



SUSTAINABILITY **REPORT**

BPD PARTNERS GROUP 2022

bpd partners



The sustainability of the Group's operations is a top priority for BPD partners. The projects the family office invests in combine efforts to use modern technologies, original approaches to solving technological and production processes with the use of science and scientific approach. The principles of long-term perspective and the support of the company's creative forces guarantee a sustainable future for the entire planet.



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The rapid development of the BPD partners group has resulted in us consistently examining the footprint of our activities on society, on the environment and on life in our country. This year, for the first ever time, we want to present to the public our own view of how we are influencing the world around us through our first BPD partners Sustainability Report.

BPD partners business units vary greatly by their nature and focus of activities, and also have differing weights, yet we are working hard to develop them with a unified emphasis on sustainability. And, on behalf of all of them, we can confidently say that efforts to contribute towards a sustainable future for our planet are fundamental to us. We are aware of the importance of demonstrating and talking about how we see our contribution to the future and the development of the whole group, employees, customers, business partners and the communities in which we operate, as well as the world in which we want to live. The group companies have long striven to achieve sustainable operation, and so offering our stakeholders an insight into our day-to-day life and operations is not difficult.

The BPD partners Sustainability Report is a realistic reflection of the situation in 2022 and we have been inspired by the current GRI standards in the process of its preparation. It represents a start to the process of data and information collection, through which we want to show how, in the group, we are thinking of a sustainable future, how we are approaching the protection of the resources we use, and how we see the future of both our group and society as a whole.

The international events in 2022 affected the life of the group in practically all its areas of operation. The higher prices of the energy and raw materials needed for manufacturing required a series of interventions. Looking back in 2023, I can say with assurance that we coped with the situation and retained the group's dynamic pace of development.

Despite all the adverse and unpredictable impacts of 2022, we continued the vigorous development of BPD partners through both organic growth as well as strategic investments into companies that can strengthen the group. This is also gradually changing the group's structure through the addition of new fields and capacities in sectors where we had previously not operated. Last year, the Draslovka group posted the greatest boom, and this is continuing with its announced global expansion. The Australian Mining and Process Solutions and the Dutch Intreso Group have both become part of this group. These two are crucial for the introduction of sustainable, innovative and environmentally friendly products and are thus key components of Draslovka's future. In view of its size and global presence, Draslovka has prepared its own sustainability report, parts of which are common to the BPD partners report. You can find the full version on the company's website (www.draslovka.com).

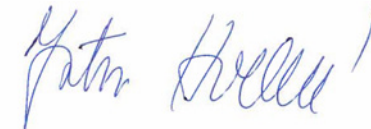


In the Sustainability Report, we focus on our work with the resources we use for our operations. Our most important resource and asset is our employees, the people who work with us and who form the foundation of our success. Without them, we could not grow and there would actually be no Sustainability Report.

We also strive to present our family office values externally as part of cooperation with our suppliers and business partners, which we carefully select and often consider integral parts of BPD partners. Nor are we neglectful of environmental protection, and our electricity generation from renewables means we can cover a significant share of our energy requirements in the Czech Republic through our own generation from solar and wind farms. A major part of the Draslovka group's contribution to global protection and sustainability is through its innovative products, whether this means glycine leaching technology for extracting minerals or the environmentally friendly EDN preparations for plant protection in agriculture. We support basic research and start-ups in biotechnology with great potential to improve people's lives in the future. In development, we lead the way in terms of solutions applied in the construction and operation of office buildings as well as the management of a portfolio of apartments and residential buildings, often with exceptional historic value.

We believe it makes sense to protect our future both from the perspective of company performance and also for the management of the group companies. I have personally learned over time that we can and must be even better. This first report is therefore something of a base line for comparing development over the coming years. We are at the beginning of a journey, one on which we will monitor legislative requirements as they apply to sustainability and ESG reporting. We will work to keep ahead of developments to ensure we are always ready to provide qualified information about the impact of our activities and development plans in the areas covered by the set ESG reporting goals. We have found the need for the targeted collection of a great deal of information we often consider to be a common standard. Hence we have set targets and laid the foundation to ensure the 2023 Sustainability Report will include even more detail.

It is up to us to create a future that is sustainable, efficient and socially responsible. This Sustainability Report can help in this respect and will also undoubtedly move us forward in our perception of our impact on the lives of all the people on our planet.

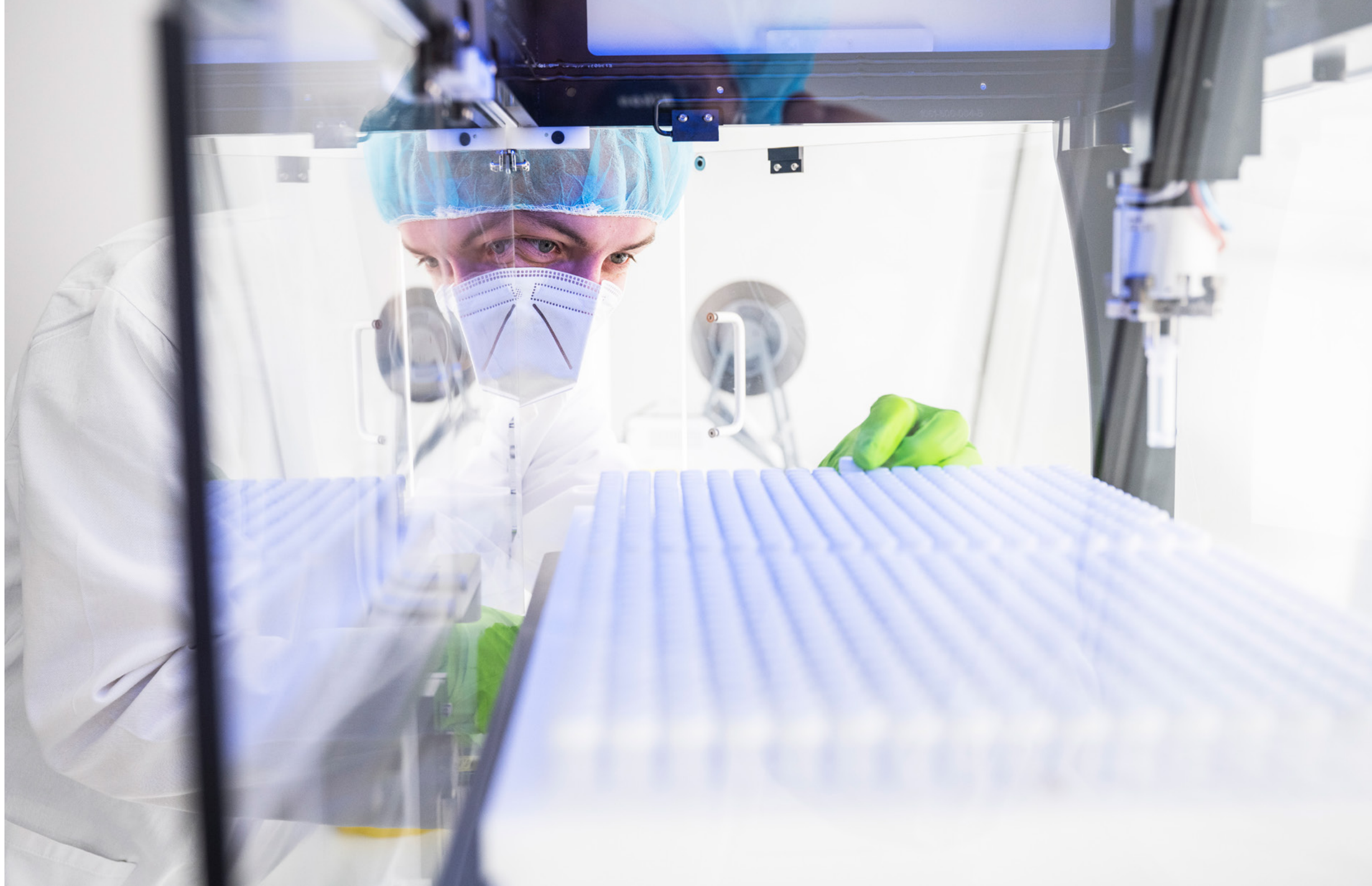


YVETA HOLEČKOVÁ

CEO BPD partners

BPD PARTNERS' CORE BUSINESS AREAS

SECTOR	SECTOR TARGET	AREA
<div></div> <div>INDUSTRY</div>	<p>We direct the main industrial activities of BPD partners towards a new-generation sustainable chemicals industry. Product production and the development of innovative processes for extracting precious metals, and the production of environmentally friendly plant protection products, food and agricultural products all naturally creates pressure to achieve production sustainability with a high level of environmental protection. The global Draslovka group is capable, through its products, innovative processes and services, of solving complex challenges combined with the need to protect the environment in which we are all living.</p>	GLOBAL
<div></div> <div>DEVELOPMENT REAL ESTATE</div>	<p>BPD development has been involved in several innovative projects providing high user standards. The group's real estate activities include both projects for new residential housing and administrative units, and the reconstruction and operation of historically and architecturally valuable buildings.</p>	CZECH REPUBLIC
<div></div> <div>LIFE SCIENCE</div>	<p>BPD partners manages a portfolio containing a number of companies and start-up projects in the dynamic biotechnology, diagnostics, healthcare and agrochemistry sectors and the food industry. The common denominator for all these projects is long-term sustainability and practical usability. The investments are split among projects in the Czech Republic and abroad, primarily in Europe and the USA, where success is the litmus test of the viability of the discoveries and promising ideas.</p>	GLOBAL
<div></div> <div>ENERGY</div>	<p>BPD partners is a long-term investor and operator of renewable energy generation from solar and wind farms. Our presence in renewables means we can effectively reduce our companies' carbon footprint and are an active part of the dynamically developing sector of safe and independent energy generation on both European and global scales.</p>	CZECH REPUBLIC, POLAND, GREAT BRITAIN



2 | WHO WE ARE



2.1.1 BPD partners companies

BPD partners comprises dozens of companies in the fields of chemistry, biotechnology, renewable energy, building construction and real estate portfolio management, including ownership interests in a range of companies and projects primarily in healthcare, life sciences and basic research.

bpd partners

www.bpdpartners.cz

Draslovka

ren power

scase

Q2Pharma

bpd ventures

DIANA BIOTECHNOLOGIES

GINKGO BIOWORKS

sampling HUMAN

bpd development

FINCH

POWERFUL MEDICAL

scipher MEDICINE

2.1.2 Economic indicators, link to the annual report



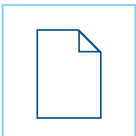
EUR 1.1 BILLION
in business assets



650+
employees across the Group



90
countries of operation



[You can download BPD partners Annual Report here.](#)

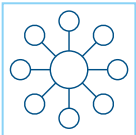
bpd partners

www.bpdpartners.cz

2.1.3 For whom we are a partner and supplier



The majority of the products and services from BPD partners companies are intended for further production or processing. In some sectors, like healthcare, accommodation facilities and residential housing services, we are in direct contact with customers, whether these be tenants, hotel guests or patients. We cooperate locally with municipalities and local government as part of the operation of our wind and solar farms. The group has no direct relationship with the state other than in relation to the activities of the REN Power group.



The individual companies that make up BPD partners are members of a number of professional and expert organisations. Such membership has various goals, ranging from information sharing, through professional organisations and associations, to active participation in the setting of new trends in the given specialisation.

2.1.4 Company goals



The company’s goals include fulfilling long-term strategic goals that are economically meaningful, benefitting its surroundings and helping keep the world in balance. The group has a diverse mix of activities through which it primarily focuses on the long-term growth of its assets.

bpd partners

A background image of a gravel path leading through tall grass under a blue sky with clouds. The path is made of light-colored gravel and leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. On either side of the path are tall, green grasses and some small blue flowers. The sky is a deep blue with soft, white clouds. The overall tone is bright and natural.

3 | INTEGRITY

Irrespective of how fast BPD partners has grown over recent years, we still want to be perceived as a family business. This has nothing to do with size or our capabilities. It is simply our own decision as to how we approach business, how we work with our partners, and primarily how we work with our most valuable assets – our employees and our closest colleagues. All our decisions, whether in the day-to-day work of management, at production plants, or when implementing complex science and research projects, are always motivated by a sense of integrity – the fundamental value for our family office. In addition, we have a practically unlimited investment horizon for our projects, allowing us to support highly innovative companies, often with revolutionary solutions for society and the economy. The family office has the advantage that it can use its own capital for the development and commercialisation of products and solutions from these supported companies over the long term.

3.1 Family office integrity pillars



We maintain long-term relationships based on the sharing of the same values in company management, whether with employees, business partners or customers. We also expect the same transparent approach from our partners.



Our priority is to always respect and protect our employees’ rights. We value their abilities and support their efforts at lifelong education. We are ready to intervene if we discover their rights are being violated or they are subject to employee bullying, abuse or intimidation. We respect the rights of women, minorities and other ethnic groups in our companies abroad.



We strictly comply with anti-corruption measures in all our companies. We pride ourselves on the equality of functioning of teams at all levels. Our employees have no need to fear any form of religious, sexual or national harassment. We have a functional system capable of catching and resolving any potential problems in time so that our employees feel protected at BPD partners.



We know that our work influences the whole of society. We are a responsible partner for the state, local government and the communities affected by our operations. We value all our business partners who, together with us, abide by fair business principles. We provide long-term support for the development of active people and organisations that share our values of democracy, pro-Western orientation, and are ready to accept a measure of responsibility for the security of the world in which we live.

3.2 Creation of the “Sustainability” team at various management levels, its formation, tasks and goals

When preparing our Sustainability Report, we continuously discovered ranges of data we wanted to continuously measure, collect and use for reporting in future years. We are seeking new ways and metrics that will allow us to monitor the impacts of our activities and direct and use them for the future. As a result, we discovered a series of seemingly ordinary facts and useful information that have expanded our knowledge of the group and that enable us to look under the surface of the life of the BPD partners family office.

- 1. We have established a team to monitor – across the group – relevant data and information so that they can be incorporated into the next Sustainability Report.
- 2. The team that prepares materials for the Sustainability Report is led by company CEO Yveta Holečková.
- 3. We will regularly update and prepare the outputs of the team’s work to ensure they correspond to the situation in which the monitored parameters and indicators are identified and evaluated.
- 4. We will be issuing the Sustainability Report annually. Draslovka prepares and issues its own detailed Sustainability Report, and the 2022 version is available [here](#).



[You can download Draslovka Sustainability Report here.](#)

48

an average age
in company
management

33 %

of women
in company
management

The team of people who run the BPD partners group is formed by dedicated personalities, experts and managers from a wide range of professions. We do not set any preconditions when hiring executives. The result is a top-performing and professional team that is able to drive the BPD partners group’s performance to ever higher levels. This is also due to the diversity of professions and the often unique experience of our managers and colleagues, which is invaluable to the day-to-day functioning of the Group and its member companies. The management team thus created enables us to meet the very ambitious goals of BPD partners.



4 | MATERIALITY

Through materiality have defined the areas of activity we consider essential for our operation, and we consider it important to speak about them with all the groups concerned. In the Sustainability Report, we focus on impacts, risks and opportunities that affect society. This primarily involves the environmental, social and economic issues that affect all our employees, partners and suppliers.

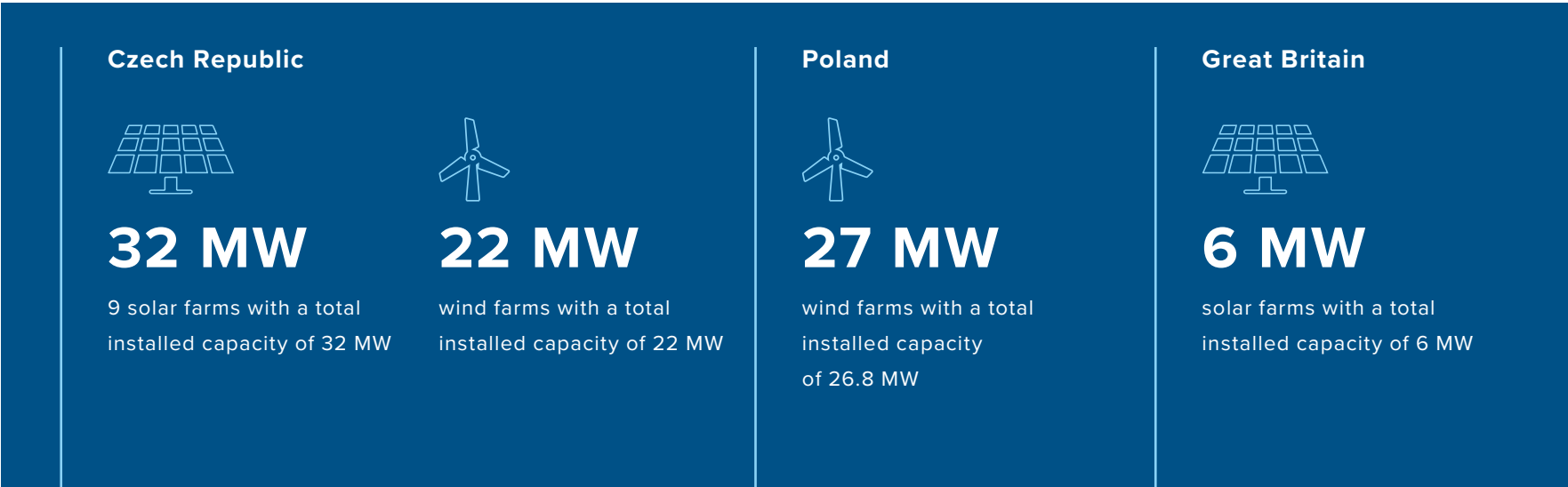
4.1 Resources

Our priority is protection and a respectful approach to resources wherever we use them. This approach is most evident in the activities of our industrial and energy sector parts. For example, Draslovka must continuously seek to better protect and reduce its consumption of the resources it needs for its production activities. This is the only way it can achieve sustainable production. We take a similar approach at our REN Power group, a large electricity generator from renewables. We consider it important that it completely covers the energy consumed in the rest of the group (with the exception of Draslovka, which operates globally) through electricity generated from renewables. We see the protection of resources in BPD partners production plants and office buildings similarly. From waste sorting at workplaces in our headquarters, through the growing numbers of electric vehicles to the construction and operation of energy-efficient office buildings, we seek to contribute to the protection of resources and the sustainability of our activities.

4.1.1 Clean electricity

We have been generating electricity from the wind and sun since 2007 and are one of important renewable energy generators in the Czech Republic. We also operate wind farms in Poland and solar farms in Great Britain. Through this generation method, REN Power significantly reduces the BPD partners carbon footprint. Renewable energy generation also includes environmental protection and a considerate approach to the disposal and renewal of solar panels and wind turbines. At the same time, our generation contributes towards the ever-more-important energy independence of the country on energy imports from politically unstable and unpredictable areas of the world.

Total electricity generation in 2022 – a total of 145.5 GWh, of which 44.5 from solar and 101 from wind farms



4.1.1 Clean electricity



REN Power – 100% recycling

Everything comes to the end of its service life at some point, and the situation is no different for solar panels. The REN Power group holds an interest of over 55 percent in the Czech company FitCraft Recyklace. That company holds a licence to operate a collective system for the disposal of solar panels and collects and manages legally set contributions from the participants in this scheme to ensure the future ecological disposal or recycling of old panels.

When solar panels are disposed of and recycled, new uses are found for the vast majority of the materials in them. In conventional silicon panels, the largest share by weight is glass (up to 70 percent) and the aluminium frame (around 20 percent). The rest of the weight is primarily plastics and electric and electronic parts. Up to 95 percent of the original glass can be recycled, and almost 100 percent of the aluminium, while the reuse of the aluminium provides savings of up to 70 percent of the energy needed to produce aluminium from mineral resources. The recycling of solar panels generates silicon and some metals, primarily copper and silver.

REN Power – environmentally friendly maintenance

The REN Power group carefully maintains its energy facilities with the goal of ensuring the highest possible operating efficiency and therefore minimising any adverse impacts of other types of electricity generation on the environment. We employ advanced monitoring of the operation of all our power plants that can reveal any problem or suboptimal operation.

At the solar farms, the monitoring system is capable of detecting non-functional panels so we can quickly repair or replace them. Similarly, all the functions and components of our wind farms are closely monitored. From the perspective of the long-term operation of wind turbines, the blades are the parts subject to the highest stresses and thus the most problematic. If these become damaged, local repairs are performed to the damaged place through sealing, the application of new glass fibre, sanding and then a protective spray. Our quality and regular care maintains the efficiency of our wind turbines and ensures they continue to provide their design power output even after the end of their theoretical lifespans.

4.1.2 Buildings of the future

All our office building projects meet the high demands from the applicable environmental standards and norms that are increasingly common for newly built office space. During reconstruction and conversion, we are often able to protect the unique architectural solutions and technical elements in the buildings we manage.



Telehouse, Koospol

Quality architecture with a story

We have built and now manage several supremely equipped and attractive administrative buildings. Our new building development focused on the area around Vítězné náměstí in Dejvice in Prague. A little way away towards the city centre, the group owns the architecturally valuable Cube administrative complex, built at the peak of the Brutalism era as the headquarters for KOOSPOL. Notable achievements include the reconstruction and completion of a former automatic telephone exchange into the TELEHOUSE administrative complex. Technological progress had sentenced the obsolete building to the past, yet some telephone network technologies actually remain in operation. A unique solution resulted, with a telephone exchange continuing to operate in the heart of a modern, extremely well equipped administrative complex in its own internal building with office space constructed around it. The majority of the building's tenants are not even aware of the operation of the exchange, yet thanks to it they enjoy the best telecommunication services available.

4.1.3 Protecting clean water is crucial

The majority of our operations consume water, and we take efforts to economise with it. The Draslovka group operations have the highest consumption without doubt. The factory in Kolín exhibits a trend that we all seek to follow.

A responsible neighbour in the city centre

Every year, Draslovka seeks to further reduce its water consumption, improve energy efficiency and minimise waste generation. The chemical and biological parts of the factory wastewater treatment plant have been reconstructed to improve its efficiency. Already in 2021, the technological modifications carried out at the DPG plant combined with these reconstructions led to a reduction in selected discharged pollution indicators by up to 30 percent compared to the preceding period. In 2022, we succeeded in reducing energy consumption using a new absorption cooling unit that enables the use of residual heat to reduce electricity consumption for cooling by up to 40 percent. Waste steam is used for the steam turbine, adding 5 percent of all the energy consumed at the plant. These initiatives have enabled us to not only reduce energy consumption but also effectively mitigate the impacts of the ongoing energy crisis in Europe.

Draslovka



4.1.4 Cultural and historic resources

Several residential development projects and buildings providing accommodation services at Resort Lípa also play a role in achieving a sustainable future. We own historic protected buildings that are in many cases unique examples of their kind.

BPD partners participated in the reconstruction of a Prague Public Transport Company transformer substation into the building that houses Kunsthalle Praha, operated by The Pudil Family Foundation. Both the design and implementation of the sensitive reconstruction and conversion of this historic example of industrial architecture received a range of awards, while the ever-growing numbers of visitors to the gallery means the foundation’s plan has been a success. During the reconstruction work, a large quantity of defective building materials and contaminated earth in the building’s foundations had to be rehabilitated through a costly process due to ecological burdens from the past.

We protect, enhance and use

We have long been building a portfolio of high-standard residential buildings in desirable locations. In addition to modern, sustainably operable apartment buildings, we also manage dozens of villas and several historic residential buildings in Prague. We maintain a high standard of services in their administration and operation, and maintain and repair our historically valuable buildings with a view to retaining their original appearance as far as possible while concurrently achieving the highest quality of housing for their current users. The majority of these buildings are located in Prague’s monument zone, while some of them are themselves cultural monuments, such as the Cubist villa on Rašínovo nábřeží in Prague built to a design by architect Josef Chochol.



Kunsthalle Praha

4.1.5 Health and safety

Important BPD partners activities include the provision of healthcare services through MyClinic. This company has provided its healthcare services through both routine care and special programmes since 2021. Its philosophy is a holistic approach in which every individual and their illnesses are perceived as a single whole. For its clients, MyClinic is a place where they receive care at the level of a family doctor. This was the plan from the very start, and follows on from the family model of operation of BPD partners.



26

medical fields



61

specialists



FN MOTOL

close cooperation with the Third Department of Surgery at the First Faculty of Medicine at Charles University and the FN Motol university hospital

4.2 Innovation and development

BPD partners supports innovation across all its business areas at both the advanced product innovation stage and also for new innovators behind the creation of new, ambitious projects based on the results of scientific work. It is also a proud partner of promising science projects at the basic research stage. We are continuously searching for new ways to support the innovative and exploratory spirit of society, without which there will be no future sustainable society at the highest possible quality.

Sampling Human

Sampling Human is a Czech-American technology start-up co-founded by Daniel Georgiev, a successful scientist from the Faculty of Applied Sciences of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen. Sampling Human develops diagnostic methods for serious diseases. Using synthetic biology, it genetically transforms microorganisms such as yeasts, making them capable of detecting and analysing cellular changes that indicate the onset of autoimmune or cancerous diseases, even if such changes in blood samples are minute. Thanks to this “live diagnostics”, the entire diagnostic process becomes orders of magnitude faster, cheaper and more accurate.

The high detection efficiency is achieved thanks to the genetically modified yeasts that actively seek out specific complex structures on the surface of rare cells. Compared to costly diagnostic methods like flow cytometry, the Sampling Human technology makes it possible to analyse millions of human cells simultaneously, and so the whole process is many times quicker.

www.samplinghuman.com



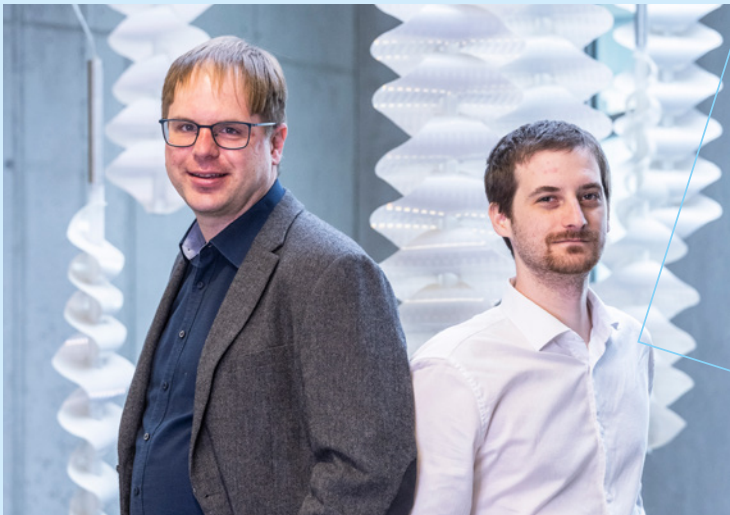
DIANA Biotechnologies

DIANA Biotechnologies, founded in 2018 by Václav Navrátil and Martin Dienstbier, is developing a highly precise and sensitive method to enable the determination of quantities of enzymes and other proteins in solutions. This means it will be possible to diagnose cancer and various infectious diseases at a stage when they are still not detectable using current means.

Shortly after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the company developed and launched to market systems for automating PCR testing for COVID-19 using both swabs and saliva, enabling laboratories to significantly expand their testing capacities. In the field of molecular diagnostics, the company has become the largest Czech manufacturer of PCR tests for COVID-19 and other viral diseases.

DIANA Biotechnologies is targeting global markets in three primary fields. It focuses on developing and manufacturing highly sensitive molecular diagnostics systems, developing its own small-molecule drugs, providing services for the pharmaceutical industry and, last but not least, developing antibodies for both diagnostics and therapy.

www.dianabiotech.com



Powerful Medical

This family start-up was founded by siblings Robert and Martin Herman from Slovakia. One is a physician and the other works in information technology. Their coming together resulted in the creation of the company Powerful Medical, which digitalises and evaluates ECG records using machine learning and artificial intelligence. For this purpose, they developed a mobile app called PMcardio that compares ECG records with millions of other cases to create a diagnosis and recommended treatment. Around ten cardiologists would have access to this quantity of ECG records in the whole of their professional lives. With PMcardio, regular physicians, paramedics or rescuers can use these data to diagnose 38 cardiovascular diseases with the accuracy of an experienced cardiologist. When the app is deployed in the real world, a paramedic does not need any other experience – they simply photograph the ECG record using their smartphone and the app immediately indicates possible problems. It can provide a more precise diagnosis if more patient data are added, such as age and information about their current condition (whether they are conscious, feel pain etc.). The artificial intelligence will then assess the risk level and propose a treatment plan, and the whole process only takes a matter of seconds. The app already has several thousand users, and their number is continuously growing. Thousands of physicians and paramedics are waiting to use it in Great Britain, and pilot programmes are under way with British clinics and emergency services providers. In 2023, the app should expand into more states, including the Czech Republic. BPD partners supported the development of Powerful Medical.

www.powerfulmedical.com



4.2.1 **Emphasis on innovative products**

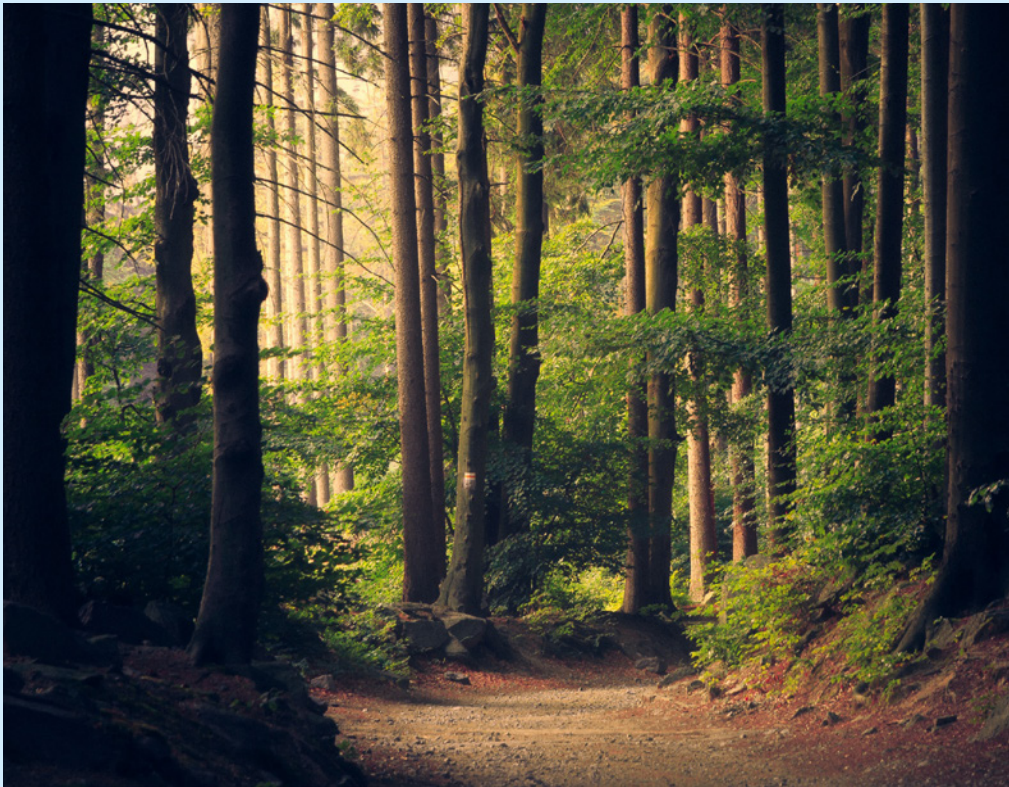
BPD partners includes a whole series of companies with an innovative nature. This primarily involves supported companies from the Life Science division whose operating principle is built around the search for and development of innovation.

We unexpectedly see examples of an innovative approach in the production of heavy chemicals. Products and patented solutions from the Draslovka group have a global presence beyond the borders of the Czech Republic and are beneficial for the protection of resources and the environment of the whole planet. From several obvious possibilities, we have selected two revolutionary new products exhibiting a high degree of innovation and introducing new discoveries into production.

Modern fumigants and biocides protect the planet

Some new-generation fumigants and biocides from Draslovka represent a major benefit to environmental protection. Their use in agricultural production is an opportunity to replace the harmful substances that damage the ozone layer or add greenhouse gases used so far with products that are similarly effective yet biologically safe. The number of countries where eFUMETM, BlueFumeTM and Ethanedinitril (EDNTM) are available for use is gradually growing. This year, for example, New Zealand and Turkey registered EDNTM for treating wood and round timber, while Australia recently joined the group of countries that include Great Britain, France, Germany and New Zealand and registered BlueFumeTM for pest control in industrial buildings.

The acquisition of the Dutch company Intreso, one of the largest fumigation companies in Europe and the clear leader in pest control in the global trade and cargo market, offers the Draslovka Agricultural Solutions division further potential for growth in this field.



Draslovka, a genuine “game changer” in new-generation extraction of rare metals

The glycine leaching technology represents a fundamental change from the established methods for extracting rare metals, as it dramatically reduces the volume of sodium cyanide used in the leaching process and is creating new possibilities for the use of natural resources that could not be exploited before. The glycine leaching technology is a more sustainable method for obtaining metals that are important, in particular, for the transition to a net-zero emissions economy. These are minerals like nickel, cobalt, copper and platinum-group metals, the extraction of which using existing technology resulted in significant adverse environmental externalities and did not permit any major increase in their production. Glycine leaching technology is fully recyclable and non-toxic, and significantly reduces the need for sodium cyanide as a component in the leaching process. Its use makes it possible to leach tailings from earlier extraction processes, meaning what was a waste product is now becoming a new source of raw materials. It reduces the ecological footprint of extraction and improves operating efficiency.

The development of glycine leaching technology for precious metals by Draslovka was made possible by the successful acquisition of the Chemours Mining Solutions Division in 2021 and the related acquisition of the Australian Mining Process Solutions (MPS).



4.2.2 Basic pillars of the support for Life Science projects and BPD partners Foundation

Cooperation with academia and support for basic research

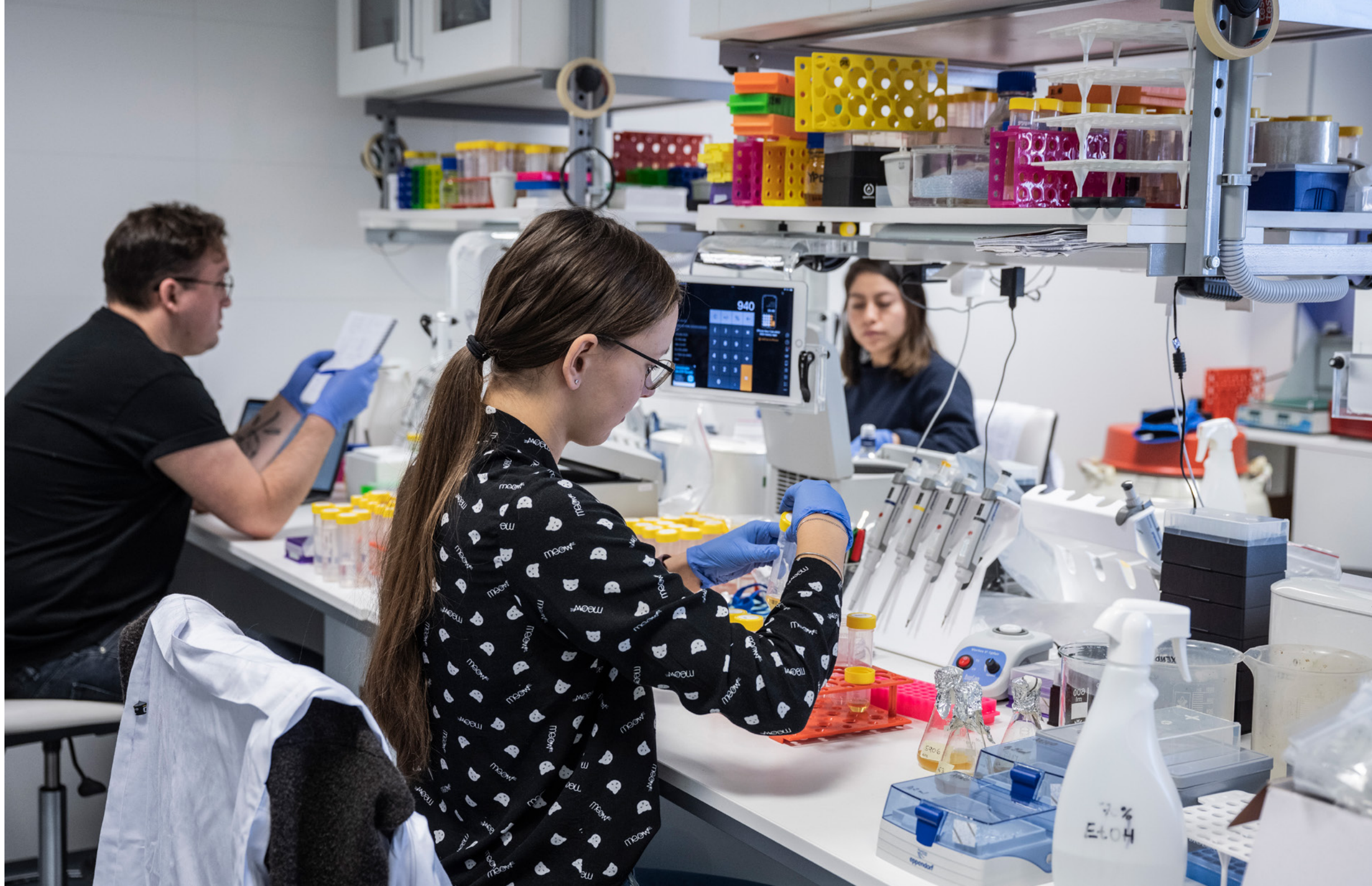
We see great potential for the further development of our company in support for education, science and research. We have begun working with several academic workplaces and are actively seeking and supporting extraordinary scientific projects with potential at Czech universities. Nor are we avoiding basic scientific research projects. We are actively supporting the creation of stool donor banks and the research that scientists and physicians at the FN Vinohrady university hospital are carrying out in the field of treatment for recurrent colonic inflammation with the help of donated microbiota. Since 2018, we have supported the research team of Dr. Zuzana Kečkéšová from the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the Czech Academy of Sciences, which focuses on research into tumour-suppressors.

Research team of Zuzana Kečkéšová

Dr. Zuzana Kečkéšová is an outstanding scientist who focuses on research into new tumour-suppressors (substances that prevent the formation of malignant tumours) and their possible application in cancer prevention therapy. Her career has already been extremely interesting. She worked at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the USA for several years and, after her return in 2017, she set up a new research group at the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the Czech Academy of Sciences, where she is continuing with her research. Thanks to an agreement between this institute and BTCZ Ventures from the BPD partners group, this basic research has received significant financial support.

One of the substances preventing tumour formation discovered by Zuzana Kečkéšová's team is the protein LACTB which, under certain circumstances, kills cancer-causing cells. She based her discovery on an interesting observation, when she became intrigued that some human organs and tissues are not attacked by cancer at all – these include muscles (including the heart muscle), spleen and cartilage. Cancer does not appear in these organs, nor does it spread into them from elsewhere. By studying them, it might be possible to find new tumour-suppressors and use them in the fight against cancer. The research is primarily built around studies in biology, but also the chemistry, biochemistry and biophysical fields, and is undertaken in cooperation with leading workplaces around the world.





4.3 Family office values

Integrity

We build long-term relationships with our customers, employees and institutions on 'rule of law' principles. We expect the same from our partners and do everything we can to protect our company's good name.

Respect

It is important for us that our employees and partners get respect for everything we do together, everything we are striving for. It is an expression of support for what our company believes in and the values we are building together through our family office.

Cooperation

This mutually beneficial and fair cooperation has enabled us to complete even highly complex projects. We create the prerequisites for this success at the workplace, where cooperation is a key condition for the success of everybody's work.

Value creation

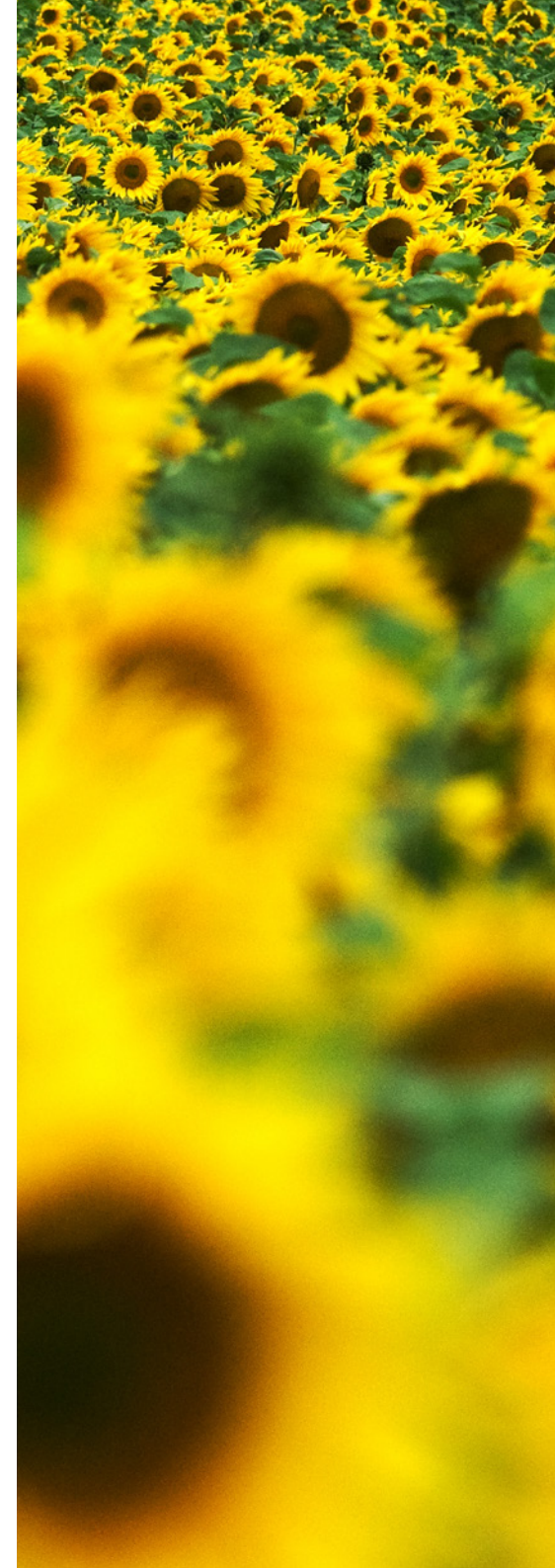
We want, through our activities, to make a positive contribution to societal development. As part of these efforts, we seek to reduce our environmental impacts, while in science projects we support education and research whose results can positively impact all our lives in the future.

Reliability

We are a predictable, reliable and trustworthy partner for our suppliers, customers and employees. This is reflected in the long-term nature of our partner commitments to customers as well as our relationships with our employees.

Transparent communication

We consider proper communication to be a crucial part of the healthy functioning of the group. This applies to both communication within the group as well as outside it, meaning with our suppliers and partners. In the interest of transparent communication, we apply a mix of tools with the goal of connecting all our stakeholders together, where appropriate. We are an open company that sincerely cares about equal treatment for all employees and one that is able to resolve any potential problem at any level. We have created a working environment that allows everybody to function in accordance with the basic values and goals of BPD partners.





5 | PEOPLE

BPD partners considers its employees the most valuable capital it has available. We do everything we can to live up to the basic family office values, and always apply them to the people who work for us. We pride ourselves on having a friendly and constructive working environment that motivates people to continued professional growth and education. We take occupational health and safety, employee training and the creation of the right conditions for career growth very seriously.

5.1 Our people

Almost 700 employees in 90 countries work for BPD partners, and their number continues to grow – mainly thanks to the global expansion strategy of Draslovka.



650+

employees



90

countries



5.1.1 Corporate culture, benefits and education

At BPD partners group, we pride ourselves on family office values such as trust, stability, a supportive environment and, above all, long-term relationships with our employees. This approach has been reflected in our high levels of long-term employee loyalty and satisfaction.

Compliance line

To support our code of conduct and the broader ethical business practices, BPD partners has set up an anonymous hotline operated by an independent third party for reporting potential ethics violations. This line can be used at any time to send information or suggestions via the online portal, by telephone or by e-mail. The global Draslovka group also benefits from the good experience of BPD partners, and has its own whistleblowing policy and investigation protocol based on the same principle, ensuring that all reported cases are investigated in a fair and responsible manner, with the appropriate supervision and using the proper mechanisms. Via this whistleblowing policy and investigation protocol, Draslovka emphasises its zero-tolerance approach to retaliatory behaviour. There are ethics committees at all Draslovka group companies, and their goal is to increase employee awareness about ethical conduct, ensure a uniform approach and also support any eventual investigations.

Education and benefits

BPD partners is especially interested in employee care, the development of their abilities and further education. We create the conditions they need for continued growth and training, and not only in occupational health and safety and their professional specialisations. We also support educational courses that our employees can choose themselves. For such cases, our internal regulations precisely set out the conditions that enable such employees to receive contributions from BPD partners. Benefits include contributions towards education, rest and recovery, and active leisure time activities.



5.1.2 BPD partners founders

Through the BPD partners family office, Vasil Bobela, Jan Dobrovský and Petr Pudil manage the assets of their families, investment interests, funds and assets in the group companies. They fully implemented their vision in 2010 and 2011 after selling their ownership interests in Czech Coal. They initially focused on developing alternative energy resources through the REN Power group, and this was complimented by investments in developer projects by the company BPD development. The group's successes enabled investment support for the first start-up and promising biotechnology companies, the number of which continues to grow. The breakthrough for BPD partners was its entry into Lučební závody Draslovka a.s. Kolín, enabling the global expansion of the group, including the acquisition of companies in the USA, Australia and Africa.

The interests and life profiles of Vasil Bobela, Petr Pudil and Jan Dobrovský are mutually complementary, guaranteeing the healthy and stable development of the family office, whose main mission is to manage family assets passed from generation to generation.

The partners pay great attention to projects that contribute to enriching the life of civil society in the country. The group's philanthropy began with smaller projects primarily connected with education or support for basic research, and has continued with a partnership with the non-profit organisation Post Bellum and its ambitious Memory of Nations project. The establishment of the Kunsthalle museum gallery and partnership with the 400 ASA photography association and its gallery are independent parts of this philanthropy. Vasil Bobela, Petr Pudil and Jan Dobrovský actively support the GLOBSEC think tank, a platform for dialogue in Central and Eastern Europe.



5.2 Social engagement by the group and its founders

BPD partners is a confident family office justly proud of its roots – one that cares for its surroundings and that has provided long-term support for civil society projects that improve life in the Czech Republic. We respect freedom of spirit and seek to preserve and develop a free society as one of our main goals. The spectrum of socially responsible and beneficial activities conducted with humility and gratitude for life in a democracy and in a community of creative people reflect this. We take support for quality projects to be a guarantee of the preservation of the long-term and sustainable future of the country based on knowledge of its own past, finding new ways for perceiving art and essential education, which Vasil Bobela, Petr Pudil and Jan Dobrovský perceive as key to fulfilling the vision of sustainable life on our planet.

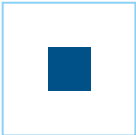


5.3 Civil society

BPD partners supports a wide range of projects through BPD partners Foundation, while in some cases the BPD partners founders were involved in their launch and continue to support them.



Kunsthalle
Kunsthalle Praha endowment fund is a new modern-art gallery with a strong dramaturgical and educational programme, a place for learning about art in Prague. It was founded by The Pudil Family Foundation as a modern non-government and non-profit platform for connecting the Czech and international art scenes. Kunsthalle Praha is housed in a reconstructed former transformer station for the Prague Public Transport Company in the Klárov district.



Post Bellum
A non-profit and non-governmental organisation whose mission is to preserve memories of the nation’s modern history by finding and recording stories shared by witnesses of important moments in our history. The Memory of Nations collection is managed, through support from private donors, by the non-profit Post Bellum organisation in cooperation with Czech Radio and the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes.



Memory of Nations podcast

It is said that those who do not learn from their history are doomed to relive it. This is partly perhaps why the partners at BPD partners, Jan Dobrovský, Petr Pudil and Vasil Bobela, provide long-term support for the Memory of Nations project operated by the non-profit Post Bellum. The Dobrovský & Šídlo Memory of Nations podcast (on which Jan Dobrovský works with journalist and publicist Jindřich Šídlo) was started back in 2021 as part of the Memory of Nations project. On the podcast, these two authors employ their own experience as dissidents, one a journalist and the other a political advisor. It offers listeners an overview and insightful commentary on events from the recent history of our country, but also on current political events. The Memory of Nations podcast ranked third in the Crystal Magnifier 2022 podcast competition.



5.3 Civil society



400 ASA

The 400 ASA association celebrates interest in the classical values of photography, irrespective of genre, while its members primarily focus on documentary photography. The association was founded by photographers Karel Cudlín, Jan Dobrovský, Alžběta Jungrová, Antonín Kratochvíl, Jan Mihaliček, Tomki Němec and Martin Wágner in an effort to put the legacy of Czech documentary work and imagery to good use.



GLOBSEC

A Bratislava-based think tank with the goal of contributing to maintaining security, sustainability and prosperity in Europe and around the world. It is a well-functioning platform where leaders in political, social and academic spheres of influence can meet. It helps in the search for ideas that could help create a better and more secure world. The priorities of the regular GLOBSEC summits include current global and European security issues.

5.4 Business partners and customers

We care about fulfilling the BPD partners values every day. We also communicate our commitment to maintaining a high standard to our partners and customers outside the group, and expect the same approach from them. We want to be good neighbours wherever our companies have a presence. We want to be a reliable partner for local government and are also interested in the further development of matters concerning the future of our country/the Czech Republic. Hence we support a wide range of activities in the public space, ranging from culture through science and education to civic political engagement.

REN Power – a good neighbour

Having good neighbours is priceless. This is also a governing principle for the REN Power group, meaning it takes into account the needs of the municipalities in whose cadastral territories its energy resources are located. In many areas, it thus helps them over and beyond the obligations in typical lease relationships.

Culture thanks to solar panels – this could be a summary of the contribution by the REN Power group to the Zašová na Valašsku municipality. We operate a solar farm with an output of about 9 MW here, on land covering 24 ha leased from the municipality. Our regular rent payments into the municipality budget of CZK several millions every year mean that the municipality has been able to construct a cultural facility worth around CZK 56m.

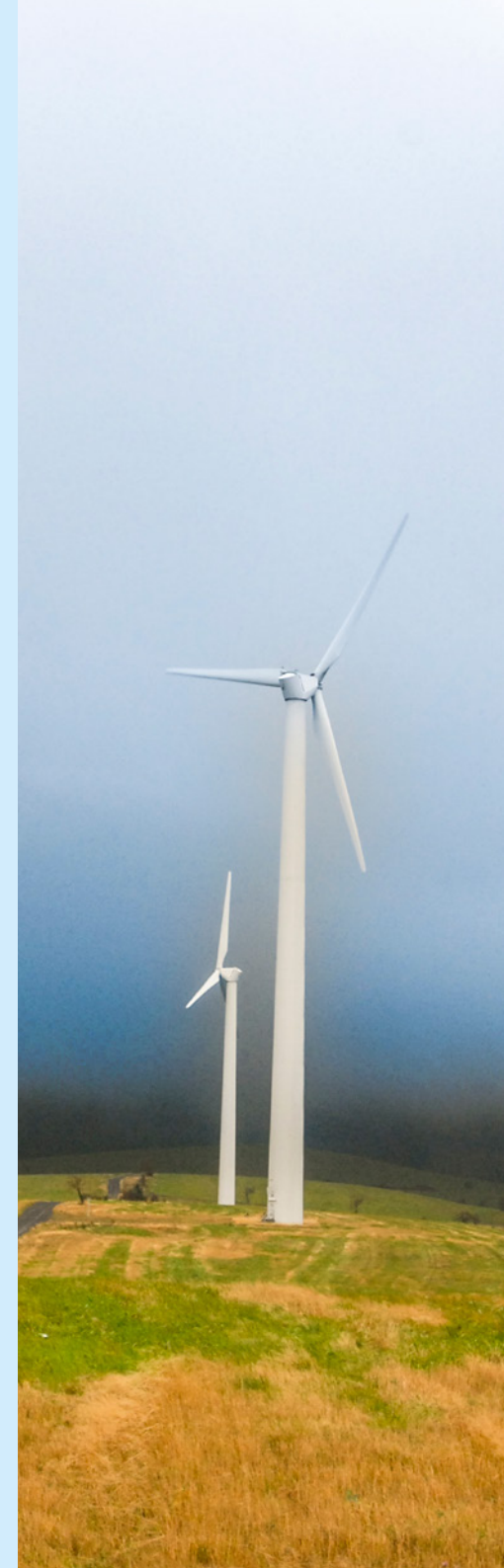
For its projects, REN Power also uses brownfield sites and land that would otherwise be difficult to use, thus helping them return to life and benefiting the local people into the future.

In the city of Vimperk, the REN Power group has built a solar farm in a former military area, part of which it has leased from the town. As it is an area previously used for practice shooting, during the construction work the site had to be cleared of ammunition, which included deep exploration. During this process cartridges of various calibres were found, as well as training mines and other ammunition. The result is that upon termination of the solar farm's operation, we will return completely reclaimed land to the municipality. In addition,

the company is contributing regular rent payments into the local budget. We find a similar example in Velké Těšany in the Kroměříž region, where REN Power has leased a former rocket base from the municipality for its solar farm. Here, too, the land has been reclaimed. Another benefit for the municipality is that REN Power is using and maintaining the site, including a large building, protecting them from decay and misuse by unauthorised persons.

Placement on otherwise unusable land is a feature of several REN Power group solar projects. One typical example is the solar farm in Miroslav in the Znojmo region built on a site that was originally a swamp and later a rehabilitated landfill, meaning a locality practically unusable for any other purpose. At Oslavany near Brno, an old sludge lagoon and ash dump for the local abandoned coal-fired power plant was selected for a solar farm. The company of course also regularly contributes to the municipality budget.

The REN Power group also works to help municipalities meet other needs they may have. One good example is Habartice in the Ore Mountains, respectively a local part called Fojtovice, the location of one of REN Power's wind farms. Here, the company regularly supports the activities of a local organisation recording the history of the area, ensures the manual mowing of several hectares of mountain meadows, and also a ten-year project to monitor the occurrence and movements of the protected black grouse in this locality.





6 | SUSTAINABILITY

All the BPD partners companies see environmental protection and sustainability as the cornerstone on which the future of the society in which we all live stands or falls. Not only do we strive to contribute towards environmental protection through our day-to-day approach, we are also directly involved in the development of obtaining renewable energy from the sun and wind. We carefully manage energy consumption at our production plants, and we develop – and implement at our partners – environmentally friendly products. Sustainability is one of the foundation pillars of our family office operation at various levels, and in all the countries and continents where we operate.

6.1 SDG goals

BPD partners’ day-to-day operations primarily support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) listed below.





7

CONCLUSION

BPD partners believes that building a sustainable future in all its areas of operation means, among other things, a transparent dialogue and overview of the perception of ESG targets within the group. Our goal is to build a family office that will be far more sustainable, socially responsible, and properly and effectively managed in accordance with the long-term goals of the group. We decided to prepare this, the first ‘starter’ Sustainability Report, after some careful consideration. We are aware of the need to start somewhere and continue to build a sustainable future for all of us. In the next report, we want to further elaborate the individual topics to help us achieve an even greater positive impact on society.

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