Background

Research needs on climate change and health can be categorized into (1) identifying exposure-response relationships between weather and climate parameters and health outcomes, taking into consideration confounding and effect modification by other factors associated with particular outcomes, and local conditions that could affect the strength of association (e.g. presence of early warning systems); (2) detecting and attributing changing disease patterns to climate change; (3) taking a systems-based approach to develop models to project how health burdens could change under different climate and socio-ecosystem futures; (4) evaluating the effectiveness of health adaptation interventions to identify best practices and lessons learned; (5) estimating the possible health impacts of adaptation and mitigation policies and programs implemented in other sectors; and (6) developing storylines to explore the possible magnitude and extent of health impacts from low probability, high consequence climate change (e.g. migration from significant reductions in crop yields in Sub-Saharan Africa).

Methods

A panel discussion will explore these research needs in the context of the Mediterranean region. Planned speakers include: Bettina Menne, Tony McMichael, Daniela Ippoliti or Paola Michelozzi, AntonisAnalistis, or KleaKatsouyanni, Tanja Wolf, Guy Hutton, and TuomoKarljanen