

Climate Change and Health: the Role of Physicians

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President

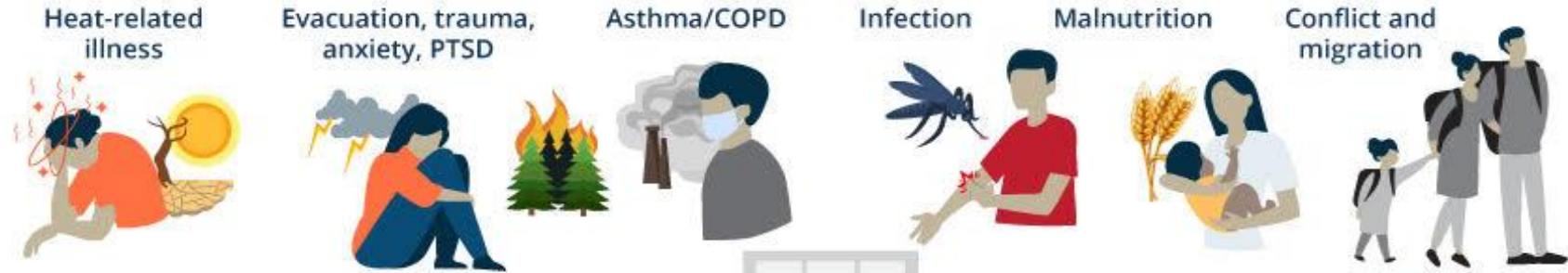
World Medical Association

Greatest health threat of the century

- Climate change health impacts: tangible, personal and local
- According to a World Bank estimate, “Climate change could drag more than 100 million people back into extreme poverty by 2030”, and much of this reversal would be due to the “negative impacts on health”.

Climate-related impacts on

Health



Health systems



Social & structural determinants of health



Ecological determinants of health





- **UN General Assembly declares access to clean and healthy environment a universal human right**

Perfect moral storm

*“We are the first generation that can end poverty in our lifetime, and the last generation to tackle climate change before it is too late, before we have to regret. Future generations will judge us harshly if we fail to uphold our **moral and historical responsibilities.**”*

UN Secretary General – Antonio Guterres

Perfect moral storm

- Disruptive justice: structural and socioeconomic inequalities
- Intergenerational justice

“We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.”

Conceptual and operational framework for climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems



WMA's Declaration of Delhi on climate and health

- Urgent call for governments to act: national climate actions, finance, healthcare system strengthening, climate migrants, participation of health sector, capacity building, cross-sectoral collaboration
- Ask to NMAs and physicians to: low-carbon practices, advocacy, medical and post-graduate education, research, collaboration,

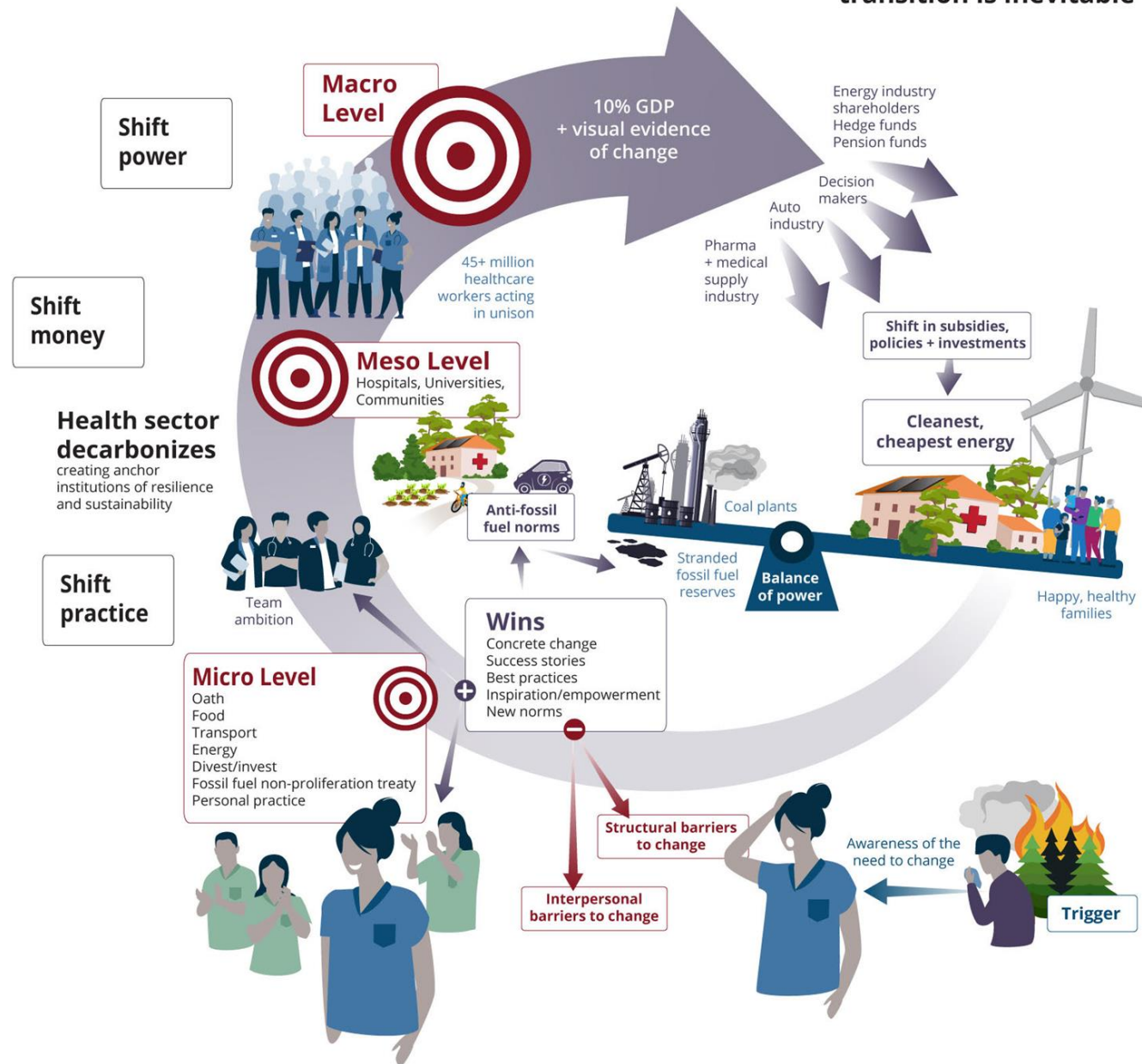
WMA's statement on divestment from fossil fuels

1. Education: health scientists, businesses, civil society, and governments concerning the benefits to health of reducing GHGs
2. Move toward renewable fuel sources.
3. Begin a process of transferring their investments, when feasible without damage, from energy companies whose primary business relies upon extraction of, or energy generation from, fossil fuels to those generating energy from renewable energy sources.
4. Strive to invest in companies upholding the environmental principles consistent with the United Nations Global Compact, and refrain from investing in companies that do not adhere to applicable legislation and conventions regarding environmental responsibility.

WMA declared a climate emergency!

Carbon neutrality by 2030

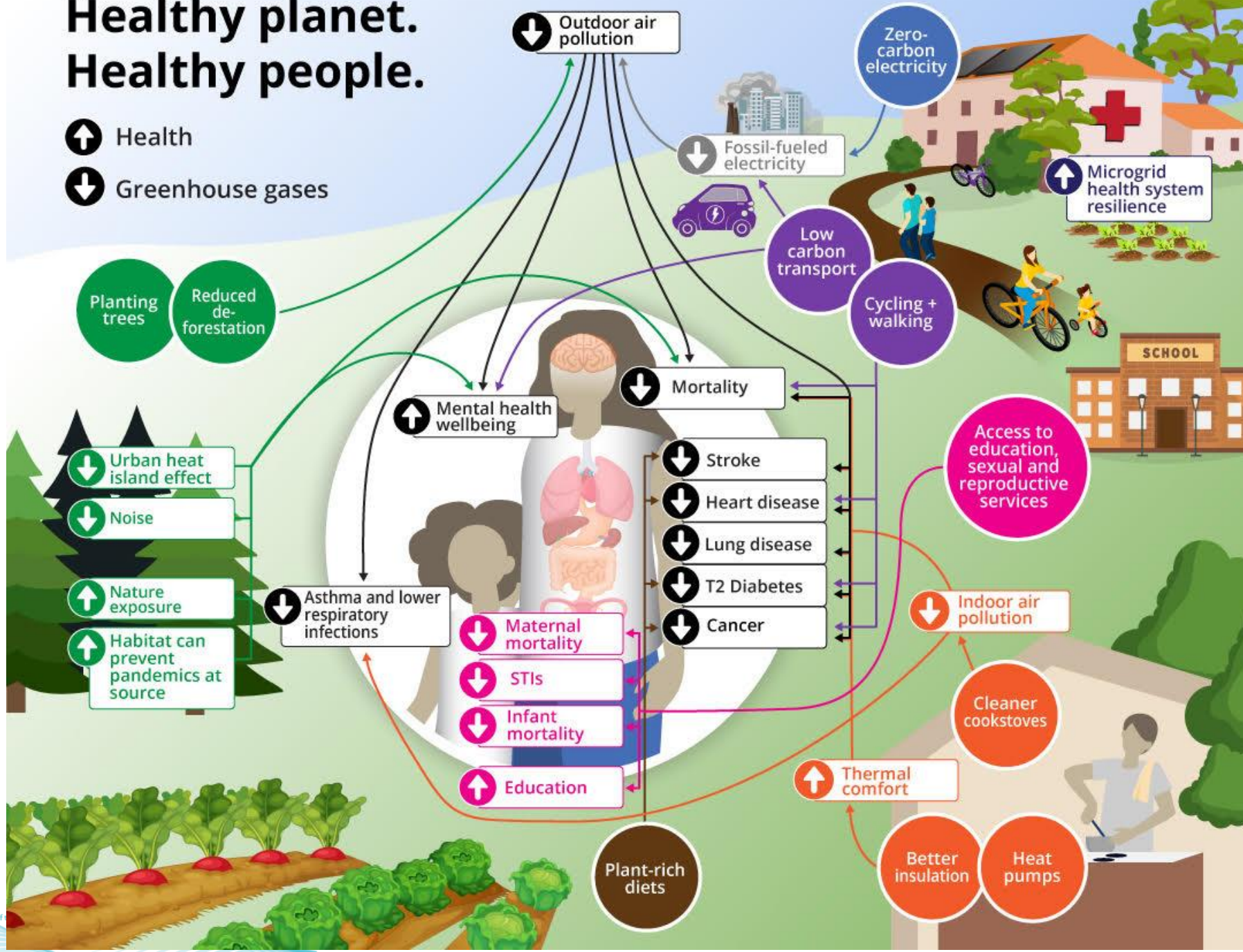
**Message:
A rapid, healthy, low-carbon
transition is inevitable**



Healthy planet. Healthy people.

↑ Health

↓ Greenhouse gases



The Health Voice in Global Climate Movement



Health at COP over the years

Pre COP21	1994-2014	Small health delegations, growing over time Annual Climate & Health Conference, starting in 2011-2021
COP21	Paris, 2015	Health Declarations signed by orgs rep 13 million; “right to health” in Paris Agreement
COP23	Fiji, 2017	Presidency Health Side Event; WHO asked to deliver a report to next COP
COP24	Krakow, 2018	WHO Special Report to COP24
COP25	Santiago/ Madrid, 2019	Air Pollution Pods art installation at COP, largest Climate & Health Conference to date
COP26	Glasgow, 2021	WHO Health Pavilion (WHO-Wellcome); UK-WHO launch ATACH program; WHO Special Report, Healthy Climate Prescription letter signed by orgs rep.46 million health
COP27	Sharm El Sheik, 2022	“right to a clean healthy and sustainable environment” in final document

COP28 as an opportunity

- Health Day - December 3rd
 - Health Interministerial, with adoption of a Declaration
 - Announcements, including on finance for climate & health
 - Establish “gains” for the future COPs
- and*
- Hold the line to protect climate ambition

