

## S≋TTING A NEW HEALTH AG≋NDA

At the Nexus of Climate Change, Environment, and Biodiversity

## **Synthesis**

## Summary, Conclusion & Recommendations

Sunday 29 January 2023



## **Conference programme structure**

#### Pre-conference: 24 – 26 January 2023

- 46 Side meetings
- 3 Field trips

### Total registered participants 732 participants from 57 countries

(F 46%, M 54%)

#### Main conference: 27-29 January 2023

- 2 Keynote addresses
- 4 Plenary sessions

18 Parallel sessions7 Special events11 Poster presentations

236 Submissions of World Art Contest

Age range	Percentage	
≤ 30	16	
31-40	20	
41-50	26	
51-60	23	
> 60	16	

## Speakers/ Moderators/ Panelists (81)



#### S≋TTING A NEW HEALTH AG≋NDA

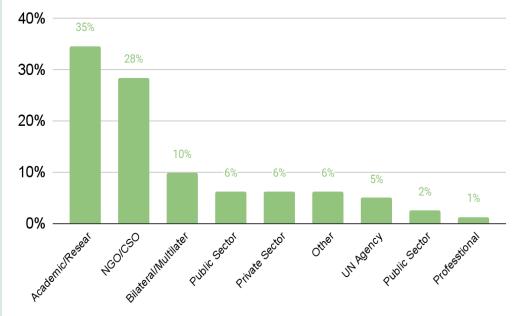
At the Nexus of Climate Change, Environment, and Biodiversity

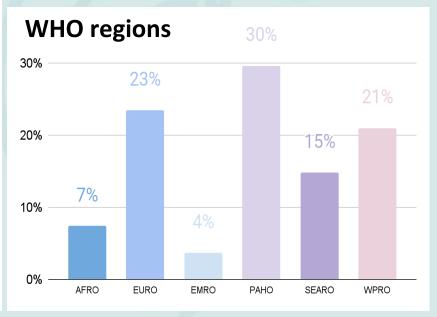
Age range	Percentage		Environment, and biodiversity
≤ 30	14	Gender	
31-40	15		
41-50	33	46.9%	53.1%
51-60	17		
> 60	20		

Female Male

## Speakers/ Moderators/ Panelists (81)

#### Type of organizations







## **Outlines**

- A. Beyond Planetary Limit: Human Extinction
- B. Root Causes of Climate Inaction
- C. Potential Solutions
- D. The Way Forward



## **A. Beyond Planetary Limit: Human Extinction**

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#### A. Beyond planetary limit: human extinction

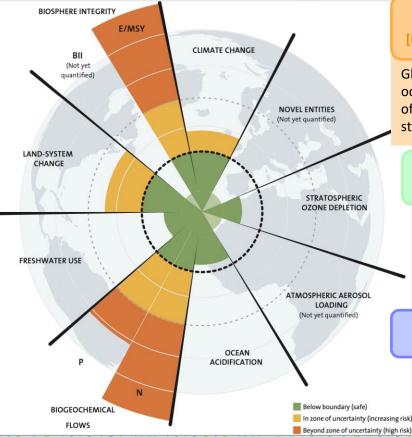
Biodiversity loss [PL1, PL2]

Loss of animal and plant species, expansion of (monocrop ) agriculture, genetic erosion

#### Land Conversion [PS2.1,2.4]

Cutting down rainforest , decrease in agricultural land due to conversion into develop land and open land

Designed by Azote for Stockholm Resilience Centre, based on analysis in Persson et al 2022 and Steffen et al 2015



#### Climate change [PL0, PL1, PS 1.1, PS 1.2]

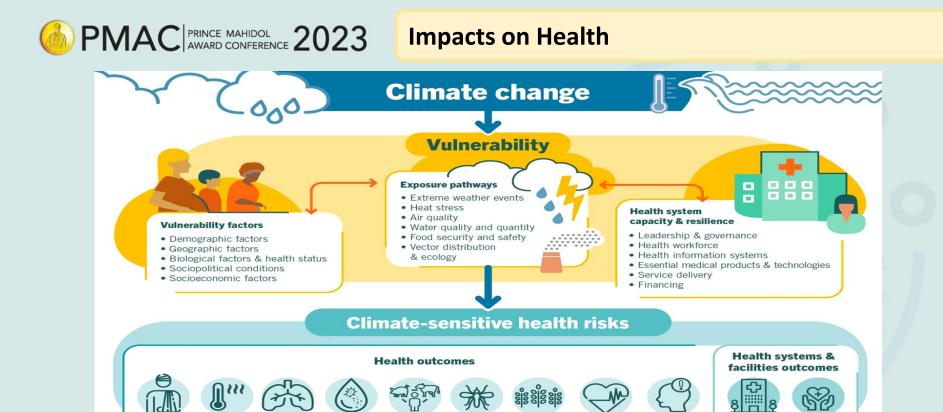
Global temperature raising, warmer ocean, shrinkage of ice sheets, retreating of glacier, rises of sea level, heatwaves, storms, and drought

#### Air pollution [PS1.1, PS1.3]

Fossil fuel combustion and increases in particulate matter (PM) 2.5 and 10, carbon monoxide, lead, ground-level ozone, nitrogen dioxide, and sulfur

## Ocean acidification [PL0]

The pH level of the ocean might drop from 8.1 to 7.7, the fastest drop in 50 million years



Vector-

borne

diseases

Zoonoses

Malnutrition

and food-

borne

diseases

Noncommunicable

diseases (NCDs)

Mental and

psychosocial

health

Image from: https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health

Respiratory

illness

Water-borne

diseases and

other water-related

health impacts

Iniury

and mortality

from extreme

weather events

Heat-

related illness

[PS3.6]

Impacts

on healthcare

facilities

Effects

on health

systems

#### Climate change-biodiversity-health nexus

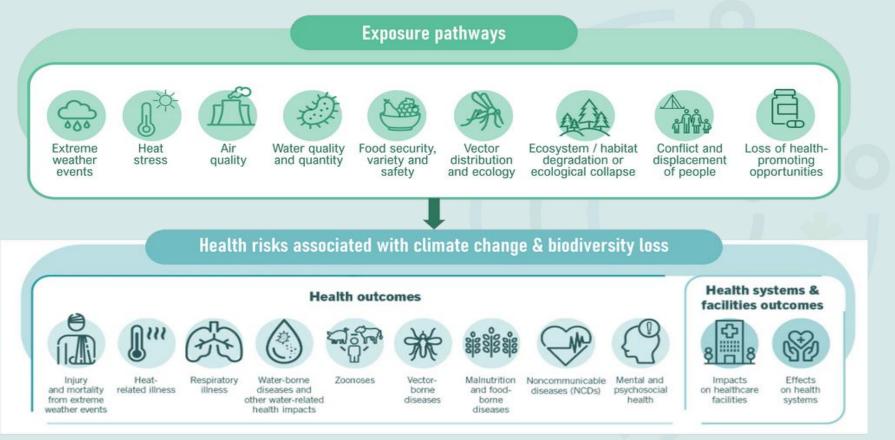
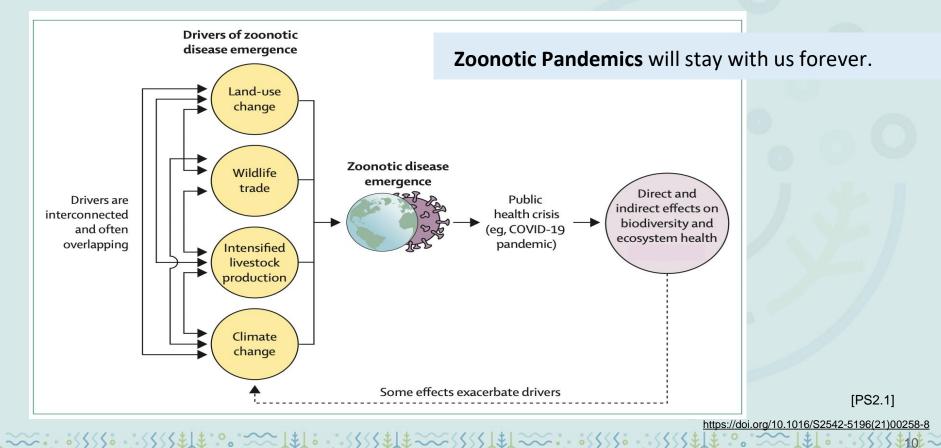


Image from: https://www.unescap.org/blog/why-environment-health-nexus-important-asia-and-pacific-and-how-strengthen-it

[PS3.6]



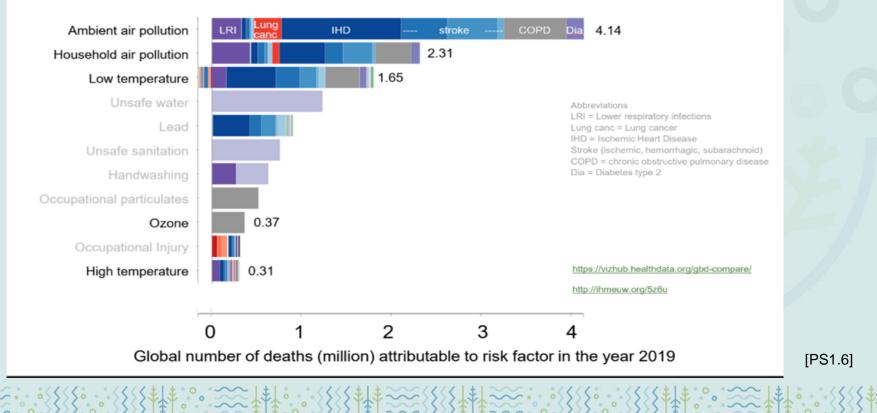
#### **Impacts on Health**



#### **Impacts on Health**

## **Top global environmental risk factors GBD 2019**

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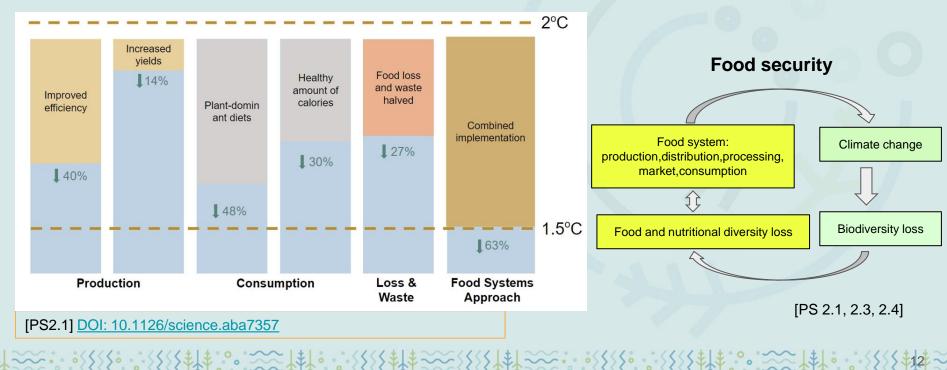




#### **Impacts on Health**

#### Food and nutrition security

Achieving the Paris climate change targets requires multi-level food systems actions







#### Health and population

138. We recognize that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development. We understand the goals of sustainable development can only be achieved in the absence of a high prevalence of debilitating communicable and non-communicable diseases, and where populations can reach a state of physical, mental and social well-being. We are convinced that action on the social and environmental determinants of health, both for the poor and the vulnerable and for the entire population, is important to create inclusive, equitable, economically productive and healthy societies. We call for the full realization of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.



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- Challenges of Climate Inaction: a complex issue influenced by economic, political, and social factors.
- Lack of progress in COP27 of UNFCCC

DESCRIPTION PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD CONFERENCE 2023

- o Lack of political will to take strong and ambitious action
- Hesitant to commit to emissions reductions that may be costly or negatively impact their economies
- o US as a major contributor to global emission has left Paris Agreement and WHO in 2020
- COVID-19 pandemic results in economic downturns, fiscal constraint to commit large resources while focused on economic recovery.
- Lack of political will and accountability to citizens
  - o Politicians and decision-makers focused on short-term gains
  - o Lobbying by fossil fuel interests is one of major barriers towards progresses

(IPCC Assessment Report 6 doi: 10.1017/9781009157926), Harvard Gazette: September 28, 2021 https://bit.ly/3kRISkn



Image from: https://www.chappatte.com/en/images/cop24-climate-conference/

Redirect responsibility -Individualism -Whataboutism -The 'free rider' excuse

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Surrender -Change is impossible -Doomism

Discourses of climate delay

Emphasize the downsides -Policy Perfectionism - Appeal to well-being - Appeal to social justice Push for non-transformative solutions

- Technological optimism
- Little action
- Fossil fuel solutionism No sticks, just carrots

Inadequate global co-operation

- LMICs are victims of exploitation by HICs
  - Inadequate implementation capacity, financial, technical and institutional resources for mitigation and adaptation
  - More pressing development priorities: poverty reduction and economic growth
  - Inadequate international support and cooperation to address these barriers

Climate delay discourse: highlight negative social effects of climate actions, cast doubt on mitigation feasibility. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/sus.2020.13

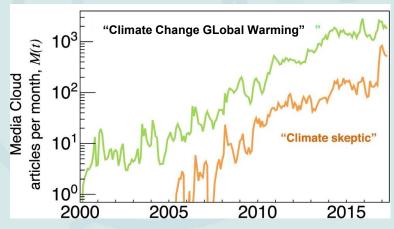


#### **Misinformation and denial**

- o Emergence of climate contrarians, denial of scientific consensus, increased visibility in media (DOI: <u>10.1038/s41467-019-09959-4</u>)
- o Growing polarization around climate change on social media (https://doi.org/10.1038/s41558-022-01527-x)

#### **Dilemmas on solutions**

- Reducing emissions versus climate adaptation.
- Climate contrarians argue against mitigation;
   cast doubt on:
  - a) Cost-effectiveness
  - b) Feasibility of transitioning to renewable energy
  - c) Lack of scientific certainty
  - d) Negative impact on the economy, increase energy costs, decrease economic growth



From: Discrepancy in scientific authority and media visibility of climate change scientists and contrarians





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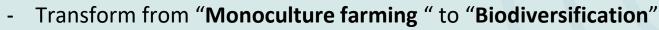
## Financing

- Innovative green health financing solutions e.g. Egypt's Green Health Insurance
- Innovative financing options e.g.
  - Pandemic Fund: Strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response capacities at national, regional, and global levels, with a focus on low- and middleincome countries
  - Funding from The Climate Investment Funds (CIF)
  - Clean Cooking Fund
  - Blended financing
- Integrating health agenda into climate change funding, e.g. Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Combining climate change agenda with existing fundings
- Engage the private sectors in the role of climate change and health space. [PS2.6]



## Sustainable Food system: from production to consumption

"Food sovereignty" —people who produce, distribute, and consume food also control the mechanisms and policies of food production and distribution



- Promoting sustainable and healthy food system
- **Sustainable farming**: regenerate **soil**, reduce **chemicals**, **biogas** production in livestock farms, climate-resilient **crops**

[PS2.1, 2.3, PS2.4]

- Nature-based diet



Image from: https://www.health.harvard.edu/staying-healthy/the-right-plant-based-diet-for-you



#### Nature based-solution



Climate change adaptation & mitigation

Water security

Food security

Disaster risk

reduction

Human health

Economic & social

development

Ecosystem degradation & biodiversity loss

**Examples of Nature based-solution** 

#### - Gorilla Coffee Alliance:

improve quantity and quality of coffee harvest through regenerative agriculture + improved access to health care + conservation enterprises + protection of Kahuzi-Biega National Park

#### - K Agro-innovate Institution Moving

[PL1,PS2.2, 2.3]

from carbohydrate-based to high economic value of Medicinal Plants and new business opportunities

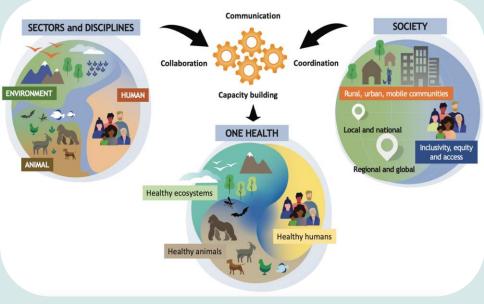
Players: Nespresso, Olam Food Ingredients, Asili WCS, TechnoServe, USAID



## **C. Potential Solutions**



### **One Health,** promoting a sustainable and healthy future through:



- Broad vision of One Health including environment and biodiversity protection
- Collaboration & Coordination: identify platforms to engage relevant experts that can work with health professionals
- **Communication:** identify strategic opportunities, conferences, etc., to promote investments in health, climate change and biodiversity interconnection
- **Capacity building:** improve understanding of linkages between health, climate change and biodiversity

[PS2.5]



## **Role of health sector**

#### Investing in health workforce development. [PS2.2]

- Capacity building by implementing in the curriculum of healthcare professionals
- Include in extracurricular activities
- Transform the education--building the mindset of health professionals

#### Promoting climate smart healthcare systems [PS1.6, PS3.5, PL0]

- Placing climate policy in as a priority in facilities and management and supply chain
- Use of renewable energy and waste water management
- Biodigestion for disposal of organic and pathological healthcare waste
- Boston Medical Center Rooftop Farm that can use in the hospitals

Advocate for cross-sectoral engagement particularly in climate change issue by using health as arguments. [PL2]

Full engagement of health sector in climate change negotiations/ process







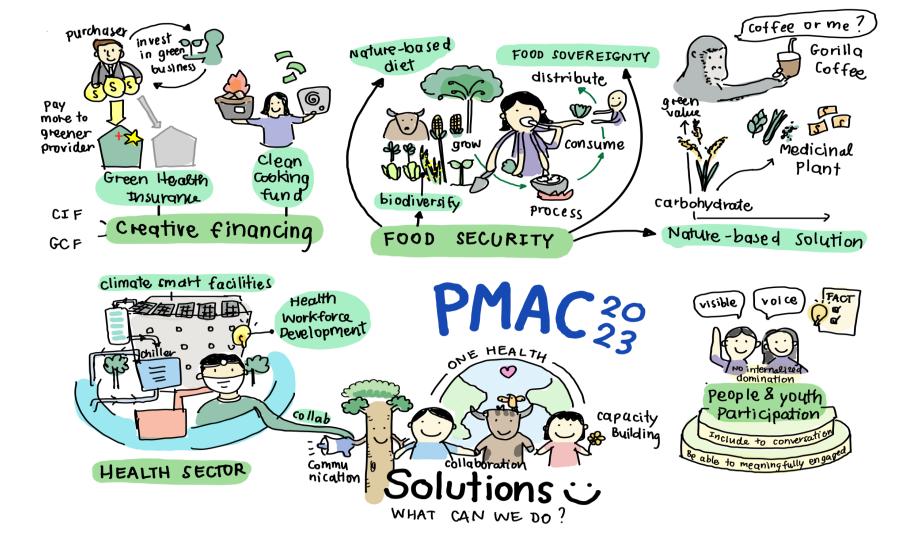
#### **Role of the citizens**

- Put people at center of responses. Give people agency to act and become partners in the solution based on equitable and ethical practices. Empower the voice & wisdom of the youth, women, indigenous and local communities and assist them on financing, tools and innovations. [PL0, 2, PS1.4, PS2.5]
  - Engage youth in the policy and advocacy process
    includes: 1) Re-orient policy spaces and integrate
    young people as natural and equal partners;
    2) Grassroot and youth-led initiatives funding; 3)
    Integrate climate change into all forms of education.
    [PL0, 3] [PS1.4]



"The realities of the climate crisis become more real when you recognize that 100 years pass in a flash and you are likely to know someone that it will affect."

- Simplify **message for the population** and include local journalist for better education on climate change. [PS1.2]
- Inform, educate, and empower local communities about the climate change and action that could implemented locally. [PS1.6, PS2.5]





# The Way Forward

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# Q&A

## Acknowledgement: 68 PMAC 2023 session rapporteurs

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# **THANK YOU**