

Title: **Rethinking Health Financing for Climate Resilience**

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Climate change risks are jeopardizing universal health coverage progress in low-income countries like those located in the tropics. Despite efforts to expand healthcare access via tax funding and social health insurance, many working in the informal sector remain unprotected from healthcare costs, and countries often face a heavy reliance on unpredictable international donor funding, [which can result in debt](#), constraining domestic healthcare funding. Climate change exacerbates these issues. Climate hazards can damage vital healthcare infrastructure, raise costs, and increase the need for healthcare services, further [burdening households economically](#).

To combat these challenges, countries and the international community must prioritize health financing strategies that promote sustainability and resilience. Learning from Covid-19, we also need 'shock adaptive' health financing that can quickly respond to climate emergencies and ensure continued access to health services for affected communities. This could include [agile public financial management systems](#), greater budgetary flexibility for emerging health needs, and the scaling up of financial protection schemes to cover vulnerable groups.

As part of its commitment to adaptation and loss and damage funding, the international community must acknowledge its responsibility to support the costs of climate-proofing health systems in low-income settings as well as meeting the additional health sector costs from climate change in these settings. Funding to support the consequences of climate change ex-post is not enough; we must also consider how financing can be leveraged to build health system preparedness and resilience to future shocks.

Acknowledgements: We would like to acknowledge the support of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO).