

HEALTHY BUILDINGS, HEALTHIER PEOPLE



BUILDING ENVIRONMENT



People spend around
90% of time indoors -
in homes, offices, schools,
healthcare facilities - and



1 in 6 Europeans
live in buildings that make them sick



The elderly, those already sick, and the very young spend sometimes all their time inside and are especially vulnerable to the building environment.



FOOTPRINT

The climate footprint of buildings - houses, office spaces, schools etc - is **too high**. The building sector is responsible for approximately:



36%
of CO₂ emissions
in the EU

40%
of energy
consumption
in the EU



The health sector has a unique role to play in the transformation to healthier buildings through:

- Raising awareness on the importance of indoor environments on building user's health
- Engaging around deliberations on the future of European buildings and renovations strategies.
- Sharing and promoting best practices.
- Leading by example with ensuring that buildings such as hospitals, clinics or public health offices are health-promoting buildings.



HEALTH

The built environment has a large impact on our health through:



Noise



Indoor air quality



Thermal comfort / indoor temperature



Chemicals in building materials



Affordability of energy



Daylight and lighting

Health and climate friendly buildings can prevent



Cancer



Childhood illnesses



Respiratory diseases



Cardiovascular diseases



Mental health



Premature deaths due to extreme temperatures in winter and summer