Rapid changes in population, climate, resource security and technology use will invariably impact, one would argue mostly negatively, on human health as it currently does on biodiversity and natural ecosystems. Pressure on human health will lead to lowered social resilience and economic depression for many part of the global population, especially those parts that do not have the resources to mitigate or perhaps more importantly in the context of health, adapt. Many areas in the Asia-Pacific region are already facing this dilemma. Children are the most vulnerable of the populations in these areas as this conference will have reaffirmed. They will face hazardous exposures over the longest time, demanding the most attention from health systems that will increasingly be under pressure to implement and sustain interventions to protect their health into adulthood and beyond. Not all interventions will be beyond the reach of even the most resource-stretched societies. From an environmental health perspective, containment and disposal of primary human wastes and optimising and maintaining personal hygiene will offer communities the means to mitigate as well as adapt to some of the most critical environmental health challenges and go a long way towards preventing disease. This presentation will offer some suggestions as to how this can be achieved.