



New ESG strategy of O2 Czech Republic shows that sustainability is more than just a carbon footprint

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Responsible supplier sourcing, moving towards the circular economy and the importance of cyber security – those are the key areas of O2 Czech Republic's new sustainability (ESG) strategy. It is an acceleration of O2's existing activities and experience from the field of CSR and beyond. This ESG report embraces the strategy's core pillars and defines its main objectives.

*"Meaningful projects focused on sustainability have been integrated into our actions long before the ESG reporting. At O2, we believe that **sustainability is more than just reducing your carbon footprint**. The overall approach is what makes the difference. Therefore, integrating ESG principles into our business and our code of conduct was one of the first and most important steps,"* says **Jindřich Fremuth, CEO of O2 Czech Republic**.

One of the main principles of O2's ESG strategy is the responsible waste management. As an example, O2 reduced the plastic part of SIM cards. In 2021, this initiative helped the **operator to save in excess of three tons of plastic**. This complements to O2's focus on **the circular economy** model as a meaningful way how to reduce and reuse waste. In addition, the company started the **ecological disposal of any mobile phones and similar devices initiative** in its retail stores. At the same time, O2 will continue to focus on reducing the amount of waste generated. Specifically, by **replacing and reducing the volume of packaging materials** for mobile accessories.

As one of the important parts of its strategy, the operator will focus on its supply chain. Specifically, the company will evaluate its **new and existing suppliers** and their approach to sustainability so that they fully comply with O2's values, principles and ESG strategic goals.

Another key objective of O2's ESG strategy is cyber security. It refers not only to **the O2 Security Surveillance Center** providing cyber security services to important entities which are part of the critical infrastructure areas. Equally important is the support of other projects in the field of cyber security. Such as building further on their existing initiatives of **Nadace O2**, namely **Bezpečně v síti** or **O2 Chytrá škola** to raise the cyber security awareness among end-users.

One of the long-term projects of O2 and the Nadace O2 is the **Sázej stromy** initiative. *"We believe a nature conservation and preservation of its resources is necessary regardless of any external regulation. Since 2019, we have been helping to restore Czech forests after bark beetle attacks and calamities. In total, we were successful to plant 30 000 trees. This year it was more than 14 000 trees,"* underlines **Jindřich Fremuth**. This initiative is not only saving damaged forests, but also planting new ones and O2 also plans to involve its partner companies and customers in this activity in the near future. *"We always strive to do what is meaningful and good for nature,"* **Fremuth** adds.

O2 does not neglect its commitments to climate protection. Therefore, O2 committed to **reducing its emissions by 50 % by 2030**. In addition, O2 will gradually ensure the purchased energy used for all of its operations consists of clean energy only. In 2021, the operator has already reduced **scope 2 emissions by 14 %**. This reduction was achieved also thanks to the transition of its **Prague headquarters to the consumption of all electricity from renewable sources** only.

At O2 they have mapped their entire carbon footprint and is preparing strategies to reduce emissions across their operations. They also have publicly committed to set a near-term company-wide emission reductions in line with climate **Science Based Targets initiatives** (SBTi – Science Based Targets Initiative – mapping on a global level companies' approach to sustainability and helping them achieve their carbon footprint reduction goals)



through PPF Telecom Group. They will use the next 12-24 months to prepare a comprehensive program for reducing their GHG emissions. To be more transparent about their efforts and to benchmark and track the progress, **PPF Telecom Group and O2 have also started reporting through the CDP global disclosure system.**

This [ESG Report](#) includes **O2's strategy** which describes specific activities and sets clear goals. *"Our ESG report emphasizes a transparent view of the results and their open communication. Thanks to them, we set goals for improving areas in which we are not yet so strong,"* says **Milan Ruttner, who works as an ESG officer at O2.** The report clearly shows the new **O2 ESG strategy** by dividing individual activities and objectives among **four core pillars – reducing the impact on environment, people and communities, technology for the future and fair and transparent business conduct.** O2 has upgraded its content according to recognized GRI 2021 reporting framework to match the standards of ESG reporting. At the same time, it complies with the concept according to the **United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development**, including **SDGs** (or Sustainable Development Goals).

Contact

Johana Valtrová
Press department O2 Czech Republic
johana.valtrova@o2.cz

About O2 Czech Republic

O2 is the largest operator on the Czech market. It provides voice, internet and data services to customers ranging from households to small and medium-sized companies to large corporations. O2 always offers the latest technology. It is currently building a fifth generation (5G) network, which it was the first to launch in a real environment. At the same time, O2 is the largest internet provider for households and businesses, offering it to 99% of addresses. The fixed connection works best in combination with the O2 Smart Box modem, which O2 has developed in-house. With its O2 TV service, it is the largest Internet television broadcasting operator in the Czech Republic. O2 has purchased number of exclusive sports rights for its customers and offers the most attractive sports content on the Czech market. The company is one of the biggest players in the field of hosting and cloud services, as well as in the field of managed services and ICT. As trends in the telecommunications industry are changing significantly, O2 is also focusing on developing and offering non-traditional telecommunications services. These mainly include financial services such as device insurance or mobile phone travel insurance.