



Foundation

A look back at 2023

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Orange Belgium Fund

A look back at 2023

1. Foreword by Isabelle Vanden Eede

An inclusive and respectful society

As an important player in the Belgian economy, we must have a sustainable impact. In this regard, **our commitment in favour of a more inclusive and more respectful society** is based on a structured approach. We must ensure that our vision generates remarkable and positive results.

2022 saw the **creation of our Corporate Fund**. In 2023, five projects were implemented in order to reduce the digital divide while encouraging the integration of the young, women and the most vulnerable.

By working together to create a more sustainable world, we intend to respond to the social and environmental challenges that confront us. We **will accompany our employees, partners and customers on the way to a fundamentally responsible transformation** and we will give them the keys to the digital world by providing them with the necessary knowledge, skills and support.



Isabelle Vanden Eede
Chief Brand,
Communication & ESG Officer

2. A look back at 2023

Orange Belgium Fund

orange.be/en/foundation

- is working to make digital a factor for equality of opportunity
- supports responsible solidarity projects
- prioritises assisting young persons in precarious situations and women
- donations of PCs and digital guidance
- 3643 beneficiaries in 2023



3. About the Orange Belgium Fund

a. Our vision

In 2022, according to the King Baudouin Foundation, **nearly one in two Belgians**, i.e. 46% of the population, was **in a situation of digital vulnerability** (source: digital inclusion barometer 09/2022): 7% of citizens did not use the internet and 39% had limited digital skills.

The **most socio-economically vulnerable individuals and women**, notably, run a greater risk of digital vulnerability.

At Orange, we believe that digital is an opportunity. And we want as many people as possible to be able to access it. We are convinced that we have a role to play as an actor in the telecommunications sector: we are well-placed to enable everyone to access the possibilities offered by the new technologies and to **make digital a factor of equality of opportunity**.

We are thus doing everything possible to enable individuals and organisations to benefit from the opportunities offered by digital, **in complete autonomy and securely, inclusively and sustainably**. We wanted to anchor this commitment in our strategic plan 'Lead The Future'. Under this plan we link business performances to a sustainable approach for our customers, our employees, our partners and society in general. With, as a corollary, tangible commitments and achievements on the ground.

As a trusted partner, we wish to give everyone the **keys to responsibly benefit from the digital world**.

b. Our mission

For over 30 years the mission of the Orange Foundation has been to make digital a factor of equality of opportunity.

The Orange Foundation is present in Belgium via the **Orange Belgium Fund**. The latter is managed by the King Baudouin Foundation.

In Belgium, we are proud to have created the Orange Belgium Fund, designed to support **responsible solidarity projects**.

This is a vital structuring project within the framework of Orange's commitment to digital inclusion. Our priority is to focus on people who have been excluded from digital, particularly young persons in precarious situations and women.

Our ambition is to provide nationwide **structural assistance with digital guidance programmes, IT equipment, Wi-Fi connections, etc.**

We also wish to develop **synergies with our partners and our existing structures while at the same time involving our customers and employees**.

With our technologies and resources, we are advancing step by step towards greater digital inclusion.

c. The digital divide in Belgium

A look at the 2022 digital inclusion barometer

The Belgian population between the ages of 16 and 74

46%

in a situation of digital vulnerability

- 7% do not use the internet
- 39% have limited digital skills

Persons at risk

- persons with low income or little education
- + 55 years of age
- job seekers

17%

have only a smartphone for surfing the internet

No access to more sophisticated IT tools, for example for drafting a CV or taking administrative steps online

Use of essential digital services is increasing...

- e-banking +2%
- e-health +11%
- e-commerce +11%
- e-admin +14%

...but we are seeing a gap of

30% depending on the level of education



d. Our activities

TOEKOMST
ATELIER
DEL'AVENIR

We have chosen to support TADA in order to **structurally aid socially vulnerable young people in Brussels** by offering them a digital guidance programme.

TADA (ToekomstATELIERdelAvenir) is a bilingual non-profit association that has been active in Brussels for over a decade and which has proven its effectiveness in the domain of inclusion.

Our employees also mobilise themselves within the non-profit TADA in order to, firstly, add a digital layer to the modules of the weekend school and thus, thanks to their expertise, accompany socially vulnerable young people, and, secondly, to conduct enjoyable workshops in the field on the topic of ICTs.

Orange Belgium Fund



- digital guidance programme
- **888** beneficiaries
- **-15** years of age
- **50%** girls
- in Brussels



TIC TAC LAB



It is in this **Solidarity FabLab** that institutionalised young people were introduced to the technological tools and learned to create objects with the aid of computer-controlled machines.

Launched in Belgium in 2015, the non-profit association **Tic Tac Lab** is an initiative whose goal is to permit children and adolescents to discover, experiment, learn and amuse themselves with the new technologies (robots, code, video games, 3D printing, etc.), within the framework of weekly workshops and internships.

Orange Belgium Fund

- introduction to technological tools
- **60** beneficiaries
- institutionalised young people
- **15-24** years of age
- **28%** ♂ vs **72%** ♀
- in Brussels



Digidak and the Citizen Platform for refugee support

The goal is to provide **concrete assistance to both migrants and the volunteers who welcome them in the field.**

Our support made it possible to organise individual digital guidance sessions for the most vulnerable citizens, refugees or seniors, in the Province of Antwerp.

In addition, in Brussels and Wallonia, we provided IT equipment, Wi-Fi connections and training courses in order to facilitate the administrative steps, housing and job searches for the refugees. Moreover, these aids enabled them to remain in contact with family and friends in their country of origin.



Orange Belgium Fund

- digital guidance
- **1753** beneficiaries
- most vulnerable citizens, refugees or seniors
- in the Province of Antwerp

www.digidak.be



Orange Belgium Fund

- introduction to technological tools
- **206** beneficiaries
- digital guidance
- **15-24** years of age
- donation of IT equipment and Wi-Fi connections
- in Brussels and Wallonia

www.bxlrefugees.be



Launch of a digital home for women with Girleek

The objective? **Offer training courses to strengthen the autonomy of women who are economically vulnerable** or in a situation of digital precarity. On the programme: navigating the internet, drafting a CV, good online practices, using social networks...

And this with the goal of **fostering the digital woman of the future and promoting employability.**



Orange Belgium Fund

- training to empower women in precarious situations
- face-to-face and distance learning
- **736** beneficiaries
- digital support
- majority aged between **25 and 55**
- in Brussels and Antwerp

<https://girleek.tech/>

4. Our contribution to the sustainable development goals

Orange adheres to the principles of the **United Nations Global Compact and actively supports the SDGs** (sustainable development goals).

We are working on several principles common to the Orange Group. This sustainable strategic line is being incorporated into our day-to-day operations.



SDG 1 - No poverty

We are putting into place training initiatives and donations to make digital tools more accessible. In partnership with the organisation Close the Gap, we collect IT equipment and refurbish it for donation to social assistance centres and schools in the war zones in Ukraine.

> In 2023, 400 refurbished PCs were delivered in Ukraine with hundreds of beneficiaries..

SDG 4 - Quality education

We offer **training courses and introductions to digital tools**. We are working with partners to turn digital into an opportunity for everyone. These partners include the non-profit association TADA, an apprenticeship network that involves citizens and the business world in the emancipation and inclusion of young people from socially vulnerable environments.

This project is a tangible realisation of our commitment to **digital inclusion**.

> In 3 of the 5 projects, our beneficiaries are younger than 24 years of age.



SDG 5 – Gender equality

We facilitate diversity and a culture of inclusion by offering equal opportunities, regardless of gender. Since 2011, moreover, we have the GEEIS (Gender Equality European & International Standard) certification which recognises our practices with regard to diversity, professional equality and inclusion. Amongst our partners: non-profit association Girleek which trains women in a situation of digital precarity in order to increase their autonomy and, ultimately, their employability.

> We consciously seek to attract both masculine and feminine profiles.





SDG 10 - Reduced inequalities

We are building an open and respectful model, striving to reduce inequalities and support more vulnerable groups so that everyone can seize the opportunities offered by digital.

Mechanisms of guidance and education for digital inclusion thanks to our Corporate Fund.

> **3643 beneficiaries in 1 year of activity via our 5 supported projects**

SDG 17 - Partnerships for the goals

We work together with various partners to maximise our chances of achieving our objectives by relying on the resources and talents of each. We are developing partnerships with entire ecosystems: public, private and associative.

> Synergies

- via participation in several working groups on digital responsibility:
 - **DigitAll**, a coalition of companies, social and governmental bodies that are collaborating to improve digital inclusion in Belgium
 - **ISIT**, the Belgian Institute for Sustainable IT
- with the **Orange Digital Center**: a space for free digital and innovation training for start-ups and individuals



5. Our vision of the future

In light of these successes, which we owe to the commitment of our partners on the group level, our associative network, our employees and our engaged customers, we are proud of the results obtained in terms of projects launched and beneficiaries.

Throughout this year we further developed our projects, our network and our expertise on support within the context of the digital divide problematic. We are delighted to have been able to provide **digital guidance** to 3643 beneficiaries via our 5 supported projects.

These initiatives join other activities of Orange Belgium in the field of digital inclusion. Activities that lend even more weight to the approach: collaboration in DigitAll, development of Care Corners in our shops, refurbished PCs offered to schools and assistance centres in war zones in Ukraine as well as the launching of the Orange Digital Center.

We believe that we have built up solid structures and partnerships that meet local needs, and we now wish to increase our collective impact thanks to a sustainable model and synergies inside and outside the Orange ecosystem.

The Orange Belgium Fund has other digital inclusion initiatives planned for the coming year:

1. **Support of digital guidance and IT equipment** to the non-profit association MyWish which is intended to strengthen the autonomy of young people with minor handicaps.
2. **Support for launching a programme to mentor women in the field of technology**, with BeCode. The goal is to support our mission focused on gender equality in technological sectors. Over the course of one year we intend to offer a mentoring programme to 80 women between 18 and 30 years of age. It will include mentoring sessions, workshops on collective intelligence as well as events.

Finally, we are motivated by a **vision of systemic change** within the framework of which technology is considered as a vehicle for positive societal transformation. Our commitment to digital inclusion will continue to guide our actions in the perspective of achieving a sustainable impact.

We are eager to initiate a new year of activity in order to exploit the possibilities of the digital age and construct a future that helps every individual to flourish.

6. The transmission of the Orange Group

“ 'The Orange Foundation has mobilised itself for over a decade in favour of digital solidarity in Europe and Africa. Within this framework, we support digital production centres because we are convinced that they have the power to restore confidence, develop skills and encourage professional integration. Practice apprenticeships, the use of digital machines and sharing are at the heart of this approach. They permit each individual to express his or her talents!'

Séverine Ozanne, Solidarity FabLab
Program Director at the Orange Foundation

“ 'These days, mastery of digital skills gives access to new possibilities in terms of social and professional integration. For the Orange Foundation, digital also constitutes a new field in the struggle for gender equality. That's why we created a digital training programme for women together with our associative partners which accompany women in developing their digital skills, their employability as well as their confidence and self-esteem.'

Mary Lisa Durban,
Corporate Philanthropy Manager,
Europe & the Middle East