

Achieving more

40 years of Microsoft in Germany



Living our mission and embracing responsibility



Satya N.

Satya Nadella
Chairman and CEO

We are living through historic economic, societal, and geopolitical change. As I write this, inflation is at a 40-year high, supply chains are stretched, and the war in Ukraine is ongoing. At the same time, we are entering a technological era with the potential to power awesome advancements across our economy and society. This places us at a historic intersection of opportunity and responsibility to the world around us.

Our mission to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more has never been more urgent or more necessary. Our actions must be aligned with addressing the world's problems, not creating new ones. At our core, we need to deliver innovation that helps drive broad economic growth. As a company, we will do well when the world around us does well. That's why we remain steadfast in our commitments to:

- Support inclusive economic growth
- Protect fundamental rights
- Create a sustainable future
- Earn trust

As we look back on our progress, we should all be proud. But it's easy to talk about what we're doing well. As we look ahead, we'll continue to reflect on where the world needs us to do better.

I truly believe if we continue to live our mission, embrace our responsibility, and grasp the opportunity technology offers the world, there is no limit to what we can achieve together.

Building a digitally strong Germany. Together.

Microsoft has experienced and helped shape digitization in Germany like almost no other company. And our shared journey is not over yet.

Four decades ago, PCs were exotic in German households, businesses, and public authorities. The Internet was a research project, the smartphone a science fiction, the cloud a cloud in the sky, and the fax a common means of communication. Since then, Germany has changed a lot. Microsoft has always been, and still is, a central part of that change. And it makes us a little proud that today, most people encounter Microsoft at some point in their lives.

Since Microsoft Deutschland GmbH was founded in 1983, we have accompanied, pushed, and enabled the digitization of Germany. With Windows, the PC became a mass phenomenon. Today, no company or government agency can do without computer workstations, and most households also own a computer. It has long since ceased to be just a tool for work, but also for playing games, surfing the web, and having fun.

40 years is a long time – but by no means the end of our joint success story. In this report, we take a look back and a look into the future: what we have achieved with our partners and customers, and what we want to achieve together in the future. With the cloud, the fully connected age has dawned. Technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) or Quantum Computing will shape the next waves of digitization.

We want to continue to make a contribution to Germany's transformation. As a partner who empowers its customers and achieves more together with them. For an economy that is competitive and capable of growth. For sustainable solutions that protect the planet. For a modern and efficient state. For well-educated people with opportunities in the labor market of the future.

In short: For a digitally strong Germany. Because in all these areas, digitization will be an indispensable part of the solution for innovation and progress.

On the following pages, we share our impact so far across our fields of commitment, and what we're learning along the way. Let's continue on this path together.

For at least the next 40 years.

Marianne Janik

Marianne Janik
CEO Microsoft Germany



40 years of Microsoft in Germany

➤ **1983**

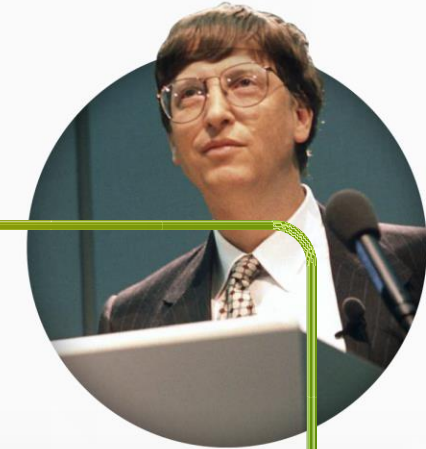
On May 4, Microsoft establishes Microsoft GmbH as an official German subsidiary with seven employees in Unterhaching near Munich.

➤ **1989**

Microsoft is starting to build a developer ecosystem in Germany. The first developer workshop with 160 participants takes place in Munich.

➤ **1993**

Germans love the view through the Windows: Five million operating systems are installed in Germany.



➤ **1995**

"Information at Your Fingertips" inspires a wave of digital enthusiasm in Germany. When Bill Gates presents Windows 95 at CeBIT fair in Hannover, he speaks in the largest hall on the exhibition grounds – but the crowd is so large that Microsoft has to broadcast his speech live via screen to other rooms.

➤ **2003**

Microsoft launches the education initiative "Schlaumäuse - Kinder entdecken Sprache" ("Smart Mice - Children Discover Language"), which supports German daycare centers and elementary schools in early childhood language development.



> 2010

"The Digital Classroom" at the Microsoft booth is one of the trade show highlights at CeBIT. Around 600 students move their class lessons to the trade fair and demonstrate to politicians, including Chancellor Merkel, how the use of new media can enrich their lessons.

> 2013

With the opening of the Berlin Office, Microsoft creates a new space and centre for dialogue on politics and digitization.

> 2016

Seven floors, 26,000 square meters of space, and high sustainability standards: Microsoft opens its new "Office with Windows" in Munich for the approximately 2,700 employees in Germany, who are already free to decide whether they want to work at home, on the road, or in the office. The new corporate headquarters in Parkstadt Schwabing consistently develops the idea of New Work.

∨ 2019

Microsoft announces cloud datacenter regions in Germany to allow its customers that their data is hosted in Germany. The datacenter regions have since become a secure option for German companies that want or need to host their data domestically.



> 2023

Together with our strong ecosystem of governments, customers, suppliers, and partners, as well as other key forces in the country, we are pursuing our mission to empower every person and organization to achieve more, while ensuring we tackle Germany's challenges with a shared goal:

To become a secure and sustainable industry leader in Germany with a digital strength that creates opportunities for all who live here.



By the numbers: Microsoft in Germany

40

years in Germany

~3,000

employees working with us on our **mission to empower** every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more.

€1.2 M

donations to social projects in 2021

9,000

days of corporate volunteering per year



30,000

local partners we work with in our partner ecosystem

€7

of partner revenue created for every €1 Microsoft revenue

>2.0 M

enterprise customers using Microsoft's products and services in Germany

4

datacenter regions across Germany

OUR SEVEN REGIONAL OFFICES

- 1 MUNICH
- 2 BERLIN
- 3 FRANKFURT
- 4 COLOGNE
- 5 HAMBURG
- 6 STUTTGART
- 7 WALLDORF



HOW WE WORK

Partnering for greater impact

The challenges facing the world are complex, and no one company, industry, or country can solve them alone. That's why we work across sectors and borders to foster collective action and amplify impact, driving progress faster and farther than we could on our own.

EMPOWER
OUR EMPLOYEES

We strive to create an inclusive culture where each of our employees can thrive. We believe in a culture of trust, allowing our employees to decide when and where they work.

EQUIP
CHANGEMAKERS

We support non-profits, start-ups, and entrepreneurs so they can achieve more. Our German "Entrepreneurs for Positive Impact" contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

ENABLE
SYSTEMATIC CHANGE

We advocate for public policies that move us toward a more inclusive, equitable, sustainable, and trusted future – including better climate protection rules, responsible AI regulation, and more.

ACTIVATE
OUR ECOSYSTEM

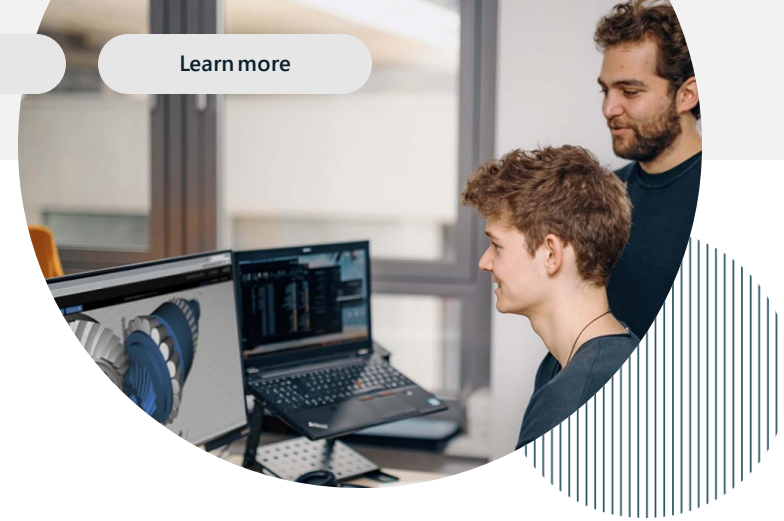
We amplify change through our 30,000 partner organizations. We partner with governments, companies of all sizes, NPOs, and others to foster innovation and progress.

ENGAGE
LOCAL COMMUNITIES

We work closely with communities to understand their unique challenges so we can best support them. From coding schools for refugees in four German cities to social facilities like a home for children with disabilities.

Impact at a glance

Our mission to empower every person and every organization on the planet has never been more urgent. To achieve it, we must commit to creating a future for everyone. In Germany, we focus on four central areas with which we support the public sector, businesses, and society in their path to progress – reflected not only in the products and services we develop, but also in the way we work with our customers and partners, and the passion and dedication of our employees.



Support inclusive economic growth

We believe economic growth should be inclusive – for every person, organization, community, and country. This starts with increasing access to digital skills and extends to co-creation with local partners and ecosystem empowerment.

- ▶ **Skilling the workforce of the future:** About one million people in Germany have used the training opportunities in our digital skills initiative with LinkedIn and GitHub.
- ▶ **Co-Made in Germany:** We cooperate with Global Champions, the legendary Mittelstand, and visionary start-ups to co-create innovation.
- ▶ We have launched SkillAll, a networking group that connects people with disabilities to support their ongoing digital skills development.



Protect fundamental rights

We unequivocally support fundamental rights, from defending democracy and human rights to addressing racial injustice and inequity to increasing access to broadband and accessible technology – without which people miss out on education, healthcare, jobs, and other critical services.

- ▶ Since 2008, we have strengthened more than 18,000 German NPOs with software and cloud donation and discounts.
- ▶ Code Your Life, an initiative we created with Aktion Mensch, launched a digital skills initiative for more than 65,000 students with disabilities.
- ▶ We support the preservation of local languages in Germany. For example, we integrated Upper Sorbian into Microsoft Office and Translator.



Create a sustainable future

Climate change is the defining issue of our lifetime, and addressing it requires swift, collective action and technical innovation. We've outlined ambitious commitments and detailed plans to achieve them, and we're helping others achieve their own climate goals.

- ▶ We have introduced our Cloud for Sustainability in Germany to help other companies to become climate neutral.
- ▶ To achieve our Zero Waste ambition, we have expanded customer repairs across countries, including Germany.
- ▶ With our Climate Innovation Fund, we have pledged a \$1 billion global investment for new climate innovations.



Earn trust

At Microsoft, we're optimistic about the benefits of technology, yet clear about the challenges. To drive positive impact with technology, people need to be able to trust the technologies they use and the companies behind them.

- ▶ We are member of the German Alliance for Cybersecurity at the BSI. Globally, we will invest \$20 billion in cybersecurity until 2026.
- ▶ Since January 2023, we are in the process of implementing the EU Data Boundary for all our cloud applications.
- ▶ In 2022 we opened our new Research Lab in Berlin, which will support the German scientific community with deep learning technologies.

ACTING IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Our response to the war in Ukraine

As we pursue our core commitments, we must also be responsive to urgent needs such as the war in Ukraine. To rapidly provide resources where they're needed most, we coordinate local and global action across our employees, our company, and our ecosystem.

As of July 2022, we committed **\$257 million in financial and technological assistance** to the global response to the war in Ukraine, including support for governments, businesses, non-profits, and humanitarian organizations.

We've helped **defend key infrastructure** – assisting with the detection and disruption of cyberattacks and cyber influence operations, as well as evacuating data to the cloud.

European and German data center regions serve as a **shelter for workloads** from Ukraine. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy also awarded Microsoft a peace prize for its support with cloud services.

Defending key infrastructure

Our **security teams continue working closely with Ukrainian government** officials and cybersecurity staff at public and private organizations to identify and remediate threats against Ukrainian networks.

We **established a secure line of communication with cyber officials in Ukraine** so we could act rapidly to help government agencies and organizations defend against malware attacks.

Between January and July 2022, we **delivered more than 120 intelligence tips** about threat activity to Ukraine-based entities.

Beginning in February, **the Microsoft Start platform (including MSN.com) stopped displaying content from Russian state-sponsored news outlets RT and Sputnik**. We removed RT news apps from our Windows app store and de-ranked both sources' search results on Bing. We've banned advertisements from RT and Sputnik across our ad network and will not place any ads on these sites.

Supporting people, communities, and organizations

We completed **173 emergency support missions** that provided over 23,000 person-hours of technical support and solution development to governments, non-profits, and businesses supporting Ukraine.

Xbox partnered with the **gaming community to raise millions of dollars and donated millions in product** to retailer Humble Bundle's "Stand with Ukraine" campaign.

LinkedIn provided a **\$2 million Refugee Relief Fund and \$1 million in LinkedIn ad grants to non-profits** that are helping connect displaced job seekers with resources and training to find jobs.

In partnership with organizations like the Clooney Foundation, we're **supporting the International Criminal Court to deliver justice for war crimes in Ukraine** by using Azure Cognitive Services to accelerate the analysis of digital evidence.

Skype provided **over 43 million minutes of free calling into and out of Ukraine** to help families and loved ones reconnect.

- Dive deeper in our report, 'Defending Ukraine: Early lessons from the cyber war'
- Learn more about how we provide vital support for disaster response



Support inclusive economic growth

Microsoft succeeds only when we help the world around us succeed. That's why we believe economic growth should be inclusive – for every person, organization, community, and country. This starts with increasing access to digital skills and extends to co-creation with local partners and ecosystem empowerment.



Learn more about how we support inclusive growth globally



Support inclusive economic growth

30,000

companies are in our partner ecosystem, helping customers across Germany digitally transform and grow their businesses.

300,000

estimated number of people employed by Microsoft partners in 2021.

€7

of revenue created by our partners for every €1 Microsoft generates

1,000,000

people in Germany have been reached in 2020 and 2021 through a joint digital skills initiative with LinkedIn and GitHub.

250,000

young people have access to free IT skills resources to successfully start their career through our initiative with German Employer's Association (BDA) and the Federal Employment Agency.

13,000

students with refugee history have been trained in ReDI School of Digital Integration, with support from Microsoft.

42

is the name of the programming schools 42 Wolfsburg and 42 Berlin which Microsoft supports. People from all backgrounds can get industry-leading tech education for free.

2,400,000

enterprise customers used Microsoft's products and services in Germany in 2021.

34

strategic partnerships with leading German corporations have been established for joint innovation.

#futurework

Together with the BDA (German Employers' Association), we organize the Future Work Festival – the first festival to focus on helping German businesses explore digital work trends.

\$151,000

is the value of the Azure credits that German start-ups can receive through the Microsoft for Start-ups program.



LOCAL STORIES OF IMPACT

Empowering people who had to flee from their home countries

Almost two million refugees sought shelter in Germany by the end of 2021. Then the war in Ukraine began, leading to another wave of migration. At Microsoft, we see it as a part of our societal responsibility to help create opportunities for people in difficult conditions. This is why we support ReDI School of Digital Integration, a project that has trained about 13,000 refugees online and at its locations in Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, and North Rhine-Westphalia. We aim to create broad access to digital education, promote career opportunities, and build a strong network between students, graduates, and teachers.

▶ Read more about our ReDI School partnership

"I was faced with a choice: either throw everything away and go back to Iran heavily in debt, or borrow money from a family member and do my best to pay it back. ReDI is more than meets the eye. There are mentors who help you with your resume and support you in finding a job."

Yasmin, 30,
Alumna ReDI School



WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

We have learned that skills alone aren't enough. We need to help people better prepare for and connect to jobs. So, we've refined our focus to help people build skills for jobs, including offering the right skills and credentials for in-demand jobs, supporting wrap-around services like mentorship, and fostering connections to jobs and networks.

Equity of access and participation in computer science education is vital. We're expanding our focus to better address this through starting and supporting a series of skilling initiatives. Together with our partners, we provide grant support to build capacity and scale in the broader ecosystem.

There is a severe shortage of qualified instructors to teach IT knowledge. Our engagement does not stop with donations, but also includes IT classes given by Microsoft professionals as volunteer teachers.

Skilling refugees helps them to start a new life in Germany, but also helps fill the skilled labor shortage in IT and cybersecurity.

▶ For more inclusive economic growth reports, visit our global Reports Hub

Protect fundamental rights

We unequivocally support the fundamental rights of people, from defending democracy, to protecting human rights, to addressing racial injustice and inequity. And, as education, healthcare, and other critical services become increasingly dependent on technology, access to broadband and accessible technology are also fundamental to a more equitable future.



Learn more about how we protect fundamental rights globally >



Protect fundamental rights

> 18,000

German NPOs have been strengthened with software and cloud donations: Since 2008, Microsoft has been working closely with Stifter Helfen and their online portal for IT donations.

> \$15,000,000

in donations and discounts have been provided to 400+ NPOs over the past 15 years – NPOs that lead critical services ranging from human rights to helping refugees, sustainability, and more.

€200,000

were donated by our German employees to support aid organizations in the Ahrtal region after the flood disaster in 2021.



Our offices in Germany have been carefully designed to be 100% accessible. We strive to achieve the same when hosting events that involve the wider population in Germany as well.



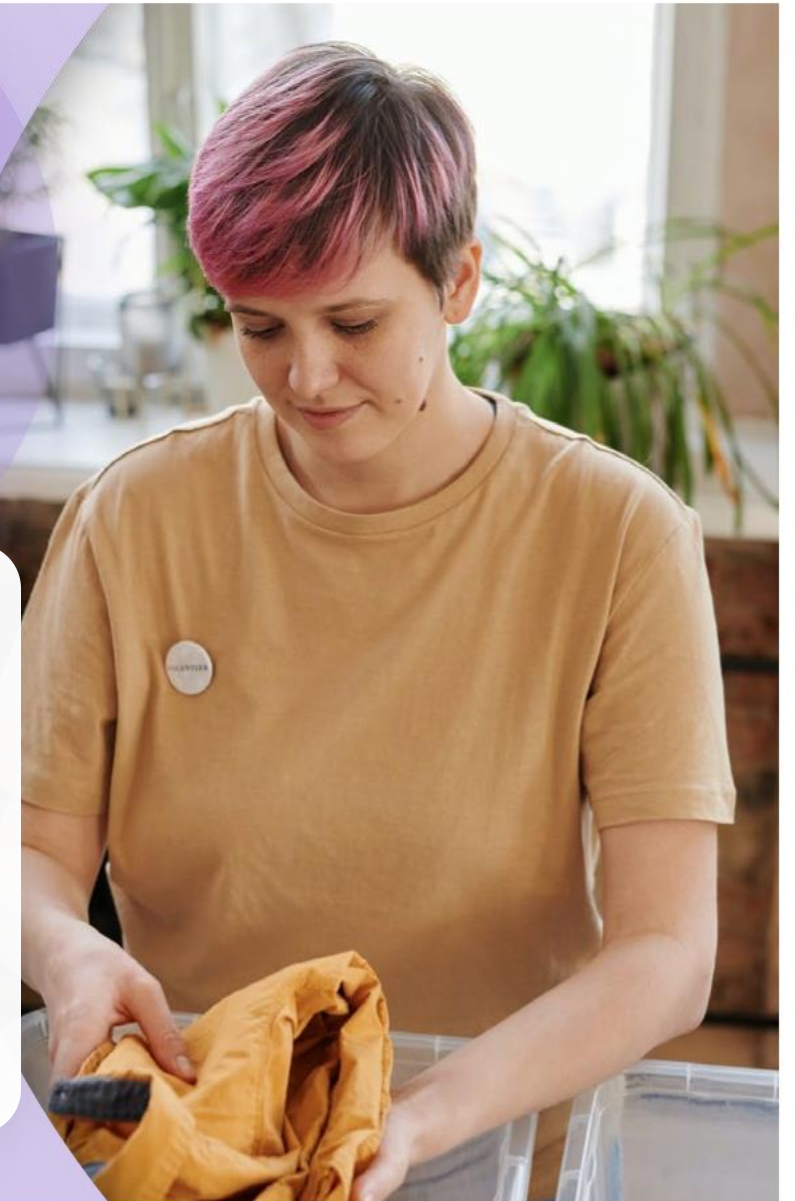
With the SkillHer training initiative – initiated, planned, and accompanied by Microsoft employees – we support women and genderqueer people in acquiring technical knowledge.



In 1989, GLEAM (Gay and Lesbian Employees at Microsoft) was founded by a dozen employees – and has evolved to become Global LGBTQIA+ Employees and Allies at Microsoft



We have launched SkillAll, a skilling and networking group for people with disabilities, powered by German Microsoft employees.





We strengthen the democratic community in Germany with platforms like Co:Lab "AI in Municipalities", which raise awareness among municipalities about AI and its potential applications, and help them to implement it.



In 2021, we have signed the Joint Declaration "Together against Sexism and Sexual Harassment" to focus on prevention and awareness-raising, to intervene against sexist behavior, to apply clear guidelines, and to set up complaints offices.



In order to promote the preservation of languages, Microsoft has integrated Upper Sorbian as a language in our Translator Apps, Bing Translator, and Microsoft Office.



Since 2018, Microsoft has supported humanitarian action projects in 20 countries, including Germany, to advance solutions to address challenges in disaster response, refugees, displaced people.

65,000

students with disabilities have been introduced to inclusive programming by our initiative, Code Your Life, created in partnership with Aktion Mensch

>12,000

daycare centers and schools were working with our language learning software as part of our nationwide "Schlaumäuse - Kinder entdecken Sprache" (Smart Mice - Children Discover Language) initiative, aiming to enable children to a successful start in school.



STORIES OF IMPACT

Automatic image recognition helps in the fight against child pornography

Democracy depends on a free and protected society. That is why Microsoft Germany, together with the Ministry of Justice of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Central and Contact Point Cybercrime (ZAC NRW) located at the Prosecutor's Office in Cologne, [developed an AI-based solution for evaluating child pornographic image material](#). What started as a joint research project, today is integrated in ZAC NRW's work.

This project significantly accelerated the preservation of evidence from the often extensive, overwhelming amount of material: Using the Microsoft Cloud and an AI-based algorithm, child and youth pornography can be automatically detected and categorized. Suspicious images can thus be prioritized by authorities and, if necessary, follow-up measures can be initiated.

"The big challenge is to evaluate data carriers in a timely manner, as investigating authorities must not retain evidence for a disproportionate amount of time. Otherwise, there is a risk that evidence will have to be released before it is determined for sure whether it contains child pornography material."

Markus Hartmann
Head of ZAC NRW, Senior Public Prosecutor



WHAT WE'RE DOING

Depictions of abuse of children and young people are becoming increasingly widespread on the Internet. In 2021 alone, the number of suspected cases in Germany rose by more than 50 percent. As a result, solving such crimes is becoming increasingly complex because vast amounts of evidence has to be evaluated in a short period of time. This is where artificial intelligence (AI) can make a valuable contribution.

Microsoft worked with the authorities to develop a legally secure, hybrid cloud solution for the automated detection and categorization of child and youth pornography. The solution has so far been very successful in securing evidence, able to [correctly categorize images in 92% of all cases](#).

Compliance with strict legislation and data protection is ensured by a specially developed abstraction algorithm that completely and irreversibly abstracts and anonymizes (deconstructs) the image files. After this deconstruction, no image content is recognizable to the human eye. The investigating officers no longer have to view the often-disturbing content.

➤ For more fundamental rights reports, visit our [global Reports Hub](#)

Create a sustainable future

Climate change is the defining issue of our generation, and addressing it requires swift, collective action and technical innovation. Globally, we've outlined ambitious commitments and detailed plans to achieve them, and we are helping others to set and achieve their own climate goals. Germany is our partner in this commitment.




[Learn more about how we create a sustainable future globally](#)



Carbon negative

OUR COMMITMENTS

By 2030, we will be carbon negative, and by 2050, we will remove our historical emissions since we were founded in 1975.

 Commitment in progress

Scope 1
Direct emissions created by our activities



Scope 2
Indirect emissions from the consumption of the electricity or heat we use



Scope 3
Indirect emissions from all other activities in which we're engaged



OUR IMPACT

Reduced our Scope 1 and 2 (market-based) emissions by 58,654 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (mtCO₂e). Scope 3 emissions increased by 22.7%.


In Fiscal Year 2021 and Fiscal Year 2022, successfully contracted to remove 2.5 million metric tons of carbon, meeting our cumulative two-year goal.

Signed new power purchase agreements for approximately 5.8 gigawatts of renewable carbon-free energy across 10 countries, helping us progress on our pathway to carbon negative.

Water positive

OUR COMMITMENTS

By 2030, we will replenish more water than we use. We will reduce the water intensity of our direct operations and replenish in water-stressed regions where we work.

 Commitment in progress

95K+
people provided with access to safe water or sanitation

OUR IMPACT

Invested in replenishment projects that are expected to generate over 1.3 million cubic meters of volumetric benefits, bringing us to 21 replenishments in nine water basins around the world.

Provided more than 95,000 people with access to safe water or sanitation through our partnership with Water.org.

NOTE: Due to required timelines to audit and assure our environmental sustainability data after the close of each fiscal year, the data in this section covers the reporting period for our Fiscal Year 2021, from July 1, 2020– June 30, 2021.

2012

100% carbon neutral. Internal carbon fee instituted.

2016

Zero waste campus certification for Puget Sound.

2017

AI for Earth launch. LEED Gold certification for new datacenters.

2018

Supplier carbon engagement in China launched. Net zero potable water. Silicon Valley campus groundbreaking.

2019

Carbon fee raised to \$15. Water replenishment goal set.

2025

Operate with 100% renewable energy. Protect more land than we use.

2030

Become carbon negative, zero waste, and water positive.

2050

Remove all historical emissions.


Our history 2012–2019

Our commitments 2020–2050

Zero waste

OUR COMMITMENTS

By 2030, we will be zero waste across our direct waste footprint.

 Commitment in progress

OUR IMPACT

Diverted more than 15,200 metric tons of solid waste across our direct operational footprint that was otherwise headed to landfills and incinerators.


Reduced single-use plastics in our Microsoft product packaging by 18%.

Five [Circular Centers](#) planned, which reuse datacenter hardware to help manage e-waste; one is open in Amsterdam with others opening in Boydton, Virginia, Chicago, Dublin, and Singapore in 2022.

Protect and preserve ecosystems

OUR COMMITMENTS

We will protect more land than we use by 2025.

 Achieved by target date

24
petabytes of data publicly available on Azure through our Planetary Computer

OUR IMPACT

Contracted to protect over 17,000 acres of land, which is 50% more than the land we use to operate.

Through our Planetary Computer, made 24 petabytes of data publicly available on Azure, with over 30 environmental and Earth observation datasets in an analysis-ready format – empowering scientists to craft more effective strategies to protect and restore ecosystems.

NOTE: Due to required timelines to audit and assure our environmental sustainability data after the close of each fiscal year, the data in this section covers the reporting period for our Fiscal Year 2021, from July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.

Responsible Sourcing

As part of our commitment to a more sustainable future, we operate an industry-leading Responsible Sourcing Program – proactively managing issues related to human rights, environment, health and safety, and ethics. We work closely with our suppliers to ensure our standards and commitments are met, including our commitment to reduce our Scope 3 emissions by more than half, which is critical to our goal to be carbon negative by 2030.

For example, in May 2021, we conducted a third-party carbon assessment on a strategically selected pilot study factory in Zhejiang province, China. Findings from the factory's Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions assessment indicated the factory was one of the highest carbon-emitting facilities in its category.

Responsible Sourcing worked with the supplier to establish sustainability commitments,

followed by monthly reporting and tracking of key performance indicators. The company achieved Zero Waste to Landfill Platinum Certification from Underwriter Laboratories.

Global supply chains provide vital income to communities and support economic progress around the world. Creating a responsible supply chain is challenging work, but it is crucial to advancing Microsoft's mission and enabling sustainable development.

 [Learn more in our Responsible Sourcing report](#)



STORIES OF IMPACT

Thinking and acting together: The 10toGo Thinkathon with Volkswagen

In 2020, Microsoft and Volkswagen decided to join forces and support start-ups addressing societal challenges. In the joint [10toGO Thinkathon](#), 20 teams with innovative artificial intelligence (AI) concepts worked on solutions to solve climate change.

A future for forests in times of global warming: PINA Earth

90 billion. That's how many trees there are in Germany. But unfortunately, Germany's trees and forests are doing worse than ever. A survey by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture shows that the stability, biodiversity, and protective services of forests are at risk due to climate change. Start-up PINA Earth wants to use AI to evaluate aerial images of forests and protect them – for example, by planting trees that can cope with climatic conditions. With this idea, the team won first place at the Thinkathon, as well as our hearts and our support.

"The Thinkathon came at the perfect time for us. We were able to get straight to building things. The funding gave us completely different opportunities as a start-up. It also allowed us to grow much faster as a team."

Dr. Gesa Biermann,
Founder of PINA Earth



Can AI help solve the world's most urgent problems?

AI is an excellent tool for finding efficient, resource-conserving solutions. It can help reconcile climate protection and prosperity worldwide. Tracking emissions and identifying opportunities for reduction in real-time is a task that requires the power of the cloud. There are numerous potential applications, for example, in logistics, where AI can improve processes and thus reduce CO2 emissions.

Tackling the United Nations development goals

AI's potential, however, goes far beyond climate and environmental protection. The United Nations has defined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include not only the protection of natural resources but also the fight against hunger, access to education, or gender equality. These goals are to be achieved by 2030. With its program "[Entrepreneurship for Positive Impact](#)", Microsoft supports start-ups that are working on at least one of these sustainability goals.

➤ For more sustainability reports, visit our [global Reports Hub](#)

Earn trust

At Microsoft, we're optimistic about the benefits of technology, yet clear about the challenges. To drive positive impact with technology, people need to be able to trust the technologies they use and the companies behind them.



[Learn more about how we earn trust globally](#)



Earn trust



Since January 2023, we've been in the process of implementing the EU Data Boundary for all our cloud applications for public sector and enterprise customers.



We meet specific German security standard requirements, including the C5 test certificate of the BSI requirements catalog.



Microsoft Germany works closely with the relevant authorities as well as other partners within the framework of the "Alliance for Cybersecurity", and is proactively involved in cybersecurity issues.



We have made substantial investments in recent years to provide our cloud solutions from German datacenters – with local data storage and comprehensive security and compliance.



In the "Cloud & AI Center" at Microsoft Berlin, we offer insights into AI as well as the principles of responsible development of this technology.



In 2022, we opened our new Research Lab in Berlin, which will support the strong German scientific community with deep learning technologies.





\$20B

will be invested globally in cybersecurity through 2026 to advance cybersecurity for our customers and partners.



To protect the rights of our partners and customers, we have joined forces with companies agreeing to the Trusted Cloud Principles.



Microsoft has defined six principles that guide the development and deployment of responsible AI in the enterprise.



Microsoft Germany joined the **Charter of Trust (CoT)** cybersecurity initiative in 2022. As a CoT member, we plan to use our expertise in cybersecurity to develop and promote sound principles for a secure digital world.



Our **Digital Civility Index** examines 21 online risks. In Germany, unwanted obscene messages and images, and solicitation for sexual acts are the most frequently perceived risks. We share guidance to help everyone keep themselves safe online in the face of these risks.



In 2008, we launched Microsoft's **Digital Crimes Unit (DCU)**, an international team of technical, legal, and business experts that fights cybercrime, protecting individuals and organizations from the complex threat landscape.



We established the **Defending Democracy Program** in 2018. Our goal is to better protect democratic institutions and processes worldwide from cyber-attacks and to more effectively counter the impact of disinformation campaigns.

STORIES OF IMPACT

Scientific breakthroughs with Deep Learning: Microsoft opens Research Lab in Berlin


Deep Learning will have a significant impact on the natural sciences in the coming decade. To this end, Microsoft is building an AI4Science team to conduct research at the forefront of this development and to harness Machine Learning for advances in the natural sciences, while upholding the principles of responsible AI development.

As part of this initiative, Microsoft opened a Research Lab in Berlin on October 1, 2022. It is set up and headed by Professor Dr. Frank Noé, who already holds a chair for AI in the natural sciences at Freie Universität Berlin.

The AI-powered technology will dramatically improve the ability to model and predict natural phenomena. Emulators will enable molecularly accurate modeling of complex systems in artificial neural networks that far exceed the capacities of previous simulations.

This marks the beginning of a fifth paradigm of scientific discovery and pushes the boundaries of knowledge in natural sciences as well as machine learning itself. There are promising signs for progress, for example, in the fight against climate change or the search for new medicines.

▶ Read more about our Research Lab in Berlin.



"Berlin is a very interesting place to do research because it has three large universities, it has a lot of research institutes, and non-university centers like the Max Planck Institutes. This is an extremely rich ecosystem for research. It is a perfect place for the new lab: I think Microsoft really sits nicely in between fundamental research and its industrial application."

Professor Dr. Frank Noé
Professor for Artificial Intelligence at Freie Universität Berlin,
Research Manager in the Berlin/Germany team of Microsoft Research

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

In the [AI4Science program](#), Microsoft brings together its expertise in machine learning and scalable cloud computing with the research expertise of companies and research institutions. The potential for results with real-world impact is already apparent.

For example, the number of small molecules considered candidates for medical use is estimated at 10^{60} , but the total number of stable compounds is around 10^{180} - roughly the square number of atoms in the known universe.

Finding ways to explore these vast worlds would give humanity significant capabilities - for example, to develop new medicines, find substrates to remove CO₂ directly from the atmosphere, better materials for batteries, electrodes for fuel cells, and many other applications.

Microsoft is supporting and accelerating the strong German science community with deep learning technologies in a persistent way. We are a [trusted partner of the sciences](#).

▶ For more trust reports, visit our [global Reports Hub](#)

Together, we can achieve more

We're proud of our progress, but know there is much more to do and that it will require all of us working together. Join us.

- Learn more about our impact in Germany
- Discover more at Microsoft.com/impact
- Follow Microsoft On the Issues

