

National Sustainable
Development Strategy
2010 > 2013

Towards a fair and green economy

ON THE INTERNATIONAL FIELD

October
2011

France's Strategy for a greener, fairer Economy

At a time when environmental challenges are becoming ever more urgent and when there is a growing demand for solidarity, both at national and international levels, the French Sustainable Development Strategy 2010-2013 identifies priorities and action levers for a development model oriented towards a fair, green economy. That is, an economy that is natural resource efficient (energy, raw materials, water, biodiversity...) and decarbonised, adapted to the rhythm at which these resources can be renewed or recycled, but also stronger because committed to protecting the interests of the most vulnerable and of future generations. The NSDS 2010-2013, like the previous strategy, is consistent with the European Sustainable Development Strategy: they are hinged upon the same key-challenges, to facilitate dialogue and points of comparison between France and its European partners.

The objectives of the NSDS 2010-2013 reaffirm France's commitments at European and international levels.

► From Rio 1992 to the NSDS 2010-2013

The National Sustainable Development Strategy 2010-2013 is the outcome of a journey embarked upon at the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, which was followed by the one in Johannesburg in 2002, and marked by several milestones:

- In 2003, adoption of the first National Sustainable Development Strategy;
- Then, in 2005, the insertion into the preamble of the French Constitution of the Environment Charter of which the first article grants everyone the right 'to live

in a balanced and healthy environment';

- Finally, in 2007, the "Grenelle of Environment" Round Table, a huge dialogue process between the different stakeholders of French society on environmental issues (more information at: www.legrenelle-environnement.fr).

Adopted on 27th July 2010 by the Interministerial Committee for Sustainable Development, the NSDS was drawn up using the same participative methods as those used for the Environment Round Table. The NSDS contains all of the "Grenelle of Environment" Round Table and goes beyond. It encompasses the different dimensions of sustainable development: the economic and social challenges are taken into consideration alongside the environmental challenges. The aim is to meet the existing and future needs of citizens as fully as possible.

With its collaboratively developed framework for orientation, the NSDS charts a true project for society aimed at moving towards a fair and green economy. By sharing its ambition with all of the different stakeholders in the public and private sectors, it hopes to create a ripple effect across the whole of society. ■

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr



The 9 challenges of the NSDS



- 1/ Sustainable consumption and production
- 2/ Knowledge society
- 3/ Governance
- 4/ Climate change and energies

- 5/ Sustainable transport and mobility
- 6/ Conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and natural resources
- 7/ Public health, risks prevention and management
- 8/ Demography, immigration and social inclusion
- 9/ International challenges of sustainable development and global poverty

The objectives in figures

For each of its nine challenges the NSDS provides a reminder of some of the objectives in figures. These objectives are the commitments made by France at a national, European or international level.

The performance indicators

- Four indicators reflecting the economic and social context, fifteen headline indicators and thirty-five background indicators were selected to help the follow up of the NSDS. They were all chosen collaboratively with the actors concerned.
- The European sustainable development indicators form the basis of this scoreboard. The dialogue process made it possible to complete this with other indicators
- The NSDS and its indicators can be downloaded at:
www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/SNDD

Translations of the NSDS

Unabridged translations of the NSDS exist in English and Spanish. Abridged versions are available in Portuguese and Arabic.

The NSDS in action

French companies and local authorities are applying the NSDS 2010-2013 for implementation of their sustainable development strategies. Two examples to see how.

GREEN OFFICE, INNOVATION IN CONSTRUCTION

With Green Office, a positive-energy building concept, Bouygues is using innovation to rise to one of the biggest challenges of the century. The first building of this kind is being completed in Meudon (department of Hauts-de-Seine). The principle of the project is revolutionary: over a year, produce more energy than is consumed. But it is also designed to meet every possible environmental criterion, by anticipating the different impacts it may have.

For maximum reduction of energy consumption, Green Office is first adjusted to the site's bioclimatic characteristics (climate, sun exposure, orientation). Choice of materials, waste management, public transport services: the environmental demands are cross cutting. Green Office includes the building's running costs (heating, ventilation, lighting...) and the users' everyday consumption (computer systems, office equipment...) in its energy consumption calculation. Each user contributes to the effort to reduce consumption with simple gestures and retains control over their own 'footprint'. With no losses on the comfort front: optimized natural light, fully-controlled thermal and acoustic insulation, intelligent ventilation...

Thanks to this global approach, the building's consumption has been limited to 62 kWh/m²/year. With its renewable energy production of 64 kWh/m²/year this gives a positive energy result. It relies on a biomass combined heat and power generator powered by rapeseed oil, which permanently supplies 55% of the building's requirements. In addition, a photovoltaic array linked to 4,200 m² of solar panels provides electricity that will be sold to the contracted utility company and fed into the national grid.

LOCAL GOVERNANCE GIVES LOCAL AGENDA 21S THEIR FULL MEANING

3 QUESTIONS À

Julie Chabaud

In charge of the Agenda 21 mission at the Gironde General Council (33)

How is governance ⁽²⁾ a major asset for the implementation of a local sustainable development strategy?

How is governance (2) a major asset for the implementation of a local sustainable development strategy? To be pragmatic and effective in this day and age, it is essential to address the issue of governance rather than just stringing together exemplary actions. Of all the NSDS challenges, governance may well be the one that makes the biggest difference. Awareness of the national and international objectives, their urgency, their complexity and the interdependences brings the realisation that none of the actors have the means to achieve these objectives alone. The only way for-

based, individual ways and start working across the board to translate the objectives into actions. The national strategic objectives are shared and interpreted in the light of Gironde's specificities with a view to reaching an agreement as to how to implement these objectives at the local level.

Rising to the challenges together, identifying locally what already exists and the operational levers that can be used to make improvements or transformations, sharing and testing joint projects measured against set performance indicators: this all makes us much more coherent and effective.

Does the NSDS help you to do this?

Yes, because it establishes common national objectives that were formed together and up to which local actors can measure their individual and participative contribution. Its utility lies in its capacity to consolidate a local project, by which I mean that it

«The key to the governance of the future is no longer the principle of allocating competencies between levels but on the contrary that of cooperating between levels.» ⁽¹⁾

ward is therefore collectively, with all the stakeholders getting together and pulling together and each one contributing on the basis of their responsibilities, competences and resources. To meet this challenge, the General Council of Gironde formed the Departmental Council for Local Agenda 21s (CDA21) in 2005.

What are its objectives?

The Gironde CDA21 groups together 61 local authorities and several hundred partners from the public and private sectors. It has considerable potential. The aim is to stop working in sector-

defines a 'common responsibility' at a national level; it is then up to local actors from the public and private sectors to agree on the way to succeed responsibly and collaboratively, in accordance with individual resources and local realities. ■

(1) Pierre CALAME, La démocratie en miettes. Pour une révolution de la gouvernance. (Democracy in tatters. For a revolution of governance.) Published by Descartes Cie - Paris - 2003 (p. 124)

(2) Governance, challenge no. 3 of the NSDS 2010-2013, is one of the basic axes of any Agenda 21. One of its objectives is to establish one thousand Agenda 21s by

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.green-office.fr / www.cg33.fr

Congo

For sustainable management of forests in the Congo Basin

France, which has extensive forest cover in temperate and tropical environments, is known for its experience in sustainable forest management. It is heavily involved on forestry and agricultural issues in climate negotiations, but also with its action to support emerging countries. With financing from the French Development Agency and the French Fund for the Global Environment, France is providing Congo with help to achieve sustainable management of its forests. With 220 million hectares of tropical forest, the Congo Basin is the world's second largest tropical forest area and Africa's biggest reserve of biodiversity. Forest exploitation is a major axis for the economic development of African countries.

Disorganized over-exploitation would destroy this resource. Sylvie Gourlet-Fleury, in charge of the project, explains that "the Cirad's mission (see inset) is to create conditions reconciling economic development with the conservation of goods and services provided by the forest: to do this we work with all the operators involved in management of

the forest, and in particular companies that exploit it, to generalize and coordinate development plans. These plans aim to preserve the forests in the long term by tapping into two fields of knowledge: the state of the resource to be exploited and its projected evolution." To date, 30 of the 50 million hectares that have been given over to forestry companies are affected by this sustainable development process. ■

THE CIRAD BACKS DEVELOPMENT

The Cirad (Centre for international cooperation on agronomic research for development) is a public body under the joint authority of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. In partnership with Southern countries, it addresses the international challenges of agriculture and development.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.cirad.fr

Malte

MISTRALS, a new wind blowing on the Mediterranean Basin

MISTRALS is an internationally orientated cross-disciplinary research metaprogramme for the decade 2010-2020. It is managed jointly by the CNRS and the IRD in partnership with eleven other research organizations, grouping together over a thousand scientists. MISTRALS aims to better comprehend the environment of the Mediterranean Basin and to anticipate its evolution under the pressure of global changes. MISTRALS hence coordinates research programmes directed towards studying atmosphere and the hydrosphere, towards environmental ecology and human and social sciences. The goal is to study mechanisms that influence the environment and the effect of human activity on the environment, to anticipate changes to the habitability of the region. Seismic and volcanic risks, marine pollution, water, air and soil pollution, extreme hydro-

meteorological events such as severe storms, strong winds, droughts... all these are threats weighing on biodiversity, access to natural resources and the living conditions of Mediterranean populations. MISTRALS is an exemplary programme in terms of cooperation and partnerships. It is well-balanced and driven by the pursuit of mutual interests, co-financed and jointly managed by the partners involved in the problems faced by the Mediterranean region. MISTRALS also extends its reach to other countries concerned, in Europe and the Mediterranean Basin, and was inaugurated in spring 2011 in Malta, just when the CNRS was setting up on the island an office for scientific cooperation in the Mediterranean.

With this initiative, France demonstrates its commitment to giving the Mediterranean region the role and importance it deserves in the future of Europe and of its relations with North Africa and the Near East. ■



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.mistrals-home.org

Chine

Priority to reducing carbon emissions!

THE AFD IN 70 COUNTRIES

Present in more than seventy countries, the French Development Agency, or AFD, has for over sixty years been combatting poverty and favouring the development of countries in the South as part of the French initiative for cooperation.

More information at: www.afd.fr

The French Development Agency, or AFD, undertakes activities notably in China in the context of the strategy defined by the French government in favour of emerging countries. For China, the fight against climate change is one of the defining axes. Two examples illustrate the strong impetus of Sino-French relations.

Energy efficiency in public buildings

Wuhan, with over eight million inhabitants, is the eighth largest Chinese town. The AFD has granted a €20M loan to the People's Republic of China for the energy rehabilitation of the town's public buildings, completed by a contribution from ADEME to fund accompanying actions.

The project involves the rehabilitation (solar protection, insulating windows...) of thirty administrative buildings, or a total surface of 624,000 m². The objective: reduce their energy consumption by more than 17 million kWh every year, which will mean an economy of around €1.9M. The programme should also lead to a reduction of some 15,000 metric tons of CO₂ emissions per year.

Micro hydropower

To combat global warming, China must reduce the carbon intensity of its electricity, most of which is produced using fossil energy sources. At the same time as offering significant production capacities, micro hydropower (less than 50 MW) provides irrigation facilities, flood protection and drinking water supplies. It also creates employment and wealth. On the request of the Chinese authorities, the AFD is therefore supporting a micro hydropower programme. With a loan of €21M, AFD places this project at the intersection of sustainable rural development policies and policies for the diversification of energy sources. The idea is to use the water falling from agricultural irrigation canals to generate electricity. No dams or reservoirs need to be built, but significant renovation work is to be carried out to reduce the losses in energy efficiency of old installations built in the seventies. The project will triple the total capacity, with an additional 16.7 MW.

The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is estimated at 72,000 metric tons of CO₂ per year. ■



CGDD (Commissariat général au Développement durable)
DDD (Délégation au Développement durable)
3, Place de Fontenoy, 75007, Paris
Tél. : 01.40.81.34.99



Délégue interministerielle au développement durable