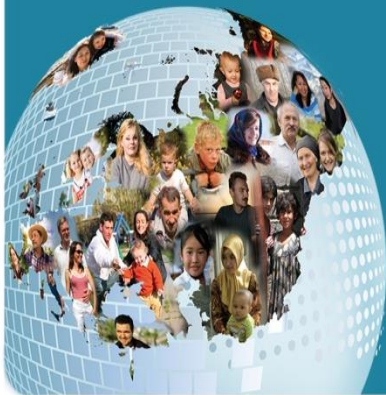


Health and Environment in WHO European Region: Creating Resilient Communities and Supportive Environments

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WHO European Centre for Environment and Health



 World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe

 Organisation
mondiale de la Santé
BUREAU REGIONAL DE L'Europe

 Weltgesundheitsorganisation
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR Europa

 Всемирная организация
здравоохранения
Европейское региональное бюро

Multiple diseases can be prevented through a healthy environment



PREVENTING DISEASE THROUGH HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

A global assessment of the burden of disease from environmental risks

A Prüss-Ustün, J Wolf, C Corvalán, R Bos and M Neira



- it is estimated that 1.4 million deaths occur annually in the WHO European Region from environmental determinants.
- The vast majority due to cardiovascular diseases.

Some facts and figures

Polluted air is responsible for the premature deaths every year of 7 million people globally and of 600 000 in the WHO European Region

Some facts and figures

- Climate change is expected to cause over 250 000 additional deaths per year between 2030 and 2050.
- Water-related diseases account for approx. 18% of investigated outbreaks in the European Region. Every day 14 people die due to diarrhoea caused by poor water and sanitation

Work of WHO Regional Office for Europe

- . WHO Regional Office for Europe and other partners initiated the European Environment and Health Process (EHP) in 1989. EHP has been providing a joint platform for the health and the environment sectors to develop and implement common actions

The political mandate



Health 2020 calls for the local promotion of services for environment and health and the encouragement of the health sector to act in a more environmentally responsible manner.



The Road to Dignity by 2030: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the Planet” highlights that every sector has the responsibility to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



The Parma declaration and upcoming Ostrava Declaration are framing the response of WHO European MS in the area of environment and health by taking 2030 Development agenda as the overarching framework and enabler



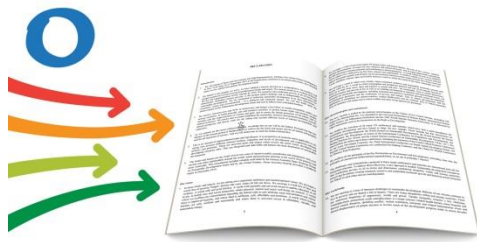
Protecting health in an environment challenged by climate change: European Regional Framework for Action

Goals and strategies

Impetus is set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

Health and well-being linked to environmental and work-related factors are outcomes, determinants and enablers of sustainable development.





Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Health is central to development

Health and well-being are an **outcome**, a **determinant** and an **enabler** of the Goals.



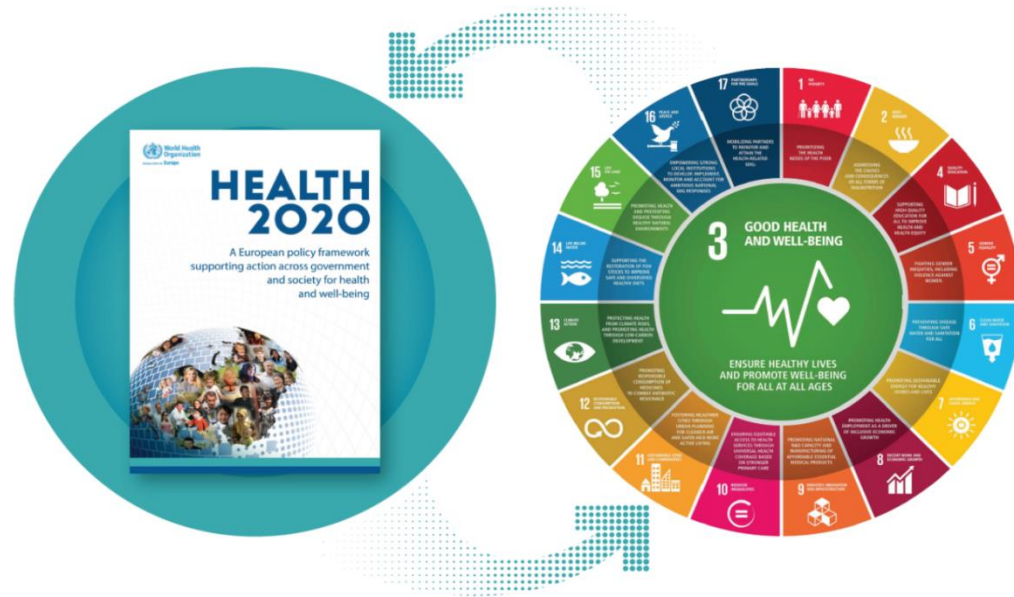
What's new?

The 2030 Agenda and its Goals are:

- *Universal* = Relevant to all countries, developing & developed
- *Transformative* = Human rights-based, addressing governance & local dimension, focused on equity and on reaching those hardest to access, inclusive (“leave no one behind”)
- *Involving new actors*, including private sector and civil society
- *Silo breaker* = Require collaboration among sectors



Health in all policies = Health in all SDGs



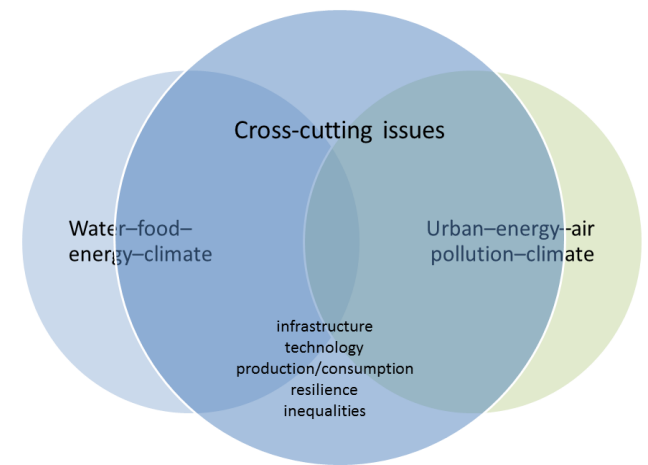
Evolving understanding of environmental challenges to human health

- **Environmental challenges** can no longer be tackled in isolation, but linked to **sectoral** and **social** aspects, in Europe and globally
- Most of the changes in the state of the environment are ultimately driven by **unsustainable use of resources** and **consumption** and **production** patterns
- A need to **move away** from the **hazard-focused**, compartmentalised approach to environment and health, **towards** including the **benefits** of the environment to human health and well-being
- Efforts to **improve environmental quality** need to be complemented by other measures, including changes in **lifestyle** and **human behaviour**, as well as **consumption** patterns

Source: EEA/JRC, 2013; EEA, 2015

Nexus approach

- Health advice needs to consider the interlinkages between all components of the nexus.
- Interlinks are paving the way towards a more comprehensive approach in providing public health advice.
- Taking into account multisectoral approaches



Water–food–energy–climate change

- Demands for resources, such as water, energy and food will accelerate by major driving forces such as urbanization, population growth and climate change, and in turn create pressures on environment and human health.
- **Themes:** water and sanitation, climate change adaptation

Urban settings–energy–air pollution–climate change

- Climate change is the overarching challenge and driving force for the environmental impacts on health
- Cities contribute to 70% of energy-generated greenhouse gas emissions
- Urban perspective provides opportunities for a more integrative approach
- **Themes:** air pollution, noise, chemicals management, and management of hazardous wastes

Overarching and cross cutting issues

- Impacts of chemicals and sound chemicals management
- Environmentally-sustainable health systems
- Issues of infrastructure linked to resilience
- Technology, production and consumption
- Socio-economic inequalities and vulnerabilities

National Health Policy

Health across all these goals; and in health goal 3

Health 2020: facilitates implementation



- Around 35 Member States of the European Region have developed national health policies aligned with 2020; including setting national targets

Bildinsändare. Lotta Sundin, Stockholm DN 30.9-15

Först kommer vi att utrota all fattigdom och hunger. Sedan blir det paus för fika innan vi inför utbildning för alla i hela världen, uppnår jämställdhet och räddar haven.

Strategic

management



livetpatvaren.blogspot.se

"First we will eradicate poverty. Then we will break for coffee before we implement education for all in the world, achieve gender equality and save the oceans".

A readers cartoon in the biggest Swedish daily paper.



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Europe**

Air Quality and Health

SIXTY-EIGHTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

WHA68.8

Agenda item 14.6

26 May 2015

Health and the environment: addressing the health impact of air pollution

The Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly,

Having considered the report on health and the environment: addressing the health impact of air pollution;¹

Reaffirming its commitment to the outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference “The future we want”, in which all States Members of the United Nations committed to promoting sustainable development policies that support healthy air quality in the context of sustainable cities and human settlements, and recognized that reducing air pollution leads to positive effects on health;²

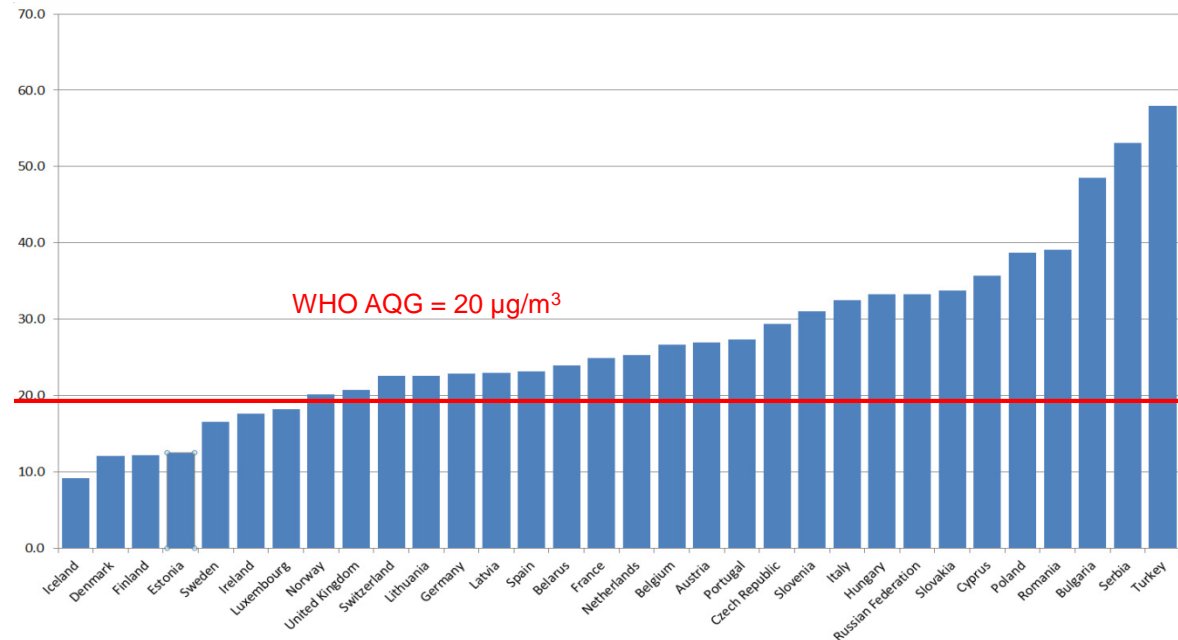
Noting with deep concern that indoor and outdoor air pollution are both among the leading avoidable causes of disease and death globally, and the world’s largest single environmental health risk;³

Acknowledging that 4.3 million deaths occur each year from exposure to household (indoor) air pollution and that 3.7 million deaths each year are attributable to ambient (outdoor) air pollution, at a high cost to societies;⁴

Aware that exposure to air pollutants, including fine particulate matter, is a leading risk factor for noncommunicable diseases in adults, including ischaemic heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma and cancer, and poses a considerable health threat to current and future generations;

Concerned that half the deaths due to acute lower respiratory infections, including pneumonia in children aged less than five years, may be attributed to household air pollution, making it a leading risk factor for childhood mortality;

- 7 million premature deaths a year due to household and ambient air pollution
- Economic cost of US\$ 1.6 trillion in the WHO European Region
- Globally, only in 12% of the urban populations the annual mean PM and the WHO AQ Guidelines are met



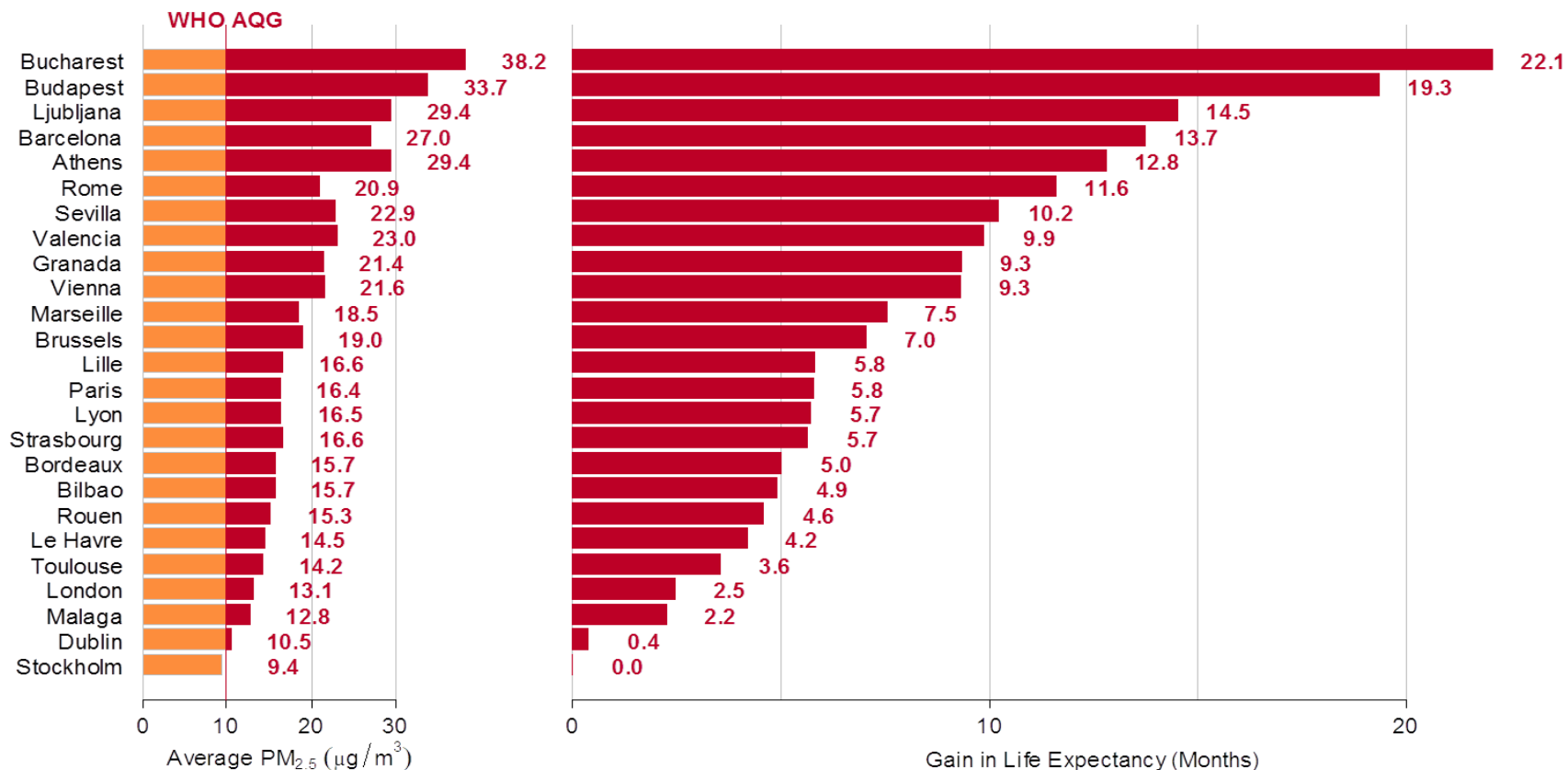
¹ Document A68/18.

² UNEA resolution 1/7, PP6.

³ Global Health Observatory <http://www.who.int/gho/phe/en/> (accessed 18 March 2015).

⁴ WHO. Burden of disease from ambient air pollution for 2012. http://www.who.int/phe/health_topics/outdoorair/databases/AAP_BoD_results_March2014.pdf?ua=1 (accessed 1 December 2014).

Air quality: Important gains in life expectancy



June 13-15, 2017- Ostrava, Check Republic



<http://www.euro.who.int/en/media-centre/events/events/2017/06/sixth-ministerial-conference-on-environment-and-health>



Thank you for your kind attention!

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