

CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH

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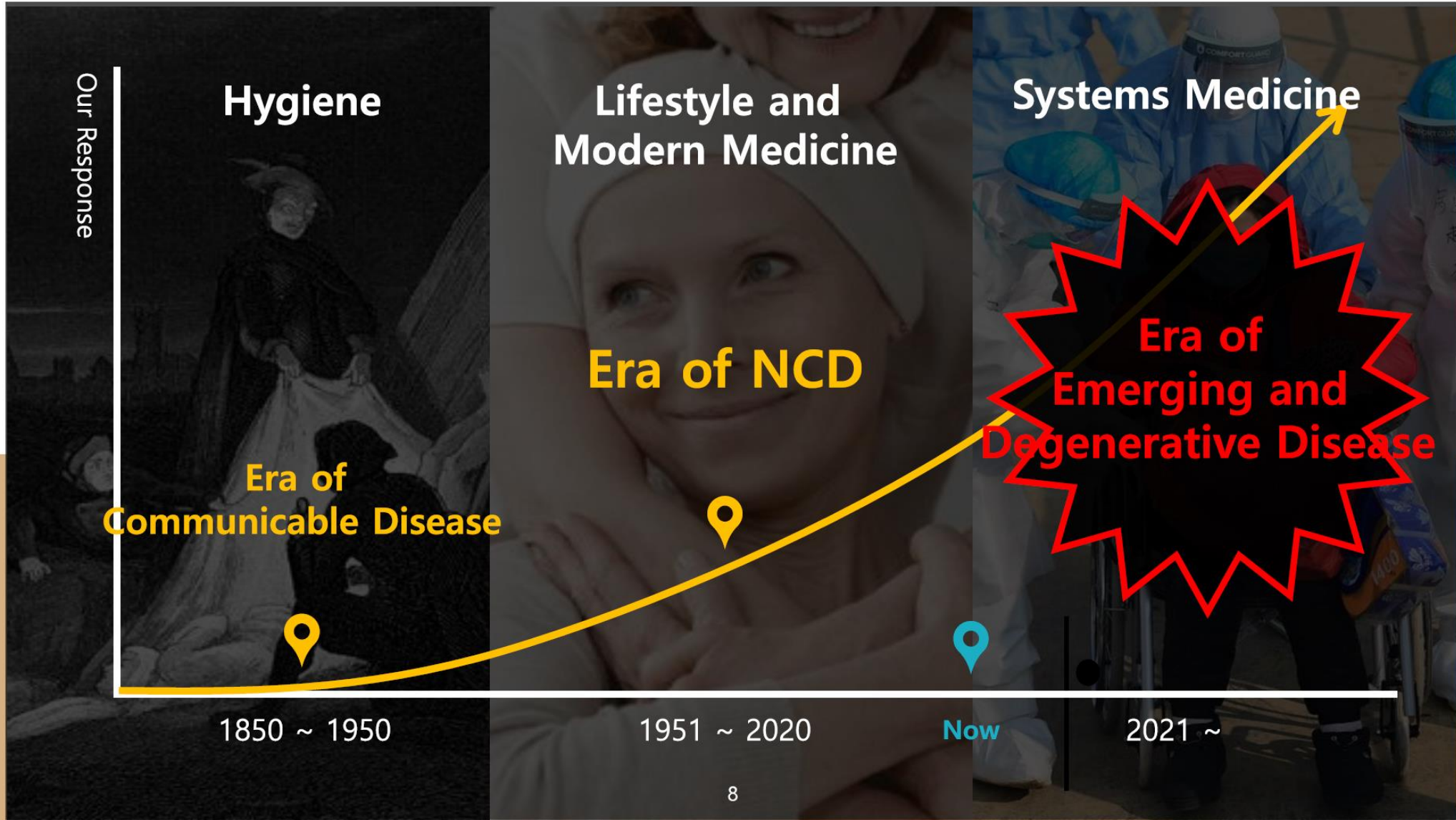
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION: WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

PEOPLE AND PLANET



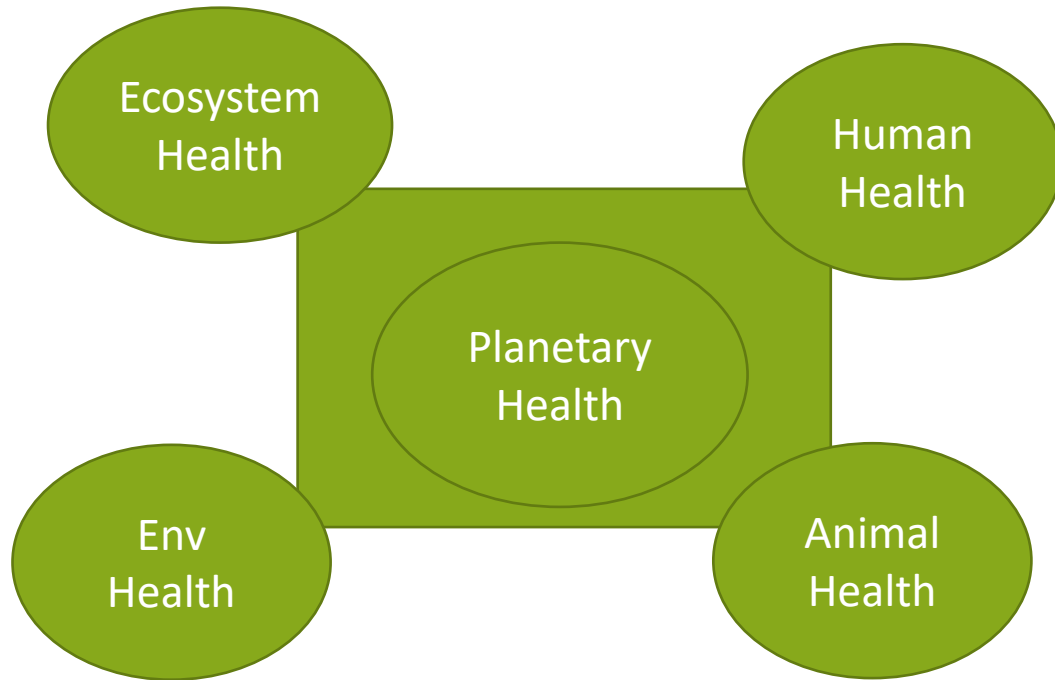
- *COVID19 pandemic is a reminder of the intimate and delicate relationship between people and planet.*
- *Any efforts to make our world safer are doomed to fail unless they address the critical interface between people and pathogens, and the existential threat of climate change, that is making our Earth less habitable."*
- WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. Address to the 73rd World Health Assembly. May 18th 2020.

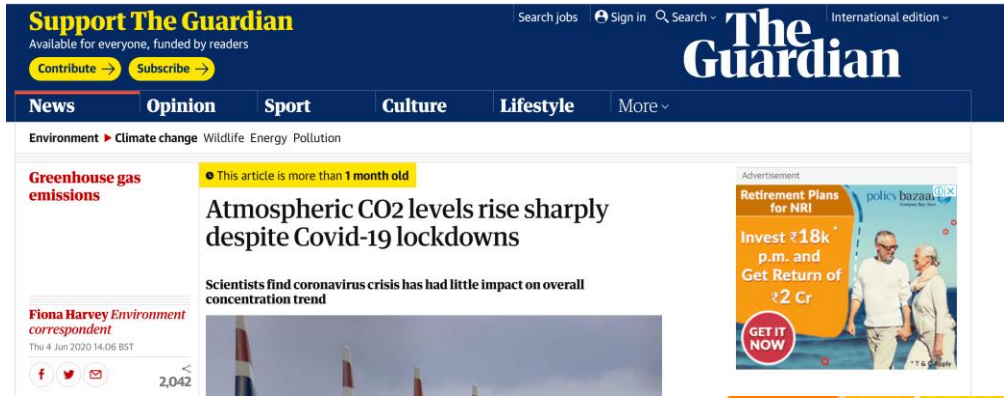
Our Response needs to be changing!



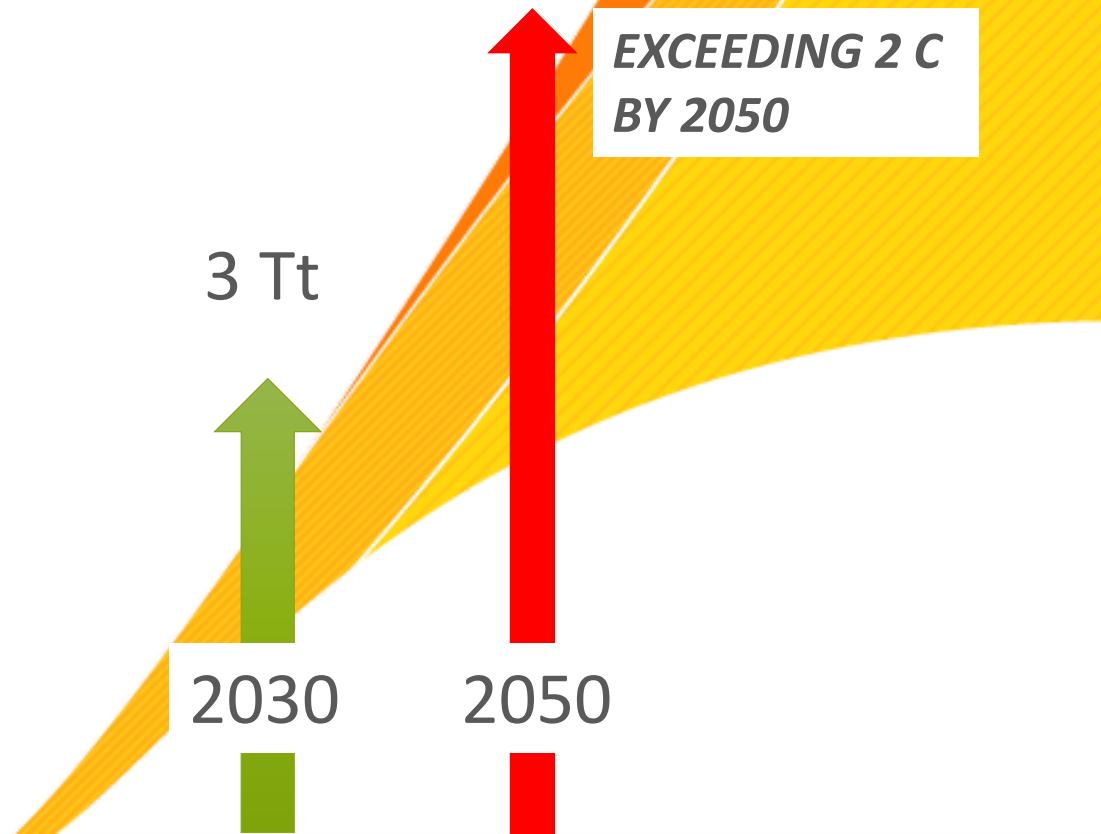
BIODIVERSITY- CLIMATE CHANGE - HEALTH

- Its not about human ONLY as human health outcomes are influenced by other healths:
 - the health of animals;
 - the health of the environments and ecology – ecosystems health
 - The health of our Planet – Planet A





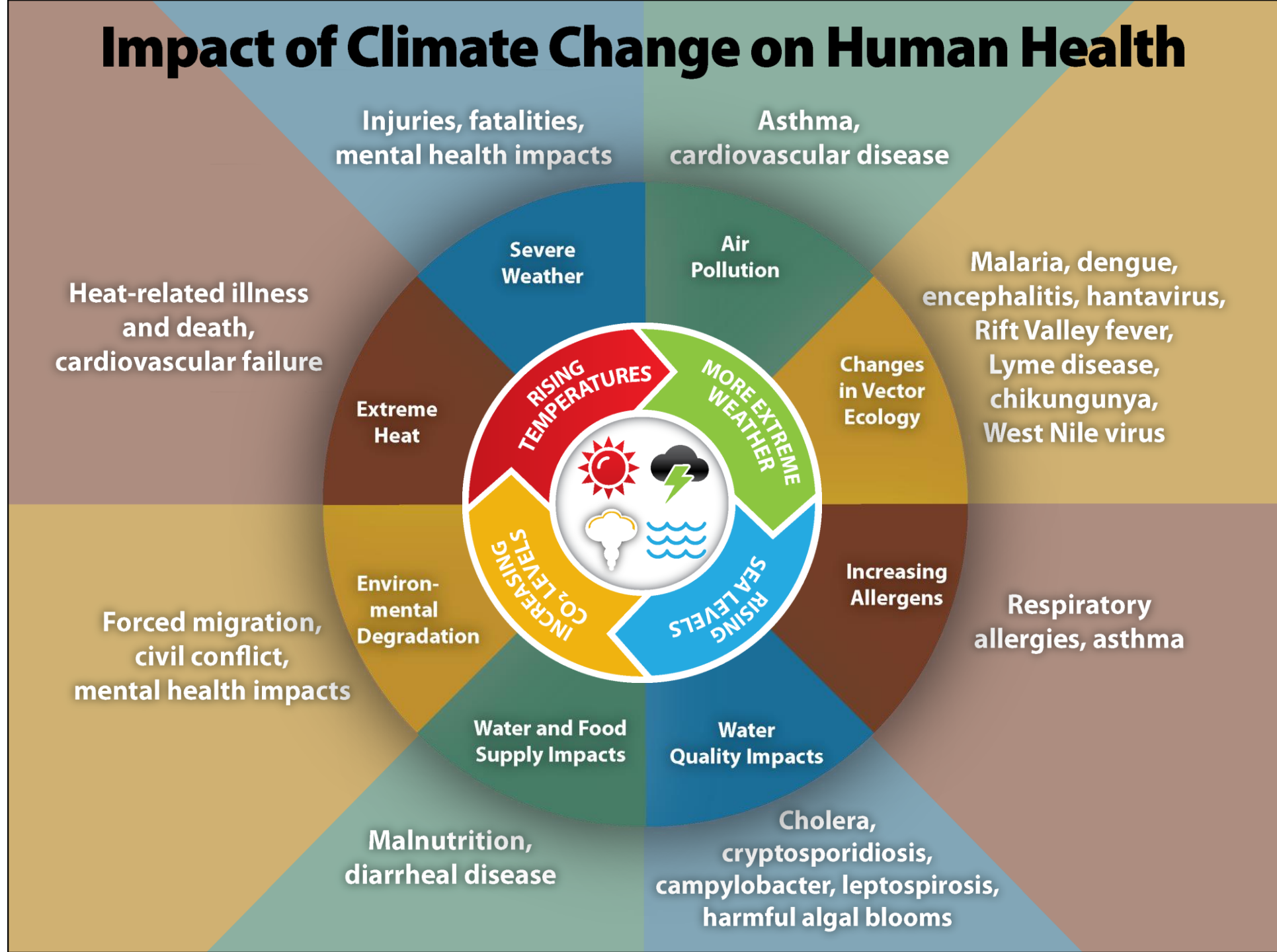
BENDING THE CURVE



Need to worry about two time scales (IPCC Report):

- The earth is currently warming at 0.2°C per decade.
 - At this rate, 1.5°C of warming could be reached by about 2040;
 - Global warming is projected to exceed 3°C above pre-industrial levels
-
- *An Extra Half a Degree Effects - the existence of small island states and low-lying communities;*
 - *Global average sea levels could rise by up to 1.1m by 2100, in the worst warming scenario*
 - **COVID19 LOCKDOWN cant bend the curve**

Impact of Climate Change on Human Health





ACTION BY THE HEALTH SECTOR

Adaptation action for the health sector:

Strengthen prevention, surveillance & early warning systems pertaining to climate sensitive diseases

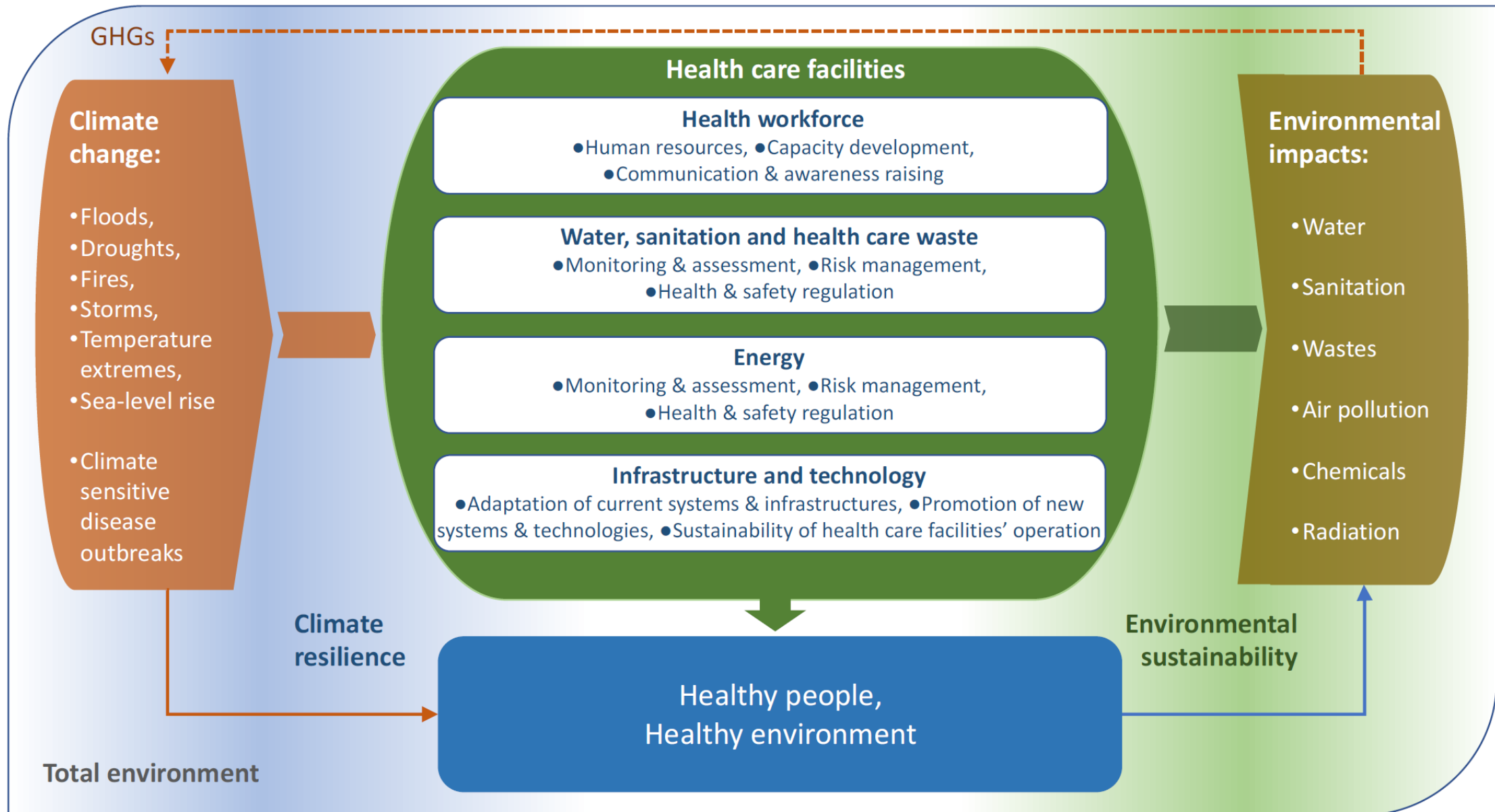
Mitigation action for the health sector:

Promote & support initiatives that protect health by reducing greenhouse gas emissions

South Tarawa, Kiribati.

More extreme weather events are hitting populations, and rising sea levels are damaging infrastructure and threatening access to land forcing internal and external migration, with associated health issues .

Figure 1. Climate-resilience and environmental sustainability in health care facilities



ACTIONS BY OTHER SECTORS OUTSIDE HEALTH - MITIGATION & CO-BENEFITS :

Co-benefits =
climate mitigation +
health gains from well-
chosen health policies



PACIFIC FRAMEWORKS

- Ecosystems are part of the region's cultural identity;
- Healthy Islands has been the unifying theme for health security and health promotion in the Pacific since 1995
- Maintaining ecological balance
 - For some PICs, decreasing recovery time between emergencies is increasing vulnerability, decreasing resilience and pushing communities into spiral of social and economic disadvantage

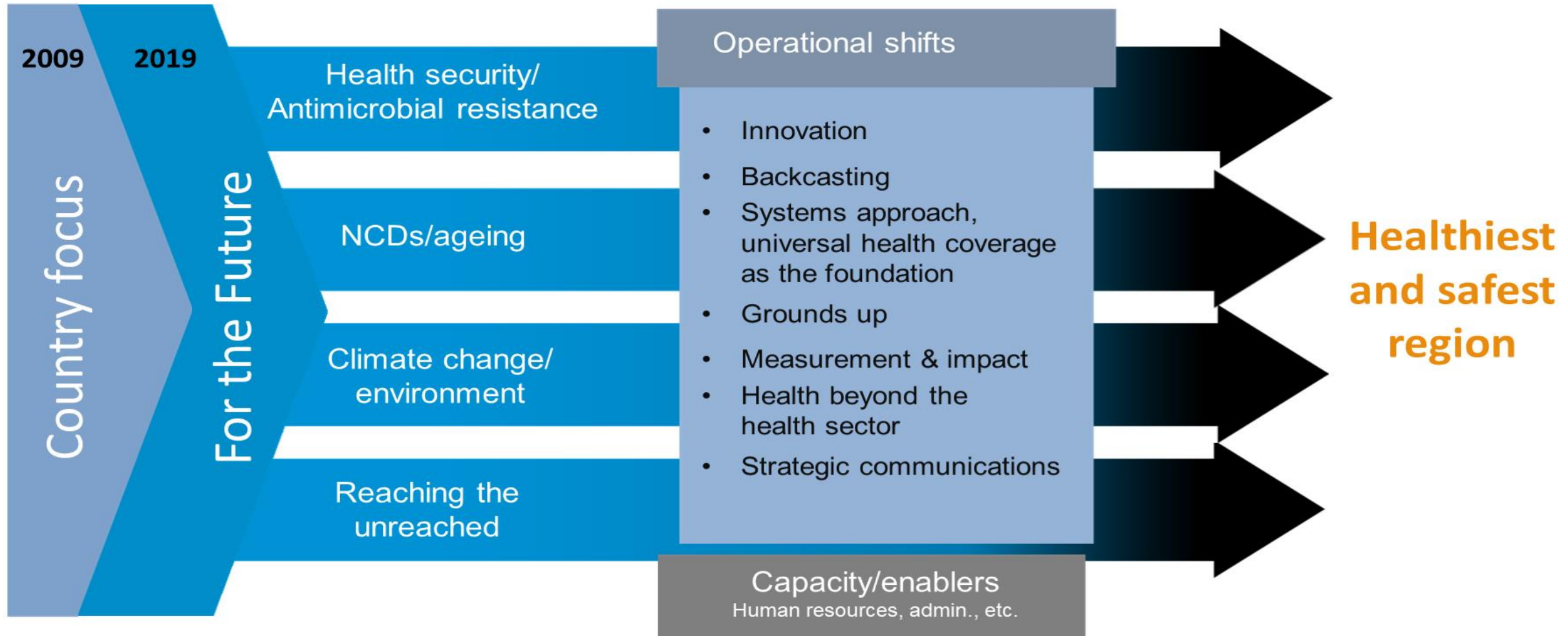


PACIFIC ISLANDS ACTION PLAN ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH



Pacific Islands Action Plan
on Climate Change and Health

For the Future: The safest and healthiest region



THE FOUR PILLARS OF CCE AND HEALTH

Advocacy

Because: Health is a neglected issue in the discussions on CCE by other sectors, we need to build scientific narratives and sound economic arguments on health co-benefits.

Building climate resilience into health systems

Because: If health systems are not resilient, then we cannot achieve UHC nor the SDG goals.

Monitoring impact of CCE on health

Because: we need to be able to monitor the impact of CCE on health, including actions by other sectors with co-benefits to inform decision-making.

Applying CCE lens to our work

Because: Health is a CCE issue, WHO staff have to be able to understand and know-how incorporate CCE in their areas of work.

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION

JUNE 23-25, 2020

Locations:

Australia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Italy,
Japan, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Lao PDR,
Marshall Islands, Mongolia, New Zealand,
Philippines, Tuvalu, United Kingdom,
United States of America, Viet Nam

