

Planetary Health, introduction to a new paradigm

Policy coherence and entry points across the Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030, the Sendai Framework, and the New Urban Agenda

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Background

- ‘Health in All Policies’ approach has not always been successful’
- We lack strategies on how to overcome the sector-based approach to governance (Kickbusch, 2010)
- Planetary health offers a new opportunity to see health in all policies, going beyond the health sector
 - About addressing systemic challenges and identifying cross-sectoral co-benefits



Overview of presentation

- Global agreements through a planetary health lens
- Points of coherence and divergence
- Entry points for action

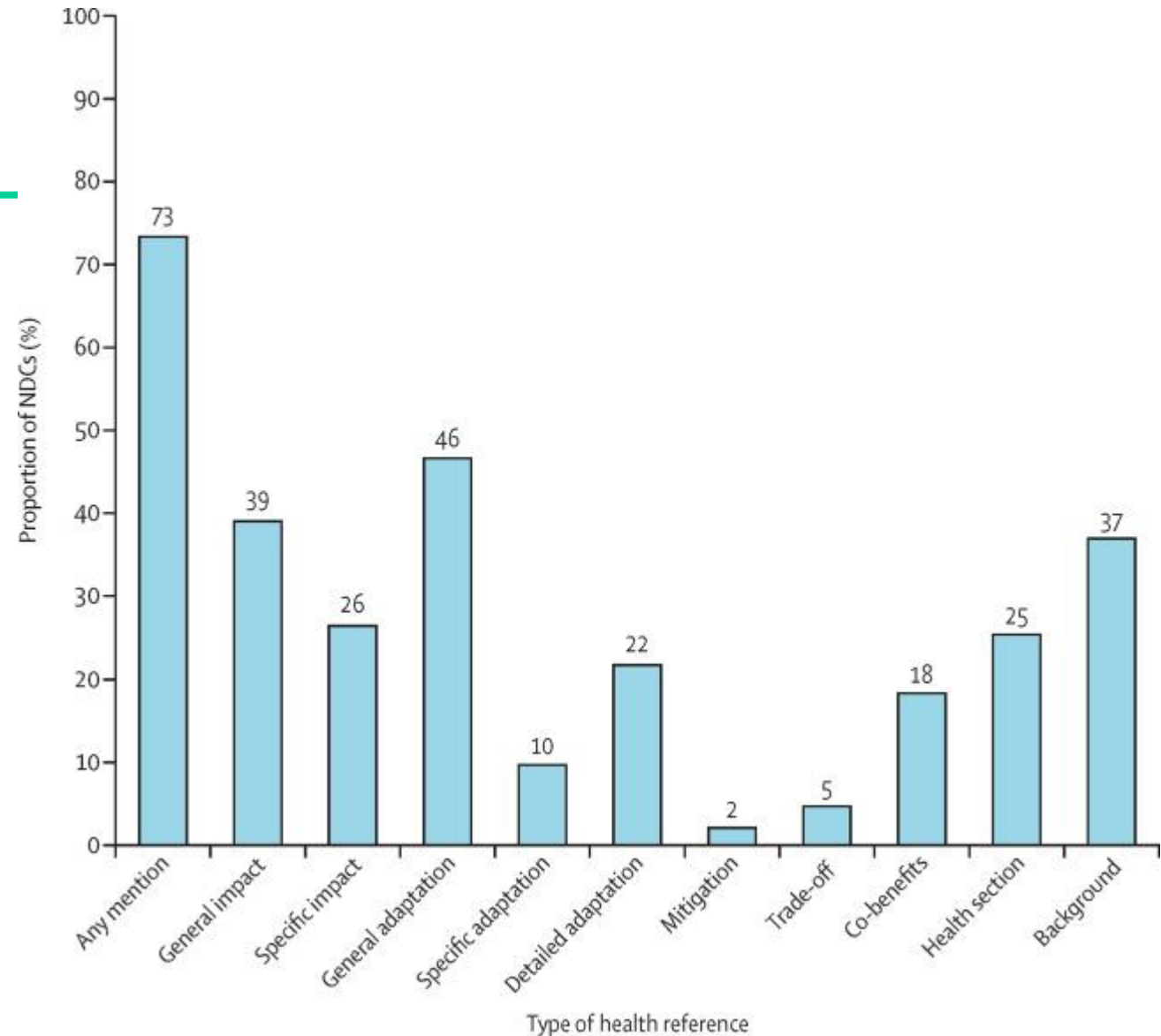


Global agreements

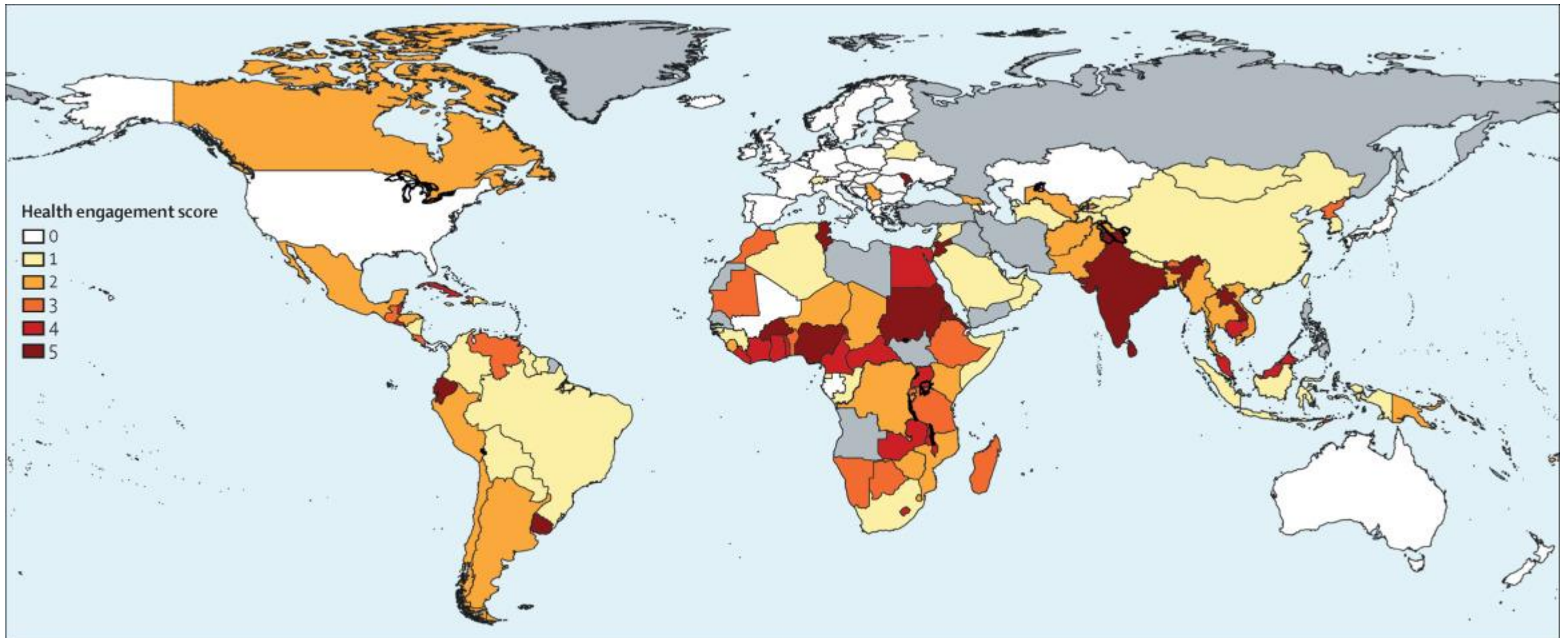
Paris Agreement	The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. The NDCs are contributions each individual country will makes to achieve the global target.
Agenda 2030	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was agreed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. It encompasses 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets and a declaration text articulating the principles of integration, universality, transformation and a global partnership.
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	The Sendai Framework was adopted by UN member states in 2015, following the expiration of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005–2015). Sendai has four specific priorities for action: (i) understanding disaster risk; (ii) strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk; (iii) investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience; and (iv) enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.
New Urban Agenda	The New Urban Agenda was endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 2016 and adopted by 167 countries. It provides global principles, policies and standards to guide the achievement of sustainable urban development over the next 20 years

Health in the NDCs

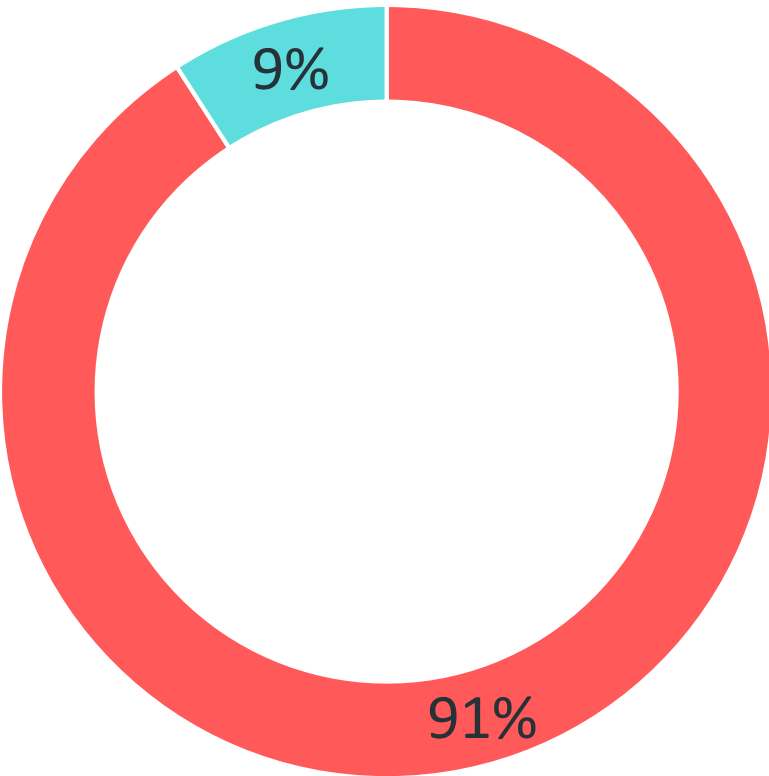
- Paris agreement only mentions health with reference to the obligation of all Parties to respect, promote and consider the right to health as well as all other human rights
- Analysis of health in the NDCs (Dasandi et al. 2021) found:
 - Countries that did not mention health in their NDCs were clustered in high-income countries
 - Poorer and climate-vulnerable countries that contribute least to climate change are more likely to engage with health in their NDCs, while richer countries focus on non-health sectors in their NDCs, such as energy and the economy



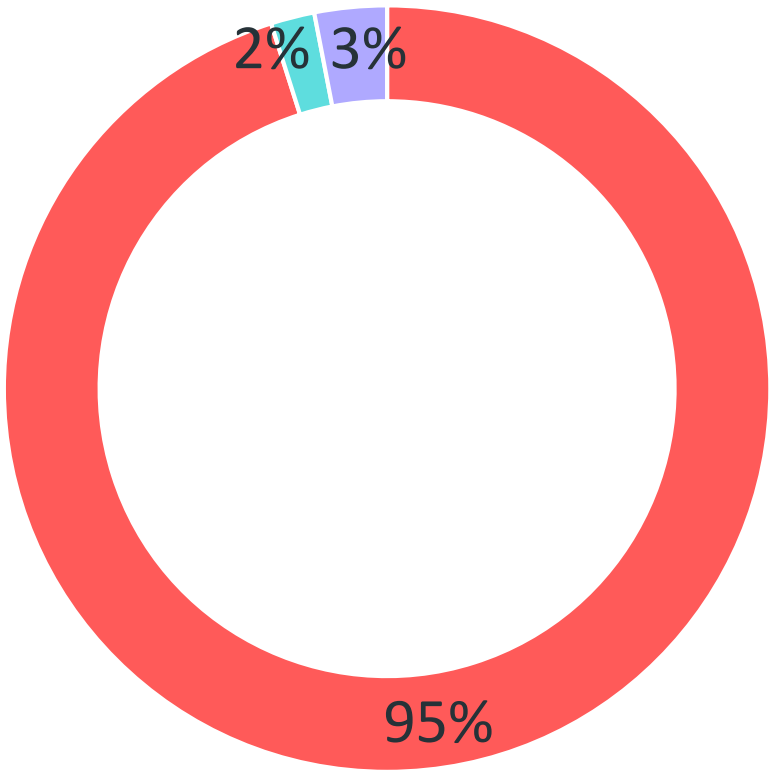
Health in the NDCs



NDC activities related to SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation

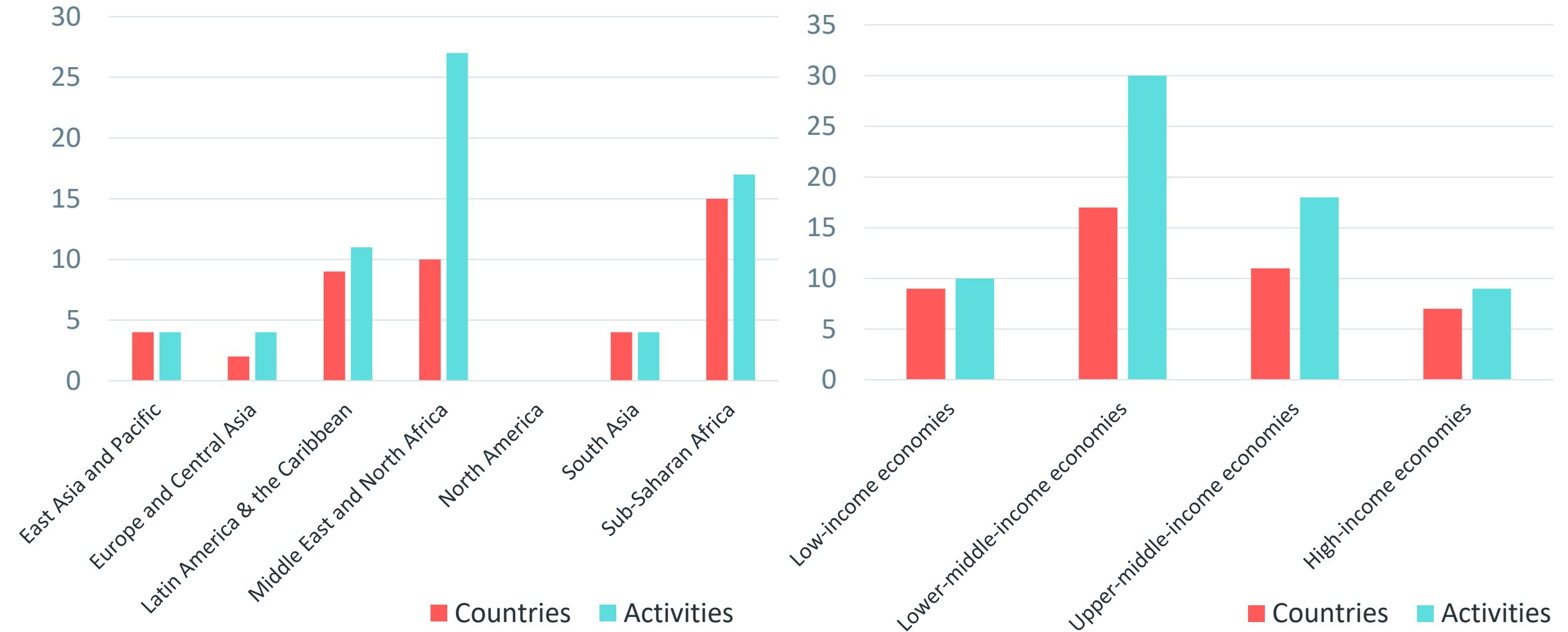


■ All other SDGs ■ SDG6 activities



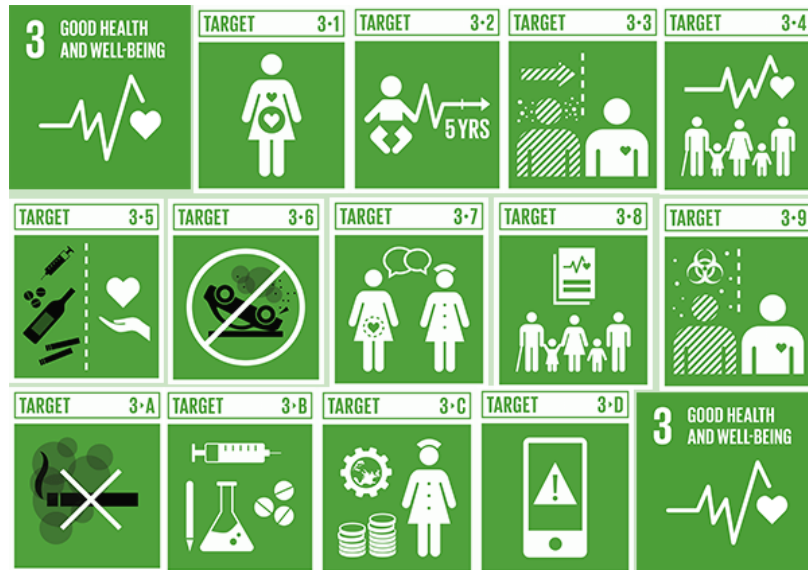
■ All other themes ■ Access to sanitation
■ Wastewater treatment

Regional trends - activities included in the NDCs



Health in Agenda 2030

- The SDGs have the most comprehensive health focus out of all the agreements
- Dedicated health goal and many interlinkages



Sendai framework

- Highlights strong connection between health and disasters, promotes health resilience
- More explicit focus on people and their health and livelihoods, compare to previous frameworks
- More than 30 explicit references to health
- Addresses mental and physical health, resilience, and well-being, and the health of self

Sendai Framework
for Disaster Risk Reduction
2015 - 2030

Child health interlinkages in the SGDs

Blomstedt et al. 2018

Key dimension/target of goal	Score,* description of key interaction
Eradicate extreme poverty (1.1)	+3, Getting out of extreme poverty is inseparable from better child health, as health problems drive people into poverty and poverty leads to—for example, reduced access to health services and increased malnutrition
Ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food by all, including infants (2.1)	+3, Sufficient, nutritious food is integral to improved child health
Ensure quality primary and secondary education for all girls and boys (4.1)	+3, Education, particularly of girls and women would be transformational in all aspects of health, productivity, and development
Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls (5.2), eliminate all harmful practices against children (5.3)	+2, Achieving this SDG aids the achievement of child health
Universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (6.1)	+3, Indivisible from child health
Ensure access to modern energy for all (7.1)	Depending on which strategies are chosen, the effect on child health can be positive or negative. For example: +1, modern energy replacing traditional solid biomass cook stoves improves children’s respiratory health through reducing indoor air pollution and outdoor pollution; -2, for many countries, abundant energy means fossil, nuclear, etc. energy, and might thus be harmful for child health
Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality (10.4)	+2, Equality reinforces health. Universal access to healthcare reinforces greater equality
Access to safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable transport, including public transport; road safety (11.2)	+1, Road safety and safe transportation reinforces child health in many ways, including access to health and education facilities, prevention of road accidents
Environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes, reduction of their release to air, water, and soil (12.4)	+1, These measures are needed to minimise the adverse effects of chemical and waste on human health and environment. Links to climate

Health in NUA

- Health is the “pulse” of the Agenda (WHO, 2016)
- Decision-makers should apply a “health lens” – to fully assess the risks and opportunities posed by their policies and programs, and measure their effects
- Clean environment and good air quality are included in commitment to fostering healthy societies
- Green and nature-based solutions are highlighted to reduce negative impacts to physical and mental health, and the public health costs of urban heat island effects and air pollution are highlighted



Themes related to health	
Health, healthy, healthcare	26
Nutrition, nutritious, malnutrition	7
Food, food security	12
Air quality / pollution	8
Walking, walkability, sidewalk, pedestrian infrastructure	4
Cycle, cycling	5
Physical activity	0
Road safety, pedestrian safety	3
Sanitation	6
Non-communicable diseases	1
Infectious diseases (AIDS, Malaria, TB)	1
Mental health	1

Singh S, Beagley J. Health and the New Urban Agenda: a mandate for action. Lancet 2017; 389: 801–02.

Coherence

- All agreements have commitments to promote meaningful participation of all stakeholders, using inclusive, transparent, gender-responsive approaches

Table 3. Analysis of health outcomes across all four agreements.

Health Outcomes	Paris Agreement	SDGs	Sendai DRR	New Urban Agenda
Maternal, newborn and child health/mortality	×	✓	✓	✓
Sexual and reproductive health	×	✓	✓	✓
Infectious diseases	×	✓	×	✓
Non-communicable diseases	×	✓	✓	✓

Bowen, K. J., Murphy, N., Dickin, S., Dzebo, A., & Ebikeme, C. (2021). Health synergies across international sustainability and development agendas: pathways to strengthen national action. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 18(4), 1664.

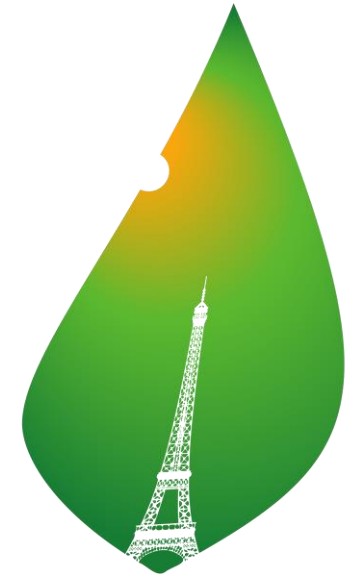
Divergence and gaps

- Certain ‘blind spots’ of these agendas:
 - Paris agreement lacking any in depth discussion of health, and this can also be seen in the NDCs
 - NUA lacks formal implementation framework (Valencia et al. 2019)
 - Sendai faces challenges with the measurement of health-related indicators is challenging (Maini et al. 2017)
 - The SDGs have the most comprehensive health focus out of all the agreements, and also has a global monitoring process, but risks of continued sectoral focus
 - Address inequalities and human rights to differing levels



Entry points

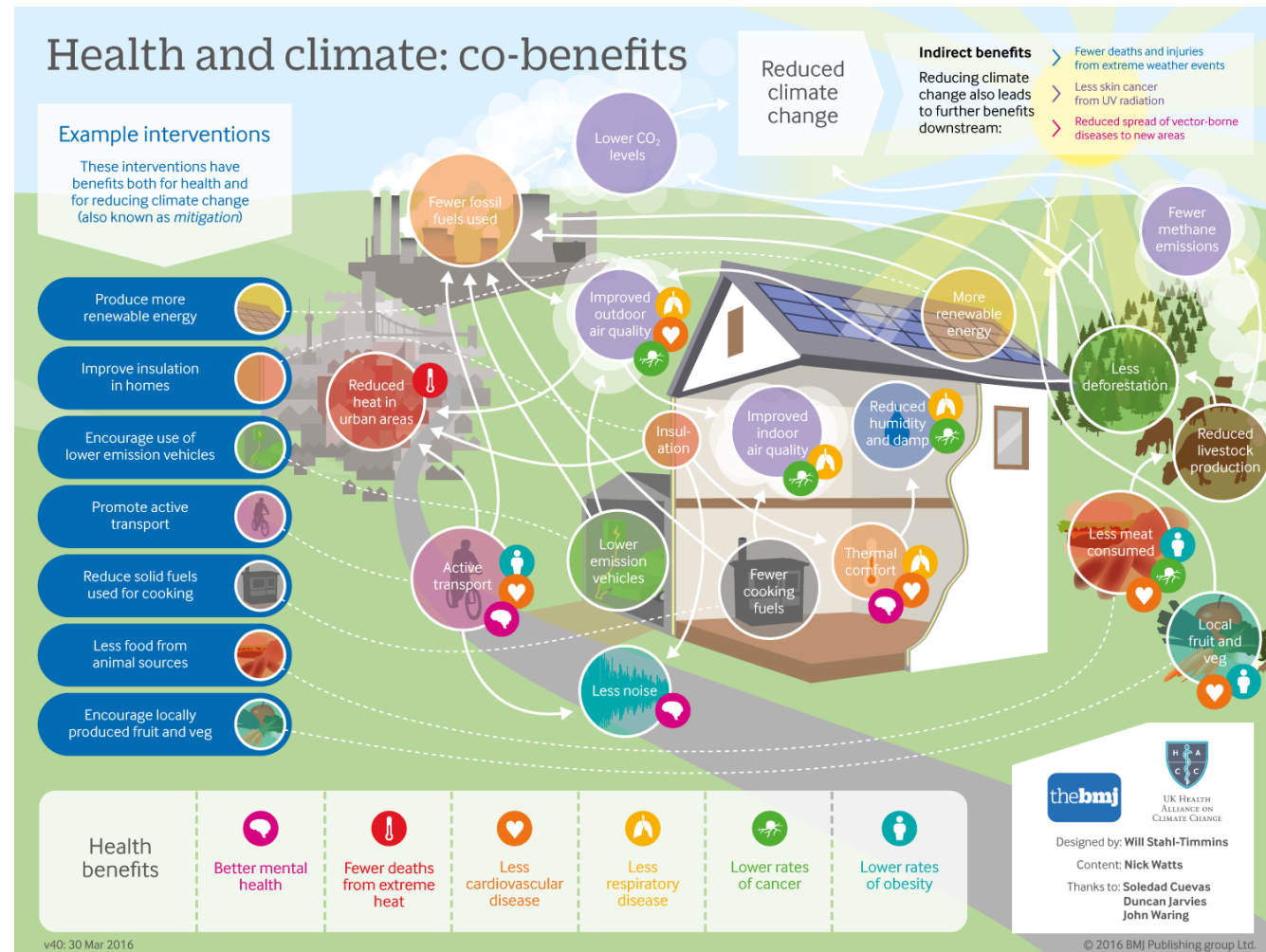
- Need to prioritize health in operationalizing ongoing global agreements, e.g. further rounds of NDCs
- Important to analyse conflicts, synergies and trade-offs between interventions aimed to achieve the different agreements and agendas
- Better health and wellbeing is an opportunity for achieving convergence between global policy frameworks



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

Conclusions

- Health should not only be a concern for the regions most vulnerable to climate change, and low-income countries, rather a common platform for action
- Approaches that strengthen health systems, promote equity, and foster close collaboration with health and non-health sectors are needed to achieve planetary health
- Planetary health provides a lens for identifying synergies and co-benefits



Thanks for your attention

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