# Oceo

# "Italian Investment Conference"

Milan 21 May 2024



People for sustainable infrastructures

# Agenda

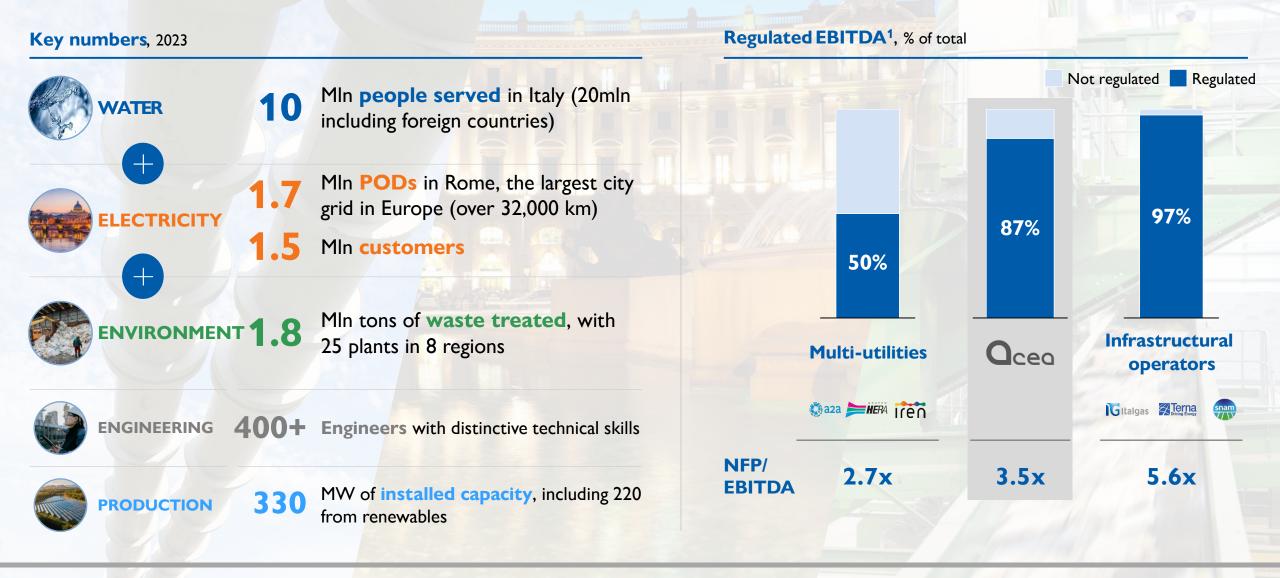
Acea: Infrastructural operator with low leverage

- >> 1Q2024 Results
- 2023 Results
- >> Evolving context
- > 28: Green Diligent Growth
- >> Targets 2028
- 2023-28 Projections
- Closing remarks

# Acea: Infrastructural operator with low leverage



### Acea: Infrastructural operator with low leverage



Source: Bloomberg 1 Includes, on top of the regulated businesses Water Italy and Grids, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses; 2023 fgures

# 1Q2024 Results



### **1Q2024 RESULTS**

INCREASING RESULTS, IN LINE WITH 2024 GUIDANCE

**Revenues** +1% vs 2023 regulated businesses<sup>(1)</sup>

**EBITDA +7%** vs 2023 excluding one-offs and changes in scope

Net profit +17% vs 2023 excluding one-offs and changes in scope

**CAPEX -2%** vs 2023 net of public funding

#### OPERATING FCF -€32M

**Group revenues equal to €1.0bn**, of which around €0.6bn relating to regulated businesses, up by +1% compared to 2023

**Reported EBITDA amounting to €357m, +€21m compared to 2023** driven by a growth in the regulated businesses, +6% Water Italy and +13% Grids and Public Lighting, and by the Commercial sector, which more than offset the adverse energy scenario

**Reported net profit amounting to €83m**, +14% compared to 2023. The growth in EBITDA and the containment of financial costs more than offset the rise in depreciation linked to the investments in regulated businesses

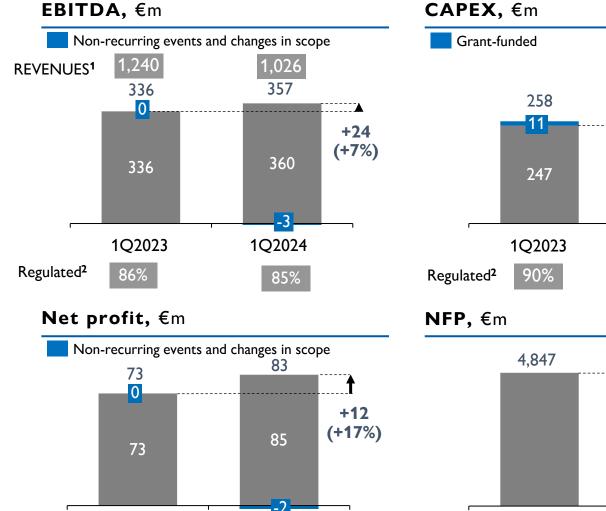
Net capex amounting to €242m, essentially in line with 2023. The net investments in regulated businesses represent approximately 90% of the Group total

Negative operating free cash flow equal to -€32m, making it possible to maintain a sound financial structure with an NFP/EBITDA ratio of 3.48x, fully in line with the guidance and showing a slight improvement compared to 31 December 2023 (3.49x)

1. Including, in addition to the Water Italy and Grids regulated businesses, Public Lighting and Environment businesses.

# **OVERVIEW OF 1Q2024 RESULTS**

#### ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SOLIDITY



1Q2024

1Q2023

1. Revenues include non-recurring events and changes in scope; 2. Includes, in addition to the Water Italy and Grids regulated businesses, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses; 3. 12-month EBITDA.

NFP/

EBITDA<sup>3</sup>

#### **CAPEX,** €m

FY2023

3.49x

247

5 -

242

102024

90%

4,913

1Q2024

3.48x

**.**....**y** 

-5

(-2%)

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+66

(+1%)

#### **Increasing EBITDA** due to organic growth of the regulated businesses

and the performance of the Commercial sector, which offset the negative impact of the energy scenario.

#### Focus on INVESTMENTS in regulated businesses confirmed.

**Improvement in Net Profit** compared to 1Q2023 thanks to operational growth, which more than offset the higher depreciation.

#### Slight improvement as regards the **NFP/EBITDA** ratio compared to 31 December 2023.

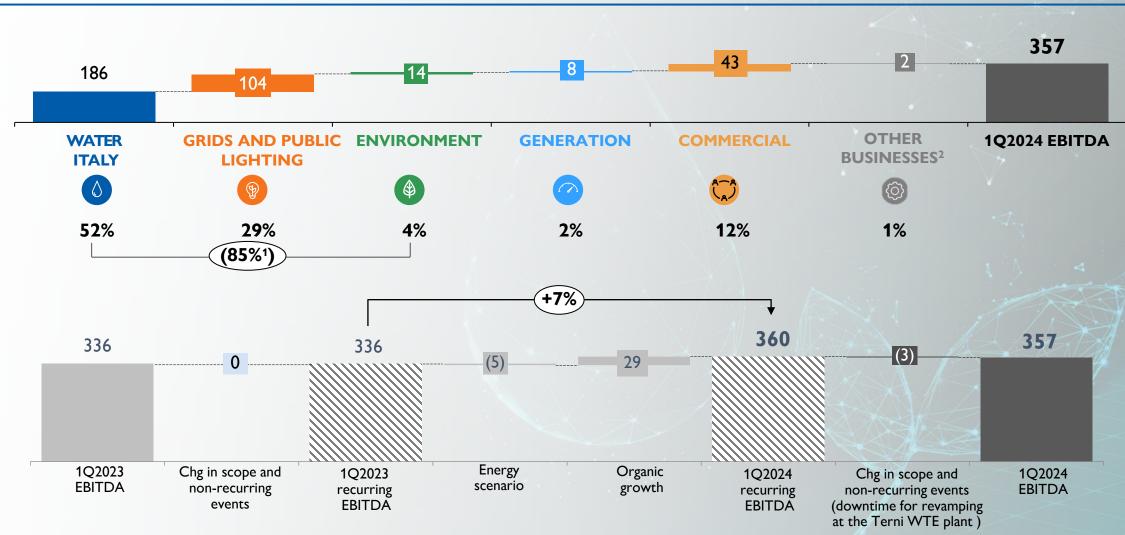
#### **2024 guidance confirmed:**

- **EBITDA** +3%/+5% vs 2023
- **Investments** €1.5bn (€1.1bn net of  $\checkmark$ grants)
- NFP/EBITDA: ~3.5x

### **1Q2024 EBITDA**

#### GROWTH DRIVEN BY ORGANIC DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATED BUSINESSES



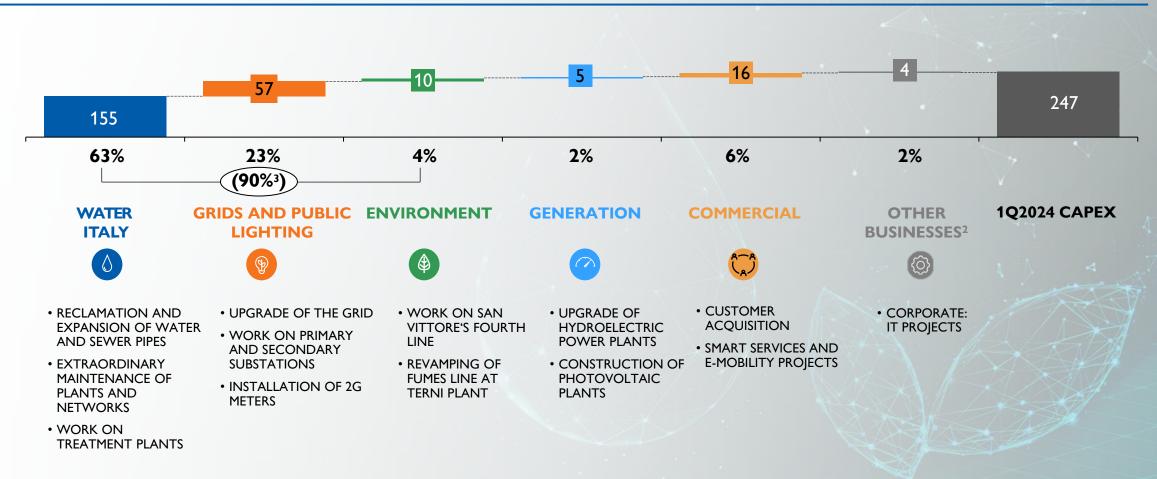


1. Including, in addition to the Water Italy and Grids regulated businesses, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses | 2. Overseas Water, Engineering & Infrastructure Projects and Corporate

### **1Q2024 CAPEX**

#### INVESTMENT PLAN CONTINUES WITH FOCUS ON REGULATED BUSINESSES



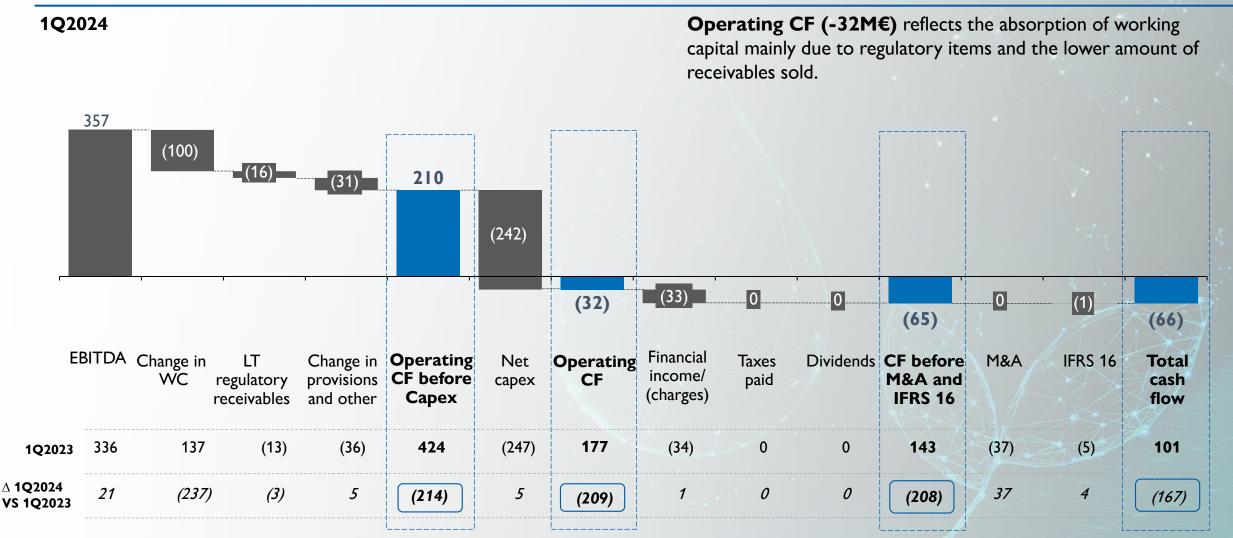


1. Including financial investments totalling €5m | 2. Water Italy, Engineering & Infrastructure Projects and Corporate | 3. Including, in addition to the Water Italy and Grids regulated businesses, the Public Lighting 8 and Environment businesses

## **1Q2024 CASH FLOW**

#### PERFORMANCE IN LINE WITH FORECASTS AND YEAR-END GUIDANCE

#### **CASH FLOW,** €m

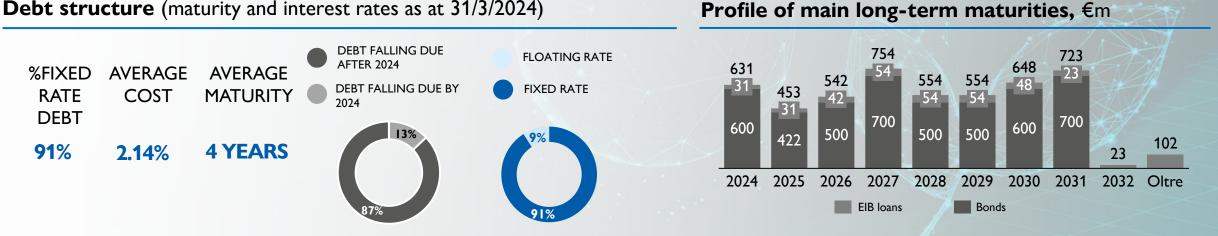


### **1Q2024 FINANCIAL STRUCTURE**

#### SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN LEVERAGE, AVERAGE COST OF DEBT APPROXIMATELY 2%

<b>′23-1Q2024 NFP,</b> €m				Leverage	
	DEC 23	1Q2024	∆ 1Q24 vs DEC 23	NET DEBT/EBITDA 31/03/2024	NET DEBT/EBITDA 31/12/2023
NFP	4,847	4,913	66	3.48x	3.49x
Long-term debt	4,771	4,604			
Short-term debt	923	1,077		Rating	
Cash and cash equivalents	(847)	(768)		FitchRatings «BBB+» Stable Outlook	MOODY'S «Baa2» Stable Outlook

#### **Debt structure** (maturity and interest rates as at 31/3/2024)



# 2023 Results



### 2023 Highlights: "The Turning Point"

**EBITDA: +7%** vs. 2022

**Net Profit: +5%** vs. 2022

**NP organic<sup>1</sup>: +22%** vs. 2022

**Capex: +9%** vs. 2022

### **Op. CF: 148 mln€**

NFP/ EBITDA: 3.49x

EBITDA of 1.4 bn€, +86 mln€ vs. 2022 thanks to growth in regulated business<sup>2</sup>, (+11% Water Italy and +7% Networks and Public Lighting)
EBITDA Margin of 30% (+5 p.p. vs.2022)

Net Profit of 294 mIn€ (+5% vs.2022) thanks to EBITDA growth (regulated revenues increase + cost discipline) countering financial expenses and depreciation increase (rates increase + additional investments)

Capex: I,I43 mIn€ (I,050 mIn€ in 2022)

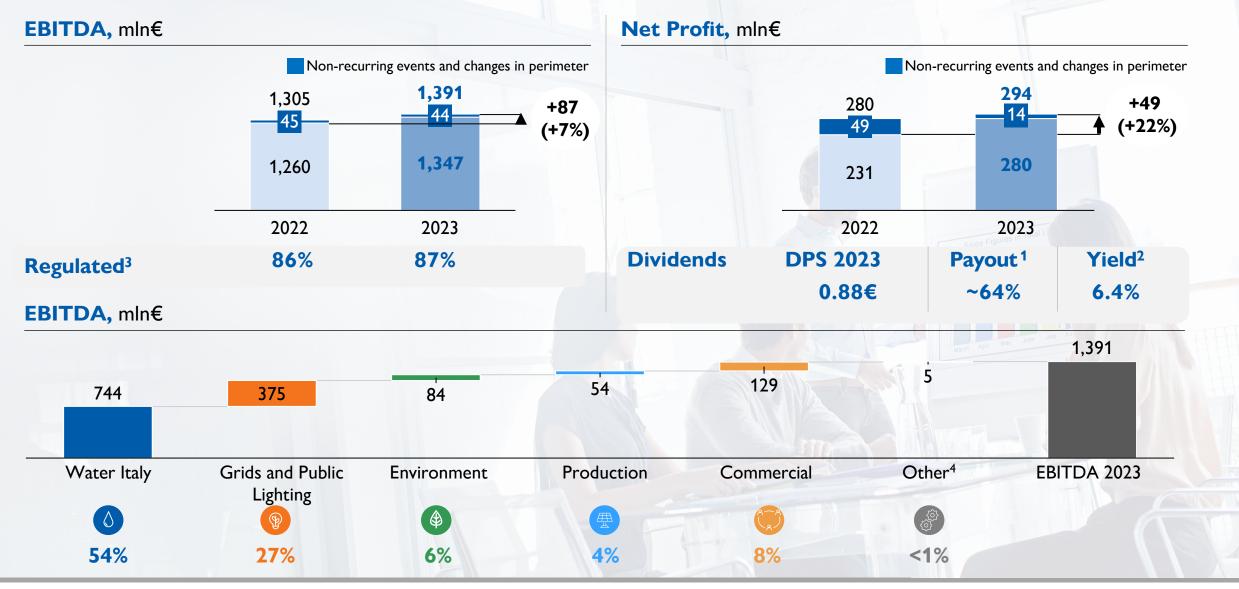
Regulated Capex<sup>2</sup>: +95 mln€ vs. 2022 for network enhancement and technical asset quality improvement

**Operating cash flow: I 48 mIn€** (+129 mIn€ vs. 2022) **thanks to working capital improvement** 

NFP/ EBITDA: significant reduction vs. 2023 guidance (<3.8x) thanks to working capital optimization

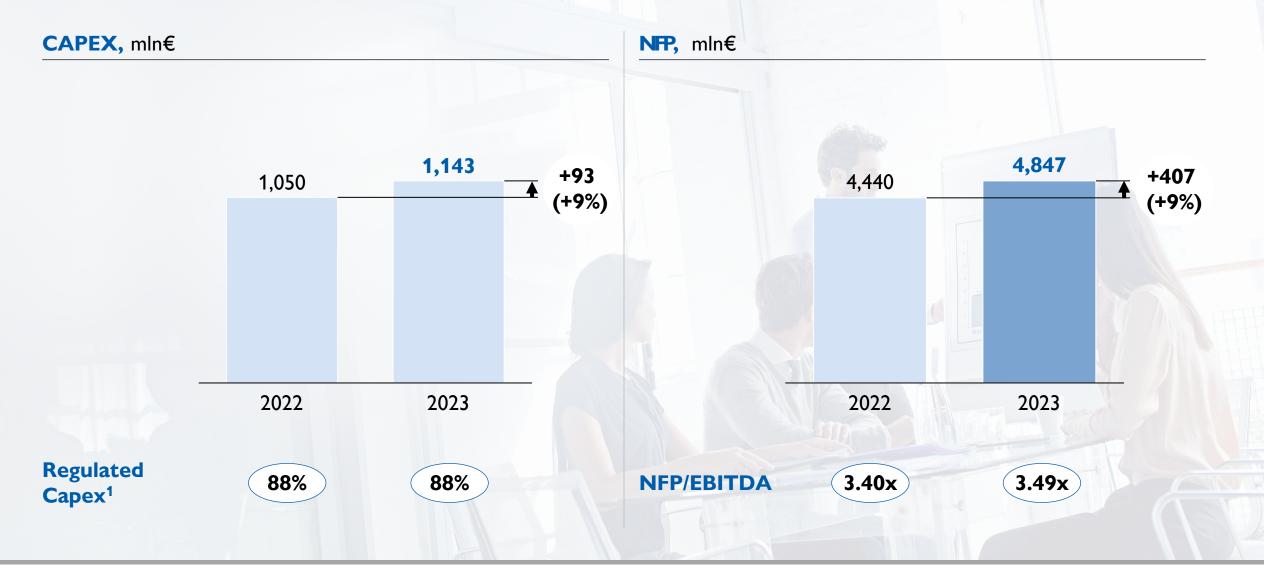
<sup>1.</sup> Excluding one-offs and scope changes | 2. Includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water Italy and Grids, the Public Lighting business and Environment business; organic EBITDA growth equals to 87 mln€

### 2023 Results: Improving figures thanks to regulated businesses and efficiency



1. Determined on consolidated net profit after minorities | 2. Determined on the price of 01/03/2024 | 3. Includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water Italy and Grids, the businesses Public Lighting and Environment | 4. Water International, Engineering and Corporate

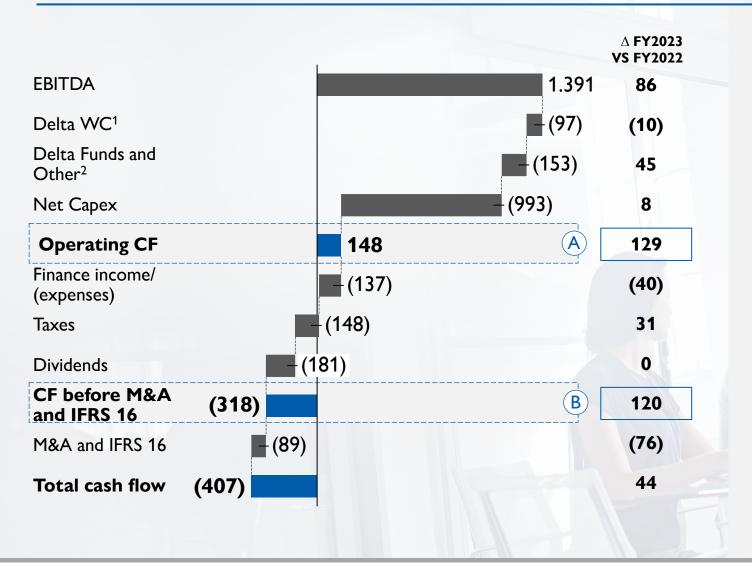
### **2023 Results: Growing Capex in regulated businesses**



1. Includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water Italy and Grids, the businesses Public Lighting and Environment

### **2023 Results: Improving cash flow**

#### Cash flow, mln€



A Operating CF: positive 148 mln€ (+129 mln€ vs. 2022) shows the ability to cover the investments for the period thanks to operating excellence

B +120 mln€ (vs. 2022) for higher Operating CF only partially offset by the increase in financial expenses

Cash Flow before M&A and IFRS16 mainly affected by dividends and financial management

### **2023 Results: Key milestones**

	<ul> <li>Major works: launched Peschiera Aqueduct (confirmed 700 mln€) and PNRR (invested 450+ mln€)</li> <li>SII<sup>1</sup> tenders: launched participation in other Italian regions (e.g., Syracuse)</li> <li>International: renegotiation of concessions + strengthened organization</li> <li>Strategic partnerships: Acquedotto Pugliese and Bonifiche Ferraresi/Coldiretti (agricultural supply chain)</li> </ul>	People • Top employer '23 • Certification on gender equality (UNI/PdR 125) and human rights policy
ELECTRI- CITY	<ul> <li>Public Lighting: resolved multi-year dispute with Rome and submitted PPPs (Rome and Terni)</li> <li>RomeFlex: launched Flexibility Services market (Rome)</li> </ul>	• Carta della Persona e della Partecipazione
ENVIRON- MENT	<ul> <li>WtE: S. Vittore expansion and Rome project</li> <li>Reorganization of shareholdings: launched process</li> </ul>	• New Acea Spa organization and new management

#### ESG

**'23** 

- SBTi targets confirmed (Scope 1-2-3)
- Green bonds **issued** (700 mln€)

# 2023 Results: Overdelivery

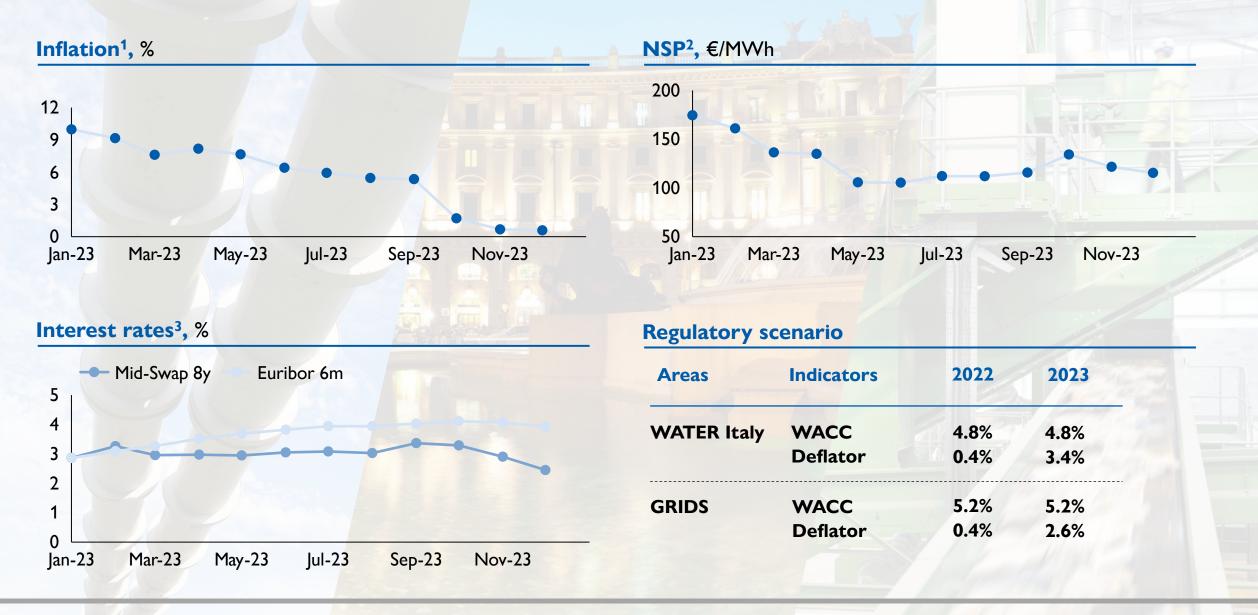
Strong improvement in EBITDA and NFP/ EBITDA



# **Evolving context**



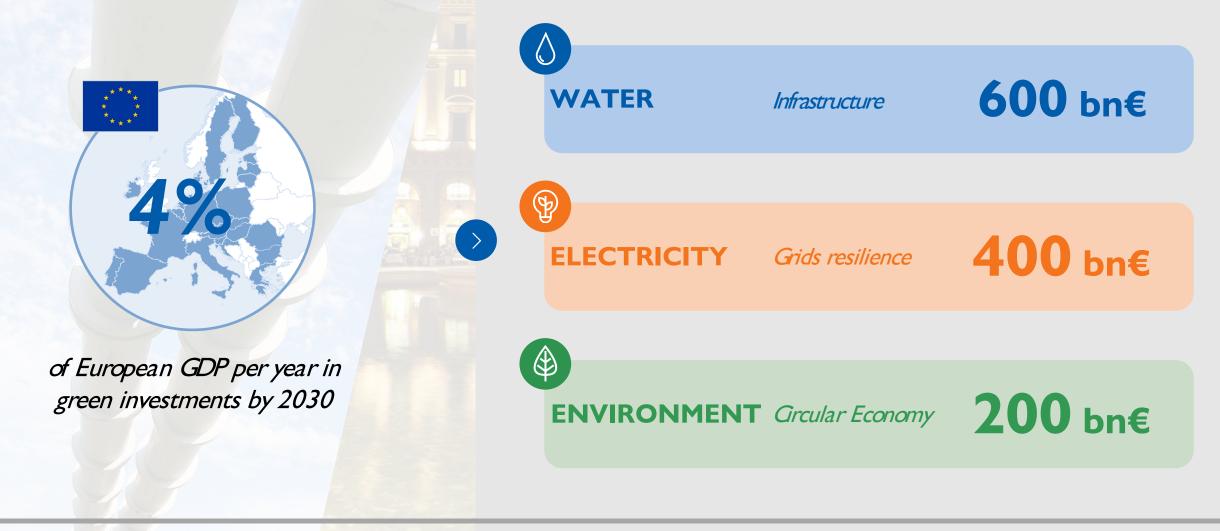
### Volatile macroeconomic context, new regulatory scenario for Water and Grids



### Europe: significant green investments planned...



Projected investments until 2030



The delivery of investments requires a deep understanding of a rapidly evolving context "Trilemma" of the energy transition

Qcea

3

Availability of

natural and

financial resources

21

2

**Skills and New** 

**Technologies** 

## **1** "Trilemma" of the energy transition:

Need for operators to ensure availability and quality of resources while meeting sustainability criteria

Perimeter Europe, in 2030

Availability

Quality

# ~70%

southern European population subject to seasonal water stress

# ~450 gw

ELECTRICITY

green capacity to be installed to meet decarbonization target

# +330

potential additional WtE facilities in Europe

**ENVIRON-**

MENT

+70 mln

~7 bn m<sup>3</sup>

potentially reusable

wastewater in Europe

new individuals with access to clean water

-60%

power outages thanks to smart grids

-55%

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from electricity production

~60%

of recycling over municipal waste in Europe (vs. 48%)

+22 mln of people potentially heated by heat produced by WtE

#### Sustainability

# **2** Capabilities and New Technologies

New technologies affect asset management, workforce, and customer relations

New capabilities required by the labor market

Engineering and delivery (gap of ~500k technicians<sup>1</sup> in Europe by 2028)

**STEM capabilities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)** 

End-to-end customer relationship management

New Technologies

(**@**)

Digitization: digital twin of network assets, automation of back-office processes and digitization of customer experience

Artificial Intelligence: predictive maintenance, automatic field force dispatching and chatbots for customer support

**Robotics: drones** for network monitoring, **robots** for waste separation, **exoskeletons** for construction support

# **3** Availability of natural and financial resources

Scarcity and increase in the costs of production factors

Natural Resources



Scarcity of primary natural resources such as water and natural gas

Supply chain

Strong supply chain disruptions and implications for pricing and availability of key items for infrastructure delivery

Finance

#### High cost of debt

(~4% vs. last 10-year average of  $\sim$ 1%<sup>1</sup>)

### Italy: need for significant investments and technological development





Aging water networks (60% network: 30+ year old; 25%: 50+ year old)

Significant leakages (2x European average)



**Market fragmentation** (~2.500 operators)

Limited/heterogenous investments (average investments by inhabitant/year: 56€ large operators, 8€ operators "in economia" and 78€ average EU)



**Declining resource availability** (-20% vs. beginning of 20th century) **Expected further reduction due** to climate change (-30/40% by 2050)



Under-investment in the grid vs. European peers (Netherlands/Germany at 3/4x vs.  $Italy^1$ )

G

**Electricity** 

Lower service levels vs. **European peers** (Italy SAIDP at 3x vs. Germany)



Environment

Infrastructural gap in Central-**Southern Italy** (Northern Italy: ~70% WtE plants and biological treatments)



**Growth of new waste** treatment value chains (textile polymers, batteries)



Strong regulatory push towards recycling in Italy and EU (EU: target of 65% recycling by 2035)

Source: Global Water Intelligence, International Energy Agency, World Economic Forum, EIB, European Commission, White Paper 2023

1. 2021 figures | 2. System Average Interruption Duration Index

# **Regulation: toward output based models and Totex efficiency targets**

...to

#### From...

**Rate of return** approach: tariff recognition of actual Capex (remuneration + depreciation)



Price cap approach: cost in tariff determined based on historical data and efficiency targets (excluding selected costs, e.g., electricity in Water), sharing efficiencies between operator and user



**Foreseen bonus/malus** mechanisms based on quality KPIs

Electricity



Water

**Price-cap-type efficiency** incentives on Opex from 2024 (basic ROSS<sup>1</sup>) and expected also on Capex (integral ROSS) **Tariffs based on capitalization** rates decided upfront

Service targets integrated in the regulation

- Rate of return for Capex and price cap for Opex
- **Incentives: extended to reuse** and purchased electricity
  - In other countries, Totex & output-based approach already consolidated (e.g. UK)

#### **Opportunities**

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**Opportunities for operators** which achieve:

**Operational** • excellence in investments plan delivery, operations and financial

management

**Focus**/ optimization of ۲ **spending** aiming at service quality





People for sustainable infrastructures

# Green Diligent Growth: Mission

"Developing and managing safe and sustainable infrastructures.

With our people, ensuring access and circularity to critical resources for Citizens, Businesses, and Communities"

# 28 Green Diligent Growth: Strategy

Growth

Focus on regulated infrastructure businesses by strengthening positioning and expanding into adjacent Green segments **ESG** across businesses People at the center **Operation excellence with strong cost and investment** Diligent +discipline to sustain cash generation x = **Optimization of financial structure and capital allocation Capex increase (also in innovation)** 

Shareholder value growth (RAB/ Net Profit/ Dividends)

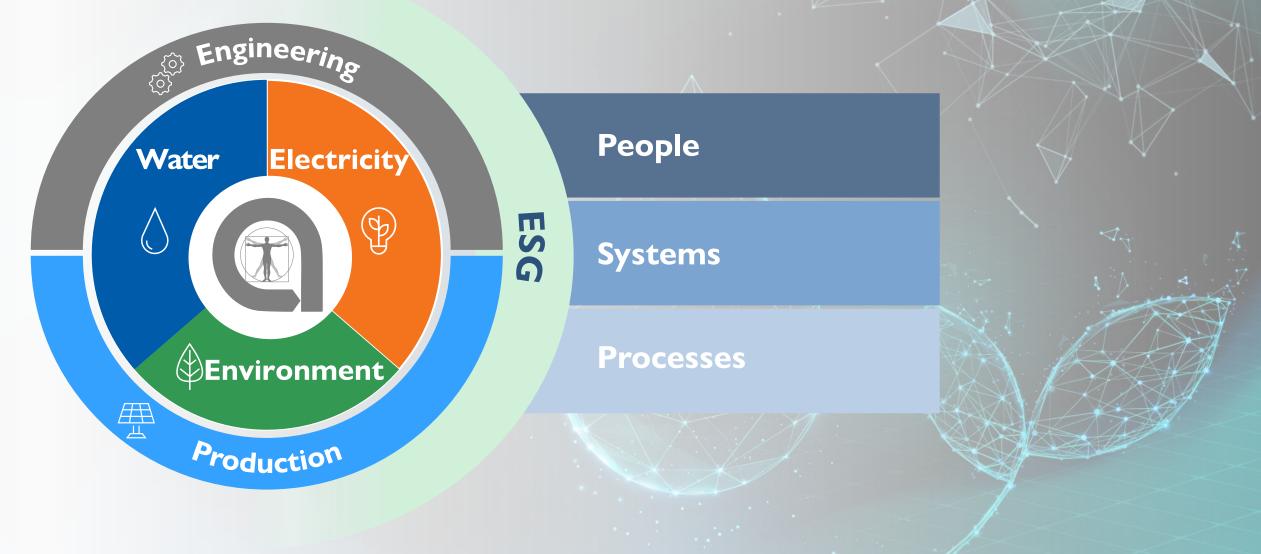
# **28** Green Diligent Growth: Targets

From (2020-2023)..... to (2028)

$(\overline{z})$	Green	% regulated EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	87%	90%	Focus on regulated infrastructures
V.		ESG linked Capex (yearly)	0.4 bn€	1.0 bn€	ESG across businesses
	Diligent	EBITDA margin	30%	43%	Operational excellence
		NFP/ EBITDA	3.5x	3.1x	Optimization of financial structure
	Growth	Total Capex (yearly)	1.0 bn€	1.5 bn€	Capex increase
		Net Profit (CAGR)	1%	5%	Shareholder value growth

1. Regulated Includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water Italy and Networks, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses

# 28 Green Diligent Growth: Operational framework



# **28** WATER: 1<sup>st</sup> operator in Italy and leader in Europe

#### 20 mln clients served...



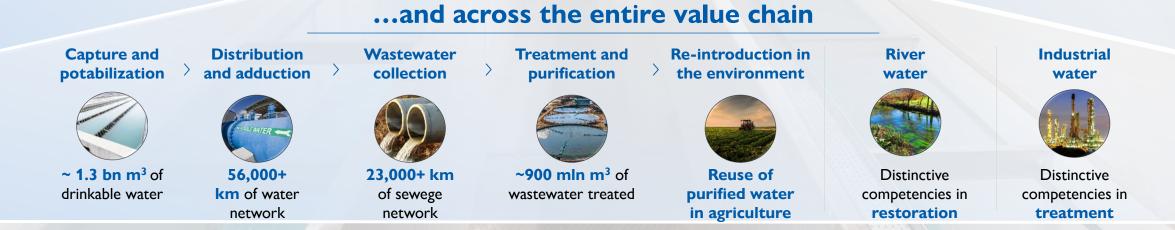
#### ...with innovative skills...



<sup>P 100% Acea</sup> "Waidy - Water Management System": platform for network analysis, monitoring and intervention planning

> "Workforce Management System": platform for dispatching / field force routing optimization

> > "Calix - Smart Meter": for real-time measurement of water consumption and pressure



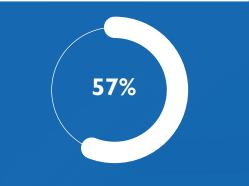


### WATER: Our vision



## International diversified operator

#### Weight on EBITDA '28



#### Water net zero

- Ensuring the availability of the resource
- Monitoring/increasing the quality of the resource

# Local approach and leadership in innovation

- Aspiring to be the:
  - Go-to operator at local level, ensuring maximum attention to local communities and people
  - Leading operator in terms of innovation, research and development

# 28 WATER: Our strategy

#### Strengthening

Increasing water systems' resilience

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SERVICE LEVEL INCREASE IN ITALY Optimizing and innovating network management

Developing collection and potabilization processes

Simplifying the Water's corporate structure to promote higher operational
 efficiencies (via a new sub-holding)

#### **Development<sup>1</sup>**

SELECTIVE GROWTH IN ITALY AND ABROAD 

#### Consolidating activities in Peru and Honduras Valuating growth opportunities in Europe, Africa, Middle East, also via partnerships (design, construction, and operation of networks/plants for potabilization/depuration/treatment of municipals, industrial and agricultural water)

# **28** WATER: Main lines of intervention

	<ul> <li>Implementation of strategic</li> </ul>
Increase in water system	Implementation of aqueduct inter
resilience amp	• Engineering of a vulnerability m

- Implementation of strategic infrastructure works Peschiera and large aqueducts
- Implementation of aqueduct interconnection systems within and between areas
- Engineering of a vulnerability model for climate risk assessment of the entire water system

Optimization and innovation of water network management

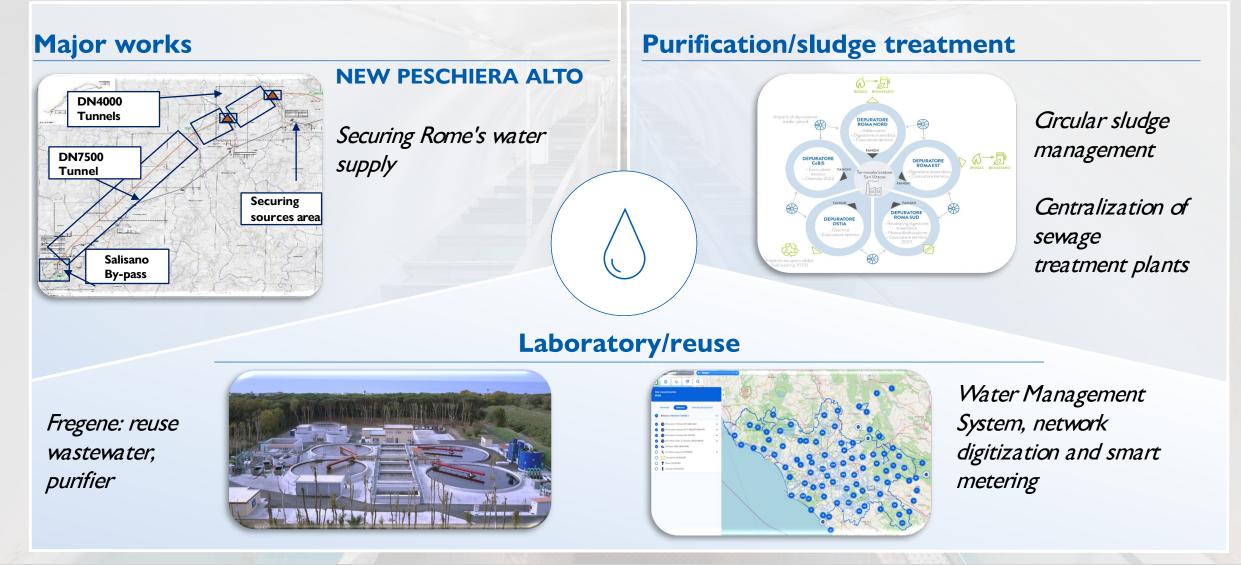
- Districtualization of the water network
- Implementation of network efficiency measures PNRR and REACT EU
- Increase in automation and machine learning in water volume management
- Implementation of technology for predictive maintenance
- **Development of water quality monitoring systems** also adopting new filtration systems
- Development of innovative systems for desalination and potabilization

Development of collection and purification processes

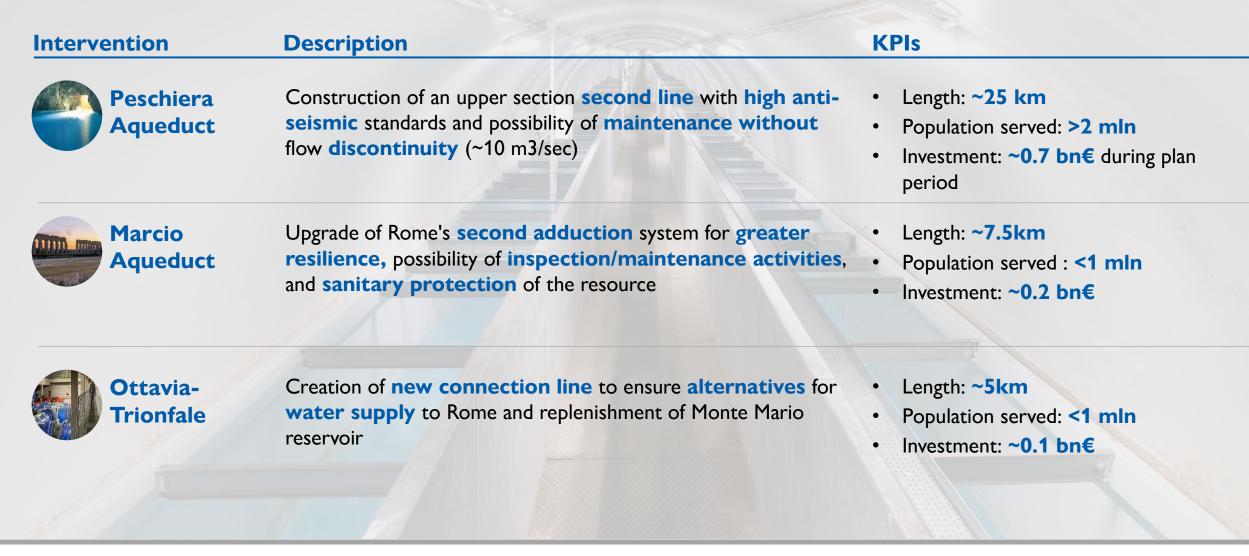


- Districtualization of sewerage network
- Centralization of purification plants
- Reduction of sewage sludge produced
- Reuse of wastewater

# WATER: Project examples



# 28 WATER: Major works examples



## **28** WATER: Partnership examples in agriculture

Bonifiche Ferraresi example



Optimizing water use in agriculture

- Identify new technologies, including artificial intelligence, to improve water use in agriculture
- Focus on sustainable irrigation practices based on EU, national and regional regulations

В

Synergies in water and energy

International

expansion

- **Recovery consortia:** design, implementation and management of infrastructural works and actions for environmental protection and disaster prevention
- Storage and pumping reservoirs: including installation of renewable electricity generation plants

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- Explore new opportunities in foreign markets with a focus on:
- Technologies and know-how with high growth potential

Develop synergies in water and energy, for example:

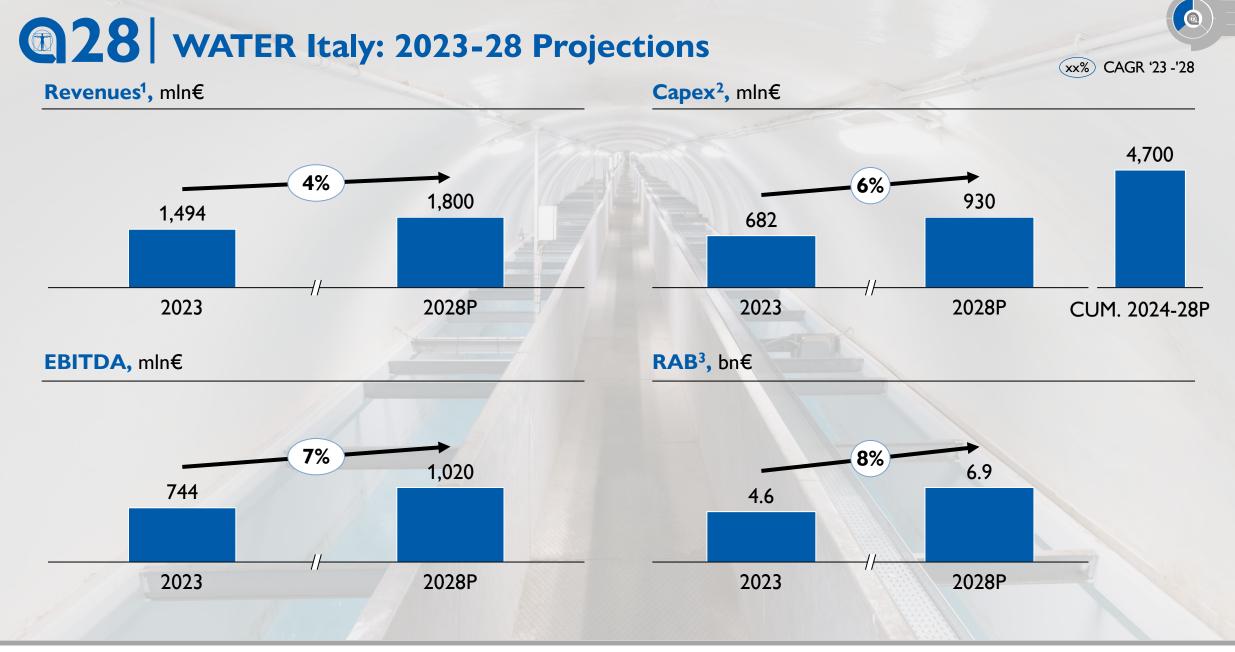
- Spillovers on local agricultural, water and energy communities
- Support for institutions (central and local)

Circular economy



Promoting circular economy models, aimed at:

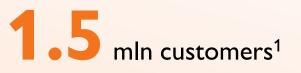
- Recovering resources from Acea supply chain (e.g., wastewater treatment and composting plants) with applications in the agricultural supply chain
- Recovering byproducts from the agricultural supply chain to feed Acea's plants



1. Includes the synthethic result of non-financial participation consolidated by the equity method | 2. Gross of public contributions (e.g., PNRR) | 3. Includes the pro-rata value of RABs of companies consolidated by the equity method

# **28** ELECTRICITY: Infrastructural operator active in three areas

- 1. Grids (Rome)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Italian distributor for POD
- 1.7 mln PODs in Rome
- Managed with innovative solutions
- Rome Flex: distributed flexibility management systems for smart grids
- 3. Commercial
- 7<sup>th</sup> operator by energy sold



800+ charging stations authorized in 2023

2. Public Lighting (Rome and Terni)

Italy's largest city grid (Rome) 250,000 light points

### 5,000 installations



## **ELETRICITY: Our vision**

2<sup>nd</sup> operator in Italy focused on grid management and innovative services

Weight on EBITDA '28



## Service quality

• Ensuring an orderly energy transition aiming at a significant strengthening and modernization of the grid

• **Promoting the decentralization and smartization** of the grid also via Artificial Intelligence

### **Resilience and safety**

- Maximizing the investments on grid resilience to support the electrification of consumptions
- Protecting the grid from any threat, physical and virtual



# **28** ELECTRICITY: Our strategy

 $\checkmark$ 

29

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### Strengthening

### INCREASE IN SERVICE LEVEL

**Development**<sup>1</sup>

DEVELOPMENT OF SMART CITY SERVICES AND SELECTIVE GROWTH ON GRIDS

### Networks/ Public Lighting: "Rome ready for 2030" by:

Upgrading Rome's LV grid (increase resilience, available power and hosting capacity of 800MW) Modernizing the MV/LV grid to increase safety

(advanced diagnostics, remote control and automation) Smarting the grid for dynamic management, control over PODs with 2G smart meters, and large-scale demand response via AI and IoT)

Developing Smart Public Lighting

Commercial: strengthening positioning by increasing performance and service level

### **Developing other smart city infrastructures** (surveillance infrastructure, environmental sensing, artistic lighting)

Aggregating, where possible, distribution grids in small municipalities

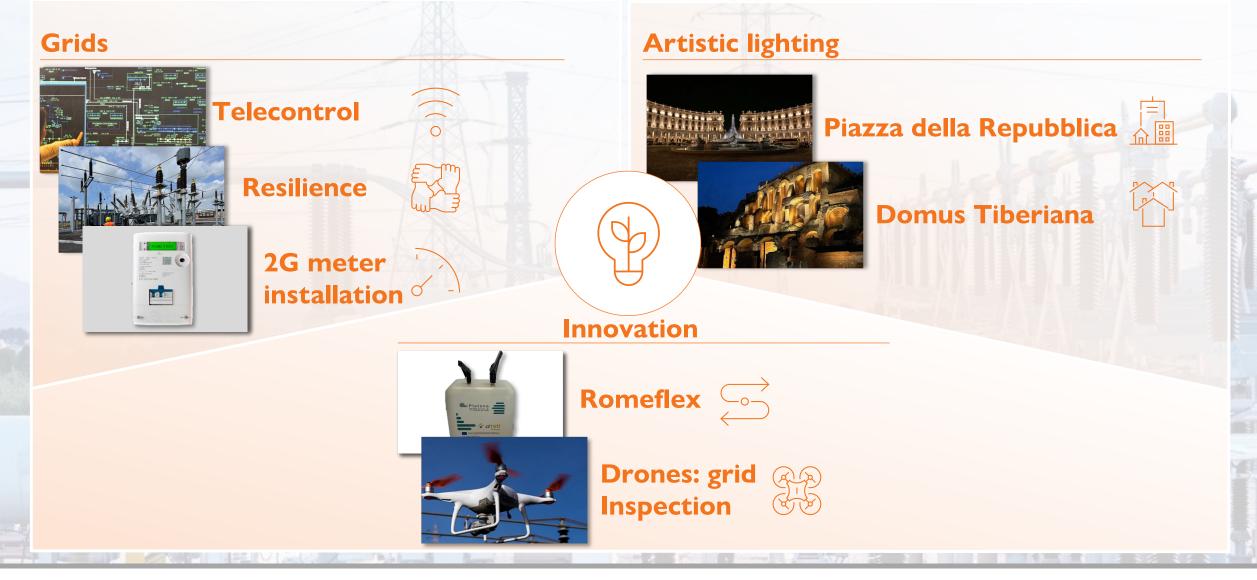
**Promoting an Extraordinary Plan for Rome** 

(including electrification of public services, cyber security, advanced connectivity)

# **28** ELECTRICITY: "Rome ready for 2030", major investments

Rome LV network upgrading	<ul> <li>Increased power available to customers</li> <li>LV network reinforcement - 230 V vs. 400 V grid transformation for 70k POD (PNRR scope)</li> <li>Hosting Capacity increase of 800 MW (PNRR Scope)</li> </ul>
Modernization of MV/ LV grid to increase security	<ul> <li>Maximizing telecontrol and automation</li> <li>Increased "meshing" of MV and LV grid - closure of LV network in antenna</li> <li>Reduction in customers served for MV line</li> <li>MV cable diagnostics</li> <li>MV and LV grid Asset Management</li> <li>Selective modernization of MV and LV grid with increasing volumes during plan period</li> </ul>
Grid digitization for dynamic management	<ul> <li>100% of PODs equipped with 2G smart meters</li> <li>100% MV lines with automation by 2026</li> <li>100% telecontrol of MV-side secondary cabins by 2028</li> <li>40% telecontrol of LV-side secondary cabins to 2028</li> <li>Implementation optimized dynamic network management and massive demand response via Al and IoT platform</li> </ul>
Smart Public Lighting Development	<ul> <li>Projects development for "smart" Public Lighting to serve cities</li> </ul>

# **28** ELECTRICITY: Project examples (1/2)



# **28** ELECTRICITY: Project examples (2/2)





### **Remote control**

granular on all light points



- **Smart sensors** for adoptive public lighting
- 10
- Surveillance cameras for video-streaming and video analysis
- Video-mapping for promotional and awareness campaigns



### Environmental sensors

aimed at measuring pollution levels

### Fiber optics

for low-latency service delivery and free WiFi connection





## **28** ELECTRICITY: Growth in performance and service level of commercial business

**Performance** growth in **Retail market** 

 $\sqrt{h}$ 

- Increased commercial push to support a full transition of AceaEnergia towards the free market
- Profound business transformation with channel remix and strong push on pull and partnership channels

Optimization of the customer management model by ensuring an effective • customers' transition to the deregulated market

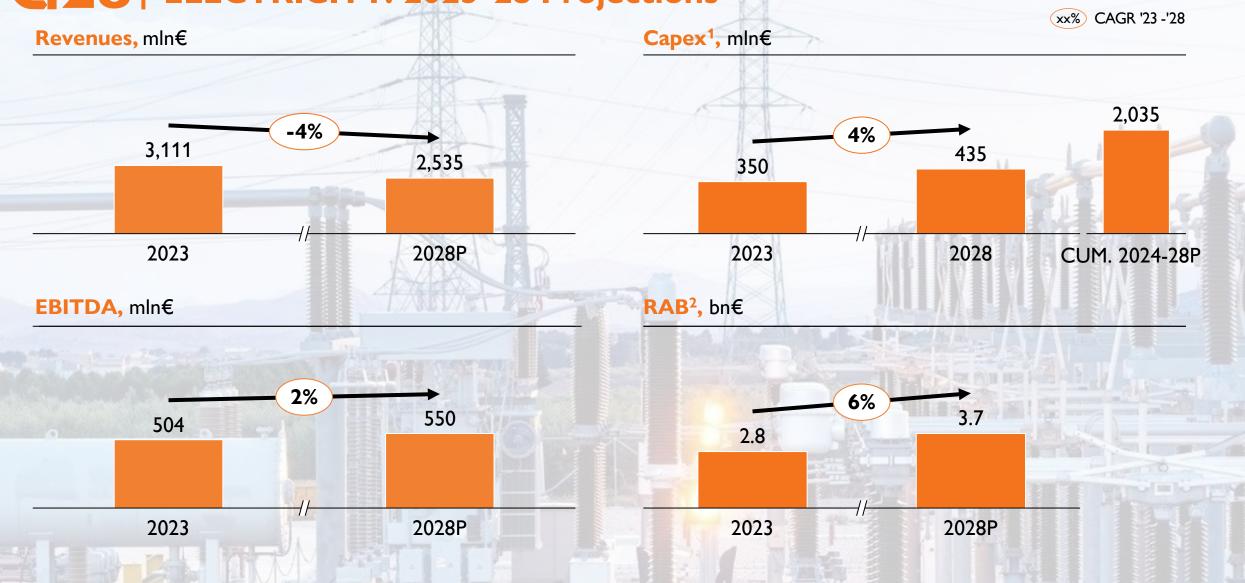
Completion of the installation of charging stations



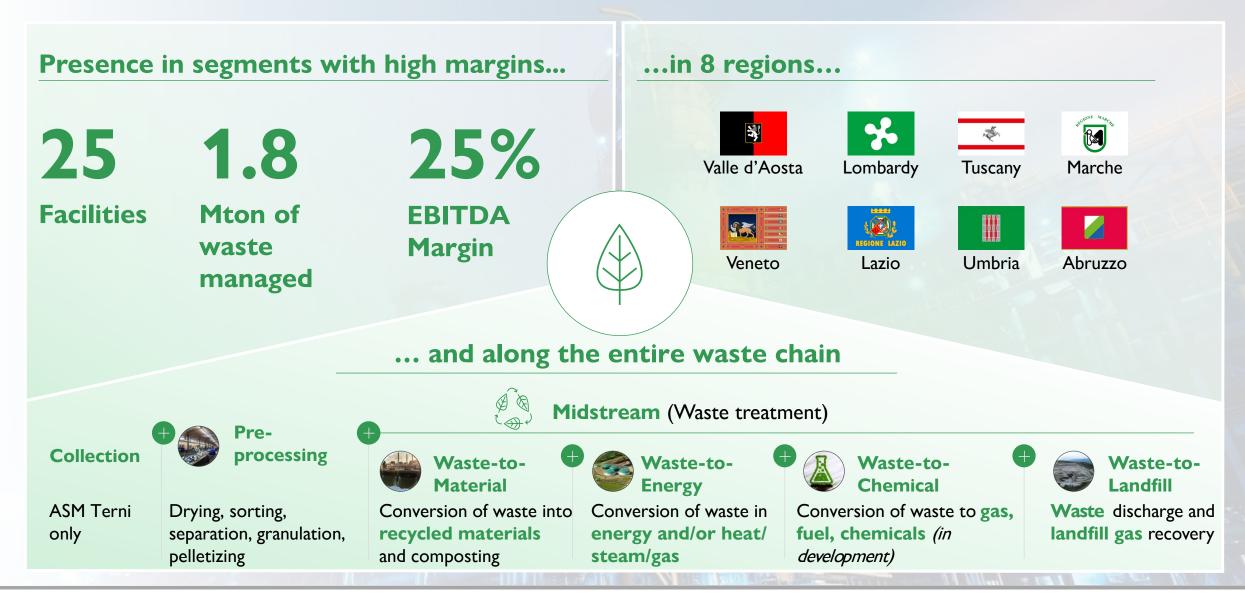
Service level

growth

## **28** ELECTRICITY: 2023-28 Projections



# **28** ENVIRONMENT: 5<sup>th</sup> operator in Italy





## **ENVIRONMENT: Our vision**



Operator of increasing national relevance

### Weight on EBITDA '28





### Increased coverage of the entire waste cycle

- Maximizing circularity focusing on the re-use of resources
- **Designing and managing new plants end-to-end** with the highest industry standards

### Simplification and synergies

- Simplifying the organization to maximize efficiency and efficacy
- Maximizing the synergies in the management of facilities





Waste)



#### Strengthening

### REORGANIZATION OF WASTE TREATMENT ACTIVITIES



Expanding and revamping the existing plants (WtE, other plants)

Closing the treatment cycle with EoW (End-of-Waste) initiatives (Heavy ashes of San Vittore, HTC, sludge, products from plastic synthesis)

Simplifying the corporate structure in 5 treatment activities

(Waste-to-Energy, Composting, Landfills and TMB, Plastic Sorting and Recycling, and Industrial



**Consolidating the plastic supply chain aiming at increasing marginality** (partnership to ensure the offtake of products generated by plants)

**Development<sup>1</sup>** 

SELECTIVE GROWTH IN ITALY AND ABROAD Developing and managing, also in partnership, new plants with the highest industry standards

#### Promoting new advanced technologies (CO<sub>2</sub> capture/ storage and recovery of heavy ashes)

# **28** ENVIRONMENT: Project examples



### WtE – Energy recovery

#### Expansion of Waste-to-Energy activities (~200 kton) San Vittore: IV line construction + II line revamping Terni: revamping fumes line



### **Recycling – Material recovery**

#### **Consolidation of the plastics supply chain (~170 kton)**

JV with chemical partner to ensure plant output products sales







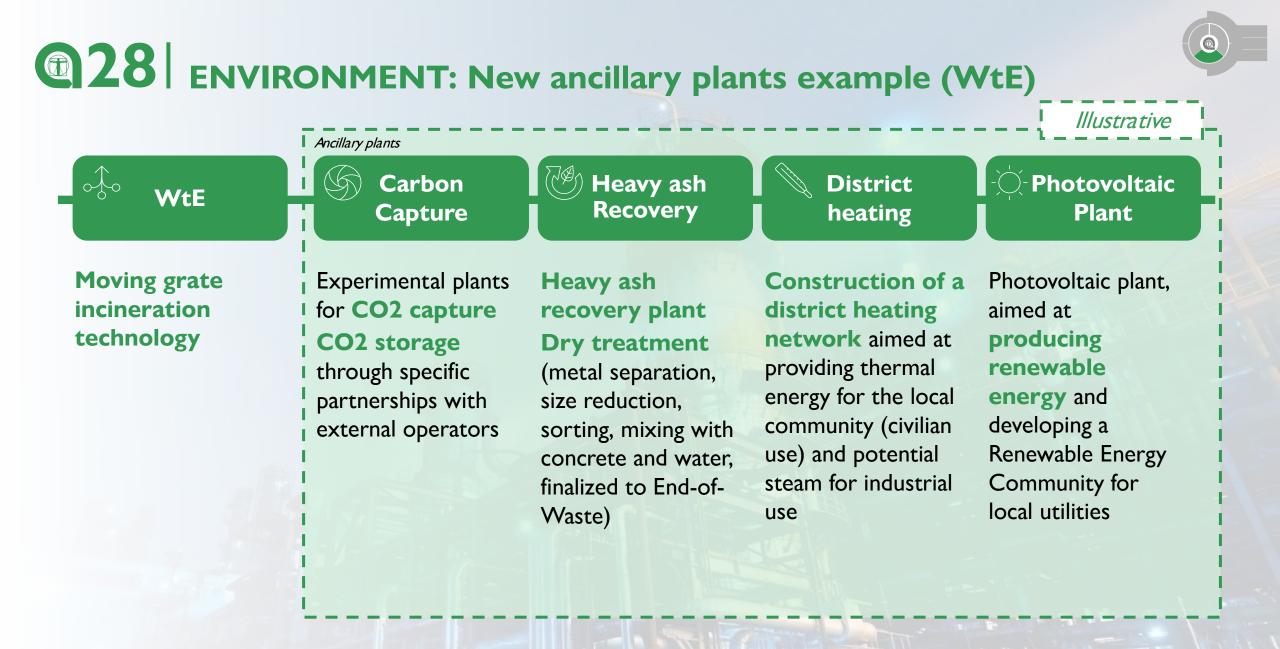


### Innovative plants (circular economy)

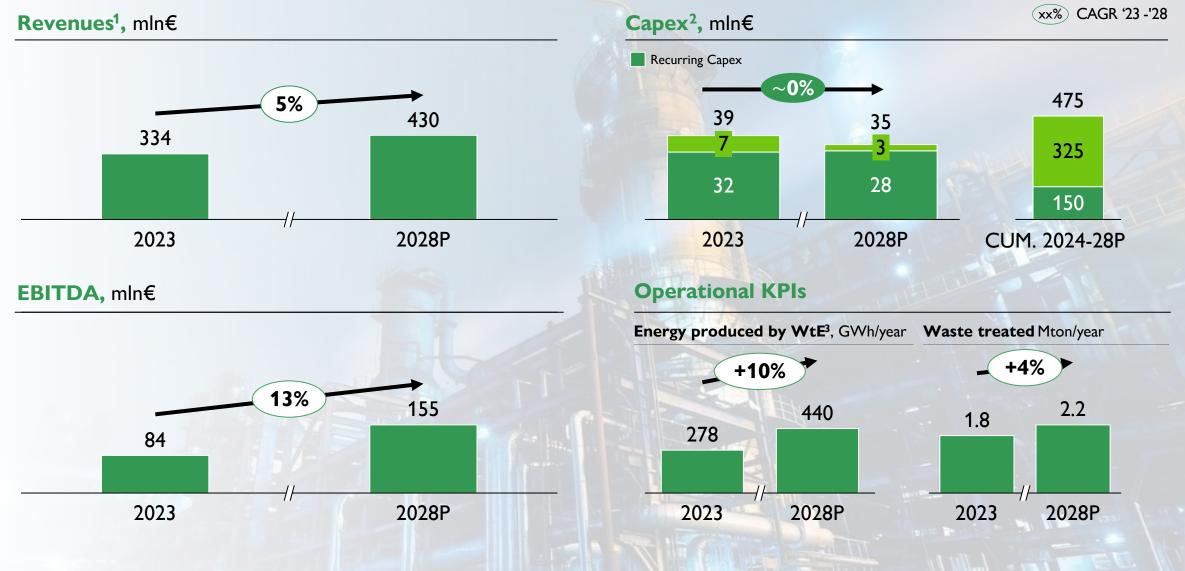


Valle d'Aosta: hydrothermal carbonization with End-of-Waste biolignite production





# **28** ENVIRONMENT: 2023-28 Projections



1. Includes the synthethic result of non-financial participation consolidated by the equity method | 2. Gross of public contributions (e.g., PNRR); major investments for interventions on the WTE of San Vittore and Terni in 2026, not on Rome WTE | 3. Value expressed net of self-consumption

# 28 ENGINEERING: 1<sup>st</sup> operator in Acea's "core sectors"

**116** mln€

Revenues

Highly specialized center of excellence...

**Companies**<sup>1</sup>

... with strong internal R&D...

National leadership in the water sector in testing methods and advanced instruments for laboratory analysis

... and focus on design/studies in the captive market



1. Excluding Ingegnerie Toscane, consolidated with Equity Method

400 +

**Engineers** 



## **ENGINEERING: Our vision**





**Internal competences and partnerships** 

- Growing internal competencies in advanced technologies/engineering
- Strategic partnerships with industry leaders for know-how development

### Internal support and services

- Maximizing the control on the entire life cycle of major projects
- Increasing quality assurance services also externally



# **28** ENGINEERING: Our strategy



SINGLE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE WITH FOCUS ON MAJOR PROJECTS Acea Infrastructure: integrating different companies in a unique center of excellence to manage major works:

- Water: Peschiera (130 km), PNRR projects
- Environment: revamping current plants and new WtE (upgrading S. Vittore in Lazio: ~500 kton at full production)
- Production: photovoltaic pipeline (870 MW in development)

**Development**<sup>1</sup>

ENHANCEMENT OF INTERNAL COMPETENCES AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT



**Expanding specialized internal skills along the investment lifecycle**, also via partnerships with industry operators

(Engineering, tender management, project and construction management)



Increase in laboratory services also for third parties to guarantee quality Water/Environment

# **28** PRODUCTION: Highly specialized operator

#### Good mix of renewables... ... to cover internal consumption... Current capacity<sup>1</sup>, % 30% 37% Hydroelectric Internal 30% Photovoltaic consumption coverage (current) 33% Thermoelectric ... and with a strong PV pipeline, MW 870 1,200 120 110 100 330 Photovoltaic Total by 2028 Thermal Hydro Current capacity PV pipeline

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## **PRODUCTION: Our vision**

Operator highly focused on renewables



### **Energy Balance**

 Achieving full balance of Group energy production/ consumption



# **28** PRODUCTION: Our strategy

#### Strengthening

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF PV PLANTS Deploying the existing solar pipeline also leveraging on financial partners (870 MW, of which 210 already authorized)

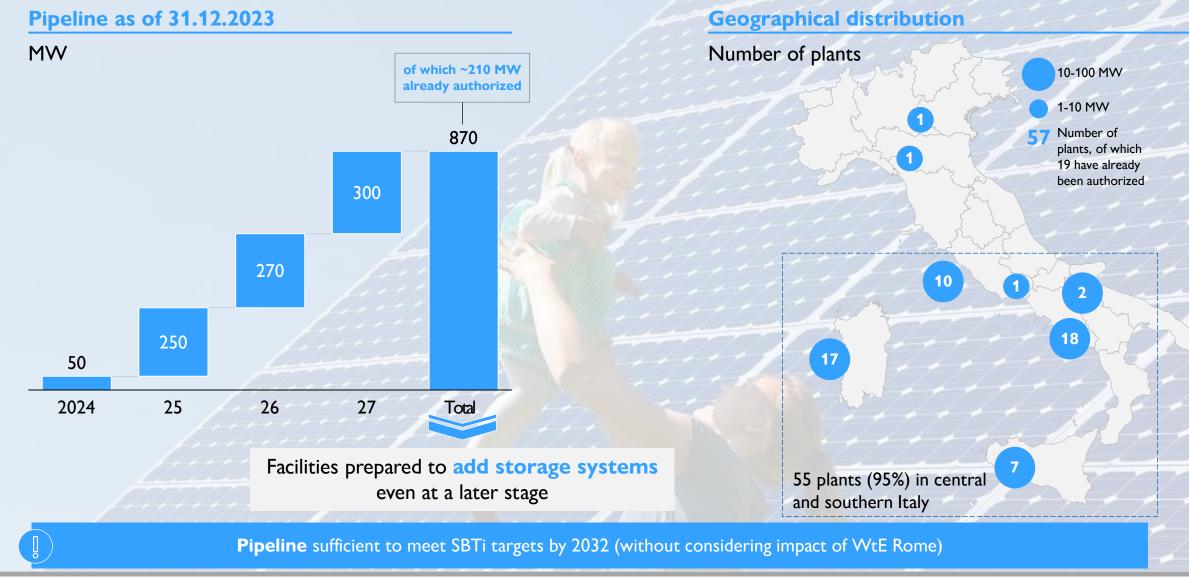
#### **Development**<sup>1</sup>

SELF-CONSUMPTION SOLUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENT OF SBTi TARGETS **Implementing self-consumption solutions:** installation (for the Group/third parties) of stations for the water distribution pressure reduction for energy recovery, and installation of in-situ or rooftop photovoltaic fields

Increasing generation capacity also from other renewable sources (market and/or tenders)

Asset management: strengthening skills for facilities under management

## **28** PRODUCTION: Launched projects





## **ESG: Our Vision**



- SBTi targets of emission reduction in 2032 (Scope 1, 2, 3)
- Focus on "green" funding
- Strengthening policy on biodiversity

## ESG across corporate businesses



- Strengthening commitment on people development
- Introduction of **social impact assessment** on **welfare** initiatives
- Formalization of a Group policy on human rights



- Management incentive scheme with increased focus on ESG
   Full integration of ESC criteria into Risk and Compliance
- Full integration of ESG criteria into Risk and Compliance processes
- Promoting ESG performance along the supply chain

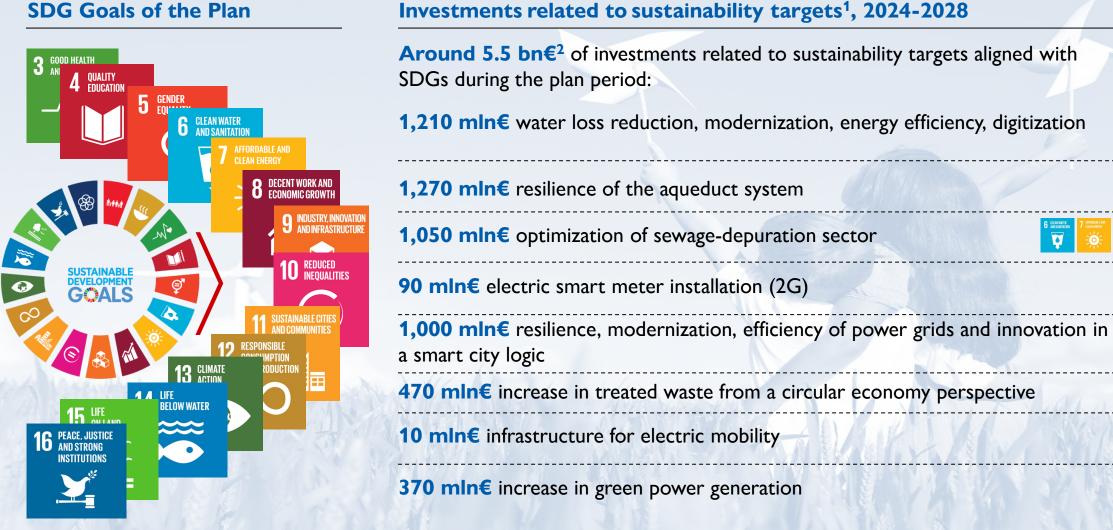


# **28** ESG: SBTi targets 2032<sup>1</sup>

Scope	SBTi targe	ts 2032	Enabling levers
Scope 1	<b>-56</b> % <sup>2</sup>	emission intensity reduction (tCO2/MWh)	<b>Confirmed SBTi commitment</b> <b>for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction</b> to be achieved also through:
Scope 2	<b>-32%</b> <sup>3</sup>	absolute emissions reduction (tCO2)	<ul> <li>Green energy generation and management/ development of renewable energy plants</li> </ul>
Scope 1 + Scope 3	<b>-56%</b> <sup>4</sup>	emission intensity reduction from energy production and sale (tCO2/MWh)	• <b>Green</b> energy <b>sales</b> and progressive electrification of consumption
Scope3	<b>-30%</b> <sup>5</sup>	absolute emissions reduction from gas distribution and sales (tCO2)	

# **28** ESG: Investments related to sustainability targets 2024-28





#### Investments related to sustainability targets<sup>1</sup>, 2024-2028

**Around 5.5**  $bn \in {}^2$  of investments related to sustainability targets aligned with SDGs during the plan period:

**1,210 mln**€ water loss reduction, modernization, energy efficiency, digitization

business

SDGs related to

investment in



6 CLEAN WATER AND SAMTATION	9 MELESTEY, INFORMATION AND INFRASTRECTIBLE	13 CLIMATE	

LEAN WATER Ind Sanitation	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	9 INDUSTRY INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	13 action	
7	-6-		$\sim$		
Ŧ	215	<b>WD</b>	60		

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470 mln€ increase in treated waste from a circular economy perspective

**10 mln€** infrastructure for electric mobility

**370 mln€** increase in green power generation

1. Capex of the Group main Companies (Acea Ato 2, Environment business, Areti, Acea Produzione, including photovoltaic development, Acea Innovation) associated with sustainability targets

2. Gross of public contributions (e.g. PNRR) and M&A for photovoltaic

## Main strategy enablers







1. New Carta della Persona e della Partecipazione	Carta della Persona e della Partecipazione signed between Acea and labor unions	
2. Introduction of new skills	Development of a <b>structured talent management</b> to ensure <b>attraction</b> and <b>retention</b> of the best skills, through:	
	Dedicated recruitment programs (such as graduate program)	
	Up-skilling and re-skilling programs	
3. Strengthening training and career paths	<b>Continuous training</b> and <b>growth paths with innovative programs</b> (e.g., networking, development, innovation, career, rewarding and benefit programs) to cultivate the Group's talents	
4. Enhancement of corporate welfare	Launch of <b>enhanced welfare programs,</b> focused on 6 areas (health, mental and physical well-being, family, economic benefits, work-life balance, and pension)	



## Digitization

E2E process automation of Corporate/ operating companies
Data Governance strategy to develop a Data Driven company

## **Robotics/ drones**

Networks inspection/ monitoring Precision installation of components Plants surveillance Anomalies/ water leaks detection



## **Artificial Intelligence**

Predictive maintenance through Smart Metering IoT for plants and networks Telecontrol Networks planning Workforce management

## **Gen Al**

Customer Operations transformation into a full assisted self-service logic

Virtual workforce development through Co-pilot tools

# 28 Systems: Partnership network development

### **Industrial partnership**

### WATER

Development of projects to support water resources security

### ELECTRICITY

Co-development of **photovoltaic generation** facilities

### **ENVIRONMENT**

Co-development of facilities for Waste-to-Chemical technologies **Financial partnerships** 

Focus on WATER Medium-long term financing for the supply chain Incentive scheme for lower interest rates

Focus on green products Reverse factoring

Ad-hoc financing for SMEs

Improvement of ESG sustainable indexes of the supply chain

Adoption of innovative **technologies** (e.g., Gen Al)

Oceo

**Technology partnership** 



1.	Business process redesign	<b>Redesign of all major processes through data mining</b> in favor of higher value-added activities and better interaction between business units and functions, to improve operational management and service quality
2.	Procurement review	<b>Strategic management</b> of Group <b>procurement</b> and application of <b>optimization levers</b> (such as unbundling, standardization, should-cost methodologies)
		Revised Make vs. Buy strategy, insourcing strategic, low-availability, quality-impacting activities
3.	Working Capital optimization	Innovative strategies along the entire credit management and recovery chain, through data quality improvement, partnerships with specialized operator, and Artificial Intelligence
4.	Strengthening governance	Sub-holding by business and renewed top management

# **28** Processes: Operational efficiencies

#### **Key levers**

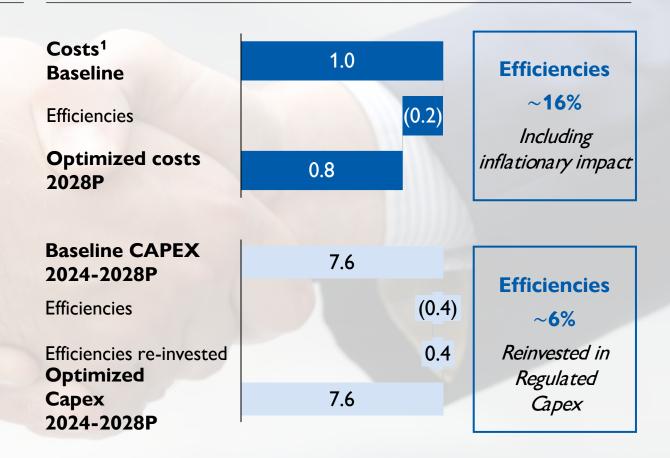
#### **Continuous cash-cost optimization through:**

- Procurement optimization (supply unbundling, planning and standardization, should-cost...)
- New technologies (Al and genAl, process mining, automation...)
- Process optimization and simplification
- Corporate simplification (e.g., plastics supply chain consolidation)

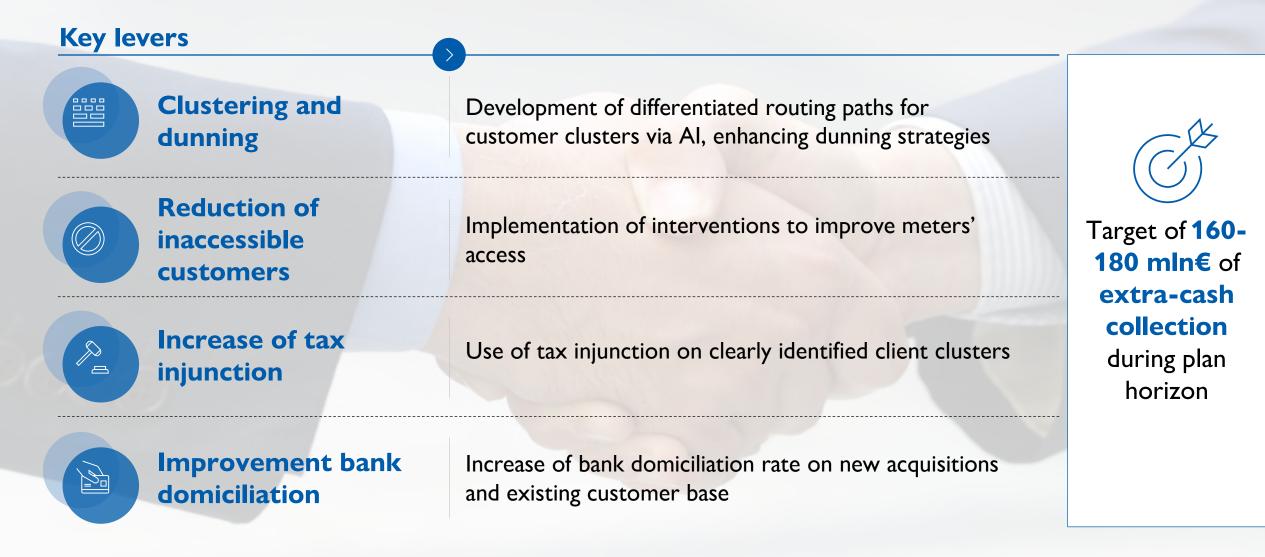
### Capex efficiencies re-invested in regulated

**businesses** to support growth and improve technical and contractual quality

#### Cash-cost with efficiency potential, bn€







# Targets 2028



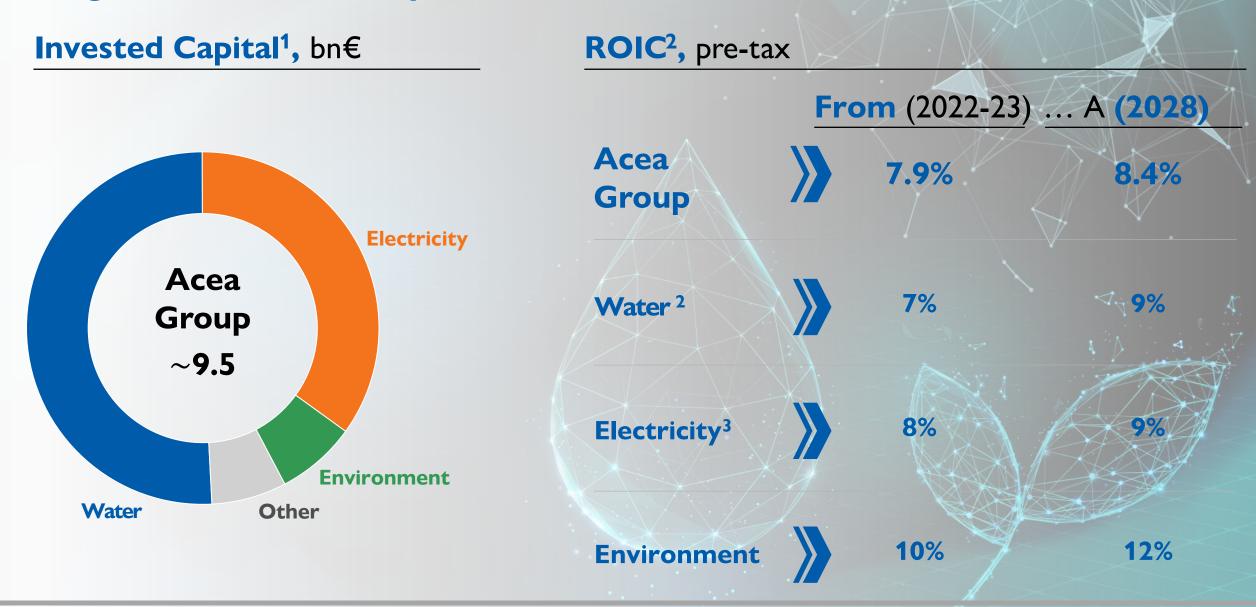
## Targets 2028: Steady growth

**xx%** CAGR '23-'28

**EBITDA**, mln€ Cumulated Capex<sup>2</sup> 2024-28P, bn€ 5% 7.6 1,800 1,630 6.9 1,391 2023 2026P 2028P Regulated Not regulated Total ~90% Regulated<sup>1</sup> ~87% ~90% % of the Tot. ~91% ~9% 100% **RAB**<sup>3</sup>, bn€ Net profit, mln€ 7% 5% 10.5 9.6 375 350 7.4 294  $\dashv \vdash$  $\dashv \vdash$ 2023 2026P 2028P 2023 2026P 2028P

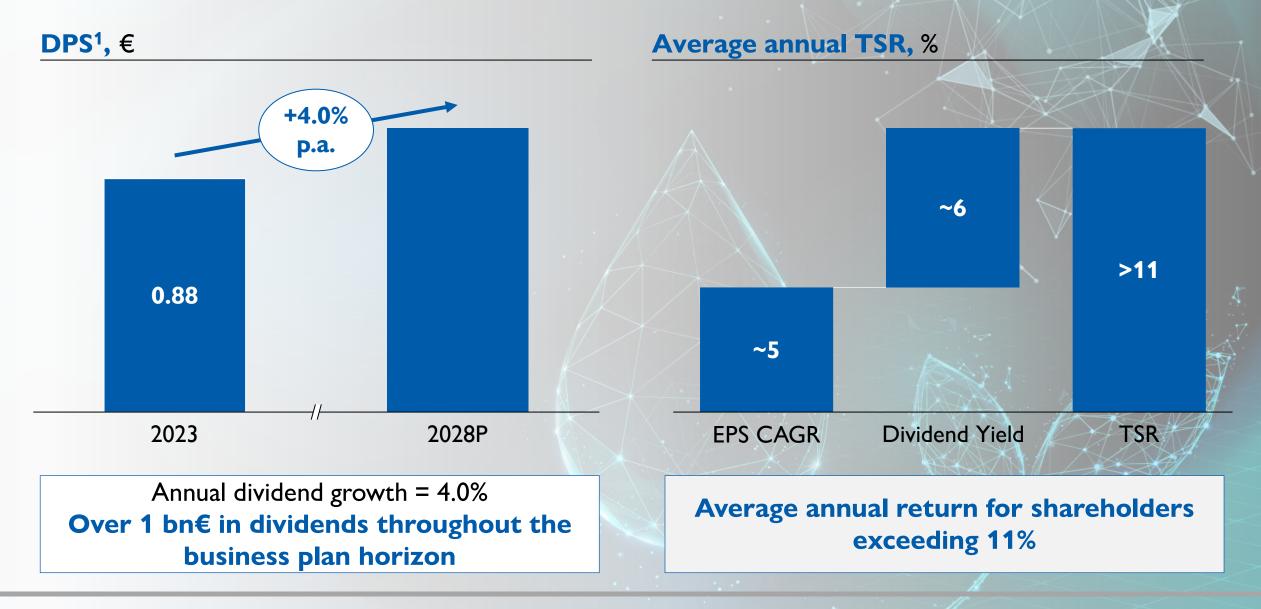
1. Regulated includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water in Italy and Grids, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses | 2. Gross of public contributions (e.g., PNRR) | 3. Includes the pro-rata value of the RAB of the companies consolidated using the equity method.

## **Targets 2028: Returns by business**



1. Shareholders Equity + NFP | 2. The regulated WACC has been considered for regulated businesses Grids and Water Italy; Water refers to activities in Italy | 3. Includes Grids, Public Lighting, Commercial Area excluding Acea Innovation

## **Targets 2028: More value to shareholders**



1. Expressed on an accrual basis (e.g., the DPS 2023 is calculated based on the distribution of profits in 2023, which will occur in 2024)

## Potential further strategic upside from asset rotation



- Disposal of non-core assets characterized by higher result volatility, limited cash conversion, regulatory incentives for sale
- Set-up of partnerships and potential opening of capital to partners in selected businesses, while maintaining control and operational management

# Selective allocation of proceeds tocore and regulated sectors



New tenders and agreements in the management of the integrated water service, selective growth abroad and in new segments



Consolidation as DSO and growth in public lighting and smart city services



Growth in WtE and new acquisitions for closing the treatment cycle and new technologies



Internalization of engineering / EPC expertise and partnerships in renewables

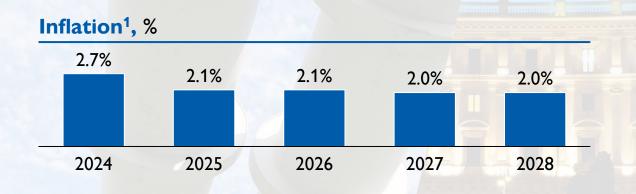


Potential additional EBITDA + safeguarding NFP improvement

# 2023-28 Projections



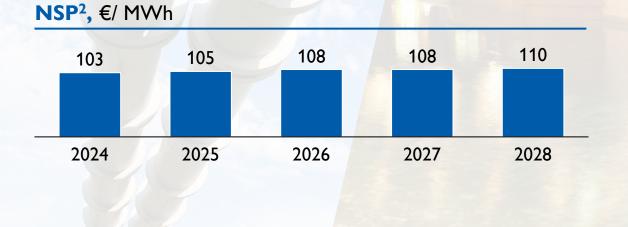
## Key assumptions of the Plan



#### **Regulatory scenario**

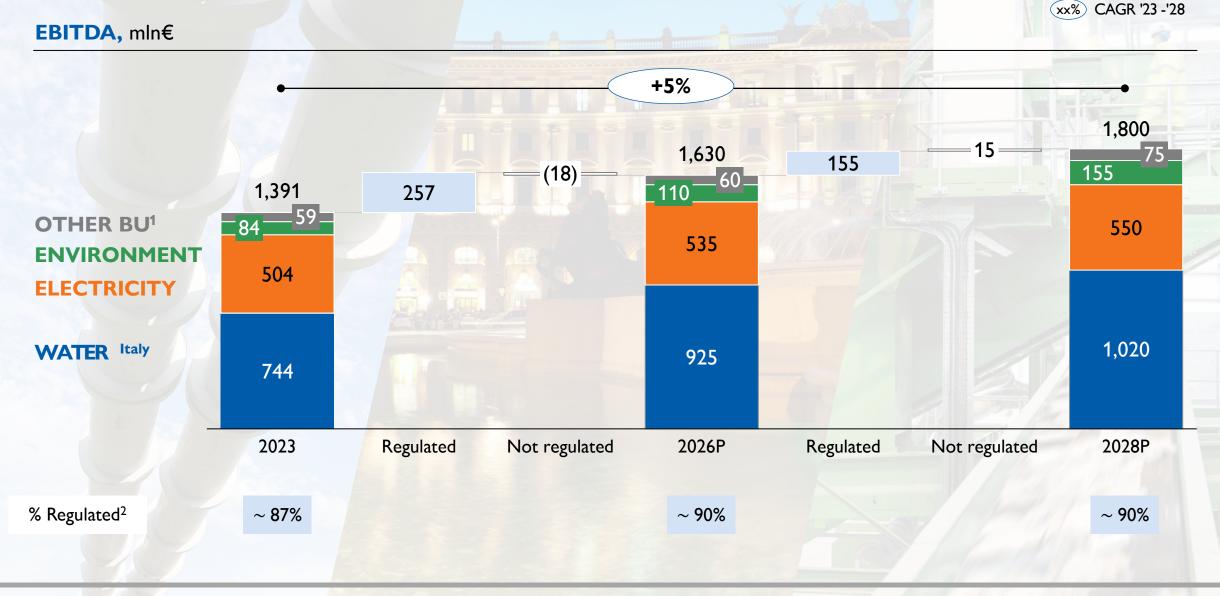
Areas	Indicators		2024	2025-28
WATER Italy	WACC		<b>6.1%</b>	6.1%
	Deflato	or	2.8%	0%
GRIDS	WACC		6.0%	5.7%
	Deflato	Deflator		1%
Interest rate	s <sup>3</sup> , %			
Interest rate Mid-Swap 8y	s <sup>3</sup> , % Euribor 6m			
		2.3%	2.3%	2.3%
Mid-Swap 8y	Euribor 6m	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%

77



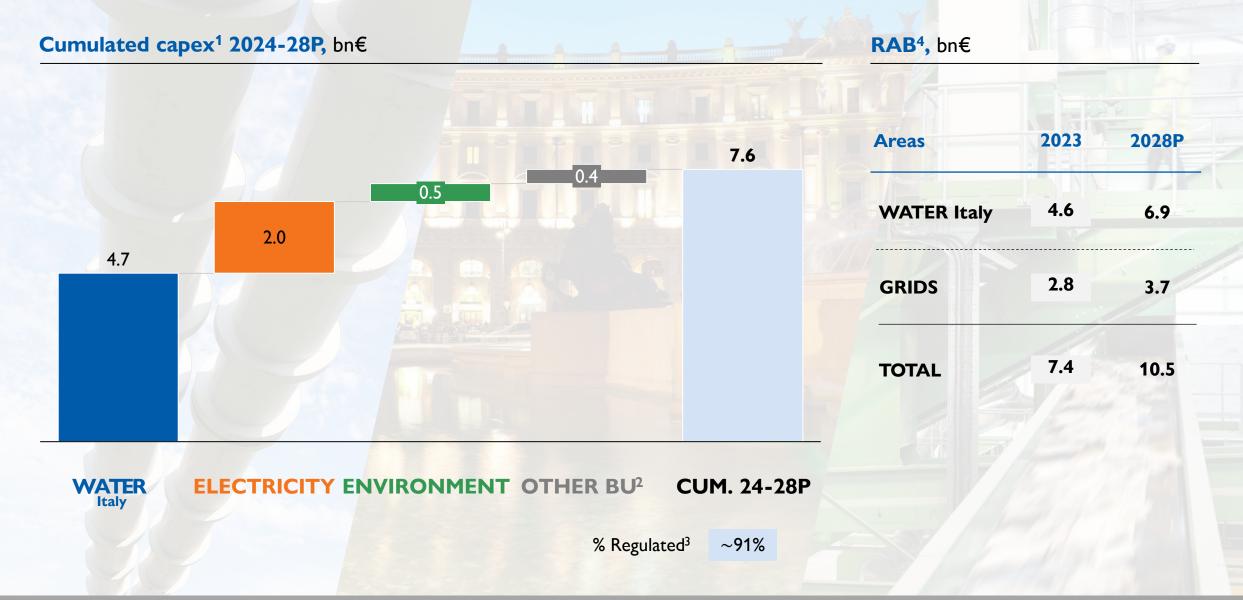
1. AFRY source, Q4-2023 update | 2. Forecasts for 2024 and 2025 based on forward prices observed in December 2023 @European Energy Exchange, (ii) forecast for 2026-2028 based on AFRY Q4-23 projections (weighted average 85% central scenario and 15% low scenario) | 3. Forecasts for 2024 - 2028 based on forward prices observed in December 2023 @Bloomberg

## Growth driven by regulated business...



1. Other Business Units (BUs) includes Production, Water International, Engineering and Corporate | 2. Regulated Includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water Italy and Networks, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses

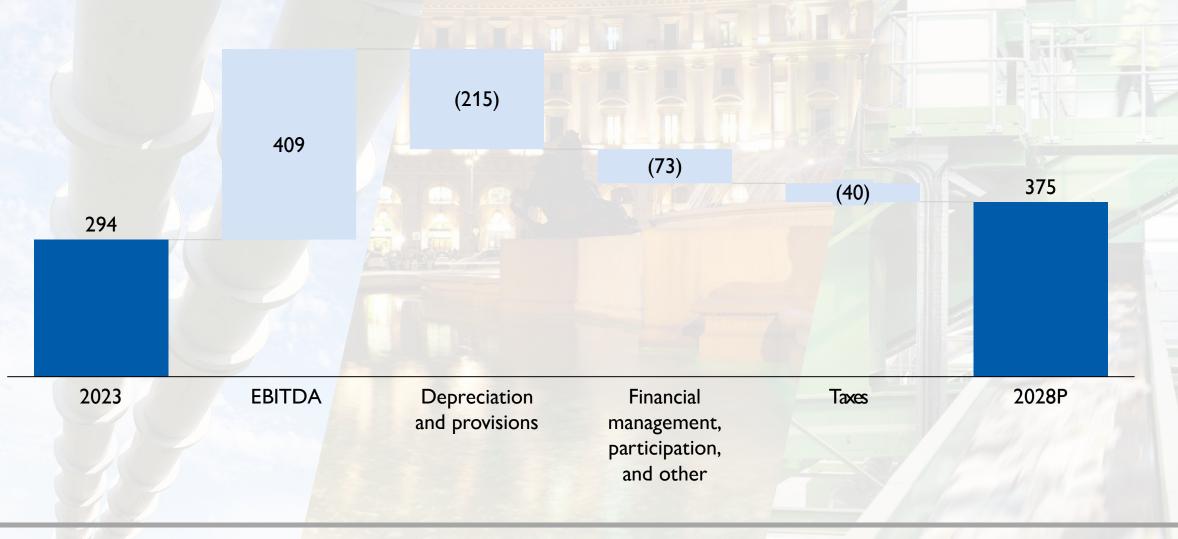
### ...and from investments in infrastructures...



1. Gross of public contribution (e.g., PNRR) | 2. Includes Production, Water International, Engineering and Corporate | 3. Regulated includes, in addition to the regulated businesses Water in Italy and Grids, the Public Lighting and Environment businesses | 4. Values expressed gross of public contribution. Acqua Italia includes the pro-rata value of the RAB of the companies consolidated using the equity method; for GRIDS it represents the accounting value of RAB | Note: values subject to rounding

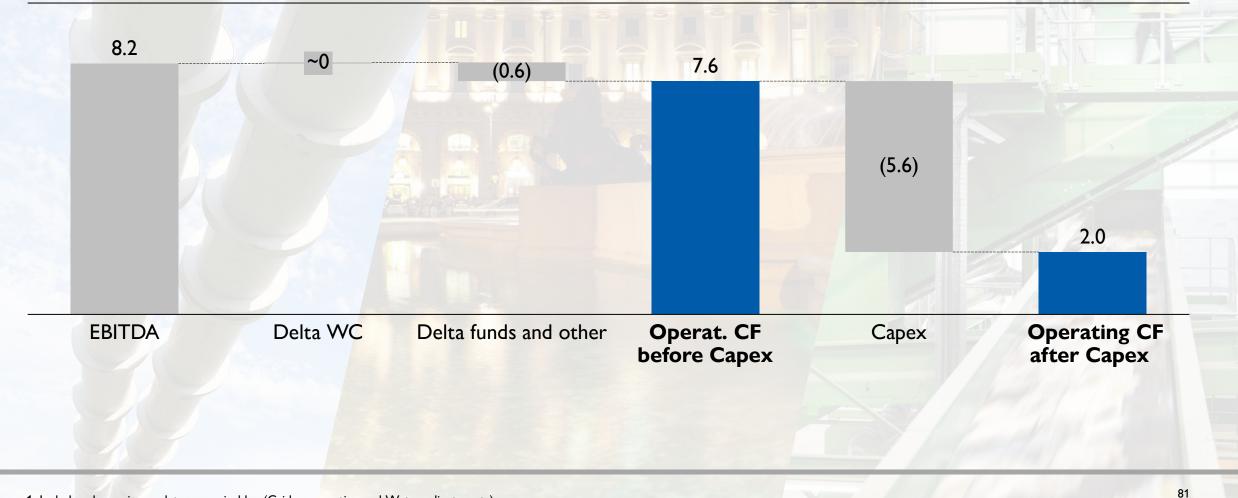
## ...ensures value creation for shareholders

#### Net profit, (∆ 2023-28P) mln€

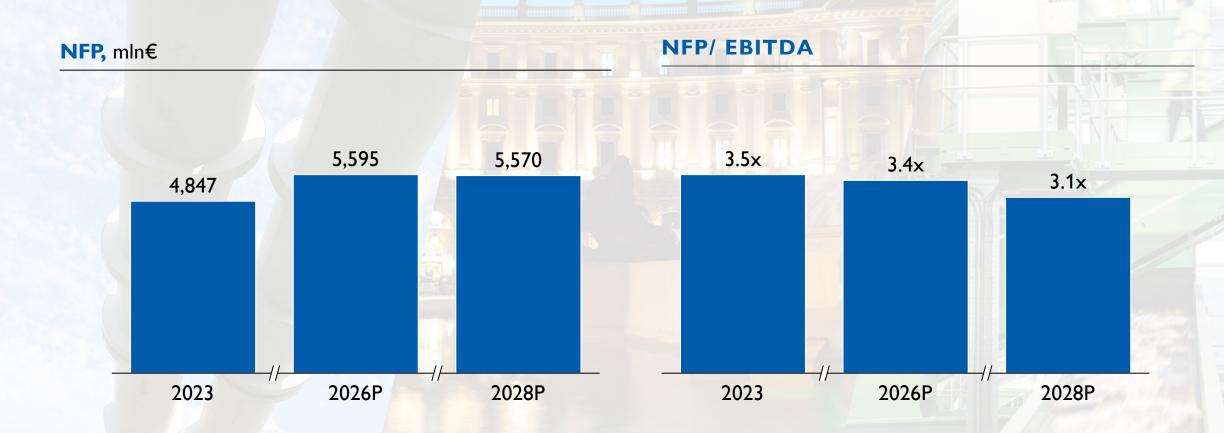


## **Robust and improving financial structure (1/3)**

#### **Operating Cash Flow (2024-28P),** mln€



## **Robust and improving financial structure (2/3)**



## **Robust and improving financial structure (3/3)**

## 4.5 4.5 4.2 2026P 2028P 2023 **Debt structure** Fixed Variable 2023 2028P 9% ~30% 91% ~70%

Average duration of debt, years

#### **Key Optimization Levers**

- Increase of the average duration of debt through refinancing of expiring debt with:
  - bond issues (~8 years bullet) and
  - long-term financing (~15 years amortizing)
- Reduction of the fixed-rate component in line with the changed market context
  - interest rates steadily rising since late 2020, with an expectation of reduction in the coming years

# **Closing remarks**



# 28 Closing remarks

Green

+ -× = Focus on regulated infrastructure businesses by strengthening positioning and expanding into adjacent segments

**ESG** across businesses

People at the center Operation excellence with strong cost and investment discipline to sustain cash generation Optimization of financial structure and capital allocation

Capex increase (also in innovation)

Growth

Diligent

Shareholder value growth (RAB/ Net Profit/ Dividends)

#### Key numbers

- EBITDA '28: ~1.8 bn€ (90% regulated<sup>1</sup>)
- Net Profit '28: ~375 mln€
- NFP/ EBITDA '28: ~3.1x
- Capex: ~1.5 bn€/year
- Dividends: >1 bln€ cumulated in the plan horizon

## DISCLAIMER

THIS PRESENTATION CONTAINS CERTAIN FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS THAT REFLECT THE COMPANY'S MANAGEMENT'S CURRENT VIEWS WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE EVENTS AND FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF THE COMPANY AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES.

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PURSUANT TO ART. 154-BIS, PAR. 2, OF THE LEGISLATIVE DECREE N. 58 OF FEBRUARY 24, 1998, THE EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE OF PREPARING THE CORPORATE ACCOUNTING DOCUMENTS AT ACEA SABRINA DI BARTOLOMEO – CFO OF THE COMPANY - DECLARES THAT THE ACCOUNTING INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN CORRESPOND TO DOCUMENT RESULTS, BOOKS AND ACCOUNTING RECORDS.

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