

ART-ER CASE STUDY

Firm Name
ART-ER - Attractiveness Research Territory Emilia-Romagna

Country
Italy

City / Region
Region Emilia-Romagna

No. of Employees
190

Description of the organisation

ART-E is the Emilia-Romagna Joint Stock Consortium that was born from the merger of ASTER and ERVET on 1st May 2019, with the purpose of fostering the region’s sustainable growth by developing innovation and knowledge, attractiveness and internationalisation of the region system. There are currently two divisions located in two different places, always in Bologna:

1. Research and Innovation Division (ex ASTER) promotes industrial research as the main driver of sustainable economic development and collaborates with company associations to develop joint research and corporate strategies and actions, facilities and services for industrial research, and the enhancement of human capital working in these areas;
2. Sustainable Regional Development Division (ex ERVET) focus on the support of regional programming and planning, cooperation, and promotion of collaboration with economic and social players in order to promote the sustainable development of the Emilia-Romagna region.

Workplace Innovation practices implemented

The Project started in 2016 by an internal questionnaire aimed at analyzing the behaviors and awareness of the staff of the R&I division in terms of sustainability at work in the areas of mobility (home-work and travel), waste, air conditioning, water, prints. From the questionnaire results, it has been defined an improvement plan with 4 macro areas of intervention:

- Sustainable awareness and behaviour;
- Waste and recycling;
- Green purchasing;
- Mobility and emissions.






12 concrete actions have been identified such as participation to local consumer awareness initiatives, dematerialisation of some internal processes to reduce printed paper, water dispenser installation to reduce plastic and associated emissions, Smart-working to reduce home-work travel, setting tools aimed at reducing energy consumption etc.

Some actions have been put into practice such as: elimination of plastic bottles - replaced by water dispensers, on which a quality analysis was also carried out; dematerialization (digitization) of requests for holidays / leaves / overtime; progressive use of suppliers and supplies that increasingly reflect the sustainability criteria.

In the meantime, the company has been supported by experts and the path has expanded from a technical-methodological point of view with the creation of a stakeholder analysis and a second analysis of the state of the art

of sustainability in R&I (ex ASTER). In the last two years, other actions were then taken to reduce the environmental impacts related to the activities of the division and a Monitoring Plan was defined for the test of the environmental improvements obtained through the periodic measurement (half-yearly or annual) of a set of performance indicators. The performance improvement is stimulated through the awareness of all colleagues to adopt good practices in the office: for this purpose an internal vademecum has been drawn up and available on the company Intranet.

Main Achievements

-  Purchase of paper and printing services, PCs and electronic devices, office furniture compliant with Minimum Environmental Criteria (as definite by L.28 dicembre 2015 , n. 221)
-  Purchase of containers for separate waste
-  Use of water dispensers
-  Purchase of fruit and vegetables through the platform that allows employees to have organic products, mostly fruit and vegetables, delivered to work using UBM bike couriers. zero environmental impact
-  Training about the organisation of sustainable events and training addressed to administrative staff for green purchasing.