ESG report

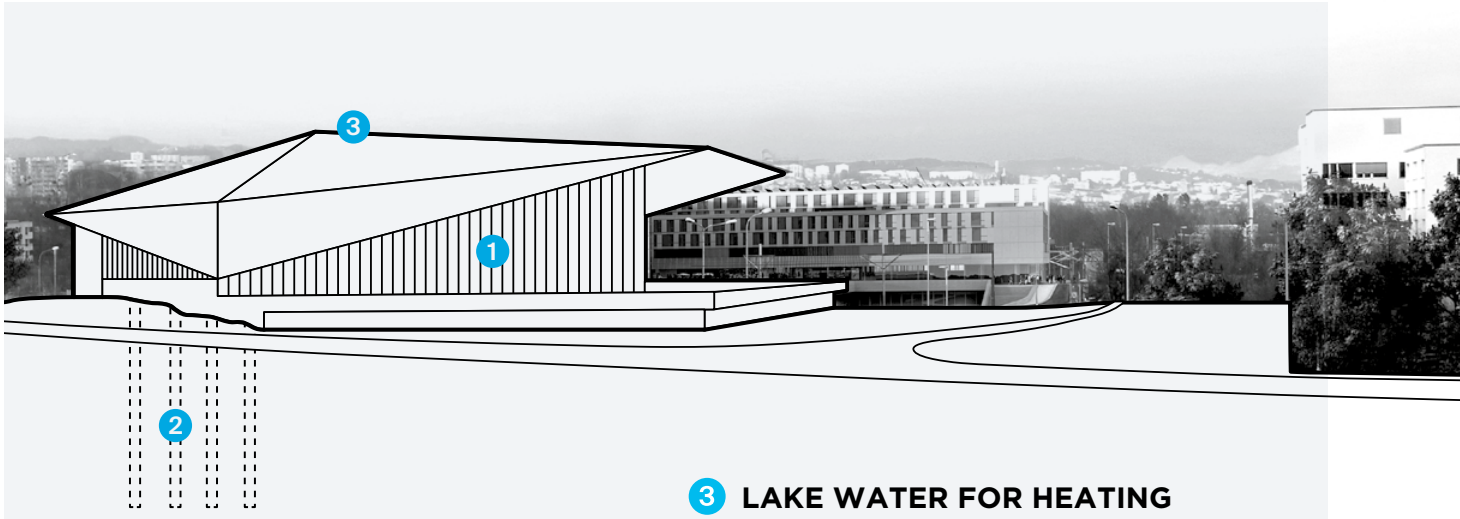
A congress centre among the most sustainable in the world

The SwissTech Convention Center is located on the campus of the Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). For decades, EPFL has been committed to sustainable development on its campus.

This is evidenced by the use of water from Lake Geneva to cool and heat its buildings, the project to install 1,500 m^2 of photovoltaic panels to cover up to 17% of its consumption, and the implementation of a mobility plan encouraging commuters to walk, cycle or use public transport.

The creation of the SwissTech Convention Center has taken EPFL's systemic and innovative thinking even further by providing a showcase for emerging energy technologies.

SwissTech
CONVENTION CENTER

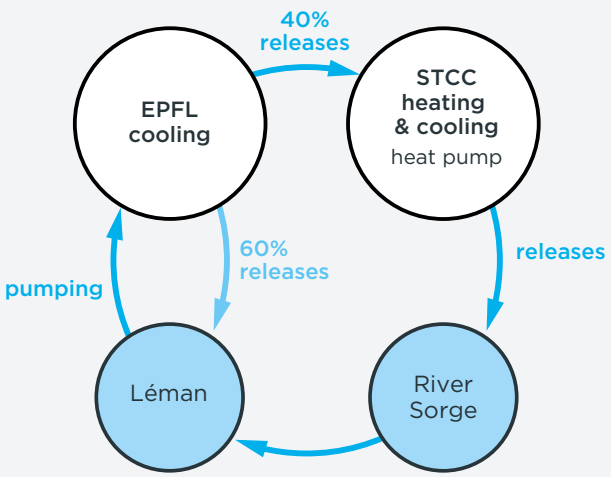


1 NATURAL LIGHT

For the comfort of users as well as for energy savings, the STCC makes maximum use of natural lighting. Almost all of the rooms have bay windows, even the plenary room that can accommodate 3,000 people. Artificial lighting uses the latest available technologies and offers remarkable energy performance.

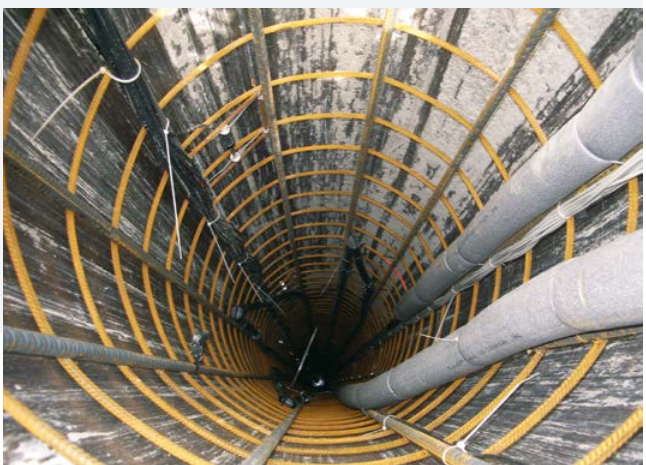
3 LAKE WATER FOR HEATING AND COOLING

The entire campus is cooled and heated with water from Lake Geneva, thanks to a distribution network of cold water and low temperature hot water produced by heat pumps. The main idea of the STCC energy concept, conceived by the EPFL operating department, was to use the heat from the water used to cool the EPFL buildings to heat the STCC, thanks to a heat pump. This use of EPFL's cooling water waste allows to produce again heat in winter and cold in summer. At the end of this cold and hot journey, the water returns to the lake via the Sorge River, which flows nearby, without harming the environment.



2 GEOTHERMAL PILES

Built on very unstable soils, the STCC rests on piles 30 meters deep. The EPFL Soil Mechanics Laboratory took advantage of this project to install four geothermal piles equipped with absorber tubes, in which a heat transfer fluid circulates to allow heat exchange with the soil. Thanks to this installation, the laboratory is studying the potential to heat a building in winter and cool it in summer, but also the movements of the ground at depth.

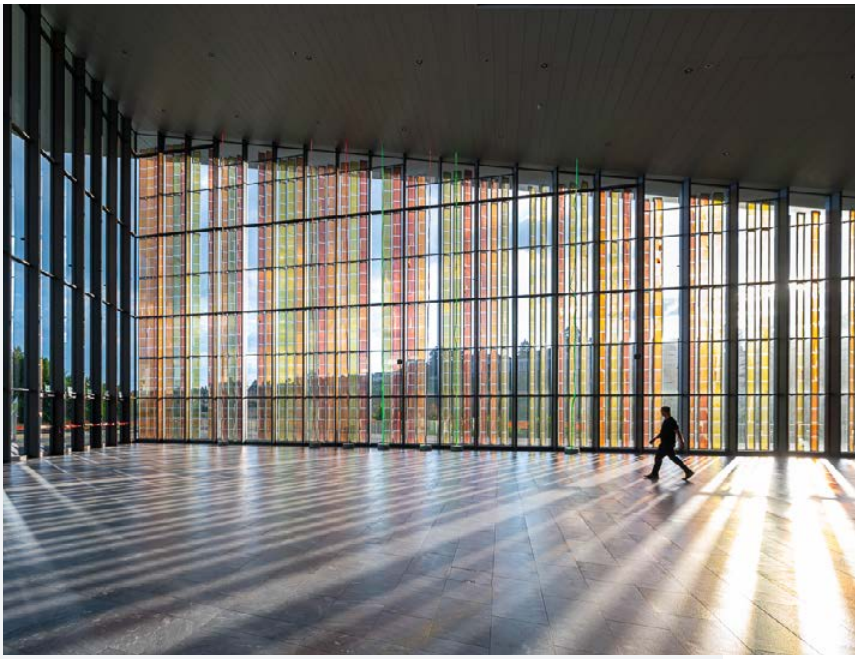


4 SUSTAINABILITY IN DAY-TO-DAY LIFE

The SwissTech Convention Center uses energy produced by solar panels on the neighboring student housing and businesses, as well as by heat pumps that recover waste air from the ventilation system or heat produced by the refrigerators.

The STCC achieves sustainability in the following ways:

- Proposing to carry out carbon balances of the events and compensating the surplus.
- Encouraging the organizers to distribute low environmental impact materials (paper, promotion, badges, etc.).
- Exemplary recycling of waste (60% recycling rate and regional production of biogas with organic waste).
- Sustainable catering (origin and dietetics).



5 SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

The SwissTech Convention Center is perfectly located in a metro loop with its own “EPFL” stop. The center has well-developed pedestrian and bicycle access.
Self-service bicycles are also available and are the ideal complement to private or public transportation. Also, in front of the door, users will find all the necessary services and businesses: stores, bars, restaurants, hotels, beauty and wellness centers, medical and dental offices.

The SwissTech Convention Center takes measures in line with the three pillars of sustainability: sustainable social equity and preserved environment

These three pillars are interconnected and crucial dimensions in building a world where equity, prosperity and the preservation of our planet coexist harmoniously. Here is an overview of the actions in place.

Economical

Assessing, raising awareness and engaging our value chain, improving our energy performance.

Social

Evaluating the well-being of our employees, maintaining fair and equal salaries, listening to our teams.

Environmental

Calculate and reduce our carbon footprint in order to contribute to the carbon neutrality objective of the Paris Agreements.

CURRENT MESURES

- Individual garbage cans remove from offices and Ecopoint set up
- Creation of a permanent intern post with a comprehensive training program
- Creation of a suggestion box (dealt with one by one at a management meeting, with follow-up)
- Sponsor of the Blues Rules Festival in Crissier
- Creation of a Green Team
- Earth Hour
- Sustainability networks: EPFL, LMCare, Ecublens municipality
- Blue walk
- Marchéco at the start of each academic year, benefiting students and their associations (clothing sales, repair stands, concerts, flea markets, etc.).
- Swisstainable level II certification
- Employee culture and motivation questionnaire

... AND FUTURE MESURES

- Renovation of Graëtzel cells
- Installation of 1,500 m^2 of solar panels that could cover 17% of our electricity needs
- Follow and reach the five commitments submitted in the Swiss Triple Impact directory

The SwissTech Convention Center's commitments in the Swiss Triple Impact directory

DIRECTORY LEADER 2023 | Committed to an inclusive and regenerative future.

SWISS TRIPLE IMPACT DIRECTORY

This register lists organizations that have completed the Swiss Triple Impact (STI) program and made bold, concrete commitments to the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In doing so, they recognize the crucial role the business world has to play in protecting the environment, health and well-being of current and future generations

Goal 1

By 2026, we calculate the carbon footprint of half the events at the STCC with tailor-made support from myClimate, and offset their emissions (compared to none in 2023); by 2023 we commit to the Net Zero Carbon Events initiative.

Goal 2

By 2026, we evaluate all our main suppliers with regard to their commitment to sustainability, and recommend them to our customers based on the results of these studies.

Goal 3

By 2026, we reduce our non-recyclable waste by 30% compared to 2022.

Goal 4

By 2026, we reduce the carbon footprint of commuting by 30% compared to 2022.

Goal 5

By 2026, all our employees undergo at least one professional training course per year to ensure their employability and career development.

- **2023**
  - **[G1]** Signing of the Net Zero Carbon Events Initiative
  - **[G5]** 100% of employees take part in "La fresque du Climat"
- **2024**
  - **[G3]** Implementation of the waste sorting plan at the STCC
  - **[G5]** 100% of employees take part in the "2-Tonne Workshop"
  - **[G2]** Evaluation of our suppliers and partners
- **2025**
  - **[G4]** Implementation of the mobility plan
  - **[G3]** Implementation of the waste sorting and disposal plan at SwissTech Village
  - **[G1]** Calculation of CO_2 footprint and voluntary contribution to climate protection for 30% of our events
  - Analysis of results and upgrades if necessary
- **2026**