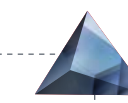


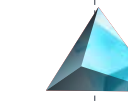
EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

Annual Review 2023



Goal 1

Build an engaged, knowledgeable and collaborative organisation



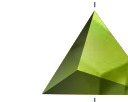
Goal 2

Simplify and modernise IT systems



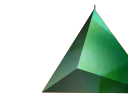
Goal 3

Deliver high-quality products and services efficiently



Goal 4

Build a European patent system and network with a global impact



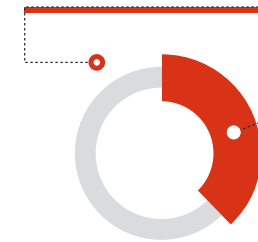
Goal 5

Secure long-term sustainability

Goal 1 BUILD AN ENGAGED, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND COLLABORATIVE ORGANISATION

ATTRACTING TALENT

100 new examiners recruited



38% women



17 nationalities

5

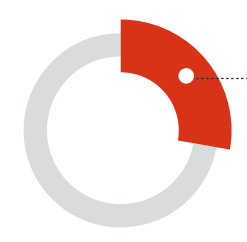
current or former members of the Pan-European Seal Young Professionals Programme

EPO STAFF MORE DIVERSE THAN EVER

35 nationalities

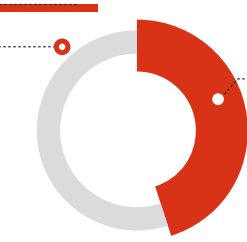


35% women



28% women managers

ALL NEW RECRUITS
(Core business and corporate areas)



45% women
(up from 30% in 2019)



27 nationalities

PAN-EUROPEAN SEAL YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAMME

79 new talented graduates



22 nationalities



>70% women graduates

141 partner universities
(up from 103 in 2022)



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



91% of EPO staff covered by a tailored development programme by the end of 2023

24 hours instructor-led learning per employee

8 iLearn days with 10 575 participants

KEY BENEFITS OF NEW WAYS OF WORKING



Flexibility to balance family and work commitments



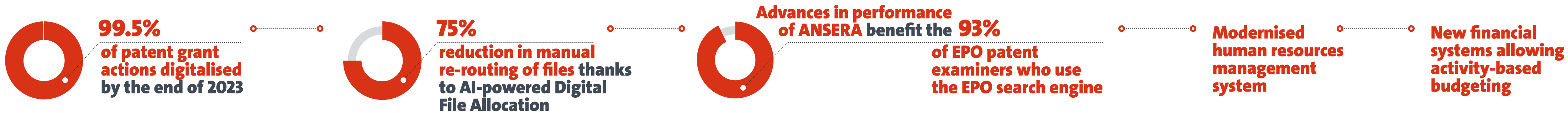
Work more effectively



Improve health and well-being

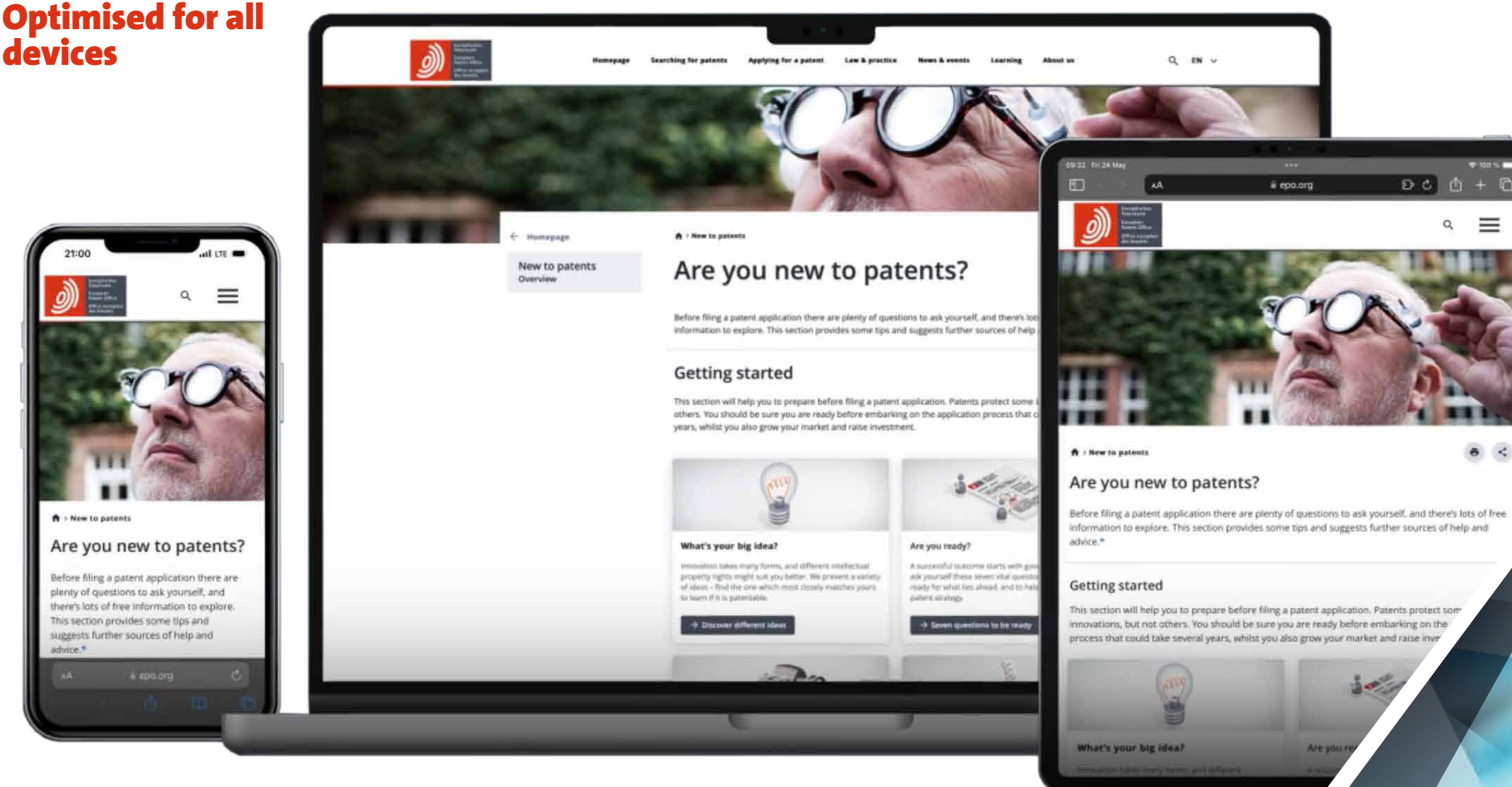
Goal 2 SIMPLIFY AND MODERNISE IT SYSTEMS

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

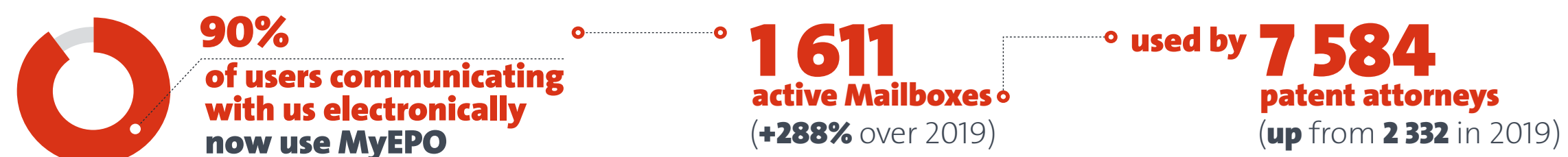


NEW WEBSITE

Optimised for all devices



USE OF MyEPO SERVICES



CONTINUOUSLY STRENGTHENING INFORMATION SECURITY



Goal 3 DELIVER HIGH-QUALITY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES EFFICIENTLY

KEY QUALITY INITIATIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Search reports and written opinions now reviewed by the three division members

New Harmonisation Dashboard now helps further align examination practices



20% reduction in opposition backlog compared to pre-pandemic levels



86.4% of search, examination and opposition standard files produced on time

SHARED UNDERSTANDING OF QUALITY

SACEPO Working Party on Quality, now with

74

members from



42 countries

>50 meetings with top applicants and user associations

STAKEHOLDER QUALITY ASSURANCE PANELS (SQAPS)

Provided valuable input into the EPO's Quality Action Plan 2024

24

European patent attorneys

from 11 countries



New topics in 2023:

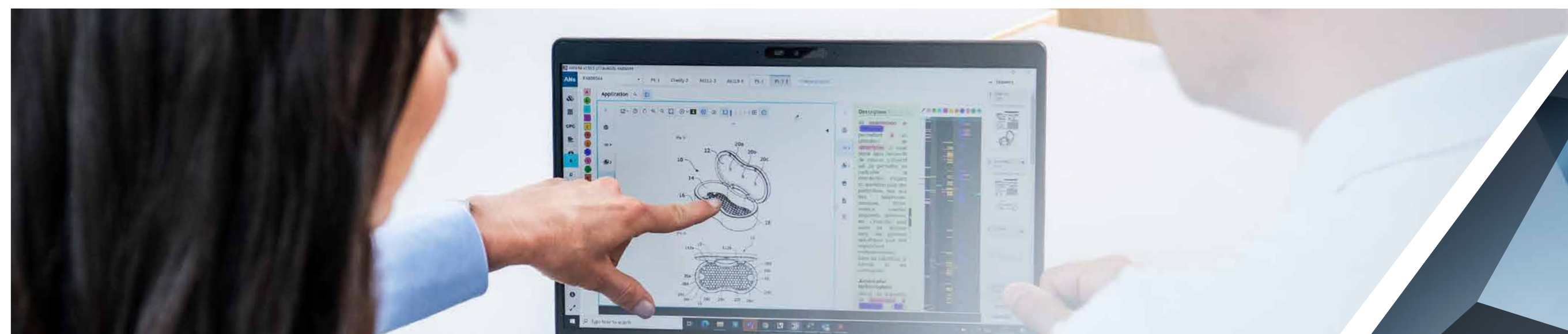
- Search and written opinions
- Intermediate communications

WORLD'S MOST EXTENSIVE PRIOR ART COLLECTION

153 million



patent publications (up from 146 million in 2022)



Goal 4 BUILD A EUROPEAN PATENT SYSTEM AND NETWORK WITH A GLOBAL IMPACT

WORKING AGREEMENTS ON SEARCH CO-OPERATION

Now with **17** member states
 Up to **400** SMEs, universities, research centres and individual inventors in each state can benefit from an **80% reduction** in the search fee

GLOBAL IMPACT, 2019-2023

Market for European patents now covers **¼ of world's population** (+150% / +1.3 billion people)

By January 2024, patent protection in up to **45 countries** on basis of single European patent application

13 reinforced partnerships (up from 2 in 2019)

IT CO-OPERATION WITH OUR MEMBER STATES

Front Office now used in **5** states
1 000+ examiners in **27** countries use ANSERA-based SEARCH

UNITARY PATENT SYSTEM LAUNCHED

Removes last barrier to a single European technology market

17 000 requests for unitary effect by year-end



VISITS TO ONLINE PATENT INFORMATION SERVICES

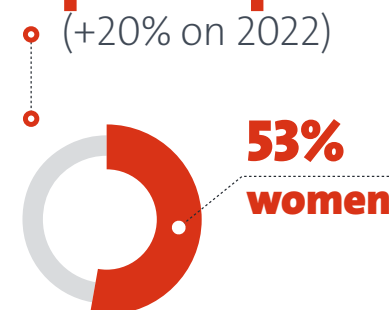
11.9 million per month



PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING

EUROPEAN PATENT ACADEMY EUROPEAN QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (EQE) EUROPEAN PATENT ADMINISTRATION CERTIFICATION (EPAC) (2022 & 2023)

26 480 participants (+20% on 2022)



2 149 candidates (+20% on 2022)

61 nationalities



850 candidates from

38 countries around the world

Goal 5 SECURE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY

LAUNCH OF OBSERVATORY ON PATENTS AND TECHNOLOGY

- Globally accessible digital platform
- Provides valuable insights into technology trends for informed decision-making
- Facilitates transparent and open discussions on innovation
- Deep Tech Finder connects Europe's investment-ready deep tech startups with investors
- Technology platforms running on Espacenet covering areas such as firefighting and clean energy



EUROPEAN INVENTOR AWARD AND YOUNG INVENTORS PRIZE

Award ceremony, Valencia, Spain

25 000+ viewers,
28 million+ social media users reached



EUROPEAN INVENTOR NETWORK

FIRST ROUND OF ACTIVITIES

24 activities granted

11 countries

Estimated **3 500** children and young adults reached



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY 2019-2023

-56% carbon footprint
 =amount of CO₂ absorbed by **> 250 000** trees in a year

-32% overall energy consumption in our buildings
 → yearly energy consumption of **>1 300** German households

89% reduction in sheets of paper procured

ISO CERTIFICATION MAINTAINED

- Quality management
- Occupational health and safety management
- Information security management