

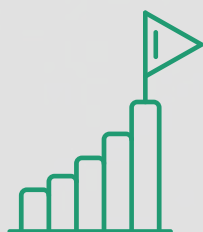
# Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network highlights

2024

## Network growth

In 2024, Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) experienced remarkable growth, welcoming hundreds of new members and strengthening its presence across 87 countries. From national ministries to rural clinics to private hospitals, the network is as diverse as it is large. This diversity fuels innovative solutions and collaboration amongst GGHH members to advance sustainable, climate-smart health care around the world.

### 2024 membership highlights



In August 2024, the network achieved its greatest milestone yet: reaching **2,000 members**.



**12 members** received *International Hospital Federation Awards* for their leadership in sustainable health care.



Over the course of the year we welcomed **213 new members** from **35 countries**.

#### US and Canada

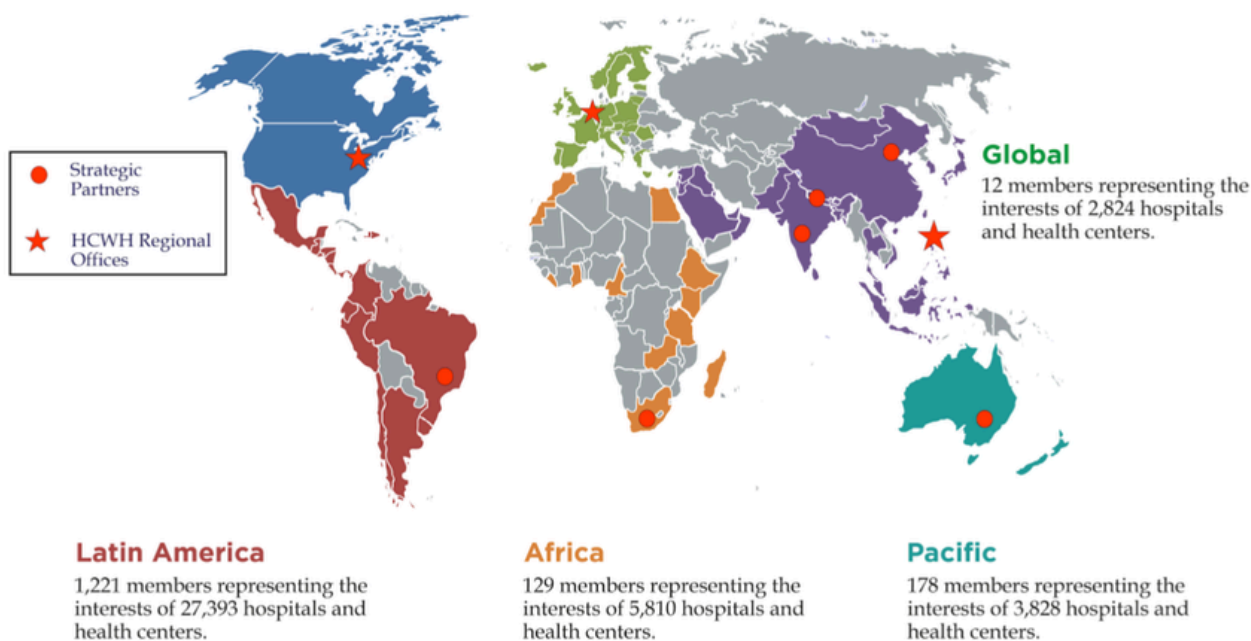
13 members representing the interests of 2,534 hospitals and health centers.

#### Europe

214 members representing the interests of 8,658 hospitals and health centers.

#### Asia

308 members representing the interests of 20,969 hospitals and health centers.



**GGHH represents the interests of more than 72,000 hospitals and health centers in 87 countries (December 2024).**

## Case studies: Inspiring progress

GGHH boasts a collection of over 300 case studies highlighting successful sustainability projects and programs implemented by health care institutions worldwide. Authored and submitted by GGHH members, these case studies showcase innovation and success, detail the strategies and processes used, address challenges faced, and serve as inspiration for the global network. **This year, 26 new case studies were added, reflecting the continued commitment of members to share their experiences and drive progress.**

## Spotlight on GGHH member case studies

### **BARWON HEALTH**

Barwon Health's emergency department launched the "No Unhelpful Tests" (NUT) initiative to cut unnecessary testing. This effort **reduced selected low-value tests by 40–50% annually, saving \$885,000 in pathology costs, 726 staff hours, and 906 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions.** No adverse patient impacts were reported, demonstrating the financial, operational, and environmental benefits of optimizing test orders.



AUSTRALIA

### **MEDERI HOSPITAL NETWORK**

The Network implemented an Autonomous Composting System to transform organic waste into fertilizer for gardens. This initiative **reduced landfill waste by 18%, saving approximately \$2,000 (€1,840) annually on commercial fertilizers.** By diverting **over 3 tons of organic waste per year**, the system minimizes greenhouse gas emissions, lowering the network's environmental footprint.



COLOMBIA

### **AL-RAMAD HOSPITAL**

Al-Ramad Hospital implemented energy and water efficiency measures, achieving a **38% reduction in energy use and 7% water savings.** A **100% digital transformation** reduced paper consumption by 30%, and sustainable waste management eliminated mercury-containing devices. These efforts improved sustainability while cutting costs.



EGYPT

### **GALICIAN HEALTH SERVICE (SERGAS)**

SERGAS deployed electric ambulances for patient transfers, cutting **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 80%** and achieving **97% fuel savings.** This shift also saved **€22 per 102km**, demonstrating the economic and environmental benefits of sustainable transport.



SPAIN

**[Access](#) the GGHH Case Study Library**

## GGHH in action

Around the globe, GGHH members are developing innovative solutions and programs to advance sustainable, climate-smart health care. GGHH staff at Health Care Without Harm regional offices and strategic partners are providing a variety of opportunities for education and engagement to support their members' success in their efforts. GGHH members and staff have made significant strides toward making this vision a reality.

### Africa

#### groundWork

*groundWork manages GGHH in Africa*



The **Climate Change for Health Professionals Workshop** in Nairobi engaged over 40 participants, including new GGHH members and the Ministry of Health.



The **GGHH Symposium on Infrastructure** in Cape Town brought together 60 participants, including representatives from multiple provinces, to discuss upcoming mega projects and net-zero strategies.

### Latin America & Caribbean

#### Health Care Without Harm Latin America

*The Health Care Without Harm Latin America Team manages GGHH in Spanish-speaking Latin America*



The 9th edition of the "**Less Footprint, More Health**" program saw a 39% rise in award applications, recognizing health care leaders.



The 8th edition of the "**Hospitales que curan el planeta**" report shared 33 success stories from members in 10 countries, including new initiatives on plastics.



The **Technical roundtable on plastics** recommended replacing single-use plastics (SUPs), while a pilot project on reusable textiles provided a measurement tool to identify safe alternatives to SUPs.



## Projeto Hospitais Saudáveis (PHS)

*PHS manages GGHH in Brazil*



The **17th Healthy Hospitals Seminar (SHS 2024)** gathered over 450 in-person participants daily and 190 virtual attendees.



The **Plastics and Health advocacy efforts** engaged the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Environment in national policy discussions, influencing the Global Plastics Treaty negotiations.



The **PHS Challenges platform upgrade** streamlined data management for climate, energy, waste, and procurement initiatives.

## U.S. & Canada

### Practice Greenhealth

*Practice Greenhealth is the organizational member for the U.S. and Canada managing a sister network of GGHH*



The **identification of climate change as a business risk** has increased **fivefold** since 2021, driving stronger leadership engagement in sustainable health care.



**The number of hospitals setting climate goals rose by 90%**, with formal climate commitments doubling in four years, demonstrating a sector-wide shift toward climate action.



Over **one-third of U.S. hospital partners developed climate resilience plans** using Practice Greenhealth's frameworks, enhancing facility, community, and public infrastructure preparedness for climate challenges.

## Asia

### Health Care Without Harm Southeast Asia

*Health Care Without Harm Southeast Asia manages GGHH in the region*



The **6th Green Hospitals Asian Conference** brought together over 300 health care leaders from 27 countries.



The GGHH Network Meeting engaged 48 members to co-develop a **five-year strategy**, reigniting collaborations.



The **Plastic Workstream** kick-off brought together members from four countries to tackle health care plastics.

**For more information, read the [Southeast Asia Annual Report](#).**

### Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI)

*PHFI manages GGHH in India*



The creation of a **nationwide framework** established 5 regional leads, 21 state leads, and over 79 state chapter members.



**Enrollment of 86 hospitals** into the HELP (Health and Environment Leadership Platform) and GGHH networks.



The Financial Express Health Summit advocacy event and NDTV feature amplified **HELP's GGHH visibility**.

## Health Environment and Climate Action Foundation (HECAF360)

*HECAF260 manages GGHH in Nepal*



The **capacity-building program** on waste management, climate-smart health care, and infection control trained 430 health care professionals across 24 facilities.



The **pilot project on climate-induced disasters** led hospitals to establish waste management centers, form permanent committees, and train staff.



**Diagnostic assessments of health care waste management and environmental parameters** were conducted in 23 health care facilities both inside and outside Kathmandu.

## Europe

### Health Care Without Harm Europe

*Health Care Without Harm Europe manages GGHH in Europe*



The network surpassed **200 members, representing 7,837 facilities, 1.87 million employees, and 144 million patients across 28 countries.**



The **European Healthcare Sustainability Awards** celebrated two GGHH members for groundbreaking sustainability projects.



**CleanMed Europe** welcomed 863 attendees from 37 countries, who participated in 79 sessions and workshops over a total of 8 days.



## Pacific

### Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA)

*CAHA manages GGHH in the region*



The **Greening the Healthcare Sector Forum** engaged 155 attendees from across Australia and New Zealand.



The launch of two **Communities of Practice on waste and food** engaged diverse stakeholders, including food service managers and maintenance officers.



GGHH member Hunter New England, was featured in the **High-Level Climate Champions** "Nature Positive for Climate Action: A Compendium of Case Studies"

**For more information, read CAHA's Annual Report.**



# GGHH tools and resources



GGHH Connect serves as a virtual global hub for the network. It offers member-exclusive discussion forums, guidance documents, a case study library, and a Hippocrates Data Center. In 2024, it grew by 1,056 new representatives from 422 institutions joined the online community.

## New tools and resources published in 2024



### Health Care Without Harm's global policy brief on circularity in health care:

Recommendations on the use of the concept of circularity, guidance for implementation, and suggested frameworks. Available in English & Spanish.



**Teaming up for Sustainability:** Practical guidance on collaboration in health care sustainability, developed by HCWH Europe. It builds on insights from the September 2023 webinar Teaming up for Sustainability.



**Menos Huella, Más Salud:** Progress Report: Third report on sustainable procurement, based on 2021-2022 data from Latin American GGHH members. Available in Spanish



**Hospitales que curan el planeta:** Highlights member hospitals' initiatives aligned with the Global Agenda for Green and Healthy Hospitals.



**Climate Impact Checkup Online Course:** As of December 2024, 411 people completed this online course, which supports health care facilities and systems on their journey toward sustainable, resilient, and low-carbon health care.



**Using your voice to drive climate action:** This guide provides health care professionals with tools and insights to effectively advocate for climate action.

## Access to GGHH Connect

# Climate initiatives highlights



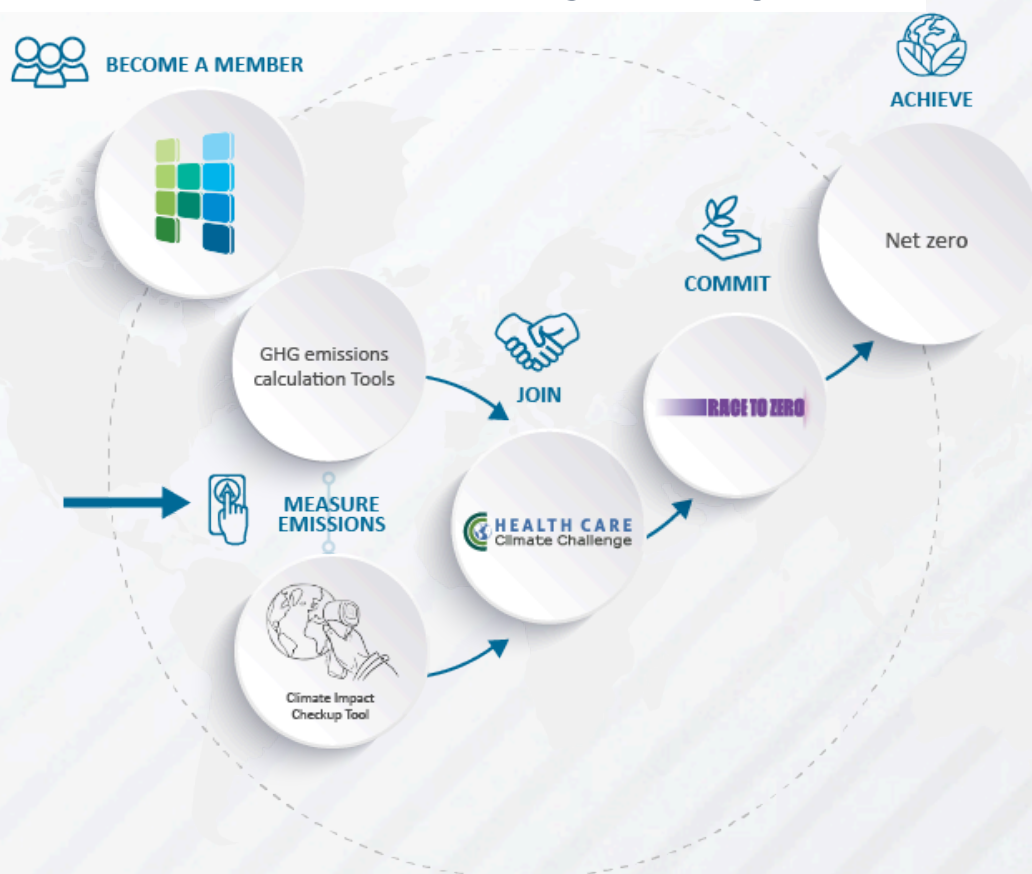
- **+50** new participants in 2024
- **+20** countries represented
- **7** Climate Champions
- **38** Climate Action Winners
- **+1190** Actions reported in Leadership or Resilience
- **+260,000** tCO2e reduction



- **+75** participants in 2024
- **15** new participants in 2024
- **27** countries represented
- **49%** participated in the HCCC
- **6 out of 7** Climate champions are also RTZ members
- **+180,000** tCO2e reduction

Learn more in the [2024 Climate Leaders booklet](#)

## Health Care Without Harm journey toward net zero



Joining Race to Zero is the highest level commitment that health care institutions can make in the Health Care Climate Challenge. It is the pinnacle of a journey that begins by joining Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) and builds on estimating GHG emissions and implementing mitigation, leadership, and resilience actions.