## **Creating meaning – building stories for promoting health literacy and transforming environmental health**

**Convener: IUHPE Working Group on Health Literacy, Health Literacy Media, USA and others.**

The role of health literacy in meeting the challenges of planetary health will be explored through the presentation of real-life case studies from around the globe focusing on middle and low-income countries/communities. The audience will experience the power of narratives to interrogate the complex connections between health literacy, environmental literacy, and the scientific evidence base to collaboratively develop evidence-based solutions to pressing health and environmental issues. This experience will not only provide insight into a newly developed methodology, but also a possibility to experience valid and reliable processes to enhance collective decision-making and policy-making at the highest levels of global governance, including meeting the challenges of the SDGs.

Through exploring the link between health literacy, environmental issues, and human health, participants will:

• Appreciate the utility of health literacy to address environmental issues and empower the lived expertise of communities and citizens across regions to craft effective and culturally appropriate responses to the environmental and health challenges they face

• Understand the power of narratives/stories as a methodology that can fuel individual and collective decision-making processes to influence health and environmental policy

• Learn how to approach complex challenges and identify potential solutions for current and pressing health and environmental issues through innovative, interactive methods.