

Pillars of Sustainable Development: Opportunities for Rio + 20



**Pan American
Health
Organization**

Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

Collaborating Centers Meeting 2011

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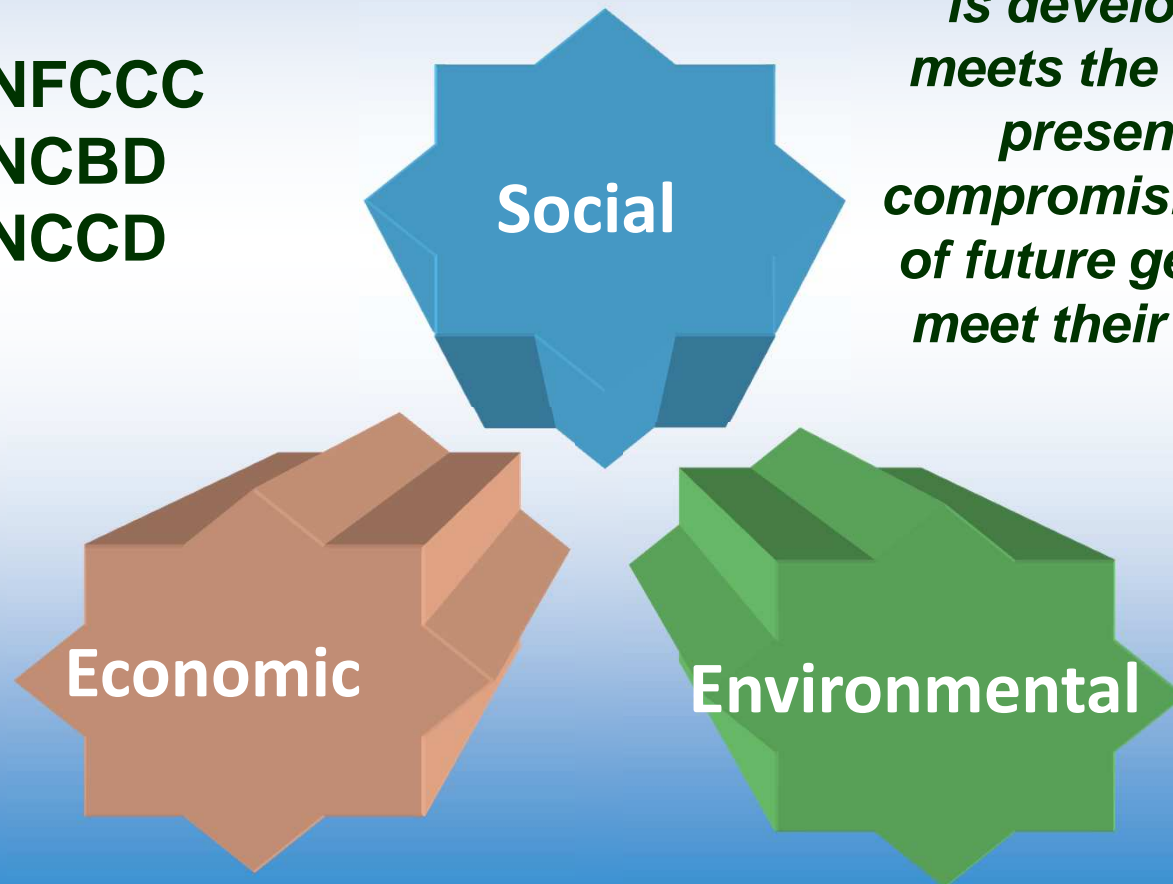
Sustainable Development and Environmental Health

Three Pillars of Sustainable Development

Rio Conventions

**UNFCCC
UNCBD
UNCCD**

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"



Agenda 21



Chapter 6: Protecting & Promoting Human Health

- (a) Meeting primary health care needs, particularly in rural areas;
- (b) Control of communicable diseases;
- (c) Protecting vulnerable groups;
- (d) Meeting the urban health challenge;
- (e) Reducing health risks from environmental pollution and hazards.

Emerging issues

- (f) Non communicable diseases
- (g) Climate change and other environmental changes

WHO Commissions

Social

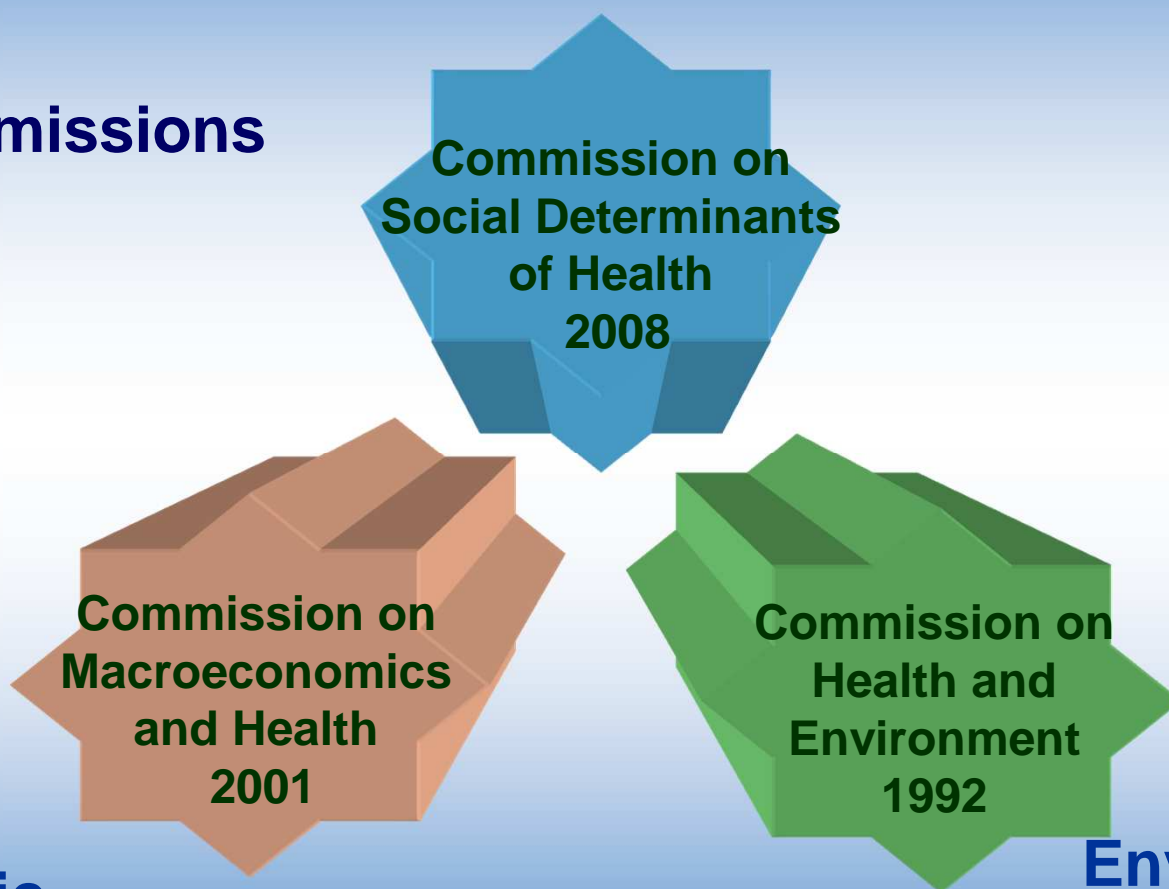
**Commission on
Social Determinants
of Health
2008**

**Commission on
Macroeconomics
and Health
2001**

**Commission on
Health and
Environment
1992**

Economic

Environmental



Current situation

Regional advances:

- **Increased awareness about health rights and a the need for a balanced environment;**
- **Better conceptual, methodological, and measurements tools are providing information about the complex environmental interactions;**
- **New and more effective legal instruments;**
- **Ownership of the topic by civil society and academia;**
- **New technological developments which are people and environment friendly**

Multiple Global crises

Social

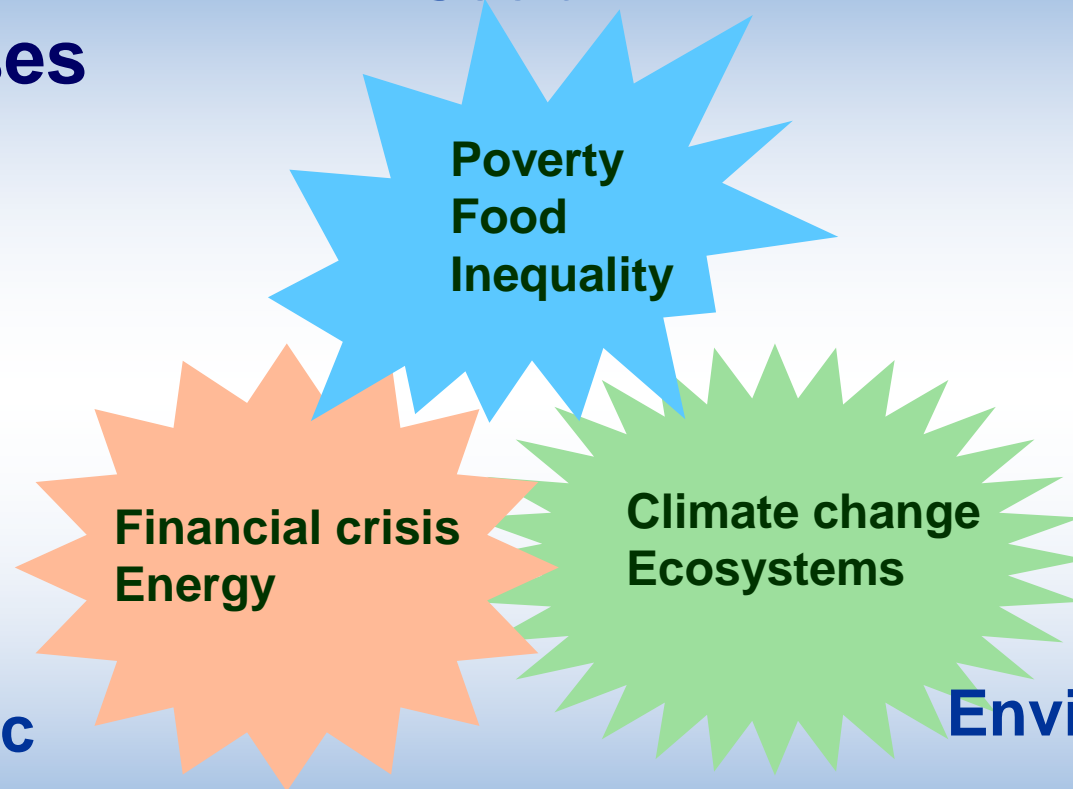
**Poverty
Food
Inequality**

**Financial crisis
Energy**

**Climate change
Ecosystems**

Economic

Environmental



Opportunities to contribute to the process

Address the gaps and their implications to health:

- **Continued loss of natural resources and biodiversity,**
- **Ecosystem damage beyond their recovery capacity;**
- **Prevalent poverty and inequalities;**
- **Unorganized urban growth;**
- **Insufficient adoption of green technologies;**
- **Fragmented, inconsistent, asynchronic responses by the relevant sectors**

Contributions to the Rio+20 Process:

PAHO expert consultation 2010

Work with the other institutions (IOM, NIEHS, FIOCRUZ, etc)

Participation in UN preparatory meetings (NY)

Input to UN Interagency regional report

Input to UN regional preparatory meetings with CEPAL

Side events in different venues (SCDH)

Linking separate agendas (NCDs, SDH, CSD)

Support to MOH to participate in the Rio +20 Process

Preparation of PAHO report

PAHO Strategy and Plan of Action

Opportunities for integrated action: Rio +20

- Secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development
- Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development
- Address new and emerging challenges

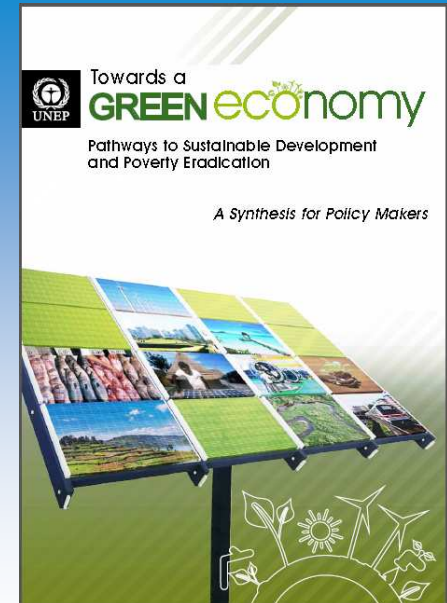


RIO+20

United Nations Conference
on Sustainable Development

Climate change in the context of Rio +20: provide input to discussions on the Green Economy

a green economy is one that results in *“improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”* UNEP, 2011



Green economy => climate change mitigation

“A green economy substitutes clean energy and low carbon technologies for fossil fuels, addressing climate change”



All for Equity

World Conference on Social Determinants of Health

RIO DE JANEIRO | BRAZIL | 19–21 OCTOBER 2011



World Health
Organization

Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health ***Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 21 October 2011***

1. Invited by the World Health Organization, we, Heads of Government, Ministers and government representatives came together on the 21st day of October 2011 in Rio de Janeiro to express our determination to achieve social and health equity through action on social determinants of health and well-being by a comprehensive intersectoral approach.

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16.4 World leaders will soon gather again here in Rio de Janeiro to consider how to meet the challenge of sustainable development laid down twenty years ago. This Political Declaration recognizes the important policies needed to achieve both sustainable development and health equity through acting on social determinants.

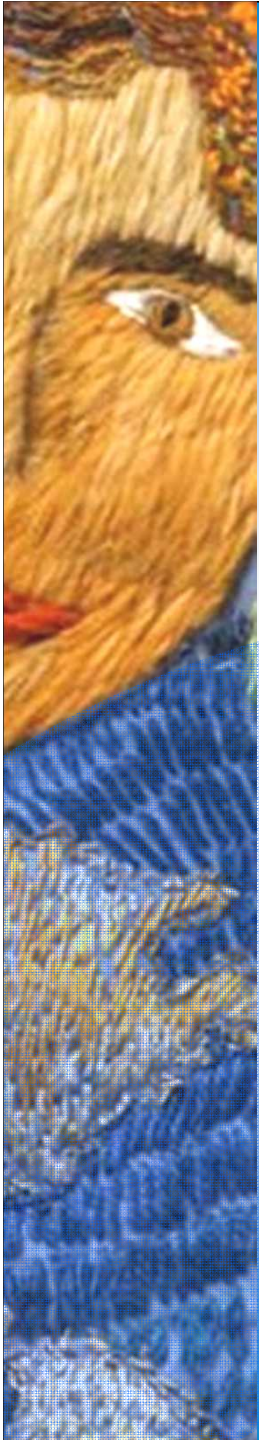
Define a new paradigm for fully integrating Health in Sustainable Development

Social

Health

Environmental

Economic



Global to local actions



We have only one Mother Earth

Acknowledgements:

“Pachamama”. Embroidery by the Brazilian group “Matizes Bordados Dumont”, based on an original design by Gilles Collette (PAHO), created as a visual identity for the theme of World Health Day 2008 “Protecting Health from Climate Change”