APL
EXPERT EN DATA CENTERS

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CSR REPORT 2023

CONTENTS

FOREWORD

In a world where digital infrastructures are at the heart of technological innovations, particularly in light of the rise of artificial intelligence, I am convinced that our industry must take a decisive turn in terms of sustainability. Now more than ever, it is crucial to reduce the environmental impact of data centers while meeting the growing needs of the digital sector.

For over 40 years, APL Data Center has been part of this approach through our corporate mission, Organic Design, aimed at creating data centers that blend seamlessly into their environment.

This report presents the CSR priorities underpinning the company's CSR strategy and the main concrete actions implemented or started in 2023.

Tristan Richard
CEO

1.

ABOUT
APL DATA CENTER

1. ABOUT APL DATA CENTER

1.1. Strategy

APL Data Center, a consulting and engineering company specializing in the design and construction of data centers, has announced a sharp increase in earnings for the 2023 financial year. The Group, which celebrated its 40th anniversary this year, achieved growth in line with the objectives enshrined in its NextGen2024 strategic plan. APL Data Center reaffirms its international ambitions and determination to consolidate its resources in preparation for the boom in digital services in the coming years.

As a responsible corporate citizen, the Group is making a sustained effort to implement a bold CSR policy in line with the challenges faced by its customers and partners while prioritizing the professional development of its employees. APL Data Center has four major focus areas for business development in its NextGen2024 strategic plan:
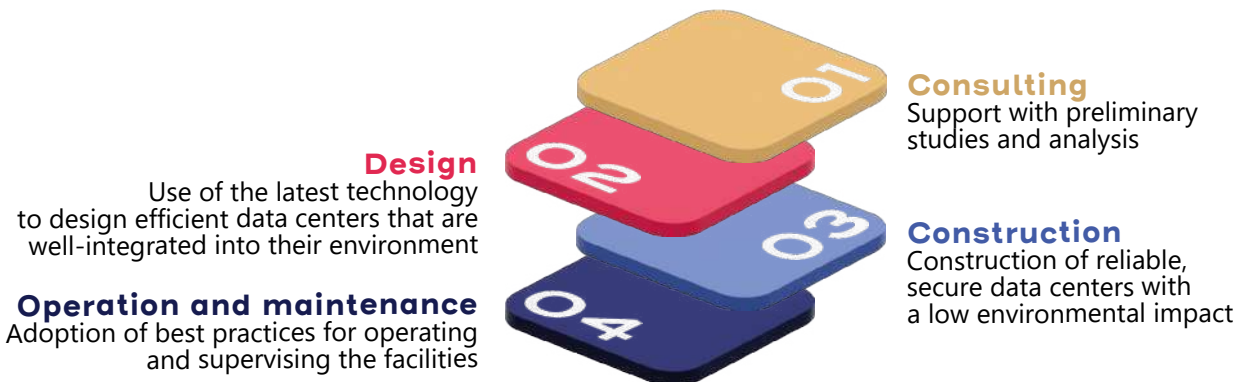
Turnkey   **Hyperscalers**   **Consulting Opérations**   **Sustainable IT**

As the business develops, APL Data Center is structuring its cross-departmental functions to support its growth.

1.2. Activities

Drawing on its rich experience, APL Data Center specializes in supporting its customers throughout the entire life cycle of a data center, from its design to the end of its life. In this context, APL Data Center carries out the following activities:

Consulting
Support with preliminary studies and analysis

Design
Use of the latest technology to design efficient data centers that are well-integrated into their environment

Construction
Construction of reliable, secure data centers with a low environmental impact

Operation and maintenance
Adoption of best practices for operating and supervising the facilities

APL Data Center is divided into Business Units (BUs) and Business Lines (BLs) with the aim of strengthening the synergies between its BUs and coordinating and unifying its practices to handle cross-departmental or high-stakes projects.

Based on the following observations:

Observation no. 1

Rise in the use of digital technology

- **By individuals** (VoD services, instant messaging, apps, internet browsing):
  ►**French digital technology survey 2022**

- **In companies** (e-commerce, digital marketing, corporate digitalization):
  ►**French digital technology survey 2021**

Observation no. 2

Economic growth in the digital sector, which includes data centers (the foundation of digital infrastructure), to meet the demand

Observation no. 3

Social and environmental impact

- Changing practices and impact on **mental health and cybersecurity**

- Extraction of **raw materials** in conflict zones, respect for **human rights, forced child labor** and the end of life of **WEEE and related pollution**
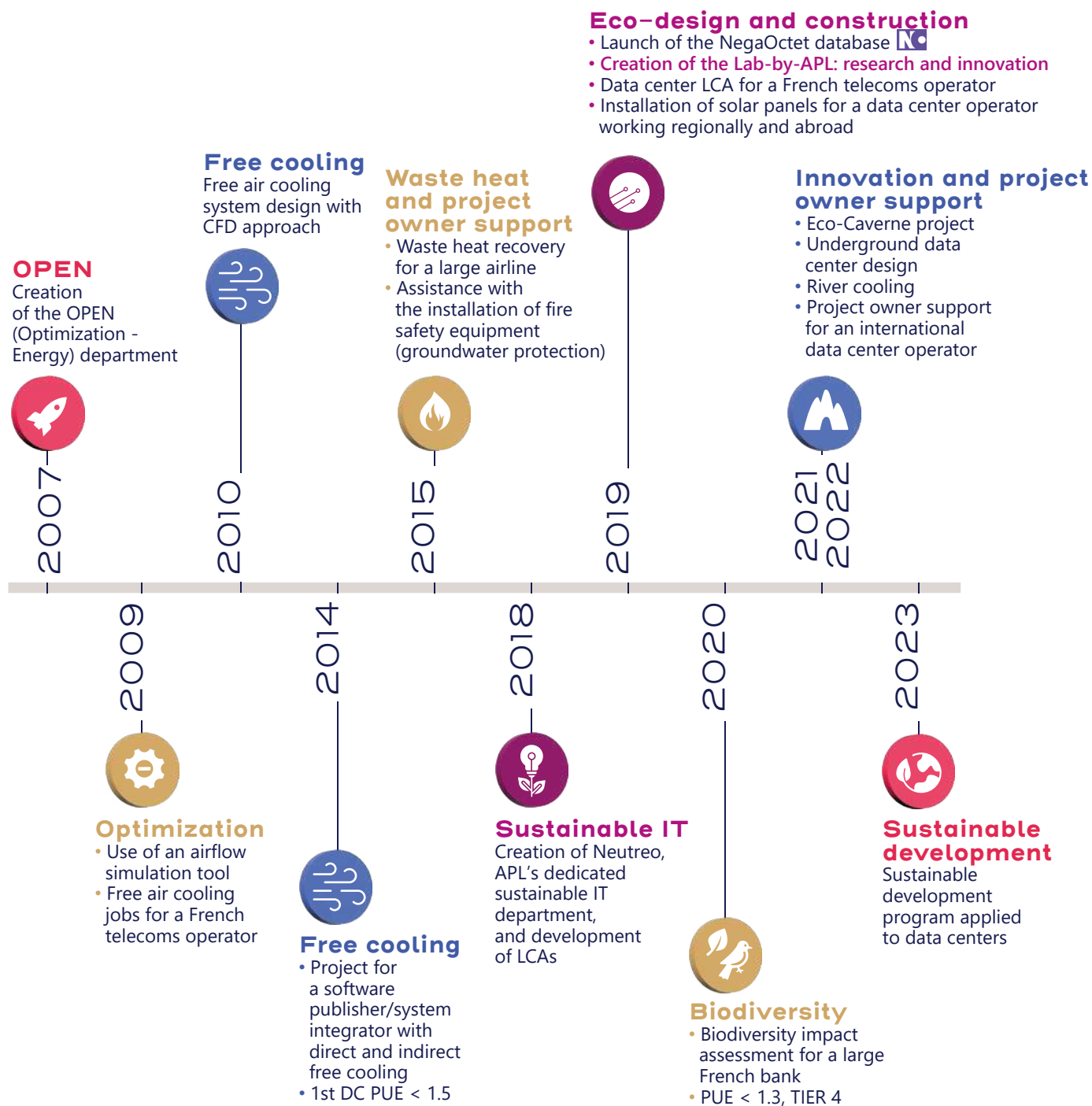
- **Carbon footprint** of digital technology

Observation no. 4

Increased awareness by civil society and the legislator

The social and environmental impact of the use of digital technology has been recognized and a desire has emerged to control it and change consumption practices in order to protect future generations.

In order to reconcile the company's growth and financial performance on the one hand and the digital and ecological transition on the other to limit its impact, APL Data Center has already been adapting its organization for many years to respond to these challenges and to stakeholder expectations.

Eco−design and construction
- Launch of the NegaOctet database
- Creation of the Lab-by-APL: research and innovation
- Data center LCA for a French telecoms operator
- Installation of solar panels for a data center operator working regionally and abroad

Free cooling
Free air cooling system design with CFD approach

Waste heat and project owner support
- Waste heat recovery for a large airline
- Assistance with the installation of fire safety equipment (groundwater protection)

Innovation and project owner support
- Eco-Caverne project
- Underground data center design
- River cooling
- Project owner support for an international data center operator

OPEN
Creation of the OPEN (Optimization - Energy) department

2007

2010

2015

2019

2021
2022

2009

2014

2018

2020

2023

Optimization
- Use of an airflow simulation tool
- Free air cooling jobs for a French telecoms operator

Free cooling
- Project for a software publisher/system integrator with direct and indirect free cooling
- 1st DC PUE < 1.5

Sustainable IT
Creation of Neutreo, APL's dedicated sustainable IT department, and development of LCAs

Biodiversity
- Biodiversity impact assessment for a large French bank
- PUE < 1.3, TIER 4

Sustainable development
Sustainable development program applied to data centers

1.3. Key figures

FINANCIAL RESULTS AND GENERAL KEY FIGURES

- FY 2023 consolidated revenue of €50.9 million (including €2.3 million from international business), up 38% versus 2022;

- Book net income of €3.1 million, up 36% versus 2022;

- Net operating income (EBIT) of €3.46 million, up 41% versus 2022;

- R&D expenditure equal to 9.5% of gross profit, up one percentage point.

€51M
of turnover

158
employees

€25,3M
of gross margin

9,5%
of gross margin
devoted to R&D

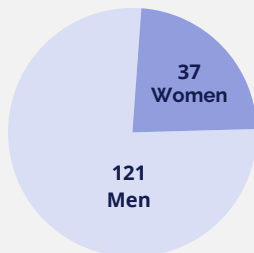**3 key factors in the consolidation of APL's leading position:**

- **A significant increase in the size of the projects handled,** underpinned by consummate risk management, primarily achieved by strengthening production resources and support functions;

- **An international presence strengthened** through the signing of major contracts with leading players in Italy, Djibouti, and Morocco;

- **Strategic expertise with hyperscalers,** with an upswing in the number of projects consolidating APL's leadership in this segment.

8 locations
(France + Switzerland+ Italy)

Paris
Rennes
Lausanne
Lyon
Bordeaux
Milan
Marseille
Toulouse

SOCIAL HUMAN RESOURCES

37 Women

121 Men

61-65 years : 1%
51-60 years : 11%

41-50 years 13%

21-30 years 37%

31-40 years 38%

Engineering school degree 53%

Other 27%

Master's 20%
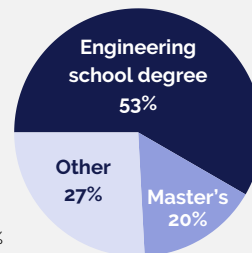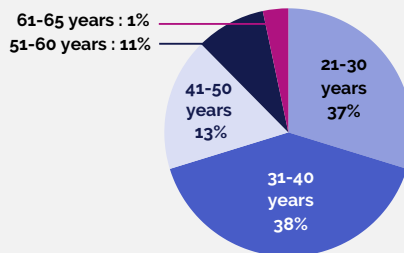
- BTS* - 8%
- DUT* - 6%
- Bachelor's - 4%
- Doctorate - 3%
- French Baccalaureate - 3%
- Business school degree - 2%
- BEP/CAP** - 1%
  *vocational degrees
  **vocational diplomas

24% women including **17** women engineers

40 permanent employees

64% of employees have benefited from in-house training

91% of employees are satisfied with their working conditions

0 workplace accidents

A **staff representative body** (CSE) with a strong impact on social and cultural activities (budget in excess of legal obligations).

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

> **Parenthood charter (childcare vouchers)**
> **Lunch vouchers**
> **Staff canteen (Montrouge)**
> **Sports subsidies**
> **Health: 100% coverage of supplementary health insurance**
> **Company car or transport allowance**
> **Remote working (supply of equipment)**

INNOVATION
LAB-BY-APL & NEUTREO

Publication of the **Product Category Referential** for the environmental labeling of **services hosted in the Cloud and in data centers** + tests on 2 pilot cases.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION DEPARTMENT

7 POCs carried out

11 projects eligible for research / innovation tax credits

1 master's student on a work / study program

3 doctors

1 research intern

ENVIRONMENT
INTERNAL

295.5 tonnes of CO_2 corresponding to APL's carbon footprint

2.24 tonnes of CO_2 per employee (equivalent)

SILVER 2023 ecovadis Sustainability Rating

"Ecovadis" silver medal

> **Signs promoting eco-friendly actions in the office**
> **Waste sorting**
> **"Ecologic" collection point**
> **Quality and environment policy**

1.4. Risk management

To support its growth, APL Data Center has introduced a comprehensive approach to risk, with four objectives:

Roadmap based around 4 objectives

1	2	3	4
Risks taken into account when setting **APL's objectives**	**Effective communication of information** about the risks	**Effective systems** to manage the risks	**Understanding of the risks to APL** by the different parties involved
Identify	**Communicate**	**Implement**	**Accustom**

Project methodology

↗ **Joint construction of the different components of the project through working meetings:** materiality, inventory and assessment, process

↗ **Approval of the components along the way by ExCom**

Main actions

✔ **Creation of risk inventory**

✔ **General analysis of risks by process**

✔ **Analysis of risks by topic**

✔ **Consolidated document "APL Global Risk Approach"**

1.5. Subsidiaries

APL Data Center has several subsidiaries:

For the year 2023, the CSR report concerns the company APL Data Center only.

2.

VISION, MISSION, & VALUES

2. VISION, MISSION, & VALUES

2.1. Vision

Data centers are the vital physical units that make up the digital world. Their number and area are rising sharply to support and host the digital services that we all use on a daily basis. Now, with the digital economy unable to ignore the impact of its growth on real-life society, APL Data Center is committed to minimizing the sustainable development implications of data centers, strategic links and cornerstones of a sustainable digital economy.

APL Data Center firmly believes that it is possible to reconcile the development of digital technology with sustainable development considerations by rethinking the data center of the future.

> **"** Designing the data center of the future to reconcile the **development of digital technology** with **sustainable development considerations** **"**
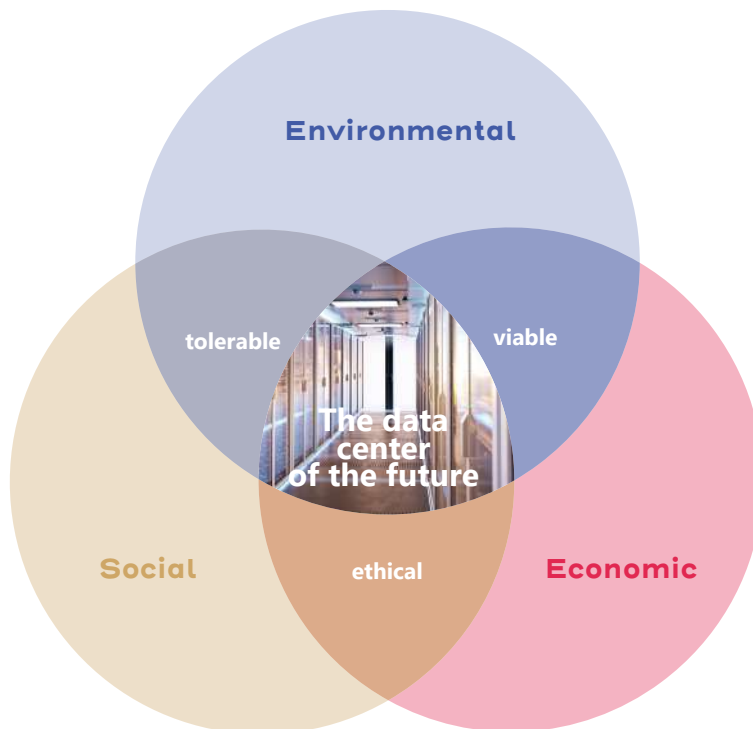
2.2. Mission

Building on its commitment to sustainable development, APL Data Center has set itself a mission named Organic Design: to create scalable, upgradeable, secure and efficient data centers that fit harmoniously into their environment, so that the rapid growth in applications of digital technology and the data centers that support them are compatible with our environment and the development of our communities in the long term.

There can be no high-performing data center without sustainability and no sustainable data center without performance.

> **"** Data centers that **fit harmoniously into their environment,** are designed for the greatest possible energy efficiency, and adapt to our customers' needs and to future developments while keeping their impact (noise, visual and environmental) to a minimum. **"**

Sustainability

Innovation

Performance
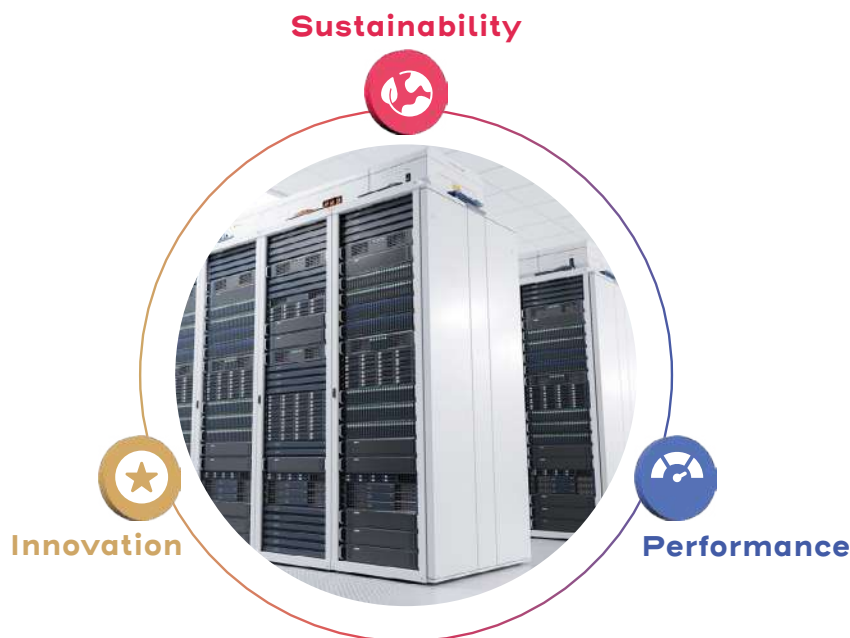
2.3. Values

In 2023, APL Data Center launched a project to revise its values, which make up the common foundation underpinning its vision of a prosperous organization that respects its staff. These values are:

Commit

We put all our energy into helping our customers build the most high-performing, sustainable and environmentally friendly data centers possible, always with our responsibility in mind.

Bring together

We know that we're stronger together. We like working as a team, sharing what we learn, and celebrating our collective victories.

Dare

Autonomy, confidence, and initiative guide our actions. We seek innovation and relish a challenge.

Grow together

We are building a working environment built on humility, openness, and a desire to help each other, where everyone – customers, team members, and partners – can progress.

Cultivate excellence

We are proud of our expertise. We are constantly striving to improve it and to always be at the cutting edge.

3.

APL'S CSR STRATEGY

3. APL'S CSR STRATEGY

3.1. Stakeholders

APL Data Center has mapped out its stakeholders.

Financial
• Senior management
• Management committees
• Competitors
• Shareholders
• Financial and extra-financial analyst

Partners
• Suppliers, joint contractors and subcontractors
• Professional associations and federations
• Independent experts and partners

Institutions
• Legislator
• Media
• NGOs
• Public authorities
• Certification bodies
• Research and teaching partners

Social
• Staff representative body
• Employees

Customers
• Private sector direct customers
• Public sector direct customers
• International indirect customers
• Other indirect customers

Community
• Local residents around our sites
• Local nonprofit organizations
• Local authorities

3.2. Priorities and pillars of APL's CSR strategy

APL's CSR strategy is founded on the sustainable development principles (ISO 26000). It enables APL to meet the needs and expectations of stakeholders in a way that is consistent with its vision and mission.

3.2.1. Materiality analysis

The materiality analysis takes into account all of APL Data Center's stakeholders and makes it possible to rank the CSR priorities in order of importance.
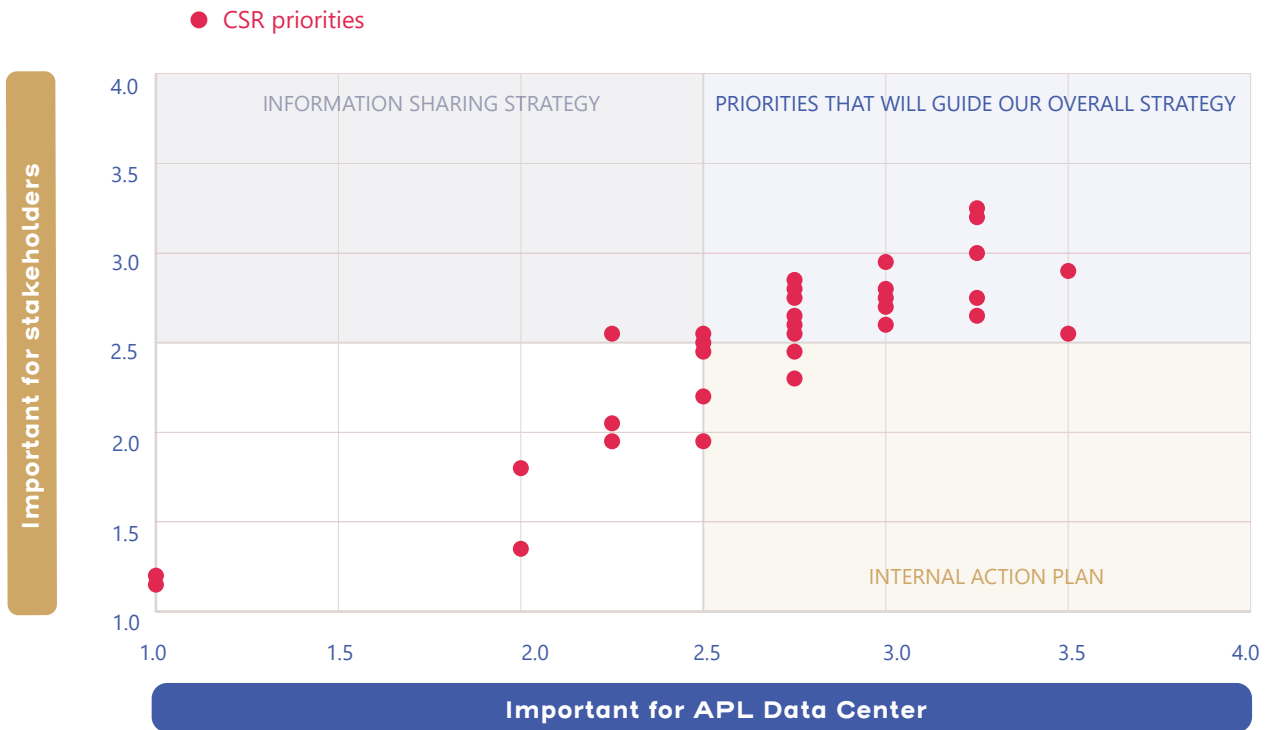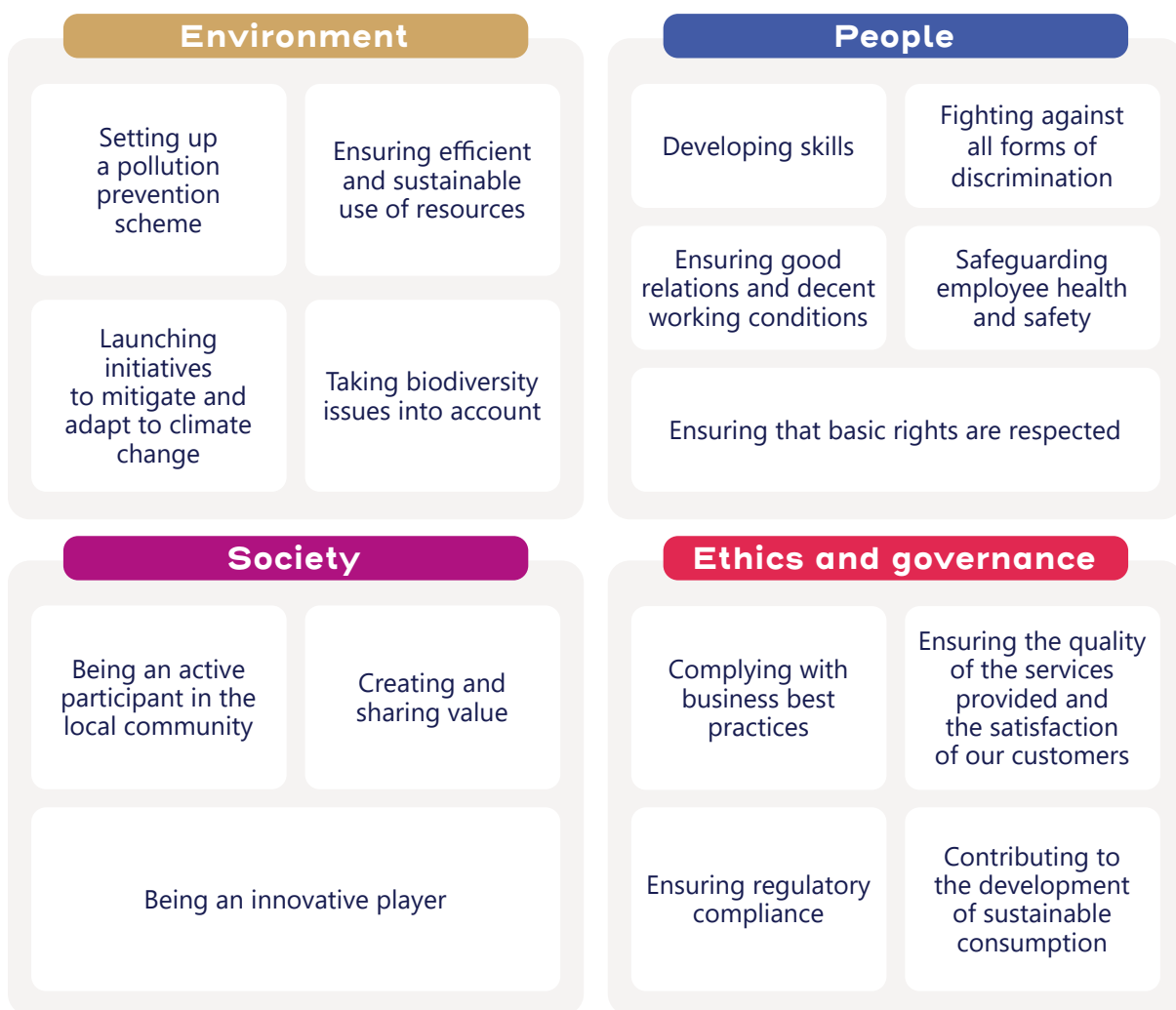
● CSR priorities

3.2.2. CSR priorities

The CSR priorities underpinning the CSR strategy are divided into 4 pillars and are as follows:

The 4 pillars of CSR at APL Data Center

Environment

Setting up a pollution prevention scheme

Ensuring efficient and sustainable use of resources

Launching initiatives to mitigate and adapt to climate change

Taking biodiversity issues into account

People

Developing skills

Fighting against all forms of discrimination

Ensuring good relations and decent working conditions

Safeguarding employee health and safety

Ensuring that basic rights are respected

Society

Being an active participant in the local community

Creating and sharing value

Being an innovative player

Ethics and governance

Complying with business best practices

Ensuring the quality of the services provided and the satisfaction of our customers

Ensuring regulatory compliance

Contributing to the development of sustainable consumption

3.3. APL's dual approach to CSR: direct and indirect impact

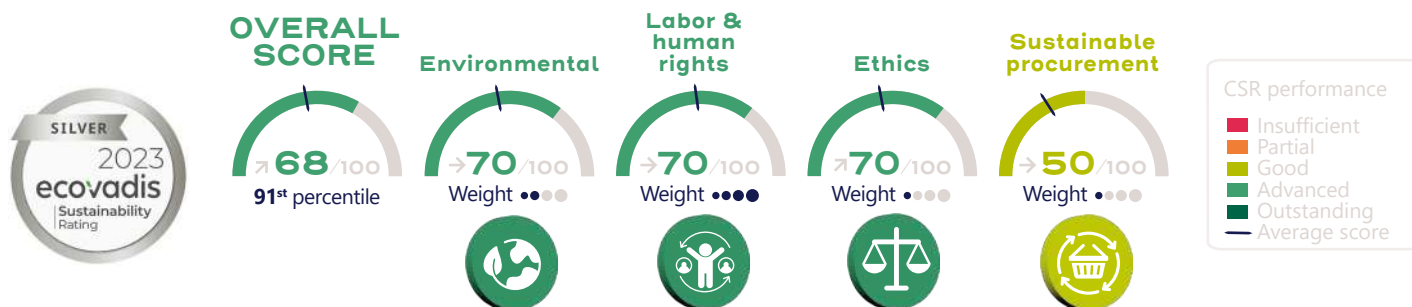The CSR priorities are at the heart of APL Data Center's strategy, with a dual approach used:
- Direct impact of APL Data Center owing to its own operation
- Indirect impact of APL Data Center or how to respond to the interests and expectations of its stakeholders

3.4. APL's CSR assessment

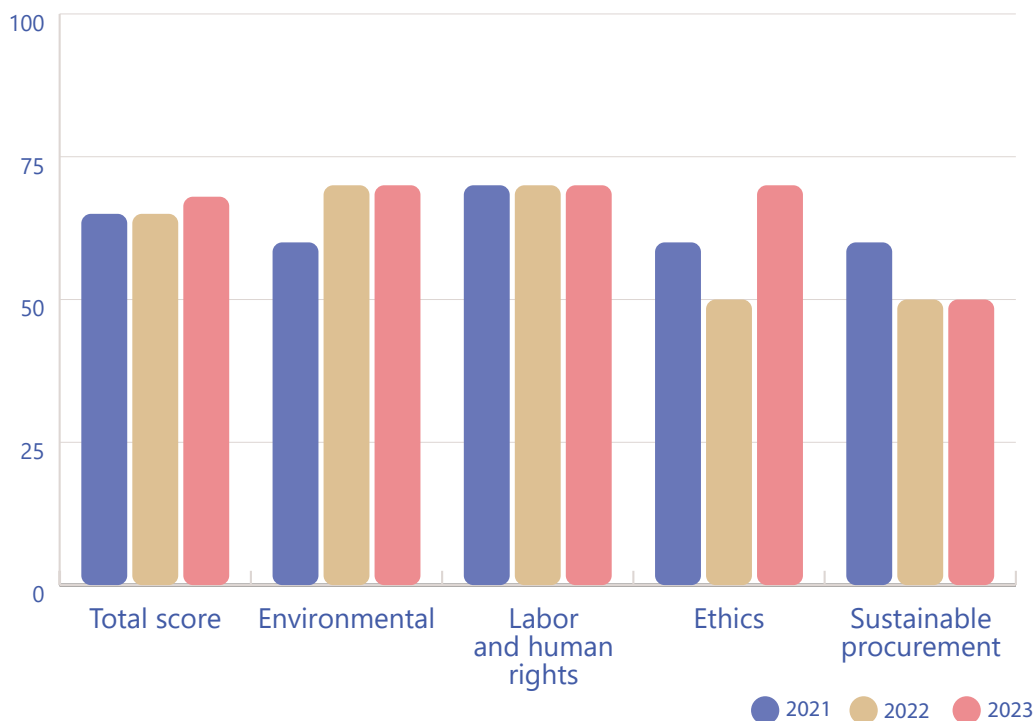APL's CSR efforts have been the object of ECOVADIS assessments for a number of years.

EcoVadis results for 2023

APL DATA CENTER SAS (GROUP) scored in the top **7%** of companies assessed by EcoVadis in the "Architectural and engineering activities" industry sector.

SILVER
2023
ecovadis
Sustainability
Rating

OVERALL SCORE
↗ **68** /100
91st percentile

Environmental
→ **70** /100
Weight ●●○○

Labor & human rights
↗ **70** /100
Weight ●●●●

Ethics
↗ **70** /100
Weight ●○○○

Sustainable procurement
→ **50** /100
Weight ●○○○

CSR performance
- Insufficient
- Partial
- Good
- Advanced
- Outstanding
— Average score

Comparison with the previous years:

EcoVadis scores

3.5. APL Data Center's ISO certifications

In 2020, APL Data Center adopted a multi-standard ISO approach, setting up an Integrated Management System (IMS) within its organization. This system incorporates customer needs and satisfaction (ISO 9001) and the management and reduction of our environmental impact (ISO 14001) at the same level of importance.

The IMS was built as a tool for steering APL Data Center's action on quality and environmental issues on the direct impact side.

The APL Data Center IMS is certified to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 by an independent inspection company, Dekra.

ISO 9001 specifies requirements for a quality management system. This standard helps to:

- Demonstrate the ability to consistently provide products and services that comply with customer requirements and applicable statutory and regulatory provisions

- Increase customer satisfaction

ISO 14001 specifies requirements for an environmental management system. This standard helps to:

- Improve environmental performance, primarily by analyzing the organization's environmental impact with a view to reducing it

- Comply with obligations

- Achieve environmental objectives

The principles of APL Data Center's Integrated Management System approach are as follows:

- Process-based approach
- Risk-based approach
- Continual improvement

3.6. CoC

As an expert in the energy optimization of data centers, APL Data Center is registered with the European Commission as an Endorser of the European Code of Conduct on Data Centre Energy Efficiency. This distinction enables us to help data centers gain recognition for their implementation of energy optimization best practices through participation in the Code of Conduct.

4.

GOVERNANCE

4. GOVERNANCE

The CSR priorities are taken into account in the decision making of the company's various governing bodies.

	Strategic Committee	ExCom	HR Management Committee	IMS Steering Committee
📅	Quarterly	Monthly	Monthly	Every two months
🎯	Monitoring of the NextGen2024 projects, which include: • 1 CSR project • CSR considerations in each project	Monitoring of the progress of the NextGen2024 projects and key steps	Monitoring of CSR initiatives	Monitoring of the CSR initiatives included in the IMS

5.

PILLARS OF APL'S CSR STRATEGY

5. PILLARS OF APL DATA CENTER'S CSR STRATEGY

5.1. People

Strategic objectives: develop human capital, build staff loyalty

People

Developing skills	Fighting against all forms of discrimination
Ensuring good relations and decent working conditions	Safeguarding employee health and safety

Ensuring that basic rights are respected

5.1.1. Developing skills

5.1.1.1. Main actions

- Integrating new employees by organizing meetings with department representatives and raising their awareness of APL's core business and mission: Organic Design

- Training program by APL

- Career development meetings

5.1.1.2. Associated KPIs

- 64% of employees received in-house training
- 14 hours of training per employee on average in 2023
- 2 recruitment speed dating events and 2 school events
- 92% of employees satisfied with training and the on-boarding process in 2023 (up 6 percentage points compared to 2021)

5.1.2. Fighting against all forms of discrimination

5.1.2.1. Main actions

- Sharing the 25 protected characteristics with managers

- Listing job vacancies as open to both men and women

- Maternity leave exit and return interviews

- Encouraging employees to take paternity leave

- Raising employee awareness of disabilities, including invisible ones

5.1.2.2. Associated KPIs

- Gender Equality Index: 81/100
- Age distribution:

61-65 years: 1%
51-60 years: 11%
41-50 years 13%
21-30 years 37%
31-40 years 38%
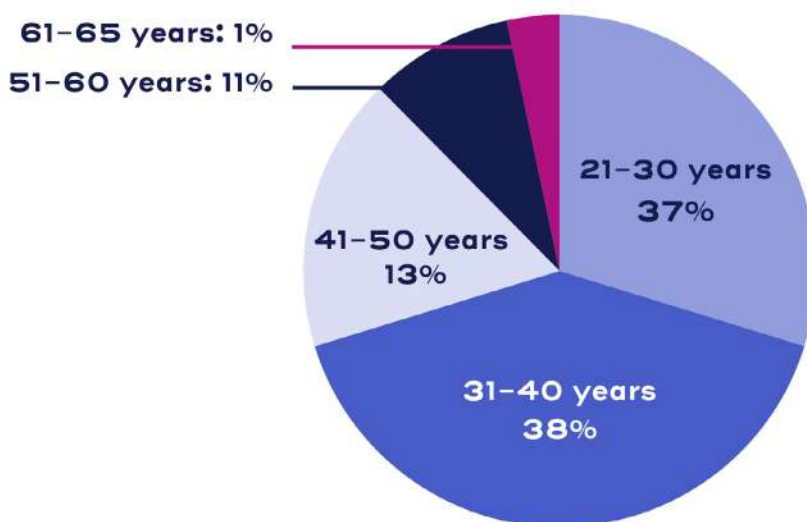
5.1.2.3. Snapshot

- Awareness campaign run during European Disability Employment Week, from November 20 to 24, 2023, with posters displayed in our buildings, animated displays on our internal screens, and an email campaign:
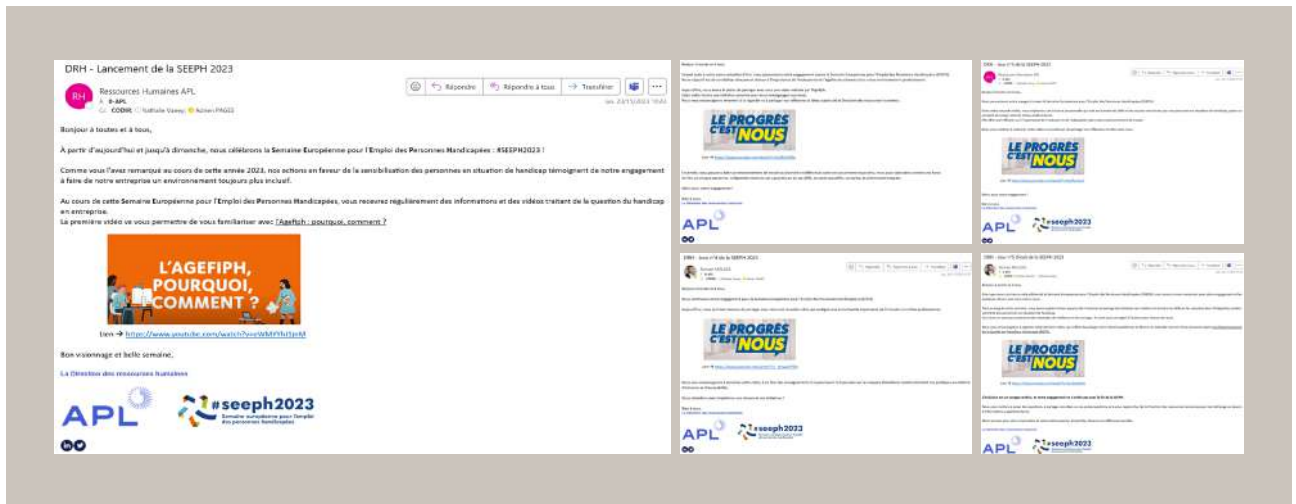
5.1.3. Ensuring good relations and decent working conditions

5.1.3.1. Main actions

- Right to disconnect charter

- Working from home charter with 2 days of home working per week

- Prevention of sexual and other harassment with 'sexual harassment and sexist behavior' contact people and the introduction of a reporting hotline

- Reimbursement of up to €150/year for employees' exercise memberships

- 100% coverage of supplementary health insurance by APL Data Center

5.1.3.2. Associated KPIs

Results of the 2023 employee survey:

- 100% have a good/positive perception of APL's image
- 85% of employees are satisfied with the working environment and the way work is organized (up 3 percentage points from 2021)
- 97% are satisfied with management and the atmosphere at work (up 5 percentage points from 2021)
- 91% are satisfied with the working from home conditions

5.1.4. Safeguarding employee health and safety

5.1.4.1. Main actions

- Ensuring employee OHS and new PPE pack for all APL employees

- Employee training in OHS

- Introduction of a workplace accident prevention scheme

5.1.4.2. Associated KPIs

- Number of workplace accidents: 0 in 2023 (1 in 2022)
- 100% of employees working on project sites received PPE
- 15% of employees trained in OHS

5.1.5. Ensuring that basic rights are respected

5.1.5.1. Main actions

- Ensuring compliance with the ILO (International Labour Organization) Conventions and labor laws

5.2. Ethics and governance

Ethics and governance

Complying with business best practices	Ensuring the quality of the services provided and the satisfaction of our customers
Ensuring regulatory compliance	Contributing to the development of sustainable consumption

5.2.1. Ensuring the quality of the services provided and the satisfaction of our customers

5.2.1.1. Main actions

- Introducing a new project management guide

- Strengthening the contractual management of projects by incorporating a new role into the company: the Contract Manager

- Carrying out an annual customer satisfaction survey

- Annual supplier evaluations

5.2.1.2. Associated KPIs

Results of the 2023 customer satisfaction survey:

Annual satisfaction rate: 97%
- APL's understanding of needs: 8.6/10
- Compliance with deadlines: 8.3/10
- Quality of deliverables: 8.3/10
- Staff availability: 8.2/10

73% of customers consider that APL Data Center takes their environmental considerations into account in their projects

Criteria that were decisive in the choice to work with APL:
- Level of expertise (78%)
- Understanding of needs (63%)
- Past customers (43%)

5.2.2. Ensuring regulatory compliance

5.2.2.1. Main actions

- Creating the SIGMA (simulation, graphics engineering, methods and software applications) department, with two main objectives:

  1. To centralize and develop cross-departmental skills (OPEN, BIM, etc.) with a view to more rationalized, widespread use,
  2. To play a proactive role in capitalizing on and improving the methods necessary to carry out business.

  Within this context, developing the Methods and Tools division to capitalize on expertise and ensure core business departments' compliance with national and European regulations.

- Monitoring compliance with data protection and privacy regulations: revising APL's personal data protection policies

- External compliance audit on occupational health and safety issues

- Revising the supplier code of conduct, incorporating health and safety and regulatory compliance issues

5.2.2.2. Associated KPIs

- Supplier evaluation (154 suppliers in 2023)
- 92% of suppliers scored over 60% in the evaluation

Supplier evaluation criteria

Compliance with the requirements specified in the proposal

Compliance with deadlines

Quality of execution

Quality of reporting

Ability to offer improvements

Level of staff engagement

Compliance with environmental prescriptions

5.2.3. Complying with business best practices

5.2.3.1. Main actions

- Drawing up an anti-corruption policy

- Setting up a reporting hotline

5.2.3.2. Associated KPIs

- 100% of employees signed the anti-corruption policy
- No reports in 2023

Scope of reporting hotline: 9 scenarios

1. Illegal or criminal conduct

2. Violation of the anti-corruption policy

3. Risks to health and safety

4. Unauthorized use of company funds

5. Inappropriate or improper behavior

6. Damage caused to the environment

7. Serious IT security risks or disclosure of strictly confidential strategic information

8. Any discrimination based on race, color, beliefs, national or ethnic origin, disability, age, sex or sexual orientation

9. Case or suspected case of corruption or fraud within the company

5.2.4. Contributing to the development of sustainable consumption

5.2.4.1. Main actions

• Regularly sharing best practices related to what we do

• CSR and sustainable IT internal training program

• Sustainable IT webinar

• Carbon footprint information

• IT best practices

• Active participation in working groups on sustainable IT (see infographic on the following page)

ENVIRONMENT **ECOSYSTEM**

Contribution to the publication of white papers and best practices

Study on waste heat recovery for ADEME (French Environment and Energy Management Agency)

Drafting of **two technical specifications documents** for local authorities and data center operators, to enable each party to understand the other's concerns and challenges.

Participation in the drafting of the LAN white paper

"The environmental impact of a local area network (LAN) and corporate phone services" following the publication of the Product Category Referential for LANs (for ADEME) in collaboration with the CDRT and the AGIT.

Participation in Eurocloud's Eco-responsibility Commission

Member of the AGIT (Alliance Green IT) committee and participation in working groups; member of France Datacenter and participation in the circular economy working group.

Participation in an edge computing study

"Study on the Economic Potential of Far Edge Computing in the Future Smart Internet of Things" for the European Commission/DG Connect (APL carried out the environmental study).

SPEECHES

GreenTech Forum

The environmental impact of the data center and the power of data and more sustainable technologies:

"How embedded technology, the IoT, and edge computing are contributing to the ecological transition of the economy"

Les Rencontres des Data Centers, des Territoires et des Données Souveraines 2023

"How can you control the power consumption of your digital infrastructure?"

SPEECHES

We Do Green IT

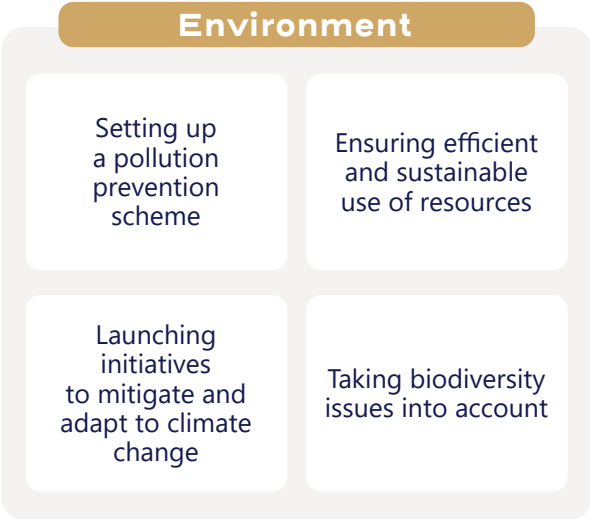**The reliability of environmental studies**

5.2.4.2. Associated KPIs

- 6 in-house training sessions (50 participants on average per session)
- Involvement in 24 events and conferences, of which 17 were related to the environment
- 16 white papers/articles/expert opinions/press releases written, of which 11 were related to the environment
- 78 press mentions, of which 41 were related to the environment

5.3. Environment

Environment

Setting up a pollution prevention scheme	Ensuring efficient and sustainable use of resources
Launching initiatives to mitigate and adapt to climate change	Taking biodiversity issues into account

5.3.1. Setting up a pollution prevention scheme

5.3.1.1. Main actions

Carbon footprint assessment

- Measurement of APL's carbon footprint for 2023

- Since 2022: measurement according to the GHG Protocol methodology for compatibility with our customers' decarbonization strategies
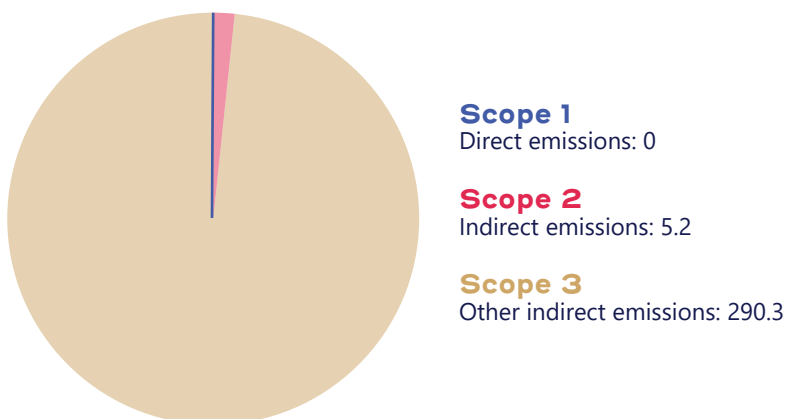
- 2023: work begun on a carbon trajectory

Waste management

- Management of APL's waste in accordance with the regulations

- WEEE

5.3.1.2. Associated KPIs

2023 carbon footprint assessment results

Distribution of APL's GHG emissions by scope
(in tonnes CO2 equivalent)

Scope 1
Direct emissions: 0

Scope 2
Indirect emissions: 5.2

Scope 3
Other indirect emissions: 290.3

[A look at Scope 3]

- Vehicle fleet made greener:
  3% electric vehicles and 15% hybrid vehicles at the end of 2023

- Changes to transport used:
  32% fewer plane journeys
  61% more train journeys
  48% more car journeys

Waste management

- Treatment rates for our end-of-life WEEE:
  50% recycling
  50% reuse

- Treatment of APL's waste

KPI	2022	2023	Change
Quantity of recycled paper purchased (in kg)	596	748	**+25%**
Quantity of printed paper products produced	15	33	**+54%**

KPI	2022	2023	Change
Quantity of non-hazardous waste recycled	6,794	27,019	**+75%**
Quantity of hazardous waste recycled	2,016	59	**-97%**

5.3.2. Ensuring efficient and sustainable use of resources

5.3.2.1. Main actions

Energy savings

- Raising employee awareness (e.g., posters on eco-friendly actions)

- Environmental dashboard for each site including energy tracking

- APL Data Center is a cofounder of the Cube Datacenter competition

- For several years now, our projects have included support on energy optimization beginning in the design phase and extending into the data center's operation

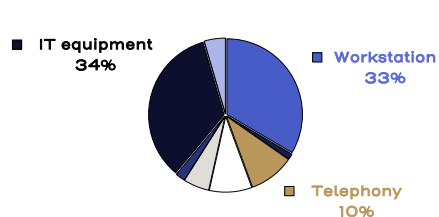| Energy audit	PUE calculation energy study	Digital simulation of airflows in computer rooms	Digital simulation of airflows in rooftop areas	Support with white certificates and grants

Use of raw materials
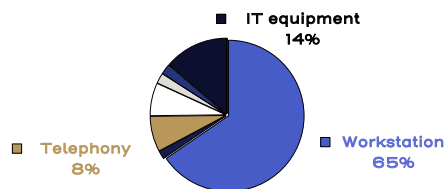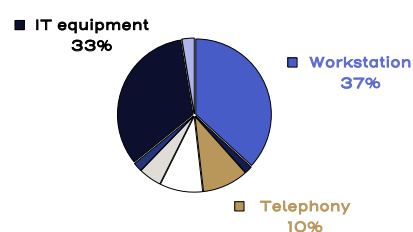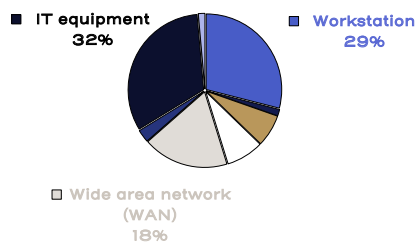
- Efficient use of resources by APL

As part of its pursuit of continual improvement, APL Data Center carried out an analysis of the environmental impact of its IT system using the LCA methodology. This study revealed that, for the most part, it is staff workstations that are behind the IT system's environmental impact (laptops, screens, mobile phones).

To manage this impact, APL Data Center is working on its carbon trajectory, and as part of this, is examining several options around sustainable procurement, equipment life cycles and end-of-life treatment (reuse, recycling).

Climate change – kg CO2 eq.

IT equipment 34%
Workstation 33%
Telephony 10%

Depletion of natural abiotic resources – elements – kg Sb eq.

IT equipment 14%
Workstation 65%
Telephony 8%

Acidification – mol H+ eq.

IT equipment 33%
Workstation 37%
Telephony 10%

Fine particle emissions – Disease occurrence

IT equipment 32%
Workstation 29%
Wide area network (WAN) 18%

Ionizing radiation– kBq U235 eq.

IT equipment 28%
Workstation 20%
Wide area network (WAN) 38%
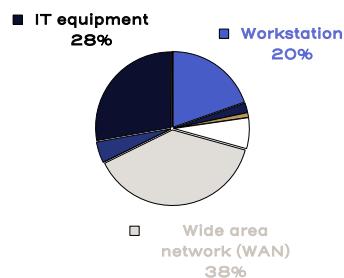
5.3.2.2. Associated KPIs

KPI	2022	2023	Change
Electricity consumption (kWh)	90,775	93,061	**+2.5%**
Montrouge	72,166	77,726	
Lyon	18,609	15,335	
Water consumption (m³)	621	631	**+1.7%**
Montrouge	481	481	
Lyon	141	151	

5.3.3. Launching initiatives to mitigate and adapt to climate change

5.3.3.1. Main actions

- Assessment of APL's carbon footprint (see section 5.3.1)

- Example of a project currently taking place at the lab: SIM DC

SIM DC objectives:
This project is aimed at changing the way data centers are designed, managed, and optimized by capitalizing on technological advances in the field of modeling and simulation, notably through the use of digital twins.
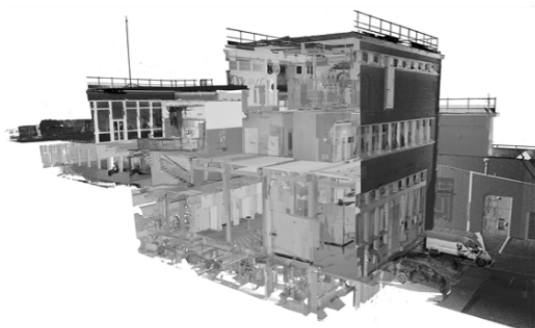
Point cloud   **BIM model**

SIM DC innovations:
- Determining the environmental impact of the choice of design
- Simulating a data center's energy or water consumption as a function of several relevant parameters
- Simulating a data center's behavior in the event of the failure of certain equipment

5.3.4. Taking biodiversity issues into account

5.3.4.1. Main actions

Incorporating criteria to help control the impact on biodiversity (4 of the 5 drivers of biodiversity loss) into the assessment of the environmental impact of a data center project:

• Climate change (taken into account in multi–criteria LCA)

• Air, land and water pollution (taken into account in multi–criteria LCA)

• Overuse of resources (taken into account in multi–criteria LCA)

• Land artificialization: factor taken into account in the classification of the land and customers supported in the choice of new versus renovation

• Invasive species: wildlife surveys and identification/management of invasive species carried out almost systematically as part of projects

The 5 major drivers of biodiversity loss, illustrated by examples

Changes in land and sea use

65,758 ha* increase in artificialized land (2006-2015)

OverexploitaBtion of certain organisms

28% increase in landings of fish from overfished populations (2019)

Climate change

Migratory birds arrive **6 days* earlier** (1989-2017)

Pollution

25% increase in sales* of plant protection products for agricultural use (2009-2018)

Invasive non–native species

60 of the 100 species that are most invasive present in overseas France (2016)

*Only applies to metropolitan France
Source: ONB, IPBES

5.4. Society

Society

Being an active participant in the local community

Creating and sharing value

Being an innovative player

5.4.1. Being an innovative player

For several years, APL Data Center has been investing a percentage of its gross profit into research and development: 9.5% of GP in 2023 compared to 8.5% in 2022.

The goal of the "Lab-by-APL" is to put "sustainable innovation reconciling digital transformation with the ecological transition" at the service of its customers and to promote this innovation, using the following two drivers:

• Expertise & continual improvement
• Collaboration

Each year, Lab-by-APL sets out its roadmap for how to meet the challenges posed by the company strategy.
This roadmap is based around the following 4 focus areas:

no. 1 Supporting digital transformation

no. 2 Strengthening data center performance

no. 3 Reducing the environmental impact of digital services

no. 4 Inventing the data centers of the future
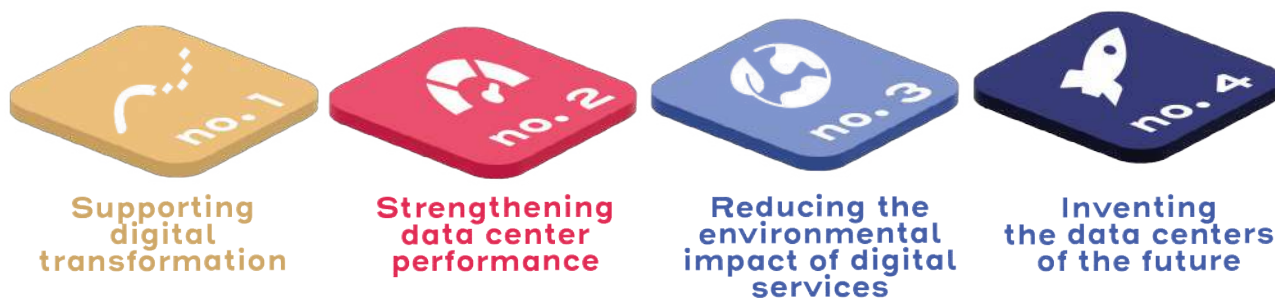
Associated KPIs:

- **7 POCs carried out**

- **5 publications, of which:**
  - 1 scientific and published in a journal
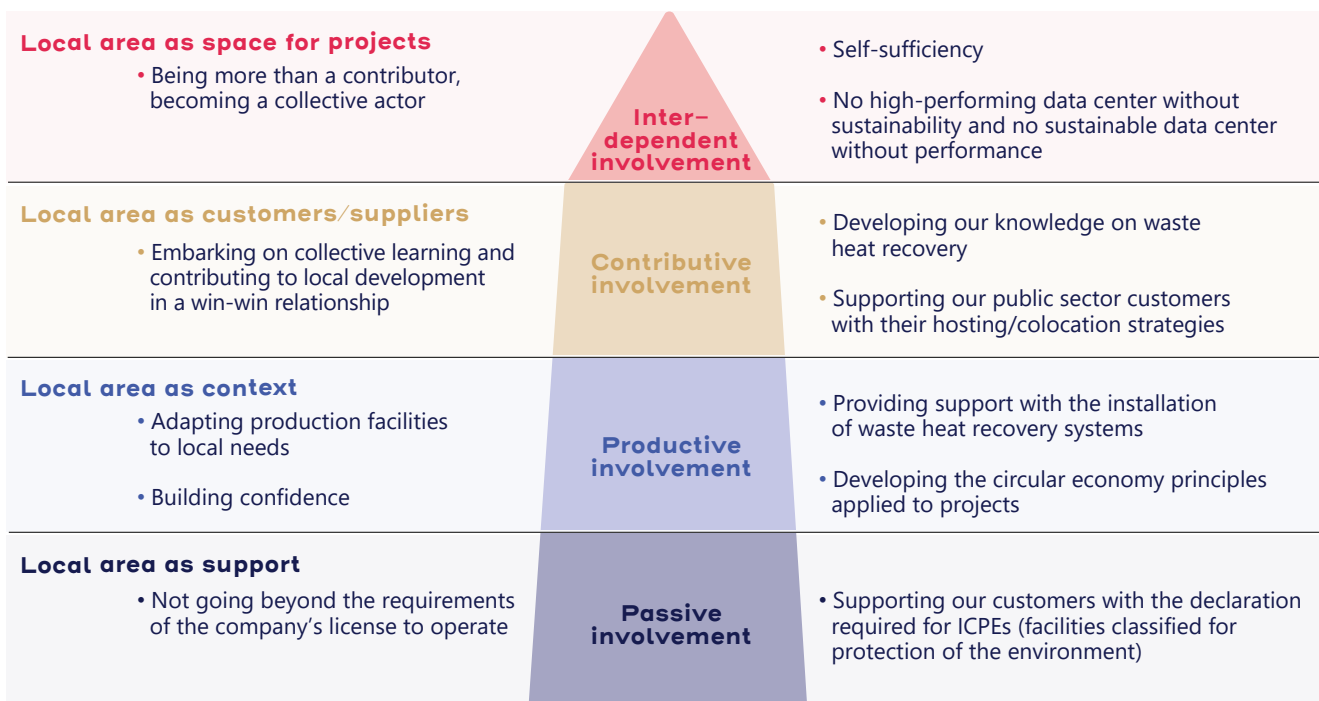 - 3 white papers: Environmental Impact of a LAN Network and Corporate Phone Services, Managing and Optimizing the Environmental Impact of Data Centers Sustainability of the Home LAN
  - 1 expert opinion: greenOps

- **7 public speaking engagements, of which:**
  - 2 conferences in Abidjan (AI and metaverse)
  - Data Centre World
  - ECOCIR Abidjan
  - We Do Green IT
  - 2 talks with graduate schools
  - OVEA: conference on sustainable IT
  - E5T: summer school on sustainable IT

5.4.2. Being an active participant in the local community

Local area as space for projects • Being more than a contributor, becoming a collective actor	**Inter-dependent involvement**	• Self-sufficiency • No high-performing data center without sustainability and no sustainable data center without performance
Local area as customers/suppliers • Embarking on collective learning and contributing to local development in a win-win relationship	**Contributive involvement**	• Developing our knowledge on waste heat recovery • Supporting our public sector customers with their hosting/colocation strategies
Local area as context • Adapting production facilities to local needs • Building confidence	**Productive involvement**	• Providing support with the installation of waste heat recovery systems • Developing the circular economy principles applied to projects
Local area as support • Not going beyond the requirements of the company's license to operate	**Passive involvement**	• Supporting our customers with the declaration required for ICPEs (facilities classified for protection of the environment)

The pathway of a company's involvement in the local community to reach a level of interdependence with its local area(s), in the style of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Source: Orée

On this scale, which works in the same way as Maslow's hierarchy of needs, APL Data Center's work for its customers sits between productive involvement and contributive involvement.

Main actions:

• Providing consulting services for a customer as part of a data center design and construction project; circular economy principles were applied to the renovation of an existing building

• Study on waste heat recovery

> **Study on waste heat recovery for ADEME** (French Environment and Energy Management Agency)
>
> Drafting of **two technical specifications documents** for local authorities and data center operators, to enable each party to understand the other's concerns and challenges.

• Supporting a public sector customer with their hosting/colocation strategy

5.4.3. Creating and sharing value

Value creation comes out of innovation. APL has an R&D division, and in 2023, 9.5% of its gross profit was invested in the innovation program.

APL
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CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REPORT
2023

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