ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

As the climate crisis continues to accelerate GGHH is organizing the 2020 Challenge to mobilize health care around the world to protect public health from climate change.

The Challenge is based on three pillars:

Mitigation – Reducing health care’s own carbon footprint.

Resilience – Preparing for the impacts of extreme weather and the shifting burden of disease.

Leadership – Educating staff and the public while promoting policies to protect public health from climate change.

The Challenge launched in 2015 in a rolling series of events around the world, culminating in Paris at COP21, the UN Climate Conference, where leading health systems were recognized with awards. In 2016 thousands more hospitals and health systems are expected to participate in the 2020 Challenge.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Hospitals and health systems that sign the 2020 Challenge pledge on www.greenhospitals.net can participate.

Many of the initial participants have set ambitious mitigation targets of 30% or more carbon reduction by 2020. Yet all hospitals, health centers and health systems from everywhere in the world are encouraged to participate and help foster climate friendly health care.

HOW?

Each participant will:

Sign a pledge to reduce their carbon footprint, become more climate resilient and exert leadership for a healthy climate.

Establish carbon reduction targets for the year 2020 (or enter existing targets if they are already established).

Share data on progress over time.

Compete for Health Care Climate Awards which will recognize leaders globally, by region, and for each of the three pillars.

Receive an automatic membership in GGHH, and with it, access to tools and resources, including our online collaboration platform, GGHH Connect.

PARTICIPANTS

The 2020 Challenge currently has 67 participants, representing more than 8200 hospitals and health centers in 19 countries. As of December 2015, participants include (partial list):

Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris (APHP) (France), British United Provident Association (BUPA) (United Kingdom), Buddhist Tzu Chi Medical Foundation (Taiwan, China), BUND Friends of the Earth Germany (Germany), Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care (Canada), Counties Manukau Health (New Zealand), Departamento de Salud de Xàtiva-Ontinyent (Spain), Dignity Health (USA), Gundersen Health System (USA), HackensackUMC (USA), Hospital Albert Einstein (Brazil), Hospital León Becerra (Ecuador), Hospital Sirio Libanes (Brazil), Hospital Zonal General de Agudos “Dr. Enrique F. Erill” (Argentina), Kaiser Permanente (USA), Kaohsiung Municipal Siaogang Hospital (Taiwan), Netcare Limited (South Africa), Public Health Foundation of India (India), Sustainable Development Unit of NHS England and Public Health England (United Kingdom), Synergie Santé Environnement (Canada), Stockholm County Council (Sweden), University Health Network (Canada), Virginia Mason Medical Center (USA), Vivantes Hospital Neukölln (Germany), Western Cape Government Health (South Africa), Yonsei University Health System (South Korea). For a complete list see: www.greenhospitals.net/2020-participants/
TOWARD LOW CARBON HEALTH CARE

Imagine hospitals around the world deploying onsite energy and super-efficient building design; sourcing sustainably grown food for their communities; minimizing waste generation; practicing water recycling.

Imagine the health sector as a beacon of and advocate for low-carbon development.

Imagine Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH).

ABOUT GGHH

GGHH is a worldwide network of hospitals, health systems and health organizations committed to reducing the health sector’s environmental footprint and advocating for policies that promote environmental and public health.

Launched in late 2011, the Network has quickly grown to include more than 600 members from 34 countries representing the interests of more than 20,600 hospitals and health centers from every continent.

BENEFITS

GGHH Connect | An innovative, online platform, that connects leading hospitals, health systems, and experts from around the globe.

Case Studies | Sustainability successes from GGHH’s membership on every continent.

GGHH Webinar Series | Experts and members share cutting-edge strategies for implementing sustainability in the health care sector.

GGHH Guidance Documents | Comprehensive technical guides provide tools, actions and strategies for members to work on GGHH Goals such as Energy, Waste, Water, Buildings and Chemicals.

GGHH Agenda Goal Self-Assessments | These checklists help members analyze where their institution is strong and highlight potential focus areas for improvement.

THE 10 GOAL FRAMEWORK

Leadership | Prioritize environmental health

Chemicals | Substitute harmful chemicals with safer alternatives

Waste | Reduce, treat and safely dispose of healthcare waste

Energy | Implement energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy generation

Water | Reduce hospital water consumption and supply potable water

Transportation | Improve transportation strategies for patients and staff

Food | Purchase and serve sustainably grown, healthy food

Pharmaceuticals | Safely manage and dispose of pharmaceuticals

Buildings | Support green and healthy hospital design and construction

Purchasing | Buy safer and more sustainable products and materials

Global Green and Healthy Hospitals

Acting Together for Environmental Health

www.greenhospitals.net