

CLIMATE CHANGE : ASSESSING THE IMPACT, RESPONSE AND FUTURE

Contemporary issues in local and regional development
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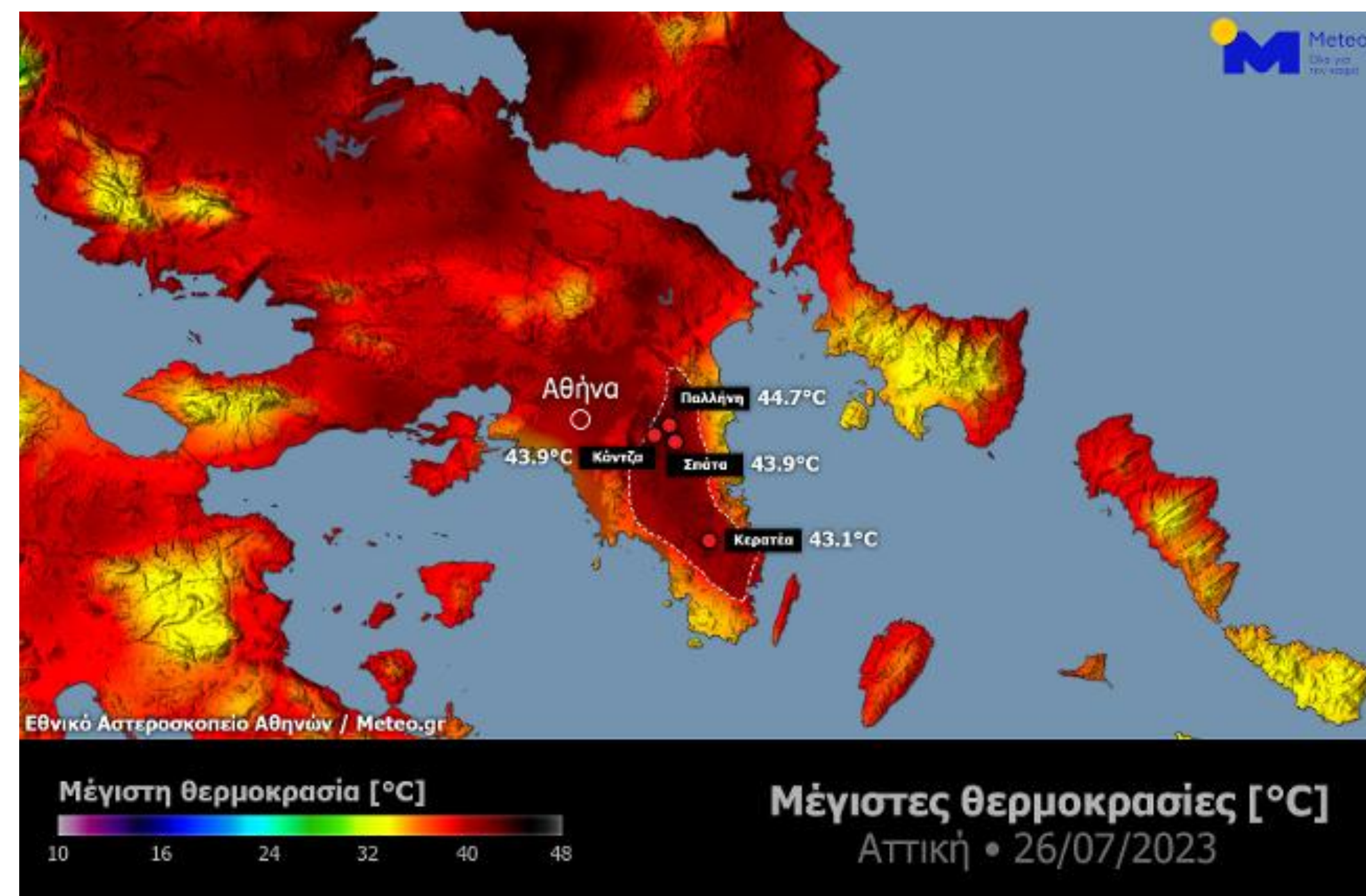
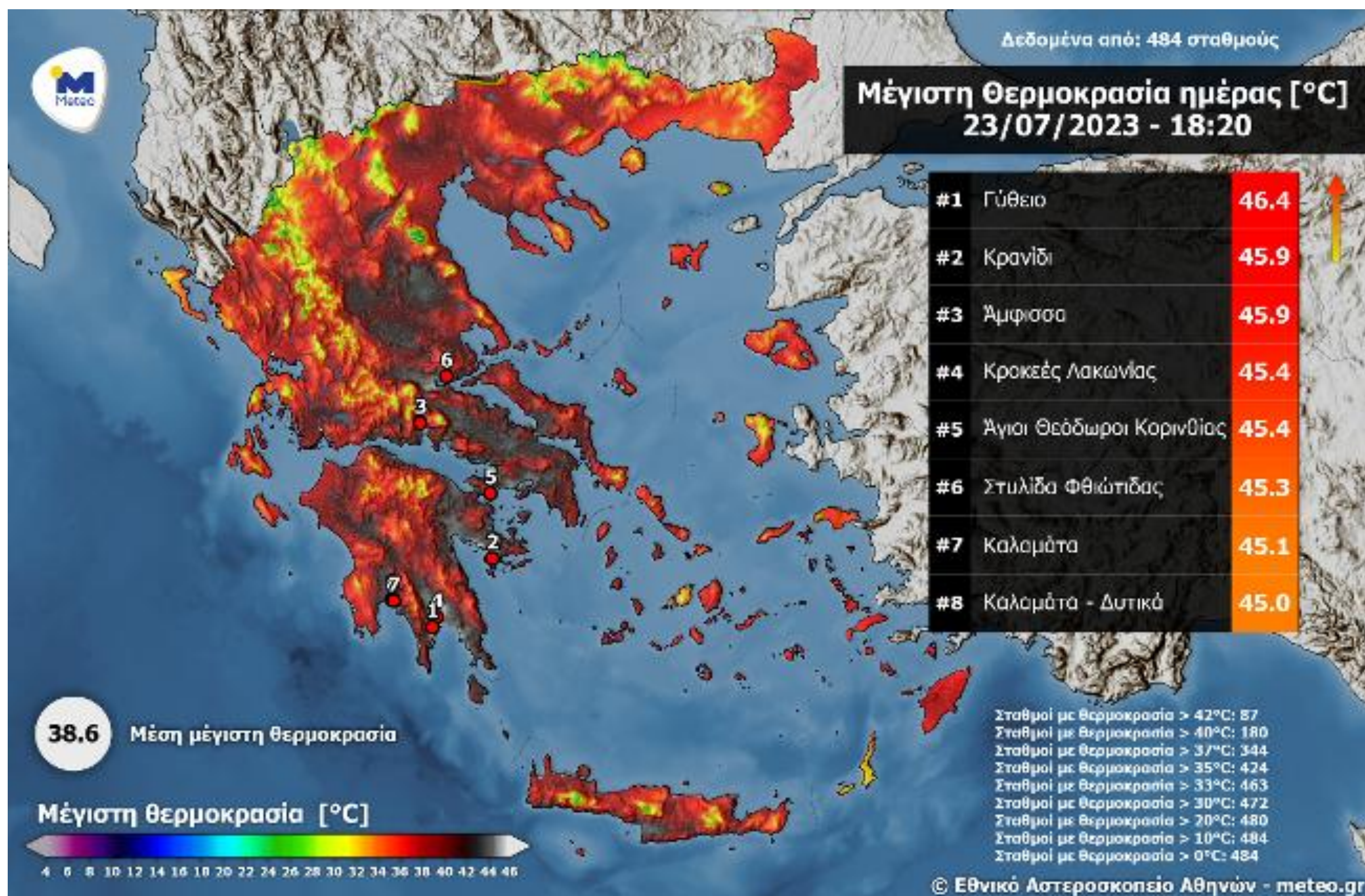
Climate change : refers to long-term alterations in global climate patterns, particularly an increase in average global temperatures due to human activities.

Greece's geography and regional diversity play a significant role in how climate change impacts across the country.

Why climate change is crucial for Greece's Local and Regional Development

- Agriculture : Affects crop yields and water availability
- Tourism : Alters tourist seasons and threatens coastal areas
- Urban Areas : Intensifies heat islands and strains resources
- Public Health : Increases heat-related illnesses and disease spread
- Ecosystems : Disrupts habitats and increases wildfire risks

July 2023

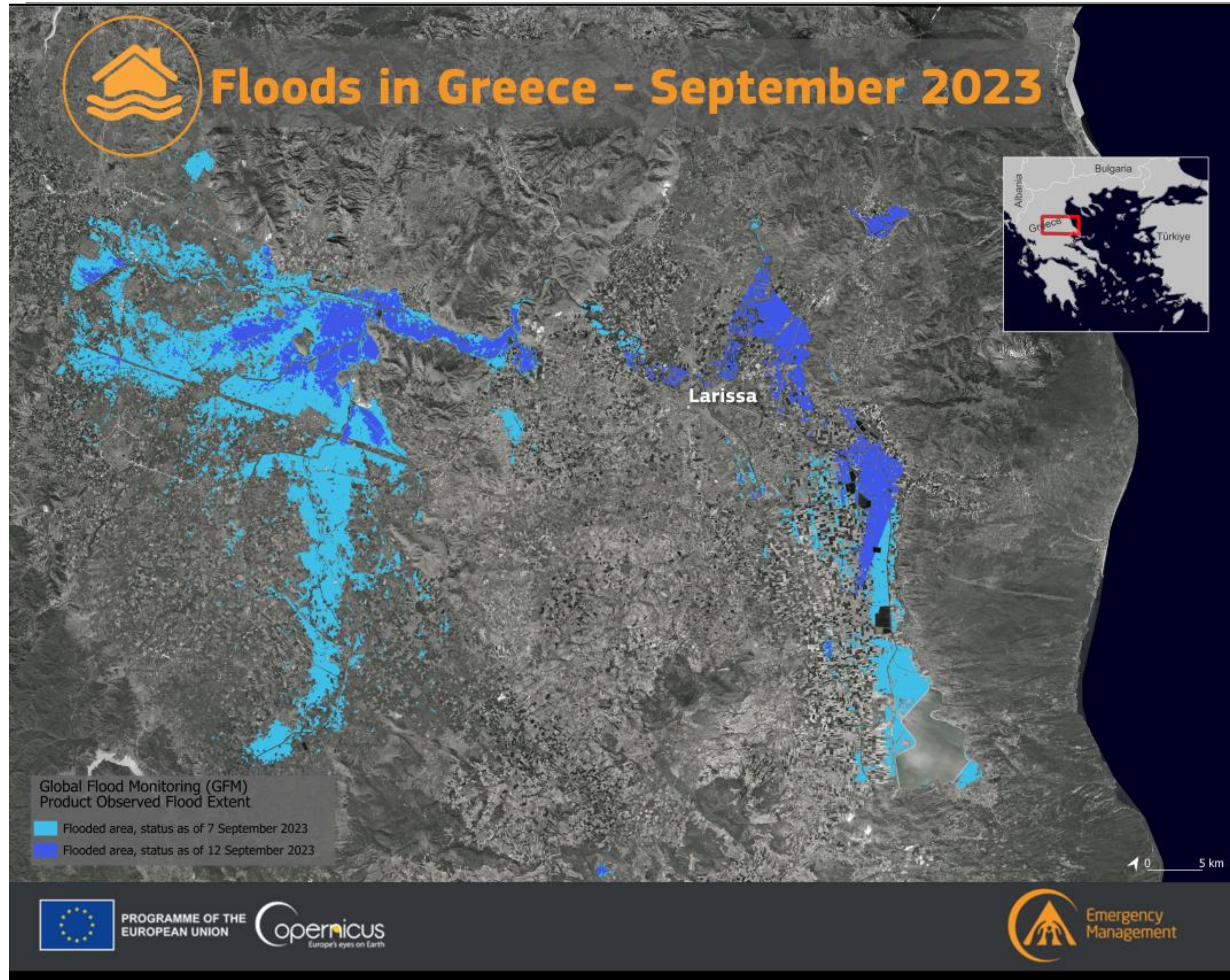


Wildfire in Rhodes

- Causes : dry condition, high temperature
- Damage to agricultural lands
- Potential health effects from exposure to hazardous materials during and after fire



Thessaly 2023



At least 16 deaths

Extensive damage to infrastructure, homes, and agricultural land

With some areas receiving over 500 mm of rainfall in a single day

Greece's climate policy focuses on :

- Renewable Energy : Increasing the use of renewable energy sources such as solar and enhancing energy efficiency
- Circular Economy : Integrating climate goals into sustainable development and promoting eco-friendly practices
- Adaptation : Developing strategies for agriculture, water resources management, coastal protection and urban planning

The European Union's role in Greece's climate policies includes

- Providing financial support through funds
- Supporting research, innovation and capacity building initiatives
- Facilitating cooperation among member states to achieve climate objectives

Recommendations for the future

- Empower young people through environmental education programs
- Promote the reuse, repair and recycling of products to minimise waste
- Protect natural habitats like forests and wetlands to store carbon and protect biodiversity
- Improve public transport and make them bigger and greener
- Collaborate with international organisations on climate action
- Support businesses in adopting sustainable production
- Protect natural water systems and improve irrigation technologies