

Accelerating action to enhance environment and health in the European Region

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WHO European Centre for Environment and Health
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GEZONDHEIDS- CONFERENTIE MILIEUGEZONDHEIDSZORG

4 DECEMBER 2023 - BRUSSEL



Vlaanderen
is zorgzaam en
gezond samenleven



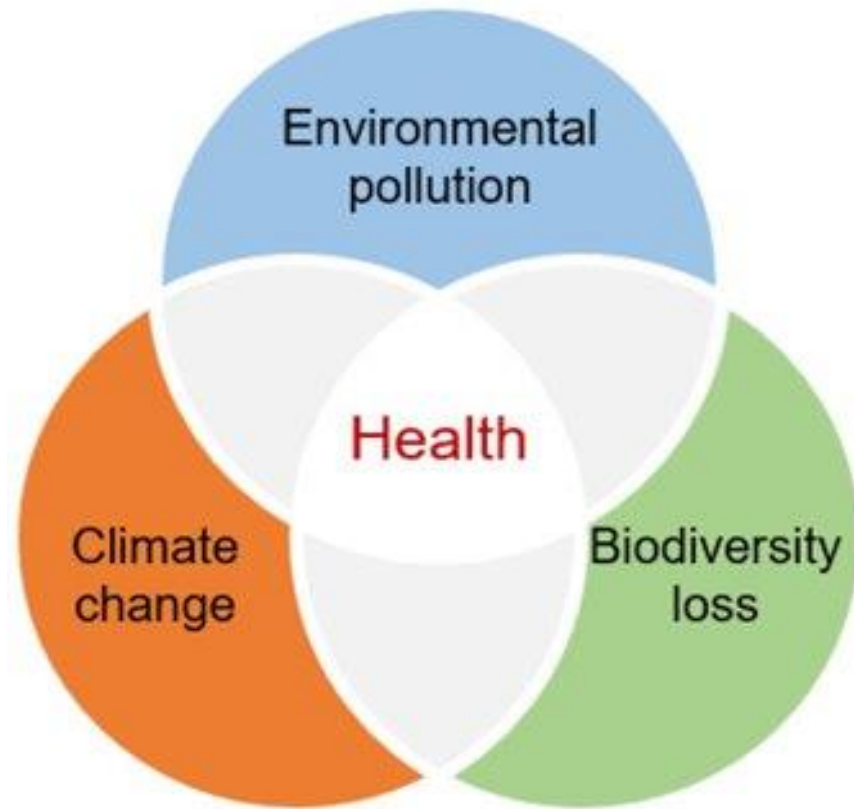
- **Climate and health**
- **Quality of the Living Environment (air and noise pollution)**
- **Substances of Very High Concern**



European Region

Budapest Conference on Environment and Health (7MCEH)

Addressing the health dimension of the triple crisis while recovering from COVID-19



Focus on accelerating action to:

- Tackle climate change, environmental pollution and loss of biodiversity
- Build Forward Better from COVID-19 pandemic, including actions for urban resilience
- Protect vulnerable populations and vulnerable life stages

7MCEH outcomes

The **Budapest Declaration** and its **Road Map to 2030** accelerate progress and action towards addressing **health challenges** of **triple crisis** by:

- ✓ regionalizing and **accelerating** the implementation of existing global commitments
- ✓ expressing **political commitment** for a **transformational change**
- ✓ building **partnerships** for joint action
- ✓ improving environment and health **governance**
- ✓ investing in **human resources** and capacities, innovation and research
- ✓ promoting the active engagement of **youth**



European Region



EHP Partnerships



**HBM in the WHO
European Region**
(led by Germany and co-led by
Georgia)

**Health Sector Climate
Action**

(led by Ireland and supported by
Austria, Belgium, the
Netherlands Norway and UK)

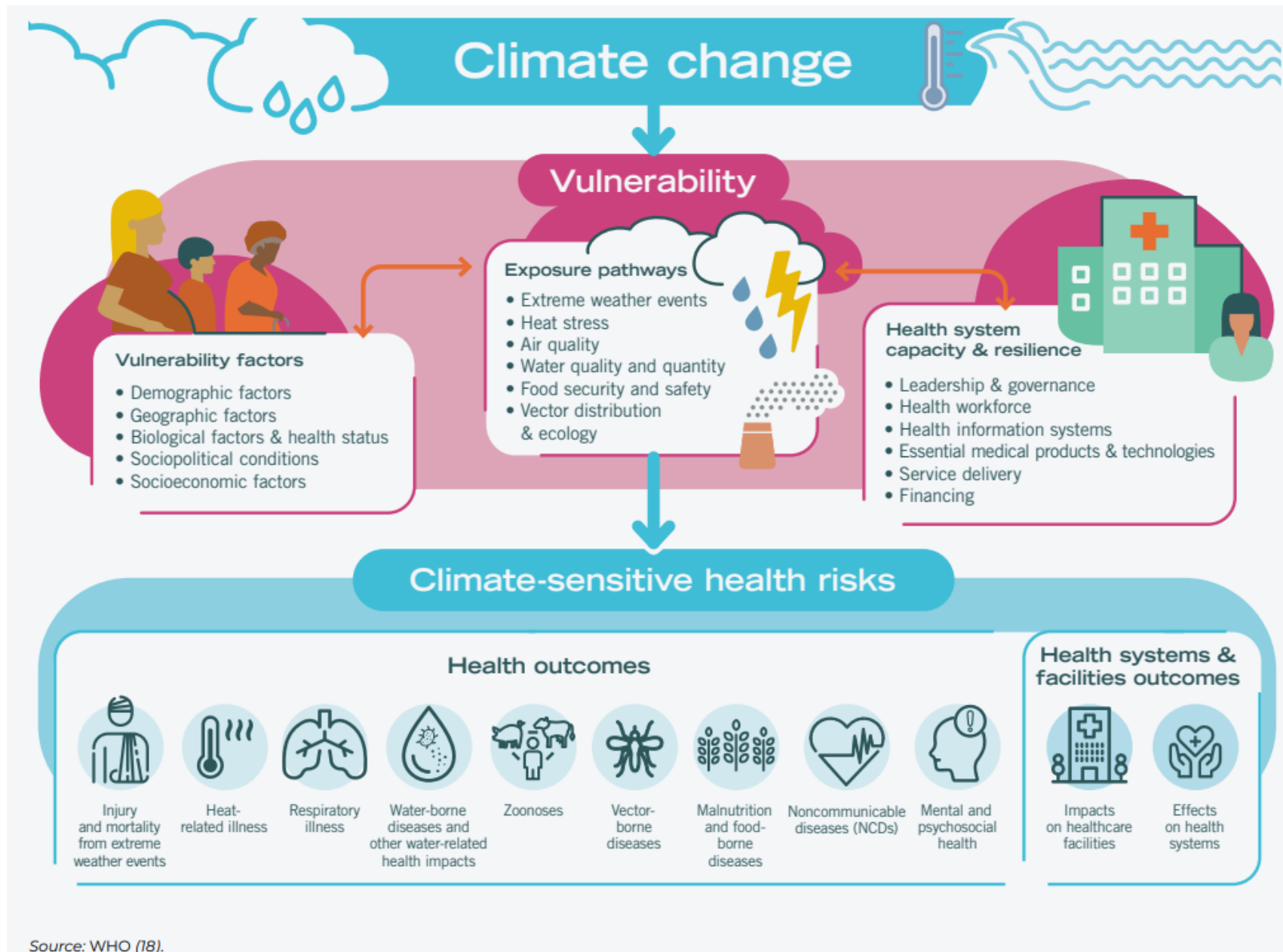
**THE PEP/EHP
Partnership on Healthy
Active Mobility**
(led by Austria, France and the
Netherlands)

**Youth in the WHO
European Region**
(led by Slovenia and co-led by
the International Youth Health
Organization)

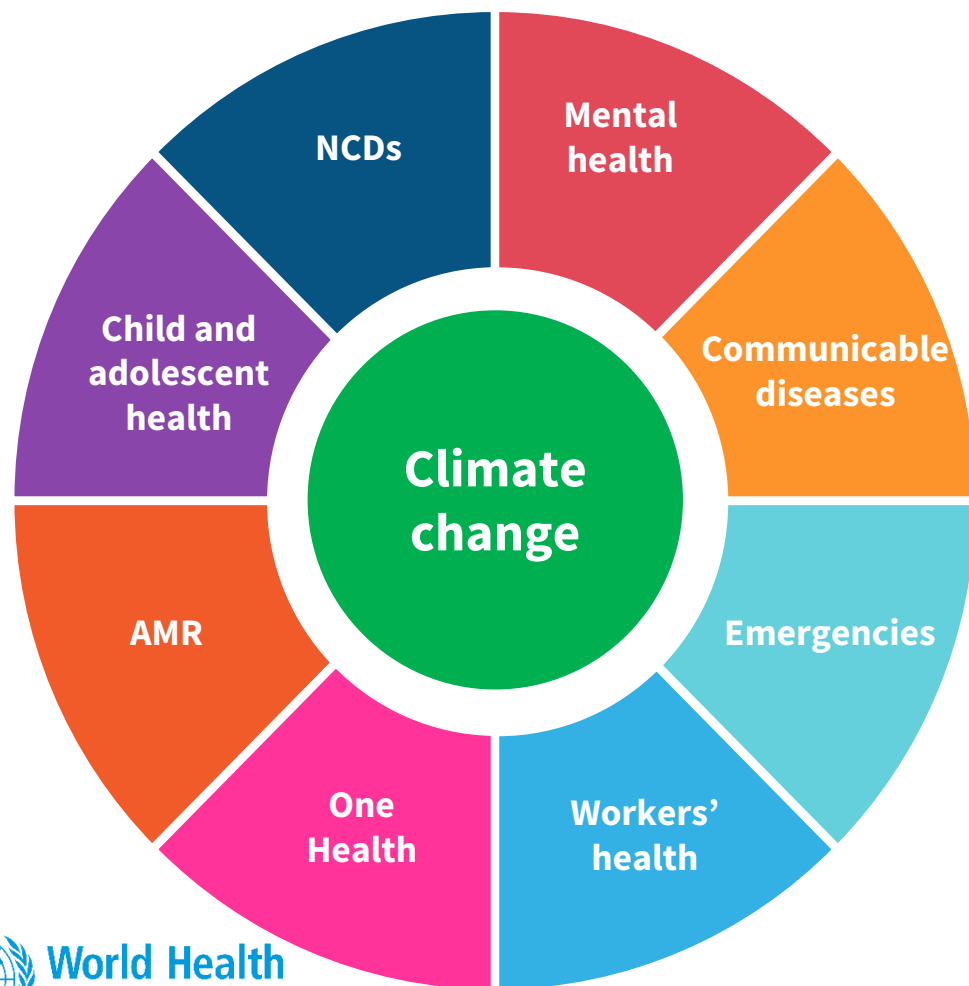


European Region

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Urgent transformative climate action for health is needed



Building and strengthening partnerships

Global and regional frameworks

Developing evidence for action

Strengthening capacities

Leadership and advocacy

Global policy framework for climate and health

2021



COP26 Health Programme

Climate-resilient health systems...

- conduct vulnerability and adaptation assessments
- develop Health National Adaptation Plans

... sustainable low-carbon

- deliver baseline assessment of GHG emissions of the health system
- Develop an action plan to develop a sustainable low carbon health system

2022



ATAACH
Alliance for Transformative
Action on Climate and Health
WHO hosted network



2023

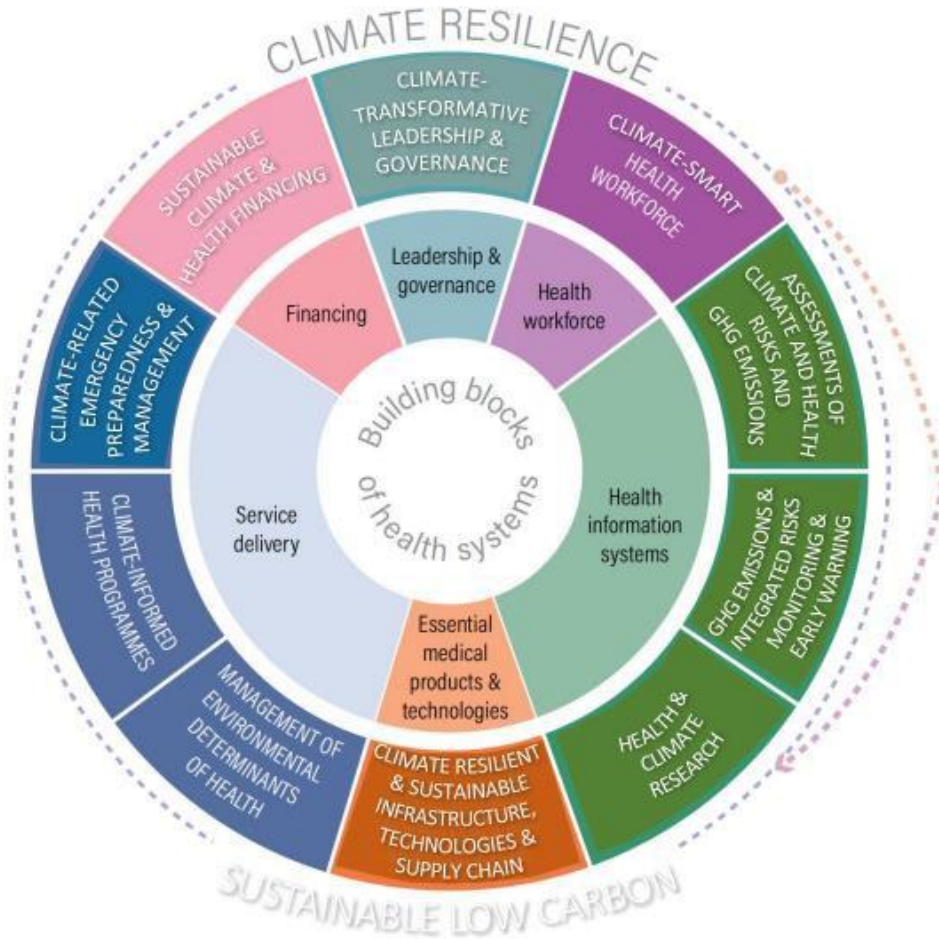


First Health Day

COP28 Declaration on Climate and health

Regional voice of the WHO Regional Office for Europe

Climate actions by the health sector - leading by example



Reduction of the 5% of global carbon emissions due to healthcare

Over 70% of the health sector footprint is from health care supply chain

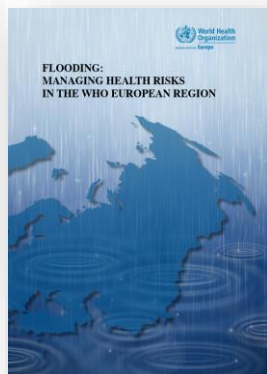
Integration of climate considerations into building blocks of health systems

At healthcare facility and health system levels:

- Low carbon
- Climate resilient
- Environmentally sustainable

Climate action for health

**Protect health from
full range of
climate risks**

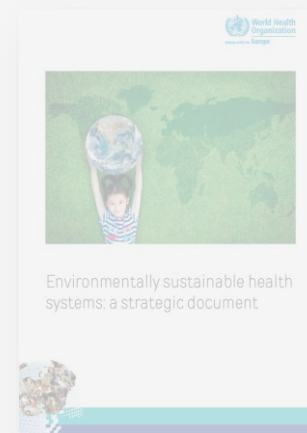


#KeepCool in the heat!

**Help reduce carbon
emissions to protect
health**



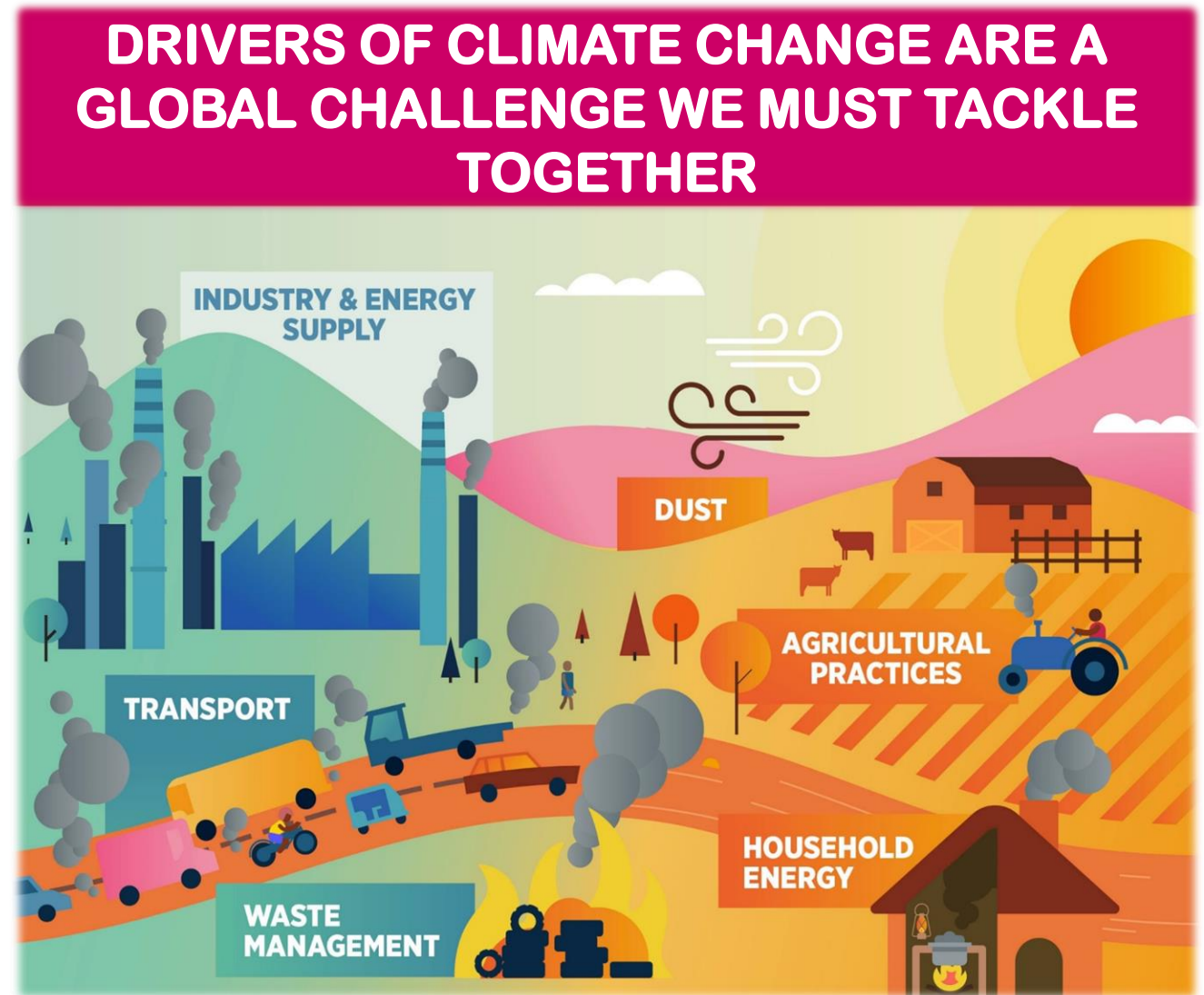
**Make health systems
climate smart and
sustainable**



Synergies and health co-benefits

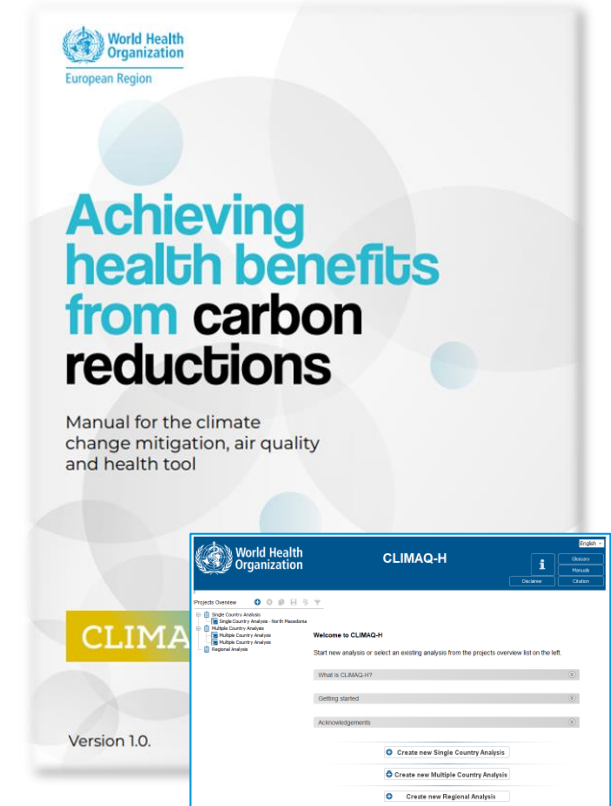
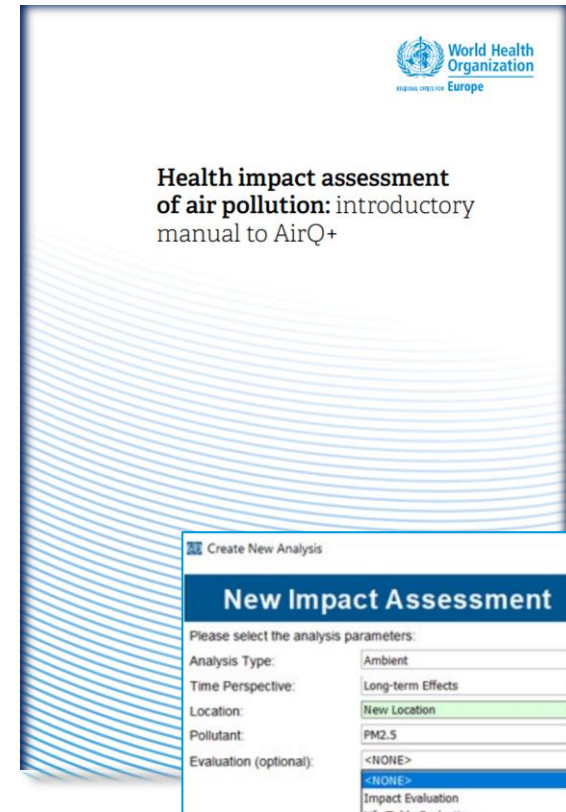
The economic benefits on human health from air quality improvement arising from mitigation action can be of the same order of magnitude as mitigation costs, and potentially even larger.

Source: [Working Group III — IPCC](#)



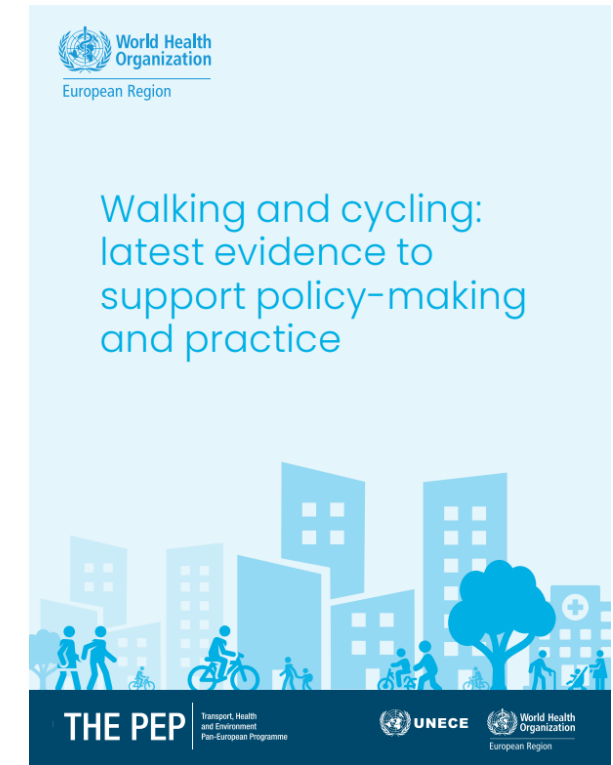
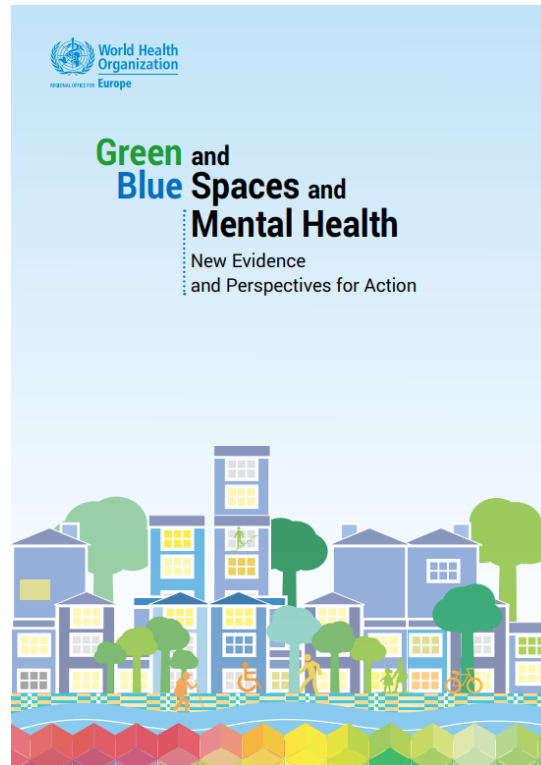
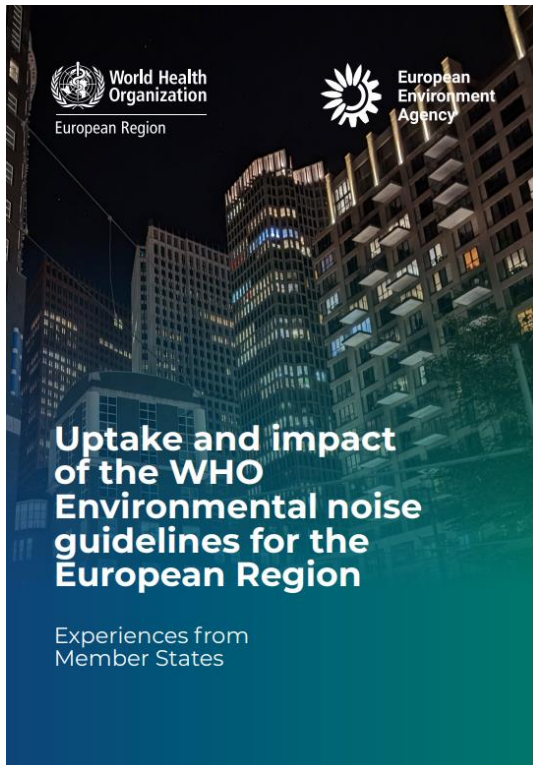
Focus on air quality
and climate change

Support to building quality living environment



Focus on urban environment

Support to building quality living environment



Global Framework on Chemicals – For a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste



By 2030, ...generate ... and make available comprehensive and accessible monitoring and surveillance data and information on concentrations and potential exposure sources of chemicals in humans...



European Region

HIGH-LEVEL DECLARATION

Pollution is the world's largest risk factor for disease and premature death, with pollution from chemicals contributing to millions of those deaths, illnesses and disabilities each year.

We will prevent exposure to harmful chemicals, and phase out the most harmful ones, where appropriate. We will actively promote and support ... the development of safe chemical and non-chemical alternatives and substitutes

We will actively promote research and innovation for the development of safe and sustainable chemicals, materials, products and processes

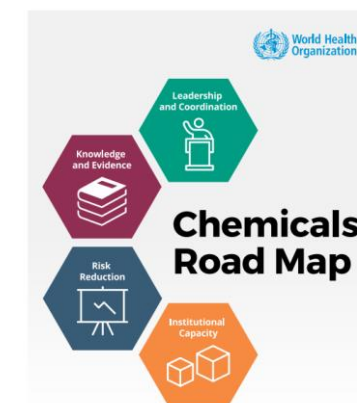
Strengthening the development and provision of safe and sustainable chemicals with reduced adverse impacts for downstream industry users, workers, and consumers

WHA Resolution (2023) The impact of chemicals, waste and pollution on human health

CALLS UPON Member States:

To strengthen implementation of the WHO Global Strategy on Health, Environment and Climate and the WHO Road Map to enhance the engagement of the health sector in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond, taking a health-in-all policies approach;

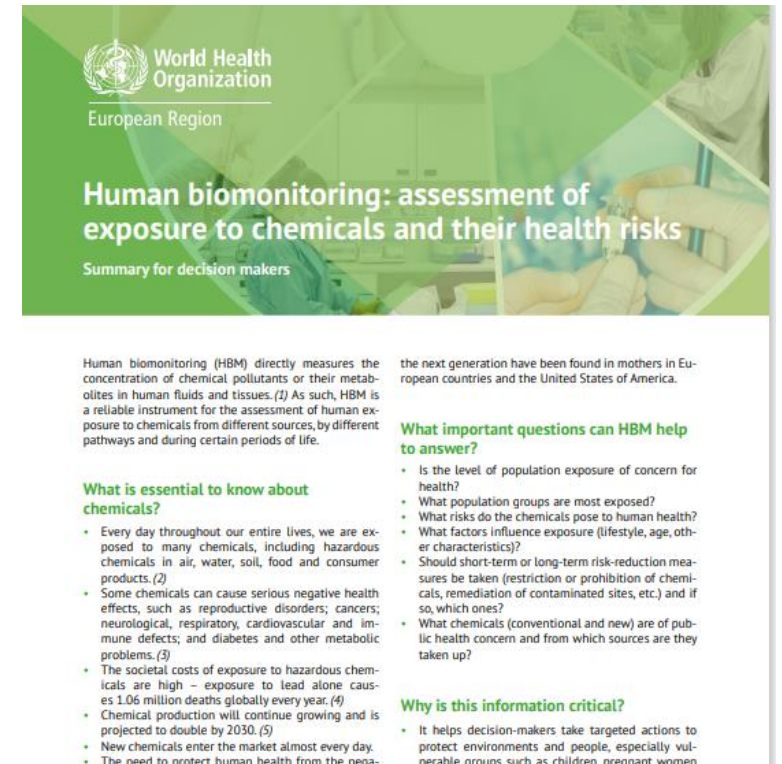
Encourage the health sector to strengthen partnerships and collaborative efforts to develop/update regulatory frameworks, including the harmonization of protocols for national human biomonitoring and surveillance programmes particularly for chemicals of concern....



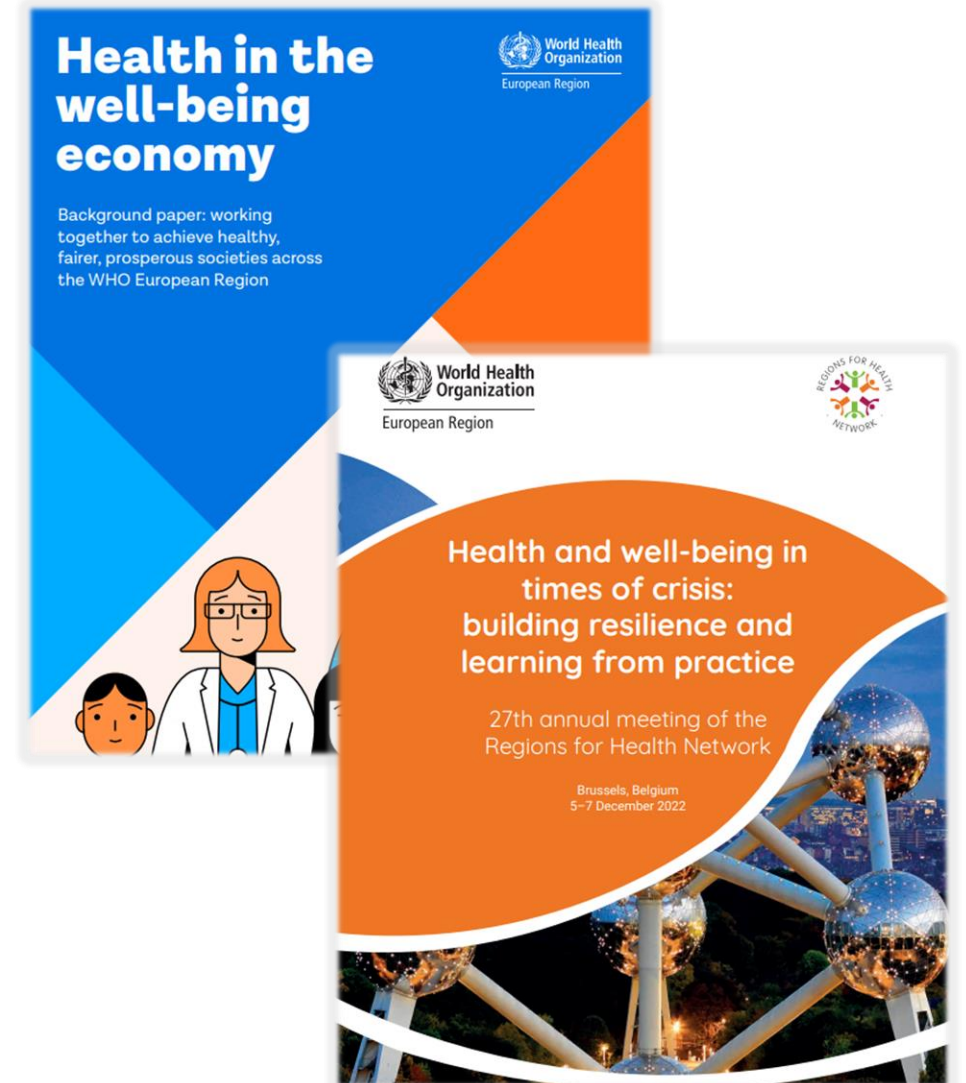
Road map to enhance health sector engagement in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management towards the 2020 goal and beyond

Evidence , capacity building and advocacy

Human biomonitoring – a tool to support action to address substances of very high concern



Towards well-being societies



Thank you

For more information, please contact:

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