

## **PS 3.5**

**HOW DO WE REDUCE THE IMPACT OF HEALTHCARE ON THE ENVIRONMENT?**

## | BACKGROUND

Healthcare is one of the most polluting industries, responsible for nearly 5% of total global greenhouse gases<sup>1</sup> and generating over a tonne of waste per hospital bed each year<sup>2</sup>. The COVID-19 pandemic has also greatly exacerbated the use of single-use plastics which have limited potential for recycling.

In this session we look at the opportunities for 'greening health' with a focus on real world examples driving change at global, national and local levels.

## | OBJECTIVES

By attending this session you will -

- Understand the challenge of why we can't achieve true health without healthy health systems
- Hear from a panel of international experts on strategies for implementing policy level change in your health systems and organisations
- See four real world examples of initiatives reducing the impact of healthcare on the environment which we hope will spread
- Learn key strategies on how to build local collaboratives to accelerate how we can make healthcare more green



Panelist

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Dr. Ariel Pablos-Mendez is Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Irving Medical Center where he was a fellow working on MDRTB in NY and around the world. He also was Director of Knowledge Management at WHO (Geneva, CH) and Managing Director for International Health at The Rockefeller Foundation (New York, NY). In 2011, Dr. Pablos was appointed by President Obama (with US Senate consent) to lead USAID's bureau for Global Health. Dr. Pablos is a board-certified internist with over 100 publications, and has served in various boards and international commissions. He received his MD from the University of Guadalajara's School of Medicine and his MPH from Columbia University.