

GDHN July 2023 Webinar

Are we part of the problem, or part of the solution?
Digital health and the climate crisis

2023 Global Digital Health Forum: Call for abstracts



Abstract submission deadline:
Friday, 25 August 2023

Forum Theme: Driving Effective and
Equitable Digital Health Innovation

Visit <https://www.gdhf.digital/> for more
information and to submit your abstract

Questions:
forum@globaldigitalhealthnetwork.org

*The 2023 Global Digital Health Forum will be held from 4–6
December as a hybrid event—in-person in Washington DC and
virtually (Asia and East Africa time zones).*



Meet the new GDHN Co-Chair!



Carol Kamasaka

Senior Program Officer - Digital
Health, PATH Uganda
President, Uganda Health
Informatics Association

Are we health part of the problem, or part of the solution?

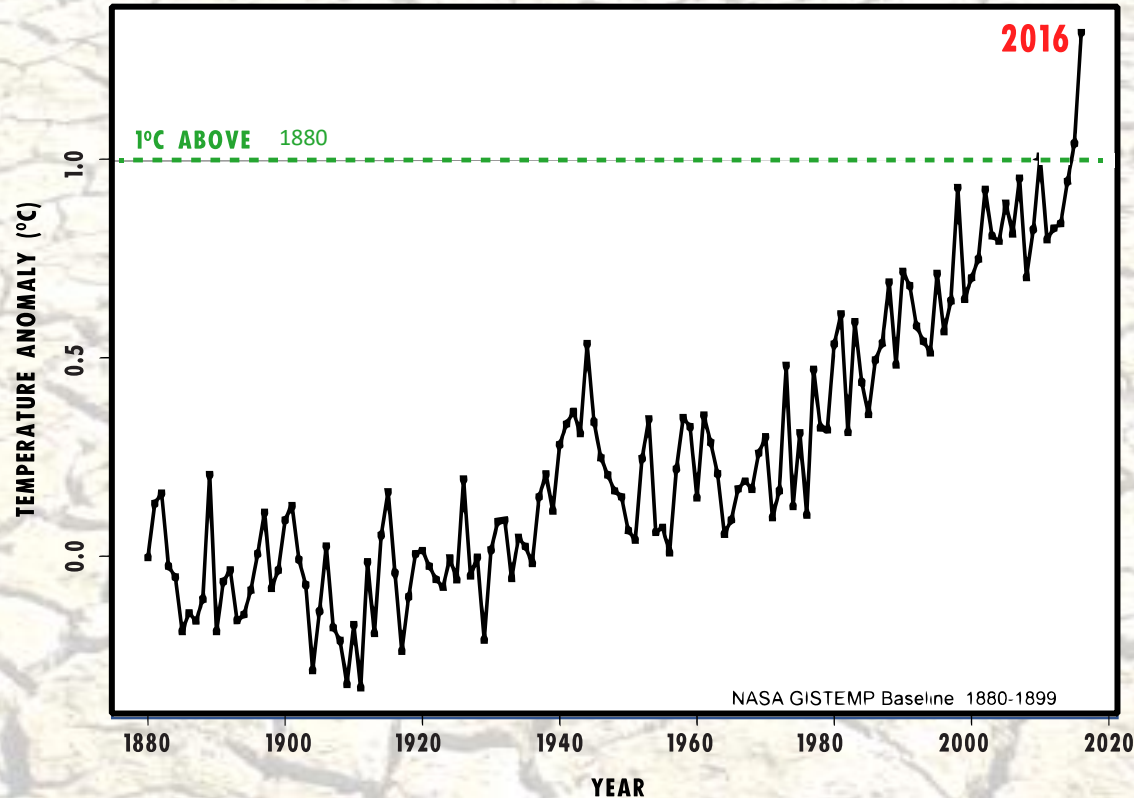
Digital health &
the climate crisis

GDHN meeting July 2023



GLOBAL TEMPERATURES ARE SKYROCKETING

GLOBAL MEAN SURFACE TEMPERATURE



1.1°C

HEATING IMPACTS ALREADY BEING FELT GLOBALLY



IMPACTS BEING FELT AROUND SOUTH AFRICA



Cyclone Idai



Drought 2018



Flooding & mudslides 2020



Table Mountain fires 2021



Aerial view of Funafuti, the capital island of Tuvalu

WE HAVE BEGUN EARTH'S 6th MASS EXTINCTION

NEWS

[Home](#) | [UK](#) | [World](#) | [Business](#) | [Politics](#) | [Tech](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Family & Education](#)

[Science & Environment](#)

Nature crisis: Humans 'threaten 1m species with extinction'

By Matt McGrath
Environment correspondent, Paris

6 May 2019



GETTY IMAGES

Pollination is vital for food production

One in four species are at risk of extinction

Species assessed by the IUCN Red List



Amphibians

40%



Conifers

34%



Reef corals

33%



Sharks and rays

31%



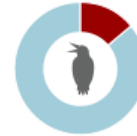
Selected crustaceans*

27%



Mammals

25%



Birds

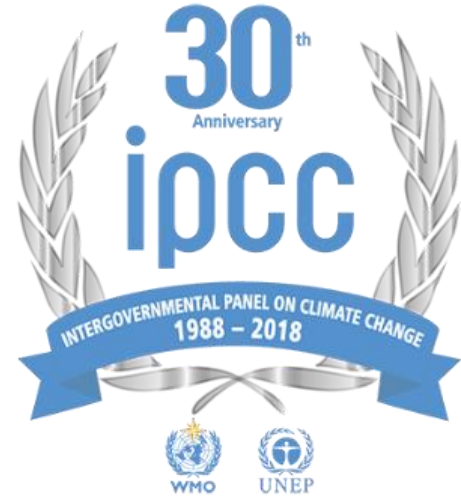
14%

* Assessed species include lobsters, freshwater crabs, freshwater crayfishes and freshwater shrimps

Source: IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

BBC

THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC)



Planet Has Only Until 2030 To Stem Catastrophic Climate Change, Experts Warn

The report found that limiting the warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius would require "rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport and cities.

NEWS • 08 OCTOBER 2018

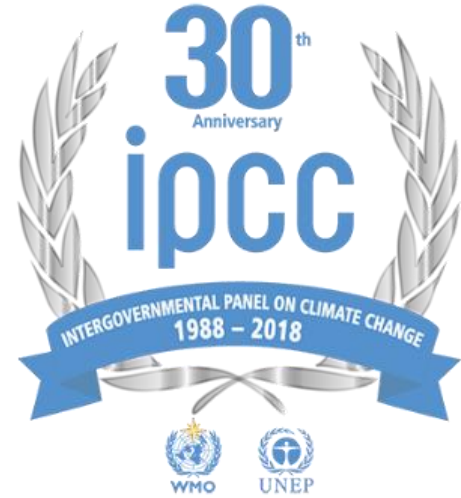
IPCC says limiting global warming to 1.5 °C will require drastic action

Humanity has a limited window in which it can hope to avoid the worst effects of climate change, according to climate report.

UNITED NATIONS
**PARIS CLIMATE
AGREEMENT**
SIGNING CEREMONY
— 22 APRIL 2016 —



THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC)



NEWS • 08 OCTOBER 2018

IPCC says limiting global warming to 1.5 °C will require drastic action

Humanity has a limited window in which it can hope to avoid the worst effects of climate change, according to climate report.

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The report found that limiting the warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius would require "rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport and cities.





"Yes, the planet got destroyed. But for a beautiful moment in time we created a lot of value for shareholders."



**What are the main issues
between digital development and
the climate crisis?**



COP24 SPECIAL REPORT

HEALTH & CLIMATE CHANGE



COP24 SPECIAL REPORT HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE

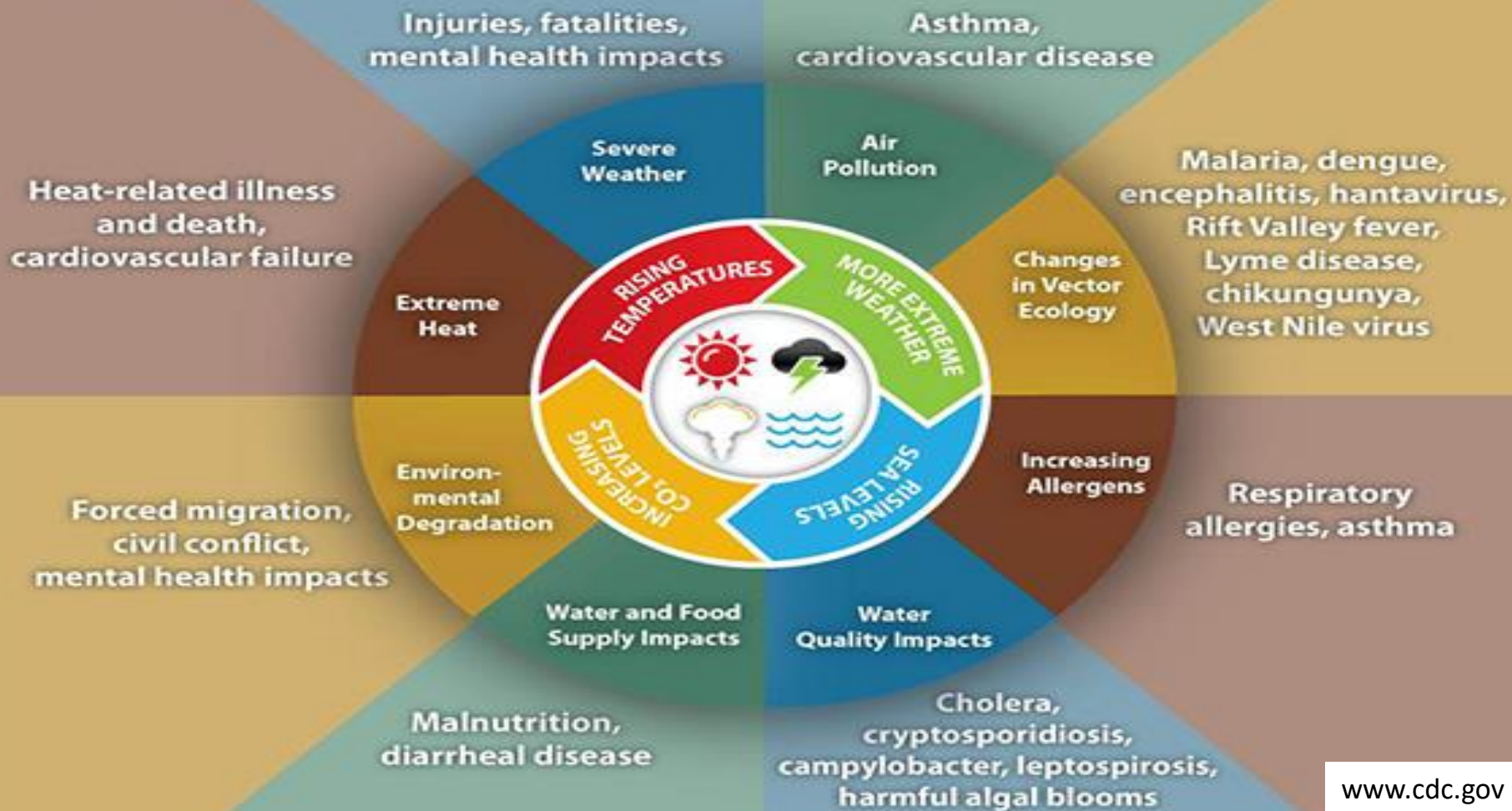
This report is a contribution from the public health community to support the negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It was written at the request of the President of the 23rd Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP23), Prime Minister Bainimarama of Fiji, to the World Health Organization (WHO) to prepare a report on health and climate change, to be delivered at COP24.

- Global knowledge on the interconnection between climate change and health.
- An overview of the initiatives and tools with which the national, regional and global public health community is supporting and scaling up actions to implement the Paris Agreement for a healthier, more sustainable society.
- Recommendations for UNFCCC negotiators and policy-makers on maximizing the health benefits of tackling climate change and avoiding the worst health impacts of this global challenge.

The report is based on contributions from over 80 health professionals, academic experts, representatives of civil society and international agencies who have worked on climate change and health for over three decades.



Impact of Climate Change on Human Health



Digital development should

1. Minimize ecological harm of digital development

Digital Technologies Are Part of the Climate Change Problem

By Guest Writer on February 20, 2020



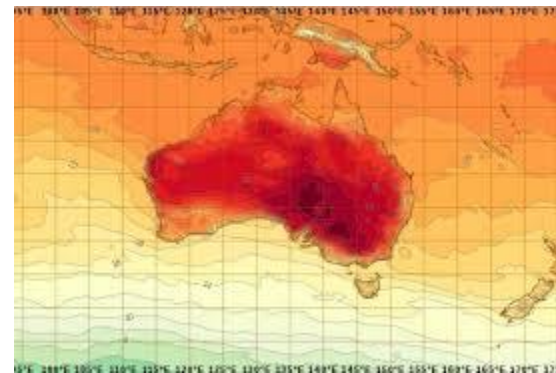




Digital development should

1. Minimize ecological harm of digital development

2. Increase health system resilience & provide services to mitigate the climate crisis



Tools

An effective health system depends on high-quality pharmaceutical information, from supply inventory records to financial data. SLAPS improves the quality and availability of information with a suite of electronic tools that help pharmaceutical managers develop sound policies and monitor supplies and services.

SEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Search Publications



e-TB Manager
management information
needs for tuberculosis
patients



**Electronic Dispensing
Tool**
medicine dispensing and
treatment adherence
tracking



Phamadox
medicines registration
tracking



**Pharmacovigilance
Monitoring System**
medicines safety
monitoring



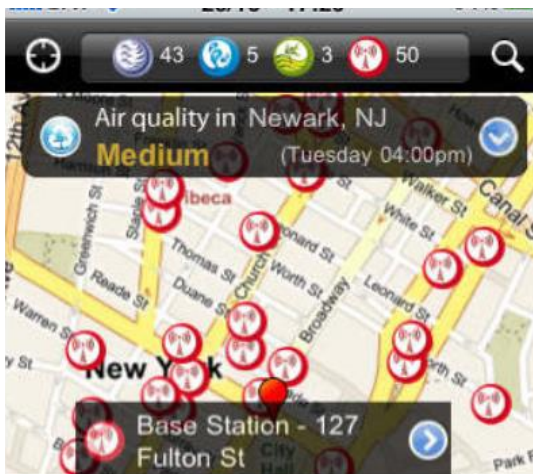
Quantmed
forecasting and
quantification



RxSolution
patient management,
dispensing, and inventory
management



QuanTB
forecasting, quantification,
and early warning tool for
TB medicines





Digital development should

1. Minimize ecological harm of digital development
2. Increase health system resilience & provide services to mitigate the climate crisis
3. Reduce the carbon footprint of the industry itself

ARTICLES | VOLUME 4, ISSUE 7, E271-E279, JULY 01, 2020

The environmental footprint of health care: a global assessment

[Prof Manfred Lenzen, PhD](#) • [Arunima Malik, PhD](#)   • [Mengyu Li, PhD](#) • [Jacob Fry, PhD](#) • [Prof Helga Weisz, PhD](#) • [Peter-Paul Pichler, PhD](#) • et al. [Show all authors](#)

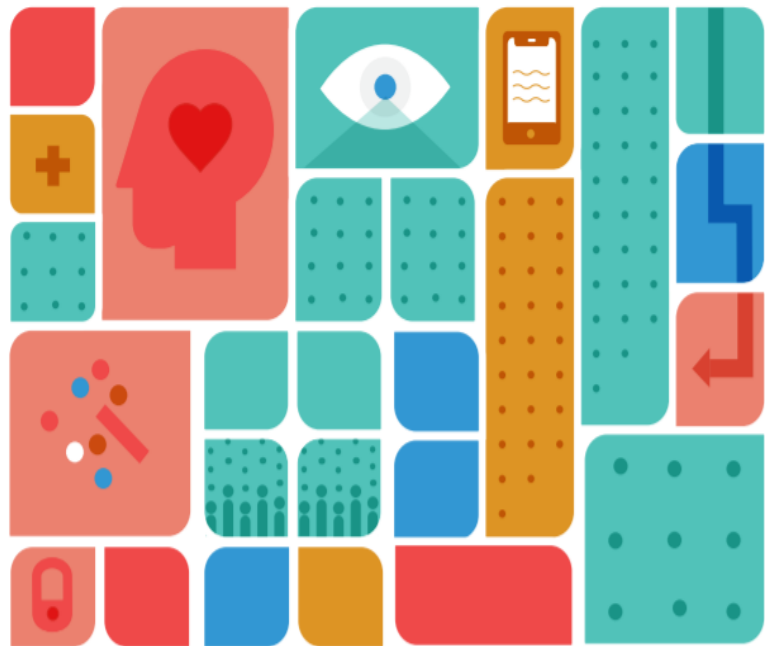
[Open Access](#) • Published: July, 2020 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196\(20\)30121-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(20)30121-2) •  Check for updates

Making Healthcare Green: The Role of Cloud, Green IT, and Data Science

John P. Lamb, PhD. Adjunct Faculty, Mathematics. Pace University, USA

Globally, the healthcare sector is growing in importance and plays a key role in world economics. The healthcare sector makes heavy use of technology, including social media. Technological advances have revolutionized the healthcare industry worldwide – from modern testing techniques to improved surgical equipment, remote health monitoring technologies with the help of modern digital equipment, etc. There are many online healthcare portals. The complexity of the healthcare industry helps account for the large environmental footprint.

Healthcare accounts for 8% of the U.S. carbon footprint.



DIGITAL SELF-CARE

A Framework for Design,
Implementation & Evaluation

SEPTEMBER 2020



zipline



How to apply this in my work & projects?

1. How can your work minimize ecological harm?
2. How can your work increase resilience & provide services to mitigate the climate crisis?
3. Can your work reduce the carbon footprint & damage of the industry you work in?

Digital development should

1. Minimize ecological harm of digital development
2. Increase health system resilience & provide services to mitigate the climate crisis
3. Reduce the carbon footprint of the industry itself
4. Lobby & mobilise people to oppose climate crisis.
POLITICAL action

DH&I Small working group on digital health & the climate crisis

62 in the team

- 5 continents, about 30 countries
- 21 task volunteers
- Practitioners / academics / government / medics / NGOs / donors / International orgs

Monthly meetings: Last Monday of the month (still sorting time)

Co-chairs: Matt Hulse (World Bank, US)

Gabby Samuel (Kings College London, UK)

Peter Benjamin (HealthEnabled, South Africa)

Activities 1

AWARENESS

- 1. Stream in Global Digital Health Forum
- 2. Wikipedia article
- 3. ICTWorks blog & social media plan
- 4. World Bank virtual event
- 5. Course curriculum & learning module
- 6. Infographics & other media

ADVOCACY & OUTREACH

- 7. SWG governance docs, mission etc.
- 8. Private sector outreach, templates
- 9. Policy briefs on topics
- 10. Small hybrid conference

Activities 2

ANALYTICS

- 11. Article on 'What data do we need?' to assess enviro impact of Dig Health
- 12. Literature review on environ impact of Dig Health implementations and means to reduce
- 13. Research how digital health can reduce environmental harm of healthcare industry
- 14. Landscape review of tools & framework for assessment of digital health tech for environmental cost-benefit
- 15. Policy framework for integration of digital health in mitigating the impact of climatic disasters on healthcare systems
- 16. White-paper & framework on carbon costs of tech in health sector

OTHER

- 17. Map open source, climate resources for software developers
- 18. Sexual & reproductive health, digital & climate change, rights & gender perspective
- 19. Open source resource repository for AI model development (climate data resources)
- 20. Digital mental health & climate change

Digital health and the climate crisis

1. Minimize environmental harm of digital health
2. Increase health system resilience & provide services to mitigate (reduce emissions) & adapt (adjust to climate change)
3. Digital health as a tool to reduce the carbon footprint of the health industry itself

***First, do no
environmental harm***

***Be part of the solution
to the climate crisis***

Climate crisis & digital health Working Group

Please join us

Email: peter@healthenabled.org



DIGITAL HEALTH





Q&A

Please post your
questions in the chat.

Join the next GDHN webinar

FLEXIBLE DIGITALIZATION OF REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

When: August 24th @ 8:00–9:00 EDT (New York/UTC-4)

Hosted by:



More details and registration link coming soon!



Join the GDHN!



<https://bit.ly/GDHNSignUp>