

Environmental policy



Facts and figures / February 2023

In summary

At Orange, our commitment to the planet is at the forefront of our Lead the Future strategy: we have set the ambitious target to achieve 'net zero carbon' emissions by 2040, which is ten years earlier than the target set by the GSMA. The first step is to reduce our CO2 emissions for scopes 1 and 2 (direct and indirect emissions) by 30% by 2025, compared to our levels in 2015 and by 14% compared with 2018 for scope 3 (other emissions).

Orange is making the additional commitment to reduce by 45% its emissions across scopes 1, 2 and 3 by 2030 (from a 2020 base).

The group's commitment to address the world's challenges is reflected in its purpose:

"As a trusted partner, Orange gives everyone the keys to a responsible digital world".

Key figures

~3,5%

of global CO2 emissions

(i.e., 1,150 million tons) are emitted today by the digital sector. This includes fixed/mobile networks, business networks, data centers, customer equipment including smartphones, PCs, TVs.

0,5%

of global CO2 emissions

(i.e., 180 million tons of CO2) are emitted by telecoms networks.

~0,7%

of CO2 emissions by telecoms networks

(i.e. 1.3 million tons of CO2) are those of Orange's telecom networks.

Digital is part of the environmental problem, but it is also a part of the solution:

2,135
million

tons of CO2 emissions worldwide

were avoided in 2018 thanks to mobile networks, according to the GSMA.

Digital technology

therefore provides many opportunities

to reduce our carbon footprint and can also help change consumption patterns. It enables us to reduce the need for travelling (one of the 3 main factors of CO2 emissions) and optimise processes. We are transitioning towards a functional economy.

Find out more

How to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2040?

1. Reduce our CO2 emissions

To achieve this goal – despite a rise in network usage (estimated 10-fold traffic growth between 2018 and 2025) – we will:

Improve the energy efficiency of our networks and IT equipment (i.e., 86.8% of the Group's energy consumption and 84.5% of the Group's direct and indirect CO2 emissions):

- Implementation of our Green ITN program, which helps optimize technical deployments and energy efficiency equipment (free cooling, server virtualization, use of data and AI etc.). Green ITN helped save 3.3 million tons of CO2 between 2015 and 2020, representing 3.4 TWh of electricity saved and 260 million liters of fuel. On the mobile network, the amount of data carried increased 7-fold between 2014 and 2018, and energy performance improved by 80%.
- Creation of eco-efficient data centers: the first was commissioned in Val de Reuil in 2012 and 2 new ones are under construction to replace ten data centers in France. The new data centers consume 30% less than the older generation for an equivalent capacity, thanks to a new natural ventilation technology that consumes 80% less energy.

Improve the energy efficiency of our buildings (i.e., 8.9% of the Group's energy consumption) and our transport (4.4%):

- We reduced the CO2 generated by our buildings and transport by 15.9% in 2019 vs 2018 by introducing more efficient equipment (e.g., replacing boilers, optimizing lighting surveillance with 360° sensors).
- Orange has the biggest European corporate car sharing fleet, with over 2,600 vehicles. The aim is to have 50% of the fleet become electrified (hybrid + electric) by 2025, representing around 7,000 vehicles.

Use renewable energies:

- Target to cover 50% of the Group's electricity requirements with renewable energies in 2025, vs. 31% in 2021. This requires direct purchase agreements with renewable energy producers in Europe. The first wind and solar power purchase agreements have been signed in France, Poland and Spain.
- Orange has deployed more than 6,000 sites equipped with photovoltaic panels in 14 countries (end 2021 figures) to power its infrastructure, which represents more than 16% of all mobile sites in the MEA region.

Result: By the end of 2021, Orange has reduced its CO2 emissions by 12.1% compared to 2015, representing 97.3% turnover

Reduce our « scope 3 »² :

- By developing the circular economy:
 - By 2025, 100% of our products sold under the Orange brand must be included in an eco-design initiative.
 - Creation of the OSCAR (Orange Sustainable and Circular Ambition for Recertification) program to significantly increase the use of refurbished IT and network equipment by 2025 while maintaining the same quality of service.
 - Launch of the RE program in France on 8th October 2020 to speed up the recycling, recovery and refurbishment of mobile phones. In October 2021, Orange extended this initiative to include repairs. In 2022, the RE program was launched across all European countries where the Group operates.
 - Promoting development of smartphones that are easier to repair like the Neva Leaf or the Fairphone.
- Encouraging our suppliers to reduce their emissions through virtuous programs aimed at reducing their environmental footprint.

2. Work on our residual emissions

Reducing our CO2 emissions by 80% via the drivers mentioned above will not enable us to completely reach net zero emissions. We will still emit residual CO2 that we must be sequestered.

Therefore, at the end of 2021, Orange launched its own carbon fund, Orange Nature:

- A €50 million investment that will remunerate Orange in the form of carbon credits and nothing else (no financial return)
- Will meet most carbon sequestration needs by 2040
- As the sole investor in Orange Nature, Orange will be able to choose to invest only in natural capital projects, which will deliver high-quality carbon credits. Orange will take special care to select projects that are, over and above the question of carbon, deemed to be positive for biodiversity and society.

1 Scope 1 "direct emissions" from the energy consumed: fuel for buildings and vehicle fleets. Scope 2 "indirect emissions" from purchasing energy, such as energy consumed by the network and buildings.

2 Scope 3 is all the emissions generated upstream by our suppliers and downstream by our customers (e.g., purchasing raw materials, services or other products, especially smartphones, employee travel, transporting goods, waste management, use and end of life of the products and services sold, etc.)