2022 SPECIAL REPORT

New threats to human security in the Anthropocene

Demanding greater solidarity

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Human security in the anthropocene

- But much has changed since 1994
- We have entered the **Anthropocene**, or the age of humans
- Planetary changes are increasing the risk of food shortages, disasters and zoonotic disease
- Creating new threats to security and worsening others

Photo by UNDP Guinea Bissau 2008

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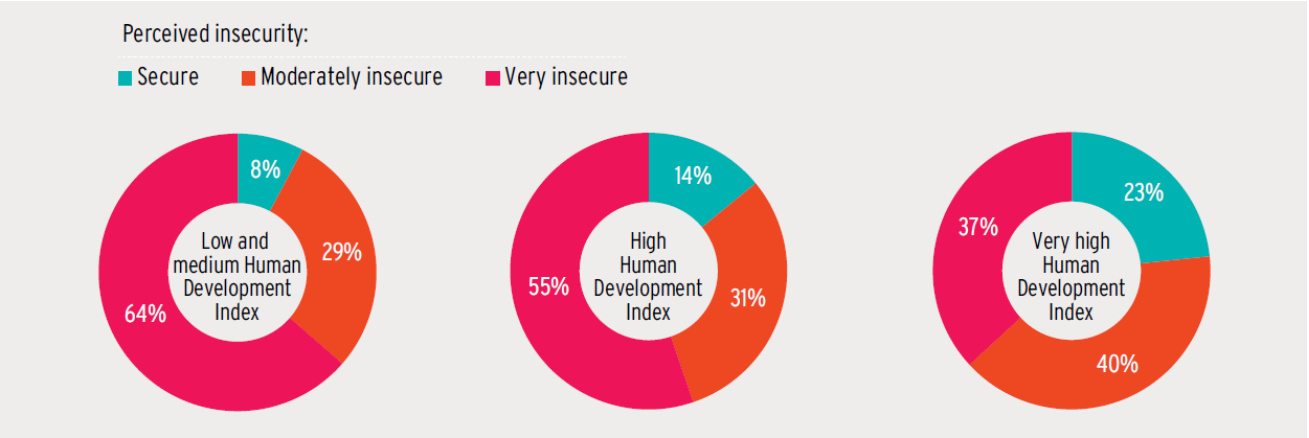
People are feeling insecure everywhere

More than 6 in 7 people worldwide perceived feeling moderately or very insecure just before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.



Source: Human Development Report Office based on data from the World Values Survey.

Progress-with-insecurity

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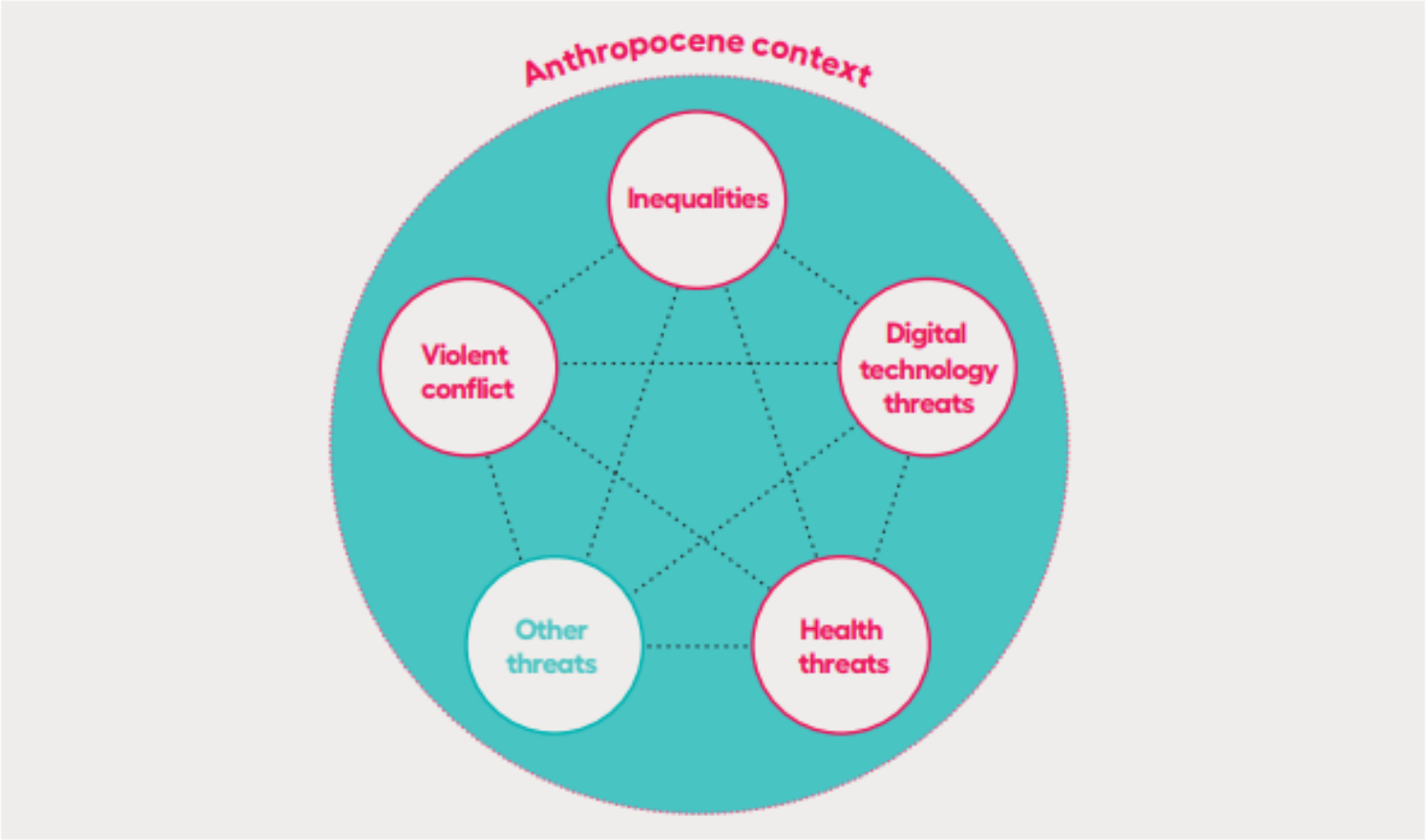
The new generation of human security threats



Source: Human Development Report Office.

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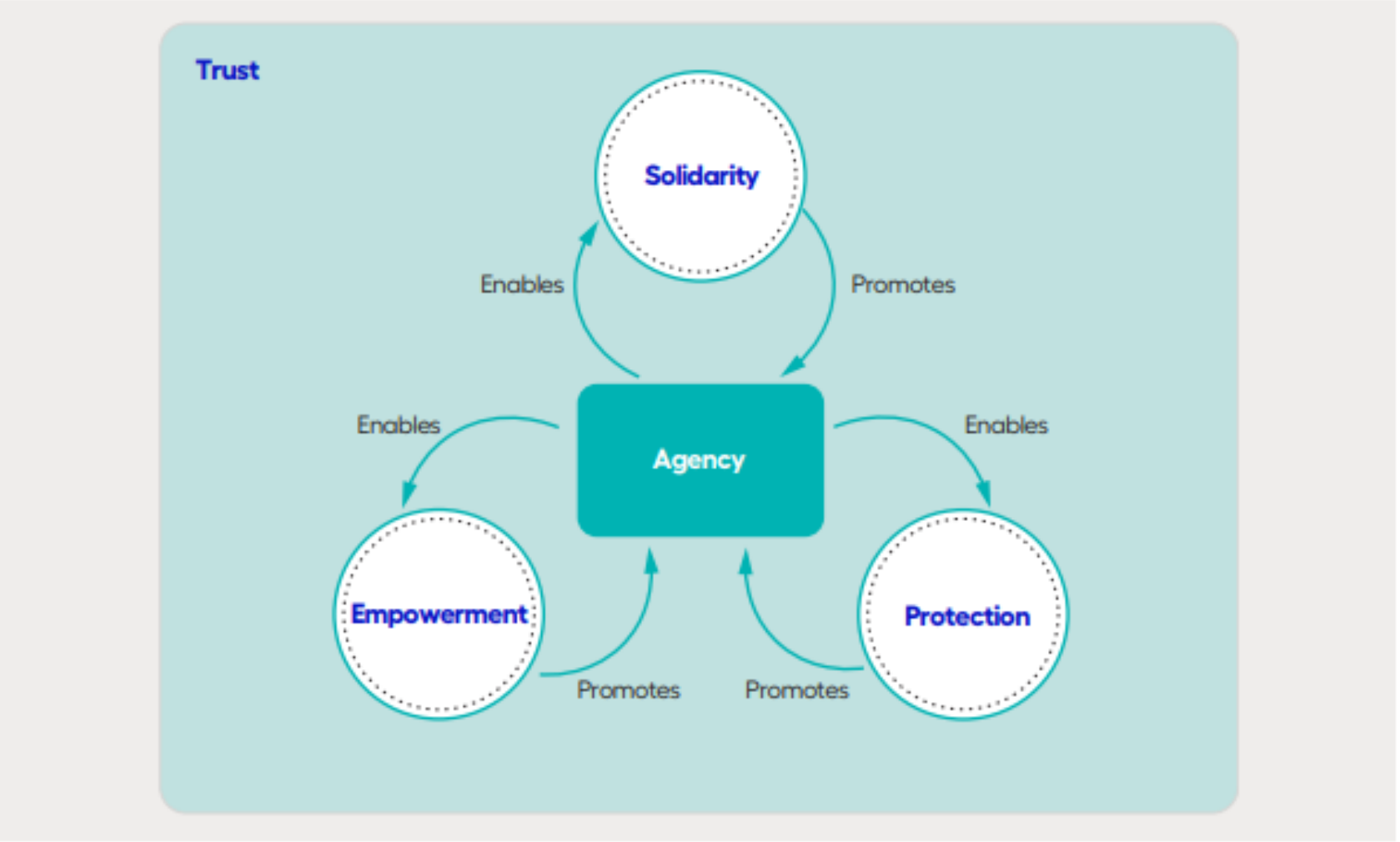
Advancing human security in the Anthropocene context: Adding solidarity to protection and empowerment



Source: Human Development Report Office.

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Greater solidarity: Towards human development with human security

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Human Development Report
2021/22

Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World

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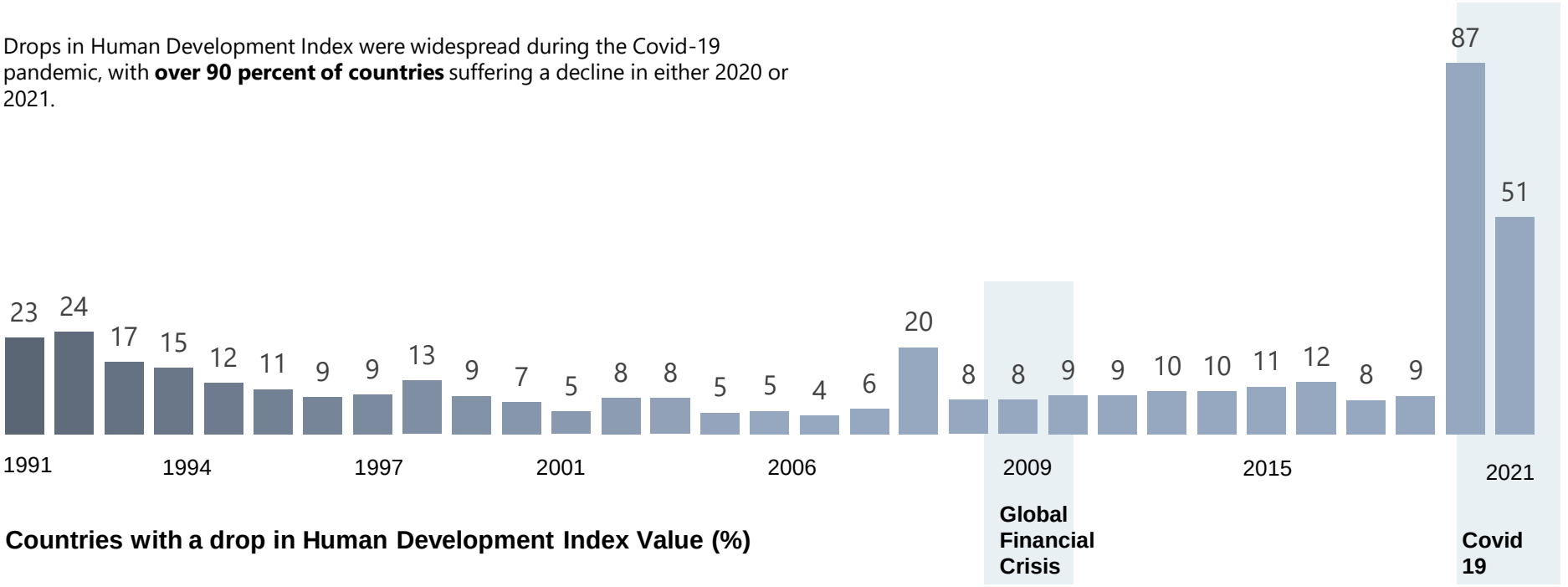
Unprecedented drops in human development, two years running

Drops in Human Development Index were widespread during the Covid-19 pandemic, with **over 90 percent of countries** suffering a decline in either 2020 or 2021.



Countries with a drop in Human Development Index Value (%)

Source: Human Development Report Office calculations based on data from Barro and Lee (2018), IMF (2021, 2022), UNDESA (2022a, 2022b), UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2022), United Nations Statistics Division (2022) and World Bank (2022).

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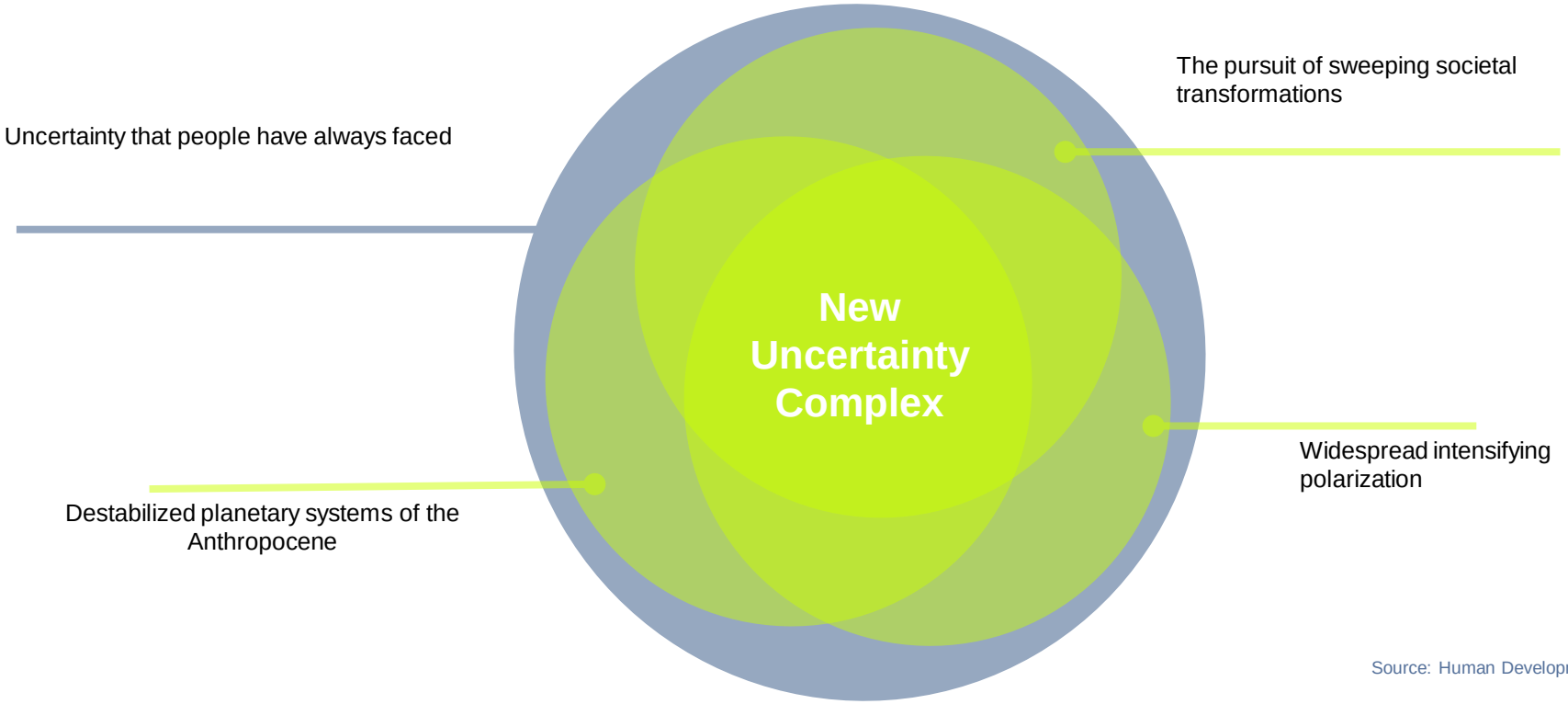
New and Old Layers of Uncertainty



Source: Human Development Report Office.

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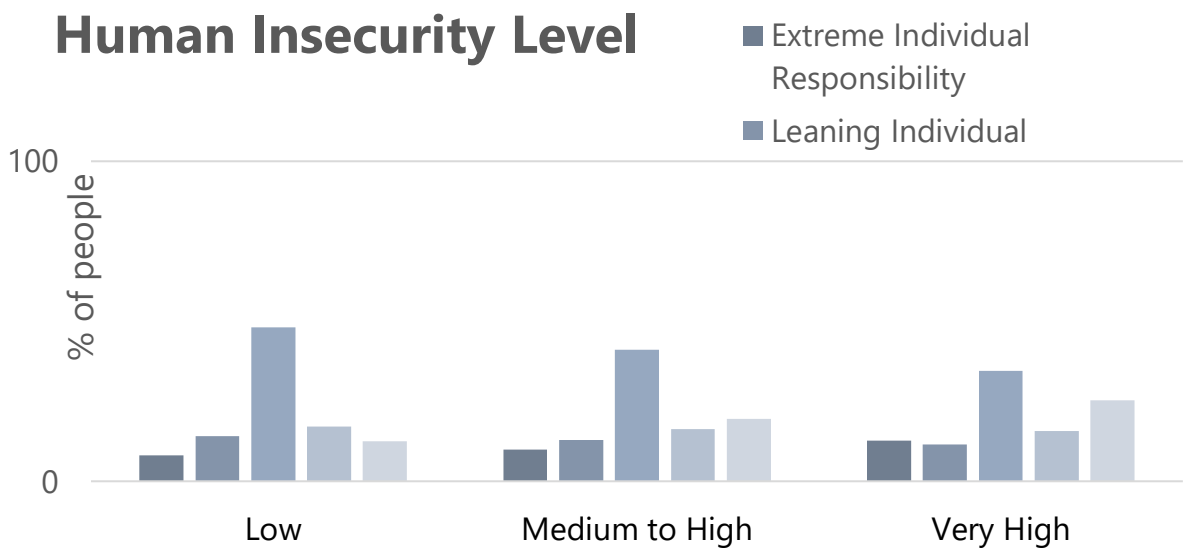
Our Societies Are Increasingly Divided

Insecurity can drive people to hold more extreme preferences



Source: Human Development Report Office based on World Values Survey, waves 6 and 7.

Uncertainty and insecurity are driving divisions between groups in society and affecting our ability to **cooperate and talk** with each other.

We are seeing democratic backsliding and intensified **polarization** across the world.

People who **feel more insecure** also feel a lesser sense of control over their own lives.

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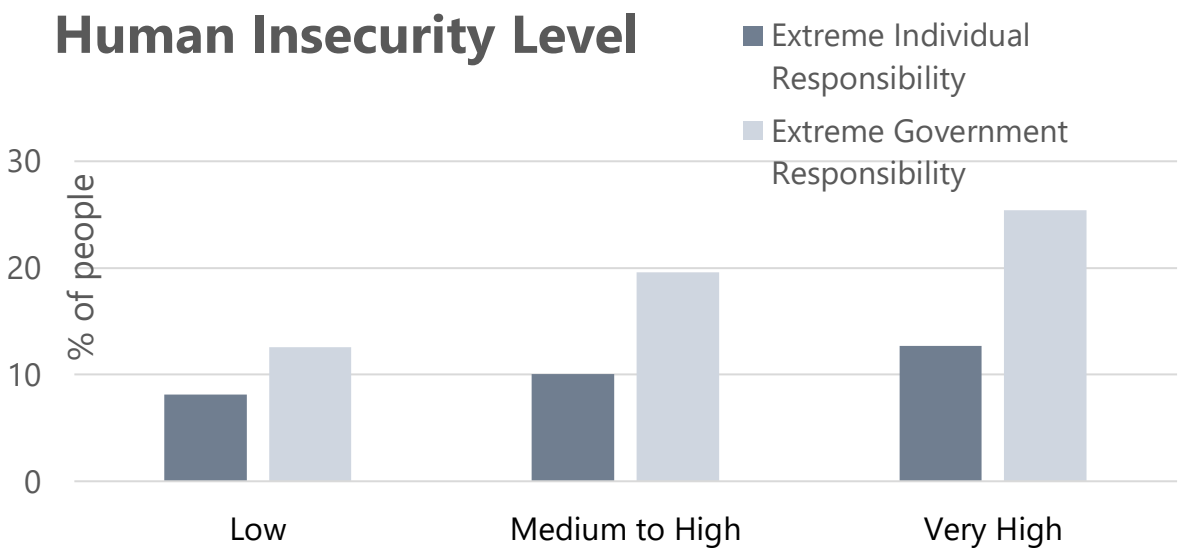

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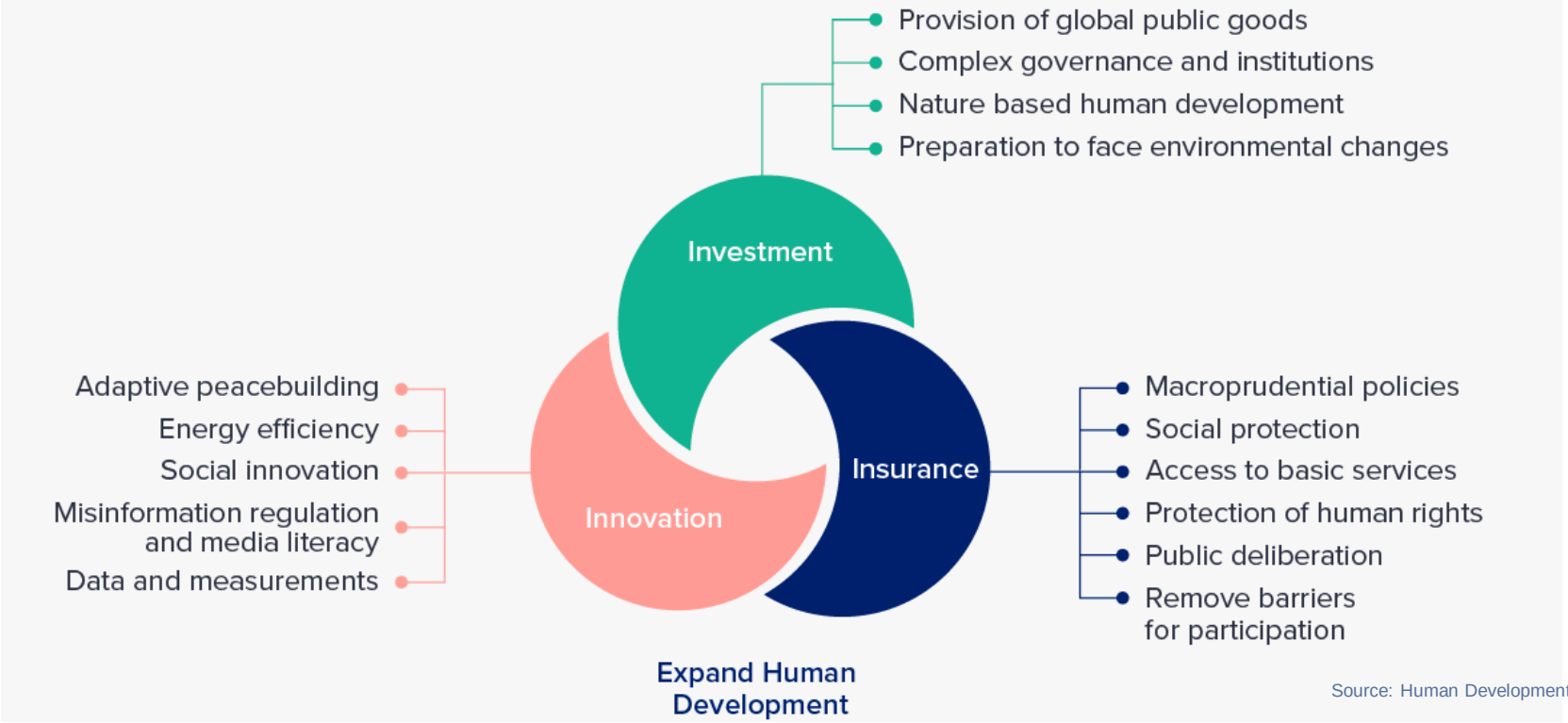
How to navigate uncertainty?



Source: Human Development Report Office.

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Where we go from here is up to us

We can imagine and create futures in which both people and planet thrive

We can accomplish a lot with very little if we work together towards shared goals

Photo UNDP Zambia 2018.

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