



**IFMSA-NL**

International Federation of Medical  
Students' Associations - the Netherlands

# We must reconsider our relationship with nature and animals for the health of future generations and the planet

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# Why?

- 60-75% of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic: MERS, SARS, Ebola, HIV and the current SARS-CoV-2
- Hundreds of thousands of viruses still have the potential to spillover to humans from mammals and birds<sup>1</sup>.
- This is not the first, and definitely not the last zoonotic spillover

1. Carroll et al. 2018. *The Global Virome Project*. Science. 10.1126/science.aap7463



Barcroft Media

ANP

Disease emergence correlates with human population density and wildlife diversity, and is driven by anthropogenic changes:

- 1) Deforestation and expansion of agricultural land
- 2) Intensification of livestock production
- 3) Increased hunting and trading of wildlife

Marco et al. 2020. *Sustainable development must account for pandemic risk*. PNAS. 10.1073/pnas.2001655117



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Lancet

We must reconsider our relationship with nature and animals for the health of future generations and the planet

We can no longer consider the health of humans separate from the health of our planet.

We need science-based solutions to prevent future outbreaks, reduce climate change, biodiversity loss and other environmental problems so that future generations can thrive



RIVM

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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