

Towards low carbon and climate resilient health systems in the European Region

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DECARBONIZATION OF SLOVENIAN HEALTHCARE

1. CONFERENCE – HEALTHCARE TOWARDS THE GREEN PATH

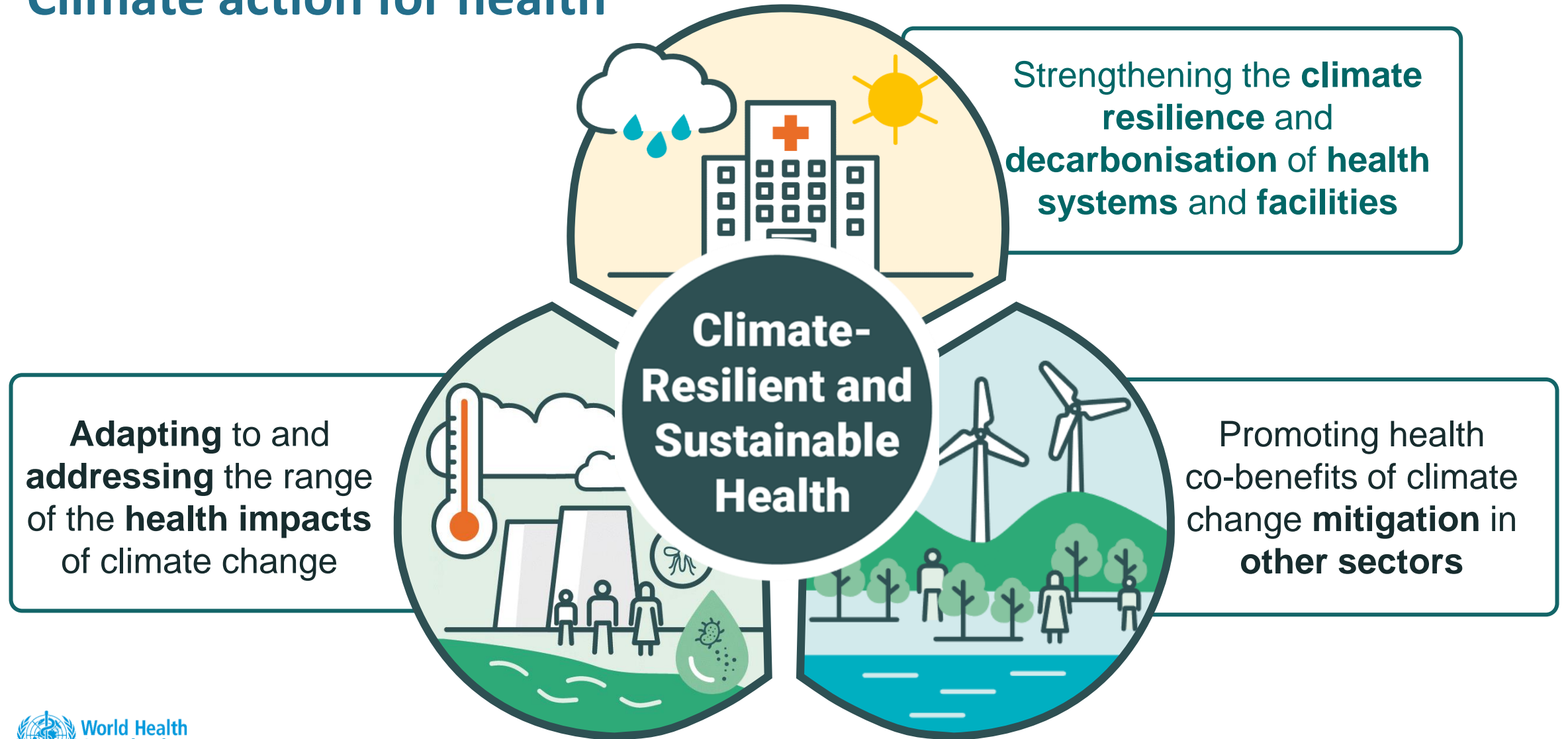
3 June 2024, Brdo pri Kranju



European Region



Climate action for health



Global policy anchors



COMMITMENT AREA 1:
**CLIMATE-RESILIENT HEALTH
SYSTEMS**

COMMITMENT AREA 2:
**SUSTAINABLE LOW-CARBON
HEALTH SYSTEMS**



ATACH

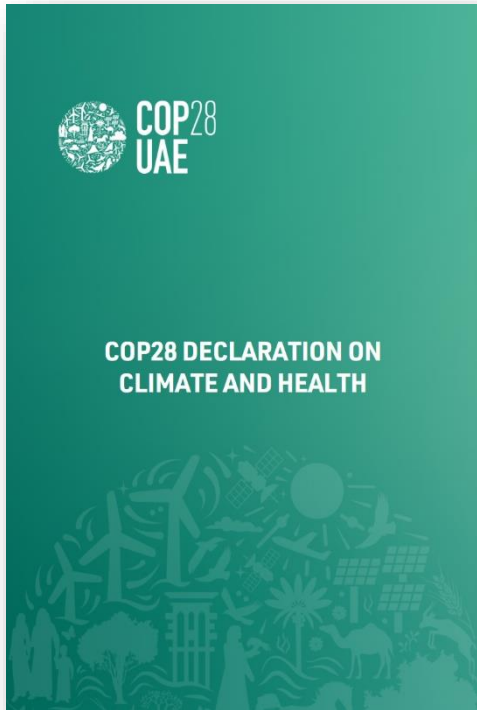
Alliance for Transformative
Action on Climate and Health
WHO hosted network

AIM ► Implementation vehicle to take forward the goals of the COP26 Health Programme (and beyond)

OBJECTIVE ► Support countries to make, and deliver on, ambitious commitments for climate-resilient and low-carbon sustainable health systems through collective action

MEMBERSHIP ► 82 countries with 13 of which from the European Region: Austria, Belgium, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Türkiye and United Kingdom

Taking this forward



- **COP 28 Health Day** – the first ever
- **Climate and Health Declaration** signed by 143 countries
- **50 ministers of health** leading the climate and health ministerial
- **COP 28 European Regional Dialogue** on Climate and Health
- **COP 29** will convene from 11 to 24 November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan

New WHA resolution on climate change and health (WHA 77)

Calls upon Member States to:

- conduct climate change and health vulnerability and adaptation assessments toward the development of health national adaptation plans;
- develop and implement national action plans toward **decarbonization and environmental sustainability of health systems, facilities and supply chains**;
- integrate climate data into existing monitoring, early warning, surveillance, and data collection systems;
- invest in adaptation measures that proactively address climate related health impacts, including early warning systems for climate-related disease outbreaks and enhancing emergency preparedness and response
- ...

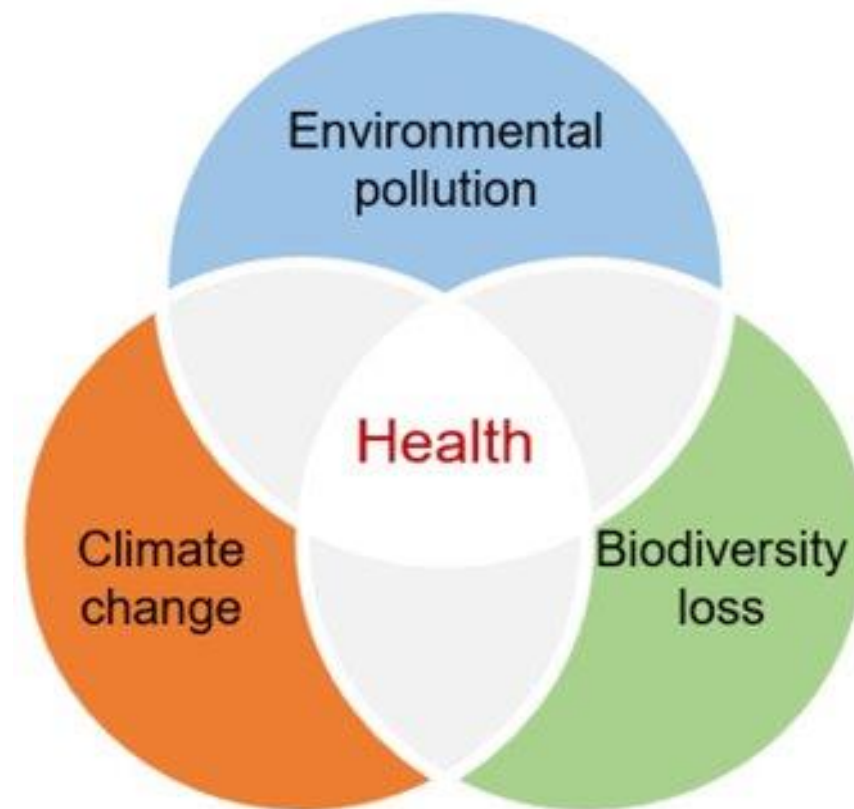
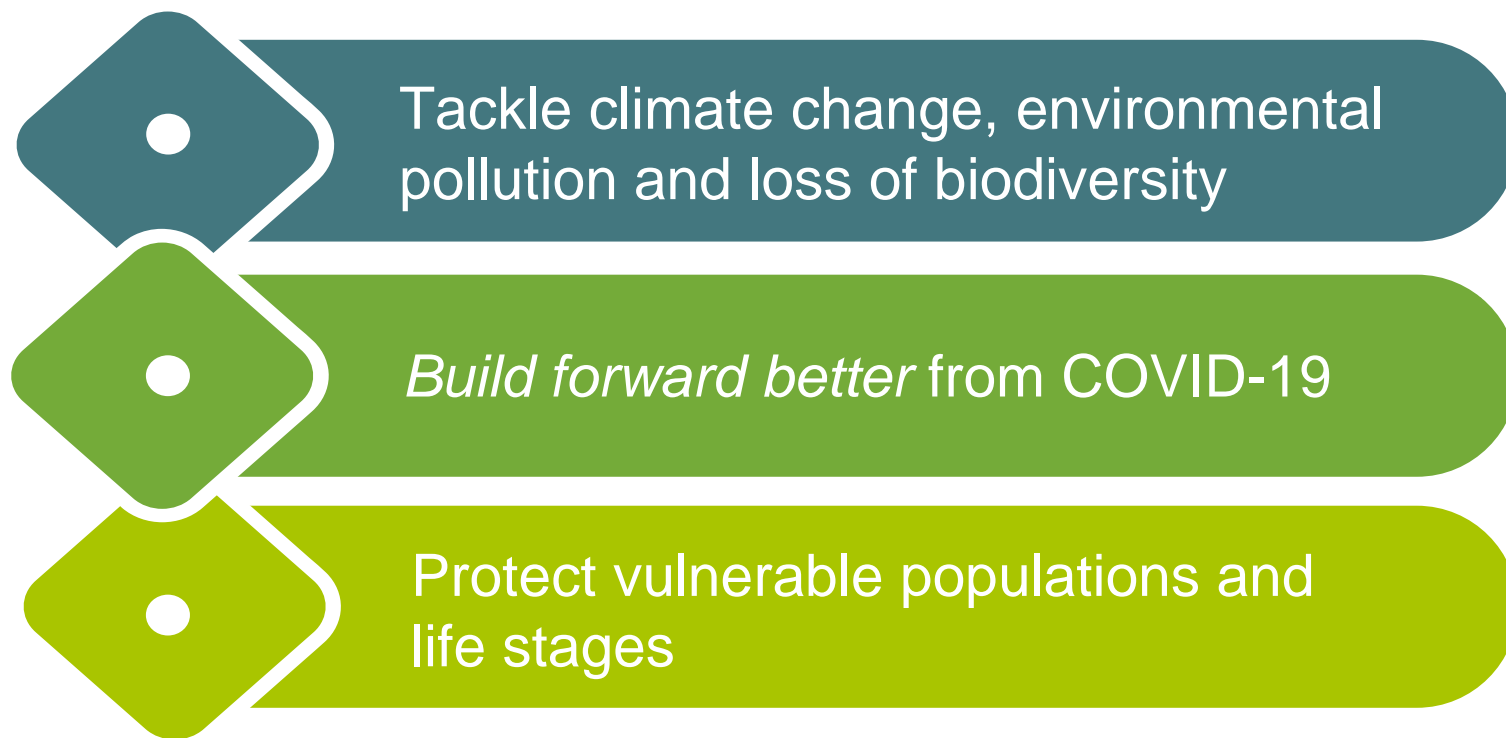
Requests DG to:

- develop a Global Plan of Action on Climate Change and Health;
- integrate climate actions in WHO's work (GPW14);
- serve as a global leader and collaborate with the UN system climate and health action;
- build capacity in health professionals on climate-health interdependence, and report on progress.



Regional developments - Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health

Budapest, 5-7 July 2023

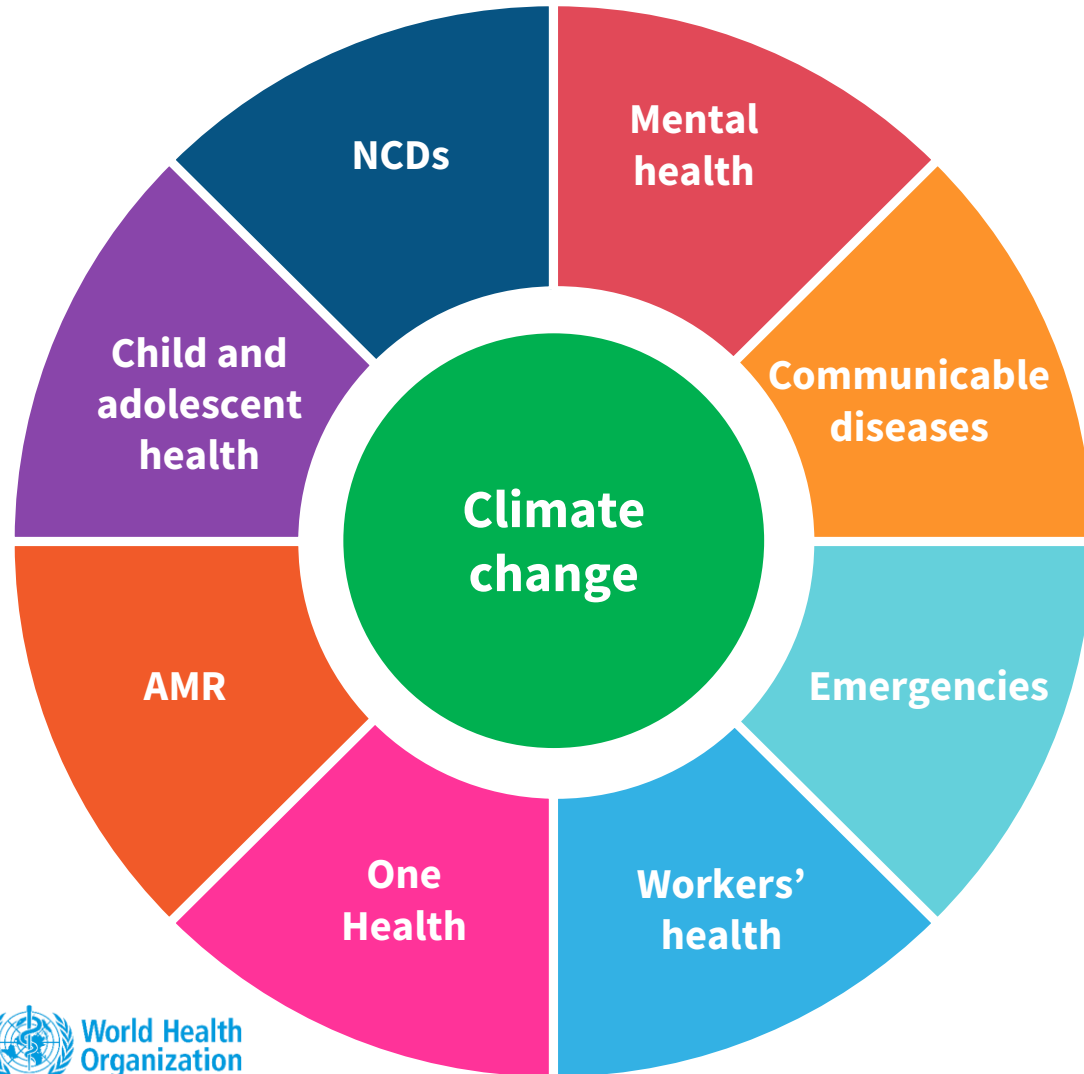


The Budapest Declaration - climate change and health actions



- Making **health systems** and facilities **climate-resilient**, environmentally sustainable, and **decarbonized**
- Strengthening the **climate-literacy of health professionals**
- Establishing requirements for the climate resilience of **water** and **sanitation** services
- Establishing **health-centred targets** in national planning, in particular in the National Determined Contributions
- Developing and updating **heat-health action plans**
- Developing, updating, and implementing **Health National Adaptation Plans**
- Strengthening **natural disaster** risk reduction policies and climate-informed health **early-warning and surveillance** systems

Transformative climate action in health sector



Health sector action – leading by example

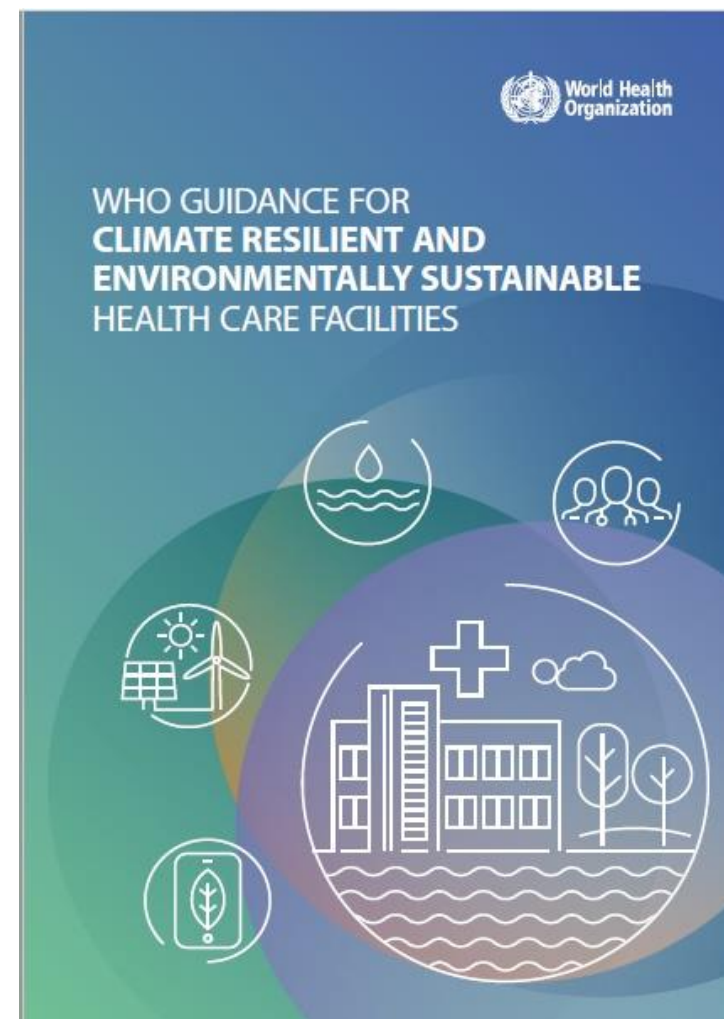
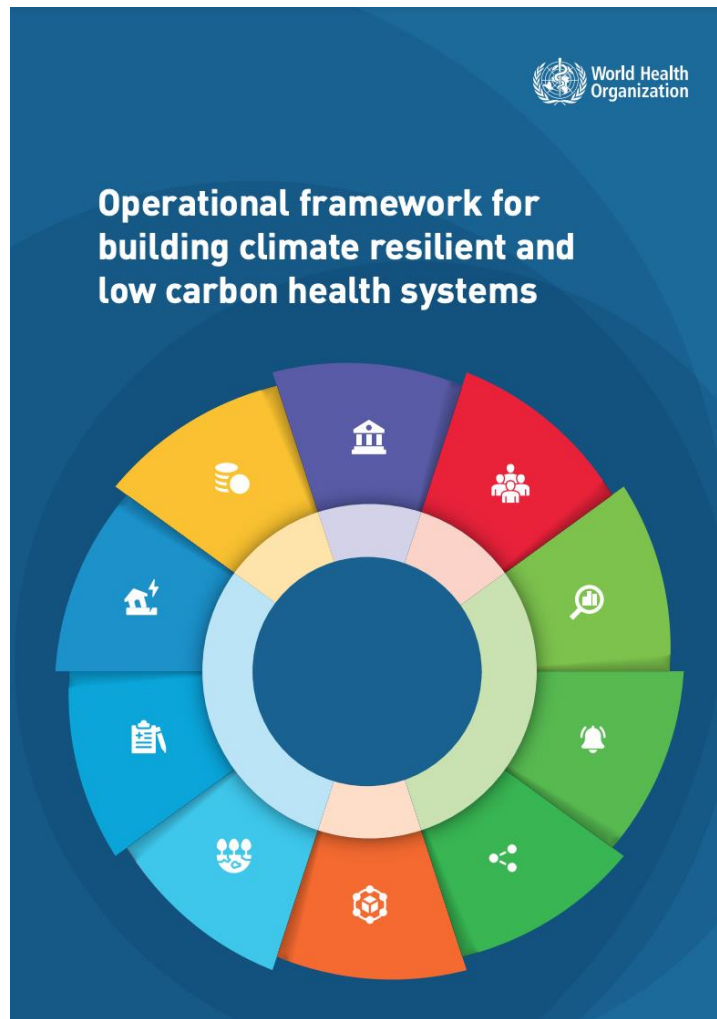
Reduction of the 5 % of global carbon emissions due to healthcare

Building adaptation and climate resilience

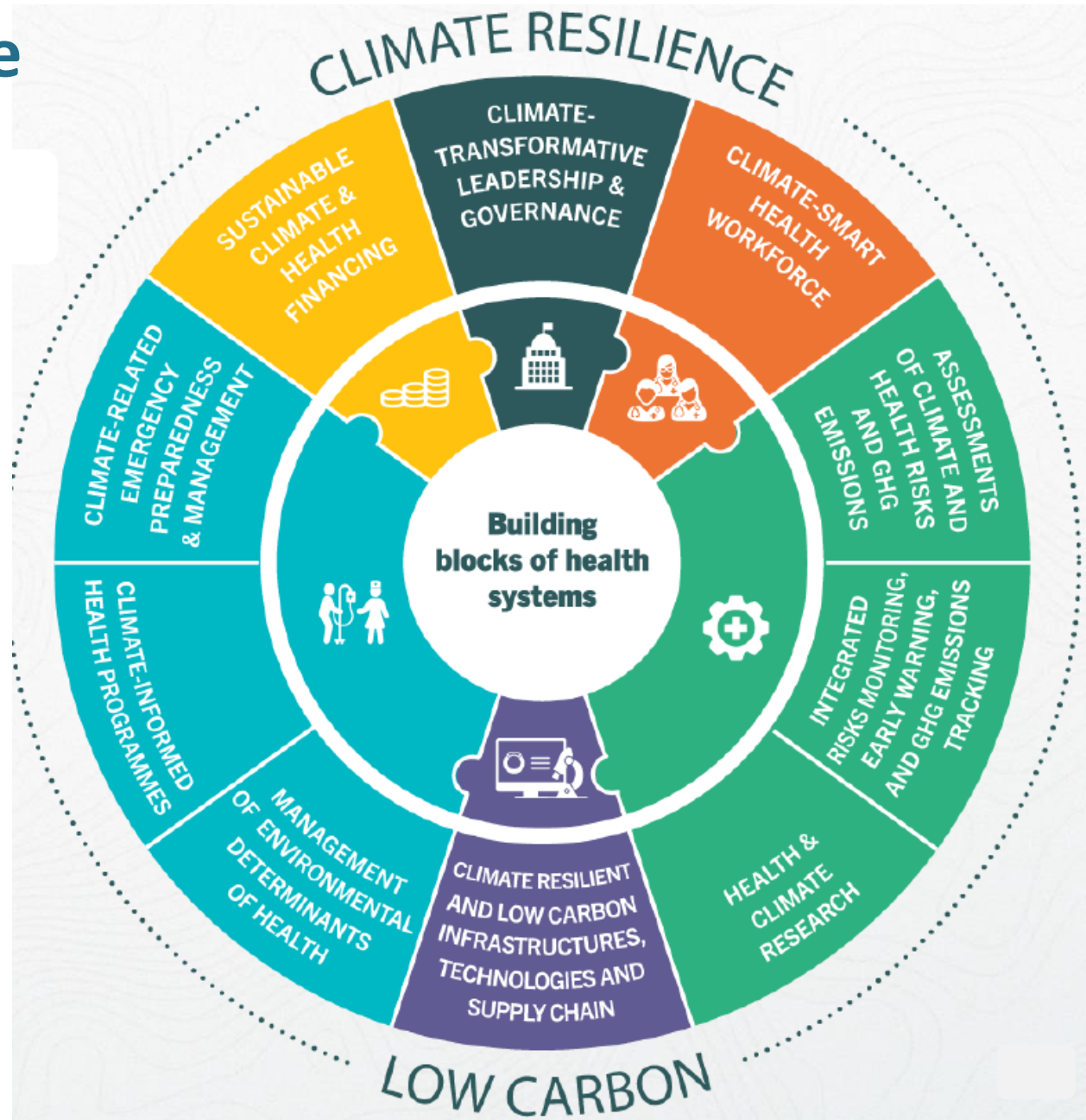
Integration of climate considerations into building blocks of health systems

Health system and facility level actions

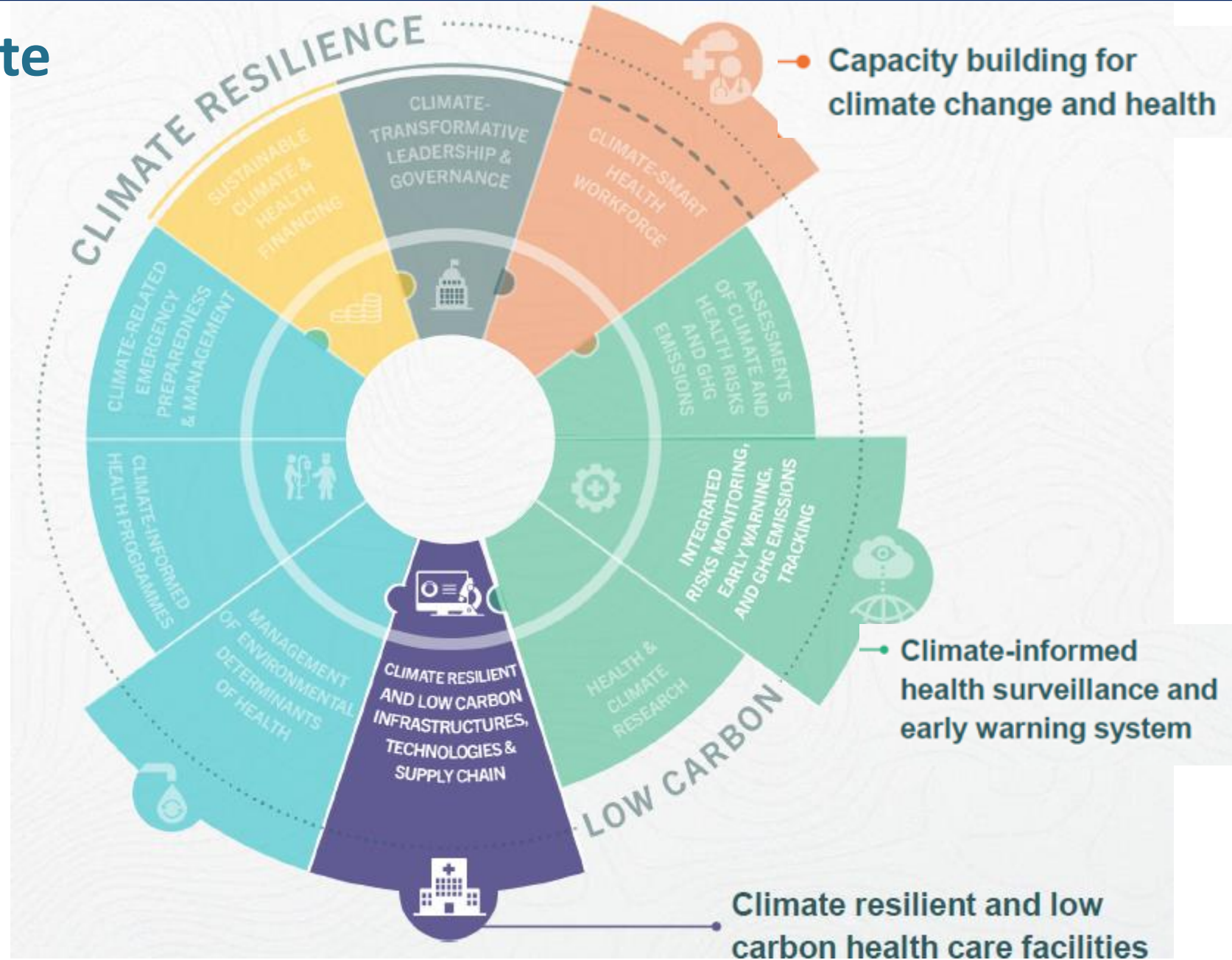
WHO resources to support action in health systems



Areas for climate interventions



Areas for climate interventions



Examples



National initiatives / Example: UK NHS

Source: [Greener NHS » Delivering a net zero NHS \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/greener-nhs/)

Greener NHS

- Our Vision: to deliver the world's first net zero health service and respond to climate change, improving health now and for future generations.
- On 1 July 2022, the NHS became the first health system to embed net zero into legislation, through the Health and Care Act 2022.

Objectives

- Two targets:
- For the emissions we control directly (the NHS Carbon Footprint), we will reach net zero by 2040, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032;
- For the emissions we can influence (our NHS Carbon Footprint Plus), we will reach net zero by 2045, with an ambition to reach an 80% reduction by 2036 to 2039.

NHS - decarbonisation scopes

GHGP scope 1: Direct emissions from owned or directly controlled sources, on site

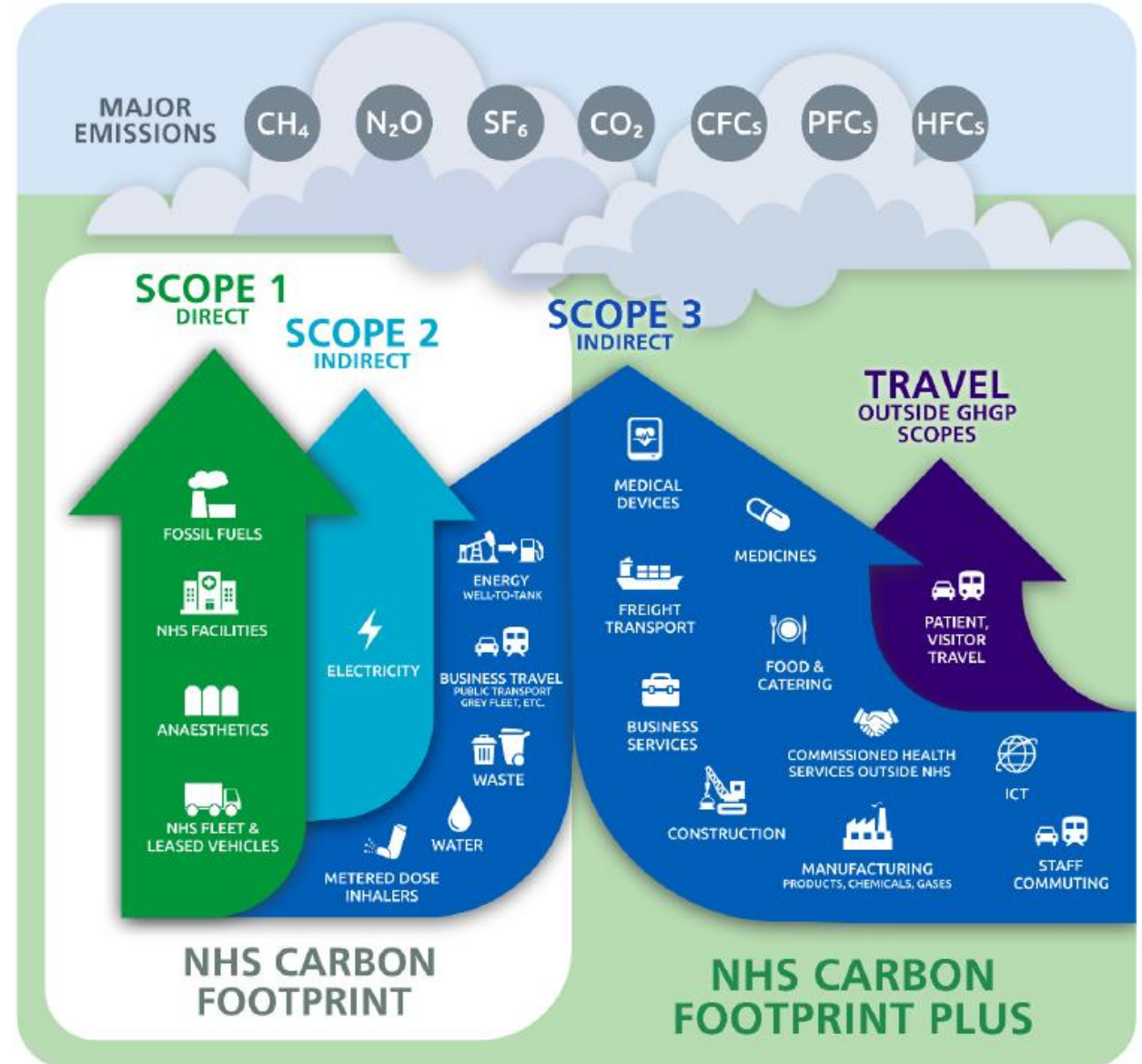
GHGP scope 2: Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy, mostly electricity

GHGP scope 3: All other indirect emissions that occur in producing and transporting goods and services, including the full supply chain



European Region

Source: [HSE Climate Action Strategy 2023 – 2050](#); [HSE](#)

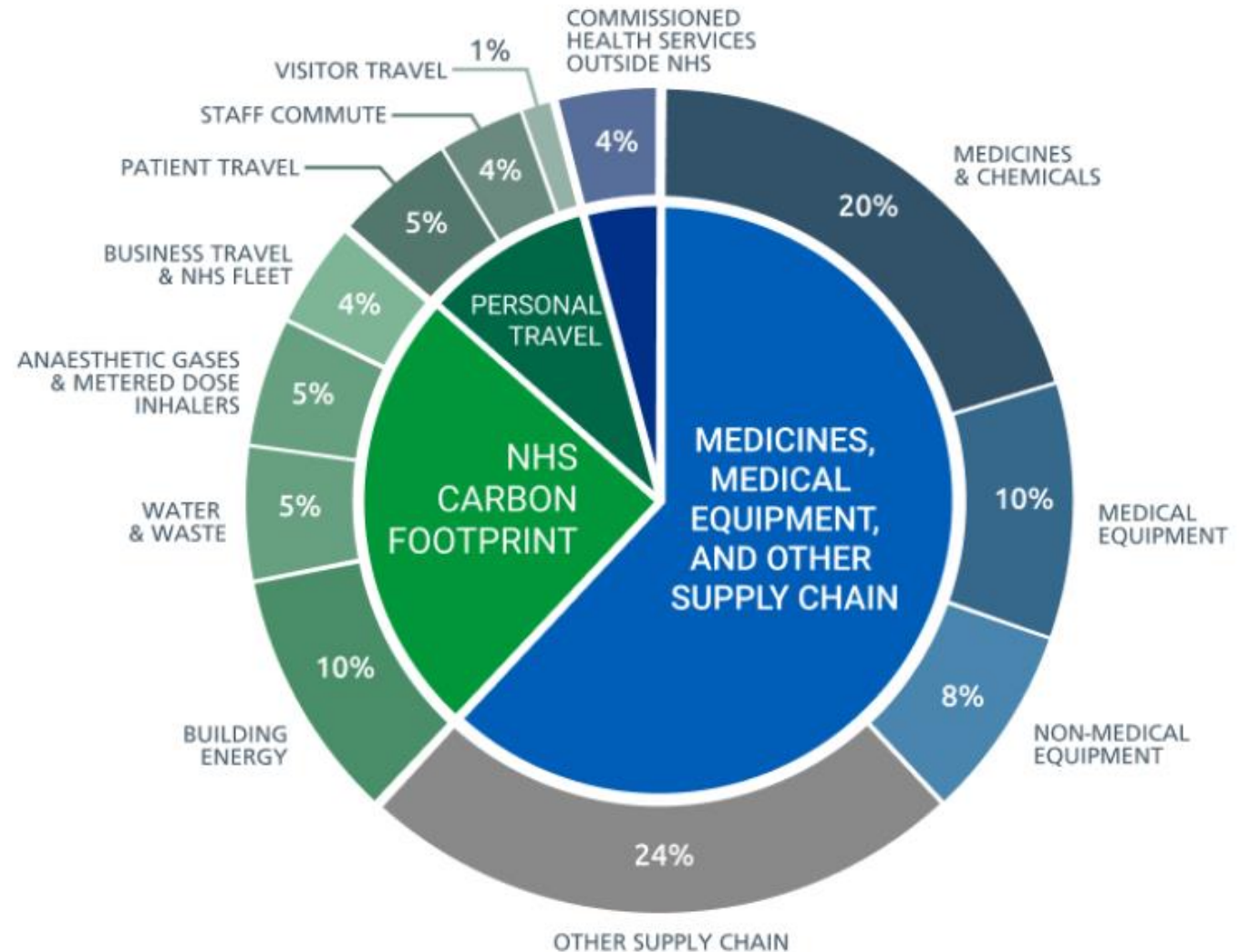


GHGP scopes in the context of the NHS

NHS - sources of carbon emissions - proportion of Carbon Footprint Plus

Two net zero targets for the NHS:

- by 2040 for the NHS Carbon Footprint, with an ambition for an 80% reduction by 2028 to 2032;
- by 2045 for the NHS Carbon Footprint Plus, with an ambition for an 80% reduction by 2036 to 2039.



National initiatives / Example: Ireland

Source: [HSE Climate Action Strategy 2023 - 2050](#)

HSE Climate Action Strategy 2023 – 2050

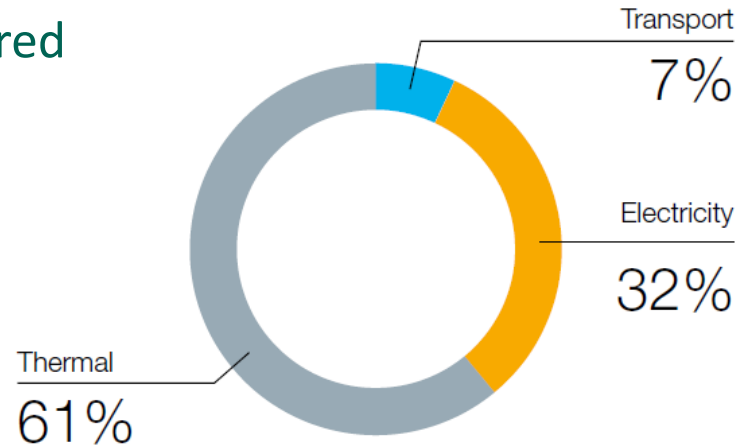
- Committed to achieving net-zero emissions no later than 2050,
- delivering healthcare which is environmentally and socially sustainable

Six Priority Areas of Focus

- Sustainable Buildings and the Green Environment
- Transport and Mobility
- Sustainable Procurement
- Greener Models of Healthcare
- Water and Waste Management
- Adaptation and Resilience

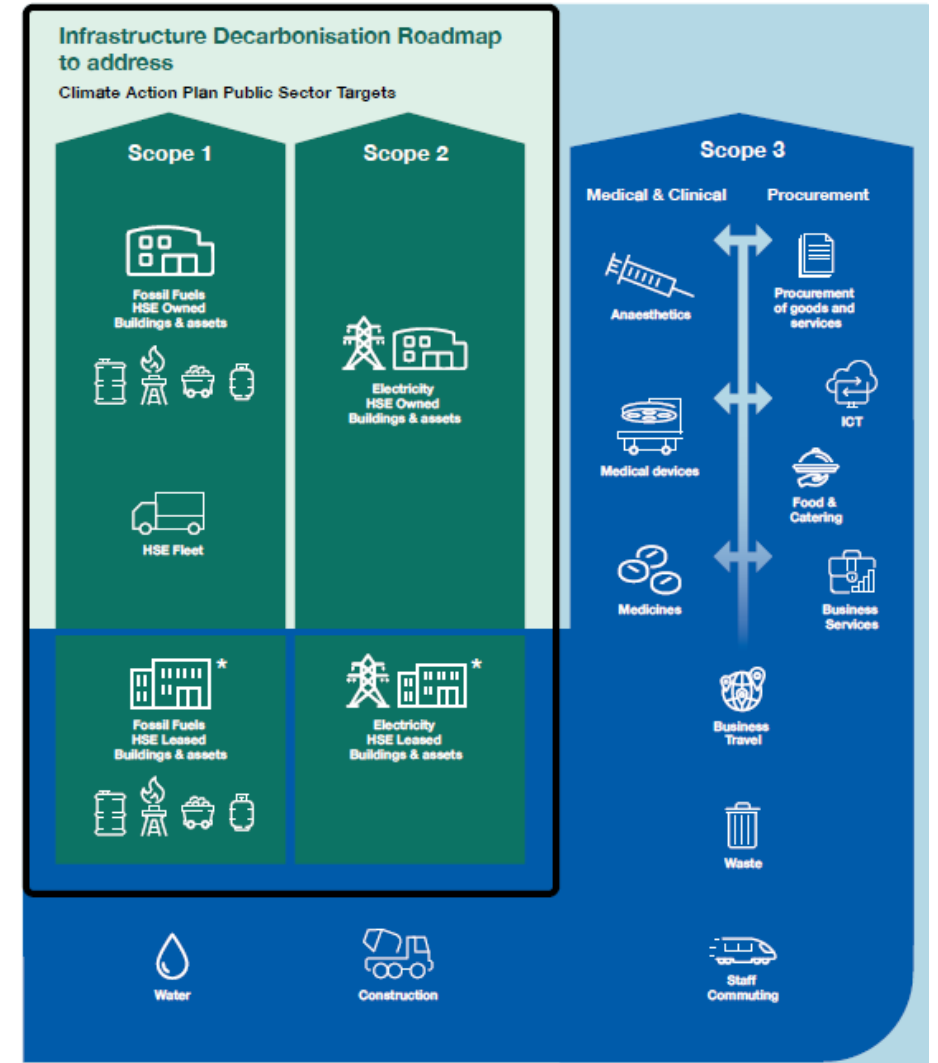
Ireland - HSE Decarbonisation Roadmap

Overview of total measured Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions 2020



Decarbonisation targets for energy-related Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions:

- Reduce energy-related GHG emissions by 51% by 2030;
- Increase the improvement in energy efficiency in the public sector from the 33% target in 2020 to 50% by 2030
- A net-zero energy-related emissions target for 2050 at the latest



Scope of Climate Action Plan Public Sector Targets & Scope of HSE Infrastructure Decarbonisation Roadmap

National initiatives / Example: The Netherlands

Source: <https://www.government.nl/topics/sustainable-healthcare/more-sustainability-in-the-care-sector>

Green Deal on Sustainable Healthcare

- Achieve a shift towards green, climate-neutral healthcare
- Emphasize prevention and focus more on factors that enhance people's health
- Reduce the sector's negative effects on climate and the environment

Objectives

- Promote the health of healthcare consumers and providers through better nutrition and environment and lifestyle interventions
- Increase knowledge and awareness of the sector's environmental and climate-related impact
- To be carbon-neutral by 2050
- Reduce use of materials and resources as well as residual waste
- Reduce the environmental burden of pharmaceuticals

National initiatives / Example: France

Source: [planification-ecologique-du-systeme-de-sante-feuille-de-route-mai-2023.pdf](#)

Ecological Plan for Health and Medico-social Sectors

Set in 2023 for the health sector in order to control its environmental impacts and to ensure the ecological transformation of the sector in the long term

Seven Priority Areas of action

- Building and energy management
- Sustainable Procurement
- Eco-responsible treatments
- Waste from the sector
- Training and research in ecological transformation
- Sustainable mobility
- Environmental impact of digital technology

Building and strengthening partnerships for action



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European Region

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**HBM in the WHO
European Region**
(led by Germany and co-led by
Georgia)

**Health Sector
Climate Action**
(led by Ireland and supported by
Austria, Belgium, the
Netherlands Norway and UK)

**THE PEP/EHP
Partnership on Healthy
Active Mobility**
(led by Austria, France and the
Netherlands)

**Youth in the WHO
European Region**
(led by Slovenia and co-led by
the International Youth Health
Organization)

Working with countries and for countries – EHP Partnership in action

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH PROCESS

EHP PARTNERSHIPS
EHP Partnership for health sector climate action

Tackling both existing and emerging environment and health challenges requires strong collaborative efforts, robust joint action, and concrete mechanisms to enhance coordination and cooperation across sectors.

To this aim, the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (5–7 July, Budapest, Hungary) is launching a new, agile, thematic, action-oriented mechanism, the “EHP Partnerships”, to facilitate implementation of the commitments made in the Budapest Ministerial Declaration.

WHAT IS THE “EHP PARTNERSHIPS”?

“EHP Partnerships” is a new mechanism within the European Environment and Health Process (EEHP) to accelerate national and international implementation of the commitments made at the Ministerial Conference. The Partnerships will bring together countries and partners with a shared interest in a specific thematic area to facilitate collaboration and leverage progress across the Region.

WHY THE “EHP PARTNERSHIPS”?

“EHP Partnerships” is a flexible, concrete, practical implementation mechanism that can be tailored to the interests and priorities of a country or group of countries. Countries and stakeholders interested in addressing common environment and health challenges would work together, mutually offering peer-to-peer support, sharing best practices, experiences and knowledge, while facilitating the transfer of know-how and expertise. “EHP Partnerships” could also serve as vibrant platforms for communities of practice, international advocacy and resource mobilization.

WHAT ARE THE AVENUES OF ACTION WITHIN THE “EHP PARTNERSHIPS”?

The activities within the EHP Partnerships are wide-ranging and encompass various collaborative opportunities for finding effective solutions for environment and health challenges. The activities could include joint projects, mutual capacity-strengthening through training and workshops, provision of technical assistance, collaboration in innovation and research, and dissemination of relevant WHO guidelines, tools and methodologies and promotion of their uptake.

WHAT IS THE GOVERNANCE OF THE “EHP PARTNERSHIPS”?

The EHP Partnerships are established by decisions of the European Environment and Health Task Force (EEHTF) and operate in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Partnerships, included as Annex 2 to the Budapest Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Health. An EHP Partnerships can be led by any Member State and/or recognized stakeholder of the EHP and is open to all 53 Member States and relevant stakeholders in the WHO European Region.

- Led by Ireland and supported by Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway and UK
- Aims to establish a community of practice
- First EHP Partnership meeting, 13-14 May 2024, Bonn
- Discussed main areas of interest and agreed on the workplan
- *Invitation to other countries is open*

A scenic view of a park with a lake, trees, and modern buildings under a blue sky with clouds. The image shows a large, curved lake in the foreground, surrounded by trees with autumn foliage. In the background, there are several modern buildings, including a prominent cylindrical tower with a glass facade. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

Thank you

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