

2022 SPECIAL REPORT

New threats to human security in the Anthropocene

Demanding greater solidarity



The Human Security Idea



Introduced in the 1994 Human Development Report at the end of the cold war.



Broadly defined as “Freedom from fear, freedom from want and freedom from indignity”.



It has refocused security debate from protecting territory to protecting people.

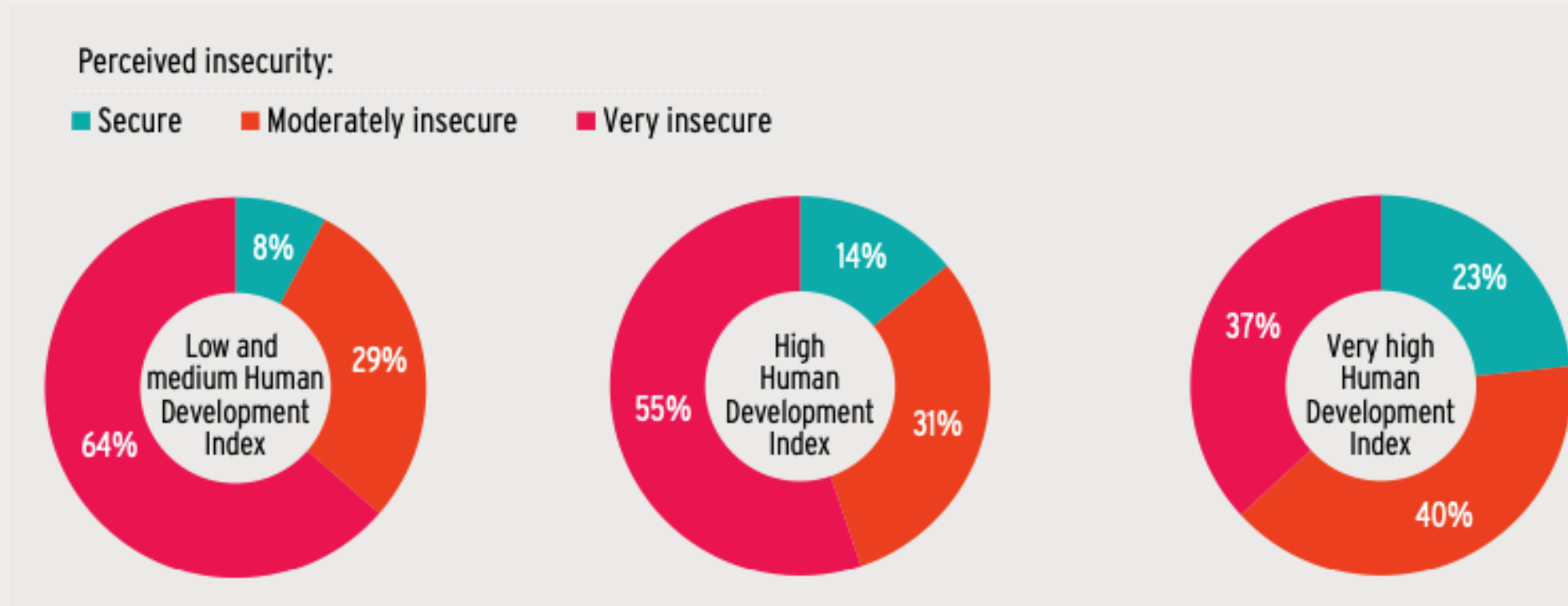
Objective of the report

- To argue for **expanding the human security frame** in the face of the new generation of **interconnected threats** playing out in the context of **the Anthropocene**.
- It proposes adding **solidarity** to the human security strategies of **protection and empowerment** (2003 Ogata-Sen report).
- Solidarity recognizes that human security in the Anthropocene requires institutions and policies to systematically consider the **interdependence across all people and between people and the planet**.



The Development Paradox

- The Human Security frame points to the limitations of evaluating policies and measuring progress by looking at **wellbeing alone**.
- Even in very high HDI countries, less than a quarter of people feel secure.

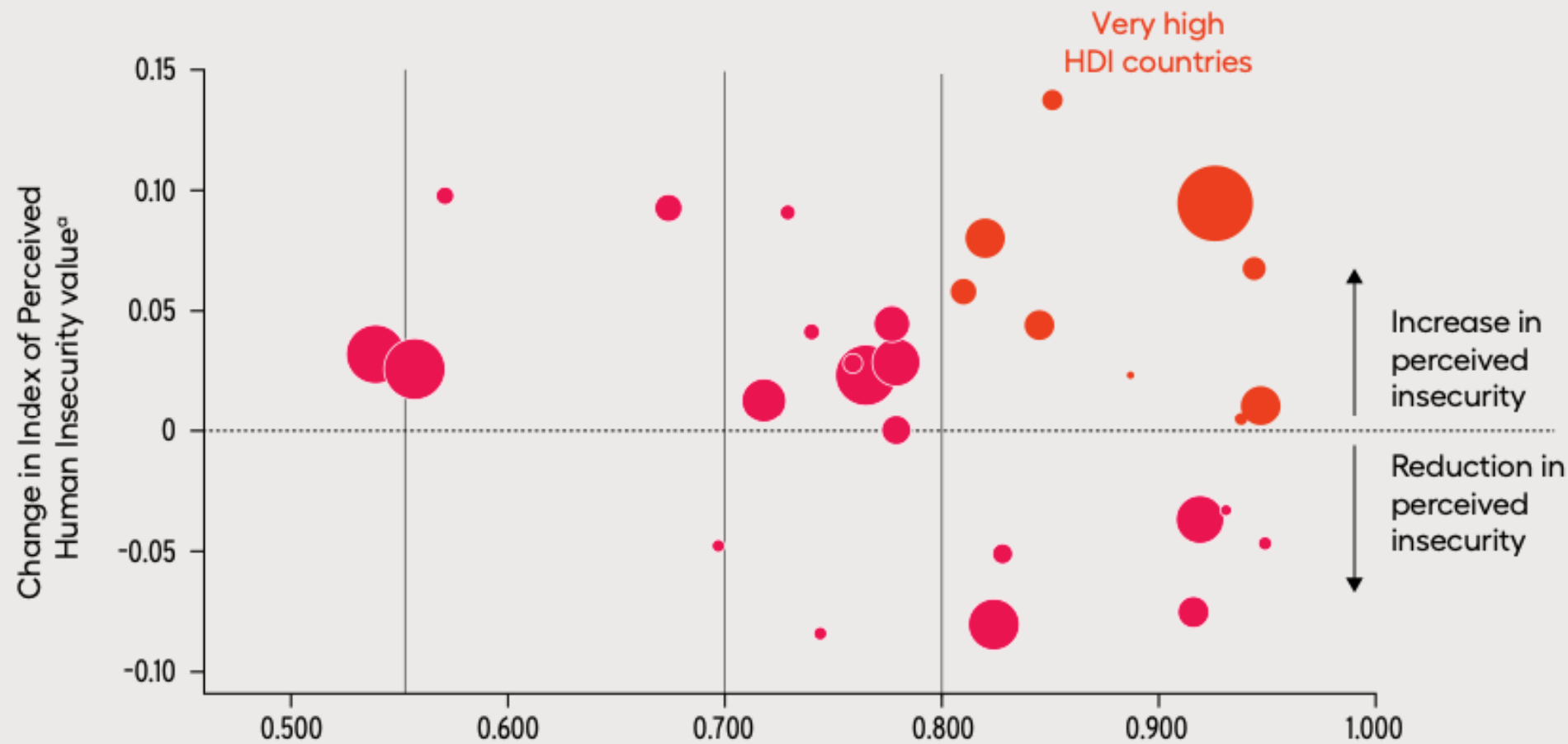


Source: Human Development Report Office, based on World Values Survey, latest available wave.

HDI and Increasing Perceived Human Insecurity



- **Human insecurity is increasing** in most countries and surging in very high Human Development Index countries



Trust and Human Security

- Where human security is higher, trust tends to be higher, regardless of satisfaction with one's financial situation

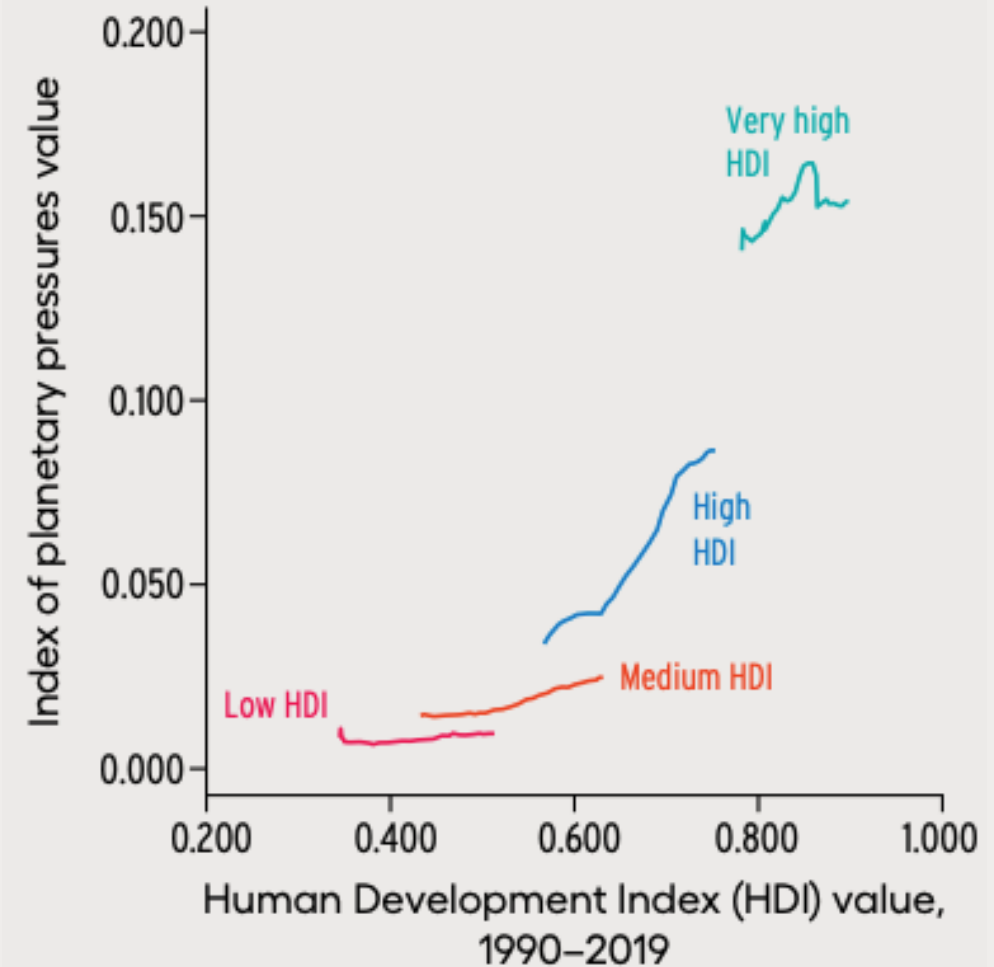


- *Trust* refers to **generalized trust**.
- There are low and declining levels of trust related to important institutions and policy outcomes, especially those predicated on cooperation.

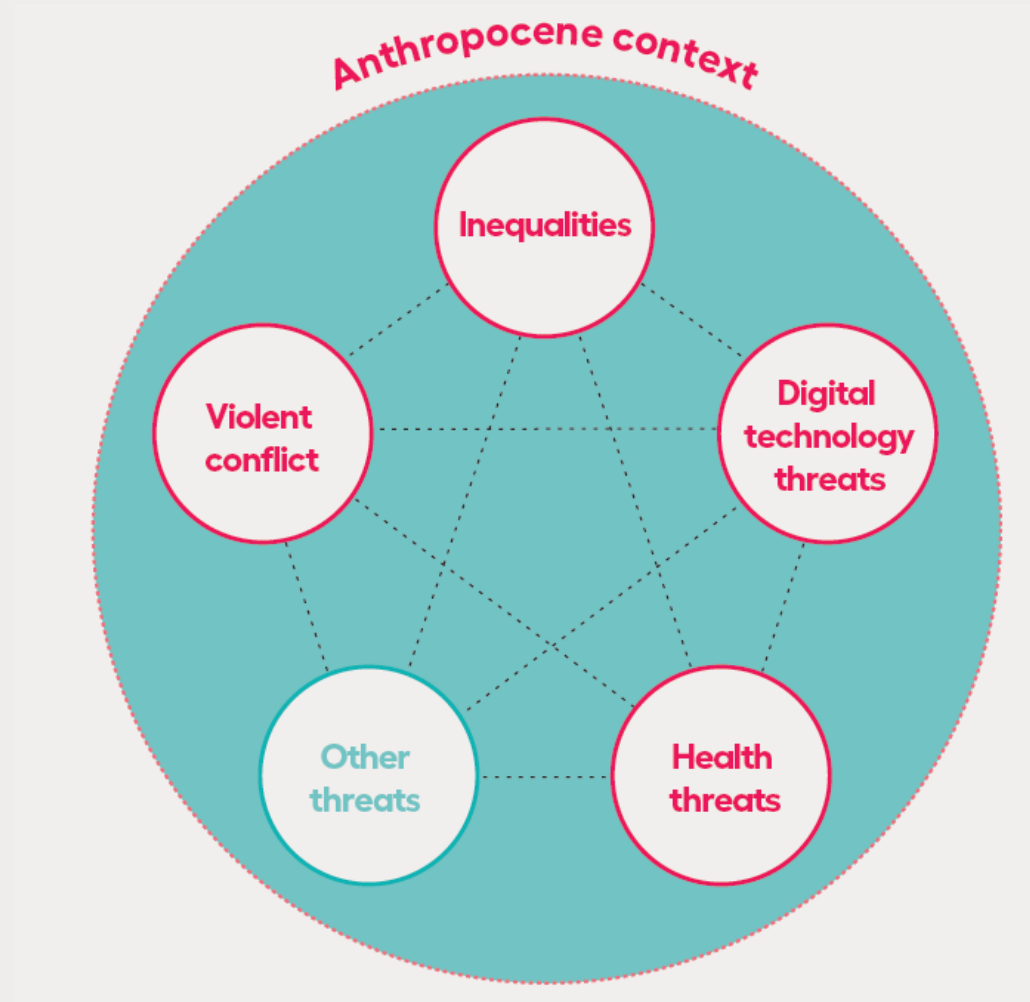
Human security in the anthropocene

- Along with an upward trend in wellbeing achievements across regions, **a new generation of human insecurities** has been emerging, often as a byproduct of how development was pursued.
- It is now clear we have entered the Anthropocene, or the age of humans
- Planetary changes are creating new threats to security and worsening others

Higher Human Development Index values have come with higher planetary pressures

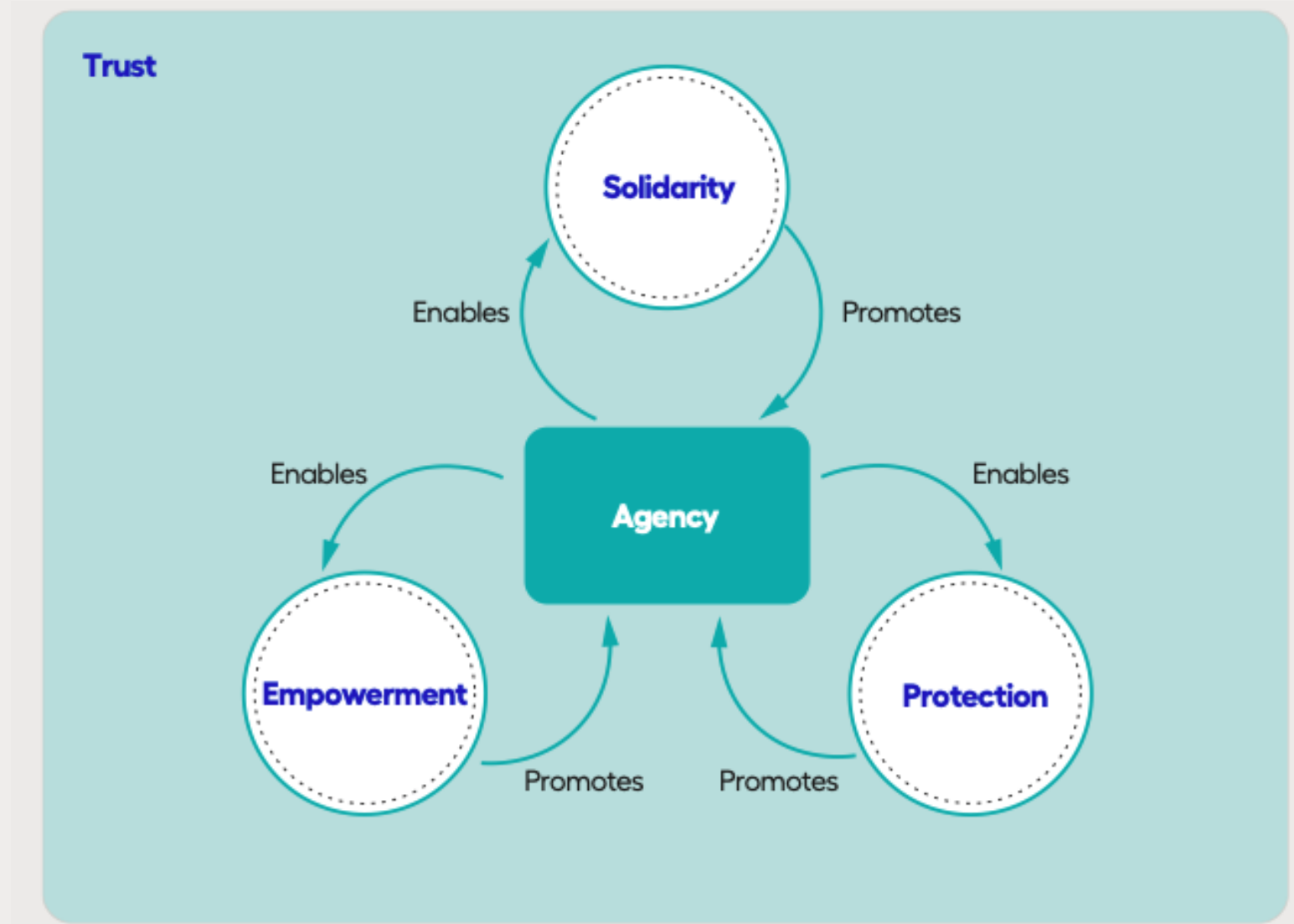


Human security in the anthropocene – a new generation of threats



Source: Human Development Report Office.

Adding solidarity to protection & empowerment

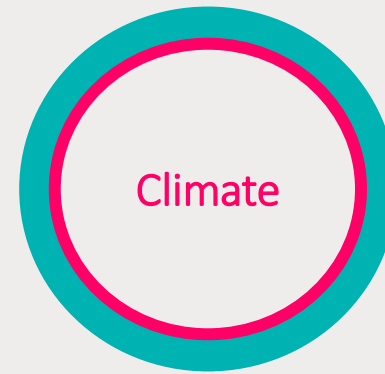




Human Security in the Anthropocene



People are worried about:



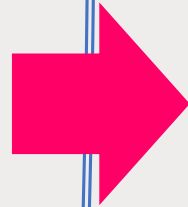
Climate change is likely to become a major cause of death in many places. Even with a moderate mitigation of emissions, some 40 million people might die because of **changes in temperatures** before the end of the century. Without mitigation, the number can reach 190 million people.

The Anthropocene is reshaping human security



Challenges in the Anthropocene

- Climate change: Rise in temperature and sea level, increase in extreme weather events, loss of glaciers
- Loss of biodiversity
- Pollution and environmental degradation

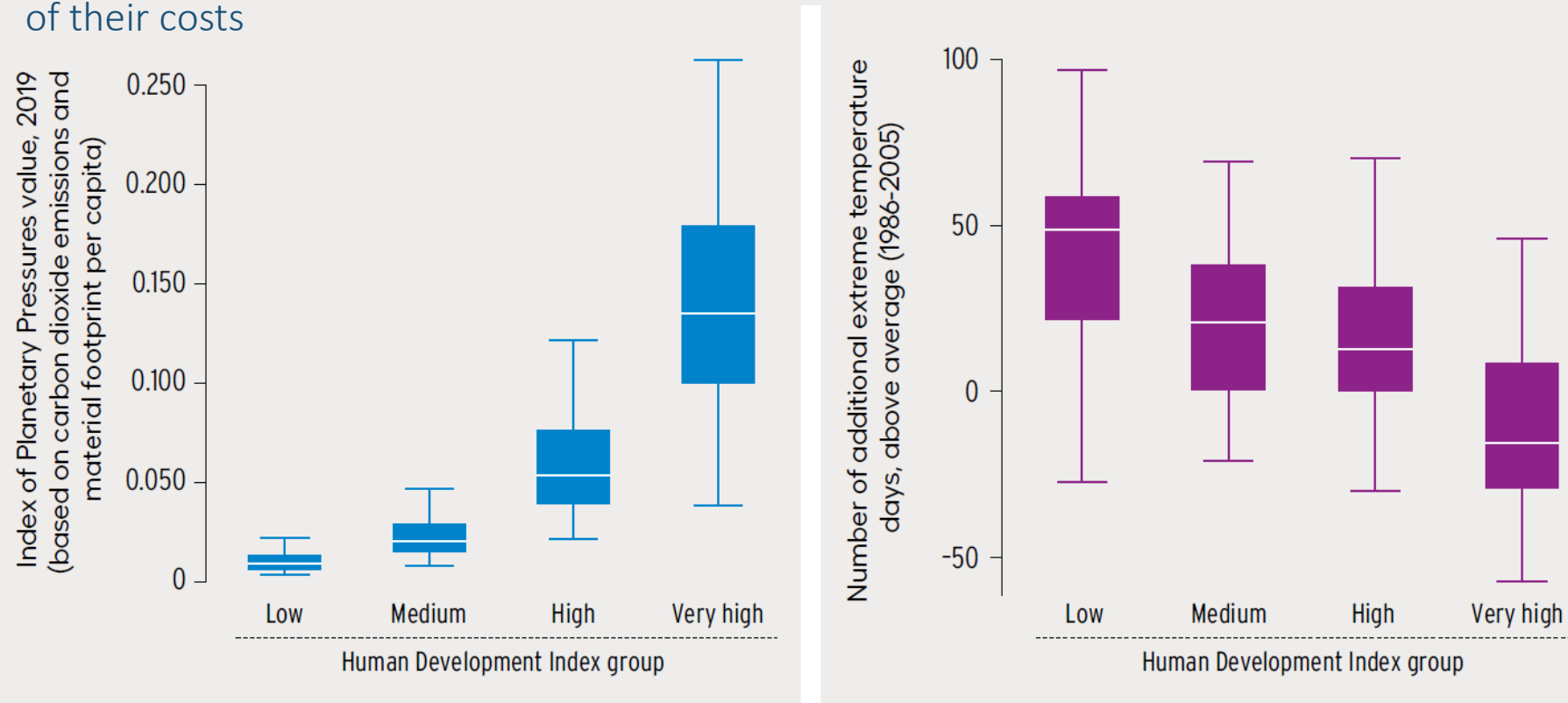


Human Security impacts

- Loss of livelihoods and infrastructure especially in SIDs
- Natural hazards that lead to loss of access to education and labor
- Displacement
- Food and water insecurity
- Health issues including emergence of zoonotic diseases
- Violent conflicts

Unequal impact of the planetary pressures

More developed countries tend to capture more benefits from planetary pressures and less of their costs



Source: Human Development Report Office based on Carleton and others (2020) and UNDP (2020).

Agency in the Anthropocene context



In the Anthropocene context, **agency empowers people to drive the transformations needed to improve human security for everyone.**

- The wealth of knowledge and experience within **indigenous communities** on coping with environmental change is vital for shaping nature-based approaches to human security, so **our common security depends on their empowerment.**
- Involving **local actors** in policy responses to new human security threats is crucial, not only because of environmental justice considerations and the implications for their political capabilities but also because local communities wield enormous strengths and assets that are key to the success of strategies to face Anthropocene-related threats.



www.hdr.undp.org



facebook.com/HumanDevelopmentReport



twitter.com/hdrundp

