



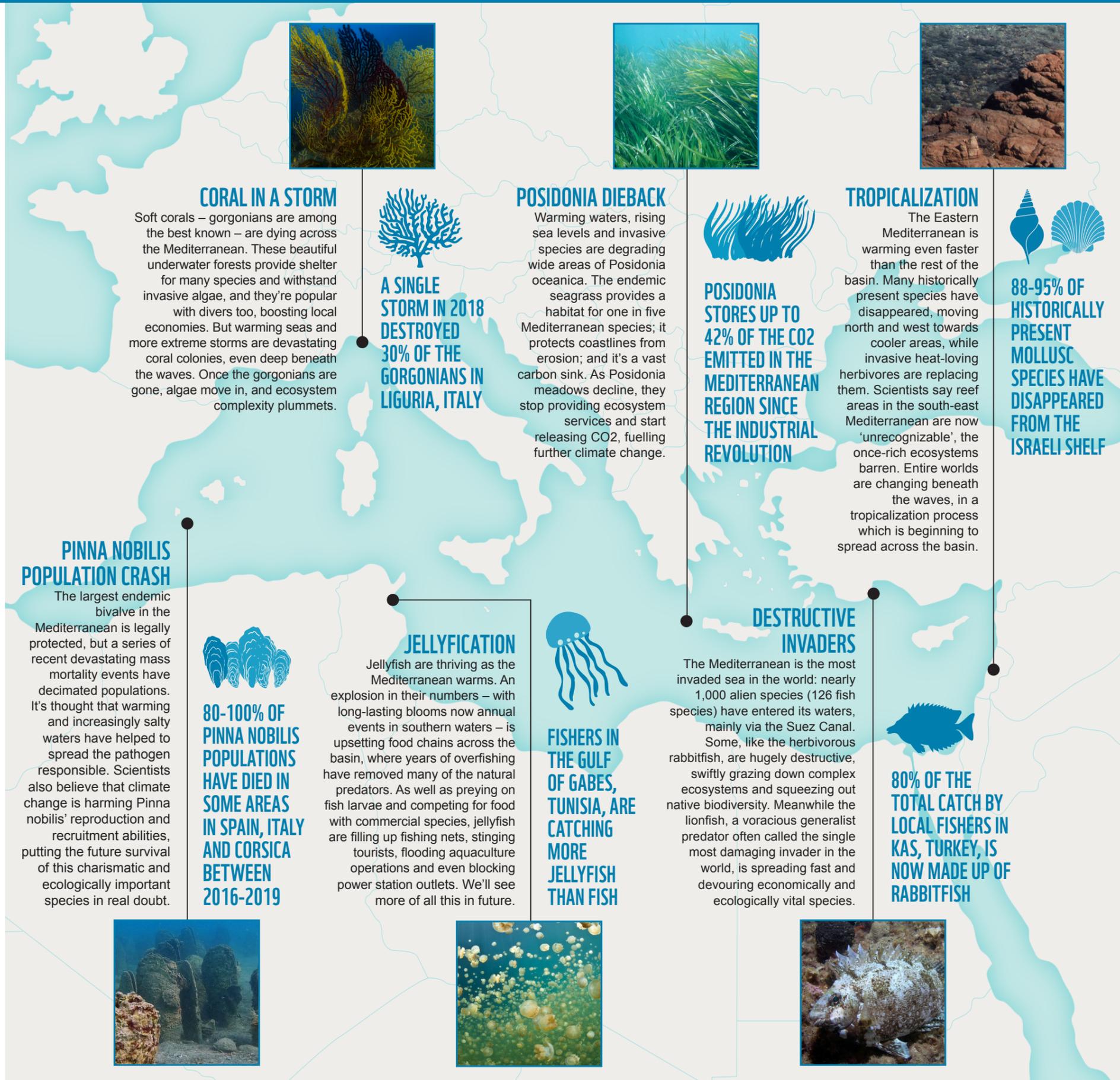
THE CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

Climate change is the single greatest threat we face as a species – and in the Mediterranean, temperatures are going up 20% faster than the global average.

Rising temperatures are having real and serious consequences across the basin, further depleting marine resources that are already heavily exploited by other human activities. Entire ecosystems are changing, and livelihoods are disappearing.

This isn't some future worst case scenario: it's today's reality in the Mediterranean Sea, and the effects will keep increasing over the coming decades, with sea level rises expected to exceed 1 metre by 2100 impacting one third of the population in the region. Urgent and far-reaching action is needed, both to mitigate further greenhouse gas emissions, and to adapt to the new reality of a warming sea.

These are six of the main effects climate change is already having in the Mediterranean today. As temperatures continue to rise, impacts like these will continue to grow.



TAKING ACTION

Resilient marine ecosystems rich in biodiversity stand the best chance of surviving in a warming sea, and it's up to us to protect them. The situation requires ambitious science-based policies, using every tool and mechanism at our disposal.

2021 will be a crucial year for our ocean and climate. WWF is calling on global and Mediterranean leaders to integrate the ocean into the global and regional climate agendas at the Convention on Biological Diversity COP15, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP26, and the Barcelona Convention COP22 that will take place this year.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW.

WWF'S FOUR OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE EFFECTIVE INTEGRATED OCEAN AND CLIMATE ACTION:

- Raise ambition and urgently deliver stronger and sustained mitigation and adaptation actions
- Make nature a key part of the solution
- Put people at the centre
- Join up the climate and ocean finance agendas.