

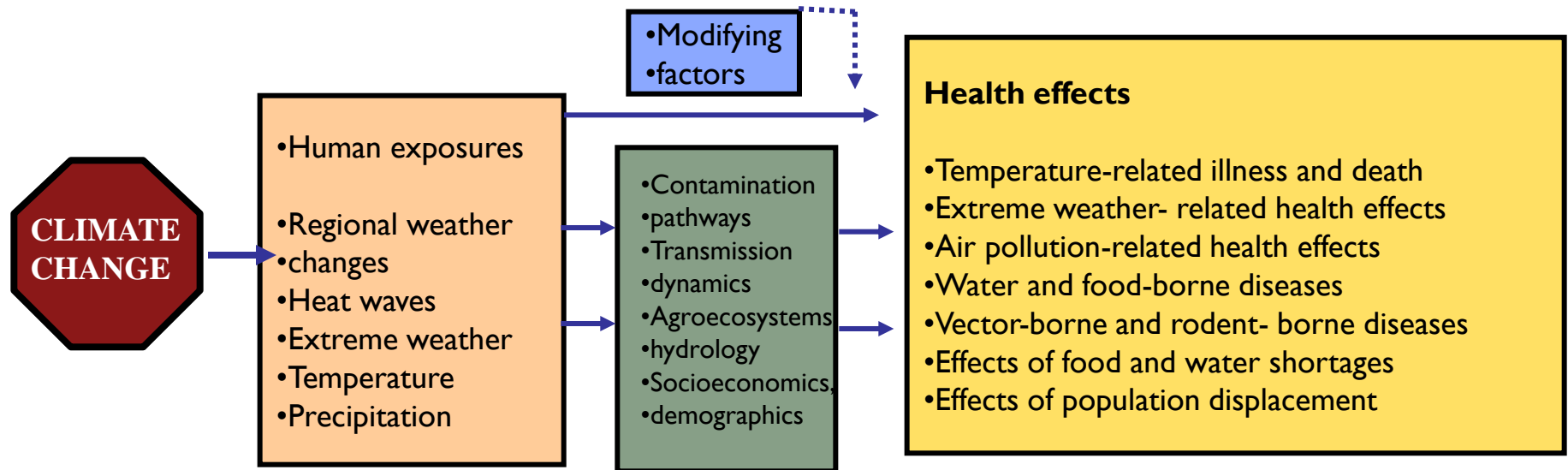
Piloting Climate Change Adaptation to Protect Human Health

A joint WHO/UNDP project
funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF)



Climate Change and Health Linkages

Some expected impacts will be beneficial but most will be adverse. Expectations are mainly for changes in **frequency or severity of familiar health risks**



Based on Patz et al, 2000

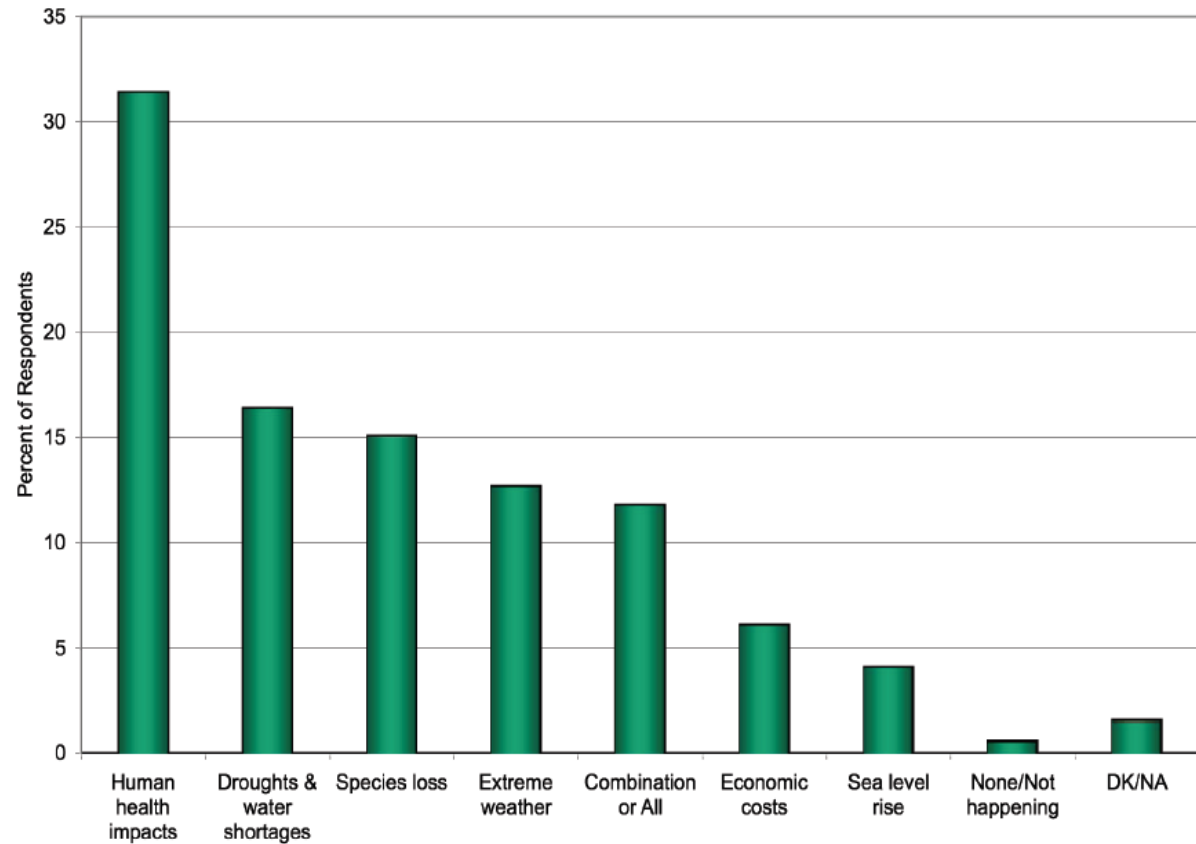
Policy Basis

- World Health Assembly Resolution WHA/61.R19 requests WHO to work with other partners to **develop capacity to assess the risks from climate change for human health and to implement effective response measures.**
- Regional summits of Ministers of Health and Environment have **defined programmatic frameworks for health protection from climate change.**
- UNFCCC, Article 1, paragraph (1) emphasizes the need to minimize adverse effects on "*natural and managed ecosystems or on the operation of socio-economic systems or on **human health and welfare***"
- Survey of UNFCCC delegates:
Importance of health - 8.3
Coverage of health - 4.6

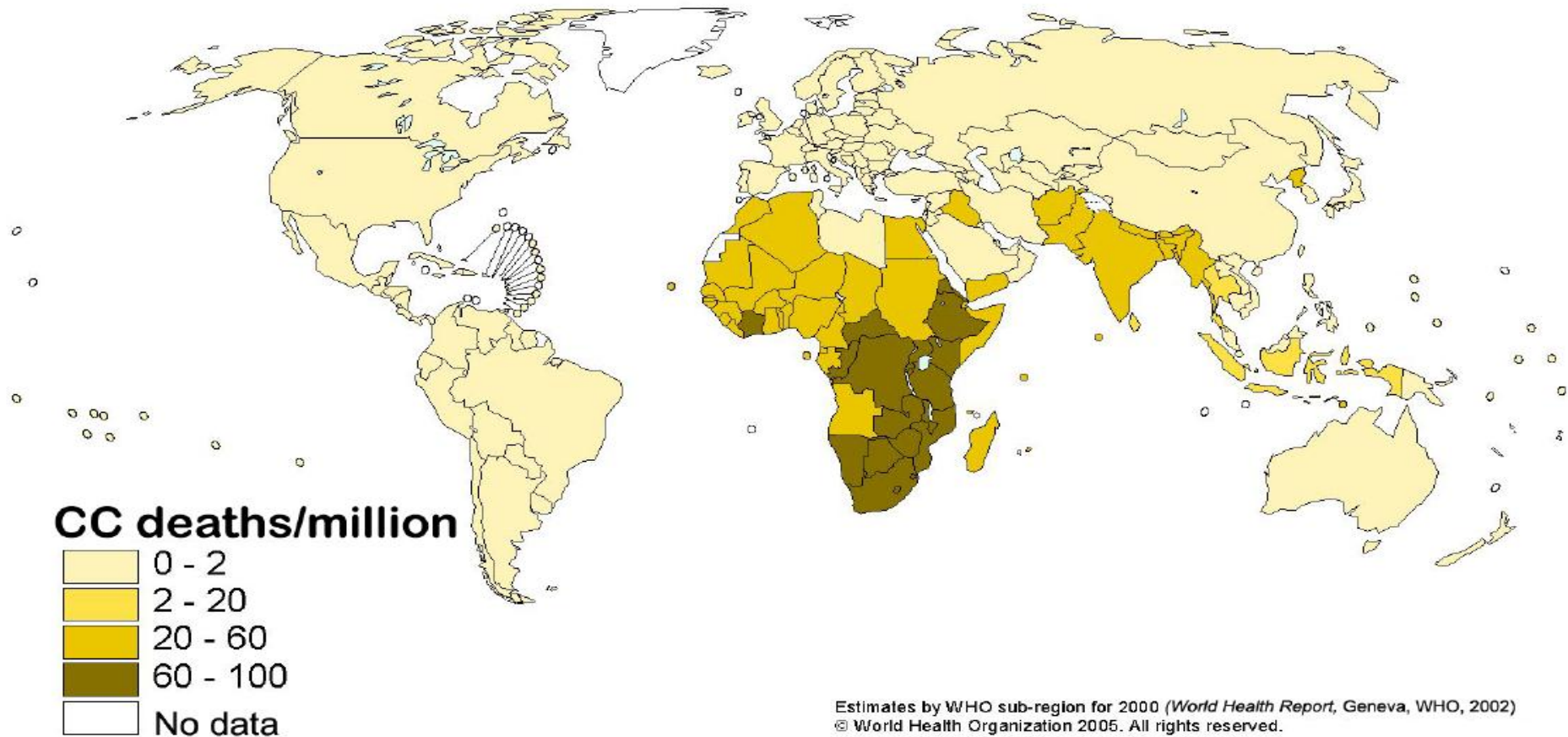
Public interest basis

**Globescan poll on
climate change
in 30 countries**

**(UNDP 2007):
Which ONE of the
following possible
impacts most
concerns you
personally, if any?"**

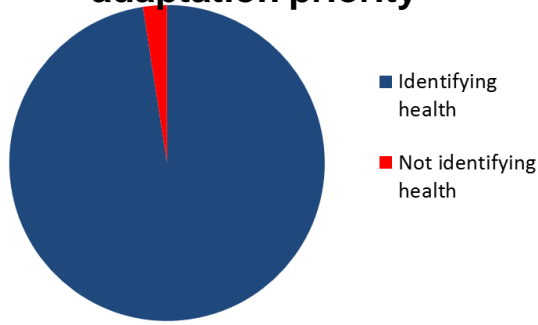


Deaths from climate change

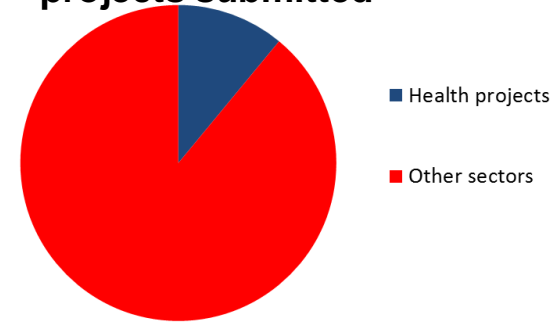


Demand versus supply for health adaptation support

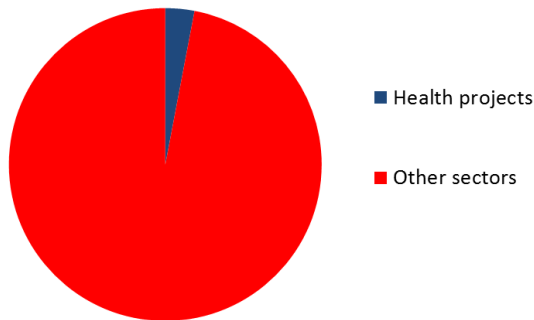
LDCs identifying health as adaptation priority



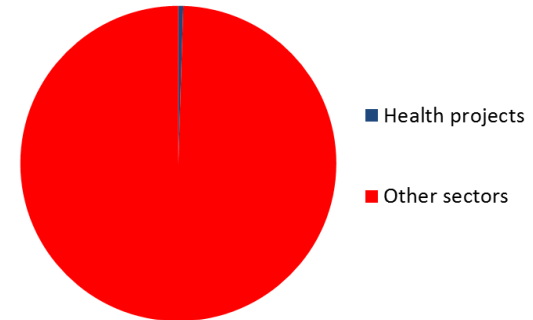
Number of adaptation projects submitted



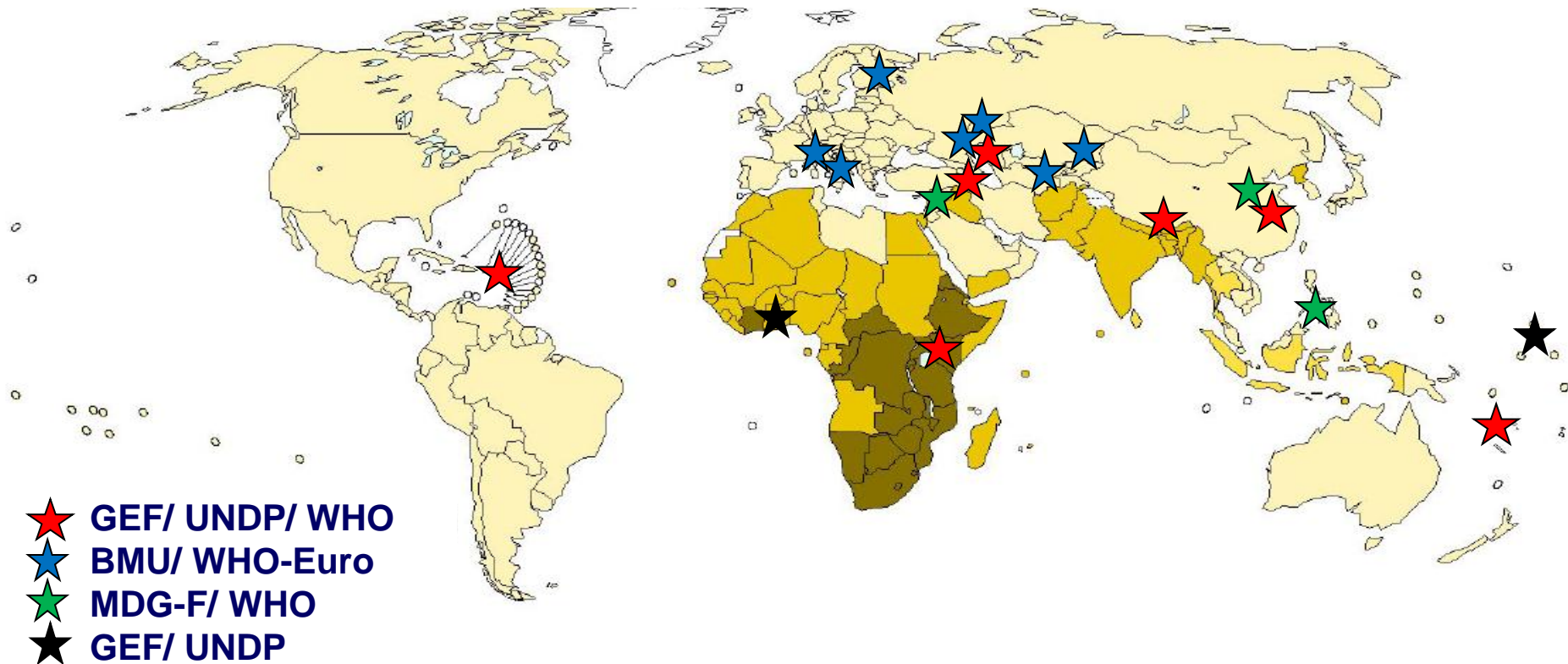
Funds requested for health



Funds awarded for health



Major projects on health adaptation to climate change




GEF/UNDP/WHO SCCF project: Piloting Health Adaptation to CC

*Seven countries in different ecosystem zones,
representing different health risks from climate change*

- ◆ Small island developing states: **Fiji and Barbados**
- ◆ Countries with highland areas: **Bhutan and Kenya**
- ◆ Water-stressed Countries: **Jordan and Uzbekistan**
- ◆ Countries with multiple vulnerabilities: **China**



National Level Project Partners

- ◆ National Government Ministries (e.g. Health, Environment, Agriculture)
 - ◆ Agencies (e.g. Meteorology Agency)
 - ◆ NGOs in health and environment fields
 - ◆ Researchers
 - ◆ Health Practitioners
 - ◆ Representatives of most vulnerable community groups
- 

Global Project Partners



Global Environmental Facility (GEF)

- ◆ Project Funder



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- ◆ GEF agency, provides broad expertise in adapting to climate change



World Health Organization (WHO)

- ◆ Executing agency for the project design phase,
- ◆ Technical support for design, selection and implementation of health protection measures.

Vulnerabilities in Highland Areas

Main health risks in highland regions

- ◆ Physical health hazards from changing patterns of precipitation, snowmelt, and glacier-lake overflows
- ◆ Increase in vector-borne diseases (e.g. malaria and dengue) due to the effects of temperature on the disease transmission cycle.



Vulnerabilities in Water-stressed Areas

Changing precipitation patterns are likely to affect the **quality** and **quantity** of water supply, and bring new risks through changing agricultural practices.

This may exacerbate two of the largest causes of global ill health:

- ◆ Poor water and sanitation
- ◆ Malnutrition



Vulnerabilities in Small-Island Developing States

High priority risks in low-lying countries include:

- ◆ Physical hazards (i.e. hurricanes, flooding)
- ◆ Infectious Diseases (water and vector borne: malaria, dengue, diarrhoeal diseases, typhoid)
- ◆ Salination of freshwater (decrease in water for drinking and hygiene)
- ◆ Food Security (drought & land salination)






Project Objectives & Outcomes

Objective:

Increase adaptive capacity to respond to climate sensitive health risks in seven countries.


Four Specific Outcomes related to:

1. Early Warning and Early Response Systems
 2. Capacity Building based on EWS information
 3. Disease prevention measures implemented
 4. Cross country cooperation on innovative adaptation centric health strategies, policies, and measures
- 



Project Benefits

Measurable increase in adaptive capacity to bring about:

- ◆ Earlier warning times for climate sensitive diseases;
 - ◆ Improved capacity of the health sector, and integration across sectors;
 - ◆ Reductions in the burden of disease.
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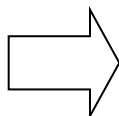
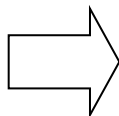
Global Benefits

- ◆ Improved knowledge of the links between climate, health, and adaptation options in the most vulnerable contexts.
- ◆ Sharing of experience and convergence on a set of core components that should go into improving climate resilience for health systems.



Moving to a programmatic approach

Multisectoral Governance and coordination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health input on env., climate, devp. Policy, and vice versa.
Capacity building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional, professional capacity, and resource mobilization in response to local assessment
Research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder driven research, focusing on cost effectiveness, equity and sustainability
Awareness raising and social mobilization: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication for behavioural impact from national to community level



Baseline Capacity and Risk Assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate and health vulnerability and adaptation assessments • Assessments of programme capacity • Definition of monitoring and evaluation frameworks
Integrated Environment and Health Surveillance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk mapping and establishment of early warning systems for climate sensitive risks: • Integration of environment and health monitoring, and response plans
Environmental Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health impact assessment for decisions in other sectors • Management of ecosystem services, and risk factors to health
Scale-up and climate proofing of interventions for climate-sensitive health impacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated vector management for vector-borne disease • Water treatment and safe storage • Legislation and enforcement for air quality
Strengthening of health capacities in disaster management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of health in DRR and response plans • Resilient and sustainable provision of energy and water to health facilities

For more information on Climate and Health Actions



<http://www.who.int/globalchange>
<http://www.undp.org/climatechange>

