sicily is the island exhibiting a lesser risk mainly due to it holds a more balanced distribution of the indicators expressive of the range of factors determining the risk.
- The **Canary Islands** hold a relatively low risk mainly due to their expected low level of seawater heating; their higher weakness consists of the magnitude of the tourism system exposed to the potential risk.
- The Balearic Islands are the most exposed islands. In addition, RCP8.5 distant future shows a progress in heating relatively higher than other islands, meaning a strong threat for their relatively susceptible Posidonia meadows.
- Malta holds a relative low risk mainly due to its low exposition to the risk and the potential of alternative, non-marine-habitat-based, tourist products.



SOCLIMPACT

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No776661



Below are presented some paragraphs devoted to go deeper into the complexity of the ecosystem dynamics that influence the holistic effect of climate change on the European islands' marine habitats; before presenting some lines highlighting the specificities of this impact chain for each island.

In the Eastern Mediterranean, the impact of seawater heating on the seagrass meadows (and on the marine habitat as a whole) not only depends on the physiological response of the plants concerned to heating, but also on the response of the system as a whole. On the Eastern shore of the Mediterranean, a strong increase in herbivorous species from the Red Sea has been observed that cross the Suez Canal and have settled near the continental and insular coastal areas. *Posidonia* meadows have been found to be part of their diet.

The heating exacerbates the metabolic needs of these herbivorous species (*Siganus Luridus* and others) increasing their voracity and, consequently, leading to greater pressure on the phanerogams. Given that, on the other hand, the surface of these meadows in the environment of Cyprus is small, predation by these herbivores may threaten *Posidonia* with extinction, disappearing with it the conservation functions of the ecosystem that it currently carries out as protection against erosion, containment of water turbidity (assimilation of organic residues), shelter and food for fingerlings of fish and other marine organisms, etc.

Other factors such as the sewage treatment or the sedimentation of waste from coastal constructions interact with the seawater heating, exacerbating the degradation of marine habitats. Together, factors of global change other than seawater heating are expected to act more intensely in Cyprus, increasing the vulnerability of this island's marine habitat to climate change.

Analysis of Canary Islands

The **Canary Islands** hold the best natural conditions to face this risk as all consulted climatic models predict a very low probability of seawater heating to increase over the critical thresholds for the *Cymodocea* meadows surrounding their seawaters. This and the tourists' perception of the marine attributes sensitivities explains more than 54.7% of the total risk that the Archipelago exhibits at this regard. This vulnerability is partially compensated by the fact that a great part of its marine biodiversity-based tourist activity depend on ecological processes different than those supported by seagrasses meadows, like cetaceans watching, but still showing high uncertainty about its relationship with this and other climate hazards. Like in the case of the Balearic, the **Canary** need to develop capacities for tourist diversification bringing other resources to the tourist value generation process. Fortunately, seawater mobility around the islands allow to hide the deficits of an insufficient and inefficiently managed sewage treatment system. The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of the **Canary Islands** are depicted in the next figures. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

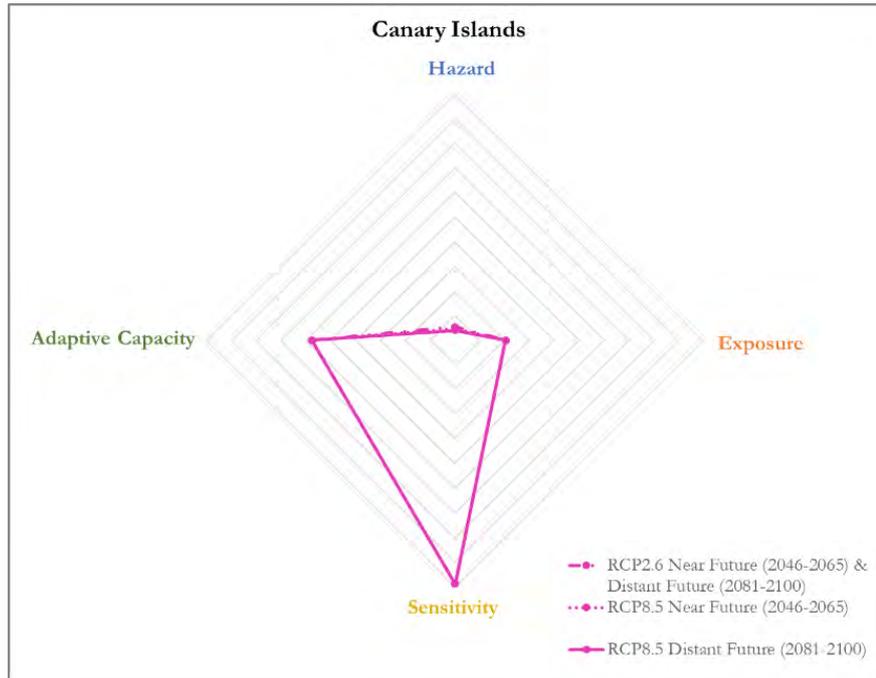


Figure 38: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

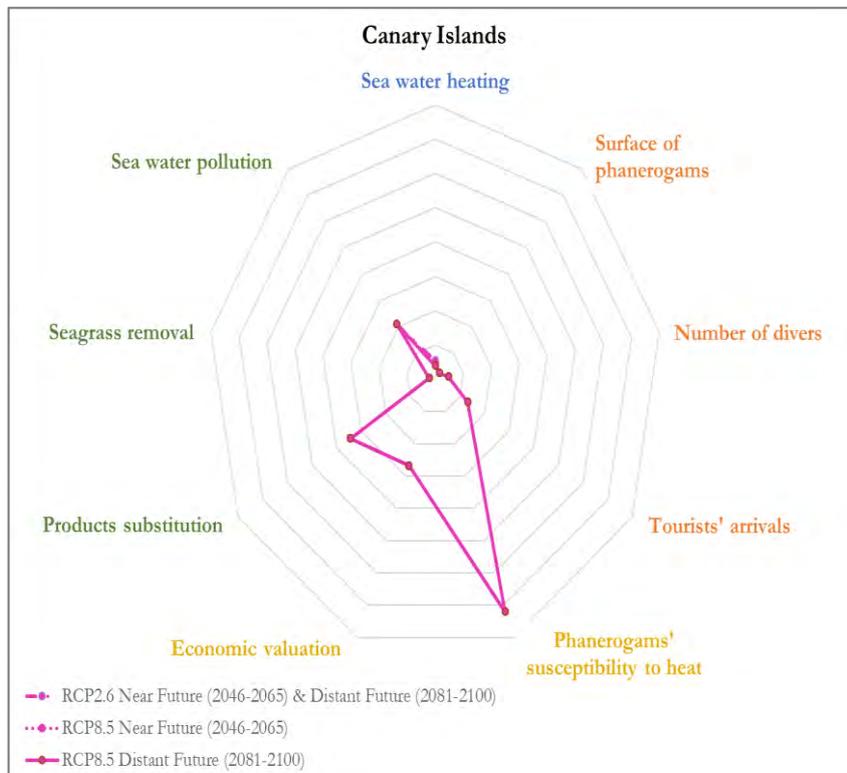


Figure 39: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems*” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress

This section describes the work carried out for the operationalization of the impact chain “*Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”¹¹. It provides details on the method applied for the operationalization, the island data used, and the results obtained. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

4. the frequency, intensity, and duration of heatwaves,
5. to what extent and how tourist activities and tourists become exposed to heatwaves, and how sensitive different segments of tourists are to extreme heat, and
6. the preparedness of the destination to cope with thermal discomfort episodes through information, technology, alternative activities, and medical attention.

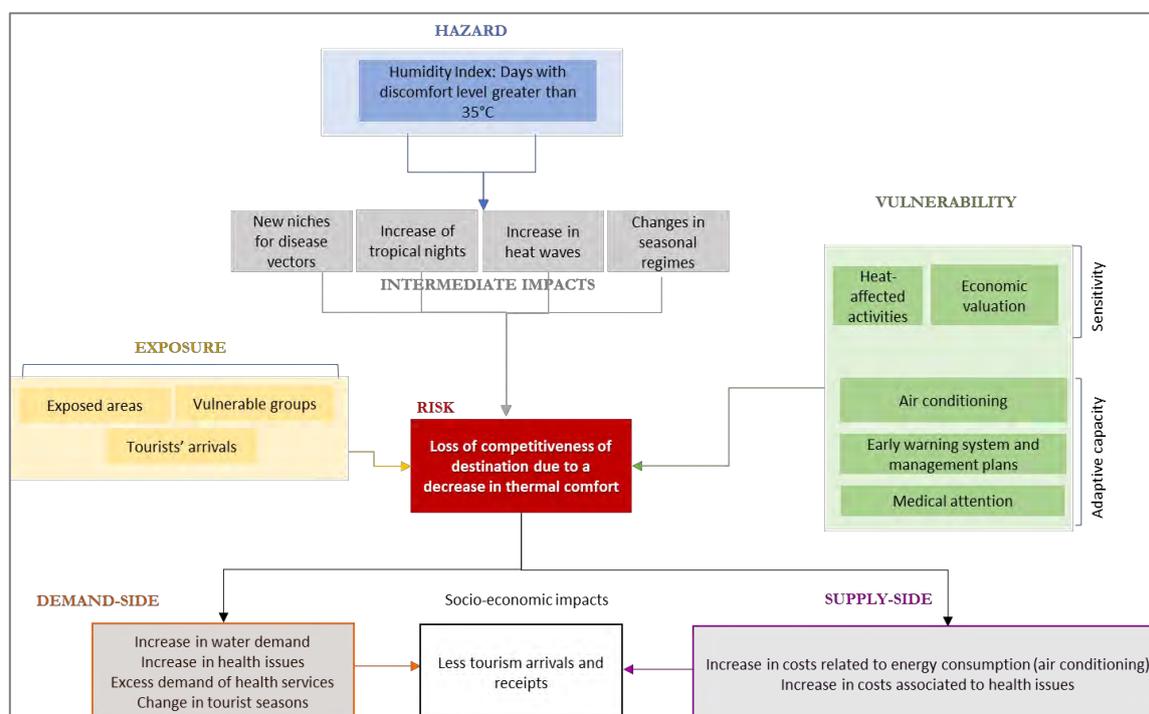


Figure 40: Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

¹¹ Detailed information about the methodology used and the results obtained is available at: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.

For the purposes of the operationalization it was decided by the team to retile the risk as “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”. This was done in order for the risk to more accurately reflect the effects of the hazards, exposure and vulnerability on an island rather than an on an individual tourist.

The selection of islands to be compared was based on the availability of island data provided by the IFPs. The five islands selected for comparison were the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Cyprus, Malta, and Sardinia.

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method, introduced by Saaty (1980), was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements. Some refinements were necessary regarding the indicators (at sub-criteria level) that were to be used for comparing the islands.

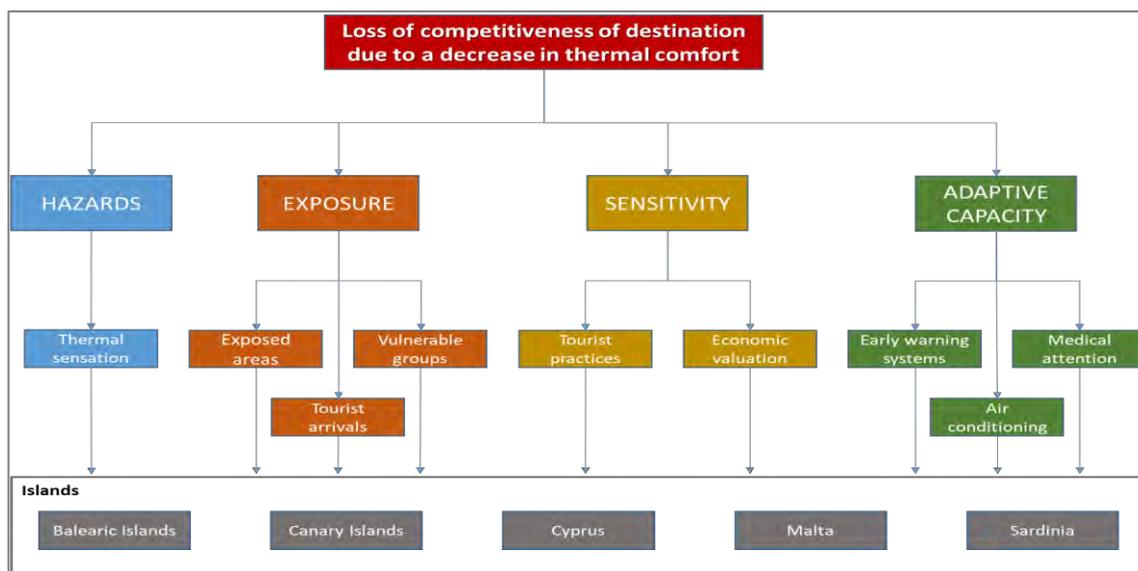


Figure 41: Hierarchy tree for thermal comfort impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public



Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. For the AHP method, thermal sensation was considered as the most relevant indicator to assess changes in the thermal comfort of tourists while staying at their destination as it is a concept that combines temperature and humidity. Thus, it is the only sub-criterion of the Hazard criterion. Moreover, the humidity index (humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) was selected as the most appropriate metric for thermal sensation. The metric is an equivalent temperature that express the temperature perceived by people (i.e., the temperature that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion was decomposed into sub-criteria relating to three indicators. The first indicator relates to the exposure of tourists to heatwaves. The measure of the indicator combines the percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the percentage of the tourist accommodations and facilities located in those areas prone to heatwaves. It is necessary to factor in both these aspects of exposure in order to allow for a better comparison of islands. For example, if an island has a small area that is prone to heatwaves with the majority of tourists frequenting in that small area, then the combination of the two factors will play a role when comparing, for instance, an island that has large areas prone to heatwaves, but with tourists frequenting in places outside these areas, since the overall exposure will be different. Specifically, it was decided to assign a weight of 75% to percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the remaining 25% to the percentage of tourist accommodations and facilities located in heatwave-prone areas. The second indicator deals with the number of tourist arrivals during the hottest months. The indicator is represented by the percentage of tourists that visit an island between the months of May and September averaged over the last five years. Finally, the third indicator concerns vulnerable groups of tourists who have the highest risk of being affected by heatwaves. Literature confirms that under-6s and over-65s are the most vulnerable age groups, however, the statistical services of the islands homogeneously provide data for the under-14 and over-65 age groups. For this indicator, two values were computed:

1. the number of tourists visiting an island that were under 14 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years, and
2. the number of tourists visiting an island that were over 65 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years.

For purpose of combining the two values and adjusting the change to age groups, it was decided to apply a ratio of 15:85 in order to emphasize the proportion of over-65s (85%) to the proportion of under-14s (15%).

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of tourists and is broken down into sub-criteria pertaining to two indicators. The first indicator involves tourist activities. The effect of heatwaves on tourist activities varies greatly. For example, a tourist sunbathing at a beach will not feel the



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon
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effects of a heatwave to the same degree as a tourist that is trekking. Different destinations have different rates of tourists practicing activities incompatible with heatwaves events. So, this indicator aims at catching these differences. More specifically, this indicator is a measure of the percentage of visitors who state that they practice activities not compatible with heatwave events. The second indicator concerns the economic valuation of heatwaves from the perspective of tourists. In the case of a heatwave event, all tourists will suffer from thermal discomfort to a certain degree. Hence, the indicator represents their willingness to avoid this discomfort as expressed in monetary terms. Therefore, it is measured by much money tourists are willing to pay to avoid a heatwave during their vacation time¹².

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system through providing information, adopting proper technology, supplying alternative activities, and improving medical attention. This criterion is split into sub-criteria concerning three indicators. The first indicator has deals with early warning systems. Setting up a proper early warning system can help tourists and service providers to plan effective responses to heatwaves, making them less distressing and reducing the destination's vulnerability. Hence, this indicator is measured with a score representing the quality of early warning systems in place and advisement of options for tourists. The second indicator involves air conditioning. Air conditioning is the most effective technology used to combat extreme heat. Therefore, the indicator uses the percentage of hotel accommodations and tourist facilities offering air conditioning systems as a measure of the capacity of the destination to cope with this hazard. The final indicator concerns the care and medical attention (such as in the case of heatstroke or similar) available on an island that may be necessary to help reduce pain or avoid casualties due to diseases related to heatwaves. Therefore, the number of hospital beds available on an island per 100,000 potential users, both residents and tourists, is taken as the measure of this indicator.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

¹² Further information available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*



Table 11: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sardinia
Hazards	Humidex RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.024 (12.1%)	0.008 (4.6%)	0.088 (34.6%)	0.023 (11.7%)	0.023 (13.1%)
Exposure	Exposed areas	0.007	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.007
	Vulnerable groups	0.007	0.017	0.016	0.017	0.038
	Tourists' arrivals	0.050	0.008	0.029	0.018	0.065
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.064</i> (32.2%)	<i>0.027</i> (15.5%)	<i>0.053</i> (20.9%)	<i>0.042</i> (21.3%)	<i>0.110</i> (62.9%)
Sensitivity	Heat-sensitive activities	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.074	0.012
	Economic valuation	0.004	0.004	0.015	0.028	0.010
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.079</i> (39.7%)	<i>0.078</i> (44.8%)	<i>0.089</i> (35.0%)	<i>0.103</i> (52.3%)	<i>0.021</i> (12.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Early-warning systems	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Air conditioning	0.011	0.048	0.011	0.021	0.012
	Medical attention	0.014	0.006	0.005	0.002	0.005
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.032</i> (16.1%)	<i>0.061</i> (35.1%)	<i>0.024</i> (9.4%)	<i>0.030</i> (15.2%)	<i>0.020</i> (11.4%)
Total		0.199	0.174	0.254	0.197	0.175
Rank		2	5	1	3	4

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risks information to policy makers and the general public

Cyprus is at most risk of loss of competitiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort in all four scenarios as it is ranked the highest in all cases. This is mainly attributed to the fact that the number of days with a heatwave is predicted to increase greatly both in the near and distant future. In addition, the island's tourist accommodations and facilities are located in areas most prone to heatwaves, and these are visited by many tourists during the months of May to September. Cyprus also scores the highest in Sensitivity and average in Adaptive capacity.

The Balearic Islands and Malta are ranked second and third, respectively, with regards to the risk of loss of competitiveness. However, their overall scores are very close: 0.199 for the Balearic Islands and 0.1970 for Malta in the RCP8.5 distant future scenario. They score relatively high in Exposure and Sensitivity (the most important criteria for the risk) and average in Hazard and Adaptive capacity.

Sardinia and the **Canary Islands** are the lowest at risk of loss of competitiveness. Even though Sardinia scores the highest for Exposure, it has a low score for Sensitivity (which contributes most to the risk) and average scores for Hazard and Adaptive capacity. On the other hand, the



Canary Islands has a low score for Hazard and Exposure, but relatively high for Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity.

While the **Canary Islands** are the lowest at risk of loss of competitiveness due to thermal discomfort, they perform badly at Adaptive Capacity. Moreover, Exposure represents the most important criterion for the islands, especially due to the heat-sensitive activities.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Canary Islands** are depicted in the next figure. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

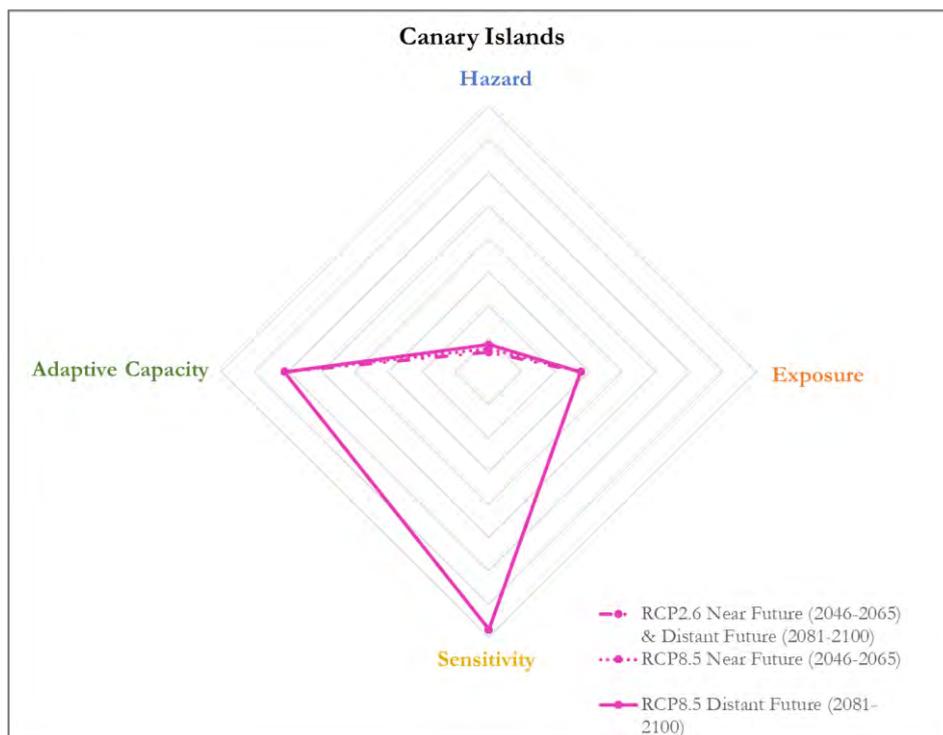


Figure 42: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

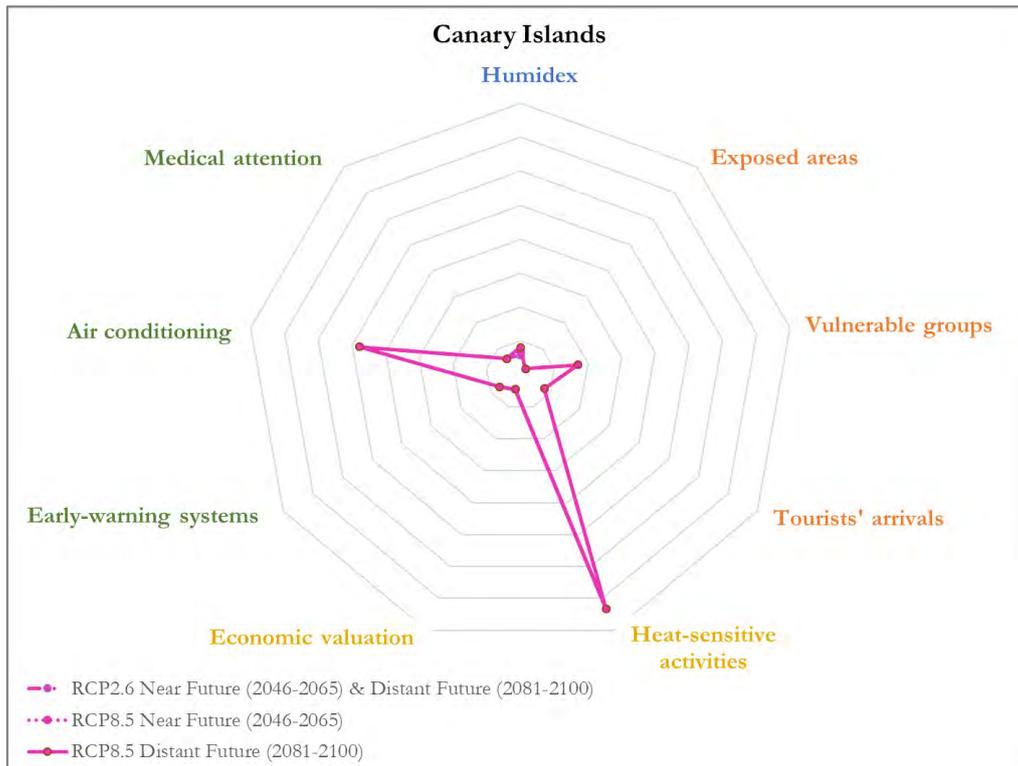


Figure 43: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “**Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination**”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer et al. 2013; Fritzsche et al. 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains



propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1)). For each of these components of the theoretical IC, several indicators are selected and collected. Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

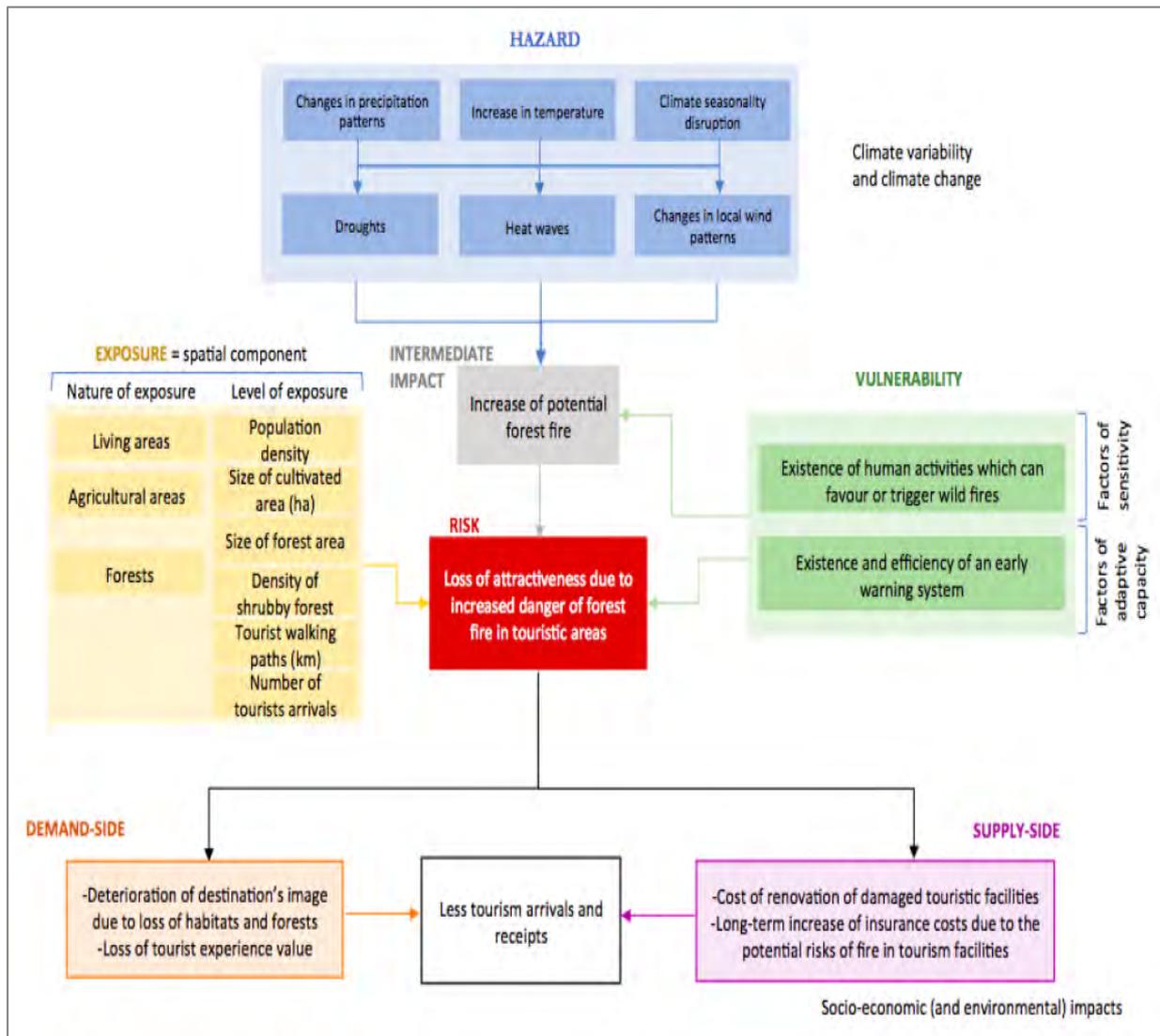


Figure 44: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

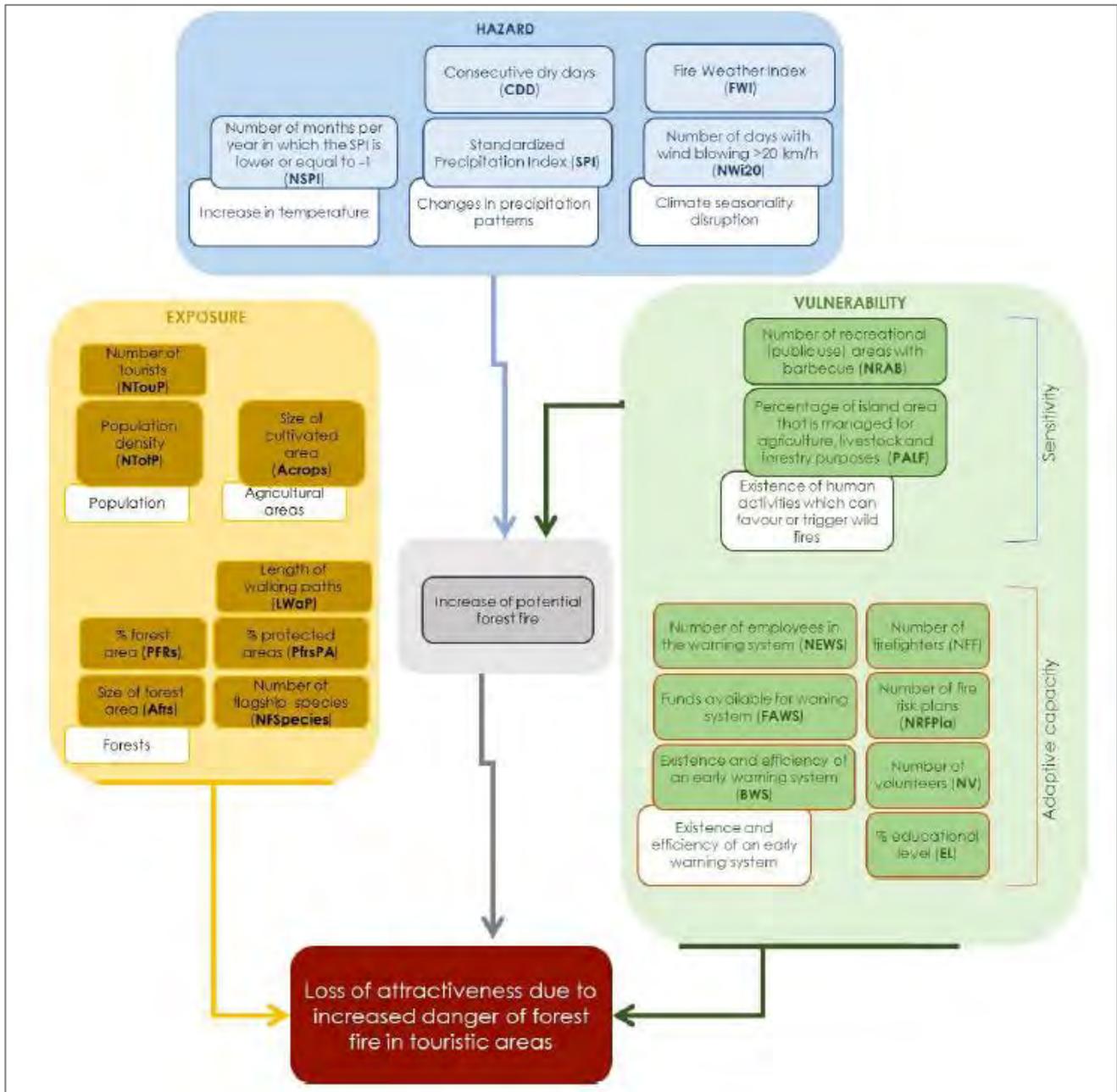


Figure 45: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.3. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

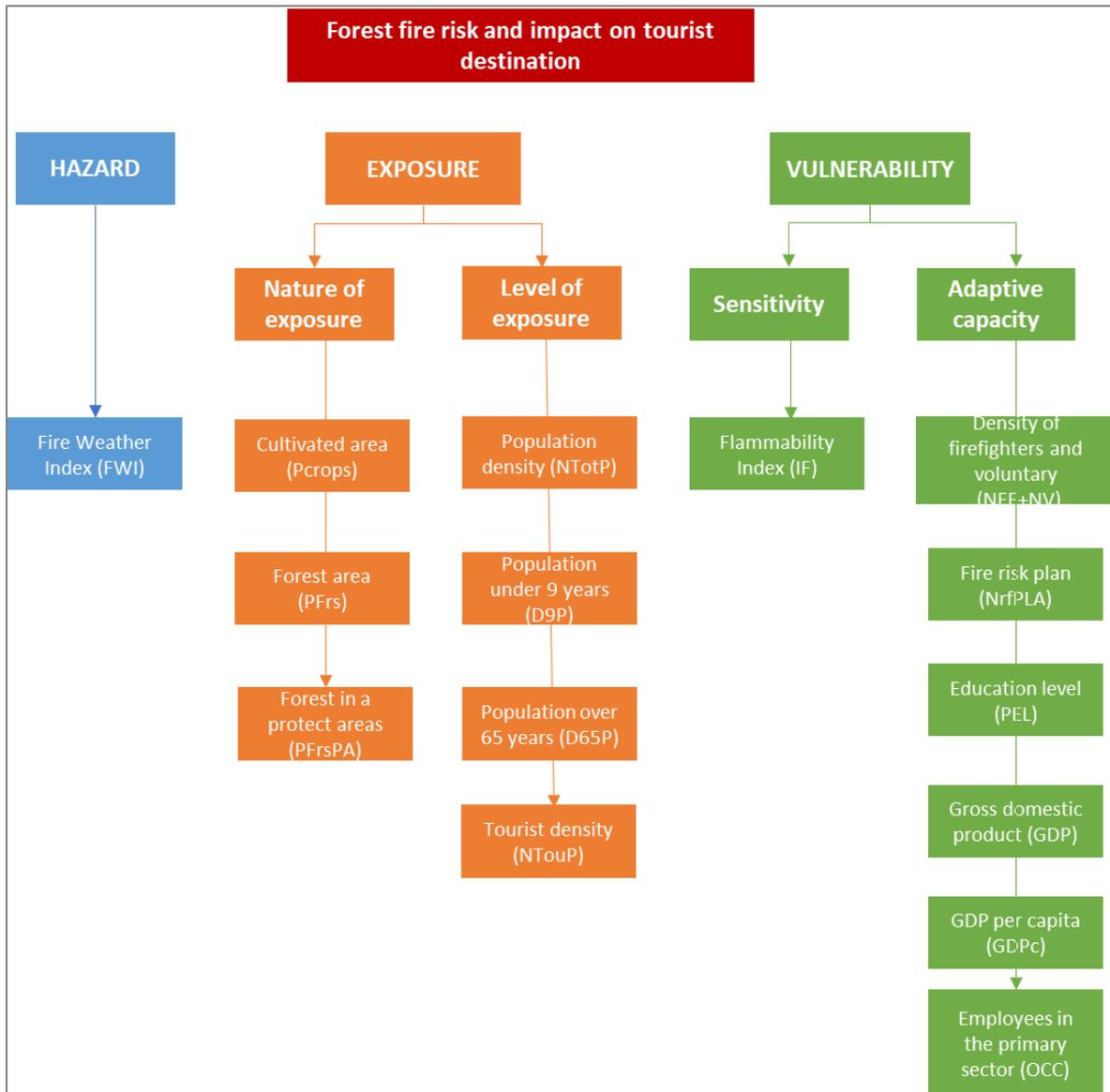


Figure 46: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected.

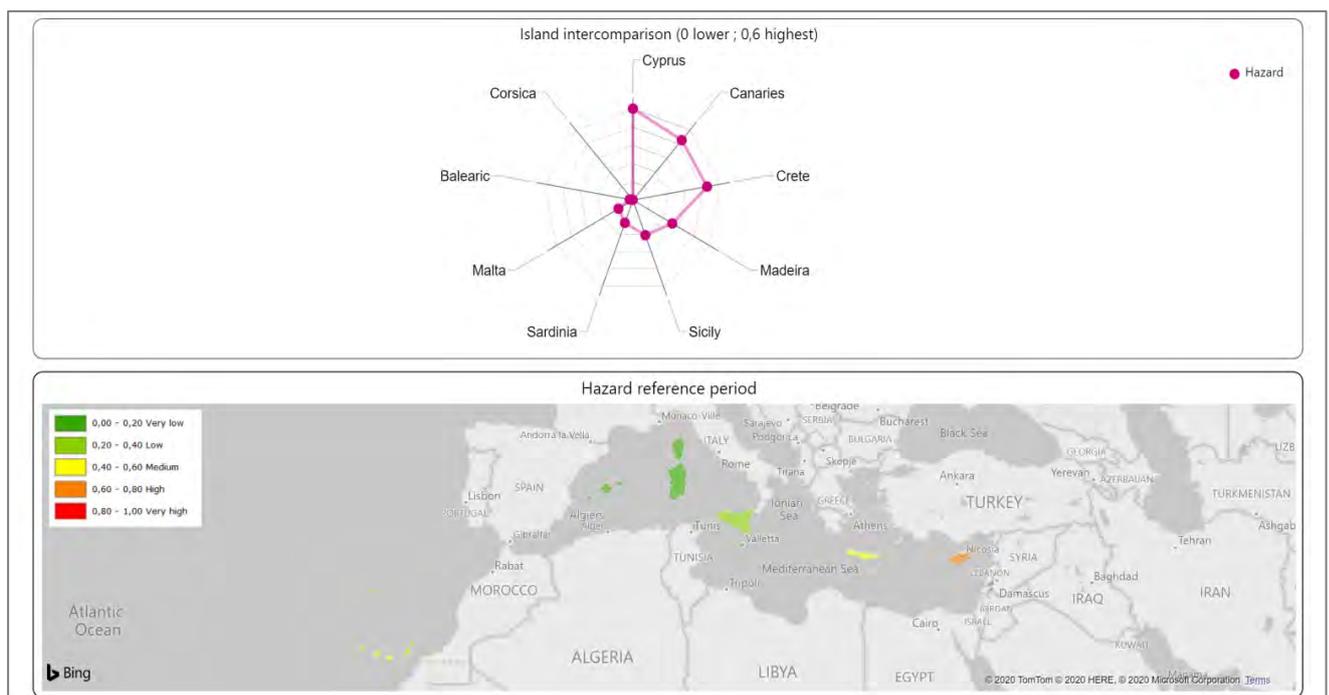


Figure 47: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

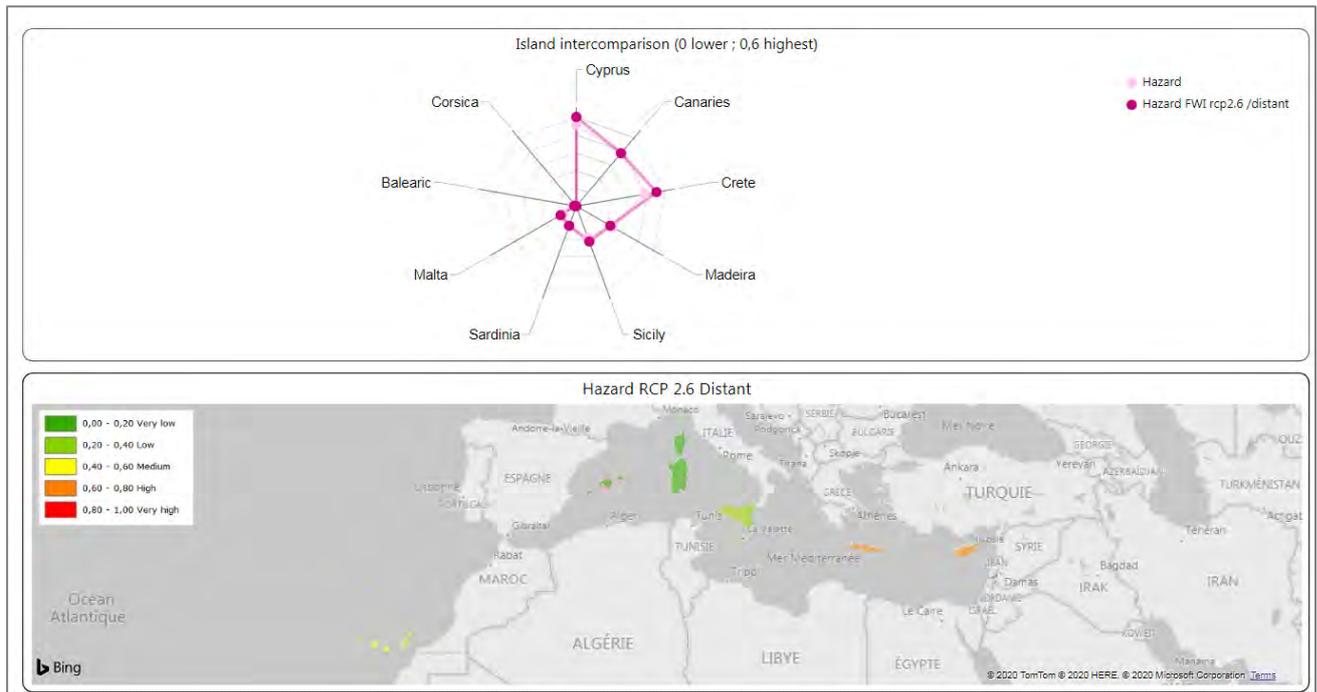


Figure 48: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

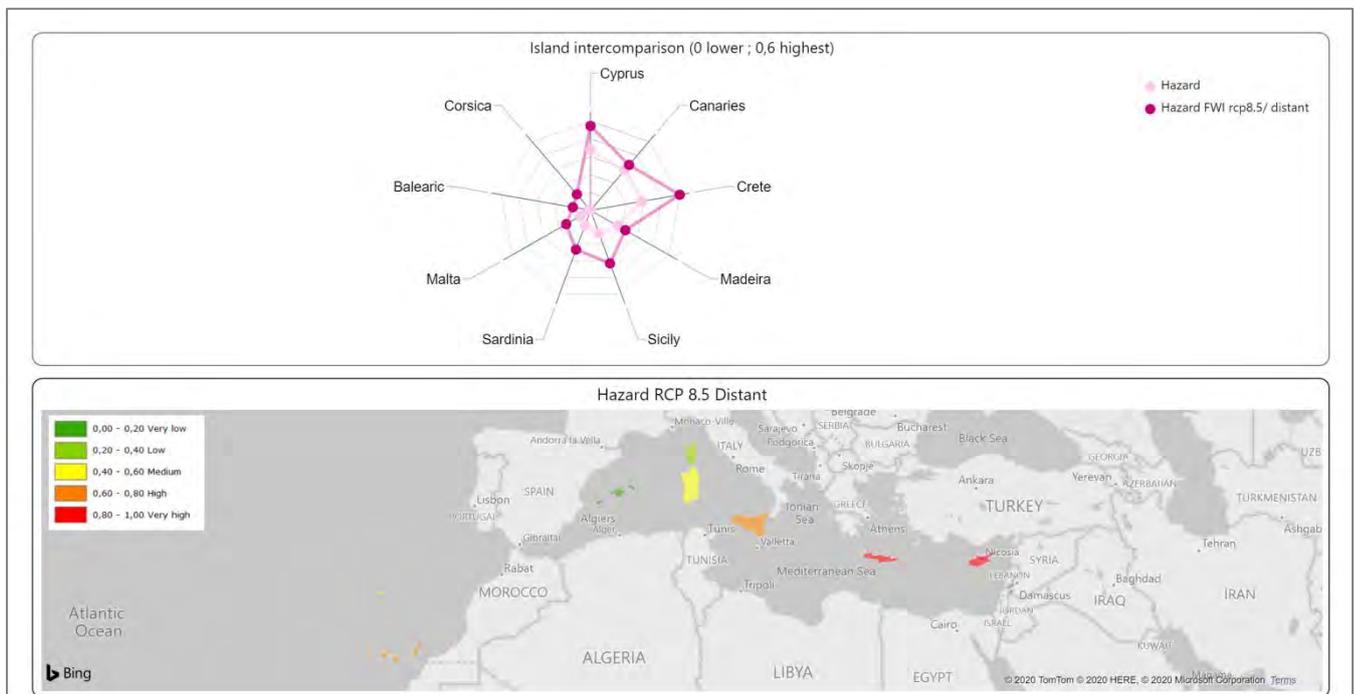


Figure 49: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and **Canary Islands**) are more exposed than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, **Canary Islands**. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for **Canary Islands** and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

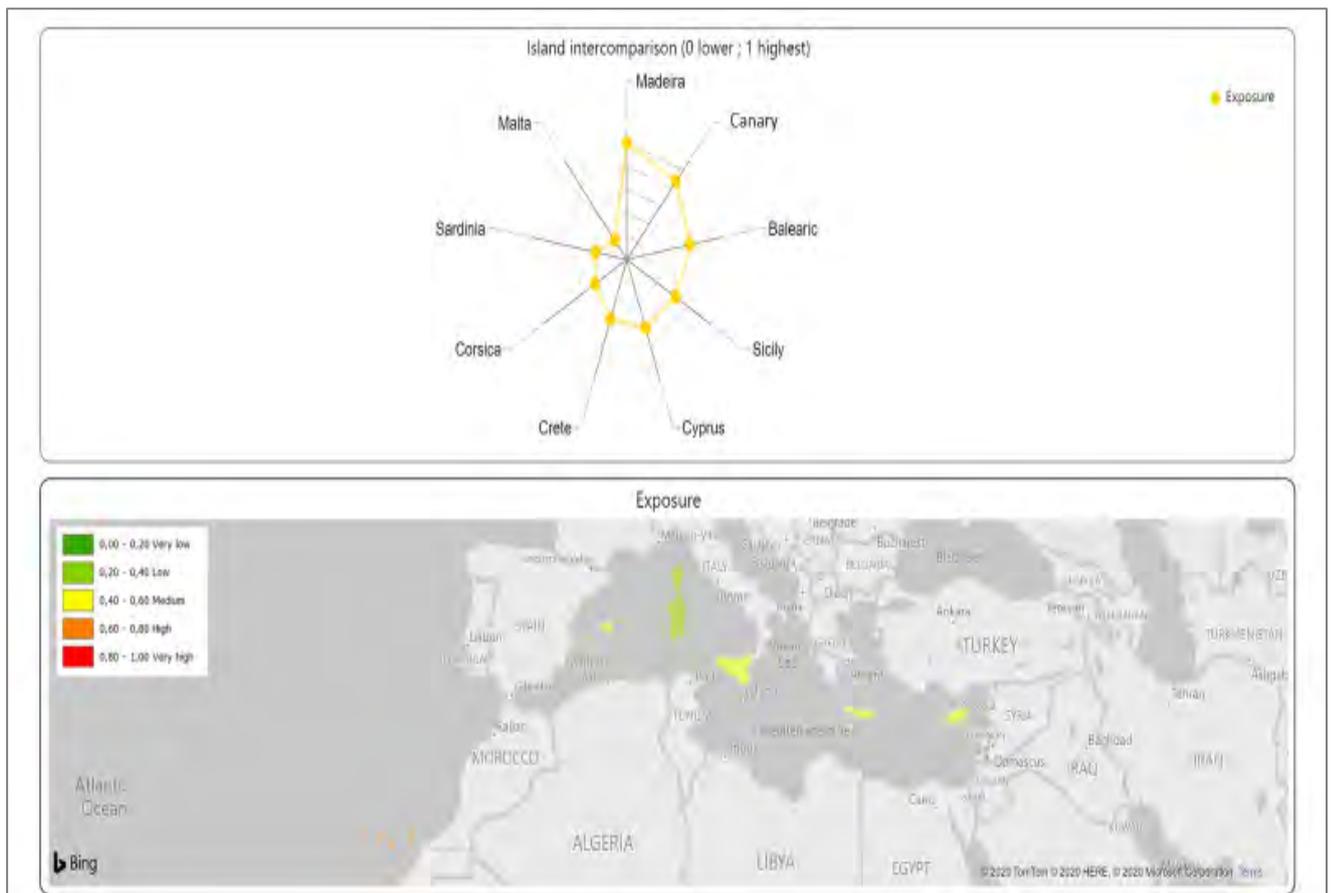


Figure 50: Exposure score (current period) per island
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

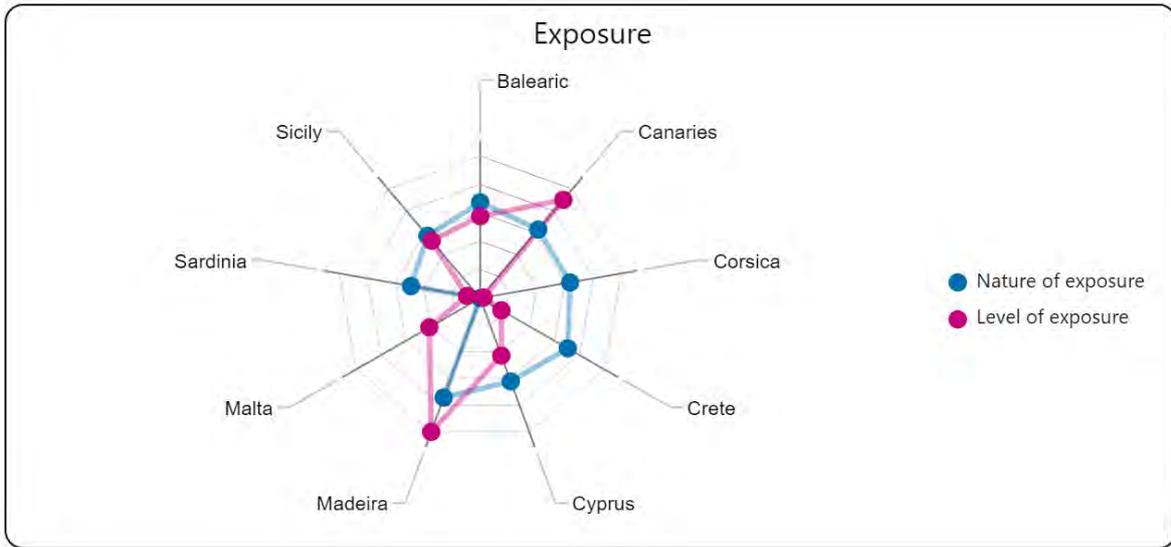


Figure 51: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

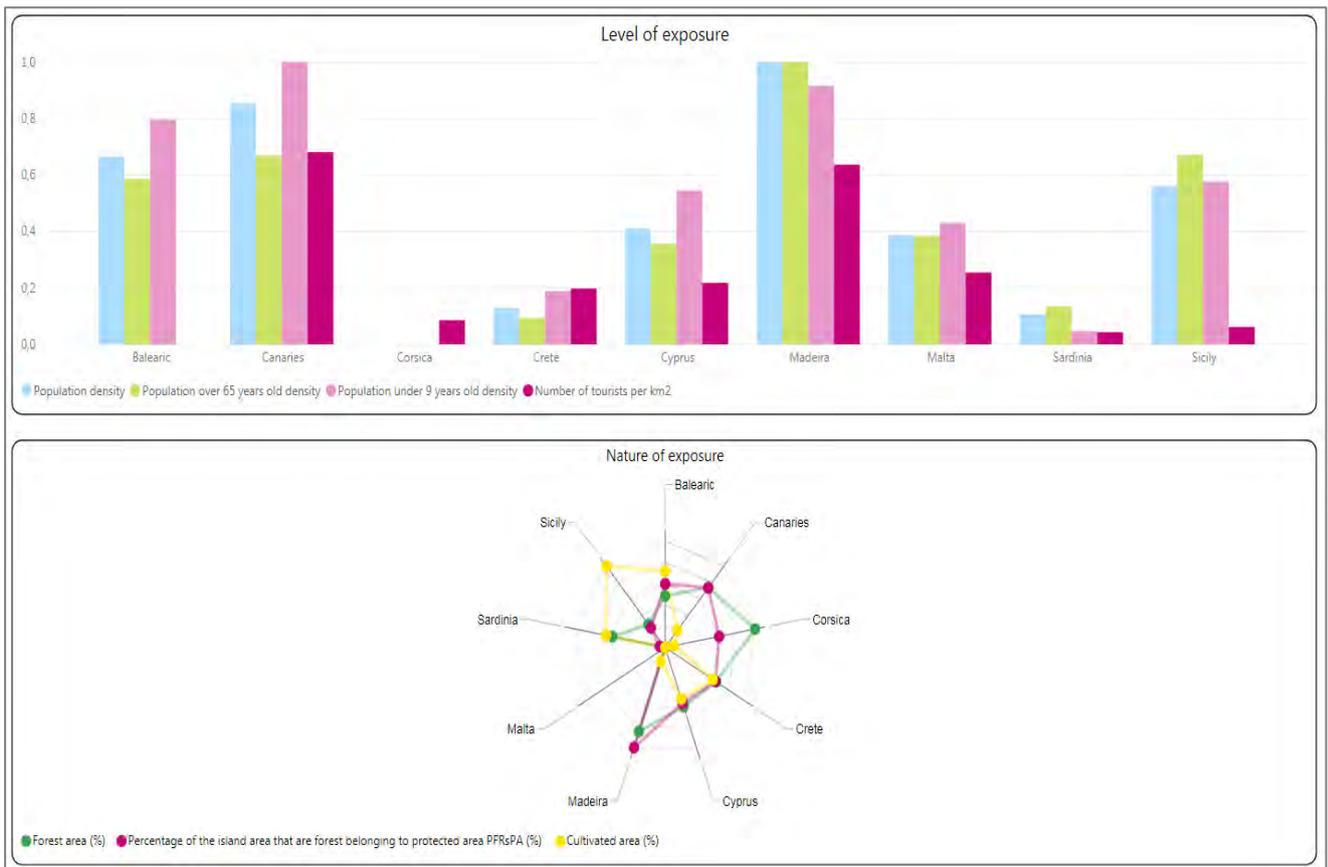


Figure 52: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, **Canary Islands** and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and **Canary Islands**, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

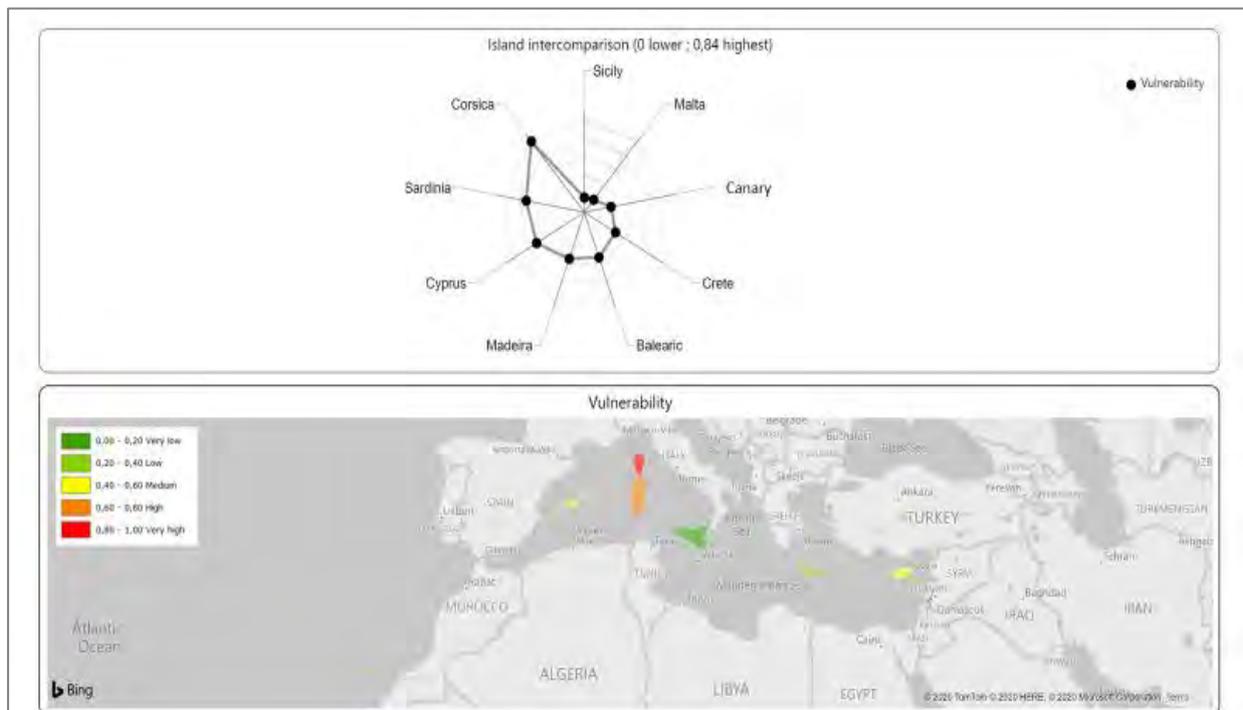


Figure 53: Vulnerability score per island

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

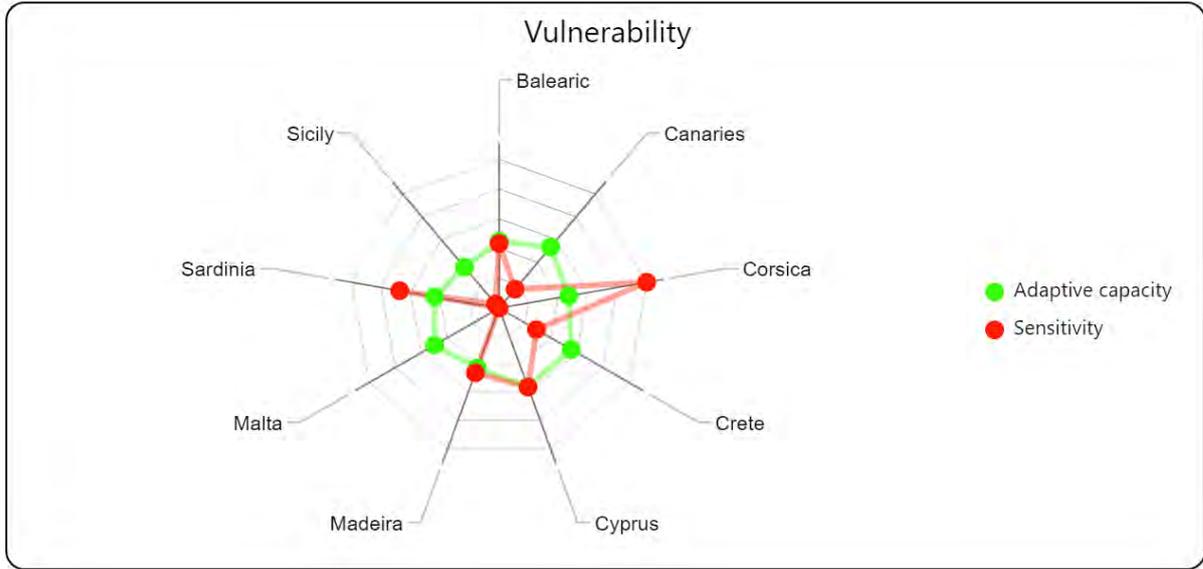


Figure 54: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Figure 55: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5 Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and **Canary Islands**) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, **Canary Islands**, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5. Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for **Canary Islands** and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

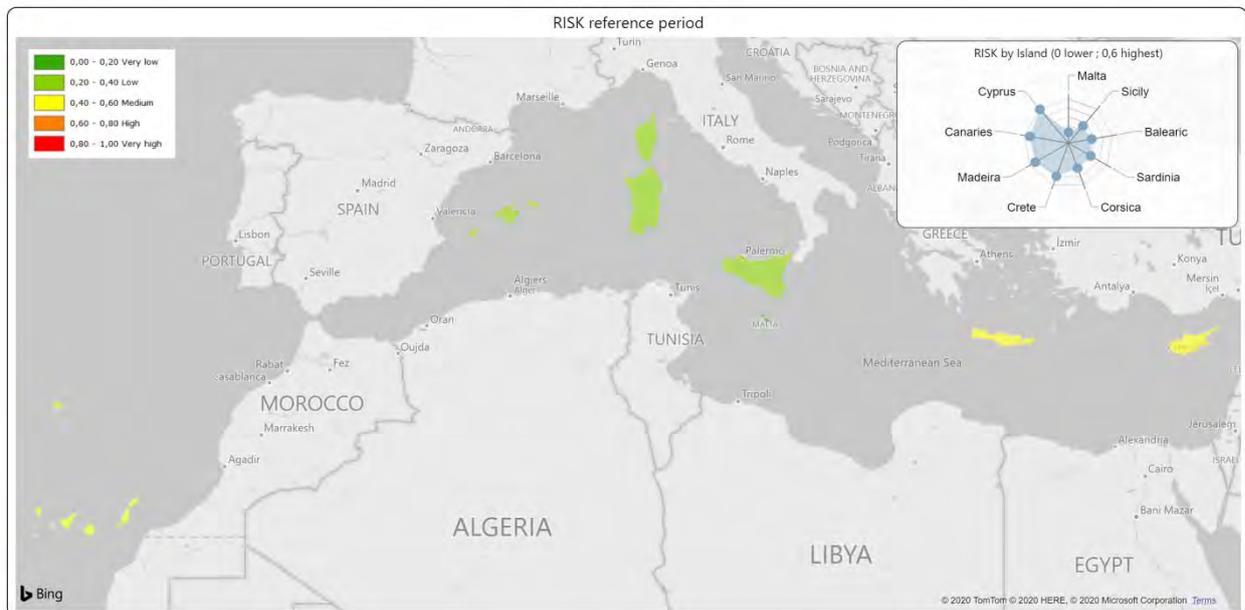


Figure 56: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

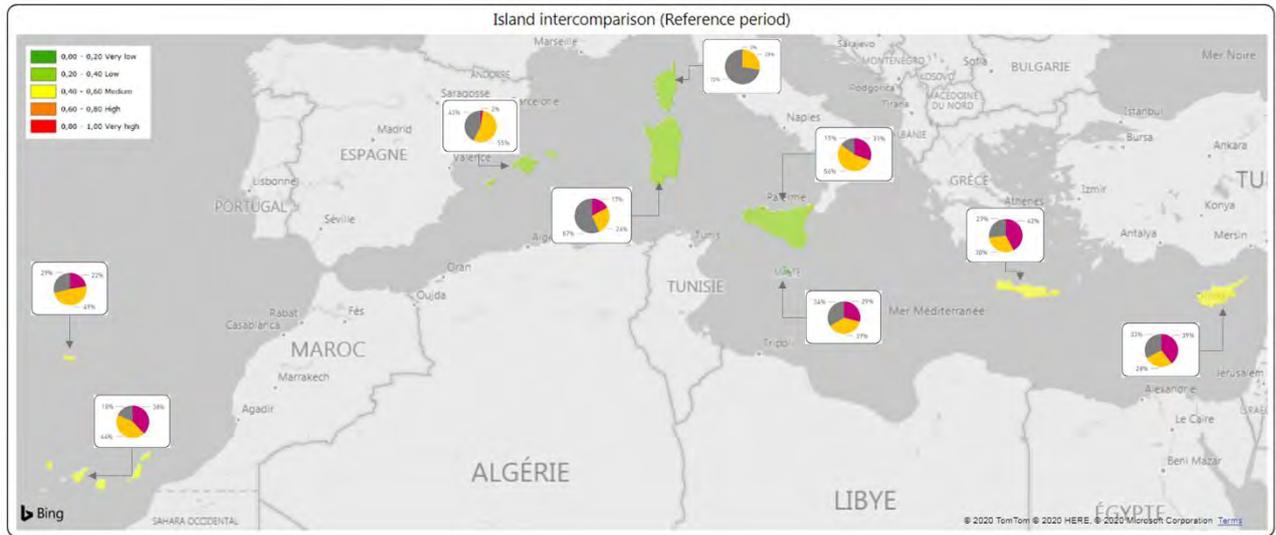


Figure 57: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

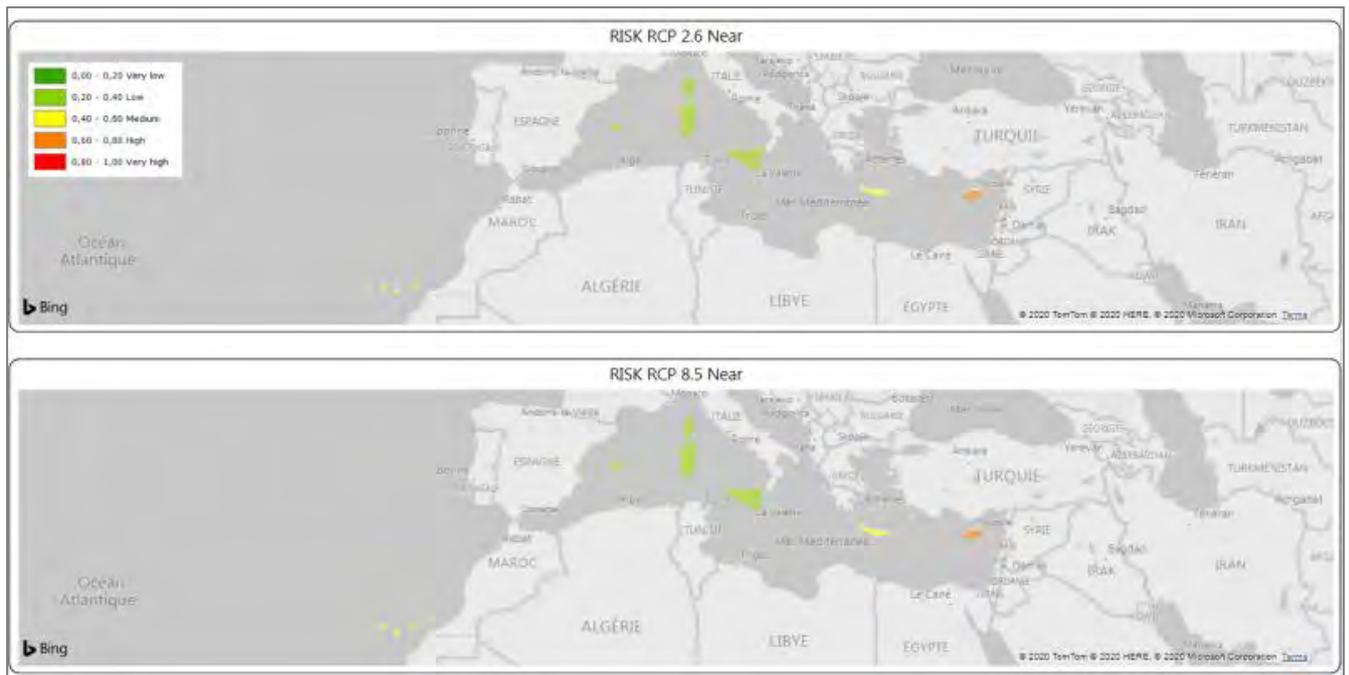


Figure 58: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

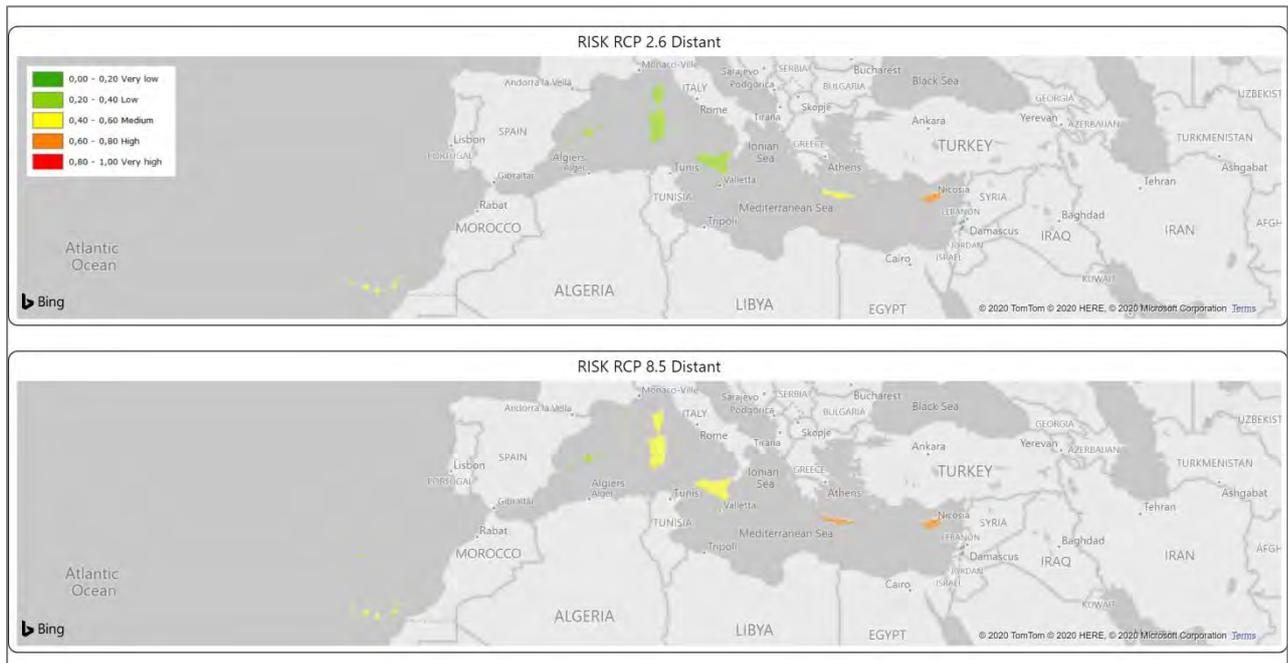


Figure 59: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

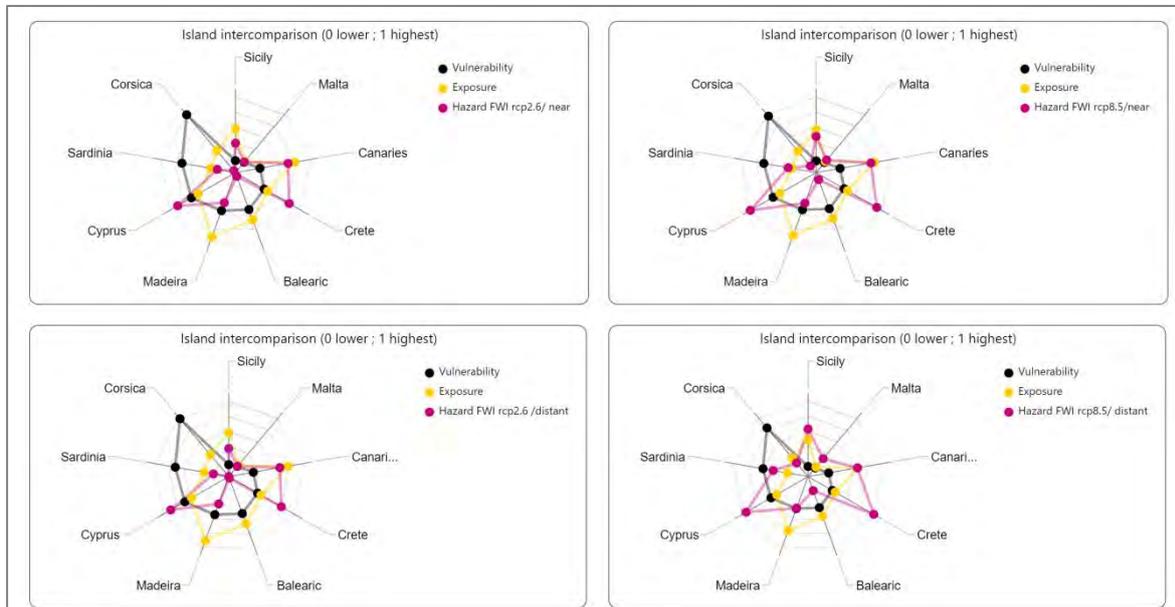


Figure 60: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Canary island results

The risk is medium under the reference period and under both future scenarios at the end of century. The component of hazard is the most important in the calculation of the risk score (45%).

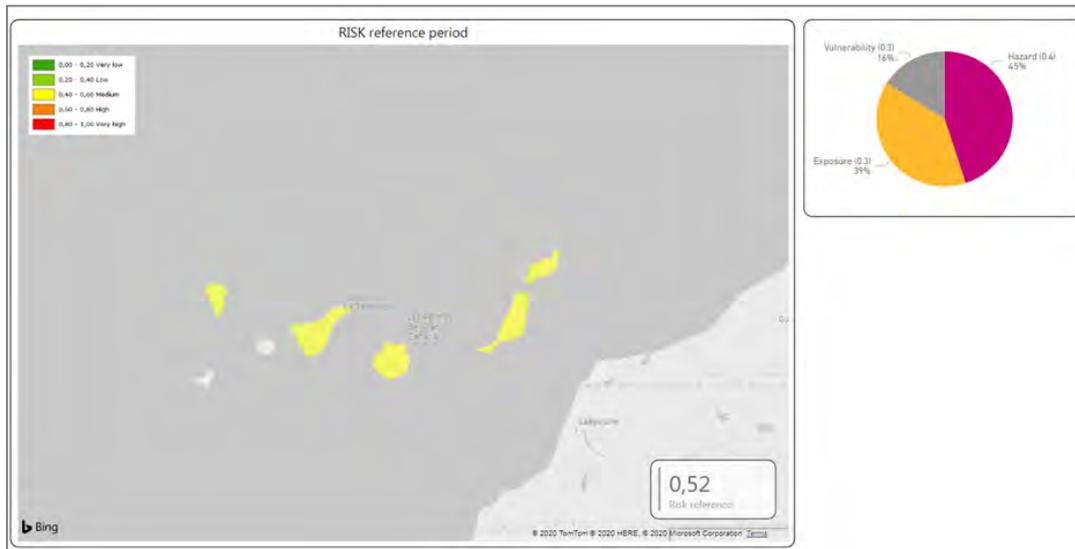


Figure 61: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Figure 62: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Concerning the component of exposure, the level of exposure is the most represented sub-component (59 %).

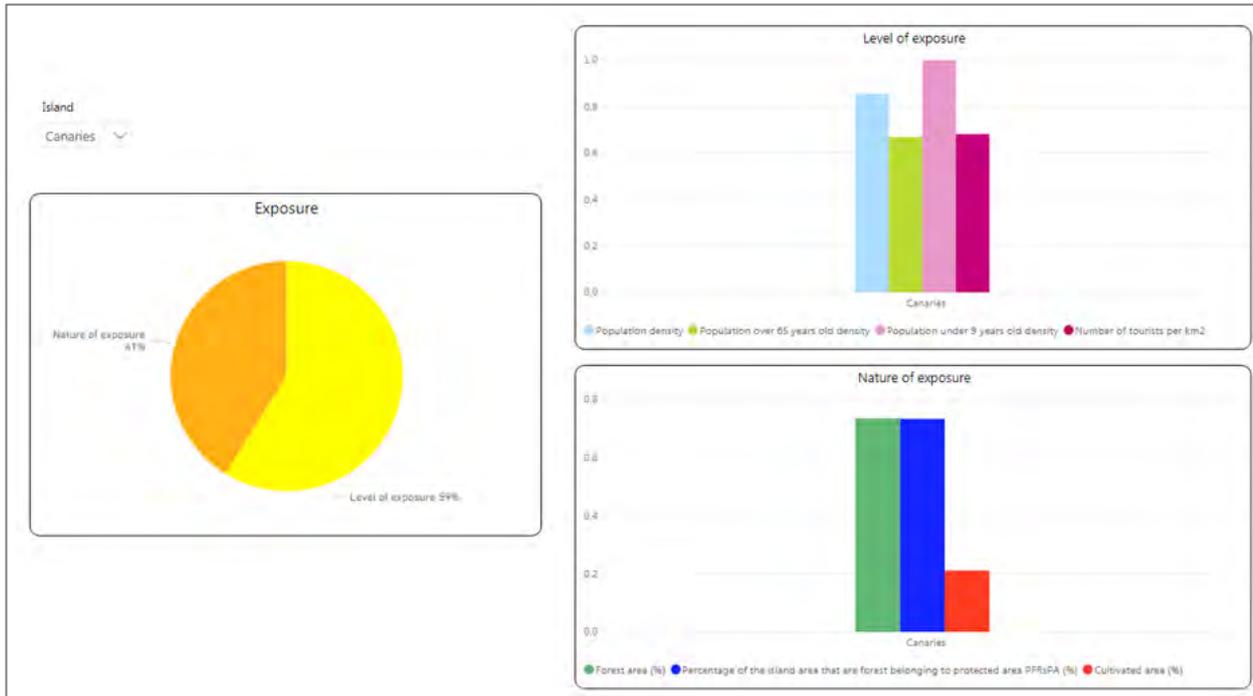


Figure 63: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure) per island. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Concerning the vulnerability component, the adaptive capacity is the most represented subcomponent (76%).



Figure 64: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity). Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



4.2 Aquaculture

In the Soclimpact project, aquaculture includes only marine-based operations where off-shore and coastal aquaculture are included, and freshwater and land-based aquaculture are excluded. Examples of climate change hazards that can impact aquaculture are changes in ocean warming and acidification, as well as oceanographic changes in currents, waves, and wind speed. Sudden impacts such as an increase in the frequency and intensity of storms and heat waves are also impacting aquaculture. Other effects of climate change on aquaculture activities are increased invasions from alien species, increased spread of diseases and changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters. An important indirect impact to aquaculture is the change in fisheries production due to climate change. Aquaculture of finfish is highly dependent on fisheries for feed ingredients. This already a current problem with many fisheries overexploited and will only intensify in the future. Climate change is also predicted to impact food safety, where temperature changes modify food safety risks associated with food production, storage, and distribution.

Socio-economic impacts on aquaculture are hard to assess due to the uncertainty of the changes in hazards and the limited knowledge these impacts have on the biophysical system of aquaculture species (Handisyde et al. 2014). In the framework of Soclimpact, the following risks were studied:

1) Risk of Fish species thermal stress due to increased sea surface temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

2) Risk of increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

Indeed, the objective of the risk assessment is to obtain final risk scores according to a gradient (very low to high) and to be able to compare the European islands with each other. For the Canary Islands, it was difficult to obtain the adequate data to make these comparisons. The type of data that was necessary to compile was:

- Farm area (km²)
- Value of stocks
- Quick support intervention plans
- Early warning system
- Sensivity of species



4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through an expert assisted process. The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

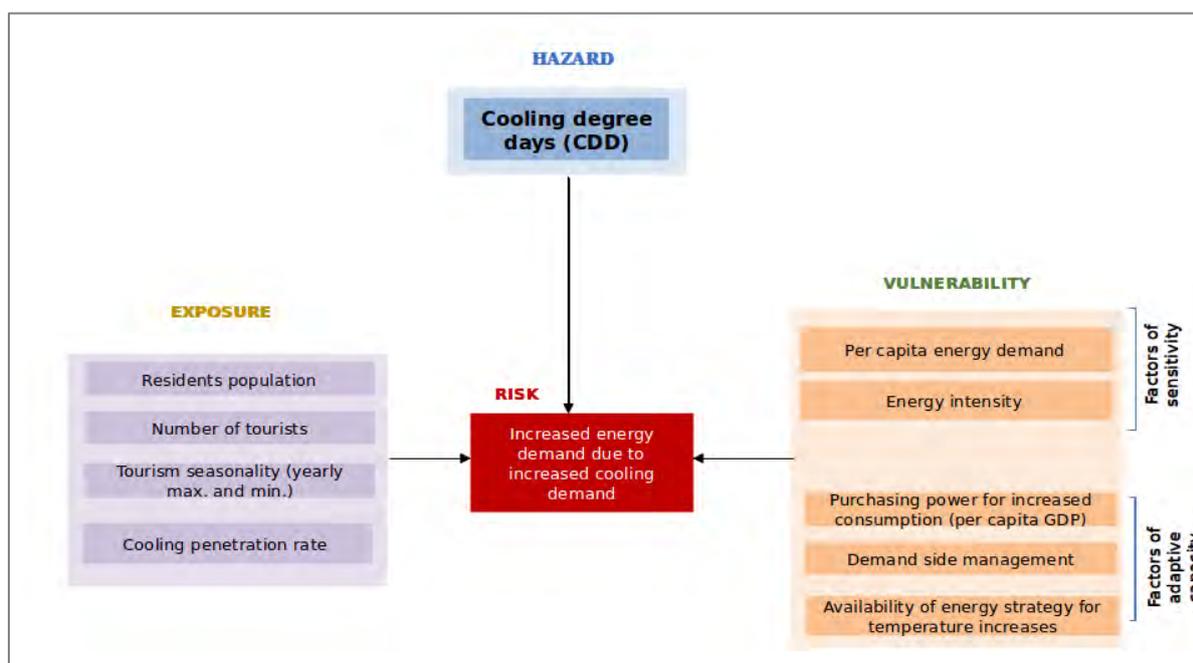


Figure 65: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand.

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

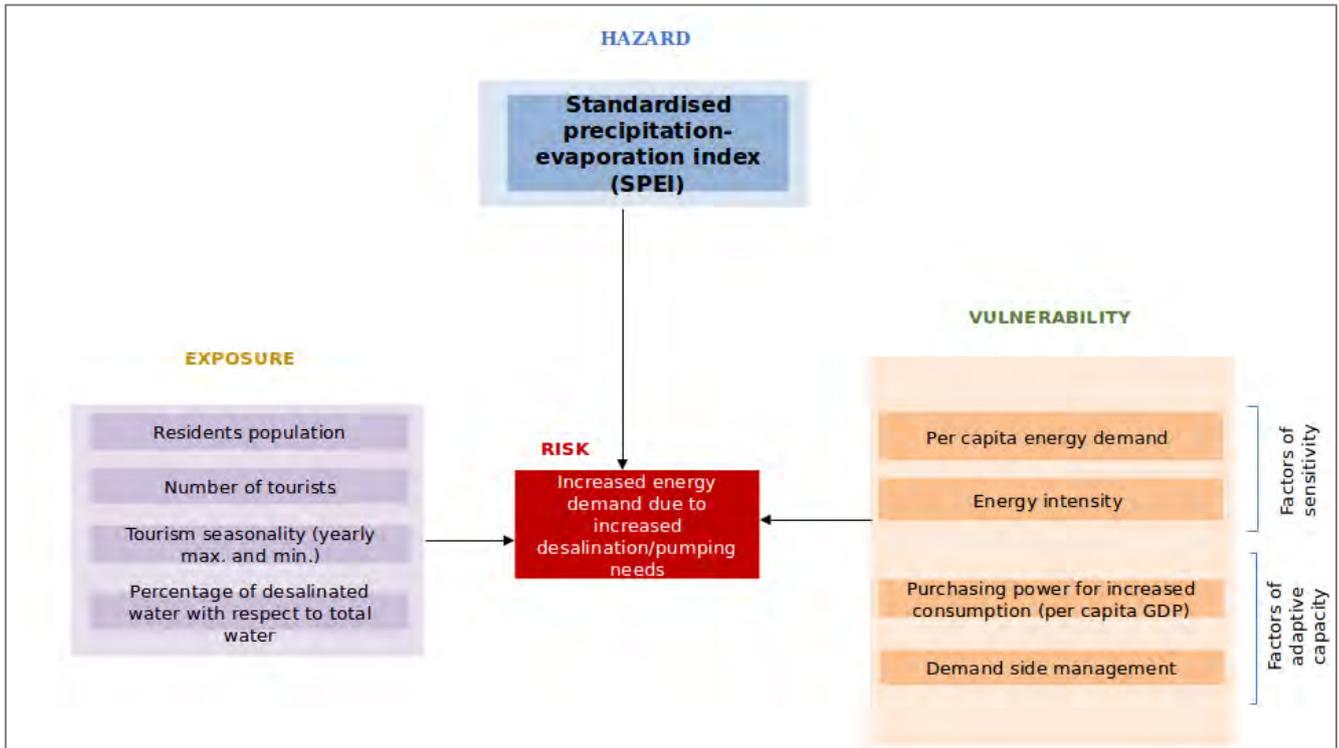


Figure 66: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus,



energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

Hereafter we only present the results of the operationalization of the IC, this is, the final risk scores for increased cooling and desalination energy demand, joint to a general conclusion:

Table 12: Final risk scores for Canary Islands: cooling and desalination energy demand, for the historical and future periods.

	Hist. ref. RCP2.6	RCP2.6 (2046-2065)	RCP2.6 (2081-2100)	Hist. ref. RCP8.5	RCP8.5 (2046-2065)	RCP8.5 (2081-2100)
Cooling	0.30	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.38	0.45
Desalin.	0.29	0.46	0.47	0.29	0.54	0.58

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

The risk associated to cooling energy demand shows low present values, that almost do not increase in the case of RCP2.6 scenario, while it increases to a medium value at the end of the century for RCP8.5 as a consequence of the temperature increase. The weights of the different components, obtained through an objective correlation method, indicate a higher importance for vulnerability indicators than for hazard and exposure indicators. Specifically, energy intensity and



per capita energy demand (vulnerability indicators) show very high correlation with cooling energy demand. The ratio of the yearly number of tourists to population is very high, but it shows a low correlation with cooling energy demand. A possible explanation for this is the very low tourism seasonality in Gran Canaria, as a high number of tourists well distributed over the year seems to have a low impact on cooling energy demand. In contrast, population density shows a high correlation to cooling energy demand, while CDD correlates moderately with this demand.

The low present risk score for desalination energy demand increases clearly even in the mitigation scenario, and doubles toward the end of the century for RCP8.5 as result of the very strong increase of SPEI score. In this case, a higher correlation between the number of tourists and desalination energy demand is found, which increases the weight of the exposure component in such a way that the three risk components have nearly the same weight. The percentage of desalinated water with respect to total water (rising from 20% in 1990 to more than 50% in the last years) shows the highest correlation with desalination energy demand. This indicates that other sources of water are already stressed, and this stress will only increase due to SPEI decreases. But as the percentage of desalinated water has a higher impact on energy demand than SPEI, once the percentage is near 100%, the increases of desalination energy demand might slow down.

**** Energy demand:***

- Certain data illustrate the strong impact that demand-side management options can have on energy demand. In the case of Malta, water losses in the distribution network were tackled through a leak management strategy during several years in such a way that the water losses were nearly halved from 2004 to 2009. This factor has been decisive in the evolution of the desalination energy demand, which has decreased 20% from 2004 to 2018 at the same time that GDP has grown 80%, the number of tourists has doubled and drought conditions have worsened.

- A clear demand management option for reducing cooling demand is the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings. The energy efficiency directive of the EU sets binding targets for all European countries, but the data about the efficiency classes of buildings are rather limited and difficult to access. The scarce data available indicate that there is much room for improvement in this respect. A consequent implementation of energy efficiency measures in buildings could reduce clearly the effect of increasing temperatures on energy demand.

- Digitalisation is key in EU strategies. In this respect, demand side management options for adaptation to generation peaks and troughs should be developed as much as possible through digitalisation, prioritising automatic instead of manual adaptation.

**** Energy supply:***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.



- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- In general, projections show a decreasing tendency of wind energy productivity over the Mediterranean region, with a more important decrease for the RCP8.5 scenario. The main exception is Crete, which shows a consistent increasing tendency.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).
- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.
- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).
- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.



- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).
- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.
- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Hazard indicator computation and normalization

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature.

For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to this hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The monthly differences can be aggregated at different time-scales, depending on the type of drought to be monitored.



Temperature and precipitation data for SPEI calculation have been taken from the selected regional climate model simulations. Regarding the indicator weight calculation, the ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset) data have been used for Malta and Cyprus, while for Gran Canaria local data have been applied (Plan Hidrológico de Gran Canaria, 2019).

The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator Wind energy productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.



Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is defined as the carriage of goods and passengers by sea-going vessels, on voyages undertaken wholly or partly at sea. It is often considered as the backbone of the world economy, with 80% of the global trade volume passing through ports (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). For islands, the transport of goods and passengers by ship is even more essential. At the same time, Maritime Transport contributes to climate change through its carbon emissions which are found to be near 3% of the global CO₂ equivalent emissions (Smith et al. 2015). Compared to land and air transport, it is the (economically and ecologically) most effective way of distributing goods globally. A changing climate will challenge Maritime Transport to adapt to future risks and lower its emissions.

The whole range of potential impacts of climate change on ports operations and throughput is still under study and it remains a high degree of uncertainty about it. Various climate change stressors can affect both harbour infrastructure and ships on route. For example, ports are vulnerable nodes of Maritime Transport as they are strongly affected by rising sea-levels, which in turn affect port facilities and increase the risk of flooding. Sea-level rise has accelerated in the last century and will rise by 0.43 to 0.84 m until 2100, depending on the emission scenario (Pörtner et al., 2019). Due to ocean dynamics and the Earth's gravity field, there will also be regional differences in sea-level rise in the order of 0.1 m (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). The causes of sea-level rise are the thermal expansion of water and the melting of glaciers due to the increase in global mean temperature (Vermeer & Rahmstorf, 2009).

Maritime transport can also be affected by climate change through the increase in the intensity of extreme weather events including tropical-like cyclones. According to climate projections, tropical cyclones are not expected to change significantly in frequency but in intensity due to rising sea-surface temperatures (Pörtner et al., 2019). The resulting extreme winds and waves can harm ships, but also cause damage and flooding of ports, especially in combination with sea-level rise (Hanson & Nicholls, 2012).

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified for the SOCLIMPACT project. These are:

- (a) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves,
- (b) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events,
- (c) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

We selected to operationalize the third one which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The hazard risk component indicators considered for the operationalization were: extreme waves (SWHX98), extreme wind (WiX98) and mean sea level rise (MSLAVE). The exposure indicators are: number of passengers (NPax), islands' total population (NTotP), value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot) and number of ports per island or archipelago (NPo), while the sensitivity indicators include: the number of isolation days (NIID) and renovated infrastructure (NAgePo). Finally, for the component of adaptive capacity the proposed indicators are: percentage of renewables (PEnRR), number of courses/trainings (NTrCoRM), early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt). Unfortunately, due to the lack of reliable and consistent data we had to exclude the “number of isolation days” and “number of courses/trainings” indicators. The conceptualization framework of the operationalization is summarized in the next Figure.

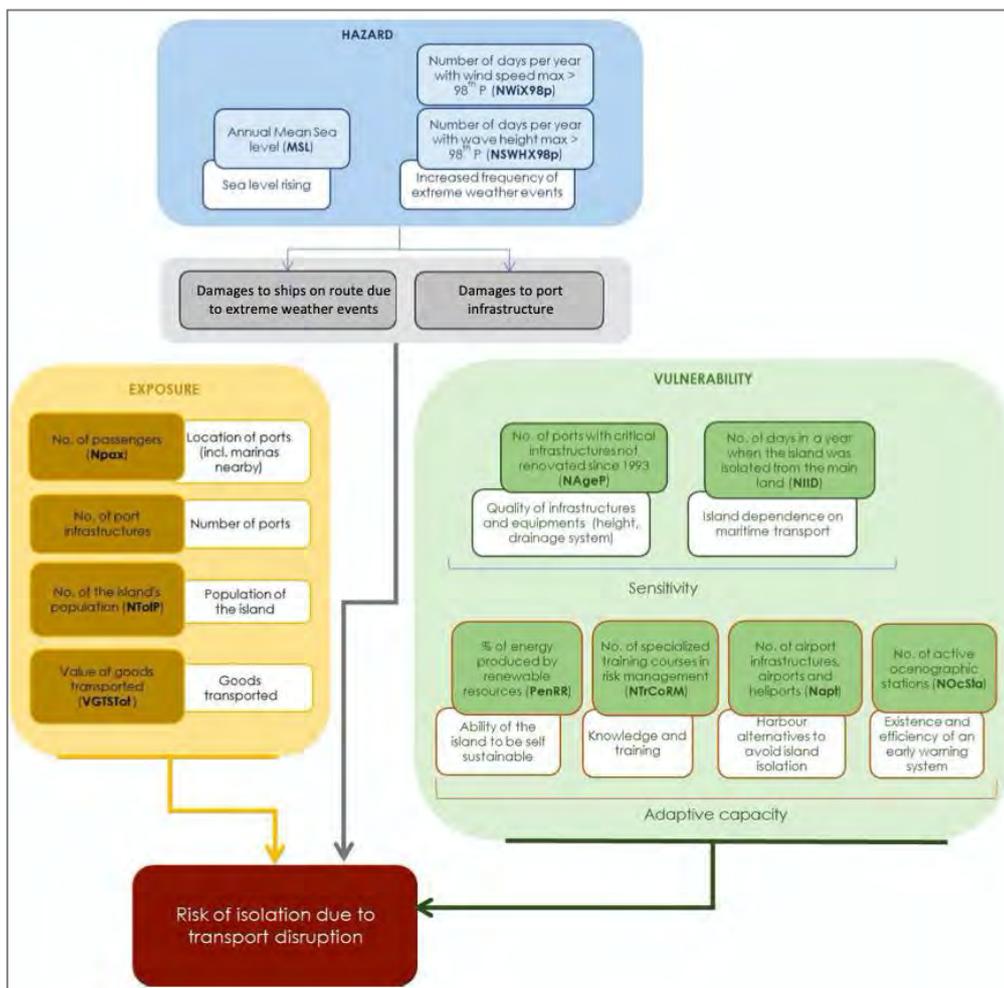


Figure 67: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain: Risk of Transport Disruption.

Source: Soclimpac project deliverable 4.5 Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public



For assessing future risk, we considered projections or estimations for the indicators when these were available. This was mainly the case for the components of hazard (mean sea level rise, extreme waves and wind), exposure (population, number of passengers, value of goods), and the contribution of renewables. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) were considered for meteorological hazards. One “high-emission” or “business-as-usual” pathway (RCP8.5) and a more optimistic one (RCP2.6) that is closer to the main targets of the Paris Accord to keep global warming to lower levels than 2 °C since pre-industrial times.

Besides the historical reference period, we consider two 20-year future periods of analysis. One over the middle of the 21st century (2046-2065) and one covering the end of the 21st century (2081-2100). The normalization of indicators was performed across the different islands in order to facilitate and inter-island comparison and prioritize the islands of higher risk.

Regarding the weighting of the different risk components, we have tested several weights, however, according to expert judgement and discussion with specialists on the Maritime sector, we have found more appropriate to assign equal weights to all main components of risk (i.e. 0.33 for Hazard, 0.33 for Exposure and 0.33 for Vulnerability). For the sub-components of Exposure, we have assigned a weight of 0.33 for Nature of Exposure and a weight of 0.66 for Level of Exposure since the latter one is believed to be of greatest importance. Similarly, for the vulnerability sub-components, we have assigned a weight of 0.25 for the Factors of Sensitivity and a weight of 0.75 for the Factors of Adaptive Capacity.

The weighting and categorization of risk is a subjective decision, nevertheless we consider our selection to be quite conservative and therefore we believe that a slightly different choice would not significantly affect the main conclusions drawn. For the recent past/present conditions, the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain indicates low risk for all investigated islands. In general, the Maritime Transport sector of the larger islands (e.g. Corsica, Cyprus and Crete) is found to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Up to a point, this is related to the large number of harbour alternatives in comparison with smaller islands.

Our results for the future highlight the importance of adopting a low-emission pathway since this will keep the risk for Maritime Transport disruption in similar as present conditions while for some islands the risk is expected to slightly decline. In terms of island inter-comparison, Malta's maritime sector is found to be most vulnerable, nevertheless, future risk even under RCP8.5 is not expected to exceed medium risk values. On the contrary, Corsica is the island less susceptible to climate change impacts. Detailed results for each investigated SOCLIMPACT island are presented in the following sub-sections.



Table 13: Summary of present and future risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption for each island and scenario based on the Impact Chain operationalization.

RISK VALUE PER ISLAND	Historical Reference	RCP2.6 MID	RCP2.6 END	RCP8.5 MID	RCP8.5 END
CYPRUS	0.241	0.210	0.218	0.258	0.292
CRETE	0.229	0.208	0.201	0.257	0.282
MALTA	0.376	0.347	0.335	0.395	0.414
CORSICA	0.220	0.194	0.194	0.243	0.273
CANARY ISLANDS	0.336	0.292	0.250	0.346	0.341
BALEARIC ISLANDS	0.326	0.281	0.264	0.331	0.344

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5 Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Canary Islands is our only case study archipelago outside the Mediterranean. For the reference period, our analysis indicates low risk values of 0.336. It is therefore the second largest risk value after Malta. This result is clearly due to the contribution of exposure indicators. In particular, the total population, number of passengers and value of goods are the highest among all investigated islands. Under an RCP2.6 pathway, risk value is expected to decrease (risk values of 0.250-0.292). This is mainly due to the combination of decreased contribution from adaptive capacity and exposure indicators since the population of the archipelago was assumed to be reduced following the mainland Spain trends. Under pathway RCP8.5, this reduction of the exposure and adaptive capacity indicators is counterbalanced with a significant increased contribution of meteorological hazards due to climate change. As the Canaries are located in the Atlantic Ocean, the projected mean sea level rise (0.74 cm) is the highest amongst all islands or archipelagos. As a result, the end of the century risk values (0.341) are not expected to exceed the low level class.

READ MORE about the risk indicator computation: normalization of sub-component indicators on Deliverable 4.5 Soclimpact project [HERE](#)

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 300 tourists visiting Canary Islands whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

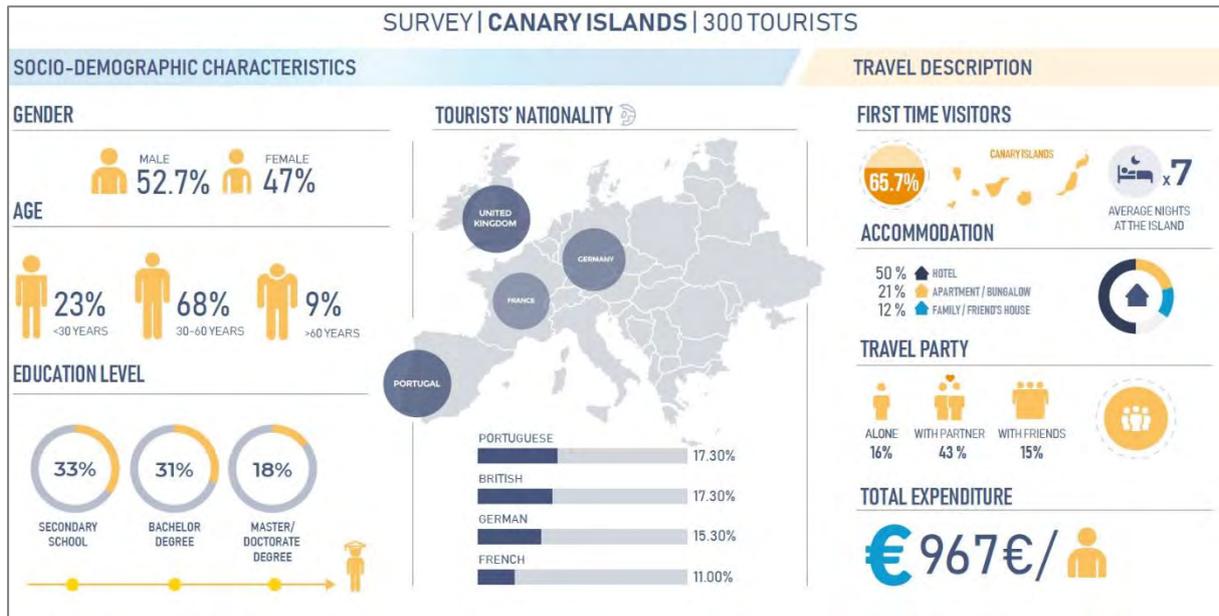


Figure 68: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Canary Islands.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D5.5](#) Report on market and non-market costs of Climate Change and benefits of climate actions for Europe

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists’ choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (82.30% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where marine wildlife has disappeared to a large extent (71.30%) or where wildfires occur more often (69%). On the other hand, policies related to marine habitat restoration (12.75€/day), water supply reinforcement (11.5€/day), and cultural heritage protection (8.1€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting these islands.

Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies would have, and develop their plans accordingly.

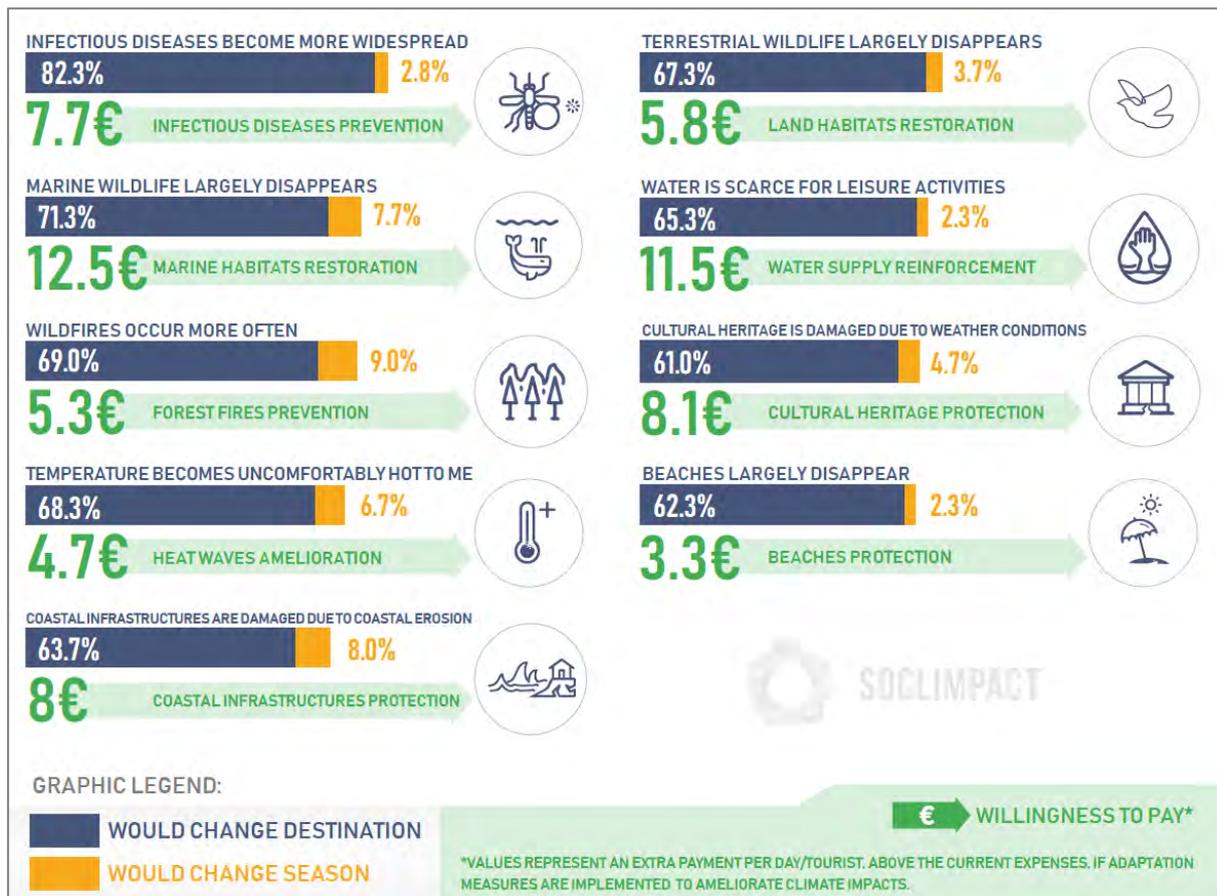


Figure 69: Tourists' response to climate change impacts and related policies: Tourists visiting Canary Islands
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D5.5](#) Report on market and non-market costs of Climate Change and benefits of climate actions for Europe
 SEE VIDEO SUMMARY OF RESULTS [HERE](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

How tourists perceive the island destination: A comparative approach through the analysis of social media

While historically destination image is projected by DMOs and tourists' offices, the advent of social media allow the construction of an image which is also a projection of tourists. The content of their communication online shows the image they perceive. In this section we analyse how tourists "talk" about the different islands on social media, in order to understand what the perceived image is.

We use a specific tool (Google Cloud Vision) to scan the content of images posted by tourists on Instagram (the market leader in visual social media) while they are on holiday in selected islands. The content is translated in up to ten labels attached to each picture. For each island we aggregate and rank the different labels to find out the most important characteristics tourists associate to



the island (assuming that they are correlated with the most frequent labels attached to the pictures).

We analyse eight islands representative of the Atlantic Ocean (four islands of the Canary Archipelago: Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Tenerife) and of the Mediterranean Sea (Crete, Cyprus, Malta, Sicily). We scan posts geotagged in these islands by tourists (identified by a travel-related hashtag such as #visit #holiday #travel, etc) in summer 2019 (June to September), returning a total number of 745,235 pictures considered in the analysis. The breakdown is in the table below.

Table 14: Characteristics of the sample of pictures under analysis

Indicator	Island							
	<i>Tenerife</i>	<i>Gran Canaria</i>	<i>Fuerteventura</i>	<i>Lanzarote</i>	<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>Crete</i>	<i>Malta</i>	<i>Sicily</i>
Num. of posts (total)	49,234	33,145	38,452	25,471	63,561	93,752	74,925	119,896
Avg. num. of pictures per post	1.77	1.67	1.56	1.8	1.76	1.74	1.81	1.68
Share of geotagged posts	67%	67%	67%	65%	70%	74%	76%	73%
Number of scanned pictures	74,537	48,337	52,577	39,381	95,808	141,538	117,576	175,481

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

After aggregating similar words, top labels for each island were obtained. The following pools were created utilizing a frequency analysis, which is the total number of times the label occurs in each island. A first glance at the word clouds shows that all destinations look extremely similar which, perhaps, is of little surprise given that they all are European sea & sun destinations: hence, labels like Sky, Sea, Vacation, Tree, Beach are among the most frequent for all islands. Nonetheless, some differences can be spotted: Mountain appears relatively more frequently in Tenerife than in other islands; Sea and Ocean have relatively more weight in Fuerteventura; Architecture and Building are of more importance in Cyprus, Crete, Malta and Sicily than in the Canary Islands, something that is clearly linked to the density of cultural heritage in the Mediterranean islands: in fact, all the labels representing architectural, religious and historical sites (History, Historic, Ruins, Site, Ancient, Building, Dome, Mosque, Holy, Medieval, etc.) have higher ranks in these islands than in the Canaries. The islands of this archipelago have more similar images, but also reveal distinct features: for example Gran Canaria appears the most urban, Tenerife is characterized by a higher frequency of labels related to partying and nightlife but also for wildlife spotting, Lanzarote stands out for its arid landscapes and Fuerteventura for the vast sandy seashores and turquoise waters as the frequencies of labels such Beach, Shore, Sand, Coast, Turquoise, Ocean show.



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



Gran Canaria



Tenerife



Fuerteventura



Lanzarote



Crete



Cyprus



Malta



Sicily



The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination’s perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees. As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. Other estimations were provided for Canary Islands using the Index of Distance in Destination Image to position each island in a range that goes from Sardinia / Corsica on one side and Sicily on the other side. Without entering the details of the extrapolation method (which are explained in D5.6 appendixes) a summary of results is reported here:

Table 15: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Canary Islands

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
3.51%	rcp26near	6.30%	1.1%	0.2%	1.4%
	rcp26far	6.96%	1.4%	0.3%	1.7%
	rcp85near	14.90%	4.4%	0.9%	5.3%
	rcp85far	41.37%	15.2%	3.0%	18.6%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)



According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperatures on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold by specie, and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant) were analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases

To do this, we assume two main species cultured in this region: Seabream and Seabass, and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios.

In both scenarios, the production function will not be negatively affected by the increased sea temperature, as the projected values are under the lethal threshold of the fish species.

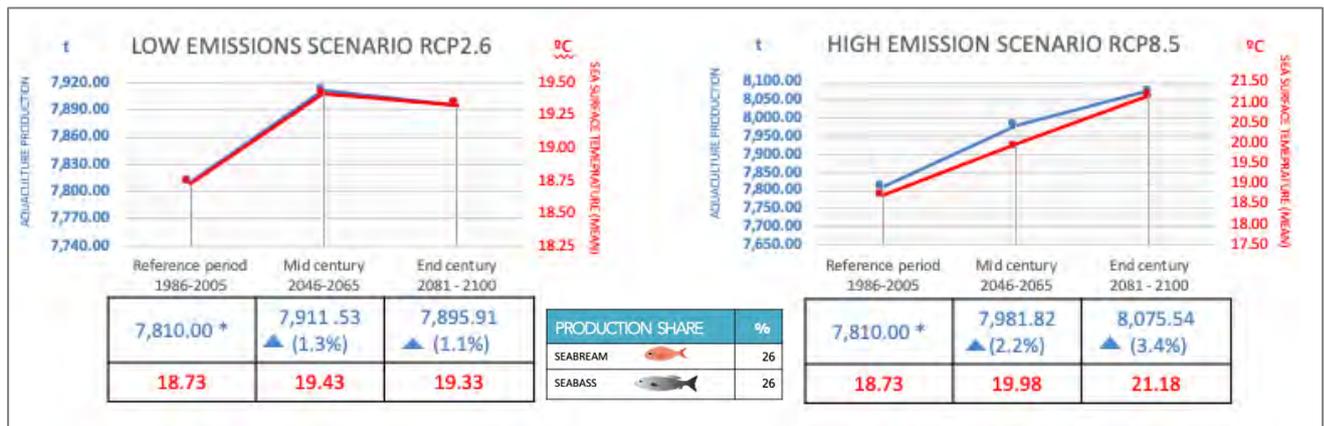


Figure 70: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#) Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).



Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (**CDD**) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (**GWh/year**) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 665 CDD¹³ approximately. This value could be, for example, a combination of 100 days with temperatures of 24°C (400CDD) and other 132 days with temperatures of 20°C (265CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 265%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

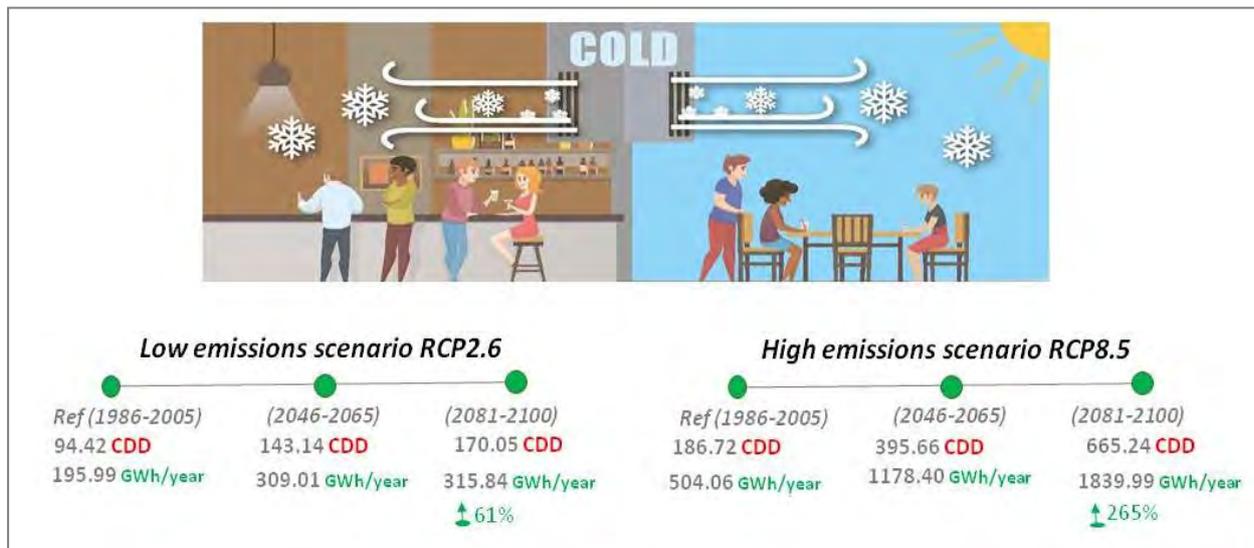


Figure 71: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Canary Islands under different scenarios of climate change until 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D5.6. Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (**SPEI**) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (**GWh/year**) to

¹³ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example, the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18) = 200CDD



produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the high emissions scenario (RCP8.5), the situation could be critical as the indicator reach the highest levels, which could lead to an increase of 206% in desalination energy demand.

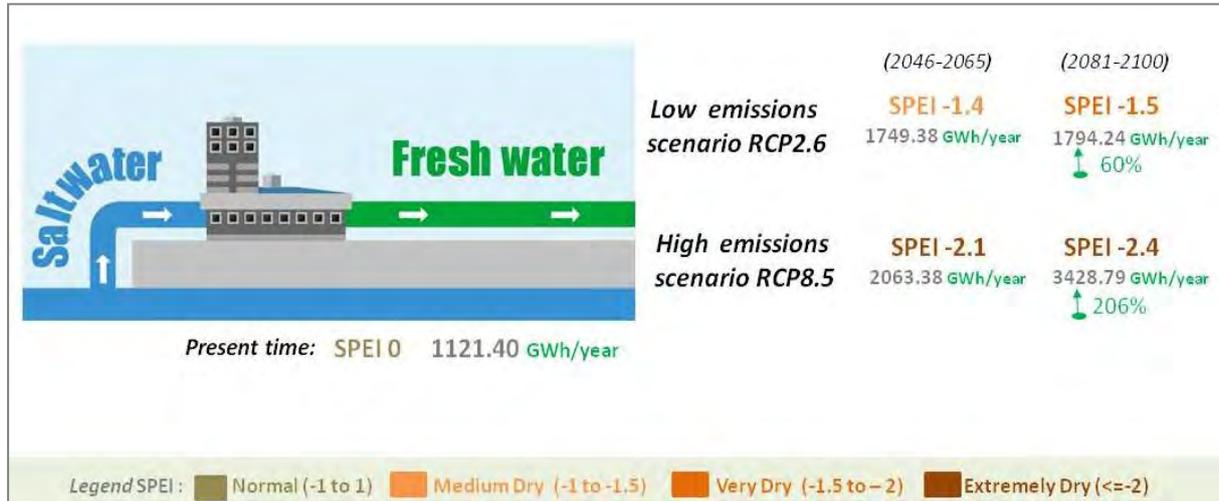


Figure72: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Canary Islands under different scenarios of climate change until 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D5.6](#). Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change4Impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the islands. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all ports' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investments will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 16 million euros per year until the end of the century.



The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

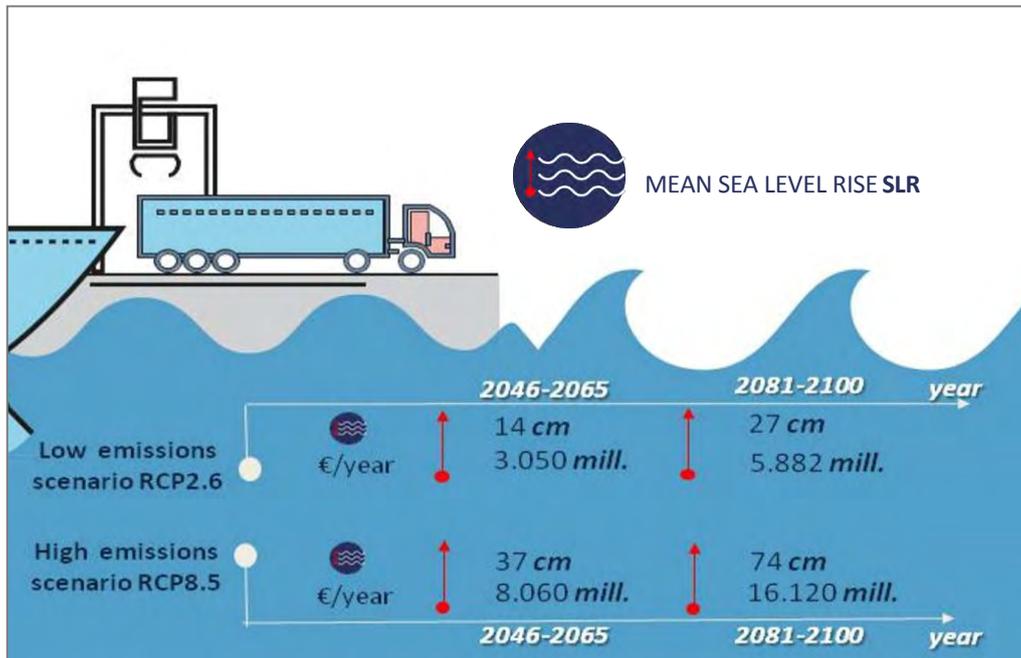


Figure 73: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Canary Islands under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D5.6](#). Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for Canary Islands. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 18 scenarios have been quantified for Canary Islands. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 16: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-10.01	6.0	-0.39
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-12.81	13.6	-0.43
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-12.64	9.0	-1.03
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-18.47	34.2	-1.17

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -2.6% and -3.8% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -5.7% and -6.2% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative change over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to -4.2% in the RCP2.6 and -9.7% in the RCP8.5.

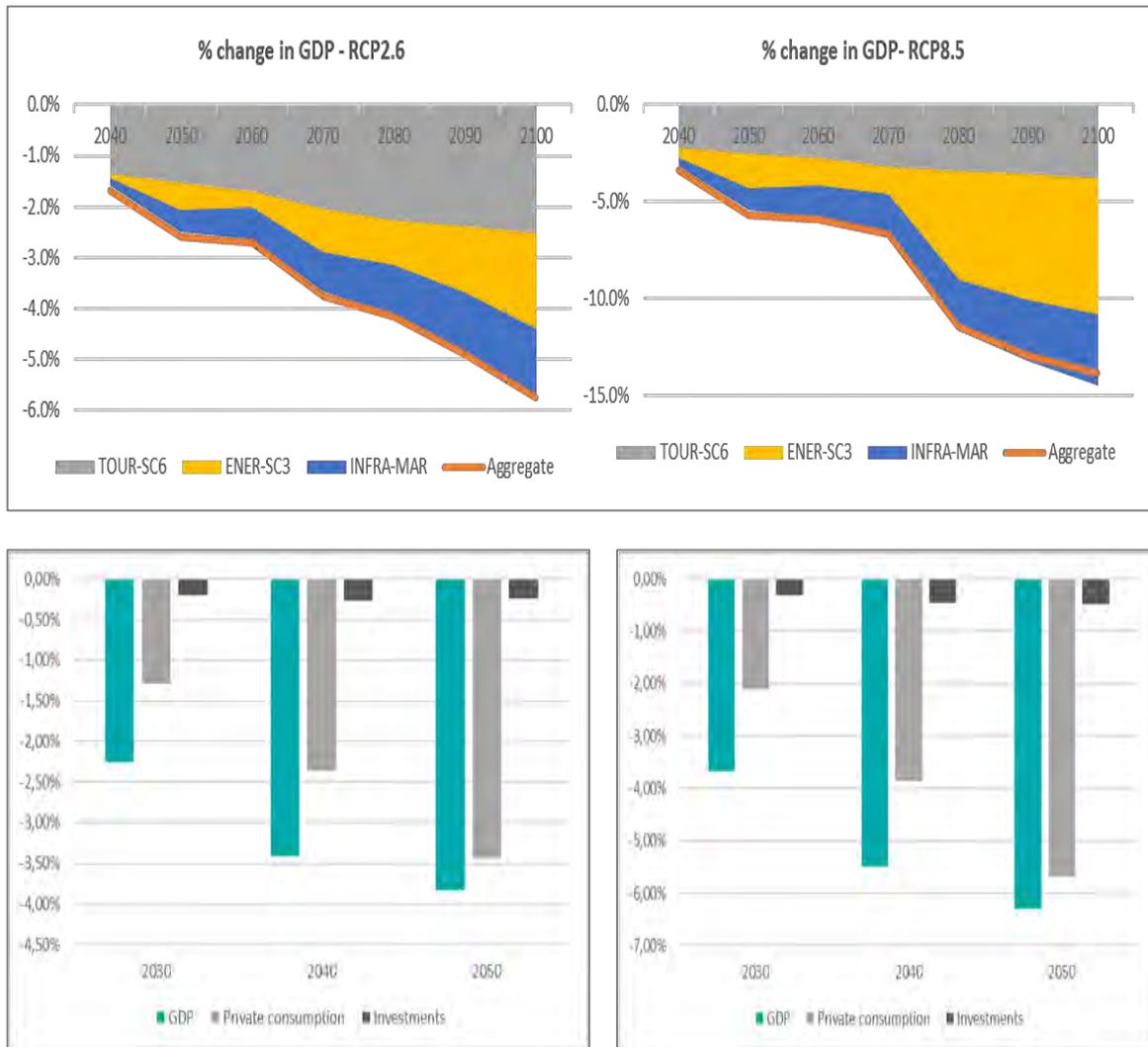


Figure 74: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the manufacturing sector, consumer goods industries and agriculture.



Figure 75: Production percentage change from reference.

Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 5.0% in the RCP2.6 and by 8.7% in the RCP8.5.

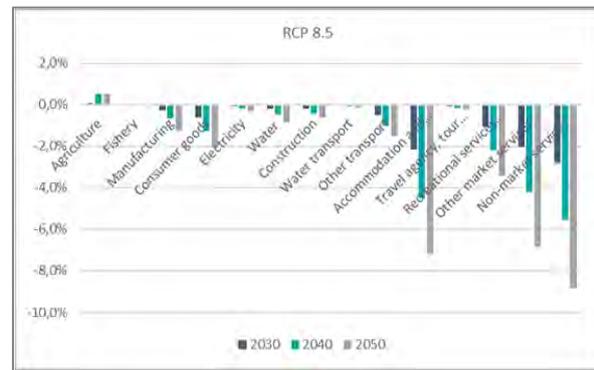
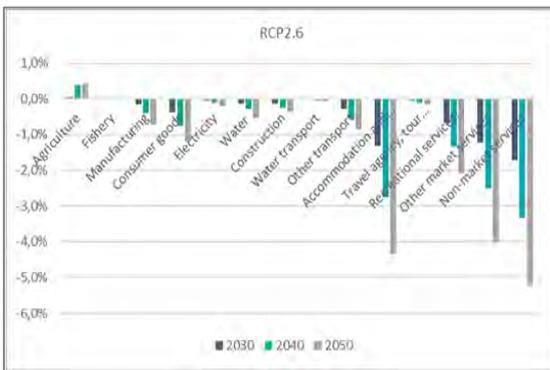
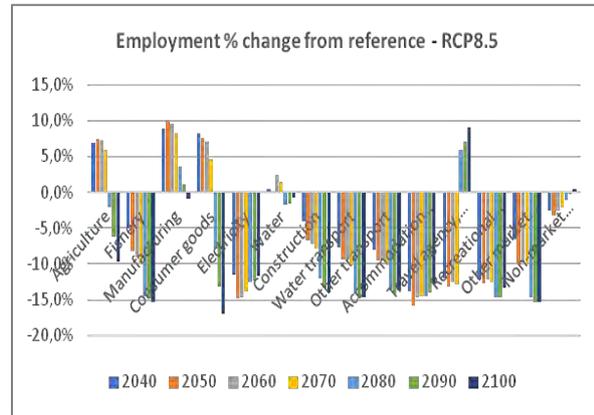
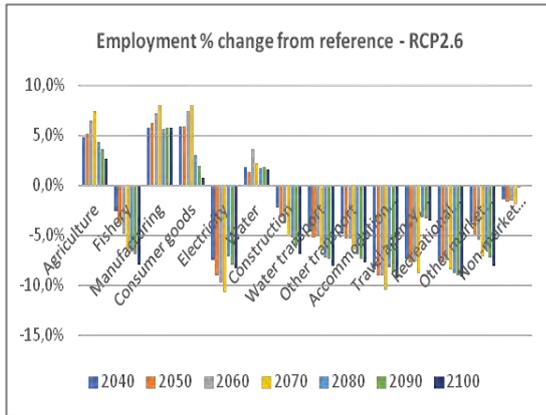


Figure 76: Employment percentage change from reference. Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle

There exists a document called “Canary Islands Strategy to Fight Against Climate Change (*Estrategia canaria de lucha contra el cambio climático*)”, applicable to the Canary Islands, which was elaborated by the Canary Agency for Sustainable Development and Climate Change (*Agencia Canaria de Desarrollo Sostenible y Cambio Climático*). This agency was active between 2009 and 2012, when it was extinguished by decree. Since then, there is no institution in the Canary Government focused on addressing climate change issues; and the mentioned strategy plan hasn’t been reactivated nor updated. According to this document, presented at the UN Climate Change Conference 2017, even if Canary Islands tried to pass an adaptation plan which includes advice for adaptation and mitigation policies, there is no policy implemented in Canary Islands in this respect.

There exists a Committee of Experts advising the Regional Government (belonging to the executive power) which has at its disposal technical sub-committees in charge of these specific



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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



issues, but the information related to its activity should be provided by the Regional Government.

Between 2015 and 2018, the Executive Regional Government power announced the setting up of the Canary Islands Observatory of Climate Change (*Observatorio Canario de Cambio Climático*), an organism which creation was proposed in 2015 by the Cabildo de [Island Authority hall of] Lanzarote. However, the regulation of this institution hasn't been provided yet, and it does not dispose of specific personnel yet. Also, in 2018 it was announced the creation of a Climate Change Commission, associated to the Presidency of the Canary Government, and also the presentation of a draft bill for Climate Change in Canary Islands, but these initiatives haven't been materialized yet.

In conclusion, the Canary Islands have not updated the strategic plan that considers adaptation and mitigation policies for the islands, being this a priority objective for the society, its territory and its productive sectors.

The islands of La Gomera, Gran Canaria and Lanzarote have at their disposal recent Strategies and Actions Action Plans regarding Climate Change, thanks to their Island Authorities hall (Cabildo). However, only the island of Gran Canaria has activated the passing and implementation in the Governing Council of its Action Plan, whose horizons and objectives are set for 2030-2050. In addition, Gran Canaria has developed and executed numerous initiatives in the last three years. It has promoted several projects with the Spanish Government (*OECC – Oficina Española de Cambio Climático*), the *Fundación Biodiversidad*, the convention of United Nations for Climate Change (UNFCCC), the European Commission (Joint Research Centre), and numerous collectives and social agents of the island.

The Cabildo Island Authority of Gran Canaria has promoted with support of The Canary Islands Institute of Technology, in parallel, in the previous two years (2017-2018), the adherence of the island's municipalities to the EC initiative of The Covenant of Mayors, and development developed of the Strategic Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) and Plans for Climate and Sustainable Energy (*Planes de Acción por el Clima y la Energía Sostenible*, PACES). 10 of all the 21 municipalities of the island have their own action plans (SCEAPs), and their inventory of greenhouse gas emission inventory to work on its the progressive reduction of CO2 emission in the coming years. The other 11 municipalities are in the process of elaborating their SECAPs. Finally, the Island Authority of (*Cabildo de*) Gran Canaria has worked since 2017 together with the *Agencia Estatal de Meteorología* (AEMET) to sign a specific agreement about Adverse Meteorological Events (*Fenómenos Meteorológicos Adversos*, FMA) in Gran Canaria. On the other hand, in the framework of the INTERREG MAC programme a project was elaborated and presented by the Island Authority of (*Cabildo de*) Gran Canaria in 2018 to work in the Macaronesian area on Climate Change (other participants: AEMET, OECC, Governments of Senegal, Mauritania and Cabo Verde, UPLGC, Cabildo de El Hierro, Lanzarote and Tenerife).

Table 17: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<i>Specific limits and obstacle</i>
There is the need for more multilevel governance, and the strongest main limitation faced is the lack of commitment of the regional government regarding this issue. A group of experts (<i>Grupo de Acción Climática de Gran Canaria</i>) wrote a roadmap, which was not implemented afterwards (reference 1).
Moreover, the strategies are carried out at island level, meaning that in many cases there is no consensus or



homogenization of the topic in the different islands. For instance, the Island Authority of (*Cabildo de*) Gran Canaria cooperates with the Canary Islands Institute of Technology in the elaboration of the SECAPs for its municipalities, and collaborate with the national agency of meteorology (AEMET), while other islands are not addressing the problem ([here](#)).

According to an expert in this issue: “the most important and severe limitation is the lack of political willingness to design and address a strategic plan that allows to have:

- a) An updated strategy regarding the impacts in all productive sectors to promote adaptation policies.
- b) An updated strategy regarding emissions in all sectors to promote mitigation policies about Greenhouse Gas Emissions, with the aim of working on the EU and IPCC proposals (reduce emissions about 45% in 2030 based on 2010's registration, and by 100% in 2050).”

Other entities of the Canary Islands, such as the Canary Islands Institute of Technology (ITC), Universidad de La Laguna, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, WWF, ITC, PLOCAN, Centro UNESCO Gran Canaria, Asociación Domitila, Ben Magec-Ecologistas en Acción, Muévete por el Clima, Fundación Orotava de la Ciencia, among others, promote the research and dissemination of climate change impacts, but better coordination among them is needed, and they are not coordinated with the Regional Government, the 7 Island Authorities and the 88 municipalities, which may not ensure the efficient implementation in the islands of all the plans addressing climate change.

Relevant documents

- [Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Canary Islands \(2011\)](#)
- [Provide public information regarding the adaptation plan](#)
- [Climate Change Adaptation Plan \(2014-2018\), follow-up \(National level\)](#)
- [AdapteCCa](#)
- [Measures against Climate Change](#)
- [Applicable regulation \(come from National level\):](#)
- [Strategies for Canary Islands to fight against climate change \(includes a mitigation plan\)](#)

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D7.1. Conceptual framework](#)



7 References

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SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Reports

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.3. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.3. Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4b Report on storm surge levels.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4c Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4e Report on estimated seagrass density.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D4.4d Report on the evolution of beaches.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D5.6. Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D6.2. Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report - D7.1. Conceptual framework.

APPENDIX 4





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in the Corsica Island. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

Corsica at a glance

Corsica is an island located in the Mediterranean Sea and a French territorial collectivity. It is the fourth largest island in the Mediterranean, with a surface area of 8,680 km² and a population of 325,000 residents. The island is mainly composed of forests (46% of the island) and counts several landscapes and local or endemic specificities. Corsica has experienced the strongest regional growth in France for 20 years (+2.3% average annual GDP growth). The economy's island heavily depends on tourism but is trying to diversify itself (renewable energies, education and sciences, digital startups).

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

Marine aquaculture in Corsica is an interesting sector driven by a dynamic synergy between university (Universita Corsica) and leading regional businesses such as the Gloria Maris group. This sector continues to expand and counts nearly 11 companies making 11 million euros a year, employing 120 people in Corsica. Aquaculture is developed in the eastern plain of the island. In the past three year, the shellfish production has grown by 20%.

- **Maritime Transport**

The maritime transport is an important and developed sector which ensures "territorial continuity" and allows Corsica to open to international markets. Nearly 26,000 commercial rotations are carried out on the island each year by 2 main companies: Corsica Linea and Corsica Ferries. However, the cruise sector remains the most emitting sector. In 2016, 400 000 tourists arrived in Ajaccio by cruise ships and 40 000 pleasure boats were declared in Corsica.

- **Energy**

Fossil energy accounts for 40% of Corsica's energy mix. But this mix depends mainly on imports from Italy, Sardinia (30%) and uses 20% of hydraulic energy. In order to counter

this dependence on fossil fuels and imports, Corsica is one of the first territories to have developed a "Renewable Energy Development Program".

- **Tourism**

Tourism is the most important sector in Corsica. In 2015, 10,6% of the Island's employment and 11% of the GDP were generated by tourist's spending's. In addition, the population increases sharply in the summer: 430,000 non-residents in the high season (mid-August) for a population of 320,000 inhabitants. For example, in 2016 Corsica has welcomed over 8.9 million passengers. But the tourism industry is also a major problem on the island, resulting in a high cost of living, long-term rental difficulties due to seasonal offers, high real estate prices and very poorly paid seasonal jobs.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Corsica is a French administrative authority. It is the fourth largest and the most mountainous of the Mediterranean islands, located 220 km from the French mainland. As the northernmost Mediterranean island, with ten peaks rising over 2,000m, Corsica has distinctive climate characteristics. Its varied topography harbours different strata of vegetation, ranging from Mediterranean to Alpine. Around 40% of the surface area (out of 8 680km²) is protected by a Natural Park status.

In terms of climate, hot and dry summers are followed by cold winters. Annual precipitation varies from 600 mm on the coast to 2,000 mm in the mountainous regions. Rainfall is concentrated in the spring and autumn, occasionally bringing heavy and destructive flooding. (Mouillot et al., 2008; Kołodziejcki, 2013).

The capital of Corsica and largest city is Ajaccio, home to 70 000. Corsica's total population is 336 459 (Eurostat, 2019), making it the French region with the lowest number of inhabitants. Corsica also has low population density: 38.76 (compared to a French average of 119 people per km²). However, demographic trends are dynamic, with growth rates of 3.8% per year from 2014 to 2018 (Regional Innovation Monitor, 2018). With mortality and birth rates cancelling out, this increase is attributed entirely to migration inflows. A comparison of population makeup by age group shows that population trends are positive for age groups above 45, while the percentage of people between the ages of 15 and 44 is declining (observations between 2011 and 2016). This indicates that migration to Corsica is fuelled by retirees. Indeed, retirees accounted for 30% of households in 2016 (INSEE, 2020). Other specificities in the demographic structure include the high proportion of single-parent families (11,4%) and the number of people above 15 years of age without a degree (35%, as opposed to 30% on the mainland).

Table 1: Evolution of population by age groups.

Age groups	2016	%	2011	%
Total	330 455	100	314 486	100
0 - 14	50 826	15.4	48 293	15.4
15 - 29	51 568	15.6	51 968	16.5
30 - 44	62 924	19	63 000	20
45 - 59	69 259	21	65 590	20.9
60 - 74	59 770	18.1	53 697	17.1
75 and over	36 108	10.9	31 937	10.2

Source Soclimpact project deliverable D6.2

As a semi-autonomous region of France (Collectivité Territoriale Corse - CTC), Corsica possesses a unique governance structure. A directly elected council, the General Assembly, in turns elects a separate council with executive powers, which is in charge of managing the region. The economic, social and cultural council (Comité Economique Social et Culturel – CESC) has consultative status. Compared to other French regions, the regional government has additional competences in the domains of culture, education, environment, spatial planning, tourism, transport, vocational training and energy. There are seven public establishments tasked with implementing regional policies. These regionally specific frameworks complement state-level policies (Regional Innovation Monitor, 2018).

Corsica has been a French territory since 1768, when ceded by Genoa. In the 1800s, technical progress as well as economic development helped temper some of the island's internal divisions and banditry. In the early XXth century, traditional activities (olive oil production, oak cork, chesnut production) began to suffer from competition with other Mediterranean islands and the economic fabric began to wear thin. During the latter half of the XXth century, relations with the mainland became strained with the rise of independentist sentiments and assassinations campaigns¹. Nowadays, Corsica's economy is based on the tertiary sector- closely tied in with tourism. Industrial activities account for only 6% of added value, while the construction sector represents 11%. In terms of infrastructure, Corsica boasts four international airports and seven major ports, as well as 232 km of railroads connecting the cities of Bastia, Ajaccio and Calvi (Kołodziejewski, 2013).

1.2 Current climate and risks

The climate of Corsica is generally described as Mediterranean, characterised by hot, dry summers and mild, wet winters. However, there are large temperature variations depending on altitude differences and winds. In fact, Corsica is divided into four climatic

¹ <https://www.routard.com/guide/corse/1046/histoire.htm>

zones: Mediterranean climate (up to 200 m of altitude); Transition zone (from 200 to 1000 m altitude); Moderate climate (from 1000 to 1500 m altitude); Alpine climate (at more than 1500 m altitude).

From 1000 m, the average temperature is below 0°C. Also, average rainfall is less than 500 mm per year on the coast, can reach 1500 mm at an altitude of 1000 m and 2000 mm in the high mountains.

In summer, the coast is very dry. Thunderstorms are rare, but violent. The average maximum temperatures generally reach 30°C. In winter, the average minimum temperatures are between 5 and 7°C, due to the immediate proximity of the Mediterranean. Between October and February, snow falls and often covers the summits until summer.

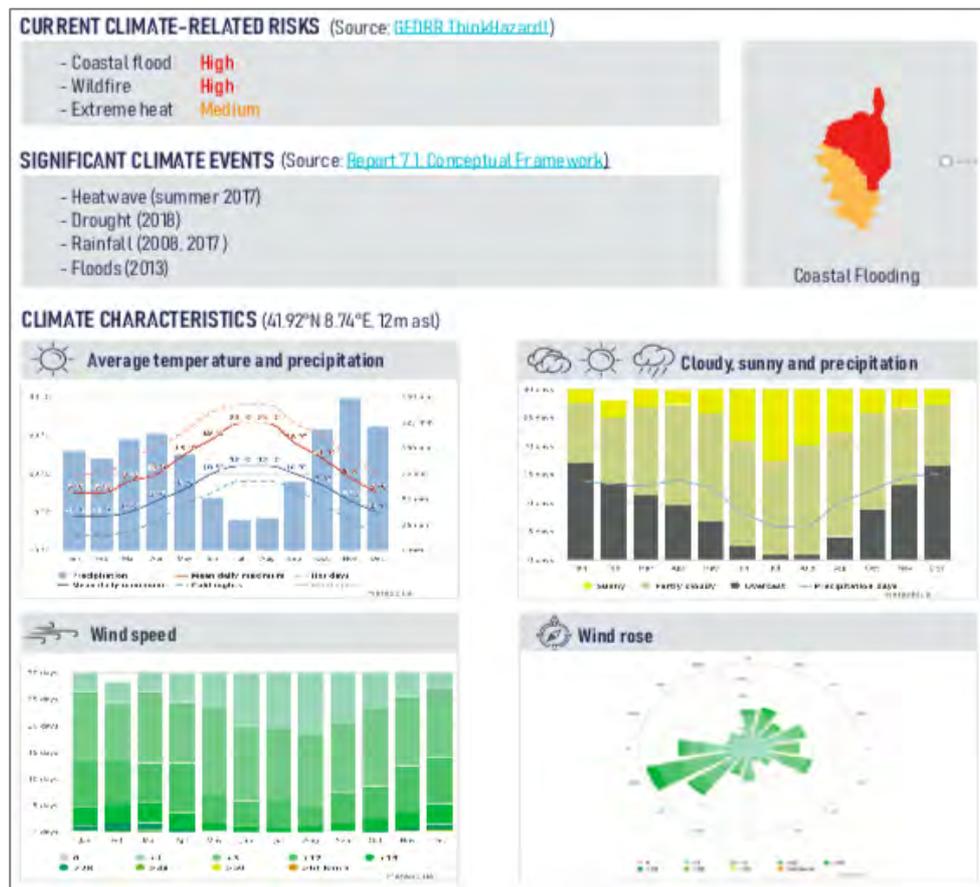


Figure 1: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

In 2018, Corsica's GDP amounted to € 9 642 million, equivalent to 0.40% of total French GDP. In fact, Corsica chronically placed among the poorest French metropolitan regions by GDP per capita until the first decade of the XXIst century. Partly due to the

concurrent demographic increase, GDP per capita grew at a much faster rate than the French average and suffered less from the 2008 crisis. Between 2015 and 2017, the average growth rate of the region was 2.64% per year (EUROSTAT, 2019). However, the GDP per capita, reaching €24 600 in 2017, remained significantly below the national average of €30 600.

Corsica's economy is driven by tourism and as a result, relies heavily on the services sector. Trade services are the dominant sector, while non-trade services and construction industries are over-represented. Overall, employment in services represents 80% of jobs, compared to 18 % for industry. Agriculture employs fewer workers than national average and covers smaller surfaces. Across sectors; small companies predominate, with 96% employing less than 10 people; the proportion of self-employed workers is also higher than national average (one in six as opposed to one in ten people). This reflects a productive apparatus composed of SMEs dealing in commerce or craftsmanship (Institut Moutaigne, 2015). Corsica's unemployment rate is aligned with national average (9.4% in 2018, compared to 9.1% national average). The most affected populations are the youngest and those over 50 (INSEE, 2018).

Corsica holds a commercial deficit of € 378 million in 2018. Main exports include agro-food products (25%), followed by mechanical, electronic, and tech equipments. Imports are linked to transportation material, agricultural products, and oil products. Its principal trade partners are EU countries, often accessed through Italy. (Serdjanian, 2018.)

Table 2: Export and import balances with EU and other countries.

	Export	Import	Solde
Union européenne	28 138	379 052	-350 914
dont Zone euro	26 624	343 554	-316 931
Pays tiers	75 308	419 606	-344 299
Europe hors UE	7 942	5 979	+1 963
Afrique	11 028	7 365	+3 663
Amérique	11 618	12 563	-945
Proche et Moyen Orient	10 631	912	+9 719
Asie	6 588	42 525	-35 936
Drivers	877	6 708	-5 831
Ensemble CAF/FAB hors matériel militaire	78 822	455 105	-378 283

Source: Serdjanian, 2018.

Overall, Corsica is by far the French region with least exports in terms of value; one explanation is that insularity renders the costs of exporting goods prohibitive.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

The tourism industry is a mainstay of the Corsican economy. The island's varied geographic features and ideal weather conditions make it an attractive destination. In 2012, 31 % of GDP came from tourism: € 2.5 billion were spent overall, of which €590 million in transportation and €410 million for commercial accommodations. Seasonal employment in tourism also generates around 20 000 jobs each summer (Observatoire du Tourisme de la Corse, 2018)

In 2018, 35 million overnight stays were registered (based on air and maritime arrivals). Only 28% of overnight stays are purchased in commercial/collective accommodations (hotels, campgrounds); the remaining 72% are in private accommodations (Observatoire du Tourisme de la Corse, 2018). This is due partly to tourists gravitating towards peer-to-peer sites, but also to the large proportion of secondary homes in Corsica. These account for over a third of total housing on the island, compared to a national average of 10%. (INSEE, 2018).

Most overnight stays happen during the summer months, with August the peak month.

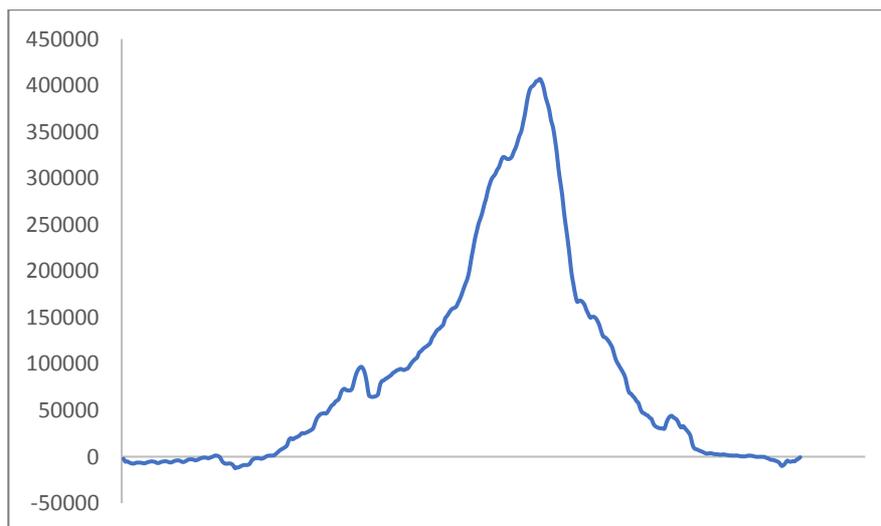


Figure 2: Daily variation of island population by month(air and sea).

Source: Author, data from Observatoire Régional des Transports de la Corse.

The majority of tourists counted by overnight stays in commercial accommodations are of French nationality (78%); Germans and Italians constitute the bulk of foreign tourists. Most passengers also arrive directly from French ports or airports (85% of arrivals are from France). Cruise ships also bring in a significant number of passengers, 930 000 in 2017, although traffic is on the decline (- 19.6%) due to a slowdown in activity in Ajaccio's port. This is compensated by an increase in air travel, driven by offering from low cost companies (Tirroloni, 2018). Overall, the number of tourist arrivals are steadily increasing from year to year, as shown in Figure 3.

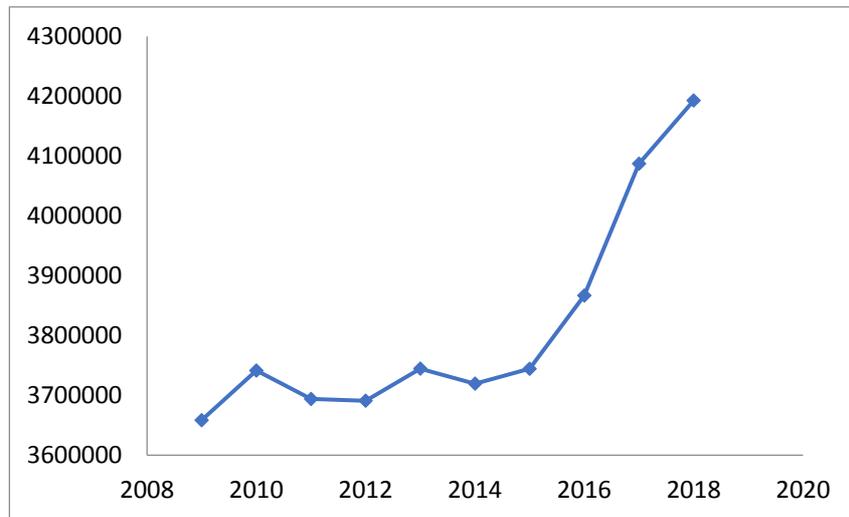


Figure 3: Evolution of total yearly passenger entries (air and sea)
Source Soclimpact project deliverable [D6.2](#)

Aquaculture

Aquaculture activity in Corsica falls into one of two categories:

- Shellfish farming: production of mussels and oysters, most of which takes place on the Eastern coast, in the Diane and Urbino coastal pools.
- Fish farming: sea bass, gilt head bream, and meagre (or salmon bass) are the species farmed, mostly on pockets along the Western coast. The largest open-sea site (2nd largest in France) is installed in the bay of Ajaccio (SRDAM, 2015).

Aquaculture is the agricultural activity with the highest export volume after winemaking; nearly 80%² of production by volume is exported to mainland France or to the rest of Europe (including 95% of fish, 30% for shellfish). Export value was around €13 million in 2016 (ODDC, 2016), of which €9.5 million for fish. Despite its strong economic value, the activity generates few (but highly specialized and skilled) jobs: 125 in 2012, down to 90 jobs in 2016.

The sector is fairly concentrated (only 7 active companies) and well-structured thanks to the Syndicate of Corsican Fish Farmers (*Syndicat des Aquaculteurs Corses, Mare à Stagni Corsi*). A single entity, Gloria Maris, is responsible for 90% of exports, including 150 shipped beyond Europe.

² <http://paris-sur-la-corse.com/les-aquaculteurs-corses-misent-sur-la-qualite/>

Table 3: Evolution of aquaculture sector from 2012 to 2016.

	Shellfish		Fish	
	2012	2016	2012	2016
Number of companies	4	3	7	4
Tonnage produced	950	1100	1200	1200

Source of data: ODDC, 2016.

As evidenced by

Table , while the number of companies involved in aquaculture activities has diminished since 2012, total production has increased. The syndicate has pushed for the island's production to earn Geographical Indication status, enshrining the strong focus on quality in recent years. Specific actions include environmental monitoring of open sea farms, constant veterinary surveillance, low density of fish in cages, and obtaining the 'Label Rouge' quality label for all three fish species.

The objective of further developing the sector is also supported at the regional level, with a planning document for the development of Marine Aquaculture released in 2015 (Schéma régional de développement de l'aquaculture marine, SRDAM). It stakes out 17 sites for potential exploitation (incl. 14 for fish farming and 3 for shellfish), with due consideration for sustainability issues and environmental regulations.

Energy

The fact of its insularity added to the lack of local energy sources means Corsica is highly dependent in terms of total energy supply. Total energy consumption encompasses vehicle fuel, liquefied petroleum gas for heating, combustibles used to produce electricity, etc. It also includes the importation of electricity from Sardinia and mainland Italy, through two interconnectors (ODDC, 2019). The island's oil supply is exclusively brought in by ships, spiking costs and making energy costs weigh more in the local economy than for other French regions. The island is dependent on outside supply for nearly 87% of its total primary energy consumption, which totaled 654 ktoe³ in 2014 (see Figure 4).

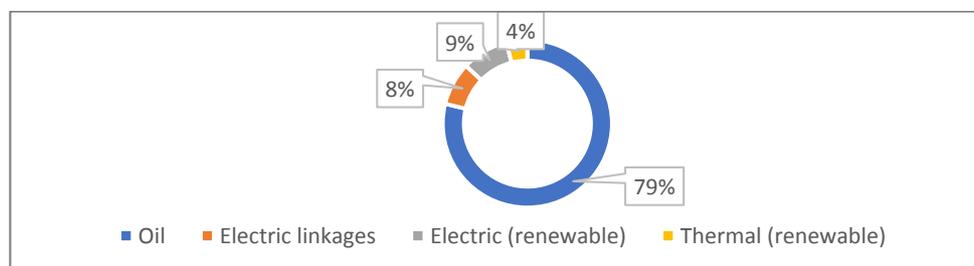


Figure 4: Share of primary energy consumption by resource in 2014.

Source: ODDC, 2019.

³ Toe stands for Tonne of oil equivalent (around 42 Gigajoules)

By contrast, the share of renewable energies within the *electricity* mix is particularly high nearly 40% in terms of production capacity⁴. As shown, hydroelectricity represents the largest share of renewables, although solar energy has been on the rise in recent years. There are four hydroelectric dams operating in Corsica. In a given year, the share of renewable energies within the electricity mix depends strongly on the water intake contributing to hydroelectric power generation. There are three existing wind farms in Corsica: Calenzana (10 turbines), Ersa and Rogliano (combined 21 turbines), which produce a total of 21 MW, up from 18 in 2014. A regional ‘wind turbine plan’ was established in 2007 to minimize impacts of new installations on biodiversity. Due to Corsica’s sunny climate and monetary incentives, many solar panel projects were initiated up to 2010. Public support consists of a guarantee to buy electricity produced at set rates for installations producing less than 100kWc, with a specific tender mechanism when power provided is above 100kWc (ODDC, 2019).

In terms of total energy consumption, three trends emerge from the past 10 years:

- An increase in electricity imports from Sardinia
- Significant fluctuations in terms of local renewable energy production, due to yearly variations of water intake for hydroelectricity
- Persistent decrease in LPG imports

On December 18th, 2015, Corsica voted a Pluriannual Energy Programme (PPE, 2015). It aims to bring the share of renewable energies up to 22% of total energy consumption by 2023, and up to 40% of electricity production. This will be done by relying on increased energy efficiency, lower overall consumption, and higher installed power capacity for renewables.

Maritime Transport

Corsica is connected to the mainland and the rest of Europe through 6 commercial ports (Calvi’s port is a marina) and 3 airports. There are 29 regular lines, piloted by 6 companies. *Corsica Ferries* dominates the passenger market, while *Corsica Linea* and *La Meridionale* share market access for freight transport. Ajaccio is the principal cruise ship port, while Bastia receives the bigger share of traffic from operators of regular lines. In 2017, regular lines ferried 4 million passengers to and from Corsica, including 2.7 million from France. Cruise ships brought an additional 0.9 million passengers. Although maritime passage has historically been prevalent, in recent years air traffic has caught up, surpassing maritime passages for the first time in 2018 (ORTC, 2018). The number of overall passengers has steadily risen.

⁴ In terms of net electricity production delivered to the grid in 2014 (corresponding to 2127 GWh), renewable energies account for a bit less, around 32% (PPE, 2015).

For Bastia and other Corsican ports, imports constitute about $\frac{3}{4}$ of total freight transit (excluding cement and oil products), a commercial deficit which has been stable in recent years⁵. As evidenced by this import/export ratio, freight transport is used to fulfill domestic needs rather than operating as a hub for international routes. The total tonnage transiting through Corsican ports in 2017 was 2.2 million (INSEE, 2018)– compared to 60 million tons for Sardinian ports (Martinetti, 2012).

Unlike for passenger traffic, the vast majority of roll traffic is connected to French ports -about 87% in 2016- and specifically to Marseille, which accounts for 78% of traffic with mainland France⁶. Indeed, most Corsican companies and commerce have developed supply chains with providers from mainland France. Again, Bastia is the leading port in terms of linear meters of freight exchanged, followed by Ajaccio then Porto Vecchio far behind. The Collectivité Territoriale de Corse has an obligation to ensure a minimal service to French ports, which it delegates to one of the regular lines through a competitive procedure.

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

The Corsican GDP is projected to display a growth rate of 2.1%, or 1.6% per inhabitant. This makes it sit far above the French average, and the fastest progressing region in Metropolitan France by GDP. This growth is likely fuelled by the tourist industry and expanding tertiary sector which accompanies an increase in the number of stays. These projections were carried out by the French COR and represent the reference scenario for the respective evolutions in GDP of French regions from 1990 to 2050⁷.

3 Climate change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenarios RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for Corsica is EURO-CORDEX ensemble even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

⁵ http://mapage.noos.fr/croussel/div/bilan_bastia.html

⁶ <https://www.isula.corsica/attachment/994918/>

⁷ <https://www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/II%20-%20Sc%C3%A9nario%20de%20r%C3%A9f%C3%A9rence.pdf>

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runup). In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The values in that scenario is 992.48 cm in Corsica.

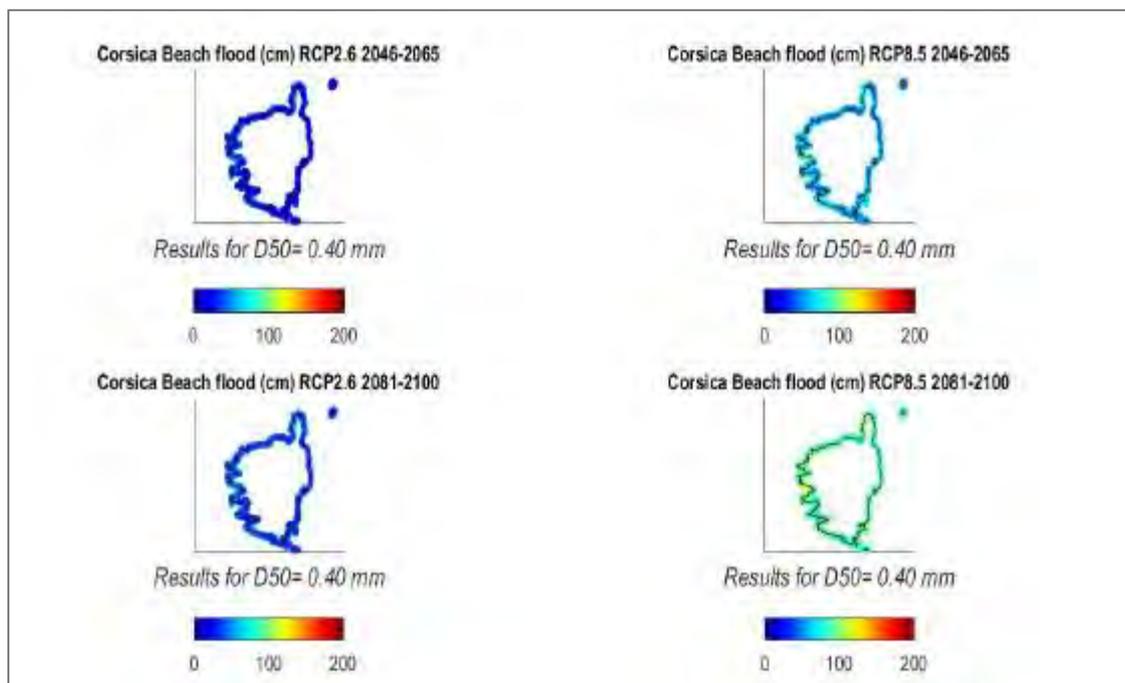


Figure 5: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cm) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~38% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~54% under scenario RCP8.5.



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BEACH REDUCTION

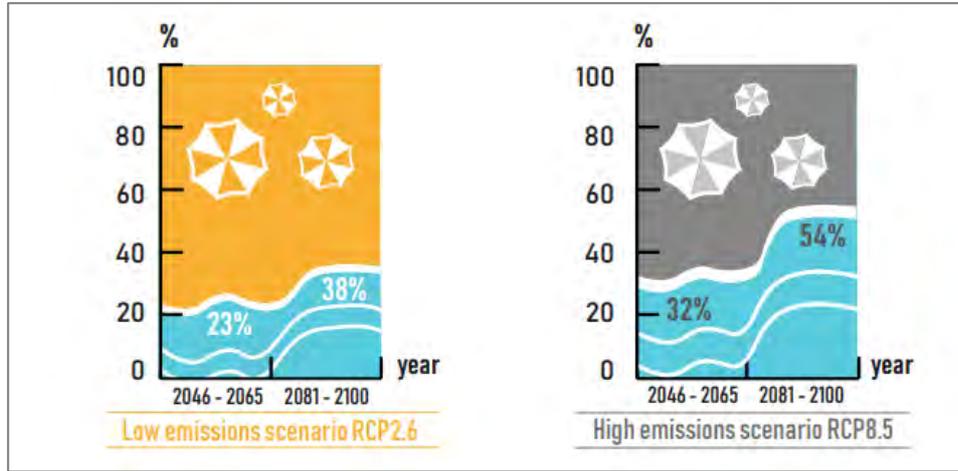


Figure 6: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches.

Seagrass evolution

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, *etc.* Therefore, the state of the seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. That is, large well-preserved extensions of seagrasses lead to a better coastal marine environment which in turn is more resilient in front of hazards.

Our results suggest that no seagrass losses are expected for the *Posidonia* located in the coasts of Corsica island.



SEAGRASS EVOLUTION
(*Posidonia*)

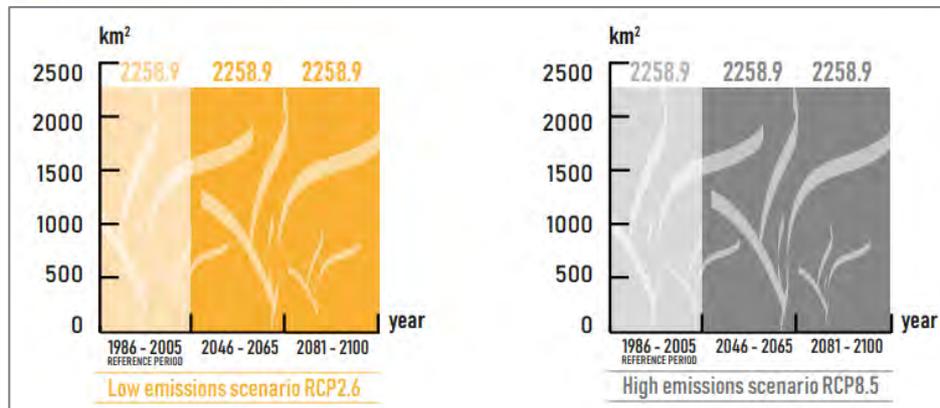


Figure 7: Seagrass evolution
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4e](#) Report on estimated seagrass density

Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases
Vector Suitability Index for Aedes Albopictus (Asian Tiger Mosquito)

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. In the framework of SOCLIMPACT we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia; however, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various encephalitides (Proestos *et al.* 2015). The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos *et al.* (2015) has been employed to estimate the regional habitat suitability maps. This is based on extending previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock *et al.* 2013; Proestos *et al.*, 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge.

Corsica is another example of suitable habitat for the Asian tiger mosquito. According to the European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control populations of the mosquito have already been reported. The ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations suggest slight increases of the suitability for both 21st century time slices under scenario RCP2.6 and for the mid-century under scenario RCP8.5.

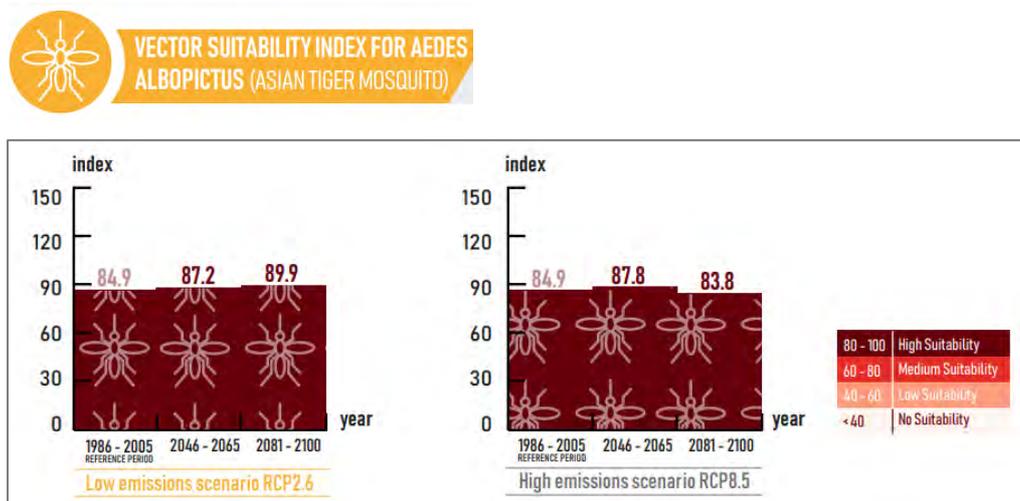


Figure 8: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colors indicate increases while blue colors indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability].

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.3

Forest Weather Index (FWI)

Fire weather Index

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods.

For Corsica, N=75 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. It seems that under RCP2.6, the index slightly increases at the middle of the century, while it returns to present levels towards the end of the century. On the other hand, under RCP8.5 there is an increased fire danger that exceeds 30% at the end of the century.

The fire danger for Corse is quite low and the majority of the island is characterized by very low and low fire danger, with few areas exhibiting medium danger. Though by the end of the areas with medium fire danger increase substantially.

Regarding uncertainty, the coastal areas of the islands present higher values of standard deviation, indicating that there are larger differences among models are at the areas of the island with higher maritime influence (see respective maps).

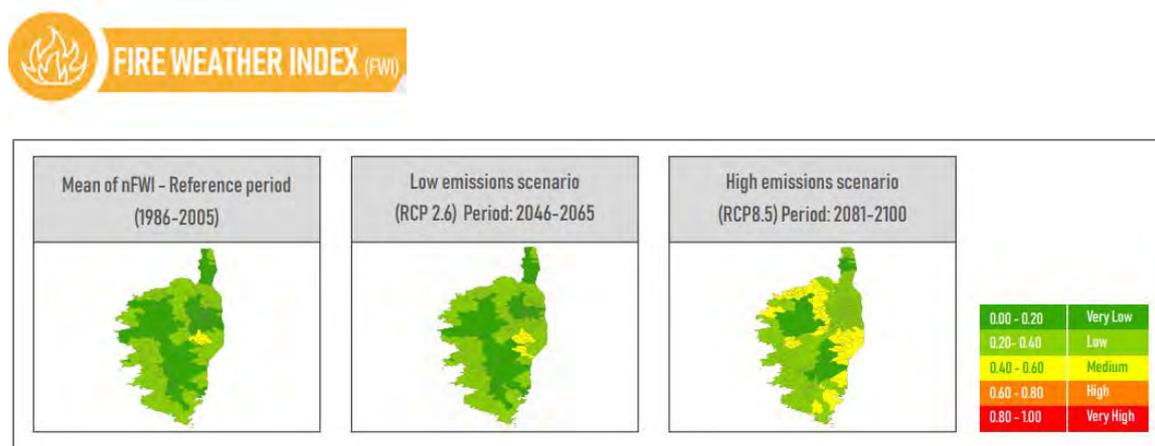


Figure 9: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the class of risk (Mediterranean study).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4c](#) Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure

Humidex

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans. For Corsica, N=75 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs.

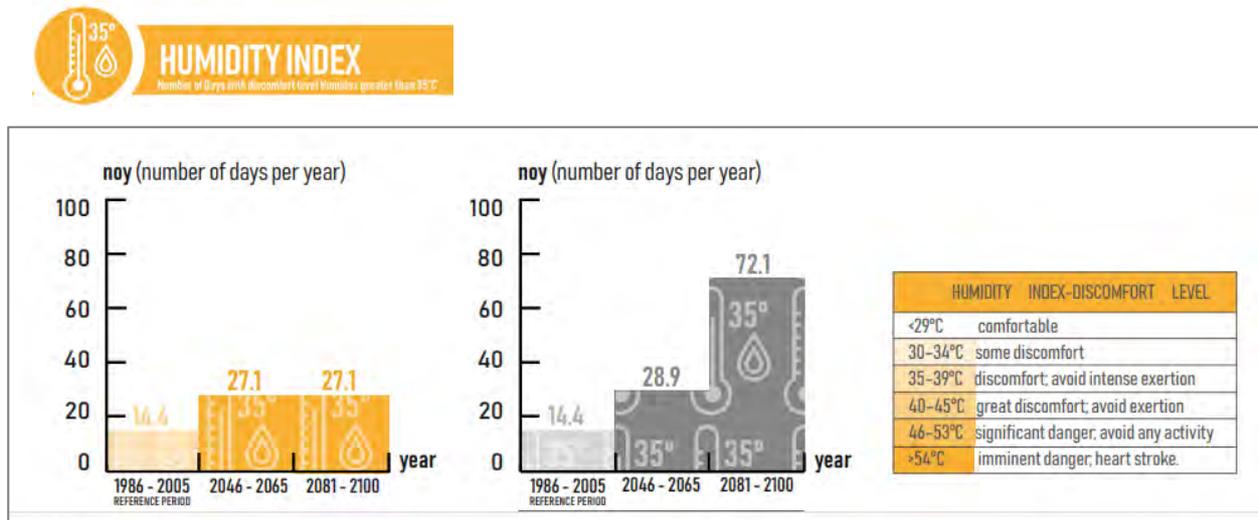


Figure 10: Humidex. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.2 Aquaculture

Temperature changes in seawater trigger physical impacts; increased harmful algal blooms, decreased oxygen level, increase in diseases and parasites, changes in ranges of suitable species, increased growth rate, increased food conversion ratio and more extended growing season. Furthermore, all these impacts lead to socio-economic implications among them; changes in production levels and an increase in fouling and pests. The objective of the current analysis is to identify and quantify the variations (future climate scenarios with respect to present climate) in the number and in the duration of events characterized by a Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeding a given threshold. The SST thresholds have been identified according to the farming and feeding

necessities of several marine species, particularly relevant for the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Sea (MS).



FISH SPECIES THERMAL STRESS
Number of days exceeding the sea surface temperature threshold adopted (in the period)

	Longest event (days) >20 degrees Mussels & clams 	Longest event (days) >24 degrees Sea bream/Tuna 	Longest event (days) >25 degrees Sea bass 
Historic (1986-2005)	121 days	29.5 days	17.5 days
RCP 8.5 - mid century	144 days	91.5 days	42 days
RCP 8.5 - end century (2081-2100)	173.5 days	95.5 days	75 days

Species	Threshold (°C)
European seabass, <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	25
Gilthead seabream, <i>Sparus aurata</i>	24
Amberjack, <i>Seriola dumerili</i>	23
Atlantic Bluefin tuna, <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	23
Japanese clam, <i>Ruditapes decussatus</i>	21
Blue mussel, <i>Mytilus edulis</i>	21
Manila clam, <i>Ruditape philippinarum</i>	20
Mediterranean mussel, <i>Mytilus galloprovinciales</i>	20

Figure 11: Number of days per year exceeding a given threshold.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

3.3 Energy

Percentage of days when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$

The T_{98p} is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005.

For Corse, $N=75$ grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RCPs. It is found that T_{98p} is about 5% during RCP2.6 towards mid-century and slightly decreases at the end of the century, while for RCP8.5 almost 20% of the year will exhibit temperatures above the 98th percentile. The coastal grid cells are more affected by the temperatures increase compared to the inland grid cells.



EXTREME TEMPERATURES
Percentage of days per year when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$

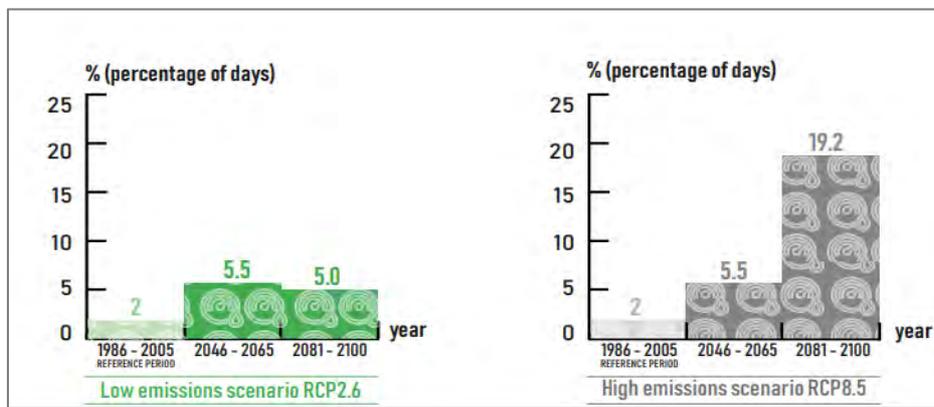


Figure 12: Percentage of days when $T > 98\text{th percentile}$. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud *et al.*, 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Photovoltaic energy productivity

A decrease is projected for Corsica in both scenarios and each period, but its magnitude is generally small, below or about 2% in all cases except in scenario RCP8.5 at the end of the century where the projected decrease reaches 4% over the sea. Differences between land and sea are not very high, although spatially averaged values of changes over the sea are more negative.

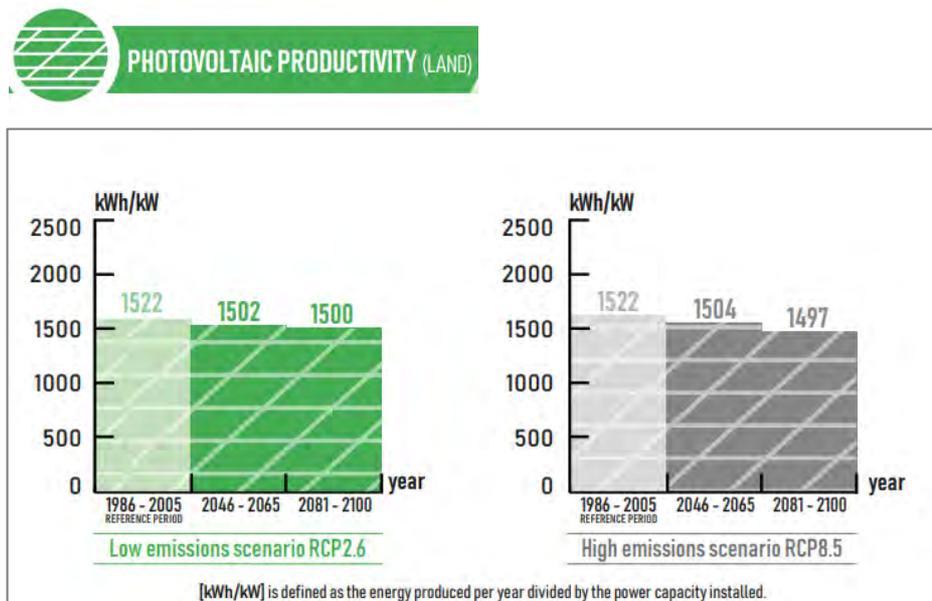


Figure 13: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

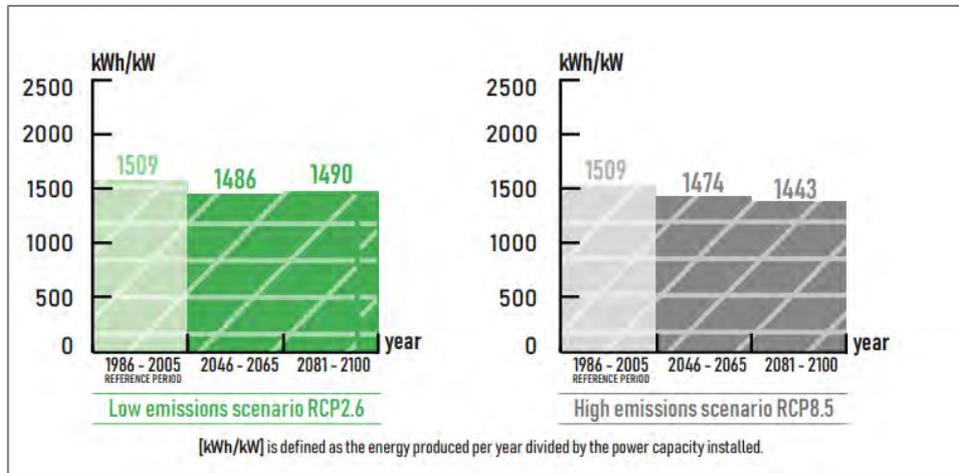


Figure 14: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.

Wind energy productivity

An important decrease of W_{prod} is obtained in RCP8.5 at the end of this century, specially over the sea, where it reaches 5% in spatial average. In RCP2.6 changes are small. These general trends are affected by regional differences, probably related to orography-wind interaction. The decrease in RCP8.5 is robustly supported by the uncertainty analysis, except for those regions where the decrease is weaker. Tobin *et al.* (2015, 2016) also show a general decrease with noticeable regional differences. Model spread is relatively high, with differences in the sign of changes in several cases.



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

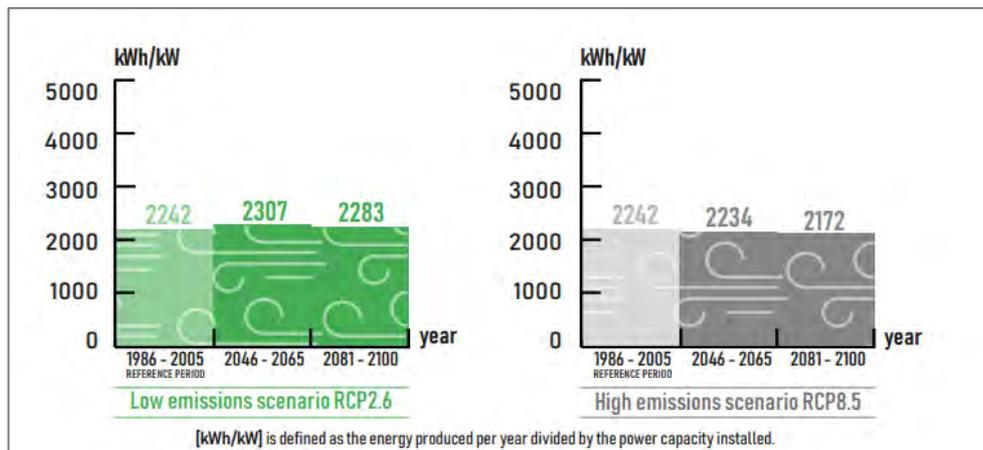


Figure 15: Wind energy productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

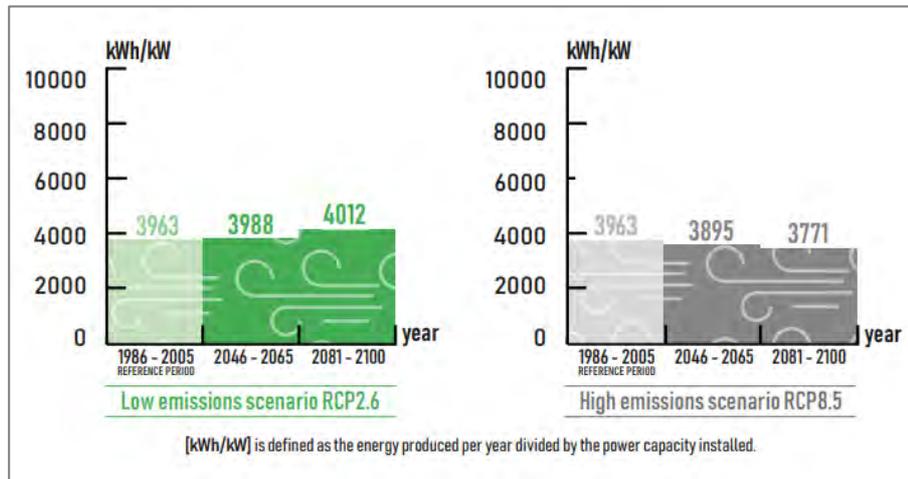


Figure 16: Wind energy productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Energy productivity droughts

In the control time period, moderate and severe wind droughts are more prone to occur than in most of the other islands, especially over land, where moderate droughts develop about 55% of the days. This indicates that wind is highly variable, with extended periods of low wind. In the RCP2.6 scenario, wind droughts mostly decrease in frequency, but changes are small, whilst in the RCP8.5 scenario the droughts become more frequent. The increase in the percentage of wind droughts is particularly remarkable over land, in the second half of the 21st century, in the RCP8.5 scenario. The increase in the frequency of wind droughts observed in the RCP8.5 scenario in the 2081-2100 time period is well supported by most of the models that conform the ensemble, as well as by changes in the wind productivity.



ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

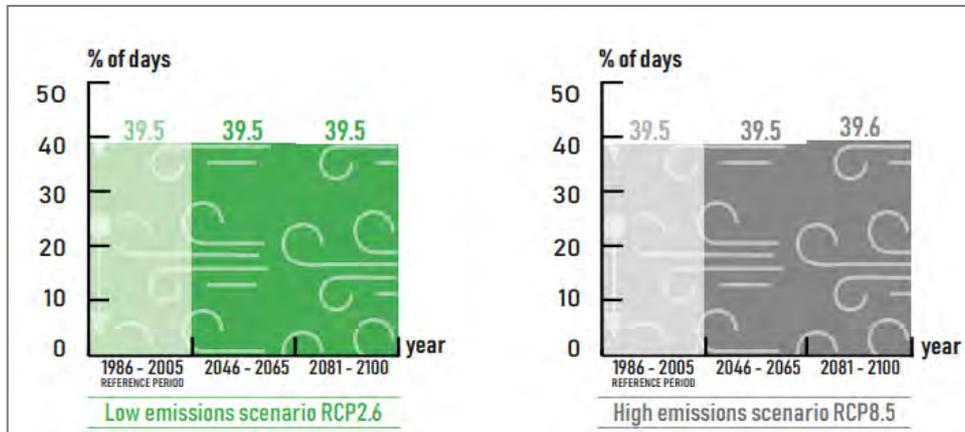


Figure 17: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

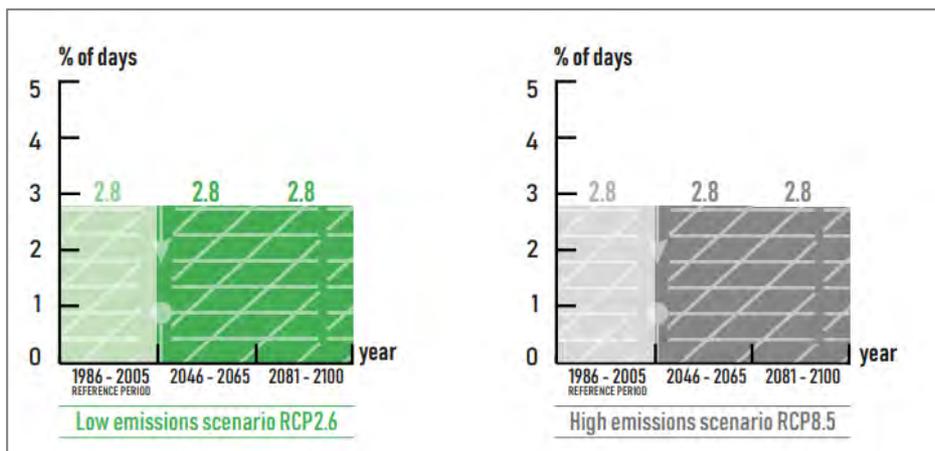


Figure 18: Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

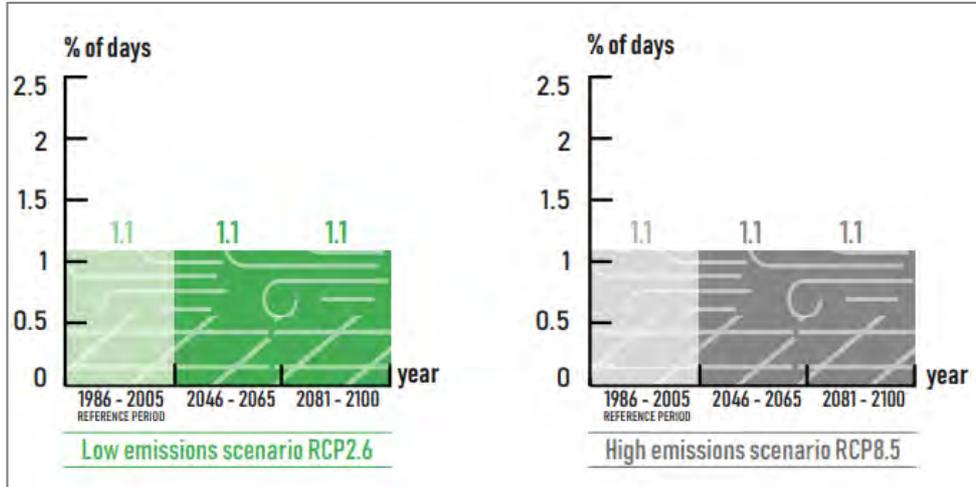


Figure 19: Wind energy and Photovoltaic (PV) productivity-COMBINED EFFECT. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing provides the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room.



COOLING DEGREE DAYS

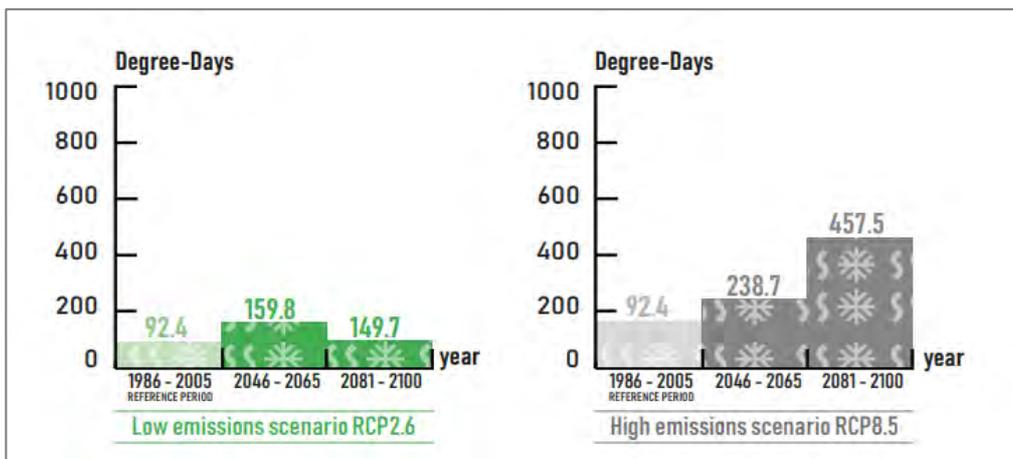


Figure 20: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

Available water: Standardized Precipitation Index

This index is used as an indication of water availability. Mild changes are projected under RCP2.6, while under the business-as-usual scenario the whole island is expected to be severely affected by meteorological droughts.

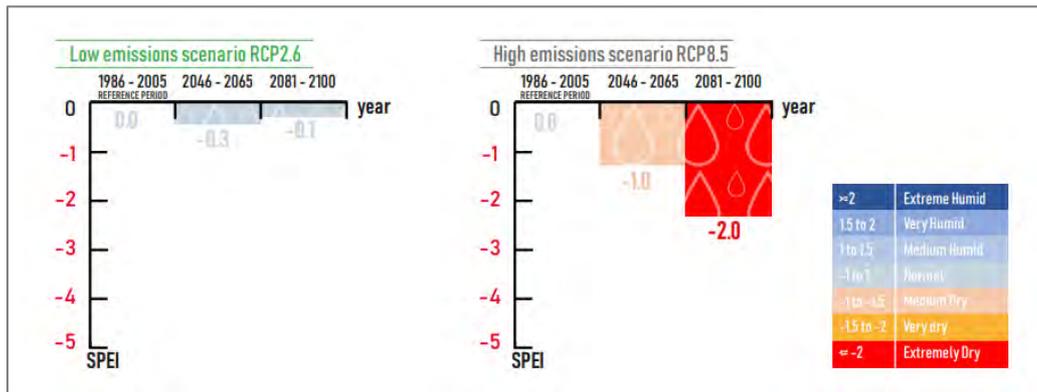


Figure 21: Ensemble mean values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

3.4 Maritime Transport

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Corsica, the SLR ranges from 21.31 cm (RCP2.6) to 58.41 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.



SOCLIMPACT



MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE
(in cm) with respect to the present (1984-2005)

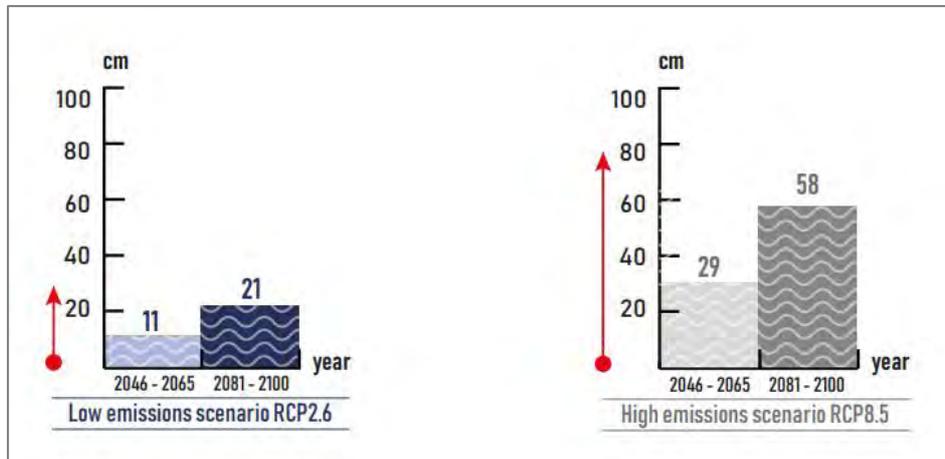


Figure 22: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides.

To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello *et al.* (2016). This ensemble consists on 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at $1/4^\circ$ of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations. The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels.

For Corsica, the results show a very low or even non-existent decrease except for RCP8.5 at the end of the century (-9%).



STORM SURGE EVENTS
99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) for the reference period and relative change (in %) for mid and end of century

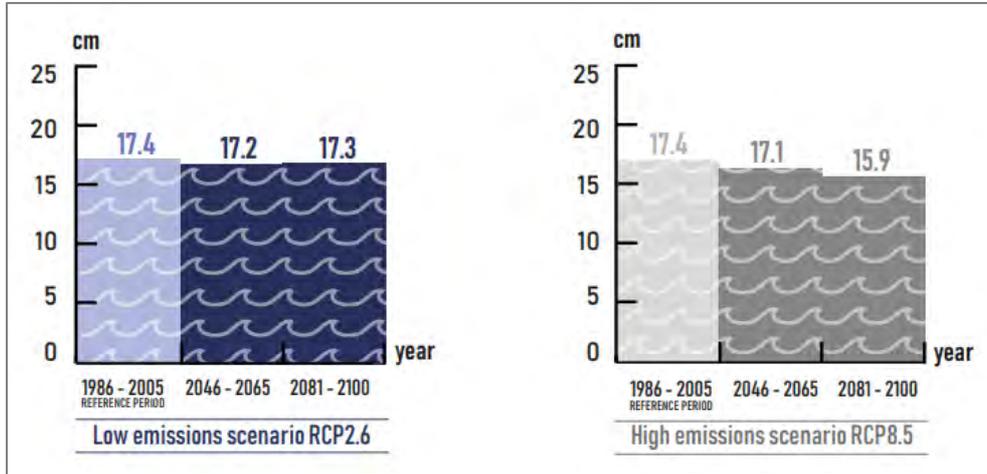


Figure 23: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5 and (relative change in %).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future under RCP8.5 (- 10.8 %).



WINDS EXTREMITY INDEX

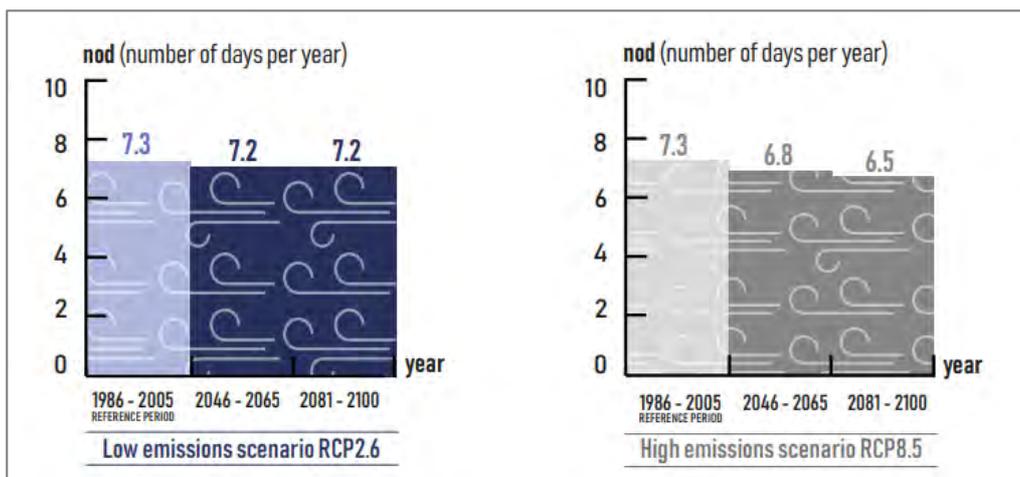


Figure 24: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

The 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases under RCP2.6. and RCP 8.5. with a more significant magnitude for RCP 2.6.

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen.

A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map and figure in far future (-3%).

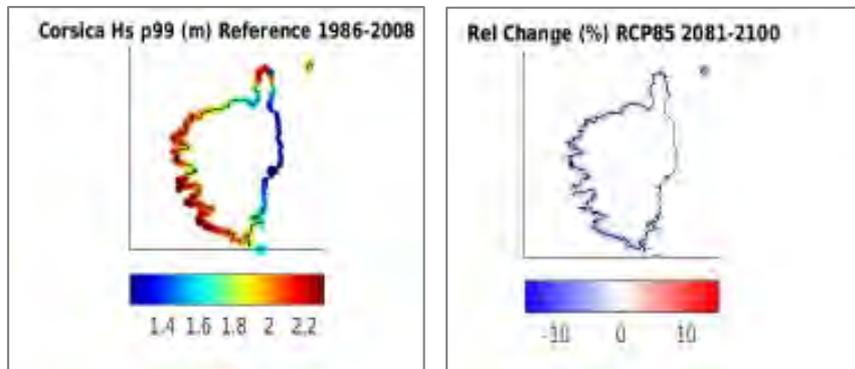


Figure 25: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels.



WAVES EXTREME
99th percentile of significant wave height averaged

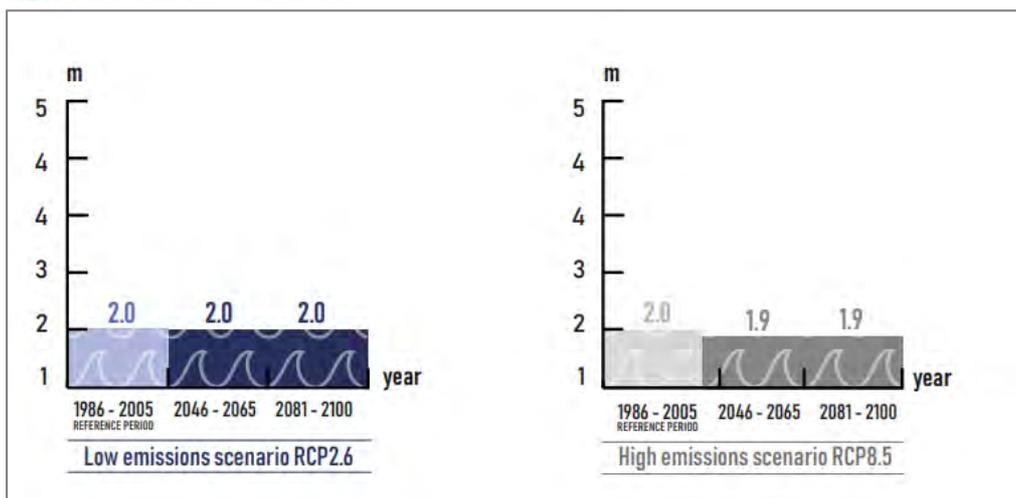


Figure 26: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,*
- ii) *Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress*
- iii) *Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas*

For the first two, the AHP method was employed. This methodology is ideal to respond to the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators. By the side of shadows, this method requires quite specific data that wasn't able to collect for some islands. The AHP method also requires "values" for experts to compare.

More specifically, for the first IC the data is needed for "Tourist Arrivals" and "Vulnerable Groups" indicators, which is regards the Exposure of people to heatwaves for the hottest period, such as:

- Number of tourist arrivals per month for the past 5 years.
- Number of tourists per month aged 14 and under for the past 5 years
- Number of tourists per month aged 65 and over for the past 5 years
- Percentage of tourist activities that are sensitive to heatwaves (such as hiking, etc.).
- Number of beds available in medical facilities per 100,000 inhabitants.

If, for example, an island gets a lot of tourists, but most of them just spend their time by the beach, then the island is not so much at risk of losing tourists because when they visit they'll be by the beach and able to cool down. On the other hand, if almost all the tourists visit the island for hiking, but it gets too hot, then the island could be at risk since some may change their minds and visit somewhere else with a moderate climate and do their hiking there. Additionally, it is necessary to investigate how well an island is equipped with dealing with patients who suffer from a heatwave-related episode.

For the second IC, the data collected was:

- Surface of marine Phanerogams & Phanerogams' reduction due to heat: Surface, in km²; and expected % of surface loss for RCP8.5 distant future.
- Number of divers: Number of tourists practising Diving at the destination.
- Products substitution capacity: capacity to derive tourist demand to non-marine habitat-based activities.
- Seagrass removal: capacity to remove dead seagrass lying on beaches.
- Sea water pollution: quality of management of inshore and offshore sewages.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands.

Finally, the third IC provided results for the case of Corsica, which are summarized in the next section.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “**Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination**”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1)). For each of these components of the theoretical IC, several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

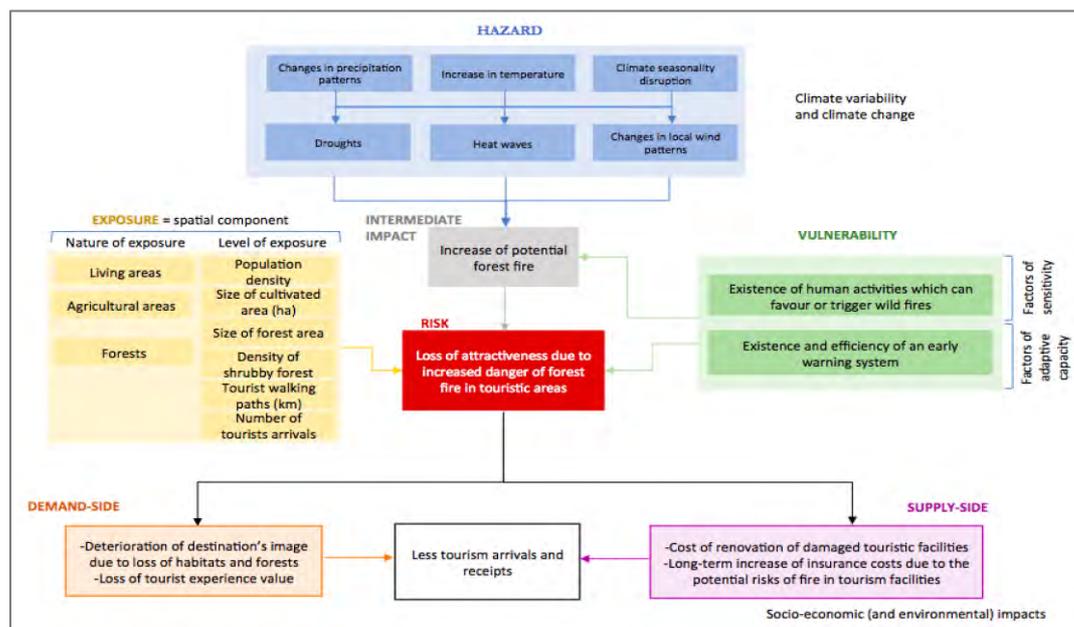


Figure 27: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

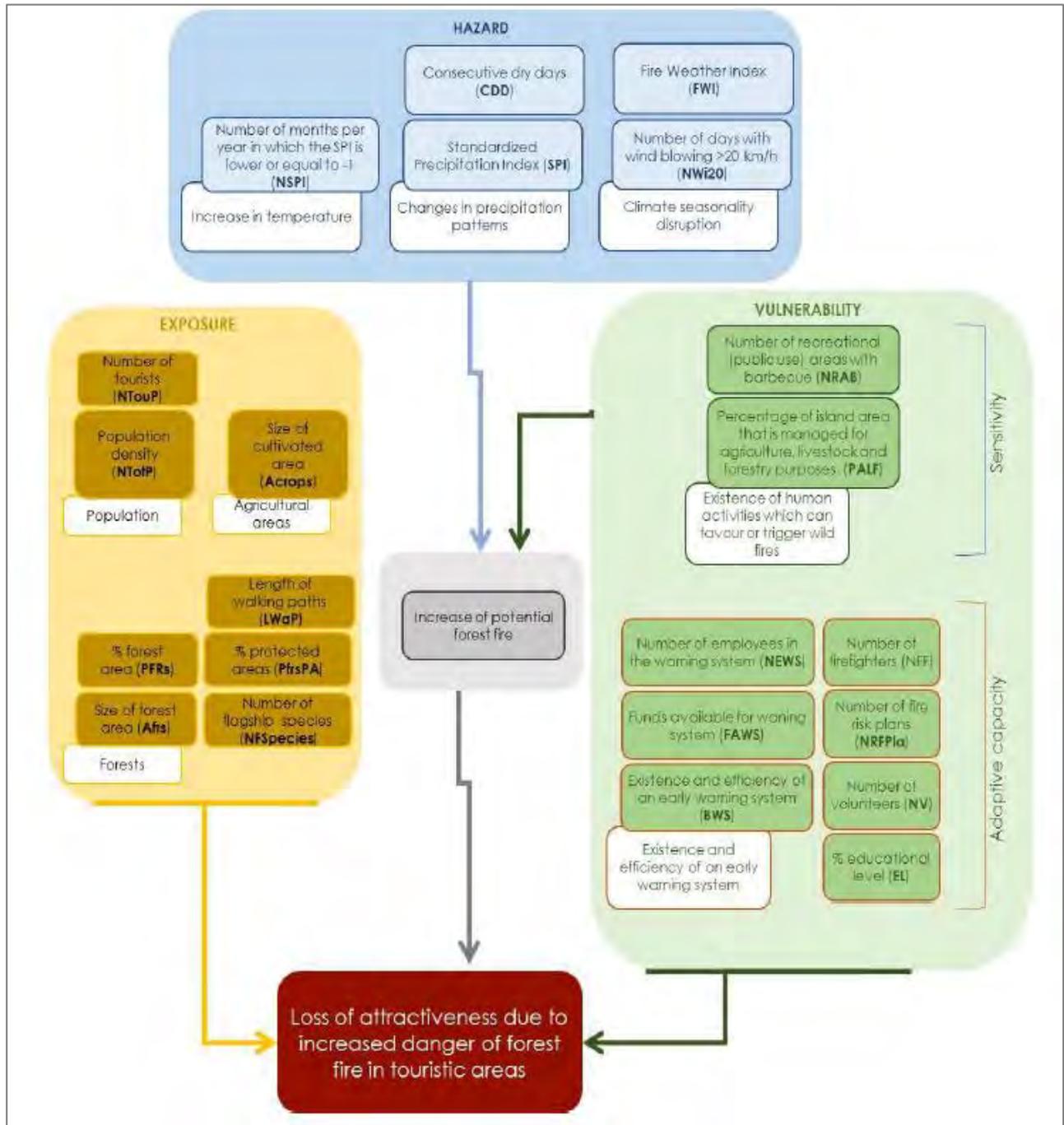


Figure 28: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.3](#), Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

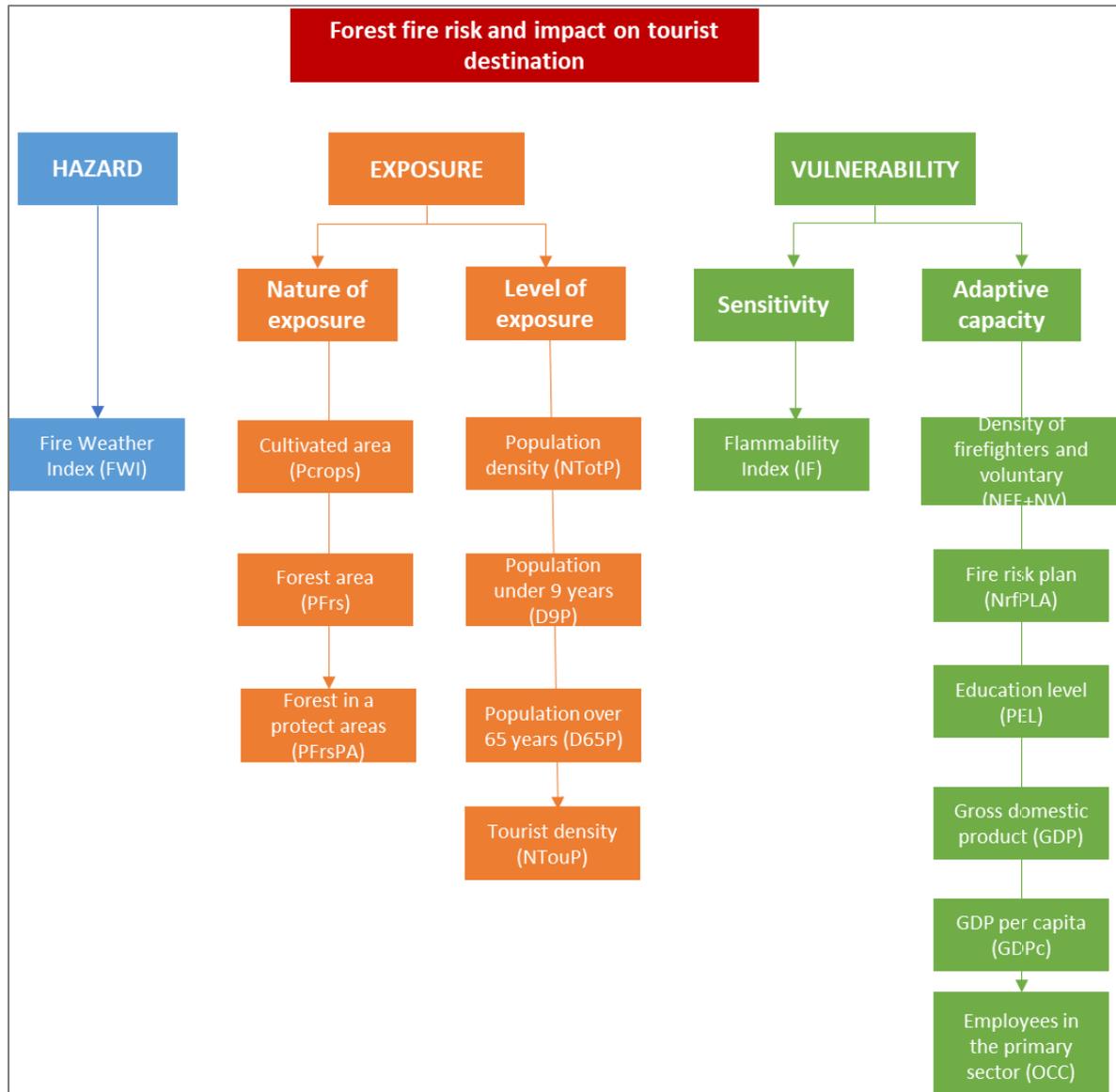


Figure 29: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century part from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected (Figure).

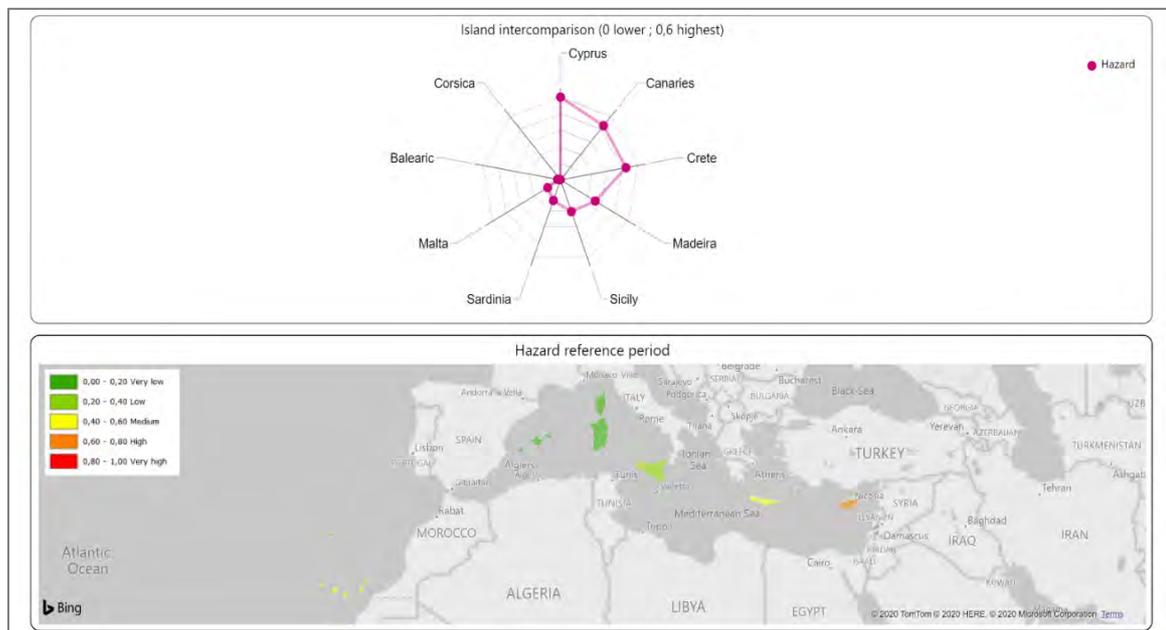


Figure 30: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

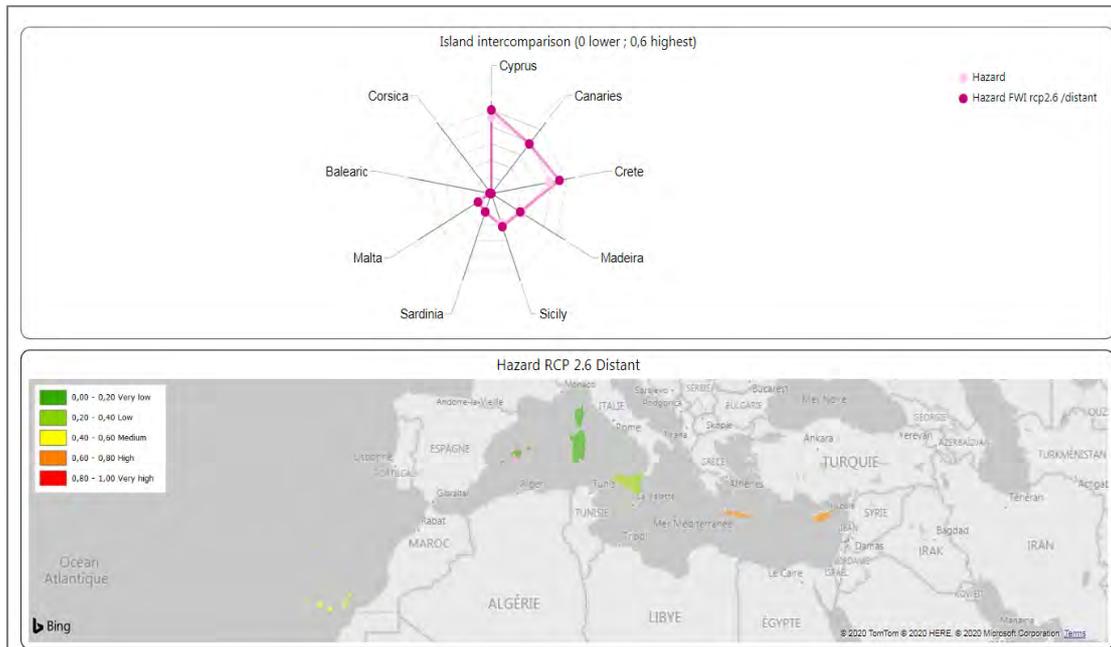


Figure 31: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

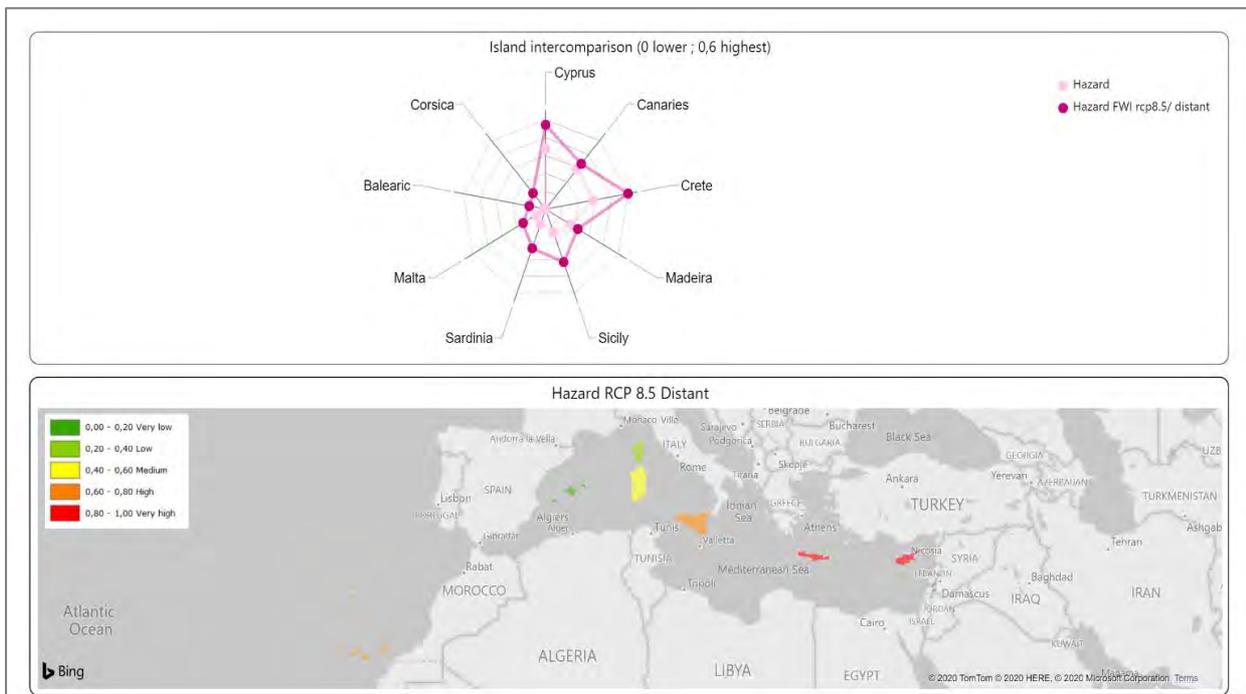


Figure 32: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed (high score, Figure) than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: **Corsica** has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

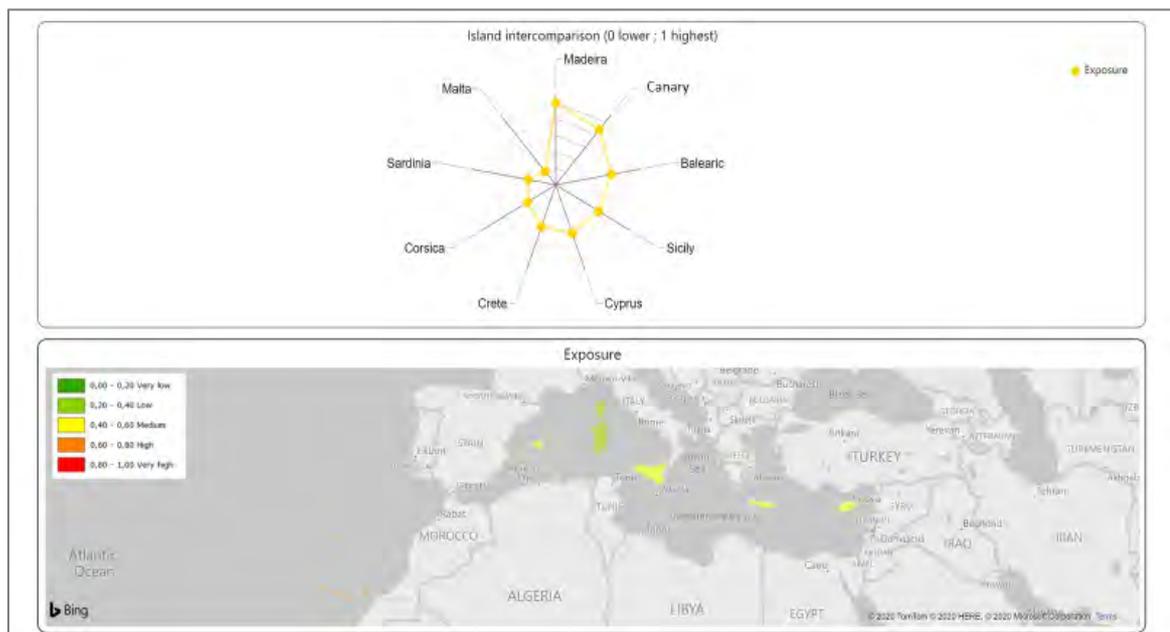


Figure 33: Exposure score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

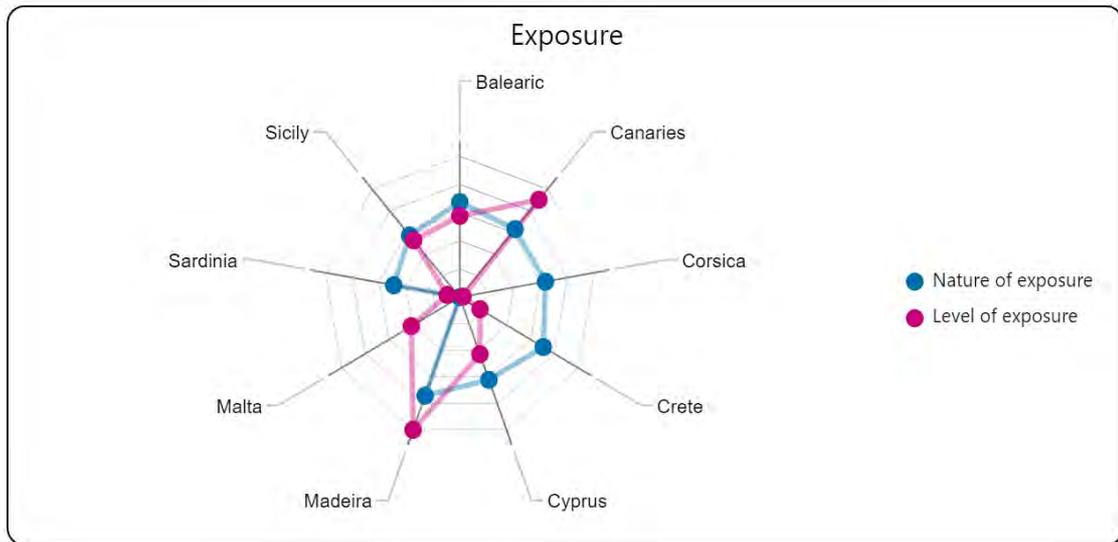


Figure 34: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

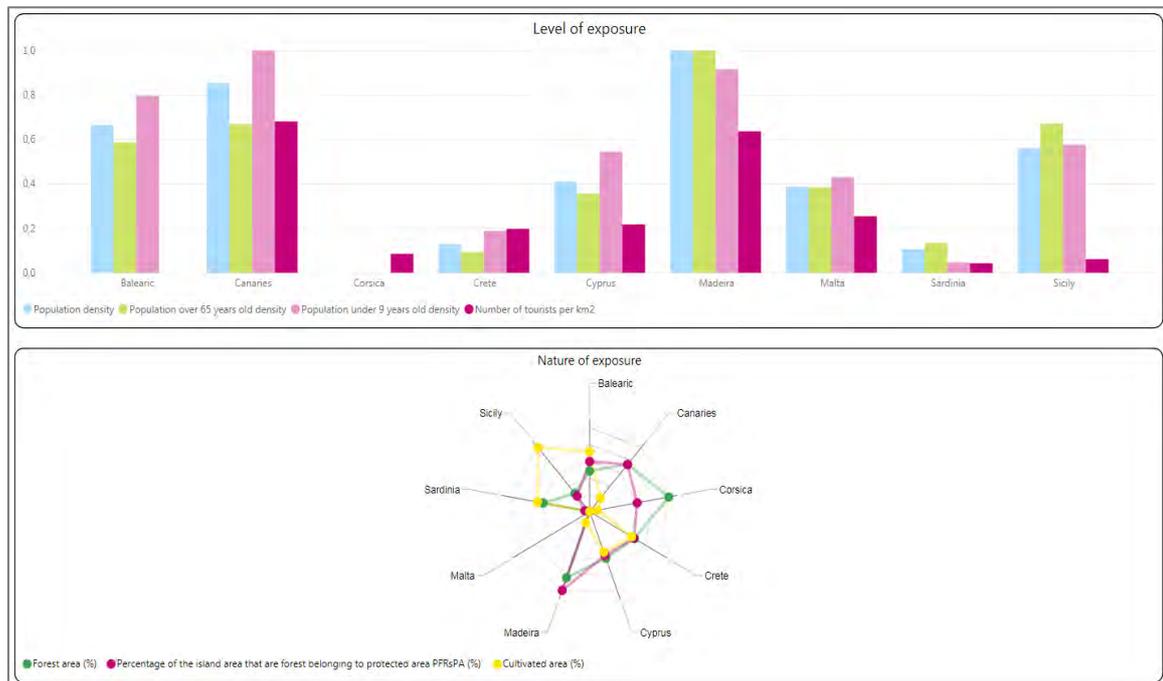


Figure 35: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for **Corsica** is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, **Corsica** and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

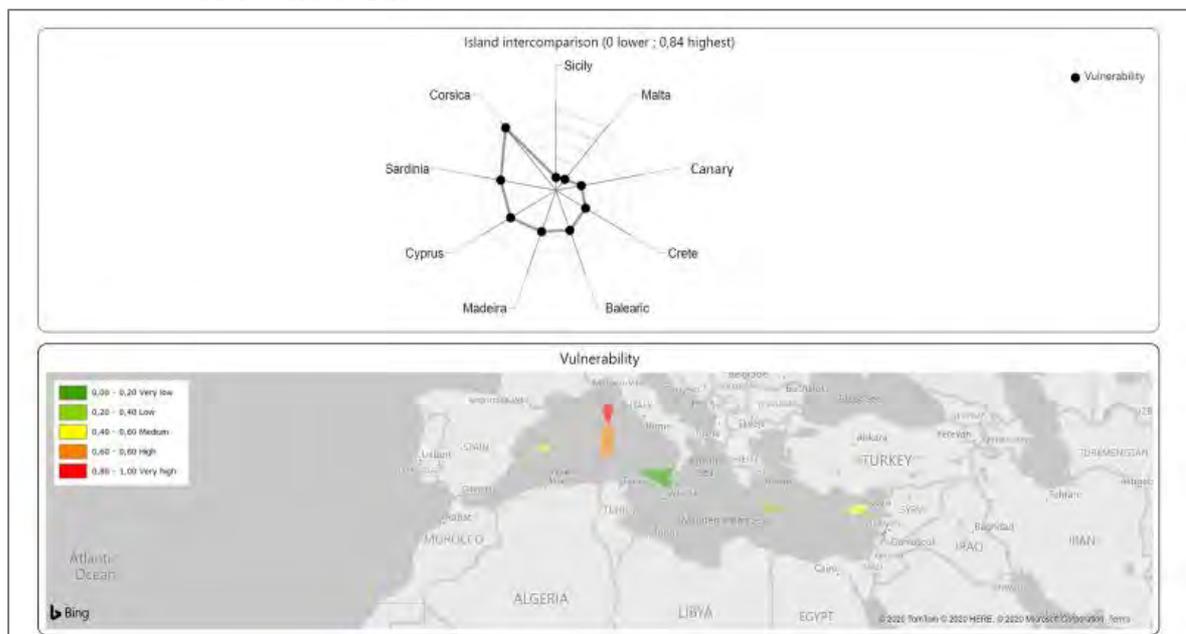


Figure 36: Vulnerability score per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

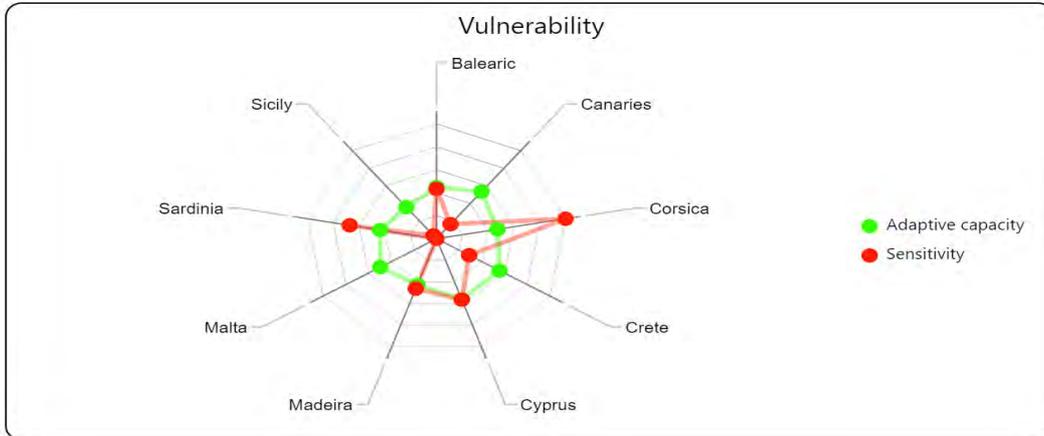


Figure 37: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

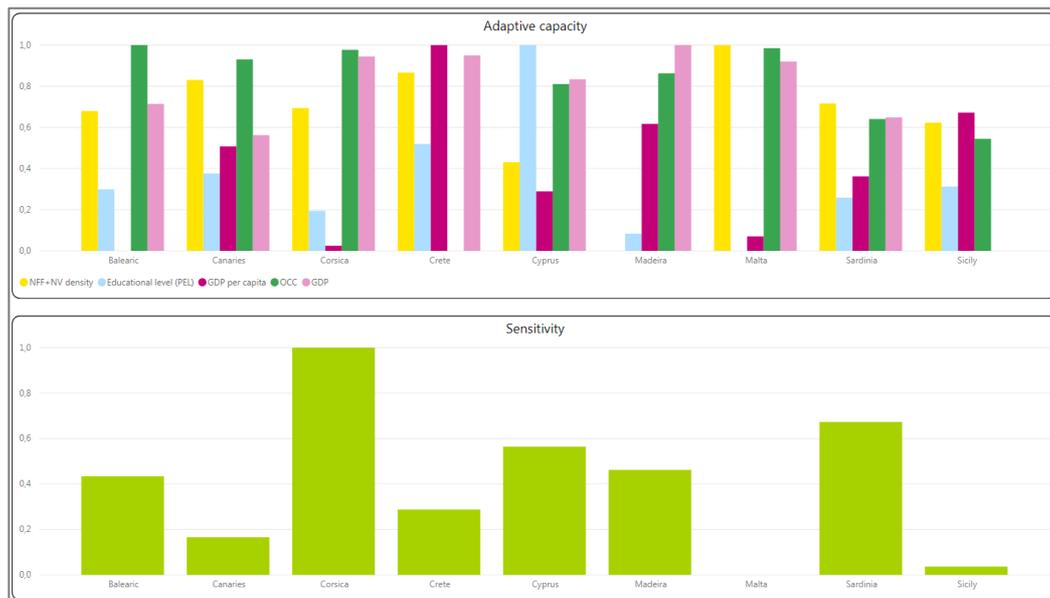


Figure 38: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o **Corsica** and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, **Corsica** and Sardinia with RCP8.5 (distant future). Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

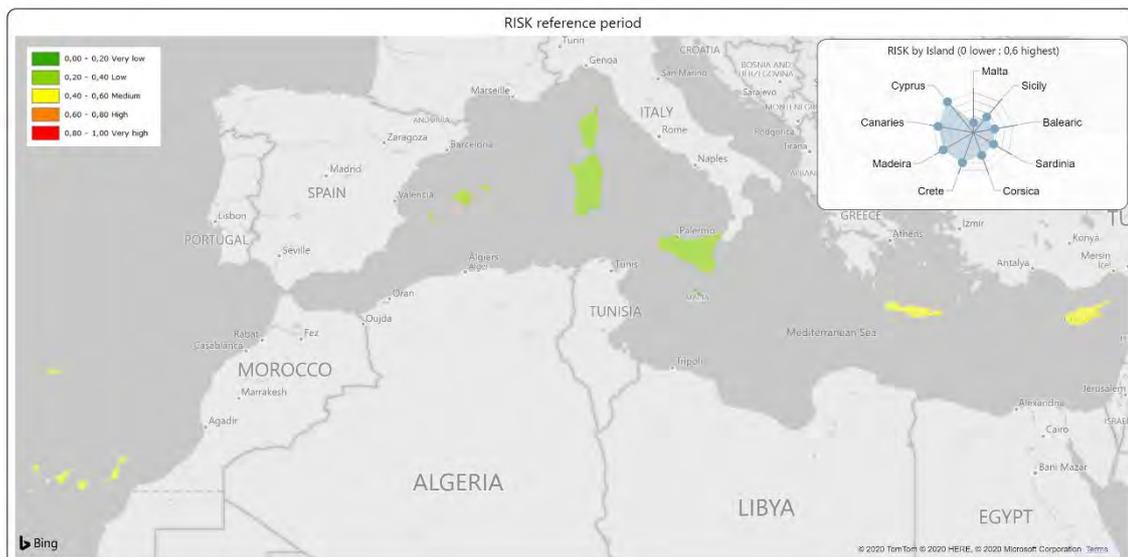


Figure 39: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

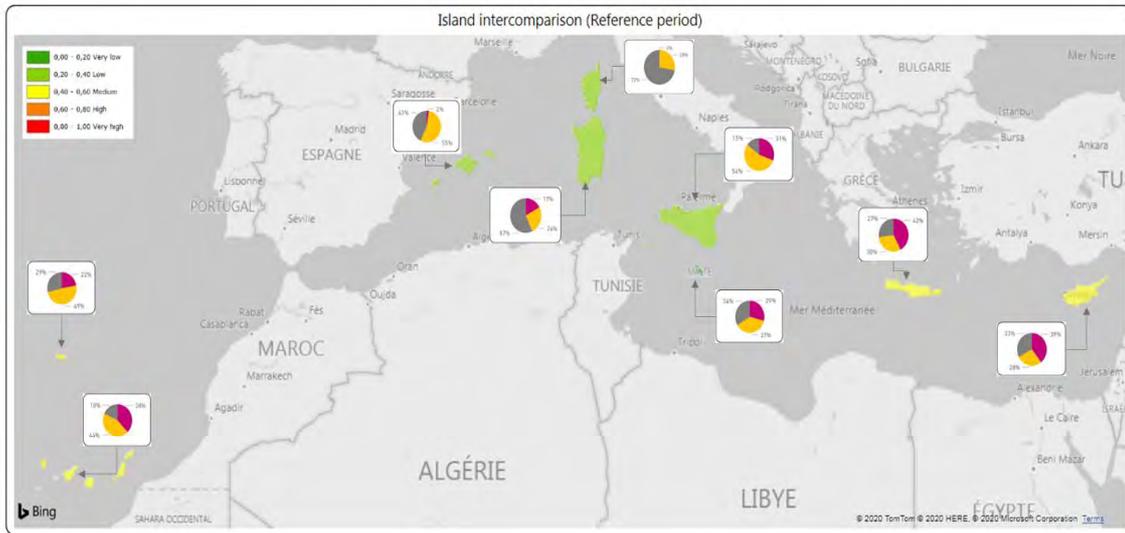


Figure 40: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

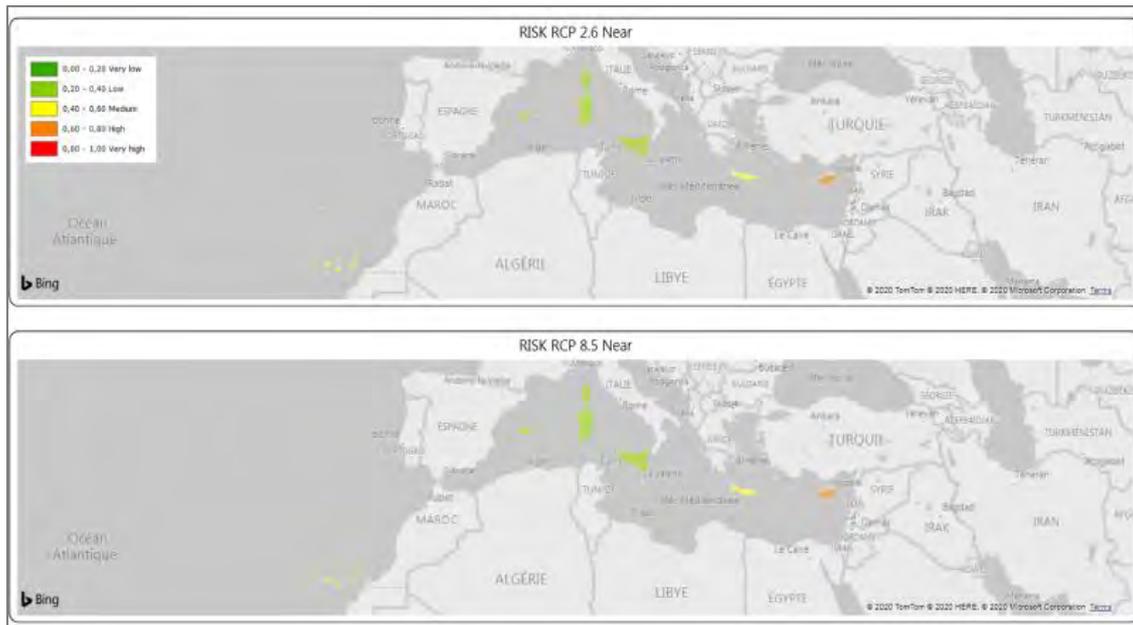


Figure 41: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

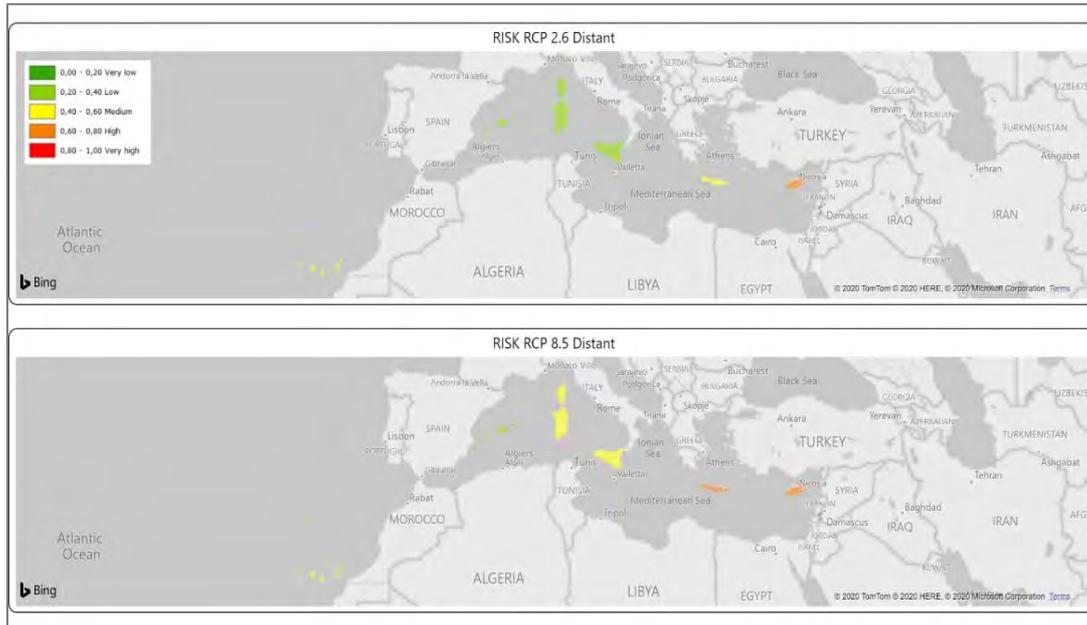


Figure 42: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

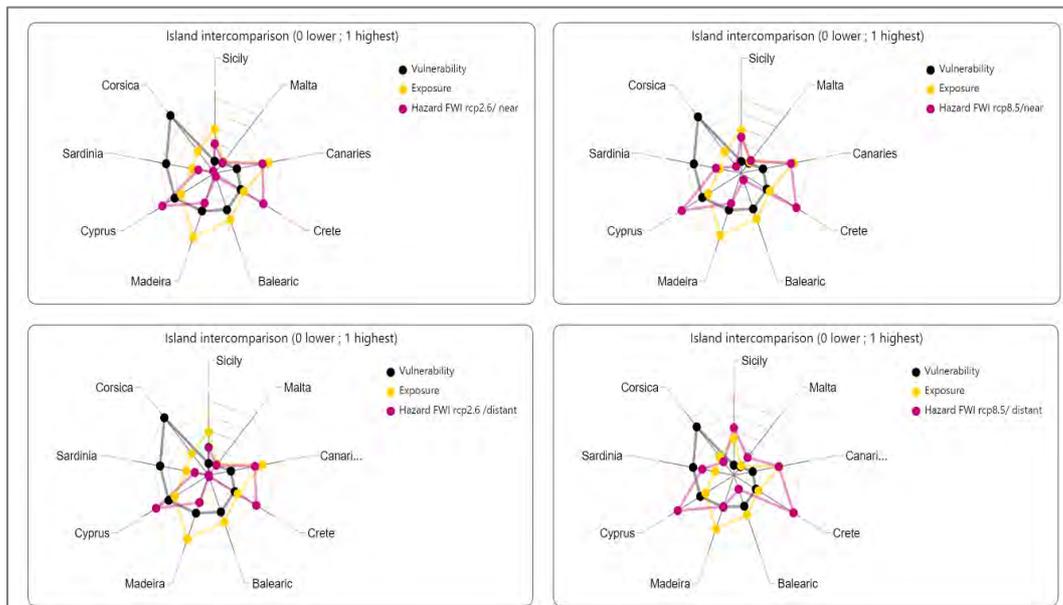


Figure 43: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Corsica island results

For Corsica, the risk is low under the reference period and RCP 2.6. (distant) and the risk is medium under RCP 8.5. (distant).

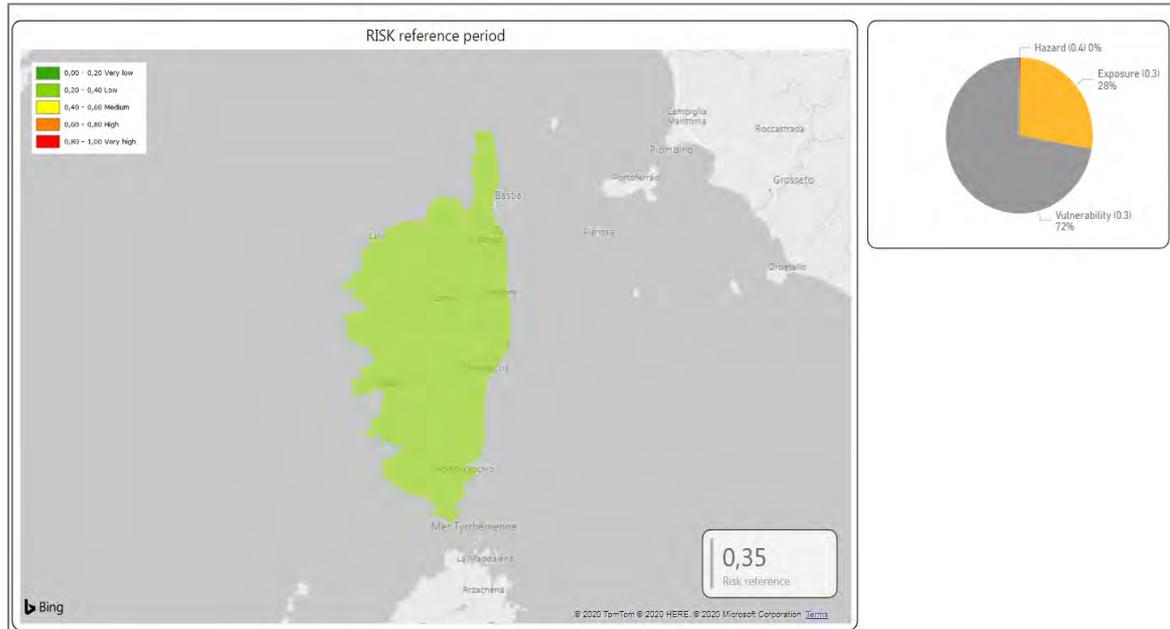


Figure 44: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

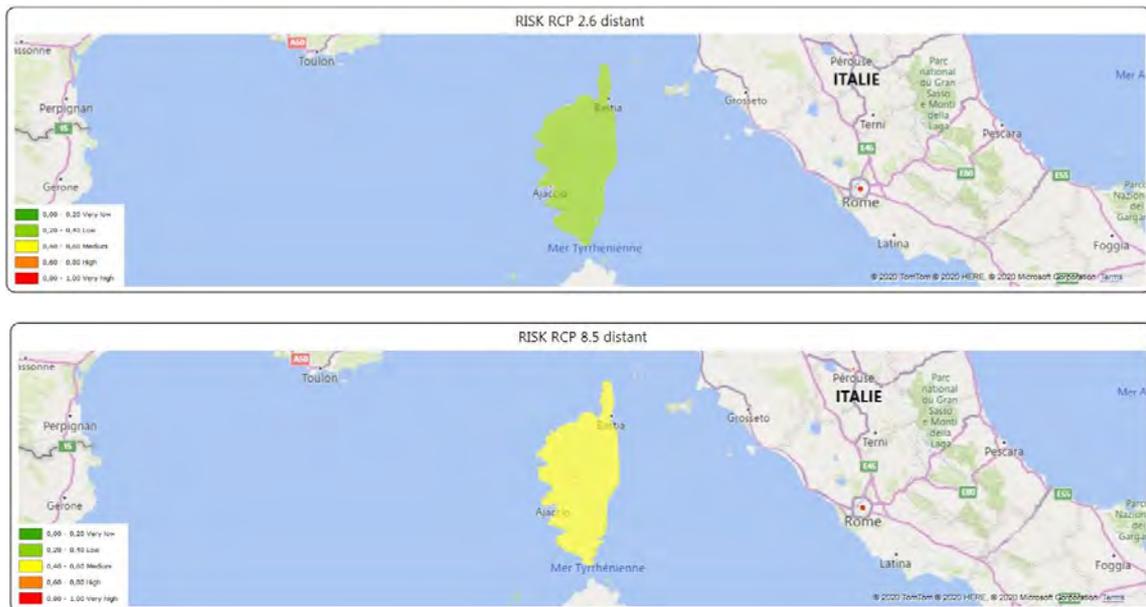


Figure 45: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Considering the component of exposure, the nature of exposure is the most represented sub-component (96 %). The indicator “forest areas” is the most important.

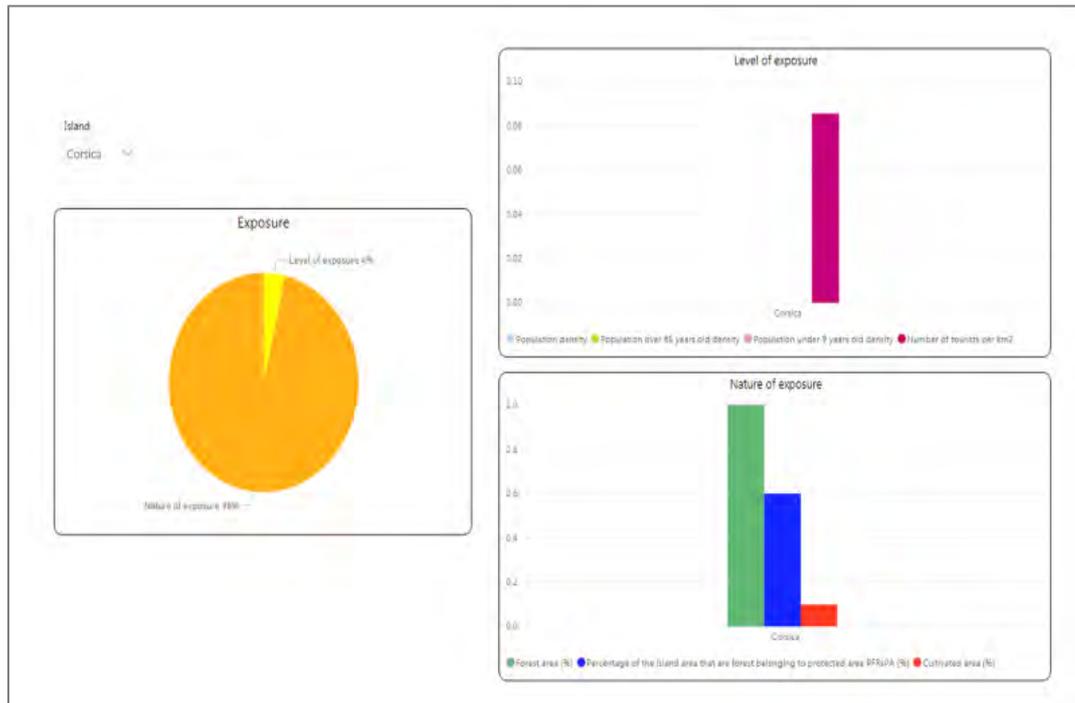


Figure 46: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure) per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Considering the component of vulnerability, the sub-component of sensitivity is the most represented (68%).

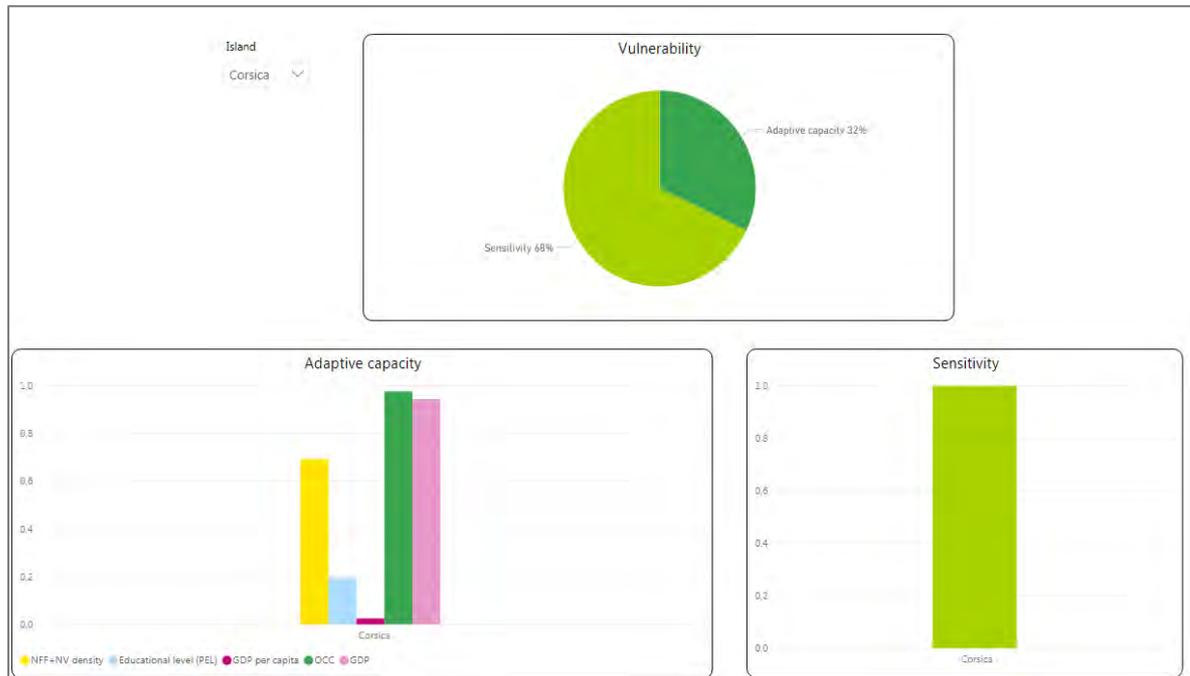


Figure 47: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

4.2 Aquaculture

In the framework of Soclimpact, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- 1) Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

- 2) Decrease in production due to an increase in surface water temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

The risk assessment followed 7 steps process, present risk and future risk, which are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use

collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

These steps will be described in detail in the following sections.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: **Corsica**, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

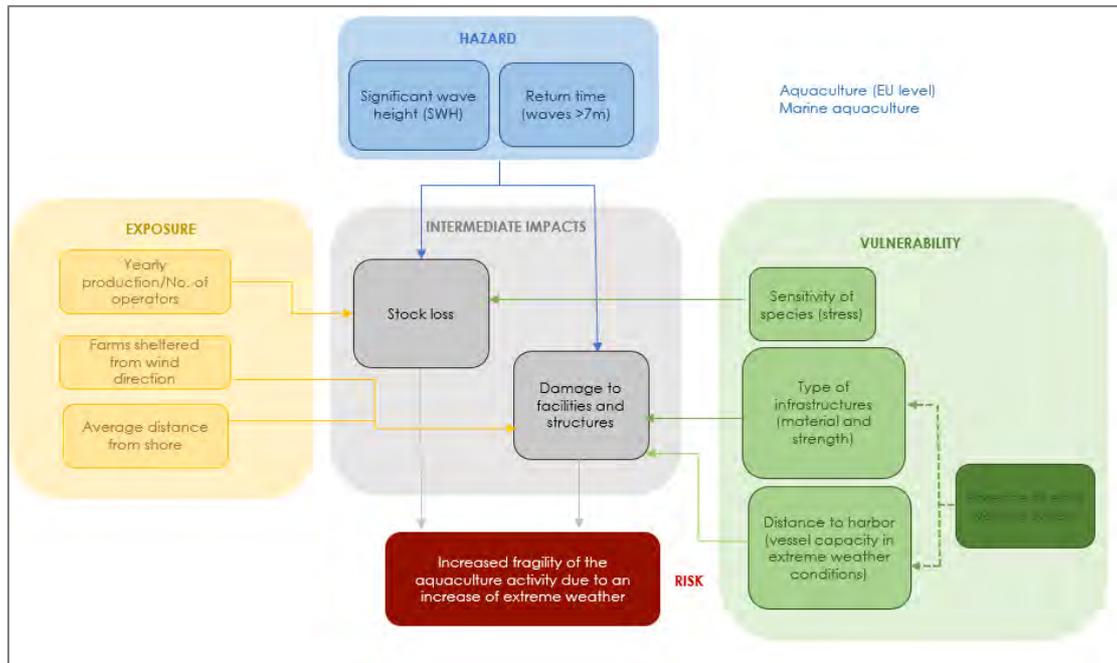


Figure 48: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 3.2

Production data of farmed species per island

Some indicators require data on the proportions of species farmed on a specific island. Therefore, a table with % of each species farmed on each island was prepared. This data was obtained directly from the IFPs or from the FAO or national statistics offices.

Table 4: Proportions of aquaculture species farmed per island.

Species	Proportion of species production			
	Mussels & clams	Tuna	Sea bream	Sea bass
Corsica	0.43		0.265	0.265
Cyprus			0.84	0.16
Madeira			1.0	
Malta		0.94	0.048	0.012
Sardinia	0.84		0.08	0.08
Sicily	0.44		0.3	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.

Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

Table 5: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress: 0=very resilient to stress.

<i>Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.3	0.9

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 6: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event.

1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

<i>Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event</i>			
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: Increased sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 7: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species' threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

Table 8: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress.

1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in the data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators
- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of

all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$x_{normalized} = \frac{(x - x_{min})}{(x_{max} - x_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

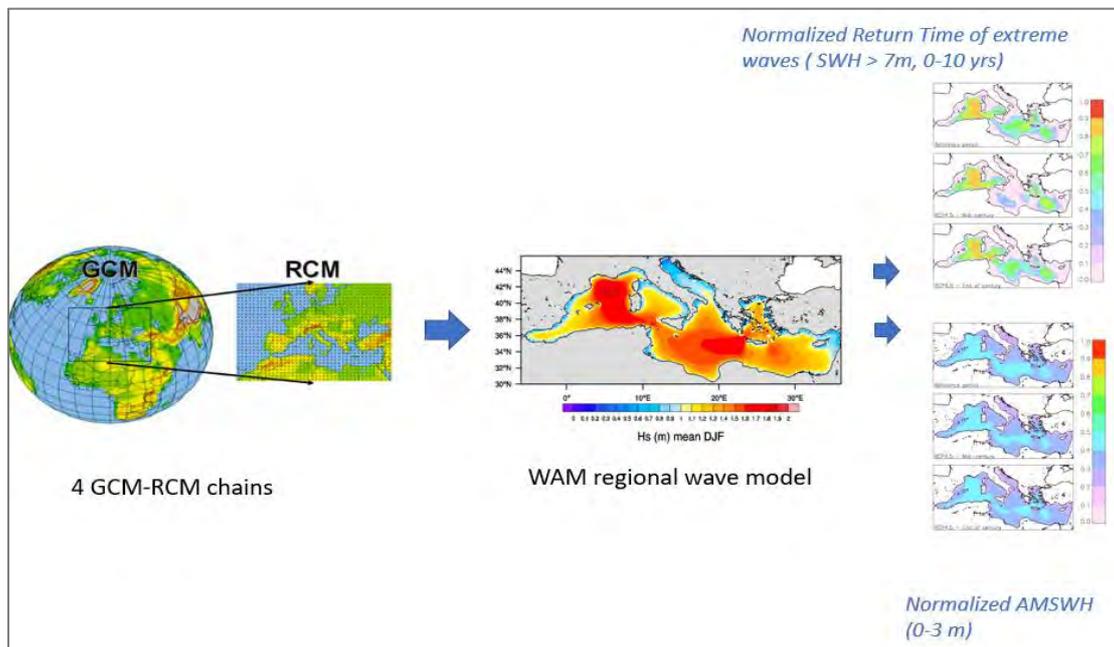


Figure 49: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which a fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater that 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk

1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in D4.4 of Soclimpact, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

*Table 9: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula. $RL, T=1-(1-1/T)*L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.*

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Therefore, using a combination of the normalised values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such all "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.

Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

Extreme weather events:

- farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
- sensitivity of species
- vulnerability of type of infrastructure
- presence of warning system

Sea surface temperature:

- estimated temperature sensitivity of species
- capacity to change species
- monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account. Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 10: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	Sea surface temperature	Extreme events
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:

$$S_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$

s – score

$comp$ – component or subcomponent

ind – indicator

n – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = s_{haz} * w_{haz} + s_{exp} * w_{exp} + w_{vul} * (s_{sen} * w_{sen} + s_{ac} * w_{ac})$$

s – score

w – weight

haz – hazard

exp – exposure

vul – vulnerability

sen – *sensitivity*
ac – *adaptive capacity*

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather event

Table 11: Exposure and vulnerability indicators each island

Component Component Weight	Exposure						Vulnerability						
	0.2						0.2						
Sub-component Sub-component weight							Factor of sensitivity			Factors of adaptive capacity			
							0.75			0.25			
Indicator	Average Size of producers		Location of farms			Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Type of infrastructures (material and strength)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Distance to harbour (vessel capacity in extreme weather conditions) [average & m]		Absence of warning system	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Farms sheltered from wind direction	Average distance from shore (m)		Average of normalised indicators	Estimated sensitivity of species	Type of infrastructure (based on species)	Average of indicators	Average distance to harbour (m)		Presence of warning system	Average of normalised indicators
	Data	Normalised	Normalised	Data	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		Data	Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.4	644	0.16	0.20	0.7	0.5	0.59	4789	0.96	0	0.48
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.5	3923	1.00	0.53	0.6	0.4	0.48	4616	0.92	0	0.46
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	0.5	1731	0.44	0.74	0.3	0.3	0.31	4165	0.83	0	0.42
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.4	1193	0.30	0.27	0.9	0.6	0.71	2183	0.44	0	0.22
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.5	1000	0.25	0.27	0.7	0.5	0.61	5000	1.00	0	0.50

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)



SOCLIMPACT

Mediterranean islands

Hazards

Statistics of extreme events can significantly differ across the four model realizations

The hazard data for return time was derived from 3 different models; CMCC, CNRM and GUF. Since the data varies highly between models a best- and worst case scenario was executed where in the best-case scenario the lowest value (showing the lowest risk) between the models was used and in the worst case scenario the highest value was used. Distance between the best and the worst projection, give an estimate of uncertainty

Model projections for Average Significant Wave Height are in good agreement as to both pattern and values. Hazard was evaluated from ensemble mean, uncertainty from ensemble STD (not exceeding 15% - highest disagreement for highest values).

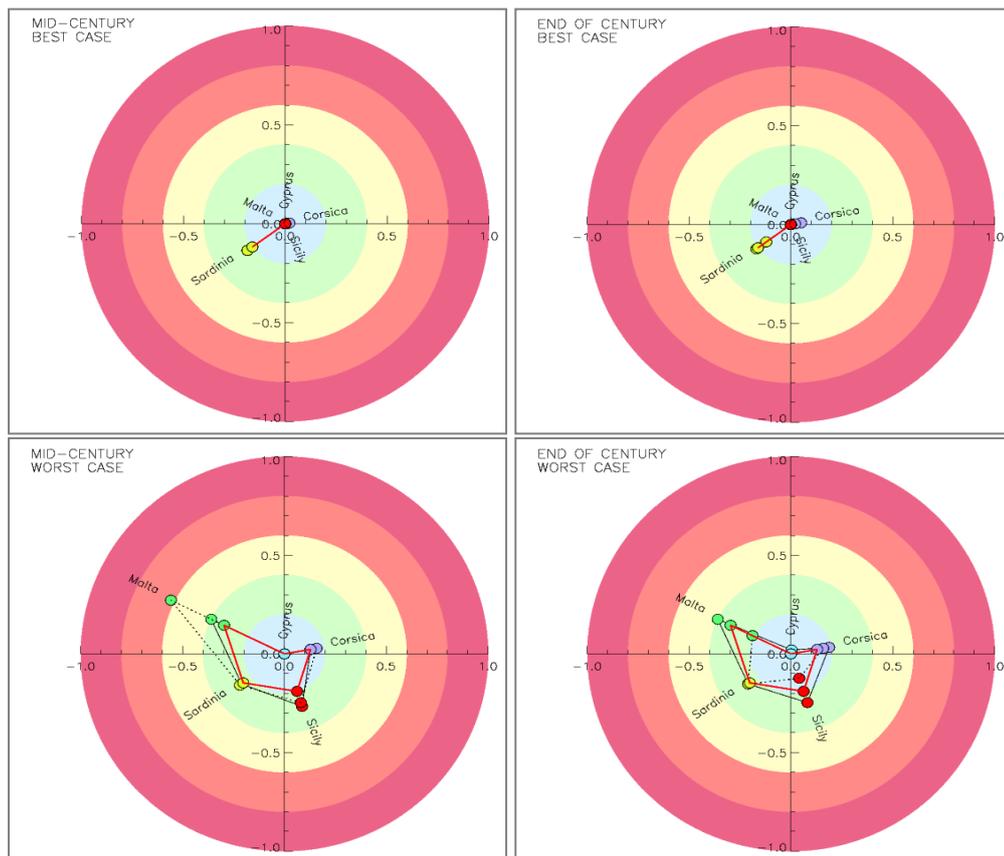


Figure 50: Results for return time in best- and worst-case scenarios for Mediterranean islands for reference period (red line), RCP 4.5 (dotted line) and RCP 8.5 (black line).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)



"Worst" and "best" cases respectively refer to the least and most favorable projection in the set of models. For example return time, you will find that there is at least one model predicting no hazard for all islands except Sardinia with no significant variations across scenarios. In fact, all circles cluster and overlap at the centre, while those that represent Sardinia all lie very close to the limit between the two lower hazard classes.

On the other hand, at least one other model predicts appreciable yet low hazard for Corsica, Sicily and Sardinia, and hazard going from moderate (reference period, red) to medium (RCP8.5, solid black), to high (RCP4.5, dotted black) for Malta, while for Cyprus the hazard is irrelevant even for the most negative projection.

This means that

- a) the result for Sardinia and Cyprus is stable across models,
- b) models slightly disagree for Sicily and Corsica, but generally predict low hazard,
- c) the projection for Malta is affected by greater uncertainty for all scenarios.

This is due to the fact that Malta is located in the Sicily Channel, where the dynamics exhibit significant gradients in the direction perpendicular to the channel axis, which are differently represented by different models.

The worst and best cases do not necessarily come from the same model for all islands, that is, one model can predict the lowest hazard for Sicily and another one for Sardinia, and each of these projections is represented in the plot for the corresponding island.

Risk- Best-case scenario

Table: 12: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.21
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Sardinia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.31
Sicily	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

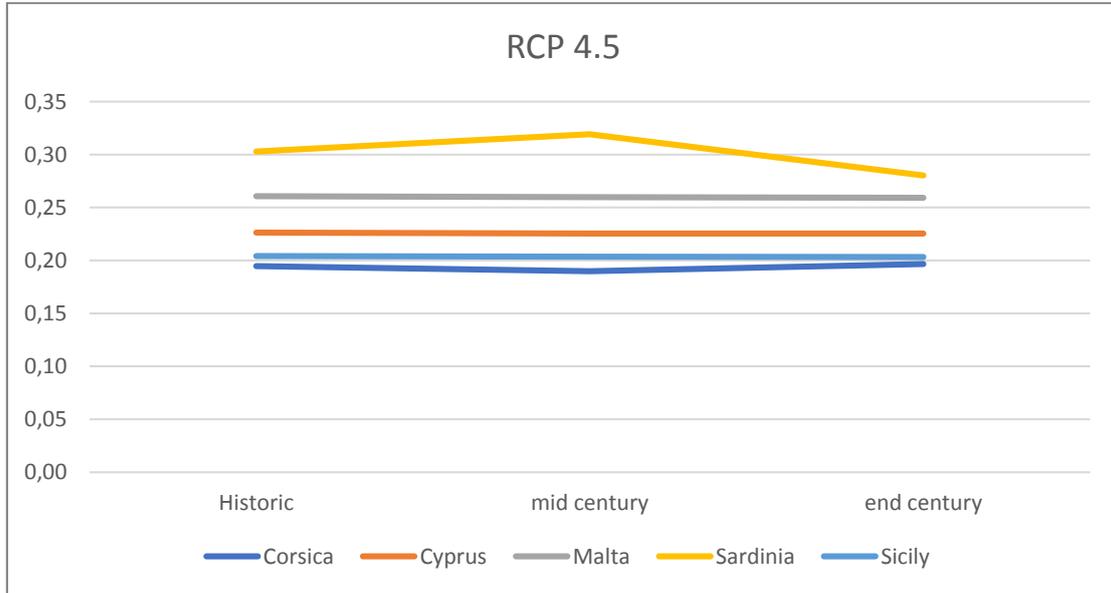


Figure 51: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

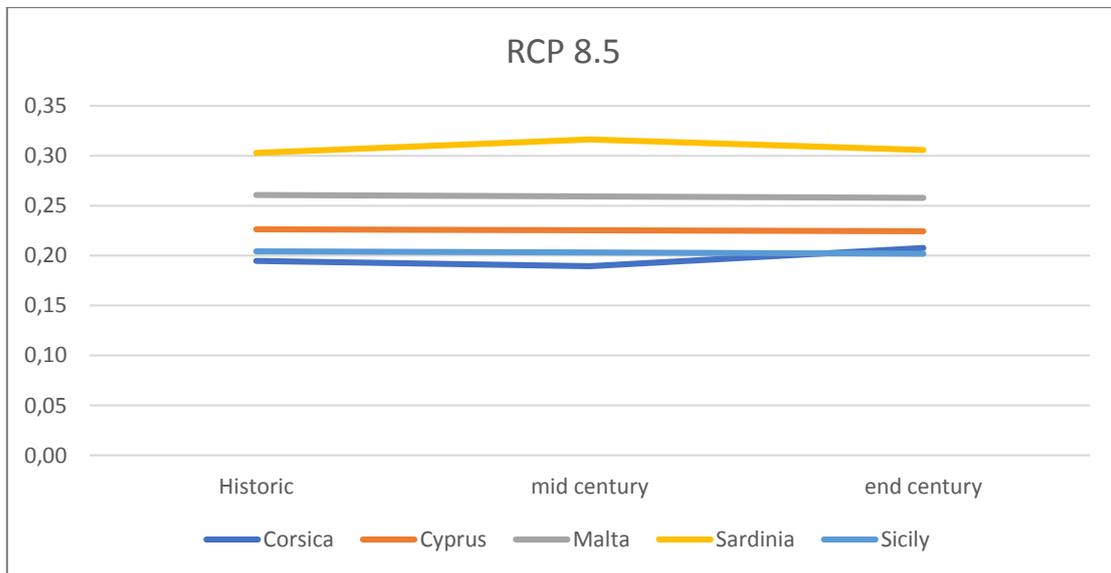


Figure 52: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Risk- Worst-case scenario

Table 13: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.26
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.42	0.45	0.56	0.45	0.36
Sardinia	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33
Sicily	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

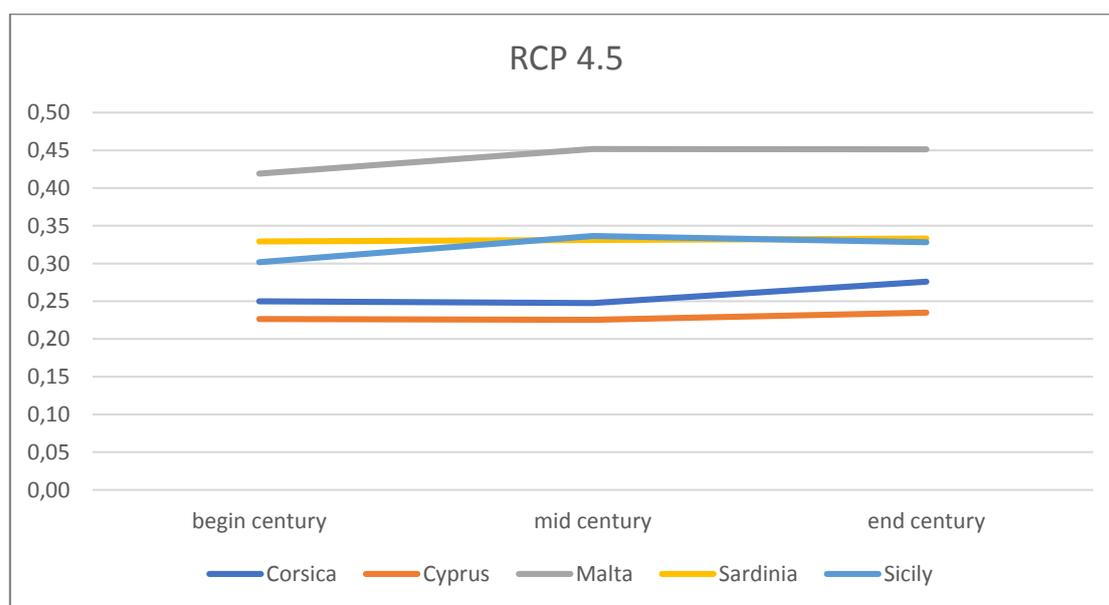


Figure 53: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

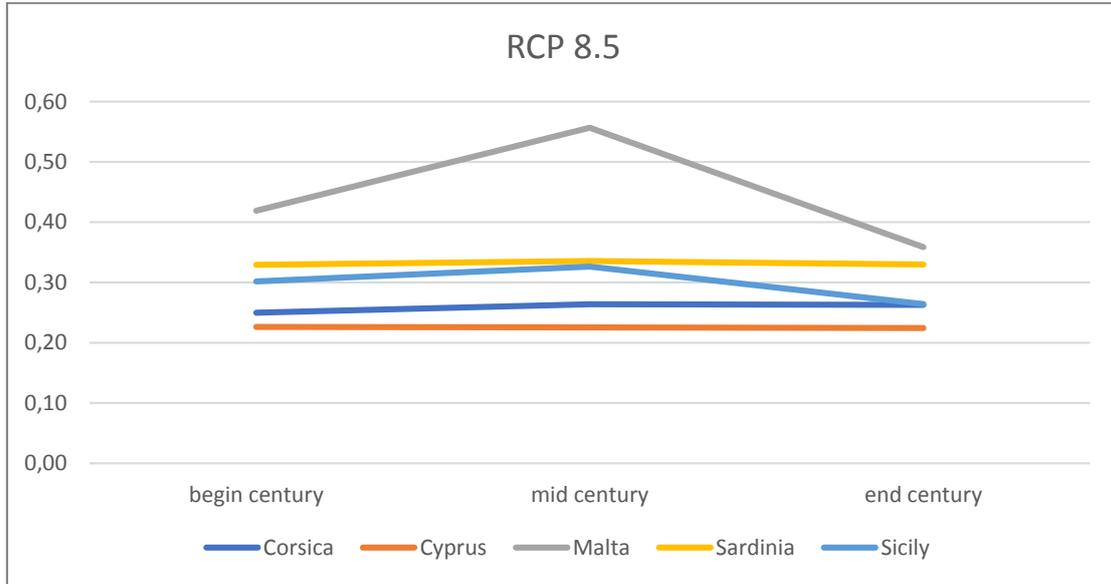


Figure 54: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Bigger islands were separated in areas since conditions can vary greatly in different parts of the island.

Table 14: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Mediterranean islands with large islands analysed on a local level using the worst-case scenario.

Worst case	Historic	RCP 4.5		RCP 8.5	
		mid century	end century	mid century	end century
Malta	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.56	0.36
Sicily North	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.30
Sicily East	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Sicily South	0.41	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.30
Corsica West	0.37	0.32	0.37	0.34	0.34
Corsica East	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
Sardinia West	0.40	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.44
Sardinia East	0.39	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.18
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For all islands and all RCPs, it can be concluded that there is no significant change in risk, even in the worst-case scenario, between the reference period, middle and end of the century. Malta, Sicily south and Sardinia west are found to be the most vulnerable with risk exceeding 0.45 due

to a higher hazard risk. Malta also has the highest exposure of all islands. Malta has an increased risk mid-century in the worst case scenario, due to an increase in hazard.

Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Model projections are in good agreement with previous lower resolution ensemble estimates but offering greater detail along island shorelines. Uncertainty to be rigorously estimated from ensemble STD when new simulations of comparable resolution become available, but overall tendency regarded as robust.

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Table 15: *Expose and vulnerability indicators, the data for each island and the normalized values.*

Component	Exposure			Vulnerability				
	0.4			0.3				
Component weight				Factor of sensitivity		Factors of adaptive capacity		
Sub-component				0.75		0.25		
Sub-component weight								
Indicator	Average Size of producers	Score for level of exposure		Sensitivity of species (stress)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators	Average of normalised indicators		Temperature sensitivity of species (expert guess)	Indicator	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Average of indicator
	Data	Normalised		Normalised		Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.12	0.7	0.7	0	1	0.5
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.29	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Madeira	125.3	0.05	0.05	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	1.00	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.19	0.9	0.9	0	1	0.5
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.14	0.8	0.8	0	1	0.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Risk

The values in this analysis is not an estimate of the risk but rather a ranking between islands since a lot of the data was normalised based on a min-max or fraction of the maximum of the islands. A proper risk assessment would need additional data from farmers and a detailed model of

farming results as a function of temperature. Malta has a much higher risk than the other islands due to the high exposure, Malta's farm produce on average 3.5 to 22 times more than the farms on other islands.

Table 16: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature

	Historic	Mid century		End century	
Risk	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.30	0.34	0.41	0.38	0.42
Cyprus	0.40	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.59
Malta	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.80
Madeira	0.19	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.35
Sardinia	0.37	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.49
Sicily	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.48

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

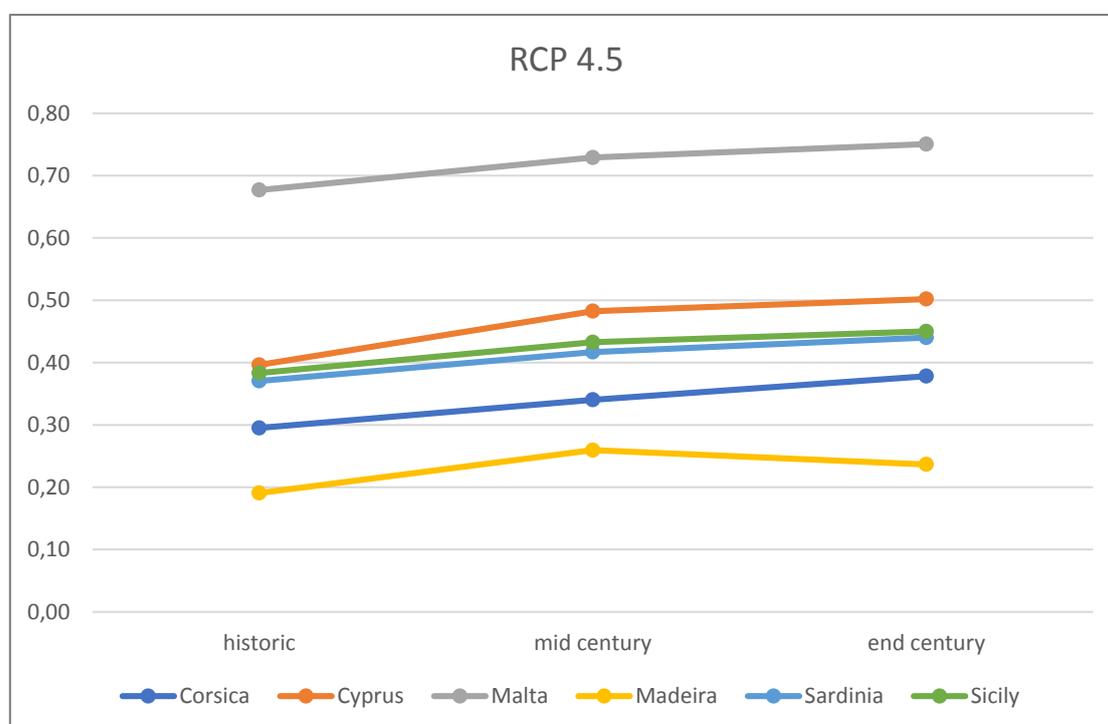


Figure 55: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

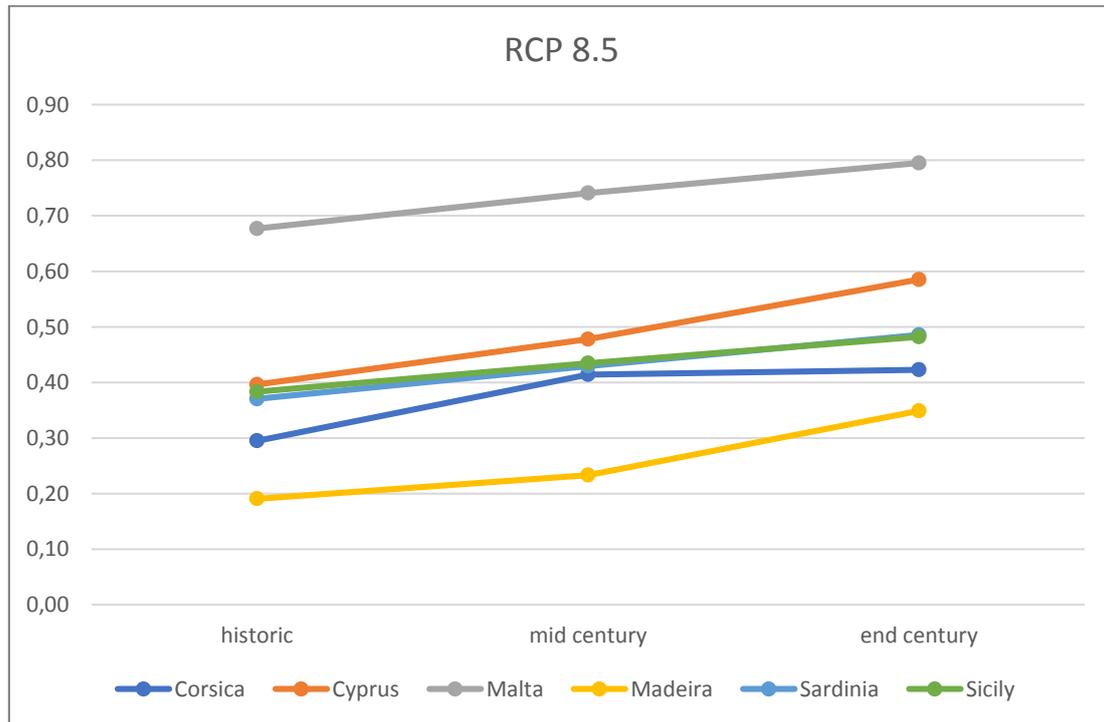


Figure 56: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through an expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

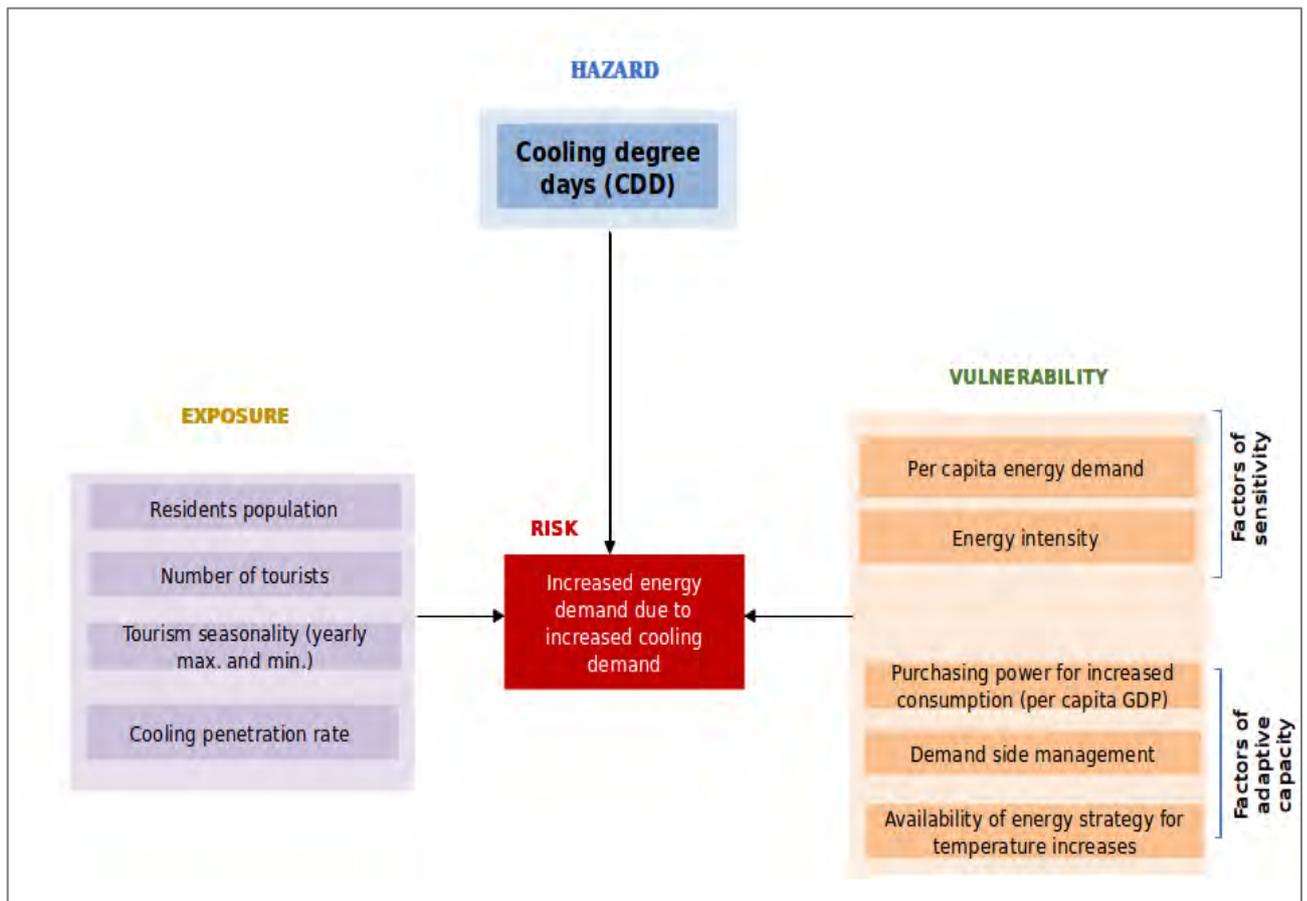


Figure 57: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand.

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

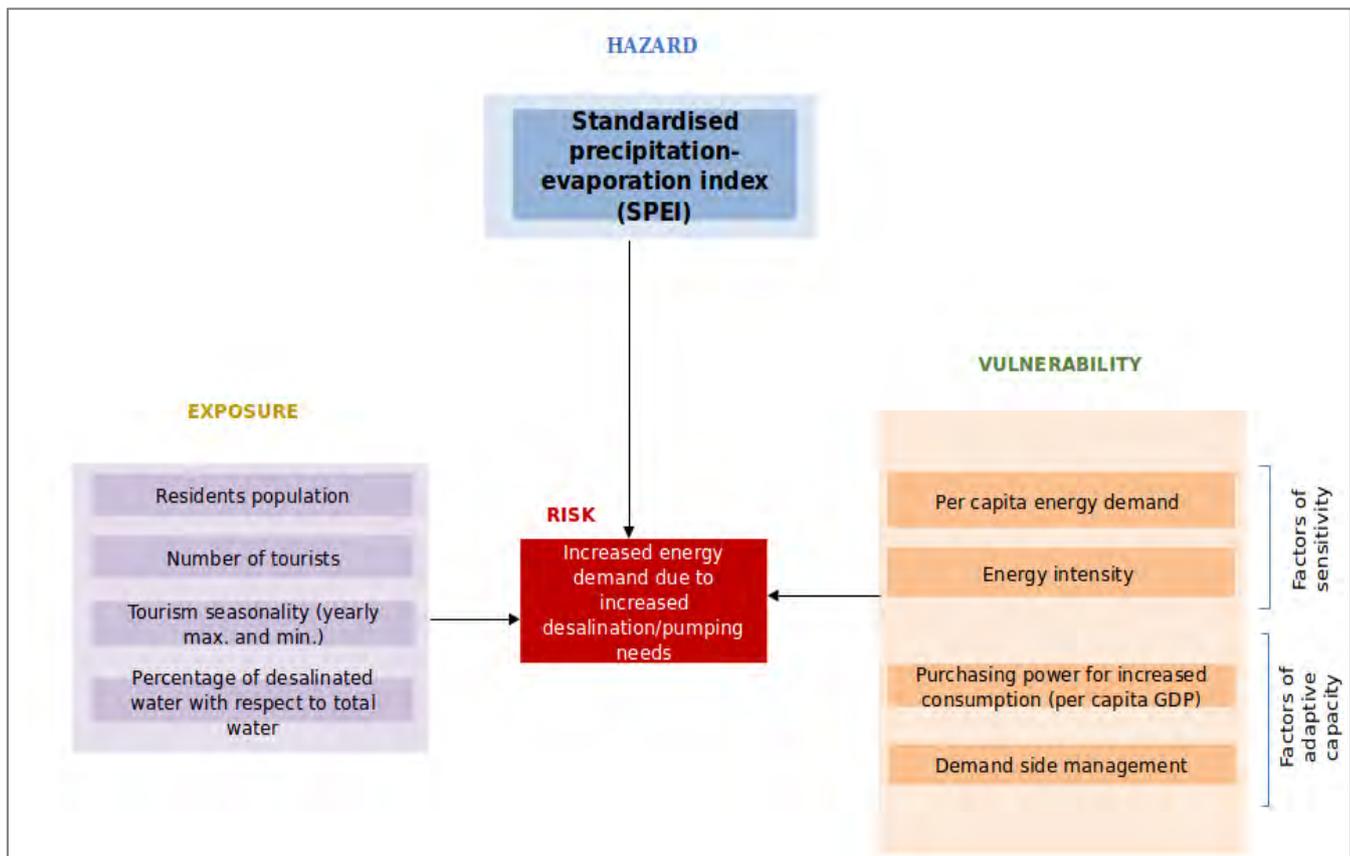


Figure 58: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

It was not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Corsica.. The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the hazard component. In the next tables we present the normalized hazard scores for the island and the interpretation.

Table 17: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Corsica

Histori-cal ref.(1986-2005)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
CDD		0.08	0.78	0.24	1.00
SPEI		0.00	0.26	0.28	0.19
			Combined		0.38



SOCLIMPACT

**RCP2.6
(2046-2065)**

Demand	
CDD	0.14
SPEI	0.12

Supply:	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.3	0.4	0.4
Solar PV	0.6	0.7	0.8
Combined			0.5

**RCP8.5
(2046-2065)**

Demand	
CDD	0.20
SPEI	0.40

Supply:	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.5	0.6	0.6
Solar PV	0.6	0.7	0.6
Combined			0.8

**RCP2.6
(2081-2100)**

Demand	
CDD	0.13
SPEI	0.04

Supply:	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.3	0.3	0.4
Solar PV	0.7	0.6	0.7
Combined			0.7

**RCP8.5
(2081-2100)**

Demand	
CDD	0.39
SPEI	0.80

Supply:	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.6	0.8	0.7
Solar PV	0.6	0.7	0.3
Combined			0.9

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

The power demand in Corsica is still characterised by a clear winter maximum, in contrast to other islands. The peak power demand in summer is 20-30% lower than the peak demand in winter (data corresponding to the period 2012-2016). The very low present CDD score reflects this fact well. The CDD score should remain very low for RCP2.6 scenario. For RCP8.5 scenario, CDD score would increase more, but it would not reach high values anyway. As the peak demand occurs presently in winter, some increase in summer cooling demand could be



covered by present power generation capacity, but the interconnection to Sardinia is not secured in summer. A fact that could boost the cooling energy demand if temperature rises much is the very high tourism seasonality.

Regarding the hydrological drought indicator, a very strong contrast is found between both emissions scenarios, with small changes for RCP2.6 and a strong increase for the high-emissions scenario (reaching very high values by the end of the century). In the latter scenario, the substantial contribution of hydropower (20-30% in 2016-2018) to power generation could be strongly affected, and the presently negligible desalination demand could be progressively more important.

In Corsica, presently the most important renewable energy source is hydropower, followed by solar PV energy (with a share of about 8%). Wind energy is marginal today. Solar PV resources are good, and the PV droughts score indicates a fairly high stability. The opposite is found for wind energy, which shows a very high variability (the maximum among all considered islands). Wind energy shows modest potential over land, but high potential over sea. Small decreases in PV and wind energy potential are projected, except for wind energy in RCP2.6 scenario, where an increase in wind energy potential is projected. The “Regional air climate and energy scheme” has a target of 100% renewable energy coverage for 2050. Floating offshore wind energy could play a relevant factor for this objective if the technology can be successfully adapted to the deep bathymetry, as rather high capacity factors could be obtained at the northern coast and especially east of the Strait of Bonifacio.

**** Islands' comparison and future challenges***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).



- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.
- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).
- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.
- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).



- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.

- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.



The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is defined as the carriage of goods and passengers by sea-going vessels, on voyages undertaken wholly or partly at sea. It is often considered as the backbone of the world economy, with 80% of the global trade volume passing through ports (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). For islands, the transport of goods and passengers by ship is even more essential. At the same time, Maritime Transport contributes to climate change through its carbon emissions which are found to be near 3% of the global CO₂ equivalent emissions (Smith et al. 2015). Compared to land and air transport, it is the (economically and ecologically) most effective way

of distributing goods globally. A changing climate will challenge Maritime Transport to adapt to future risks and lower its emissions.

The whole range of potential impacts of climate change on ports operations and throughput is still under study and it remains a high degree of uncertainty about it. Various climate change stressors can affect both harbour infrastructure and ships on route. For example, ports are vulnerable nodes of Maritime Transport as they are strongly affected by rising sea-levels, which in turn affect port facilities and increase the risk of flooding. Sea-level rise has accelerated in the last century and will rise by 0.43 to 0.84 m until 2100, depending on the emission scenario (Pörtner et al., 2019). Due to ocean dynamics and the Earth's gravity field, there will also be regional differences in sea-level rise in the order of 0.1 m (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). The causes of sea-level rise are the thermal expansion of water and the melting of glaciers due to the increase in global mean temperature (Vermeer & Rahmstorf, 2009).

Maritime transport can also be affected by climate change through the increase in the intensity of extreme weather events including tropical-like cyclones. According to climate projections, tropical cyclones are not expected to change significantly in frequency but in intensity due to rising sea-surface temperatures (Pörtner et al., 2019). The resulting extreme winds and waves can harm ships, but also cause damage and flooding of ports, especially in combination with sea-level rise (Hanson & Nicholls, 2012).

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified for the SOCLIMPACT project. These are:

- (a) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves,
- (b) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events,
- (c) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

We selected to operationalize the third one which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The hazard risk component indicators considered for the operationalization were: extreme waves (SWHX98), extreme wind (WiX98) and mean sea level rise (MSLAVE). The exposure indicators are: number of passengers (NPax), islands' total population (NTotP), value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot) and number of ports per island or archipelago (NPo), while the sensitivity indicators include: the number of isolation days (NIID) and renovated infrastructure (NAgePo). Finally, for the component of adaptive capacity the proposed indicators are: percentage of renewables (PEnRR), number of courses/trainings (NTrCoRM), early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt). Unfortunately, due to the lack of reliable and consistent data we had to exclude the "number of isolation days" and "number of courses/trainings" indicators. The conceptualization framework of the operationalization is summarized in the next Figure.

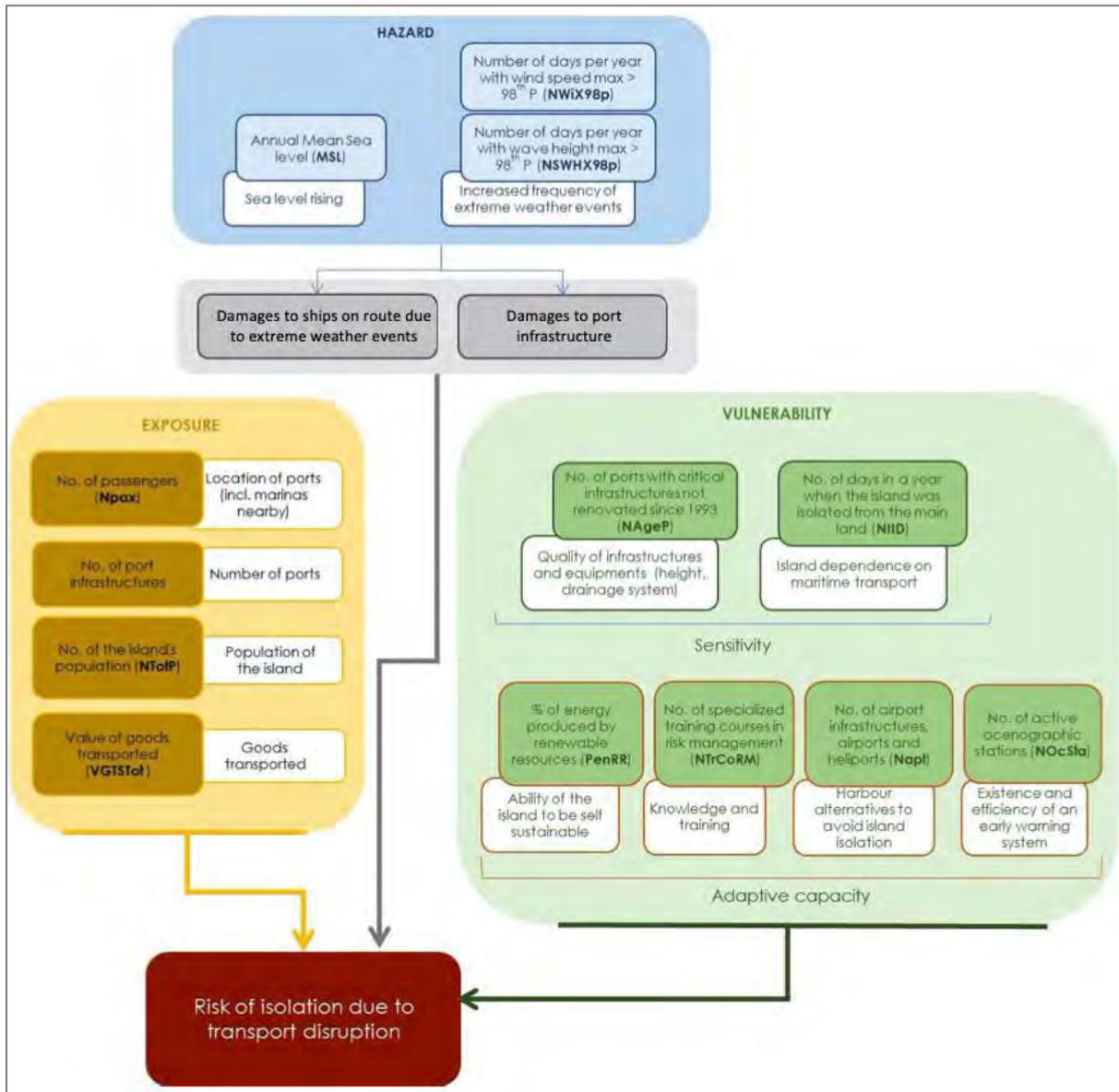


Figure 59: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain: Risk of Transport Disruption.

Source: Soclimpac project deliverable 4.5

For assessing future risk, we considered projections or estimations for the indicators when these were available. This was mainly the case for the components of hazard (mean sea level rise, extreme waves and wind), exposure (population, number of passengers, value of goods), and the contribution of renewables. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) were considered for meteorological hazards. One “high-emission” or “business-as-usual” pathway (RCP8.5) and a more optimistic one (RCP2.6) that is closer to the main targets of the Paris Accord to keep global warming to lower levels than 2 °C since pre-industrial times.

Besides the historical reference period, we consider two 20-year future periods of analysis. One over the middle of the 21st century (2046-2065) and one covering the end of the 21st century (2081-2100). The normalization of indicators was performed across the different islands in order to facilitate and inter-island comparison and prioritize the islands of higher risk.

Regarding the weighting of the different risk components, we have tested several weights, however, according to expert judgement and discussion with specialists on the Maritime sector, we have found more appropriate to assign equal weights to all main components of risk (i.e. 0.33 for Hazard, 0.33 for Exposure and 0.33 for Vulnerability). For the sub-components of Exposure, we have assigned a weight of 0.33 for Nature of Exposure and a weight of 0.66 for Level of Exposure since the latter one is believed to be of greatest importance. Similarly, for the vulnerability sub-components, we have assigned a weight of 0.25 for the Factors of Sensitivity and a weight of 0.75 for the Factors of Adaptive Capacity.

The weighting and categorization of risk is a subjective decision, nevertheless we consider our selection to be quite conservative and therefore we believe that a slightly different choice would not significantly affect the main conclusions drawn. For the recent past/present conditions, the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain indicates low risk for all investigated islands. In general, the Maritime Transport sector of the larger islands (e.g. Corsica, Cyprus and Crete) is found to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Up to a point, this is related to the large number of harbour alternatives in comparison with smaller islands.

Our results for the future highlight the importance of adopting a low-emission pathway since this will keep the risk for Maritime Transport disruption in similar as present conditions while for some islands the risk is expected to slightly decline. In terms of island inter-comparison, Malta's maritime sector is found to be most vulnerable, nevertheless, future risk even under RCP8.5 is not expected to exceed medium risk values. On the contrary, Corsica is the island less susceptible to climate change impacts. Detailed results for each investigated SOCLIMPACT island are presented in the following sub-sections.

Table 18: Summary of present and future risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption for each island and scenario based on the Impact Chain operationalization.

RISK VALUE PER ISLAND	Historical Reference	RCP2.6 MID	RCP2.6 END	RCP8.5 MID	RCP8.5 END
CYPRUS	0.241	0.210	0.218	0.258	0.292
CRETE	0.229	0.208	0.201	0.257	0.282
MALTA	0.376	0.347	0.335	0.395	0.414
CORSICA	0.220	0.194	0.194	0.243	0.273
CANARY ISLANDS	0.336	0.292	0.250	0.346	0.341
BALEARIC ISLANDS	0.326	0.281	0.264	0.331	0.344

Categorization

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)



The Maritime Transport sector in the island of Corsica is found to be less susceptible to climate change as our Impact Chain operationalization indicates the lowest risk values among all investigated islands (risk value of 0.22 for present conditions). This is related mostly to low exposure indicators. Under pathway RCP2.6, this value will be slightly reduced because the negative effect of increasing meteorological hazards is counterbalanced by an increase in the adaptive capacity as the percentage of renewables is expected to increase in this low-emission pathway. Under scenario RCP8.5, the risk is expected to slightly increase by mid-21st century and reach a value of 0.273 by 2100.

READ MORE about the risk indicator computation: normalization of sub-component indicators on Deliverable 4.5 Soclimpact project [HERE](#)

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to understand the effect of climate change on tourists' behavior, a representative sample of 2538 European citizens have been interviewed in their countries of origins. Through online surveys, tourists were asked how climate change impacts can affect their travelling decisions and the islands' destination choice.

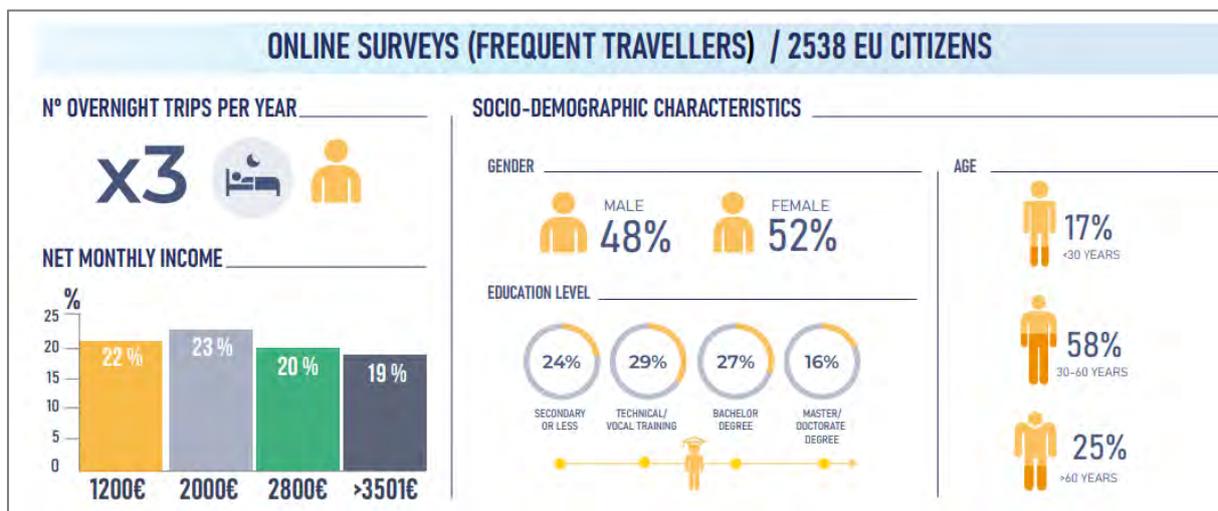


Figure 60: Socio-demographic profile of respondents

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#)



The technique of discrete choice experiments (DCEs) was implemented. This technique has been widely applied to the evaluation of tourists' preferences both in natural areas and other tourism contexts (e.g., Morley, 1994; Eymann and Ronning, 1997; Huybers, 2003). It involves asking tourists to choose between alternative profiles or sets of attributes of the tourist destinations. The principal advantage of this method is that it allows researchers to investigate the preferences of various attributes of the tourist product simultaneously.

DCEs consist of several choice sets, each containing a set of mutually exclusive hypothetical alternatives between which respondents are asked to choose their preferred one. Alternatives are defined by a set of attributes, each attribute taking one or more levels. Individuals' choices imply implicit trade-offs between the levels of the attributes in the different alternatives included in a choice set. In particular, he will pick the one providing the highest utility, which depends on the attribute levels of the alternatives. Socio-economic characteristics of the individual may influence this decision. The resulting choices are finally analyzed to estimate the contribution that each attribute and level add to the overall utility of individuals. Moreover, when the cost or price is included as an attribute, marginal utility estimates can easily be converted into willingness-to-pay (WTP) estimates for changes in the attribute levels and, by combining different attribute changes, welfare measures may be obtained.

As a result of data analysis, a ranking of islands image was obtained, according to the opinion and the image that tourists have of each island under analysis. Besides, the percentage of tourists that would not visit any European island posed to CC impacts was obtained, which alert on the potential decrease in tourism arrivals for these islands. Finally, the choice model allows to measure the changes in the willingness to pay of tourists for visiting these EU islands, which alert on how these impacts would affect tourism expenditure in the EU islands posed to CC. The results are useful to evaluate the priorities in terms of risks management and responsiveness, from the tourism management perspective.

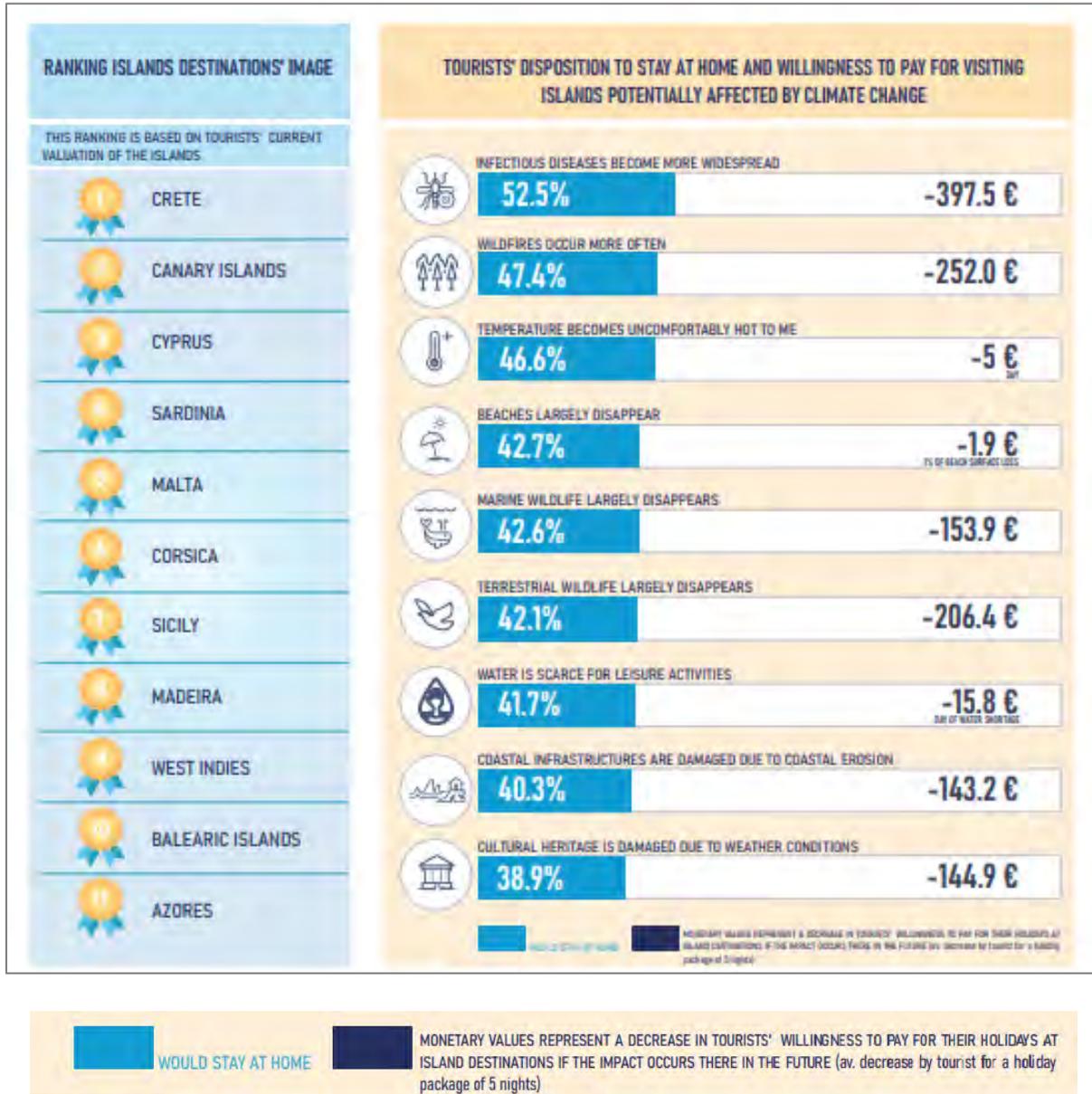


Figure 61: Tourists' preferences for islands destinations and tourists' behavioural response to CC risks
Source: Deliverable Report D5.5

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: "How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?" Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might



stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination's perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. We focused the analysis in three specific areas, represented in the map below: the south-east area of Corsica (between Porto Vecchio and Boniface); the North-East area of Sardinia (Costa Smeralda) and the South-East area of Sicily (the coastal area of Catania and Siracusa provinces). Arguably, these are among the most important coastal tourism areas of these islands. Overall, 60 hotels (for a total of about 240,000 observations) were monitored in Corsica; 150 hotels (for a total of about 620,000 observations) were monitored in Sardinia; 129 hotels were monitored in Sicily (for a total of about 726,000 observations) over the period 1 May 2019 – 31 October 2019.

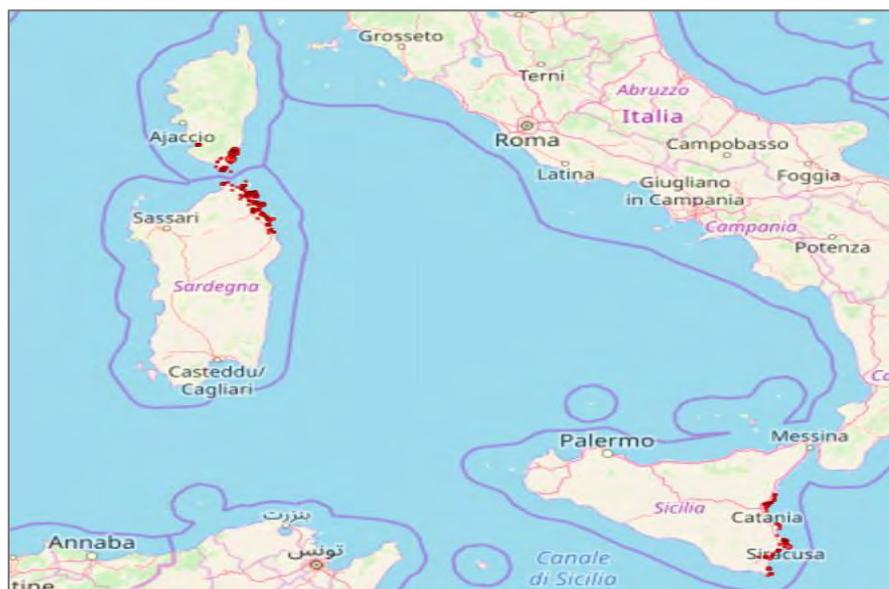


Figure 62: Map of the region

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

At present, 7.89% (column 1 of the table below) of “summer” days (days in the period between 1 May and 31 October) have a HUMIDEX higher than 35 Celsius degrees in the area under investigation (Bonifacio and Porto Vecchio). In absolute terms, this is about 14 days.

In the future, this share (column 3) will almost double to 14.85% in rcp2.6, double (to 15.84%) in rcp8.5 near, and increase of four-fold (to 39.51%, about 71 days!) in rcp8.5, distant. Consequently, demand for holidays in Corsica will increase and the new equilibrium shows an increase in the average price posted by hotels in the destination (column 4) and an increase in overnight stays (column 5, this is estimated using the past correlation between average prices and occupancy rates in hotels, data provided by STR). The joint impact of price and demand will lead to an increase in hotels revenues (last column of the table) and, assuming that the change in revenues spreads to the other tourism products in a similar way, an increase in tourism revenues for the whole destination will be recorded. Hence, the estimation reported in the last column of the table below can be interpreted as the percentage increase in tourism revenues for the island.

Table 19: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Corsica

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
7.89%	rcp26near	14.85%	2.6%	0.5%	3.2%
	rcp26far	14.85%	2.6%	0.5%	3.2%
	rcp85near	15.84%	3.0%	0.6%	3.6%
	rcp85far	39.51%	12.0%	2.4%	14.7%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)



According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. In this study the underlying assumption is instead that growing temperatures are a global issue, thereby not modifying the relative position of a destination. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperature on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold by specie, and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant) were analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases in the region with respect to the reference period.

To do this, we assume three main species cultured in this region: seabream, seabass and mussels and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios.

The production levels (tons) will decrease only if surface temperature increase more than 10C above the reference value. In both cases, the average annual increase is in levels below 21°C, the threshold of thermal stress for mussels, the most sensitive species.

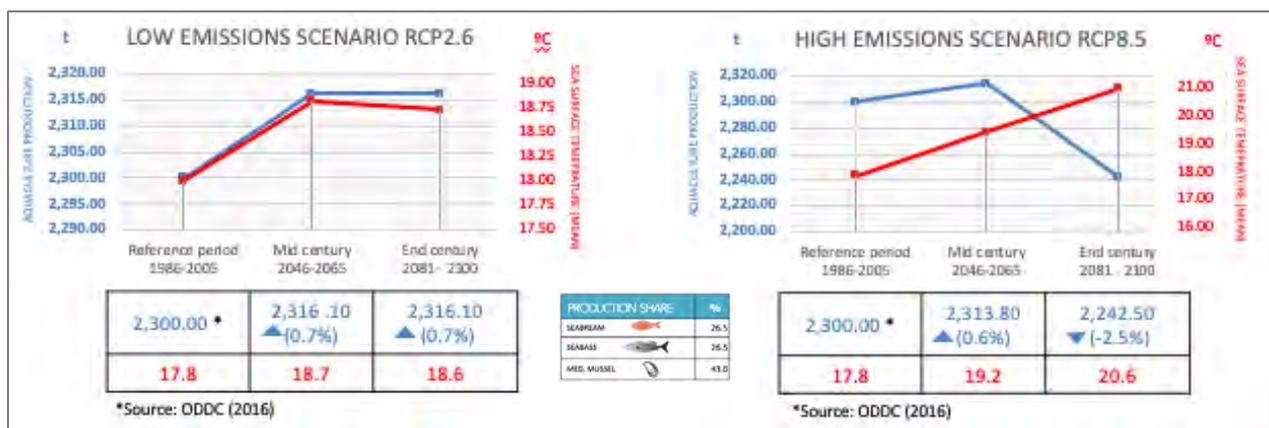


Figure 63: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature
Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (**CDD**) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (**GWh/year**) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 457 CDD⁸. This value could be, for example, a combination of 228 days with temperatures of 20°C (456CDD approx). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 753%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

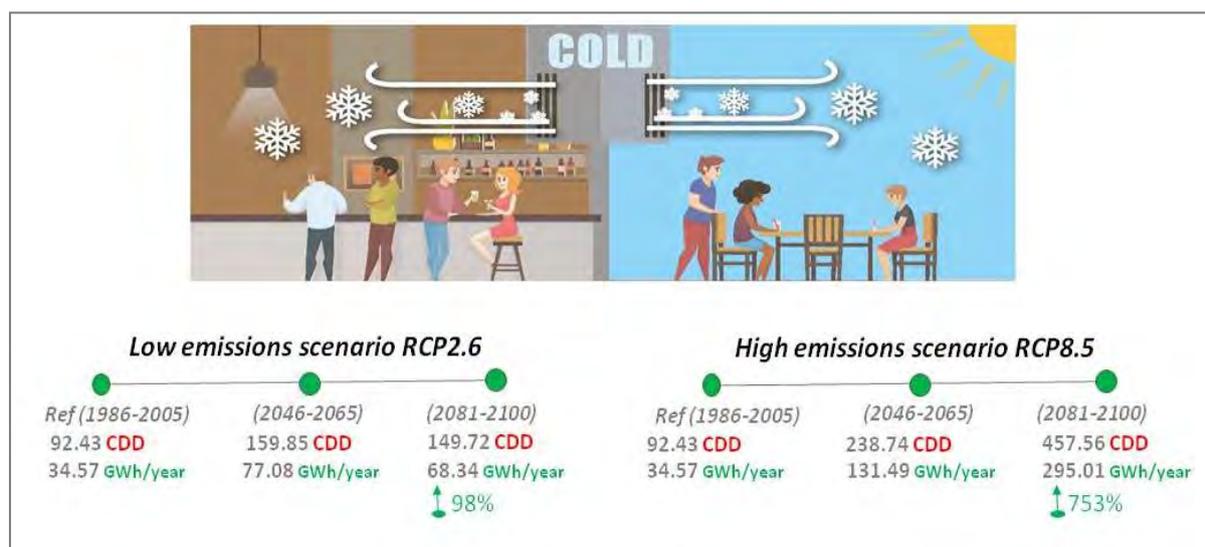


Figure 64: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Corsica under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

⁸ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as $100 \times (20 - 18) = 200\text{CDD}$



Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in the island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all ports' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 1.14 million of euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

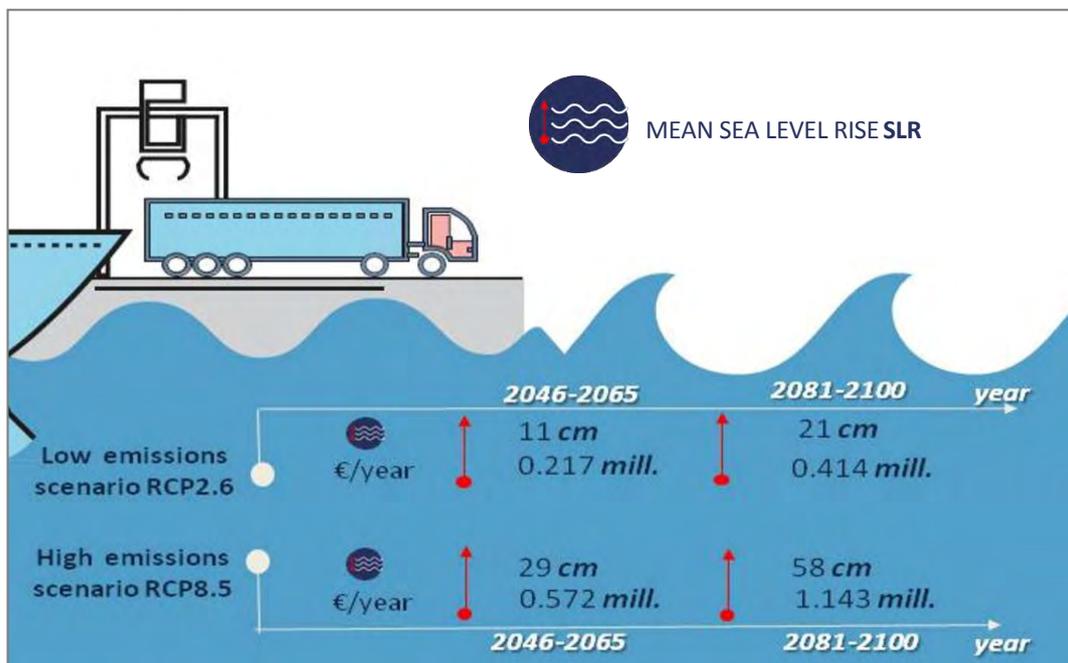


Figure 65: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Corsica under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle

With regards to its policies, the Corsica government has drafted the following plans and strategies.

National scale

- Climate-Impact Knowledge GICC 1999.
- National Strategy 2007.
- National consultation.
- PNACC (National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change) 2011-2015.
- 2015 PNACC Assessment.
- Proposal Development 2016-2017.
- 2019 PNACC (second).

Island scale

- Climate Change Adaptation Plan - Corsica Basin.
- The Plan for Development and Sustainable Development of Corsica (PADDUC).
- The Regional Plan of Climate of Air and Energy (SRCAE).
- Multiannual Energy Program (PPE).
- MedCOP.
- Territorial Climate-Air-Energy Plans (PCAET).
- The Regional Plan for Air Quality.
- National Strategy for Integrated Coastline Management.

Table 20: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<i>Specific limits and obstacle</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key land use, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies do not consider the impacts of climate change - Initiatives disconnected from the metropolitan territory sometimes
<i>Relevant documents</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collectivité Territoriale de Corse (2014). Adoption du Schéma Climat, Air, Energie de la Corse (SRCAE) et son annexe, le Schéma Régional Eolien (SRE). Assemblée de Corse. - Collectivité Territoriale de Corse (2013). SRCAE Assemblée de Corse. - Collectivité Territoriale de Corse (2010). Le Plan Régional pour la Qualité de l'Air.



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Source: Deliverable [7.1](#) Conceptual framework

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APPENDIX 5





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in the Crete. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

Crete at a glance

Crete is the 5th largest island in the Mediterranean and the largest and most populous of Greek islands. The island's population was estimated to 635.000 in 2019. The total area of Crete is 8.336 sq.Km. (6,3% of the total area of the Greek territory). It has a remarkable coastline of more than 1000 Km.

The island is extremely mountainous with three main mountain ranges, Psiloritis (Idi) (2456m.), Lefka Ori (2454 m.) and Dikti (Lassithi Mountains) (2148 m), which cross it from the west to east.

Crete is one of the most popular holiday destinations in Greece, accounting for 24% of Greek tourism receipts. Although Crete is producing a wide range of high-quality agricultural products, being one of the most self-sufficient regions of Greece, its main income comes from tourism and services. Crete is the 5th largest island in the Mediterranean and the largest and most populous of Greek islands.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

The fisheries sector along with aquaculture, is considered important for the economy of Crete, despite its small contribution to GDP, as it contributes to maintaining the economic and social cohesion of large areas of the island. The main type of aquaculture that is carried out in Crete is marine aquaculture and a few small freshwater farms in the inland. There is also a freshwater aquaculture unit of spiroulina production farm. The main marine species commercially cultured is the gilthead seabream (*Sparus aurata*) and European seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*).

- **Maritime Transport**

In Crete, due to the large coastline, the port system is very extensive, consisting of a large number of ports and port facilities of different sizes, while its contribution to the economy of the island is particularly important. Maritime transport is key for the region's development but is also part of the growing economic activities in Crete. In Crete there are a number of port facilities, which mainly concern 2 ports of international importance (Port of Heraklion and port of Souda), 1 of national importance (port of Rethymno) and 2 of major importance (port of



Agios Nikolaos and port of Sitia), along with a large number (about 60) fishing shelters and marinas.

- **Energy**

The energy industry in the Region of Crete has as its main pillars the three steam power stations (HPP): Chania, Linoperama and Atherinolakkos, while the Local Production Station (GSP) of Gavdos is in operation, with an installed nominal power of 430kW. Electricity is produced mainly by imported fuel oil (78%), while renewable sources hold a moderate share in total power generation. The share of renewable sources in total electricity production reaches 22% in 2018 (solar and wind), with the largest part being attributed to solar power generation. The electrical interconnection of Crete with Attica and the Peloponnese, via a submarine cable is in the process of implementation.

- **Tourism**

Crete is an island with incomprehensible diversity and contrasts that attracts many tourists every year. Tourism is the most dynamically developing sector and the demand gave incentives for important investments in hotel units, resulting in the qualitative and quantitative upgrading of hotel infrastructures. An important competitive advantage of the tourist branch is the high percentage of high standard hotel infrastructures. Crete has 30,31% of the total of 5-star beds in Greece and 24,57% of 4-star beds respectively. welcomes approximately 15% of all international tourism to Greece. Tourism-related revenues account for almost 35% of the regional GDP.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Crete is the largest and most populated Greek island and also the 5th largest in the Mediterranean covering an area of 8,336 km². It has a population of 633,506 people and it is located in the South-East Mediterranean sea (35°12.6'N 24°54.6'E). Crete is sub-divided into four sub-regional units: Heraklion, Chania, Rethymnon and Lasithi. The capital of Crete is Heraklion. Southernmost point of European Union, Gavdos island, is part of Crete.

The climate of Crete is mild Mediterranean, with hot summers and mild winters. Nevertheless, the temperature varies between coastal and non-coastal areas due to the island's natural landscape. In the inner island there are three mountainous ranges that cross the island from the east to the west, namely Dikti (2,148m.), Lefka Ori (2,454m.) and Psiloreitis (2,456m.) making the climate around them colder during the winter months and cooler during the summer period. To the east and the south-east lowlands are the hottest areas in the island, with their climate resembling more to the climate of northern African countries. The coastline of the island is approximately 1,046km long.

Crete hosted the first known European civilization, the Minoan civilization which played a significant role in the development of the Greek civilization and has been also part of the Roman and Byzantine empire. During the medieval times Crete was part of Venice, which



allowed the island to benefit from the Renaissance period and has finally passed to the Turks in 1669. After a long period of political and civil upset, Crete earned its autonomy in 1896 and has re-united with Greece in 1913.

The long history of the island and its cultural heritage as well as its natural landscape, with both large sandy beaches and countless canyons (with most know being the canyon of Samaria), makes Crete one of the most attractive tourist destinations in Europe as it offers a lot of alternative activities to its prospective visitors by combining nature and culture.

Population dynamics of the island

Population dynamics are in line with their national counterpart. The population of Greece is shrinking and is projected to fall even more in the future. With respect to its population structure, Crete is characterized by an increasing share ageing population, yet with a smaller rate than the rest of the country, as it is the case for most of the EU28 regions (see Table 1).

Table 1: Population distribution by age group in Crete (2008-2017).

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AGE GROUP, 2008-2017										
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0-14 (%)	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.8	16.7	16.6	16.5	16.4
15-64 (%)	65.9	66.1	66.1	66.0	65.9	65.6	65.3	65.1	64.9	64.7
65+ (%)	17.4	17.2	17.2	17.3	17.4	17.6	18	18.3	18.6	18.9

Sources: Eurostat

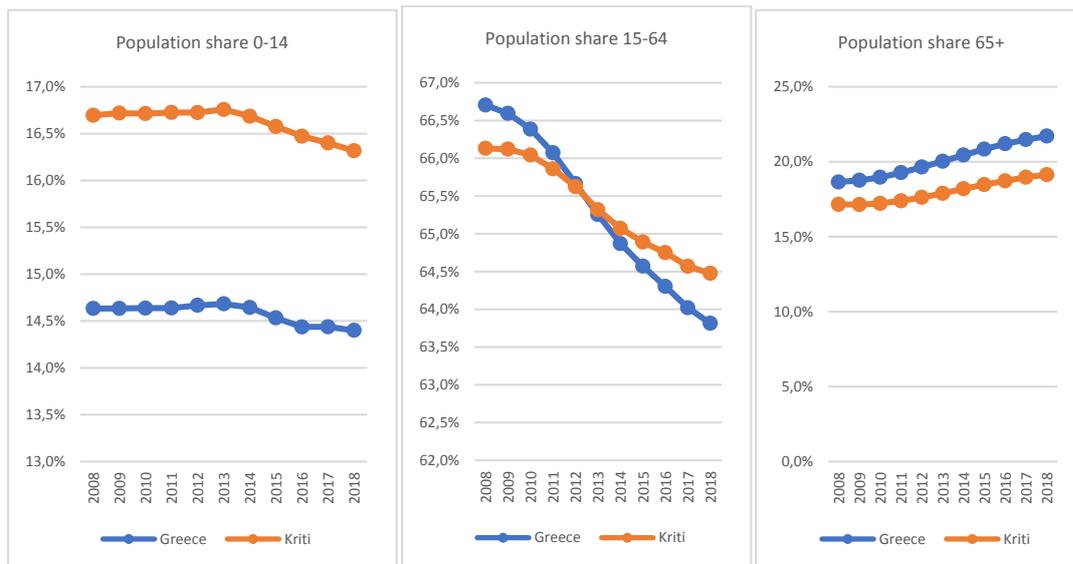


Figure 1: Population dynamics by age group

Sources: Eurostat



The population projections were combined with the Eurostat's 2019 population projections at the national level to obtain a consistent projection of Crete's population up to 2100. The reference projection of population in Crete is displayed, which marks the population for the period 2015-2100.

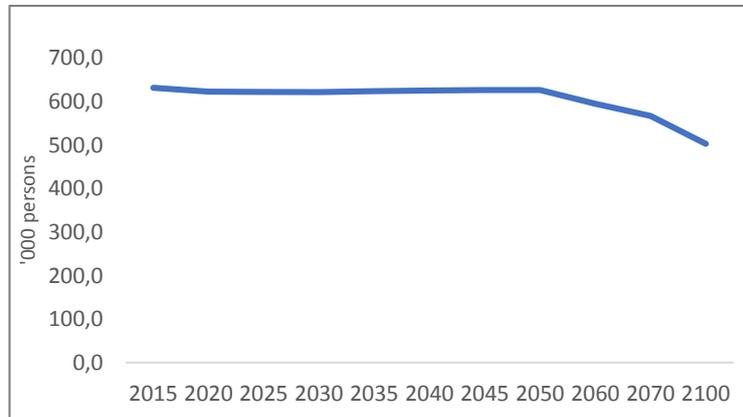


Figure 2: Baseline population projection for Crete (2015-2100).
Source: Eurostat.

The Labour Force

The Labour Force (i.e., the employed and the unemployed persons) amounted to 258,300 persons in 2018, of which 157,800 were males and 127,500 were females. The Labour Force participation rate for the age group 15-64 was 68.7% of the total population of this age group or 280,500 persons. The respective percentage for males was 77.0% or 154,600 persons, and for females 60.6% or 207,644 persons. The figure illustrates the changes in labour force, employment and rate of unemployment from 2005 to 2018

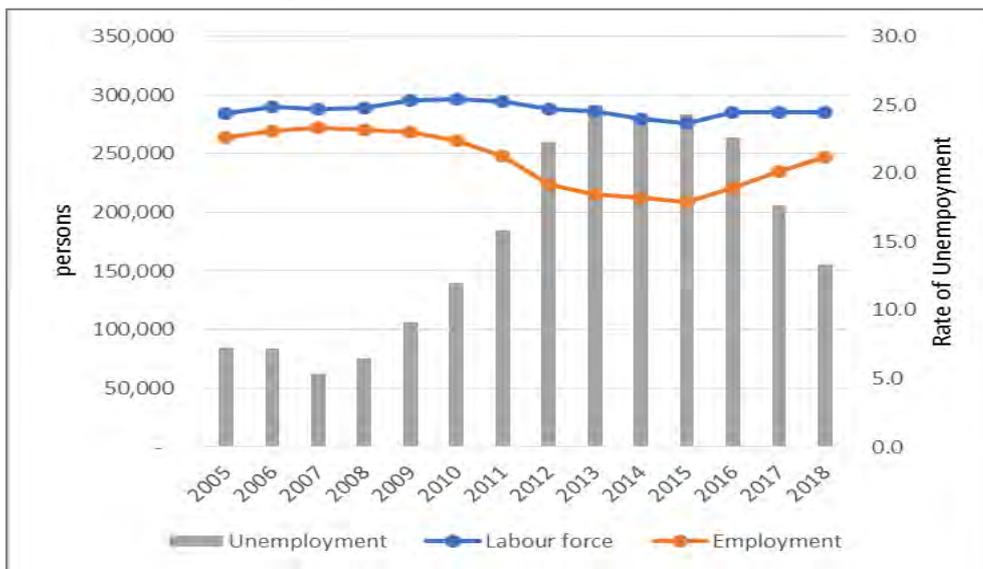


Figure 3: Labour force change in Crete (2005-2018).
Source: Eurostat



1.2 Current climate and risks

The climate of Crete is generally described as mild Mediterranean. The atmosphere can be quite humid, depending on the proximity to the sea, while winter is fairly mild. The precipitation in Crete is characterized by spatial and temporal variation increasing towards the western and north parts of the island. Western Crete (Chania province) receives more rain compared to the Eastern part of Crete. The island is mountainous with mean elevation of 482 m ranging from sea level to 2450m (Psiloritis, Lefka Ori). Snowfall is common on the mountains between November and May, but rare in the low-lying areas.

During the Cretan summer, average temperatures reach the high 20s-low 30s Celsius with maxima touching the upper 30s-mid 40s. More sunny days and higher temperatures prevail across the south coast, including the Messara valley and Asterousia mountains, driven mainly by the prevailing North African climatic zone. In general, a basic characteristic of the local climate are large deviations from place to place.

Extreme events, such as meteorological droughts, hydrological droughts, extreme flow and extreme precipitation events are becoming more intense and frequent due to climate change. In recent years, major weather events have become more common in Crete.

In 29/5/2013 multiple Wildfires in Regional Unit of Chania caused estimated disaster cost 1.915.545€. Strong southerly winds blowing in the area were hampering fire-fighting efforts, while the entire fire brigade of the Region has been mobilised in response to multiple fires that broke out in the region .

Crete has experienced torrential rainfall and flooding for two times during February 2019. Hit by two storms, Crete has seen extreme levels of heavy rain during February. Some areas recorded around 400mm of rain between 12 and 17 February. Floods of 12-13/2/2019 & 24-25/2/2019 costs 4 deaths and one person missing. First estimation of disaster cost was 100.000.000 € for R.U. of Chania and in total 263.000.000 € for the Island.



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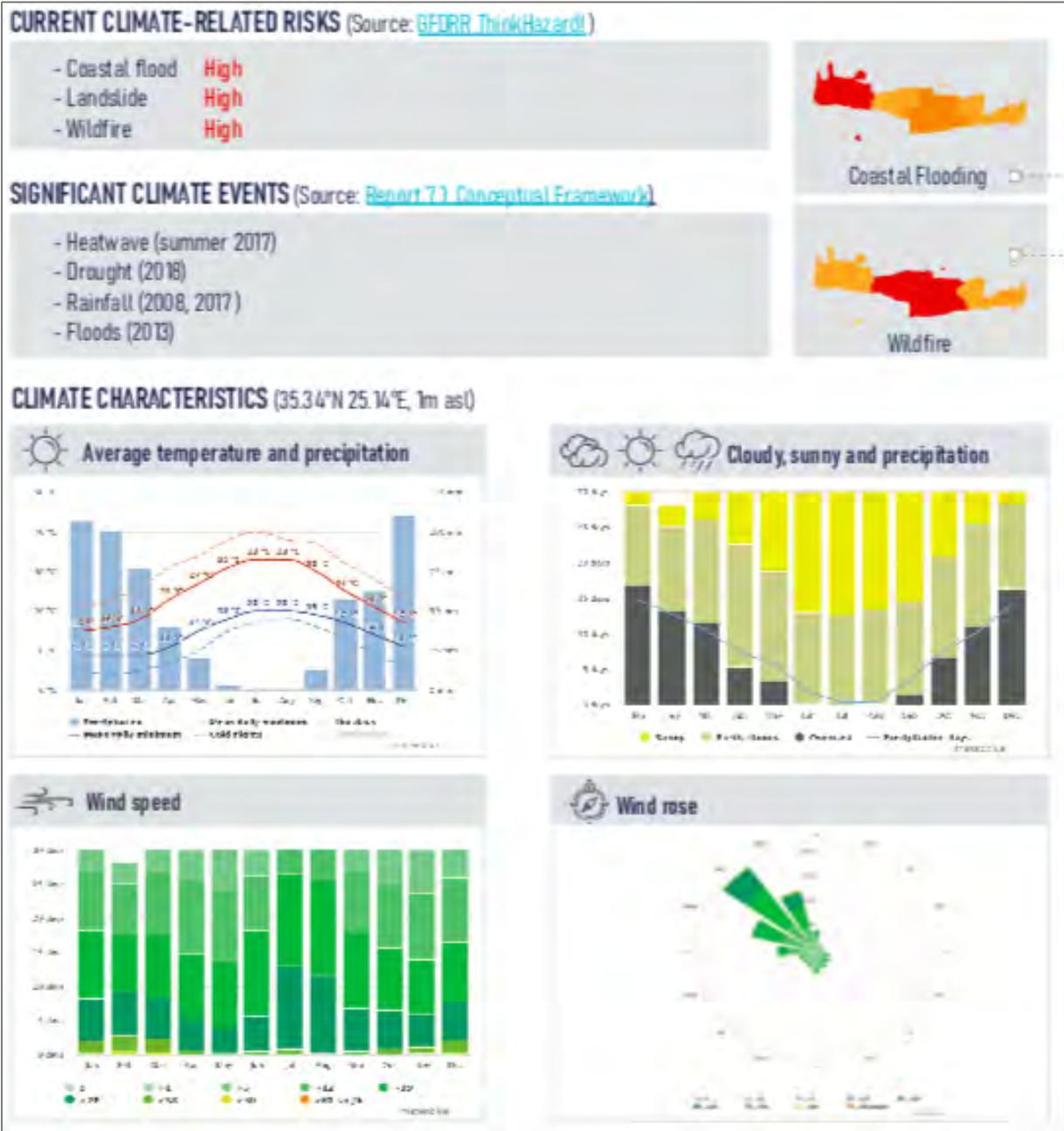


Figure 4: [Climate factsheet](#)

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

Crete is a service-led economy, with the tourism-related sectors serving as the driving force of regional growth. Produces almost 5% of Greek GDP. In 2016, the main sources of income in Crete derived from tertiary activities, which comprised 79.2% of the regional GDP, while secondary activities (mainly construction and manufacturing) accounted for 13.9% of the GDP,



and finally primary activities (agriculture, forestry and fishing) made up the remaining 6.9% of the GDP.



Figure 5: International exports of goods by broad category.

Sources: SEK, Association of Cretan Exporters.

The international exports of goods (manufactured and agricultural produces excluding petroleum products) in 2016 accounted for 5.3% of the regional GDP with food and drink products being the largest category, led by the olive oil exports. The main international trading partners of Crete are Italy, with a share of 30%, followed by Germany (16%). Nevertheless, Cretan exports are slowing down according to more recent statistics having recorded losses for the past 2 years (Table 2).

Table 2: International exports of Crete.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Inter-national exports (in mn. €)	265	363	294	285.4	464	444.1	435
Main trading partners (%)							
Italy	-	-	-	-	30	20	18.7
Germany	-	-	-	-	16	20	18.5
France	-	-	-	-	4	5	5.7

Sources: SEK, Association of Cretan Exporters

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

The tourism industry is fundamental for the Cretan economy. Recent statistics show an increasing trend in the number of persons visiting the island, and consequently to the number of overnight stays; nevertheless, the average length of trips remains almost stable with 8.5 nights per visitor. The majority of foreign tourists originates from Germany (28.7%) followed by France (11.8%) and United Kingdom (10%). Furthermore, according to accommodation statistics the share of domestic (intra-national) tourists is diminishing over the past decade highlighting the significance of international tourists for the local economy and underlining its exposure to international competition (Figure 6). The occupancy rate of hotels reached 65% in



2018 which implies that existing accommodation facilities can support even higher flows of inbound visitors in the future.

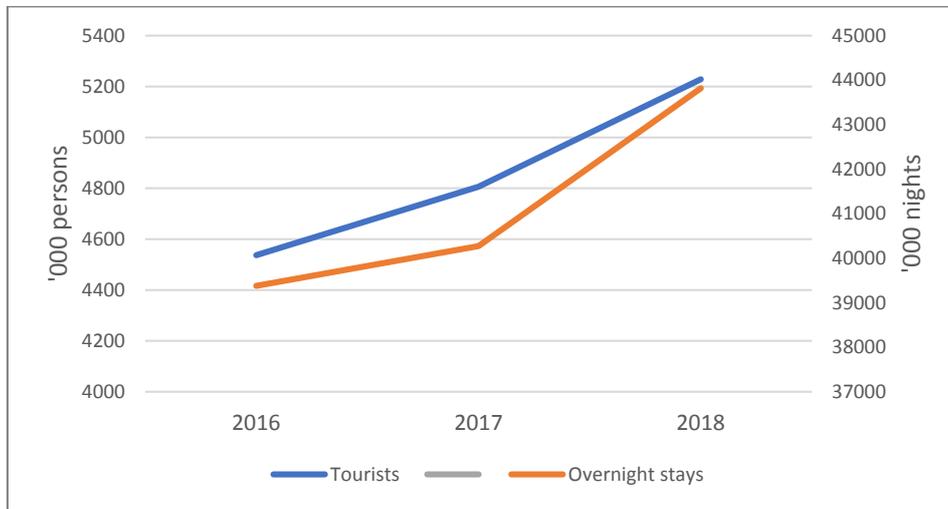


Figure 6: Number of tourists and overnight stays in Crete (2016-2018).
Sources: INSETE.

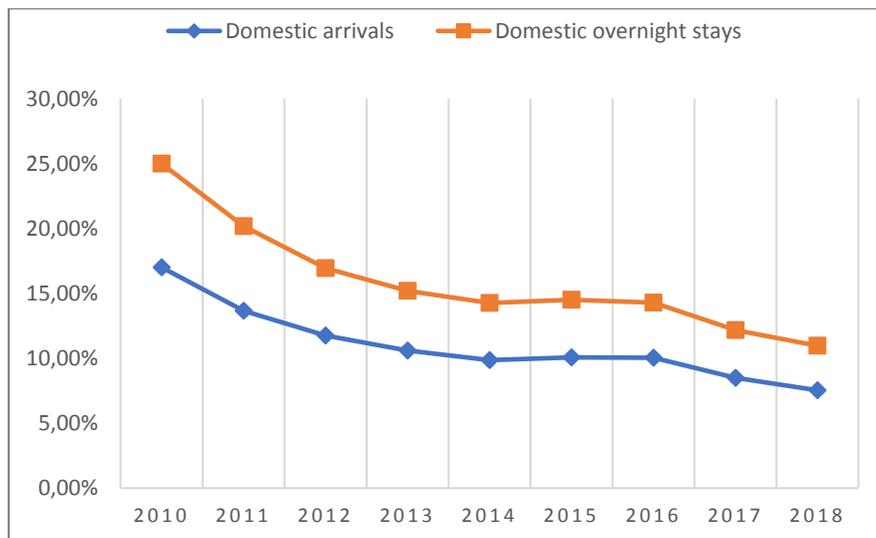


Figure 7: Intra-national tourism statistics in Crete (2010-2018).
Sources: INSETE.

Tourism-related revenues account for almost 35% of the regional GDP, reaching €3,095million and €3,133.9 million in 2016 implying a decreasing trend in the average tourist expenditure. The importance of tourism for the regional economy is also depicted in the employment statistics where we can note a significant increase in relative share of tourism-related employment in the overall employment of the island.



Maritime transport

The island has a long tradition in maritime transport and some of the most important Greek shipowners originate from Crete. Two of the largest Greek passenger maritime companies headquartered in Crete, namely ANEK and Minoan Lines, with the latter being bought by an Italian company in 2008. Data on passenger transport and cruises over the last five years reveal an upward trend in the number of people using maritime transport services as ports movement reached 2.93 million people in 2018; while the number of cruise passenger disembarking in the island the 453 thousand passengers (Table 3).

Table 3: Maritime passenger transport by ship type in Crete (2013-2018).

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Ferries	2,446,140	2,685,989	2,268,104	2,430,335	2,805,390
Cruises	440,288	329,709	355,699	413,655	340,033

Sources: INSETE

As the maritime sector is important in scale and complexity, it is highlighted that for the research interests of SOCLIMPACT project, namely the estimation of climate impacts on the Blue Economy sectors, not all components of the sector are relevant. In particular, only maritime transportation strictly related to the transportation of passengers and goods to and from the island is relevant to this analysis, while other major components such as ship-management, naval engineering and shipbuilding are not part of this analysis. To this end, the projections presented below refer to Water transport as in the Eurostat classification, thus to the more narrow estimation of transportation of passengers and goods that includes sea and coastal passenger and freight transport as well as inland passenger and freight transport.

Aquaculture

The aquaculture sector is of minor importance for the regional economy. According to the Region of Crete data the fishing sector (which includes aquaculture activities) employed about 1000¹ persons and recorded revenues of approximately €5 million in 2016. At the moment there are not aquaculture companies operate in the island (with the exception of the HCMR's experimental Facilities).

Electricity

Electricity is produced mainly by imported fuel oil (78%), while renewable sources hold a moderate share in total power generation. The Figure indicates that the share of renewable

¹ Data from Department of Fisheries Region of Crete.



sources in total electricity production reaches 22% in 2018, with the largest part being attributed to solar power generation. The island's electricity system is planned to connect to the national grid by 2021 via a submarine cable. The interconnection with the mainland will transform the power supply system of Crete. The region of Crete and the Transmission System Operator of Greece have both identified that Crete can become a hub of renewable energy, while natural gas power plants may also be constructed in the near future.

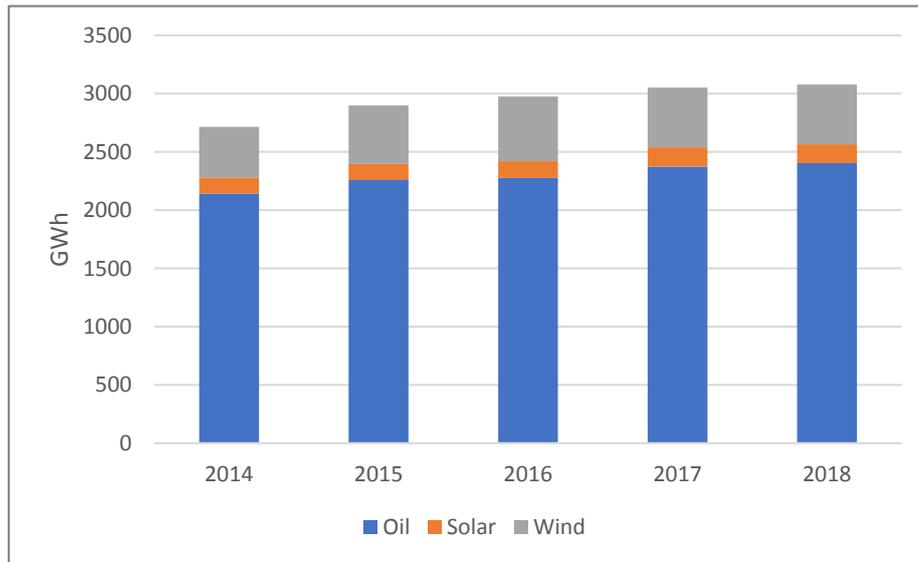


Figure 8: Electricity generation by source in Crete in the period 2014-2017.
Source: DEDDHE.

Infrastructure, R&D and planned projects

There are three airports in the island and four major passenger ports.

There are two major infrastructure projects planned and expected to be carried out within the next decade in Crete Both are expected to significantly improve the quality of the existing infrastructure:

- The first one is the Crete Northern Highway (BOAK), a national highway that will connect the eastern to the western part of the island. The highway will provide access to all major ports and airports of the island. The total cost is estimated to € 1.3-1.7 billions,
- The second one is construction of a modern international airport in Kastelli, near Heraklion. The new airport will replace the existing airport of Heraklion. The estimated cost is €500 million and it is expected create 1,500 additional jobs during its construction phase and around 7,500 full-time jobs during its operation phase.

With respect to R&D, Crete scores very high compared to other Greek regions. Specifically, the island had the highest share of R&D expenditures to GDP (1.53%) in 2016, nationwide, which translates to approximately €134.7 million. Research is carried out mainly by the public and the higher-education sector.

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

Based on the projections, Crete grows with an average annual rate of 1.6% throughout the 2015-2100 period and with 2.1% throughout the 2015-20150 period. In the short-run, the main driver of growth is investments while in the long-run it is the increase in private consumption expenditures are that supports growth (Table 4). Trade surpluses, the largest part of which is attributed to intra-national trade, are expected to diminish over time and to follow a more balanced path. Still, Crete remains a net exporter in 2100. In the short term, investments grow with a high pace, counterbalancing the lack of investments during the economic crisis, while presenting a stable growth rate throughout the 2025-2050. We assume that the share of public consumption slightly decreases until 2100; nevertheless, per capita public consumption expenditures increase over the time period under consideration.

Table 4: CreteGDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
<i>GDP</i>	2.3%	2.6%	2.3%	2.1%	2.1%	1.9%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	1.0%
<i>Private consumption</i>	1.8%	1.6%	2.0%	2.6%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.1%	2.1%	1.4%
<i>Public consumption</i>	1.9%	2.2%	1.9%	1.7%	1.7%	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%
<i>Investments</i>	5.3%	5.7%	3.6%	2.5%	1.6%	1.2%	0.7%	1.3%	1.0%	0.9%
<i>Exports</i>	1.7%	2.0%	2.0%	2.2%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%	1.7%	1.3%
<i>Imports</i>	1.8%	2.0%	2.1%	2.5%	2.3%	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	1.9%	1.6%

Source : Deliverable [Report D6.2](#) Modelling socioeconomic impacts for EU islands.

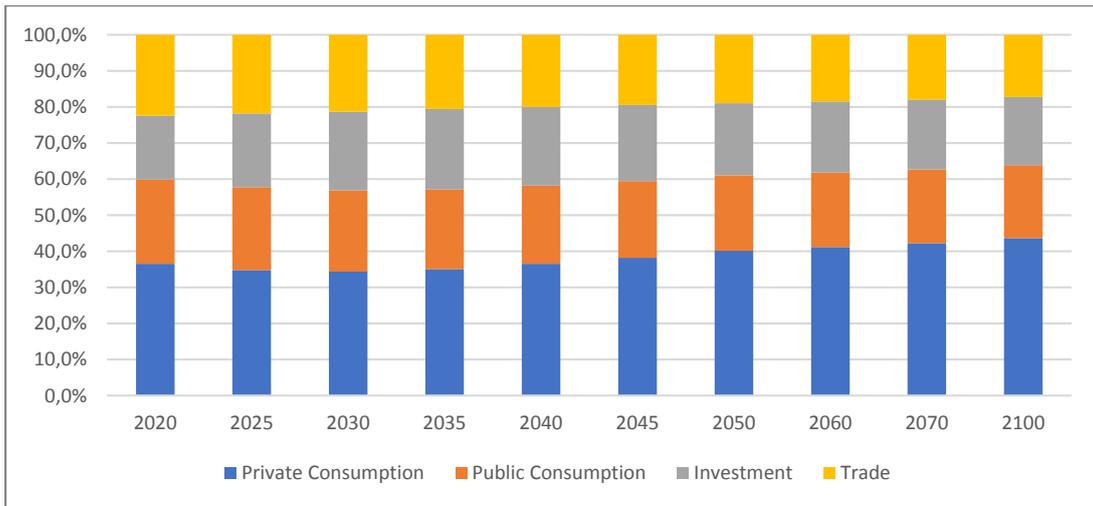


Figure 9: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Crete in 2015-2100. Source: Deliverable Report D6.2 Modelling socioeconomic impacts for EU islands.

2.2 The sectoral projections

The Cretan economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period with an increasing contribution of market, accommodation and food services. In 2015, non-market services are the second largest sector in the economy but in 2100 it is projected that accommodation and food services will take their place mainly to the tourism led growth projected.

Blue growth sectors increase in importance throughout the 2015-2100 period. In particular, tourism grows from 22.9% as a share of GDP in 2015 to 26.1% in 2100. While the water transport sector grows steadily, travel agency and related activities register a declining share in total value added as they grow with a lower rate than that of GDP.

² The share of tourism in GDP is calculated via the tourism satellite account (TSA) matrices of 2015, assuming that the same shares that indicate the contribution of tourism to the productions of tourism-related sectors (such as the accommodation and food services, transport services, travel agency and related activities, cultural and recreational activities) remain throughout the 2015-2100 period. Please see Appendix B for the complete database of the estimated TSAs.

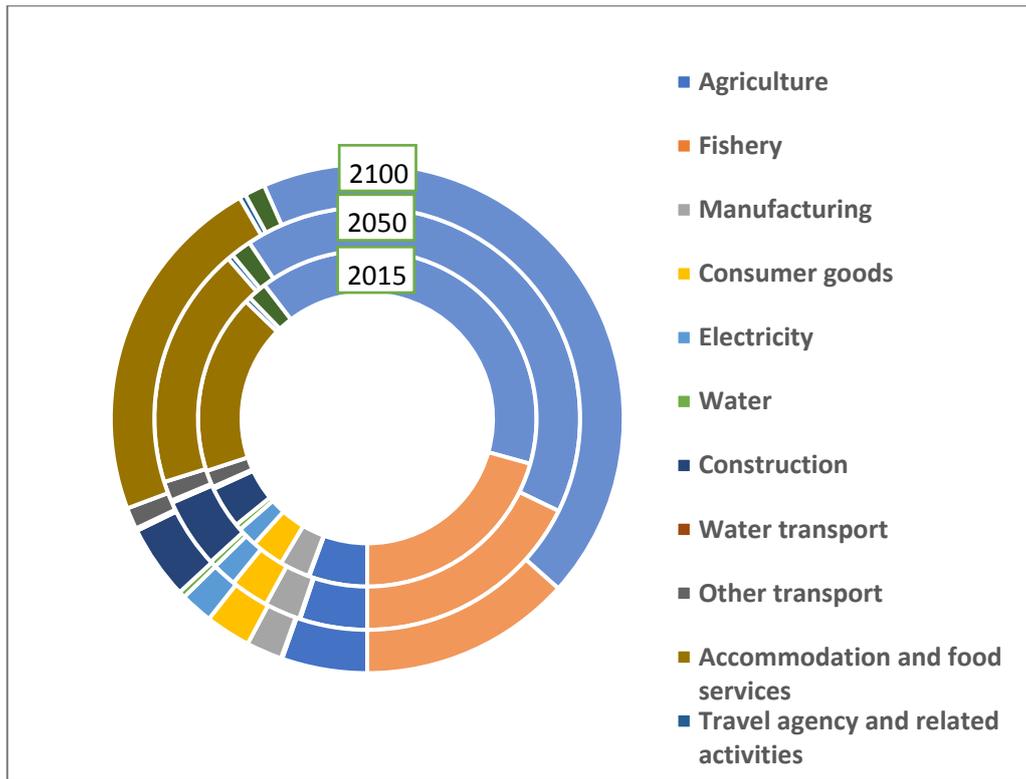


Figure 10: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Crete in 2015, 2050 and 2100.

Source: Deliverable [Report D6.2](#) Modelling socioeconomic impacts for EU islands.

The most important Blue growth industry in Crete is tourism; tourism related expenditures are calculated to 22.9% of the regional GDP in 2015. This share is expected to reach 26.1% in the end of the projection period. Total employment of sectors associated with tourism increases by 18.1% over the projection period and increase should be largely attributed to tourism as most of their demand is non-domestic. For the rest of the Blue growth sectors, their contribution to GDP is expected to remain stable over the projection period: namely the share of aquaculture will continue to be around 0.1% and that of water transport services around 0.2%.

Table 5: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Crete in 2015-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
<i>Agriculture</i>	5.6%	5.2%	4.9%	4.9%	4.9%	5.0%	5.0%	5.1%	5.3%	5.7%	5.4%
<i>Fisbery</i>	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
<i>Manufacturing</i>	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%	2.3%
<i>Consumer goods</i>	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	3.0%	2.9%
<i>Electricity</i>	1.9%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%
<i>Water</i>	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%



<i>Construction</i>	4.0%	4.5%	5.3%	5.6%	5.8%	5.7%	5.6%	5.3%	5.2%	5.1%	4.7%
<i>Water transport</i>	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
<i>Other transport</i>	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%
<i>Accommodation and food services</i>	17.3%	17.6%	17.7%	17.8%	18.0%	18.2%	18.3%	18.5%	19.0%	19.2%	22.5%
<i>Travel agency and related activities</i>	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
<i>Recreational services</i>	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%
<i>Other market services</i>	39.7%	39.9%	39.9%	40.1%	40.5%	40.9%	41.2%	41.5%	42.1%	42.6%	43.2%
<i>Non-market services</i>	20.7%	20.5%	20.1%	19.6%	19.0%	18.5%	18.2%	17.8%	16.8%	15.8%	13.4%

Source: Deliverable [Report D6.2](#) Modelling socioeconomic impacts for EU islands.

The largest share of exports is attributed to exports of services rather than goods. With respect to trade in goods, agricultural products are significant for the region's trade position, their exports account for 9.3% of total regional exports, as well as the exports of consumer goods industries (mainly of food and beverages) which account for 7.7% of total Cretan exports. Nevertheless, their shares are expected to diminish over the projection period for two reasons: the first one being the small income elasticity for these product categories and the second one is that a largest part of the output of the industry will serve to satisfy domestic demand. With respect to the Blue growth sectors, accommodation services record the most significant increase as their export share is expected to reach approximately 37% of total regional exports (from around 30% in 2015).

Table 6: The tourism industry as % of GDP in Crete in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Tourism	22.9%	22.7%	22.6%	22.4%	22.6%	22.7%	22.7%	22.8%	23.2%	23.5%

Source: Deliverable [Report D6.2](#) Modelling socioeconomic impacts for EU islands.

2.3 Employment

The service-led economic growth brings positive effects to the labor market with unemployment projected to fall from 24.3% in 2015 to more sustainable levels until 2050. The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labor intensity of the sector. The biggest employing sectors are the market, non-market services, accommodation and food services as well as agriculture. Employment in agriculture is expected to decrease over the period examined mainly due to the adoption of more efficient cultivation methods and the automation of agricultural production. The construction sector records significant increase until the mid-century due to the foreseen investment projects and the higher investments associated with the tourism industry. Tourism is largest employer of the Blue growth sectors under analysis,



particularly due to the high labor intensity of accommodation and food services. Water transport employs a only small share of total and thus has the lowest contribution among the Blue growth sectors.

Table 7: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Crete in 2020-2100.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	24.3%	20.1%	18.7%	17.1%	16.5%	14.3%	11.6%	9.9%	8.6%	8.6%	8.6%

Source: Own calculations.

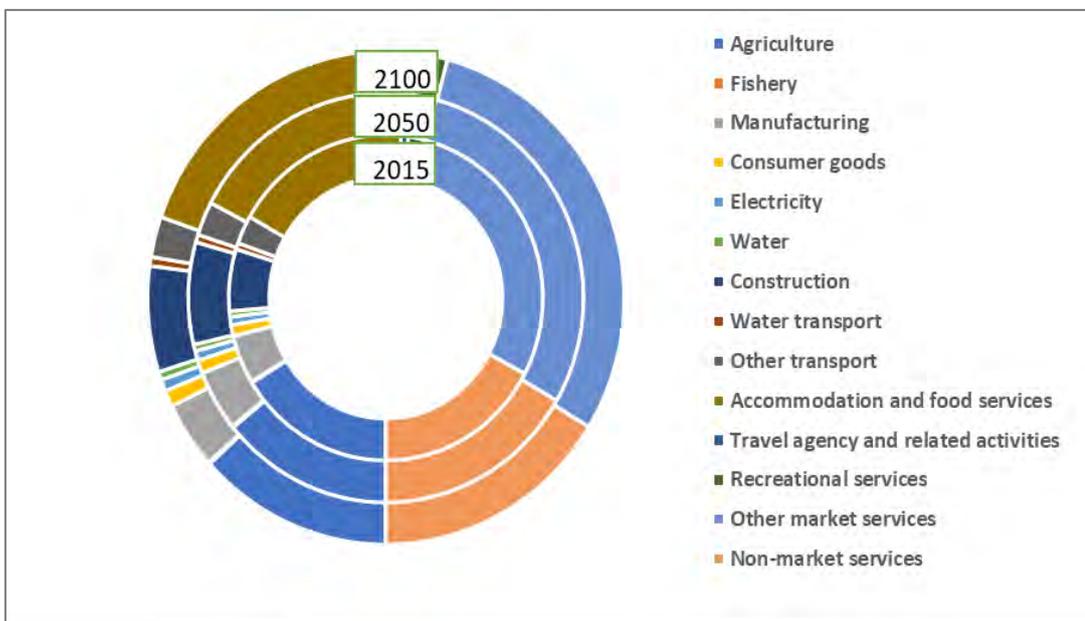


Figure 11: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Crete in 2015, 2050, 2100.

Source: Deliverable [Report D6.2](#) Modelling socioeconomic impacts for EU islands.

3 Climate change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for Crete is EURO-CORDEX ensemble even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.



All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

- **Extreme flood level (95th percentile of flood level averaged)**

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runoff).

In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The values in that scenario is 116.54 cm in Crete.

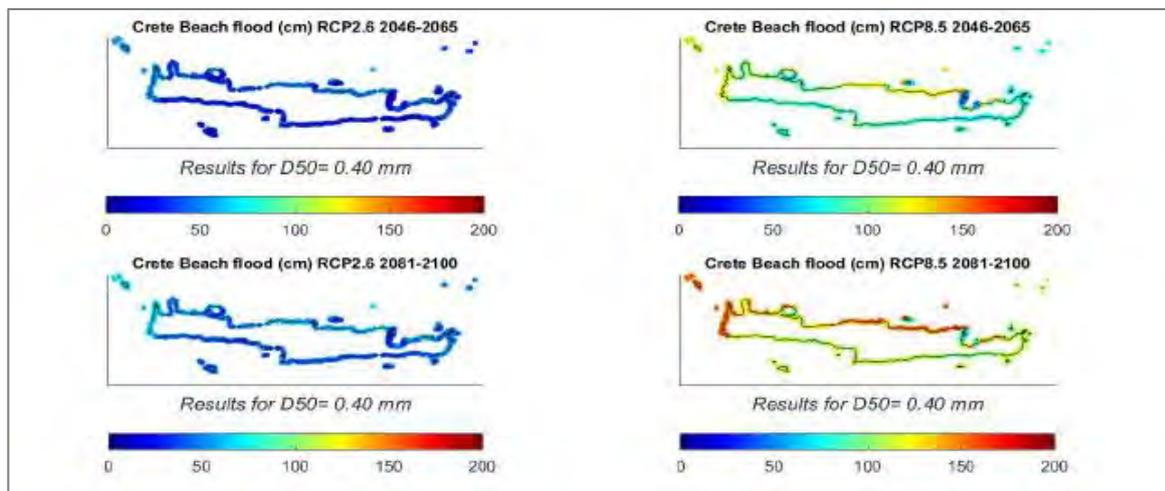


Figure 12: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cml) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: [D4.4d Report](#) on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~38% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~68% under scenario RCP8.5.



BEACH REDUCTION

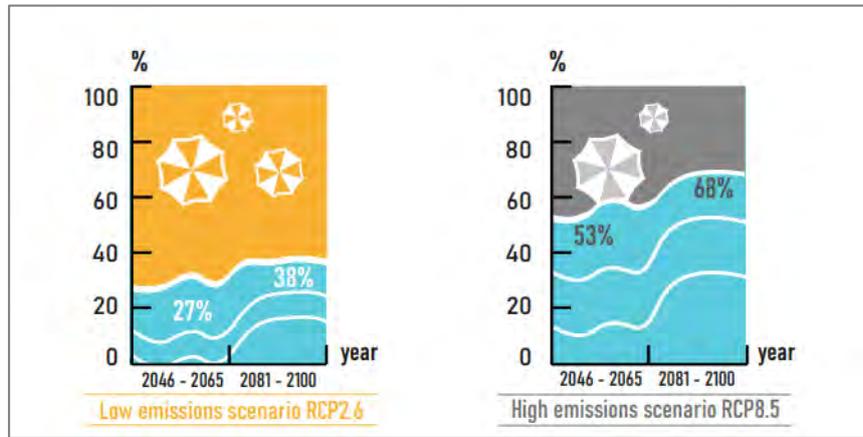


Figure 13: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches.

Seagrass evolution

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, *etc.* Therefore, the state of the seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. That is, large well-preserved extensions of seagrasses lead to a better coastal marine environment which in turn is more resilient in front of hazards.

Our results suggest that no seagrass losses are expected for the *Posidonia* located in the coasts of Crete island.



SEAGRASS EVOLUTION
(*Posidonia*)

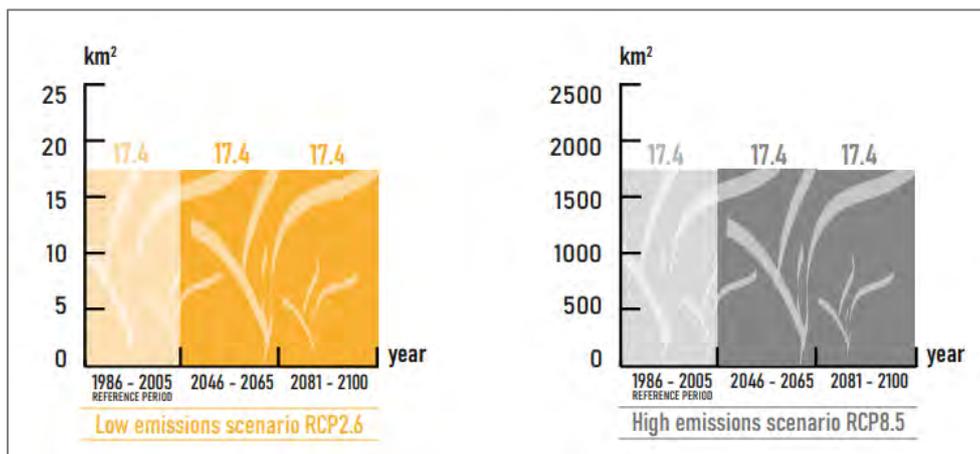


Figure 14: Seagrass evolution.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4e](#) Report on estimated seagrass density

Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases **Vector Suitability Index for Aedes Albopictus (Asian Tiger Mosquito)**

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. In the framework of SOCLIMPACT we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia; however, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various encephalitides (Proestos *et al.* 2015).

The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos *et al.* (2015) has been employed to estimate the regional habitat suitability maps. This is based on extending previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock *et al.* 2013; Proestos *et al.*, 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge.

For the Greek island of Crete, the environmental conditions are also favorable for the establishment of *Aedes Albopictus*. Future regional simulations under RCP2.6 suggest a small increase in the values of HSI. In agreement with the future trends for Cyprus, pathway RCP8.5 implies a decrease in the habitat suitability. This is more evident in the central inland regions and in the southwest parts of the island.

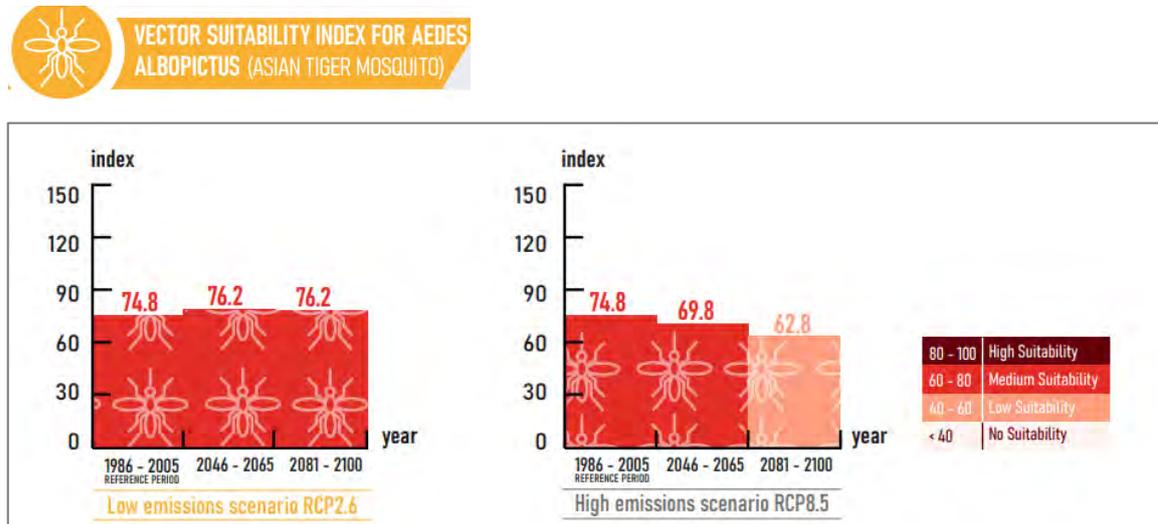


Figure 15: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colors indicate increases while blue colors indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability].

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.3](#)

Forest Weather Index (FWI)

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods. For Crete, N=78 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs.

The fire danger in Crete is among the highest in the Mediterranean. For the present climate, the most areas of the island pertain to the medium fire danger classification. It seems that under RCP2.6, the index increases by almost 10% at the middle of the century, while this increase is halted towards the end of the century. On the other hand, under RCP8.5 the fire danger increases substantially, reaching a 30% increase at the end of the century, while there are areas in the central and southern parts of the island that cross over into very high fire danger.

Regarding uncertainty, we find that under RCP2.6 the standard deviation decreased in most areas towards the end of the century, indicating the model projections for the FWI meet for this scenario, while the opposite is found for RCP8.5, where the uncertainty is higher at the end of the century.

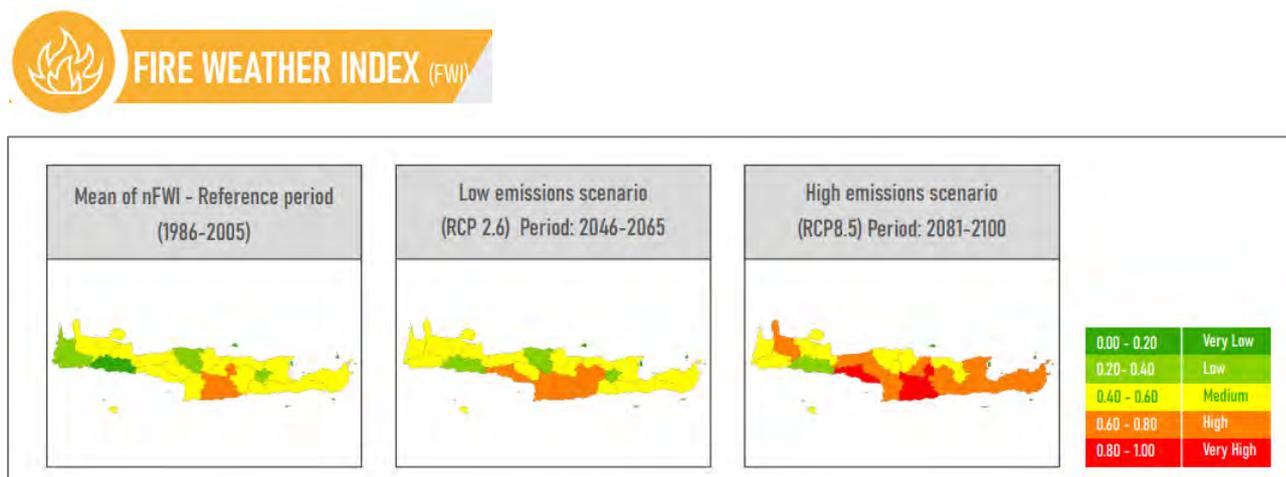


Figure 16: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the class of risk (Mediterranean study)

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4c](#) Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure



Humidex

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Crete, N=78 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. From one month in the present climate and 1.5 month in the mid-century for both scenarios, Crete will have 3,5 months with discomfort conditions by the end of the century under RCP8.5.

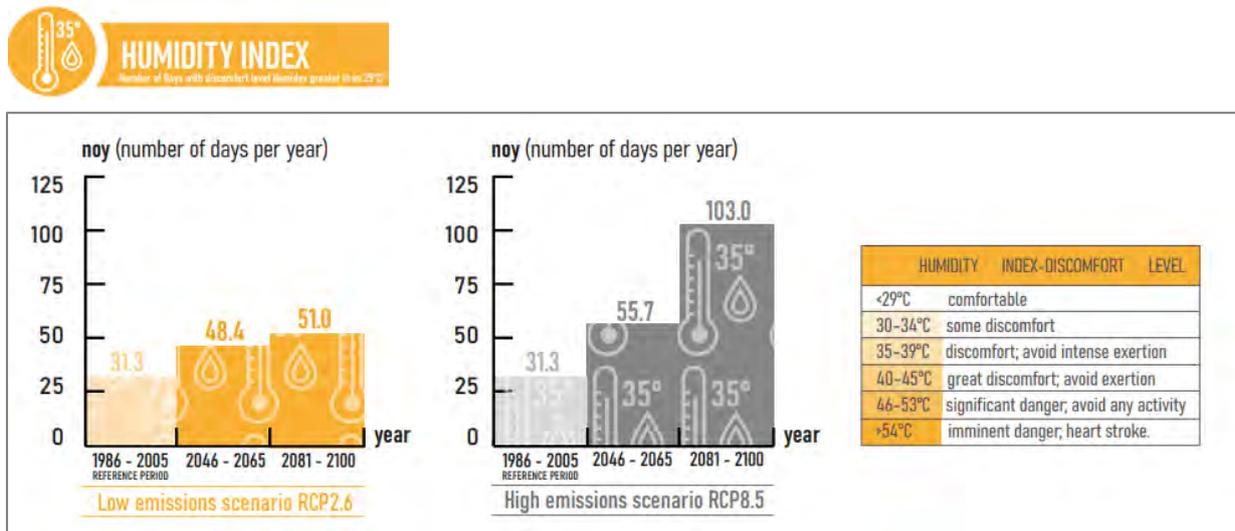


Figure 17: Humidex. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.2 Aquaculture

No information was provided by climate models, given the lack of uncertainty of data at regional level

3.3 Energy

Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile - $T98p$

The $T98p$ is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005.

For Crete, N=78 grid cells were retained from the models domain. The ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RCPs. It is found that $T98p$ is about 7% during RCP2.6 towards mid-century and slightly decreases at the end of the century, while for RCP8.5



more than one fifth of the year will exhibit temperatures above the 98th percentile by the end of the century. The coastal grid cells, mainly in the north, are more affected by the temperatures increase compared to the inland grid cells.

EXTREME TEMPERATURES
(Percentage of days per year when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$)

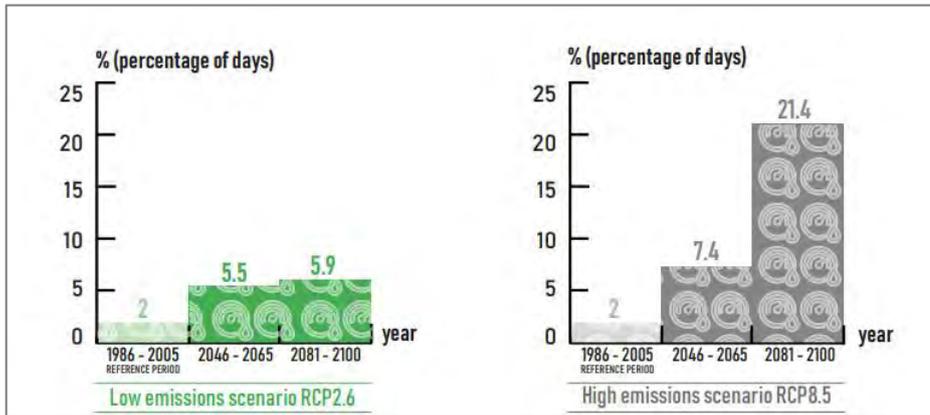


Figure 18: Percentage of days when $T > 98\text{th percentile}$. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud *et al.*, 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Photovoltaic energy productivity

The ensemble mean value in photovoltaic productivity show spatial differences mostly over the Crete Island, which probably is due to its complex orography. That can be also appreciated in mean changes maps, where the sign of changes in some regions over land are positive, in contrast with the mean value of the whole domain (not shown).

For the RCP8.5 scenario, changes are bigger, with the same pattern: more negative on average over sea than over land but still under 5% with respect to the control period.



The small magnitude of the projected changes is in line with the study of Panagea *et al.* (2014), in which where a small increase in simulated photovoltaic production was projected over Crete in simulations for SRES A1B emissions scenario. In that study, the increase in surface solar radiation was partly compensated by the increase in projected temperature.

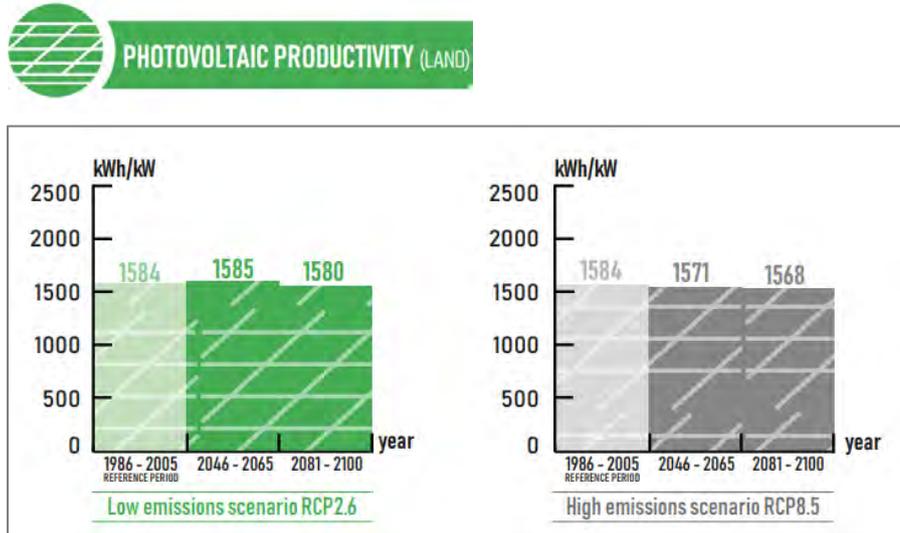


Figure 19: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.

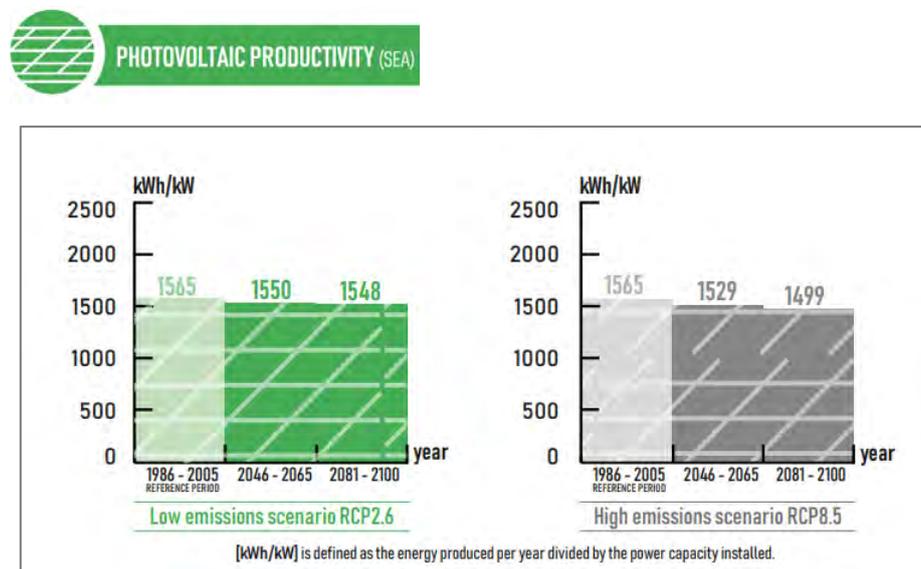


Figure 20: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.

Wind energy productivity

Important regional differences can be observed, which could be related to the complex orography of Crete. Within this complex context, increases of W_{prod} tend to prevail in the



SOCLIMPACT

2046-2065 period for both RCP2.6 and RCP8.5. On the contrary, W_{prod} decreases tend are spatially more extended in the 2081-2100 period. RCP8.5 scenario shows a complex pattern of maxima and minima, with decreases prevailing to the south and northwest of the island, and maxima located inland. The maximum relative change is about 6% in spatial average over land for mid-century period in RCP2.6.

WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

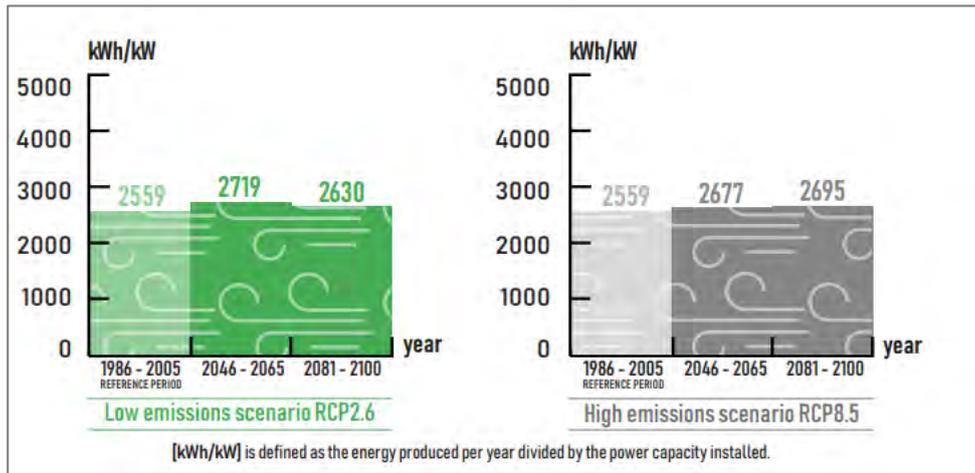


Figure 21: Wind energy productivity (land). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

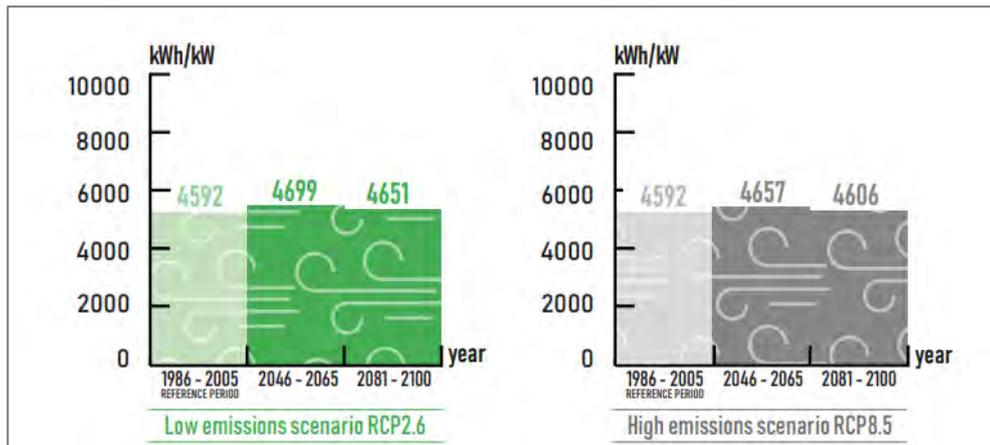


Figure 22: Wind energy productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using MENA-CORDEX.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Changes in wind productivity are generally consistent with projected changes in wind productivity for the different scenarios and time periods. Addressing PV droughts, both their frequency in the control period and their future changes are smaller than for wind droughts. We observe that in the control period, the northwest of the island is more prone to experience PV droughts (not shown). Projected changes in the frequency of severe PV droughts are almost zero. The impact of combining PV and wind energy is really positive for severe droughts, as their frequency is much smaller than for wind energy alone.

 **ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)**

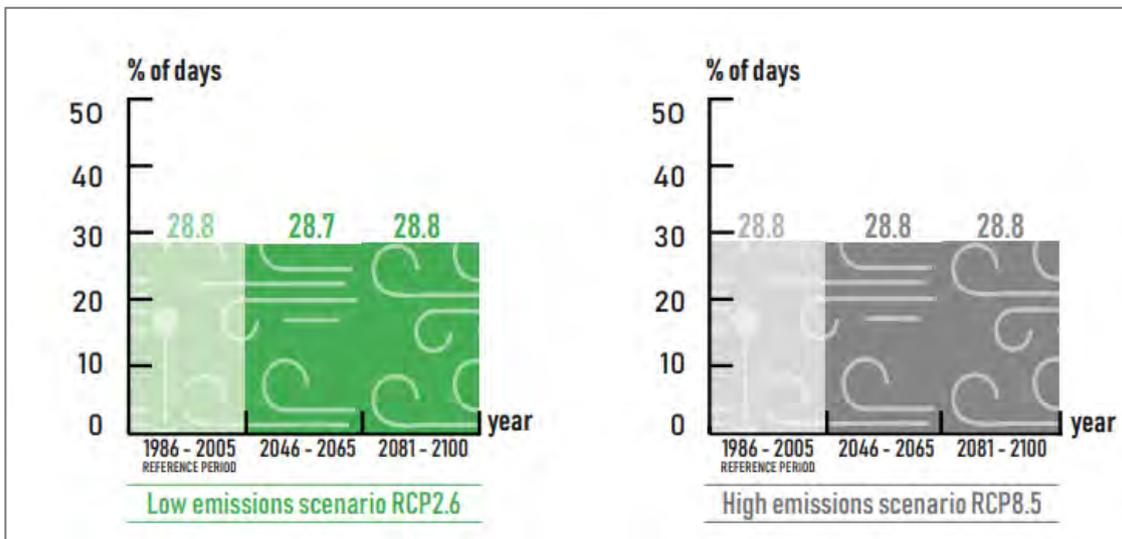


Figure 23: Wind energy productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

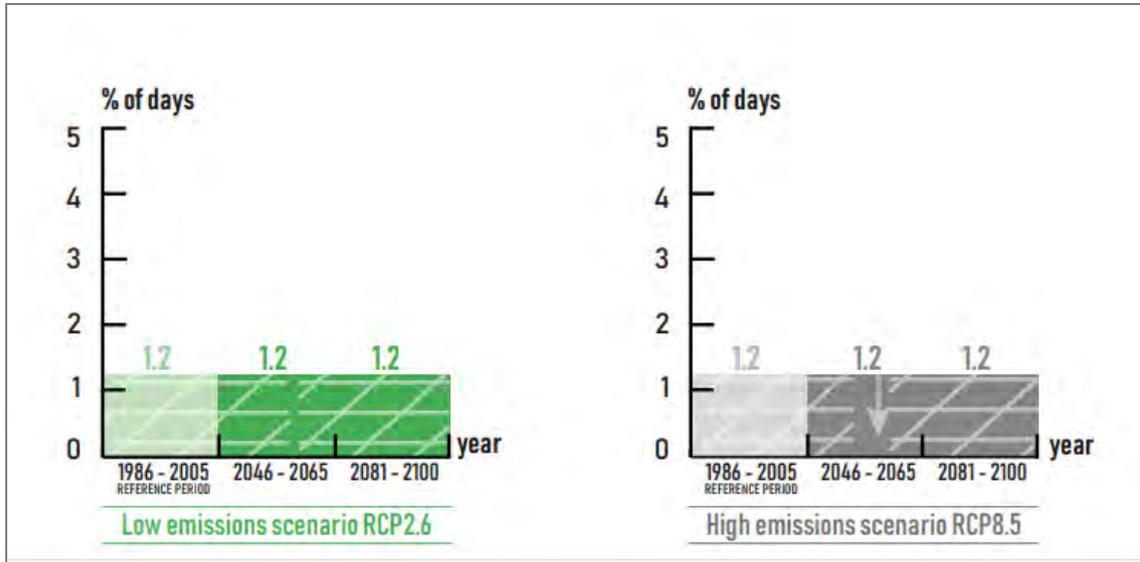


Figure 24: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

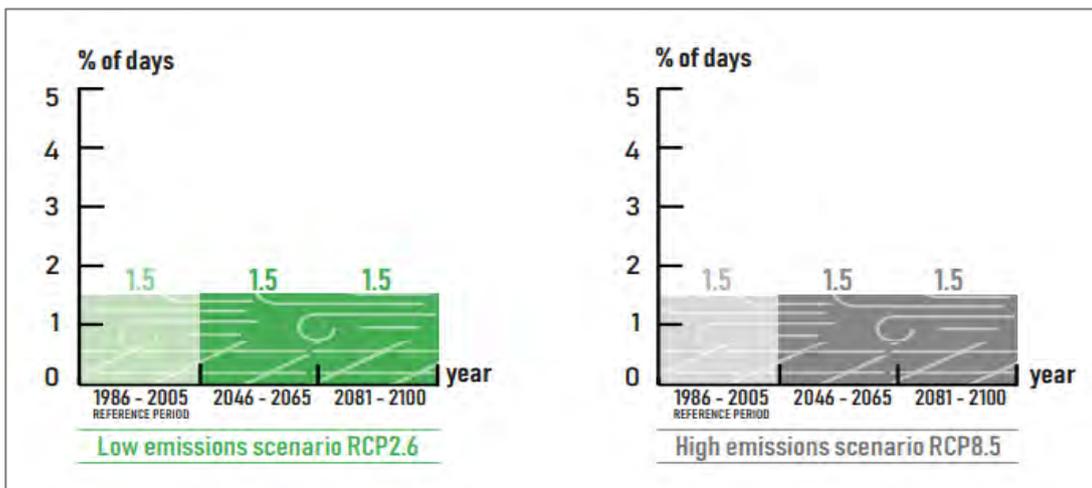


Figure 25: Wind and Photovoltaic (PV) productivity-COMBINED. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing s the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room.

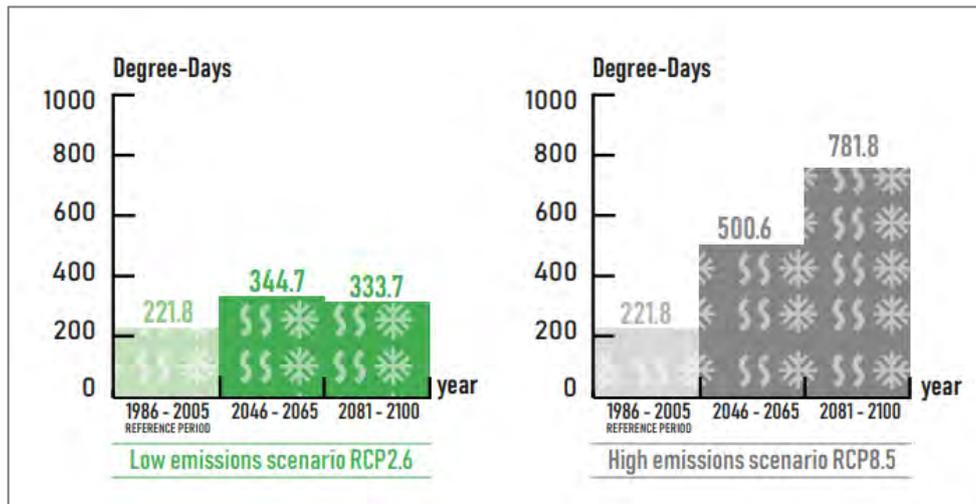


Figure 26: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

Available water: Standardized Precipitation Index

This index is used as an indication of water availability.

For Crete, only some regions of the north-east of the island are expected to be affected under RCP2.6 and exceed the “dry” conditions threshold. Under the business-as-usual RCP8.5 forcing, parts of the island are expected to experience extreme dry conditions that will be evident even from the mid-21st century. Mild changes are projected under RCP2.6, while under the business-as-usual scenario the whole island is expected to be severely affected by meteorological droughts.

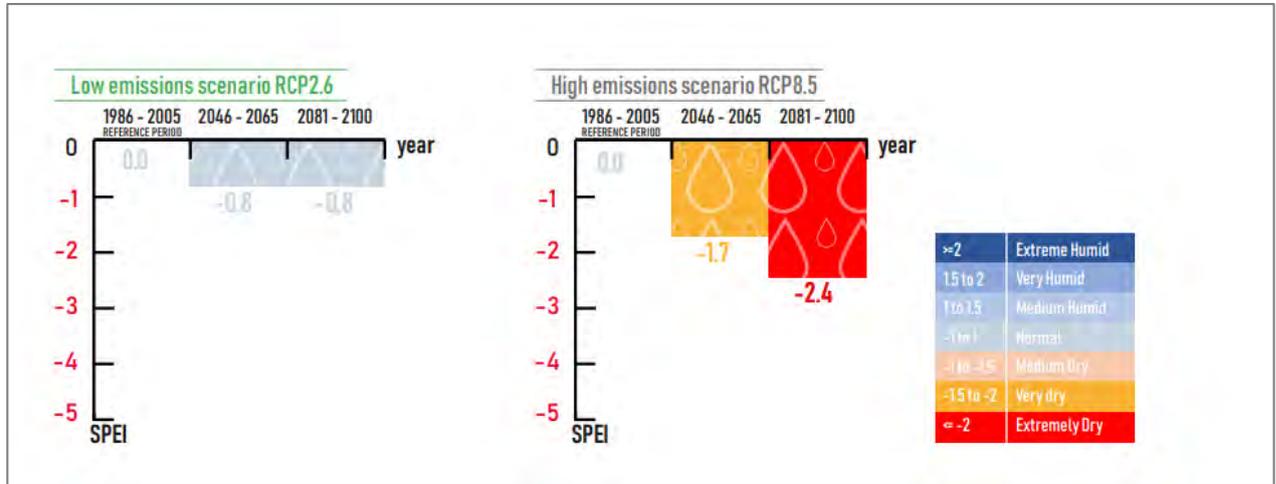


Figure 27: Ensemble mean values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

3.4 Maritime Transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Crete, the SLR ranges from 28, 90 cm (RCP2.6) to 57.81 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.

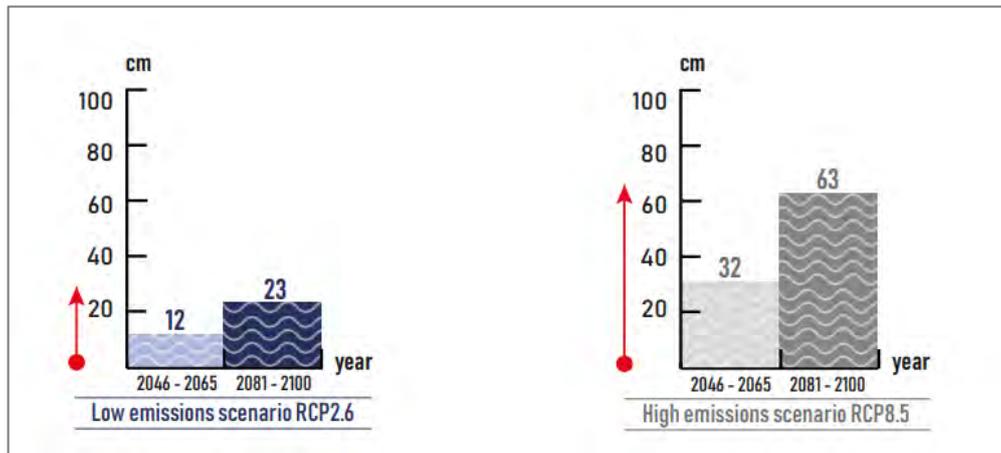


Figure 28: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides.

To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello *et al.* (2016). This ensemble consists on 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at $1/4^\circ$ of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations. The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels. For Crete, the results show a very low or even non-existent decrease except for RCP8.5 at the end of the century (-13%).

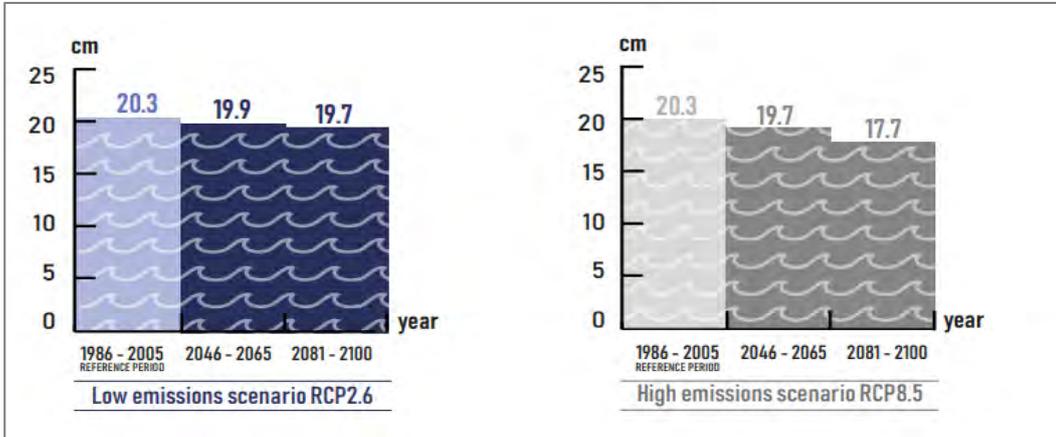


Figure 29: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5 and (relative change in %).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Frequency of extreme high winds (Wind Extremity Index – NWIX98)

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number increases for both scenarios in both horizons. Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases under RCP8.5. with a more significant magnitude for RCP 8.5.

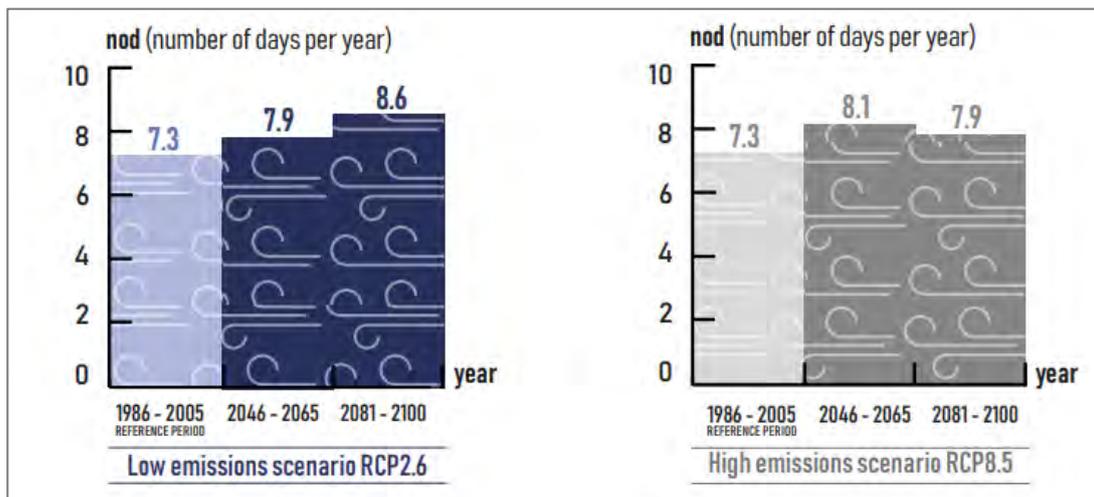


Figure 30: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map along the south coast and an increase along the north coast.

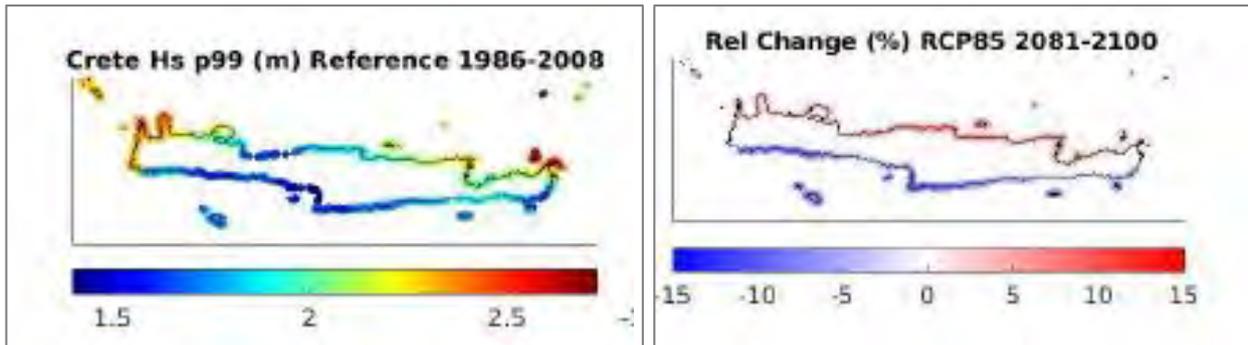


Figure 31: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels



WAVES EXTREME
99th percentile of significant wave height averaged

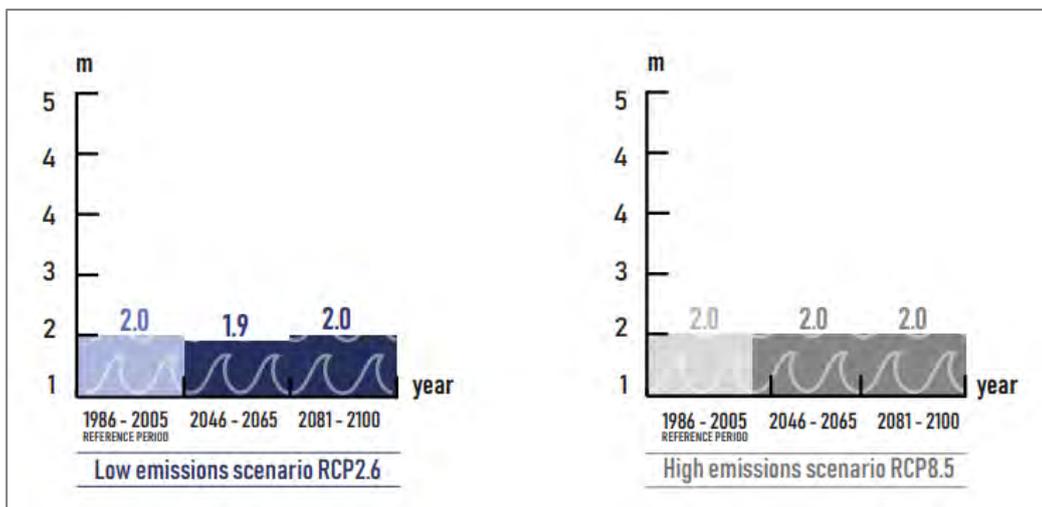


Figure 32: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels



4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,*
- ii) *Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress*
- iii) *Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas*

For the first two, the AHP method was employed. This methodology is ideal to respond to the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators. By the side of shadows, this method requires quite specific data that wasn't able to collect for some islands. The AHP method also requires "values" for experts to compare.

More specifically, for the first IC the data is needed for "Tourist Arrivals" and "Vulnerable Groups" indicators, which is regards the Exposure of people to heatwaves for the hottest period, such as:

- Number of tourist arrivals per month for the past 5 years.
- Number of tourists per month aged 14 and under for the past 5 years
- Number of tourists per month aged 65 and over for the past 5 years
- Percentage of tourist activities that are sensitive to heatwaves (such as hiking, etc.).
- Number of beds available in medical facilities per 100,000 inhabitants.

If, for example, an island gets a lot of tourists, but most of them just spend their time by the beach, then the island is not so much at risk of losing tourists because when they visit they'll be by the beach and able to cool down. On the other hand, if almost all the tourists visit the island for hiking, but it gets too hot, then the island could be at risk since some may change their minds and visit somewhere else with a moderate climate and do their hiking there. Additionally, it is necessary to investigate how well an island is equipped with dealing with patients who suffer from a heatwave-related episode.

For the second IC, the data collected was:

- Surface of marine Phanerogams & Phanerogams' reduction due to heat: Surface, in km²; and expected % of surface loss for RCP8.5 distant future.
- Number of divers: Number of tourists practising Diving at the destination.
- Products substitution capacity: capacity to derive tourist demand to non-marine habitat-based activities.
- Seagrass removal: capacity to remove dead seagrass lying on beaches.
- Sea water pollution: quality of management of inshore and offshore sewages.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands. Finally, the third IC Provided some results for the case of Crete which are summarized hereafter.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas



SOCLIMPACT

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2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement
No776661



Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “**Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination**”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, **Crete**, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1)). For each of these components of the theoretical IC (figure, step 2), several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

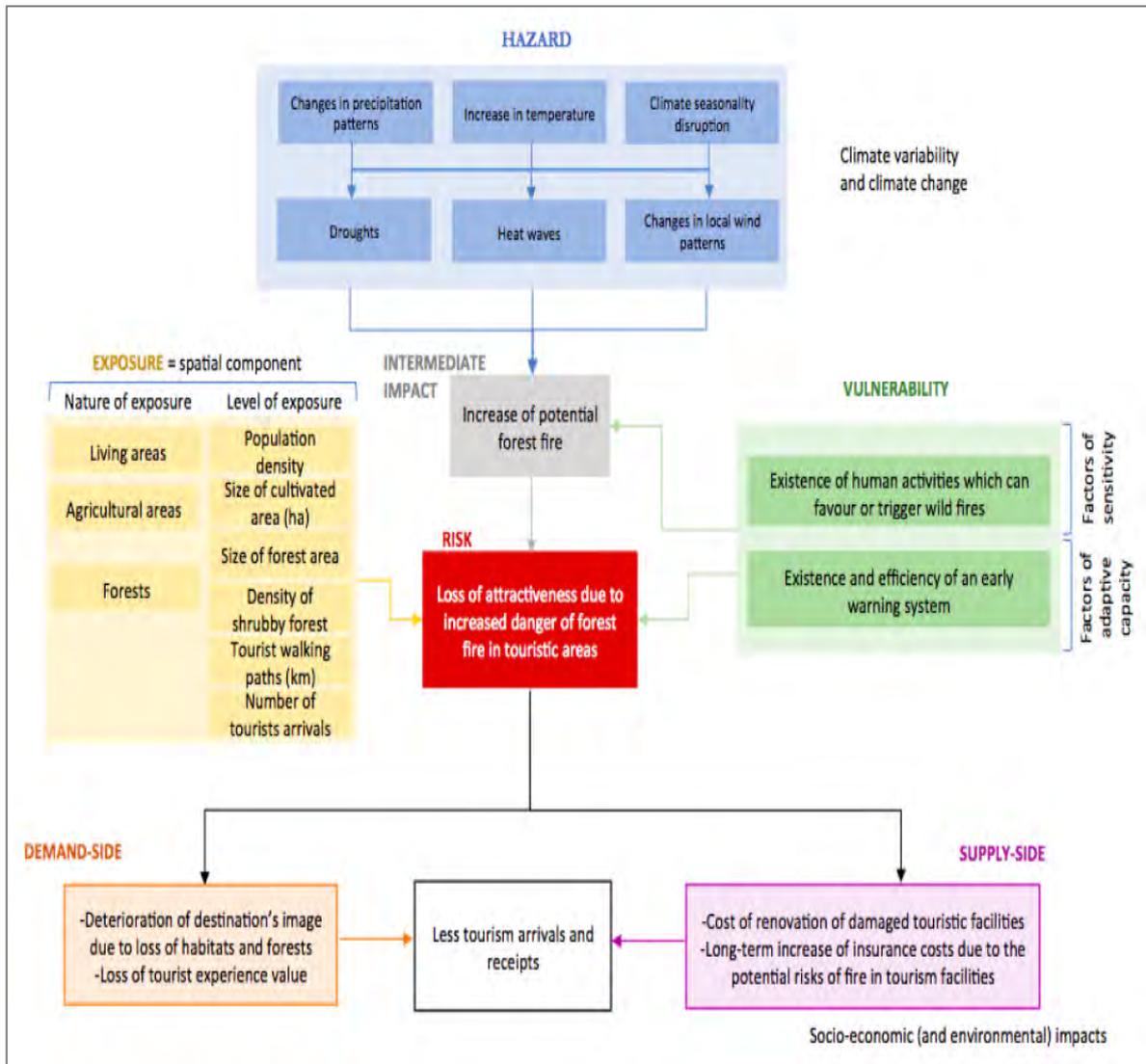


Figure 33: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

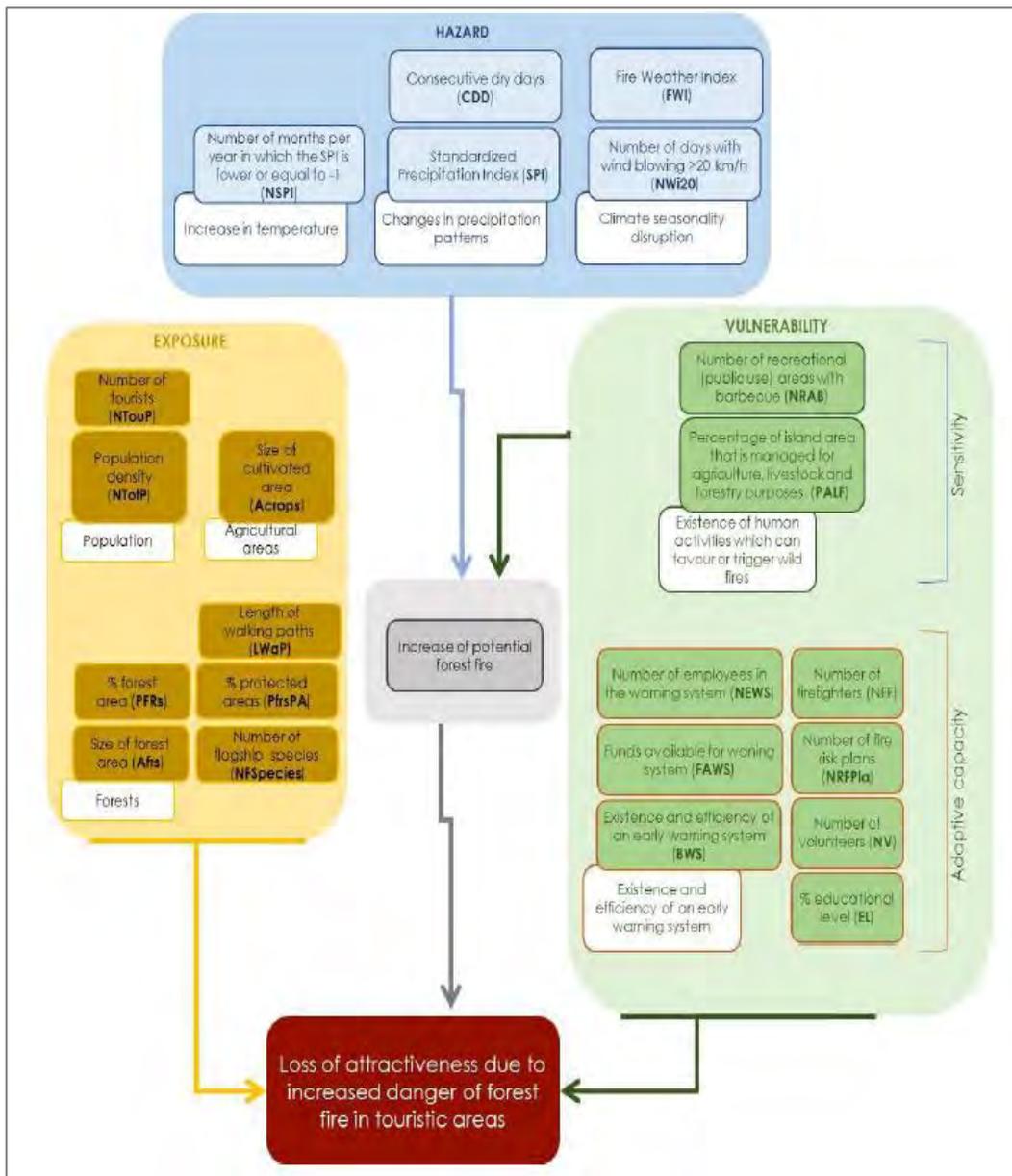


Figure 34: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.3. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

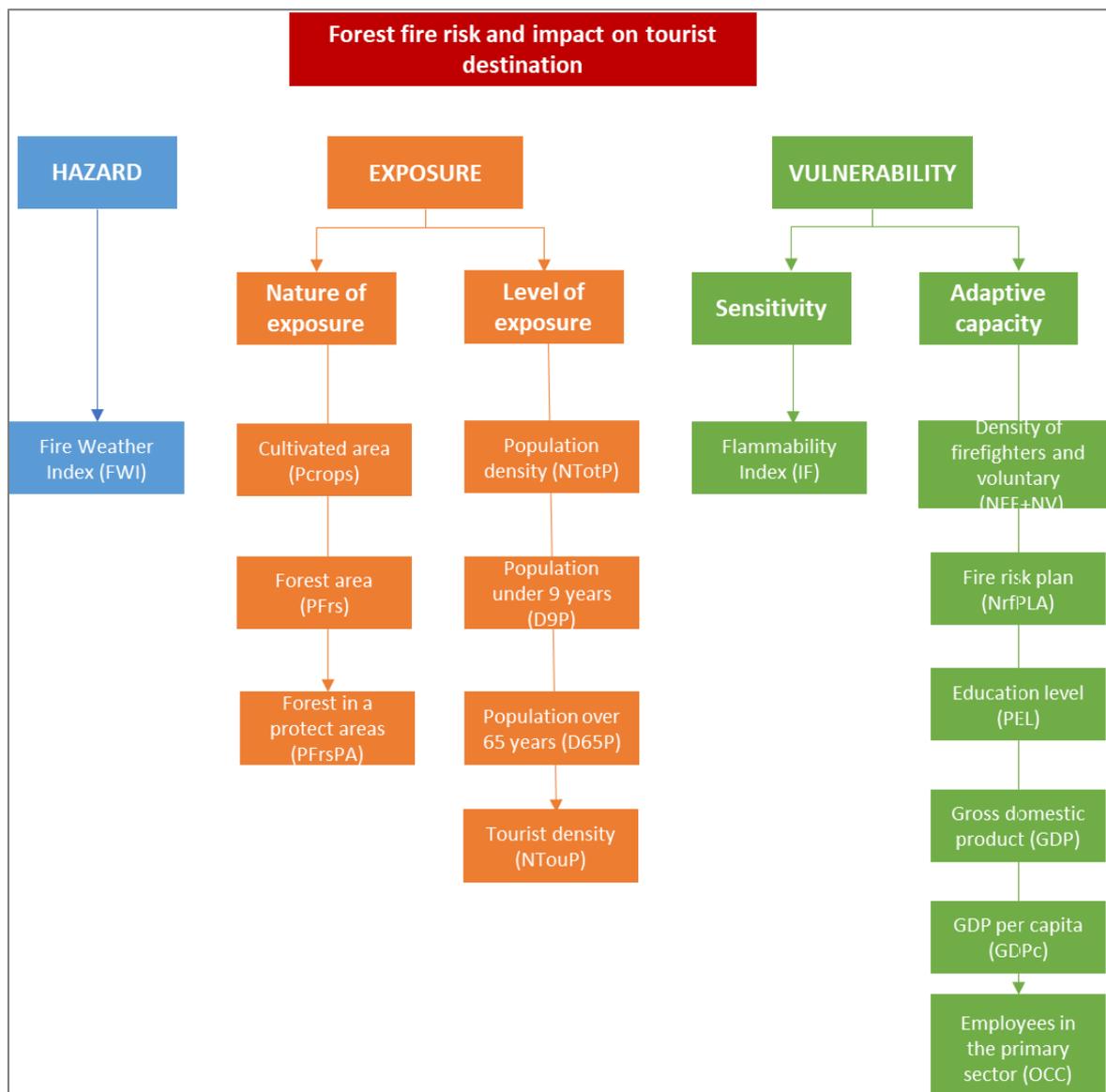


Figure 35: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).



The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from **Crete** which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected.

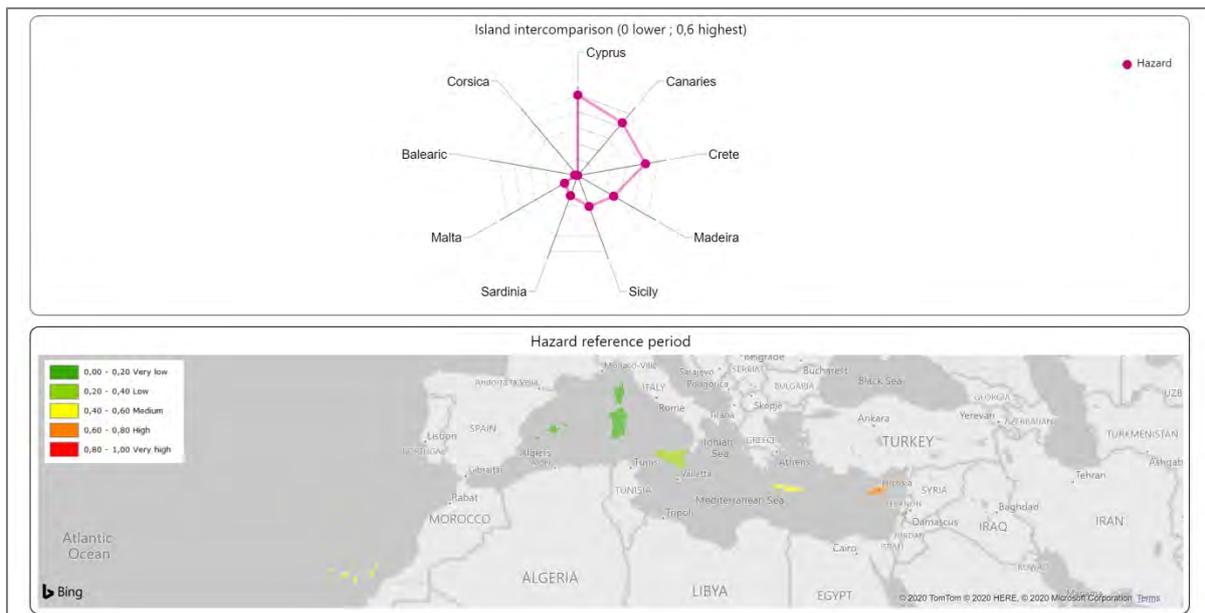


Figure 36: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

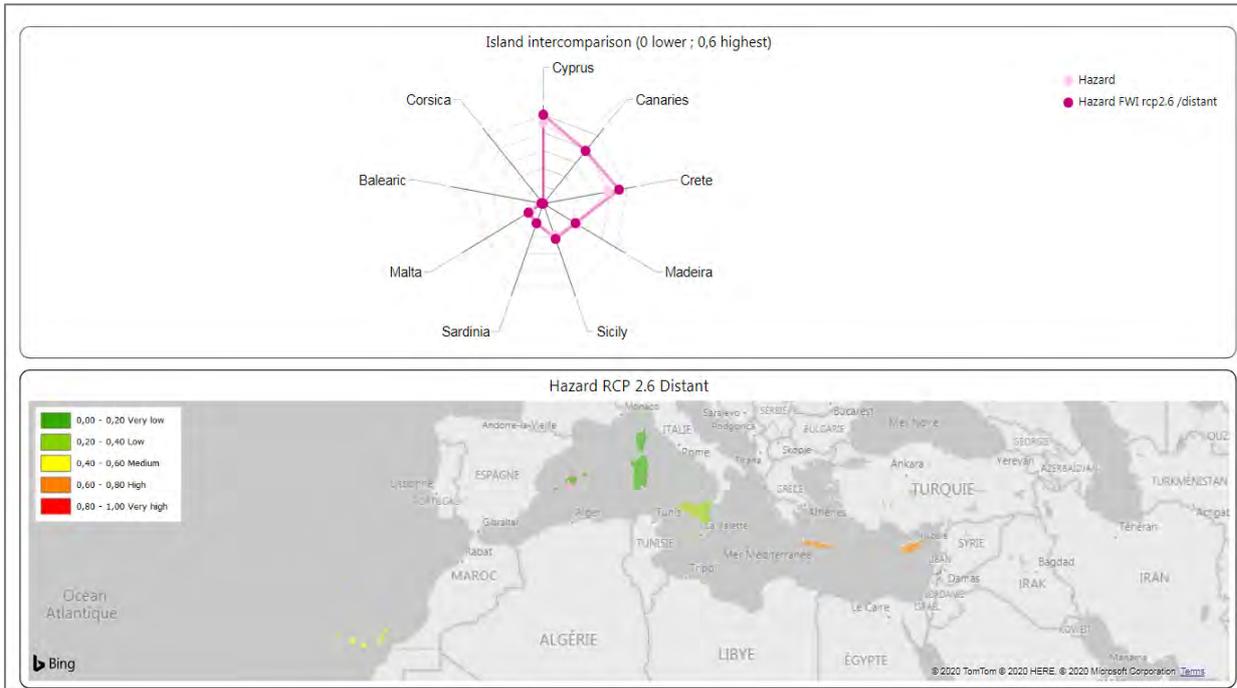


Figure 37: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comperhensive approach for policy makers

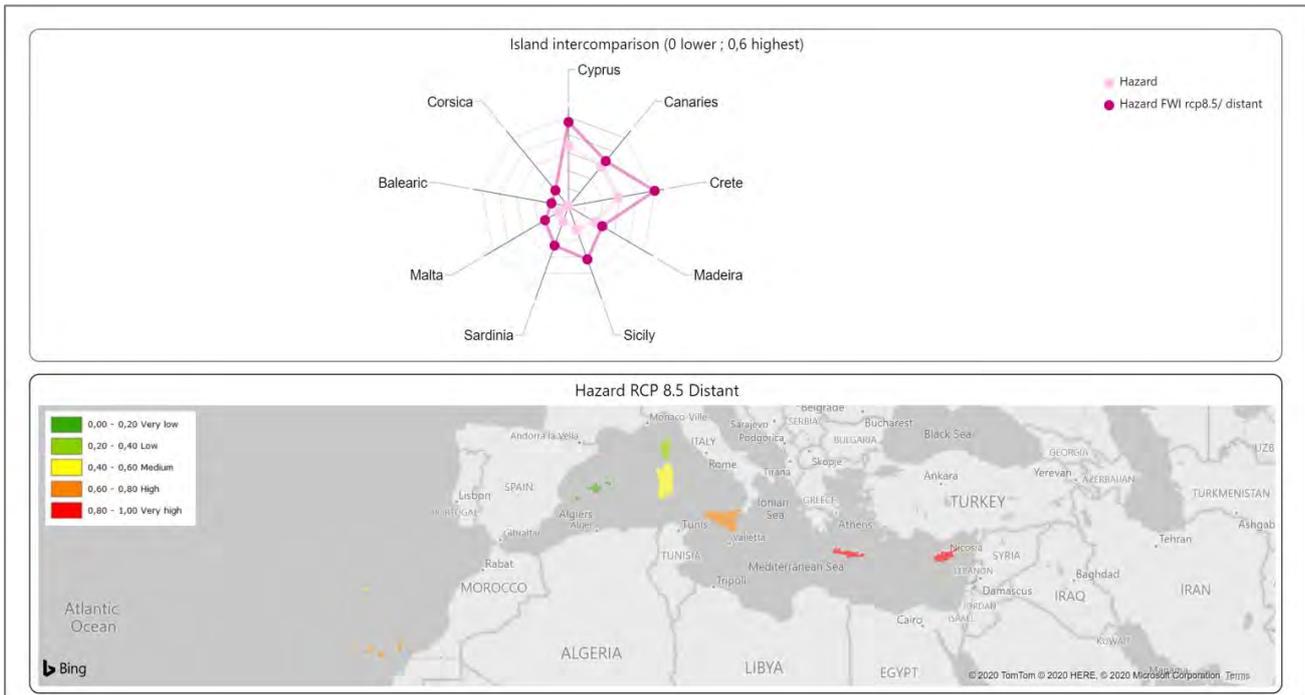


Figure 38: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comperhensive approach for policy makers



Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed (high score, Figure) than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, **Crete** and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

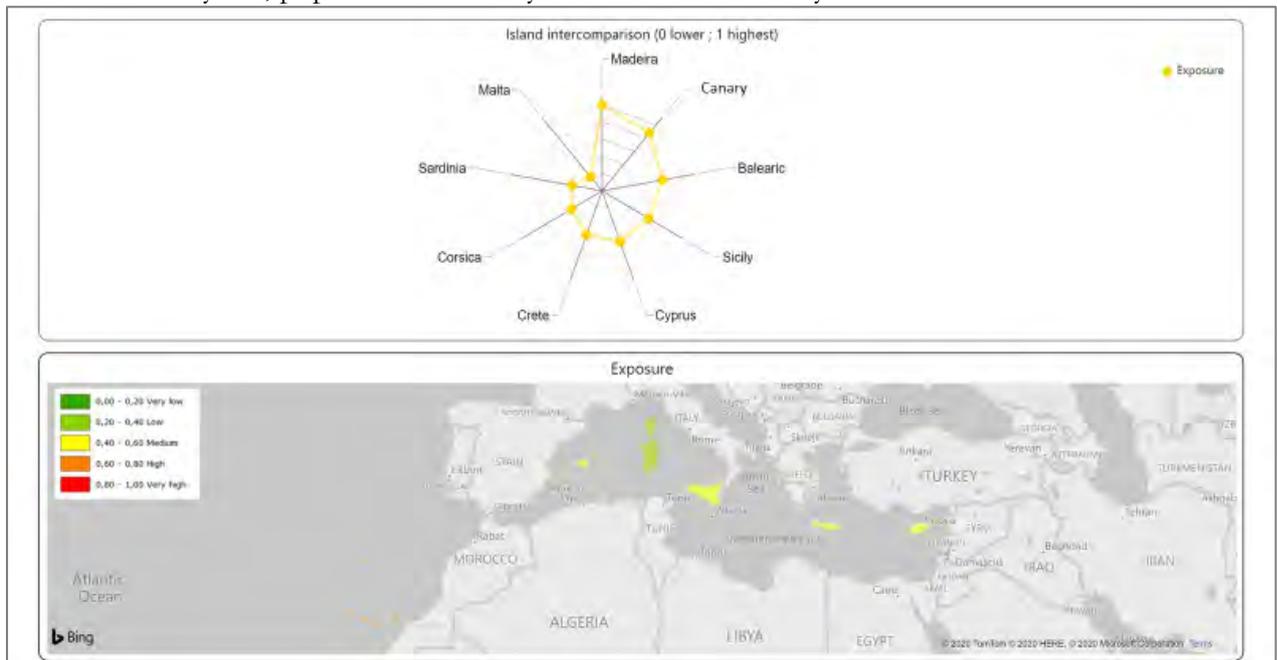


Figure 39: Exposure score (current period) per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

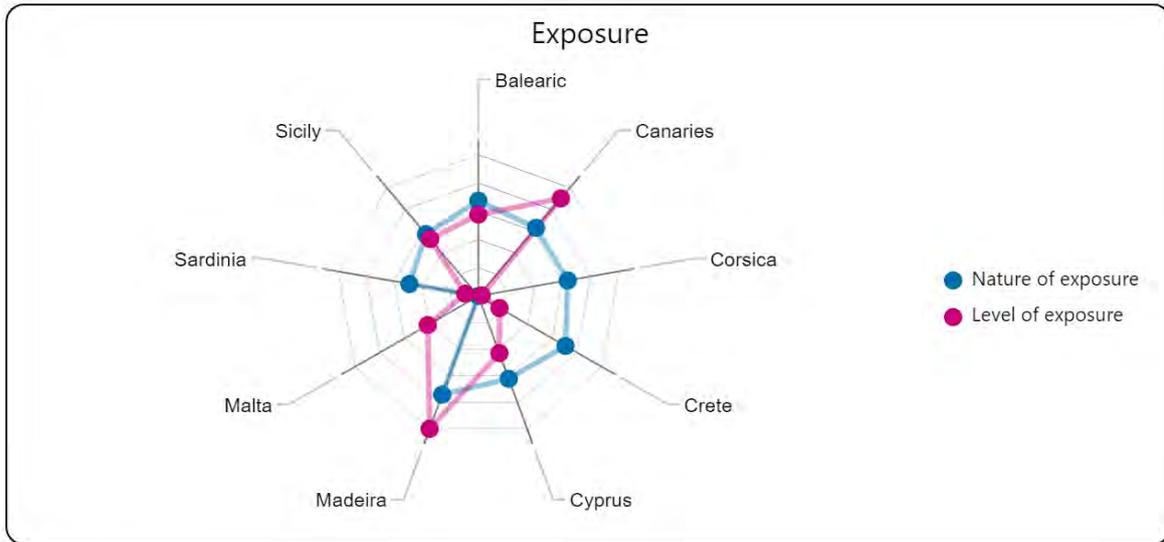


Figure 40: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

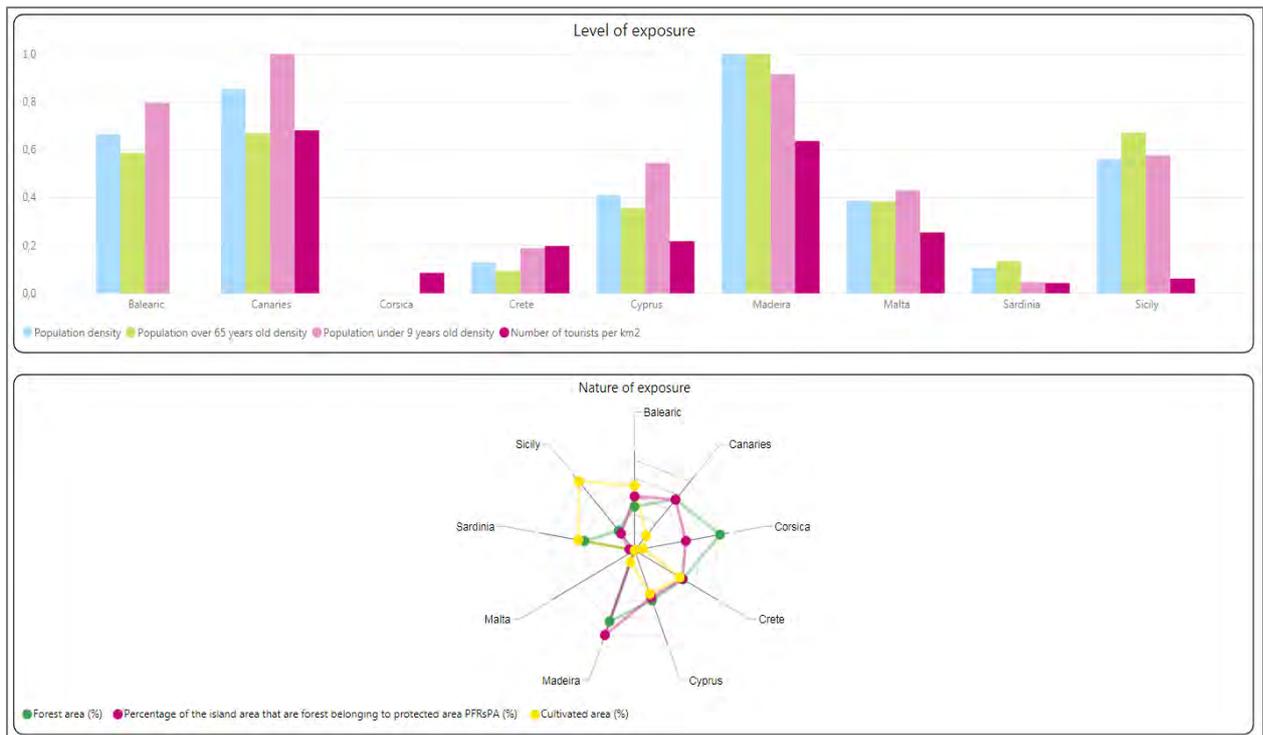


Figure 41: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and **Crete** scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for **Crete**, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

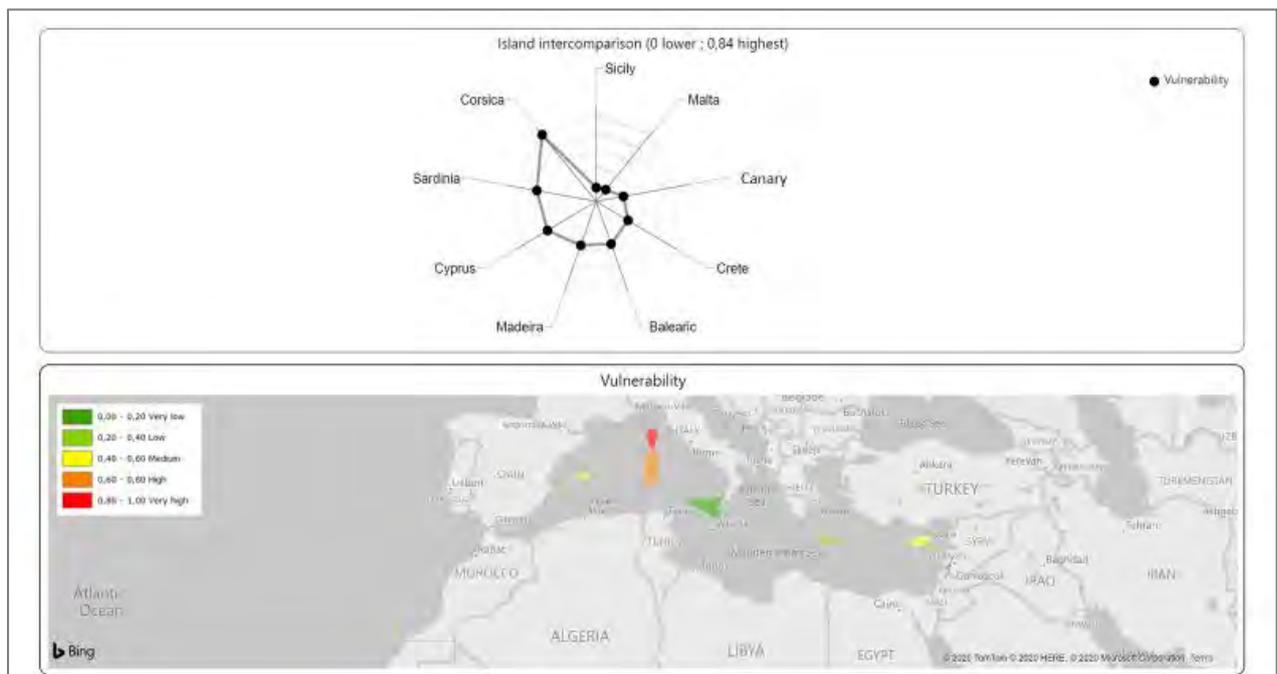


Figure 42: Vulnerability score per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

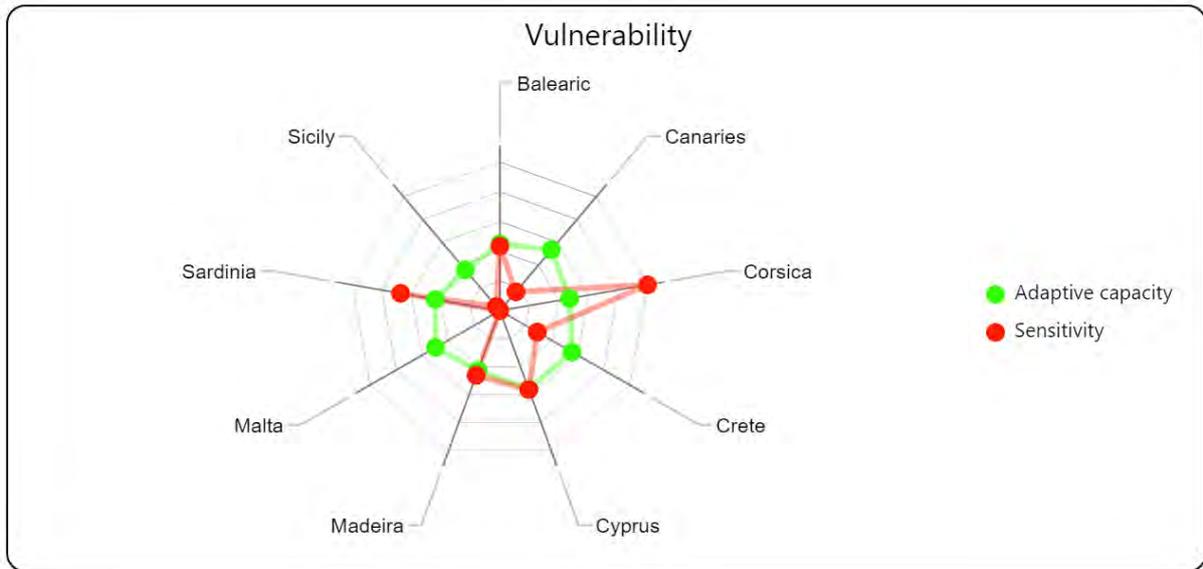


Figure 43: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

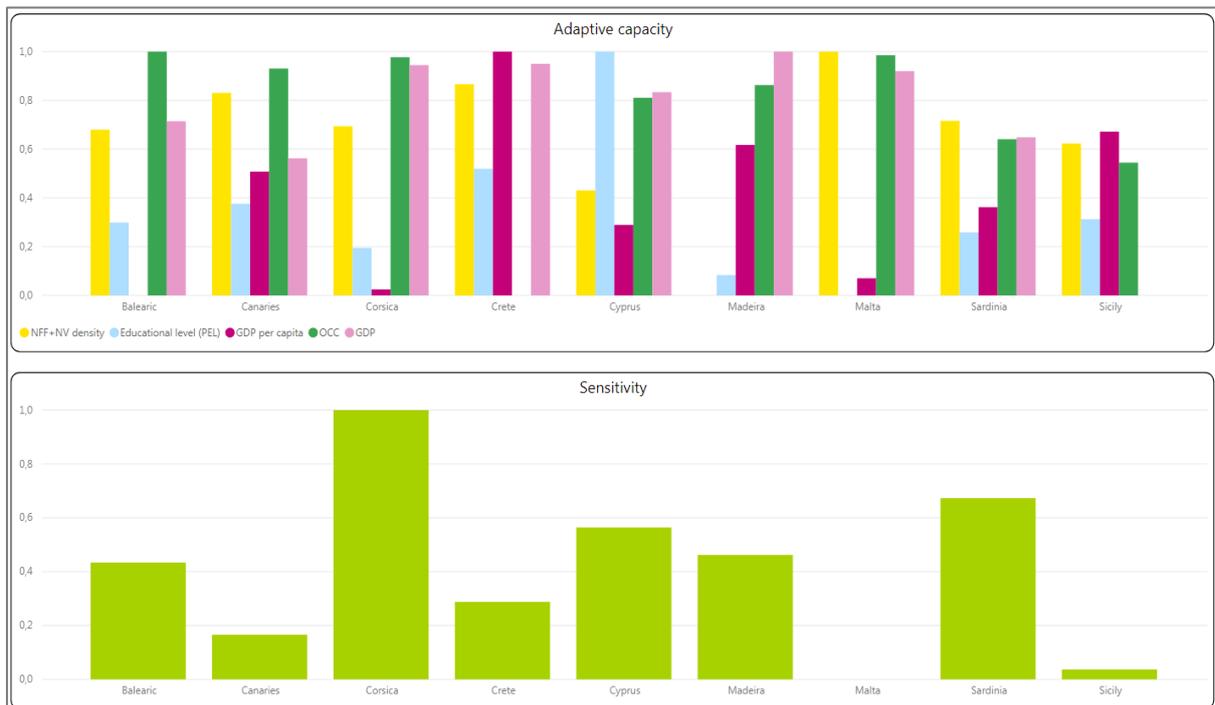


Figure 44: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o **Crete** and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5 (distant future). Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

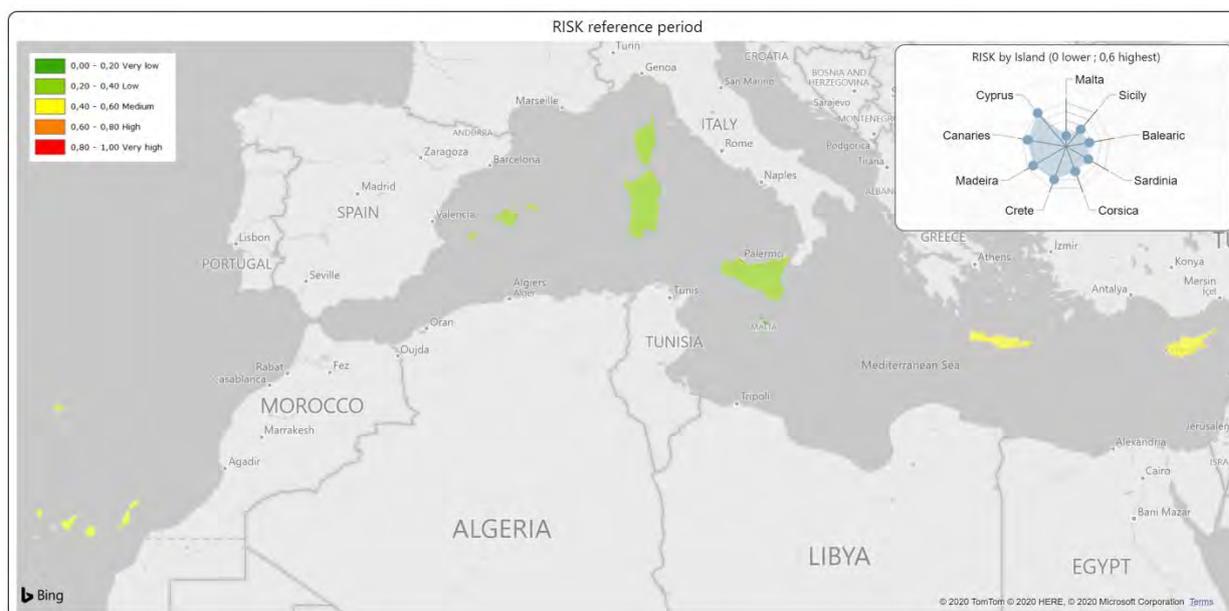


Figure 45: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

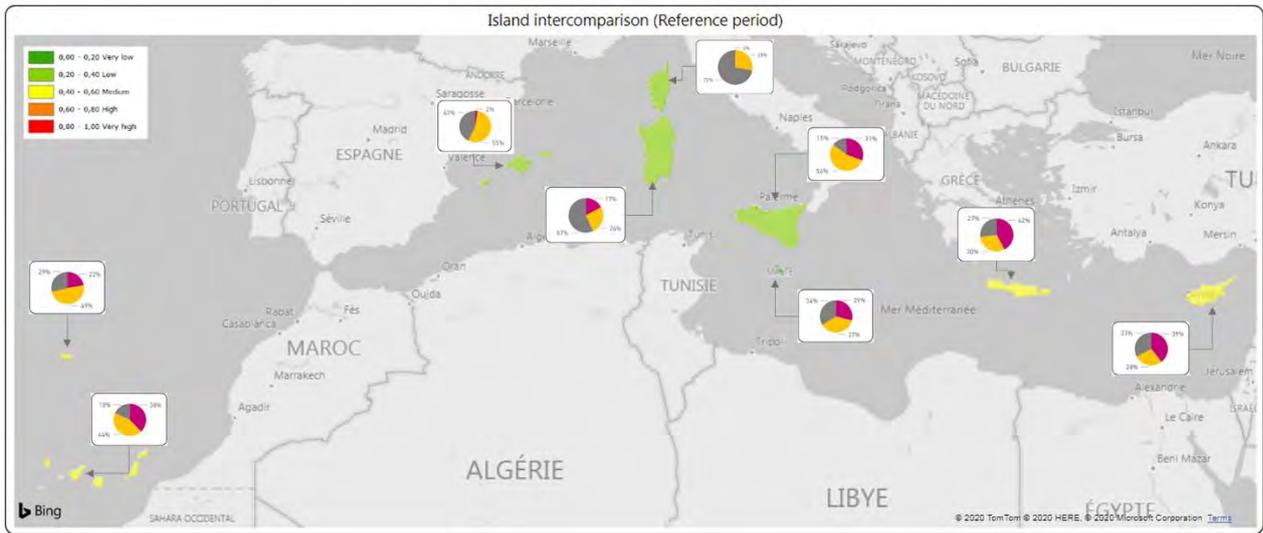


Figure 46: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

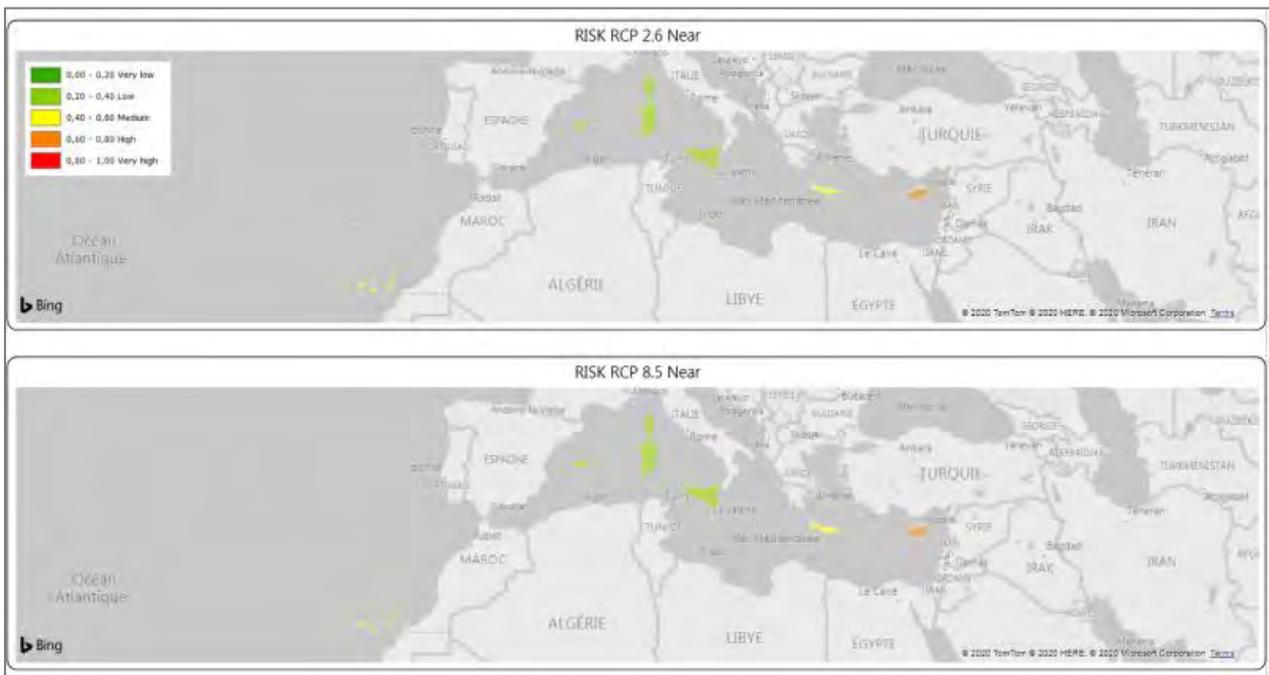


Figure 47: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual),

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

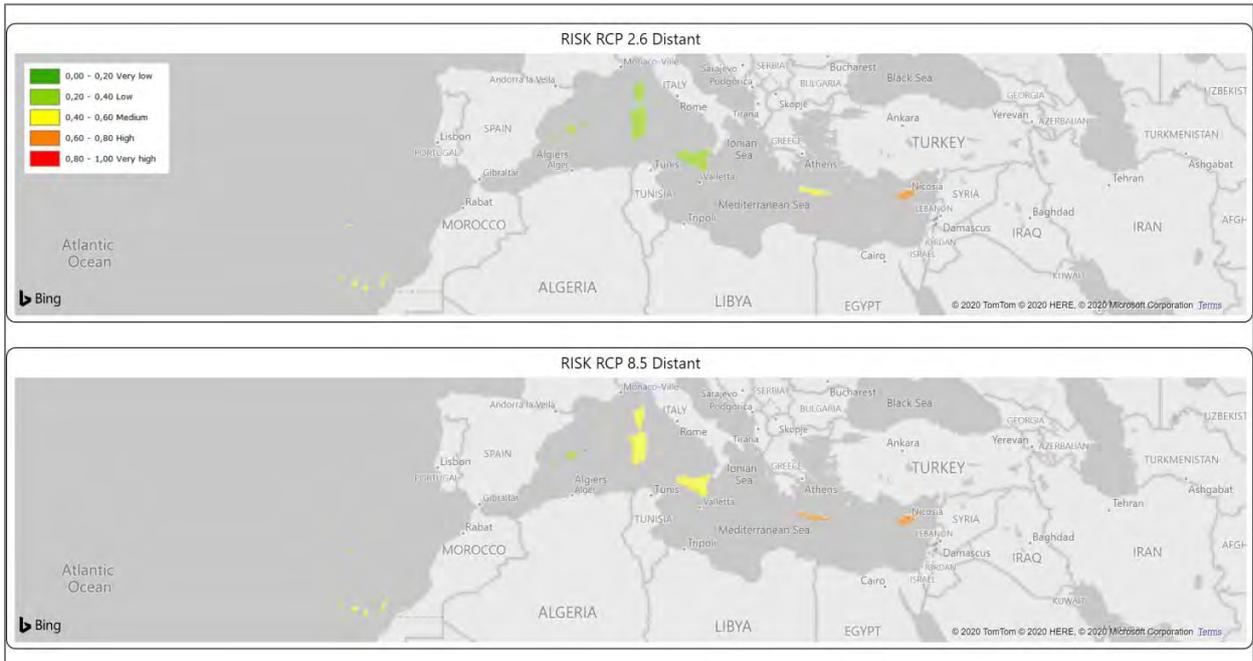


Figure 48: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

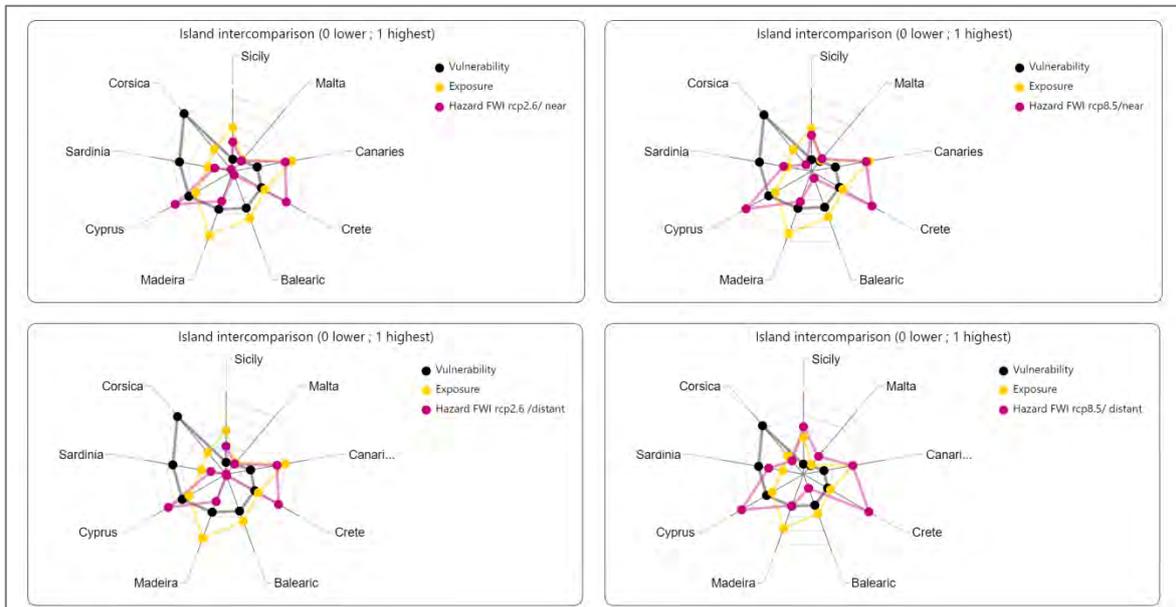


Figure 49: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Crete island results

The component of hazard is predominant (50%) and the risk is medium under reference period and under RCP 2.6. (end of century). The risk is high under RCP 8.5. (end of century).

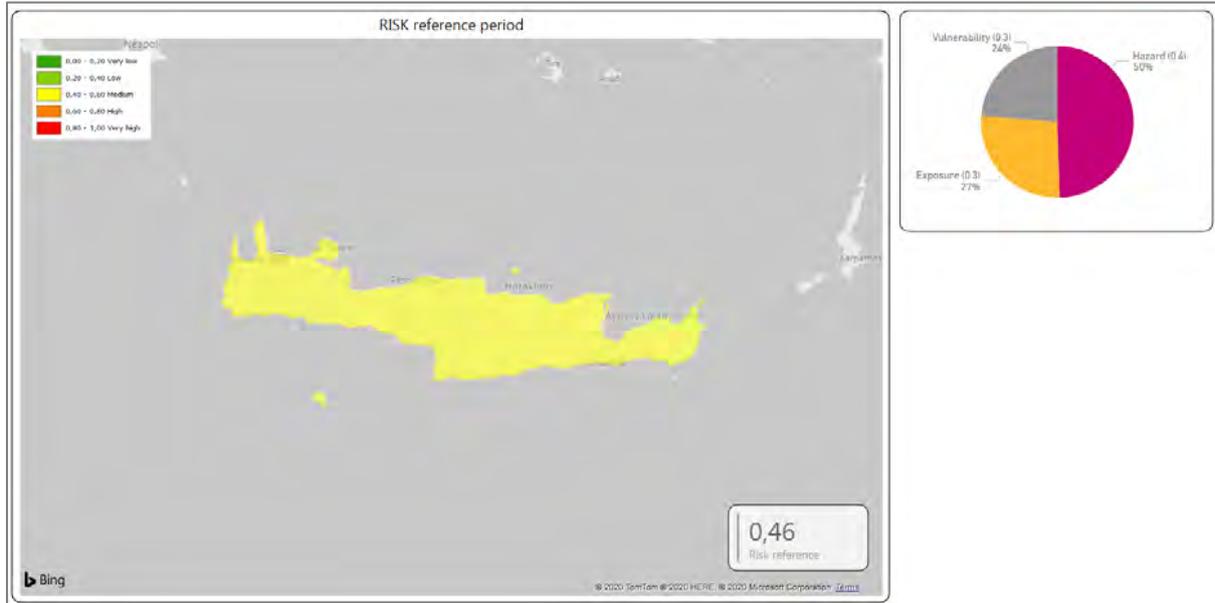


Figure 50: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

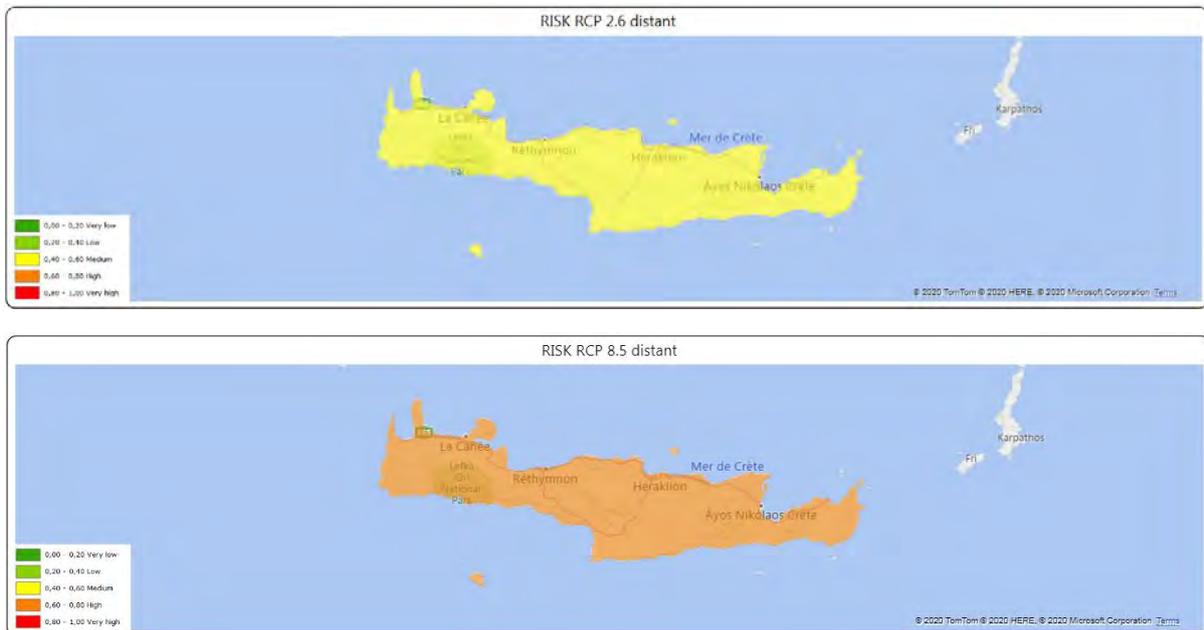


Figure 51: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



The component of exposure is represented in majority by the nature of exposure (80%).

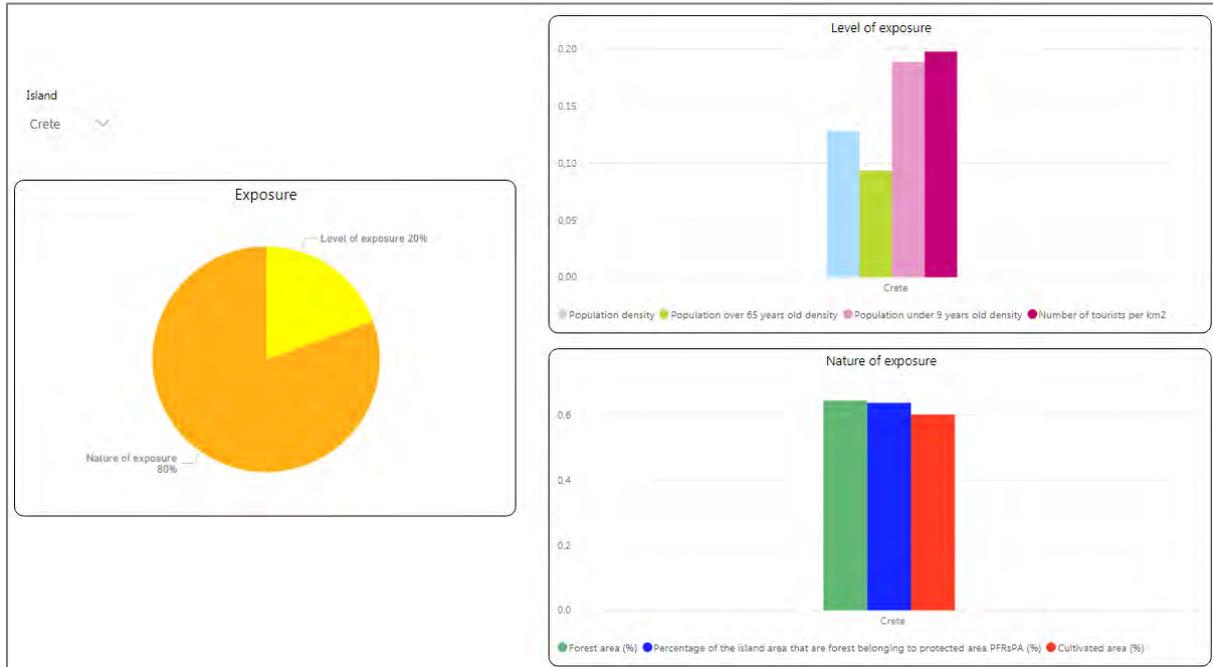


Figure 52: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comperhensive approach for policy makers

Considering the vulnerability component, the sub-component of adaptative capacity is the most represented (66%).



Figure 53: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptative capacity and sensitivity).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comperhensive approach for policy makers



4.2 Aquaculture

In the Soclimpact project, aquaculture includes only marine-based operations where off-shore and coastal aquaculture are included, and freshwater and land-based aquaculture are excluded. Examples of climate change hazards that can impact aquaculture are changes in ocean warming and acidification, as well as oceanographic changes in currents, waves, and wind speed. Sudden impacts such as an increase in the frequency and intensity of storms and heat waves are also impacting aquaculture. Other effects of climate change on aquaculture activities are increased invasions from alien species, increased spread of diseases and changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters. An important indirect impact to aquaculture is the change in fisheries production due to climate change. Aquaculture of finfish is highly dependent on fisheries for feed ingredients. This already a current problem with many fisheries overexploited and will only intensify in the future. Climate change is also predicted to impact food safety, where temperature changes modify food safety risks associated with food production, storage, and distribution.

Socio-economic impacts on aquaculture are hard to assess due to the uncertainty of the changes in hazards and the limited knowledge these impacts have on the biophysical system of aquaculture species (Handisyde et al. 2014). In the framework of Soclimpact, the following risks were studied:

1) Risk of Fish species thermal stress due to increased sea surface temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

2) Risk of increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies. Indeed, the objective of the risk assessment is to obtain final risk scores according to a gradient (very low to high) and to be able to compare the European islands with each other. For Crete, it was difficult to obtain the adequate data to make these comparisons. The type of data that was necessary to compile was:

- Farm area (km²)
- Value of stocks
- Quick support intervention plans
- Early warning system



- Sensivity of species

4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar



SOCLIMPACT

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PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through an expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

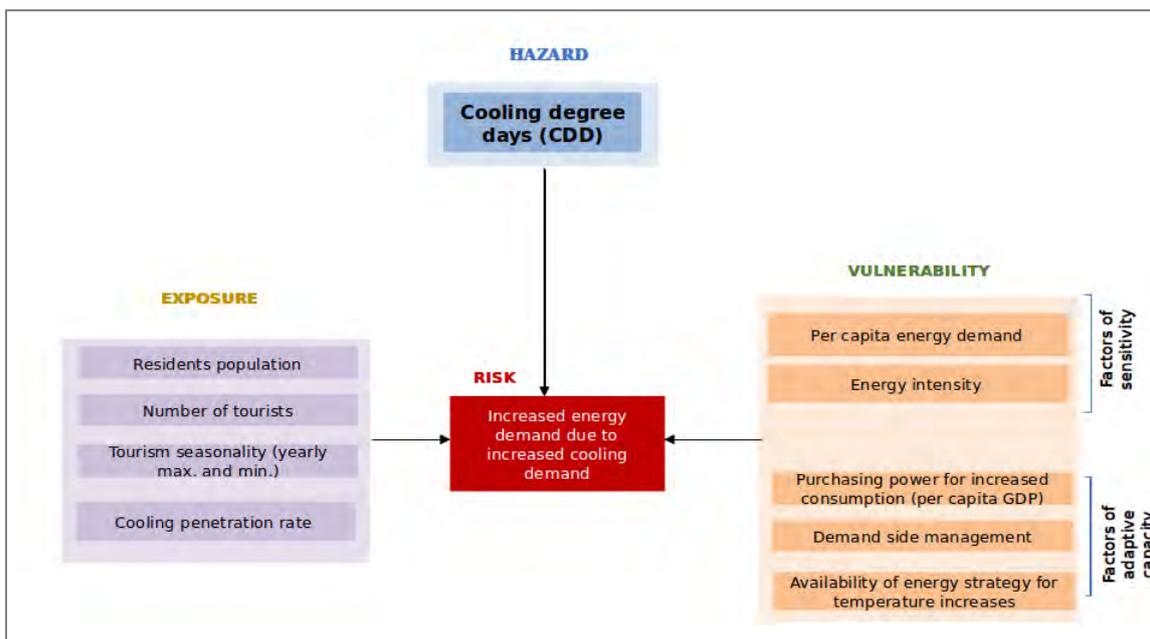


Figure 54: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

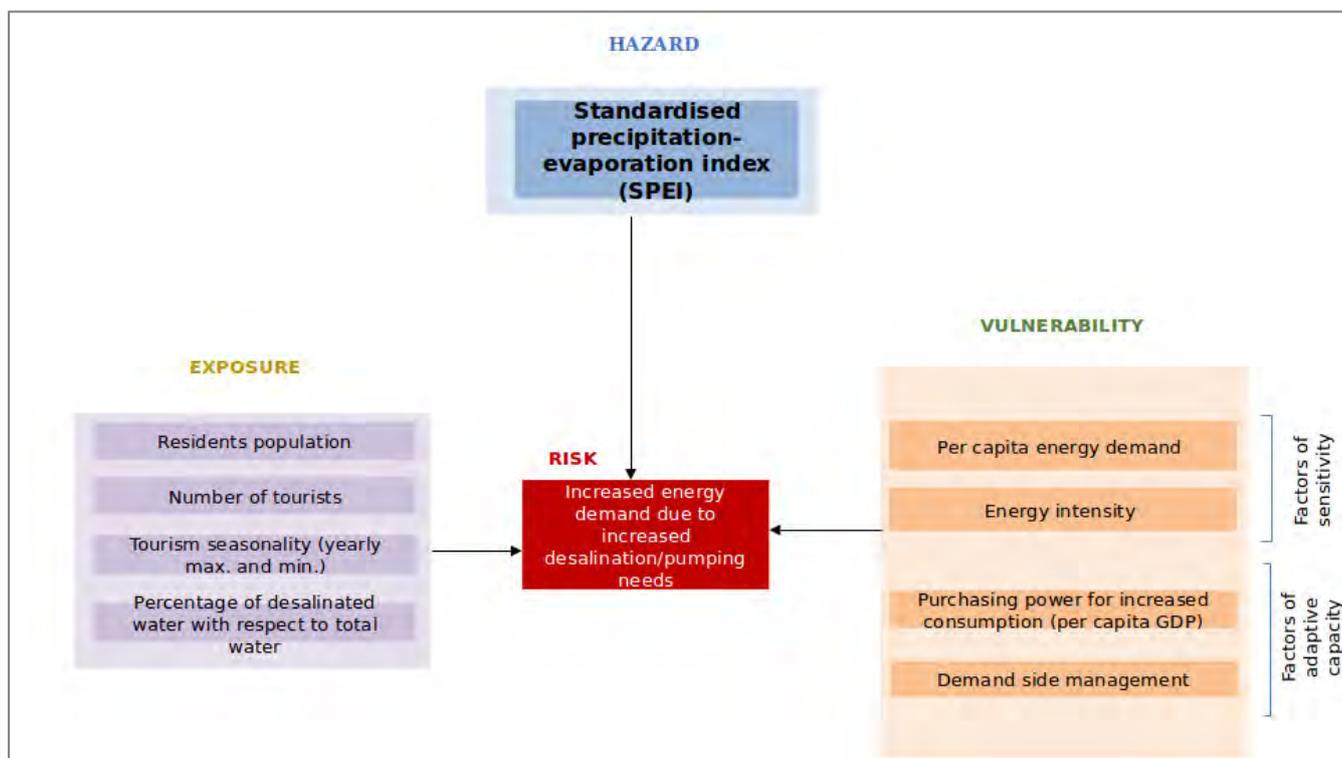


Figure 55: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

It was not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Crete.. The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of



the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the hazard component. In the next tables we present the normalized hazard scores for the island.

Table 8: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Crete

<i>Histori-cal ref. (1986-2005)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
	CDD	0.20	0.63	0.00	0.84
	SPEI	0.00	0.19	0.21	0.16
			Combined		0.41
<i>RCP2.6 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
	CDD	0.29	0.1	0.3	0.2
	SPEI	0.32	0.4	0.6	0.1
			Combined		0.3
<i>RCP8.5 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
	CDD	0.42	0.2	0.3	0.3
	SPEI	0.68	0.6	0.7	0.4
			Combined		0.5
<i>RCP2.6 (2081-2100)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
	CDD	0.28	0.3	0.3	0.3
	SPEI	0.32	0.5	0.6	0.3
			Combined		0.5
<i>RCP8.5 (2081-2100)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
	CDD	0.66	0.2	0.5	0.4
	SPEI	0.96	0.6	0.7	0.1
			Combined		0.7

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

The low present CDD score would not increase much under RCP2.6 scenario, pointing to a limited cooling energy demand in this case. The increase of Etesian winds in summer would help to moderate this demand. In contrast, under RCP8.5 this score would reach high values by the



end of the century. Regarding the hydrological drought conditions, some increase during the first half of the century is expected under RCP2.6. Under RCP8.5, a strong and sustained worsening is projected, which would imply a high pressure on desalination energy demand. The possibility of using large quantities of brackish water instead of seawater can lower the cost of desalination (Zotalis et al., 2014).

In 2017, the shares of wind energy and solar PV were respectively 17,0% and 4,6%. The relatively negative score of wind energy productivity over land is a spatial average, and in a mountainous island like Crete large spatial differences in wind energy potential are observed, and therefore the potential contribution of onshore wind is higher than what the 0.63 score could imply. Offshore wind energy resources are excellent, but the obstacles of deep bathymetry have to be overcome. Future projections show even an improvement of the wind energy potential, particularly over land. This highlights the importance of local factors in the future evolution of climate variables, as the opposite tendency predominates for other islands. Solar PV productivity has very good scores, and in the future it will change only slightly.

Present variability is high for onshore wind, whereas solar PV is characterised by low frequencies of energy droughts. The complementarity of PV and wind energy is less marked than for other islands, as the high summer wind potential coincides with the PV maximum. Variability will decrease in the future both for wind and PV energy.

**** Islands' comparison and future challenges***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).



- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.
- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).
- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.
- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).
- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.



- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power



report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is defined as the carriage of goods and passengers by sea-going vessels, on voyages undertaken wholly or partly at sea. It is often considered as the backbone of the world economy, with 80% of the global trade volume passing through ports (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). For islands, the transport of goods and passengers by ship is even more essential. At the same time, Maritime Transport contributes to climate change through its carbon emissions which are found to be near 3% of the global CO₂ equivalent emissions (Smith et al. 2015). Compared to land and air transport, it is the (economically and ecologically) most effective way of distributing goods globally. A changing climate will challenge Maritime Transport to adapt to future risks and lower its emissions.



The whole range of potential impacts of climate change on ports operations and throughput is still under study and it remains a high degree of uncertainty about it. Various climate change stressors can affect both harbour infrastructure and ships on route. For example, ports are vulnerable nodes of Maritime Transport as they are strongly affected by rising sea-levels, which in turn affect port facilities and increase the risk of flooding. Sea-level rise has accelerated in the last century and will rise by 0.43 to 0.84 m until 2100, depending on the emission scenario (Pörtner et al., 2019). Due to ocean dynamics and the Earth's gravity field, there will also be regional differences in sea-level rise in the order of 0.1 m (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). The causes of sea-level rise are the thermal expansion of water and the melting of glaciers due to the increase in global mean temperature (Vermeer & Rahmstorf, 2009).

Maritime transport can also be affected by climate change through the increase in the intensity of extreme weather events including tropical-like cyclones. According to climate projections, tropical cyclones are not expected to change significantly in frequency but in intensity due to rising sea-surface temperatures (Pörtner et al., 2019). The resulting extreme winds and waves can harm ships, but also cause damage and flooding of ports, especially in combination with sea-level rise (Hanson & Nicholls, 2012).

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified for the SOCLIMPACT project. These are:

- (a) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves,
- (b) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events,
- (c) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

We selected to operationalize the third one which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The hazard risk component indicators considered for the operationalization were: extreme waves (SWHX98), extreme wind (WiX98) and mean sea level rise (MSLAVE). The exposure indicators are: number of passengers (NPax), islands' total population (NTotP), value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot) and number of ports per island or archipelago (NPo), while the sensitivity indicators include: the number of isolation days (NIID) and renovated infrastructure (NAgePo). Finally, for the component of adaptive capacity the proposed indicators are: percentage of renewables (PEnRR), number of courses/trainings (NTrCoRM), early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt). Unfortunately, due to the lack of reliable and consistent data we had to exclude the "number of isolation days" and "number of courses/trainings" indicators. The conceptualization framework of the operationalization is summarized in the next Figure.

For assessing future risk, we considered projections or estimations for the indicators when these were available. This was mainly the case for the components of hazard (mean sea level rise, extreme waves and wind), exposure (population, number of passengers, value of goods), and the contribution of renewables. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) were considered for meteorological hazards. One "high-emission" or "business-as-usual" pathway (RCP8.5) and a more optimistic one (RCP2.6) that is closer to the main targets of the Paris Accord to keep global warming to lower levels than 2 °C since pre-industrial times.

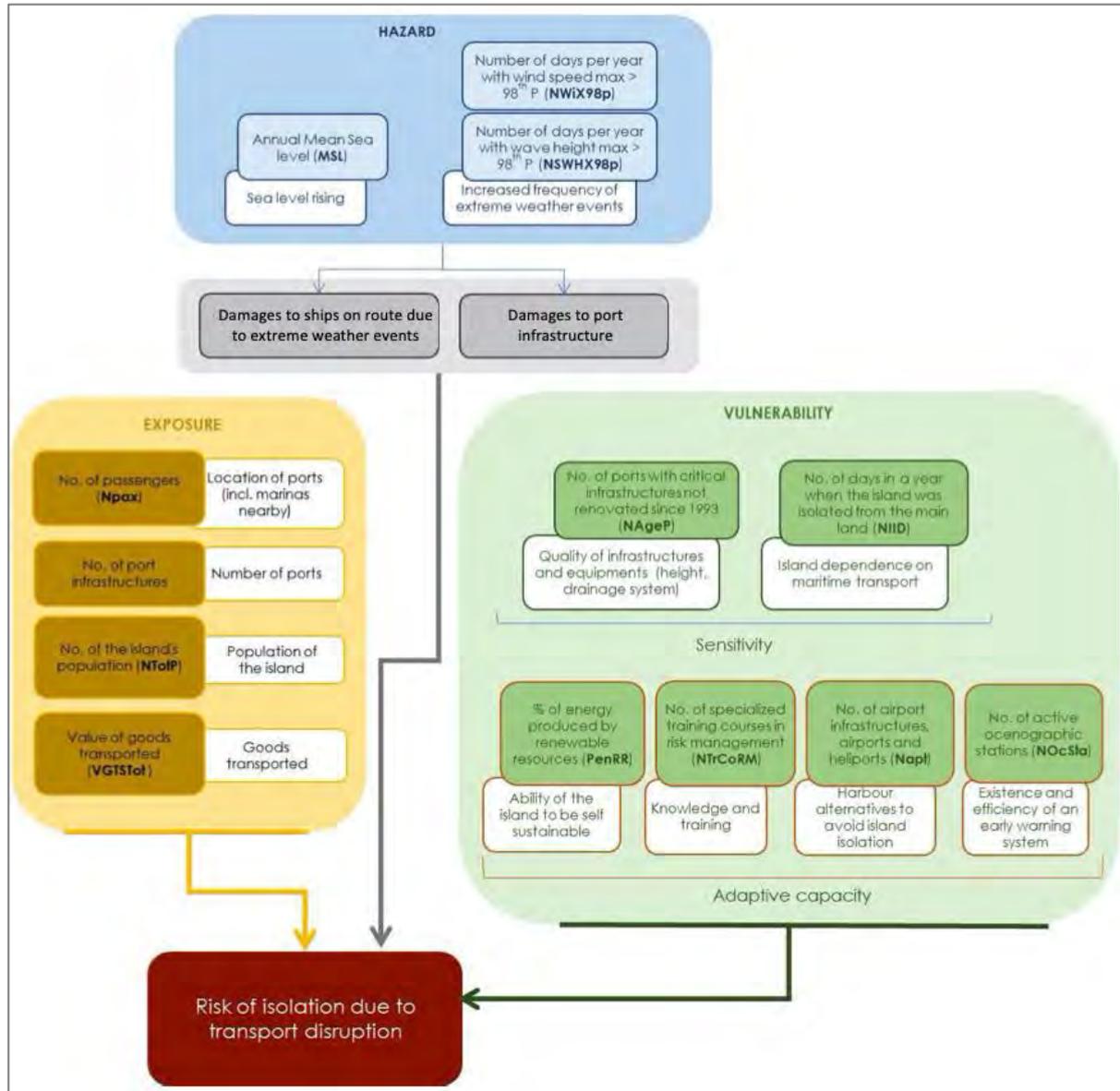


Figure 56: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain: Risk of Transport Disruption.

Source: Soclimpac project deliverable 4.5

Besides the historical reference period, we consider two 20-year future periods of analysis. One over the middle of the 21st century (2046-2065) and one covering the end of the 21st century (2081-2100). The normalization of indicators was performed across the different islands in order to facilitate and inter-island comparison and prioritize the islands of higher risk.

Regarding the weighting of the different risk components, we have tested several weights, however, according to expert judgement and discussion with specialists on the Maritime sector, we have found more appropriate to assign equal weights to all main components of risk (i.e. 0.33



for Hazard, 0.33 for Exposure and 0.33 for Vulnerability). For the sub-components of Exposure, we have assigned a weight of 0.33 for Nature of Exposure and a weight of 0.66 for Level of Exposure since the latter one is believed to be of greatest importance. Similarly, for the vulnerability sub-components, we have assigned a weight of 0.25 for the Factors of Sensitivity and a weight of 0.75 for the Factors of Adaptive Capacity.

The weighting and categorization of risk is a subjective decision, nevertheless we consider our selection to be quite conservative and therefore we believe that a slightly different choice would not significantly affect the main conclusions drawn. For the recent past/present conditions, the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain indicates low risk for all investigated islands. In general, the Maritime Transport sector of the larger islands (e.g. Corsica, Cyprus and Crete) is found to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Up to a point, this is related to the large number of harbour alternatives in comparison with smaller islands.

Our results for the future highlight the importance of adopting a low-emission pathway since this will keep the risk for Maritime Transport disruption in similar as present conditions while for some islands the risk is expected to slightly decline. In terms of island inter-comparison, Malta's maritime sector is found to be most vulnerable, nevertheless, future risk even under RCP8.5 is not expected to exceed medium risk values. On the contrary, Corsica is the island less susceptible to climate change impacts. Detailed results for each investigated SOCLIMPACT island are presented in the following sub-sections.

Table 9: Summary of present and future risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption for each island and scenario based on the Impact Chain operationalization.

RISK VALUE PER ISLAND	Historical Reference	RCP2.6 MID	RCP2.6 END	RCP8.5 MID	RCP8.5 END
CYPRUS	0.241	0.210	0.218	0.258	0.292
CRETE	0.229	0.208	0.201	0.257	0.282
MALTA	0.376	0.347	0.335	0.395	0.414
CORSICA	0.220	0.194	0.194	0.243	0.273
CANARY ISLANDS	0.336	0.292	0.250	0.346	0.341
BALEARIC ISLANDS	0.326	0.281	0.264	0.331	0.344

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)



SOCLIMPACT

For the largest Greek island during the historical reference period the Impact Chain operationalization indicates similar conclusions as the case of Cyprus. The risk value is characterised as low (0.229) with more important contribution arriving from the factors of adaptive capacity. This is due to the low contribution of renewables and the relatively low number of harbour alternatives (e.g. airports) in the particular island. For RCP2.6 the risk of transport disruption is projected to slightly decrease for the middle and remain stable for the end of the 21st century. This mainly due to a higher contribution of renewable energy. This higher contribution makes the island less dependent on the imported fossil fuel for energy production and therefore increases its capacity to adapt and be self-sustained. For the business-as-usual RCP8.5 our analysis indicates an increase for the end of the current century (risk value of 0.28). This increase can be attributed to the projected augmentation of meteorological hazards (mainly extreme winds and mean sea level rise). The fact that Crete is one of the islands where the level of exposure indicators (population, number of passengers and value of goods) is expected to strongly decrease, keeps future risk for transport disruption in relatively low levels.

READ MORE about the risk indicator computation: normalization of sub-component indicators on **Deliverable 4.5 Soclimpact project** [HERE](#)

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 224 tourists visiting Crete whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).



Figure 57: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Crete

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis



Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to the risk of wildfires occurring more often (26.80% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where infectious diseases become more widespread (23.20%) or the cultural heritage is damaged due to weather conditions (17.40%). On the other hand, policies related to land habitat restoration (2.4€/day), the prevention of infectious diseases (2€/day), and coastal infrastructures protection (1.8€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting this island.

Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.

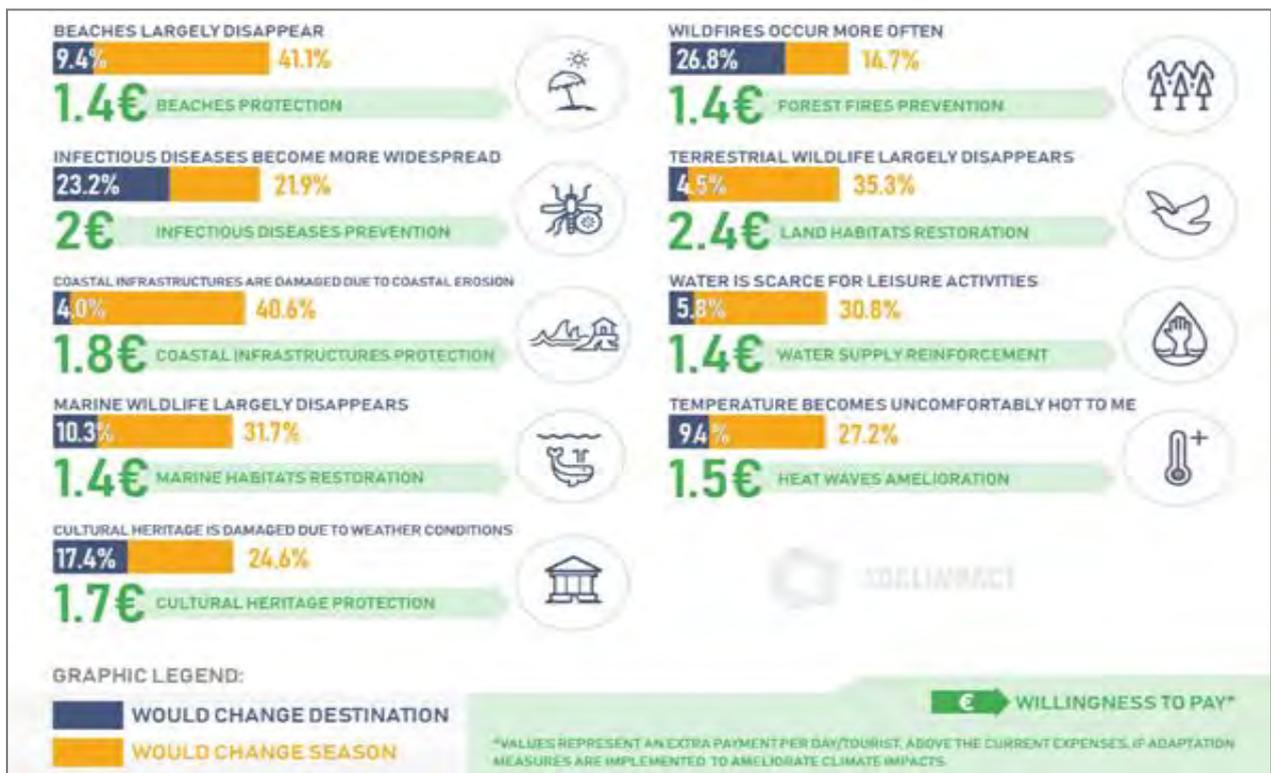


Figure 58: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting Crete.

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).



How tourists perceive the island destination: A comparative approach through the analysis of social media

While historically destination image is projected by DMOs and tourists' offices, the advent of social media allow the construction of an image which is also a projection of tourists. The content of their communication online shows the image they perceive. In this section we analyse how tourists "talk" about the different islands on social media, in order to understand what the perceived image is.

We use a specific tool (Google Cloud Vision) to scan the content of images posted by tourists on Instagram (the market leader in visual social media) while they are on holiday in selected islands. The content is translated in up to ten labels attached to each picture. For each island we aggregate and rank the different labels to find out the most important characteristics tourists associate to the island (assuming that they are correlated with the most frequent labels attached to the pictures).

We analyse eight islands representative of the Atlantic Ocean (four islands of the Canary Archipelago: Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Tenerife) and of the Mediterranean Sea (Crete, Cyprus, Malta, Sicily). We scan posts geotagged in these islands by tourists (identified by a travel-related hashtag such as #visit #holiday #travel, etc) in summer 2019 (June to September), returning a total number of 745,235 pictures considered in the analysis. The breakdown is in the table below.

Table 10: Characteristics of the sample of pictures under analysis

Indicator	Island							
	<i>Tenerife</i>	<i>Gran Canaria</i>	<i>Fuerteventura</i>	<i>Lanzarote</i>	<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>Crete</i>	<i>Malta</i>	<i>Sicily</i>
Num. of posts (total)	49,234	33,145	38,452	25,471	63,561	93,752	74,925	119,896
Avg. num. of pictures per post	1.77	1.67	1.56	1.8	1.76	1.74	1.81	1.68
Share of geotagged posts	67%	67%	67%	65%	70%	74%	76%	73%
Number of scanned pictures	74,537	48,337	52,577	39,381	95,808	141,538	117,576	175,481

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

After aggregating similar words, top labels for each island were obtained. The following pools were created utilizing a frequency analysis, which is the total number of times the label occurs in each island. A first glance at the word clouds shows that all destinations look extremely similar which, perhaps, is of little surprise given that they all are European sea & sun destinations: hence, labels like Sky, Sea, Vacation, Tree, Beach are among the most frequent for all islands.



The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination's perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. Other estimations were provided for Crete using the Index of Distance in Destination Image to position each island in a range that goes from Sardinia / Corsica on one side and Sicily on the other side. Without entering the details of the extrapolation method (which are explained in D5.6 appendixes) a summary of results is reported here:

Table 11: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Crete

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
17.15% ⁰ %	rcp26near	26.52%	2.2%	0.4%	2.7%
	rcp26far	27.95%	2.6%	0.5%	3.1%
	rcp85near	30.52%	3.2%	0.6%	3.9%
	rcp85far	56.44%	9.4%	1.9%	11.5%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (**CDD**) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (**GWh/year**) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 586 CDD³. This value could be, for example, a combination of 243 days with temperatures of 20°C (586CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 216%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

³ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18)= 200CDD

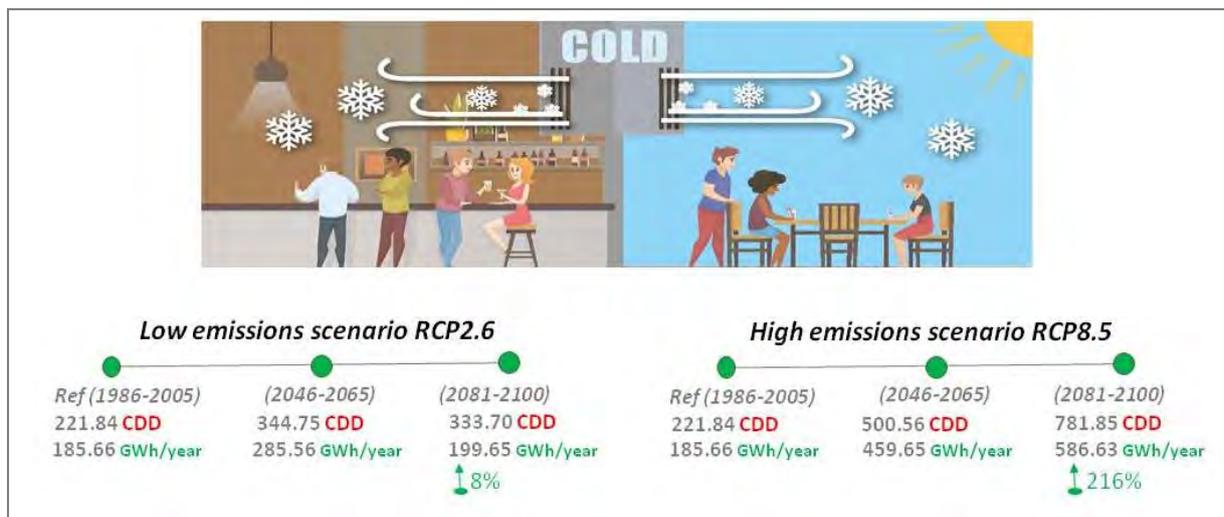


Figure 59: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Crete under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (**SPEI**) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (**GWh/year**) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the low emissions scenario (RCP2.6), there are not significant changes in the SPEI indicator, that will remain in its "normal" level, as it is nowadays. Nevertheless, an increase of 32% in desalination energy demand is expected. Under RCP8.5 the scenario alerts on a severe aridity leading to an increase of 159% of the energy demand.

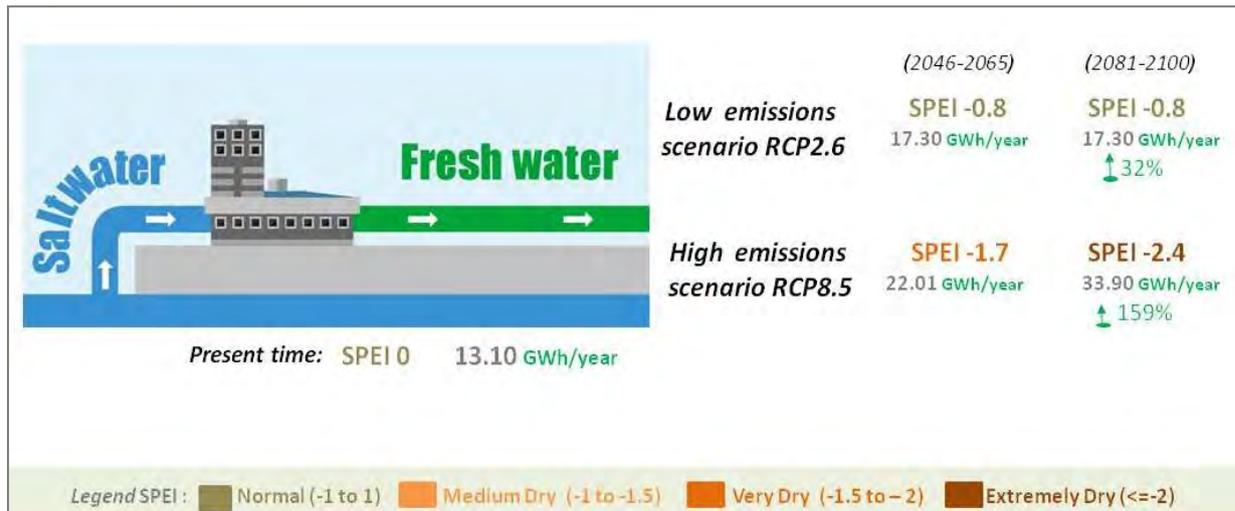


Figure 60: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Crete under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all ports' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 1.26 million of euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

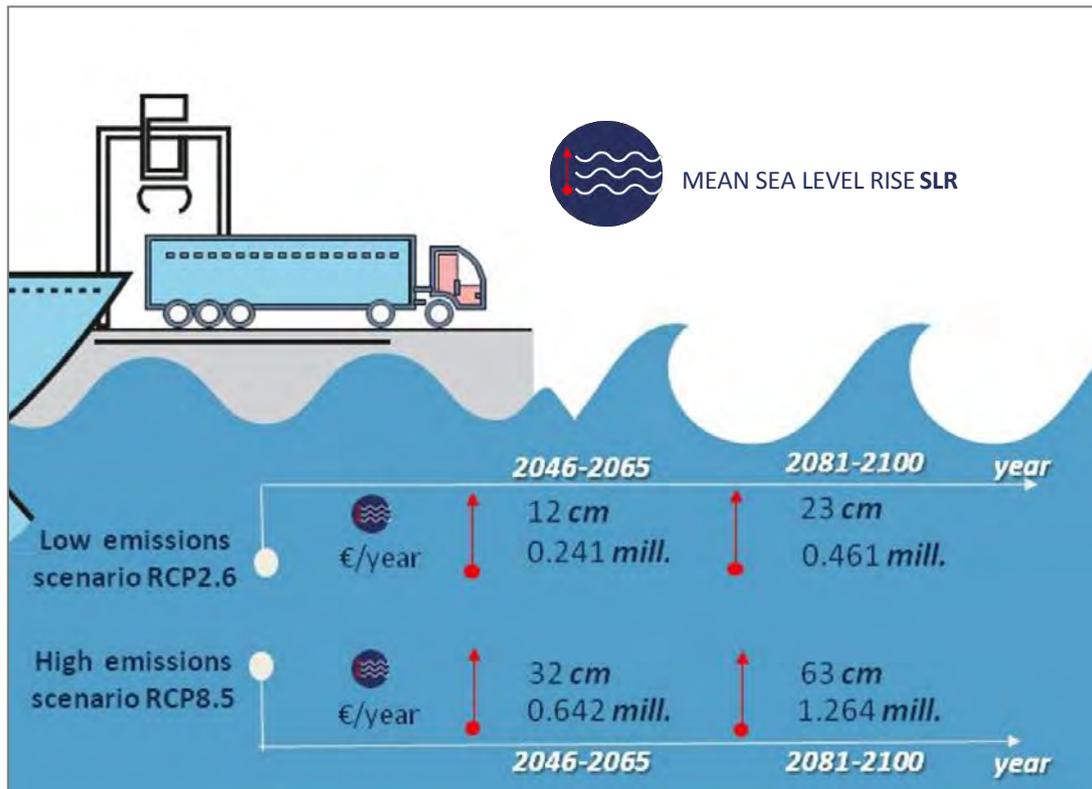


Figure 61: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Crete under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable Report D5.6

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the island of Kriti. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 17 scenarios have been quantified for Kriti. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 12: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-11.21	3.8	-0.26
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-15.54	0.7	-0.25
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-39.19	10.3	-0.69
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-44.82	15.4	-0.68

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of



models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -1.1% and -1.3% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -3.8% and -6.0% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative reduction over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to 2.1% in the RCP2.6 and 7.9% in the RCP8.5.



Figure 62: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the manufacturing sector, highlighting the opportunities for the development of domestic manufactured products.

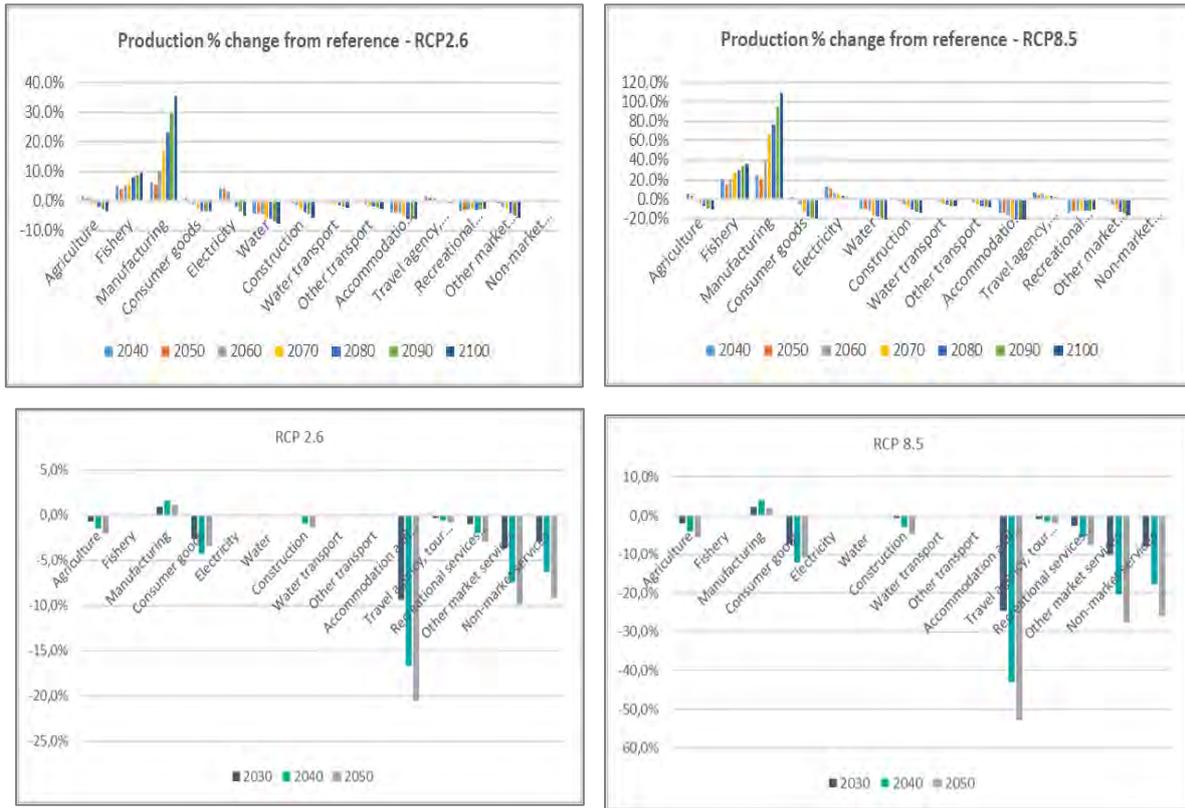


Figure 63: Production percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 0.75% in the RCP2.6 and by 2.5% in the RCP8.5.



Figure 64: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle

The development of a strategy for adapting to climate change is National and Regional obligation arising from the Framework Convention on Climate Change, commitments to the EU and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The implementation of the National Program for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for the period 2000–2010, was approved by the Council of Ministers with the act of 5 / 27.2.2003 (Government Gazette 58A / 5.3.03). In April 2016, the Ministry of Environment and Energy completed the National Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation (ESPKA). The country ratified the Agreement on 06.10.2016 Paris (with Law 4426/2016, Government Gazette A'87) and submitted ratification documents on 14.10.2016.

According to article 43 of Law 4414/2016, the regions have the obligation to prepare Regional Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PESPKA). PESPKA is one integrated plan that identifies and prioritizes the necessary measures and actions of adaptation and in accordance with Regulation 1303/2013 / EU constitutes in advance a validity for implementation NSRF



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programs. The basic structure of PESPKA is defined in HA 11258 "Specialization content of Regional Plans for Adaptation to Climate Change (PESPKA), according to Article 43 of Law 4414/2016 (A'149) "(Government Gazette 873B / 2017).

The Region of Crete is in the process of submitting a proposal for the Regional Adaptation Strategy for Climate Change. The objective of the Region of Crete is to draw up a plan that will provide answers around the actions that will have to be implemented against climate change, which affects everyday life, local economy, agriculture, livestock farming, fisheries, tourism and more.

According to the decision of the Regional Council 28/2015, the (RIS3CRETE) Smart Specialization Strategy of Crete was approved. This official text mentions how the Region of Crete will deal with climate change and how the policies of the region are generally integrated and interact.

In particular, the Smart Specialisation Strategy of the Region of Crete aims at using the potential of innovation and scientific knowledge in order to:

- (a) revitalise the agro-alimentary complex so as to adapt to climate change, strengthening of export branches and promotion of the value of Cretan nutrition which is Crete's intangible cultural heritage.
- (b) achieve the consolidation in the international market of a competitive cultural - tourism complex, with unique and original features
- (c) reduce Crete's dependence on conventional forms of energy
- (d) shift towards the sustainable use of the island's natural resources
- (e) make the best of the sea's possibilities
- (f) develop world-class educational and training activities for its human capital which will rely on Crete's educational web
- (g) develop production activities of high added value in emerging sectors which will rely on Crete's educational web

Reducing dependence on conventional energy sources through energy saving in buildings, lighting and infrastructures (wastewater and water management) and the full exploitation of the potential of renewable energy in the context of the particularities of Crete, in terms of sustainability. Region of Crete is taking action by guidelines and proposed measures for water management in crops, as well as specific measures for adapting olive cultivation to climate change. And is in process to involve stakeholders in the preparation of adaptation policies mainly through EU projects.



Table 13: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<p><i>Specific limits and obstacle</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Until nowadays, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies do not consider the impacts of climate change. - Regional Policies depend on National Policies and National Legislation to be followed. The main obstacles are slow procedures due to bureaucracy and funding constraints.
<p><i>Relevant documents</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Strategy for Climate Change - The no. 11258 / 6-3-2017 (Government Gazette 873 / B ' / 16-3-2017) on "Specialization of Regional Content Climate Change Adaptation Plans in accordance with Article 43 of Law 4414/2016 (A149): link

Source: Deliverable [7.1](#) Conceptual framework



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APPENDIX 6



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Introduction

This report provides the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in Cyprus. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without Climate Change (WP6), which range from the present to the end of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, both current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the project's original work is made in the references section.

Cyprus at-a-glance

Cyprus is an island situated at the north-eastern end of the Mediterranean basin. It covers an area of 9,251 sq. km and stands at the crossroads of Europe, Africa, and Asia. It is the third largest island in the Mediterranean, smaller than Sicily and Sardinia, but larger than Corsica and Crete. It has a population of about 870,000, with the capital Lefkosia situated in the heart of the island. The island can be reached by air and sea transport, and the main means of transport on the island are cars, bicycles, and buses.

The main economic sectors estimated in 2018 are agriculture (2.3% of GDP), industry (14.1% of GDP) and services (83.6% of GDP). Tourism is the largest economy of the services sector, with a total contribution of 21.9% towards the total GDP in 2018. According to Eurostat, the share of energy from RES amounted to 13.88% in 2018.

The Blue Economy sectors

Aquaculture

Aquaculture in Cyprus constitutes an important component of its primary agricultural production, showing impressive growth rates and high-quality export products. As the global production of the capture fisheries sector decreases in the last twenty years and the demand for fishery products continues to grow, the contribution of aquaculture to the fishery products consumed worldwide each year has increased from about 10% in the '70s to around 50% in 2016.

Maritime Transport

Cyprus has over the years become one of the largest and widely known shipping centres in the world, comprising both ship owning and ship management companies. It is the largest third-party ship management centre in Europe and amongst the top three worldwide. Several of the ship management companies that operate on the island rank among the largest of their kind in the world and it is estimated that they manage about 20% of the world's third-party managed fleet.



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Energy

Cyprus is an island with no exploited indigenous hydrocarbon energy sources. This means that its power generation system operates in isolation and totally relies on imported fuels for electricity generation. Currently, the primary imported fuel used in electricity generation is heavy fuel oil and gasoil. Cyprus' power generation system consists of three thermal power stations with a total installed capacity of 1480 MWe.

Tourism

The travel and tourism industry is the largest commercial sector of Cyprus, contributing 21.9% of the country's GDP in 2018. The number of tourist arrivals in 2017 reached 3,652,073 – corresponding to an increase of 14.6% from 2016. Europe is the traditional tourist market for Cyprus, with visitors from European countries constituting 87.5% of the total tourist arrivals in 2017, while visitors from European Union countries making up 59.7%. The United Kingdom is the most important source of tourism to the island and its share was 34.3% of the total tourist traffic in 2017, followed by Russia with 22.6%, Israel with 7.1%, Germany with 5.2%, and Greece with 4.6%. The total revenue from tourism during this period was estimated at €2,639.1 million compared to €2,363.4 million in 2016, recording an increase of 11.7%. The majority of tourists stated to have stayed in coastal areas of the island, such as Pafos and Polis, Ayia Napa, Paralimni, Larnaka, and Lemesos.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Cyprus is a small island of 9.253 sq. km (3.572 sq. miles), extending 240 km (149 miles) from east to west and 100 km (62 miles) from north to south. It is strategically situated in the far eastern end of the Mediterranean (33° E, 35° N), at the crossroads of Europe, Africa and Asia, and in close proximity to the busy trade routes linking Europe with the Middle East, Russia, Central Asia and the Far East.

Cyprus has a Mediterranean climate: hot dry summers from June to September and mild, wet winters from November to March, which are separated by short Autumn and Spring seasons of rapid change in weather patterns in October, April and May. Sunshine is abundant during the whole year, particularly from April to September when the daily average exceeds eleven hours. There are two mountain ranges on the island: the Pentadaktylos range which runs along almost the entire northern coast, and the Troodos massif in the central and south-western parts of the island which culminates in the peak of Mount Olympus, 1.953 m above sea level. Cyprus' 648 m coastal line is indented and rocky in the north with long sandy beaches in the south. Between the two ranges lies the fertile plain of Mesaoria. Cyprus became politically independent from British rule in 1960. The Turkish invasion, launched on 20 July 1974, resulted in the occupation of 35,2% of the island's territory and about 200.000 Greek Cypriots were displaced.

On 1 May 2004 the Republic of Cyprus became a full member of the EU and in January 2008 Cyprus joined the Eurozone. Accession to the EU was a natural choice for Cyprus, dictated by its culture, civilization, history, its European outlook and adherence to the ideals of democracy, freedom and justice. Since its accession to the EU, Cyprus has undergone significant structural reforms that have transformed its economic landscape. Trade and interest rates have been liberalized, while price controls and investment restrictions have been lifted. Private financing has been introduced for the construction and operation of major infrastructure projects and monopolies have been abolished.

The new political context created by the accession to the EU is also expected to impact positively on the efforts to reach a comprehensive settlement to the division of Cyprus that will reunite its people and reintegrate its economy.

Population dynamics of the island

Cyprus is also characterized by an increasing aging population (Table 1), as most EU27 Member States (CyStat, 2019a; 2019b).

Table 1: Population distribution by age group (2009-2018).

Age range	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2105	2016	2017	2018
0-14 (%)	17.2	16.8	16.5	16.4	16.3	16.4	16.4	16.3	16.2	16.1
15-44 (%)	45.9	46.1	46.3	45.9	45.1	44.5	44.1	43.9	43.8	43.7
45-64 (%)	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.5	24.7	24.5	24.4	24.2	24.1	24.1
65+ (%)	12.5	12.7	12.8	13.2	13.9	14.6	15.1	15.6	15.9	16.1

Sources: Cyprus Statistical Service (Cyprus in Figures 2018 Edition; Demographic Statistics 2018).

The reference projection of population in Cyprus is displayed in Figure 1, which marks the population for the period 2018-2100 (Eurostat, 2018a).

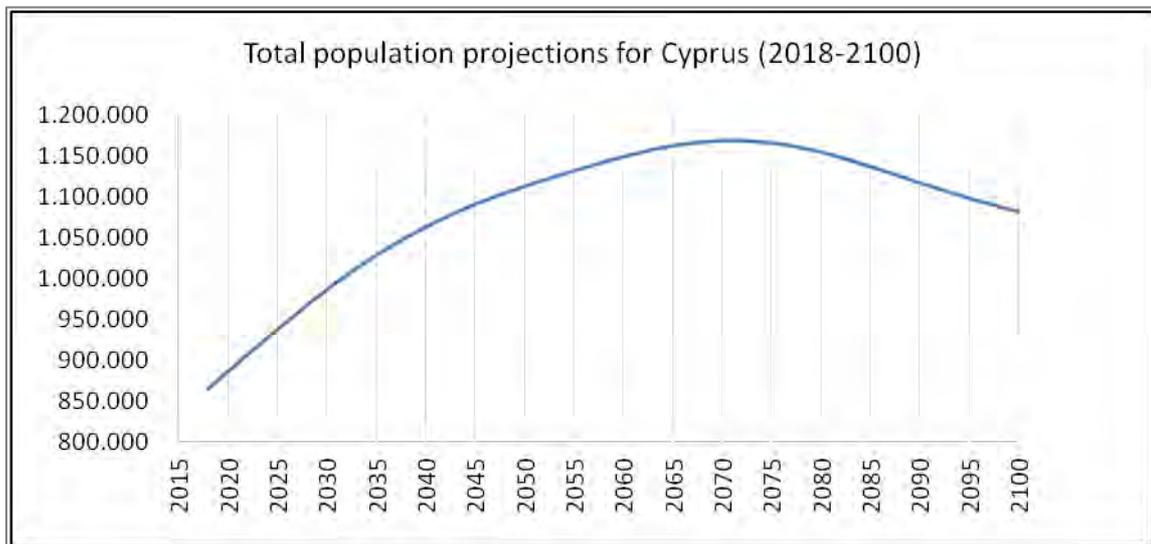


Figure 1: Baseline population projection for Cyprus (2015-2100).

Sources: Eurostat.

Labour force

The labour force (i.e., the employed and the unemployed persons) amounted to 437,495 persons in 2018, of which 228,509 were males and 208,985 females. The labour force participation rate for the age group 15-64 was 75% of the total population of this age group or 426,159 persons. The respective percentage for males was 79.9% or 219,657 persons, and for females 70.4% or 206,503 persons. Figure 2 illustrates the changes in labour force, employment and rate of unemployment from 2005 to 2018 (Eurostat, 2018b).

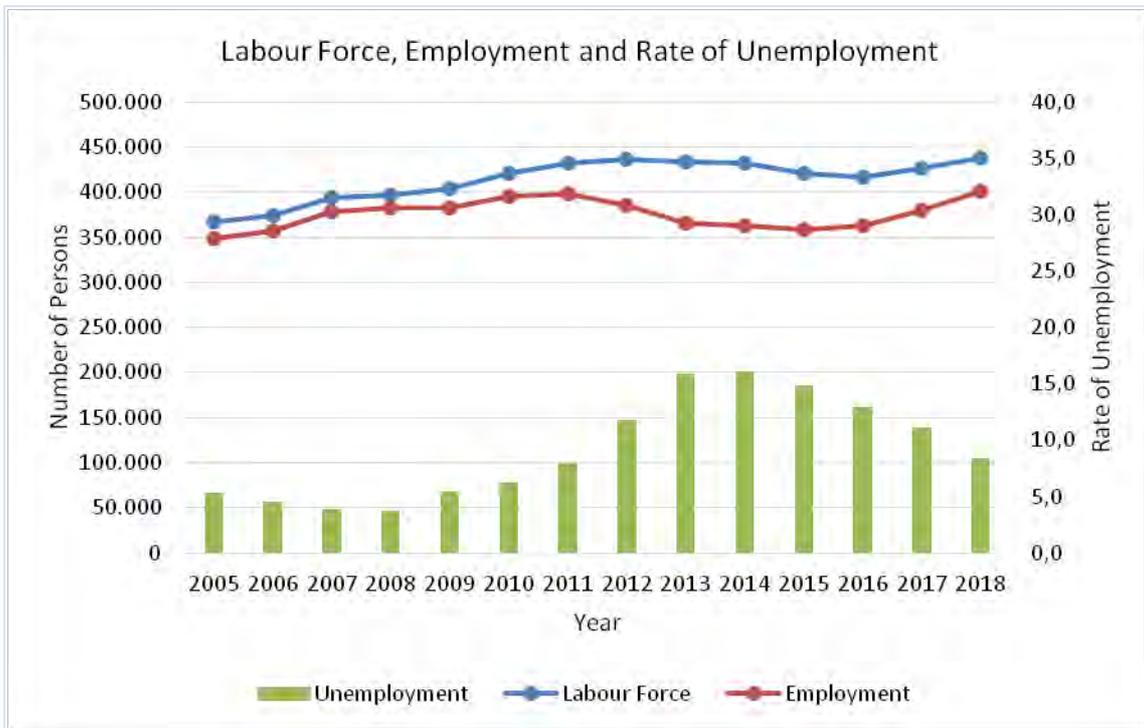


Figure 2: Labour force change in Cyprus (2005-2018).
Sources: Eurostat.

1.2 Current climate and risks

The main features of the Mediterranean climate of Cyprus are marked by the hot and dry summers from mid-May to mid-September, the rainy but mild winters from mid-November to mid-March, and two short autumn and spring transitional seasons of rapid change in weather conditions.

During the summer, Cyprus is influenced by a shallow trough of low pressure, which has its centre in southwest Asia, resulting in high temperatures and clear skies. Rainfall is very low with an average value under 5% of the average total rainfall of the whole year. In winter, Cyprus is affected by the frequent passage of small depressions and fronts moving in the Mediterranean from west to east. These weather disturbances can last up to three days at a time and give the greatest amounts of precipitation. The total average rainfall during December-February corresponds to approximately 60% of the total rainfall of the year.

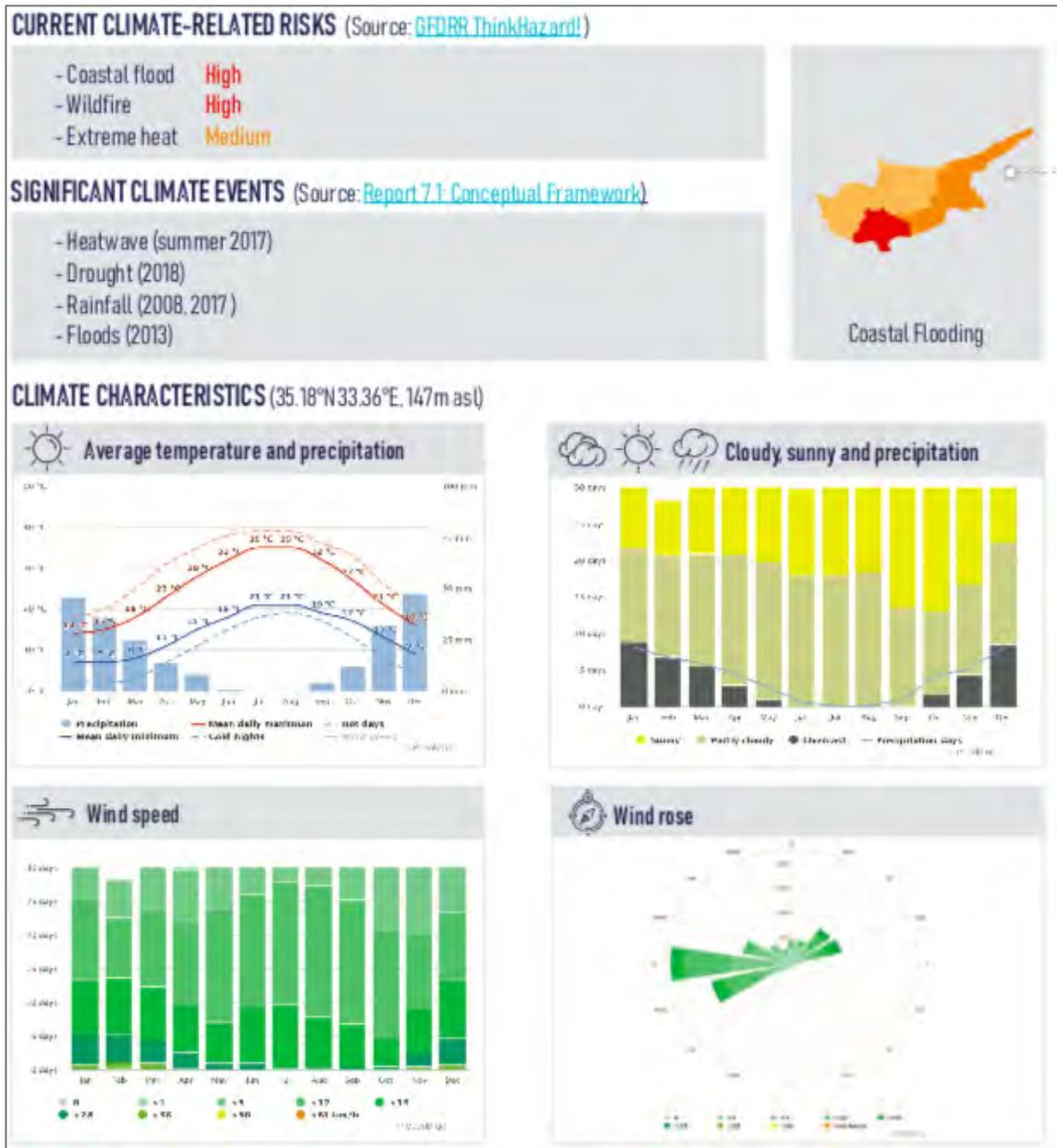


Figure 3: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [DZ.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

The central Troodos massif (at 1,951 metres) and, to a lesser extent, the Pentadaktylos mountain range (at roughly 1,000 metres) play an important role in shaping the meteorological conditions in the various regions of Cyprus and in creating local phenomena. The presence of the sea surrounding the island is also a cause of local phenomena in the coastal areas. This, together with high sunshine and mostly clear skies bring significant seasonal and daily variations in temperatures between the coastal regions and the inland areas of the island.

1.3 Macroeconomic status

Cyprus is a service-led economy. In 2018, the main sources of income in Cyprus derived from tertiary activities, which comprised 84% of the country's GDP. In particular, wholesale and retail trade, real estate activities and financial and insurance activities provided the highest income in the last year. Secondary activities (mainly construction and manufacturing) accounted for 14% of the GDP, and finally primary activities (agriculture, forestry and fishing) made up the remaining 2% of the GDP.

A summary of the exports/discharged from Cyprus for 2018 are provided in Table 2 (CyStat, 2019c). The main agricultural products domestically produced that were exported in 2018 consist of potatoes (2.71%), fish (1.99%) and citrus fruit (0.82%). Bentonite was the most exported domestic mineral product, contributing to 0.27% of Cyprus' exports. Regarding industrial products of agricultural origin, the top domestically produced items exported were halloumi and other cheeses (12.88%), and also fruit and vegetable juices (2.21%). Mineral fuels and oils were the main exported industrial products of mineral origin produced domestically, which accounted for 41.02% of all exported goods. Finally, for industrial products of manufacturing origin, the leading exported products comprised pharmaceutical products (17.32%) and waste and scrap of paper, glass and metal (2.60%).

Table 2: Cyprus exports/discharges for 2018.

EXPORTS & DISPATCHES, 2018	2018 (Euro mn)
Total exports/discharges	4,263.6
Exports/discharges of:	
foreign produced goods	2,691.2
domestically produced goods	1,572.3
Domestic exports/discharges, excluding stores and provisions	1,561.7
by Category (%)	
Agricultural products	5.90
Minerals	0.40
Industrial products of:	
agricultural origin	16.97
mineral origin	44.44
manufacturing origin	31.41
Unclassified	0.88

Sources: Cyprus Statistical Service (Intra-Extra EU Trade Statistics January-December 2018, Foreign Trade Statistics Series III Report No. 153).

1.4 Recent evolution of the Blue Economy sectors

This subsection provides an overview of recent trends observed in Cyprus with regards to tourism, maritime transport, aquaculture, and energy.

Tourism

The movement of travellers to and from Cyprus in 2018 recorded an increase in arrivals and departures compared to 2017. Total arrivals of travellers reached 5,535,797 recording an increase of 6.1% and departures totalled 5,521,515 recording an increase of 6.2% compared to 2017. International visitors arriving in Cyprus reached 4,024,119 in 2018, compared to 3,750,074 in 2017 (Figure 4).

The number of same-day visitors who did not stay overnight in the country, reached 85,494 in 2018 compared to 98,001 in 2017. Same-day visitors from ports accounted for 72.2% and same-day visitors from airports for 27.8% of total same-day visitors. The majority of same-day visitors from airports were British (50.2%), Israelis (18.4%) and Greeks (8.6%).

Europe has as usual been the traditional tourist market for Cyprus. In 2018, European countries provided the island with 88.2% of the total tourist arrivals and the European Union countries with 62.3%. The United Kingdom is the most important source of tourism to the island and its share was 33.7% of the total tourist traffic, followed by Russia with 19.9%, Israel with 5.9%, Germany with 4.8% and Greece with 4.7%.

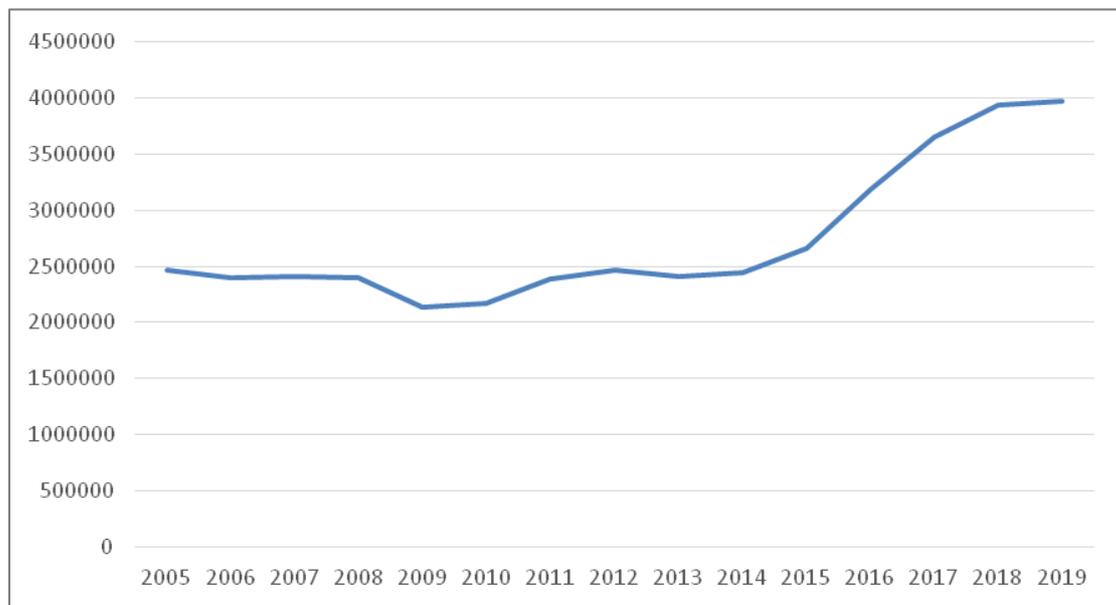


Figure 4: Development of tourist arrivals in Cyprus
 Source: The World Bank.

In 2018, the total revenue from tourism was estimated at €2,710.6 million compared to €2,639.1 million in 2017 recording an increase of 2.7%. Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) provides data of inbound tourism expenditure, domestic expenditure and other tourism consumption. In some regions, this information is not computed on a regular basis, hence it is necessary for information to be extracted from local tourism departments. For the case of Cyprus, national TSA data is quite outdated (relating to 2007).

Maritime Transport

The maritime and shipping sector in Cyprus is of global importance as the country has the 11th largest sovereign flag in terms of tonnage in the world and among the top five ship-management services in the world. Due to its position, Cyprus is a major shipping centre within the EU registering the 3rd largest tonnage in the Union. The maritime cluster of Cyprus is highly diverse in its composition, while ship-management companies from all over the world consist a large part of it. The development of the sectors is enhanced by the stable and strong state support through the tax regime and innovation policies. In the last years the sector has seen a noticeable boost due to the dedicated support policies and geopolitical developments (e.g., Brexit, reconstruction of neighbouring countries).

As the maritime sector is important in scale and complexity, it is highlighted that for the research interests of SOCLIMPACT project, namely the estimation of climate impacts on the Blue Economy sectors, not all components of the sector are relevant. Specifically, only maritime transportation strictly related to the transportation of passengers and goods to and from the island is relevant to this analysis, while other major components such as ship-management, naval engineering and shipbuilding are not part of this analysis. To this end, the projections presented below refer to water transport as in the Eurostat classification, thus to the narrower estimation of transportation of passengers and goods that includes sea and coastal passenger and freight transport, as well as inland passenger and freight transport.

Aquaculture

Aquaculture in Cyprus is an important component in primary agricultural production, showing impressive growth rates and high-quality export products. Currently, nine (9) marine open sea cage farms operate in Cyprus, with a total value of production equal to 45.4 million euros in 2018 (Table 3). Cyprus also operates to aquaculture research stations, the Cyprus Marine Aquaculture Research Centre and the Freshwater Aquaculture Research Station. According to the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research of the Ministry of Agriculture in Cyprus¹, the direct employment of the aquaculture sector is currently around 340 persons.

1

<http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/dfmr/dfmr.nsf/All/CF42DB069283278342257E960035E13B?OpenDocument>

Table 3: Aquaculture production for Cyprus in 2017.

FATTENING FARMS (TABLE-SIZE)						
SPECIES	LOCAL MARKET		EXPORTS		TOTAL	
	QUANTITY (tonnes)	VALUE (€)	QUANTITY (tonnes)	VALUE (€)	QUANTITY (tonnes)	VALUE (€)
Seabream	1,619.00	8,740,616	3,261.00	14,437,284	4,880.00	23,177,900
Seabass	815.00	5,754,904	1,650.00	10,130,660	2,465.00	15,885,564
Meagre	0.28	1,485	0.00	0	0.28	1,485
Red Seabream	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
Shrimp	28.00	300,000	0.00	0	28.00	300,000
Rainbow Trout	43.60	335,500	0.00	0	43.60	335,500
Sturgeon	1.50	37,500	0.00	0	1.50	37,500
TOTAL	2,507.38	15,170,005	4,911.00	24,567,944	7,418.38	39,737,949

SPECIES	LOCAL MARKET		EXPORTS		TOTAL	
	QUANTITY (number)	VALUE (€)	QUANTITY (number)	VALUE (€)	QUANTITY (number)	VALUE (€)
Seabream	11,397,954	1,677,424	8,435,723	1,994,911	19,833,677	3,672,335
Seabass	7,017,729	1,018,684	3,657,565	958,458	10,675,294	1,977,142
Shrimp	1,100,000	11,000	0	0	1,100,000	11,000
Spinefoot	10,000	2,000	0	0	0	0
Rainbow Trout	93,600	2,773	0	0	93,600	2,773
Sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	19,619,283	2,711,881	12,093,288	2,953,369	31,702,571	5,663,250

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#).

Energy

Electricity generation is dominated by imported fuel oil, while renewable sources are gradually gaining importance. Figure 5 indicates that the share of renewable sources in total electricity production reaches 9% in 2017. However, as indicated in the National Energy and Climate Plan (DoE, 2020) submitted by Cyprus to the EC in January 2020 (Figure 5), production of electricity by fuel oil is almost entirely substituted by natural gas while renewable penetration reaches 25% towards 2030.

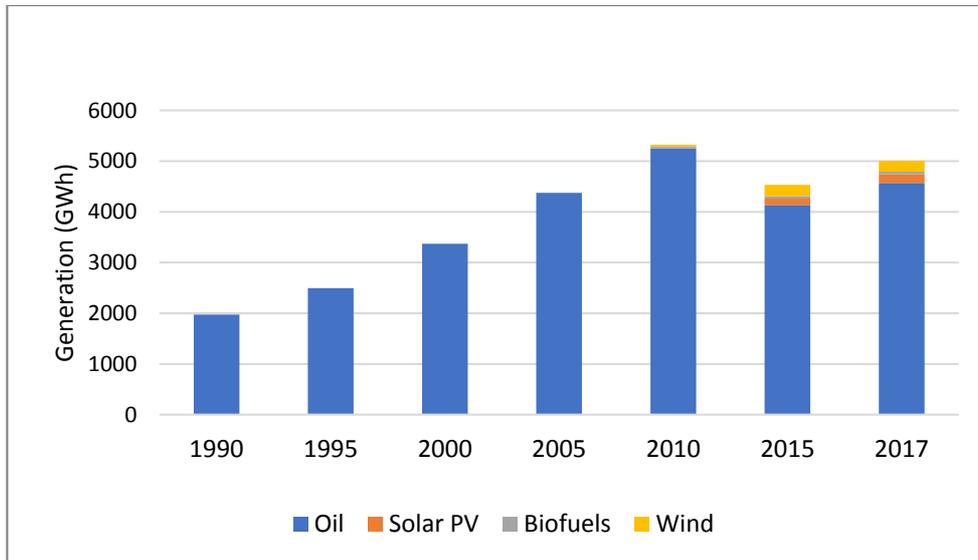


Figure 5: Electricity generation by source in Cyprus in the period 1990-2017.
Sources: IEA.

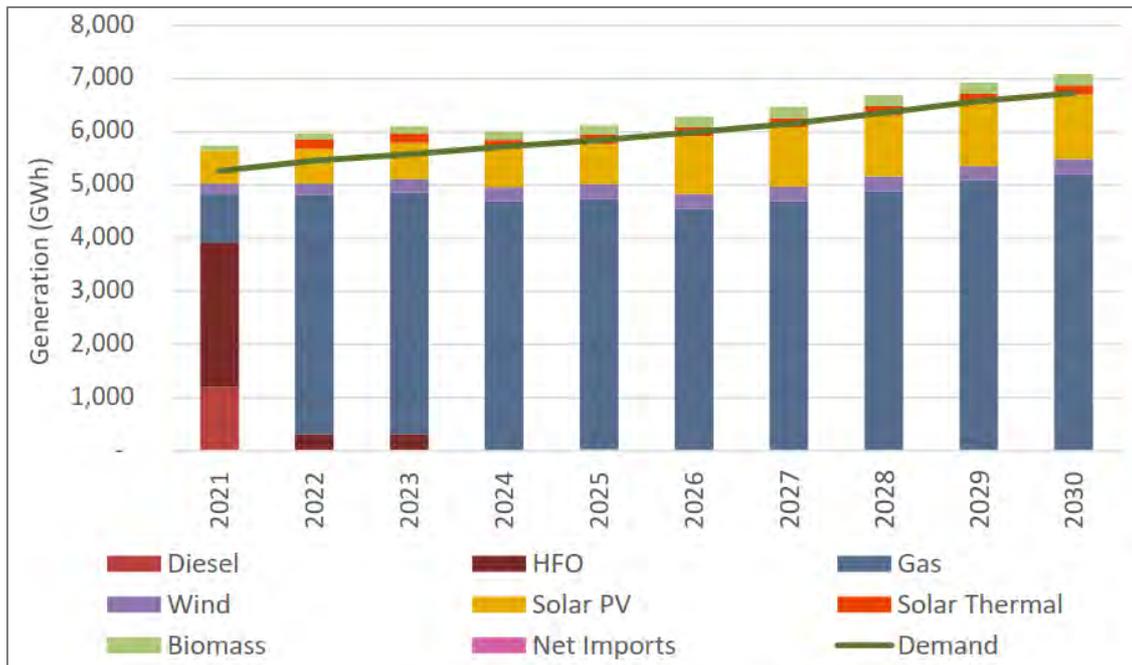


Figure 6: Projected generation mix till 2030 – PPM scenario, with all available Technologies contribution.

Sources: Cyprus' Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan.

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

According to the projections, Cyprus continues to grow with a 1.8% yearly rate throughout the 2015-2100 period and 2.3% for the 2015-2050 period. The main driver of growth during the short-term period is investments while private consumption continues to play a key role (Table 4).

Table 4: Cyprus GDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

GROWTH RATES OF GDP COMPONENTS, 2020-2100										
	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Growth rates (%)										
GDP	2.5	2.1	1.7	2.5	2.8	2.4	2.3	1.1	1.5	1.6
Private consumption	1.6	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.7	2.1	1.8	1.2	1.2	1.6
Public consumption	-0.8	2.1	1.7	2.5	2.8	2.4	2.3	1.1	1.5	1.6
Investments	9.9	1.0	1.2	2.5	2.3	3.5	2.7	0.6	2.5	1.1
Trade	2.7	-1.4	0.3	-2.8	1.1	1.3	-3.5	-0.6	0.9	-4.6

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#).

Nevertheless, the contribution of private consumption to GDP is diminishing towards 2100, compensated by the growth of investments and an improved net trade position (Figure 7). This indicates a transition towards a more sustainable economy that reduces its reliance on imported consumption and increases its productive capacity through investment activity. Investments grow with a high pace towards 2020, counterbalancing the lack of investments during the economic crisis, while presenting a stable growth rate throughout the 2025-2050 period which is higher than that of GDP. We assume that the GDP-share of public consumption remains the same throughout the 2015-2100 period as Cyprus has already a privatized economy.

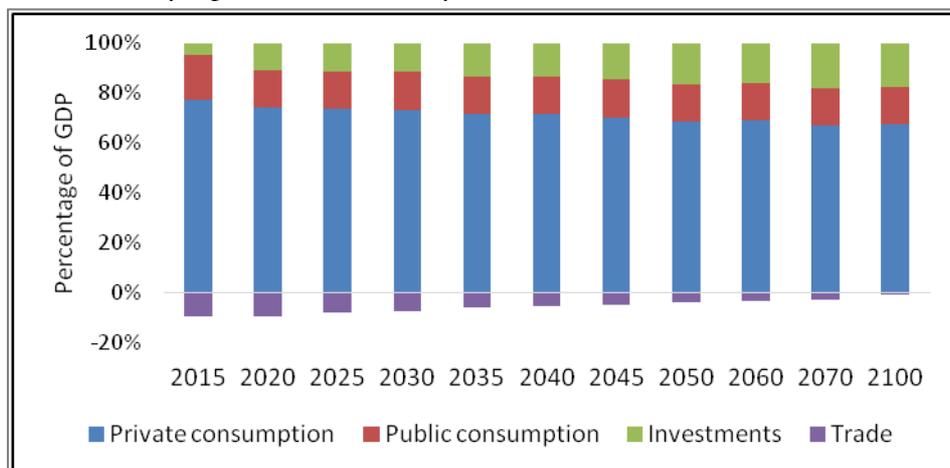


Figure 7: Macroeconomic components as a percentage share of GDP for Cyprus in 2015-2100.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#) - own calculations.

2.2 The sectoral projections

The Cyprus economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period (Table 5), with an increasing contribution of market, accommodation and food services. Moving towards the end of the century, the share of primary and secondary sectors in gross value added (GVA) falls further to the benefit of sectors with higher value added. Demand for construction services increases in line with investment demand but with a lower growth rate, while transport services increase with a rate higher than GDP in order to enable the growing economic linkages of the island with the rest of the world.

Blue growth sectors increase in importance throughout the 2015-2100 period. In particular, the contribution of tourism in total value added grows from 20% in 2015 to 28% in 2100². While the water transport sector grows steadily, travel agency and related activities register a declining share in total value added as they grow with a lower rate than that of GDP. Table 5 illustrates the changes to the sectorial decomposition of GVA for Cyprus from 2015 until the near future (2050) and the distant future (2100).

Table 5: Sectoral contribution as a percentage share of total GVA for Cyprus in 2015-2100.

SECTORIAL CONTRIBUTION, 2020-2100											
	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GVA share (%)											
Agriculture	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5
Fishery	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Manufacturing	3.3	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.6
Consumer goods	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.4
Electricity	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Water	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Construction	3.2	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.2
Water transport	3.2	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.3	3.9	3.9	4.3
Other transport	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.2	3.1
Accommodation and food services	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.2	5.7	6.0	5.9	6.2
Travel agency and related activities	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
Recreational	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4

² The share of tourism in GDP is calculated via the tourism satellite account (TSA) matrices of 2015, assuming that the same shares that indicate the contribution of tourism to the productions of tourism-related sectors (such as the accommodation and food services, transport services, travel agency and related activities, cultural and recreational activities) remain throughout the 2015-2100 period.

services											
Other market services	52.3	53.0	52.6	52.1	52.9	53.0	52.8	53.8	55.6	56.6	56.1
Non-market services	20.7	18.3	18.4	18.5	18.2	17.8	17.5	17.7	16.7	16.0	15.8

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#) - own calculations.

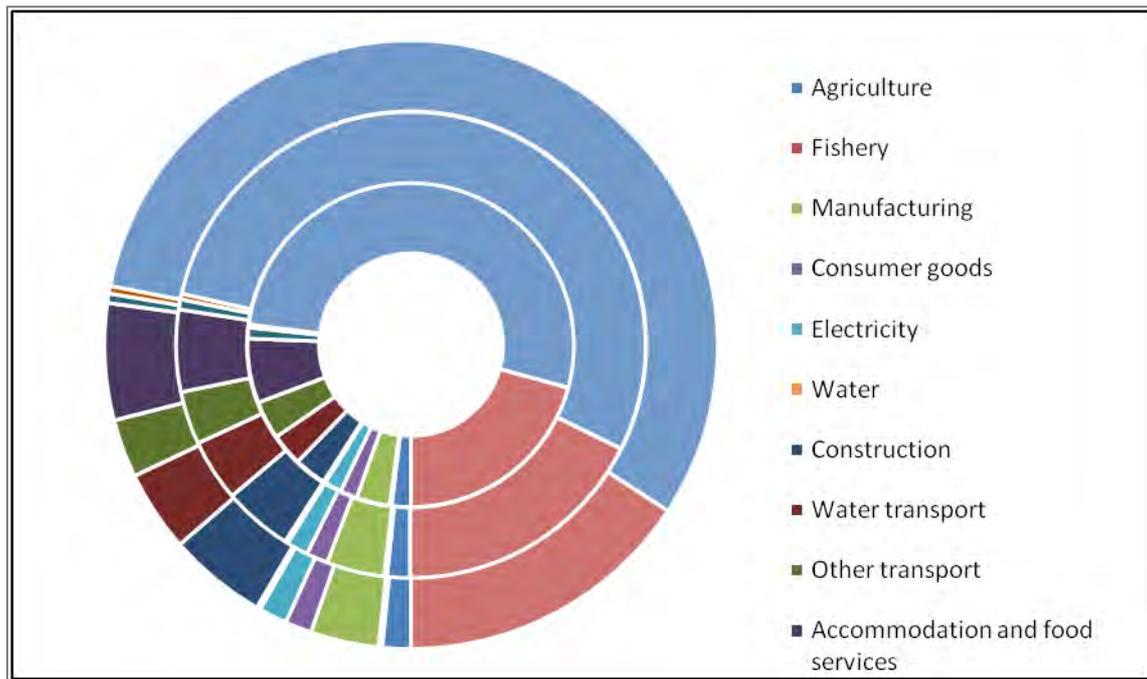


Figure 8: Sectoral contribution as a percentage share of total GVA for Cyprus (2015, 2050, 2100).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#) - own calculations.

2.3 Employment

The service-led economic growth brings positive effects to the labour market with unemployment projected to fall from 15% in 2015 to more sustainable levels within a 20-year period. The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labour intensity of the sector. The biggest employing sectors are the market and non-market services as well as construction. Manufacturing and other transport sectors also retain their shares throughout the 2015-2100 period. Tourism is largest employer of the Blue growth sectors under analysis, particularly due to the high labour intensity of accommodation and food services. Water transport employs an only small share of total and thus has the lowest contribution among the Blue growth sectors.

Table 6: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Cyprus in 2020-2100.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	15.0%	11.1%	9.8%	6.1%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	5.7%	5.6%	5.8%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#) - own calculations.

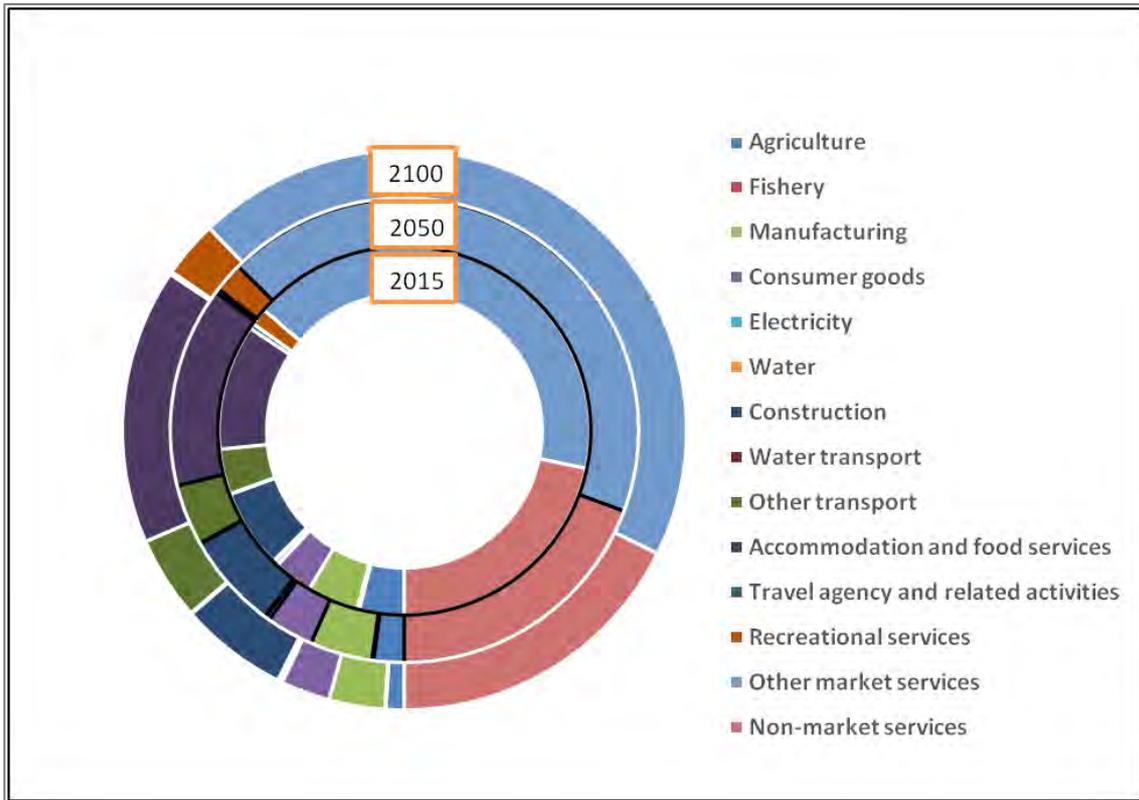


Figure 9: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Cyprus (2015, 2050, 2100).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D6.2](#) - own calculations.

3 Climate Change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for Cyprus is EURO-CORDEX ensemble even if other model sources were applied when required, depending on available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution at the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [here](#).

3.1 Tourism

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

Extreme flood level (95th percentile of flood level averaged)

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e., including the median contribution of runoff).

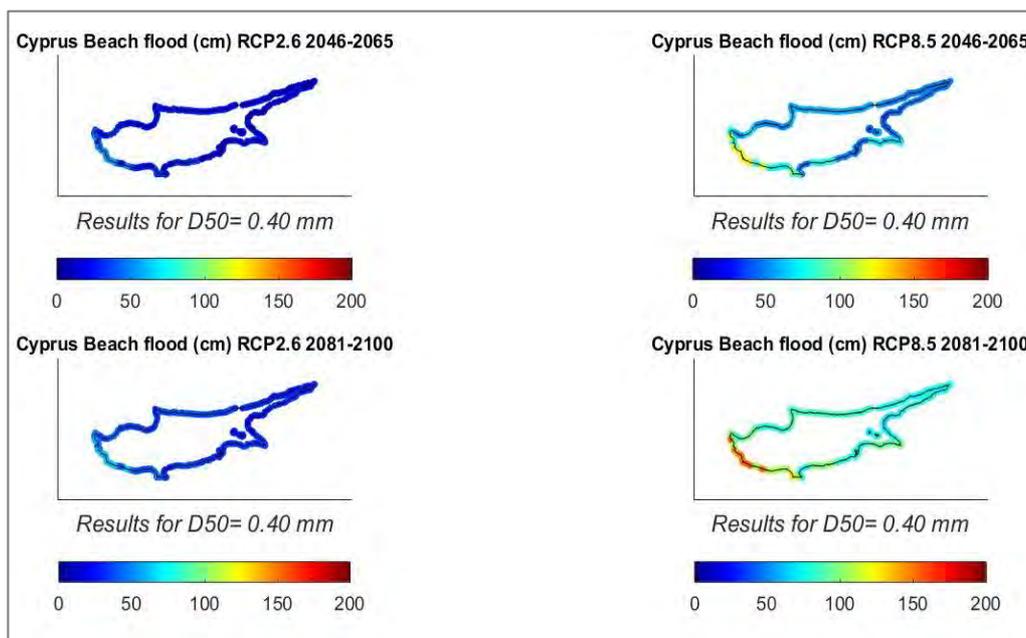


Figure: 10: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cml) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the island under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4d](#).

In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The values in that scenario is 92.47 cm in Cyprus. Under RCP2.6 scenario the values are less than half, suggesting that a mitigation scenario could largely minimize the negative impact of climate change on beach flooding.

Beach reduction

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~30% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~54% under scenario RCP8.5.

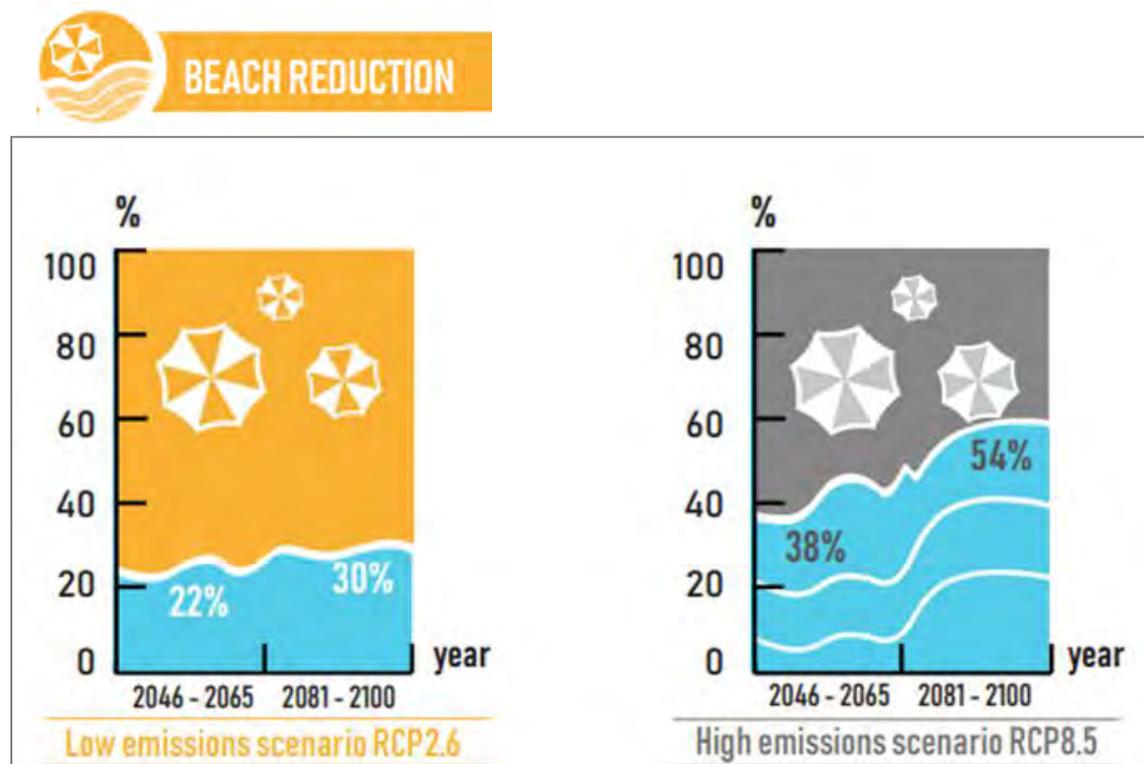


Figure 11: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4d](#).

Seagrass evolution

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, etc. Therefore, the state of the seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. That is, large well-preserved extensions of seagrasses lead to a better coastal marine environment which in turn is more resilient in front of hazards.

Our results suggest that no seagrass losses are expected for the Posidonia located in the coasts of the island.

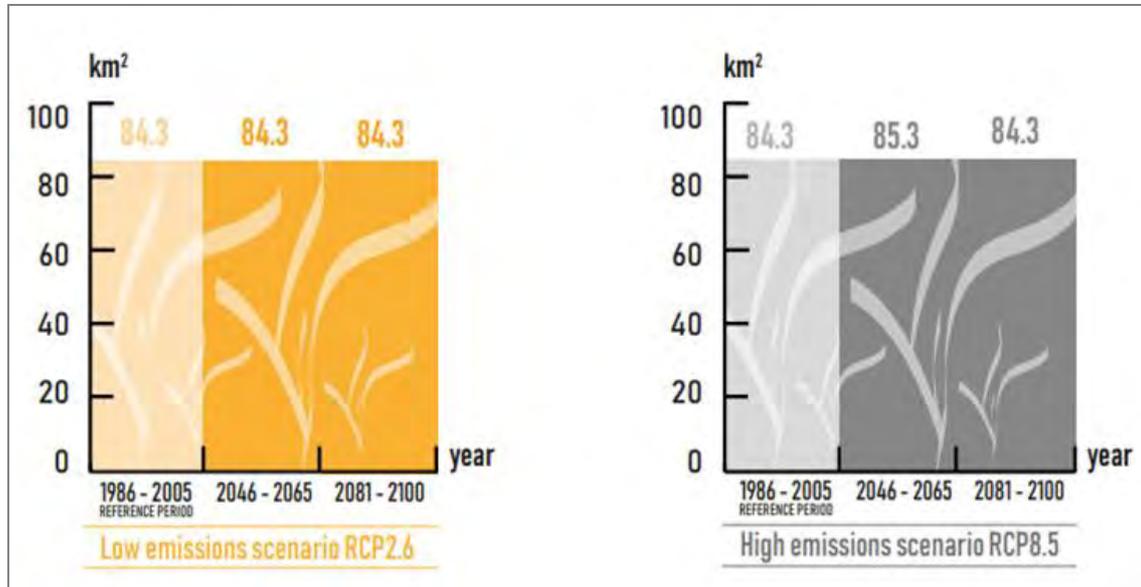


Figure 12: Projection of seagrass coverage
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4e](#).

Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases - Vector suitability index for Aedes Albopictus (Asian Tiger Mosquito)

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. In the framework of SOCLIMPACT we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia; however, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner, 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various encephalitides (Proestos et al., 2015).

The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos et al. (2015) has been employed to estimate the regional habitat suitability maps. This is based on extending previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock et al., 2013; Proestos et al., 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge.

According to figure, for the island of Cyprus located in the eastern Mediterranean, for the historical period the simulated climate conditions indicate a medium suitability

according to our definition (HSI values of 68.7). This is expected to slightly increase in a future of strong climate change mitigation (pathway RCP2.6). On the contrary under business-as-usual RCP8.5 the suitability is expected to decrease. For a large part of the island (mainly inland) the future climatic conditions will likely be unfavourable for the Asian tiger mosquito, while high suitability is mostly simulated over the mountainous areas of Troodos where summer temperatures are not expected to exceed the 40°C threshold.

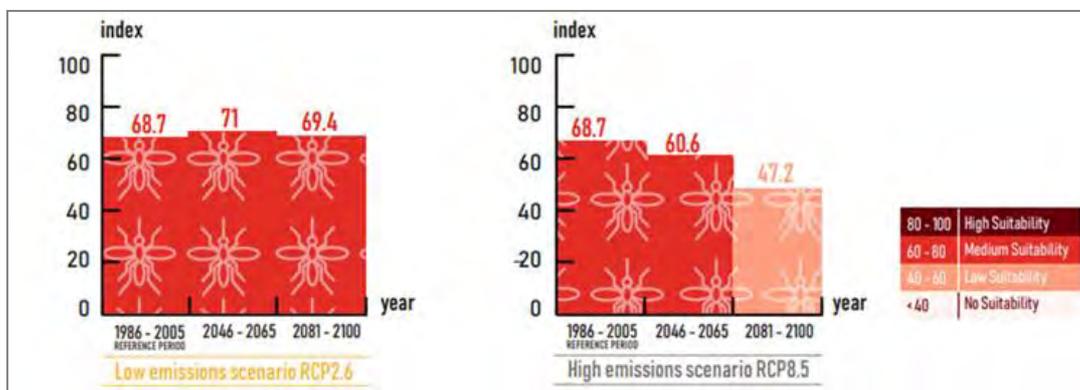


Figure 13: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colours indicate increases while blue colours indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability].

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.3](#).

Forest weather index (FWI)

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner, 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods.

For Cyprus, N=77 grid cells were retained from the model's domain. In the following figure the ensemble means, and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. The fire danger for this island is the highest among the Mediterranean islands.

According to the model simulations, there are areas that already belong to very high fire danger class. It seems that under RCP2.6, the index slightly increases by 5%. On the other hand, under RCP8.5 the increase in fire danger exceeds 20% by the end of the century. Even this increase is lower than in other islands, the majority of the island will be under high and very high fire danger.



FIRE WEATHER INDEX (FWI)

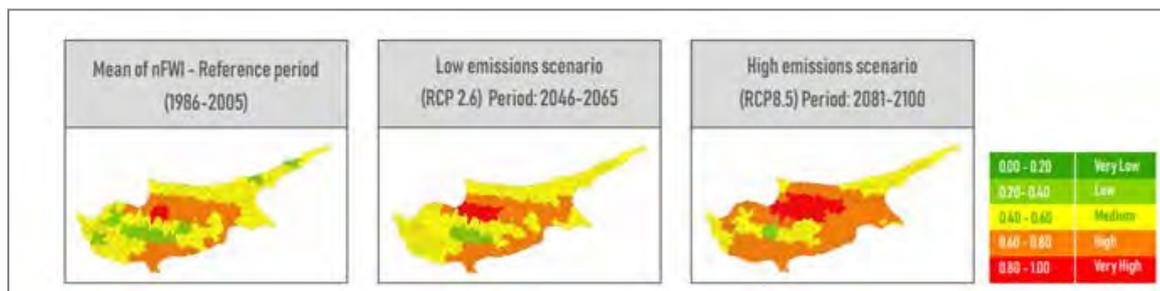


Figure 14: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the colour associated to the level of risk
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4c](#).

Humidex

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Cyprus, N=77 grid cells were retained from the model's domain. In the present climate, the days with discomfort cover almost 3 months, with a small increase at the mid-century and for the RCP2.6, while respective number of days at the end of the century will correspond to more than 5 months.

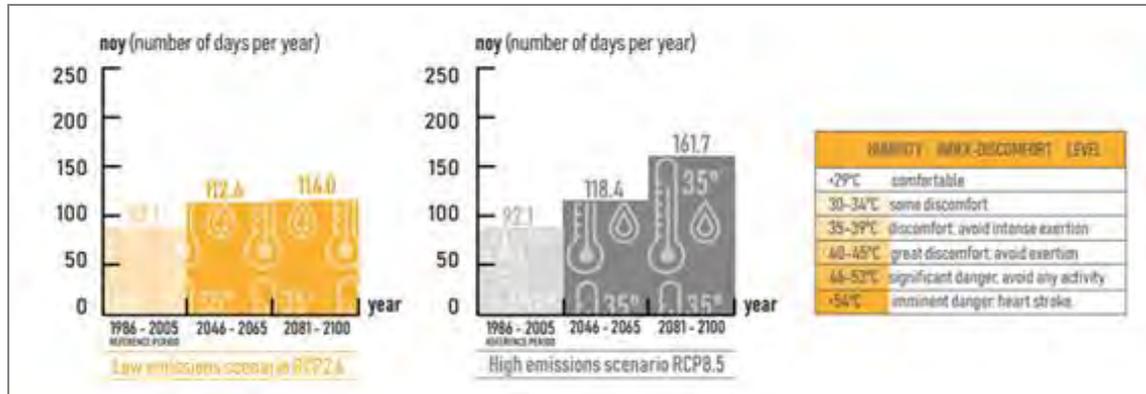


Figure 15: Humidex. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.3](#).

3.2 Aquaculture

The predicted impacts of climate change on the oceans and seas of the planet is expected to have direct impacts on marine based aquaculture systems. Basic effects are the following (Soto and Brugere, 2008):

- Change in biophysical characteristics of coastal areas.
- Increased invasions from alien species.
- Increased spread of diseases.
- Changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, salinity, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters.
- Changes in the differences between sea and air temperature, which will alter the seasonality, frequency and severity of storms, cyclones and other extreme events, affect the stability of the coastal resources, and potentially increase the damages in infrastructure.

Sea level rise, acidification, changes in precipitation and other effects will also add to the changes in coastal ecosystems and environment, thus affecting production and infrastructure (=investments).

Temperature changes in seawater trigger physical impacts; increased harmful algal blooms, decreased oxygen level, increase in diseases and parasites, changes in ranges of suitable species, increased growth rate, increased food conversion ratio and more extended growing season. Furthermore, all these impacts lead to socio-economic implications among them; changes in production levels and an increase in fouling and pests. The objective of the current analysis is to identify and quantify the variations (future climate scenarios with respect to present climate) in the number and in the duration of events characterized by a Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeding a given

threshold. The SST thresholds have been identified according to the farming and feeding necessities of several marine species, particularly relevant for the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Sea (MS).

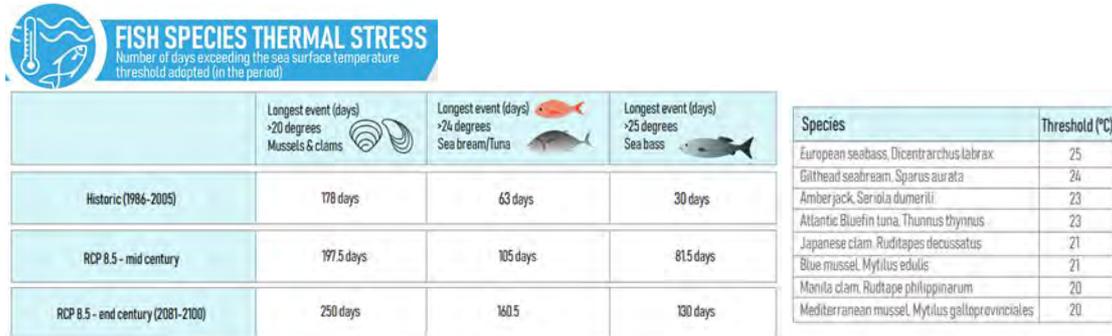


Figure 16: Number of days per year Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeds a given threshold.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

3.3 Energy

Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile - T_{98p}

The T_{98p} is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005. For Cyprus, $N=77$ grid cells were retained from the model's domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RCPs.

It is found that T_{98p} is about 7% during RCP2.6 towards mid-century and slightly decreases at the end of the century, while for RCP8.5 more than 20% of the year will exhibit temperatures above the 98th percentile.

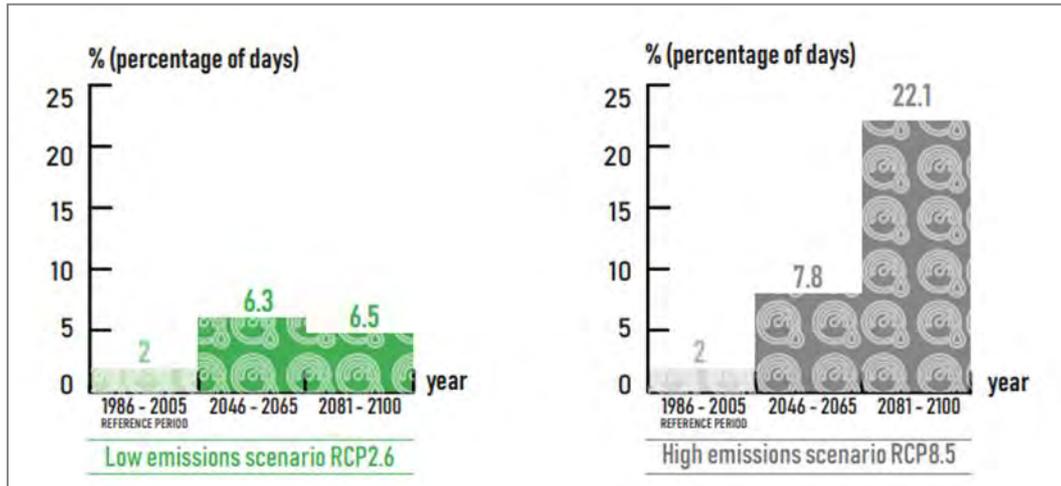


Figure 17: Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.3](#).

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud et al., 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Photovoltaic energy productivity

Spatial differences between areas of the Cyprus Island can be appreciated, with minimum values in mountain regions. Changes in future periods are also different for that areas in comparison with the maritime area, where a generalized decrease is projected. Although some positive changes are seen over land in some areas, especially for the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the century, spatially averaged changes over land are negative, although they are very small (less than 2%). The higher decrease is projected also for the

RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the century over the sea. In spatial average, it represents a 4% of negative change.

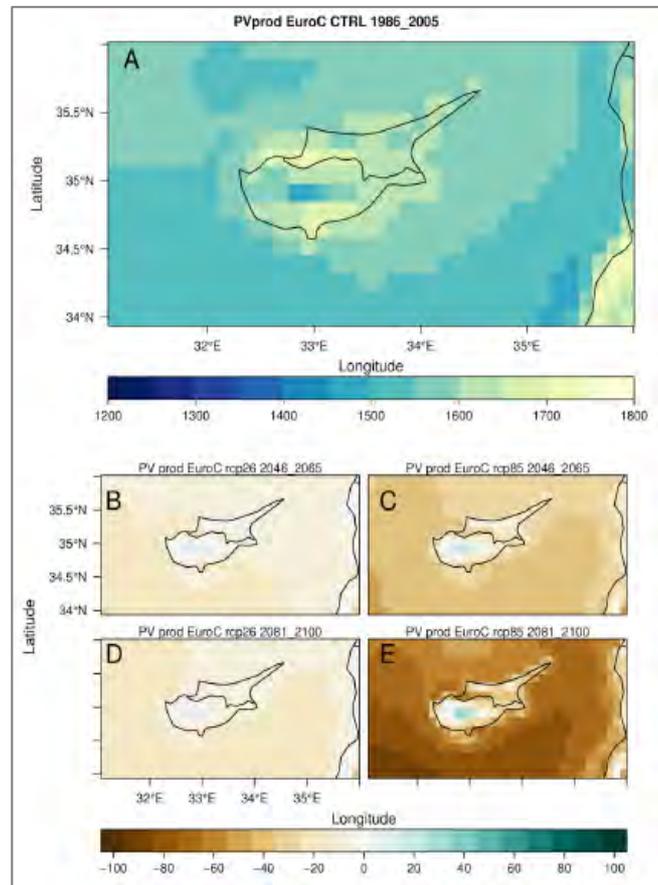


Figure 18: Panel A: Yearly mean photovoltaic productivity [kWh/kW] for the control time period (1986-2005). Panel B: Changes in yearly mean photovoltaic productivity in the RCP2.6 scenario for the 2046-2065 period with respect to the control. Panel C: As for panel B but for the RCP8.5 scenario. Panel D: Changes in yearly mean photovoltaic productivity in the RCP2.6 scenario for the 2081-2100 period with respect to the control. Panel E: As for panel D but for the RCP8.5 scenario.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).



SOCLIMPACT



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

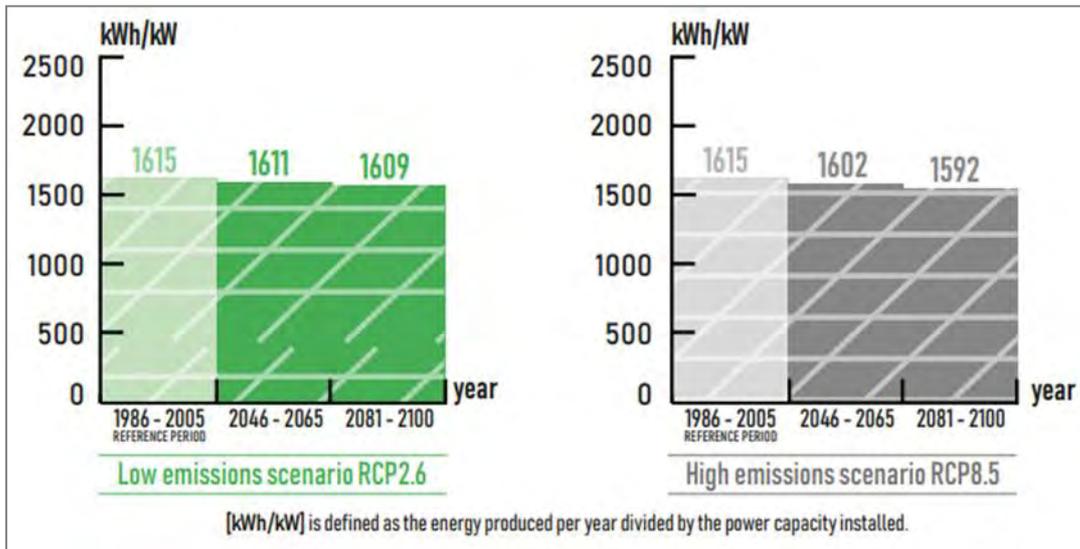


Figure 19: PV energy productivity. Ensemble of models –land
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

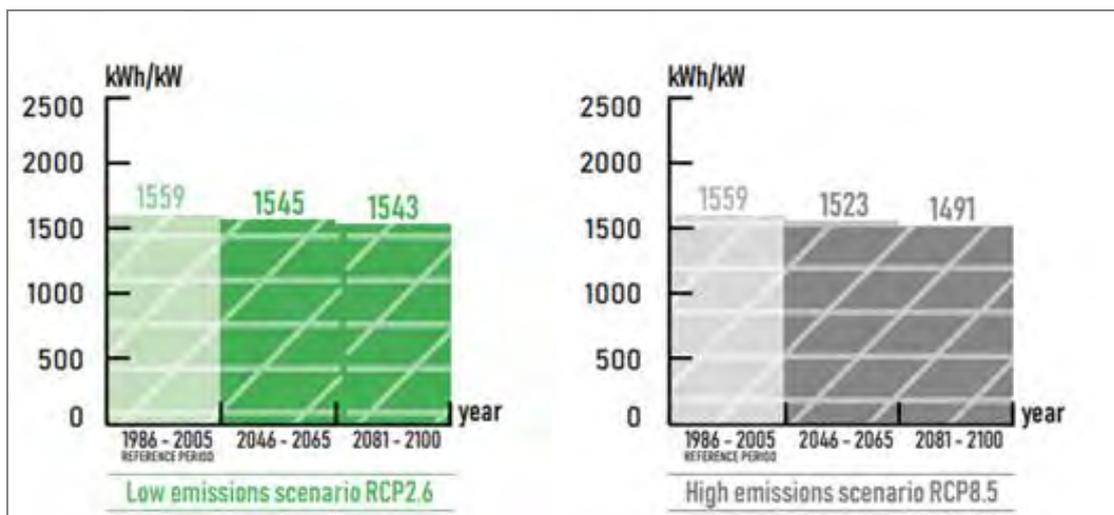


Figure 20: PV energy productivity. Ensemble of models –sea
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).

Wind energy productivity

No important changes are obtained for both RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios in the 2046-2065 period, except for a certain decrease over the sea in RCP8.5 of 3% in spatial average. However, at the end of the century, both RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 indicate a decrease in W_{prod} , which is more pronounced in the RCP8.5 scenario, specially over the sea (nearly 9% in spatial average). Model spread is high, with one model projecting a spatially averaged decrease of 13% over sea and nearly 18% over land in RCP8.5 at the end of the century. Other studies seem to also show a general decrease in this region (Tobin et al., 2015; 2016).

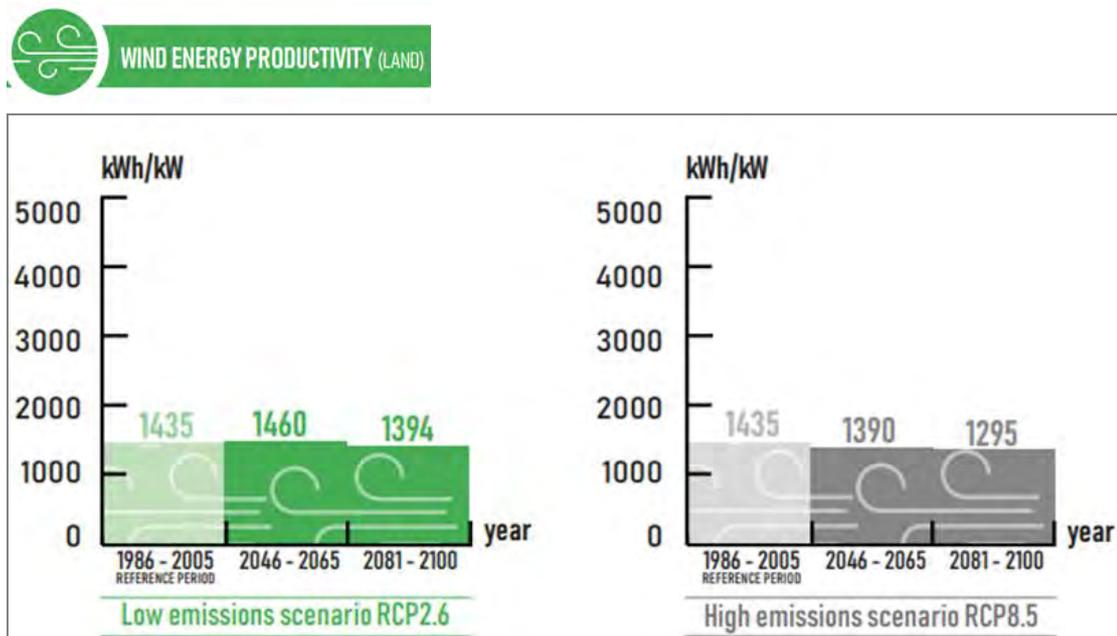


Figure 21: *Wind energy productivity. Ensemble of models –land*
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

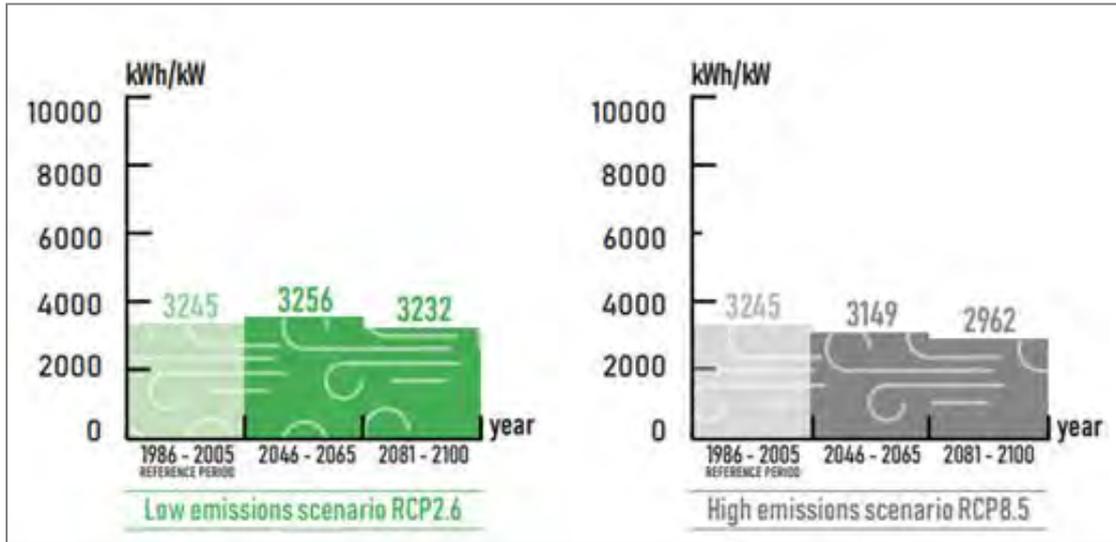


Figure 22: Wind energy productivity. Ensemble of models –sea
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Wind productivity droughts in the control period are quite frequent, especially to the west of the island. In the RCP2.6 scenario, changes in the frequency of wind droughts show great spatial variability over the considered domain. In the RCP8.5 case, there is a sharp increase in the number of drought days in all regions except for the marine areas immediately to the north and to the south of the island. The increase observed in the RCP8.5 scenario in the 2081-2100 time period is greater than 4% of all days (about 16 days more per year) for moderate droughts over land. Changes in the occurrence of wind droughts are roughly consistent with changes observed in wind productivity.



SOCLIMPACT

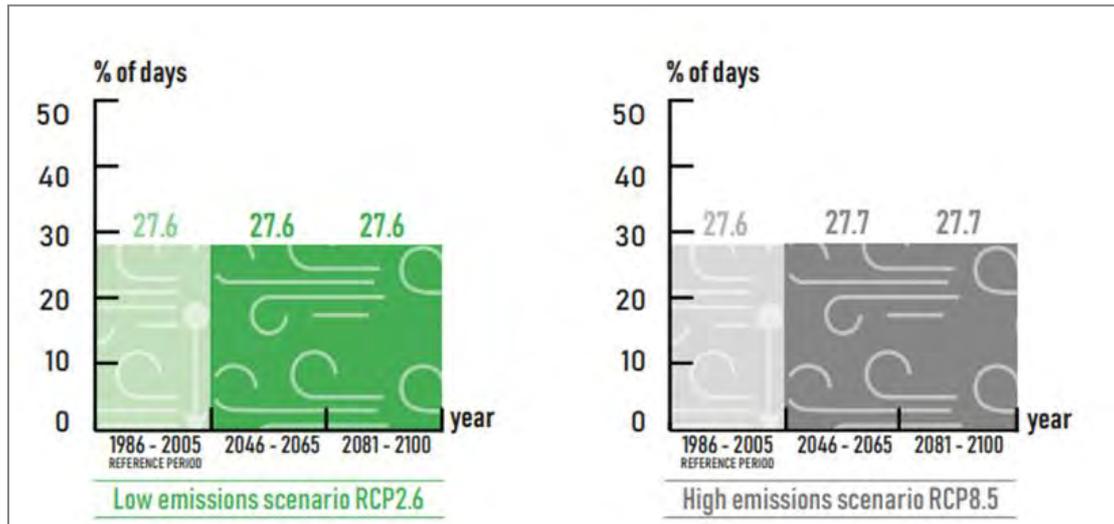


Figure 23: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days-WIND (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).

PV droughts are much less frequent than wind droughts in the control period. They are also more prone to develop over the west of the island (not shown). Interestingly, a general decrease in the frequency of moderate PV droughts is projected in both scenarios. Severe PV droughts are already very infrequent in the control period (about 3 days per year) and tend to experience very little changes with a minor decrease over localised areas. The combination of PV and wind energy has large positive effects on the drought frequency: The combined severe drought frequency is practically zero, pointing to a high complementarity of wind and solar energy.



SOCLIMPACT

ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

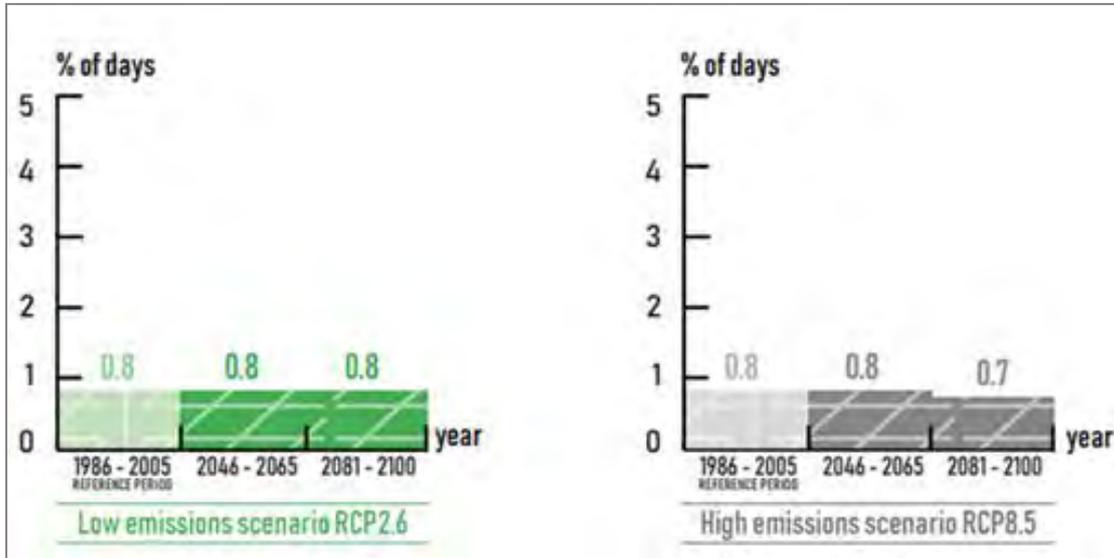


Figure 24: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days-PV (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).

ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

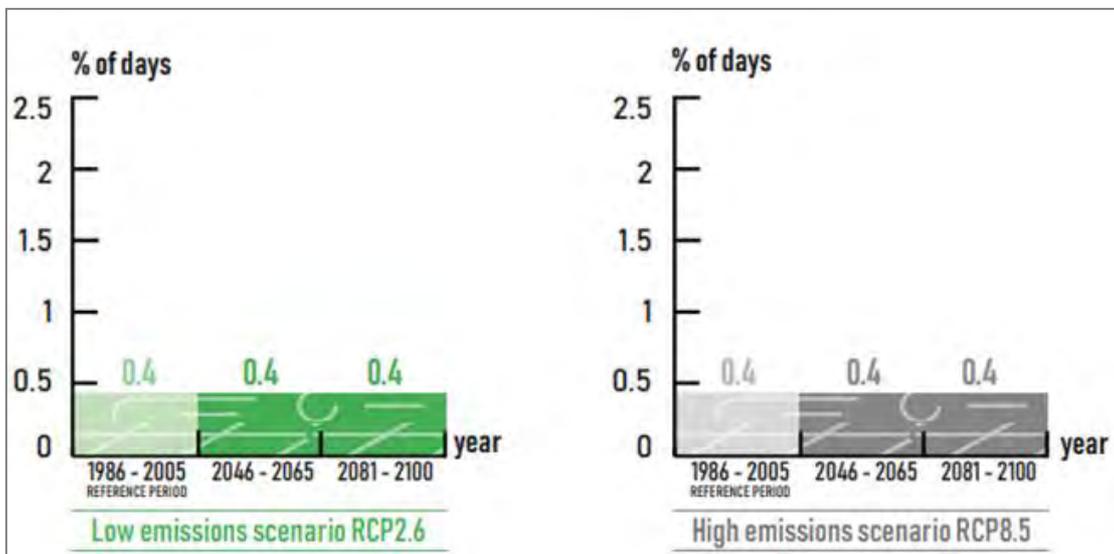


Figure 25: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days-COMBINED (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4a](#).

Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing provides the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room.

For Cyprus, at the end of century, under RCP8.5., the increase of number of days is almost 150%, that else the triple of the hindcast.

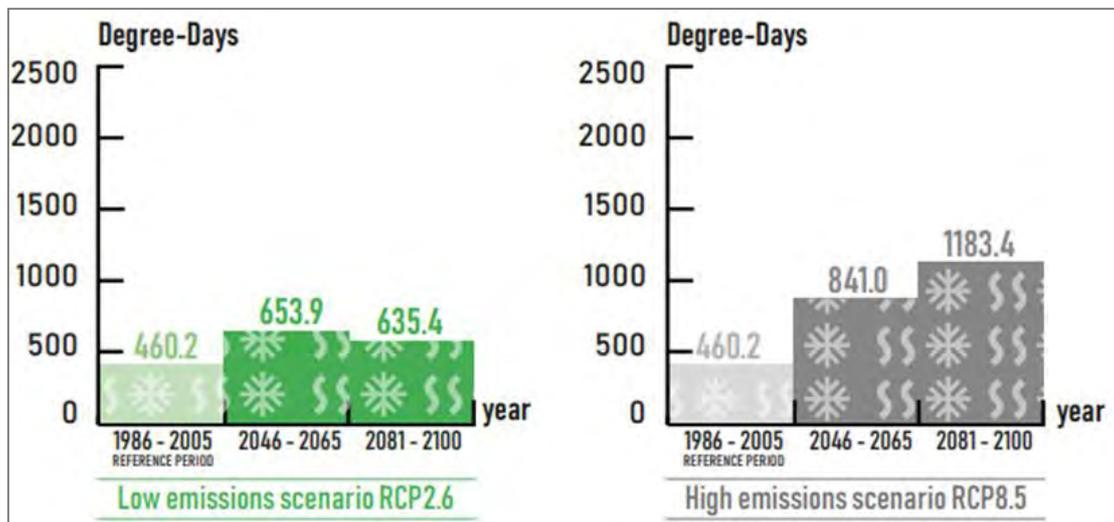


Figure 26: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.3](#).

Available water: Standardized precipitation index

This index is used as an indication of water availability. For Cyprus only some regions of the north-east of the island are expected to be affected under RCP2.6 and exceed the “dry” conditions threshold. Under the business-as-usual RCP8.5 forcing, parts of the island are expected to experience extreme dry conditions that will be evident even from the mid-21st century. Mild changes are projected under RCP2.6, while under the business-as-usual scenario the whole island is expected to be severely affected by meteorological droughts.



SOCLIMPACT

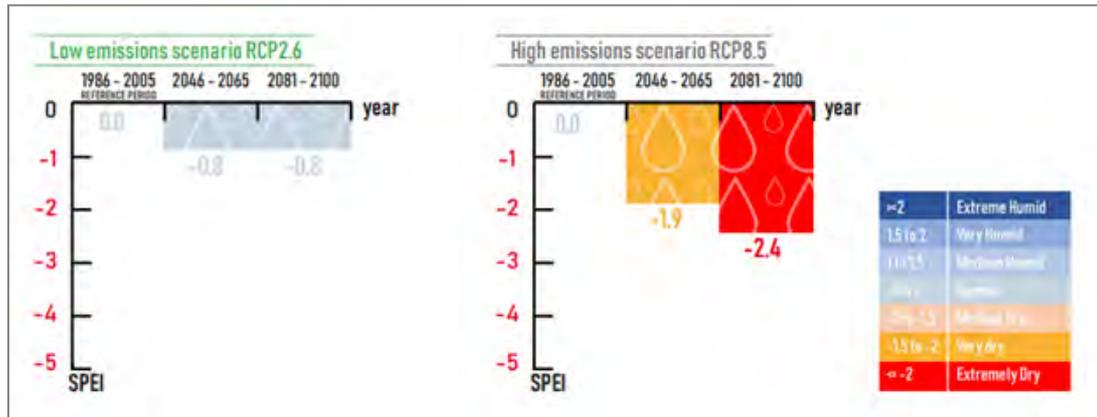


Figure 27: Ensemble mean, maximum and minimum values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged over each SOCLIMPACT island and for each sub-period of analysis (EURO-CORDEX).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.3](#).

3.4 Maritime transport

Mean sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk.

Several factors affect the evolution of mean sea level. At global scale, first, mass variations linked to the addition/removal of water from the ocean can be induced by land-based ice melting or by changes in the groundwater due to, basically, human activities. Second, thermal expansion due to ocean warming would also induce a rise of global mean sea level. Furthermore, regional changes are also expected and could induce a major contribution to total sea level rise at coastal scale. These are linked to the gravitational fingerprint of changes in the ocean mass, to changes in the circulation patterns (which in turn are related to the steric/density variations), to mass redistribution by atmospheric pressure and wind, and to land motion. All these factors cannot be modelled at the same time as they involve very different processes, so the typical approach is to use different models to cope with the different contributions.

For Cyprus, the SLR ranges from 28.90 cm to 57.81 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.

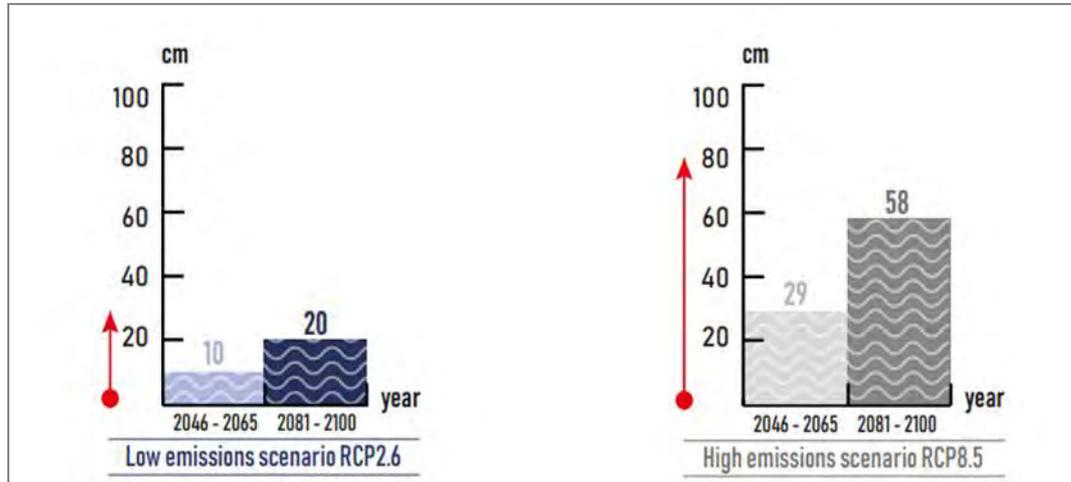


Figure 28: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4b](#).

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides. Different diagnostics can be used to characterize the storm surge events in terms of intensity, length or frequency and each option is suitable for different applications (i.e. infrastructure design would typically rely on return levels, while beach morphodynamics relies on percentiles). Nevertheless, previous studies have shown that the qualitative conclusions are equivalent and as far as no clear thresholds have been defined for the impact chains the simplest approach has been followed using the 95th percentile to define extreme sea level events.

To characterize storm surge high frequency (sub-daily) sea level data is required, which unfortunately is scarce. Most climate models provide only daily to monthly outputs so they cannot be used for this task. To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello et al. (2016). This ensemble consists of 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at $1/4^\circ$ of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations. The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels.

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The results show a very low or even non-existent decrease except for RCP8.5 at the end of the century. Cyprus is the island where the value is the highest over the hindcast in the Mediterranean area but also the one with the lowest decrease in the far future.

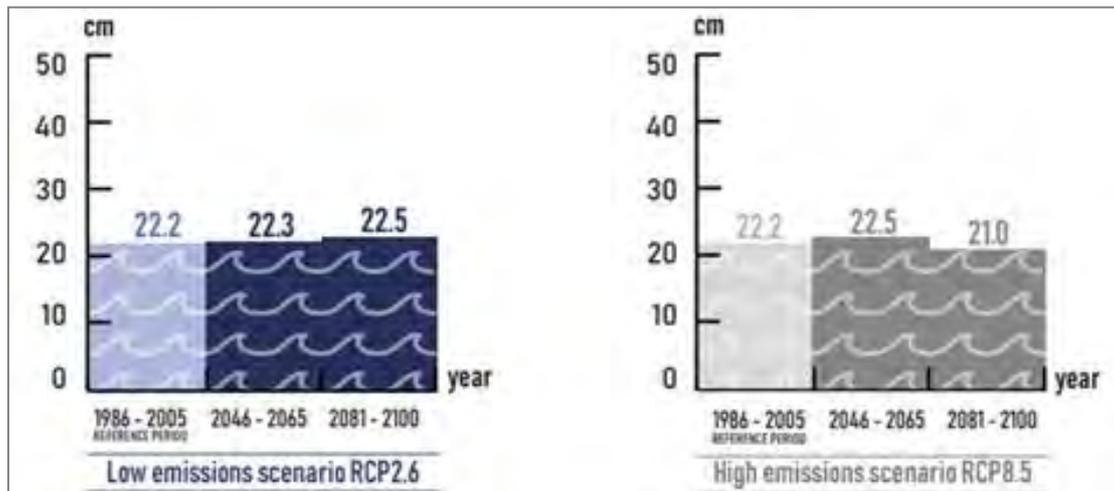


Figure 29: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5 and (relative change in %).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4b](#).

Frequency of extreme high winds

This hazard indicator makes use of two indices:

- The wind extremity index (NWIX98), which is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed (of the reference period 1986-2005), and
- The 98th percentile of daily wind speed (WIX98) around the islands, which is calculated for the same periods and scenarios as the NWIX98 indicator.

The indices were calculated for each island, model, scenario and period. The mean NWIX98 for each island is calculated for an area within about 50 km around the

coastline of each island (approximated as a rectangle). The land covered grid points of the islands themselves are not taken into consideration.

The calculation was performed for all available combinations of global (GCM) and regional (RCM) models. Their ensemble mean and uncertainty (described by the ensemble minimum and maximum) are provided for the reference period (1986-2005), as well as the two future periods of interest (mid-century: 2046-2065 and end-century: 2081-2100) for EURO and MENA–CORDEX simulations and for the reference period (1981-2000), as well as the selected future period (2031-2050) for ESCENA simulations.

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future under RCP8.5 (- 22 %).

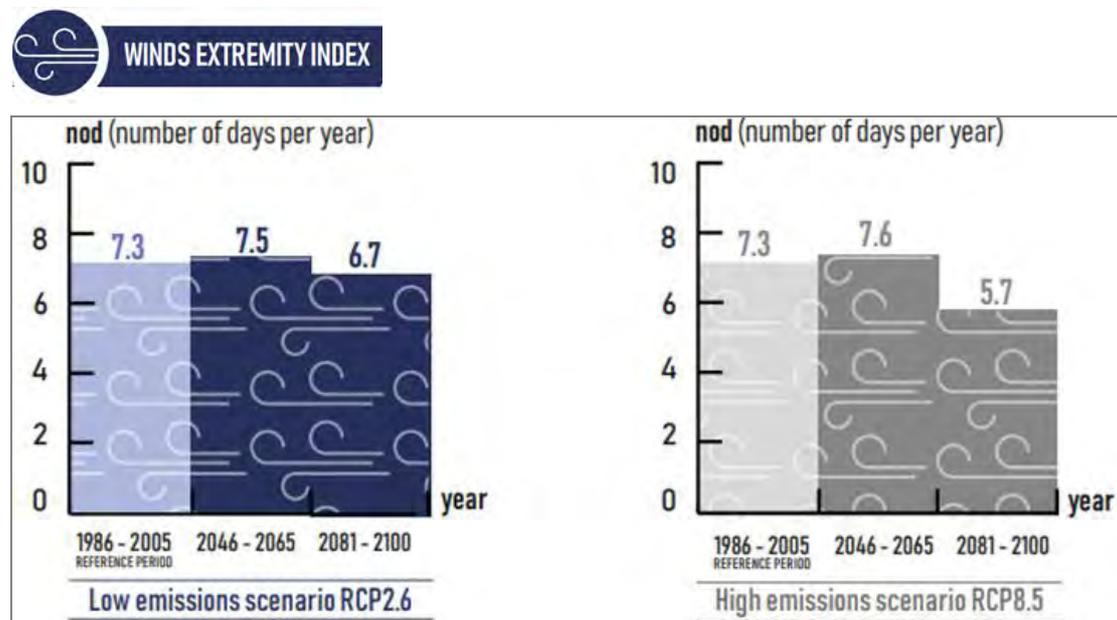


Figure 30: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.3](#).

Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases for all islands except Crete and Fehmarn. However, the magnitude of the relative change is much smaller than for the NWIX98. The maximum magnitude of relative change in WIX98 is -3.8% for the island of Madeira at the end of the century under RCP8.5 compared to a change in NWIX98 of -32.3% for the same island, period and emission scenario.

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of

significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map.

In relative terms, the averaged changes are lower than 10% even under the stronger scenario. The more significant change is observed under RCP8.5. at the end of century with -7%.

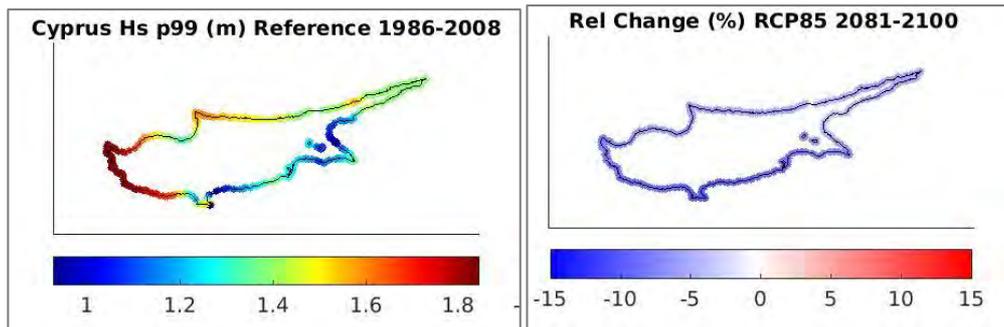


Figure 31: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4b](#).

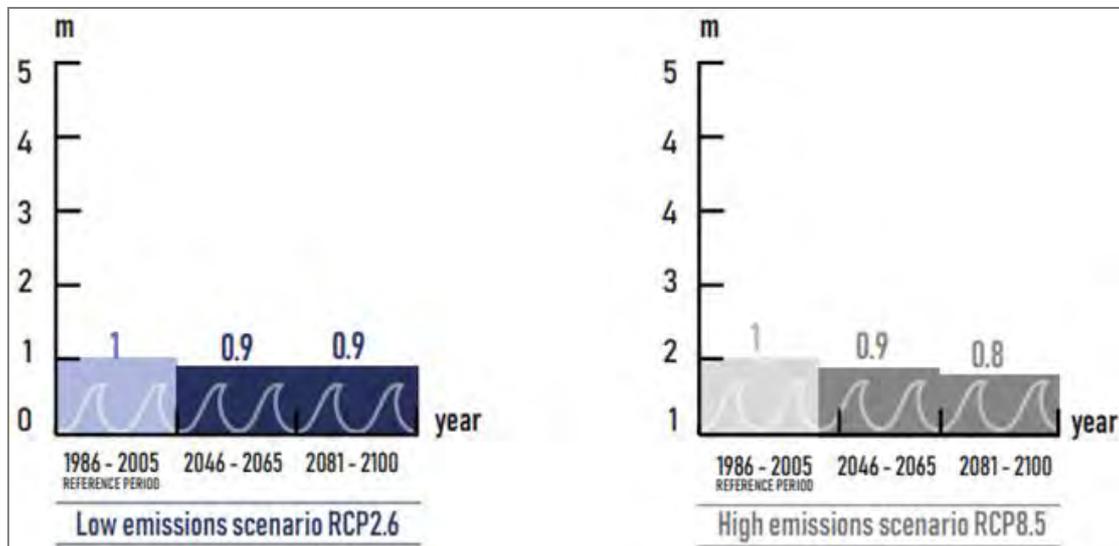


Figure 32: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.4b](#).

4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

In this section of tourism, we present the results of operationalization if three impact chains.

1. Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas
2. Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitats degradation
3. Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “**Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination**”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer et al. 2013; Fritzsche et al. 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1). For each of these components of the theoretical IC (step 2), several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalized to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardized risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

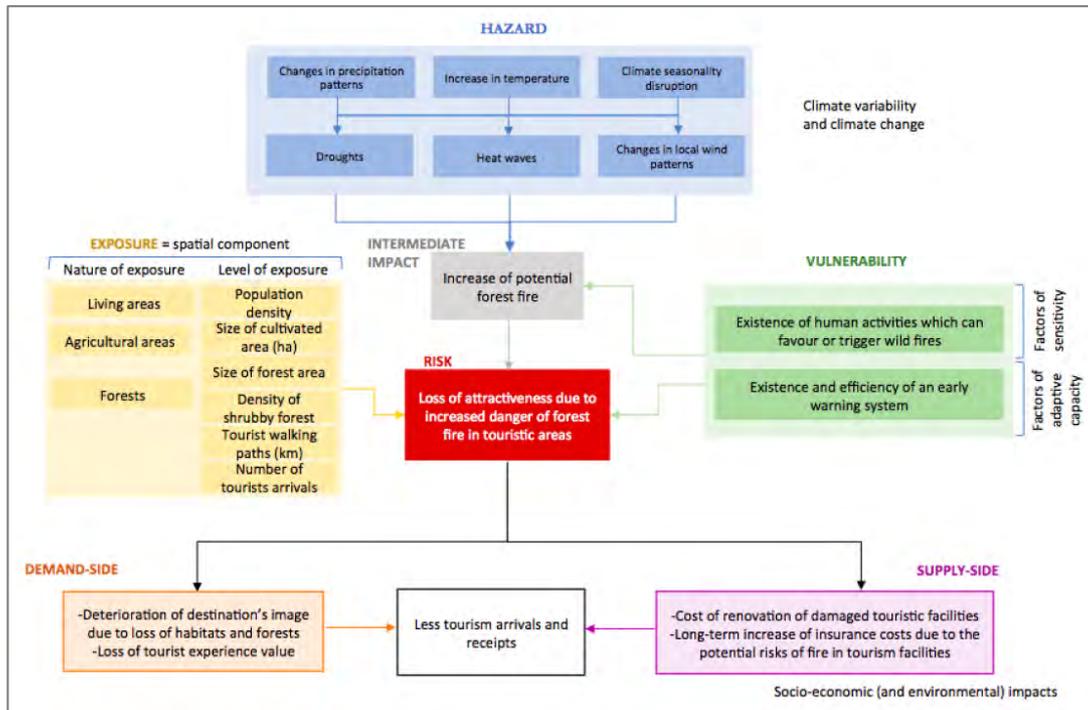


Figure 33: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D3.2.

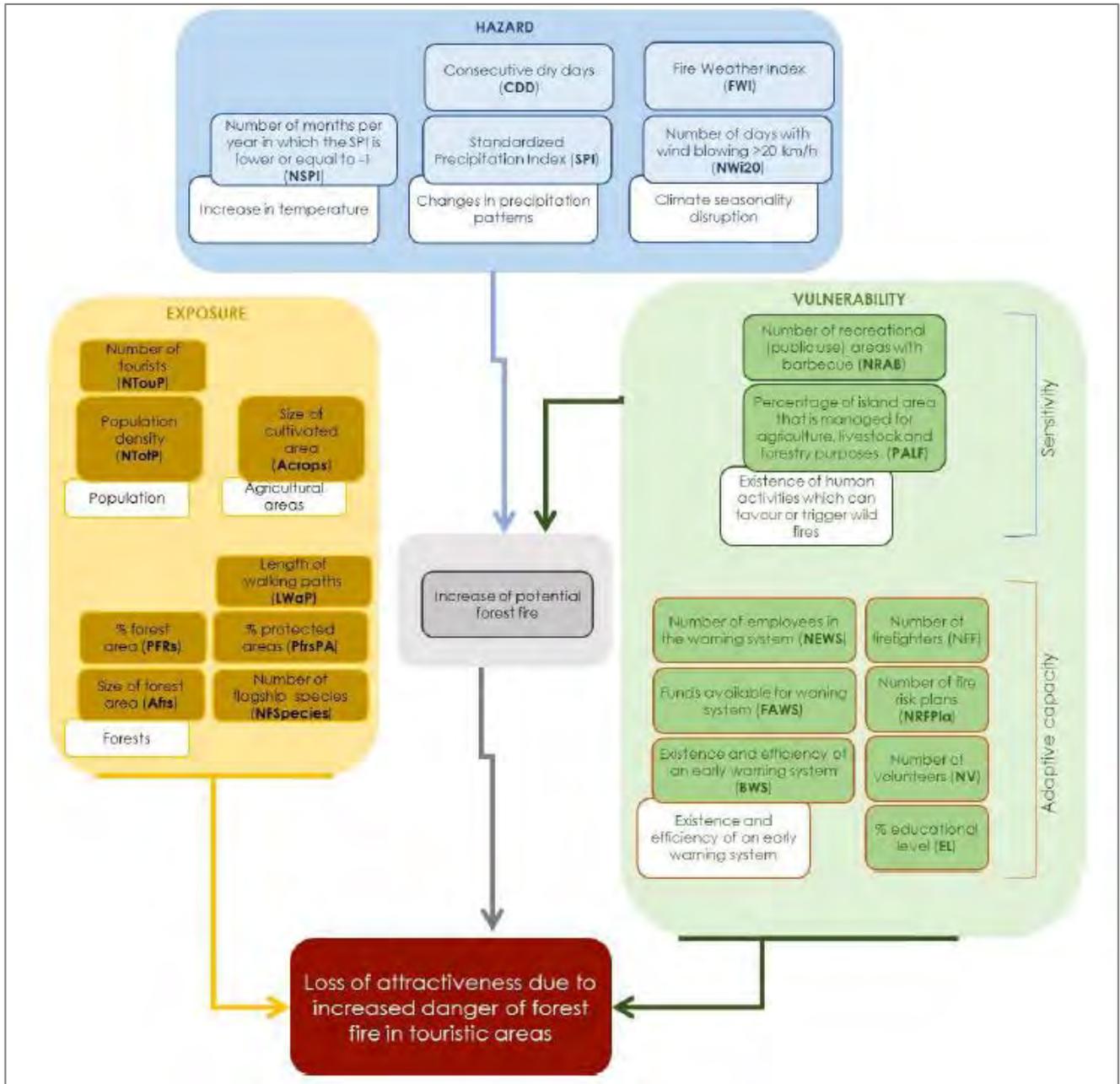


Figure 34: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D3.2](#).

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

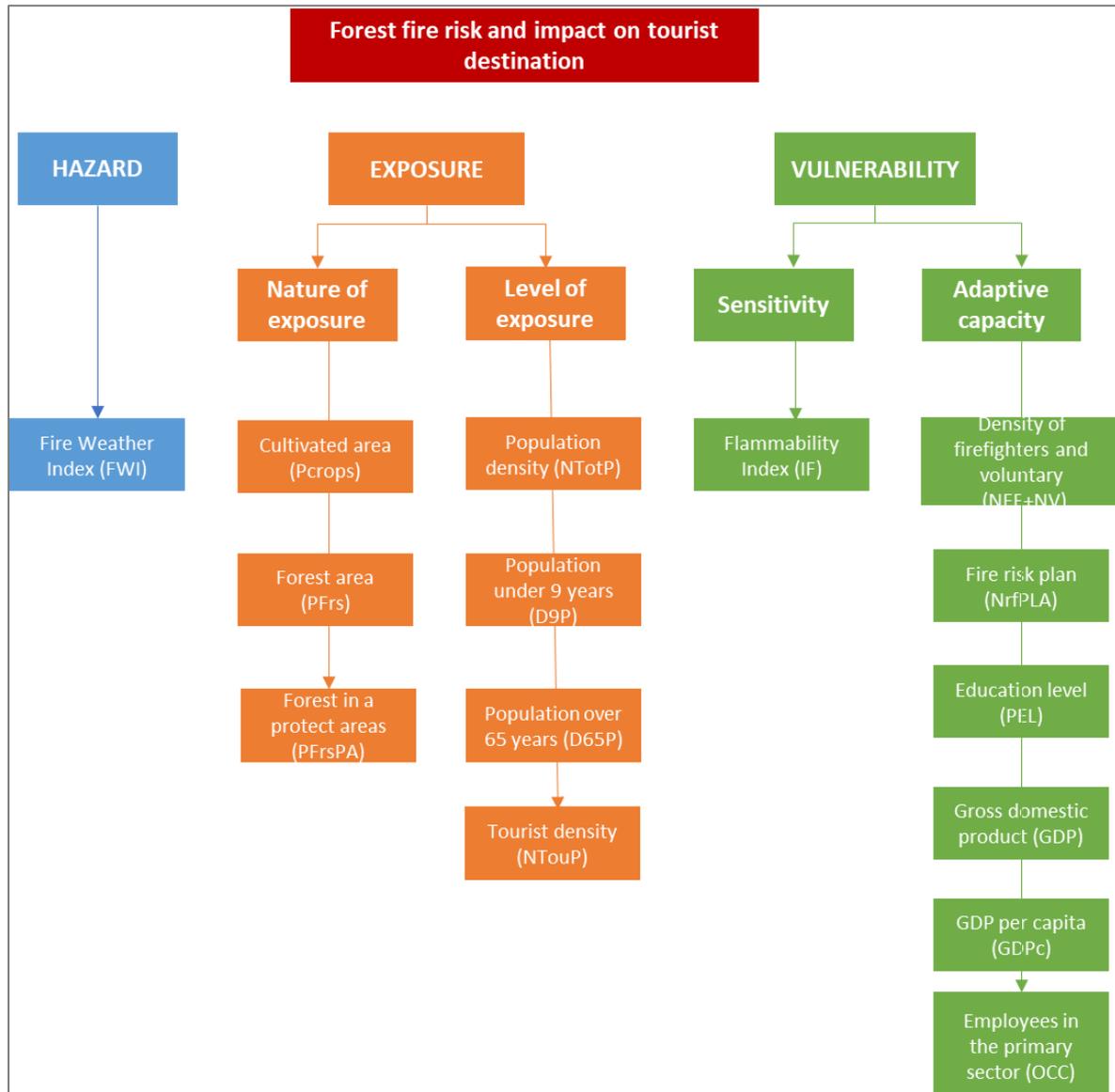


Figure 35: Final Impact Chain Model
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected.

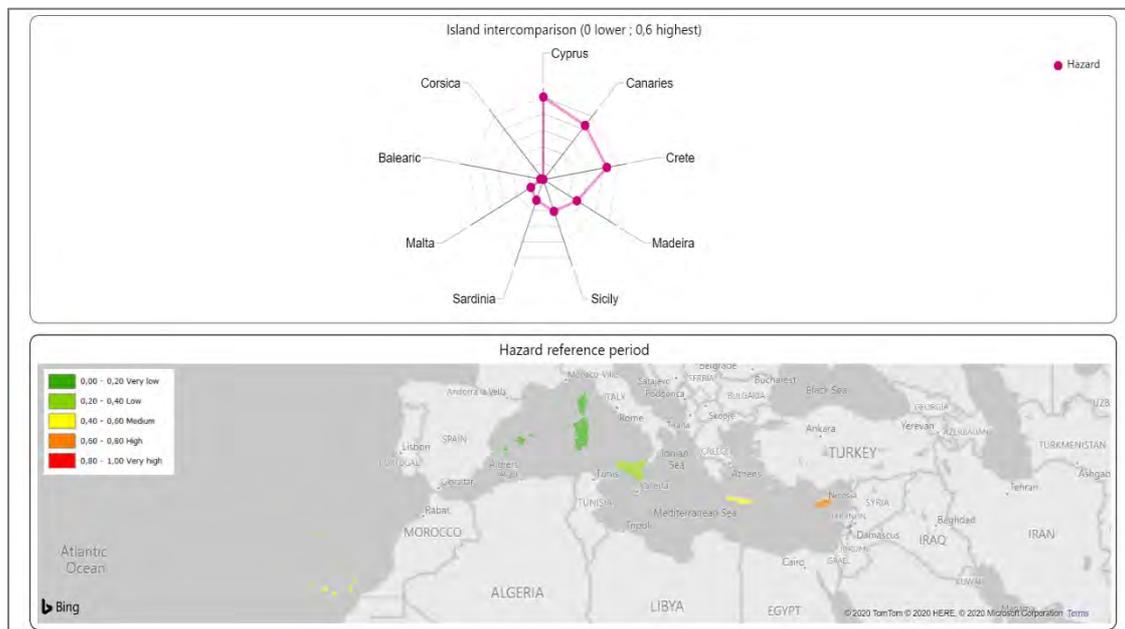


Figure 36: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

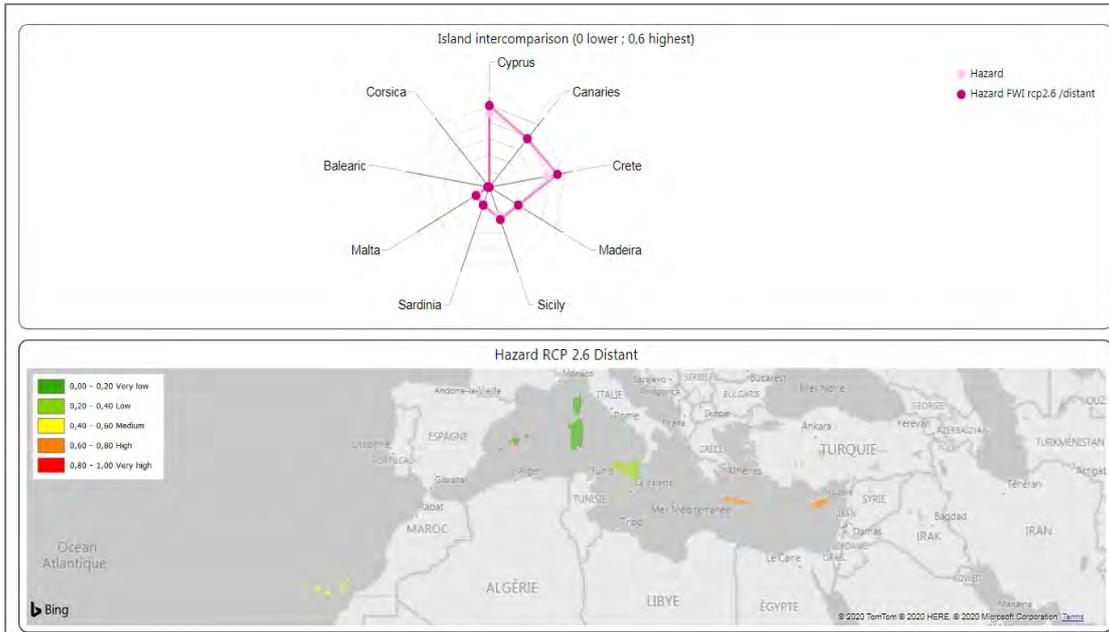


Figure 37: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

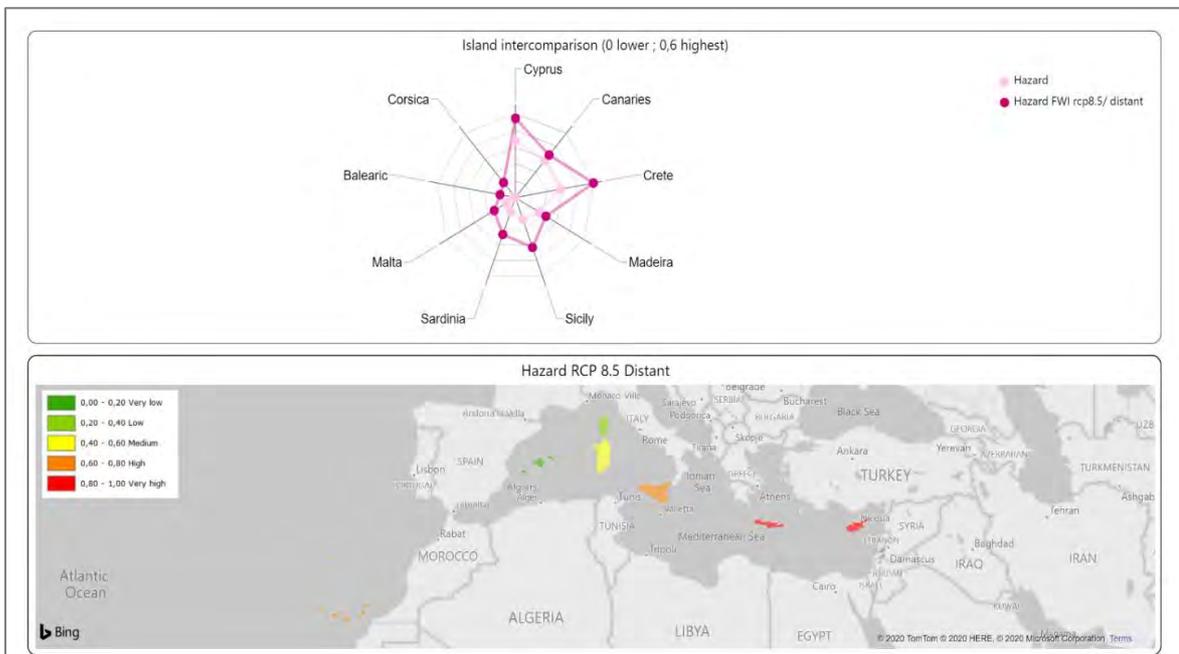


Figure 38: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

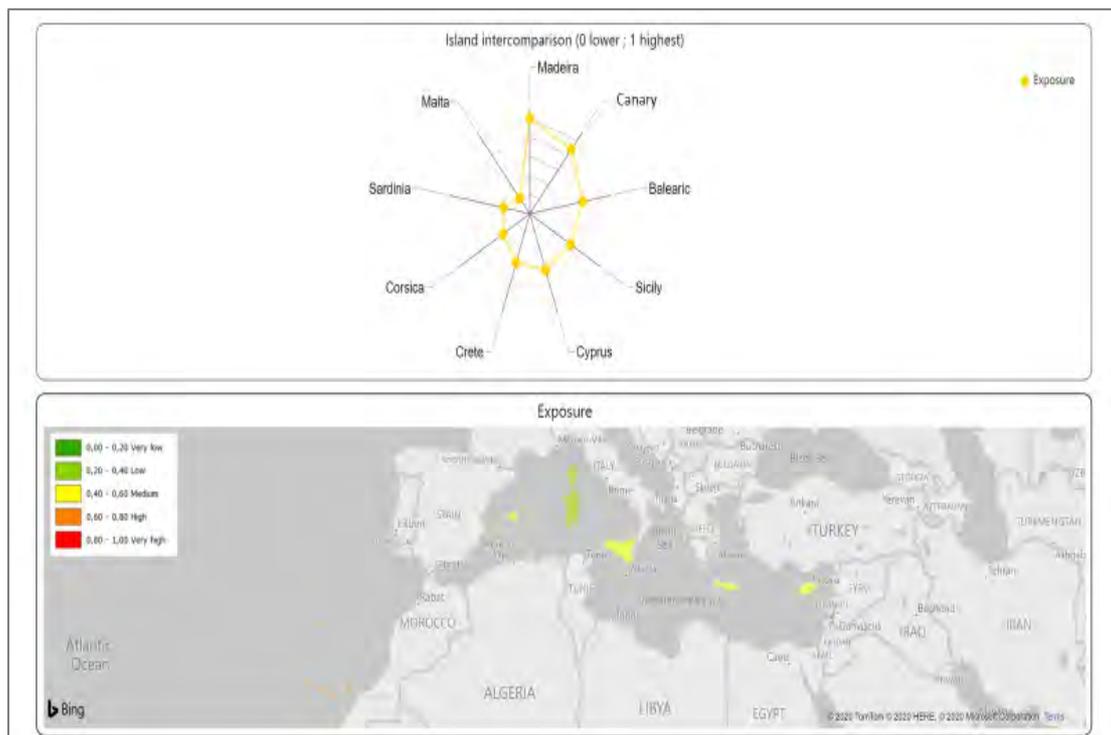


Figure 39: Exposure score (current period) per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

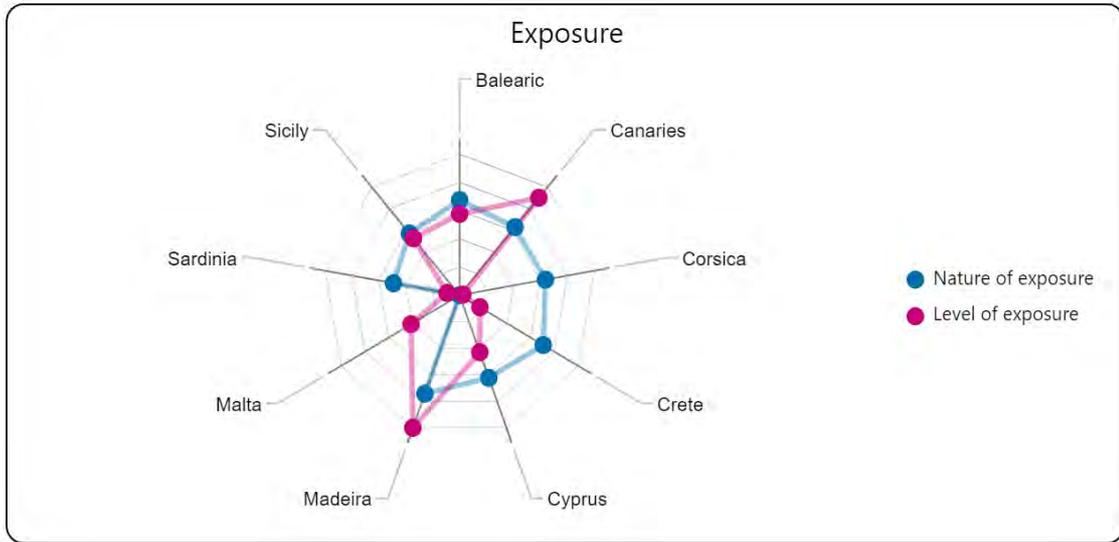


Figure 40: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

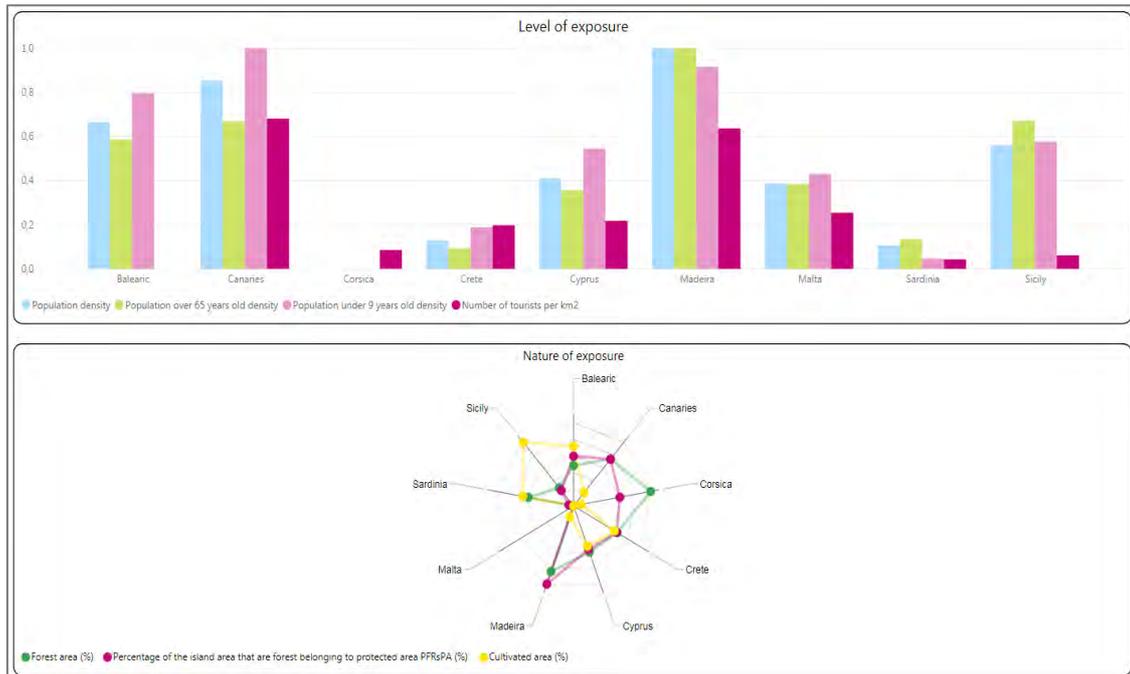


Figure 41: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

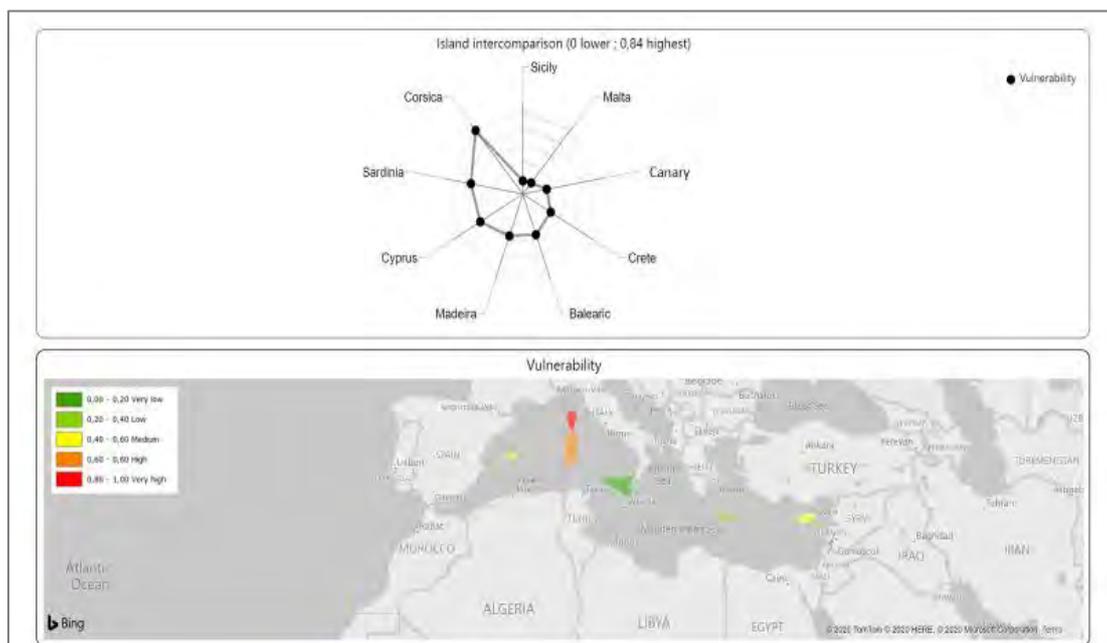


Figure 42: Vulnerability score per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

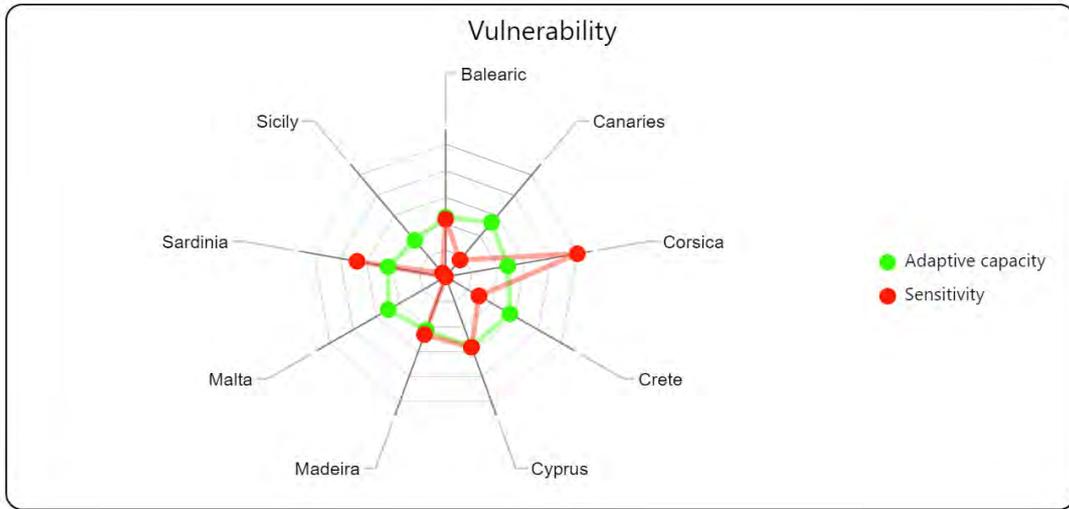


Figure 43: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).



Figure 44: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5 (distant future). Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

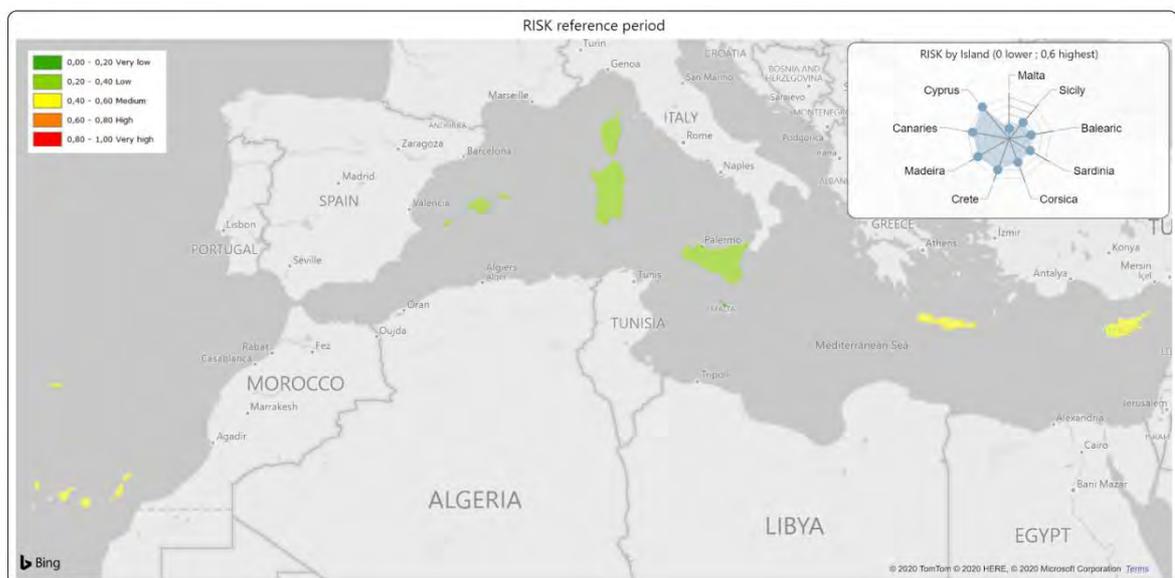


Figure 45 Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

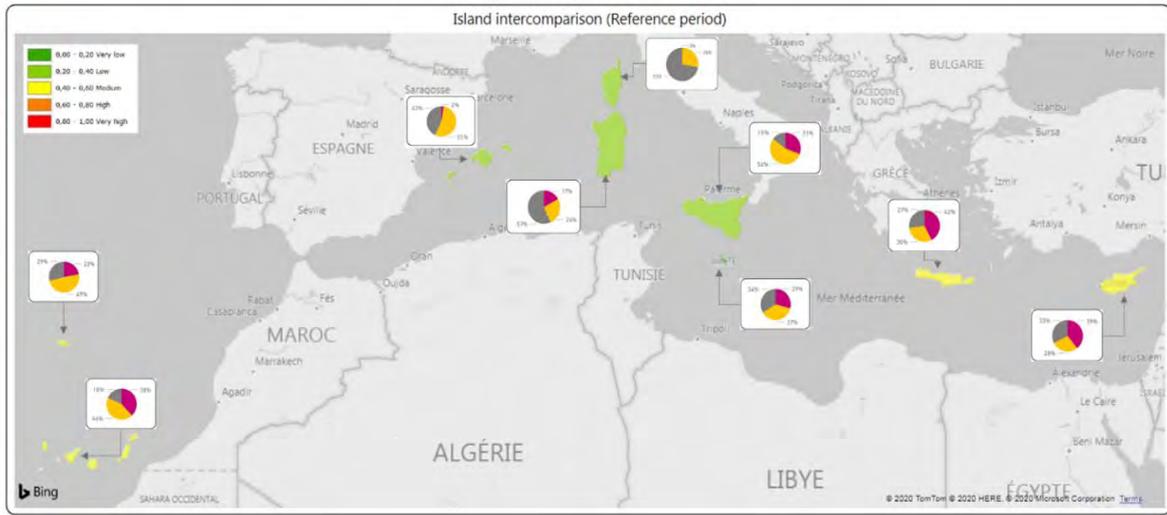


Figure 46: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

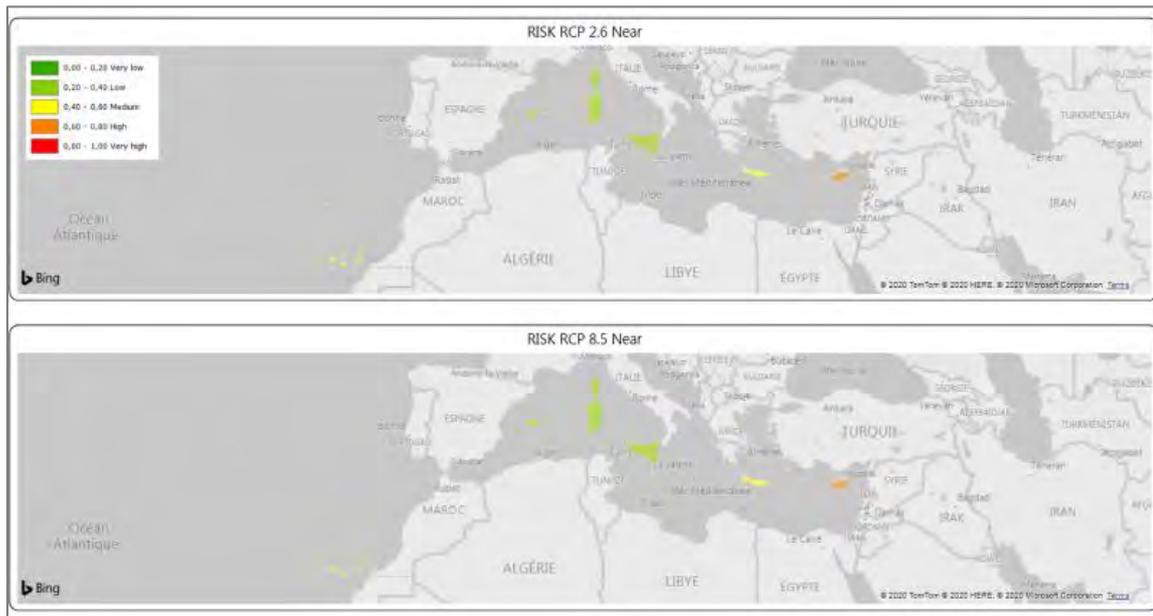


Figure 47: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

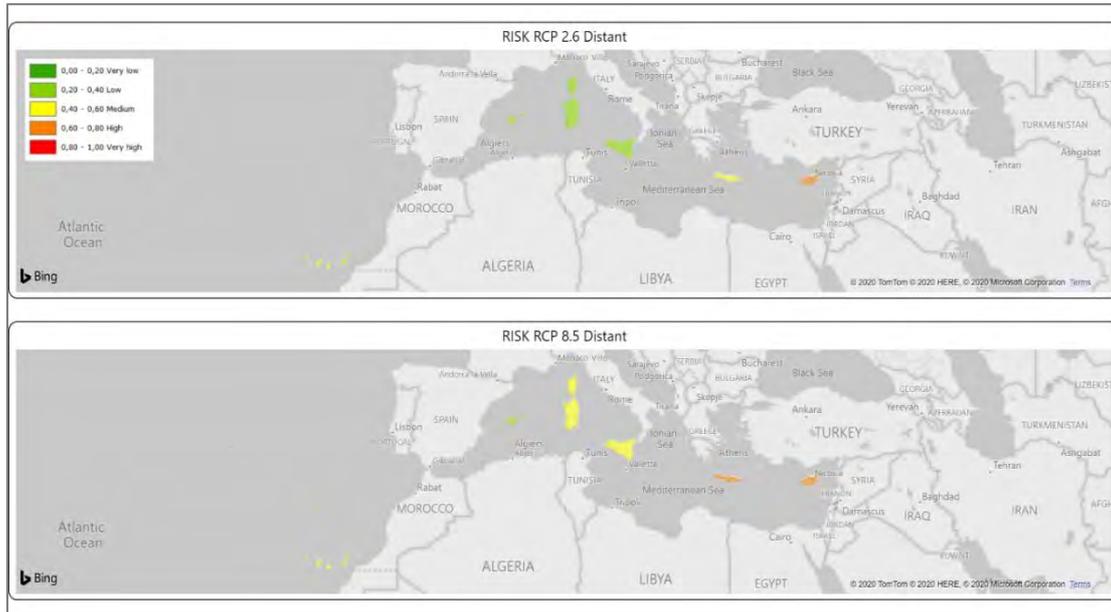


Figure 48: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

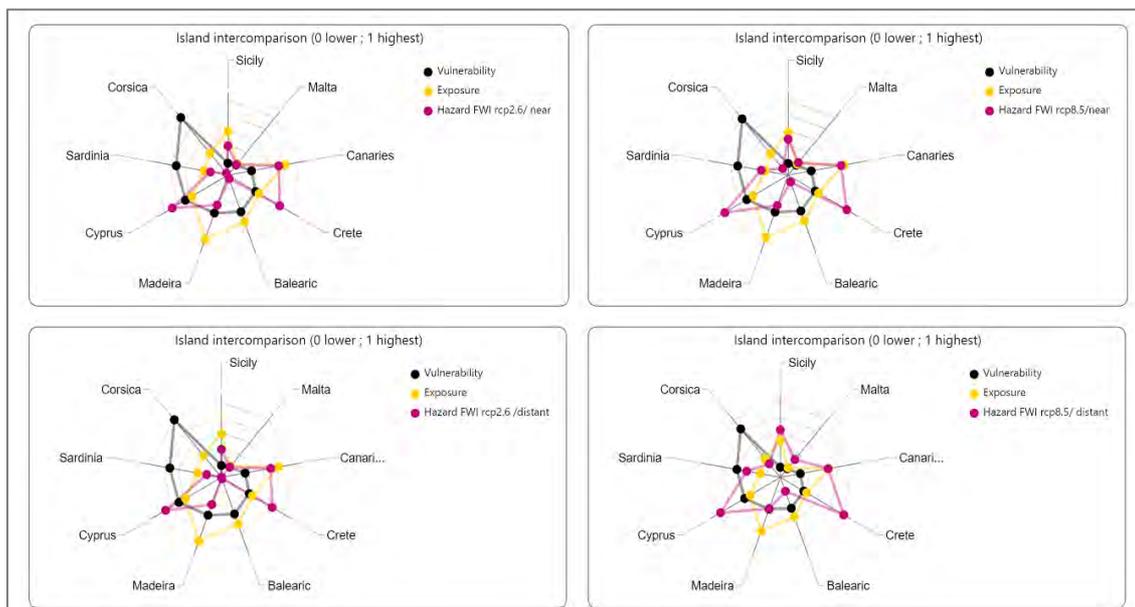


Figure 49: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Cyprus island results

The risk is medium under the reference period and high under both scenarios at the end of the century.

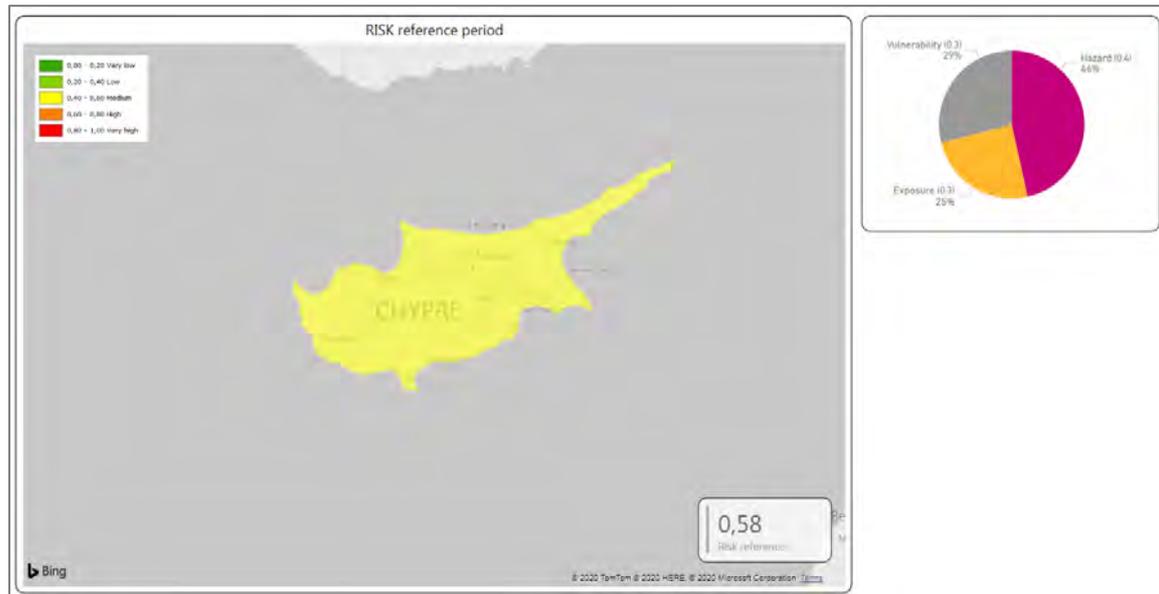


Figure 50: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).



Figure 51: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Considering the component of exposure, the sub-component of nature of expose is the most represented (59%).

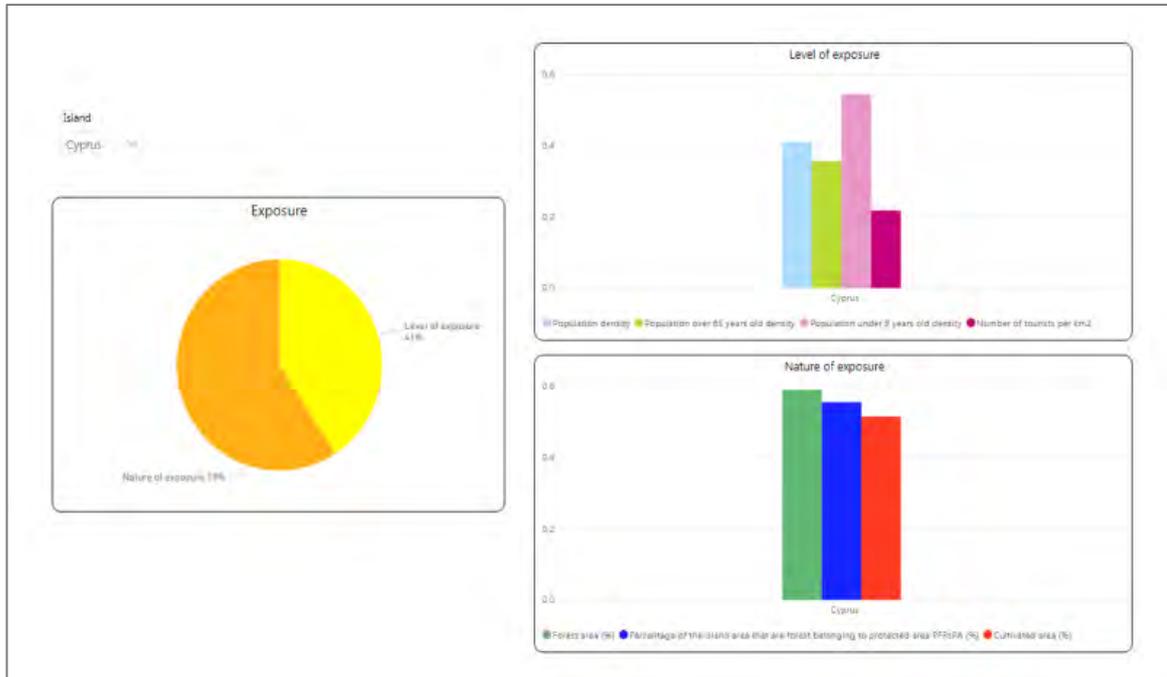


Figure 52: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Considering the component of vulnerability, both sub-components have the same significance.



Figure 53: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitats degradation

Climate change is expected to impact tourism activities through direct impacts on comfort and health of tourists, on the infrastructures and facilities that provide basic services to visitors and on the natural ecosystems that hold a big part of the attractions of the coastal and marine tourism destinations. The analysis of those impacts was decomposed into a single impact chain.

Specifically, it presents a conceptual model on the effect that Climate Change would have on conditions that make marine environments attractive for tourists visiting coastal destinations. More in detail, climate hazards like the increase of mean and variability of seawater temperature and the increase of oceans acidification, mainly, are affecting marine habitats with touristic relevance through diminishing bio-productivity and attracting exotic species, some of them toxic, and because of that, reducing the attractiveness of marine landscapes and the presence of flagship species; increasing turbidity in bathing and diving sea waters affecting the quality of bathing, diving, snorkelling and bottom-glass boating experiences, at least; and increased frequency and intensity of episodes of seagrasses massive death that arrive to the beaches affecting the experience of lying and staying there.

The next figure shows the theoretical impact chain. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. Increase in the mean and variability of seawater temperature is the main driver of marine habitat degradation; also seawater acidification impacts marine life although it substantially varies depending of the marine organisms;
2. The risk of those marine habitat transformations for tourism critically depends on the nature exposed to it, the amount and proportion of tourists that feel marine habitat is a relevant motivation to visit the destination, and the resilience of the exposed natural assets and tourists to those changes in the marine environmental conditions;
3. Finally, the preparedness to cope with the deterioration of its marine environment by developing substitutive attractions, is also a key aspect to assess the effective risk that those hazards pose on the tourism industry at the destination.

The complex relationship between climate change, marine habitats and tourism still exhibits important gaps of knowledge. For example, there is no evidence on the impact that the abovementioned hazards may have on the communities of cetaceans that live or pass through near the coasts of the islands under study. In some cases, this is a very important economic chapter within the tourism industry in the islands. Whether climate change is going to diminish or not the abundance or affect the distance of those cetacean communities from the island requires further research.

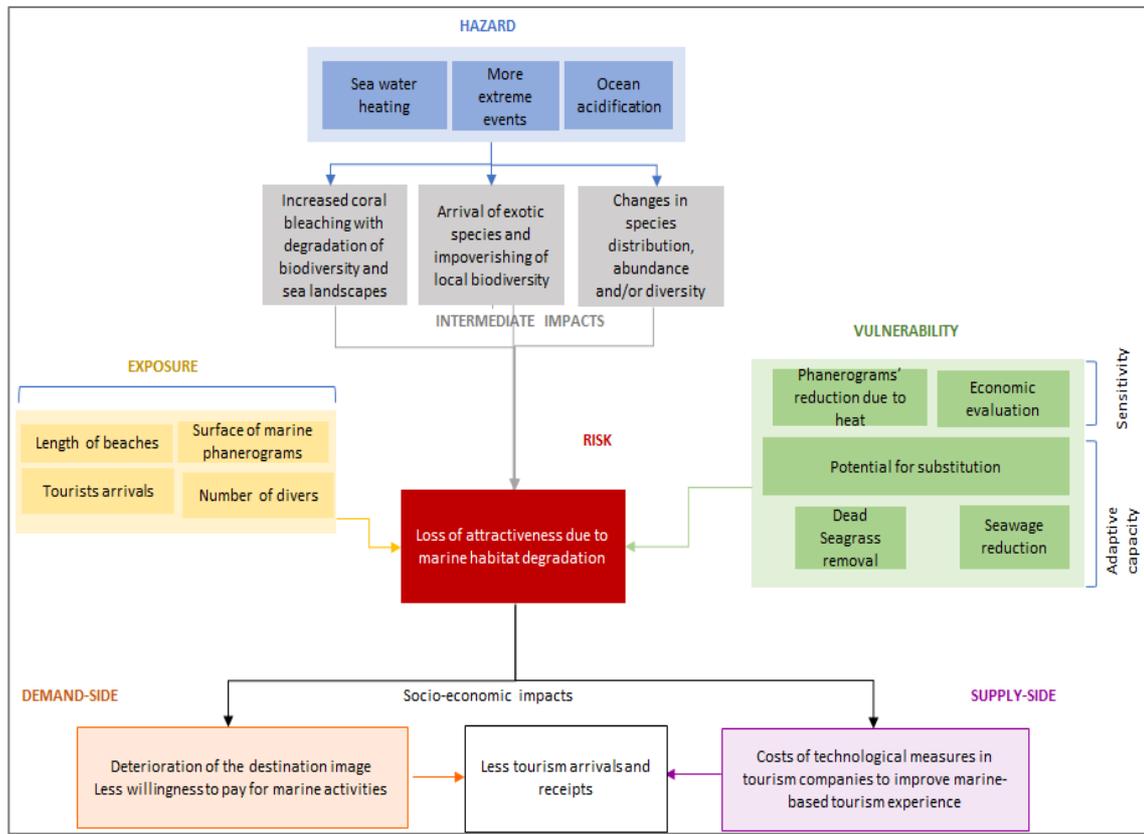


Figure 54: Loss of destination attractiveness due to marine environment degradation as a result of climate change hazards.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D3.2](#).

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability, which includes sensitivity and adaptive capacity) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to the degradation of the marine environment.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to the deterioration of their marine habitats as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements, together with the variables that express the tourism-related environmental and social systems' exposure to

those hazards, the sensitivity of the exposed systems to the referenced hazards and the social capacities to cope with the potential impacts of climate change by protecting nature and the society and/or making them more resilient.

Some modifications of the original impact chain were undertaken for the sake of feasibility, although experts were encouraged to have in mind all factors they know can affect the impact of climate change

on the marine habitat services for tourism. It means that the hierarchy tree is a simplified structure of the main factors explaining the complex relationship between climate change and the ecosystem services that support tourist use of marine environments, but other factors also known by experts must be taken into account at the time of comparing the components of the risk between islands. This is one of the most interesting strengths of the decision processes based on expert participation and, particularly, of the multicriteria analysis used in this case. The next figure shows the basic structure, or hierarchy tree, of the decision-making process that was presented to the experts.

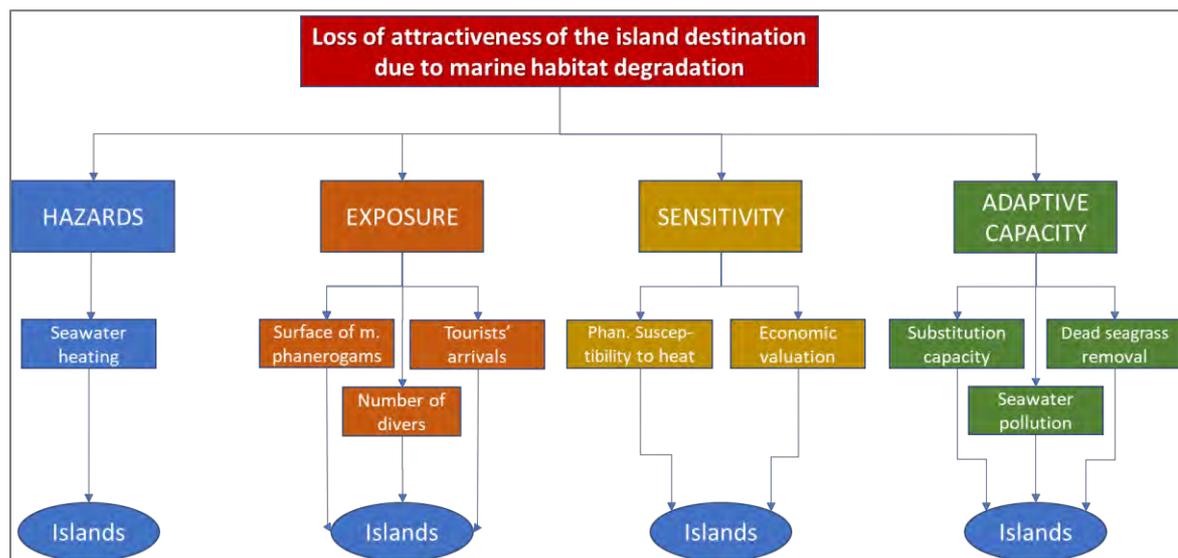


Figure 55: Hierarchy tree for marine habitats impact chain.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. In our context, seawater heating was considered as the most relevant variable to assess changes in the conservation status of the marine habitats that provide services for coastal tourism activities. Other hazards initially considered, like acidification and storms, were finally discarded. The first one because its effects on living marine organism are still under study and the evidence is dispersed and not conclusive. The second one because in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean that surrounds the islands under study, storms

are considered not so frequent and intense to not giving time to marine ecosystems to recover their previous conservation status.

Regarding indicators, published research shows 25 and 26 Celsius degrees as the threshold temperatures over which seagrass meadows, the foundation species that mainly structure ecosystems in the marine habitats of reference, start to decline. The indicators used were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. Sources of information and data were provided by the SOCLIMPACT modellers.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion, the natural and social systems potentially damaged by the selected climate hazards, was decomposed into three sub-criteria, one referred to the marine environment, and the other two related to the use that tourists make of the services provided for the marine environments at the destination. These three sub-criteria were expressed through three respective indicators. One, referred to the surface of marine phanerogams that suffer from the climate stressors. Phanerogams, specially *Posidonia* in the Mediterranean and *Cymodocea* in the Atlantic, are the very foundation species organizing most of the coastal ecosystems. They provide food and shelter to many different species and keep seawater clear by absorbing sediments. Additionally, when become damaged, seagrasses meadows deliver dead individuals that go to lay on the beaches used by tourists.

The second sub-criterion is one about the different types of direct uses that tourists make of the ecosystem services. Diving was selected to represent these uses and the selected indicator was the number of divers per year. It was assumed that other sea watching activities like snorkelling and bottom-glass boating evolve similarly than diving. Experts were also invited to consider other sea environment users potentially affected by the lack of water transparency and dead seagrass suspended in seawater like surfers, windsurfers and other active users of the marine environment.

The third sub-criterion was related to the impact on most of tourists as bathers. Turbid water affects the quality of the bathing experience, which is an activity that most tourists do.

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of the phanerogam meadows to changes in seawater temperature and to the extent to which the impoverishing of seawater conditions and marine ecosystems may affect tourists' welfare.

Regarding the effects of episodes of seawater heating on the integrity of seagrasses meadows, the variable selected was periods of overheating and the indicators were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. As explained above, experts were invited to take into account their experience and their

knowledge about the differences between the way seagrasses behave in the real world and in the laboratory when studying the impact of water heating.

With respect to the impact of the marine environmental degradation on the welfare of tourists, the indicator selected was the tourists' willingness to pay for the preservation of marine ecosystems³. Thus, ecosystems' and social's susceptibility are both taken into account when comparing risks of marine environment degradation due to climate change between islands.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system. This criterion was split into three sub-criteria, one referred to the substitution of marine-based activities by lesser marine habitats dependent ones, and two concerning actions to heal the marine environment like removing dead seagrasses or reducing non-treated sewage discharges (and consequently, seawater pollution). In this case, island experts were consulted about the capacity of their reference destination to address these adaptation actions using a 1-4 scale, where 1 represented a very poor management capacity and 4 expressed a full capacity to deal with it.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 7: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sicily
Hazards	Seawater heating RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.018 (8.0%)	0.004 (2.2%)	0.054 (23.6%)	0.025 (12.7%)	0.025 (14.7%)
	Exposure					
	Surface of marine phanerogams	0.034	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.022
	Number of divers	0.009	0.005	0.001	0.002	0.002
	Tourists' arrivals	0.013	0.013	0.002	0.001	0.006
	Total	0.056 (25.0%)	0.020 (11.0%)	0.007 (3.1%)	0.012 (6.1%)	0.029 (17.1%)
Sensitivity	Phanerogams' susceptibility to	0.072	0.072	0.008	0.024	0.024

³ This information was delivered by SOCLIMPACT researchers who are in charge of the work package WP5. More information at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D5.5*.

	heat					
	Economic valuation	0.003	0.027	0.004	0.006	0.010
	Total	0.075 (33.5%)	0.099 (54.7%)	0.012 (5.2%)	0.030 (15.2%)	0.034 (20.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Products substitution	0.034	0.034	0.086	0.060	0.016
	Seagrass removal	0.020	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Sea water pollution	0.021	0.021	0.063	0.063	0.063
	Total	0.079 (35.3%)	0.058 (32.0%)	0.155 (67.7%)	0.130 (66.0%)	0.082 (48.2%)
	Total	0.224	0.181	0.229	0.197	0.170
	Rank	2	4	1	3	5

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

The risk: from Eastern to Western and vice-versa

The relative risk for marine habitat-based tourism demand due to the heating of seawaters surrounding the European islands is determined by the combination of three different factors already reflected in the marine habitat impact chain: the intensity and lasting of periods of seawater heating, the susceptibility of the marine habitats and tourism activities based on it to the heating process and the changes in the habitat, respectively; and the capacities of the respective islands' societies to reinforce natural and social systems' resilience to seawater heating and its ecosystem impacts.

Based on the available indicators and on their own knowledge, the experts' evaluation of the complex relationships between seawater heating, habitats transformation and the response of the tourism system, depicts a big picture featured by the following results:

- From the perspective of the intensity of the hazard, threats diminish from Eastern to Western. Effectively, episodes of water heating threatening the integrity of marine ecosystems will be much more relevant throughout the Eastern Mediterranean and will become softer as moving Western.
- From the perspective of the susceptibility of the marine foundation species to seawater heating, western Mediterranean hosts the most vulnerable phanerogam communities as genetically they are not ready to face increasing water temperature variability at the rhythm climate change is powering. As a result, this risk factor decays from Western to Eastern.
- Other relevant factors determining the relative risk faced by each island are related to the management capacity of other hazards, different than seawater heating, also degrading marine habitats (i.e. the current relevance of marine

habitat-based tourism and the capacity of the local tourism system to provide competitive alternatives giving value to other, not marine-based natural and cultural tourist attractions). Those capacities are unevenly distributed across the islands, basically depending on the level of development of their respective environment management and tourism management subsystems.

Some characteristics of the risk ranking provided by experts, and consequently, the final scores, are:

- Cyprus leads the rank of risk due to, in addition to the greater seawater heating, its experiencing ecological disruptive processes related to its closeness to the Red Sea; strongly attracting exotic species with high capacity to destabilise the marine ecosystems.
- On the other extreme, Sicily is the island exhibiting a lesser risk mainly due to it holds a more balanced distribution of the indicators expressive of the range of factors determining the risk.
- The Canary Islands hold a relatively low risk mainly due to their expected low level of seawater heating; their higher weakness consists of the magnitude of the tourism system exposed to the potential risk.
- The Balearic Islands are the most exposed islands. In addition, RCP8.5 distant future shows a progress in heating relatively higher than other islands, meaning a strong threat for their relatively susceptible Posidonia meadows.
- Malta holds a relative low risk mainly due to its low exposition to the risk and the potential of alternative, non-marine-habitat-based, tourist products.

Below are presented some paragraphs devoted to go deeper into the complexity of the ecosystem dynamics that influence the holistic effect of climate change on the European islands' marine habitats; before presenting some lines highlighting the specificities of this impact chain for each island.

In the Eastern Mediterranean, the impact of seawater heating on the seagrass meadows (and on the marine habitat as a whole) not only depends on the physiological response of the plants concerned to heating, but also on the response of the system as a whole. On the Eastern shore of the Mediterranean, a strong increase in herbivorous species from the Red Sea has been observed that cross the Suez Canal and have settled near the continental and insular coastal areas. Posidonia meadows have been found to be part of their diet.

The heating exacerbates the metabolic needs of these herbivorous species (*Siganus Luridus* and others) increasing their voracity and, consequently, leading to greater pressure on the phanerogams. Given that, on the other hand, the surface of these meadows in the environment of Cyprus is small, predation by these herbivores may threaten Posidonia with extinction, disappearing with it the conservation functions of the ecosystem that it currently carries out as protection against erosion, containment of water turbidity (assimilation of organic residues), shelter and food for fingerlings of fish and other marine organisms, etc.

Other factors such as the sewage treatment or the sedimentation of waste from coastal constructions interact with the seawater heating, exacerbating the degradation of marine habitats. Together, factors of global change other than seawater heating are expected to act more intensely in **Cyprus**, increasing the vulnerability of this island's marine habitat to climate change.

Analysis of Cyprus

The position of **Cyprus** leading the ranking of the risk of its tourism industry to be negatively affected by seawater heating powered by climate change rests mostly on the two extremes of the impact chain under study. While the hazard explains the 23.6% of the risk the deficits of the adaptive capacity explain another 67.7%, both giving account for more than the 91.3% of the risk. Although the island holds many cultural resources to decouple the generating of tourist value added from the marine environment conditions, some technical, institutional and, even, historical factors prevent from going further this way so far. Reviewed information shows some projects and policies that have been undertaken to explore pathways for successful diversification, but it seems that the translation of the potentialities into effective policies has failed due to obstacles related to governance.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Cyprus** are depicted in the next figures. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

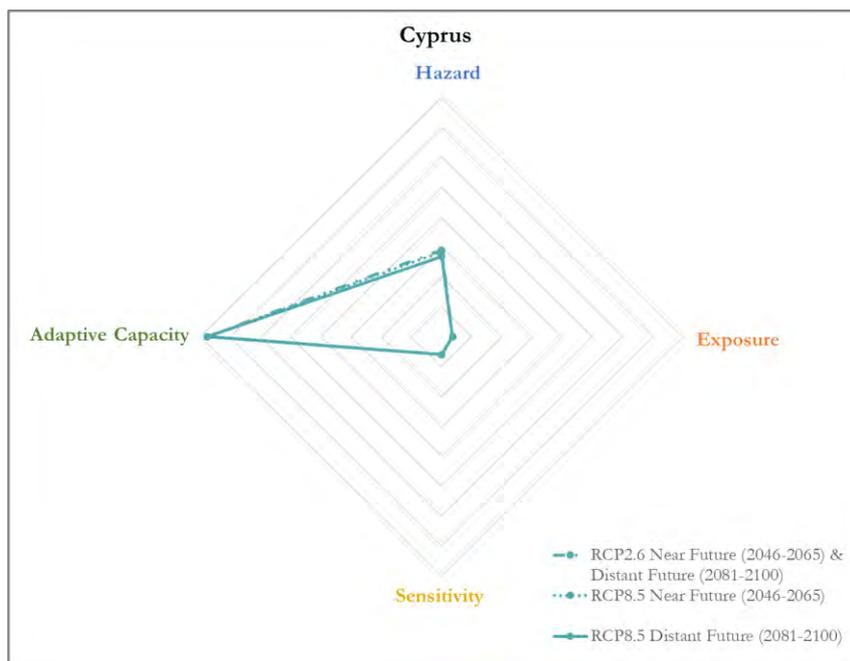


Figure 56: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

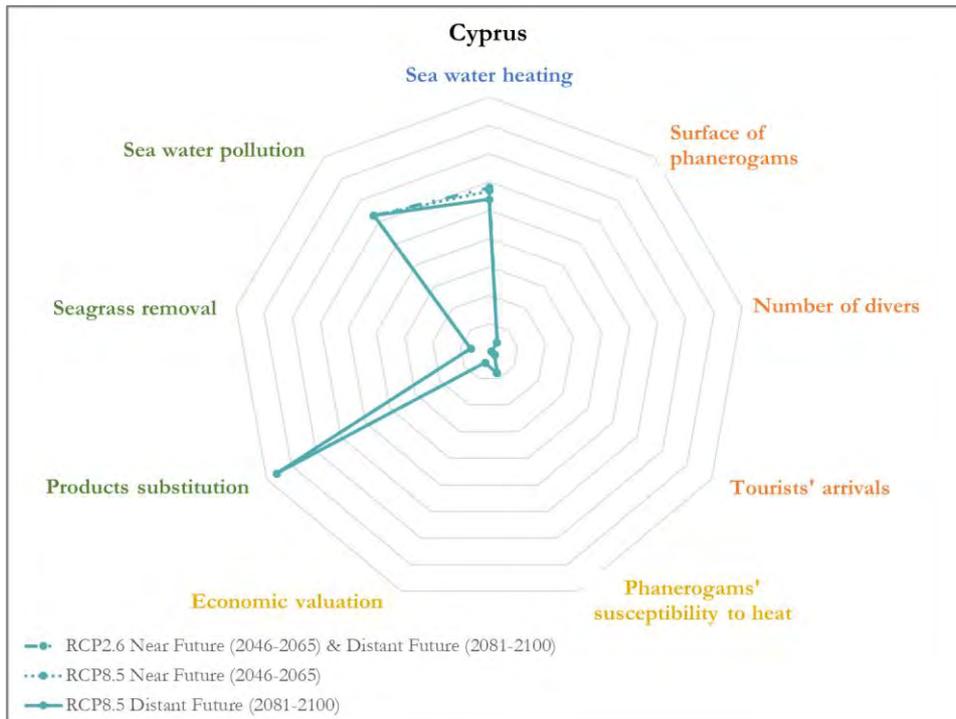


Figure 57: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

This section describes the work carried out for the operationalization of the impact chain “Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort”⁴. It provides details on the method applied for the operationalization, the island data used, and the results obtained. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

⁴ Detailed information about the methodology used and the results obtained is available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.*

4. the frequency, intensity, and duration of heatwaves,
5. to what extent and how tourist activities and tourists become exposed to heatwaves, and how sensitive different segments of tourists are to extreme heat, and
6. the preparedness of the destination to cope with thermal discomfort episodes through information, technology, alternative activities, and medical attention.

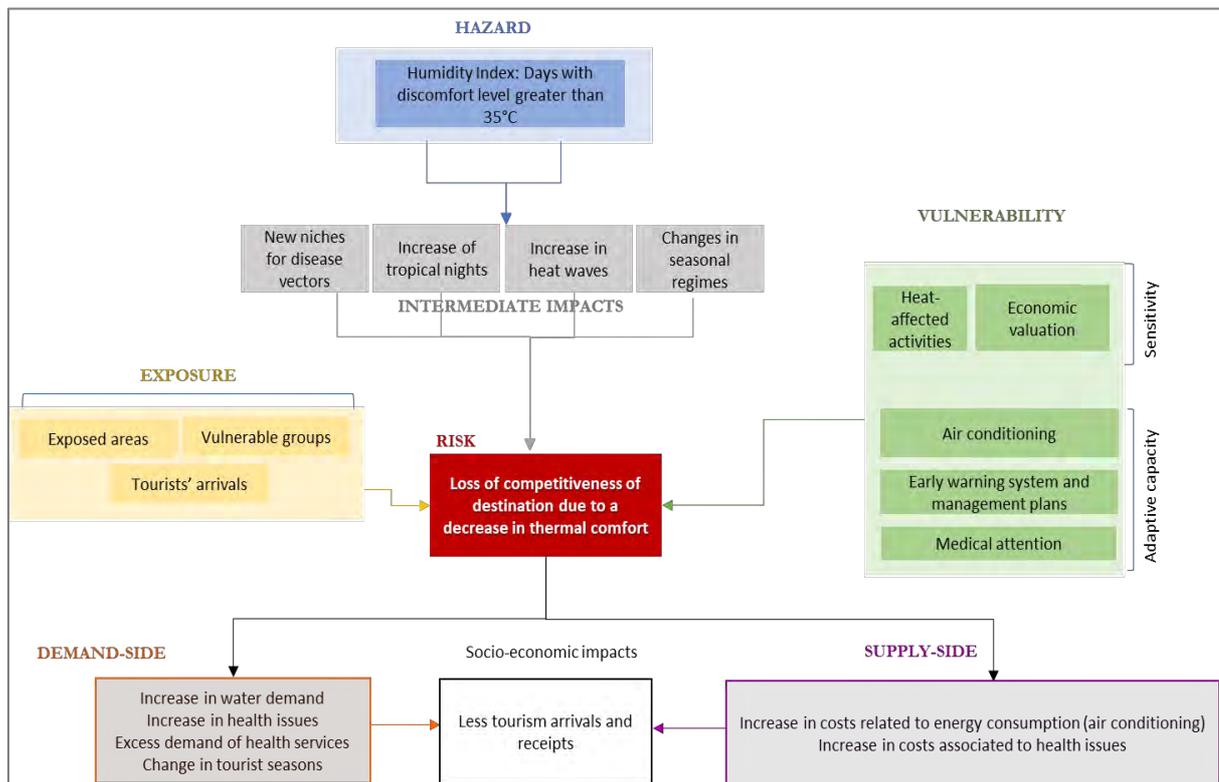


Figure 58: Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D3.2](#).

For the purposes of the operationalization it was decided by the team to retitle the risk as “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort”. This was done in order for the risk to more accurately reflect the effects of the hazards, exposure and vulnerability on an island rather than an on an individual tourist.

The selection of islands to be compared was based on the availability of island data provided by the IFPs. The five islands selected for comparison were the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Cyprus, Malta, and Sardinia.

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements. Some refinements were necessary regarding the indicators (at sub-criteria level) that were to be used for comparing the islands.

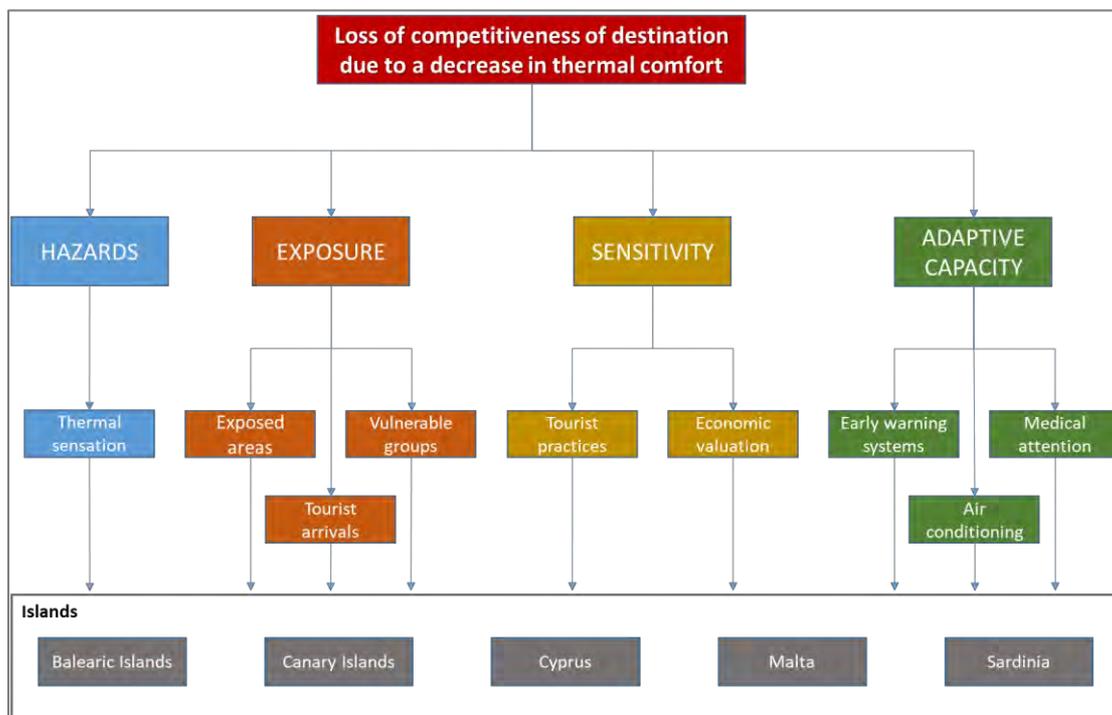


Figure 59: Hierarchy tree for thermal comfort impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. For the AHP method, thermal sensation was considered as the most relevant indicator to assess

changes in the thermal comfort of tourists while staying at their destination as it is a concept that combines temperature and humidity. Thus, it is the only sub-criterion of the Hazard criterion. Moreover, the humidity index (humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) was selected as the most appropriate metric for thermal sensation. The metric is an equivalent temperature that express the temperature perceived by people (i.e., the temperature that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion was decomposed into sub-criteria relating to three indicators. The first indicator relates to the exposure of tourists to heatwaves. The measure of the indicator combines the percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the percentage of the tourist accommodations and facilities located in those areas prone to heatwaves. It is necessary to factor in both these aspects of exposure in order to allow for a better comparison of islands. For example, if an island has a small area that is prone to heatwaves with the majority of tourists frequenting in that small area, then the combination of the two factors will play a role when comparing, for instance, an island that has large areas prone to heatwaves, but with tourists frequenting in places outside these areas, since the overall exposure will be different. Specifically, it was decided to assign a weight of 75% to percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the remaining 25% to the percentage of tourist accommodations and facilities located in heatwave-prone areas. The second indicator deals with the number of tourist arrivals during the hottest months. The indicator is represented by the percentage of tourists that visit an island between the months of May and September averaged over the last five years. Finally, the third indicator concerns vulnerable groups of tourists who have the highest risk of being affected by heatwaves. Literature confirms that under-6s and over-65s are the most vulnerable age groups, however, the statistical services of the islands homogeneously provide data for the under-14 and over-65 age groups. For this indicator, two values were computed:

1. the number of tourists visiting an island that were under 14 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years, and
2. the number of tourists visiting an island that were over 65 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years.

For purpose of combining the two values and adjusting the change to age groups, it was decided to apply a ratio of 15:85 in order to emphasize the proportion of over-65s (85%) to the proportion of under-14s (15%).

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of tourists and is broken down into sub-criteria pertaining to two indicators. The first indicator involves tourist activities.

The effect of heatwaves on tourist activities varies greatly. For example, a tourist sunbathing at a beach will not feel the effects of a heatwave to the same degree as a tourist that is trekking. Different destinations have different rates of tourists practicing activities incompatible with heatwaves events. So, this indicator aims at catching these differences. More specifically, this indicator is a measure of the percentage of visitors who state that they practice activities not compatible with heatwave events. The second indicator concerns the economic valuation of heatwaves from the perspective of tourists. In the case of a heatwave event, all tourists will suffer from thermal discomfort to a certain degree. Hence, the indicator represents their willingness to avoid this discomfort as expressed in monetary terms. Therefore, it is measured by much money tourists are willing to pay to avoid a heatwave during their vacation time⁵.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system through providing information, adopting proper technology, supplying alternative activities, and improving medical attention. This criterion is split into sub-criteria concerning three indicators. The first indicator has deals with early warning systems. Setting up a proper early warning system can help tourists and service providers to plan effective responses to heatwaves, making them less distressing and reducing the destination's vulnerability. Hence, this indicator is measured with a score representing the quality of early warning systems in place and advisement of options for tourists. The second indicator involves air conditioning. Air conditioning is the most effective technology used to combat extreme heat. Therefore, the indicator uses the percentage of hotel accommodations and tourist facilities offering air conditioning systems as a measure of the capacity of the destination to cope with this hazard. The final indicator concerns the care and medical attention (such as in the case of heatstroke or similar) available on an island that may be necessary to help reduce pain or avoid casualties due to diseases related to heatwaves. Therefore, the number of hospital beds available on an island per 100,000 potential users, both residents and tourists, is taken as the measure of this indicator.

Results and Island's ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

⁵ Further information available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D5.5](#)*.

Table 8: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sardinia
Hazards	Humidex RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.024 (12.1%)	0.008 (4.6%)	0.088 (34.6%)	0.023 (11.7%)	0.023 (13.1%)
Exposure	Exposed areas	0.007	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.007
	Vulnerable groups	0.007	0.017	0.016	0.017	0.038
	Tourists' arrivals	0.050	0.008	0.029	0.018	0.065
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.064</i> (32.2%)	<i>0.027</i> (15.5%)	<i>0.053</i> (20.9%)	<i>0.042</i> (21.3%)	<i>0.110</i> (62.9%)
Sensitivity	Heat-sensitive activities	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.074	0.012
	Economic valuation	0.004	0.004	0.015	0.028	0.010
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.079</i> (39.7%)	<i>0.078</i> (44.8%)	<i>0.089</i> (35.0%)	<i>0.103</i> (52.3%)	<i>0.021</i> (12.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Early-warning systems	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Air conditioning	0.011	0.048	0.011	0.021	0.012
	Medical attention	0.014	0.006	0.005	0.002	0.005
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.032</i> (16.1%)	<i>0.061</i> (35.1%)	<i>0.024</i> (9.4%)	<i>0.030</i> (15.2%)	<i>0.020</i> (11.4%)
Total		0.199	0.174	0.254	0.197	0.175
Rank		2	5	1	3	4

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Cyprus is at most risk of loss of competitiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort in all four scenarios as it is ranked the highest in all cases. This is mainly attributed to the fact that the number of days with a heatwave is predicted to increase greatly both in the near and distant future. In addition, the island's tourist accommodations and facilities are located in areas most prone to heatwaves, and these are visited by many tourists during the months of May to September. **Cyprus** also scores the highest in Sensitivity and average in Adaptive capacity.

The Balearic Islands and Malta are ranked second and third, respectively, with regards to the risk of loss of competitiveness. However, their overall scores are very close: 0.199 for the Balearic Islands and 0.1970 for Malta in the RCP8.5 distant future scenario. They

score relatively high in Exposure and Sensitivity (the most important criteria for the risk) and average in Hazard and Adaptive capacity.

Sardinia and the Canary Islands are the lowest at risk of loss of competitiveness. Even though Sardinia scores the highest for Exposure, it has a low score for Sensitivity (which contributes most to the risk) and average scores for Hazard and Adaptive capacity. On the other hand, the Canary Islands has a low score for Hazard and Exposure, but relatively high for Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity.

Analysis of Cyprus

Cyprus is at most risk of loss of competitiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort in all four scenarios as it is ranked the highest in all cases. This is mainly attributed to the fact that the number of days with a heatwave is predicted to increase greatly both in the near and distant future. In addition, the island's tourist accommodations and facilities are located in areas most prone to heatwaves, and these are visited by many tourists during the months of May to September. **Cyprus** also scores the highest in Sensitivity and average in Adaptive capacity.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Cyprus** are depicted in the next figure. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

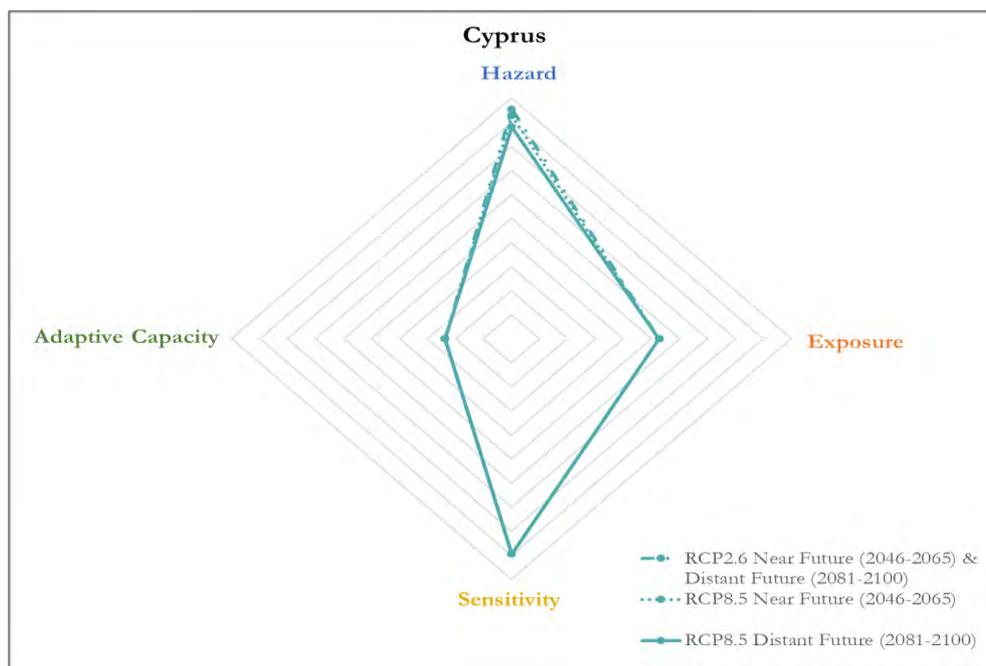


Figure 60: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

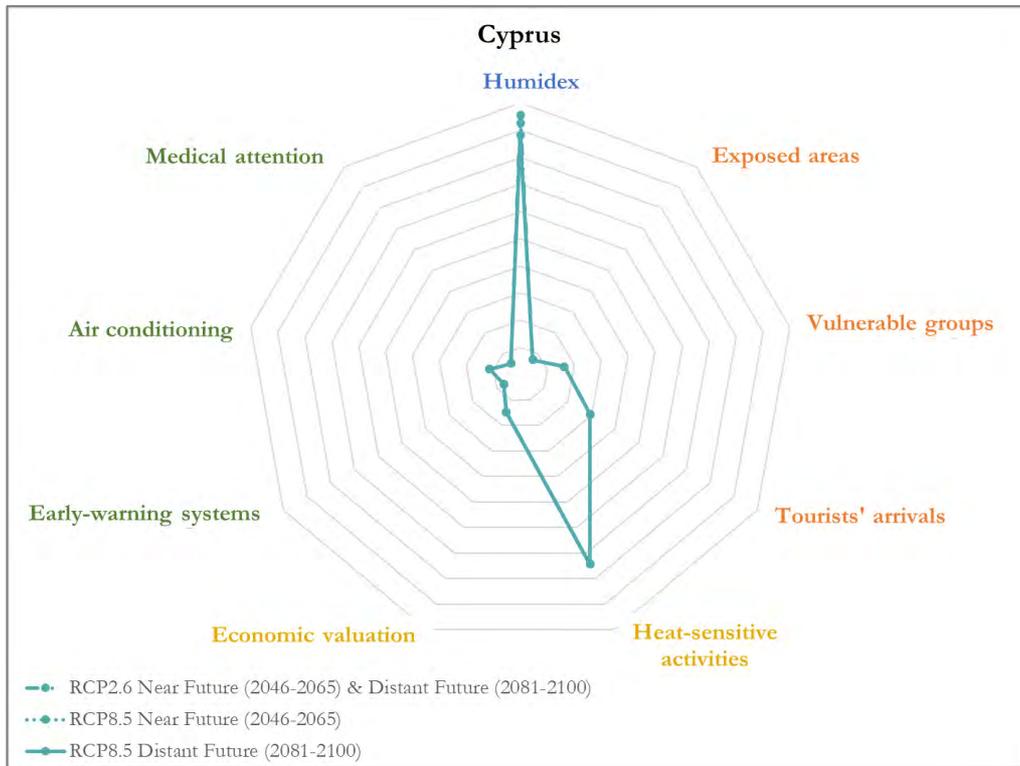


Figure 61: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

4.2 Aquaculture

In the framework of SOCLIMPACT, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- 1) Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

- 2) Decrease in production due to an increase in surface water temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer et al. 2013; Fritzsche et al. 2014) is also applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 7 steps for aquaculture, present risk and future risk are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: Corsica, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

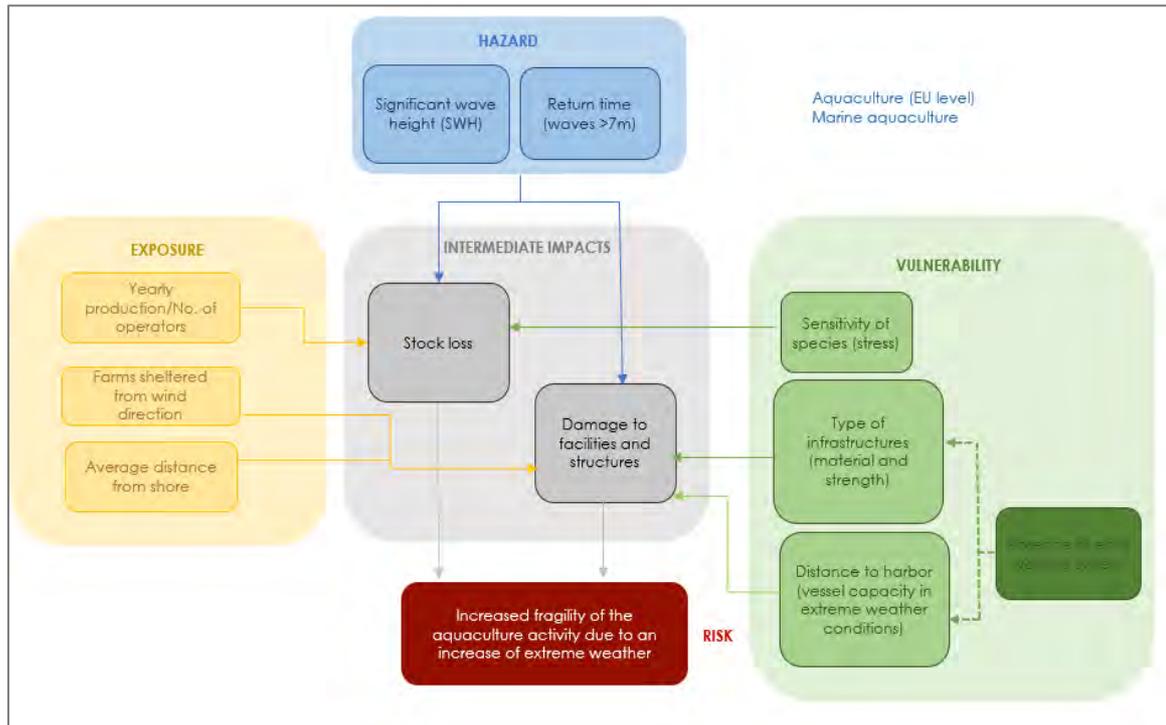


Figure 62: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D3.2](#).

Some indicators require data on the proportions of species farmed on a specific island. Therefore, a table with % of each species farmed on each island was prepared. This data was obtained directly from the IFPs or from the FAO or national statistics offices.

Table 9: Proportions of aquaculture species farmed per island.

Species	Proportion of species production			
	Mussels & clams	Tuna	Sea bream	Sea bass
Corsica	0.43		0.265	0.265
Cyprus			0.84	0.16
Madeira			1.0	
Malta		0.94	0.048	0.012
Sardinia	0.84		0.08	0.08
Sicily	0.44		0.3	0.26

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable D4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.

Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

*Table 10: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress.
1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.*

<i>Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.30	0.90

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 11: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event.

1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event			
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: Increased sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable D4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 12: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species' threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

Table 13: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

<i>Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a

lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in the data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators
- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$x_{normalized} = \frac{(x - x_{min})}{(x_{max} - x_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard

indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

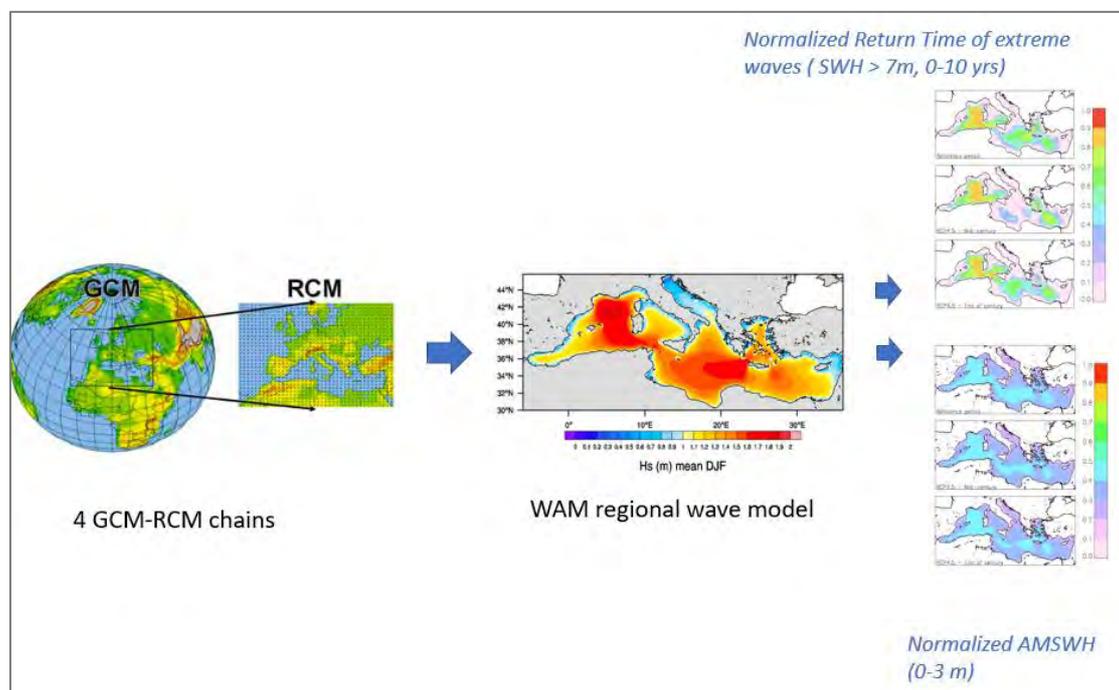


Figure 63: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which a fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater that 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk 1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in Deliverable D4.4 of SOCLIMPACT, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window (highlighted in red) is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

Table 14: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula $RL, T=1-(1-1/T)**L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Therefore, using a combination of the normalised values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such all "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.

Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

Extreme weather events:

- farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
- sensitivity of species
- vulnerability of type of infrastructure
- presence of warning system

Sea surface temperature:

- estimated temperature sensitivity of species
- capacity to change species
- monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account. Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 15: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	Sea surface temperature	Extreme events
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:

$$s_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$

s – score

comp – component or subcomponent

ind – indicator

n – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = s_{haz} * w_{haz} + s_{exp} * w_{exp} + w_{vul} * (s_{sen} * w_{sen} + s_{ac} * w_{ac})$$

s – score

w – weight

haz – hazard

exp – exposure

vul – vulnerability

sen – sensitivity

ac – adaptive capacity

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the



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whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather events



Table 16: Exposure and vulnerability indicators each island

Component	Exposure					Vulnerability							
Component Weight	0.2					0.2							
Sub-component						Factor of sensitivity			Factors of adaptive capacity				
Sub-component weight						0.75			0.25				
Indicator	Average Size of producers		Location of farms			Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Type of infrastructures (material and strength)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Distance to harbour (vessel capacity in extreme weather conditions) [average & m]		Absence of warning system	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Farms sheltered from wind direction	Average distance from shore (m)		Average of normalised indicators	Estimated sensitivity of species	Type of infrastructure (based on species)	Average of indicators	Average distance to harbour (m)		Presence of warning system	Average of normalised indicators
	Data	Normalised	Normalised	Data	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		Data	Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.4	644	0.16	0.20	0.7	0.5	0.59	4789	0.96	0	0.48
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.5	3923	1.00	0.53	0.6	0.4	0.48	4616	0.92	0	0.46
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	0.5	1731	0.44	0.74	0.3	0.3	0.31	4165	0.83	0	0.42
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.4	1193	0.30	0.27	0.9	0.6	0.71	2183	0.44	0	0.22
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.5	1000	0.25	0.27	0.7	0.5	0.61	5000	1.00	0	0.50

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.5.

Mediterranean islands

Hazards

Statistics of extreme events can significantly differ across the four model realizations

The hazard data for return time was derived from 3 different models; CMCC, CNRM and GUF. Since the data varies highly between models a best- and worst case scenario was executed where in the best-case scenario the lowest value (showing the lowest risk) between the models was used and in the worst case scenario the highest value was used. Distance between the best and the worst projection, give an estimate of uncertainty

Model projections for Average Significant Wave Height are in good agreement as to both pattern and values. Hazard was evaluated from ensemble mean, uncertainty from ensemble STD (not exceeding 15% - highest disagreement for highest values).

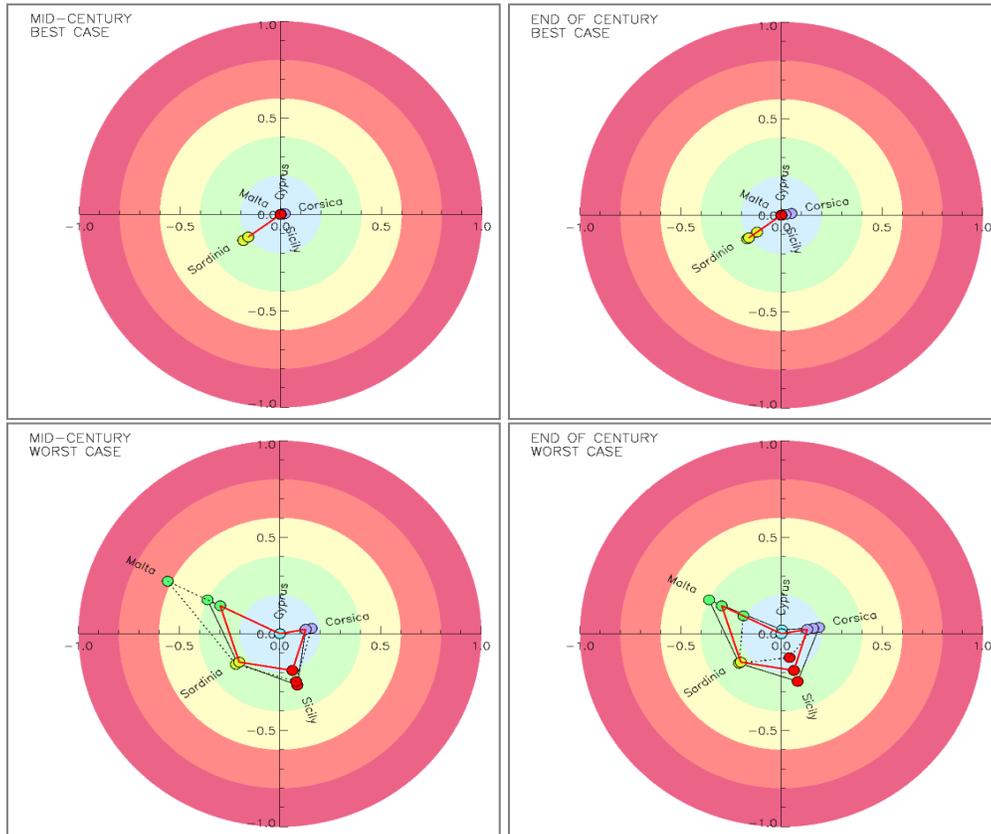


Figure 64: Results for return time in best- and worst-case scenarios for Mediterranean islands for reference period (red line), RCP 4.5 (dotted line) and RCP 8.5 (black line).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).



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"Worst" and "best" cases respectively refer to the least and most favourable projection in the set of models. For example, return time, you will find that there is at least one model predicting no hazard for all islands except Sardinia with no significant variations across scenarios. In fact, all circles cluster and overlap at the centre, while those that represent Sardinia all lie very close to the limit between the two lower hazard classes.

On the other hand, at least one other model predicts appreciable yet low hazard for Corsica, Sicily and Sardinia, and hazard going from moderate (reference period, red) to medium (RCP8.5, solid black), to high (RCP4.5, dotted black) for Malta, while for Cyprus the hazard is irrelevant even for the most negative projection.

This means that

- the result for Sardinia and Cyprus is stable across models,
- models slightly disagree for Sicily and Corsica, but generally predict low hazard,
- the projection for Malta is affected by greater uncertainty for all scenarios.

This is due to the fact that Malta is located in the Sicily Channel, where the dynamics exhibit significant gradients in the direction perpendicular to the channel axis, which are differently represented by different models.

The worst and best cases do not necessarily come from the same model for all islands, that is, one model can predict the lowest hazard for Sicily and another one for Sardinia, and each of these projections is represented in the plot for the corresponding island.

Risk- Best-case scenario

Table 17: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.21
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Sardinia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.31
Sicily	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

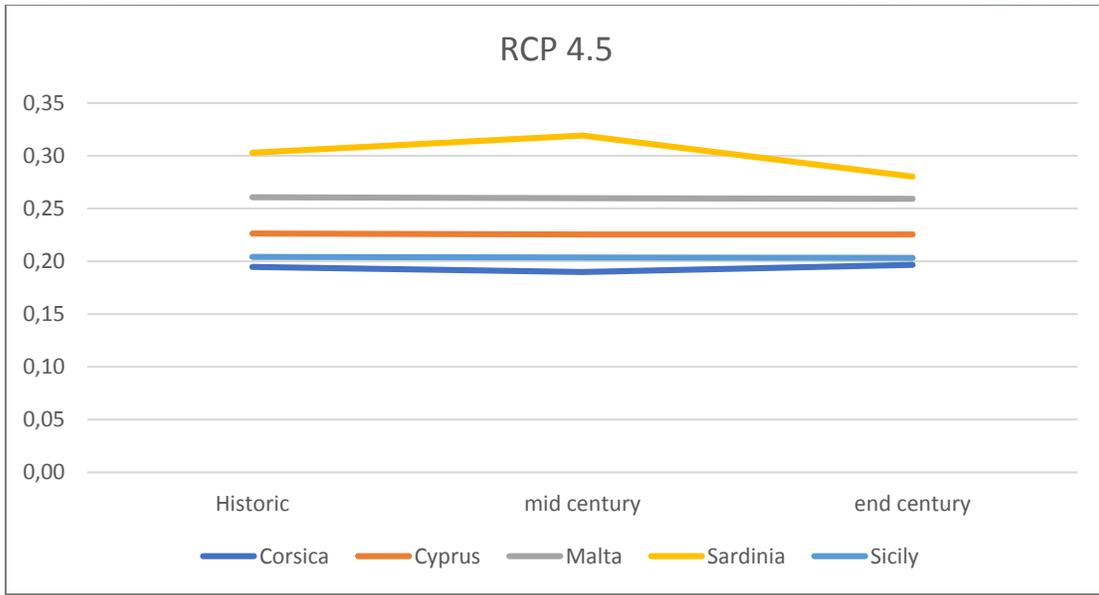


Figure 65: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

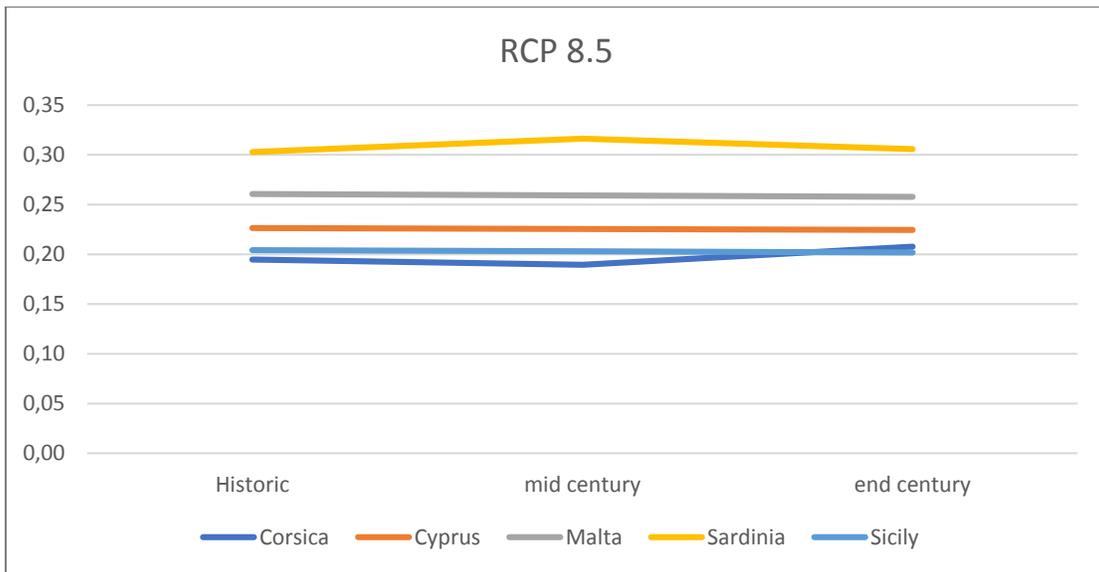


Figure 66: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).



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Risk- Worst-case scenario

Table 18: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events.

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.26
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.42	0.45	0.56	0.45	0.36
Sardinia	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33
Sicily	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.26

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

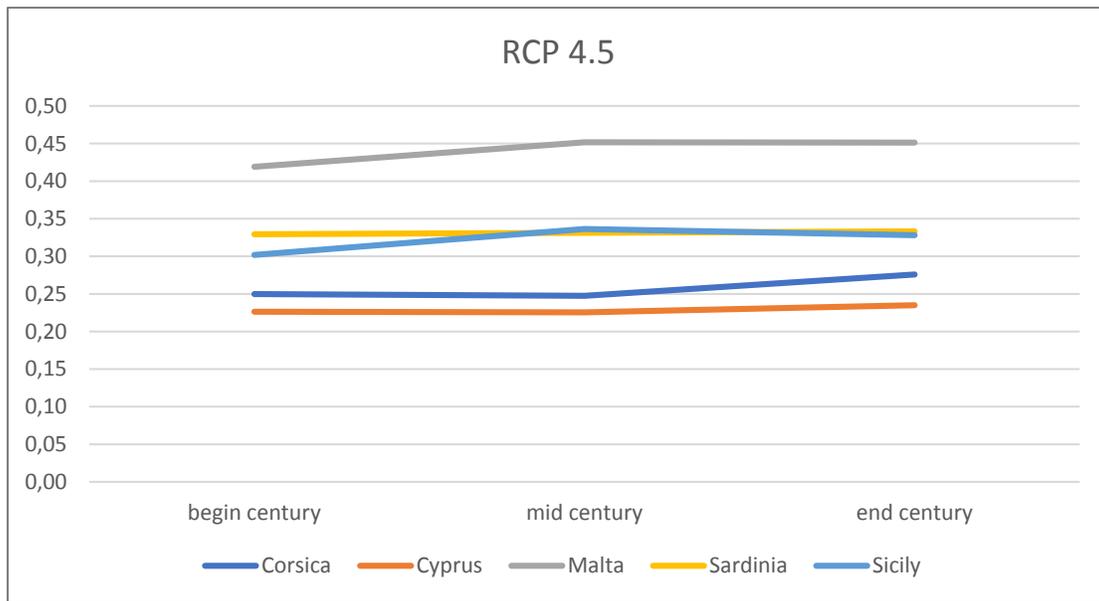


Figure 67: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

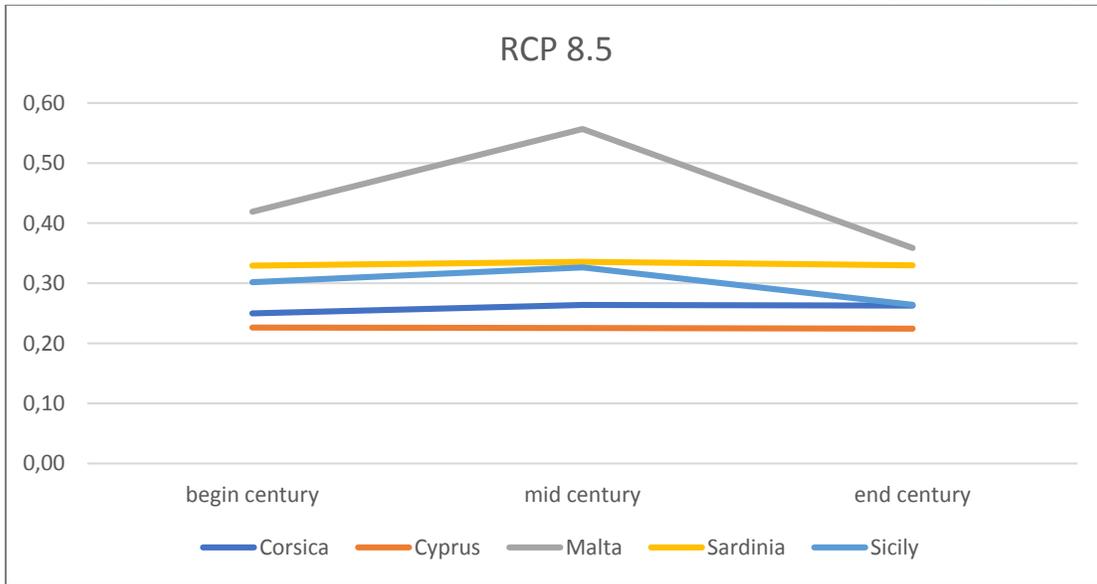


Figure 68: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Bigger islands were separated in areas since conditions can vary greatly in different parts of the island.

Table 19: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Mediterranean islands with large islands analysed on a local level using the worst-case scenario.

Worst case	Historic	RCP 4.5		RCP 8.5	
		mid century	end century	mid century	end century
Malta	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.56	0.36
Sicily North	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.30
Sicily East	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Sicily South	0.41	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.30
Corsica West	0.37	0.32	0.37	0.34	0.34
Corsica East	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
Sardinia West	0.40	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.44
Sardinia East	0.39	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.18
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22



Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

For all islands and all RCPs, it can be concluded that there is no significant change in risk, even in the worst-case scenario, between the reference period, middle and end of the century. Malta, Sicily south and Sardinia west are found to be the most vulnerable with risk exceeding 0.45 due to a



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higher hazard risk. Malta also has the highest exposure of all islands. Malta has an increased risk mid-century in the worst-case scenario, due to an increase in hazard.

Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Model projections are in good agreement with previous lower resolution ensemble estimates but offering greater detail along island shorelines. Uncertainty to be rigorously estimated from ensemble STD when new simulations of comparable resolution become available, but overall tendency regarded as robust.

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Table 20: *Expose and vulnerability indicators, the data for each island and the normalized values.*

Component Component weight	Exposure		Vulnerability					
	0.4		0.3					
Sub-component Sub-component weight			Factor of sensitivity		Factors of adaptive capacity			
			0.75		0.25			
Indicator	Average Size of producers	Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Score of factor of adaptive capacity	
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators	Average of normalised indicators	Temperature sensitivity of species (expert guess)	Indicator	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Average of indicator	
	Data	Normalised	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.12	0.7	0.7	0	1	0.5
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.29	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Madeira	125.3	0.05	0.05	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	1.00	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.19	0.9	0.9	0	1	0.5
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.14	0.8	0.8	0	1	0.5

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Risk

The values in this analysis is not an estimate of the risk but rather a ranking between islands since a lot of the data was normalised based on a min-max or fraction of the maximum of the islands. A proper risk assessment would need additional data from farmers and a detailed model of farming results as a function of temperature. Malta has a much higher risk than the other islands due to the high exposure, Malta's farm produce on average 3.5 to 22 times more than the farms on other islands.



Table 21: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature.

Risk	Historic	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.30	0.34	0.41	0.38	0.42
Cyprus	0.40	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.59
Malta	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.80
Madeira	0.19	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.35
Sardinia	0.37	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.49
Sicily	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.48

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

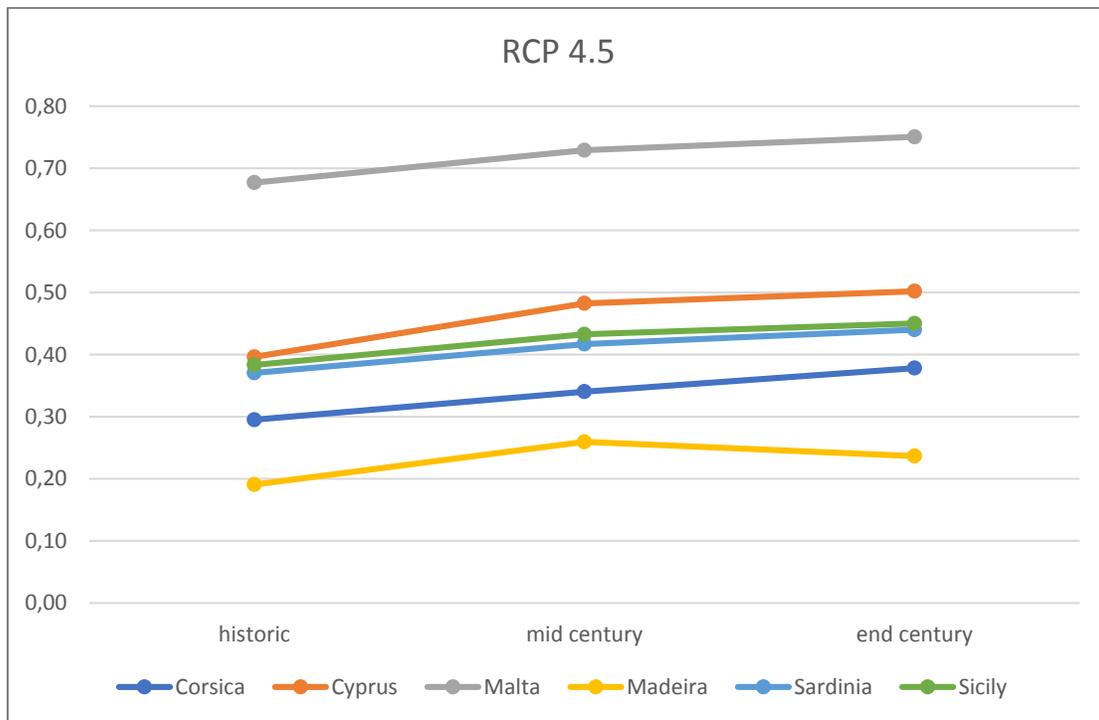


Figure 69: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 4.5.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

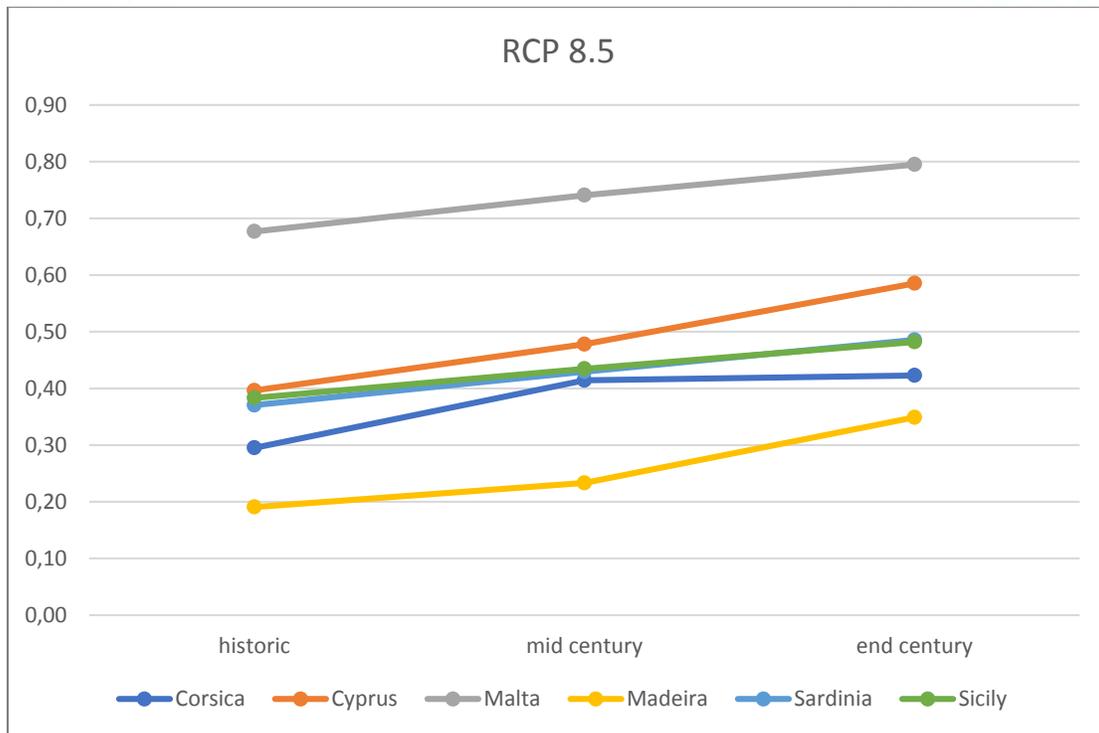


Figure 70: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 8.5.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.



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Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would strongly reduce the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.



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This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through and expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

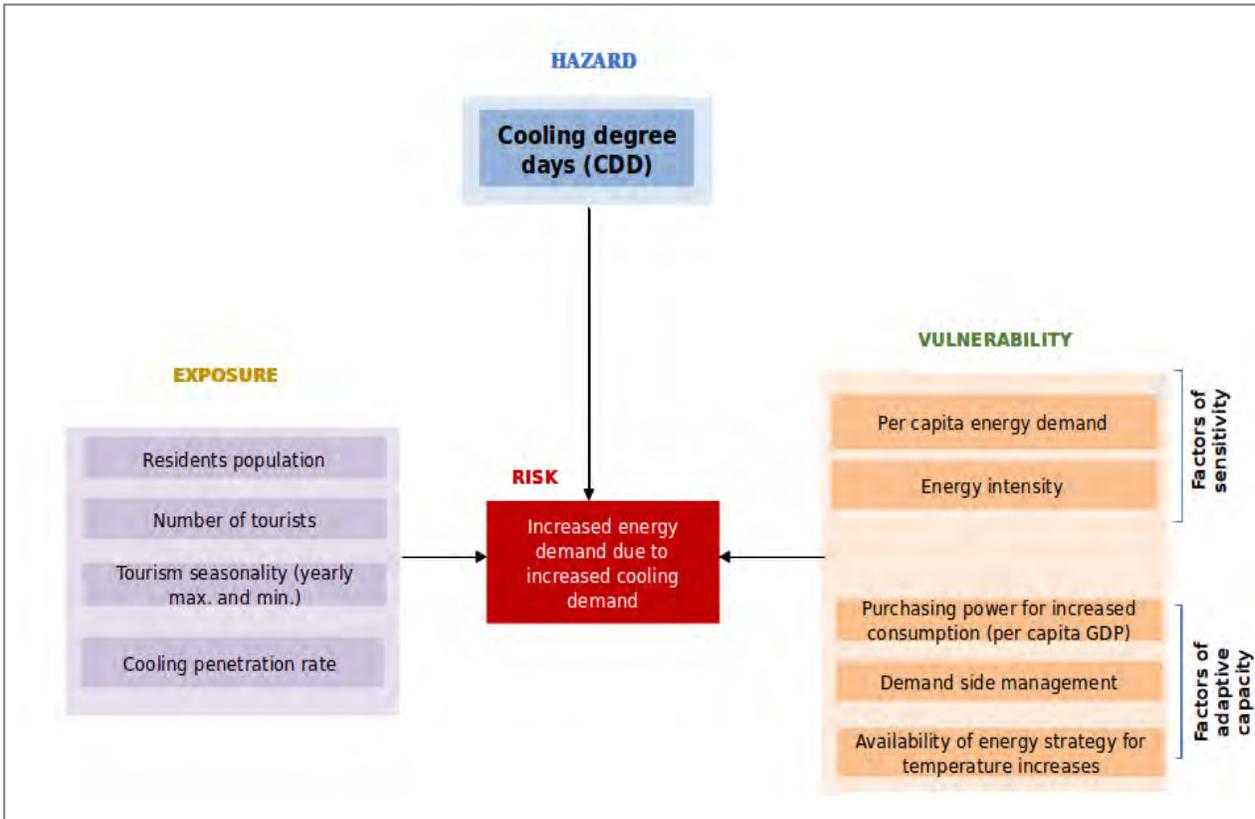


Figure 71: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

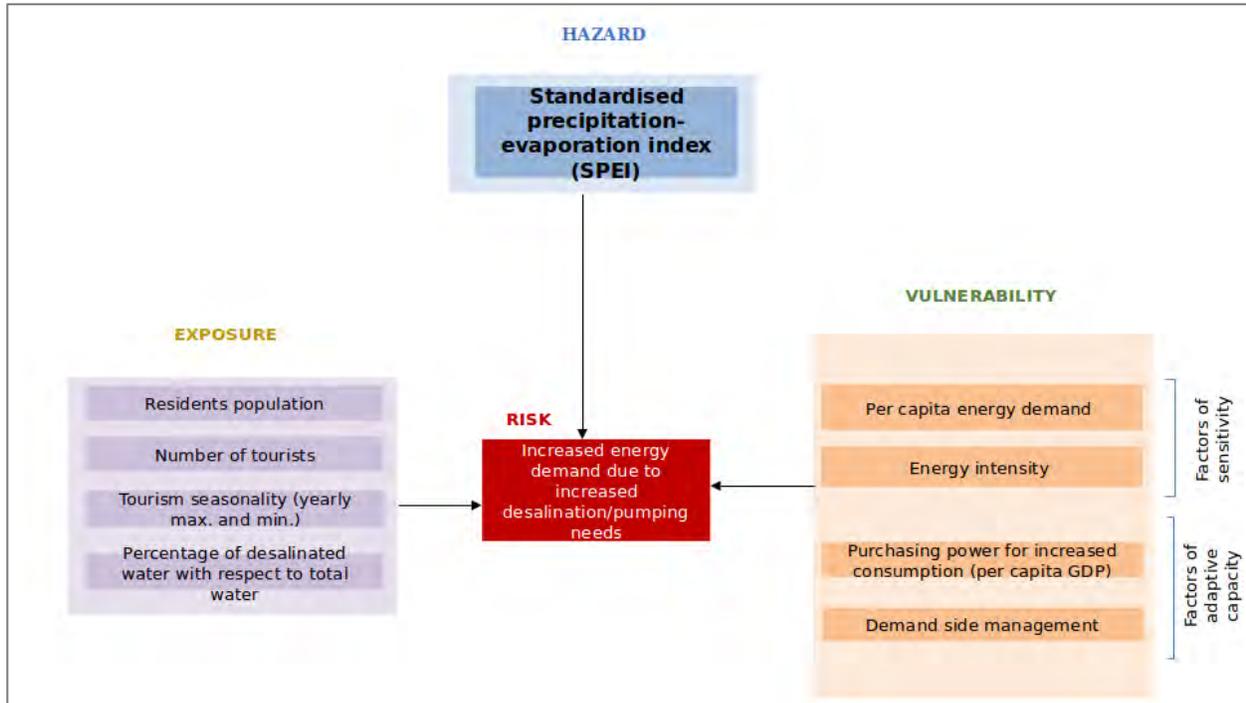


Figure 72: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought



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indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the SOCLIMPACT deliverables D4.5.

Hereafter the results of the hazard assessment and operationalization of the ICs are presented.

Table 22: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Cyprus

<i>Histori-cal ref.(1986-2005)</i>	Demand		Supply:		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
	CDD	0.39	1.00	0.65	0.93
	SPEI	0.00	0.16	0.22	0.12
			Combined		0.14
<i>RCP2.6 (2046-2065)</i>	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
		CDD	0.55	0.4	0.5
	SPEI	0.32	0.5	0.6	0.1
			Combined		0.3
<i>RCP8.5 (2046-2065)</i>	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
		CDD	0.71	0.7	0.7
	SPEI	0.76	0.5	0.7	0.1



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**RCP2.6
(2081-2100)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	0.54
SPEI	0.32

**RCP8.5
(2081-2100)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	1.00
SPEI	0.96

Combined			0.5
<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.6	0.5	0.6
Solar PV	0.5	0.6	0.1
Combined			0.6
<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.9	0.9	0.9
Solar PV	0.6	0.7	0.0
Combined			0.7

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

Cyprus shows many differences compared to Crete, despite their relative proximity. The CDD score in Cyprus is nearly two times the score in Crete, for present climate and for RCP2.6 scenario, while for RCP8.5 it increases very strongly reaching the maximum value among all islands. For this high-emissions scenario, Cyprus would be the only island in which the threshold obtained by Jakubcionis et al. (2018) for full penetration of air conditioning equipment is exceeded by the end of the century (on average for the whole island). This highlights the strong increase in cooling energy demand expected under the high-emissions scenario.

SPEI scores would increase moderately under RCP2.6, with no change during the second half of the century, while a strong increase is expected under RCP8.5. In the latter case, the present percentage of desalinated water (between 4 and 31% from 2010-2017) would increase strongly.

Wind energy potential is much smaller than for Crete. Taken together with the very high score for wind energy droughts, wind energy could be considered as a rather low-quality energy resource. But the scores are calculated from spatial and temporal averages of wind energy productivity, and some specific areas and seasons can show good wind energy potential. Koroneos et al. (2005) indicate that the southern coastal zone and certain exposed areas of the mountains are very promising for wind energy. Also, offshore wind energy near the southern coast of Cyprus is substantial in summer and shows a daily cycle with an afternoon/evening maximum (Tyrlis and Lelieveld, 2013) that, combined with PV, could match rather well the daily demand curve. This is important as maximum power demand occurs in summer.



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Solar PV potential is high, and the productivity is very stable. In this case, a combination of PV and wind would be very beneficial in terms of stability of output, as the combined energy droughts (50/50 PV/wind energy) are at the very low level of solar PV.

Wind energy productivity projections show mostly some tendency of reduction, with relatively large reductions under RCP8.5 by the end of the century. Solar PV projections show either no change or small reductions in productivity.

Table 23: Risk scores for Cyprus: cooling and desalination energy demand, for the historical and future periods.

	<i>Hist. ref.</i>	<i>RCP2.6</i> <i>(2046-2065)</i>	<i>RCP2.6</i> <i>(2081-2100)</i>	<i>RCP8.5</i> <i>(2046-2065)</i>	<i>RCP8.5</i> <i>(2081-2100)</i>
Cooling	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.51	0.55
Desalination	0.40	0.41	0.41	0.43	0.44

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

The risk associated to cooling energy demand shows presently a medium score, which does not increase much for RCP2.6 scenario. The increase for RCP8.5 scenario is much clearer. The weights of the different components indicate a higher importance for exposure indicators, followed by vulnerability and finally hazard indicators. The indicator showing the largest correlation is the ratio of the number of tourists to population, in stark contrast to Gran Canaria. Though the tourism seasonality is high, its influence on cooling energy demand is low, at least for the period considered. It should be taken into account that the available cooling energy demand data cover only a 9-years period (2010-2018), which is a source of uncertainty as impacts over longer time periods will not be captured. Likely as a result of this short period, the correlation of CDD with cooling demand is low, and the correlation of cooling demand to energy intensity is negative. It seems that the very strong increase in the number of tourists (nearly doubling from 2010 to 2018) has been enough to hide the influence of other factors. There is also little room for an increase of cooling demand linked to more air conditioning equipment, as the cooling penetration rate is already very high (80%).

The risk linked to desalination energy demand also presents now a medium score, and in these cases projected increases are very limited. This is due to the very low weight of the hazard component (SPEI) obtained through the correlation method, as the available desalination energy demand data cover only a limited period (2010-2017), in which the largest correlations are found for the percentage of desalinated water over total water, the GDP per capita and the number of tourists. SPEI may have a stronger impact over longer time-periods, as a sustained increase of temperatures and evaporation could show cumulative effects on desalination demand that outstrip other factors.



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As a sensitivity calculation, we have obtained the desalination risk scores using equal weights for hazard, exposure and vulnerability. The risk score increases in this case by approximately 50% for RCP2.6, and more than doubles for RCP8.5 by the end of the century. This shows the strong dependency of risk scores on the applied weights.

**** Energy demand:***

- In general, the future risk or hazard scores for desalination demand show worse values than the risk or hazard scores for cooling demand. The combined impact of decreasing precipitation and increasing temperatures is projected to generate strong drought conditions both in the Mediterranean and Atlantic islands, under the high-emissions scenario (RCP8.5).
- The contrast between the mitigation scenario (RCP2.6) and the high-emissions scenario is drastic. Not only are the hazard scores much lower for RCP2.6, but they even tend to decrease slightly during the second half of the century, while for RCP8.5 the hazard scores tend to rise in a sustained way.
- A clear demand management option for reducing cooling demand is the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings. The energy efficiency directive of the EU sets binding targets for all European countries, but the data about the efficiency classes of buildings are rather limited and difficult to access. The scarce data available indicate that there is much room for improvement in this respect. A consequent implementation of energy efficiency measures in buildings could reduce clearly the effect of increasing temperatures on energy demand.
- Digitalisation is key in EU strategies. In this respect, demand side management options for adaptation to generation peaks and troughs should be developed as much as possible through digitalisation, prioritising automatic instead of manual adaptation.

**** Energy supply:***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands is the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long-term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- In general, projections show a decreasing tendency of wind energy productivity over the Mediterranean region, with a more important decrease for the RCP8.5 scenario. The main exception is Crete, which shows a consistent increasing tendency.



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- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).
- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.
- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.
- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).
- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.
- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.



Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compared to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface



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solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is defined as the carriage of goods and passengers by sea-going vessels, on voyages undertaken wholly or partly at sea. It is often considered as the backbone of the world economy, with 80% of the global trade volume passing through ports (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). For islands, the transport of goods and passengers by ship is even more essential. At the same time, Maritime Transport contributes to climate change through its carbon emissions which are found to be near 3% of the global CO₂ equivalent emissions (Smith et al., 2015). Compared to land and air transport, it is the (economically and ecologically) most effective way of distributing goods globally. A changing climate will challenge Maritime Transport to adapt to future risks and lower its emissions.

The whole range of potential impacts of climate change on ports operations and throughput is still under study and it remains a high degree of uncertainty about it. Various climate change stressors can affect both harbour infrastructure and ships on route. For example, ports are vulnerable nodes of Maritime Transport as they are strongly affected by rising sea-levels, which in turn affect port facilities and increase the risk of flooding. Sea-level rise has accelerated in the last century and will rise by 0.43 to 0.84 m until 2100, depending on the emission scenario (Pörtner et al., 2019). Due to ocean dynamics and the Earth's gravity field, there will also be regional differences in sea-level rise in the order of 0.1 m (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). The causes of sea-level rise are the thermal



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expansion of water and the melting of glaciers due to the increase in global mean temperature (Vermeer & Rahmstorf, 2009).

Maritime transport can also be affected by climate change through the increase in the intensity of extreme weather events including tropical-like cyclones. According to climate projections, tropical cyclones are not expected to change significantly in frequency but in intensity due to rising sea-surface temperatures (Pörtner et al., 2019). The resulting extreme winds and waves can harm ships, but also cause damage and flooding of ports, especially in combination with sea-level rise (Hanson and Nicholls, 2012).

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified for the SOCLIMPACT project. These are:

- (a) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves,
- (b) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events,
- (c) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

We selected to operationalize the third one which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The hazard risk component indicators considered for the operationalization were: extreme waves (SWHX98), extreme wind (WiX98) and mean sea level rise (MSLAVE). The exposure indicators are: number of passengers (NPax), islands' total population (NTotP), value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot) and number of ports per island or archipelago (NPo), while the sensitivity indicators include: the number of isolation days (NIID) and renovated infrastructure (NAgePo). Finally, for the component of adaptive capacity the proposed indicators are: percentage of renewables (PEnRR), number of courses/trainings (NTrCoRM), early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt). Unfortunately, due to the lack of reliable and consistent data we had to exclude the "number of isolation days" and "number of courses/trainings" indicators. The conceptualization framework of the operationalization is summarized in the next Figure.

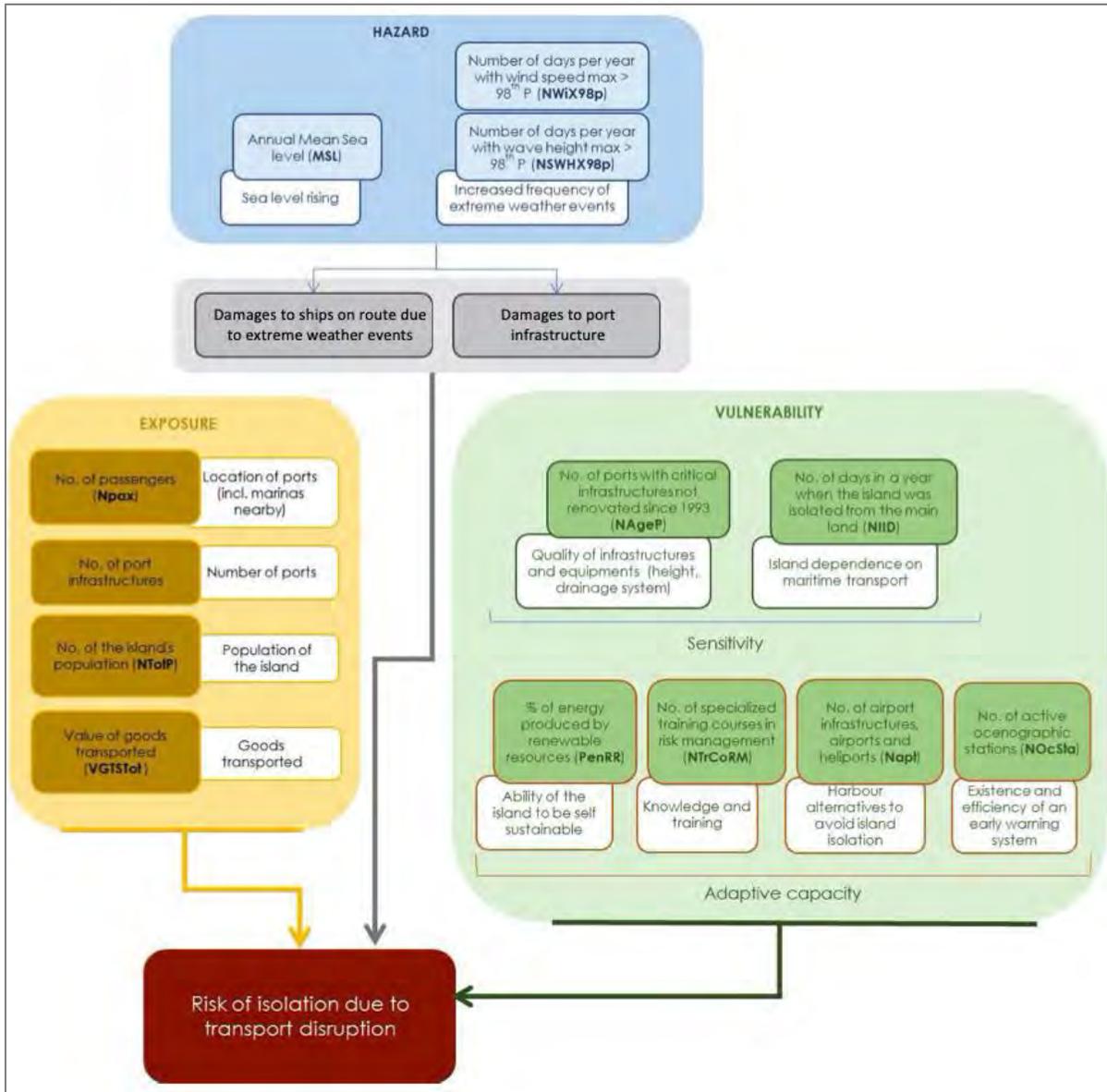


Figure 73: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain: Risk of Transport Disruption.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#).

For assessing future risk, we considered projections or estimations for the indicators when these were available. This was mainly the case for the components of hazard (mean sea level rise, extreme waves and wind), exposure (population, number of passengers, value of goods), and the contribution of renewables. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) were considered for meteorological hazards. One “high-emission” or “business-as-usual” pathway (RCP8.5) and a more optimistic one (RCP2.6) that is closer to the main targets of the Paris Accord to keep global warming to lower levels than 2 °C since pre-industrial times.



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Besides the historical reference period, we consider two 20-year future periods of analysis. One over the middle of the 21st century (2046-2065) and one covering the end of the 21st century (2081-2100). The normalization of indicators was performed across the different islands in order to facilitate and inter-island comparison and prioritize the islands of higher risk.

Regarding the weighting of the different risk components, we have tested several weights, however, according to expert judgement and discussion with specialists on the Maritime sector, we have found more appropriate to assign equal weights to all main components of risk (i.e. 0.33 for Hazard, 0.33 for Exposure and 0.33 for Vulnerability). For the sub-components of Exposure, we have assigned a weight of 0.33 for Nature of Exposure and a weight of 0.66 for Level of Exposure since the latter one is believed to be of greatest importance. Similarly, for the vulnerability sub-components, we have assigned a weight of 0.25 for the Factors of Sensitivity and a weight of 0.75 for the Factors of Adaptive Capacity.

The weighting and categorization of risk is a subjective decision, nevertheless we consider our selection to be quite conservative and therefore we believe that a slightly different choice would not significantly affect the main conclusions drawn. For the recent past/present conditions, the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain indicates low risk for all investigated islands. In general, the Maritime Transport sector of the larger islands (e.g. Corsica, Cyprus and Crete) is found to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Up to a point, this is related to the large number of harbour alternatives in comparison with smaller islands.

Our results for the future highlight the importance of adopting a low-emission pathway since this will keep the risk for Maritime Transport disruption in similar as present conditions while for some islands the risk is expected to slightly decline. In terms of island inter-comparison, Malta's maritime sector is found to be most vulnerable, nevertheless, future risk even under RCP8.5 is not expected to exceed medium risk values. On the contrary, Corsica is the island less susceptible to climate change impacts. Detailed results for each investigated SOCLIMPACT island are presented in the following sub-sections.



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Table 24: Summary of present and future risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption for each island and scenario based on the Impact Chain operationalization.

RISK VALUE PER ISLAND	Historical Reference	RCP2.6 MID	RCP2.6 END	RCP8.5 MID	RCP8.5 END
CYPRUS	0.241	0.210	0.218	0.258	0.292
CRETE	0.229	0.208	0.201	0.257	0.282
MALTA	0.376	0.347	0.335	0.395	0.414
CORSICA	0.220	0.194	0.194	0.243	0.273
CANARY ISLANDS	0.336	0.292	0.250	0.346	0.341
BALEARIC ISLANDS	0.326	0.281	0.264	0.331	0.344

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D4.5](#) Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.

For the eastern Mediterranean island of Cyprus and the risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption, our analysis indicated low risk values (0.241) during the historical reference period. Greatest is the contribution that comes from the factors of adaptive capacity and nature of exposure. On the contrary, the hazard indicators related to the meteorological hazards had a much smaller contribution. For the mid of the 21st century the risk for transport disruption remains low for both RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 (values of 0.21 and 0.258 respectively). The contribution of hazard indicators is becoming more significant, since mean sea level rise is increased compared to the default zero value of the historical reference period. Since the exposure indicators have the same values for both pathways, the differences in the risk values are for this period mainly driven by the factors of adaptive capacity and mainly the contribution of renewables. This contribution is expected to be more important in an RCP2.6 future, therefore the risk values are somehow lower. For the end of the 21st century, the risk values do not change much for the optimistic RCP2.6. On the contrary, for RCP8.5 our analysis indicates an increase in the risk value (0.292), however this is still categorised in the low class.

READ MORE about the risk indicator computation: normalization of sub-component indicators in SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.5 [here](#).



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5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 258 tourists visiting Cyprus whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

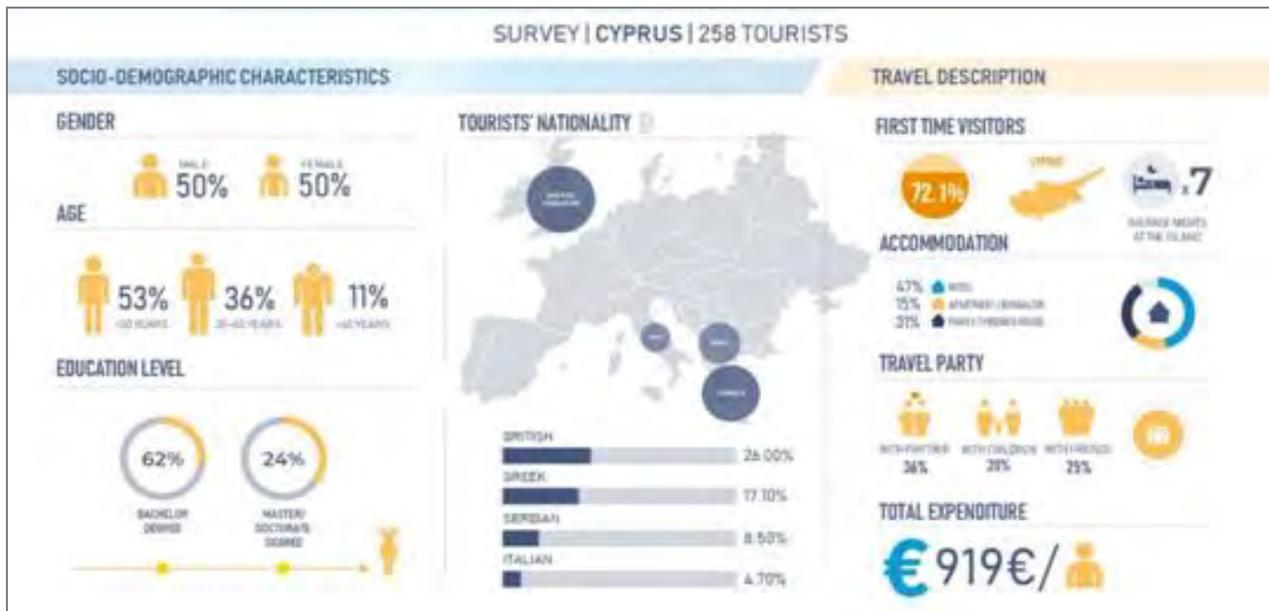


Figure 74: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Cyprus
Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#).

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists’ choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (97.70% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where beaches largely disappear (84.50%) or where temperature becomes uncomfortably hot (72.50%). Consequently, policies related to beaches protection (11€/day), heat waves amelioration (8.7€/day), and the prevention of infectious diseases (6.9€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting this island.



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Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policymakers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.



Figure 75: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting Cyprus

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#).

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [here](#).

How tourists perceive the island destination: A comparative approach through the analysis of social media

While historically destination image is projected by DMOs and tourists' offices, the advent of social media allow the construction of an image which is also a projection of tourists. The content of their communication online shows the image they perceive. In this section we analyse how tourists "talk" about the different islands on social media, in order to understand what the perceived image is.

We use a specific tool (Google Cloud Vision) to scan the content of images posted by tourists on Instagram (the market leader in visual social media) while they are on holiday in selected islands. The content is translated in up to ten labels attached to each picture. For each island we aggregate



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and rank the different labels to find out the most important characteristics tourists associate to the island (assuming that they are correlated with the most frequent labels attached to the pictures).

We analyse eight islands representative of the Atlantic Ocean (four islands of the Canary Archipelago: Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Tenerife) and of the Mediterranean Sea (Crete, Cyprus, Malta, Sicily). We scan posts geotagged in these islands by tourists (identified by a travel-related hashtag such as #visit #holiday #travel, etc) in summer 2019 (June to September), returning a total number of 745,235 pictures considered in the analysis. The breakdown is in the table below.

Table 25: Characteristics of the sample of pictures under analysis

Indicator	Island							
	<i>Tenerife</i>	<i>Gran Canaria</i>	<i>Fuerteventura</i>	<i>Lanzarote</i>	<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>Crete</i>	<i>Malta</i>	<i>Sicily</i>
Num. of posts (total)	49,234	33,145	38,452	25,471	63,561	93,752	74,925	119,896
Avg. num. of pictures per post	1.77	1.67	1.56	1.8	1.76	1.74	1.81	1.68
Share of geotagged posts	67%	67%	67%	65%	70%	74%	76%	73%
Number of scanned pictures	74,537	48,337	52,577	39,381	95,808	141,538	117,576	175,481

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

After aggregating similar words, top labels for each island were obtained. The following pools were created utilizing a frequency analysis, which is the total number of times the label occurs in each island. A first glance at the word clouds shows that all destinations look extremely similar which, perhaps, is of little surprise given that they all are European sea & sun destinations: hence, labels like Sky, Sea, Vacation, Tree, Beach are among the most frequent for all islands. Nonetheless, some differences can be spotted: Mountain appears relatively more frequently in Tenerife than in other islands; Sea and Ocean have relatively more weight in Fuerteventura; Architecture and Building are of more importance in Cyprus, Crete, Malta and Sicily than in the Canary Islands, something that is clearly linked to the density of cultural heritage in the Mediterranean islands: in fact, all the labels representing architectural, religious and historical sites (History, Historic, Ruins, Site, Ancient, Building, Dome, Mosque, Holy, Medieval, etc.) have higher ranks in these islands than in the Canaries. The islands of this archipelago have more similar images, but also reveal distinct features: for example Gran Canaria appears the most urban, Tenerife is characterized by a higher frequency of labels related to partying and nightlife but also for wildlife spotting, Lanzarote stands out for its arid landscapes and Fuerteventura for the vast sandy seashores and turquoise waters as the frequencies of labels such Beach, Shore, Sand, Coast, Turquoise, Ocean show.



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No776661



The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination’s perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. Other estimations were provided for Cyprus using the Index of Distance in Destination Image to position each island in a range that goes from Sardinia / Corsica on one side and Sicily on the other side. Without entering the details of the extrapolation method (which are explained in D5.6 appendixes) a summary of results is reported here:

Table 26: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Cyprus

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
50.47%	rcp26near	61.59%	2.6%	0.5%	3.1%
	rcp26far	62.47%	2.8%	0.6%	3.4%
	rcp85near	64.88%	3.4%	0.7%	4.1%
	rcp85far	88.60%	8.9%	1.8%	10.9%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

To do this, we assume two main species cultured in this region: Seabream (SB) and Tuna (T), and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios. As expected, the production levels (tons) will decrease for both, low and high emissions scenarios.



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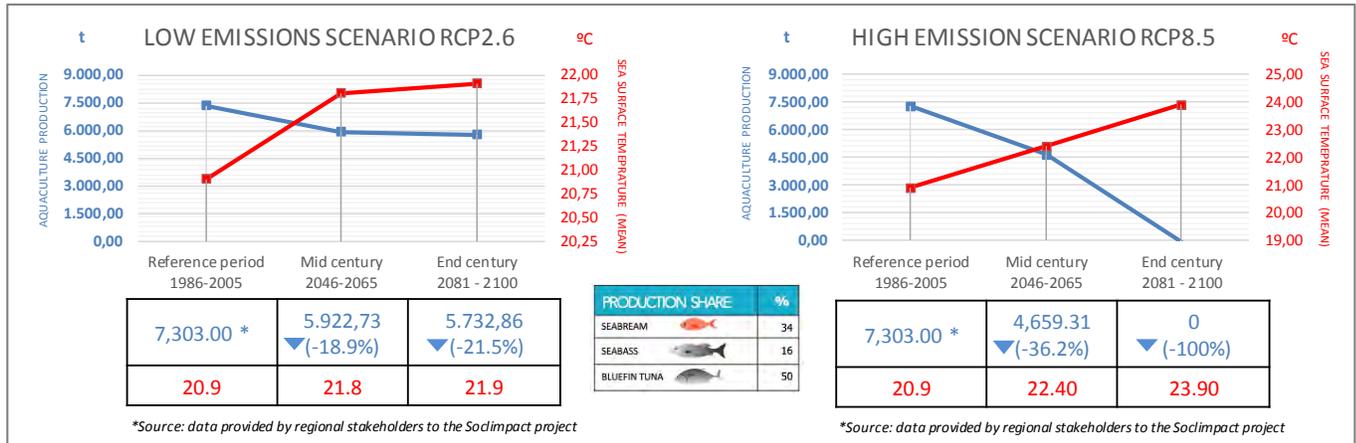


Figure 76: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D5.6.

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [here](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (CDD) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (GWh/year) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 1183 CDD⁶ approx in 2100. This value could be, for example, a combination of 107 days with temperatures of 29°C. Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 252%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [here](#).

⁶ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18)= 200CDD

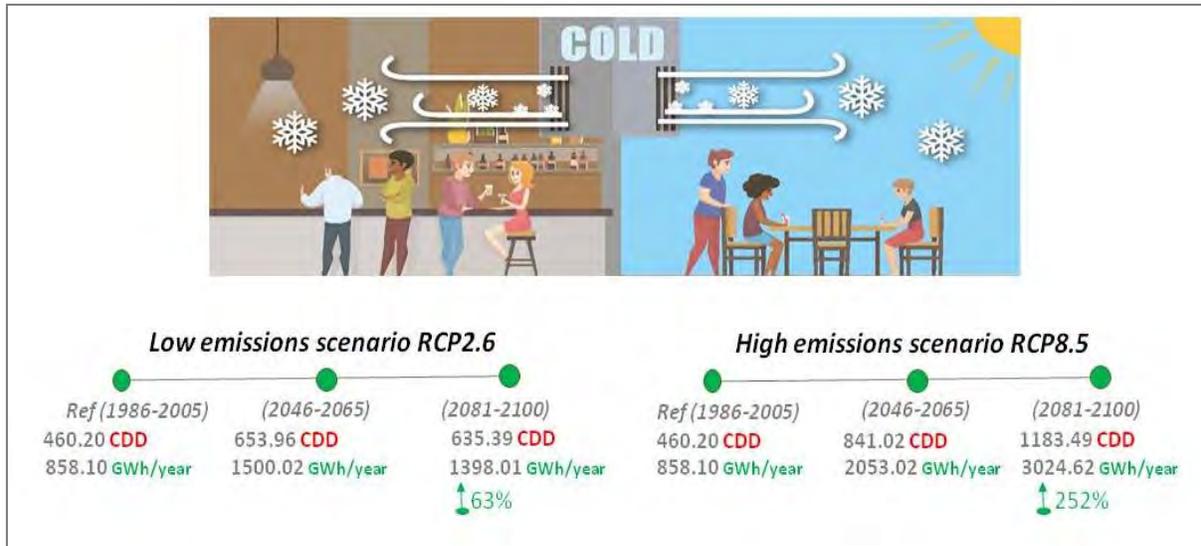


Figure 77: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Cyprus under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D5.6](#).

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (**SPEI**) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (**GWh/year**) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the low emissions scenario (RCP2.6), there are not significant changes in the SPEI indicator, that will remain in its "normal" level, as it is nowadays. Nevertheless, an increase of 36% in desalination energy demand is expected. Under RCP8.2 the scenario alerts on a severe aridity leading to an increase of 159% of the energy demand.



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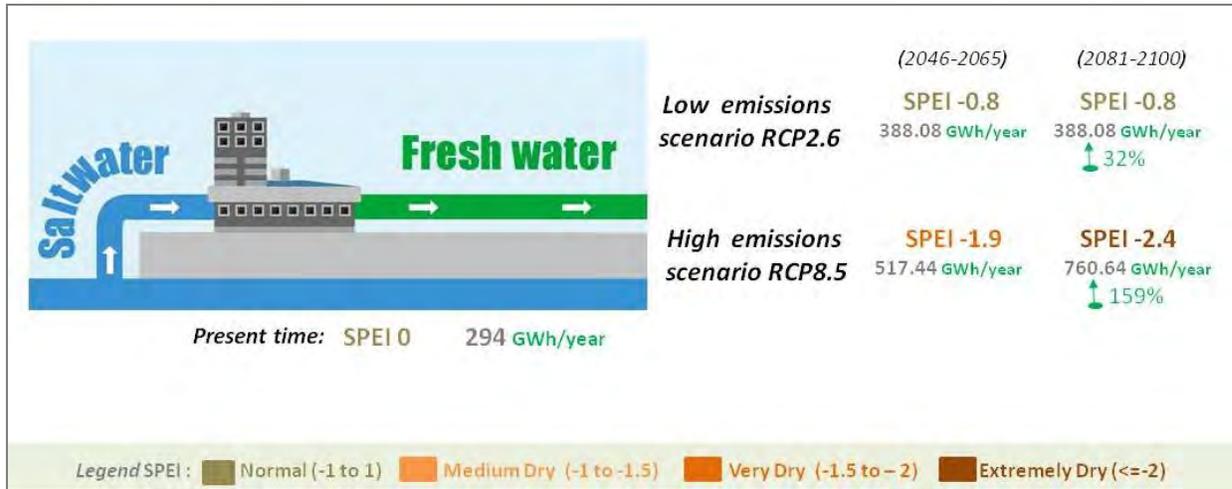


Figure 78: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Cyprus under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D5.6](#).

Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1-metre elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all port infrastructures on the island within the next 125 years. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 4.3 million euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [here](#).

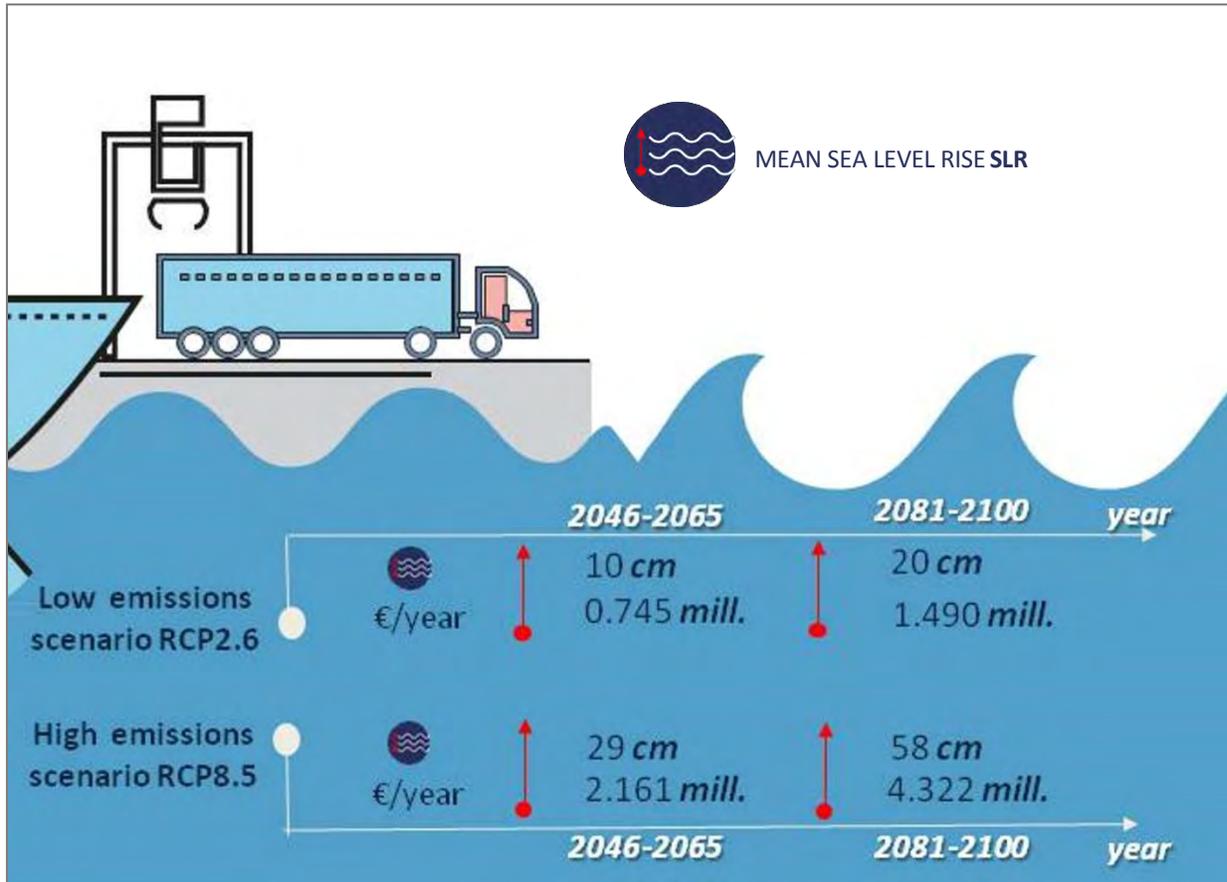


Figure 79: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Cyprus under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D5.6](#).

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the island of Cyprus. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in



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the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 17 scenarios have been quantified for Cyprus. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 27: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-10.88	19.3	-0.02
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-14.83	16.6	-0.02
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-41.33	37.0	-0.06
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-49.24	68.6	-0.07

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces is a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.



With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -0.95% and -2.2% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -3.0% and -8.0% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative change over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to -1% in the RCP2.6 and -4% in the RCP8.5.

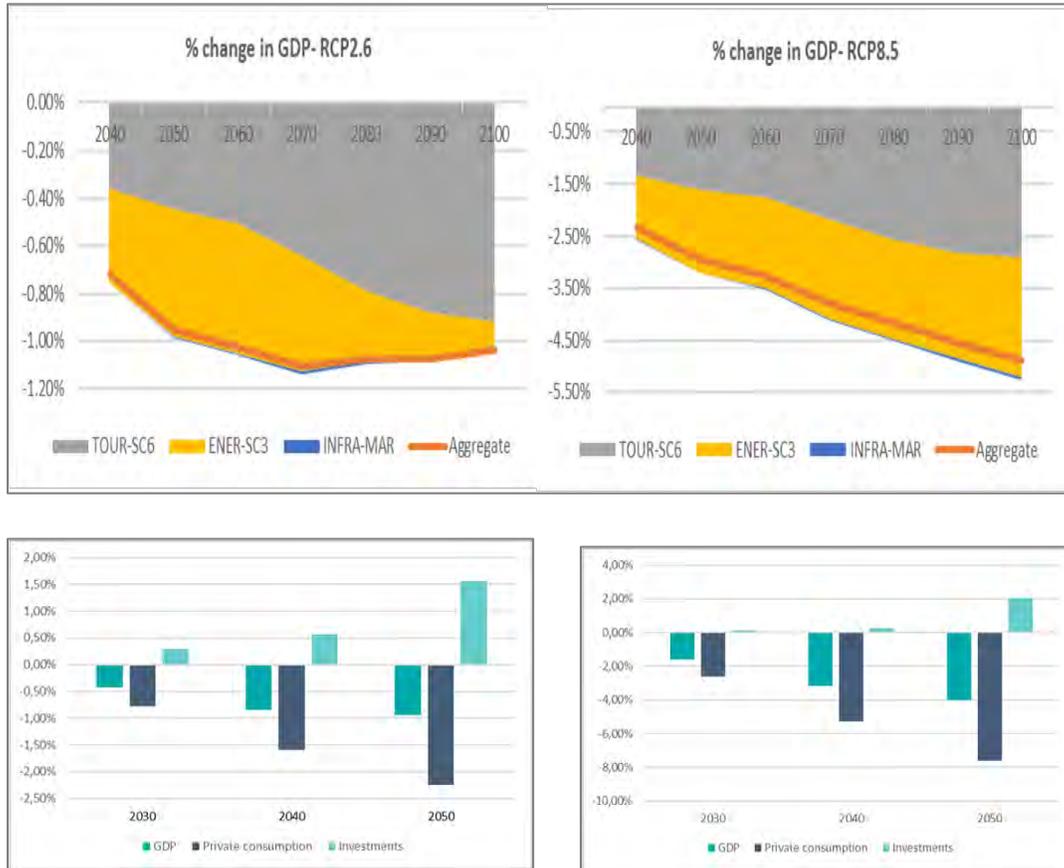


Figure 80: Percentage Change in GDP.

Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the manufacturing sector and to a lesser extent in the consumer goods industries sector. In the GEM-E3-ISL model the reduction in wages in response to the increasing unemployment in the tourism industries implies competitiveness gains for other market services (e.g. business sector, trade etc.).



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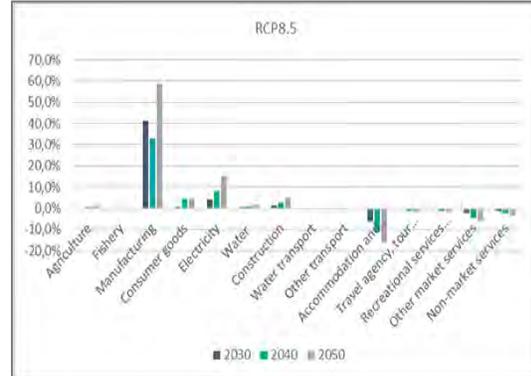
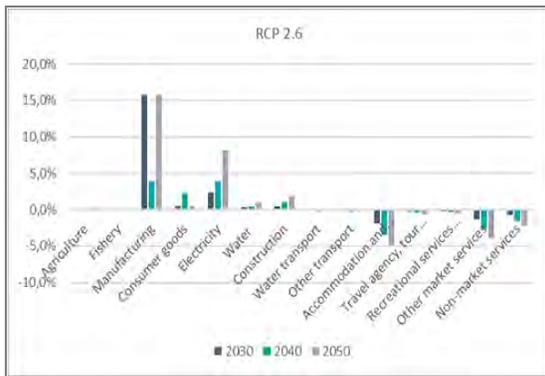
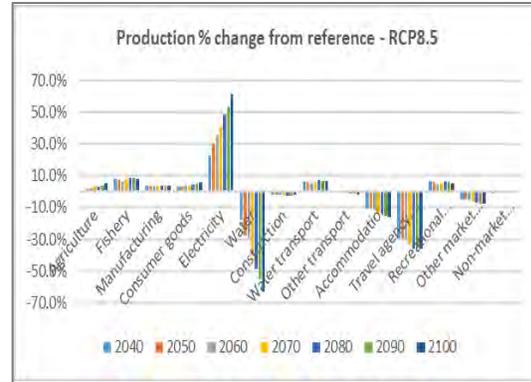
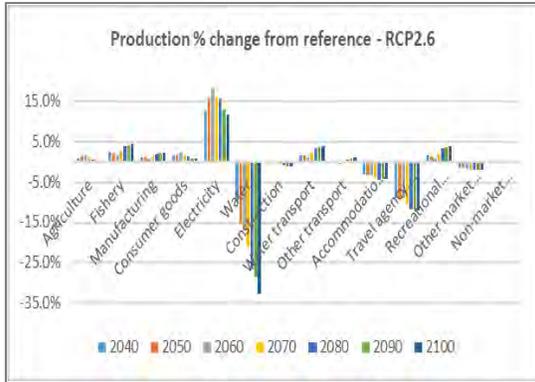


Figure 81: Production percentage change from reference. Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 0.3% in the RCP2.6 and by 0.9% in the RCP8.5.

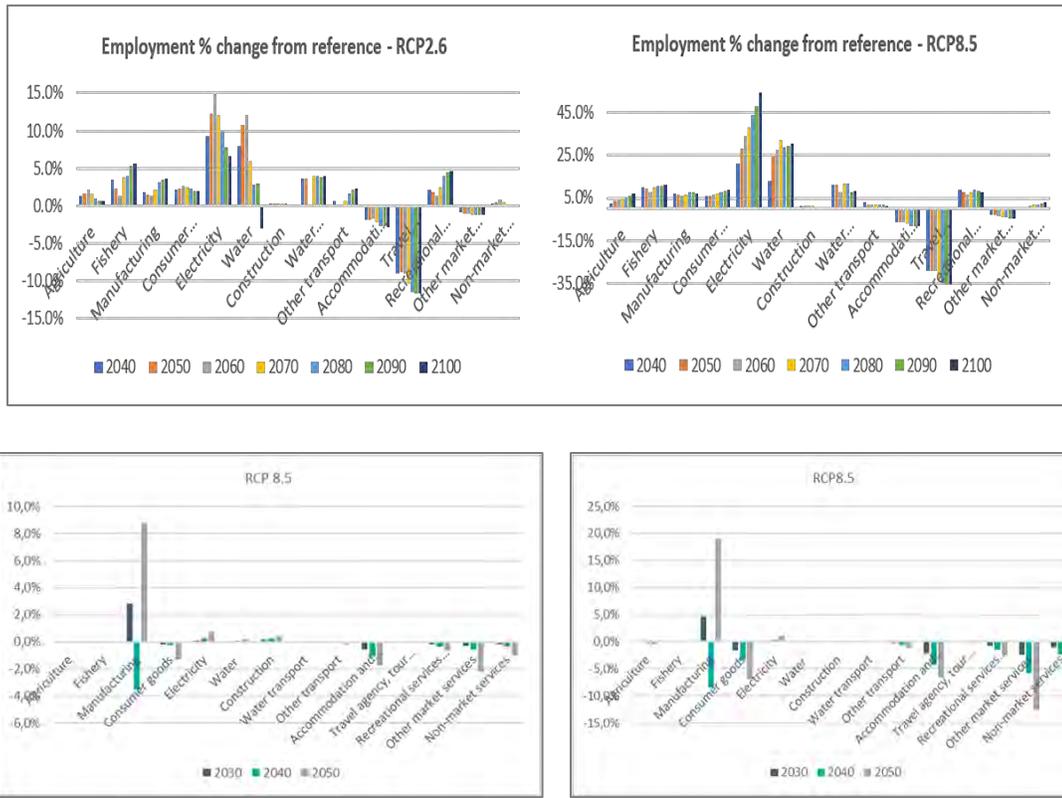


Figure 82: Employment percentage change from reference. Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacles

The island has adopted a number of Climate Change actions at both national and European level. The following lists the most important actions:

- 1992 Adoption of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to stabilize concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at levels that prevent dangerous impacts on the climate from human activities.
- 1994 UNFCCC entered into force.
- 1997 Cyprus ratified the UNFCCC as a non-Annex I Party.
- 1998 Adoption of the Kyoto Protocol to limit greenhouse gas emissions for the periods 2008-2012 and 2013-2020.
- 2003 Cyprus ratified the Kyoto Protocol.
- 2008 Start of the Kyoto Protocol's First Commitment period.
- 2009 EU's Climate and Energy Package for 2020 agreed.
- 2011 Cyprus changed its UNFCCC status to Annex I party.
- 2011 EU's 2050 Roadmap agreed.



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- 2012 End of the Kyoto Protocol's First Commitment period.
- 2012 Doha amendment to the Kyoto Protocol for 2013-2020.
- 2015 Adoption of the Paris Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2016 Paris Agreement entered into force.
- 2017 Cyprus ratified the Paris Agreement.

With regards to its policies, the Cyprus government has drafted several plans and strategies concerning water, energy and waste into various directives.

- The River Basin Management Plan and Water Policy drafted in the framework of the Water Framework Directive.
- The Flood Risk Management Plan drafted in the of the Floods Directive.
- The National energy efficiency action plan of Cyprus drafted in the framework of the Energy Efficiency Directive.
- The National Renewable Energy Action Plan drafted in the framework of the 2009/28/EC Directive.
- The Nearly Zero Energy Buildings Action Plan drafted in the framework of the Energy Performance of Building Directive.
- The European Common Agriculture Policy.
- The National Biodiversity Strategy. Cyprus has formulated the National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS) during 2013, as a reference document in order to fulfil the commitments accepted with the ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- The Strategy for the Management of waste.
- The low-carbon development strategy of Cyprus to 2050.
- The Multiannual national plan for the development of sustainable aquaculture.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment compiled a strategic plan of objectives and actions for the purpose of promoting a green economy, sustainable agriculture and fisheries growth and efficient use of natural resources. Table 28 provides a list of these goals that are related to the SOCLIMPACT project.

Table 28: Cyprus strategic goals and objectives.

STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS	
Climate Change mitigation and adaptation (Department of Environment)	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change. 2. Implementation of international and EU commitments on climate change, protection of the ozone layer and regulation and monitoring of fluorinated greenhouse gases. 3. Coordination of climate change policy issues.
Environmental protection (Department of Environment)	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protection of the environment from the activities of industrial and livestock installations, waste management operators and waste producers. 2. Managing species and habitats with the objective of halting the degradation of the conservation status.



	3. Assessment of the impacts on the environment from plans/programmes/projects and other actions.
Efficient protection of forests against fires and other agents (Department of Forests)	
	1. Protection of forests against forest fires. 2. Protection of forests against other agents.
Protection of biodiversity and other ecosystem services (Department of Forests)	
	1. Protection of biodiversity and other ecosystem services. 2. Adaptation of forests to climate change and contribution of forests to mitigating climate change.
Safeguard the quality and protect the water resources and aquatic environment (Water Development Department)	
	1. Implementation of the Floods Directive 2007/60/EC.
Protection and conservation of the marine environment (Department of Fisheries and Marine Research)	
	1. Studies and monitoring of the marine waters up to the EEZ, under the relevant European legislation and International Conventions. 2. Management and Monitoring of Marine Protected Areas. 3. Inspection and combat of oil pollution (combat teams).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D7.1](#).

The following table presents some of the most significant limits and obstacles facing the island with regards the adoption and implementation of various actions, strategies and policies aimed to combat Climate Change:

Table 29: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<i>Specific limits and obstacle</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dedicated process is in place to facilitate stakeholders' involvement in the preparation of adaptation policies. However, there is little (mainly sectoral) evidence of transboundary cooperation to address common challenges with relevant neighbouring countries (cooperation between Mediterranean countries). • There are a few organizations that are responsible for observing the impacts of climate change in various sectors (and monitoring of environmental variables). • Climate risks/vulnerability assessments do not take transboundary risks into account, when relevant. It is unclear how Cyprus will address climate risks transcending the country's frontiers (e.g., risks coming from warmer countries, changes in the Mediterranean, etc.) • It is unclear how knowledge gaps are used to prioritize funding in the field of adaptation research. Some research into the assessment of existing and future impacts on vulnerable economic sectors is being financed and carried out through one-off projects. It has been decided to assess all knowledge gaps related to climate change impacts and adaptation and identify possible sources of funding for their research. • Education materials or specific training activities to build adaptation capacity or to help stakeholders to adapt to climate change are not yet available.



- There are no updated sources of information available on climate change data and adaptation policy developments. Cyprus developed a CYPADAPT portal to support the dissemination of information on climate change adaptation. The platform was expected to provide access and share information and views on many different issues concerning adaptation options, climate impacts, vulnerability, case studies, research activities, legislation, financing opportunities, tools for adaptation planning and useful links, but has not been updated since 2014.
- Very few mechanisms are in place to coordinate disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. Disaster risk reduction plans do not factor in projected climate extremes that may occur in the future, while the national adaptation strategy does not mention specific disaster preparedness plans or how these account for climate change adaptation.
- Funding is available to increase climate resilience in vulnerable sectors and for cross-cutting adaptation action, but other elements, such as coordination, governance, capacity building, indicators and projections do not have specific allocation of resources. Also, costs of climate change impacts and costs/benefits of adaptation in general have yet to be identified.
- The Cypriot authorities just started harmonizing national legislation and mainstream adaptation to reflect the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive.
- Key land use, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies do not consider the impacts of climate change.

Relevant documents

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Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [D7.1](#).



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SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Reports

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.1 Report on climatic databases to be used to quantify indicators in the impact chains

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.3. Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.4a Report on solar and wind energy.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.4b Report on storm surge levels.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.4c Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.4d Report on the evolution of beaches.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.4e Report on estimated seagrass density.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.



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SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D5.6. Integration and coordination of non-market and big data analysis of economic values resulting from Climate Change impacts to GEM-E3-ISL and GINFORS models.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D6.2. Macroeconomic outlook of the islands' economic systems and pre-testing simulations.

SOCLIMPACT Deliverable D7.1. Conceptual framework.

APPENDIX 7





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Introduction

This report contains the background material, climate hazard predictions and socio-economic assessment of Fehmarn within the SOCLIMPACT project context. The report starts by describing the geography and socio-economic context of the island, as well as the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end of the 21st century. Regarding climate change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and modelled (WP3). These projections are joined with the expected trends of physical risks, both current and future (WP4). Based on this analysis, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and climate change resilience of the island are also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the project's original work is made in the reference section and when relevant data is presented.

Fehmarn at a glance

Fehmarn is the third largest German Baltic Sea island with an area of 85.5 km² and a population of 12,500. It is located between the Bay of Kiel in the West, and the Bay of Mecklenburg in the East. The island can be reached via a bridge that connects it to the German mainland (train, car, walking), and by boat. There is a ferry port on the island's North side, with regular connections to Denmark several times per day. The island is mostly flat (highest elevation 27.2 m) and has a partially undulating land mass; low dunes, beach lakes, and sand pits at the north coast; and a cliffed coast in the east. With many sandy beaches, it is vulnerable to erosion caused by storm surges. A large fraction of the land is used for intensive agriculture, mostly producing rape seed and cereals.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Tourism**

Tourism is the island's most important Source: of income. Approximately 300,000 overnight guests stay on Fehmarn every year, with the vast majority being German (~99%). Many tourists stay on one of the huge campsites that are situated at different locations along the coastline. A lot of people use the same caravan pitch for many years or even decades and visit regularly during holidays and on weekends throughout the season. For people from northern German municipalities, Fehmarn is also a popular day trip destination as the connecting mainland bridge makes the island easily accessible by car.

- **Energy**

Fehmarn's electricity grid, as well as the water supply, are connected to the German mainland. Economically relevant are the island's wind parks. The wind turbines produce 443,160 MWh/year, which is approximately equal to 464% of the island's energy demand. Being one of the sunniest regions in Germany, PV plants are also widely used. Together with energy produced via the burning of agricultural biomass, Fehmarn produces and exports far more electrical energy to the mainland than it requires for its own consumption.



- **Maritime Transport**

Maritime transport does not play an island-typical role as most cars and trains arrive via the Fehmarn Sound Bridge from the German mainland. Most maritime transport is happening at Puttgarden harbour, where the ferry connection to Denmark operates. It forms part of the shortest route between Hamburg and Copenhagen and has been heavily used for centuries. Apart from Puttgarden, maritime traffic in Fehmarn is rather small scale with no remarkable international ship traffic going on. Burgstaaken, the second largest port, serves as the home port for local fishing boats, and for shipping agricultural products to the German mainland. It also has touristic infrastructure with a submarine museum, a marina, and gastronomy.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

The island of Fehmarn has 85.5 km² of terrestrial area and is located in the Baltic Sea in northern Germany. As of December 2018, 12,592 people lived permanently on Fehmarn¹. Since the middle of the 20th century, the population development showed little fluctuation, with the number of inhabitants remaining between 12,000 and 13,000 (Fig. 1). From 1713 until 1864 Fehmarn was under Danish control. Afterwards, the island became part of Prussia. Now Fehmarn is part of the Kreis Ostholstein, a district that is part of the German federal state Schleswig-Holstein.

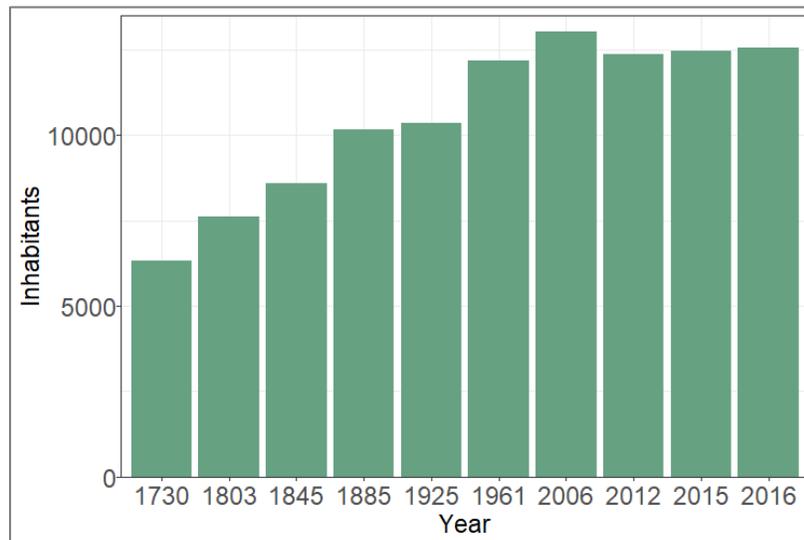


Figure 1: Inhabitants of Fehmarn 1730-2016. Note that the x-axis scale is not linear but displays distinctive years for which a population census was available.

Source: <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fehmarn>

¹ <http://region.statistik-nord.de/detail/0110001100110101111/1/348/786/>



The population of Fehmarn is on average 48.9 years old², which is older than the German average age of 44.4 years³. The unemployment rate of Fehmarn is similar to that of the rest of Germany^{4 5}. The municipality is currently governed by mayor Jörg Weber, who is a member of the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD). At the last election in 2018, the SPD received 28 %, and the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) received 27.8% of votes. The remaining votes went to the Voters Union of Fehmarn (15.5%), the Community of Fehmarn's citizens called "Wir unternehmen was" ("We do something") (12.,9%), and the Green Party (10.2%).

According to the Statistikamt Nord, the statistical service for northern Germany, 85% of the islands' surface are green space⁶ and the population density is only 69 inhabitants per km² ⁷. The islands interior is characterized by intensive agriculture and thus covered with fields where mostly cereals and rapeseed are grown. Next to the agricultural sector, the blue economy sectors are crucial to Fehmarn's economy, with tourism being the most important one.

The island has four nature reserves with a total area of 1577 ha⁸, located mostly along the 78-km-long coastline. The North coast, located between Markelsdorfer Huk and Puttgarden, is a dune landscape with beach lakes, while the East coast is a stony shore and has cliffs. In the South and the West of the island, mostly white sandy beaches can be found as a flat coastal strip. The coasts of Fehmarn frequently suffer from erosion. The island's interior is protected against floods with a system of dykes. Coastal protection and dyke maintenance are under responsibility of the federal state government of Schleswig-Holstein in Kiel. This is important because most of the area of Fehmarn is barely higher than the sea level, with the highest point being at 27.2 meters above sea level (Hinrichsberg). Coastal protection and dyke building are adaptation measures that have been executed at the German coastlines for hundreds of years and are therefore managed with huge experience.

The town hall of Fehmarn is in Burg, the most central district of Fehmarn, which serves as the central point of administration. It is the formal capital of Fehmarn and has approximately 6,000 inhabitants.

Burg is connected to the German mainland by train, but the connections are not very frequent, with trains going to Lübeck approximately every two hours during operating times. During summer weekends, a train connects Fehmarn to Cologne and two trains run directly from Fehmarn to Hamburg. There are also busses that connect Fehmarn and the German mainland, but

² <http://region.statistik-nord.de/detail/0110001100110101111/1/348/786>

³ <https://www.bib.bund.de/DE/Fakten/Fakt/B19-Durchschnittsalter-Bevoelkerung-ab-1871.html>

⁴ <https://hartz4widerspruch.de/jobcenter-ostholstein-geschaefsstelle-fehmarn-alle-infos/>

⁵ <https://www.bpb.de/nachschlagen/zahlen-und-fakten/soziale-situation-in-deutschland/61718/arbeitslose-und-arbeitslosenquote>

⁶ <http://region.statistik-nord.de/detail/0110001100110101111/1/348/786/>

⁷ <http://region.statistik-nord.de/detail/0110001100110101111/1/348/786/>

⁸ <https://wallnau.nabu.de/projekte/nsgbetreuung/index.html>



the vast majority of people coming to the island reach Fehmarn and Burg by private car. Across the entire island, cars are the most used mode of transport.

1.2 Current climate and risks

At the German Baltic coast, the climate is central European with relatively cool summers and humid winters. Even though the number of sunny days at the coast is higher than further inland and Fehmarn is considered to be the sunniest German island, precipitation is common in all seasons. Westerly winds are predominant and there is no influence of the Gulf Stream on the climate of the Baltic region. As the water exchange between the North Sea and Baltic Sea is small, the salinity of the Baltic Sea is extremely low. As a result of these brackish conditions, large areas of the Baltic Sea can get frozen during some winters.

The cool water of the Baltic Sea is also responsible for relatively low maximum air temperatures along coastal areas in the summer (on average not much higher than 20°C). During winter on the other hand, the temperature buffering capacity of the Baltic Sea causes relatively mild average temperatures (rarely dropping below 0°C) (Figs. 2.1 – 2.4). In comparison, air temperatures in areas further inland can get much colder.

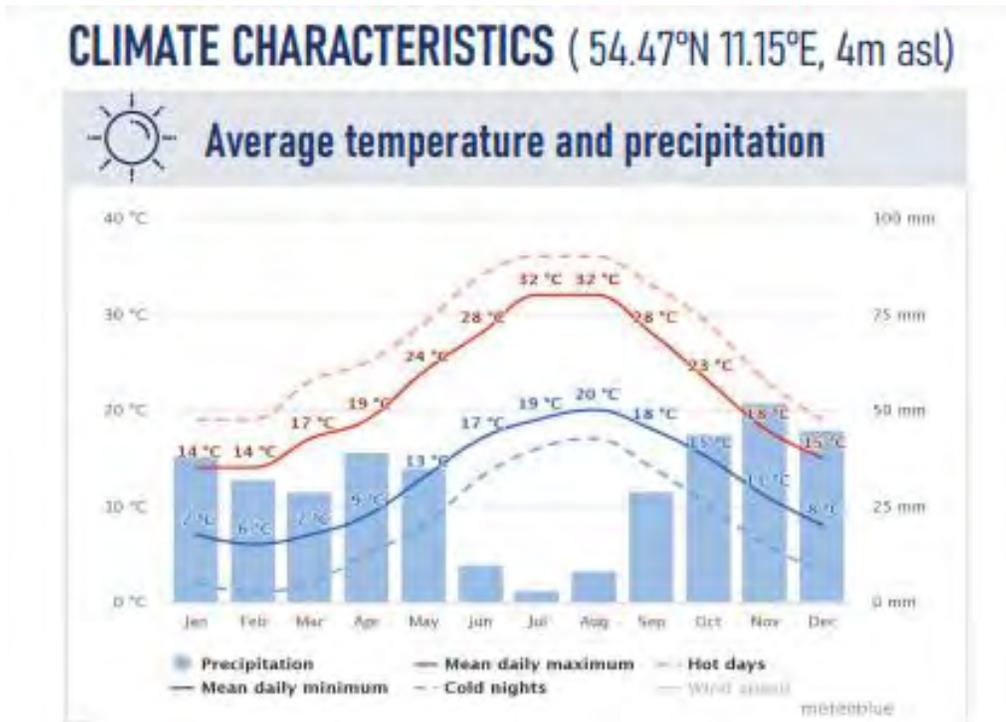


Figure 2.1: Average temperature and precipitation on Fehmarn (figure is part of the [Climate factsheet for Fehmarn](#)).

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework and Meteoblue](#); Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

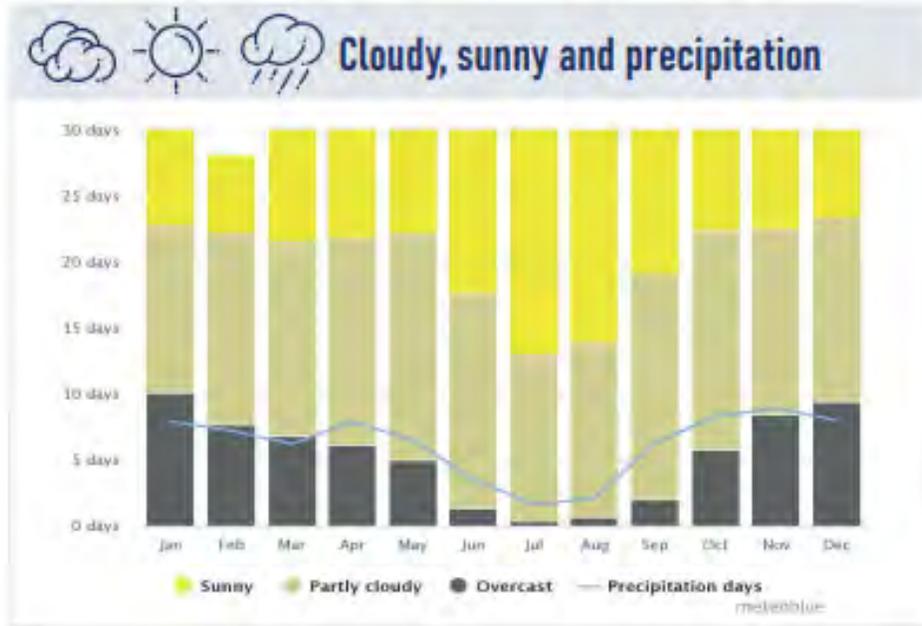


Figure 2.2: Average weather patterns on Fehmarn (figure is part of the [Climate factsheet for Fehmarn](#)).
 Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

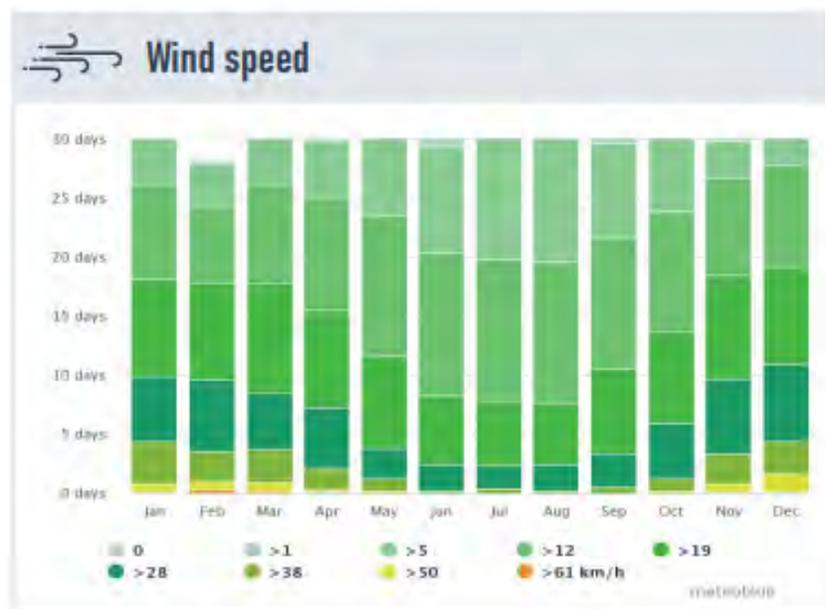


Figure 2.3: Average wind speeds on Fehmarn (figure is part of the [Climate factsheet for Fehmarn](#)).
 Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

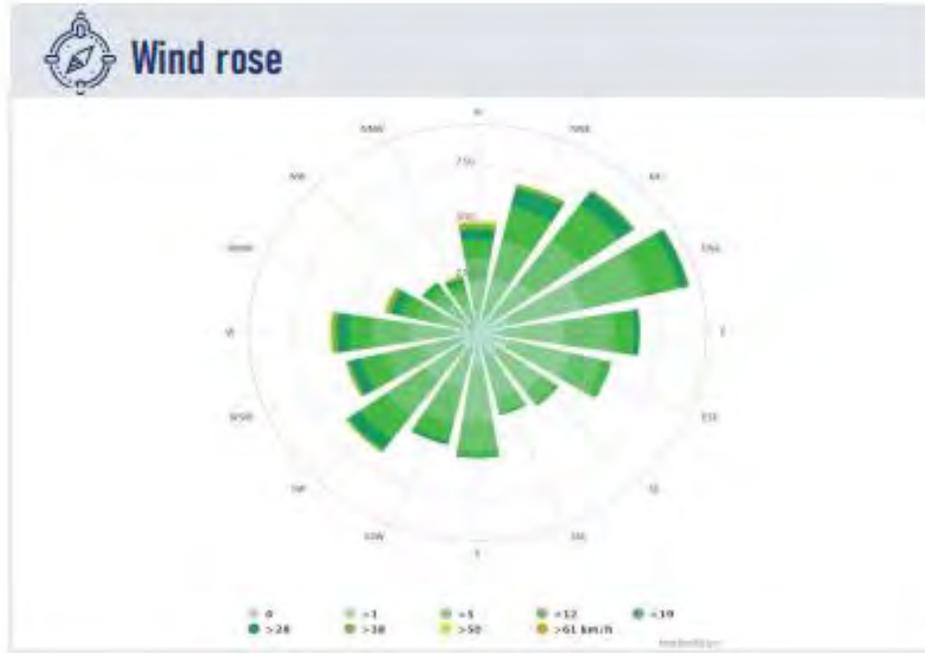


Figure 2.4: Average wind directions and speeds on Fehmarn (figure is part of the [Climate factsheet for Fehmarn](#)).

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [DZ.1 Conceptual Framework and Meteoblue](#); Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

Data on the macroeconomic status of Fehmarn is not readily available, as it is a small municipality within the German federal structure. Information is only available for higher levels (whole district, federal state), from which it is not possible to derive Fehmarn-specific information on economic outputs. The tourism industry is by far the most important economical factor on the island and is therefore responsible for majority of income and employment. Further detailed information on the structure of this sector can be found in the next section 1.4.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

Fehmarn is an attractive tourism spot, as it has a high percentage of sunny hours when compared to other German regions. Approximately 300,000 guests, not including people that come for a day



trip, stay on Fehmarn each year⁹. The main tourism season is the summer, mainly between July and August when many Germans have summer holidays (Fig. 3). Between 2017 and 2019, about 148,000 to 167,000 tourists visited Fehmarn during these two months alone¹⁰. The huge number of visitors make the tourism sector a main source of jobs for the citizens of Fehmarn and roughly 90% of the island's population are directly or indirectly dependent on the tourism industry¹¹. Many inhabitants rent out parts of their own house, or own holiday homes and apartments on the island.

Tourism on Fehmarn is basically domestic. A huge majority of guests come from Germany, some from Denmark and very few from other European countries. Fehmarn is a popular target for short and daytrips for people living in Hamburg, Lübeck, or other municipalities in northern Germany, as connection of the island to the mainland via the bridge makes it easily accessible by car and no ferry booking is required.

Another characteristic of tourism on Fehmarn is the popularity of caravan camping. Roughly half of all tourists stay on one of the huge camping sites that are situated at different spots along the island's coastline. It is common to use the same caravan pitch for many years or even decades and to visit the island regularly for holidays and on weekends throughout the season.

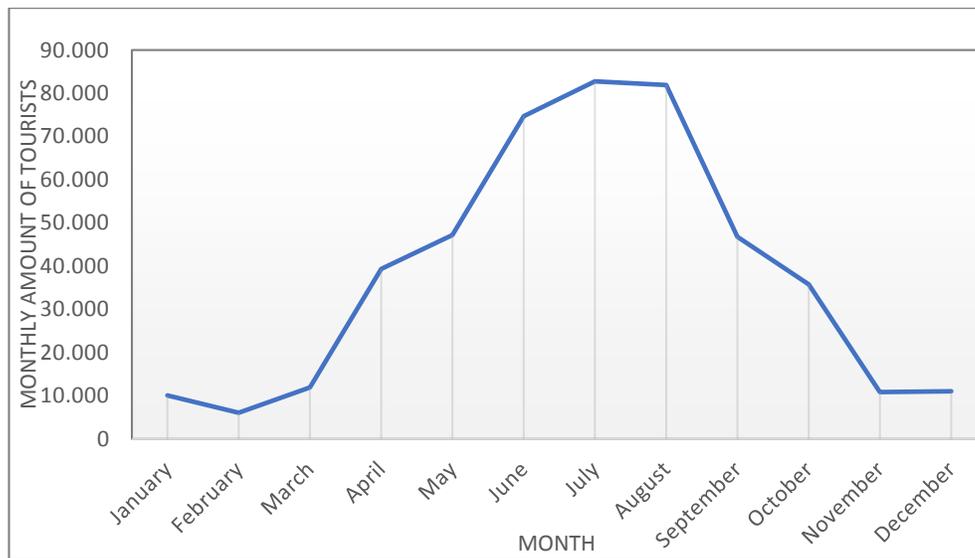


Figure 3: Monthly number of tourists on Fehmarn in 2019.

Source: Tourism Service Fehmarn

Maritime Transport

Maritime transport has been of little relevance for the overall functioning of the island since the Fehmarn Sound Bridge (Fehmarnsundbrücke) was built in 1963. The bridge is being used by cars and trains, and it connects Fehmarn to the German mainland. As a result of this connection, the

⁹ <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fehmarn>

¹⁰ <https://www.fehmarn.de/>

¹¹ <https://www.ikzm-d.de/inhalt.php?page=21,595>



blue economy sector “maritime transport” does not play an island-typical role as most transport arrives via the bridge from the German mainland. If their destination is not Fehmarn, they cross the island and take the ferry from Puttgarden harbour in the north of Fehmarn to Rødby in Denmark. The route across Fehmarn is the shortest link between Hamburg and Copenhagen (and from there to Sweden) and has been heavily used for centuries.

Currently there is a restructuring of this important traffic artery going on. A tunnel with roads and rails is planned to be built between Fehmarn and Denmark. A gigantic traffic project that is very controversially discussed in the whole region. This “Fehmarn Belt Fixed Link” is planned to be 18 km long and is projected to be finished in 2028. The construction has started, and necessary sites are currently being built on the Danish coast. The new tunnel will be the longest rail tunnel in the world¹² and should replace the currently used ferry service, which is privately run by the ferry-company Scandlines. The tunnel project faces repeated delays because of ongoing lawsuits and unclarities in the financial planning, as well as expected negative environmental impacts. The island's south coast is also affected by this project and there is a plan in place to construct a tunnel for car traffic and trains by 2028, with the current bridge remaining in use for pedestrians and cyclists only.

Apart from the ferry to Denmark, the maritime traffic in Fehmarn is rather small scale with no remarkable international ship traffic going on. Burgstaaken, the second largest port, serves as the home port for local fishing boats, and for shipping agricultural products to the German mainland. It also has touristic infrastructure with a submarine museum, a marina, and gastronomy.

Energy

Due its geographical location, Fehmarn is a large producer of renewable energy. The island's wind parks are economically relevant and used to be in the Guinness Book of Records as Germany's largest wind farm. Even though Fehmarn's inhabitants initially had doubts concerning the wind parks and their effect on their lives, most of them now have a positive attitude towards them. According to data from 2015, the wind turbines produced approximately 443,160 MWh/Year, which was around 464% of the island's energy demand¹³. As there are also an above-average number of solar installations per capita as well as energy generation from biomass, Fehmarn's energy production from renewable energy sources surpasses its electricity consumption by far (Fig. 4), and Fehmarn is producing almost 5 times the island's energy demand solemnly from renewable sources¹³. Fehmarn's electricity grid, as well as the water supply, are connected to the German mainland and most of this energy is being exported to the German mainland.

¹² <https://www.railway-technology.com/features/fehmarbelt-tunnel-european-link>

¹³ <http://www.energymap.info/energieregionen/DE/105/119/480/16452.html>

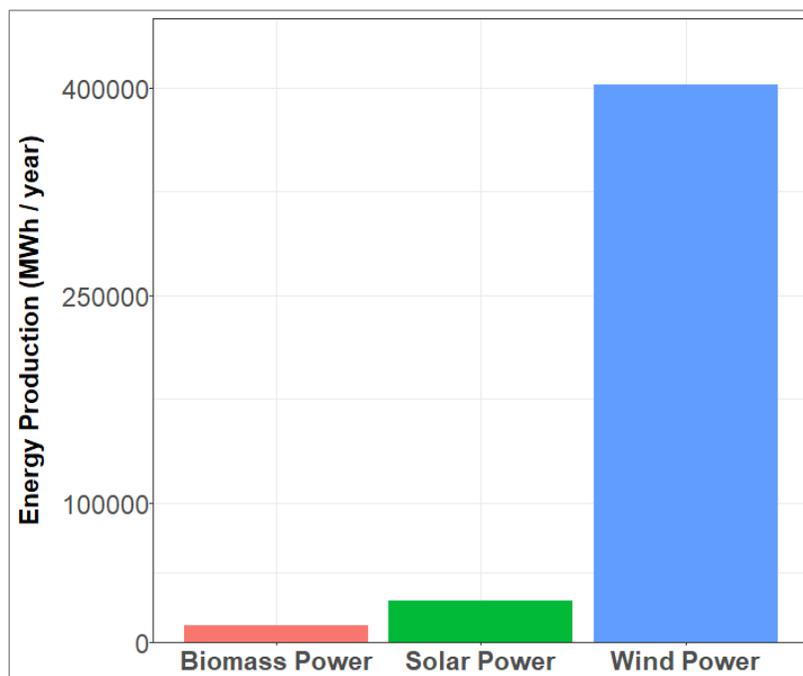


Figure 4: Renewable Energy produced on Fehmarn MWh (2015)

Source: <http://www.energymap.info/energieregionen/DE/105/119/480/16452.html>

Aquaculture

There are no commercial aquaculture farms on or around Fehmarn island.

2. Climate Change outlook

Climate hazard indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenarios from the IPCC Assessment Report, RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario). In addition, they were calculated for different time horizons within those scenarios, namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). The main source of climate projections for Fehmarn is the EURO-CORDEX ensemble, but other model sources were applied when required, depending on available scales. Results are presented in form of graphs or tables.

All the graphics presented below can be found in higher resolution on the official SOCLIMPACT Project website [HERE](#).



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2.1 Tourism

Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases **Vector Suitability Index for *Aedes Albopictus* (Asian Tiger Mosquito)**

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. Within the SOCLIMPACT framework, we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). The Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia. In the past few decades however, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that can cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various forms of encephalitis (Proestos *et al.* 2015).

The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos *et al.* (2015) has been employed to estimate regional habitat suitability maps (not shown), based on previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock *et al.* 2013; Proestos *et al.*, 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge.

For Fehmarn and its relatively northern latitudinal location, climate change is expected to affect the habitat suitability of *A. albopictus*. Precipitation and relative humidity are expected to increase under future conditions, while the temperature range in a future climate is expected to provide a more optimal environment for the establishment and spread of specific mosquito populations. This would change the habitat suitability from currently moderate levels to high suitability (Fig. 5).



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VECTOR SUITABILITY INDEX FOR Aedes ALBOPICTUS (ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO)

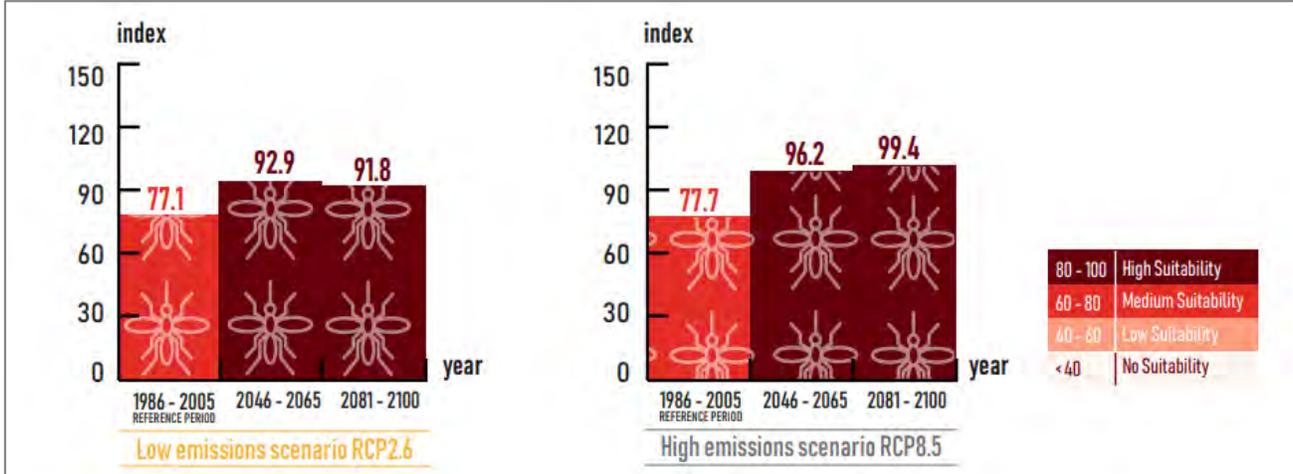


Figure 5: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colors indicate increases while blue colors indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability]

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3.

Humidity Index

For the assessment of heat-related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. The Humidex value expresses the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the number of days with Humidex values greater than 35°C were selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions ranging from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Fehmarn, N=2 grid cells were retained from the model's domain. In Fig. 6, the ensemble mean is presented for all periods and RPCs. It is found that for the present climate and the near future, the days with discomfort are very scarce (1-2 days per year), but a larger number of discomfort days could prevail under the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the century (6 days) (Fig. 6).

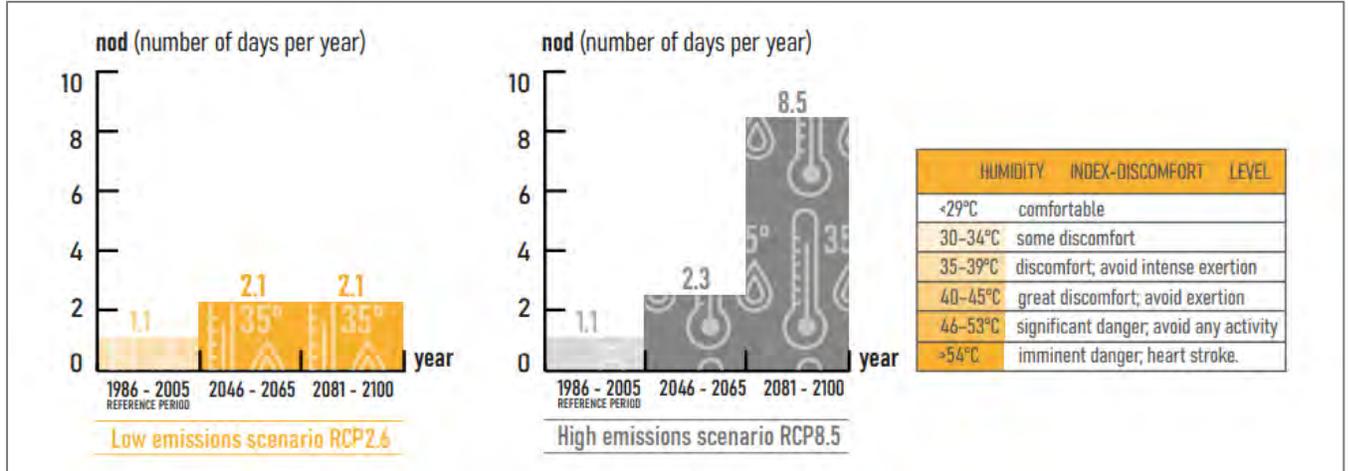


Figure 6: Humidex ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3

2.2 Energy

Extreme Temperatures

Extreme temperatures are predicted to increase with climate change. The T98p value is used as a proxy to define extreme heat events and defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005. For Fehmarn, N=2 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In Fig. 7, the ensemble mean is presented for all periods and RCPs. It is found that about 5% of days will be above T98p during RCP2.6 towards the middle and end of the century, while for RCP8.5 almost 18% of the year will exhibit temperatures above the 98th percentile.



EXTREME TEMPERATURES
(Percentage of days per year when $T > 98$ th percentile - 1986)

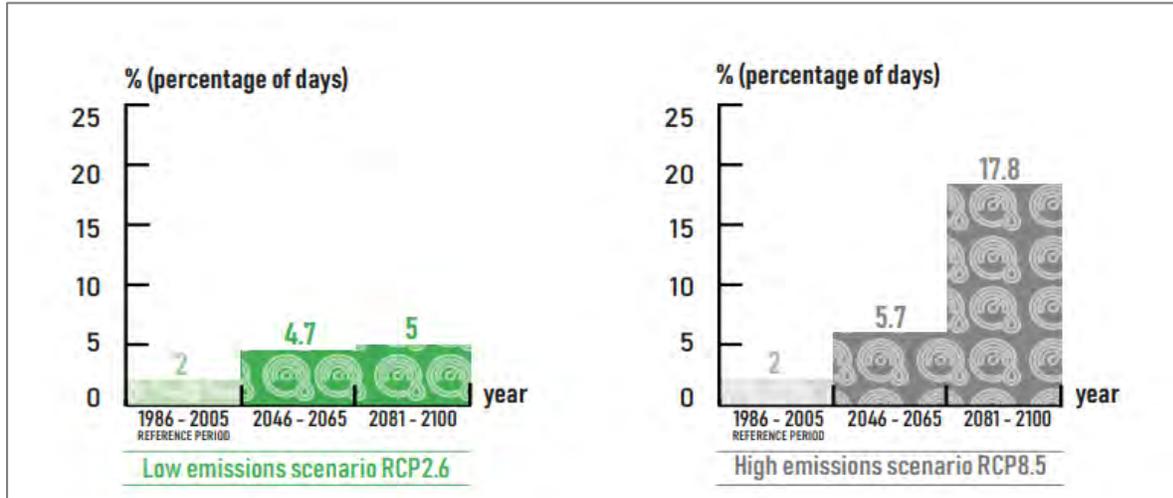


Figure 7: Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations
Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3

Photovoltaic (PV energy) productivity

A general decrease in photovoltaic energy productivity is projected over Fehmarn for each period in both scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) (Fig. 8 for land-based productivity and Fig. 9 for sea-based productivity). In the RCP8.5 scenario, the decrease is largest for the period at the end of the century (2081-2100), with a reduction by around 10% of the control period's productivity.

The projected decrease in the RCP2.6 land-based scenario is clearly smaller, with a reduction of around 2% in the 2046-2065 period, and around 1% in 2081-2100. The differences between sea and land mean values are small. However, in the RCP2.6 scenario, the productivity on land is predicted to slightly recover towards the end of the century, whereas on sea, it is predicted to continuously fall.

Modelled changes in the RCP8.5 scenario for Fehmarn are more noticeable than changes found for other Mediterranean Islands of the project consortium (please refer to the other island reports). The SOCLIMPACT model predictions confirm previous studies which also predicted a decrease in projected PV power productivity and surface solar radiation, and associated these declines to more intense, frequent, or persistent positive North Atlantic Oscillation phases (Jerez et al., 2015, Bartok et al., 2017).



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PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

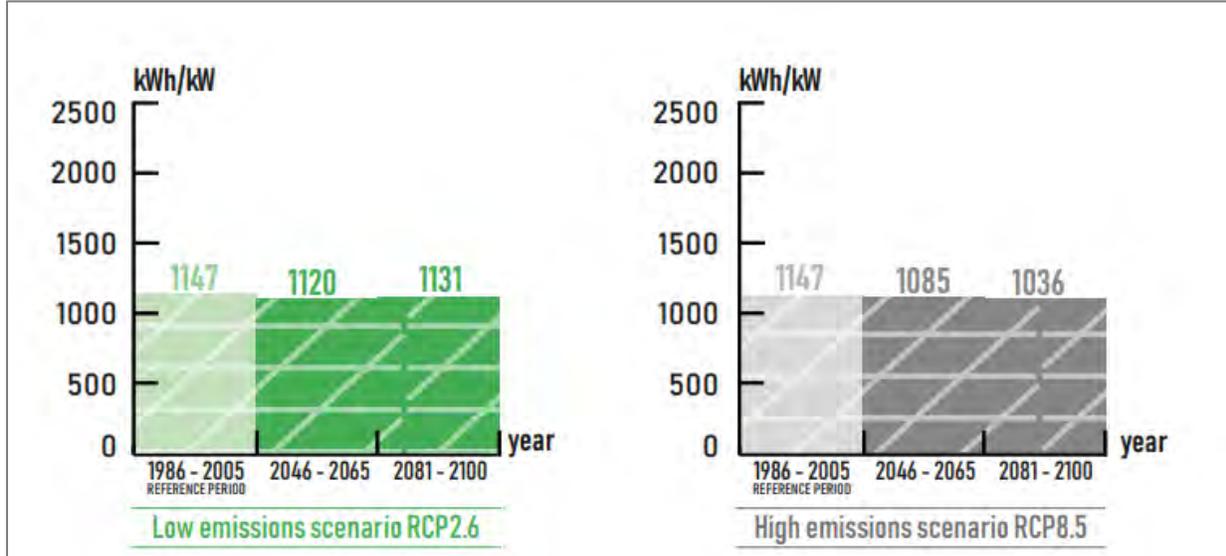


Figure 8: Ensemble mean values of annual PV productivity indicators – land (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.4a.

PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

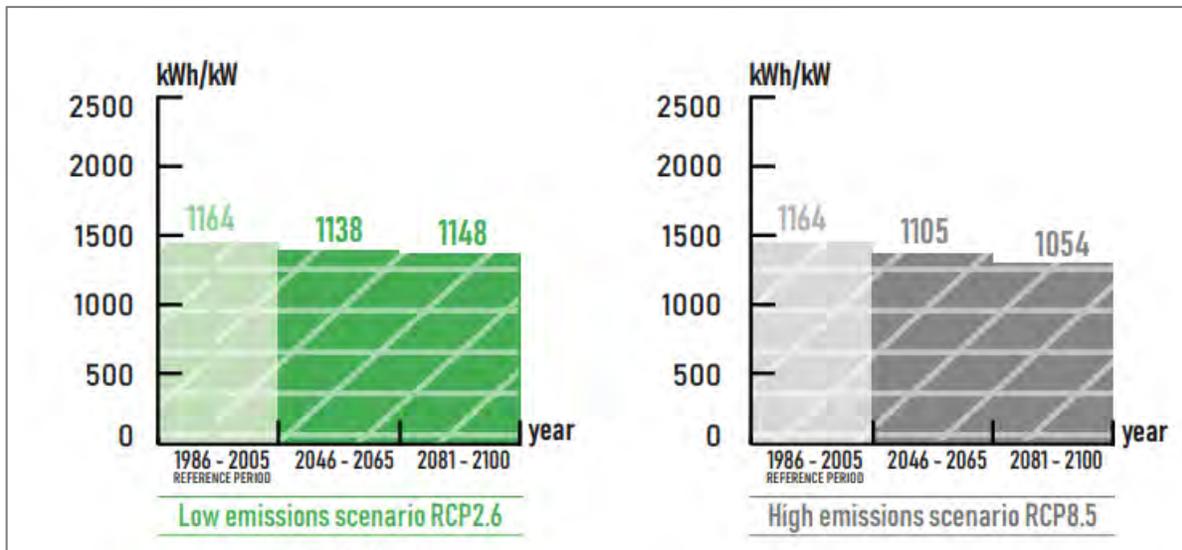


Figure 9: Ensemble mean values of annual PV productivity indicators-sea (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.4a.

Wind productivity

Clear differences in predicted wind productivity (W_{prod}) over land and sea can be observed between scenarios (Figs. 10 & 11). Whereas the RCP2.6 scenario predicts a general decrease in both periods across both systems, RCP8.5 predicts continues increases in wind productivity as the century progresses. The fact that this region has no clear signal in predicted changes (as opposed to the Mediterranean regions), and predictions may vary with the RCP scenario under observation, is consistent with previous studies (Tobin et al., 2015, 2016).

W_{prod} averaged over the region is consistent with the previous analysis, with the signal of the RCP8.5 modelling being different from RCP2.6. The RCP8.5 results show small increases in W_{prod} , both over land and sea (less than 2% of the respective productivity in the control period). Although the agreement between models is low, the decrease for RCP2.6 is consistent among models and reaches 5% over land at the end of the century.



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

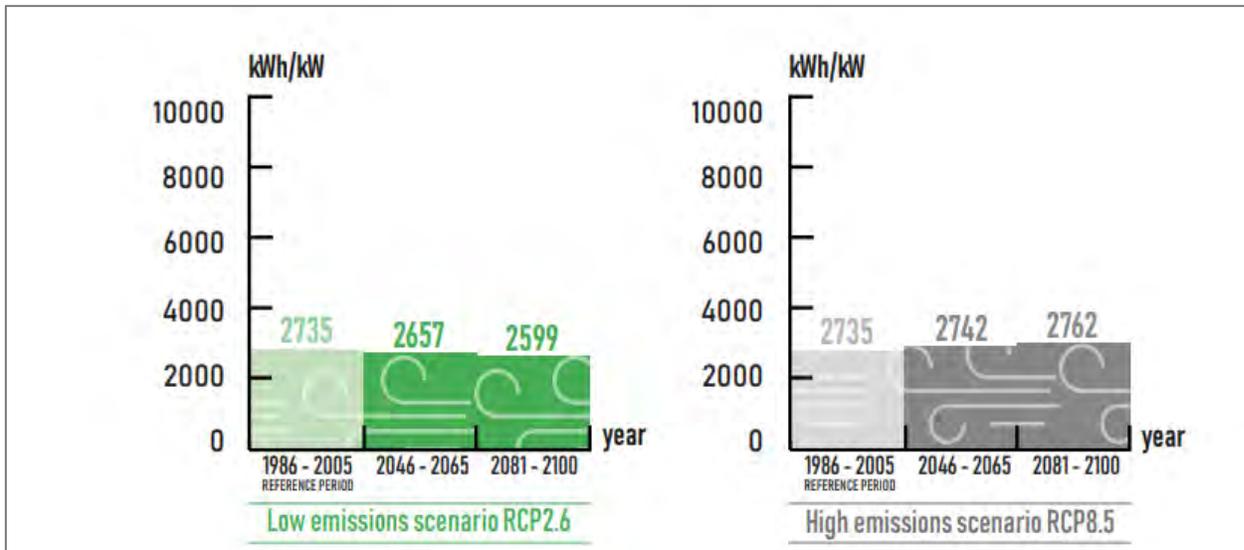


Figure 10: Ensemble mean values of annual wind productivity indicators -land (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable [4.4a](#).

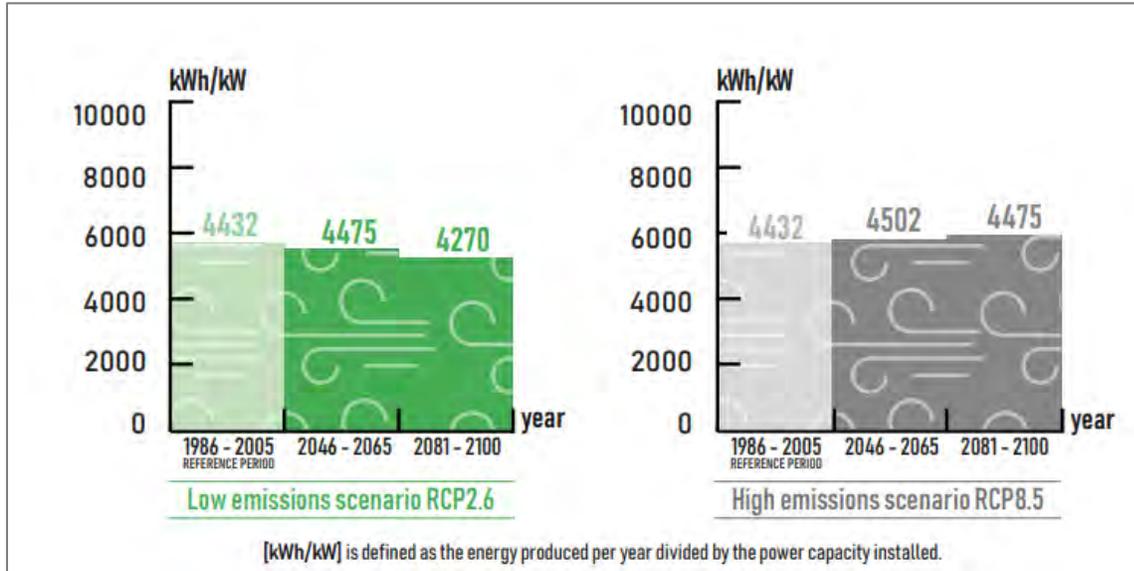


Figure 11: Ensemble mean values of annual wind productivity indicators –sea (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.4a.

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

In the control time period, wind droughts are much more likely to occur over land than over the sea (not shown). The frequency of days in which wind drought conditions develop increases slightly in the RCP2.6 scenario, by 0.2%, while the frequency of wind droughts remains virtually the same in the RCP8.5 scenario (Fig. 12). Only severe wind droughts show an increase in the southwest of the region, in the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the 21st century (not shown). The increase in the percentage of days with wind drought conditions in the RCP2.6 scenario is supported by most of the models considered in the ensemble.

PV droughts are more frequent than in most of the other studied regions, with values for moderate droughts over land close to 23% (not shown). The frequency of severe PV droughts are predicted to increase only marginally, with no increase in the RCP2.6 scenario, and an increase of 0.2% by the end of the century in the RCP 8.5 scenario. Moderate droughts are however expected to occur more frequently, where increases of 18 days per year are expected.



The result of the varying trends in wind and PV droughts means that across both scenarios, the combined amount of total days during which an energy drought can be expected, remains almost unchanged until the end of the century, rising only by 0.1% in both scenarios (Fig. 14).

 ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

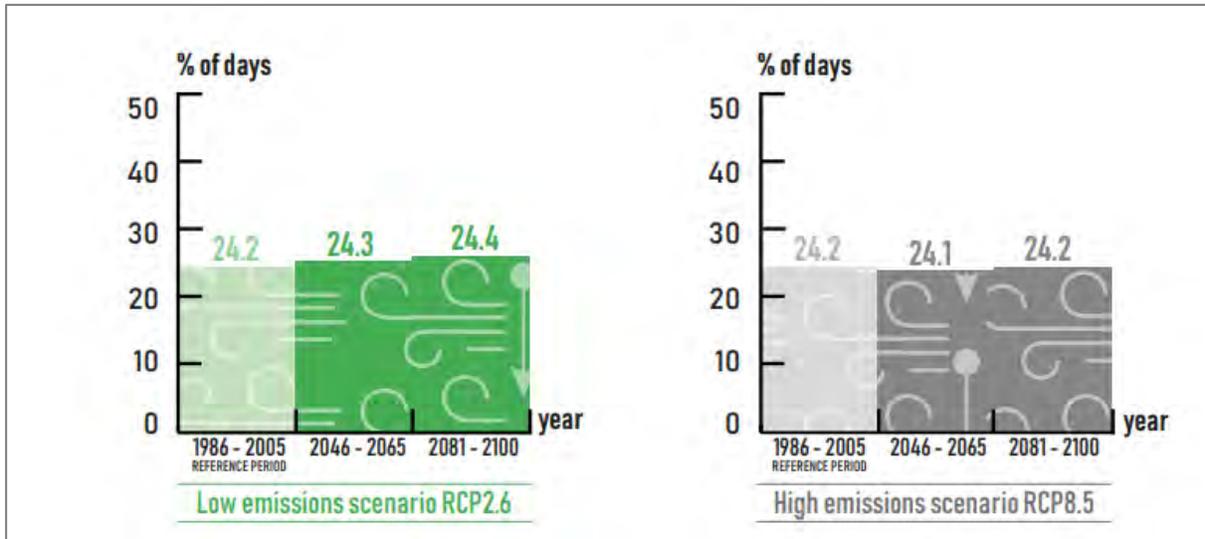


Figure 12: Modelled % days with wind energy droughts. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable [4.4a](#).



ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

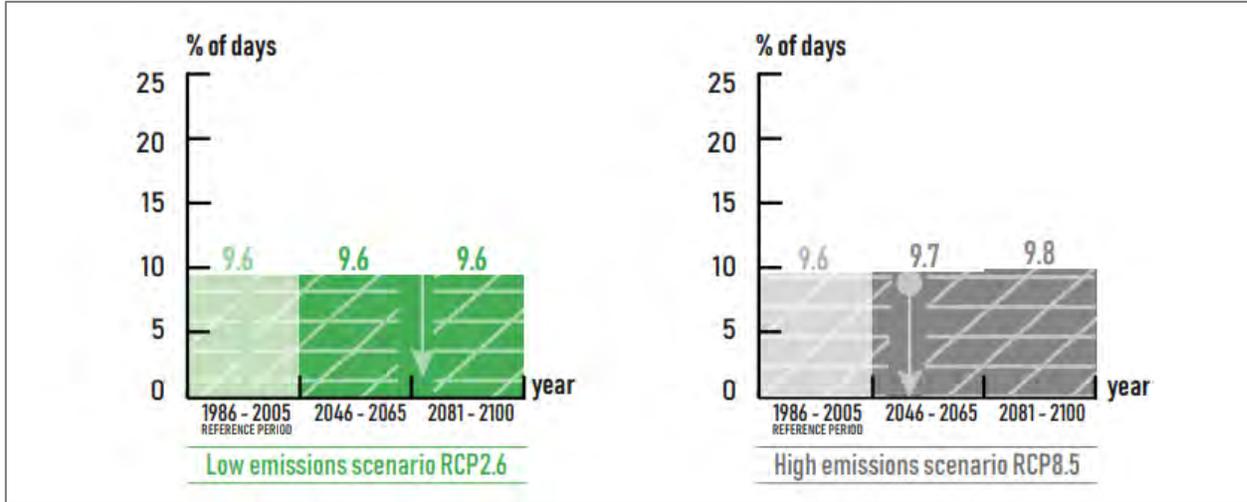


Figure 13: Modelled photovoltaic (PV) productivity droughts. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.4a.

ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

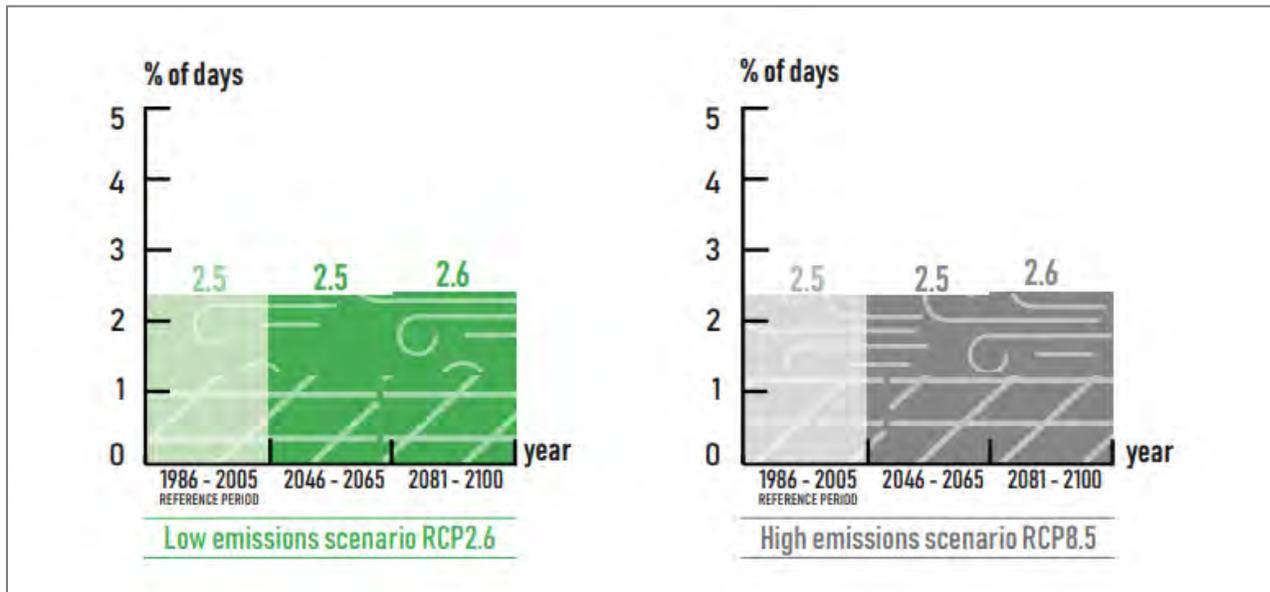


Figure 14: Expected combined effects of wind energy and Photovoltaic (PV) productivity droughts. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.4a.



Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days for which the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. Therefore, it provides a measure for the severity of the heat during a specific period, taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room temperature. The CDD index quantifies days during which active cooling of buildings becomes necessary.

For Fehmarn, N=2 grid cells were retained from the model domains. In Fig. 15, the ensemble mean is presented for all periods and RPCs. It is found that until the middle of the century in both scenarios, the increases in CDD index values are almost negligible, while towards the end of the century this number would be 15 times greater under RCP 8.5, but not under RCP 2.6. In consequence, even though there is currently no need for additional cooling on Fehmarn, the need will emerge in the future.

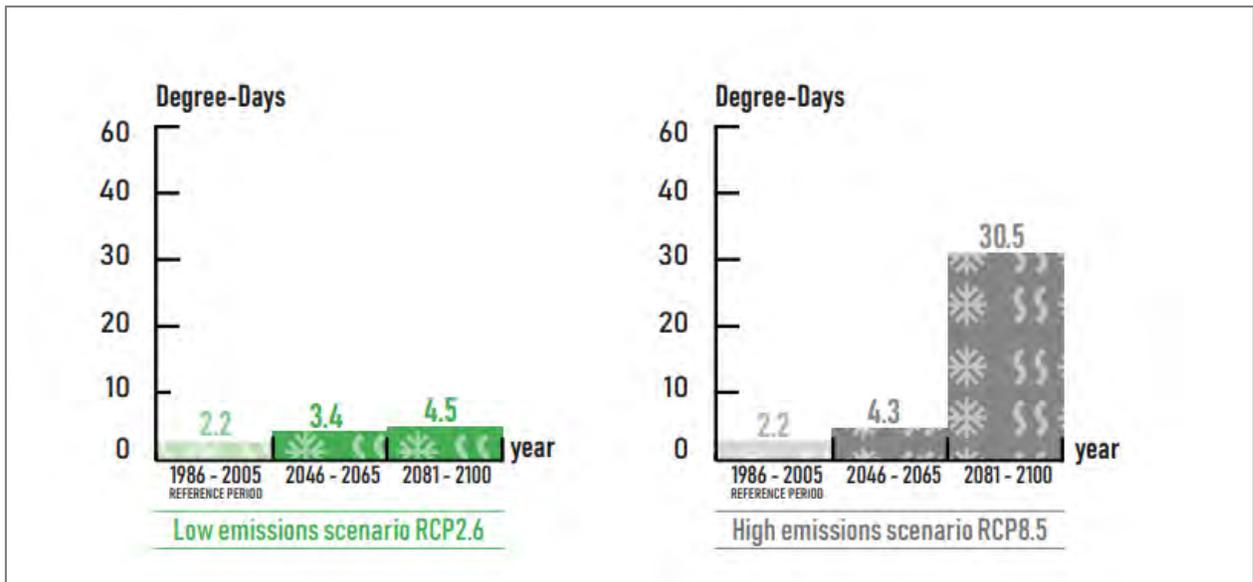


Figure 15: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations
Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3



Available water: Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index

The Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) is used as an indication for water availability. Fehmarn island is the only case where the regional simulations suggest no significant changes in the occurrence of multiannual droughts. The precipitation increases projected for northern Europe are likely counterbalanced by the increases in temperature. Therefore, no significant SPEI changes are expected for this region and the SPEI values are expected to remain in the “Normal” range (Fig. 16).

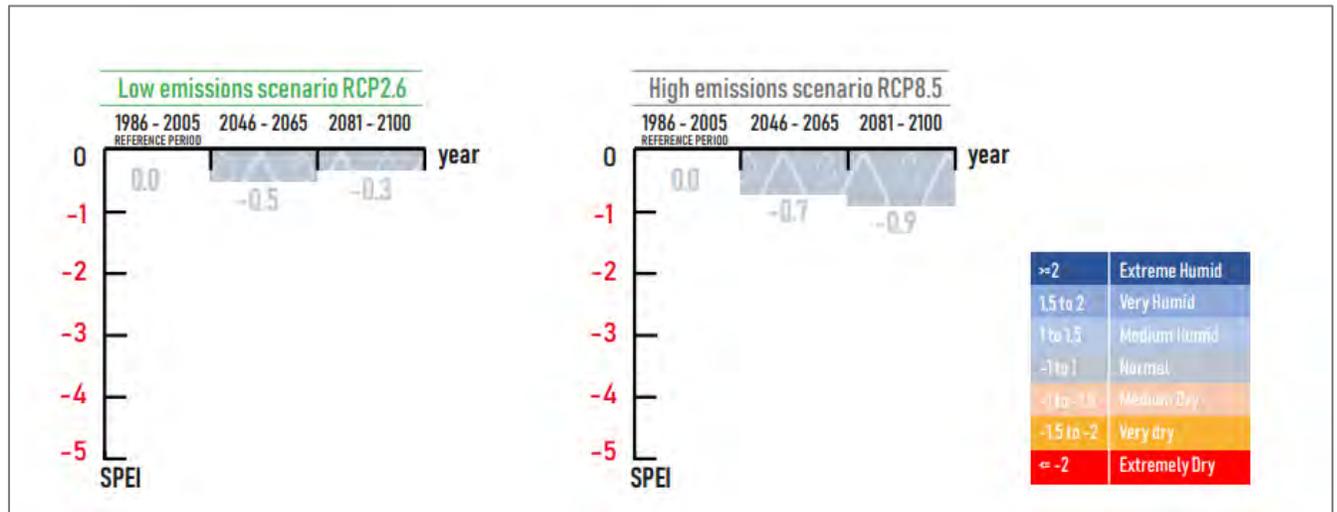


Figure 16: Ensemble mean values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI)
 Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3

2.3 Maritime transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It could induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy, and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of expected mean SLR. For Fehmarn, the SLR predictions range from 20 cm (RCP2.6) to 57 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century (Fig. 17).



MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE
(in cm) with respect to the present (1986-2005)

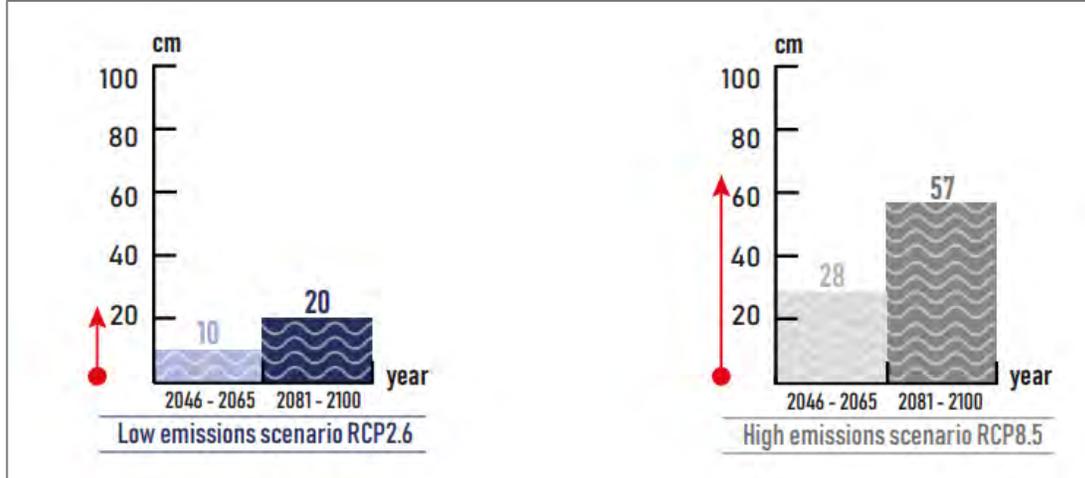


Figure 17: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3.

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year that exceed the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number is predicted to increase from currently 7.3 days to 9.5 days at end of the century under the RCP8.5 scenario, an increase by 30.6%. In the low emissions scenario RCP2.6, the number of days is predicted to decrease from 7.3 to 6.1 days per year (Fig. 18).

WINDS EXTREMITY INDEX

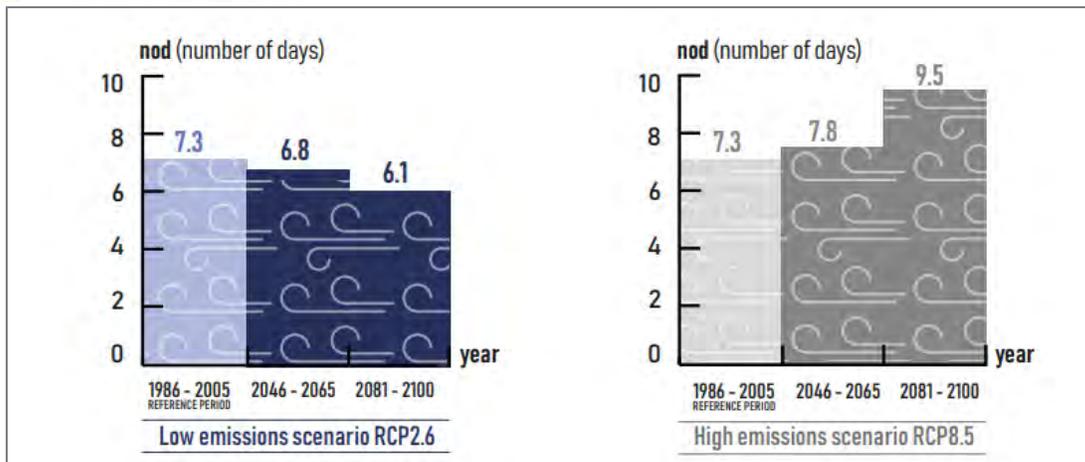


Figure: 18: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the EURO-CORDEX simulations

Source: SOCLIMPACT project deliverable 4.3.



3 Climate change risks

3.1 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus as the EU set out to address energy questions as part of the “Clean energy for all Europeans” package. The “Clean energy for EU islands initiative” provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting because many islands still rely on fossil fuel imports although they have vast amounts of renewable energy resources available. This energy transition is a relevant challenge in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The US National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as “electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents”. Pisacane et al. (2018) added other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration between ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focused on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely also in the future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

For wind energy, we did not only take into account onshore but also offshore wind energy. It is a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages over onshore wind energy like higher productivity and less time variability, and it does not require land space which is limited and costly on islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the project islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we also considered offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES depend on climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact on the resource availability. In addition, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and their production variability represents a challenge for their integration into the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which themselves can be renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity between PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders on the islands, as demonstrated in reports by Monitor Deloitte



and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target on the Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy (whereby PV would have a clearly higher share than wind energy). Such a mix would strongly reduce the need for storage, due to the stability of PV energy production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the islands' energy systems due to climate change: Changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, as well as changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission to provide information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand, and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain consequence of climate change. The risk assessment was carried out through an expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below in Figs. 19 and 20:

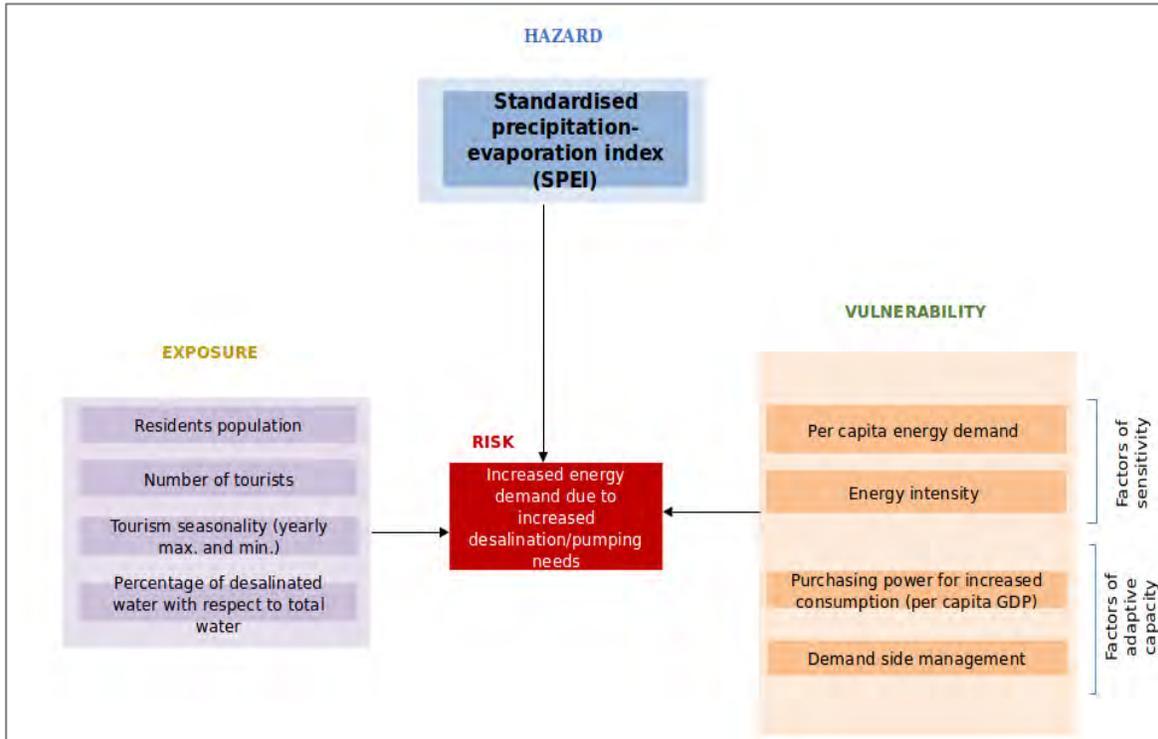


Figure 19: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

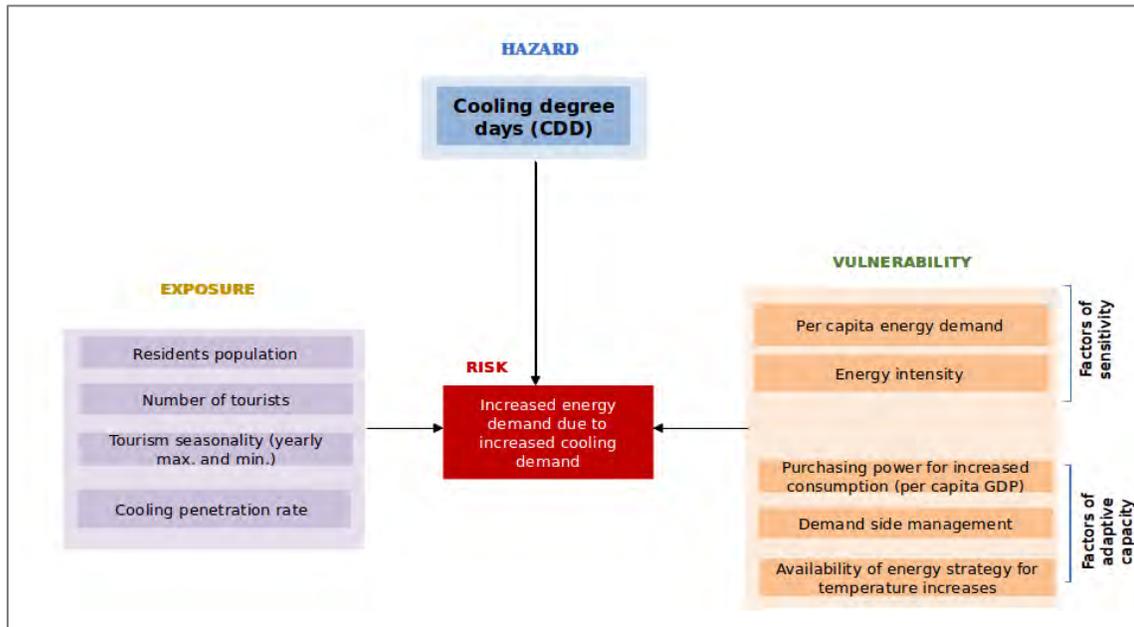


Figure 20: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand.

Source: SOCLIMPACT project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Hazard scores for energy demand (Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index – SPEI, Cooling Degree Days - CDD), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim was to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for replacing it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we used an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify a normalized score like the one used for present climate simulations (leading to a very limited variation range of the score). Such relatively small changes do however still represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of power plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a previously identified maximum projected value. Renewable energy productivity indicators of the present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of renewable energy droughts. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized, comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we applied an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allowed to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method is based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, and points out that on short time-scales, several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards (within interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts (for periods of 10 years), performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allowed to identify the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the SOCLIMPACT Project deliverable 4.5.



It was however not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Fehmarn. The criteria for the selection of the islands were: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, and (b) modeling constraints of the hazard components. In Table 1, we present the normalized hazard scores for Fehmarn across the RCP 2.6 and 8.5 scenarios from the historical reference period until the end of the 21st century.

Table 1: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Fehmarn

Historical reference period

<i>Historical ref. (1986-2005)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
	CDD	0.00	Wind	0.55	0.00
SPEI	0.00	Solar PV	0.69	0.67	0.43
		Combined			0.40

Middle of the century

<i>RCP2.6 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
	CDD	0.00	Wind	0.7	0.7
SPEI	0.20	Solar PV	0.7	0.7	0.7
		Combined			0.9

<i>RCP8.5 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
	CDD	0.01	Wind	0.5	0.3
SPEI	0.28	Solar PV	0.8	0.8	1.0
		Combined			0.8



End of century

**RCP2.6
(2081-2100)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	0.00
SPEI	0.12

<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.8	0.8	0.8
Solar PV	0.6	0.6	0.7
Combined			1.0

**RCP8.5
(2081-2100)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	0.03
SPEI	0.36

<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.4	0.4	0.5
Solar PV	1.0	1.0	1.0
Combined			0.9

Legend:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
---------------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--

Source: SOCLIMPACT project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers.

As could be expected due to its high latitude, hazard scores for Fehmarn are very different to most other islands. CDD is zero for present conditions and under the RCP2.6 scenario, and it increases very little under RCP8.5. Cooling energy demand will not be a problem here. SPEI shows some tendency to increase, particularly under RCP8.5, but it should be taken into account that this score is relative to the present climate SPEI which defines the minimum threshold, and the climate in the area is relatively wet. Therefore, no significant problems should be expected regarding water availability.

Future productivity is projected to decrease, particularly solar PV in the RCP8.5 scenario. The exception is wind energy, which would improve slightly in the RCP8.5 scenario. There is also a tendency for higher variability, especially in the case of PV for the mitigation scenario RCP2.6.

Combining wind and PV productivity, the renewable energies potential has a different profile than on other SOCLIMPACT islands, with an excellent offshore wind energy potential and a clearly lower PV potential. Compared to other islands, wind energy is less variable and PV energy is more variable. As a consequence, a combined use of wind energy and PV could have a smaller and reduced energy supply variability than either wind or PV energy separately, which is also a feature not found on other islands.



3.1.1 Island comparisons and future challenges for PV and wind energy

- Across all SOCLIMPACT islands, the framework governing energy supply are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework, and the long-term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- In general, the future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small: In many cases it is predicted to be around 5% or less with respect to the reference period, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under the RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, potentially reaching a 10% decrease by the end of the century.
- There is a specific source of uncertainty in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).
- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent on the Mediterranean islands than on the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found on the Canary Islands, which show the smallest values of both, wind energy and PV droughts, among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse predicted PV drought score, corresponding to a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations generally staying below 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.
- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This is also the case, but is less clear, for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).



- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment. For instance, floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.
- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the “Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission”, or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of the Canary and Balearic Islands.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources on the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment across three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).
- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables on the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.
- Interconnections with the mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on such interconnections should nevertheless be avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) could instantaneously knock out a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Description of Hazard indicators and their computation and normalization on SOCLIMPACT project Deliverable [4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers](#)*

3.2 Maritime Transport

Although all necessary data was available to operationalise an impact chain for Fehmarn’s maritime transport, the operationalisation was not performed. As Fehmarn island is connected to the mainland via a bridge, it did not make sense to assess the risk for maritime transport disruptions.



4 Socio-economic impacts of climate change

4.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the attitudes of tourists towards the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to them via questionnaires, whereby possible climate change impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to come to the island or whether they would rather find an alternative destination if the impact were to occur. This knowledge can inform predictions on future tourist arrivals for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. Using the Stata software, the ASC-Logit model was run to assess the results.

On Fehmarn, 196 tourists visiting the island were surveyed. The results are presented in Figs. 21 & 22. In general, data confirmed that tourists are highly averse to the risk of marine wildlife disappearing to a large extent (83% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they would not be willing to visit the island if beaches largely disappeared (78.4%) or if infectious diseases became more widespread (73%). Consequently, policies related to water supply reinforcement (10.4€/day), marine habitat restoration (9.3€/day), and beaches protection (7€/day) are on average the most valued adaptation measures among Fehmarn tourists.

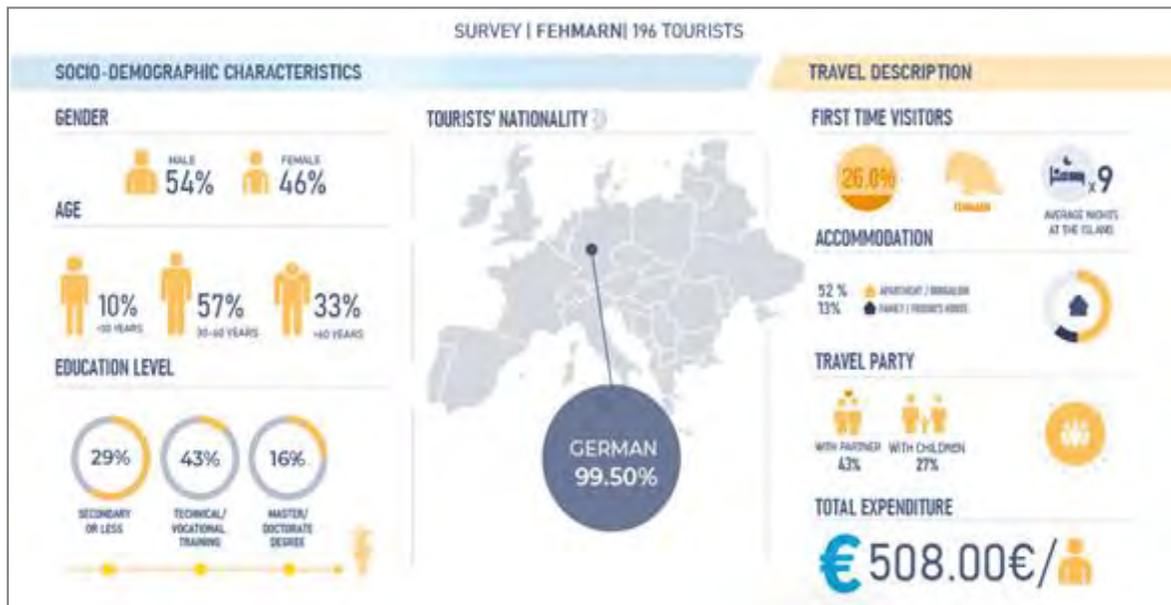


Figure 21: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Fehmarn

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis. The infographic can be found in high resolution on the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [HERE](#).



Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies could have on tourism flows, and develop their plans accordingly.



Figure 22: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting Febmarn
 Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis. The infographic can be found in high resolution on the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [HERE](#).

Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, the impact of SLR on each island's port operability costs was estimated. The costs have been calculated with reference to a 1-meter-SLR, i.e. the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. With the help of experts'



recommendations, we assumed that a 1-m-increase in port height is required to cope with most predicted SLR under the RCP 8.5 scenario. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios was then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the economic relevance of principal ports on each island. Second, the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses were analysed. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering an elevation of 1 meter). Thus, the costs for a 1-meter-elevation are presented as the sum of all areas and ports analysed, proportionally including other ports on the island (if applicable). Estimates consider that all port areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all port infrastructures on an island for the 125-year-modelling time horizon. No discount rate was applied.

As expected, SLR is predicted to affect the maritime transport sector, and new investment will be needed to keep ports operational. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs will range from 0.488 million (mid-century) to 0.994 million Euros per year by the end of the century (Fig. 23).

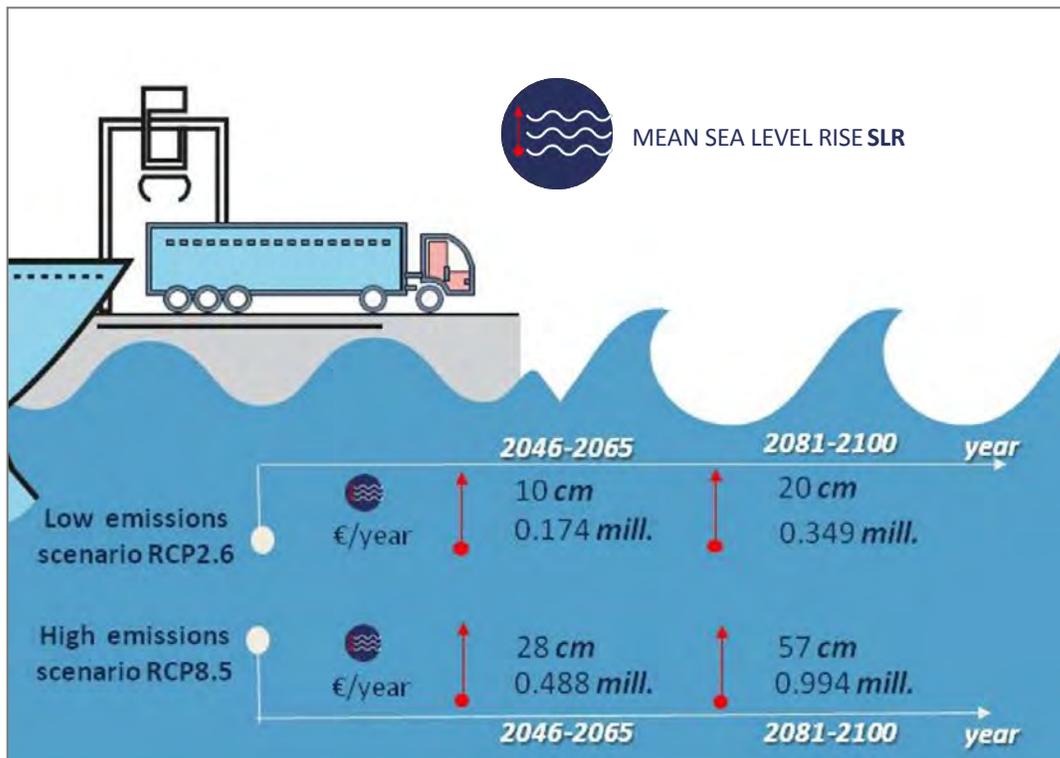


Figure 23: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Fehmarn under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100.

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#). The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the SOCLIMPACT Project official website [HERE](#).

5 Towards climate resiliency

5.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle

For Fehmarn, climate politics are applied on different, partially independent, political levels. Mitigation concepts do exist on several levels of governance (national, federal state of Schleswig-Holstein, Region of Ostholstein, City of Fehmarn).

The picture looks different when considering adaptation policies. While there is a strategy for climate adaptation on national and federal state levels, such strategies are still missing on a regional or island-wide level. An exception are coastal protection and dyke building plans that always existed for coastal regions in Germany. On the island level, Fehmarn stakeholders are open to develop strategic answers to climate change, taking the findings of the SOCLIMPACT project as a starting point. Specific limits to adaptation policies can be found in Table 2.

Table 2: Specific climate adaptation limits and obstacles for Fehmarn, and relevant documents

<i>Specific limits and obstacles</i>
<p>The commitment for climate adaptation in the region is limited. Most municipalities have not yet discussed adaptation measures apart from the traditional coastal protection and dyke building plans. However, signs of change are slowly starting to emerge. The very hot summers of 2018 and 2019 have shown the need for action, and the national government is beginning to finance scientific research and projects that develop good practice implementation principles.</p> <p>Nevertheless personal capacities for climate adaptation in the administrations of regions/municipalities are still not existent (if they are, only on a project-funded basis), so that budgets are not coherent and are distributed over several already existing sectors, such as firefighting, building, health, port administration, and beach management.</p>
<i>Relevant documents (connected as hyperlinks)</i>
<p>Mitigation Climate Mitigation in the Region Ostholstein</p> <p>Adaptation German Adaptation Strategy (DAS) Adaptation Strategy of the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein Project Radost - Climate Adaptation at German Baltic Coasts Project Radost Website: https://klimzug-radost.de/</p>

Source: Conceptual framework from Deliverable 7.1



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SOCLIMPACT

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APPENDIX 8





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in Madeira. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

Madeira at a glance

Madeira archipelago, discovered in 1419, is a Portuguese autonomous region located in Atlantic Ocean (978 km southeast Lisbon and 700 km west Africa). Madeira, with 741 km² and 249 052 residents, and Porto Santo, with 42 km² and 5 2020 residents, are the inhabitant islands. Funchal, in Madeira, is the capital city.

Until 17th century, sugarcane was the economy driver of Madeira island, followed by “Madeira wine” production. Currently, tourism is the main economic activity, being the luxurious vegetation and the landscape the greatest attractions. The nature reserve covers two thirds of the territory, being Laurissilva forest the only UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site in Portugal.

In Porto Santo, seasonal tourism during summer is the main economic activity, being the 9 km golden sand beach, the turquoise sea, the geologic heritage and the peaceful environment the main attractions.

Desertas and Selvagens islands are biodiversity conservation territories, with special protection status.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

In Madeira archipelago, the economic significance of aquiculture is small, being the production in open sea restricted to south coast of Madeira island, where two companies produce seabream. After an initial experience, the activity restarted in 2005.

The production oscillated between 169 tonnes in 2011, and 570 tonnes in 2013. The regional market consumes an average of 150 tonnes, per year, of local aquiculture production.

Since 2001, "Centro de Maricultura da Calheta", a research centre, produces juvenile fish for aquaculture, provides training and technical support to private fish farming companies, and develops research, namely on the production of local species.

- **Maritime Transport**

Madeira archipelago is highly dependent on freight maritime transport. Cruise activity is important to the tourism sector in Madeira. The maritime transport is strategic to connect the inhabited islands.

Madeira has two ports in the south coast. The Caniçal port is for freight traffic and Funchal port for touristic purposes, being also used by the ferry that connects the islands. Small boat marinas and ports exist around Madeira for recreational and fishing activities. The north coast sea makes difficult the operation of larger port facilities. Porto Santo has a port facility for freight and passenger transport, being strategic for tourism.

- **Energy**

The Madeira archipelago is highly dependent on fossil fuels (79% primary energy, 2018). The electricity generation from renewables is limited by the small and isolated electricity systems, which demands significative investments in energy storage and smart grids, to guaranty the quality and security of supply.

The dependence on maritime and air transports, and land mobility limited on road transports, make challenging the energy mix diversification for transports (50% final energy, 2018).

The islands isolation, fragmentation and small size entails high investments in redundancy infrastructures, namely for electricity generation and energy storage, and increases the energy system vulnerability to climate change.

- **Tourism**

Tourism is the main economic activity in Madeira archipelago and does not have mass tourism characteristics.

In Madeira island the activity is not seasonal. The mild climate, nature, landscape and special events are main attractions. Sea and mountains are geographically close providing a wide range of experiences. Hiking in Laurissilva forest and alongside water channels, and sea activities are particularly appreciated. Since 2014, more than one million tourists arrive each year to Madeira.

Porto Santo Island has seasonal tourism, being its sandy beach the main attraction. Peaceful environment, geologic heritage, special events and sports are being explored to decrease seasonality.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Madeira is an archipelago located in the North Atlantic Ocean, being one of the two autonomous regions of Portugal. Madeira and Porto Santo are the inhabited islands of the archipelago. Total population of both inhabited islands was 253 945 people¹ (2.5% of the Portuguese population) in 2018. This leads to a rather high population density (318 inh/km²)².

The EC's Regional Innovation Monitor (RIM plus), describes the Autonomous Region of Madeira's governance structure as follows. "Contrarily to what happens to the Portuguese mainland regions, Autonomous Region of Madeira (RAM) has political and administrative autonomy with its own government bodies such as the Regional Government and the Legislative Assembly (Parliament). The government is composed by the Presidency, a Vice-Presidency (includes Parliamentary Affairs, External Relations and Coordination, and Finances) and the following 9 Regional Departments³:

- Economy;
- Education, Science and Technology
- Health and Civil Protection;
- Tourism and Culture;
- Social Inclusion and Citizenship
- Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change;
- Sea and Fisheries;
- Agriculture and Rural Development;
- Equipment and Infrastructures".

The total population remained relatively stable between 2000 and 2018. In 2018, the total population of RAM equals 253 945 residents, of which 53% are female. 13,5% are younger than 15 years and 16,7% are older than 65. The share of under 15-year-olds is similar to mainland Portugal, the share of 65+ is significantly lower.

Table 1 represents the regional rate of employment by gender and level of education, per year. The rate of employment is directly proportional to the education level rate in all represented years.

¹ <https://estatistica.madeira.gov.pt/en/download-now-3/social-gb/popcondsoc-gb/demografia-gb/demografia-serie-gb/demografia-long-series-gb.html>

² <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/base-profile/madeira-region>

³ <https://www.madeira.gov.pt/Governo-Regional-Madeira/Governo/OGoverno/Secretarias>

Table 1: Employment rate according to gender and highest completed level of education.

Employment rate by year (2013-2018)							
Highest completed level of education	Gender	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Basic education - 3rd cycle or less	Total	43	44.4	44.4	45.1	46.8	47.1
	M	50.3	51.8	51.4	53.1	56.5	56.5
	F	36.2	37.6	37.9	37.6	37.8	38.3
Secondary and post-secondary education	Total	56	56.4	60.4	61.2	63.5	66.8
	M	55.7	55.8	59.6	61	64.5	67.9
	F	56.2	56.9	61	61.3	62.6	65.9
Higher education	Total	77.3	75.7	73.5	77	77.2	81.6
	M	76.4	75	76.5	77.8	80.2	80.8
	F	77.8	76.1	71.9	76.6	75.6	82.1

Source: DREM Excel sheet A5, own representation.

The population projection scenarios of the statistic services of Madeira foresee a decrease of population (Figure 1). In the low scenario, population falls by half in 2080. In the high scenario, the population increases until 2040 and then, gradually, decreases until 2080.

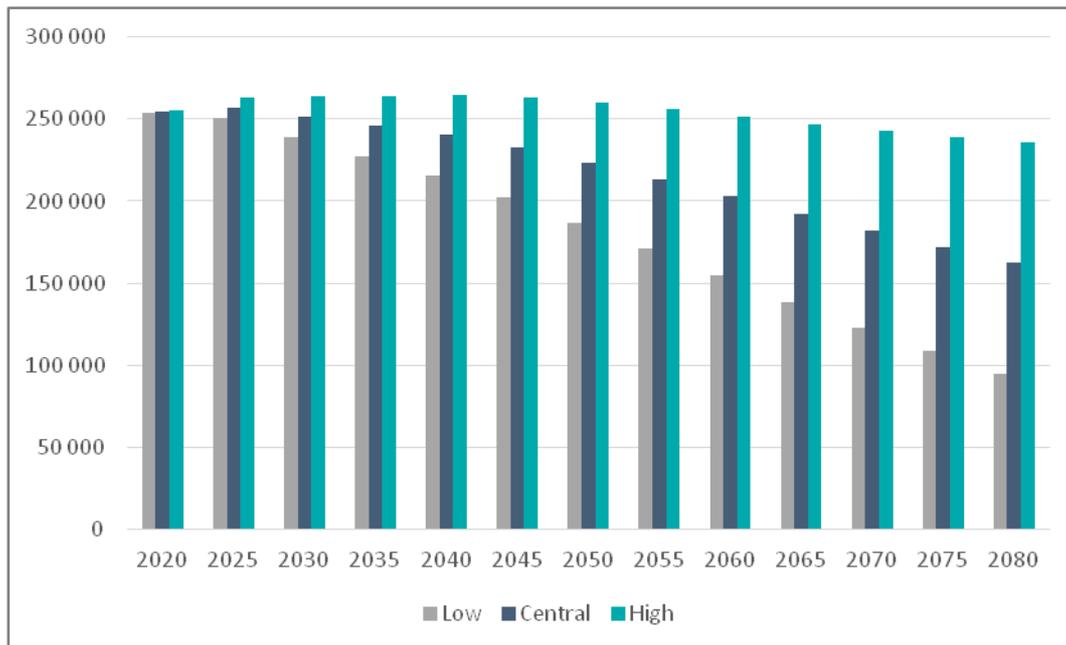


Figure 1: Population projections, three different scenarios.

Source: DREM Excel sheet T4, own representation.



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1.2 Current climate and risks

Madeira Island has a very mild climate. Its geographical location and orography defines a variety of microclimates with dense vegetation (Laurissilva forest), particularly on the north side. The Funchal average temperature is 23°C in summer and 18°C in winter.

The annual average temperature is 19°C in the south coast, 16°C in the north, and 8°C in the highest peaks (1800 meters).- The sea temperature is very mild, with an average temperature of 23°C in summer and 18°C in winter.

The rains are more frequent between October and May. Given the orography and the prevailing north-easterly winds, the rains are more regular and abundant in north-facing slopes. In summer, rainfall is less frequent and abundant, especially in the south side and coastal areas.

Porto Santo island has an average temperature of 22°C in summer and 17°C in winter. These temperatures are similar to Madeira's. Rainfall is less abundant in this island, defining a drier landscape.

CURRENT CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS (Source: [GFDRR ThinkHazard!](#))

- Coastal flood **High**

SIGNIFICANT CLIMATE EVENTS (Source: [Report 7.1 Conceptual Framework](#))

- Flash Floods (2010, 2013)
- Destructive waves (2013)
- Wind storms (2018)
- Fire (2012, 2016)
- Sea storm (2018)



CLIMATE CHARACTERISTICS (37.74°N 25.67°W, 10m asl)

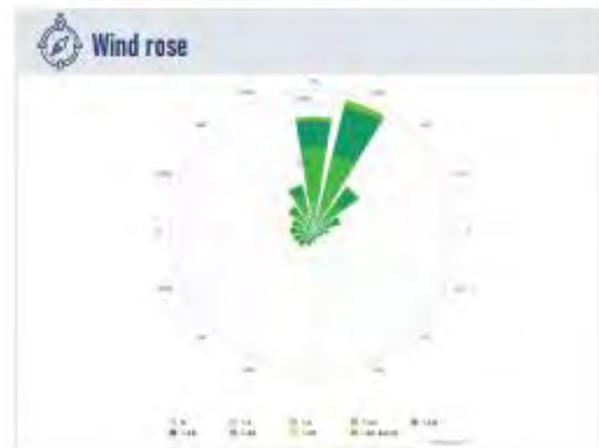
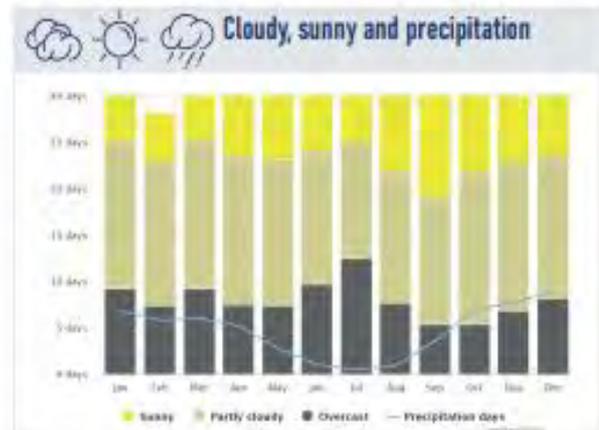
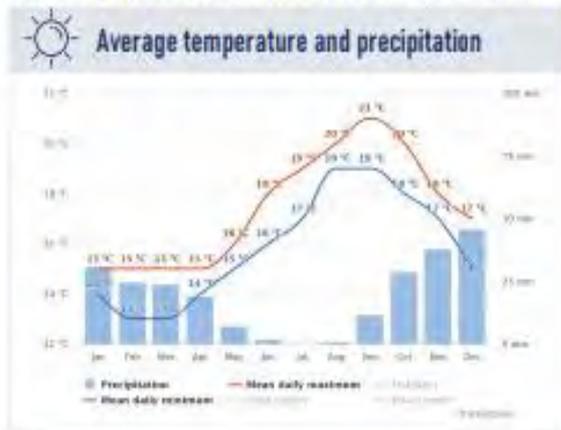


Figure 2: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D2.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

Figure 3 represents the GDP Growth Rates for RAM and Portugal Mainland, between 1996 and 2017. Madeira's economy was hit hard by the 2008 crisis, with negative impacts in 2009, 2011 and 2012. In 2012, GDP shrank by almost 10% but came back stronger than mainland GDP in the following year.

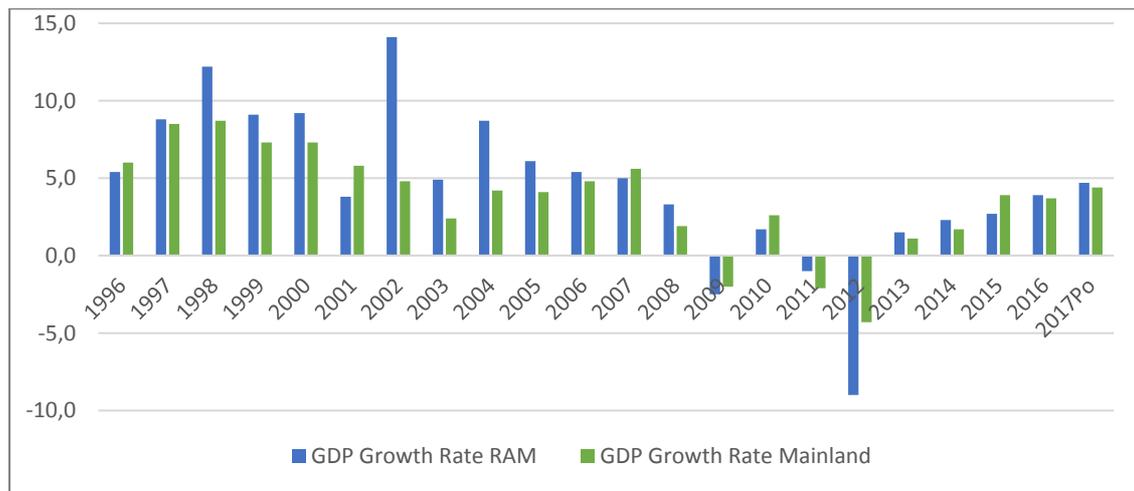


Figure 3: GDP Growth Rates, RAM and mainland Portugal.
Source: DREM Excel sheet D.1.3, own representation.

In 2018, the GDP in purchasing power standard per inhabitant was 23 100⁴ PPS in RAM, staying below the Portuguese average (23 300)⁵ and far below the EU-28 average (30 400)⁵.

Table 2 illustrates the development of gross value added in key sectors of the RAM economy. It reveals an economic structure that is essentially characterized by the development of service activities. Driving contributors to growth are professional, scientific technical and similar activities; administrative and support service activities as well as wholesale trade.

Table 2 represents the trade balance of RAM. The autonomous region runs a major trade deficit with the EU. With the rest of the world, RAM runs, from 2009, a trade surplus.

In 2017 RAM imported mostly from the EU and mainly agricultural products (28%) and food (14%), followed by machinery equipment (13%) and chemicals (9%). From outside the EU.

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tgs00005/default/table?lang=en>

⁵ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/sdg_10_10

Table 2: Sectoral annual growth rates development of RAM 2011-2017 and Mainland Portugal 2017.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Mainland
GDP	-2%	-10%	2%	2%	2%	4%	4%	4%
Agriculture. livestock production. hunting. forestry and fishing	-9%	5%	3%	-7%	7%	-1%	2%	5%
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity. gas. steam and air conditioning supply; water abstraction. purification and supply; sewerage. waste management and remediation activities	-5%	-9%	8%	-2%	7%	4%	5%	3%
Construction	-10%	-15%	-18%	-1%	-3%	3%	6%	7%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storages; accommodation and food service activities	-1%	-12%	4%	5%	3%	6%	6%	5%
Information and communication activities	1%	-20%	-6%	-2%	3%	1%	3%	3%
Financial and insurance activities	10%	-19%	-12%	1%	0%	-15%	0%	0%
Real estate activities	-1%	4%	6%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%
Professional. scientific technical and similar activities; administrative and support service activities	-2%	-14%	-2%	8%	5%	12%	12%	7%
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	-2%	-13%	4%	0%	2%	2%	2%	3%
Arts. entertainment and recreation. repair of household goods and other services	1%	-3%	1%	3%	-6%	6%	5%	4%

Source: [DREM](#) Excel sheet D.1.12. own representation.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

As showed in Table 3 since 2014, more than one million tourists arrive each year to Madeira. Most arriving tourists stay in hotels. From 2014 to 2018, the rural tourism and local lodging had a significant increase of tourist arrivals.

Table 3: Development of tourist arrivals by type of accommodation.

Tourists arrivals by type of establishment	Years				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	1 022 997	1 103 916	1 276 549	1 395 981	1 395 023
Hotel establishments	893 826	960 292	1 088 764	1 165 678	1 143 849
Hotels	610 972	656 070	759 205	826 556	816 736
Apartment hotels	238 632	248 979	266 845	265 845	256 266
Tourist apartments	10 306	16 038	19 995	22 499	21 263
Tourist villages	6 959	7 994	8 515	9 276	8 346
"Pousadas"	2 057	2 268	2 425	3 027	2 216
"Quintas da Madeira"	24 900	28 943	31 779	38 475	39 022
Rural tourism	14 534	16 930	20 860	30 782	34 273
Local lodging	114 637	126 694	166 925	199 521	216 901

Source: DREM Excel sheet I.9. own representation.

Table 4 shows an overview of the evolution, between 2017 and 2018, of the main tourist indicators for Madeira. Almost 1.4 million visitors spent 426 751 thousand Euros in 2018 and the accommodation sector employed 7 thousand people.

Table 4: Main tourist indicators from Madeira. 2018 and percentage change compared to 2017.

	2018	Cumulative Year-On-Year Change Rate (%)
Guest arrivals (No.) <small>(source DREM. Excel sheet I.5)</small>	1 395 023	-0.1
Residents in Portugal	286 761	0.8
Residents in foreign countries	1 108 262	-0.3
Guests lodged (No.) <small>(Excel sheet I.6)</small>	1 607 899	-0.8
Residents in Portugal	311 279	0.8
Residents in foreign countries	1 296 620	-1.2
Nights spent (No.) <small>(Excel sheet I.7)</small>	8 360 844	-0.3
Residents in Portugal	938 269	1.2
Residents in foreign countries	7 422 575	-0.4
Average stay (No. of nights) <small>(Excel sheet I.8)</small>	5.20	0
Establishments in activity (No.) <small>(Excel sheet I.39)</small>	358	10.6
Lodging capacity (No. of beds) <small>(Excel sheet I.43)</small>	34 399	3.5
Net bed occupancy rate (%) <small>(Excel sheet I.18)</small>	62.4	-3.7 p.p.
Net room occupancy rate (%) <small>(Excel sheet I.21)</small>	68.4	-3.7 p.p.
Total revenue (thousand €) <small>(Excel sheet I.24)</small>	426 751	1.7
Revenue from accommodation (thousand €) <small>(Excel sheet I.27)</small>	279 187	1.9
RevPAR (€) <small>(Excel sheet I.33)</small>	47.47	-1.4
ADR (€) <small>(Excel sheet I.36)</small>	69.38	3.9
Employed personnel in tourism accommodation (No.) <small>(Excel sheet I.45)</small>	7 127	3.4

Source: DREM, own representation.

The arrivals of residents in foreign countries decreased 0.3% and the arrivals of residents in Portugal has increased 0.8%. While total arrivals have slightly decreased from 2018 to 2017 (-0.1%), total revenues have increased (1.7%). This is mainly due to the average daily rate per tourist (ADR) that has increased 3.9%.

One of the main touristic activity is hiking in the mountains, which can be affected by climate change namely the increase of forest fire risk. The physical outdoor activities can also be limited by heat waves.

Maritime transport

While freight maritime transport grows with global trade, the maritime transport of people has been replaced by commercial flights. The exception is, at a global level, the Cruise ships had a rapid growing market. In the RAM, between 2004 and 2018, with an average of 573 per year, the cruise ships have an important contribution for the tourism sector, particularly for the local commerce and touristic services in Funchal.

In insular regions, the maritime transport of passengers remains an important option to transport resident population and tourism between islands. Figure 4 shows that the maritime daily connection of passenger ships (excluding cruise ships) that transport residents and tourists between Madeira and Porto Santo islands represents the major vessel movements in the RAM ports. This connection is very important to the touristic activity in Porto Santo island, namely in the summer season, and to supply the island with fresh products.

Islands, such as Madeira, are highly dependent on freight maritime transport. They rely on imported resources such as fuels, food, building materials, consumer goods such as cars etc., which are brought to the island by ship.



Figure 4: Number of commercial vessels in the ports of the RAM.
 Source: DREM Excel sheet III.10, own representation. (*)Mainly the daily connections between Madeira and Porto Santo Island.

Aquaculture

The economic significance of aquaculture is particularly small in RAM. The 2008 Handbook on Fishery in Madeira (Iborra Martín, 2008) claims: “Aquaculture has scarcely been developed in Madeira. In the 1990s business was brisk, but production ceased in 2000. In 2005 commercial production restarted, which produced 400 tonnes in 2006, with a value of € 2.1 million.”

In 2001 the ‘Centro de Maricultura da Calheta’ was created in Madeira island with funding from the POSEI Programme. This centre supports the development of aquaculture activity in Madeira Island and promotes research namely on the production of local species in captivity.

Figure 5 presents the annual aquaculture production in Madeira island between 2006 and 2018. The productivity oscillates throughout the years with the minimum value of 169 tonnes in 2011 and the maximum value of 570 tonnes in 2013. The regional market consumes an average of 150 tonnes per year of local aquaculture production.



Figure 5: Annual production, in tonnes, since 2006 until 2018 in Madeira island.
 Source INE, own representation. (*) Data gather from local companies. (**) Data gather from Regional Fisheries Secretariat.

Energy

According to the Regional Agency for Energy and Environment of the Autonomous Region of Madeira, in 2017, wind, solar, hydro, biomass, urban waste and biofuel contributed to around 11% to the total primary energy demand. The demand for electricity generation is about 44% of total primary energy. Electricity is generated from gas, fueloil and renewables.

For final energy consumption, the demand for transport is about 51%, households 20%, services 22%, industry 7%, agriculture, forestry and fishing 0.3%. Solar, biomass, biofuels contribute about 6% to final energy consumption.

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

According to Soclimpact reference projections, Madeira's GDP continues to grow throughout the 2015-2100 period. The main drivers of growth are private consumption and investments over the whole projection period (Table 5).

Respective GDP-shares of private consumption and investments remain relatively stable over the projections period (Figure 6). Investments grow at a high pace in 2020. However, these growth rates decline steadily afterwards. The trade deficit is assumed to be reduced in the long run.

Table 5: Madeira GDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GDP	2.5	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.4
Private consumption	3.4	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.8	1.0
Public consumption	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7	1.1	0.8	1.0
Investments	3.1	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0
Trade	3.1	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.6	-0.5

Source: Deliverable 6.2: Macroeconomic outlook for the islands.

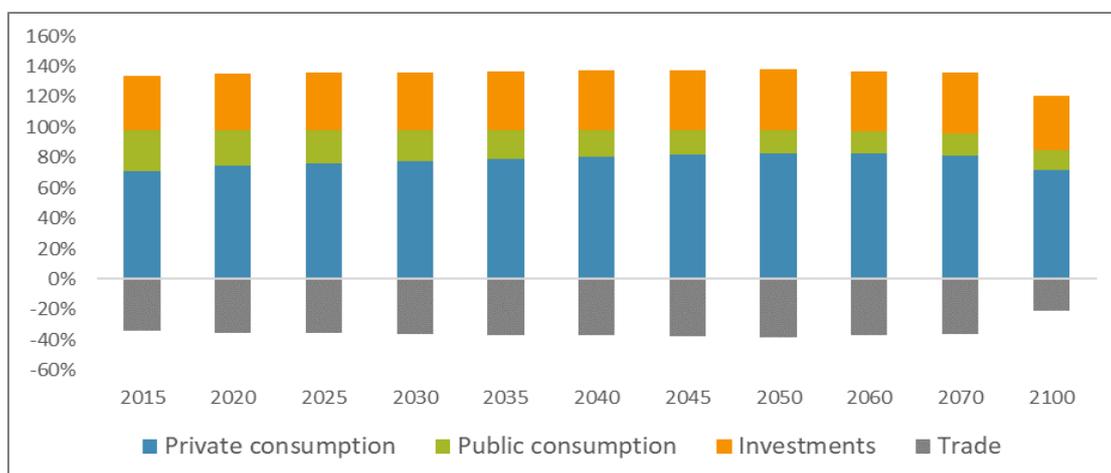


Figure 6: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Madeira in 2015-2100.

Source: Deliverable 6.2: Macroeconomic outlook for the islands.

2.2 The sectoral projections

According to Soclimpact projections, RAM's economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period, with significant contributions to total gross value added from construction, non-market services, accommodation and food services, and other market services (Figure 7).

Agriculture, fishery, manufacturing and consumer goods sectors are projected to contribute, in total, less than 6% to the economy-wide gross value added, in 2100.

Total tourism activities are projected to experience a long run increase of their respective gross value-added shares. Starting from more than 11% in 2015, this share is projected to increase steadily to more than 14% until 2100⁶.

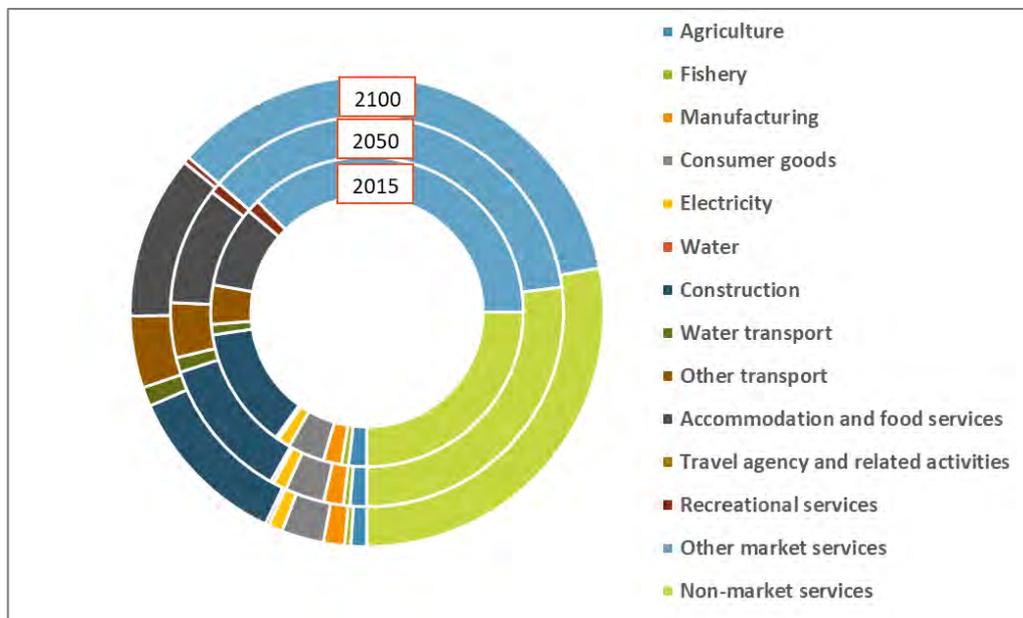


Figure 7: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Madeira in 2015, 2050 and 2100.

Source: Deliverable 6.2: Macroeconomic outlook of the islands.

⁶ The share of tourism in GDP is calculated via the tourism satellite account (TSA) matrices of 2015, assuming that the same shares that indicate the contribution of tourism to the productions of tourism-related sectors (such as the accommodation and food services, transport services, travel agency and related activities, cultural and recreational activities) remain throughout the 2015-2100 period. Please see Appendix B of the [D.6.2: Macroeconomic outlook for the islands](#) for the complete database of the estimated TSAs.

Table 6: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Madeira in 2015-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Agriculture	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.1
Fishery	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Manufacturing	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4
Consumer goods	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.9
Electricity	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Water	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Construction	12.7	11.9	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.7	11.7	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.4
Water transport	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3
Other transport	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.9
Accommodation and food services	8.5	8.4	8.8	9.1	9.3	9.5	9.6	9.8	10.1	10.3	11.3
Travel agency and related activities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Recreational services	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.4
Other market services	37.4	37.5	37.3	37.1	37.0	36.8	36.7	36.6	36.4	36.2	35.6
Non-market services	25.0	26.0	26.3	26.5	26.7	26.8	26.9	27.0	27.2	27.4	28.0

Source: Deliverable 6.2: Macroeconomic outlook of the islands.

2.3 Employment

The service-led economic growth brings positive effects to the labour market with unemployment rates being continuously reduced throughout the projection period. The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labor intensity of the sector. The biggest employing sectors are the non-market and other market services as well as accommodation and food services. Construction services do also still provide significant employment contributions in 2100.

Tourism is the largest employer of the Blue growth sectors under analysis, particularly due to the high labor intensity of accommodation and food services. Electricity, water transport and fisheries feature rather stable employment shares throughout the projection period. However, none of these sectors contributes individually more than 1% to total employment.

Table 1: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Madeira in 2015-2100

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	14.7	11.7	10.9	10.3	9.7	9.0	8.2	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.2
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Source: Deliverable 6.2: Macroeconomic outlook of the islands.

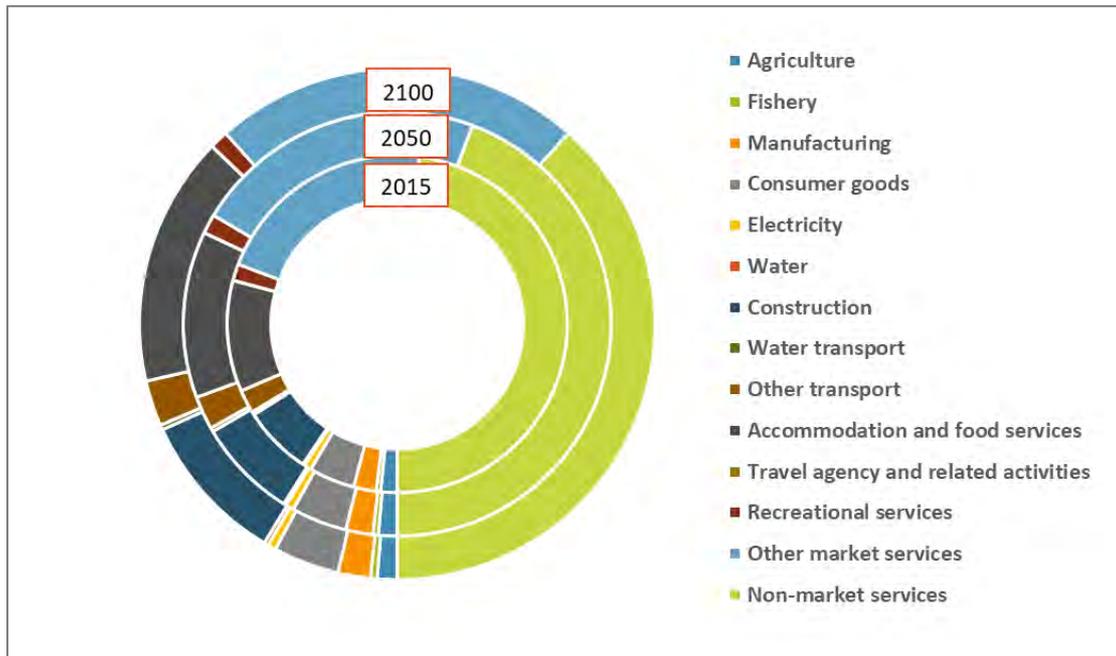


Figure 1: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Madeira in 2015, 2050, 2100
Source: Deliverable 6.2: Macroeconomic outlook of the islands.

3 Climate Change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenarios RCP2.6 (ambitious mitigation scenario) and RCP8.5 (business as usual) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for Madeira is MENA-CORDEX ensemble even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

As to its reliability, it is important to note that Atlantic islands (Azores, Madeira, Canaries and West Indies) lie in very critical areas where global models might be inaccurate in predicting the large scale patterns (regional models are not available), and resolution is so coarse that in fact many islands don't even exist in model orography. This acknowledged, this is the only information we can provide, and at least future tendencies can be inferred.

The new CMIP6 simulations might shed more light on this issues, but we can only suggest that results should be updated as they become available.

The same partly holds for the wave simulations: local resolution has been significantly increased in the dedicated new simulations of this project, performed by the partner ENEA (up to 0.05°), but the forcing wind field is still derived from the coarse global models.

Stakeholders should be made aware that uncertainty is an inherent characteristic of climate data, and that any future planning must cope with it. Climatologists can only highlight POTENTIAL threats and constraints, they cannot predict the future and pave the way to solutions. Conveying this piece of information is one of the most critical points of climate-change-related information.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runup).

In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The larger values are found for the Atlantic islands, where slightly larger sea level rise is combined with the effect of much larger wind waves. The values in that scenario is 163 cm in Madeira. Under RCP2.6 scenario the values are less than half, suggesting that a mitigation scenario could largely minimize the negative impact of climate change on beach flooding.

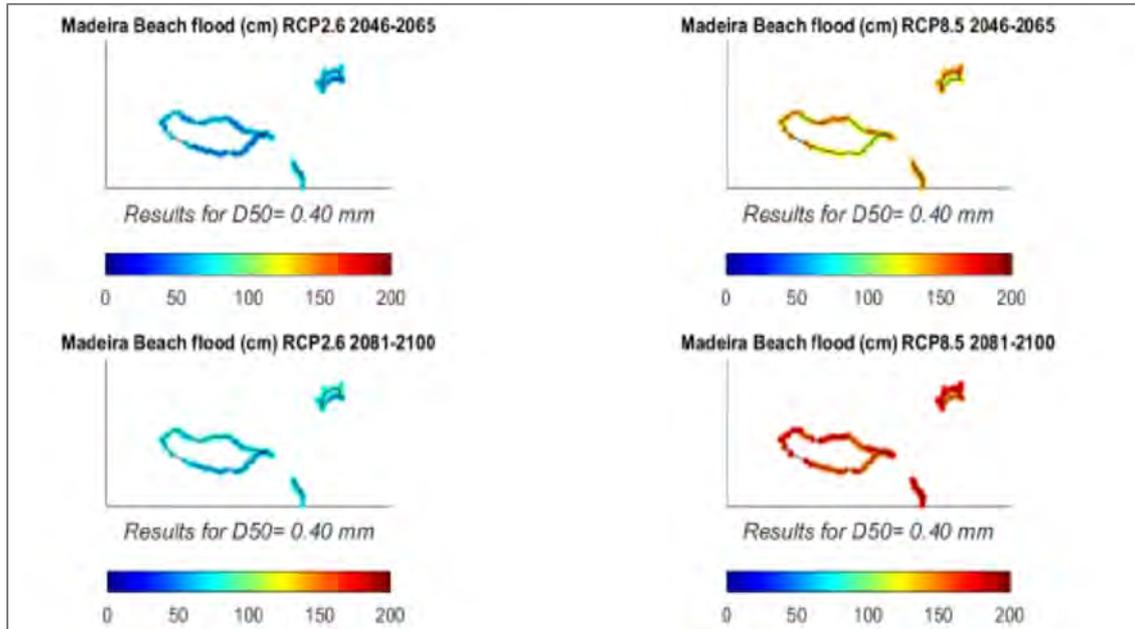


Figure 9: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cml) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~57% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~95% under scenario RCP8.5.



BEACH REDUCTION

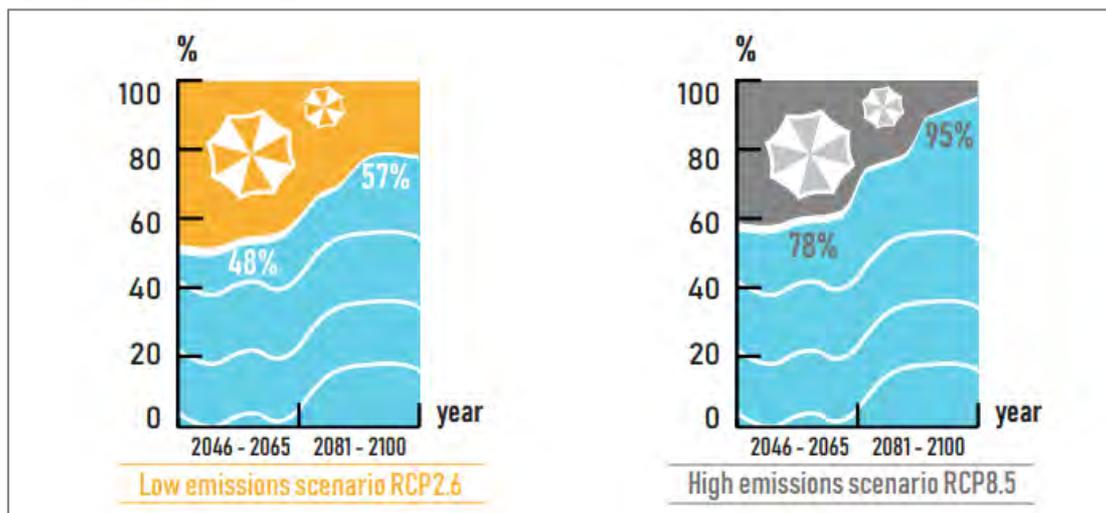


Figure 10: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Humidex

For the assessment of heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Madeira, two separate analysis were conducted, as RCP2.6 was available for only one model, while for RCP8.5 we used four GCM/RCM pairs. We find that for RCP2.6, the days with discomfort are negligible, though, the analysis of the RCP8.5 future projections shows that from less than 1 day in the present climate, the number increases to 30 days per year at the end of the century.

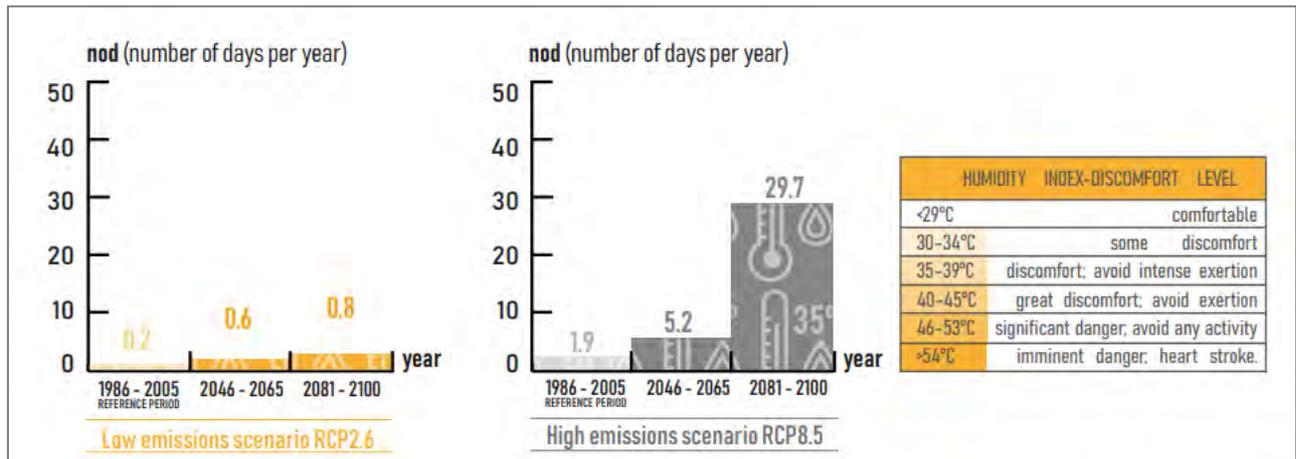


Figure 11: Humidex. Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.2 Aquaculture

The predicted impacts of climate change on the oceans and seas of the planet is expected to have direct impacts on marine based aquaculture systems. Basic effects are the following (Soto and Brugere, 2008):

Change in biophysical characteristics of coastal areas.

- Increased invasions from alien species.
- Increased spread of diseases.

- Changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, salinity, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters.
- Changes in the differences between sea and air temperature which will alter the seasonality, frequency and severity of storms, cyclones and other extreme events, affect the stability of the coastal resources and potentially increase the damages in infrastructure.
- Sea level rise, acidification, changes in precipitation and other effects will also add to the changes in coastal ecosystems and environment, thus affecting production and infrastructure (=investments).

Fish Thermal Stress

Temperature changes in seawater trigger physical impacts; increased harmful algal blooms, decreased oxygen level, increase in diseases and parasites, changes in ranges of suitable species, increased growth rate, increased food conversion ratio and more extended growing season. Furthermore, all these impacts lead to socio-economic implications among them; changes in production levels and an increase in fouling and pests. The objective of the current analysis is to identify and quantify the variations (future climate scenarios with respect to present climate) in the number and in the duration of events characterized by a Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeding a given threshold. The SST thresholds have been identified according to the farming and feeding necessities of several marine species, particularly relevant for the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Sea (MS).

For Madeira, the increase in sea surface temperature is expected to be critical for mussels and clams, with 200 days per year exceeding the threshold. For the case of seabass, the risk would increase 50 times.



Figure 12: Number of days exceeding the fish thermal threshold

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.3 Energy

Percentage of days when $T > 98^{\text{th}}$ percentile - T_{98p}

The T_{98p} is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005.

For Madeira, we have conducted two separate analyses, as RCP2.6 was available for only one model, while for RCP8.5 we used four GCM/RCM pairs.

Thus, for one-model analysis, we find that for RCP2.6, the number of days with temperatures above the reference 98th percentile will exceed 10% by the end of the century. On the other hand, the RCP8.5 future projections with four models shows that, while in mid-century about 8% of the days will be above T_{98p} threshold, at the end of the century, daily temperatures will be above T_{98p} for almost 25% (~90 days per year) of time.

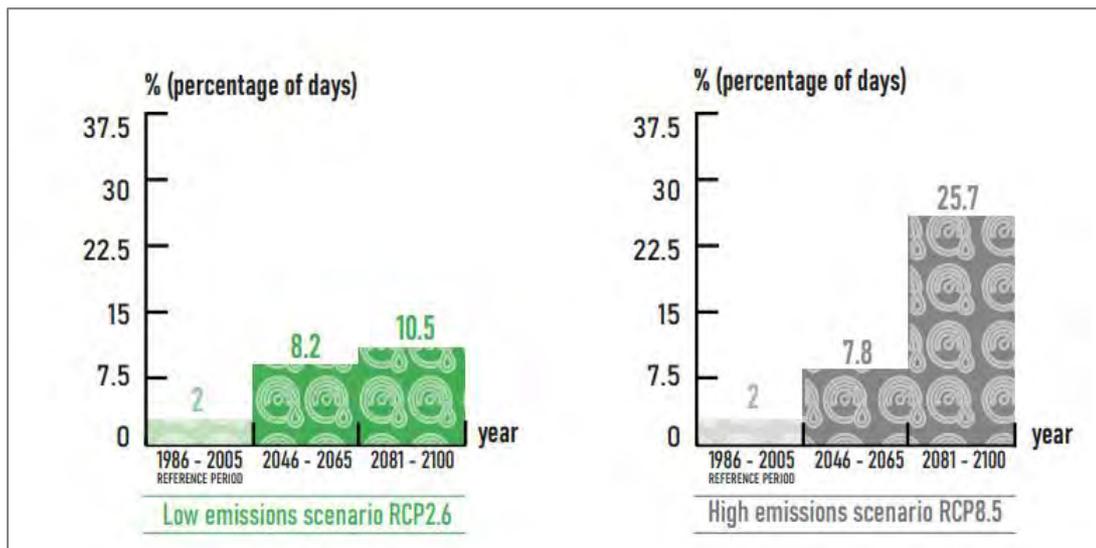


Figure 13: Percentage of days when $T > 98^{\text{th}}$ percentile. Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud *et al.*, 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these

renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Photovoltaic energy productivity

The annual mean value of photovoltaic productivity over Madeira in the control period (1986-2005) is lower than for the rest of Islands analyzed in this project (except for the Azores, which presents values that should be taken with caution due to likely biases caused by their proximity to climate model boundaries). Solar irradiation values from EUMETSAT satellite over the Madeira Islands presents similar values than those for the north-western side of the Iberian Peninsula. Our computations over Madeira show values of PV productivity similar to those found in (Šúri *et al.*, 2007) for their European solar potential publication.

Changes in photovoltaic productivity projected for this region are mostly negative but also rather small (less than 3% of the control period values), and lower than the changes projected for other regions. An increase in photovoltaic productivity is projected over land for RCP8.5 scenario, although that increase represents just around 1% of the annual mean value. However, it is important to notice the coarse resolution of the model in comparison to the island area.



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

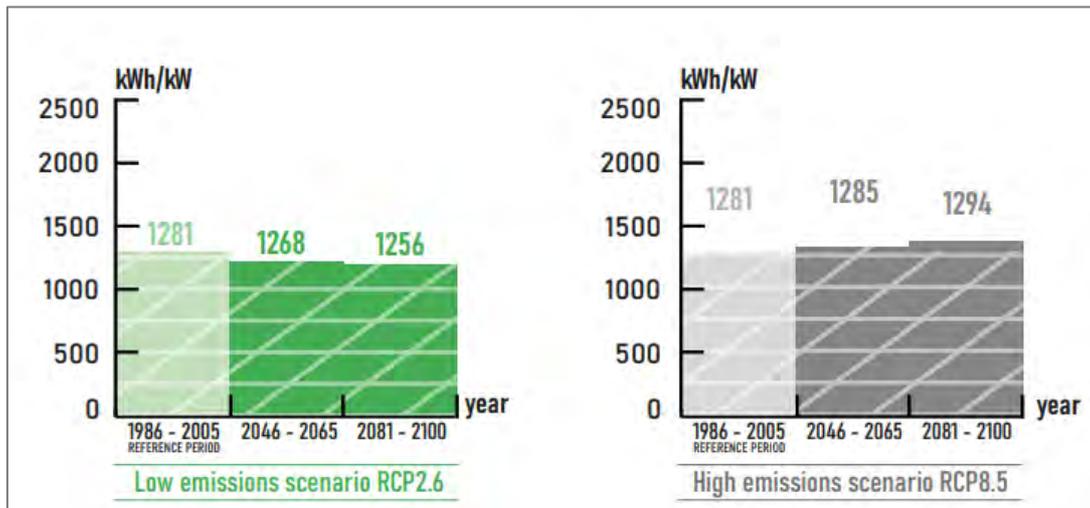


Figure 14: Ensemble mean values of annual solar productivity indicators –land (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

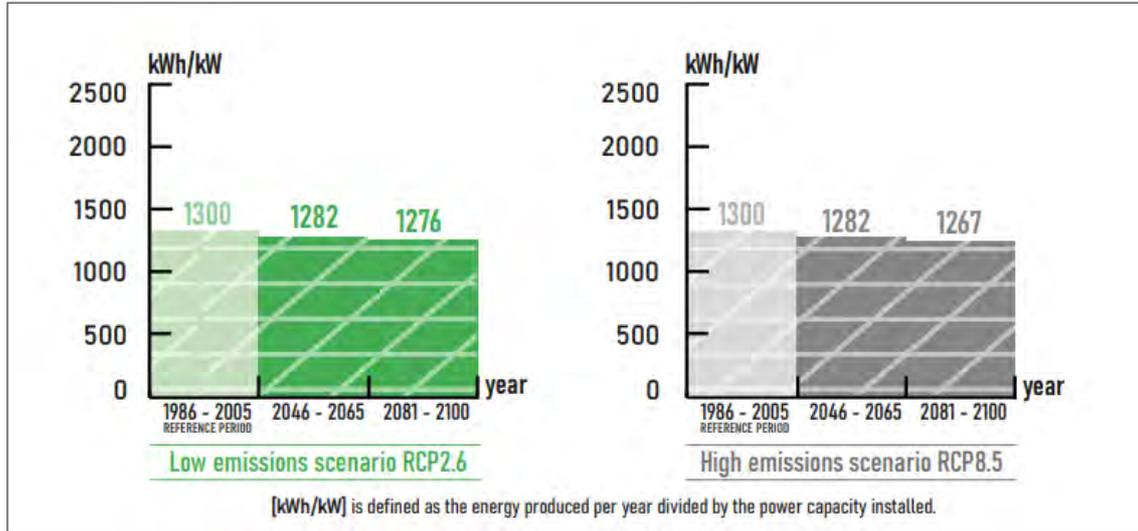


Figure 15: Ensemble mean values of annual solar productivity indicators – $sea(kWh/kW)$ in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Wind energy productivity

Control period values are very high both over land and sea, in comparison to the other islands of the study (W_{prod} is only higher in the Canary Islands). A general trend to decreasing W_{prod} is obtained for almost all the cases, which is more important in RCP2.6 for 2081-2100 period. The projected changes in RCP8.5 are uncertain in sign.



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WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

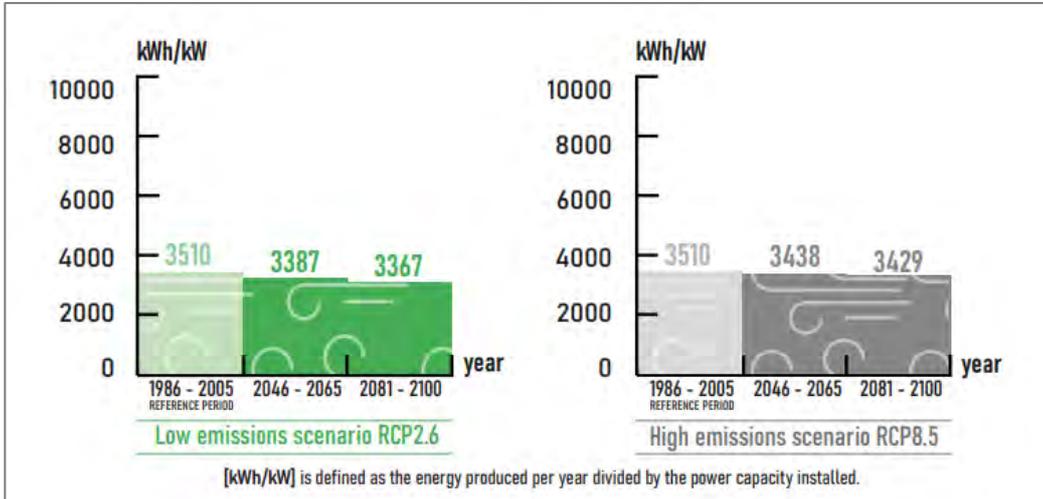


Figure 16: Ensemble mean values of annual wind productivity indicators-land (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

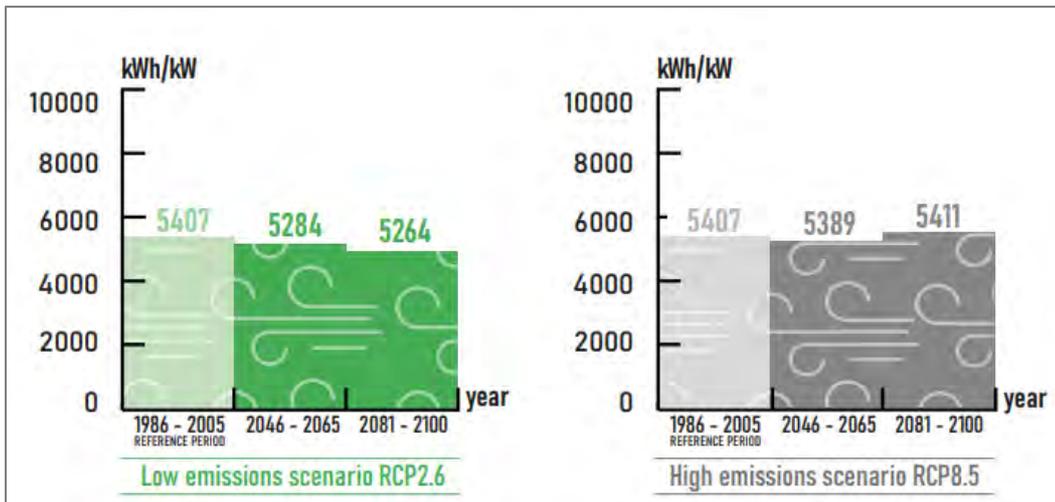


Figure 17: Ensemble mean values of annual wind productivity indicators – sea (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Spatial averages are computed for land and sea separately.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

In the control time period, wind productivity droughts are more prone to develop over land than over the sea (*not showed*). Over the studied domain, the frequency of wind droughts tends to increase in the RCP2.6 scenario, while these present a subtle increase (decrease) to the north (south) of the domain in the RCP8.5 case. In the RCP8.5 scenario, models show agreement regarding the increase in the frequency of droughts.



ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

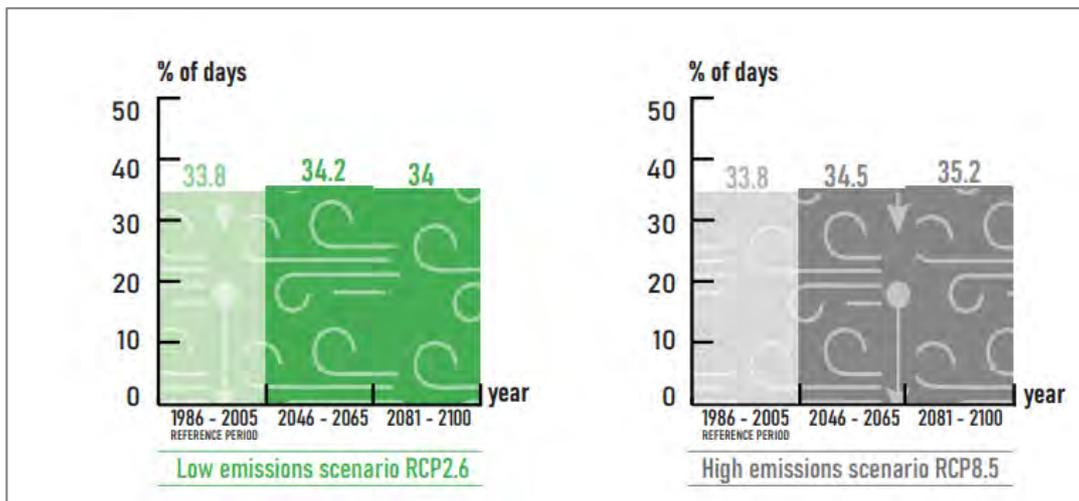


Figure 18: Wind energy productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

In the case of PV droughts, we observe that moderate PV droughts tend to increase in frequency in the RCP2.6 scenario, but they decrease in the RCP8.5 case. Severe PV droughts are very infrequent in the control period, and their projected changes are very small.



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ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

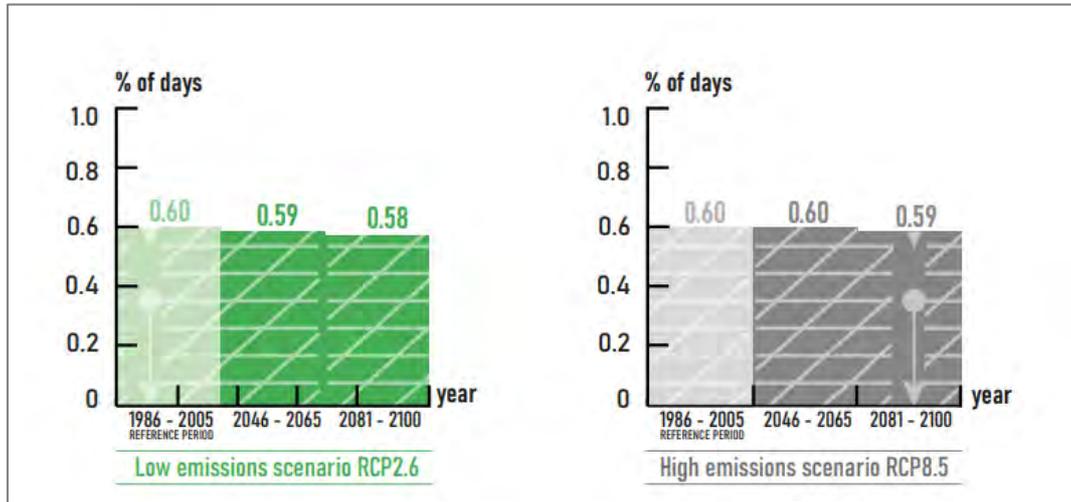


Figure 19: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

The drought frequency for the combination of PV and wind energy is again very small for current and future periods.

ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

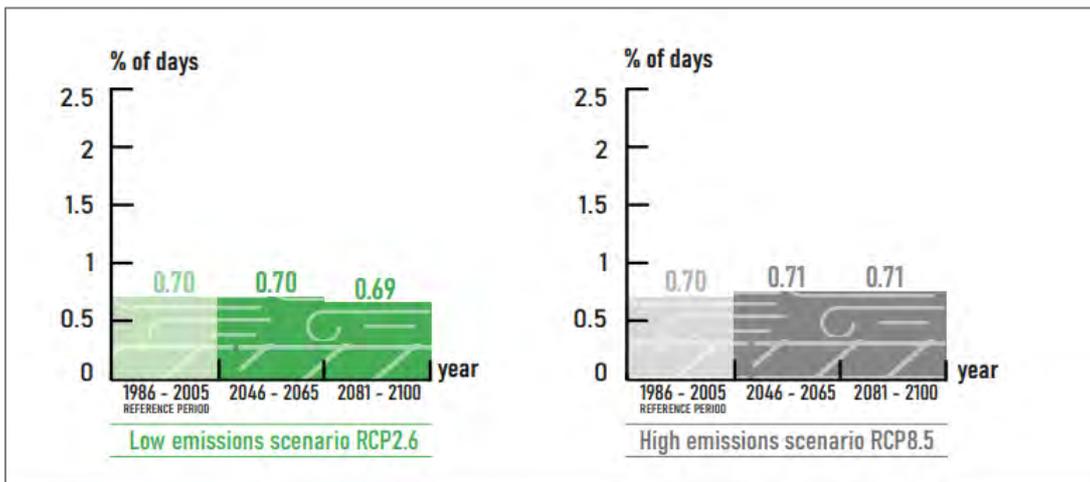


Figure 20: Combination Wind and Photovoltaic (PV) productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

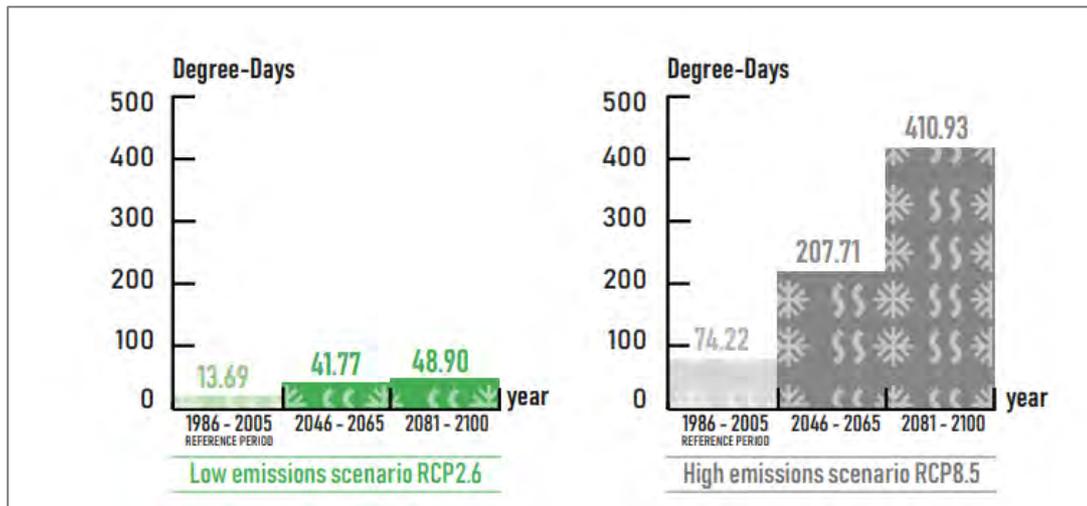
Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing provides the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room.

For Madeira, we have conducted two separate analyses, as RCP2.6 was available for only one model. Thus, for one-model analysis, we find that for near future, CDD will be 3 times larger at the end of the century. On the other hand, the analysis of the RCP8.5 future projections with four models, provide a more devastating picture as the number of CDD will be almost 6 times larger than the reference period.



COOLING DEGREE DAYS



*Figure 21: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of MENA-CORDEX simulations.
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator*

Standardized precipitation evapotranspiration index

The Standardized Precipitation- Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI is used as an indicator of water availability. In particular, this hazard index can serve as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. In a drier future, which is the likely case for most SOCLIMPACT islands, this will lead in additional increases in desalination and water pumping needs, a scenario which will substantially increase the cost for adaptation.



STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION EVAPOTRANSPIRATION INDEX

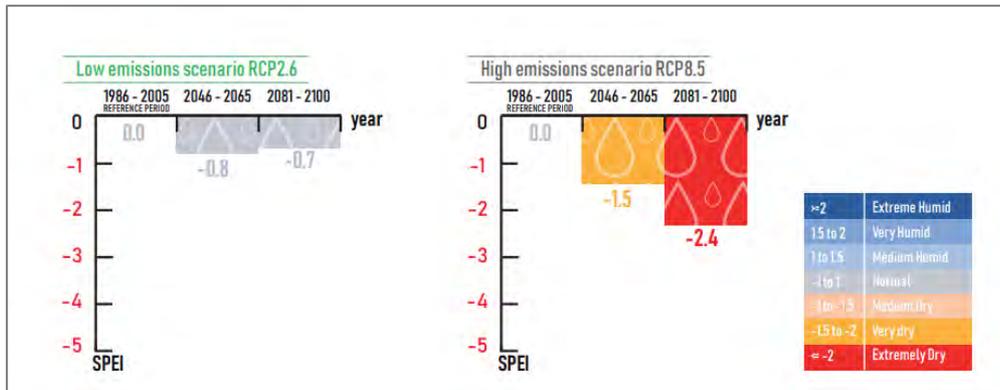


Figure 22: Standardized precipitation evapotranspiration index
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.4 Maritime transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Madeira, the SLR ranges from 27, 27 cm (RCP2.6) to 74,72 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.



MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE
 (in cm) with respect to the present (1986-2005)

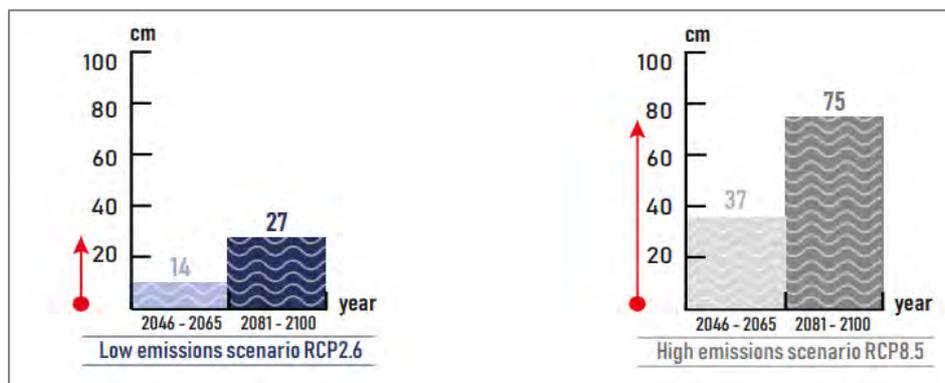


Figure 23: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels.

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future under RCP8.5 (- 32 %).

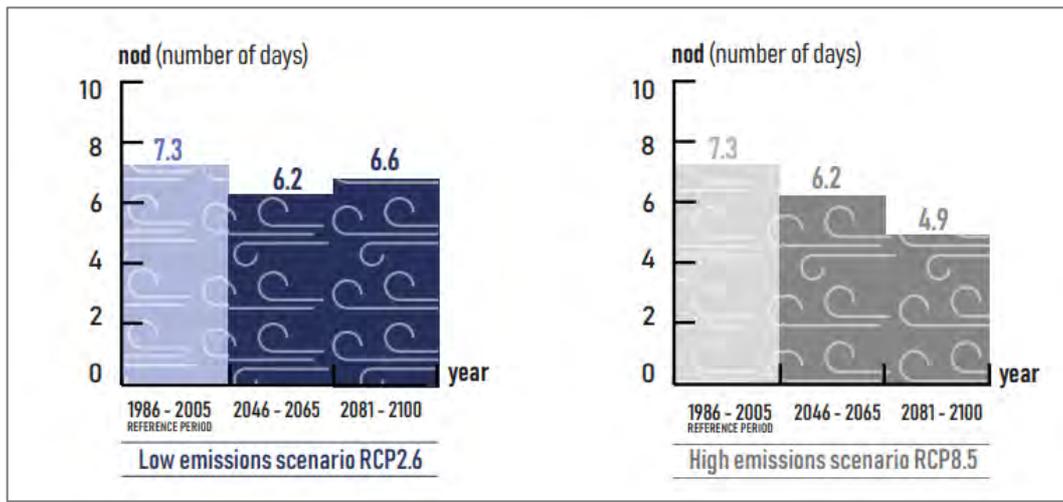


Figure 24: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the MENA-CORDEX simulations.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases under RCP8.5. with a more significant magnitude for RCP 8.5.

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map. The more significant change is observed under RCP8.5. at the end of century with -5%.

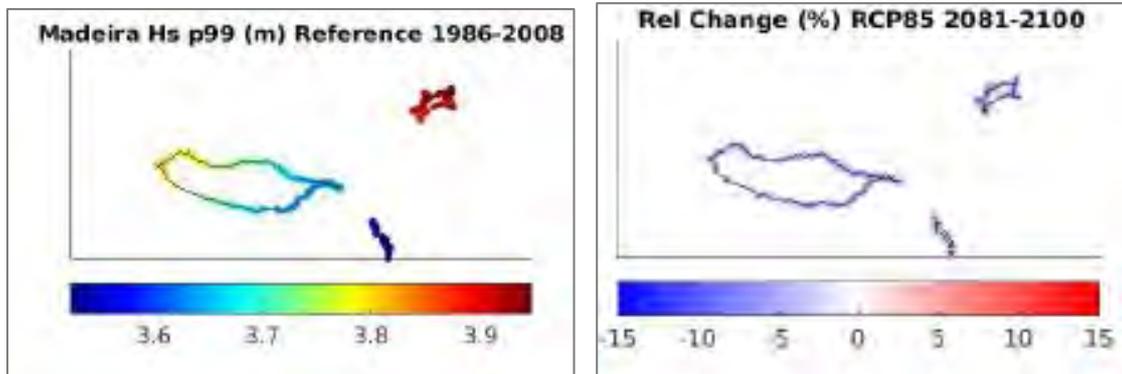


Figure 25: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

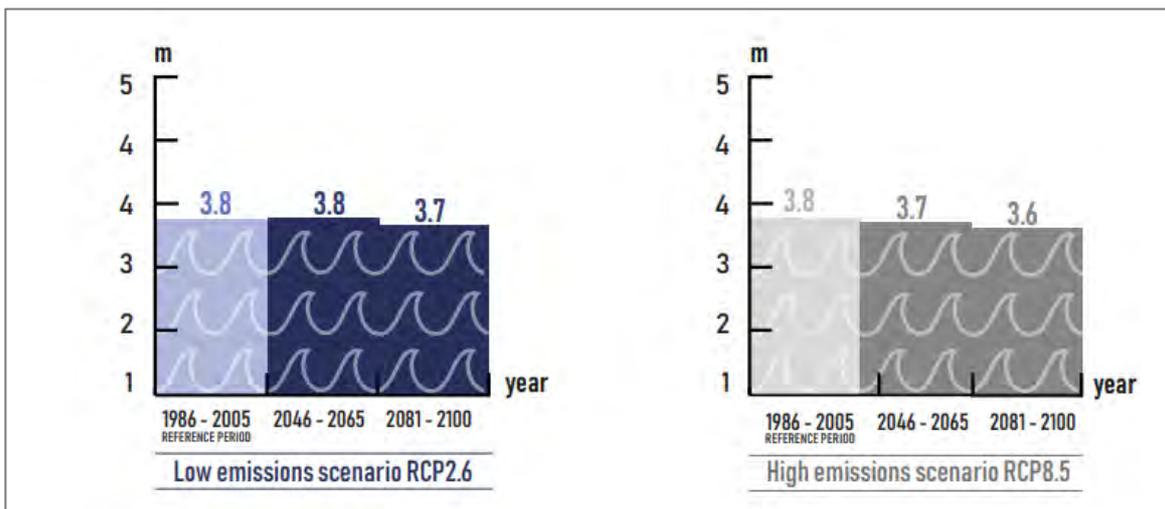


Figure 26: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,
- ii) Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress
- iii) Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

For the first two, the AHP method was employed. This methodology is ideal to respond to the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators. By the side of shadows, this method requires quite specific data that wasn't able to collect for some islands. The AHP method also requires "values" for experts to compare.

More specifically, for the first IC the data is needed for "Tourist Arrivals" and "Vulnerable Groups" indicators, which is regards the Exposure of people to heatwaves for the hottest period, such as:

- Number of tourist arrivals per month for the past 5 years.
- Number of tourists per month aged 14 and under for the past 5 years
- Number of tourists per month aged 65 and over for the past 5 years
- Percentage of tourist activities that are sensitive to heatwaves (such as hiking, etc.).
- Number of beds available in medical facilities per 100,000 inhabitants.

If, for example, an island gets a lot of tourists, but most of them just spend their time by the beach, then the island is not so much at risk of losing tourists because when they visit they'll be by the beach and able to cool down. On the other hand, if almost all the tourists visit the island for hiking, but it gets too hot, then the island could be at risk since some may change their minds and visit somewhere else with a moderate climate and do their hiking there. Additionally, it is necessary to investigate how well an island is equipped with dealing with patients who suffer from a heatwave-related episode.

For the second IC, the data collected was:

- Surface of marine Phanerogams & Phanerogams' reduction due to heat: Surface, in km²; and expected % of surface loss for RCP8.5 distant future.
- Number of divers: Number of tourists practising Diving at the destination.
- Products substitution capacity: capacity to derive tourist demand to non-marine habitat-based activities.
- Seagrass removal: capacity to remove dead seagrass lying on beaches.
- Sea water pollution: quality of management of inshore and offshore sewages.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands.

Finally, the third IC provided some results for the case of Madeira, as presented below:

Los of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1). For each of these components of the theoretical IC, several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalized to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardized risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

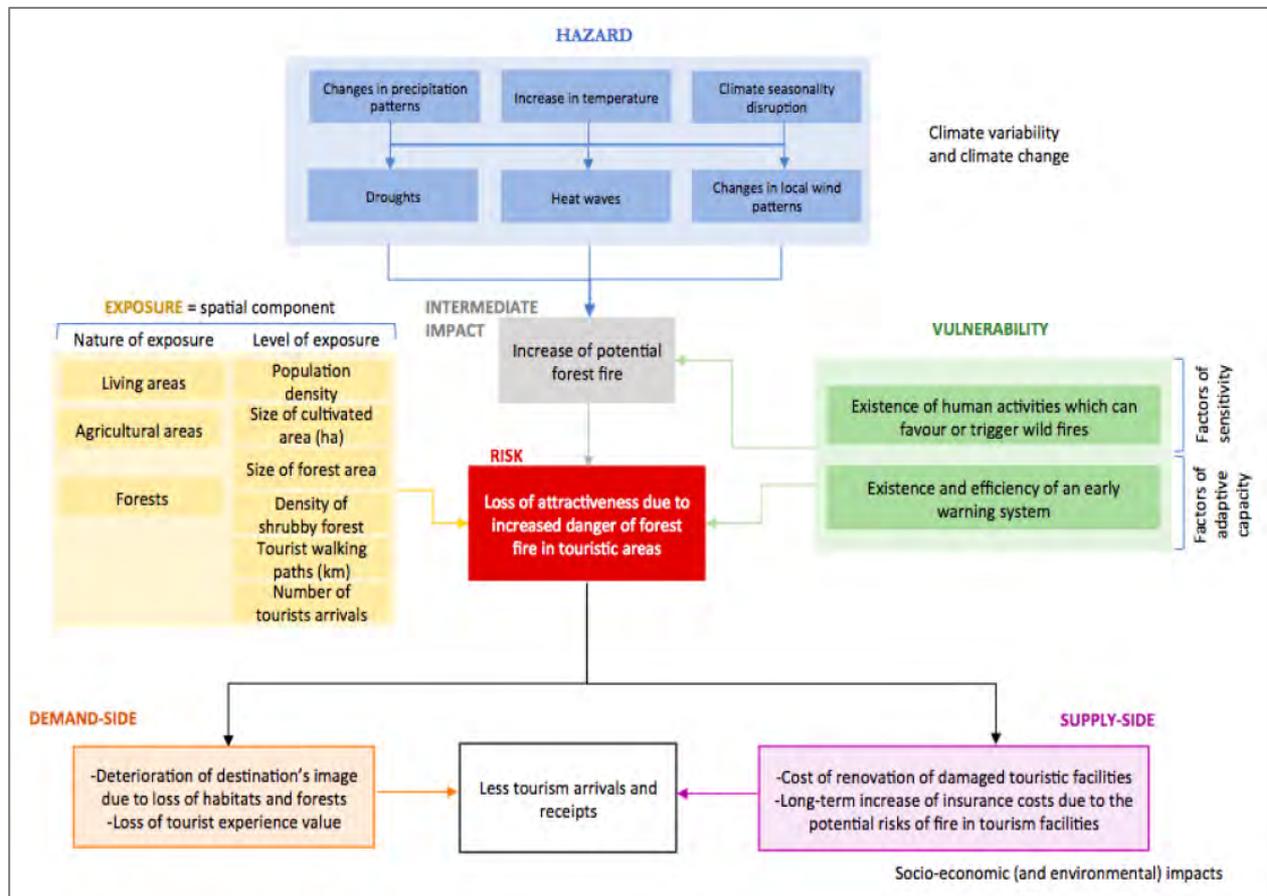


Figure 27: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas

Source: Sodlimpact deliverable [D3.2](#)

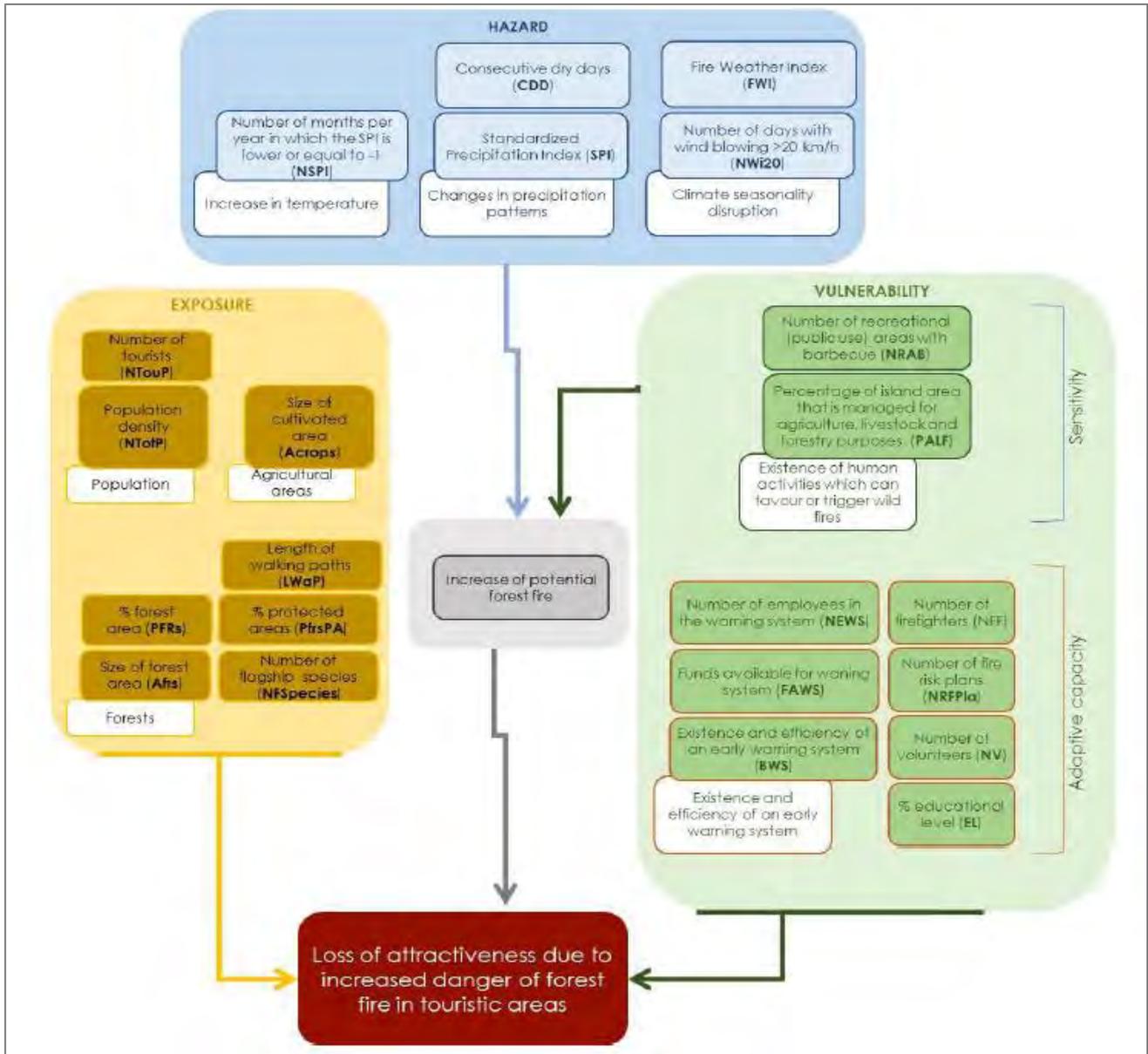


Figure 28: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas

Source: Soclimpact deliverable D3.3

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

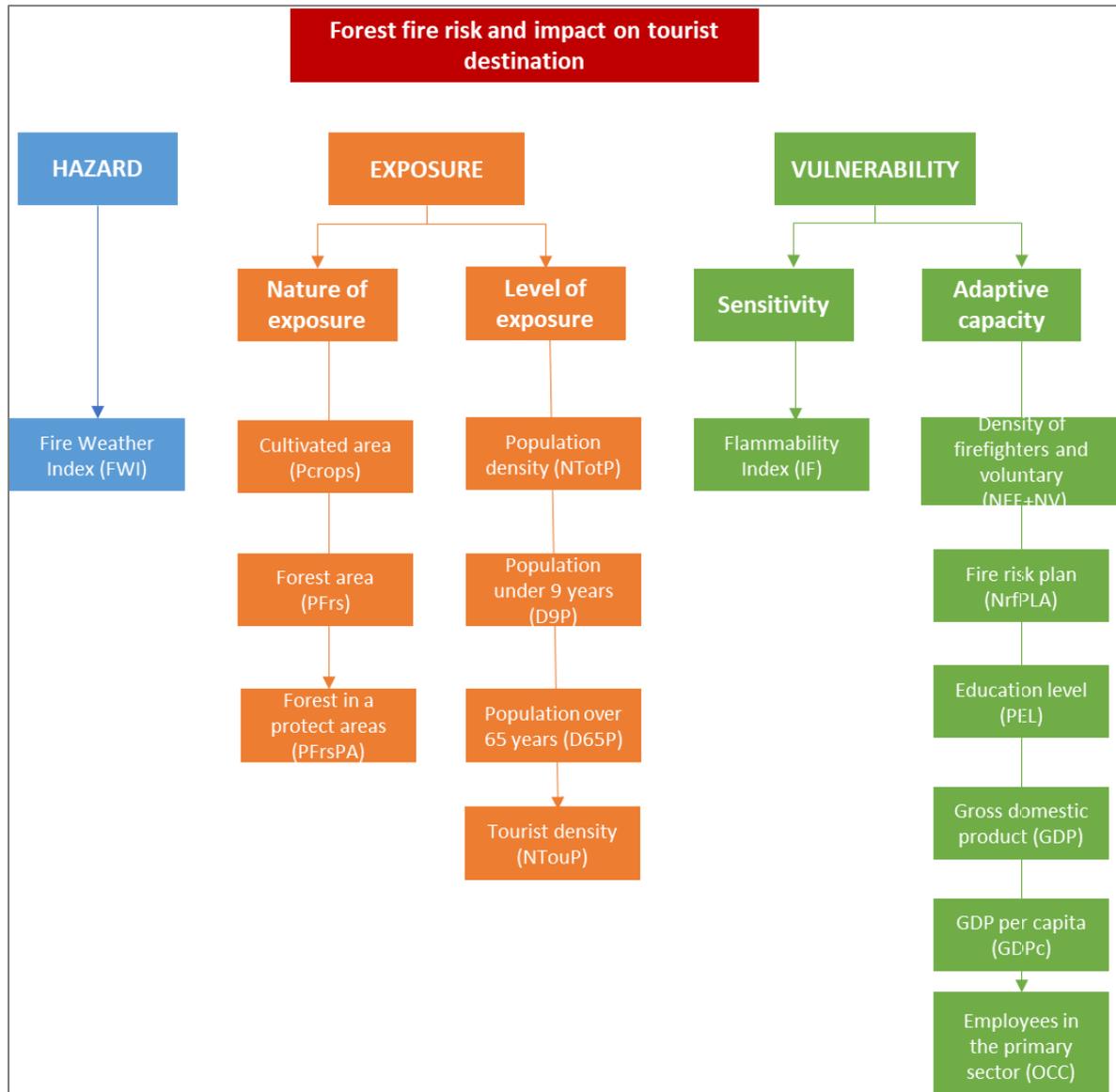


Figure 29: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an

assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Hazard scores

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected

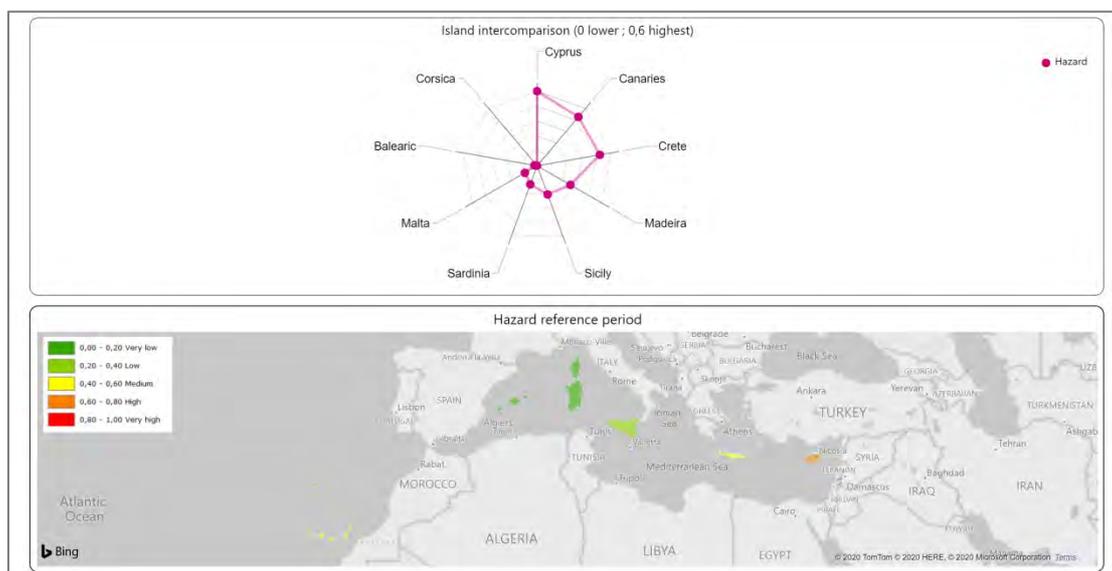


Figure 30: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

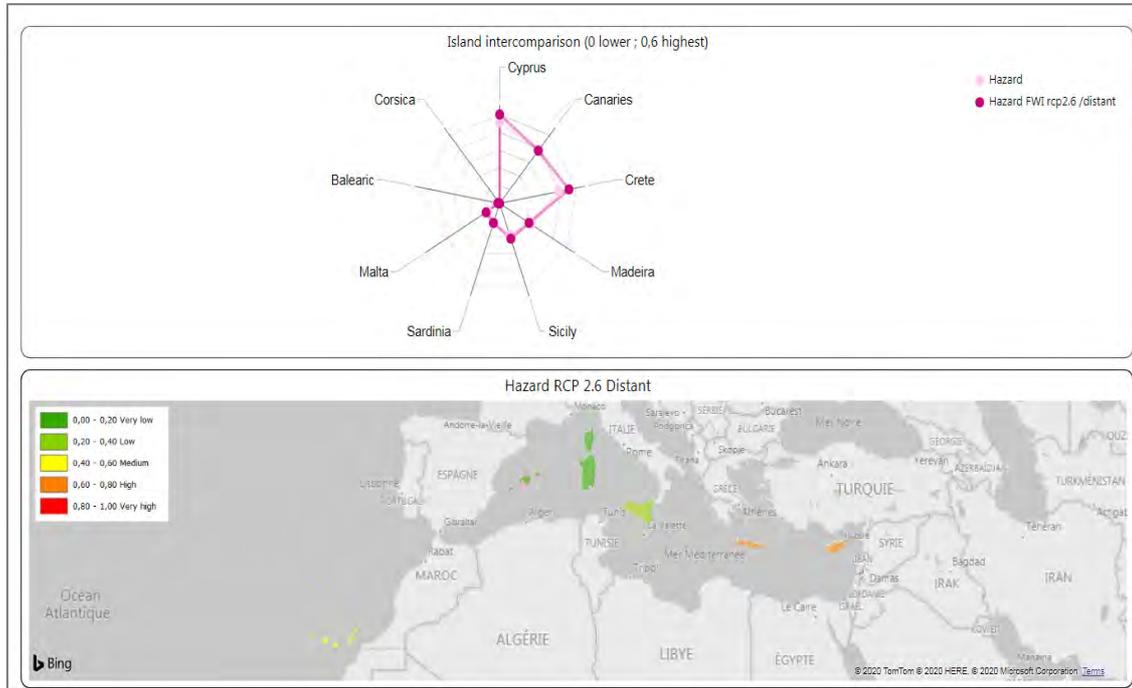


Figure 31: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

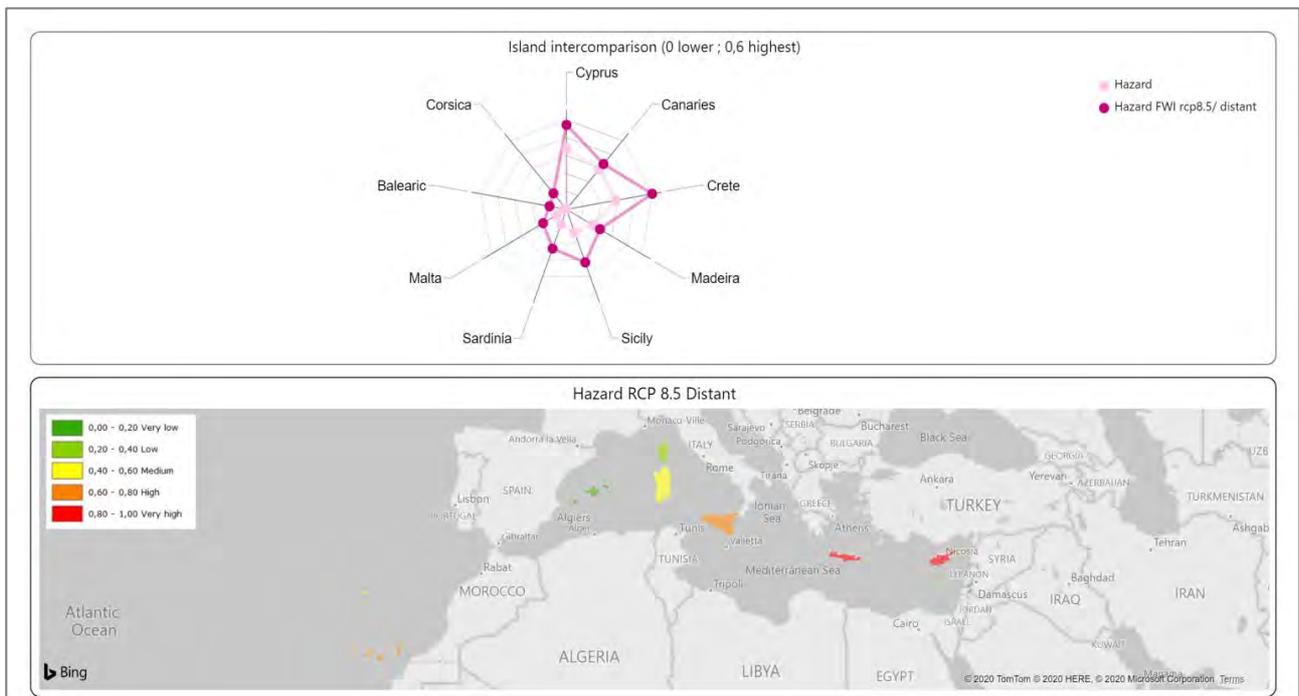


Figure 32: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (**Madeira** and Canary Islands) are more exposed than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

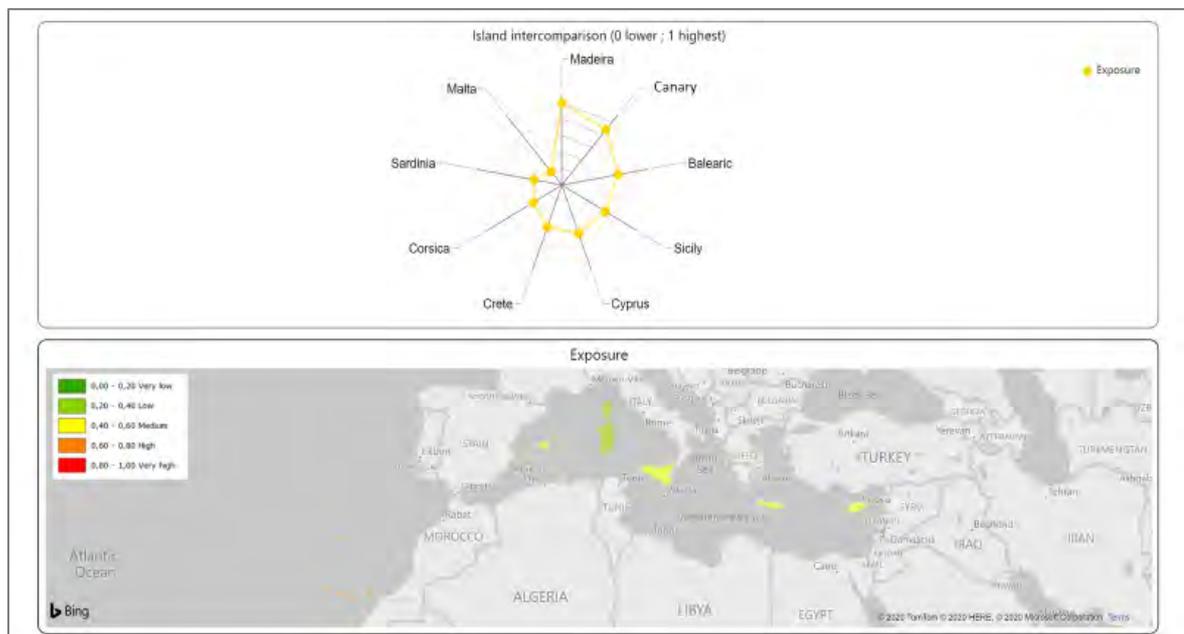


Figure 33: Exposure score (current period) per island

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

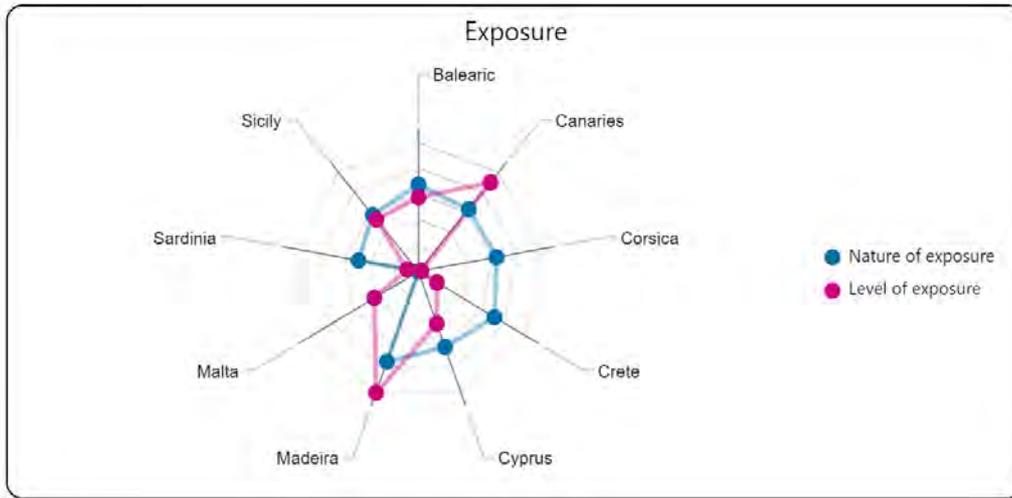


Figure 34: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

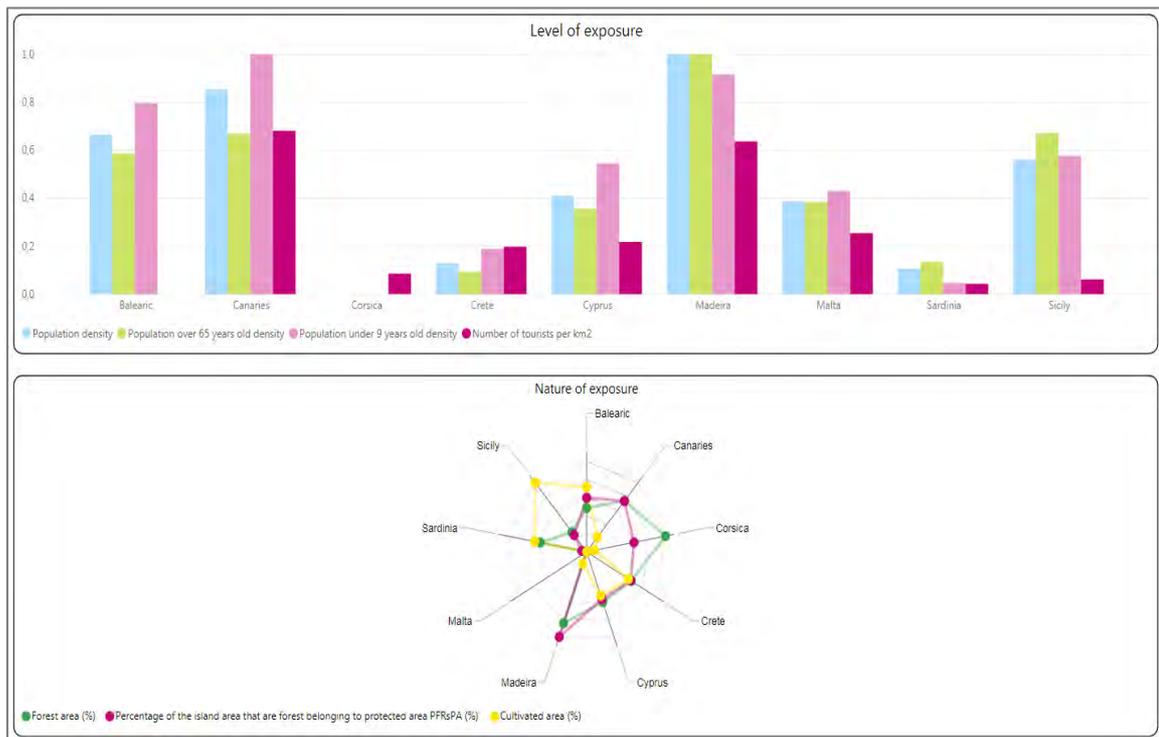


Figure 35: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), **Madeira**, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for **Madeira**, Malta and Corsica.

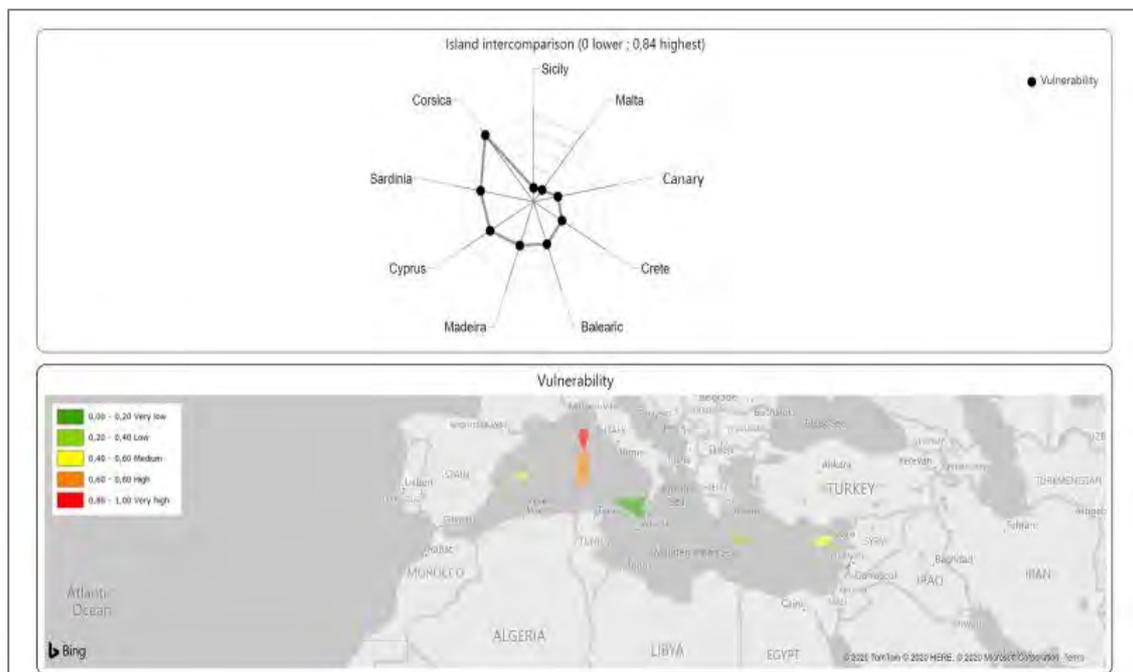


Figure 36: Vulnerability score per island

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

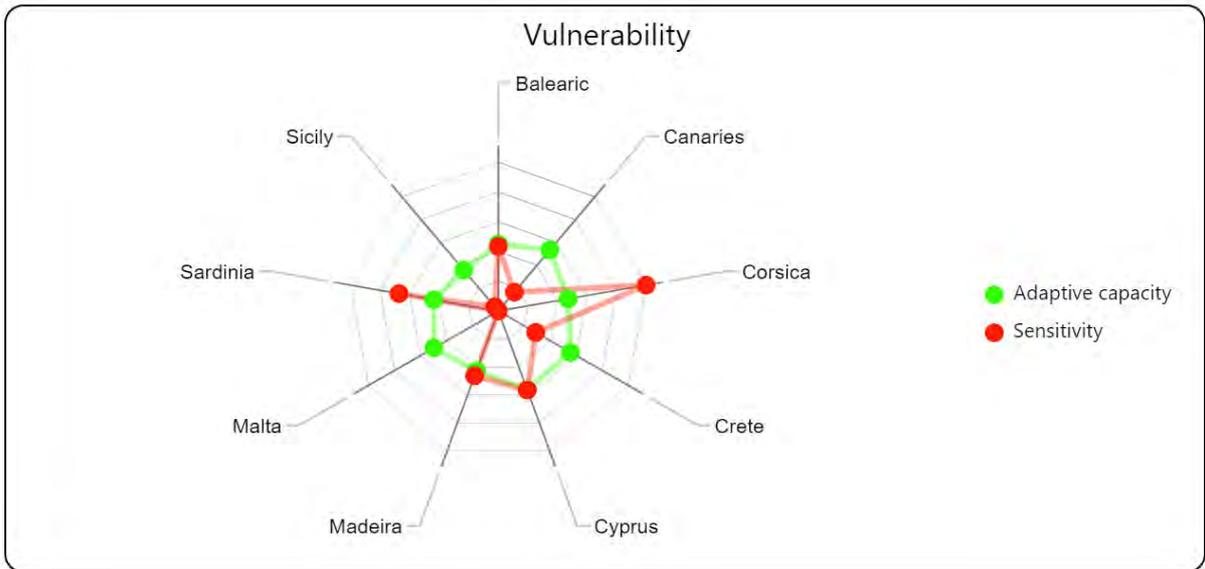


Figure 37: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

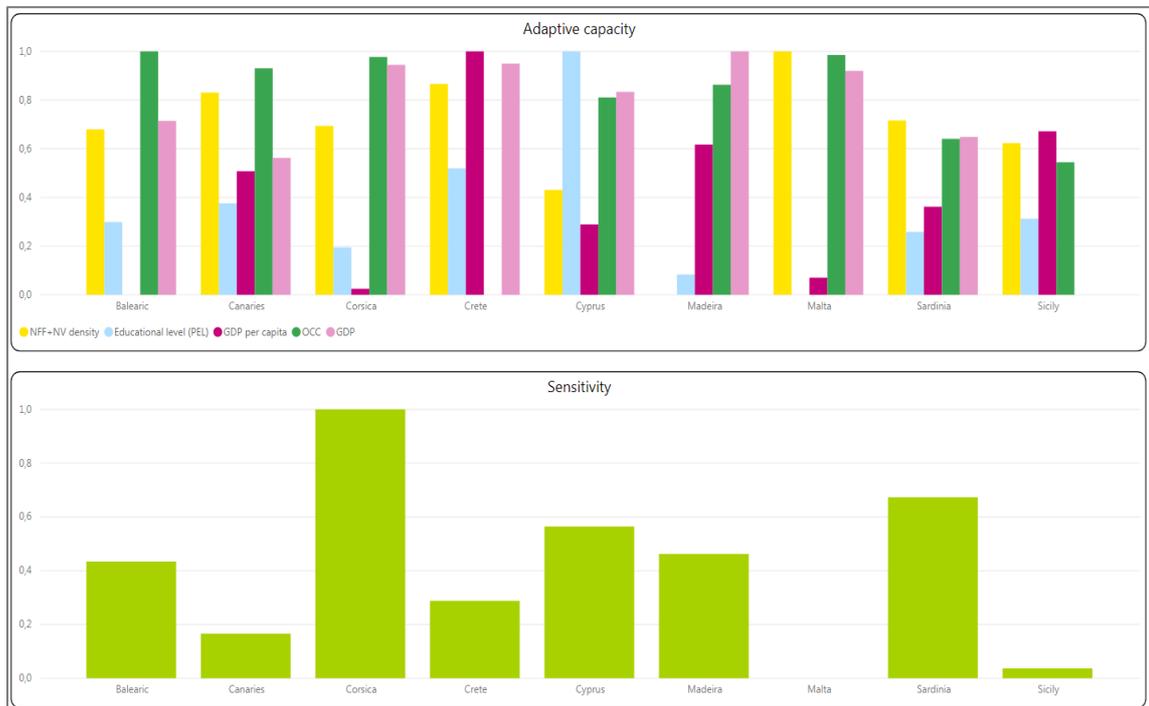


Figure 38: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o **Madeira**, Canary Islands, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5 (distant future). Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and **Madeira** (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

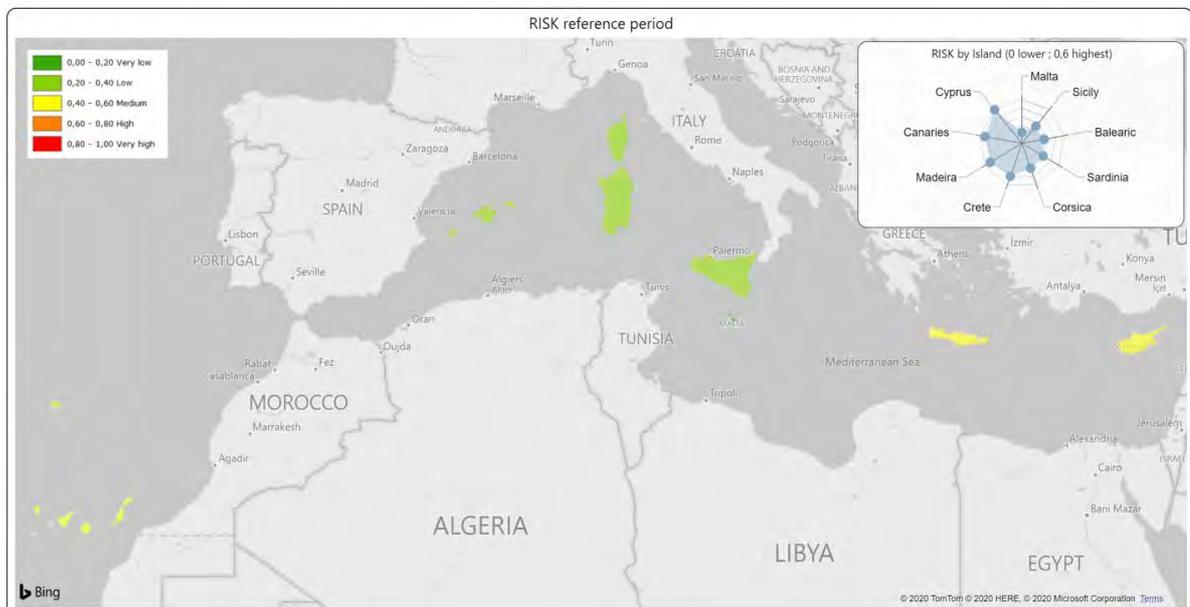


Figure 39: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

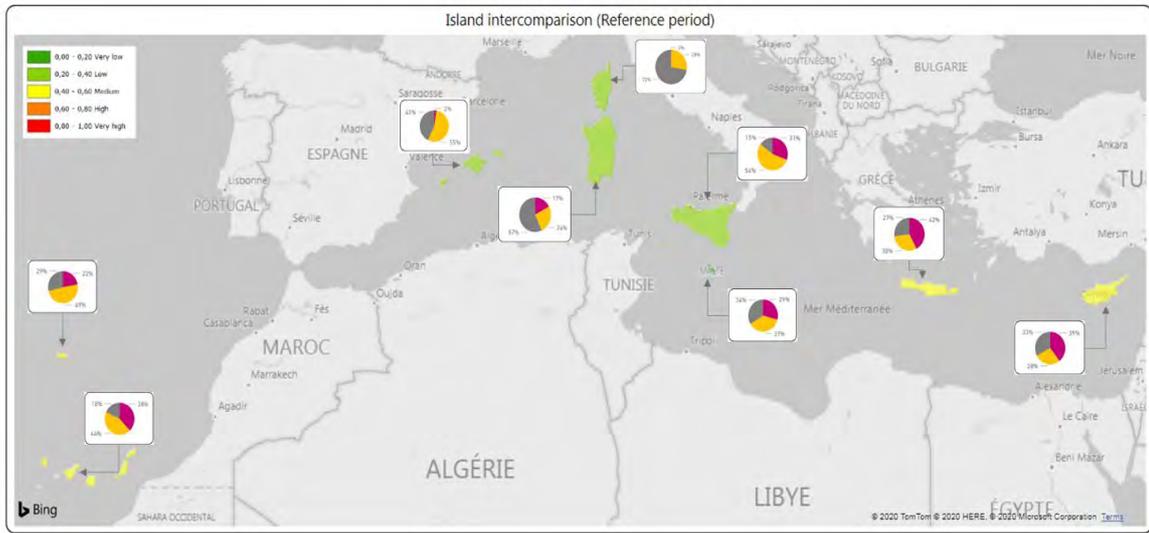


Figure 40: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

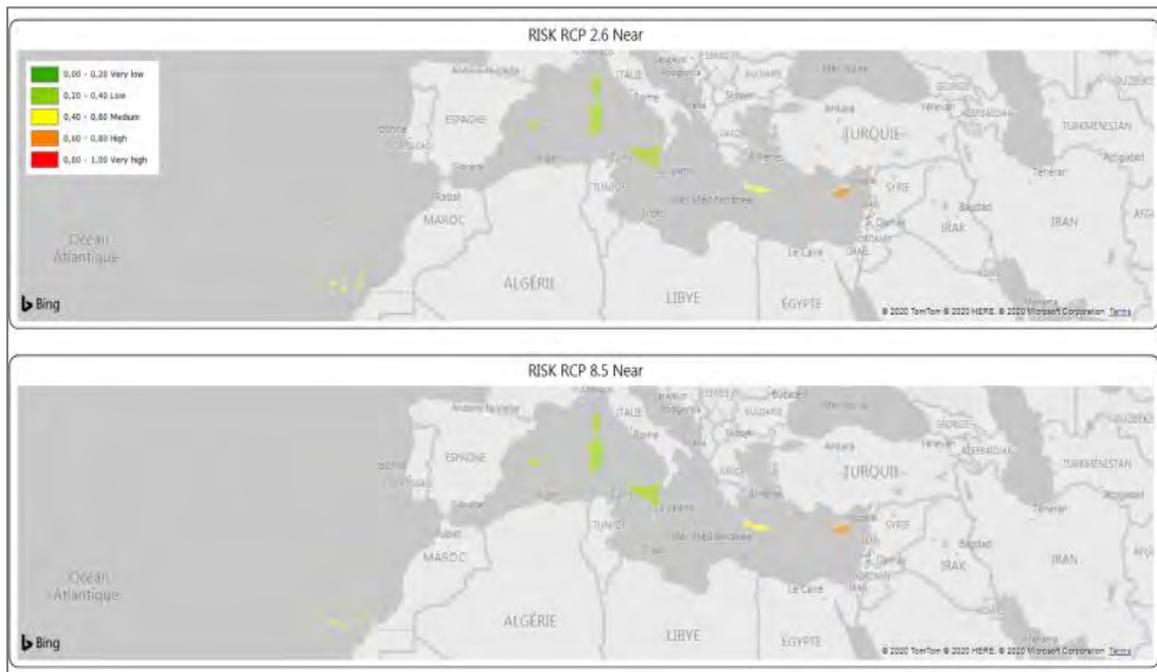


Figure 41: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

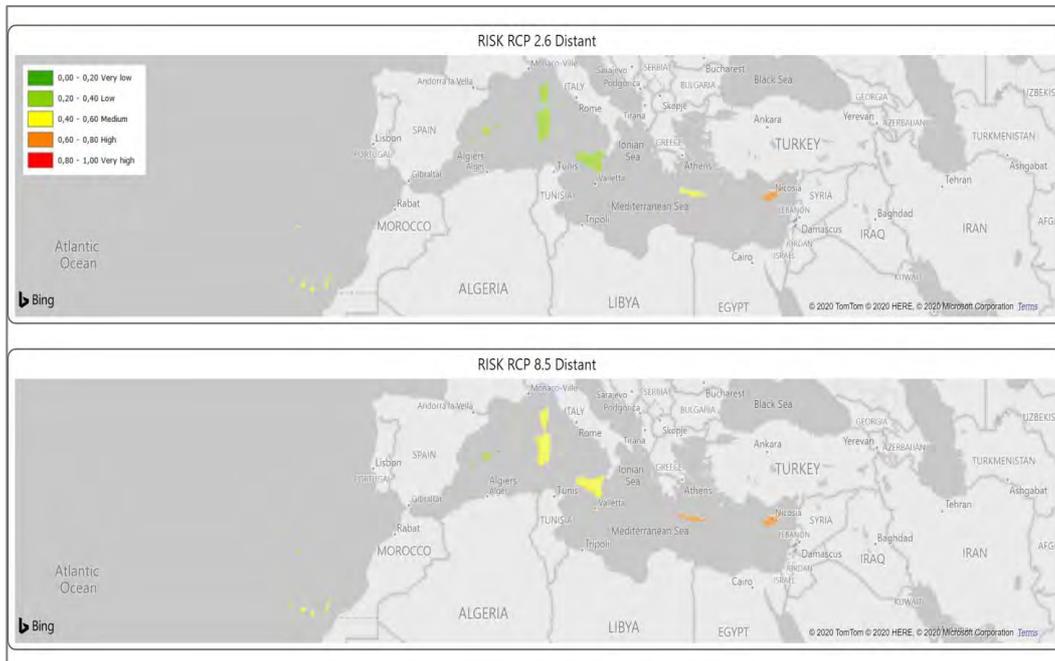


Figure 42: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Socimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

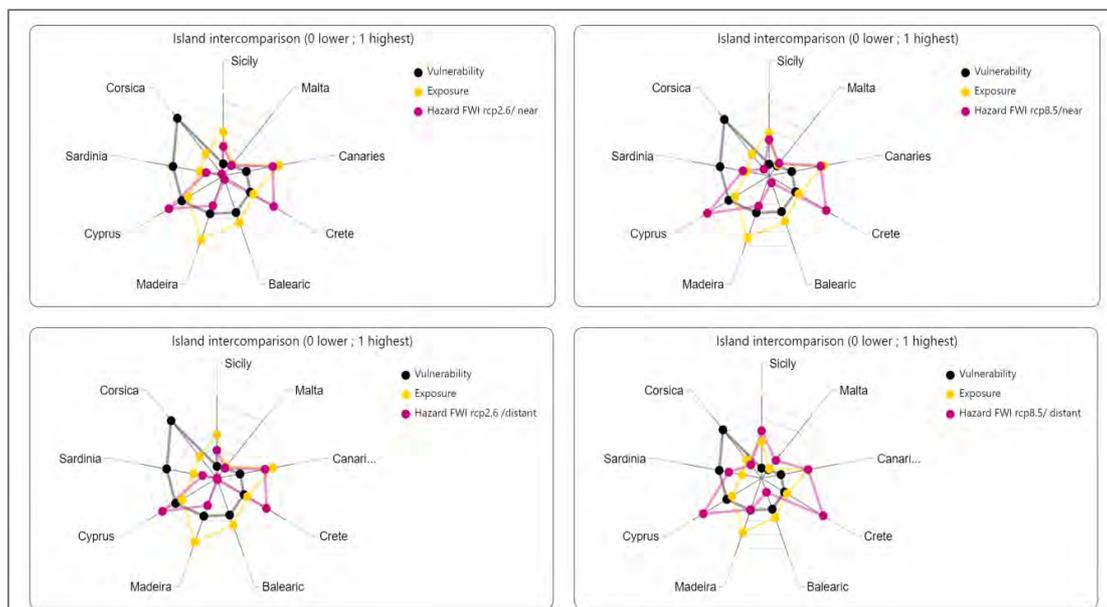


Figure 43: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Socimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Madeira island results

Considering, the reference period, the risk is medium and the component of exposure is the most represented. There is no change in the future for the category of risk.



Figure 44: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)



Figure 45: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Considering the exposure component, the level of exposure is the most represented in the calculation of the final risk scores.

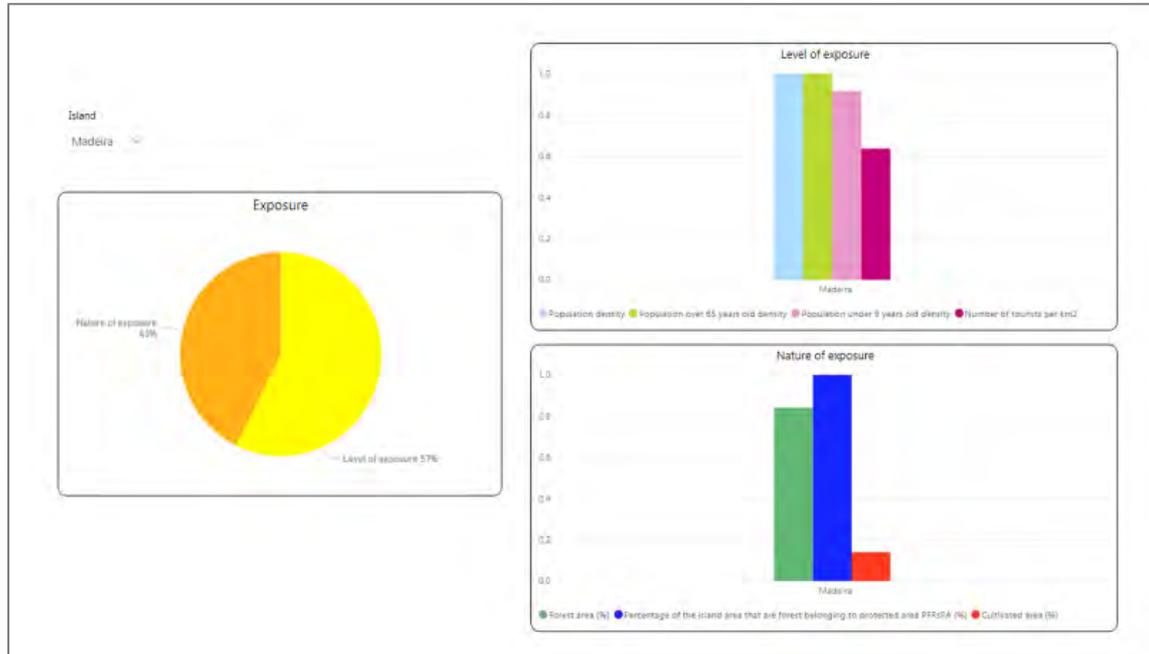


Figure 46: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure) per island

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Considering the vulnerability component, the sensitivity is the most represented.



Figure 47: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptative capacity and sensitivity)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

4.2 Aquaculture

In the framework of Soclimpact, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- 1) Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

- 2) Decrease in production due to an increase in surface water temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is also applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 7 steps for aquaculture, present risk and future risk are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful

operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: Corsica, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

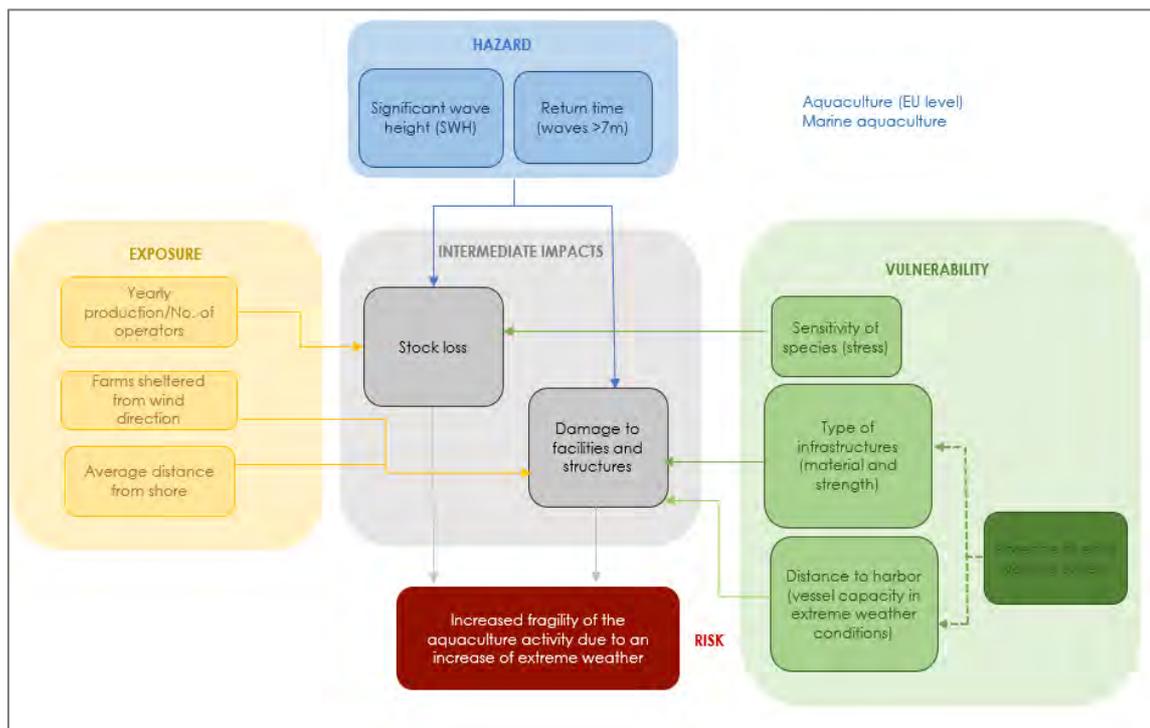


Figure 48: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [3.2](#)

Some indicators require data on the proportions of species farmed on a specific island. Therefore, a table with % of each species farmed on each island was prepared. This data was obtained directly from the IFPs or from the FAO or national statistics offices.

Table 8: Proportions of aquaculture species farmed per island.

Species	Proportion of species production			
	Mussels & clams	Tuna	Sea bream	Sea bass
Corsica	0.43		0.265	0.265
Cyprus			0.84	0.16
Madeira			1.0	
Malta		0.94	0.048	0.012
Sardinia	0.84		0.08	0.08
Sicily	0.44		0.3	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.

Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the

vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

Table 9: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.3	0.9

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 10: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event			
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: Increased sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 11: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species' threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

*Table 12: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress.
1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.*

<i>Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in the data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators
- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/ maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$x_{normalized} = \frac{(x - x_{min})}{(x_{max} - x_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

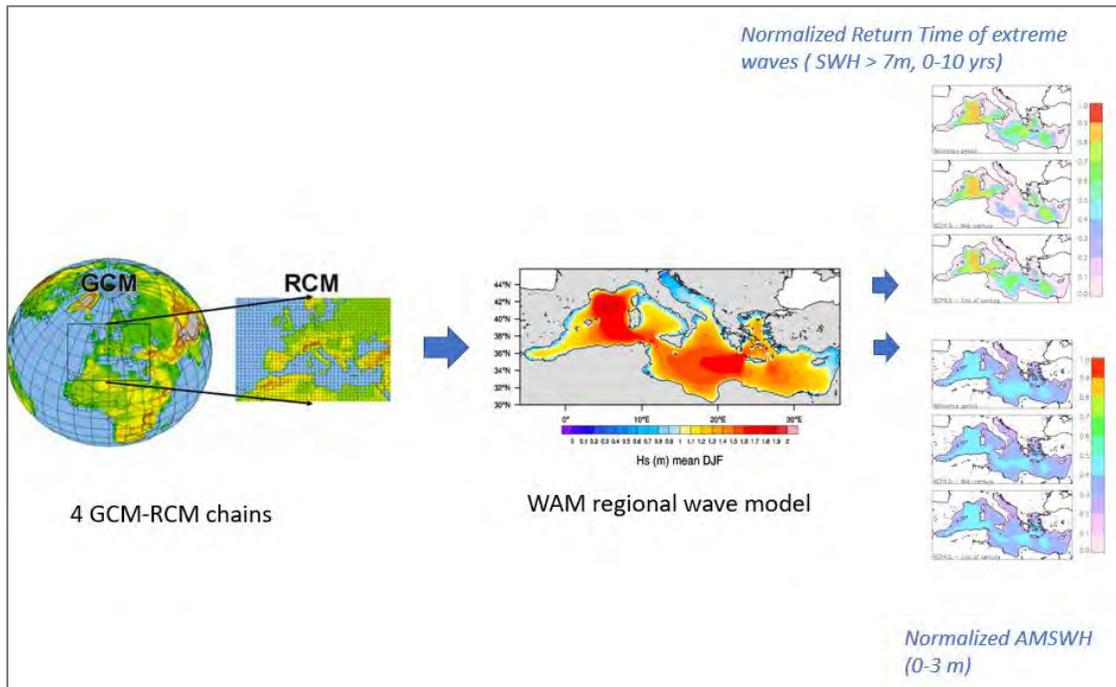


Figure 49: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which are fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater than 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk 1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in D4.4 of Soclimpact, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

Table 13: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula.

$RL, T=1-(1-1/T)**L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Therefore, using a combination of the normalised values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such as "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.

Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

Extreme weather events:

- farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
- sensitivity of species
- vulnerability of type of infrastructure
- presence of warning system

Sea surface temperature:

- estimated temperature sensitivity of species
- capacity to change species
- monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account. Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 14: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	<i>Sea surface temperature</i>	<i>Extreme events</i>
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:

$$s_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$

s – score

comp – component or subcomponent

ind – indicator

n – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = s_{haz} * w_{haz} + s_{exp} * w_{exp} + w_{vul} * (s_{sen} * w_{sen} + s_{ac} * w_{ac})$$

s – score

w – weight

haz – hazard

exp – exposure

vul – vulnerability

sen – sensitivity

ac – adaptive capacity

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather events



Table 15: Exposure and vulnerability indicators each island

Component Component Weight	Exposure 0.2					Vulnerability 0.2							
Sub-component Sub-component weight						Factor of sensitivity 0.75			Factors of adaptive capacity 0.25				
Indicator	Average Size of producers		Location of farms			Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Type of infrastructures (material and strength)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Distance to harbour (vessel capacity in extreme weather conditions) [average & m]		Absence of warning system	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Farms sheltered from wind direction	Average distance from shore (m)		Average of normalised indicators	Estimated sensitivity of species	Type of infrastructure (based on species)	Average of indicators	Average distance to harbour (m)		Presence of warning system	Average of normalised indicators
	Data	Normalised	Normalised	Data	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		Data	Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.4	644	0.16	0.20	0.7	0.5	0.59	4789	0.96	0	0.48
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.5	3923	1.00	0.53	0.6	0.4	0.48	4616	0.92	0	0.46
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	0.5	1731	0.44	0.74	0.3	0.3	0.31	4165	0.83	0	0.42
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.4	1193	0.30	0.27	0.9	0.6	0.71	2183	0.44	0	0.22
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.5	1000	0.25	0.27	0.7	0.5	0.61	5000	1.00	0	0.50

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Mediterranean islands

Hazards

Statistics of extreme events can significantly differ across the four model realizations

The hazard data for return time was derived from 3 different models; CMCC, CNRM and GUF. Since the data varies highly between models a best- and worst case scenario was executed where in the best-case scenario the lowest value (showing the lowest risk) between the models was used and in the worst case scenario the highest value was used. Distance between the best and the worst projection, give an estimate of uncertainty

Model projections for Average Significant Wave Height are in good agreement as to both pattern and values. Hazard was evaluated from ensemble mean, uncertainty from ensemble STD (not exceeding 15% - highest disagreement for highest values).

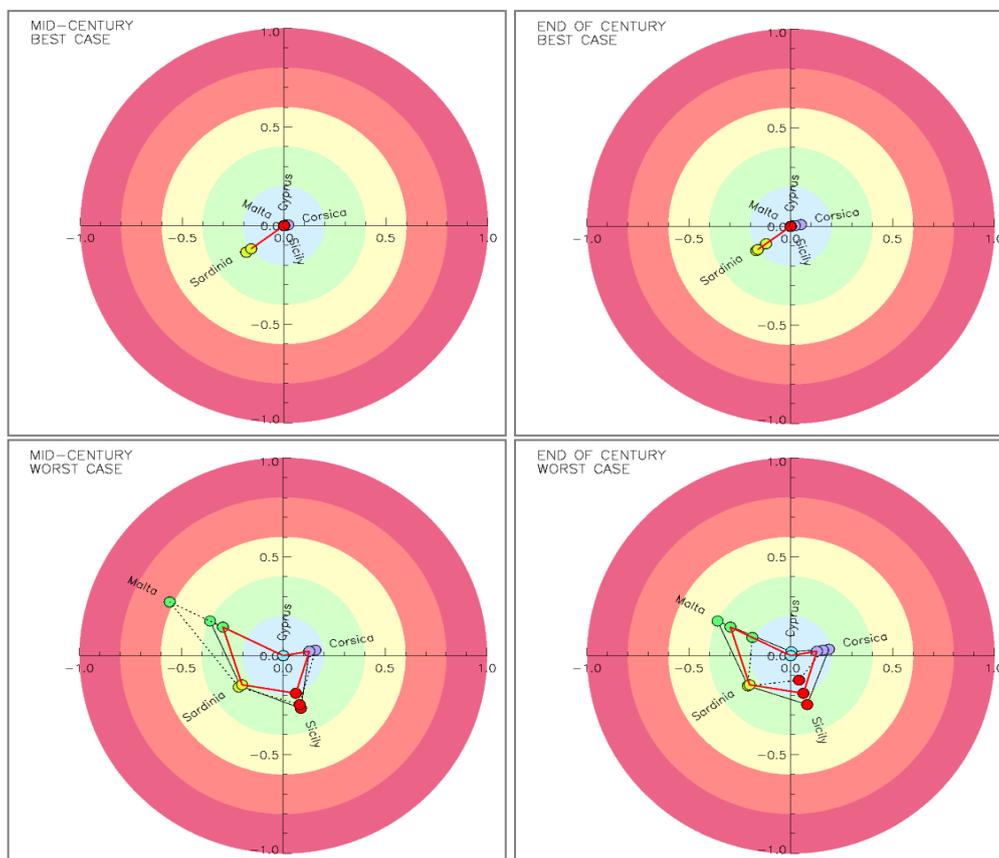


Figure 50: Results for return time in best- and worst-case scenarios for Mediterranean islands for reference period (red line), RCP 4.5 (dotted line) and RCP 8.5 (black line).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

"Worst" and "best" cases respectively refer to the least and most favorable projection in the set of models. For example return time, you will find that there is at least one model predicting no



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hazard for all islands except Sardinia with no significant variations across scenarios. In fact, all circles cluster and overlap at the centre, while those that represent Sardinia all lie very close to the limit between the two lower hazard classes.

On the other hand, at least one other model predicts appreciable yet low hazard for Corsica, Sicily and Sardinia, and hazard going from moderate (reference period, red) to medium (RCP8.5, solid black), to high (RCP4.5, dotted black) for Malta, while for Cyprus the hazard is irrelevant even for the most negative projection.

This means that

- the result for Sardinia and Cyprus is stable across models,
- models slightly disagree for Sicily and Corsica, but generally predict low hazard,
- the projection for Malta is affected by greater uncertainty for all scenarios.

This is due to the fact that Malta is located in the Sicily Channel, where the dynamics exhibit significant gradients in the direction perpendicular to the channel axis, which are differently represented by different models.

The worst and best cases do not necessarily come from the same model for all islands, that is, one model can predict the lowest hazard for Sicily and another one for Sardinia, and each of these projections is represented in the plot for the corresponding island.

Risk- Best-case scenario

Table 16: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.21
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Sardinia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.31
Sicily	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

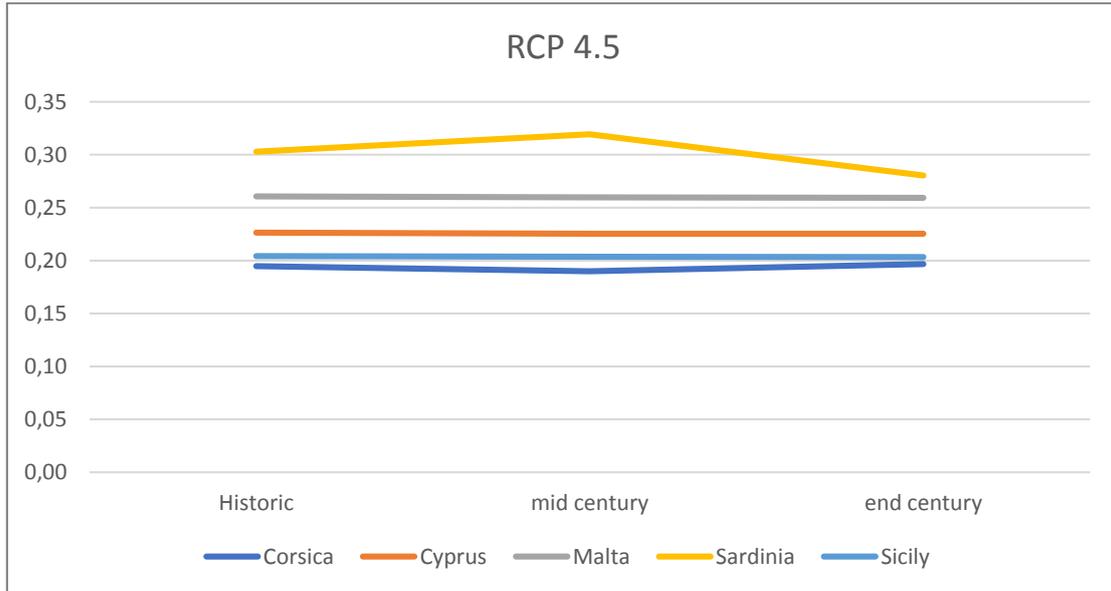


Figure 51: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

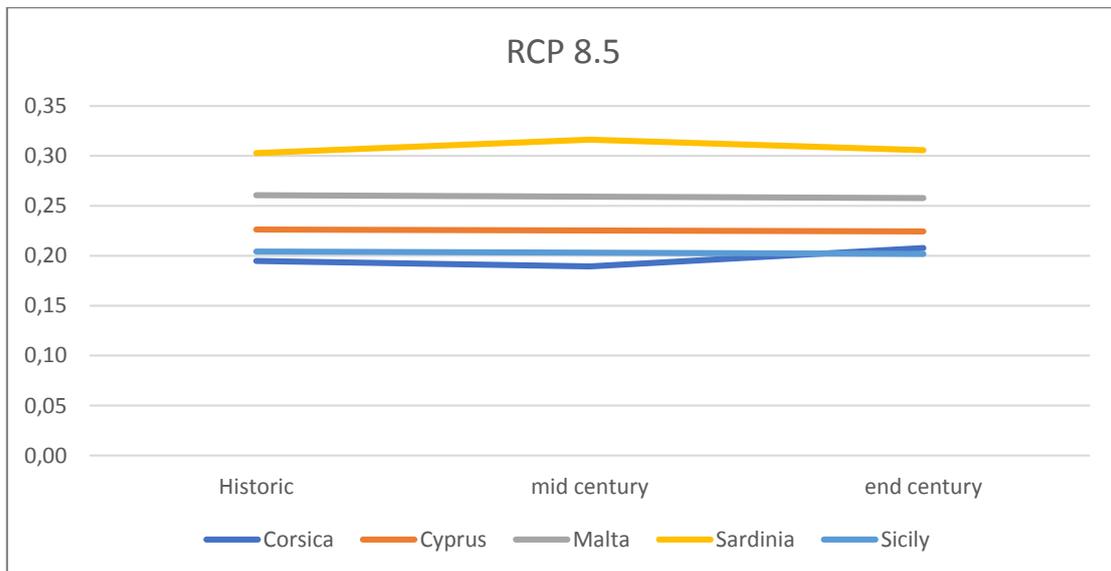


Figure 52: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Risk- Worst-case scenario

Table 17: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.26
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.42	0.45	0.56	0.45	0.36
Sardinia	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33
Sicily	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

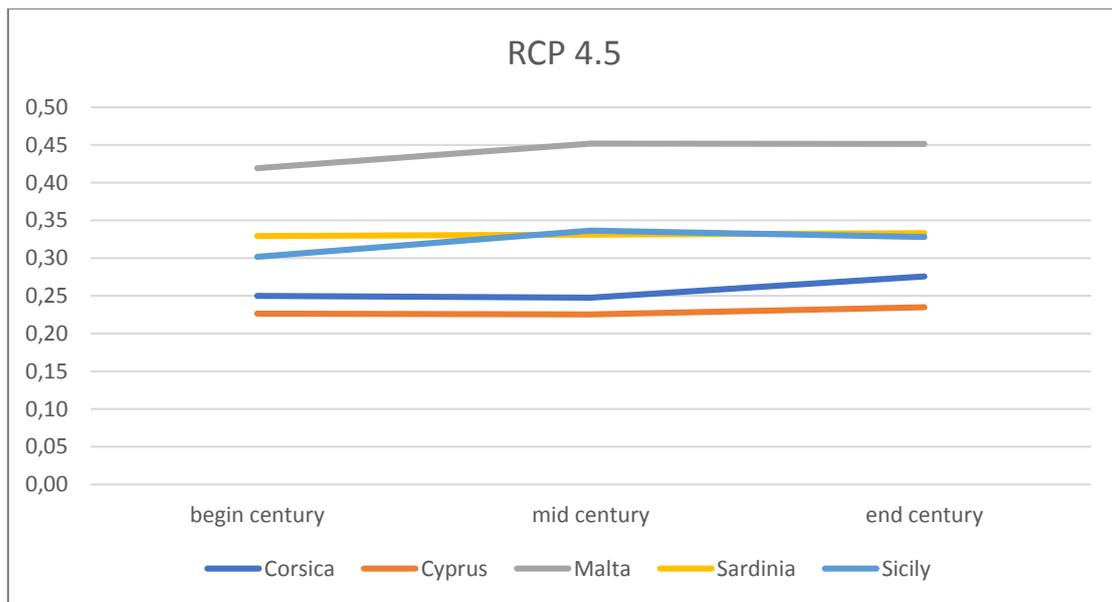


Figure 53: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

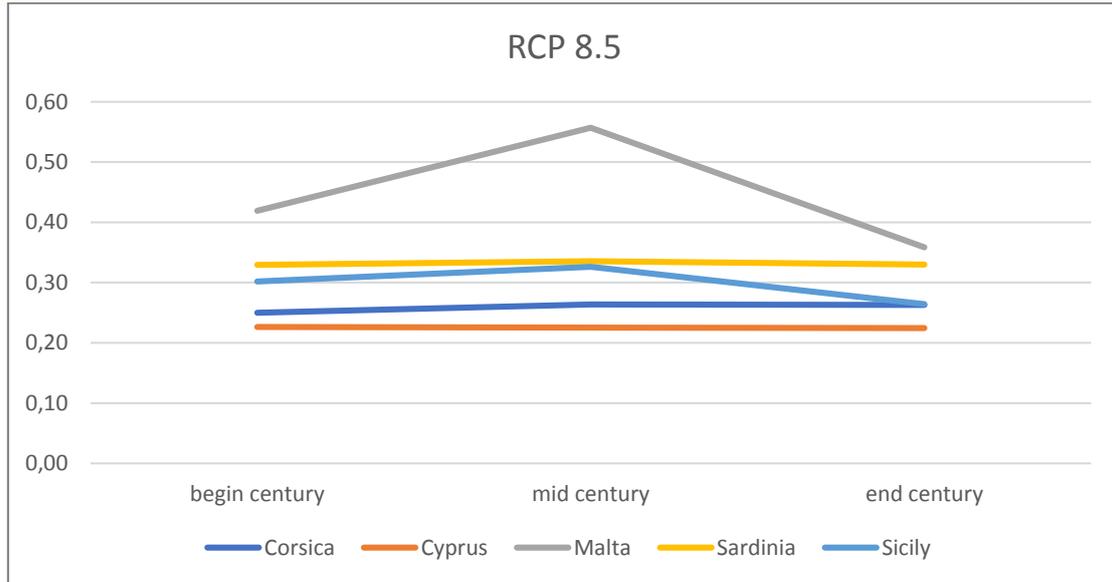


Figure 54: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Bigger islands were separated in areas since conditions can vary greatly in different parts of the island.

Table 18: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Mediterranean islands with large islands analysed on a local level using the worst-case scenario.

Worst case	Historic	RCP 4.5		RCP 8.5	
		mid century	end century	mid century	end century
Malta	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.56	0.36
Sicily North	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.30
Sicily East	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Sicily South	0.41	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.30
Corsica West	0.37	0.32	0.37	0.34	0.34
Corsica East	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
Sardinia West	0.40	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.44
Sardinia East	0.39	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.18
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For all islands and all RCPs, it can be concluded that there is no significant change in risk, even in the worst-case scenario, between the reference period, middle and end of the century. Malta, Sicily south and Sardinia west are found to be the most vulnerable with risk exceeding 0.45 due to a higher hazard risk. Malta also has the highest exposure of all islands. Malta has an increased risk mid-century in the worst case scenario, due to an increase in hazard.



Atlantic islands

Table 19: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Atlantic Islands

Risk	Hadley centre			ACCESS		
	Historic	RCP 8.5 Mid century	RCP 8.5 End-century	Historic	RCP 8.5 Mid century	RCP 8.5 End-century
Azores	0.83	0.76	0.79	0.15	0.41	0.67
Madeira	0.20	0	0.01	0	0	0

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For the Atlantic islands, 2 models are available (Hadley Centre and ACCESS) for data on return time. The results of these models are highly variable. For the Azores even the change of the risk is different, where the Hadley riley model shows a decrease in risk while ACCESS shows a significant increase in risk. Therefore, no conclusion can be made. For Madeira, the risk in the future will be nihil. Not considering probability, it could be concluded that climate change has no or a positive effect on the occurrence on extreme events in Madeira. However, since this data is not accurate, more work needs to be done.

Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Model projections are in good agreement with previous lower resolution ensemble estimates but offering greater detail along island shorelines. Uncertainty to be rigorously estimated from ensemble STD when new simulations of comparable resolution become available, but overall tendency regarded as robust.

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Table 20: Expose and vulnerability indicators, the data for each island and the normalized values.

Component Component weight	Exposure		Vulnerability				
	0.4		0.3				
Sub-component Sub-component weight			Factor of sensitivity		Factors of adaptive capacity		
			0.75		0.25		
Indicator	Average Size of producers	Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators	Average of normalised indicators	Temperature sensitivity of species (expert	Indicator	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Average of indicator



	Data	Normalised		guess)				
				Normalised		Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.12	0.7	0.7	0	1	0.5
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.29	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Madeira	125.3	0.05	0.05	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	1.00	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.19	0.9	0.9	0	1	0.5
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.14	0.8	0.8	0	1	0.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Risk

The values in this analysis is not an estimate of the risk but rather a ranking between islands since a lot of the data was normalised based on a min-max or fraction of the maximum of the islands. A proper risk assessment would need additional data from farmers and a detailed model of farming results as a function of temperature. Malta has a much higher risk than the other islands due to the high exposure, Malta's farm produce on average 3.5 to 22 times more than the farms on other islands.

Table 21: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature

	Historic	Mid century		End century	
Risk	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.30	0.34	0.41	0.38	0.42
Cyprus	0.40	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.59
Malta	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.80
Madeira	0.19	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.35
Sardinia	0.37	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.49
Sicily	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.48

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

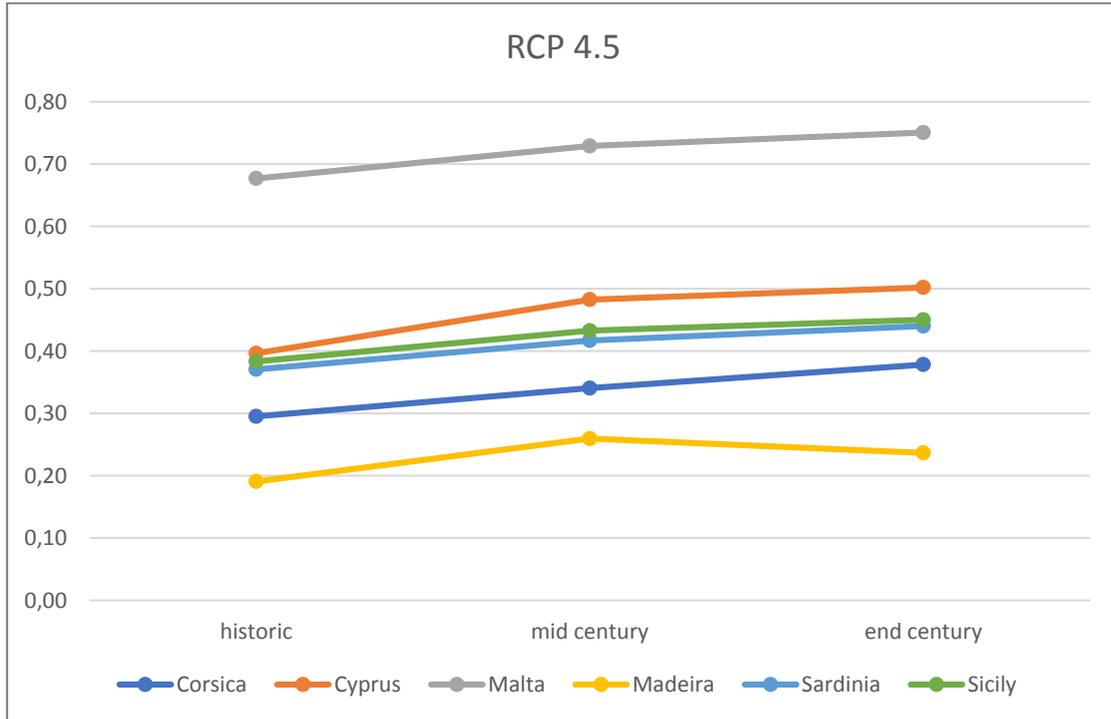


Figure 55: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

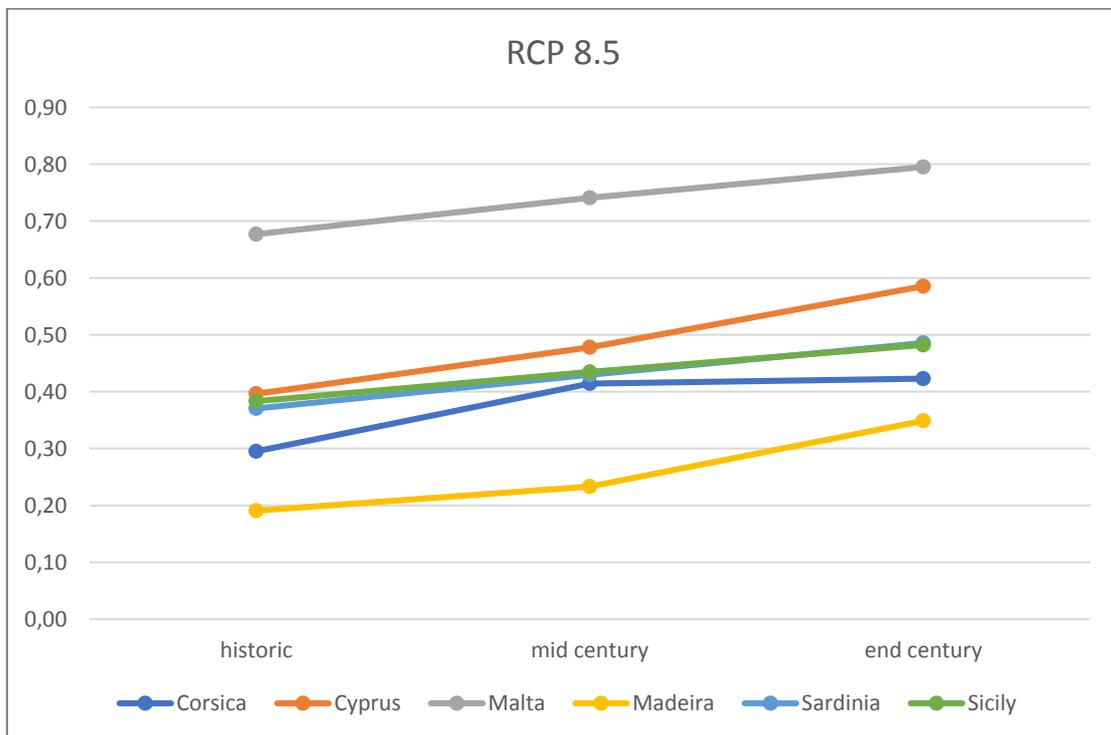


Figure 56: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)



4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.



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There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through an expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

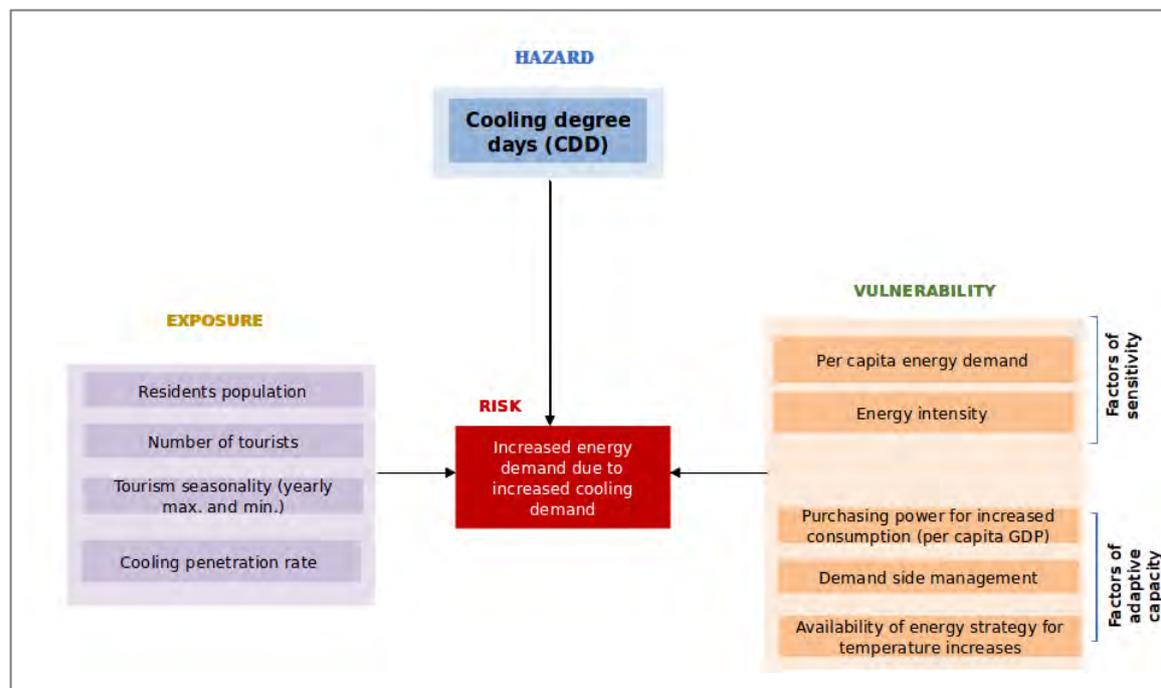


Figure 57: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

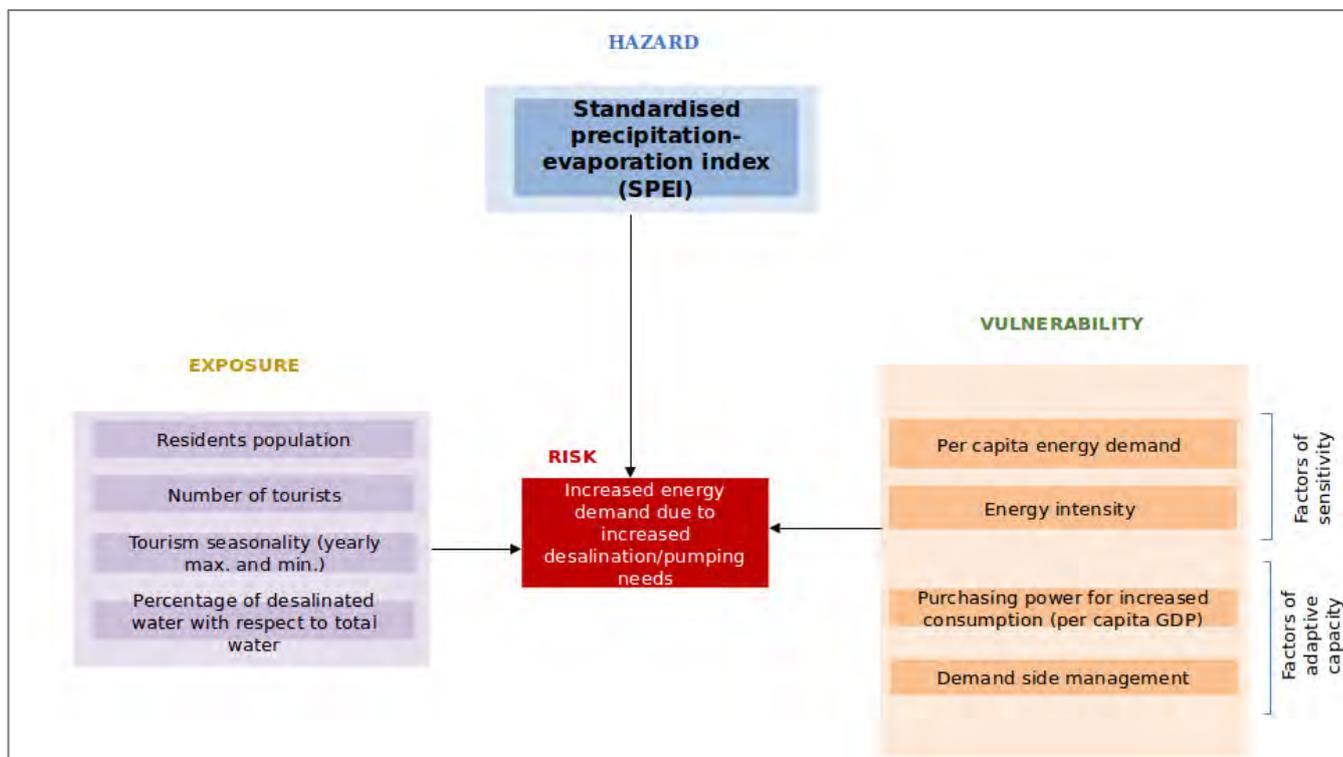


Figure 58: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.



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A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand..

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

It was not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Madeira. The criteria for the exclusion of the island was: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the hazard component. In the next tables we present the normalized hazard scores for the island. In this regard, the assessment was carried out on the normalized hazard indicators

Table 22: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Madeira

<i>Histori-cal ref.(1986- 2005)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
CDD	0.01 (2.6)	0.06 (8.5)	0.20	0.00	0.67
SPEI	0.00		0.54	0.52	0.20
			Combined		0.47

<i>RCP2.6 (2046-2065)</i>	<i>Demand</i>		<i>Supply:</i>		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
CDD	0.04		0.7	0.7	0.8
SPEI	0.32		0.6	0.6	0.9
			Combined		1.0



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**RCP8.5
(2046-2065)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	0.18
SPEI	0.60

<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.6	0.5	0.5
Solar PV	0.4	0.6	0.1
Combined			0.6

**RCP2.6
(2081-2100)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	0.04
SPEI	0.28

<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.8	0.7	0.8
Solar PV	0.7	0.7	0.9
Combined			1.0

**RCP8.5
(2081-2100)**

<i>Demand</i>	
CDD	0.35
SPEI	0.96

<i>Supply:</i>	Productivity change		Droughts change
Wind	0.6	0.5	0.5
Solar PV	0.3	0.6	0.0
Combined			0.5

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

For Madeira, CDD scores are presently very low, and should remain in this category except under RCP8.5 scenario by the end of the century. This implies only limited increases in cooling energy demand at least until mid-century. The projected evolution of SPEI scores is clearly worse. Under RCP2.6, this score increases to 0.32 by mid-century, stabilising thereafter. Under the high-emissions scenario, SPEI increase is already strong by mid-century, reaching almost the maximum score by the end of the century. This could imply a substantial pressure on water resources. Presently, there is only a desalination plant in the smallest island, Porto Santo. The observed time-series from this desalination plant show nevertheless the positive impact of efficiency measures, as the specific consumption has decreased from 5.5 kWh/m³ in 2006 to 4 kWh/m³, and the yearly maximum desalination consumption has also decreased from the highest value attained in August 2007 (807 MWh) to a clearly lower value of 626 MWh in August 2017 (this is the highest value in the last decade).

Regarding the potential of renewable energies, wind energy resources are really high. Wind energy is already a relevant energy source in Madeira, with a share of 12.6% in 2018. Wind variability is lower than for the other islands, except Canary Islands. PV energy had a share of 3.5% in 2018 (Electricidade da Madeira, 2019). Present PV productivity scores from the climate



models show only medium scores, but these values should be taken with caution in this case, as they are average values over the island. The spatial resolution of the available models is limited (50 km) and is not able to capture in detail the distribution of surface solar radiation, which shows strong contrasts in Madeira due to the combined effect of the frequent NE trade winds and the mountain range that is oriented perpendicularly to it.

Future projections of renewable energy indicators show a marked contrast between RCP2.6 and RCP8.5. The productivity of both RES would decrease somewhat under RCP2.6, while it would remain roughly constant under RCP8.5. It should be taken into account that RCP2.6 data are more uncertain, as only one climate model simulation was available.

There is a comparatively strong improvement in PV stability under RCP8.5 scenario, coincident with the large increase in SPEI score. The droughts scores for both RES would be worse under RCP2.6, but there is more uncertainty in the results for this scenario as explained before.

The share of renewables is already fairly high in Madeira (about 30%), which is a remarkable value for an island without interconnections to mainland. In the ongoing process of increasing the share of RES, the issue of storage is receiving much attention (Miguel et al., 2017), and pumped storage is already part of the system in Madeira. The large and more stable offshore wind resources could play an important role in an electrical system with higher RES shares. In this respect, the special characteristics of the wind field, heavily influenced by the trade winds in the summer months, could be taken advantage of. The configuration of the mountains, perpendicular to the trade winds, generates strong and rather persistent winds near to the western and eastern extremes of the island as the flow is forced to go around the island. This could be a source of large wind energy resources, complementary to hydroelectric power that diminishes strongly in summer (Electricidade da Madeira, 2019). Solar PV participation should also be increased strongly due to its overall stability characteristics and also due to its summer maximum. Measures along these lines could limit the need for storage.

**** Islands' comparison and challenges***

- The contrast between the mitigation scenario (RCP2.6) and the high-emissions scenario is drastic. Not only are the hazard scores much lower for RCP2.6, but they even tend to decrease slightly during the second half of the century, while for RCP8.5 the hazard scores tend to rise in a sustained way.
- The Atlantic islands show a more contained increase of CDD than the Mediterranean islands, while the SPEI decrease is similar in both basins. One reason for this different behaviour can be the higher sea surface temperatures of the Mediterranean Sea in summer. Another factor may be the different wind regimes in summer, as trade winds are strong and persistent over Canary Islands and Madeira, contributing to moderate temperatures, while over the Mediterranean Sea winds are generally low in summer.
- A clear demand management option for reducing cooling demand is the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings. The energy efficiency directive of the EU sets binding targets for all European countries, but the data about the efficiency classes of buildings are rather limited and difficult to access. The scarce data available indicate that there is much room for



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improvement in this respect. A consequent implementation of energy efficiency measures in buildings could reduce clearly the effect of increasing temperatures on energy demand.

- Digitalisation is key in EU strategies. In this respect, demand side management options for adaptation to generation peaks and troughs should be developed as much as possible through digitalisation, prioritising automatic instead of manual adaptation.
- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- In general, projections show a decreasing tendency of wind energy productivity over the Mediterranean region, with a more important decrease for the RCP8.5 scenario. The main exception is Crete, which shows a consistent increasing tendency.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).
- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.



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- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).
- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.
- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).
- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.
- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over



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all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.



Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified. These are: i) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves, ii) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events and iii) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

The operationalization was applied to the third one (risk of isolation due to transport disruption) which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The selection of islands to be included in the analysis was based on the importance and dependency on the Maritime Transport sector and on data availability.

Although Madeira is highly dependent of this sector, the lack of reliable and consistent data limited the analysis, especially in regard:

- Value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot)
- Number of renovated infrastructure (NAgePo).
- Percentage of renewables (PEnRR),
- Early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt).

Nevertheless, this information is also useful at the moment of evaluating and ranking adaptation measures for the islands.



5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 252 tourists visiting Madeira whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

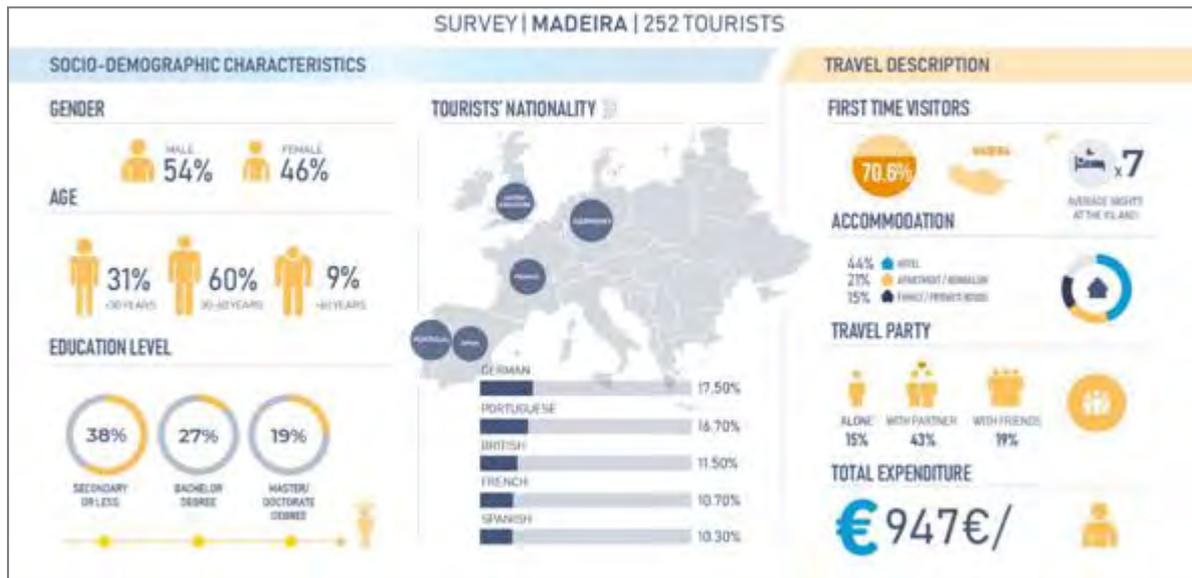


Figure 59: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Madeira

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious disease (84.90% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where marine wildlife has disappeared to a large extent (80.2%) or where temperature becomes uncomfortably hot (69.8%). Consequently, policies related to marine habitat restoration (10.3€/day), water supply reinforcement (8.2€/day), and the prevention of infectious diseases (5.4€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting this island.

Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.



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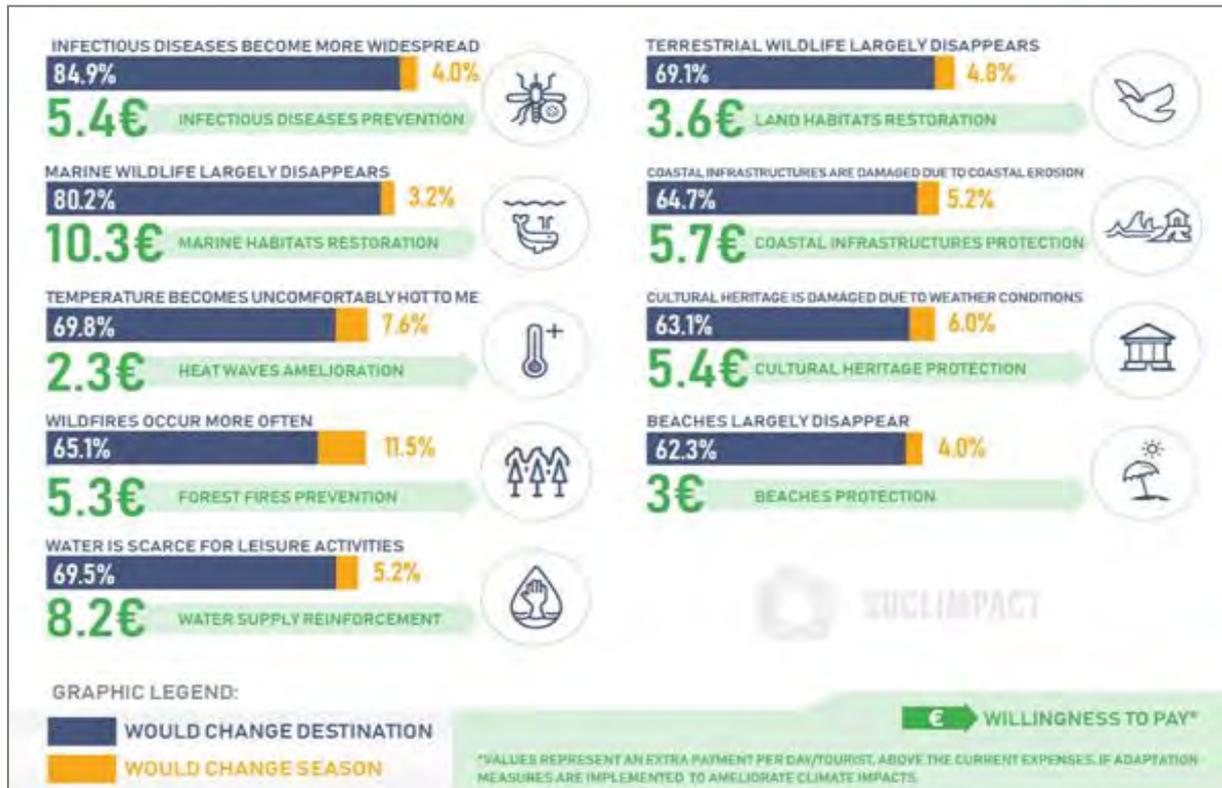


Figure 60: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting Madeira

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperatures on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold by specie, and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant) were analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases in the region (mean values), with respect to the reference period.

To do this, we assume that the total production of the region is Seabream (SB). A model of production function is calculated using the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios.

In both scenarios, the production function will not be negatively affected by the increased sea temperature, as the projected values are under the lethal threshold of the fish specie (24°C). There is only an apparent contradiction with the analysis provided in the previous section (risk assessment). While the risk analysis considered many other aspects of vulnerability and exposure, the analysis here only includes temperature and production, assuming that the rest of variables will not intervene.

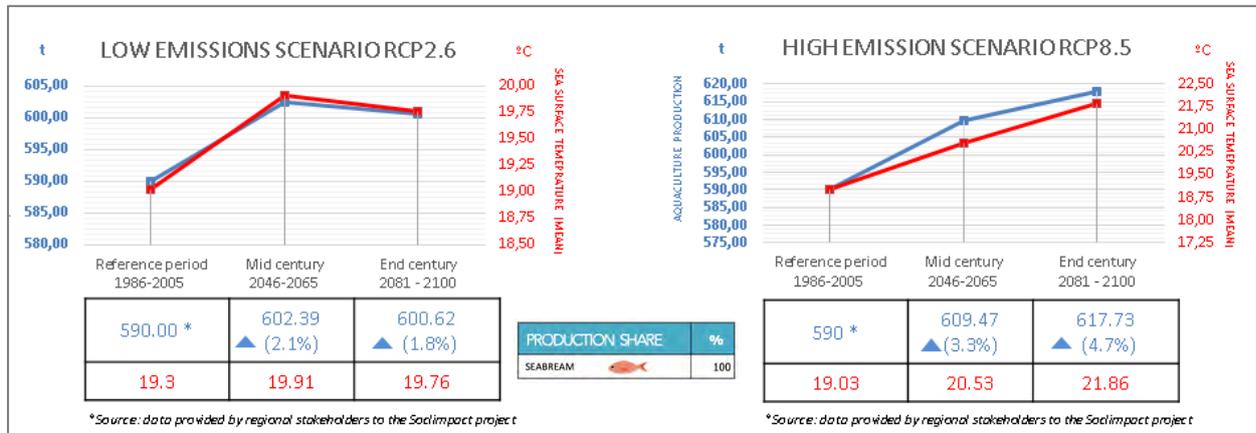


Figure 61: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature
 Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (CDD) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (GWh/year) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to almost 411 CDD⁷. This value could be, for example, a combination of 100 days with temperatures of 20°C (200CDD) and other 70 days with temperatures of 21°C (211CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be about 600%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

⁷ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18)= 200CDD

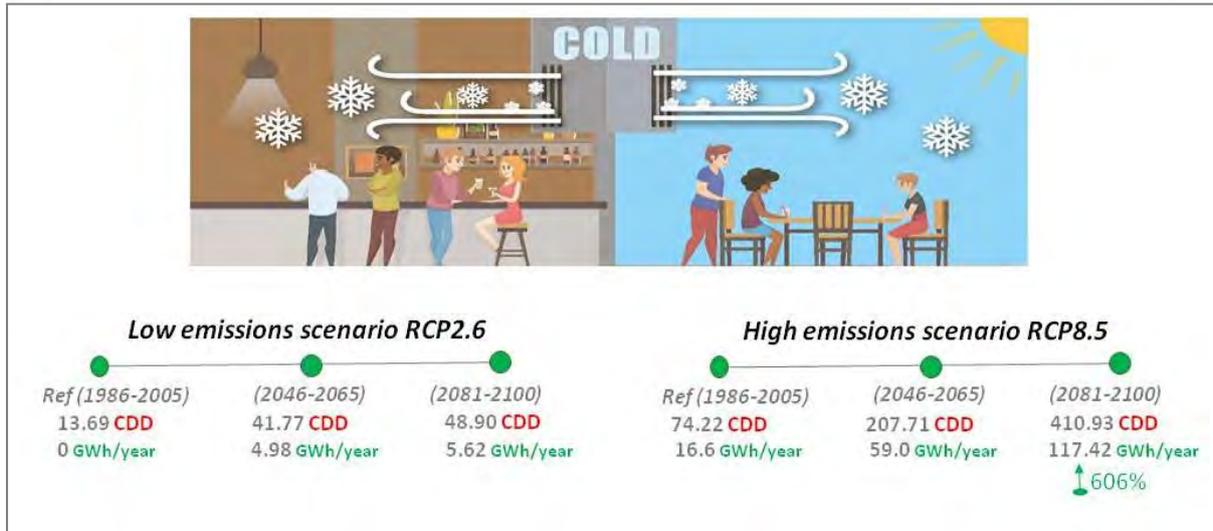


Figure 62: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Madeira under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (GWh/year) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the low emissions scenario (RCP2.6), there are not significant changes in the SPEI indicator, that will remain in its "normal" level, as it is nowadays. Under RCP8.5 the scenario alerts on a severe aridity leading to an increase of 159% of the energy demand.

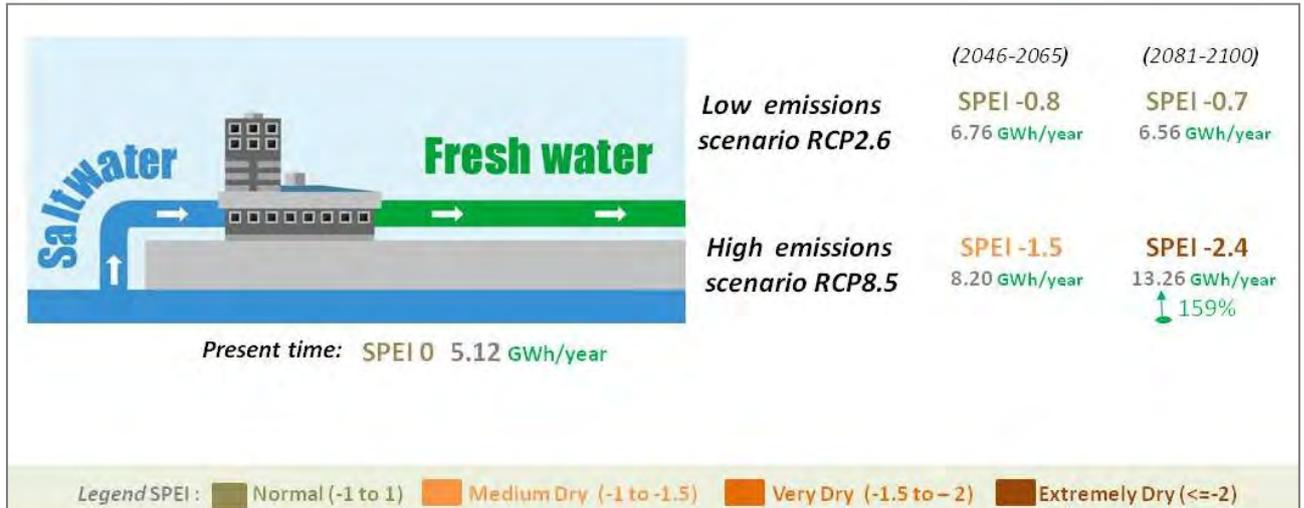


Figure 63: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Madeira under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all porsts' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase until 0.98 million euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

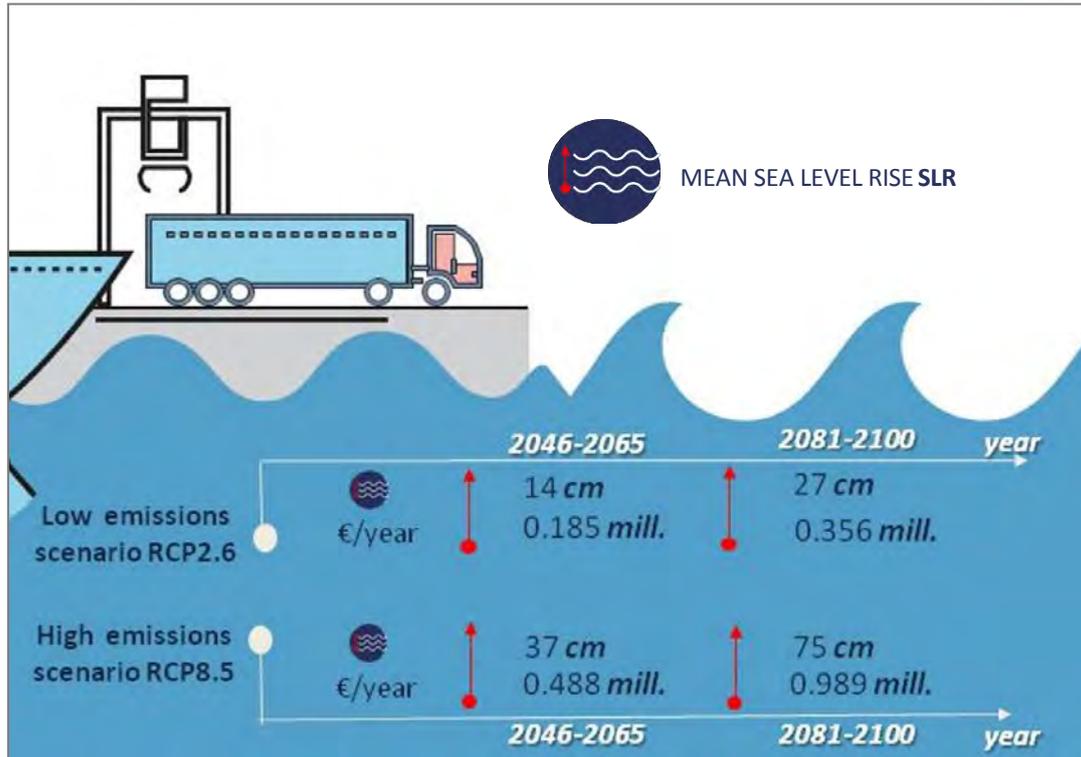


Figure 64: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Madeira under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the island of Madeira. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 15 scenarios have been quantified for Madeira. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:



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1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 23: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-14.35	1.7	-0.20
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-17.02	41.1	-0.25
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-23.25	3.2	-0.54
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-27.37	8.4	-0.69

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -1.2% and -3.5% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -2% and -4.0% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative change over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to -3.4% in the RCP2.6 and -3.7% in the RCP8.5.

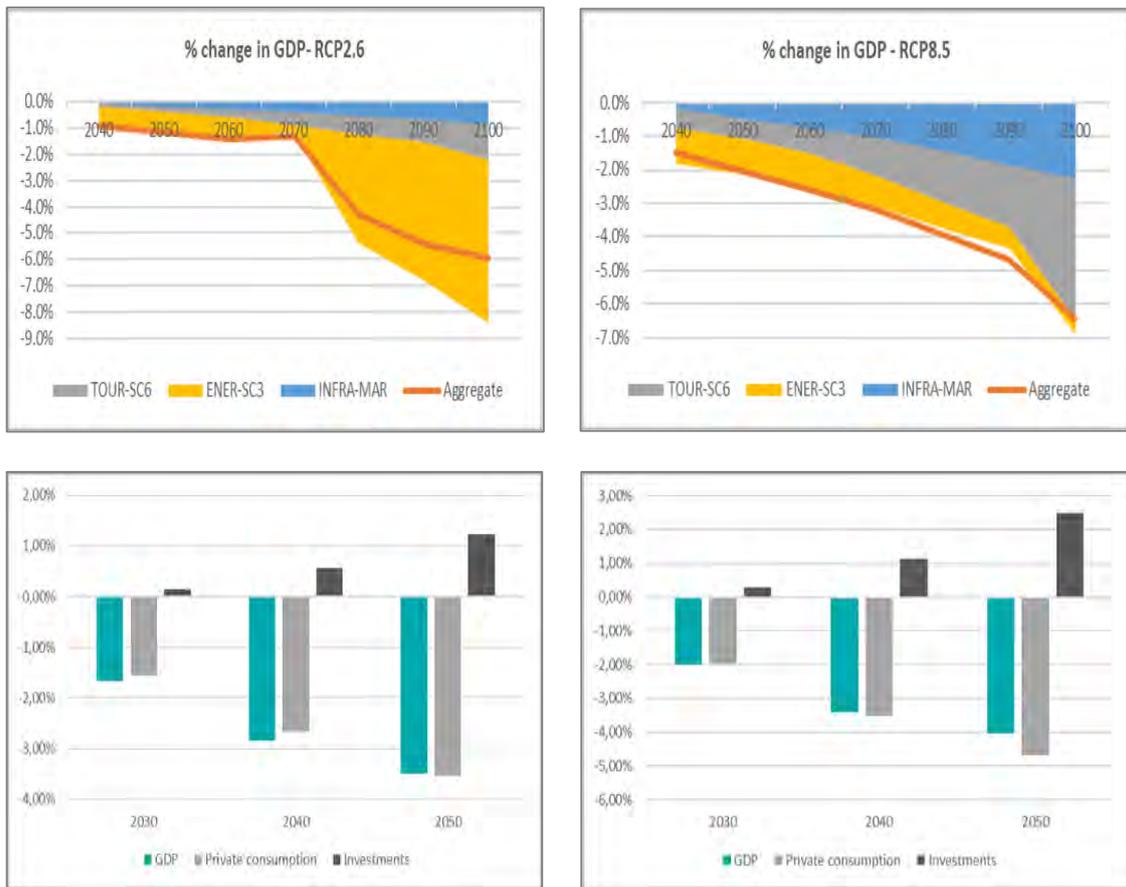


Figure 65: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the manufacturing sector in both models. The GINFORS also foresees increased activity in the primary production sectors and consumer goods while in the GEM-E3-ISL primary production increases only in the RCP2.6 while in the RCP8.5 the magnitude of changes leads to a decrease in their activity levels.



Figure 66: Production percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 0.2% in the RCP2.6 and by 0.6% in the RCP8.5.



Figure 67: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation, limits and relevant documents

The Autonomous Region of Madeira is a signatory to three commitments in the scope of Climate Change mitigation. the [Under2 Memorandum of Understanding](#) at a regional level. the [Pact of Islands](#) at an island level and the [Covenant of Mayors](#). at a local level.

The Under2 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a climate agreement for subnational governments. By [signing the agreement on October 2017](#). the Autonomous Region of Madeira commits to achieve a 90% reduction in CO₂ emissions until 2050. in comparison to 1990 – the level of emission reduction necessary to limit global warming to under 2°C by the end of this century. Governments who sign or ratify the Under2 MOU become part of the Under2 Coalition. that is a global community of state and regional governments committed to ambitious climate action in line with the Paris Agreement.

The [Pact of Islands signed by the Regional Government on April 2011](#) is an instrument where the island's authorities commit to go beyond the objectives set by the EU for 2020. reducing the CO₂ emissions in their respective territories by at least 20%. contributing to the achievement of the sustainable goals of the European Union for the year 2020.



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The mitigation actions to achieve the Pact of Islands commitment are stated in the Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs), that were developed by AREAM for Madeira and Porto Santo Islands under the [ISLEPACT project](#), co-financed by DG TREN and *Empresa de Electricidade da Madeira* (EEM).

According to these plans, the future policies for energy will be oriented to ensure the security of energy supply, economic and environmental sustainability of the sector and quality of energy services, and to contribute to job creation, regional added value and competitiveness of the regional economy.

At a local level, SEAPs with local mitigation measures were also developed by AREAM for 9 municipalities under the [project PACTO DE AUTARCAS](#), financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Municipalities of Machico, Santana, São Vicente, Porto Moniz, Calheta, Ponta do Sol, Ribeira Brava, Câmara de Lobos and Porto Santo.

For 2030 and 2050, at regional and local levels, Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) are being developed by AREAM for the Autonomous Region of Madeira and 7 municipalities, under Horizon 2020, in the scope of the [C-TRACK 50 project](#), that will present mitigation and adaptation measures at regional and local levels. Concerning mitigation, the objective is, in relation with 1990, to reduce at least 40% of emissions by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality in 2050, by reducing at least 85% of emissions at local level combined with carbon sequestration.

The [MADEIRA 2020 Regional Smart Specialization Strategy \(RIS3\)](#) is also an important instrument that identifies the strategic areas for the Autonomous Region of Madeira, addressing different interactions with climate change mitigation and adaptation:

- Tourism;
- Sea Resources and Technologies;
- Health and wellness;
- Agri-Food Quality;
- Sustainability, maintenance and infrastructure management;
- Energy, Mobility and Climate Change;
- Information and Communication Technologies.

Specifically concerning Adaptation, in September 2015, Madeira approved the [Strategy CLIMA-Madeira - Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Autonomous Region of Madeira](#). This strategy aims to:

- Enhance the knowledge about the relationship between the climatic system and the natural and human systems;
- Reduce the vulnerability for the impacts of climate change;
- Explore the opportunities created by climate change;
- Promote adaptation measures based on evidences from scientific studies and good practices;
- Integrate the adaptation measures in the current governmental instruments;
- Promote the involvement and synergies among the stakeholders in the process of adaptation.



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Several instruments are being developed to increase the adaptation capacity namely to reduce the risk of flash floods and forest fires. It should be noted that, in the last decade, several extreme climatic events have caused floods and forest fires with high gravity, namely:

- Flash flood on 20th February 2010: a heavy rain in the high peaks of Madeira caused a massive flash flood in Funchal and Ribeira Brava causing 47 victims, 250 wounded, 600 displaced persons, and 217 million € in damages, affecting the commerce, public utility services (electric grid, water supply), infrastructures (roads and ports) and the tourism activity.
- Flash flood in Porto da Cruz on 28th and 29th November 2013: a heavy rain on the north coast of Madeira caused massive landslides that destroyed houses and roads in the town of Porto da Cruz.
- Fires on 18th July 2012: This fire burned several houses and forest area, displacing about 100 persons.
- Fires 8-9th August 2016: This fire started in the forest area and reached the Funchal city centre causing 3 victims and 61 million € of damages in the city infrastructures with more than 300 buildings affected, displacing about 1000 persons.

After the Flash flood of 20th February 2010, the Madeira Alluvial Risk Assessment Study (EARAM1)⁸ was developed that allowed to assess and characterize the risks associated with this type of flood (alluvial), establishes the principles that should guide interventions against its effects and provides elements to justify the investments in the recovery and protection of populations and infrastructures. EARAM1 proposes a set of guiding principles for protection measures, grouped and characterized in six types of actions:

- Retention of solid material;
- Control solid material transport;
- Vulnerability mitigation of exposed areas;
- Control of risk exposure;
- Forecast and warning - Structured forecast system;
- Training and information to the public.

In 2017, the [Plan for the risk of flood management of the Autonomous Region of Madeira \(PGRI-RAM 2016-2021\)](#), was developed with the following strategic objectives:

- Increase the perception of the risk of flooding and of the strategies of action in the population and social and economic agents;
- Improve the knowledge and the forecasting capacity to adequate the flood risk management;
- Improve spatial planning and exposure management in flooded areas;
- Improve resilience and decrease the vulnerability of elements located in the areas of possible flooding;
- Contribute to improving or maintaining the good condition of water bodies.

⁸ https://poseur.portugal2020.pt/media/41664/sistema-de-alerta-de-aluvi%C3%B5es-na-ram_srei.pdf



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Madeira already has an [early warning system of flash floods](#). It can predict a flash flood six hours in advance. The system's name is Flash Flood Alert Systems (SAARAM) and was developed by LREC – Laboratório Regional de Engenharia Civil.

Madeira is also developing the Regional Strategy Against Forest Fires (PRDFCI) that will be concluded by August 2020.

Concerning the financial resources to implement mitigation and adaptation measures stated in the existing planning instruments and studies, in addition to national, regional and local financial resources, the structural funds are a key resource.

The Regional Strategic Orientation Document [Compromisso Madeira@2020](#) established the framework for the implementation of the structural funds during the 2014-2020 programming period. The document states that it is important to develop an upstream work to reinforce the knowledge about future and current events related to climate change, integrating international networks of research and sharing the knowledge and the good practices of intervention. In parallel, Compromisso Madeira 2020 underlines the need to develop approaches of interaction among different regional authorities (public health, tourism and leisure, water resources, coastal areas, agriculture, forests, etc.) to identify intervention measures that assure ([Compromisso Madeira@2020 - Page 42 and 43](#)):

- Implementation of preventive measures in the field of Civil Protection that contribute to the improvement of the population's quality of life, to its safety and assets;
- Dissemination of scientific knowledge and good practices of adaptation;
- Formulation of anticipatory measures to mitigate vulnerabilities and climate change effects;
- Elaboration of strategic and operational orientations for adaptation to climate change, on global and sectorial terms;
- Creation of an integrated information system that allows the development of databases and the indicators generation for the identification and prospective management of the main health risks related to climate change, e.g. floods (at coastal level and water courses), extreme temperatures, air and ozone pollution and vector-borne diseases.

In the current framework programme several measures of mitigation and adaptation were implemented with structural funds, namely in the field of data collection, planning, risk assessment and management instruments, warning systems, and water and energy storage.

As part of the preparation for the next framework programme, the Madeira 2030 Strategic Orientation Document (version of October 2019) was prepared, in which, with a direct link to climate change, two of the region's strategic challenges stand out:

- Consolidation of regional value chains (Tourism / Leisure; Blue Economy; Knowledge Services; and Energy and Sustainable Mobility)
- Fostering innovative experiences in adapting to Climate Change and Energy Transition in crucial areas of water, soil, biodiversity and energy sources management, focusing on critical territories and valuing the creation of innovation and experimentation relationships with the priorities in regional smart specialization.



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Within the scope of this Challenge, the Autonomous Region of Madeira is equipped with recent sectoral planning instruments and others in the final phase (Integrated Strategic Transport Plan, Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan, Regional Agenda for the Circular Economy, CLIMA-Madeira Strategy, Sustainable Energy, Waste Management Plan, PROT RAM - 1st phase....) that identify specific priorities and action measures that should inspire public guidelines for strategic and operational management and allocation of public, national and regional public funding resources.

Table 24: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

Specific limits and obstacle
<p>Limitation faced by Madeira are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The absence of equipment's to systematically collect representative climatic data for Madeira Island namely sea temperature, wave characteristics, currents; - The small and isolated electricity grid limits the penetration of intermittent renewable energies; - The financing limitations to invest in adaptation measures such as: water collection and storage solutions and reforestation.
Relevant documents
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP) in the scope of Pact of Islands - SEAP for Madeira Island - SEAP for Porto Santo Island - Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP) in the scope of Covenant of mayors for climate and energy: <p>Climate change adaptation documents: Strategy CLIMA-Madeira, strategy for adaptation to climate change of the Autonomous Region of Madeira. This strategic document aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance the knowledge about the relation between the climatic system and the natural and human systems; - Reduce the vulnerability for the impacts of climate change; - Explore the opportunities created by climate change; - Promote adaptation measures based on evidences from scientific studies and good practices; - Integrate the adaptations measures in the current governmental instruments; - Promote the involvement and the synergies among the interested parts in the process of adaptation. <p>Link: http://clima-madeira.pt/uploads/public/estr_clima_web.pdf</p> <p>Plan for the risk of flood management of the Autonomous Region of Madeira (PGRI-RAM 2016-2021) – in the Link below it can be find the Google Drive folder with the documents regarding the studies of Flooding Risk. Link:</p> <p>Assessing the flood risk in Madeira Island – this article contains a set of measures and instruments, namely structural measures that aim the mitigation of the damages caused by the</p>



heavy rains.

Hydrogeomorphological risks – In the page 77 it can be find the measures proposed to reinforce the adaptation capacity of Madeira island regarding the risk of floods

Link: http://clima-madeira.pt/uploads/public/rel_hidrogeo.pdf

Heavy Rainfall Events and Mass Movements in the Funchal Area (Madeira, Portugal): Spatial Analysis and Susceptibility Assessment_(Sérgio Lopes, Marcelo Fragoso and António Lopes). published on 15th January 2020. presents new information on the spatial distribution of intense rainfall and a new map of susceptibility to the formation of mass movements in the mountainous streams of the municipality of Funchal, the capital of the Autonomous Region of Madeira, an archipelago of Portugal.

Source: Deliverable [7.1](#) Conceptual framework



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APPENDIX 9

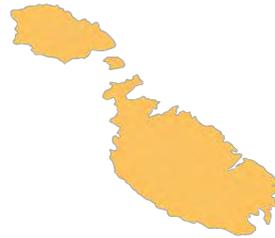


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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders participating in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in the Maltese Islands. It sums up results of the project that come from other Work Package Deliverables. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

Malta at a glance

The country of Malta refers to a group of islands in the Mediterranean Sea, with a total surface of 316 km² (Zammit, 1986). The three largest islands, Malta, Gozo and Comino, host all 515,000 residents (NSO, 2020). The low, rocky islands can be identified by their coralline limestone and steep coastal cliffs. Sandy beaches cover small parts of the coastline. The highest point of the islands is 'Ta' Dmejrek on Malta Island, with an altitude of 253 m. The Maltese Islands do not have any permanent surface water and some rivers only spring during extreme rainfall. The islands have to deal with a shortage of fresh water and depend on desalination (FAO, 2006).

The Blue Economy sectors

Aquaculture

Aquaculture is defined as “Farming finfish, shellfish and aquatic plants” (EC, 2020). It is one of the world's fastest growing food sectors and provides the planet with about half of all the fish we eat. The world's population is expected to rise to 9 billion by 2050, creating a considerable demand for food and sources of protein (World Bank, 2013). Aquaculture can contribute to assure food security, meet nutrition needs, as well as social and economic inclusion, employment and lessen the need for fish imports in some countries. Sustainable aquaculture is also needed because fisheries alone will not meet the growing demand for seafood (EC, 2015). In the context of islands, the aquaculture sector needs attention as it represents an important sector for many islands. In the Soclimpact project, aquaculture includes only marine-based operations where off-shore and coastal aquaculture are included, and freshwater and land-based aquaculture are excluded.

Malta has 7 marine aquaculture operators, of which most are focused on tuna fattening and one operates a closed-cycle seabream farm. The farms are spread over 9 different sites. The annual production in 2018 was over 19,000 T, of which 90% was tuna (NSO, 2019a). Effects of increasing sea temperature and shifts in currents and nutrient flow may have an impact on the aquaculture sector. Especially since Malta's aquaculture sector

is highly dependent on wild caught Tuna fisheries, an endangered species vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Maritime Transport

Maritime transport has been a catalyst of economic development and prosperity throughout the history of the country. Malta has two mayor ports, the Malta Freeport in the Bay of Marsaxlokk, and the Port of Valletta. More than 90% of all goods entering and leaving Malta go through these ports (Malta Marittima, 2020). The port of Marsaxlokk is the base of 70% of the county's fishing fleet and is handling about 2.7 million Twenty-Foot Equivalent (Malta Freeport, 2020; TM, 2020). The Port of Valletta is a multi-purpose port equipped for a large number of maritime services such as cruise liner and cargo berths, bunkering facilities, ship building yards and storage facilities (Malta Marittima, 2020).

Energy

Malta uses a total of 180,000 Tons of fossil fuel per year and produces 133,419 MWh of renewable energy of which 58 MWh is wind energy, 125,054 MWh solar energy and 8,307 MWh produced using biogas (NSO, 2017). For a large part of its fossil fuel it is dependent on Sicily. The Government strongly considers the exploration of blue renewable energy opportunities. The four main blue energy areas that are being focused upon for further study are: offshore wind farms, floating photovoltaic islands, tidal wave energy conversion and blue geothermal renewable energy.

Tourism

Tourism is one of the most important sectors for the Maltese economy contributing to approximately 27% of the GDP (World Travel and Tourism Council, 2018). Tourists are visiting Malta for the island's rich history and culture as well as aquatic activities. Lately, medical tourism has also become popular in Malta. In 2019, Malta had 2,753,239 visitors, an increase of 5.9% compared to 2018. Malta can accommodate 55,597 tourists at any given time with an occupancy rate of around 80% in summer and 47% in the winter months (MTA, 2019). The average stay is 7 nights, and the most popular time of the year is June to September. Most tourists are from the United Kingdom, followed by Italy, France, and Germany. Malta also has a significant number of visits from Cruise liners (over 300 cruise liners/year) (MTA, 2019).

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Malta is an independent country in southern Europe, which constitutes of the three Maltese Islands: Malta, Gozo, and Comino. The islands are located approximately 80 km south of Sicily. It is the smallest member state of the European Union in terms of terrestrial area (316 km²) and population (515.000 inhabitants), but it has the highest population density (1.400 inhabitants/km²) (NSO, 2020).

The highest point of the islands is Ta' Dmejrek on Malta Island, with an altitude of 253 m. About a third of the islands is used for agriculture and less than 1% of the island's surface is covered by forest. 13.1% (~41 km²) of land area forms part of the EU Natura 2000 Network of protected areas and 35.5% of Maltese Waters (4.138 km²) have been designated as marine protected areas, as reported by the [Environment & Resources Authority](#). The Maltese Islands have very little permanent surface water which results in freshwater shortages and therefore are dependent on desalination of sea water.

Its capital is Valletta, which is the smallest national capital in the European Union by area at 0.8 km². The official languages are Maltese and English. However, Maltese, the only Semitic language in the European Union, is officially recognised as the national language. The Maltese civilization dates back thousands of years and Malta hosts some of the oldest malithic sites in the world. Malta features a key geopolitical position and was a British colony since 1814. In 1964 Malta gained its independence and declare itself a republic ten years later. Malta became an EU member in May 2004 and began using the Euro as currency in 2008. Currently, Malta is the smallest member of the European Union in terms of Gross Domestic Product.

Population dynamics of the island

During the period 2011 and 2017, the population of Malta increased with an overall growth of 56,835 inhabitants. In particular, the Northern Harbour District registered the highest population growth of 26.0%, followed by the Northern district registering a growth of 23.1% while the least growth was recorded in the Southern Harbour District, registering a growth of 2.7%. Population increase in the last years has been largely due to net migration. Overall, unemployment levels in Malta have decreased considerably in the period 2013-2018, being one of the lowest in the EU (NSO, 2019b).

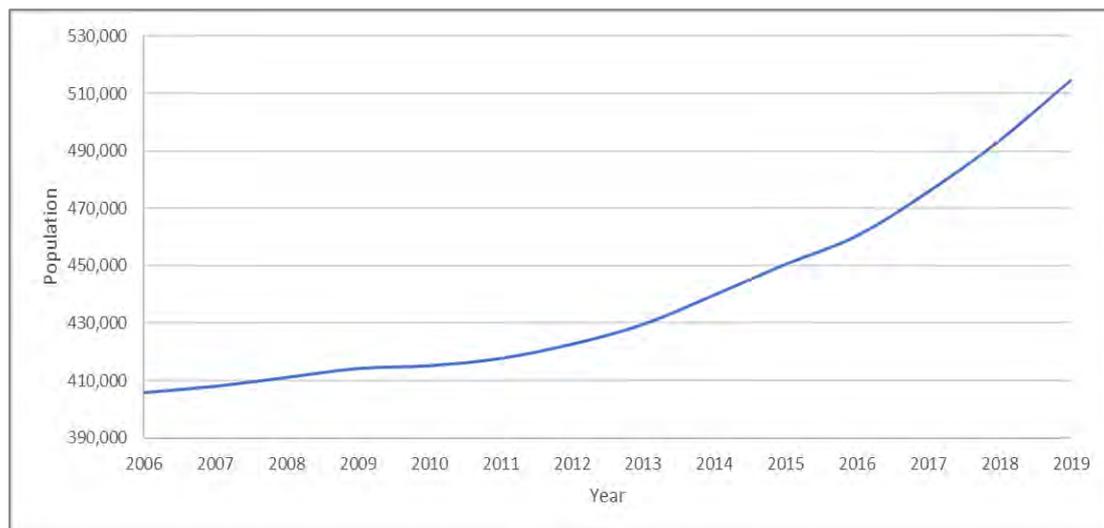


Figure 1: Total Population of Malta 2006-2019.

Source: [National Statistics office of Malta](#)



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1.2 Current climate and risks

Malta has a typical Mediterranean climate with mild rainy winter and dry hot summers. The mean temperature for the summer months is 35 °C while the lowest average monthly temperature is 11 °C in winter. The presence of the surrounding water mass shapes the climate of the Maltese islands significantly. The general weather is often cooler and more humid (75% average) compared to larger inland areas.

The high thermal capacity of the sea provides a more stable ambient temperature on the islands. However, when colder air comes from the north at the end of summer, combined with the warmer waters, this creates weather instability causing heavy thunder storms and intense rainfall. One of the highest in Europe, Malta has an average of 3,000 hours of sun per year. The average sea water temperature is 20 °C. In the current government, climate change policy falls under the portfolio of the Minister for Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Change (MSDEC).



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



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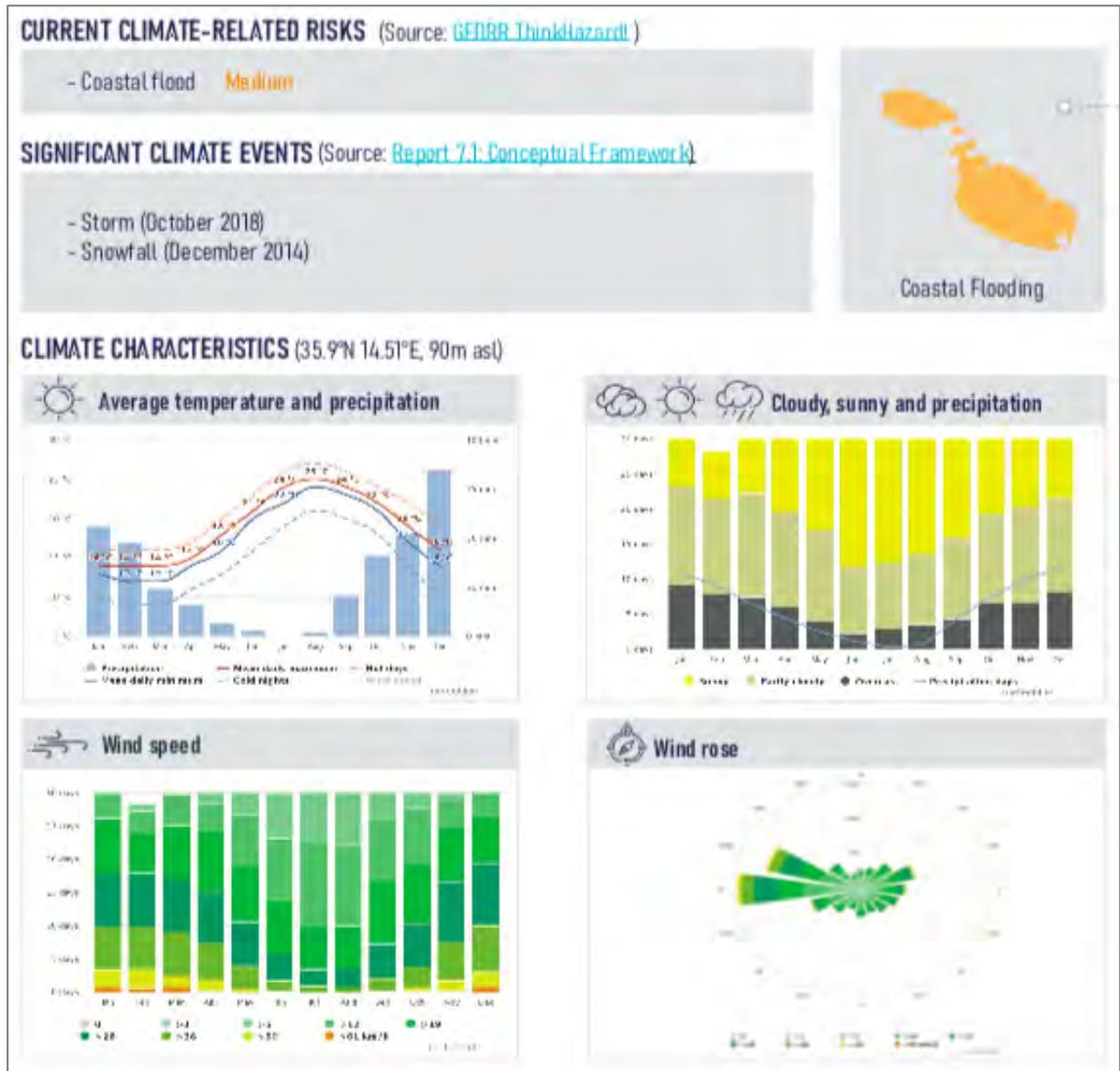


Figure 2: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [DZ.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

Due to its geographic location in the centre of the Mediterranean Sea and its limitation of natural resources, Malta's economy is driven by the service sector (Eurostat, 2019). In particular, services related to professional, scientific and technical activities have developed substantially towards 2018 to the detriment of manufacturing, while trade and tourism-related services show a stable contribution to total GVA. In 2018, the economy expanded 6.2%. Malta's growth outpaced the growth registered at EU level which stood at 2.2% and the Euro Area 19 at 2.0%, a pattern observed since 2012. The contribution

of net exports to growth is almost stable throughout the 2010-2017 period (EC, 2019). Tourism is one of the main pillars of the Maltese economy while emerging sectors such as gaming, online gambling and real estate provide further growth potentials to the island and have largely contributed to the high GDP growth rates registered recently. Gross value added from financial and insurance activities grew by more than 10% over the same period of 2017. Malta is growing into an international services centre, as financial, insurance operators and remote gaming companies serve almost exclusively foreign customers, thus explaining the growth through exports (EC, 2019).

Table 1: Gross Value Added by aggregate NACE sector, Malta 2010, 2015 and 2018

NACE_R2/TIME	2010	2015	2018
Total - all NACE activities	5,790.8	8,550.0	10,854.8
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	96.1	104.3	108.2
Industry (except construction)	893.6	862.9	1,089.9
Manufacturing	749.7	723.2	892.8
Construction	270.3	327.5	395.7
Wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities	1,236.9	1,948.0	2,309.5
Information and communication	319.7	559.7	703.4
Financial and insurance activities	452.0	552.7	652.6
Real estate activities	347.1	442.2	531.7
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	536.5	1,080.7	1,616.4
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	1,061.7	1,461.2	1,820.7
Arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities; activities of household and extra-territorial organizations and bodies	576.7	1,211.0	1,626.7

Source : D6.2- Eurostat

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

Tourism is contributing significantly to the GDP of Malta, with a total contribution close to 30% of GDP, thus placing Malta first to the ranking among the Mediterranean countries that feature a strong economic dependence on tourism (World Travel and Tourism Council, 2018). According to the NSO, 2.75 million inbound tourists visiting Malta were registered in 2019, 5.9% higher than in 2018 (NSO, 2019c). Malta is the member state of the EU with the highest tourism intensity with 21 guest nights per inhabitant (Eurostat, 2017).

Inbound tourists are more likely to stay in collective accommodation establishments (69.4%) and on average stayed 7 nights. Similarly, in 2017, total domestic trips between Malta, Gozo and Comino amounted to 260,763, 10.3% more than 2016. Overall, inbound tourism shows rapid growth throughout the last decades. The origin of visitors has changed through time, moving away from visitors from the UK and Italy (Commonwealth and neighbouring country respectively) towards other countries. Most tourists choose Malta due to the cultural heritage and the weather conditions, while an increasing number of tourists is moving away from collective accommodation towards private accommodation. Furthermore, the average length of stay is steadily declining while expenditure per night is increasing (Attard, 2018).

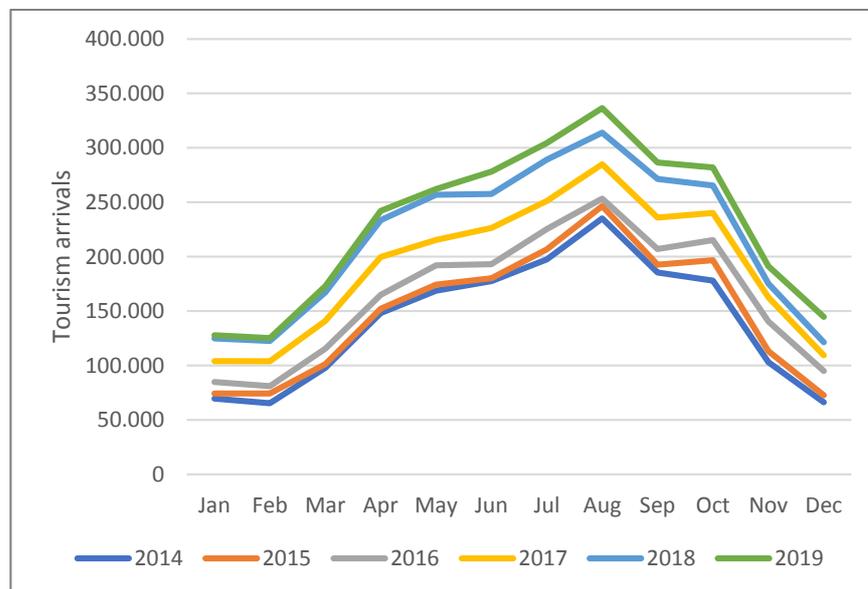


Figure 3: Inbound tourism development per month for the years 2014-2018.
Source: NSO (2019a).

Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) provides data of inbound tourism expenditure, domestic expenditure, and other tourism consumption. In some regions, this information is not computed on a regular basis, hence information has to be extracted local tourism departments. For the case of Malta, national TSA data is quite outdated (relating to 2010 for Malta).

Aquaculture

The farming of closed cycle species such as Gilthead seabream and European seabass takes place in marine floating cages of diameters up to 25 m. These cages are located in shallow coastal waters close to shore. Capture-based aquaculture in Malta consists of

fattening of wild catch bluefin tuna in circular marine floating cages of diameters up to 100 m.

According to the Aquaculture Directorate of the Maltese government, the aquaculture industry has 4 tuna ranches that produce over 80% of Malta's aquaculture production through capture-based aquaculture, and 2 closed cycle species farms that produce sea bream, sea bass and meagre.

According to the National Statistics Office (NSO), in 2018 the industry produced a combined output generated by closed cycle species and tuna farming of a total of 19,300 tons of fish. This amounted to a total value of €239.2 million, which is a 18.9% increase compared to 2017 (NSO, 2019a). More than 95% of this value was generated by blue-fin tuna farming and the remaining amount was closed cycle species such as sea bass, sea bream and other species.

The aquaculture sector generates a total of 964 full-time equivalent jobs (FTE), including 197 FTE employed in the aquaculture sector itself and an additional 767 FTE jobs generated by way of indirect and induced economic impacts (FAO, 2020). These jobs were mainly concentrated in the whole-sale and retail trade, transport and communication, financial intermediation and manufacturing sectors.

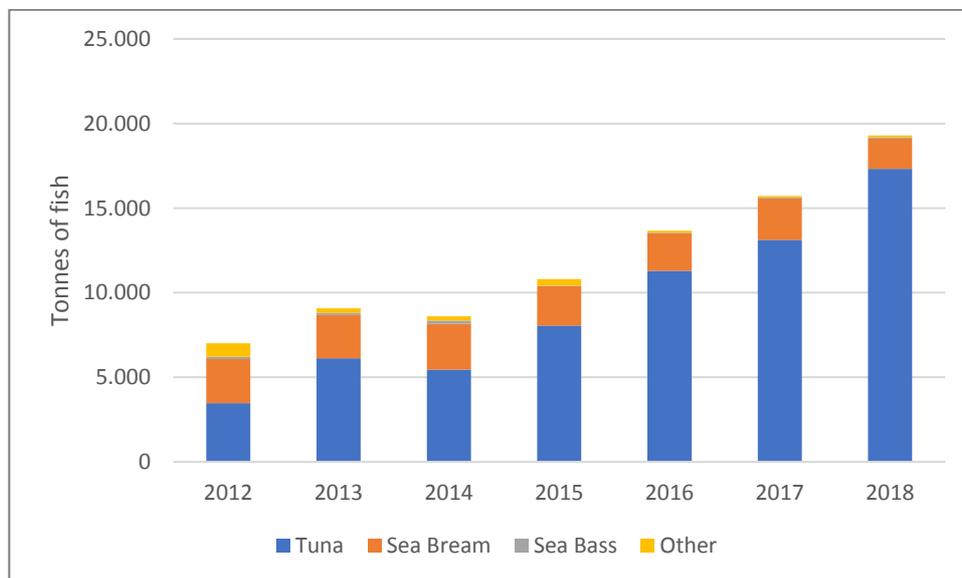


Figure 4: Fish farming sales by species and year in Malta.
Source: (NSO, 2019b).

Energy

In 2018, the total electricity supply in Malta was 2,532,606 MWh. The electricity system in Malta experienced important updates with the inauguration of the Malta-Italy interconnector in 2015 and the switching off of all heavy fuel oil power plants in 2017. The latest available data indicates that electricity imports via the interconnector reached

65% in 2016 which gave the impression that domestic production was continuously diminishing, but in the following two years it dropped down, reaching 25% in 2018 (NSO, 2019d).

Renewables are gradually starting to penetrate the domestic supply system, most notably with the installation of new Photovoltaic panels in 2016 and 2017. In 2018, the renewable energy generation was less than 198,587 MWh of which more than 95% are generated by PV installations, many of which are domestic stand-alone systems which are not connected to the grid (NSO, 2019c).

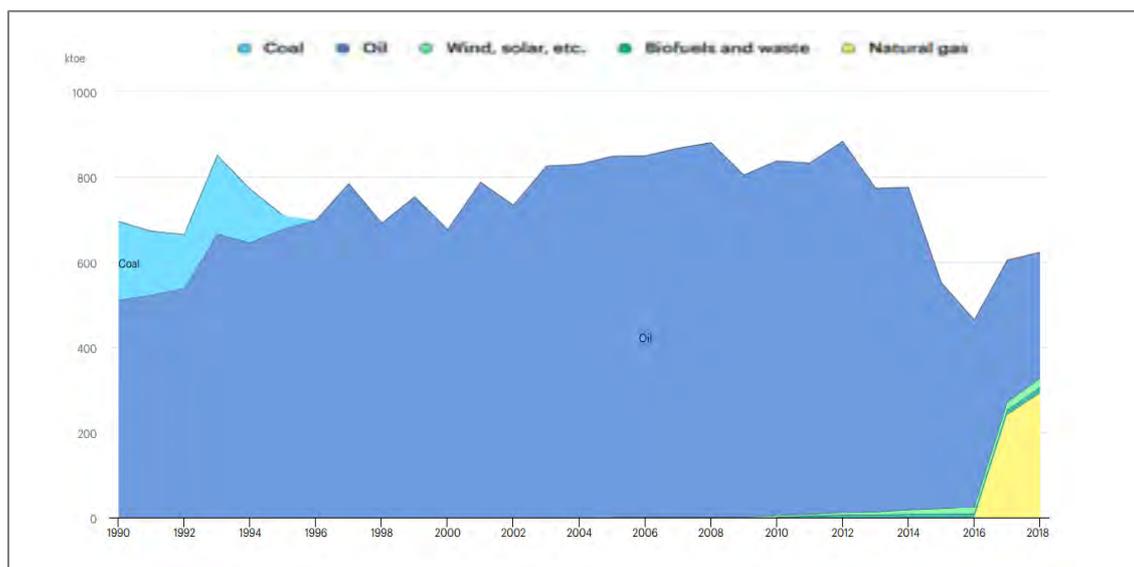


Figure 5: Electricity generation by source in Malta in the period 1990-2017.
Source: IEA website.

The electricity demand is projected to rise to 3,200,000 MWh by 2025 (from: Malta's Report to the European Commission on the Implementation of Directive 2009/72/EC, Directive 2009/73/EC and Directive 2005/89/EC).

Maritime Transport

Beside the international airport in Luqa, Malta is well connected to the surrounding countries and worldwide via its shipping routes. Maritime transport is important for the movement of goods and passengers in Malta. The islands have two main ports for large cargo and passenger vessels: The Grand Harbour in Valletta and the Freeport in Marsaxlokk. Approximately 97% of the cargo throughput is handled at the Freeport (TM, 2015). In 2018, more than 2,200 vessels and 3.41 million TEUs with a gross tonnage of 295 million were handled which is almost twice as much as in 2007. In total 330 cruise ships with 722,926 passengers arrived in Malta and 304,804 passengers used the ferry services in Malta in 2018 (TM, 2018).

Maritime freight transport is largely used for domestic needs and does not serve as an international port hub. In terms of weight of seaborne freight handled in Maltese ports, Malta registers 8.8 tonnes per inhabitant compared to an EU average of 7.7 tonnes (Eurostat, 2019).

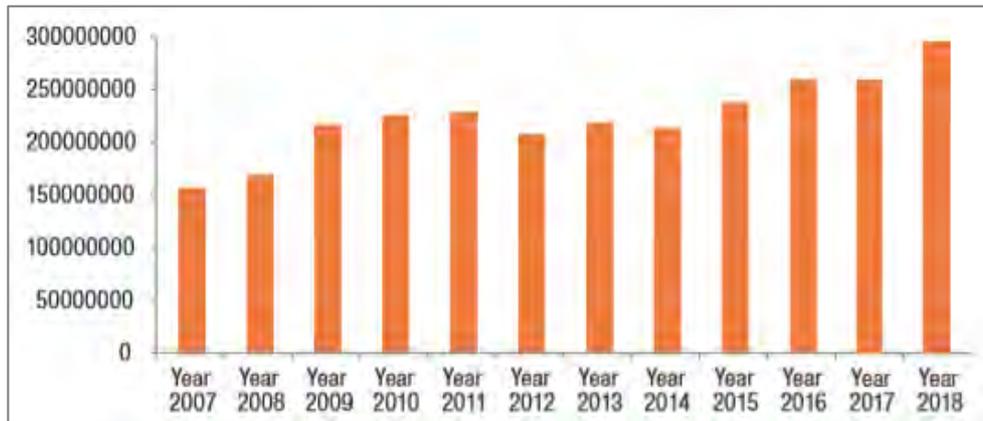


Figure 6: Gross Tonnage of Vessels in Malta for the years 2007-2018.
Source: (TM, 2019).

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

Malta registers a 1.7% annual GDP growth rate throughout the 2015-2100 period and a 1.8% rate in the 2015-2050 period. The main driver of growth during the short-term period is private consumption, which includes tourism demand. As seen in Figure 7 the contribution of private consumption in GDP increases throughout time to the detriment of investments and trade. Private consumption growth rates surpass that of GDP throughout the period, indicating that the Maltese economy is achieving growth through high value-added sectors like services and tourism but without investing further on productive capacity and adequate infrastructure.

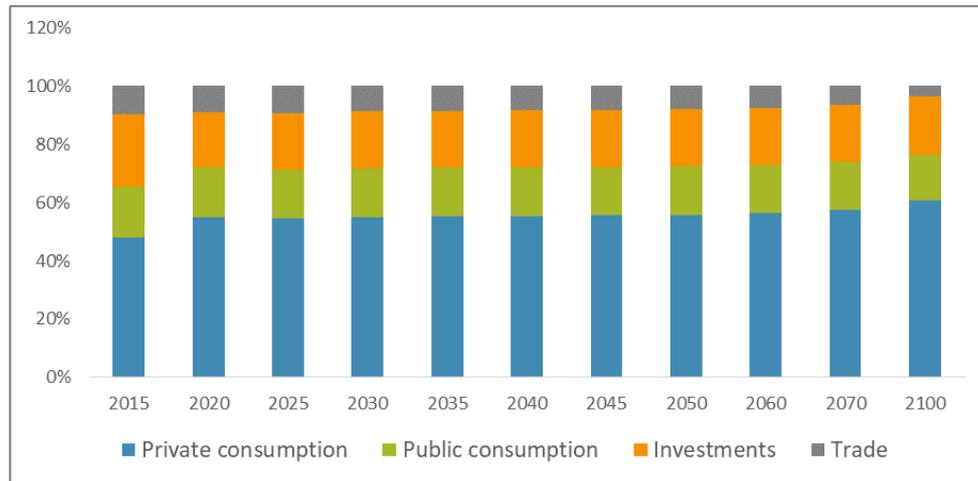


Figure 7: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Malta in 2015-2100.

Source: own calculations.

In parallel, trade balance remains positive yet gradually becomes neutral. Tourism maintains a stable share in GDP throughout the period, which as discussed above is one of the highest in the Mediterranean. This also justifies the increasing share of private consumption in GDP. It is assumed that the GDP share of public consumption remains roughly the same throughout the 2015-2100 period as Malta has already a privatized economy.

2.2 The sectoral projections

The Maltese economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period with an increasing contribution of recreational, accommodation and other market services. Moving towards the end of the century, the share of primary and secondary sectors in gross value-added falls significantly to the benefit of sectors with higher value added, as observed in recent years. Blue growth sectors increase in importance throughout the 2015-2100 period. Tourism sustains or slightly increases its share in GDP throughout the period¹. Similarly, water transport maintains its share (0.5% of GDP) while fisheries (which includes aquaculture) and electricity gradually see a lower contribution to gross value added.

¹ The share of tourism in GDP is calculated via the tourism satellite account (TSA) matrices of 2015, assuming that the same shares that indicate the contribution of tourism to the productions of tourism-related sectors (such as the accommodation and food services, transport services, travel agency and related activities, cultural and recreational activities) remain throughout the 2015-2100 period. Please see Appendix B for the complete database of the estimated TSAs.

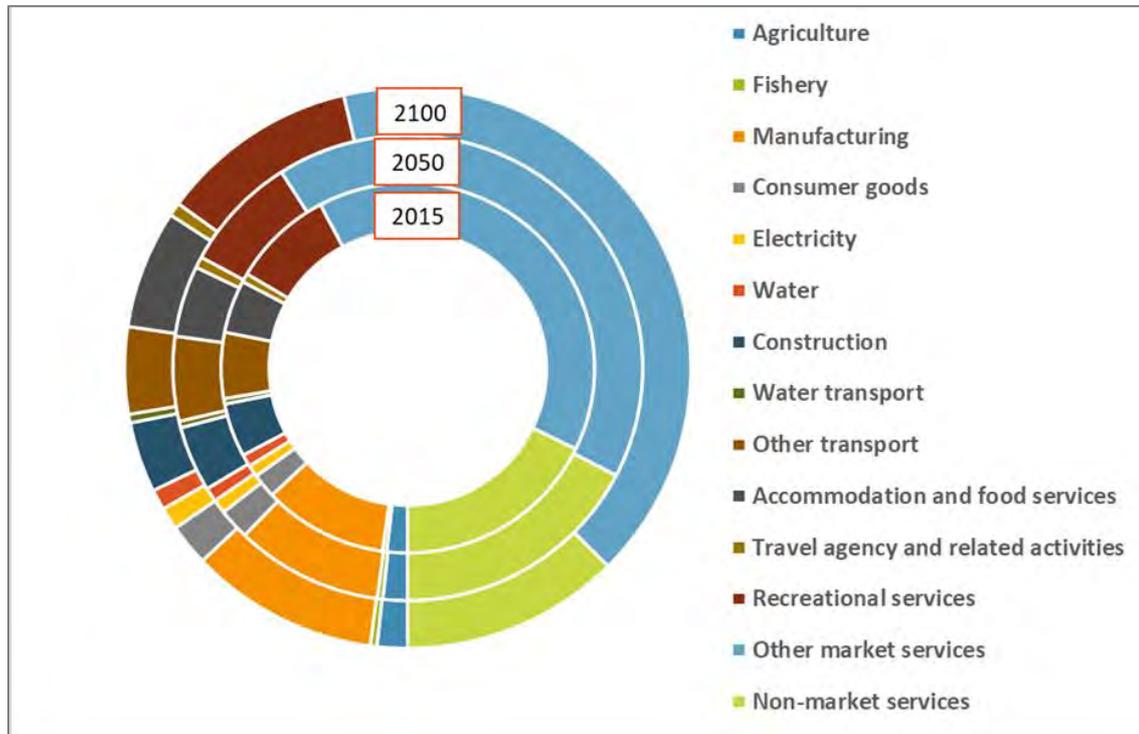


Figure 8: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Malta in 2015, 2050 and 2100.

Source: Own calculations [D6.2](#)

Table 2: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Malta in 2020-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
<i>Agriculture</i>	1.8%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%
<i>Fishery</i>	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
<i>Manufacturing</i>	10.8%	9.8%	9.7%	9.6%	9.7%	10.1%	10.1%	10.1%	10.6%	10.6%	10.8%
<i>Consumer goods</i>	2.1%	2.1%	2.0%	2.0%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	2.4%
<i>Electricity</i>	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.3%
<i>Water</i>	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%
<i>Construction</i>	4.7%	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%	4.3%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.1%
<i>Water transport</i>	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
<i>Other transport</i>	5.8%	6.1%	6.2%	6.2%	6.1%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%	5.6%	5.5%	5.0%
<i>Accommodation and food services</i>	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%	4.3%	4.7%	4.8%	4.9%	4.9%	5.6%	5.9%	6.8%
<i>Travel agency and related activities</i>	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%
<i>Recreational services</i>	8.7%	7.2%	7.0%	6.8%	8.2%	7.8%	7.9%	8.0%	9.3%	9.7%	11.4%
<i>Other market services</i>	40.0%	41.9%	42.3%	42.6%	41.7%	41.6%	41.7%	41.7%	40.7%	40.8%	41.1%
<i>Non-market services</i>	17.8%	18.8%	18.9%	19.0%	18.0%	18.0%	17.7%	17.4%	15.9%	15.2%	12.5%

Source: Own calculations [D6.2](#)

2.3 Employment

Malta already registers sustainable unemployment levels and the continuous growth of the service sectors leads to even lower unemployment rates towards the end of the century. The non-market services is a labour-intensive sector thus contributing with a higher proportion to total employment than the respective share in total value added. Tourism-related and other market services are also large employers, while manufacturing and other transport sectors retain their shares throughout the 2015-2100 period. Tourism is the largest employer of the Blue growth sectors under analysis, particularly due to the high labour intensity of accommodation and food services, while water transport, fisheries and electricity all contribute with shares less than 0.5%.

Table 3: Unemployment rate in Malta in 2020-2100: Own calculations

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	5.4%	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.9%	3.8%

Source: Own calculations [D6.2](#)

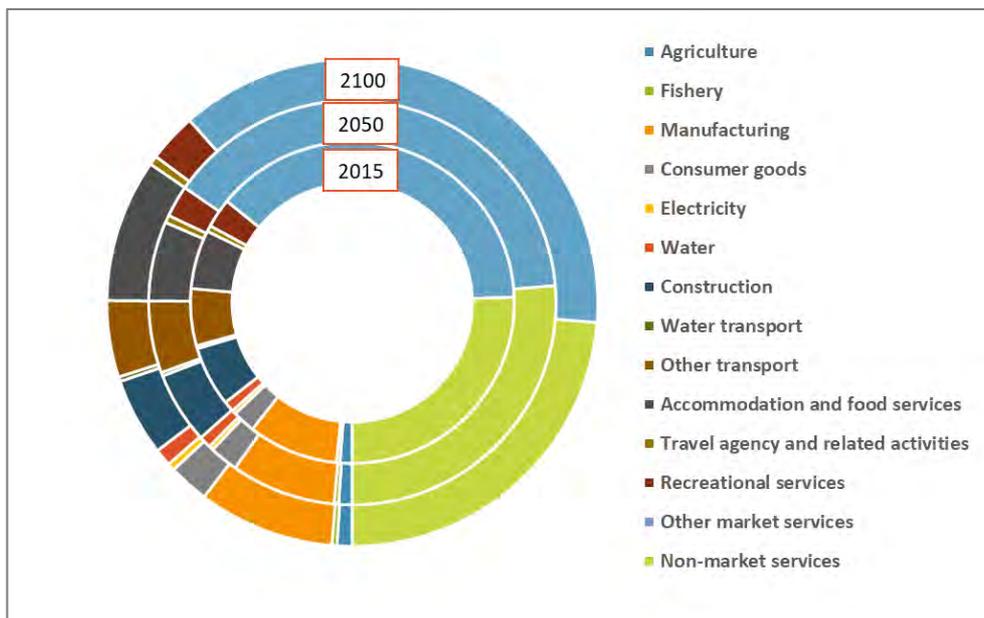


Figure 9: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Malta in 2015, 2050, 2100

Source: Own calculations [D6.2](#)

3 Climate Change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for

the Malta is MED-CORDEX ensemble (regional scale of Mediterranean area) and CMIP5 Ensemble (global scale) even if other model sources were applied when required, depending on available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Seagrass evolution

Posidonia Oceanica is a foundation species in Mediterranean waters. Foundation species have a large contribution towards creating and maintaining habitats that support other species. First, they are numerically abundant and account for most of the biomass in an ecosystem. Second, they are at or near the base of the directional interaction networks that characterize ecosystems. Third, their abundant connections to other species in an ecological network mostly reflect non-trophic or mutualistic interactions, including providing structural support for other species, significantly altering ecosystem properties to [dis]favor other species, altering metabolic rates of associated species, and modulating fluxes of energy and nutrient flow through the system.

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, etc. Therefore, the state of seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. In Malta, the results of RCP8.5 projections indicate a decrease of 20% of coverage area of Posidonia for the end-century. Although the projected reduction may seem moderate, it has to be kept in mind that the losses will be localized in the nearshore areas, so it is expected a large impact on water transparency in beach areas. Ecosystem services will be probably be less affected.

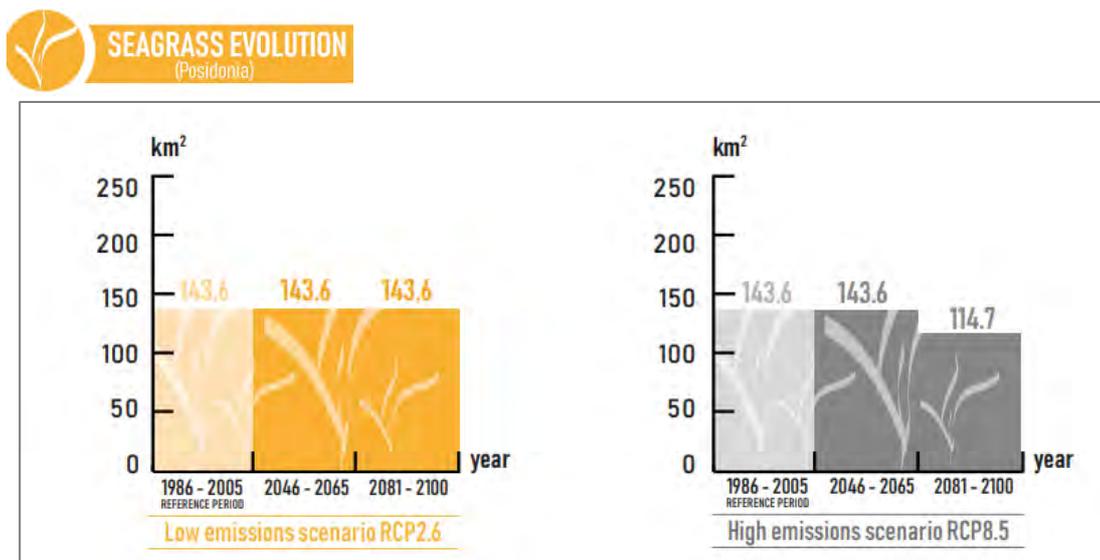


Figure 10: Seagrass evolution. Present coverage and projected changes (km^2) of the main species
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4e Report](#) on estimated seagrass density

Fire weather Index (FWI)

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods.

For Malta, N=5 grid cells were retained from the model's domain. The ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. As this island has small acreage, the grid cells present low land fraction and are influenced by the sea. It seems that under RCP2.6, the index slightly increases at the middle of the century, while it halts towards the end of the century. On the other hand, under RCP8.5 there is an increased fire danger of about 20% at the end of the century. It should be noted that the fire danger values for all points are classified as low, thus, for all scenarios/periods all areas belong to the same class, exhibiting also low uncertainty.



FIRE WEATHER INDEX

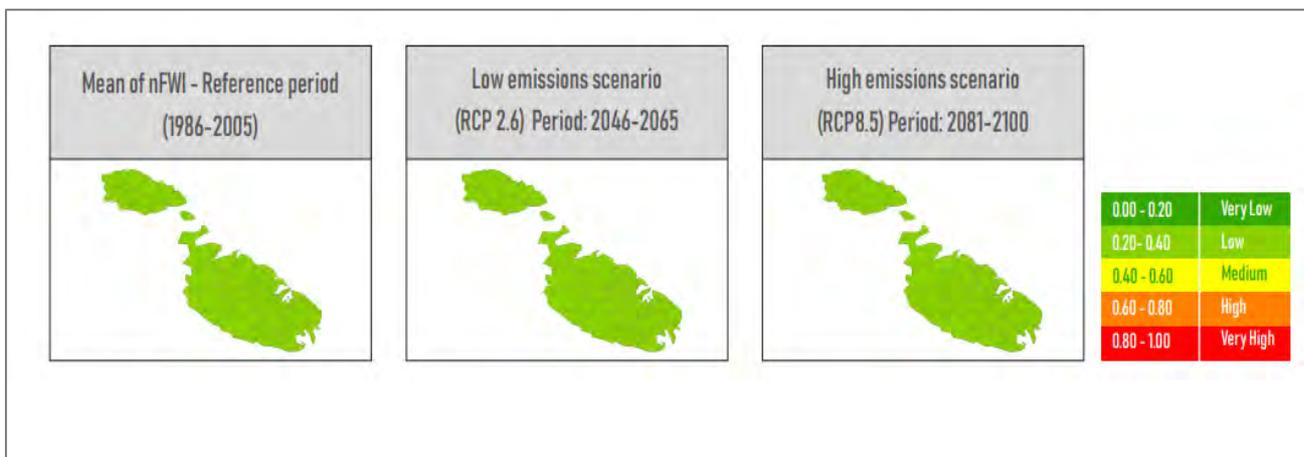


Figure 11: (Normalized) Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the class of hazard

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4c Report on potential fire behaviour and exposure](#)

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runup). An increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5.

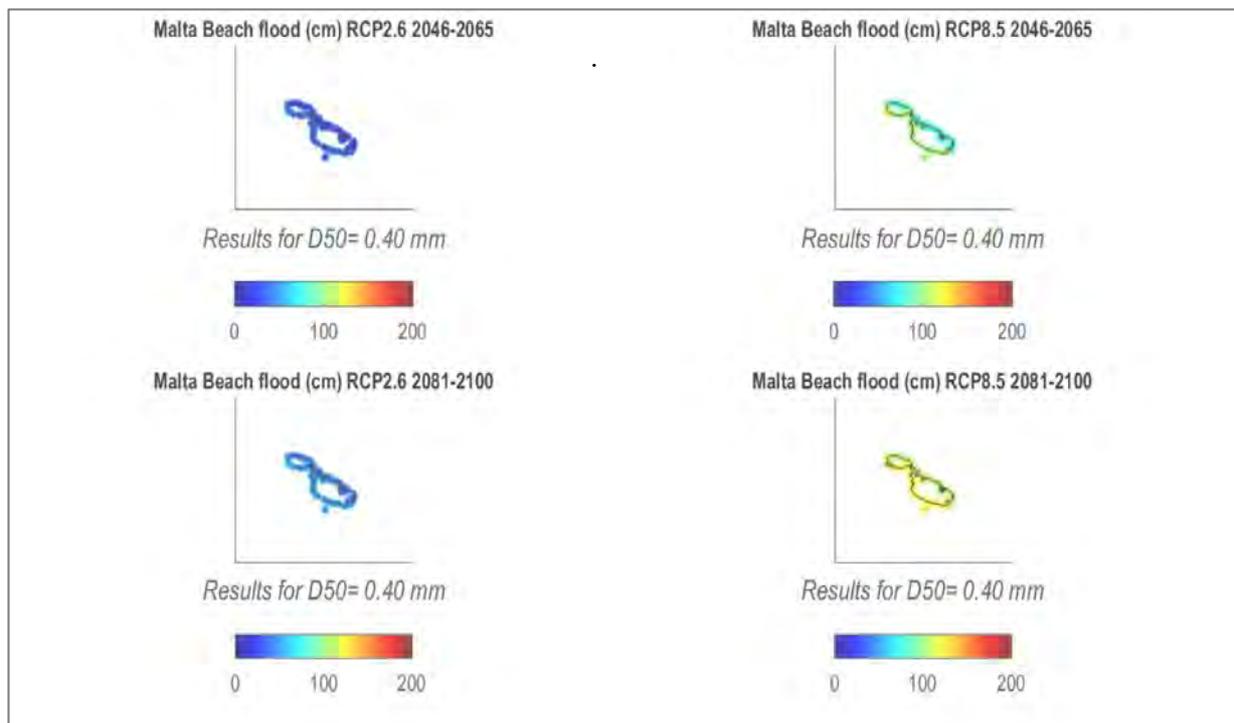


Figure 12: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cm) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4d Report on the evolution of beaches](#)

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~40% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~70% under scenario RCP8.5.



BEACH REDUCTION

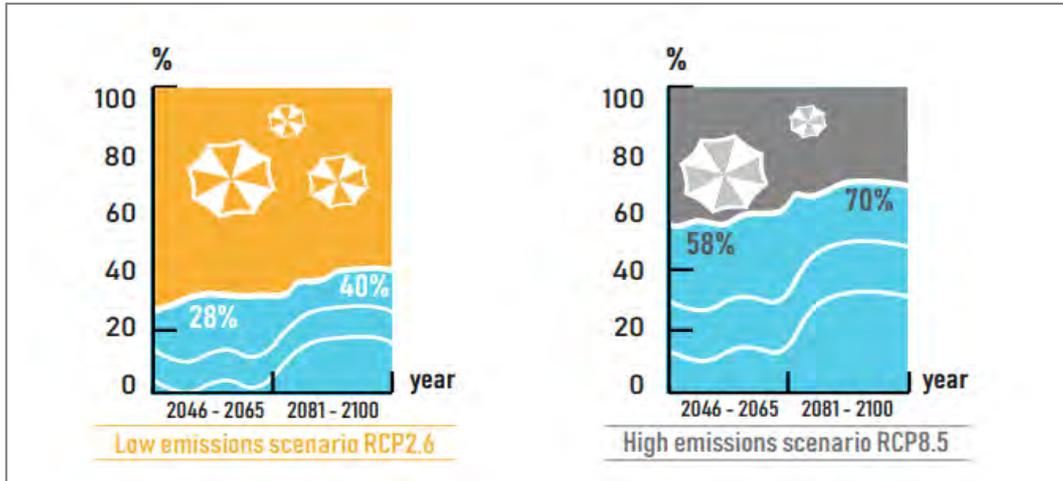


Figure 13: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4.d Report](#) on the evolution of beaches

Humidex

Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity.

The Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. as the more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts. A day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Malta, N=5 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. From 1.5 month in the present climate and above 2 months in the mid-century for both scenarios, Malta will have almost 4 months with discomfort conditions by the end of the century under RCP8.5.

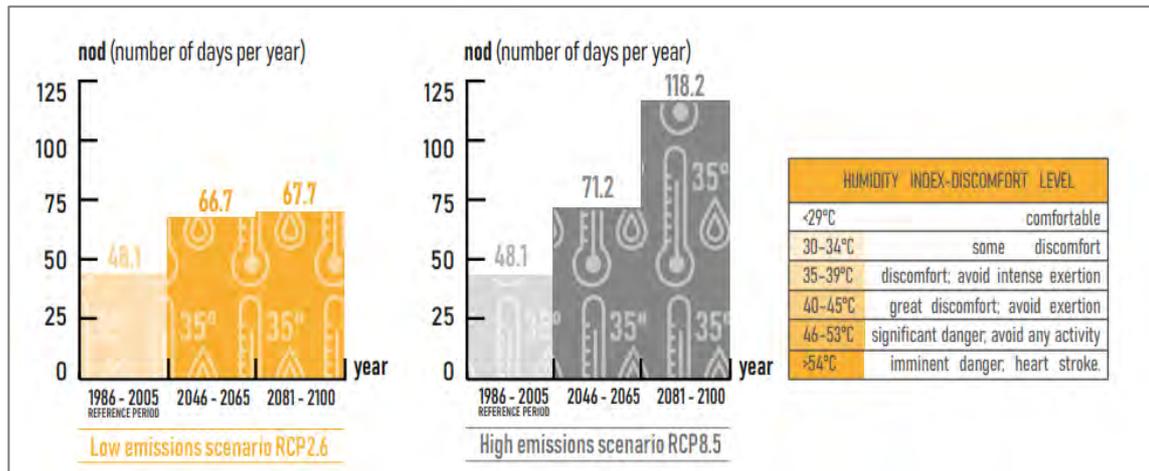


Figure 14: Humidex in number of days (EURO-CORDEX)
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases **Vector Suitability Index for Aedes Albopictus (Asian Tiger Mosquito)**

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. In the framework of SOCLIMPACT we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia; however, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various encephalitides (Proestos *et al.* 2015).

The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos *et al.* (2015) has been employed to estimate the regional habitat suitability maps. This is based on extending previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock *et al.* 2013; Proestos *et al.*, 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge.

Malta is also a SOCLIMPACT case where presence of the Asian tiger mosquito has been reported. In terms of climate projections for the future, Malta and Gonzo are a similar example to the Balearic Islands. Regional climate simulations suggest a transition from medium to low habitat suitability under a strong emission scenario (pathway RCP8.5). Milder changes and an average increase in the suitability is projected for simulations forced under pathway RCP2.6.

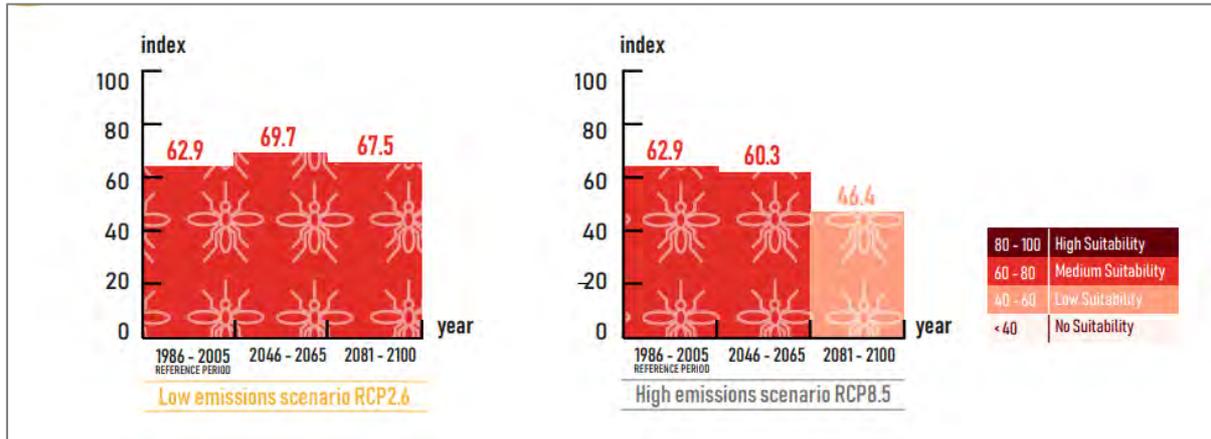


Figure 15: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colors indicate increases while blue colors indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability].

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.2 Aquaculture

The predicted impacts of climate change on the oceans and seas of the planet is expected to have direct impacts on marine based aquaculture systems. Basic effects are the following (Soto and Brugere, 2008):

Change in biophysical characteristics of coastal areas.

- Increased invasions from alien species.
- Increased spread of diseases.
- Changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, salinity, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters.
- Changes in the differences between sea and air temperature which will alter the seasonality, frequency and severity of storms, cyclones and other extreme events, affect the stability of the coastal resources and potentially increase the damages in infrastructure.
- Sea level rise, acidification, changes in precipitation and other effects will also add to the changes in coastal ecosystems and environment, thus affecting production and infrastructure (=investments).

It has been recognized that climate change impacts on aquaculture will be highly unpredictable and extremely localized. Examples of climate change hazards that can impact aquaculture are changes in ocean warming and acidification, as well as oceanographic changes in currents, waves, and wind speed. Sudden impacts such as an

increase in the frequency and intensity of storms and heat waves are also impacting aquaculture. Other effects of climate change on aquaculture activities are increased invasions from alien species, increased spread of diseases and changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters. An important indirect impact to aquaculture is the change in fisheries production due to climate change. Aquaculture of finfish is highly dependent on fisheries for feed ingredients. This is already a current problem with many fisheries overexploited and will only be intensified in the future.

Eventually, impacts caused by climate change can lead to loss of production and infrastructure. Climate change is also predicted to impact food safety, where temperature changes modify food safety risks associated with food production, storage, and distribution.

Socio-economic impacts on aquaculture are hard to assess due to the uncertainty of the changes in hazards and the limited knowledge these impacts have on the biophysical system of aquaculture species.

In the framework of Soclimpact, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- i) Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.
- ii) Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

Fish species thermal stress indicators

The objective of the current analysis is to identify and quantify the variations (future climate scenarios with respect to present climate) in the number and in the duration of events characterized by a Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeding a given threshold. The SST thresholds have been identified according to the farming and feeding necessities of several marine species, particularly relevant for the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Sea (MS).

Under scenario 8.5 at end of the century, the sea surface temperature could reach the thresholds adopted with important consequence a change in the species distribution.

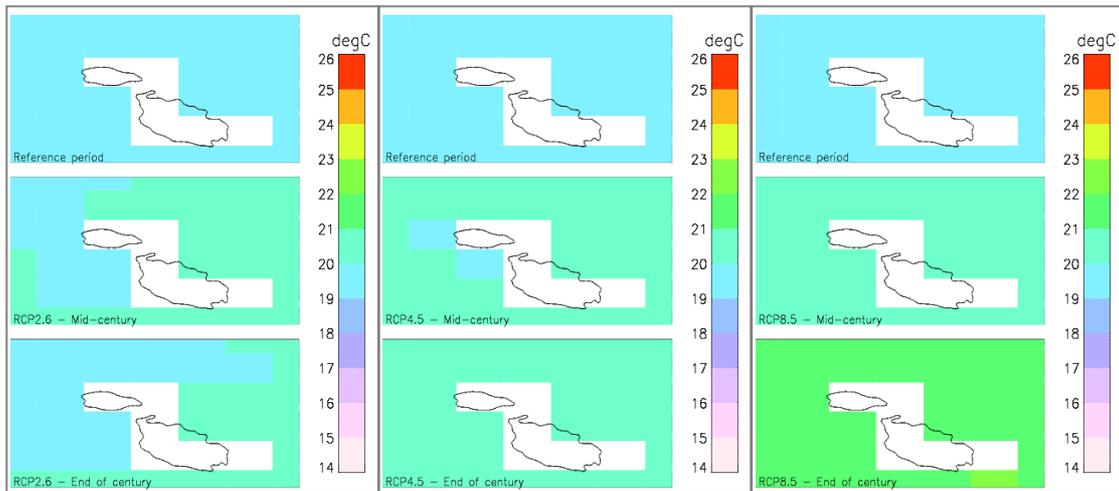


Figure 16: Non-normalized hazard from rising SST- From left to right: RCP2.6, RCP4.5, RCP8.5; from top to bottom: reference period, near future, far future

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.5](#)



FISH SPECIES THERMAL STRESS
Number of days exceeding the sea surface temperature threshold adopted (in the period)

	Longest event (days) >20 degrees Mussels & clams 	Longest event (days) >24 degrees Sea bream/Tuna 	Longest event (days) >25 degrees Sea bass 
Historic (1986-2005)	152 days	62 days	43 days
RCP 8.5 - mid century (2046-2065)	175 days	95 days	72 days
RCP 8.5 - end century (2081-2100)	201 days	123 days	98 days

Species	Threshold (°C)
European seabass, <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	25
Gilthead seabream, <i>Sparus aurata</i>	24
Amberjack, <i>Seriola dumerili</i>	23
Atlantic Bluefin tuna, <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	23
Japanese clam, <i>Ruditapes decussatus</i>	21
Blue mussel, <i>Mytilus edulis</i>	21
Manila clam, <i>Ruditape philippinarum</i>	20
Mediterranean mussel, <i>Mytilus galloprovinciales</i>	20

Figure 17: Number of days exceeding the threshold of sea surface temperature

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.5](#)

Extreme Wave Return Time

Return times for a threshold of 7 m significant wave height (hs) were computed, this significant height having been identified by stakeholders as the critical limit for severe damages to assets at sea. Return times can be related to the payback times of investments and help assess potential economic losses and economic sustainability. In the future, under RCP8.5. (far future), the extreme wave return time will decrease depending on the model's outputs: for example, with the GUF model, the hazard class changes from high to low. With the models of CNRM and LMD, there is not significant change

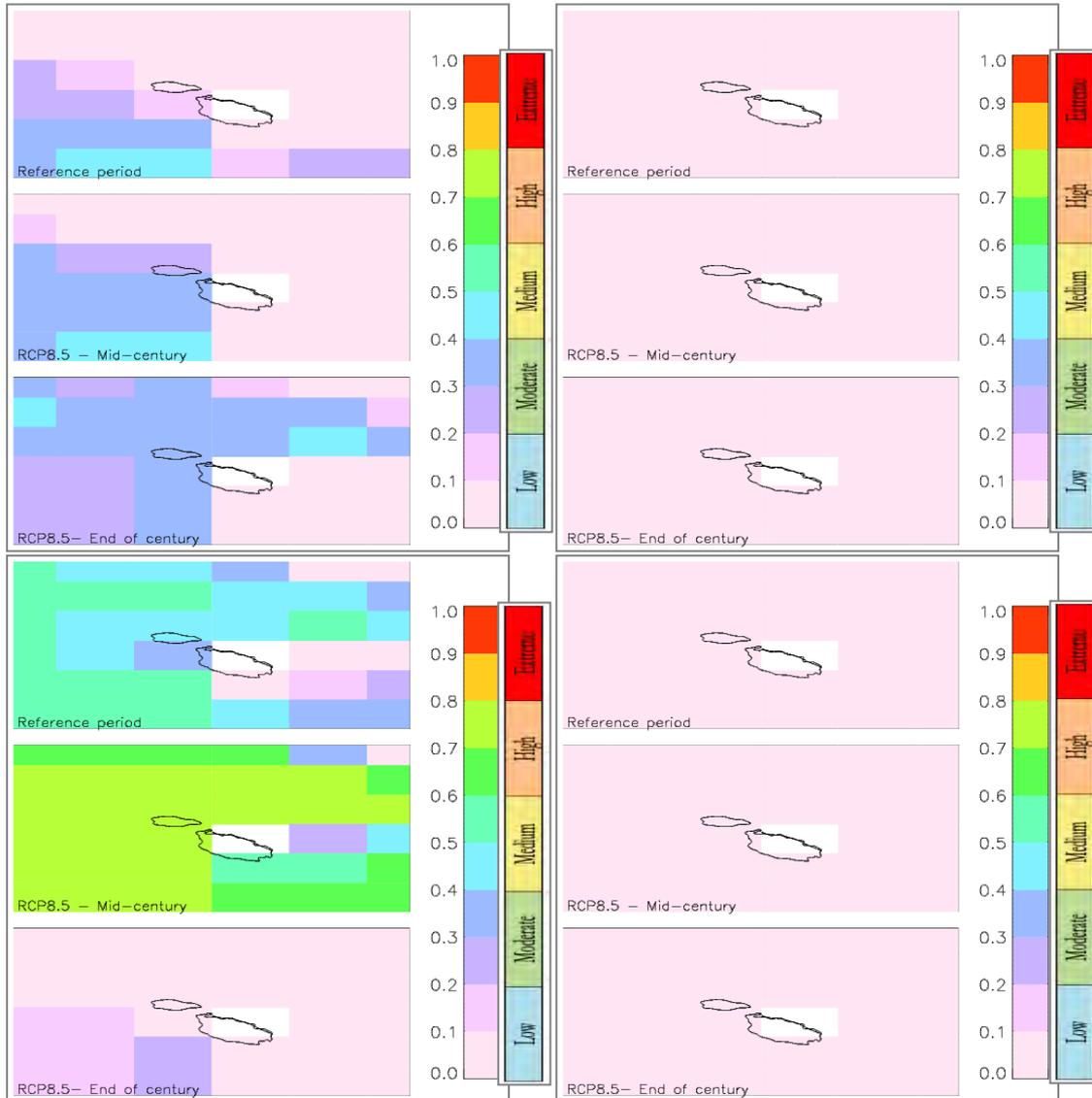


Figure 18: RCP8.5 - Normalized hazard from extreme waves - top left: CMCC; top right: CNRM; bottom left: GUF; bottom right: LMD

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.5](#)

3.3 Energy

Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI)

The Standardized Precipitation- Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI is used as an indicator of water availability. In particular, this hazard index can serve as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources.

In EURO-CORDEX 12-km simulations Malta and Gonzo are represented by a very small number of grid points. Nevertheless, climate projections corroborate similar results with the rest of the Mediterranean islands. There are strong indications towards moderate and extreme drier conditions under RCP8.5 and negative but near-normal SPEI values under RCP2.6. This will lead in additional increases in desalination and water pumping needs, a scenario which will substantially increase the cost for adaptation.

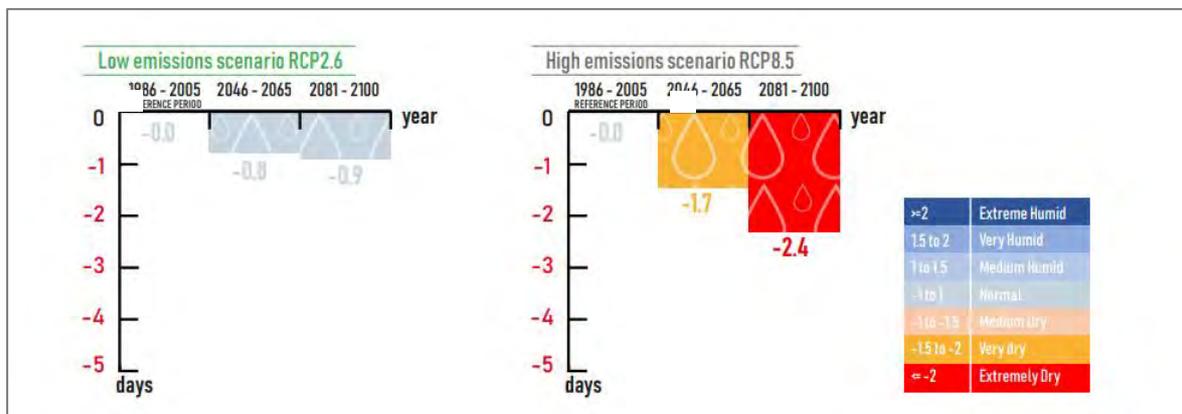


Figure 19: Ensemble mean, maximum and minimum values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged over each SOCLIMPACT island and for each sub-period of analysis (EURO-CORDEX).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Percentage of days when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$

The T_{98p} is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005. For RCP2.6, the indicator will reach 10% by the end of the century. On the other hand, the RCP8.5 future projections show that, daily temperatures will be above T_{98p} for 26% on average (~ 94 days per year) of time.



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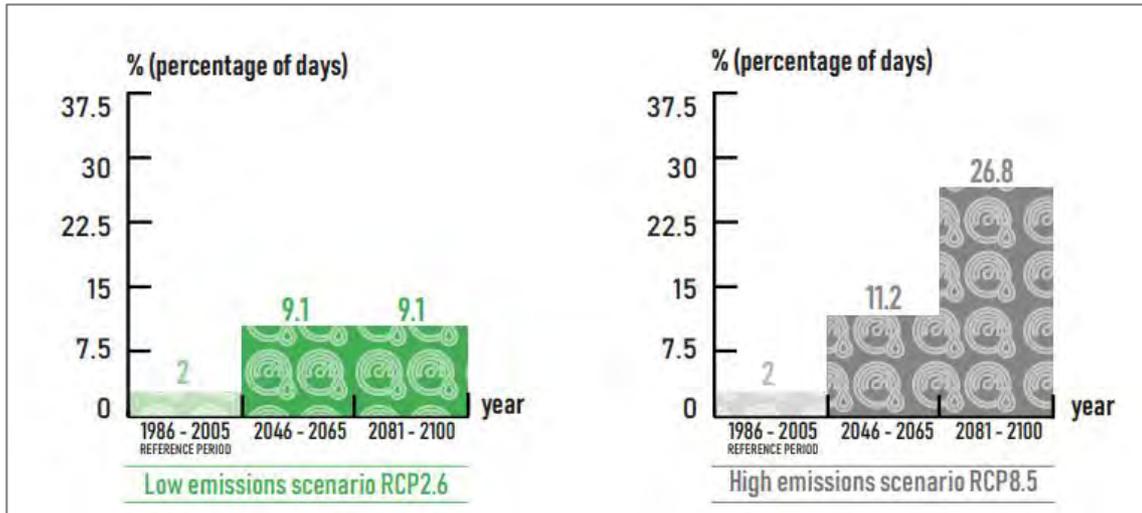


Figure 20: Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile (EURO-CORDEX)

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud *et al.*, 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Wind energy productivity:

All the scenarios in both 2046-2065 and 2081-2100 periods show a tendency to decreasing W_{prod} . However, the magnitude of the decreases varies. As occurs in other regions, RCP8.5 in the 2081-2100 period shows the most important decrease.



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WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

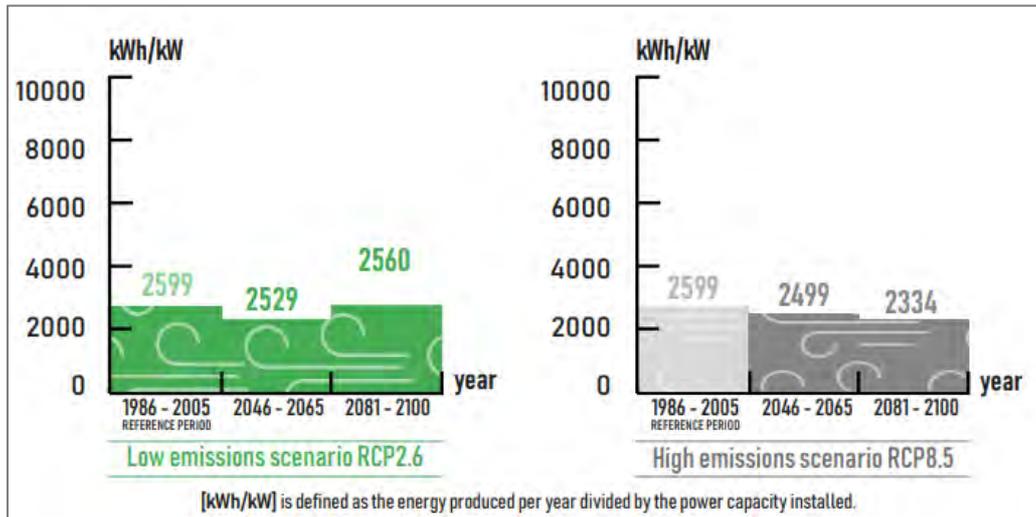


Figure 21: Wind energy productivity (land). Ensemble of models using. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy



WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

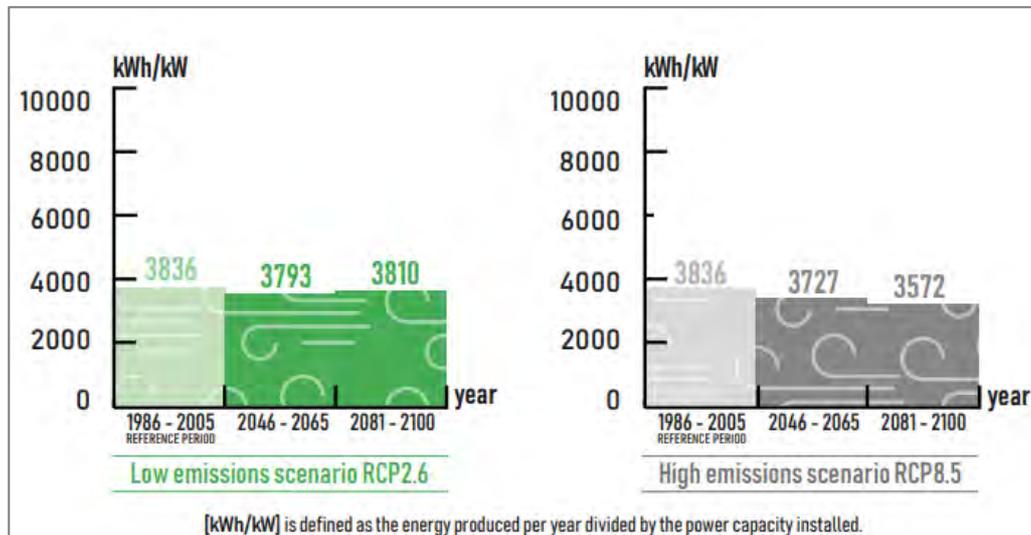


Figure 22: Wind energy productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

Photovoltaic energy productivity:

The spatial pattern of photovoltaic productivity changes is represented (Deliverable 4.3, not showed), showing an extended decrease for both scenarios and both periods. The 2081-2100 period for RCP8.5 presents the largest negative changes. Malta the decrease



reaches 3% in the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the century. The decreases are larger over the sea, particularly over the southern part of the domain. Productivity decreases are rather small for RCP 2.6.

PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

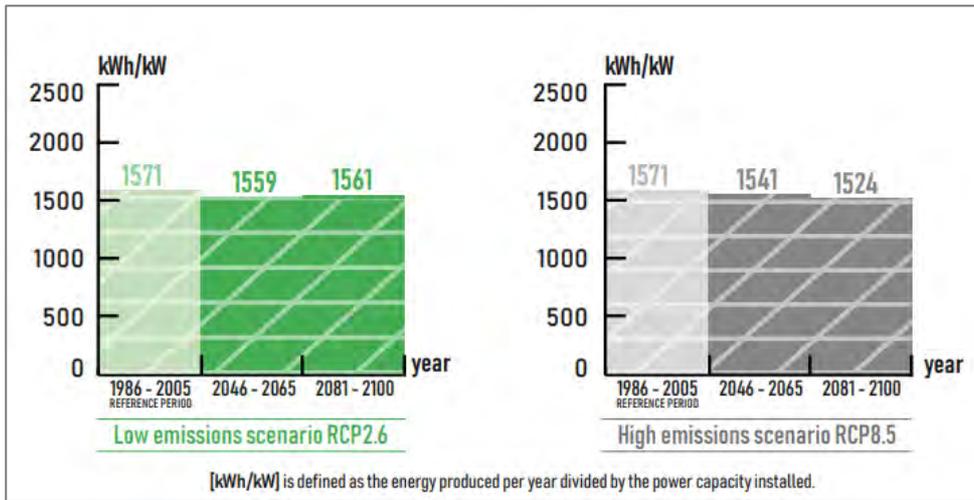


Figure 23: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (land). Ensemble of models using. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

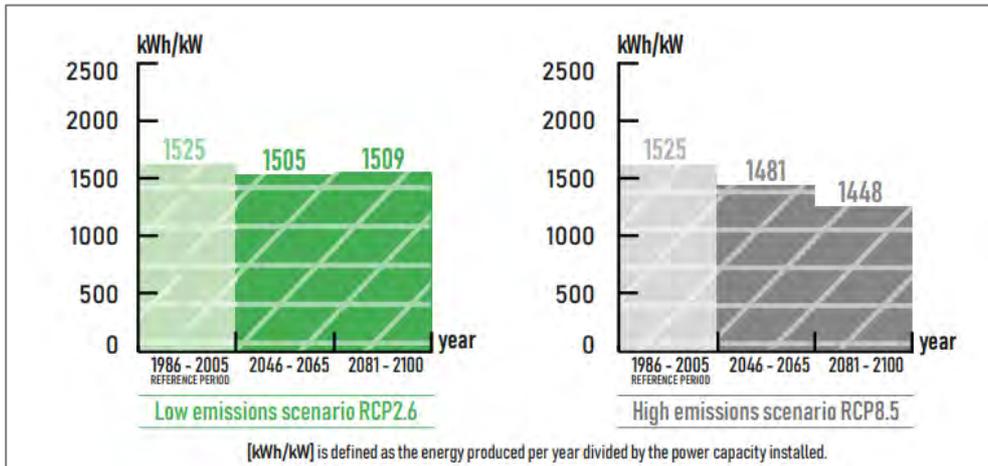


Figure 24: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity (sea). Ensemble of models using. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Wind droughts are remarkably more frequent over land than over the sea in the control period. Overall, severe wind productivity droughts tend to experience an increase in occurrence in both scenarios. This increase is particularly important in the 2081-2100 period of the RCP8.5 scenario.

 **ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)**

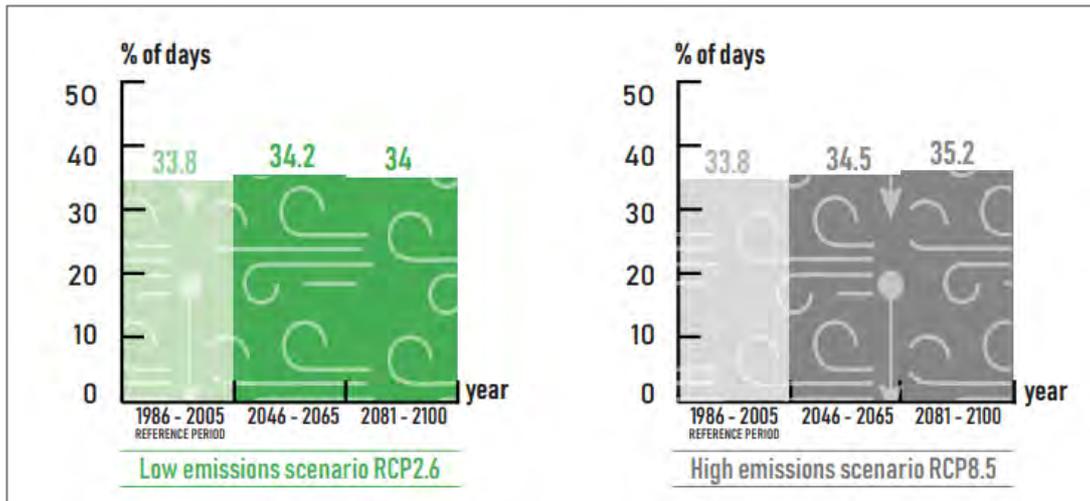


Figure 25: Ensemble mean frequency of severe WIND productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4.a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

Projected changes in the frequency of severe PV droughts are small. Severe PV droughts are very infrequent and practically no change is projected in the future.



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ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

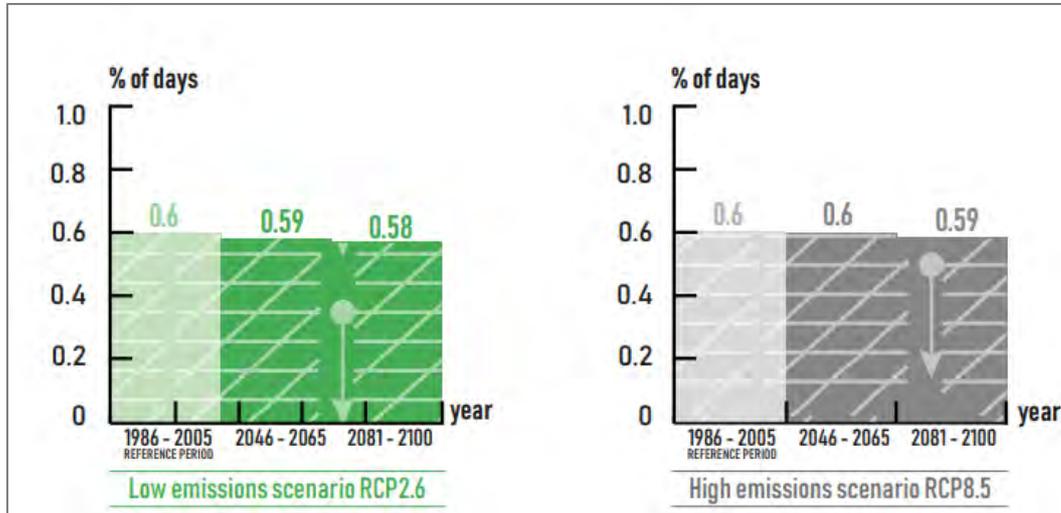


Figure 26: Ensemble mean frequency of severe PV productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

Finally, the combined effect (wind and PV) does not show significant changes in the future.

ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

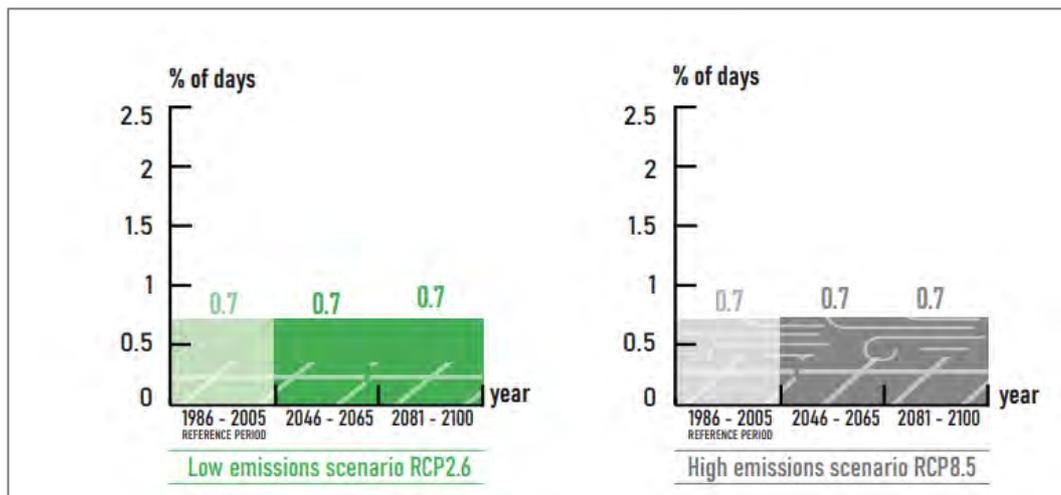


Figure 27: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered (combined effect)

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4a Report](#) on solar and wind energy

Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing provides the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room.

For RCP2.6, we found that, for near future and far future, the increase is about 50%. On the other hand, the analysis of the RCP8.5 provides a more devastating picture as the number of CDD will be around four times larger than the reference period.

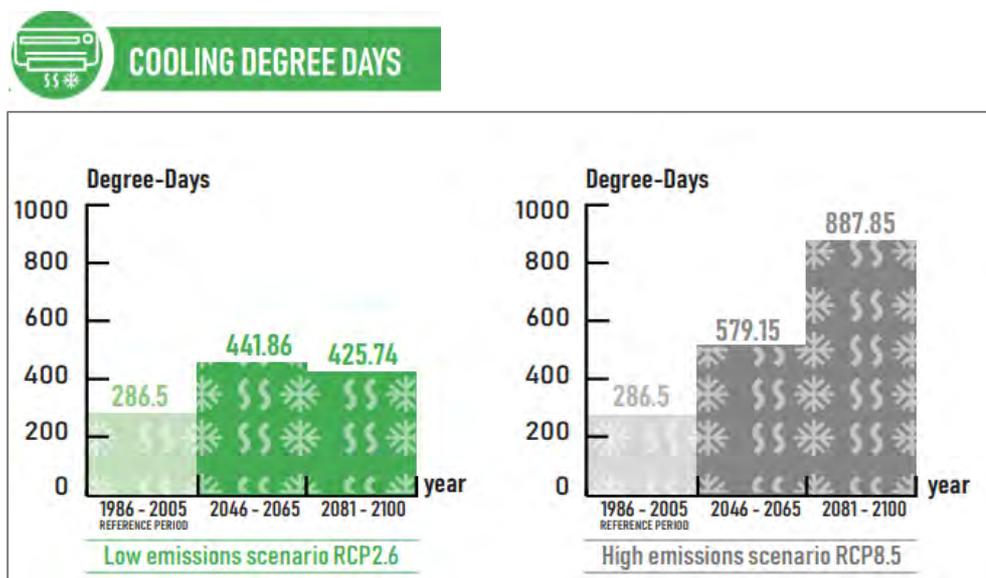


Figure 28: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations, relative change (%)

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

3.4 Maritime transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Malta, the SLR ranges from 24, 10 cm (RCP2.6) to 64,99 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.

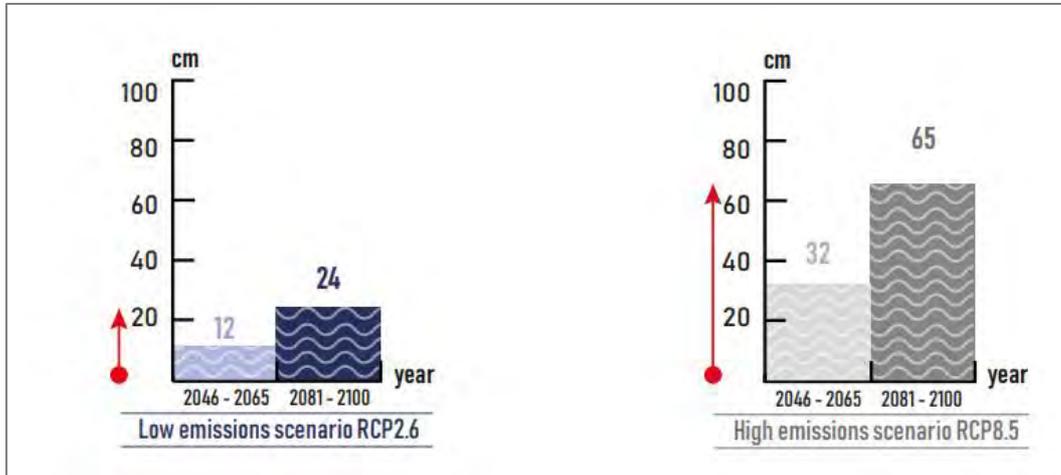


Figure 29: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.4b Report on storm surge levels

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides. To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello *et al.* (2016). This ensemble consists on 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at $1/4^\circ$ of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations.

The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels. Storm surge could decrease amount 20% under RCP8.5 (far future). Nevertheless it is worth noting that the Mean Sea Level Rise is expected to be critically larger in this same period and scenario.



SOCLIMPACT



STORM SURGE EVENTS

99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level in cm for the reference period and relative change (in %) for mid and end of century

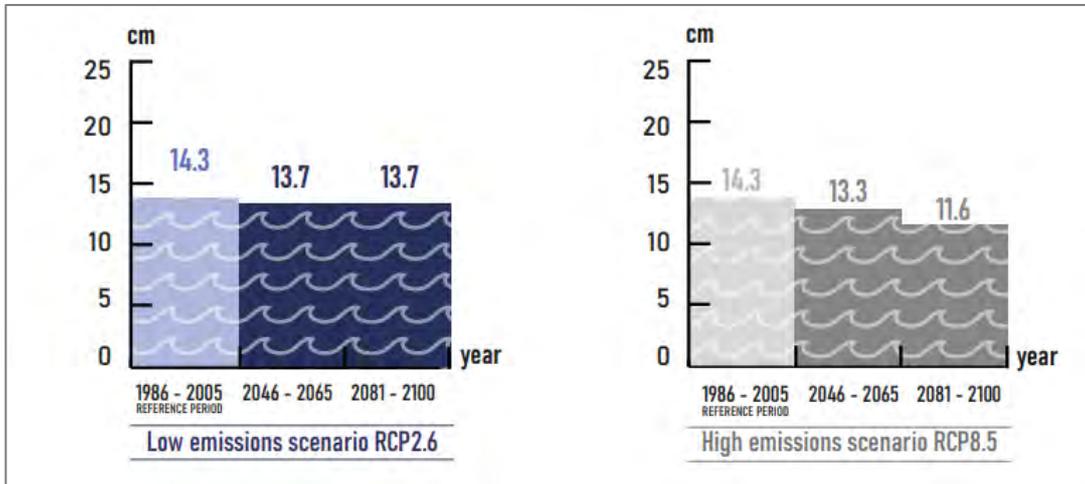


Figure 30: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5, relative change in brackets.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.4b Report on storm surge levels

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future with a strongest value under RCP8.5 (- 22.9 %). Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases but with a more significant magnitude for RCP 8.5.



WINDS EXTREMITY INDEX

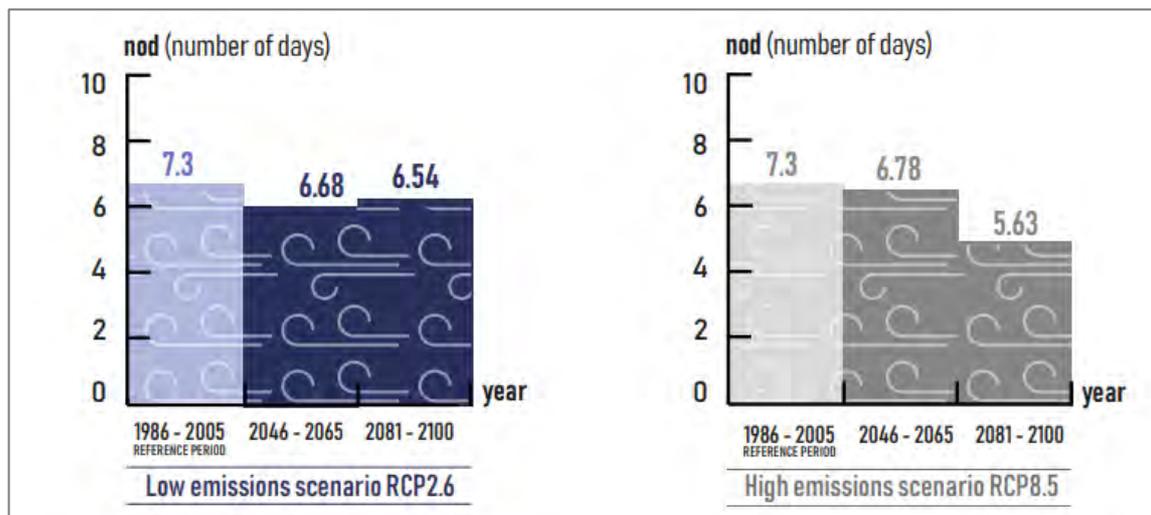


Figure 31: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following maps.

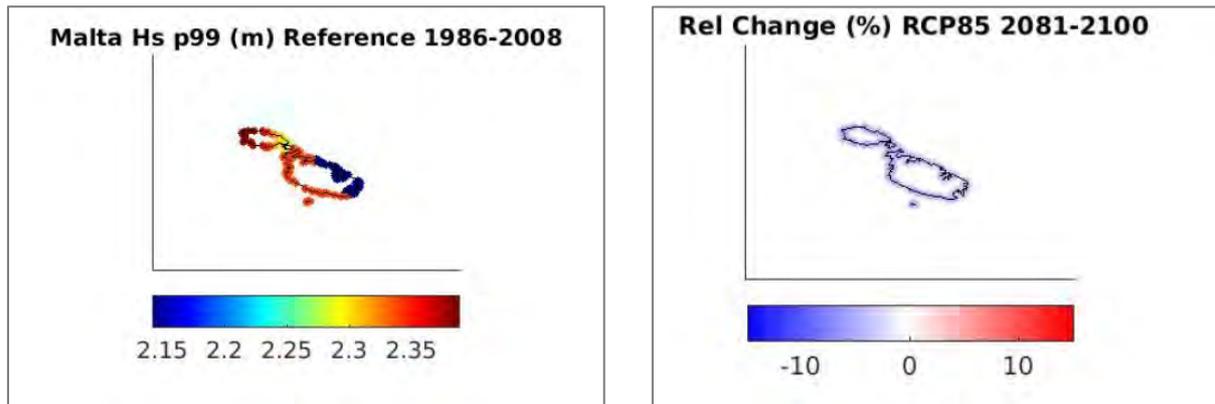


Figure 32: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. MED-CORDEX and Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.4b Report on storm surge levels

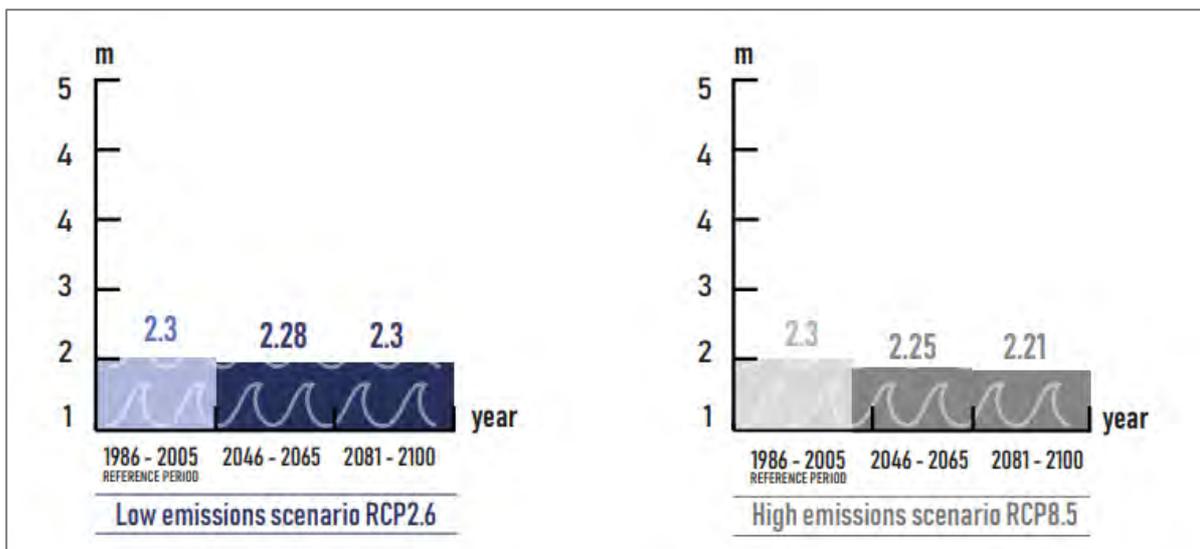


Figure 33: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. MED-CORDEX and Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.4b Report on storm surge levels

4 Climate change risks on blue economy

4.1 Tourism

In this section of tourism, we present the results of operationalization of three impact chains.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1). For each of these components of the theoretical IC (step 2), several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

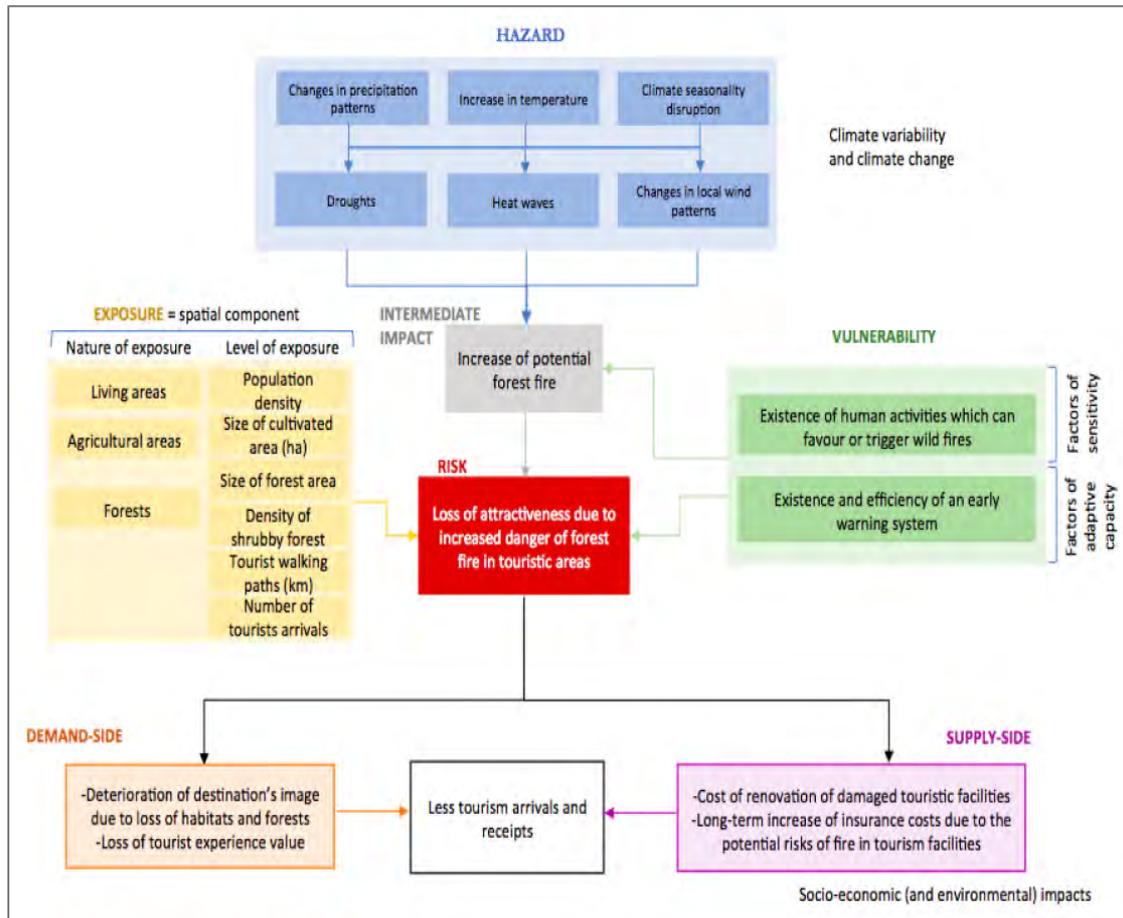


Figure 34: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D3.2](#)

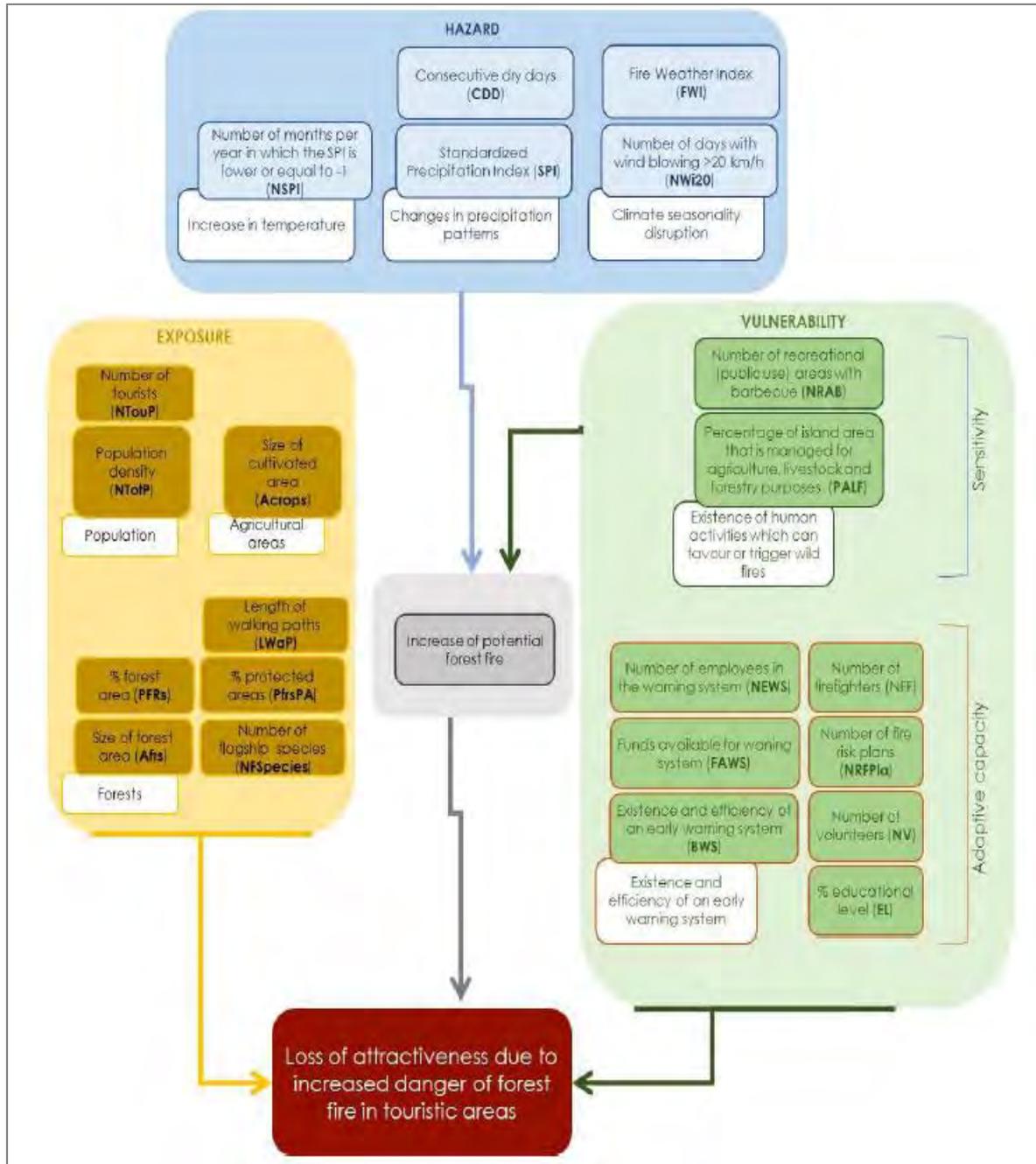


Figure 35: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas

Source: Sodimpact deliverable [D3.3](#)

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

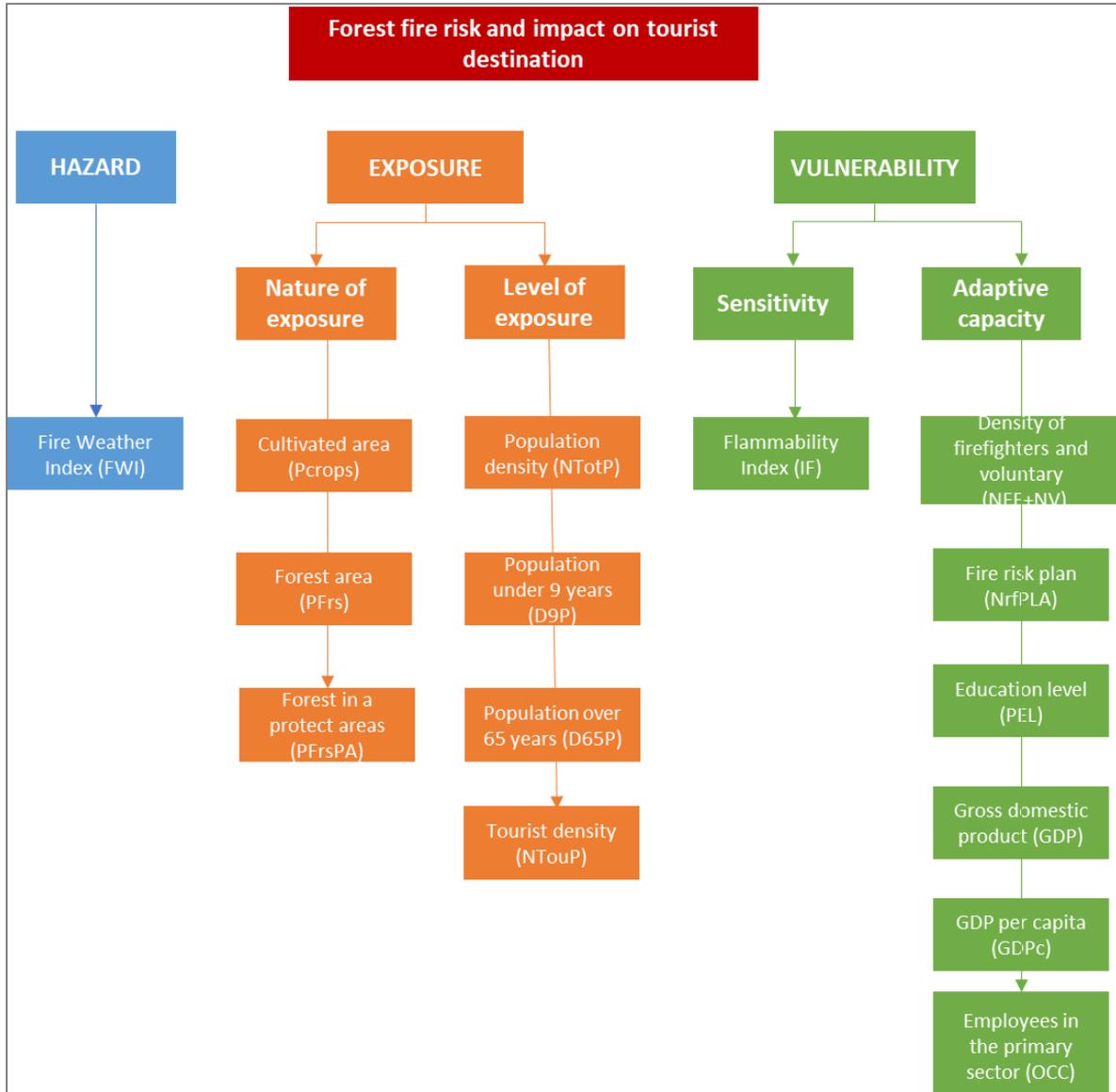


Figure 36: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from "Very low" to "Very high". Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Hazard scores

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of **Malta**, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected

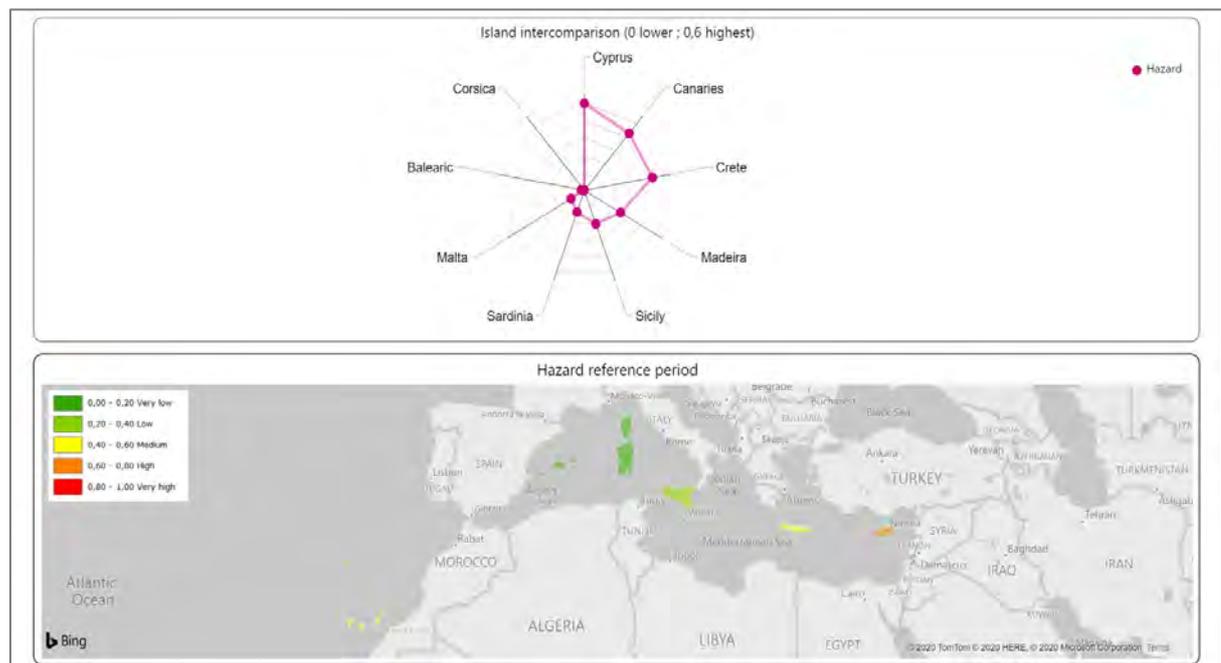


Figure 37: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

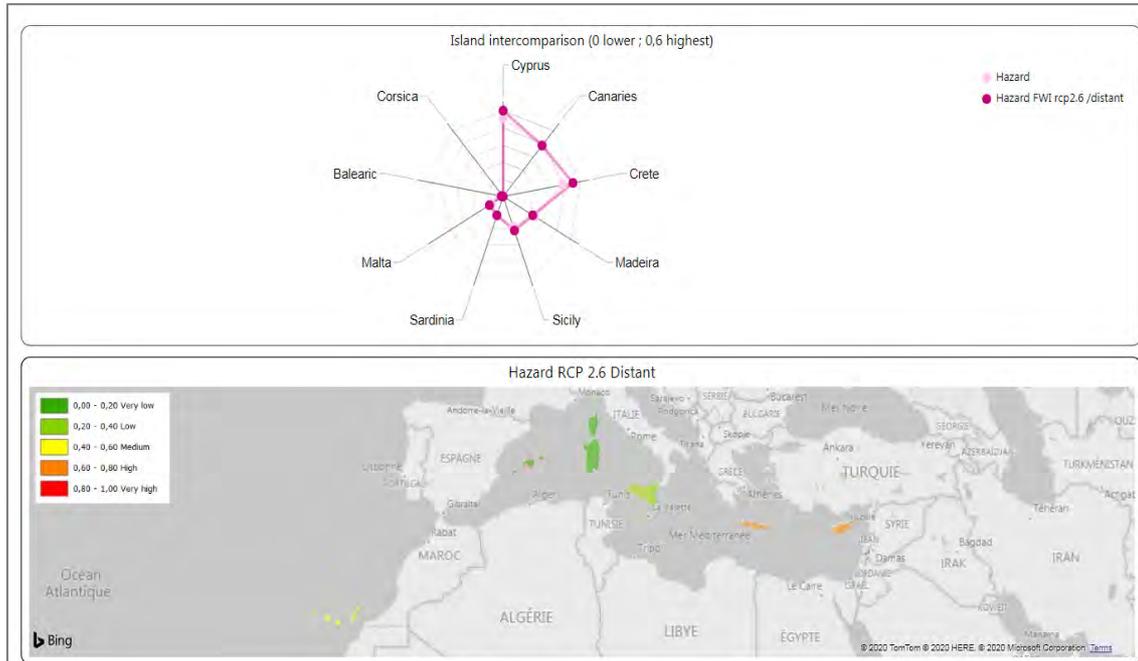


Figure 38: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies)
Source: Sodimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

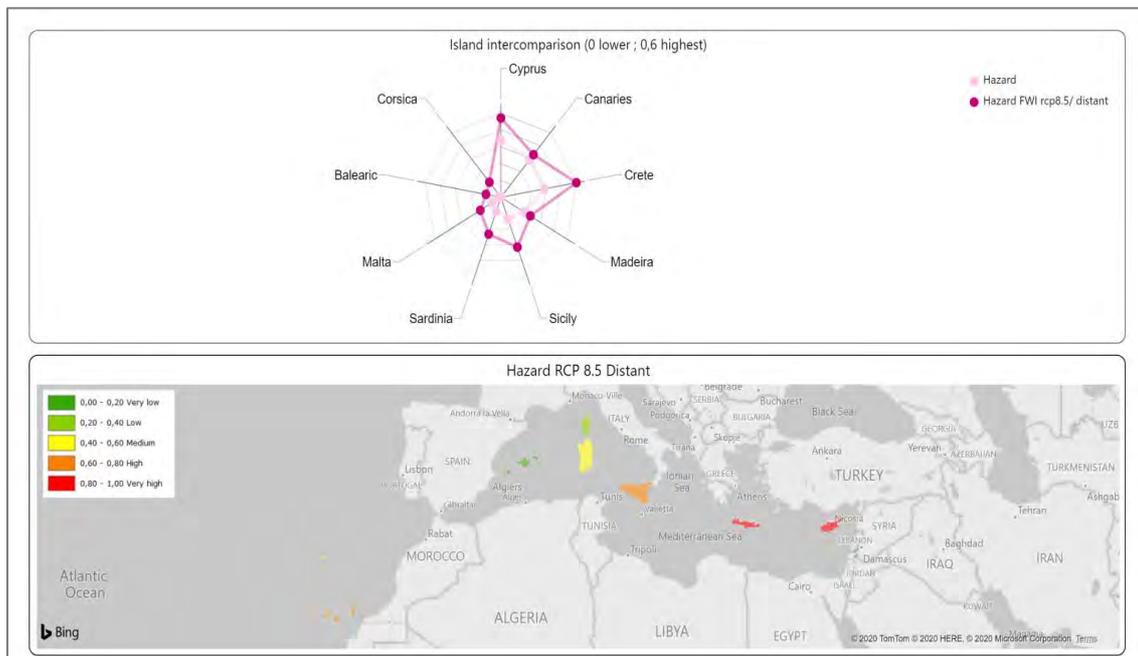


Figure 29: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual)
Source: Sodimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, **except for Malta which rate is very low.**
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

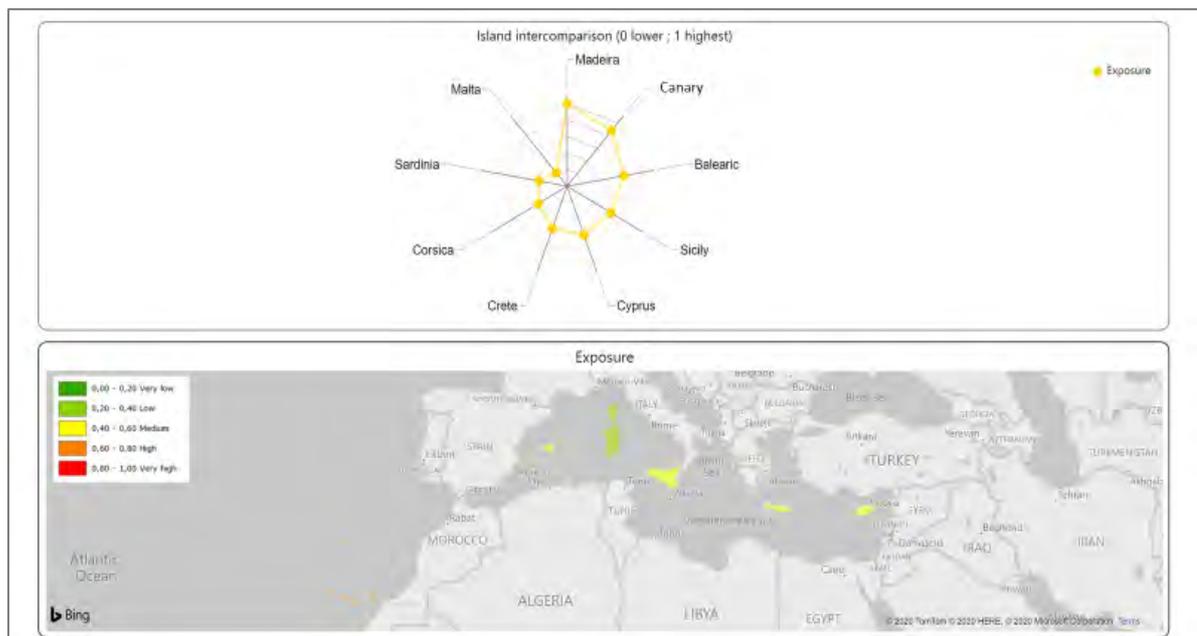


Figure 40: Exposure score (current period) per island

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

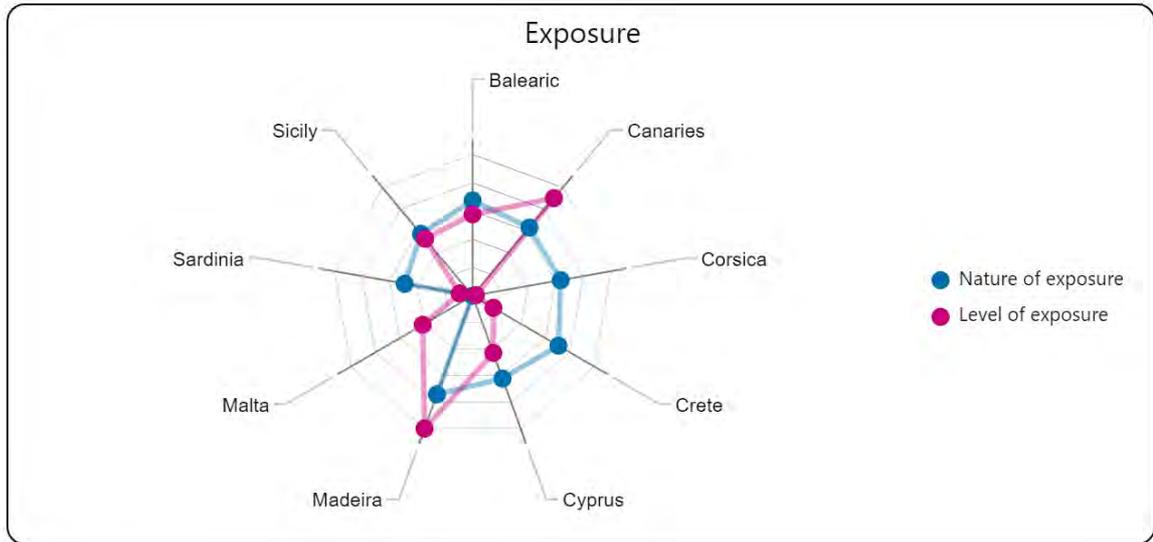


Figure 41: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

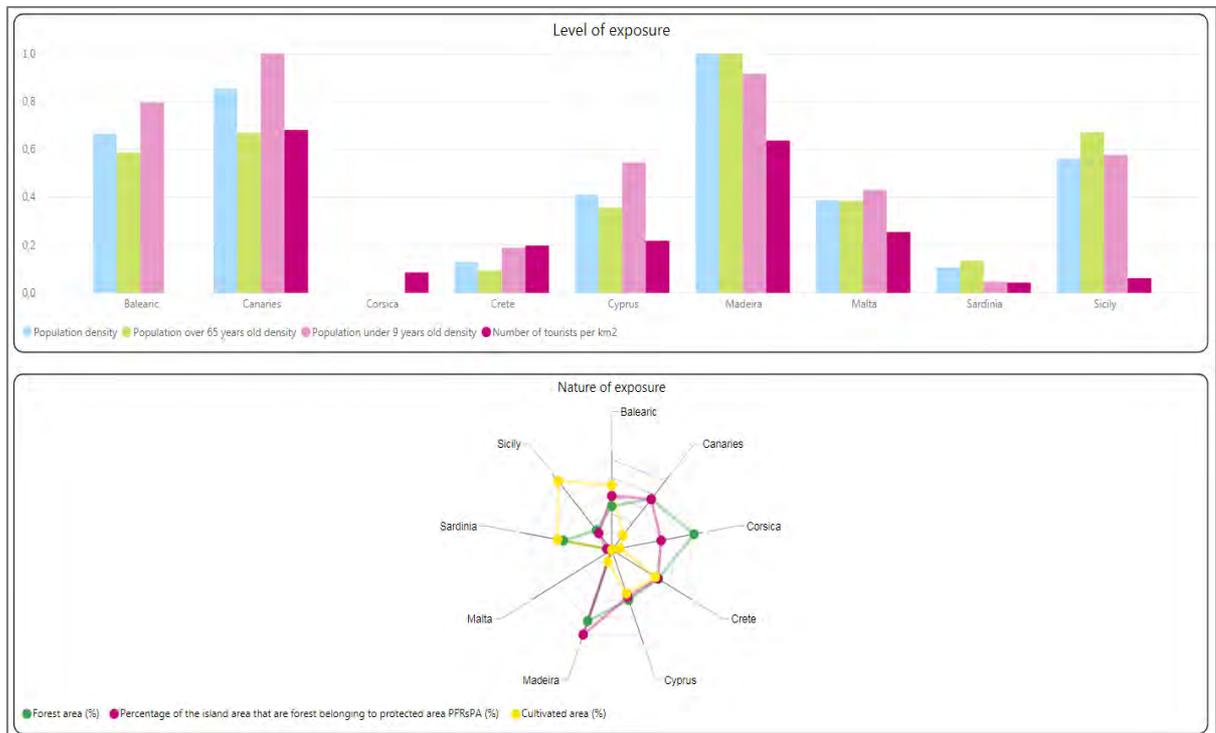


Figure 42: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, **Malta**, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

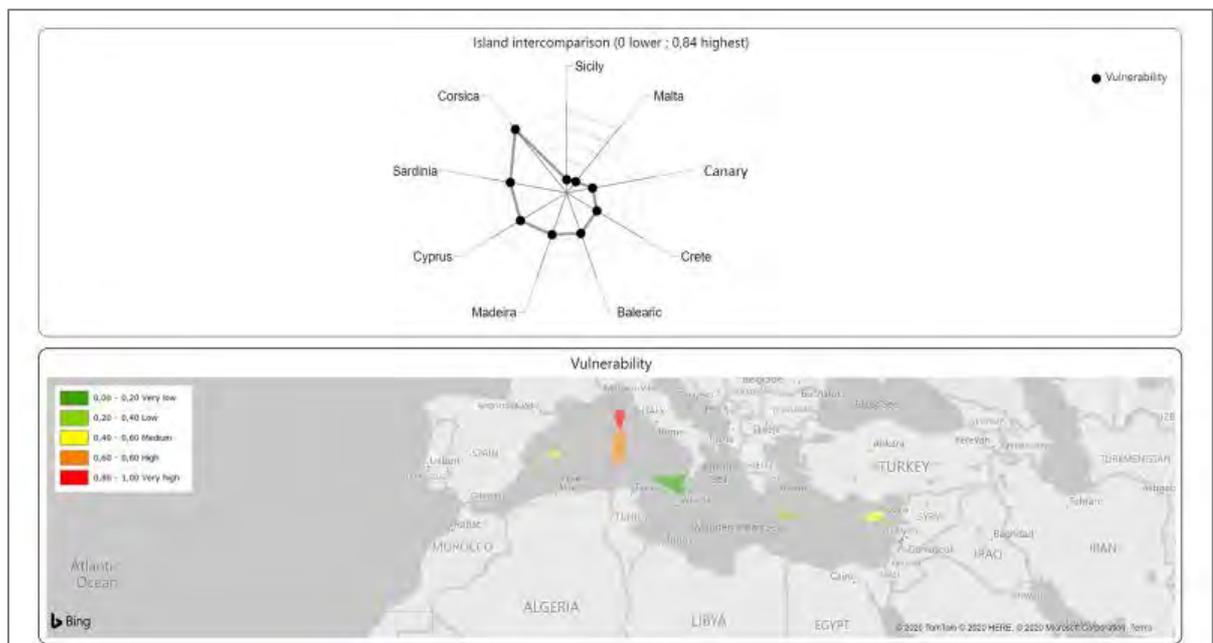


Figure 43: Vulnerability score per island

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

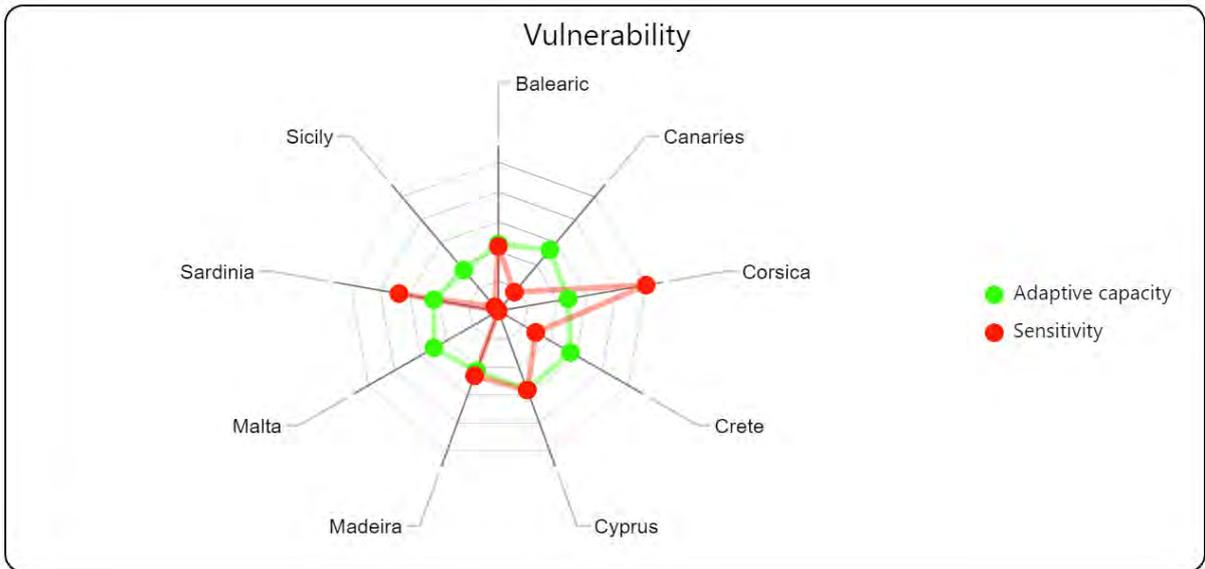


Figure 44: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

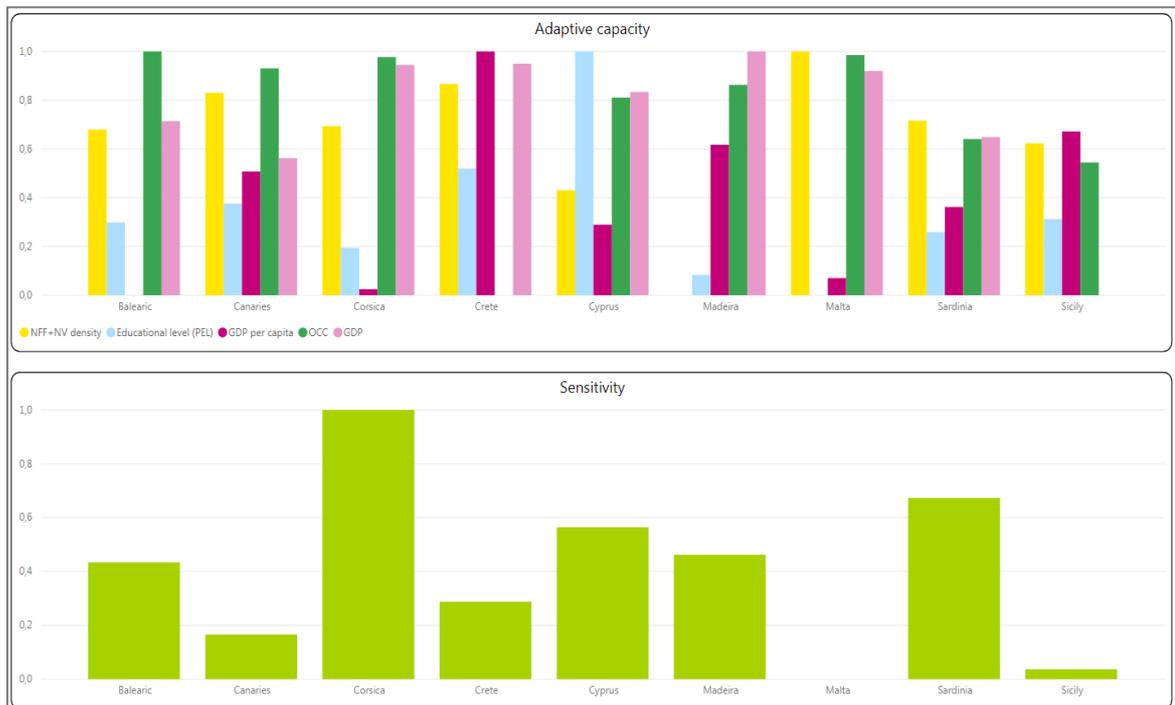


Figure 45: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island
 Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk *Figure is* medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for **Malta**.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only **Malta** has a quite balanced distribution across the components.

- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for **Malta** and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5. Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

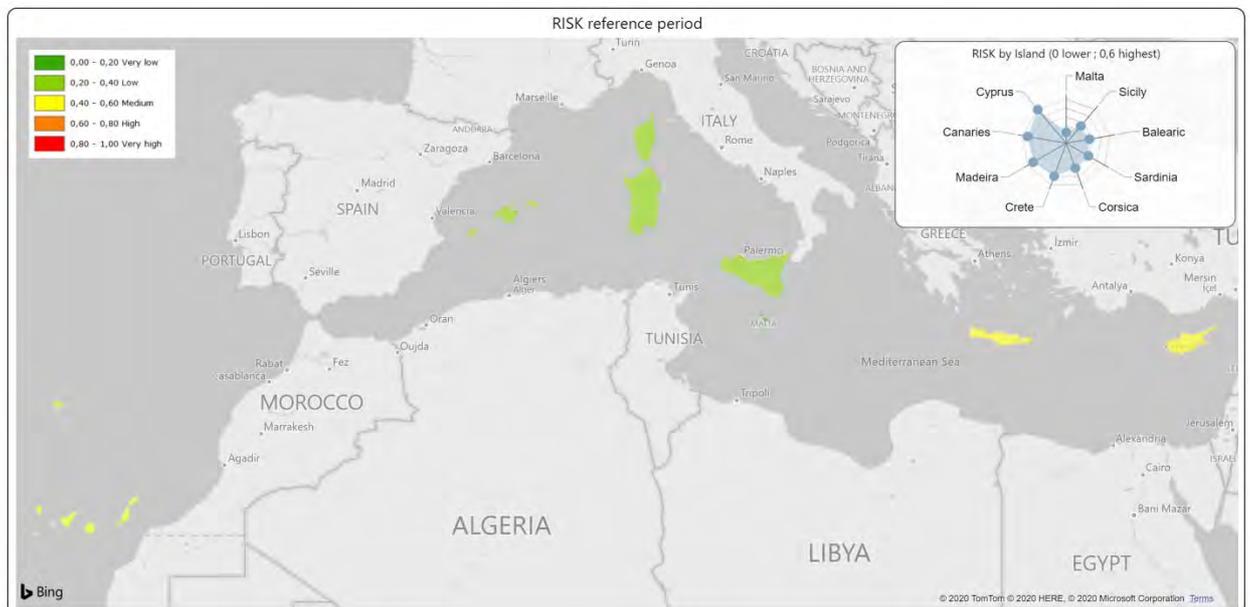


Figure 46: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

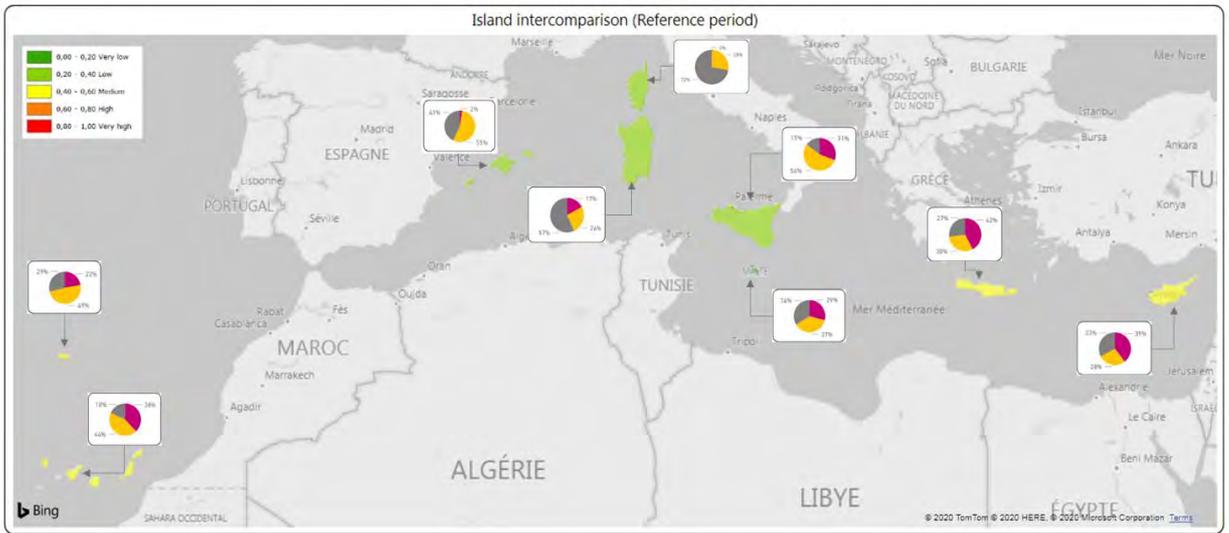


Figure 47: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

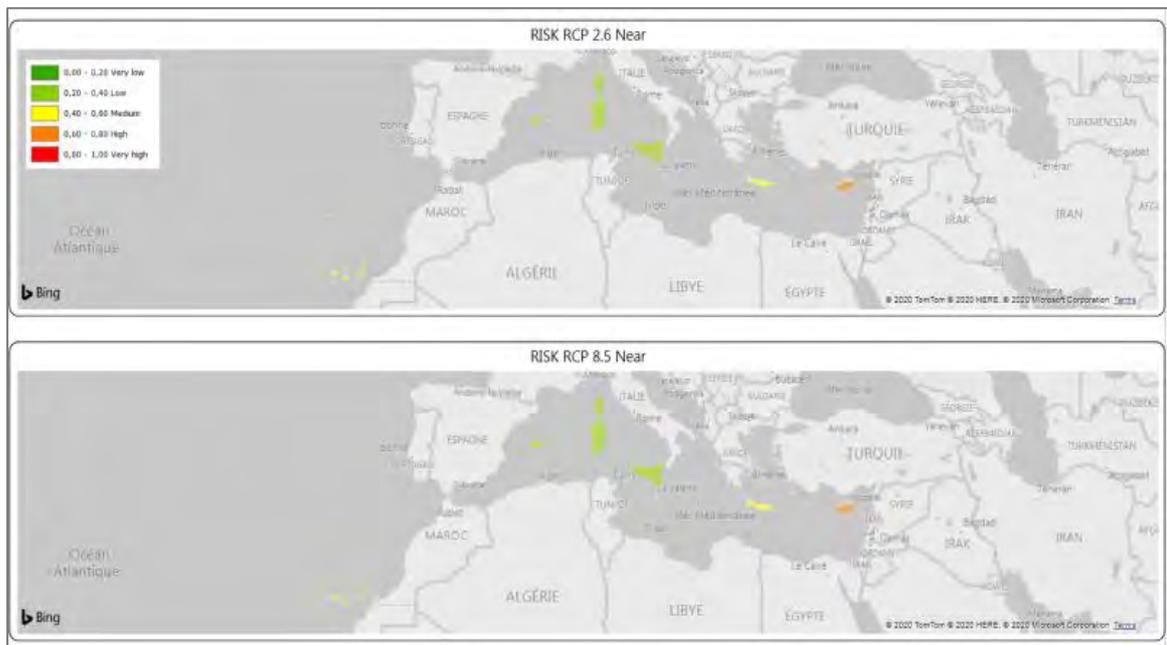


Figure 48: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

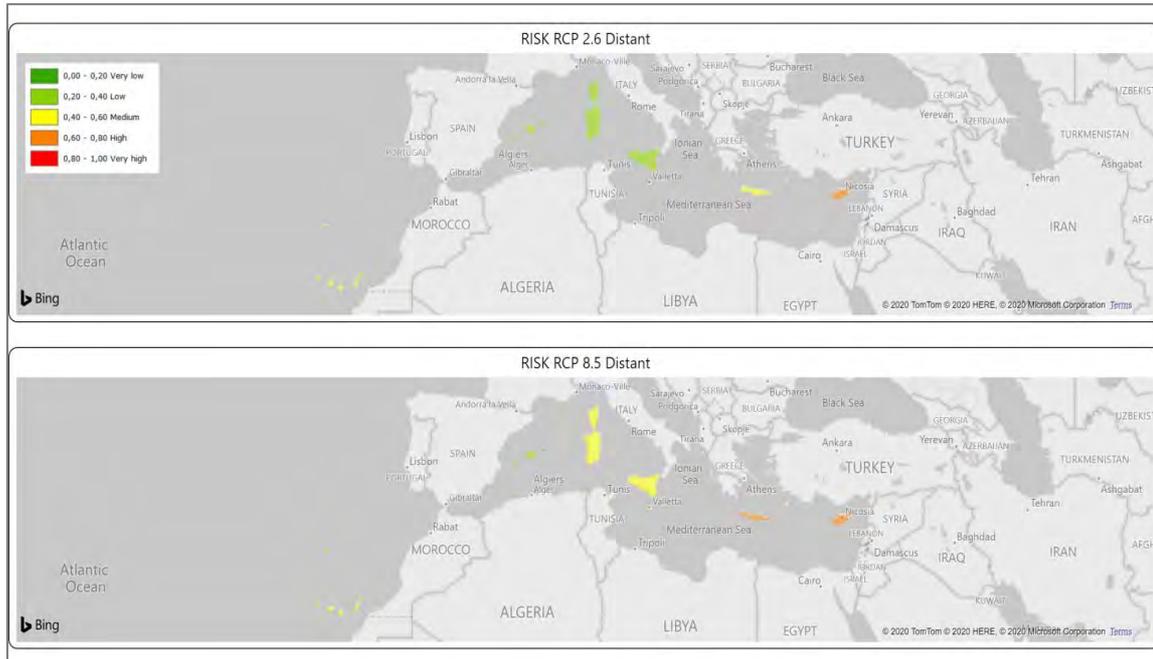


Figure 49: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

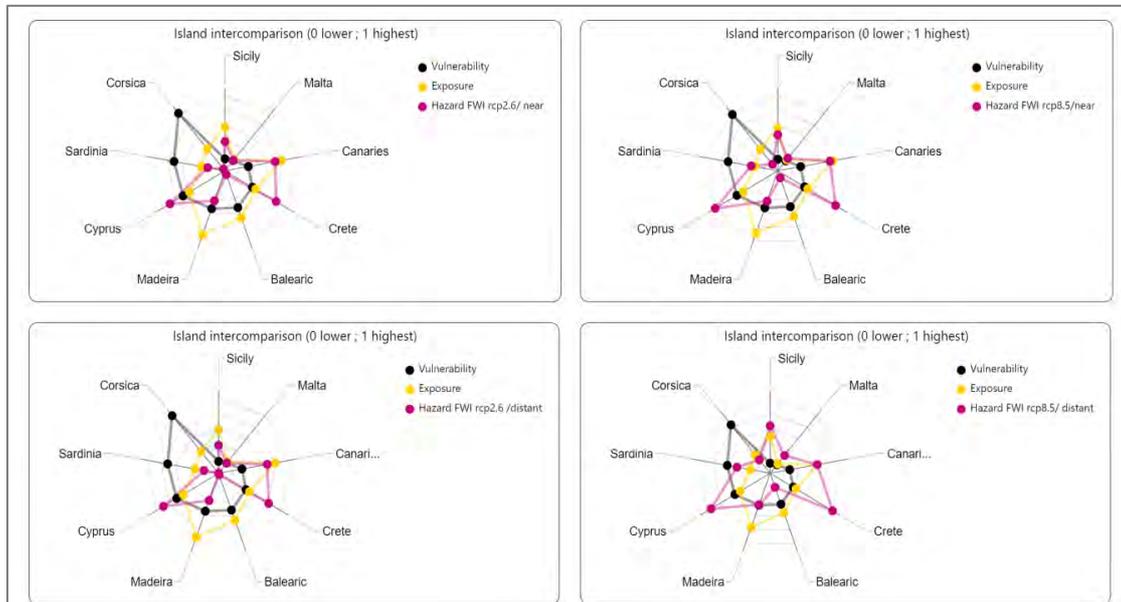


Figure 50: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Malta island results

Considering, the reference period, the risk for Malta is very low and the three components are balanced. The future risk will change from very low to low under RCP 8.5 at the end of century.



Figure 51: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)



Figure 52: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Considering the exposure component, only the level of exposure is represented in the calculation of the final risk scores.

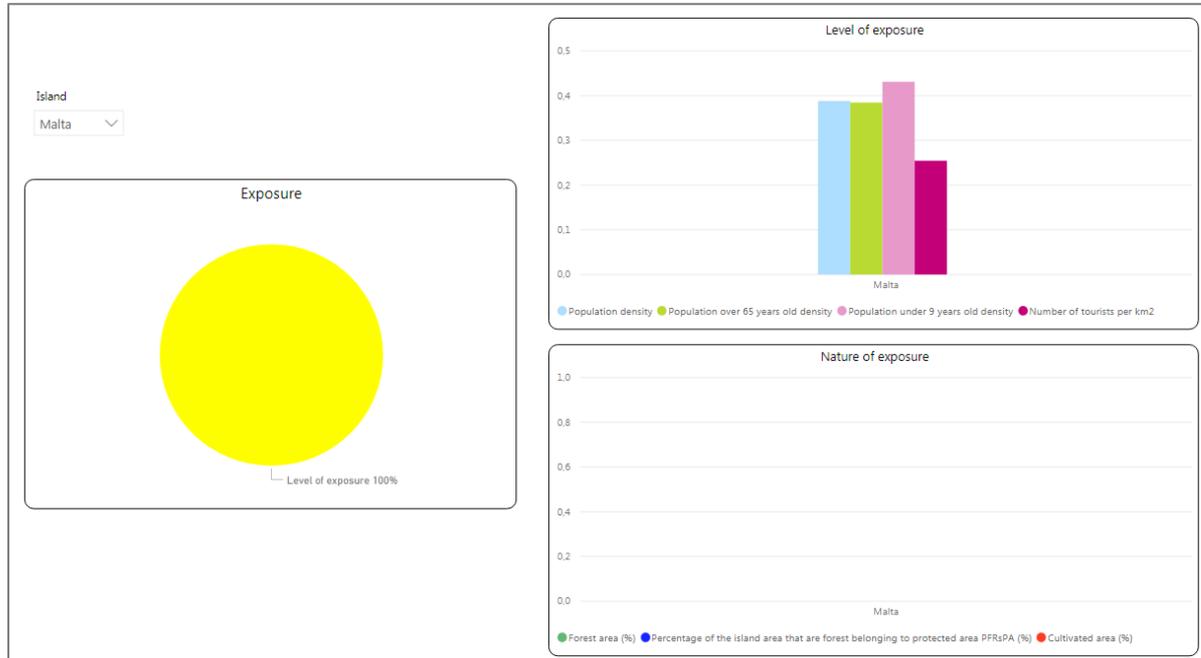


Figure 53: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure)
Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Considering the vulnerability component, only the adaptive capacity is represented: indeed, the flammability index as indicator of the sub-component of sensitivity is almost 0. The indicators of numbers of firefighters (+volunteers) and the occupation rate (%) are the most representative within the adaptive capacity sub-component.

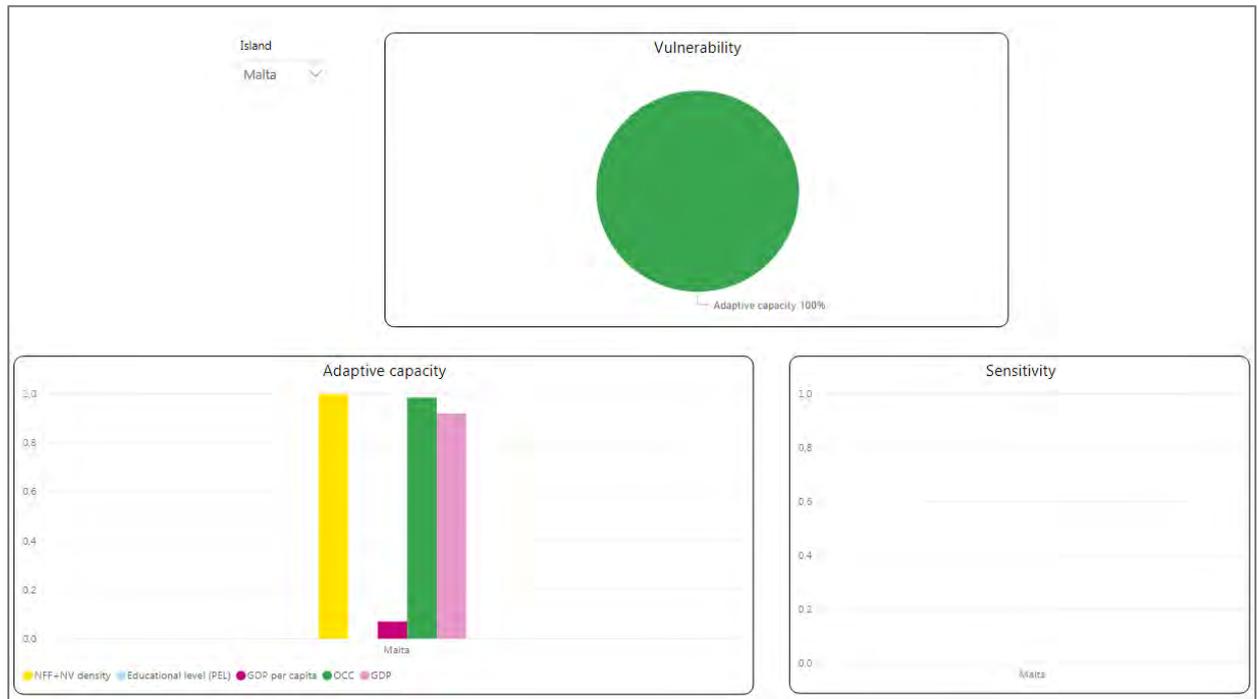


Figure 54: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity)

Source: Soclimpact deliverable [D4.5](#)

Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitats degradation

Climate change is expected to impact tourism activities through direct impacts on comfort and health of tourists, on the infrastructures and facilities that provide basic services to visitors and on the natural ecosystems that hold a big part of the attractions of the coastal and marine tourism destinations. The analysis of those impacts was decomposed into a single impact chain.

Specifically, it presents a conceptual model on the effect that Climate Change would have on conditions that make marine environments attractive for tourists visiting coastal destinations. More in detail, climate hazards like the increase of mean and variability of seawater temperature and the increase of oceans acidification, mainly, are affecting marine habitats with touristic relevance through diminishing bio-productivity and attracting exotic species, some of them toxic, and because of that, reducing the attractiveness of marine landscapes and the presence of flagship species; increasing turbidity in bathing and diving sea waters affecting the quality of bathing, diving, snorkelling and bottom-glass boating experiences, at least; and increased frequency and intensity of episodes of seagrasses massive death that arrive to the beaches affecting the experience of lying and staying there.

The next figure shows the theoretical impact chain. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. Increase in the mean and variability of seawater temperature is the main driver of marine habitat degradation; also seawater acidification impacts marine life although it substantially varies depending of the marine organisms;
2. The risk of those marine habitat transformations for tourism critically depends on the nature exposed to it, the amount and proportion of tourists that feel marine habitat is a relevant motivation to visit the destination, and the resilience of the exposed natural assets and tourists to those changes in the marine environmental conditions,
3. Finally, the preparedness to cope with the deterioration of its marine environment by developing substitutive attractions, is also a key aspect to assess the effective risk that those hazards pose on the tourism industry at the destination.

The complex relationship between climate change, marine habitats and tourism still exhibits important gaps of knowledge. For example, there is no evidence on the impact that the abovementioned hazards may have on the communities of cetaceans that live or pass through near the coasts of the islands under study. In some cases, this is a very important economic chapter within the tourism industry in the islands. Whether climate change is going to diminish or not the abundance or affect the distance of those cetacean communities from the island requires further research.

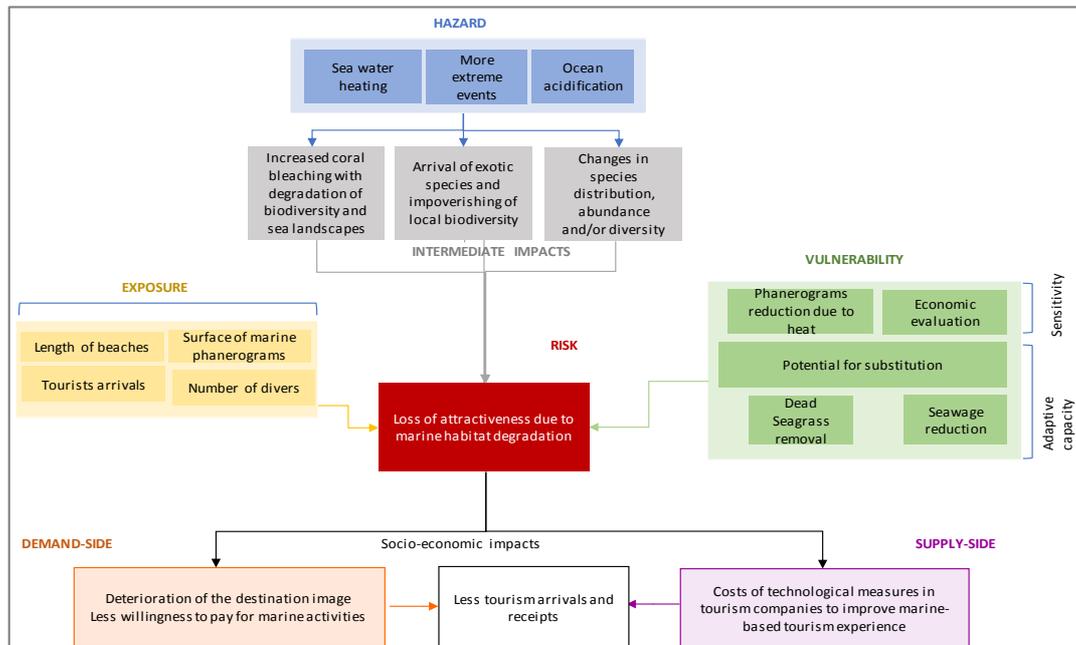


Figure 55: Loss of destination attractiveness due to marine environment degradation as a result of climate change hazards.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability, which includes sensitivity and adaptive capacity) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to the degradation of the marine environment.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to the deterioration of their marine habitats as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements, together with the variables that express the tourism-related environmental and social systems' exposure to those hazards, the sensitivity of the exposed systems to the referenced hazards and the social capacities to cope with the potential impacts of climate change by protecting nature and the society and/or making them more resilient.

Some modifications of the original impact chain were undertaken for the sake of feasibility, although experts were encouraged to have in mind all the factors they know can affect the impact of climate change on the marine habitat services for tourism. It means that the hierarchy tree is a simplified structure of the main factors explaining the complex relationship between climate change and the ecosystem services that support tourist use of marine environments, but other factors also known by experts must be taken into account at the time of comparing the components of the risk between islands. This is one of the most interesting strengths of the decision processes based on expert participation and, particularly, of the multicriteria analysis used in this case. The next figure shows the basic structure, or hierarchy tree, of the decision making process that was presented to the experts.

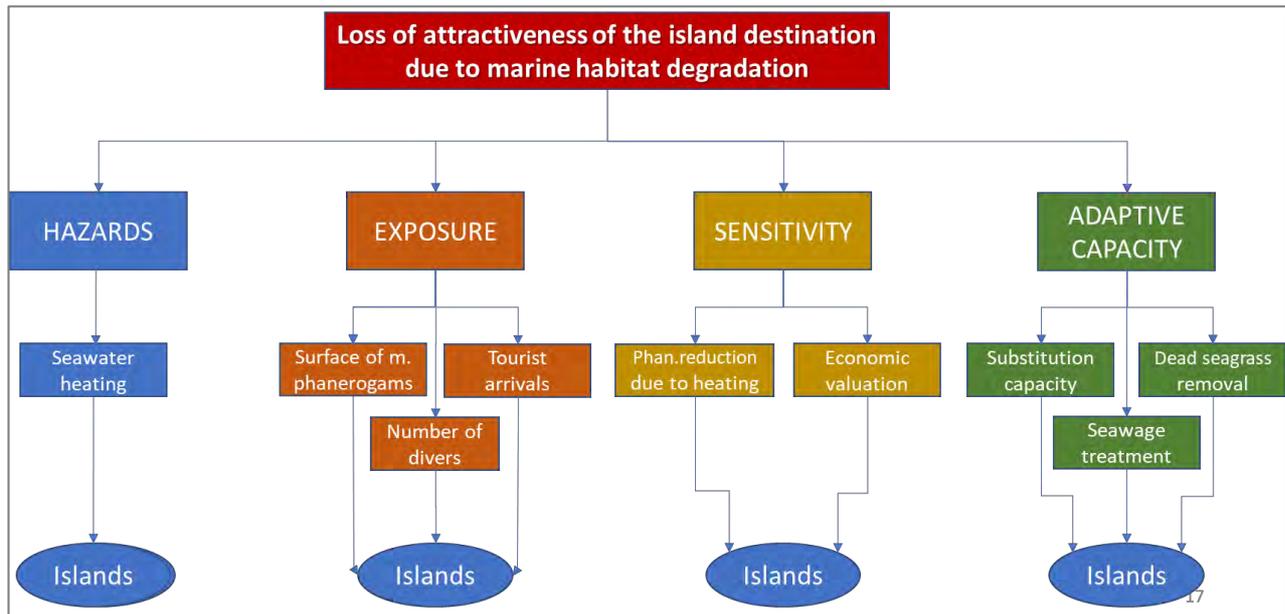


Figure 56: Hierarchy tree for marine habitats impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#), Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. In our context, seawater heating was considered as the most relevant variable to assess changes in the conservation status of the marine habitats that provide services for coastal tourism activities. Other hazards initially considered, like acidification and storms, were finally discarded. The first one because its effects on living marine organism are still under study and the evidence is dispersed and not conclusive. The second one because in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean that surrounds the islands under study, storms are considered not so frequent and intense to not giving time to marine ecosystems to recover their previous conservation status.

Regarding indicators, published research shows 25 and 26 Celsius degrees as the threshold temperatures over which seagrass meadows, the foundation species that mainly structure ecosystems in the marine habitats of reference, start to decline. The indicators used were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. Sources of information were data provided by the Soclimpact modellers.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion, the natural and social systems potentially damaged by the selected climate hazards, was decomposed into three sub-criteria, one referred to the marine environment, and the other two related to the use that tourists make of the services provided for the marine environments at the destination. These three sub-criteria were expressed through three respective indicators. One, referred to the surface of marine phanerogams that suffer from the climate stressors. Phanerogams, specially

Posidonia in the Mediterranean and Cymodosea in the Atlantic, are the very foundation species organizing most of the coastal ecosystems. They provide food and shelter to many different species and keep seawater clear by absorbing sediments. Additionally, when become damaged, seagrasses meadows deliver dead individuals that go to lay on the beaches used by tourists.

The second sub-criterion is one about the different types of direct uses that tourists make of the ecosystem services. Diving was selected to represent these uses and the selected indicator was the number of divers per year. It was assumed that other sea watching activities like snorkelling and bottom-glass boating evolves similarly than diving. Experts were also invited to consider other sea environment users potentially affected by the lack of water transparency and dead seagrass suspended in seawater like surfers, windsurfers and other active users of the marine environment.

The third sub-criterion was related to the impact on most of tourists as bathers. Turbid water affects the quality of bathing experience, which is an activity that most tourists do.

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of the phanerogam meadows to changes in seawater temperature and to the extent to which the impoverishing of seawater conditions and marine ecosystems may affect the welfare of tourists.

Regarding the effects of episodes of seawater heating on the integrity of seagrasses meadows, the variable selected was periods of overheating and the indicators were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. As explained above, experts were invited to take into account their experience and their knowledge about the differences between the way seagrasses behave in the real world and in the laboratory when studying the impact of water heating.

With respect to the impact of the marine environmental degradation on the welfare of tourists, the indicator selected was the tourists' willingness to pay for the preservation of marine ecosystems². Thus, ecosystem and social susceptibility are both taken into account when comparing risks of marine environment degradation due to climate change between islands.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system. This criterion was split into three sub-criteria, one referred to the substitution of marine-based activities by lesser marine habitats dependent ones, and two concerning with actions to heal the marine

² This information was delivered by Soclimpact researchers who are in charge of the work package number 5. More information at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*

environment like removing dead seagrasses or reducing non-treated sewage discharges. In this case, island experts were consulted about the capacity of their reference destination to address these adaptation actions using a 1-4 scale, where 1 represented a very poor management capacity and 4 expressed a full capacity to deal with it.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 4: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sicily
Hazards	Seawater heating RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.032 (15.9%)	0.007 (3.9%)	0.096 (35.3%)	0.044 (25.3%)	0.044 (25.5%)
	Exposure	Surface of marine phanerogams	0.029	0.002	0.004	0.008
Number of divers		0.008	0.004	0.001	0.001	0.001
Tourists' arrivals		0.012	0.012	0.002	0.001	0.005
<i>Total</i>		<i>0.049</i> (24.6%)	<i>0.018</i> (9.9%)	<i>0.007</i> (2.5%)	<i>0.011</i> (6.1%)	<i>0.026</i> (15.4%)
Sensitivity	Phanerogams' susceptibility to heat	0.048	0.082	0.011	0.020	0.017
	Economic valuation	0.002	0.024	0.004	0.006	0.009
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.050</i> (25.1%)	<i>0.106</i> (57.7%)	<i>0.014</i> (5.3%)	<i>0.025</i> (14.6%)	<i>0.026</i> (15.3%)
Adaptive capacity	Products substitution	0.032	0.032	0.093	0.032	0.017
	Seagrass removal	0.018	0.002	0.006	0.006	0.003
	Sea water pollution	0.019	0.019	0.056	0.056	0.056
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.069</i> (34.4%)	<i>0.053</i> (28.5%)	<i>0.154</i> (56.9%)	<i>0.094</i> (54.0%)	<i>0.075</i> (43.8%)
Total		0.199	0.184	0.271	0.174	0.172
Rank		2	3	1	4	5

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Globally, the ranking obtained from the experts' opinions assigns Cyprus the higher score of the risk of its tourism sector to be affected by climate shock considered, the heating of seawater, through its impact on the marine habitat services underpinning tourist activity in the islands. This is mainly due to its high scores in the expected evolution of the hazard and its low adaptive capacity, especially in the aspects of product substitution and seawater pollution. Cyprus outstands in this position in all emissions scenarios and time horizons, so for the experts there is no doubt this island will face the higher risk at this respect.

Sicily and **Malta** show, in this order, the most advantageous position related to this risk of their tourism activity to be affected by seawater heating, but due to different reasons. While they are equal in hazard and sensitivity, they differ in exposition, where **Malta** get advantage on Sicily due to the size of seagrass meadows exposed; and in adaptive capacity, where Sicily performs better than **Malta**, especially in its potential to substitute marine environment based products by other types of products.

In the middle, the Canary Islands follow Sicily and **Malta** in the ranking of the best positioned to face this risk, and then the Balearic Islands. Yet, it is in the RCP8.5 distant future scenario, because the susceptibility of the Posidonia meadows to the scenario in which the episodes of seawater temperature higher than 26 increase notably. In the other scenarios, even if the position of these Archipelagos is the same, the score of both islands is very close, and their position in the ranking could result exchanged between them.

Regarding the factors explaining their position in the ranking, the Balearic and the Canary Islands show again differences. Balearic Islands perform worse in the hazard, especially in the scenario RCP8.5 distant future, and in the exposure, mainly due to the high differences in the surface of their phanerogam meadows. However, they advantage the Canary Islands in sensitivity, mainly due to the extreme differences in the value that tourists visiting both archipelagos give to the deterioration of the marine environments measured through the tourists' willingness to pay for actions to preserve them. Regarding the adaptive capacity, their scores are similar, just separated for the better performance of the Canary Islands when dealing with dead seagrass removal, mainly due to the much higher amount of seagrass arriving to the beaches.

Summarizing, Cyprus faces the most critical position due to the intensity of the hazard and the low capacity to cope with it; Sicily and **Malta** show the best score regarding this risk due to their balanced distribution of risk components, not having strong weakness in any of them. Meanwhile, the Balearic Islands show weakness in the size of the sub-systems exposed and the Canary Islands in the sensitivity of the visitors to the worsening of the marine environments and their Cymodocea meadows to seawater heating. Regarding the last aspect, although all models consulted agreed in considering very low the probability of seawater temperature going to levels of thermal stress for those phanerogams, their position at this regards could be very sensitive to small seawater heating predictions of the referred models.

Results displayed above emphasise comparisons between islands as this is the main purpose of this analysis. However, results also allow to analyse the internal components of the risk exhibited by each island. It comes simply from analysing with some more detail the percentages regarding the total score for the risk of the criteria and sub-criteria considered to obtain it.

Analysis of Malta

The island shows starting surrounding conditions favourable to face the risk of seawater heating. Although the island scores the second worst in adaptive capacities to cope with the main vectors of the problem, there are two particular aspects that compensate that disadvantage. Firstly, the island does not hold attributes to attract classical massive tourism to its coasts, as large beaches and exuberant marine ecosystems. Conversely, Maltese tourism is attracted by its cultural attributes and business. Secondly, its marine tourism industry heavily rests on activities that are not sensitive to the quality of the marine environment, as the motorised ones. Because of it, even if **Malta** shares with Sicily the lowest risk related to seawater heating, this island shows lesser uncertainties than those showed by the Italian island.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Malta** are depicted in the next figures. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

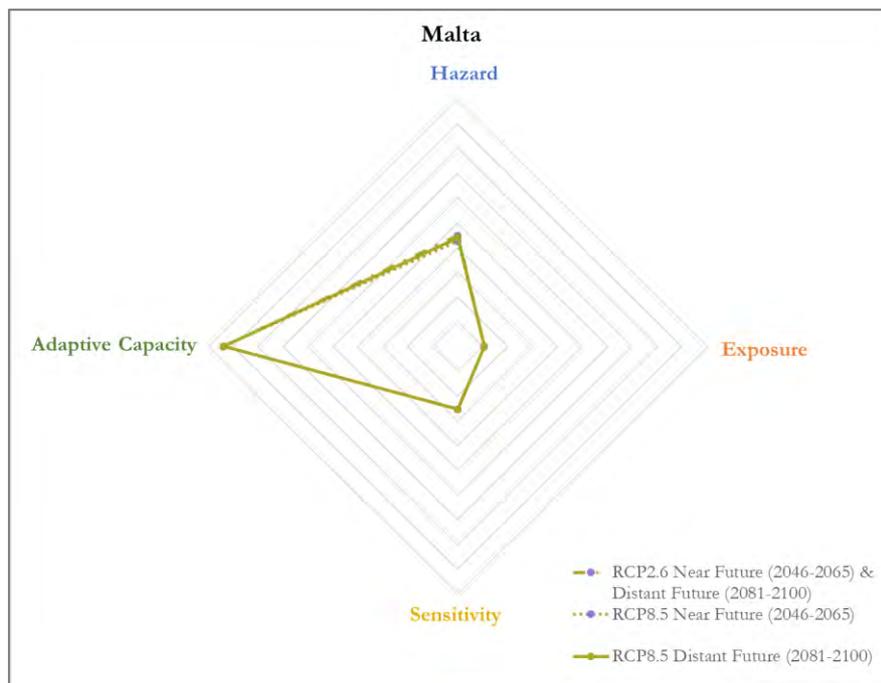


Figure 57: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

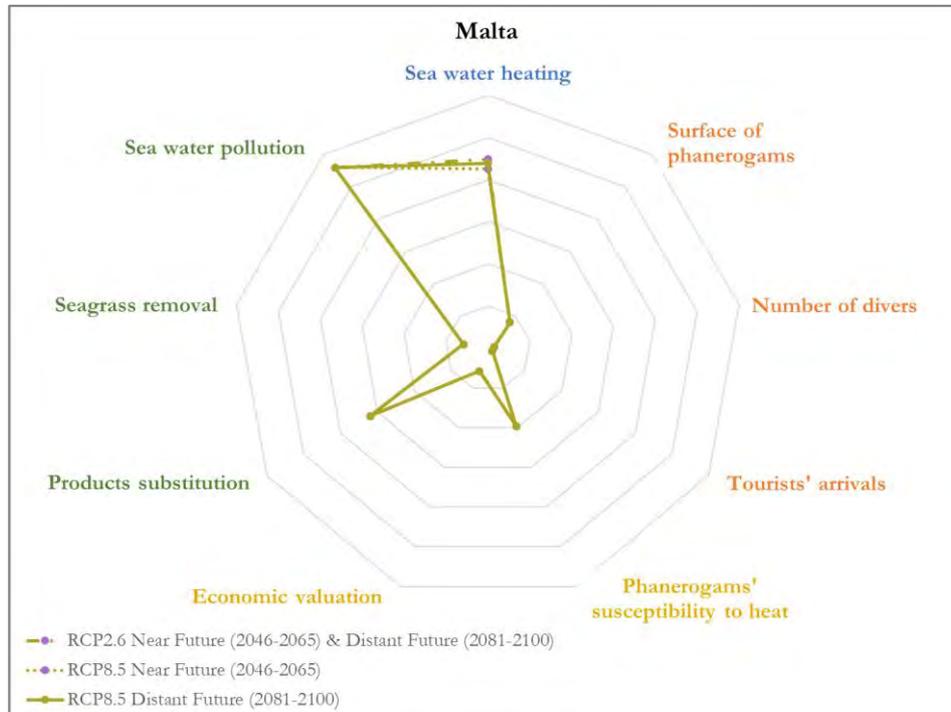


Figure 58: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#), Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

This section describes the work carried out for the operationalization of the impact chain “Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort”³. It provides details on the method applied for the operationalization, the island data used, and the results obtained. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

³ Detailed information about the methodology used and the results obtained is available at: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5, Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.

1. the frequency, intensity, and duration of heatwaves,
2. to what extent and how tourist activities and tourists become exposed to heatwaves, and how sensitive different segments of tourists are to extreme heat, and
3. the preparedness of the destination to cope with thermal discomfort episodes through information, technology, alternative activities, and medical attention.

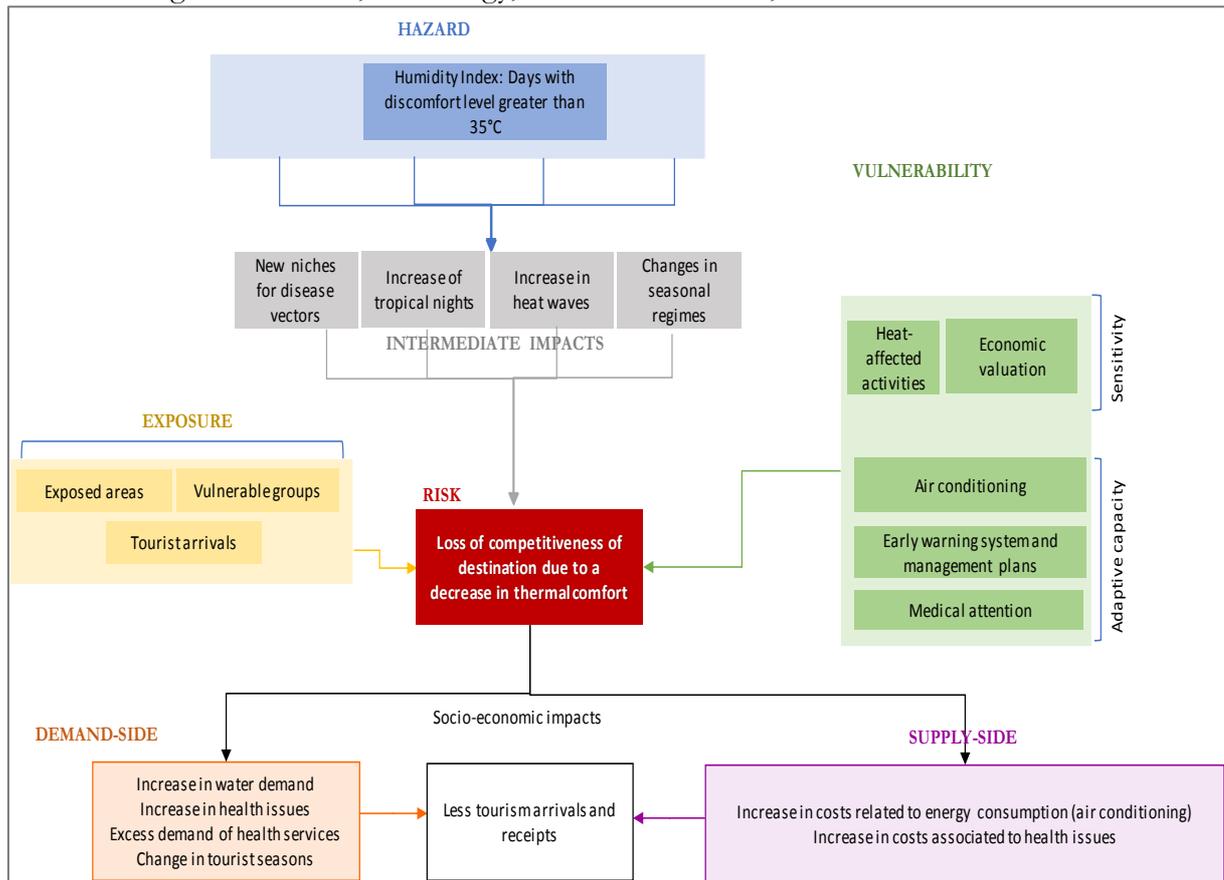


Figure 59: Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

For the purposes of the operationalization it was decided by the team to retitle the risk as “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”. This was done in order for the risk to more accurately reflect the effects of the hazards, exposure and vulnerability on an island rather than an on an individual tourist.

The selection of islands to be compared was based on the availability of island data provided by the IFPs. The five islands selected for comparison were the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Cyprus, Malta, and Sardinia.

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements. Some refinements were necessary regarding the indicators (at sub-criteria level) that were to be used for comparing the islands.

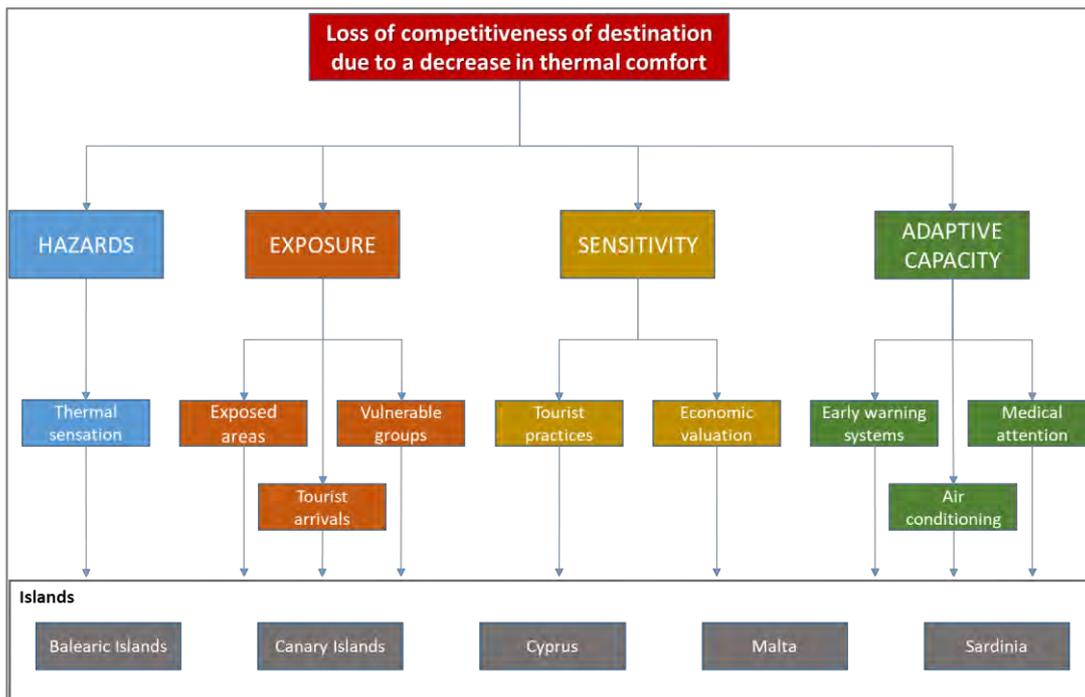


Figure 60: Hierarchy tree for thermal comfort impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. For the AHP method, thermal sensation was considered as the most relevant indicator to assess

changes in the thermal comfort of tourists while staying at their destination as it is a concept that combines temperature and humidity. Thus, it is the only sub-criterion of the Hazard criterion. Moreover, the humidity index (humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) was selected as the most appropriate metric for thermal sensation. The metric is an equivalent temperature that express the temperature perceived by people (i.e., the temperature that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion was decomposed into sub-criteria relating to three indicators. The first indicator relates to the exposure of tourists to heatwaves. The measure of the indicator combines the percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the percentage of the tourist accommodations and facilities located in those areas prone to heatwaves. It is necessary to factor in both these aspects of exposure in order to allow for a better comparison of islands. For example, if an island has a small area that is prone to heatwaves with the majority of tourists frequenting in that small area, then the combination of the two factors will play a role when comparing, for instance, an island that has large areas prone to heatwaves, but with tourists frequenting in places outside these areas, since the overall exposure will be different. Specifically, it was decided to assign a weight of 75% to percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the remaining 25% to the percentage of tourist accommodations and facilities located in heatwave-prone areas. The second indicator deals with the number of tourist arrivals during the hottest months. The indicator is represented by the percentage of tourists that visit an island between the months of May and September averaged over the last five years. Finally, the third indicator concerns vulnerable groups of tourists who have the highest risk of being affected by heatwaves. Literature confirms that under-6s and over-65s are the most vulnerable age groups, however, the statistical services of the islands homogeneously provide data for the under-14 and over-65 age groups. For this indicator, two values were computed:

1. the number of tourists visiting an island that were under 14 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years, and
2. the number of tourists visiting an island that were over 65 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years.

For purpose of combining the two values and adjusting the change to age groups, it was decided to apply a ratio of 15:85 in order to emphasize the proportion of over-65s (85%) to the proportion of under-14s (15%).

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of tourists and is broken down into sub-criteria pertaining to two indicators. The first indicator involves tourist activities.

The effect of heatwaves on tourist activities varies greatly. For example, a tourist sunbathing at a beach will not feel the effects of a heatwave to the same degree as a tourist that is trekking. Different destinations have different rates of tourists practicing activities incompatible with heatwaves events. So, this indicator aims at catching these differences. More specifically, this indicator is a measure of the percentage of visitors who state that they practice activities not compatible with heatwave events. The second indicator concerns the economic valuation of heatwaves from the perspective of tourists. In the case of a heatwave event, all tourists will suffer from thermal discomfort to a certain degree. Hence, the indicator represents their willingness to avoid this discomfort as expressed in monetary terms. Therefore, it is measured by much money tourists are willing to pay to avoid a heatwave during their vacation time⁴.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system through providing information, adopting proper technology, supplying alternative activities, and improving medical attention. This criterion is split into sub-criteria concerning three indicators. The first indicator has deals with early warning systems. Setting up a proper early warning system can help tourists and service providers to plan effective responses to heatwaves, making them less distressing and reducing the destination's vulnerability. Hence, this indicator is measured with a score representing the quality of early warning systems in place and advisement of options for tourists. The second indicator involves air conditioning. Air conditioning is the most effective technology used to combat extreme heat. Therefore, the indicator uses the percentage of hotel accommodations and tourist facilities offering air conditioning systems as a measure of the capacity of the destination to cope with this hazard. The final indicator concerns the care and medical attention (such as in the case of heatstroke or similar) available on an island that may be necessary to help reduce pain or avoid casualties due to diseases related to heatwaves. Therefore, the number of hospital beds available on an island per 100,000 potential users, both residents and tourists, is taken as the measure of this indicator.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

⁴ Further information available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*

Table 5: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sardinia
Hazards	Humidex RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.024 (12.1%)	0.008 (4.6%)	0.088 (34.6%)	0.023 (11.7%)	0.023 (13.1%)
Exposure	Exposed areas	0.007	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.007
	Vulnerable groups	0.007	0.017	0.016	0.017	0.038
	Tourists' arrivals	0.050	0.008	0.029	0.018	0.065
	<i>Total</i>	0.064 (32.2%)	0.027 (15.5%)	0.053 (20.9%)	0.042 (21.3%)	0.110 (62.9%)
Sensitivity	Heat-sensitive activities	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.074	0.012
	Economic valuation	0.004	0.004	0.015	0.028	0.010
	<i>Total</i>	0.079 (39.7%)	0.078 (44.8%)	0.089 (35.0%)	0.103 (52.3%)	0.021 (12.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Early-warning systems	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Air conditioning	0.011	0.048	0.011	0.021	0.012
	Medical attention	0.014	0.006	0.005	0.002	0.005
	<i>Total</i>	0.032 (16.1%)	0.061 (35.1%)	0.024 (9.4%)	0.030 (15.2%)	0.020 (11.4%)
Total		0.199	0.174	0.254	0.197	0.175
Rank		2	5	1	3	4

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#), Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Cyprus is at most risk of loss of competitiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort in all four scenarios as it is ranked the highest in all cases. This is mainly attributed to the fact that the number of days with a heatwave is predicted to increase greatly both in the near and distant future. In addition, the island's tourist accommodations and facilities are located in areas most prone to heatwaves, and these are visited by many tourists during the months of May to September. Cyprus also scores the highest in Sensitivity and average in Adaptive capacity.

The Balearic Islands and **Malta** are ranked second and third, respectively, with regards to the risk of loss of competitiveness. However, their overall scores are very close: 0.199 for the Balearic Islands and 0.1970 for **Malta** in the RCP8.5 distant future scenario. They score relatively high in Exposure and Sensitivity (the most important criteria for the risk) and average in Hazard and Adaptive capacity.

Sardinia and the Canary Islands are the lowest at risk of loss of competitiveness. Even though Sardinia scores the highest for Exposure, it has a low score for Sensitivity (which

contributes most to the risk) and average scores for Hazard and Adaptive capacity. On the other hand, the Canary Islands has a low score for Hazard and Exposure, but relatively high for Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity.

Analysis of Malta

The island shows some disadvantage in the criterion Sensitivity, contributing 52.3% to the final score. In particular, it is due to the heat-sensitive activities that tourists carry out when visiting the destination, given that Maltese tourism is attracted by its cultural attributes. On the other hand, Malta scores average in the Hazard, in Exposure and in Adaptive Capacity, being especially favourable the medical attention in the latter case. The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Malta** are depicted in the next figure. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

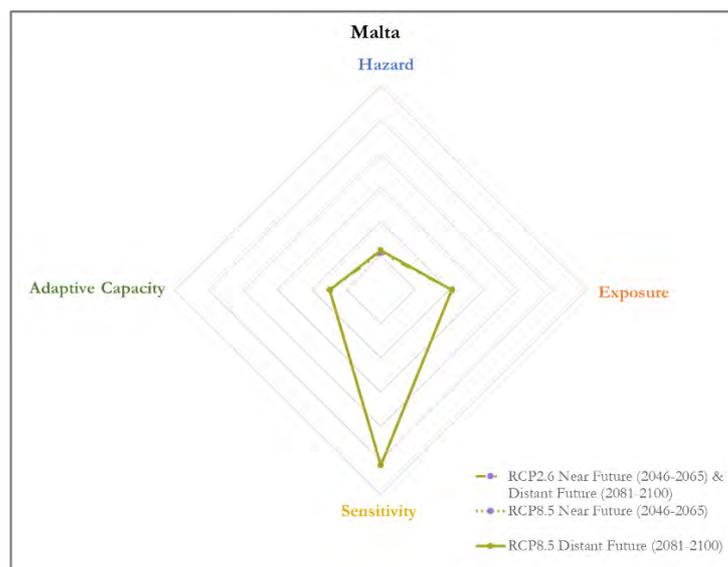


Figure 61: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

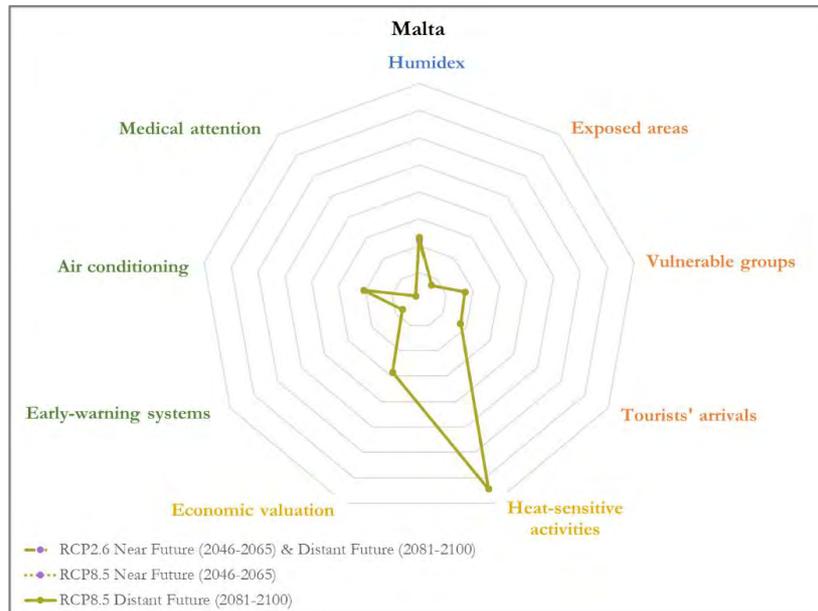


Figure 62: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

4.2 Aquaculture

In the framework of Soclimpact, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- 1) Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

- 2) Decrease in production due to an increase in surface water temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae

blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is also applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 7 steps for aquaculture, present risk and future risk are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: Corsica, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

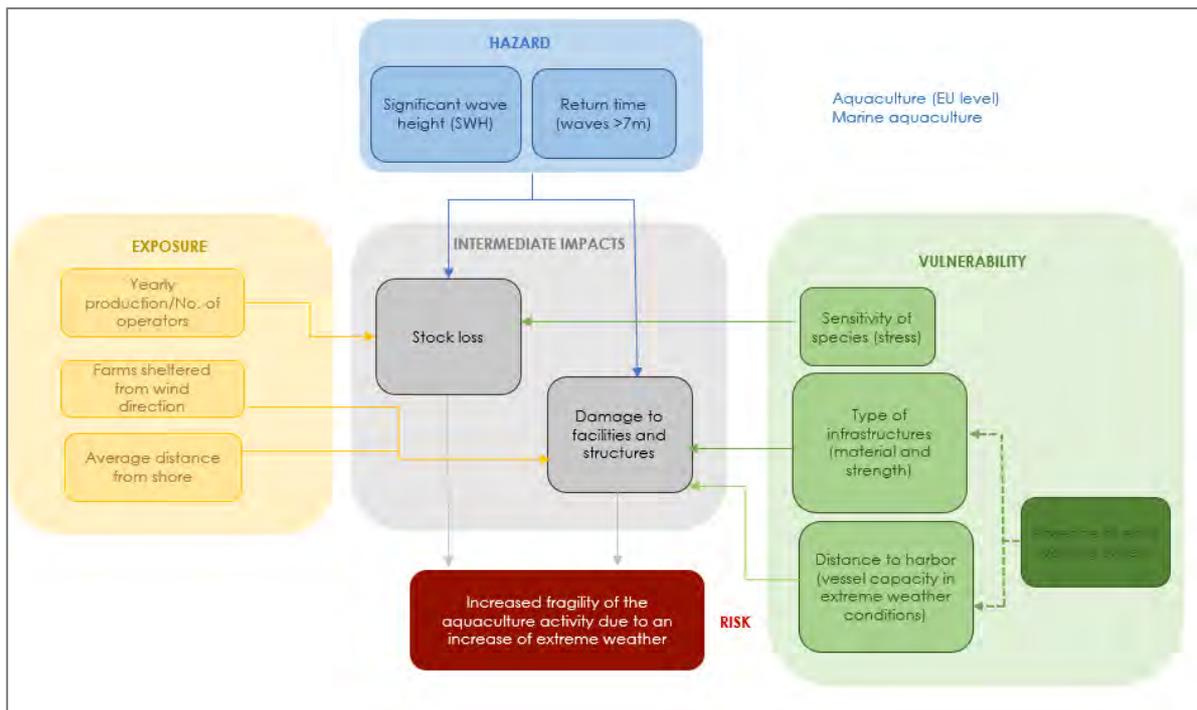


Figure 63: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 3.2

Some indicators require data on the proportions of species farmed on a specific island. Therefore, a table with % of each species farmed on each island was prepared. This data was obtained directly from the IFPs or from the FAO or national statistics offices.

Table 6: Proportions of aquaculture species farmed per island.

Species	Proportion of species production			
	Mussels & clams	Tuna	Sea bream	Sea bass
Corsica	0.43		0.265	0.265
Cyprus			0.84	0.16
Madeira			1.0	
Malta		0.94	0.048	0.012
Sardinia	0.84		0.08	0.08
Sicily	0.44		0.3	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.

Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

Table 7: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

<i>Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.3	0.9

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 8: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event.

1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event			
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: Increased sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 9: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species' threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

Table 10: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

<i>Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to

change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in the data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators
- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$x_{normalized} = \frac{(x - x_{min})}{(x_{max} - x_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

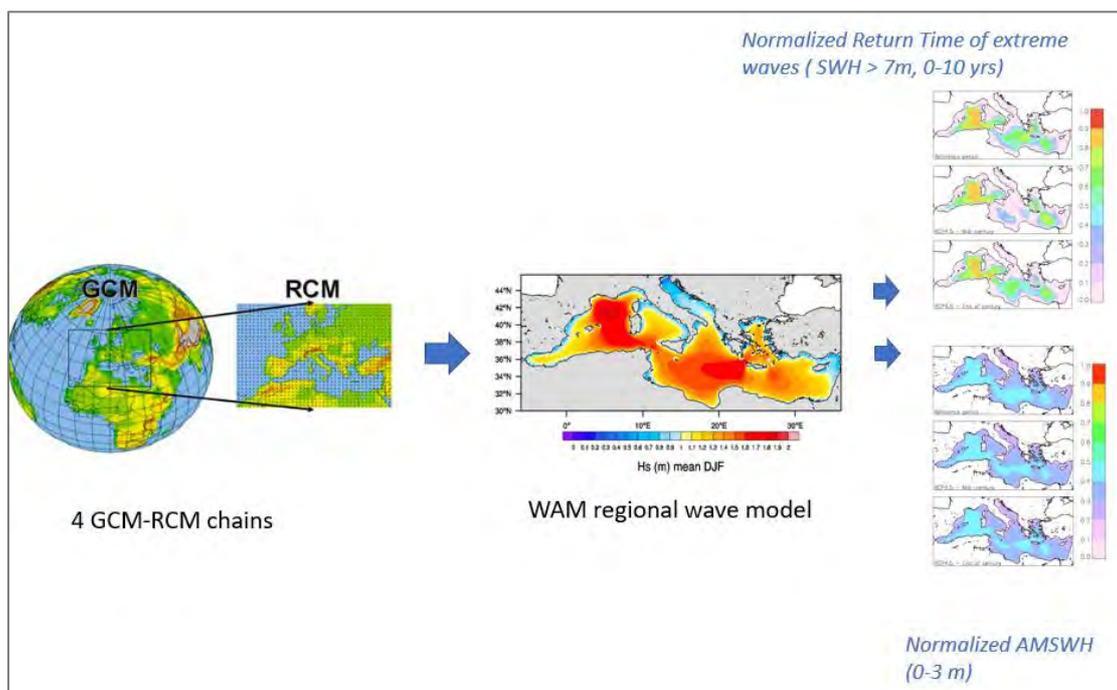


Figure 64: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which a fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater that 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk 1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in D4.4 of Soclimpact, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

Table 11: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula.

*$RL, T=1-(1-1/T)*L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.*

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Therefore, using a combination of the normalised values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such all "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.

Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

Extreme weather events:

- farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
- sensitivity of species
- vulnerability of type of infrastructure
- presence of warning system

Sea surface temperature:

- estimated temperature sensitivity of species
- capacity to change species
- monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account.

Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 12: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	<i>Sea surface temperature</i>	<i>Extreme events</i>
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:

$$s_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$

s – score

comp – component or subcomponent

ind – indicator

n – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = s_{haz} * w_{haz} + s_{exp} * w_{exp} + w_{vul} * (s_{sen} * w_{sen} + s_{ac} * w_{ac})$$

s – score

w – weight

haz – hazard

exp – exposure

vul – vulnerability

sen – sensitivity

ac – adaptive capacity

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



SOCLIMPACT

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Table 13: Exposure and vulnerability indicators each island

Component Component Weight	Exposure 0.2						Vulnerability 0.2						
	Sub-component Sub-component weight						Factor of sensitivity 0.75			Factors of adaptive capacity 0.25			
Indicator	Average Size of producers		Location of farms			Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Type of infrastructures (material and strength)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Distance to harbour (vessel capacity in extreme weather conditions) [average & m]		Absence of warning system	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Farms sheltered from wind direction	Average distance from shore (m)		Average of normalised indicators	Estimated sensitivity of species	Type of infrastructure (based on species)	Average of indicators	Average distance to harbour (m)		Presence of warning system	Average of normalised indicators
	Data	Normalised	Normalised	Data	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		Data	Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.4	644	0.16	0.20	0.7	0.5	0.59	4789	0.96	0	0.48
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.5	3923	1.00	0.53	0.6	0.4	0.48	4616	0.92	0	0.46
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	0.5	1731	0.44	0.74	0.3	0.3	0.31	4165	0.83	0	0.42
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.4	1193	0.30	0.27	0.9	0.6	0.71	2183	0.44	0	0.22
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.5	1000	0.25	0.27	0.7	0.5	0.61	5000	1.00	0	0.50

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



SOCLIMPACT

Mediterranean islands

Hazards

Statistics of extreme events can significantly differ across the four model realizations

The hazard data for return time was derived from 3 different models; CMCC, CNRM and GUF. Since the data varies highly between models a best- and worst case scenario was executed where in the best-case scenario the lowest value (showing the lowest risk) between the models was used and in the worst case scenario the highest value was used. Distance between the best and the worst projection, give an estimate of uncertainty

Model projections for Average Significant Wave Height are in good agreement as to both pattern and values. Hazard was evaluated from ensemble mean, uncertainty from ensemble STD (not exceeding 15% - highest disagreement for highest values).

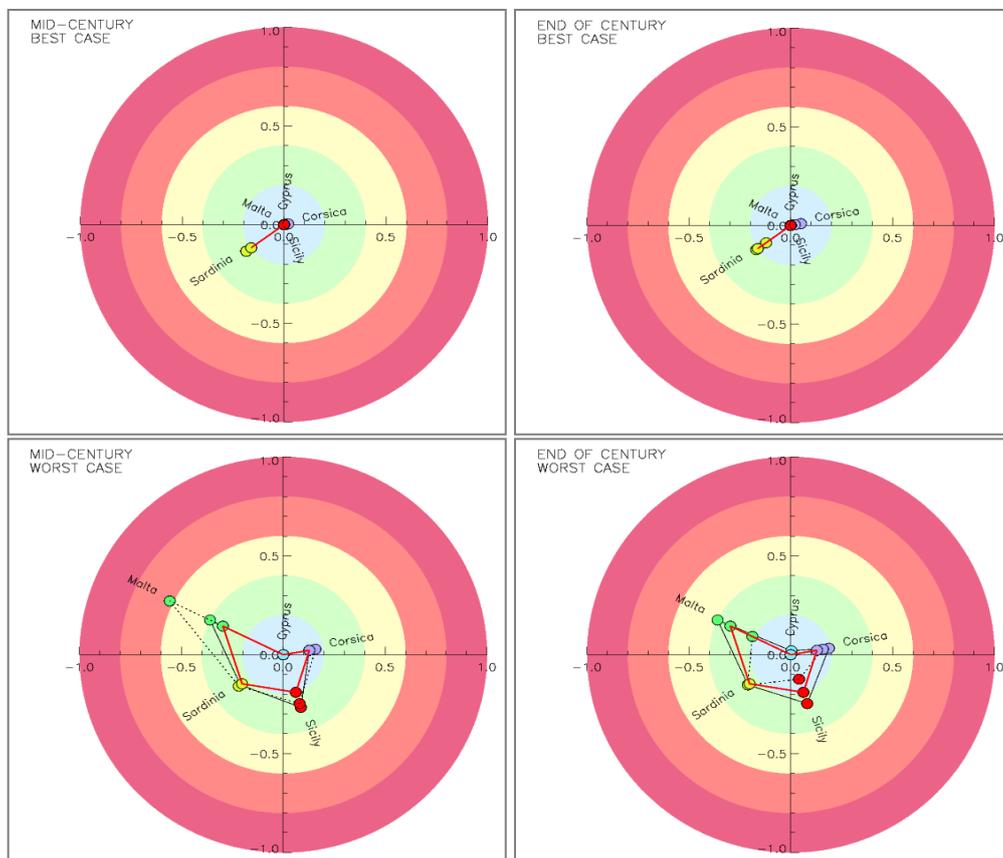


Figure 65: Results for return time in best- and worst-case scenarios for Mediterranean islands for reference period (red line), RCP 4.5 (dotted line) and RCP 8.5 (black line).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

"Worst" and "best" cases respectively refer to the least and most favorable projection in the set of models. For example return time, you will find that there is at least one model predicting no



hazard for all islands except Sardinia with no significant variations across scenarios. In fact, all circles cluster and overlap at the centre, while those that represent Sardinia all lie very close to the limit between the two lower hazard classes.

On the other hand, at least one other model predicts appreciable yet low hazard for Corsica, Sicily and Sardinia, and hazard going from moderate (reference period, red) to medium (RCP8.5, solid black), to high (RCP4.5, dotted black) for Malta, while for Cyprus the hazard is irrelevant even for the most negative projection.

This means that

- a) the result for Sardinia and Cyprus is stable across models,
- b) models slightly disagree for Sicily and Corsica, but generally predict low hazard,
- c) the projection for Malta is affected by greater uncertainty for all scenarios.

This is due to the fact that Malta is located in the Sicily Channel, where the dynamics exhibit significant gradients in the direction perpendicular to the channel axis, which are differently represented by different models.

The worst and best cases do not necessarily come from the same model for all islands, that is, one model can predict the lowest hazard for Sicily and another one for Sardinia, and each of these projections is represented in the plot for the corresponding island.

Risk- Best-case scenario

Table 14: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.21
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Sardinia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.31
Sicily	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

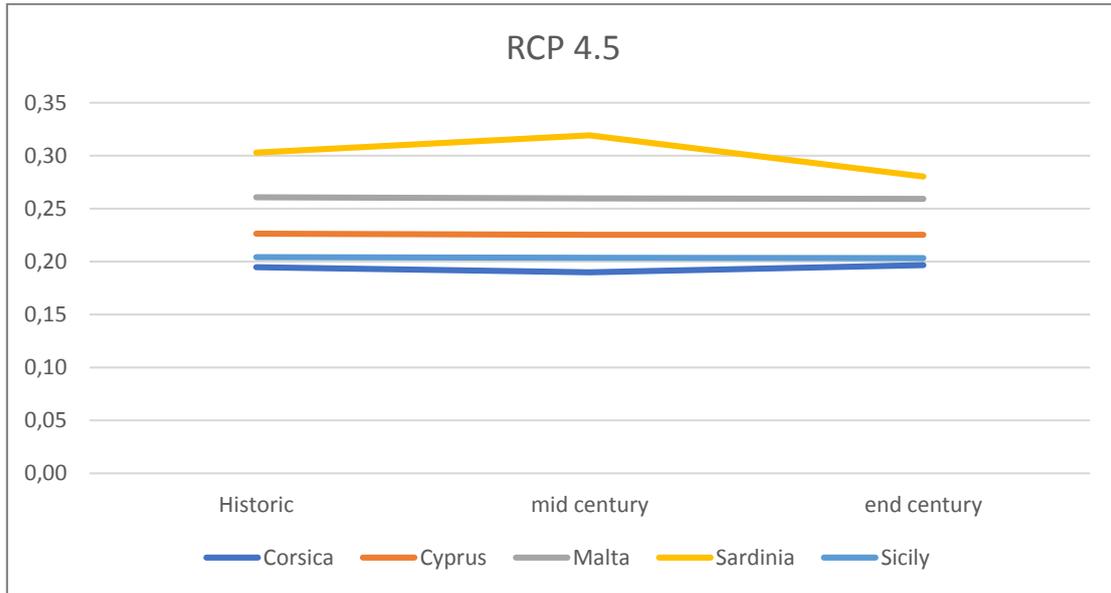


Figure 66: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

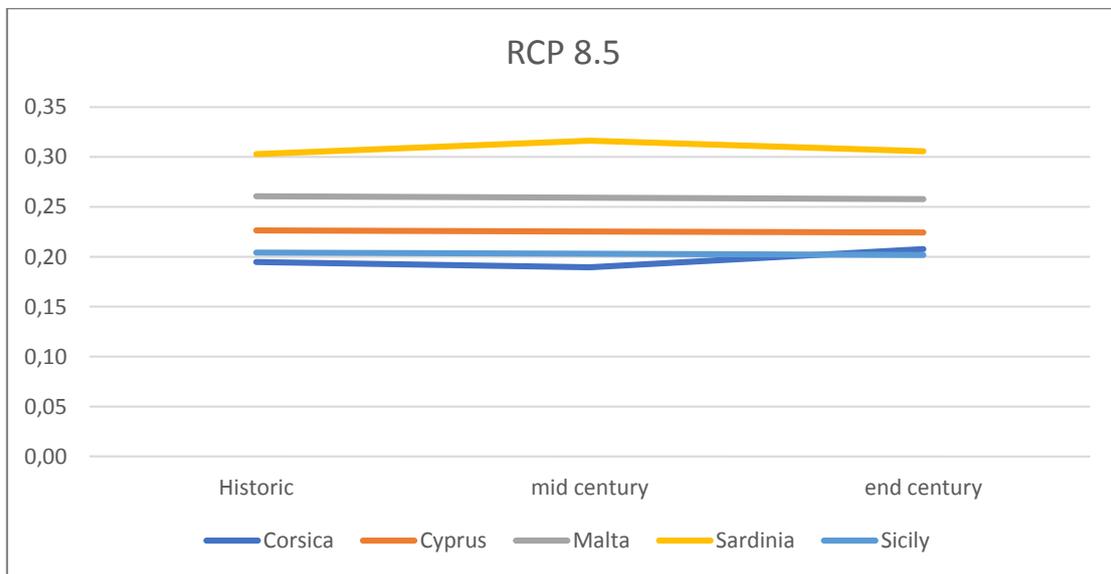


Figure 67: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



Risk- Worst-case scenario

Table 15: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.26
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.42	0.45	0.56	0.45	0.36
Sardinia	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33
Sicily	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

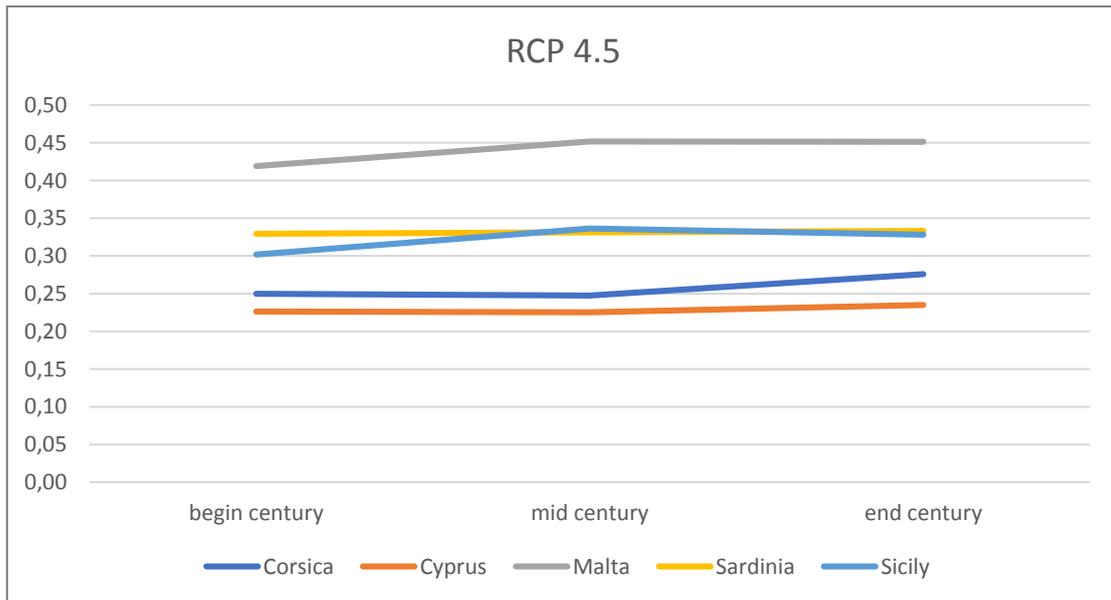


Figure 68: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

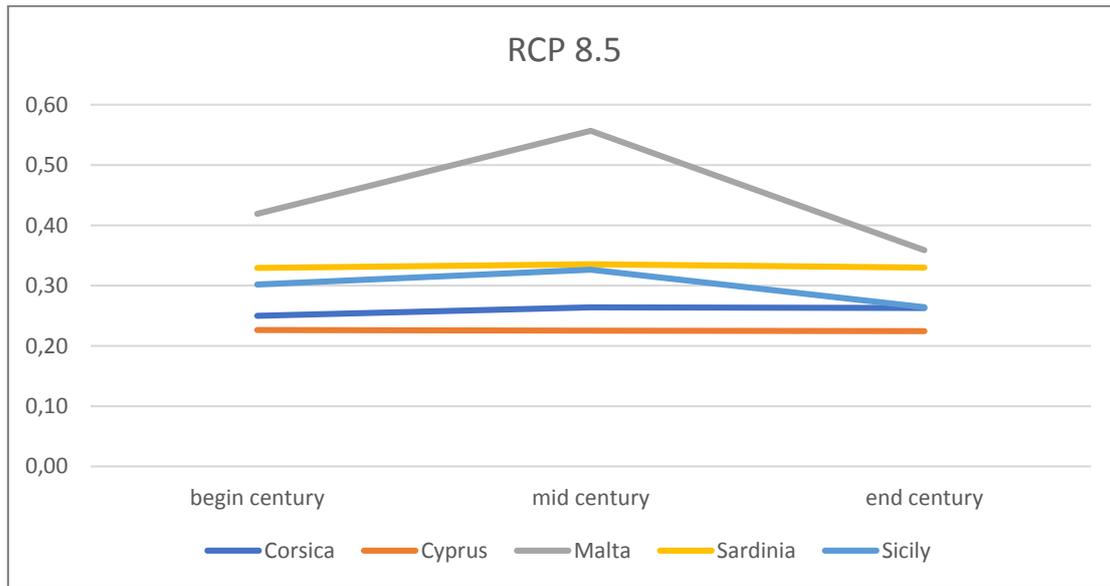


Figure 69: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Bigger islands were separated in areas since conditions can vary greatly in different parts of the island.

Table 16: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Mediterranean islands with large islands analysed on a local level using the worst-case scenario.

Worst case	Historic	RCP 4.5		RCP 8.5	
		mid century	end century	mid century	end century
Malta	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.56	0.36
Sicily North	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.30
Sicily East	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Sicily South	0.41	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.30
Corsica West	0.37	0.32	0.37	0.34	0.34
Corsica East	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
Sardinia West	0.40	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.44
Sardinia East	0.39	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.18
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For all islands and all RCPs, it can be concluded that there is no significant change in risk, even in the worst-case scenario, between the reference period, middle and end of the century. Malta, Sicily south and Sardinia west are found to be the most vulnerable with risk exceeding 0.45 due to a higher hazard risk. Malta also has the highest exposure of all islands. Malta has an increased risk mid-century in the worst case scenario, due to an increase in hazard.



Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Model projections are in good agreement with previous lower resolution ensemble estimates but offering greater detail along island shorelines. Uncertainty to be rigorously estimated from ensemble STD when new simulations of comparable resolution become available, but overall tendency regarded as robust.

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Table 17: *Expose and vulnerability indicators, the data for each island and the normalized values.*

Component Component weight	Exposure		Vulnerability					
	0.4		0.3					
Sub-component Sub-component weight			Factor of sensitivity		Factors of adaptive capacity			
			0.75		0.25			
Indicator	Average Size of producers	Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Score of factor of adaptive capacity	
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators	Average of normalized indicators	Temperature sensitivity of species (expert guess)	Indicator	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Average of indicator	
	Data	Normalized	Normalized		Normalized	Normalized		
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.12	0.7	0.7	0	1	0.5
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.29	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Madeira	125.3	0.05	0.05	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	1.00	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.19	0.9	0.9	0	1	0.5
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.14	0.8	0.8	0	1	0.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Risk

The values in this analysis is not an estimate of the risk but rather a ranking between islands since a lot of the data was normalised based on a min-max or fraction of the maximum of the islands. A proper risk assessment would need additional data from farmers and a detailed model of farming results as a function of temperature. Malta has a much higher risk than the other islands due to the high exposure, Malta's farm produce on average 3.5 to 22 times more than the farms on other islands.

Table 18: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature

Risk	Historic	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.30	0.34	0.41	0.38	0.42
Cyprus	0.40	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.59
Malta	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.80
Madeira	0.19	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.35
Sardinia	0.37	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.49
Sicily	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.48

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

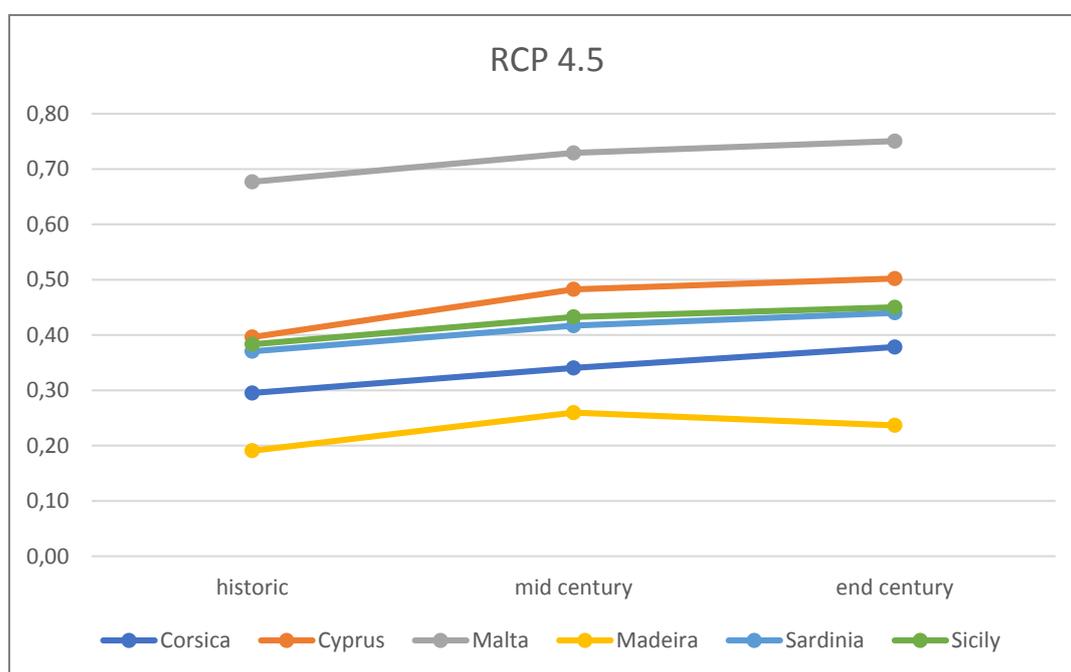


Figure 70: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

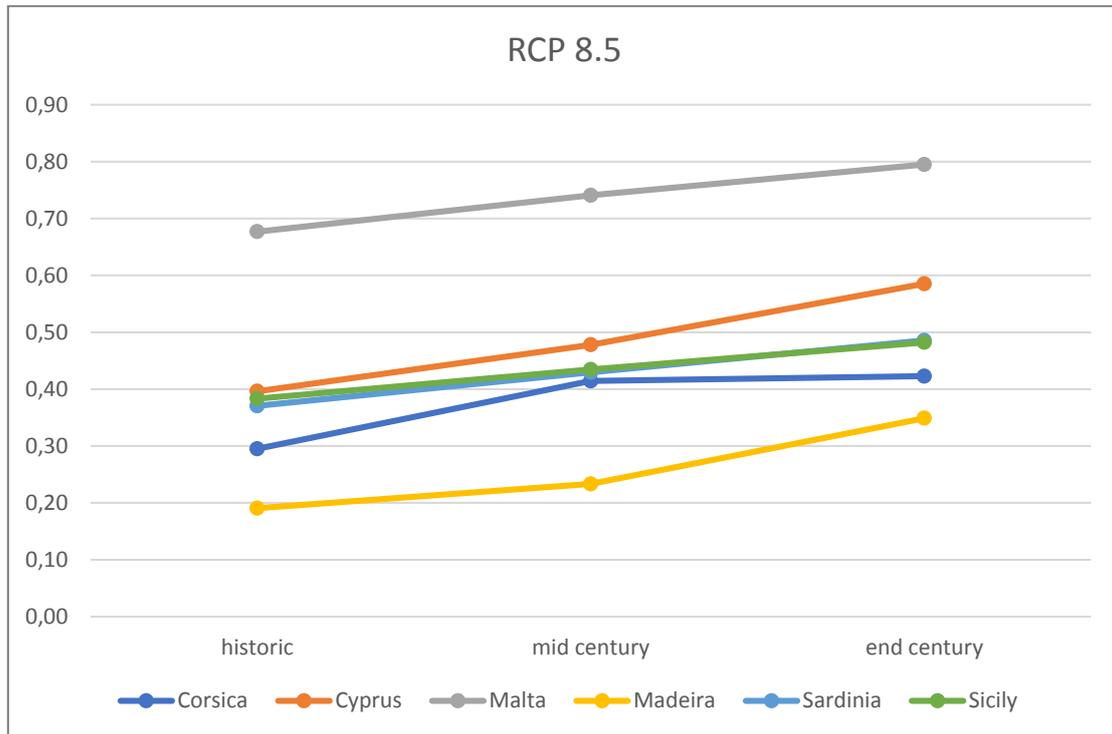


Figure 71: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane *et al.* (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.



Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased



desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through an expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

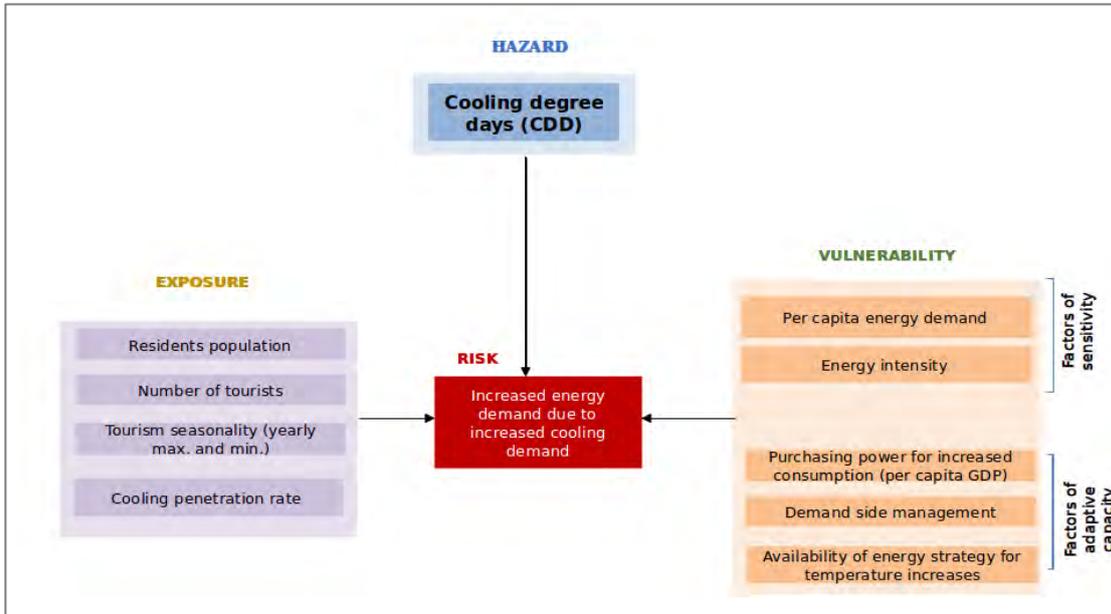


Figure 72: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

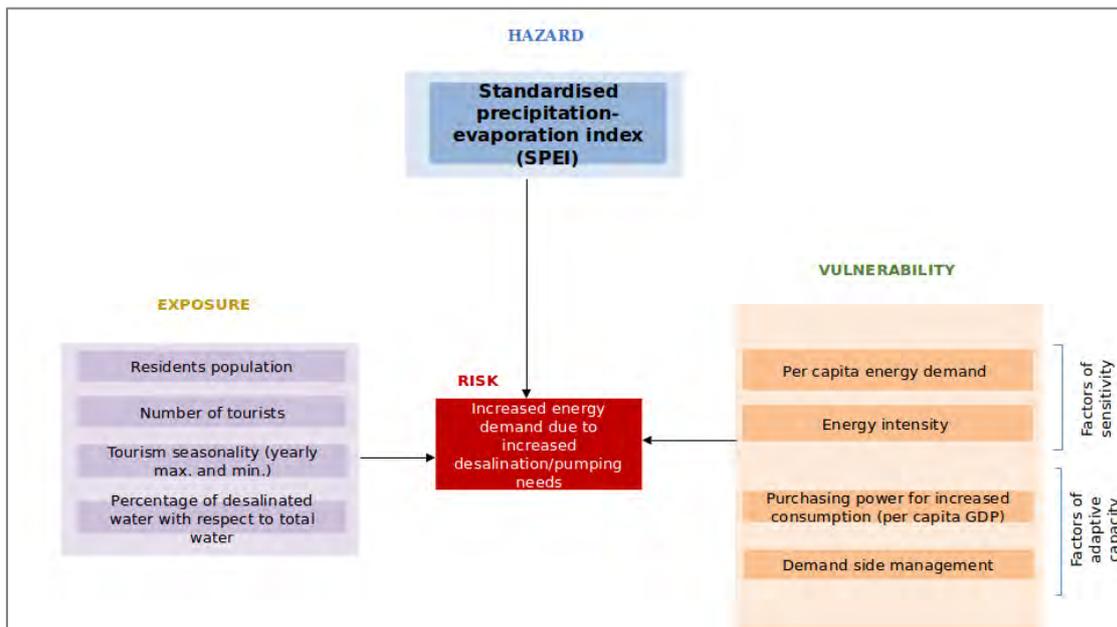


Figure 73: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

Hereafter we only present the results of the operationalization of the IC, this is, the final risk scores for increased cooling and desalination energy demand, joint to a general conclusion:

Table 19: Final risk scores for Malta: cooling and desalination energy demand, for the historical and future periods.

Risk scores	<i>Hist. ref.</i>	<i>RCP2.6</i> (2046-2065)	<i>RCP2.6</i> (2081-2100)	<i>RCP8.5</i> (2046-2065)	<i>RCP8.5</i> (2081-2100)
Cooling	0.49	0.51	0.51	0.53	0.57
Desalination	0.47	0.54	0.55	0.61	0.67

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

According to the risk analysis, it is expected a large cooling energy demand increase. Besides, desalination demand, which is already high, should also increase for both emissions scenarios, but much more under RCP8.5.

Malta is an island with large constraints on land-based RES, due to its small size and large population density. Additionally, present onshore wind energy resources are limited. PV energy potential is good, and the energy droughts indicator shows a high stability. PV energy can be integrated in buildings and has therefore a higher potential, though its installation in apartment blocks faces uncertainties like the possibility of redevelopment of existing buildings based on an increase in the number of storeys. As a consequence, the NECP (2019) only projects a very limited increase of RES share from a present value of 9% to 11.5% in 2030. Such a low share moves Malta away from the EU targets. Offshore PV might be the main renewable energy technology with substantial potential, particularly if the capacity of the interconnector with Sicily could be increased or battery storage could be installed in sufficient quantities for grid stability reasons. In this respect, one of the first tests in the world with offshore PV was performed in Malta (Grech *et al.*, 2016).

The scores for the expected change of renewable energy productivity point to a small decrease, except under RCP8.5 by end of the century, when a relatively large decrease is projected, particularly for wind energy. The stability characteristics would show limited changes under RCP2.6, and would worsen clearly under RCP8.5 for wind energy.

The risk associated to cooling energy demand shows presently a medium value, which would remain almost constant under RCP2.6 and would nearly reach a high value under RCP8.5 by the end of the century. The projected increase of the risk score is relatively small despite the large increase in CDD under RCP8.5 (CDD score increases twofold by mid of century and threefold by end of century), due to the low weight assigned to the hazard. In this case, the availability of observed cooling energy demand data was very low (only 4 years), which is insufficient for calculating meaningful weights through correlation with the different indicators.

A medium score is also obtained for the risk linked to desalination energy demand, for present climate conditions. The projected increase of the risk is higher than for cooling energy demand, reaching high scores under RCP8.5. In this case, the weights offer a very interesting information about the impact of adaptation options. In this case, we have a rather long desalination energy



demand series (2004-2018). If we take the whole series, there is a strong decreasing trend in demand until 2009. If we take the whole time-series for the correlations, these show counterintuitive values, while if we take the series from 2009-2018, the correlation is -40%, which is a result that lies within the expectations (drier conditions are associated to more desalination). Another example of this unexpected behaviour is the correlation between desalination demand and population or number of tourists: it is negative if the whole series (2004-2018) is used (implying less desalination demand for higher population or number of tourists), but it is strongly positive if the period 2009-2018 is taken.

A report from the Water Services Corporation of Malta (2018) offers a very likely reason for this behaviour: there was a strong reduction in water leakages from 2004 to 2009, while water losses have not varied much between 2009 and 2018. Therefore, the strong reduction in desalination energy demand from 2004 to 2009 is clearly driven by the infrastructure improvement, overriding the impact of the factors included quantitatively in the impact chain calculations. The reduction of water leakages is a demand side management option, and its impact over the short term shows the potential importance of these kind of measures.

We have opted therefore to calculate all correlations and weights using the desalination demand series from 2009-2018. As a result, the climate hazard receives a weight of 0.2, while the exposure and vulnerability components have a weight of 0.38 and 0.42, respectively. Most individual indicators for the exposure and vulnerability components show a high correlation with the observed desalination demand. It is noticeable that tourism seasonality has been decreasing through the selected period, and shows a large, but negative, correlation with desalination demand.

**** Energy demand:***

- Certain data illustrate the strong impact that demand-side management options can have on energy demand. In the case of Malta, water losses in the distribution network were tackled through a leak management strategy during several years in such a way that the water losses were nearly halved from 2004 to 2009. This factor has been decisive in the evolution of the desalination energy demand, which has decreased 20% from 2004 to 2018 at the same time that GDP has grown 80%, the number of tourists has doubled and drought conditions have worsened.
- A clear demand management option for reducing cooling demand is the improvement of the energy efficiency of buildings. The energy efficiency directive of the EU sets binding targets for all European countries, but the data about the efficiency classes of buildings are rather limited and difficult to access. The scarce data available indicate that there is much room for improvement in this respect. A consequent implementation of energy efficiency measures in buildings could reduce clearly the effect of increasing temperatures on energy demand.
- Digitalisation is key in EU strategies. In this respect, demand side management options for adaptation to generation peaks and troughs should be developed as much as possible through digitalisation, prioritising automatic instead of manual adaptation.

*** Energy supply:**

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane *et al.*, 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).
- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.
- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods



(SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.



4.4 Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is defined as the carriage of goods and passengers by sea-going vessels, on voyages undertaken wholly or partly at sea. It is often considered as the backbone of the world economy, with 80% of the global trade volume passing through ports (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). For islands, the transport of goods and passengers by ship is even more essential. At the same time, Maritime Transport contributes to climate change through its carbon emissions which are found to be near 3% of the global CO₂ equivalent emissions (Smith *et al.* 2015). Compared to land and air transport, it is the (economically and ecologically) most effective way of distributing goods globally. A changing climate will challenge Maritime Transport to adapt to future risks and lower its emissions.

The whole range of potential impacts of climate change on ports operations and throughput is still under study and it remains a high degree of uncertainty about it. Various climate change stressors can affect both harbour infrastructure and ships on route. For example, ports are vulnerable nodes of Maritime Transport as they are strongly affected by rising sea-levels, which in turn affect port facilities and increase the risk of flooding. Sea-level rise has accelerated in the last century and will rise by 0.43 to 0.84 m until 2100, depending on the emission scenario (Pörtner *et al.*, 2019). Due to ocean dynamics and the Earth's gravity field, there will also be regional differences in sea-level rise in the order of 0.1 m (Asariotis & Benamara, 2012). The causes of sea-level rise are the thermal expansion of water and the melting of glaciers due to the increase in global mean temperature (Vermeer & Rahmstorf, 2009).

Maritime transport can also be affected by climate change through the increase in the intensity of extreme weather events including tropical-like cyclones. According to climate projections, tropical cyclones are not expected to change significantly in frequency but in intensity due to rising sea-surface temperatures (Pörtner *et al.*, 2019). The resulting extreme winds and waves can harm ships, but also cause damage and flooding of ports, especially in combination with sea-level rise (Hanson & Nicholls, 2012).

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified for the SOCLIMPACT project. These are:

- (a) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves,
- (b) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events,
- (c) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

We selected to operationalize the third one which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The hazard risk component indicators considered for the operationalization were: extreme waves (SWHX98), extreme wind (WiX98) and mean sea level rise (MSLAVE). The exposure indicators are: number of passengers (NPax), islands' total population (NTotP), value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot) and number of ports per island or archipelago (NPo), while the sensitivity indicators include: the number of isolation days (NIID) and renovated infrastructure (NAgePo). Finally, for the component of adaptive capacity the proposed indicators are: percentage of renewables (PEnRR), number of courses/trainings (NTrCoRM), early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt). Unfortunately, due to the lack of reliable and consistent data we had to exclude the



“number of isolation days” and “number of courses/trainings” indicators. The conceptualization framework of the operationalization is summarized in the next Figure.

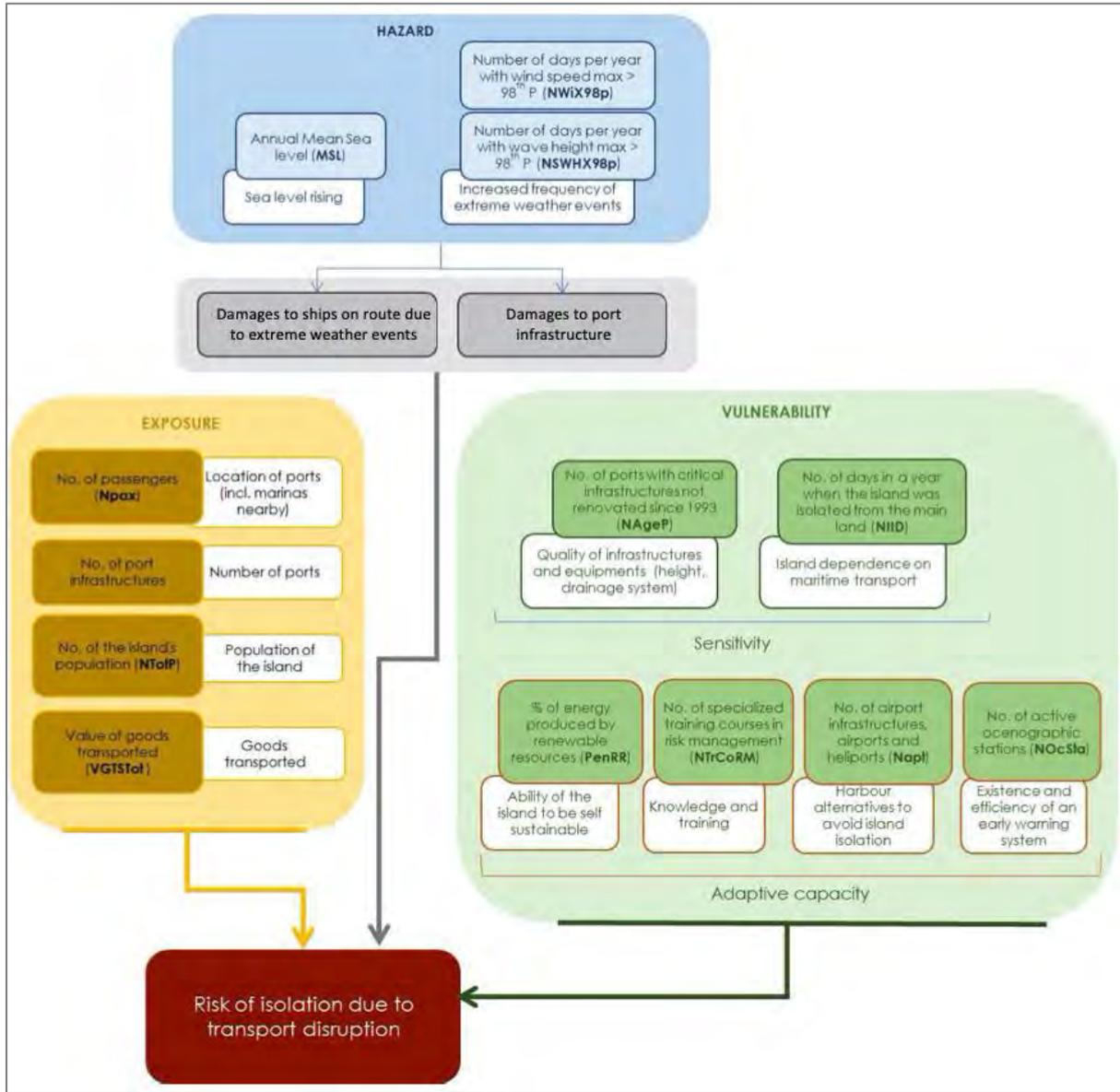


Figure 74: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain: Risk of Transport Disruption.

Source: Soclimpac project deliverable 4.5

For assessing future risk, we considered projections or estimations for the indicators when these were available. This was mainly the case for the components of hazard (mean sea level rise, extreme waves and wind), exposure (population, number of passengers, value of goods), and the contribution of renewables. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) were

considered for meteorological hazards. One “high-emission” or “business-as-usual” pathway (RCP8.5) and a more optimistic one (RCP2.6) that is closer to the main targets of the Paris Accord to keep global warming to lower levels than 2 °C since pre-industrial times.

Besides the historical reference period, we consider two 20-year future periods of analysis. One over the middle of the 21st century (2046-2065) and one covering the end of the 21st century (2081-2100). The normalization of indicators was performed across the different islands in order to facilitate and inter-island comparison and prioritize the islands of higher risk.

Regarding the weighting of the different risk components, we have tested several weights, however, according to expert judgement and discussion with specialists on the Maritime sector, we have found more appropriate to assign equal weights to all main components of risk (i.e. 0.33 for Hazard, 0.33 for Exposure and 0.33 for Vulnerability). For the sub-components of Exposure, we have assigned a weight of 0.33 for Nature of Exposure and a weight of 0.66 for Level of Exposure since the latter one is believed to be of greatest importance. Similarly, for the vulnerability sub-components, we have assigned a weight of 0.25 for the Factors of Sensitivity and a weight of 0.75 for the Factors of Adaptive Capacity.

The weighting and categorization of risk is a subjective decision, nevertheless we consider our selection to be quite conservative and therefore we believe that a slightly different choice would not significantly affect the main conclusions drawn. For the recent past/present conditions, the operationalization of the Maritime Transport Impact Chain indicates low risk for all investigated islands. In general, the Maritime Transport sector of the larger islands (e.g. Corsica, Cyprus and Crete) is found to be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Up to a point, this is related to the large number of harbour alternatives in comparison with smaller islands.

Our results for the future highlight the importance of adopting a low-emission pathway since this will keep the risk for Maritime Transport disruption in similar as present conditions while for some islands the risk is expected to slightly decline. In terms of island inter-comparison, Malta's maritime sector is found to be most vulnerable, nevertheless, future risk even under RCP8.5 is not expected to exceed medium risk values. On the contrary, Corsica is the island less susceptible to climate change impacts. Detailed results for each investigated SOCLIMPACT island are presented in the following sub-sections.

Table 20: Summary of present and future risk of isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption for each island and scenario based on the Impact Chain operationalization.

RISK VALUE PER ISLAND	Historical Reference	RCP2.6 MID	RCP2.6 END	RCP8.5 MID	RCP8.5 END
CYPRUS	0.241	0.210	0.218	0.258	0.292
CRETE	0.229	0.208	0.201	0.257	0.282
MALTA	0.376	0.347	0.335	0.395	0.414
CORSICA	0.220	0.194	0.194	0.243	0.273
CANARY ISLANDS	0.336	0.292	0.250	0.346	0.341
BALEARIC ISLANDS	0.326	0.281	0.264	0.331	0.344



Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The Impact Chain operationalization for Malta highpoints a higher present relative risk for isolation due to Maritime Transport disruption compared to Cyprus and Crete (Risk value of 0.376). This is mostly related to the high values of nature and level of exposure indicators due to the combination of small number of ports and high value of goods. Two other contributors to the relatively higher risk value, related to increased vulnerability, is the small number of harbour alternatives (e.g. airports) and the small percentage of renewables in the total energy mix. For RCP2.6, the risk is expected to slightly decrease, mainly due to an expected increase of the renewable energy contribution, nevertheless Malta will be still classified as a low risk region. On the contrary, under the RCP8.5 pathway the risk for transport disruption in the Maltese islands is projected to increase and marginally classified as low for the middle of the 21st century (risk value of 0.395). For the end of the current century the risk is projected to increase into medium values (0.414). This is due to the lower contribution of renewables in this high-emission scenario and the increase of the hazard indicators (mainly extreme winds and mean sea level rise). The mean sea level in particular is expected to rise by 65 cm posing an additional threat to harbour infrastructure.

READ MORE about the risk indicator computation: normalization of sub-component indicators on **Deliverable 4.5 Soclimpact project [HERE](#)**



5 Socio-economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of climate change

Tourism

In order to analyze the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 255 tourists visiting Malta whereby possible climate change impacts were outlined for the island (e.g., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).

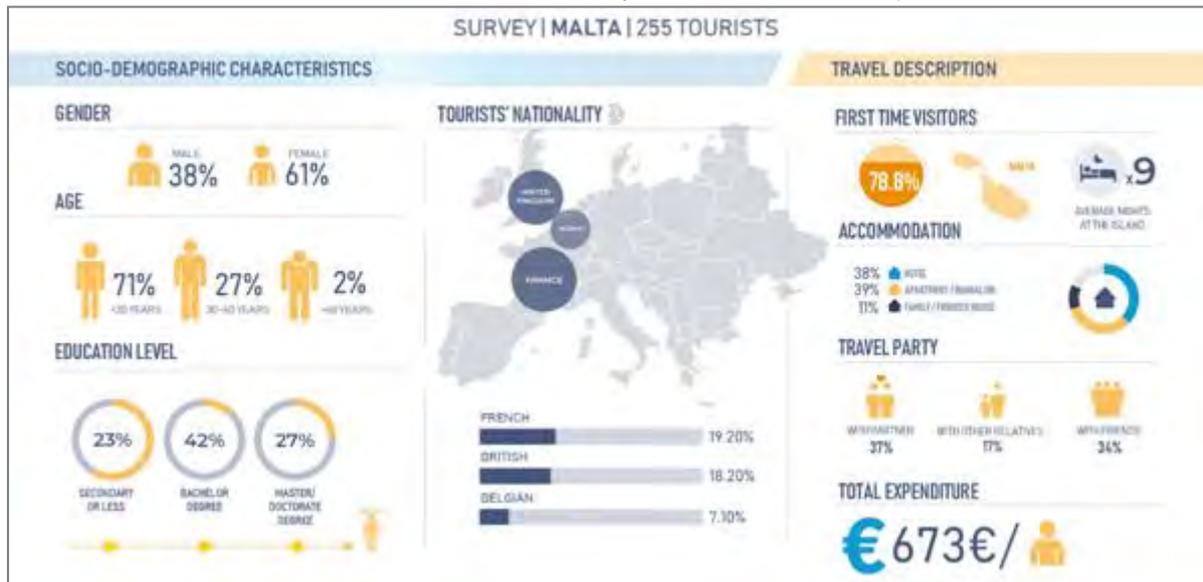


Figure 75: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Malta

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (75.30% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where water is scarce for leisure activities (67.20%) or where marine wildlife has disappeared to a large extent (62.10%). On the other hand, policies related to the prevention of infectious diseases (9.2€/day), water supply reinforcement (8.2€/day), and marine habitats protection (5.7€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting this island.

Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.

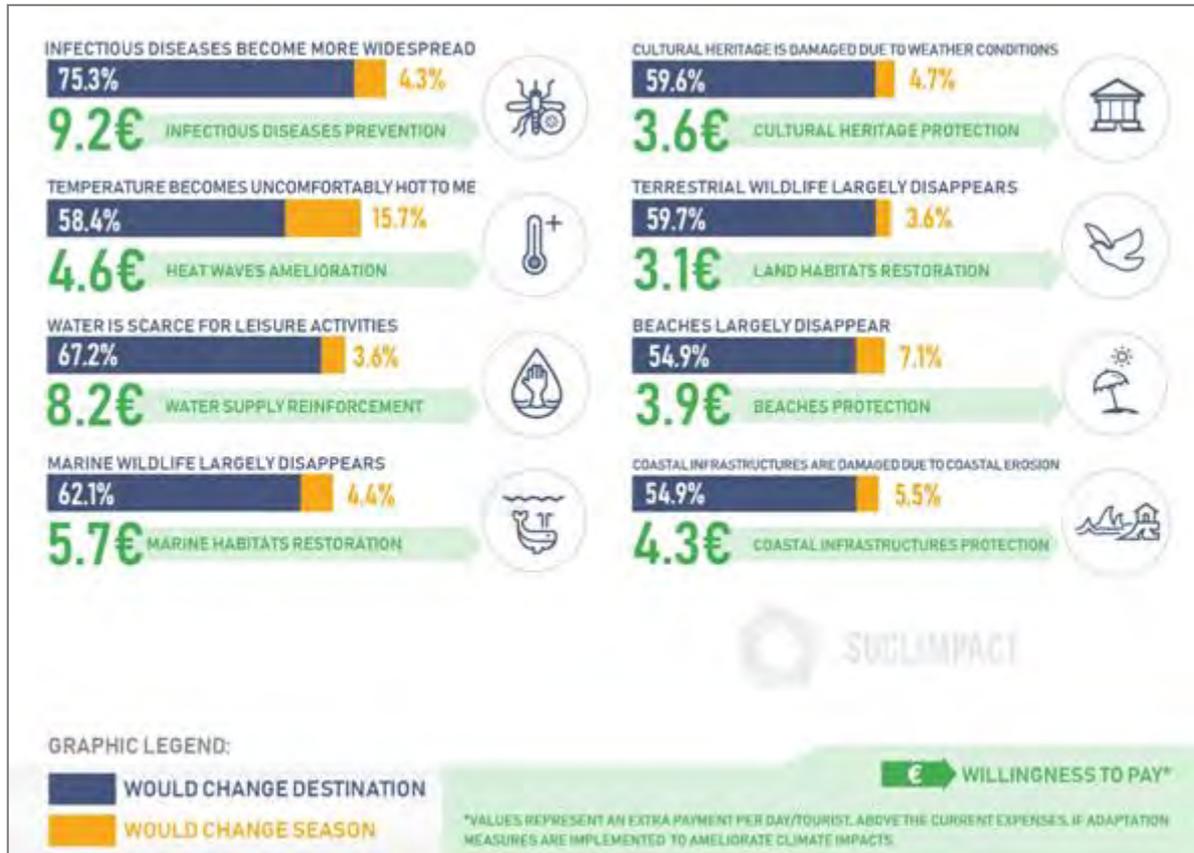


Figure 76: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting Malta
 Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

How tourists perceive the island destination: A comparative approach through the analysis of social media

While historically destination image is projected by DMOs and tourists’ offices, the advent of social media allow the construction of an image which is also a projection of tourists. The content of their communication online shows the image they perceive. In this section we analyse how tourists “talk” about the different islands on social media, in order to understand what the perceived image is.

We use a specific tool (Google Cloud Vision) to scan the content of images posted by tourists on Instagram (the market leader in visual social media) while they are on holiday in selected islands. The content is translated in up to ten labels attached to each picture. For each island we aggregate and rank the different labels to find out the most important characteristics tourists associate to the island (assuming that they are correlated with the most frequent labels attached to the pictures).



We analyse eight islands representative of the Atlantic Ocean (four islands of the Canary Archipelago: Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Tenerife) and of the Mediterranean Sea (Crete, Cyprus, Malta, Sicily). We scan posts geotagged in these islands by tourists (identified by a travel-related hashtag such as #visit #holiday #travel, etc) in summer 2019 (June to September), returning a total number of 745,235 pictures considered in the analysis. The breakdown is in the table below.

Table 21: Characteristics of the sample of pictures under analysis

Indicator	Island							
	Tenerife	Gran Canaria	Fuerteventura	Lanzarote	Cyprus	Crete	Malta	Sicily
Num. of posts (total)	49,234	33,145	38,452	25,471	63,561	93,752	74,925	119,896
Avg. num. of pictures per post	1.77	1.67	1.56	1.8	1.76	1.74	1.81	1.68
Share of geotagged posts	67%	67%	67%	65%	70%	74%	76%	73%
Number of scanned pictures	74,537	48,337	52,577	39,381	95,808	141,538	117,576	175,481

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

After aggregating similar words, top labels for each island were obtained. The following pools were created utilizing a frequency analysis, which is the total number of times the label occurs in each island. A first glance at the word clouds shows that all destinations look extremely similar which, perhaps, is of little surprise given that they all are European sea & sun destinations: hence, labels like Sky, Sea, Vacation, Tree, Beach are among the most frequent for all islands. Nonetheless, some differences can be spotted: Mountain appears relatively more frequently in Tenerife than in other islands; Sea and Ocean have relatively more weight in Fuerteventura; Architecture and Building are of more importance in Cyprus, Crete, Malta and Sicily than in the Canary Islands, something that is clearly linked to the density of cultural heritage in the Mediterranean islands: in fact, all the labels representing architectural, religious and historical sites (History, Historic, Ruins, Site, Ancient, Building, Dome, Mosque, Holy, Medieval, etc.) have higher ranks in these islands than in the Canaries. The islands of this archipelago have more similar images, but also reveal distinct features: for example Gran Canaria appears the most urban, Tenerife is characterized by a higher frequency of labels related to partying and nightlife but also for wildlife spotting, Lanzarote stands out for its arid landscapes and Fuerteventura for the vast sandy seashores and turquoise waters as the frequencies of labels such Beach, Shore, Sand, Coast, Turquoise, Ocean show.



SOCLIMPACT

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



Gran Canaria



Tenerife



Fuerteventura



Lanzarote



Crete



Cyprus



Malta



Sicily



The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination’s perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. Other estimations were provided for Malta using the Index of Distance in Destination Image to position each island in a range that goes from Sardinia / Corsica on one side and Sicily on the other side. Without entering the details of the extrapolation method (which are explained in D5.6 appendixes) a summary of results is reported here:

Table 22: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Malta

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
26.36%	rcp26near	36.55%	1.5%	0.3%	1.8%
	rcp26far	37.10%	1.5%	0.3%	1.9%
	rcp85near	39.01%	1.8%	0.4%	2.2%
	rcp85far	64.77%	5.5%	1.1%	6.7%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperatures on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold by specie and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant) were analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases in the region (mean values), with respect to the reference period.

To do this, we assume two main species cultured in this region: Seabream (SB) and Tuna (T), and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios.

As expected, the production levels (tons) will decrease for both, low and high emissions scenarios. In both cases, the average annual temperatures are projected in levels below 23°C and 24°C, which are the thresholds of thermal stress for Bluefin tuna and Seabream species.

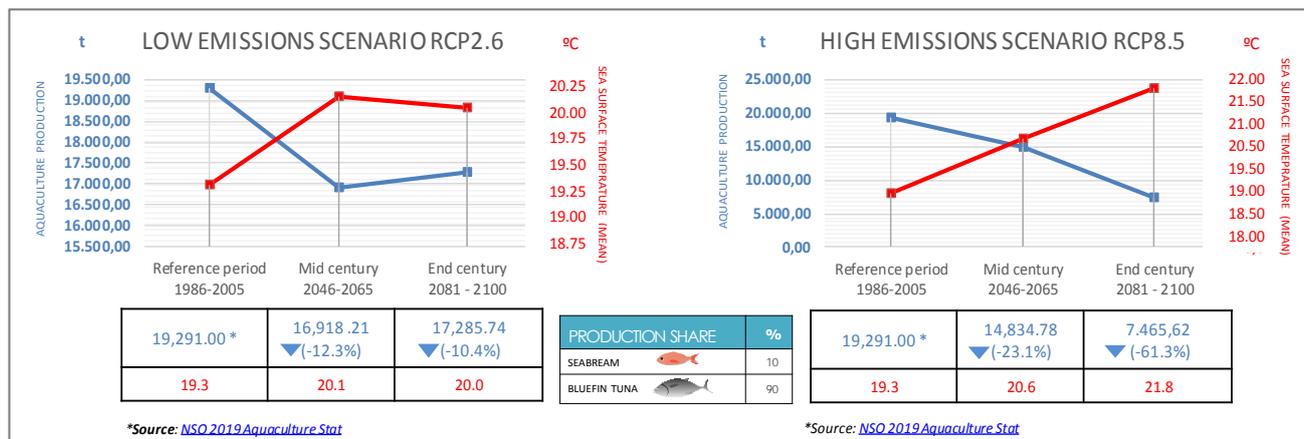


Figure 77: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature
Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (CDD) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18 °C or 65 °F. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (GWh/year) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 887 CDD⁵. This value could be, for example, a combination of 100 days with temperatures of 24°C (600CDD) and other 143 days with temperatures of 20°C (200CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 240%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

⁵ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18)= 200CDD

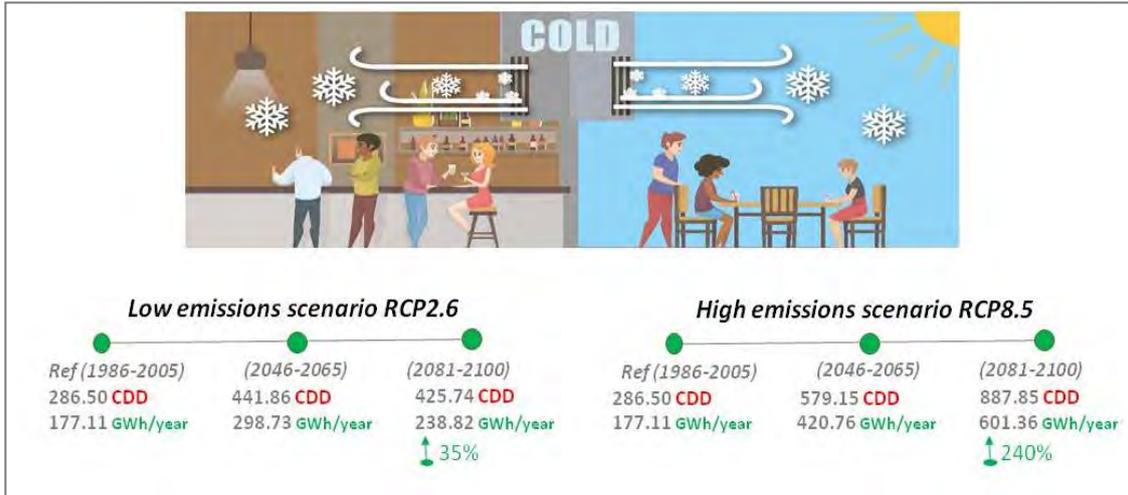


Figure 78: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Malta under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (GWh/year) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the low emissions scenario (RCP2.6), there are not significant changes in the SPEI indicator, that will remain in its "normal" level, as it is nowadays. Nevertheless, an increase of 36% in desalination energy demand is expected. Under RCP8.2 the scenario alerts on a severe aridity leading to an increase of 159% of the energy demand.

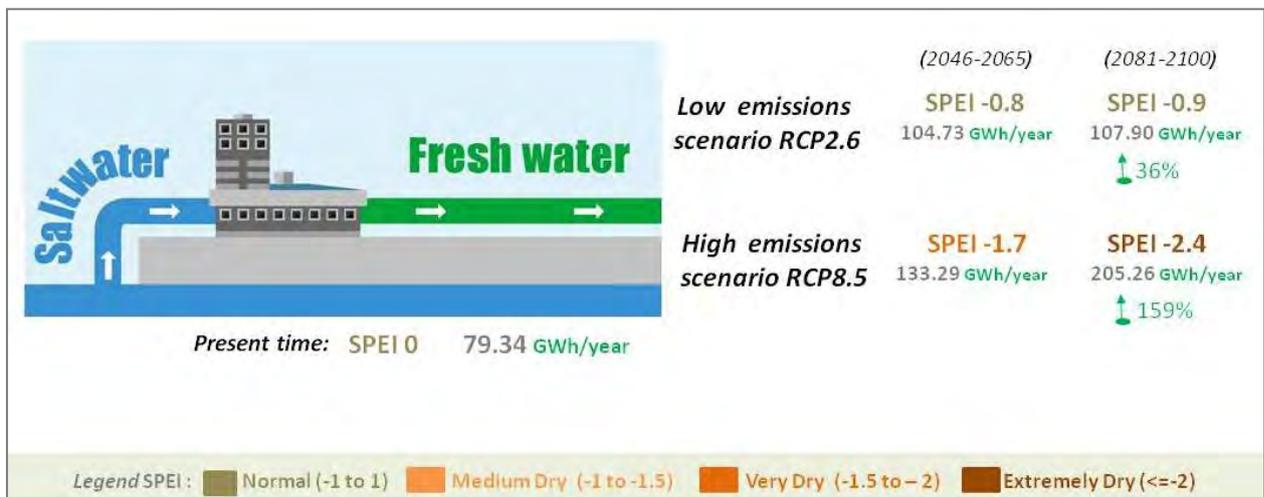


Figure 79: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Malta under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)



Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, the impact of Sea Level Rise (SLR) on ports' operability costs of the island were calculated with reference to 1 m; which is defined as the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 m. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, as it also depends on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, it was assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios was then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all porsts' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 2.8 million of euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

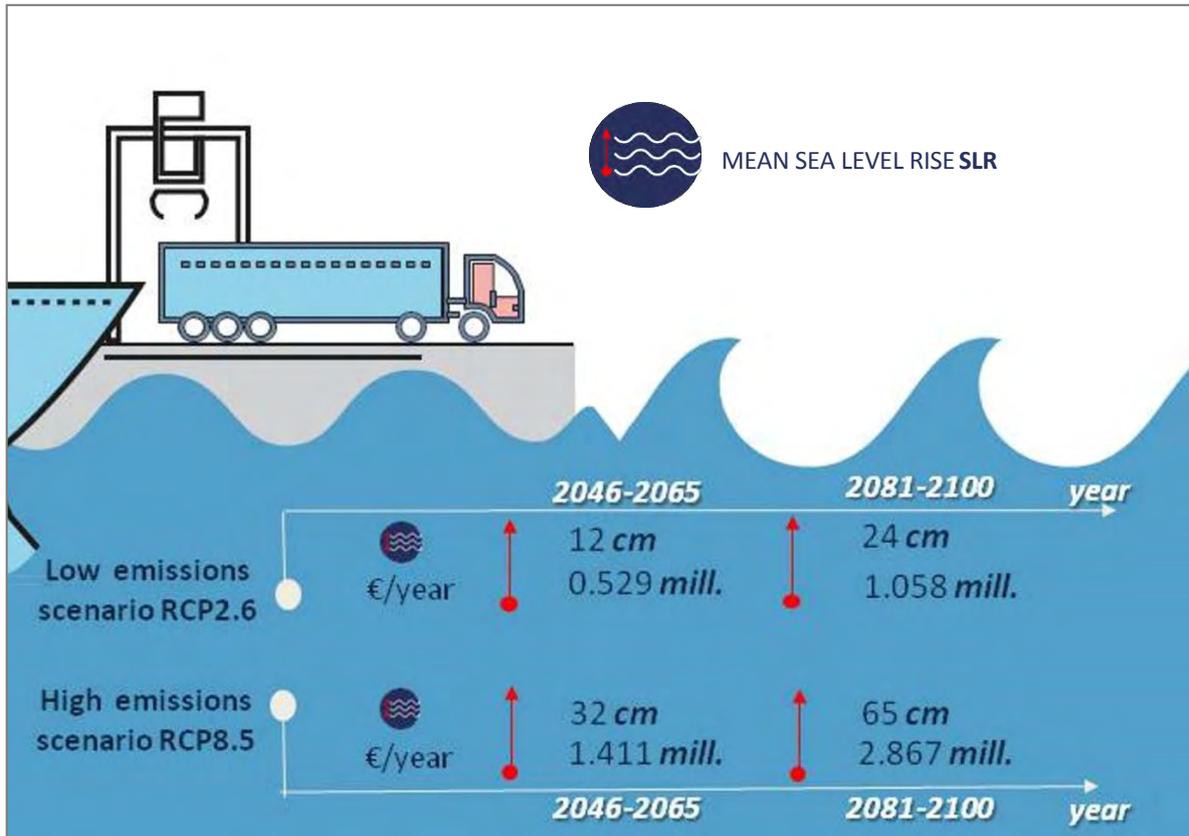


Figure 80: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Malta under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100
 Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the island of Malta. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 17 scenarios have been quantified for Malta. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 23: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045- 2060)	-10.31	6.9	-0.26
RCP2.6 (2080- 2100)	-14.19	4.2	-0.29
RCP8.5 (2045- 2060)	-20.03	14.0	-0.69
RCP8.5 (2080- 2100)	-33.42	25.7	-0.77

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces is a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of



models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between -0.15% and -1.8% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -0.55% and -4.0% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative change over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to -0.2% in the RCP2.6 and -0.9% in the RCP8.5.

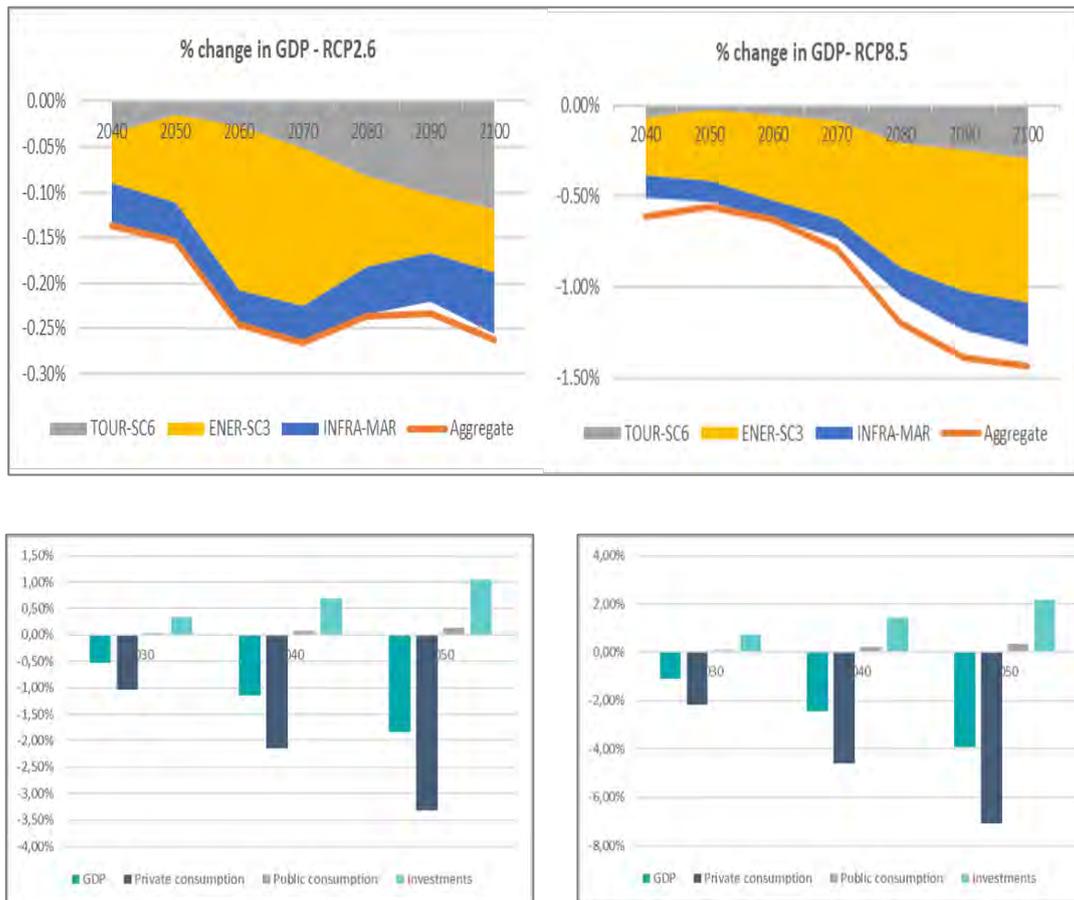


Figure 81: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the manufacturing sector and to a lesser extent in the activity of the primary sectors of production.



Figure 82: Production percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors following the slowdown in domestic activity. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor in other sectors. Employment falls on average by 0.02% in both climatic variants.

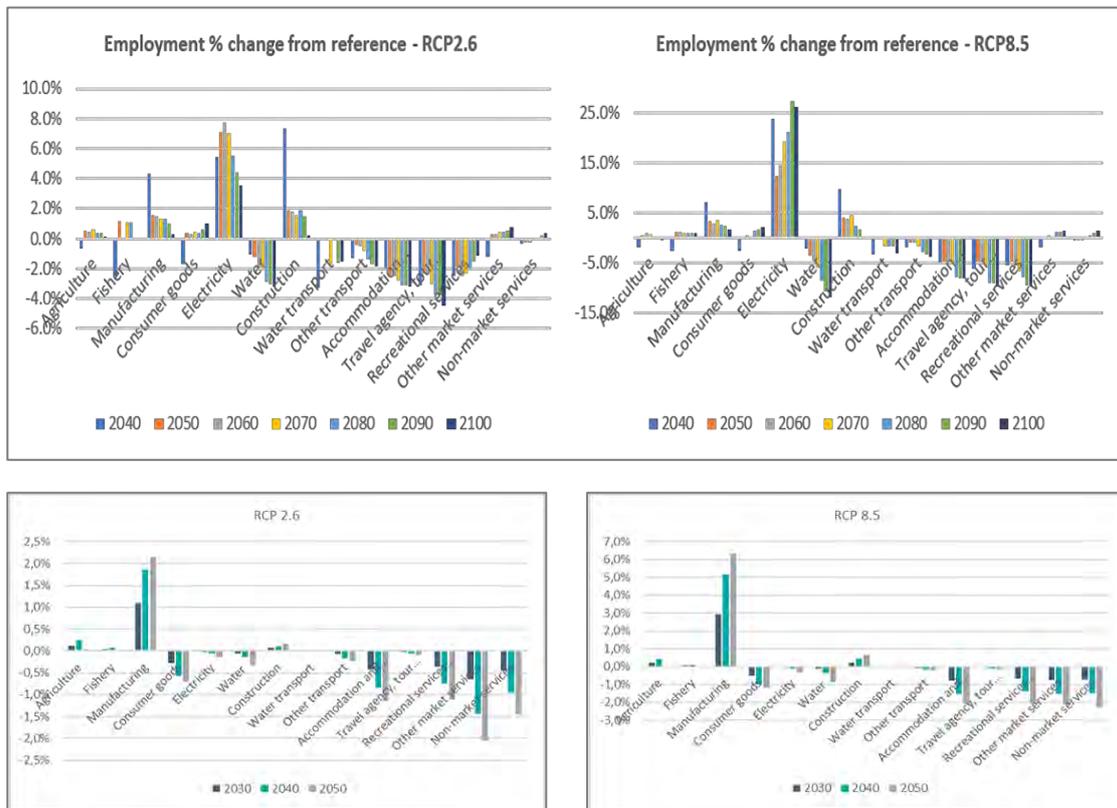


Figure 83: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacles

“Malta ratified the UNFCCC in 1994 and the Kyoto Protocol in 2001. Malta did not immediately take on any quantified emission limitation or reduction obligations under these international instruments; thus, it did not have a quantified target for the limitation or reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for the first Kyoto Protocol Commitment Period (CP1; 2008-2012).” (MRA, 2017). However, in 2010 Malta became an Annex I party to the UNFCCC which signified the intention of Malta to step up against climate change (MRA, 2017).

Malta also reports an annual national GHG inventory and other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change in line with the Monitoring Mechanism set out in EU Regulation No 525/2013 and needs to adhere to EU Emission Trading Scheme (EU Directive 2003/87/EC).

“Malta is committed to remain in line with the Effort Sharing Decision (Decision No. 406/2009/EC of 23 April 2009) thereby conforming to a reduction of its GHG emission growth by no more than 5% on 2005 levels by 2020” (Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change, 2017).

Relevant National Documents

- Climate Action Act

This Act, adopted in 2015, provides for action in order to contribute to the mitigation of climate change by limiting anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and protecting and enhancing greenhouse gas sinks and reservoirs. It also contributes to the prevention, avoidance and reduction of the adverse impacts of climate change and the reduction of vulnerability, enhancement of resilience, and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change. It requires the ministry to review and update the national adaptation strategy every four years.

- Malta's National Strategy for Policy and Abatement Measures relating to the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MRRRA, 2009)

This strategy, adopted in 2009, includes 96 actions for the period 2009-2020 to be adopted to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Abatement measures are divided in four groups: energy, waste and agriculture, water and transport.

- National Climate Change Adaption Strategy (MRRRA, 2012)

This strategy, adopted in 2012, recommends the necessary adaptation measures deemed relevant to sectors that are vulnerable to a changing climate through a set of 72 actions which addresses the following areas: agriculture, biodiversity, freshwater resources and coastal zones, land degradation, fisheries and migration. It also addresses issues related to financial impacts and sustainability." Six actions on tourism are included which focus mainly on research and one action to draw up a Tourism Action and Contingency plan. Adaption action plans were not developed due to the small size of the state. Malta is currently revising this strategy with the aim of including relevant adaptation policies. The new strategy is called the Low Carbon Development Strategy which is based on UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Paris Agreement and Regulation (EU) N0 525/2013 of the European Parliament.

The following sector documents do consider adaptation issues ([EC Country fiche for Malta](#));

- The 2nd Water Catchment Management Plan for the Maltese Islands (2016)
- The Malta National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2012-2020
- The National Energy Efficiency Action Plan
- The Malta's National Transport Master Plan 20259. adopted in 2016
- The National Agricultural Policy for the Maltese Islands 2016-2025.

Table 24: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

Specific limits and obstacles

<p>Since the implementation of the Climate Adaption Strategy, adaption action has not been a primary focus of Malta's authorities. One reason for that can be the small size of the country which limits the range of issues that authorities can address (see here).</p>

<p>Additionally, Malta's number of inhabitants and cars on the island is increasing which results in the need to widen existing roads and to build new ones. Little is done to curtail emissions from transport, which is one of the main contributors of GHG. This seems to jar with Malta's</p>



commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and will make it difficult for the country to meet its emission targets ([see here](#)).

The rapidly increasing number of inhabitants on the island also triggers the boom of construction, which converses more and more green areas into building sites which further limits the ability to absorb Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

There is an overall lack of subject-specific studies to estimate the impact and its costs of climate change and the required adaption([see here](#)).

Effects of climate change on aquaculture activities include biological, environmental and socio-economic impacts and can be short- or long-term caused by f.e. changing temperature, oxygen availability and increased extreme weather events. Eventually these impacts can lead to loss of production and infrastructure (Bueno and Soro 2017). A strong focus should therefore be placed on building general adaptive capacity that supports the sector.

Relevant documents

- Malta's Low Carbon Development Strategy (https://meae.gov.mt/en/Public_Consultations/MSDEC/Documents/MSDEC%20LCDS%20Vision.PDF)
- [Climate Action Act](#)
- Malta's National Strategy for Policy and Abatement Measures relating to the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (<https://environment.gov.mt/en/Documents/Downloads/maltaClimateChangeAdaptationStrategy/nationalClimateChangeMitigationStrategy.pdf>)
- National Climate Change Adaption Strategy (<https://parlament.mt/media/67383/5790.pdf>)

Source: Deliverable [Report D7.1](#)



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APPENDIX 10





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in Sardinia. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of-the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

Sardinia at a glance

Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean after Sicily covering an area of 29.949 km² and is located in the western part of Italy in the Tyrrhenian sea just to the south of the French island of Corsica (40°4'N 9°17'E). With a population 1.648 million people Sardinia is one of the least populated regions of Italy. Sardinia enjoys a certain autonomy compared to other regions and for that reason, on the Italian constitution, it is granted Autonomous status. It is organised in Provinces. Municipalities and Metropolitan Cities and the largest part of its population (around 50%) is concentrated in two major urban areas: Cagliari (capital of the island) with 560,000 inhabitants and Sassari with 331,000 inhabitants.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

As far as semi-intensive aquaculture is concerned, Sardinian companies are currently represented by facilities/plants for the breeding of valuable fish species both of salt and fresh water and of molluscs.

Sardinia is still one of the leading Italian regions in marine fish production, with the greatest development potential both for quantitative as well as qualitative production.

Despite the great availability of suitable sites to undertake the activity, fish farming in Sardinia has played a marginal role in the economy of the region until the late 1990s.

The most recent farms are those set up at sea (offshore) in the 90s, adopting appropriate plant technologies that allow good integration with the surrounding environment.

Among the fish, sea bream and sea bass are the two most important marine species bred.

- **Maritime Transport**

Sardinian ports are responsible for 10% of the national cargo movement and 12% of total passenger movement while activities tied to the maritime transport sector generate income equal to 5.3% of the regional gross value added (Banca Intesa and SRM. 2019).



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The port of Cagliari, which has the longest berths on the island, is the 'core' harbour of Sardinia in terms of infrastructure, equipment for loading and unloading of containers. Second for the available length of berths comes Porto Torres (North-West).

The blue economy employs 42,300 people in Sardinia and 611 companies are active in the maritime cluster. To date, the greatest weakness of the Sardinian port system is represented by the excessive dependence on the oil sector.

In 2018, the Management Committee of the Port System Authority of the Sardinian Sea unanimously approved the release of a 50-year state-owned maritime concession in favour of Edison Spa for the construction of a terminal for liquefied natural gas in the industrial port of Oristano.

- **Energy**

Sardinia is interconnected to the Italian electricity grid. Electricity production reached 13 GWh in 2015 with the majority of the production facilities in the island being fossil-fuel powered (approximately 74%), which consisted of coal power plants (49%) and oil plants (51%), while a moderate share of electricity production comes from renewable sources (approximately 26%). The main source of renewable electricity is solar power (69%) as the island has an installed capacity of 732MW, followed by wind (26%) with an installed capacity of 1.028MW, biofuels (3.3%) and hydro power (1%).

- **Tourism**

The tourism industry contributes approximately 7% of the regional value added. The attraction of tourists is growing at a relatively steady pace over the past twenty years. Sardinia records the second highest increase in tourism arrivals since 2000 among Mediterranean islands after Crete, along with the nights spent in the island.

The main touristic attractions of the island, according to recent studies, are beaches (53%) followed by cultural sightings (19%) and tradition-related attractions (12%). The promotion of tourism is one of the main priorities of the regional authorities and the short-term actions for this target are described in the "Piano Strategico di Sviluppo e Marketing Turistico della Sardegna" (2018).

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean after Sicily covering an area of 29,949 km² and is located in the western part of Italy, in the Tyrrhenian sea, just to the south of the French island of Corsica (40°4'N 9°17'E). With a population of 1,648 thousand people Sardinia is one of the least populated regions of Italy. Sardinia enjoys a certain autonomy compared to other regions and for that reason it is named as Autonomous Region of Sardinia. It is organised in Provinces, Municipalities and Metropolitan Cities and the largest part of its population, around 50%, is concentrated in two major urban areas:



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Cagliari (capital of the island) with 560 thousand inhabitants and Sassari with 331 thousand inhabitants.

The climate of Sardinia is mild Mediterranean, with hot summers and mild winters. Nevertheless, the temperature varies between coastal (9-11°C in the winter and 24-30°C in the summer) and non-coastal areas as the inner part of the island is mountainous (-2-4°C in the winter and 16-20°C in the summer). The island's highest elevation point is the Punta La Marmora (1.834 meters), followed by Punta Sa Berritta (1.362 meters) and sa Punta Manna (1.259 meters). After an ambitious reforestation program Sardinia is now Italy's most forested regions, as forests cover 50% of the island and host a wide variety of endemic mammal sub-species, rare amphibians and birds. The island has 3 national parks and ten regional ones. The island has approximately 100 beaches offering a wide variety in terms of beaches geology ranging from sandy beaches to cliffs and caves

The population of Sardinia has reached its 30 years peak in 2014 with 1.663 million people and is slowly decreasing for the past years. Population growth falls short compared to the average population growth in Italy, as fertility rates are almost 20% lower than the national average with slightly lower mortality rates and a relatively small outflow of population towards the Italian Peninsula. Sardinia is characterized by an increasing share ageing population (approximately 4% in the past decade).

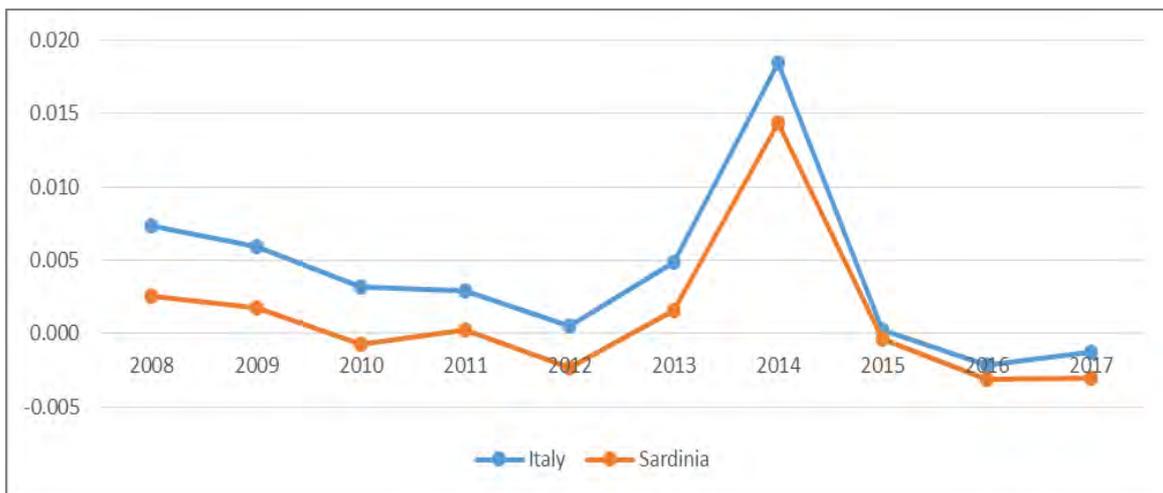


Figure 1: Population growth in Italy and in Sardinia (2008-2017).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [6.1](#)

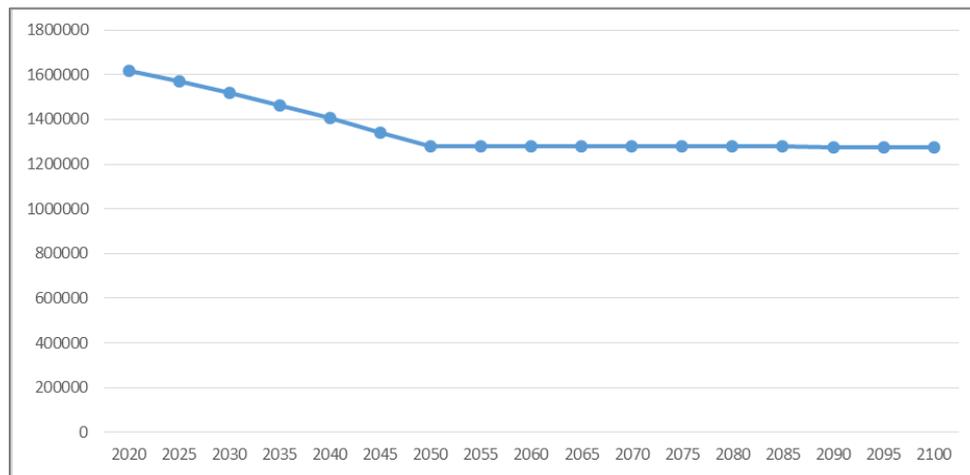


Figure 2: Baseline population projection for Sardinia (2020-2100).
Source: Eurostat & Own calculations.

1.2 Current climate and risks

The climate of Sardinia is typically Mediterranean with mild temperatures throughout the year and short-lived winters. Sardinia is a windy island, especially from October to April when the mistral blows from North-West (France) whereas in spring and summer the prevailing winds blow from Africa, bringing warm and dry weather.

Rainfall is not abundant, in fact it ranges from 400 to 550 millimetres per year on the coast, and follows the Mediterranean pattern, since it is more common in autumn and winter, it decreases gradually in spring and reaches its lowest in summer, when it almost never rains.

The island is sheltered from cold waves; along the coasts and in the plains, snowfall is quite rare, but it can occur in the coldest winters, more frequently in the north of the region. When it comes to the effects of climate change on Sardinia, since the early '80s data reveal a warming trend confirmed by temperature extremes with an increase in the extremes of heat and a reduction of extremes of cold. The number of tropical nights per year has also been increasing.

The expected climate change signal is less clear for rain than for temperature. In fact, precipitation indices do not highlight an unequivocal change in the frequency and intensity of precipitation. However, a tendency.



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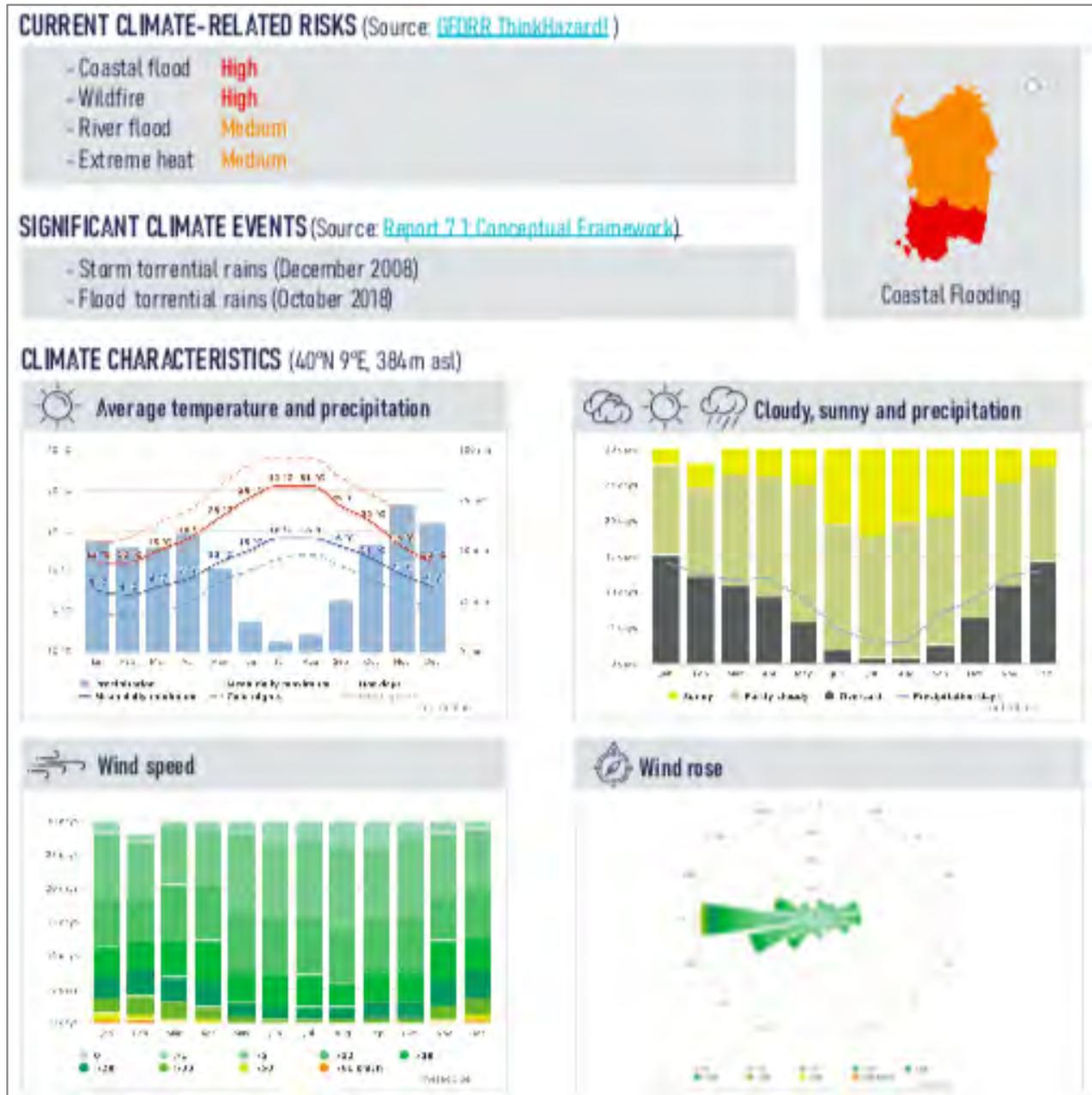


Figure 3: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework](#) and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)



1.3 Macroeconomic status

Sardinia is a service led economy with services contributing consistently more than 70% of the regional gross value added (GVA) over the past 20 years. During this period the servicification of the Sardinian economy has intensified. The share of services in total GVA, according to the most recent ISTAT statistics, has grown from 72.4% in 1995 to 82.2% in 2016 and the respective Industry (excl. construction and utilities) share has dropped from 9.4% to 5.3% during the same period. The contribution of agriculture to the regional economy has been almost constant and around 9%, with small variations, for the whole 20-year period. The inter-national exports of goods (manufactured and agricultural products) in 2016 accounted for €4.2 billion, almost exclusively attributed to industrial products while imports accounted for €5.2 billion consisting of industrial products (97%) and agriculture and fishing products.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

The tourism industry contributes approximately 7% of the regional value added. The attraction of tourists is growing at a relatively steady pace over the past twenty years. Sardinia records the second highest increase in tourism arrivals since 2000 among Mediterranean islands after Crete, along with the nights spent in the island. On average there is a slight decrease in the average length of stay in the island (4.6 nights per visitor in 2018 compared to 5.4 in 1995). The promotion of tourism is one of the main priorities of the regional authorities and the short-term actions for this target are described in the “Piano Strategico di Sviluppo e Marketing Turistico della Sardegna” (2018). The main touristic attractions of the island, according to recent studies, are beaches (53%) followed by cultural sightings (19%) and tradition-related attractions (12%).

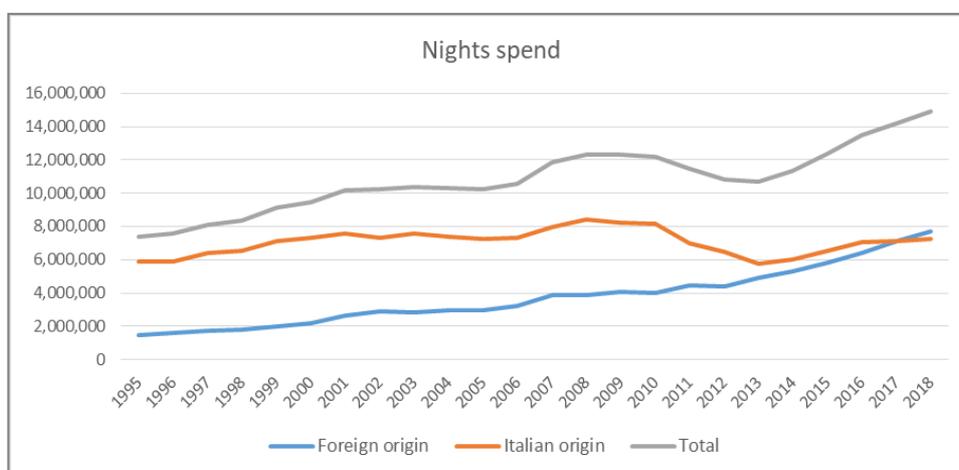


Figure 4: Nights spend in Sardinia 1995-2018.

Source: Eurostat.



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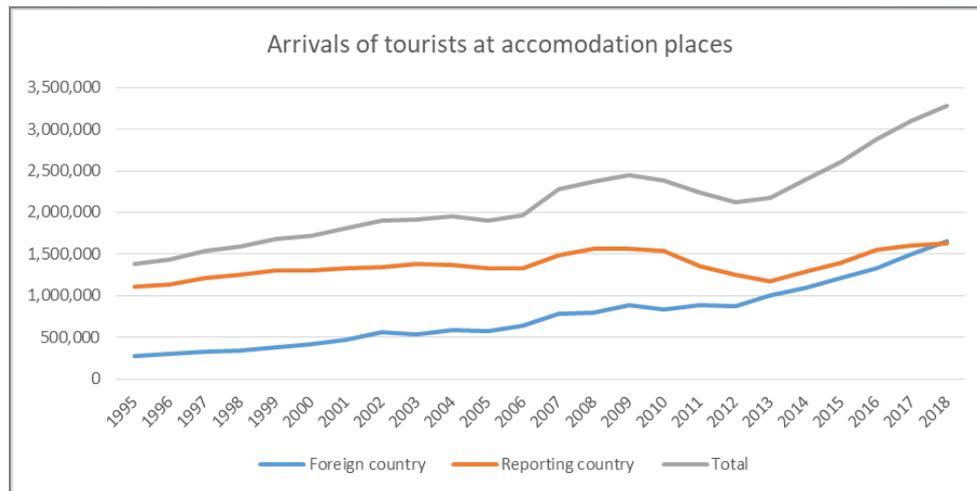


Figure 5: Tourist arrivals in Sardinia 1995-2018.

Source: Eurostat.

Maritime transport

Sardinian ports are responsible for 10% of the national cargo movement and 12% of total passenger movement while activities tied to the maritime transport sector generate income equal to 5.3% of the regional gross value added (Banca Intesa and SRM. 2019). Eurostat statistics over the period 1995-2017 reveal a two-phase trend for the island's maritime transport sector: i) during the first period, and before the global financial crisis of 2008 both passengers and freight movement were recording an increase of 17.6% and 14.3% relative to 1997 while ii) after the financial crisis there was a sharp decrease in maritime transport activities (-14% compared to 1997 and -24% compared to 2008 for cargo movement and -24% compared to 1997 and -365 compared to 2008 for passenger movement).

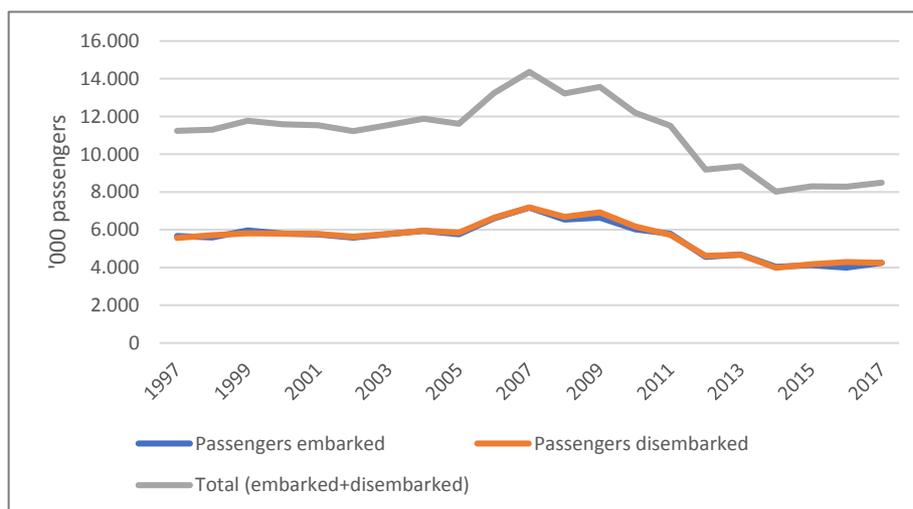


Figure 6: Maritime passenger transport 1997-2017.

Source: Eurostat.

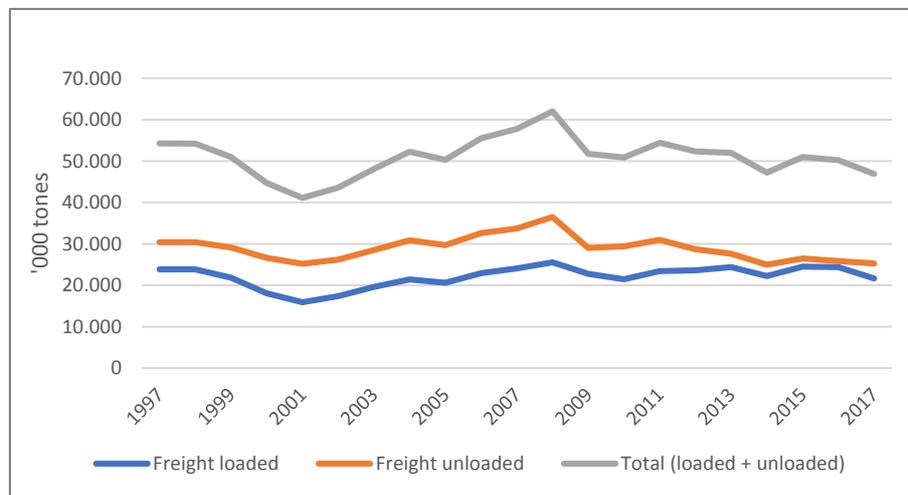


Figure 7: Maritime transport movements from/to Sardinian ports 1997-2017.
Source: Eurostat.

As the maritime sector is important in scale and complexity, it is highlighted that for the research interests of SOCLIMPACT project, namely the estimation of climate impacts on the Blue Economy sectors, not all components of the sector are relevant. In particular, only maritime transportation strictly related to the transportation of passengers and goods to and from the island is relevant to this analysis, while other major components such as ship-management, naval engineering and shipbuilding are not part of this analysis. To this end, the projections presented below refer to Water transport as in the Eurostat classification, thus to the more narrow estimation of transportation of passengers and goods that includes sea and coastal passenger and freight transport as well as inland passenger and freight transport.

Aquaculture

The aquaculture sector is of minor importance for the regional economy contributing approximately 0.25% of the regional value added in 2015 and employing around 5.900 people.

Electricity

Sardinia is interconnected to the Italian electricity grid. Electricity production reached 13 GWh in 2015 with the majority of the production facilities in the island being fossil-fuel powered (approximately 74%), which consisted of coal power plants (49%) and oil plants (51%), while a moderate share of electricity production comes from renewable sources (approximately 26%). The main source of renewable electricity is solar power (69%) as the



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island has an installed capacity of 732MW. followed by wind (26%)¹ with an installed capacity of 1.028MW. biofuels (3.3%) and hydro power (1%).

Infrastructure. R&D and planned projects

In the islands there are three passenger airports in operation: in Cagliari. Olbia and Alghero; the road network extends to over 12.946 kilometres and the rail network extends to over 429 kilometres. There are 4 major ports in the island: the Port of Arbatax – Tortolì. the Port of Cagliari. the Port of Golfo Aranci. the Port of Olbia and the Port of Porto Torres. and 9 minor ports. With respect to R&D the amount of funds directed towards new technology account for 0.77% of the regional GDP in 2017 or €261 million with the largest part being performed by higher education institutions (61%) and only a small part being performed by the private sector (13%).

2 Economic projections

2.1 The macroeconomic projections

Based on the projections. Sardinia grows with an average annual rate of 0.9% throughout the 2015-2100 period and with 0.6% throughout the 2015-2100 period. The main driver of growth throughout the period is the improvement of the island's competitiveness which is supported by increased investments (Table 1) that lead to a decrease of the regional trade deficit. Trade deficits are projected to decrease to around 9.5% of the regional GDP compared to the trade deficits of 2015 of 17.9% of the Sardinian GDP. Still. Sardinia remains a net importer in 2100. Investments grow with a high pace over the whole projected period. reflecting the increased funding requirements of the economy. We assume that the share of public consumption slightly decreases until 2100; nevertheless. per capita public consumption expenditures increase over the time period under consideration.

Table 1: Sardinia GDP and GDP components yearly growth rates in 2020-2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GDP	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	1.0%	1.1%	1.5%	1.4%	0.9%
Private consumption	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	1.3%	1.1%	0.8%
Public consumption	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.6%	0.7%	1.3%	1.3%	0.9%
Investments	1.1%	0.7%	0.6%	1.1%	1.1%	1.2%	1.3%	1.6%	1.4%	0.9%
Exports	0.0%	1.2%	0.3%	0.6%	-0.1%	1.9%	-0.3%	-0.2%	-0.6%	0.9%
Imports	0.4%	1.0%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.1%	1.5%	-0.3%	-0.2%	-0.6%	0.8%

Source: Own calculations.

¹ http://www.regione.sardegna.it/documenti/1_231_20181221121007.pdf

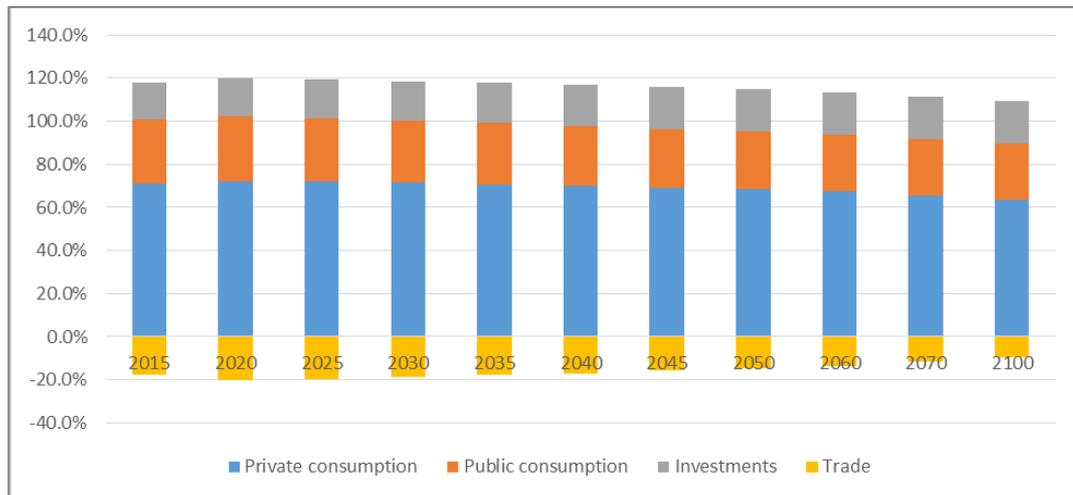


Figure 8: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Sardinia in 2015-2100. Source: Own calculations.

2.2 The sectoral projections

The Sardinian economy remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period. Market and non-market services remain the largest activities in the Sardinian economy but during this period there is a clear reorientation from traditional public related activities. towards market-oriented activities. Other sectors that are expected to record higher relative growth are the construction sector (+1.4% relative to 2015). which benefits more from the increased investment expenditures. the consumer goods industries (+1.3%) to a lesser extent the accommodation and food services sector (+0.3%).

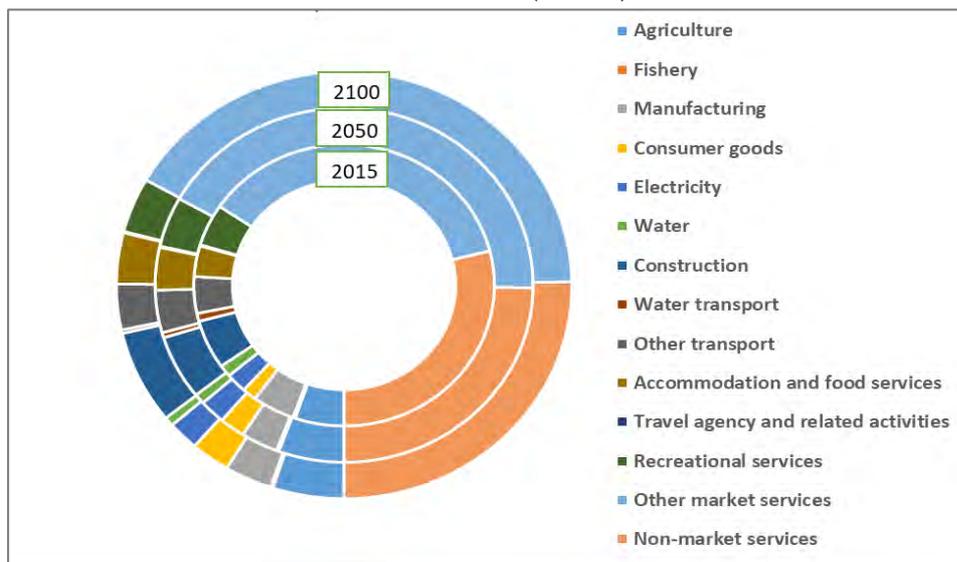


Figure 9: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Sardinia in 2015, 2050 and 2100. Source: Own Calculations.



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The accommodation and food service sector are projected to slightly increase its contribution to the regional economy reflecting the moderate increasing pace of tourist arrivals in the island and the same trend is projected for the consumer goods industry which is mainly made up of food products and is linked to tourism activity through the wholesale trade and restaurants activities. For the maritime sector the relatively small projected growth rates are associated mainly to the decrease of freight transport activity with the reduction on imports and the diversification of the economy.

Table 2: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Sardinia in 2015-2100.

GVA % shares	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Agriculture	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.6%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%	5.1%
Fishery	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Manufacturing	4.6%	3.8%	3.7%	3.5%	3.6%	3.3%	3.3%	3.2%	3.0%	3.1%	3.4%
Consumer goods	1.5%	1.9%	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%	2.2%	2.4%	2.7%	2.8%
Electricity	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	2.2%
Water	1.4%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%
Construction	5.6%	5.3%	5.3%	5.3%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.8%	6.4%	7.1%	7.1%
Water transport	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%
Other transport	4.2%	4.2%	4.2%	4.1%	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.7%	3.5%	3.4%
Accommodation and food services	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.8%	3.7%	3.9%
Travel agency and related activities	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Recreational services	4.8%	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%	4.7%	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%	4.2%
Other market services	36.6%	38.1%	39.4%	40.3%	40.1%	41.2%	41.7%	42.1%	41.9%	40.9%	41.5%
Non-market services	28.9%	27.9%	27.2%	26.6%	26.2%	25.6%	25.0%	24.8%	25.1%	25.6%	25.2%

Source: [D6.2](#)- Own calculations.

2.3 Employment

Economic growth brings positive effects to the labor market with unemployment projected to fall from 17.4% in 2015 to more sustainable levels until 2050 (8.2%). The contribution of each sector to total employment depends on the labor intensity of the sector. The biggest employing sectors are the market, non-market services and manufacturing employing 66.3% of the total working population in 2015, while the share of labor employed in agriculture is 6.1%. The latter is expected to decrease over the period examined mainly due to the adoption of more efficient cultivation methods and the automation of agricultural production. The employment in the construction sector is projected to increase from 6.5% to 7.7% due to the increased investment levels foreseen over the whole projection period for the modernization of the production facilities. Service-related employment increases from 53.4% in 2015 to 60.7% in 2100.

Table 3: Sectoral contribution as a % share of total gross value added for Cyprus in 2020-2100

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	17.4	15.0	13.5	12.1	11.6	10.2	9.4	9.5	9.2	8.3	8.2
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Source: [D6.2](#)- Own calculations.

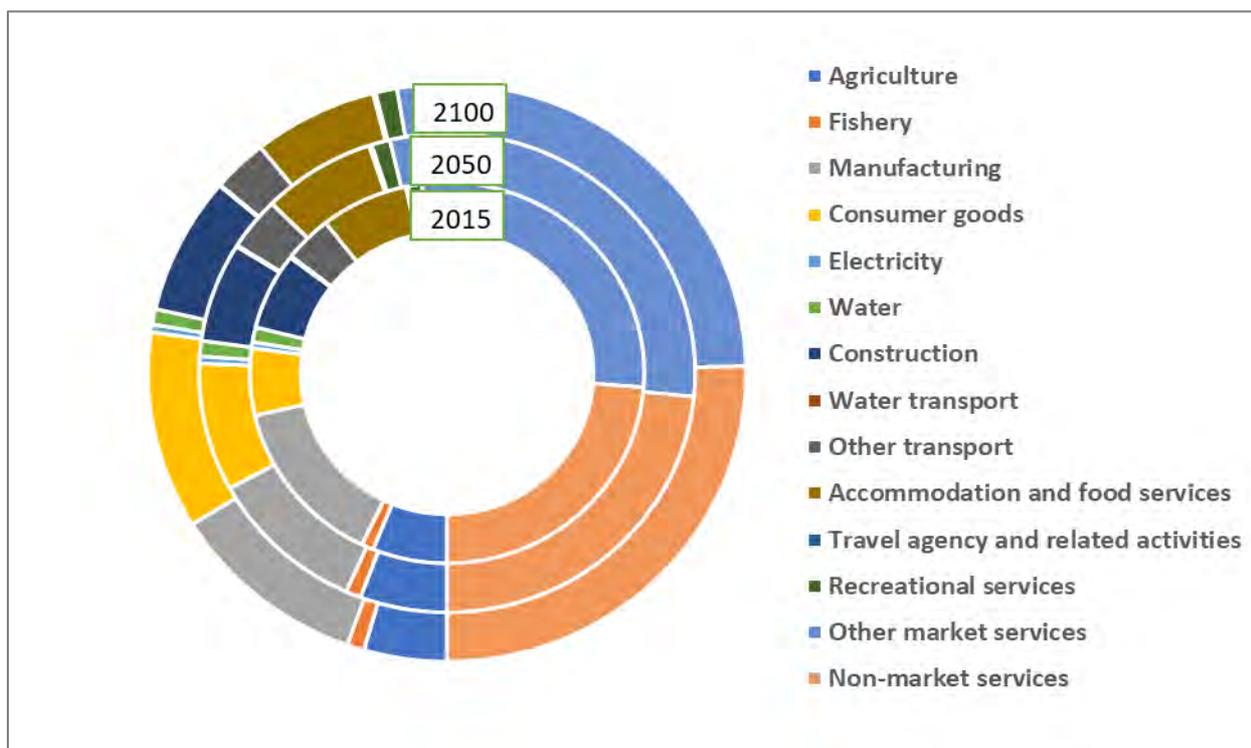


Figure 10: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Sardinia in 2015, 2050, 2100

Source: [D6.2](#)- Own calculations.

3 Climate Change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for Sardinia is EURO-CORDEX ensemble even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of



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the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runoff). In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The values of extreme flood levels in that scenario is 92.47 cm in Sardinia.

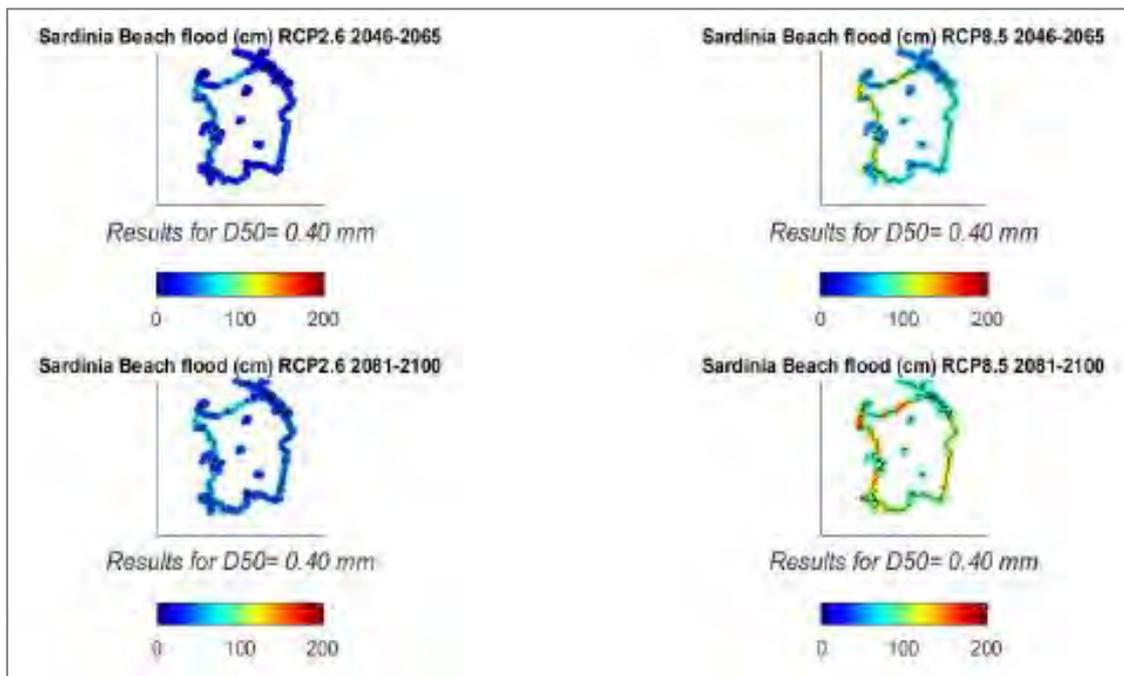


Figure 11: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cm) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~46% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~77% under scenario RCP8.5.

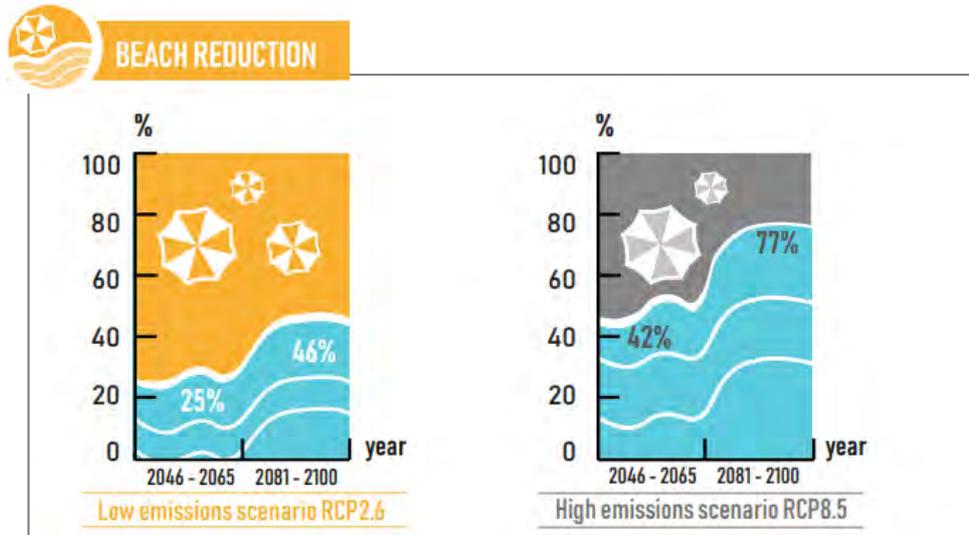


Figure 12: Beach reduction (%).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4d Report](#) on the evolution of beaches

Seagrass evolution

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, *etc.* Therefore, the state of the seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. That is, large well-preserved extensions of seagrasses lead to a better coastal marine environment which in turn is more resilient in front of hazards.

Our results suggest that no seagrass losses are expected for the *Posidonia* located in the coasts of Sardinia island, except under the scenario 8.5 at the end of century (loss of 14,4%).

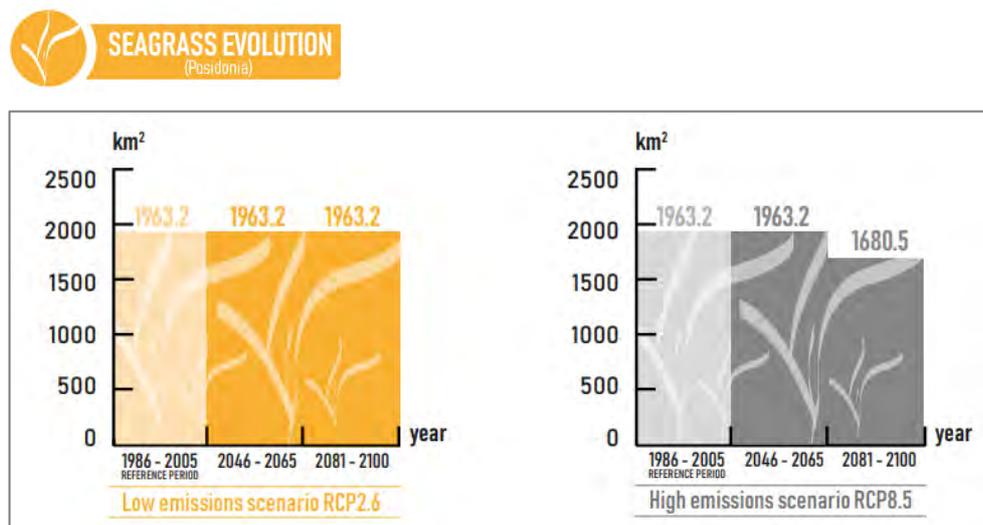


Figure 13: Seagrass evolution.



Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4e](#) Report on estimated seagrass density

Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases **Vector Suitability Index for Aedes Albopictus (Asian Tiger Mosquito)**

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. In the framework of SOCLIMPACT we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia; however, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various encephalitides (Proestos *et al.* 2015).

The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos *et al.* (2015) has been employed to estimate the regional habitat suitability maps. This is based on extending previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock *et al.* 2013; Proestos *et al.*, 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge.

Sardinia is found to have high habitat suitability index values for the simulations of the present climate. This is also verified by the fact that populations of *Aedes Albopictus* have already been reported in this island. Slight increases and decreases of the HSI values are projected for simulations under RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 respectively. The decreases are mainly found to be in the interior of the island (not showed) where the higher increases of temperature are expected to occur in a warmer future.

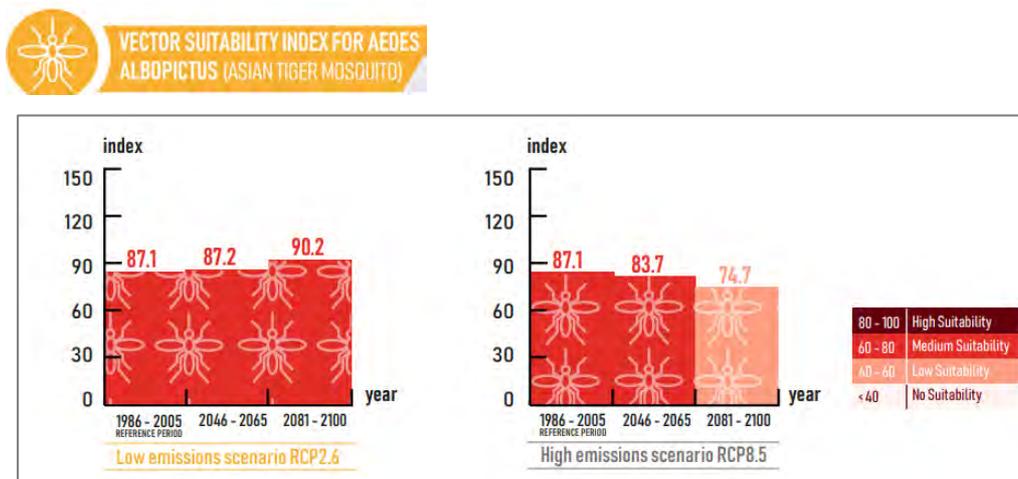


Figure 14: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colors indicate increases while blue colors indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability].

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.3](#)

Fire weather Index (FWI)

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods.

For Sardinia, N=185 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. While the most areas exhibit very and low fire danger in the present climate and under RCP2.6 for the near and the distant future as well, it seems that under RCP8.5, many areas cross over into medium fire danger, while increases towards the end of the century there are areas mainly inland that exhibit high fire danger. The overall increase exceeds 40%. For RCP2.6, we find the highest uncertainty for the near future period, which decreases substantially at the end of the century, indicating that the projections become more robust.

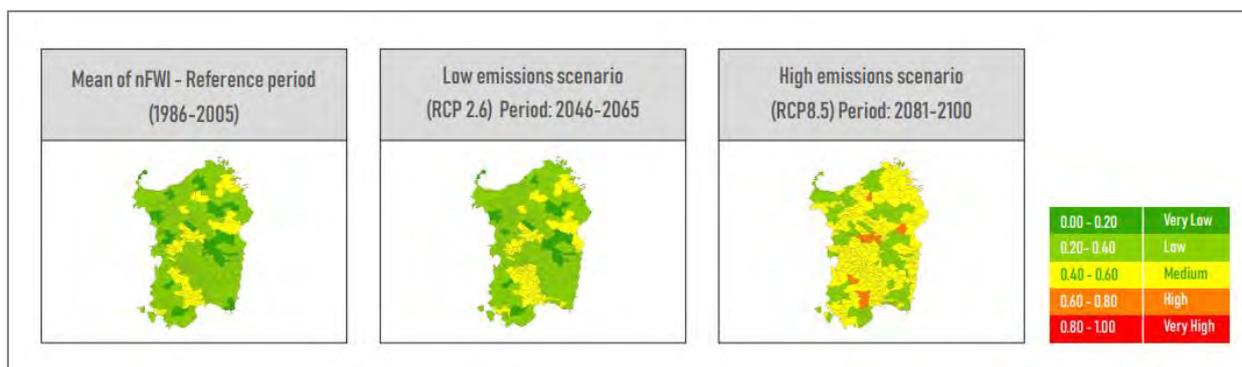


Figure 15: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the nivel of risk.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#)

Humidex

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by



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people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Sardinia, N=185 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs.

From less than 2 months in the present climate and quite above 2 months in the mid-century for both scenarios, Sardinia will have almost 4 months with discomfort conditions by the end of the century under RCP8.5.

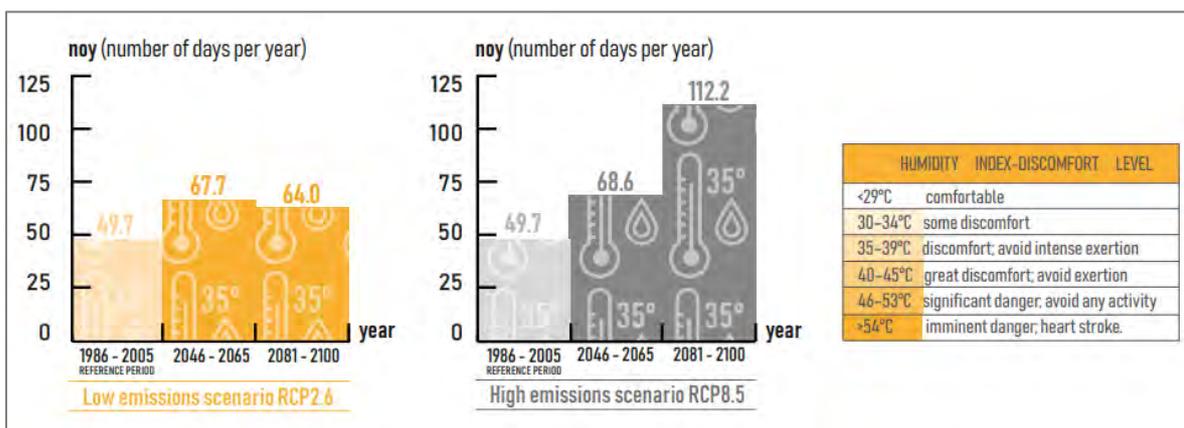


Figure 16: Humidex. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

3.2 Aquaculture

The predicted impacts of climate change on the oceans and seas of the planet is expected to have direct impacts on marine based aquaculture systems. Basic effects are the following (Soto and Brugere, 2008):

- Increased invasions from alien species.
- Increased spread of diseases.
- Changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, salinity, oxygen availability and other important physical water parameters.
- Changes in the differences between sea and air temperature which will alter the seasonality, frequency and severity of storms, cyclones and other extreme events, affect the stability of the coastal resources and potentially increase the damages in infrastructure.



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- Sea level rise, acidification, changes in precipitation and other effects will also add to the changes in coastal ecosystems and environment, thus affecting production and infrastructure (=investments).

Temperature changes in seawater trigger physical impacts; increased harmful algal blooms, decreased oxygen level, increase in diseases and parasites, changes in ranges of suitable species, increased growth rate, increased food conversion ratio and more extended growing season. Furthermore, all these impacts lead to socio-economic implications among them; changes in production levels and an increase in fouling and pests. The objective of the current analysis is to identify and quantify the variations (future climate scenarios with respect to present climate) in the number and in the duration of events characterized by a Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeding a given threshold. The SST thresholds have been identified according to the farming and feeding necessities of several marine species, particularly relevant for the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Sea (MS).



	Longest event (days) >20 degrees Mussels & clams 	Longest event (days) >24 degrees Sea bream/Tuna 	Longest event (days) >25 degrees Sea bass 
Historic (1986-2005)	123 days	31 days	16.5 days
RCP 8.5 - mid century	149.5 days	61.5 days	42 days
RCP 8.5 - end century (2081-2100)	178.5 days	90.5 days	67 days

Species	Threshold (°C)
European seabass, <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	25
Giltthead seabream, <i>Sparus aurata</i>	24
Amberjack, <i>Seriola dumerili</i>	23
Atlantic Bluefin tuna, <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	23
Japanese clam, <i>Ruditapes decussatus</i>	21
Blue mussel, <i>Mytilus edulis</i>	21
Manila clam, <i>Ruditape philippinarum</i>	20
Mediterranean mussel, <i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	20

Figure 17: Number of day per year exceeding a given threshold.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

3.3 Energy

Percentage of days when $T > 98\text{th percentile} - T_{98p}$

The T_{98p} is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005.

For Sardinia, $N=185$ grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RCPs.

It is found that T_{98p} is about 5% during RCP2.6 towards mid-century and slightly decreases at the end of the century, while for RCP8.5, 18% of the year will exhibit temperatures above the 98th percentile by the end of the century. The coastal grid cells are more affected by the temperatures increase compared to inland grid cells (not showed).



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EXTREME TEMPERATURES

(Percentage of days per year when $T > 98$ th percentile - 1986)

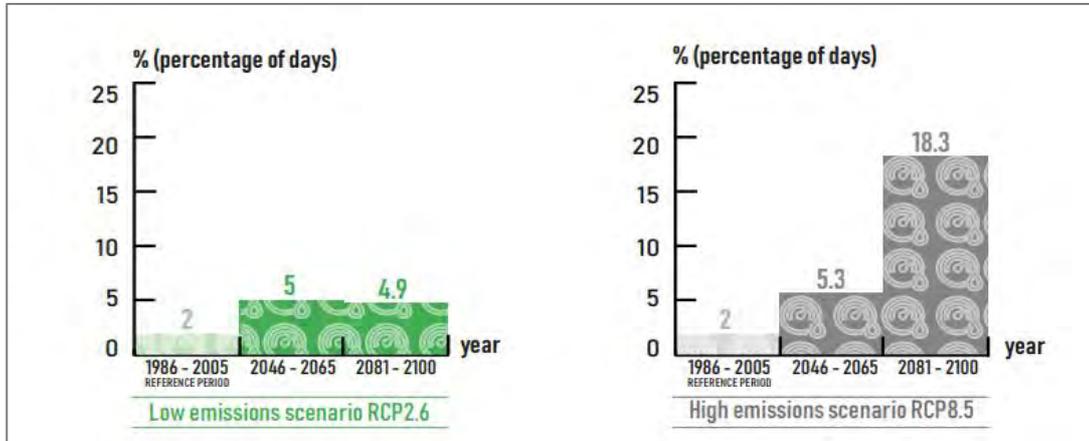


Figure 18: Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.

Renewable energy productivity indexes

Photovoltaic energy productivity

The “noisy” spatial pattern can be also seen in the projected changes, mostly for the period 2081-2100 in the RCP8.5 scenario. Despite of the local increase, in spatial average a decrease over land and on maritime areas is projected, as in all the other cases. However, the projected decrease is mostly small, with values that does not reach 1% of change over land, and changes over the sea with a maximum average that represents less than 5% of the annual mean productivity in the control period.



PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

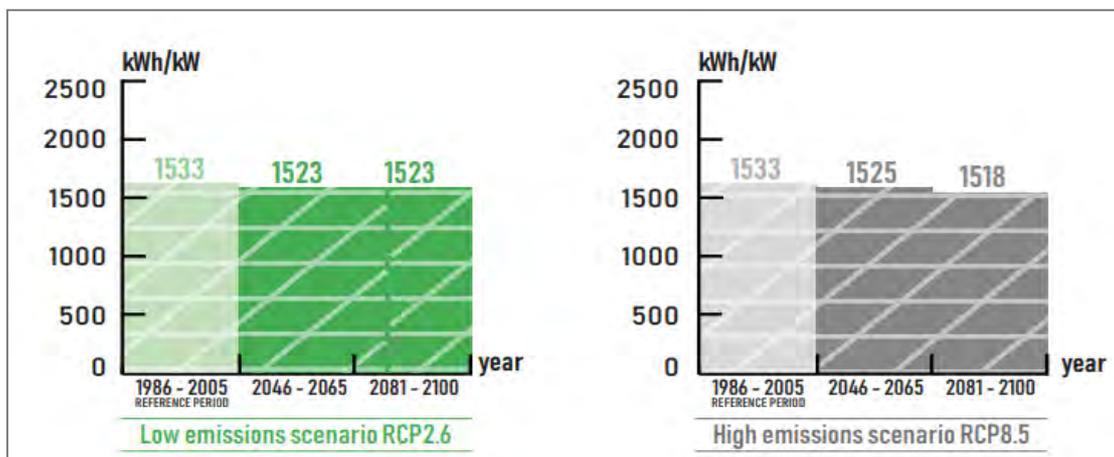


Figure 19: Ensemble mean values of annual solar productivity indicators (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.



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PHOTOVOLTAIC PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

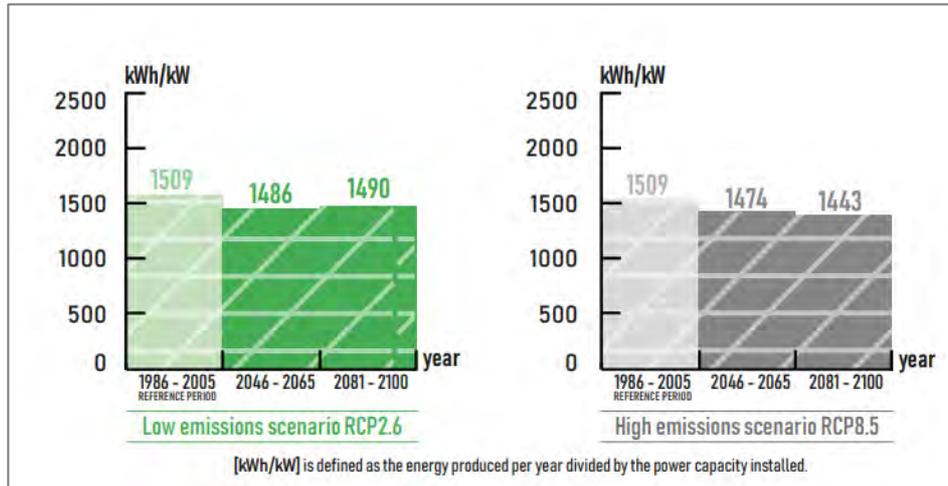


Figure 20: Ensemble mean values of annual solar productivity indicators (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy.

Wind energy productivity

Slight changes are obtained for RCP2.6 scenario and RCP8.5 by the middle of this century. However, changes over the sea are larger in the RCP8.5 scenario by the end of the century, with a spatially averaged decrease of about 5%.

WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (LAND)

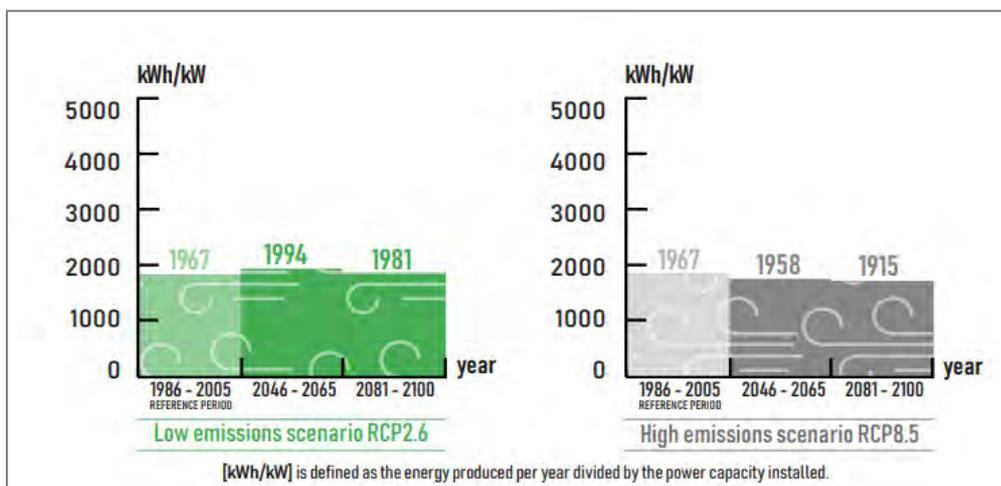


Figure 21: Ensemble mean values of annual wind and solar productivity indicators (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



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WIND ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY (SEA)

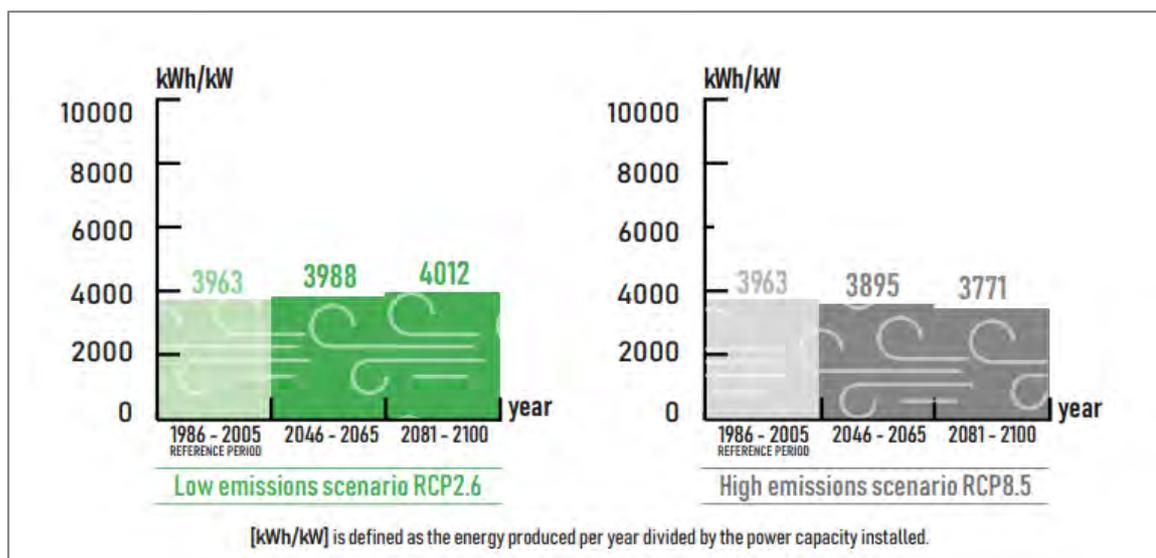


Figure 22: Ensemble mean values of annual wind and solar productivity indicators (kWh/kW) in the control period (1986-2005) and ensemble mean changes in future periods (2046-2065, 2081-2100) for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

In this region, in the control period, wind droughts are more frequent over land than over the sea, especially in the central and eastern portions of the island. Changes in the frequency of wind droughts are rather small in the RCP2.6 scenario. In the RCP8.5 case, an increase in the occurrence of wind droughts is projected, reaching 7 days more per year for moderate droughts at the end of the century.

It is also remarkable that the greatest increase in the percentage of days in which drought conditions develop occurs in the center-east of the island, where droughts in the control time period are more likely to happen. Changes in the frequency of wind droughts are in line with changes in wind productivity.

Changes in the frequency of severe PV droughts in the considered scenarios are very small. The combination of PV and wind energy is highly positive, as moderate droughts in the control period occur with a frequency almost as low as for PV droughts alone, and the frequency of severe droughts is almost negligible, even below the already very low value for PV energy.



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ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

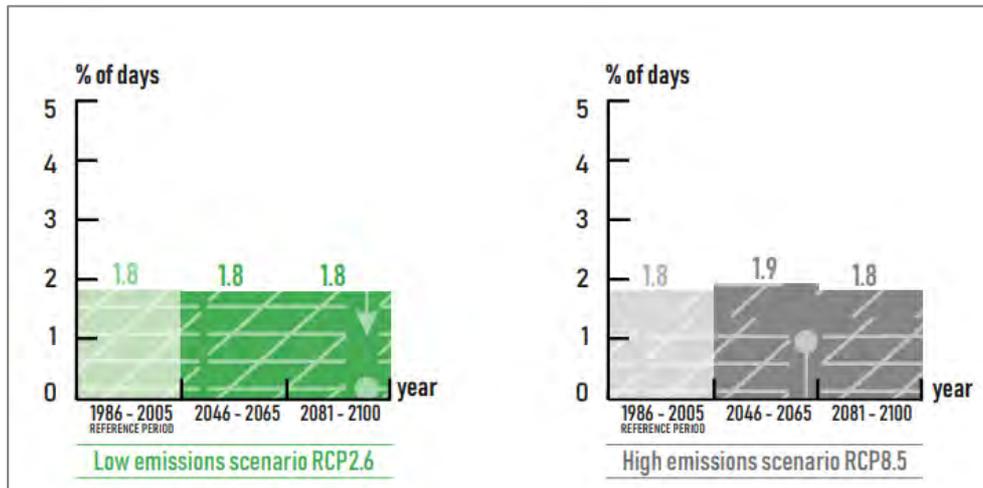


Figure 23: Photovoltaic (PV) productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

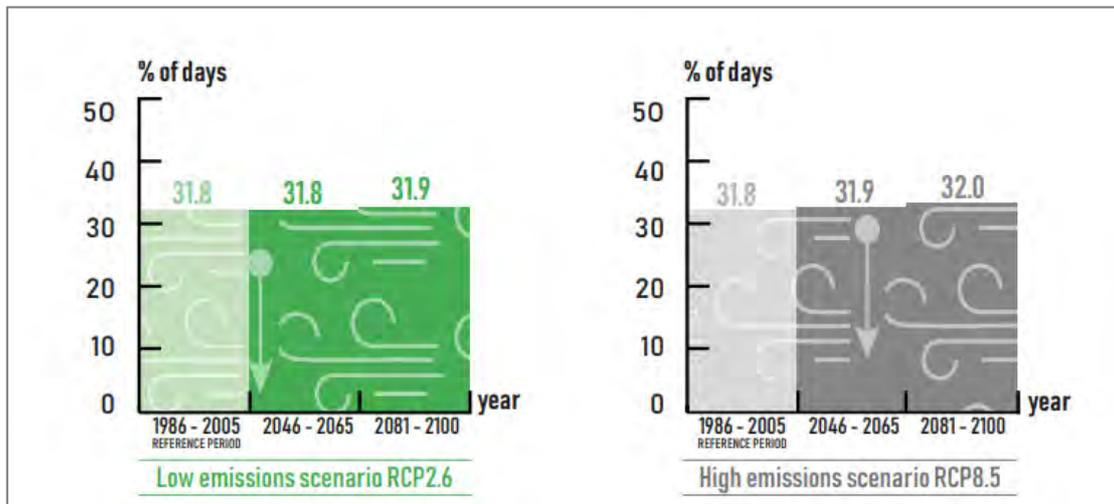


Figure 24: Wind energy productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy



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ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

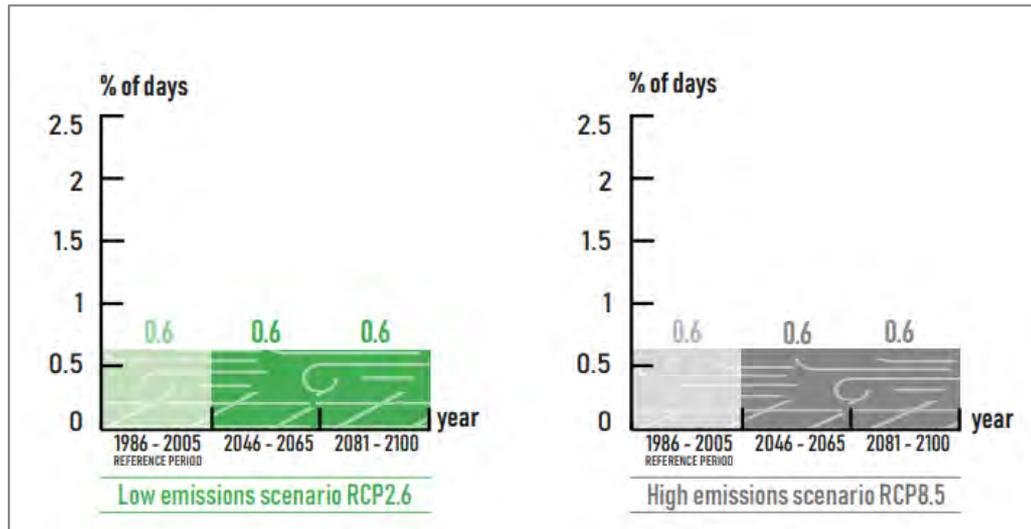


Figure 25: COMBINED energy productivity. Ensemble mean frequency of moderate and severe productivity drought days (%) in the control time period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered for the RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 scenarios. Ensemble minimum and maximum values are given in brackets. Averages are computed over land.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4a](#) Report on solar and wind energy

Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing provides the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room. For Sardinia, at the end of century, under RCP8.5., the increase of number of days is amount the triple of the hindcast.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



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COOLING DEGREE DAYS

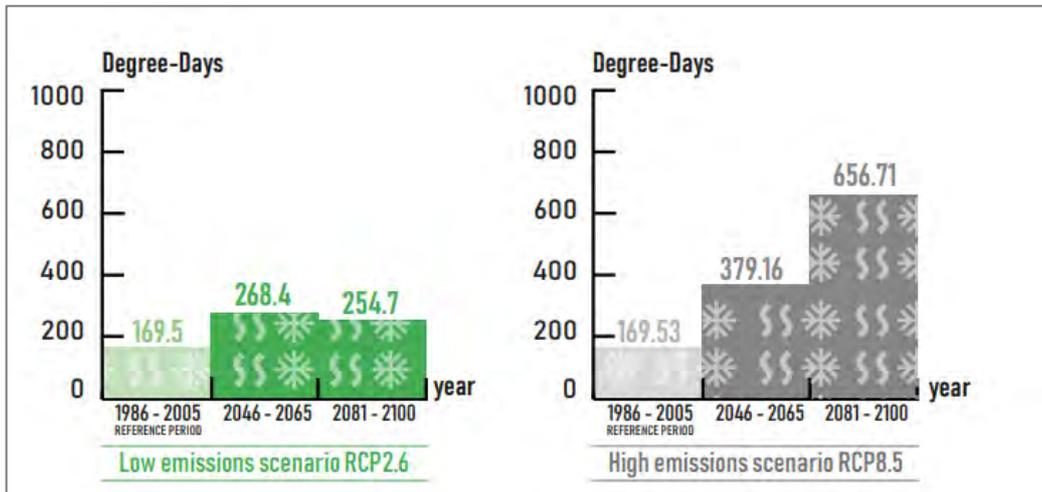


Figure 26: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes

Available water: Standardized Precipitation Index

This index is used as an indication of water availability. For Sardinia only some regions of the north-east of the island are expected to be affected under RCP2.6 and exceed the “dry” conditions threshold. Under the business-as-usual RCP8.5 forcing, parts of the island are expected to experience extreme dry conditions that will be evident even from the mid 21st century. Mild changes are projected under RCP2.6, while under the business-as-usual scenario the whole island is expected to be severely affected by meteorological droughts.



STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION EVAPOTRANSPIRATION INDEX

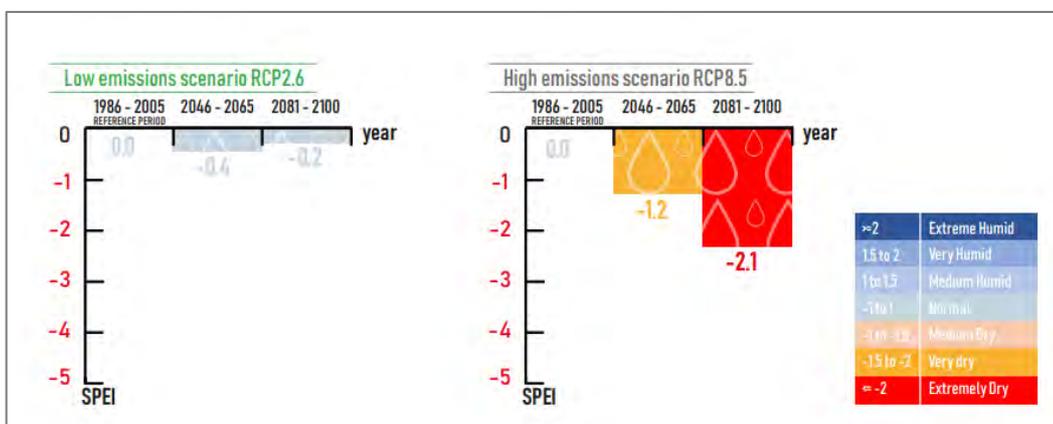


Figure 27: Ensemble mean values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged. Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed hazard indexes and indicators with Appendixes



3.4 Maritime transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Sardinia, the SLR ranges from 22.19 cm (RCP2.6) to 60.46 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.

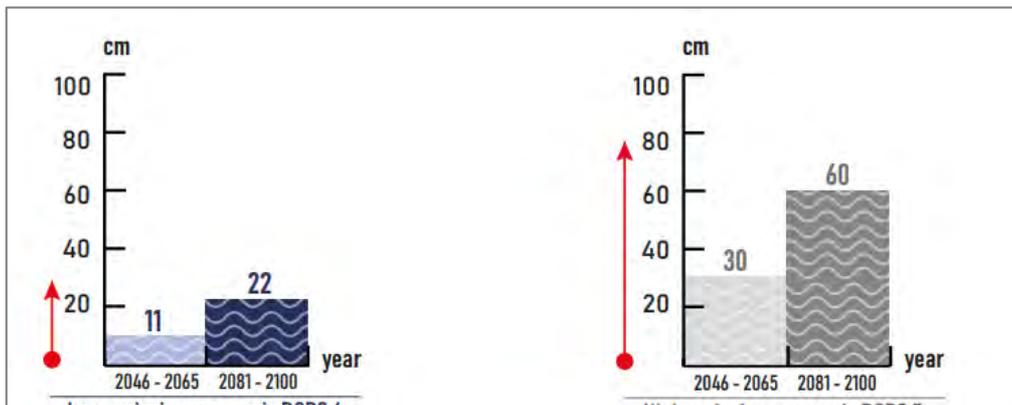


Figure 28: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides. To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello *et al.* (2016). This ensemble consists on 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at $1/4^\circ$ of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations. The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels. The results show a low decrease except for RCP8.5 at the end of the century.



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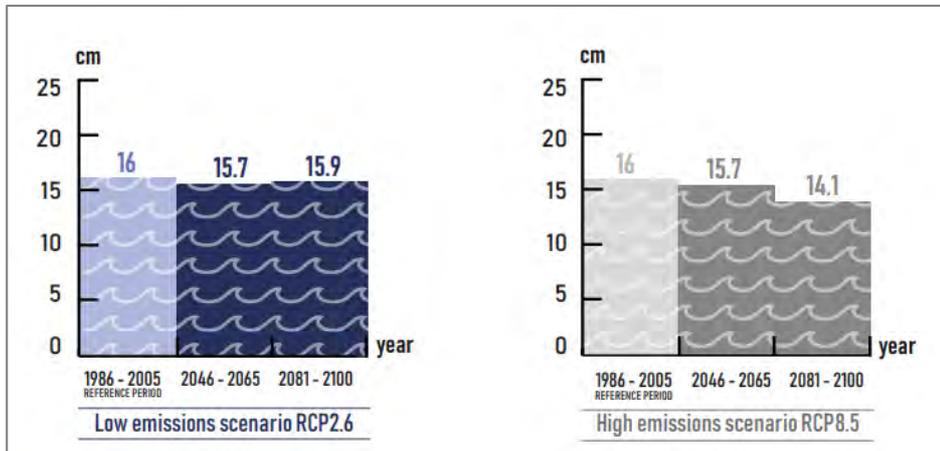


Figure 29: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5 and (relative change in %).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future under RCP8.5 (- 15.9%).

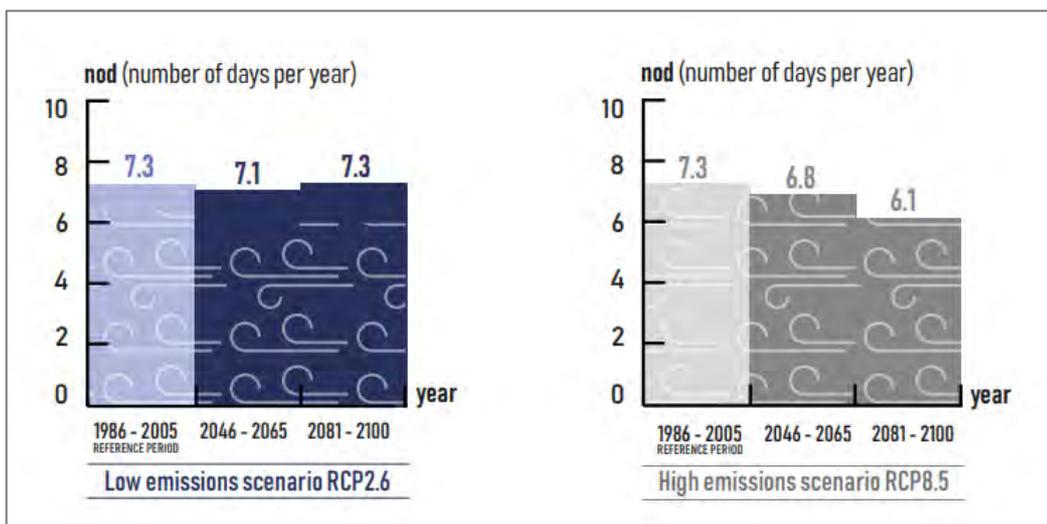


Figure 30: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of the EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator



Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map, more significantly in the West coast of the island. The more significant change is observed under RCP8.5. at the end of century with -3%.

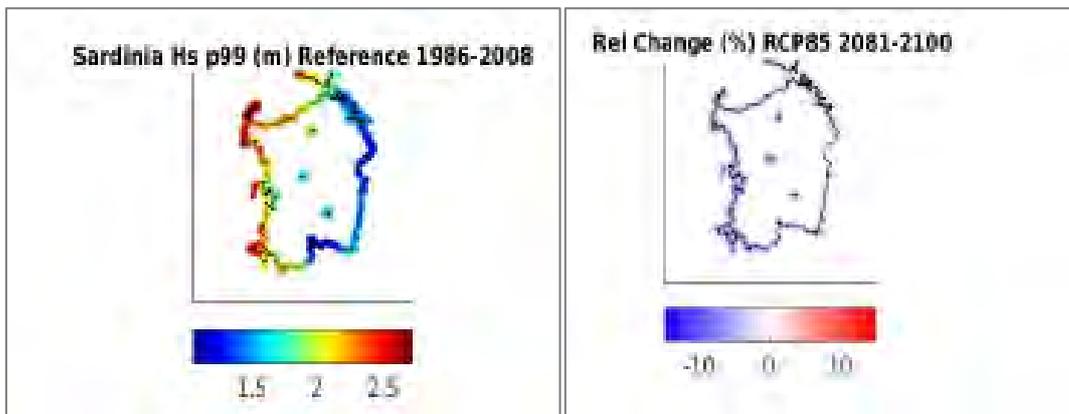


Figure 31: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels.

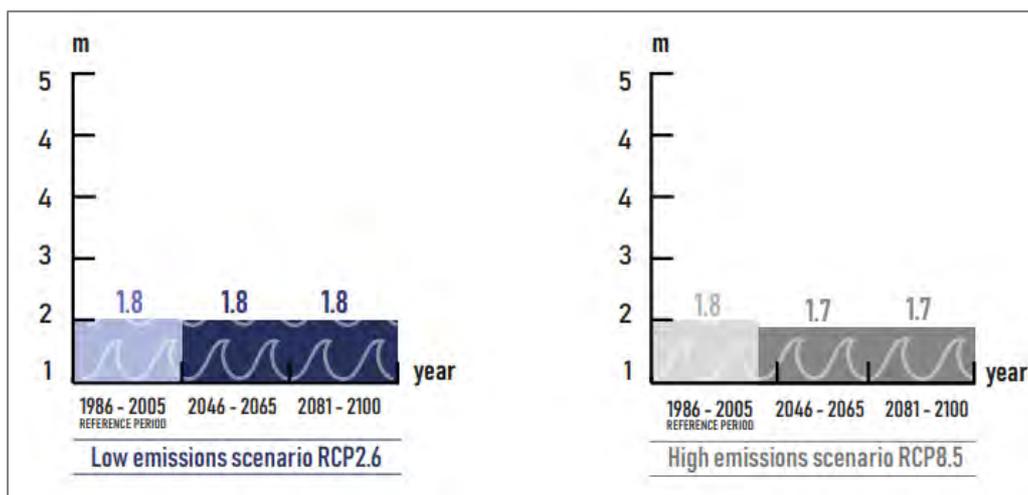


Figure 32: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels



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4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,*
- ii) *Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress*
- iii) *Risk of forest fires and loss of attractiveness*

Sardinia was not included in the analysis of the first IC. The main reason is the insufficient data availability, for “Tourist Arrivals” and “Vulnerable Groups” indicators, which is regards the Exposure of people to heatwaves for the hottest period, such as:

- Number of tourist arrivals per month for the past 5 years.
- Number of tourists per month aged 14 and under for the past 5 years
- Number of tourists per month aged 65 and over for the past 5 years
- Percentage of tourist activities that are sensitive to heatwaves (such as hiking, etc.).
- Number of beds available in medical facilities per 100,000 inhabitants.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands.

The other two IC provided some results for the case of Sardinia, joint to other,,,,,islands, which are summarized in the next section.

Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress

This section describes the work carried out for the operationalization of the impact chain “*Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”². It provides details on the method applied for the operationalization, the island data used, and the results obtained. As can be seen in the next figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. the frequency, intensity, and duration of heatwaves,
2. to what extent and how tourist activities and tourists become exposed to heatwaves, and how sensitive different segments of tourists are to extreme heat, and
3. the preparedness of the destination to cope with thermal discomfort episodes through information, technology, alternative activities, and medical attention.

² Detailed information about the methodology used and the results obtained is available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D4.5. Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public.*

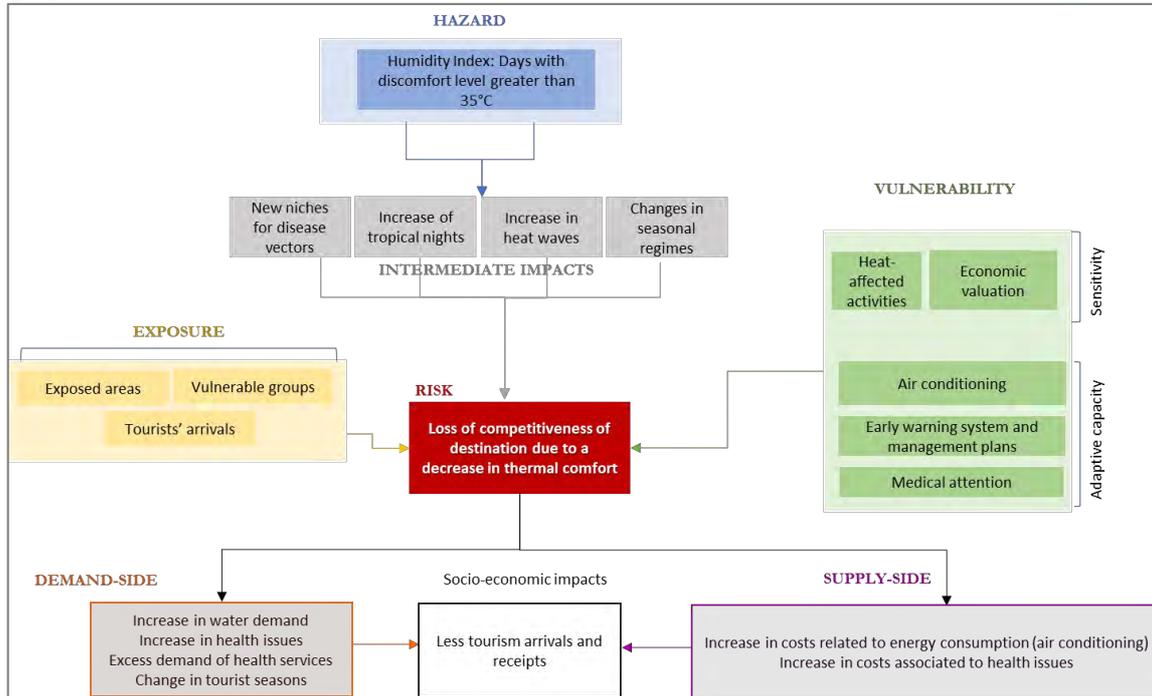


Figure 33: Loss of competitiveness of destinations due to a decrease in thermal comfort

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#), Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

For the purposes of the operationalization it was decided by the team to retitle the risk as “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort*”. This was done in order for the risk to more accurately reflect the effects of the hazards, exposure and vulnerability on an island rather than an on an individual tourist.

The selection of islands to be compared was based on the availability of island data provided by the IFPs. The five islands selected for comparison were the Balearic Islands, the Canary Islands, Cyprus, Malta, and Sardinia.

Selection of operationalization method

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort.

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements. Some refinements were necessary



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regarding the indicators (at sub-criteria level) that were to be used for comparing the islands.

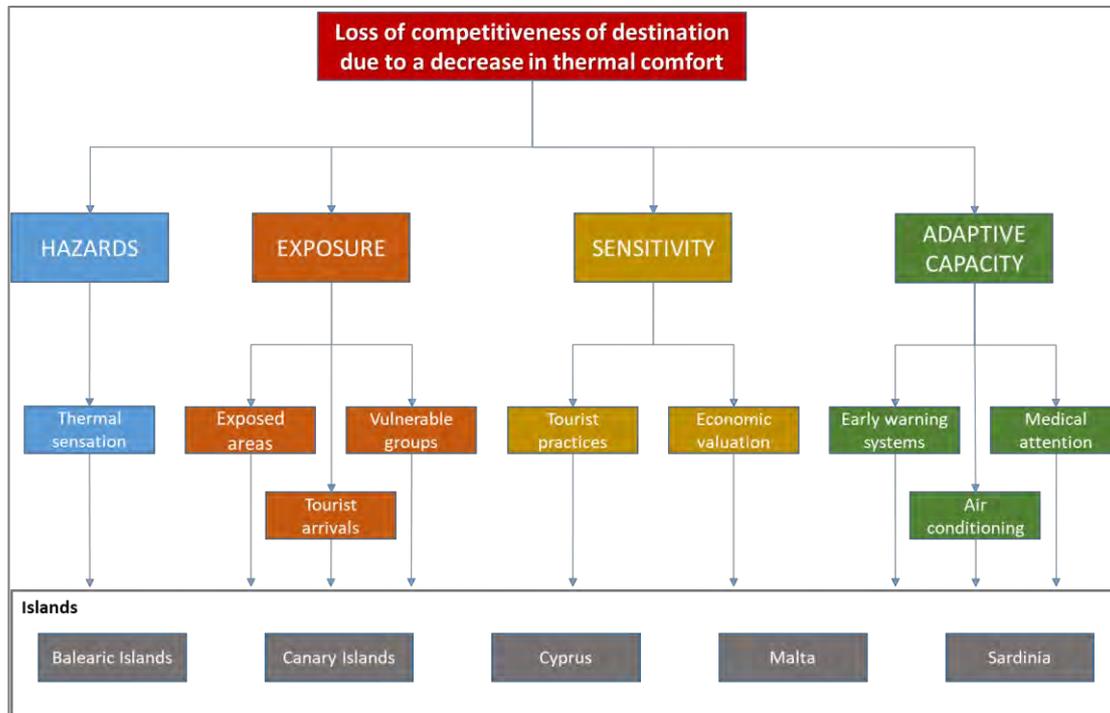


Figure 34: Hierarchy tree for thermal comfort impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#), Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. For the AHP method, thermal sensation was considered as the most relevant indicator to assess changes in the thermal comfort of tourists while staying at their destination as it is a concept that combines temperature and humidity. Thus, it is the only sub-criterion of the Hazard criterion. Moreover, the humidity index (humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) was selected as the most appropriate metric for thermal sensation. The metric is an equivalent temperature that express the temperature perceived by people (i.e., the temperature that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion was decomposed into sub-criteria relating to three indicators. The first indicator relates to the exposure of tourists to heatwaves. The measure of the indicator combines the percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the percentage of the tourist accommodations and facilities located in those areas prone to heatwaves. It is necessary to factor in both these aspects of exposure in order to allow for a better comparison of islands. For example, if an island has a small area that is prone to heatwaves with the majority of tourists frequenting in that small area, then the combination of the two factors will play a role when comparing, for instance, an island that has large areas prone to heatwaves, but with tourists frequenting in places outside these areas, since the overall



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exposure will be different. Specifically, it was decided to assign a weight of 75% to percentage of an island prone to heatwaves and the remaining 25% to the percentage of tourist accommodations and facilities located in heatwave-prone areas. The second indicator deals with the number of tourist arrivals during the hottest months. The indicator is represented by the percentage of tourists that visit an island between the months of May and September averaged over the last five years. Finally, the third indicator concerns vulnerable groups of tourists who have the highest risk of being affected by heatwaves. Literature confirms that under-6s and over-65s are the most vulnerable age groups, however, the statistical services of the islands homogeneously provide data for the under-14 and over-65 age groups. For this indicator, two values were computed:

1. the number of tourists visiting an island that were under 14 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years, and
2. the number of tourists visiting an island that were over 65 years of age during the months of May and September over the total number of tourists visiting during the same period, averaged over the last five years.

For purpose of combining the two values and adjusting the change to age groups, it was decided to apply a ratio of 15:85 in order to emphasize the proportion of over-65s (85%) to the proportion of under-14s (15%).

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of tourists and is broken down into sub-criteria pertaining to two indicators. The first indicator involves tourist activities. The effect of heatwaves on tourist activities varies greatly. For example, a tourist sunbathing at a beach will not feel the effects of a heatwave to the same degree as a tourist that is trekking. Different destinations have different rates of tourists practicing activities incompatible with heatwaves events. So, this indicator aims at catching these differences. More specifically, this indicator is a measure of the percentage of visitors who state that they practice activities not compatible with heatwave events. The second indicator concerns the economic valuation of heatwaves from the perspective of tourists. In the case of a heatwave event, all tourists will suffer from thermal discomfort to a certain degree. Hence, the indicator represents their willingness to avoid this discomfort as expressed in monetary terms. Therefore, it is measured by much money tourists are willing to pay to avoid a heatwave during their vacation time³.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system through providing information, adopting proper technology, supplying alternative activities, and improving medical attention. This criterion is split into sub-criteria concerning three indicators. The first indicator has deals with early warning systems. Setting up a proper early warning

³ Further information available at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*



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system can help tourists and service providers to plan effective responses to heatwaves, making them less distressing and reducing the destination's vulnerability. Hence, this indicator is measured with a score representing the quality of early warning systems in place and advisement of options for tourists. The second indicator involves air conditioning. Air conditioning is the most effective technology used to combat extreme heat. Therefore, the indicator uses the percentage of hotel accommodations and tourist facilities offering air conditioning systems as a measure of the capacity of the destination to cope with this hazard. The final indicator concerns the care and medical attention (such as in the case of heatstroke or similar) available on an island that may be necessary to help reduce pain or avoid casualties due to diseases related to heatwaves. Therefore, the number of hospital beds available on an island per 100,000 potential users, both residents and tourists, is taken as the measure of this indicator.

Results and island's ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 4: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sardinia
Hazards	Humidex RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.024 (12.1%)	0.008 (4.6%)	0.088 (34.6%)	0.023 (11.7%)	0.023 (13.1%)
Exposure	Exposed areas	0.007	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.007
	Vulnerable groups	0.007	0.017	0.016	0.017	0.038
	Tourists' arrivals	0.050	0.008	0.029	0.018	0.065
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.064</i> (32.2%)	<i>0.027</i> (15.5%)	<i>0.053</i> (20.9%)	<i>0.042</i> (21.3%)	<i>0.110</i> (62.9%)
Sensitivity	Heat-sensitive activities	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.074	0.012
	Economic valuation	0.004	0.004	0.015	0.028	0.010
	<i>Total</i>	<i>0.079</i> (39.7%)	<i>0.078</i> (44.8%)	<i>0.089</i> (35.0%)	<i>0.103</i> (52.3%)	<i>0.021</i> (12.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Early-warning systems	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Air conditioning	0.011	0.048	0.011	0.021	0.012



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	Medical attention	0.014	0.006	0.005	0.002	0.005
	Total	<i>0.032</i> <i>(16.1%)</i>	<i>0.061</i> <i>(35.1%)</i>	<i>0.024</i> <i>(9.4%)</i>	<i>0.030</i> <i>(15.2%)</i>	<i>0.020</i> <i>(11.4%)</i>
	Total	0.199	0.174	0.254	0.197	0.175
	Rank	2	5	1	3	4

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Cyprus is at most risk of loss of competitiveness due to a decrease in thermal comfort in all four scenarios as it is ranked the highest in all cases. This is mainly attributed to the fact that the number of days with a heatwave is predicted to increase greatly both in the near and distant future. In addition, the island's tourist accommodations and facilities are located in areas most prone to heatwaves, and these are visited by many tourists during the months of May to September. Cyprus also scores the highest in Sensitivity and average in Adaptive capacity.

The Balearic Islands and Malta are ranked second and third, respectively, with regards to the risk of loss of competitiveness. However, their overall scores are very close: 0.199 for the Balearic Islands and 0.1970 for Malta in the RCP8.5 distant future scenario. They score relatively high in Exposure and Sensitivity (the most important criteria for the risk) and average in Hazard and Adaptive capacity.

Sardinia and the Canary Islands are the lowest at risk of loss of competitiveness. Even though **Sardinia** scores the highest for Exposure, it has a low score for Sensitivity (which contributes most to the risk) and average scores for Hazard and Adaptive capacity. On the other hand, the Canary Islands has a low score for Hazard and Exposure, but relatively high for Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity.

Analysis of Sardinia

As explained above, Sardinia scores the highest for Exposure among all the analysed islands, contributing this criterion 62.9% to the total score. This is due to both tourists' arrivals and vulnerable groups. On the other hand, it is one of the islands at the lowest risk of loss of competitiveness due to thermal discomfort because of its exposure and adaptive capacity.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Sardinia** are depicted in the next figure. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No776661



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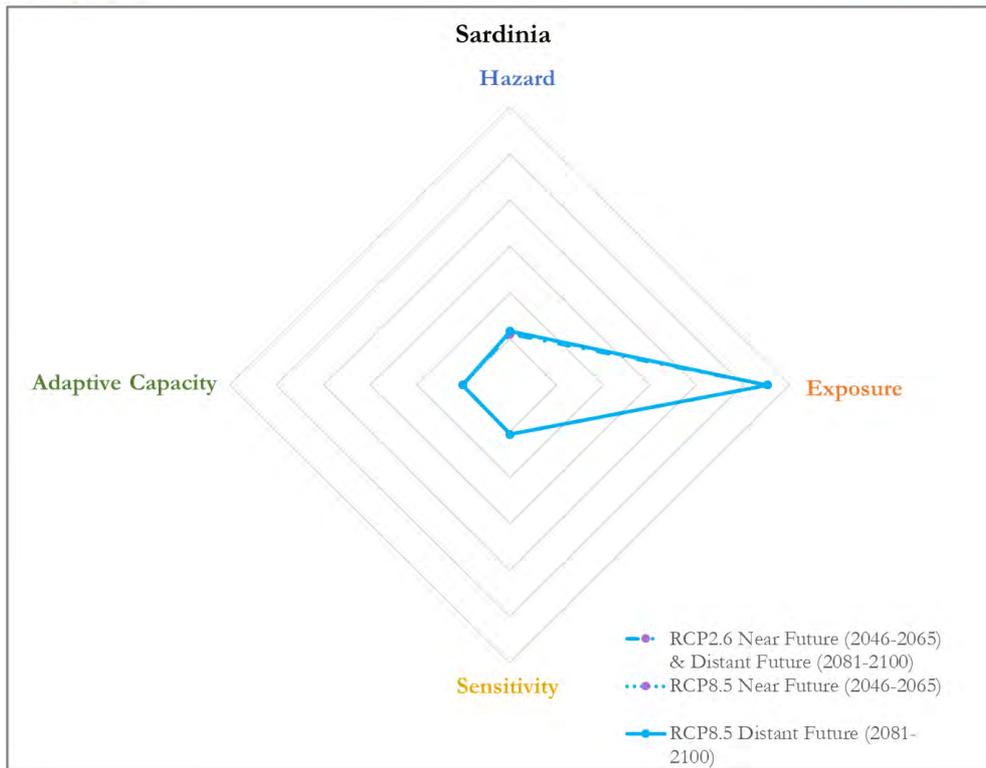


Figure 35: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

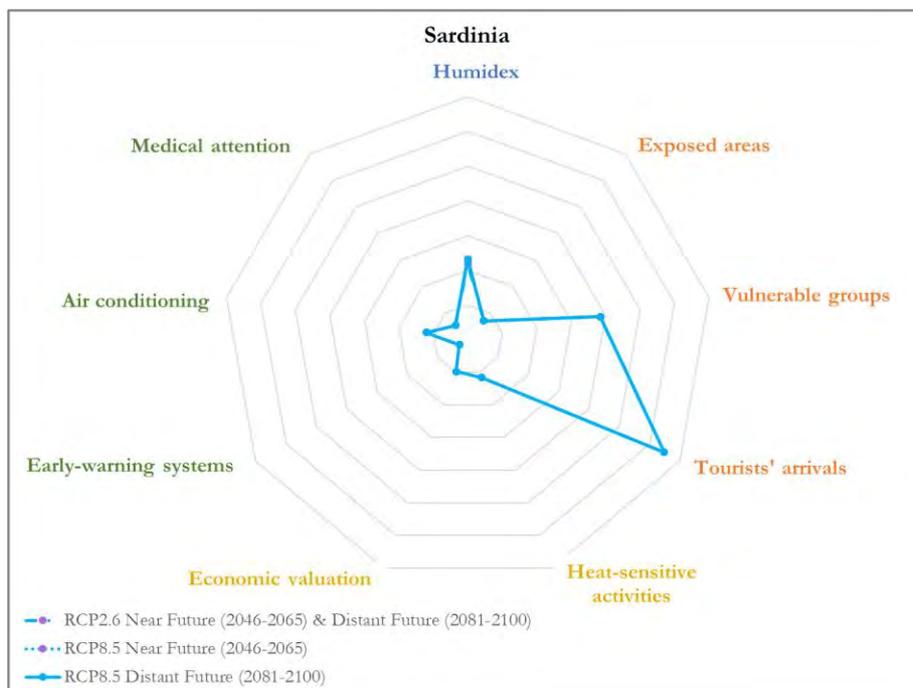


Figure 36: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to a decrease in thermal comfort*” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season. This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “**Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination**”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1)). For each of these components of the theoretical IC (step 2), several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

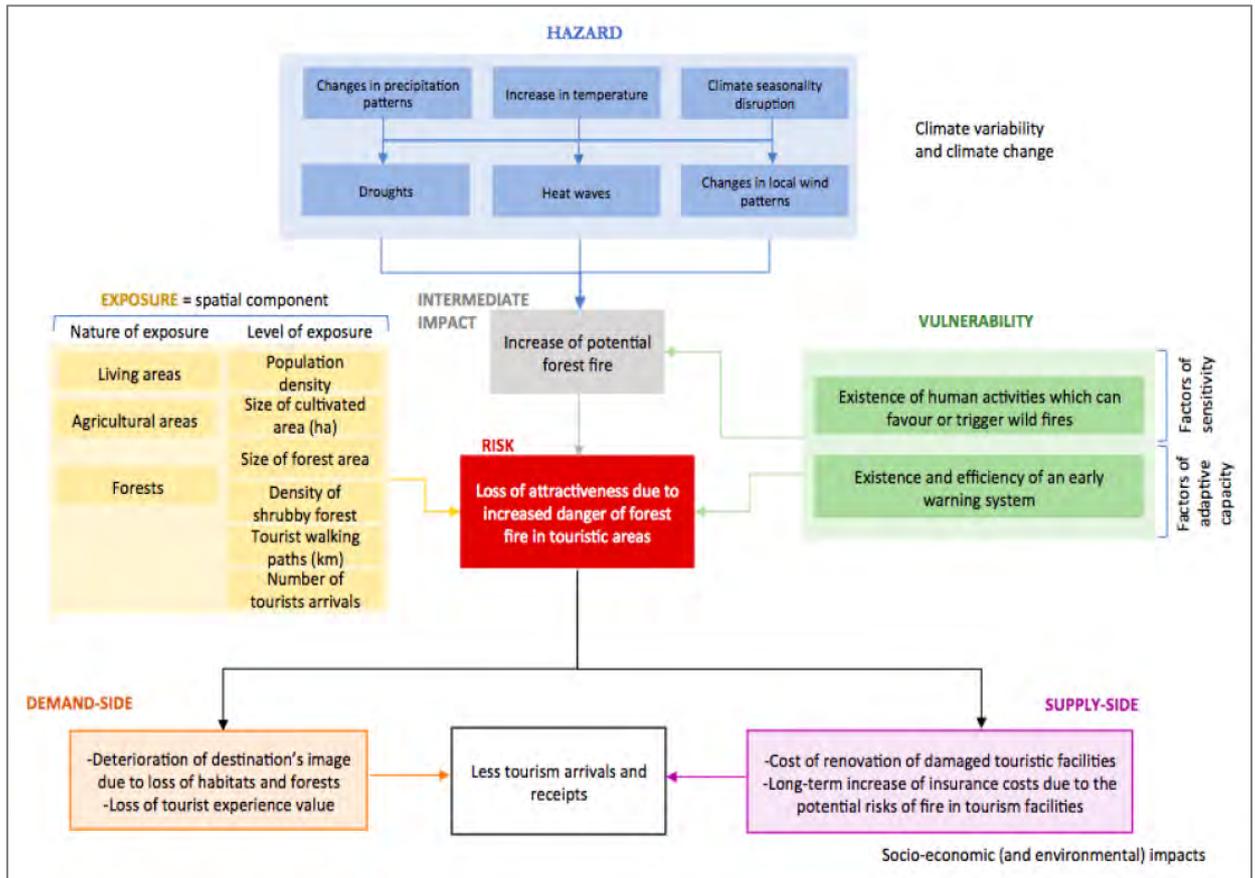


Figure 37: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D3.2. Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

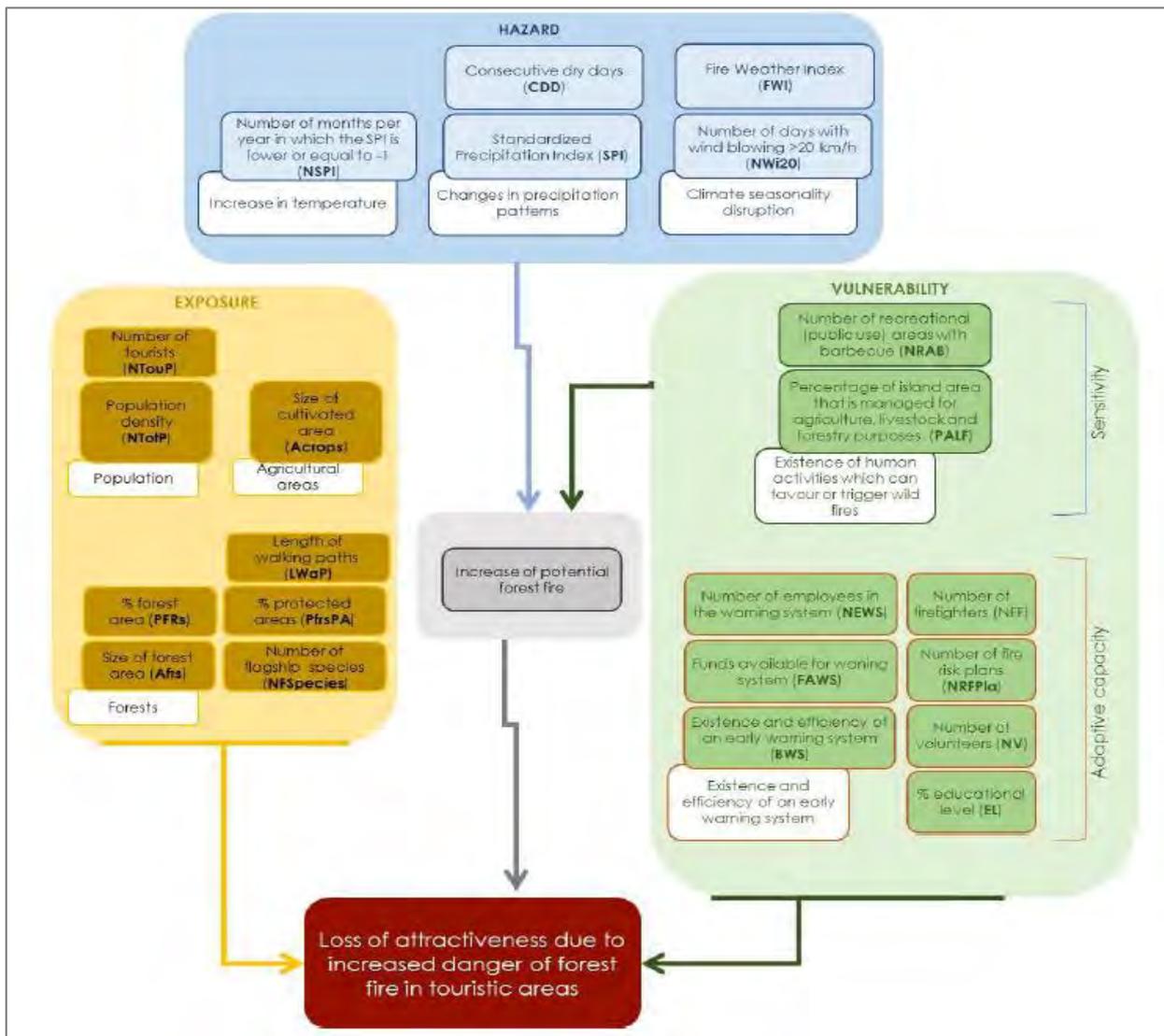


Figure 38: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas, from D3.3.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.3](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

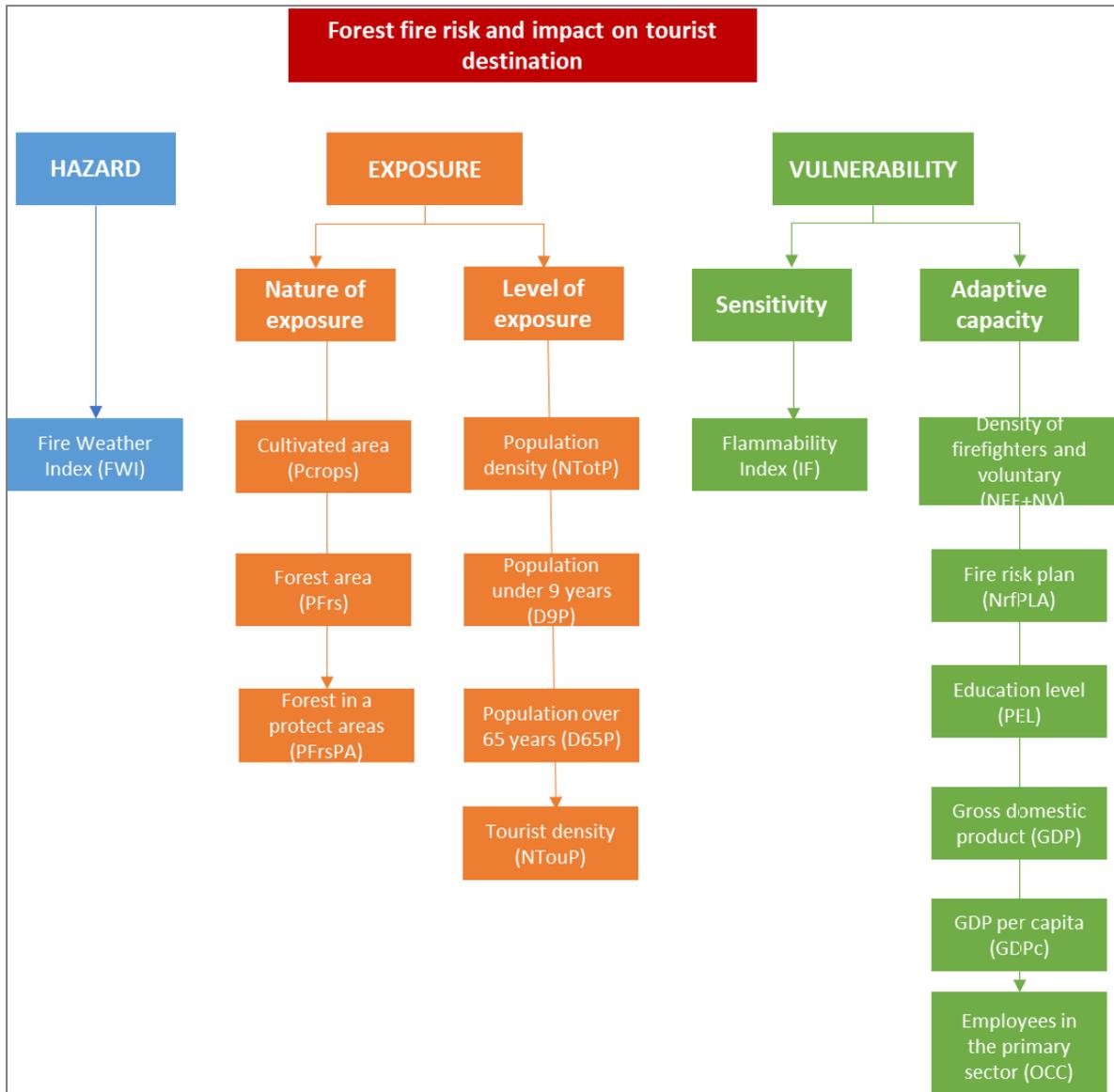


Figure 39: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#), Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an

assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century.
- Apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.

Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, **Sardinia** and Sicily, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected.

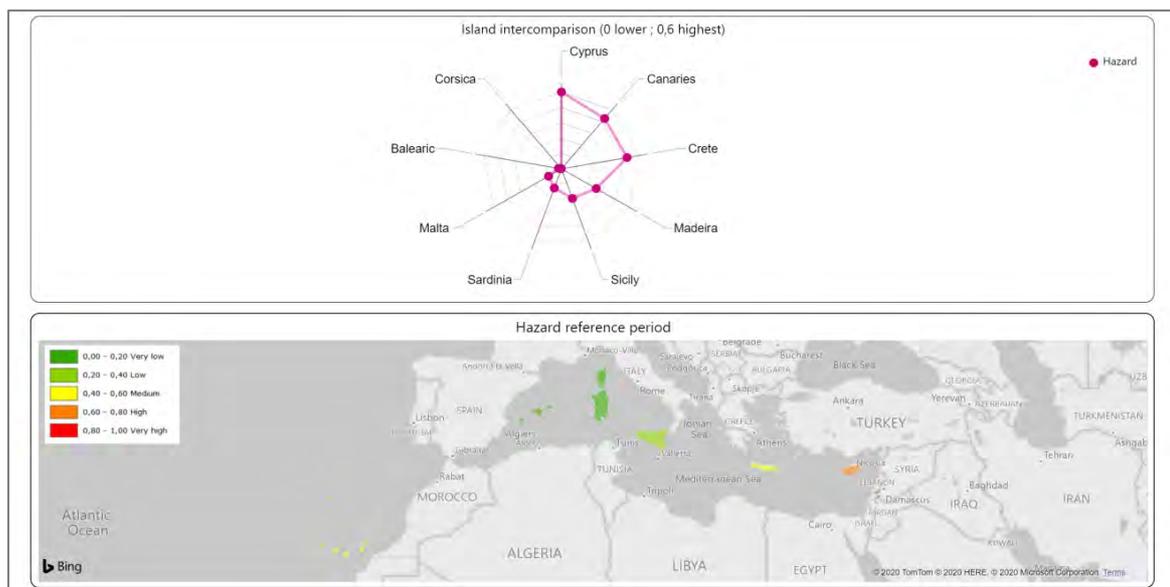


Figure 40: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

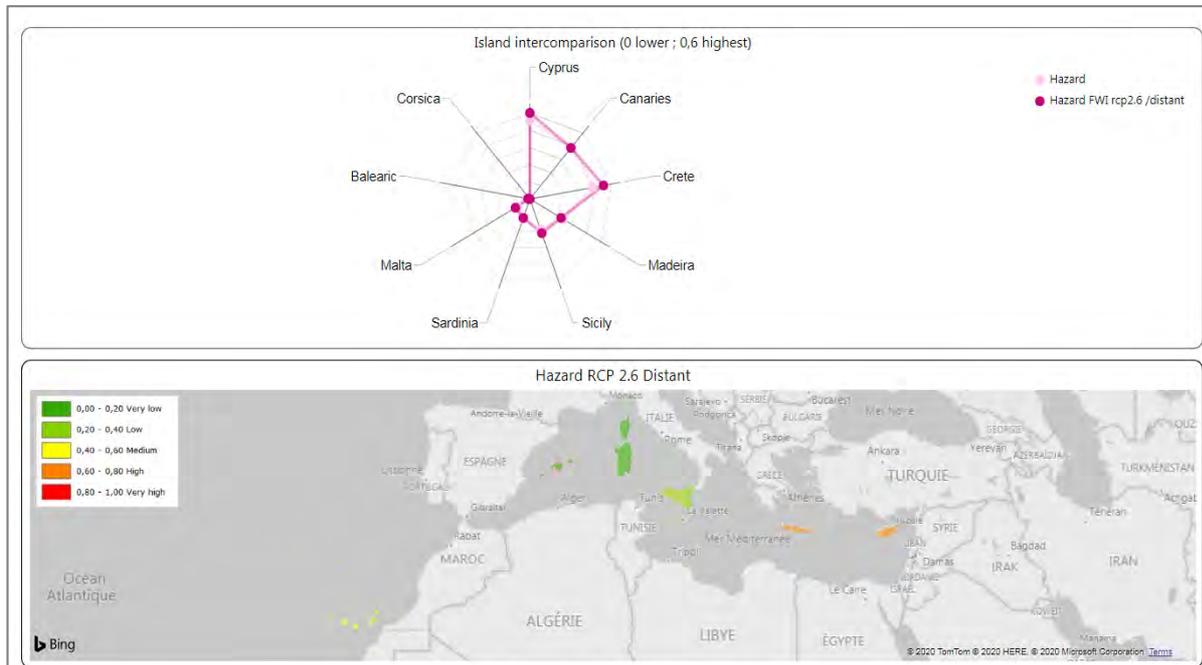


Figure 41: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

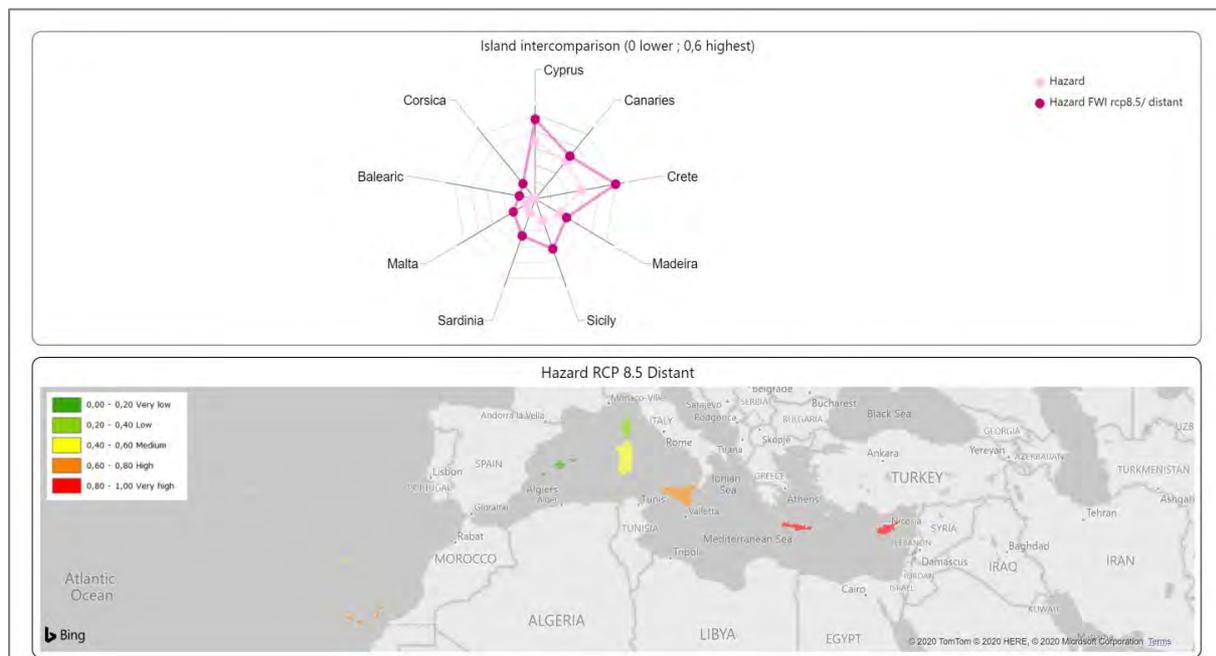


Figure 42: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed (high score), than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: Sicily, **Sardinia**, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

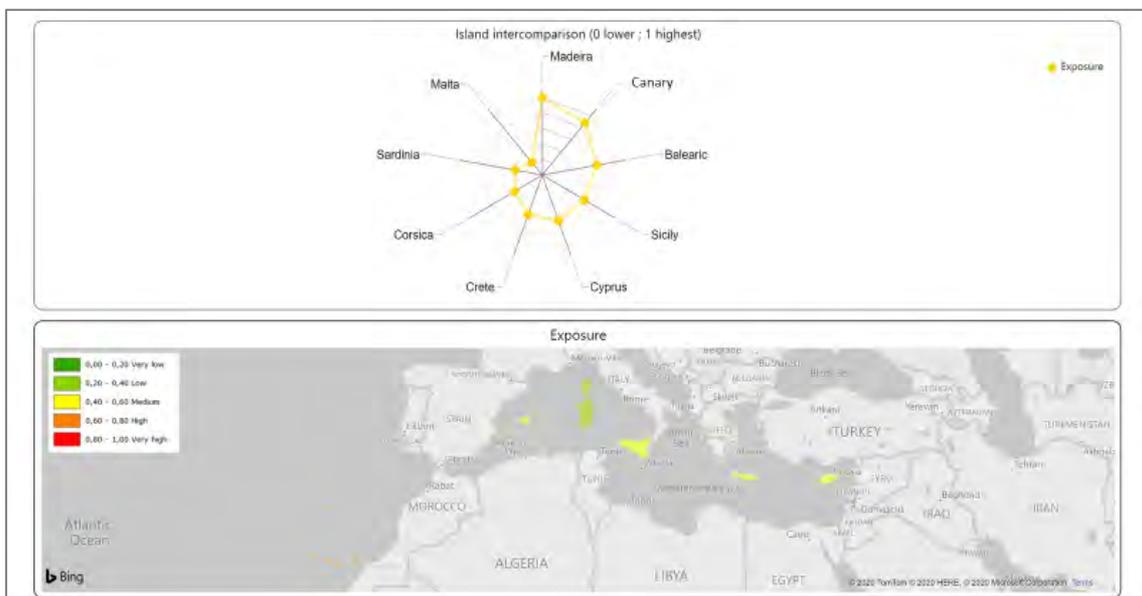


Figure 43: Exposure score (current period) per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

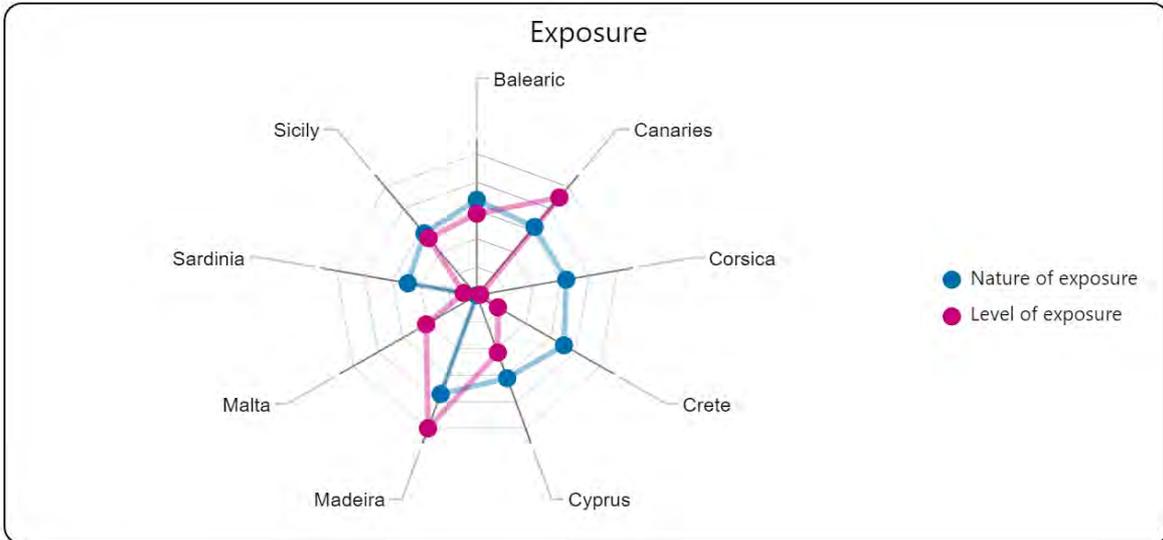


Figure 44: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

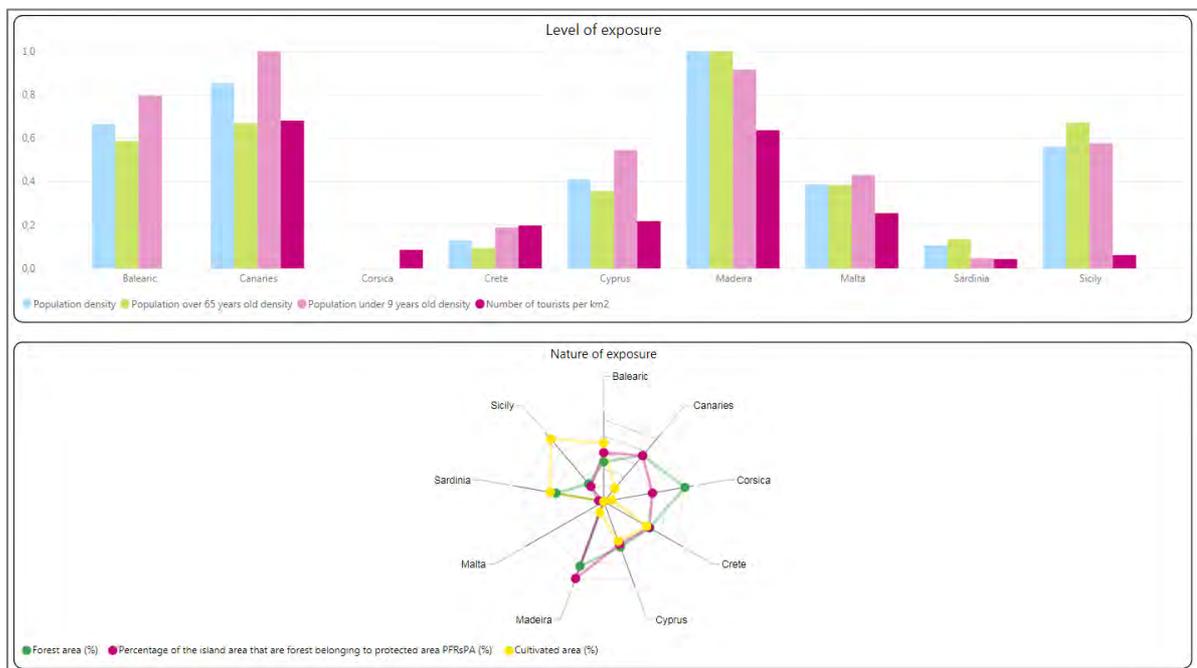


Figure 45: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by **Sardinia** (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and Sicilia very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, Sicilia and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from **Sardinia** and Sicily;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

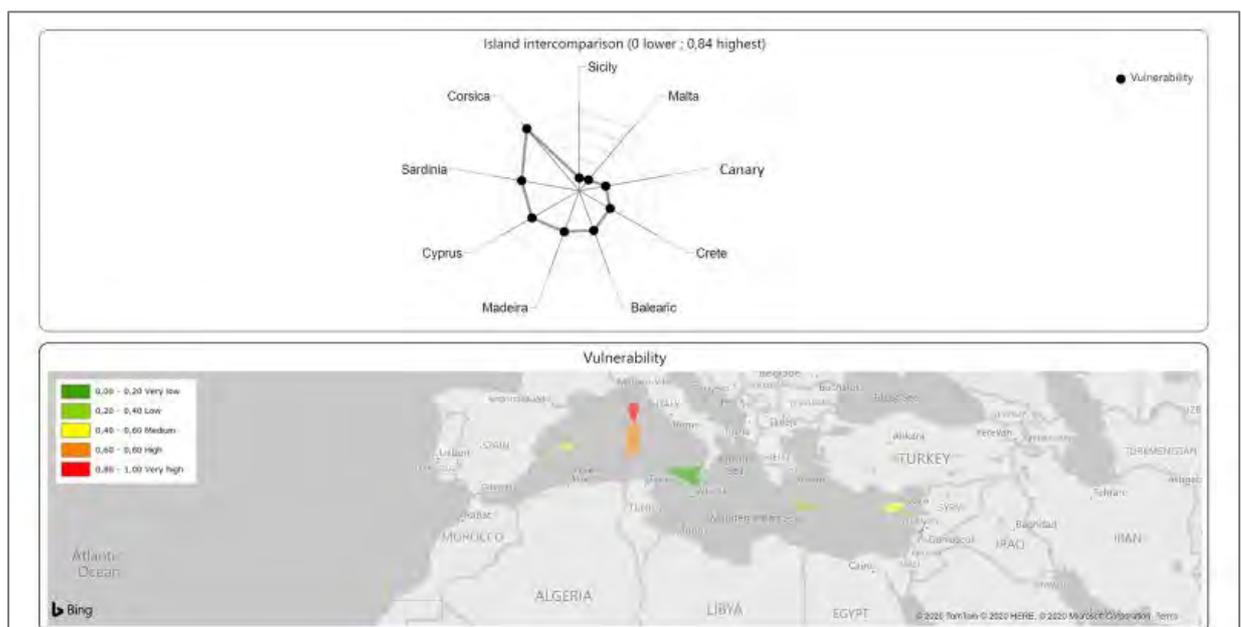


Figure 46: Vulnerability score per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

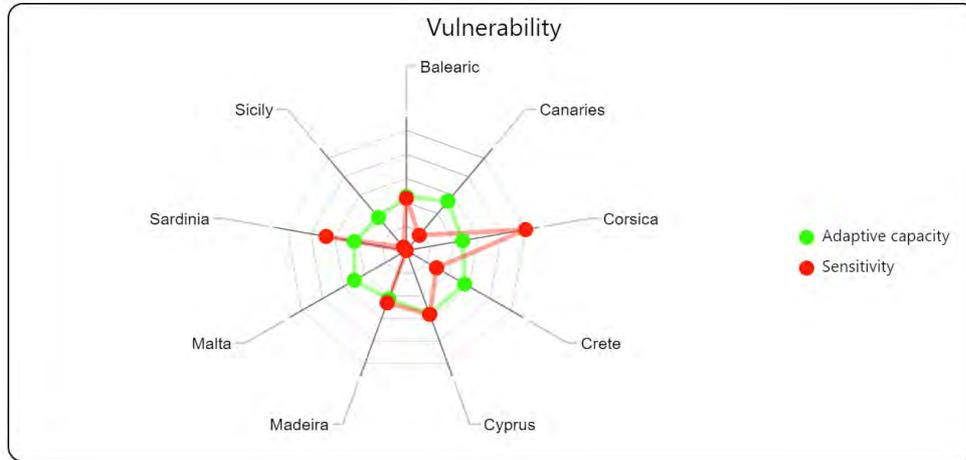


Figure 47: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

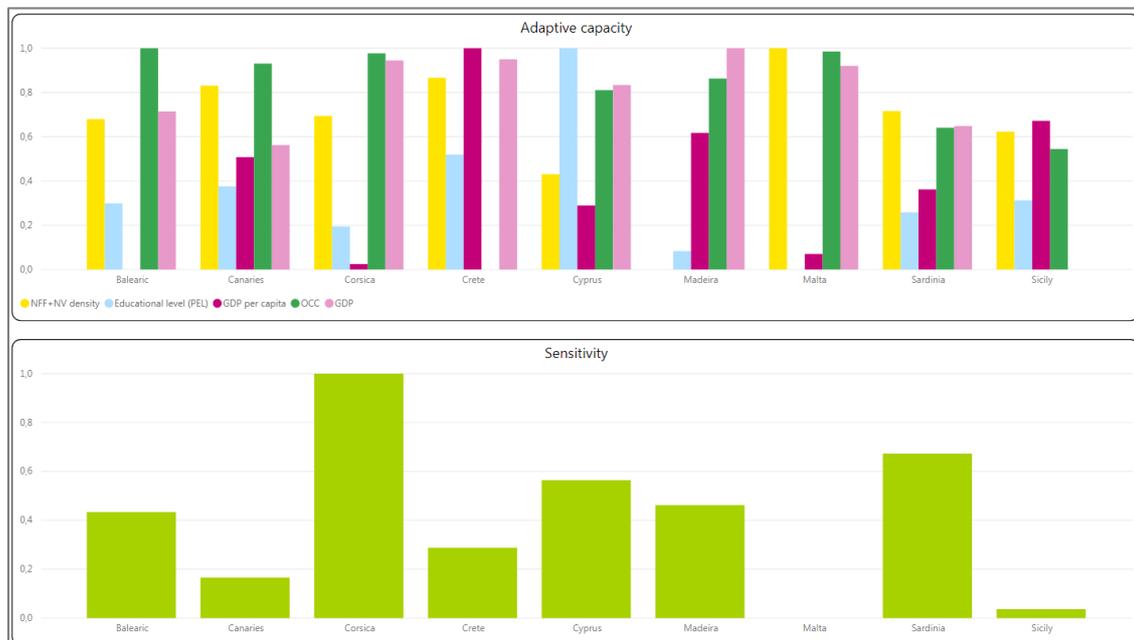


Figure 48: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island.
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, Sicilia and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and **Sardinia**: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and **Sardinia** with RCP8.5 (distant future). Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and Sicily (Low).

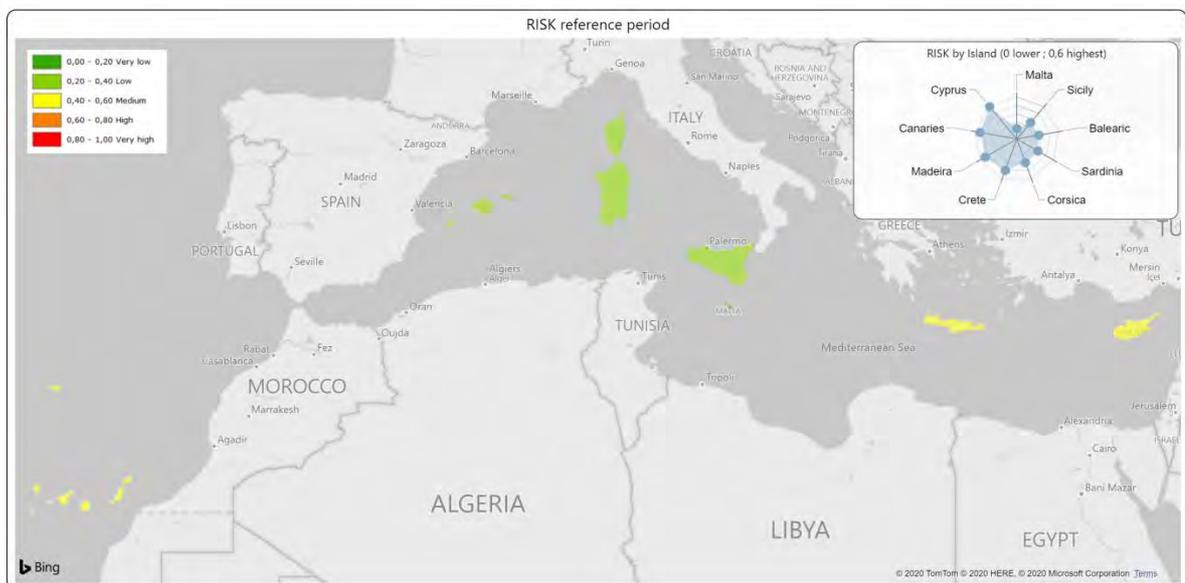


Figure 49: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

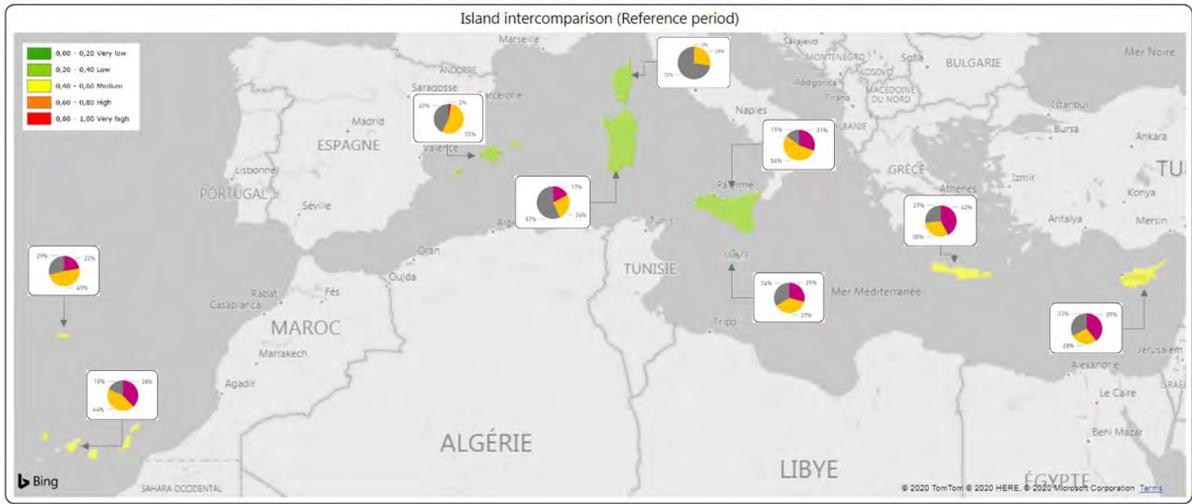


Figure 50: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

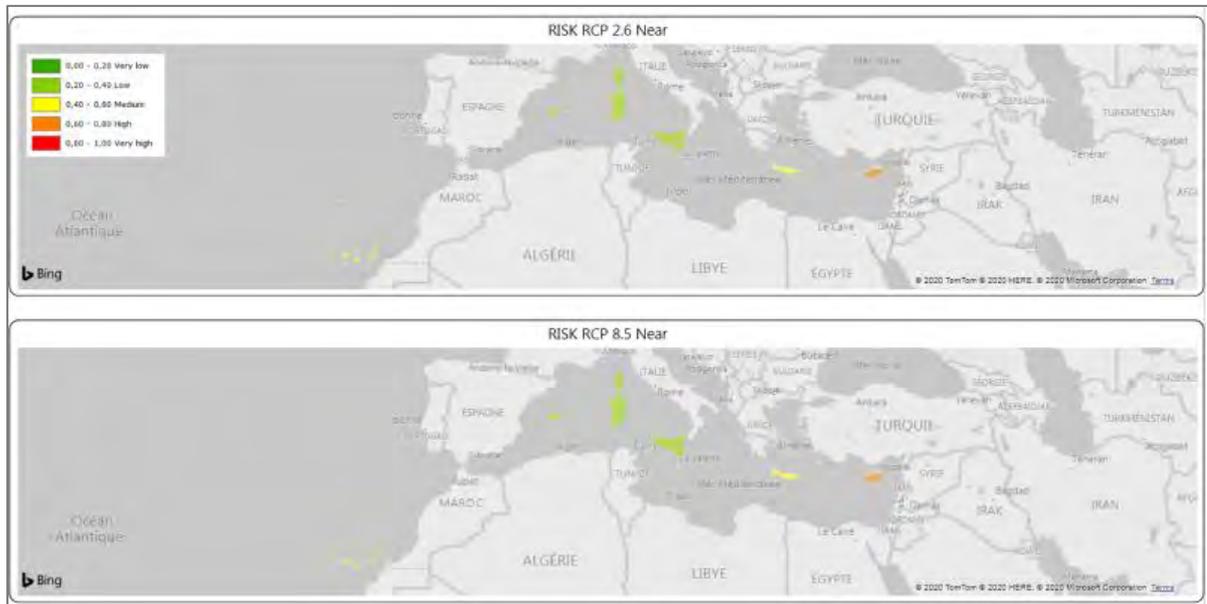


Figure 51: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

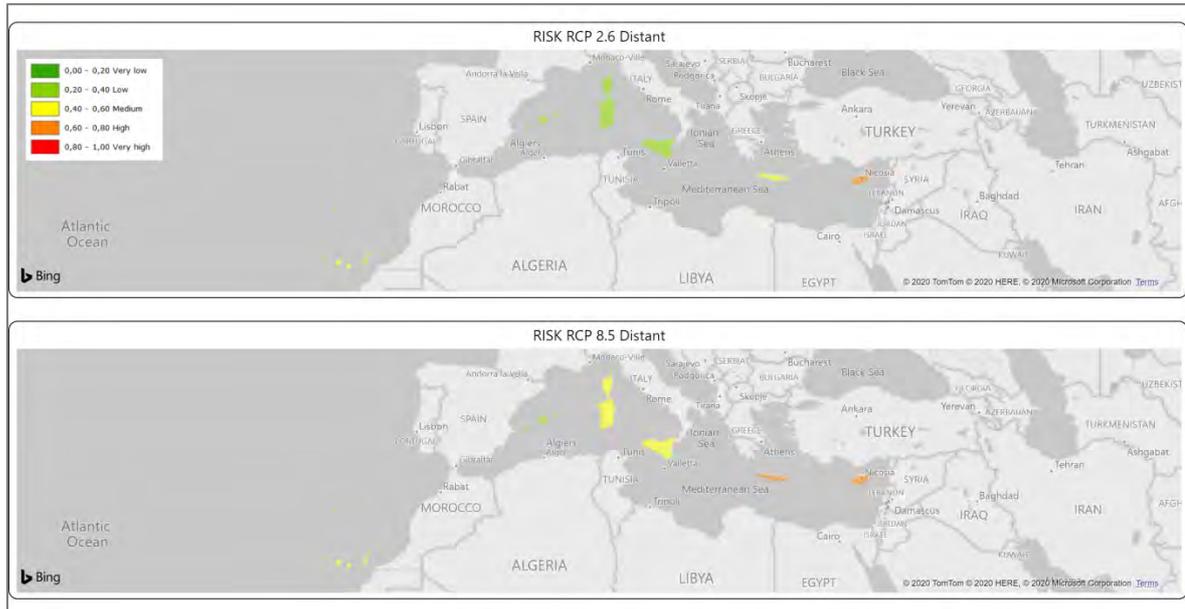


Figure 52: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

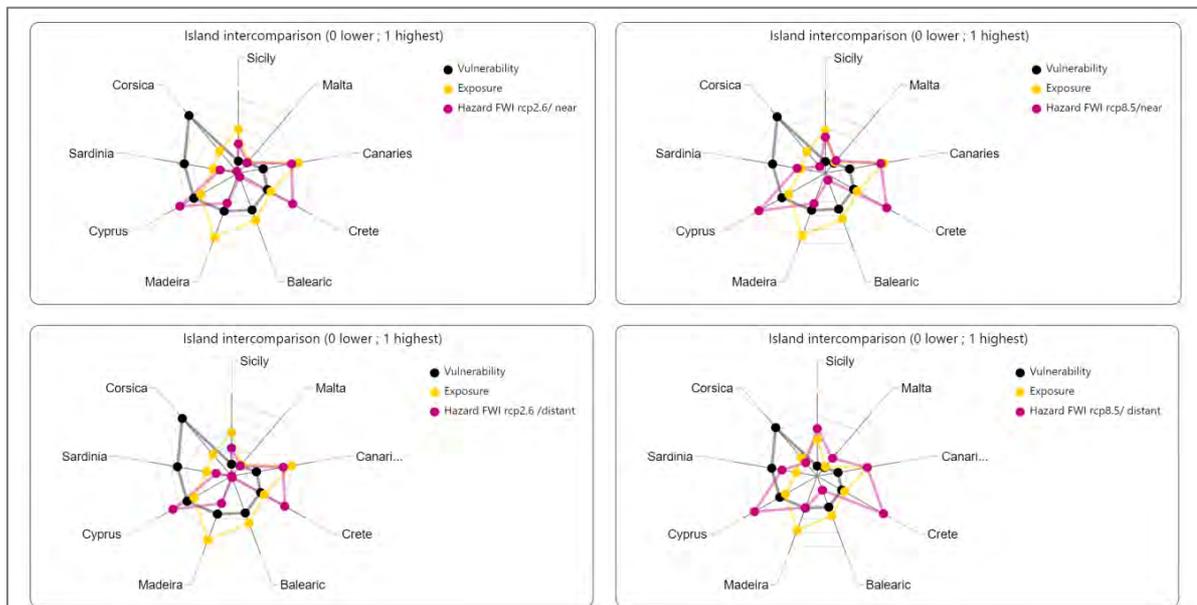


Figure 53: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Sardinia island results

The risk is low for Sardinia under the reference period and RCP 2.6. (distant) while the risk is medium under RCP 8.5 at the end of century.



Figure 54: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period.
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

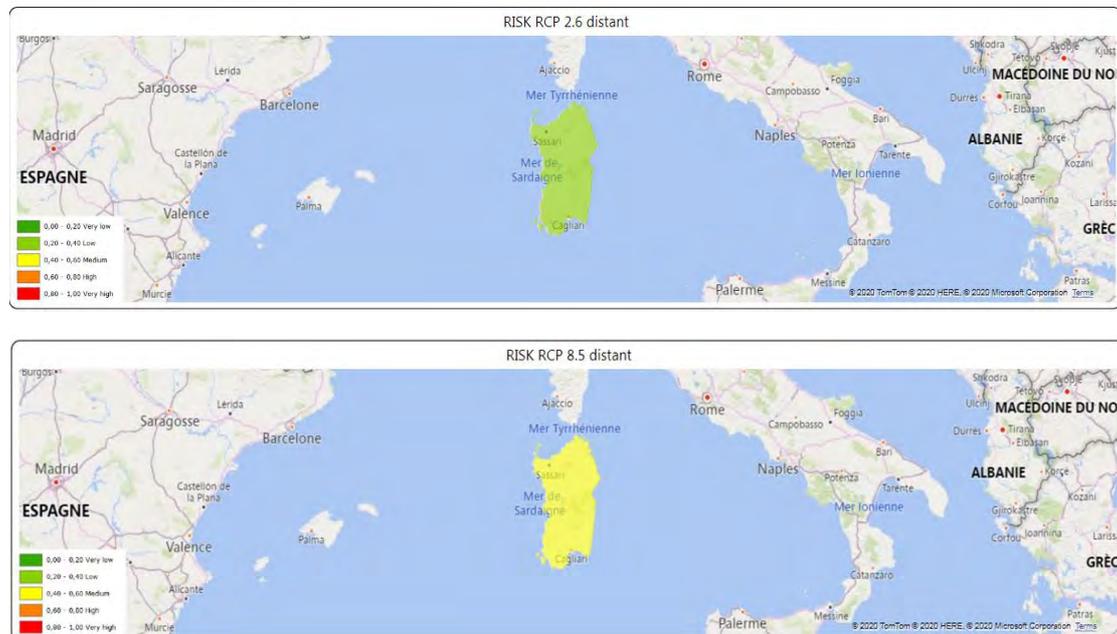


Figure 55: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Concerning the component of exposure, the nature of exposure is the most represented sub-component (84%) with the cultivated areas as the main indicator.

Concerning the component of vulnerability, the sub-component of sensitivity is the most represented (61%).

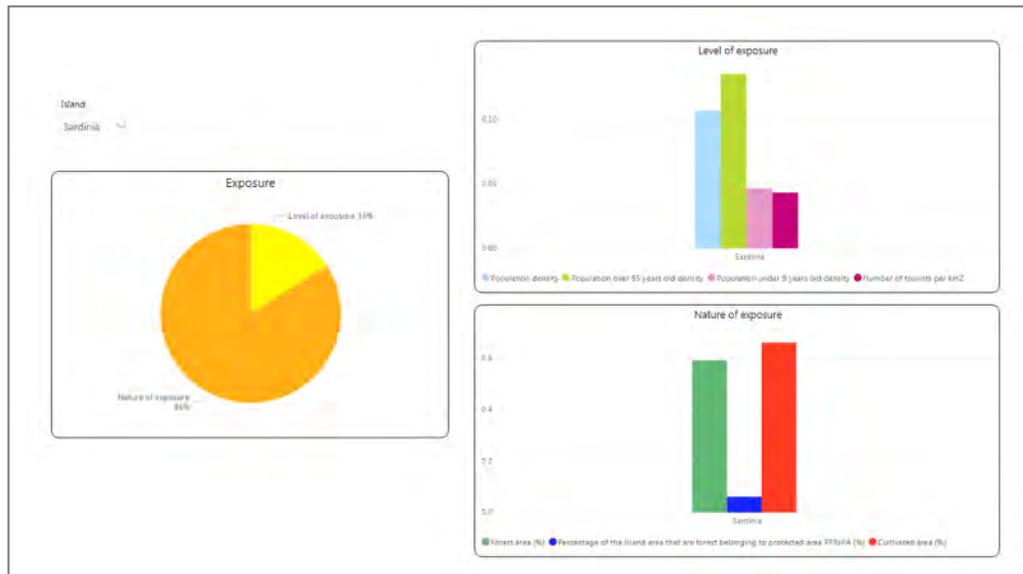


Figure 56: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure) per island.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Figure 57: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#) Comprehensive approach for policy makers

4.2 Aquaculture

In the framework of Soclimpact, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- 1) Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

- 2) Decrease in production due to an increase in surface water temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is also applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 7 steps for aquaculture, present risk and future risk are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful

operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: Corsica, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

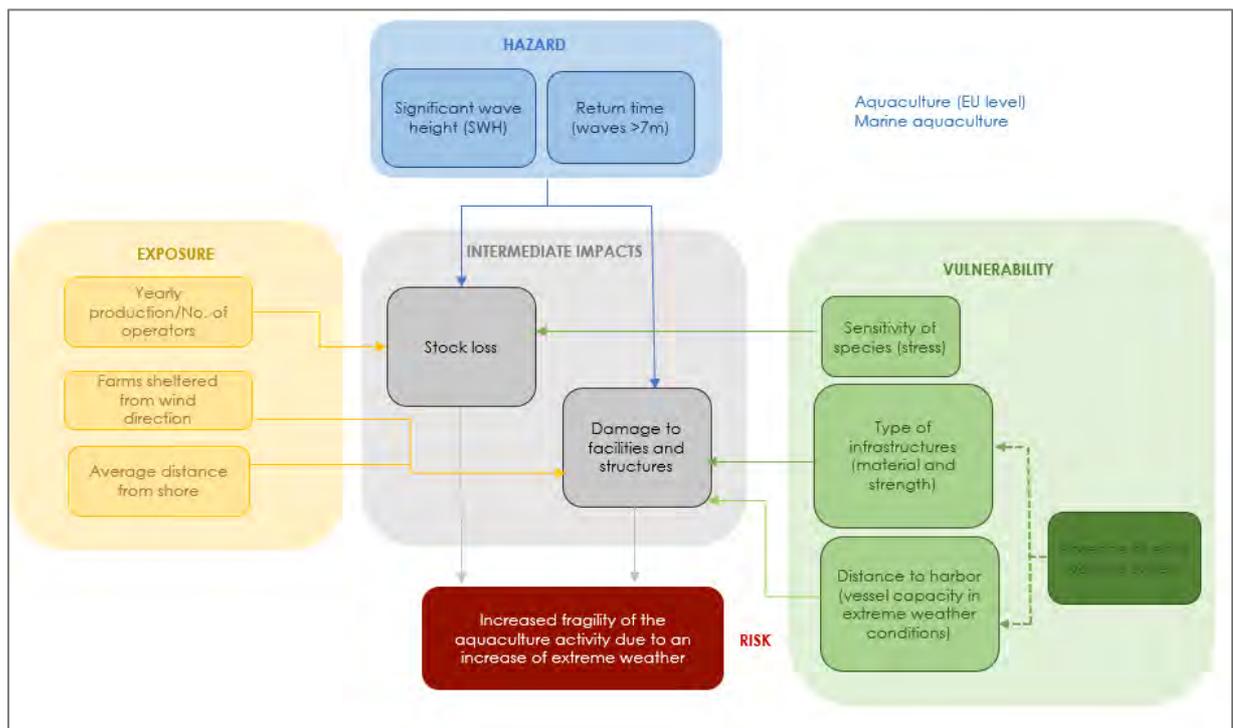


Figure 58: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [3.2](#)

Some indicators require data on the proportions of species farmed on a specific island. Therefore, a table with % of each species farmed on each island was prepared. This data was obtained directly from the IFPs or from the FAO or national statistics offices.

Table 5: Proportions of aquaculture species farmed per island.

Species	Proportion of species production			
	Mussels & clams	Tuna	Sea bream	Sea bass
Corsica	0.43		0.265	0.265
Cyprus			0.84	0.16
Madeira			1.0	
Malta		0.94	0.048	0.012
Sardinia	0.84		0.08	0.08
Sicily	0.44		0.3	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.

Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

Table 6: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.3	0.9

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 7: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event			
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: Increased sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 8: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species' threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

Table 9: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

<i>Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in the data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators
- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/ maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$x_{normalized} = \frac{(x - x_{min})}{(x_{max} - x_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

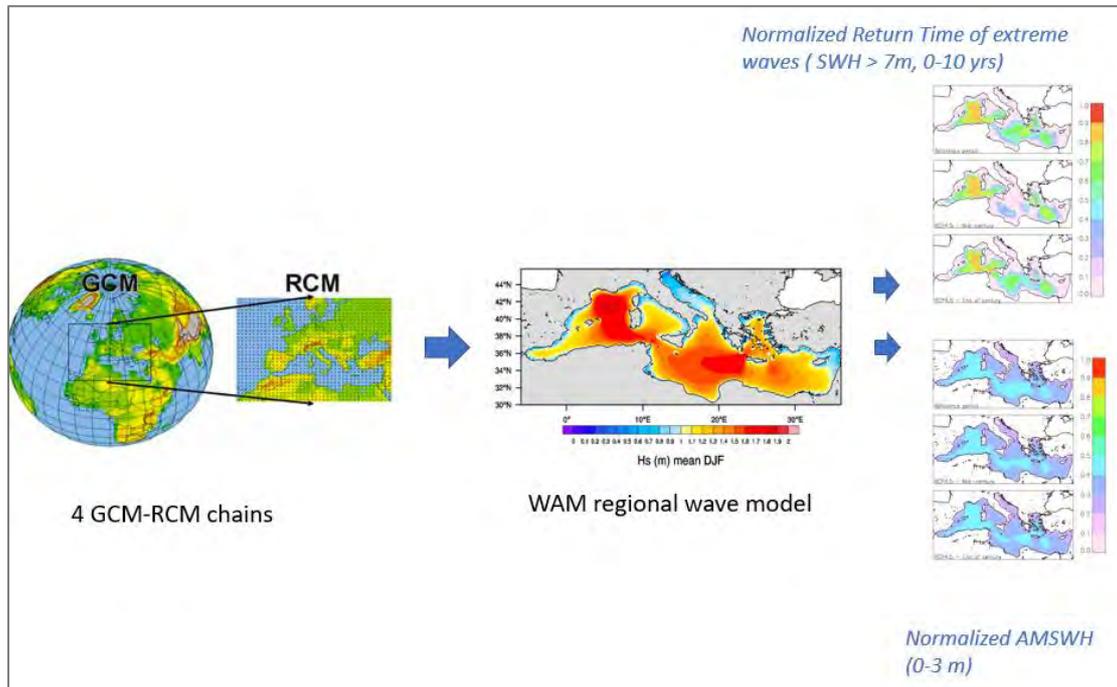


Figure 59: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which are fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater than 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk 1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in D4.4 of Soclimpact, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

Table 10: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula.

$RL, T=1-(1-1/T)**L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Therefore, using a combination of the normalised values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such as "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.

Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

Extreme weather events:

- farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
- sensitivity of species
- vulnerability of type of infrastructure
- presence of warning system

Sea surface temperature:

- estimated temperature sensitivity of species
- capacity to change species
- monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account. Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 11: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	<i>Sea surface temperature</i>	<i>Extreme events</i>
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:

$$s_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$

s – score

comp – component or subcomponent

ind – indicator

n – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = s_{haz} * w_{haz} + s_{exp} * w_{exp} + w_{vul} * (s_{sen} * w_{sen} + s_{ac} * w_{ac})$$

s – score

w – weight

haz – hazard

exp – exposure

vul – vulnerability

sen – sensitivity

ac – adaptive capacity

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather events



Table 12: Exposure and vulnerability indicators each island

Component Component Weight	Exposure 0.2					Vulnerability 0.2							
Sub-component Sub-component weight						Factor of sensitivity 0.75				Factors of adaptive capacity 0.25			
Indicator	Average Size of producers		Location of farms			Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Type of infrastructures (material and strength)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Distance to harbour (vessel capacity in extreme weather conditions) [average & m]		Absence of warning system	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Farms sheltered from wind direction	Average distance from shore (m)		Average of normalised indicators	Estimated sensitivity of species	Type of infrastructure (based on species)	Average of indicators	Average distance to harbour (m)		Presence of warning system	Average of normalised indicators
	Data	Normalised	Normalised	Data	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		Data	Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.4	644	0.16	0.20	0.7	0.5	0.59	4789	0.96	0	0.48
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.5	3923	1.00	0.53	0.6	0.4	0.48	4616	0.92	0	0.46
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	0.5	1731	0.44	0.74	0.3	0.3	0.31	4165	0.83	0	0.42
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.4	1193	0.30	0.27	0.9	0.6	0.71	2183	0.44	0	0.22
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.5	1000	0.25	0.27	0.7	0.5	0.61	5000	1.00	0	0.50

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



SOCLIMPACT

Mediterranean islands

Hazards

Statistics of extreme events can significantly differ across the four model realizations

The hazard data for return time was derived from 3 different models; CMCC, CNRM and GUF. Since the data varies highly between models a best- and worst case scenario was executed where in the best-case scenario the lowest value (showing the lowest risk) between the models was used and in the worst case scenario the highest value was used. Distance between the best and the worst projection, give an estimate of uncertainty

Model projections for Average Significant Wave Height are in good agreement as to both pattern and values. Hazard was evaluated from ensemble mean, uncertainty from ensemble STD (not exceeding 15% - highest disagreement for highest values).

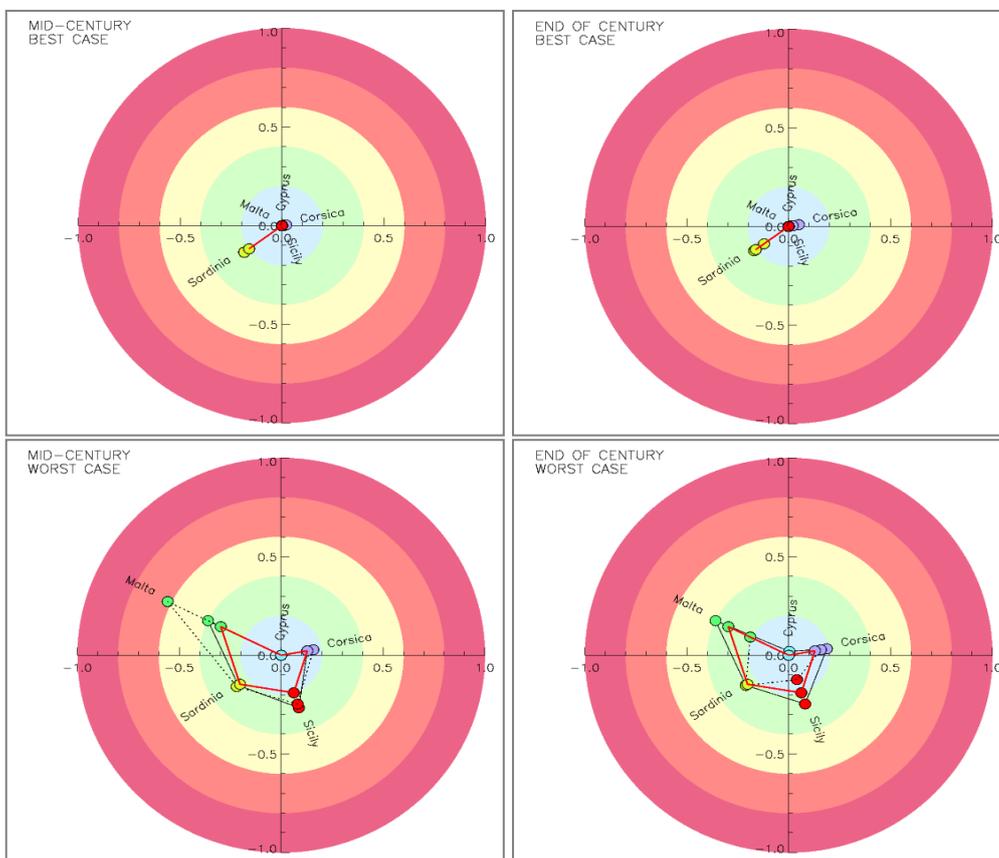


Figure 60: Results for return time in best- and worst-case scenarios for Mediterranean islands for reference period (red line), RCP 4.5 (dotted line) and RCP 8.5 (black line).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



"Worst" and "best" cases respectively refer to the least and most favorable projection in the set of models. For example return time, you will find that there is at least one model predicting no hazard for all islands except Sardinia with no significant variations across scenarios. In fact, all circles cluster and overlap at the centre, while those that represent Sardinia all lie very close to the limit between the two lower hazard classes.

On the other hand, at least one other model predicts appreciable yet low hazard for Corsica, Sicily and Sardinia, and hazard going from moderate (reference period, red) to medium (RCP8.5, solid black), to high (RCP4.5, dotted black) for Malta, while for Cyprus the hazard is irrelevant even for the most negative projection.

This means that

- a) the result for Sardinia and Cyprus is stable across models,
- b) models slightly disagree for Sicily and Corsica, but generally predict low hazard,
- c) the projection for Malta is affected by greater uncertainty for all scenarios.

This is due to the fact that Malta is located in the Sicily Channel, where the dynamics exhibit significant gradients in the direction perpendicular to the channel axis, which are differently represented by different models.

The worst and best cases do not necessarily come from the same model for all islands, that is, one model can predict the lowest hazard for Sicily and another one for Sardinia, and each of these projections is represented in the plot for the corresponding island.

Risk- Best-case scenario

Table 13: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
Risk	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.21
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Sardinia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.31
Sicily	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

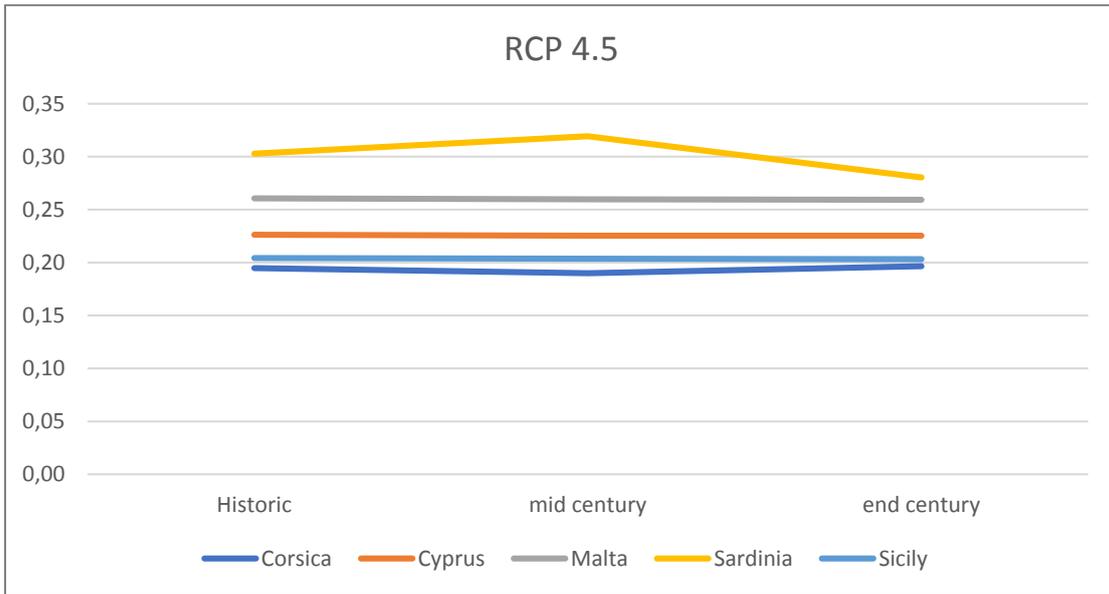


Figure 61: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

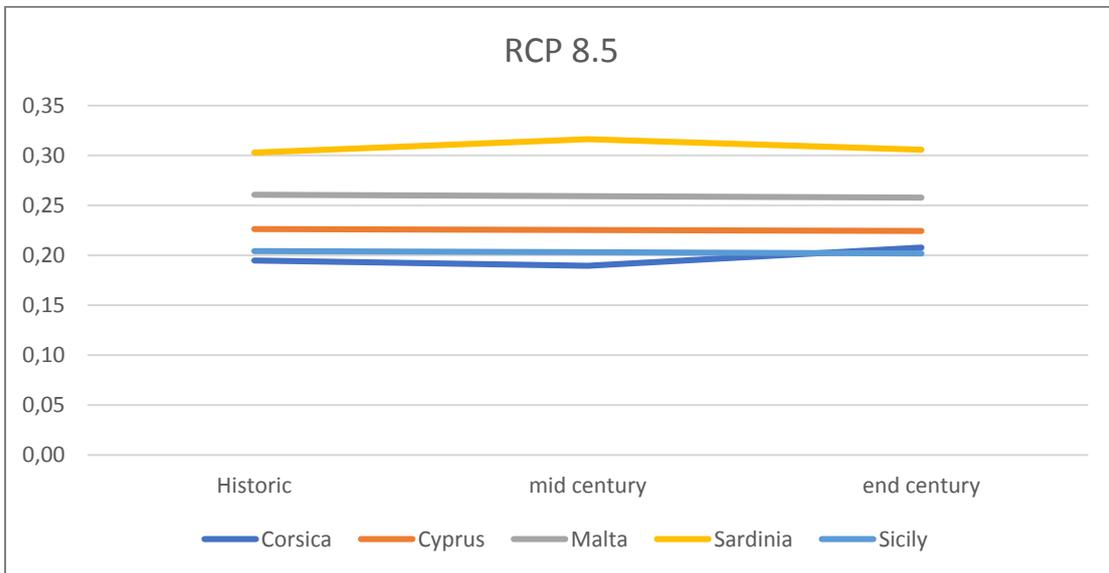


Figure 62: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



Risk- Worst-case scenario

Table: 14: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.26
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.42	0.45	0.56	0.45	0.36
Sardinia	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33
Sicily	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

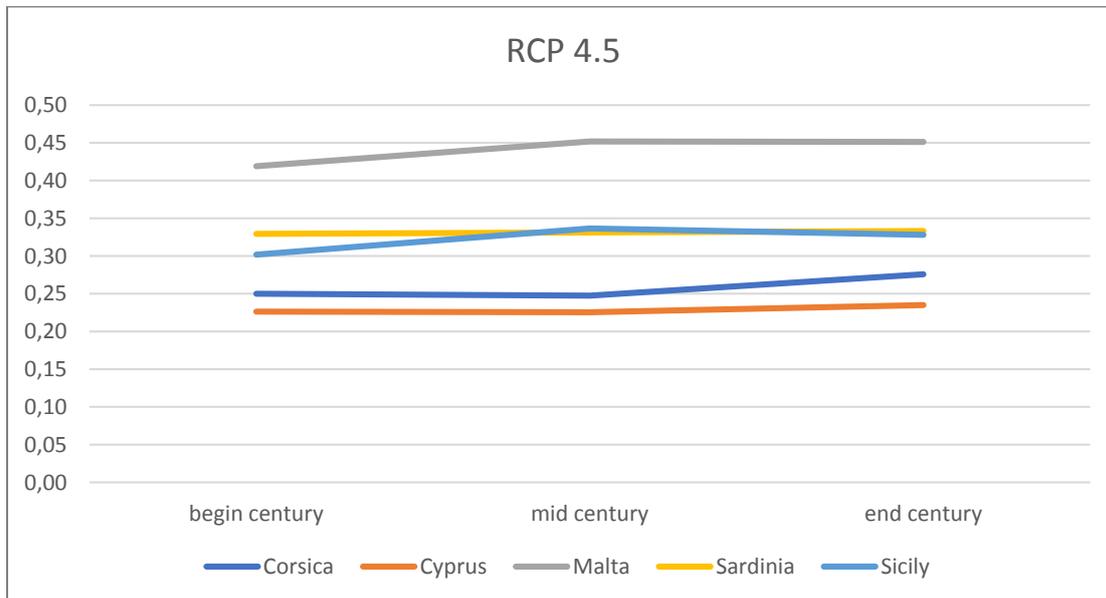


Figure 63: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

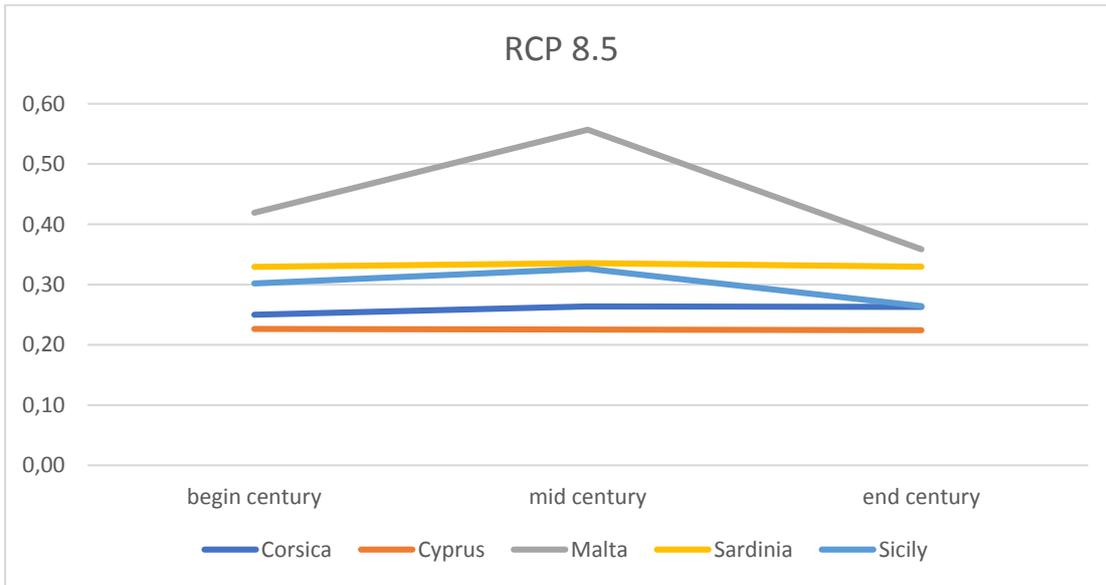


Figure 64: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Bigger islands were separated in areas since conditions can vary greatly in different parts of the island.

Table 15: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Mediterranean islands with large islands analysed on a local level using the worst-case scenario.

Worst case	Historic	RCP 4.5		RCP 8.5	
		mid century	end century	mid century	end century
Malta	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.56	0.36
Sicily North	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.30
Sicily East	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Sicily South	0.41	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.30
Corsica West	0.37	0.32	0.37	0.34	0.34
Corsica East	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
Sardinia West	0.40	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.44
Sardinia East	0.39	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.18
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22



Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For all islands and all RCPs, it can be concluded that there is no significant change in risk, even in the worst-case scenario, between the reference period, middle and end of the century. Malta, Sicily south and Sardinia west are found to be the most vulnerable with risk exceeding 0.45 due to a



higher hazard risk. Malta also has the highest exposure of all islands. Malta has an increased risk mid-century in the worst case scenario, due to an increase in hazard.

Atlantic islands

Table 16: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Atlantic Islands

	Hadley centre			ACCESS		
Risk	Historic	RCP 8.5 Mid century	RCP 8.5 End-century	Historic	RCP 8.5 Mid century	RCP 8.5 End-century
Azores	0.83	0.76	0.79	0.15	0.41	0.67
Madeira	0.20	0	0.01	0	0	0

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For the Atlantic islands, 2 models are available (Hadley Centre and ACCESS) for data on return time. As can be seen the results of these models are highly variable. For the Azores even the change of the risk is different, where the Hadley riley model shows a decrease in risk while ACCESS shows a significant increase in risk. Therefore, no conclusion can be made. For Madeira, the risk in the future will be nihil. Not considering probability, it could be concluded that climate change has no or a positive effect on the occurrence on extreme events in Madeira. However, since this data is not accurate, more work needs to be done.

Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Model projections are in good agreement with previous lower resolution ensemble estimates but offering greater detail along island shorelines. Uncertainty to be rigorously estimated from ensemble STD when new simulations of comparable resolution become available, but overall tendency regarded as robust.

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Table 17: Exposure and vulnerability indicators, the data for each island and the normalized values.

Component Component weight	Exposure		Vulnerability					
	0.4		0.3					
	Sub-component Sub-component weight			Factor of sensitivity 0.75		Factors of adaptive capacity 0.25		
Indicator		Average Size of producers	Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Score of factor of adaptive capacity



Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Average of normalised indicators	Temperature sensitivity of species (expert guess)	Indicator	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Average of indicator
	Data	Normalised		Normalised		Normalised	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.12	0.7	0.7	0	1	0.5
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.29	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Madeira	125.3	0.05	0.05	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	1.00	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.19	0.9	0.9	0	1	0.5
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.14	0.8	0.8	0	1	0.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

Risk

The values in this analysis is not an estimate of the risk but rather a ranking between islands since a lot of the data was normalised based on a min-max or fraction of the maximum of the islands. A proper risk assessment would need additional data from farmers and a detailed model of farming results as a function of temperature. Malta has a much higher risk than the other islands due to the high exposure, Malta's farm produce on average 3.5 to 22 times more than the farms on other islands.

Table 18: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature

Risk	Historic	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.30	0.34	0.41	0.38	0.42
Cyprus	0.40	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.59
Malta	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.80
Madeira	0.19	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.35
Sardinia	0.37	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.49
Sicily	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.48

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

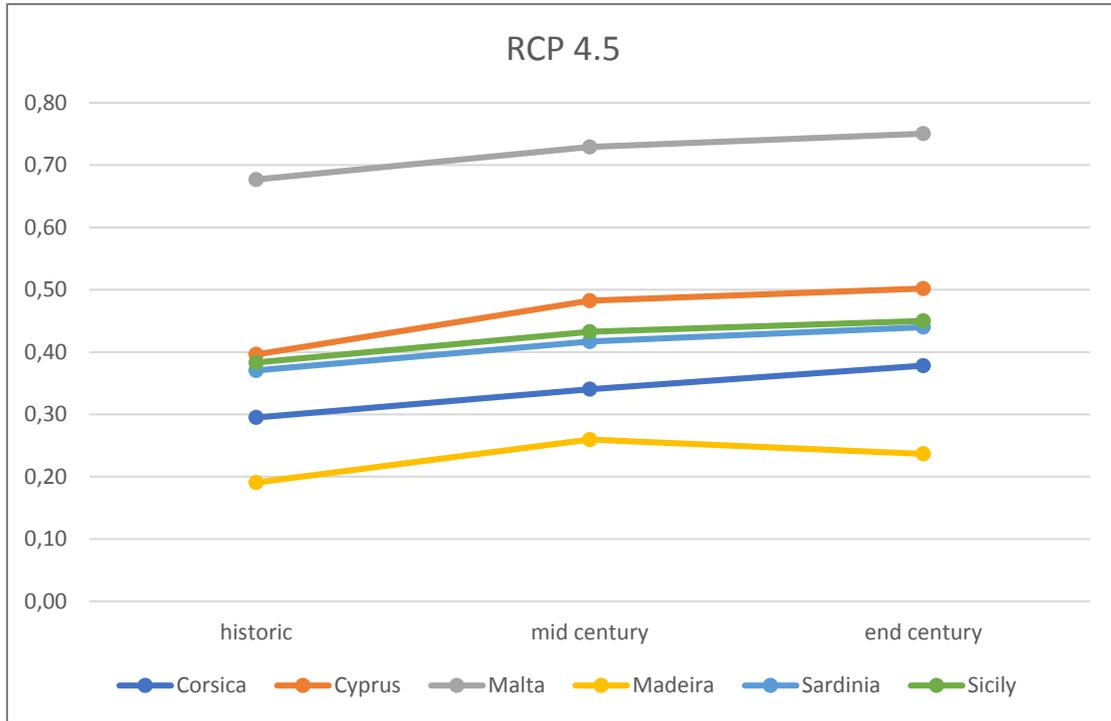


Figure 65: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)

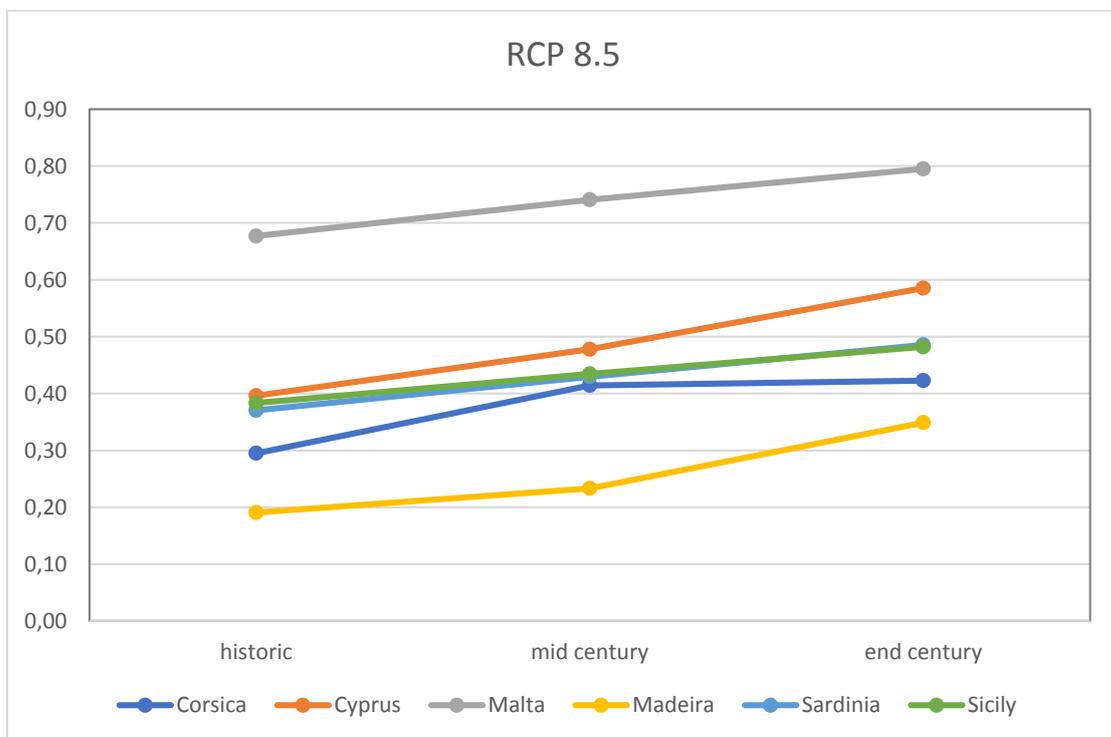


Figure 66: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [4.5](#)



4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.



There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through and expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

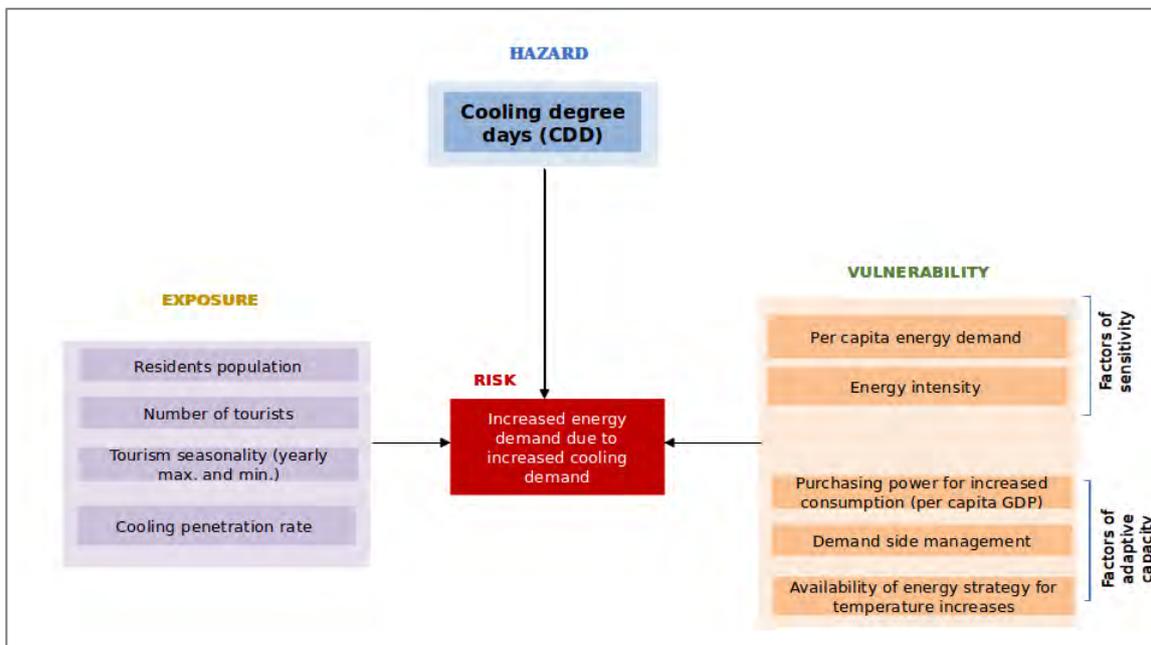


Figure 67: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

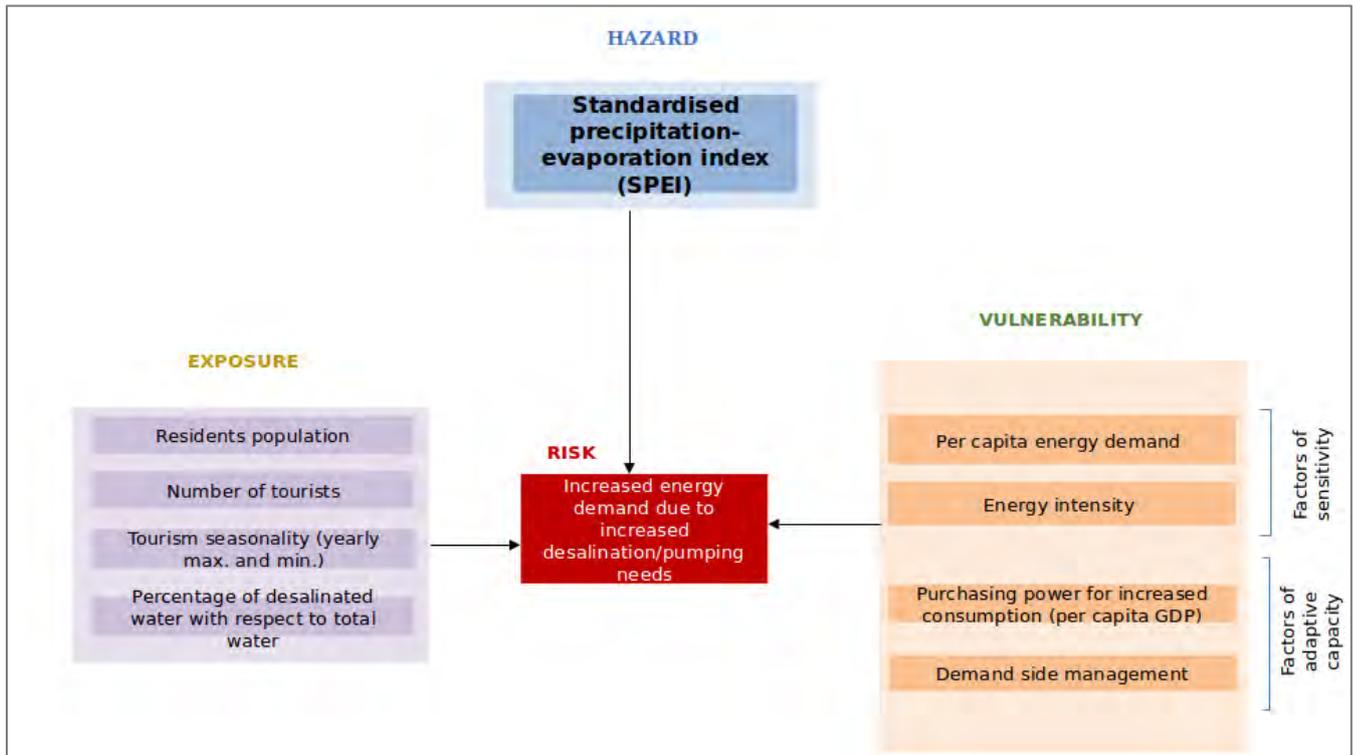


Figure 68: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD**, **Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought



indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

It was not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Sardinia.. The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the hazard component. In the next tables we present the normalized hazard scores for the island and the interpretation.

Table 19: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Sardinia

Hazard assessment:

Histori-cal ref.(1986-2005)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts
			Productivity Land	Sea	
CDD	0.14		0.90	0.24	0.94
SPEI	0.00		0.25	0.28	0.18
			Combined		0.24
RCP2.6 (2046-2065)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
			Productivity change		
CDD	0.23		0.4	0.4	0.5
SPEI	0.16		0.6	0.7	0.7
			Combined		0.4



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RCP8.5 (2046-2065)	Demand		Supply:		Productivity change	Droughts change
	CDD	0.32	Wind	0.5	0.6	0.6
SPEI	0.48	Solar PV	0.5	0.7	0.4	
		Combined			0.6	
RCP2.6 (2081-2100)	Demand		Supply:		Productivity change	Droughts change
	CDD	0.22	Wind	0.4	0.3	0.5
SPEI	0.08	Solar PV	0.6	0.6	0.5	
		Combined			0.6	
RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	Demand		Supply:		Productivity change	Droughts change
	CDD	0.55	Wind	0.6	0.8	0.7
SPEI	0.84	Solar PV	0.5	0.7	0.1	
		Combined			0.9	

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

The CDD score for present climate is in the “very low” range, though the cooling penetration rate is substantial (47.5% in 2014, the highest for Italy) following an ISTAT survey. The results of this survey for Italy show a likely reason for this apparent lack of relationship between CDD and cooling demand: several northern regions show high cooling penetration rates (Veneto, Emilia-Romagna are the second and third regions with highest cooling penetration rate), while some southern regions with higher temperatures like Calabria have a clearly lower cooling penetration rate. This suggests that purchasing power has a stronger impact on cooling demand than CDD.

CDD score is projected to increase in a limited way under RCP2.6 scenario, pointing to a comparatively low cooling energy demand increase in Sardinia due to this factor. The projected increases under the high-emissions scenario are much higher, with the score reaching a medium value by end of the century. The contrast is much stronger for the SPEI score, which rises only slightly under RCP2.6, but strongly under RCP8.5. Desalinated water is already used in Sardinia. Its demand should increase strongly under RCP8.5 scenario.

Renewable energies play already a relevant role in the power supply. In 2017, the wind energy share was 12.4%, while the PV share was 7.6%. Additionally, there is a significant amount of hydropower capacity (466 MW). The important share of wind energy seems contradictory with the low wind energy productivity obtained for present climate over land, but this may be associated to the fact that the score is a spatial average and the score is a relative value with respect to global



values. Also, large contrasts in wind energy resources are found in a mountainous island like Sardinia. Wind energy resources over land are also highly variable in time. PV resources are good and much more stable. The combination of PV and wind energy has very positive impact on the power generation stability, reflecting a high complementarity of both sources.

Wind energy productivity is projected to increase slightly under RCP2.6 scenario, while PV productivity will decrease slightly. Small productivity changes are obtained over land under RCP8.5, but a substantial decrease of offshore wind energy productivity is projected by end of the century for this scenario. Energy drought scores do not change much in most cases, except under RCP8.5 by end of the century, with a strong improvement of PV stability which coincides with the very high SPEI score in this case.

**** Islands' comparison and future challenges***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).
- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.
- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.
- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability



characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.

- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).

- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.

- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.

- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).

- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.

- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been



taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.

Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV



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energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity drought.

4.4 Maritime Transport

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified. These are: i) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves, ii) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events and iii) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

The operationalization was applied to the third one (risk of isolation due to transport disruption) which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The selection of islands to be included in the analysis was based on the importance and dependency on the Maritime Transport sector and on data availability.

The lack of reliable and consistent data limited the analysis for Sardinia. More specifically, this data was:

- Value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot)
- Number of renovated infrastructure (NAgePo).
- Percentage of renewables (PEnRR),
- Early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt).

This information is also useful at the moment of evaluating and ranking adaptation measures for the islands.

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to understand the effect of climate change on tourists behavior, a representative sample of 2538 European citizens have been interviewed in their countries of origins. Through online surveys, tourists were asked how climate change impacts can affect their travelling decisions and the islands' destination choice.

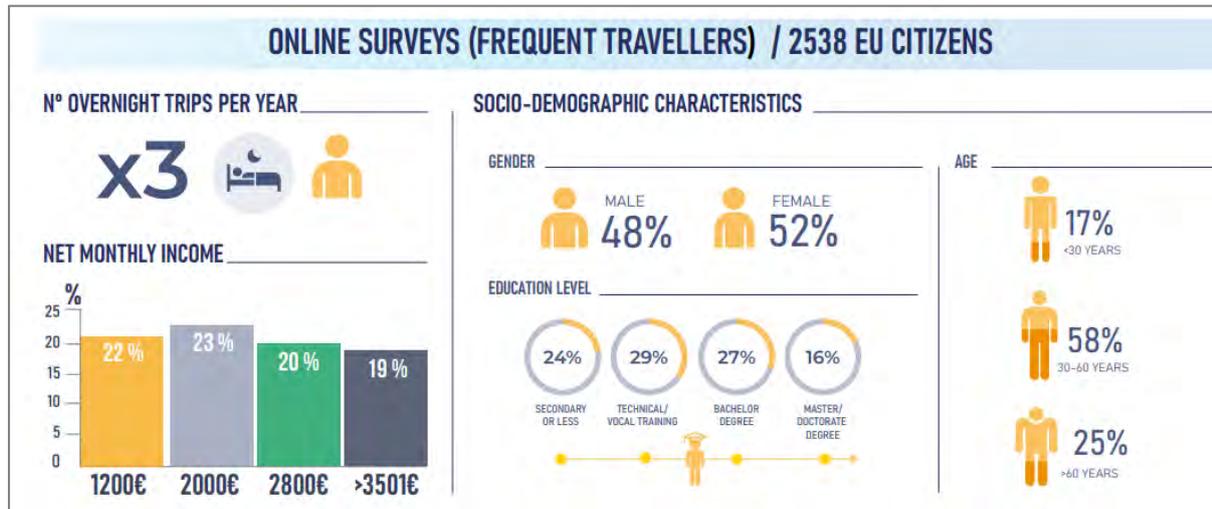


Figure 69: Socio-demographic profile of respondents
Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#)

The technique of discrete choice experiments (DCEs) was implemented. This technique has been widely applied to the evaluation of tourists' preferences both in natural areas and other tourism contexts (e.g., Morley, 1994; Eymann and Ronning, 1997; Huybers, 2003). It involves asking tourists to choose between alternative profiles or sets of attributes of the tourist destinations. The principal advantage of this method is that it allows researchers to investigate the preferences of various attributes of the tourist product simultaneously.

DCEs consist of several choice sets, each containing a set of mutually exclusive hypothetical alternatives between which respondents are asked to choose their preferred one. Alternatives are defined by a set of attributes, each attribute taking one or more levels. Individuals' choices imply implicit trade-offs between the levels of the attributes in the different alternatives included in a choice set. In particular, he will pick the one providing the highest utility, which depends on the attribute levels of the alternatives. Socio-economic characteristics of the individual may influence this decision. The resulting choices are finally analyzed to estimate the contribution that each attribute and level add to the overall utility of individuals. Moreover, when the cost or price is included as an attribute, marginal utility estimates can easily be converted into willingness-to-pay (WTP) estimates for changes in the attribute levels and, by combining different attribute changes, welfare measures may be obtained.

As a result of data analysis, a ranking of islands image was obtained, according to the opinion and the image that tourists have of each island under analysis. Besides, the percentage of tourists that would not visit any European island posed to CC impacts was obtained, which alert on the potential decrease in tourism arrivals for these islands. Finally, the choice model allows to measure the changes in the willingness to pay of tourists for visiting these EU islands, which alert on how these impacts would affect tourism expenditure in the EU islands posed to CC. The results are useful to evaluate the priorities in terms of risks management and responsiveness, from the tourism management perspective.

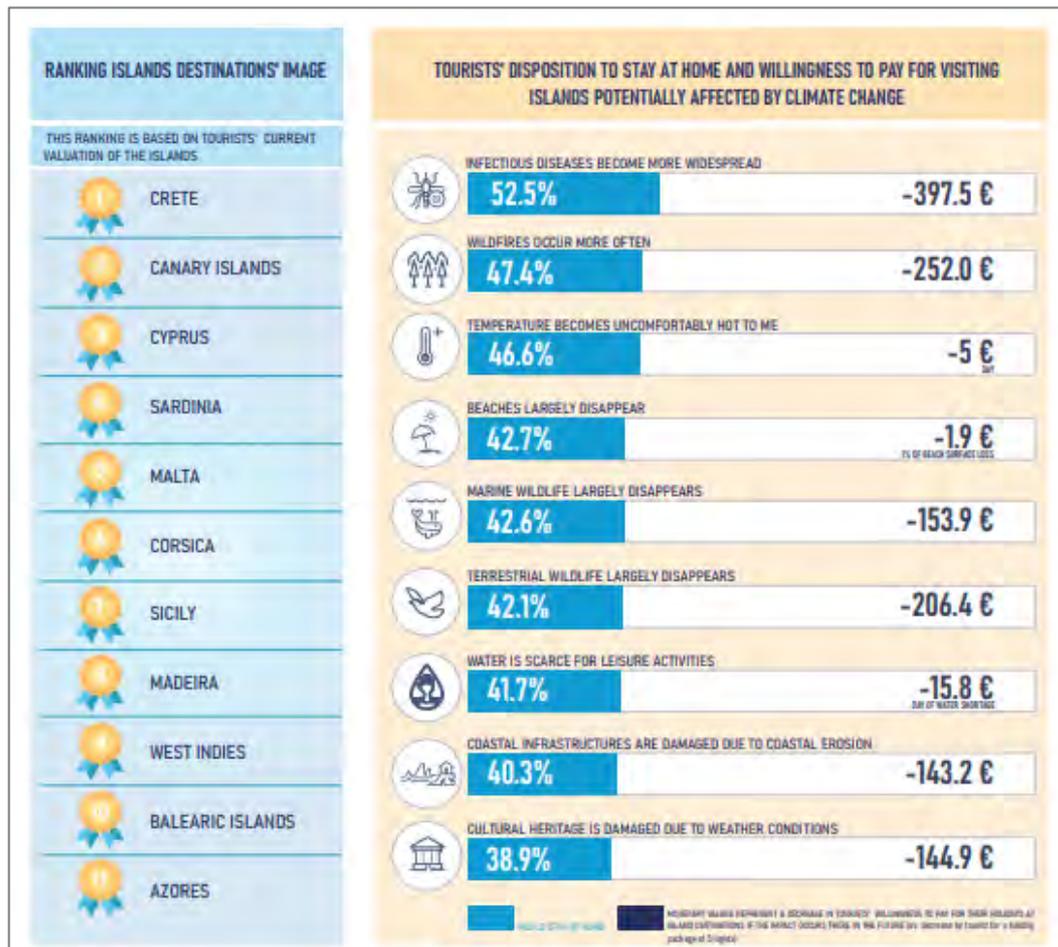


Figure 70: Tourists' preferences for islands destinations and behavioural response to CC risks. Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination’s perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature



and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. We focused the analysis in three specific areas, represented in the map below: the south-east area of Corsica (between Porto Vecchio and Boniface); the North-East area of Sardinia (Costa Smeralda) and the South-East area of Sicily (the coastal area of Catania and Siracusa provinces). Arguably, these are among the most important coastal tourism areas of these islands. Overall, 60 hotels (for a total of about 240,000 observations) were monitored in Corsica; 150 hotels (for a total of about 620,000 observations) were monitored in Sardinia; 129 hotels were monitored in Sicily (for a total of about 726,000 observations) over the period 1 May 2019 – 31 October 2019.

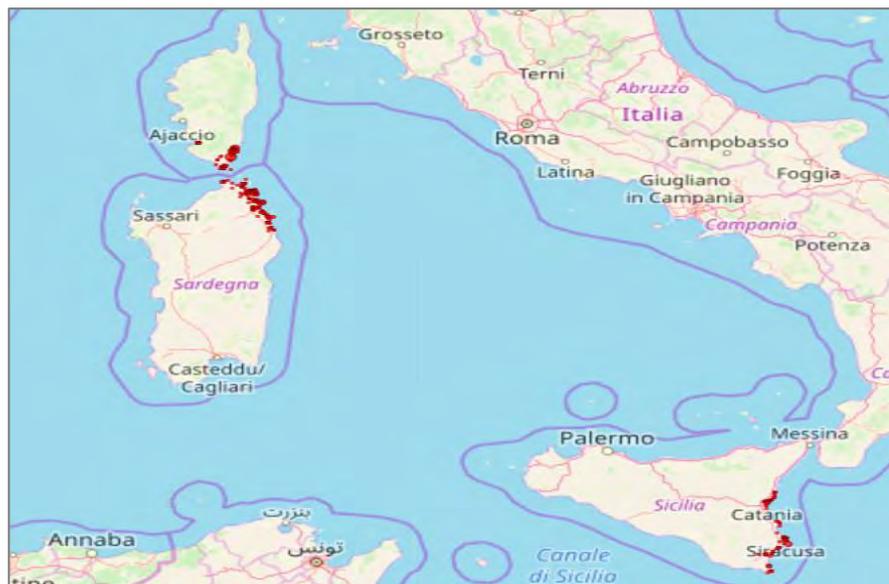


Figure 71: Map of the region

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)



At present, 27.23% (column 1 of the table below) of “summer” days (days in the period between 1 May and 31 October) have a HUMIDEX higher than 35 Celsius degrees in the area under investigation (Costa Smeralda).

In the future, this share (column 3) will increase to about 35-36% in rcp2.6, to 37.59% in rcp8.5 near, and to 61.48% in rcp8.5, distant. Consequently, demand for holidays in Sardinia will increase and the new equilibrium shows an increase in the average price posted by hotels in the destination (column 4) and an increase in overnight stays (column 5, this is estimated using the past correlation between average prices and occupancy rates in hotels, data provided by STR). The joint impact of price and demand will lead to an increase in hotels revenues (last column of the table) and, assuming that the change in revenues spreads to the other tourism products in a similar way, an increase in tourism revenues for the whole destination will be recorded. Hence, the estimation reported in the last column of the table below can be interpreted as the percentage increase in tourism revenues for the island.

Table 20: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Sardinia

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
27.23%	rcp26near	35.78%	3.3%	0.7%	4.0%
	rcp26far	35.07%	3.0%	0.6%	3.7%
	rcp85near	37.59%	4.0%	0.8%	4.9%
	rcp85far	61.48%	13.3%	2.7%	16.3%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. In this study the underlying assumption is instead that growing temperatures are a global issue, thereby not modifying the relative position of a destination. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperatures on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold by specie, and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant) were



analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases in the region (mean values), with respect to the reference period.

To do this, we assume three main species cultured in this region: Seabream, seabass and mussels, and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios.

As expected, the production levels (tons) will decrease for both, low and high emissions scenarios. In both cases, the average annual temperatures are projected in levels below 21oC, which is the thresholds of thermal stress for mussels, the most sensitive specie of the three analysed.

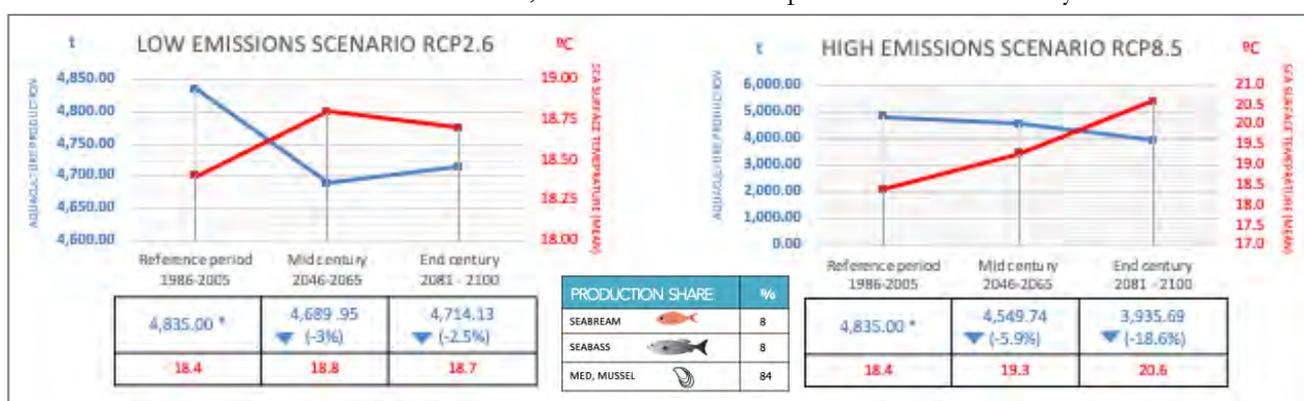


Figure 72: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature
Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (CDD) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (GWh/year) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 656 CDD⁴. This value could be, for example, a combination of 100 days with temperatures of 21°C (400CDD) and other 128 days with temperatures of 20°C (256CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 281%.

⁴ The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18)= 200CDD



The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

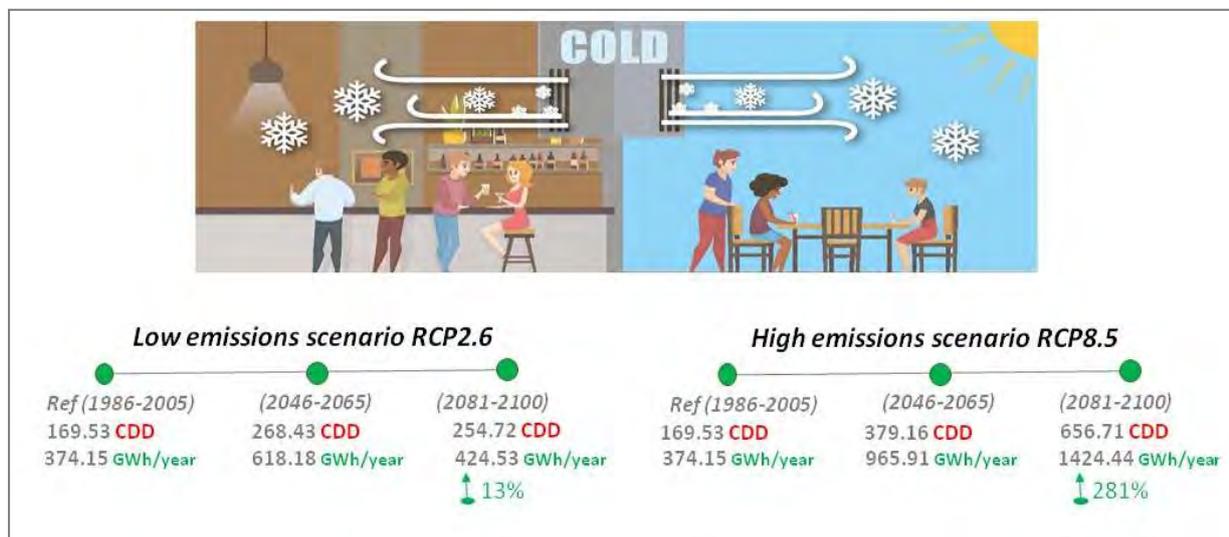


Figure 73: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Sardinia under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (**SPEI**) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (**GWh/year**) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the low emissions scenario (RCP2.6), there are not significant changes in the SPEI indicator, that will remain in its "normal" level, as it is nowadays. An increase of 113% in desalination energy demand is expected under RCP8.5, a scenario with severe aridity for the island.

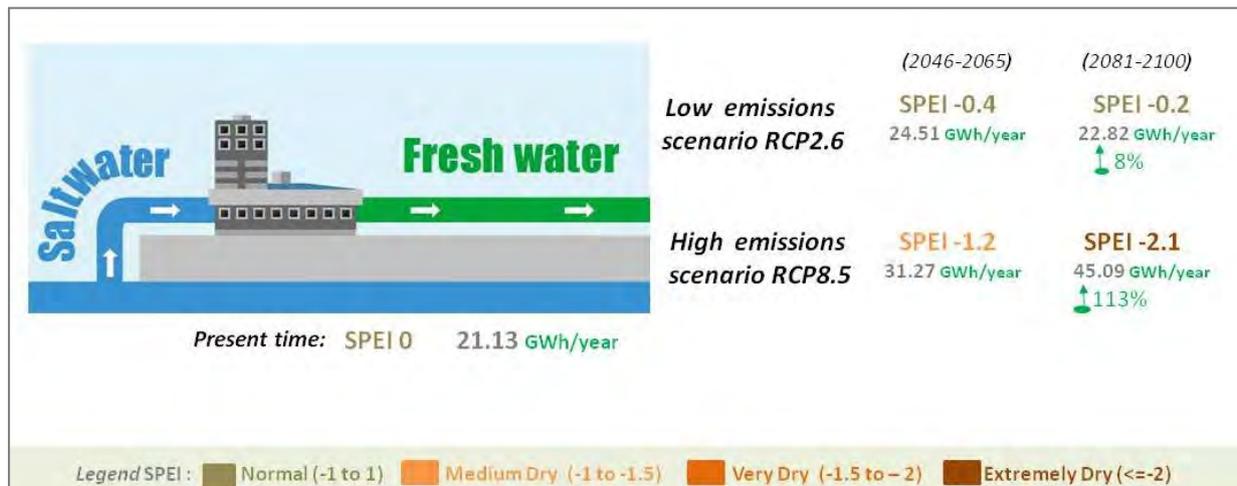


Figure 74: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Sardinia under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all porsts' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase by 1.9 million of euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

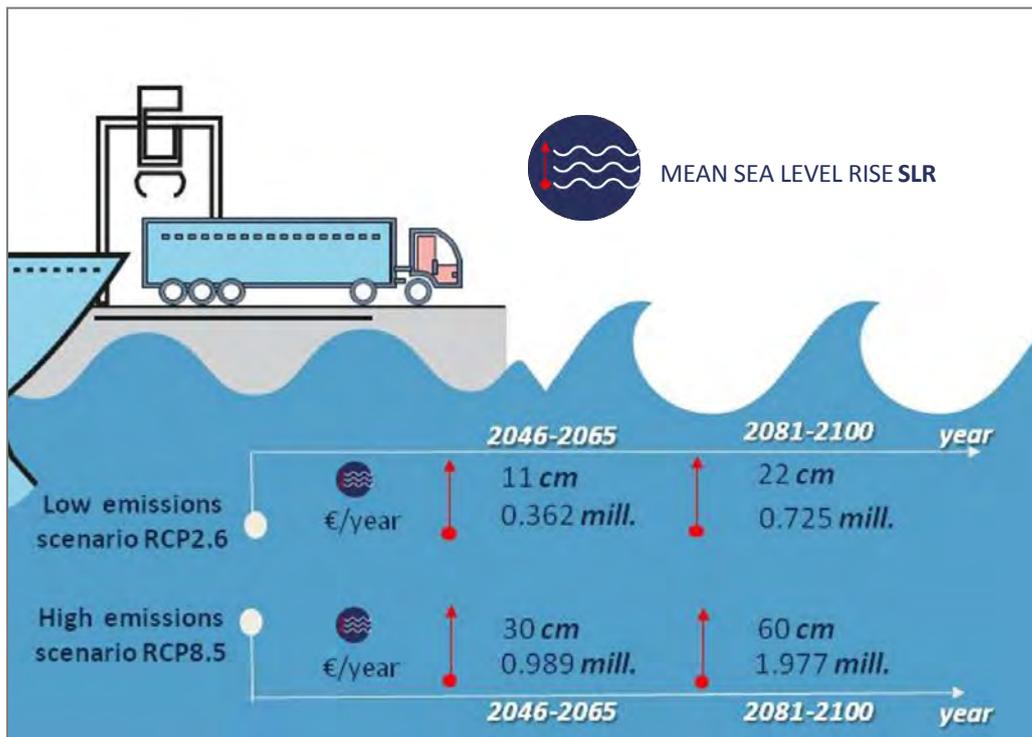


Figure 75: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Sardinia under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100
 Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the island of Sardinia. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.

In total 18 scenarios have been quantified for Sardinia. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction



2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy

The aim of the aggregate scenario is to examine the impacts on the economy of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 21: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-11.17	4.5	-0.07
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-15.64	0.9	-0.09
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-39.17	10.9	-0.19
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-58.68	19.5	-0.25

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the model allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determine competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated reduction compared to the reference case is between 0.7% and 3% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between 2.5% and 8% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative reduction over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to 1.1% in the RCP2.6 and 3.6% in the RCP8.5.

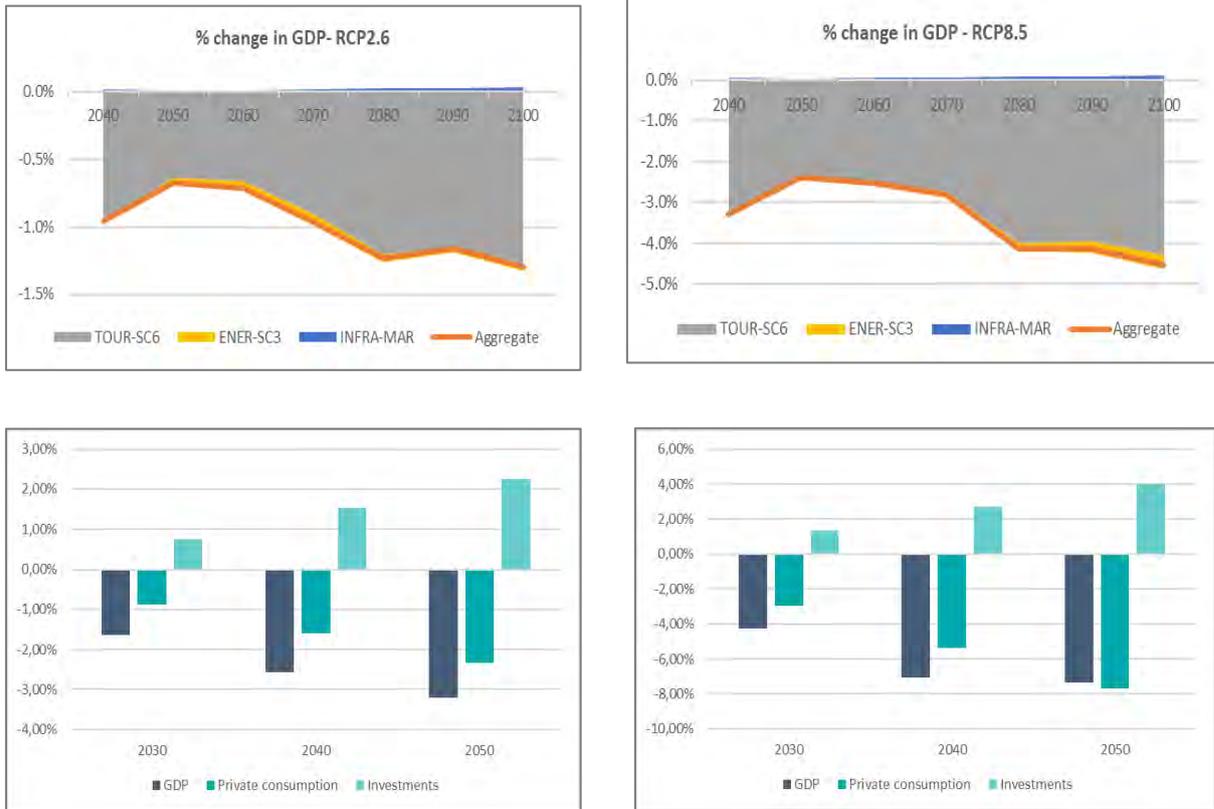


Figure 76: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the manufacturing industries, highlighting the opportunities for secondary sectors, in the context of economy's adaptation process. The increase of transport activity in the GEM-E3-ISL model is related to the increase in exports.



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Figure 77: Production percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor. Employment falls on average by 0.3% in the RCP2.6 and by 1.1% in the RCP8.5

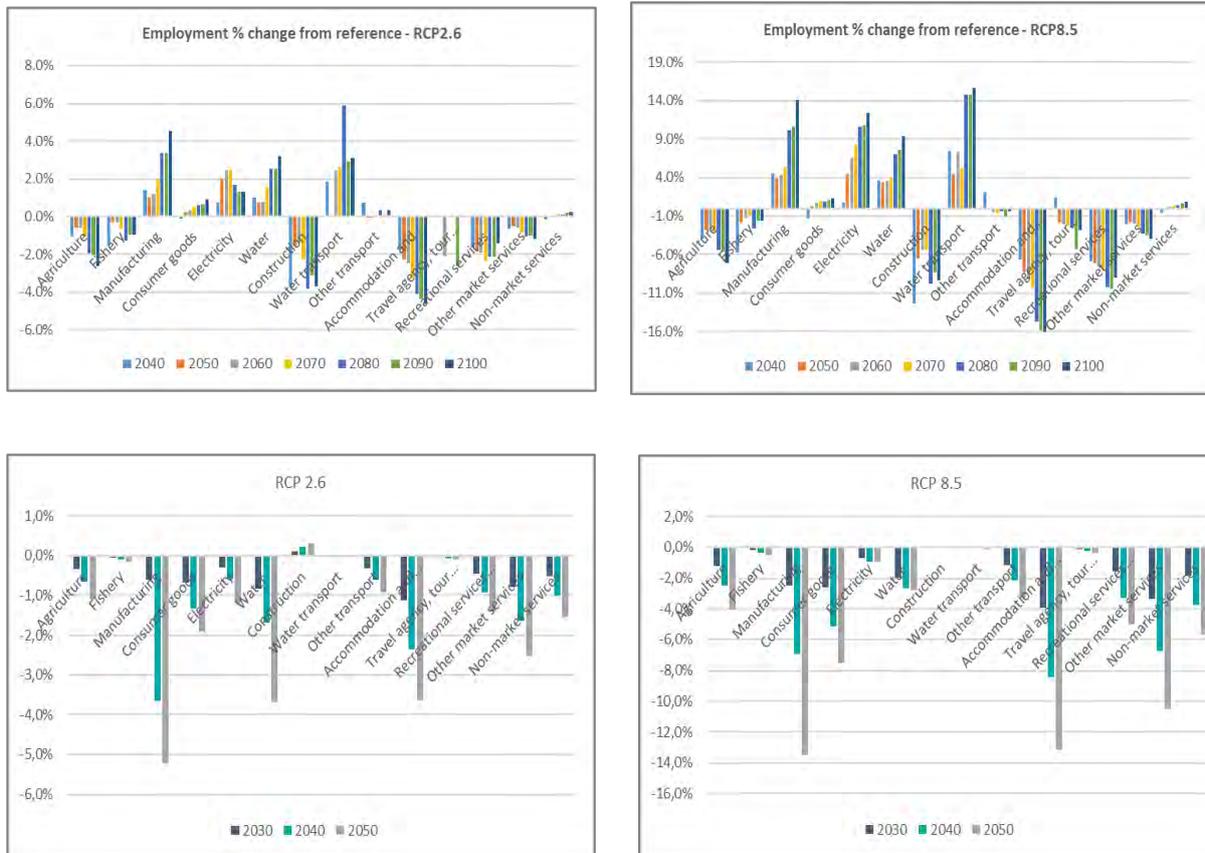


Figure 78: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacle

According to the Regional Adaptation Strategy, the general commitments of the region are:

- create a context of suitable conditions for adaptation, acting on the level of rules and process management;
- create and support the ability to adapt, through knowledge and skills and their circulation, also providing the potential tools for the implementation of adaptation;
- indicate effective paths of adaptation, integrating techniques, technologies and methodologies, giving priority to ecological, social and economic sustainability.

Furthermore, the general objectives contained in the Regional strategy are:

- 1) minimize the risks arising from climate change;
- 2) protect the health, well-being and assets of the population;
- 3) preserving the natural heritage;
- 4) maintain or improve the resilience and adaptability of natural, social and economic systems;
- 5) take advantage of any opportunities that might arise with the new weather conditions



Table 22: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<p>Specific limits and obstacle</p> <p>Until now days, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies do not take into account the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Regional Policies depend on National Policies and National Legislation to be followed. The main obstacles are slow procedures due to bureaucracy and funding constraints.</p> <p>A limit is represented by the lower awareness of Local Authorities, the Sardinia Region aims to increase the awareness of the problem to stimulate a dialogue between all stakeholders and actors in order to facilitate the promotion and implementation of effective actions.</p>
<p>Relevant documents</p> <p>National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (SNAC) Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (SRACC) http://delibere.regione.sardegna.it/protected/45116/0/def/ref/DBR45071/ Strategic plan for aquaculture in Italy 2014-2020 Regional strategic plan of tourism development 2018/2021 of the Sardinia region Plan for the Hydrogeological Asset of the Sardinia Region Map of Environmentally Sensitive Areas To Desertification, ESAS Regional plan for programming the activities of prevision, prevention and active fight for the defense of vegetation against fire (year of revision 2018) Protection plan of waters – Sardinia region</p> <p>MasterAdapt project Clisel project Maregot project</p>

Source: Deliverable 7.1 Conceptual framework



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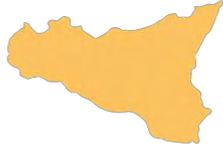
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APPENDIX 11





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in Sicily. First, a presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the Island, and the socioeconomic trends without climate change (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. Regarding Climate Change, the expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented and ran (WP3), joint to the expected trends of physical risks, booth current and future (WP4). Finally, specific economic impacts are estimated, considering the evolution of some physical risks (WP5 and WP6). The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7). Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

Sicily at a glance

Sicily, in the south of Italy, is the largest and one of the most densely populated islands in the Mediterranean Sea. Together with its surrounding islands, Sicily forms an autonomous region of Italy. The island is mostly mountainous with a seismic and volcanic activity quite intense. Here there is the Europe's highest active volcano, Mount Etna (3.350 meters). The only wide valley is the fertile Plain of Catania in the east. The climate is subtropical and Mediterranean. Underground water and springs are plentiful. The natural vegetation of Sicily has been greatly reduced by human influence, and forests occupy only 4 percent of the territory.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

Aquaculture in Sicily is mainly based on seabass and seabream production, with an average ratio of 54 to 46%. Small and variable quantity of other marine species are produced, such as: sharpsnout seabream, red porgy, common dentex, amberjack, meagre, Mediterranean bluefin tuna. Commercial shellfish culture is limited to small mussel farms in the Provinces of Palermo, Messina and Syracuse. The Regional Pilot Centre for Aquaculture of Assessorato Agricoltura e Foreste of the Sicilian Region coordinates research, development and pilot scale production in fresh water aquaculture. This sector is expected to grow rapidly in the next few years.

- **Maritime Transport**

Palermo is considered one of the Italian strategic ports for the Motorways of the Sea system by the Ministry of Transport. The Sicilian ports in which today Ro-Ro cabotage services are operated for the combined road-sea are: Palermo, Termini Imerese, Catania, Trapani. Considering the port facilities, Sicily exceeds the national average. Due to its geographical conformation, the region has in fact a large number of ports, but the type and quality of services offered is inadequate in relation to the structure of the production system and the demand for passenger and freight transport.

- **Energy**

Renewable sources are hydroelectric, photovoltaics, from biomass. No renewable sources: Power stations with steam turbines powered by poly-fuel. Semi-thick dense oils and natural gas are used, creating a mix that has led to a certain control of emissions in compliance with environmental legislation. In the Aeolian Islands it has been planned a "Plan for recovery and increase of installed capacity and adaptation of auxiliary systems" including the installation of 10 new electro diesel production groups. The end uses concern the equivalent consumption of primary energy sources in the four census macro-sectors: Primary, Civil, Industry and Transportation.

- **Tourism**

Sicily's sunny, dry climate, scenery, cuisine, history and architecture attract many tourists from mainland Italy and abroad. The tourist season peaks in the summer months, although people visit the island all year round. Tourism is one of the most important sectors for the island economy. In 2018, Sicily had 15.1 million presences, with an increase of 4.9% respect the 2017, and almost 5 million of arrivals (+4.8% in respect of 2017). The average stay is 3 nights with a bed occupancy rate of about 20%, then very low. The most popular time of the year is from May to September.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea and one of the 20 regions of Italy. It is one of the five Italian autonomous regions in Southern Italy along with surrounding minor islands, officially referred to as Regione Siciliana. Its most prominent landmark is Mount Etna, the tallest active volcano in Europe and one of the most active in the world. Sicily was inhabited 10.000 years ago. The earliest archaeological evidence of human activity on the island dates from as early as 12.000 BC.

Sicily has a rich and unique culture, especially regarding arts, music, literature, cuisine and architecture. The natural vegetation of Sicily has been greatly reduced by human influence and forests occupy only 4 percent of the territory. In terms of geography, 61 % of Sicily's territory consists of hills, 25 % of mountains and 14 % of plains. The northern part of Sicily is mountainous while the southern part has lower hills and plains.

The Sicilian population has been stable since 1990, close to 5 million which is equivalent to 4% of the Italian population. In 2013, 25 % of the population of the island lived in the province of Palermo, 21.9 % in Catania, 12.7 % in Messina, 5.4 % in

Caltanissetta and 3.4 % in Enna¹. The active population holds a stable share in total population, equal to 34% throughout the 2007-2018 period (Figure 1).

Unemployment levels in Sicily register an increase in the recent years and are among the highest in Italy and Europe. while youth unemployment levels reached 44% in 2018. Combating the growing youth and total unemployment levels is critical in order to enhance social coherence in Sicily.

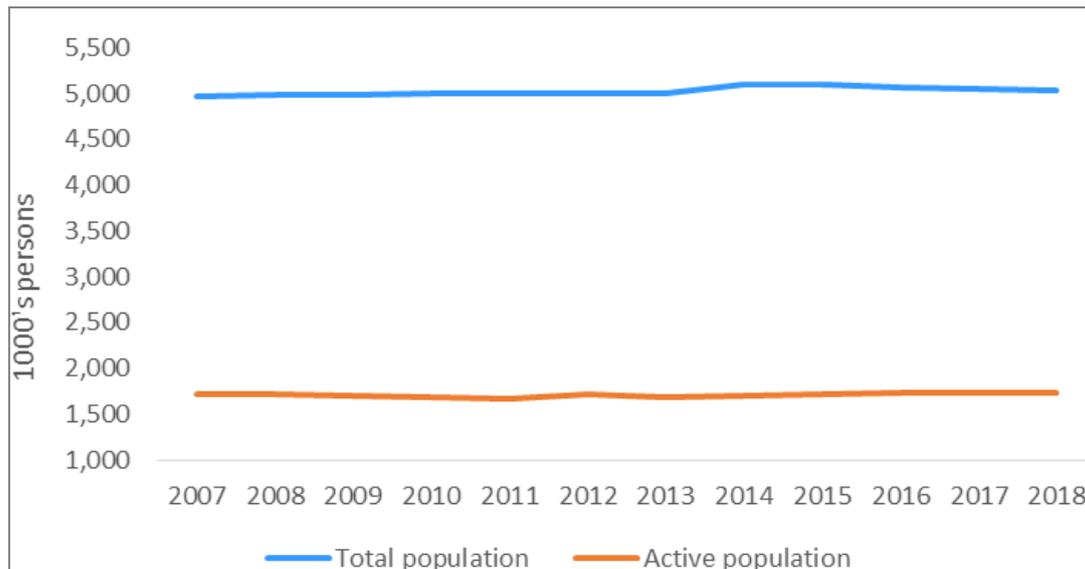


Figure 1: Total and active population of Sicily 2007-2018.
Source: Eurostat.

The reference projection of population in Sicily is displayed in Figure 2, which marks the population for the period 2015-2100. Sicily is facing an ageing population, similarly to the rest of Italy which is comparable to the levels of demographic crisis registered in Japan. This, along with the growing gathering urbanization, leads to a strong decline of the Sicilian population posing further challenges for growth.

¹ Economic, Social and Territorial situation of Sicily 2015 accessed in: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/120267/pe540372_en.pdf

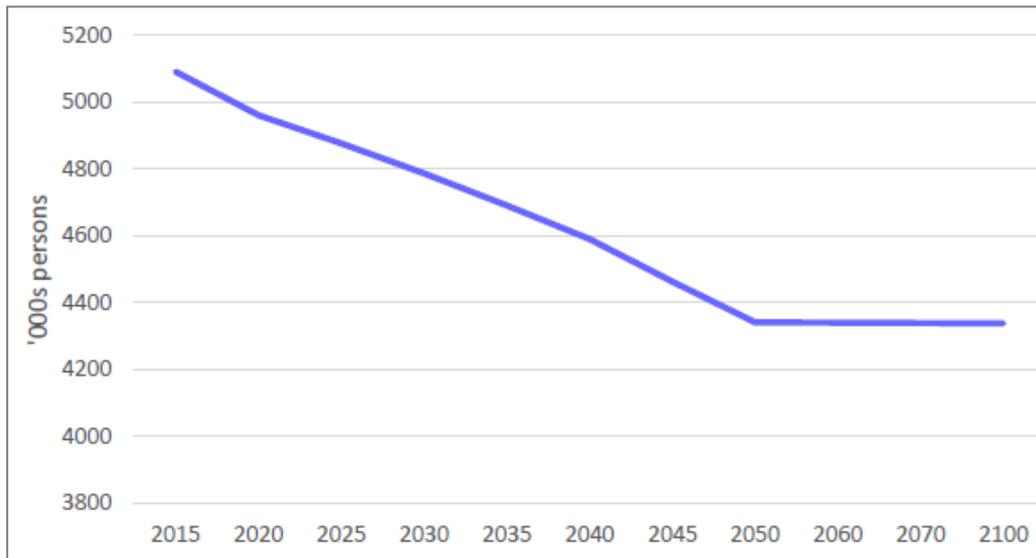


Figure 2: Baseline population projection for Sicily (2015-2100).

Source: Eurostat.

1.2 Current climate and risks

The climate in Sicily is Mediterranean on the coast as well as in the little islands and archipelagos of the region, with a mild and rainy winter season and warm and sunny summers. The mid-seasons are quite mutable. On the coastline, specially on the south-west, the influence of the winds coming from Africa makes the climate torrid. In the inland, prevailingly mountainous, the climate is almost continental on the hills, with winters moderately cold and summers quite torrid, and colder on the mountains.

In general, the rainfall is quite poor, specially at low altitude and on the coast, where the landscape is semi-arid. Over the 1,000 mt of altitude, snowfall can be abundant and frequent. For example, on the Etna Volcano, often snows also in the summer due to the Atlantic currents which affect the climate especially between the end of July and the beginning of August.



Figure 3: *Climate factsheet*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; [D7.1 Conceptual Framework and Meteoblue](#); Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Macroeconomic status

Sicily lags behind the national and European economy in terms of economic development. GDP PPS per capita was on average just €17.500 in 2016, among the second lowest in the country and corresponding to 62% of the national GDP PPS per capita (€28.200) and 60% of GDP average in the European Union (€29.200)². As shown in Figure 4, the GDP of Sicily registered a continuous decline over the period 2009-2014, with a rate of decrease which was higher than the national average. Nevertheless, since 2014 the economic performance has been improving, with GDP in 2017 getting close to 2009 levels.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/base-profile/sicily>



Figure 4: GDP and Disposable income by households for Malta.
Source: Eurostat.

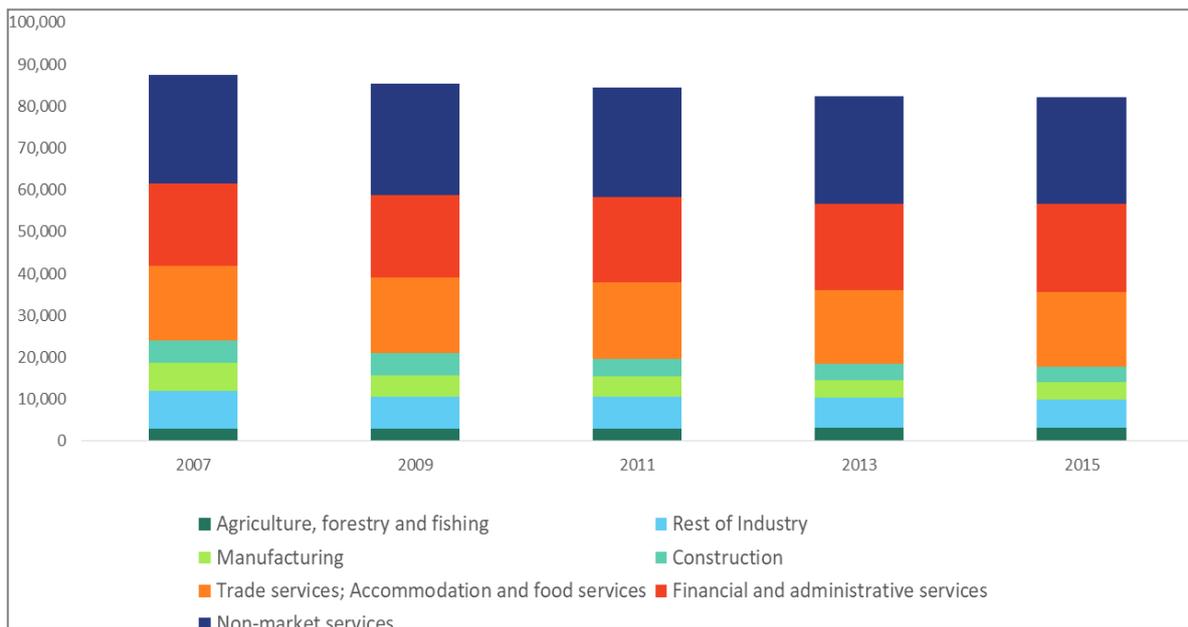


Figure 5: GVA by activity in 2007-2015 in Sicily.
Source: National Statistics Office.

1.4 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Tourism

Tourism is an important economic activity in Sicily, but represents only a small share of regional GDP, lower than the national average contribution³. Overall arrivals at tourist accommodations in Sicily are only 5% of total arrivals in Italy (Figure 6).

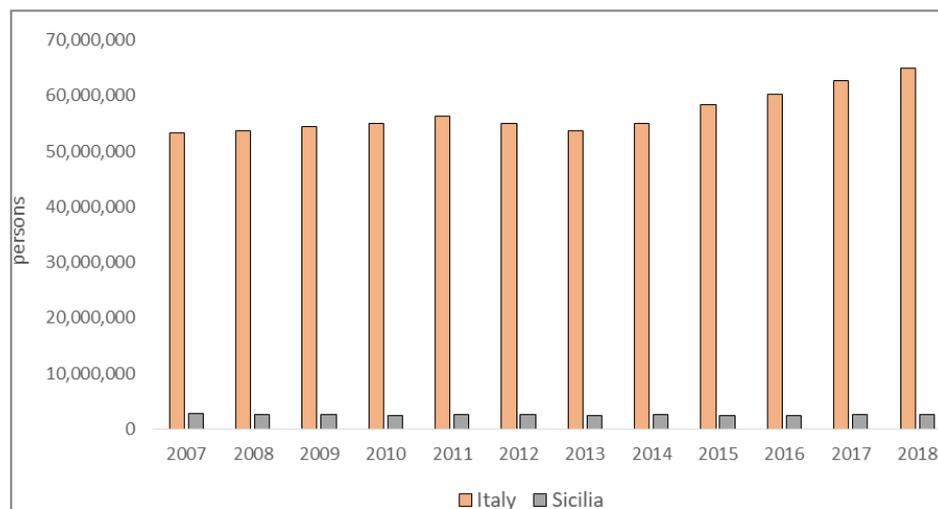


Figure 6: Arrivals at tourist accommodation establishments as reported by the Reporting country, Italy and Sicily 2007-2018.

Source: Eurostat.

Maritime Transport

Maritime transport is important for Sicily, particularly for the connection of the island to the mainland, while other smaller routes serve for connection with small surrounding islands. Sicily is also connected via Palermo and Trapani to Tunisia, while daily connections with Malta have also been established. The port of Augusta is the fifth-largest cargo port in Italy and handles tones of goods. Figure 7 shows that the seaborne transportation of freight in Sicily steadily covers 20% of total transport of freight in Italy for the 2007-2018 period.

³ Economic, Social and Territorial situation of Sicily 2015 accessed in: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/cmsdata/120267/pe540372_en.pdf

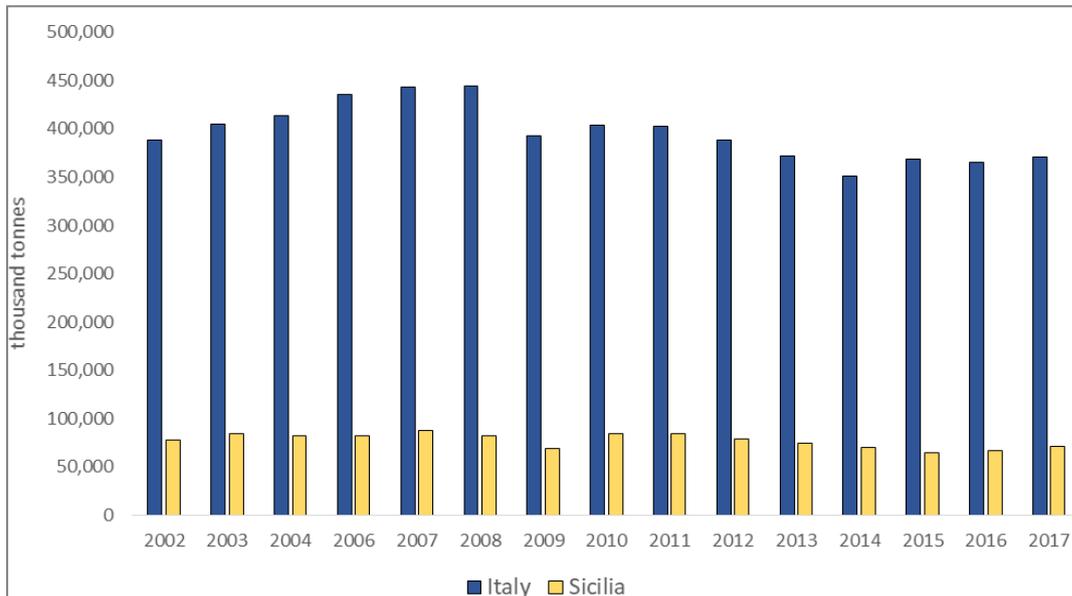


Figure 7: Maritime transport of freight, Italy and Sicily 2002-2017.
Source: Eurostat.

Aquaculture

According to a 2010 report by the European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries⁴, fisheries and aquaculture represent 0.58% of the total economy. In terms of processing, Sicily has the largest number of companies dealing with fish conservation in Italy (32%). More importantly, Sicily is one of the few regions in Italy where the fisheries sector has a positive trade balance, with most exports going to Japan but also Spain, Greece and France. In 2010 the Sicilian fishing fleet comprised of 3323 vessels, representing the largest regional fleet in Italy. This number is significantly falling in recent years due to scrapping policies. Aquaculture in Sicily is largely dominated by seabass and sea bream production and represents around 20% of total Italian production. Twelve aquaculture farms were active in 2008, using different types of floating cages. Sicily is considered a Convergence Region by the European Union Cohesion Policy and is eligible for special funding also regarding the development of fisheries and aquaculture.

Electricity

Sicily is interconnected through high voltage connections with the Italian mainland and Malta. The latter meets an important share of its total electricity demand via imports from Sicily. In particular, in 2017 68% of electricity demand was met through the high voltage interconnector that was established in 2015. The Sicilian power supply system

⁴ [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2010/431596/IPOL-PECH_NT\(2010\)431596_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2010/431596/IPOL-PECH_NT(2010)431596_EN.pdf)



features traditional thermal plants, hydro plants, biomass plants, solar PV plants and some wind plants. Sicily has a large solar potential with high levels of horizontal irradiation. According to Pagliaro et al 2015⁵, in 2014 the installed capacity of solar PV plants was equal to 1400 MW. Italy featured a successful feed in tariff system, while PV owners can benefit from net metering systems. Expansions of the interconnection capacity have enabled exports from the island to the mainland and have contributed to the fall of electricity prices in both regions (Meneguzzo et al 2016⁶).

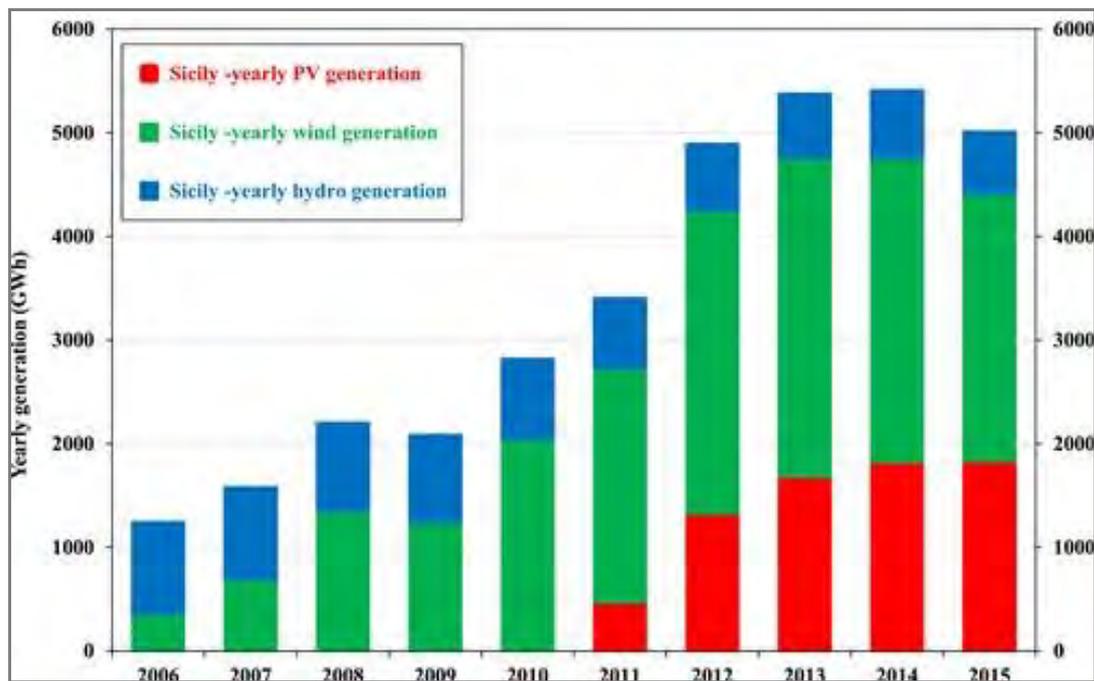


Figure 8: Electricity generation by PV, wind and hydro plants in Sicily.
Source: TERN A and Meneguzzo et al 2016.

Infrastructure. R&D and planned projects

The transport system in Sicily is in similar condition to that of the rest of Southern Italy. Investments in upgrading and maintenance of infrastructure are crucial for the improvement of macroeconomic indicators, as the current state hinders the efficient movement of people and goods. Sicily, as a “Convergence” region, has been receiving EU funding with the aim to improve mobility, focusing on railways and ports but also on interconnecting regions through the highway or road networks. Key projects include the railway in Palermo urban and metropolitan areas and the expansion of the Catania metropolitan line. Sicily has several airports, with Catania airport receiving the

⁵ Pagliaro, M., R. Ciriminna, F. Meneguzzo, and L. Albanese. 2015. Sicily's solar report 2015, Semplicissimus Book Farm, Catania, Italy. ISBN 9788869094231

⁶ Meneguzzo, F., Ciriminna, R., Albanese, L. and Pagliaro, M. (2016), The remarkable impact of renewable energy generation in Sicily onto electricity price formation in Italy. Energy Sci Eng, 4: 194-204. doi:10.1002/ese3.119

most passengers, followed by Palermo-Punta Raisi airport and Trapani-Birgi airport, while Comiso, Lambendusa and Pantellaria airports have lower capacities. Similarly, Sicily features several ports, such as Messina, Trapani, Palermo, Catania and Augusta which is a large commercial port. Recently, it was announced⁷ that three major Sicilian ports, Palermo, Termini Imerese and Trapani will be upgraded through the Italian infrastructure planning program.

Regarding ICT infrastructure, In 2017, 74% of households had access to the Internet in 2017, one of the lowest percentage in Italy (the national equivalent was 79%). Nevertheless, this share has increased significantly in the last few years, from 62% in 2014. Regarding R&D, in 2015, domestic expenditure on R&D was ca. €863m in Sicily, mainly due to regional universities (54%), businesses (28%), public authorities and non-profit institutions (18%)⁸. According to data elaborated by Eurostat. In 2017, the number of employees in high-tech sectors amounted to 28.500, representing 2.1% of of the employed population, far below the Italian and the European average (3.4% and 4% respectively).

2 Economic projections

2.1 Macroeconomic projections

In terms of GDP growth, Sicily registers a 1.3% yearly rate throughout the 2015-2100 period and a 1.1% rate in the 2015-2050 period. The main driver of growth during the entire period is investments, particularly in the short term, and a sustained private consumption throughout the period (Table 1). As seen in Figure 9 the economy of Sicily is projected to become more sustainable, as the trade deficit gradually diminishes and the contribution of investments to GDP increases. The above imply a reduction of private and public consumption when expressed as a share of GDP. In particular, the share of public consumption in GDP, which was the highest among all islands in 2015, drops to levels similar to those of the rest of the islands.

Table 1: GDP projections 2100.

	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
GDP	1.3%	0.8%	0.5%	0.9%	0.9%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%
Private consumption	1.7%	0.3%	-0.4%	0.2%	0.6%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	1.2%	1.1%
Public consumption	1.0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.6%	0.6%	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	0.8%
Investments	1.2%	2.7%	2.4%	2.9%	1.1%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.3%
Trade	2.1%	0.0%	-1.4%	-0.2%	-0.7%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.4%	-0.2%	-1.8%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 6.2

7 <https://www.portseurope.com/sicily-port-projects-enter-italys-infrastructure-planning-programme/>

8 <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regional-innovation-monitor/base-profile/sicily>

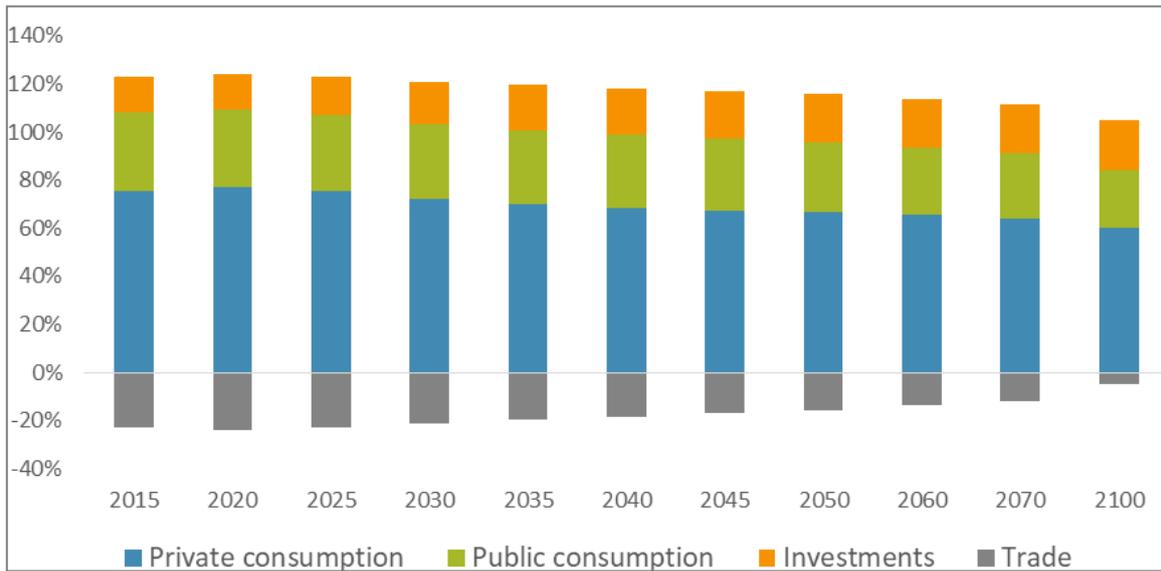


Figure 9: Macroeconomic components as a % share of GDP for Sicily in 2015-2100.
Source: Own calculations.

2.2 Sectoral projections

The economy of Sicily remains a service-led economy throughout the 2015-2100 period. However, a transition from non-market towards market services is projected. Construction registers an increasing share in total value added, following the trajectory of investments. The share of Blue economy sectors in total value-added falls slightly in the 2015-2100 period, as tourism falls slightly below 10% of GDP.

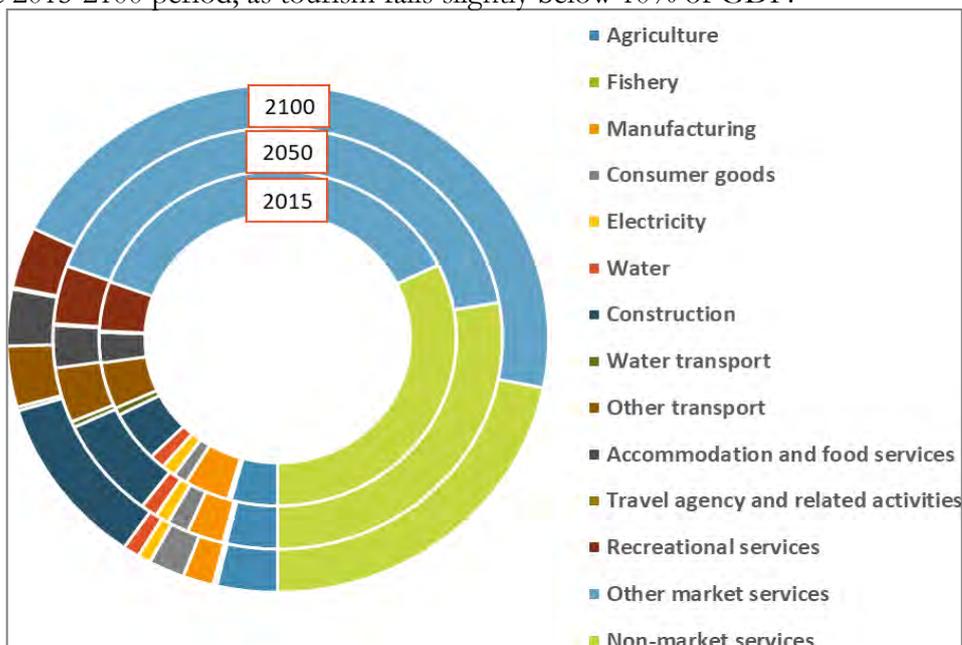


Figure 10: Sectoral value added as a % share to total GVA for Sicily in 2015, 2050 and 2100.
Own calculations.

Table 2: GVA shares by sector 2100.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Agriculture	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.9%	3.8%	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%	3.6%
Fishery	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Manufacturing	4.1%	3.7%	3.5%	3.5%	3.4%	3.2%	2.9%	2.6%	2.2%	2.0%	1.8%
Consumer goods	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%
Electricity	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%
Water	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%
Construction	4.9%	5.1%	5.6%	6.1%	6.7%	6.9%	7.3%	7.7%	8.5%	9.1%	10.8%
Water transport	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%
Other transport	4.5%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.2%	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%
Accommodation and food services	2.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%	3.6%
Travel agency and related activities	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Recreational services	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%	4.6%	4.5%	4.5%	4.5%	4.4%	4.3%	3.9%
Other market services	37.0%	38.0%	38.0%	38.0%	39.0%	40.0%	40.0%	41.0%	43.0%	44.0%	46.0%
Non-market services	32.0%	31.0%	31.0%	30.0%	30.0%	29.0%	28.0%	27.0%	26.0%	25.0%	21.9%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 6.2

2.3 Employment

Sicily registers high unemployment levels, particularly among young people, which poses a challenge for future economic policies. Our reference projections assume a declining unemployment rate that falls by 13 p.p. in the 2015-2100 period (Table 3). This positive evolution, However, is not the result of economic transformation and job creation, but rather the effect of the declining population. The only sector that shows higher employment numbers is construction. The next Figure describes the share of each sector in total employment, indicating that almost half of the Sicilian jobs are in the market services, while almost 10% of total employment is related to tourism.

Table 3: Unemployment rate in Sicily in 2015-2100.

	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	2060	2070	2100
Unemployment rate	21.4%	20.4%	18.3%	16.2%	12.3%	11.0%	9.4%	8.5%	8.4%	8.2%	8.2%

Source: Own calculations.

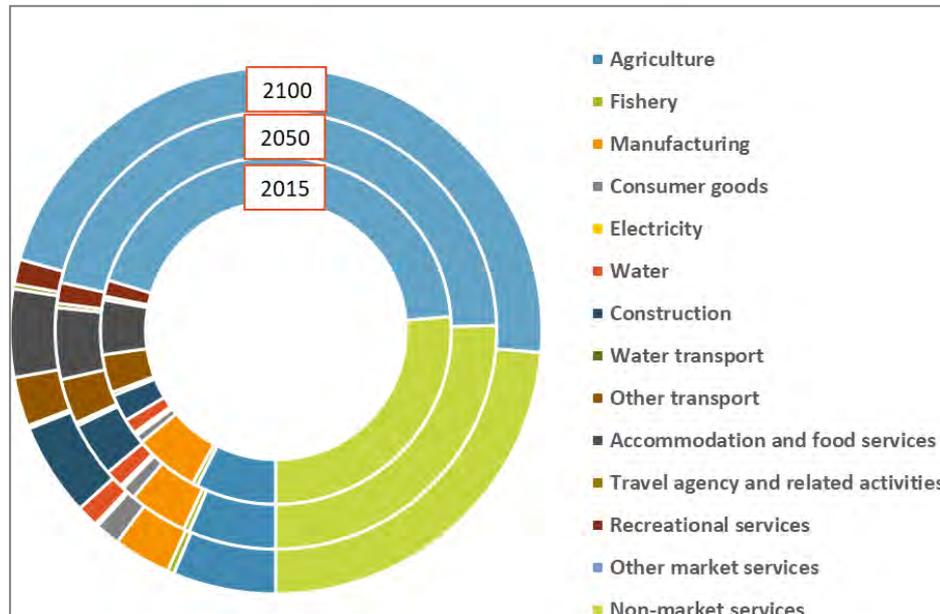


Figure 11: Sectoral employment as a % share of total for Sicily in 2015, 2050, 2100.
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 6.2

3 Climate Change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100). Main source of climate projections (future climate) for the Sicily is MED-CORDEX ensemble (regional scale of Mediterranean area) and CMIP5 Ensemble (global scale) even if other model sources were applied when required, depending of available scales. Results are presented in form of maps, tables or graphs and only when the information shows an interesting outcome.

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

Seagrass evolution

Posidonia Oceanica is a foundation specie in Mediterranean waters. Foundation species have a large contribution towards creating and maintaining habitats that support other species. First, they are numerically abundant and account for most of the biomass in an ecosystem. Second, they are at or near the base of the directional interaction networks that characterize ecosystems. Third, their abundant connections to other species in an ecological network mostly reflect non-trophic or mutualistic interactions, including providing structural support for other species, significantly altering ecosystem properties



to [dis]favor other species, altering metabolic rates of associated species, and modulating fluxes of energy and nutrient flow through the system.

Seagrasses are the main habitat for coastal marine ecosystems. They provide different services like sediment retention (and thus clearer waters), coastal protection (in front of marine storms), shelter for marine organisms, *etc.* Therefore, the state of seagrasses is a convenient proxy for the state of coastal environment. 1 specie is located in the coasts of Sicily: *Posidonia*. The results of RCP8.5 projections indicate a loss of 28,3% at end of century.

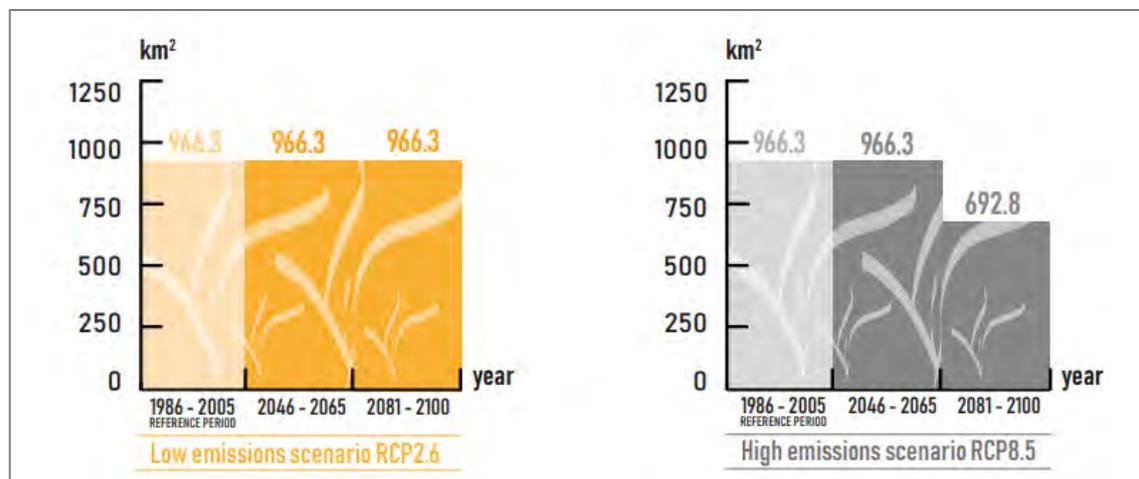


Figure 12: Projection of seagrass coverage
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4e Report](#) on estimated seagrass density

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runoff). An increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5.

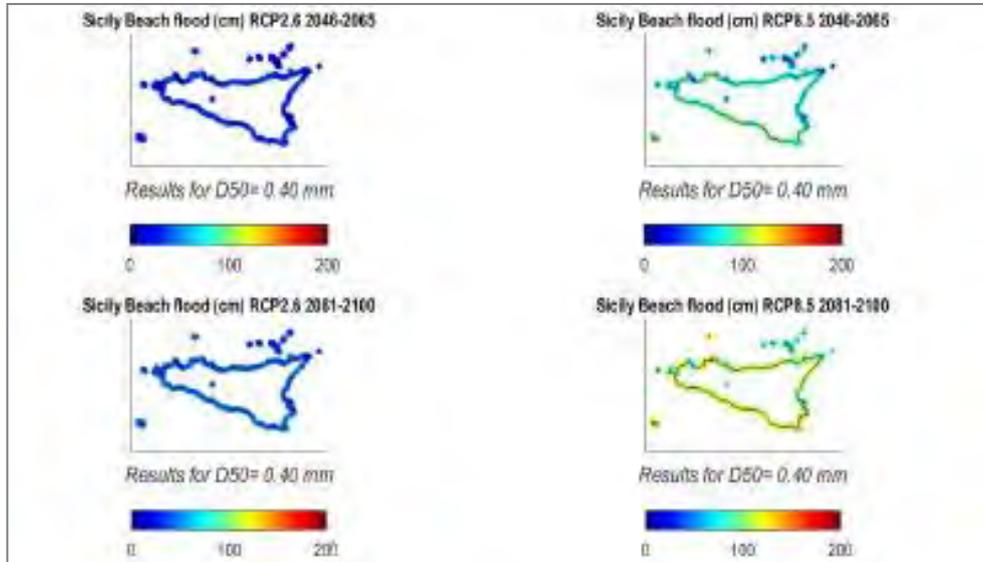


Figure 13: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cm) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right). Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~34% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~61% under scenario RCP8.5.



BEACH REDUCTION

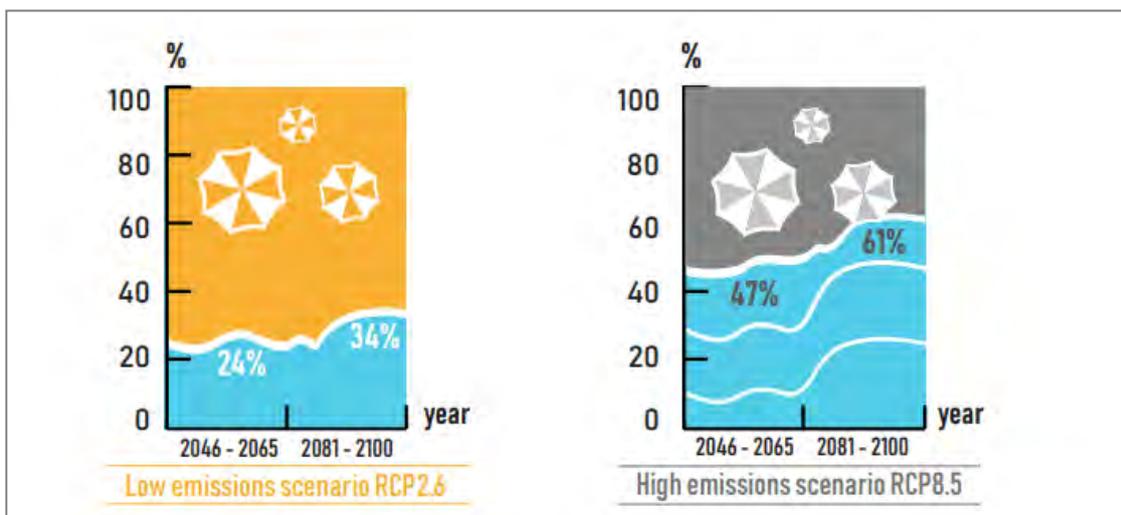


Figure 14: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Fire weather Index

The FWI system provides numerical non-dimensional ratings of relative fire potential for a generalized fuel type (mature pine stands) based solely on weather observations. FWI is part of the Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System established in Canada since 1971 (van Wagner 1987). Furthermore, since 2007, FWI has been adopted at the EU level and used in a harmonized way throughout Europe by the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) of the Copernicus Emergency Management Service (since 2015).

It is selected for exploring the mechanisms of fire danger change for the islands of interest in the framework of SOCLIMPACT Project, as it has been proved to adequately perform for several locations, including the Mediterranean basin. The index was calculated for the fire season (defined from May to October) over the Mediterranean for all models, scenarios and periods.

For Sicily, N=195 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. While the most areas exhibit very low, low and medium fire danger in the present climate and under RCP2.6 for the near and the distant future as well, it seems that under RCP8.5, more areas exhibit medium danger at mid-century, while towards the end of the century a major part of the island will be under medium and high fire danger. The overall increase of the risk score for the island exceeds 30%.

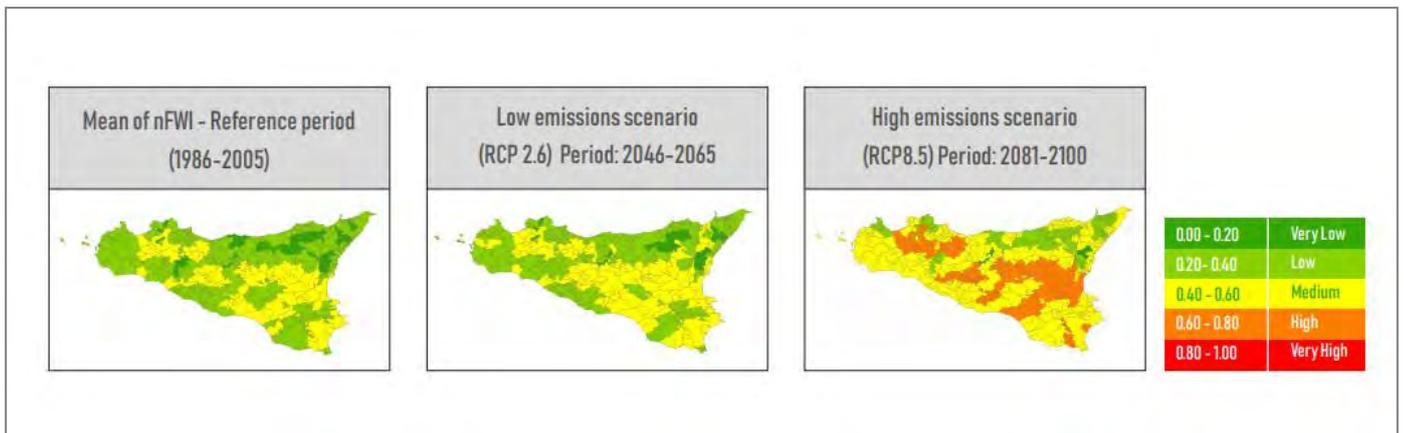


Figure 15: Fire Weather Index (EURO-CORDEX) with the color associated to the nivel of risk

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4c Report](#) on potential fire behaviour and exposure

Humidex

For the assessment of climate hazard on heat related impacts of climate change on human health, the humidity index (Humidex) (Masterton and Richardson, 1979) has been used. Humidex value is an equivalent temperature, which express the temperature perceived by people (the one that the human body would feel), given the actual air temperature and relative humidity. As a more representative indicator for the assessment

of inhabitants' and tourists' hazard on heat related climate change impacts, the Number of Days with Humidex greater than 35°C was selected. From the above classification, a day with Humidex above 35°C describes conditions from discomfort to imminent danger for humans.

For Sicily, N=195 grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RPCs. From less than 2 months in the present climate and quite above 2 months in the mid-century for both scenarios, Sicily will have almost 4 months with discomfort conditions by the end of the century under RCP8.5.

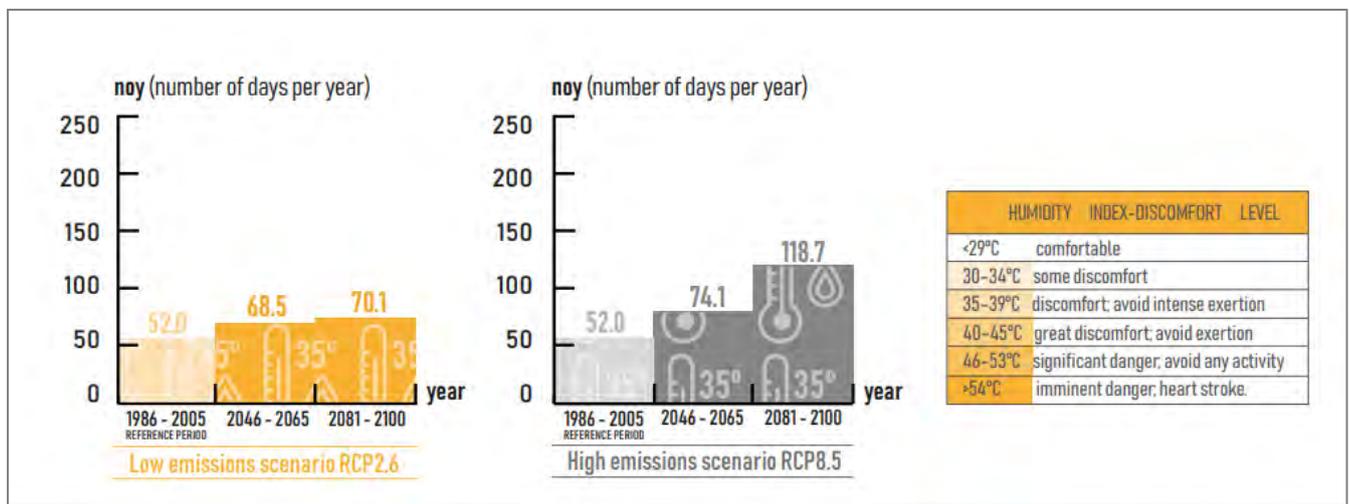


Figure 16: Humidex in number of days (EURO-CORDEX)
 Source: Soclimpact project deliverable D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

**Length of the window of opportunity for vector-borne diseases
 Vector Suitability Index for Aedes Albopictus (Asian Tiger Mosquito)**

Climate change can influence the transmission of vector-borne diseases (VBDs) through altering the habitat suitability of insect vectors. This is mainly controlled by increases of ambient air temperature and changes in the hydrological cycle. In the framework of SOCLIMPACT we explore if potential changes to meteorological conditions can affect the distribution of the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*). Asian tiger mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia; however, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through the international transport of goods and increased travel (Scholte and Schaffner 2007). It is of great epidemiological importance since it can transmit viral pathogens and infectious agents that cause chikungunya, dengue fever, yellow fever and various encephalitides (Proestos *et al.* 2015). The multi-criteria decision support vector distribution model of Proestos *et al.* (2015) has been employed to estimate the regional habitat suitability maps. This is based on



extending previous work on the environmental/climatic factors affecting the life cycle of the Asian tiger mosquito (Waldock et al. 2013; Proestos et al., 2015). The mosquito habitat suitability model combines seven meteorological indices based on field observations, extensive literature review and expert knowledge. The projection for the island indicates that the current situation will not be worsened. However, actual suitability index should be taken into account in climate policy design.

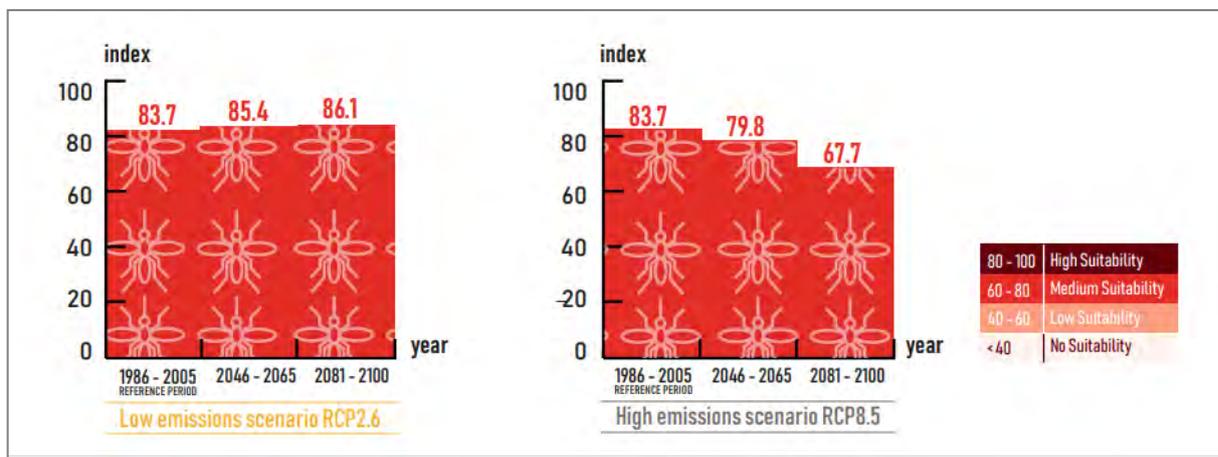


Figure 17: Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) values averaged over eight SOCLIMPACT islands and for each sub-period of analysis. Red colors indicate increases while blue colors indicate decreases in the future. [80-100: High Suitability; 60-80: Medium Suitability; 40-60: Low Suitability; <40 No Suitability].

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Water from natural sources

In general, changes appear to be within natural variability and relatively small for RCP2.6, while for the 8.5 scenario a significant decrease in precipitation is observed, especially in the far future. The same considerations hold for total runoff, although the statistically significant areas are somewhat smaller.

3.2 Aquaculture

Temperature changes in seawater trigger physical impacts; increased harmful algal blooms, decreased oxygen level, increase in diseases and parasites, changes in ranges of suitable species, increased growth rate, increased food conversion ratio and more extended growing season. Furthermore, all these impacts lead to socio-economic implications among them; changes in production levels and an increase in fouling and pests. The objective of the current analysis is to identify and quantify the variations (future climate scenarios with respect to present climate) in the number and in the duration of events characterized by a Sea Surface Temperature (SST) exceeding a given

threshold. The SST thresholds have been identified according to the farming and feeding necessities of several marine species, particularly relevant for the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Sea (MS).



	Longest event (days) >20 degrees Mussels & clams 	Longest event (days) >24 degrees Sea bream/Tuna 	Longest event (days) >25 degrees Sea bass 
Historic (1986-2005)	150 days	66.5 days	50 days
RCP 8.5 - mid century	172 days	93 days	73.5 days
RCP 8.5 - end century (2081-2100)	182 days	117.5 days	98.5 days

Species	Threshold (°C)
European seabass, <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	25
Gilthead seabream, <i>Sparus aurata</i>	24
Amberjack, <i>Seriola dumerili</i>	23
Atlantic Bluefin tuna, <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	23
Japanese clam, <i>Ruditapes decussatus</i>	21
Blue mussel, <i>Mytilus edulis</i>	21
Manila clam, <i>Ruditape philippinarum</i>	20
Mediterranean mussel, <i>Mytilus galloprovinciales</i>	20

Figure 18: Fish thermal threshold
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.5](#)

More information can be found in the next section dedicated to risk assessment

3.3 Energy

Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI)

As expected from the definition of SPEI, for our historical reference period, normal conditions are simulated for all islands. On average, simulations under pathway RCP2.6 indicate small changes in the SPEI values and for most islands near-normal conditions are expected throughout the 21st century as a result of the smaller changes in the precipitation regimes, combined with mild increases in near-surface temperature. Under the high emission RCP8.5 pathway all European Islands are expected to face much drier conditions. The signal becomes stronger towards the end of the 21st century.



STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION EVAPOTRANSPIRATION INDEX

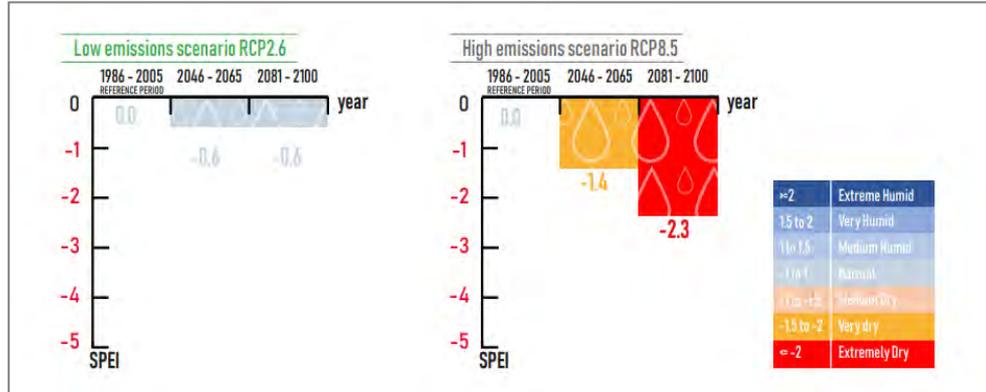


Figure 19: Ensemble mean, maximum and minimum values of the Standardized Precipitation Evaporation Index (SPEI) averaged over each SOCLIMPACT island and for each sub-period of analysis (EURO-CORDEX).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile - T_{98p}

The T_{98p} is defined as the percentage of time where the mean daily temperature T is above the 98th percentile of mean daily temperature calculated for the reference period 1986-2005. For Sicily, $N=195$ grid cells were retained from the models domain. In the following figure the ensemble mean and the uncertainty is presented for all periods and RCPs. It is found that T_{98p} is about 5% during RCP2.6 towards mid-century and slightly decreases at the end of the century, while for RCP8.5 almost one fifth of the year will exhibit temperatures above the 98th percentile. The coastal grid cells are more affected by the temperatures increase compared to the inland grid cells.

EXTREME TEMPERATURES
(Percentage of days per year when $T > 98$ th percentile - T_{98p})

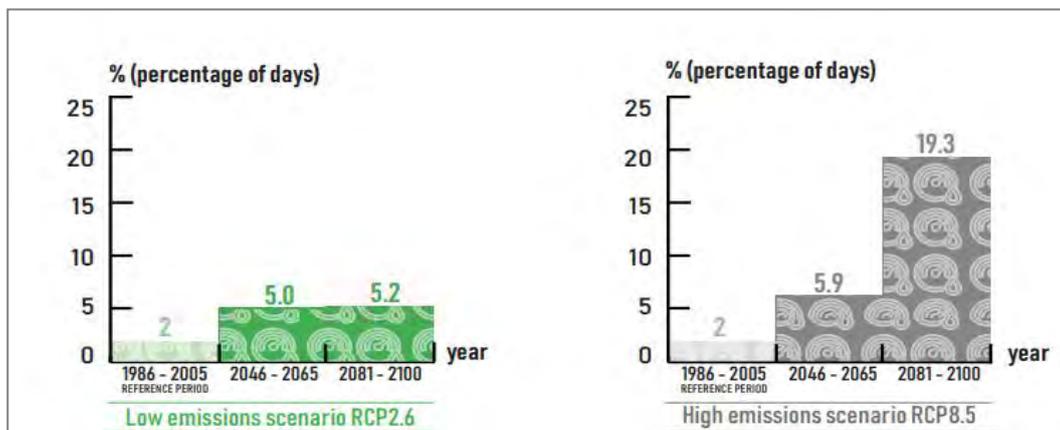


Figure 20: Percentage of days when $T > 98$ th percentile (EURO-CORDEX)

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3](#) Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator

Renewable energy productivity indexes

A series of indicators related to renewable energy productivity is presented. The selected indicators are wind and photovoltaic (PV) energy productivity, as well as the frequency and duration of low-productivity periods, termed energy droughts (Raynaud et al., 2018), as a measure of the variability of these sources. The productivity and variability of these renewable energy sources will depend on climate. The possibility of reduced productivity due to climate change poses a risk to the energy generation, if it is based on these renewable energy sources. Also, a possible increase in the frequency and duration of solar and wind energy droughts will require an increase in storage and backup sources.

Among the different renewable energy sources, solar PV and wind energy have been selected, as they are (and very likely will be) the main renewable energy sources, due to their degree of technological development and their comparatively low cost. In order to consider a marine energy source, offshore wind energy is included, in addition to onshore wind energy.

Wind energy productivity

All the scenarios in both 2046-2065 and 2081-2100 periods show a tendency to decreasing Wprod. However, the magnitude of the decreases varies. As occurs in other regions, RCP8.5 in the 2081-2100 period shows the most important decrease, specially over the sea to the north and to the south of Sicily. The southern minimum of Sicily encompasses Malta, where a rather large reduction of 10% with respect to the control value is projected in this scenario and period over land. The reduction over land in Sicily is smaller in absolute terms, but reaches a value of 9% with respect to the control value which is also clearly lower than in Malta.

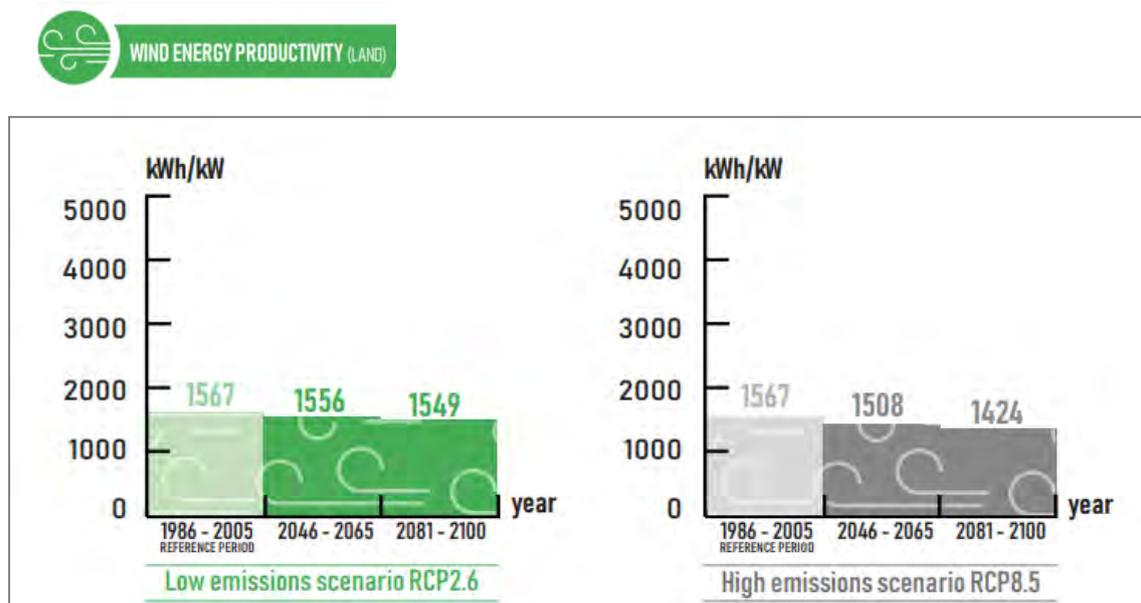


Figure 21: Wind energy productivity. Ensemble of models –land
 Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4a report](#) on solar and wind energy

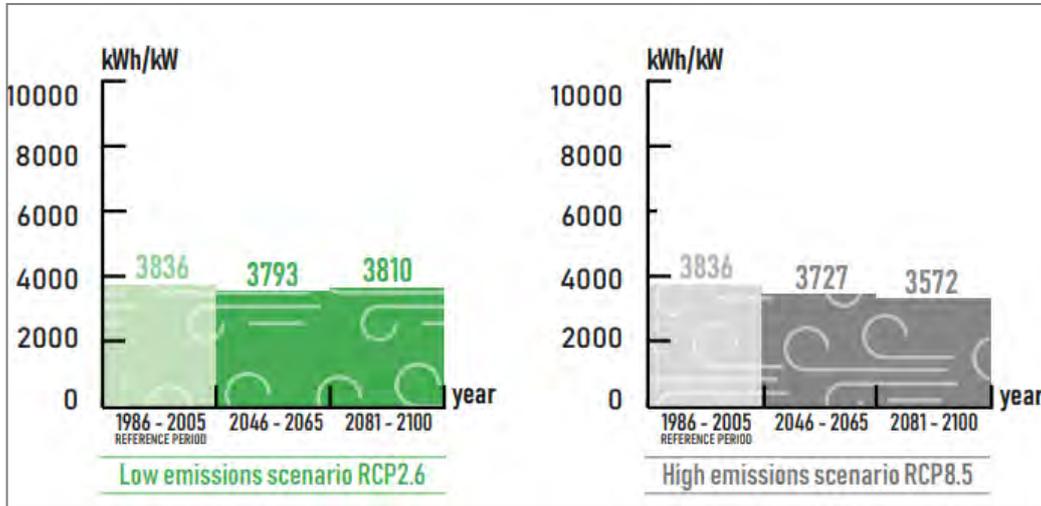


Figure 22: Wind energy productivity. Ensemble of models –sea

Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4.a report](#) on solar and wind energy

PV energy productivity

The 2081-2100 period for RCP8.5 presents the largest negative changes. Over land, the decreases are lower than 2% of the control productivity in spatial average over Sicily, while over Malta the decrease reaches 3% in the RCP8.5 scenario at the end of the century. The decreases are larger over the sea, particularly over the southern part of the domain. Productivity decreases are rather small for RCP2.6.

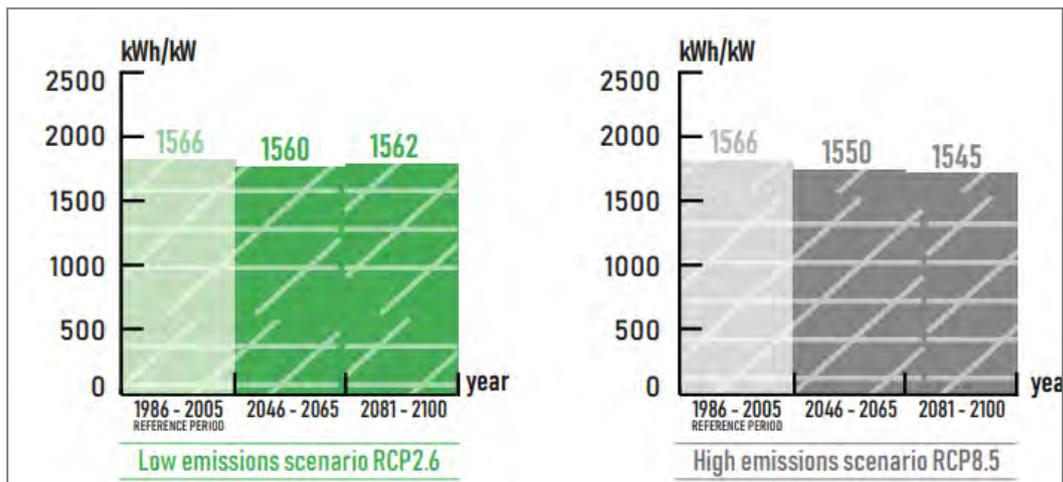


Figure 23: PV energy productivity. Ensemble of models –land

Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4.a report](#) on solar and wind energy

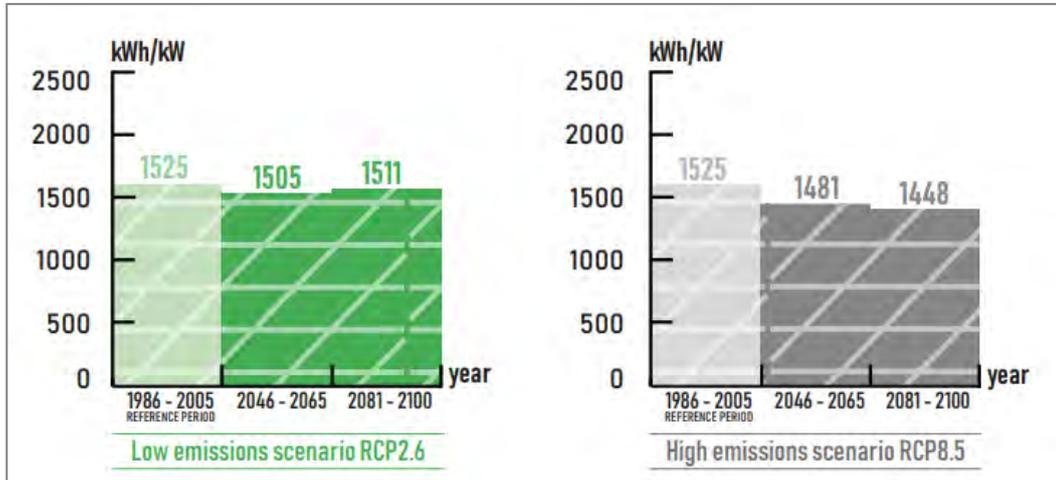


Figure 24: PV energy productivity. Ensemble of models –sea
Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4a report](#) on solar and wind energy

Frequency and duration of low-productivity periods (energy droughts) as a measure of the variability of these sources

Wind droughts are remarkably more frequent over land than over the sea in the control period. Overall, wind productivity droughts tend to experience an increase in occurrence in both scenarios. Changes in the frequency of wind droughts in this island are consistent with the observed changes in wind productivity. Projected changes in the frequency of moderate PV droughts are small both in Malta and in Sicily. Severe PV droughts are very infrequent in both islands small, and practically no change is projected in the future. The combination of PV and wind energy is very positive in Sicily both for moderate and severe droughts in the control period.



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ENERGY DROUGHTS (WIND)

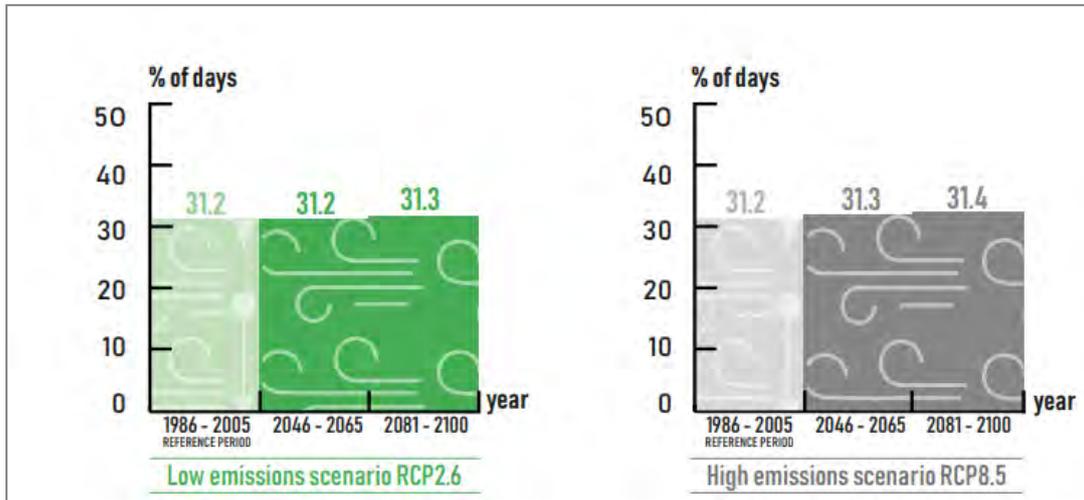


Figure 25: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days-WIND (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4.a report](#) on solar and wind energy



ENERGY DROUGHTS (PHOTOVOLTAIC)

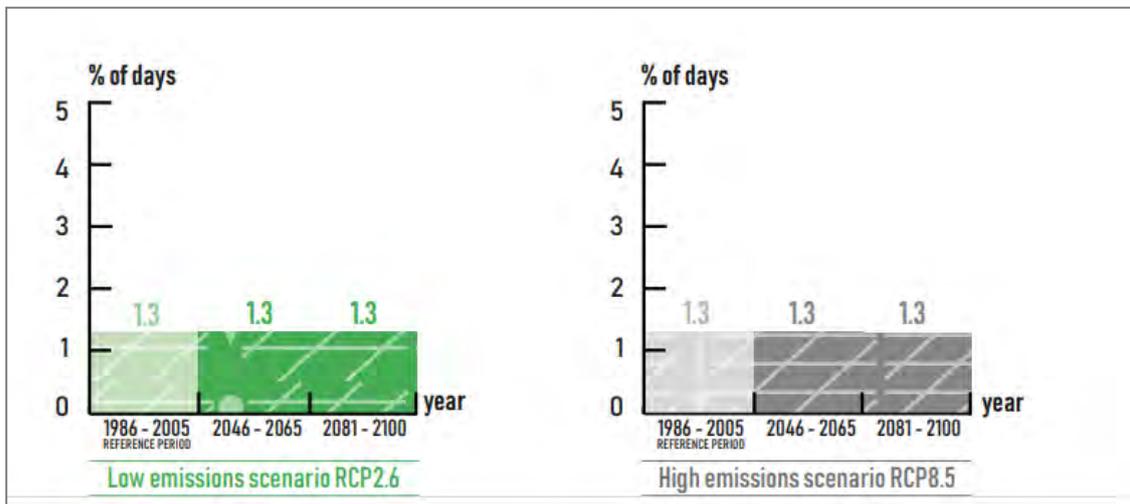


Figure 26: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days-PV (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4.a report](#) on solar and wind energy



SOCLIMPACT



ENERGY DROUGHTS (COMBINED)

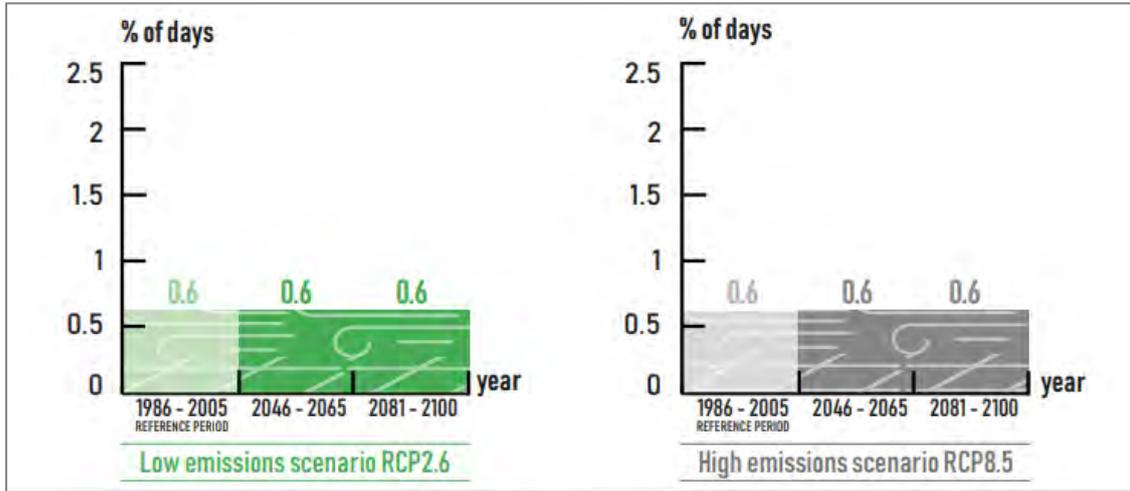


Figure 27: Ensemble mean frequency of severe productivity drought days-COMBINED (%) in the reference period, as well as the ensemble mean changes in the frequency of drought days (%) in the different time periods considered. Averages are computed over land.

Source: Socimpact project deliverable [d4.4a report](#) on solar and wind energy

Cooling Degree Days

The Cooling degree days (CDD) index gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature, providing provides the severity of the heat in a specific time period taking into consideration outdoor temperature and average room.



COOLING DEGREE DAYS

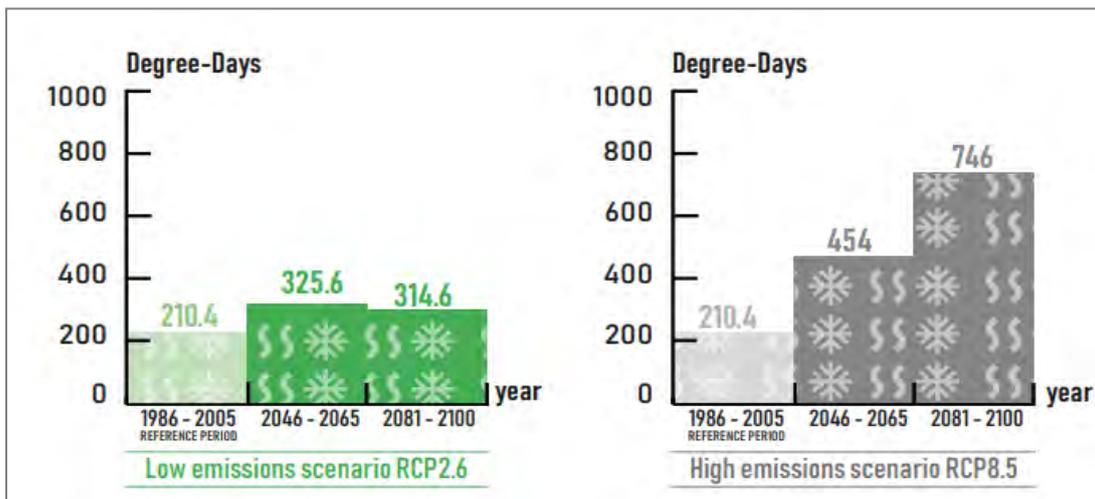


Figure 28: Cooling Degree Days. Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations

Source: Socimpact project deliverable [D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator](#)



3.4 Maritime transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise. For Sicily, the SLR ranges from 22.96 cm (RCP2.6) to 62.5 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century

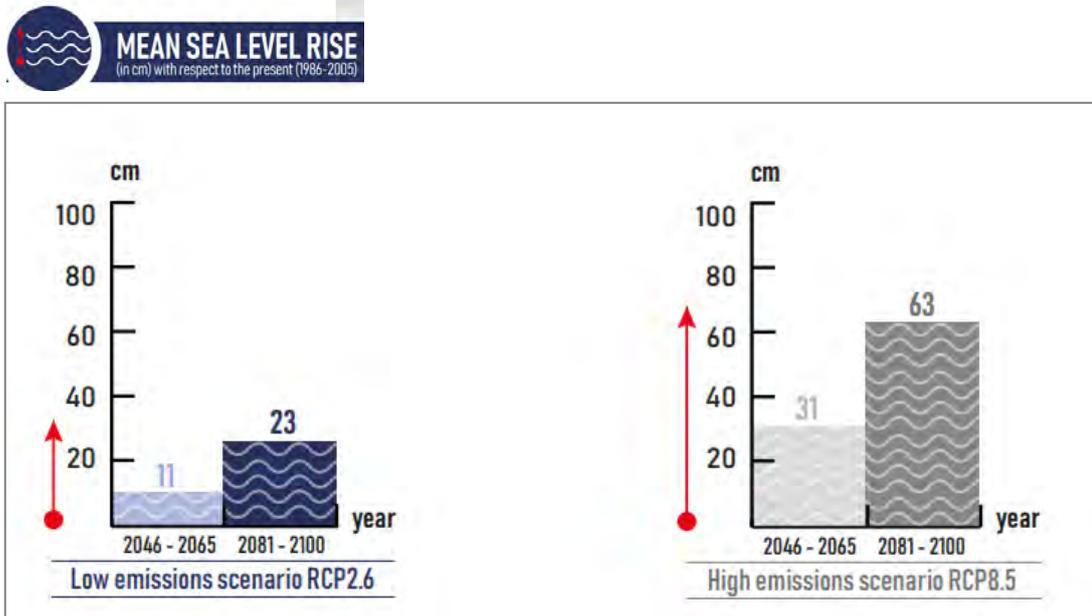


Figure 29: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4b Report on storm surge levels](#)

Storm surge extremes

Storm surge events, characterized by positive extreme sea levels and mechanically forced by atmospheric pressure and wind are the main responsible for coastal flooding, especially when combined with high tides.

To present, the only ensemble populated with enough number of members to compute meaningful statistics on climate projections is the one produced for the Mediterranean by Lionello *et al.* (2016). This ensemble consists on 6 simulations run with the HYPSE model at 1/4° of spatial resolution and forced by the high-resolution wind fields from the MedCORDEX ensemble which in turn is nested into CMIP5 global simulations. The simulations are run for the period 1950-2100 thus covering the historical period as well as the whole 21st century. Complementary, the ensemble includes three hindcast simulations that are used to establish present reference levels. Storm surge could decrease amount 20% under RCP8.5 (far future).



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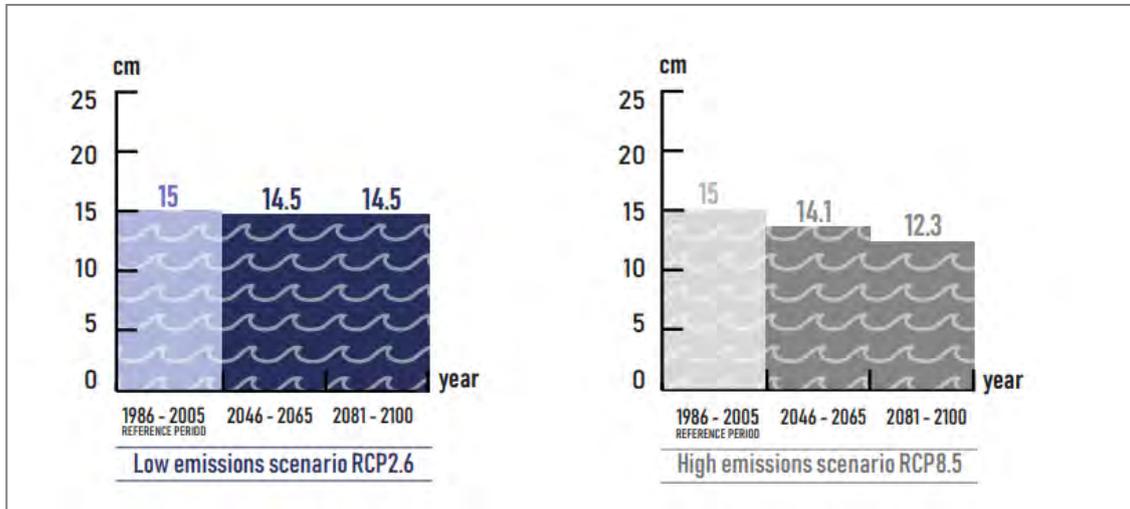


Figure 30: 99th percentile of atmospherically forced sea level (in cm) averaged for the hindcast period, the near future (2046-2065) and the far future (2081-2100) under scenarios RCP2.6 (with scaling approximation) and RCP8.5, relative change in brackets.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

Wind extremes

The wind extremity index NWIX98 is defined as the number of days per year exceeding the 98th percentile of mean daily wind speed. This number decreases in the far future with a strongest value under RCP8.5 (- 16 %). Like the NWIX98, the 98th percentile of daily wind speed, WIX98, decreases but with a more significant magnitude for RCP 8.5.

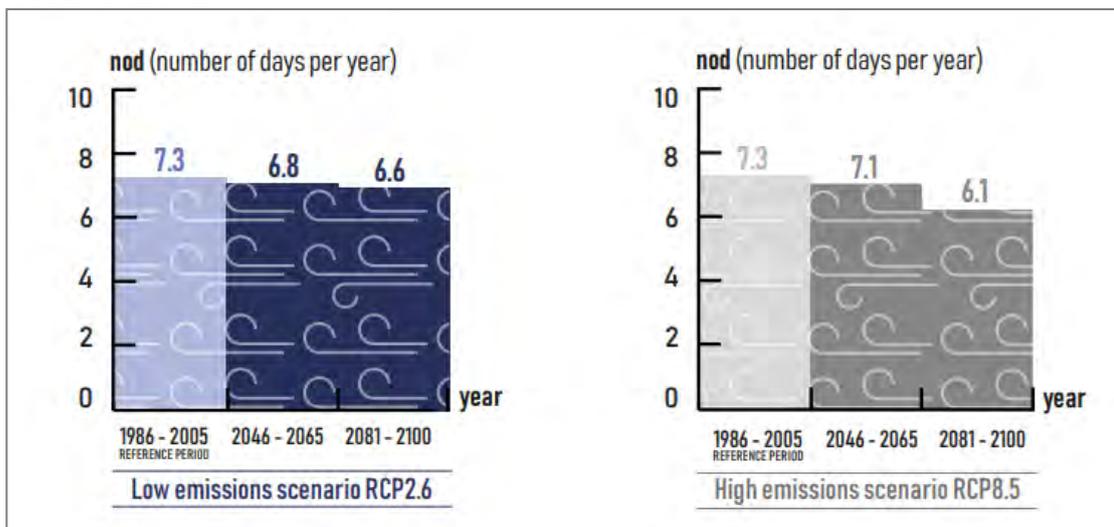


Figure 31: Wind Extremity Index (NWIX98). Ensemble mean of EURO-CORDEX simulations.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.3 Atlases of newly developed indexes and indicator](#).



Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5.

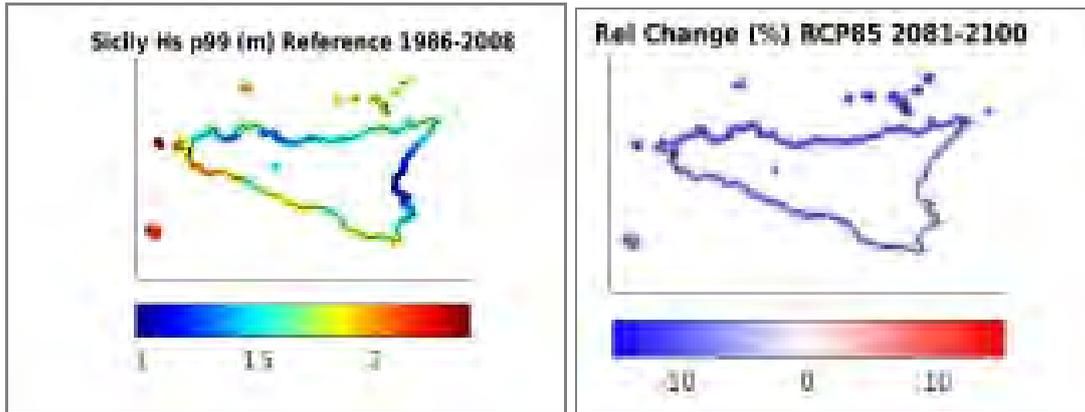


Figure 32: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5, MED-CORDEX and Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

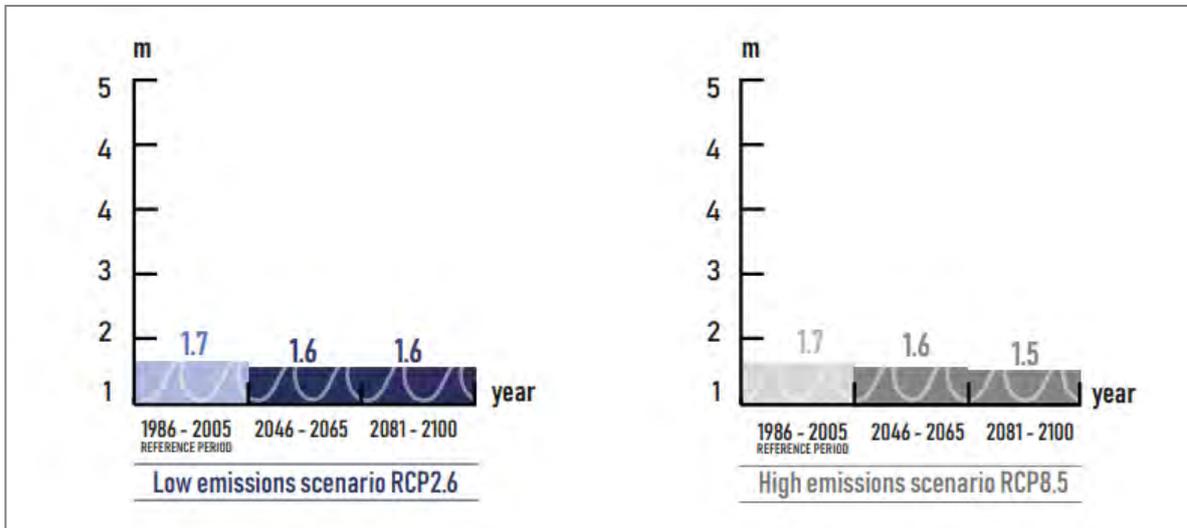


Figure 33: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b Report](#) on storm surge levels

4 Climate change risks

4.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) *Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress*
- ii) *Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitat degradation*
- iii) *Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires*

For the first IC the data collected was:

- Surface of marine Phanerogams & Phanerogams' reduction due to heat: Surface, in km²; and expected % of surface loss for RCP8.5 distant future.
- Number of divers: Number of tourists practising Diving at the destination.
- Products substitution capacity: capacity to derive tourist demand to non-marine habitat-based activities.
- Seagrass removal: capacity to remove dead seagrass lying on beaches.
- Sea water pollution: quality of management of inshore and offshore sewages.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands. Sicily island shows a lack of data availability that limited the analysis.

The other two IC provided some results for Sicily, which are summarized hereafter.

Loss of attractiveness due to marine habitat degradation

Climate hazards like the increase of mean and variability of seawater temperature and the increase of oceans acidification, mainly, are affecting marine habitats with touristic relevance through diminishing bio-productivity and attracting exotic species, some of them toxic, and because of that, reducing the attractiveness of marine landscapes and the presence of flagship species; increasing turbidity in bathing and diving sea waters affecting the quality of bathing, diving, snorkelling and bottom-glass boating experiences, at least; and increased frequency and intensity of episodes of seagrasses massive death that arrive to the beaches affecting the experience of lying and staying there.

The next figure shows the theoretical impact chain. As can be seen in the figure, the impact of Climate Change on the touristic attractiveness of an island depends on a set of multi-dimensional factors, including:

1. Increase in the mean and variability of seawater temperature is the main driver of marine habitat degradation; also seawater acidification impacts marine life although it substantially varies depending of the marine organisms;
2. The risk of those marine habitat transformations for tourism critically depends on the nature exposed to it, the amount and proportion of tourists that feel marine habitat is a relevant motivation to visit the destination, and the resilience of the exposed natural assets and tourists to those changes in the marine environmental conditions;

3. Finally, the preparedness to cope with the deterioration of its marine environment by developing substitutive attractions, is also a key aspect to assess the effective risk that those hazards pose on the tourism industry at the destination.

The complex relationship between climate change, marine habitats and tourism still exhibits important gaps of knowledge. For example, there is no evidence on the impact that the abovementioned hazards may have on the communities of cetaceans that live or pass through near the coasts of the islands under study. In some cases, this is a very important economic chapter within the tourism industry in the islands. Whether climate change is going to diminish or not the abundance, or affect the distance of those cetacean communities from the island requires further research.

The Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method was selected as the technique to operationalize the impact chain since it is a well-grounded tool that allows for the prioritization/ranking of alternatives using a weighting scheme that is established by expert judgement. Hence, for the purposes of the project, it was considered suitable as it would be able to reconcile the contribution of each risk factor (hazards, exposure, and vulnerability, which includes sensitivity and adaptive capacity) towards the risk based on expert opinion and, subsequently, order the islands in terms of which one is most at risk of losing attractiveness due to the degradation of the marine environment.

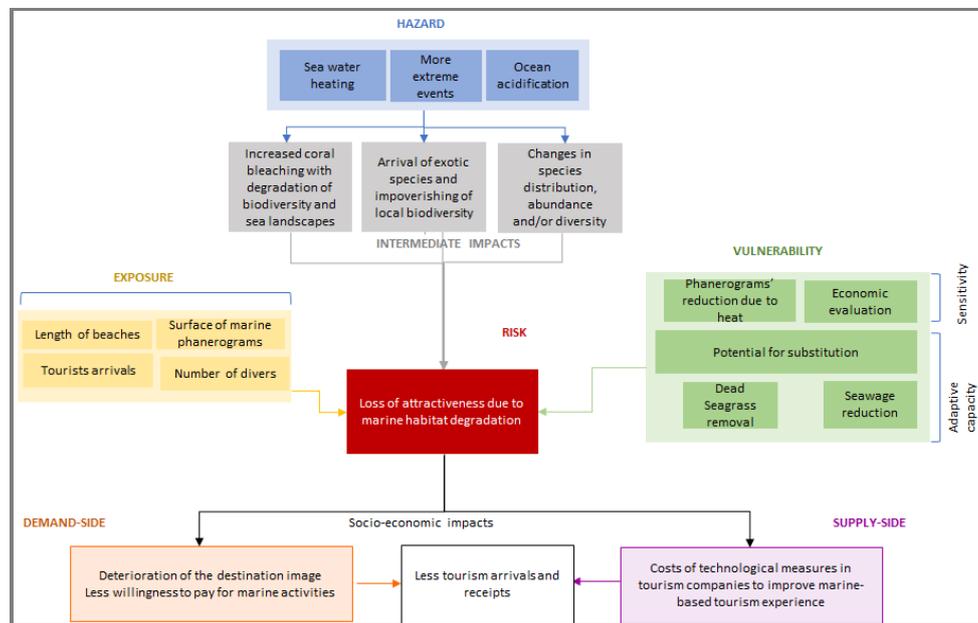


Figure 34: Loss of destination attractiveness due to marine environment degradation as a result of climate change hazards.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D3.2](#). Definition of complex impact chains and input-output matrix for each islands and sectors

Application of the AHP methodology

The problem to be solved along through the expert decision process was comparing the risk of the European islands of losing tourist attractiveness due to the deterioration of their marine habitats as consequence of climate change. The hierarchy tree for this decision problem was built underpinning on the impact chain elements, together with the variables that express the tourism-related environmental and social systems' exposure to those hazards, the sensitivity of the exposed systems to the referenced hazards and the social capacities to cope with the potential impacts of climate change by protecting nature and the society and/or making them more resilient.

Some modifications of the original impact chain were undertaken for the sake of feasibility, although experts were encouraged to have in mind all the factors they know can affect the impact of climate change on the marine habitat services for tourism. It means that the hierarchy tree is a simplified structure of the main factors explaining the complex relationship between climate change and the ecosystem services that support tourist use of marine environments, but other factors also known by experts must be taken into account at the time of comparing the components of the risk between islands. This is one of the most interesting strengths of the decision processes based on expert participation and, particularly, of the multicriteria analysis used in this case. The next figure shows the basic structure, or hierarchy tree, of the decision making process that was presented to the experts.

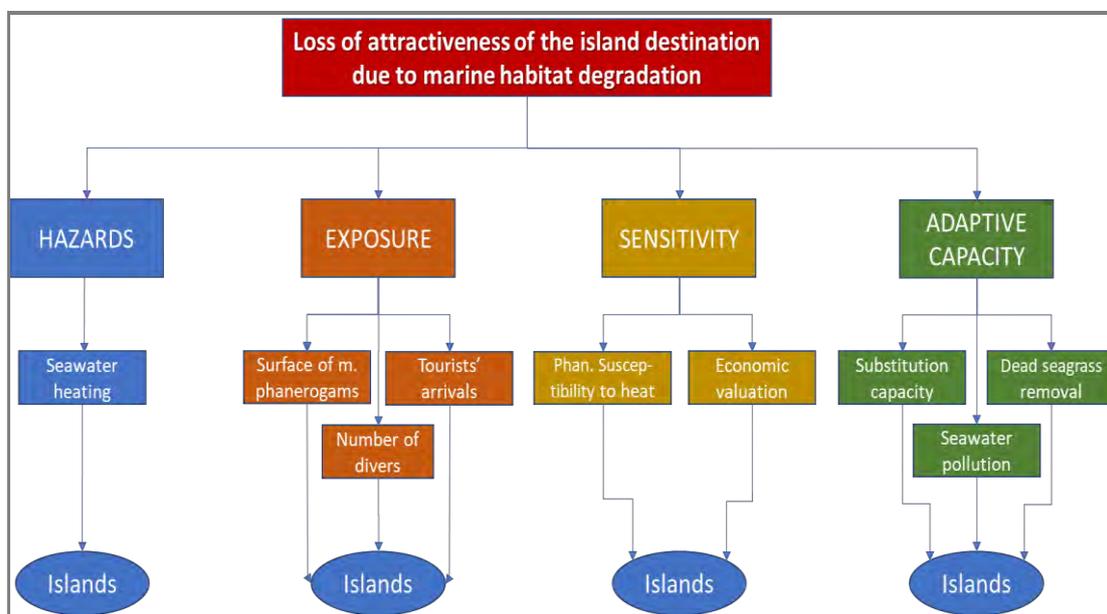


Figure 35: Hierarchy tree for marine habitats impact chain.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

Hazards are the climate events that instigate the climate-associated risk. In our context, seawater heating was considered as the most relevant variable to assess changes in the

conservation status of the marine habitats that provide services for coastal tourism activities. Other hazards initially considered, like acidification and storms, were finally discarded. The first one because its effects on living marine organism are still under study and the evidence is dispersed and not conclusive. The second one because in the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean that surrounds the islands under study, storms are considered not so frequent and intense to not giving time to marine ecosystems to recover their previous conservation status.

Regarding indicators, published research shows 25 and 26 Celsius degrees as the threshold temperatures over which seagrass meadows, the foundation species that mainly structure ecosystems in the marine habitats of reference, start to decline. The indicators used were the number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. Sources of information and data were provided by the Soclimpact modellers.

Exposure denotes the range of ecological and social systems susceptible to be damaged by hazards. This criterion, the natural and social systems potentially damaged by the selected climate hazards, was decomposed into three sub-criteria, one referred to the marine environment, and the other two related to the use that tourists make of the services provided for the marine environments at the destination. These three sub-criteria were expressed through three respective indicators. One, referred to the surface of marine phanerogams that suffer from the climate stressors. Phanerogams, specially *Posidonia* in the Mediterranean and *Cymodocea* in the Atlantic, are the very foundation species organizing most of the coastal ecosystems. They provide food and shelter to many different species and keep seawater clear by absorbing sediments. Additionally, when become damaged, seagrasses meadows deliver dead individuals that go to lay on the beaches used by tourists.

The second sub-criterion is one about the different types of direct uses that tourists make of the ecosystem services. Diving was selected to represent these uses and the selected indicator was the number of divers per year. It was assumed that other sea watching activities like snorkelling and bottom-glass boating evolve similarly than diving. Experts were also invited to consider other sea environment users potentially affected by the lack of water transparency and dead seagrass suspended in seawater like surfers, windsurfers and other active users of the marine environment.

The third sub-criterion was related to the impact on most of tourists as bathers. Turbid water affects the quality of the bathing experience, which is an activity that most tourists do.

Sensitivity concerns the susceptibility of natural, cultural, and built resources to harm that is a direct or indirect result of Climate Change hazards. For the operationalization of this impact chain, sensitivity relates to the susceptibility of the phanerogam meadows to changes in seawater temperature and to the extent to which the impoverishing of seawater conditions and marine ecosystems may affect tourists' welfare.

Regarding the effects of episodes of seawater heating on the integrity of seagrasses meadows, the variable selected was periods of overheating and the indicators were the

number of days per year with seawater temperature over 25 and 26 Celsius degrees. As explained above, experts were invited to take into account their experience and their knowledge about the differences between the way seagrasses behave in the real world and in the laboratory when studying the impact of water heating.

With respect to the impact of the marine environmental degradation on the welfare of tourists, the indicator selected was the tourists' willingness to pay for the preservation of marine ecosystems⁹. Thus, ecosystems' and social's susceptibility are both taken into account when comparing risks of marine environment degradation due to climate change between islands.

Adaptive capacity reveals the potential to face the hazards by reducing the level of exposure and/or increasing the resilience of the tourism system. This criterion was split into three sub-criteria, one referred to the substitution of marine-based activities by lesser marine habitats dependent ones, and two concerning actions to heal the marine environment like removing dead seagrasses or reducing non-treated sewage discharges (and consequently, seawater pollution). In this case, island experts were consulted about the capacity of their reference destination to address these adaptation actions using a 1-4 scale, where 1 represented a very poor management capacity and 4 expressed a full capacity to deal with it.

Results and islands' ranking

The table below shows the final results of the operationalization process. In particular, it summarizes the global weights of the sub-criteria and the criteria and the global score of the risk for each island; thus islands can be compared not just globally but also across the set of the sub-criteria and the criteria being considered to estimate the aggregated risk.

Table 4: Final scores and islands' ranking (under RCP8.5 distant future).

Criteria	Sub-criteria	Balearic	Canary	Cyprus	Malta	Sicily
Hazards	Seawater heating RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	0.018 (8.0%)	0.004 (2.2%)	0.054 (23.6%)	0.025 (12.7%)	0.025 (14.7%)
	Exposure					
	Surface of marine phanerogams	0.034	0.002	0.004	0.009	0.022
	Number of divers	0.009	0.005	0.001	0.002	0.002
	Tourists' arrivals	0.013	0.013	0.002	0.001	0.006
	Total	0.056 (25.0%)	0.020 (11.0%)	0.007 (3.1%)	0.012 (6.1%)	0.029 (17.1%)

⁹ This information was delivered by Soclimpact researchers who are in charge of the work package WP5. More information at: *SOCLIMPACT Deliverable Report – D5.5. Report on market and non-market economic values for environmental services of marine and coastal ecosystems related to the activities of the blue economy.*

Sensitivity	Phanerogams' susceptibility to heat	0.072	0.072	0.008	0.024	0.024
	Economic valuation	0.003	0.027	0.004	0.006	0.010
	Total	0.075 (33.5%)	0.099 (54.7%)	0.012 (5.2%)	0.030 (15.2%)	0.034 (20.0%)
Adaptive capacity	Products substitution	0.034	0.034	0.086	0.060	0.016
	Seagrass removal	0.020	0.002	0.007	0.007	0.003
	Sea water pollution	0.021	0.021	0.063	0.063	0.063
	Total	0.079 (35.3%)	0.058 (32.0%)	0.155 (67.7%)	0.130 (66.0%)	0.082 (48.2%)
Total		0.224	0.181	0.229	0.197	0.170
Rank		2	4	1	3	5

Note: Total contribution of the criterion to the final score of the island in parenthesis.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#), Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The risk: from Eastern to Western and viceversa

The relative risk for marine habitat-based tourism demand due to the heating of seawaters surrounding the European islands is determined by the combination of three different factors already reflected in the marine habitat impact chain: the intensity and lasting of periods of seawater heating, the susceptibility of the marine habitats and tourism activities based on it to the heating process and the changes in the habitat, respectively; and the capacities of the respective islands' societies to reinforce natural and social systems' resilience to seawater heating and its ecosystem impacts.

Based on the available indicators and on their own knowledge, the experts' evaluation of the complex relationships between seawater heating, habitats transformation and the response of the tourism system, depicts a big picture featured by the following results:

- From the perspective of the intensity of the hazard, threats diminish from Eastern to Western. Effectively, episodes of water heating threatening the integrity of marine ecosystems will be much more relevant throughout the Eastern Mediterranean and will become softer as moving Western.
- From the perspective of the susceptibility of the marine foundation species to seawater heating, western Mediterranean hosts the most vulnerable phanerogam communities as genetically they are not ready to face increasing water temperature variability at the rhythm climate change is powering. As a result, this risk factor decays from Western to Eastern.

- Other relevant factors determining the relative risk faced by each island are related to the management capacity of other hazards, different than seawater heating, also degrading marine habitats (i.e. the current relevance of marine habitat-based tourism and the capacity of the local tourism system to provide competitive alternatives giving value to other, not marine-based natural and cultural tourist attractions). Those capacities are unevenly distributed across the islands, basically depending on the level of development of their respective environment management and tourism management subsystems.

Some characteristics of the risk ranking provided by experts, and consequently, the final scores, are:

- Cyprus leads the rank of risk due to, in addition to the greater seawater heating, its experiencing ecological disruptive processes related to its closeness to the Red Sea; strongly attracting exotic species with high capacity to destabilise the marine ecosystems.
- On the other extreme, **Sicily** is the island exhibiting a lesser risk mainly due to it holds a more balanced distribution of the indicators expressive of the range of factors determining the risk.
- The Canary Islands hold a relatively low risk mainly due to their expected low level of seawater heating; their higher weakness consists of the magnitude of the tourism system exposed to the potential risk.
- The Balearic Islands are the most exposed islands. In addition, RCP8.5 distant future shows a progress in heating relatively higher than other islands, meaning a strong threat for their relatively susceptible Posidonia meadows.
- Malta holds a relative low risk mainly due to its low exposition to the risk and the potential of alternative, non-marine-habitat-based, tourist products.

Below are presented some paragraphs devoted to go deeper into the complexity of the ecosystem dynamics that influence the holistic effect of climate change on the European islands' marine habitats; before presenting some lines highlighting the specificities of this impact chain for each island.

In the Eastern Mediterranean, the impact of seawater heating on the seagrass meadows (and on the marine habitat as a whole) not only depends on the physiological response of the plants concerned to heating, but also on the response of the system as a whole. On the Eastern shore of the Mediterranean, a strong increase in herbivorous species from the Red Sea has been observed that cross the Suez Canal and have settled near the continental and insular coastal areas. Posidonia meadows have been found to be part of their diet.

The heating exacerbates the metabolic needs of these herbivorous species (*Siganus Luridus* and others) increasing their voracity and, consequently, leading to greater pressure on the phanerogams. Given that, on the other hand, the surface of these meadows in the environment of Cyprus is small, predation by these herbivores may threaten Posidonia with extinction, disappearing with it the conservation functions of the ecosystem that it currently carries out as protection against erosion, containment of water

turbidity (assimilation of organic residues), shelter and food for fingerlings of fish and other marine organisms, etc.

Other factors such as the sewage treatment or the sedimentation of waste from coastal constructions interact with the seawater heating, exacerbating the degradation of marine habitats. Together, factors of global change other than seawater heating are expected to act more intensely in Cyprus, increasing the vulnerability of this island's marine habitat to climate change.

Analysis of Sicily

Sicily ranks the best position regarding the climate change risk under analysis. The island does not outstand in any component of the risk but neither shows critical pitfalls regarding it. With respect to the foundation specie, the island holds the second largest surface, but lesser susceptible to seawater heating. This island also presents the most balanced tourist demand, as it treasures a wide range of cultural, social, landscape, gastronomic and historic resources to underpin a tourism industry not very dependent on the marine environment. All these factors together, but none of them particularly, make **Sicily** the most resilient island to the risk of its tourism industry being affected by seawater heating. The most salient weakness at this respect seems to be the seawater pollution due to a deficient capacity to treat sewage. Related investments should be a priority for this island.

The mentioned advantages and disadvantages of **Sicily** are depicted in the next figures. The further the criteria or sub-criteria is located from the centre of the graph, the more it affects the risk.

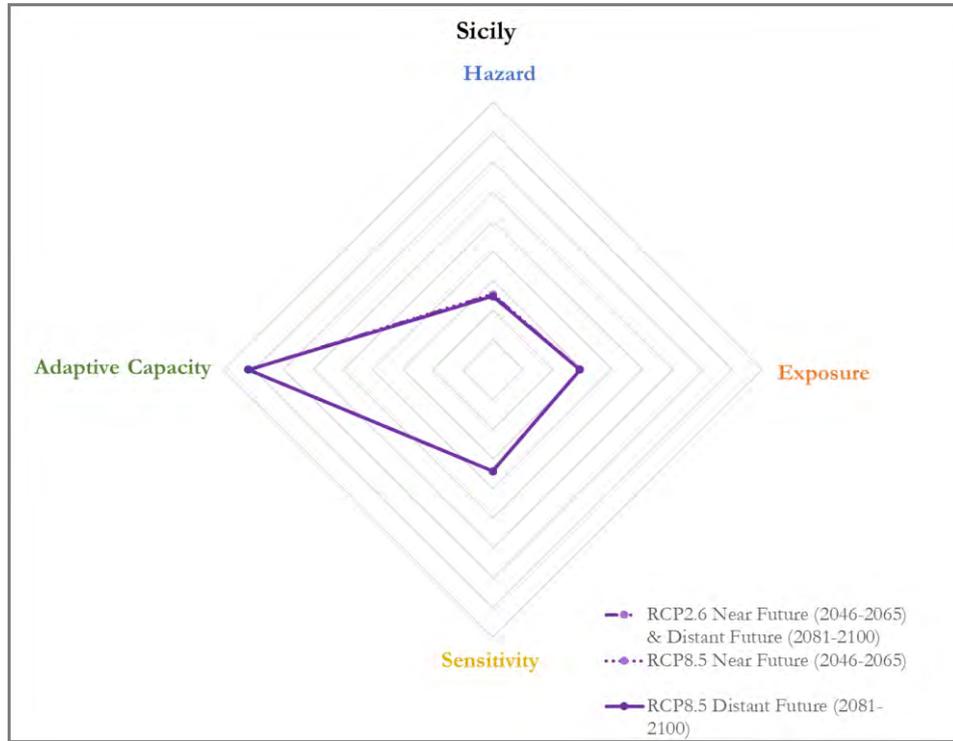


Figure 36: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

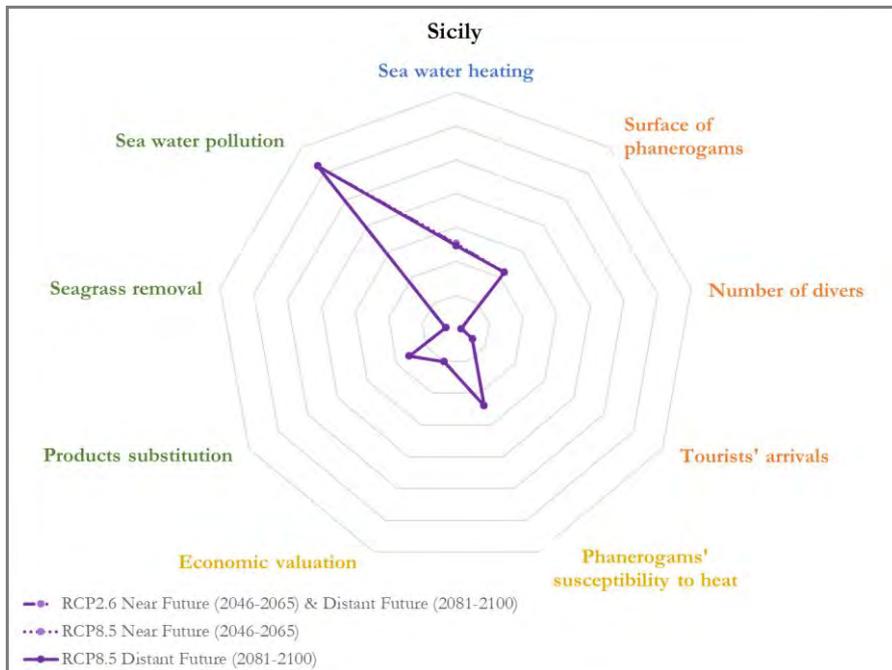


Figure 37: Global weights of each criteria and sub-criteria in the final score.

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report – D4.5](#). Design of a comprehensive approach to climate and climate-related risk information to policy makers and the general public

The operationalization of the impact chain for the “*Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems*” was conducted using the AHP method. The method proved to be appropriate, firstly, for dealing with the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators (sub-criteria). Because the AHP method determines a ranking of the islands, it can provide decision-makers with relative values but not with absolute values. Such values will be delivered by the modelling activities of other work packages and will give stakeholders a more complete picture of this specific risk in terms of social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fires in touristic areas

Forest fires are considered as an important parameter for the attractiveness of tourist destinations, especially in the Mediterranean area. Severe episodes were met in Algarve (Portugal) and Greece (Athens area) in the recent period, threatening the tourist season.

This study focuses on the implementation and analysis of the selected Impact Chain “Risk of forest fires and consequences on tourism attractiveness of a destination”. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, nine were included in the operationalization: the three Atlantic Islands (Azores, Canary Islands and Madeira) and the Mediterranean ones (Balearic Islands, Crete, Corsica, Cyprus, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily).

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 6 steps) for research of decision making. Impact Chains propose diagrams articulating the causal links between the different components of climate risks (according to AR5 concepts: hazards, exposure, vulnerability, risks, step 1). For each of these components of the theoretical IC, several indicators are selected and collected (step 3). Data are then normalised to be able to be aggregated (steps 4 and 5) with different weights. The final objective (step 6) is to achieve a standardised risk score that, according to the spatial scale of the analysis can allow comparison and decision making on adaptation, including hierarchization of resource allocation or identification of adaptation options to mitigate climate risk.

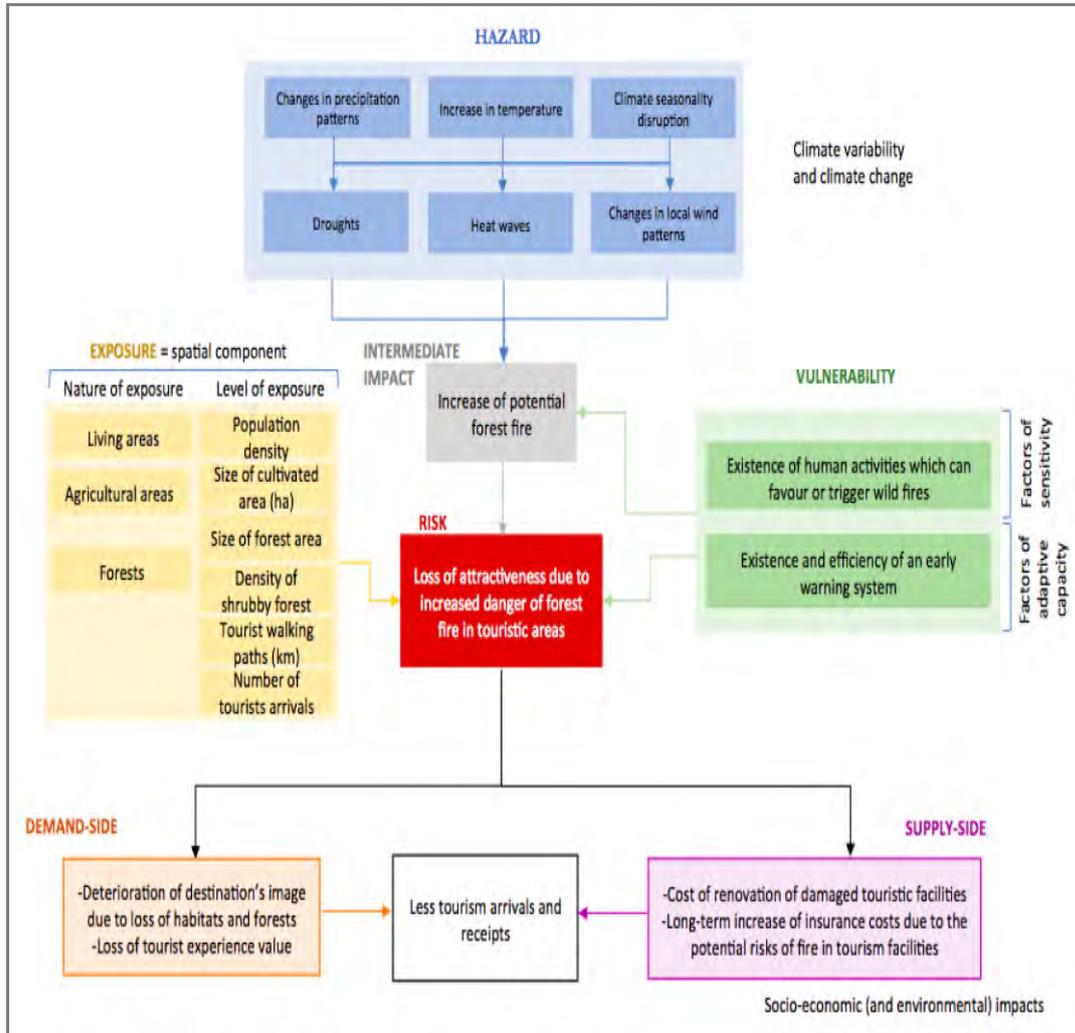


Figure 38: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas
Source: Soclimpact project [D3.2](#)

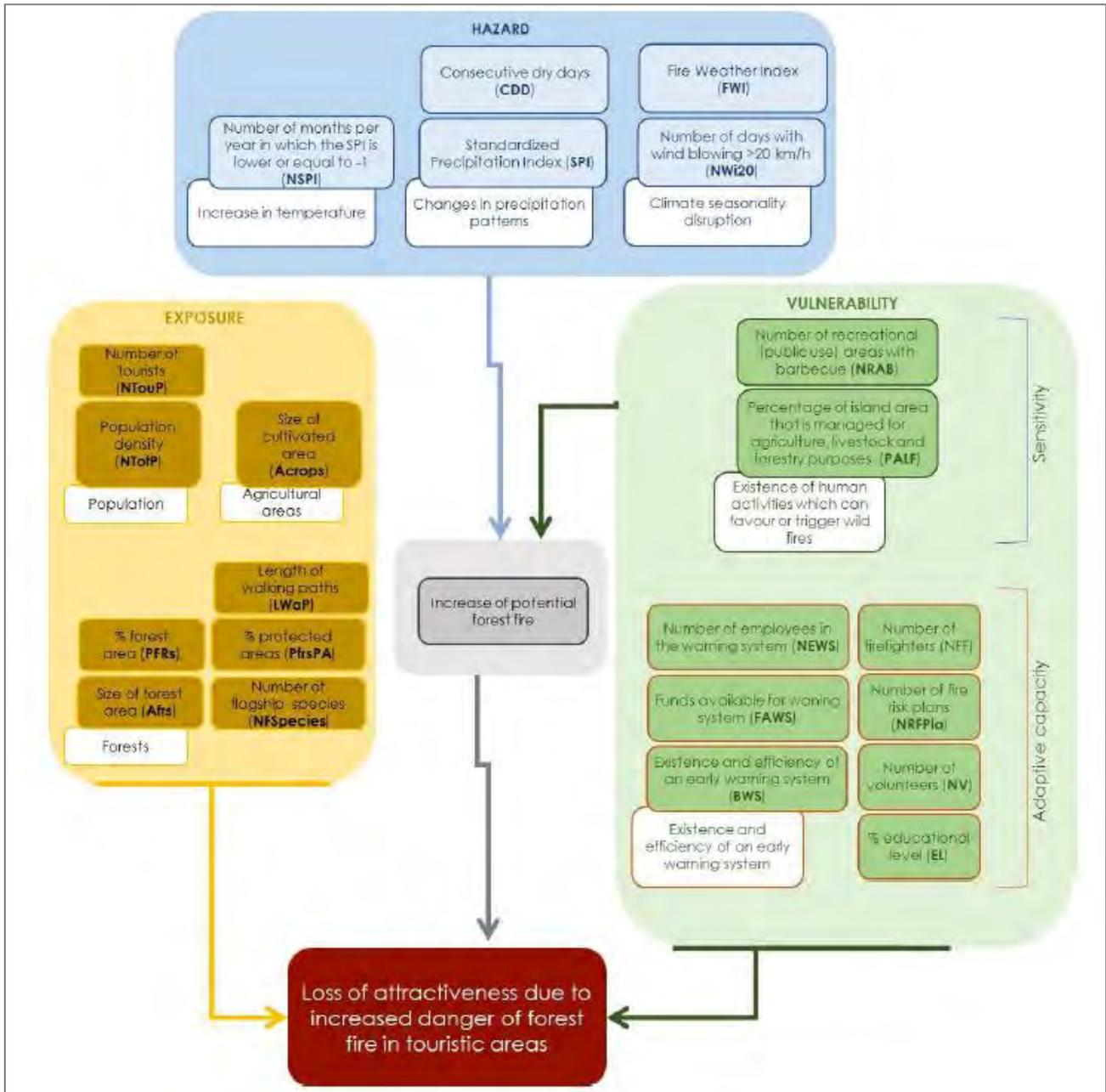


Figure 39: Loss of attractiveness due to increased danger of forest fire in touristic areas.

Source: Soclimpact project [D3.3](#)

Many indicators were formulated in a very broad way, causing a few problems in identifying suitable data sets. Furthermore, the data were checked for explicit spatial coverage, resolution, temporal coverage and time frame. Finally, we evaluated possible substitutes or alternatives for those indicators with no suitable data to substantiate them.

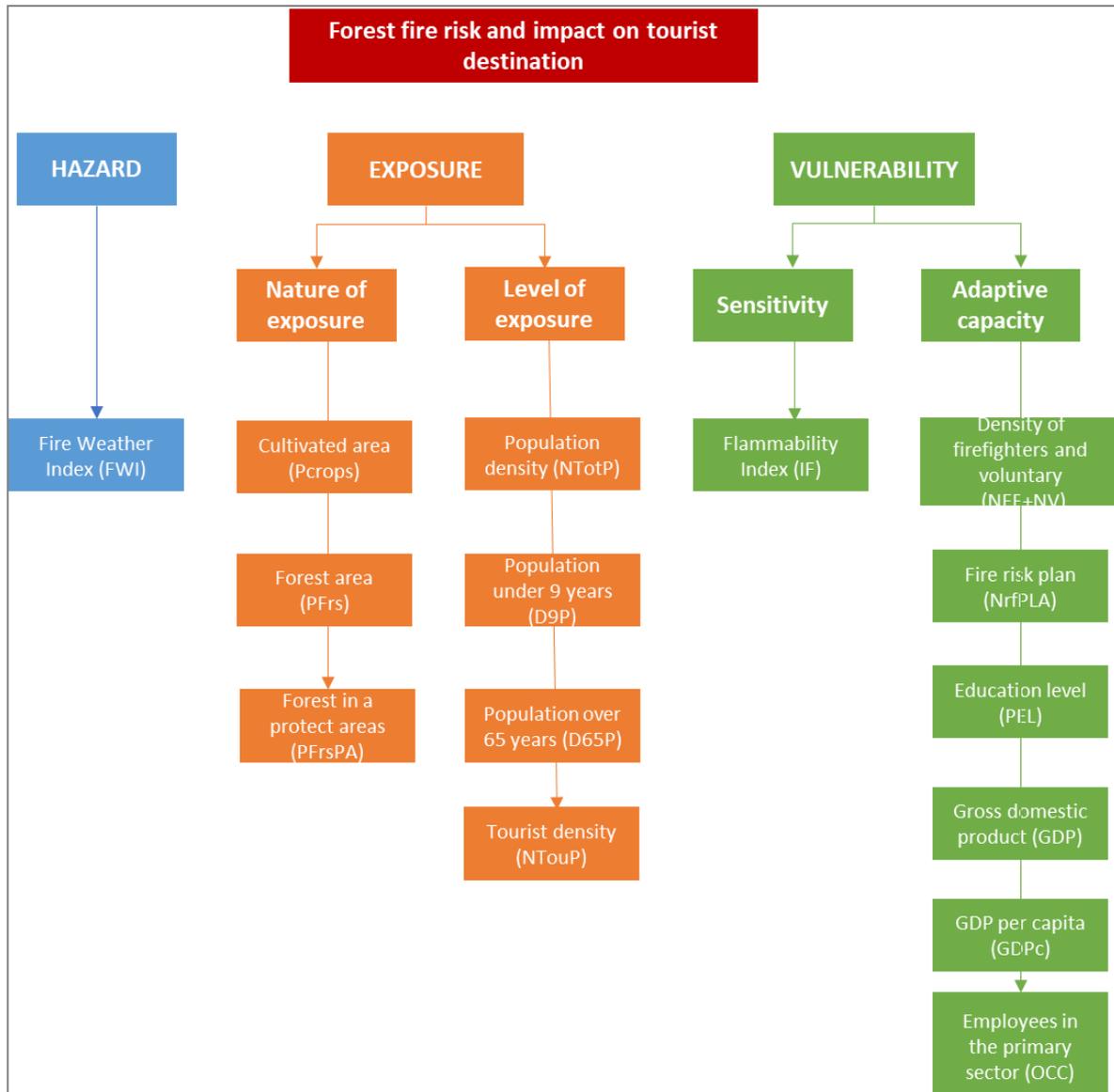


Figure 40: Final Impact Chain Model

Source: Soclimimpact project [D4.5](#)

In order to normalize the index, the min-max method was applied. Min-max normalizes indicators to have an identical range [0, 1] by subtracting the minimum value and dividing by the range of the indicator values (OECD 2008). The mathematical formula and more information on min-max normalization method are presented in the following section. Afterwards, the normalized index was categorized into five equal interval classes representing values from “Very low” to “Very high”. Considering the weighing, an assessment of GIZ methodology has been developed for this impact chain including interviews with various types of stakeholders (cf. dedicated 4.5 to forest fires).

The indicators previously normalized have been aggregated to elaborate three sub-component indices (hazard, exposure, vulnerability) and the final risk index. The result is included in a comparison for the 9 other islands studied for the risk linked to forest fires.

Comparative study

Hazard

The main findings are:

- Scores for fire danger increase as we move from West to East and from North to South, with the exception of Malta, which is much smaller and the selected grid cells are mostly influenced by maritime conditions.
- Under RCP2.6, it seems that the fire danger returns to the present conditions towards the end of the century apart from Crete which score will increase from medium to high, even under this RCP.
- Under RCP8.5, the increase is much more prominent, ranging from 22% to 46%, with the highest values for Corsica, Sardinia and **Sicily**, which implies that under this scenario at the end of the Century, the western and central Mediterranean will be more affected.

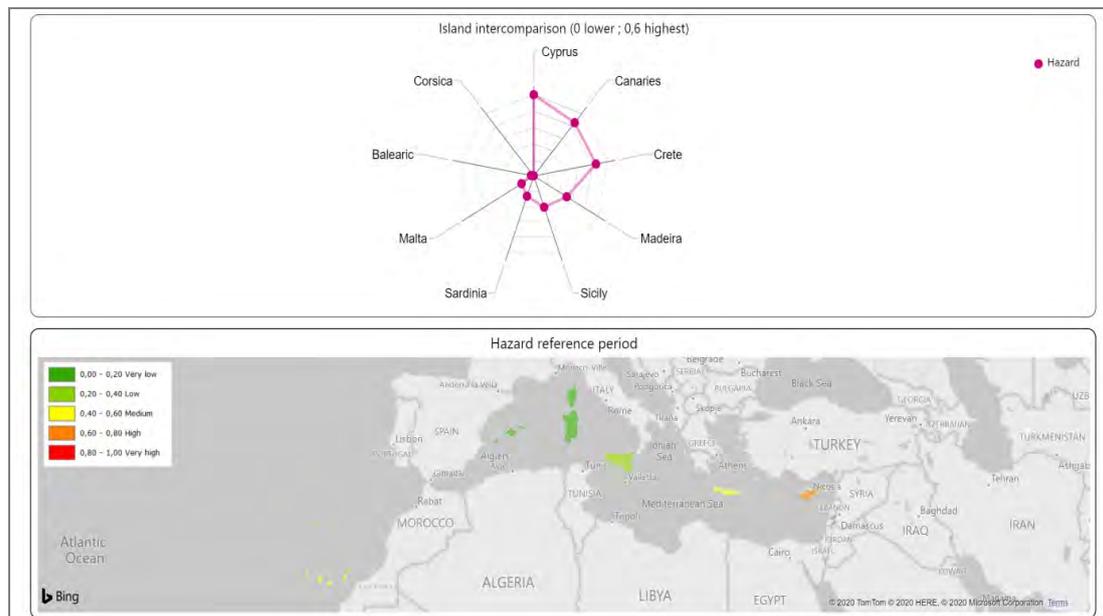


Figure 41: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island for the reference period (1986-2005)
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

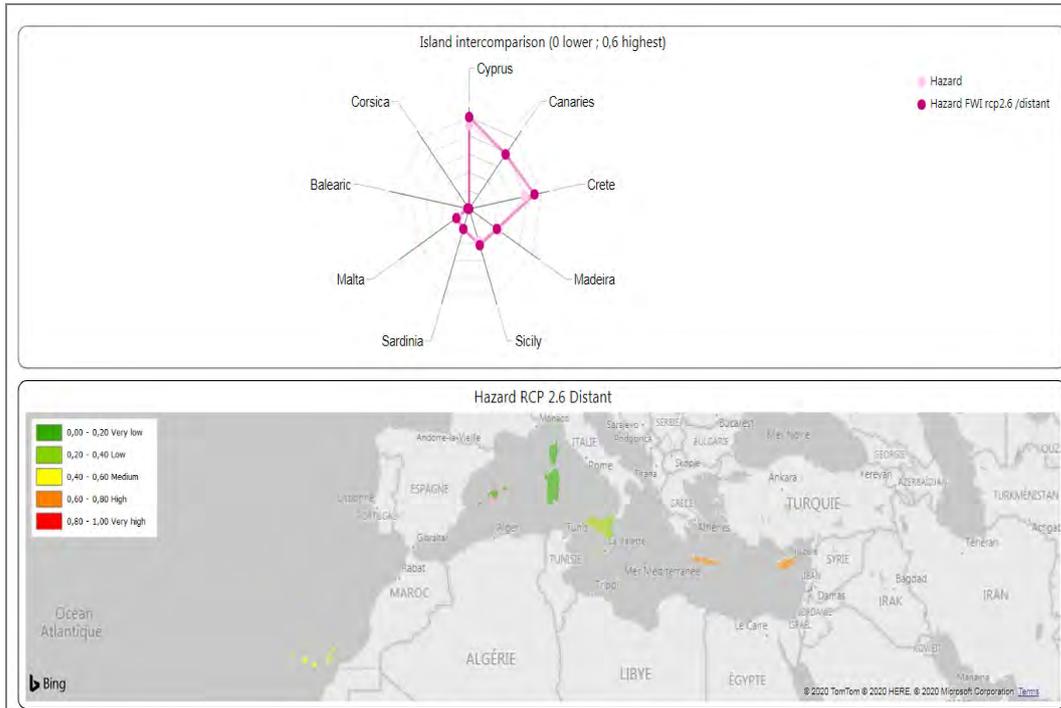


Figure 42: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) per island at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies)
 Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

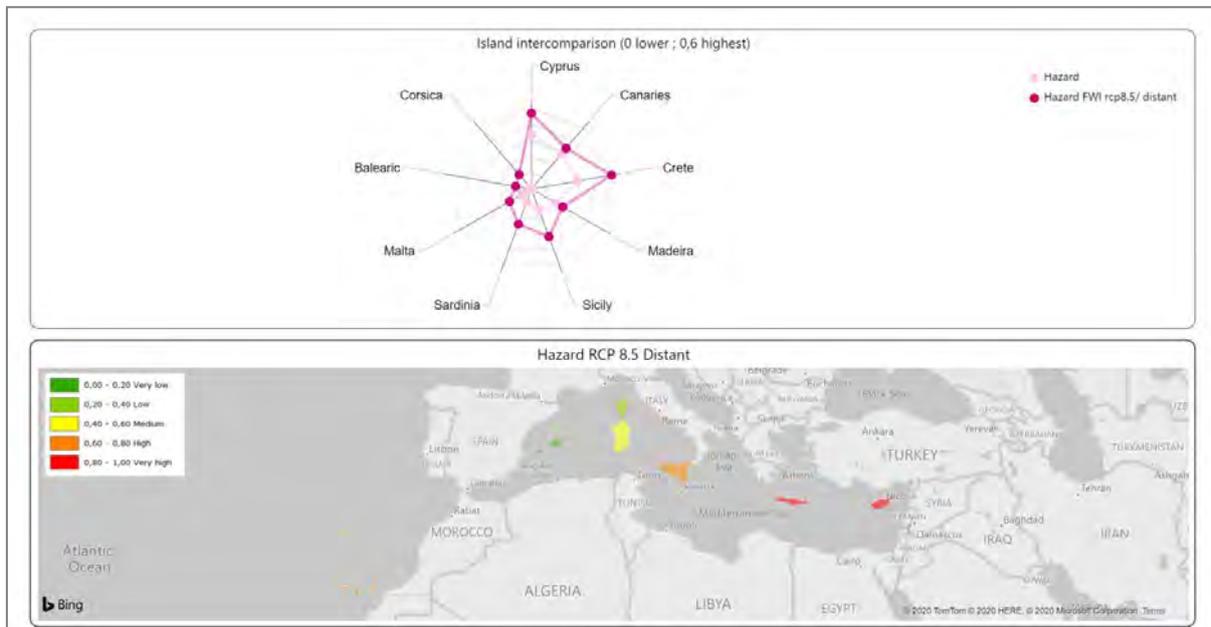


Figure 43: Hazard score (Fire Weather Index) at the end of the century (2081-2100) under RCP8.5 (Business as usual)
 Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

Exposure

The results show that:

- Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) are more exposed than Mediterranean Islands (from low to medium score). We can see an increase as we move from North to South in the Mediterranean area.
- Atlantic Islands higher scores are mainly explained by the level of exposure rather than the nature of exposure, which is quite similar across islands, except for Malta which rate is very low.
- The nature of exposure varies across EU Islands despite of their homogeneous score: Corsica has the highest score for forest areas followed by Madeira, Canary Islands. These two last ones have the highest score of forest belonging to protected areas. We can find a significant proportion of cultivated areas in other Islands namely: **Sicily**, Sardinia, Balearic Islands, Crete and Cyprus.
- The level of exposure for Canary Islands and Madeira is particularly important because of the high scores for each of the 4 considered indicators: population density, population over 65 years, population under 9 years and tourist density.

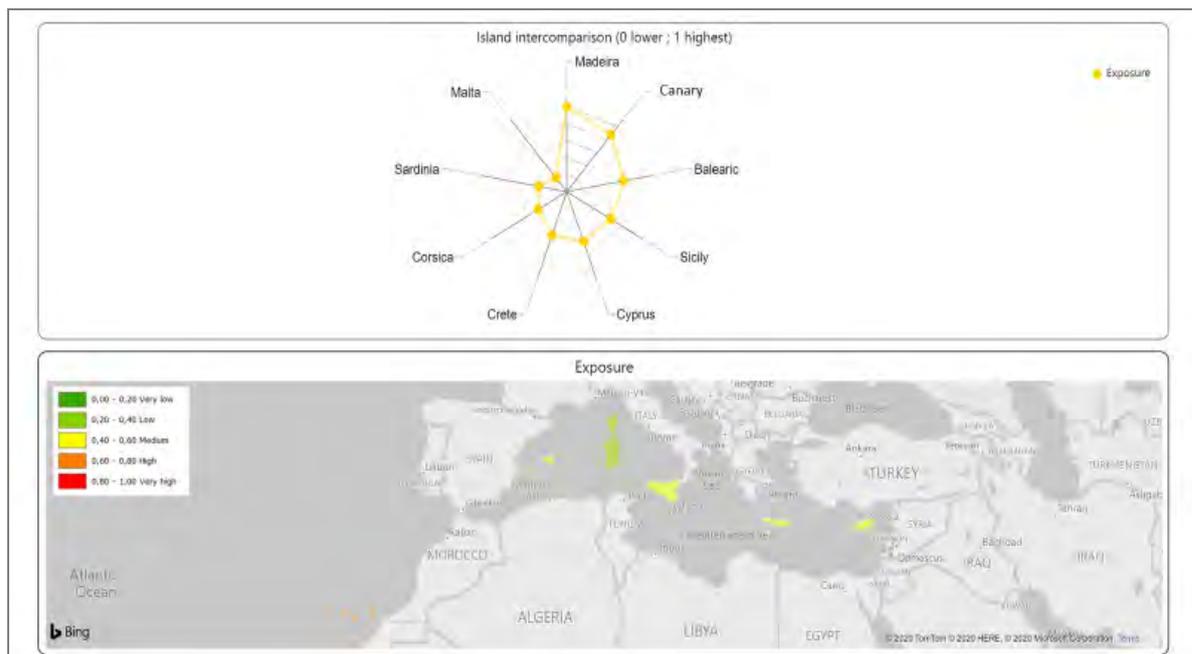


Figure 44: Exposure score (current period) per island

Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

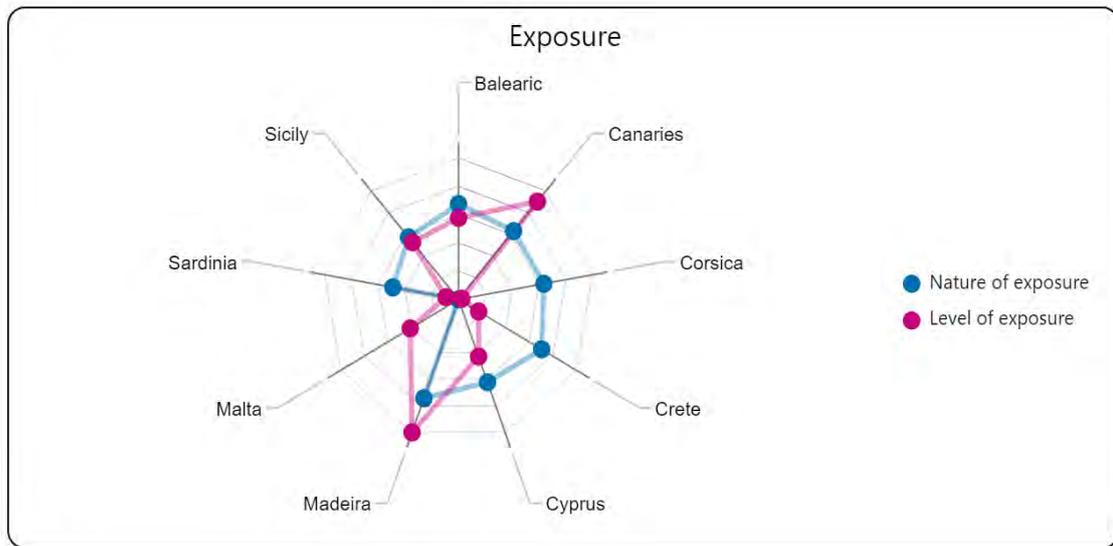


Figure 45: Subcomponents of exposure and related score (current period) per island
 Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

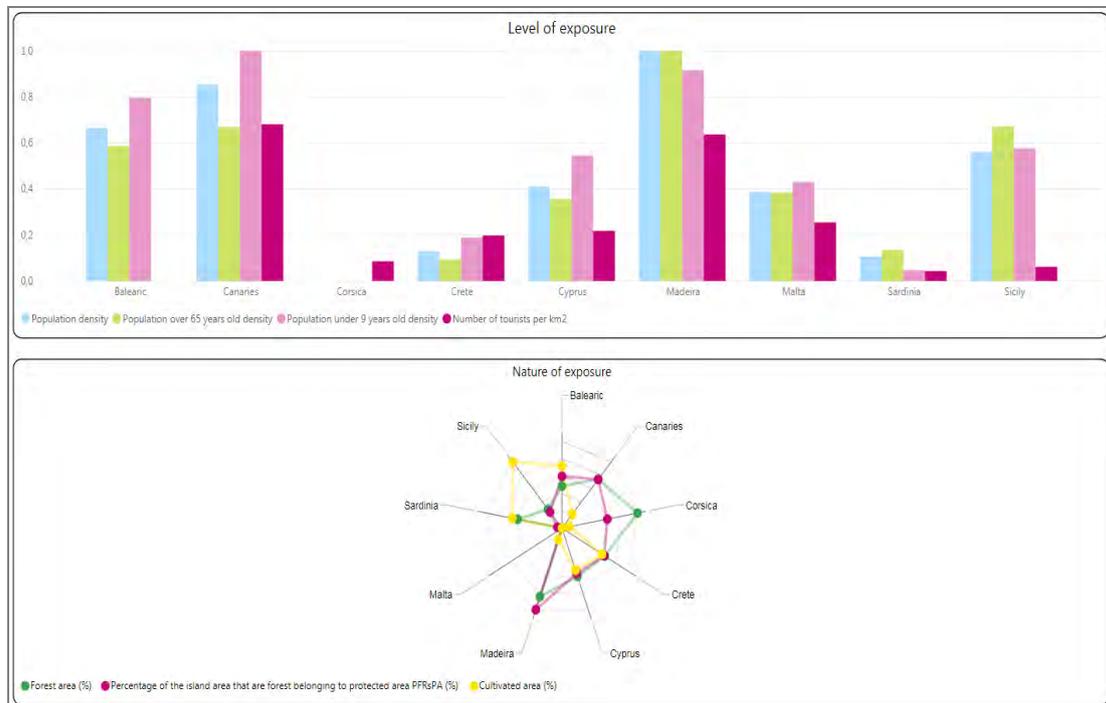


Figure 46: Breakdown by exposure subcomponent
 Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

Vulnerability

The main findings are:

- Results show large disparity across EU Islands in terms of vulnerability. The vulnerability score for Corsica is very high followed by Sardinia (high), Madeira, Balearic Islands and Cyprus. Malta, Canary Islands and Crete scores are low and **Sicily** very low.
- Breakdown by component highlights a quite homogeneous score for adaptative capacity whereas sensitivity score (Flammability Index) is very different from an island to another.
- Not surprisingly for the flammability index, Corsica and Sardinia have the highest score, Malta, **Sicily** and Canary Islands, the lowest one.
- Looking at the adaptative capacity subcomponent, despite of the quite homogeneous scores, factors of influence are quite different among the islands:
 - high score for employees in the primary sector, apart from Sardinia and **Sicily**;
 - scores for density of firefighters and volunteers are important for all the islands except for Cyprus;
 - GDP per capita and level of education are the most heterogeneous factors of influence;
 - GDP per capita score is very high for Crete, very low for Corsica, Malta and Balearic Islands.
 - Scores for education level is important for Cyprus and low for Madeira, Malta and Corsica.

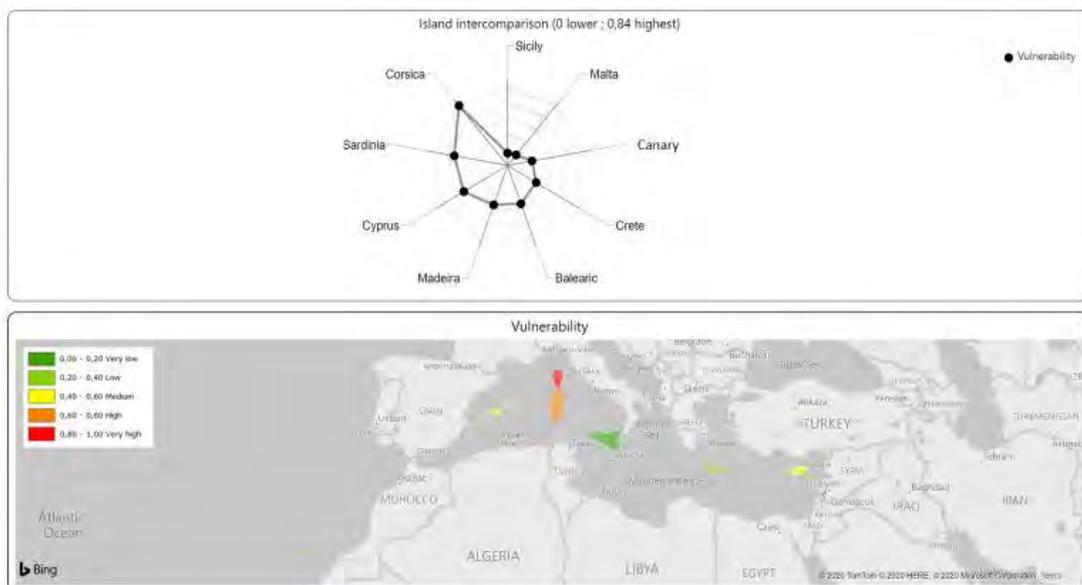


Figure 47: Vulnerability score per island

Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

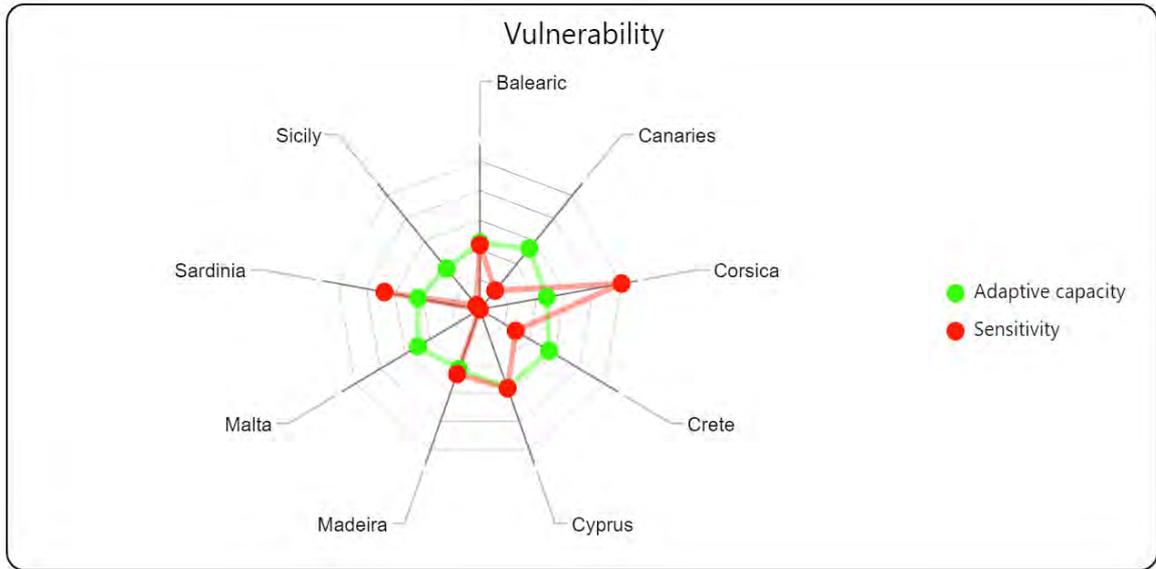


Figure 48: Subcomponents of vulnerability and related score (current period) per island
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

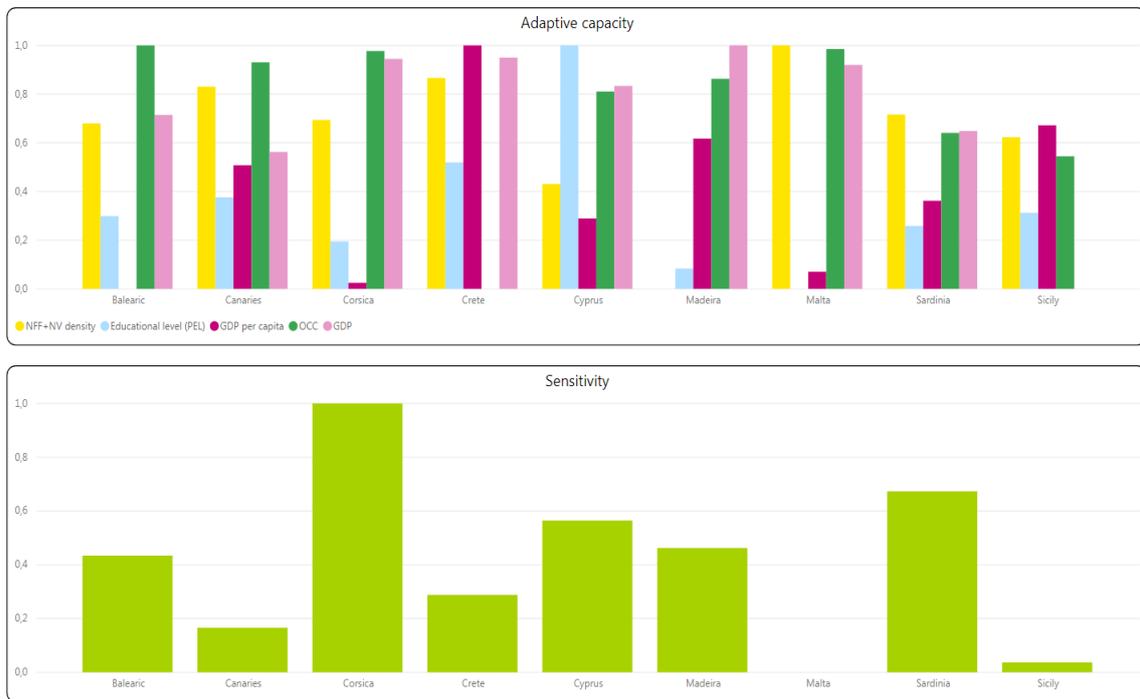


Figure 49: Details and scores of the two subcomponents (adaptive capacity and sensitivity) per island
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

Risk

- For the reference period, the overall risk is medium for Atlantic Islands (Madeira and Canary Islands) and Eastern Mediterranean Islands (Crete and Cyprus). Risk for other islands is low and very low for Malta.
- Looking at the breakdown of the risk, the structure is quite similar for 3 groups:
 - o Madeira, Canary Islands, **Sicily** and Balearic Islands: Predominance of exposure component (around 50% of the score);
 - o Crete and Cyprus: Predominance of the hazard component (around 40% of the score);
 - o Corsica and Sardinia: Predominance of the vulnerability component (around 60-70%);
 - o Only Malta has a quite balanced distribution across the components.
- In this exercise, only the hazard component is changing in the future. In the near future whatever the considered RCP, the risk increases only for Cyprus from medium to high. While the risk remains stable with the RCP2.6 in the distant future for all islands apart from Cyprus, there is an increase from very low to low for Malta and from low to medium for Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia with RCP8.5. Even under this RCP8.5 risk remains constant for Canary Islands and Madeira (Medium) and **Sicily** (Low).

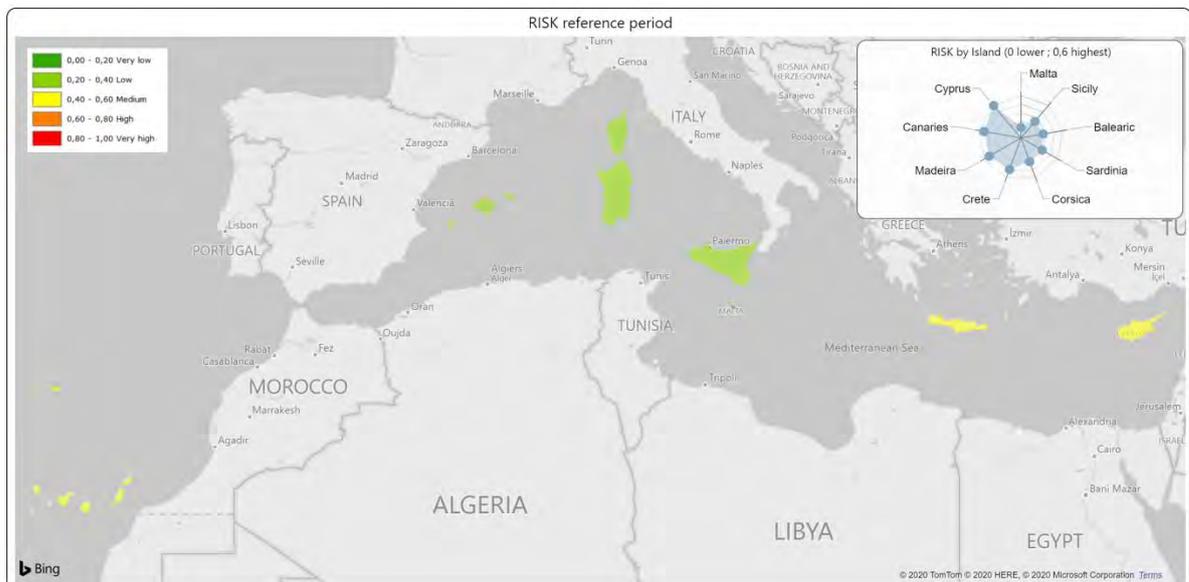


Figure 50: Risk score per island for the reference period (1986-2005)
Source: Sodimpact project [D4.5](#)

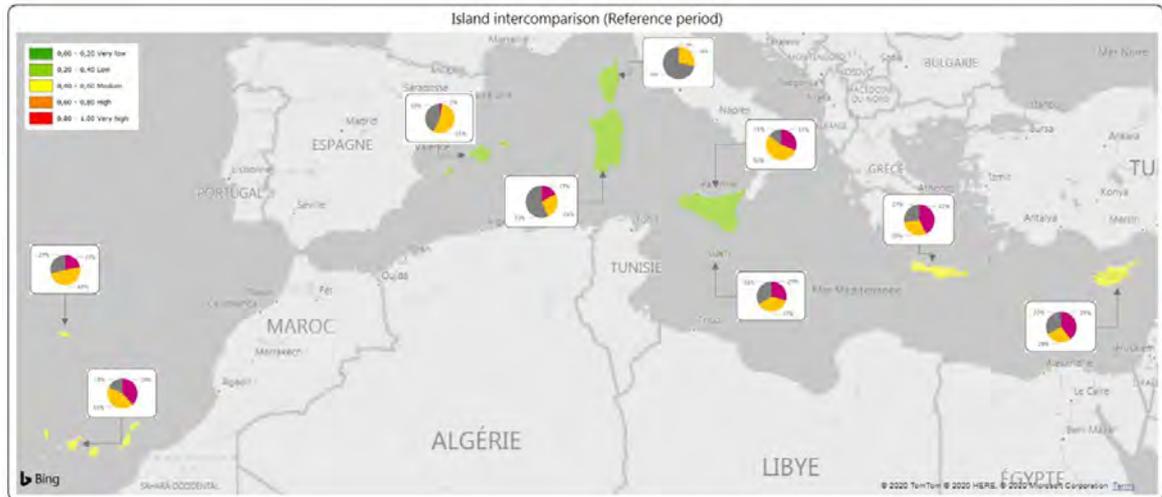


Figure 51: Risk breakdown by island for the reference period (1986-2005)
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

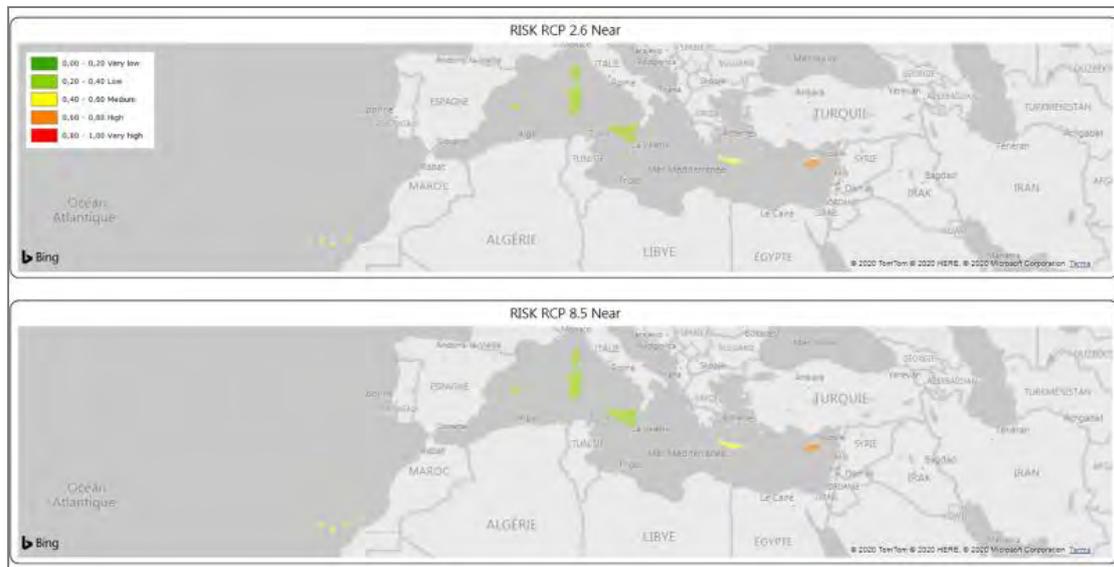


Figure 52: Risk score per island in the near future (2046-2065) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

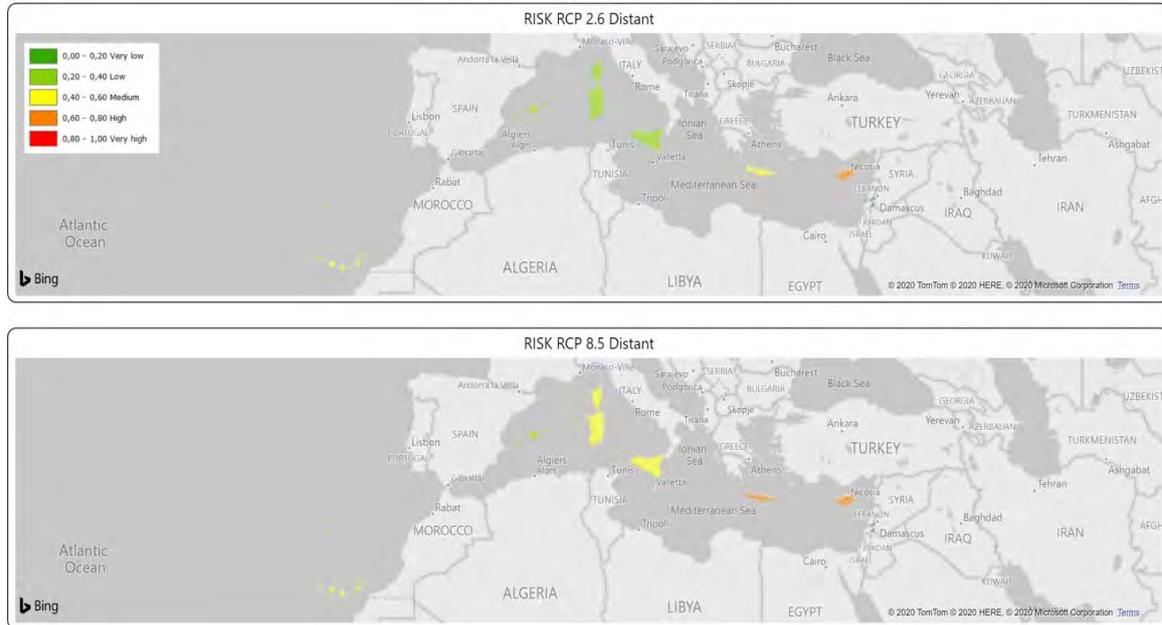


Figure 53: Risk score per island at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)
 Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

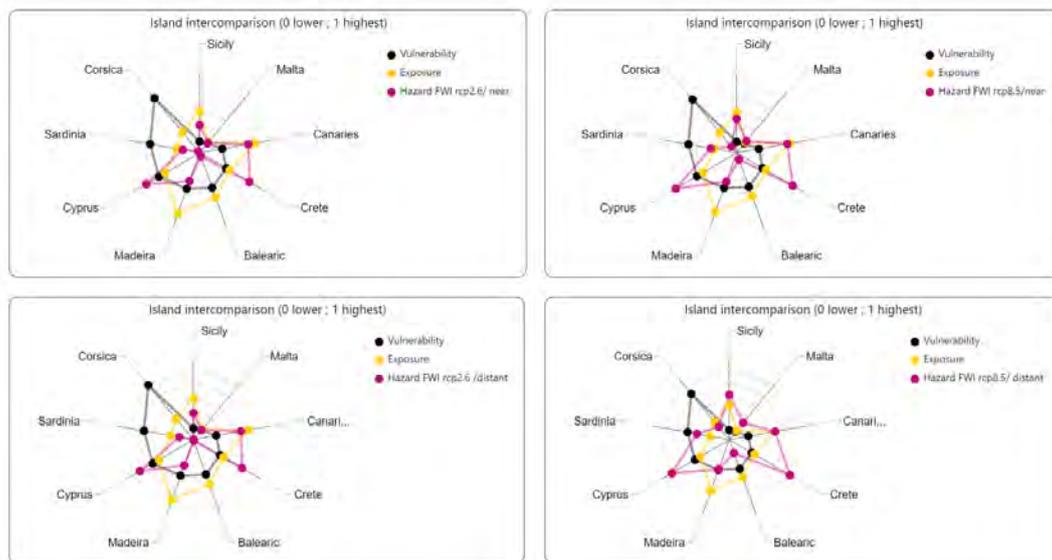


Figure 54: Score per component and per island in the near (2046-2065) and the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)
 Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

Sicily island results

Under RCP8.5, the risk category will change from low to medium under RCP 8.5 at the end of the century. The component of exposure is the most represented.

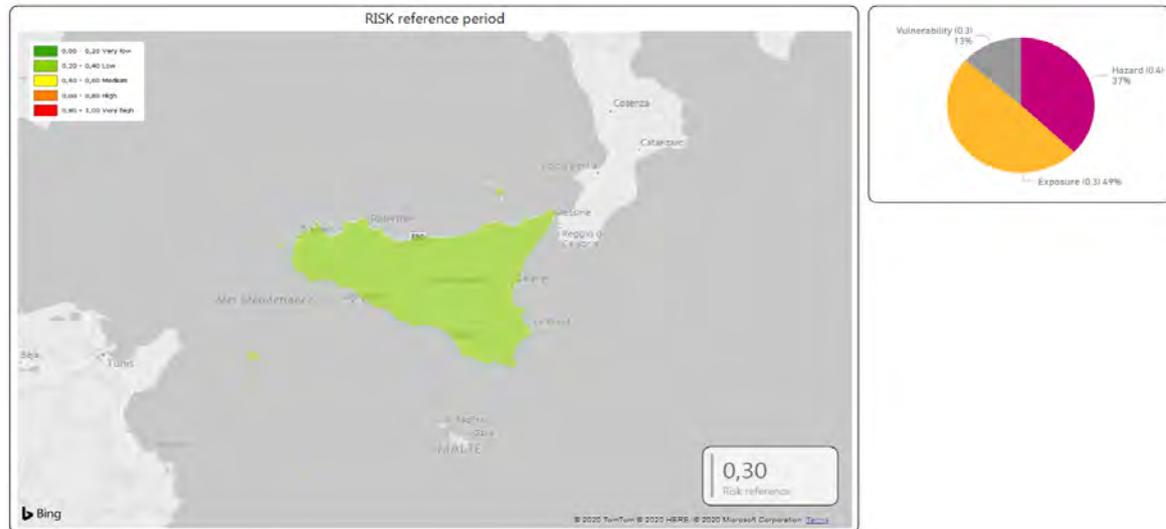


Figure 55: Risk score and components of the risk for the reference period
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

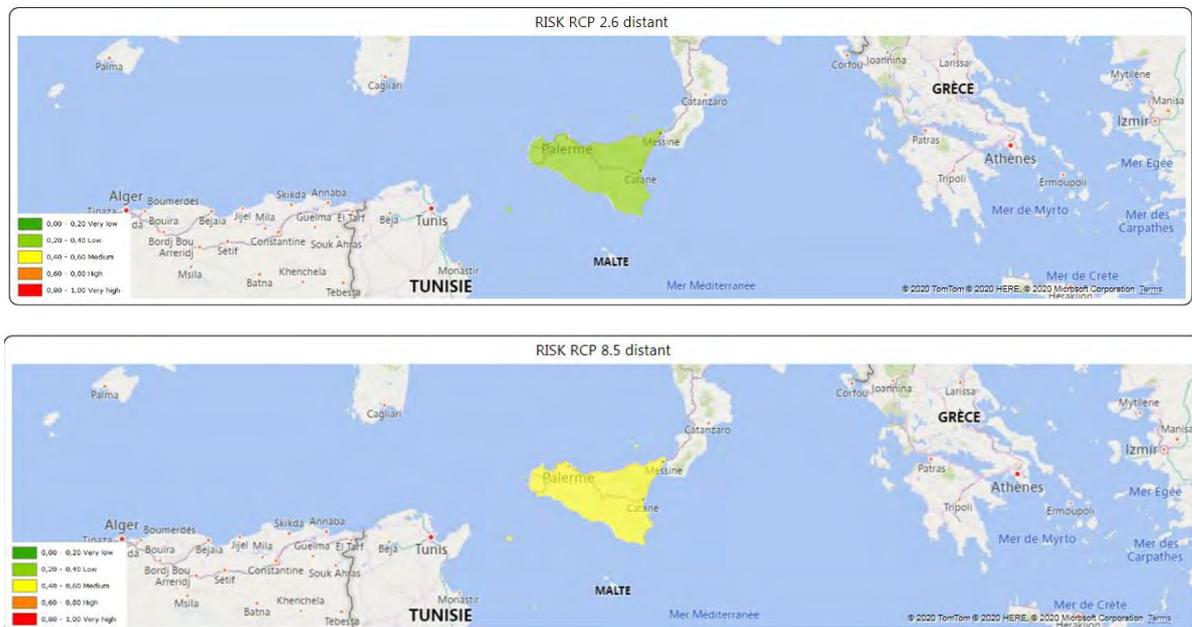


Figure 56: Risk score at the end in the distant future (2081-2100) under RCP2.6 (Ambitious Mitigation Policies) and RCP8.5 (Business as usual)
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

Concerning the exposure component, the both sub-components are equivalent. For the level of exposure, the age of population is very important and for the nature of exposure, the % of cultivated area is the more significant indicator.

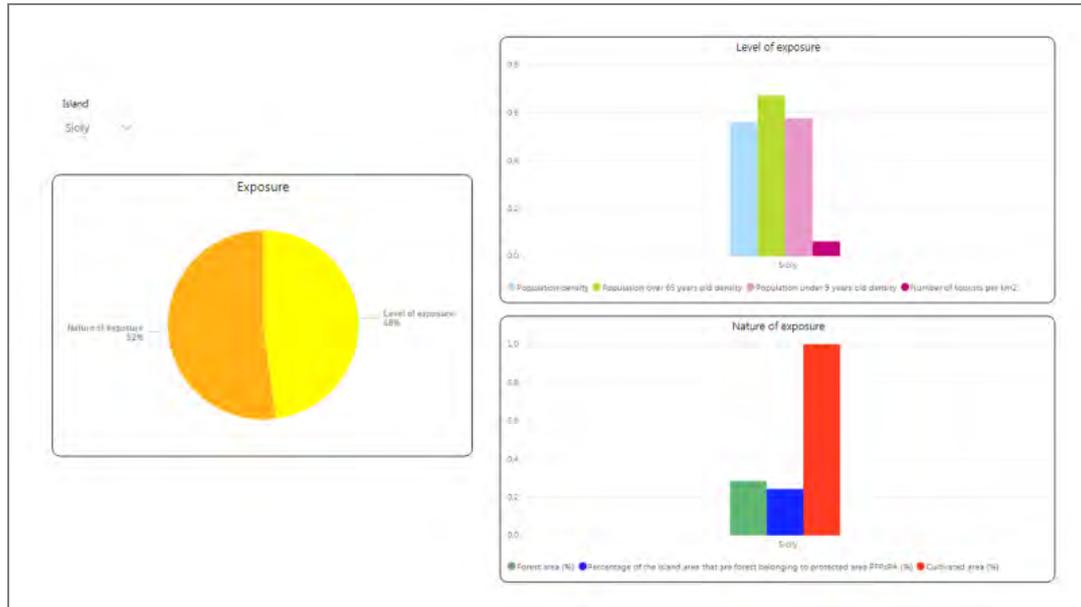


Figure 57: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of exposure (nature and level of exposure)
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

Concerning the vulnerability component, the adaptive capacity is more significant than the sensitivity.

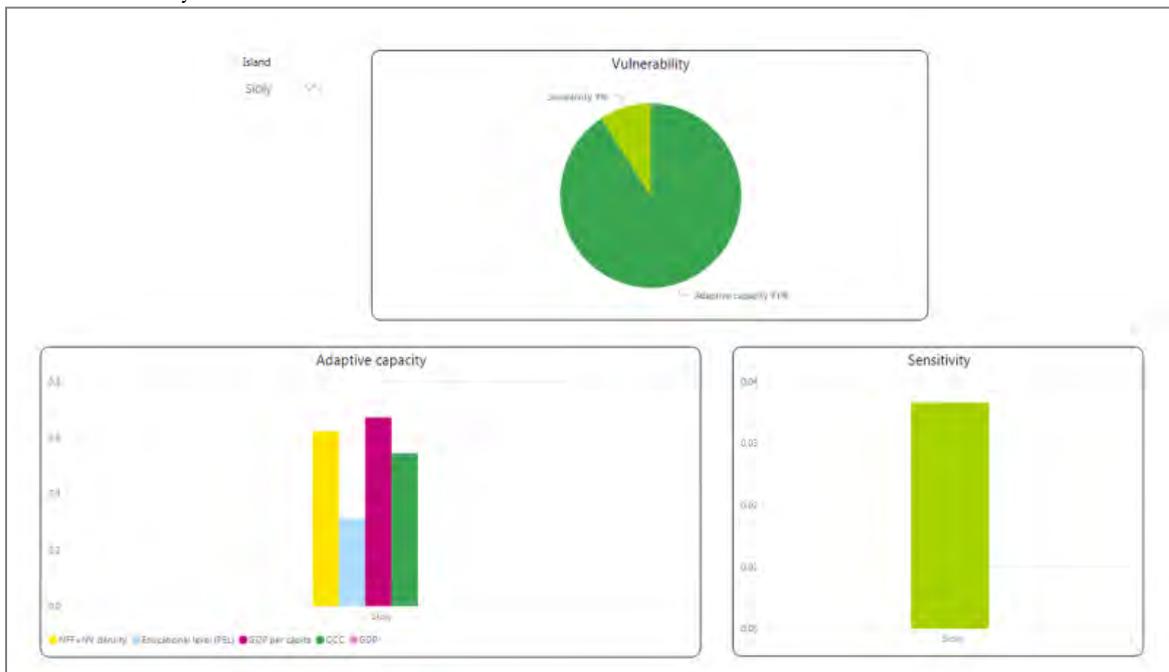


Figure 58: Details and scores of the two subcomponents of vulnerability (adaptive capacity and sensitivity)
Source: Soclimpact project [D4.5](#)

4.2 Aquaculture

In the framework of Soclimpact, the following impacts were more closely studied:

- 1) Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

- 2) Decrease in production due to an increase in surface water temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

The concept of Impact Chain (Schneiderbauer *et al.* 2013; Fritzsche *et al.* 2014) is also applied as a climate risk assessment method (with 7 steps for aquaculture, present risk and future risk are calculated separately) for research of decision making. The goal of this method is to use collected data for certain indicators of the impact chains for different islands to assess the risks of each island's aquaculture sector to be affected by the hazard displayed in the impact chain. Therefore, data for all indicators were collected from all islands. After reviewing the data, selecting indicators and islands, the indicators were normalized, and different risk components were weighted. Using these values, the risks for present and future conditions under different Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) scenarios were calculated for the different island and compared between each other. For the aquaculture impact chains, RCP 4.5 and 8.5 were compared since for the hazard models RCP 2.6 was not always available.

Step 1: Data collection by Island Focal Points

To be able to apply the GIZ risk assessment method, a solid data basis is crucial. Therefore, data was collected by the Island Focal Points (IFPs) of the SOCLIMPACT project. The questionnaire requested datasets for 16 indicators and topics with several subcategories on exposure and vulnerability. The IFPs reached out to local stakeholders and authorities to collect the requested data which was then resubmitted to the Sectoral Modelling Team (SMT) Aquaculture.

Step 2: Data review and island selection

Data were submitted by most of the islands to the SMT Aquaculture. Most datasets were incomplete with major data missing regarding important information for the successful operationalization of the impact chains. Therefore, and for the fact that some islands do

currently not have any active marine aquaculture operations running, some islands were excluded from the operationalization. Out of the 12 islands assessed in the SOCLIMPACT project, six were included in the operationalization of the impact chains using the risk assessment method from GIZ: Corsica, Cyprus, Madeira, Malta, Sardinia and Sicily. The other six islands (Azores, Balearic Islands, Baltic Island, Canary Islands, Crete and French West Indies) do currently not have active marine cage aquaculture operations or show insufficient data availability. Data on hazards was provided by the models developed in work package 4. Eventually, Madeira was excluded for the impact chain on extreme weather events due to lack of reliable hazard data. A qualitative analysis will be provided in the result section.

Step 3: Review and selection of indicators

The data collection and review revealed that not all indicators of the impact chains could be used for the operationalization process. Therefore, these indicators were reviewed carefully and the ones which were not represented by sufficient data were excluded. The revised impact chain was developed depending on the indicators selected.

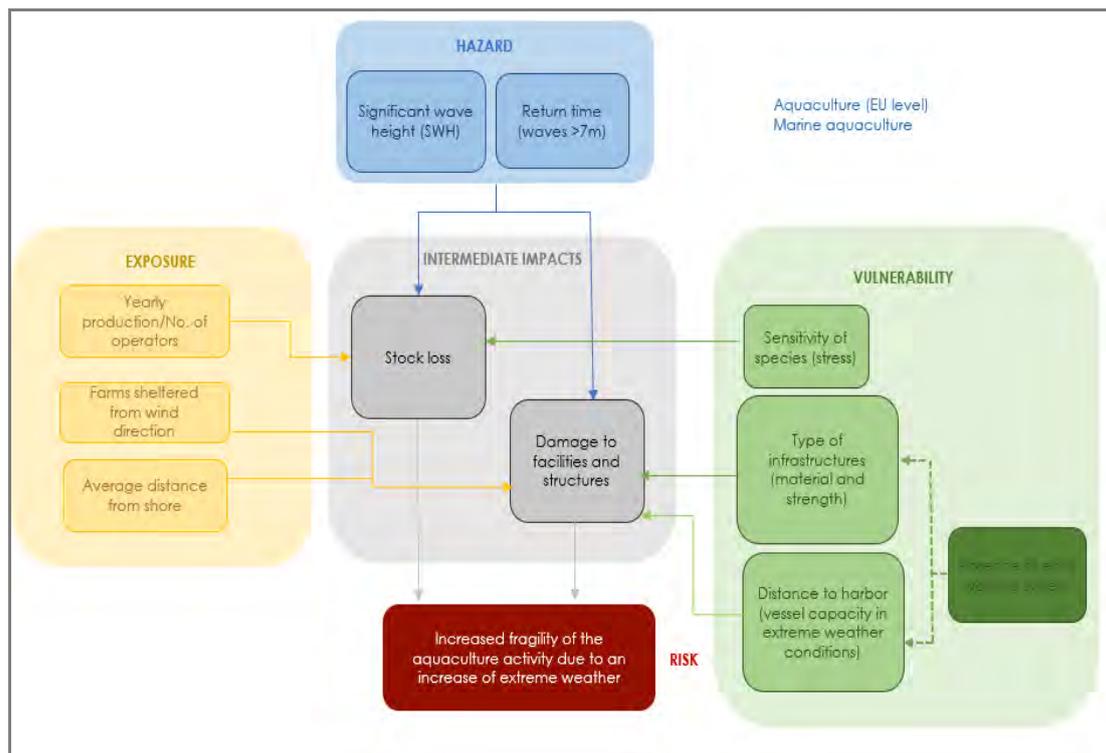


Figure 59: Impact chain on Increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather adjusted depending on data availability and used for the operationalisation.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 3.2

Some indicators require data on the proportions of species farmed on a specific island. Therefore, a table with % of each species farmed on each island was prepared. This data was obtained directly from the IFPs or from the FAO or national statistics offices.

Table 5: Proportions of aquaculture species farmed per island.

Species	Proportion of species production			
	Mussels & clams	Tuna	Sea bream	Sea bass
Corsica	0.43		0.265	0.265
Cyprus			0.84	0.16
Madeira			1.0	
Malta		0.94	0.048	0.012
Sardinia	0.84		0.08	0.08
Sicily	0.44		0.3	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Hazard

For the component hazard both indicators were used for the operationalisation. The wave amplitude was shown as significant wave height (SWH) in m and the return time number of years between extreme events quantified with a threshold of >7m. The data was derived from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 at the exact locations where the fish farms are located and then averaged for all locations on one island. This allows a more accurate assessment than taking the average values for the entire island.

Exposure

Four indicators were selected to be operationalized. The number of aquaculture operators was provided by the IFPs and additional literature. There was no data available on the actual size of stock, therefore the yearly production of aquaculture products (fish and shellfish) in tons was used as a proxy indicator. The location of farms was rated by using two different proxy indicators: the location of the farms in relation to the prevailing wind direction and the average distance of the farms to shore. To be able to rate the location in relation to the wind direction, the values were estimated (with 0 being completely sheltered and 1 being exposed to wind and possible storms). After normalizing the distance from shore (measured by using GIS software and the exact coordinates of the fish farms), both values were averaged and represent the exposure of the location of farms.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

Two indicators were applied to calculate the score of factors of sensitivity. The sensitivity of species was estimated by reviewing literature and interviewing experts regarding the vulnerability of species to extreme weather events. After receiving these data, average values were calculated of all values for the present species on each island.

Table 6: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to wave stress. 1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Sensitivity of species for wave stress threshold				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.55	0.65	0.3	0.9

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

The same approach was implemented to calculate the vulnerability of the infrastructure types used on each island based on the type of species farmed.

Table 7: Estimated vulnerability values for the vulnerability of infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event.

Vulnerability of aquaculture infrastructure in case of an extreme weather event			
Infrastructure for species	Sea bream & Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.4	0.3	0.6

1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

The indicators distance to harbor and the presence of warning systems were used to describe the adaptive capacity. As there is a weather forecast available for all islands, the values for the presence of warning systems are all the same and represent low values. The distance to harbors was moved to the subcomponent adaptive capacity and measured using GIS software and the exact locations of the farms which were provided by the IFPs and literature data. It represents the average distance of all farms to their closest harbor for each island and is shown in meters. The indicator stocking density and engineering of structures were excluded from the operationalisation. For the stocking density there were no data available from all islands and in any case, it was estimated to be similar for all islands. The engineering of structures was already covered with the type of infrastructures in the sensitivity subcomponent.

Impact chain: Increased sea surface temperature

Hazard

Changes in surface water temperature was chosen to be the indicator representing the component hazard. The temperature data for this indicator was obtained from the

location of each farm from the climate models of Deliverable 4.4 and averaged per island. To calculate the hazard for each island and each RCP, the species' temperature thresholds were taken into account. According to a literature review (see Annex) the temperature thresholds for farmed species is the following:

Table 8: Temperature threshold per species.

Temperature thresholds for different species				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Threshold (°C)	24	25	24	20.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

It must be noted that the threshold for Tuna was set to 24°C since in the project only Tuna fattening is done (in Malta) and for adult fish the threshold is 24°C while in the review the whole life cycle as well as prey species was taken into account which is not relevant for this exercise. Based on these thresholds, the duration of the longest event per year (in days) was calculated for the temperatures 20 °C, 24 °C and 25 °C for RCP 4.5 and 8.5 from the models developed in WP4. After normalizing these values (which is described in detail in Step 4), the values for each temperature and therefore each species threshold were averaged using the sum product of the normalized values and the species' proportion on the total production of the island. The final values represent the score of the hazard. The indicator changes in seawater characteristics was not included in the operationalization as there is no additional data related to this indicator which is not covered by the surface water temperature indicator.

Exposure

Two indicators were used for the component exposure: the number of aquaculture operators and the yearly production (in tons) as a proxy indicator for the size of stock.

Sensitivity (vulnerability)

The subcomponent sensitivity includes two indicators which were combined to one indicator for the operationalization. The sensitivity of species directly correlates with suitable temperature for species and therefore it is summarized as temperature sensitivity of species. It was calculated by using temperature threshold values for each species obtained from a literature review and expert opinion. These values were averaged depending on which species and in which quantities they are farmed on the islands.

*Table 9: Estimated vulnerability factors for the sensitivity of species to temperature stress.
1= very vulnerable to stress; 0=very resilient to stress.*

<i>Sensitivity of species for temperature stress threshold</i>				
Species	Sea bream	Sea bass	Tuna	Mussels & Clams
Estimated vulnerability factor	0.6	0.6	0.3	1

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Adaptive capacity (vulnerability)

Two out of four indicators from the impact chain were utilized for the operationalization. The monitoring early warning systems were included and show all the same values for all islands as there is a sea surface temperature forecast available for each island. The capacity to change species was included with all the islands displaying the same value as well. The risk value is high in this case, as it would be quite difficult to change species farmed on the islands in general as this would result in high economic expenditures. For the indicator of the impact chain know-how of recognizing and treating diseases/parasites there is no data available for any island. As this could vary a lot between the islands, the indicator was removed instead of making assumptions, to not negatively influence the risk values. A similar case arises from the indicator availability of alternative place for farming. There is no data available to make correct assumptions regarding the occurrence of alternative areas on the islands and therefore the indicator was not used for the operationalization.

Step 4: Normalization of indicator data for all islands

In order to come up with one final risk value per island and to be able to compare these values between islands, the indicator values were transferred into unit-less values on a common scale. The normalized values range between 0 and 1 with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

There are two different ways of normalizing the indicator values:

- Minimum/maximum normalization;
- Expert judgement.

Fraction of maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The value for each island was calculated as a fraction of the maximum value in the data set. Meaning the island with the maximum value was given 1 and the rest as a fraction thereof.

The following indicators were normalized using this method:

Extreme weather events:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

- average distance from shore (location of farms)
- average distance to harbour

Sea surface temperature:

- yearly production/ number of aquaculture operators

Minimum/maximum normalization

This normalization method was used for indicators which were expressed by real data and not by expert judgement. The minimum and the maximum value of that indicator of all islands was calculated and the following formula was applied to normalize all indicator values to the scale between 0 and 1:

$$X_{normalized} = \frac{(X - X_{min})}{(X_{max} - X_{min})}$$

For both impact chains, the hazard values were normalised using the min and max method. However, in these cases the minimum and maximum values were not automatically the minimum and maximum values of the entire dataset but rather treated differently for every hazard indicator. This handling of the normalisation of the hazard indicators arose from the different nature of the indicator itself and the fact that data were available for different RCPs and periods of time. Therefore, the hazard indicators were normalised as following:

The sea surface temperature values were normalised separately for each temperature data set. This means that all values for all RCPs and time periods of one “longest event over a certain temperature” were taken into account when determining the minimum and maximum values. For Madeira, RCP 4.5 data was not available, therefore RCP 2.6 data was used and doubled.

Wave amplitude (significant wave height)

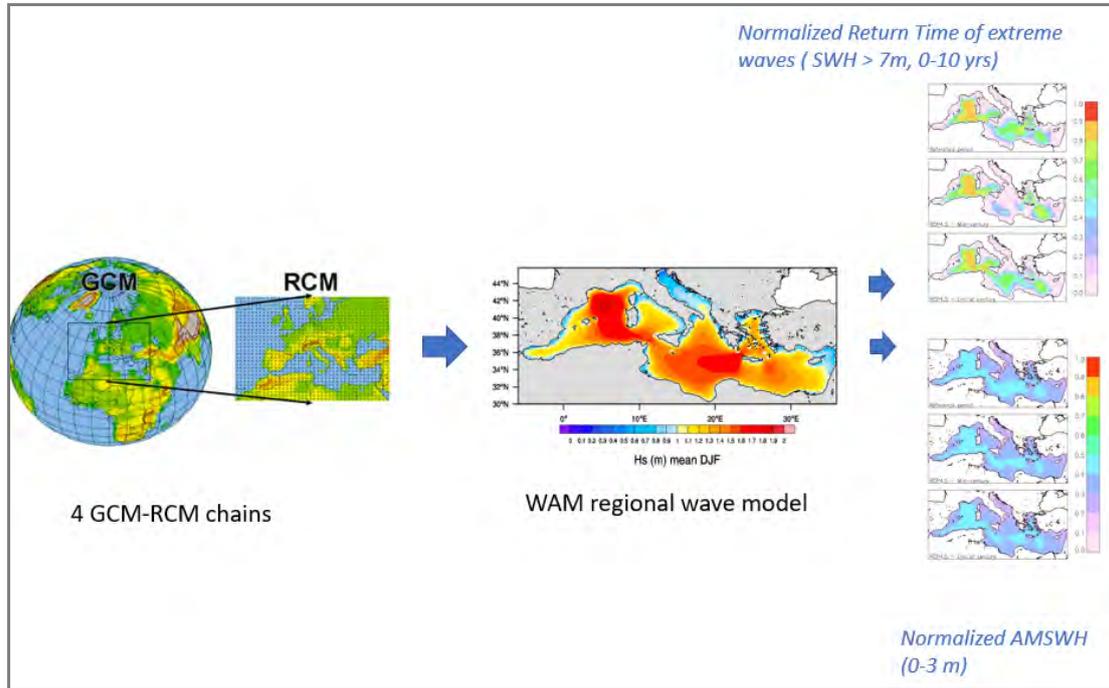


Figure 60: Modelling indicators for sea-state hazards, return time and significant wave height starting with 4 Global Circulation-Regional Circulation Model chains, which are fed into the WAM regional wave model. Results are then normalized.

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

The return time was normalised as following; all values equal or greater than 10 are set to 0, all values between 0 and 10 are linearly mapped to the interval 1-0, so that 0 gives risk 1, 10 gives risk 0. It was assumed that a time period of 10 or more years allowed to repay investments is a reasonable threshold.

Since, as described in D4.4 of Soclimpact, that the probability of having at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a N-year return period during a N-year time window is anyway greater than that of its complement (no events exceeding the limit in the N-year time window), and that the return level cannot be considered a “no-risk” safety level in evaluating the survivability and sustainability of structures or plants.

Table 10: Probability of occurrence of at least one event exceeding the return level associated with a given return period (blue) in a given time window (green), according to the formula.

$RL, T=1-(1-1/T)**L$, where L=length of time window, T=Return Period.

Return Period [years]	Probability of occurrence				
	1 years	2 years	5 years	10 years	20 years
5	20%	36%	67%	89%	99%
10	10%	19%	41%	65%	88%
20	5%	10%	23%	40%	64%

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Therefore, using a combination of the normalised values and the probability of occurrence, experts transformed these values into risk classes such as "low", "moderate", "medium", "high", "very high", or the like, on a qualitative basis.

Expert judgement

For some indicators from both impact chains there was no data available which is the reason why expert judgement and estimations were applied. The following indicators were expressed using expert's estimations:

Extreme weather events: - farm locations (in relation to main wind direction)
 - sensitivity of species
 - vulnerability of type of infrastructure
 - presence of warning system

Sea surface temperature: - estimated temperature sensitivity of species
 - capacity to change species
 - monitoring early warning systems

In all cases the normalization scale of 0 to 1 was applied with 0 being low risk and 1 being very high risk.

Step 5: Weighting of different risk components

In this step, the different risk components hazard, exposure and vulnerability (including the sub-components sensitivity and adaptive capacity) were rated. The total of the values sums up to 1. The weights were estimated by aquaculture experts and the basis of the estimations were subjective estimations, similar to the ones used in the AHP method. However, in this method the data availability was additionally taken into account. Components for which the available data was scarce, outdated or more unreliable the weights were set lower on purpose, while components with accurate datasets were given a higher weight as following:

Table 11: Components and their weights.

(Sub)Component	Weight	
	<i>Sea surface temperature</i>	<i>Extreme events</i>
Hazard	0.3	0.6 wave height 0.2 return time 0.8
Exposure	0.4	0.2
Vulnerability	0.3	0.2
Sensitivity	0.75	0.75
Adaptive Capacity	0.25	0.25

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Step 6: Calculations of risk for present conditions

Before being able to calculate the risk values, the scores for each component/subcomponent had to be calculated by taking the average of the corresponding indicators:



$$S_{comp} = \frac{(ind_1 + ind_2 + \dots + ind_n)}{n}$$

s – score

comp – component or subcomponent

ind – indicator

n – number of indicators

The final risk value was calculated by summing up the scores of the components multiplied individually with the corresponding risk component weightings:

$$Risk = S_{haz} * W_{haz} + S_{exp} * W_{exp} + W_{vul} * (S_{sen} * W_{sen} + S_{ac} * W_{ac})$$

s – score

w – weight

haz – hazard

exp – exposure

vul – vulnerability

sen – sensitivity

ac – adaptive capacity

These risk values were calculated for each island individually and range between 0 and 1. After completing these calculations, it was possible to compare the islands between each other.

Step 7: Calculations of risk for future conditions (different RCPs)

To be able to project the risk values to future conditions, the operationalization was adjusted to the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs). Therefore, the whole operationalization was duplicated and different values for the hazard indicators per island were inserted. These values were taken directly from the climate models provided in work package 4 for the different RCP scenarios (RCP 4.5 and 8.5). The resulting values can be compared between the islands as well as between the different RCP scenarios.

Results

Impact chain: extreme weather events

Table 12: Exposure and vulnerability indicators each island

Component Component Weight	Exposure					Vulnerability							
	0.2					0.2							
Sub-component Sub-component weight						Factor of sensitivity 0.75			Factors of adaptive capacity 0.25				
Indicator	Average Size of producers		Location of farms			Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Type of infrastructures (material and strength)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Distance to harbour (vessel capacity in extreme weather conditions) [average & m]		Absence of warning system	Score of factor of adaptive capacity
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators		Farms sheltered from wind direction	Average distance from shore (m)		Average of normalise d indicators	Estimated sensitivity of species	Type of infrastructure (based on species)	Average of indicators	Average distance to harbour (m)		Presence of warning system	Average of normalise d indicators
	Data	Normalise d	Normalise d	Data	Normalise d		Normalised	Normalised		Data	Normalise d	Normalised	
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.4	644	0.16	0.20	0.7	0.5	0.59	478 9	0.96	0	0.48
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.5	392 3	1.00	0.53	0.6	0.4	0.48	461 6	0.92	0	0.46
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	0.5	173 1	0.44	0.74	0.3	0.3	0.31	416 5	0.83	0	0.42
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.4	119 3	0.30	0.27	0.9	0.6	0.71	218 3	0.44	0	0.22
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.5	100 0	0.25	0.27	0.7	0.5	0.61	500 0	1.00	0	0.50

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



SOCLIMPACT

Mediterranean islands

Hazards

Statistics of extreme events can significantly differ across the four model realizations

The hazard data for return time was derived from 3 different models; CMCC, CNRM and GUF. Since the data varies highly between models a best- and worst case scenario was executed where in the best-case scenario the lowest value (showing the lowest risk) between the models was used and in the worst case scenario the highest value was used. Distance between the best and the worst projection, give an estimate of uncertainty

Model projections for Average Significant Wave Height are in good agreement as to both pattern and values. Hazard was evaluated from ensemble mean, uncertainty from ensemble STD (not exceeding 15% - highest disagreement for highest values).

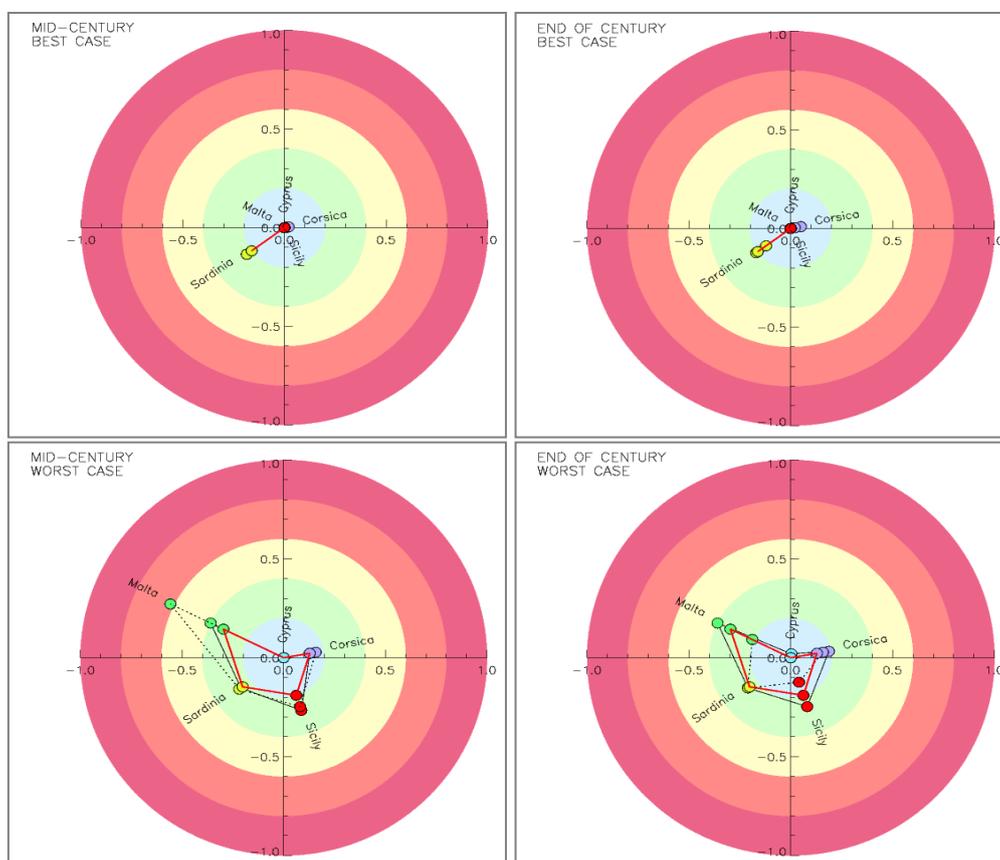


Figure 61: Results for return time in best- and worst-case scenarios for Mediterranean islands for reference period (red line), RCP 4.5 (dotted line) and RCP 8.5 (black line).

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



"Worst" and "best" cases respectively refer to the least and most favorable projection in the set of models. For example return time, you will find that there is at least one model predicting no hazard for all islands except Sardinia with no significant variations across scenarios. In fact, all circles cluster and overlap at the centre, while those that represent Sardinia all lie very close to the limit between the two lower hazard classes.

On the other hand, at least one other model predicts appreciable yet low hazard for Corsica, Sicily and Sardinia, and hazard going from moderate (reference period, red) to medium (RCP8.5, solid black), to high (RCP4.5, dotted black) for Malta, while for Cyprus the hazard is irrelevant even for the most negative projection.

This means that

- a) the result for Sardinia and Cyprus is stable across models,
- b) models slightly disagree for Sicily and Corsica, but generally predict low hazard,
- c) the projection for Malta is affected by greater uncertainty for all scenarios.

This is due to the fact that Malta is located in the Sicily Channel, where the dynamics exhibit significant gradients in the direction perpendicular to the channel axis, which are differently represented by different models.

The worst and best cases do not necessarily come from the same model for all islands, that is, one model can predict the lowest hazard for Sicily and another one for Sardinia, and each of these projections is represented in the plot for the corresponding island.

Risk- Best-case scenario

Table 13: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.21
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26
Sardinia	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.28	0.31
Sicily	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

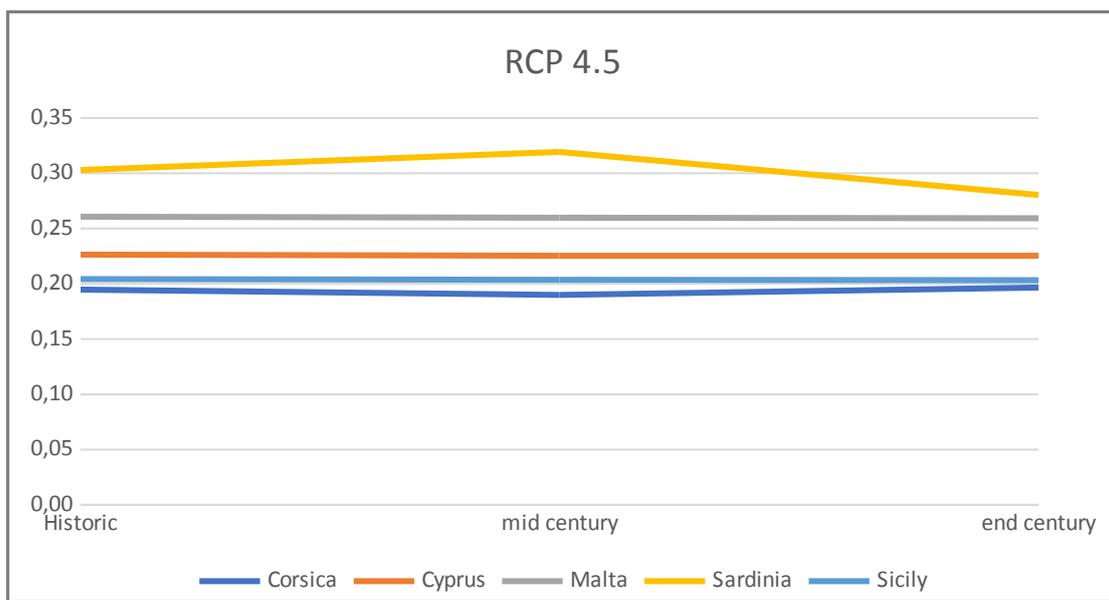


Figure 62: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

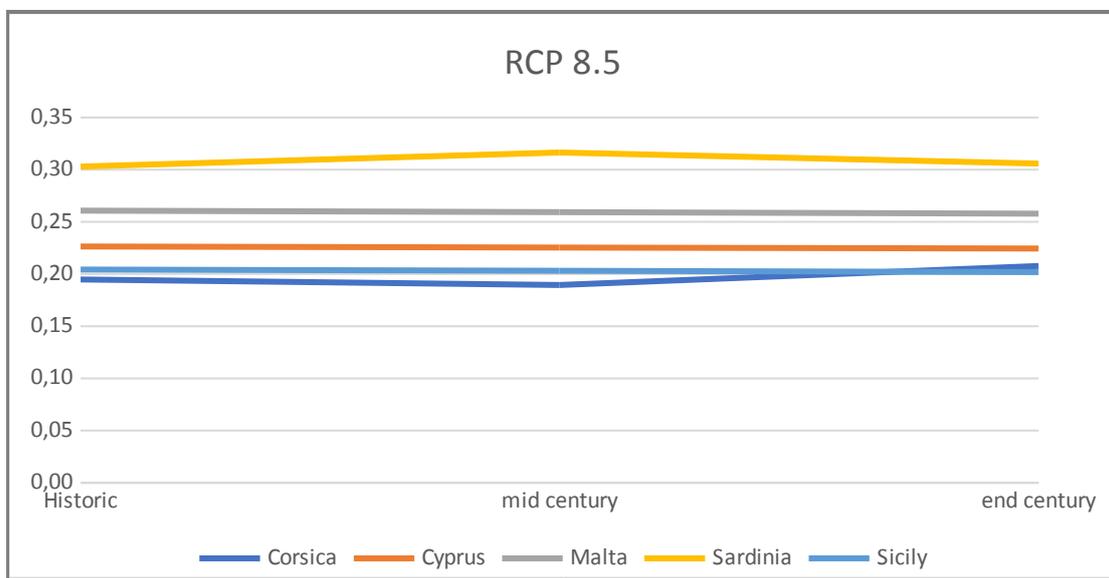


Figure 63: Risk results for best-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5



Risk- Worst-case scenario

Table 14: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events

Risk	Reference period	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.28	0.26
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22
Malta	0.42	0.45	0.56	0.45	0.36
Sardinia	0.33	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33
Sicily	0.30	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.26

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

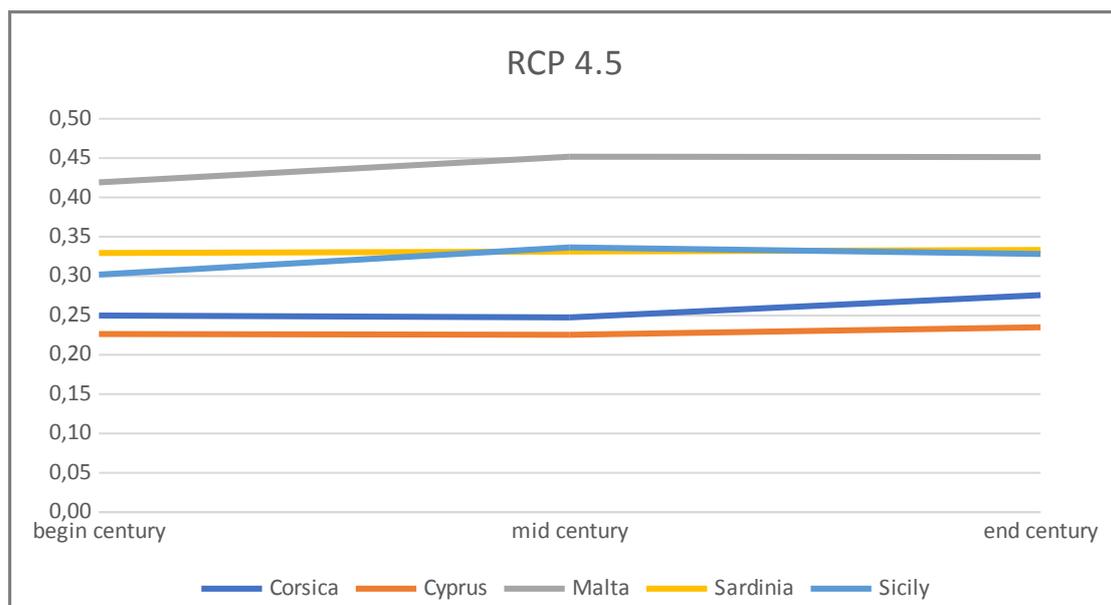


Figure 64: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

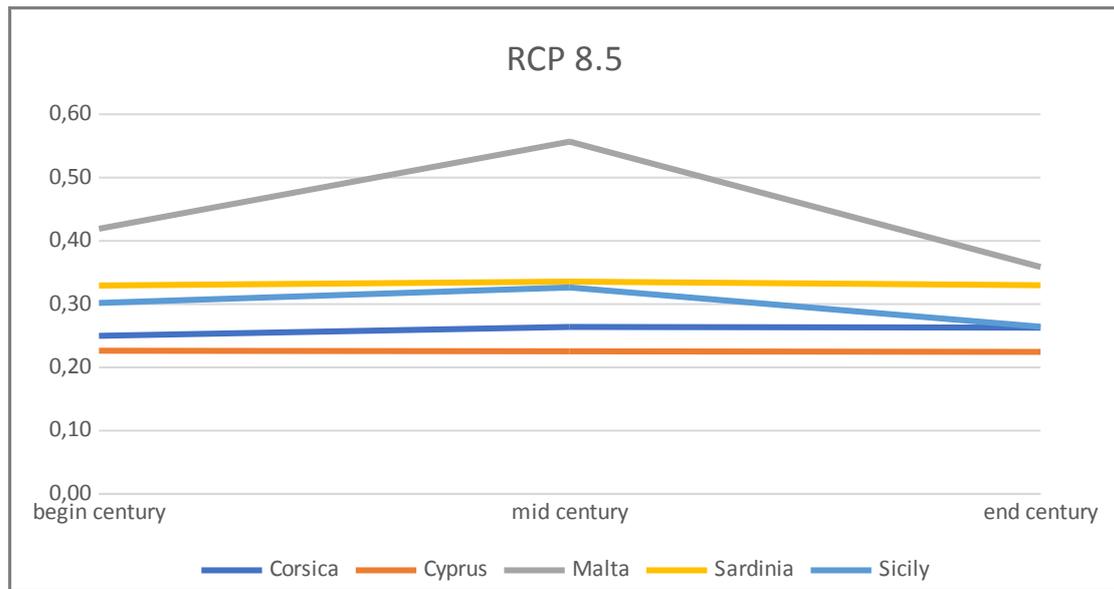


Figure 65: Risk results for worst-case scenario for impact chain Extreme weather events under RCP 8.5. Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Bigger islands were separated in areas since conditions can vary greatly in different parts of the island.

Table 15: Risk results for impact chain Extreme weather events for the Mediterranean islands with large islands analysed on a local level using the worst-case scenario.

Worst case	Historic	RCP 4.5		RCP 8.5	
		mid century	end century	mid century	end century
Malta	0.37	0.45	0.45	0.56	0.36
Sicily North	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.36	0.30
Sicily East	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Sicily South	0.41	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.30
Corsica West	0.37	0.32	0.37	0.34	0.34
Corsica East	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.19
Sardinia West	0.40	0.46	0.47	0.47	0.44
Sardinia East	0.39	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.18
Cyprus	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

For all islands and all RCPs, it can be concluded that there is no significant change in risk, even in the worst-case scenario, between the reference period, middle and end of the century. Malta, Sicily south and Sardinia west are found to be the most vulnerable with risk exceeding 0.45 due to a higher hazard risk. Malta also has the highest exposure of all islands. Malta has an increased risk mid-century in the worst case scenario, due to an increase in hazard.

Impact chain: sea surface temperature

Hazard

Model projections are in good agreement with previous lower resolution ensemble estimates but offering greater detail along island shorelines. Uncertainty to be rigorously estimated from ensemble STD when new simulations of comparable resolution become available, but overall tendency regarded as robust.

Exposure and vulnerability indicators

Table 16: *Expose and vulnerability indicators, the data for each island and the normalized values.*

Component Component weight	Exposure		Vulnerability					
	0.4		0.3					
Sub-component Sub-component weight			Factor of sensitivity		Factors of adaptive capacity			
			0.75		0.25			
Indicator	Average Size of producers	Score for level of exposure	Sensitivity of species (stress)	Score of factor of sensitivity	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Score of factor of adaptive capacity	
Proxy indicator	Yearly production /Number of operators	Average of normalised indicators	Temperature sensitivity of species (expert guess)	Indicator	Monitoring early warning systems	Capacity to change species	Average of indicator	
	Data	Normalised	Normalised		Normalised	Normalised		
Corsica	328.6	0.12	0.12	0.7	0.7	0	1	0.5
Cyprus	811.4	0.29	0.29	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Madeira	125.3	0.05	0.05	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Malta	2,755.9	1.00	1.00	0.6	0.6	0	1	0.5
Sardinia	537.2	0.19	0.19	0.9	0.9	0	1	0.5
Sicily	399.6	0.14	0.14	0.8	0.8	0	1	0.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

Risk

The values in this analysis is not an estimate of the risk but rather a ranking between islands since a lot of the data was normalised based on a min-max or fraction of the maximum of the islands. A proper risk assessment would need additional data from farmers and a detailed model of farming results as a function of temperature. Malta has a much higher risk than the other islands due to the high exposure, Malta's farm produce on average 3.5 to 22 times more than the farms on other islands.

Table 17: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature.

Risk	Historic	Mid century		End century	
	Hist.	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5	RCP 4.5	RCP 8.5
Corsica	0.30	0.34	0.41	0.38	0.42
Cyprus	0.40	0.48	0.48	0.50	0.59
Malta	0.68	0.73	0.74	0.75	0.80
Madeira	0.19	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.35
Sardinia	0.37	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.49
Sicily	0.38	0.43	0.43	0.45	0.48

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

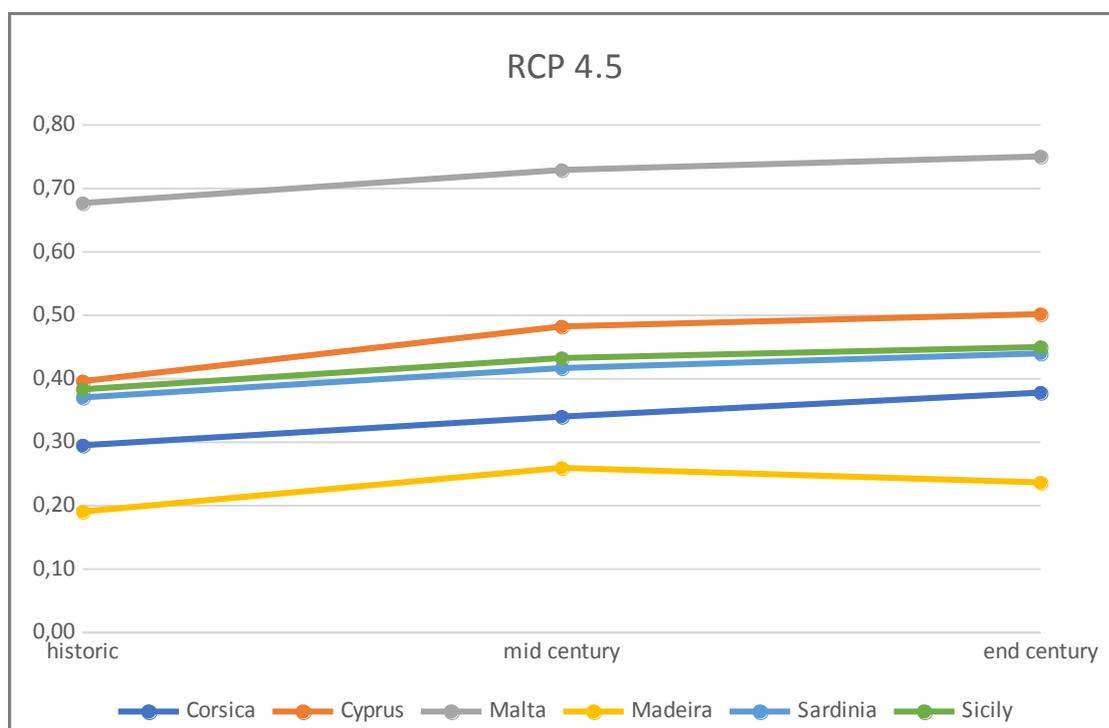


Figure 66: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 4.5

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

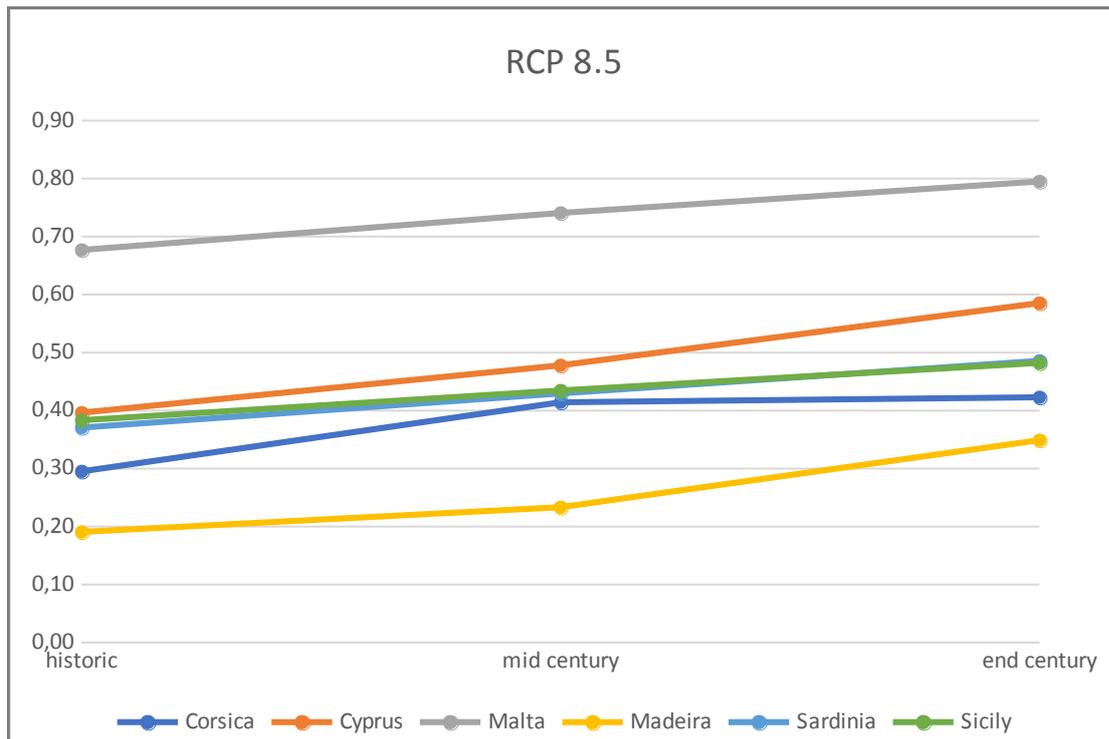


Figure 67: Risk results for impact chain Sea Surface temperature under RCP 8.5
Source: Soclimpact project deliverable 4.5

4.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet. These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

The National Hydropower Association (NHA) defines marine energy as electricity generation from marine kinetic energy, such as waves, tidal and ocean currents. Pisacane et al. (2018) add other marine energy sources like ocean thermal energy conversion (exploiting temperature differences between deep and surface ocean waters) and salinity gradient energy (harnessing the energy potential of differences in salt concentration in ocean and river waters). All these technologies are still in a development phase, and even if they reach the commercial phase in the future, it is not likely that they will generate a large share of the power. Therefore, the analysis in SOCLIMPACT focuses on the main renewable energy sources (RES), wind energy and solar photovoltaic (PV) energy, which are presently, and very likely in future, the backbone of the deployment of renewable energies, due to their technological maturity and low cost.

Nevertheless, we take into account not only onshore but also offshore wind energy, as a specifically marine energy source which has distinct advantages like much higher productivity



and less time variability than onshore wind energy, and does not require land space which is limited and costly in the islands. There are relevant obstacles for its deployment, like the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands, and the lower wind speeds over the Mediterranean in comparison to areas like the North Sea where offshore wind energy is being deployed rapidly.

Additionally, we consider also offshore PV energy. Despite some disadvantages that have to be overcome (corrosion problems due to salty water or the impact of waves), this application is receiving growing interest, as it offers an option for renewable energy development in countries and islands with limited space for the installation of solar panels, and can show increased performance due to the cooling effect of water and wind on PV cells.

Most RES (renewable energy sources) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics. This approach is gaining attention from stakeholders in the islands, as demonstrated by the report by Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020), in which one of the key recommendations for achieving an accelerated zero carbon target in Balearic and Canary Islands by 2040 is the combination of solar PV and wind energy, with clearly higher shares of PV than of wind energy. Such a mix would reduce strongly the need for storage, due to the stability of solar PV production.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination.

For the energy sector, three theoretical impact chains (IC) have been proposed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC, i.e., the one related to changes in energy demand was selected to be operationalized, mainly due to data availability constraints. The quality of IC operationalization depends strongly on data availability over long periods. Data for cooling energy demand are still scarce and difficult to obtain, despite the requirements of the European Commission for information regarding the national energy efficiency targets. The availability and quality of cooling demand data should improve in the future due to the need for tracking the advances towards energy efficiency targets. Desalination demand data should also improve strongly, including data about the energy efficiency of the desalination processes used.

This demand-side IC has been deployed into two individual ICs, namely, the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand and the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs. Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change. The risk assessment was carried through and expert assisted process.

The diagrams of the two operationalized impact chains are presented below

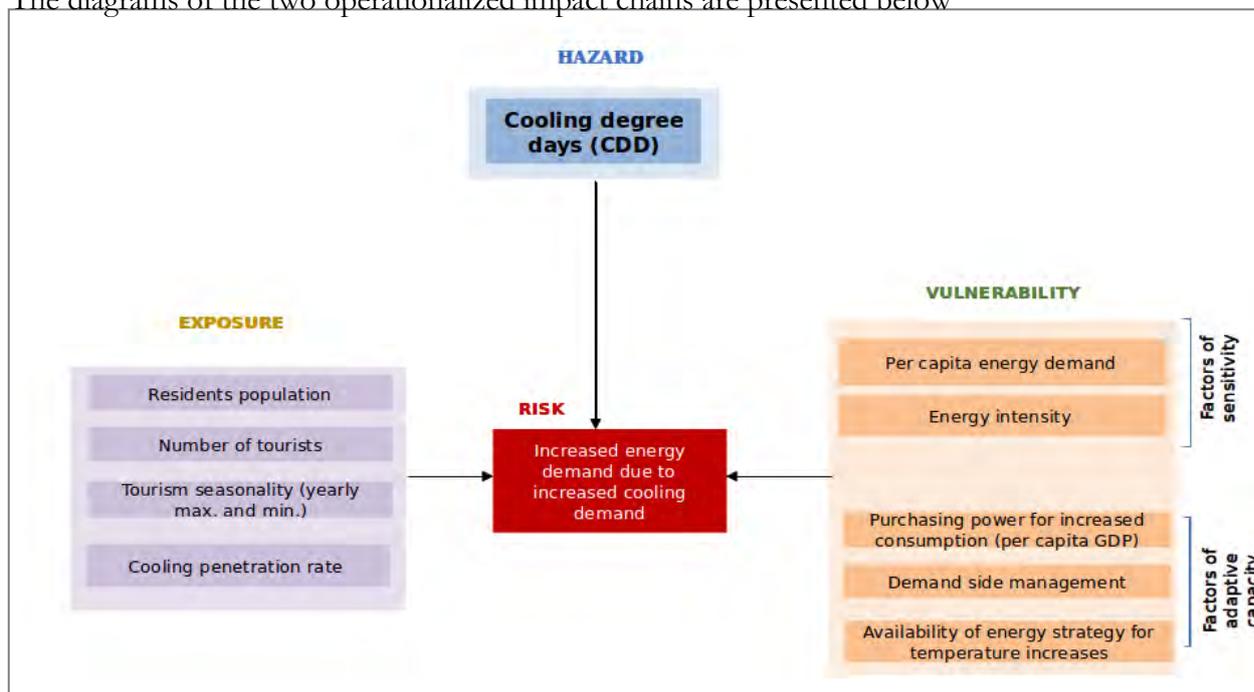


Figure 68: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers

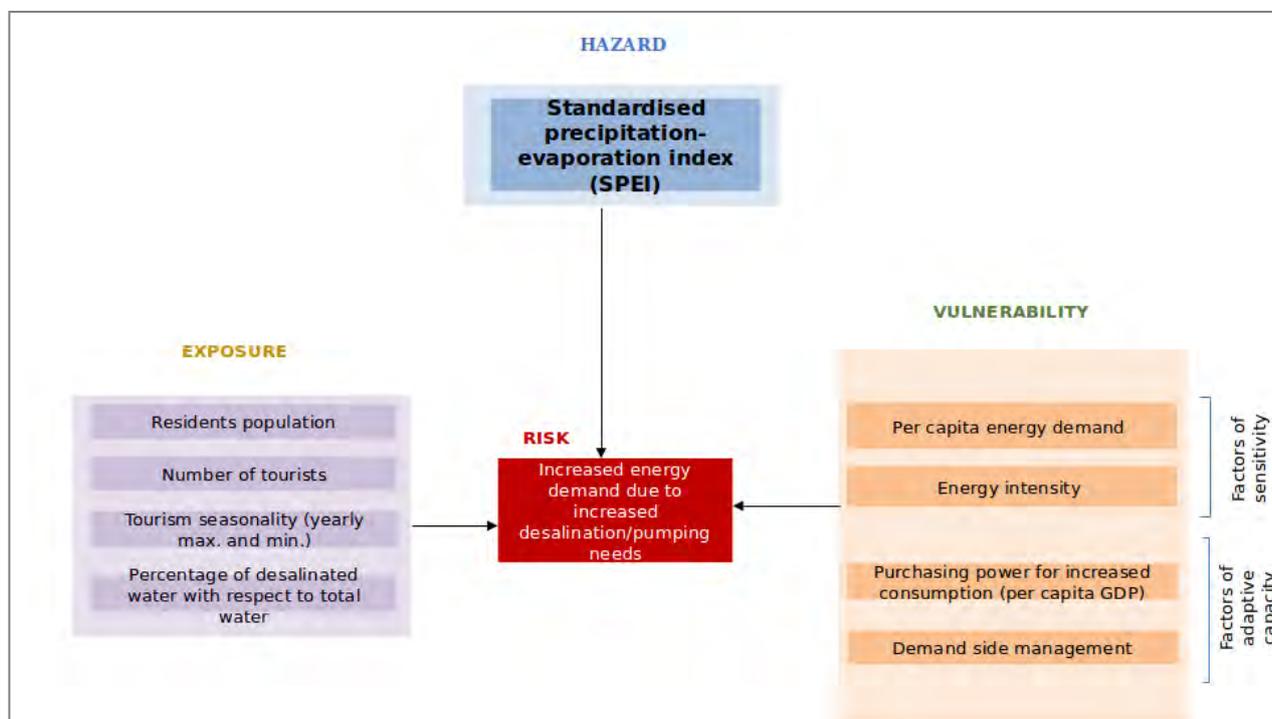


Figure 69: Conceptualization framework for the operationalization of the energy impact chain: Risk of increased energy demand due to increased desalination demand

Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers



Hazard scores for energy demand (**Cooling Degree Days -CDD, Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index - SPEI**), and supply indicators (wind energy, solar PV and combined productivity and droughts) were analysed. The aim is to jointly consider future increases in energy demand due to temperature and precipitation changes and the potential for covering it with renewable energy sources in the future.

Regarding the normalization of these hazards, we use an approach based on their future change. The available literature indicates that the future projected changes of renewable energy productivity frequently do not exceed a level of 10% relative to present values. Changes of about 10% would not modify clearly a normalized score like the one use for present climate (leading to a very limited variation range of the score), but they represent a significant impact on the productivity and profitability of the energy plants. Therefore, the future change of renewable energy productivity is compared to a 10% threshold, both on the negative (normalized values above 0.5) and the positive side (normalized values below 0.5). The normalization also includes a minor contribution of a comparison of the changes relative to other islands.

CDD and SPEI scores are normalized with respect to a maximum projected value previously identified. Renewable energy productivity indicators in present climate are normalized using global thresholds (5th and 95th percentiles of the respective technologies). The same normalization method is used for projected changes of **renewable energy droughts**. Thus, energy drought indicators are normalized comparing them to a maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies.

A fundamental aspect of the method is that we apply an objective procedure for obtaining the weights of the risk components (hazard, exposure and vulnerability) based on time-series correlations of observed data for energy demand and for the different indicators involved in the impact chains. This allows to detect which factors have a larger impact on the energy demand.

This method, based on correlations between observed energy demand and observed data for the indicators, points out that several exposure and vulnerability factors have a stronger weight than the climate hazards on short time-scales (interannual variations for periods of about 10 years). This is consistent with the drivers considered in the national forecasts, for periods of 10 years, performed as part of the EU Energy Efficiency Directive. A consequence of this is the relatively low weights assigned to the climate hazards in the operationalization.

For the operationalization of the full impact chains, the exposure and vulnerability indicators were also weighted utilizing different criteria. The mathematical procedure developed proposes the definition of weights per group of variables (hazard, vulnerability and exposure) that allow identifying the relationship between each of the components and the dependent variable (in this case, energy demand due to desalination or energy demand due to cooling). The detailed weight calculation for the risk components (hazards, exposure and vulnerability) can be found in the Soclimpact Project deliverables 4.5.

It was not possible to conduct a full operationalization of the IC for the case of Sicily.. The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the



SOCLIMPACT

hazard component. In the next tables we present the normalized hazard scores for the island and the interpretation.

Table 18: Energy demand and supply hazard scores for Sicily

Histori-cal ref.(1986-2005)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts
	CDD	SPEI	Productivity Land	Sea	
	0.18	0.00	1.00	0.31	0.95
			0.21	0.26	0.15
			Combined		0.20
RCP2.6 (2046-2065)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
	CDD	SPEI	Productivity change		
	0.28	0.24	0.5	0.6	0.6
			0.5	0.6	0.4
			Combined		0.5
RCP8.5 (2046-2065)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
	CDD	SPEI	Productivity change		
	0.38	0.56	0.7	0.7	0.7
			0.6	0.7	0.4
			Combined		0.8
RCP2.6 (2081-2100)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
	CDD	SPEI	Productivity change		
	0.27	0.24	0.6	0.5	0.6
			0.5	0.6	0.3
			Combined		0.5
RCP8.5 (2081-2100)	Demand		Supply:		Droughts change
	CDD	SPEI	Productivity change		
	0.63	0.92	0.9	0.9	0.9
			0.6	0.8	0.1
			Combined		0.9

Categorization:

0.00 – 0.20 Very low	0.20 – 0.40 Low	0.40 – 0.60 Medium	0.60 – 0.80 High	0.80 – 1.00 Very high
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Source: Soclimpact project Deliverable 4.5-Comprehensive approach for policy makers



CDD and SPEI scores in Sicily are similar to Sardinia, but somewhat higher. This reflects higher temperatures in Sicily, and a slightly worse future evolution regarding hydrological drought conditions. Cooling penetration rate in Sicily (37.6% in 2014) is lower than in Sardinia, indicating again that other factors like purchasing power have more impact on this rate than CDD alone. The importance of the economic factors is confirmed by the evolution of sales air conditioning equipment in Italy in the years before and after the crisis of 2008 (Marvuglia and Messineo, 2012).

The bad wind energy productivity score over land should be adequately interpreted, as it is a spatial average over a very mountainous and large island, where certain areas show good potential. This reflects in the importance that onshore wind energy has already now, as it is the renewable source contributing most to power generation, followed by PV and hydropower. RES share was nearly 25% in 2013 (Meneguzzo et al., 2016). The offshore wind energy productivity score is good, with important spatial differences. The sea area to the west-southwest of Sicily shows the best potential for offshore wind installations. Precisely in this area, a floating wind farm of 250 MW is projected near Marsala (Renewables Now, 2020). If the project is successful, it will be a large boost to the RES share of the island, and should also reduce the need for storage and backup due to the better variability characteristics of offshore wind energy in comparison to onshore wind energy.

Solar PV resources are good, and the low PV drought score indicates low variability. The combination of wind and PV energy is particularly positive in Sicily, as the combined drought score is almost as low as the PV drought score. The projected changes of wind and PV energy productivity and droughts are small under RCP2.6, while wind energy productivity could decrease significantly under RCP8.5 by end of the century. In contrast, in the high-emissions scenario, solar PV would increase its stability clearly.

**** Islands' comparison and future challenges***

- The frame for energy supply in the islands are the binding targets established in the 2030 climate and energy EU framework and the long term horizon of a decarbonized energy system by 2050.
- The future change of wind energy and PV productivity should be rather small in general: around 5% or less with respect to the reference period in many cases, with maximum changes of about 10% for some islands at the end of the century under RCP8.5 scenario (particularly for wind energy productivity over land). A 10% productivity change could have a significant impact on a planned or existing plant if it occurs over the lifetime of the power plant, but in this case such a change would extend over many decades, which will facilitate adaptation and efficiency measures.
- Projected PV productivity changes are generally smaller than wind energy changes. In most cases PV productivity remains constant or decreases slightly. The main exception is Fehmarn, which shows a clear decreasing tendency in PV productivity under RCP8.5 scenario, reaching a 10% decrease by end of the century.
- There is a specific uncertainty source in the photovoltaic projections. Most regional climate model simulations, including the ones used here, do not include a projected evolution of aerosols



in future climate runs. The missed effect of the likely evolution of aerosols would likely increase to some degree the future surface solar radiation and PV productivity over most of the islands (Gutiérrez et al., 2020).

- Renewable energy productivity droughts are a measure of the variability of the resource. Wind droughts are much more frequent (around 50% of the days for most islands) than PV droughts (10% or less of the days). This agrees with results from the study of Raynaud et al. (2018), and highlights the stable character of the solar productivity in comparison to wind productivity over time.

- Wind energy droughts are more frequent in the Mediterranean islands than in the Atlantic islands or Fehmarn. The best quality resources in terms of stability are found for Canary Islands, which show the minimum values of both wind energy and PV droughts among all islands. Fehmarn shows by far the worse PV drought score, corresponding a drought frequency of 23% of the days.

- Projected changes in the frequency of droughts are small, with future variations that generally do not attain a magnitude greater than 5% of the days. This indicates that the time-variability characteristics of wind and PV energy are a robust feature, which is relevant for planning the amount of storage or backup needed.

- The combination of PV and wind energy has generally a very positive impact on the frequency of droughts as a result of the complementarity of both sources. This impact also exists but is less clear for islands with substantial summer wind energy resources (Canary Islands, Madeira and Crete).

- As part of the pathway towards very high or 100% RES shares, offshore wind energy should play a very relevant role. Solutions to overcome the obstacle posed by the deep bathymetry surrounding most of the islands are beginning to near commercial deployment, so that floating offshore wind plants are already planned near Gran Canaria and Sicily.

- Offshore PV could be an interesting option for some islands, particularly when land surface limitations are large. There is growing interest in this option, as shown by the test plants being installed and the references made to this technology in the Roadmap for the Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy of the European Commission or in the report of Monitor Deloitte and Endesa (2020) about the accelerated decarbonization of Canary and Balearic Islands.

- The combination of different types of offshore renewable energy sources in the same platform is also attracting interest, as the different sources can exhibit complementarity in time and the combined output can thus be more stable and reliable. The different RES can also share part of the installations, like the connection to land, reducing their cost (Pisacane et al., 2018; MarineEnergy, 2019a). The European Union is trying to promote such combinations, through projects like MUSICA (Multiple Use of Space for Island Clean Autonomy) which will design and test a floating offshore platform integrating wind, PV and wave energy for use on islands (MarineEnergy, 2019b), and plans to develop roadmaps for its deployment in three case study islands, among them Malta and the Canaries (MaREI, 2020).

- New financing possibilities linked to the recently approved EU COVID-19 recovery fund, and over a longer term associated to the European Green Deal, should facilitate the deployment of renewables in the islands, as the energy transition is a key target.



- Interconnections to mainland are very important for supply safety. Excessive dependency on interconnections to mainland should be nevertheless avoided, due to risk of blackouts, as the failure of a single element (one transmission line) can knock out instantaneously a large proportion of the power of an island and even cause an island-wide blackout, as has occurred several times in Malta in the last years.

Read more: *Hazard indicator computation and normalization*

Cooling degree days (CDD) are used to give an indication of the effect of outside air temperature on building energy consumption during a specified period of time. **The Cooling Degree Days (CDD) index** gives the number of degrees and number of days that the outside air temperature at a specific location is higher than a specified base temperature. For the indicator weight calculation, the observed values of CDD (EUROSTAT) have been used, and compare to the hazard of the island. With respect to the normalization of the indicator, we have used a fixed lower threshold and a relative maximum as upper threshold. The minimum CDD value has been taken as 0, while the maximum CDD value has been taken as the maximum over all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (CDD=1183.49 °C· days/year, corresponding to Cyprus for RCP8.5 scenario, end of century period).

Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is a drought index that takes into account not only the effect of precipitation variations, but also the effect of temperature variations on evapotranspiration. The calculation is based on the monthly difference between precipitation and potential evapotranspiration, which represents the monthly water surplus or deficit. The indicator weight calculation was done using data from ECA&D (European Climate Assessment & Dataset). The normalization of the indicator has taken into account the fact that by definition, present conditions correspond to reference conditions (SPEI=0), and that all future changes are towards negative SPEI values, that is towards drier conditions. Therefore, the best score value (0) has been assigned to SPEI=0, while the worst score value (1) has been assigned to the largest negative value found for all islands, emissions scenarios and time periods (SPEI=-2.5, obtained for several islands under RCP8.5 emissions scenario by the end of century).

The indicator **Wind energy productivity** (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power installed, which is considered as unitary. The indicator is calculated separately for land and sea. Offshore wind energy is the most developed ocean energy, and it is likely to be an important future energy source for the analysed islands. Its characteristics are typically very different to onshore wind energy, due to the large differences in surface friction. The energy productivity values are averaged respectively over the island land points and over the sea points in a domain that reaches a maximum distance of one degree latitude and longitude respectively to the maximum and minimum longitude/latitude land points of the islands.

The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity. These thresholds have been obtained from a global renewable power report (IRENA, 2019). The maximum annual productivity would be 8760 kWh/kW, corresponding to a 100% capacity factor. The obtained CF thresholds for onshore wind energy are 20% (corresponding to a normalized score of 1) and 45% (normalized score of 0), while for offshore energy they are 30% and 50%.



Photovoltaic productivity (kWh/kW) is defined as the energy produced in a period of time divided by the power capacity installed. In order to obtain photovoltaic productivity, daily surface solar radiation (SSR) and ambient temperature from the climate simulations are used as input variables for a parametric PV model. The normalization is performed using absolute thresholds, that represent high or low global values of productivity, taken from the same report as for wind energy. In this case, the maximum threshold is adapted taking into account that the calculations performed here assume fixed panels, while IRENA global report does not differentiate between fixed and sun-tracking panels. Therefore, we estimate an upper CF threshold (normalized score of 0) of 20% for fixed panels, from the 25% value deduced from IRENA global report.

Renewable energy productivity droughts indicators are a way of quantifying the time-variability of renewable energies that depend on meteorological conditions. Low values of energy droughts correspond to a stable output, while high values correspond to a highly variable output. The combined renewable energy droughts represent the complementarity between wind and PV energy. A high complementarity of both sources reduces the need for energy storage or backup sources.

Two different thresholds are calculated to determine moderate (50% of mean daily productivity) and severe (20% of mean daily productivity) energy productivity droughts, respectively. For the normalization of these energy drought indicators, we have used a combination of an absolute threshold (a value of 0% of drought days) corresponding to a score of 0 and a relative maximum upper limit, taken among all the islands and renewable energy technologies (55% of days with moderate droughts, obtained for wind energy in Corsica) corresponding to a score of 1. The same normalization limits are applied for wind, PV and combined productivity droughts.

4.4 Maritime Transport

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified. These are: i) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves, ii) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events and iii) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

The operationalization was applied to the third one (risk of isolation due to transport disruption) which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The selection of islands to be included in the analysis was based on the importance and dependency on the Maritime Transport sector and on data availability.

Although this sector is of great importance for Sicily, the lack of reliable and consistent data limited the analysis, especially in regard:

- Value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot)
- Number of renovated infrastructure (NAgePo).
- Percentage of renewables (PEnRR),
- Early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt).



Nevertheless, this information is also useful at the moment of evaluating and ranking adaptation measures for the islands.

5 Socio economic impacts of climate change

5.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 290 tourists visiting Sicily whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).



Figure 70: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting Sicily

Source: Deliverable Report D5.5 Market and non-market analysis

Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (75.30% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where the cultural heritage is damaged due to weather conditions (52.40%), where wildfires occur more often (52.10%) or where water is scarce for leisure activities (52.10%). Consequently, policies related to the prevention of infectious diseases (3.5€/day), the protection of the cultural heritage (3.5€/day), and the marine habitats restoration (3.2€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting this island.



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Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.

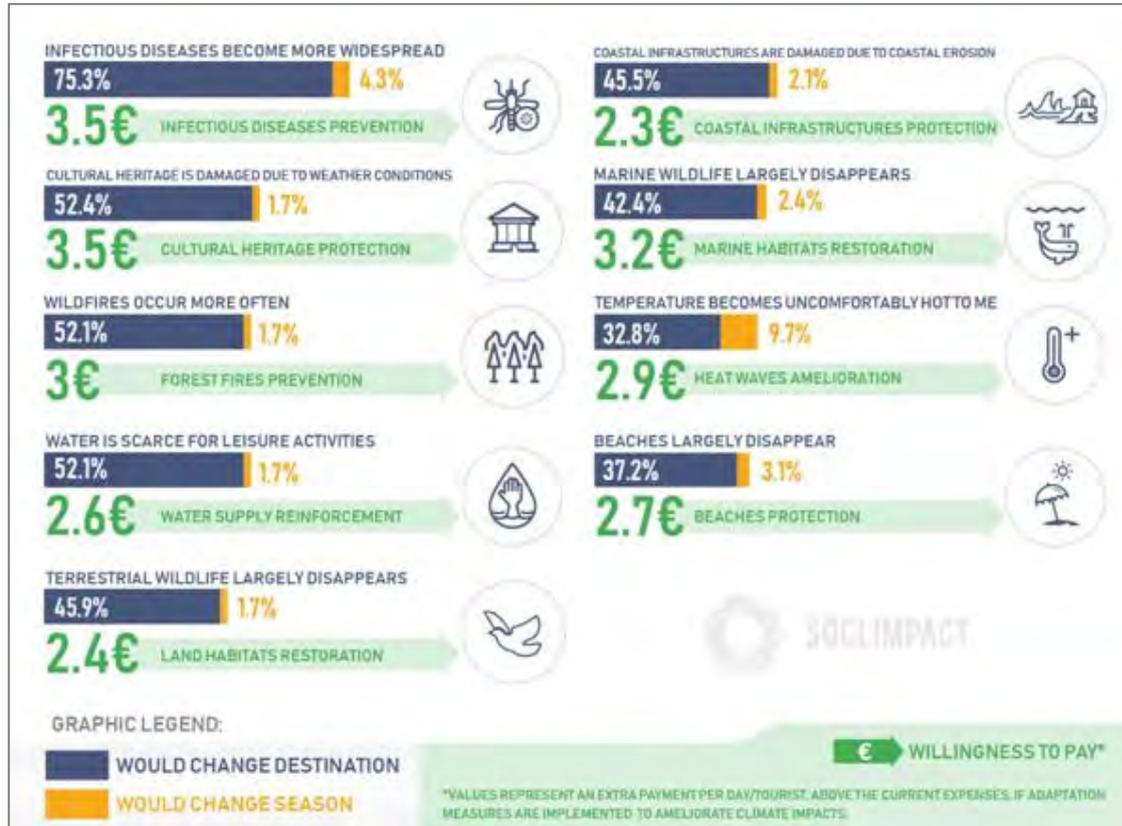


Figure 71: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting Sicily

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

How tourists perceive the island destination: A comparative approach through the analysis of social media

While historically destination image is projected by DMOs and tourists' offices, the advent of social media allow the construction of an image which is also a projection of tourists. The content of their communication online shows the image they perceive. In this section we analyse how tourists "talk" about the different islands on social media, in order to understand what the perceived image is.

We use a specific tool (Google Cloud Vision) to scan the content of images posted by tourists on Instagram (the market leader in visual social media) while they are on holiday in selected islands. The content is translated in up to ten labels attached to each picture. For each island we aggregate and rank the different labels to find out the most important characteristics tourists



associate to the island (assuming that they are correlated with the most frequent labels attached to the pictures).

We analyse eight islands representative of the Atlantic Ocean (four islands of the Canary Archipelago: Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Tenerife) and of the Mediterranean Sea (Crete, Cyprus, Malta, Sicily). We scan posts geotagged in these islands by tourists (identified by a travel-related hashtag such as #visit #holiday #travel, etc) in summer 2019 (June to September), returning a total number of 745,235 pictures considered in the analysis. The breakdown is in the table below.

Table 19: Characteristics of the sample of pictures under analysis

Indicator	Island							
	<i>Tenerife</i>	<i>Gran Canaria</i>	<i>Fuerteventura</i>	<i>Lanzarote</i>	<i>Cyprus</i>	<i>Crete</i>	<i>Malta</i>	<i>Sicily</i>
Num. of posts (total)	49,234	33,145	38,452	25,471	63,561	93,752	74,925	119,896
Avg. num. of pictures per post	1.77	1.67	1.56	1.8	1.76	1.74	1.81	1.68
Share of geotagged posts	67%	67%	67%	65%	70%	74%	76%	73%
Number of scanned pictures	74,537	48,337	52,577	39,381	95,808	141,538	117,576	175,481

Source: Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

After aggregating similar words, top labels for each island were obtained. The following pools were created utilizing a frequency analysis, which is the total number of times the label occurs in each island. A first glance at the word clouds shows that all destinations look extremely similar which, perhaps, is of little surprise given that they all are European sea & sun destinations: hence, labels like Sky, Sea, Vacation, Tree, Beach are among the most frequent for all islands. Nonetheless, some differences can be spotted: Mountain appears relatively more frequently in Tenerife than in other islands; Sea and Ocean have relatively more weight in Fuerteventura; Architecture and Building are of more importance in Cyprus, Crete, Malta and Sicily than in the Canary Islands, something that is clearly linked to the density of cultural heritage in the Mediterranean islands: in fact, all the labels representing architectural, religious and historical sites (History, Historic, Ruins, Site, Ancient, Building, Dome, Mosque, Holy, Medieval, etc.) have higher ranks in these islands than in the Canaries. The islands of this archipelago have more similar images, but also reveal distinct features: for example Gran Canaria appears the most urban, Tenerife is characterized by a higher frequency of labels related to partying and nightlife but also for wildlife spotting, Lanzarote stands out for its arid landscapes and Fuerteventura for the vast sandy seashores and turquoise waters as the frequencies of labels such Beach, Shore, Sand, Coast, Turquoise, Ocean show.



The impact of increased temperatures and heat waves on human thermal comfort

In order to assess how the variation in temperature impacts on the tourism sector through changes in tourism demand our research question was: “How do increasing temperatures (and heat waves) impact prices and, more in general, expenditure of tourists?” Arguably, when temperatures grow, tourists adjust their behaviour: they might switch destination, or they might stay longer or shorter depending on their attitudes and preferences. In turn, all these changes modify the market equilibrium, pushing tourism companies to adjust their prices to re-establish the equilibrium between demand and supply. The change in demand and the change in price determine the change in tourism expenditure which is, from the destination’s perspective, tourism revenue.

We monitored current weather conditions posted on several weather forecast providers and daily prices posted on Booking.com by hotels. We then estimated the link between daily temperature and daily price, controlling for all the other factors affecting prices. We finally applied these estimates to the increase in the number of days with excessive temperature projected for the future in two scenarios (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5) and in two time horizons (near future, about 2050; distant future, about 2100).

Among the different indicators linked to thermal stress, Soclimpact is focusing on two: the number of days in which the temperature is above the 98th percentile and the number of days in which the perceived temperature is above 35 degrees. Although in D5.6 the impact for both indices were computed, in this document we only report the second one (named HUMIDEX) because it is the most intuitive and because human thermal stress is more related to the absolute value of the temperature than its deviation from some pre-determined distribution. In line with the project, we assumed that thermal stress appears when the perceived temperature grows above 35 Celsius degrees.

As thermal stress is delimited in the summer months, and this is when the great majority of tourists arrive in these islands, the whole analysis has been carried out in six months only: from May to October included. In other words, we assume that there is no thermal stress (and hence no impact on tourism) in the rest of the year.

Initially, three islands were investigated: Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily, given the massive amount of potential data. We focused the analysis in three specific areas, represented in the map below: the south-east area of Corsica (between Porto Vecchio and Boniface); the North-East area of Sardinia (Costa Smeralda) and the South-East area of Sicily (the coastal area of Catania and Siracusa provinces). Arguably, these are among the most important coastal tourism areas of these islands. Overall, 60 hotels (for a total of about 240,000 observations) were monitored in Corsica; 150 hotels (for a total of about 620,000 observations) were monitored in Sardinia; 129 hotels were monitored in Sicily (for a total of about 726,000 observations) over the period 1 May 2019 – 31 October 2019.

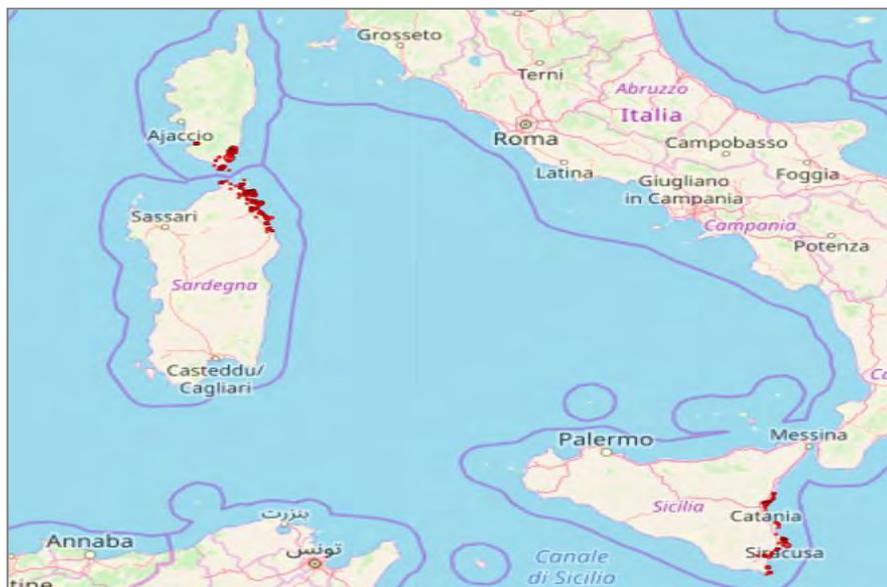


Figure 72: Map of the region
 Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

At present, 28.49% (column 1 of the table below) of “summer” days (days in the period between 1 May and 31 October) have a HUMIDEX higher than 35 Celsius degrees in the area under investigation (Coastal area of Catania and Siracusa).

In the future, this share (column 3) will increase to about 37-38% in rcp2.6, to 40.60% in rcp8.5 near, and to 65.04% in rcp8.5, distant. Consequently, demand for holidays in Sicily will increase and the new equilibrium shows an increase in the average price posted by hotels in the destination (column 4) and an increase in overnight stays (column 5, this is estimated using the past correlation between average prices and occupancy rates in hotels, data provided by STR). The joint impact of price and demand will lead to an increase in hotels revenues (last column of the table) and, assuming that the change in revenues spreads to the other tourism products in a similar way, an increase in tourism revenues for the whole destination will be recorded. Hence, the estimation reported in the last column of the table below can be interpreted as the percentage increase in tourism revenues for the island.

Table 20: Estimation of increase in average price and revenues for Sicily

Actual share of days in which humidex > 35 degrees	Future scenario considered	Days in the corresponding scenario in which humidex > 35 degrees	Increase in the average price	Increase in the tourism overnight stays	Increase in tourism revenues
28.49%	rcp26near	37.53%	0.4%	0.1%	0.5%
	rcp26far	38.41%	0.5%	0.1%	0.6%
	rcp85near	40.60%	0.6%	0.1%	0.7%
	rcp85far	65.04%	1.7%	0.3%	2.1%

Source : Soclimpact project deliverable [D5.3](#)

According to these findings, the average increase in temperature, which is correlated to a growing thermal stress for tourists, brings an economic advantage to tourism destinations. This is only an apparent contradiction with previous findings. This study does not neglect the fact that if islands are too hot, tourists will choose to move to other (cooler) destinations, that in principle exist. In this study the underlying assumption is instead that growing temperatures are a global issue, thereby not modifying the relative position of a destination. Then, the increase in tourism (and tourism revenues) stem from the fact that, when the temperature is too hot, people would prefer to move to coastal areas (where the climatic conditions are more bearable) than staying inland or in cities. Future trends will also facilitate this pressure of tourism demand (think about the spreading of smart working activities where, in principle, the worker can relocate wherever he/she wants).

Aquaculture

The effects of increased sea surface temperatures on aquaculture production were calculated using a lethal temperature threshold by specie, and considering the production share of the region. Four different future scenarios shown by IPCC estimations (RCP2.6 and RCP8.5 near and distant) were analysed, which correspond to four water temperature increases in the region (mean values), with respect to the reference period.

To do this, we assume two main species cultured in this region: Seabream (SB) and Tuna (T), and a model of production function, calculating the monthly biomass production which depends on the monthly water temperature. Results are presented on yearly base (mean values). In order to facilitate the interpretation of the results, we present the value of production of the last year available, for which we calculate the new values under the different CC scenarios.

As expected, the production levels (tons) will decrease for both, low and high emissions scenarios. In both cases, the average annual temperatures are projected in levels below 23^oC and 24^oC, which are the thresholds of thermal stress for Bluefin tuna and Seabream species.



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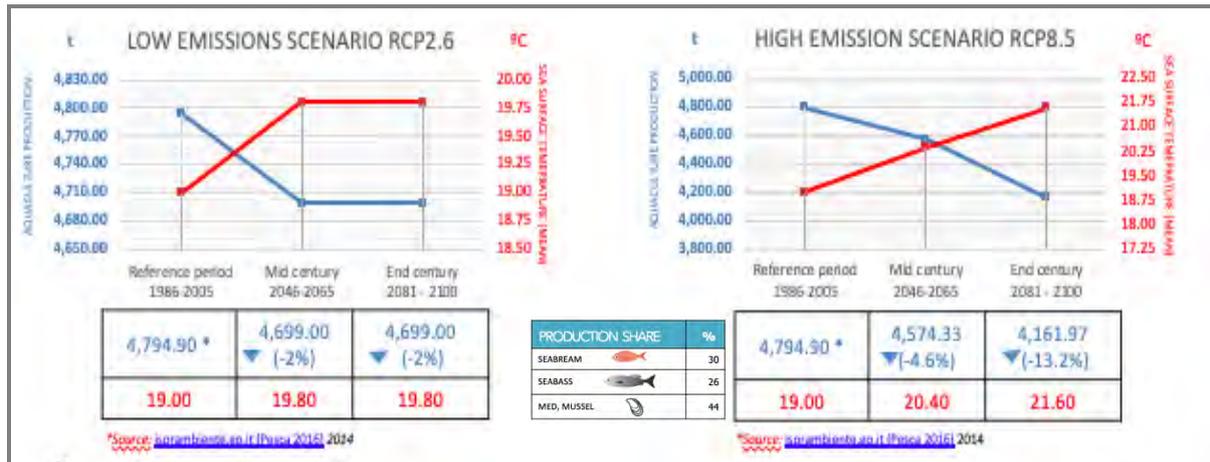


Figure 73: Estimations of changes in aquaculture production (tons), due to increased sea surface temperature
Source: Deliverable [Report D5.6](#)

The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

Energy

Climate change may impose welfare reductions to the European islands' societies by affecting thermal comfort. Cooling Degree Days (**CDD**) are a measure of how much (in degrees), and for how long (in days), outdoor air temperature is higher than 18°C or 65° Fahrenheit. The CDD is used as a measure of the energy needed to cool buildings. The increase in CDD and the energy demand (**GWh/year**) for cooling are estimated for the islands, under different scenarios of global climate change.

Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that the CDD increase to 5112 CDD¹⁰. This value represents, for example, 365 days with temperatures of 32°C (5110CDD). Under this situation, the increase in cooling energy demand is expected to be 235%.

The infographics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

10 The indicator is computed by multiplying the number of days exceeding the threshold by the difference in temperatures. For example the CDD for 100 days at 20 °C is computed as 100*(20-18)= 200CDD

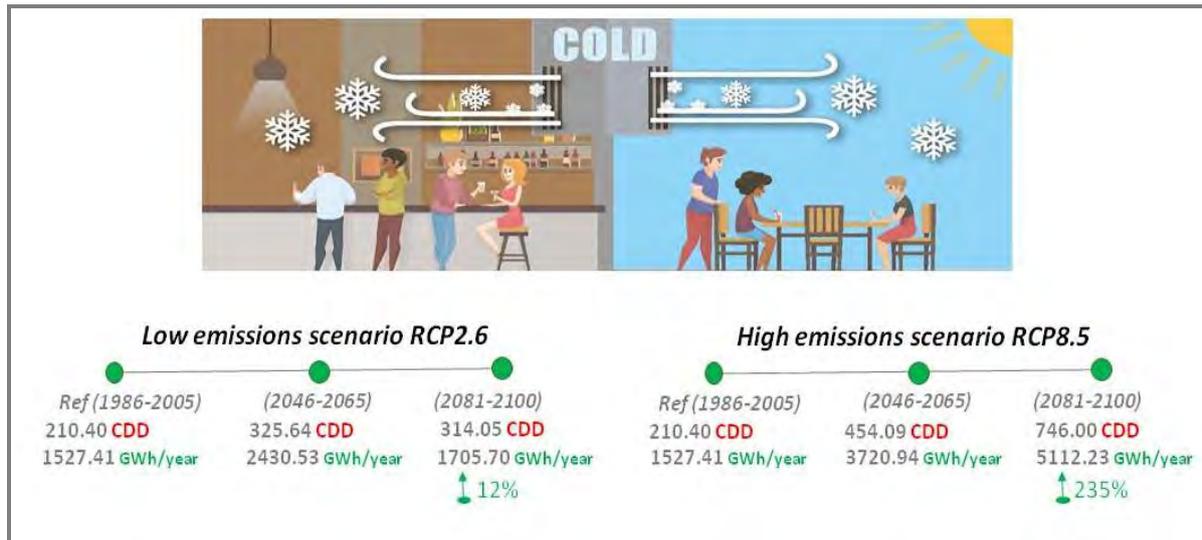


Figure 74: Estimations of increased energy demand for cooling in Sicily under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable Report D5.6

The Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) is analysed as a representative indicator for increases in water demand for islands' residents, tourists and agriculture, while it also provides an indication on the available water stored in dams or underground resources. To estimate the increase of energy demand due to the increase in water demand, it was assumed that most of the islands will have to produce desalinated seawater (or groundwater) to meet further increases of demand. Thus, the estimation of the increase in energy demand (GWh/year) to produce more drinking water has been done based on the energy consumption required to desalinate seawater.

Under the low emissions scenario (RCP2.6), there are not significant changes in the SPEI indicator, that will remain in its "normal" level, as it is nowadays. Nevertheless, an increase of 24% in desalination energy demand is expected. Under RCP8.5 the scenario alerts on a severe aridity leading to an increase of 138% of the energy demand.

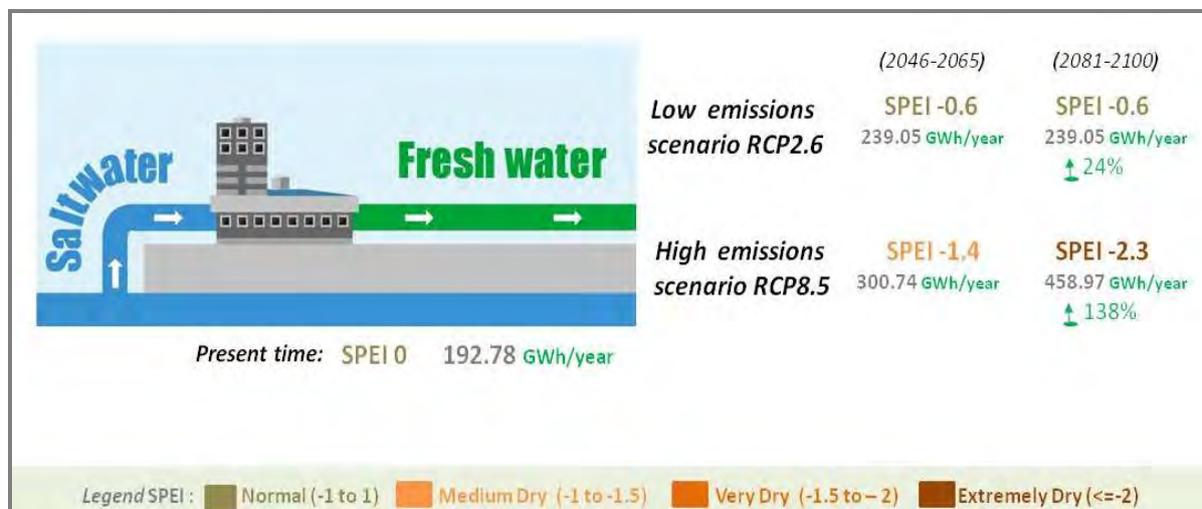


Figure 75: Estimations of increased energy demand for desalination in Sicily under different scenarios of climate change until 2100

Source: Deliverable Report D5.6



Maritime Transport

For maritime transport, it has been estimated the impact of Sea Level Rise on ports' operability costs of the island. The costs have been calculated with reference to 1 meter; this is, the investment needed to increase the infrastructures' height by 1 meter. There is not necessarily a strict correspondence between the SLR and the required elevation of port infrastructures, which also depend on the coastal hydrodynamic and the shape of dikes of each port. By experts' recommendation, we have assumed that 1 m increase in port height is required to cope with the SLR under RCP 8.5 scenario of emissions. Extrapolation for other RCP scenarios is then conducted based on proportionality.

The starting point was the identification of the principal ports in each island (economic relevance). Second, the analysis of the different port areas (exterior, ramps, oil, etc.), and their uses. Third, the elevation costs were estimated per each area and port separately (considering 1 meter elevation). Thus, the costs of 1-meter elevation presented are the sum of all areas and ports analysed, and including the rest of the ports of the island (if applicable) based on proportionality. Estimations consider that all ports areas of the entire area should be elevated at the same time. In other words, the economic values can be interpreted as the depreciation (amortization) costs of the investment needed to increase all ports' infrastructures' in the island for 125 years time horizon. No discount rate has been applied.

As expected, the rising of sea levels will affect the sector, as new investment will be needed to keep ports' operability. Under the high emissions scenario, it is expected that these costs could increase 3.6 million of euros per year until the end of the century.

The infographic presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

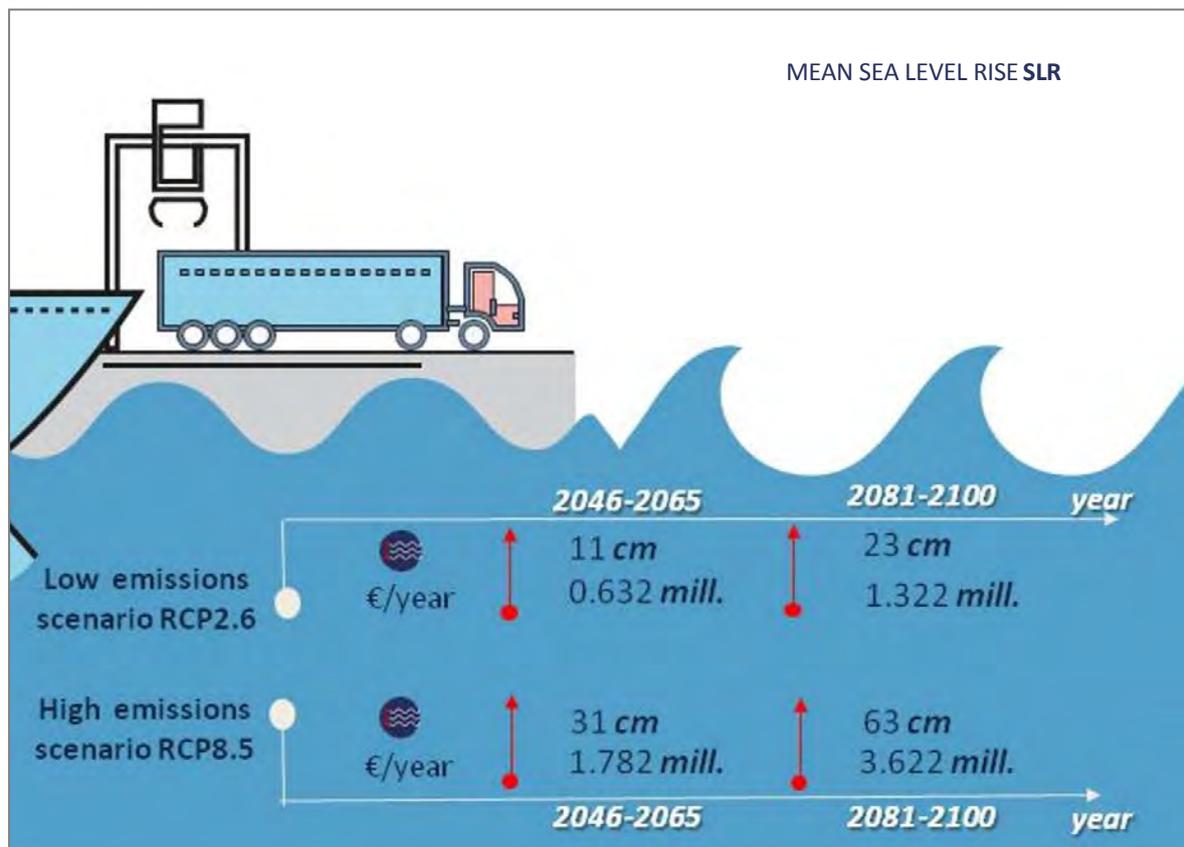


Figure 76: Increased costs for maintaining ports' operability in Sicily under different scenarios of SLR caused by climate change until 2100
Source: Deliverable Report D5.6

5.2 Macroeconomic projections

The aim of our study is to assess the socioeconomic impacts of biophysical changes for the island of Sardinia. For this purpose we have used the GEM-E3-ISL model; a single-region, multi-sectoral general equilibrium model based on the principles of neo-classical theory, and GINFORS; a macro-econometric model based on the principles of post-Keynesian theory.

Both models include 14 sectors of economic activity, with an emphasis on services and specifically on those composing the tourism industry. The GEM-E3-ISL model also include: endogenous representation of labor market and trade flows etc.

Changes in the mean temperature, sea level and precipitation rates are expected to affect energy consumption, tourism flows and infrastructure developments. These impact-chains have been examined and quantified under two emission pathways: RCP2.6 which is compatible with a temperature increase well below 2C by the end of the century and RCP8.5 which is a high-emission scenario. The impact on these three (3) factors has been quantified in D5.6 and is used as input in the economic models, which then assess the effects on GDP, consumption, investments, employment etc.



In total 18 scenarios have been quantified for Sicily. The scenarios can be classified in the following categories:

1. Tourism scenarios: these scenarios examine the reduction in tourism revenues due to changes in human comfort as captured by the hum-index, the degradation of marine environment, increased risk of forest fires and beach reduction
2. Energy scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of increased electricity consumption for cooling purposes and for water desalination
3. Infrastructure scenarios: these scenarios examine the impacts of port infrastructure damages
4. Aggregate scenarios: these scenarios examine the total impact of the previous-described changes in the economy.

In this scenario we examine the impacts of a simultaneous change in electricity consumption, tourism revenues and infrastructure damages. The scenario specifications for the two climatic variants are presented below:

Table 21: Aggregate scenario –results

	Tourism revenues (% change from reference levels)	Electricity consumption (% change from reference levels)	Infrastructure damages (% of GDP)
RCP2.6 (2045-2060)	-7.24	10.5	-0.04
RCP2.6 (2080-2100)	-10.06	3.1	-0.04
RCP8.5 (2045-2060)	-13.76	25.3	-0.10
RCP8.5 (2080-2100)	-38.44	43.5	-0.12

Source: GEM-E3-ISL

The theoretical and structural differences of the two models mean that this study produces is a reasonable range of impacts, given the uncertainty embodied in economic analysis and especially in the long-term.

In GEM-E3-ISL, the economy is in equilibrium at each point in time. Prices adjust to ensure that supply equals demand (market clearing), capital is fully used; however, the allows for equilibrium unemployment. The impacts are driven mainly by the supply side through changes in relative prices that determines competitiveness change, substitution effects etc. The GEM-E3-ISL model assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2100.

The macro-econometric type of models, such as GINFORS, do not require that all markets are in equilibrium; idle capital and involuntary unemployment are some other features of this type of models where the results are driven mainly by adjustments in the demand side of the economy. The GINFORS assesses the impacts on the economy up to 2050.

With respect to GDP the estimated change compared to the reference case is between 0.05% and -0.5% in the RCP2.6 in 2050 and between -1.1% and 1.6% in the RCP8.5. The cumulative reduction over the period 2040-2100 is estimated (by GEM-E3-ISL) to be equal to 0.54% in the RCP2.6 and 2.6% in the RCP8.5. IN GINFORS increased investments are the driver of GDP



increases in the RCP2.6 while in the GEM-E3-IS model increased investments in electricity crowds-out other productive investments and drive capital prices higher resulting in competitiveness losses; hence these two effects cancel out the positive impact of increased investments.

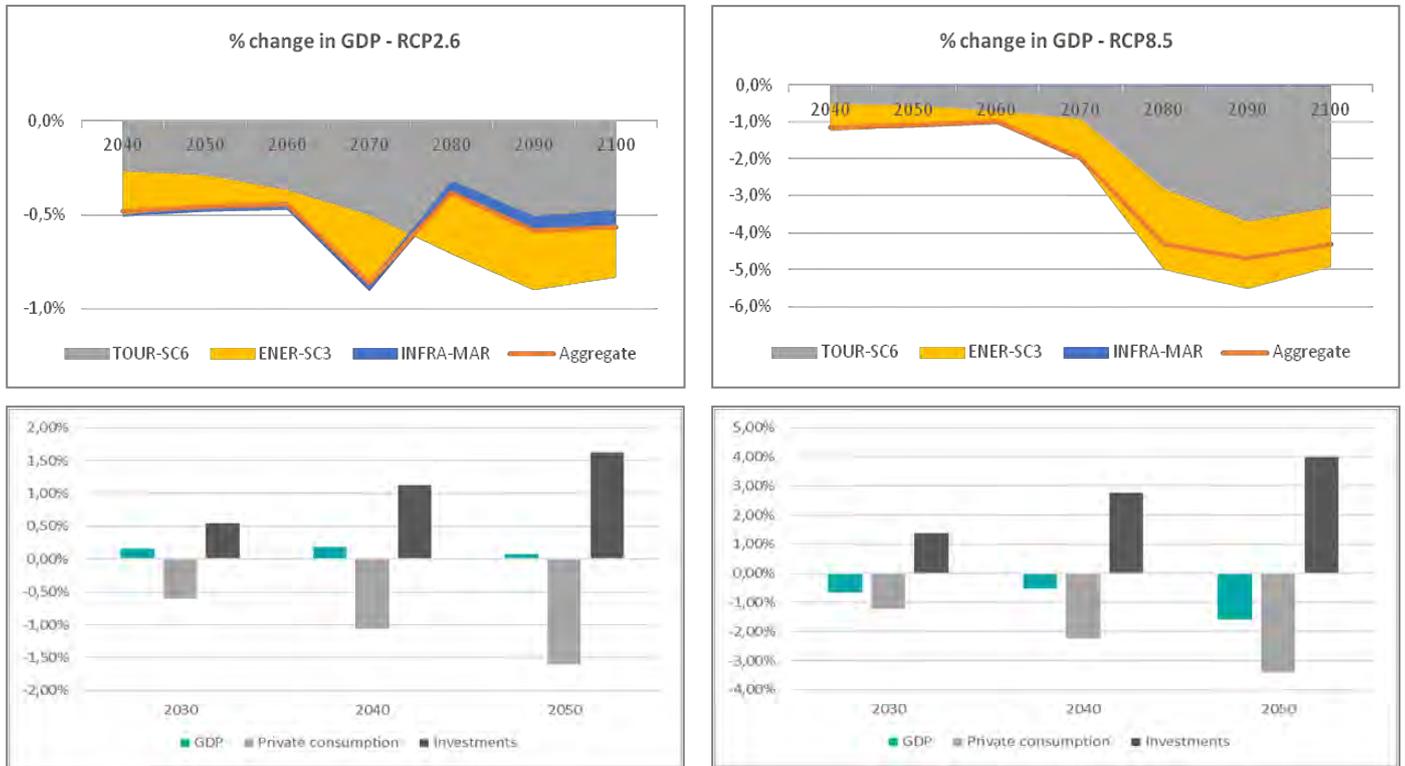


Figure 77: Percentage Change in GDP.
Source: GWS, own calculation

With respect to sectorial impacts both models show a significant decrease in the activity of tourism related sectors and an increase in the activity of the non-service sectors, highlighting the opportunities for the development of other activities secondary sectors.

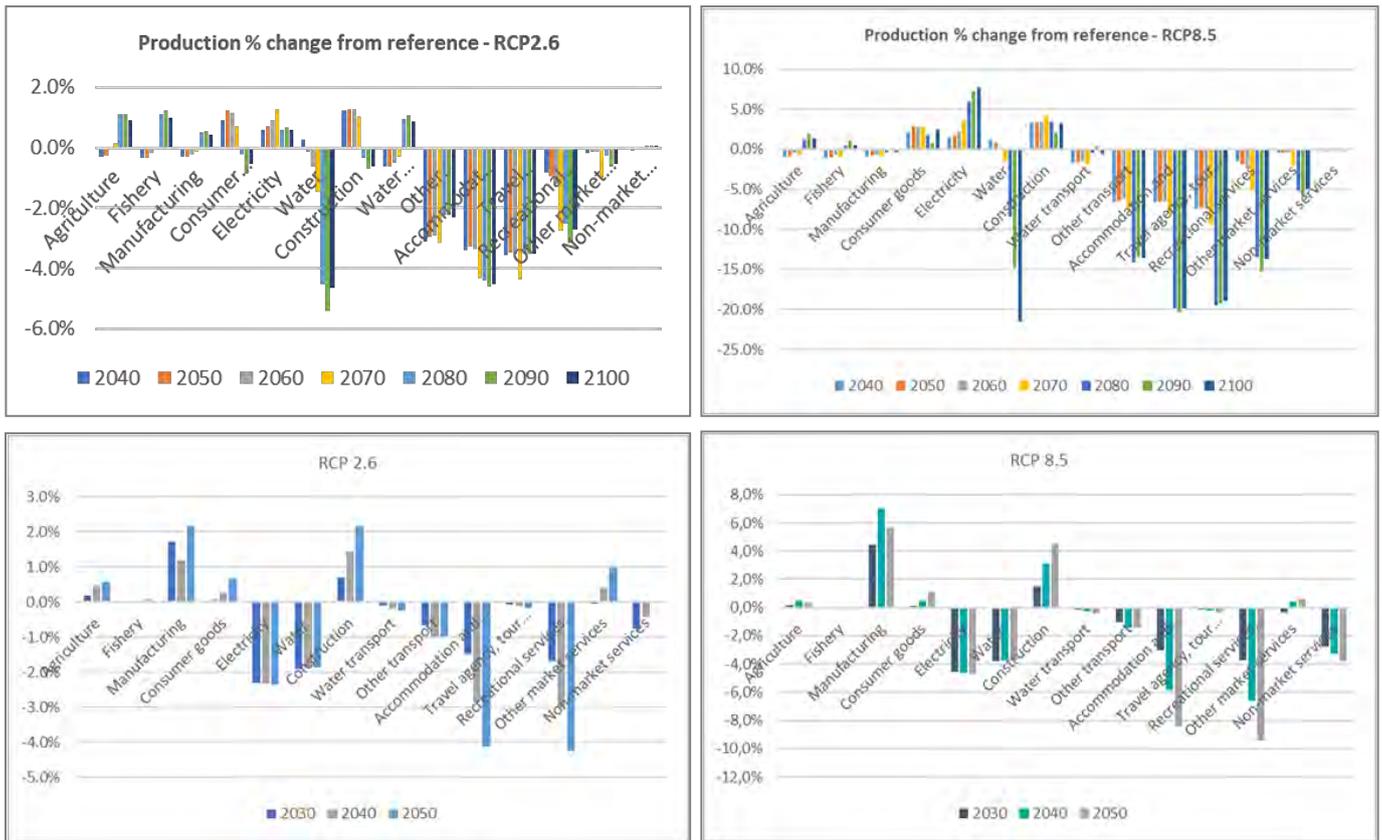


Figure 78: Production percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

Overall employment falls in the economy and especially in tourism related sectors. In GEM-E3-ISL increases in employment in non-tourism related activities are related to labor costs reductions (as wages fall and their competitiveness increases) and a consequent substitution of capital with labor. Employment falls on average by 0.1% in the RCP2.6 in the RCP8.5

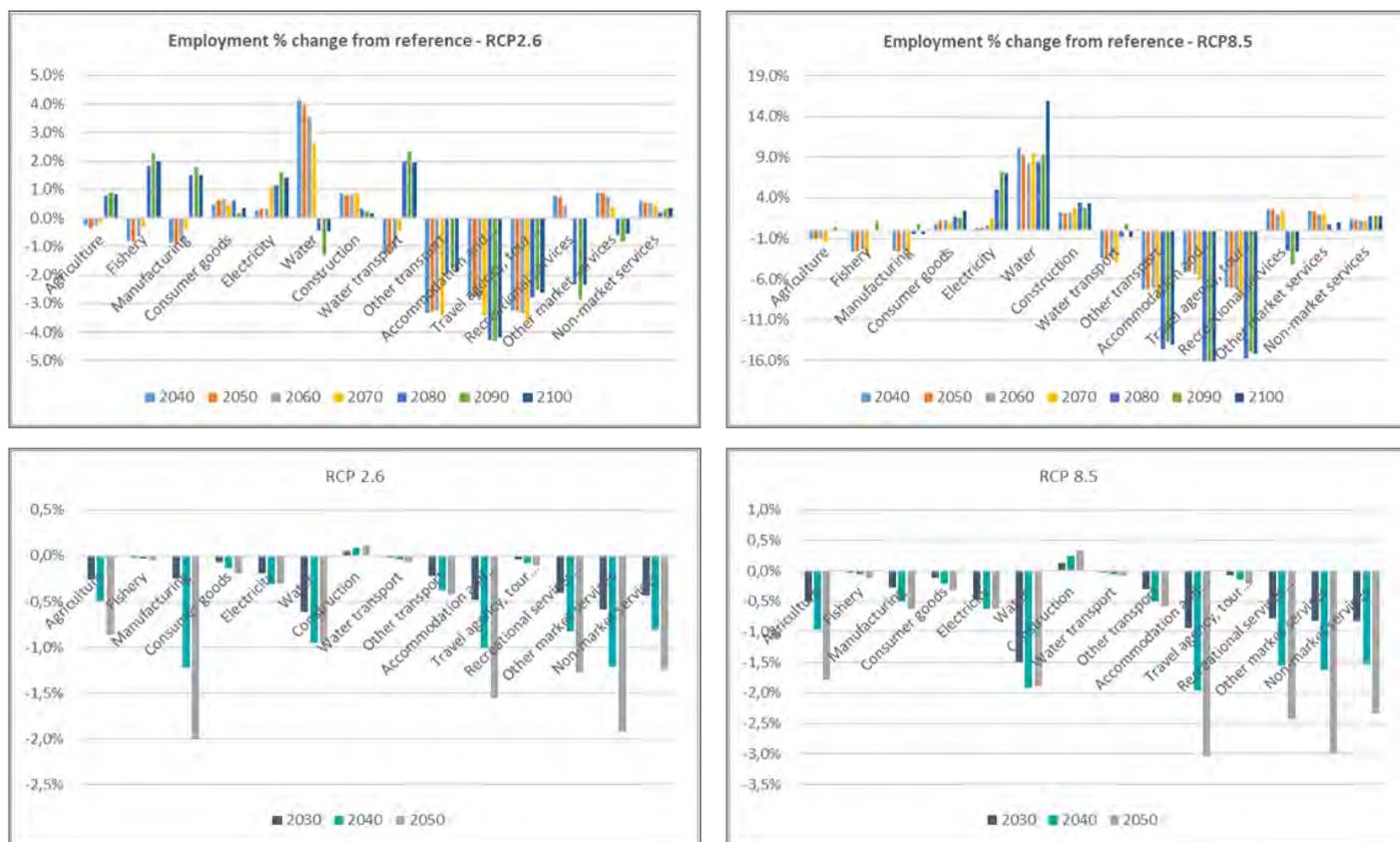


Figure 79: Employment percentage change from reference.
Source: GWS, own calculation

6 Towards climate resiliency

6.1 Current situation: general commitment, specific limits and obstacles

Proposal of an integrated national plan for energy and climate (31/12/2018): To support and provide a robust analytical basis for the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNEC), the following were implemented:

- a BASE scenario that describes an evolution of the energy system with current policies and measures;
- a PNEC scenario that quantifies the strategic objectives of the plan.

The PNEC tables illustrate the main objectives of the 2030 plan on renewables, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions and the main measures envisaged to achieve the objectives of the Plan.

National Plan of Adaptation to Climate Change (July 2017): this plan identifies and discusses the main objectives to be pursued and the necessary steps, for each one of the socio-economic and environmental sectors of interest, based on the climatic and impact analyzes to face the impacts of the expected climate changes. From the sector analysis, over 350 actions



emerged that were collected in a single Database that contains detailed analytical information for each individual action and different selection keys for the actions to allow easy search and consultation of the same.

There are 13 cross-cutting actions that are common to all the sectors analyzed and which have a national value, together with more specific actions for each sector.. The actions identified for each sector are associated with the impacts identified in the previous analyzes, the adaptation targets to be pursued and the homogeneous climatic areas of implementation, suggested on the basis of the RCP 4.5 climate scenario identified as the reference scenario.

Table 22: Specific limits and obstacle and relevant documents

<i>Specific limits and obstacle</i>
<p>Different kind of limits and barriers, respectively experienced by individuals, organizations and local governments, exist.</p> <p>From the point of view of individuals, a general low personal understanding of climate change and its impacts exists.</p> <p>Considering organizations (both private and public) we can highlight different barriers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inadequate funds for adaptation, especially the financial ones - uncertainty around the scale of the climate changes and the concrete risks - lack of locally relevant and practical information about potential climate impacts - limited financial resources both for medium sized organizations and local governments - culture of the organization <p>Specifically, for local governments, there is a difficult in planning</p>
<i>Relevant documents</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal of an integrated national plan for energy and climate (31/12/2018) • National Plan of Adaptation to Climate Change (July 2017) • Sicily has not launched specific initiatives for the preparation of Strategies and/or Plans but has ongoing activities preliminary to these paths. The process began with the drafting of the ERDF OP 2014-2020 - Objective 5 where climate adaptation is considered unifying and transversal for the reduction of exposure to natural risk. • Strategic plan for aquaculture in Italy 2014-2020 • Regional Plan of Transport and Mobility (Sicily Region) • Regional strategic plan of tourism development 2019/2023 -three-year program of tourism development 2019/2021 of the Sicilian region • Plan for the Hydrogeological Asset of the Sicilian Region • Map of vulnerable areas at desertification risk of in Sicily • Regional plan for programming the activities of prevision, prevention and active fight for the defense of vegetation against the fire (year of revision 2018)

Source: Deliverable 7.1 Conceptual framework/



7 References

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APPENDIX 12





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Introduction

This report is the background material for stakeholders in the upcoming adaptation pathways workshop in West Indies. It sums up results of the project that come from other Work Package Deliverables (with the exception of D7.1R from WP7). A presentation that includes the geography and socio-economic context for the whole of the nine Islands. The socioeconomic trends without climate change are presented (WP6), which range from the present to the end-of the century. The same is made regarding Climate Change trends and expected physical risks¹, both current and future (WP4). The expected climate risks and vulnerabilities for the blue economy are presented firstly with Impact chains developed (WP3) and ran (WP4) by the project¹, and secondly providing the primary economic effects and focusing in tourism related impacts (WP5)¹. The macroeconomic impacts of climate change are also presented (WP6)¹. The current climate policy and resilience of the Island is also presented (WP7)². Finally, a link to the projects original work is made in the references section.

French West Indies at a glance

The French West Indies refers to the Overseas department and the archipelago of Guadeloupe and the territorial collectivity of Martinique, both located in the Lesser Antilles. Guadeloupe has a total surface area of 1,628 km² and a population of 395,000. Martinique has a surface area of 1128 km² and a population of 375,000. The economy of both islands heavily depends on tourism and agriculture export as source of foreign exchange. They are reliant upon mainland France for product import.

The Blue Economy sectors

- **Aquaculture**

Marine aquaculture in Guadeloupe and Martinique has 2 companies that breed only the Caribbean Wolf (*Sciaenops ocellata*). Production is low (35 tonnes in 2019 in Martinique), because the operators are small family units. This sector of activity faces several economic difficulties (competition with imports, food prices), health (pollution, viruses) and technical (sargassum, cyclone). To revitalize the sector, research is currently underway to identify a new species adapted to farming conditions with good growth potential.

- **Maritime Transport**

The large seaport of Guadeloupe brings together several activities ranging from the traffic of goods to that of passengers. 90% of the goods go through the Jarry site. Like Guadeloupe, Martinique's large seaport, located in the bay of Fort-de-France brings together several specialized sites. It concentrates 98% of merchandise traffic and allows the transport of passengers and cruise passengers.

- **Energy**

Fossil energy accounts for 76.5% of Martinique's energy mix. The share of renewable energy is steadily increasing and is currently made up of photovoltaic (13.3%), biomass (6.7%) and wind power (2.4%). Overall consumption amounts to 1526 GWh. In Guadeloupe, electricity

¹ Still to be included in the report

² Still to be concluded in the report

consumption amounts to 1465 GWh. 21.4% concerns renewable energies, mainly geothermal energy, followed by photovoltaic, biomass, wind and hydraulic power. The two islands appear far from the goals set by the government for 2030. But have some potential to develop new sources of renewable energy.

- **Tourism**

In 2019, tourism accounted for 9.5 per cent of Guadeloupe's GDP. The high season for both islands runs from November to April. In recent years, strong growth has been observed in the sector thanks to cruise. It is mainly the landscape and beaches that attract tourists in Martinique and Guadeloupe. The majority come from mainland France, other European countries, but also from the United States.

1 Current situation and recent trends

1.1 Current geopolitical context

The French Antilles includes Guadeloupe (16 ° N - 62 ° W) and Martinique (14 ° 40'N - 61 ° W), two tropical islands located 7000 km from mainland France in the archipelago of the Lesser Antilles between the Atlantic Ocean at the east and the Caribbean Sea at the west.

Martinique is located between the island of Dominica to the north (40 km) and that of St. Lucia to the south (30 km). Measuring 64 km long and 24 km wide. Martinique occupies an area of 1100 km². The south of the island is fairly dry and offers many peaks and gentle slopes on which the vegetation is not too large. This is where we find the white sand beaches unlike those of the North whose sand come from volcano. The north of the island has much more mountainous relief, high enough to catch the clouds. The volcano of Mount Pelée (1397 m) is surrounded by humid tropical forest. The temperature is relatively uniform throughout the year with differences up to 3 to 4 degrees are observed between February and September. for an annual average of about 27 °C in the Lamentin. In the dry season the average temperature is 25 °C. and 28 °C in the wet season. In 2018, the Martinican population was estimated at 368.640 inhabitants (-1.1% over one year). It has been declining continuously since 2007, due to a negative migratory balance whose deficit is accelerating, and a slowdown in natural increase. As a result of a declining birth rate, an increasing life expectancy, and the departure of young people of reproductive age, the Martinican population is aging. Nearly 28% of the population is over 60 years old.

Guadeloupe is located 120 km north of Martinique, between the island of Montserrat in the north (53 km) and that of Dominica in the south (23 km). The Guadeloupe archipelago consists of two main islands, separated by a narrow stretch of sea: Grande-Terre (588 km²), where the agglomeration of Pointe-à-Pitre is located, the economic center of the department, and the Basse-Terre (848 km²), where the city of Basse-Terre is located, administrative capital of the department. Basse-Terre is the result of the formation of a recent volcanic chain which culminates in Soufriere (1.467 meters), while the other islands of the archipelago are of coral origin. Guadeloupe benefits from a tropical climate tempered by the winds oriented towards the East due to the Azores High. As in Martinique, there are two seasons whose transitions are more



or less marked: - a dry season called Lent from December to May (25 °C on average). and a wetter season called wintering. from July to October (26 °C on average). during which tropical depressions and cyclonic phenomena occur. As of January 1. 2016. Guadeloupe had 394.110 inhabitants. Between 2011 and 2016. it lost 10.525 individuals due to the widening of the migration deficit which is no longer offset by natural increase. The latest estimates show the continuation of this trend (390.704 inhabitants on January 1. 2018 and 382.704 on January 1. 2019). More and more young people aged 18-25 are leaving the territory. The aging of the population is amplified by the fall in the birth rate.

1.2 Current climate and risks

There are two main seasons in the French West Indies. Average temperatures vary little during the year between 2 and 4 degrees, but much more depending on the time of day and location. The average rainfall is mainly related to the relief. The dry season, also called "Careme", lasts from February to April and is characterised by temperatures that can reach between 28 and 30 degrees during the day. It is also the sunniest period of the year. The other season, wet season, lasts from June to October and is very hot and humid. The Intertropical Convergence Zone is getting closer to the West Indies. The rains are more numerous and intense. Maximum temperatures can reach between 32 degrees Celsius. This season is also associated with cyclones. The wind called trade winds blows almost permanently from East to North-East between 30 and 50 km/h but is weaker and irregular during this season.

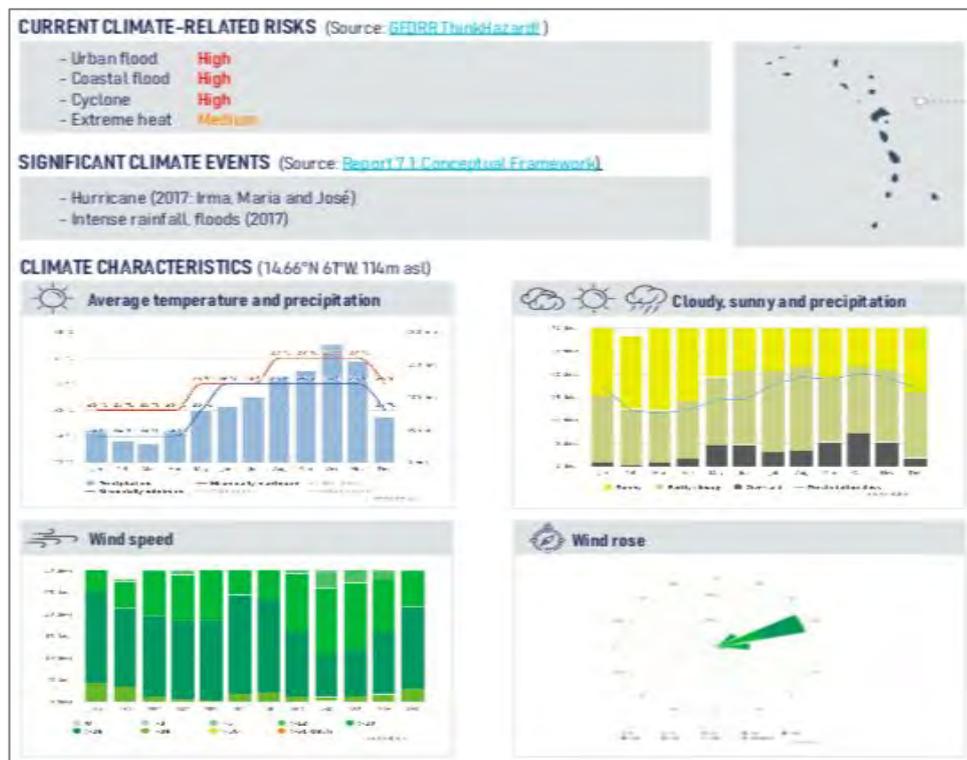


Figure 1: Climate factsheets of Martinique

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRL ThinkHazard!; D7.1 Conceptual Framework and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

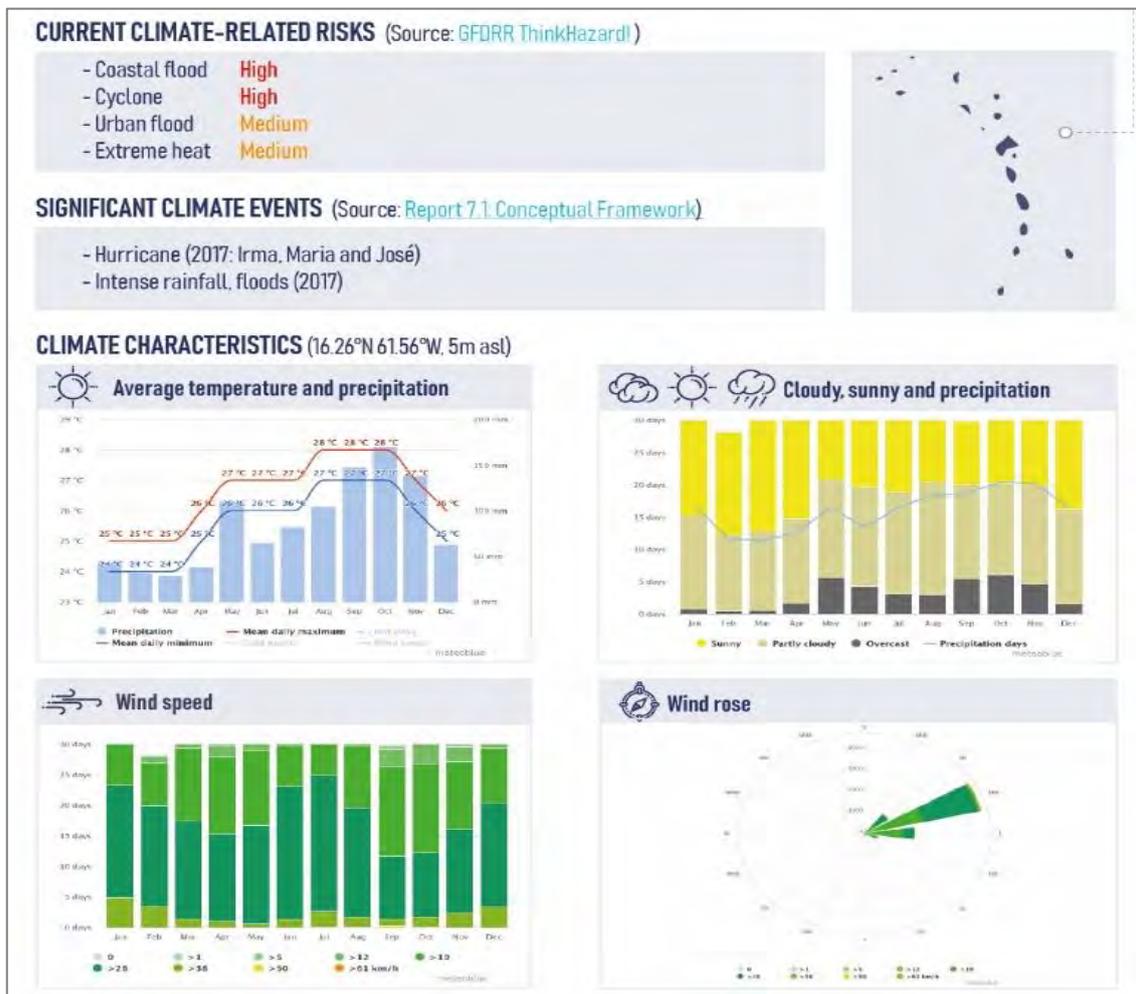


Figure 2: *Climate factsheets of Guadeloupe*

Source: Own elaboration with data from GFDRR ThinkHazard!; D7.1 Conceptual Framework and Meteoblue; Meteoblue global NEMS (NOAA Environmental Modeling System)

1.3 Recent evolution of the blue economy sectors

Guadeloupe and Martinique have the characteristics of a tertiary economy. In 2017, Guadeloupe companies generated added value of 2.7 billion euros. The added value of businesses covers 41% of the total wealth produced in Guadeloupe. i.e. a higher contribution to administrations (33%) and households (20%). Trade largely contributes to this result, with almost a third of the wealth created (31%), followed by scientific and technical activities, administrative services and business support (18%).

For Martinique, also in 2017, companies generated added value of 3.3 billion euros. The added value of businesses covers 43% of the total wealth produced in Martinique. i.e. a higher contribution to administrations (31%) and households (19%).



Tourism

A study by the World Travel and Tourism Council measures the economic impact of the tourism sector in Guadeloupe. It assesses the overall contribution of tourism to Guadeloupe GDP in 2017 at 10.9% 1. and its direct contribution at 2.4% (i.e. € 918.4 million and € 201.6 million respectively).

In Martinique. In 2018. tourist attendance reached a new record in Martinique. with 1.046.735 tourists (+ 0.5% compared to 2017). According to the National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (Insee). all visitors (tourists and excursionists) spent directly 451.5 million euros. an increase of 6.3% compared to 2017.

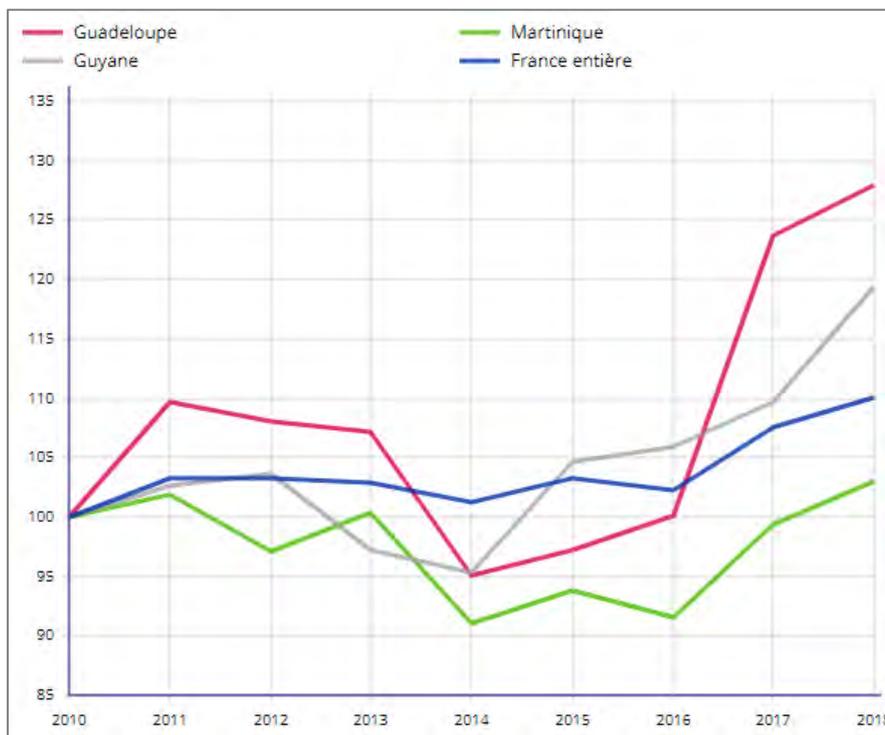


Figure 3: Night spend in Martinique, Guadeloupe, Guyane, France 2010-2018. Source : Insee.

Maritime transport

The offer of the large seaport of Guadeloupe (GPMG) - Guadeloupe Port Caraïbes - is spread over 5 specialized sites contributing to regional planning. Jarry is the main port which concentrates 90% of the goods traffic of the archipelago and constitutes an excellent logistics platform, entirely dedicated to freight. The activity of the port is mainly oriented towards the domestic market. Imports thus represent 74.5% of merchandise traffic while merchandise exports remain limited and dependent on local production (bananas and sugar). In Martinique 98% of the goods pass by the “Grand port maritime de Martinique”. In 2018, goods traffic amounted to 3.060.716 tonnes (44% loose, 55% goods).



Figure 4: Trafic de marchandises entre 2009 et 2018 (en millier de tonnes).

Source: Grand Port Maritime de Guadeloupe.

2 Climate Change outlook

Climate hazards indicators represent the entry point to understand the climate change exposure of the blue economy sectors. The indicators have been computed for two scenario RCP2.6 (low emission scenario) and RCP8.5 (high emission scenario) and for different horizon times namely: a reference period (1965-2005), mid-century (2046-2065) and end of century (2081-2100).

As to its reliability, it is important to note that Atlantic islands (Azores, Madeira, Canaries and West Indies) lie in very critical areas where global models might be inaccurate in predicting the large scale patterns (regional models are not available), and resolution is so coarse that in fact many islands don't even exist in model orography. This acknowledged, this is the only information we can provide, and at least future tendencies can be inferred. The new CMIP6 simulations might shed more light on this issues, but we can only suggest that results should be updated as they become available.

The same partly holds for the wave simulations: local resolution has been significantly increased in the dedicated new simulations of this project, performed by the partner ENEA (up to 0.05°), but the forcing wind field is still derived from the coarse global models.

Stakeholders should be made aware that uncertainty is an inherent characteristic of climate data, and that any future planning must cope with it. Climatologists can only highlight POTENTIAL threats and constraints, they cannot predict the future and pave the way to solutions. Conveying this piece of information is one of the most critical points of climate-change-related information.



2.1 Tourism

Beach flooding and related losses

One of the consequences of an increase in the mean sea level will be the flooding of coastal areas. This includes sand beaches, which are the main asset for tourism activities in most of the European islands. Therefore, estimating the potential risk of beach loss due to climate change is of paramount importance for the economy of those islands.

The 95th percentile of the flood level averaged was selected as an indicator of interest. The values are presented as anomalies with respect to the present mean sea level at beach location (i.e. including the median contribution of runup).

In all cases an increase is expected being larger at the end of the century under scenario RCP8.5. The values in that scenario is 131.37 cm in West Indies.

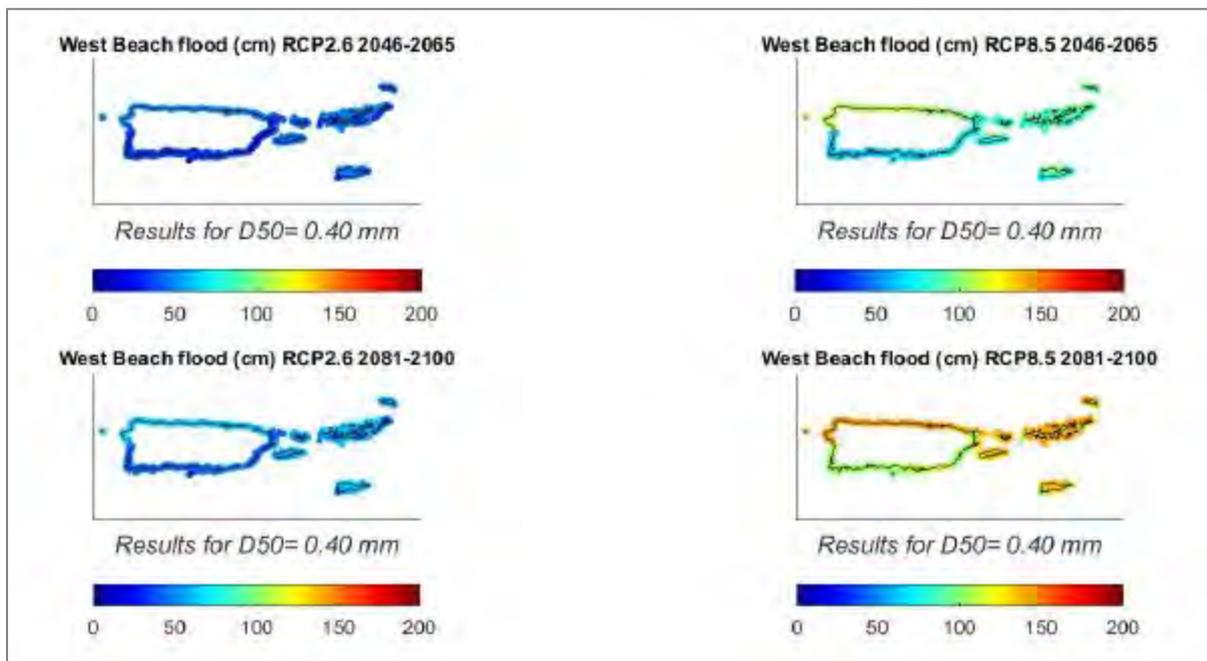


Figure 5: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical, in cm) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the islands under scenario RCP2.6 (left) and RCP8.5 (right).

Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches



Table 1: Projected extreme flood level (in the vertical) at beach locations with respect to the present (1986-2005) mean sea level values averaged for the island. Ensemble of models using Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).

Low emission scenario (RCP 2.6)	Low emission scenario (RCP 2.6)	High emission scenario (RCP8.5)	High emission scenario (RCP8.5)
Mid-Century (2046-2065)	End of Century (2081-2100)	Mid-Century (2046-2065)	End of Century (2081-2100)
<i>Absolute value</i>	<i>Absolute value</i>	<i>Absolute value</i>	<i>Absolute value</i>
45.11 cm	57.35 cm	87.61 cm	131.37 cm

Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches

Under mean conditions, we find that, at end of century, the total beach surface loss range from ~46% under scenario RCP2.6 to ~77% under scenario RCP8.5.



BEACH REDUCTION

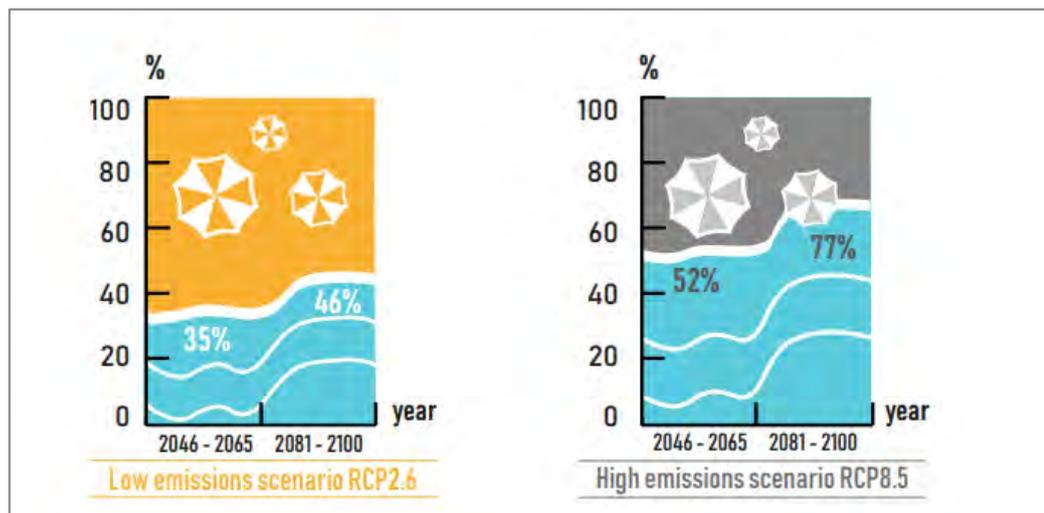


Figure 6: Beach reduction % (scaling approximation).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4d](#) Report on the evolution of beaches.



2.2 Maritime transport

Sea level rise

Sea level rise (SLR) is one of the major threats linked to climate change. It would induce permanent flooding of coastal areas with a profound impact on society, economy and environment. Moreover, an increase in the mean sea level would result in a larger impact of coastal storms with the consequent increase of risk. The results are presented in terms of mean sea level rise.

For West Indies, the SLR ranges from 26.91 cm (RCP2.6) to 70.27 cm (RCP8.5) at the end of the century.

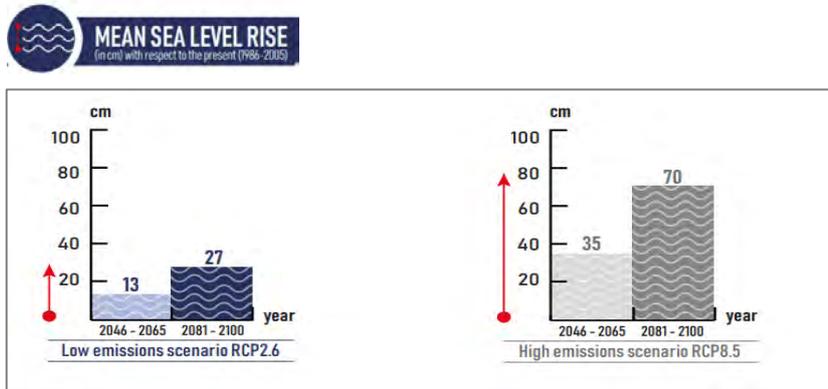


Figure 7: Mean sea level rise (in cm) with respect to the reference period (1986-2005). Ensemble mean of CMIP 5 simulations and scaling approximation for RCP2.6
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

Wave extremes (99th percentile of significant wave height averaged)

Marine storms can have a negative impact on maritime transport, coastal-based tourism and aquaculture, among other activities. To illustrate this impact, the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged has been chosen. A decrease in the extreme wave height is found being larger under scenario RCP8.5 as illustrated in the following map and table in far future (-5%).

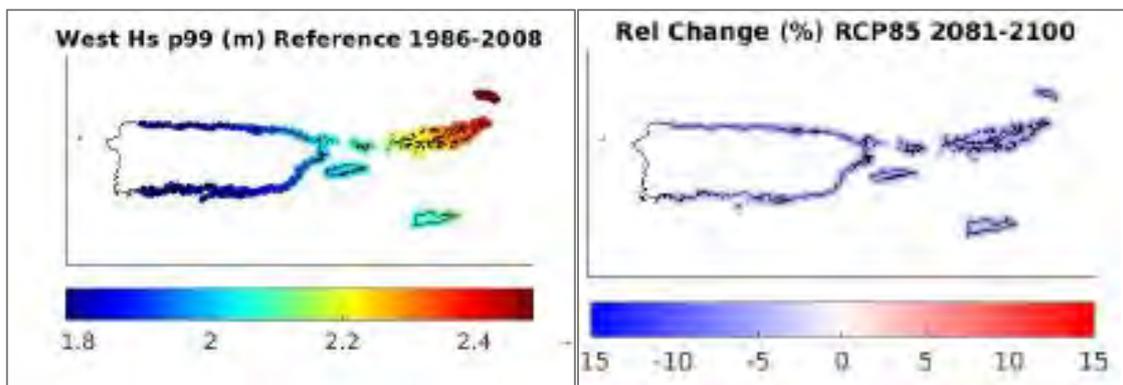


Figure 8: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels.

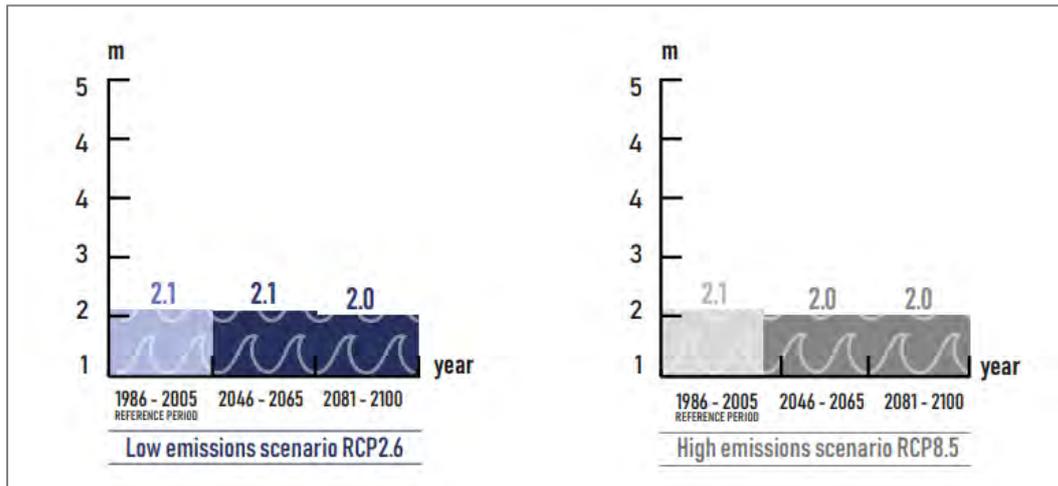


Figure 9: the 99th percentile of significant wave height averaged for the reference period and the relative change for the RCP8.5 and RCP2.6. Global simulations produced by Hemer et al. (2013).
 Source: SOCLIMPACT Deliverable [Report - D4.4b](#) Report on storm surge levels

3 Climate change risks

All the graphics presented below can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

3.1 Tourism

For the tourism sector, three impact chains (IC) were operationalized:

- i) Loss of attractiveness of a destination due to the loss of services from marine ecosystems,
- ii) Loss of comfort due to increase of thermal stress
- iii) Risk of forest fires and loss of attractiveness

For the first two, the AHP method was employed. This methodology is ideal to respond to the hierarchical nature of the impact chain and, secondly, for using expert judgements to assess the comparative risk for the islands over a large number of indicators. By the side of shadows, this method requires quite specific data that wasn't able to collect for some islands. The AHP method also requires "values" for experts to compare.

More specifically, for the first IC the data is needed for "Tourist Arrivals" and "Vulnerable Groups" indicators, which is regards the Exposure of people to heatwaves for the hottest period, such as:

- Number of tourist arrivals per month for the past 5 years.
- Number of tourists per month aged 14 and under for the past 5 years
- Number of tourists per month aged 65 and over for the past 5 years
- Percentage of tourist activities that are sensitive to heatwaves (such as hiking, etc.).



- Number of beds available in medical facilities per 100,000 inhabitants.

If, for example, an island gets a lot of tourists, but most of them just spend their time by the beach, then the island is not so much at risk of losing tourists because when they visit they'll be by the beach and able to cool down. On the other hand, if almost all the tourists visit the island for hiking, but it gets too hot, then the island could be at risk since some may change their minds and visit somewhere else with a moderate climate and do their hiking there. Additionally, it is necessary to investigate how well an island is equipped with dealing with patients who suffer from a heatwave-related episode.

For the second IC, the data collected was:

- Surface of marine Phanerogams & Phanerogams' reduction due to heat: Surface, in km²; and expected % of surface loss for RCP8.5 distant future.
- Number of divers: Number of tourists practising Diving at the destination.
- Products substitution capacity: capacity to derive tourist demand to non-marine habitat-based activities.
- Seagrass removal: capacity to remove dead seagrass lying on beaches.
- Sea water pollution: quality of management of inshore and offshore sewages.

If one information is missing, it is not possible to conduct the risk assessment analysis, as it is a comparative analysis between European islands.

Finally, the GIZ method utilized for the operationalization of the third IC did not require experts evaluation, although the type of data utilized was also quite specific, regarding environmental, socio-economic, and spatial planning data (e.g. land use and cover). In some cases, local stakeholders and authorities were reached by the partners of the project. In other cases partners provided an additional effort in looking at and collecting data for the successful operationalization of the impact chains. Finally, the data were checked in order to verify similar coverage and timeframes. The West Indies show insufficient data availability.

The data with more difficulties to be collected was:

- Cultivated area (Pcrops)
- Forest in a protected area
- Tourist density
- Flammability Index
- Density of firefighters and voluntary
- Fires Risk Plan

3.2 Aquaculture

In the Soclimpact project, aquaculture includes only marine-based operations where off-shore and coastal aquaculture are included, and freshwater and land-based aquaculture are excluded. Examples of climate change hazards that can impact aquaculture are changes in ocean warming and acidification, as well as oceanographic changes in currents, waves, and wind speed. Sudden impacts such as an increase in the frequency and intensity of storms and heat waves are also impacting aquaculture. Other effects of climate change on aquaculture activities are increased invasions from alien species, increased spread of diseases and changes in the physiology of the cultivated species by changing temperature, oxygen availability and other important physical



water parameters. An important indirect impact to aquaculture is the change in fisheries production due to climate change. Aquaculture of finfish is highly dependent on fisheries for feed ingredients. This already a current problem with many fisheries overexploited and will only intensify in the future. Climate change is also predicted to impact food safety, where temperature changes modify food safety risks associated with food production, storage, and distribution.

Socio-economic impacts on aquaculture are hard to assess due to the uncertainty of the changes in hazards and the limited knowledge these impacts have on the biophysical system of aquaculture species (Handisyde et al. 2014). In the framework of Soclimpact, the following risks were studied:

1) Risk of Fish species thermal stress due to increased sea surface temperature

Changes in water temperature can directly affect the growth rate and Food Conversion Ratio of the fish. Temperature also affects the oxygen levels and can cause harmful algae blooms, reduce water quality and an increase in occurrence of diseases and parasites which can then affect the fish or other culture species. A change in temperature can ultimately change the ranges of suitable species for a certain area but can also have positive impacts such as increased growth (mainly in tropical and sub-tropical regions) and a longer growing season. Primary productivity can also increase with increasing temperature, which may be beneficial for filter feeders such as mussels.

2) Risk of increased fragility of the aquaculture activity due to an increase of extreme weather.

Increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events result in higher waves and storm surges and changes in salinity. These events result in loss of stock and damages to infrastructure and require adaptation in species selection, site selection and technologies.

Indeed, the objective of the risk assessment is to obtain final risk scores according to a gradient (very low to high) and to be able to compare the European islands with each other. For West Indies, it was difficult to obtain the adequate data to make these comparisons. The type of data that was necessary to compile was:

- Farm area (km²)
- Value of stocks
- Quick support intervention plans
- Early warning system
- Sensivity of species

3.3 Energy

There are more than 2200 inhabited islands in the EU. Lately, they have come into the focus of the EU, which addresses energy questions as part of the 'Clean energy for all Europeans' package. The Clean energy for EU islands initiative provides a long-term framework to help islands generate their own sustainable, low-cost energy. This is particularly interesting, because many islands have vast amounts of renewable energy sources but rely on fossil fuel imports yet.



These are relevant challenges regarding the energy transition in the EU, whose aim of net zero greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 should determine the future energy plans of the islands. Islands could provide showcases for successful 100% renewable energy supply.

Most Renewable Energy Systems (RES) depend on the climate, and therefore climate change can have an impact of the resource amount. Additionally, wind and solar PV energy are not dispatchable, and its variability represents a challenge for its integration in the power system. This is a challenge that can be addressed through storage or backup plants (which can be itself renewable energy plants), through demand management, but also taking advantage of complementarity of PV and wind energy and its very different variability characteristics.

There are also challenges for the demand and transmission components of the energy systems of the islands due to climate change: changes in temperature leading to changing energy demand, changes in precipitation and evaporation creating risks for desalination, and extreme weather events (particularly extreme winds) challenging the distribution infrastructure. After intensive desk research, the latter was ruled out, due to the low number of past incidents found in the literature or news media and the future projections showing a reduction in wind extremes for most islands.

Thus, for the energy sector three general impact chains (IC) have been developed in the SOCLIMPACT project:

- i) risk of changes in power generation due to long term climate change and variability,
- ii) risk of changes in energy demand due to changes in precipitation and temperatures,
- iii) risk of damages to transmission grids due to extreme events.

Only the second IC was selected for operationalization. Data availability constraints for all islands have been a basic reason for this selection. For this IC, two different analysis were carried out:

- the increased energy demand due to increased cooling demand,
- the increased energy demand due to increased desalination needs.

Both risks depend on the temperature increase, which is a very certain effect of climate change.

The criteria for the selection of the islands have been: (a) availability of data for the computation of the exposure and vulnerability indicators of the demand-side ICs, (b) modeling constraints of the hazard component. In both cases, West Indies show a lack of reliable and updated data.

3.4 Maritime Transport

For the Maritime Transport sector, three main climate change risks have been identified. These are: i) risk of damages to ports' infrastructures and equipment due to floods and waves, ii) risk of damages to ships on route (open water and near coast) due to extreme weather events and iii) risk of isolation due to transport disruption.

The operationalization was applied to the third one (risk of isolation due to transport disruption) which in terms of hazards and impacts can be considered as a combination of the other two. The selection of islands to be included in the analysis was based on the importance and dependency on the Maritime Transport sector and on data availability.

Although this sector is of great importance for the economy of West Indies, the lack of reliable and consistent data limited the analysis, especially in regard:

- Value of transported goods expressed in freight (VGTStot)
- Number of renovated infrastructure (NAgePo).
- Percentage of renewables (PEnRR),
- Early warning systems (NOcSta) and harbour alternatives (NApt).

Nevertheless, this information is also useful at the moment of evaluating and ranking adaptation measures for the islands.

4 Socio economic impacts of climate change

4.1 Market and non-market effects of CC

Tourism

In order to analyse the reactions of tourists to the impacts of climate change and the preferences for adaptation policies, several hypothetical situations were posed to 200 tourists visiting the West Indies whereby possible CC impacts were outlined for the island (i.e., beach erosion, infectious diseases, forest fires, marine biodiversity loss, heat waves, etc.).



Figure 10: Socio-economic characteristics and travel description: Tourists visiting West Indies

Source: Deliverable [Report D5.5](#) Market and non-market analysis



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Firstly, tourists had to indicate whether they would keep their plans to stay at the island or find an alternate destination if the impact had occurred, which allows predictions of the effects on tourism arrivals to be made for each island. Secondly, tourists were asked to choose between various policy measures funded through an additional payment per day of stay – the tourists' choices being an expression of their preferences for attributes/policies. To estimate the results, the conditional logit model was run by using the Stata software.

In general, data confirms that tourists are highly averse to risks of infectious diseases becoming more widespread (55.50% of tourists would change destination). Moreover, they are not willing to visit islands where beaches largely disappear (38%) or where water is scarce for leisure activities (34.50%). In addition, policies related to beaches protection (9.2€/day), land habitats restoration (19.1€/day), and the prevention of infectious diseases (7.9€/day) are the most valued, on average, by tourists visiting these islands.

Although climate change impacts are outside the control of tourism practitioners and policy-makers, they can nevertheless utilise this knowledge to improve the predictability of the effect that certain adaptation policies and risk management strategies, and develop their plans accordingly.

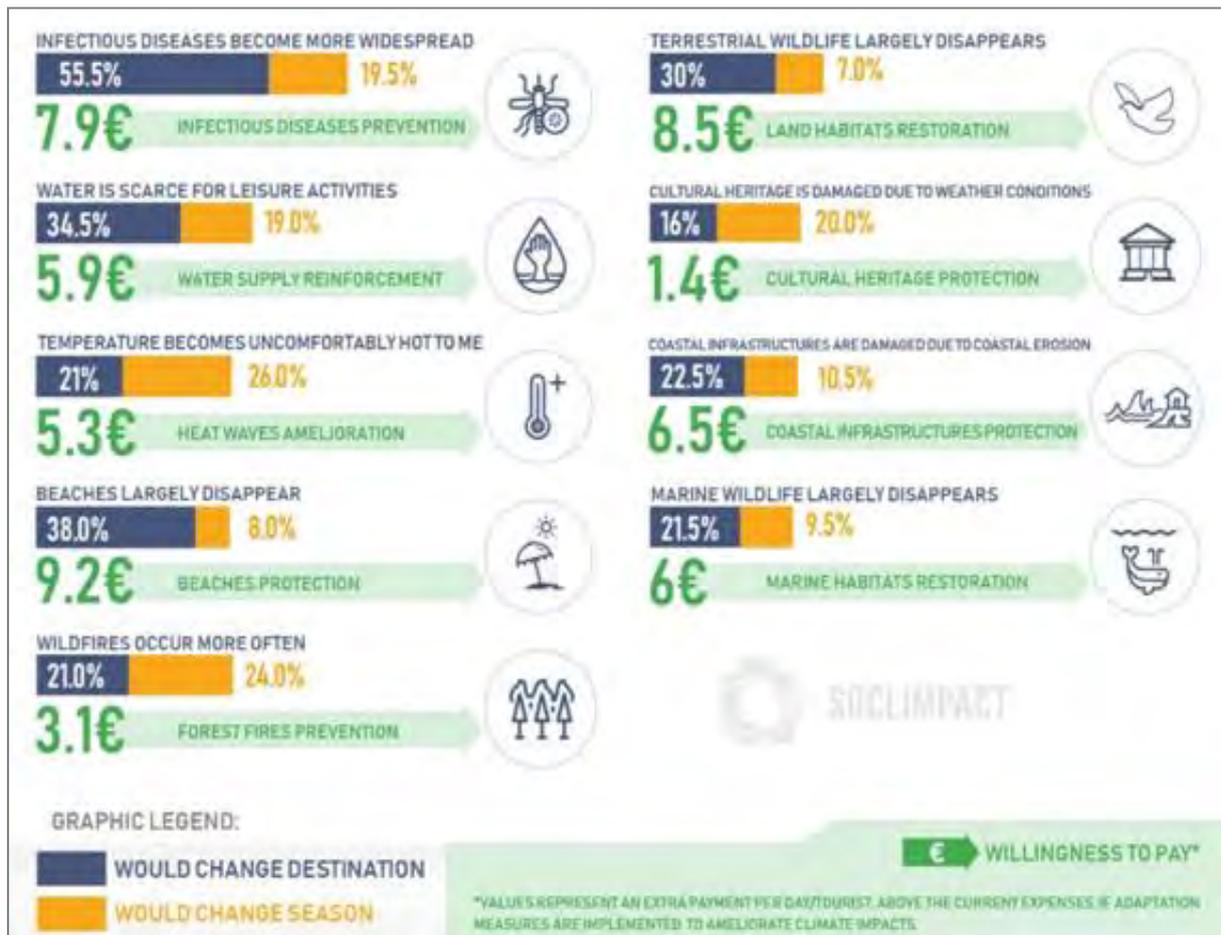


Figure 11: Choice experiments results for the tourism sector: Tourists visiting West Indies
 Source: Deliverable Report D5.5 Market and non-market analysis



The infographic can be found in high resolution in the Soclimpact Project official website [HERE](#).

For the rest of the sectors there was not available information to conduct an economic evaluation of climate change impacts.

5 References

Handisyde et al. 2014 (s4) Handisyde, N., Lacalle, D. S., Arranz, S., & Ross, L. G. (2014). Modelling the flood cycle, aquaculture development potential and risk using MODIS data: A case study for the floodplain of the Rio Paraná, Argentina. *Aquaculture*, 422, 18-24.

