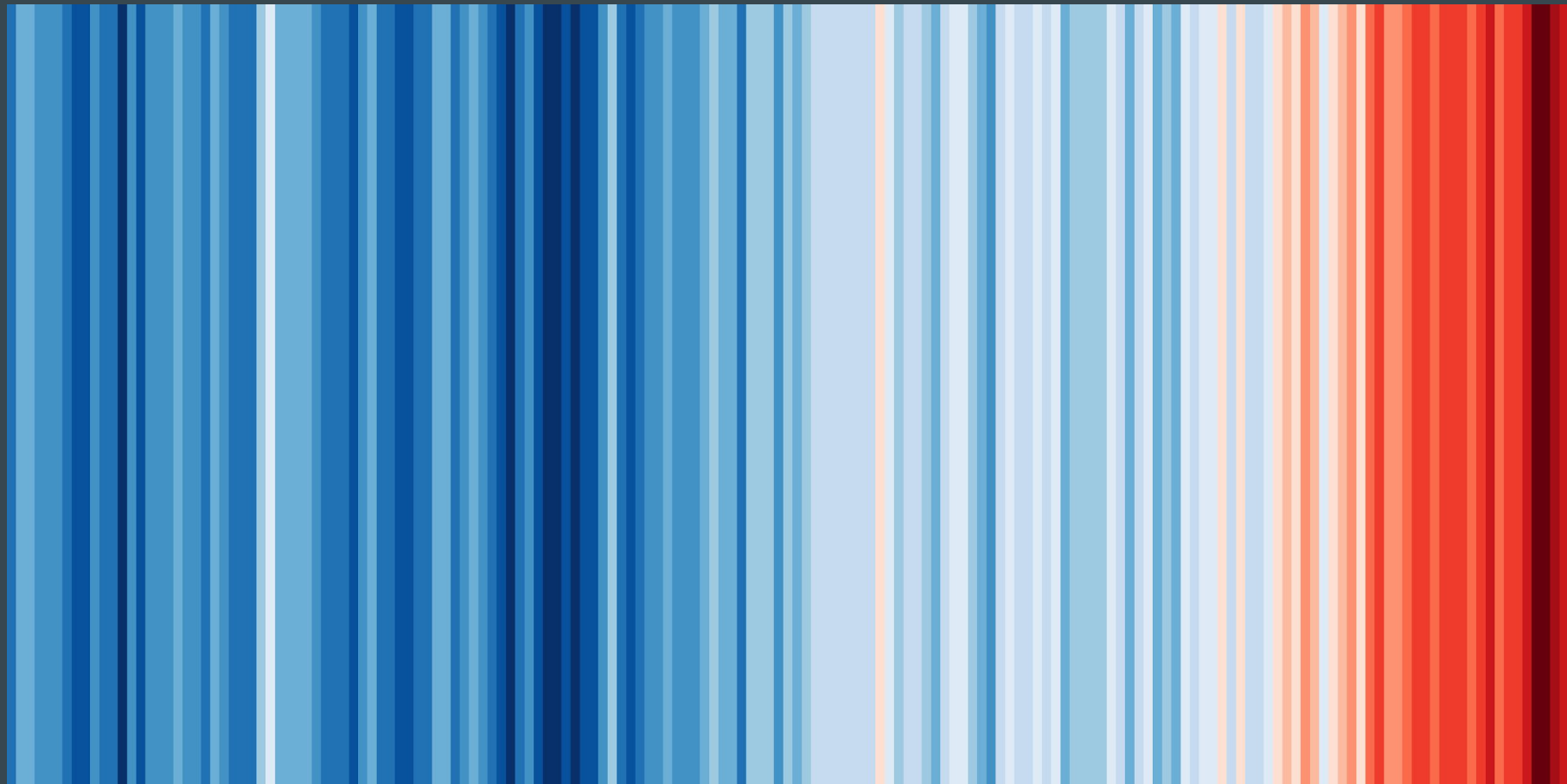


# Planetary Health

...

Dr Aoife Kirk



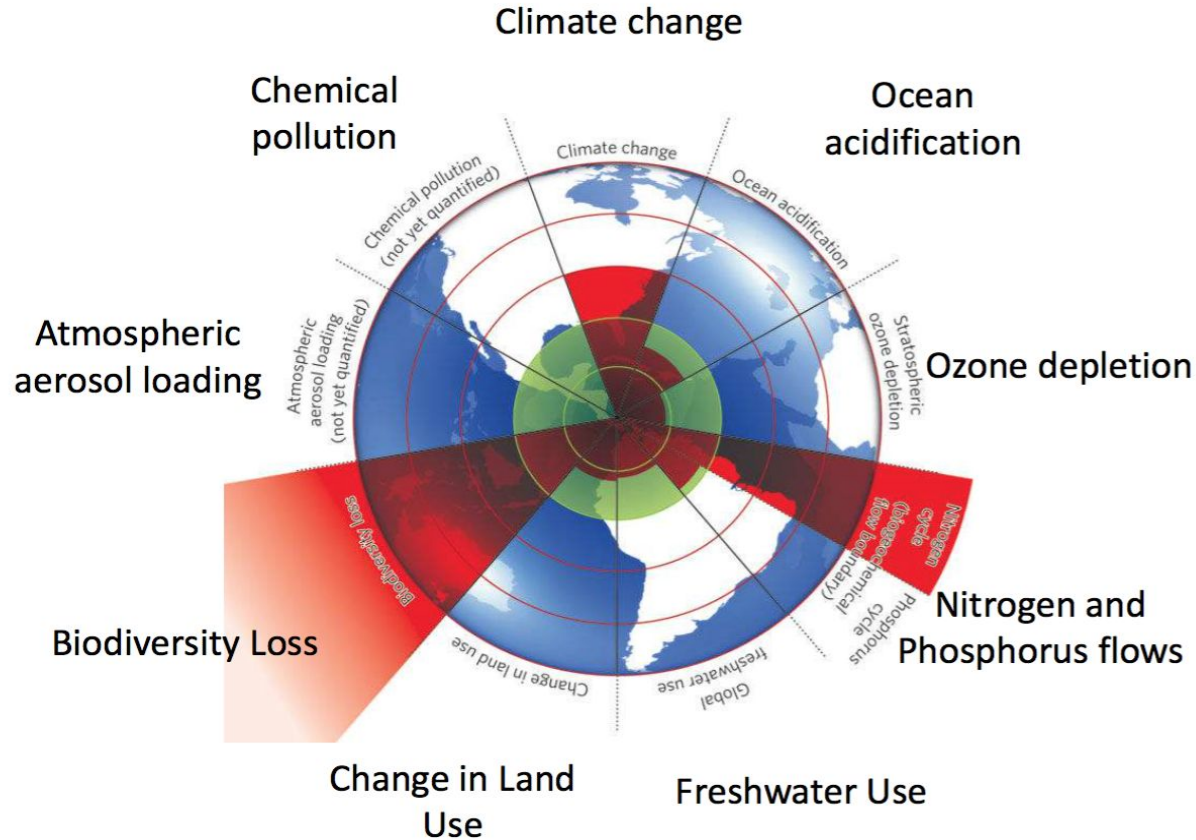
# What is Planetary Health?

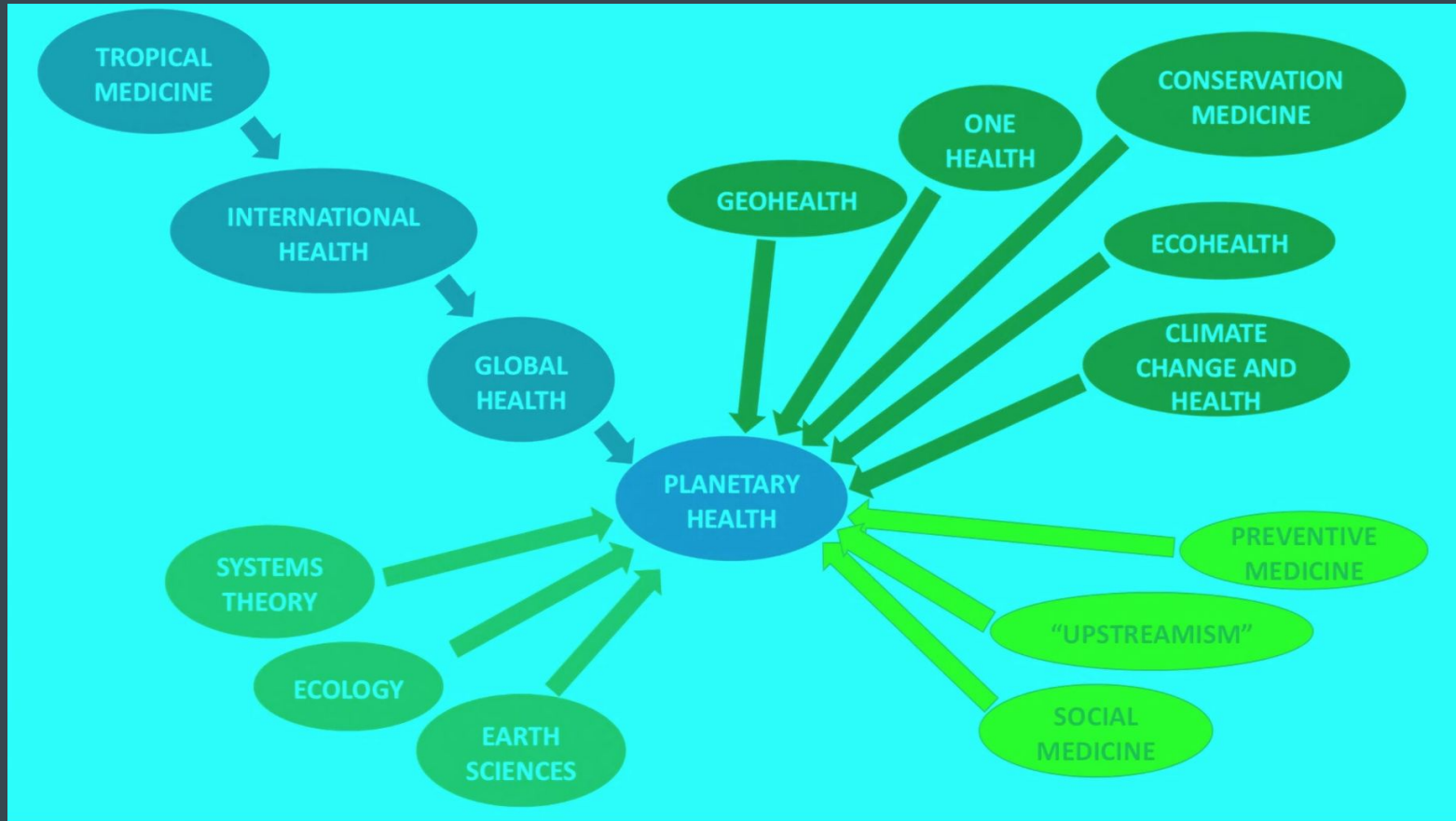
“The health of human civilisation and the state of the natural systems on which human health depends”

- Horton & Lo. Planetary Health: A New Science for exceptional action. Lancet 386

*Defines the interrelationship between human health & the natural environment in the Anthropocene Era*

# Planetary Boundaries





DOC HOWARD FRUMKIN - WHAT IS PLANETARY HEALTH AND WHY NOW?

# What is Planetary Health?

1. A Field
  - a. Journals, meetings, professional associations, an emerging field
2. A Scientific Paradigm
  - a. Cross - sectional, Systems Thinking, Complexity, Temporal & Spatial Scale
3. Policy Framework
  - a. Research needs to be translated into action
  - b. Involve people, communities, policymakers throughout every level
4. A Communication Strategy
  - a. Using true stories & pictures to implement effective communication
5. A Moral Imperative
  - a. “The World is on Fire” - how can we act?

# What is Planetary Health?



# Planetary Health Principles (Myers & Stone, 2015)

1. A Planetary Health Lens	5. Communication	9. Governance
2. Urgency and Scale	6. Systems Thinking and Transdisciplinary Collaborations	10. Unintended consequences
3. Policy	7. Inequality and Inequity	11. Global Citizenship
4. Organising and Building Movement	8. Bias	12. Historical and Cultural Values



# DECLARATION CALLING FOR FAMILY DOCTORS OF THE WORLD TO ACT ON PLANETARY HEALTH

## A call for clinicians to act on planetary health

We are rapidly changing the world around us. A growing and urbanising human population with expanding patterns of production and consumption is driving rapid global environmental change, manifested in large-scale biodiversity loss, climate change, deforestation and land degradation, resource scarcity, changing biogeochemical flows, and pollution.<sup>1</sup> While the second half of the 20th century has seen major global health gains, the future of global health is increasingly under threat, with a growing non-communicable disease burden, expanding nutritional vulnerability, new infectious disease exposures, and susceptibility to displacement, injury, and mental health risks, all of which disproportionately threaten the

avenues of community and environmental stewardship. Physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, midwives, dietitians, counsellors, traditional healers, and other clinicians can make a difference by encouraging action at the individual and community levels focused on lifestyle modifications and forward-thinking policy, innovation, and adaptation measures. Join us in safeguarding our health and that of future generations by advancing outreach efforts, collaborating and sharing best practices with an international coalition of clinicians, co-generating patient-focused resources in multiple languages, and engaging in other channels of planetary health activism.



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# How does it affect?

- Environmental impact areas

- Changing abundance, composition & distribution of species
- Changing biogeochemical flows
- Changing food systems
- Changing land use and land cover
- Climate change
- Global pollution
- Natural disasters
- Urbanization
- Water scarcity

- Public health impact areas

- Civil strife and displacement
- Infectious diseases
- Mental health
- Non-communicable disease
- Nutrition

# 71%

Of all deaths globally (total of 43 million) are due to NCDs (WHO 2018)

15 million aged 30 - 69 years, over 85% of these occur in middle - low income countries



Two women cry after arriving with hundreds of other Hurricane Dorian refugees at the Port of Palm Beach on the cruise ship Grand Celebration on September 7, 2019 in West Palm Beach, Florida. On Sunday evening, Bahamians on a ferry from Freeport to Florida were forced to leave the boat if they did not have visas, sparking outrage over what one critic called "eco-apartheid." (Photo: Saul Martinez/Getty Images)

Hundreds of Bahamian refugees were **ordered off** a ferry headed for Ft. Lauderdale, Florida from Freeport in the Bahamas days after Hurricane Dorian pummeled the islands, leaving at least 44 people dead and tens of thousands without homes.

# Irish Doctors for Environment - [www.ide.ie](http://www.ide.ie)

Email [irishdocsenv@gmail.com](mailto:irishdocsenv@gmail.com)



- >90 clinicians across Ireland
- Consultants Advisory Board across medical & PH disciplines
- Aims:
  - Implement changes through policy making within hospitals & government
  - Education - public & clinicians on planetary health
  - Peer learning & engagement in hospital / GP / practices
  - Research
- Affiliations include -
  - Health Care Without Harm
  - Planetary Health Alliance / Clinicians for Planetary Health
  - World Network of Family Practice (WONCA)
  - IFGH
  - Irish Public Health Registrars & Irish Medical Students Association





*"Yes, the planet got destroyed. But for a beautiful moment  
in time we created a lot of value for shareholders."*

CN  
COLLECTION

Thank You!

Questions?

“**Optimism** is the only choice if we are to transcend apathy and **work together** for a better, more **humane** world”

- Ophelia Dahl