

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

Stories of Policy Success: Real Examples of Inspiring Science-based Air Quality Actions

SPEAKERS



Mark Frampton
University of Rochester
Medical Center



Stefanie Ebelt
Emory University



Jiachen Zhang
University of
Southern California¹

SESSION
CHAIRS



Neeta Thakur
UCSF &
HEI Research Committee



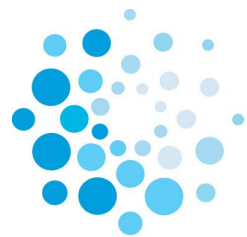
Benjamin Barratt
Imperial College London &
HEI Research Committee

Stories of Policy Success: Real Examples of Inspiring Science-based Air Quality Action

Neeta Thakur, University of California San Francisco

Ben Barratt, Imperial College London

Both members of the HEI Research Committee



Health Effects Institute

What is accountability research

Simplified:

Did the policy/action/intervention work (lower pollution) and lead to benefits (i.e., health)?

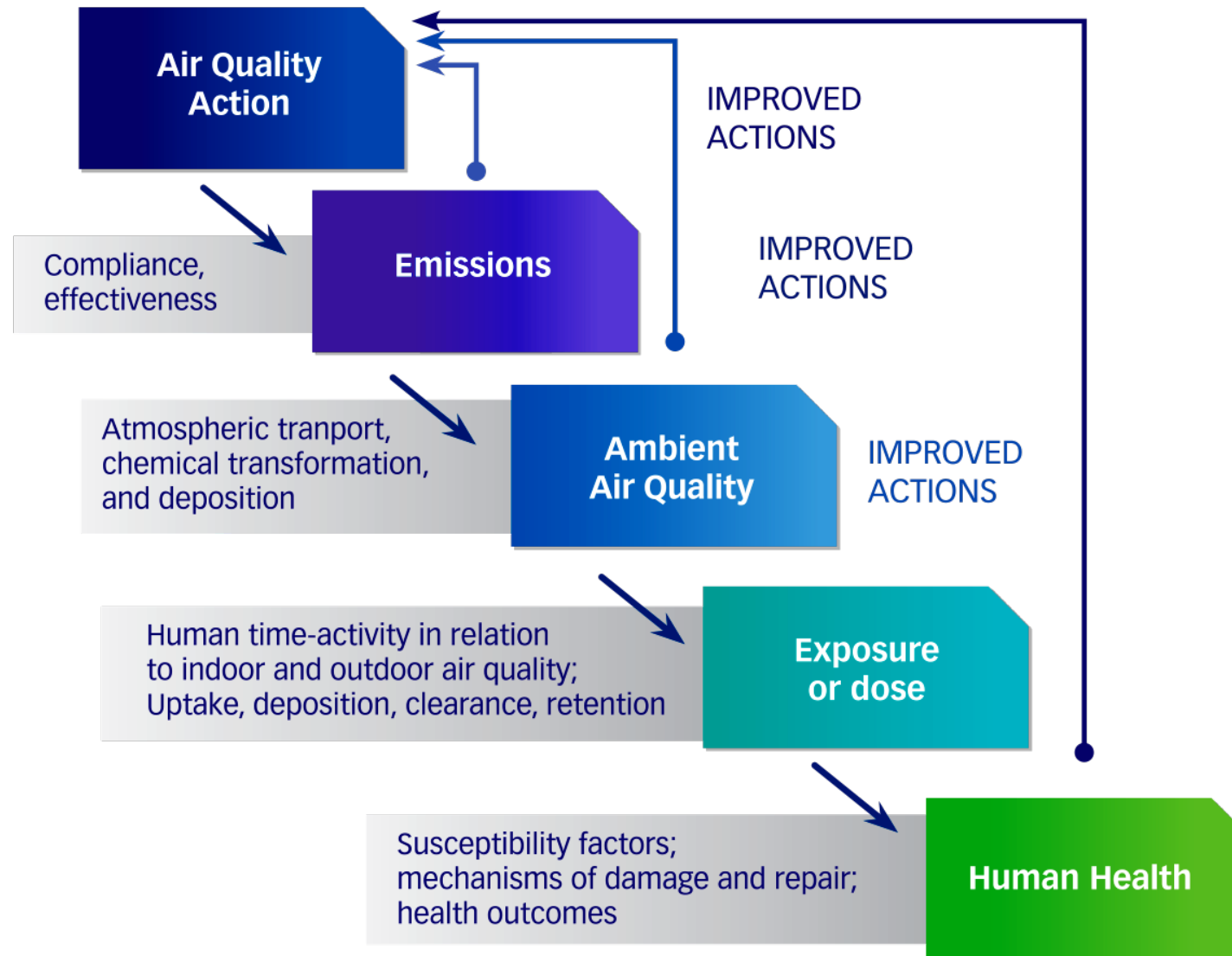
Goals:

- Examine how interventions, regulations, or events affect emissions, exposure, or health outcomes.
- Provide critical feedback to decision makers so that they have the most relevant information for crafting effective policies.

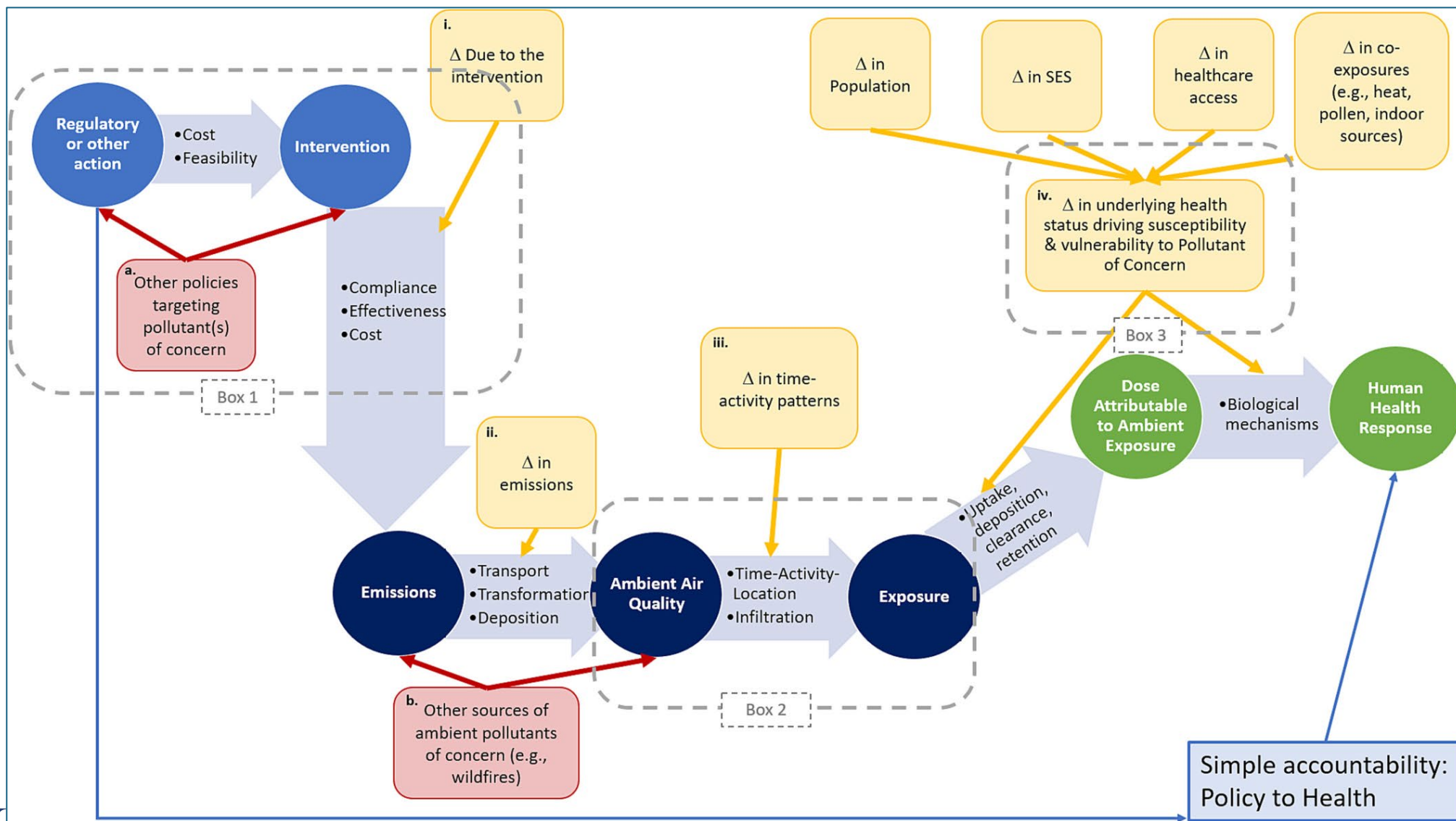


Los Angeles Then and Now. Source New York Times

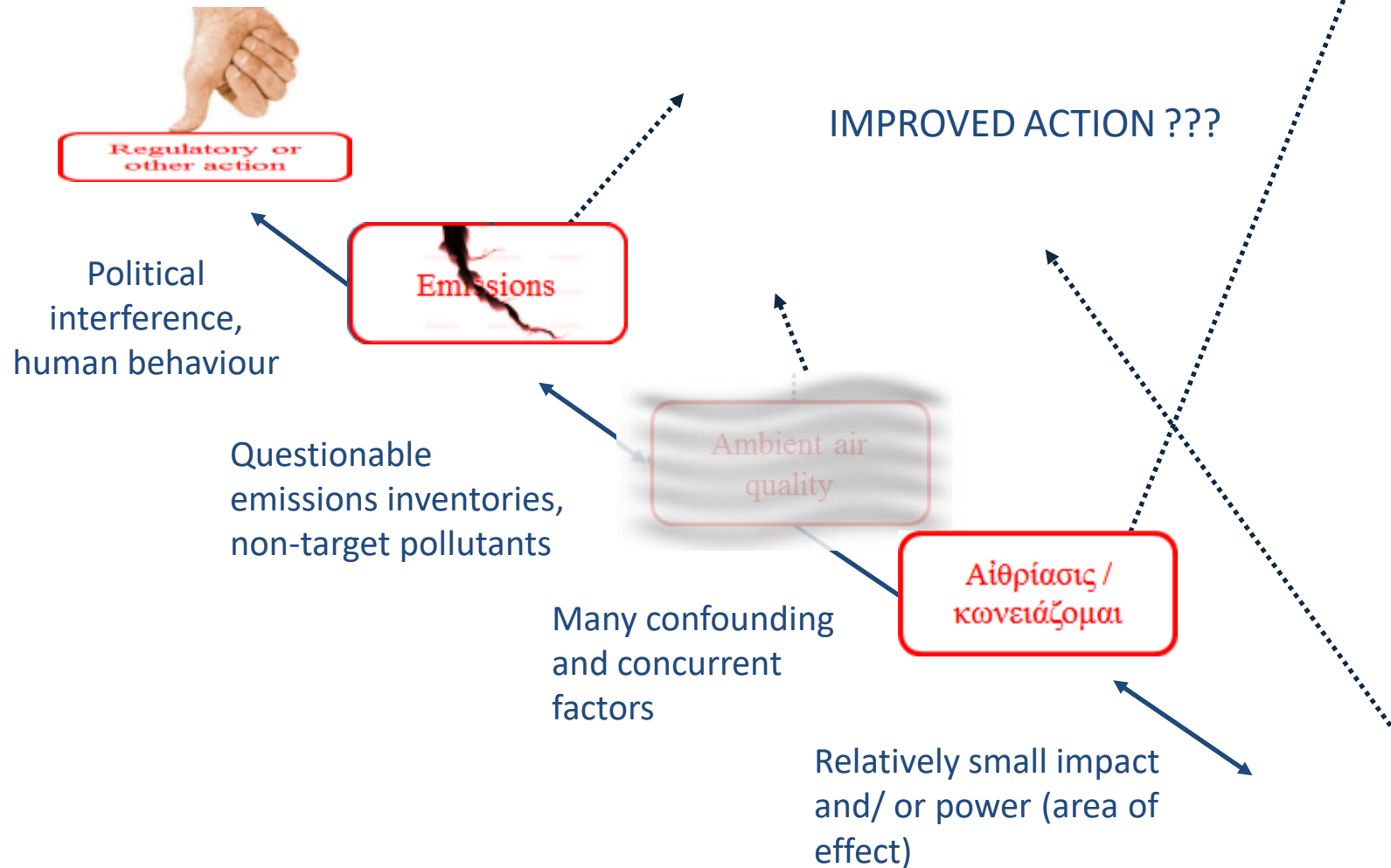
The chain of accountability



From chain to web?



Or to the ^{Real} chain of accountability?



Example studies funded by HEI

Kelly 2011

Congestion charging scheme and low emission zone in London

Dockery 2013

Coal bans in Irish cities

Russell 2018

Programs to control emissions from major stationary & mobile sources in the Southeast US

Meng 2021

Regulations on goods movements around ports in Los Angeles

Adar 2024

EPA's diesel school bus retrofit and replacement program

Hystad 2025

National traffic emissions reduction & local traffic congestion reduction measures in Texas

Baumgartner and Harper, 2025

Conversion of household heating from coal to efficient heat pumps in Beijing-region villages

All reports are available on our website:

www.healtheffects.org/publications/research-reports

Visit HEI's interactive accountability map

HEI's Accountability Work

Highlighting a Subset of Impactful Studies from Around the World

This map highlights a representative subset of HEI-funded accountability studies. Read our blog post summarizing HEI's leadership in air quality accountability research. The published reports of all HEI-funded accountability studies and associated HEI Review Committee commentaries can be found at the [HEI website](#).

