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Agenda: ensuring sustainable consumption and production  
Country: France   
  
Sustainable consumption and production aims at “doing more and better with less,” increasing net welfare gains from economic activities by reducing resource use, degradation, and pollution, while increasing the quality of life. The use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants. Sustainable consumption (sometimes abbreviated to "SC") is the use of material products, energy and immaterial services in such a way that their use minimizes impacts on the environment, so that human needs can be met not only in the present but also for future generations. Sustainable consumption and production can also contribute substantially to poverty alleviation and the transition towards low-carbon and green economies. The five pillars of sustainability : economic, social, environmental, cultural and security aspects. In September 2015, the General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).Sustainable consumption is the use of products and services in a way that minimizes the impact on the environment, so that human needs can be met not only in the present but also for future generations. When sustainable consumption is practiced, resources are used wisely and waste products and pollution are minimized. The primary function of the economy is to provide goods and services for satisfying wants of the people. The act of satisfying wants by the use of goods and services is called **consumption**. **Production and consumption** are, therefore, essential economic activities which must go on in an economy continually. **The main features of sustainable development are:**  
• It respects and cares for all kinds of life forms.  
• Improves the quality of the human life.  
• It minimises the depletion of natural resources.  
• It enables the communities to care for their own environment. **Key features of a sustainable city:**  
• Resources and services in the **city** are accessible to all.  
• Public transport is seen as a viable alternative to cars.  
• Public transport is safe and reliable.  
• Walking and cycling is safe.  
• Areas of open space are safe, accessible and enjoyable.  
On 17  August  2015, well before COP21, the Energy Transition for Green Growth Act gave legislative shape to **France's** voluntary commitment to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. France strongly supported the United Nations’ adoption in September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which sets 17 Sustainable Development Goals for the world to eradicate extreme poverty, combat inequalities and protect the planet.  
This first universal approach provides a new framework for development policies for the next 15 years. It builds on the eight Millennium Development Goals implemented since 2000, which have contributed to real progress with tackling hunger, poverty and child mortality, rolling back pandemics, and improving access to water and education. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals, the new Sustainable Development Goals have a universal dimension and apply to all development challenges in all countries. In addition to the poverty reduction goals, the agenda features new goals to which France is equally attached with respect to environmental protection, gender equality, universal medical coverage, tackling illicit financial flows and corruption, and good governance. Given our long-standing, unremitting commitment to sustainable development, France has volunteered to present its 2030 Agenda implementation approach at the very first high-level political forum held since the adoption of this agenda. This report draws on consultations with civil society to present a first review of the implementation of each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in France, identifying the main issues and challenges, government courses of action, and good practices and model measures already in place in a spirit of experience sharing. France has achieved a high standard of living and quality of life driven by inclusive social security systems (unemployment benefits, supplementary benefits and redistributive policy) and access for all to healthcare and basic goods and services (water, energy, quality food and education). The country has also developed state-ofthe- art public and private infrastructures (innovation and research, transport, communications, and cultural heritage).Yet there is still work to be done, especially to reduce social, educational and gender inequalities, maintain healthy ecosystems and sustainably manage natural resources. In a climate of low growth and despite a downturn in recent months, unemployment remains persistently too high, especially among young people. On 17  August  2015, well before COP21, the Energy Transition for Green Growth Act gave legislative shape to France’s voluntary commitment to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. The act sets targets to increase the share of renewable energy sources to over 30% of final energy consumption in 2030 and bring down the share of nuclear power in electricity generation to 50% by 2025. The Government led Parliament to pass a “climate energy contribution” on greenhouse gas emissions built into the taxes on petroleum products on a pathway, already adopted by Parliament, set to rise from €56 per tonne of CO2 in 2020 to €100 per tonne of CO2 in 2030. It will propose that Parliament introduce a price floor on carbon of some €30 per tonne in the power generation sector in 2017. In June 2016, France was one of the first industrialised countries to complete its domestic process to ratify the Paris Agreement and is working with its European partners for the EU in its entirety to ratify it as soon as possible. As a contribution to rapidly increase collective ambition, France committed to upgrade its mitigation target by 2020. In 2013, the French Government launched the New Face of Industry in France initiative to position French businesses on new economic growth markets. The projects backed by the initiative mainstream environmental goals. Two industrial solutions focus more especially on the energy transition: New Resources and Sustainable Cities. The Government’s Industry of the Future programme designed to modernise the French productive machine based on the use of digital technologies also includes a goal to improve the energy efficiency of industrial processes. As test grounds for the ecological transition, local authorities are encouraged to put in place solutions to develop energy-smart housing retrofits and efficient public transport networks funded by the Energy Transition Fund (with a three-year budget of €350 million), to promote a low-carbon footprint and green urban areas, and to tackle social-spatial segregation. Rural areas are also part of this environmental approach, with the promotion of agroecology to produce safe, sufficient food. France, as one of the ten countries with the largest number of endangered species, due mainly to pressures overseas and in the Mediterranean, has taken measures to protect its marine and land ecosystems against artificial land cover, overexploitation of resources, climate change and pollution. The French bill for the restoration of biodiversity, nature and landscapes, which is currently being debated, thus provides for the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol, the acknowledgement of the notion of ecological prejudice, the establishment of action plans for all threatened species in France, the enhancement of protection of marine biodiversity, the prohibition of neonicotinoids, and the exchange of traditional seed.  
In December 2015, France’s unemployment rate stood at 10.2%, just below average for the Eurozone (10.4%). However, the country posted 25.9% under-25 jobseekers compared with 19.7% for the Eurozone.