An EU energy label for data centres?

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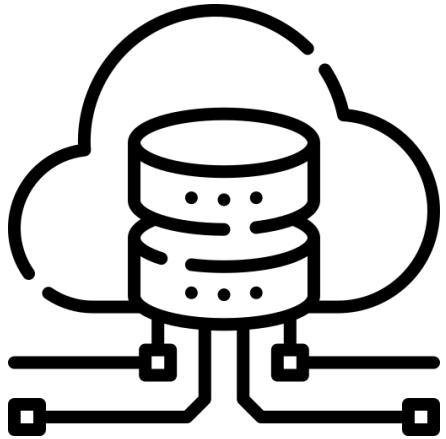
Delegated Act on data centres

- *"…the first phase of the establishment of a common Union rating scheme for data centres"*
- Operators of data centres on EU territory with an installed IT power demand of at least 500kW to communicate to the European database annually:



Information in Annex I

Key performance indicator in Annex II

The Commission will:

- Calculate the data centre sustainability indicators of Annex III
- Make public only the data described in Annex IV

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Next steps

- The Commission is preparing a report to the European Parliament and Council and, if applicable, will propose ways forward:
  - Rating / labelling scheme
  - A proposal for minimum performance standards?
  - A definition of “carbon-neutral data centres”?

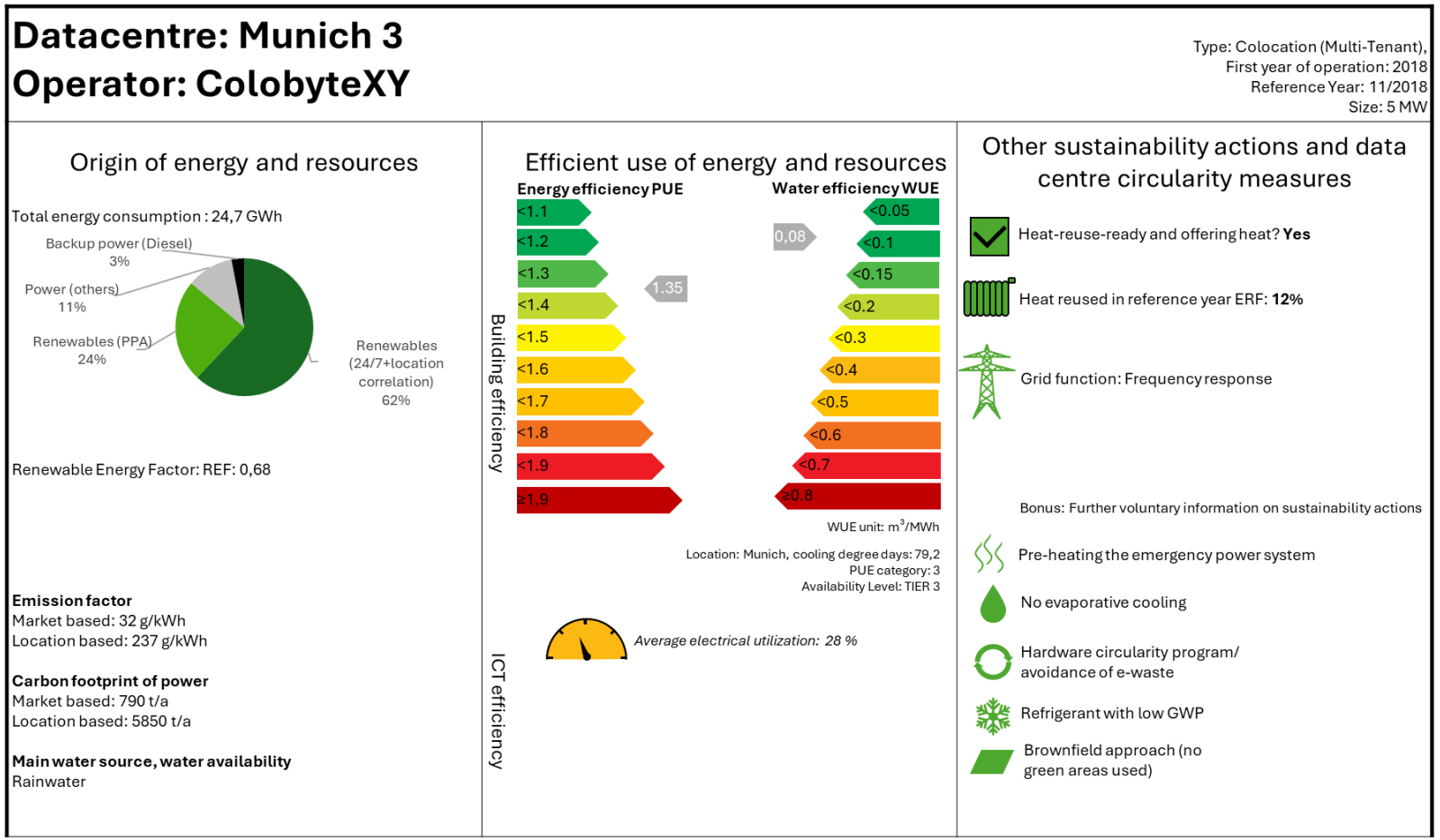
A rating scheme for data centres

- Such a scheme would act as a “push” for greener digital operations and services, where these are offered to the market or are publicly owned
- The rating scheme will take the form of a second Delegated Regulation
- Expected timeline for adoption is Q4 2025

Minimum performance standards for data centres

- Minimum performance standards at a European level could help in the sustainable development of the digital sector, while promoting the deeper integration of data centres and the energy system.
- Design of such standards would need to result from a wide consultation on what could “make the difference” without disrupting the growth of digital infrastructure.
- Looking at what is implemented in EU and globally, ideas include indicators like PUE and WUE, the waste heat reuse, REF or the carbon footprint, services to the grid, etc.
- Minimum performance standards would take the form of a Regulation
- Expected timeline for adoption could be Q4 2025 – Q2 2026

A rating scheme for data centres



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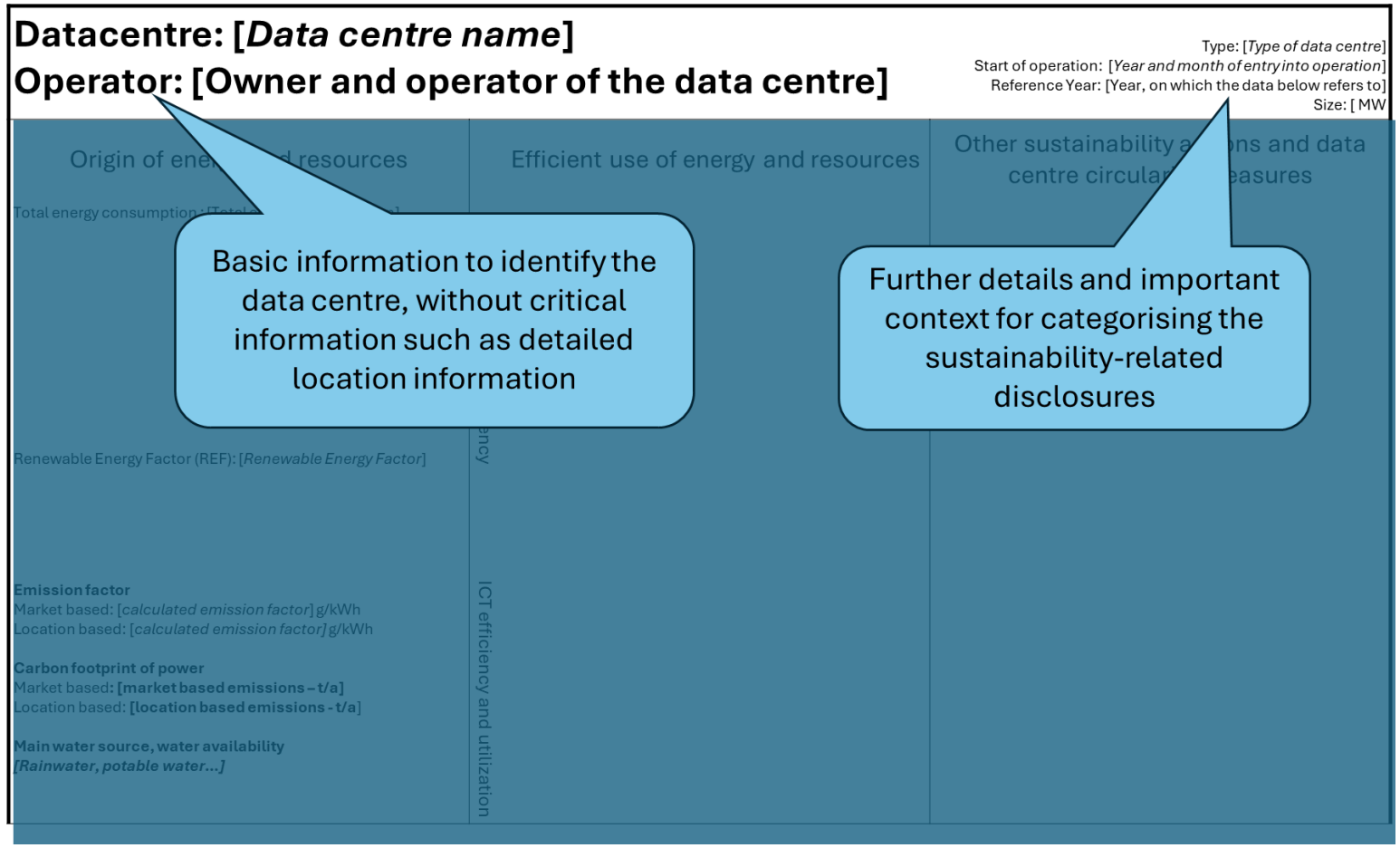
A rating scheme for data centres

Name and relevant information (context) on the data centre		
Origin of energy and resources Upstream sustainability impacts of data centre operations	**Efficient use of energy and resources** How efficient are the energy and resources used in the data centre?	**Other sustainability actions and data centre circularity measures** What other sustainability measures are being applied and what are the downstream impacts?

A rating scheme for data centres



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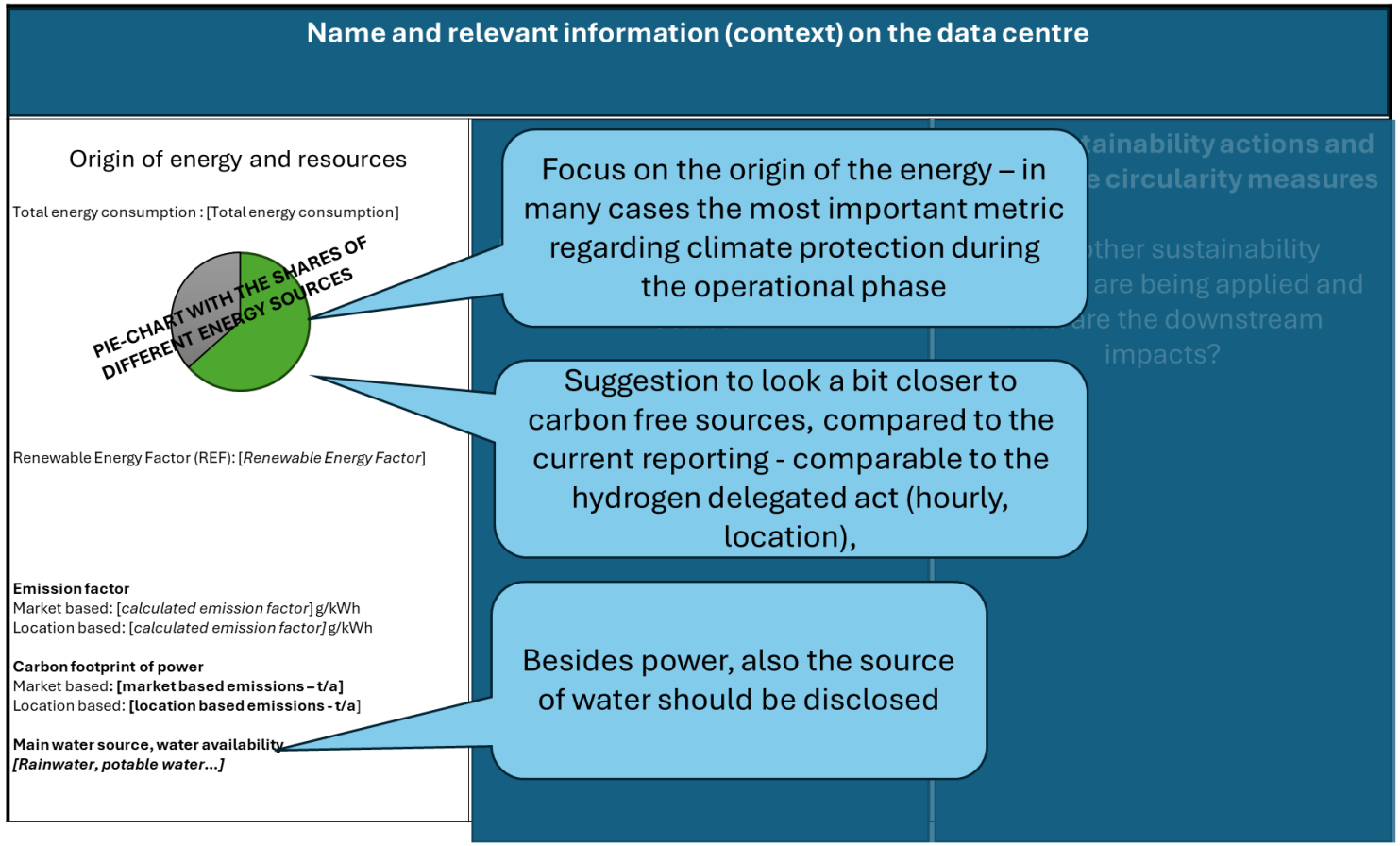
A rating scheme for data centres



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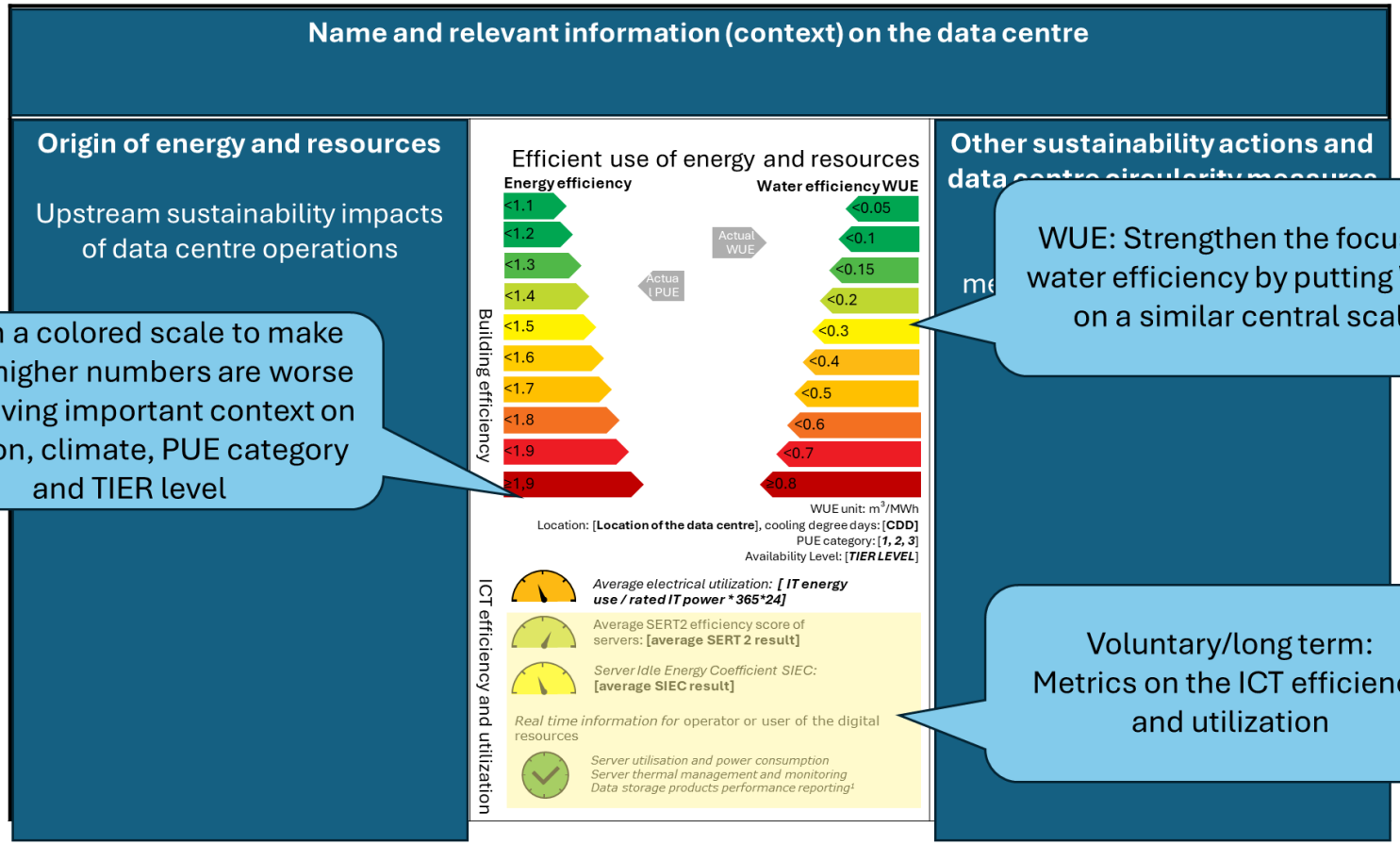

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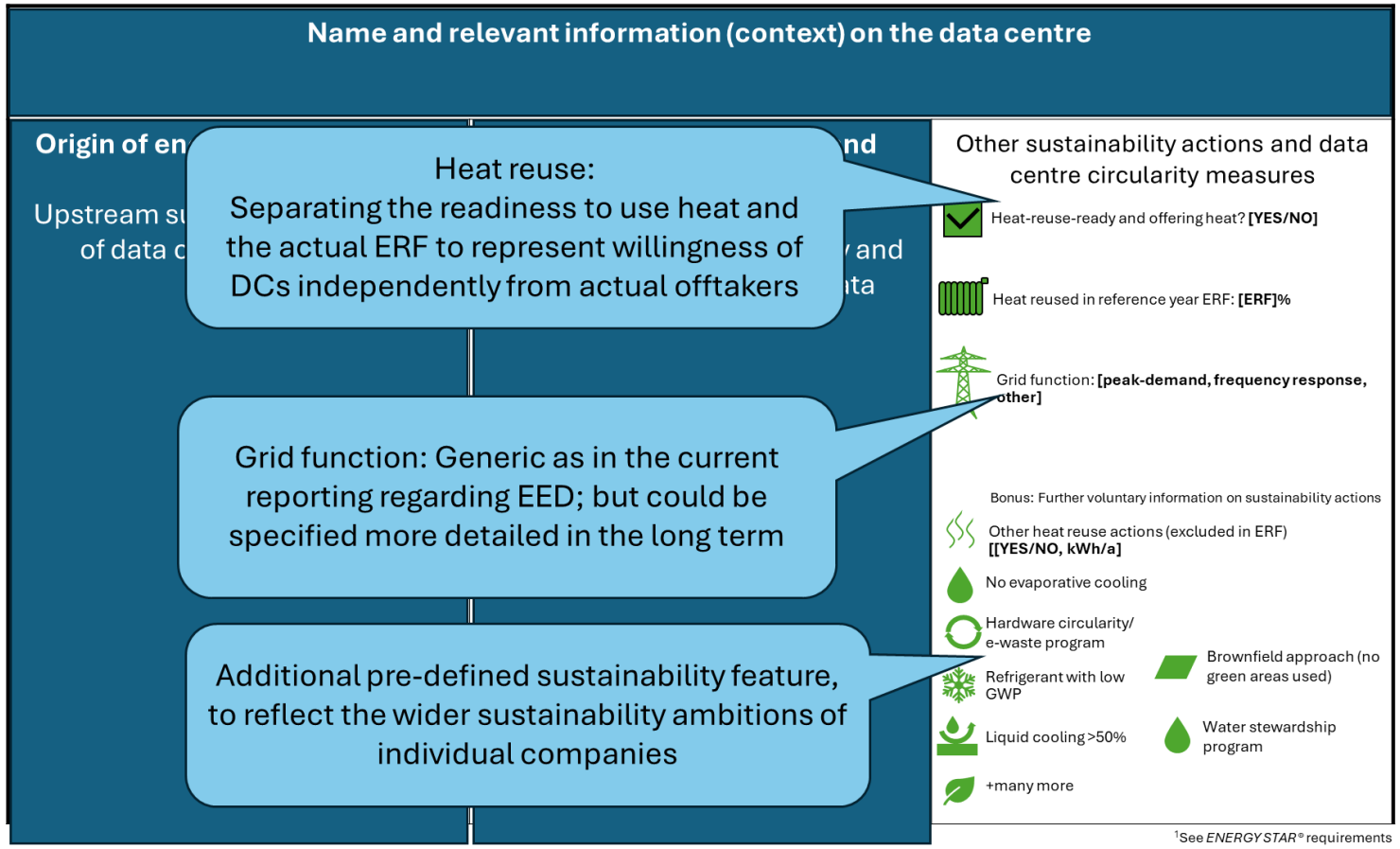

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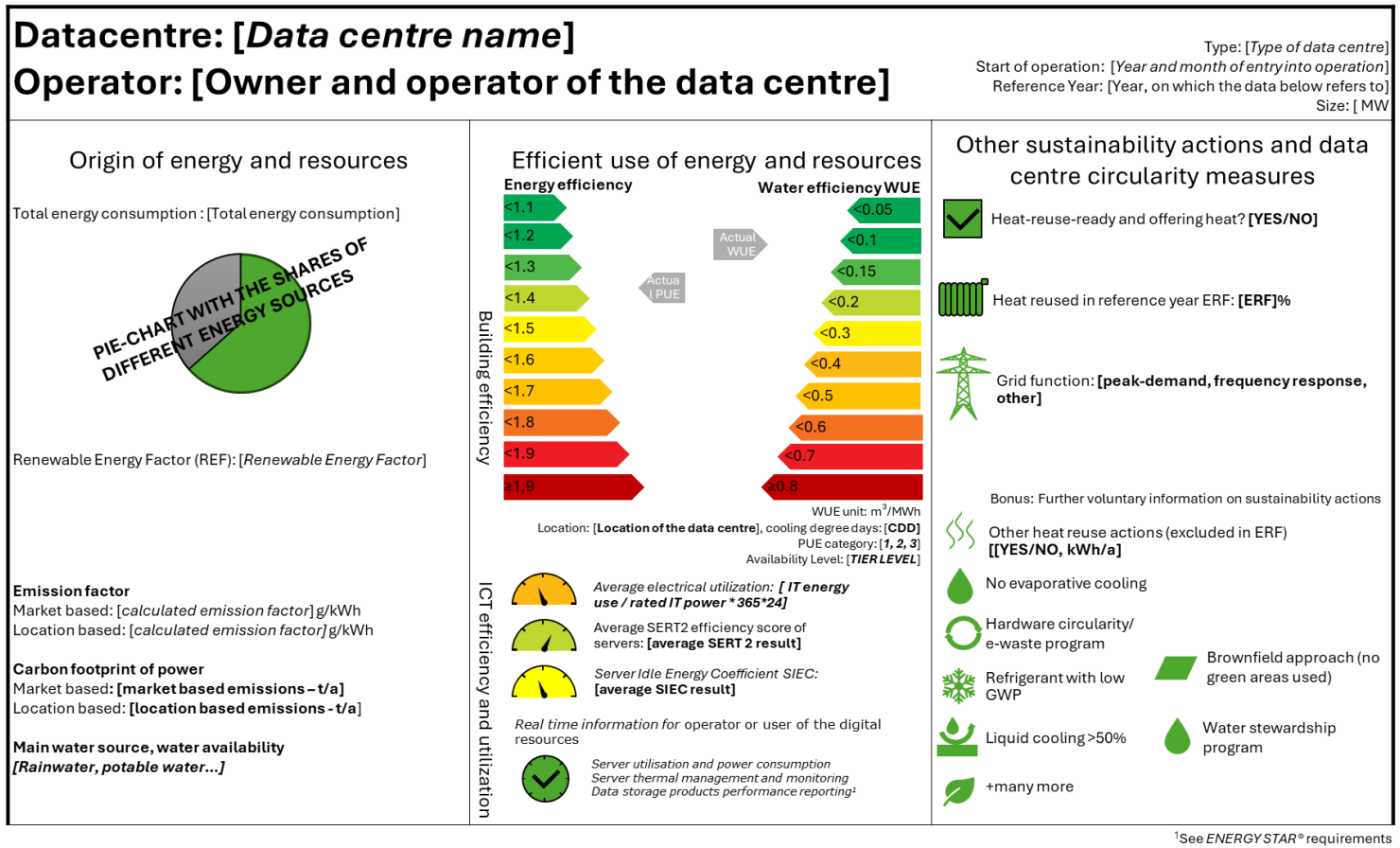

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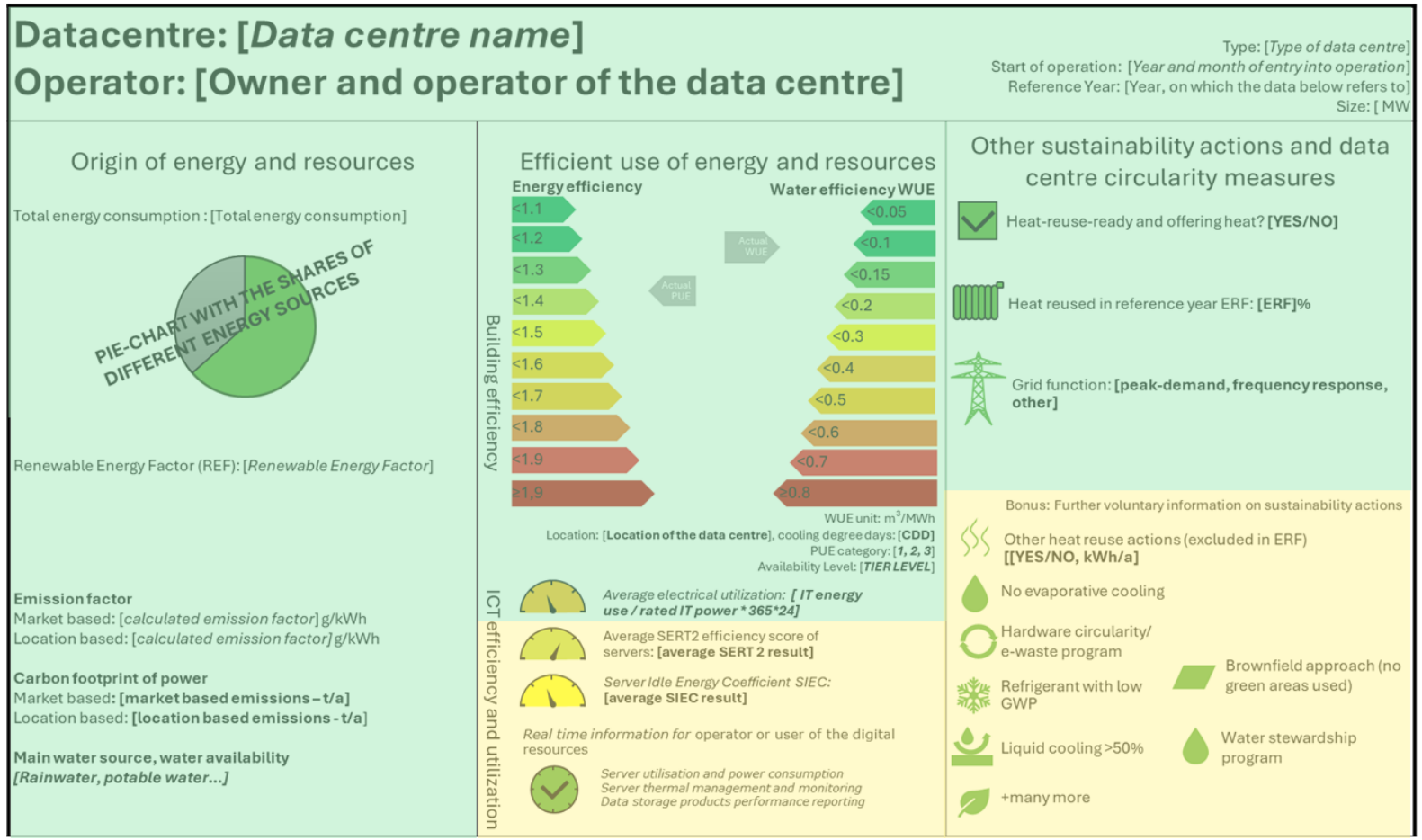
A rating scheme for data centres



This information can be taken from the current reporting requirements

This is voluntary information in the first phase and can be used to show the individual ambition

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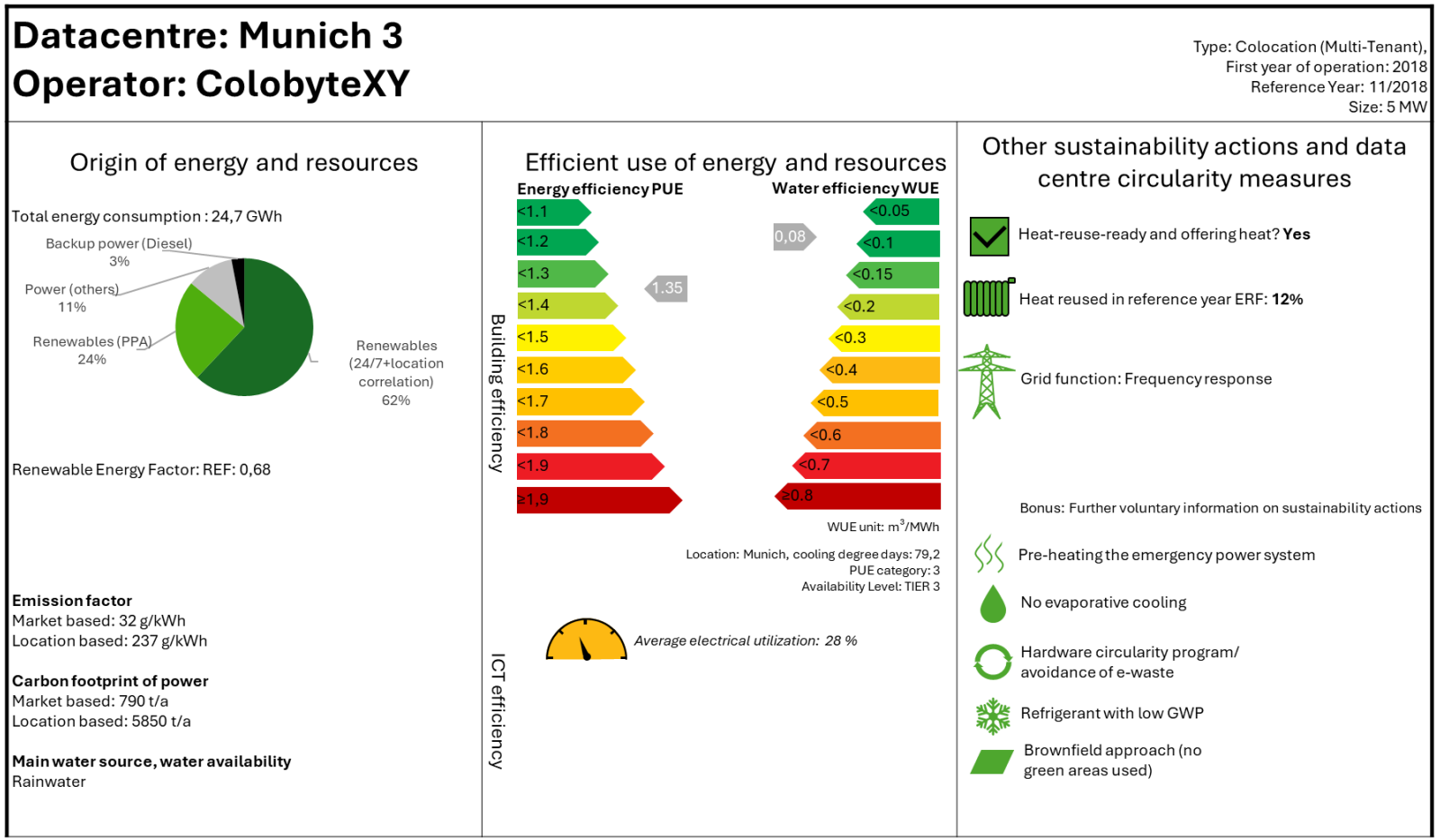
A rating scheme for data centres



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A rating scheme for data centres

- How would the rating scheme run?
  - Automatically, based on the reported data (no burden after the reporting)
- What could be the averaging period?
  - 2-3 years
- What should be the update frequency?
  - Every 5 years
- What could be the starting date?
  - The soonest could be 2026 (based on 2025 and 2024 data)
- Strength of the rating scheme
  - Rating (score) <-> Label + MPS
- Further use of the rating scheme?
  - MPS, Taxonomy, …
- Effect on the reporting scheme
  - Update of the indicators? Stricter standardization of the reporting?
- Two big questions: consistency and accuracy of the reported data
  - Stronger market surveillance? Certification?

Thank you

[Website of the Energy Efficiency Directive (data centres)]

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