ANGLAIS

I. VERSION (12 points, titre à traduire également)

My lab work generated lots of waste. Here's how we reduced our footprint.

I went into our lab meeting feeling dejected. For months, I had been trying to recycle some of our lab's plastic waste into 3D-printed lab tools, but it wasn't going well. "I've only been able to print three small items," I told my colleagues. They knew how committed I was to reducing the environmental footprint of our research. So one asked, "Maybe we should be thinking about how we can avoid having so much plastic waste in the first place?" Another chimed in: "Could we figure out how much energy we are consuming and how to reduce that?" Their questions buoyed my spirits—and led to a series of changes in how we operate in the lab.

When I started my Ph.D., I knew my work in cancer research was generating a lot of waste, but I had accepted it as a necessary evil. That all changed one day when I saw a huge pile of plastic waste—pipette boxes, tubes, packaging—stacked against the wall. Until then, the lab had operated at a reduced capacity because of the COVID-19 pandemic. But as we ramped up our research and returned to full capacity, our waste production skyrocketed visibly. (...)

We decided to create a group dedicated to pushing for "greener" ways to operate, inviting researchers in other labs at our institution as well as our own. Many of my colleagues, including Ph.D. students, lab technicians, and principal investigators, were eager to join. We began meeting monthly to come up with solutions.

Over the following months, we launched a series of initiatives that we feel have made a difference. We introduced new recycling bins to each lab after learning that some of our plastic waste could be recycled if it was sorted properly. We took a hard look at our lab protocols to devise ways to reduce our use of plastic items. (...)

I encourage scientists everywhere to think about ways to reduce the environmental impact of their own research. The work we do is important. But we should also do our part to be as sustainable as we can. After all, what significance does our science hold if, ultimately, there remains no viable planet we can call our home?

Adapted from Science, Vol 383, Issue 6680.

https://www.science.org/content/article/my-lab-work-generated-lots-waste-here-s-how-we-reduced-our-footprint

II. QUESTIONS (8 points, minimum de 100 mots par question)

- 1. The author of the article wanted to initiate change. Were his colleagues reluctant?
- 2. Do you believe that focusing on our own environmental impact as individuals is one of the best ways to address the climate crisis?