

OPEN FIBER PLACES SUSTAINABILITY AT THE CORE: ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL MISSION AND TERRITORY AS CORNERSTONES

The Company issues its third Sustainability Report: focus on local community development, equal opportunities and people's growth, energy saving are the strategy drivers

Rome, 11 May 2023 – Open Fiber issued its third Sustainability Report, the document outlining the Company's approach to business and **its commitment to technological innovation and the generation of shared value** by building a cutting-edge infrastructure and fostering relations with territories and communities, institutions, partners and suppliers, universities and research centres.

By the end of 2022, Open Fiber covered 15.5 million households (of which 13 million in FTTH and 2.5 in FWA) with its ultra-broadband network, confirming its position as Italy's leading FTTH operator and among the top players in Europe. By building an ultra-high-performance network, Open Fiber can provide a tangible contribution to attaining some of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, i.e., the 17 SDGs set by the United Nations for 2030, thanks to its distinctive factors: innovation and technology for the environment, enabling innovative services, investment in the growth of individuals as the driving force behind the sustainability strategy and responsible business management

Compared to traditional copper networks, Open Fiber's network marks a **quantum leap in environmental and energy sustainability**. The company adopts a low-impact fibre-optic laying method, **reusing existing infrastructure** wherever possible and digging with the less invasive techniques currently available (mini-trench, micro-trench, no-dig), thus reducing the amount of materials employed and the waste produced. Specifically, in the country's rural areas, the reuse of existing infrastructure reaches up to 80%, thus minimising both the environmental impact and the disruption to communities caused by road construction sites. The focus on the environment also involves the network operation phase by implementing energy efficiency and emission abatement solutions. On these points, 2022 has stated Open Fiber as the protagonist of an important milestone: **100% of the electricity purchased comes from renewable sources**. This achievement has enabled to avoid over 15 thousand tonnes of CO₂.

Open Fiber is playing a crucial role in the country's digital transformation. This role matches with the awareness of the **significant responsibility towards all the stakeholders** and, in particular towards the territories and communities suffering the most from the digital divide. Placing people at the core is one of Open Fiber's main cornerstones, which is reflected in its **many activities in Welfare & Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, e-Working, risk prevention and workplace safety**. In 2022, OF's workforce totalled 1,571 people, with over 400 hires, 35% of whom were women. More than 57,000 total training hours were provided, 38 per capita on average.

Open Fiber's commitment to sustainability and implementing policies and practices for managing ESG (environmental, social and governance) issues in recent years was also



confirmed at the beginning of 2023 with the **ESG Certification** awarded by an independent third party.

*“Open Fiber is sustainable not only from an environmental and economic viewpoint but also from a social one. Specifically, in villages and remote areas, where people are expected to be able to take advantage of the most advanced digital services, just like those living in large cities,” commented **Mario Rossetti**, CEO of Open Fiber. “The infrastructure we are building everywhere in Italy is a development driver for the communities, public administrations and manufacturing activities, from tourism to Industry 4.0 to territorial monitoring and smart agriculture. Moreover, in a time that pays special attention to energy issues, we should not forget that fibre-optic is an energy-saving technology sparing over 80% of energy compared to copper networks.”*

Open Fiber’s Sustainability Report 2022 is available on the Company website [openfiber.it](https://www.openfiber.it).

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