



Review

Health impact studies of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures – A scoping review

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ABSTRACT

Climate change affects both mental and physical health. Besides limiting the extent and consequences of climate change, mitigation and adaptation measures can have additional and potentially unintended health impacts. This scoping review outlines how health effects of climate mitigation and adaptation measures have been studied in the scientific literature. We conducted a systematic literature search in the databases PubMed, Scopus and Web of Science without time restriction. All peer-reviewed articles reporting quantified health impacts linked to specific climate change adaptation and mitigation measures were included. Overall, the 89 included articles considered only a narrow range of health determinants and health outcomes. Adaptation- and mitigation-related articles most frequently investigated the environmental health determinants air temperature and air pollution, respectively. Non-communicable diseases were predominantly studied while other relevant health outcome categories, such as mental health, food- and nutrition-related issues, and communicable diseases were rarely reported. The scarcity of studies focusing on the social health determinants and providing stratified health impacts among vulnerable population groups in assessments points to an inadequate consideration of health equity aspects. Increased efforts to quantify health impacts more comprehensively and to identify underlying vulnerability factors among specific population groups seem needed. This information could provide policymakers with more accurate evidence to address health equity aspects, limit adverse health impacts and promote health co-benefits of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

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1. Introduction

Climate change is one of the major environmental and human health challenges of the 21st century and adversely impacts both physical and mental health [1]. Action to respond to climate change, in the form of mitigation and adaptation measures, is urgently needed as the impacts of climate change are increasingly felt [2–4]. Climate change mitigation measures aim to lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the atmosphere, or remove them from the atmosphere, to curb future climate change [5]. Analogously, climate change adaptation measures aim to adjust to current and future climate change and limit its adverse effects [1]. Adaptation and mitigation measures can have intended and unintended health impacts [2,6–10], both positive and negative [11–14].

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Mitigation measures often have co-benefits on health. For example, measures targeting the transport sector, like vehicle emission standards [15], improved urban mass transport systems [16–18], or segregation of bicycle lanes from the road [19] can result in substantial health benefits mediated through changes in physical activity, noise, traffic and air pollution levels. Similarly, replacing coal-powered electricity production with renewable energy technologies has been shown to lower the disease burden from air pollution [20–24]. Acting through a different pathway, mitigation measures aimed at reducing dietary GHG emissions by replacing animal protein sources with plant-based proteins can reduce cancer and heart disease cases [25,26]. However, some mitigation measures can also have unintended negative health consequences. For example, while an increase in the share of electric vehicles might result in a reduction of direct greenhouse gas emissions from road transport, the necessary increase in energy production might come with an increase in air pollution, depending on the energy source [13].

Similarly, adaptation measures can affect health through various pathways. For instance, adaptation measures such as increasing

urban tree cover [27–31], increasing surface reflectivity by increasing building roof albedo [29,32,33], implementation of air conditioning [14,34] and early warning systems [35–37] all aim to reduce negative health effects of heat exposure. Furthermore, the provision of temporary shelters to flood victims and forecast-triggered cash grants to flood-prone communities, can help to alleviate the adverse health impacts from floods [38,39]. Some adaptation measures can have unintended adverse health impacts, e.g. the use of air conditioning for heat adaptation can increase the emission of air pollutants potentially causing respiratory disease [14,40].

More knowledge about the health effects of climate action is urgently needed, as it can provide additional motivation to implement more stringent climate action, help to uncover underlying health inequities and support policymakers to limit adverse health impacts and promote health co-benefits [41–43]. A recent review by WHO found an increasing number of articles on the topic of climate change and health but concluded that knowledge on health impacts of climate measures is lacking, especially regarding impacts on vulnerable communities [44]. It remains unclear which specific health determinants and outcomes are considered in the scientific literature on health impacts of climate measures. Therefore, the purpose of this review was to address this knowledge gap by mapping the existing scientific body of literature, a task for which the scoping review methodology is well-suited [45]. The objective of this scoping review is to investigate which health determinants and health outcomes are considered by scientific articles that quantify the health impacts of climate measures and whether the investigated health impacts are reported in a specific or stratified manner.

2. Methods

As the overarching methodological framework, we followed the scoping review methodology outlined in the frameworks of Arksey and O'Malley and Levac and colleagues [45,46]. This scoping review follows the reporting guidelines set out in the “Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR): Checklist and Explanation” [47].

2.1. Search terms and strategy

With the aim of providing policymakers with a decision basis that is specific as possible, we limited our search to articles that report quantified health impacts, since they can provide comparable metrics for decision making between climate adaptation and mitigation measures. The search string used for the literature search was adapted from the work of Ammann and colleagues [48], who conducted a scoping review on health impact assessment and climate change. The search strategy (Table A1) was developed jointly by the author team and consists of three search blocks related to: (i) climate change; (ii) adaptation and mitigation; and (iii) health. The final search strategy was checked and approved by the authors. The electronic literature databases PubMed, Scopus and Web of Science were searched for relevant articles, without applying language, spatial or time restrictions. While the search string was not translated into other languages, identified articles written in English, French or German were included, in line with the reading comprehension of A.L. and D.D. The search string was adapted to the specific technical requirements of each database and document type filters were applied (Table A1), except for the PubMed database, where the available filters were deemed too restrictive. The online literature search was conducted on March 9, 2022. Articles unavailable online by that date were not considered in this scoping review.

2.2. Literature screening

The following definitions for adaptation and mitigation measures were applied throughout the screening stages: (1) climate change mitigation measures aim to lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the atmosphere, or remove them from the atmosphere, to curb future climate change [5]; (2) climate change adaptation measures aim to adjust to current and future climate change and limit its adverse effects [1]. After the literature search, duplicates were removed using the reference manager Zotero version 5.0.96.3 (RRCHNM, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA). The titles and abstracts of the obtained articles were screened independently by A. L. and D.D. by applying a set of pre-defined inclusion criteria (Table 1). For this step, the web-based application “Rayyan” [49] was used. Conflicts regarding in-/exclusion of articles were discussed between A.L. and D.D. until consensus was reached. During the full text screening A.L. applied a set of pre-defined inclusion criteria (Table 1) and D. D. provided assistance in case of uncertainties. Consensus regarding in-/exclusion was reached in all cases.

2.3. Data analysis

The data extraction spreadsheet was designed by A.L. and D.D. using MS Excel version 2021 (Microsoft Office 365, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA, USA). Data from the first five to ten included articles was extracted independently by A.L. and D.D. to cross-validate the approach to data extraction, as outlined in the work of Levac and colleagues [45]. Data extraction from the remaining articles was extracted by A.L. and D.D. was consulted in cases of uncertainty. Article information on the following variables was extracted: (i) article characteristics; (ii) investigated climate change adaptation and mitigation measure(s); (iii) investigated health determinants and health outcomes (see

Table A2 for more detail on the variables and Table A6 for the full data extraction spreadsheet). Health determinants and health outcomes were categorized based on the typology developed by Dietler and colleagues [50]. Countries were categorized according to the World Bank's income level classifications [51]. Categorization of the climate change measures was based on the adapted typology from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (Tables A3 and A4) [1,52].

3. Results

3.1. Overview

In total, 8477 articles were identified through the literature search (Fig. 1). After removing 3862 duplicates, 4535 articles were included for the title and abstract screening. Based on this first screening step

Table 1

Inclusion criteria applied during the title and abstract screening and the full-text screening of the articles identified through the literature search.

| Screening stage | Inclusion criteria |
|---------------------|--|
| T&A screening | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on climate change adaptation or mitigation measure(s) • Discussion of health impacts |
| Full text screening | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer-reviewed research article • Full-text accessible and written in English, French or German • Focus on at least one specific climate change adaptation or mitigation measure embedded in a policy or strategy • Quantification health impact(s) associated with the climate change adaptation or mitigation measure(s) in non-monetary terms |

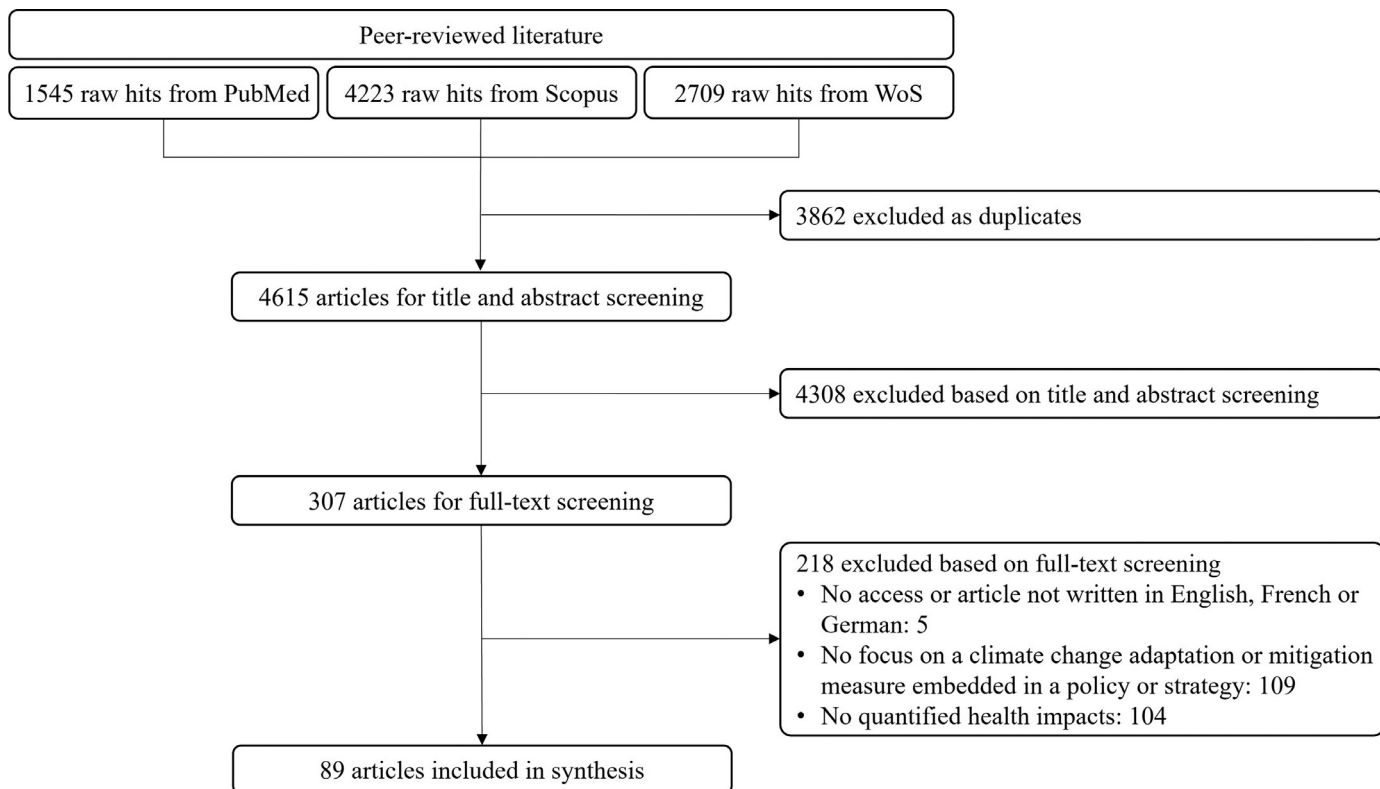


Fig. 1. PRISMA flow chart of the literature search and subsequent screening process. WoS = Web of Science.

4615 articles were excluded while 307 articles remained for the full-text screening. At this stage, 218 articles were excluded, ultimately leaving 89 articles for data synthesis. While systematic reviews were not excluded a priori, no systematic review was included in the study sample. All included articles are listed in Table A5.

3.2. Article characteristics

In total, 56 (63%) and 33 (37%) articles focused on mitigation and adaptation measures, respectively. The first mitigation- and

adaptation-related articles were published in 2001 and 2012, respectively (Fig. 2). Most articles (n = 77, 87%) were published from 2014 onwards.

A small share of articles (n = 6, 7%) only provided aggregated estimates of health impacts covering multiple countries [25,53–57], while the vast majority (n = 83, 93%) provided quantified estimates of health impacts for at least one specific country, covering a total of 35 different countries (Fig. 3 Panel A). In 9 (10%) articles, country-specific health impact estimates were provided for two or more specific countries. There was a clear pattern in the geographic distribution of

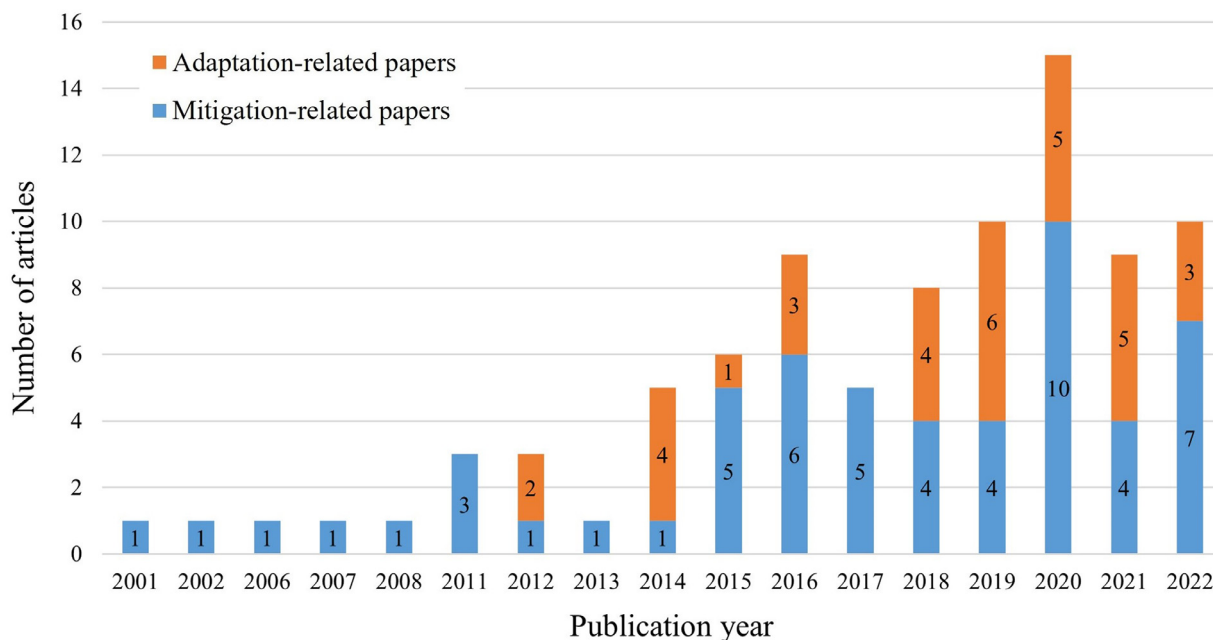


Fig. 2. Included articles (n = 89) published over time since publication of the first included article. Years during which no articles were published are not shown in the figure.

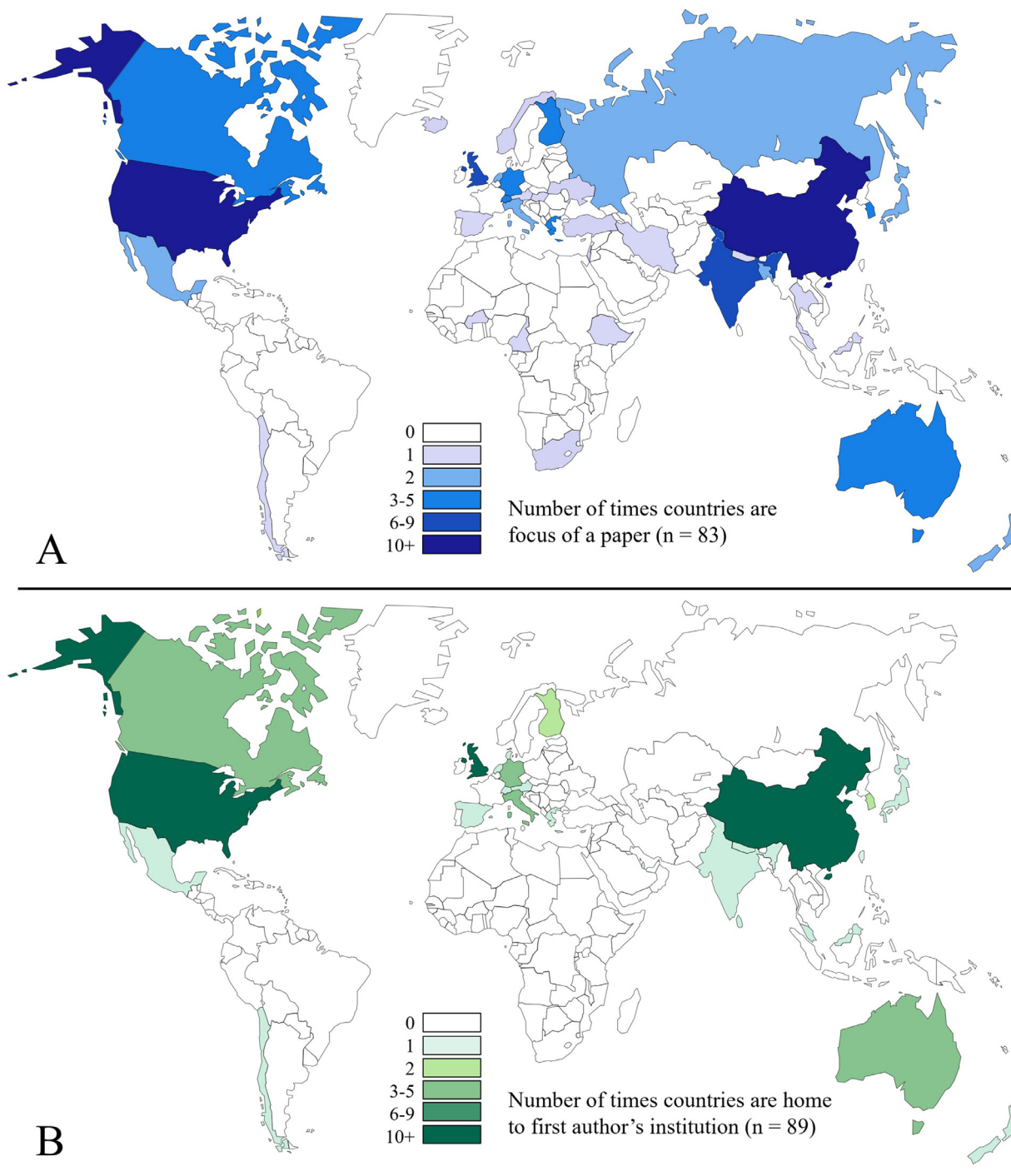


Fig. 3. World map showing the geographic distribution of (A) study countries of articles reporting at least one country-specific quantified health impact and (B) first authors' main institution countries.

study countries and first authors' institutions. The majority of articles focused on and were written by researchers based in high-income countries (HICs). Of the 83 articles included in Fig. 3 panel A, 56 (63%) focused on at least one HIC, 22 (25%) on one or more upper-middle income country (UMIC), 12 (15%) on one or more lower-middle income country (LMIC) and 1 (1%) article on a low-income country (LIC).

Panel B in Fig. 3 shows the geographic distribution of the first author's main institution. The first authors' main institutions are located in 26 different countries. Notably, 82% (n = 73) of all first authors were based in HICs, while only 13% (n = 13) and 3% (n = 3) authors were from institutions based in UMICs and LMICs,

respectively, while none of the first authors were based in a LIC. The United States of America, China and the United Kingdom were not only the countries most frequently studied (24, 16 and 8 times, respectively), but also accounted for most of first authors (31, 10 and 12, respectively).

3.3. Investigated mitigation and adaptation measures

The 56 mitigation-related articles quantified the health impacts of a total of 181 mitigation measures from 32 different measure categories (Fig. 4). The measures targeted the energy (n = 60, 33%), transport (n = 58, 32%) and buildings (n = 27, 15%) sectors most, while the

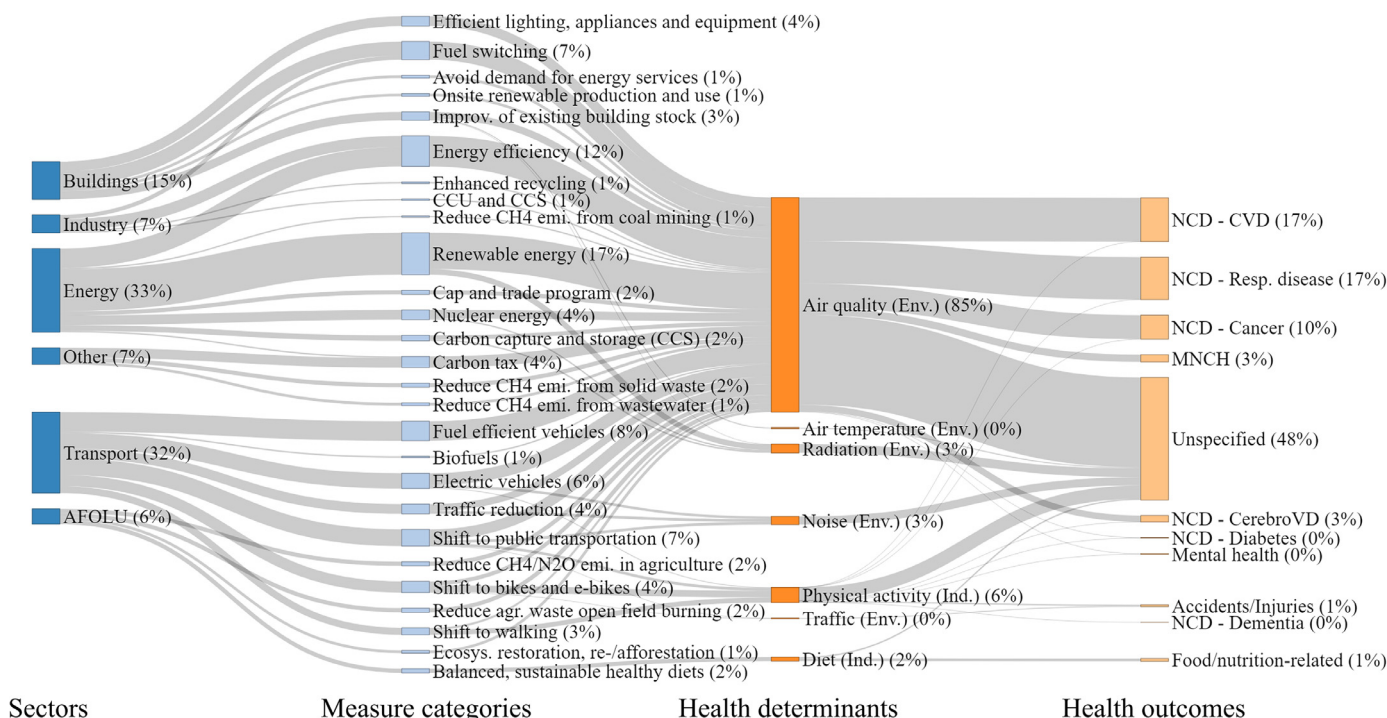


Fig. 4. Sankey diagram of mitigation measures and related health determinants and health outcomes. In the first two columns, the measures are categorized according to sector and measure types based on the adapted IPCC typology (Table A3). In the last two columns, health determinants and outcomes are based on the typology from [50]. The percentages refer to the share of the total number of measures (note that due to rounding a percentage can be zero, although the corresponding width of the bar is merely close to zero). The width of the bars in the columns “Health determinants” and “Health outcomes” is weighted by the number of total health determinant/outcome categories considered for each measure. For example, if a study assessed impacts of a specific measure on two health outcomes, the width of each bar is divided by two. AFOLU = agriculture, forestry and other land use; agr. = agricultural; CCS = carbon capture and storage; CCU = carbon capture with utilization; CerebroVD = cerebrovascular disease; ecosys. = ecosystem; emi. = emissions; env. = environmental; improv. = improvement; ind. = individual; inst. = institutional; MNCH = maternal, neonatal and child health; NCD = non-communicable disease; resp. = respiratory.

remaining sectors industry (13, 7%), other (12, 7%) and agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) ($n = 11$, 6%) are each targeted by less than one in ten measures. The most frequently investigated measures (sector in brackets) are renewable energy (energy, $n = 30$, 17%), fuel efficient vehicles (transport, $n = 14$, 8%), electric vehicles (energy, $n = 11$, 6%), and fuel switching (buildings, $n = 10$, 6%).

Taken together, the 33 adaptation-related articles quantified the health impacts of a total of 43 adaptation measures from 11 different measure categories (Fig. 5). The most frequently investigated measures (system in brackets) are green infrastructure and services ($n = 10$, 23%), albedo increase, incl. cool roofs ($n = 8$, 19%) and climate services, including early warning systems ($n = 5$, 12%).

3.4. Studied health determinants and outcomes

Regarding health impacts, 65 (73%) articles found only positive and 5 (6%) articles only negative health impacts, while 14 (16%) articles found both positive and negative health impacts of the investigated climate change measures (Table A6). Health impacts were categorized based on the nature of the health outcome, meaning that for example a decrease in deaths is considered positive health impact while an increase in disease cases is considered a negative impact. In the remaining 5 (6%) articles, there was uncertainty concerning the direction and magnitude of health impacts associated with the investigated climate measures.

Regarding the nature of the reported health impacts, around half ($n = 44$, 49%) of articles reported only mortality-related quantified health impacts, e.g. avoided or excess premature deaths. Over a fifth of articles ($n = 19$, 21%) reported only morbidity related impacts, which were quantified using a plethora of indicators such as disability-adjusted life years, disease cases, number of hospitalizations, number of intensive care unit admissions and scores on standardized

scales. The remaining 26 articles (30%) reported both mortality and morbidity quantified health impact estimates.

3.4.1. Health determinants

Overall, most ($n = 79$, 89%) articles reported environmental health determinants in connection with health impacts, while individual, institutional and social health determinants were reported 9 (10%), 5 (6%), 6 (7%) times, respectively (Table A6). A minority of articles ($n = 10$, 11%) reported multiple health determinants responsible for health impacts.

Health impacts resulting from the investigated mitigation measures were most frequently associated with the environmental health determinant air quality ($n = 154$, 85%), followed by the individual health determinant physical activity ($n = 11$, 6%) (Fig. 4). Frequently encountered mitigation measures impacting air quality included for example replacement of energy from coal by renewable energy sources or implementation of a carbon tax. A typical measure that impacted physical activity levels was the shift from individual motorized vehicles to bicycles.

Health impacts resulting from the investigated adaptation measures ($n = 43$) were most frequently associated with the environmental health determinant air temperature ($n = 24$, 55%), followed by the institutional health determinant capacity of health care system ($n = 6$, 14%). Encountered adaptation measures impacting air temperature included, among others, urban greening and reflective cool roofs, while for measures targeting the capacity of health care system early warning systems for heat were typical.

3.4.2. Health outcomes

While just over half of articles ($n = 46$, 52%) reported specific health outcomes responsible for the reported health effects, the

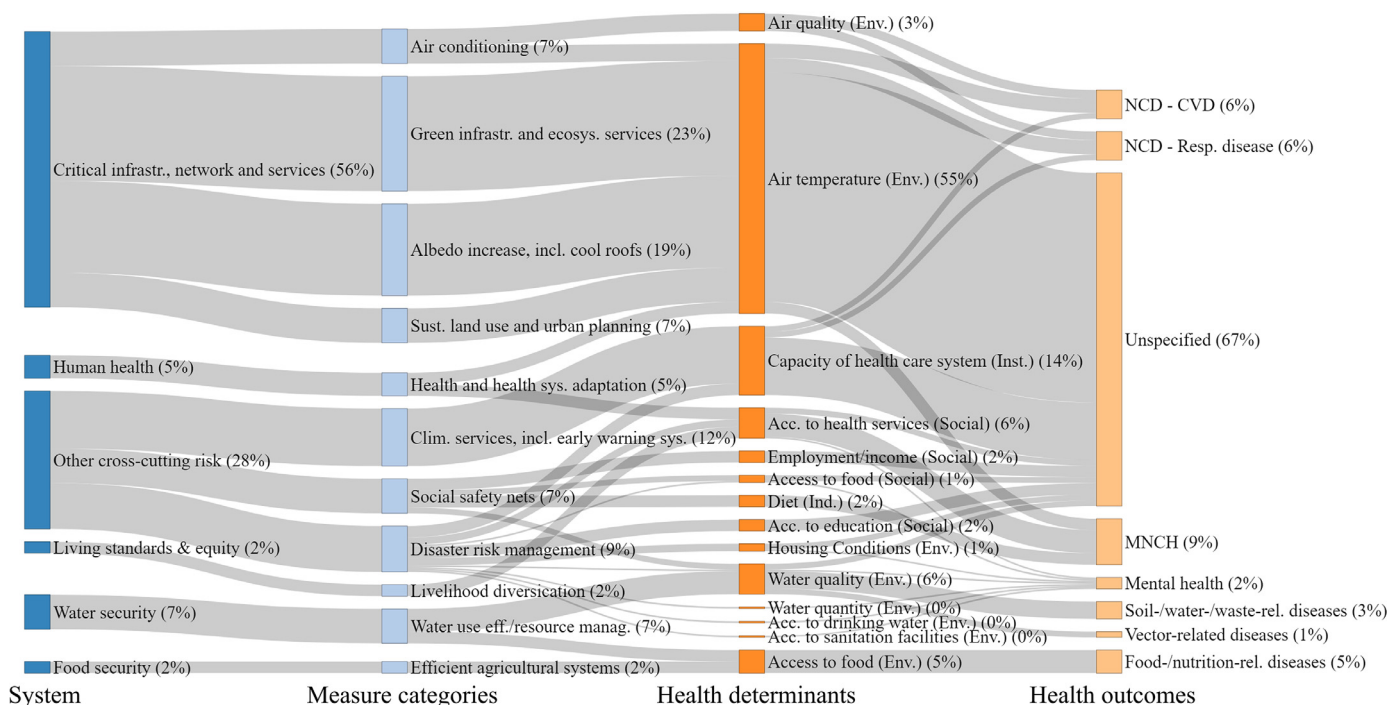


Fig. 5. Sankey diagram of adaptation measures and related health determinants and outcomes. In the first two columns, the measures are categorized according to system and measure types based on the adapted IPCC typology (Table A4). In the last two columns, health determinants and outcomes are based on the typology from [50]. The percentages refer to the share of the total number of measures (note that due to rounding a percentage can be zero, although the corresponding width of the bar is merely close to zero). The width of the bars in the columns “Health determinants” and “Health outcomes” is weighted by the number of total health determinant/outcome categories considered for each measure. For example, if a study assessed impacts of a specific measure on two health outcomes, the width of each bar is divided by two. acc. = access; ecosys. = ecosystem; eff. = efficiency; env. = environmental; incl. = including; ind. = individual; infrastr. = infrastructure; inst. = institutional; manag. = management; MNCH = maternal, neonatal and child health; rel. = related; resp. = respiratory sys. = systems.

remaining articles ($n = 43$, 48%) provided more general health impacts in the form of mortality or morbidity estimates without specifying the associated health outcomes (Fig. A1). Among the articles reporting specific health outcomes, 72% ($n = 33$) and 28% ($n = 13$) were mitigation- and adaptation-related articles, respectively.

Fig. 4 shows that collectively, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) were by far reported most often in connection with the investigated mitigation measures, followed by maternal, neonatal and child health health outcomes. Fig. 5 shows that NCDs also were most frequently reported in connection with adaptation measures, followed by maternal, neonatal and child health outcomes. Other health outcomes were rarely found by both adaptation- and mitigation-related articles. Among the NCDs, respiratory tract-related health outcomes and cardiovascular diseases were found most frequently (Fig. A1).

Around a sixth of articles ($n = 15$, 17%) reported at least one quantified health outcome in a stratified way, i.e. providing a health outcome for at least two distinct sub-populations. Health outcomes were most frequently stratified according to age ($n = 13$, 15%). A small minority of articles ($n = 5$, 6%) provided quantified health outcomes stratified according to a different variable, e.g. socio-economic status ($n = 3$), education ($n = 2$), marital status ($n = 2$), occupation ($n = 2$), sex ($n = 2$), or health ($n = 1$, i.e. presence/absence of disease).

4. Discussion

In this scoping review 89 articles reporting quantified health impacts of specific climate change adaptation and mitigation measures were identified and subsequently analyzed. The environmental health determinants air quality and air temperature were most frequently investigated, while reported health outcomes were mostly related to NCDs. Other relevant health determinants and outcomes

were underrepresented in our sample. Only around half of articles reported specific health outcomes, which were mostly mortality-related, whereas morbidity-related impacts were assessed less frequently. Stratification of health impacts to sub-populations was done by a minority of articles. We identified an underrepresentation of LMICs and LICs among the study countries.

4.1. Focus on environmental health determinants and NCDs

The environmental health determinants air temperature and air quality were reported most by adaptation- and mitigation-related articles, respectively. This pattern was also found by other studies in the field of climate change and health [48,58]. This finding may also reflect the health burden associated with these factors, given that air pollution is the environmental health determinant associated with the highest mortality burden [59,60] and considering the increasing frequency and intensity of heat waves [3]. The relevance of these health determinants is expected to further increase with ongoing urbanization [61], which will likely result in increased air pollution and a stronger urban heat island effect [62,63]. Furthermore, air pollution and heat cause a variety of NCDs, such as cardiovascular and respiratory diseases [64–66]. In light of the global epidemiological transition towards NCDs [59], the increased recognition of NCD-related health co-benefits from climate action is promising to promote the implementation of stringent climate measures.

4.2. Narrow scope of considered health outcomes

Other health outcomes besides NCDs, such as mental health, food- and nutrition-related issues and communicable diseases, are underrepresented, which could be partly due to the observed scarcity of measures aiming at the AFOLU sector and water and food security systems. However, these health issues are strongly affected by

climate change and related measures. For instance, climate change might pose the greatest risk to mental health in this century [67], particularly for vulnerable groups such as children and the elderly [1,44]. Nonetheless, mental health outcomes are rarely considered in the literature on climate change measures and health [44,68]. Moreover, food- and nutrition-related issues are linked to lower food production and access [1], for example due to slow adoption of climate resilient farming practices [69]. In addition, replacing animal proteins with plant-sourced proteins in the diet can reduce GHG emissions and have positive effects on health [70–72]. Lastly, climate change is influencing the prevalence of communicable diseases, including water-related diseases [1,73], vector-borne diseases [74,75] and zoonoses [1,76]. Consequently, a more comprehensive consideration of potential health outcomes in impact assessments of climate measures would reflect the associated health effects more accurately. In addition, reporting impacts on both mortality and morbidity of specific health outcomes would reveal the full potential co-benefits and risks relevant for policymaking.

4.3. Underrepresentation of lower income groups

As a consequence of the identified underrepresentation of LMICs and LICs among study countries, the investigated health outcomes are strongly oriented towards higher income countries. This underrepresentation has been observed in other recent studies [44,48]. Lower income countries generally have weaker public systems than higher income countries, resulting in a high vulnerability to the impacts of climate change [1,77]. Projected rapid population growth and continuing urbanization will put additional strain on these public systems, such as water and food systems and exacerbate existing vulnerabilities [1,78,79]. Examples include an increased heat burden, due to the heat island effect [80], and increased air pollution [81], resulting from increased urban traffic. Therefore, the implementation of adaptation and mitigation measures and the evaluation of their impacts on health is particularly pertinent to support climate-resilient sustainable development in the underrepresented lower income areas [1,52]. An increased understanding of the health impacts of climate action in these contexts could provide policymakers with urgently needed evidence to foster their health co-benefits and to promote global health equity.

4.4. Lack of consideration of underlying vulnerability factors

On a smaller scale, the observed underrepresentation of social health determinants and lack of health impact stratification have further implications for health equity and climate justice [82]. Social health determinants, such as employment/income [83], access to health services [39,84] and education [85], can influence the vulnerability level of individuals and communities to the impacts of climate change [52]. Therefore, consistent inclusion of social health determinants in assessments would increase our understanding of the underlying drivers of climate justice. To promote health equity among affected populations, the most vulnerable groups must be identified [1]. This could be accomplished by stratification of health impacts according to relevant factors, such as socio-economic (e.g. income) and demographic parameters (e.g. age) [86]. For example, by stratifying the health impacts Vargo and colleagues showed that both the oldest and the poorest population groups profit most from an intervention aimed at lowering summer temperature by increasing the amount of vegetation [87]. Taken together, a better understanding of the effects of the social health determinants among vulnerable populations would allow policymakers to design climate change adaptation and mitigation measures that promote health equity and climate justice.

4.5. Strengths and limitations

The focus of this scoping review on climate change adaptation and mitigation measures with quantified health impacts allowed for novel insights, thereby adding to the scientific literature on the climate change and health topic. Considering the broad search terminology applied and the variety of literature databases searched it is likely that a large share of the relevant peer-reviewed literature was identified. Nonetheless, this article has several limitations that must be considered. Firstly, the search strategy is likely to have missed relevant articles that do not specifically refer to adaptation or mitigation measures in the title and abstract. However, given the wide range of possible adaptation and mitigation measures, specifying all potential measures was out of scope for this scoping review and would certainly have proved challenging, as new climate measures are designed constantly. Secondly, as the search terms were not translated to other languages it is likely that we missed some relevant literature, especially literature studying the underrepresented regions Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa, where scientific literature might be mainly published in Arabic, French or Spanish. Thirdly, grey literature was not considered in this review. Therefore, some relevant literature was likely not identified. Lastly, a quality appraisal of the included articles was not conducted, which is typical for scoping reviews [45,46]. As our aim was to determine if and to what extent health impacts were assessed we feel it would have added little merit to the present scoping review.

5. Conclusion

In our sample of 89 articles studying health impacts of climate measures, we observed a scarcity of publications from or focusing on LMICs and LICs. Overall, the included articles had a narrow scope of considered health determinants and health outcomes with a strong focus on environmental health determinants, such as air quality and air temperature, and NCDs, respectively. The lack of social health determinants and stratified health impacts in assessments point to an inadequate consideration of health equity aspects. In order to provide a solid evidence base for policymaking, increased efforts to quantify health impacts more comprehensively and to identify potentially vulnerable populations seem needed. Such information would be critical for policymakers to adequately address health equity aspects, limit adverse health impacts and promote health co-benefits of climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Axel Luyten: Conceptualization, Methodology, Formal analysis, Writing – original draft, Visualization, Writing – review & editing. **Mirko S. Winkler:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Writing – review & editing, Supervision, Funding acquisition. **Priska Ammann:** Writing – review & editing. **Dominik Dietler:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Formal analysis, Writing – review & editing, Supervision.

Appendix A

Fig. A1.

Table A1

Search strings used for each database searched.

| Database | Search string | Result filters employed |
|----------------|--|--|
| PubMed | ((("climate change"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("global warming"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("climate"[Title/Abstract] AND "change"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("climate"[Title/Abstract] AND "changing"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("climate"[Title/Abstract] AND "warming"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("Climate Change" [Mesh]) OR ("Global Warming" [Mesh]) OR ("climate crisis"[Title/Abstract])) AND (("adaption"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("mitigation"[Title/Abstract]) OR ("adaptation"[Title/Abstract])) AND (("health"[Title/Abstract])) | - |
| Scopus | ((("climate change" OR "global warming" OR ("climate" AND "change") OR ("climate" AND "changing") OR ("climate" AND "warming") OR "climate crisis") AND ("adaption" OR "mitigation" OR "adaptation") AND ("health")) | Document type filters: • Article • Review |
| Web of Science | (TI = ("climate change" OR "global warming" OR ("climate" AND "change") OR ("climate" AND "changing") OR ("climate" AND "warming") OR "climate crisis") AND (TI = ("health")) AND (TI = ("adaption" OR "mitigation" OR "adaptation"))) OR (AB = ("climate change" OR "global warming" OR ("climate" AND "change") OR ("climate" AND "changing") OR ("climate" AND "warming") OR "climate crisis") AND (AB = ("health")) AND (AB = ("adaption" OR "mitigation" OR "adaptation"))) OR (AK = ("climate change" OR "global warming" OR ("climate" AND "change") OR ("climate" AND "changing") OR ("climate" AND "warming") OR "climate crisis") AND (AK = ("health")) AND (AK = ("adaption" OR "mitigation" OR "adaptation"))) | Document types filters: • Articles • Review Articles |

Table A2

Data extraction categories.

| Data extraction categories | Options |
|--|--|
| <i>Article characteristics</i> | |
| Main author | - |
| Article title | - |
| Year of publication | - |
| Country of first author's main institution | - |
| Study country/ies | - |
| <i>Climate change adaptation and mitigation measures</i> | See Tables A3 and A4 |
| Measure focus | Adaptation or mitigation |
| <i>Health determinants and Health Impacts</i> | |
| Nature of health impacts | Positive, negative or no impact |
| Health impacts reported | Morbidity or mortality |
| Health determinants responsible for health impacts (main categories) | Environmental; Individual; Social; Institutional |
| Health determinants responsible for health impacts (sub-categories) | Access to health services; Access to traditional health services; Access to education; Access to food, Employment/income; Air quality; Water quality; Water quantity; Access to drinking water; Access to sanitation facilities; Soil quality; Noise; Traffic; Housing conditions; Waste management; Migration; Capacity of health care system; Capacity of maternal and child health services; Capacity of education facilities |
| Health outcomes (main categories) | Accidents/Injuries; Communicable diseases related to housing and overcrowding; Food- and nutrition-related issues; Maternal, neonatal and child health; Mental health; Non-communicable diseases; Sexual and reproductive health; Soil-, water- and waste-related diseases; Vector-related diseases; Zoonoses |
| NCD health outcomes (sub-categories) | Cancer; CVD; Dementia; Diabetes; Respiratory tract-related |
| Stratification of health outcome | Yes/no |
| - If yes: stratified indicator | - |

Table A3

United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment Report 6 mitigation measures typology (adapted). Sectors are in bold and italic and added/adapted measures are in italic font. The numbers in the right column "Articles" refer to the list of peer-reviewed articles included in the scoping review ([Table A5](#)) and indicate which articles investigated the corresponding measure in the first column.

| Measures (per sector) | Articles |
|---|---|
| Energy | |
| Renewable energy (created by merging the existing categories "Wind energy", "Solar energy", "Bioelectricity", "Hydropower" and "Geothermal energy") | 4, 13, 14, 15, 19, 27, 30, 34, 35, 43, 51, 52, 53, 56, 58, 63, 77, 78, 88 |
| Nuclear energy | 32, 34, 43, 57, 58, 77, 84 |
| Carbon capture and storage (CCS) | 7, 34, 41, 78 |
| Bioelectricity with CCS | - |
| Reduce CH4 emission from coal mining | 3 |
| Reduce CH4 emission from oil and gas | - |
| Energy efficiency* | 16, 27, 30, 35, 40, 53, 54, 57, 59, 62, 63, 78, 81, 88 |
| Cap and trade program* | 41, 55, 62 |
| <i>Agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU)</i> | |
| Carbon sequestration in agriculture | - |
| Reduce CH4 and N2O emission in agriculture | 3, 35, 51 |
| Reduced conversion of forests and other ecosystems | - |
| Ecosystem restoration, afforestation, reforestation | 51, 77 |
| Improved sustainable forest management | - |
| Reduce food loss and food waste | - |
| Shift to balanced, sustainable healthy diets | 29, 60, 72 |
| Reduce open field burning of agricultural waste* | 3, 35, 51 |
| <i>Buildings</i> | |
| Avoid demand for energy services | 29, 30 |
| Efficient lighting, appliances and equipment | 3, 6, 16, 30, 35 |

(continued)

Table A3 (Continued)

| Measures (per sector) | Articles |
|--|--|
| Energy | |
| New buildings with high energy performance | - |
| Onsite renewable production and use | 30, 77 |
| Improvement of existing building stock | 4, 29, 30, 63, 77, 82 |
| Enhanced use of wood products | - |
| Fuel switching* | 4, 15, 29, 30, 35, 37, 54, 61, 63, 82 |
| Transport | |
| Fuel efficient vehicles (created by merging the existing categories “Fuel efficient light duty vehicles” and “Fuel efficient heavy duty vehicles”) | 3, 4, 15, 16, 21, 27, 29, 30, 35, 47, 51, 54, 63, 67 |
| Electric vehicles (created by merging the existing categories “Electric light duty vehicles” and “Electric heavy duty vehicles, incl. buses”) | 11, 15, 30, 51, 56, 63, 66, 77, 80, 85, 87 |
| Shift to public transportation | 11, 16, 18, 21, 30, 36, 51, 66, 70, 77, 85, 88 |
| Shift to bikes and e-bikes | 21, 29, 30, 45, 63, 70, 77, 85 |
| Shipping – efficiency and optimization | - |
| Aviation – energy efficiency | - |
| Biofuels | 15 |
| Traffic reduction (including car fleet size reduction)* | 11, 21, 27, 30, 63, 80, 87 |
| Shift to walking* | 29, 30, 63, 77, 85 |
| Industry | |
| Energy efficiency | 3, 16, 20, 35, 38, 51, 54, 88 |
| Material efficiency | - |
| Enhanced recycling | 77 |
| Fuel switching (electr., nat. gas, bio-energy, H2) | 16, 43, 51 |
| Feedstock decarbonization, process change | - |
| Carbon capture with utilisation (CCU) and CCS | 78 |
| Cementitious material substitution | - |
| Reduction of non-CO2 emissions | - |
| Other | |
| Reduce emission of fluorinated gas | - |
| Reduce CH4 emissions from solid waste | 3, 15, 51 |
| Reduce CH4 emissions from wastewater | 3, 51 |
| Carbon tax* | 5, 13, 14, 19, 22, 43, 58, 59 |

* added measures

Table A4

United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessment Report 6 adaptation measures typology (adapted). Main categories (called “System transitions”) are in bold and italic and sub-categories (called “Representative key risks”) in italic font. Measures are listed in the middle column. The numbers in the right column “Articles” refer to the list of peer-reviewed articles included in the scoping review (Table A5) and indicate which articles investigated the corresponding measure in the middle column.

| Categories | Measures | Articles |
|---|--|--|
| Land and ocean ecosystems | | |
| <i>Coastal socio-ecological systems</i> | Coastal defence and hardening | - |
| | Integrated coastal zone management | - |
| <i>Terrestrial and ocean ecosystem services</i> | Forest-based adaptation | - |
| | Sustainable aquaculture and fisheries | - |
| | Agroforestry | - |
| | Biodiversity management and ecosystem connectivity | - |
| <i>Water security</i> | Water use efficiency and water resource management | 9, 71, 75 |
| <i>Food security</i> | Improved cropland management | - |
| | Efficient livestock systems | - |
| | Efficient agricultural systems* | 75 |
| Urban infrastructure systems | | |
| <i>Critical infrastructure, network and services</i> | Green infrastructure and ecosystem services | 10, 24, 46, 64, 65, 68, 69, 73, 74, 83 |
| | Sustainable land use and urban planning | 73, 79, 83 |
| | Sustainable urban water management | - |
| | Air conditioning* | 1, 12, 33 |
| | Albedo increase (including cool roofs)* | 24, 26, 28, 44, 65, 73, 74, 76 |
| Energy systems | | |
| <i>Water security</i> | Improve water use efficiency | - |
| <i>Critical infrastructure, networks and services</i> | Resilient power systems | - |
| | Energy reliability | - |
| Cross-sectoral | | |
| <i>Human health</i> | Health and health systems adaptation | 8, 31 |
| <i>Living standards and equity</i> | Livelihood diversification | 8 |
| <i>Peace and human mobility</i> | Planned relocation and resettlement | - |
| | Human migration | - |
| <i>Other cross-cutting risks</i> | Disaster risk management | 17, 48, 86, 89 |
| | Climate services, including early warning systems | 17, 25, 42, 49, 50 |
| | Social safety nets | 2, 23, 42 |
| | Risk spreading and sharing | - |

* Added measures.

Table A5

List of included peer-reviewed articles (n = 89).

| | Refs. |
|----|---|
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Table A6

Data extraction table. The article numbering in the first column corresponds to the numbering in the list of articles included in the sample in Table A5. A. = adaptation; CVD = cardiovascular disease; cerebroVD = cerebrovascular disease; env. = environmental; ind. = individual; inst. = institutional; HDs = health determinants; NCD = non-communicable disease; MNCH = maternal, neonatal and child health; M. = mitigation.

| Nr. | Author | Year of publication | First author's institution country | Study country/ies | Measure focus | Nature of health impacts | Mortality/morbidity reported | HDs (main categories) | HDs (sub-categories) connected to health impacts | Categorization of health outcomes | Health outcome stratification |
|-----|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | Abel | 2018 | USA | USA | A. | Negative | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 2 | Aguilar | 2022 | Mexico | Mexico | A. | Neutral | Morbidity | Ind. | Diet | MNCH | - |
| 3 | Anenberg | 2012 | USA | Global | M. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 4 | Asikainen | 2017 | Finland | Finland | M. | Neutral | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 5 | Bahn | 2008 | Canada | Global | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | MNCH | - |
| 6 | Bailey | 2019 | USA | Greece | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | Socio-economic status |
| 7 | Banacloche | 2022 | Spain | Mexico | M. | Negative | Morbidity | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer) | - |
| 8 | Banerjee | 2019 | United Kingdom | India | A. | Positive | Mortality | Social | Access to health services | MNCH | - |
| 9 | Boelee | 2012 | Sri Lanka | Burkina Faso, Ethiopia | A. | Negative | Morbidity | Env. | Water quality | Soil-, water- and waste-related diseases; Vector-related diseases | - |
| 10 | Boumans | 2014 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 11 | Braubach | 2015 | Germany | Germany | M. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Noise | Unspecified | - |
| 12 | Buchin | 2016 | Germany | Germany | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 13 | Buonocore | 2018 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 14 | Buonocore | 2016 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 15 | Chae | 2011 | South Korea | South Korea | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 16 | Cifuentes | 2001 | Chile | Chile | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | MNCH; NCD (CVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 17 | de'Donato | 2018 | Italy | Italy | A. | Positive | Mortality | Inst. | Capacity of health care system | Unspecified | - |
| 18 | Diallo | 2016 | Switzerland | Switzerland | M. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Noise | Unspecified | - |
| 19 | Dimanchev | 2019 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 20 | Fang | 2002 | China | China | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 21 | Farzaneh | 2019 | Japan | Iran | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 22 | Garcia-Menendez | 2015 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 23 | Gros | 2019 | Netherlands | Bangladesh | A. | Positive | Morbidity | Env.; Social | Access to food; Water quality | Mental health; Soil-, water- and waste related diseases | - |
| 24 | Haddad | 2020 | Australia | Australia | A. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | Age |
| 25 | Heo | 2019 | USA | South Korea | A. | Positive | Both | Inst. | Capacity of health care system | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | Age; Education; Marital status; Occupation; Sex |
| 26 | Hondula | 2014 | USA | USA | A. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 27 | Hsieh | 2022 | Taiwan | China | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 28 | Jandaghian | 2021 | Canada | Canada | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 29 | Jensen | 2013 | Denmark | United Kingdom | M. | Positive | Both | Env.; Ind. | Air quality; Diet; Physical activity | Unspecified | Age |

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Table A6 (Continued)

| Nr. | Author | Year of publication | First author's institution country | Study country/ies | Measure focus | Nature of health impacts | Mortality/morbidity reported | HDs (main categories) | HDs (sub-categories) connected to health impacts | Categorization of health outcomes | Health outcome stratification |
|-----|----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| 30 | Johnson | 2020 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 31 | Kakkad | 2014 | India | India | A. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Air temperature | MNCH | - |
| 32 | Kharecha | 2019 | USA | Germany, Japan, USA | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 33 | Kouis | 2021 | Cyprus | Greece | A. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality; Air temperature | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 34 | Kouloumpis | 2015 | United Kingdom | United Kingdom | M. | Negative, Positive | Both | Env. | Radiation | Unspecified | - |
| 35 | Kuylensstierna | 2020 | United Kingdom | Bangladesh | M. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, cerebroVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 36 | Kwan | 2016 | Malaysia | Malaysia | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env.; Ind. | Air quality; Traffic; Physical activity | Accidents/Injuries; Mental health; NCD (cancer, CVD, CerebroVD, dementia, diabetes, respiratory) | - |
| 37 | Kypridemos | 2020 | United Kingdom | Cameroon | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, cerebroVD, respiratory) | - |
| 38 | Li | 2020 | China | China | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, cerebroVD, respiratory) | - |
| 39 | Li | 2006 | USA | Thailand | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 40 | Li | 2020 | China | China | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 41 | Li | 2022 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 42 | Liu | 2020 | China | China | A. | Positive | Mortality | Inst.; Social | Capacity of health care system; Employment/income | Unspecified | - |
| 43 | Liu | 2022 | China | China | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 44 | Macintyre | 2021 | United Kingdom | United Kingdom | A. | Neutral | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 45 | Macmillan | 2014 | New Zealand | New Zealand | M. | Negative, Positive | Both | Env.; Ind. | Air quality; Traffic; Physical activity | Accidents/Injuries; NCD (respiratory) | - |
| 46 | Marvuglia | 2020 | Luxembourg | Hungary, Spain, Italy, Turkey | A. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 47 | Mazzi | 2007 | Canada | United Kingdom | M. | Negative | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 48 | McCarthy | 2019 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Morbidity | Social | Acc. to education | Unspecified | - |
| 49 | Mehiriz | 2019 | Qatar | Canada | A. | Neutral | Morbidity | Inst. | Capacity of health care system | Unspecified | - |
| 50 | Mehiriz | 2018 | Qatar | Canada | A. | Positive | Morbidity | Inst. | Capacity of health care system | Unspecified | - |
| 51 | Nakarmi | 2020 | Nepal | Nepal | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 52 | Partridge | 2011 | USA | China | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (respiratory) | - |
| 53 | Peng | 2020 | USA | India | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | - | - |

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Table A6 (Continued)

| Nr. | Author | Year of publication | First author's institution country | Study country/ies | Measure focus | Nature of health impacts | Mortality/morbidity reported | HDs (main categories) | HDs (sub-categories) connected to health impacts | Categorization of health outcomes | Health outcome stratification |
|-----|-------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| 54 | Peng | 2017 | USA | China | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, cerebroVD, diabetes, respiratory) | - |
| 55 | Perera | 2020 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 56 | Peters | 2020 | USA | USA | M. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | MNCH; Mental health; NCD (respiratory) | - |
| 57 | Phillips | 2021 | South Korea | South Korea | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 58 | Rauner | 2020 | Germany | China, India | M. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, cerebroVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 59 | Reis | 2022 | Italy | Global | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 60 | Ritchie | 2018 | United Kingdom | Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Russian Federation, South Africa, United States of America, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Ukraine | M. | Positive | Mortality | Ind. | Diet | NCD (cancer, CVD, cerebroVD, respiratory) | - |
| | | | | | | | | | | Food- and nutrition-related issues | - |
| 61 | Rosenthal | 2017 | USA | Global | M. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 62 | Saari | 2015 | USA | USA | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 63 | Sabel | 2016 | United Kingdom | Finland, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Switzerland, China | M. | Negative, Positive | Both | Env.; Ind. | Air quality; Air temperature; Noise; Physical activity | MNCH; NCD (cancer, CVD, respiratory) | Health |
| 64 | Sadeghi | 2022 | Australia | Australia | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 65 | Sailor | 2016 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 66 | Sarigiannis | 2017 | Greece | Greece | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer) | - |
| 67 | Shindell | 2011 | USA | China, India | M. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 68 | Sinha | 2021 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | Age |
| 69 | Sinha | 2022 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 70 | Smith | 2016 | United Kingdom | United Kingdom | M. | Negative, Positive | Morbidity | Env.; Ind. | Air quality; Noise; Traffic; Physical activity | Accidents/Injuries; Food- and nutrition-related issues | - |
| 71 | Smith | 2015 | Canada | Canada | A. | Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Water quality | Soil-, water- and waste-related diseases | - |
| 72 | Springmann | 2017 | United Kingdom | Global | M. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Ind. | Diet | Food- and nutrition-related issues | - |
| 73 | Stone | 2019 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 74 | Stone Jr | 2014 | USA | USA | A. | | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |

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Table A6 (Continued)

| Nr. | Author | Year of publication | First author's institution country | Study country/ies | Measure focus | Nature of health impacts | Mortality/morbidity reported | HDs (main categories) | HDs (sub-categories) connected to health impacts | Categorization of health outcomes | Health outcome stratification |
|-----|-------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|
| 75 | Sulser | 2021 | USA | Global | A. | Negative, Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Access to food | Food- and nutrition-related issues | - |
| 76 | Susca | 2012 | Italy | USA | A. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 77 | Symonds | 2021 | United Kingdom | United Kingdom | M. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env.; Ind. | Air quality; Air temperature; Physical activity; Radiation | Unspecified | - |
| 78 | Tang | 2022 | China | China | M. | Neutral | Mortality | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | Age |
| 79 | Taylor | 2018 | United Kingdom | United Kingdom | A. | Negative, Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | - |
| 80 | Tobollik | 2016 | Germany | The Netherlands | M. | Negative, Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality; Noise | NCD (cancer, CVD) | - |
| 81 | Tong | 2021 | China | China, India, Russia, USA | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 82 | Tuomisto | 2015 | Finland | Finland, Switzerland | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 83 | Vargo | 2016 | USA | USA | A. | Positive | Mortality | Env. | Air temperature | Unspecified | Age; Majority race; Socio-economic status |
| 84 | Williams | 2018 | United Kingdom | United Kingdom | M. | Negative, Positive | Morbidity | Env. | Air quality | Unspecified | - |
| 85 | Wolkingner | 2018 | Austria | Austria | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality; Physical activity | NCD (cancer, CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 86 | Wong-Parodi | 2020 | USA | USA | A. | Negative | Morbidity | Env.; Social | Access to health services; Housing Conditions | Unspecified | - |
| 87 | Yang | 2021 | China | China | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD, respiratory) | - |
| 88 | Zhang | 2022 | China | China | M. | Positive | Both | Env. | Air quality | NCD (cancer, CVD) | - |
| 89 | Zhong | 2020 | China | China | A. | Positive | Morbidity | Env.; Social | Access to health services; Access to food; Access to drinking water; Access to sanitation facilities; Housing conditions; Water quality; Water quantity | Mental health | Age; Education; Marital status; Occupation; Sex; Socio-economic status |

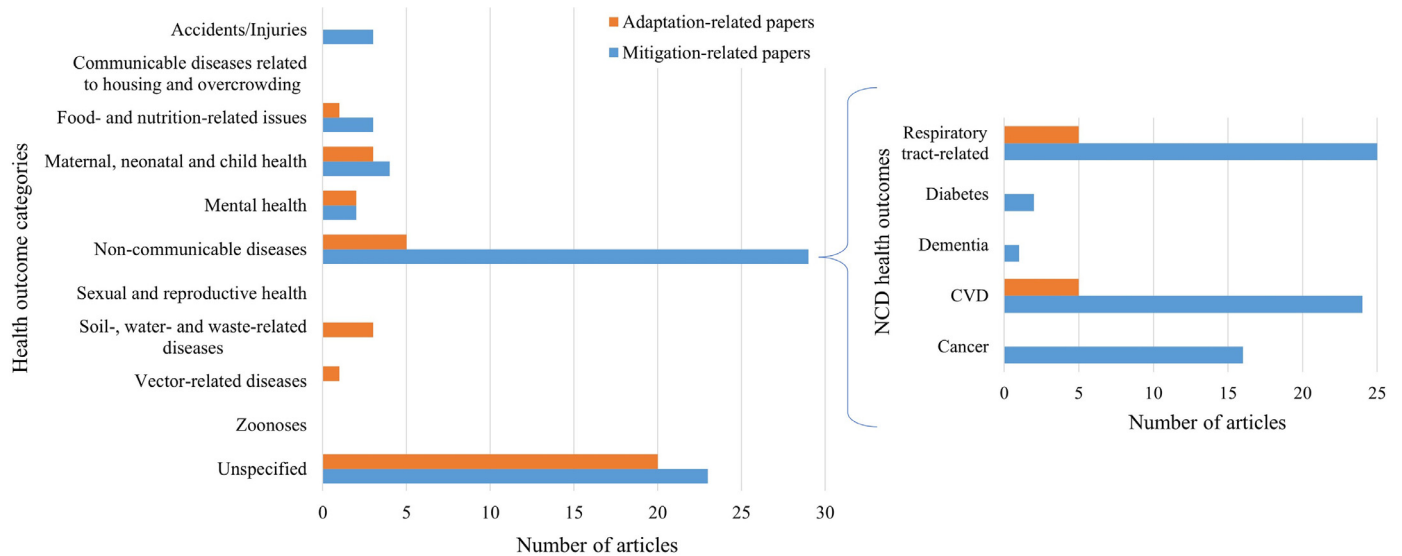


Fig. A1. Main health outcome categories and NCD specific health outcomes reported by articles, disaggregated for adaptation-related and mitigation related-articles. Note that one paper can report multiple health outcomes. NCD = non-communicable disease. CVD = cardio-vascular disease.

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