

## Health Care Without Harm proud to have contributed to WHO Guidance on Climate Resilient, Sustainable Health Facilities

With the release of the [WHO Guidance for Climate Resilient and Environmentally Sustainable Care Facilities](#), the World Health Organization has taken an important step forward by establishing a broad and holistic approach to addressing environmental health impacts of health facility operations.

Health Care Without Harm is proud to have made a major contribution to the development of this Guidance, with several staff serving as contributing authors.

The Guidance recognizes that health care activities contribute to climate change and other environmental health hazards. It proposes a series of steps that health facilities can take to mitigate their impact while protecting patients, health workers and the communities served by the health system.

By issuing this Guidance, for the first time WHO has developed a global approach to address a series of key environmental health issues via an overarching framework for the healthcare sector itself. Issues covered in the Guidance include:

- Health care climate adaptation, resilience and mitigation
- Sustainable energy for health
- Environmental health dimensions of hospital infrastructure and health worker safety during emergencies
- WASH in health care facilities, including sustainable health care waste management
- Chemical safety and substitution
- Sustainable procurement and the supply chain
- Food safety and security

The health care sector can use this tool to not only build resilience and reduce its own footprint, but also to help lead by example in addressing its own contribution to the environmental burden of disease, while meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.

Health Care Without Harm looks forward to building on its long history of collaborating with WHO and to working together to support the implementation of this new Guidance through our [Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Network](#). The Network, whose membership spans hospitals and health systems in 72 countries, offers a series of initiatives, tools and resources that can support health facilities as they move toward greater sustainability and resilience.

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