ABOUT HCWH EUROPE

• A **non-profit coalition** of hospitals, healthcare systems, healthcare professionals, local authorities, research/academic institutions, and environmental and health organisations.

• **Bringing the voice of healthcare professionals** to the European and global policy debates about key issues, such as: chemicals, climate change and health, green building, sustainable procurement, pharmaceuticals, sustainable food, and waste management.

• **Educating the health sector** to understand the importance of the environment and press healthcare leaders and professionals to advocate for broader societal policies and changes.
Global Green & Healthy Hospital PROGRAMME

The GGHH Agenda and its 10 sustainability goals

Protect public health from climate change

A data center to measure your footprint and track progress

An online global collaboration platform

Online education to learn about sustainable health

Guidance documents for sustainable healthcare action

Find out more at www.greenhospitals.net
GGHH MEMBERS AROUND THE WORLD

GGHH has 797 members from 47 countries representing the interests of 25,654 Hospitals and Health Centers.

US & Canada
HCWH’s implementation arm, Practice Greenhealth has 1,400 Hospital members in the U.S. In Canada, GGHH members include 5 Health Systems and 2 Organizations representing the interest of 1080 Hospitals and Health Centers.

Europe
21 Hospitals, 1 Health Care Facility, 19 Health Systems and 9 Organizations, representing the interest of 7213 Hospitals and Health Centers.

Asia
94 Hospitals, 3 Health Care Facilities, 8 Health Systems and 26 Organizations, representing the interest of 11236 Hospitals and Health Centers.

Latin America
413 Hospitals, 47 Health Care Facilities, 36 Health Systems and 15 Organizations, representing the interest of 1629 Hospitals and Health Centers.

Africa
41 Hospitals, 10 Health Care Facilities, 5 Health Systems and 2 Organization, representing the interest of 1474 Hospitals and Health Centers.

Global
1 Health System and 4 Organizations representing the interest of 1040 Hospitals.
Cost of inaction: climate change, EDCs, air pollution

23% of all global deaths are linked to the environment. That's roughly 12.6 million deaths a year.
In the WHO European Region as a whole, the estimated mortality in 2010 was approximately 600,000 premature deaths.

An estimated **6.5 million** deaths were associated with air pollution in 2012. This is **11.6% of all global deaths**.
The annual economic cost of premature deaths from air pollution across the countries of the WHO European Region stood at US$ 1.431 trillion; adding morbidity costs, stood at US$ 1.575 trillion.
It is estimated that 1.3 million lives and 43 million disability-adjusted life-years were lost in 2012 due to exposures to selected chemicals.

Source WHO
Cost of inaction linked to EDCs on male reproductive health

- Every year it costs the EU countries at least 4.5 billion kroner in lost work capacity and higher health care costs because citizens are exposed to endocrine disruptors - and this figure is perhaps only the top of the iceberg. Source: Nordic Council of Ministers, 2014.
Externalising cost / Cost of inaction

• **Cost** will be incurred by individuals, families and societies in the region.
• Health & sectoral policies that reduce the environmental burden of disease should be evaluated in terms of their **cost**, their **effectiveness** and their **benefits**.
• **Benefits** should include valuation of the **mortality and morbidity avoided** through adequate interventions
• Currently by not valuing averted premature deaths and averted illness means assigning them implicitly a zero value.
Sustainable productions and consumption

• European Commission`s “Circular Economy Package and Action Plan”
• Circular economy implementation still at early stages and the health implications are far from clear
• Potential for adverse effects, including those related to the “recycling” of toxic substances or from waste water reuse but also great opportunities for improving the health.
• Further information is needed on the side-effects of the circular economy concept by potentially increasing inequalities in environmental risk-exposure and the potential effects on health and wellbeing of vulnerable groups.
Economic Opportunities for environmentally sustainable health systems

• Kaplan et al. 2012, study from selected hospitals that had implemented programmes to reduce energy use and waste and achieve operating room supply efficiencies.

• Savings achievable through these interventions could exceed $5.4 billion over five years and $15 billion over 10 years
Economic Opportunities for environmentally sustainable health systems

• Expectations to the health sector: **lead** by example, **advancing models** of low-carbon healthcare that improve access to healthcare services, **reduce** occupational and environmental health risks and **save** energy and other costs.

• 10 case studies from different EU countries

• Germany: 45 German hospitals have received the BUND label. Overall, 65,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions per year have been saved. Savings are between €100,000 - €2.1 million per year in energy costs. More than **€20 million per year** has been saved by all 45 hospitals bearing the BUND label.
Conclusion: Economic Opportunities for environmentally sustainable health systems

• Greening health systems is an opportunity that create impact and savings at local level
• Savings can be spent on health provision instead
• Engages and motivates workforce
• Need standardised measurement
• Transparent reporting

• Thank you for your attention!

• Contact: europe@hcwh.org or Anja.leetz@hcwh.org
• www.noharm.org
• Twitter @HCWHeurope
• Facebook @HCWHEurope