



University
of Exeter



European Centre for
Environment & Human Health



WHO Collaborating Centre
Natural Environments and Health

Register to join



Rebooting health promotion



breakout session

29 APRIL
11:45–12:30 CET

Nature-based solutions for prevention and health promotion in a changing climate

The session will examine the health benefits of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) in preventing disease and promoting health, with a focus on noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). It will highlight how well-designed urban NbS can address climate-related challenges – particularly extreme heat and flooding – while improving population well-being.

The discussion will emphasize equity-driven, evidence-based, and sustainable approaches that enhance climate resilience and meet societal needs – including access to green space, shade, and urban cooling – and support Member States in advancing integrated, health-promoting, and climate-responsive policies, while strengthening community engagement.

Objective

The outcome of the session will inform the WHO European Regional Strategy on tackling NCDs and advancing health promotion and well-being (2027–2037) by identifying priority actions for applying NbS to interconnected climate and health challenges, particularly in urban settings.

Moderators

- Dr. **Sinaia Netanyahu**, Senior Advisor for Nature and Health, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health; and
- Dr. **Rebecca Lovell**, Senior Lecturer in Biodiversity, Health and Policy, European Centre for Environment and Human Health.

Speakers

- Prof. **Ben Wheeler**, WHO Collaborating Centre on Natural Environments and Health, European Centre for Environment and Human Health, University of Exeter, Penryn, United Kingdom;
- **Edvardas Minkevičius**, Chief Adviser, Architecture and Landscape, Policy Group, Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania;
- **Fabien Lanteri**, Direction de la santé, Ville de Nic, France;
- **Pierpaolo Mudu**, Technical Officer, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health;
- **Gerardo Sanchez**, Expert in Environment and Health, European Environment Agency;
- **Oliver Schmoll**, Programme Manager, WASH and Climate Adaption, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health.