Planetary health: A holistic vision for people and the planet

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Introduction

• The nexus between health and the environment has been underscored by crises such as COVID-19 and the climate crisis. As awareness of policy interlinkages grows, so does the need for more coordinated Global, EU and national policymaking.

• A planetary health approach should be implemented across all levels of governance to encourage transdisciplinary action.
Planetary Health

• “A solutions-oriented, transdisciplinary field and social movement focused on analysing and addressing the impacts of human disruptions to Earth’s natural systems on human health and all life on Earth” (Planetary Health Alliance, 2021)
Planetary Health:

• Aims to improve and promote the health and well-being of all beings and the planet they inhabit.
• Emphasises the importance of environmental stewardship and sustainable practices to ensure the long-term viability of the planet.
• Promotes clean air, water, and stable climates.
• Acknowledges the necessity of merging various fields of study and emphasises the pressing need to do so promptly.
Challenges to implementing a planetary health approach.

- Mobilising resources
- Acquiring buy-in from across sectors
- Research and funding
- Education and skills
- Ever-persistent siloed approaches to policymaking
- Difficulties in demonstrating the impact of a planetary health approach.
- Data silos
Towards a planetary health approach

- Pursue coordinated policymaking by breaking down silos.
- Appoint an Executive Vice President for the Wellbeing Economy
- Plan and implement national roadmaps and establish common indicators.
- Create best practices platforms.
- Adopt planetary health for health systems.
- Promote education on planetary health.
- Adopt a European-wide Communication campaign.
- Invest in research and innovation.
- Foster the integration of the European Health Data Space with future data spaces.
- Work with international partners to adopt a global planetary health approach.
Thank you!


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