

# Overview of national waste prevention programmes in Europe



**France** 

October 2016

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# Waste prevention programme

This **country fact sheet** was produced in the context of reviewing national and regional waste prevention programmes across Europe. The [Waste Framework Directive](#) (Directive 2008/98/EC), Article 29, requires that Member States adopt their **waste prevention programmes** by 12 December 2013. Article 30(2) of the Directive invites the European Environment Agency (EEA) to carry out an annual review of progress in the completion and implementation of the programmes. Within the waste hierarchy, the overarching principle behind EU and national waste policies, waste prevention is considered the most desirable option.

## FRANCE FACT SHEET

	<p><b>GDP</b> EUR 2 132 billion (15.3 % of EU-28 total in 2014)</p> <p><b>Per person GDP</b> US \$ 38 850 (purchasing power parity) (107 % of EU-28 average per person in 2014)</p>
	<p><b>Use of materials</b> 772 793 million tonnes DMC (11.9 % of EU-28 total in 2014) 11,7 12.0 tonnes DMC/person (91 % of EU-28 average in 2014) Resource productivity 2,8 EUR/kg (131 % of EU-28 average in 2014)</p> <p><b>Structure of the economy 2014</b> Agriculture: 1.7 % Industry: 19.4 % 13,7 (except construction) Services: 78.9 %</p>
<p><i>Sources: Eurostat, OECD</i></p>	<p><b>Surface area</b> 548 000 square kilometres (metropolitan)</p> <p><b>Population</b> 66 million (13.0 % of EU-28 total)</p>

## Waste prevention programme

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1.	Coverage	National
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2.	Type of programme	Separate programme
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3.	Title of programme and link to programme	Programme national de prévention des déchets 2014–2020 (National program for prevention of waste):  <a href="http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Programme_national_prevention_dechets_2014-2020.pdf">http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Programme_national_prevention_dechets_2014-2020.pdf</a>
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4.	Duration of programme	2014–2020
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5.	Language	French
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6.	Contact person	Karine GISQUET, Policy Officer in charge of waste prevention, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Sea, General Directorate of Risks' Prevention
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7.	Waste prevention objectives of the programme	<p>The French waste prevention programme includes quantitative objectives on the prevention of waste until 2020. The objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to reduce all household and economic waste collected by public waste management services by 7 % per capita in 2020 compared with 2010 (p. 27). This target has been raised to 10% by the Energy Transition for the Green Growth Law of August 17th, 2015;</li><li>• at least to stabilise the amount of waste generated by economic activities (except construction and demolition waste). The Energy Transition for the Green Growth Law requires a reduction in 2020 compared with 2010;</li><li>• at least to stabilise the generation of construction and demolition waste (p. 28). The Energy Transition for the Green Growth Law requires a reduction in 2020 compared with 2010.</li></ul>
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8.	The means used to break the link between economic growth and the environmental impacts associated with the generation of waste	<p><b>Are the measures/means specifically mentioned in the waste prevention programme?</b></p> <p>Yes. The French waste prevention programme contains a detailed list of future and planned national prevention measures and associated actions (pp. 32–93). The measures are classified according to the different items of Annex IV of the Waste Framework Directive.</p>
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9.	Sectors covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agriculture;</li><li>• mining, raw material processing;</li><li>• construction and infrastructure;</li><li>• manufacturing;</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sale, retail, transport;</li> <li>• households;</li> <li>• private service activities, hospitality;</li> <li>• public services.</li> </ul>
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10.	Prevention of waste types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food/organic;</li> <li>• construction and demolition waste;</li> <li>• hazardous waste;</li> <li>• household/municipal waste;</li> <li>• paper;</li> <li>• packaging;</li> <li>• waste electrical and electronic equipment /batteries;</li> <li>• manufacturing waste;</li> <li>• bulky waste;</li> <li>• other.</li> </ul>
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11.	Quantitative targets	<p>The targets of the French waste prevention programme are mainly articulated as an overall reduction target of 7 % per capita (between 2010 and 2020) for all municipal and economic publicly collected waste streams. This target has been raised to 10% by the Energy Transition for the Green Growth Law of August 17th, 2015. However, in order to concentrate prevention efforts on the waste streams with the greatest potential for reduction, priority levels ranging from 1 to 3 were assigned to the waste types.</p> <p>According to this categorisation, the waste streams of the highest priority are food waste, construction and demolition waste, chemicals, batteries, electrical and electronic equipment, furniture and paper. The second highest priority level was assigned to household packaging, plastics, metals, vehicles and textiles.</p> <p>For waste generated by economic activity (except construction and demolition waste), the specific target is at least the stabilisation of their production until 2020; for construction and demolition waste, the specific target is at least the stabilisation of their production until 2020. The Energy Transition for the Green Growth Law of 2015 strengthens these targets by providing for a reduction of the amount of waste generated by economic activities, especially construction and demolition waste, in 2020 compared with 2010.</p> <p>(pp. 27–28)</p>
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12.	Measures on quantitative prevention	<p>Measures mentioned in the French waste prevention programme include both upstream prevention measures and downstream prevention measures: at-source waste prevention (i.e. reduction at the source), where a life-cycle approach should be taken; targeting the product when it reaches the end of its life, so that it is not discarded (avoiding waste); stimulating fundamental change in product design by extending a product’s lifetime or considering options such as reuse (diverting waste), and considering the consumption of resources, the environmental impact of products, etc. (p. 172).</p> <p>In this framework, the waste prevention programme describes a variety of measures that are intended to quantitatively reduce waste (for detailed descriptions of specific measures, please see section 14).</p>
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13.	Measures on qualitative prevention	The French waste prevention programme prioritises waste flows according to their negative impact on humans and the environment (see section 11).
14.	Prevention measures covered as referred to in Directive 2008/98, Annex IV: Examples of waste prevention measures referred to in Article 29 (1–16)	<p>The prevention measures are categorised according to Annex IV of the Waste Framework Directive, as follows:</p> <p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandatory demolition diagnostic assessment of the building and audit of the materials to be deconstructed (p. 49).</li> <li>• Initiatives to improve the practice of composting (p. 59).</li> <li>• Implementation of national food waste prevention strategy in the territories (p. 64).</li> <li>• Increased application of environmental tax and subsidies (pp. 69–71).</li> </ul> <p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the relationship between food and its packaging (p. 63).</li> <li>• Analysis of the incentive effect of environmental taxes (p. 70).</li> </ul> <p>3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of indicators of the environmental pressure of waste;</li> <li>• Development of the mechanism of eco-modulation in the extended producer responsibility schemes (p. 35);</li> <li>• Evolution of the number of informative initiatives to raise consumers' awareness of waste prevention in extended producer responsibility schemes (p. 37);</li> <li>• Monitoring of the number of reuse/repair centres (p. 51).</li> </ul> <p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the role of the producer responsibility organisations in promoting the concept of eco-design (pp. 34-35) and the practice of reuse (p. 36).</li> <li>• Development of a common technical vocabulary concerning the lifespan of products (p. 38).</li> <li>• Improvement of guaranteeing and increasing the lifespan of products (pp. 39-40).</li> </ul> <p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the relationship between food and its packaging (p. 63).</li> </ul> <p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a product–service system as a new business model (p. 40).</li> <li>• Voluntary agreements with sectors to increase waste prevention (pp. 42-43), especially in the construction sector (pp. 47-48).</li> <li>• Training programmes on the prevention of construction and demolition waste for people that are responsible for the construction phase on worksites (pp. 46-47).</li> </ul>

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- Introduction of an environmental cost calculation tool (p. 44).
  - Training and awareness programmes on the prevention of biodegradable wastes (pp. 56–59).
  - Set up a workgroup to exchange best practice on the fight for food waste (p. 65).
  - Training and awareness programmes for public agencies (p. 83).
  - Action plan on marine litter (pp. 86-88).
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- Voluntary agreements with sectors to increase waste prevention (pp. 42-43), especially in the construction sector (pp. 47-48).
  - Introduction of an environmental cost calculation tool (p. 44).
- 8
- Development of a product–service system (“économie de la fonctionnalité”) as a new business model (p. 40).
  - Introduction of an environmental cost calculation tool (p. 44).
  - Training programmes on the prevention of waste for people involved in worksites (pp. 46-47).
- 9
- Voluntary agreements with sectors to increase waste prevention (pp. 42-43), especially in the construction sector (pp. 47-48).
  - Measures to reduce the use of single use plastic bags (p. 66).
  - Measures to reduce the consumption of products that are major sources of waste (pp. 67-68).
- 10
- Promotion of a credible management system in the flow of construction/demolition waste (p. 49).
- 11
- Development of a product–service system as a new business model (p. 40).
  - Development, when it is relevant, of the system of the returnable package with the aim of a re-use (p. 55)
- 12
- Increase the role of the producer responsibility organisations in awareness-raising campaigns (pp. 36-37).
  - Information campaigns on biodegradable wastes (p. 56).
  - Information directed at the general public about waste prevention in households (p. 68, pp. 72-75).
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- Information directed at the general public about waste prevention in households to plan their purchases (p. 68).
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures to reduce the consumption of products that are major sources of waste (p. 67).</li> </ul>
	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of reuse and repair centres (p. 52).</li> <li>Facilitation of the access and the availability of spare parts to repair the products (pp. 53-54).</li> <li>Promotion of “doggy bags” (pp. 63-64).</li> <li>Promotion of ‘stop publicity’ initiatives to prevent unwanted mail (p. 67).</li> </ul>
	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening of the consideration of prevention waste in the launching of tenders in order to procure goods and services with reduced environmental impacts throughout the products life cycles (pp. 84-85).</li> <li>Continuation of the reduction of the consumption of paper by introducing paperless procedures (p. 86).</li> </ul>
	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion of the practice of reuse and reparation (p. 51).</li> <li>Facilitation of the access and the availability of spare parts to repair the products (pp. 53-54).</li> <li>Facilitation of the collection and access to reusable products (p. 54).</li> </ul>
15.	Other prevention measures not covered by Annex IV	All prevention measures are covered.
16.	Indicators proposed	<p><b>Does the programme define indicators for waste prevention?</b></p> <p>Yes. The French waste prevention programme defines indicators that allow the degree to which policy objectives are achieved to be monitored. Nine global indicators are defined (p. 96). The indicators are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>production of household waste and similar waste;</li> <li>decoupling the production of household and similar waste and expenses from household consumption;</li> <li>production of non-hazardous, non-mineral waste of economic activities, excluding construction;</li> <li>decoupling the production of non-hazardous, non-mineral waste from economic activity and GDP;</li> <li>production of construction waste in buildings and public works;</li> <li>production of hazardous waste;</li> <li>apparent domestic material consumption;</li> <li>decoupling material consumption from economic wealth (GDP);</li> <li>awareness of waste prevention in France.</li> </ol>

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For each action plan there are further specific monitoring indicators specified (p. 97). These include, for example, the number of sectors in which a measure is employed, the number of awareness-raising campaigns carried out, etc.

Every year, the organisation that is responsible for the prevention action reports the information to the ADEME (public agency in charge of Environment and Energy Management). The ADEME transfers the information to the French Environment Ministry, which monitors the result of each prevention action and makes an annual assessment in connection with the Agency. Every two years, a more summary and comprehensive document of report is published by the Ministry and the Agency (p. 97). The first one for the French National program for prevention of waste 2014-2020 was published in December 2016. See more information at: <http://www.ademe.fr/prevention-production-dechets>

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17. Evaluation and monitoring of the programme

**Is the programme evaluated (midterm, etc.)?**

Yes. In 2017 there will be a midterm evaluation and in 2020 there will be an end evaluation of the plan.

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18. Target groups

The French waste prevention programme is targeted at adults, workers, those in both the private and public sectors, households, workshops and those involved in commerce.

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19. Involvement of stakeholders

**Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the development of the programme?**

Yes.

**Does the waste prevention programme describe the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the programme?**

Yes. The French waste prevention programme is the result of a wide consultation exercise organised by the French National Waste Council (Commission on waste prevention of the Conseil National des Déchets). This organisation is composed of representatives of the stakeholder organisations (p. 3).

While the Ministry of Ecology and the ADEME are the main drivers of prevention actions, the programme aims to involve local authorities, professional organisations representing businesses or business sectors, chambers (chambers of commerce and industry and chambers of trade and crafts), non-governmental organisations and associations, in particular environmental and consumer organisations, and actors of the social economy (ESS) in its implementation phase. The various actors can function either as supporters or 'bearers' of certain actions or as the main pilot of several actions. The latter type is meant to emphasise the importance of voluntary approaches in the programme, for example the voluntary commitment of business organisations in the context of national charters.

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20. Other comments

**Are the costs/savings of waste prevention measures stated in the programme?**

No, but the ADEME realizes sectoral studies and sectoral „witnesses operations" (experiments with companies, households...) to assess the costs/savings of some prevention measures. For example, the Agency is currently realizing a study on economic impacts of food waste halving.

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