HERA
Health Enviroment Research Agenda for Europe

Climate change, biodiversity and health

Looking for solutions and co-benefits

Brigit Staatsen, Riikka Paloniemi, Sandra Boekhold

Moderators: Marianne Aulake, Nina van der Vliet

HERA CONSORTIUM

HERA project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N° 825417.

FRANCE22
FRENCH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

heraresearcheu.eu

Key topics

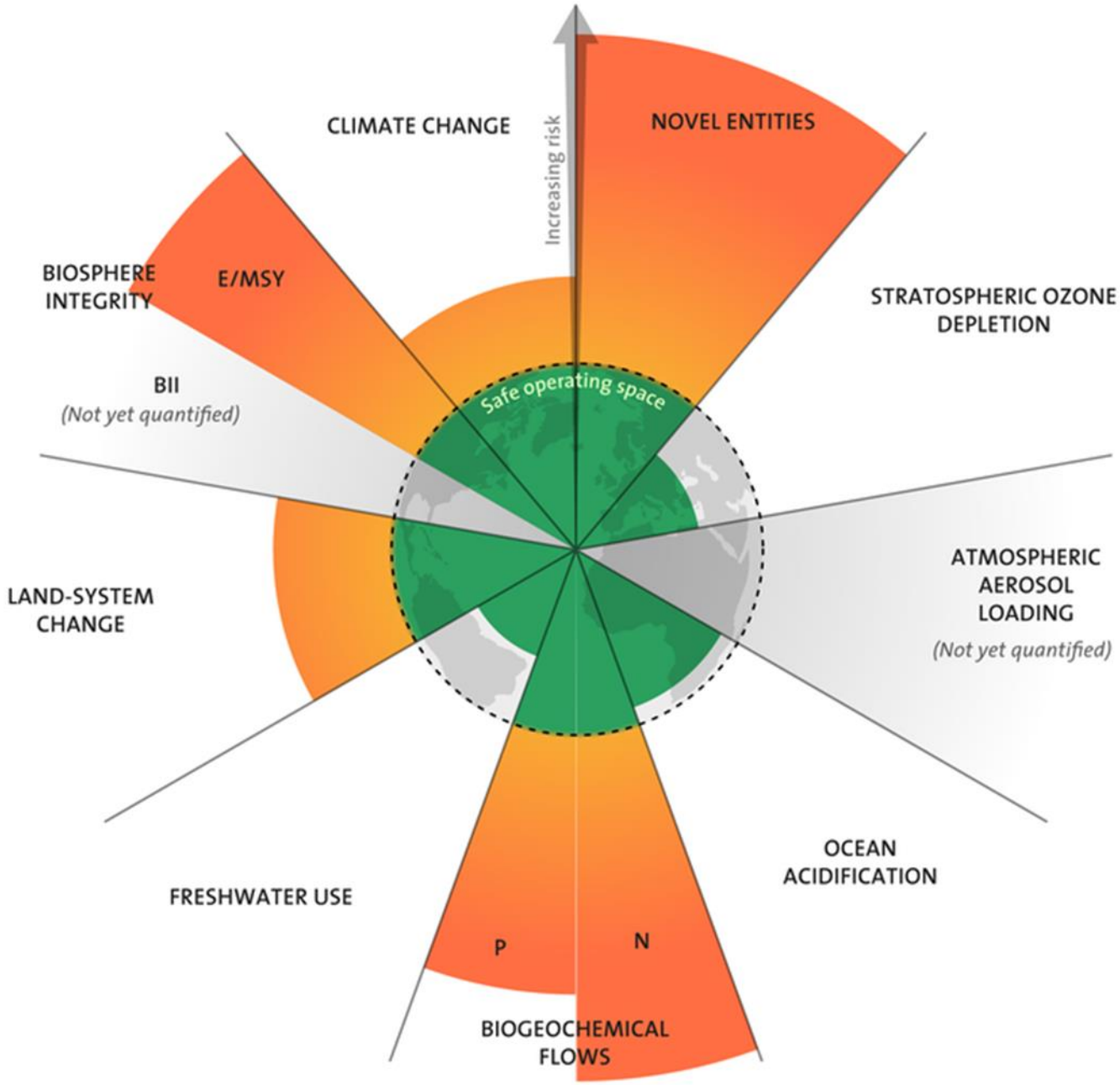
- Climate change, biodiversity and health
  - Urgency
  - Intertwined challenges
- Stakeholder engagement
  - Role
  - Key results
- Solutions and co-benefits
  - Research recommendations
  - How can research support policy-making and help to improve policies and practices?

Go to menti.com

access code: 2138 3815

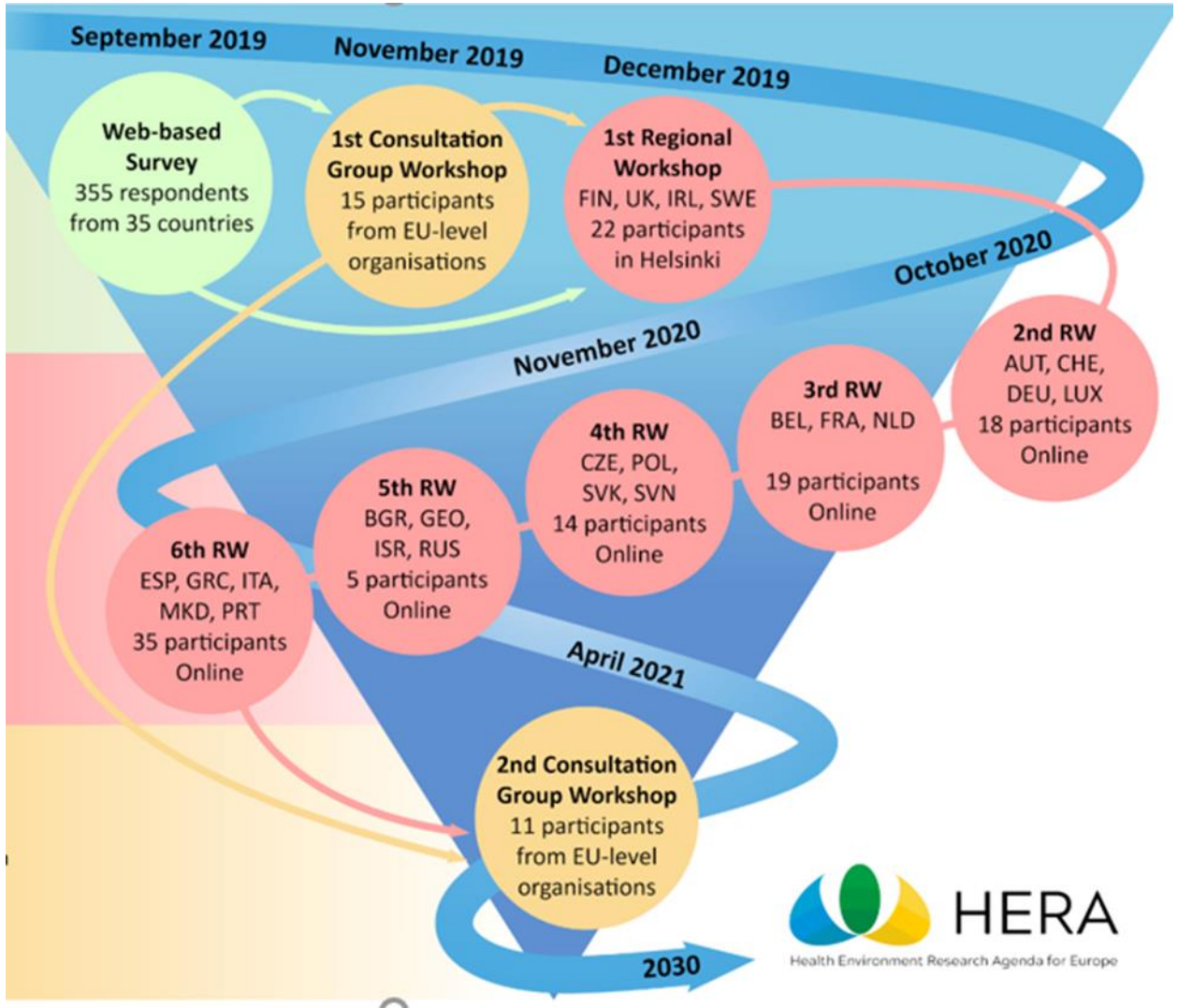
Climate change, biodiversity and health – urgent and intertwined challenges

- Wicked circle: solving one problem may worsen the other
- Increasingly interrelated in policy
  - IPBES-IPCC Co-Sponsored Workshop Report on Biodiversity and Climate Change (2021)



Persson L. et al. 2022 Outside the Safe Operating Space of the Planetary Boundary for Novel Entities. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 56 (3):1510–1521

Wide stakeholder consultation



Exploration stakeholder perspectives:

- key challenges health, environmental climate change nexus
- related development in policies and practices
- related knowledge needs

Key research needs of the stakeholders (1/2)

- **Improve knowledge on drivers –impacts –interlinkages**
  - Sustainable development – climate mitigation – adaptation – biodiversity

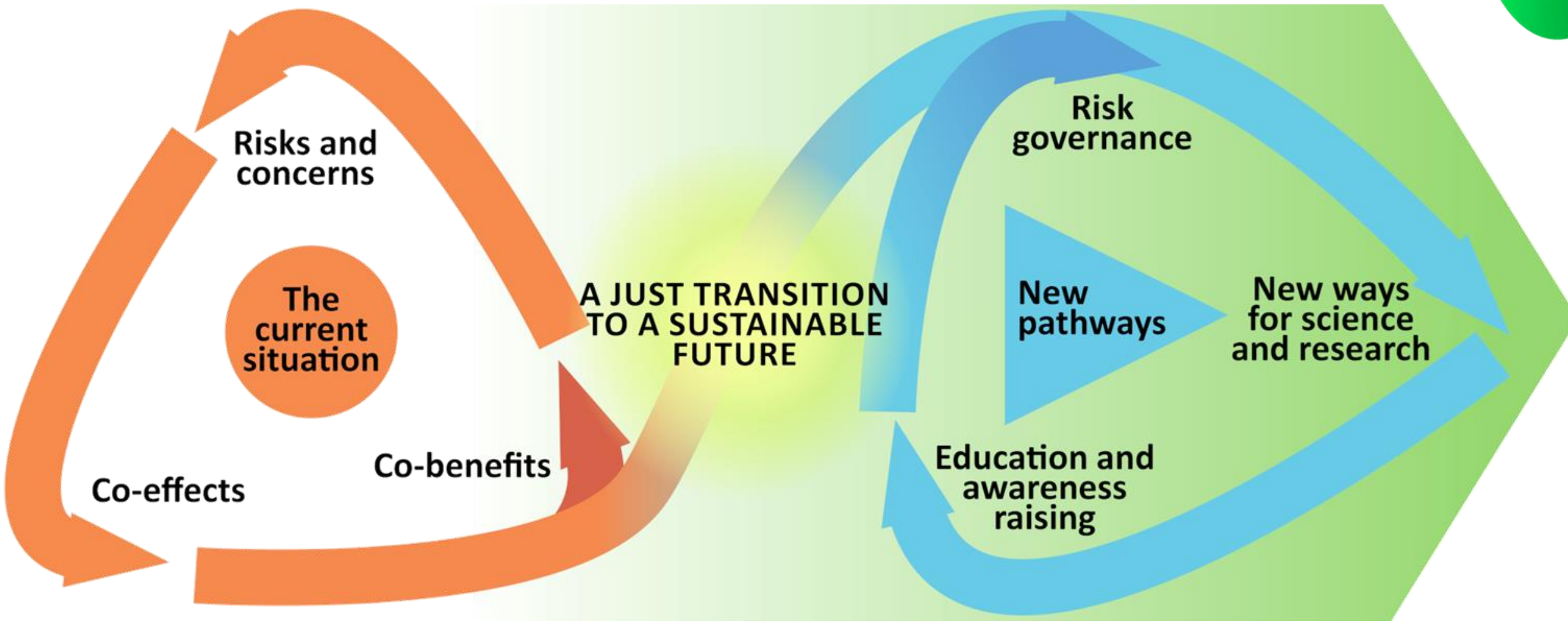
- **Include socio-economic and socio-ecological aspects in research and policies**
  - (environmental)health risks affect different population groups differently
  - This may produce and maintain social disadvantages and can increase vulnerability
  - How to integrate justice perspectives in research?

- **Improve data collection, monitoring and sharing**
  - How can research data be better shared and utilized?
  - How can citizen science contribute to data collection and monitoring?

Key research needs of the stakeholders (1/2)

- **Encourage integrated/holistic/systemic research approaches**
  - To enable transformative change
- **Strengthen multi-, inter- and transdisciplinary research**
  - Include social and behavioural sciences
  - Integration of natural and social sciences
- **Improve stakeholder engagement, develop science-policy interface**
  - Include citizen science and participatory methods in research

Transformative change



From stakeholder perspective to research recommendations

Towards integrated health impact assessment: climate change

- Integrated health impact assessment mitigation and adaptation measures: identify co-benefits and co-harms
  - Special focus on under-researched health impacts (e.g. mental health) and vulnerable population groups in relation to climate change
- Development integrated forecast models and improved surveillance system
- Investigate the interlinkages between biodiversity, ecological integrity and human health and well-being

Nature-based solutions as an example for co-benefits

- Nature-based interventions for encouraging positive biodiversity-health linkages (urban-rural)
- Analysis and quantification of expected health risks and co-benefits from adaptation measures such as green and blue interventions

One health, planetary health

- Framework for exploring nature-related health risks and benefits
- The social-ecology and evolution of biological agents
- Development of European planetary diet
  - Integrating biodiversity, soil health and healthy food
- Towards integrated planetary health monitoring

Effective implementations through improved science-policy-society dialogue

- How to achieve societal change and support for a transformation towards more sustainable, healthy and resilient societies?
- Development of climate mitigation measures and sustainable technology for health sector

Conclusions:
How can research support policy-making and help to improve policies and practices

- Acknowledge urgent need for (integrated) research on climate change, biodiversity and health
- Co-create and implement effective policies and practices on mitigation and adaptation
- Apply holistic approaches such as OneHealth and Planetary health
- Include socio-economic and socio-ecological aspects in climate change and health research and policies on climate change

Thank you

Go to menti.com for a final question, code: 2138 3815

WP3 team

RIVM, SYKE, INSERM, ISGLOBAL, ANSES, SU, HMGU , AUTH, LSHTM, MU, TUD, WHO, UU, MUW, JSI, DIT, BCS, VITO, UAVR, HEAL, NCI