

Participant Consent Form for Participation of Experiment
Bachelor thesis
UI strategies for reducing conversational AI energy consumption

You are invited to participate in a study for our bachelor thesis: UI strategies for reducing conversational AI energy consumption that is being conducted by Jack Gläser and Simon Lüscher, supervised by Prof. Martin Kropp and Dr. Nitish Patkar from University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland.

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1 Purpose

We are investigating whether specific user-interface features (energy note, 3-mode toggle, usage-metrics dashboard) raise users' awareness of the energy cost of large-language-model (LLM) prompts and nudge more sustainable usage patterns.

2 What participation involves

- **Duration:** 5 working days (Mon–Fri).
 - **Use of prototype:** Chat with our web-based LLM assistant; all sustainability features are enabled by default.
 - **Daily check-in:** One very short question micro-survey (< 1 min).
 - **Final survey:** Single questionnaire (~5 min) at the end of Day 5.
- There are no interviews, screen recordings, audio or video captures

3 Data collected

Usage logs: prompt & response text, token counts, selected mode, feature toggles, timestamps. Encrypted on FHNW Azure servers; deleted 31 Dec 2025; anonymised stats kept 5 y

Surveys: daily check-ins, final questionnaire (awareness, usability, etc)

4 Voluntary participation

Taking part is entirely voluntary. You may skip questions or withdraw at any time without penalty; all identifiable data will then be erased.

5 Confidentiality

Data are stored under a coded participant-ID. Only the research team has access. Publications will report only aggregated, non-identifiable results.

6 Risks & benefits

The study poses minimal risk. You may gain insight into the energy footprint of everyday AI usage and help design more sustainable chatbots.

7 Results dissemination

Findings will appear in the bachelor thesis and may be submitted to academic venues. An anonymised dataset may be shared openly for reproducibility.

I have read and understood this information. I had the opportunity to ask questions and received satisfactory answers. I voluntarily agree to:

1. Participate in this study.
2. Allow my anonymised data to be analysed and published as described.

Name and Signature

Loredana Gherase

Date

22.06.2025

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L. Gherase', with a stylized flourish at the end.