

## Workshop

### ‘The Future for Planetary Health Cities - The role of political leadership’

Planetary Health Conference 2023, ARTIS, Amsterdam

5<sup>th</sup> July (Workshop) 13:30-13.45 walk in \* 13:45 - 15:15 (session 1; 90 min) \* 15:15 - 15:30 tea \* 15:30 – 17:00 (session 2; 90 min) and

### Towards a Charta for Planetary Health Cities (2024)

6<sup>th</sup> July, from 11.30 am (50 minutes).

**Abstract:** The workshop and roundtable are a starting point for the Planetary Health Alliance to work together with experts, mayors, administrators, physicians, and scientists to develop initial goals and images for Planetary Health Cities until 2050. The focus will be the challenge of strengthening political leadership capacities, at the city level, in Planetary Health and to elaborate on the different angles.

**Questions:** The workshop and roundtable will focus on following key questions: do the PH paradigm communicate well with political leaders? Are the links between human health and the health of the Planet relevant for the political discourse? Which are the political hurdles to impulse transformative challenges in PH (e.g. political costs of trade-offs)? How do the urgency scale in PH fits with the short-term political agendas? Which are the risks for the PH approach of working closely with political leaders? Would the PH European Hub benefit of having the formal support and advance of a group of political leaders? What trends will cities face by 2050? What are the implications for health? *How can cities be prepared for this? How must the future UN framework (post SDG phase) be designed to enable this?*

**Outcomes:** A result could be a new working group in the European Hub, a 2-page strategic statement and a consensus on elements for a **“Towards an Amsterdam Declaration for Planetary Health Cities (2024)”** and Framework for cities and municipalities. The results will be further elaborated at the next Planetary Health Annual Meeting 2024 in Malaysia-

**Organisation:** ARTIS in cooperation with the Planetary Health Alliance – European Hub.

**Workshop:** Maximum of 30 participants, attendance requires registration.

#### Major Meeting

**Team:** Ralf Klemens Stappen (Witten/Herdecke University), Marju Prass (Lahti University Campus /University of Helsinki), Josep Antó (IS Global-Barcelona), Joyce Browne (UMC Utrecht), Remco Kort (ARTIS), Marian Stuiver (University Wageningen)

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<sup>1</sup> Draft Ralf Klemens Stappen (rk.stappen@gmail.com)

## Healthy and Sustainable Cities (Status Quo and Roadmap)

13.45 Welcome and workshop introduction - Josep Antó & Ralf Klemens Stappen

13.50 Short introduction of the participants - Marian Stuiver

14.00 Overview of relevant Planetary Health City Research (and open questions) – Josep Antó

14.10 Healthy and Sustainable Cities - Status Quo and Roadmap until 2030 (2050) – Ralf Klemens Stappen

## 14.20 Towards Planetary Health Cities

### *Short introduction*

14.20 Italy: Planetary Health Cities towards Climate Neutrality until 2050 - The example of the City of Rome, Edoardo Zanchini (City of Rome)

14.35 Finland: Lahti's Step to Nature approach - Marju Prass Marju Prass, NatureStep Program, Lathti University Camus

14.50 Nederland: The Symbiotic City - Marian Stuiver, Programme Leader Green Cities, Wageningen University

15.05 Spain: Barcelona experience to green transition, Josep Antó ISGlobal, Barcelona

15:15 - 15:30 tea

## 15.30 Unit II: The Future for Planetary Health Cities in Europe - The role of political leadership

Brainstorming concerning key issues and questions - Moderation: Marian Stuiver & Ralf Klemens Stappen

World Café: 4 tables Amsterdam, Rom, Barcelona and Lahti

- Introduction of the participants (with question)
- Reflection Unit I – (lessons learned).
- Visions for the future (for the Charta)

16.30 Presentation of the results

Implications for Planetary Health European Hub - Research, Education, Policy, and Movement (Building a "Local Planetary Health Working Group")

16.55 Roadmap towards a Consensus Statement: (for the role of political leadership (local, national) and future perspectives) – 2 pages (to present for the next day and follow-up process until 2024)

17.0 End

## Mayor Meeting: Towards a Charta for Planetary Health Cities (2024)

Preliminary agenda of the mayor meeting:

- Report on the outcomes of the workshop on July 5 and handover of the draft Charter (5 min) with photo

## Appendix: Background and strategic implications

Planetary health<sup>2</sup> is a new integrated health science (setup 2015) for exceptional action. It has been adopted by over 340 universities, NGOs like ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), government agencies, and UN organization as a frame for connecting sustainability, health of planet and health of people. It demands new coalitions and partnerships across many different disciplines and actors to solve the enormous existential challenges of today. It demands new attention to governance, implementation and more creative imagination among scientists and practitioners —redefining the meaning of human progress, rethinking the possibilities for human cooperation and science, revitalising the prospects for the restore and care of our common home and a new way of thinking.

Since the Rio Earth Summit 1992, many of the more than 500,000 cities and municipalities worldwide (over 100.000 in Europe) have integrated sustainability as a basic principle of urban and municipal development. Considerable progress has already been made in this area - in particular through ICLEI (PHA Member), which has 1,750 local and regional governments as members. There are a number of larger Planetary Health relevant programmes, such as the UNISDR Resilient Cities programme or the 100 Mission Cities (100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030), as well as regional planetary health commitments such as the 10 year-initiative of Lahti region, Finland.

The WHO has been promoting Healthy Cities for three decades<sup>3</sup>. The WHO – European Healthy Cities Network<sup>4</sup> covers 1400 municipalities. Health is a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 3): “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”. The United Nations has prioritised a healthy planet as the new, future priority on the UN-Conference “Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity”<sup>5</sup>, which is also reflected in the new UN-Logo<sup>6</sup>. Despite the Corona crisis, health and wellbeing has not yet been made the first priority for many cities. Now it is the time - because of the enormous future problems - to include all cities and municipalities in the world for effective health prevention and governance.

*The Sao Paolo Declaration on Planetary Health will be the starting point for transdisciplinary policy recommendations, goals, and measures for the “All policies for planetary health”<sup>7</sup> approach. A framework for planetary health in all policies would be great progress, planetary health is not just a basic principle but a comprehensive response to an existential threat of collapse, and the main flaw is the absence of definition of the main goal of the related policies. To mitigate this flaw, and since planetary health is defined as a goal - the achievement of the highest attainable standard of health, wellbeing, and equity worldwide (...) -, the framework must set planetary health as the overarching goal of policies.*

*By 2030, this approach should be transformed into a new UN PH-Framework that complements or replaces the current SDG logic and strengthens the Paris Agreement. It is about preparing the next level of sustainability<sup>8</sup> until 2050, which has the problem-solving potential to really solve the serious situation of our patient Earth. To implement the Planetary Health in All Policies approach, planetary health goals (PHG) and planetary health operations (PHO) must be derived at all governance levels*

<sup>2</sup> Myers S, Frumkin H. Planetary Health: Protecting Nature to Protect Ourselves. 2020 and Haines Andy, Frumkin H. Planetary Health: Planetary Health. 2021

<sup>3</sup> WHO - European Healthy Cities Network: How to develop and sustain healthy cities in 20 steps. 2022

<sup>4</sup> WHO European Healthy Cities Network: <https://www.who.int/europe/groups/who-european-healthy-cities-network>

<sup>5</sup> Report UN-Conference Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity’.

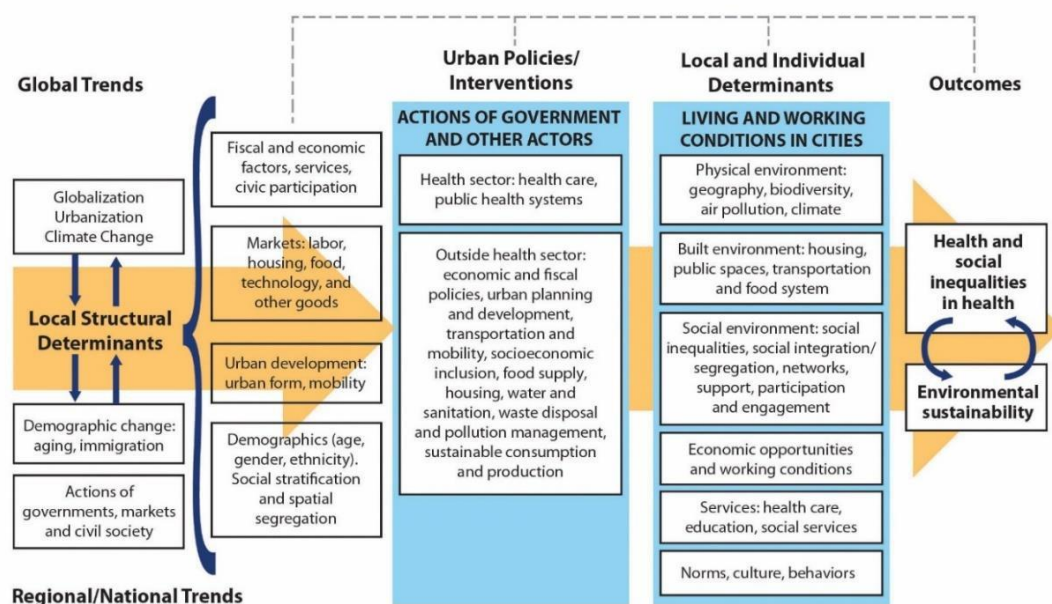
<sup>6</sup> see UN website <https://www.un.org/en/>

<sup>7</sup> Alexandre Robert: Building a Planetary Health Movement. 02/11/2022

<sup>8</sup> Personal note from Pim Martens

from global, regional, national, and local. A powerful lever on the local level towards healthy cities is to anchor planetary health as basic principle (Planetary Health in All Policies) for city and municipal development, for all decisions, planning, projects, budget process and measures in transformation processes until 2050.<sup>9</sup> “Think global, act local” is one of the strongest mechanisms for the necessary therapy. If we take the “Cities and Health conceptual model” (page two of the Preliminary Concept Note) as a visual example, planetary health is the target of the outcomes right in the centre of the “turning arrows” between health and social inequalities in health and Environmental sustainability. This could be one added value of planetary health.

This has implications for instance for the local implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement, which requires according the UNFCC Finance Committee<sup>10</sup> to invest around \$4.3 trillion annually to achieve climate neutrality until 2050. There are many synergies to be explored here - the health of billions in cities and municipalities will be endangered until 2050 by extreme heat, drought, floods, and fires.



Cities and Health. Conceptual model of key drivers of urban health, equity, and sustainability.<sup>11</sup>

Planetary Health Cities will not only focus on climate change, but also on biodiversity, new economies, air pollution - basically across all areas of life. It is a transformational system-approach for all determinants of health, well-being, and sustainability. The distinctive feature of the PH approach is to strengthen synergies of sustainability and health - especially via integrated methodology, methods and digital techniques that increase problem-solving capacity. The approach builds on a wide range of preliminary work. *The Planetary Health Alliance can play an important role in preparing the post-SDG phase from 2030.*

<sup>9</sup> Planetary Health in All Policy connects smart the major frameworks "Health in All Policy" with "Sustainability in All Policy „towards an approach for evidence-based sustainability and health impacts.

<sup>10</sup> UNFCC- Standing Committee on Finance: Report of the Standing Committee Addendum. Summary and recommendations of the fifth Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows. 2022

<sup>11</sup> Diez Roux A, Slesinski S, Alazraqui M, Caiaffa W et al. A Novel international partnership for actionable evidence on urban health in Latin America: LAC-Urban Health and SALURBAL. Global Challenges 2018; 3(4): 1800013.

## Further Readings

CCH, I. (2022). Health in the climate emergency: a global perspective. <https://www.interacademies.org/publication/health-climate-emergency-global-perspective>

FurPrieur-Richard, A.H. et al.(2018). IPCC Extended version: Global Research and Action Agenda on Cities and Climate Change Science. <https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2019/07/Research- Agenda- Aug-10 Final Long-version.pdf>