

# Waste prevention country profile

# France

February 2025



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European Environment Agency





## Country profile: France

### General information

Name of the country/ region	France
Geographical coverage of the waste prevention programme (national/ regional)	<p>National</p> <p>At the regional level, all regions have the duty to establish their own SRADDET (Regional Plans for Planning, Sustainable Development, and Territorial Equality) that include a waste-specific chapter, except 2 regions (Ile-de-France and Corsica) and the French overseas departments that each have their own Regional Waste Prevention and Management Plans (PRPGD).</p> <p>Since 2024, all regions have adopted a SRADDET (or a PRPGD for the the French overseas departments, Ile de France and Corsica), which are all compatible with the national waste prevention programme (PNPD).</p>
Type of programme (stand alone or integrated into waste management plan or into the circular economy strategy)	Stand-alone
Title of programme and link to programme	<p>PNPD 2021-2027 (National waste prevention plan 2021-2027), available at :</p> <p><a href="https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/documents/Plan%20national%20de%20pr%C3%A9vention%20des%20d%C3%A9chets%202021-2027.pdf">https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/documents/Plan%20national%20de%20pr%C3%A9vention%20des%20d%C3%A9chets%202021-2027.pdf</a></p>
Duration of programme	2021 -2027
Language	French
Contact person in the country/region	Ministères Écologie Énergie Territoires Anna GAILITE, Waste prevention officer
Development process of the programme/ revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public consultation gathering suggestions for the plan: July – October 2021</li><li>• Evaluated by the National Environmental Authority (Autorité Environnementale): September 2022</li><li>• Inter-ministerial consultation: December 2022</li><li>• The public consultation on the draft plan took place from January 9 to February 7, 2023</li><li>• Published in the Official Bulletin on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023</li></ul>
Foreseen budget for implementation of the programme	N/A

## WASTE GENERATION

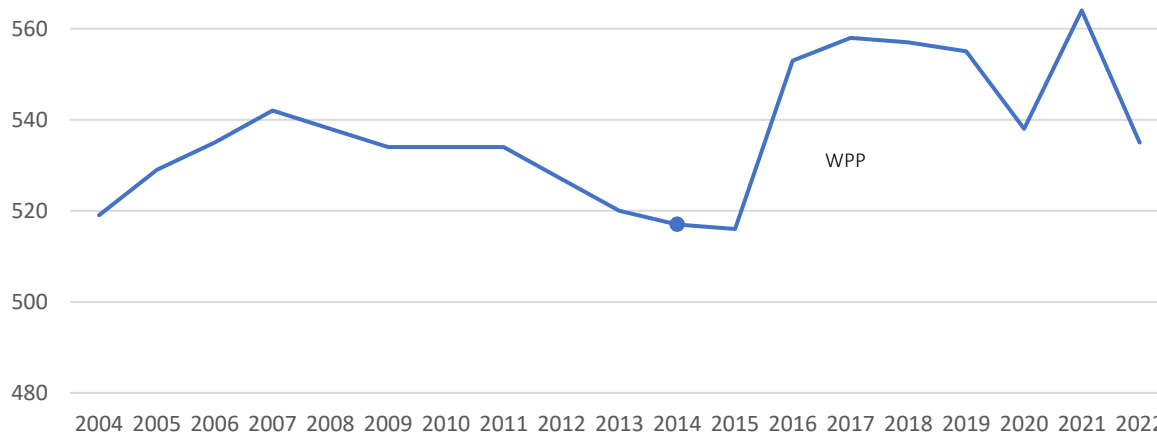
The following figures illustrate the progress towards waste prevention and decoupling of waste generation from economic growth in France.

### Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)

Between 2004 and 2022, municipal waste generation per capita increased from 519 kg to 539 kg (see Figure 1). After peaking in 2007, municipal waste generation returned to its 2004 level by 2013. The lowest level of waste generation (516 kg per capita) was recorded in 2015, one year after the adoption of France's first Waste Prevention Plan. Since 2015, municipal waste generation has increased significantly, primarily due to a break in the data series. Prior to 2016, only waste collected by public waste management services was included, whereas data from 2016 onward also accounts for household waste collected through Extended Producer Responsibility schemes and bio-waste recycled at source.

Data for 2021 and 2022 are tagged as 'provisional' and 'estimated, provisional' respectively. All reported figures from 2016 to 2020 are based on estimates. The strong annual fluctuations can be explained by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 that reduced the amount of municipal waste. The waste generation increased again with the recovery of economic activity in 2021 but diminished again in 2022. The provisional 2022 estimate of 539 kg of municipal waste per capita slightly exceeds the European average of 513<sup>1</sup> kg per capita for the same year.

Figure 1: Municipal waste generation in France (kg per capita), 2004-2022



**Source:** Eurostat [ENV\_WASMUN].

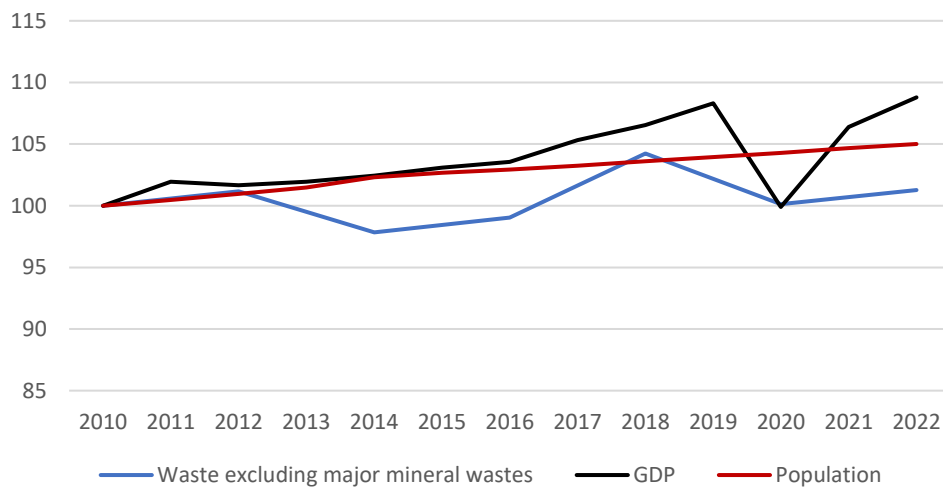
**Note:** As of reference year 2020, new reporting rules apply for calculating recycled municipal waste pursuant to the targets laid down in Article 11.2(c-e) of Directive 2008/98/EC.

<sup>1</sup> Data from Eurostat, November 2024

## Total Waste

Total waste generation in France (excluding major mineral wastes) increased between 2014 and 2018. No waste data were reported for 2019 (see Figure 2). A similar trend is observed in France's economic growth, with GDP steadily rising from 2010 to 2019, followed by a sharp decline in 2020, mirroring the EU's economic downturn during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, total waste generation partially rebounded from the 2020 low, although it did not reach the pre-pandemic 2018 level. Between 2010 and 2022, both population and GDP in France grew by 5% and 9%, respectively, while total waste generation increased by only 1%. This indicates a modest relative decoupling between waste generation and economic growth in France.

Figure 2: Total waste generation (excluding major mineral wastes), GDP, and population in France, 2010-2022, (2010=100).



**Source:** Author's compilation based on data extracted from Eurostat [ENV\_WASGEN, NAMA\_10\_PC, DEMO\_GIND].

# WASTE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

## Objectives and priorities

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1. Waste prevention objectives of the Programme - quantitative objectives (waste reduction) - qualitative objectives (reduction of hazardous substances/ environmental impacts)	The French Environmental Code, in <i>Chapter I: Prevention and management of waste of Title IV: Waste of Book V: Prevention of pollution, risks and nuisances</i> , establishes the following quantitative objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• reducing the quantities of household and similar waste produced per inhabitant by 15% by 2030 compared to 2010 (Article L541-1);</li><li>• reducing the quantities of waste from economic activities per unit of value produced, particularly in the building and public works sector by 5%, by 2030 compared to 2010 (Article L541-1);</li><li>• increasing the share of reused packaging relative to single-use packaging, aiming for 5% in 2023 and 10% in 2027 of reused packaging placed on the market in measured in sales units or equivalent sales units (Article L541-1);</li><li>• by 2025, reducing food waste, in food distribution and collective catering by 50% compared to 2015 levels, and by 2030, achieving 50% reduction compared to 2015 levels in consumption, production, processing, and commercial catering (Article L541-1);</li><li>• achieving the end of the placing on the market of single-use plastic packaging by 2040 (Article L541-10-17)</li><li>• reducing the number of single-use plastic beverage bottles placed on the market by 50% by 2030 (Article L541-10-11)</li></ul>
2. Sectors covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• households</li><li>• consumers</li><li>• local authorities</li><li>• administrations</li><li>• economic actors as waste producers</li><li>• companies producing consumer products</li><li>• Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) organizations</li><li>• agro-supply and fishing sectors</li><li>• eco-organizations and producers</li><li>• manufacturers</li><li>• electronics and software manufacturers</li><li>• distributors</li><li>• packaging sector</li><li>• printed paper sector and print media</li><li>• repair sector</li><li>• reuse and recycling sectors</li><li>• construction sector</li><li>• public works sector</li><li>• importers of goods and equipment</li><li>• industry players</li><li>• take-away and delivery catering sectors</li></ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• events sector</li> <li>• actors in the food chain</li> </ul>
3. Priority waste types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• household and similar waste</li> <li>• waste from economic activities, particularly in the building and public infrastructure sectors</li> <li>• food waste</li> <li>• (single-use) packaging and beverage bottles</li> <li>• electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furnishing elements</li> <li>• Other consumer products under EPR in France: batteries, tires, paper, and shoes, etc.</li> <li>• Additional EPR products considered under the anti-waste law for a circular economy: professional packaging, construction products or materials, toys, sports and leisure items, do-it-yourself and garden items, used mineral or synthetic oils (lubricating or industrial), cigarette butts, chewing gum, single-use sanitary textiles (wipes, paper towels, cotton pads, diapers, etc.), fishing gear</li> </ul>
4. Target groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Businesses</li> <li>• Associations and NGOs</li> <li>• Social and solidarity economy actors</li> <li>• Households</li> <li>• Government</li> <li>• Local authorities</li> </ul>

## Targets, indicators and monitoring

1.	Indicators used to monitor progress	The PNPD is accompanied by indicators for monitoring objectives <sup>2</sup> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the quantity of household and similar waste produced per inhabitant;</li> <li>the quantity of waste from economic activities per unit of value produced;</li> <li>the quantity of discarded or second-hand household products subject to reuse<sup>3</sup>;</li> <li>the share of reused or reused packaging placed on the market;</li> <li>the quantity of food waste produced (distribution, collective catering, household consumption, processing, commercial catering).</li> </ul>
2.	Quantitative targets	See under ‘Waste prevention objectives’
3.	Monitoring mechanism of the programme	The PNPD contains indicators for monitoring achievements for each of the actions in the plan.
4.	Evaluation of the programme	The PNPD will be evaluated after its termination date and the conclusions will inform the development of the next PNPD.
5.	Evaluation of policy effectiveness in the programme (policy measures evaluated, waste streams addressed, brief methodology description and, availability of an evaluation report with a link)	<p>A formal evaluation report of the previous PNPD programme, corresponding to the period 2014 – 2020, was published by the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023<sup>4</sup>.</p> <p>On November 8, 2023, the French <i>Sustainable Development and Regional Planning Committee</i> of the National Assembly created a mission to evaluate the impact of the <i>anti-waste law for a circular economy (AGEC law)</i> of February 10, 2020.<sup>5</sup> The evaluation report was published in May 2024<sup>6</sup>. In February 2024, the associations <i>Zero Waste France</i>, <i>France Nature Environnement</i>, <i>No Plastic in My Sea</i>, <i>Les Amis de la Terre France</i> and <i>Surfrider Foundation Europe</i></p>

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<https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/documents/Plan%20national%20de%20pr%C3%A9vention%20des%20d%C3%A9chets%202021-2027.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> In French, two different words, ‘réemploi’ and ‘réutilisation’, exist for ‘reuse’ (Code de l’environnement, Article L541-1-1). Reuse as meant by ‘réemploi’ is an operation that allows substances, materials or goods, which are **not waste**, to be used again without modifying the original function: an old door is reused as a door. Reuse as meant by ‘réutilisation’ is an operation which allows a discarded substances, materials and goods (that by definition from the Waste Framework Directive **have become waste**) to be used again, possibly with a different functionality: a discarded door becomes a table. Prior to the latter type of reuse, the discarded good has been subject to a ‘preparation for reuse’-operation.

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.prevention-dechets.gouv.fr/images/bilan\\_pnpd\\_2014-2020\\_compressede269.pdf?token=9nV1yYc4](https://www.prevention-dechets.gouv.fr/images/bilan_pnpd_2014-2020_compressede269.pdf?token=9nV1yYc4)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/16/organes/commissions-permanentes/developpement-durable/missions-de-la-commission/me-lutte-gaspillage-economie-circulaire>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/16/rapports/cion-dvp/116b2696\\_rapport-information](https://www.assemblee-nationale.fr/dyn/16/rapports/cion-dvp/116b2696_rapport-information)

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provided their assessment of the application of *the anti-waste law for a circular economy (AGEC)*, and their recommendations for going further.<sup>7</sup> The NGOs reflect on the need for improving controls in the application and compliance with the French legislative framework in environmental matters.

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<sup>7</sup> Zero Waste France et al. (2024). Évaluation de la loi AGECE - 4 ans après, quel bilan pour la réduction des déchets?. Available at <https://www.zerowastefrance.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/20240206-bilan-loi-agec-zwf-fne-npims-at-sfe.pdf>



## Prevention measures

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Implemented prevention measures according to Article 9

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The waste prevention programme is organized into five "axes" and includes 47 measures aimed at reducing waste generation (Chapter 1.5).

Axes 1, 2, and 3 focus on the three main prevention levers: eco-design of products and services, and extending their lifespan through i) repair, and ii) second-hand use and reuse of discarded products. Axis 4 addresses wasteful consumption practices, while Axis 5 outlines prevention actions to be implemented by public actors.

Table 1: Specific waste prevention measures structured according to Art 9 WFD

Promote and support <a href="#">sustainable consumption</a> models	<p><b>Axis 2</b> <b>Promote product maintenance and repair to extend lifespan</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Facilitate access to repair for individuals</b> 2.1.2 Create networks of certified repairers, map them and make information on repair services available in open data</p> <p><b>Axis 3 Develop second-hand and waste reuse<sup>8</sup></b></p> <p><b>3.2 Facilitate the provision of deposit areas for actors in the social and solidarity economy and associations</b> 3.2.1 Install reuse zones in recycling centers</p> <p>3.2.2 Organize through eco-organizations a supply of used products that were taken back by distributors. These goods, in particular used EEE, furniture, sports and leisure articles, toys, do-it-yourself and garden items, and building and construction products and materials, should be made available to stakeholders involved in reuse<sup>8</sup> in sectors targeted by reuse objectives</p> <p><b>Axis 4 - Fight against waste and reduction of waste</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Reduce single-use products</b></p>
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<sup>8</sup> In French, two different words, 'réemploi' and 'réutilisation', exist for 'reuse' (Code de l'environnement, Article L541-1-1). Reuse as meant by 'réemploi' is an operation that allows substances, materials or goods, which are not waste, to be used again without modifying the original function: an old door is reused as a door. Reuse as meant by 'réutilisation' is an operation which allows a discarded substances, materials and goods (that by definition from the Waste Framework Directive have become waste) to be used again, possibly with a different functionality: a discarded door becomes a table.

	<p>4.1.2 Reduce packaging deemed excessive by consumers. To that, packaging PROs will make available an electronic reporting system for consumer to report on excessively packed products.</p> <p>4.1.5 Reduce the consumption of single-use plastic beverage bottles by 50% by 2030</p> <p><b>Axis 5 - Engage public stakeholders in waste prevention initiatives</b></p> <p>5.2.3 Encourage the donation of goods and materials to associations</p>
<p>Encourage the design, manufacturing and use of products that are <b>resource-efficient</b>, <b>durable</b> (including in terms of life span and absence of planned obsolescence), <b>reparable</b>, <b>re-usable</b> and <b>upgradable</b>.</p>	<p><b>Axis 1 - Integrate waste prevention from the design of products and services</b></p> <p><b>1.1 Mobilize extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes</b></p> <p>1.1.1 Implement modulations of contributions to EPR schemes, in the form of bonuses and penalties, to promote the eco-design of products</p> <p>1.1.2 Develop common five-year prevention and eco-design plans within each EPR scheme. Both individual and collective plans are transmitted to the eco-organization set up by the producers, that publishes a summary accessible to the public, after it has been presented to the representative body of EPR scheme stakeholders.</p> <p><b>1.3 Fight against product obsolescence</b></p> <p>1.3.1 Implement the recommendations of the report to Parliament on software obsolescence to limit the risks of software obsolescence linked to operating system and software updates as well as better inform consumers on this subject</p> <p><b>Axis 2 Extend the lifespan of products by promoting their maintenance and repair</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Facilitate access to repair for individuals</b></p> <p>2.1.5 Extend the mandatory legal guarantee of conformity with six months for any product, new or second-hand, that has been repaired within the warranty period.</p> <p><b>2.2 Inform about product reparability and repair</b></p>

	<p>2.2.1 Deploy the repairability index on electrical and electronic equipment and propose a durability index on these products</p>
<p>Target products containing <b>critical raw materials</b> to prevent that those materials become waste.</p>	<p><b>Axis 1 - Integrate waste prevention from the design of products and services</b></p> <p><b>1.1 Mobilize extended producer responsibility (EPR) schemes</b></p> <p>1.1.3 Support R&amp;D efforts in eco-design, and support producers for more efficient use of natural resources, particularly critical materials</p>
<p>Encourage the re-use of products and the setting up of systems promoting <b>repair</b> and <b>re-use activities</b>, including in particular for electrical and electronic equipment, textiles and furniture, as well as packaging and construction materials and products.</p>	<p><b>Axis 2 Extend the lifespan of products by promoting their maintenance and repair</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Facilitate access to repair for individuals</b></p> <p>2.1.1 Establish funds for EPR schemes, dedicated to financing out-of-warranty repair for electrical and electronic equipment, furniture items, textile clothing products, shoes and household linen, toys, sports and leisure items, as well as do-it-yourself and garden items for consumers who contact certified repairers.</p>
<p>Encourage, as appropriate and without prejudice to intellectual property rights, the <b>availability of spare parts, instruction manuals, technical information</b>, or other instruments, equipment or software enabling the repair and re-use of products without compromising their quality and safety.</p>	<p><b>Axis 2 Extend the lifespan of products by promoting their maintenance and repair</b></p> <p><b>2.1 Facilitate access to repair for individuals</b></p> <p>2.1.3 Ensure the availability of spare parts, particularly for vehicles, electrical and electronic equipment, do-it-yourself items and gardening tools, sports and leisure items, bicycles and motorized transport vehicles, medical equipment and technical aids; develop the supply of spare parts from the circular economy (PIEC)</p> <p>2.1.4 Prohibit practices that make the repair or reconditioning of devices impossible, or that impede access of repair professionals to spare parts, tools, instructions for use or technical information. The number of complaints by repair professionals will be one indicator for monitoring this measure.</p> <p><b>2.2 Inform about product repairability and repair</b></p> <p>2.2.2 Strengthen the provision of information to consumers and repair</p>

	<p>stakeholders on the repair of products (technical information, duration of availability of spare parts)</p>
<p>Reduce waste generation in processes related to industrial production, extraction of minerals, manufacturing, construction and demolition, taking into account best available techniques.</p>	<p><b>Axis 3 Develop reuse and preparation for reuse</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Mobilize EPR schemes and economic actors in favor of reuse and preparation for reuse</b></p> <p>3.1.4 Develop the reuse of products and materials from the building sector, and set up a territorial network of collection points with areas dedicated to the reuse and preparation for reuse of used construction products and materials from the building sector (PMCB)</p>
<p>Reduce the generation of food waste in primary production, in processing and manufacturing, in retail and other distribution of food, in restaurants and food services as well as in households as a contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to reduce by 50 % per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and to reduce food losses along production and supply chains by 2030.</p>	<p><b>Axis 4 - Fight against waste and reduction of waste</b></p> <p><b>4.3 Act against food waste throughout the food chain</b></p> <p>4.3.1 Support operators in the food chain subject to the obligation to carry out a waste diagnosis and reduction actions</p> <p>4.3.3 Deploy a national anti-food waste label</p> <p>4.3.4 Clarify information on the consumption dates of food products by developing the display of the additional notice clarifying the minimum durability date (DDM)</p>
<p>Encourage food donation and other redistribution for human consumption, prioritising human use over animal feed and the reprocessing into non-food products.</p>	<p><b>Axis 4 - Fight against waste and reduction of waste</b></p> <p><b>4.3 Act against food waste throughout the food chain</b></p> <p>4.3.2 Encourage the donation of food and the recovery of unsold food</p>
<p>Promote the reduction of the content of hazardous substances in materials and products, without prejudice to harmonised legal requirements concerning those materials and products laid down at Union level, and ensure that any supplier of an article as defined in point 33 of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council provides the information pursuant to article 33(1) of that regulation to the European Chemicals Agency as from 5 January 2021.</p>	<p><b>Axis 1 - Integrate waste prevention from the design of products and services</b></p> <p><b>1.2 Mobilize economic actors</b></p> <p>1.2.2 Prevent the content of dangerous substances in materials and products, by encouraging manufacturers to substitute dangerous substances in everyday objects</p>

Reduce the generation of waste, in particular waste that is not suitable for preparing for re-use or recycling.

**Axis 1 - Integrate waste prevention from the design of products and services**

**1.2 Mobilize economic actors**

1.2.3 Remove mineral oils from packaging and printing intended for the public

1.2.4 Support companies to produce better with fewer resources and control their waste by providing them with operational guides

**Axis 4 - Fight against waste and reduction of waste**

**4.1 Reduce single-use products**

4.1.3 Engage economic sectors to reduce single use within the framework of voluntary agreements (takeaway sales, delivered catering, events, others)

4.1.4 Ban single-use plastic products when alternatives are available, present fruits and vegetables for sale without plastic packaging, put an end to disposable tableware in onsite fast-food restaurants and in collective catering

Identify products that are the main sources of littering, notably in natural and marine environments, and take appropriate measures to prevent and reduce litter from such products, where Member States decide to implement this obligation through market restrictions, they shall ensure that such restrictions are proportionate and non-discriminatory.

**Axis 4 - Fight against waste and reduction of waste**

**4.1 Reduce single-use products**

4.1.1 Develop bulk sales and encourage the use of reusable containers and packaging in businesses.

4.1.6 Investing in the reduction, reuse or development of alternative solutions for plastic

**4.2 Limit the environmental impacts associated with the production and consumption of products containing plastic materials**

4.2.1 Gradually ban microplastics added to products

4.2.2 Prevent loss of pellets to the environment during production, handling and transportation

4.2.3 Preventing losses of plastic microfibers from textile cleaning

**4.4 Act against the waste of non-food products**

4.4.1 Prohibit the disposal of new, unsold non-food products



	<p>4.4.2 Prohibit the distribution of free samples as part of commercial initiatives, unless requested by consumers</p> <p>4.4.3 Reduce unsolicited advertising materials</p>
<p>Aim to halt the generation of marine litter as a contribution towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds.</p>	
<p>Develop and support <b>information campaigns to raise awareness</b> about waste prevention and littering.</p>	<p><b>Axis 4 - Fight against waste and reduction of waste</b></p> <p><b>4.4 Act against the waste of non-food products</b></p> <p>4.4.4 Raise awareness among the general public and schools about waste prevention, including illegal dumping</p>

## FOOD WASTE PREVENTION

### Food waste generation

According to the 2020 food waste data reported to Eurostat in 2022 (for the first time), food waste in France had decreased by 13% between 2016<sup>9</sup> and 2020. In 2020, food waste amounted to about 8.7 million tons (129 kg per capita across all sectors), compared to 10 million tons in 2016. However, this comparison should be made with caution, as the 2016 reference figures were calculated for a national study using a different scope and data sources than those for 2020 that were calculated following the Eurostat methodology. In 2022 however, food waste generation increased to 9.45 million tons, equivalent to 139 kg per capita, across all sectors.

In 2022, households remained by far the largest contributor to food waste in France, accounting for 42%, followed by the manufacturing of food products (25%), restaurants and other food services (12%), primary food production (12%), and retail and other food distribution (9%). The variation in the reported shares for 2022 compared to 2021 show a significant increase of the contribution of the food industry (plus 5 percent points) and a decline in relative terms (minus 5 percent points) of the share of food waste generated by households. It is observed that for the three reporting years, the amount of food waste from households has been stable at about 4 million tons. Overall, the total mass of food waste in France in 2022 of 9.45 million tons, represented a significant increase of almost 8% compared to 2021.

### Measures to prevent food waste

In 2013, the Ministry in charge of Agriculture launched the first **National Pact to Combat Food Waste**. After the launch, France was the first European country banning the waste of food by the food retailers (supermarkets >400m<sup>2</sup>)<sup>10</sup>. These measures were turned into legal enforcement in 2016 with the Loi Garot<sup>11</sup>, that gave impulsion to actions related to the donation obligation of unsold food for supermarkets.

In 2017, the National Pact to Combat Food Waste was renewed for its second period 2017-2020. Its main objective was to reinforce the food waste actions of the National Food Programme and the National Waste Prevention Programme. It aimed to bring together all stakeholders along the food chain and to reduce food waste by 50% by 2025 in food retail and public canteens. The '**anti-waste for a circular economy law**', or AGECE law, of 2020 added new targets: reduction by 50% by 2030, compared to 2015, in consumption, production, processing sectors and commercial catering.

In addition, the State facilitated the donation agreement between distributors and associations by standardizing an agreement template. Standard agreements by category of actor were also published in January 2021 to further facilitate the donation process.

Throughout the duration of the renewed National Pact, the State maintained financial support measures, help in understanding the issues, and the development of labelling of tools. The National Food Programme also provided a framework for regional calls of projects. In addition, the **EGalim law**<sup>12</sup>, introduced in 2018 to help protect farmers and the environment from competition between France's powerful supermarket chains<sup>13</sup>, extended the obligation to propose a donation agreement to collective catering operators (> 3,000 meals prepared / day), and to operators in the agrifood industry (> €50M turnover). It also introduces the obligation to carry out a waste diagnosis for all collective catering

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.ademe.fr/etat-lieux-masses-gaspillages-alimentaires-gestion-differentes-etapes-chaine-alimentaire>

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/article\\_lc/LEGIARTI000042913715](https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/article_lc/LEGIARTI000042913715)

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000032036289/>

<sup>12</sup> <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/lutte-contre-le-gaspillage-alimentaire-les-lois-francaises>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.connexionfrance.com/news/what-is-frances-egalim-law-and-why-does-it-matter-to-farmers/592442>

before October 21, 2020. The **Optigede platform** developed by the French Environmental Agency ADEME is a useful tool for private and state actors to engage in food waste reduction actions<sup>14</sup>.

Currently, the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion, in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy Transition, continues to set up a **National anti-food waste label**. The anti-food waste label, provided for in article 33 of the ‘anti-waste for a circular economy law’ of 2020, intends to encourage the actors in the food chain to contribute to national objectives to reduce waste by 50% by 2025 in the areas of food distribution and collective catering, and by 2030 in the areas of consumption, production, processing and commercial catering. The label is awarded by accredited certification bodies to the distribution sector (including supermarkets, wholesalers and catering services), dairy products, vegetable and meat producers, commercial restaurants, bakeries, and other, to be extended to the agri-food sector. Depending on the institution's performance level in the fight against food waste, it can receive one, two, or three stars for commitment, excellence, and exemplary performance, respectively.<sup>15</sup>

## REUSE OF PRODUCTS

### Data

According to 2021 data reported to the EEA according to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/19 (EEA, 2024<sup>16</sup>), France re-used:

- 3,937 tonnes of textiles;
- 16,228 tonnes of electrical and electronic devices;
- 35,372 tonnes of furniture.

It should be noted that this data has been reported for the first time. More information about the interpretation and limitations of the data set are available (EEA, 2024<sup>16</sup>).

### Measures to support reuse

1. **Logistical measures** aimed at supporting reuse operations (for example, identification and resolution of obstacles, assistance in improving product collection models):
  - **Mandatory establishment of reuse zones in municipal waste sorting centres:** the anti-waste law provides for the possibility for actors in the social and solidarity economy to use municipal waste sorting centres as places to recover used objects. More precisely, the law provides that local authorities and their partners responsible for the collection and treatment of household waste allow, by contract or agreement, legal entities belonging to the social and solidarity economy which request it to use municipal waste sorting centres as places for occasional recovery and reprocessing of objects in good condition or that can be repaired. Individuals who use the waste sorting centre can deposit their items in good condition in this dedicated area.
2. **Economic and fiscal measures**, including public procurement:
  - **Reuse and preparation for reuse fund** (since January 1, 2023): The anti-waste law provides for the creation of funds dedicated to financing reuse within the sectors of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), furniture elements (EA), textiles, household linen and shoes (TLC), sports and leisure items (ASL), do-it-yourself and gardening items (ABJ), and toys. These funds are intended to finance players in the reuse sector from the social and solidarity economy. The award criteria provide that the supported reuse operations respect the principle of proximity by setting a maximum distance between the place where the product is deposited and where the operations are carried out. A minimum of 5% of the financial contributions received by eco-organizations in the listed product sectors must be dedicated to these funds. If

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.optigede.ademe.fr/alimentation-durable-gaspillage-alimentaire>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/label-national-anti-gaspillage-alimentaire>

<sup>16</sup> European Environment Agency (2024). Reuse flows according to the implementing decision (EU) 2021/19 - Information on the database structure and use - Database version 1. Available at : <https://sdi.eea.europa.eu/catalogue/srv/api/records/99101ccf-00a6-40fc-9129-122e836d0db5/attachments/Reuse%20metadata%20annex%20Version%201.pdf>

the objectives set in terms of reuse are not achieved, the allocation to the fund must be increased in proportion to the objectives not achieved.

- **Sustainable public purchasing:** Since 2021, goods acquired annually by State services as well as by local authorities and their associations must come from reuse or integrate recycled materials in proportions ranging from 20% to 100 % depending on the type of product. Decree No. 2021-254 of March 9, 2021 provides for a list and minimum shares of products or product categories acquired by the State and by local authorities and their associations under supply contracts that must come from reuse or preparation for reuse or have recycled content. When the product category allows it, priority is given to reuse. The majority of product categories are affected by a requirement of 20% of supplies from reuse, including clothing, computer equipment, mobile and landline telephones, photocopiers and cartridges, furniture, and household appliances. In addition to these products, street furniture is included, for which this obligation amounts to 5%. An evaluation of the implementation of this measure led by the General Commission for Sustainable Development was performed in 2023<sup>17</sup>.
  - **The circular economy fund**<sup>18</sup>: More generally, the development of the reuse economy is promoted via the circular economy fund, operational since 2009. This fund is deployed by ADEME to support public authorities' policy and guide the behavior of stakeholders and investments by increasing prevention actions carried out by local authorities and businesses and by deploying integrated territorial approaches to prevention and waste management. In 2022, the fund consisted of more than €166 million, of which €2.7 million was dedicated to reuse and preparation for reuse. €9.2 million was also dedicated to reuse-reuse as part of the Plan France Relance program in 2022.
  - **Repair Fund:** dedicated to financing out-of-warranty repairs of electrical and electronic equipment, furniture, textile clothing, footwear and household linen, toys, sports and leisure items, do-it-yourself and garden items. The consumer has to repair its product in a certified reparation shop in order to get a contribution lowering the price of repair. These funds are set up by the eco-organizations of the concerned EPR sectors. The anti-waste law provides for a gradual deployment of this fund mechanism by January 1, 2023.
3. **Educational measures**, including information and awareness campaigns (for example: groups, population covered, territory covered, frequency)
- As part of their approvals, eco-organizations must conduct sectoral communication campaigns which may include the promotion of the reuse of products, when relevant.
  - Regular studies must be conducted by eco-organizations on the entire reuse landscape in France: the eco-organizations of EPR schemes for textiles, household linen and shoes; electrical and electronic equipment; furniture items, and since 2022, sports and leisure items; do-it-yourself and gardening items, toys and building materials in accordance with their approval specifications, must assess the quantities of products, concerned by their sector, that are being reused. These studies must in particular count the products reused or prepared for reuse by other modes of action in which the respective eco-organizations do not participate, i.e. via garage sales, physical stores of the conventional economy, second-hand dealers, online platforms, etc. Other specific complementary studies can be integrated into the specifications that are developed for each EPR sector (identification of brakes/levers, extension of the lifespan, etc.). Finally, specific complementary action plans are expected from the eco-organizations to develop measures that can be applied on all or part of the product categories in a particular EPR sector.
4. **Other measures such as supporting or establishing approved repair and reuse centres and networks or supporting new business models such as sharing systems, repair and refurbishment.**

Repair activities contribute to extending the useful life of products, including their reuse. Measures have been adopted in terms of repair in order to reduce waste production and limit resource consumption. Repair is also monitored in the Government's Priority Policies, in particular the

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<sup>17</sup> [https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Rapport\\_evaluation\\_article\\_58\\_loi\\_AGEC.pdf](https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/Rapport_evaluation_article_58_loi_AGEC.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> <https://expertises.ademe.fr/economie-circulaire/dechets/passer-a-laction/fonds-economie-circulaire>

deployment of the repair fund, the provision of training for repairers, and the application of the repairability index.

- **Repair fund:** the 2020 anti-waste law provides for the creation of funds dedicated to financing out-of-warranty repairs of electrical and electronic equipment, furniture, clothing textiles, shoes and household linens, sports and leisure goods, do-it-yourself and garden items and toys. The consumer must have their product repaired in a certified repair workshop in order to obtain a bonus which reduces the price of the repair. The location of certified workshops must be communicated by eco-organizations to the general public. These funds are set up by the eco-organizations of the EPR sectors concerned.
- **Repairability index**<sup>19</sup>: since 2021, a repairability index for electrical appliances has been implemented for five product categories (front-loading washing machines, smartphones, laptops, televisions, lawn mowers,) rated from 1 to 10. This allows consumers to get a quick repairability assessment when purchasing new devices. 5 criteria are taken into account to establish the score: information on the product allowing its repair, ease of dismantling of the device, availability of spare parts, their price, and specific criteria (such as the presence of a component that stores information on the number of uses for cycle-machines). In 2022, four other product categories are concerned (top-loading washing machines, dishwashers, vacuum cleaners, high-pressure cleaners). From 2024, the index is set to evolve to become a **sustainability index**.
- **Right to repair:** the anti-waste law of 2020 provides for the prohibition of practices aimed at making the repair or reconditioning of devices impossible, as well as the access of repair professionals to spare parts, tools, instructions for use or technical information.
- **Spare parts:** The availability of spare parts is relevant for several reuse measures. Since the anti-waste law, supplemented by the Climate and Resilience Act of 2021, a set of implementing decrees specify the obligations relating to the availability of spare parts, the use of spare parts from and for activities in the circular economy (known as "PIEC") and the obligations to inform consumers that they can opt for such parts in a repair. Electrical and electronic equipment is particularly affected by the obligation to have spare parts available. Other product categories are also concerned: vehicles, do-it-yourself and gardening tools, sports and leisure items, bicycles and motorized transport devices, medical equipment and technical aids, among other, the list of which is set by decree, during the marketing period of the products and for a minimum additional period of 5 years.
- **Introduction of the concepts ‘reconditioned’ and ‘reconditioned product’:** Via Decree No. 2022-190 of February 17, 2022, it is specified that these terms can only be applied to products or spare parts that have undergone tests that cover all their functionalities, in order to establish that they meet all applicable legal safety obligations and the usage that the consumer can legitimately expect.

### Best practice examples

- **Durability index:** From 2025, the durability index will replace the reparability index for certain product categories, starting with televisions and washing machines. It adds new criteria, such as product reliability. This new legally binding index seeks to progressively replace the Repairability Index that was introduced in 2021 (see on previous page) and incorporates additional criteria on the product’s trustworthiness, robustness, and upgradeability, as well as its required maintenance and upkeep.
- **Prohibition to eliminate unsold products** (in force since 2022), according to article 35 of the ‘anti-waste law for circular economy’ of 2020 which requires producers, importers, and distributors to donate, reuse or recycle their unsold products, and prohibits their elimination by incineration or

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<sup>19</sup> <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/politiques-publiques/indice-reparabilite>



landfilling<sup>20</sup> <sup>21</sup>. Some products<sup>22</sup> (hygiene and childcare products, cooking utensils and cleaning products) must be proposed for donation, before their reuse or recycling.

- Establishing dedicated **repair and reuse funds** (for more information, see previous page)
- Prohibition to serve meals in restaurants (>20 seating places) in **single-use dishes** since January 2023<sup>23</sup>
- Obligation to integrate a '**reuse zone**' in municipal waste disposal and sorting facilities (for more information, see previous page)
- The Climate and Resilience Act of August 22, 2021, established the establishment of a **Reuse and Preparation for Reuse Observatory (ORR)** in France, entrusted to ADEME and positioned within the EPR Sector Supervision Directorate (DSREP). This Observatory, formalized in 2022, aims to become a structure of expertise and decision-making support on issues of reuse and preparation for reuse. The Observatory is responsible for collecting and disseminating information and studies. It can conduct, in its area of expertise, together with eco-organizations, any study necessary to assess the relevance of reuse and re-use solutions from an environmental and economic point of view. It can also support, with eco-organizations, the implementation of experiments. It ensures the coordination of actors and proposes a national trajectory aimed at increasing the share of reused and re-employed packaging placed on the market as compared to single-use packaging.

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<sup>20</sup> Anti-waste law résumés in English:

[https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/sites/default/files/antiwaste\\_law\\_in\\_the\\_daily\\_lives\\_of\\_french\\_people.pdf](https://circulareconomy.europa.eu/platform/sites/default/files/antiwaste_law_in_the_daily_lives_of_french_people.pdf); <https://emf.thirdlight.com/file/24/kLSzgopkL.2CJxQkLb3XkLQIS7 /Case%20Studies%20-%20French%20Anti%20Waste%20Law.pdf>

<sup>21</sup> Article 35 of the anti-waste law: <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/loi/2020/2/10/2020-105/jo/texte>

<sup>22</sup> See article 3: <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000042753962>

<sup>23</sup> Article 77 of the anti-waste law: <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/eli/loi/2020/2/10/2020-105/jo/texte>

## Links to circular economy

Waste prevention is an integral part of the comprehensive transformation towards a circular economy. It reduces the input of natural resources into the economy as well as the necessary efforts to collect and recycle waste.

Approaches for improving circularity are often highly interlinked with successful waste prevention. The table below highlights the circular strategies that are explicitly incorporated into the French waste prevention programme.

Topic	Addressed in the programme	Comments
Eco-design	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., Implement modulations of contributions to EPR schemes, in the form of bonuses and penalties, to encourage the eco-design of products</li> <li>e.g., Integrate waste prevention and eco-design approaches into voluntary agreements between the State and economic sectors, particularly in the agro-supply and fishing sectors</li> </ul>
Repair, refurbishment and remanufacture	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., Facilitating the use of repair for individuals</li> </ul>
Recycling	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., Mobilize EPR channels and economic actors in favor of reuse and preparation for reuse</li> </ul>
Economic incentives and finance	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., Set up dedicated “repair funds” to decrease the costs of repair for individuals in the sectors covered by EPR schemes (EEE, textiles, furniture, toys, do-it-yourself items, gardening tools and sports goods)</li> <li>e.g., Set up dedicated “reuse funds” to make EPR organizations contribute to the funding of social enterprises and associations operating in the reuse sector</li> </ul>
Circular business models	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., ADEME (French Environmental Agency) supports enterprises in their transition to circular business models through Circular Economy Fund<sup>18</sup> and specific initiatives (guidelines, calls for projects...)</li> <li>Future Investments Program 2030 also provides funds for eco-design projects<sup>24</sup></li> </ul>
Eco-innovation	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., EPR organizations are asked to provide financial support to producers making R&amp;D efforts to develop ecodesign</li> </ul>
Governance, skills and knowledge	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e.g., ADEME (French Environmental Agency) provides tools and best-practice examples to enterprises in order to allow a transition to lower resource-consumption and waste production</li> <li>e.g., a dedicated Reuse Observatory was put in place in 2022 in order to improve knowledge and gather data on the reuse sector</li> </ul>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/investir-dans-france-2030-developper-et-soutenir-linnovation-toutes-etapeschaine-du-recyclage-des>