



**ENERGY AND THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR**

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Healthcare sector contributes for 5% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and has a carbon footprint equivalent to 514 coal-fired power plants. More than 50% of its footprint is linked to energy consumption, mainly electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning, as well as other operational emissions. Other contributing activities include: agriculture (9%, e.g. catering in healthcare facilities, growing cotton for surgical gowns), pharmaceuticals and chemicals (5%), transport (7%) and waste treatment (3%).

There are approximately 15,000 hospitals in the EU, which account for 25% to 60% of healthcare spending (on average 9.9% of EU Member States' GDP). The decarbonisation of the healthcare sector can no longer be postponed, reducing energy expenditure with structural interventions responds to environmental, social and economic needs, and to the protection of the whole healthcare sector.

The DAPHNE project intends to work on the topic of reducing the energy footprint of the healthcare sector. This newsletter represents one of the channels through which the project communicates ongoing activities. Happy reading!

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## The DAPHNE proposal

10 organizations from 7 EU countries, (Italy, Romania, Belgium, Greece, Ireland, Poland and Sweden) and public structures from 2 EU candidate countries (Serbia and Ukraine), have decided to collaborate to improve the capacity of national/regional/local authorities to design and implement policies to decarbonise the healthcare sector.

The DAPHNE project represents a valuable opportunity to have a significant impact and promote positive and sustainable change.

By promoting the adoption of an integrated approach, DAPHNE stimulates the design and implementation of high-impact actions (energy supply, renewable sources, facilities and operations, supply chain, waste management, etc.) that contribute to the reduction of energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions and encourage the progressive increase of innovative tools in the sector.

In this context and to achieve the general objective of the project, the partners cooperate at an interregional level to achieve the following specific objectives:

- chart a path towards the decarbonization of the healthcare sector, providing for multiple interventions to implement high-impact integrated actions;
- identify innovative technologies and tools that could accelerate the energy transition in the sector.



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