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European
Climate Initiative
EUKI

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

Fostering Low-Carbon Healthcare

This pilot project seeks to enable and support European hospitals to track emissions from their activities. In doing so, they will be able to quantify their environmental impact and set emission reduction targets. The project places specific emphasis on anaesthetic gases, as a relatively unexplored source of GHG emissions.

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HCWH Europe will work with hospitals from France, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden to measure emissions and share data. Two experts, who are experienced in technical data and interpretation of data, will provide training and expertise to the participating hospitals.

As part of the project, a software consultant will also develop a tool for measuring and calculating the carbon equivalent of anaesthetic gases specifically. While tools to quantify GHG emissions from energy use are available across multiple sectors, the use of anaesthetic gases is unique to the healthcare sector and tools to calculate emissions from their use are not widely available. The development of this tool will facilitate the healthcare sector's ability to focus on these GHG emissions and track hospitals' progress in reducing them.

At the end of this project, HCWH Europe will publish guidelines and policy recommendations in 2018. Based on data from the measurement tool, a section specifically on anaesthetic gases will be included. These guidelines and recommendations will be the basis for scaling up the project, and for laying the foundation for the setting up of carbon reduction targets in healthcare at a national level in Europe.



The project seeks to enable and support European hospitals to track emissions from their activities. Photo: Health Care Without Harm Europe 2017

Background

In order for the EU to meet its 2030 climate and energy package targets, countries must set national goals for different economic sectors. While healthcare makes up an estimated 5% of European GHG emissions, very few health systems have measured their carbon footprint or set emission reduction targets. To be able to set national and European targets for the healthcare sector, the sector must first track and measure its emissions.

Project information

Updated: Mai 2018

Countries: Frankreich, Deutschland, Polen, Portugal, Spanien, Schweden

Project duration: 10/17 - 03/18

Funding: 92.463 €

Target groups: Medizinischer Sektor

Implementing organisation:

Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) Europe

Website:

noharm-europe.org

EUKI

The European Climate Initiative (EUKI):

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The European Climate Initiative (EUKI):

This project is part of the European Climate Initiative (EUKI). EUKI is a project financing instrument by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). The EUKI competition for project ideas is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. It is the overarching goal of the EUKI to foster climate cooperation within the European Union (EU) in order to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information on the EUKI:

www.euki.de

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Very little data about carbon emissions from the European healthcare sector (especially those from the use of anaesthetic gases) currently exists.