

PLANET

Electromagnetic fields

We are aware of the general concern in society regarding this subject, so we provide updated and transparent information; we work in the development of sectoral standards and comply with international regulations

EMF management at Telefónica is based on a coordinated effort between different departments of the Company at global and local level

Telefónica is aware of the general concern regarding electromagnetic fields (EMF). Our evaluation of this issue is based on what the experts say: the scientific studies carried out so far have not established any risk to health from exposure to the radio frequencies from mobile telephone equipment, provided that the levels recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) are respected, and these are given in the ICNIRP recommendations.

EMF in Telefonica are managed within an integrated approach that focuses in giving answers to the concern of our customers and users. We emphasise our management on EMF on mobile telecommunications antennas, mobile devices and smart meters. We prioritize the process of network deployment on a local level, based on global management principles. Thus, the minimum commitments on EMF, common to all the operators of Telefónica Group are:

- To comply strictly with the law and recognised international standards and guidelines, for all products and services.
- To encourage legislation based on international guidelines from the International Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), especially in those cases where there is no local regulation, and which is in keeping with these for reasons of uniformity and to eliminate barriers for network deployment.
- To support and publicise independent scientific research of high quality on mobile communications, recognised by the WHO.
- To communicate all the Company's actions in this regard openly and transparently to our clients and the public in general.

We carry out EMF management at Telefónica by coordination between different departments of the Company at global and local level, including the departments of operations, institutional relations, communication, regulatory and legal units, and environmental and corporate sustainability teams, among others.

Likewise, we participate actively in workgroups like the GSMA and the ITU to exchange best practices in EMF management, developing standards for the sector and sharing useful information for our customers and interested groups. We also support independent scientific research in this area.

EMF in networks

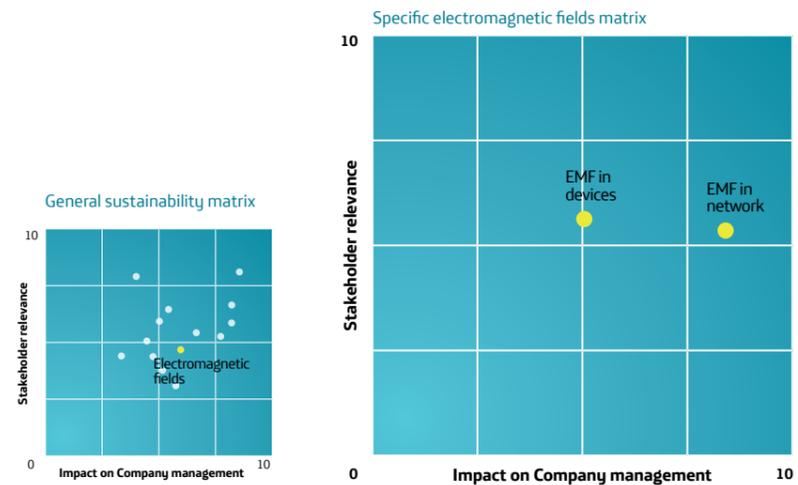
All our base stations have been installed in accordance with the criteria of the ICNIRP and the WHO recommendations. We comply with these limits in all our operating countries, even those where there are no regulations in this matter. In addition, the Telefónica global environmental management system obliges us to carry out activities of public participation and communication, as well as carry out measurements at the base stations which are later audited for compliance with ICNIRP levels. All our stations operate well below the set limits.

In 2013, Telefónica carried out about 25,000 EMF monitoring measurements, representing an investment of 3.9 million euros globally.

EMF in mobile devices and smart meters

In 2013, the social concern about the exposure to EMF has been extended to mobile devices and smart meters. It is noteworthy that there is legislation international controlling these levels of exposure. All devices Telefónica puts on the market meet these standardized criteria.

Materiality matrix



Full information about electromagnetic fields at Telefónica