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# a.s.r. doet het: our commitment to α better climate

Two major rounds of international negotiations on the changing climate took place in 2022. The first was the Climate Conference in Egypt. Countries met in Egypt to make further plans with each other to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. There were hopes for a deal on stopping the use of fossil fuels. That deal did not materialise. However, it was decided to set up a climate fund for the damage suffered by poorer countries during disasters directly related to global warming. This is an important outcome as it recognises that climate change is happening and that its effects are already being felt now, not only in the future.

The second meeting was the UN Biodiversity Summit in the Canadian city of Montreal. Due to deforestation, intensive agriculture, overfishing and pollution, biodiversity is under great pressure. Possibly a million plant and animal species may disappear in the coming decades.<sup>1</sup>

This is exacerbated by climate change. Warming may give already degraded ecosystems a final push. Conversely, the demise of ecosystems is bad news for the climate. Forests, peatlands and oceans play a crucial role in the absorption and storage of CO<sub>2</sub>. We desperately need nature in the fight against climate change.

#### CO, reduction is pure necessity

Global warming must be stopped. Fortunately, awareness is growing about the need for energy transition from fossil to renewable energy. But climate targets are being realised too slowly, while the effects of climate change are already being felt. a.s.r. feels these effects too. Damage from extreme weather has increased in recent years. If we fail to turn the negative impact on the climate then non-life insurance prices will rise and there may come a time when premiums will be unaffordable for many people. This will not happen in a few years' time, but it certainly will be in the long run.

This is why we are heavily committed to  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  reduction. a.s.r. wants to help improve the climate by continuously working on sustainable solutions and by taking a leading role in the financial sector in the field of energy transition and biodiversity protection. We do this through investments, but also through our insurance products and services. On the one hand, we want to facilitate the transition to a Net Zero society and, on the other, we want to limit our climate impact as much as possible.

To realise this ambition, we decided a few years ago to start to measure the  $\rm CO_2$  emission of our investments. Our target is to reduce the carbon footprint of our investments, real estate and mortgages by 65% by 2030 compared to 2015. In the first half of 2023, we measured the  $\rm CO_2$ e emissions of part of the insurance portfolio and formulated reduction targets, so that we can also reduce emissions there in a targeted manner.





In setting climate targets, we are very ambitious. For example, at the end of 2021 we took the decision to gradually phase out our fossil investments. Furthermore, we do is invest in companies and projects that help improve the climate, such as investing in solar parks and wind farms.

Thirdly, we also want to exert influence in our core task as insurer by making the energy transition insurable and steering towards sustainable damage repair. We see an important role for ourselves here, in facilitating and encouraging our customers to start working on sustainability and climate-proofing their homes or businesses themselves. Furthermore, in the first half of 2023, we measured the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions of part of the insurance portfolio and formulated reduction targets, so that we can reduce emissions there as well.

#### Doing things together

As a financial institution, we can make a contribution to improving the climate. We are constantly working on new solutions, constantly raising the bar. a.s.r. is recognised as one of the most sustainable insurers in the world.<sup>2</sup> But fortunately, we are not the only ones and more and more banks and insurers are working on sustainability. This is a positive development.

We enjoy working together and sharing our knowledge whenever possible. Because only through good cooperation can further climate change and its consequences be prevented.

Jos Baeten, Chairman of the Executive Board



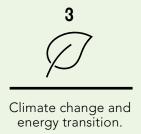


# 1. Introduction

Together, climate change and energy transition are one of the three core themes in a.s.r.'s sustainability policy. Climate change creates risks for our company, our customers and society in general. Therefore, we reduce our carbon footprint and invest in activities that support the energy transition. In addition, we help customers with our insurance products and services to reduce climate risks.

Financial self-reliance and inclusion

Vitality and sustainable employment.



In recent years, climate change and energy transition have become an increasingly important theme within a.s.r. Our stakeholders, too, are increasingly interested in what we do as far as the issue of climate is concerned. For this reason, it was decided to write this climate report with the aim of clearly describing the principles and activities surrounding climate. Chapter 2 provides an overview of the risks of climate change. Subsequently, in chapter 3, we will discuss our climate targets, the pillars of our climate policy and the governance of climate issues. Chapter 4 provides an overview of the risks of climate change for a.s.r. In chapter 5 lastly,

we will describe the approach and instruments used in our investments, insurance products and our own business operations.

This document is a snapshot in time. Within a.s.r., we are committed every day to combating climate change and playing an active role in the energy transition. And in the meantime, we measure and evaluate our efforts. This leads to new insights and new tools that we deploy against climate change. And therefore, we will regularly update this report.

a.s.r. welcomes readers to provide feedback on this document and invites everyone to contribute constructively to solutions that will help prevent far-reaching climate change.





# 2. Climate change has a major impact on our work

Since the beginning of the industrial revolution (around 1750), mankind's impact on the climate has been increasing. This is mainly due to the emission of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane, which traps heat and causes the earth's temperature to rise. This process is now moving faster than ever. In the past 130 years, the world has warmed up by 1 degree Celsius and the sea level has risen by 20 centimetres due to the warming and melting of ice caps. In the Netherlands the temperature even rose 1.7 degrees Celsius.<sup>3</sup>

This warming has major consequences for people and nature. Increasingly we experience extreme weather, such as more heavy rains, flooding and longer dry and hot periods. Global warming also causes heat stress and lower productivity, especially in agriculture and the built environment. This could lead to an increase in migration flows. In addition, the changing climate may be detrimental to our health, for example because it causes more infectious diseases to emerge due to changes in temperature, humidity and precipitation. Rising temperatures cause water quality to deteriorate, as bacteria and algae develop more rapidly. Insects that used to be absent in the Netherlands can also suddenly survive. For example the tiger mosquito, which can transmit the zika virus, dengue fever and yellow fever. Moreover, there is a link between climate change and loss of biodiversity, as the effects of climate change are exacerbated by loss of biodiversity.

This negative influence also applies the other way round. These developments affect us as insurers. Damage due to extreme weather is increasing and insurers will have to pay out more and more. There is also a risk that climate change will lead to higher healthcare costs. As a result, insurance premiums may come under pressure and may even become unaffordable in the long run. The Dutch Association of Insurers expects that, in the most extreme scenario, droughts and flooding caused by climate change will cost Dutch insurers an additional 250 million euros each year.<sup>4</sup> Climate change and loss of biodiversity also affect our investments in companies, real estate and land. These can depreciate significantly as a result.





## 2.1 Paris Climate Agreement

In order to slow down global warming, 195 countries signed the Paris Climate Agreement in 2015. Agreements were made to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  as the most important gas. The aim is to limit warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius and preferably no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to the average temperature on earth before the industrial revolution.

In its reports, IPCC warns that global warming must remain below 1.5 degrees Celsius in order to prevent dangerous climate change. IPCC stands for Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and is the United Nations climate panel. IPCC states that limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius is only possible if greenhouse gas emissions are reduced quickly and on a large scale. If we fail to take these measures, warming will become more and more intense, resulting in more and more extreme weather and an even greater rise in sea level. To avoid this, greenhouse gas emissions must be halved by 2030, compared to 1990, and zero by 2050.<sup>5</sup>

## 2.2 Impact of climate change

For a.s.r., climate change is a risk, both to our liabilities - the claims we pay out - and to our assets - the value of our investments. Climate-related risks can be divided into physical risks and transition risks.

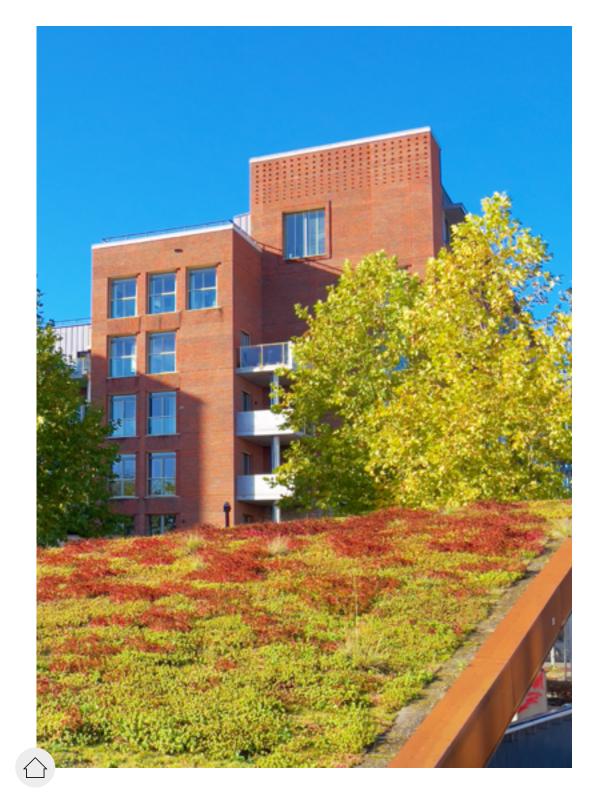
- Physical risks are related to the impact of changing weather conditions. This includes, for example, damage to homes and business premises or damage to cars and other means of transport. Climate change may also lead to more ill people and an increased demand for care. These physical risks may be the result of sudden events (acute), such as storms, floods, droughts or other extreme weather conditions. They can also result from gradual changes (chronic), such as rising temperatures, rising sea levels and loss of biodiversity.
- ✓ Transition risks relate to the transition to a climate-neutral society. They can be the result of new government policies (with stricter standards), technological innovations or changes in the market and consumer preferences. For example, a higher energy tax or an increase in the price of energy can affect the value of homes with a low energy performance certificate. The transition to a climate-neutral society can also lead to stranded assets. These are assets that are owned but can no longer be exploited or are worth much less than the value included in the books. One example are office buildings with energy performance certificate D or lower, which may no longer be rented out from 1 January 2023. Another example are the large reserves of fossil fuels, which are increasingly being questioned as to whether they will be profitable in the future, especially as governments continue to curb greenhouse gas emissions.



## 2.3 a.s.r. promotes a climate-neutral society

No matter how far-reaching the effects of climate change are, this is only part of the story. After all, climate change also offers opportunities for action. At a.s.r., we are keen to contribute to solutions by developing products and services that support the energy transition and by helping customers adapt to climate risks. a.s.r. also invests in sustainable energy generation and in zero-energy or low-energy buildings. We are making our real estate portfolio sustainable and are supporting the companies in which we invest in their sustainability ambitions. We are reducing our own emissions and have adapted our insurance products to cover renewable energy sources and energy-saving measures. Through investments, insurance products and our own business operations, a.s.r. is promoting the transition to a climate-neutral society.

In the next chapter, we elaborate on a.s.r.'s vision and strategy on climate change and the energy transition.





# 3. Our strategy and governance structure

a.s.r. wants to play a leading role in the financial sector when it comes to sustainable business. This means that we want to make a positive contribution to making society more sustainable. We put this into practice by prioritising three themes, including 'climate change and energy transition'. In our climate policy, we systematically take into account the impact of our activities on the climate and biodiversity. We do this by setting clear targets, developing instruments and reporting clearly on the progress and results of our efforts.



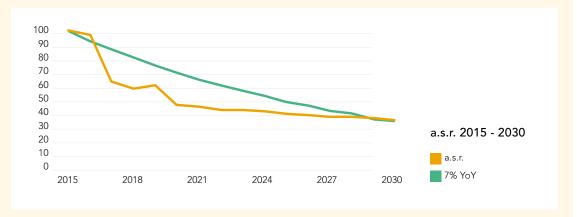
### 3.1 Our climate targets

Given the enormous consequences and risks that climate change and loss of biodiversity entail, we must speed up our efforts to achieve a climate-neutral society. a.s.r. is aware of this and, as an insurer, investor and property manager, wants to play a role in combating climate change and accelerating the energy transition. In doing so, we set ourselves four main goals listed on this page. In the first half of 2023, we will set targets for the climate impact of our insurance portfolio. And because of the strong link between climate change and biodiversity, we also want to set targets on halting biodiversity loss. We aim to set those targets in 2023 and report on them from 2024.



Reduction of the carbon footprint of the investment portfolio (listed shares, corporate bonds, government bonds, real estate investments and the mortgage portfolio) by 65% between 2015 (Paris Agreement) and 2030.6 In 2050, we want to have an investment portfolio with net zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

65% emissions.
Result 2022: 65% CO<sub>2</sub>-reduction<sup>7</sup>





At least € 4.5 billion of impact investments on the balance sheet by 2024. A large proportion of the impact investments that a.s.r. makes are related to promoting energy transition.

Result 2022: **€2.7 mld** 



2050

Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the insurance portfolio. The aim is to make the insurance portfolio climate-neutral by 2050.

Result 2023: interim targets set for 2030 (see section 5.4)8.



We want to reduce the carbon footprint of our own business operations by 50% between 2018 and 2025.9

50%

At the head office, energy consumption will be limited to 50 kWh per squaremetre (gross floor area) by 2030.10

Result 2022: 47.5 kWh per square metre



#### 3.2 What we are committed to

As a signatory to the Paris Climate Agreement, a.s.r. wants to help limit the global temperature increase to well below 2 degrees and preferably below 1.5 degrees Celsius. a.s.r. has also committed to the Dutch Climate Agreement to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions by 49% by 2030. By signing up to the Net-Zero Asset Managers Initiative, we set ourselves the target of reducing the  $CO_2$  emissions of our investments to zero by 2050. Through our reduction targets, a.s.r. commits to bringing its investment portfolio in line with the 1.5°C scenario.

In addition, a.s.r. is a member of the Net-Zero Insurance Alliance, a partnership of leading insurers and reinsurers who together aim to ensure that their insurance portfolios are climate-neutral by 2050. By becoming a member of this initiative, a.s.r. has committed itself to reducing  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  emissions in its insurance portfolio and to set targets for this every five years. Besides committing to these targets, a.s.r. is also committed to developing methodologies to make targets measurable and manageable. To this end, a.s.r. supports the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), for example, so that we can measure the carbon footprint of our investments and, from 2023, also of our insurance products, and the progress and impact of our efforts can be closely monitored.



a.s.r. is a signatory to the Paris Climate Agreement and pledges to work for a safe and stable climate, limiting average global warming to well below 2 degrees and preferably below 1.5 degrees Celsius.



a.s.r. is a signatory to the Dutch Climate Agreement and commits to a 49% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions between 1990 and 2030.



a.s.r. is a signatory to the Spitsbergen ambition and aims to measure the climate impact of its investments and contribute to global climate goals.



a.s.r. is a signatory to the Net-Zero Asset Manager Initiative and has set itself the goal of measuring the climate impact of its investments and becoming climate-neutral by.



a.s.r. is a signatory to the Paris Proof Commitment of the Dutch Green Building Council and has set itself the goal of achieving a Paris Proof built environment by 2045.



a.s.r. is a signatory to the Net-Zero Insurance Alliance of insurers and reinsurers who want to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of their insurance portfolios to net-zero by 2050.













a.s.r. is committed to combating climate change and its negative impacts in various ways. We help customers to prevent or reduce climate risks. We encourage energy transition wherever possible. And a.s.r. is involved in several initiatives in the sector to accelerate the transition to a climate-neutral society.

3.3.1



Helping customers to prevent or reduce climate risks 3.3.2



Encouraging the energy transition

3.3.3



Climate risks are part of strategic risk analyses 3.3.4



Contributing to sector initiatives

#### 3.3.1 Helping customers to prevent or reduce climate risks

Through a.s.r.'s Sustainable Living Platform, customers receive tips and advice to prevent or reduce damage caused by climate change. For example, by making a tiled garden greener to improve rainwater drainage or by constructing a green roof to promote biodiversity. Business customers who are visited by our prevention specialists receive a report after the visit with customised sustainability tips and advice.

In addition to advice, a.s.r. also offers insurance products to protect people and businesses against damage resulting from climate change. For example, in 2020 a.s.r. was the first in the Netherlands to extend its buildings and movable property insurance with (secondary) flood cover. In addition, our home insurance products contain certain options, for example to (co-)insure green roofs and external walls.

#### 3.3.2 Encouraging the energy transition

a.s.r. invests in the generation of sustainable energy by investing in the purchase of wind and solar farms and by installing solar panels on roofs of offices, shops, and homes. We offer customers the option of including sustainable solutions, such as heat pumps, solar panels and car charging stations, in their household contents/inventory items insurance or home/commercial property insurance. Damage is repaired sustainably whenever possible and we replace only when we really have to.



Moreover, since 2022, our home insurance offers optional cover to take a sustainability measure regarding the home after damage up to a maximum amount of 10% of the claim amount. When compiling our investment portfolio, we apply climate criteria to support activities that promote energy transition and exclude other activities, thus reducing the carbon footprint of investments. For the mortgage portfolio, a.s.r. supports customers with a Verduurzamingshypotheek (Sustainability Mortgage) to reduce the carbon footprint of their homes and improve their living comfort through energysaving measures. We offer business customers guidance from Klimaatroute, an agency that helps companies reduce their electricity and gas consumption. We offer farmers who have agricultural land in use from us a 5-10% discount on the (ground) lease when they meet certain soil, biodiversity and farm sustainability requirements. a.s.r. also takes progressive measures to drastically reduce energy consumption in its own business operations, thus offering scope for putting innovative sustainability measures into practice and demonstrating that it is possible.



#### 3.3.3 Contributing to sector initiatives

a.s.r. is involved in several leading initiatives in the sector to accelerate the transition to a climate-neutral society. In this way, we share our climate knowledge as an insurer and investor whilst trying to make the sector as a whole more sustainable.

- ✓ a.s.r. participates in the Climate Action 100+ initiative, in which investors encourage companies with the highest greenhouse gas emissions to take the measures needed to combat climate change.¹¹
- ✓ a.s.r. participates in the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), which is looking into suitable methods for mapping and reporting on the CO₂ emissions of investments.¹²
- a.s.r. participates in the Institutional Investors Group in Climate Change (IIGCC), in which investors work together and share knowledge to reduce the climate impact of companies invested in.
- a.s.r. is a signatory to the Finance for Biodiversity Pledge through which
   a.s.r., together with other financial institutions, commits to protecting and
   restoring biodiversity within its investment portfolio.<sup>13</sup>
- a.s.r. is part of the Dutch Climate Coalition (DCC), a group of likeminded Dutch investors encouraging companies in the oil and gas value chain to align their ambitions and climate strategy with the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- ✓ In the Netherlands, a.s.r. works actively with the Dutch Association of Insurers on climate targets.

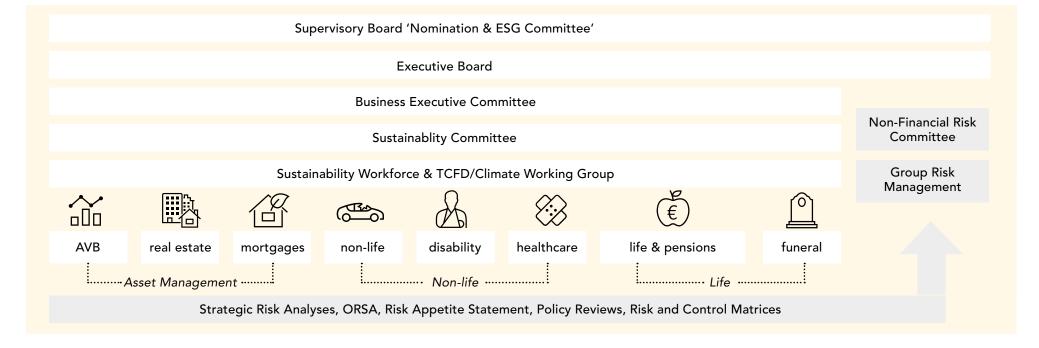
- a.s.r. contributed to the climate thematic framework as part of the IMVO covenant international socially responsible investment in the insurance sector. This thematic framework serves as a guide for insurers to report more transparently on climate-related issues.
- a.s.r. is a member of the Dutch Central Bank's Platform for Sustainable Financing. The platform is considering how investments and forms of insurance can best contribute to, for example, biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation and boosting the circular economy.
- Ardanta, a.s.r.'s funeral insurer, has joined Greenleave, an alliance of organisations that work sustainably in the funeral industry and want to make sustainable funerals matter of course and accessible.
- ✓ Zorg from a.s.r. (health insurance) is affiliated with the 2023-2026 Green Deal Duurzame Zorg 3.0 (Green Deal on Sustainable Healthcare). It focuses on the contribution the healthcare sector can make to increasing awareness and knowledge, reducing CO₂ emissions and environmental impact from medication use, lowering primary resource use, and boosting the circular economy.<sup>14</sup>
- a.s.r. is part of the Different Travel Coalition with the joint ambition to halve CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from business travel by 2030 (compared to 2016).



#### 3.4 Governance structure

a.s.r. aims to embed climate change and energy transition as a core theme of sustainability in all its core processes and activities. Within the Executive Board, sustainability is the responsibility of the CEO. The Executive Board is ultimately responsible for the business strategy and is supported in its implementation by the Business Executive Committee (BEC). The BEC consists of members of the Executive Board, the Chief Risk Officer (CRO) and senior managers from various business units. An ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) committee has been established within the Supervisory Board. This Committee advises and supports the Supervisory Board in its supervisory role with regard to ESG developments and results of the

sustainability strategy. The Sustainability Workforce and TCFD working group <sup>15</sup> support the Executive Board and the BEC in their responsibility for the development and implementation of policy on climate change and energy transition. The working groups include delegates from the various business units. The Sustainability Workforce reports quarterly on the climate policy targets and KPls via the sustainability report to the BEC, which discusses the results achieved as well as the risks and makes adjustments where necessary. In addition, a.s.r. has had a Sustainability Committee since 2022 that discusses dilemmas and conflicting interests in sustainability and advises the Executive Board on these.







# 4. Climate risks

Climate change and biodiversity loss affect not only our customers and society. a.s.r. is already experiencing their consequences, as storms and flooding are causing our claims burden to increase. In addition, the negative impact of climate change and biodiversity loss affect our investments and the value of our real estate.

In order to manage these risks, climate change is part of the risk analyses that a.s.r. carries out each year since 2019. In 2021, this was broadened to climate change and energy transition. In 2022, the risk management framework was expanded to include the sustainability risks category. This involves looking beyond climate change. A sustainability risk is an ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) event or circumstance that, if it occurs, has the potential to negatively impact the value of liabilities and investments. Biodiversity loss and ecosystem damage are also part of these risk analyses from 2022. Key risks are included in risk scenarios and calculated as part of the Own Risk and Solvency Assessment (ORSA).

Climate-related risks are divided into short-term and long-term risks. Risks can be acute due to extreme weather conditions such as extreme heat, storms or heavy rainfall. They can also result from gradual changes, such as rising sea levels, land subsidence and salinisation due to increasing drought. Both types of risk have financial implications, such as higher cost of claims, depreciation of investments or higher maintenance costs within our real estate portfolio.

Over time, climate change may also lead to higher health risks with implications for health costs, absenteeism, and disability. For example, changes in temperature and air humidity affect the spread of infectious diseases. Plants bloom earlier and more intensely, increasing exposure to pollen and dust mites. And exposure to UV radiation due to the thinner ozone layer and a greater number of hot and summer days may also greatly increase the incidence of skin cancer.



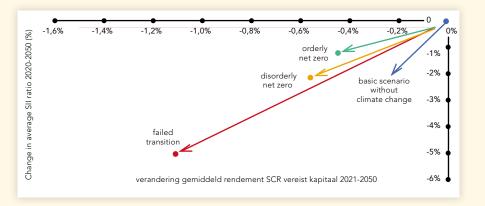
#### 4.1 Climate scenarios

How large the climate risks are for a.s.r. depends on how many degrees the temperature will rise and what measures are taken. In analysing the future impact of climate change on the value of the investment portfolio, a.s.r. uses three scenarios.

- ✓ The orderly scenario assumes timely and effective climate policies that succeed in putting a stop to global warming. Investments in clean energy sources contribute to economic growth in this scenario.

  The climate risks remain limited.
- ✓ In the disorderly scenario, measures are first postponed and then quickly introduced. This leads to more transition risks and higher economic and financial costs.
- ✓ In a failing or greenhouse gas scenario, no action is taken to combat global warming. This scenario involves a sharp increase in physical climate risks, damage to eco systems and general disruption to the economy.

These three climate scenarios are based on the scientific climate projections of the United Nations climate panel IPCC and the shocks to the economy from the different scenarios, according to Cambridge Econometrics.



Average SCR ratio (2020-2050) vs. average return on SCR (2020-2050)



According to the European Solvency II Directive, a.s.r. must assess all risks to which it is exposed as an insurer. Based on this calculation, a.s.r. must maintain a minimum buffer to absorb risks. This is referred to as the Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR). Within Solvency II, climate risk is not a separately defined risk.

The chart above shows that the average return on SCR required capital falls in all scenarios, but this happens most in a failed transition. In the disorderly scenario, abrupt sales of stranded assets are expected around 2025, which will lead to a financial crisis. The SCR ratio and the return also decrease in that case, but less than in the case of a failed transition.

At a.s.r., we expect the scenarios to have a limited impact on our solvency ratio. This has to do with the fact that our investment portfolio contains predominantly European countries and companies and also with our sustainable investment policy and our dynamic investment policy. Taken together, this leads us to invest less in countries, markets and companies that are harder hit by climate change and to be able to respond to market changes due to climate change.

## 4.2 Management of the risks

Within a.s.r.'s various business units, we identify climate change risks so that we can manage them.

✓ To reduce the risks of climate change for our real estate and mortgage. portfolios, we examine where these risks are the largest. In 2022, a.s.r. real estate introduced a new Climate Risk Monitor. With the Monitor, we combine portfolio data with data from the Climate Impact Atlas and are able to see how vulnerable and sensitive locations in the Netherlands are to climate change. We use these data in the decision-making processes for acquisitions and the maintenance of our real estate portfolios and also to estimate the risks of collateral security in our mortgage portfolio. This includes the risks of heat, drought, floods and extreme weather. A particularly high climate risk in our country is that of flooding. Of the investments in our (urban) real estate portfolio (excluding rural), 0.2% are at high risk and 2.6% are at medium risk of flooding. For mortgages, building insurance covers most risks. The National Disaster Relief Fund also covers some climate risks. Risks not covered are pile rot, soil subsidence, groundwater flooding and other foundation problems. These occur in specific regions of the Netherlands. a.s.r.'s mortgage portfolio is at moderate to almost no risk on this, and is particularly susceptible to groundwater flooding. In the coming years, we will conduct research to gain more insight into this.



- Within our investment portfolio, we seek not only to reduce climate risks but also to accelerate the energy transition. We do this by conducting a dialogue on businesses' climate policies, excluding the biggest polluters and investing in companies and projects that aim to promote the energy transition. We also judge companies on their commitment to protecting biodiversity and restoring vulnerable areas where possible. Our investments in fossil fuels are limited and we are reducing them (further) in the coming years.
- ✓ The impact of extreme weather conditions became clear when three storms with heavy rainfall swept across our country within a week in February 2022. This led to a EUR 38 million cost of claims for a.s.r.'s non-life business. The flooding in Limburg in 2021 with total costs of claims for the insurance sector estimated at EUR 200 million showed that flood cover is important to our customers. Torrential rains, floods and fires due to extreme drought and heat are all climate risks that have increasing impacts on the cost of claims in our insurance portfolio. For our insurance products, we analyse the mid-term and short-term climate risks among other things by using a Climate Monitor developed by the Dutch Association of Insurers together with Wageningen University and the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI). This Climate Monitor shows the share of weather extremes in the total damage to homes, business premises and vehicles. We also calculate our long-term climate risks. We limit the risks for a.s.r. by concluding short-term contracts, reinsuring the largest risks and adjusting our acceptance and claims policy. In doing so, we seek to keep climate risks insurable. We also work to raise awareness of climate risks and encourage customers to take preventive measures.

✓ A working group with experts within a.s.r. is monitoring the development of (new) pathologies due to climate change. The main sources of information are reports from the RIVM. The financial risks from increased absenteeism and higher mortality due to climate change seem limited over the next decade. a.s.r. focuses mainly on offering preventive services to reduce the impact of certain pathologies. An example is the offer made to gardeners to have a free scan for incipient skin cancer. In the coming years, the number of preventive services will be further expanded.





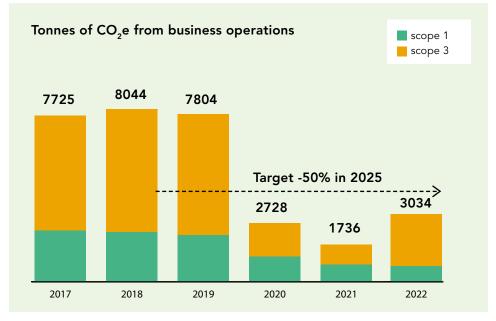
# 5. Approach and instruments

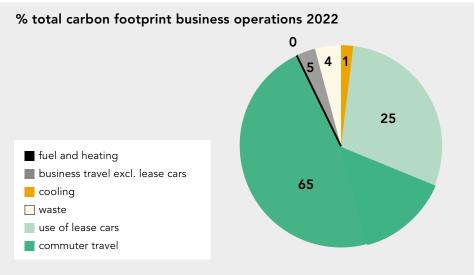
a.s.r. is committed to climate-neutral business operations and wants to gradually reduce the carbon footprint of its activities. When determining the carbon footprint, a distinction is made between the direct and indirect footprint. The direct footprint concerns the  $\rm CO_2$  emissions that are directly influenced by the organisation itself, for example by the heating system or by lease cars (scope 1). The indirect footprint concerns the indirect influence of a.s.r. on the amount of  $\rm CO_2$  released when generating the purchased electricity (scope 2). At a.s.r. this is net zero, because all the electricity purchased is offset by electricity generated by wind turbines.

Finally, there are other activities in the chain that contribute to the indirect footprint, such as waste processing and commuter travel (scope 3). a.s.r. aims to reduce the carbon footprint of its own business operations by 50% between 2018 and 2025. By 2022, 94.8% of this carbon footprint will be mobility (including commuter travel, lease cars and business travel).

The result of 51.1% CO $_2$  reduction in 2022 is partly due to fewer travel movements, including after the end of COVID measures. Annex 1 shows the development of the carbon footprint of our own business operations in more detail.

## CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions from own business operations





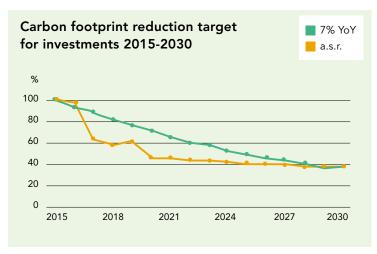


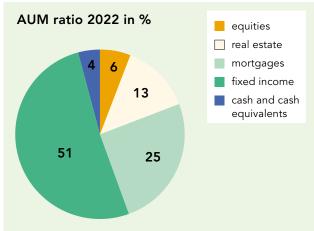
In the Dutch Climate Agreement, financial institutions - including a.s.r. - promise to measure the emissions of their investments and real estate and to report on their actions to reduce them.15 For several years, a.s.r. has committed itself to developing suitable measurement methods. With the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), methods have been developed to measure the  $\rm CO_2$  emissions of investments. Specifically for the real estate funds, with the help of the Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor (CRREM) Paris Proof roadmaps towards 2045 were developed.

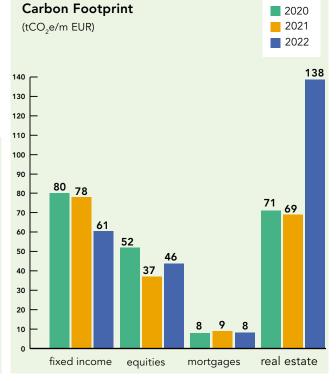
For 98% of our investments and our real estate, we have insight into the carbon footprint (scope 1 and 2). We focus on reducing this footprint. Our target is a 65% CO $_2$  reduction of the investment portfolio (scope 1 and 2) by 2030 compared to 2015.

We have already made some great strides in this respect. Between 2015 and 2019, emissions from investments fell from 142 tonnes  $\mathrm{CO_2}$  per 1 million invested assets to 83 tonnes  $\mathrm{CO_2}$  per 1 million invested assets. In 2020, 2021 and 2022, there was an additional decrease due to COVID measures. Emissions are expected to fall less or even to rise a little and then to start falling again. With the goal of 65% reduction by 2030, a.s.r. meets the 7%  $\mathrm{CO_2}$  reduction per year required according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. <sup>16</sup> This implies that we also have short-term, annual  $\mathrm{CO_2}$  reduction targets until 2030.

#### CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions from investments









In addition to our efforts regarding investments, we want to help our customers to reduce their climate impact in order to reduce the  $\rm CO_2e$  emissions of our insurance portfolio. In 2022, measurement methods and a target setting protocol were developed for part of the insurance portfolios. Interim targets for 2030 were set for those portfolios in the first half of 2023. These are shown in section 5.4.

In the sections below, we provide an overview of the instruments we use in order to limit the climate impact for our investments, insurance products and in our own business operations as much as possible.



#### 5.1 a.s.r. asset management

All investments managed by a.s.r. asset management are screened on ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) criteria on the basis of a.s.r.'s Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) policy.<sup>17</sup> Companies that do not meet certain criteria are excluded, while a.s.r. wants to invest more in companies that make a positive contribution to a sustainable society (this is called 'best in class' investing). a.s.r. weighs risks and opportunities for the climate and biodiversity in this investment approach. In doing so, we use four instruments:



- ✓ Positive screening: a.s.r. prefers companies that consider climate risks in their strategy and take action to reduce the carbon footprint of their activities.
- ✓ Engagement: a.s.r. believes in a constructive dialogue with companies to increase climate awareness. As an active shareholder, a.s.r. also exercises its voting rights to influence decisions on climate issues.
- ✓ Exclusion: in the case of systematic and serious pollution, or when a dialogue does not lead to adequate improvement of the impact on the climate and the biodiversity, a.s.r. can exclude a company from the investment portfolio. For example, a.s.r. does not invest in companies whose turnover comes from coal mining, or for more than 5% from unconventional sources of oil and gas (such as shale oil or gas, tar sands or oil from the Arctic).
- ✓ Impact investments: a.s.r. finances companies, organisations, funds and projects that, in combination with a financial return, have the primary objective of promoting the energy transition and restoring nature. We want € 4.5 billion of impact investments on the balance sheet by 2024.



Illustration: Example of carbon savings from an individual employee's pension investments



You save annually 42% CO,



Measured in kilos, it is **764 kilograms of CO**,



764 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> equals **5,561 km driven** 

As an asset manager, we strive for a climate-neutral investment portfolio by 2050. We are reducing our investments in fossil fuels in three phases.<sup>18</sup>

- ✓ In phase 1 (end of 2021), investments in producers of thermal coal and unconventional oil and gas products (such as shale gas, Arctic oil and tar sands) were sold and included in the list of exclusions. Because a.s.r. has applied strict criteria since 2015, the size of these investments was relatively limited.
- ✓ In phase 2, we focus on oil and gas producers. We assess periodically during 2022-2024 whether the objectives of the companies involved are in line with the transition path of the Paris Agreement and engage with these companies about this. If companies' targets are not sufficiently in line with the Paris transition path by 2024 at the latest, we shall sell our stake in these companies. We conduct the dialogue with these companies together with other Dutch asset managers to achieve more positive impact.
- ✓ In phase 3 (from 2023), we will be focusing on the most CO₂-intensive companies in our portfolio. These will mainly be companies in greenhouse-gas-intensive sectors, such as transport and utility companies. We believe that these companies play an important role in combating climate change. In the coming years, we will increasingly focus on the best-performing companies and frontrunners that make a positive contribution to the necessary transition to a climate-neutral economy.

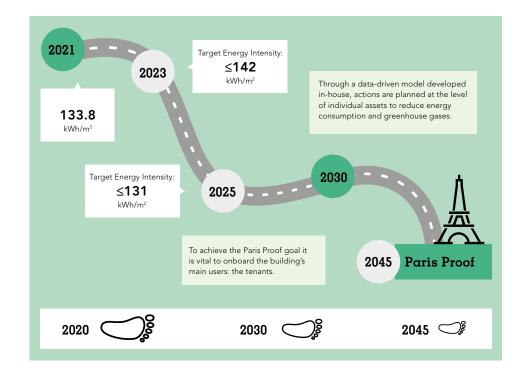


#### 5.2 a.s.r. real estate

Worldwide, real estate is responsible for about 27% of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and 30% of energy consumption.<sup>19</sup> A recent United Nations report shows that the construction and real estate sector is not on track to meet the Paris climate goals.<sup>20</sup> a.s.r. real estate aims to be able to make a significant contribution to making the Dutch real estate market more sustainable. We are constantly working to make homes, offices, shops and agricultural land more sustainable. To have a positive impact on nature, society, and climate, we aim to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reduce waste production and water consumption and make our portfolios climate adaptive. The focus in this context is on both sustainable acquisitions and making existing premises more sustainable. We do this, for example, by installing green roofs, LED lighting and water-saving sanitary facilities. a.s.r. real estate also invests in sustainable energy generation.

To contribute to the energy transition and a sustainable living environment, a.s.r. real estate invests in wind and solar farms. In 2022, a.s.r. real estate bought the Nieuwe Hemweg (6 wind turbines) and Strekdammen (2 wind turbines) wind farms and the Pesse solar farm (60,000 solar panels). Previously, a.s.r. invested in the Jaap Rodenburg (8 wind turbines) and Princess Ariane (34 wind turbines) wind farms. These five farms generate an amount of power comparable to the annual consumption of 221,000 households. For our agricultural land portfolio, we work with the agricultural sector on sustainable soil management and enhancing biodiversity among other things by offering a discount for farmers who meet certain sustainability requirements (see page 34).

a.s.r. real estate has signed the Paris Proof Commitment of the Dutch Green Building Council (DGBC), thereby committing itself to a climate-neutral real estate portfolio by 2050. In 2021, we increased our ambition and decided to aim to meet this target as early as 2045. To prevent investments from falling sharply in value (stranded assets), a Paris Proof roadmap was drawn up for each real estate fund using the CRREM tool. This data-driven model provides insight into the extent to which our efforts are in line with the pace required to become climate-neutral in 2045.





To reduce the carbon footprint of homes, we want to make it possible for all our mortgage customers to become more sustainable. Not only homes that are already energy efficient, but also homes with a less favourable energy performance certificate. We make no distinction in this regard. We explicitly do not want to be just a mortgage lender for people with an energy-efficient home, but a mortgage lender who helps customers to become more sustainable. For this reason, a.s.r. introduced the Sustainability Mortgage in 2019. This allows homeowners who want to take out a mortgage with a.s.r. to borrow extra money cheaply for energy-saving measures, such as a heat pump, solar panels or insulation. A maximum of EUR 25,000 and up to 106% (instead of 100%) of the value of a home can be borrowed.

Also, from 2022, existing a.s.r. mortgage customers will have the option to apply for the Sustainability Mortgage without advice (execution only) more easily and at lower cost. In the personal (digital) environment, they can take out a Sustainability Mortgage of up to EUR 9,000. By doing so, we lower the threshold to make their current home more sustainable.

With the introduction of the Sustainability Mortgage, the budget for sustainability is significantly increased when applying for a mortgage. In 2022, new mortgages taken out at a.s.r. were twice as likely to include a budget for sustainability compared to the market average. According to our own study, the measures resulted in an average improvement of 1.5 in energy performance certificate classification.

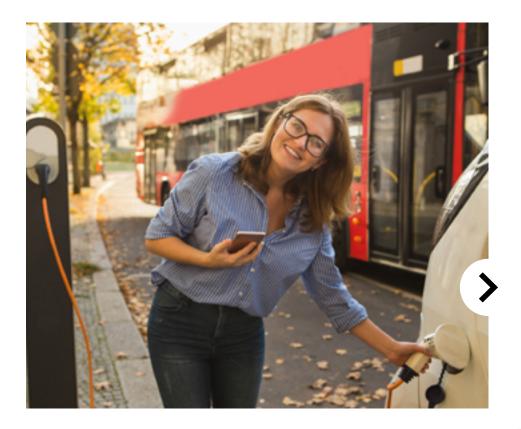
The rise in energy prices in 2022 has increased customers' focus on sustainability. In 2022, around 23% of our new mortgage customers have applied for some form of financing for sustainability (Sustainability Mortgage, Energy Savings Budget or Energy Saving Facilities).

a.s.r. also continues to encourage making homes more sustainable in other ways. For example, by sharing information on measures with customers and intermediaries via newsletters and through our website on the Sustainable Living platform.<sup>21</sup>





Investments are often looked at, but insurance is also a means to encourage  $\mathrm{CO}_2\mathrm{e}$  reduction. Insurance can eliminate risks in society, encouraging activities that contribute positively to the energy transition. For instance, activities that contribute to a fossil-free industry, zero emission transport or green living. Furthermore, insurers can use premiums and information to support and encourage their customers to reduce their emissions.



- ✓ To support the energy transition, we are constantly expanding our sustainable product range. By insuring solar panels, charging stations, green roofs, tiny houses, and sustainable methods of building, among other things, we encourage the use of these sustainability measures.
- ✓ New insurance products are always tested first through the Product Approval Review Process (PARP). Public interest is an important criterion in this context: we test whether the product makes a positive contribution to sustainability, including climate and energy transition, and whether there is no undesirable impact on these themes involved.
- ✓ We are looking at whether risks that are difficult to insure but that contribute to combating climate change can be insured after all. In 2022, we added five designations/risk areas for which we intend to provide insurance solutions; including for electric land equipment. On the other hand, we are critical of risks that are easy to insure but pose a very unfavourable sustainability risk. Producers of oil, gas and coal are also excluded from our non-life insurance.
- Sustainability is also taken into account in our pricing. For insurance of electric cars and boats with an electric inboard engine we have favourable rates.



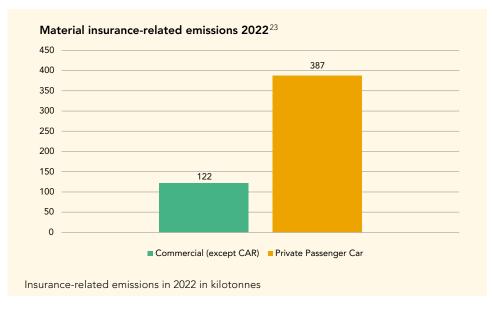
- ✓ With the CareCycle foundation and pharmacies, we launched a pilot around collecting unused incontinence materials. Both the manufacture and destruction of absorbent incontinence materials release large amounts of CO₂. People insured with a.s.r. can order these unused materials.
- ✓ We have set up the digital Sustainable Living platform.<sup>22</sup> For this we work with various partners to get (potential) customers to make their homes more sustainable and save energy. We create podcasts and blogs together, post videos and answer questions on topics such as insulation, solar panels and making the garden more sustainable. The platform attracted half a million unique (different) visitors in 2022.

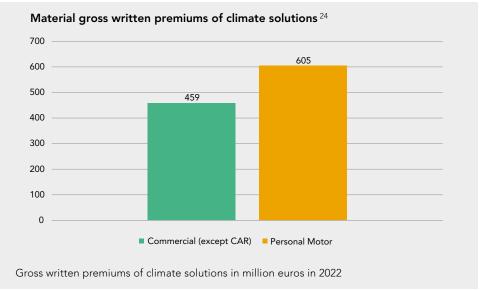


At the end of 2021, a.s.r. joined the Net-Zero Insurance Alliance, an initiative of the United Nations and the international insurance industry. This commits a.s.r. to the target of its insurance portfolio being climate neutral by 2050. In 2023, a.s.r. set the 2030 interim targets for its P&C portfolio. We have listed these below. Setting the interim targets was done in two steps.

#### Step 1: conducting a baseline measurement

To set interim targets, it is necessary to first measure the emissions associated with insurance. Using the calculation methods of the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), it was possible to measure emissions in our insurance portfolio over 2022 (see accompanying figure). This calculation applies to both commercial insurance (except Construction Allrisk (CAR) insurance) and private passenger car insurance. One challenge here was that many customers did not have figures on their greenhouse emissions available yet. Therefore, the average emission figures of the different sectors in which our customers operate from the PCAF database have been used.







The gross written premiums of climate solutions in 2022 have also been calculated. Climate solutions means insurance products and services from activities that help in the fight against climate change. Think low- or zero-emission forms of transport, sustainable claims handling with lower emissions or insuring energy-saving technologies.

#### ✓ Step 2: setting interim targets

After the baseline measurement, targets were set for 2030. These relate to reducing CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions in the P&C portfolio, supporting customers in their actions to achieve net zero emissions and developing and offering insurance solutions that contribute to the energy transition.



#### Emission reduction target

Within our material commercial and private passenger car insurance combined, we aim to reduce insurance-related CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by 26% in 2030 compared to 2022.

Each year, we will focus on two business sectors that we already insure, to further reduce emissions. We intend to do this by deploying additional measures appropriate to the risks within those sectors. And we are looking at whether new risks that are difficult to insure can be insured anyway. Every year, we aim to add three risk areas for which we provide insurance solutions. In 2022, we did so for electric landbased equipment, among other things. We expect this to lead to a shift in the composition of our insurance portfolio in favour of risks with low(er) emissions or a fast emission reduction pathway.

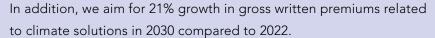
#### **Engagement target**

Between 2022 and 2030, we aim to support 350,000 commercial and private customers in efforts to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions.



For private customers, we are launching a theme page on asr.nl about sustainable transport. For commercial customers, we are developing a page on sustainable business practices and continue our collaboration with Klimaatroute. They can perform an energy scan on commercial customers and prepare a report on possible actions to reduce CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions. They can also offer a year's guidance, for example in applying for permits and subsidies.

#### Climate solutions target





We are constantly expanding our sustainable product range. a.s.r. has been offering favourable premiums for electric transport and sustainable repairs following damage for some time. We will explore the possibilities of insuring new technologies, such as hydrogen, and making buildings more sustainable. We are also looking at insuring risks in sharing platforms and transition risks in new energy, such as loss of revenue due to outages or price fluctuations.



## **Knowledge Naturally!**

ASN Bank offers their customers a.s.r.'s private liability, home and contents insurance products, offering the sustainable options as standard. The insurance premiums for the sold policies are invested sustainably by a.s.r. asset management. In addition, ASN Bank invests 2% of the premium income in Kennis Natuurlijk! (Knowledge Naturally!), a project created in collaboration with a.s.r. and the Naturalis Biodiversity Center. In Knowledge Naturally!, young researchers, together with experts from Naturalis, address the question of how to make our living environment nature-inclusive and climate-proof. To give an example, one of the assignments concerned the question of how small structures on the street, such as fibre-optic houses and transformer houses can be built nature-inclusively. The researchers drew up a list of advice on how to build in a way that causes less damage to nature and promotes biodiversity. For example, by installing a green roof, with insect hotels and birdhouses or by tiling less and retain plants. The advice on nature-inclusive building can be found on the Knowledge Naturally! website. In 2023, we want to broaden these recommendations to garages, garden houses and sheds and communicate this to ASN Bank and a.s.r. customers.



Illustrator: Stijn van 't Veer



## a.s.r. takes the next step in sustainable damage repair

ustainable recovery is a spearhead for a.s.r. At the beginning of 2023, a.s.r. took a majority interest in repair company Soopie. As a result, by opting for repair instead of replacement, a lot of climate gains can be made, as fewer new materials need to be produced upon repair, and less transport is required. In the event of damage to their homes or vehicles, customers are given the option of having it repaired by a sustainable repair company. These companies meet the various sustainability criteria. Such as the use of environmentally friendly materials, reduced energy consumption, proper waste handling and reuse of materials.

By 2025, we aim to have 50% of fire damage and 85% of vehicle damage repaired sustainably. The option of making a house more sustainable following damage, also offers the possibility to make the house (further) sustainable upon repair up to a maximum of 10% of the damage amount. For example, by insulating the home after a fire on the roof



## Ardanta aims for fully sustainable funerals

In 2022, Ardanta signed an agreement with Greenleave, a collaboration of organisations in the funeral industry striving for 100% sustainable funerals. The a.s.r. funeral insurer is the first insurer to join Greenleave; until recently, the network consisted only of funeral directors.

Greenleave shares knowledge and inspiration and provides training and certification for funeral directors and suppliers. The focus is on six sustainability aspects, including the use of renewable raw materials, energy-efficient production and avoidance of toxic substances. An example of a sustainable choice is the funeral coffin. It is often made of wood or chipboard. But chipboard is difficult to break down and harmful substances are used in its production. Sustainable alternatives can also be considered in other areas, such as when choosing funeral bouquets and catering at the funeral.

Guido Horst, managing director of Ardanta, said: "Sustainability is becoming increasingly important, including in funeral arrangements. We want to inform and advise customers and relatives in this area in the best possible way. By joining Greenleave, we can jointly contribute with other parties to making funerals in the Netherlands more sustainable."



## 5.5 Own business operations

a.s.r. has the ambition to halve its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in its own business operations between 2018 and 2025. The a.s.r. head office has been sustainably renovated and is now carbon-neutral. The building has been off gas since 2019 and now runs entirely on green electricity. As a result, the energy performance certificate of the building has gone from G to A++. The main building is certified according to BREAAM (Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method) In-Use. The management and characteristics of the building (construction, installations, fittings) were rated 'outstanding'.

Mobility uses the most energy within our own business operations and makes the largest contribution to the carbon footprint of our own business operations. In order to reduce this, a.s.r. facilitates working from home, leased cars are contracted on the basis of electric propulsion and a.s.r. stimulates the use of (electric) bicycles and public transport. Where we have not yet sufficiently succeeded in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, we compensate this by planting trees. Planting projects comply with the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) or the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standards (CCB). In 2022, a.s.r. planted 17,000 trees in Bolivia through the Trees for All foundation. In doing so, we compensated 3,034 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.



#### The car park as a source of energy

To reduce its carbon footprint, a.s.r. built the world's largest bi-directional charging plaza. The parking deck at the a.s.r. office building in Utrecht is equipped with more than 2,000 solar panels and 250 charging stations. Bi-directional charging means that the charging stations can function in two ways. They can charge the batteries of cars, but they can also draw electricity from the cars and feed it into the building. Jos Ruijter was responsible for the construction. He explains how it works. "Someone arrives in the morning and parks their car. Especially in winter, there is not much sun yet. We then draw energy from the cars' batteries to start up the building." The electric cars are equipped with battery packs that can absorb or deliver relatively large amounts of electricity to handle a peak in the building or grid load. In the transition to sustainable energy, this type of temporary energy storage is essential, according to Jos. "Absolutely, this will only increase, and we show that it can be done."

To further increase solar energy production, part of the visitor car park will be covered with solar panels and additional charging stations will be installed. This will generate an additional 100,000 kWh, good for 600,000 solar kilometres. The roofs of a.s.r.'s office building will have 1,300 new solar panels with a higher yield than the old ones. The new panels will produce 350,000 kWh of electricity. With this, we are estimated to be self-sufficient at our head office 4% of the time.





# 6. Climate in a broader perspective: importance of biodiversity

Natural systems help regulate the climate. Forests, peatlands, soils and oceans play a crucial role in the absorption and storage of carbon and thus help to protect us against climate change. At the same time, climate change is leading to more loss of nature. More and more biodiversity is being lost and ecosystems are in decline.

Climate change and biodiversity loss are strongly linked. Partly for this reason, a.s.r. takes an active approach to biodiversity. The first steps have been taken and we will further develop our approach to biodiversity in the coming years. In a survey by the Fair Insurance Guide on insurers' investment policies on biodiversity, a.s.r. achieved the highest score. a.s.r. is a signatory to the Finance for Biodiversity Pledge<sup>25</sup>. This is a commitment by a.s.r. to protect and restore biodiversity in its investment portfolio. To understand the impact of our investment portfolio on biodiversity, we participate in sector initiatives such as the Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financials (PBAF) and the biodiversity working group of the Dutch Central Bank's Platform for Sustainable Financing. a.s.r. also had the MSCI World - an important investment index - tested using the Biodiversity Footprint for Financial Institutions (BFFI) methodology. Over the past year, we have gained a better understanding of different methodologies for measuring biodiversity impacts. In 2023, we aim to take the next step by publishing a first inventory of our impact.

#### Investing with an eye for biodiversity

Within our investment portfolio, we favour companies that outperform sector peers on the biodiversity theme. Companies involved in major environmental disasters involving loss of biodiversity may be excluded. When we see risks in the areas of deforestation, agriculture and pollution, we engage with companies. And through impact investments, we try to make a positive contribution. For example, we invest in innovative techniques to counteract the use of pesticides in agriculture, we invest in biological agriculture and protection against soil erosion, but also in companies that develop plant-based meat substitutes and cultured meat and thus counteract deforestation caused by soy production.



# Rural real estate

In the Netherlands, a.s.r. has a portfolio of approximately 42,000 hectares of mainly agricultural land, but also rural real estate. This makes a.s.r. the second largest private landowner in the Netherlands after Vereniging Natuurmonumenten. One of our initiatives in our agricultural land portfolio is to bring back or restore landscape elements. By reintroducing hedges, rows of trees, groves, pools, and wooded banks into the landscape, we stimulate biodiversity and can capture more CO<sub>2</sub>.

Farmers who use a.s.r. agricultural land are encouraged by a.s.r. to manage the land sustainably, which results in a positive impact on climate and biodiversity. To give room for sustainability efforts, a.s.r. is reducing the rents of farmers with whom additional agreements have been made. In the first three years, they get 10% discount and 5% discount thereafter. This gives farmers security and financial scope to invest in sustainability. The pressure to make the agricultural sector more sustainable has increased in recent years. "a.s.r. believes that all parties in the agricultural sector chain are jointly responsible for this transition and not just the farmers themselves," says Dick van den Oever, director of Rural Real Estate at a.s.r. real estate. "We see that improvements for sustainable farming involve investments for farmers. Therefore, a.s.r. wants to accommodate farmers in this by compensating them financially with discounts."

This approach is part of the climate-smart farming strategy of the Dutch Farmland Fund, the fund in which a.s.r.'s agricultural land has been brought. One of the instruments for this is the Open Soil Index, which was developed by a.s.r. together with Rabobank and Vitens. This index measures the health of the soil and offers tools to improve it. Healthy soils are not only needed to grow crops. They also help to boost biodiversity, capture carbon and retain water. a.s.r. also helps farmers to adjust to climate change. The a.s.r. Dutch Farmland Fund supports new sustainable initiatives. For example, by making farmland available for growing alternative 'biobased' crops and using new farming techniques, and by financially valuing and rewarding ecosystem services.





# To conclude: a.s.r. does more

As an insurer, we have a strong interest in a sustainable future. And to secure this, we are in a hurry. At a.s.r., we want to do our bit to combat climate change. To do so, we must take great steps in the years to come and achieve all our goals. We also want to be as transparent as possible about the results we achieve, including through climate reports such as this one.

But we want even more. At a.s.r., we want to set the bar higher for ourselves all the time, always looking for more and new ways to combat climate change, to protect our customers from the effects of climate change and to promote the energy transition. We cannot do this alone, which is why we will also address our stakeholders and involve them in our plans.



CO <sub>2</sub> e- emissies van de eigen be	drijfsvoeri	ing												
		2022		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017		2016
Category	in %	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>	in %	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>	in %	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>	in %	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>	in %	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>	in %	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>		
Scope 1														
Fuel and heating	0.1	3	0.2	3	0.3	8	0.5	37	1.1	88	1.1	85	1.5	111
Cooling	1.2	35	2.0	34	1.3	37	0.7	51	0.7	56	0.7	54	0.7	52
Use of lease cars	24.6	745	43.1	748	40.8	1,113	26.5	2,078	27.0	2.172	29.1	248	31.1	2,302
Subtotal	25.9	783	45.2	785	42.4	1,158	27.7	2,166	28.8	2.317	30.9	2.387	33.3	2,465
		_												
Scope 2			a.s.r. only u	ses electricity	from renewa	ble energy sour	ces.							
Scope 3														
Business travel excluding lease	4.9	148	3.3	57	3.2	87	4.2	329	4.0	322	4.1	317	4.1	303
Commuter travel	65.4	1,984	48.0	833	51.6	1,408	66.0	5,148	65.0	5,229	62.8	4,851	60.0	4,441
Waste	3.9	119	3.5	61	2.8	76	2.1	160	2.2	177	2.2	170	2.6	192
Subtotal	74.2	2,251	54.8	951	57.6	1,571	72.3	5,638	71.2	5,727	69.1	5,338	66.7	4,936
Total	100.1	3,034	100	1,736	100	2,728	100	7,804	100	8,044	100	7,725	100	7,401

					2022	2021	2020	2019	2015 (base year)
	AuM (in million euro)	Calculated (in million euro)	Calculated (in %)	tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub>	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> per million euro	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> per millionn euro	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> per millionn euro	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> per millionn euro	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> per million euro
a.s.r. vermogensbeheer <sup>26</sup>	€ 18,437	€ 17,836	96.7 %	1,055,506	59	74	78	101	184
Fixed Income*	644.404	6.45.007	0,00	0// 01/		70		100	100
*Government and corporate bonds	€ 16,406	€ 15,897	96.9 %	966,914	61	78	80	102	189
Listed equities	€ 2,031	€ 1,939	95.5 %	88,592	46	37	52	87	136
Mortgages <sup>27</sup>	€ 9.623,01	€ 9.399,29	97.68 %	72.466	8	9	8	13	18
a.s.r. real estate <sup>28</sup>	€ 4,205.56	€ 3,980.33	95 %	548,497	138	69	71	58	
- Retail (DCRF)	€ 625	€ 532.28	85 %	5,882.70	11	12	14	13	
- Residential (DCRF)	€ 1,066	€ 951.80	89 %	6,415.87	7	6	8	8	
- Offices (DMOF)	€ 138	€ 122.86	89 %	424.61	3	4	15	5	
- Offices (DSPF)	€ 73	€ 72.67	100 %	21.21	0	14	15	6	
- Rural estate (DFLF)	€ 1,728	€ 1,727.99	100 %	511,231.05	296	130	140	106	
- Other (real estate own balance sheet)	€ 576	€ 573	99 %	24,521.70	43	1	16	1	



- 1 IPBES: Global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services, 2019
- 2. <u>www.asrnederland.nl/nieuws-en-pers/pers/asr-behoort-tot-europese-en-wereldwijde-top-van-duurzame-bedrijven</u>
- 3. <u>www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/klimaatverandering/gevolgen-klimaatverandering</u>
- 4. <a href="www.klimaatadaptatienederland.nl/actueel/actueel/nieuws/2020/schade-extreme-neerslag-storm/">www.klimaatadaptatienederland.nl/actueel/actueel/nieuws/2020/schade-extreme-neerslag-storm/</a>
- 5. IPCC: Climate change 2021, the physical science basis, August 2021
- 6. In scope are all internally managed investments on a.s.r.'s balance sheet excluding private loans, cash, and interest rate derivatives.
- 7. a.s.r. has set a medium-term target (rather than a short-term one) in order to pursue structural CO<sub>2</sub> reductions and to minimise the influence of fluctuating energy consumption and price developments. A telling example of this is the COVID19 pandemic and its effect on production and consumption patterns worldwide. In 2020, 2021 and part of 2022, there was an additional drop in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to lockdowns, which is probably only temporary in nature.
- 8 The 2030 interim targets for part of the insurance portfolio were published on 30 August 2023. The new text on the interim targets is included in section 5.4. The updated climate report was also published on 30 August 2023.

- 9. The carbon footprint of our own business operations consists mainly of mobility (94.8% in 2022), including commuting, lease cars and business traffic. The 51.1% result is lower than in 2021. This is mainly due to the higher number of travel movements following the COVID19 pandemic. Because a.s.r. encourages working from home and the use of public transport, cycling and electric driving, the reduction did remain limited. For more information, see Appendix 1.
- 10. The a.s.r. target remains 50 kWh per square metre of gross floor area (GFA), despite the fact that the method developed by the Dutch Green Building Council and TVVL has been adjusted to 70 kWh per usable area (UA). This target of 70 kWh per square metre is in line with achieving the Dutch targets of the Paris Climate Agreement.
- 11. See <u>www.climateaction100.org</u>
- 12. See <u>www.carbonaccountingfinancials.com</u>
- 13. See <a href="https://www.financeforbiodiversity.org/about-the-pledge">www.financeforbiodiversity.org/about-the-pledge</a>
- 14. The first Green Deal Duurzame Zorg (Green Deal on Sustainable Healthcare) was concluded in 2015. By now, the third Green Deal has been concluded. The new agreement includes as goals; 30% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by the end of 2026, 55% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by 2030 and climate-neutral by 2050 for real estate and transport. In addition, investments will be made in raising awareness and knowledge and there will be a 50% reduction in primary resource use by 2030 compared to 2016. Ultimately, healthcare should become maximally circular by 2050.



## End notes

- 15.TCFD stands for Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure. a.s.r. reports according to TCFD guidelines on the opportunities and risks associated with climate change.
- 16. Climate Agreement: commitment of the financial sector, July 2019.

  The progress in implementing the agreements is described in the report 'Het klimaatcommitment van de financiële sector; eerste voorgangsrapportage' (The climate commitment of the financial sector; first progress report) of October 2021.
- 17. Emissions Gap Report 2019, UN Environment Programme.

  See: <a href="https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/30797/">https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/30797/</a>
  <a href="mailto:EGR2019.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y">EGR2019.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y</a>
- 18. <u>Link to SRI policy document: www.asrvermogensbeheer.nl/duurzaam-beleggingsbeleid</u>
- 19. See our climate strategy <a href="https://asrvermogensbeheer.nl/media/">https://asrvermogensbeheer.nl/media/</a>
  <a href="https://asrvermogensbeheer.nl/media/">0myjvpu2/79716-0522-climate-strategy-asr-vermogensbeheer.nl/media/</a>
- 20. https://globalabc.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/ FULL%20REPORT\_2022%20Buildings-GSR\_1.pdf
- 21. UNEP: Global status report for buildings and construction, 2022.
- 22. See: www.asr.nl/duurzaam-wonen
- 23. The graph shows in line with the 2030 interim emission reduction target insurance-related emissions in kilotonnes in the P&C insurance portfolio provincial and authorised agent (excluding pools) over the base year 2022, divided into the commercial insurance portfolio excluding CAR and the private passenger car portfolio.

- 24. In line with the interim climate solutions target for 2030 set out, the chart shows the gross written premium (GWP) in million related to climate solutions in the P&C insurance portfolio provincial and authorised agent over the base year 2022, divided into the business insurance portfolio and the personal motor portfolio.
- 25. Fair Insurance Guide: Insuring biodiversity by transforming food systems; a case study for the Fair Insurance Guide Netherlands, 2022.
- 26. The carbon footprint is calculated in line with the PCAF (Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials) methodology and on a best effort basis with data from Moody's ESG, Eurostat, MSCI ESG and Bloomberg.
- 27. Calculation in accordance with PCAF methodology. No data are available for homes that are still to be built, homes that do not (yet) have an energy performance certificate and homes for which no reliable data such as year of construction and type of home could be obtained. Data sources are service partner Stater, RVO, Calcasa (energy performance certificate, type of home and year of construction) and CBS (energy consumption). In the calculations a Loan to Value (LTV) adjustment was used. This means that the percentage of the mortgage in relation to the value of the home is taken into account in the carbon footprint calculation. Only the percentage of the mortgage in relation to the value of the home is attributed to a.s.r.'s CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



# End notes

28. Calculation concerns 89% of AuM (assets under management) for own account (relatively limited amount of data from retail due to, e.g. privacy issues, lack of agreements with tenants and limited use of smart meters). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are calculated based on the total energy consumption in kWh per m2 per year of all properties in the portfolio that have been in operation during the calendar year. CO<sub>2</sub> data of DCRF, DPRF, DSPF and 'Other' funds are based on energy consumption in 2020 (excluding Archimedeslaan, head office a.s.r. energy consumption 2021 in 'Other'). Data sources are Fudura's smart meters, other smart meters and the annual energy consumption of the network operators. The total energy consumption in kWh per m2 per year of all properties in the portfolio that have been in operation for the entire calendar year is the sum of the amount of electricity (in kWh), district heating (in GJ) and gas (in m3) converted into kWh. The total energy consumption in kWh per m2 per year is converted by type of energy source.

