

# Climate Change and Human Health: From Threat to Opportunity

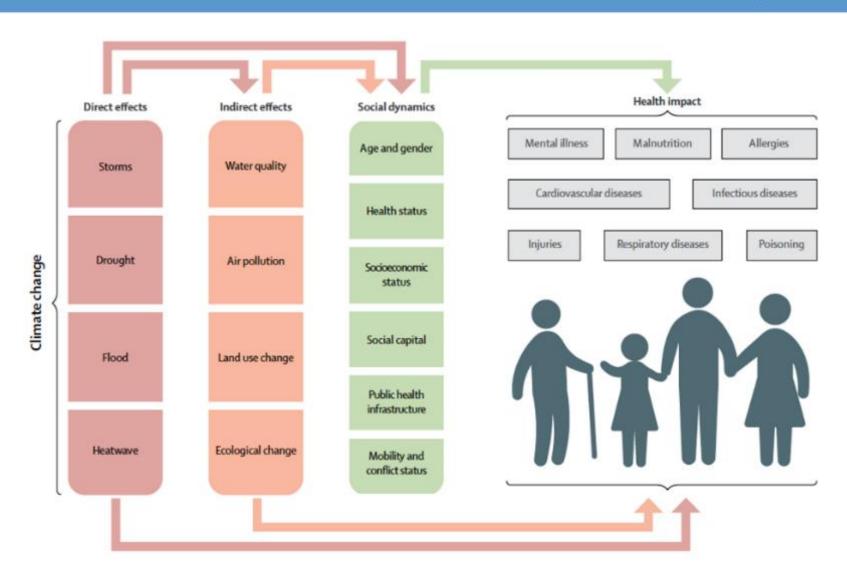
Collaborative on Health and the Environment 13 December 2016

**Dr Nick Watts | Executive Director** 

@Watts\_Nick

## **Health Impacts of Climate Change**

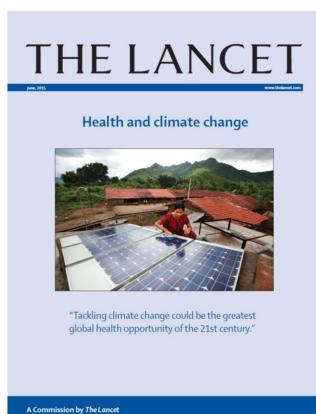




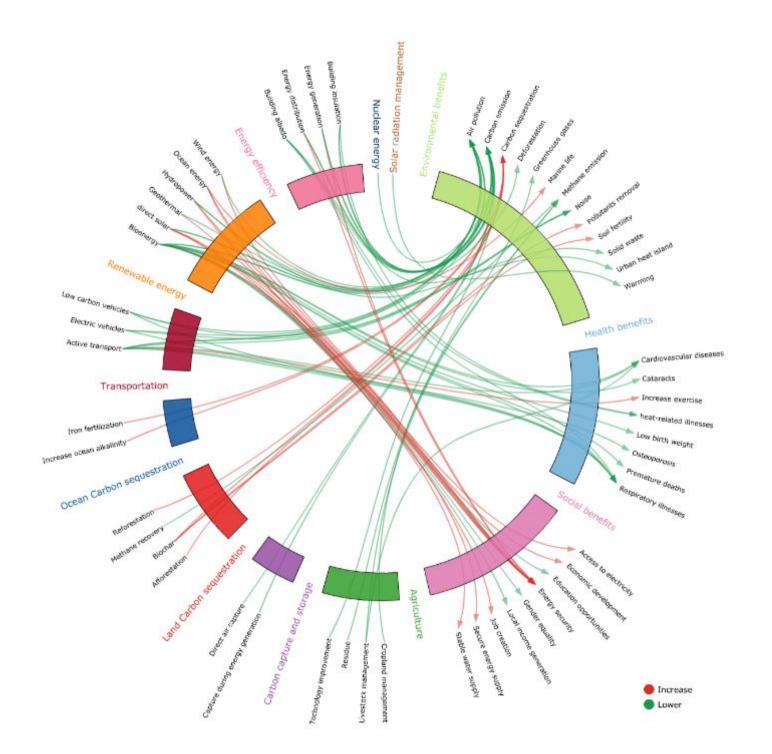
#### **2015 Lancet Commission**







Map out the impacts of climate change, and the necessary policy responses, in order to ensure the highest attainable standards of health for populations worldwide

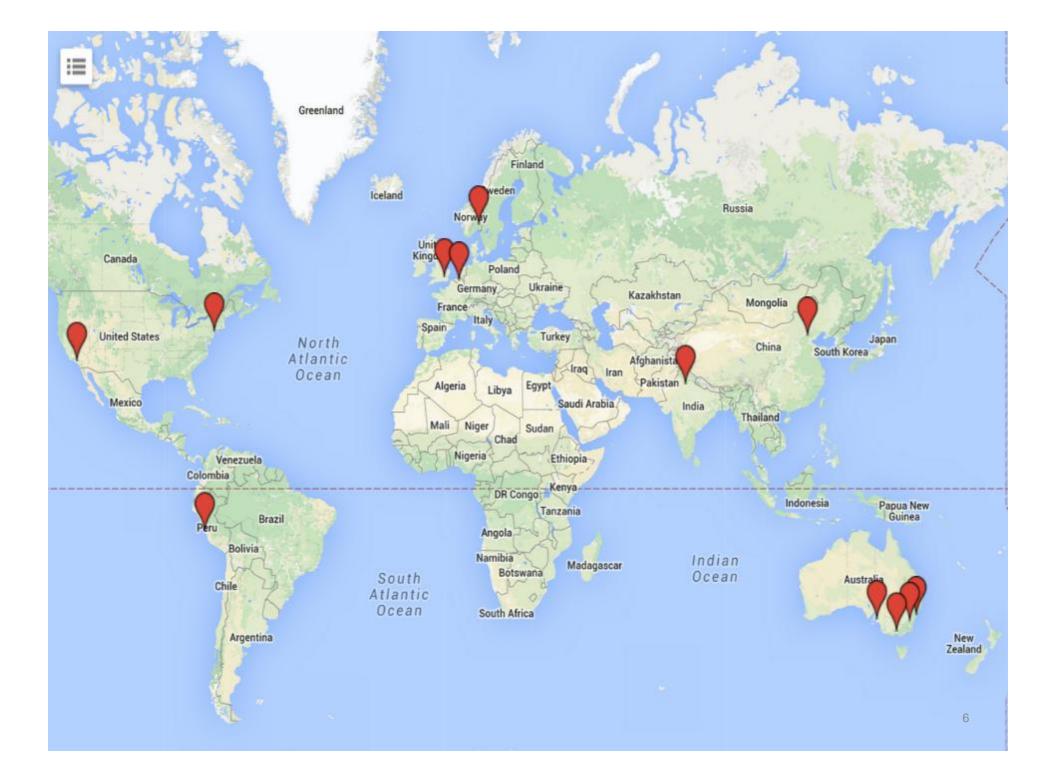


## **Policy Responses to Protect Health**



"Responding to climate change could be the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century"





#### **The Lancet Countdown**





#### **Countdown Partners**





**Imperial College** London











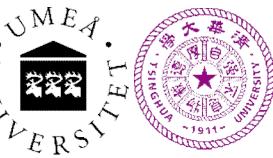
















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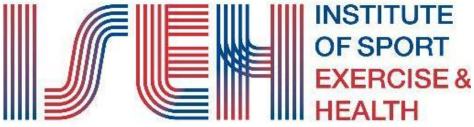


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#### **Countdown Partners**













Applied in Focus. Global in Reach.

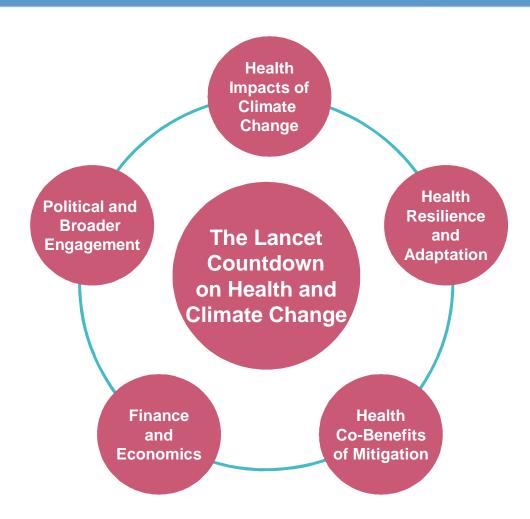


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#### **Structure and Outputs**



- Annual Indicator Report
- National and City-Level Case Studies
- National Policy Briefs
- Communications and Engagement



# **Overview of Indicators**



Thematic Working Group	Indicator Domains
1. Health Impacts of Climate Hazards	1.1 Exposure to temperature change
	1.2 Exposure to heatwaves
	1.3 Changes in labour productivity
	1.4 Exposure to flood
	1.5 Exposure to drought
	1.6 Changes in the incidence and geographical range of climate-
	sensitive infectious diseases across sentinel sites
	1.7 Food security and undernutrition
2. Health Resilience and Adaptation	2.1 Integration of health in national adaptation plans
	2.2 Climate services for health
	2.3 Adaptation finance for health
3. Health Co-Benefits of Mitigation	3.1 Coal phase-out
	3.2 Growth in renewable energy
	3.3 Access to clean energy
	3.4 Energy access for health facilities
	3.5 Exposure to ambient air pollution
	3.6 Deployment of low-emission vehicles and access to public
	transport
	3.7 Active travel infrastructure and uptake
	3.8 Greenhouse gas emissions from the food system and
	healthy diets
	3.9 Greenhouse gas emissions of health-care systems

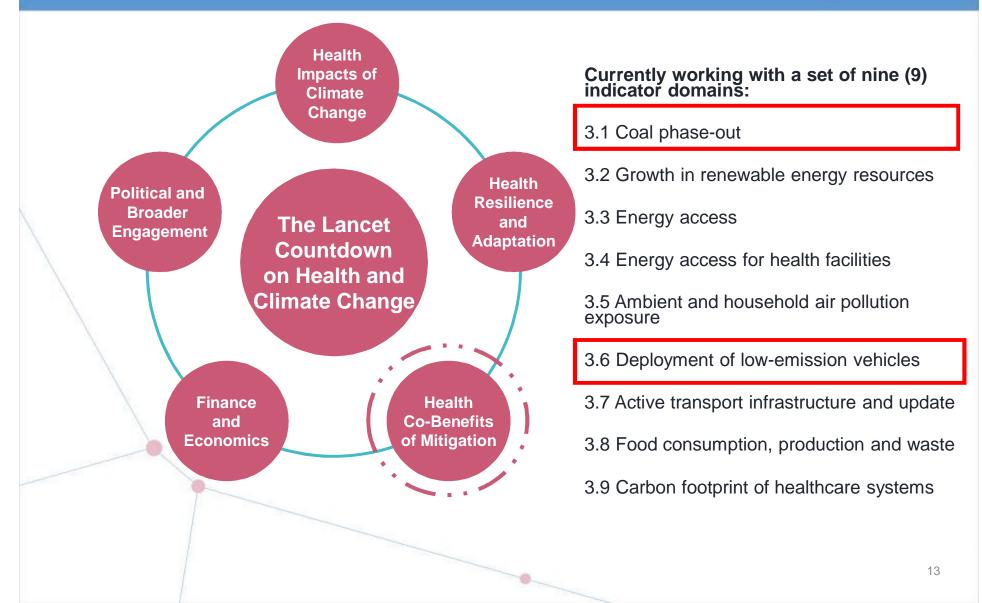
# **Overview of Indicators**



4. Finance and Economics	4.1 Change in annual investment in renewable energy
	4.2 Change in annual investment in energy efficiency
	4.3 Low-carbon technology patent generation and innovation
	4.4 Valuing the health co-benefits of climate change mitigation
	4.5 Direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies
	4.6 Coverage and strength of carbon pricing
	4.7 Equity of the low-carbon transition
5. Political and Broader Engagement	5.1 Public engagement in health and climate change
	5.2 Academic publications on health and climate change
	5.3 Inclusion of health and climate change within medical and
	public health curricula
	5.4 Health and climate change in high-level statements in the
	UNFCCC and UNGA
	5.5 Implementation and estimated health benefits of the
	nationally determined contributions (NDCs)

# Working Group 3: Health Co-Benefits of Mitigation





#### **The Energy Sector**



- Including energy production and energy use in buildings, industry and transport
- Represents the largest single source of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions globally
- Produces around two-thirds of total GHG emissions
- Is the predominate source of air pollution
- Produces almost all SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> emissions and ~85% of particulate matter emissions







#### 3.1 Coal phase-out



#### Today coal:

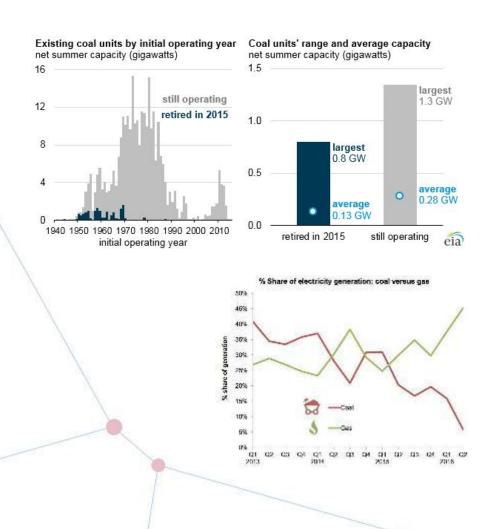
- comprises 29% of total global fuel use
- is used to produce 40% of electricity
- contributes the most to ambient air pollution and GHG emissions of all energy sources used to produce electricity
- is responsible for 60% of global SO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- 800,000 deaths in the OECD, India and China





#### 3.1 Coal phase-out





It is envisioned that this indicator will track:

- Counts on the number and capacity of coal-fired power plants
- The amount of pollution produced by these coal plants
- The corresponding health burdens (loss of life expectancy)
- Geographic scale: national, starting with OECD countries and expanding globally

# 3.6 Deployment of low-emission vehicles

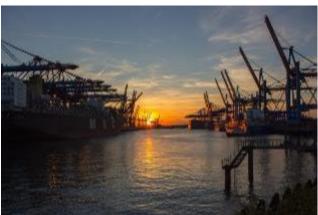


Transport systems (i.e. road vehicles, rail, shipping, and aviation):

- contributed 10% of global GHG emissions in 2010
- contribute over half of global NO<sub>x</sub> emissions
- are a major source of air pollutants including PM, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, CO, volatile organic compounds, and oxone (indirectly)







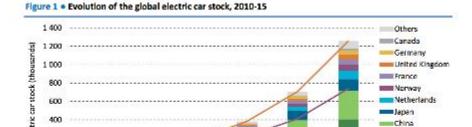
# 3.6 Deployment of low-emission vehicles



BEV + PHEV

It is envisioned that this indicator will track:

- deployment of lowemission vehicles (measured by sales)
- sector-specific emission factor trends
- Geographic scale: variable, depending on data access



Note: the EV stock shown here is primarily estimated on the basis of cumulative sales since 2005.

Sources: IEA analysis based on EVI country submissions, complemented by EAFO (2016), IHS Polk (2014), MarkLines (2016), ACEA (2016e), IEA (2015) and IA-HEV (2015).



## **Launching the Lancet Countdown**





#### **Thank You**



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TRACKING PROGRESS
ON HEALTH AND
CLIMATE CHANGE

# THE LANCET

