

## **Readout of the Fourteenth Convening of the Greening Government Initiative**

*GGI countries shared insights on the greening of public sector health systems*

**January 14, 2025**

Today, representatives of 19 countries joined the fourteenth convening of the [Greening Government Initiative \(GGI\)](#). The meeting focused on greening public sector health systems and discussed future chair leadership for both GGI and the closely related [Net-Zero Government Initiative \(NZGI\)](#).

The health care sector is a major emitter of greenhouse gas emissions. Health care systems are also vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which can affect their ability to provide necessary care. While structures of governments and public health care systems vary, national governments often play a key role in these systems.

Today's meeting featured presentations from The World Health Organization (WHO), the WHO Guinea regional office, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Elena Villalobos Prats of the WHO opened the session with a presentation highlighting the WHO's Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH), consisting of 93 member countries that have formally committed to develop climate-resilient, low-carbon, and sustainable health systems. Maoro Beavogui, the National Administrator and Interim National Professional in Public Health and Environment for WHO's Guinea Country Office gave further context to WHO's climate work in the context of Guinea's health systems. John Balbus of the HHS shared updates on the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to build a more resilient, net-zero U.S. health system that is centered on equity.

This GGI meeting was the last meeting co-chaired by the U.S. Government alongside co-chair Canada. Since 2021—when the U.S. and Canada first launched GGI—61 countries have joined this first-of-its-kind initiative, sharing learnings to accelerate the greening of national government operations and meet their countries' Paris Agreement commitments. Moving forward, Canada will co-chair GGI and is exploring a co-chair partnership with another country. In addition, GGI is coordinating with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) the continuation of the activities of the network as part of their program of work.

GGI leadership also announced today that its initiative will be coordinated with the closely-related NZGI, a partner initiative launched by the U.S. Government in 2022, under which the U.S. and 33 partner countries have committed to achieve net-zero emissions from national government operations by 2050 and to publish roadmaps for reaching this goal. This coordination will ensure that GGI and NZGI members have the support and collaboration needed to advance national-level sustainability efforts.