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Headline: Pandemics, climate change 'intensify' global health threats

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The Lancet panel called for an "aligning of climate and pandemic recovery" to deliver near- and long-term health and economic benefits.

It said that the health benefits from lower levels of air pollution and fewer extreme weather events as well as improved diets alone would more than pay for the costs of climate mitigation.

"With trillions being invested globally in economic support and stimulus there is a genuine opportunity to deliver a triple win—one that improves public health, creates a sustainable economy and protects the environment," said Maria Neira, director of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Health at the World Health Organization.

"Failure to tackle these converging crises will lock in huge amounts of fossil fuels... condemning the world to a future of climate-induced health shocks."