# Sustainability report

This report is submitted as a separate report attached to the annual report, in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act (1995:1554), Chapter 6, Sections 10–14.

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This report is also available in English.



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About Sdiptech's sustainability reporting
This report describes how Sdiptech works with sustainability issues. The sustainability reporting covers activities and results for 2020 and has been reviewed by the external auditors. A complete content index according to GRI is provided on pages 50–51. Sdiptech's statutory sustainability report is found in the Group's annual report on pages 24-52 and as a separate appendix on the company's website.



# Our view of and the work with sustainability

Even though 2020 did not turn out as anyone had expected, the pandemic has given us new perspectives. We have gained a historic opportunity to come together and restart with a focus on more sustainable, efficient and safe solutions. This is how Sdiptech's President and CEO Jakob Holm, and Sustainability & IR Manager My Lundberg, view the Group's sustainability work.

JAKOB: Sustainability is becoming an increasingly fundamental part of our strive for better business results. In the past year, we have acquired five companies, which in different ways are contributing to social and climate-related sustainability. We are proud of our focus on responsible investments with strong business models and to ensure this going forward, we have produced a handbook for sustainable investments that has been implemented in the acquisition work. Taken together, all of the measures we are implementing are preparing us for the future. Expectations from customers and our employees' ambitions will only continue to increase and in 2021, and we are committed to taking further steps and becoming even better.

MY: Climate change is the greatest long-term challenge of our time and it is very important that we find effective solutions that can be implemented quickly. In the wake of the pandemic, the pace of the climate shift has increased. We see changed customer behaviour, stricter environmental standards and new technology that is accelerating this development. Meanwhile, more capital is being earmarked for investments in solutions that increase social and climate-related sustainability. Apart from stricter legal requirements, companies are expected to take account of sustainability aspects at all stages – driving forces that benefit our business. Our focus on sustainable investments creates lasting value by taking advantage of opportunities where innovation and technology are incorporated with a positive impact on people and communities.

**JAKOB:** During 2020, there has been a lot of attention on climate-related physical and transition risks. Looking ahead, we will see greater focus on sustainability

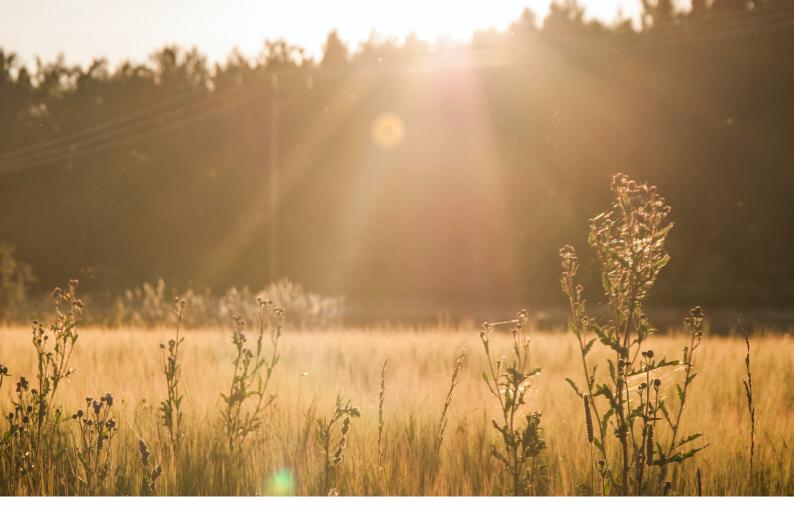
Apart from stricter legal requirements, companies are expected to take account of sustainability aspects at all stages – driving forces that benefit our business.

opportunities, both social and climate-related, which can be taken advantage of, and this is exactly what our business model is all about. Our investment philosophy means that companies with a sustainable business model and few sustainability risks have better potential for long-term profitability and growth.

MY: In 2021, there will be a lot of focus on the Taxonomy Regulation. While climate-related issues are being increasingly cemented in companies' business models and risk analyses, we will see more focus on social sustainability issues, such as workers' rights, safe education- and working environments and decent working conditions for all.

JAKOB: We strive to be an attractive employer and our most important asset is our employees who all contribute to our common success. This is something that has been extra evident during this unusual year and as Sdiptech's leader, I have never been more proud of what we have managed to achieve together. For this reason, it now feels extra important to invest a bit more in our employees. During 2020, we started leadership training for all Managing Directors. As an attractive employer with the development of our employees in focus, we are laying the foundation for continued profitable growth for Sdiptech.





# **Sdiptech's vision**

Sdiptech's greatest and most important opportunity to contribute to the society and the 17 global goals with 169 pertaining targets is through our business units, see a detailed review of this on page 36–43. Our vision is in line with and contributes to three of the UN's targets:



**9:1:** Develop reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure of high quality, incl. regional and cross-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.



**9:5:** Improve scientific research and the technical capacity of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, inter alia by encouraging innovation and significantly increasing the number of people working in research and development.



**9:4:** Upgrade infrastructure and adapt industry to make it sustainable, with more efficient use of resources and more clean and environmentally friendly technologies and industrial processes.

Sdiptech is working on and will communicate long-term measurable sustainability goals for the Group in 2021.

# Governance of the sustainability work

### **ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

The scope, content and quality of Sdiptech's sustainability reporting has been developed by applying GRI standards and Nasdaq's ESG reporting, including accounting principles and working with social and climate-related risks and opportunities according to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), but also stakeholder participation and materiality. The sustainability report has been prepared according to GRI Standards, Core level. The report has also been inspired by and prepared in accordance with the UN's guiding principles for companies and human rights. Additional reporting on Sdiptech's sustainability work is available on the company's website www.sdiptech.com.

### **GUIDELINES AND METHODOLOGY**

In connection with the close of the financial year, all Sdiptech companies, which have been part of the Group for the full reporting year, have provided sustainability data as part of the non-financial reporting.

### SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE WITH DECENTRALISED RESPONSIBILITY

Sdiptech's sustainability work is primarily governed by the Group's Code of Conduct, which was updated during 2020. Sdiptech's Board, through the Sustainability Council and Group Management, is ultimately responsible for the sustainability work and after that for the company's sustainability report. The Sustainability Council conducts stakeholder dialogues that form the basis for decisions on long-term overall targets in key focus areas. This is supplemented by each business area manager drawing up goals and action plans for their respective companies.

The sustainability work is presented for the Board once per year or more often when required. Leading positions in the Group are responsible for developing and implementing strategies, policies, guidelines, goals, processes and tools for sustainability. Sdiptech has Group policies and guidelines which are related to sustainability. These include the business ethics-related Code of Conduct, the handbook for responsible investments and the governing documents at Group level relating to, among other things, safety, equal opportunities and decent working conditions, the company's property, confidential information, integrity, business ethics, human rights and environmental issues.

100% of the employees, including customers and suppliers, have access to an anonymous whistleblower function handled by an external party

### **PURPOSE AND GOAL**

The purpose of Sdiptech's sustainability report is to describe in a transparent way our strategies and governance as well as responsibility, risks and opportunities from a sustainability perspective. Both Sdiptech and the surrounding world should be able to follow the development of the Group's sustainability initiatives. The report should provide customers, employees and shareholders with an understanding of and knowledge about our sustainability work.

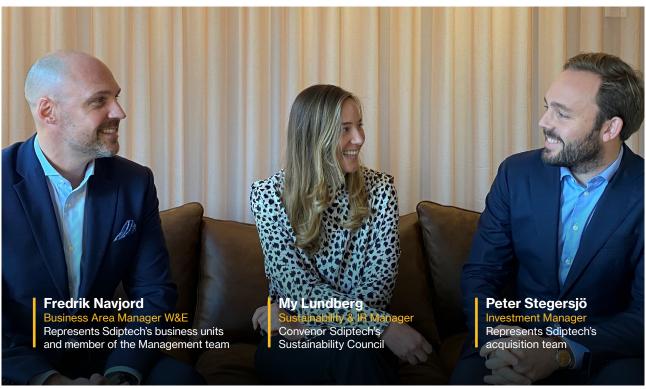
### BUSINESS ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Sdiptech's Code of Conduct summarises fundamental Group policies and guidelines and contains rules to ensure that the operations are conducted based on a sense of ethics and integrity. The Code applies to all employees within the Sdiptech Group and reflects the company's obligations according to the ten principles in the UN's Global Compact and the UN's guiding principles for companies and human rights. The Code is reviewed regularly and all employees and others who work for Sdiptech shall undertake to read, follow and understand it. Everyone who works for Sdiptech has a personal responsibility to ensure that the work is performed in accordance with the Code of Conduct. The Code is available in Swedish and in English in order to ensure that the entire workforce, and other stakeholders of Sdiptech, can understand and familiarise themselves with it. During 2020, the company updated the Code with a number of items. After the Board approved the Code of Conduct, the company's workforce was asked to read through it and confirm that they understood it through a digital signature.

100% of employees are informed annually about the code of conduct

# The Sustainability Council

Sustainability is firmly rooted in Sdiptech's business model and culture, and covers the entire Group's operations in all markets. As a technology group that acquires and develops companies, we shall contribute to sustainable development, first and foremost through our business operations, products and services. During 2020, Sdiptech established a Sustainability Council, composed of employees with different positions and competencies who represent all parts of the Group. This enables well-developed strategies while decisions can be made quickly.





**Business Area Manager SIS** - input if required



- input if required













**Board of Directors** - external input if required

# Highlights in the sustainability work 2020 ESG reporting according to GRI and Nasdaq transparency reporting Description of Sdiptech's contribution to the UN's global goals >> Description of social and climate-related risks and opportunities Update of materiality analysis and stakeholder dialogues Production of handbook for responsible investments >> Initiation of leadership training of Sdiptech's Managing Directors >> Update of Sdiptech's business ethics-related Code of Conduct Cooperation with Global Utmaning and Aktiv Skola

# Approach to sustainability

We believe in a future that is based on more sustainable. efficient and safe societies. To achieve this, it is crucial that we expand and improve the infrastructure around us. We intend to take an active role in this development by acquiring and developing leading niche companies that offer solutions for the infrastructure sector's most critical needs. Our sustainability focus is integrated in the entire operations and is becoming an increasingly fundamental part of our quest for better business results. Focus on sustainability and responsible investments helps us create lasting value and has two main purposes: to reduce risks and take advantage of opportunities, while we can create a positive impact and build internal pride. According to our investment philosophy, the companies that Sdiptech invests in should have strong offerings that address critical infrastructure needs, while the products and services should contribute to more sustainable, efficient and/or safe societies. This combination of driving forces in our business units' core operations ensure long-term demand. Economic sustainability for Sdiptech is synonymous with social and ecological sustainability. Conversely, companies whose offering or business is in conflict with these driving forces will gradually become disliked by public authorities as well as the general public and thus pose more risks.

### SUSTAINABILITY WORK

Sdiptech's sustainability work can be described as a pyramid. The basis consists of key pillars such as financial stability, long-term ownership, our strong local roots and a decentralised working method. Key cornerstones are that we continually work with our climate impact, that we take responsibility for ensuring that our working environment is characterised by respect and that we engage in the local communities of which our subsidiaries are part of. We have the greatest influence on sustainability through our responsible investments and the offerings of existing business units, which in various ways contribute to more sustainable, efficient and safe societies.



### SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES

- As a serial acquiring company, we shall always follow our handbook for responsible investments
- Ensure that sustainability is integrated in the business model
- 3 Analyse sustainability risks and opportunities
- Regularly evaluate material sustainability areas and conduct an active dialogue with stakeholders
- Comply with the UN's Global Compact, the UN's global sustainable development goals and the OECD's guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

- Adhere to policies and Codes of Conduct that address relevant sustainability areas
- Formulate relevant measurable goals and continuously develop our social, environmental and economic influence on society
- Manage and follow up the sustainability work with the help of fit-for-purpose processes and resources
- 9 Have a secure whistleblowing reporting channel
- 10 Report the sustainability work in a transparent way

### Focus on what is material

### STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE

Our sustainability work is influenced by a number of stakeholders that have expectations of us. We want to be a sustainable actor, which is perceived as relevant. To succeed in this, we need to be keenly aware of our stakeholders' expectations of our sustainability work. In this way, we can ensure that we make the right priorities. We therefore actively and systematically work with stakeholder dialogues.

Sdiptech's main stakeholder groups have been identified on the basis that they are significantly impacted by or impact Sdiptech's operations: employees, shareholders, Board of Directors, suppliers and customers. Sdiptech also conducts a continual dialogue with other stakeholder groups, for example trade associations, sustainability analysts, customers, the press and the media. Sdiptech has continual contact with its stakeholders on issues related to sustainability. In 2020, an updated stakeholder dialogue was conducted, which took place through targeted surveys, among other ways.

### **MATERIALITY ANALYSIS**

The stakeholder dialogue has resulted in an updated materiality analysis, which aims to define the areas where we have the greatest opportunities to contribute to a more sustainable development. The dialogue has shown that our stakeholders believe that the sustainability issues with a close connection to our business should be given the highest priority, in other words, ensuring Sdiptech's long-term competitiveness, growing through organic growth and acquisitions as well as responsible investments. Other important areas that are ranked highly are health and safety at work, employee wellbeing, anti-corruption and business ethics, human rights and working conditions as well as leadership.

In summary, in accordance with the results of our stakeholder dialogues, we have grouped the most material sustainability issues into three categories:

### Sdiptech in society

- 3. Ensure Sdiptech's long-term competitiveness
- 4. Grow through organic growth and acquisitions
- 5. Resource use (e.g. energy, water and waste)
- 6. Climate adaptation of operations
- 11. Management of waste and hazardous waste
- 12. The Group's total GHG emissions
- 24. Responsible investments



### Sdiptech as an employer

- 13. Leadership
- 14. Diversity and inclusion
- 15. Gender equality
- 17. Occupational health and safety
- 19. Employee wellbeing



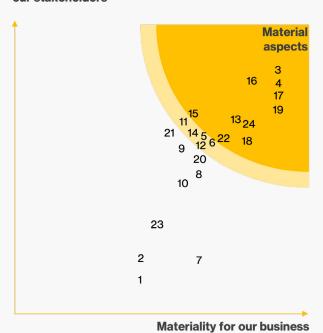
### Sdiptech's business culture

- 16. Anti-corruption and business ethics
- 18. Human rights and working conditions
- 22. Transparency in reporting



- \* The aspects that are ranked highest for our stakeholders and our business
- \* Other material aspects that we have chosen to work with

### Materiality for our stakeholders



- 1. Increase the number of jobs
- 2. Promote local employment and investments
- 3. Ensure Sdiptech's long-term competitiveness
- 4. Grow through organic growth and acquisitions
- 5. Resource use (e.g. energy, water and waste)
- 6 Climate adaptation of operations
- 7. Circular flows through e.g. reuse/recycling/sharing
- 8. Carbon footprint from transport of employees
- 9. Environmental requirements on products and suppliers
- 10. Products lifecycle costs (LCC)
- 11. Management of waste and hazardous waste
- 12. The Group's total GHG emissions
- 13. Leadership
- 14. Diversity and inclusion
- 15. Gender equality
- 16. Anti-corruption and business ethics
- 17. Occupational health and safety
- 18. Human rights and working conditions
- 19. Employee wellbeing
- 20. Sustainability competence among employees
- 21. Governance of sustainability issues
- 22. Transparency in reporting
- 23. Supplier Code of Conduct
- 24. Responsible investments

# **Sdiptech** in society



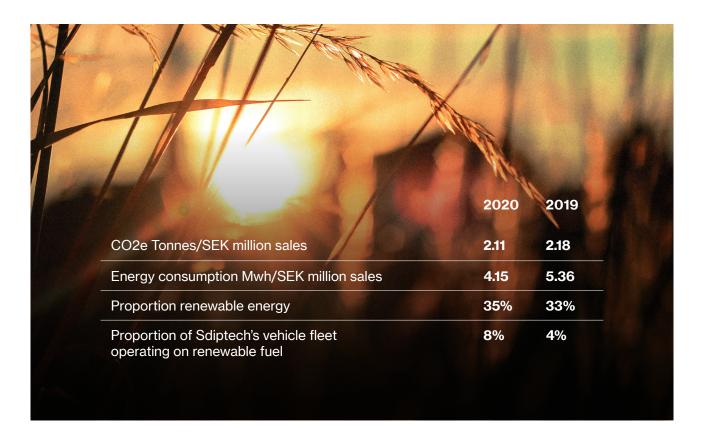
### **Environmental and climate impact**

The investments that are made today affect how much greenhouse gases we will emit in the future. Reducing emissions is necessary, both for the environment and in order to combat global poverty. As investors, we play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Sdiptech's climate contributions and impacts mainly occur in our business units. Therefore, our investments must follow an investment philosophy that aims to be a driving force in the shift towards more climate-smart infrastructures and societies. In 2019, we began the work on calculating the Group's greenhouse gas emissions. Sdiptech measures direct emissions (scope 1), emissions from energy consumption (scope 2) and indirect emissions from suppliers (scope 3) which are delimited to emissions from business travel and work materials. This is calculated in accordance with the GHG protocol (Greenhouse Gas Protocol). A number of Sdiptech's business units help their customers reduce their environmental impact through their offerings. See a detailed review of how Sdiptech's companies contribute to the UN's 17 Global goals on page 36-43.

Responsibility for improving the environment and participating in a lasting sustainable development is a key starting point for the Group's operations. Sdiptech's environmental impact is limited and is mainly connected to transportation

of input goods, finished products, business travel and energy consumption. The Group's companies continually work to reduce the environmental impact of their operations. The environmental work is conducted locally, based on the specific conditions of each individual company. The Group's companies strive for high efficiency in their use of energy and natural resources, promote systems for reuse and recycling of materials and energy, and also prevent and limit environmental pollution. The ambition is to be very keenly aware of customers' and suppliers' wishes and thereby be able to meet the market's demands for proactive environmental work. Several of the companies in the Group work with quantitative goals in their environmental efforts, such as changing electricity contracts to renewable energy, replacing petrol cars with electric and hybrid vehicles and developing recycling systems and processes.

Just over half of our subsidiaries are certified according to ISO. The Group conducts operations in four of its subsidiaries that require a permit under the Swedish Environmental Code, relating to waste water treatment. There are no known threats that could endanger the operations from an environmental perspective. During 2020, Sdiptech and our business units have invested approximately EUR 80,000 in local social engagement and sponsorship of various sustainability initiatives.





### Carbon dioxide emissions

Sdiptech's carbon footprint mainly consists of carbon emissions, which we believe to be the largest negative environmental impact from our operations. In addition to emissions related to the internal use of fossil fuels and electricity, emissions of carbon dioxide are also generated by various modes of transport, such as transport of materials and products and passenger transport.

Sdiptech's CO2e emissions, tonnes	2020	2019
Scope 1 emissions	2,084	1,31
Scope 2 emissions	2,224	2,578
Scope 3 emissions*	93	280
Total	4,401	3,989
CO2e Tonnes/SEK million sales	2.11	2.18

<sup>\*</sup>Sdiptech has delimited the reporting of Scope 3 to business travel and office material.

### Sustainability in the supply chain

We work with a large number of global suppliers' products and solutions. Some purchases are made from non-Nordic suppliers in Europe and Asia, among others, which can lead to sustainability risks. However, we have long-term relationships and close cooperations with our supplier, which gives us ability for dialogue and risk prevention. According to our decentralised model, it is up to each business unit to make sure that their suppliers follow our Code of Conduct. In addition, our goal is to map the suppliers in 2021.

### Generating financial value

Financial stability and strength are basic requirements for investing in sustainable business development. The accumulated expertise and experience in acquisitions, international expansion and management of creative teams has laid the foundation for the Group's decentralised management philosophy, which aims to inspire creativity and stimulate growth.

**Growth:** At Sdiptech, we focus on growth in earnings rather than on sales growth. Sdiptech's growth target is to achieve an average annual organic EBITA growth of 5–10 percent. Such a continual improvement in earnings requires us to continuously work with investments, improvements and efficiency enhancements. We need to sell more to existing customers, launch new products, find new customers and segments and establish ourselves in new markets. Other ways of generating growth, beyond organic growth, include making company acquisitions or establishing partnerships with different players.

**Profitability:** Profitability, measured as the return on capital employed, should exceed 15 percent. This demonstrates how effective we are in using the working capital invested over the year and our other assets. We want each business concept and subsidiary to have the potential to reach this target to be a part of the Group in the long term. A high level of profitability enables us to self-finance our growth.

**Development:** Each business unit is expected to be at the cutting edge and develop the operations in its sub-sector. Development issues may involve new technologies, new products, improved work processes, new IT systems and other aspects that help the company to advance. We know that companies successful in identifying and managing such issues ahead of their competitors build long-term competitiveness.

### Targets in generating financial value

To realise Sdiptech's business concept and vision, in most of the companies, these are translated into targets and sub-targets. Within Sdiptech, we have transformed our vision into financial targets for the entire Group, which are then broken down at a subsidiary level. The Group's three most important financial targets are the following, which were all achieved during 2020:

- Organic earnings growth: Average annual organic EBITA\* growth of 5–10 percent.
- Earnings growth through acquisitions: An annual average rate of acquisition of SEK 90 million in EBITA\* per year.
- Capital structure: Financial net debt in relation to adjusted EBITDA on a rolling 12-month basis should not exceed 2.5 times.

### **Responsible investments**

Our investment philosophy is that companies with a sustainable business model and few sustainability risks have better potential for long-term profitability and growth. During 2020, Sdiptech produced a handbook for responsible investments, which by including sustainability criteria in the acquisition work's selection process can continue to ensure that the investments made are responsible ones. Read our handbook for responsible investments on Sdiptech's website: www.sdiptech.se. Sdiptech's responsible investments have generated about 30 companies, which are presented below, that in different ways contribute to more sustainable, efficient and safe societies.

# UN's 17 global sustainable development goals

The UN's global goals are the most ambitious agenda for sustainable development ever adopted by the countries of the world and exist to eradicate extreme poverty, reduce inequalities and injustices, promote peace and combat the climate crisis. Infrastructure has a natural role in several of the UN's sustainable development goals and is an issue that unites people across political borders. Sdiptech contributes to a total of 13 of the 17 goals, as well as 38 of the 169 targets. Six of these targets are connected to Sdiptech Group's operations. However, our absolutely most important contribution occurs through the products and services that our business units offer.



**GOAL 3** is to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Sdiptech contributes to targets 3.1, 3.3, 3.6 and 3.9.



# 3.1: Reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births:

Every eleven seconds, a pregnant woman or a new-born baby dies somewhere in the world, which are unacceptably high levels. In spite of this, the solutions in many cases are basic, it is a matter of clean water, sanitation, nutrition, vaccination and basic healthcare. Sdiptech's business unit Pure Water Scandinavia is specialised in producing ultra-pure water and designs, constructs, commissions and services the market's most reliable clean water installations and delivers these solutions to hospitals around the world.



3.3: End the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to combatting communicable diseases:

- Hilltip manufactures road maintenance equipment. Early in 2020, when the pandemic broke out, the company developed their spreaders, which previously were mainly used to scatter salt on slippery roads, and also made it possible for them to spread disinfectants in public places in an efficient and safe way. Today, Hilltip's sanitary and disinfection spreaders are used in shopping centres and schools all around the world.
- Water Treatment Products produces disinfectants and pesticides, among other things against legionella.
- Pure Water Scandinavia iinstalls, constructs and services the market's most efficient clean water systems for hospitals and laboratories, as well as for various industries.



### 3.6: Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to reducing the number of deaths and injuries in road traffic:

- There is a clear link between speed and traffic accidents. The consequences become milder and even the risk of an accident occurring decreases at a lower speed. In particular, traffic cameras are an important and well-documented speed-reducing measure. RedSpeed manufactures digital cameras for speed detection and road safety.
- Accidents among pedestrians increase significantly during November and December.<sup>2</sup> Winter conditions are an

important aspect for road safety in northern Europe and it is mainly poor road conditions and darkness that come into play. Hilltip is one of Europe's leading manufacturers of road maintenance equipment and ice control for smaller roads, cycle paths and footpaths.

- Centralbyggarna and Centralmontage produce and install
  customised switching stations and electrical automation,
  for example for distribution boxes to control traffic lights
  and street lighting. Functioning street lighting and traffic
  lights are an important preventive measure in reducing
  traffic accidents.
- Thors Trading supplies special studs to cope with difficult road conditions for heavy machinery such as tractors and road machinery.



3.9: Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to reducing the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals:

- Polyproject is one of Scandinavia's leading environmental technology companies, specialised in products for cleaning of aggressive liquids, water, gases and air. They collaborate with some of the largest flue gas cleaning companies in the industry in Sweden as well as internationally.
- Vera Klippan produces large-dimension cisterns for larger water and sewerage systems. The company's products are used, among other things, for chemicals, water and sewage, as well as ventilation chimneys and scrubbers.
- Medicvent works with gas evacuation systems for noxious gases. Their technology improves the working environment in hospitals by maximising the capture of harmful leaking gases arising during operations, among other things.



**GOAL 4** aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Sdiptech contributes to targets 4.5 and 4.A.



4.5: Eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and

children in vulnerable situations.



& 4.A: Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unicef: https://unicef.se/fakta/modravard

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Swedish Transport Agency: https://transportstyrelsen.se/sv/Press/Pressmeddelanden/2019/fler-gaende-skadas-nar-vintertiden-borjar/

 Roughly every sixth person in the UK suffers from some form of impaired hearing.<sup>3</sup> Our business unit Alerter Group contributes to equal access to education and improves educational environments that are adapted for more people through their radio-based communication and fire alarm systems for the disabled, such as deaf and hard of hearing people, where their main customers are schools and universities.



**GOAL 5** is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, which is a prerequisite for sustainable and peaceful development. Sdiptech contributes to target 5.5.



5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

There is a certain challenge in the technology industry where Sdiptech operates, to attract more women and create a more uniform gender distribution, particularly in the entrepreneur-led technology companies that we acquire. We want everyone to feel welcome and we want to contribute to more women becoming interested in technology and urban planning at an early age. One way for us to do that is to is to support the Global Challenge initiative. Among other things, they have developed the #Urbangirlsmovement initiative, which aims to prioritise young women's views on urban development in order for cities to become inclusive and sustainable. In order for us to be able to find new target groups and diversify our final candidates, we also work to achieve more diversity and more uniform gender distribution by::

- Mapping the current situation and setting ambitious diversity and gender equality targets.
- Quality assuring our communications, incl. our recruitment materials, to create a more inclusive visual and written tonality.
- Broadening our networks and opening up recruitment processes through new channels and ways of screening candidates.
- Continually reviewing our forms of employment from a perspective that can attract more women, such as parental allowance, flexible working hours, remote working and no qualifying days.
- Including both women and men in the recruitment group.
- Leadership training that is carried out to support both women and men in their managerial positions.



**GOAL 6** is to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Sdiptech contributes to targets 6.1, 6.3, 6.4, 6.6 and 6B.



6.1: Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to target 6.1:

- Polyproject and Vera Klippan play an important role in several water treatment processes by commissioning and servicing clean water installations.
- Water Treatment Products works with the preparation and manufacture of water treatment products which, among other things, are delivered to water treatment plants.
- RIA, which supplies control systems for, among other things, water treatment plants, contributes to more efficient water consumption by monitoring and determining when the pumps should be started and switched off for the least possible wastage.



6.3: Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

Sdiptech's business unit **Topas** works with wastewater treatment for properties outside the municipal water and sewerage networks. They have a technical organisation, which is adapted to take a holistic approach to infrastructure for wastewater treatment for smaller communities.



6.4: Substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to target 6.4:

- Large parts of Europe's water infrastructure are outdated.
   The fact is that an average of 23 percent of the fresh water in Europe leaks due to leaking pipes and conduits.
   Sdiptech's business unit Auger ensures a sustainable supply of drinking water through efficient insurance claims management relating to underground infrastructure such as pipes and water mains.
- Polyproject has a unique competence in cleaning wastewater, for example when by-products such as gypsum and heavily polluted aggressive wastewater that must be treated.
- Vera Klippan, which commissions and services pure water facilities, produces large-dimension cisterns for larger water and sewerage systems. The company's products are used, among other things, for chemicals, water and sewage, as well as ventilation chimneys and scrubbers.
- Topas works with wastewater treatment for properties outside the municipal water supply and sewerage networks. Their unique water and sewerage system purifies wastewater that can be used for cultivation in places facing acute water shortages, so as not to burden drinking water systems.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hearinglink: https://www.hearinglink.org/your-hearing/about-hearing/facts-about-deafness-hearing-loss/

 $<sup>{\</sup>small ^{4}}. Report from \ Eur Eau: \ https://www.eureau.org/resources/publications/1460-eureau-data-report-2017-1/file}$ 





6.6: Protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes & 6.B: Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.

Sdiptech's business unit Topas contributes to these two targets by utilising their unique water

and sewerage system where purified wastewater is utilised and can, for example, be used for irrigating crops in places facing water shortages. The company has participated in a facility that reverses the cycle, from pumping up groundwater, irrigation and ditching, which causes a lot to flow out into the sea, to taking Baltic sea water, cleaning it, using in households, cleaning wastewater and using for irrigation. The sewage treatment plants are also dimensioned and designed to be able to take wastewater from industries.



GOAL 7 is to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. Sdiptech contributes to targets 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.A and 7B.



7.1: Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services. & 7.2: Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.



Sdiptech's business units Unipower and Eurotech contribute to the two targets:

- · High-quality electricity supply is critical for functioning societies and will only become more important in connection with the electrification of industries and communities. Electricity quality problems can arise in connection with weak networks and varying production, such as renewable electricity. As the world is increasingly investing in renewable electricity production, continual monitoring of the electricity supply plays an important role. Unipower eoffers automated power quality management systems for continuous supervision of the energy supply - a significant factor in ensuring that the use and development of renewable energy takes place in a safe and sustainable way without interruption.
- **Eurotech** offers customised solutions for well-functioning systems for uninterruptible power supply. Their products in the Solar Power Solutions segment enable a business to be run entirely on solar energy, including storing the energy over time that can be used during power outages or when the solar cells are unable to deliver full capacity.



7.3: Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to energy efficiency:

The total energy consumption for all Swedish buildings accounts for just over one third of the total Swedish energy consumption. Meanwhile, between 30 and 40 percent of the energy that is required to heat up our properties leaks. KSS helps property owners to optimise energy and capacity use based on a building's system and operations. In this way, both the energy consumption and the environmental impact can be reduced.

- Frigotech works mainly with refrigeration technology for grocery stores and data centres, but also for industry. With heat recovered from grocery stores' refrigeration units, Frigotech's solutions can help to reduce energy consumption.
- Water Treatment Products increase energy efficiency during production of electricity by descaling, among other things, turbine blades at heating plants.
- In order to get the maximum output from biomaterials, the steam that accelerates the turbine blades must be created by pure water, otherwise there is a risk of deposits on the blades. Pure Water Scandinavia produces ultra-pure water for heating plants for energy efficiency.





7.A: Enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology. & 7.B: By 2030, expand the infrastructure and upgrade the technology to deliver modern and

sustainable energy services to everyone in developing countries, especially the least developed countries and small island nations under development.

Unipower has arranged and participated in a number of different projects and training in green cities and sustainable energy solutions in Africa and the Middle East. Among other things, the company has been involved in projects for the development of public transport systems and energy in Uganda. They were also part of a trade delegation trip organised by SSACC, Sweden Sub-Saharan Africa Chamber of Commerce. The theme was Green Cities and Sustainable Solutions and the programme included business seminars, individual meetings and company visits to Rwanda, Botswana and Namibia.

At a national level, through a collaboration with the Chalmers' start-up Eneryield, which develops machine learning based methods for intelligent power quality analysis, Unipower can even more efficiently and accurately identify the root cause and direction of power quality disturbances. This is an important step towards a smarter power grid and creates conditions for better grid stability and security of supply. Another example is the collaboration between our business Polyproject, the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) and IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute, as part of extensive research work to develop a new type of carbon fibre-based electrodes that make it possible to efficiently extract hydrogen from different types of wastewater with high ammonium content. At the same time, the wastewater is purified from ammonium nitrogen, which represents another environmental benefit.



GOAL 8 is to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Sdiptech contributes to five of the targets: 8.1, 8.2, 8.5, 8.6 and 8.8.



1ARGET 8:1 8.1: Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries. & 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, i ncluding through a focus on high-value added



As a technology group with the overriding goal of creating sustainable, long-term value growth, by acquiring, developing and long-term ownership of companies as they are with a decentralised strategy without mergers, Sdiptech contributes to these two targets.



8.5: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

Alerter Group contributes to decent work for all including people with different disabilities through their service that offers radio-based communication and fire alarm systems at workplaces for the deaf and those with impaired hearing, among others.



8.6: Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training. Several of Sdiptech's business units, for example, KSS and Multitech, take in technicians from school

through various apprenticeship programs, which is an excellent way to get more young people into the labour market.



8.8: Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

The following Sdiptech business units offer security solutions that contribute to target 8.8:

- Optyma designs, implements and manages security systems for both private companies and the public sector, such as hospitals and railway stations.
- **Multitech** works with temporary infrastructure and sets up safety stations, such as fire protection, at construction sites.
- **Cryptify** offers encrypted communication solutions for enhanced security. By protecting the information with certified cryptotechnology, unauthorised people are kept out and users can communicate securely, which is an important function for personal security in connection with sensitive communication.

- Medicvents technology improves the working environment at hospitals by maximising the capture of harmful leaking gases.
- Storadio & Stockholmradio offers critical radio communication for aviation and shipping.
- Alerter Group helps to create safe working environments and secure employment for all through its communication systems and smoke alarms for disabled people.



GOAL 9 is to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation. Sdiptech as a Group contributes to the three targets 9.1, 9.4 and 9.6. In addition, Sdiptech's business

unit Rolec contributes to target 9.2 and Unipower to 9.A.







9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all. & 9.4: Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities. & 9.5: Enhance scientific research,

upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending..

The infrastructure in society is largely outdated. Population growth, urbanisation and climate change are putting further pressure on infrastructural systems. Sdiptech believes in a future that is based on more sustainable, efficient and safer communities. To achieve this, it is crucial that we expand and improve the infrastructure around us. We intend to take an active role in this development by acquiring and developing leading niche companies that offer solutions for the infrastructure sector's most critical needs. Sdiptech has over the past five years invested almost SEK 2 billion in companies that in various ways contribute to more sustainable, efficient and secure solutions for the infrastructure sector's most critical needs. In addition, in 2020, we invested a total of SEK 7.2 million in R&D.



9.2: Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization. Significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share

### in least developed countries.

The transport sector accounts for almost one third of fossil fuel emissions in Sweden today. It is the sector that has the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>. Government Offices of Sweden: https://www.regeringen.se/regeringens-politik/transportsektorn-staller-om-for-klimatet/

greatest potential to be able to quickly shift to become fossil-free.5 More electric-powered vehicles are one of the keys to a rapid transformation of the transport sector, but for it to be attractive to own an electric car, it is important that the infrastructure also develops, such as the availability of charging equipment. Rolec is specialised in the development and manufacture of a wide range of equipment and systems for charging electric vehicles. Apart from charging products for electric cars, Rolec has a 30-year background in providing marinas and campsites with sustainable charging solutions.



9.A: Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least

developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

Several African countries have serious problems with network reliability. The uncertainty in the electricity system has impeded industrial development in countries such as Tanzania. With products, systems and training in power quality measurement Unipower helps to improve the situation.



MÅL 10 aims to reduce inequality within and among countries. Sdiptech contributes to target 10.2.



10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

Alerter Group contributes to increased safety and inclusion for more people through its radio-based communication and fire alarm systems for the deaf and those with impaired hearing.



GOAL 11 is to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. Sdiptech's business units contribute to targets 11.2 and 11.6.



11.2: Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the

needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to sustainable and safe transport systems.

RedSpeed is specialised in digital cameras for speed and traffic monitoring. The consequences become milder and even the risk of an accident occurring decreases at a lower speed. An important speed-reducing measure is traffic cameras, which also create a better and smoother traffic

flow, which in turn results in less environmental impact and boosts ecological sustainability. Through less noise and improved mobility for cyclists and pedestrians, social sustainability can also increase.

- To enable efficient and safe rail traffic, railway signalling systems are used. Sdiptech's business unit Centralbyggarna, which works with the design and production of electrical automation equipment, ensures, among other things, that railway signalling systems can handle the stressful environments in the form of vibrations, disturbances, mixed types of power systems and the integration with signalling
- According to a report from the Swedish Government Agency, Transport Analysis, women refrain from travel that feels unsafe to a greater extent than men.<sup>6</sup> This means that road safety is also an issue of gender equality. Optyma specialises in safety systems for, among other things, train and railway stations, for a safer and more inclusive public transport system.

11.6: Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of 11-6 cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste manage-

**■** Ø The following Sdiptech business units contribute to reducing the negative environmental impact of cities:

- KSS helps property owners to optimise energy and capacity use based on the building's system and operations.
- Refrigerants are substances that are included in refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners and heat pumps. Cooling systems emit large amounts of carbon dioxide equivalents. Using pump circulation, subcritical and transcritical systems, Frigotech helps to reduce leakage in refrigeration units.
- Healthcare professionals who come into daily contact with medical and flue gases at their workplace are exposed to unnecessary risks. Medicvent is specialised in gas evacuation, directly at the point of leakage. This is to minimise the risk of the gas spreading into the room and exposing the healthcare staff to unnecessary risks.



GOAL 12 is to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. Sdiptech contributes to targets 12.1, 12.2, 12.3 and 12.4.



12.1: Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into

account the development and capabilities of developing

Rolec has over 30 years of experience in the development and manufacture of a wide range of charging equipment and systems for electric vehicles. In order for the transport industry to meet the set conversion targets, more vehicles must be electrically-powered. An important cornerstone in

<sup>6.</sup> Report from Transport Analysis: https://www.trafa.se/globalassets/rapporter/2017/rapport-2017\_16-sankt-bashastighet-i-tatort.pdf

the acceleration of this shift is an attractive and functioning infrastructure for electric vehicles, such as the availability of charging equipment..



### 12.2: Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to the target:

- Polyproject is specialised in cleaning of aggressive liquids, water, gases and air.
- · Vera Klippan commissions and services pure water facilities.
- Water Treatment Products works with the preparation and manufacture of water treatment products which, among other things, are delivered to water treatment plants.
- Topas water and sewerage systems purify wastewater that can be used for other purposes. The sewage treatment plants are also dimensioned and designed to be able to take wastewater from industries.



12.3: Halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to reducing food losses:

- Every year, approximately 100 million tonnes of food waste are thrown away in the EU, which means enormous costs for both the economy and the environment.<sup>7</sup> Cooling solutions are a critical part of the chain for reducing fresh food waste and for medicines that require a certain temperature. GAH is a leading British company in the design, manufacture and service of transport cooling solutions for the last mile.
- Frigotech offers efficient refrigeration systems, for example
  to grocery stores with continuous service and monitoring
  that helps prevent disruptions in food stores. This in turn
  reduces the risk of spoiled food and wastage in the store
  during longer power outages in fridges and freezers.



12.4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and signifi-

cantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to target 12.4:

- Medicvent, which specialises in gas evacuation, directly at point of leakage, in order to minimise the risk of gas leaks.
- Polyproject is specialised in products for the cleaning of aggressive liquids, water, gases and air. For example, their product Polypump is an air-operated diaphragm pump that is ideal for flammable and explosive environments.
- Vera Klippan produces large-dimension cisterns for larger water and sewerage systems. The company's products are used, among other things, for chemicals, water and sewage, as well as ventilation chimneys and scrubbers.



**GOAL 14** aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. Sdiptech business units contribute to target 14.1:



14.1: Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

The following Sdiptech business units contribute to reducing marine pollution.

- Before wastewater is allowed to be discharged, it must be handled and treated in accordance with the laws in force. Otherwise, the pollutants and infectious substances present in the wastewater may have a negative effect on the environment or human health. This has been a major problem in the Baltic Sea. Topas' system works in the opposite way, where every drop of water is utilised. Instead of the water being discharged into the Baltic Sea after use, the water from the Baltic Sea enters via a pipe to a facility where it is desalinated and reaches drinking water quality. Drinking water is pumped out in pipes to households. When households have used the water to drink, shower and flush toilets, the wastewater is pumped away to a treatment plant where it is treated and obtains "at least bathing water quality" and can, for example, be used for irrigation of crops.
- Polyproject among other things, provides tanks and process equipment for scrubbing of exhaust gases for ships.
- Vera Klippan, which manufactures large-scale cisterns for larger water and sewage systems, which are used for, among other things, chemicals, water and sewage, ventilation chimneys and scrubbers.



**GOAL 15** is to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Sdiptech's business unit Topas contributes to targets 15.1 and 15.5.



15.1: Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements. & 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and

### prevent the extinction of threatened species.

Topas contributes to the targets as their water treatment plant on Gotland purifies fresh water and treats the wastewater, which was previously discharged into the Baltic Sea, for local use. In addition to contributing to less pollution in the Baltic Sea, water resources are also utilised through the local treatment plant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7.</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations http://www.fao.org/3/CA1431EN/ca1431en.pdf



**GOAL 16** is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Sdiptech's business unit

Cryptify contributes to targets 16.4 and 16.8.





16.4: Significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime. & 16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

Complex cybercrime is becoming more common in organised crime. According to the National

Defence Radio Establishment (FRA) of the Swedish Armed Forces, cyber attacks occur daily that risk harming people and communities in various ways. These involve everything from well-planned attacks on public authorities, to threats against private companies and blackmail of individual citizens. According to FRA, there has been a significant increase in aggressive cyber attacks against Swedish infrastructure, and particularly against public authorities and state-owned companies.8 Sdiptech's business unit Cryptify is a leading Swedish provider of solutions for encrypted communications. Cryptify Call has been reviewed and approved for official use by both the British Security Service and NATO. The customers are mainly found in the areas of public authorities and defence, such as the Swedish Government Offices and NATO HQ, which in many cases, work preventively against organized crime, with a strong need to protect their communications.

 $<sup>{\</sup>tt §Security User: https://www.securityuser.com/se/Nyheter/Samhalle/fra-dagliga-cyberattacker-mot-sverige}$ 

# Sdiptech as an employer



Sdiptech wants to be an employer where employees feel happy and develop. To achieve this, we aim:

- To have satisfied employees.
- To be a workplace, that promotes diversity, gender equality and inclusion.
- That no employee shall be affected by physical or mental ill health due to his/her work situation.
- · That all employees shall comply with our Code of Conduct.

### Employee wellbeing, occupational health and safety

Our most important asset is our employees who all contribute to our common success. Sdiptech shall offer its employees a safe and healthy work environment which, together with good working conditions, creates a sustainable work climate with low absence due to illness and good health. Sdiptech's operations are based on long-term relationships with customers and suppliers, as well as strong ethics and great respect for all individuals in the company and during external contacts. Much like in other parts of the Group's business, the concrete work with social responsibility is highly decentralised within the framework of the guidelines adopted by Sdiptech.

Safety is deeply integrated into our core business, where several of our companies contribute to protecting workers and promoting safe and secure work environments. We want to practice what we preach, where safety for Sdiptech's employees comes first. A couple of Sdiptech's businesses involve work in vulnerable environments and there are clear safety routines at these business units for how the employees should protect themselves. The development of individual incidents, injuries, employee turnover and healthy attendance is closely monitored and is a way for us to evaluate ourselves in relation to employees' health and the working environment. In 2020, 44 work-related accidents were noted, one of which was reported according to the UK health and safety legislation RIDDOR, which means a report of a serious work-related injury. We have a zero vision in relation to workrelated accidents, illnesses and incidents and an ambition to continually work for improved health and wellbeing among our employees. The objective is for no one to suffer from physical or mental ill health due to their work situation.

Absence due to illness as a percentage of working time in days was 3.3 percent for the full-year 2020, an increase from last year when it was 2.7 percent. Healthy attendance was negatively impacted during the year due to the coronavirus pandemic. Sdiptech's goal is that the company's absence due to illness shall be less than 5 percent.

### Form of employment

Most of our workforce is employed on a permanent basis. Contracted personnel are used primarily to substitute for ordinary employees who are ill or otherwise absent. Our employees having secure employment is not only a work environment issue, but also an important factor in achieving continuity in the operations and being able to build long-term relationships.

	2020	2019
Managing Directors (including subsidiaries) and Boards of Directors	49	45
Production	1,001	864
Sales	75	45
Administration	249	193
Number of part-time employees	45	31
Number of consultants and contractors	34	17
Other	125	116
Total personnel	1,499	1,263

### **Employee turnover**

Employee turnover and healthy attendance are continually monitored internally and communicated externally on an annual basis. Large deviations in employee turnover compared to previous periods can be an indication of shortcomings or dissatisfaction, and the earlier a deviation can be identified, the greater the opportunity to investigate and fix a possible problem. In 2020, total employee turnover was 11.3 percent excluding employees added through acquisitions during the year.

Employee turnover including acquisitions	2020	2019
The number of full-time employees who left the organisation	129	75
The number of part-time employees who left the organisation	14	3
The number of consultants and contractors who left the organisation	5	6
Total personal	1,499	1,263

### Leadership

We strive to be a respected employer and our business units should strive to be attractive employers with the employees' professional development in focus. The relationship with and among the employees should be based on mutual respect. To provide support in the development work, business area managers and other centrally based employees are involved in various issues in the subsidiaries, for example leadership, sustainability, marketing and sales, financial follow-up and reporting and project follow-up. As part of our effort to be an attractive employer with committed managers, in 2020 we began leadership training for the Managing Directors in the Group, which will continue during 2021.

### Gender equality, diversity and inclusion

We believe that we benefit from taking advantage of each other's differences and work for a uniform gender distribution and a broad international representation among employees and leaders. The employees' different knowledge, competencies, backgrounds and perspectives create new opportunities and result in better decisions. We therefore look for an open and inclusive corporate culture that advocates diversity as a strength and therefore strives

for that more of the company's leaders should have an international background, which we have defined as being born or lived for at least five years in another country than the one the employee works in. Within the Group, there are a number of guidelines and governing documents that stress the importance of looking at the knowledge, competencies, background and perspectives of different employees. This work is advanced through transparency and continual follow-up.



Gender equality is measured, among other ways, as the proportion of women in leading positions and is followed up internally in each company on an annual basis and communicated externally in the annual and sustainability report. Sdiptech does not permit discrimination or harassment in any form. We strive to ensure that employees in the Group shall be afforded equal opportunities for career development, training, remuneration, work content and working conditions, regardless of gender. In cases where compensation gaps do exist between men and women, we work actively to ensure that these are evened out. We also work to achieve a more uniform gender distribution in recruitment. We offer equal employment opportunities regardless of race, religion, gender, age, disability, family circumstances or sexual orientation. We work to counteract any form of discrimination in the workplace or in the treatment of employees when it comes to wage setting and career development.

While we strive for a more equal gender distribution in a generally male-dominated industry, the proportion of women in the Group has increased by 0.9 percent. Succession planning is a way for us to work with gender equality through internal recruitment, while we can retain competencies in the organisation. In addition, the pay gap between men and women has decreased during 2020. We want everyone to feel welcome and we want to contribute to more women becoming interested in technology and urban planning at an early age. One way for us to do that is by supporting the Global Challenge organisation. Among other things, they work with the #Urbangirlsmovement initiative, which aims to prioritise young women's views on urban development in order to make cities inclusive and sustainable.

In order for us to be able to find new target groups and diversify our final candidates, we also work to achieve more diversity and more uniform gender distribution by:

- Mapping the current situation and setting ambitious diversity and gender equality targets.
- Quality assuring our communications, including our recruitment materials, to create a more inclusive visual and written tonality.
- Broadening our networks and opening up recruitment processes through new channels and methods of screening candidates.
- Continually reviewing our forms of employment from a perspective that can attract more women, such as parental allowance, flexible working hours, remote working and no qualifying day requirement.
- Including both women and men in the recruitment group.

	2020	2019
Total personnel	1,499	1,263
Of whom, women	200	157
% women	13.3%	12.4%
% women in Sdiptech's Board	33%	17%
% women in Group Management	0%	0%
% women in leading positions in the business units	31%	32%
	2020	2019
Annual average salary, women (euro)	38,737	34,582
Annual average salary, men (euro)	46,402	45,780

# **Sdiptech business culture**



### **Anti-corruption and business ethics**

Business ethics is high on our agenda and is an issue that is continuously addressed. We have a declared zero tolerance against corruption and do not accept bribes or unfair competition-limiting practices. No cases of corruption were identified during the year. With regard to labour law, we adhere to all laws and regulations as a minimum, and we expect customers and suppliers to comply with current legislation. In addition, we work actively to ensure that there are no regulatory breaches within our operations or our value chain.

Sdiptech complies with the Swedish Business Code issued by the Swedish Anti-Corruption Institute (IMM), which aims to guide companies on issues regarding how gifts, remuneration and other benefits may be used in the business sector to promote the company's operations. All sales and marketing of our products and services shall thus take place in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations in each country. Sdiptech does not invest in companies that do not operate on the basis of transparency and responsibility or where there is the slightest hint of corruption.

In order to maintain a high level of confidence among customers, suppliers and other stakeholders, it is important to safeguard and strive for transparency and good business ethics. All persons who perform work for Sdiptech or otherwise represent the Group are, in addition to acting in accordance with applicable rules and laws, obliged to comply with the Group's ethical rules of conduct. Sdiptech has an external whistleblower function which helps to monitor compliance with the Code of Conduct and enables anonymous reporting. The whistleblower function is an important tool for maintaining good corporate governance and contributing to an efficient process where Group Management can quickly become aware of risks and shortcomings in the operations in order to investigate and remedy these. The whistleblower service is administered by an external actor who takes the case further. No cases were reported in 2020.

### **Human rights**

We shall support and respect internationally recognised human rights wherever we work. We do not accept any form of compulsory labour, involuntary or unpaid work. The UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child, the ILO's Convention on the Minimum Age for Employment, and the Convention on Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, are guidelines for all business activities that are conducted in our name.

In addition, we do not invest in companies that in any way contribute to human rights violations. Even if the companies we are looking at are not directly involved in human rights abuses, we examine whether they have customers, through companies or states, who could be. It is extra important to investigate whether an acquisition prospect operates or has significant customers who operate in regions where human rights violations frequently occur.

### **Demands on suppliers**

We work with a large number of global suppliers' products and services. Several purchases are made from non-Nordic suppliers in Europe and Asia, among other places, which can involve sustainability risks. However, we work closely with our suppliers and review them regularly to ensure that the entire value chain works towards the same objective. Because we impose strict requirements in relation to integrity and ethics in our own operations, it is natural to also do the same thing when it comes to our suppliers. According to our decentralised model, it is up to each business unit to check that their suppliers comply with our Code of Conduct. No incidents involving human rights violations were reported in 2020.

### **Transparency in reporting**

Sdiptech has implemented Nasdaq's ESG reporting since 2018 and is certified as a "Nasdaq ESG Transparency Partner". To ensure improved sustainability work and greater transparency, Sdiptech has expanded its reporting as stated below:

Nasdaq's ESG reporting	2020	2019	2018
General info	100%	100%	100%
Environmental Metrics	86%	86%	27%
Social Metrics	100%	100%	100%
Corp Goverment Metrics	95%	95%	91%
Future Sustainable Goals	88%	25%	25%

In addition, Sdiptech reports its sustainability work in accordance with GRI standards. See complete GRI index on page 50–51. By applying the international GRI guidelines, Sdiptech strives for reporting on sustainability-related content that is relevant to its stakeholders in a transparent and balanced way.

# **Sustainability risks**

Social and climate-related sustainability risks span many areas, such as human rights, working conditions, environment and climate, anti-corruption as well as information and IT security. Our diversified structure with over 30 companies in different industries and geographic markets gives us a very good risk spread, creating the conditions for stability. This breadth reduces dependence on individual business units, markets and risks. As we have clear acquisition criteria and because we do not invest in companies and sectors that run counter to our philosophy, in other words companies whose operations are harmful to society, many sustainability risks are eliminated. Read more about this in our handbook for responsible investments on Sdiptech's website. Instead, we see opportunities with the shift when sustainability is integrated into the business model in the companies we already own. In addition, we believe that the shift to more sustainable societies will result in more exciting companies with new technologies being started in our field, in which we can later invest.

Despite this, it is of great importance for us, from both an economic and legal perspective, to identify, manage and prevent sustainability risks. It is also crucial for public confidence and for our relationship with customers, employees, owners and investors. Acting responsibly is thus a basic prerequisite for long-term value creation in Sdiptech. Our work on identifying sustainability risks occurs with Sdiptech's Sustainability Council together with Group Management, where representatives from each business unit participate.

Management, governance and monitoring follow our decentralised model through Sdiptech's business area managers at Board meetings and other reconciliations with the business units and occur within the framework of established risk management processes.

Sdiptech's analysis of sustainability risks and opportunities has been developed according to the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosure methodology (TCFD), a framework that aims to guide organisations in the work of identifying climaterelated financial risks and opportunities. Through application of the TCFD, we have created an expanded understanding of the financial consequences that social and climate-related effects can have on our operations, both in the short and long term. At the same time, the framework facilitates the work of building robust strategies for managing these risks. According to the TCFD's recommendations, we have taken our starting point in governance, strategy, risk management, targets and metrics. In these areas, we highlight how Sdiptech manages and evaluates climate-related financial risks, both physical risks as well as transformation risks. In addition, we have chosen to follow the same method for social sustainability risks.

Sdiptech follows the precautionary approach and shall take measures or restrictions in its operations or take other precautionary measures to prevent, stop or counteract the occurrence of damage or other difficulties to the environment or health.

Туре	Risks	Potential financial effects	Corrective actisons	Opportunity		
	CLIMATE RISKS					
	Climate changes					
Physical risks	Rising average temperatures	Reduced need for winter- related products, for e.g. slippery road conditions, such as studs and snow plows	Risk diversification through larger range that is less weather and seasonal dependent	Increased need for water purification from e.g. algal blooms		
	Higher water levels and flooding	n/a	n/a	Changes in basic composition that can increase the burden and thus the demand for servicing of pipes and water mains and facilities		
	Storms	n/a	n/a	Increased need of critical radio communication for aviation and shipping. Increased need to measure electricity quality, and solutions well-functioning systems for uninterruptible power supply		
	Legislation and policies					
	Increased price of fuel/ greenhouse gas emissions	Increased operating costs e.g. for business units with a significant vehicle fleet of service cars	Target for increased percentage share of vehicles with renewable fuels			
	Expanded duty to report emissions	More reporting work where greater consumption of resources for carrying out work can reduce efficiency elsewhere	Effective processes and investments in resources centrally for support with reporting	Increased demand for sustainable, effective and safe solutions from more customers		
	Regulation of existing products and services	Increased costs and/or less demand for products and services due to restrictions in the use of specific materials and substances	Risk diversification with alternative materials and substances	Stricter regulation around emissions of e.g. hazardous gases		
<b>Transition risks</b>	Reporting and compliance for third party suppliers	May need to change products or terminate suppliers and change to more expensive suppliers if the existing ones do not meet the requirements	Firmly establish our expectations around sustainability for the companies early in the acquisition process	Increased demand for sustainable, effective and safe solutions from more customers		
	tiliru party suppliers	More reporting work where greater consumption of resources for carrying out work can reduce efficiency elsewhere	Effective processes and invest- ments in resources centrally for support with reporting	n/a		
	Technology					
	Unsuccessful investments in new/old technology	Lost customers and revenue due to new and alternative technology	R&D, expert networks, advisory boards and continual support with technical expertise at the head office. Future outlook of how long a technology is relevant/attractive already in the acquisition process	n/a		
	"Transition to lower emissions technology "	Resistance from founders to make climate investments during the earnout period	Set clear expectations in the acquisition process and regular strategy discussions about	Increased demand for sustainable, effective and safe solutions from more customers,		

Resistance from founders to make climate investments during the earnout period Set clear expectations in the acquisition process and regular

Increased demand for sustainable, effective and safe strategy discussions about solutions from more customers, investments that are right for the long-term for electric vehicles

Туре	Risks	Potential financial effects	Corrective actisons	Opportunity		
	CLIMATE RISKS					
	Market					
Transition risks	Changed customer behaviour	Changed modes of travelling, working and shopping can impact I ong-term demand in various ways.	Work actively with potential risks in each company through futures studies.	Increased demand for sustainable, effective and safe solutions from more customers		
nsitio	Reputation					
Tra	Stigmatisation of sector	Higher demands from the general public to adopt a standpoint on and repudiate stigmatised industries by not delivering solutions to customers in these sectors	Adhere to and constantly develop our handbook for responsible investments that clarifies our view of investing in specific sectors	Increased demand for sustainable, effective and safe solutions from more customers		
		SOCIAL RIS	sks			
	Operations					
	Information and IT security	Impaired confidence and possible financial consequences in the event of deficiencies in the handling of personal or sensitive corporate information	Clear guidelines, instructions and technical security solutions. Continual follow-up and internal control. Train employees in order to increase awareness of threats and risks within information security	Increased need for secure communications solutions		
	Financial criminality	Impaired reputation and weaker financial position due to financial or legal consequences	External whistleblower function, clear guidelines, compliance requirements and follow-up, particularly in countries where regulations on these issues are weaker	n/a		
	Social conditions					
Social risks	"Human rights and social conditions"	Impaired reputation and weaker financial position due to financial or legal consequences	External whistleblower function, clear guidelines, compliance requirements and follow-up, particularly in countries where regulations on these issues are weaker	n/a		
	Working conditions	Losing manpower and difficulties in attracting talent if competitors have higher standards in working conditions and we do not maintain attractive working conditions	Conduct regular benchmarking and update working conditions	n/a		
	Employee safety	Work environment-related accidents and incidents	Clear safety routines at all workplaces, particularly at high risk workplaces	Increased demand for security solutions for workplaces from more customers		
	Gender equality and diversity	Higher demands from the public that can result in impaired confidence and image and a worse reputation for us as an employer if we do not meet the expectations of the public	Reporting and gender equality and diversity targets with a clear action plan on how we will achieve the goals, for example through training of employees for increased awareness	n/a		

## **GRI-index**

Sdiptech reports its sustainability work in accordance with Global Reporting Initiatives (GRI) Standards, Core level, and the data relates to the calendar year 2020. The information that is presented in the report covers the most comprehensive and important areas of the operations. The performed materiality analysis, which is described on page 33 has formed the basis for the choice of GRI disclosures where each material topic has been matched against at least one GRI disclosure. Exceptions or deviations from GRI Standards

are shown in the reporting of each GRI disclosure. The report is not subject to external certification. As a signatory to the UN Global Compact's ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour law, the environment and anti-corruption, the Sustainability Report constitutes Sdiptech's Communication on Progress report.

The data provided in the report are collected using different internal systems depending on the nature of the information.

TYPE OF	INFORMATION	PAGE	COMMENTS/OMISSION
GRI 102:	General disclosures		
102-1	Name of the organisation	3	
102-2	Activities, brands, products, and services	4-6, 12, 17-21. 36-43	
102-3	Location of headquarters	4	
102-4	Location of operations	4, 6	
102-5	Ownership and legal form	22, 62–67	
102-6	Markets served	6	
102-7	Scale of the organisation	5	Information about total number of products unavailable.
102-8	Information on employees and other workers	44–45	Breakdown by country and gender unavailable for all items.
102-9	Supply chain	35, 46	
102-10	Significant changes to the organisation and its	33, 13	
102-10	supply chain	53–61	Acquisitions, divestments
102-11	Precautionary Principle or approach	47	
102-12	External initiatives	7, 29, 32, 34	
102-13	Membership of associations	6	
102-14	Statement from senior decision-makers	9–10,	
102-16	Key impacts, risks, and opportunities	26–29	
102-18	Governance structure	62–67	
102-40	List of stakeholder groups	33	
			Information unavailable. Regulated in code of
102-41	Collective bargaining agreements		conduct.
102-42	Identifying and selecting stakeholders	33	
102-43	Strategy for communication with stakeholders	33	
102-44	Key topics and concerns raised	33–46	
102-45	Entities included in the consolidated financial statements	16–21	För mer information om koncernens dotterbo- lag, se sdiptech.com
102-46	Defining report content and topic boundaries	50–51	See text above GRI index.
102-47	List of material topics	33–46	
102-48	Restatements of information		Corrections are made per information
102-49	Changes in reporting		No significant changes, see more Note 1 under significant accounting principles
102-50	Reporting period	50	See text above GRI index.
102-51	Date of most recent report		17-apr-20
102-52	Reporting cycle	50	See text above GRI index.
102-53	Contact point for questions regarding the report	52	Contact person My Lundberg, Sustainability &
102-54	Contact point for questions regarding the report		IR Manager
102-34	Claims of reporting in accordance with the GRI Standards	50	See text above GRI index.
102-55	GRI content index	50	
102-56	External assurance		The report has not been reviewed externally.

TYPE OF I	NFORMATION	PAGE	COMMENTS/OMISSION		
GRI 103: Strategic approach					
103-1 103-2 103-3	Explanation of the material topic and its boundary Strategy Evaluation of the strategy	33–46 29 29			
GRI 201: E	conomy				
201-1	Direct economic value	35			
GRI 205: C	Corruption				
205-3	Corruption incidents	46			
GRI 302, 3	05: Environmental				
302-1	Energy consumption within the organisation	34			
302-3	Energy intensity	34			
305-1	Direct (scope 1) GHG emissions	35			
305-2	Indirect (scope 2) GHG emissions	35			
305-3	Other indirect (Scope 3) GHG emissions	35	"Scope 3 has been limited to emissions from business trips and work materials"		
305-4	GHG emissions intensity	34–35			
GRI 401, 4	03, 405, 406: Social				
401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover	44	Breakdown by age and position unavailable. Breakdown by country and gender		
403-2	Types of injury and rates of injury	44	unavailable.		
405-1	Diversity among the board, management and employees	45			
405-2	Women's salary as a share of men's	45			
406-1	Discrimination and measures taken	46			

# **About the report**

This report covers Sdiptech AB's operations from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2020 and follows the guidelines of the international organisation Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). This report was prepared in accordance with GRI Standards, Core level and GRI Standards ten reporting principles:

#### 1. Stakeholder Inclusiveness

The sustainability aspect stakeholder dialogue describes how we work to identify our stakeholders.

### 2. Sustainability Context

In the section Sdiptech in society, Sdiptech as a workplace and Sdiptech's business culture, we include relevant comparative figures to put our outcome in context. We also show how our work contributes to the UN's global goals at the sub-goal level.

### 3. Materiality

The significance of sustainability aspects for our stakeholders and the impact on our business is compiled in the materiality analysis.

### 4. Completeness

Our fourteen sustainability aspects define our complete sustainability work, which we describe in the report, under Sdiptech in society, Sdiptech as a workplace and Sdiptech's business culture

### 5. Accuracy

The information provided in the report is correct and we have made every effort to have a reasonable level of detail.

### 6. Balance

In the sections Sdiptech in society, Sdiptech as a workplace and Sdiptech's business culture, we reflect on both positive and negative aspects of our outcome.

### 7. Clarity

We have strived to include and structure the information in the best and clearest way possible for our stakeholders.

### 8. Comparability

We have deliberately chosen established metrics with historical data so that our stakeholders can compare our data with previous years.

### 9. Reliability

This report has been reviewed by the company's auditors in connection with the annual report. The metrics we report are compiled centrally on an annual basis.

#### 10. Timeline

Our most recent Sustainability Report was released in April 2020. We prepare our sustainability report annually in connection with the annual report.



### **Contact person for the Sustainability Report:**

### My Lundberg,

Sustainability & IR Manager and convenor of Sdiptech's Sustainability Council. my.lundberg@sdiptech.com

### AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE STATUTORY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

### **Engagement and responsibility**

It is the board of directors who is responsible for the statutory sustainability report for the year 2020 on pages 24–52 and that it has been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act.

### The scope of the audit

Our examination has been conducted in accordance with FAR's auditing standard RevR 12 The auditor's opinion regarding the statutory sustainability report. This means that our examination of the statutory sustainability report is substantially different and less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with

International Standards on Auditing and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. We believe that the examination has provided us with sufficient basis for our opinion.

### Opinion

A statutory sustainability report has been prepared.

Stockholm, 16 April 2021 Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers AB

### Anna Rosendal

**Authorised Public Accountant**