

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

2023

Bidfood Belgium

The Bidfood logo consists of a stylized white swoosh above the word "Bidfood" in a white, sans-serif font.

Your sustainable
partner

Content

Introduction	3
Our sites	4
Our sites- 2	5
Our sites- 3	6
2023 RESULTS.....	7
Electricity	8
Renewable energy	9
Natural gas	10
Fuels- 1	11
Fuels- 2	12
City water	13
Waste Management	14
Carbon footprint	15
Carbon footprint-2.....	16
FOODSERVICE RESULTS.....	17
Bidfood SA & Bidfood Flanders NV	18
HORECA SERVICE RESULTS.....	20
Bidfood De Clercq NV	21
Bidfood Horeca Service NV.....	22
Bidfood Makady NV	23
Foster NV	24

Introduction

Since 2018, Bidfood publishes a report of its environmental performance. This report is an opportunity to take stock of the progress made by Bidfood in managing the environmental impacts of its distribution activities.



Scope



This report covers the 2023 environmental performance of all Bidfood Belgium sites. The following indicators are part of this report :

- Electricity consumption
- Renewable energy usage
- Natural gas consumption
- Fuels usage
- City water usage
- Waste production
- Carbon footprint

Structure

This report contains four parts :

1. Short review of each site of the Bidfood Belgium group
2. Consolidated results for the year 2023 for the Bidfood Belgium group
3. Detailed results of our Foodservice sites
4. Detailed results of our Horeca sites

Consolidated results

For each environmental parameter examined, the report details consumption or production values for the year 2023 for the Bidfood Belgium group. Comparative values related to domestic life are established to allow a better understanding of the data.

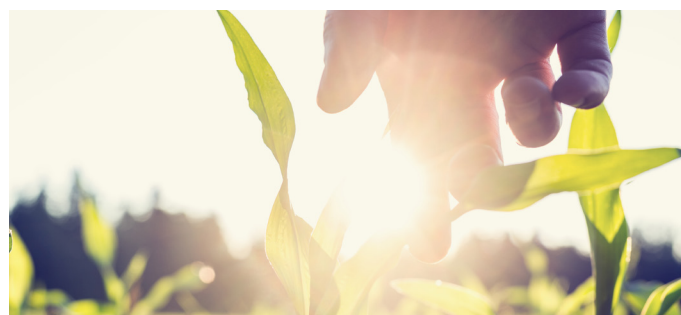
When the data are available, a comparison of the annual results of the last 5 years is carried out. An evolution trend analysis is established. This makes it possible to measure the improvements in performance achieved.

Sites detailed results

The detailed results are presented separately for :

- Foodservice sector and
- Horeca service sector

Values are presented for each indicator for the last 4 years.



SDG's

Throughout our 2023 reporting, we have highlighted the relevant UN SDGs* to which the content relates by using an icon alongside.

The SDGs are designed to be achieved by 2030, encouraging organizations to adopt a long-term perspective. By integrating the SDGs, Bidfood contributes to addressing critical global challenges, such as poverty, inequality, and climate change.



* Sustainable Development Goals- more information : <https://sdgs.un.org/>

Our sites

The Bidfood Belgium group is made up of six distribution sites. The Thuin and Kruikebe sites are dedicated to Foodservice. The Beringen, Dilbeek, Oudenaarde and Mechelen sites are specialized in the Horeca sector.



Bidfood Belgium is an integral part of the international Bidcorp group. Bidfood Belgium means putting the resources and expertise of a globalized group at the disposal of local needs at the best price: globalization.

The main mission of Bidfood Belgium is the continuous creation of values for its customers through a personalized approach and anticipation of their needs while ensuring regular “one-stop-shopping” delivery throughout Belgium and Luxembourg.

These reasons mean that Bidfood Belgium is today a major player in the Foodservice market in Belgium.

Bidfood SA



Built in 2004, the site located in Thuin is the largest distribution center of the Bidfood Belgium group certified according to the autocontrole guide for wholesale trade and approved as a cold store with the FASFC*. Responding to a clientele mainly from community catering and large accounts, the diversification of the range offered also makes it possible to satisfy Horeca customers. The large fleet of trucks attached to the site covers the whole of Belgium.

Features

- Year of construction: 2004
- Staff: 351
- Surface area: 36,000 m²
- Number of trucks (owned): 19

Bidfood Flanders NV



This ultra-modern warehouse was built in 2014 in Kruikebe and is equipped with the latest technological advances in insulation and energy saving. Located a stone's throw from the city of Antwerp, close to the motorway, this site is ideally located to serve our customers in the north of the country. Bidfood Flanders is certified according to the autocontrole guide for wholesale trade and approved as a cold store with the FASFC*

Features

- Year of construction: 2014
- Staff: 72
- Surface area: 9,800 m²
- Number of trucks (owned): 14

*Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain

Our sites - 2

Bidfood De Clercq NV



Completely renovated in 2005, the buildings have a logistics and storage organization certified according to the autocontrole guide for wholesale trade and approved as a cold store with the FASFC*. Initially specializing in dairy products, the company has now extended its food and non-food range to satisfy the entire out-of-home sector. Its fleet of trucks supplies the provinces of East and West Flanders as well as part of the province of Antwerp.

Features

- Year of construction: 2000
- Staff: 34
- Surface area: 3,700 m²
- Number of trucks (owned): 13

Bidfood Horeca Service NV



The frozen department was expanded in 2020 to double the storage capacity and the entire warehouse has been reorganized. The buildings have a logistics and storage organization certified according to the autocontrole guide for wholesale trade with the FASFC*.

Horeca Service has a fleet of trucks covering the whole of Flanders and part of the Netherlands on a daily basis.

Features

- Year of construction: 2007
- Staff: 100
- Surface area: 12,350 m²
- Number of trucks (owned): 34

Bidfood Makady NV



Built in 2011, the Bidfood Makady distribution center specializes in the Horeca sector, more specifically in products for fast food restaurants and chip shops.

Thanks to its versatile fleet of trucks (Foodtrans company part of Bidfood Belgium), Bidfood Makady loosens the entire Brussels region. The trucks are adapted to the constraints of delivery in urban areas.

Features

- Year of construction: 2011
- Staff: 65
- Surface area: 5,000 m²
- Number of trucks (owned): 25

*Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain

Our sites - 3

Foster NV



Built in 2011, the Foster distribution center specializes in the distribution and approved supplier of Halal-certified products and fast-food products for wholesalers, snacking, catering and theme parks. The buildings have a logistics and storage organization certified according to the autocontrole guide for wholesale trade with the FASFC*.

Features

- Year of construction: 2017
- Staff: 15
- Surface area: 3,513 m²
- Number of trucks (owned): 7

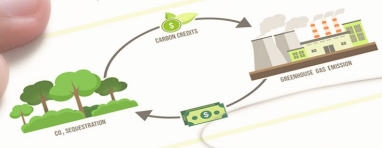
*Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain



STATISTICS



BIKE MORE



THINK GREEN

- POWER OF WIND**
- SOLAR PLANET**
- ENERGY**



INFORMATION



Electricity

Electricity is mainly used (by refrigeration units) for the production of cold in storage spaces. To a lesser extent, electricity is used for lighting installations and the operation of computer equipment and handling machines.



Purchase

2023



8.520.510 kWh of electricity were purchased in 2023 by Bidfood Belgium.

This is equivalent to the electricity consumption of 546 families of 4 people living in a house of 100 m² and using electricity for heating and hot water*.

This represents 1.525 tons of CO₂ equivalent. (1 kWh of electricity in Belgium = 0,179 kg CO₂ equivalent- source : electricitymaps.com)

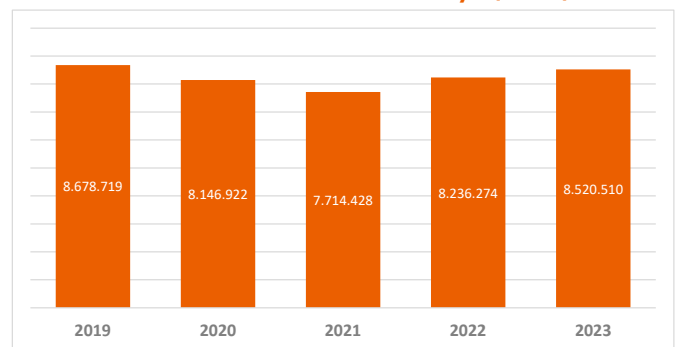
Trends

In 2023, we notice an increase in electricity consumption (purchased) of 3.5 % compared to 2022.

This increase is due to a number of factors: electricity production from photovoltaic panels was down sharply in 2023, and technical and safety constraints linked to cold production have led to a significant increase in electricity consumption at the Thuin site.

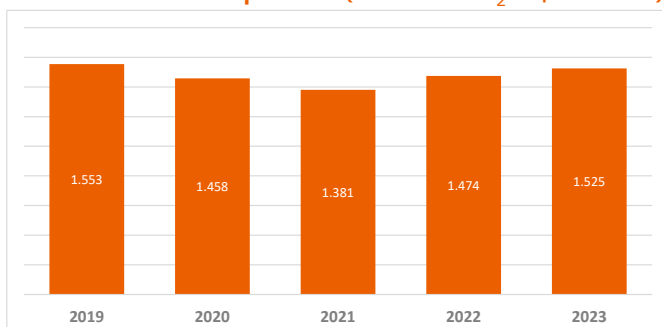
Optimising electricity consumption is a delicate balance to ensure the safety of staff and the foodsafety.

Purchase electricity (kWh)



Carbon footprint

Carbon footprint (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



CO₂ emissions obviously follow electricity consumption. However, we can see that emissions in 2023 are still lower than in 2019, even though the Foster site has joined Bidfood Belgium.

Electricity sourcing also influences CO₂ emissions. From 2024, all electricity purchased from the grid will be renewable. This will represent a reduction in emissions of almost 75%.

Renewable energy



Among the Bidfood Belgium sites 3 out of 6 are equipped with solar panels : Bidfood SA (Thuin), Bidfood Flanders NV (Kruibeke) and Bidfood Horeca Service (Beringen).



Production

2023



*average annual consumption of 15600 kwh

1.789.883 kWh were produced in 2023 by the solar panels of our sites.

The output of the solar panels in 2023 represents the annual consumption in electricity of 115 families (4 people in a 100 m² house) for heating and production of hot water.

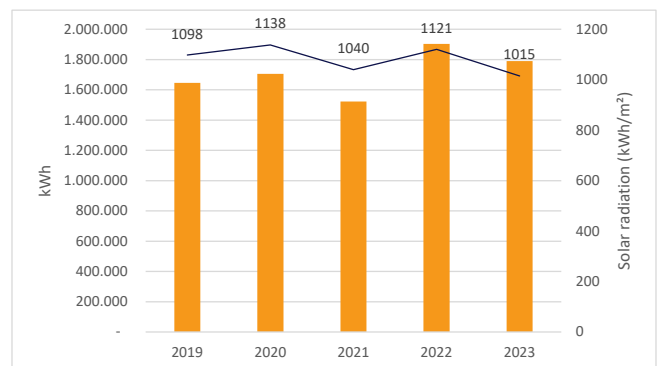
Trends

The electricity production of the solar panels is related to the global solar radiation. The link between these two parameters can be seen in the graph opposite.

Production has improved, depending on solar radiation, over the last two years following the replacement and cleaning of solar panels at the Beringen site.

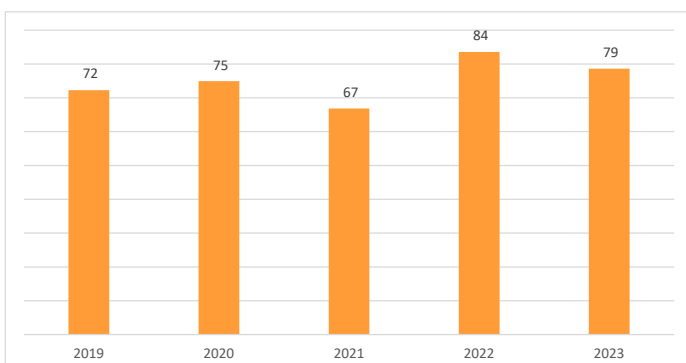
New solar panel installations are planned for 2024 on the Dilbeek and Thuin sites. Bidfood Belgium's electricity production will increase significantly over the next few years.

Renewable energy production (kWh)



Carbon footprint

Carbon footprint (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



It is important to compare the CO₂ emissions of electricity depending on how it is produced and where it comes from.

1000 kWh of electricity purchased from the grid (Belgian mix in 2024) emits the equivalent of 179 kg of CO₂ into the atmosphere, whereas the same quantity of electricity produced by solar panels emits the equivalent of 43.9 kg of CO₂.

That's more than 3 times less CO₂ emissions for solar production. version)

Global electricity usage

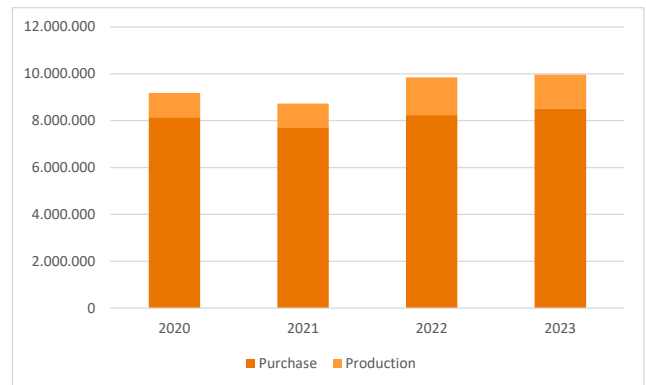
Global electricity usage

Total electricity consumption (purchased from the grid and generated internally) has increased over the last two years.

Half of the increase is due to the inclusion of the Foster site in our reporting scope, and the other half to the technical contingencies described in the section on grid electricity.

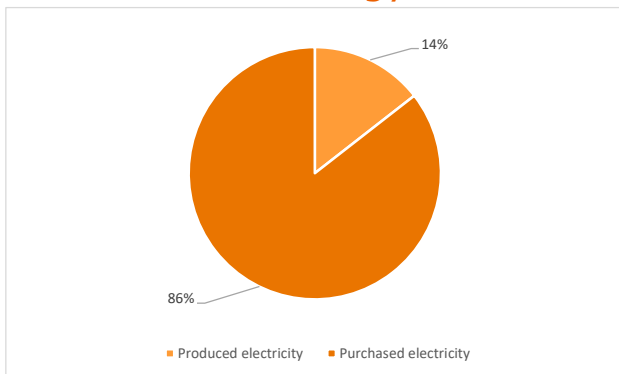
Each change in the reporting scope leads to significant differences between the annual figures.

Global electricity usage (kWh)



Renewable energy proportion

Distribution of energy sources (%)



On the total electricity consumption of the Bidfood sites, electricity from renewable sources represents 14% in 2023. The proportion of renewable energy has fallen slightly over the last two years (to 15.4% in 2021) following the inclusion of the Foster site in the scope of the environmental report.

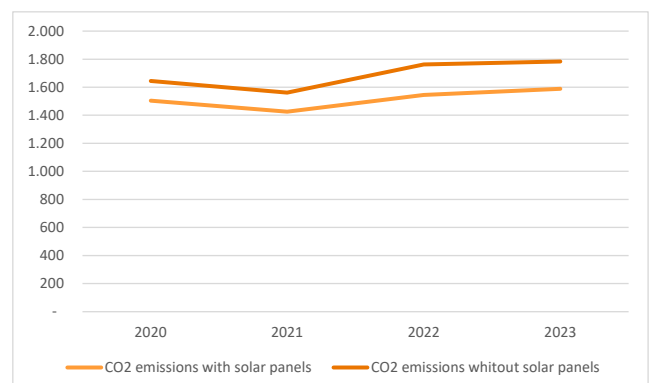
This percentage will rise to almost 100% with the purchase of green energy for the majority of Bidfood's sites in Belgium in 2024.

Global carbon footprint & next steps

A comparison of CO₂ emissions linked to overall electricity consumption with and without the production of solar panels shows the beneficial effect of renewable energy production on overall emissions.

We can see a saving of around 200 tonnes of CO₂. This represents a reduction in emissions of more than 10%. The gains will be even greater in the years to come with the addition of solar installations and the purchase of electricity from renewable sources.

Global carbon footprint (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



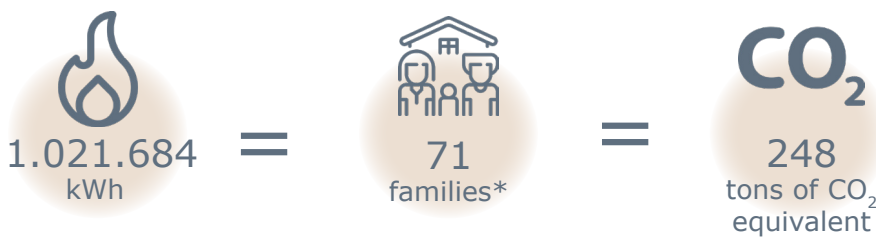
Natural gas

Natural gas is used for the production of domestic hot water, for the heating of administrative buildings and principally for the heating of non-refrigerated storage spaces (during the winter period).



Consumption

2023



*average annual consumption of 14.320 kwh

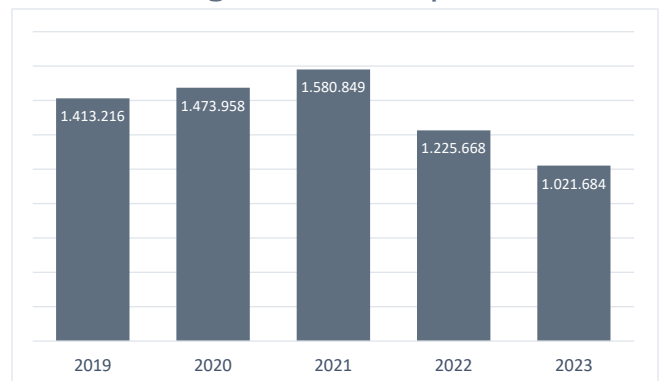
The annual natural gas use is equivalent to the annual consumption of 71 families of 4 people living in a house of 100 m² and using natural gas for the production of hot water, heating and cooking*.

Trends

Total natural gas consumption has fallen sharply since 2021. Natural gas is mainly used to heat storage areas (non-refrigerated) and administrative buildings in winter, and to produce domestic hot water.

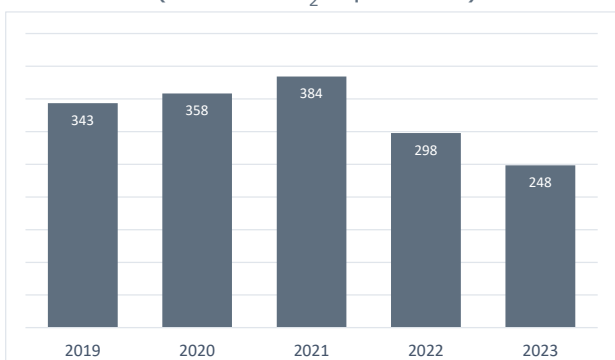
The reduction in consumption is present at every Bidfood site. The influence of mild weather conditions, following global warming, is leading to a reduced need for heating.

Natural gas consumption (kWh)



Carbon footprint & next steps

Carbon footprint (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



Carbon emissions logically follow the same trend as overall natural gas consumption. Very few solutions exist for reducing natural gas consumption while preserving staff well-being and product quality over the winter period.

A project to replace gas-fired boilers with heat pumps is currently under study at several of the Group's sites. The electricity consumption required to operate the heat pumps would be offset by the additional electricity generated by the photovoltaic panels.

Fuels - 1

Fuels used by our delivery trucks are Diesel and CNG Compressed Natural Gas. Fuel oil is used for the cold production within the delivery trucks. The presented results are for our own trucks and our subcontractors.



Diesel - consumption

2023



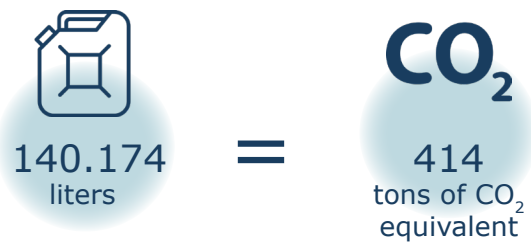
*average 6 liters/100 km

The consumption examined concerns all the trucks belonging to Bidfood Belgium. The consumption of subcontracted carriers is taken into consideration.

The annual fuel consumption is equivalent to that of a car (with an average consumption of 6 liters per 100 km) covering 45.045.150 km.

Compressed Natural Gas - CNG

2023



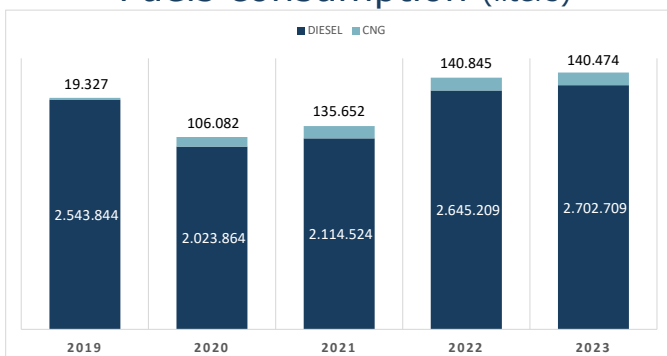
In 2019 and in 2020, Bidfood has invested in new trucks powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

CNG has strong advantages in comparison of Diesel. CNG-powered trucks consumption is lower than diesel-powered trucks.

The CNG-powered trucks also emit 77% less particulate matter and 11% less CO₂ than a truck with a diesel engine.

Trends

Fuels consumption (liters)



Diesel and CNG consumption has remained stable over the last two years, with the same scope. The volume of business has remained stable since 2022, so the number of deliveries has also followed the same trend.

2020 and 2021 remain exceptional years in view of the Covid crisis, which had a major impact on the Group's activities, with all the restaurants closed during the lockdown period.

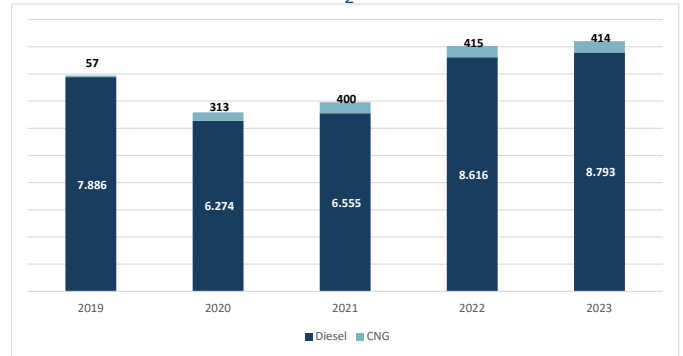
Fuels - 2

Carbon footprint

Carbon emissions logically follow the same trend as overall fuels consumption.

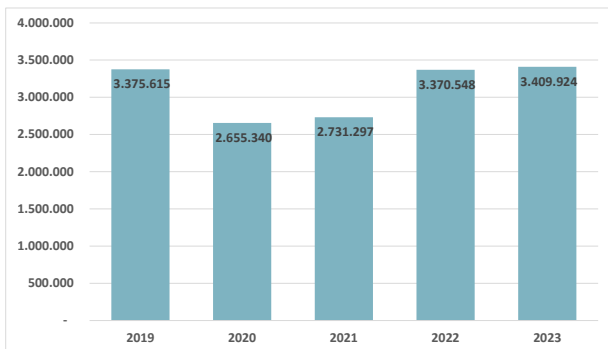
To drastically reduce CO₂ emissions from freight transport, alternative fuels such as hydrogen and electric trucks are the main solutions. Sites with a local or regional reach will be investing in electric trucks in 2024. This will meet a number of objectives: reducing CO₂ emissions, delivering to urban centres with zero emissions, meeting the expectations of our customers, etc.

Carbon footprint (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



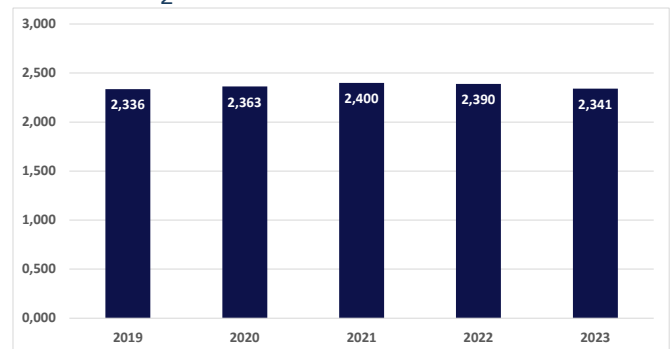
Distance traveled

Distance traveled (km)



Distances travelled have returned to pre-Covid levels. The number of kilometres travelled is stable between 2022 and 2023.

CO₂ emissions (kg) by km



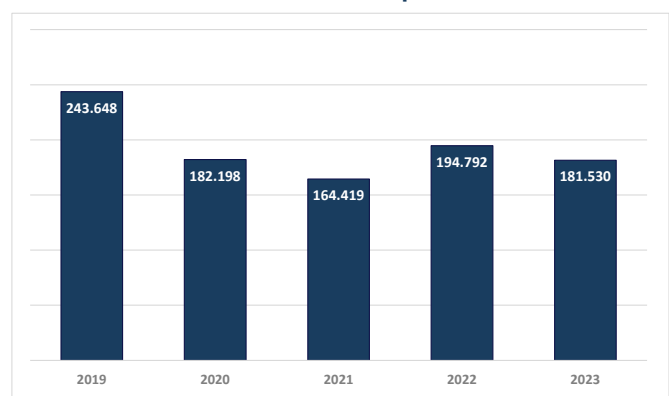
Similarly, the ratio of CO₂ emissions per kilometre travelled has remained stable over the last 5 years. The consumption of delivery lorries has therefore been kept under control to remain at a constant level.

Fuel oil

The fuel oil is used to supply the refrigeration units of the trucks. This does not apply to all trucks. For some of them, the refrigeration unit is supplied via the main engine of the truck. Since not all trucks are equipped with the same type of system, we cannot correlate this consumption with another indicator.

The drop in consumption in 2020 and 2021 is obviously linked to the Covid crisis and the reduction in business (restaurant closures). In 2023, there will also be a reduction in consumption, which is linked to the replacement of trucks with technologies that do not have a separate refrigeration unit.

Fuels oil consumption (liters)



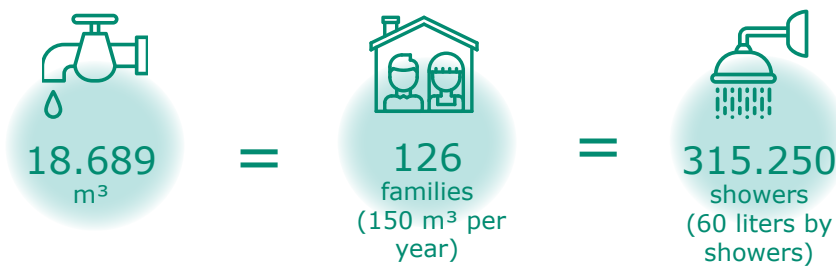
City water

City water is used for sanitary facilities (toilets, showers, ...) and on site-cleaning of the trucks in the distribution centers. Most of the consumption comes mainly from the Thuin site for the operation of the refrigeration system and for the washing machine of the plastic transport containers.



Consumption

2023



70 to 80% of the total consumption is associated to the cold production of the site of Thuin. This strongly depends on the weather conditions during summer.

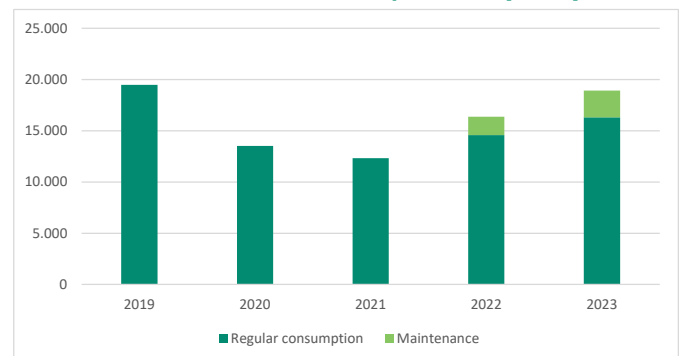
The annual city water use is equivalent to the annual consumption of 126 families of 4 people and represent 315.250 showers in a year.

Trends

The years 2022 and 2023 were marked by the maintenance of sprinkler tanks at various sites of the group. This maintenance meant that the tanks had to be emptied and refilled on several occasions. This had a negative impact on water consumption.

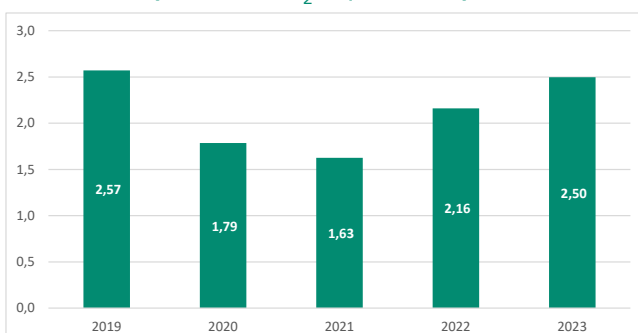
Excluding maintenance, there was an increase in water consumption. Global warming, which is leading to a significant rise in temperatures, is having an impact on the water consumption of refrigeration units.

Water consumption (m³)



Carbon footprint & next steps

Carbon footprint (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



Compared with CO₂ emissions from fuel consumption, those from water consumption are negligible.

Although it has little impact on overall emissions, efforts are being made to reduce water consumption.

A project to treat water by reverse osmosis will be launched at the Group's main site in 2024. A 25% reduction in water consumption is expected as a result of this investment.

Waste Management



The waste produced by the Bidfood sites are mainly packing waste such as cardboard, filming plastic, wood, ... and food waste (stale goods, breakage of products, ...). We distinguish three categories of waste: landfill waste, recyclable waste and energy-recovered food waste.



Waste production

2023



877 tons

=



1594 people

*average annual production of 550 kg per person

Cardboard, plastic, wood, steel, food waste, garden waste, waste to landfill, dangerous waste (maintenance packaging waste),... all these kinds of waste are sorted on our distribution centers. For several years now, the emphasis is on waste sorting and recycling to reduce the proportion of waste sent to landfill.

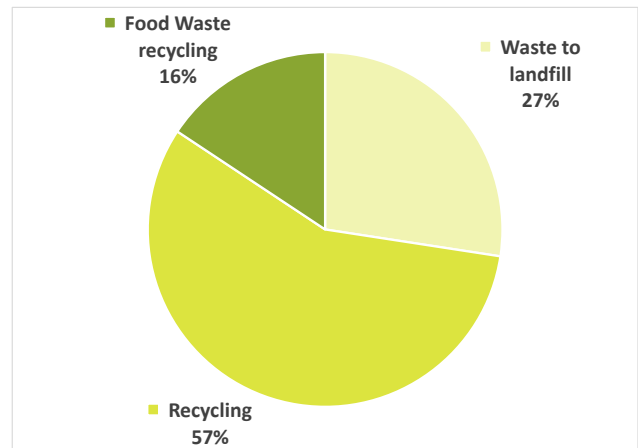
877 tons of waste were produced in 2023. This annual waste production is equivalent to the annual waste production of 1.594 people.

Distribution

Data collection on waste is refined from year to year. Not all waste evacuated is necessarily weighed, depending on the site, service provider, type of waste, etc.

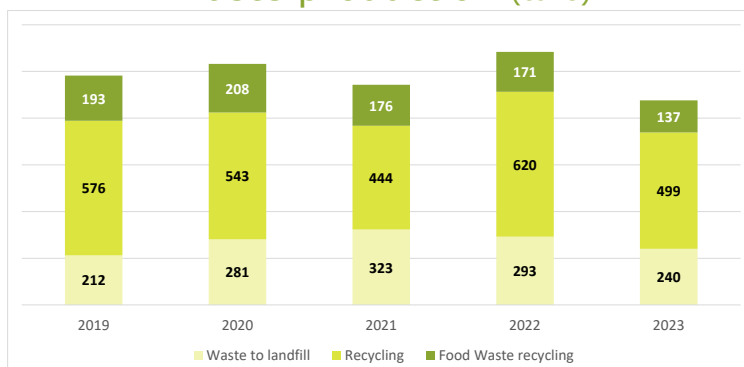
Estimates based on average weight by volume are made for missing information. Estimates are calculated on the basis of the same model each year, thus giving a trend of the evolution. The figures presented are therefore trends with a degree of uncertainty.

Over 70% of the waste produced by Bidfood Group activities is recycled.



Trends

Waste production (tons)



Overall, there will be a reduction in waste production between 2022 and 2023 (with the same scope of application). This reduction is visible for all types of waste: recycling, landfill and food waste. The reduction is almost 20% for each category of waste.

The proportion of waste sent to landfill has been reduced by 18% between 2022 and 2023. This also demonstrates the improved sorting carried out in our distribution centres.

Carbon footprint



The carbon footprint is the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions caused by the activities of Bidfood Belgium, expressed as carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent. Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are gases that increase the temperature of the Earth. This involves climate changes, such as extreme precipitation and acidification and warming of oceans.



Annual emissions 2023



10.797 tons

=



964 people

In 2023, 10.797 tons of CO₂ equivalent were emitted into the atmosphere due to the Bidfood Belgium activities.

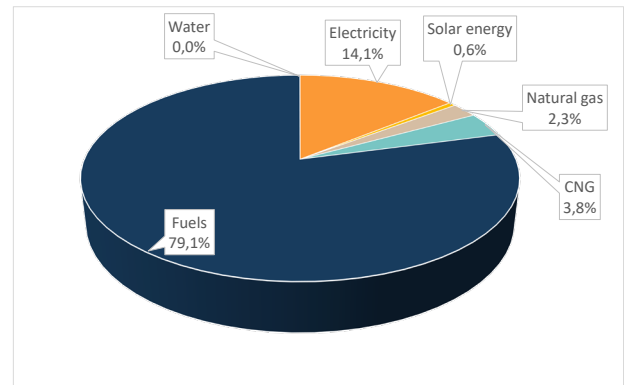
According to France's General Commission for Sustainable Development (CGDD), one person emits in average 11,2 tonnes of CO₂ per year. Bidfood's total emissions are similar to the CO₂ emissions of 964 people over one year.

Distribution

84% of the emissions are linked to the activities of delivery through the consumption of fuels and gas to tower the trucks.

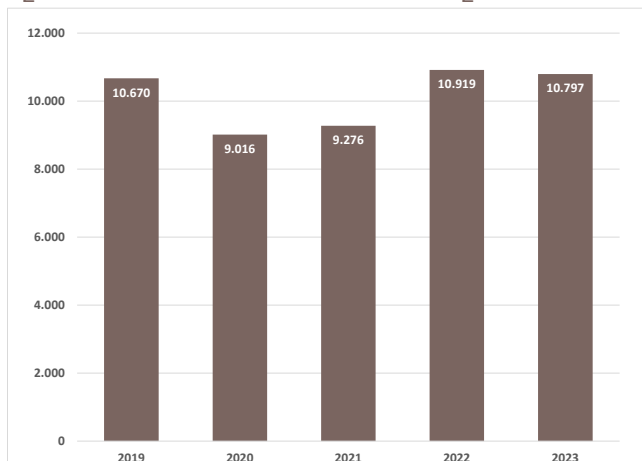
Waste is currently excluded due to the complexity of calculating the associated CO₂ emissions and the lack of availability and precision of certain data relating to waste treatment.

Distribution of CO₂ emissions



Trends

CO₂ emissions (tons of CO₂ equivalent)



Total CO₂ emissions in 2022 and 2023 are back to the level of the years before the Covid crisis. We can see the effect of the loss of activity in 2020 and 2021 due to the lockdowns and closures of all the restaurants, schools,...

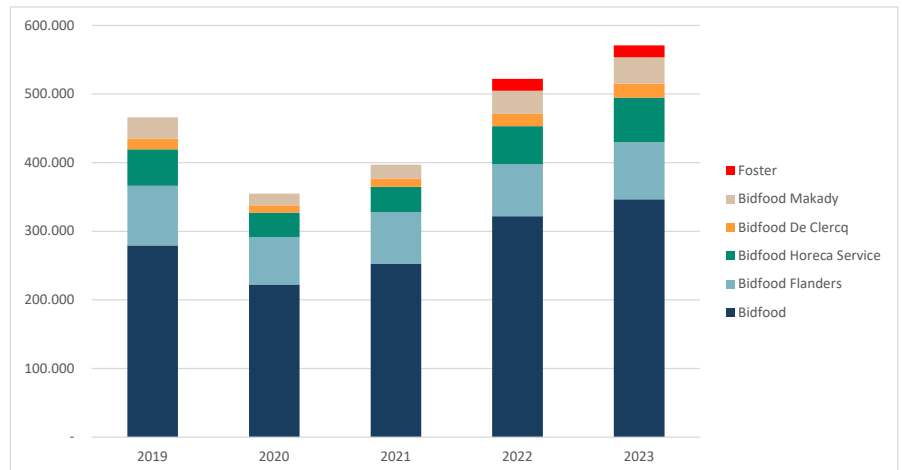
We can also see that, with the same scope of application since Foster became part of the Bidfood Belgium group, CO₂ emissions have remained stable, even if there is a slight decrease of around 1% in emissions between 2022 and 2023. It's necessary to relate CO₂ emissions to the level of activity.

Carbon footprint -2

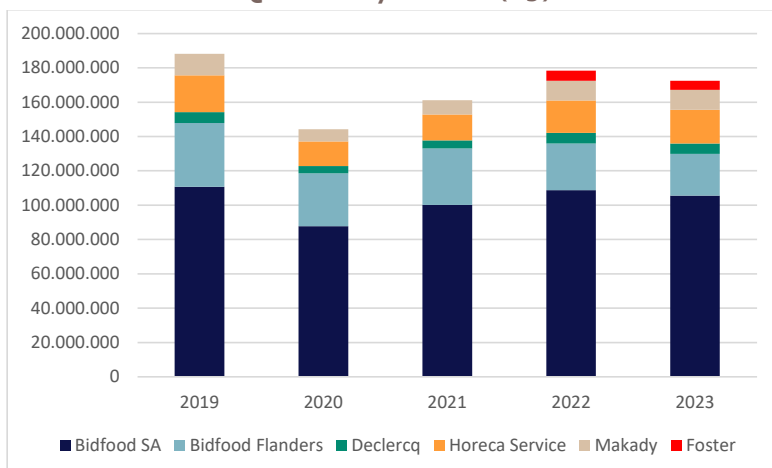
Business volume

The increase in the Bidfood Belgium group sales is due to cumulative inflation in 2022 and 2023. Between 2021 and 2022, food prices rose significantly. Several factors contributed to this inflation: higher production costs (energy), disruption to the supply chain (shortages), weather conditions and increased demand. As a result, food prices rose by almost 15% between September 2021 and September 2022. This inflation continued in 2023 to reach almost 7% in average.

Turnover ('000 Euro)



Quantity sold (kg)



Although revenues are growing strongly, for the reasons given above, the quantities sold have fallen compared with 2019. Business levels have still not returned to pre-Covid levels.

All the group's subsidiaries are affected by this phenomenon. Some of them are slowly returning to normal levels of activity.

This decline is also due to the termination of collaboration with two customer groups in the Foodservice sector in 2022 and 2023.

Major efforts are being made to increase the level of activity over the coming months.

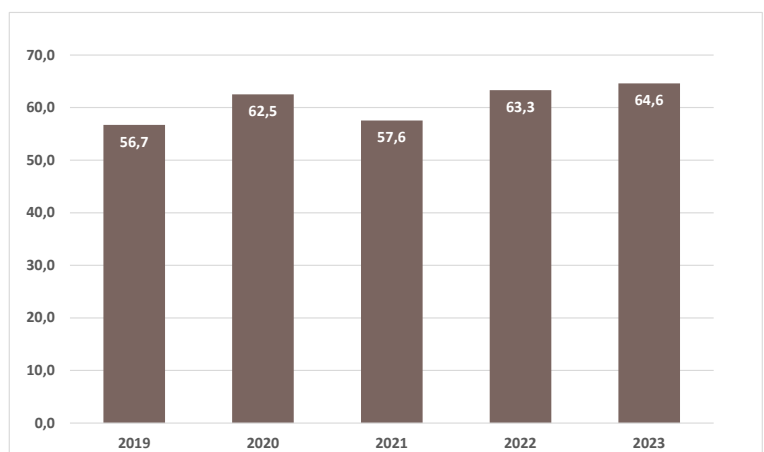
Relative emissions

Absolute CO₂ emissions are strongly related to the level of activity. If the Business grows, CO₂ emissions also increase. It is therefore necessary to relate these emissions to the level of activity.

Bidfood has chosen to follow the indicator of kg of CO₂ equivalent per ton of good delivered.

Despite a slight fall in total CO₂ emissions between 2022 and 2023, the drop in quantities sold has a negative effect on the chosen indicator. This highlights the difficulty of defining an activity-based indicator.

Relative CO₂ emissions (kg CO₂ equivalent/ton delivered)

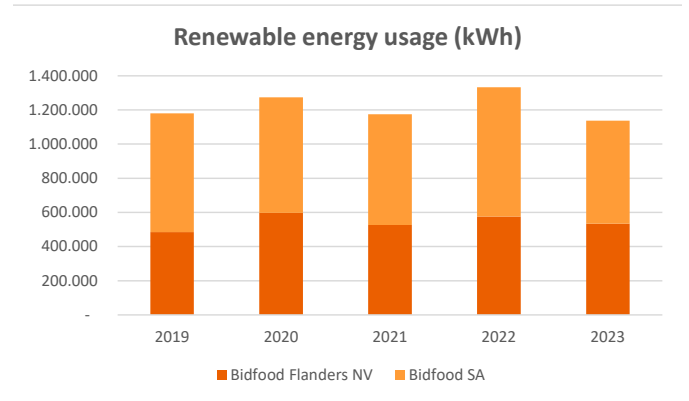
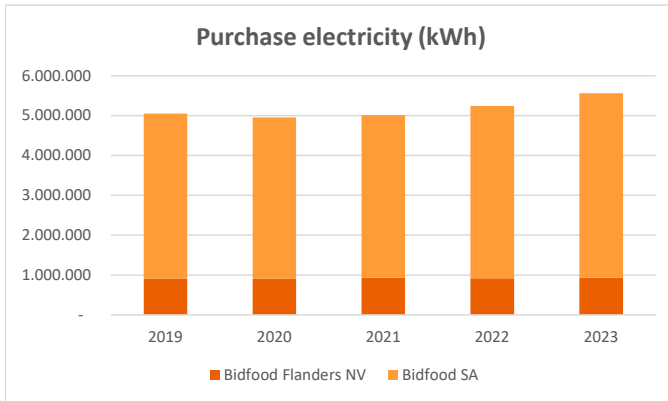




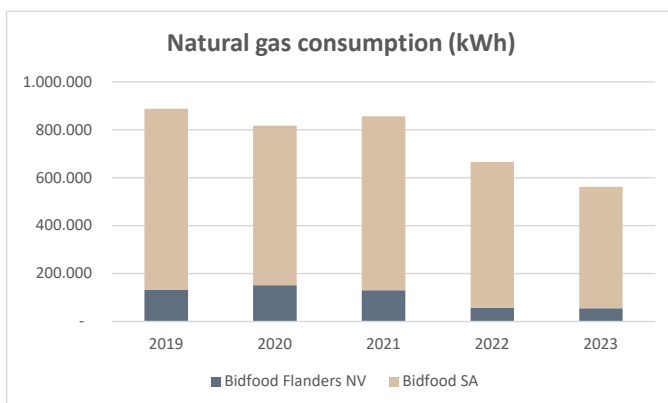
Bidfood SA & Bidfood Flanders NV



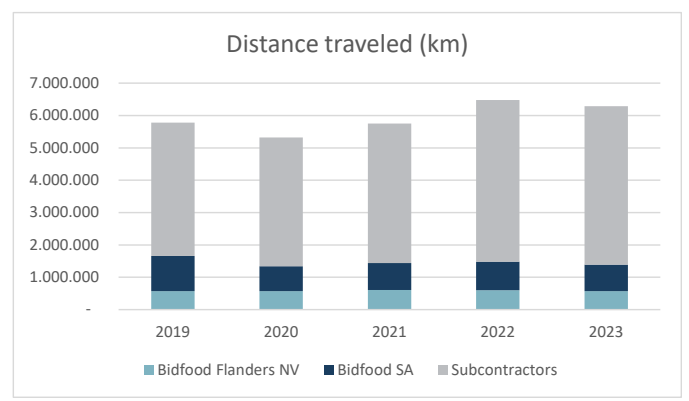
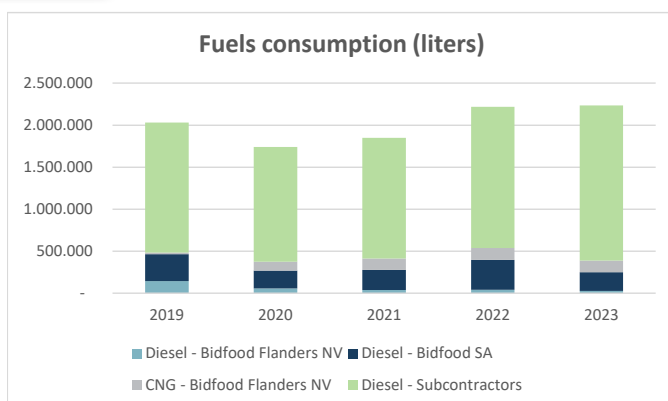
Electricity



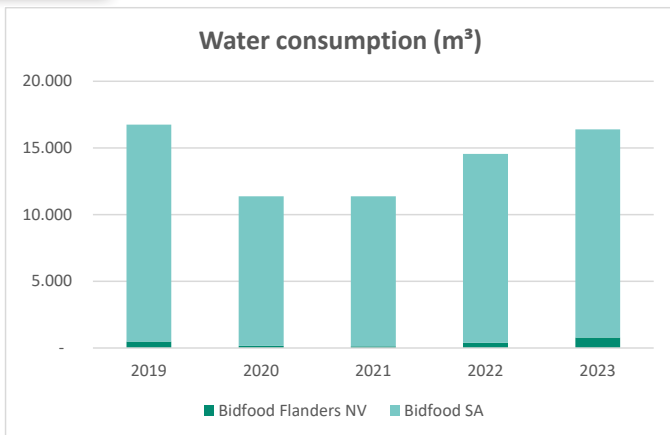
Natural gas



Fuels



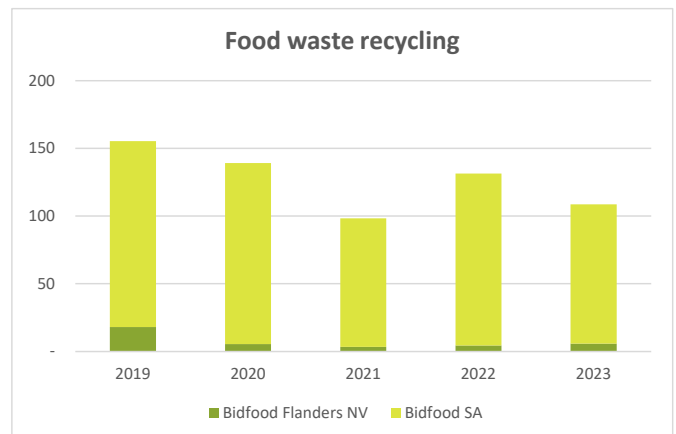
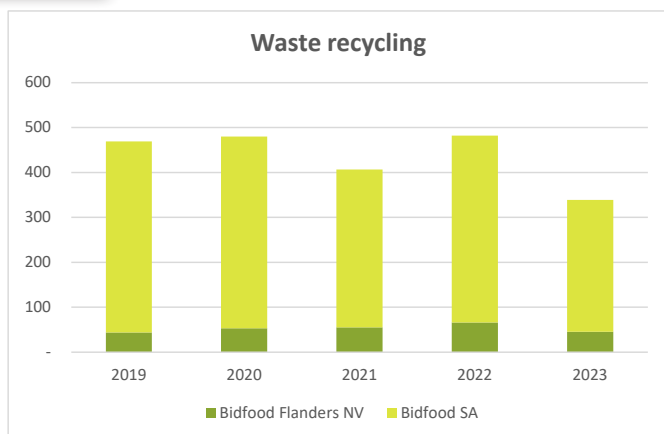
Water



Waste management



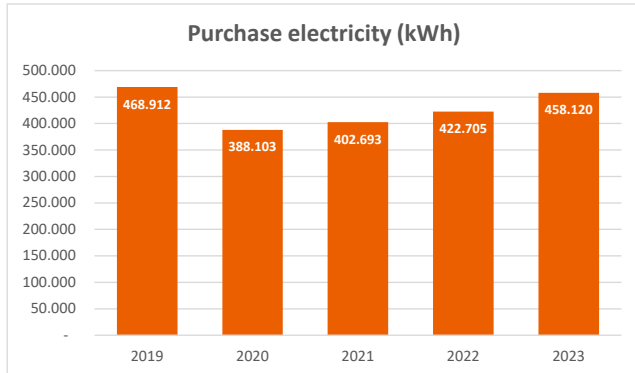
Waste management



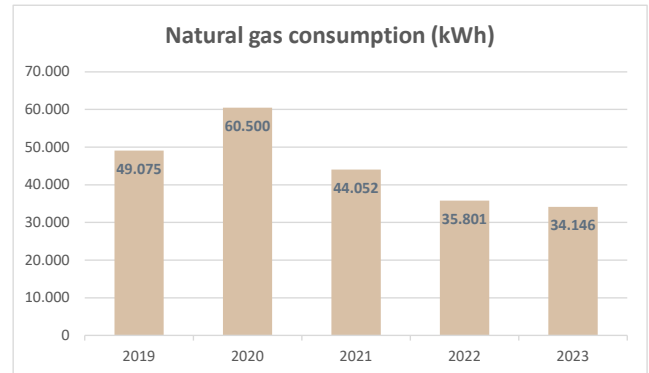



HORECA SERVICE
RESULTS

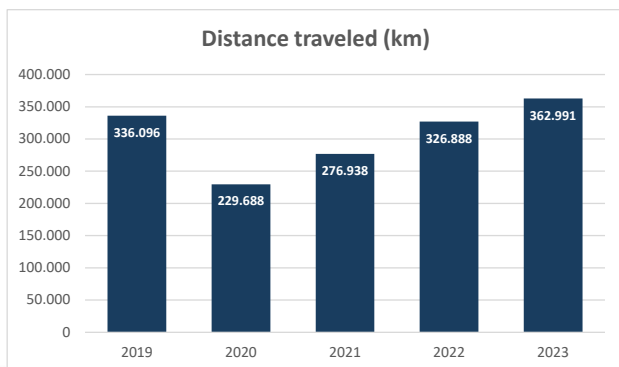
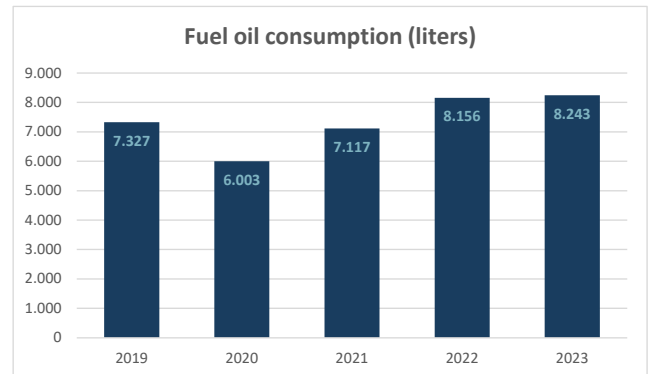
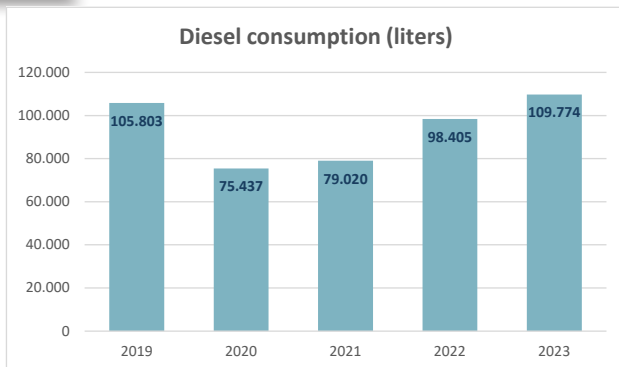
Electricity



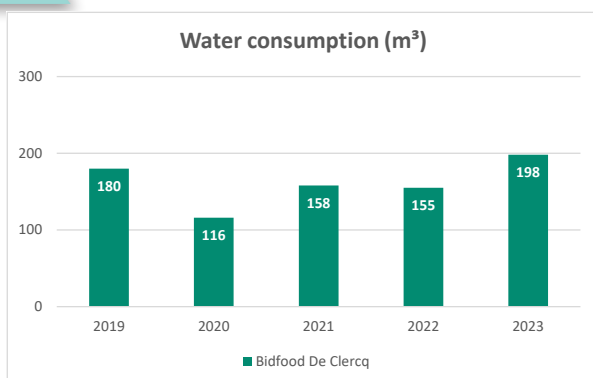
Natural gas



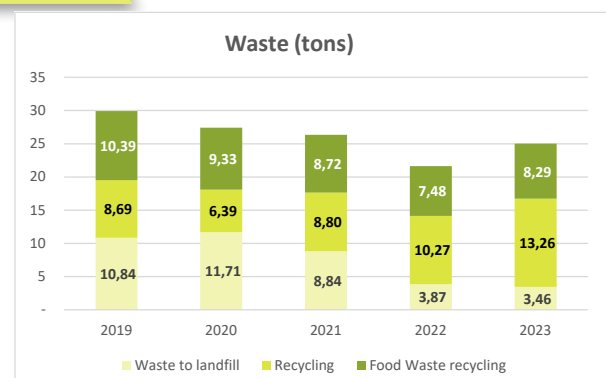
Fuels



Water



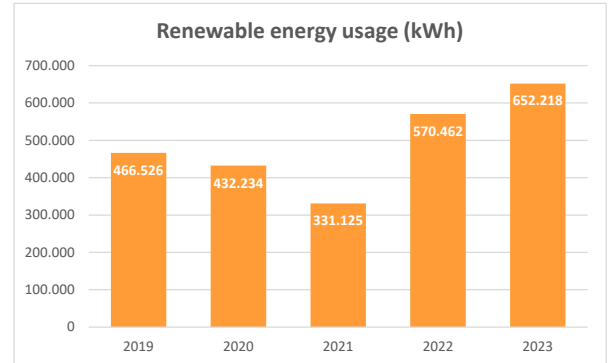
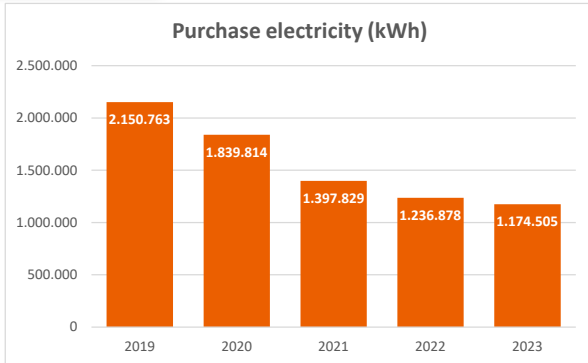
Waste management



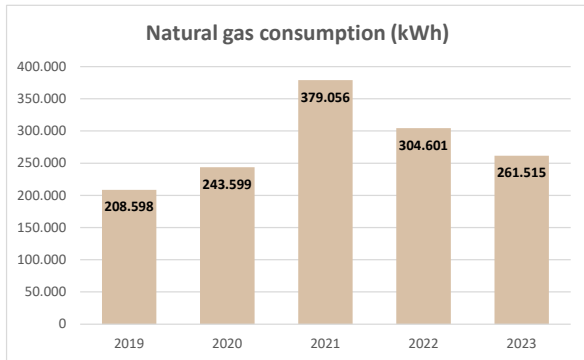
Bidfood Horeca Service NV



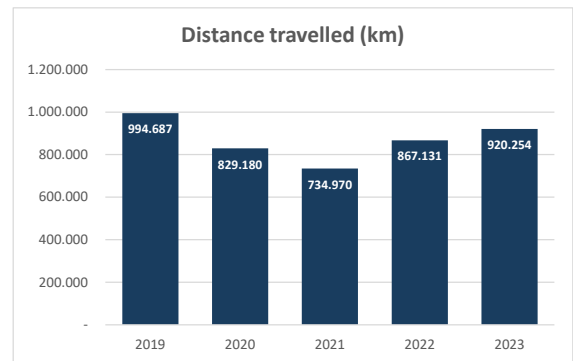
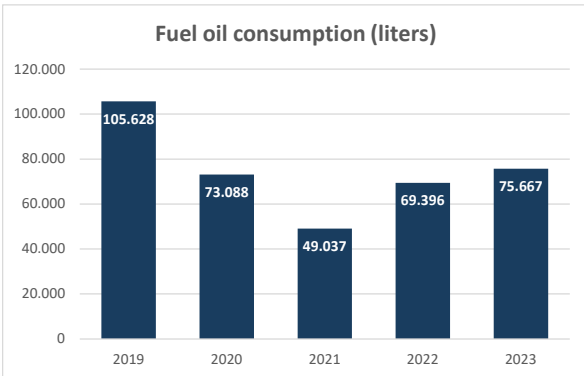
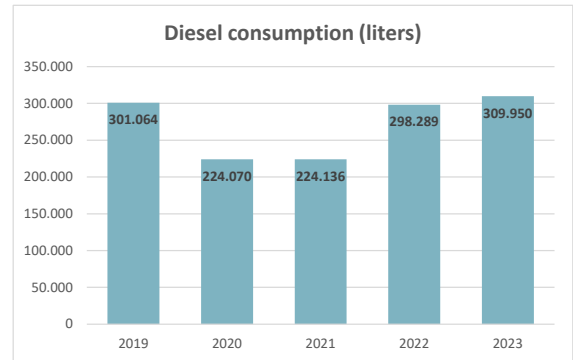
Electricity



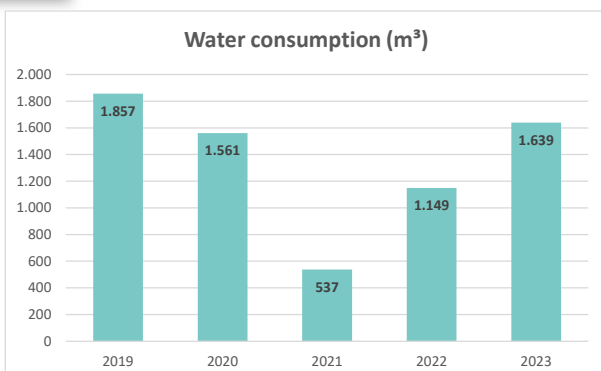
Natural gas



Fuels



Water

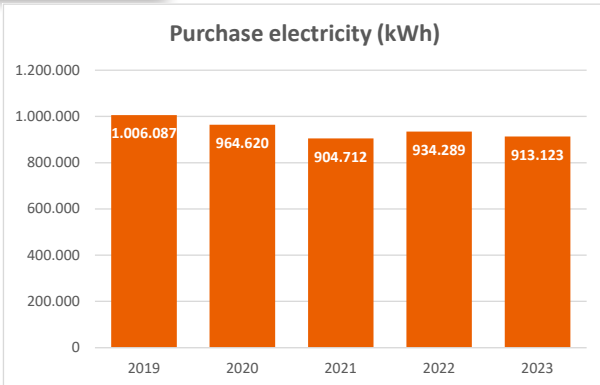


Waste management

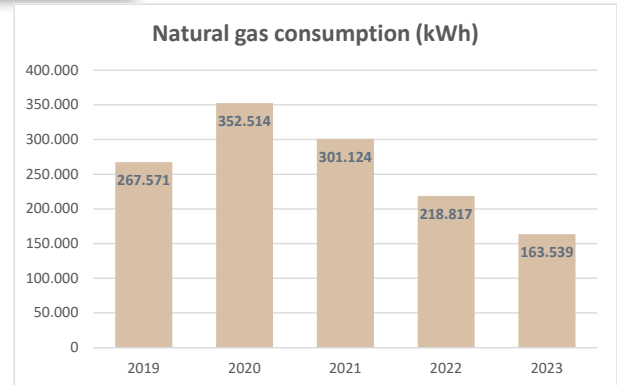


No data available for recycling in 2021

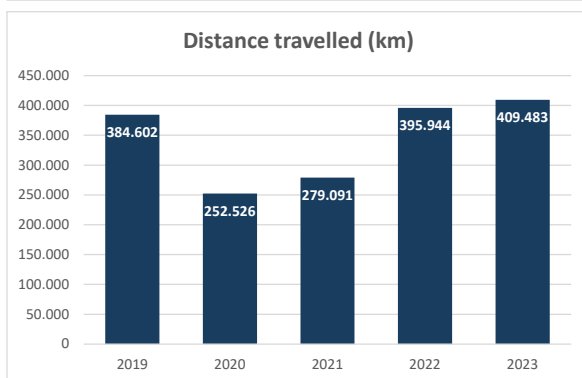
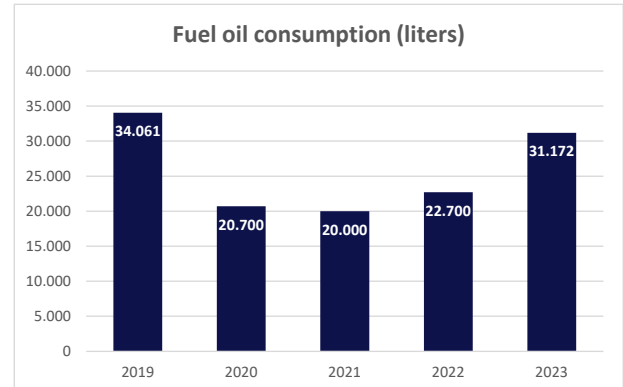
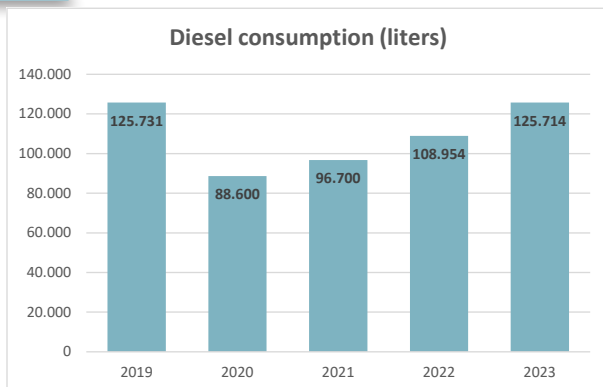
Electricity



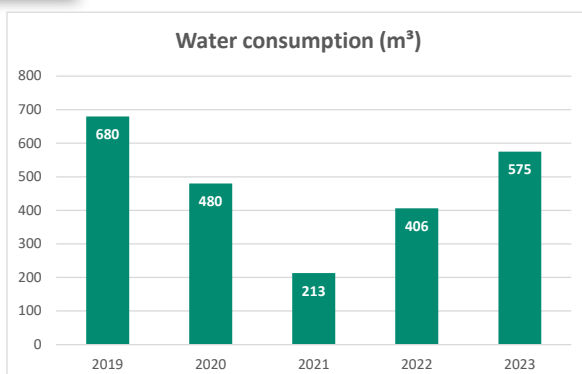
Natural gas



Fuels



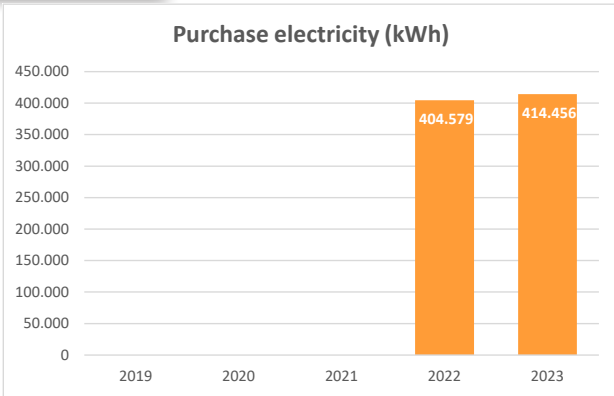
Water



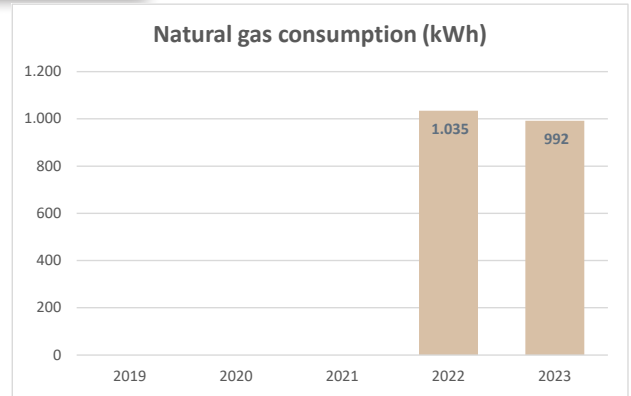
Waste management



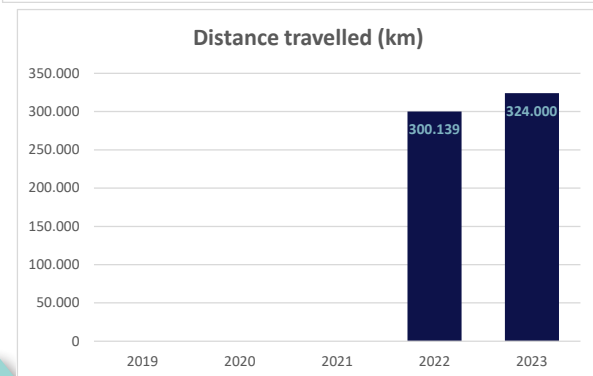
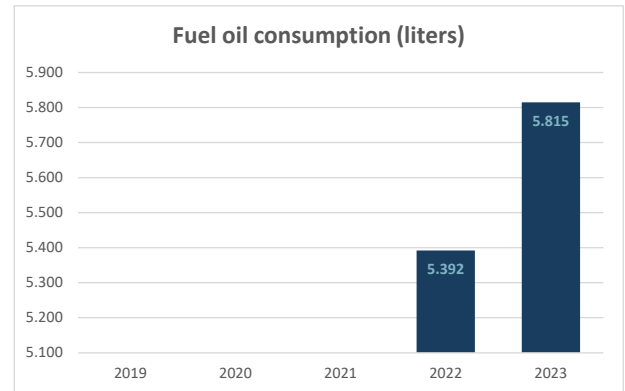
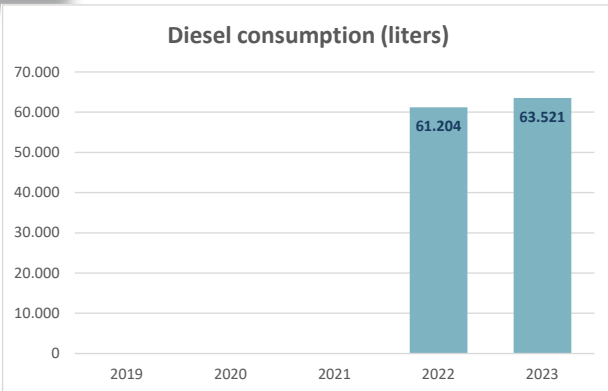
Electricity



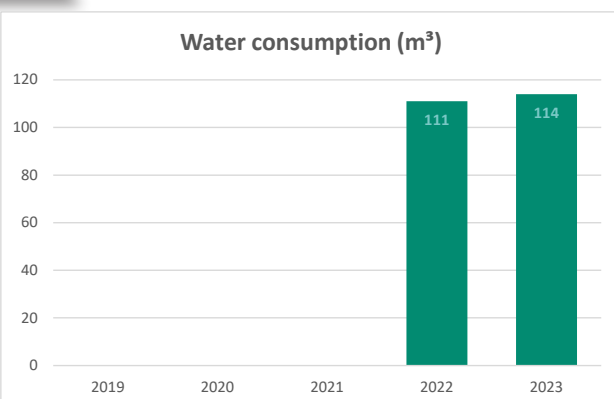
Natural gas



Fuels



Water



Waste management





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