

Communities, Climate Change, and Health Equity – A New Vision

A Virtual Workshop Series from the Environmental Health Matters Initiative

Recap – Day 1



What we know

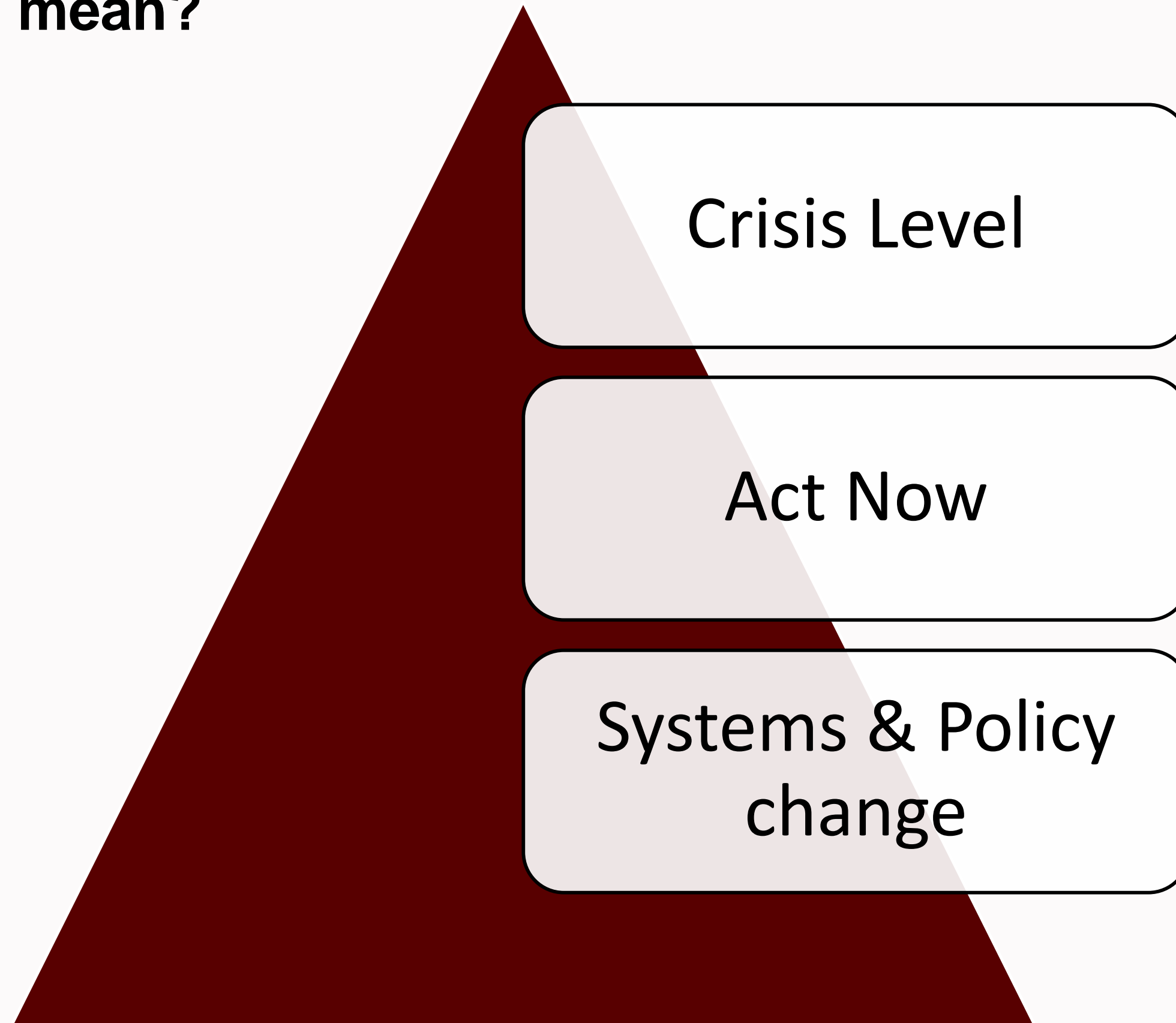
- Same populations/communities are facing multiple, intersected crises
- Root causes that drive health disparities are the same causes of disproportionate impacts of climate change
- Historically entrenched in society and involve
 - Racism and other “isms”;
 - Underinvestment in and marginalization of certain communities;
 - Communities left out of power sharing, decision-making processes
- Climate Change impacts exacerbate health disparities

Climate change is one of the greatest threats to health America has ever faced—it is a true public health emergency

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What does this mean?



Elements of solutions

- Operate from a point of reference that envisions a future that is healthier for all - where risks and benefits are equitably shared;
- Address underlying root causes that drive health and climate inequities;
- Advance policy and systems change – build from bright spots;
- Solutions are holistic – not traditional siloes;
- Stop bifurcating climate adaptation and mitigation;
- Equity is measured by outcomes as well as by process;
- Measure climate actions' impact on health equity;
- Co-create solutions
 - Communities need a voice in what's on the table
 - Shared solutions between scientists/researchers/health equity advocates/communities

ACT

Have hope

Share
revolutionary
love

Practice
humility

Show
compassion

Be bold



Credit: Newsweek