

# Key findings

## Economic outlook and business confidence

**84%** of CEOs in the ENRC sector are confident in industry growth, up from 72 percent last year.

Top challenge influencing short-term decisions:

1. Supply chain resilience
2. AI integration
3. Growing impact of climate and environmental risks

**55%** of CEOs anticipate 'moderate' deal activity in the next three years, up from 38 percent in 2024

## AI-powered technological innovation

**65%** of CEOs say AI is as a top investment area — a 12 percent increase from 2024

**66%** of CEOs expect returns from AI investment within 1–3 years, up from 15 percent last year

**72%** of CEOs plan to allocate 10–20 percent of their budgets to AI initiatives in the coming year.

## Tuning your workforce into an AI world

**40%**

of CEOs are actively reskilling and upskilling roles affected by AI



The gap between existing and desired skills is the biggest challenge in attracting and retaining AI talent

**80%**

of CEOs agree their leadership understands AI's disruptive potential

## Achieving strategic advantage through ESG

**72%**

of CEOs say sustainability is embedded in their corporate strategy

**62%**

of CEOs are confident in meeting 2030 net-zero targets — but over half admit their ESG strategies lag behind stakeholder expectations.

**82%**

of ENRC CEOs believe AI can support emissions reduction and energy efficiency