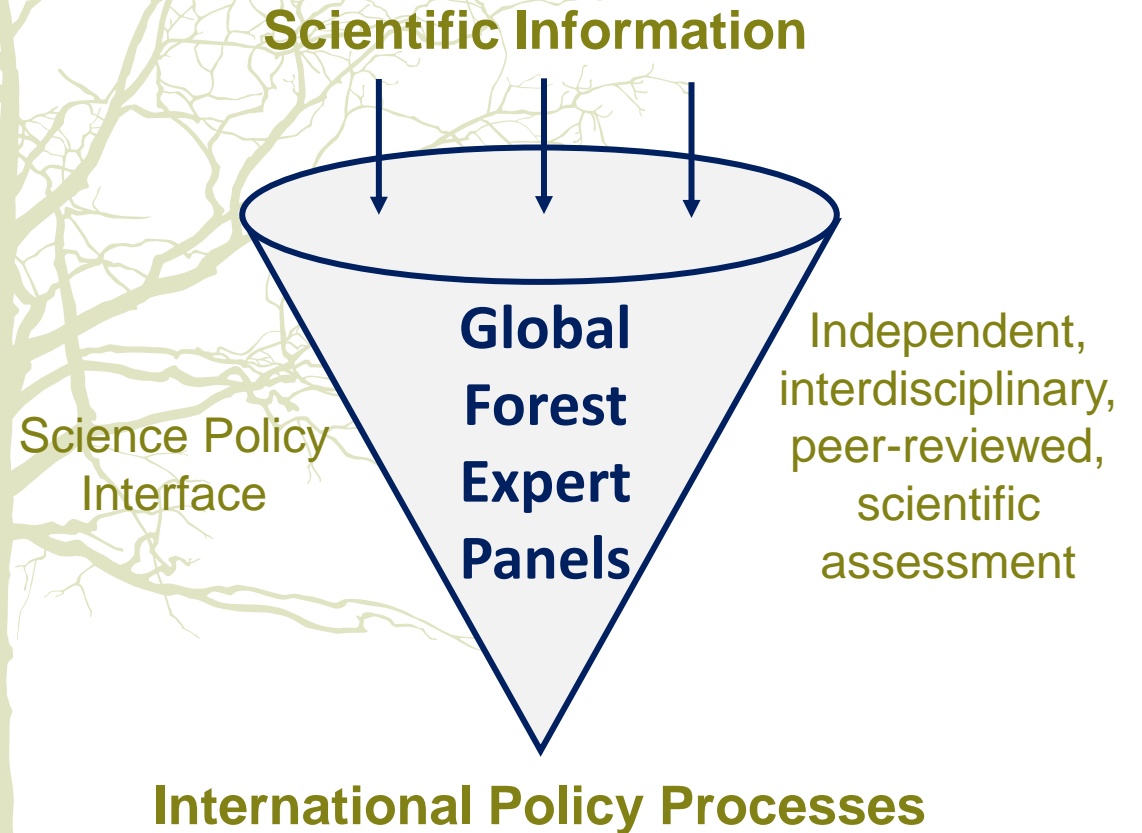
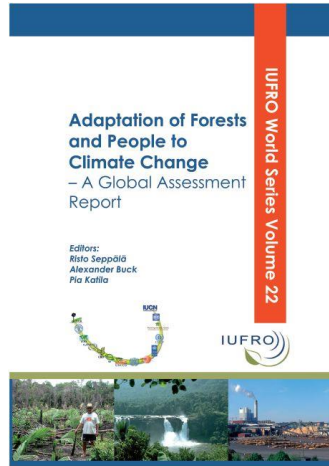


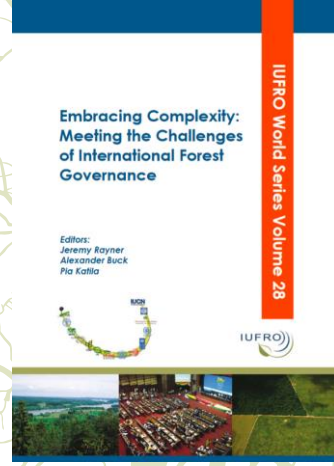
# Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) Programme

The Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) Programme *combines diverse expertise to assess scientific knowledge about the role of forests and trees in achieving global goals and inform political decision making.*

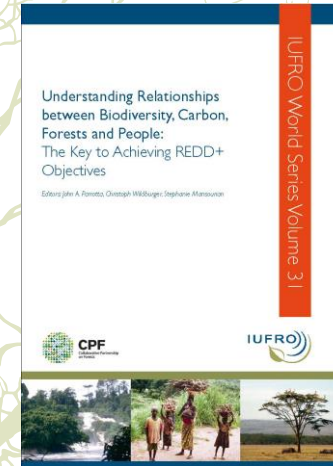




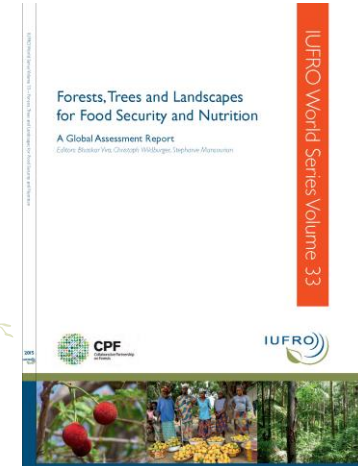
Adaptation of Forests to Climate Change (2009)



International Forest Regime (2011)



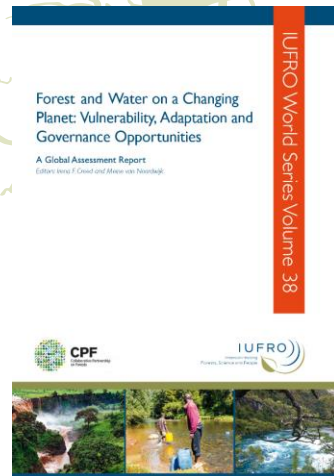
Biodiversity, Forest Management and REDD+ (2012)



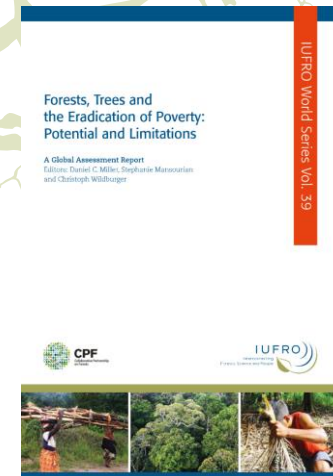
Forests and Food Security (2015)



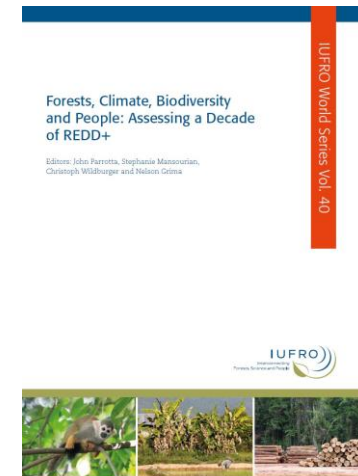
Illegal Timber Trade (2019)



Forests and Water (2018)

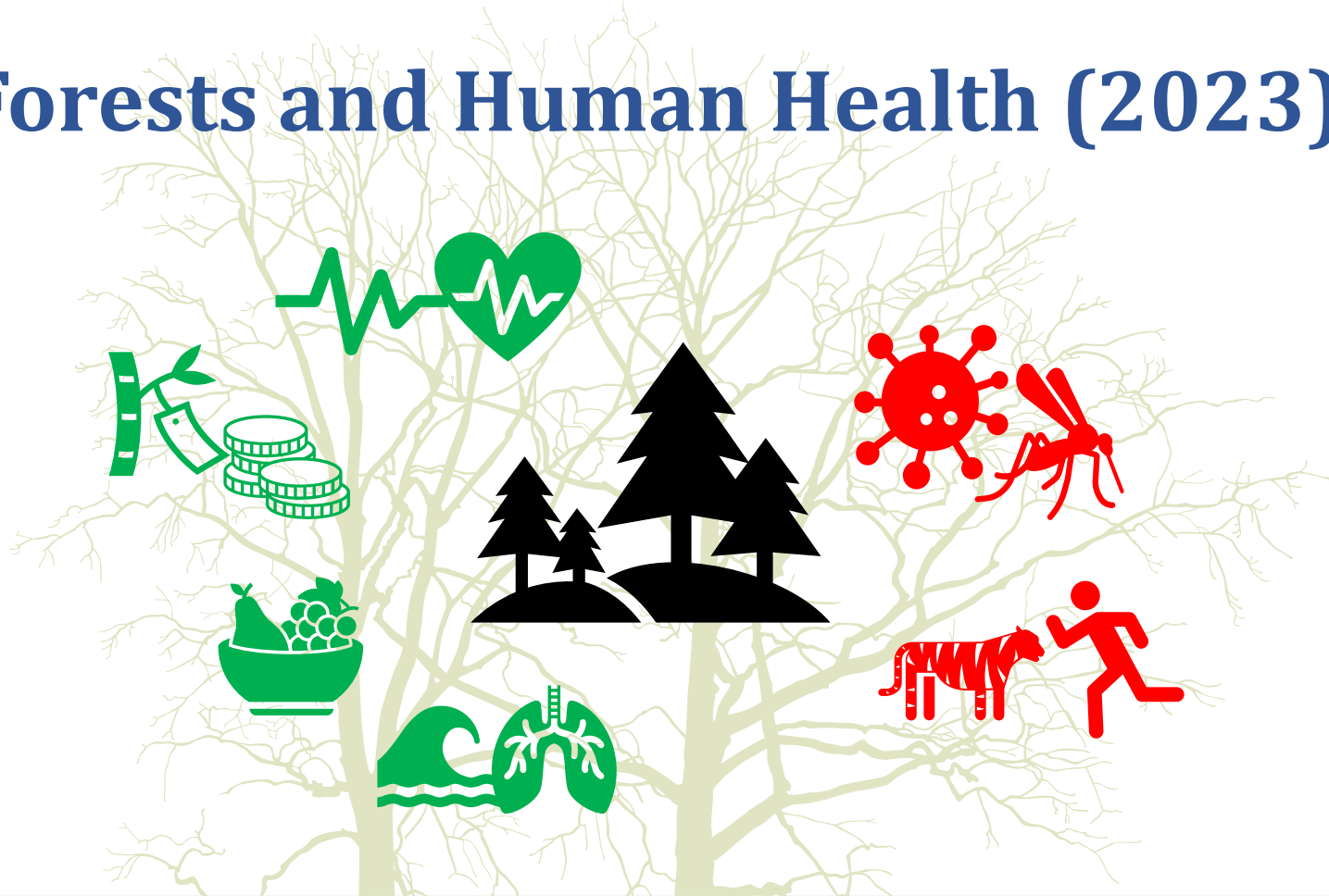


Forests and Poverty (2020)



A Decade of REDD+ (2022)

# Forests and Human Health (2023)



- Different dimensions of the **relationship between forests and human health**;
- **Synergies and trade-offs** between human health, and conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forest ecosystems and trees;
- **Response options relevant to policy context**

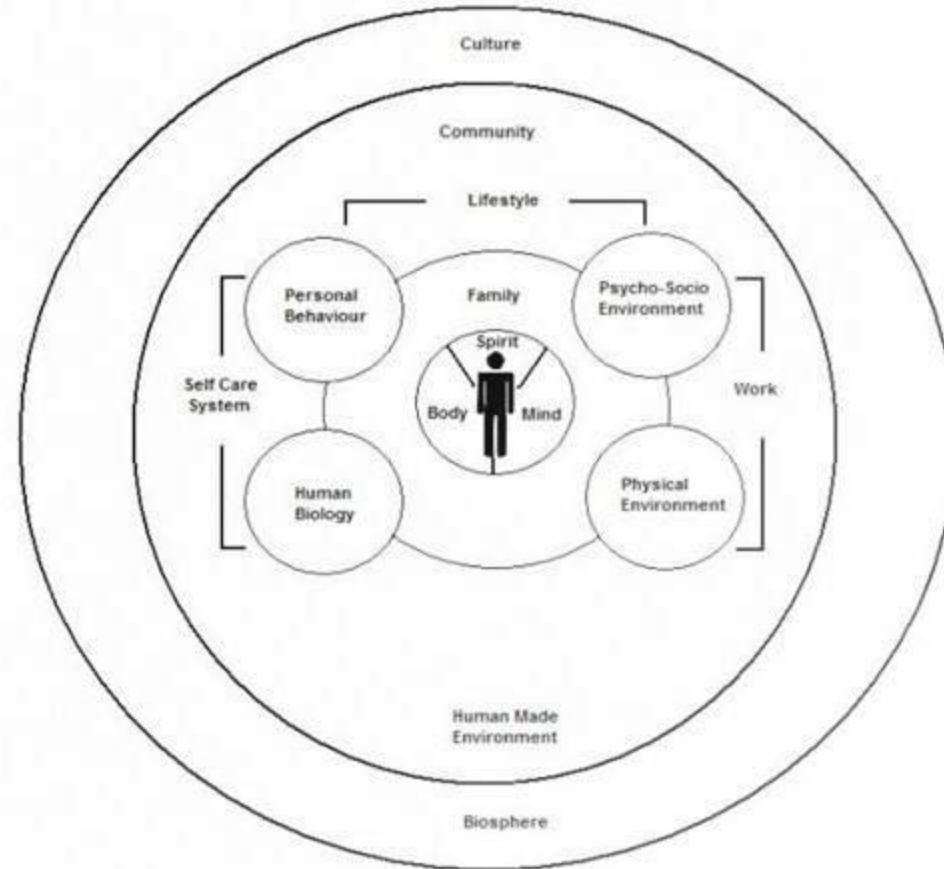
## **GFEP FFH – Report structure**

- Chapter 1: Introduction – lead: Cecil Konijnendijk (panel chair)
- Chapter 2: Framework – lead: Matilda van den Bosch
- Chapter 3: Current evidence – leads: Payam Dadvand and Sjerp de Vries
- Chapter 4: Forest characteristics and synergies & trade-offs – leads: Liisa Tyrväinen and Cecil Konijnendijk
- Chapter 5: Response options – leads: Agnes van den Berg and Cecil Konijnendijk
- Chapter 6: Conclusions and policy perspective – lead: Cecil Konijnendijk



# Definition of Health

**Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.**

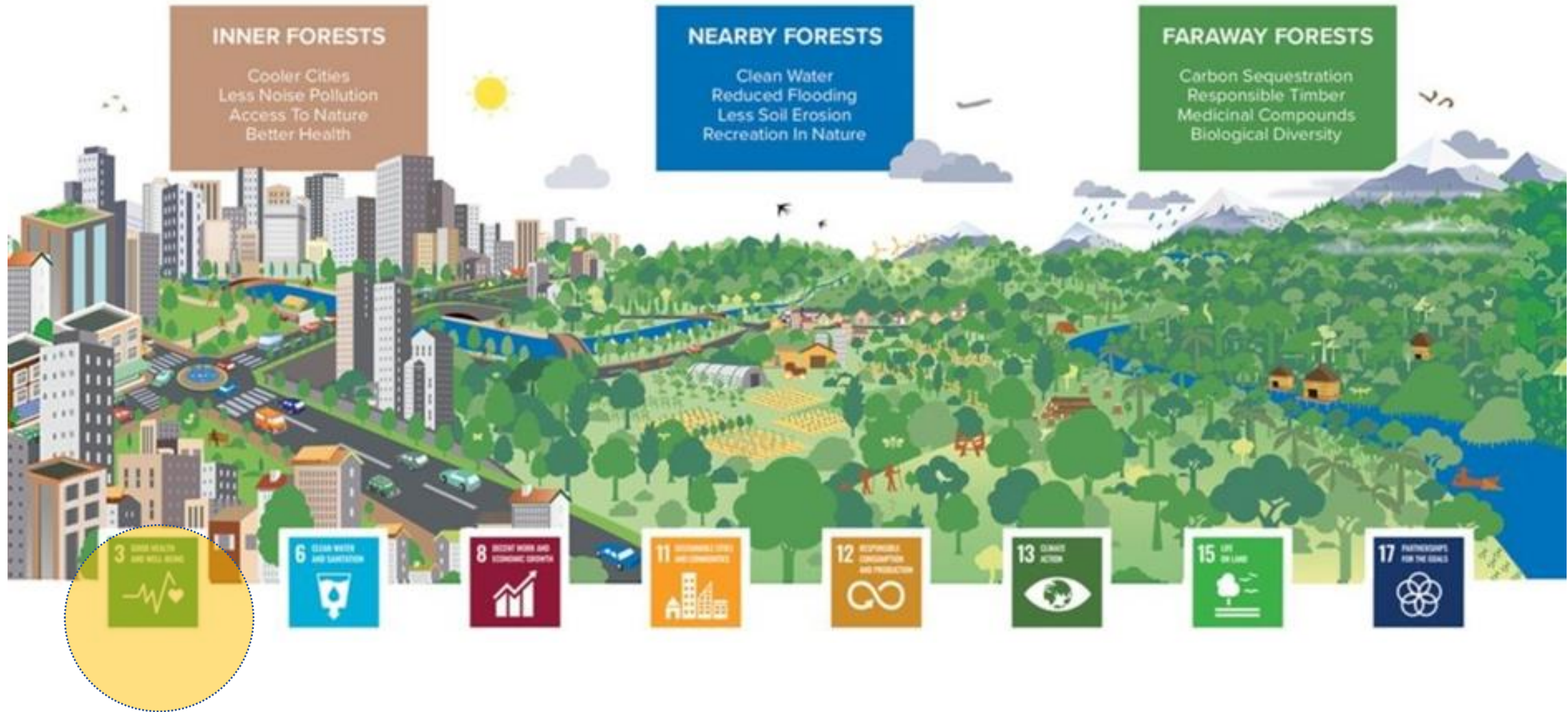


# Changing Global Burden of Disease

Leading causes of DALYs (1990)	Leading causes of DALYs (2019)
1. Neonatal disorders	1. Neonatal disorders
2. Lower respiratory infections	2. Ischemic heart disease
3. Diarrhoeal diseases	3. Stroke
4. Ischemic heart disease	4. Lower respiratory infections
5. Stroke	5. Diarrhoeal diseases
6. Congenital birth defects	6. COPD
7. Tuberculosis	7. Road injuries
8. Road injuries	8. Diabetes
9. Measles	9. Low back pain
10. Malaria	10. Congenital birth defects

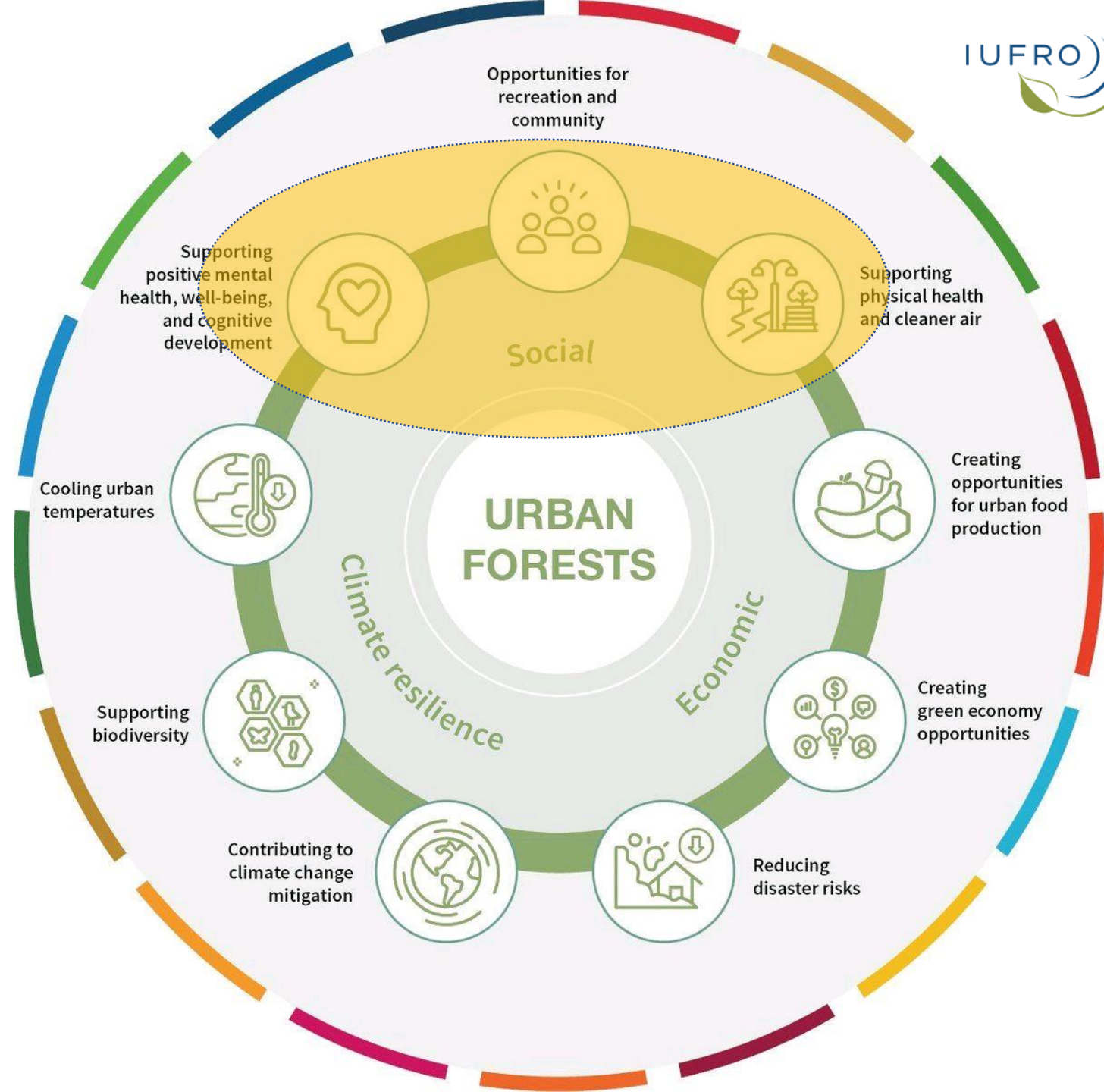
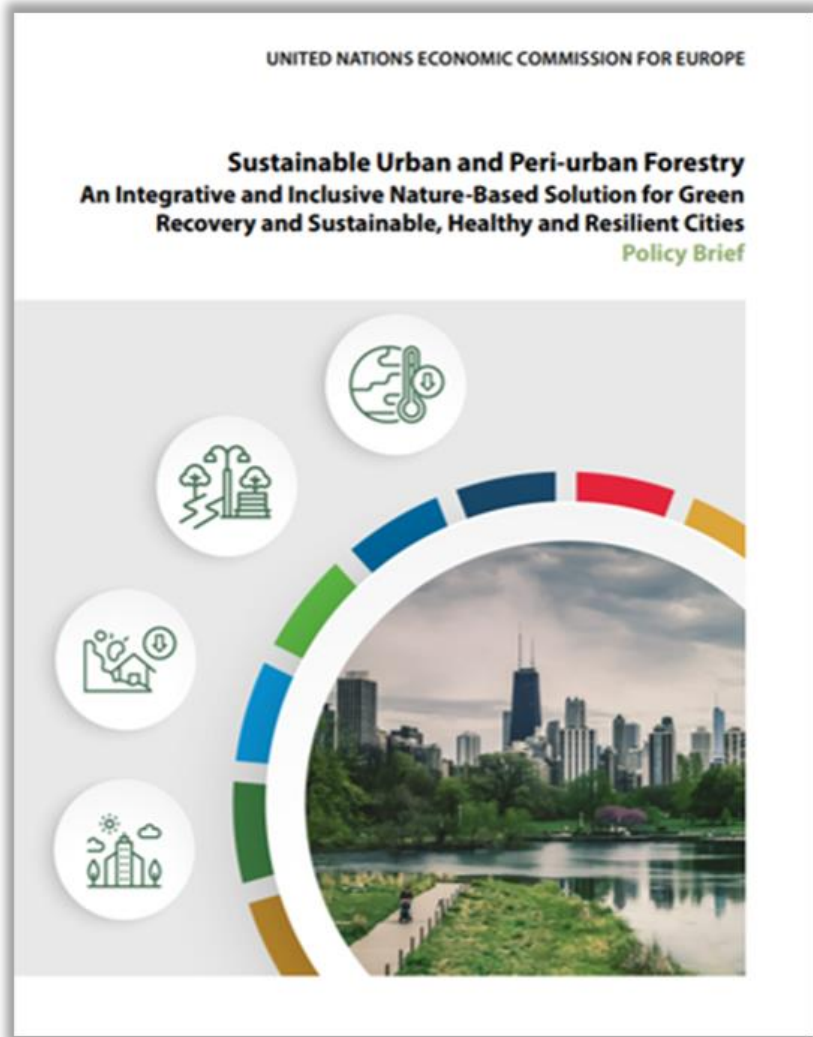
Top 25 causes of global burden of disease in terms of disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) in 1990 and 2019. Adopted from (GBD 2019 Diseases and Injuries Collaborators 2020). From: GFEP FFH, Chapter 3.

# FORESTS



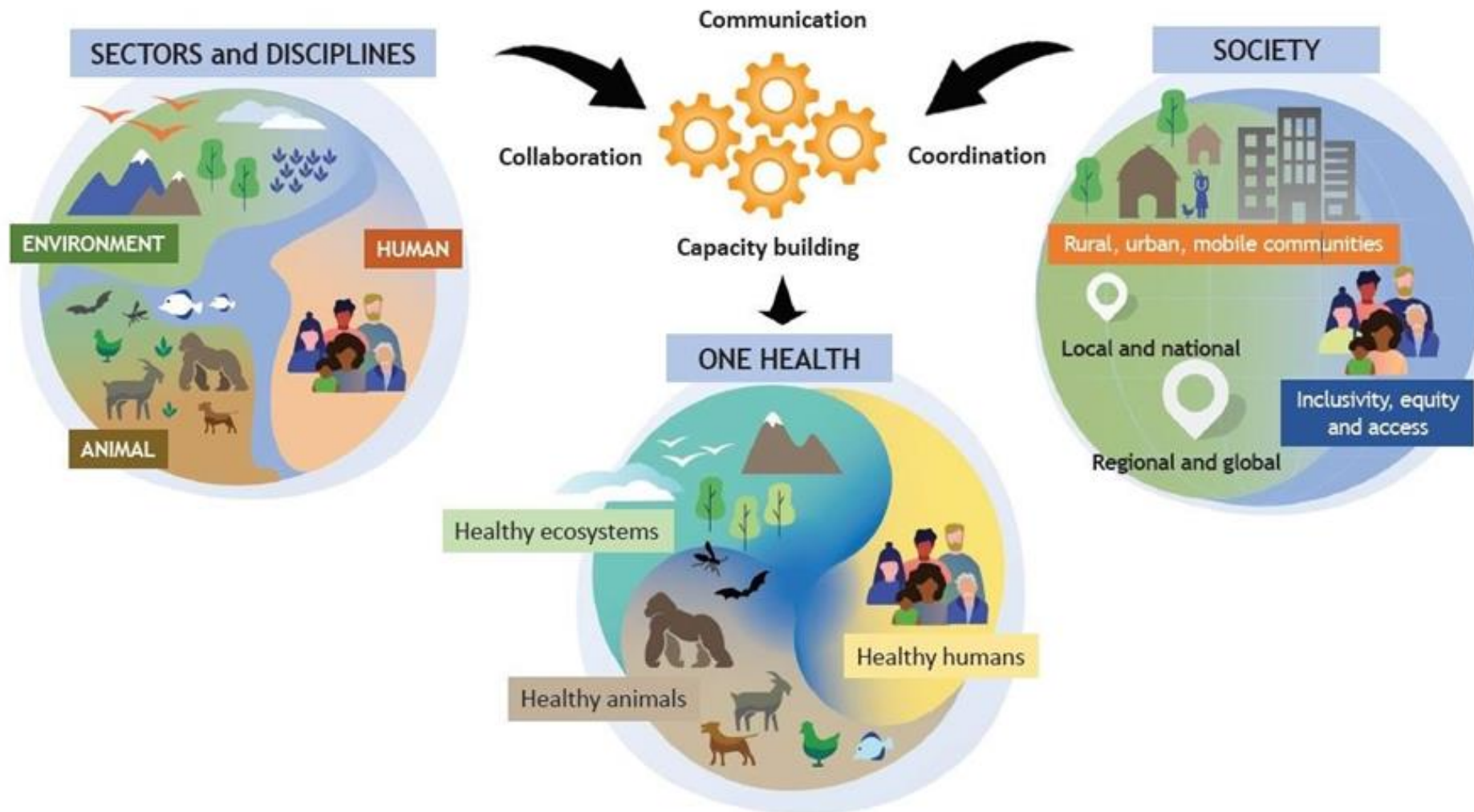
Source: Cities4Forests

## The Forest Continuum, SGDs and Human Health



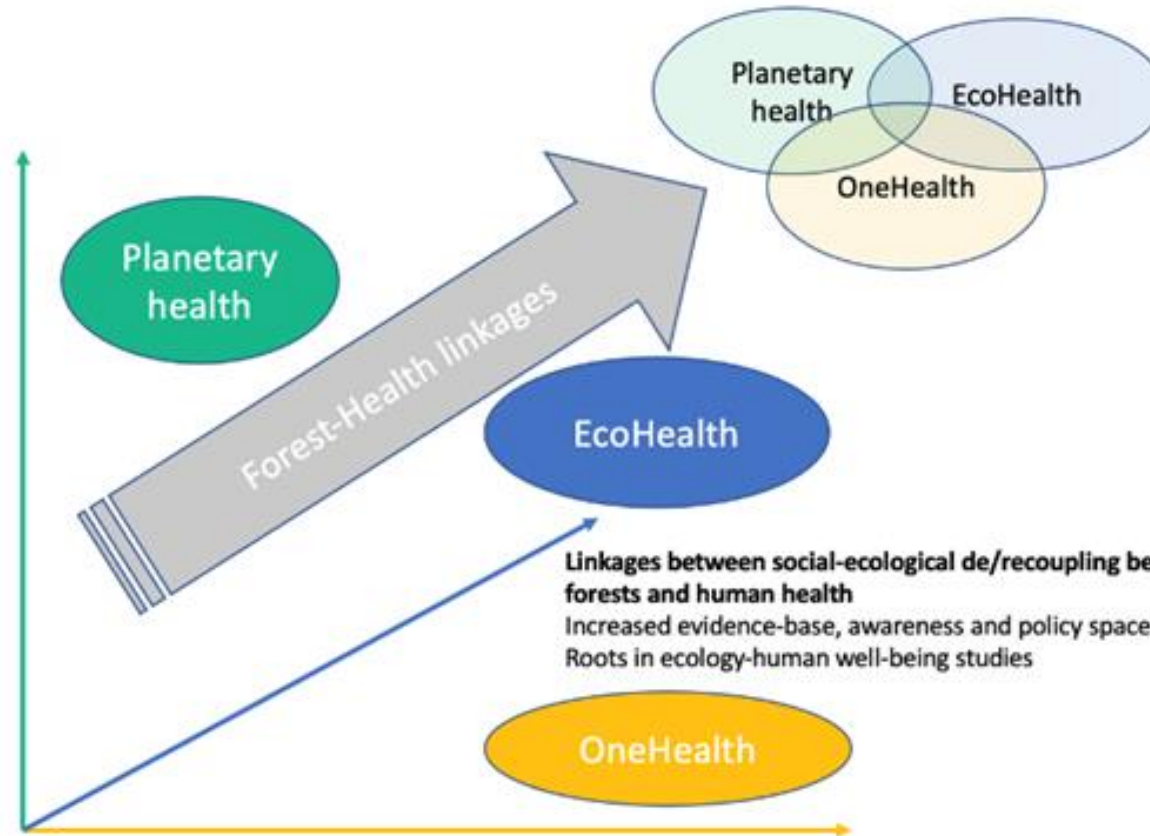


# A One Health Perspective



# Towards EcoHealth

**Linkages between environmental change and human health**  
Increased evidence-base, awareness, and policy space on how climate change & forest environmental degradation affect human health  
Roots in anthropocene – earth systems science

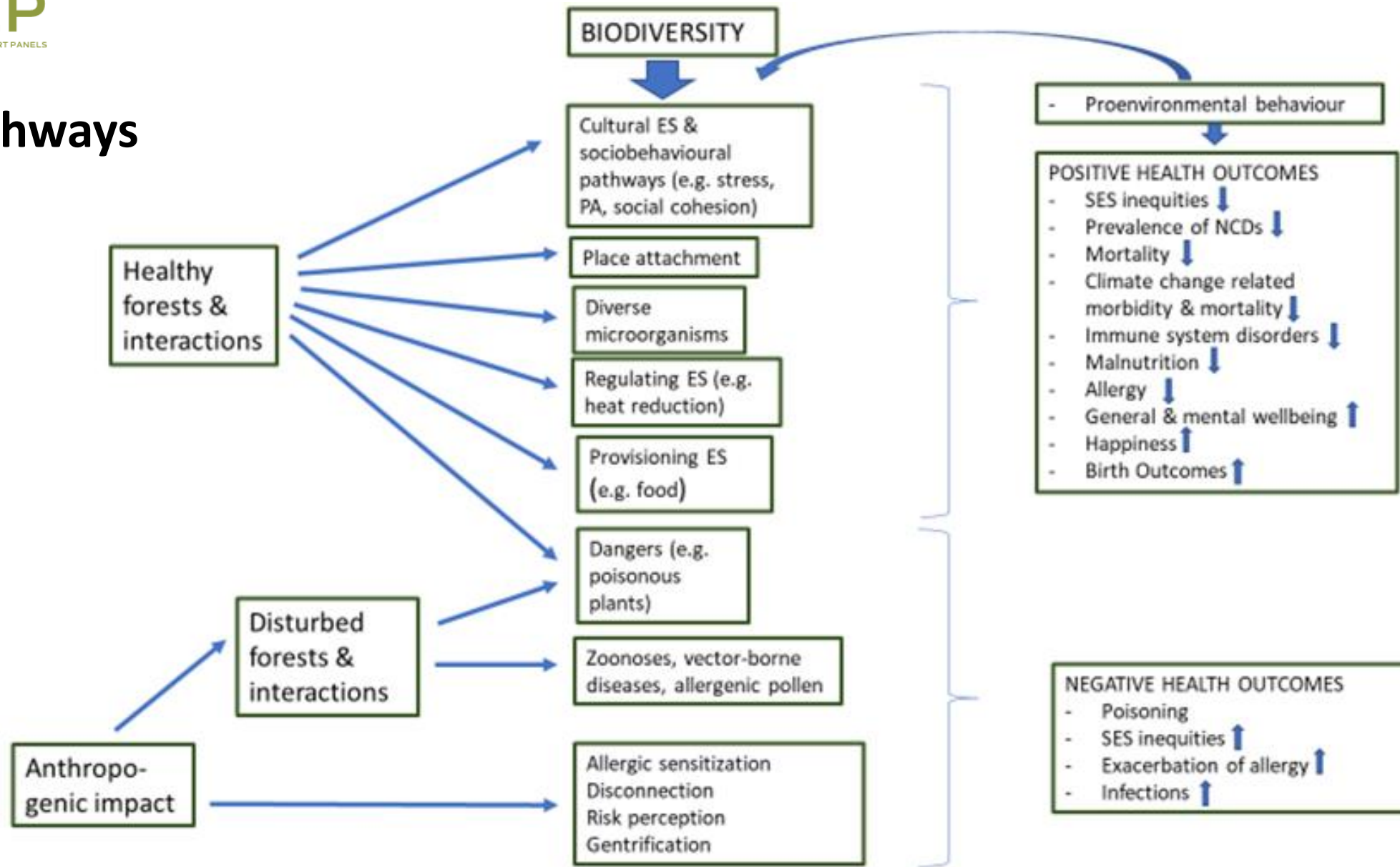


**Linkages between social-ecological de/recoupling between forests and human health**  
Increased evidence-base, awareness and policy space on this  
Roots in ecology-human well-being studies

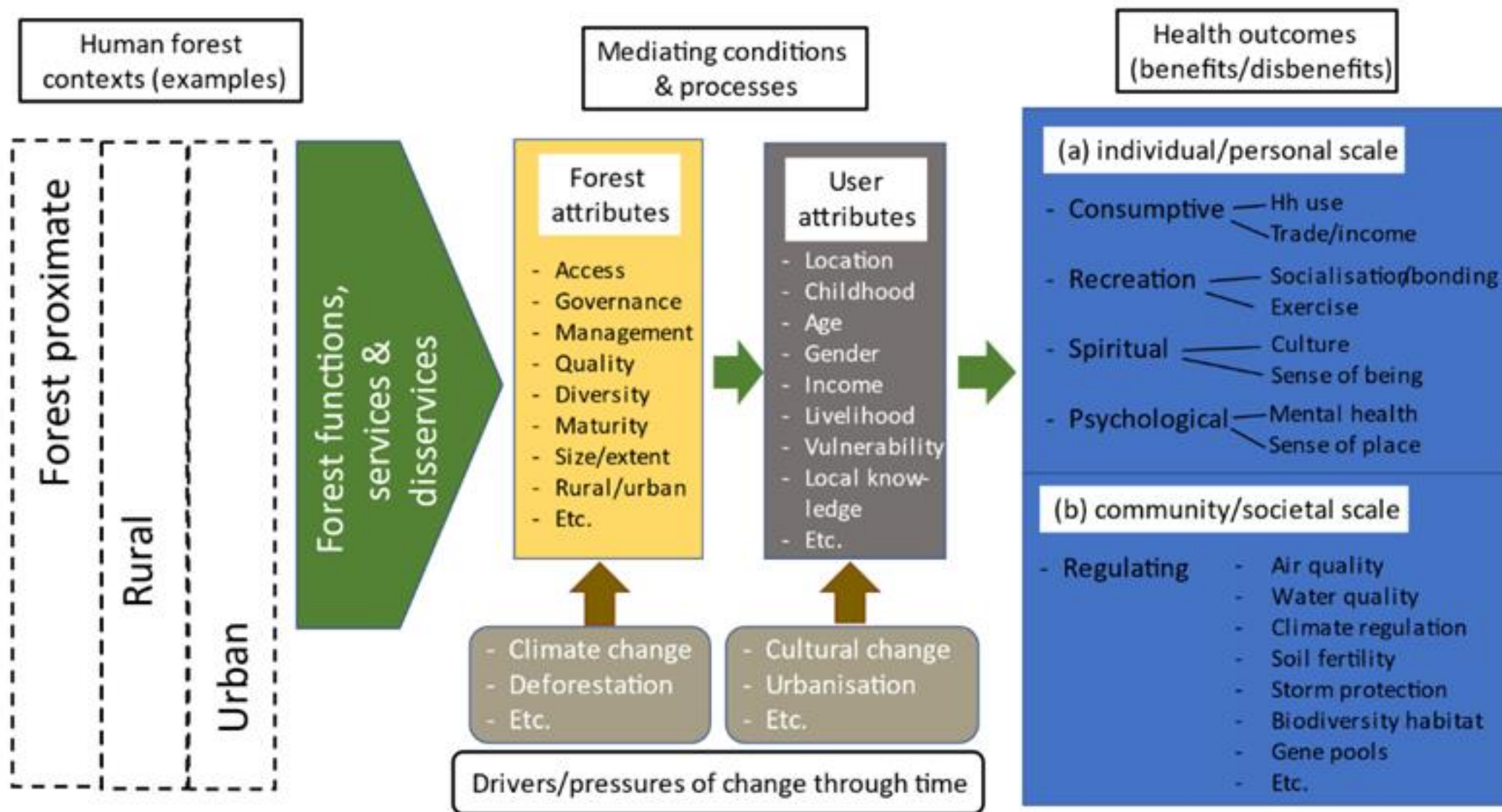
**Linkages between forests/ forest management and zoonotic diseases**  
Increased evidence-base, awareness and policy space about the link between forest management and zoonotic diseases  
Roots in animal health – human health studies, one medicine

- Implications for assessing forests-human health interrelationships**
- Multiple dimensions of health (Chapter 3, life span approach)
  - Drivers of change, Forests crises and implications on human health (Chapter 4)
  - Space for win-win-win and for anticipating & managing tradeoffs (Chapter 4 & 5)
  - Broader action and solutions space for human health as well as for forest management & stewardship (Chapter 5)
  - Brings in the urgency to act and to build social-ecological resilience (Chapter 5 & 6)

# Pathways

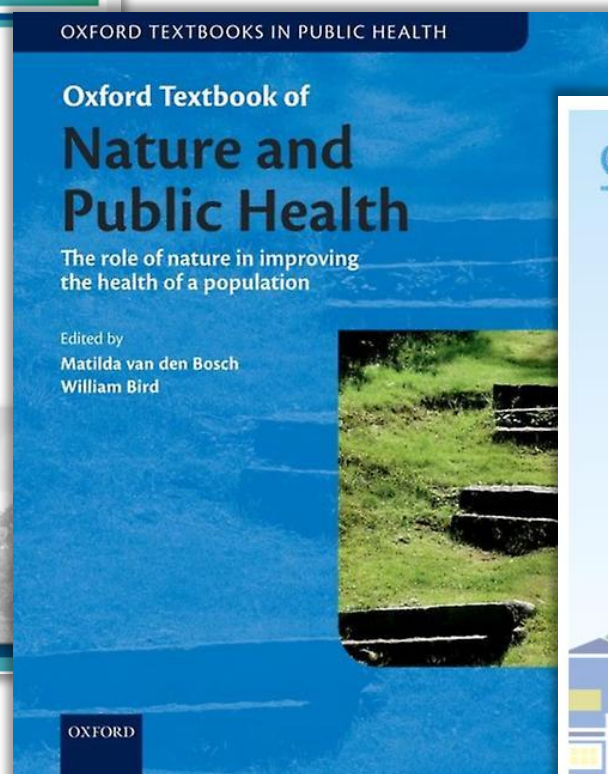
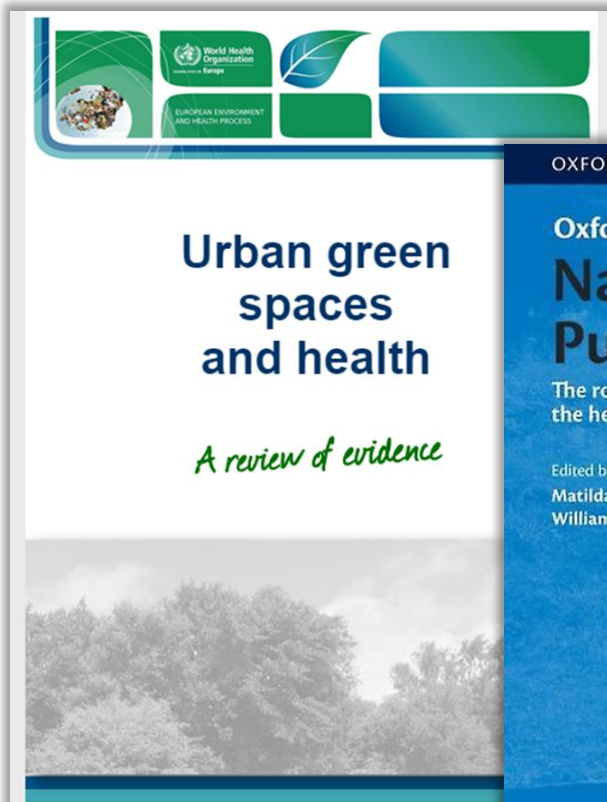


# Different Forests, Different Health Outcomes



## State of Knowledge

- Forests and trees: for most health outcomes, the observed associations were predominantly beneficial
- More work on (urban) green space than specifically on forests and trees
- Still major gaps in the evidence (e.g. 'mechanisms')
- Evidence stronger for some outcomes (e.g. mental health and well-being) than for others (e.g. cancers) – fewer studies
- Importance of proximity, exposure
- Much less research done in the Global South



<https://isglobalranking.org/>



More than **60%** of people in European cities lives in areas with insufficient green space



**Increasing overall greenness** could prevent **up to almost 43,000 deaths** in European cities every year.

## Perspective

- Health outcomes either *beneficial or harmful* – keep the full picture in mind
- Importance of the *broader picture*. Food security, spirituality, forest dependence
- *Healthy forests, healthy people!* One Health perspective is key
- Importance of managing *synergies and trade-offs* between health and other impacts of forests
- Health aspects need to be *better integrated* in forest and other policies, goals
- Need for *various response options* to promote positive health outcomes of forests – access and management, governance, spatial / planning, economics, design, education



# Connecting to Nature and Forests

