Tomorrow drives Mercedes-Benz.

ESG CAPITAL MARKET PRESENTATION

Mercedes-Benz Group AG

June 2024

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS STRATEGY

MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP: AT A GLANCE

Mercedes-Benz Group AG¹

Revenue: €153.2 billion² Employees: 166,051³

Mercedes-Benz Cars

Revenue: €112.8 billion Employees: 132,558



Mercedes-Benz

MAYBACH

Mercedesme

Mercedes-Benz Vans

Revenue: €20.3 billion Employees: 19,132



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz Mobility

Revenue: €26.7 billion Employees: 9,768

Mercedes-Benz Bank

Mercedes-Benz Financial Services



¹ figures FY 2023

² incl. Reconciliation €-6.5 billion; the reconciliation includes eliminations of intra-Group revenue between the segments 3 Active workforce as at 31 December 2023 (employees without holiday workers, thesis writers, interns, working students, PhD students, senior experts and trainees) of Mercedes-Benz Group, incl. central functions & service 4,593 employees

SG CAPITAL MARKET PRESENTATIONT

SUSTAINABILITY IS A GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF OUR STRATEGY

OUR GOAL: WE WILL BUILD THE WORLD'S MOST DESIRABLE CARS

THINK

and act like a luxury brand

FOCUS

on profitable growth

EXPAND

customer base by growing Top-End Luxury

EMBRACE

customers and grow lifetime revenues

LEAD

in electric drive and digital experience

LOWER

cost base, improve industrial footprint and increase supply chain resilience

Driven by a highly qualified and motivated team

Sustainability, Integrity and Diversity as our foundation

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS STRATEGY: ECOLOGICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMICAL



Tomorrow drives Mercedes-Benz.

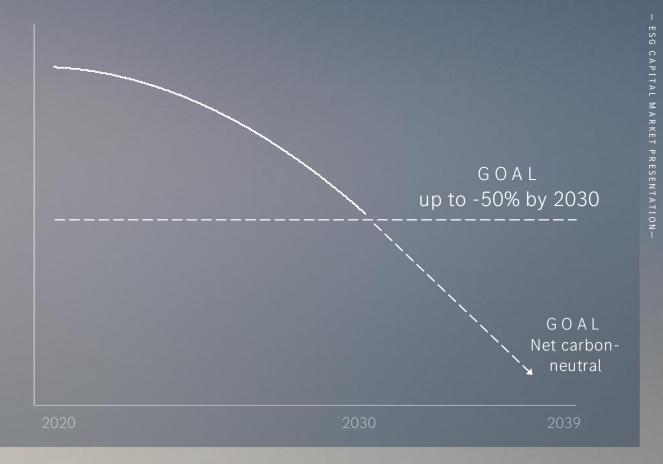
DECARBONISATION & SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS, GREEN PRODUCTION & LOGISTICS

WE ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO OUR AMBITION 2039



MERCEDES-BENZ CARS CO₂ LIFECYCLE EMISSIONS

schematic | in tonnes per vehicle



AMBITION 2039 — OUR COMMITMENT TO NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY

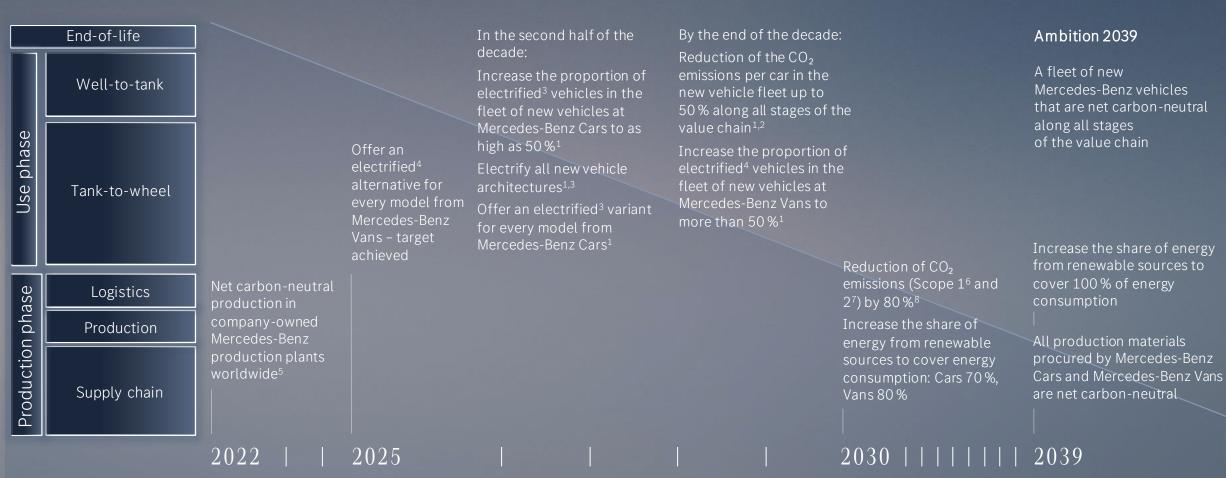
ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039



49.7t CO₂ in 2020* | 46.3t CO₂ in 2023* | Targeted reduction by up to 50% by the end of this decade

MERCEDES-BENZ CLIMATE TRANSITION ACTION PLAN AT A GLANCE

NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039



 $^{^{-1}}$ The pace of transformation $\,$ is determined $\,$ by market conditions $\,$ and $\,$ customer:

² Compared to 2020 (value chain stages: procured goods, production, logistics, fuel and energy generation, driving operation disassembly and treatment processes)

[ಿ] Plug-in hybrids and all-electric vehicles

⁴ All-electric vehicles

 $^{^{-5}}$ In addition to the production sites of the consolidated subsidiaries, the production sites of the following non-consolidated

subsidiaries are included: Star Transmission srl (Cugir, Romania), STARKOM, proizvodnja in trgovina d.o.o. (Maribor, Slovenia) and STARCAM s.r.o. (Most. Czech Republic).

⁶ Scope 1 emissions are direct CO₂ emissions from sources for which the company is directly responsible or that it directly controls.

⁷ Scope 2 emissions are indirect CO₂ emissions from purchased energy such as electricity and district heating that are generated externally but consumed by the company.

^{*} Compared to 2018

KEY DRIVERS OF CHANGE

OUR AMBITION 2039 PUTS A STAKE IN THE GROUND. WE ARE STILL FACING A MASSIVELY DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT.

















is accelerating

OEM ambitions

Technologies

switch is less steep

Business case is strengthening but with challenges

Infrastructure is expanding

Demanding capital market

WE ARE TAKING THE NECESSARY STEPS TO GO ALL-ELECTRIC

WE CONTINUE TO SCALE OUR EV BUSINESS



WE WILL BE ABLE TO CATER TO DIFFERENT CUSTOMER NEEDS UNTIL WELL INTO THE 2030s

expected xEV* share in the fleet of new vehicles at Mercedes-Benz Cars in 2nd half of this decade EQS SUV 450 4MATIC | Stromverbrauch in kWh/100 km (kombiniert): 22,8-20,0; CO2-Emissionen in g/km (kombiniert): 0, CO2-Klasse: A Die angegebenen Werte wurden nach dem vorgeschriebenen Messverfahren WLTP (Worldwide harmonised Light-duty vehicles Test Procedures) ermittelt. Die angegeben Spannweiten beziehen sich auf den europäischen Markt. Der Energieverbrauch und der CO₂-Ausstoß eines Pkw sind nicht nur von der effizienten Ausnutzung des Kraftstoffs bzw. des Energieträgers durch den Pkw, sondern auch vom Fahrstil und anderen nichttechnischen Faktoren abhängig.

MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP

AMBITION 2039 — OUR COMMITMENT TO NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY

ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039

SUPPLY CHAIN

PRODUCTION & LOGISTICS

WELL-TO-TANK

TANK-TO-WHEEL

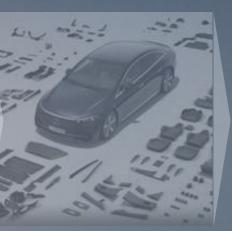
END-OF-LIFE











Steel

Aluminium

Polymers & innovative material

KET TRESENTATI

1/3 of body-in-white steel in the U.S.-sourced from electric arc furnaces

CO₂-REDUCED STEEL FOR MORE THAN 1/3 OF DEMAND

Annual target for European press shops within this decade

for next BEV models in EU using electricity from renewable sources for electrolysis – goal is to extend to all aluminium sourced for our foundry in Mettingen (Germany)

CO₂ reduction per kg/Al of approx.*

40 - 50 %

starting in 2024

Developing further innovations for **very-low-CO₂**

aluminium parts with our partners

Targeted CO₂ reduction per kg/Al of approx.*

>90%

by 2030

RESOURCE USE & CIRCULARITY

ACCELERATING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

2030





FOUR STRATEGIC LEVERS FOR RESOURCES REDUCTION

Mechanical recycling

Chemical recycling

Bio-circular material

New recycling innovations, e.g. transformation in metal production

AIMING FOR 40% RECYCLED MATERIALS BY 2030

RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES FOR POLYMERS

Post-consumer recyclates
Front and rear bumpers starting with MMA*

Chemical recycling with BASF & Pyrum

Crash absorber & bow door handle in S-Class and EQE

Upcycled UBQ Materials
Cable ducting in EQS and EQE



- EVG CAPITAL MARKET PREVENTATION-

USE OF RESOURCE-CONSERVING MATERIALS IN THE NEW E-CLASS



360° ENVIRONMENTAL CHECK MERCEDES-BENZ E-CLASS

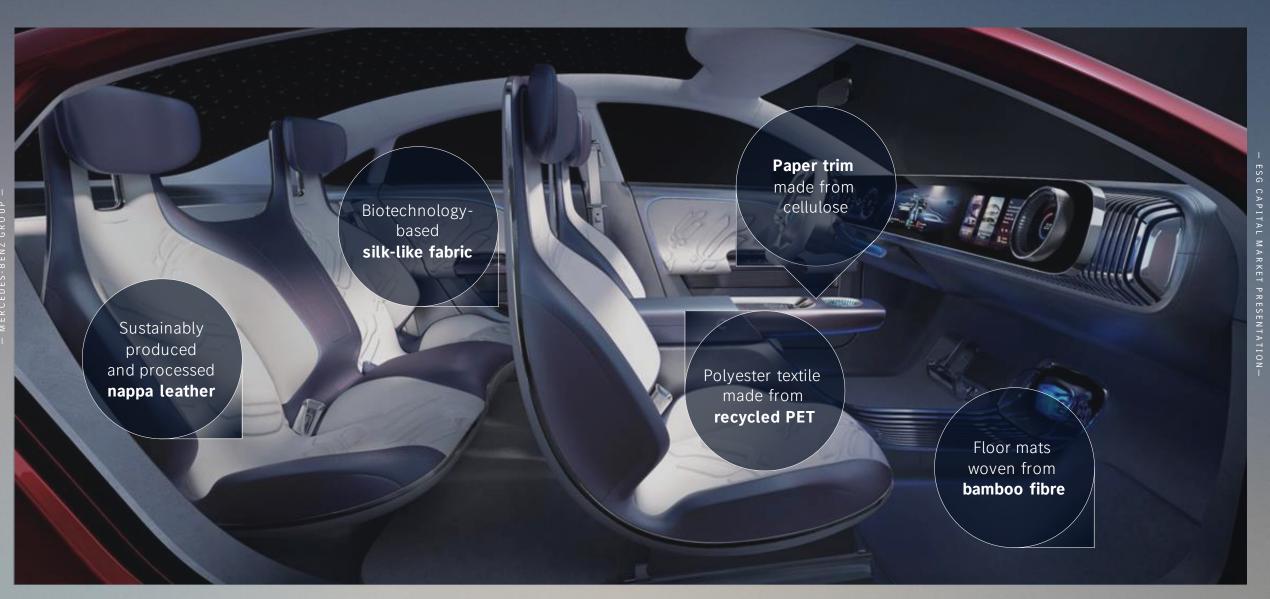
Circular feedstock foam in E-Class seats

175 components with a total weight of 99kg can be manufactured from resource-saving materials

MICROCUT microfibre consists of 45% recycled material

INSIDE THE CONCEPT CLA CLASS

ALTERNATIVE & RECYCLED MATERIALS



— ESG CAPITAL MARKET PRESENTATION—

INNOVATIVE MATERIAL TRENDS

ELASTOMERS, CIRCULAR ECONOMY, BIOTECH, MARKER SYSTEMS

First elastomer components made with recyclates planned for E-Class

New technology showcases for the circular economy

R&D of luxurious biotech interior surface applications

Investigation of materials digitalisation for traceability & transparency using marker systems



AMBITION 2039 — OUR COMMITMENT TO NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY

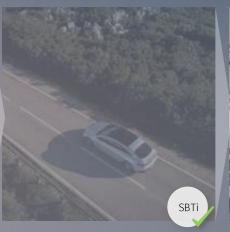
ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039

PRODUCTION & LOGISTICS





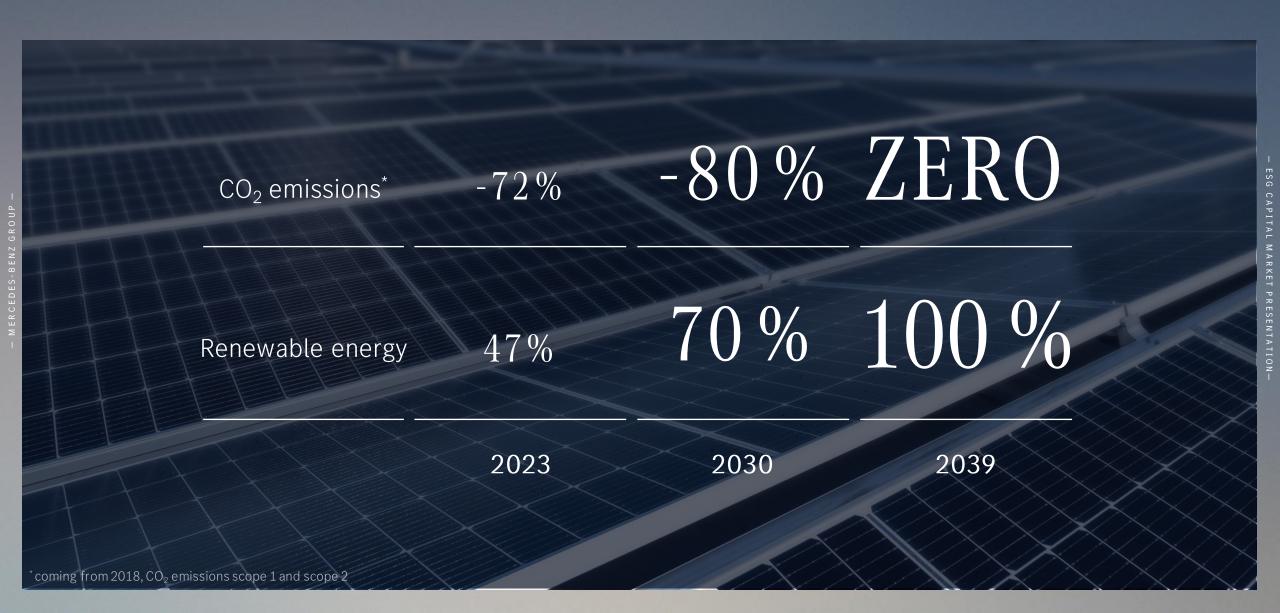






Energy storage Water management Green logistics

EXECUTION MODE: CARBON REDUCTION & RENEWABLE ENERGY EXPANSION AT MERCEDES-BENZ CARS



EXECUTION MODE: RENEWABLE ENERGY EXPANSION SOLAR & WIND

MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP INTENDS TO COVER MORE THAN 50% OF ITS TOTAL ELECTRICITY DEMAND IN GERMANY FROM NEW SOLAR AND WIND POWER PLANTS.

PHOTOVOLTAIC

WINDPARKPAPENBURG

WINDPARK WINDANKER



20 wind turbines with a capacity of around 120 MW by 2026

Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) securing 140 MW from 2027 onwards

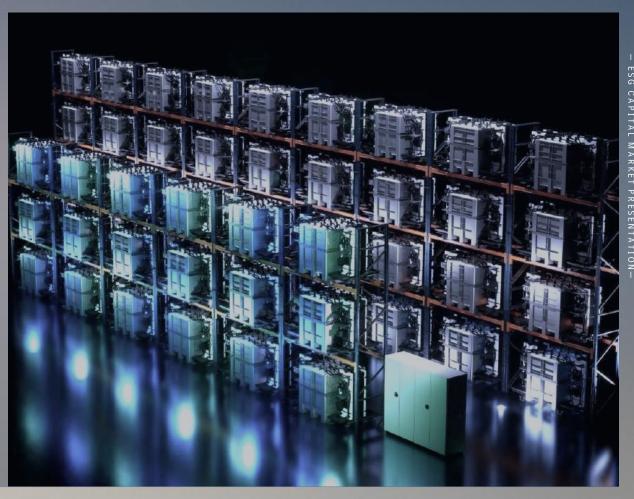
ENERGY STORAGE

GETTING THE BEST BALANCE BETWEEN VOLATILE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION AND ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION

2ND LIFE BATTERY STORAGE SINDELFINGEN

ORGANIC SOLID FLOW BATTERY STORAGE IN RASTATT





WATER MANAGEMENT

OUR TARGET IS TO SAVE UP TO 35% OF WATER BY 2030 COMPARED TO 2018 LEVELS

MULTI REUSE WATER

OPTIMISATION COOLING TOWERS



savings of approx. 100,000 m³ / year TUSCALOOSA principal sketch

2039

-60%

inbound/outbound Mercedes-Benz Cars, compared to 2021

RAIL

ROAD

SEA



electric-trucks for short and long-distance logistics.

expanding bio-fuels
in inbound and
outbound

2027: sailboat with
Wallenius Wilhelmsen

MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP

AMBITION 2039 — OUR COMMITMENT TO NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY

ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039

SUPPLY CHAIN

PRODUCTION & LOGISTICS

WELL-TO-TANK

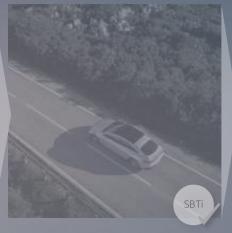
TANK-TO-WHEEL

END-OF-LIFE











Charging solutions
Green Charging
Mercedes-Benz charging
network
Home charging
Fleet charging

FAST, CONVENIENT AND RELIABLE CHARGING SOLUTIONS

MERCEDES-BENZ CHARGING NETWORK

>10,000* high-power charging (HPC) points across our key markets by end of decade

GLOBAL JOINT VENTURES

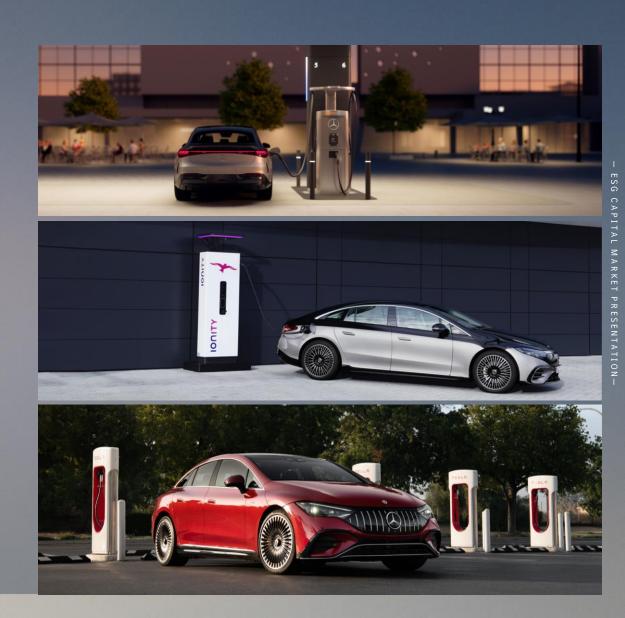
EU: >3,300 HPC points as of today (IONITY)

NAFTA: >30,000* HPC points by end of decade (IONNA)

China: >7,000* HPC points by 2026

ADDING MORE OPTIONS

Access to superchargers in North America from 2024 onwards Integration of NACS starting 2025



- ESG CAPITAL MARKET PRESENTATION-

GREEN CHARGING

USING ENERGY ATTRIBUTE CERTIFICATES TO ENSURE THAT AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES IS FED INTO THE POWER GRID



Green Charging with Mercedes me Charge in public*

Live in 28 markets in Europe, Canada and USA

Contributes to expansion of renewable energy

Green Charging available in Europe, Canada and USA: Green Charging uses energy attribute certificates to ensure that an equivalent amount of electricity from renewable sources is fed into the power grid for the charging processes, if no electricity from renewable energy sources is provided.

Mercedes Benz CLA 250 e Coupé | Energieverbrauch gewichtet kombiniert: 18,5-16,8 kWh/100 km plus 1,1-0,9 l/100 km | Kraftstoffverbrauch kombiniert bei entladener Batterie 6,7-6,0 l/100km | CO₂ Emissionen gewichtet kombiniert: 25-19 g/km | CO₂ Klasse gewichtet kombiniert: B | CO₂ Klasse bei entladener Batterie: E-D Die angegebenen Werte wurden nach dem vorgeschriebenen Messverfahren WLTP (Worldwide harmonised Light-duty vehicles Test Procedures) ermittelt. Die angegeben Spannweiten beziehen sich auf den europäischen Markt. Der Energieverbrauch und der CO₂-Ausstoß eines Pkw sind nicht nur von der effizienten Ausnutzung des Kraftstoffs bzw. des Energieträgers durch den Pkw, sondern auch vom Fahrstil und anderen nichttechnischen Faktoren abhängig.

MERCEDES-BENZ CHARGING NETWORK

FAST, CONVENIENT & GREEN

2,000 charging points globally planned by end of 2024

10,000 charging points planned by the end of the decade

Renewable electricity through dedicated partnerships





Vehicles connected via V2G with the power grid will support the energy transition

Balancing the volatility of renewables generation

Storing excess energy, e.g. produced by PV during the day and fed back into the grid at night

FLEET CHARGING



MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP

AMBITION 2039 — OUR COMMITMENT TO NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY

ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039

SUPPLY CHAIN

PRODUCTION & LOGISTICS

WELL-TO-TAN

TANK-TO-WHEEL

END-OF-LIFE











BEV in every MB Cars segment Modular Architectures MMA / Concept CLA

BEV LAUNCH SUCCESSFUL IN EVERY MERCEDES-BENZ PASSENGER CAR SEGMENT



EQA



EQB



EQE | EQE AMG



EQE SUV | EQE SUV AMG



EQS | EQS AMG



EQS SUV



Mercedes-Maybach EQS SUV



EQV

Mercedes-Maybach EQS 680 SUV (Energieverbrauch kombiniert: 24,1-22,0 kWh/100 km | CO₂-Emissionen kombiniert: 0 g/km | CO₂-Klasse: A)
Mercedes-AMG EQS 53 4MATIC+ (Energieverbrauch kombiniert: 24,3-20,9 kWh/100 km | CO2-Emissionen kombiniert: 0 g/km | CO₂-Klasse: A)
Die angegebenen Werte wurden nach dem vorgeschriebenen Messverfahren WLTP (Worldwide harmonised Light-duty vehicles Test Procedures) ermittelt. Die angegeben Spannweiten beziehen sich auf den europäischen Markt.
Der Energieverbrauch und der CO₂-Ausstoß eines Pkw sind nicht nur von der effizienten Ausnutzung des Kraftstoffs bzw. des Energieträgers durch den Pkw. sondern auch vom Fahrstil und anderen nichttechnischen Faktoren abhängig.

OUR UPCOMING ARCHITECTURES MODULAR SYSTEMS TO ENABLE MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY

MMA



Mercedes-Benz Modular Architecture

AMG.EA



Electric Architecture for high-performance vehicles

MB.EA



Mercedes-Benz Electric Architecture

VAN.EA



Electric Architecture for private and commercial vans



MMA FAMILY INTEGRATES TECHNOLOGY FROM VISION EQXX — THE MOST EFFICIENT MERCEDES WE HAVE EVER BUILT

Mercedes-Benz Electric Drive Unit (MB.EDU) with up to

 $93\,\%$ efficiency



Consumption of

~12 kWh/100 km





15 min

charging delivers up to 400 km range



750 km*

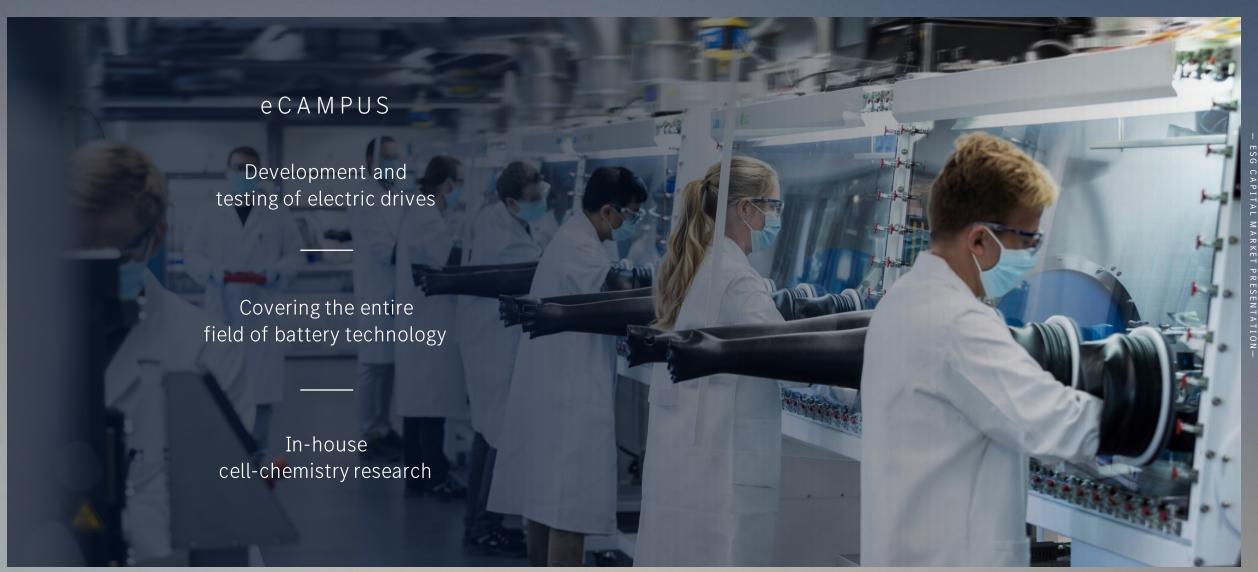


800 V system enables up to

 $300~\mathrm{kW}$ DC charging



MERCEDES-BENZ eCAMPUS UNTERTÜRKHEIM IS THE CENTRE OF GROUP-WIDE ELECTRIC DRIVE EXPERTISE



MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP -

AMBITION 2039 — OUR COMMITMENT TO NET CARBON-NEUTRALITY

ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN IN THE NEW VEHICLE FLEET IN 2039

SLIPPLY CHAIN

PRODUCTION & LOGISTICS

WELL-TO-TANK

TANK-TO-WHEEL

END-OF-LIFE







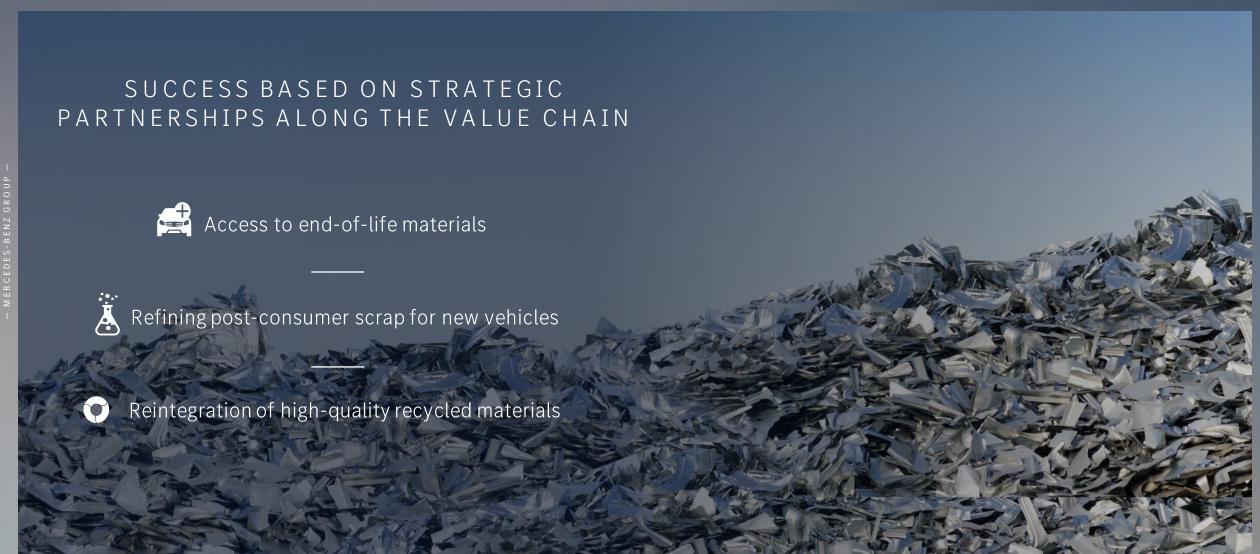




End-of-life materials recycling
Battery recycling

CIRCULAR ECONOMY — TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

CREATING A POSITIVE IMPACT ON PEOPLE AND PLANET



OUR AIM: FROM POST-CONSUMER SCRAP TO NEW VEHICLES

PROTOTYPES WITH LIGHTHOUSE MATERIAL SUCCESSFULLY TESTED

Use of recycled and processed end-of-life aluminum for body-in-white

<u> 86%</u> share of post-consumer scrap

73% less CO₂*

Avoidance of material loss by downcycling



CLOSING THE LOOP WITH OUR NET CARBON-NEUTRAL BATTERY RECYCLING FACTORY IN KUPPENHEIM

PHASE 1 | FRONT-END RAMP-UP



> 96% recovery rate

Plastics, Copper, Aluminium, Ferrum

Nickel, Cobalt, Manganese, Lithium, Carbon

Housing, Plastics, Cables, E/E-Components

Innovative mechanicalhydrometallurgical process

Recycling of lithium-ion batteries

BLACK MASS REFINING

MATERIAL SORTING



GRINDING



ON OUR WAY TO A SUSTAINABLE VEHICLE LIFECYCLE

Carbon-reducing activities along the entire value chain

Specific contracts with partners & suppliers

Developing new technologies with partners

Aiming for 40% recycled materials and CO₂ emissions reduction of up to 50 percent per passenger car in the new vehicle fleet over the lifecycle by the end of this decade compared to 2020 levels

Renewable energy (solar, wind) expansion with partners

Energy storage - balancing volatility

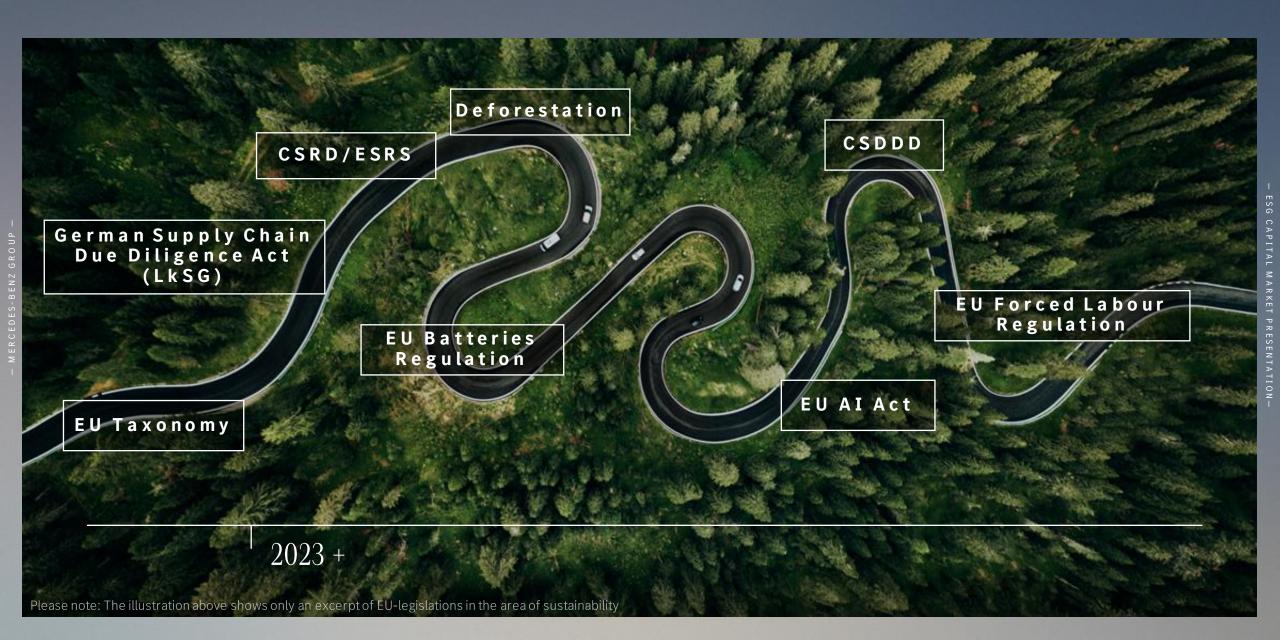
Green logistics – ambitious 2039 target of reducing CO2 emissions by 60 %

Water management – enabling savings and water harvesting

Battery Circularity & Recovery rate - recycling factory in Kuppenheim

RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN

NAVIGATING THE WINDING ROAD OF EU REGULATIONS



New policies & procedures

Sharpened roles & responsibilities

Human rights compliance training

Digitalisation of supply chain risk management



WE WORK TOGETHER ON JOINT SOLUTIONS

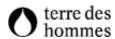
econsense











STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

ACCESS TO REMEDY

STATUS RAW MATERIAL ASSESSMENT OVERALL PROGRESS



Implemented by procurement

NEW RAW MATERIAL REPORT



15 raw materials

Increased transparency through deeper insights on methodology and assessment results

WE LISTEN, LEARN AND ACT

Community and indigenous rights have been prioritised as high risk within our framework of salient risk areas for most raw materials.

WE HAVE MADE IT OUR FOCUS.



WE WORK TOWARDS EFFECTIVE STANDARDS (GLOBALLY)



WE TAKE ON RESPONSIBILITY
TOGETHER WITH OUR PARTNERS
(BRAZIL)



WE ENGAGE WITH AFFECTED RIGHTSHOLDERS (GUINEA)

Tomorrow drives Mercedes-Benz.

SUSTAINABLE PEOPLE PLAN

CHALLENGES ON OUR WAY TO A SUCCESSFUL TRANSFORMATION







DECARBONISATION

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

DIGITALISATION

- MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP —





Streamlining our organisation in a responsible way

RE-SKILL

Cultivating learning and future-ready development

RE-CHARGE

Driving the best people experience

RE-SHAPE STREAMLINING OUR ORGANISATION IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY



RE-SKILL CULTIVATE LEARNING AND FUTURE-READY DEVELOPMENT



86% participation rate in our worldwide employee survey

+8% compared to 2021

77% ARE SATISFIED WORKING AT MERCEDES-BENZ

+3% compared to 2021

— ESG CAPITAL MARKET PI

MERCEDES-BENZ NURTURES A WORKING ENVIRONMENT THAT VALUES DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



WOMEN IN SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

30%

2030 goal

25.7%

2023

20.5%

2020

AL MARKET PRESENTATION

WE EMPOWER OUR EMPLOYEES IN BECOMING THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES TO SUCCEED IN THE DIGITAL AND ELECTRIC FUTURE



— MERCEDES-BENZ GROUP —

Tomorrow drives Mercedes-Benz.

DIGITAL TRUST

FOSTERING DIGITAL TRUST IN DYNAMIC TIMES



RESPONSIBLE AI BUILDS DIGITAL TRUST

WE ARE CONVINCED THAT AI CAN HELP US SHAPE THE FUTURE IN A POSITIVE WAY

We foster AI innovation.

We tackle AI-related risks based on our AI Principles.

Our AI Principles stand for:

"Responsible Use", "Explainability",

"Protection of Privacy", and

"Safety and Reliability".



NEW TECHNOLOGIES MEET REGULATORY DYNAMICS

WE BELIEVE THAT THE ANSWER TO THIS COMPLEX QUESTION IS "ADAPTIVE GOVERNANCE"



Tomorrow drives Mercedes-Benz.

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

SUSTAINABILITY IS ABOUT SECURING OUR LONG-TERM FUTURE

INVENTED THE MODERN CAR

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE





FINANCING THE TRANSFORMATION



OPTIMISING OUR FOOTPRINT

MITIGATING TRANSFORMATION RISKS

CAPACITY



TRANSFORMATION



FLEXIBILITY



of production capacity and volume, e.g. sale of Hambach and Russian plants Rightsizing industrial footprint, e.g. Jawor: transformation from powertrain into van site, benefit for entire Group

Maximum flexibility with xEVs* and combustion engine vehicles on the same production line

OPTIMISING OUR COST BASE

MITIGATING TRANSFORMATION RISKS

SCALE



BATTERIES



PROCUREMENT



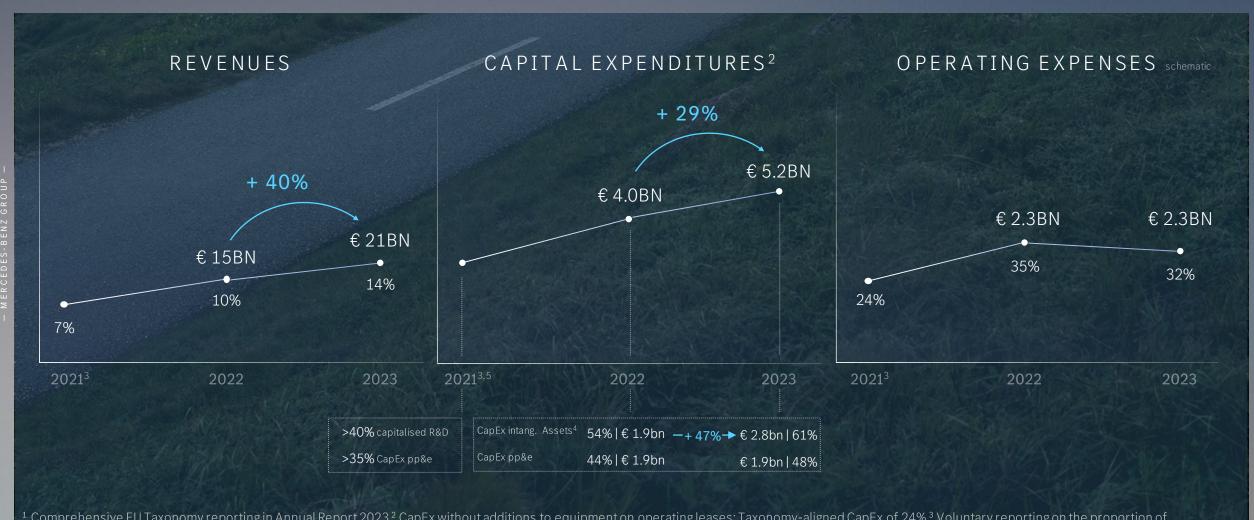
Future all-electric architectures designed in a way to use common components and synergy parts

> 30% reduction in €/kWh battery cost possible in the coming years, while improving efficiency & charging time

Targeting the reduction of material costs in the coming years

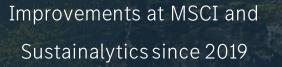
EU TAXONOMY-ALIGNED SHARES¹

TAXONOMY REPORTING DEMONSTRATES PROGRESS TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRALITY



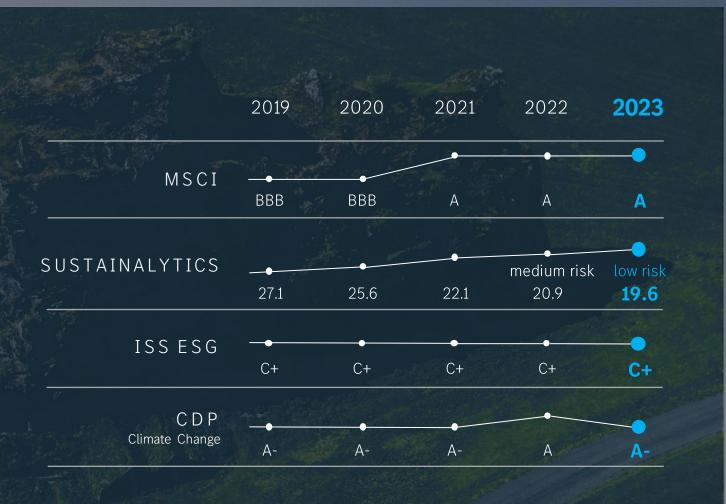
¹ Comprehensive EU Taxonomy reporting in Annual Report 2023 ² CapEx without additions to equipment on operating leases; Taxonomy-aligned CapEx of 24% ³ Voluntary reporting on the proportion of economic activities relating to low-carbon vehicles (below the limit value of 50g CO₂/km) ⁴ Mainly capitalised development cost ⁵ Including capital expenditure on non-current assets related to Daimler's commercial vehicle business until its first classification as available for sale or disbursement in accordance with IFRS 5 by July 30, 2022

ESG RATING PERFORMANCE



Upgrade at Sustainalytics to low risk in October 2023

Maintained high level at ISS ESG and CDP Climate Change



ESG RATING RESULTS 2023

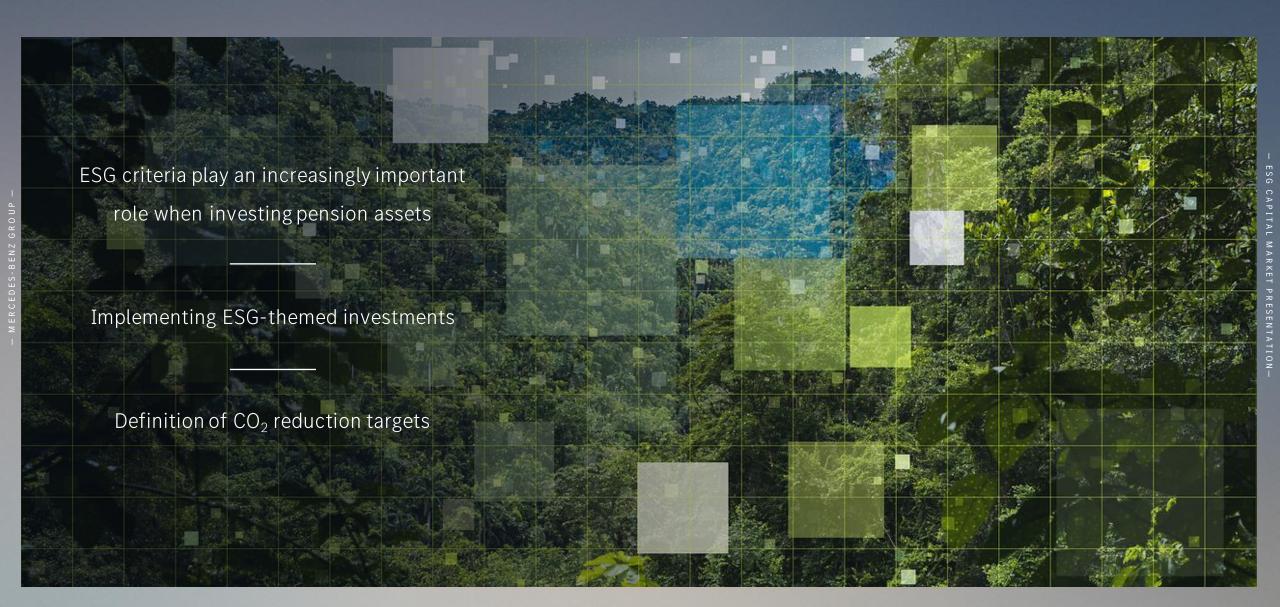
Among the best-rated companies in the auto sector

Driven by execution of sustainable business strategy and Ambition 2039



FOSTER SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS MODELS AS AN ACTIVE INVESTOR

INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY ASPECTS INTO OUR INVESTMENT DECISIONS FOR PENSION ASSETS



CAPITAL MARKET PRESENTATION—

ESG COMMUNICATION

WE PROVIDE TRANSPARENCY AND SUPPORT DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH OUR SHAREHOLDERS

COMMUNICATION

ESG Investor Conferences, e.g.
Société Générale - European ESG-SRI
Conference
ODDO BHF Sustainability Forum
BNP Paribas ESG Conference
...

Governance Roadshow
Mercedes-Benz Group ESG Conference
...

Multi-platform-based shareholder communication

REPORTING



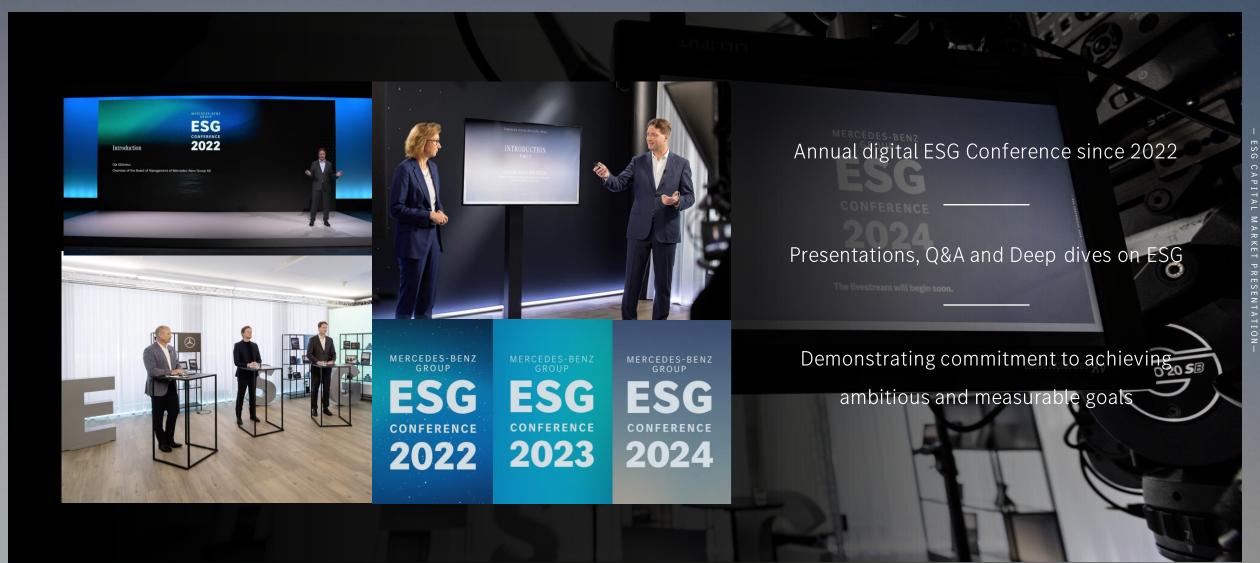
Comprehensive disclosure according to capital market standards & frameworks

&

S-BENZ GROUP —

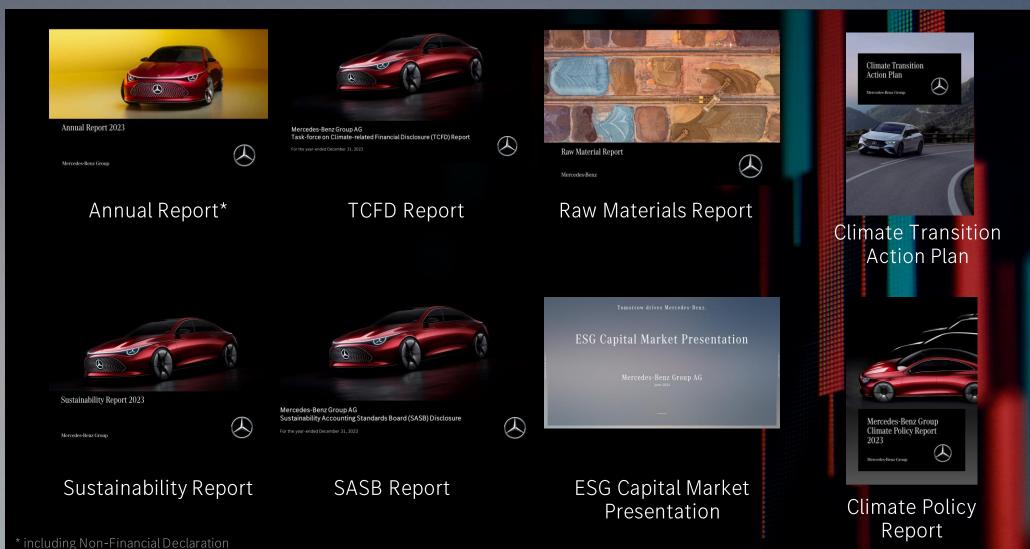
ESG COMMUNICATION

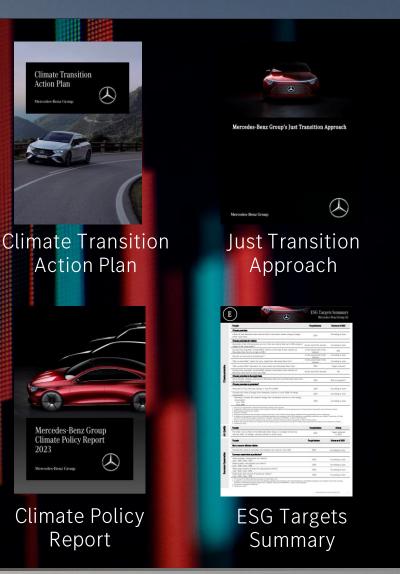
CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE WITH CAPITAL MARKETS



ESG REPORTING

TRANSPARENT ESG REPORTING ALONG THE ENTIRE VALUE CHAIN





THE FINANCIAL DIMENSION OF THE TRANSFORMATION



DISCLAIMER

This document contains forward-looking statements that reflect our current views about future events. The words "anticipate", "assume", "believe", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "may", "can", "could", "plan", "project", "should" and similar expressions are used to identify forwardlooking statements. These statements are subject to many risks and uncertainties, including an adverse development of global economic conditions, in particular a negative change in market conditions in our most important markets; a deterioration of our refinancing possibilities on the credit and financial markets; events of force majeure including natural disasters, pandemics, acts of terrorism, political unrest, armed conflicts, industrial accidents and their effects on our sales, purchasing, production or financial services activities; changes in currency exchange rates, customs and foreign trade provisions; changes in laws, regulations and government policies (or changes in their interpretation), particularly those relating to vehicle emissions, fuel economy and safety or to ESG reporting (environmental, social or governance topics); price increases for fuel, raw materials or energy; disruption of production due to shortages of materials or energy, labour strikes or supplier insolvencies; a shift in consumer preferences towards smaller, lower-margin vehicles; a limited demand for all-electric vehicles; a possible lack of acceptance of our products or services which limits our ability to achieve prices and adequately utilize our production capacities; a decline in resale prices of used vehicles; the effective implementation of cost-reduction and efficiency-optimization measures; the business outlook for companies in which we hold a significant equity interest; the successful implementation of strategic cooperations and joint ventures; the resolution of pending governmental investigations or of investigations requested by governments and the outcome of pending or threatened future legal proceedings; and other risks and uncertainties, some of which are described under the heading "Risk and Opportunity Report" in the current Annual Report or in this Interim Report. If any of these risks and uncertainties materializes or if the assumptions underlying any of our forward-looking statements prove to be incorrect, the actual results may be materially different from those we express or imply by such statements. We do not intend or assume any obligation to update these forward-looking statements since they are based solely on the circumstances at the date of publication.