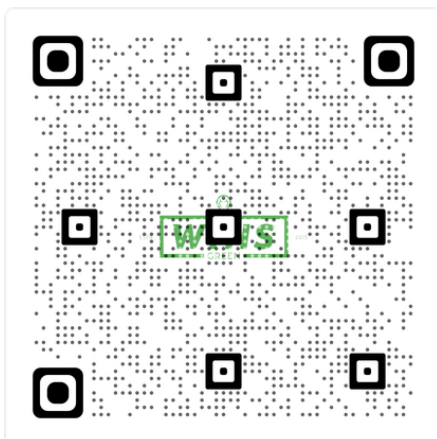


World Health Innovation Summit - WHIS Green

WHISGreen: Restoring the balance to the environment through energy, waste, water, and prevention-led systems change.

Innovative & Collaborative



1. Executive Summary

The climate crisis is a health crisis.

Across every continent, we are witnessing the growing human cost of environmental imbalance: respiratory disease driven by air pollution, waterborne infections from contaminated supplies, malnutrition from failing food systems, displacement from extreme weather events, and the escalating mental health burden linked to ecological instability.

The nexus between climate and health is no longer theoretical—it is measurable, immediate, and economically profound.

The global costs of climate-related health impacts already run into the hundreds of billions annually when accounting for healthcare expenditure, productivity losses, infrastructure damage, and long-term social care demands. Health systems—ironically—are responsible for nearly 5% of global carbon emissions. Without intervention, we are financing our own vulnerability.

Yet within this challenge lies the greatest opportunity of our generation. WHISGreen: Energy, Waste and Water is a systems-level response to restore environmental balance while strengthening population health, economic resilience, and community wellbeing. It positions prevention—not reaction—as the foundation of environmental and health policy.

Gareth Presch

**Gareth Presch, CEO WHIS
& GSPA**



2.The Climate–Health Nexus



The Climate–Health Nexus

Three domains define the WHISGreen framework:

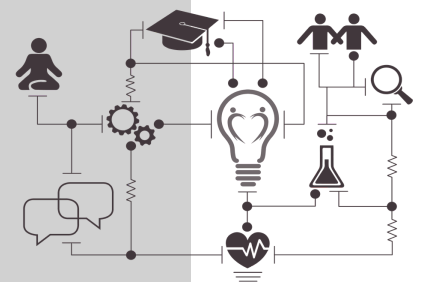
1. Energy

Energy systems directly influence:

- Air quality
- Hospital infrastructure resilience
- Community heat exposure
- Fuel poverty and inequality

Fossil fuel dependency drives non-communicable diseases, cardiovascular illness, and premature mortality. Meanwhile, energy-inefficient healthcare estates increase operational costs and carbon emissions.

Transitioning to renewable energy and energy-efficient healthcare infrastructure is not only an environmental necessity it is a public health intervention.



2.The Climate–Health Nexus



The Climate–Health Nexus

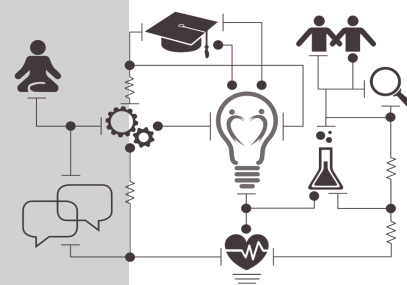
2. Waste

Healthcare waste, plastics, pharmaceutical residues, and food system inefficiencies contribute to:

- Soil degradation
- Water contamination
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Marine ecosystem damage

A circular economy approach reduction, reuse, responsible procurement, and sustainable design—can significantly reduce environmental harm while lowering system costs.

Waste is not simply a disposal issue. It is a design failure—and an innovation opportunity.



2.The Climate–Health Nexus



3. Water

Water scarcity and contamination are accelerating global health inequities.

Flooding, drought, and industrial pollution contribute to:

- Infectious disease outbreaks
- Malnutrition
- Community displacement
- Conflict over resources

Water security must be recognised as health security. Investment in clean water infrastructure yields exponential returns in reduced healthcare burden and improved productivity.

The Economic Reality

The cost of inaction is staggering:

- Escalating emergency response expenditure
- Increased chronic disease burden
- Insurance instability
- Lost workforce productivity
- Damage to health infrastructure

Climate-related health costs threaten to overwhelm already strained health systems.

However, the transition to sustainable energy, circular waste systems, and resilient water management offers:

- Job creation in green industries
- Reduced healthcare expenditure
- Attractiveness to global investment
- Technological leadership
- Long-term GDP growth through healthier populations

Prevention is economically superior to repair.

Every pound, euro, or dollar invested in climate-health resilience generates multiple returns in avoided cost and social value.





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**IN 2018, AIR
POLLUTION FROM
FOSSIL FUELS
CAUSED \$2.9
TRILLION IN
HEALTH AND
ECONOMIC COSTS,
ABOUT \$8 BILLION
A DAY.
REF: CREA**



WHISGreen Policy Objectives

WHISGreen proposes a coordinated global framework that:

1. Decarbonises healthcare systems
2. Embeds circular procurement models
3. Accelerates renewable energy adoption
4. Strengthens water resilience infrastructure
5. Incentivises sustainable innovation
6. Aligns climate finance with measurable health outcomes
7. Integrates community engagement and behavioural change

WHISGreen calls for cross-ministerial collaboration between health, environment, energy, finance, and education portfolios.

Health must become central to climate policy—not adjacent to it.

Opportunities Ahead

The opportunity is transformative:

- Position cities as Climate-Health Innovation Hubs
- Scale precision prevention technologies
- Mobilise blended finance for sustainable infrastructure
- Support SMEs and start-ups developing green health solutions
- Embed social prescribing models that connect environmental restoration with community wellbeing
- Create international standards for sustainable healthcare delivery

This is about systemic redesign—not incremental adjustment.



**Globally,
healthcare
contributes
4% of carbon
emissions**



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A Call to Action

WHISGreen is not a campaign it is a commitment.

We must:

- Measure what matters: carbon, waste, water, and health outcomes
- Finance prevention at scale
- Engage communities as co-creators of environmental health (Green & Blue Social Prescribing)
- Ensure that sustainability strategies reduce—not deepen—health inequalities

The restoration of environmental balance is inseparable from the restoration of human health.

The climate–health nexus represents both our greatest risk and our greatest investment opportunity.

The question is not whether we can afford to act.

It is whether we can afford not to.



**WHISGREEN:
RESTORING THE
BALANCE TO THE
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THROUGH ENERGY,
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SYSTEMS CHANGE.**

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