The less biodiversity, the more risk of disease transmission

Biodiversity loss exacerbates the risk and incidence of infectious diseases.

For example, a high diversity of vertebrate hosts reduces the transmission of diseases by ticks or mosquitoes.

3 out of 4 new infectious diseases (like COVID-19) have an animal origin

The number of unknown viruses is enormous (around 320,000 in mammals alone).

31% of outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases are linked to deforestation

Deforestation favours closer contact between humans and wild animals, creating a greater risk of zoonotic disease.

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Every year, unsafe water sickens about 1 billion people

Contaminated water can transmit diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid, and polio.

Unsustainable global food production poses a danger to the people and planet

The paradox of hunger and obesity: We live in a world where chronic hunger affects more than 850 million people, while another 500 million suffer from obesity.

Mitigating climate change can avoid 250,000 deaths per year

Direct: Increases in respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, heat stress, vector-borne diseases and undernutrition.

Indirect: Effects caused by increased poverty, mass migration and violent conflict.

Adopting a planetary health approach after the COVID-19 crisis would help prevent other potential risks that can arise from environmental degradation.