

# ESG REPORT 2023

Environmental.

Social.

Governance.





Our commitment to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles is not just a moral imperative but a strategic asset. By embedding ESG in our operations, we are not only enhancing our resilience and fostering innovation, but also securing a sustainable future for our people and the planet.

#### Andreas Schilk

**NETCONOMY CFO** 

#### **Foreword**

In an era where sustainability is no longer a choice but a necessity, our commitment to fostering a greener, more equitable world stands at the forefront of our operations.

At NETCONOMY, we aim to lead the way in all facets of our business, from utilizing cutting-edge technologies and embracing the latest work principles to running our company in an environmentally responsible manner.

We are dedicated to an ongoing process of improvement, transparency and accountability and highlight our achievements towards environmental, social and governance endeavors in our 2023 ESG report.

Environment

We are aware that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and that it is our responsibility as a company to contribute to environmental sustainability.

We have therefore set the goal of continuously reducing the carbon footprint of our business activities by:

- reducing our CO2 output and switching to green energy sources
- focusing on regional and sustainable procurement
- financially compensating our CO2 emissions.

Our commitment to sustainability characterizes the way we work at NETCONOMY as key components of our corporate culture.





# Reducing our CO2 emissions and shifting to renewable energy sources

In order to reduce our carbon footprint, we transitioned our operations in Austria and Switzerland to solely use renewable energy sources starting from 2019. Our locations in Germany are close behind, with 60% of their energy sourced from renewables.

Additionally, we are actively replacing car and air travel with train journeys. For instance, we provide employees with first-class train tickets or sleeping compartments on the NightJet as eco-friendly options. Consequently, we have managed to reduce our CO2 emissions by 49.6 tons on business trips in 2023.

We saved 173.7 tons of CO2 from 2019 until 2023. This is the same as eliminating 2.800 short-haul flights!







# Regional and sustainable procurement

Our dedication to sustainability goes beyond our own operations. When working with suppliers or external partners, we focus on regional and eco-friendly production methods – such as catering for employees or workplace equipment that are sourced regionally.

These efforts serve to decrease our CO2 footprint even further, while also strengthening business in our local communities.



#### CO2 compensation

Since 2020, we have been actively offsetting the carbon emissions from our travel, electricity, and heating-related emissions. For that, we've teamed up with "atmosfair," a German organization dedicated to establishing sustainable energy sources in developing nations.

In 2023, we offset 130% of our carbon footprint, amounting to 33,600€ allocated to various projects supporting sustainable energy sources.

# Social

The rise of a new workforce generation has led to a change in priorities. For these individuals, company values, a positive work environment, and the chance to make a difference outweigh salary and benefits.

At NETCONOMY, we align with this perspective and understand the vital role our team plays in our achievements.

We are dedicated to providing support and arming our teams with the resources and perks needed for their personal and professional growth. Our goal is to empower every individual to reach their full potential.





#### We value the power of diversity

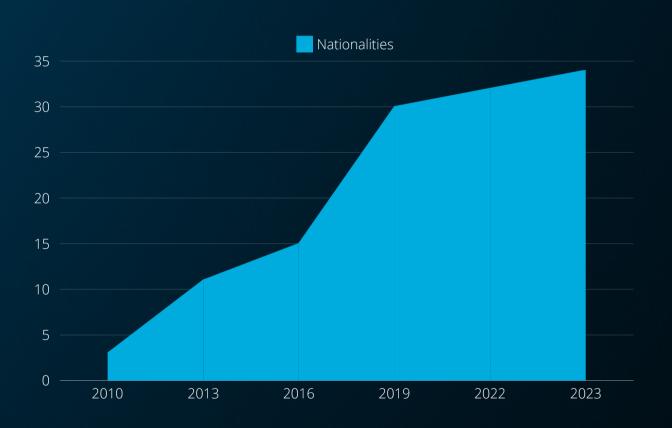
Having a diverse team, including individuals of different ages, genders, backgrounds, and cultures, leads to a multitude of perspectives and experiences, resulting in numerous benefits.

That's why we take pride in our team's diversity with 34 nationalities represented - marking a 9.68% increase from 2022 to 2023.

This stems from our commitment to equal opportunities throughout our organization and our efforts to enhance diversity, such as our relocation program. The initiative is for new and current team members interested in relocating abroad or joining us from one of our locations where we have an office. The program aims to provide support in various aspects to ensure a smooth transition and settlement in the new environment, including assistance in preparing essential contracts or navigating local labor regulations.

We know the importance of staying on the move, be it privately, professionally or even geographically. For the last one we are happy to support our people through our relocation program.

# 34 nationalities are represented among our colleagues



marking a 9.86% increase in the last year.



#### Our team members are our top priority

Our commitment lies in empowering our colleagues to achieve their full potential, not just in their professional development – where we provide a wide array of educational opportunities – but also in enabling them to contribute to their communities through our charitable initiatives.

We enhance this approach with a flexible working model and a comprehensive benefits package encompassing social and medical benefits, ensuring our team members feel appreciated and supported both within and beyond the workplace.

Central to our values is a culture of open feedback that promotes transparency and nurtures an environment where every voice is valued, regardless of hierarchy.

We've created an environment that motivates people to grow. At the center of it all – a culture that puts our people first.







## We foster a culture of open feedback

We are committed to welcoming constructive feedback and regularly assessing our colleagues' well-being. Our approach involves diverse methods and tools to foster transparent communication and an open dialogue with the management team.

#### **Blue Couch**

The Blue Couch is a bi-weekly 30-minute session where our management team keeps everyone informed and encourages open communication. It's a space for team members to ask questions, share concerns, and celebrate our shared successes.

#### Evaluation of employee satisfaction

We regularly use anonymous surveys to track employee satisfaction and engagement, asking where our people see potential for improvement. Our human resource department evaluates the results and works closely with our the management team to realize suggestions for improvements.



#### Continuous learning is a priority for us

People who are a part of the NETCONOMY team benefit both from a wide range of external training programs and our in-house <u>NETCADEMY</u>, a department dedicated to supporting our professional and personal growth and fostering knowledge sharing across the company.

#### Onboarding Program

Our customized onboarding program, including 45+ sessions, a 2-month mentorship, and a role-specific bootcamp, ensures new team members feel connected and understand our company culture and mission. Read more.

#### **Career Paths**

We have developed clear career paths for our software engineers, offering them guidance, orientation, and new perspectives for their careers with us, as well as in the entire tech landscape. Read more.

#### Leadership Curriculum

Our leaders are empowered to excel through a 15-day training program at two top-rated seminar locations. The training focuses on innovative management techniques, team inspiration, and problem-solving.







#### We established a setting to empower and support our employees

#### **NETCONOMY Social Club**

Our <u>Social Club</u> emerged during the pandemic as a program to unite us through virtual social gatherings. Today, we have developed the program further and offer offline and on-site events in various categories:

- Social Events cart racing, pub quizzes, barbecues etc.
- Grow events coding dojos, philosophy corners and knowledge sharing formats
- Health Events soccer, hiking trips, etc.

#### Work-Life-Benefits

- Flexible working models and flexi-time
- "Work from Anywhere" (office, hybrid or remote)

#### Healthcare

Our team members have ongoing access to coaching, psychological counseling, stress prevention, and a dedicated health physician.



### We care about people who are less fortunate than us

The year 2022 was characterized by serious crises that continue to affect us to this day. The conflict in Ukraine and the tragic earthquakes in areas of Turkey and Syria deeply impacted us at NETCONOMY as our colleagues have close connections there, with friends and family residing in those regions.

We have therefore chosen to extend our financial assistance to the impacted regions following our initial donations in 2022.

In 2023, NETCONOMY donated 20.000 EUR to humanitarian organizations aiding the earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey, facilitating the reconstruction of affected areas. To support regions affected by the conflict in Ukraine, NETCONOMY made a donation of 10,000 EUR.

As part of our annual Christmas donations, NETCONOMY donated a total of 51.400 EUR to various charities that work in the areas of child and youth protection, women's welfare or winter emergency aid. Each year, the Christmas donations are allocated to local aid organizations chosen by our employees across our different sites.

We are proud of the work we have done together with our colleagues and are looking forward to asking the same question in the years to come – who would you like us to help?



Governance

At our company, we prioritize the rule of law and the safety of our colleagues. This commitment is reflected in our adherence to the highest standards of corporate governance.

We go beyond legal obligations, making our procedures transparent and continuously enhancing them.

That way we aim to ensure:

- IT-security
- data protection and information security
- transparent structures across all levels
- prevention of corruption.







#### How we ensure IT-security

#### 1 Zero-Trust-Security-Model

NETCONOMY's Zero-Trust-Security-Model requires strict identity checks for all persons and devices accessing internal resources, assuming that no one can be considered trustworthy by default.

#### **2** Vulnerability Management

We use Vulnerability Management to identify and treat security gaps in software and systems by regularly assessing assets and conducting Threat-Intel-Analyses.

#### 3 Identity and Access Management

Through Identity and Access Management we keep track of user rights and enable authorizations based on company-, project- or team membership of each user.

#### 4 E-Mail Security

NETCONOMY deploys advanced filters like URL and domain blacklists, Anti-Malware-Engines, capacity inspection, and Albased detection to prevent email threats.



## How we ensure data protection and information security

The "Information Security Office" (ISO) department oversees ISMS in accordance with ISO27001, including the introduction and examination of technical and organizational measures, as well as offering consulting, training, and Security Incident Handling services.

Our Data Protection Officer regularly reports to the management regarding the current state and developments of information security and data protection, including potential risks and serious breaches.

NETCONOMY, being an international company specializing in information technology, recognizes the crucial importance of data protection and information security. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to a surge in cybercrime, we have elevated our requirements accordingly.

The preservation of strong data protection and information security practices is a top priority at our organization.







## Transparent structures across all levels

Ensuring compliance with legal requirements and avoiding violations is our top priority. To achieve this, we have established the following structures and processes:

- Yearly (partially voluntary) audits of our subsidiaries in Austria, Switzerland, Germany and Serbia and the company
- Strict control over signing authority
- Multi-stage approval procedure for orders and payments



#### Prevention of corruption

Maintaining high standards is key in both technical and ethical realms. To ensure compliance, we've set up a platform for reporting violations like fraud, sabotage, human rights breaches, and data misuse. All reports are kept confidential without repercussions for the reporter. Find out more at <a href="https://netconomy.whistleblowing.contact">https://netconomy.whistleblowing.contact</a>.



Our aim going forward is to enhance our teams' impressive accomplishments and strengthen our commitment to the planet and the communities we support.

Through this report and future ones, we aim to inspire our partners, competitors, and customers to join us on this significant journey towards a better future for all.



www.netconomy.net