Preface

The co-operation between the network RICAMARE (Research in Global Change in the Mediterranean: a Regional Network) and the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM) has been very fruitful. In the last years, not only have several workshops on the economic impacts of climate changes in the Mediterranean been organised, but also new research efforts have been undertaken and the related research reports have been disseminated through the FEEM working paper series. This book is an effort to provide a synthesis of those workshops, researches and publications. Here, some of the best papers presented at the FEEM workshop on 'Impacts of Climate Change in the Mediterranean Area' – held in Venice and attended by several researchers belonging to RICAMARE – and at the FEEM-RICAMARE workshop on 'Socio-economic Assessments of Climate Change in the Mediterranean', held in Milan, are collected and re-organised. The goal of this collection is to provide an overview of recent knowledge on the economic impacts of climate change on Mediterranean industries, coastal zones and ecosystems. The studies contained in this book cover both methodological and empirical issues, provide interdisciplinary analyses of climate change impacts, discuss recent empirical results and observations, and explore the policy implications of those analyses and results. I am very grateful, also on behalf of FEEM, for the work provided by Carlo Giupponi and Mordechai Shechter, editors of this book, who organised the workshops, gathered the papers, co-ordinated a careful refereeing process and helped all authors to improve their papers. The final output is very good. This book is both informative and stimulating. New researches are likely to be based on the results and analyses contained in this volume, which therefore constitutes a first step towards a better understanding of the economic consequences of climate change in the Mediterranean. I am also grateful to FEEM staff, and particularly to Monica Eberle and Rita Murelli, for the excellent organisation of the workshops, to Roberta Ranzini for editorial assistance, and to Gérard Begni and the network RICAMARE for their support and co-operation.

Carlo Carraro
Research Director and Series Editor
Fondazione Eni E. Mattei