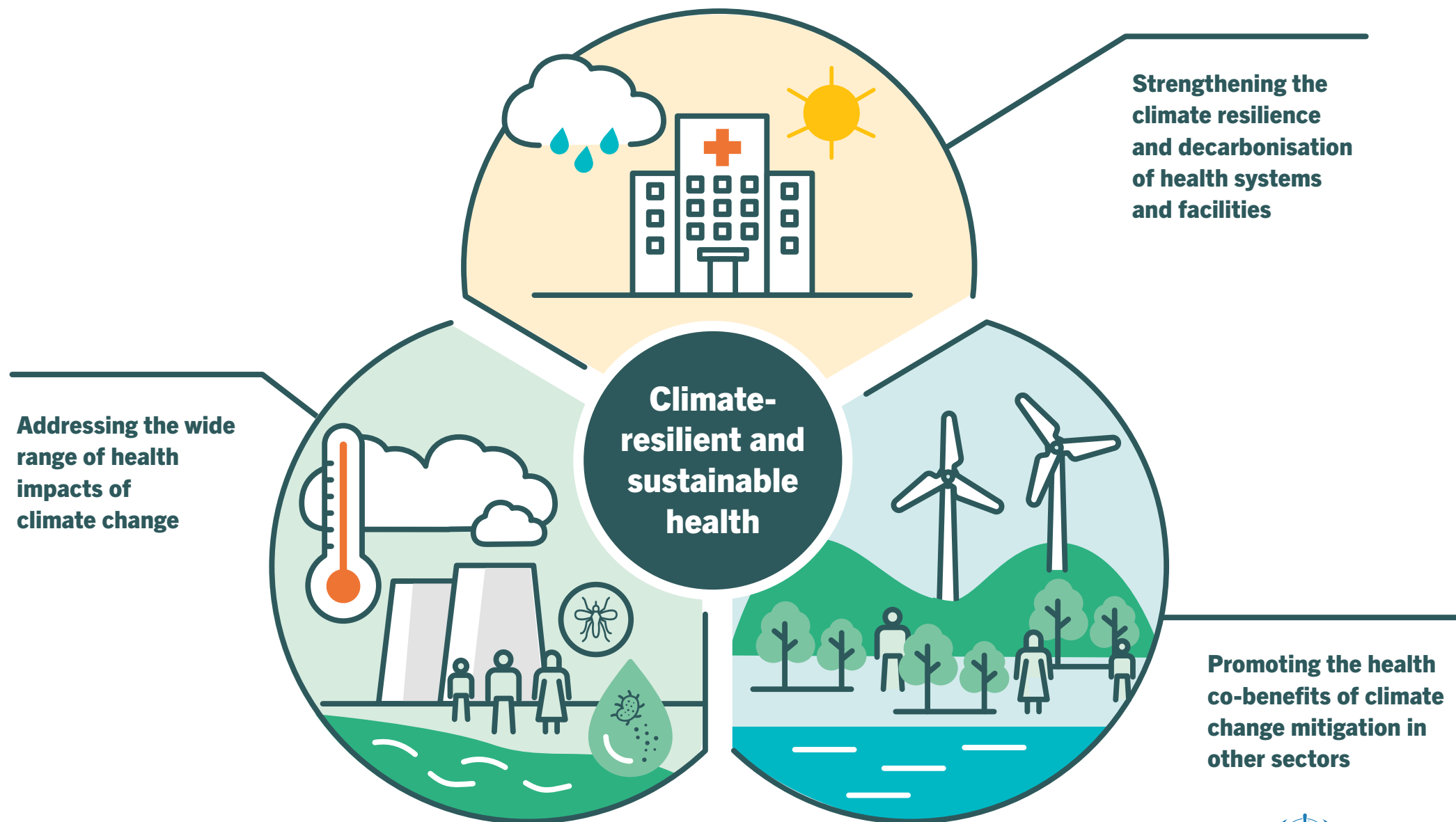


# WHO country support on climate change and health



World Health  
Organization

# Focus areas for climate change and health



# ATACH: a WHO-hosted platform for country support



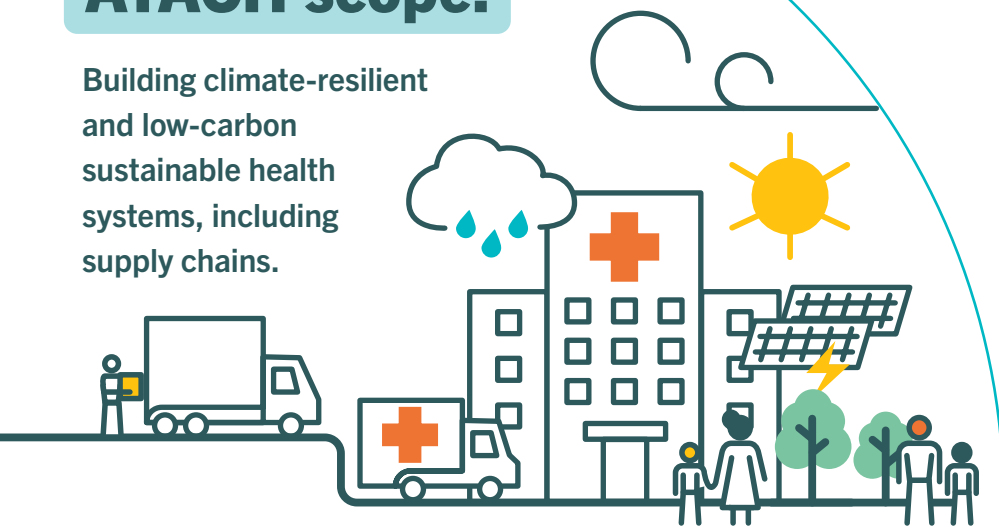
The **Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH)** brings together **90+ countries/areas** and **80+ key partners** to support national implementation of climate change and health commitments and priorities.

Join ATACH →



## ATACH scope:

Building climate-resilient and low-carbon sustainable health systems, including supply chains.



Defining and informing health-promoting climate action in other sectors, including through the Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition (I-CAN).



## ATACH supports countries through:

### ATACH functions



Advocacy and agenda-setting



Knowledge generation and sharing



Promoting alignment and coherence



Monitoring and tracking



Promoting access to finance

### Engagement opportunities



Task Teams



Technical Meetings



Online Community of Practice

Explore the ATACH Community of Practice →

# Key questions underpinning WHO support to countries' climate change and health efforts



**Question 1:** What are the impacts of climate change on health, opportunities for the health sector to decarbonise, and the potential health co-benefits of climate change mitigation?

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**Question 2:** How do we develop comprehensive plans and strategies to address climate-sensitive health risks and build climate resilient and low carbon health systems and facilities?

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**Question 3:** How do we access climate financing for climate change and health, including the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund?

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**Question 4:** What interventions can be implemented to address climate-sensitive health risks and strengthen the resilience and decarbonisation of health systems and facilities?

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**Question 5:** How do we monitor progress made at national level on climate change and health?

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# Building climate-resilient and sustainable health

This document aims to help users navigate the climate change and health technical support package offered by the World Health Organization. It is structured around five key areas of support and explains what tools, resources, and assistance are available.

## 5. Monitoring climate change and health progress

Regular monitoring of national health sector response to climate change highlights the progress made towards strengthening the resilience and decarbonisation of health systems while identifying priority areas for improvement.

[Learn more →](#)

## 1. Assessing health risks, GHG emissions, and co-benefits

Assessing health vulnerability to climate change at population and facility level and GHG emissions of the health system, and understanding the potential health co-benefits of climate action will provide the required evidence to protect and promote health in a changing climate.

[Learn more →](#)

## 2. Climate change and health planning

Through comprehensive and systematic climate change and health planning, countries can identify required interventions to address climate-sensitive health risks and strengthen decarbonisation at population, health system and facility levels.

[Learn more →](#)

## 4. Implementing climate change and health interventions

A wide range of interventions and tools are available to support countries in their efforts to strengthen the climate resilience and decarbonisation of health systems and facilities.

[Learn more →](#)

## 3. Financing climate change and health

Climate change financing, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund, can be accessed to strengthen the climate resilience and decarbonisation of health systems and facilities and to promote the health co-benefits of mitigation across multiple sectors.

[Learn more →](#)

# Question 1: What are the impacts of climate change on health, opportunities for the health sector to decarbonise, and the potential health co-benefits of climate change mitigation?

WHO supports countries in **assessing** the health risks of climate change, the GHG emissions from the health sector, and the health co-benefits of climate mitigation. Some available tools include:



## Assessing climate change and health vulnerabilities

Provides information for decision-makers on the extent and magnitude of likely health risks attributable to climate change and identifies options for increasing health system resilience.



**Assessing climate change vulnerabilities in healthcare facilities** Support countries in understanding vulnerability to specific climate-related hazards and establishing a baseline for resilience.



## Estimating and managing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from health systems and facilities

Several tools can help health system and facility managers to estimate GHG emissions and identify priority areas of action.



Available  
WHO tools

View



## Assessments of health co-benefits of climate change mitigation

Estimates the potential health implications of national climate policies, e.g outdoor and household air pollution, sustainable and active transport, sustainable food systems and green urban spaces.



Summary of WHO  
co-benefit tools

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Use this menu bar  
to navigate between  
the questions

## Question 2: How do we develop comprehensive plans and strategies to address climate-sensitive health risks and build climate resilient and low carbon health systems and facilities?

WHO assists countries with climate change and health **planning** to address climate-related health risks, strengthen the climate resilience and decarbonisation of health systems and facilities, and promote health co-benefits of mitigation. Relevant plans include:



### Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

Reflects countries' ambition towards achieving the goals laid out in the Paris Agreement through mitigation and adaptation targets and activities. The development of health-promoting climate targets and policies provides an opportunity for increased climate ambition and improved population health.



2023 WHO review of health in nationally determined contributions and long-term strategies

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Quality criteria for integrating health into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

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### Health National Adaptation Plans (HNAPs)

Led by the Ministry of Health, as part of the UNFCCC National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process, a HNAP sets out a comprehensive set of actions for medium- and long-term climate change adaptation planning for health.



WHO guidance to protect health from climate change through health adaptation planning

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Quality criteria for HNAPs

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Health in national adaptation plans: review

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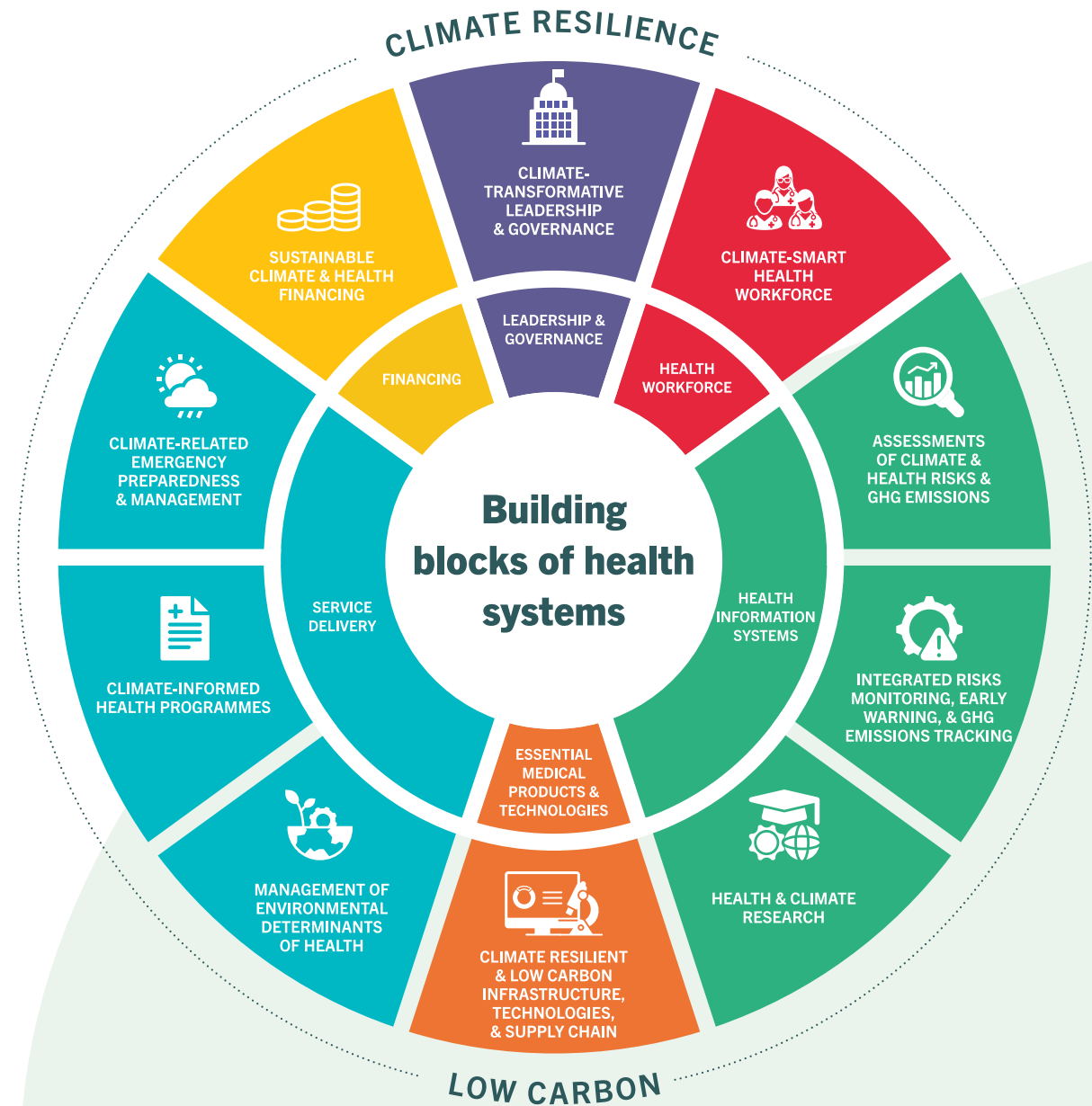
## Question 2 continued...

The WHO Operational Framework provides a structure to guide countries in developing plans or designing interventions for strengthening the resilience and decarbonisation of health systems.

**This framework is a critical tool in the preparation of Health National Adaptation Plans (HNAPs)**

Operational framework for building climate resilient and low carbon health systems

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## Question 3: How do we access climate financing for climate change and health, including the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund?

In addition to bi-lateral funding, various funds have been established to help countries in their adaptation and mitigation actions. WHO supports countries to develop single- and multi-country project proposals to access climate **financing** for health.



### Resources for Climate Change Financing

Key climate change funding streams include the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Green Climate Fund (GCF).



### WHO as a GCF Readiness Delivery Partner

As a GCF Readiness Delivery Partner WHO can support countries to access to GCF Readiness funds for health. The GCF Readiness Programme offers funding to support health adaptation planning, assessments, and institutional strengthening.



### WHO as an accredited Adaptation Fund Delivery Partner

WHO can support countries to access funding for projects/programmes which address health adaptation or resilience challenges.



Finance for Health and Climate Change – WHO website

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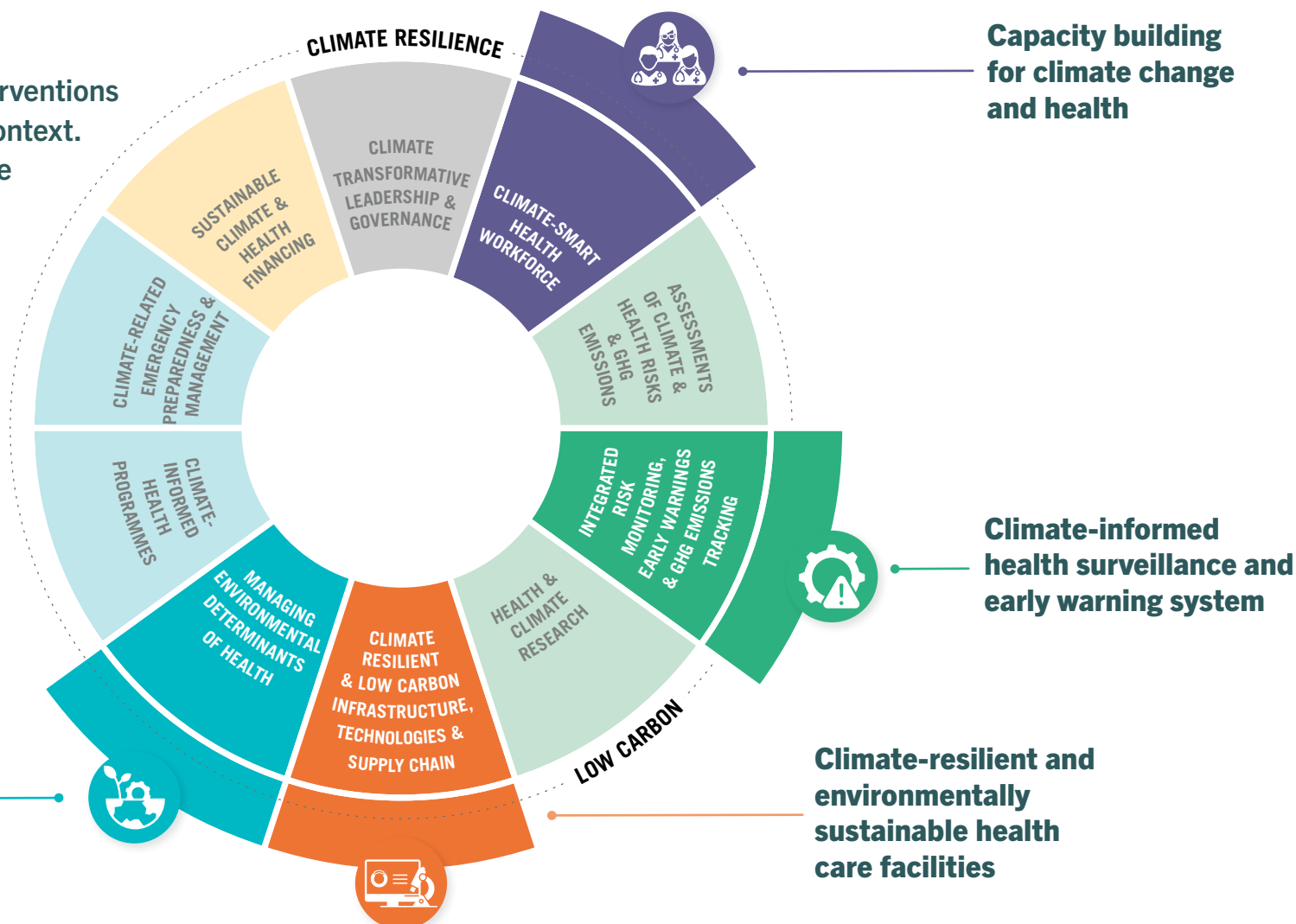
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## Question 4: What interventions can be implemented to address climate-sensitive health risks and strengthen the resilience and low carbon sustainability of health systems and facilities?

Priority climate change and health interventions may differ depending on the country context. WHO provides technical support for the **implementation** of a comprehensive set of interventions to strengthen health systems' resilience and decarbonisation, such as:



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## Question 4 continued...



### Climate-resilient water and sanitation safety plans

Guidance and technical support on risk assessment and management approaches to address the health impacts of climate change via water and sanitation are available.



Climate-resilient water safety plans

[View](#)



Discussion paper: climate, sanitation and health

[View](#)



### Climate-informed health surveillance and early warning system

Guidance, quality criteria, and technical support on climate services for health and climate-informed health early warning systems is provided, including for heat, vector-borne, and water-borne diseases.



Integrated surveillance and climate-informed health early warning systems

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### Gender considerations for climate change and health

Climate change effects can be distributed differently based on gender norms, roles and relations. Guidance and technical support are available to embed gender considerations in climate change and health interventions.



Mainstreaming gender in health adaptation to climate change programmes

[View](#)



Gender, climate change and health

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### Climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health care facilities

Guidance and technical support are available to support countries designing interventions to strengthen the climate resilience and environmental sustainability of health care facilities.



Climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health care facilities

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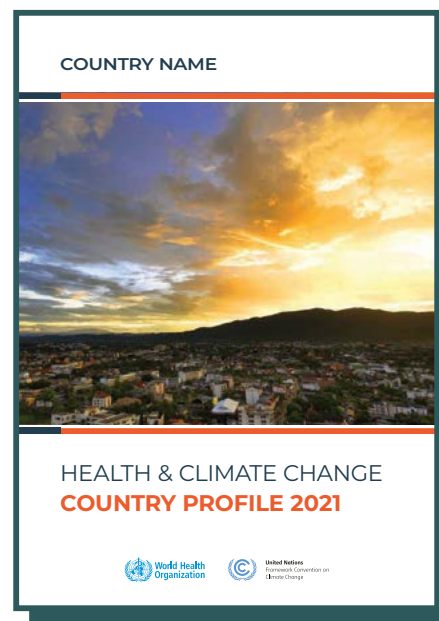
## Question 5: How do we monitor progress made at national level on climate change and health?

To assist in **monitoring** progress made on climate change and health at a national and global level WHO utilizes two key initiatives, the **WHO Health and Climate Change Global Survey** and the **WHO UNFCCC Health and Climate Change Country Profiles**. Guidance is also available to support countries measuring climate resilience in health systems.



### WHO Health and Climate Change Global Survey

measures and monitors health sector response to climate change. The survey is completed by national health authorities in collaboration with other relevant ministries and stakeholders.



### WHO UNFCCC Health and Climate Change Country Profiles

are developed in collaboration with national health authorities and health stakeholders. The profiles present evidence on:



current and future climate hazards



health risks



potential health co-benefits of mitigation

WHO Health and Climate Change Global Survey Report

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Guidance for Measuring Climate Resilience of Health Systems

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WHO UNFCCC Health and Climate Change Country Profiles

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# Capacity building for climate change and health

WHO and ATACH partners have developed a range of online and face-to-face training resources to build capacity in climate change and health.



**WHO: Climate Change and Health Face-to-Face training package**

Coming soon →



**WHO Academy: Climate change and health programme**

View →



**Climate change negotiations and health online course**

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**ATACH Community of Practice: Climate change and health capacity building resources**

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**WHO climate change and health: Technical Webinar Series**

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