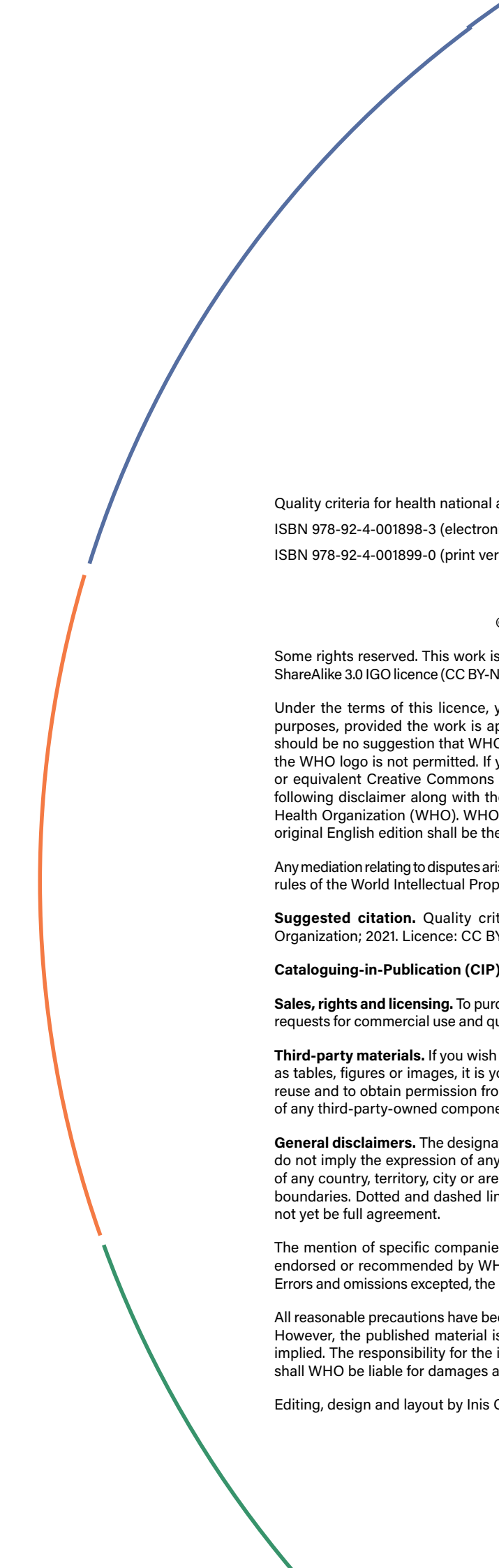


QUALITY CRITERIA FOR HEALTH NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

COP	Conference of the Parties
CSHRs	climate-sensitive health risks
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	global greenhouse gas
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HNAP	Health National Adaptation Plan
LDCs	least developed countries
LEG	LDC expert group
LGBTQI	lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex
M,E&R	monitoring, evaluation and reporting
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoH	Ministry of Health
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
V&A	climate change and health vulnerability and adaptation assessment
WASH	water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Paris Climate Agreement, signed at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) in 2015, builds on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and if effectively implemented could be considered a global safeguard for human health. The Agreement emphasizes mitigation in efforts to prevent a global temperature rise of over two degrees Celsius (possibly even 1.5 degrees Celsius); and adaptation to support countries that are vulnerable to the impacts of anthropogenic climate change despite many having contributed very little to global emissions (1).

Ongoing initiatives of the UNFCCC to support countries in addressing the challenges of climate change include the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) and climate financing mechanisms. Article 7 of the Paris Agreement obliges States to take action on adaptation positioning NAPs as central to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement. Paragraph 9 states that "Each Party shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including the development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions" (2). The process to formulate and implement NAPs is intended to provide support for the medium- and long-term adaptation planning needs in least developed countries (LDCs) and other developing countries to build resilience to climate change across *all* relevant sectors (3).

A Health National Adaptation Plan (HNAP) is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a plan developed by a country's Ministry of Health as part of the NAP process. HNAP development is critical for: ensuring prioritization of action to address the health impacts of climate change at all levels of planning; linking the health sector to national and international climate change agendas, including an increased emphasis on health cobenefits of mitigation and adaptation actions in other sectors; promoting and facilitating coordinated and inclusive climate change and health planning among health stakeholders at different levels of government and across health-determining sectors; and enhancing health sector access to climate funding. The HNAP outlines actions to build climate-resilient health and climate-resilient health systems that can anticipate, absorb and transform in a changing climate to protect population health while improving the management of other health threats.

The WHO has published a guidance for developing the HNAP (4) describing the principles and fundamental concepts of the national health adaptation planning process, critical elements of

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