

FAIRPHONE

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fairphone celebrates reaching 2023 impact targets while investing in further growth

From device longevity to reuse and recycling to fair factories and materials, Fairphone once again hits its ambitious annual impact targets on people and planet, while investing for growth in 2023.

Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 7 June 2024 — [Fairphone](#), the trailblazing ten-year-old ethical tech brand, launched its annual impact report today. The report measures the company's impact performance by looking at five key indicators as proof points of its fairer business model. 2023 was an excellent year for impact, with Fairphone launching two products that are industry-leading in terms of sustainability, the Fairphone 5 and Fairbuds XL. Overall, in 2023 these efforts resulted in avoiding 944 tons of CO2 and 29 tons of electronic waste, with over 22,000 additional people benefitting from Fairphone's measures in 2023 (adding up to over 100,000 people since 2017).

Highlights from this year's impact report – covering topics such as device longevity, electronic waste (e-waste) and fair materials – include:

- **Built to last longer:** The largest environmental impact of a smartphone is caused during the production phase. Using a phone for five years versus the industry average of 3 years, reduces its yearly CO2e impact by around 30%. Fairphone achieved its *Longevity Score* target in 2023 for the third year in a row. It *aimed for 4.5 years* and can proudly report an average lifespan of *4.7 years for its smartphones*, showing Fairphone's devices are built to last much longer than others in the industry.
- **Rewarded leadership:** 2023 was the year Fairphone was recognized for its unique achievements in the electronics industry. Fairphone received the *Ecovadis Platinum certification* for the third year in a row, placing it in the *top 1% of all 114,000 companies assessed by Ecovadis and*

positions Fairphone as the leading company in its industry. In February this year, it received the prestigious [GLOMO award](#) for Best Mobile Innovation for Climate Action at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. Fairphone also received the highly-regarded [Dutch Koning Willem I award](#) in the Sustainable Entrepreneurship category in May.

- **Champions of reuse and recycling:** For three years running, Fairphone has been achieving its goal to make all of its products and spare parts e-waste neutral by collecting electronic end-of-use products that equal 100% of units sold in 2023. In total, Fairphone *collected 25 tons of electronic waste in 2023*. This includes taking back Fairphone components such as displays and bottom modules that will be used to refurbish and repair Fairphone products, showcasing Fairphone's circularity efforts.
- **Fair materials:** Fairphone met the goal it set itself in 2021: *achieving more than 70% of fair focus materials in the Fairphone 5*. These are the materials in Fairphone's products which have the largest social and environmental impacts in their supply chain. During that time, Fairphone also expanded its focus materials from eight to 14, making *2023 the first time it achieved improvements in all 14 materials, ensuring that they are from either recycled or fairly mined origins*. This is an industry leading achievement compared to other key industry players.
- **Fair factories:** Electronics are often made by people working long hours for low wages, with no say in their working conditions. In 2023, *Fairphone paid a total of \$204,000 USD to 1700 factory workers at four of its supplier factories to increase their wages to ensure a decent living standard. In addition, five of eight strategic suppliers improved working conditions, environmental impacts and wages of workers*. With each of those suppliers, Fairphone invested in improvements including sponsoring training for management, worker representatives and workers, and purchasing protective equipment.
- **Financial impact:** Fairphone strengthened its balance sheet with €49 million in investments, and made significant strategic investments in long-term growth, which is reflected in an EBITDA of -€14.2m. In total, Fairphone sold 100,107 smartphones in 2023, despite the year-on-year decline of the smartphone market and inflation pressures impacting consumers.

Monique Lempers, Chief Impact Officer at Fairphone states, “Making the switch to a sustainable smartphone is the easiest action businesses and individuals can take to meet their sustainability goals. As concerns around sustainability grow, we believe we are reaching a tipping point in the demand for ethical smartphones. Fairphone is well positioned to respond to this trend and has laid the foundations for a period of accelerated growth in the years to come. In the year 2023 alone, we avoided 944 tons of CO2 emissions, the equivalent of over 1,500 flights from Amsterdam to New York . If private and public sector businesses adopted sustainable tech that can be used for longer, they could lower their smartphone CO2 footprint by 30%. Together we can make a massive impact!”

The full 2023 impact report can be found [here](#).

About Fairphone

Fairphone is a pioneering leader in the ethical smartphone industry, committed to creating sustainable products as transparently as possible, challenging the status quo of the electronics industry. By prioritizing fairness, environmental responsibility, and social impact, Fairphone aims to inspire positive change across the technology sector and beyond.

Photos, videos, fact sheets and other materials are available on the Fairphone press page: <https://fairphone.com/en/about/press/>

www.fairphone.com

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