



Innovation & Technology

Sustainable IT @ ABN AMRO

Jaarcongres Circulaire IT Nederland

Purpose driven IT transformation

Nov 2023

Wiebren van der Zee

1. Personal Intro



Wiebren
van der Zee
ABN Amro Bank.
CIO Office
25 years+

Roles

- **Domain Expert - Sustainable IT**
- IT Architecture
- IT Product Development
- IT Operations

Contributions

- Speaker/panelmember
- Member SustainableIT.org
- Boardmember NCDD
- Gartner research input
- Position Paper 2019 (internal) 'Sustainable IT'



[Welcome to Sustainable IT](#)



[Reducing the impact of IT](#)



[Nationale Coalitie
Duurzame Digitalisering](#)



[SustainableIT.org](#)

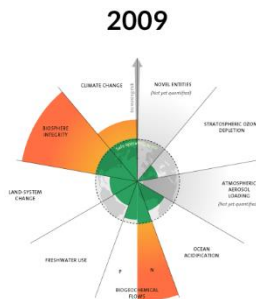
Why?



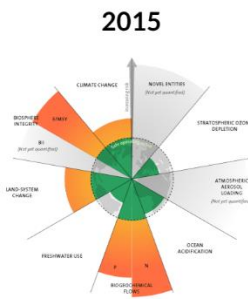
Crossing boundaries

Creating severe impacts

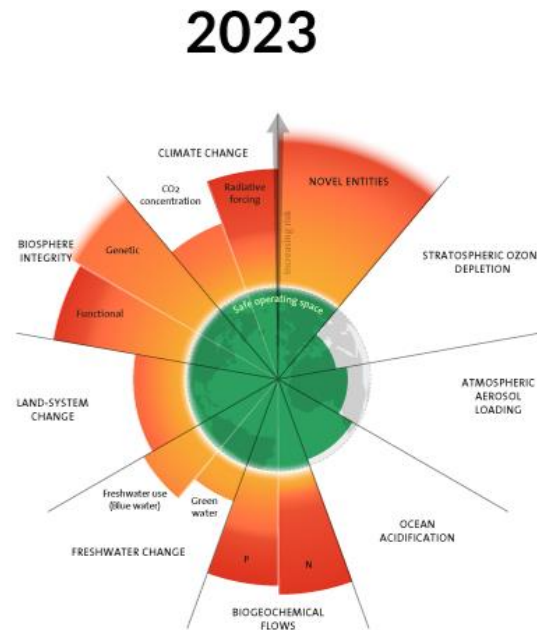
Risking tipping points



3 boundaries crossed



4 boundaries crossed

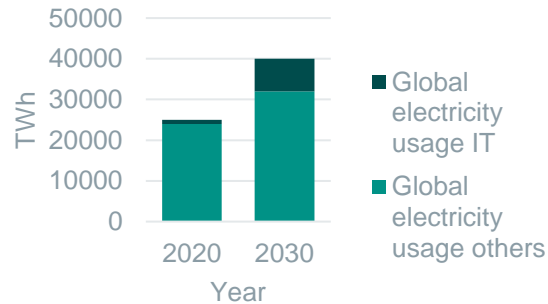


6 boundaries crossed

Environmental footprint of IT Sector

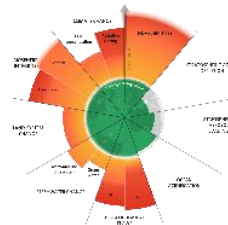


Total share of global electricity usage by IT will expand from 4% to 20% by 2030, if IT consumption maintains current trend

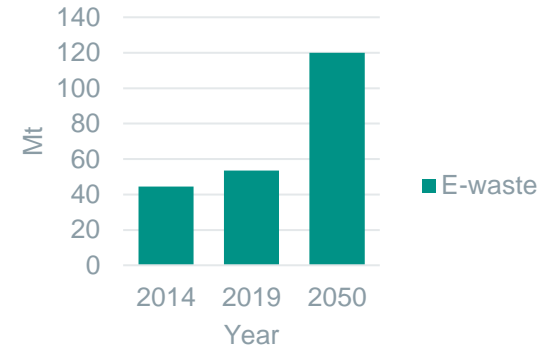


Global **CO2 emissions** 2020 comparison:

- Aviation 2,5%
- **ICT 2,1-3,9%**



E-waste will increase with 123% by 2050 compared to 2019, if IT maintains current trend



Legislation happening (IT & Business side)



Company

- Climate strategy
- Code of conduct
- Corporate Governance code (2022)

Sector

- ECB guide on Climate & Environmental Risk

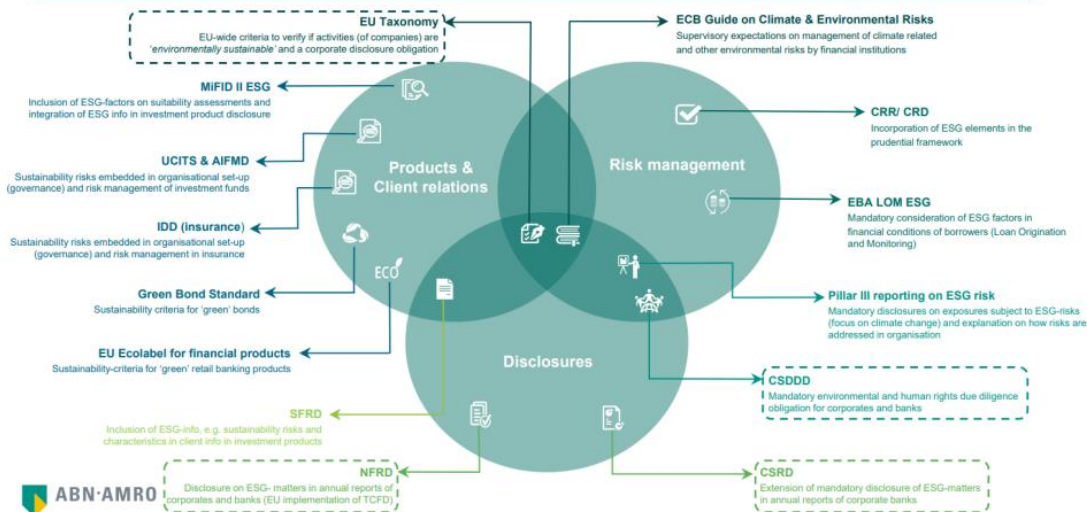
Regional/National

- National klimaatplan
- Energiebesparingsplicht/ EML

European

- CSRD if 'Material', report on it, take mitigating actions
 - Our IT is Material so consider it in scope
- CSDDD monitor working conditions and take actions
 - Our IT Supply chains are divers, complex and long...
- EU policies - on datacenters (upcoming)
 - EED specific for DC
 - Green Public Procurement (GPP) Criteria, etc
- Product and Material policies
 - CRMA, Critical raw material act
 - Right to Repair
 - Eco design directives
 - Green Claims Directive, etc

Regulatory landscape on sustainability



Purpose, Strategy & Call to action



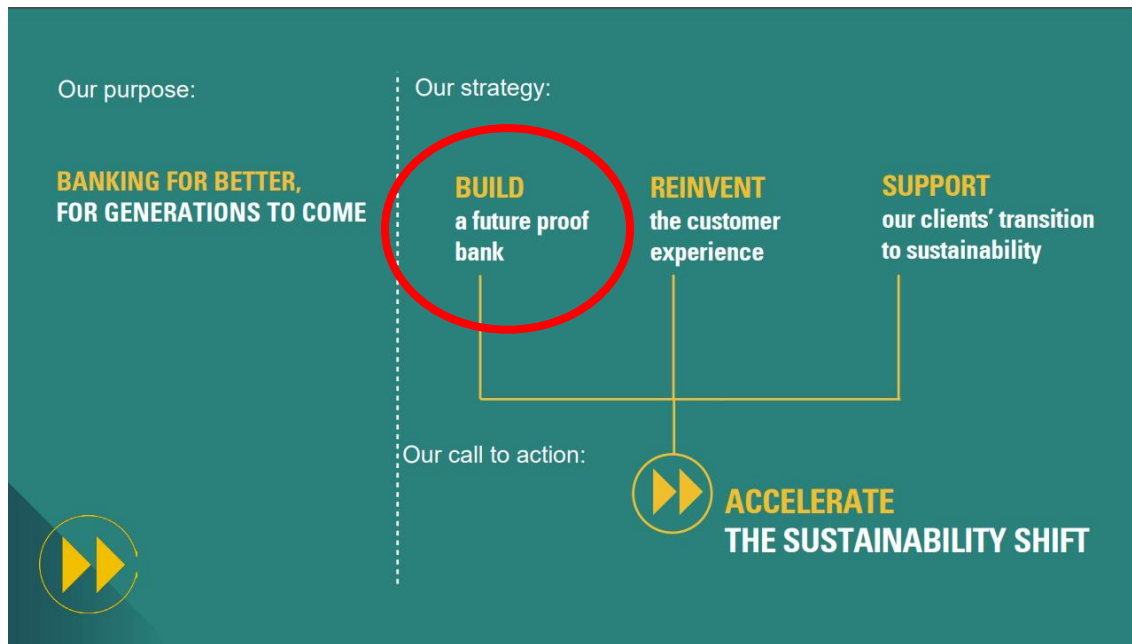
Support for our client's transition

Conditions for our own operations..

Also, our **IT Operations!**

“
We take full responsibility
for our own environmental
footprint and are committed to
ambitious carbon emissions
reduction to achieve carbon
neutrality across our own
operations by 2030”

AAB Climate Strategy 2022



Our purpose and strategy - ABN AMRO Bank



Corporate targets & IT is subject to these

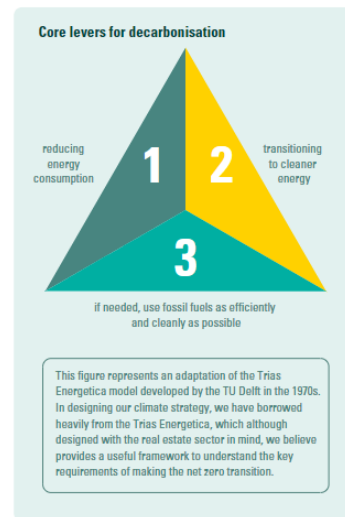
“We take full responsibility for our own environmental footprint and are committed to ambitious carbon emissions reduction to achieve carbon neutrality across our own operations by 2030”

Take responsibility

Aligning our portfolio and operations with a net zero trajectory

- 1 Embed a decarbonisation lens in our engagements with all client segments, starting with Corporate Banking clients
- 2 Set intermediate portfolio alignment targets for all carbon-intensive sectors in our loan book to achieve net zero by 2050
- 3 Responsibly bring down the carbon intensity of our client asset portfolios, in line with agreed WACI methodologies, starting with our DPM mandates
- 4 Achieve net zero operations: we aim to become net zero across our own operations by 2030, against base year 2015

Net zero operations



To achieve net zero, three transitions will need to take place, at the level of the individual clients we work with as well as of the societies in which we operate.

The three global transitions are:

1. Reduction of energy consumption, e.g. by making existing production processes more energy-efficient
2. A rapid move away from fossil fuels towards clean energy such as wind, solar and hydroelectric power
3. Where fossil fuels continue to be used during the transition process, ensuring that their use is as clean and efficient as possible, e.g. by investing in new technologies to mitigate their harmful impact.

In addition to these 3 key transitions, carbon removal solutions are needed to balance residual emissions, especially where technological and financial limitations exist. As these technologies are in their early stages of development, resources are needed to scale them to tackle the short and long-term challenges.

¹ Source: IFA – Net Zero by 2050, A Roadmap for the Global Energy Sector (May 2021).

Reduce energy consumption

IT Footprint, Handprint & Heart print



IT Footprint

'Sustainability of IT'

(reducing the impact of IT delivery and operations)



IT lowering it's (significant) impact as part of AAB's 'own footprint'. Targets agreed and in place, confirmed and updated by the climate strategy.

[Sustainable IT @ ABN AMRO](#)

[Nationale Coalitie Duurzame Digitalisering](#)

IT Handprint

'Sustainability by IT'

(contributions to other parts of business operations)



IT assisting to collect and integrate the data needed for Sustainable Financing products, services and reporting

[ESG Data Store](#)

[ABN AMRO Academy – Sust. Finance](#)

[European Green Digital Coalition](#)

IT Heart print

'IT for Society'

(contributions for the good cause)



IT doing good for Society like donating laptops via the AAB Foundations, coding clinics etc.

[Microsoft and ABN AMRO help refugees build a new career](#)

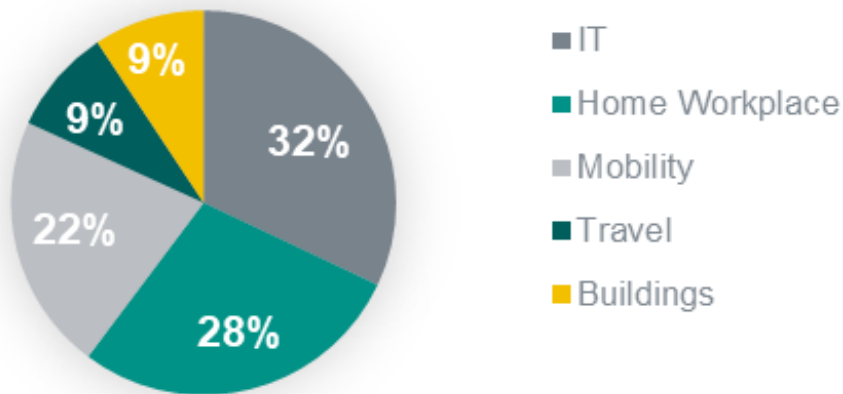
[Coding Buddy Program \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

[Tech for Good - SDG Academy](#)

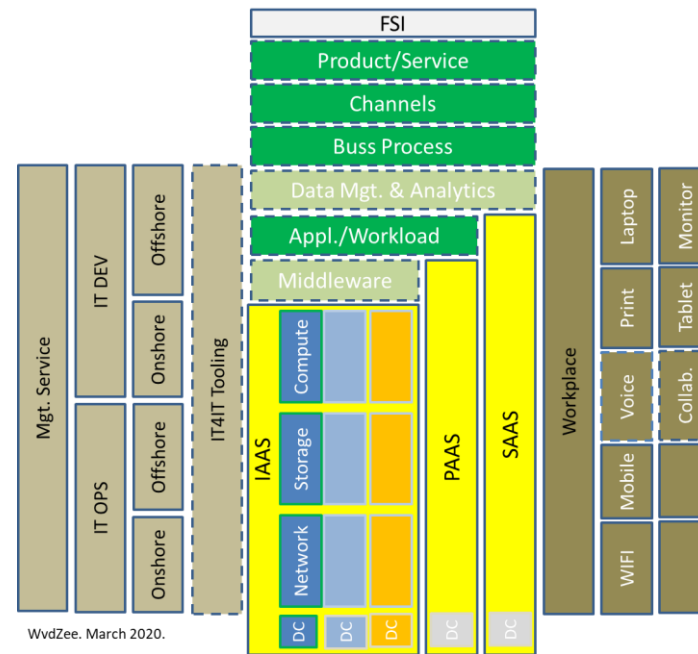
Enterprise IT - Materiality



CO₂ emission by source (2022)



IT is responsible for the **largest part** ABN Amro's operational footprint.



Sustainability of IT means addressing the **Backend**, **Frontend** and **Operating Model** of IT.

IT Strategy - Sustainable IT



IT Strategy

Sustainable IT a **Pillar** in the new IT strategy.

To deliver on our net zero ambitions, continuing and expanding on the earlier goals of
50% lowered CO2 footprint by 2025,

100% circular IT assets by 2030.

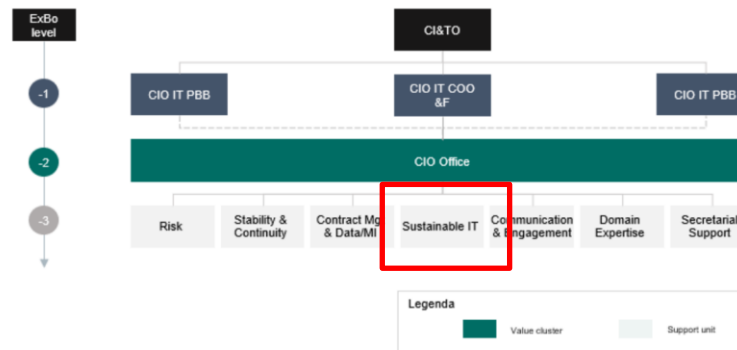
IT has now entered the implementation phase of its strategic ambition



Organizational change

Sustainable IT positioned in the CIO Office

4.4.1. Organogram CIO Office



Implementation phase



Targets are set, the direction is clear.

- AAB Homebase > Paris Proof
- IT Homebase > E-reductions/Net Zero/Circular/Social
- Reporting needed & Accountability coming

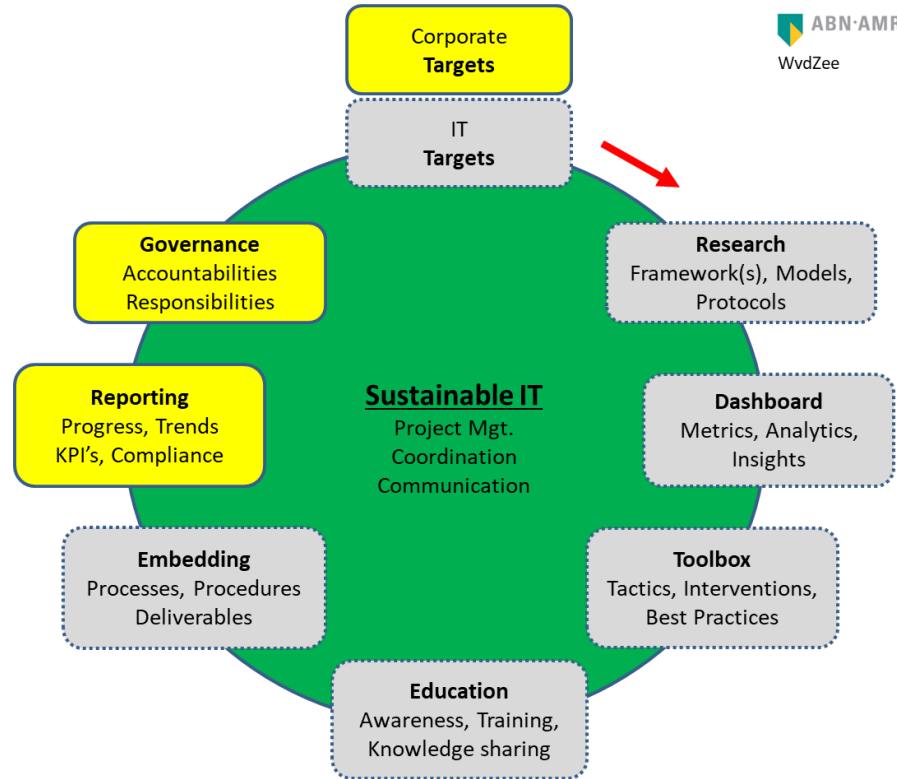


Sustainable IT - Approach



Main elements of ABN AMRO Sustainable IT

0. Targets
1. Research
2. Dashboard
3. Toolbox
4. Education
5. Embedding
6. Reporting
7. Governance
8. Coordination



1. Research – Creating transparency on our IT Impact

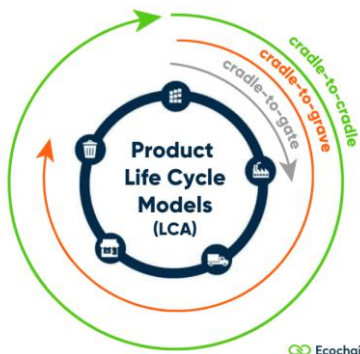


- **Protocols & Analysis**

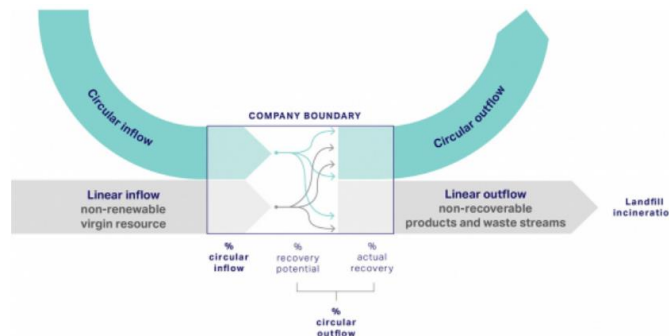
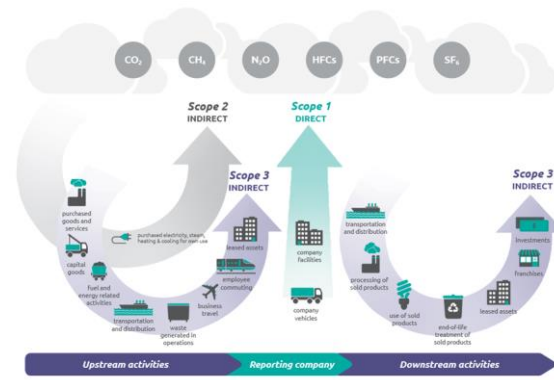
- LCA
- GHG
- CTI

- **IT Sustainability**

- (Architecture) Quality Model (VU)
- S-rating
- Maturity model
- Standards
- Frameworks
- etc



Ecochain



1. Transparency on our IT Footprint (High level)



Annual LCA on CO2eq

- Main Categories:
 - IT Assets (DC/Digital workplace)
 - Services (Public Cloud/SAAS)
 - Operating Model (Travel/Commute)
- 2019, 2021 & 2022, 2023 Started



Initial Circularity Analysis (CTI)

- IT Assets
- 2021 Overall (limited data availability & quality)
- 2022 Cisco specific deep(er) dive
- 2023 Follow up CTI Tooling/mgr.

> Will come back on CTI..



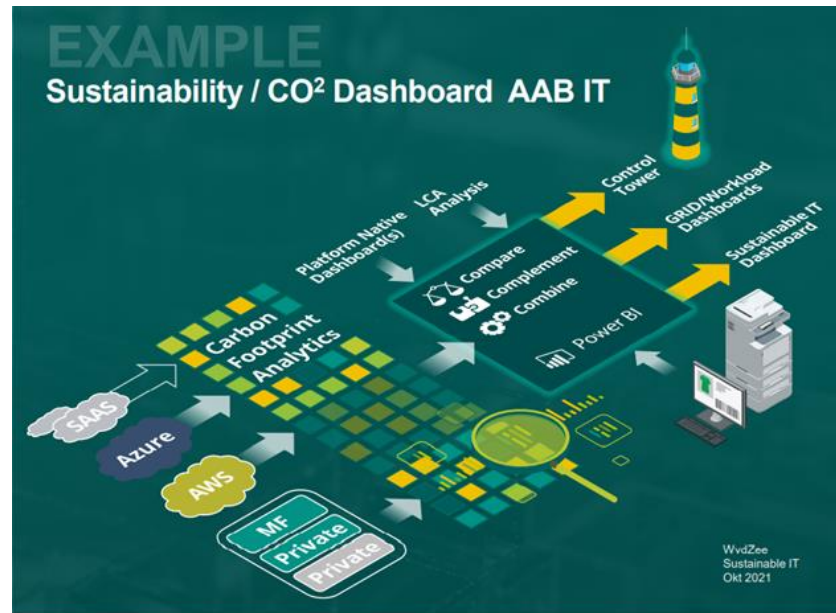
2. Low level insights with the Sustainable IT Dashboard



Finding the hotspots and trends in the IT landscape we created and introduced a near realtime **Sustainable IT Dashboard**.

Showing on a application level **Energy usage** and **CO2 emissions**.

Different views and more Sustainability metrics will follow.
Outputs will be integrated in MI and Tower dashboarding



3. DEVELOPING A TOOLBOX OF TACTICS & GREEN CODING PRACTICES



Within IT

- Integrating expertise/knowledge/best practices from IT personnel
- Specific with the **CI (Software development) department**, working on **green coding** aspects in Software design and delivery (Green coding)

Within our IT Ecosystem

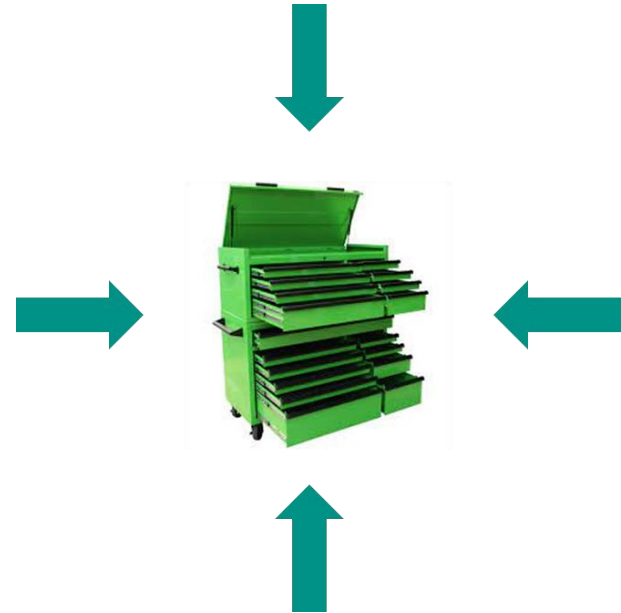
- Elaborating with our **IT Partners** to get their insights and best practices..
- Aligning and cooperating with our **Procurement** department
- Learn from **platform best practices**, AWS/Azure/GCS/Salesforce/..

External:

- Cooperations, like with **NCDD, ISIT Europe or SustainableIT.org**
- **Ecochain, Deloitte, KPMG** and **SDIA** for calculating of IT footprints or circularity levels
- Product Certifications (like **TCO certified/Epeat**)
- E-waste compensation (like **Closing the loop**)
- Green Coding tactics from **VU research / ..**
- Dialogues with **other companies** on their best practices
- From Desk research and **Consultancy** firms (like **Gartner**).
- **Green Software foundation**, CNCF, Linux foundation etc
- **'Sustainable IT Playbook'** Niklas Sundberg etc,

Toolbox is published internally on our Sharepoint, (Sustainable IT toolbox)

To be applied during IT Requirement, Solutioning, Procurement, Build and Operation phases.



4. Education



We started multiple initiatives.

- Presentations on Sustainable IT within the bank
- **Workshops** 'How to reduce your **personal** footprint'
- Workshop 'How to reduce your **application** footprint'
- **Grid boosting & Energy Challenges**
- Footprint reduction **Hackathons**
- **Circl Academy track** on Sustainable IT

Participation in other initiatives

- **NCDD** workgroups
 - GreenOPS & Architecture
 - DC legislation (for Financials)

Knowledge & Community mgt.

- Teams space
- Sharepoint page
- **Community** Meetings & Events



5-7. Embedding: IT WOW, Reporting & Governance



RASCI MATRIX

Enter your sub headline here



Are **Roles & Responsibilities** defined to reach the Sustainability targets?

Are **IT Processes** helping to reach the Sustainability targets?

Do we **establish progress** towards our Sustainability Targets?



Auditor(s) & controllers start to **verify** !

Governance (RASCI) Process	
Reporting Process	
Architecture Process	
Product Development Process	
Risk Mgt. Process	
Procurement Process	
Contract mgt. Process	
Service Level mgt. Process	
Legal Process	
Data mgt. Process	
Capacity mgt.. Process	
Life cycle mgt. Process	
Sourcing (Model)/Vendor Mgt. Process	
HR mgt. Process	
Knowledge mgt. Process	
Data Centre mgt. Process	
Energy mgt. Process	
Tbd. Process	

Illustration only

Roadmap to Circularity (abstract)



Circularity roadmap towards 2030

The circularity research has led to a high-level roadmap towards 2030.

The roadmap illustrates that journey and our ambition.

Our approach **aims** for these main steps

- **2024**, Products without a **Bill of Material** (BOM) will no longer make it to the shortlist of a Product owner and Procurement.
- **2025**, Requirement for a **minimum level (%) of circular materials** in the product.
- **2025-2030**, **Raising the level (%)** of circular materials required.

Regulations like the critical raw materials act, product passports and the right to repair will start to underpin this roadmap, as well as IT sector's own ambitions (or compliance to).



Creating transparency and reporting on Circularity



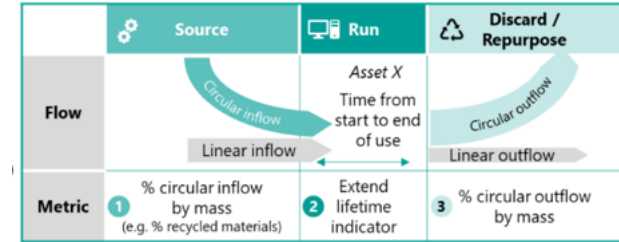
Circularity Analysis (CTI)

- Inflow > **BOM** > Where do the materials come from?
- Run > **Longevity** > How long are they in use ?
- Outflow > **ITAD** > where do they end up ?

CSRD

- **Report** on resource usage and circular economy
- **ESRS E5**

Circularity framework



Recap: Sustainable IT @ ABN AMRO



2019 Purpose & SDG's

"Banking for better for generations to come"

'Accelerate the sustainability shift'



SAGA - Sustainable IT - 1528

2020 - IT Internal Targets

50% Lowered **CO2** footprint by 2025

100% **Circular** IT Assets by 2030

2022 – Climate Strategy

”

We take full responsibility for our own environmental footprint and are committed to ambitious carbon emissions reduction to achieve carbon neutrality across our own operations by 2030”



2023 - IT Strategy

Part of IT Recharge

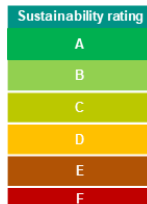
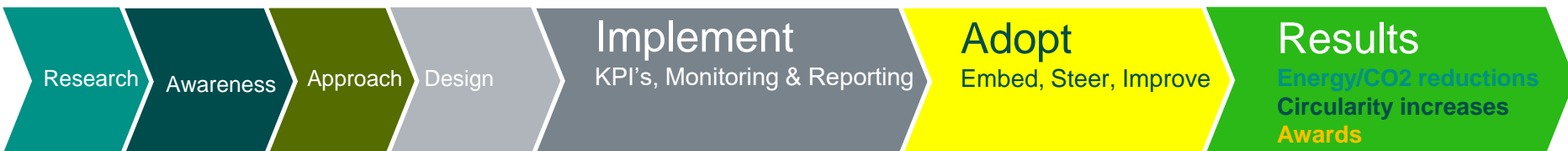
Additional **Energy** Targets

DW: **Comply 'Paris Proof' building limits**

DC: **Maintain downward Trend**

Applications: **Reduce ~10% /year/Grid**

CSRD
CSDDD
EED



Research



Sustainable IT Dashboard



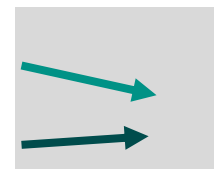
Toolbox & Ref cards



Education



Embedding

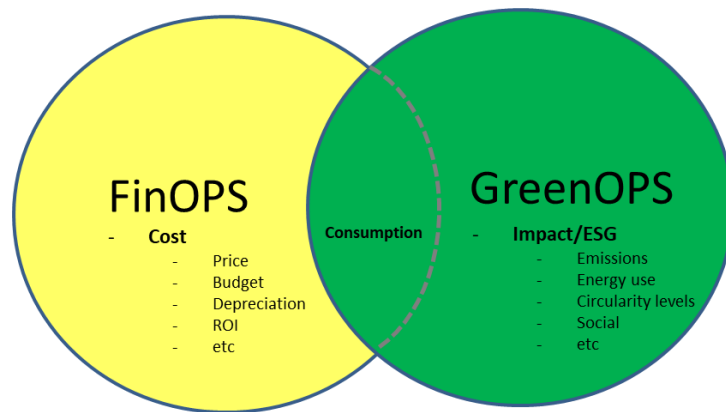


Reporting



Awards

Appendices



Sustainability = ~~Cost~~ = Innovation

WvdZee

INTRODUCED THE S-RATING MODEL



A **basic workload Sustainability rating model** has been developed for IT products and is (sofar) based on **resource efficiency**

We aim to place this in the **Design Drivers** for Business (like the CIA ratings)

An advanced IT Sustainability Model is being developed together with the VU in a PhD approach.

Ps. Model was used by Gartner, SDIA and some other companies and institutes.

Sustainability Rating – S

Enhancement to workload classification structure: CIA-P-S

Sustainability Rating	Resource Dynamics Archetypes/Characteristics Applicable on Product, Workload and/or Business process level	Typical Backgrounds, Exceptions, conditions
0 Label A	‘Default-off’ Resources scaling back to 0, when no demand present/needed** Resources dynamically (de)allocated when workload in use*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continuous Rightsizing (CR) on ProdCompute scaling down to 0Data (I/O, Storage) scaling down to 0* Functional demand by sessions/transactions/analytics/..** Excl. listener/log/orchestrator/backup(s)
1 Label B	‘Default-off’ Resources not scaling back to 0, when no demand present/needed** Resources dynamically (de)allocated when workload in use*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Non-Continuous Rightsizing (CR) on ProdCompute scaling down to 0Data not scaling down to 0, persistent storage
2 Label C	‘Partly-off’ - minimal 3 of 3: 1. No permanently allocated DTA resources 2. No permanently allocated DR resources 3. No permanent allocated Peak load resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resources reside in shared platform (resource pool)On demand automated (de)provisioning
3 Label D	‘Partly-off’ - minimal 2 of 3: 1. No permanently allocated DTA resources 2. No permanently allocated DR resources 3. No permanent allocated Peak load resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resources reside in shared platform (resource pool)On demand automated (de)provisioning
4 Label E	‘Partly-off’ - minimal 1 of 3: 1. No permanently allocated DTA resources 2. No permanently allocated DR resources 3. No permanent allocated Peak load resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Resources reside in shared platform (resource pool)On demand automated (de)provisioning
5 Label F	‘Default-on’ All workload resources permanently allocated and active.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All Resources are continuously allocated and active.Incl. DR/Peakload/DTA (Development, Test, Acceptance)

WvdZee Febr. 2020



“An IT Transformation that does not lead to a lowered impact,
is not the right Transformation”. 2021

Wiebren vd Zee



LET'S FLATTEN THIS CURVE TOO

