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# **CLIMATE GOVERNANCE IN CRISIS: EVALUATING ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN SAFEGUARDING PUBLIC HEALTH**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Climate change is a big problem for Peoples health in the twenty-first century. The systems we have to deal with it are not working well. People are saying that these systems are not doing enough and they are not changing enough to help with health emergencies. This paper looks at how the systems we have to deal with climate change are working to keep people healthy. It looks at what's happening around the world in different regions and in different countries. The paper uses information from the Paris Agreement, the World Health Organizations plans for climate and health and some other studies like the Lancet Countdown. It also looks at what's happening in specific places like India, the European Union and some small islands. The study finds some problems. Even though we have made some progress in talking about what we need to do we are not actually doing it. There are also some differences in how different groups of people are affected by climate change. The problem of climate change is getting worse faster than we are trying to fix it. This is all making it harder to keep people healthy. The paper says we need to make some changes to our systems so they work better. We need to think about how climate change and health are connected. We need to make sure people are held accountable, for what they're doing. We need to be able to adapt to the changing situation. The paper gives some ideas for how we can do this.

**Keywords:** climate governance, public health, Paris Agreement, climate justice, health-climate nexus, global health policy, adaptation, mitigation

## 1. Introduction

Climate change and public health are problems that governments have to deal with today. The World Health Organization says that climate change is the threat to health around the world. They think that from 2030 to 2050 climate change will cause about 250,000 deaths every year<sup>1</sup>. This is because of things like not having food, malaria, diarrhea and heat stress. These are not just predictions. They are really happening. We can see this in the number of people going to emergency rooms the way diseases are spreading and the number of deaths in every part of the world.

For example there have been hot heatwaves in South Asia and Southern Europe. Also diseases, like dengue fever are spreading to areas. Because it is raining at the wrong times people do not have enough food. Climate change is clearly affecting health and this is well known. The World Health Organization and climate change are important to think about when we talk about health and climate change.

The global response to climate change is not doing well. We have had big meetings about climate change like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that started in 1992 the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 the Copenhagen Accord in 2009 and the Paris Agreement in 2015<sup>2</sup>. These meetings have created a lot of rules and guidelines. The problem is that these rules and guidelines are not really helping to keep people safe from the bad effects of climate change. The amount of gases in the air is still going up. The Earth is getting hotter it is already 1.1°C than it was a long time ago and in 2024 we had a year that was more than 1.5°C hotter. Climate change is causing a lot of health problems like bad storms and heatwaves and these problems are happening more often and are worse than before. This is a problem for countries that do not have a lot of money because they are getting hurt the most<sup>3</sup> by climate change but they are not causing most of the problem. The climate change problem is getting worse. The global governance response, to climate change is not doing enough to help.

The climate change problem is still an issue and we need to do more to stop climate change. This paper is trying to find the answer to an important question: can the people in charge of dealing with climate change really keep us safe and healthy? This question is easy to ask. It is not easy to answer. To answer it we need to look at what has happened not just what people have agreed to do. We need to see if the people who are most affected by climate change are

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<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization, *Climate Change and Health* (WHO Fact Sheet, Geneva, 2021), <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/climate-change-and-health>.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (New York, 2015), <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>.

<sup>3</sup> Whitmee et al. (n 4)

really safer now than they were before. The information in this paper does not give us a good answer to this question. The people who are most at risk, from climate change do not seem to be much better off than they were before. Climate governance is supposed to help these people. It does not seem to be working very well. We need to look at how climate governance's really working not just what people say it is doing. Climate governance is the system that is supposed to protect us from the effects of climate change. The management of climate change and public health have usually worked separately. Climate departments and environmental agencies have mainly handled the creation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with help from health ministries. Most climate funding has focused on reducing emissions. Within adaptation efforts strengthening health systems has received little funding, less than one percent of total climate finance<sup>4</sup>. The World Health Organization (WHO) has spoken more about how climate change affects health. It does not have the power to make countries integrate health into climate plans. This has led to a gap, between the institutions that make climate promises and those that provide health services to people most affected by climate change.

This paper says that the problem between climate change and health is not a mistake it is a big issue that is part of the system. The people who made the rules for climate change did not think about how to keep people healthy they only thought about how to count the things we put in the air and how to make countries agree on things. To make things better we need to make changes, not just small ones. We cannot just add a words about health to the papers that countries use to plan for climate change or have a meeting about climate change and health on the side. We need to change the way we think about what is important how we make sure people are doing what they should be doing and how we spend our money. We need to think about health as the important thing when we talk about climate change. Climate change and health are. We need to make sure that our main goal is to keep people healthy when we make decisions, about climate change. The analysis goes through stages. The first part sets up a framework that shows how climate change affects health in ways. Directly indirectly and through social structures. The next part looks at the organizations and rules that govern climate change globally. Finds the important ones that help keep people healthy. Then we see how well these things work by looking at health numbers using information from the Lancet Countdown, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme reports. We also look at what happens in places like India, the European Union and small islands to see

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<sup>4</sup> OECD, *Climate Finance Provided and Mobilised by Developed Countries: Aggregate Trends 2019–2020* (Paris: OECD Publishing, 2022), <https://doi.org/10.1787/286dae6d-en>.

how they handle climate change and health. After that we try to figure out what is going wrong and what makes it hard for these systems to work. We also look at ideas that bring together health and climate change. Then we suggest changes that prioritize fairness working together and being responsible. Finally we sum up what we found and think about what needs to happen for things to really change. The importance of this work is very high. Climate change is not a health problem that will happen someday. It is already happening and getting worse. The systems in place to deal with climate change need to be looked at changed in big ways and made to answer to the people they are supposed to protect. We need to make sure climate change and health are treated as issues and that is what this work is all, about looking at climate change and health.

## 2. Theoretical Framework: The Climate-Health Nexus

Understanding climate change and public health needs a framework. The link between climate change and health is complex. It involves geography, economy, institutions and ecology. Experts from the Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission say human health and nature's health are connected<sup>5</sup>. A sick nature means diseases for humans. Climate change hurts nature. That hurts us. There are three ways climate change affects health:

- Direct impacts
- Indirect impacts
- Social and structural factors.

Climate change directly affects health.

For example extreme weather hurts people.

Indirect impacts are also a problem. For instance climate change can cause food shortages. Structural and social factors play a role too. Poverty and inequality make people more vulnerable, to climate change. The climate-health connection is crucial. We must consider geography, economy and more. The Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission leads this effort. They show how climate change and health are linked.

### 2.1 Direct Health Impacts

Climate change has an effect on our health. The obvious effects of climate change on the human body are the direct health impacts. These are what happen to our bodies when the environment

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<sup>5</sup> S. Whitmee et al., 'Safeguarding Human Health in the Anthropocene Epoch: The Rockefeller Foundation–Lancet Commission on Planetary Health' (2015) 386 *The Lancet* 1973, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(15\)60901-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(15)60901-1).

around us changes. We do not need anything to happen for these effects to take place. The one that people know the most about is heat stress. When the Earth gets hotter and we have heatwaves that last longer and are more severe our bodies have a hard time cooling down. This can lead to heat exhaustion, heatstroke and even death. This is especially true for people, people who work outside and people who live in cities with no way to cool down. Another way that climate change affects us is through weather. Events, like floods, cyclones and storms can hurt us away. They can cause injuries, drowning and other physical harm. Wildfires are getting worse. Are happening in more places. They make a lot of air that we breathe in which makes asthma and other breathing problems worse. Cold weather can also make us sick especially when the winters are not normal. These effects of climate change are real they happen fast. We can often prevent them if we have good warning systems invest in infrastructure and are prepared for emergencies. All of these things are part of what we call climate governance. Climate change is a problem and it affects our health in many ways. The direct health impacts of climate change are very important. We need to do something about them.

## **2.2 Indirect Health Impacts**

Indirect health impacts happen because of changes in the environment, farming and water cycles. These changes can take a while to happen. They are just as bad for peoples health as the direct impacts. The well-known indirect way that health is affected is through the spread of diseases that are carried by insects. As the Earth gets hotter and rainfall patterns change the areas where disease-carrying mosquitoes, ticks and sandflies can live are getting bigger. They are moving into areas that used to be too cool or too high up for them. This means that diseases like Malaria, dengue fever, chikungunya and Lyme disease are affecting people<sup>6</sup>. These diseases are spreading to areas and the people living there have not had them before so they are not immune. Also the health systems in these areas are not strong enough to deal with these diseases. Food and water are also very important when it comes to health impacts. When the climate changes it can cause droughts, floods and soil problems which can reduce the amount of food that can be grown. This can lead to people not getting nutrients, which can cause problems like undernutrition stunting in children and not getting enough vitamins and minerals. This is especially true in places like -Saharan Africa and South Asia. Changes in rainfall and the melting of glaciers can also affect how much fresh water is available. This can lead to

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<sup>6</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Sixth Assessment Report: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability* (Working Group II, Cambridge University Press, 2022).

people getting sick from waterborne diseases like cholera and typhoid. The problem is that the effects of climate change on health can happen away, from where the changes are actually occurring. This makes it hard to figure out what is causing the problems and to get governments to work together to solve them.

### **2.3 Structural and Social Determinants**

The third category of climate and health issues is often overlooked. This category works through structural systems. Climate change does not affect everyone the way. It makes existing inequalities worse. This means that the people who are least responsible for climate change and are not prepared to deal with its consequences are the ones who suffer the most. When people are forced to leave their homes because of rising sea levels, deserts expanding and not having resources they do not have access to healthcare, clean water and food. This creates an environment where people get sick easily have health problems and have trouble with their children health. Mental health is a part of this issue. People are getting more and more anxious about climate change about the state of the environment and traumatized by losing their homes and communities. This is a problem for the mental health of people everywhere. And most healthcare systems are not ready to handle it. The kind of person you are how old you are, if you have a disability and how money you have all affect how much you are affected by climate change. Women, children, indigenous communities and poor people in areas are always the ones who suffer the most from climate change. This shows that there are problems, with inequality that need to be addressed in order to effectively deal with climate change.

These three categories of climate and health issues. Direct, indirect and structural climate and health issues. Show that climate change is not an environmental problem that also affects health. Climate change is a health crisis that is caused by problems. To deal with it we need systems that prioritize health, fairness and working together.

## **3. Architecture of Global Climate Governance**

The way we deal with climate change has changed over the thirty years. It has become a system with many different parts. This system includes international agreements organizations that work with governments, regional groups and national policies.

- It is one of the efforts ever made by humans to work together across different countries to solve a global problem.

The problem is climate change. However this system is also a bit of a mess. It has different

parts that do not always work well together. The systems goals have always been bigger than what it can do. This part of the text will look at the parts of the global system for dealing with climate change.

These parts include:

1. The UNFCCC agreement
2. Plans for action

We will pay special attention to how each part deals with protecting peoples health. The focus is, on climate change and public health. Climate change affects people. We need to address it. So we look at how each layer of the system handles this issue.

### **3.1 The UNFCCC and Paris Agreement**

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was adopted at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992<sup>7</sup>. It started being enforced in 1994. This convention created a setup for countries to work together on climate change. Every country in the world 198 to be exact is part of it. The idea is that countries have to work to solve the problem but some countries have to do more. The countries that made pollution in the past have to take more action and help other countries financially. The Kyoto Protocol was agreed upon in 1997. It was the try to make countries reduce their pollution. Some countries had to reduce how pollution they made. The protocol also introduced some tools like trading pollution permits and helping other countries reduce pollution. It didn't work very well. The United States didn't. Some big countries that are growing fast didn't participate. There were no consequences for countries that didn't follow the rules. By the time it was supposed to be enforced Kyoto was more of a symbol, than a real agreement.

### **3.2 WHO's Climate-Health Frameworks**

The World Health Organization is really important when it comes to dealing with the connection between climate and health. As the group that looks out for public health around the world the World Health Organization has made a lot of plans and guides to help make sure health is considered when making climate policies and to make health systems stronger against the effects of climate change. The World Health Organization has done a lot of work on climate and health over time. One big thing that happened was the World Health Assembly Resolution

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<sup>7</sup> United Nations, *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, FCCC/INFORMAL/84 (New York, 1992).

on Climate Change and Health in 2008<sup>8</sup> which helped the World Health Organization get started on this issue. After that the World Health Organization made some plans to help countries figure out how vulnerable they are to climate change make plans to adapt to it and find ways to reduce the effects of climate change on health like air pollution and diseases that are not contagious. The World Health Organization also started a project, on climate change and health before the COP26 meeting, which said that health should be the main focus of climate talks and introduced the idea of a "health-centred" plan. This means that the main goal is to improve health outcomes when making climate plans.

### **3.3 Regional Governance Bodies**

Below the level some really important groups have come up to deal with climate and health issues. These regional governance bodies can make rules that fit their area make sure people follow these rules and get money from their region to support these efforts. This is something that global groups cannot do. However how well these regional groups work varies a lot from one place to another. The European Union is the example of a regional group that deals with climate issues. It has a good system in place. In 2021 the European Union made a law called the European Climate Law. This law says that the European Union must reduce its carbon footprint to zero by 2050. It also set some goals that must be met before 2050. If the countries in the European Union do not follow these rules they will face consequences. The European Green Deal is a plan that links reducing carbon footprint to making people healthier. It says that if we reduce carbon footprint we will have air pollution people will eat better and they will be more physically active. This plan shows that health is an important reason to deal with climate issues. The European Union has also started a program called EU4Health. This program helps make health systems stronger in the face of climate change. The European Centre, for Disease Prevention and Control is now also keeping an eye on diseases that are affected by climate change.

### **3.4 National Climate Action Plans**

At the level countries use certain key documents to deal with climate change. These are the Nationally Determined Contributions, which are submitted under the Paris Agreement. Many countries also have National Adaptation Plans and action plans for areas. These documents are

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<sup>8</sup> World Health Organization, *World Health Assembly Resolution WHA61.19: Climate Change and Health* (Geneva, 2008).

important because they turn climate promises into actual domestic policies, budgets and actions. The extent to which these national climate plans consider public health varies greatly. A 2022 analysis of submitted Nationally Determined Contributions found that 50 percent of them mentioned health in some way<sup>9</sup>. This is an improvement from before. It still shows that health is not a top priority in climate planning. When health is mentioned the plans do not provide many details about how to improve health. The targets are rarely numbers. It is often unclear who is responsible for making these plans happen. In low- and middle-income countries very little money is set aside for health adaptation, in climate finance plans. Nationally Determined Contributions and climate plans need to focus on health. Countries need to make sure their climate plans include health. National Adaptation Plans should have health goals. The plans should say exactly what needs to be done to protect health. They should also say who will do it and how much money will be spent. This way countries can deal with climate change and health in a way. Climate change and health are connected.

## **4. Measuring Effectiveness: Indicators and Gaps**

### **4.1 The Lancet Countdown Framework**

The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change is an important tool that helps us understand how climate change affects our health. It was started in 2015 to follow up on the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change<sup>10</sup>. The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change is a group of scholars from over 50 institutions around the world. Every year The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change puts out a report that shows how well we are doing to protect our health from climate change. The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change looks at 44 things that are important for our health and the climate. These things are divided into five areas: how climate change affects us and what happens because of it how we can prepare for and deal with these changes what we can do to reduce the effects of climate change and make our health better how much money is involved and how we pay for things and how the public and our leaders are involved. The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change is good at taking information, about the environment, like temperature and weather patterns and connecting it to how our health systems respond, like how many people go to the hospital and how we watch for diseases.

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<sup>9</sup> A. Costello et al., 'Managing the Health Effects of Climate Change: Lancet and UCL Institute for Global Health Commission' (2009) 373 *The Lancet* 1693, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(09\)60935-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60935-1).

<sup>10</sup> M. Romanello et al., 'The 2022 Report of the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change: Health at the Mercy of Fossil Fuels' (2022) 400 *The Lancet* 1619, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(22\)01540-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(22)01540-9).

## 4.2 Heat Mortality and Morbidity Trends

Climate change is really bad for our health. When the Earth gets hotter it can cause a lot of problems. The temperature is going up because we are not doing enough to stop it. This means we have heatwaves that last longer and are more severe. These heatwaves can kill people make them sick and overwhelm hospitals. The Lancet Countdown has written reports that show an increase in people dying from the heat. This is especially true for people over 65 people who work outside and those who live in cities in middle-income countries. From 1990 to 2000 and 2013 to 2022 a lot older people died from the heat. We have seen a lot of record-breaking heatwaves. The heatwave in Europe in 2003 that killed over 70,000 people<sup>11</sup> the heatwave in Russia in 2010 and the heatwaves in South Asia after 2015 show that climate change is a problem. These heatwaves are not rare events they are a sign that we are not doing enough to reduce emissions and stop climate change. Climate change is an issue and we need to do something, about climate change.

## 5. Regional and National Case Studies

### 5.1 India: Climate Vulnerability and Urban Health

India is an important example when we talk about how the country is dealing with the health problems that are caused by climate change. The country has a population of 1.4 billion people and it is urbanizing very fast. This is a problem because India is very vulnerable to extreme climate conditions. The country is facing big threats at the same time. These include hot heatwaves in the Indo-Gangetic Plain very bad flooding during the monsoon season and the spread of diseases like dengue and malaria. All these threats are putting a lot of pressure on the health care system in the cities. The government of India has not been able to respond to these problems in a way. India has come up with some plans like the National Action Plan on Climate Change and the Heat Action Plans in some cities. The Heat Action Plan in Ahmedabad is a good example of this<sup>12</sup>. It was started after a bad heatwave in 2010 and it has been able to reduce the number of deaths caused by heat. However India has not been able to implement this plan in all its cities. Most of the cities in India do not have any plan to deal with the heat and the people living in areas are not getting any help at all. The plan that was started in Ahmedabad is often cited as an example, by other countries but it has not been replicated in all

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<sup>11</sup> Romanello et al. (n 9).

<sup>12</sup> K. Knowlton et al., 'Development and Implementation of South Asia's First Heat-Health Action Plan in Ahmedabad, India' (2014) 11 *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 3473, <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph110403473>.

the cities of India.

## **5.2 The European Union: A Partial Model**

The European Union is a good example of how to handle climate change. It has a lot of rules and plans in place to deal with this issue. The European Green Deal and the EU Climate Law, which says that the European Union has to have zero carbon emissions by 2050<sup>13</sup> are parts of this. The EU4Health programme is also important because it tries to bring health and climate change in a way that no other group has done before. The European Union is actually very good at some things. It is good at thinking about how climate change will affect peoples health when it makes plans to deal with climate change. The European Union also has a system for sharing information about climate change and it has systems in place to warn people about heatwaves and new diseases that might be coming. The European Union even has a plan from 2021 to 2027 that says it wants to help people be stronger, in the face of climate change. The European Union and the European Green Deal and the EU Climate Law are all working together to make this happen.

## **5.3 Small Island Developing States: Existential Stakes**

For Small Island Developing States like Tuvalu Kiribati and the Marshall Islands in the Pacific and Barbados and Dominica in the Caribbean climate change is a big deal. It is not about making policies better it is about the fact that these countries can actually disappear. The ocean is getting higher storms are getting stronger coral reefs are. Freshwater is getting salty. All of these things together are a threat to the people who live in these countries. They are not a threat to the hospitals and the healthcare but to the entire country and its way of life. When the ocean water gets into the drinking water people get sick with things like diarrhea. They do not get enough food. When big storms come they destroy the hospitals. It takes a long time to build them back. When the coral reefs die people do not have food from the ocean. When people have to leave their homes because of the weather it creates big health problems. The thing is, these countries do not make a lot of the things that are hurting the earth but they are the ones who are getting hurt the most. This is not fair. It is a big problem that needs to be fixed. Small Island Developing States, like Tuvalu Kiribati and the Marshall Islands and Barbados and Dominica are really suffering because of climate change.

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<sup>13</sup> European Commission, *The European Green Deal*, COM(2019) 640 final (Brussels, 2019).

## 6. Structural Failures and Systemic Vulnerabilities

### 6.1 The Enforcement Deficit

The biggest problem with how we deal with climate change is that there are no rules that countries have to follow. The Paris Agreement, which is the deal on climate change lets countries decide what they want to do on their own<sup>14</sup>. They make their plans report on their own progress and check their own work. There is no one in charge to make sure countries do what they say they will do. This is how it was set up on purpose so lots of countries would join in.. It means we have a system that cannot guarantee that we will be safe from the bad effects of climate change. This problem shows up in ways. When it comes to the world big countries that make a lot of pollution have said they would do things that are not good enough to keep the Earth from getting too hot. Nothing happens to them. In each country what they say they will do about climate change is not always what actually happens. What they promise to do at meetings does not always become law or get money to make it happen or change how things are done. This is very bad, for Peoples health. If the Earth gets too hot more people will die from the heat more people will get sick. Hospitals will be too busy to help everyone. Climate change is a problem and we need to do something about it. The Paris Agreement is a part of how we deal with climate change. Climate change is still a big problem because we do not have rules that countries have to follow.

### 6.2 Finance Flows and Equity

Climate finance shows how serious governments are about taking action. Right now its not enough and its not fair. The promise to give \$100 billion per year isn't being<sup>15</sup>. Health isn't a priority when it comes to adapting to climate change. There are also barriers that stop the most vulnerable countries from getting the money that is available which makes the problem of unfair global health even worse. The fairness issue is complex.

- \* Some countries like Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and small island nations are suffering a lot because of climate change and health problems. They don't get much climate finance compared to how much they need.
- \* When it comes to spending money health adaptation is not a priority, infrastructure, energy and agriculture get attention even though the World Health Organization says that investing in health is a good way to adapt to climate change.

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<sup>14</sup> United Nations, *Paris Agreement* (n 2).

<sup>15</sup> OECD (n 3).

- \* It's also hard for low-income countries to get money from climate funds because they don't have the technical and bureaucratic skills required which is a problem because the tools designed to help vulnerable countries are not accessible, to them.

### **6.3 Sectoral Siloing**

Climate governance and public health governance have developed on their own like two systems that do not really talk to each other. The people in charge of the UNFCCC, which includes things like COPs and NDCs are mostly from environment and energy departments. Meanwhile health departments are not as involved and do not have much power or money to make decisions about climate change. This means that the people who deal with health which's really important for humans do not have a big say in the decisions that affect health. This separation happens in a couple of ways. First within a country the health and environment departments do not usually share information. Work together on planning or budgets. So a country might have a plan to deal with climate change and a plan for health. These plans do not really work together. Also around the world the groups that deal with climate change, health, animals and plants and disasters all work separately. They have their staff, their own money and their own groups of people who support them. This means that when there are problems that affect all of these areas the responses are not very coordinated. Climate governance and public health governance are really connected. They are not treated that way. Climate governance is important and public health governance is too but they need to work together more. The people in charge of climate governance and public health governance need to start talking to each other and working together to make decisions, about climate governance and public health governance.

### **6.4 Adaptation vs. Mitigation Imbalance**

The way we take care of the Earths climate has always focused more on reducing emissions than on dealing with the problems that are already happening. Reducing emissions is very important. We cannot replace it but this imbalance has had very bad effects on peoples health especially in poor and medium income countries. In these countries people are getting sick because of the Earths climate. They need help right now no matter what happens with emissions, in the long term. The way we give money to help with the Earths climate shows this imbalance clearly. For a time most of the money to help with the Earths climate has gone to reducing emissions like changing to renewable energy and building new systems to reduce carbon. On the hand helping people and communities deal with the problems that are already

happening especially when it comes to health has not gotten enough money. The UNEP Adaptation Gap Report has shown every year that we are not giving money to help people deal with the Earth's climate<sup>16</sup> and this problem is getting worse every year. When we do not give money to help health systems it means that people die who could have been saved.

## 7. Conclusion

The way we take care of the Earth's climate is at an important point. What we want to do and what we are actually doing are very different. This is very dangerous. Even though we have made some progress with the Paris Agreement and other plans to help people and the planet the truth is that we are not doing enough. We can see this when we look at how many people're dying from heat how diseases are spreading and how we are not giving enough money to help people adapt to the changing climate. We are also not doing a job of making sure everyone is treated fairly and that we are working together to solve these problems. The rules we have in place are not. We are not doing enough to reduce the bad things we are doing to the planet. We can learn from examples in India, the European Union and some small islands that when we want to and have the resources we can make decisions about climate and health. For the people who are most affected and did not cause the problem we are not doing enough.

We need to make changes, not just small ones. We need to make sure we are enforcing the rules giving money in a way that's fair and helps people's health and making sure that health is a part of our climate decisions. We also need to focus on helping people who are already being hurt by climate change. If we do not make these changes we are not just failing to make progress we are failing as a system. And the cost of this failure is not about policies it is, about people dying, health systems collapsing and communities being destroyed. The climate system is. We need to do something about it. Climate change is a problem and we need to take care of the climate to protect human health.

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